

Call for 2017 Election

The membership is hereby notified that elections will be held in the spring of 2017 for the following National Korean War Veterans Association, Inc. (KWVA) positions: four (4) Directors to serve from June 25, 2017 - June 25, 2020.

All applications and documents must be RECEIVED no later than December 15, 2016. Any regular member in good standing of the KWVA seeking to run for the aforementioned offices shall make his/her intentions known to the Chairman of the Elections Committee, Robert Fitts, in writing, using the following format:

Requirements:

1. Present proof of service by submitting a separate signed Official KWVA Membership Application Form found on the KWVA website or in The Graybeards Magazine showing eligible service years.

2. The applicant must also submit a copy of his/her Form DD214 for verification by the Election Committee. The copy of the Form DD214 may be redacted selectively by blackout/whiteout to remove information not related to the information required by the KWVA.

To apply for a Form DD214, go to the National Archives website, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>.

3. Present a current photograph, suitable for publication in *The Graybeards*, in which the candidate is clearly the focus of the picture.

4. Submit a letter, signed and dated, limited to approximately one (1) page, including the following:

- a. Your intent to run for an office and the office sought.
- b. A summary of your qualifications for this office, stating any experience that will be of benefit to the Association.
- c. Your current mailing address, telephone number, KWVA membership number, and your email address, if applicable.
- d. Alternate email address and alternate phone number, if applicable.
- e. A statement that you will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and that you understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for your removal from office.
- f. A statement releasing the Application Form for verification by the Election Committee.

You must sign a statement that your dues are current through the complete term of the office you are seeking.

NOTE: Payment of delinquent dues shall not be retroactive for purposes of establishing eligibility to run for office within the Association.

Send the above items by "USPS Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested" to the Election Committee Chairman, Robert F Fitts, 25211 22nd Ave., Rock Island, IL 61201-4639, to arrive not later than December 15, 2016. File it today!

Scanned documents sent via email are not an acceptable alternative, and will be automatically deleted.

Address any questions you may have to the Election Committee Chairman at (309) 793-1292 or via email to RSFitts@revealed.net.

REMINDER: Please remember that any Regular Member of the KWVA, as defined in Article 1, Membership, of our Bylaws, is eligible to serve on the Board of Directors, including both Korean WAR veterans and Korean DEFENSE veterans.

I encourage you to consider submitting your application for one of the four open Directors positions this year and take your place as a member of the KWVA Leadership Team to lead our Association forward in the coming years.

Submitted by Lewis M. Ewing, Secretary

Rangel Lauds Passage of Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance

Washington, DC—Congressman Charles B. Rangel, who represents the 13th Congressional District of New York that includes Upper Manhattan and parts of the Bronx, released the following statement after the House passage of H.R.1475 - Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance, under unanimous consent. The bill will now go to the President's desk to be enacted into law.

"I am proud to join fellow Korean War veterans and colleagues, Reps. Johnson and Conyers, as an original sponsor of this important bill which has been championed by Colonel Weber of the Korean War Memorial Foundation and members of the Korean War Veterans Association. The Wall will remind people that FREEDOM IS NOT FREE. I am pleased that the Korean War Veterans Memorial will add a place for those to remember the sacrifices of our veterans and the heroes who never returned home.

Our nation has a responsibility to make sure that we do not forget the nearly 1.8 million members of the United States Armed Forces who served alongside Republic of Korea and 20 other Allied nations during the Korean War. This terrible war claimed 36,574 American lives and left over 103,000 American soldiers wounded, and nearly 8,000 POW/MIAs.

Most of us had no idea where Korea was but we knew one thing--the flag was waving. And so we moved forward to protect it. To know that out of ashes of impoverished people, a close ally, one of wealthiest countries and one of the firmest democracies has been established is a testament to the contributions Korean War veterans have made to the great American legacy that should be remembered."

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Congressman Charles B. Rangel is a decorated Korean War veteran who earned a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his service in the U.S. Army during the Battle of Kunu-ri, where he led a group of soldiers out of a deadly Chinese Army encirclement after being almost left for dead on November 30, 1950. The title of his autobiography, "And I Haven't Had a Bad Day Since" refers to this day. Congressman Rangel, who has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1971, currently represents New York's 13th Congressional District, which includes Upper Manhattan and parts of The Bronx. In Congress, he has been a champion advocate for Korean War veterans and U.S.-Korea relations.