

America's Forgotten Victory!

KOREA VETERANS

The Graybeards



Official Publication of

THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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COURAGE



VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2016

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

In loving memory of General Raymond Davis, our Life Honorary President, Deceased.



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WWW.KWVA.ORG



From the President

Tom Stevens

"When we honor our flag, we honor what we stand for as a Nation – FREEDOM, JUSTICE AND HOPE."

...Ronald Reagan

Although you will be reading this long after Labor Day, I am writing it on Saturday, Sept. 3. Art Sharp (our editor) tells me that I'm way ahead of the deadline, but that is just the way I like to operate.

My office window is open. The first hint of fall is in the air. What a great time to be alive. However, there are things that are happening right here in the USA that are troubling. We fought in Korea all those many years ago for freedom in South Korea and its citizens' right to determine their own form of government. They chose democracy and freedom, rebuking Communism. A wise choice indeed.

Included with freedom is the right to free speech—within reasonable limits, i.e., it is unlawful to holler "fire" in a crowded theatre. There are many examples of situations and circumstances within our great country that seem to be not in keeping with our American ideals that dishonor the flag, or publicly show disrespect while the national anthem is being played. Such actions are the height of antithesis toward patriotism.

I venture that the majority of veterans in the USA who signed a blank check when being inducted into military service to preserve freedom, theirs and others—including the willingness to sacrifice their lives to serve their country—find such disrespectful actions reprehensible. I had that on my chest and just needed to say it.

I will make a conscious effort to steer away from politics in general, but disrespect or desecration of the American flag bother me immensely, and I suspect that they bother many of you. There are many right ways to go about correcting what we perceive to be wrongs. Being disrespectful toward our cherished American symbols isn't one of them. God Bless America!

Tim Whitmore, one of our KWVA National Board members, today sent me via email an article from the Hampton, Virginia *Daily Press* about a brief Labor Day commemoration that was held at Hampton City Hall. Whitmore said, "My thought was that the people who fought this war were called

from their labors, so it's not a far reach that we celebrate what they did, both in uniform and industry, for that war."

He characterized the war effort as a testament to the resilience of the American people. In my own case, I was milking cows at the time I enlisted. After 3 years, 9 mos. in the USAF, guess what? I came back to milking cows, which I detested. So I decided to get an education by working part time and making use of the GI Bill. No more cows ever again, thank you very much!

On July 27th, at the Korean War Memorial in Washington DC, I had the honor of participating in an impressive ceremony commemorating the 63rd anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, officially bringing hostilities to an end in Korea. Nevertheless, sporadic instances of North Korean provocations still occur, and have since the signing of the Armistice.

To start the ceremony, our national chaplain, Jack Keep, opened with a meaningful prayer. The off-stage announcer's role was ably fulfilled by our Executive Director, Mr. Jim Fisher. The guest speaker was the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea, His Excellency, Ambassador Ahn Ho-Young. I followed the Ambassador with a few brief remarks.

Ambassador Ahn, Gay Vietski, the Superintendent of the National Park Service's National Mall and Memorial Parks, and I, individually placed wreaths at the Korean War Veterans Memorial. Our National KWVA Secretary, Lew Ewing, announced the winners of the American Veterans of Korea Foundation scholarships.

Lew and his committee had taken sever-

al days to narrow over 80 applicants down to the 10 winners. Two of the recipients were there in person to receive their \$2,000 scholarships: Janell Couperthwaite and Scott Kiewe. (The article with pictures was on page 52 of the July-August edition of *The Graybeards*.)

The day prior, July 26th, the KWVA Board of Directors held its first meeting of the year. Several important decisions were made during that meeting. I will not enumerate them here, but I would urge each of you to read and study those decisions that appear in the minutes starting on p. 10 in this edition.

I thank all the Board members and officers and Executive Director Jim Fisher for the dedication everyone demonstrated in discussing and arriving at rational decisions that impact the future of KWVA.

I haven't mentioned recruiting, but rest assured it is always on my mind, and I hope yours. In that context, a list of eighteen ideas for recruiting was submitted recently by Board member Al McCarthy. All eighteen have been referred to our Membership Chairman, David Clark, who, with his committee, is currently reviewing and taking steps to implement as many as are determined to be feasible.

A number of those suggestions have application primarily at the chapter level. You will be hearing more about them in the future. One I will mention here is to put an application for KWVA membership in the hands of everyone (not already a member) who participates in an Honor Flight. Steps have already been taken to put that idea into action.

THE GRAYBEARDS DEADLINES

Articles to be published in the *The Graybeards* must be received by the editor no later than the 15th day of the first month of that issue. —Editor.

Jan-Feb	Jan 15
Mar-Apr	Mar 15
May-June	May 15
July-Aug	July 15
Sept-Oct	Sept 15
Nov-Dec	Nov 15

COVER: The official 2016 Veterans Day poster provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (modified to fit).



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Executive Director's Intro



**Executive Director
Jim Fisher**

Hello. My name is Jim Fisher. For many of you, this will be your first encounter with me. Two years ago I was asked to be the KWVA's Executive Director. I was honored and grateful to be entrusted with this position to ensure that our Korean War veterans and our Korean Defense veterans receive the proper thanks and recognition for their service to our country.

The past two years have been very busy, but also very rewarding. I have met some great Americans who have served in South Korea. Your dedication to duty in one of the bloodiest wars our country has fought in has gone unnoticed for too long.

We must ensure that the legacy of all our brave men and women who served and protected the Republic of Korea, both during the war and defending the peace for the past 67 years, is not forgotten. It is our duty to speak to our children, grandchildren, educators and anyone who will lend their ear to let them know what actually took place in Korea.

The people of the Republic of Korea are extremely grateful for all that you have done to ensure their freedom, prosperity and happiness. You should be extremely proud of your service and accomplishments.

One area where everyone can help is in recruiting Korean War veterans and Korean

Defense veterans into the KWVA. This area is of vital importance if we are to keep their legacy from fading away. I encourage all of you to reach out to both war and defense veterans to sign them up and to participate in this very important task.

I am no stranger to serving our veterans. I retired from the U.S. Army after 24 years of service. That included seven years working with the Department of Defense, the White House, the U.S. Congress, Arlington National Cemetery, the Veterans Administration, and Veterans' Service Organizations to ensure that all veterans are properly recognized for their contributions to the nation.

In 1996 I was assigned to the Pentagon to be the Operations Officer for the 50th anniversary of the World War II commemoration for the nation. I was asked to develop the plan for the 50th anniversary of the Korean War commemoration for the United States. This was, by far, one of the

most rewarding assignments of my career.

After retiring from the Army, I took the position as Coordinating Producer for the annual Congressionally-sponsored patriotic concerts on the West Lawn of the Capitol, the National Memorial Day Concert, and "A Capitol Fourth," currently the highest rated performance programs on the Public Broadcasting Service network.

It has been my mission to ensure that our veterans, especially our Korean War and Defense veterans and those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, are properly recognized and to keep their service to our country fresh on the minds of the people who have enjoyed this freedom.

I look forward to meeting you at future events throughout the United States. It is an honor to serve as your Executive Director.

Respectfully submitted,

*James R. Fisher
National Executive Director
Korean War Veterans Association, USA*

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Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards* and the KWVA

Members are invited to help underwrite the publication costs of *The Graybeards*. All contributions in any amount are welcome. Mail your donations to KWVA Treasurer, 430 W. Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920 or Treasurer@KWVA.org. All contributions will be acknowledged, unless the donor specifically requests to remain anonymous. And, if you have an "In memory of" (IMO) request, include that as well. We thank you for your generous support.

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From the Secretary

By the time you read this we will be in the middle of the fall season and our Annual Meeting in Las Vegas will be behind us. I trust that all of you had a great summer and are now enjoying the cooler weather. As always, your KWVA Leadership Team has a full plate of issues to deal with.

Legislative

I am sure all of you are aware that the Korean War Veterans Memorial Foundation, under the dynamic leadership of Colonel William (Bill) Weber, US Army (Retd), has been working for years to get legislation approved by Congress to have a "Wall of Remembrance" added to our Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC, which will complete our Memorial as originally proposed.

The wall will list the names of all American soldiers and, hopefully, the Korean Augmentation to the US Army (KATUSAs) killed, plus the numbers of our POWs and wounded in action, and will honor veterans from all the other countries that participated in the Korean War.

As I am writing this, the Korean War Veterans Memorial Wall of Remembrance Act of 2016 (H.R. 1475) is working its way through Congress. It has been approved by both the House of Representatives and the Senate and has been sent back to the House to approve a couple non-controversial amendments attached to the bill by the Senate. We feel confident that the bill will receive final approval by both houses and then forwarded to the President for his signature.

We thank and congratulate Col. Weber and all the members of his Foundation, plus many others, for all their hard work and dedication to make this dream become a reality. However, Congressional approval is just the first of many hurdles the Foundation is facing before the wall will be completed. They will need the continued help and support of all of us, so when you are asked, please be ready to lend your support.

A second bill in the congressional hopper is the bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat recipients of the Korea Defense Service Medal as war veterans for purposes of determining whether contributions to our Chapters are charitable contributions. Once this bill comes to the floor for vote, it is very important that we personally contact our Congressmen requesting their support for the bill.

This legislation becomes more important every day at a time we are enhancing our efforts to recruit more Korean Defense veterans when we are unfortunately losing our war veterans at an alarmingly high rate.

Revisit Korea Tours

If you are interested in participating in the Revisit to Korea Program in 2017, be advised that you need to get your reservation in to Mr. Jamie Wiedhahn at Military Historical Tours, Inc. as soon as possible. The Republic of Korea Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs has expanded the program to include Korea Defense veterans, so there will be increased interest in 2017, the 64th anniversary of the beginning of the war. You can

contact Jamie at 800-723-9501 or by email at mhtours@mitours.com.

DPAA

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) lost its leader in July when Michael Linnington left to assume the leadership of the Wounded Warrior Project. The agency, however, will continue its outstanding work of recovering, identifying, and returning the remains of our fallen heroes to their families under Acting Director, Mrs. Fern Winbush, and her team of dedicated workers.

Their recovery efforts in North Korea are currently handicapped by the instability of its government and unpredictable leader, so the DPAA will concentrate its recovery efforts on sites in South Korea, plus continuing efforts to identify remains held in the lab in Hawaii. We, the KWVA, are fortunate to have as our POW/MIA Coordinator, Mr. Bruce (Rocky) Harder, a retired Marine and a former employee of the DPAA, who understands how the DPAA functions. We thank Rocky for his expert assistance.

POW/MIA Forever Stamp

At our July meeting, your Board of Directors voted to support a request submitted by Mr. Tom Thiel, Commander of Chapter #169 in Florida, requesting Congress to authorize the issuance of a new first class POW/MIA Forever Stamp to honor members of our armed forces who are still prisoners, missing, or unaccounted for.

Congressman Gus Bilirakis of Florida introduced a bill in 2013. Since it was not acted upon, he reintroduced it again in 2015 as H.R. 3558. Unfortunately, the bill is still buried in the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and likely will not be acted on in this Congress.

Rep. Bilirakis has promised to introduce the bill again in the next session of Congress. When the bill comes to the floor for a vote, we are asking for each of our members to contact their respective Congressperson and solicit their support to get the bill passed.

I suggest that each of you take a few minutes to read the Minutes of our Board of Directors meeting held in Arlington, VA, on July 26, 2016, printed on pp. 10-14 in this issue of *The Graybeards*.

Have a great autumn.

Lew Ewing, Secretary



Lew Ewing

Now Hear This:

All comments concerning, or material for publication, in *The Graybeards* should be sent to Art Sharp, Editor, 2473 New Haven Cir., Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141 or emailed to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net



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Korean War Veteran on a July Korea Revisit is presented with a corsage at Seoul National Cemetery by a Peace Camp For Youth participant as both overlap each July.

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Where's Waldo?©

I have answered that age-old question. In fact, I made a \$12 food and beverage purchase in Waldo recently, which was a first. Now I know where Waldo is.

Waldo is a small town along Route 301 in northern Florida, between Baldwin, where Rt. 301 and I-10 connect, and Ocala. Until recently, it was best known as one of the nation's two most notorious speed traps. The other is Lawtey, a few miles north. The city of Starke is also in the mix, although it has never been as bad as Waldo and Lawtey.

How bad is Lawtey? There is a billboard posted about four miles before the town's limits that warns motorists that Lawtey is a speed trap! And the town rebutted that by putting up its own sign stating that it isn't. Are too!!! Am not!!! Are too!!!...IS SO.

(Incidentally, I have never been stopped in any of the local speed traps, since I get out of the car at the towns' borders and push it through. It takes a while, and I get a lot of strange looks from residents and angry horn honks from the drivers behind me, but I save myself upwards of \$200 every time.)

Waldo shut down its police force a couple years ago, with a lot of encouragement from Florida state officials, and turned its traffic enforcement over to the county sheriff's department. That meant it became safe for drivers to pass through town at almost 2.7345 miles an hour without being pulled over and fined a substantial amount—and it gave them a chance to stop and contribute to Waldo's welfare. (Just for the record, around 2014, Waldo's municipal budget was \$1 million per year. Half of it came from speeding fines. That's a lot of tickets!)

I vowed to never spend a penny in Waldo or Lawtey as long as they ran their speeding scams. Ironically, since Waldo dropped its PD, new businesses are sprouting up, e.g., a Best Western motel right next to a new Pilot truck stop. That's where I spent \$12 as a way of thanking the Waldo political poohbahs for coming to

their senses.

"Okay," you're saying. "He's told us 'where's Waldo' and that he doesn't speed through it or Lawtey or Starke. And he's certainly not speeding through this column. What's the point?"

Glad you asked. The point is Tybee Island, Georgia.

I was in Savannah, Georgia early in September. There was a rumor that there is a Korean War monument on the island, which is just a few miles down the road. So, I asked the concierge at the Presidents' Quarters, an elegant B&B, for directions to the island, which she gladly provided—with a caveat.

"Be careful there," she warned. "The local police strictly enforce the rather expensive parking facilities, and the place is a speed trap." (See how cleverly I tied together Waldo, Lawtey, Starke, and Tybee.) "That's how they make the money to keep the town operating."

Hey, she wasn't lying. There was a Tybee Island Model-T police car posted at the entrance to the town waiting for unsuspecting motorists, which I got out and pushed by. When I arrived near the beach there was a parking enforcement technician watching my every move. But, forewarned is forearmed. Even though I did not grow another two arms to become forearmed, I parked and walked over to the monument, which is impressive. (The black & white photos nearby don't do it justice.)

Okay, here's the mystery that we may

ask the cops in the speed trap towns to solve, just to give them a break from pulling over motorists and an opportunity to do some real police work: why is there an impressive Korean War monument on Tybee Island?

Certainly, the island is not big enough to have supplied a horde of service members to fight in Korea. Its population in 2014 was 3,082, down -9.1% since 2000. (Have some of the speeders disappeared?) Anybody have an answer—about the monument, not the population decrease?

I left Tybee with questions about the monument swirling through my head. As I crept up the road toward Savannah I noticed another Tybee Island police cruiser posted along the highway to deter—or apprehend—speeders. I wished the officer and Tybee well as I gravitated out of town. For once, speed was not of the essence.

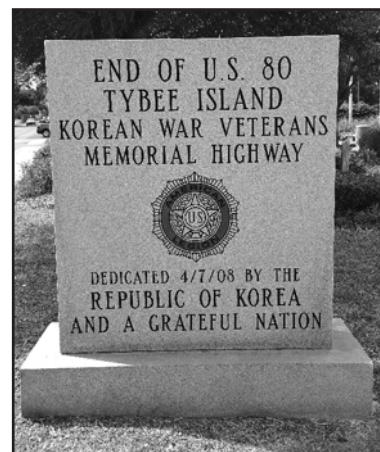
As the fading hurricane said, "My rain is at an end"

By now some of you may have heard rumors about my resignation as the editor of *The Graybeards*. I started them myself—and they are true.

I have submitted my resignation, effective in April 2017. Like the fading hurricane, my reign is at an end. I have edited the magazine since September 2004. That is long enough. I have long-neglected projects that I could not finish during the three years that my much-missed wife was ill. Now is the time to get to them.

For now, continue to submit material to me. Our leaders are in the process of identifying a replacement. So, I will be around for a couple more issues.

The Tybee Island, GA monument, front and back



JULY 26, 2016

Meeting Announcement:

The Graybeards, May/June 2016

Place of Announced Meeting:

The Comfort Inn Pentagon, 2480 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22206

Announced period of Meeting:

July 26, 2016 – 1200 – 1600

Call to Order:

Thomas Stevens, President, at 1220

Pledge of Allegiance:

L. T. Whitmore, Director

Invocation:

John W. (Jack) Keep, Chaplain

Installation of New Officers and Directors:

Past President Larry Kinard duly swore in the following new Officers and Directors:

- ◆ President Thomas W. Stevens
- ◆ Second Vice President Jeffrey Brodeur
- ◆ Director Narce Caliva
- ◆ Director George Bruzgis
- ◆ Director David J. Clark
- ◆ Director Paul Cunningham
- ◆ Director Luther Dappen
- ◆ Chaplain John W. (Jack) Keep

Rules of Decorum and Debate:

President Stevens reviewed the KWVA Rules of Decorum and Debate which outlines acceptable conduct by all in attendance at the meeting.

Adopt Agenda:

President Stevens called for a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. Upon motion by Director McCarthy, seconded by Director McHugh, the Agenda was approved.

Roll Call:

Secretary Ewing called the roll.

KWVA Board Members:

- ◆ President, Thomas Stevens–Present
- ◆ First Vice President, Warren Weidhahn–Absent
- ◆ Second Vice President, Jeffrey Brodeur–Present
- ◆ Executive Director, James R. Fisher–Present
- ◆ Secretary, Lewis M. Ewing–Present
- ◆ Treasurer, Thomas Gregg–Present

- ◆ Director, Roy E. Aldridge–Present
- ◆ Director, Albert H. McCarthy–Present
- ◆ Director, Thomas M. McHugh–Present
- ◆ Director, L. T. Whitmore–Present
- ◆ Director, Narce Caliva–Present
- ◆ Director, Robert F. Fitts–Present
- ◆ Director, J. Fred Ragusa–Present
- ◆ Director, Lewis Vaughn–Present
- ◆ Director, George Bruzgis–Present
- ◆ Director, David J. Clark–Present
- ◆ Director Paul Cunningham–Present
- ◆ Director, Luther Dappen–Present

KWVA Staff:

- ◆ Chaplain, John W. (Jack) Keep–Present
- ◆ Webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer–Present
- ◆ Communications Director, Fred Lash–Present
- ◆ DPAA Director, Bruce (Rocky) Harder–Present

Recorder:

- ◆ Elite Reporting, Carol O'Brocki–Present

LEGEND: ■ = new topic • = individual bullet points

Action on Absences:

President Stevens asked for a motion to excuse First Vice President Warren Wiedhahn, who is representing the KWVA at this time in South Korea. Upon motion by Director Whitmore, seconded by Director Caliva, First Vice President Wiedhahn was granted an excused absence.

Declaration of a Quorum:

Secretary Ewing reported that a quorum was present.

Approval of Previous Board of Directors Minutes of July 23, 2015:

Secretary Ewing stated that these minutes were published in the September/October 2015 issue of *The Graybeards* magazine. Upon motion by Director Aldridge, seconded by Director Ragusa, the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Tom Gregg explained that he is a CPA and a partner in a firm in Dallas and has served as our Treasurer for about two years now. He reported that the firm of Franklin and Vaughn, located in Illinois, has served as our independent auditors for the past two years and they are doing a good job for us at a reasonable cost.

■ Sager Financial Services in Charleston, IL serve as our bookkeepers and are now paying our bills for us. They also prepare our IRS 990, which has been filed for the calendar year December 31, 2015.

■ Executive Director Jim Fisher hand delivered copies of our IRS Form 990 and our audited financial statements, which were produced by Franklin and Vaughn, directly to our Congressional contact, Rep. Trey Gowdy, as required by regulations, since we are a Congressionally chartered organization. Treasurer Gregg reminded

the Board that, as Directors, each of them is required to read the IRS 990.

■ Treasurer Gregg reviewed the audited financial statement for the **calendar year** ending December 31, 2015. Investments showed a slight loss due to the declining stock market. Income declined and expenses increased, resulting in a net loss in 2015 of \$9,000, compared to a net increase of \$90,000 in 2014. He attributed the loss to our declining membership.

With no further discussion, upon motion by Treasurer Gregg, seconded by Director Bruzgis, the audited financial report dated December 31, 2015 was approved.

■ Treasurer Gregg reviewed the financial statement for the **fiscal year** ending June 30, 2016. Comparing changes in net assets (net profit) for prior years, net assets declined from \$148,000 in 2014 to \$26,000 in 2015 to \$18,000 in 2016. However, we are still in a strong financial position with liquid assets.

- Comparing actual to budget numbers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016, we have a positive variance of \$50,000 in dues received and a positive variance in fundraising receipts of \$20,000. However, the variance in donations shows a negative \$25,000.

- We experienced a negative variance of \$36,000 in our investments.

- For our total net income, we had a positive actual to budget variance of \$36,000. Comparing actual to budget expenditures, The Graybeards magazine expense was \$5,000 below budget.

- Meetings and conventions expenses were slightly higher than budget, but our headquarters expense was down \$10,000 over the budget.

- Communications expenditures show a negative variance of \$9,000, since we had not budgeted any communications expenditures.

So the bottom line, the actual net increase in assets or our net profit, was \$18,100, compared to our budget of negative \$26,000.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding actions the Board could take to reduce expenses, including reducing the number of The Graybeards magazines published each year from the current 6 copies to 4 copies. Also discussed was the advisability of producing a two-year budget, which would be a good tool to assist the Board with longer range planning for our Association.

No action was taken on either suggestion.

■ Treasurer Gregg commenced a discussion on the 2017 budget, comparing it to the 2016 budget and to the working budget for 2017. He explained that it is a working budget until the Board approves it, then it will be a proposed budget for the General Membership to vote on at our Annual Meeting in October.

The budget is showing revenue of \$314,500, expenditures at \$365,595, resulting in a shortfall of \$51,495. We budgeted for a \$34,000 decrease in revenue from \$348,000 in 2016 to \$314,000 in 2017.

Upon motion by Treasurer Gregg, seconded by Director Caliva, the proposed budget was approved.

Membership Report:

■ Director David Clark, who just assumed the Chairmanship of the Membership Committee, asked Mr. John T. (Sonny) Edwards to give the Membership Committee report.

Recruiter Edwards stated his appreciation for being asked to participate in the meeting and expressed his apologies for having to leave early, but he needed to return home to be with his wife, Virginia, who is recovering from surgery and undergoing treatment for ovarian cancer. He expressed their sincere appreciation to all of the KWVA members who have supported them during Virginia's ordeal.

- Sonny conveyed his concerns over the opposition some Korean War Veterans have shown over having Korean DEFENSE Veterans as members of the KWVA. Since 1953, our Defense Veterans have been on the line to continue the mission initiated by our War veterans in 1950; to defend the Republic of Korea and maintain the cease fire. The Defense Veterans have earned, and deserve, the privilege of being honored members of the KWVA—along with our War Veterans. Additionally, we need the Defense Veterans to help preserve our legacy.

- Sonny reminded everyone in the room that we all are members of the Membership Committee, and we all need to carry application forms with us and be prepared to identify and recruit new members, both Korean War and Korean Defense veterans. They are out there—we just need to actively recruit them. He also reported that as of the end of July this year, we have lost more members than we did in all twelve months last year.

■ Past Membership Chairman, Director Bob Fitts, echoed the comments made by Sonny with emphasis on the need to attract new members, both war and defense veterans.

■ Membership Chairman David Clark thanked everyone, especially Sonny Edwards and Bob Fitts, for the great work that already has been done. He noted that:

- We are at the point where we need to rely more on the Korean Defense veterans to reverse the current trend of declining membership.

- The Korean Defense veterans are being minted every day. There are 25,000 U.S. service members serving on the peninsula right now. That is where the growth is. If we're going to have any growth, however, we are going to have to go to them, not wait for them to come to us.

- We need to reach them in innovative ways, different ways, e.g., social media, perhaps Facebook, and we need to consider designing an application form that can be completed, with dues paid by credit card, and submitted online. That's how our younger generation conducts business today.

In short, we need to offer incentives that will make the KWVA attractive to our younger veterans.

How can we make the KWVA more attractive to them than the American Legion or the VFW? David and his Membership Committee members, with the help of the entire Board, are ready to roll up their sleeves to begin a new, concerted, effort to explore new avenues to attract all Korean veterans in order to grow our membership.

■ Executive Director Jim Fisher stated that he feels the key to attracting and retaining members lies with the Chapters. Those Chapters that meet monthly, are active, and offer opportunities for the members to participate frequently in programs, parades, and events, etc. are the Chapters that are growing and prospering.

■ Director Jeff Brodeur recommended that we change the wording on the patch that now reads “Korean Service Veteran” to read Korean Defense Veteran,” and that we begin phasing it in for use by the Association. No action was taken at this time on his recommendation.

■ Other Directors, including Whitmore, McHugh and Aldridge, offered suggestions to attract new members – all of which will be considered by the Membership Committee.

Guest Speakers:

Mr. Dan Baughman - the DPAA

President Stevens introduced Mr. Dan Baughman, a representative of the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Agency (DPAA), who gave us a brief history of his organization and recapped the work they have been performing from the 1970s to present and our efforts to get the North Korean government to cooperate with us in our efforts to recover the remains of our MIA's.

- Even though their archeology standards were very substandard, they did hand over 208 caskets of remains from 1994-1998. From 1996-2005 we had teams operating in North Korea, where we recovered 229 caskets of remains. With more modern technology, like DNA and other methods available to us today, we have disinterred 119 caskets out of the ground that had been temporarily held in the Punch Bowl in Hawaii and resolved 60 of those cases.

- We asked for and received approval from the Chinese government in 2008 to conduct recovery efforts in China to identify sites where some of our military aircraft may have crashed during the war.

- In 1992 the Army formed a task force to attempt to determine if any of our prisoners ended up in Russia. Overall, the work of the Russians has resulted in us finding out about over 300 air cases where they crashed in North Korea. So they have helped us in resolving the fate of some of our airmen.

- Since 2000 we've been in South Korea doing investigations for the approximately 1,000 individuals who are still missing in South Korea.

- In 2017 they will be working on cases dealing with the retreat from Taejon all the way to the Pusan perimeter and then to the bowling alley all the way down to Battle Mountain. Also, they will be going back to the Heartbreak Ridge area. Of the 8,177 cases they have, they have resolved 350.

- They would like to get back into North Korea. However, the National Security Council will not permit them to do so due to the unstable leadership in North Korea.

Following a brief Q&A period, the Board thanked Mr. Baughman and expressed its appreciation to the DPAA for its ongoing efforts to recover and identify the remains of our MIAs, and for the dignified manner in which it returns the remains to their families.

President's Report:

Having only been in office since June 25th, President Stevens stated that he didn't have anything to report at this time. However, he would have a report for our October Board meeting. Instead, he asked the KWVA Legislative Director, Lewis Vaughn, and Director Paul Cunningham, Chairman of the 2017 Veterans Day program, to give reports on their activities.

■ Director Cunningham stated that it was an honor for the KWVA to be named the host veterans group for the 2017 Veterans Day observances. At this time he is still putting together his committee, for which he needs two or three more people.

Two main areas we are responsible for are funding the event at an estimated \$35,000-\$50,000, and then getting a good representation of our Korean veterans to attend the event in the amphitheater at the Arlington National Cemetery. They will keep us posted as plans come together over the next seventeen months.

■ Director Vaughn reported that he had visited with Jerry Wadley, of Finisterre Publishing, Inc., the publisher of our *The Graybeards* magazine. He was very impressed.

- Dr. Wadley explained the procedure he follows in the collection of articles and pictures submitted by our editor, Art Sharp. He sorts them into three different categories: the articles that must go into the next issue, the ones to squeeze in if there is room, and the articles that can wait.

- It takes him on average 80–90 hours to put together each issue, at a cost of \$12.50 per hour. They discussed potential cost savings issues, including using a lighter weight paper and reducing the number of issues per year from six (6) to four (4). Neither of these options seems to be very practical.

One thing we can do is to have our Chapter Presidents monitor their membership rosters closely to ensure that only one copy of our magazine goes to each home and to keep their rosters current by deleting deceased Life Members.

Director Vaughn's closing comment was, “That magazine (*The Graybeards*) is a great magazine, and I think we need to keep it going.”

Executive Director's Report:

Executive Director Jim Fisher stated that plans are coming together for a great Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, but we need get the word out to the Chapters and encourage our members to attend.

- We have invited the Minister of Patriot's and Veterans Affairs, the Mayor of Las Vegas, the Base Commander from Nellis Air Force Base, and the Governor of Nevada, Brian Sandoval, to attend the banquet.

- Fisher reviewed the schedule, including the meetings, tours, and entertainment, and encouraged everyone to register now.

- Fisher reported that the 2017 Annual Meeting will be held at the Sheraton in Norfolk, VA. He is getting requests for the 2018 meeting for Dayton, Ohio and Washington, DC. Other suggested sites mentioned were Branson, MO. and San Antonio, TX.

The KWVA will also participate in the annual Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC in 2017.

Old Business:

Secretary Ewing presented five (5) "Online Business Without a Meeting Agenda Items" that were approved by the Board during the period between the last physical meeting of the Board and today's meeting. The votes on these items needed to be ratified at this meeting in order for the actions to be officially reflected in our minutes.

■ Action Item No. 1, dated October 22, 2015 requesting the Board of Directors to ratify the appointment of Richard Hernandez as our National VSO. The request was approved.

Upon motion by Director McHugh, seconded by Director Dappen, the Board ratified that action.

■ Action Item No. 1, dated December 24, 2015 requesting the Board of Directors to approve the allocation of \$300.00 to the Tibor Rubin Chapter #329 for organizational expenses. The request was approved.

Upon motion by Director Vaughn, seconded by Director Bruzgis, the Board ratified that action.

■ Action Item No. 1, dated January 25, 2016 requesting the Board of Directors approval to extend the contract with Communications and Outreach Director Fred Lash for an additional six (6) month period (February 1, 2016 through July 31, 2016). The request was approved.

Upon motion by Director Fitts, seconded by Director Ragusa, the Board ratified that action.

■ Action Item No. 2, dated January 25, 2016 requesting the Board of Directors approval to reassign a portion of the KWVA Treasurer's financial responsibilities from our Treasurer to Sager Financial Services. The request was approved.

Upon motion by Director McHugh, seconded by Director Whitmore, the Board ratified that action.

■ Action Item No. 1, dated March 4, 2016 requesting the Board of Directors approval to appoint Narce Caliva to the Board of Directors to complete the term of Director Richard Brown who resigned due to health reasons. The request was approved.

Upon motion by Director Whitmore, seconded by Director Clark, the Board ratified that action.

■ Secretary Ewing called for a motion to approve destroying the Voting Ballots cast for the 2016 election of KWVA Officers and Directors now that the vote has been certified by the CPA.

Upon motion by Director Bruzgis, seconded by Director Dappen, approval was granted.

■ President Stevens asked for a motion to approve the reappointment of Jim Fisher, Executive Director, Lew Ewing, Secretary, and Tom Gregg, Treasurer to serve from June 25, 2016 through June 25, 2017.

Upon motion by Director Aldridge, seconded by Director Ragusa, the request was approved.

■ President Stevens asked for a motion to approve the Committee assignments as shown on the list of those in your packet.

Upon motion by Director Vaughn, seconded by Director Caliva, the list of Committee assignments was approved.

■ President Stevens asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Larry Kinard as the Immediate Past President Advisor to the President.

Upon motion by Director Bruzgis, seconded by Director McHugh, the appointment was approved.

■ President Stevens, as past chairman of the Bylaws Committee, made a motion proposing a Bylaws change that would amend the current language in our Bylaws that require the Board to hold two (2) meetings each year to read that the Board would hold only one (1) physical Board meeting each year. The rationale for the proposed change was to eliminate the cost associated with the second meeting.

In addition, the need for two (2) meetings per year has been eliminated with the addition of an Executive Director, bi-weekly conference calls between the Executive Director, President and others and the addition of our Online Business Without a Meeting voting process now in place.

Following was a lengthy discussion with various motions made, but never seconded, or withdrawn. The advisability of giving the President the discretion to call for one physical and one electronic Board meeting was proposed. However, discussion centered on the importance of the Board being able to hold two (2) physical meetings whereby the members of the Board would be able to interact face-to-face and hold discussions (such as this one) on matters that come before the Board.

The motion made by President Stevens, seconded by Director Aldridge, to amend the Bylaw that calls for two (2) physical Board meetings per year be amended to read that the Board will hold one (1) physical Board meeting per year was not approved.

■ President Stevens presented a proposed amendment to the SPM that he submitted when he was Chairman of the Bylaws Committee. We have been using a CPA in Tucson, Arizona, at a cost of \$3,500 per election. The proposal is to have the ballots processed through Jim Doppelhammer's office and certified by the CPA in Charleston, Illinois at a much reduced cost, estimated to be \$500 per election.

Upon motion by Director McHugh, seconded by Director Clark, the proposed amendment was approved.

■ President Stevens opened discussion on a proposed Bylaw amendment as submitted by Col. Bill Weber (U.S. Army ret.) that would allow Republic of Korea KATUSAs who fought alongside our U.S. forces during the war, and who have since immigrated to the United States and become American citizens, to become Regular Members of the KWVA. Following discussion, it was recommended that the proposed amendment be expanded to include any veterans from any country who fought in Korea under the United Nations flag and who have since immigrated to the United States and have become American citizens, to be eligible for Regular membership in the KWVA.

Upon motion by Director Vaughn, seconded by Director Bruzgis, the Board voted unanimously to refer this proposal to the Bylaws Committee with instructions to draft the required changes to the Bylaws and bring it back to the Board for its final vote at our October 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

■ President Stevens presented a request submitted on behalf of his

Chapter by Mr. Tom Thiel, Commander of the Korean War and Korean Defense Service Veterans of Lake County, (Florida) Chapter #169), that the KWVA support a nationwide effort to campaign for and assist in obtaining a First Class POW/MIA Forever Stamp to increase the public knowledge and awareness that there are over 83,000 United States servicemen and women still unaccounted for.

Upon motion by Director Aldridge, seconded by Director McHugh, the Board voted to approve the request. Senior Advisor, Larry Kinard was requested to contact Mr. Thiel to determine the extent of the assistance the Chapter was requesting and to determine how the KWVA can help with this very worthy project.

■ President Stevens presented a request for the KWVA to make a donation to support the U.S. Army Museum at Ft. Belvoir, VA. No specific contribution was included in the request. Following discussion, upon motion by Director Aldridge, seconded by Director Clark, the Board voted to support the request on a recorded vote of eight (8) in favor and five (5) opposed with no amount defined.

■ President Stevens presented a request for the KWVA to support a House Resolution proposed by the "Coalition of Korean War and Cold War Families of the Missing" for the U.S. government to resume talks with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Upon motion by Director McHugh, seconded by Director Fitts, the Board voted to table this request until we find out what it is about.

■ President Stevens introduced a proposed change to Bylaws Article I Membership, 3. Dues. However, following a brief discussion, he referred the proposal to the Bylaws Committee for further study and to be re-introduced at a later Board meeting.

Remarks from Senior Advisor and Past President Kinard:

Mr. Kinard asked for a few minutes to express his gratitude and thanks to all of the Board members, and others, who served with him during his term as President of our Association. He stated, "I feel like I had wonderful support. I've gone around this country to some of the meetings and people seemed to be very appreciative of what the Board has done over the last three years. I just want to say thank you.

"Mainly I feel like we've had a good three years during my term as President. I think we did some good things. I really feel the KWVA is in a better position now to move forward than we were before we took some of the actions we've taken.

"I think the addition of an executive director has moved us a step closer to being a very professional recognized organization. A lot of that is due to Jim Fisher and what he's doing for us."

To show his appreciation to the members of the Board, Larry presented each of them with a personally inscribed coffee mug bearing a picture of our Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC. The Board members all thanked Larry for his service as President with a round of applause.

The President recessed the Board of Directors meeting in order to convene an Executive Session.

Board of Directors Reconvened:

Following the Executive session, President Stevens reconvened the regular session of the Board of Directors.

Upon motion by Director McHugh, seconded by Director Cunningham, the Board voted to terminate the KWVA contract of Mr. Fred Lash as the Association's Communications Director.

Next, President Stevens called for a vote on Mr. Kenneth Cook's request for reinstatement as a member of the KWVA. With a unanimous vote, the Board rejected Mr. Cook's request for reinstatement.

Closing:

President Stevens called on our Chaplain, Jack Keep, for a closing benediction, which was followed by everyone standing and saluting the flag.

Adjournment:

Upon motion by Director Aldridge, seconded by Director Whitmore, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lewis M. Ewing, Secretary

Christmas/Thanksgiving etc. stories wanted



Rumor has it that we will be celebrating Thanksgiving, Hanukah, Festivus, Christmas, and other major winter holidays again this year. With that in mind, our editorial staff requests that you send us your stories, photos, and assorted art work of your experiences at Thanksgiving, Hanukah, Festivus, Christmas, etc. during the Korean War. We will fold them into a special holiday edition.

No doubt you exchanged cards with the folks back home, created battlefield Christmas trees, attended special religious or non-religious services, dreamt about being home with your families, spouses, friends, etc.

Where were you? What were you thinking on those holi-

days? Did the enemies recognize them in any fashion, e.g., increase or decrease their attacks, deliver special propaganda. Or, was it simply business as usual? Who went above and beyond the call of duty to make your holidays special...maybe a cook, a chaplain, a medic?

Let us know where you were, what was happening, who was involved, etc. Just send your material to: Arthur G. Sharp, Holidays Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141.

Please get your stories in as quickly as possible, preferably before 15 November 2016.

Thanks.

And Happy Thanksgiving, Hanukah, Festivus, Merry Christmas...happy whatever holiday you observe.

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.

U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center to Showcase Korean War Veteran's Artwork

On June 4, 2016, the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center will open a new Soldier art exhibit. (See the nearby sketches.) “Sleepless Nights” features the artwork of the late John A. Cook, Professor Emeritus at Penn State University.

John A. Cook served as a Sergeant in Company G, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division from mid-September 1950 to June 1951 in Korea. During that period, his unit deployed from Japan to Korea, helped to secure the Pusan Perimeter, fought its way north to the vicinity of Yongsan-dong in North Korea, and then withdrew, under tremendous adversity, during the Chinese intervention beginning in November 1950. While serving in Korea, Cook was wounded three times and was awarded the Purple Heart.

Working intermittently over 46 years, the drawings came to him in the middle of the night. He saw his midnight artwork as a means of release from what he believed was Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). John Cook’s drawings serve as a tribute to American veterans of all wars, but particularly to those who served in Korea, where more than 36,000 were killed in theater, 103,000 were wounded, and 7,800 remain missing or unaccounted.

After the war, John A. Cook continued as an artist and joined the faculty of the Department of Visual Arts in the College of Arts and Architecture at Penn State University, where he ultimately was recognized as a professor emeritus. During his 30 years at Penn State, he pioneered medallic art and served as a leader of an effort to make sculpture accessible to everyone.

He designed the Scholars Medal, a symbol of academic distinction and achievement, which is presented to graduating scholars during the Schreyer Honors College’s Medal Ceremony, which is traditionally held on the eve of Penn State’s commencement exercises.

John A. Cook’s midnight drawings will be available for viewing in the Omar N. Bradley Art Gallery at the U.S. Army



Heritage and Education Center, 950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The exhibit is sponsored through the generosity of The Richard C. von Hess Foundation and the Army Heritage Center Foundation.

The exhibit, which should be up until next summer (2017), includes around 40 of his drawings.

About the Foundation and U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

The Military Heritage Foundation, doing business as the Army Heritage Center Foundation, is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) that, through donated support, is funding the construction of the public components of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center—the Visitor and Education Center (VEC) and the Army Heritage Center.

As the phased construction program is completed, the Foundation transfers these facilities to the Army to operate, staff, and maintain, as part of the Center. The Foundation will then focus on “margin of excellence support” to meet the needs of educational programs and other activities at USAHEC where federal funds are inadequate or unavailable.

The Foundation completed its Voices of the Past capital campaign in 2010, with the construction of Phase One of the Visitor and Education Center, a key component of the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center campus. Opened to the public on May 20, 2011, the Visitor and Education Center is the focal point for the campus, containing the first

large exhibit gallery and hosting educational activities.

The Foundation is now seeking grants and donations for its Build on Success Campaign to construct Phase Two of the Visitor and

Education Center and to create an endowment to sustain and enhance educational programs. The Foundation’s education program coordinates National History Day in Pennsylvania, complements the Center’s programs and exhibits, and is a state approved continuing education provider. The Foundation also supports and enhances USAHEC’s public outreach by supporting marketing initiatives and serving as a public advocate of the Center’s mission and programs. Learn more at www.armyheritage.org.

USAHEC is dedicated to educating and preserving the legacy of the men and women who have served this nation as Soldiers. The Center’s mission is to educate a broad audience on the heritage of the Army by acquiring, preserving, and making available historical records, materials, and artifacts. A unique Army and public asset, USAHEC is the Army’s only historical organization chartered to acquire and preserve the personal history of our Soldiers through their photos, letters, diaries, and artifacts. USAHEC staff then makes these resources available to the public through accessible archives, engaging education programs, and world-class interpretive displays. Learn more about USAHEC at www.usahec.org.

Contact: Mike Perry, Executive Director, Army Heritage Center Foundation, 717-258-1102, mperry@armyheritage.org



KWVA represented at POW/MIA Recognition ceremony

On September 2016, KWVA Executive Director Jim Fisher represented the KWVA at the nationwide National POW/MIA Recognition Day commemoration ceremony in honor and recognition of the service and sacrifice of almost 140,000 former American prisoners of war and the 83,000 Americans who continue to be listed as missing and unaccounted for from World War II forward.

He sat next to DPAA (Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency) Principal Director Fern Sumpter Winbush and thanked her for all the wonderful work the agency was doing to locate and identify our Korean War MIAs. She was very complimentary of the KWVA and was very happy that we are a part of their family.

President Obama released the following statement in recognition of the day.

Proclamation – National POW/MIA Recognition Day, 2016

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY, 2016

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

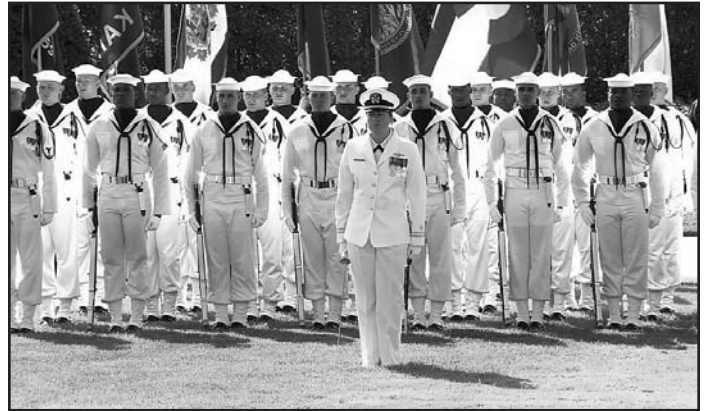
A PROCLAMATION

For centuries, courageous members of our Armed Forces have embodied the best of America with devotion and patriotism. On National POW/MIA Recognition Day, we pause to remember our servicemen and women who never returned home. The hardship experienced by prisoners of war and by the family members of those who have gone missing in action is unimaginable to most Americans; it is our country's solemn obligation to bring these heroes back to the land they served to defend, and to support the families who, each day, carry on without knowing the peace of being reunited with their loved ones.

The United States does not leave anyone behind, and we do not forget those who remain missing. We will never stop working to bring home those who gave everything for their country, nor cease in our pursuit of the fullest possible accounting for all who are missing. We are working to fulfill this promise by strengthening communication with the families of those service members missing or taken prisoner. And as Commander in Chief, I am committed to living up to this responsibility.

The men and women of our Armed Forces face unthinkable conditions and bear the painful cost of war. There is a debt we can never fully repay, though we will continue striving to remain worthy of their sacrifice. In honor of those who have not yet come home, and the families who struggle with the fear of unknown fate, we renew our fierce commitment to our patriots in uniform and pledge to do everything we can to bring those missing or held prisoner home.

On September 16, 2016, the stark black and white banner symbolizing America's Missing in Action and Prisoners of War will be flown over the White House; the United States Capitol; the Departments of State, Defense, and Veterans Affairs; the Selective Service System Headquarters; the World War II Memorial; the Korean War Veterans Memorial; the Vietnam Veterans Memorial; United States post offices; national cemeteries; and other locations across our country. We raise



POW/MIA National Recognition Day ceremony on the Pentagon Parade Field included speeches from Defense Secretary Ash Carter and Air Force Gen. Paul J. Selva, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

this flag as a solemn reminder of our obligation to always remember the sacrifices made to defend our Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim September 16, 2016, as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. I urge all Americans to observe this day of honor and remembrance with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-first.

BARACK OBAMA

Time to step up! What will you do?

Not everyone can or will serve as a member of the KWVA leadership team, but everyone can influence the direction of the organization by voting for the candidates who most nearly represent their convictions regarding the future of the KWVA.

Each one of us can have our voice heard through our representative(s) on the Board. But you have to vote or be content to watch from the sidelines as others who did vote determine who and what the KWVA will become.

Even better, run for one of the four director positions yourself. Who knows what you want better than you?

As I have said before, the strength of an organization lies in its ability to grow, develop, and reinvigorate itself through visionary and stalwart stewardship at every level. It all comes down to you to lead, follow, or get out of the way.

What will you do?

Al McCarthy, National Director, 2014-2017

Korea War MIAs Recently Identified

NOTE: All the recovered remains were U.S. Army members. In some entries, only the names, ranks, units, and dates and places are listed. That is simply because that is all the information there is available on the DPAA website at this time.

Here is the standard information available on complete entries on the aforementioned website. It is presented here so we do not have to duplicate it with each entry.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) announced today that the remains of a U.S. serviceman, missing from the Korean War, have been identified and will be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

[NAME] of [HOME TOWN] will be buried [DATE] in [PLACE]. In late November 1950,

Between 1990 and 1994, North Korea returned to the United States 208 boxes of commingled human remains, which when combined with remains recovered during joint recovery operations in North Korea, included the remains of approximately 600 U.S. servicemen who fought during the war. North Korean documents included in the repatriation indicated that some of the remains were recovered from the area where Campbell was believed to have died.

To identify [NAME] remains, scientists from DPAA and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used circumstantial evidence and forensic identification tools, including mitochondrial DNA analysis, which matched a [DNA DONOR].

In 1954, the remains of Korean War service members were returned to the United States in an operation called "Operation Glory." The remains unable to be identified were interred as unknowns at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

Due to advances in technology, the remains were exhumed in 2015 for analysis.

Today, 7,802 Americans remain unaccounted for from the Korean War. Using advances in technology, identifications continue to be made from remains that were previously turned over by North Korean officials or recovered by American teams.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for Americans who went missing while serving our country, visit the DPAA website at www.dpaa.mil or call (703) 699-1420.



Pvt. Virgil B. Adkins, Co. B, 1st Bn., 65th Inf. Regt., 3rd Inf. Div., MIA 7/17/1953, North Korea

Army Pvt. Virgil B. Adkins, 21, of Hinton, West Virginia, was buried Sept. 3 in Hinton, West Virginia. On July 17, 1953, Adkins was a member of Company B, 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, on a combat patrol to

reconnoiter enemy activity in an area north of the former Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), North Korea, when it came under

attack, forcing a withdrawal back to friendly lines. As a result of the fighting, Adkins was reported missing in action.

Following Operation Big Switch, where American prisoners of war were returned, the Army Forces Far East reported evidence of the death of Adkins on July 17, 1953, although his remains were not returned during Operation Glory in 1954. Based on the lack of information regarding Adkins, the U.S. Army declared him deceased.

To identify Adkins' remains, scientists from DPAA and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used mitochondrial, Y-chromosome Short Tandem Repeat and autosomal DNA analysis, which matched his brother and sister, as well as anthropological analysis and circumstantial evidence.

Sgt. 1st Class Louis M. Baxter, HQ Battery, 57th Field Artillery Bn., 31st Regimental Combat Team, 7th Inf. Div. MIA 12/6/1950, North Korea

In late November 1950, Baxter was a member of Headquarters Battery, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 31st Regimental Combat Team, 7th Infantry Division, on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) attacked the regiment and forced the unit to withdraw south to the Pungnyuri Inlet. Many soldiers became surrounded and attempted to escape and evade the enemy, but were captured and marched to POW camps. Baxter was subsequently declared missing in action as a result of the battle that occurred Dec. 6, 1950.

In September 2001, a U.S. and Korean People's Army recovery team conducted a Joint Recovery Operation in the vicinity of the Chosin Reservoir, Changjin County, Changjin District, South Hamgyong Province, North Korea, based on information provided by two Korean witnesses. During the excavation, the team recovered material evidence and possible human remains for at least seven individuals.

Lab analysis, in conjunction with the totality of circumstantial evidence available, established Sgt. 1st Class Baxter's remains were included.



Master Sgt. Charles J. Brown, Co. L, 3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Regt., MIA 11/2/1950, North Korea

Army Master Sgt. Charles J. Brown, Jr., 20, of Ozone Park, New York, was buried Sept. 26 in Sarasota, Florida. In early November 1950, Brown was a member of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, when the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) attacked the

regiment and forced the unit to withdraw to the village of Ipsok, approximately five miles south of Unsan. The survivors attempted to set up a defensive perimeter, but many soldiers became surrounded and attempted to escape and evade the enemy, but the majority were captured and marched to POW camps.



Sgt. James L. Campbell, 31st Regimental Combat Team MIA 12/2/1950, North Korea

Army Sgt. James L. Campbell, 18, of Waterford, Connecticut, was buried August 26 in his hometown. In late November 1950, Campbell was one of 2,500 U.S. and 700 Republic of Korea soldiers assembled into the 31st Regimental Combat Team on the east side of the Chosin River. On the night of Nov. 27, the Chinese People's Volunteer Force surrounded the 31st RCT and attacked. Continued attacks over subsequent days forced Americans to withdraw. By Dec. 6, 1950, approximately 1,500 wounded soldiers were evacuated, and the remaining had been either captured or killed. Campbell was reported missing in action as a result of the battles.

Campbell's name did not appear on any list as a prisoner of war and no repatriated Americans could provide any information concerning Campbell. Based on this information, the U.S. Army declared Campbell deceased as of Dec. 31, 1953.



Cpl. Larry M. Dunn, Co. B, 2nd Eng. Combat Bn., 2nd Inf. Div., MIA 12/1/1950, North Korea

Army Cpl. Larry M. Dunn, 18, of Cullman, Alabama, was buried Sept. 17 in Cullman, Alabama. On Dec. 1, 1950, Dunn was a member of Company B, 2nd Engineer Combat Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, when his unit was fighting through a roadblock that was heavily defended by enemy forces near Sonchu, North Korea. Dunn went missing in action as a result of the battle.

Dunn never appeared on any list of the captured released by North Korea or the Chinese Communist Forces, nor did any repatriated Americans report that he was a fellow prisoner in any internment camp in North Korea. Because of the lack of information, the U.S. Army declared him deceased as of Dec. 31, 1953.

Cpl. Donald R. Hendrickson, HQ Battery, 57th Field Artillery Bn., 31st Regimental Combat Team, 7th Inf. Div., MIA 12/6/1950, North Korea 9/7/2016

Pfc. Kenneth R. Miller, Co. K, 3rd Bn., 19th Inf. Regt., 24th Inf. Div., MIA 4/23/1951, North Korea

On April 23, 1951, Miller was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, when his unit was forced to withdraw from their position while fighting the Chinese Communist Forces (CCF). Miller was reported missing in action following the withdrawal.

Cpl. Wayne Minard, Co. C, 1st Bn., 9th Inf. Regt., 2nd Inf. Div., MIA 11/26/1950, North Korea

In late November 1950, Minard was a member of Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, fighting units of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in North Korea, in a delaying action south to Kunu-ri. Enemy

forces launched a large-scale attack with heavy artillery and mortar fire on Nov. 25, when the regiment was located in defense positions near the Chongchon River. By the following day, enemy fighting had isolated the unit and they were ordered to withdraw. Minard was reported missing in action as of Nov. 26, 1950.

Master Sgt. Ira V. Miss, Jr., HQ Co., 3rd Bn., 38th Inf. Regt., 2nd Inf. Div., MIA 2/5/1950, South Korea

Cpl. Vernon D. Presswood, Heavy Mortar Co., 32nd Inf. Regt., 7th Inf. Div., MIA 12/2/1950, North Korea

Cpl. David T. Nordin, Jr., Co. K, 3rd Bn., 35th Inf. Regt., 25th Inf. Div., MIA 11/28/1950, North Korea

Cpl. Joseph Trepasso, missing from the Korean War, has now been accounted for.

In late November 1950, Trepasso was a member of Company L, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division on the east side of the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea, when Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) attacked the regiment and forced the unit to withdraw south to the Pungnyuri Inlet. Many soldiers became surrounded and attempted to escape and evade the enemy, but were captured and marched to POW camps. Trepasso was subsequently declared missing in action as a result of the battle that occurred Dec. 12, 1950 Cpl.



Cpl. Curtis J. Wells, MIA 11/27/1950, North Korea, 19, of Uby, Michigan, was buried Sept. 10 in Harbor Beach, Michigan. In late November 1950, while Wells was assigned to Company C, 65th Engineer Combat Battalion, 25th Infantry Division, his company joined with Task Force (TF) Wilson to fight the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces (CPVF) in the vicinity of Unsan, North Korea. The TF

was overwhelmed by a large force of CPVF soldiers, and by Nov. 27, 1950, they began to extricate themselves south and Company C returned to the control of the battalion. As the battalion attempted to account for its casualties, Wells was reported missing in action.



Cpl. Charles A. White, (MIA-5) MIA 12/3/1950, North Korea, was buried July 29 in New Lexington, Ohio. On December 3, 1950, White was a member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, when his company's position was overrun by the Chinese Communist Forces near Huksu-ri, North Korea. Repatriated American prisoners of war reported that

White died in captivity at Prisoner of War Camp 1, Changsong, North Korea, in 1951. Based on this information, the U.S. Army declared White deceased as of May 12, 1951.

Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Smith, Co. A, 1st Bn., 38th Inf. Regt., MIA 2/12/1951, South Korea

Statement From VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald On President Obama's Final Assessment of the Commission on Care

WASHINGTON — Today, consistent with the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, the President's formal response to the Commission on Care was transmitted to Congress. As the President has said, "a sacred covenant exists between Veterans and this nation: servicemen and service-women take an oath to protect our country, and in turn, our nation pledges to take care of them when they leave the service. The Commission's work to evaluate the Veterans Affairs health care system is important in ensuring we keep our promise to our Veterans."

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald released the following statement on the report:

VA stands firmly behind the President's final assessment of the Commission on Care report, and we thank the Commission for their hard work.

With input from Congress, Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs), and government partners, VA has thoroughly reviewed each and every recommendation to determine whether they were feasible and advisable within the scope of the law. The President and VA find 15 of the 18 recommendations in the Commission's report feasible and advisable, and we have already accomplished or have been working on 12 out of the 18 through our ongoing MyVA transformation. The Department has already started implementing the Commission's recommendations that the President and VA found feasible and advisable.

Transforming VA into a Veteran-Centric Department

Two years ago, the President charged me with transforming VA into the high-performing, Veteran-centric organization our Veterans deserve. I am thrilled to see that through our MyVA transformation initiative. Though there is certainly much more work to be done, VA has already made irrefutable progress in increasing Veterans' access to quality health

care and the benefits they have earned.

Progress Made

This past March, VA set a new record for completed appointments: 5.3 million inside VA, 730,000 more than in March 2014. VA increased access to Veterans through an integrated system of care. VHA staff and Choice contractors created over 3 million authorizations for Veterans to receive care in the private sector from October 2015 through July 2016. This is a 42 percent increase in authorizations when compared to the same time period last year. From FY 2014 to FY 2015, Community Care appointments increased about 20 percent from 17.7 million in FY14 to 21.3 Million. Clinical workload is up 11 percent in the past two years. Nearly 97 percent of appointments are now completed within 30 days of the Veteran's preferred date; 22 percent are same-day appointments; average wait times are five days for primary care, six days for specialty care, and two days for mental health care. Nearly 90 percent of Veterans now say they are "satisfied or completely satisfied" with the timeliness of their appointments.

On Commission's Recommendation to Establish VHA Board of Directors

Overall, we found 15 of the 18 recommendations feasible and advisable, and are working to implement them. However, VA strongly disagrees with the Commission on its proposed "board of directors" to oversee the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). Such a board is neither feasible nor advisable for both constitutional and practical reasons. Most problematically, this proposal would seem to establish VHA as an independent agency, which would frustrate ongoing efforts to improve the Veteran's experience by integrating Veterans health care and services across VA, making it more difficult for Veterans to receive the quality care where, when, and how they need it.

Increasing Access to Health Care is a Shared Goal

We do, however, strongly agree with the idea of external advice and counsel to ensure the VA operating with the greatest degree of efficiency and effectiveness for Veterans. VA is already advised by our new MyVA Advisory Committee, which has been hard at work since March 2015 applying the members' extensive experience in customer service and organizational change to our transformational challenge. They are leaders in business, medicine, government, and in Veteran advocacy. Among them are eight Veterans like: Major General Joe Robles who after spending 30 years in the Army became President and CEO for USAA; Dr. Richard Carmona, a Special Forces Vietnam Veteran and the 17th Surgeon General of the United States; and Navy Veteran Dr. Connie Mariano, who was the first military woman to serve as White House Physician to the President, the first woman Director of the White House Medical Unit, and the first Filipino American in US History to become a Navy Rear Admiral. These are innovative, resourceful, respected leaders who are advising us on transformation. They know business. They know customer service. And, they know Veterans.

I strongly support the Commission's intent that creating a high-performing, integrated health care system that encompasses both VA and private care is critical to serving the needs of Veterans. In fact, VA has outlined our approach to achieve this same goal in our Plan to Consolidate Community Care, submitted to Congress in October 2015. This plan would provide Veterans with the full spectrum of healthcare services and more choice without sacrificing VA's foundational health services on which many Veterans depend.

At the same time, it is critical that we preserve and continue to improve the VA health care system and ensure that VA fulfills its mission. Veteran Service Organizations, hav-

ing decades of experience advocating for generations of our Nation's Veterans, have made it crystal clear that they believe VA is the best place for Veterans to receive care. Many VSOs fear that the Commission's vision would compromise VA's ability to provide specialized care for spinal cord injury, prosthetics, traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other mental health needs, which the private sector is not as equipped to provide. We share their concern and therefore do not support any policies or legislation that will lead to privatization, which I am pleased the Commission did not recommend outright. Privatization is not transformational. It's more along the lines of dereliction of duty.

VA is well on its way towards realizing the integrated health care network envisioned by the Commission, but we cannot get there alone. Congress is our board of directors. If Veterans are to receive the care and services they deserve, Congress must do its job as our board. Abdicating leadership and constitutional responsibilities by creating more bureaucracy hurts Veterans and slows the progress of our MyVA transformation. Congress must act on key pieces of legislation like our Plan to Consolidate Community Care, our plan to reform the claims appeals process, and the President's budget request for VA.

We, along with VSOs, have worked hard with Republicans and Democrats in Congress to develop these critical pieces of legislation. We know that the vast majority in Congress understand how critical these issues are and are ready to take action. I call on leadership from both parties to put political expediency aside and do what is best for our Veterans and for taxpayers. Only then will we be able to truly transform VA into the 21st century organization Veterans deserve.

Links to the President's statement and letter may be found at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/09/01/statement-press-secretary-presidents-response-commission-care-report>.

Information on the Commission on Care and its Charter may be found at <https://commissiononcare.sites.usa.gov/commissioners/>.

Thank You Mr. Frost!



THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



Office of the President
Thomas W. Stevens
5310 W. 122nd Terrace
Overland Park, KS 66209
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August 29, 2016

Mr. Frank J. Frost
2687 Puesta Del Sol
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2965

Dear Mr. Frost,

I have been informed by our Treasurer, Mr. Tom Gregg, that you have donated 100 shares of Exxon Mobile stock whose market value at the date of donation, August 26, 2016 was \$8,938 to the Korean War Veterans Association. The proceeds from the sale of the stock has been designated by you to be used toward the expense of KWVA being the host Veterans Service Organization on Veterans Day, 2017. The thoughtfulness of your generous donation goes beyond words. "Thank you", seems like such a meager response to your very significant donation. None the less, allow me to convey to you a most sincere statement of appreciation & THANK YOU!

The Korean War Veterans Association will incur a considerable amount of expense in 2017 for this occasion. However, we are looking forward to it because we will be afforded a rare opportunity to showcase KWVA. It is our desire to represent KWVA as an organization for which all those eligible will want to become a member. The very generous contribution you have made will enable KWVA to progress toward that goal.

Thank you very much for commendable contribution to KWVA for Veterans Day, 2017.

Tom Stevens, President
Korean War Veterans Association

THE MISSION OF THE KWVA/USA is
DEFEND our Nation -- **CARE** for our Veterans -- **PERPETUATE** our Legacy
REMEMBER our Missing and Fallen -- **MAINTAIN** our Memorial
SUPPORT a free Korea

A return to Parris Island

"For years I have wished that the [Marine Corps] would let veterans return to Boot Camp every couple of years, go through the 13 weeks, and then let them go back to civilian life without any further obligation. This would put us back in good physical and mental condition." Lew Bradley

Defense Department

This story is the first in a series that we will publish in upcoming issues. That is, of course, if defense veterans contribute enough stories to keep the series going. So, if you are a Korea Defense veteran, please send us your stories and complementary photos, art work, etc. Or, if you know Korea Defense veterans, ask them to contribute.

The address is Arthur G. Sharp, c/o Korea Defense Editor, 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573. Let's hope we can keep the series alive.

Panmunjom, Korea: hallow ground

By John D. Hannigan

Iserved in the United States Army Security Agency from February 1953 until October 1964. I served a tour of duty in Korea November 1957 to December 1958.

I was stationed at Camp Red Cloud in Uijongbu and attached to I Corps. My assignment with the 321st USASABN Headquarters was communication specialist, as an operator and a maintenance repairman for the battalion communications north. The area I covered included the Demilitarized Zone intelligence units just south of the Imjim River.

I did not serve in combat, but as part of the South Korean Defensive Support after the July 27, 1953 cease fire. My duty involved a 24/7 day shift. But, I was on call for battalion emergency or loss of communications during off duty hours.

You may ask why I write this article. It's simple. I hope it will provide some healing to the combat veterans who served in South Korea, "The Land of the Morning Calm."

During my tour of duty in Korea, I visited the Panmunjom cease fire site and was really surprised with what I saw. I will try to describe it as I remember being there in 1958.

Panmunjom is not particularly impressive. Nevertheless, I considerate it hallow ground. In addition to the site of the cease fire signing by most of the countries engaged in war, it is the only place where people can solemnly respect the combatants from every participating country who were killed in action [KIA], wounded in action [WIA] (some debilitated for the rest of their lives), missing in action [MIA], or included in the exchange of Prisoners of War [POW] from both sides. In short, it may have been a healing spot for both

I asked the UN guard, "What if I crossed the 38th parallel and was on the north side of the table?" His response was twofold. First, he explained, that is why he was present. Second, it would create a major incident that would bring both nations back to the conference table for a special meeting to discuss the intrusion.

nations and all their combat veterans.

The site is not very big. Entering it from the south, I see a vast difference in the North Korean side versus the South Korea side. It reeks of arrogance and intimidation from the north. It gives an eerie feeling that the north is still in control. It did even in 1968, fifteen years after the signing.

Looking north, a visitor can see a permanent building sitting on a hill north of the 38th parallel. This houses the North Korean soldiers who stand guard on their side of the 38th. The soldiers are well equipped in the event that someone from the south crosses the 38th into North Korea.

On the South Korean side is a Quonset hut in which the United Nations and United States guards ensure that no one crosses over the 38th from the north. The south is backed up by United States Army and South Korean Army units. This indicated to me that, although there was a cease fire in place, a war zone still existed. You could cut the daily tension with a bayonet.

There was a third building, also a Quonset hut that sat between both guard positions. This was where the cease fire was signed. From the south, people entered a large room the length of the Quonset hut that contained a table and chairs on both sides.

The first thing I saw was the line of the 38th parallel painted on the table. Next, I noticed that true to North Korean intimidation, their chairs were taller than those of the South Koreans. Next, I noticed the flags on the table. Once again the North Korean flag was taller than the UN and U.S. flags. I could imagine how intimidated the South Korea and United Nations delegates must have felt when they entered the room for the first time. Armed military guards from both countries were allowed in the room to ensure that no one attempted to cross the 38th parallel line on the table to confront the other side.

As I entered the Quonset hut an armed UN Security Guard accompanied me. He was there to enforce that no one crossed the 38th parallel either way. Almost instantly an armed North Korean security guard emerged from the north entrance. He stood there staring ahead in an intimidating manner.

I asked the UN guard, "What if I crossed the 38th parallel and was on the north side of the table?" His response was twofold. First, he explained, that is why he was present. Second, it would create a major incident that would bring both nations back to the conference table for a special meeting to discuss the intrusion. Needless to say, I never was in North Korea.

I also had the privilege of going over to

the Freedom Bridge within the Panmunjom site. The bridge had a line representing the 38th parallel drawn on it. From the south, the bridge was guarded by UN guards with dual machine guns at the ready in the event that encroachment from the north became an issue. Similarly, the North Korean guards had their machine guns at the ready in the event that encroachment from the south became an issue. The area in 1958 gave the impression of a war zone waiting to happen.

The bridge received its name when the UN POWs were processed by the north for repatriation in accordance with the cease fire agreement. When the POWs arrived on the north side of the bridge and started to cross towards the south, it is said that they tore off their clothes and threw them in and around the bridge. The North Korean POWs were also repatriated to the north using this bridge.

When I left Korea in December 1958, nothing had changed in the Panmunjom area. Tensions had built up between both North and South Korea. There were several occasions when the North Korean Military crossed the Imjim River and dug tunnels to hide in. Eventually, these infiltrations were repelled by the South Korean military.

After I returned to the U.S., I kept abreast of the Korean Peninsula. In 1968 the North Korean navy captured the USS Pueblo off the coast of North Korea. The crew became POWs. They were repatriated though the Freedom Bridge on their return to South Korea and then to the United States.

Some things do not change.

*John D. Hannigan,
naginnahj@yahoo.com*

Korean War Cease Fire Remembered

Another Entry in a Continuing Series

By Lynn H. Hahn

I was drafted into military service on 3 January 1952 and separated on 16 December 1953. I took basic training at Ft. Lee, Virginia and then attended Quartermaster training to major in Graves Registration. On completion of that training I was sent to Korea and ended up serving in the 148th Graves Registration Company, with headquarters in Wonju, Korea.

We had two platoons near the fighting front that helped in recovering and transferring the deceased back to headquarters in Wonju. At Headquarters the remains were fingerprinted and personal effects were accounted for and secured.

Proper paper work would be developed for transfer with the body. The body was then refrigerated until there were enough bodies for a plane trip to Kokura, Japan, where a mortuary was located. There the remains were positively identified, embalmed, casketed, and prepared for shipment back the states.

Initially, I spent time in search and recovery. After a short time I was transferred to the Operations Section, located at headquarters, where reception and transferring our deceased military personnel occurred. I was able to type and spent most of the remainder of my time in Korea as a typist.

There was a drop in the number of current deceased casualties as the Korean cease fire was being developed. There was, however, discussion about exchanging war dead as part of the cease fire. This opera-

tion was known to be Operation Glory.

Our unit was ordered to prepare for this exchange. That would include exhuming enemy remains located in several small enemy cemeteries and reburial of the remains in one central cemetery. Should the operation occur, it would restrict enemy troops from recovering their dead from one location.

This operation involved considerable office work, in that burial bottles were used to contain information about the transfer. Operation Glory eventually occurred in 1954. There is considerable detail on the Internet explaining Operation Glory.

I began to anticipate the day I would leave Korea and return home. I wrote to my wife to explain the events around July 27, 1953.

"On July 27, 1953 he wrote home to his wife to tell her that the [cease fire] had been signed and that the fighting was supposed to stop at ten o'clock that evening. He said there is no great amount of celebration, although everyone is glad it has come.

"The radio has been used by high army commanders to explain to us that there would be no changes for us. It is just a cease fire. They kept repeating that rotation will remain as it has been, and that we won't be going home sooner."

And it was true that there was no sooner for me.

*Lynn H. Hahn, 7476 Siesta Ct., Whitehall,
MI 49461, 231-894-6183,
lynnhahn@aol.com*

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The Wall of Remembrance in Busan, Korea

The Wall of Remembrance in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan is the only freestanding outdoor memorial in the world that lists the names of all Korean War soldiers from the UN allied nations outside of Korea who fell in the Korean War. In the case of the United States, 119 of the Wall's 140 black granite panels are engraved with 36,492 names of those who fell and those still listed as missing in action. They are listed by state.

The names of 4,404 fallen soldiers from 16 other nations are engraved on the other 21 granite panels nation by nation. The reflecting pool is in the center of the grand-arching granite wall, with the eternal flame of remembrance burning always.

Take care of the dog

The 68th FIS Squadron did an outstanding job in both aircraft maintenance and electronics. The squadron never had problems with equipment of any kind.

We had an amusing incident while I was on strip alert in the F-82 and F-94B at Misawa Air Base at northern Honshu, Japan. We had a pet dog. When I left one day for a required cross country navigational

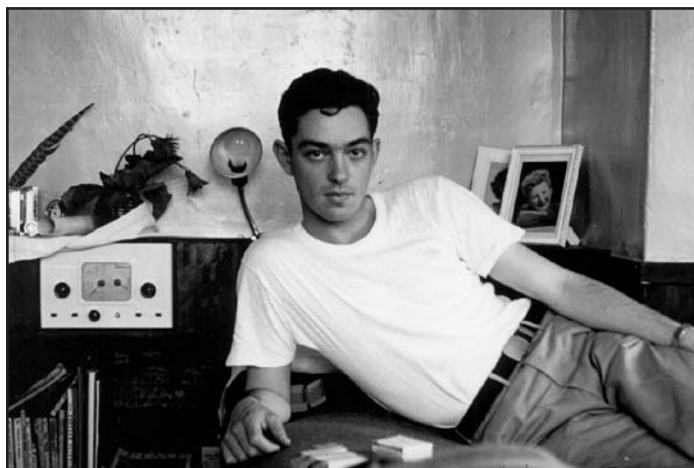
flight, I asked one of the Japanese workers to "take care of the dog." He did.

The worker interpreted my words to mean "make a meal of the animal." That's exactly what he did.

Stanley F. Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr., Pinole, CA 94564



Near the end of the Korean War the F-86D entered the inventory in defense of Japan. The 68th FIS acquired the single-seater fighter later and turned it over to the Japanese Air Force



Maintenance man enjoys time off



Maintenance worker checks 68th FIS plane



68th FIS maintenance specialist looks over aircraft



68th FIS maintenance crew at work



The dog that came to dinner

The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

209 – LAREDO KWVA 1950 [TX]

Several members participated in a Tell America presentation recently.

Edwardo R. Sanchez Jr., 2519 Garfield St., Laredo, TX 78043, 956-723-4206



Tell America team from Ch 209



Members of Ch 209 gather



Presenters from Ch 209 occupy good seats



Group at Ch 209's presentation



Students and Ch 209 members at presentation

251 – SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Members from our chapter, Frankenmuth Legion Post 150, and VFW Post 2725 gave a presentation to the 10th grade history students at Frankenmuth High School on May 27th. Students in five different classes learned about the veterans' expe-

riences in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

The flags in the classroom were donated, and teacher Robin Roberts received a medallion.

Richard Carpenter, 4915 N. River Rd., Freeland, MI 48623



Veterans at Frankenmuth High School include Robert Frank, John Warnick, George Weinert, and Gerry Sohn (Front, L-R)

Korean Buddhists and Outpost International of the Society of the 3d Inf. Division Honor Korean War dead

By Monika Stoy

On 14 April 2016 the Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism and Outpost International of the Society of the 3d Infantry Division conducted commemorative ceremonies in the Memorial Amphitheater of Arlington National Cemetery to honor Korean War dead. Rites included a tea ceremony by 22 ladies of the order's Association for Tea Culture and ritual offerings by senior Buddhist Abbots, the Venerable Song Mook, and Venerable Duk San, who traveled from Korea specifically for this event, and Yeoam Sunim of the newly formed Lotus Temple in Fairfax, VA. There was also a traditional dance performance for the spirits of the fallen.

These were the first ever Jogye Order Korean Buddhist rites conducted in Arlington National Cemetery. The Order wished to express its gratitude to the Americans who died preserving the freedom of the Republic of Korea. MajGen Clyde W. Spence, U.S. Army (ret.), who served with the 3d Infantry Division Artillery, and Colonel Wendell Phillips, U.S. Army (ret.), who served with the 159th Field Artillery Battalion, both USMA graduates, class of 1950, represented Korean War veterans. MajGen. Spence's wife, Mary, accompanied him.



Abbot Duk San with U.S. flag gift

These were the first ever Jogye Order Korean Buddhist rites conducted in Arlington National Cemetery. The Order wished to express its gratitude to the Americans who died preserving the freedom of the Republic of Korea

Other participants were Tenor Paul McIlvaine, who sang the Korean and U.S. national anthems, accompanied by Mr. Seungchul Lee on the flute. Mrs. So Rim Park performed a traditional Korean song to conclude the ceremony.

LtCol. Lee Yarborough, U.S. Army (ret.), son of Korean War veteran LtGen. William P. Yarborough, was also present, as were Col. Donald Howell, U.S. Army (ret.) and Mrs. Haesook Choi, spouse of Kyungjin Choi, who served with AU 8240 as a Korean partisan during the Korean War. Society member Jeff Geraci also attended.

Jeff's father, Col. John Geraci, was a lieutenant and captain with the 7th Infantry Regiment in Korea, receiving two Silver Stars. LtCol. Tim Stoy, U.S. Army (ret.), historian for the Society of the 3d Infantry Division, served as master of ceremonies.

Venerable Abbot Song Mook, MajGen. Spence, and Outpost President Captain (ret.) Monika Stoy participated in a wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Events concluded with a wreath ceremony at the 3d Infantry Division Monument, the only Division monument inside the cemetery.

The 3d Infantry Division fought in eight campaigns in Korea from November 1950 until July 1953, suffering 2,160 KIA, 7,939 WIA, and 292 MIA. The 3d Inf. Div:

- defended the Hungnam Beachhead
- helped extract UN forces from the Changjin Reservoir in late November and December 1950
- entered Seoul as the first UN unit in March 1951
- participated in the war of the outposts in the Iron Triangle in 1952 and early 1953
- fought its final battles on Outpost Harry and in the Chorwon Valley in June and July 1953
- remained in Korea until October 1954

Arlington Cemetery provided its customary outstanding support. The cemetery looked particularly magnificent this day, with bright sunshine and numerous flower beds everywhere in full flower! It was a very memorable day, and the solemn Buddhist ceremonies honoring the war dead show how much all sectors of Korean society remain grateful to American veterans for the freedoms they enjoy today.

Monika Stoy, Timmoni15@yahoo.com



Group photo after commemorative rites in the Memorial Amphitheater

(Below) Abbot Song Mook and delegation after placing wreath at 3d ID Memorial site



(Above left) Honoring Korean War participating nations on the stage at the Memorial Amphitheater

(Left) Monika Stoy, MajGen Spence, and Abbot Song Mook prepare for wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns



(Above) Tea ceremony in the Memorial Amphitheater



Korean delegation with 3ID Society at the Third Infantry Division Monument

66th Anniversary of Korean War Commemorated

The 66th anniversary of the Korean War was commemorated at the Pacific Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl on 25 June 2016. Every year since 2004, the extensive program to commemorate this memorial service has been developed and coordinated by Mr. Tommy Tahara of Chapter 20, Hawaii #1, and Mr. Jimmy Shin.

These gentlemen contact the Punchbowl Director, Korean Consul General of Honolulu, arrange for keynote and guest speakers, a Korean pastor for invocation, and a Roman Catholic priest for benediction.

They ensure the setup of large tents, chairs, reserve seating, issue VIP parking passes, organize the presentation of colors, invite military and civilian VIPs, including Hawaii State Senators and Representatives, City Councilmen, ROTC, print a detailed and attractive program, attract a military band to play the U.S. and Korean national anthems and the Korean song (Arirang), solicit a bugler to play "Taps," musical prelude and postlude, get a firing detail for Rifle Salute, contact various veterans and civil organizations and coordinate their presentation of wreaths, request a flyover, and arrange a free lunch for every invited guest.

Stan Fujii, stan_fujii@hotmail.com



Presentation of National and State colors at Hawaii Punchbowl



Tommy Tahara and Harold Yamauchi carrying KWVA Ch 20 wreath



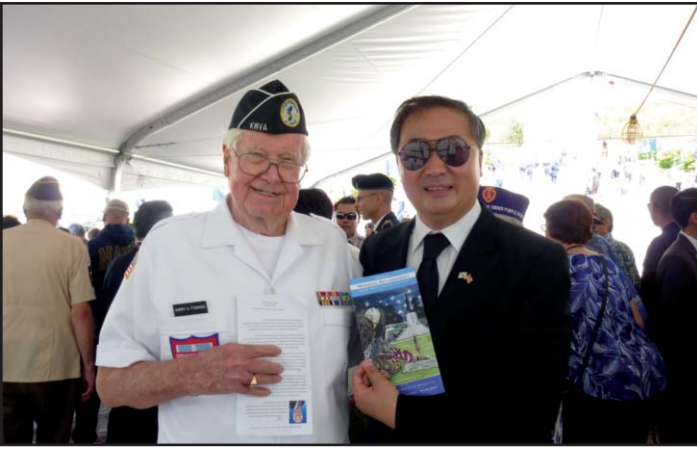
American flag and decorated graves at Punchbowl



Typical Hawaiian grave marked with American flag and flower lei



Walter Ozawa and Reserve Officers veteran with wreath at Hawaii commemoration



President Harry Fanning of Ch 20 and honorable Korean Consulate General of Honolulu David K. Paik



Display of flower leis at Hawaii commemoration



Placing of State of Hawaii wreath by Governor David Ige and Mayor Kirk Caldwell



Rifle salute by Hawaii Air National Guard



Ch 20 veterans Lucio Sanico, Orlander Keller (Commander of local Purple Heart District), Robert Sugel, and Harry Fanning at Memorial Day observance

Korean War Memorial dedicated in San Francisco

The Korean War Memorial in San Francisco was dedicated on August 1, 2016, with over 700 people in attendance, including South Korean and American Korean War veterans, politicians, and assorted guests. Director Gerard Parker noted:

“We have now posted a comprehensive gallery of photos taken at the Opening Ceremony of the Korean War Memorial in

the Presidio of San Francisco on August 1, 2016. These photos, by eminent photographer Tom Graves, depict the highlights of the ceremony from beginning to end.

“If you were present at the ceremony, we believe that you will enjoy revisiting the event through this photo montage. If you were unable to attend, we believe that you will get a good feel for what the ceremony was

like, and what the new Korean War Memorial looks like.”

All photos are credited to Tom Graves/ TwiceHeroes.com.

The Foundation raised \$3.2 million to fund the memorial, thanks in large part to a \$1 million donation from the South Korean government. Incidentally, it is not too late to make donations to support the project.

Here are a couple links if you would like to see all the photos posted on the KWMF website: <http://www.kwmf.org/category/news/or> Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/KoreanWarMemorialFoundation> Gerard Parker, Korean War Memorial Foundation, 401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 313A, San Francisco, CA 94102. Office: 415 817 1858; Cell: 415 250 8518

Kathleen Stephens, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, 2008-2011, and Koret Fellow in Korean Studies, Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University, addresses the guests



U. S. Congressman Mike Honda, California District 17, Silicon Valley. The Congressman flew in from Washington with his friend, Republic of Korea Ambassador Ahn Ho-Young



Delegation of Korean War veterans at monument unveiling



Consul General Shin Chee-Hyun, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea, San Francisco



Warren Wiedhahn, Colonel, USMC (Ret.), Korean War veteran, and First Vice President, Korean War Veterans Association, with John Stevens (R)



The closest of allies for sixty-six years



A view of the rostrum from behind the audience. Just visible in the foggy distance is Alcatraz Island.



The ribbon-cutting. From L: Denny Weisgerber, Don Reid, John Stevens, Quentin Kopp, Nancy Hellman Bechtle, Ambassador Ahn Ho-Young, and Vice Minister Choi Wan Keun



The Memorial wall, polished black granite panels, laser-etched with text and iconic images from the Korean War



The right end panel of the wall: an acknowledgement of the United Nations commitment to the freedom of South Korea, with a list of all the countries that were part of the U.N. effort.



Membership is Our Strength

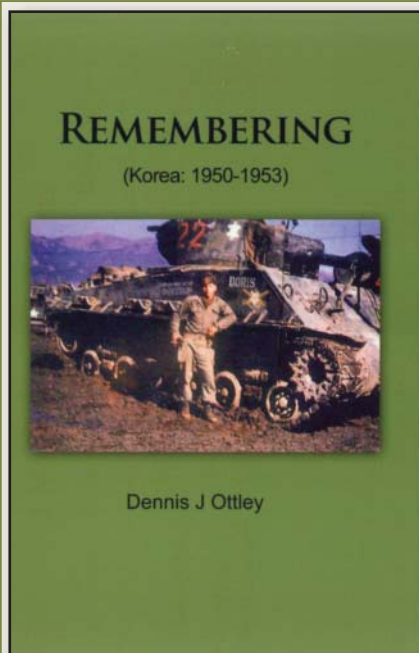
It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you paid to become eligible to join



Have a Mini-Reunion? Dedicating a Memorial? Attending a Banquet

Send your photos and a short write-up to *The Graybeards* editor for publication!

Mail to Art Sharp, Editor,
Korean War, 2473 New Haven
Circle
Sun City Center, FL 33573-
7141



Remembering (Korea: 1950-1953) by Dennis J. Ottley

It was referred to as a "Police Action" but those who served know it was an all-out war and one of the bloodiest in American history.

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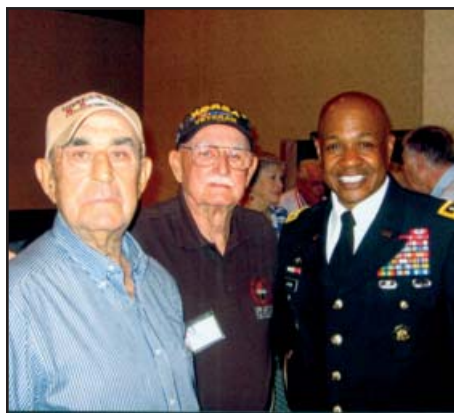
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Chapter & Department News

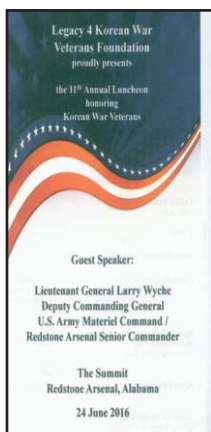
2 NORTHWEST ALABAMA II [AL]

Jim Taylor and Bill Gotcher attended the 11th annual Legacy for Korean Veterans luncheon and program.

James G. Taylor, 105 Lake View Dr., Muscle Shoals, AL 35661, 256-383-8172, DMTaylor5@gmail.com



Bill Gotcher (L), Jim Taylor (C), and LtGen Larry Wyche at luncheon attended by Ch 2 members



Alabama Legacy luncheon program

13 BILL CARR CHAPTER 1 [DE]

We recently hosted Larence Kirby, Executive Director of the Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs, as the featured speaker. Mr. Kirby, a thirty-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, spoke about the mission of his organization, the Commission Trust Fund, and the future plans and goals to help our Delaware veterans.



Larence Kirby (L) with Lt. Col. (Ret.) David Miller, Treasurer of Ch 13 and a Korean War veteran. (Photo by Jack McGinley)

His message was very well presented to an audience wanting to learn more about the Commission and its operations. A question and answer period followed his presentation.

We also held a Rose of Sharon Fundraiser at the Rehoboth Beach Wal-Mart. The weather was pleasant for the six-hour

effort and the store visitors were very generous. Jack and Shirley McGinley and Ed and Delores Johnson were among the solicitors.

Many people expressed their gratitude for our service.

Jack McGinley, 302-945-0698, jomcginl@aol.com

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

The speaker at our June luncheon was Colonel Matthew Puglisi, Commanding Officer and Combat Logistics Regiment 45, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve. The Colonel had arrived from his service in Okinawa with all the latest and informative news.



Korean Consul General, Seong-Jin Kim speaks to Ch 19 audience



Korean dancers entertain Ch 19 members



Korean Consul General, Seong-Jin Kim presents certificate to Ch 19 president Bob McCubbins



Attendees and guests at Ch 19's June meeting (email)

Also in June, the Korean Consul General, Seong-Jin Kim, invited members and wives to a luncheon for "Friends of Korea." Peace Corps Greetings, Poetry Reading, Video Presentation on Korea and Traditional Korean Dance were included in a memorable afternoon.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net

20 HAWAII #1 [HI]

Members have been active in various activities in recent months.

Robert K. C. Young, 1329 Akalani Loop
Kailua, HI 96734



Adjutant General MajGen Darryl D. M. Wong, Col, David J. Clark, Dir. Dept. of Defense 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, Robert Young, LtGov Shan S. Tsutsui of Hawaii and Gov. Neil Abercrombie of Hawaii at the Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony

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40 MINNESOTA #1 [MN]

Members attended a Volunteer Recognition Awards and Luncheon on June 21, 2016.

Blair C. Rumble, 969 Lombard Ave.
Saint Paul, MN 55105



Ch 40 group at luncheon: Bob Nehotte, Don Goethals, Mike Jansen, Vera Jansen, Patrick Kelly (Director of Minneapolis VA Health Care System), Mel Behnen, Chanley Lundgren, and Blair Rumble (L-R)

41 FROZEN CHOSIN [MN]

We met with Tom Lyons of the Minnesota Military Radio on June 23, 2016. He recorded our conversations.

The resulting interviews are archived through Minnesota Military Radio, and are found in the June archive, if anyone is

interested. Items discussed were membership of the KWVA and issuing invitations information to potential members that there are Korean War chapters available. There are still many veterans who have not heard of the KWVA.



Secretary Paul Steen of Ch 41, with Sgt. Angelo, who assisted in the meeting interview, and chapter Commander Bill Hoehn (L-R)



Paul and Jane Steen and Bill and Jo Ann Hoehn at Ch 41 meeting (L-R)

There are bills before congress on the Wall of Remembrance, and a memorial for the Korean Defense veterans, and many other articles too numerous to mention. Anyone who sees this in *The Graybeards* can type Minnesota Military Radio into your browser, and jump into the June 2016 archive. You might find it interesting.

There may be other chapters that can do the same thing in getting this ball rolling regarding memberships, etc.

Members participate in local area parades. They and their families appreciate the enthusiastic response from the parade viewers.

Allen E. Torgerson, 1400 Lynx Ln., Mankato, MN 56001



Members of Ch 41 ride in parade



Family members go along for the ride with Ch 41 members in parade

43 KANSAS CITY MISSOURI # 2 [MO]

Again this year the Fairmount Plaza Memorial Day ceremony in Independence, MO was inspiring and emotional. Adaire Stewart, the service coordinator, worked hard—as always—for a great flag raising ceremony.

Participating in the ceremony were members of the Sugar Creek [MO] Police Department and VFW Post 1738 of Independence.

The keynote speak-



John Perkins, District Council member, City of Independence, MO, speaks at Fairmount Plaza



Adaire Stewart, Service Coordinator, addresses attendees at Fairmount Plaza ceremony

er was Staff Sergeant Max Henderson, U.S. Marine Corps, WWII.

The reception was great, with good food and a lot of visiting.

Robert R. (Bob) Jones, 13975 E. 35th St., Apt. 428, Independence, MO 64055, 816-836-0969 (H), 816-809-0123 (C), bobjones73rdtkbn@yahoo.com

Max Henderson, WWII USMC veteran, delivers keynote address at Fairmount Plaza



Guests mingle at Fairmount Plaza Memorial Day ceremony

55 NASSAU COUNTY #1 [NY]

Every summer the Arumdaum Presbyterian Church in Bethpage, NY invites us to a luncheon. After a delicious buffet of bulgogi, rice, noodles, poached salmon, fish cakes, salad, and other Korean delicacies, Pastor Jeehoon Song brought out a large cake for dessert.

The Massapequa Park, NY, VFW Post 7763 honors the Korean War veterans each year in July. We are invited, along with many American Legion, VFW, Jewish war veterans, Vietnam veterans, Purple Heart recipients, and Marine Corps posts.

After the ceremony with many military, county, and town representatives, a collation is held at VFW Post 7763, catered by Panera Bread and Applebee's.



Commander Charles Bours of Ch 55 holds cake with Pastor Jeehoon Song

We held a ceremony on July 24, 2016 to commemorate the truce signing in Korea. The service was held in the Triangle in Massapequa, NY. Several hundred veterans, including many of our members, and other people attended.

Each veterans group presented a wreath.

Jack Hayne, jhayne49@ieee.org, wb2bed@arrl.net



Members of Ch 55 at VFW Post 7763 shindig: 1st Vice Cmdr Henry Nowicki, Director Arnold Barletta, Chaplain Robert O'Brien, Paul Kicherer, Secretary Buddy Epstein, Cmdr Charles Bours, Dick Doster and Jack Hayne (L-R)



Wreaths presented at Ch 55 ceremony in Massapequa, NY

64 CENTRAL LONG ISLAND [NY]

(See Chapters 170/216)

71 WESTERN OHIO-LAKE ERIE [OH]

We held our annual picnic on September 12, 2016 at American Legion Post 12, Elyria, OH. Twenty members and guests attended. We shared good food and good fellowship, all of which was enjoyable.

Joseph F. Moss, 1036 Rose Alee Ave., Elyria, OH 44035, 440-897-4593, SJB1034@windstream.net

84 IRON TRIANGLE [OR]

On July 30th, U.S. and South Korean Korean War veterans were honored by the Korean Church of Salem with a church service, a delicious lunch, and an outstanding performance by the "Milano Praise Ensemble" from Seoul (they also reside in Italy). The ensemble (all Koreans) consists of a tenor, soprano,

bass singer and a pianist, all of whom are superb performers.

They sang fifteen programmed songs, plus two encores, following standing ovations. Their presentation was arranged for this event by Dr. Sean Shim, who sang the national anthem at the beginning of the service.

Following the church service, a delicious buffet lunch comprising all authentic Korean food was served. No one left hungry.



Singers entertain Ch 84 members

Korean ladies run the mess hall at Ch 84 meeting



The patriotically decorated mess hall for Ch 84 gathering

Greg Caldwell, Honorary Consul General of the Republic of Korea, and Jim Leiper, past chapter president, expressed their thanks for our being so honored.

This was about the fifteenth year the church and their pastor, Reverend David Jeon, have honored Korean War veterans with a service, luncheon, and ever extraordinary entertainment.

Bob "Doc" Wickman, rwickman@comcast.net

Thank you banner greets Ch 84 members



112 LAKE ERIE [OH]

We dedicated a Korea War Memorial on Monday, May 30, 2016. It is located in the Euclid Veterans Memorial Park, 585 E. 222nd St. The dedication took place after the Annual Memorial Day Parade held in Euclid.

Approximately 250 people gathered after the parade for the ceremonies. The memorial is dedicated to those American veterans who lived and died and the more than 1,500,000 veterans of 21 United Nations countries that served to stop the movement of communism on the Korean Peninsula.

Stephen 'Steve' Szekely, 1516 Laclede Rd.
South Euclid, OH 44121, 216- 381-9080
SxdSzek@sbcglobal.net

126 TRI-STATE [OH]

Charles "Geordie" Griffiths is one of our interesting members. He has his own motor pool.

Geordie served in the Army from 1948 to 1952 in the 4th Regimental Combat Team in Alaska, where they trained for Arctic warfare. He was with the machine gun unit and was a ski instructor for four years.

Geordie's first vehicle was a 1951 Willys jeep. Then he acquired a 1952 Willys jeep that he painted red. The 1942 Dodge Command Car came next. His final prize was the 1963 Dodge Weapons Carrier.



1951 Willys Jeep



1963 Dodge weapons carrier

He has trailers for the jeep and weapons carrier. Geordie treats all his equipment with tender loving care. All of his vehicles have been stripped down, sand blasted, and painted—with a coat of epoxy on the undercarriage. They look like they just came off the assembly line.



1952 Willys Jeep



1942 Dodge command car



"Geordie" Griffiths of Ch 126, whose vehicles are pictured nearby, displays his 4th Regimental Combat Team flag



"Geordie" Griffiths' motor pool leads Memorial Day Parade in Midland, PA in 2014

Geordie's motor pool is always a crowd pleaser at any veterans event or parade in the Tri State area.

George Piggott, 3720 Root Ave. N.E., Canton, Ohio

131 NORTHWEST OHIO [OH]

President Vincent Dominquez set up a display at the Toledo Lusas County Public Library at the Oregon, OH branch. Circulation Supervisor Jacey Duffer helped him as we tried to make the public aware of our chapter.

On May 28, 2016 we participated in a Memorial Day Parade in Toledo. That same day members placed a wreath at the War Memorial at the Civic Center Mall in Toledo.

We placed another wreath at the same site on July 27th to commemorate the signing of the Korean War armistice. Members participating included President Dominquez, VP Bob Darr, and historian Bill Lyzan.

William Lyzan, 2429 Norma Pl.
Northwood, OH 43619



Jacey Duffer and Vincent Dominquez show Ch 131's display



Contingent from Ch 131 places wreath in Toledo, OH

137 MAHONING VALLEY [OH]

We have new officers for the 2016-17 year: President Robert Bakalik, 1st VP Mike Ekoniak, 2nd VP Lloyd Edwards, Secretary Frank Sloat, Treasurer Beverly Pariza, and Chaplain John Klamut.



Ch 137's new officers: Robert Bakalik, Mike Ekoniak, Lloyd Edwards, Frank Sloat, Beverly Pariza, and John Klamut (L-R)

We held our annual “Laying of the Roses” ceremony on 26, June 2016. 1st VP Robert Bakalik and Commander Zeno Foley presented 120 roses representing the 120 men from the Mahoning Valley who were KIA in Korea. The Tri-County Marine Detachment assisted.

Bob Bakalik, 2841 S. Schenley Ave.
Youngstown, OH 44511



Plaque honoring MOH recipient John Kelly (USMC) at Ch 137's “Laying of the Roses” program



Ch 137's Memorial prior to its “Laying of the Roses” program



LEFT: 8' bronze statue at Ch 137's Memorial in Youngstown, OH.
RIGHT: Robert Bakalik (L) and Zeno Foley present roses at Ch 137's program

159 SUNSHINE STATE [FL]

On July 25th Congressman David Jolly, an associate member of our chapter, made a presentation on our behalf to Carol Barkalow LTC USA (Ret), founding member of ‘Heaven on Earth for Veterans, Inc.’ The organization, which is located in St. Petersburg, FL, provides residential accommodation for homeless veterans.



Peter Palmer Ch 159 commander, founding members of Heaven on Earth for Veterans Inc. Carol Barkalow and Sheila Mutascio, chapter members Bill and Meredith Slavins and treasurer Judy Michaud (L-R) (Photo by Ch 159 secretary)

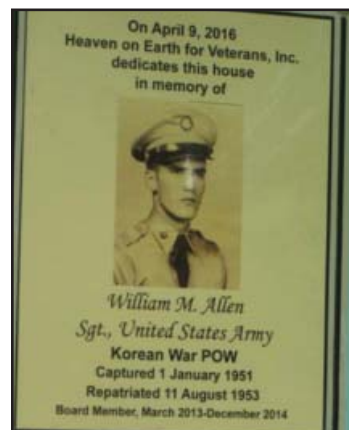


Congressman David Jolly presents check to Carol Barkalow of Heaven on Earth for Veterans, Inc. as guests look on

Dedication plaque in honor of former POW William Allen

The presentation was made outside one of the nine accommodation units the organization operates. This particular unit was opened in April 2016 by Congressman Jolly and dedicated in memory of Bill Allen, Korean War veteran and POW.

Peter Palmer,
palmersp@verizon.net



170 TAEJON/216 – M*A*S*H* 4099 [NJ]

On June 25, 2016 the Arcola Korean Methodist Church of Paramus, NJ celebrated its annual event to honor Korean War veterans of the Taejon and M*A*S*H* 4099 chapters and show their appreciation for the sacrifices that helped save South Korea from communism. There was an overflow crowd of veterans and family members.

George Bruzgis, Sal Scarlato, and Kenneth Green at Arcola Church (L-R)



After the posting of the Colors and the singing of the national anthems by church member/opera singer Professor Yang Gil Ji, Ch 170 Commander Kenneth Green, the moderator for the event, introduced Sr. Pastor the Rev. Dr. Timothy Myunghoon Ahn, who gave a short talk on what veterans did for his country and how it contributed to South Korea's economic success. Then, the Rev. Samuel D. Park offered the invocation.



Elder Kyu Ho Park, George Bruzgis, Sal Scarlato, Kenneth Green, and Sr. Pastor Dr. Timothy Ahn (L-R) at Paramus, NJ event



Camille Georgios, Ch 170 "Taejon Post" editor, Adjutant Perry Georgison, and Color Guard member George Rothfritz enjoy church appreciation event

A series of speakers delivered remarks. They included Sal Scarlato, KWVA Department of New York President, Yunju Ki, Council of New York Korean Consulate, John Cosgrove, Mayor of Fairlawn Township, New Jersey, Michael Yum, Jersey City Councilman, and John Sehejong Ha, 1st VP and Secretary of the KWVA Department of New York.



Kenneth Green, Mayor John Cosgrove, William Burns, Elaine Burns (Standing, L-R) with Col. Jack O'Neil and Anne O'Neil (Sitting) at Arcola Church



The John Sehejong, Ha family at Arcola Church.



Ch 216 Commander Al Gonzalez and his wife partake in Arcola Church's celebration

Commander Green introduced two other dignitaries present, KWVA National Director George Bruzgis and Ch 216 Commander Al Gonzalez. Then it was time to dine on the fabulous Korean-American buffet dinner provided by members of the church.

After dinner church members provided stimulating entertainment. Featured entertainers included soprano Jin Young Chung, tenor Yang Gil Ji, Korean traditional music and dancers, and a clarinet solo accompanied by Men Kyung Park.

Commander Green and Sr. Vice Commander Robert O'Toole presented Elder Kyu Ho Park with a special gift for his many years of service to Korean War veterans.



Traditional Korean Dance Group entertains at Arcola Church

Kenneth Green (L) and Robert O'Toole (R) of Ch 170 present gift to Mr. Park



Concluding ceremonies included "Taps," "God Bless America," and the retiring of the Colors.

May our two countries always be close, with God's blessing.
Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ

181 KANSAS #1 [KS]

We had a beautiful fall day for our annual picnic. We had about 35 members and their ladies for the event.

Ddyer15@everestkc.net



Members and guests respect the flag at Ch 181's annual picnic

186 MISSOURI #6 [MO]

At our June meeting, we honored our Commanders since we received our charter in April 2000. Early that year several members of Chapter 96 of St. Louis County felt that there were enough members living in St. Charles County to support their own chapter.

Department of Missouri State Commander Stuart Ballou mentored them and submitted their signed petition to the KWVA Inc. The petition was approved, and on April 18, 2000 we had our first meeting as Chapter 186 (MO Chapter 6) in a Quonset hut in St. Charles County, Missouri.

Through the leadership of the commanders listed below, as well as those who have served as officers since its beginning, we have become a respected, recognized, and integral part of the community.

Our commanders to date have been Elmer Austermann Jr. (April 18, 2000 through June 30, 2001 USMC); Curtis Farley Jr., deceased (July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2003 USAF); Ezra Frank Williams (July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2007 USMC); Robert Peitz (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2010 USA); Richard Saip (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2014 USN); present Commander Arthur Minor (July 1, 2014...) (USAF).



Commanders of Ch 186, past and present: Elmer Austermann Jr., Ezra Frank Williams, Robert Peitz, Richard Saip, Arthur Minor (R-L)

Note that we have had at least one commander from each of the branches of the armed forces, with the exception of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Presently we have 40 members.

Chris Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr., O'Fallon, MO 63366, *schristifulli@charter.net*

203 WAR DOGS [CA]

We recently celebrated our 15th anniversary as a chapter. Our founding father was Bill Hoyle. He moved to Texas and joined Chapter 215 as an active member and a Past President. He passed on in October 2015.

We are grateful for his leadership in our chapter's life. The past year, three members have served to establish the Stanislaus County Veterans Foundation in Modesto, CA. Larry Johnson, Joe Madden, and Dr. Thomas Watling serve in board capacities.



Ch 203 "War Dogs" at July 16, 2016 meeting

Our chapter contributed some funding, and the City of Modesto and the county fund much of the program and the building, which will house all Stanislaus County veteran services. The expected opening date is Veterans Day, November 11, 2016.

Don Strand, Secretary, 209-634-9498

215 GENERAL WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

We hosted the 2016 meeting of the KWVA Texas State Department at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth. KWVA Texas President. Eddie L. Bell, Sr. and officials from chapters in San Antonio, Killeen, Dallas, El Paso, and Texarkana attended.

Also present were Sang Soo Kim, Dallas Consular Office Head of Mission, Dong-Gyu Lee, Dallas Korean Consul, and Jin S. Kim, President Korean Veterans Association U. S. Southwest Region.

Members of the Korean Central United Methodist Church of Dallas provided musical and instrumental presentations. Member Larry Kinard received awards in appreciation for his service as the previous National President of KWVA.

Another former National President, William Mac Swain, presented the POW-MIA Table of Remembrance ceremony.

Dave Moore, davewp2g@yahoo.com



Eddie L. Bell, Sr. addresses Texas State Department audience

Sang Soo Kim talks to Texas group



William Mac Swain at POW/MIA table at Texas meeting



Larry Kinard (L) and Eddie L. Bell, Sr. at Texas State Department meeting

249 COL. JOSEPH C. RODRIGUEZ MOH [TX]

It was June 25th, 66 years ago, that our country was engulfed in what is now known as "The Forgotten War." On June 25th, 2016, the Korean War Veterans Memorial Monument sponsored by Chapter 249 and the El Paso Korean Association was dedicated at the Fort Bliss National Cemetery.

The KWVA and the Korean Association have worked tirelessly to change the perception of the Korean War from a "Forgotten War" to a "Forgotten Victory."

The KWVA "Tell American" program sponsors a series of lectures to high school students to inform them about the Korean War and the friendship between the United States and South Korea since the war.



Eldon A. Woodie speaks at Ft. Bliss. Seated are Col Charles Constanza, Cesar J. Blanco, and Bae Chang-Jun



Commander Roy Aldridge of Ch 249 addresses crowd at Ft. Bliss ceremony



Korean Deputy Consul General Myoung-Joon Kim speaks at Ft. Bliss

Participating in the ceremony, hosted by Roy Aldridge, chapter commander, were Mr. Eldon A Woodie, Director, Fort Bliss National Cemetery, Col. Charles Constanza, Chief of Staff, Fort Bliss & 1st Armored Division, and Texas State Representative District 76, Cesar J. Blanco. The keynote speaker was Deputy Consul General Myoung-Jon Kim.

Remembering vets from 'Forgotten War'



Navy veteran Ramon Rosales points to the map on the face of the new Korean War Memorial on Saturday at the Fort Bliss National Cemetery after it was dedicated. Veterans of the "Forgotten War" gathered to dedicate the memorial on the anniversary of the beginning of the war on June 25, 1950. The memorial is inside the memorial circle at the cemetery. See more photos at elpasotimes.com.



Honored guests included Kochang-Sun, Director, El Paso Chapter National Unification Council, Houston, TX; Bae-Chag-Jun, President, National Armor Advisory Council, Houston, TX; Mr. Doug Pack, Vice President, Federation of Korean Association USA; Mr. Cho-Keun Doug, President, El Paso Korean Association, and Mr. Raul Kyong, Past President, Korean Association, El Paso, TX.

The KWVA and Korean Association are proud and honored to complete this invaluable project. The Korean War should not be a "Forgotten War."

Pete G. Flores, PO Box 370001, El Paso, TX 79937

251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

We participated in the Bavarian Day Parade in Frankenmuth in June. VFW and KWVA members rode the route on a trailer.

The guest speaker at our August 2016 meeting was Steve Woodford, from the Vet Center on Readjustment Counseling Services. He gave a very informative presentation on counseling services offered to veterans to assist them in making a positive post deployment readjustment to civilian life after combat duty.

We provided a \$1,000.00 scholarship for Sara Farnsworth, who is attending Michigan State University. She plans to become a teacher. Sara is the granddaughter of chapter President Richard Haney.

Sandy Schwan, from the Saginaw Castle Museum, was the guest speaker at our July 2016 meeting. She gave a highly informative talk about upcoming events at the museum and illustrated the many exhibits on display that involve Saginaw County history.



KWVA and VFW members share a trailer during Bavarian Days Parade



Jack Leaman, Art Schwan (Sandy's father), Sandy Schwan, and Ch 251 President Richard Haney at July meeting



Lydia Davis, Steve Woodford, and Charles Wenzel (L-R) at Ch 251's August 2016 meeting



Speaker Don Pruitt (C) with members of Ch 251 at September meeting



Shirley Farnsworth (Sara's mother), Bill Farnsworth (Sara's father), scholarship recipient Sara Farnsworth, and Richard Haney, President of Ch 251 (L-R)

The museum building was the former U.S. Post Office, where many of our veterans enlisted for military service.

Our September meeting speaker was Brian Pruitt, who gave a talk on the "power of Dad." Power of Dad is a nonprofit organization that helps boys with no fathers cope with their situations. The organization's goal is to reduce fatherless families and the resulting harmful impact on children.

Richard Carpenter, 4915 N. River Rd.
Freeland, MI 48623

256 NORVILLE B. FINNEY [MI]

We provided scholarships to four students: Angela Sztaba (Chamberlain College of Nursing); Connor B. Darrow (Oakland University); Olivia Sztaba (Macomb Community College); Troy S. Pozolo (University of Michigan).



Ch 256 scholarship recipient Jim Pozolo and family

Our scholarships are awarded on merit and the results of competition among the participants.

Chairpersons this year were Sol Baltimore and Jim Douglas. They, in turn, selected three people with experience in selecting qualified students for the scholarships.

We are proud to have awarded four scholarships this year.

James McCarthy, 2159 Parliament Dr.
Sterling Heights, MI 48310, 586-464-4223
jimsshop@comcast.net



Olivia Sztaba and family at Ch 256's scholarship presentation program



Angela Sztaba displays scholarship certificate from Ch 256 as proud family looks on



Connor B. Darrow holds scholarship award presented by Ch 256 to the delight of his family

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

At the July meeting, in Indianapolis, the plans for participation in POW/MIA observance at the Indiana War Memorial Building on September 16th were discussed. The November 11th Veterans Day Parade will also include chapter members riding on a float in Indianapolis' center.

Through the courtesy of a very charming and talented recording artist and concert vocalist, Anita Hall, members were treated to several moving songs, including a medley of patriotic favorites.

Commander Tine Martin, Sr. announced the possibility of taking a bus load of members to tour the very extensive training facilities at Camp Atterbury, south of Indianapolis, in October. The Indiana National Guard base provides programs for all branches of the armed services in many military skills, including drone operations.



Lt.Col. Claffey, Miss Sellers, members Everett Green, Robert Steinmetz, Herbert Potter and Albert Crandall (L-R) at Ch 259's August meeting



Vice Cmdr. Paul Dickerson, Cmdr. Tine Martin, Sr. Anita Hall, 2nd Vice Cmdr. Don Hall and Chaplain William C. Barnhill (L-R) at Ch 259 meeting

Allen Andrews, retired Social Studies teacher and military historian, gave a talk on the subject of armed services emblems, medals, and other identifying methods.

At the August meeting, some twenty attendees were treated to vital information about the "Honor Flights" being conducted around the USA. Retired Air Force LtCol. Roger Claffey spoke as a member of the Indianapolis group that invites World War 2

and Korea War veterans to ride free for a day trip in Washington, DC to visit important memorials that have special importance to veterans.

He told of how those who take advantage of the honor shown by the public come home with a new appreciation for the value of their service. His detailed explanation of the entire project offered a strong invitation to all present to take advantage of such a memorable contribution from our communities. He had available applications and instructions for our use.

Once again, we were treated to a series of songs performed by local professional Marrienele Sellers, including the very popular "God Bless the USA."

John M. Quinn, saggi32@aol.com

264 MT. DIABLO [CA]

We kicked off our two-day annual Rose of Sharon (poppies) sale at Trader Joe's in Concord, CA, July 22-23. A number of volunteers collected funds both days. All donations go to the nation's oldest veterans home, located in Yountville, CA, in the heart of California's internationally known wine country.

The veterans participating included Pete Loechner, Bob Witbeck, and Bill Winstead.

We held a picnic at Hillcrest Park in Concord, CA.

Stan Grogan, 2585 Moraga Dr., Pinole, CA 94564,
510-758-7534, SJGent@hotmail.com



ABOVE: Ch 264's picnic site

RIGHT: Dave McDonald, Founder and Past President of Ch 264, at picnic



267 GENERAL VAN FLEET [FL]

Thirty members, along with their wives and guests, a total of sixty people, attended the annual "Night of Celebration" on June 11, 2016 at the Korean Baptist Church of Gainesville. There were forty Koreans there, for a grand total of 100 folks who enjoyed this special evening.

Our Korean friends at the church have held this event every

year for the last ten years to thank us for our service in helping to free the Republic of South Korea.

They put on a buffet of Korean and American food, plus a reception and an outstanding entertainment program. Their parishioners are extremely talented and many of them are world class performers. Our members look forward to this special event each year and are delighted to spend a magical evening with our Korean friends.

Pastor Min Sohn and Assistant Pastor Hee Sung Bay both ran the event. Pastor Sohn was the Master of Ceremonies for the church. Our Finance Officer, Ken Sassaman, was the Master of Ceremonies for the KWVA and Don Sherry was the Event Coordinator.



Ken Sassaman, Pastor Min Sohn, and Don Sherry (L-R) display Ch 267's presentation



Members of Ch 267 at Korean Baptist Church event

Mrs. Betty Ann Means made a special Remembrance Award for the church of the dedication of our Korean War Monument in Gainesville. Ken Sassaman and Don Sherry presented it to Pastor Min Sohn, who was our chaplain at last year's dedication ceremony. It proudly hangs in the church's fellowship hall.

Our Honor Guard presented the Colors at the recent Independence Day Veterans Recognition Ceremony held by the Honorable Ted Yoho, our Congressman, at The Atrium, an Assisted Living Facility in Gainesville.

Congressman Yoho and his assistant, Dave Hill, presented a Challenge coin to over 50 area veterans living at the Atrium and their sons and daughters who are veterans and thanked them for their service to our country. Also assisting was our City Commissioner, Mr. Harvey Budd.

Several area veterans' organizations participated in the event, including the Marine Corps League, the Vietnam Veterans Association, and the Korean War Veterans Color Guard. Close to 100 residents of the Atrium and their relatives attended this stirring patriotic event.



Veterans' organizations attendees at The Atrium in Gainesville, FL (First Row): Congressman Ted Yoho, Marine Bill Beck, KWVA Carl Covey, Terry Fitzpatrick, Don Sherry, Marine Forest Hope (Second Row) KWVA Eddie Thomas, Ron Carbaugh, Vietnam Vets Fred Judkins, and Bob Barnas

Our Color Sergeant, U.S. Army SFC Terry Fitzpatrick, was our ceremony coordinator.

Don Sherry, 9511 SW 56th Pl., Gainesville, FL 32608, 352-375-8355, dpskwva@yahoo.com

297 PLATEAU [TN]

Member Mario Gambaccine passed away recently. Many of his fellow members attended a memorial service in his honor at the Hood Funeral Home in Crossville, TN.

Cumberland County [TN] County Veterans Service Officer Bill Ward swore in our 2016-17 officers.

Dick Malsack, 146
Anglewood Dr., Crossville, TN 38558, 931-707-7292,
kaslam2001@yahoo.com



Members of Ch 297 at Mario Gambaccine's memorial service

Cumberland County Veterans Service Officer Bill Ward (R) swears in Ch 297 officers



299 KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA

Several members attended the welcome home of Korean War POW/MIA Corporal Ron Sparks of the 2nd Infantry Division. Ron went missing in action in May 1951 in Korea.

Among the members attending were KWVA National Director Al McCarthy, Chapter Commander Ed Langevin, members Tom Daley and Ken Cook, KWVA 2nd VP Jeff Brodeur, and Ch 300 treasurer Fred Carnes. (Chapter 300 is the Korean War Veterans of Massachusetts.)

Jeff Brodeur, 48 Square Rigger Ln.
Hyannis, MA 02601



Al McCarthy, Ed Langevin, Tom Daley, Ken Cook, Ron Sparks' nephew, Jeff Brodeur, and Fred Carnes (L-R) at welcome home ceremony.



Banner for Ron Sparks



Ch 299's wreath honoring Ron Sparks

320 NEW HAMPSHIRE [NH]

The Korean-American Society of New Hampshire hosted an event in Boscawen on July 22nd.

Richard Zoerb, 72 Hawkstead Hollow
Nashua, NH 03063



New Hampshire Governor Margaret Hassan (L) and Ch 320 Commander Richard Moushegian in front of the Korean monument

Ohm Song Jun, Counsel General of Korea in Boston (L) and Ch 320 Commander Richard Moushegian at New Hampshire event

Assembled veterans, family members, and guests at New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery



Past 1st Vice Commander Harold R. Olson, Mrs. Campbell, and the Rev. Jerry Keesee, Past Commander (L-R) at Ch 321's Ambassador Peace for Medal presentation



2nd Vice Commander Rev. Jerry L. Keesee, Commander, Edward L. Barnes, Mrs. Betty Hein, Mr. Gary Hein, and Mr. Byung Ju Ji at Ch 321 Ambassador for Peace Medal presentation

The medal was presented to family members Mrs. Betty Hein, sister, and Mr. Gary Hein, on 1 September 2016 at their home in Ridgefield, Washington. Presentation was by our chapter and the Korean Society of Clark County, Mr. Byung Ju Ji presiding.

The peace medal is dedicated to the everlasting gratitude of the Republic of Korea and their people for the service and sacrifices of the United States military for restoring and preserving their freedom and democracy from the invading North Korean Communists. All Korean War veterans are eligible for this decoration of enormous pride.

Harold R. Olson, 1702 N. W. Gregory Dr., Vancouver, WA 98665, 360-694-0279



321 RICHARD L. QUATIER [WA]

There was a posthumous presentation in Vancouver, WA of the Ambassador for Peace Medal to the wife and family of Billy Philip Campbell, U.S. Navy, who served in and around Korea from 1951-55.

Another Ambassador For Peace Medal was presented posthumously to PFC William Ross, United States Army, killed in action 30 November 1950, at the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. His remains were received by the family in June 2016.

323 PO2 TAYLOR MORRIS [IA]

At our most recent membership meeting our guest speaker was Kathleen Shultz, a Driver's License Supervisor. She provided a very helpful program about senior drivers.

Most of our members are in their 80s, so the presentation was timely. The attendees really enjoyed the information they received.

Bill Hartsock, 5180 Stone Creek Dr., Pleasant Hill, IA 50327, 515-494-6106, BHartsock3478@msn.com



1st VP John Rossi, President Ed Pagliai, and Kathleen Shultz (L-R) at Ch



Kathleen Shultz speaks to Ch 323 members



Part of Ch 323 audience learning about senior drivers

329 TIBOR RUBIN (MOH) [NV]

Korean War veterans presented Ambassador for Peace Medals

We held our inaugural meeting on July 20, 2016. With an audience of over 90, plus guests and members, Commander Johnson opened the meeting to applause and cheers. The first

orders of business were to adapt a resolution to commemorate the memory of Corporal Rubin (MOH), set out the mission of the chapter, and memorialize the historic nature of the newest non-profit KWVA chapter in Nevada.



Display at Ch 329's first meeting

The chapter was named in honor of Medal of Honor Recipient Army Corporal Rubin, a holocaust survivor who demonstrated "extraordinary heroism" and displayed "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life and above the call of duty." He saved at least 40 Americans during the Korean War. (See the resolution below.)

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Resolution No. 1-2016
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Page Two

Therefore be it resolved,

The Korean War Veterans Association, Tibor Rubin (MOH), Chapter No. 329 commemorate the memory of Medal of Honor recipient Army Corporal Tibor Rubin, a holocaust survivor who demonstrated "extraordinary heroism" and displayed "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life and above the call of Duty," and saved at least 40 Americans during the Korean War, hereby name such chapter in his honor; and,

Hereby, Commence the first chartered meeting of the Korean War Veterans Association, Tibor Rubin (MOH) Chapter No. 329; therefore,

We Hereby Certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted at its first regular meeting of the Korean War Veterans Association, Tibor Rubin (MOH), Chapter No. 329, held on July 20, 2016;

Executive Board

Chuck Johnson
Chuck Johnson, Commander

Larry Bacon
Larry Bacon, Vice Commander

Hank Sawicki
Hank Sawicki, Secretary

Fidel Diaz
Fidel Diaz, Treasurer

KWVA: JD

...

Tibor Rubin resolution

The featured guest speaker was U.S. Representative Dina Titus, 1st Congressional District in Nevada, followed by the presentation of the Korean Ambassador for Peace Medal. The peace medal is a gesture of gratitude from the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to veterans of the Korean War who served during the Korean War or during United Nations Peace Keeping Missions between 1950 and 1955.

U.S. Rep. Titus presented the peace medal to ten chapter members. Along with the peace medal, the honorees received



Congresswoman Dina Titus, Nick Cortese, back-ground; Chuck Johnson, Larry Bacon, Fidel Diaz and Vincent Ariola at Ch 329 meeting

Hank Sawicki, Fidel Diaz, Larry Bacon; (Background): Chuck Johnson, Diana Hicks, Chuck Neverovich, Sandy Epstein, and Mack Macalino (L-R) at Ch 329's inaugural meeting



Certificates of Congressional Recognition. The members honored were:

- Vincent Ariola: U.S. Army (1952)
- Lawrence Bacon: U.S. Air Force (1952)
- Nick Cortese: U.S. Army (1950)
- Fidel Diaz: U.S. Army (1950)
- Charles Johnson: U.S. Army (1950)
- Basilio Macalino: U.S. Marine Corps (1953)
- Donald McCarty: U.S. Marine Corps (1953)
- Henry Sawicki: U.S. Army (1952)
- Harold Simlak: U.S. Army (1951)
- Joseph Whetstone: U.S. Navy (1952)

Commander Johnson declared, "I am proud to stand with these brave and honorable men who fought for freedom and homeland security."

The chapter meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at Egg Works Restaurant in the Las Vegas neighborhood of Summerlin.

Chuck Johnson, Commander, (702) 270-6602
or John Diaz, Media Liaison, (702) 372-5099
johndiaz702@aol.com

ILLINOIS

Korean War veterans and service veterans bring the state convention to Rockford, Illinois

By George B. Graham Jr., Associate Member,
KWVA of Rockford

Commanders Warren N. Ramsey of Rockford and Clyde G.



Fruth of Freeport looked forward to hosting what they knew would be a well-attended and enjoyed event, held 15-17 July 2016. The convention ran the gamut from getting registered to the election of officers at the State Meeting Saturday morning, to visiting the

Clyde G. Fruth, President of Ch 150 (L) and Deputy Consul General Jae-woong Lee at Illinois state convention

Veterans Memorial Parks located in Rockford and Freeport. Some attending the convention had lunch at "The Commanders Post," located at the Camp Grant Museum.

Consul General Jong-Kook Lee was unable to attend the convention, but those attending were not disappointed as they greeted Deputy Consul Jae-woong Lee. The social hour and dinner were spent meeting and greeting and lots of photo work. All attending were looking forward to hearing the Deputy Consul speak after dinner.

The Deputy Consul General's speech of praise, gratitude, and thanks to all those brave men and women who sacrificed so much for his nation so many years ago was very well received. In his remarks he made note that without all that was given by the veterans in the room, as well as those not present, in support of his country, he would probably not be speaking here tonight or working out of the Consulate General's Office in Chicago.

Continuing, he stated, "My responsibility is to work to promote and deepen the relationships between the Midwest and South Korea while also working to provide more convenient services for the Korean community in the Midwest as well as those Korean nationals visiting the region."

Following dinner and the Deputy Consul General's speech, Commander Ramsey offered cordial words of thanks to the Deputy General and all those giving time and effort to making this event a success. Then, he introduced the Denny Diamond Band. Everyone was invited to stay as long as they wished, introduce themselves to other guests, and enjoy the music.

Sunday morning events included a breakfast beginning at 7:30 a.m., which was followed by a 9 a.m. memorial service, which concluded the convention.



Warren N. Ramsey, Commander of Ch 272, Deputy Consul General Jae-woong Lee, Robert F. Fitts, KWVA National Director & Recruiter, and DSC recipient Capt. Charles Gebhardt of Ch 272 (L-R) at Illinois state convention



Shown at the Korean War Memorial in Loves Park, IL. On July 16, 2016 is a group of veterans at the Illinois state convention: Bob Inman of Belleville, Tom McCaw of O'Fallon, Charlie Gebhardt of Belvidere, Bill Doran of Loves Park, Robert Fitts of Rock Island, Daniel Foulke of Genesco, Harold Simler of Freeport, and Chuck Lindstrom of Rockford (L-R)

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey Korean War veterans observed the 63rd anniversary of the signing of the July 27, 1953 armistice at the Korean War Memorial in Atlantic City on July 27, 2016. A bus full of veterans made the 2-1/2-hour trip to attend.

William Coulter, Commander of Chapter 234, KWVA of Atlantic County, NJ, called the program to order at 10 a.m. Color Guards from Ch 148, Central Jersey, and Ch 234 presented the Colors. Reverends Terry O'Connor and Judy Yoo led the American Korean invocations respectively, followed



Ch 170's wreath in front of Memorial Wall at Atlantic City. New Jersey State Commander Charles Koppelman stand at left. Ch 170 members are on the right.



Charles Koppelman addresses audience at New Jersey monument

Kenneth Green, Ch 170 Commander (L) and Thomas DelloRusso flank the plaque dedicated to MOH recipient Hector Cafferata Jr. DelloRusso and Cafferata were friends who fought the Chinese together at the Chosin Reservoir with G/3/7, 1st Marine Division



by the Pledge of Allegiance by Charles Koppelman, Commander of the Department of New Jersey. Finally, the crowd sang the American and South Korean national anthems.



The nearly 12-foot tall statue of a Korean War veteran holding dog tags at the New Jersey monument stands well above Ch 170 member Louis DeStefano

New Jersey veterans stand near Atlantic City monument: (Front, L-R) Thomas DelloRusso, Kenneth Flores, William Burns, and Charles Koppelman (Back, L-R) Walter Amos, Louis DeStefano, and George Rothfritz



Members of Ch 170 at New Jersey commemoration: Commander Kenneth Green, Alexander Atheras, Thomas Boyle, Edward Frye, and Pasquale Candela (L-R)



Guest speaker Who Seok Oh at New Jersey armistice observation

Charles Koppelman offered opening remarks, followed by greetings from Chris Filiciello, representing Atlantic City Mayor Donald Guardian. Other guest speakers included Congressman Frank LoBiondo, 2nd Legislative District NJ, Republic of Korea Consul Who Seok Oh, and BGen Michael L. Cuniff, the Adjutant General of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. They all spoke about the Korean War and the sacrifices veterans made in it.



BGen Michael L. Cuniff orates at New Jersey remembrance

New Jersey alone had almost 900 heroes who gave all. Their names are inscribed on the large New Jersey Korean War Memorial Wall.

The ceremony ended with the singing of "God Bless America" by Bonnie Yearsley of Weymouth, NJ. After that there was a "Laying of the Wreaths" ceremony conducted by four state KWVA chapters and Department of New Jersey members.

Finally, Reverend O'Connor provided the benediction and the Atlantic City Police and Firemen's Bag Pipes band played "Amazing Grace." It was a very moving day.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave.
Paterson, NJ 07503

National KWVA Fund Raiser

Flower Rose of Sharon

The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

- ☐ Sample order is 4 doz. @ \$12 plus \$6.35 S/H.
- ☐ Minimum order is 20 doz. @ \$60 plus \$12.35 S/H.
- ☐ Orders for 21 to 100 doz. @ \$3/doz. plus \$16.45 S/H
- ☐ Order for 400 doz. or more qualify for a special discount

Write or call: Earl House, 1870 Yakona Rd.,
Baltimore, MD 21234
Phone 410-661-8950.
Make Checks payable to:
KWVA Maryland Chapter 33



YOU SERVED WITH THE BEST, TOUR WITH THE BEST!

★ TOUR HIGHLIGHT: VIETNAM TET OFFENSIVE & HUE CITY


2016/17 BATTLEFIELD TOURS

MHT has been U.S. Veteran Owned & Operated since 1987!

- 2 – 8 Dec 75th Anniversary Pearl Harbor 1941 Ceremonies – Waikiki – Ford Island – Kaneohe Bay – Punch Bowl
- 3 – 14 Dec VN Holiday Tour "Saigon to the DMZ"
- 27 Feb—11 Mar '17 VN Tet Offensive & Hue City
- 20 – 27 Mar '17 72nd Anniv Iwo Jima Reunion of Honor: Charter Jet to Iwo – Guam too!
- 4 – 14 Apr '17 WWII Philippines—Bataan
- 8 – 20 Apr '17 VN 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War 1967 – I-Corps "Hill Fights"
- 19 - 27 Apr '17 WWI Turkey - Gallipoli Campaign Istanbul, Troy & ANZAC Day
- 6 – 19 May '17 VN 50th Anniv Op Junction City '67
- 19 – 30 May '17 100th Anniversary of WW I Battlefields – 1917 "The Yanks Are Coming!"
- 27 May – 9 Jun '17 73rd Anniversary of D-Day: "Longest Day" Normandy, Bastogne-Battle of the Bulge & Paris
- 30 Jun – 10 Jul '17 WWII Russia—Eastern Front 75th Anniv of Case Blue-Kursk, Moscow & Stalingrad Post: St. Petersburg


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Right: MHT who originated the VN Battlefield Tour can get you back where it happened like Doc at the Bridge!



Members in the



Frank E. Blazey, Jr., a member of Ch 314, Western North Carolina, was featured in the May 3, 2016 edition of the Times News, which serves Henderson, Polk and Transylvania Counties in the “Tarheel State.” Writer Andrew Mundhenk quoted Blazey extensively in the article, “Vets to be flown to DC.” Here are a couple excerpts.

“Retired Army Brigadier General Frank Blazey, 91, of Hendersonville looks back on Korea as an accomplishment after spending two years there, one in combat. Blazey reminded the crowd that 21,000 U.S. Army troops are still stationed on the demarcation line that divides North and South Korea to this day.

“It’s important I think to use the U.S. troops and take that risk in being there in an event something happens,” Blazey said. “I’m pleased to see us go back and honor those who helped establish South Korea making it what it is today.”

Fellow chapter members **Willard Lack** and **Hilliard Staton** were also quoted in the article.

Reach Blazey at 270 Sugar Hollow Rd., Hendersonville, NC 28739, 828-693-1596, JoyFeb@hotmail.com

Selwyn (Buddy) Epstein, a member/director of Ch 55, Nassau County {NY}, has been named to the New York State Veterans’ Hall of Fame by Senator Todd Kaminsky. Here’s his bio:

Selwyn “Buddy” Epstein was enlisted in the Army from 1951 to 1954 as a member of the 375th Chemical Smoke Generator Company attached to 3rd Infantry Division. In 1951, he served 11 months on the battlefield in Korea. Mr. Epstein was discharged in 1954 as Private 1st Class.

Mr. Epstein continues to serve his country and fellow veterans as a member of the advisory board at the Long Island State Veterans Home. There, he coordinates with the Meadowbrook Women’s Initiative Group to make handmade lap blankets that he picks up and delivers to veterans.

With an unwavering commitment to his community and to his fellow veterans, Mr. Epstein serves as Senior Vice Commander of the Jewish War Veterans in Oceanside, New York, and is also Director of the Korean War Veterans Association – Chapter 1. Each year, Mr. Epstein participates in a Korean Vets program called “Tell America,” where veterans spend a day describing their wartime experiences to students in schools so that these veterans’ stories are preserved and shared.

Mr. Epstein grew up in Jamaica, Queens, and currently resides with his wife Marie in Long Beach. In his spare time, Mr. Epstein volunteers at the Long Beach Soup Kitchen and South Nassau Communities Hospital.

Larry Kinard, Past President of the KWVA, was featured in a May 26, 2016 article in the Washington Times, titled “Korean models to march with ‘grandpas’ from war in National Memorial Day Parade.” The article was written by Aubri Juhasz. (It is available at [http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/may/26/korean-war-veterans-to-march-in-national-memorial-/?](http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/may/26/korean-war-veterans-to-march-in-national-memorial-/))

Here is an excerpt from the article:

“Larry C. Kinard doesn’t consider himself a traveler, having spent the majority of his 87 years happily in Texas.

“I’m a Texan. I’ve lived here essentially all my life — except for the time I was in Korea,” Mr. Kinard said in a telephone interview from his home in Mansfield.

His time in Korea — during the 1950s conflict on the peninsula — is bringing him to Washington, where he will lead a band of his Korean War brothers in a parade Monday. Beginning at 2 p.m., about 35 members of the Korean War Veterans Association will march down Constitution Avenue as part of the National Memorial Day Parade.

Marching with the mostly octogenarian veterans will be 35 South Korean fashion models wearing the traditional attire of their homeland in a display of gratitude for the veterans’ service to their country.

“These young ladies call the Korean War veterans their ‘grandpas.’ It is a term of respect in South Korea. For them, every Korean War veteran is their grandfather,” said Jim Fisher, executive director of the veterans association.

Ivan Maras, Illinois State Director and member of Ch 27, received a Congressional Gold Medal recently. He was featured in a local newspaper article written by Chris Dettro. The headline read, “Delayed Appreciation: Local vet, member of Puerto Rican unit, gets congressional medal.”

Maras served with the 65th Infantry Division, aka the “Borinqueneers.” As Dettro wrote:

“...Maras was shipped overseas. When he had a stopover in Japan, he thought he might be stationed there. But he went to Korea as a member of the infantry and was handed a rifle.

“He was made a member of the 65th Infantry Regiment, created by Congress in 1898 as an all-Puerto Rican segregated unit that would become known as the Borinqueneers. Much like the Tuskegee Airmen, the Borinqueneers — after the original native name for the island, Borinquen — overcame bias and served the United States in World War I, World War II and the Korean War.

“It was all new to me — a shocking experience,” said Maras, who didn’t know a word of Spanish.”

The writer continued:

“Maras worked in the Headquarters Company until the end of the war in July 1953. Then, due to his college degree and teaching credentials, he spent the rest of his tour of enlistment teaching Puerto Rican students math and other courses at a make-shift school called a “tent school” that the military established in Korea.”

Read the entire article at <http://www.sj-r.com/article/20160529/NEWS/160529470/0/SEARCH>

Antonio “Tony” Muñiz received the Congressional Gold Medal, one of the nation’s highest civilian honors, “on behalf of a grateful nation” on Memorial Day.

By DAVID A. DÍAZ, Legislativemedia@aol.com

Korean War veteran Antonio “Tony” Muñiz of Falfurrias [TX], a Hispanic native son and current resident of that community with deep ties to Edinburg, received one of the nation’s highest civilian honors during a Memorial Day ceremony held at the Brooks County Courthouse on Monday, May 30 – Memorial Day 2016.



Korean War veteran Antonio "Tony" Muñiz accepts the Congressional Gold Medal on behalf of a grateful nation from Rep. Terry Canales, D-Edinburg, during ceremonies held on Monday, May 30, 2016 – Memorial Day – at the Brooks County Courthouse in Falfurrias.

With his family and area political leaders and friends in attendance, Mr. Muñiz received the Congressional Gold Medal from Rep. Terry Canales, D-Edinburg, who was joined at the public event by Sen. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen, Brooks County Judge Imelda Barrera, and former Kleberg County Judge and former Texas state representative Juan M. Escobar.

"As an Army Combat Medic, Mr. Muñiz, who is still known as 'Doc,' saved many lives and brought back many men to their families that would have otherwise been left out in the battlefield and rice paddies of a horrific Korean War," said Canales. "He received this tremendous honor on behalf of a grateful nation for serving on the front lines with the 65th Infantry Division, which is the first Hispanic unit and the sole unit from the Korean War to receive the Congressional Gold Medal."

The Congressional Gold Medal is given to a unit that has proven itself to go over and beyond as did the brave men of the 65th Infantry Division. The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian honor that the United States Congress can bestow.

On April 13, 2016, 50 serving members from Puerto Rico joined only 200 surviving members from across the United States to receive such a medal in Washington D.C. Mr. Muñiz is one of these few men who are still living and commanded to receive this medal.

As per Congress, they are being recognized for their pioneering military service, devotion to duty, and many acts of valor in the face of adversity.

Mr. Muñiz served as an Army Combat Medic with the 3rd Recon Company, which was attached to the 65th Infantry Regiment – known as The Borinqueneers – during the Korean War.

The 65th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed The Borinqueneers from the original Taino name of the island (Borinquen), is a Puerto Rican regiment of the United States Army. The regiment's motto is Honor et Fidelitas, Latin for Honor and Fidelity. The regiment is also credited with the last battalion-sized bayonet assault in Army history.

Following the ceremony, Mr. Muñiz told reporters that he was overwhelmed with receiving the Congressional Gold Medal, but emphasized that America's true heroes are those who died in the line of duty to protect the United States.

"This award has been bestowed to a very few men, so I am very honored," said Mr. Muñiz. "But I must say the ones who should be honored the most are the ones who died for our freedoms, who made the ultimate sacrifice."

Hinojosa, who served as a U.S. Marine combat squad leader in Vietnam, praised Mr. Muñiz not only for his heroism, but also for reminding Americans to look out for their military veterans and their families.

"His service to our nation goes beyond the incredible danger he faced on the front lines of the Korean War, where we lost 35,000 mil-

itary veterans and suffered another 100,000 wounded to protect democracy from the tyranny of communism," said Hinojosa. "He has also made it a mission to help keep the Korean War from becoming a forgotten war, because we owe our freedoms today to what happened back then."

LEGACY OF COURAGE AND HONOR

"Every U.S. veteran who serves our nation is deserving of our great respect and deep appreciation because they keep all of us safe throughout the world," said Canales. "In the case of Mr. Antonio "Tony" Muñiz, we are honored to be able to join his loved ones on Memorial Day and be able to share in this momentous ceremony praising him, here at home in deep South Texas, for his heroism and patriotism."

Canales added: "We are proud that one of those heroes, Mr. Antonio Muñiz, still lives to receive this medal himself."

Canales is working with U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, to help finalize the bestowing of a Silver Star for Mr. Muñiz in recognition of his extraordinary courage under enemy fire while rescuing and treating wounded U.S. soldiers in the field of combat.

Mr. Muñiz also is a recipient of the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, and Good Conduct Medal from the United States, the Korean Service Medal and Bronze Star Attachment, the Combat Medal Badge 1st Award, and the United Nations Service Medal.

For now, the Congressional Gold Medal is the latest honor in a remarkable legacy of courage and honor that Mr. Muñiz and his family share – and inspire – his fellow South Texans here at home.

Reach Antonio Muniz at PO Box 614, Falfurrias, TX 78355, 361-325-2371.

Gunnar Osterberg, a veteran of the battle for Christmas Hill in late 1953, was honored at a ceremony in Irvine, CA recently. As he explained, "It all started when Dr. [Hong S.] Kim read my book, "Caught In A Draft," about a year ago and wanted to meet me. He is the chairman of the Korean-American Club in this city."

Following the event, the Osterbergs sent this email of appreciation:



A copy of the Korean Times that mentioned Gunnar Osterberg's name

Hi, Dr. Kim,

Just a few words to thank you for inviting Barbara and me to that fantastic veterans' ceremony last night. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and were very totally surprised at the amount of people in attendance, and the wonderful entertainment that was supplied by all those fine entertainers.

We had a great time and it was nice to see all those veterans being honored by your community. How impressive.

Again, thank you for a wonderful and delightful evening.

If you and your lovely wife are ever down this way, give us a call and we will treat you to a sarsaparilla. (smile)

Sincerely,

Gunnar & Barbara Osterberg

When his Christmas Hill buddy, Wayne Pelkey, learned of the event, he told Gunnar:

So glad that you and Barb attended that nice event sponsored by the Korea/American community. Your initial question to me of whether or not to attend now confirms my response to you of attending as I have personally experienced the Korea respect, especially on my return to Korea in 2000 on a ten-day "Battlefield Tour"—which was much nicer than my 1953-54 two-year stint as an infantryman!

The Koreans have shown over the past 65 years their respect to American veterans for defending their country against the North Korea and later Chinese aggressors and getting South Korea back on their feet and one of the leading Democratic and flourishing countries. We have had troops in South Korea for 65 years and at present there are over 30,000 as a stand high defense against the North Koreans of Kim Sun and their threats of atomic bomb retaliation against our USA and the world.

Isn't it odd that other countries that the USA has supported have not shown such outstanding respect and thank you as has South Korea?

Reach Gunnar Osterberg at 23 Monarch Bay Dr., Dana Point, CA 92629, 949-499-1512, gunsbabs@cox.netgunsbabs@cox.net.



Part of the crowd at the Irvine, CA thank-you event

Dr. Hong S. Kim, Gunnar and Barbara Osterberg (Seated, L-R) and Irvine, CA mayor and his wife at Irvine, VA program



Bill Roussel was featured in an article in the June 24, 2016 edition of *The Daily Citizen* [Arkansas]. The article, titled 'We will not forget...Korean War vet recalls hardships ahead of 60th (sic) anniversary, was written by Dana Guthrie. (As Roussel points out, the headline should have read 66th anniversary.)

The piece begins "Bill Roussel joined the Army at 16 years old to fight in World War II, but there's a "Forgotten War" that he also fought in that he wants people to remember, too." (Unfortunately, the rest of the article is available only to subscribers.)

He also took out an ad in the paper to promote the 66th anniversary.

Contact Bill Roussel at 160 Phillip Miles Rd., Searcy, AR 72143, 501-268-1654

Sandra "Sandi" Williams, a Korea Defense veteran and member of CID 63, Western New York, is a volunteer of the Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight. She participated in the June 11, 2016 Honor Flight. She



Sandra Williams of Ch 63 acts as "point" for patrol at Korean War Veterans Memorial patrol



Patrol proceeds warily past visitors to Korean War Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C.



Sandi Williams (standing) with participants in June 11, 2016 Honor Flight from Buffalo, NY

said, "We had 44 WWII veterans who went on this flight. We visited the WWII Memorial and the Korean War Memorial. It was an honor being among these American heroes." (Reach Ms. Williams at hanau86@aol.com.)

Five California Korean War Veterans Honored at "The Forgotten War" Symposium



At Santa Barbara, CA event (Back, L-R): Brig. Gen. Fred Lopez; Lt. John Blankenship, USN (Fmr); Santa Barbara County Sheriff Bill Brown; Capt. Joe Danely; Col. Phil Conran. (Front, L-R): Local Korean War veteran honorees - Lt. Col. Jack Harris, USMC; Sgt. John Suzuki, Army; PFC Frank Heintz, Army; PFC Margarito Delgadillo, Army; Maj. Gen. Phil Conley, USAF. Photo by Monie Photography

Korean Consul General was special guest at event co-hosted by Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation and the Channel City Club

Santa Barbara, Calif., May 18, 2016— Five local veterans of the Korean War were honored on May 9 at a luncheon and symposium, The Forgotten War: Korea 66 Years On, co-hosted by Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation (PCVF) and the Channel City Club at the Fess Parker, a DoubleTree Resort by Hilton.

While the Korean War is often overshadowed in history lessons by World War II and Vietnam, guests were reminded that the conflict triggered profound change both at home and abroad.

During the event, special guest Korean Consul General Lee Key-cheol thanked the veterans for their service and honored all Korean veterans in attendance with the Ambassador for Peace Medal.

Lee said South Korea would not have evolved into the democracy it is today without the efforts of those who served. He expressed remorse that so many have forgotten the war's significance.

"It is not fair to forget the sacrifice of young American soldiers who fought for freedom and democracy in Korea," Lee told the audience of nearly 300 people. "If you forget the past, you have no future."

Following a welcome from Channel City Club Vice President Brian Robertson and Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation Co-Founder Lt. John Blankenship, USN (Fmr) and singings of both the U.S. and Korean national anthems, guests at the event were captivated by movie clips about the Korean War.

Five presenters provided information on the history of the Korean War, which lasted from 1950 – 1953, but technically never ended as a peace treaty was not signed, only an armistice.

Lt. Blankenship, Brig. Gen. Fred Lopez, Santa Barbara County Sheriff Bill Brown, Col. Phil Conran, and Capt. Joe Danely highlighted the cultural climate of the U.S. during the war as well as turning points in the military.

The audience – which included the entire class of the Anacapa School – learned that aviation played a significant role in military operations during the Korean War. Additionally, it was the first U.S. war in which the armed forces were racially integrated. The war was also characterized by severe mistreatment of prisoners of war by Communist China and North Korea.

Following the historical accounts, each of the speakers introduced one of the five local Korean War veteran honorees. Lt. Col. Jack Harris, USMC; Maj. Gen. Phil Conley, USAF; PFC Frank Heintz, Army; Sgt. John Suzuki, Army; and PFC Margarito Delgadillo, Army; each received standing ovations after their stories of service were shared with the audience.

The five honorees were also presented with certificates of honor from Wendy Motta of the Office of Congresswoman Lois Capps, Cameron Schunk from the Office of Assemblyman Das Williams, Santa Barbara County Supervisor Salud Carbajal and Santa Barbara Mayor Helene Schneider.

For information on upcoming veteran events in Santa Barbara or to support events such as this one that help ensure the men and women who have served in U.S. military efforts are never forgotten, visit www.pcvf.org.

About Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation

Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation is committed to honoring the men and women who have served in U.S. military efforts. PCVF does this by supporting veterans and active duty members in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties as well as preserving military history and legacy. The Foundation is developing a Veterans Museum in downtown Santa Barbara as well as the "Wings of Honor" public art piece at the Santa Barbara Airport, both of which uphold Pierre Claeysen's vision that those who have served are "Never Forgotten." PCVF is funded entirely by private donations. For more information, visit www.pcvf.org or call (805) 259-4394.

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And the award for patience goes to...

As astute readers have no doubt inferred over the past twelve years of my editorship, there is sometimes a slight—if you consider 6 or 7 years slight—delay between the time material is submitted and the time it gets published. Here is one of those submissions that got delayed.

The Graybeards, May-June 2010, pp. 28-29, had photos of Freedom Gate Bridge over the Imjin River 1953. I thought you might be interested in the nearby photos of the same bridge taken in 1963, ten years later.

A pass was still needed to cross. The little guard house had grown in the ten years, though security was still strictly enforced, as demonstrated in a couple photos among many that I have of Panmunjom.

The photo inside the hut where the cease fire was signed is not very clear. But, if you look closely, the North Korean flag is a couple inches higher than the rest. On the hill is the North Korean guard post. Recent photos show a large building on this spot.

Also, is there any truth to the ugly rumors that the U.S. is recalling Korean vets back to service in Korea? If so, I am happy to go, though I would need someone to carry my rifle and help me up the hills. (Just joking.)

Finally, I share this with you. I was born in England and came to the states as a twenty year old, ending up (with no regrets) Regular Army in Korea among other places. Back in England my late mother had a visit from two young American missionaries about my age, elders from a certain USA church.

My mother was incensed and berated these two, saying (forcefully), “My son is in the U.S. Army serving in Korea, defending your country. How come you are not serving in the Army? Go back at once and join up.”

Then she chased them down the road with a broom.

Ian Blissett, 41 Budge St., Riverside, Blenheim, 7201 New Zealand, Ph: 64 -35-3944, zayd@xtra.co.nz



Directions for crossing the bridge



Note the relative heights of the two flags



Freedom Gate Bridge, 1963



The North Korean guard post



Recon Missions

Thomas H. Clark, USMC

I am a member of Capt. Paul N. Dill, Chapter 2, of Wilmington, DE. I am writing to see if you can help me get some information with regard to a very dear friend and neighbor, Thomas H. Clark, Sr, who recently passed away.

He was a U.S. Marine who served during the Korean War. His oldest son, Thomas, Jr., asked me how he could get information as to what campaigns his father participated in, which year or years he served in Korea, and what other places he may have served during his service in the Marine Corps.

What we do know is the following: he was wounded and received a Purple Heart.

His Service Number was 1289247. He was in the 2nd Platoon, Third Division.

What we would like to know is who to contact to be able to find out about his service record and total years served in the Marine Corps.

Stanley Collender (USN, ret), 2110 Lynch Dr.
Wilmington, DE 19808, 302-994-9529
azcricket@aol.com

EDITOR'S NOTE: A couple quick observations: Second platoon, Third Division leaves out two important pieces of information: battalion and regiment. He would not have been with the Third Marine Division in Korea. The only Marine Division in Korea was the First.

James Robinson

I found a photo album of pictures belonging to James Robinson, who served in Korea at Camp Ames in 1961/62. He apparently lived in Richmond, VA in 1975. I was hoping you could help me find him.

Will Fitzhugh,
WFitzhugh@prrlawfirm.com

James L. Robinson



DSC recipient William P. McCraney no longer with us

William P. McCraney of Lakeland, FL, who was very active in local and state KWVA activities, passed away on August 31, 2016 at age 84. McCraney earned a Distinguished Service Cross for bravery during the Korean War. He was past president of both CID 158 (William R. Charette MOH) and the Department of Florida.



William P. McCraney

(The Lakeland [FL] newspaper, The Ledger, published a lengthy and complimentary piece written by Marilyn Meyer on McCraney's passing that was published on September 1, 2016. <http://www.theledger.com/article/20160901/NEWS/160909954/0/search?p=3&tc=pg>)

"I was 18 years old when I joined the U.S. Army. The country was at peace, and I was looking forward to a wonderful tour in Japan. On my way to Japan, North Korea invaded South Korea. We did dock in Japan, but it was sure not the cherry blossom time that I had hoped for. After only a brief two-week stay, I was shipped to Korea to the middle of a hot war.

"Prior to the war in Korea, I suppose I viewed my country pretty much like any other teenage American boy, which is to say I didn't really think about America at all," McCraney wrote in his 2014 essay. "Now, the national anthem means the world to me, and seeing our flag wave in the breeze means more to me than I can ever put into words.

"When people are shooting at you, to finally get out of the battle and back under that flag for a moment, you knew it was OK to breathe again, that for a little while everything was all right — you were as safe as one can get in the middle of hell."

According to former KWVA National Secretary, McCraney earned his DSC for carrying a number of wounded soldiers down Hill 359. He was already injured at the time, but he took them down nonetheless. McCraney also earned the Purple Heart with two oak-leaf clusters.

McCraney will be missed by his fellow Floridians—and the KWVA in general.

Get me to the church on time

USS Los Angeles (CA-135) Korean War. Commander William John Organ (1904-1981), ChC, USNR, a Presbyterian, was by day a chaplain. In his off-duty-time he was a watch repairman.

When he was a boy, Organ learned the art of repairing watches and clocks from an old German jeweler in his store. During WWII he repaired more than 3,600 watches for enlisted men, all free of charge.

The Chaplain's tools and materials in most cases were donations from watch companies and friends. Foremost among his equipment

was a de-magnetizing unit. The unit got a good workout, because most watches brought to him were in need of demagnetizing.

There was a reason for the chaplain's God-given gift of watch repair. He—and God—wanted to make sure the men were not late for church call.

USS Los Angeles (CA-135) received eight Korean War service stars.

Submitted by Tom Moore
tm103ps@yahoo.com, (843) 795-0190 x211

A HEARTWARMING STORY

Korean War Veteran from the Netherlands returns to Korea to be buried alongside his comrades in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan

Soon after the Republic of Korea was invaded in June, 1950, the Government of the Netherlands authorized the formation of the Regiment van Heutsz (the Netherlands Battalion) to help drive the invading North Korean armies out South Korea.

Nicholaas Frans Wessels was a young man living in the city of De Bilt. He at once tried to enlist. He had been born on August 5th, 1930 and had just turned 20 years old.

"We had been occupied by the German Army five years earlier and it had been horrible and we knew how wonderful it was to be freed, so I wanted to give the people of South Korea this same liberation and freedom," Mr. Wessels had told a reporter some years ago.

Mr. Wessels had to wait until his 21st birthday to enlist. He was one of 13 children and his father was quite angry, but Mr. Wessels enlisted in the garrison at De Bilt. After training he sailed to Korea, arriving at the port of Busan on January 7th, 1952. To his surprise, an American Army band was playing ragtime music and upbeat Glen Miller arrangements. Whatever levity the music inspired soon left when he joined B Company at the front. It was well below zero and he was soon committed to action.

In early February, B Company was chosen to make a bayonet attack against Star Hill, which was held by Chinese forces. Soldier First Class Wessels and his comrades departed their base at 4 a.m. on February 18, 1952 and moved to the start line of the attack. They attacked Star Hill. Unfortunately they were first fired on by American artillery, which mistakenly concentrated shells on the wrong position.

After they recovered, the platoons continued the attack and engaged in a



Soldier First Class Nicholaas Wessels at the front after arriving in Korea in January, 1953

Of his time in Korea he had spent a total of 136 days in action in the front lines.

half-hour close quarters firefight. During the action five of their men were killed and 26 were wounded – roughly half of the attacking force. Because the enemy had two battalions of soldiers on a nearby position, the battalion commander ordered the company to blow up all bunkers and trenches and withdraw.

After that bitter day Nicholaas Wessels had no relief from the action. He continued to serve at the front through the winter and spring, living in bunkers, going on reconnaissance and fighting patrols, always vigilant. His battalion was used on a flying squad basis, back-stopping hot spots along the line.

Mr. Wessels had recounted to reporters that he and his comrades went without bathing for more than two months, and many of them became infected with lice. Finally, they were able to go to an American mobile shower

installation in the spring and get thoroughly bathed and exchange their clothes for clean uniforms.

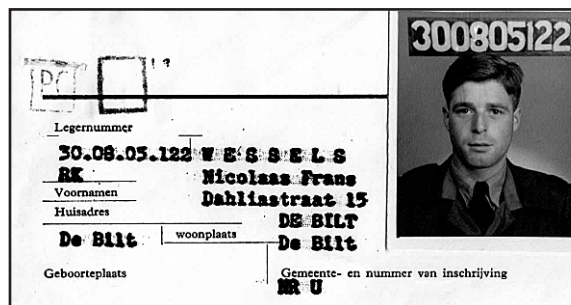
The Korean War armistice would be signed in July and there was much talk of progress in the peace talks that were taking place in Panmunjom. The newspapers in the Netherlands and all of the UN nations were reporting that the war was virtually over, that the soldiers would return home any day. But for the soldiers of the Netherlands Battalion, as with most units, the war still raged. When the enemy attacked in their final, July offensive, Nicholaas Wessels and his comrades were sent to the vicinity of a position called Hill 340.

When the enemy gained control of the position, the Netherlands soldiers made a counterattack and retook it, driving them off. In this action four of their soldiers were killed and six were wounded. Of the four soldiers who were killed, two of them were South Koreans who belonged to the Korean Augmentation troops attached to the Netherlands Battalion.

It should be noted that from its inception until the end of the war in Korea, the Netherlands Battalion consisted of only three companies of few more than six hundred soldiers.

On the night of July 27, 1953, Nicholaas Wessels and his comrades were awake all night. They could not sleep. It was not because of fear or tension from being in action. It was from feelings of triumph and jubilation. The last shots fired in the Korean War were heard at 11 p.m. that night, when the Korean War Military Armistice Agreement went into effect.

When they went into their trenches at sunrise there were throngs of Chinese soldiers standing on the ramparts of their trenches in the nearby hills. Instead of shooting, the soldiers of the



Military identification card of Soldier First Class Nicholaas Frans Wessels

Netherlands Battalion waved to them. The soldiers from the other side, who had been their bitter enemies hours before, waved back at them.

Soldier First Class Nicholas Wessels left Korea to return to the Netherlands on November 18, 1953. Of his time in Korea he had spent a total of 136 days in action in the front lines. Because of a terrible administrative error, Soldier First Class Nicholaas Wessels did not receive the medals his country awarded to its Korean War soldiers.

The first acknowledgment of his service in action at the front came from the Korean Government in the year 2000. It was then that Nicholaas Wessels received a "thank you" certificate for his Korean War service from the President of South Korea. It was a document sent on the 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War to every soldier in the Netherlands who had been wounded in Korea.

Nicholaas Wessels had not returned to the Netherlands unscathed. He could not get the fighting and suffering out of his mind. He would tell reporters if he knew how horrible it was to fight at the front he might never have volunteered. Many soldiers will say as much, at certain moments. Nicolaas Wessels' son Peter had encouraged him to seek psychiatric treatment for his war injuries. At the Sinai Sanatorium in Amersfoort, the Netherlands, he was diagnosed with severe post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and received psychological counseling for the remaining years of his life.

In 2001 Nicholaas Wessel was invited by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs to travel to Korea as a guest on its Veterans Revisit Program. Because he had suffered a heart attack, his son Peter Wessels, who serves in the Netherlands Army, accompanied his father on the revisit. Nicholaas Wessels wept when he was able to place flowers on the grave of a comrade who had been killed beside him, when the veterans visited graves of their fallen brethren at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan.

For Nicholaas Wessels, the love and thanks shown to him and his comrades was unbelievable, heartwarming. For him it helped close the terrible chapter on

his own history in Korea that had haunted him for more than half a century. Nicholaas Wessel died on April 7, 2016.

In May, 2016 - 63 years after his father had left Korea to return to the Netherlands - his son, Peter Wessels [took] his ashes to Korea to be buried with full military honors in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery, where 117 soldiers from the Netherlands Battalion are also buried. The urn holding his ashes will be received at the Incheon international airport by the MPVA's director of the international department, Yongjin Jeon. He will meet Peter Wessels with a Republic of Korea mixed honor guard of soldiers drawn from the ROK Navy, Army, Air Force and Marines.

They will march in procession with one of the guards holding the urn to a place in the terminal where Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs Sungchoon Park, himself a former ROK Army lieutenant general, will officially accept them, in effect, repatriating the fallen soldier into the land that he defended.

There will be a formal ceremony within the terminal. The ashes will then be escorted to the columbarium in the National Shrine at the National Cemetery Seoul. There they will remain in state, among thousands of urns of unknown ROK soldiers that are held there. Later in the week, Peter Wessels will carry his father's ashes when the veterans travel to the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan.

The ashes of Soldier First Class Nicholaas Wessels will be buried with full military honors, with Minister Park and representatives from the Netherlands Embassy officiating.

They will repose in a grave beside those of two other soldiers, who, in their wills, elected to be buried in Korea. They will be buried not far from the United Nations Wall of Remembrance, which had engraved on its marble panels, the names of 40,896 servicemen and service-women who fell during the Korean War.

NOTE: This article has been edited slightly to fit to our Graybeards format.

Source: KOREAN WAR VETERAN, Internet Journal for the World's Veterans of the Korean War, May 7, 2016, Koreavetnews@aol.com

Former editor Vince Krepps passes

Former *Graybeards* editor Vince Krepps died on September 24, 2016. He edited *The Graybeards* for six years before retiring in 2004. It is appropriate here to include a portion of his final editorial, which appeared on p. 9 of the July/August 2004 issue:



Vincent Krepps

"Thanks for being such great members and veterans. Thank you for the donations over the years. They are still needed [and] will be turned over to the Treasurer. I am sure the new team will keep *The Graybeards* at a high quality.

"My last honor is to my twin brother Richard, who is still in North Korea at the POW Camp where he died. His memory has also given me the strength to spend long hours telling America about all our deeds to keep a country free. It has been 53 years this September since we hugged on the battle field near the Naktong River and said our goodbyes. Who knew it would be our last time.

Freedom was not Free. God Bless all of you and America, Vincent Krepps, Past Editor *The Graybeards*."

Vince set a high bar for his successors to follow. He left his imprint on *The Graybeards* that will never be equaled. Editing the magazine was one of his two major passions. The other was determining what happened to his brother Richard. He never did get closure in that respect. Perhaps he can in death.

Thank you, Vincent Krepps, for your service to the KWVA. May you find the closure for which you were looking. Hopefully you have reunited with Richard. Rest assured the magazine was improved under your guidance, and we thank you for your service.

RIP, Vincent Krepps.

A lucky moment in the Korean War

I read with great joy your recent article entitled, “Yankee-Take Dog and Go Home,” March-April 2016, p. 10. Few Korean War veterans knew that scout dogs were used in combat. I, for one, was a fortunate infantry platoon leader who was led by a scout dog and his handler on numerous ambush patrols during the summer of 1952. I was part of A Company, 65th Puerto Rican Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division on line in the Chorwon area.

The story below fits in with the aforementioned story. To the scout dog’s memory, we extend a grateful thank you for a job well done.

In January 1953, I received orders to report to 8th Army’s Headquarters in Seoul. My commanding officer, LtCol. La Hatte, presented me with my orders with a smile on his face. “Looks like you are moving up in the war, Lieutenant,” he said.

The city of Seoul had become a safe zone from the war. For me it presented an unscheduled moment away from the front line. I couldn’t believe my luck. I was going to savor every minute of my reprieve. However, it meant a ride of thirty miles in an open WWII jeep in a temperature of minus 36 degrees Fahrenheit. We were somewhat prepared for the ride with our parkas and thermal foot wear, affectionately referred to as “Mickey Mouse” boots.

Our hasty, but quiet, departure was in dirty, encrusted fatigues, with our M-1

carbines. I was instructed to make an intermediate stop at 3rd Infantry Division’s G-2. I could not fathom why me. At this point of my tour, I had advanced to a 1st Lt. with 24 points. Nothing spectacular, simply a platoon leader. These attributes aside, my immediate concern was not to become a communist target while in transit. For me and my driver that was clear, “crystal clear.”

Sitting in an open jeep with the windshield down was hell on wheels. A full moon provided the necessary illumination for the driver. A large sign with an arrow directed us to the division’s G-2, which was housed in a converted truck semi-trailer.

The back of the semi-trailer had a flight of stairs that led to a single door. Aside from the door, there was plaque with the name of Lt. Colonel John Eisenhower, G-2, 3rd Infantry Division. The interior had wood paneling with situation maps adorning and attached to the panels. The office had several desks which backed up to a wooden railing delineating sleeping quarters. The interior was warm and well lighted. It was like a home on wheels. Such luxury! I hadn’t realized that it could exist in the “Land of the Morning Calm.”

I saluted the colonel. “Relax, Lieutenant, he said,” which put me at ease. There was no mistaking the colonel. He was a dead ringer for his father.

I stood at attention and listened intently while he gave me a summary of the recent enemy action on the division’s front. The communist designations were a bit too much for me. I had some knowledge of

who faced us on the line, but they were simply Chinese communists to me. Why such details of skirmishes by the enemy?

There was no major frontal assault of the Main Line of Resistance (MLR) in our sector. It was relatively quiet. I nodded in the affirmative, but the orientation was a little over my head. Before I departed, a Red Cross representative presented me with two light canvas bags with toiletries. The war had its perks.

The weather hadn’t changed. It seemed colder and drier. The driver and I embraced the situation, but there was little we could do to alter the conditions. But, as we approached the outskirts of Seoul, there was an unbelievable sight ahead: a low level building with a sign outside in the ground proclaiming it as the Air Force Officers Club.

The building had outside lights and a blue awning covering the walkway to the club’s entrance. We parked the jeep, shook our stiff and tired bodies, and proceeded with our carbines into this den of iniquity. My driver knew the club was off-limits. But, I was never one to deny any comfort to a deserving enlisted man. Besides, I gave him my personal assurance that I could sidestep any infractions. Fortunately, our parkas hid our ranks. Still my driver was nervous.

When I opened the door, we were startled and a bit shocked. Inside the smoke-filled room were fighter pilots standing at a long, handsomely carved mahogany bar with a Korean bartender attired in a white jacket. We stood there motionless. Even I hesitated. Maybe I was out of my element.



LtCol. LaHatte, CO, 1st Bn., 65th Regt.

The clatter of many voices subsided and then stopped. A pilot standing close to us turned and rang out in a clear voice for everyone to hear, "make room for two fighting men."

Without missing a beat, I ordered two Canadian Clubs on the rocks. Then I searched desperately in my trouser pocket. Eventually, I secured some of my tattered military pay certificates. The same pilot, looking straight into my face, said in a loud but authoritative voice that my money wasn't any good here. Amid the newly established fellowship, our trip had found us a place surrounded by sincerity and humanity in a war-torn country.

I hoped the blend of whiskey and warmth would mitigate the cold for the remainder of our trip. As we headed out the door, the pilots, as if on command, collectively saluted us with their glasses held high. That explicit gesture would remain with me as a cherished memory.

Outside, the night air hit us hard, but it was tolerable. We were both a bit inebriated. Well, actually, we were stoned. The moving bitter cold air was sobering. And in my condition, I was glad that I wasn't OD on line.

We headed the jeep towards Seoul University, which served as 8th Army's Headquarters. We hadn't gone far when a large white jeep with a canvas top came abreast of us. A white gloved hand from a portal in the passenger's front door panel signaled us to pull over to the side.

An impressive MP in a winter-clad parka with white-laced boots approached my driver. He stood tall, with a flashlight in one hand, which he used to survey our uniforms. Then he announced that we were out of uniform. That remark did the job. It dissipated any of my residual booze. With alacrity and a steady hand, I reached over my driver and handed the MP my orders.

There was an instant response. A sharp hand salute followed by, "Follow us, we will escort you to headquarters, sir." This accommodating MP assured our safe arrival at our final destination. We didn't want to become war casualties so far from the front.

By this point in the war, the city of Seoul had become a two-point zone. Military decorum, similar to stateside

1st Lt. George Bjotvedt heading south to 8th Army HQ



Outside, the night air hit us hard, but it was tolerable. We were both a bit inebriated. Well, actually, we were stoned. The moving bitter cold air was sobering.

posts, was maintained with class 'A' uniforms required at all times. The war was a distant activity and forgotten.

At headquarters, we were housed in separate university dorm rooms which were equipped with beds, clean mattresses, white sheets, OD blankets and pillows with pillow cases. The accommodations were like being on a small rest and relaxation (R & R) break.

The next day, I had a shower and a shave, followed by a hot breakfast and a trip to a fitting room. There I was measured for my class 'A' uniform. After that, I was told that evening I would be a part of a team to brief General Maxwell Taylor, Commanding General, 8th Army, on the use of scout dogs on infantry patrols. I realized then that I had been fortunate to have the services of a scout dog and handler on my numerous ambush patrols.

The previous summer, I had conducted many patrols with the guidance of one of those splendid, silent warriors without any casualties. At the time there had been numerous letters written to President Eisenhower from mothers to keep their sons safe in Korea. The war was going nowhere. General Taylor, who had served with General Eisenhower in Europe during WWII, knew and shared the mothers' desire to minimize soldier casualties.

The presentation went off without a hitch. It was held in the university's auditorium, complete with a stage. My contri-

bution was flawed by my nervousness, but General Taylor was quick to inform me that I was among "friendlies." There was a loud laughter from the audience, which mitigated my embarrassment. But, I was glad to leave the show for the dog handler and his dog.

The handler demonstrated the dog's repertoire of maneuvers, which were executed by hand signals only. The scout dog performed the intricate movements flawlessly. Each successfully completed maneuver was greeted with a thunderous applause.

The general was deeply moved by the scout dog's performance. He could see the value of incorporating a scout dog platoon in each infantry division. He recommended such a plan to the Pentagon. Due to the deadlocked peace talks at Panmunjom and the near likelihood of an armistice agreement, the request was dropped.

For the driver and me, the moment of reprieve had come to an ignominious end. But, there were some consolations inherent in our trip south to the capital city of South Korea. We took great solace in the four hot meals, a warm bed, and new thermal underwear and fatigues.

The return to war's reality occurred shortly after dark without incident. The war went on.

George Bjotvedt, V.M.D., 7345 E Cozy Camp Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314, 480-489-2616, Berwald8588@gmail.com

Let Freedom Ring: How America Gave My Family

As the 4th of July holiday comes to a close, I share a short story that I wrote about my grandfather, who emigrated from Korea to the U.S. He only had the opportunity to do so due to the bravery and sacrifices of the U.S. troops who saved South Korea. America also gave him an opportunity to have a new job and fresh start for his and his family's life. His English is limited. But, I had the opportunity to hear his story and share a little bit of it.

I share it with the veterans in your organization as well. Please let them know I and my family are thankful, and that we still remember what they have done for Korea and the U.S.

As the thunderous booms of fireworks fade into the echoes of our memories, I've had a chance to reflect on what the 4th of July personally signifies to me. To me, it represents hope: hope to live, hope for freedom, hope for a fresh start, and hope for a better tomorrow. America, its history, and its national spirit are woven into the fabric of my family story.

During the Korean War, my maternal grandparents, like many South Koreans, had to flee from their homes in order to escape the communist-backed North Koreans who invaded the south. My grandparents had to give up their home, their belongings, and the lives they had in order to survive.

I've heard their stories several times, but will never be able to fully grasp the tragedies and losses they had to endure and the sacrifices they made in order to survive. They were blessed and fortunate that the United Nations and United States of America launched a counter-offensive from Inchon, South Korea, which eventually forced the communist forces back northwards, until an armistice was signed in 1953.

Had it not been for the sacrifices and bravery of the UN, U.S., and Republic of Korea soldiers, South Korea would not exist and my grandparents would potentially either have been killed or have had to live under the rule of dictators such as Kim Jong-Il or Kim Jong-Un in present day North Korea.

In the aftermath of the Korean War, my grandfather, who had already been finding various jobs helping the U.S. military forces, often vividly recounts one of the most fateful days of his life. While at a U.S. military station in South Korea, a supervisor in charge of repairing jeeps and vehicles asked if any of the South Koreans who had been working or volunteering there had any mechanic experience. They were willing to hire workers on the spot because of the shortage of mechanics.

My grandfather had no experience or skillset as a mechanic. He raised his hand anyway, to survive and because he hoped that this could be an opportunity for a better life.

By the first day on the job, his supervisor quickly realized that my grandfather had no experience whatsoever. Fortunately, his supervisor sympathized for his situation and allowed him to stay onboard to learn the basics of being a mechanic on the fly. My grandfather didn't let his supervisor down.

He knew learning fast meant keeping his job and keeping his

As my grandfather holds my 10-month old Tyler in his arms, his eyes sometimes well up with tears.

job meant he could have a better life. He quickly learned how to repair jeeps and other vehicles, and his work ethic earned him the respect of his peers and supervisors. He was given a contract to continue his mechanic work with the U.S. military in combat zones in the Vietnam War.

Eventually, his time and work in Vietnam led to an opportunity to come to the U.S. The opportunity he had been hoping for had finally presented itself. He knew that the U.S. offered hope to start a fresh chapter in his family's life. So he took the opportunity without hesitation.

My grandparents and their family first moved to New York City, but eventually settled in the Chicago area, where my grandfather found work in construction. My grandfather always discussed how he never had a chance at getting at an advanced education, so he swore and promised that his children would be provided with every opportunity to have one in the U.S.

He constantly put in overtime, working hard labor and operating heavy machinery, while my grandmother sweated away working at a dry cleaning facility. Between both of their sacrifices, they were able to make sure that their children had food on the table, a roof over their heads, clothes on their backs, and could be in good school districts. As time progressed, my grandfather's dreams became a reality.

He had gone from worrying about his family's survival and losing everything to watching his children grow up safely and begin to thrive as adults. My mother and uncle worked their way through medical school to become physicians; my aunt became a pharmacist. My grandfather kept his promise and his kids kept their end of the bargain of not letting his sacrifices go to waste.

Over the years, as I've matured, I've tried my best to listen to and hear as many stories from my grandfather as I could in order to learn more about his struggles, his sacrifices, and his dedication to our family. Because of our language barrier, I know I lose some things in translation, and he can't convey every nuance of every story he tells me. But, what doesn't get lost in translation is the love that he has for our family and how proud he is of his wife, his children, and grandchildren.

He cracks up and self-deprecates how an uneducated man like himself, who barely knew much English, was able to work so hard and make it here in the U.S. Then the laughter turns to tears as he reflects on the difficult journey he had to take and the happiness that he feels inside as he sees his children and grandchildren leading thriving lives and creating families of their own.

Korean men, especially of his generation, aren't known to be expressive with their emotions. So moments like these when he's being vulnerable with me and letting down the wall of toughness that he created out of necessity to survive over his lifetime defi-

Hope

nately evoke different emotions within me. I get surprised by his openness, sad from the pain in his eyes, happy from his tears of joy, and also guilty and ashamed by the spoiled life I lead. Most importantly, I feel privileged and blessed to have such a grandfather—and that we can share these special moments together.

As my grandfather holds my 10-month old Tyler in his arms, his eyes sometimes well up with tears. So do mine. He is in the last chapter of his life. I'm tearing up because I'm watching one of my heroes, who was as strong as an ox and who would run five miles a day as recently as a few years ago, start to hunch over, walk slower, struggle with physical ailments, and struggle with some mild memory issues.

I'm also tearing up because I'm proud of him, proud of what he has done for my family, blessed that he has been in my life since the day I was born, and blessed that he could watch me start my own family.

He is tearing up because he is holding his precious great-grandson, knowing his life is coming full circle and that Tyler represents the future, everything he has been fighting and sacrificing for his whole life. He is at peace with his life.

So, as another Independence Day fades into the history books, I wish America a happy birthday and I thank it for the freedom it offers and the opportunities it has provided my entire family over our lifetimes. I thank the UN, U.S., and Korean troops and their families for all their sacrifices during the Korean War and for those troops who are serving now.

I thank America for the hope it offers to those in need. Most of all, I thank my grandfather for raising his hand on that fateful day and altering the course of our family history for the better.

This piece is dedicated to my grandparents Yong Ki Yu and Jung Nam Yu. I love you both and hope that you understand our family thanks and appreciates everything you have done and continue to do for us.

Andrew Kim, MD andrewrkim@gmail.com

NOTE: This story appeared originally in The Diaper Daily. Learn more about it at <http://thediaperdaily.com/disclosures/>

Mystery Photos

We have photos in our files that do not have any complementary narratives but which have stories behind them. All we have to do is fill in the blanks. The nearby photos were submitted by Fred Rountree several years ago, but they had no identifying captions. So, we need your help to fill in any information. If you can help, please let the editor have any information.

Art Sharp, 2473 New Haven Circle
Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141
sharp_arthur_g@sbeglobal.net

One of the photos is clearly marked. However, there is some question as to whether the 405th Bomb Squadron (L) actually served in Korea. Here is what preliminary research reveals:

Tactical Air Command

Established on 1 December 1952 at Godman AFB, Kentucky. The 405th Fighter-Bomber Wing was an active-duty replacement for the Federalized New Jersey Air National Guard 108th Fighter-Bomber Wing which returned to state control after its activation during the Korean War. The wing's 405th Fighter-Bomber Group was a reactivation of the IX Fighter Command 405th Fighter Group, which had fought in the ETO during World War II.

When activated the group redesignated the NJ ANG 141st, 149th and 153d Strategic Fighter Squadrons as the 509th, 510th, and 511th Fighter-Bomber Squadrons in numerical order. Initially equipped with F-47Ds and F-47N Thunderbolts inherited from the Air National Guard, the 405th being the last active duty USAF Thunderbolt fighter Wing.

On 1 May 1953, the F-47s were withdrawn and sent to AMARC, and the 405th was reassigned to Langley AFB, Virginia due to the programmed closing of Godman AFB on 1 September. At Langley, the 405th replaced the provisional 4430th Air Base Wing and was re-equipped with Republic F-84F Thunderstreak jet aircraft. Also attached to the group was the 422d Bombardment Squadron with B-26 Invader light bombers (1 May – 20 December 1953) and the 429th Air Refueling Squadron (19 July 1954 – 8 October 1957) with KB-29 Superfortress tankers. Operations included gunnery and bombardment training, firepower demonstrations, weapons delivery training, and numerous tactical exercises, 1952–1958, plus air refueling, 1954–1958.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/405th_Air_Expeditionary_Wing



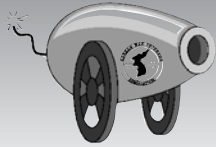
Who are these men? And what type of plane is behind them?



Where was unit and what type of plane?



Who are these four men?



Feedback/Return Fire

This section of *The Graybeards* is designed to provide feedback—and generate more feedback. It gives readers the opportunity to respond to printed stories, letters, points of view, etc., without having to write long-winded replies. Feel free to respond to whatever you see in the magazine. As long as it's tasteful and non-political, we will be happy to include it. If you want to submit ideas, criticisms, etc. that you prefer not to see in print—with your name attached to it—then we will honor that. Make sure to let us know, though.

Mail your "Return Fire" to the "Feedback Editor" at 2473 New Haven Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573-7141; E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (813) 614-1326. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

Allegedly deceased member still with us

In the "Last Call" section in the July-August 2016 issue we included the name Carl M. Jacobson. Additional research shows that he is indeed still with us. He was inactive since 2002, but has now rejoined.

We apologize for the misunderstanding.


An ROTC Medal does exist

On page 7 of the May-June 2016 issue of *The Graybeards*, Mr. Lew Ewing, Secretary, erroneously reported that the "KWVA does not have such an award" as an ROTC Medal for deserving graduating cadets.

There is such a medal and has been for quite some time. Chapter 14, Suncoast, presents the medal and a certificate to deserving cadets at all local high schools on an annual basis.

Chapter 14 designed and commissioned the medal many years ago and has been actively marketing it among JROTC groups throughout Florida and beyond to those organizations that know of it. We have filed for copyright protection on the design of the medal.

Korean War Veterans Commemorative Medals



Medals are ideal for presentation to JROTC members, Boy Scouts, guest speakers, and as gifts for special occasions.

Reasonably priced at \$8.00 each, they are easy on the Chapter budget and can be readily shipped.


Medals can be engraved for just ten cents per letter. Add your Chapter number or a note recognizing the event for which it is awarded.

Medals may only be ordered by U.S. Mail. Email either of the following for an order form.

Gharshman@tampabay.rr.com or Rearcand12@gmail.com

For your enlightenment, I have enclosed a copy of a most recent advertisement in our Florida District Convention Program to show what the medal looks like. Please be aware that we have previously inquired about advertising in an issue of *The Graybeards*, but found that it was too expensive for us.

Sales of the medal is our only fundraising project, and while it is certainly not making us wealthy, we would not like to lose the income from sales.



Date _____

Medals Order Form

From:

Name _____

Address _____

Contact Name w/Phone number _____

Please provide shipping address if different from the above address.

Mail order to: KWVA
P.O. Box 382
Bay Pines, Florida 33744-0382

Please ship the following:

Item	Unit Price	Quantity	Amount
KWVA Medal w/ribbon	\$8.00	_____	_____
Medal engraving*		_____	_____
Add Shipping & Handling+		_____	_____
Total enclosed			_____

Make checks payable to: KWVA Chapter 14

* Upon request, engraving is provided on back of the medal. Charge for engraving is \$0.10 cents per letter. Please add to unit price.

+Shipping - For one medal, cost is \$3.50. For any quantity more, cost is total of \$6.00.

Note: Medal copyright pending

Perhaps *The Graybeards* would consider correcting the information erroneously reported by Mr. Lew Ewing in a future edition and, to rectify the misinformation, give our medal a plug.

E. Gardner Harshman, President, P.O. Box 382
Bay Pines, FL 33744-0382

Passing on *The Graybeards*

I have found a use for my copies of *The Graybeards* after I'm finished with them. A member of my Barbershop Harmony Chorus, a young man in his middle twenties, came here from South Korea when he was about three or four months old. I've been giving him my old copies, and he's been reading them cover to cover, learning about his native land.

He just returned from a three-week trip to Seoul, and I will get

a chance to see him next week to see how he enjoyed it. He's been most grateful for the impromptu geography and history lessons.

Don Meseth, Adj. American Legion Post 36,
Des Plaines, IL, americanlegion36@gmail.com

Here we go again...

I have been a member-at-large of KWVA for several years, and a charter member of the Tibor Rubin Chapter #329, recently chartered in Las Vegas, Nevada. I am a Korea Marine combat veteran and proud of my service, and equally proud to have heard the last shots fired as the armistice took effect in Korea.

I was pleased to read your "The Editor's Desk" story, "Something's fishy here," in the July-August issue of *Graybeards* about Marine logistics and the H&S Co., Third Bn., 8th Marines. It was informative as well as entertaining. And it focused deserved attention on those who do their very best to see that we frontline "grunts" have the stuff we need to do battle. Well done, my brother.

Your article also brings me to think that there are far too few articles and too little focus in *Graybeards* on Navy and Marine activities and action. I try to interest my Korea Marine vets in KWVA membership since we all share a common bond of brotherhood. Too often, I am rebuked because they see KWVA as an Army organization. I show them a copy of *The Graybeards*, but all they see are stories and articles about the Army and Air Force.

I certainly recognize that Army and Air Force veterans greatly outnumber us Marine vets and our Navy brothers. But, at a time when recruitment of new members to KWVA is of major importance, appeal to all branches of service becomes even more important.

The Graybeards is the show piece of KWVA. I hope it increases its focus on Navy and Marine service to help dispel the unintended image that KWVA is an "Army" organization.

Don F. McCarty, 4360 W. Spring Mountain Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89102, 702-686-1548, smpfrfi@hotmail.com

EDITOR'S RESPONSE: I have covered this before. We rely on our members for the stories we print in *The Graybeards*. Our editorial staff of one does not go out into the field to solicit stories. If we do not receive stories from Marines and Sailors, then we cannot print them. If the preponderance of stories come from Soldiers and Air Forcers, that is what we print. The best I can do is encourage Marines and Sailors to submit stories.

One thing is for sure: *The Graybeards* is not an Army, Yaak Chamber of Commerce, Navy, International Groundhogs, Marine Corps, Interstellar Sons and Daughters of the Bifurcated Periwinkles, Air Force, Kiwanis, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine, Boy Scout, Girl Scout, Lions, or any other organization's publication. It is an organization for all Korean War and Korean Defense veterans, and that is not determined by who submits the most stories.

Working on MARS

I read the story on p. 65, July - August 2016, featuring the Glenn L. Martin PB2M MARS. That took me back to 1942 when I started work at the Glenn Martin plant near Baltimore, MD.

I was a 1st Class Milling Machine operator making machine parts for the MARS. I also made parts for the Martin Mariner PBM-3 that

sported only two engines. A friend in my car pool worked in final assembly and I would visit him about 2 a.m. during lunch and sit in the Mariner. I worked the graveyard shift, 11:30 p.m. to 7:15 a.m. (Note that was only seven hours and 45 minutes. See, we got a 15 minute bonus.)

When the machine shop ran out of extruded aluminum, the machine operators would be sent to the sheet metal shops to help the women, colloquially known as "Rosie the Riveters," assemble and rivet engine nacelles. Our milling machine shop also made parts for the Martin B-26, Martin Maryland, and Martin Baltimore. These last two were for England.

When April 1943 rolled around, I was drafted at age 19. So, between the ages of 17-1/2 and 19-1/4, I had worked as a machinist apprentice in the Small Arms R&D Machine Shop, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, and then at Glenn L. Martin. At the induction center I tried to get into Army Ordnance with that background, but ended up in an infantry division. That's the way the cookie crumbles.

Getting drafted was the best thing to happen to me. At end of the war I managed to get an appointment to West Point and that gave me a free education that I would not have received if I had remained in machine shops.

Jack Hayne, jhayne49@ieee.org or wb2bed@arrl.net

By the time you hear it, it's already landed

I have a comment about Ken Roberts' very well done story in the most recent issues, which I enjoyed very much. My recollection about hearing incoming is the exact opposite of his!

Maybe he wasn't ever under a mortar barrage when there wasn't much else going on, that is when there wasn't the constant noise of a firefight, when it is so noisy that you couldn't hear any incoming mortars on the way.

I was, on several occasions, in a 10-15 minute bombardment when there was little other noise. The fluttering sound is unmistakable and can be heard several seconds before it hits. I had no idea then as to how many seconds: who's counting in such a situation? But long enough for us to hit the deck.

I just looked it up; the muzzle velocity is about 700 feet/second. The speed of sound is about 1,100 feet/sec. The sound precedes the round. So, how long you can hear it before it hits depends on your hearing and how long the round was in the air.

As for hearing an artillery shell (that horrible high-pitched whine that no one will never forget), that's also able to be calculated. One thing is clear: if you heard the explosion, the shell missed you. Why? The artillery shell travels at about a mile (5,280 feet) per second. Again, sound travels at 1,100 feet/second. If the shell was fired from a mile away, it landed four seconds before you heard it!

Birney Dibble, jbirneydibble5@gmail.com

"Hall" marks of history

I just finished reading part two of Kenneth Roberts' memoirs. (My favorite section of *The Graybeards* is "Feedback/Return Fire.") I'd like to fire a few rounds in return.

In "The Korean War," page 67, General Ridgway assures us that, except for elements of the Army's 7th Division, no U.S. troops reached the Yalu at Hyesanjin. In the west near its mouth, it would appear that the Army's 21st Infantry Regiment came within 15 or 20

miles before the Chinese hit them in force. (Map, p.432, in Donald Knox's "The Korean War, etc.")

The ROK Sixth Division reached the river farther east at Chosin. Someone appears to have conflated Sinuiju on the Yalu with Sinanju on the Hongchon River, near Anju.

In sending UN troops pell mell toward the Yalu, MacArthur was violating orders from the Pentagon, as he often did. As someone writes, General Almond was urging the Army to reach the river before the Marines did. But what a hollow "triumph," at best only a symbolic one, in the light of subsequent developments.

Marine General O.P. Smith was in no hurry and had no desire to separate his two regiments. He was more concerned with maintaining unit integrity in case he met the Chinese, a prescient decision as it turned out.

There was no "Chosin Dam fiasco." There was no "bugout" at the Chosin Reservoir on the part of the Marines, as most of your readers are aware. Anyone writing about the history of the war should realize that he is to a large extent preaching to the choir. What occurred was a breakout from the trap sprung on the Marines at Yudam-ni by possibly ten divisions of Chinese troops.

The Marines, with considerable assistance from Marine air, fought off the Chinese and reached their fellow Marines and some Army and British troops at Hagaru-ri and then marched south over a narrow, sinuous mountain road, leaving heaps of frozen Chinese corpses in their wake. At Hamhung they were evacuated and taken to South Korea.

General Almond (I'm using the term "general" in a generic sense) is an interesting study. This racist, sycophantic MacArthur deputy was heartily disliked by the Marines and most of his subordinate commanders. (General Smith extracted a promise from General Ridgway that the Marines would never have to serve under him in the future.) He lived a sybaritic life style at Inchon and probably at Hungnam in a van that was "rigged with a refrigerator and had hot water and a flush toilet....He was supplied daily with fresh fruit, vegetables, and meat." (Clay Blair in "The Forgotten War.")

The "Chinese laundrymen" phrase was probably first uttered by General Almond on the east side of the reservoir, although "Chesty" Puller at Koto-ri was known to have used it. Elements of the 7th Division on the east side of the reservoir found out that the "laundrymen" were indeed formidable foes when nearly 1,000 of them were massacred.

General Walker, so-called hero of the Pusan Perimeter battles, was killed in an auto accident on December 23, 1950. Some have said that his death made possible the coming of Ridgway and the salvation of the 8th Army. (Max Hastings in "The Korean War.")

As one writer says, Walker infused his men with new vigor and morale after the "bugout" and got the road-bound troops off the roads and into the hills. Within a month they were ready to resume the offensive, which had suffered such a resounding defeat. He replaced General MacArthur as commander of UN forces when the latter was sacked by President Truman for insubordination and returned to the U.S., where he was received as a conquering hero.

In the medals game the lowly grunt always played second fiddle to the whims of the officer clique. Almond handed them out like candy, some recipients throwing them away in disgust. General Stratemeyer awarded General MacArthur a DFC for his courage in

his one hour, ten-minute flight over North Korea.

I have always thought that a true hero, certainly one deserving the Medal of Honor, would be humble and self-effacing, not boastful and self-serving. Maybe we need a new definition of heroism.

Bob Hall, 3827 Fraser St., Bellingham, WA 98229, 360-671-5516, rdhall1925@yahoo.com

Black and white

EDITOR'S NOTE: Writer Bob Hall mentioned in passing above that General Ned Almond was racist in nature. That is not the first time we have heard that statement applied in *The Graybeards*. But, it is not our job to judge whether Almond was or wasn't a racist.

For Almond—and for all members of the military at the start of Korean War—integration in the armed forces was a new thing. It affected different troops differently. And, the effects of racism and integration were by no means erased by, during, or immediately after, the Korean War.

As late as early January 1959 I witnessed firsthand the residues of racism that affected U.S. Marines. I was stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC. The first time I went on liberty to Jacksonville, the city nearest to the camp, I saw for the first time in my life separate facilities for "Colored" people.

The same African-American Marines with whom I might have to share a foxhole and on whom I would have to rely to watch my back couldn't use the same drinking fountain or men's room as me? And they had to ride on the back of the bus back to the camp? I was aghast, to put it mildly.

I was a northern-born boy who had gone to the same schools as African-Americans and played on the same athletic teams. That was an eye opener for me, just as it must have been for service members who lived through the early stages of integration in the armed forces. That leads me to print the following email I "captured" off the net regarding integration. If anyone has similar stories, observations, or viewpoints about integration in the armed forces, please send them to our "Feedback" editor.

Incidentally, the writer's name has been omitted deliberately. The incident took place during the Korean War.

Have you ever considered what a devastating effect racism might have on the self-esteem of a sensitive individual? Case in point: the following excerpt from Harry Summers, who enlisted in the army at the age of 15 and later served in the Korean War, from the book *No Bugles, No Drums: An Oral History of the Korean War*, by Rudy Tomedi, p. 107:

"When they first started talking about integration, white soldiers were aghast (1947). They would say, how can you integrate the army? How do you know when you go to the mess hall that you won't get a knife or a spoon that was used by a Negro? Or when you go to the supply room and draw sheets, you might get a sheet that a Negro has slept on."

Well, of course, that's ludicrous. But it wasn't ludicrous in 1950. That was a very common attitude among the troops then.

I remember a night when my rifle company was scheduled to get some replacements. I was in a three-man foxhole with one other guy, and they dropped off this new replacement at our foxhole. The other guy I was in the foxhole with was under a poncho, making coffee. It was bitterly cold and pitch dark. He got the coffee made, and he gave

me a drink. He took a drink, and then he offered some to this new replacement, who we literally couldn't see, it was that dark.

And the guy said, "No, I don't want any."

"What the hell are you talking about, you don't want any? You got to be freezing to death. Here, take a drink of coffee."

And the guy said, "No, I don't want to."

"What's wrong with you, man?"

"Well," he said, "you can't see me now, but I'm black. And tomorrow morning when you find out I was drinking out of the same cup you were using, you ain't gonna be too happy."

Me and this other guy kind of looked at each other.

"You silly s.o.b.," we told him. "Here, take this g.d. coffee."

That was our first black replacement. And it really struck me then what a terrible, terrible thing we had done to ourselves, and to our society that a man would come to us with an attitude like that.

No cover charge

Thank you for another fine edition. We especially liked your choice of a cover photo. Many people who have gone on the "Honor Flights" stand in awe of Senator Dole's great effort to meet and greet our troops at the Memorial. What courage he displays after all the punishment he has suffered.

John M. Quinn, Saggi32@aol.com

Small World

I was very interested in the Tom Stevens bio, "Meet President Stevens," in the July-August 2016 *Graybeards*, especially because Tom and I took similar paths in the Air Force.

We both enlisted in July 1951. Tom went to Lackland; I went to Sampson AFB for basic. We were both sent to Lowry AFB for turret systems mech. school and aerial gunnery. We were both sent to Randolph AFB (not Randall, as written in the article) for combat crew training. This is where we parted.

Tom went to Forbes AFB to crew on the B-29 and I went to Castle AFB to crew on the B-50. We both became tail gunners, but not of our own choice.

Tom went to Okinawa to bomb North Korea. In a few months I was chosen for a slot on a select crew—tail gunner again! We trained to deliver an A-bomb to Russia (if needed). It was a great crew.

Ours was one of the two B-50s sent to the international bombing



Len Johnson next to the B-26 Invader "Snafu," Kunsan AFB (K-8), 90th Bomb Sqdn., 3rd Bomb Wing, Korea

and navigation competition, and we brought home the Fairchild Trophy for the 93rd Bomb Wing. We were also selected for an experimental flight over an A-bomb test at the Nevada test range.

Tom came back to the states and was crewed on the B-50; I was sent to Korea to fly on the B-26 Invaders, where I had the whole gunner's compartment to myself!

After discharge Tom went to college on the GI bill and I went to school on the GI bill in Manhattan (New York City), where Tom was born. I was born on Long Island, NY.

SMALL WORLD!

Len Johnson, 4239 Newland St.,
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Even hand grenades need adhesive tape at times

I served as a Medic in Korea with the 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Division from October 1952 to September 1953. One day my ten-year-old grandnephew asked me what medics did when they were not fighting in a battle. I told him we went out on patrols and then related one story that lingers in my memory after all these years.

It was in March 1953. We were on the MLR somewhere within the Iron Triangle. The purpose of our patrol was to observe the terrain see how close the enemy was to us. We had strict orders not to make contact with the enemy should the occasion arise.

There were 12 men on this patrol: the squad leader, his runner, his radio man, 2 B.A.R. men, and 6 riflemen. I was the 12th member. Everything ran smoothly as we gathered the necessary information but when we got the word to turn back all hell broke loose.

We were well hidden, but we saw a Chinese patrol passing by not too far away. One of our men panicked and pulled the pin on his grenade. He was ready to throw it. Luckily, the soldier next to him kept him from doing so.

So, now we had a young man in a panic mode holding a hand grenade with the pin pulled. If he released the pin that would create havoc among us and alert the Chinese to our presence. What to do? Call the medic.

"Doc" will know what to do. That's one thing we did not cover in training.

I slithered over to the young soldier and talked to him gently as I removed the grenade from his hand, making sure the handle was held tightly against its cup. I handed the grenade ever so gently to a calm soldier standing by. Then I reached into my aid kit, took out my ever faithful adhesive tape, and wrapped some of it around the grenade, holding the handle tightly against it.

All of us breathed a sigh of relief. We left the wrapped grenade in the bushes, which today would be in no man's land. I recall the event so well in part because that was the night I won my Sergeant stripes (A few months later I received word that I now held the rank of Sergeant.)

Incidentally, my grandnephew loved the story and asked me to come to his classroom for show and tell. I declined; we went to Disney World instead.

Fred Serraino, 325 Arthur Ave.
Cocoa Beach, FL 32931

Thanks for the postcard

It's not often that members send us postcards to document their



The postcard photo from Darrell Sandstrom

travels. Here is one member who did, with this message:

Thank you for your service here in Korea. I have been able to be here now over the Korean holiday of their Independence Day celebrations. (Three days, Saturday through Monday). It took 9 hours coming from Seoul to Sok Cho (East Coast)—only 200+ KM away. Out and about taking in Naksan on the Sea of Japan & O Dae San National Park in the mountains.

Darrell G. Sandstrom, 302 S Rockford Ave., Rockford, IL 61104, 815-394-4822, DSands3063@aol.com

Thanks to Bill Alli

As a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Korean War, I give some well deserved credit to William E. Alli for his outstanding efforts on behalf of the "Wall of Remembrance" augmentation to the presently existing Korean War Memorial in Washington DC.

I am aware of his many, many trips to Congress to lobby legislators as well as his efforts to get others to contact their congressional representatives on behalf of the wall. If the wall is erected, Bill will be one of the major reasons.

Even if the wall is never erected I commend him for his tireless efforts and dedication to his fellow veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice.

John O' Hara, 3038 Traymore Ln., Bowie, MD 20715,
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Where's "Honey?"

I went on my first visit to Korea in the September 1995 group. Arrangements were made with a Korean veteran/nurse, Kathleen (Cronan) Wyosnick, who at that time was handling the Revisit Program.

She did a terrific job. I had several contacts with her, but we never met. I think some of the first revisit groups would like to know if she is still active. She served a couple terms on the board, but disappeared.

Can someone bring us up to date on "Honey?"

J. Donald, Thomann, 617 Southwarke Rd.
Bel Air, MD 21014, 410-638-1931

SS Marine Devil presents a devil of a conundrum

The S.S. Marine Devil was decommissioned officially in April 1946. But, it sailed from San Francisco to Korea on or about December 1946 through January-February 1947. Those of us

aboard, about 2,000 troops, will testify to that.

This information has led to some confusion in the application of claims. Feel free to ask for more information.

Incidentally, if anybody has any information or pictures of or about Camp Skipworth, I would appreciate receiving it/them.

James A. Dengel, 260 W 260th St., Bronx, NY 10471,
718-884-7064 or 941-721-8296

EDITOR'S NOTE: A cursory search for information on both Camp Skipworth and SS Marine Devil turns up very little information. One interesting piece of information is this:

The records of ships used to carry troops to their theaters of operations were destroyed intentionally in 1951. "According to our [U. S. National Archives] records, in 1951 the Department of the Army destroyed all passenger lists, manifests, logs of vessels, and troop movement files of United States Army Transports for World War II." (Sorry, but there was no word on why the records were destroyed.)

Thus there is no longer an official record of who sailed on what ship, though there are still valuable sources that can be found. So this web page is an informal collecting ground for information about troop ship crossings.

There was one recorded voyage for Marine Devil. It left Calcutta with troops aboard on 2 February 1946 and arrived in Seattle on an unspecified date later that month. Source: <http://ww2troopships.com/crossings/1946.htm>

His name is spelled Sawicki

On behalf of KWVA Tibor Rubin (MOH) Chapter No. 329, and Commander Chuck Johnson, I thank you for featuring our chapter in the July - August 2016 issue of Graybeards. We have received wonderful feedback from chapter members and supporters.

On a related topic, I received a request from one of our chapter board members, Mr. Hank Sawicki, requesting a correction of the misspelling of his last name in the photo caption in the article referenced above. His name was spelled correctly in the text but was misspelled in the photo caption. The correct spelling of his last name is, "Sawicki," full name "Hank Sawicki," and is in the current July - August issue of the Graybeards, page no. 32, titled Chapter & Department News, first from the left.

We respectfully request that a correction be published in the next issue of the Graybeards or as soon as possible. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. And again, thank you for the great coverage Chapter No. 329 received in the current issue of Graybeards.

John Diaz, (702) 372-5099 mobile,
JohnDiaz702@aol.com

Is there a shot to stop people from passing out from shots?

While I was waiting to get my flu and pneumonia shots yesterday, I told the pharmacist about my first shot. We were in North Korea in 1951 and just like we always did—standing in line! A fellow trooper in front of me went out like a light—falling to the floor.

In basic training we learned shots were the order of the day, so to speak. At age 86, looking back, I was a scared 21-year-old trooper.

My life sure has been a fast one, for which I am very thankful.

Leroy Rogers, leroyrogersusa@hotmail.com

The worst day/night of my life

It all began sometime after January 1st 1953. I embarked with USMC 1st Div 1st Tank Bn Co HQCD from San Diego aboard the USS Nelson M. Walker with 2,500 Army and 500 Marines aboard. After an uneventful two week trip, we landed at Inchon, Korea. That is when my ordeal began.

Reveille was at 0300, chow was at 0400. That was the last meal I would have aboard ship. Sailors would later be selling cheese sandwiches for \$1.00 each. I, of course, did not bring any money along, thinking, "What do I need money for in Korea?" Boy was I wrong! One of those cheese sandwiches would have tasted pretty good before I debarked the ship many hours later.

They started debarking troops at about 0600, using LCMs. At around 1600 they realized this was taking too long, so they brought out an LST and started loading it. I debarked the ship at about 1800.

They stacked us in the lower hold standing back to breast. We were dressed in full cold weather clothing, including full field transport pack, helmet and rifle. When the LST was full, they told us to sit down, "If you can." The only way was to sit down with our legs spread, then the guy in front would sit between your legs. Mind you, we were sitting on an ice cold steel deck, in January.

When we stood up to get ready to debark the LST, we could hardly stand. We were totally numb from our butts to our feet. I am guessing it was around 29 degrees. When we debarked the LST, they gave us a box of C-rations and two rounds of ammunition. I asked the guy handing out the ammo if they were to shoot myself. It was, at this time, about sixteen hours since I had eaten. I do not remember when I ate the C-rations, but they must have tasted pretty good.

We were then put on a train. The car I was in had all the windows broken out, so they would not let us sleep for fear of us freezing. The train trip was very eventful. It would go about a mile forward and a half mile backward. That, along with kids throwing rocks at the train in the middle of the night, kept us alert. Why weren't these kids home in bed?

After the all-night train ride we arrived at Munsan-ni (the rail head). We were taken off the train and put in trucks to be transported to our outfits. Remember the two rounds of ammo? I was about ready to put one of them to use. (A joke, of course)

Following a short ride in an open truck, only about a mile or two in the freezing cold January early morning, we finally arrived at HQ BN 1st Tank BN. After a quick muster we were escorted to the mess hall, where we were served steak and eggs hot off the grill. The best meal of my life!

After spending fourteen months in Korea, 63 years ago, the one thing on my "Bucket List" was to someday return there. This opportunity came to me via the KWVA. On Sept. 19th 2016, my wife, my son and I boarded a Korean Airline plane to return to South Korea.

I so looked forward to that trip!

Gerald Williams, 9891 Sunray Pl., Windsor, CA 95492,
707-483-0147, jw383Ford@yahoo.com

First Overseas Assignment

My initial assignment in the military was in Japan. Getting

there, half way across the globe, was the fun of this trip. Passing through Camp Stoneman, CA (the San Francisco Port of Embarkation) was routine for completing all shots, in both arms, and updating the ID known as "the dog tag."

Several days passed, then the troop bus moved the men to Travis Air Force Base, a very short distance from Camp Stoneman. Now, in 1950, getting to Japan from California via airplane was not as swift as they fly today. We flew eight hours on the first leg of our trek, then stooped over at Hickam AFB in Honolulu for rest and for more fuel.

The following morning there was no line at the barber shop on Hickam. There was evidence that destruction had taken place because there were several holes in the mirror immediately beyond the barber's chair. What took place? What happened? Bullet holes? No way!!

When asked about the holes in the mirror, the barber spoke in a most respectful voice; "Those bullet holes are left from the Japanese attack on 7 December 1941." WOW! That comment got attention and there was dead silence.

Another eight hours passed on the second leg of the flight to Wake Island. This was a rest stop, a quick walk through the "chow-line," and some needed fuel for the aircraft. Near the very long black landing strip, a vessel had been shelled and was upside down on the beach. No doubt this was a scar from WWII. A small military group is stationed on Wake - a dreary and remote refueling base in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. This cadre is a permanent party.

All aboard for the last leg of this Pacific trek on our way to Tokyo. Since it is on the other side of the globe, we had to pass over the International Date Line, where all clocks change in a hurry and a new day is advanced. After a day or so in Tokyo, the troops separated and went in different directions. For me, it was a very long train ride to Wakkanai, on Hokkaido Island.

All alone and with no Japanese language under my tongue, I headed for the unknown named Wakkanai. Many hours passed. The train ticket master, all dressed in his black uniform, moved slowly through the aisle punching individuals' tickets. He did not speak a word.

Since I was anxious to arrive in Wakkanai, I signaled to the ticket master that I had a question. He was a tall Japanese man and I assumed he could not speak English. I held up my arm, pointed to my watch, and said "Wakkanai?" The polite gentleman smiled and kept walking.

An hour or so later I tried the same question trick again and got no response. However, once we were within 30 miles of Wakkanai, this same kind, polite man came up to me and said "Soldier, we will arrive in Wakkanai in about 30 minutes"—in perfect English. It turned out that he had graduated from UCLA.

I was a bit embarrassed thinking he could not speak English. I am sure my cheeks were blush red. Live and learn!

Finally, the train stopped at the Wakkanai station. Now what! I got my barracks bag, jumped into a waiting jeep, and headed off to the small army camp, which was my home for the next five months.

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Former commander Col. Anthony Petruzzi remembers his lost comrades

By Therese Park

Seven decades ago South Korea was under the United States Army Military Government in Korea (USAMGIK) that began on September 8 and ended August 15, 1948. President Harry Truman saw it necessary since the Soviet Forces had already occupied a certain part of the North after the U.S. atomic bombs had incinerated Hiroshima and Nagasaki in early August in 1945.

After the Tokyo Surrender Ceremony on Sept. 2nd, in which General MacArthur signed all documents accepting Japan's unconditional surrender to the Allied Forces, the U.S. troops from the Occupied Japan landed in Korea to protect the southern part of Korea from the Communist North and its friendly Russians.

Local retired Col. Anthony Petruzzi, now 93, was one of the American officers who went to Korea on Sept. 8, 1945, and served in the U.S. Military Government in Korea until 1948. In a recent conversation, Petruzzi revealed that, as a captain in the 7th Infantry Regiment, 7th Division, he made sure that all Japanese prisoners in the hands of American troops were safe from the angry Koreans who had returned from all over the Pacific where they had served Imperial Japan, wearing Japanese uniforms.

The U.S. Military Government in Korea controlled everything — border security, rice production, factories, markets and all public facilities. Riots erupted by those who returned to their homeland like war debris; they had nothing to claim as theirs and were hungry and jobless. To control the diseases such as dysentery, cholera and malaria brought in by the conscripts and forced laborers, Americans sprayed DDT and other chemicals from low-flying airplanes daily, creating eerie man-made fog.

In August 1948, the U.S. military government in Korea ended, and most of the Americans who had served in the military government were sent to Hawaii. But, with North Korea's invasion of the South in late June 1950, they were called back to the Far East, namely to Occupied Japan, where most of the Americans were stationed during the Korean War. It was here in Japan where MacArthur masterminded the Inchon landing, one of the most successful amphibious landings in American history, in which the 74,000 U.N. troops turned the losing war to a winning one overnight, for a short time.

Petruzzi still remembers Sept. 15, 1950 quite clearly, even after 65 years. He and his men were aboard one of 260 landing ship tanks at the early hour of that cloudy September morning, watching the U.S. Navy pilots bombarding the shore in preparation for the troops to land. Finally, around noon, the order to take the beach came, and they approached their target. To their surprise, there was no resistance from the communists as they landed.

When asked how excited he was about the easy landing, the retired colonel said, "All we could think about was food, real food. For three days, we only had canned food. And the sea had

Within days, Petruzzi found himself and his men in the north, shivering in their summer uniforms in the freezing North Korean October weather, not knowing that 120,000 Chinese troops would ambush 25,000 U.N. troops within days and that nearly half of them would perish.

been so choppy that most of us were seasick. But, without having the time to rest, orders came to advance to Seoul. Seoul is only about 20 miles away from Inchon, but it took us about ten days to take the capital, because the retreating communists kept lurking about, shooting at us."

When the capital was declared free of the communists, the American troops created an air of festivity as MacArthur escorted South Korea's 74-year-old president Syngman Rhee in an open car to the presidential seat in the National Assembly Hall, while the marching bands played the American military hymns in the presence of tearful spectators.

Within days, Petruzzi found himself and his men in the north, shivering in their summer uniforms in the freezing North Korean October weather, not knowing that 120,000 Chinese troops would ambush 25,000 U.N. troops within days and that nearly half of them would perish. Retreating through the ice-covered mountain pass in early December on military trucks was dreadful after losing so many battle comrades.

The following year, in April, MacArthur was removed as commander for miscalculating the Chinese involvement in the war and was sent home. The peace talks between the Chinese leaders and American delegates began soon afterward. Petruzzi, then a major, served another year, not returning home until April 1952.

What was it like being home when the war still went on in Korea? "It was awful," the retired colonel said. "My mind was still in Korea, fighting. My wife often woke me in the middle of the night, saying, 'Tony, wake up! You're not in Korea anymore!' I lost 32 men from my regiment in Korea. How could I not have nightmares about the evil that could have swallowed me, too? I still think about the guys we lost in Korea."

Petruzzi served in three more wars after the Korean War — the Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, and the Iraqi War.

Retired musician and freelance columnist Therese Park has written three novels about Korea's modern history.

NOTE: This article appeared originally in the June 1, 2015 Kansas City Star. It has been revised for The Graybeards.



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ARIZONA

R047569 REX W. ACEY
R047566 DONALD BERG
R047565 DONALD K. BOYLE
LR47558 MICHAEL J. CONDON
A047562 CHARLES J. CRABAUGH
LR47597 JOHN A. DANNER
R047561 CHARLES HOLLAND
R047567 JAMES JEPSON
R047568 LORAN D. KOON
R047563 VERN KUDER
R047560 THOMAS MILLS
R047559 KEITH PETERSON
R047564 RALPH B. PRINCE

CALIFORNIA

LR47529 CLIFFORD H. BOSS
R047533 LEE J. HORNER
LR47598 HARRY G. JOHNSON
R047612 ADOLPH MASSA
R047513 RICHARD A. WILKINSON

COLORADO

R047634 WILLIAM L. LEHMAN
R047556 RONALD L. WHITE

DELAWARE

LR47531 STANLEY COLLENDER

FLORIDA

R047554 CAROL A. BARKALOW
A047538 MATILDE F. BOHART
R047524 DEANE W. CHICKERING
LR47630 JAMES R. FELDMAN
LR47606 JAMES B. GILLO
R047550 FREDERICK J. GLENNON
R047523 ROBERT A. HUNKE
A047552 DAVID C. KANE
R047577 RAYMOND C. KING
R047602 RAYMOND R. LATHAM
P047527 GERALD C. MACCLEAN
R047603 DON G. MAEHLNBROOK
R047587 PETER J. WHITE

HAWAII

R047640 JOHN S. CARROLL
R047521 ALLAN W. MOSHER
R047537 AUGUST F. ROBACK
LR47522 MINORU TAKAESU

ILLINOIS

R047609 ROBERT P. FISHER
A047518 STEPHEN L. KENNEY

R047517 ANGELO J. LENZIONI
R047596 LEROY E. LEWANDOWSKI
R047586 WARREN R. MAJOR JR.
R047636 JOHN W. O'BRIEN
R047499 CHARLES C. RICKETT

IOWA

R047500 ROGER F. HONOLD
R047628 JAMES G. MEYERING

MARYLAND

LR47591 MICHAEL J. MASON

MASSACHUSETTS

A047543 MARIA S. MCCONNELL
R047589 RICHARD D. MORSE
R047599 ROBERT NELSON

MICHIGAN

LR47535 APRIL A. ANSELMO
R047637 THOMAS C. JACOBS
A047593 THERESA M. ROHR-LORENZ

MINNESOTA

R047528 JAMES A. ARMSTRONG
R047553 GARY W. DORING

MISSOURI

R047580 CHARLES E. LATHAM
A047594 JAMES D. MCGUIRE
R047611 JOHN M. TARWATER

NEBRASKA

R047532 DONALD J. BACON
A047551 LORI MUNHALL

NEVADA

R047555 HAROLD A. BERSIN
R047512 MODESTO A. CERBANA
R047572 GEORGE F. CURCIO
R047516 SYLVIA C. DOUSMAN
R047520 DANNY A. HERNANDEZ
R047573 RAYMOND A. HUECKER
A047605 SYLVIA R. HUECKER
R047610 BETTEANN MEYERS
R047515 LARRY L. O'LAUGHLIN
LR47498 WILLIAM OLYNYK
R047510 CALVIN T. PASCETTA
R047631 ERNEST J. SALERNO

NEW JERSEY

R047502 DAVID BARNETT
R047503 PHILIP W. DACKO
R047542 JOE F. RYAN

NEW MEXICO

R047507 THADDEUS F. KOCON
R047506 STANLEY S. SKIBITZKI

NEW YORK

R047508 WILLIAM L. CAVANAUGH
LR47509 KENNETH GORDON
R047595 CARMEN P. LEONARDO
A047624 KYONG S. MASON
R047525 JOHN P. O'DAY
R047607 JOSEPH V. RUSSO
LR47570 PAUL D. WARNER

OHIO

R047613 JAMES W. GILLIS
R047629 LEWIS R. RODGERS
LR47592 KERMIT F. STROH

OKLAHOMA

LR47541 MARILYN D. JANOSKO
A047623 JENGE JONES
R047590 TIMOTHY JUSTICE
A047627 YEON M. LEE
A047626 CHONG S. MATTHEWS
R047635 ROY F. MORGAN
A047625 JUNG WHA ORTIZ
A047621 MYONG O. SOWELL
A047622 YONG C. TUETKIN
LR47539 JACQUELINE T. WELLS

OREGON

R047576 RICHARD L. MCCLAUGHLIN

PENNSYLVANIA

LR47519 JAY L. BAKER
R047638 ANDY C. CAMPBELL
A047601 DAVID E. CHARLTON
R047540 GLORIA A. ENGELHARDT
LR47549 JOHN W. HARPER
R047588 CARMEN J. VACCA
LR47616 RUDOLPH A. VALENTINO

RHODE ISLAND

A047534 JOHN P. GALLO
A047501 ROBERT J. MARINO

SOUTH CAROLINA

R047618 ALAN J. CASE
R047619 POK CHA CASE

LR47581 PERRY COX

R047530 WILLIAM A. HANNAH JR.
R047604 JAMES KENNEDY
LR47608 LOUIS A. PALOMA

TENNESSEE

LR47600 JAMES A. BUETEL
R047615 WILLIAM LAPISKA
R047536 HARVEY E. RHYMER
A047545 WON JA CHIN
A047544 SIN CHA CLEM
A047546 JENNIFER S. DAOG
LR47614 CURTIS T. GRUBBS
LR47582 BILLY P. HEARON
A047620 BON-WOONG KOO
A047547 SUK KYONG LYSZAZ
R047584 LUCIUS O. 'BUD' OWSLEY
R047557 COY L. QUESENBURY
R047526 PETER P. SMITH
R047511 FRANCISCO D. SOMERA
A047548 SUK CHA VOLLAND

VIRGINIA

LR47633 RUSSELL L. DAWES
LR47617 DAVID G. LOY
R047583 THOMAS M. MULLER
R047579 ROMUALD N. NICKLES
LR47632 FERN O. WINBUSH

WASHINGTON

R047575 JASON E. ATKINS
LR47639 BRIAN P. SEGUIN

WEST VIRGINIA

R047505 R ROBERT SHIRLEY

WISCONSIN

R047514 DAVID E. GUNDERSON
R047585 PHILIP T. JACOBSON
A047578 JAIME J. SHUTES
R047574 ROBERT M. STEPHENS

NON-US

R047571 PATRICK M. MCHUGH

APO-AP

LR47504 MICHAEL S. NAPSEY

Visit the Korean War Veterans Association
Website: www.KWVA.org

Meeting the new Korean Consul General

Members of Ch 56, Ventura County [CA] met the newly appointed Korean Los Angeles Consul General, Lee Key-Cheol,, at a luncheon at his home on June 25, 2016. They attended a "Thanks" ceremony to introduce themselves.

Consul Lee Key-Cheol and his wife Moon Su-Mi arrived in Los Angeles on June 25th He began work immediately.

One of the attendees was CA State Assemblywoman Young Kim, the first ever Korean-American elected to represent Orange County in the Assembly.

*David Lopez, 3850 W 180th Pl., Torrance, CA 90504
310-323-8481, LopezPitts9@aol.com*



U.S. and South Korean Colors are presented at Korean Consul's ceremony



Jesse Rodriguez and Alice, CA State Assemblywoman Young Kim of California's 65th District, and David Lopez (L-R) at Korean Consulate in Los Angeles



Commander Lopez of Ch 56 (L) with ROK Col. Myong Choi Seo at Korean Consulate in Los Angeles



Consul Lee Key-Cheol (L) and David Lopez, Commander of Ch 56, at luncheon



David Lopez (L) and Fred Tepesano at Korean luncheon



Part of the large crowd in attendance at Korean luncheon in Los Angeles

Official Membership Application Form

The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407 (Telephone: 217-345-4414)

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE Assigned Membership Number: _____

KWVA Regular Annual Dues = \$25.00 ♦ Associate Membership = \$16.00
MOH, Ex-POW, Gold Star Parent or Spouse & Honorary - \$0.00

Regular Life Membership: (May be paid in lump sum or 6 equal payments by check over a 12 month period.)

Ages up to and through 35 years of age:\$600

Ages 36 through 50 years of age:\$450

Ages 51 through 65 years of age:\$300

Ages 66 years of age and older:\$150

Please Check One: ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal Member (# _____)

Please Check One ☐ Medal of Honor ☐ Regular Member ☐ Regular Life Member ☐ Associate Member
☐ Ex-POW ☐ Honorary ☐ Gold Star Parent ☐ Gold Star Spouse

(Please Print)

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle/Maiden Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Apt. or Unit # (if Any) _____ Phone: (_____) _____ Year of Birth: _____

Email _____ Chapter Number/Name (if applicable) # _____

All Regular members please provide the following information if applicable

Unit(s) to which Assigned

Branch of Service

Division _____ ☐ Army
Regiment _____ ☐ Air Force
Battalion _____ ☐ Navy
Company _____ ☐ Marines
Other _____ ☐ Coast Guard

Dates of service:

WithIN Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

WithOUT Korea were: (See criteria below)

From _____ To _____

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes as indicated, is true and correct."

[If you are applying for membership in a category other than Section 1, par A.1., of the "Criteria for Membership" listed below, complete the "Certification of Eligibility for KWVA Membership" Form on page 2.]

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: If this is a GIFT Membership – please sign here to certify, under penalty of law, that to the best of your knowledge, ALL of the information you have provided about the Applicant is true and correct. [Note: If applicable, you must also complete and sign the Eligibility Form on page 2.]

Signature: _____ Relationship to Applicant: _____

Make checks payable to: KWVA – Mail to: **Korean War Veterans Association Inc., P. O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**
(Or you may pay by Credit Card)

Credit Card # _____ ☐ VISA ☐ MASTER CARD (only)

Expiration Date _____ V-Code _____ Your Signature _____

Adopted 10/27/2012

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR KWVA MEMBERSHIP

In addition to completing the KWVA Membership Application Form on page 1, persons applying for, and qualifying for, membership under one of the categories listed below, are also required to fill in the appropriate blanks, and sign in the space provided below.

Check Only One Category:

- ☐ **Medal of Honor:** I am a Medal of Honor recipient and the date on which it was awarded was: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ **Ex-POW:** I was held as a Prisoner of War by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces at some time during the period June 25, 1950 to the present. From: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____ To: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ **Gold Star Parent:** I am the parent of : Name [print] _____, who was
☐ killed in action, ☐ missing in action or ☐ died as a Prisoner of War during the Korean War
on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ **Gold Star Spouse:** I am the spouse of: Name [print] _____, who was
☐ killed in action, ☐ missing in action or ☐ died as a Prisoner of War on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.
- ☐ **Associate:** I have a legitimate interest in the affairs of the Korean War Veterans Association and agree to accept the terms and conditions set forth in its charter and bylaws. I do not qualify to be a Regular member.
- ☐ **Honorary:** I was elected as an Honorary Member of the KWVA by a vote of the Board of Directors
on: Month ____ Day ____ Year ____.

"I certify, under penalty of law, that the above information provided by me for the purposes indicated is true and correct."

Applicant Signature: _____ Month ____ Day ____ Year ____

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Section 1. Qualifications of Members. Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate and Honorary Members. No person shall be excluded from membership because of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability, as long as the individual meets the criteria of service requirements as stipulated below. Only Regular Members as defined in A. below have a vote in National or Department matters.

A. Regular Members.

1. **Service in the United States Armed Forces.** Any person who has seen honorable service in any of the Armed Forces of the United States, defined as Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, is eligible for membership if:
a. Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or
b. Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
2. **Medal of Honor.** Any KWVA Member, who is a Medal of Honor recipient, is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.
3. **Prisoner of War.** Any person held as a prisoner of war by the North Koreans, Chinese, or Russian forces during and after the period of hostilities from June 25, 1950 forward is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

B. Associate Members.

1. Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
2. Any person with a legitimate interest in the affairs of this Association and who wishes to support its aims, and not being eligible for Regular Membership; and who agrees to accept the terms and conditions set forth in the KWVA Charter and its Bylaws and Standard Procedure Manual, shall be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

C. Gold Star Parents. Any person whose son/daughter was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

D. Gold Star Spouses. Any person whose spouse was killed in action, or was missing in action, or died as a prisoner of war while serving within Korea including territorial waters around and airspace above during the Korean War (June 25, 1950 to the present) is eligible for free life membership. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership must be provided for approval.

E. Honorary Members. Any person of good character may be elected as Honorary Member by vote by the Board of Directors. A signed statement of their eligibility for membership [Application Form page 2] must be provided for approval.

F. Ineligible. Any person who has been separated from the service of the Armed Forces of the United States under conditions other than honorable shall be ineligible for membership in this Association.

WEB SITE: www.kwva.org

Adopted 10/26/2009, R5 Approved 7/26/2013



Last Call

All of us in the Korean War Veterans Association extend our sincere sympathy to the families and friends of those listed below. May they rest in peace.

ALASKA

ROBERT W. OLIVIER
LEROY S. PLUM
RICHARD L. 'DICK' RICE

ARIZONA

FLOYD D. BALLIET
BILL J. BEARDEN
FRED S. HICKERNELL
GEORGE A. TRAVAGIAKIS
ALVENA MAE WALTER

CALIFORNIA

JOAN BURKE
MURRY E. BURNETT
STEPHEN M. BUSH
WALLACE BYARS
WILLIAM J. BYRNES
L. G. CAGWIN
ELMER R. CALDERON
GLENN L. CALDWELL
JOHN V. CAPRARO
NORBERT R. KUBIAK
BRIAN P. LAUFFER
EBODIA RODRIGUEZ
BERNIE ROSEN
TIBOR RUBIN
EDWIN S. SUNDET
THOMAS M. VARDEN

COLORADO

LYLE HUBER CARTER
RAYMOND DUNCAN
DAVID N. ROSS

CONNECTICUT

JOHN J. HUDAK
GEORGE R. LUBUS
PETER J. ORENSKI
KIRBY B. WEIK
CARL H. WEYMOUTH
RICHARD J. WHITNEY SR.

DELAWARE

RULEY F. BANKS JR.
WILLIAM L. MORRIS
VICTOR A. ROBINSON

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THEODORE K. WHITE JR.

FLORIDA

DONALD L. GOTTSCHALL
WILLIAM C. 'JIM' GRIMES
JOSEPH J. GUTHRIE
DONALD A. LAUSTER
EUGENE E. LENNON
WILLIAM P. 'BILL' MCCRANEY
JOHN H. MOORE
NATALE F. MUCCI
GEORGE D. ROBINSON
TOMMIE N. WEATHERS
DANIEL F. YOHANNES

GEORGIA

THOMAS N. FAIN JR.

CARL J. HOWE
ERNEST S. ROBINSON

HAWAII

LINO CABRAL JR.
ROY Y. MARUYAMA
FRED M. OGASAWARA
BILLIAMIC SIBAYTON

ILLINOIS

CONRAD H. BITTNER III
JAMES A. DERIGHT
WILLIAM R. DOTSON
CHARLES F. GERLING
FLOYD M. HERBIG
ROBERT W. HOKE
LEO J. HOWARD
EUGENE C. JANSEN
ROBERT L. JOHNSON
MARVIN L. KEMPEL
RICHARD R. KOESTER
CARL J. NOTO
JOHN L. OSBORN
ROBERT J. VERGES
VERNON C. VOGT
PAUL C. VOSS
OTTO O. WHITE
HOMER L. WOODS JR.

INDIANA

HERBERT G. ARENZ
RALPH ARTHUR
HAROLD BENNETT
JOE M. BUTLER
DENNING B. CAMPBELL
GAYLE E. CAMPBELL
NORMAN R. CARR
LOWELL N. CARTWRIGHT
DONALD G. CASE
ROBERT D. CHANEY
MICHAEL E. CLAYMILLER
ROSS L. COMPTON
BEN M. CONRAD
MAX E. COOLEY
JAMES W. CUMMER
EMERSON K. DECKER
RUDY DECKER
ARNOLD L. DEFORD
RAYMOND W. DRAPER SR.
WILLIAM R. DULY SR.
RONALD P. FELLING
WILLIE J. FINCH
CHARLES T. FLOOD
PAUL L. FRENCH
RAY G. HOFFINE
HAROLD M. HUMES
FRANK INCHAUTEGUIZ
FRED R. ISCH
RALPH C. JINKERSON
LEO A. JOHNSON JR.
HARVEY D. JORDAN
JESSE M. JUNE

CLARENCE H. KAISER
KARL E. KELLER
CHARLES J. KLOOZ
MICHAEL KWASNY
ROBERT L. LAWHORNE
RICHARD E. LOUCKS
KATHRYN MANSFIELD
GENE E. MARKS
PAUL L. MCDANIEL
DONALD L. MILLER
WILLIAM H. OBERWITTE
DAVID L. OVERBY
RICHARD A. PENFOLD
ALEX PETRASHEVICH
MILLARD RULLMAN
JAMES R. SHAW
WENDELL R. VAUGHN
REX H. VEACH
GERALD L. VERMILLION
GLEN E. VOGEL SR.
LLOYD H. WITTE
HAROLD W. ZARSE
DOUGLAS E. ZIMMERMAN

IOWA

PAUL ENGWALL
WILLIAM LEN FOSDICK
BOB R. HOCKING
JAMES DALE LAFON
DONOVAN S. MALLERY
CARROLL E. WEGNER

KANSAS

WILLIAM RAYMOND CARTER
ROBERT L. MOONEYHAN

KENTUCKY

EDWARD C. MORROW
THOMAS H. VARLEY

LOUISIANA

CLIFTON HALL JR.
DAVID PRESCOTT

MAINE

HANFORD J. BURTON

MARYLAND

CHARLES M. SWEENEY

MASSACHUSETTS

EDGAR DORR ALMSTEAD
RUSSELL E. BLACK
RICHARD A. CEURVELS
RONALD J. DUPONT
ROBERT T. 'BOB' JOY

MICHIGAN

HOWARD N. ANKER
BERNARD E. CASE
DUANE L. HALL
CHARLES HERCH JR.

MINNESOTA

LLOYD S. BECKER
MICHAEL C. GLISCZINSKI
THOMAS J. ROSE
CARL L. SUDBRINK

MISSISSIPPI

JAMES O. BIERWIRTH
JERRY M. BRISTOW
CHARLES E. BURCHFIELD
TERRY CARLOCK
BOBBY J. GREEN
BERRY T. HEMPHILL
JEREMIAH H. HOLLEMAN
DONALD E. HOLLOWAY
ARTHUR R. REED
JAMES E. SLAYTON
HOLLIS SMITH
RAYMOND E. SOUTHERN
ALLAN W. TOUCHSTONE
ERVIN A. YARBROUGH JR.

MISSOURI

RAYMOND F. BURBACH
BERNIE A. HILLERMANN
CECIL B. LITTLE
NORMAN R. RICH
PAUL W. STEELE

NEBRASKA

WILLIAM O. EVANS

NEVADA

DAVID W. HOLCOMB
HERBERT D. PETERSEN
SIDNEY RUBENSTEIN
RALPH SACKS

NEW HAMPSHIRE

GEORGE J. HOGG
GEORGE S. NAUM

NEW JERSEY

NORMAN J. CULLEN
PETER J. HOEY
HARRY A. PANAGOS
BERNARD C. SWEENEY
EDWARD J. TKACZ

NEW YORK

RALPH J. CAGNETTA
MORRIS GOLDSTEIN
JOHN E. HARDING
ALBERT J. IZZO SR.
JOSEPH W. PORTELA
ANDREW J. ROBERTS
EARL G. ROLPH
PAT J. ROONEY
LESLIE J. ROSELLE
JOSEPH C. RUSTIN
RONALD J. SANTA
GEORGE H. STRECKER

NORTH CAROLINA

DOLPHUS L. 'PETE' BELCH

OHIO

FRANKLIN B. BAUGHMAN
ROBERT L. BECK
VINCENT E. CEHELNIK
ESTEL DANE
RALPH K. HOLLAND
BILLIE R. LONGWELL
JOHN THOMAS PARIZA
WILLIAM F. ROGERS
RAYMOND J. RUTKOWSKI
FLOYD SIMPSON
CHARLES M. SMITH

FRED C. STEFAN
ALAN R. STRETCH
VAUGHN D. TOBIN
ROBERT J. 'BOB' VITULLO
JOHN WASYLIK

OKLAHOMA

RICHARD A. JOHANNES

PENNSYLVANIA

DONALD O. FREEZE JR.
GILBERT NEWMAN
GASPER P. PORTO
WILLIAM J. ROONEY
BENJAMIN F. ROTH JR.

RHODE ISLAND

DONALD A. ANDERSON
WILLIAM M. MULCAHEY
GARDNER L. SHERMAN

SOUTH CAROLINA

PATRICK A. MARTONE
BOBBY C. OGLESBY
CARL T. ROGERS

TEXAS

DONALD K. BATES SR.
BYRON W. DICKERSON
LEONARD P. FLORI
DONALD C. ROOSE

VIRGINIA

CLYDE B. FIREBAUGH
J. WARDEN JENKINS JR.

WASHINGTON

F. DOUGLAS RAE

WISCONSIN

MARVIN HOWLING WOLF
MICHAEL G. ROSANDICH
JAMES N. RUNNINGEN

Death Notice of a Member of KWVA

The following notice is submitted for publication:

Name of deceased _____

Date of death _____ Year of Birth _____

Member # _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Air Force ☐ Coast Guard

Primary Unit of service during Korean War _____

Submitted by _____

Relationship to deceased _____

Send to: **Membership, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920-0407**

21st Annual Reunion, Las Vegas

On 7 May 2016, Maui No Kai Oi Chapter 282 sponsored the 21st KWVA annual reunion at Las Vegas that included other Hawaii and California chapters. The Na Mele Ohana Group provided memorable music enjoyed by 160 veterans and companions.

Keynote speaker at the banquet was Korean War Medal of Honor recipient Hershey Miyamura. Guest speaker was Superior Court Judge Vincent Okamoto from California.

Stan Fujii, stan_fujii@hotmail.com



Kenneth and Taye Tashiro (L-R)



Robert Fevella, Karen and Royal Vida, and Akira Kiyabu (L-R)



MOH recipient Hershey Miyamura



Herman Incarnation, Robert Lu'uwai, and William Sakamoto (L-R)



Myrna Wong, Morris and Gladys Heu



Harold and Toyo Yamauchi and Goro Tengan



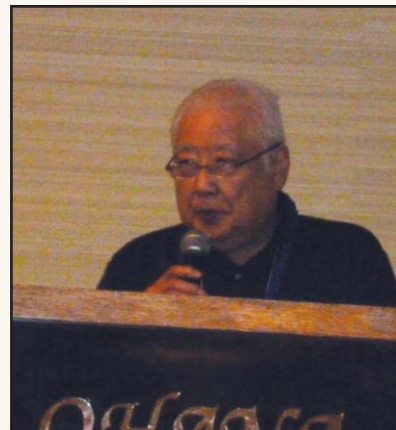
Minoru Igarashi and Warren Nishida



Thomas Tanaka and Song Park Tanaka



Stan Fujii and Tommy Tahara



Judge Vincent Okamoto



May and Henry Furuya



David Lopez and Rudy Garcia



Marshall and Pricilla Ritchey



Edwin and Marian Nakano



Ruth Akena, Nettie Kaahaaina, and Sam Belen



Lucio Sanico and Gayle Ozawa

APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT & PCFY TOURS

(UPDATE 01/05/16)

Last Name _____ First _____ MI _____

KWVA Member, # _____ Expiration Date (Exp date) _____

NOTE: If you have not yet received your membership # from KWVA please insert "applied for."

List all your addresses, (seasonal/if more than one per year) and dates of residence, no P.O. Boxes

1. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Dates _____

2. _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Dates _____

Phone # _____ Fax _____ E-Mail* _____

*- CRUCIAL FOR IMMEDIATE TOUR UPDATES

Korea Revisit Only

Veterans Passport# _____ Exp Date _____ Date of Birth (DOB) _____

Companion Name/Relationship _____ DOB _____

Companion's Passport# _____ Exp Date _____

NOTE: If you do not have a passport with 6 months validity after last date of return to USA and have applied for a new one, please insert "Applied for" in the space provided and contact MHT when you receive it.

Veteran's Korean Service Information

Branch of Service _____ Unit _____

Period of Service in the Korean Theater (month/year) from _____ thru _____

Veterans / Family Member Signature _____ Date _____

Complete and mail this form along with the nonrefundable \$50.00 deposit per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment of the remaining \$400 service fee is required for participants once a tour departure date is selected and submitted. The remaining \$400 service fee will be nonrefundable but a continuation into the following year is allowed if an emergency precludes the participants from attending the revisit that they have selected and been scheduled for.

Credit Card Authorization

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Discover, Master Card or Amex a **\$50.00 Deposit Per Person**,

The nonrefundable amount of **\$50.00 Per Person Credit Card #** _____

Expiration Date: _____ please include the 3-Digit code on back of card _____

Name as it appears on the Credit Card _____

Korea Revisit related material please send to:

**KWVA Revisit Korea Program
C/O MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS
13198 CENTERPOINTE WAY STE #202
WOODBIDGE, VA 22193-5285**

**Phone: 703-590-1295 or 800-722-9501
Fax: 703-590-1292
e-mail: mhtours@miltours.com
Website: www.miltours.com**

Background

The Korea Revisit program was begun by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs (MPVA/Seoul) in 1975 for the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War to express the Republic of Korea (ROK's) government's gratitude to Korean War veterans and their families also to show them the bountiful results of their sacrifices and devotion.

MPVA's Eligibility Requirements

Korean War Veterans who served in or supported ground, naval, or air operations in the Korean Theater between June 25, 1950 and October 15, 1954. Family members of deceased or disabled Veterans are eligible to participate in the "Korea Revisit Program." An eligible applicant is allowed to bring a family member or friend as a "travel companion." Korea Defense Veterans (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to go when Korean War Veterans are not available.

Expanded Eligibility

1. For the 65th anniversaries (2015-19) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2011 can apply to return again. (Call MHT for more details)
2. Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.
3. Korea Defense Veterans who served in Korea during these periods (1945 – Jun 24, 1950 and Oct 16, 1954 – present) are eligible to return on a space available basis TBD by the MPVA and the ROK criteria.

Benefits & Schedule

1. Free hotel accommodations for the veteran their companion or veteran representatives, meals for 5 nights and 6 days in Seoul for 2 people. If you want to bring more people you may at your expense.
2. Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want a single hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing.
3. Tours of Seoul and its vicinity, banquet hosted by the MPVA and KVA with presentation of the "Ambassador for Peace" medal, tours of the DMZ, Pan-Mun-Jom, War Memorial Museum, and National Cemetery.

Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary

Day 1: Fly to Korea.

Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, ROK check into Seoul Hotel.

Day 3 - Tribute Ceremony at the "Korean National Cemetery", visit to

the Korean War Memorial.

Day 4 - Visit Panmunjom, DMZ, Joint Security Area, Camp Bonifas & wreath laying.

Day 5 - Ceremony for Korean War Veterans & Display/Show.

Day 6 - Visit tour of "Korean Folk Village" and shopping opportunity. Banquet hosted by MPVA and KVA.

Day 7 - Depart Korea or begin post-tour extensions.

Sundry Tour Requirements

1. The MPVA Revisit Program privileges are provided for scheduled groups only.
2. Participants are required to have a valid passport that does not expire until 6 months after return to the USA.
3. Neither MPVA Seoul nor MHT Virginia U.S.A is responsible for any loss of or damage to personal or other items; medical expenses, injuries or loss of life due to any accident of whatever nature during the Revisit tours.
4. Medical and Evacuation Insurance is required by MPVA for all veterans, companions or veteran representatives. Insurance costs are included in the admin service charge for Korea only.
5. Roundtrip transportation costs to Korea are not included and will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The participants must purchase roundtrip airfare, the ROK government will subsidize air costs (approximately 50% Veterans and 30% Companions.) The refunded airfare reimbursement will be calculated by the ROK after all the revisits. The reimbursement will be sent in a lump sum to be distributed by MHT for the entire year's groups.
6. Applications will be received/accepted on a "First-come, first-served" basis.
7. Use of frequent flyer miles or other "free" transportation is allowed, but the administrative nonrefundable service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance, tour leaders and administration costs.
8. The initial \$50 per person registration fee that is required for postage, printing, phone charges, file maintenance and personnel staffing to manage the Korea Revisit Programs is not refundable. The remainder of the nonrefundable Service Fee (\$400) will not be charged until the participant has selected his Korea Revisit (KR) dates on the KR Preference Sheet that will be mailed in March-April as part of the KR Handbook.

MISSILE SHIELD TO S. KOREA

When the Pentagon announced it was planning to send the Lockheed Martin Terminal High Altitude Area Defense anti-missile system to Korea, it sounded as if the interceptors would be deployed within weeks. Now, almost six months later, the announcement came last night [July 7, 2016] (Friday Korea time) that an agreement had been reached with South Korea to upgrade its missile defenses.

"When the THAAD system is deployed to the Korean Peninsula, it will be focused solely on North Korean nuclear and missile threats and would not be directed towards any third party nations," said a Pentagon statement. "The THAAD deployment will contribute to a layered missile defense that will enhance the alliance's existing missile defense capabilities against North Korean missile threats."

Source: Jamie McIntyre, washingtonexaminer@news.mediadc.co

Revisions to H.R. 1475

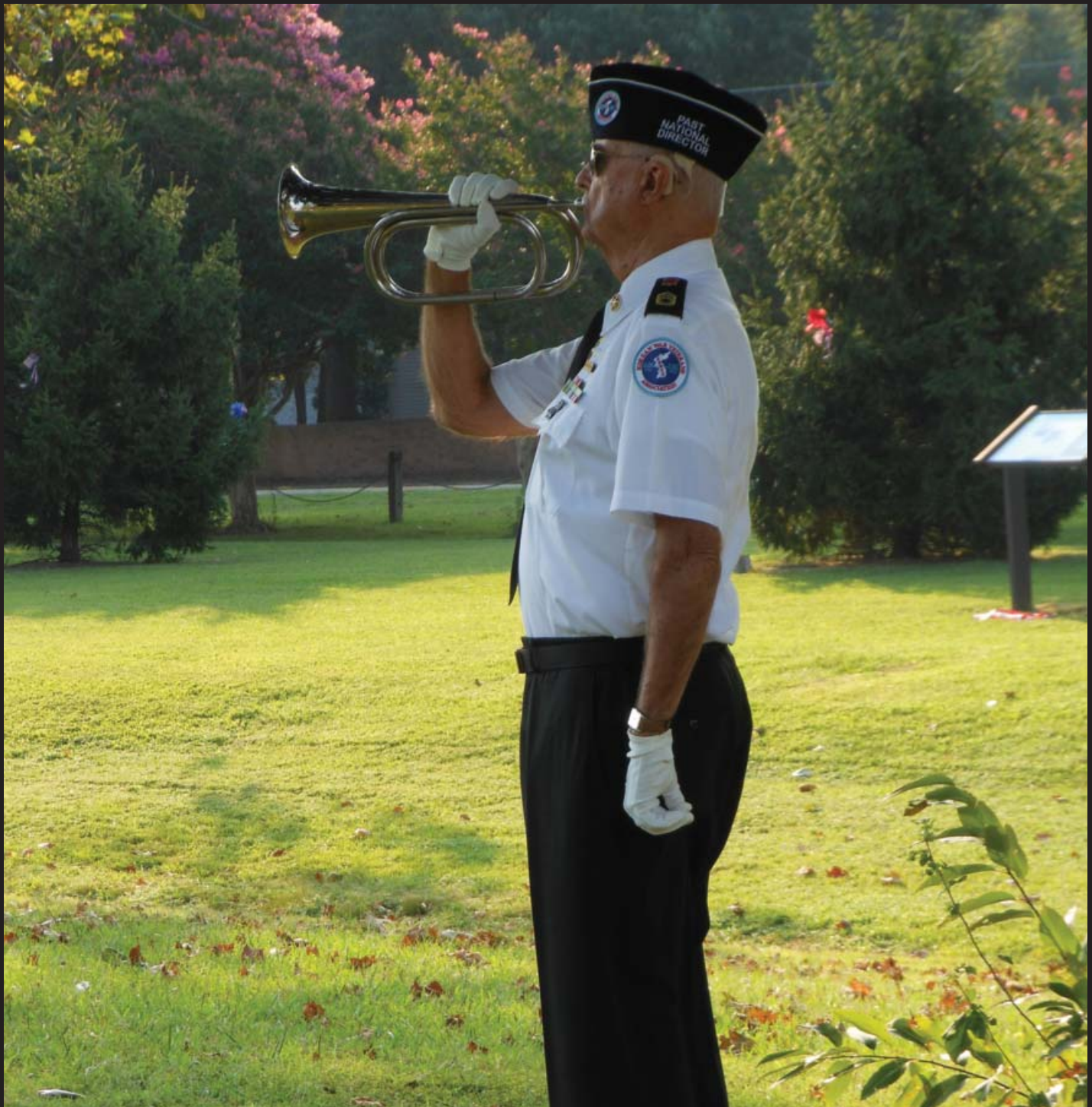
During the consideration of H.R. 1475, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources added an amendment that would allow the Wall of Remembrance to accept private funding and donations, as well as making the Wall subject to the Commemorative Works Act.



Korean War Veterans Association, P.O. Box 407, Charleston, IL 61920

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John Edwards, Vice Chairman, Membership & Recruiting, plays "Taps" at a 9-11 ceremony in Hampton, VA