

## ALL MEMBERS

The following eight candidates have been certified to seek the four open positions indicated for the KWVA's 2016 Election. NOTE: You cannot vote for more than four of the Directors listed below.

Effective upon the closing date of December 15, 2016, the members of the Election Committee have reviewed all letters, documents, etc. received from each candidate for office.

It is our opinion that all of the requirements have been met as listed in the Association's By-Laws, Procedure Manual and as published in *The Graybeards*. The names have been submitted to the

Secretary, the Webmaster, and the editor of *The Graybeards* for the printing of the ballots.

The Committee has submitted the candidates' names in alphabetical order. Please pass the word to all members to VOTE, as it will help in getting more members to submit their ballots this year. Candidates' resumes and pictures are listed below.

Respectfully Submitted,

KWVA Elections Committee:

- Chairman Robert Fitts
- Member Tine Martin Sr.

**You cannot vote for more than four of the Directors listed below**

## CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTORS

- Eddie L. Bell, Sr.
- George S. Covell
- Bruce R. Harder
- Alves J. Key

- Wilfred E. Lack
- Albert H. McCarthy
- Tom McHugh
- L. Timothy Whitmore

**The letters submitted by the candidates have been edited slightly to fit the format of *The Graybeards*. The contents of the letters were not affected by the editing process.**

### EDDIE L. BELL, SR.



My name is Eddie L. Bell, Sr., and I would like to submit my name as a candidate for the KWVA Director position for the three-year term 2017-2020. I am a Life Member, my dues are current, and will remain current through the term of office. A copy of my DD-214 and KWVA application forms are attached, and I authorized they may be released for verification by the Election Committee. I understand that I must attend all called meetings of the

Board of Directors and understand that two unexcused absences may be cause for removal. I was born and raised in Mobile, Alabama. After graduating from high school, I enlisted in the US Army in 1966 to 1969, and again in 1974. Served for 27+ years in Signal Corps and retired as First Sergeant in 1995. Immediately went to work for DoD, and retired as GS-13 on 31 December 2014, after 19 + years in Stuttgart, Germany. **Education and Training:** Graduate of Southwest State Technical institute, Mobile, Alabama, with certification in Electronic Appliance Maintenance and Refrigeration. **Training includes:** Communications Electronic Maintenance, U. S. Army Information System Management, Contracting Officer Representative Course, Leadership Education and Development Course. **Work Experience:** First Sergeant (1SG), with three Signal Battalion's. Branch Chief, HQ U.S. Africa

Command, J65 Enterprise Service Division, Stuttgart Germany. Provided real-world secure/non-secure mission support to the Commanding General and his Senior Staff of over 9 General Officers, 5 Ambassadors, and 4 Foreign Service Diplomats. Served as Communications Electronics Maintenance Technician, 61st Maintenance Battalion U. S. Army Forces Korea. Served as Communication Command and Control Officer, CONUS Communications Support Command, Ogden Utah. **Organizations and Affiliations:** State President of the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), Texas. Life Member KWVA, Chapter 222, Killeen, Texas, Life Member Disable Veterans (Chapter 74), Life Member Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 1000), Life Member Forty & Eight (Locale 266), Member, Killeen Sister Cities, Osan, Korea Committee. Awards and Recognition: Certificate of Appreciation by General Ward, Commander HQ U. S. Africa Command. Certificate of Appreciation by BG Ferrell, Director J6 HQ U. S. Africa Command. The joint Civilian Service Commendation Award, by MG Mannon, Chief of Staff, HQ U. S. Africa Command, The Joint Civilian Service Achievement Award by VADM Moeller, Deputy Commander, HQ U. S. Africa Command, Meritorious Service Medal, 01/91; Army Commendation Medal, 4th OLC; Army Achievement Medal, 3rd OLC; Good Conduct Medal, 8th AWD; Vietnam Service Medal, 1968-1969; Vietnam Cross Of Gallantry W/Palm; Korean Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Medal.

Presently, I'm the President of the Department of Texas KWVA. I've commissioned a State KWVA flag with the Governor of Texas and

created a State uniform/dress for both males and females. Setup a much needed Veteran's Internment Fund and raised over \$5,000 to offset burial expenses when families don't have funds for support. I was recently selected to serve on the National membership/recruiting committee. If elected, I know I will make a difference and uphold the legacy of our comrades. It will never be forgotten on my watch. I ask for your support to be one of your next directors for the years 2017-2020, and I will make all the meetings.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Eddie L Bell, Sr., Life Member # LR46743, 1105 Craig St., Copperas Cove, Texas 76522, Phone: 254-661-4673, Email: [eddiebell858@yahoo.com](mailto:eddiebell858@yahoo.com)

## GEORGE S. COVEL



I, George S. Covell, hereby state my intention to run for the office of Director (3 years) of the Korean War Veterans Association. I am a Life Member of the association with dues paid through the upcoming term of office and beyond. I promise to attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors during my term of office. I understand that two (2) unexcused absences from such meetings may be cause for my removal from office.

I am currently a Life Member of the Northeast Chapter 59, KWVA and an active member of Adirondack Chapter 60, KWVA. I have been Chairman of the Memorial Service for the Department of New York's annual convention. I first joined the KWVA at its beginning, but due to poor communication during those early days, I became inactive until rejoining in the late '90s, when I joined the Northeast Chapter. I have served one term as Director of the KWVA, and am a Past Director/Trustee and Past First Vice President of the Department of New York, Korean War Veterans Association. During my term as Director, I have served on the By-Laws Committee, under Past Chairmen Lewis Ewing and Tom Stevens, and currently serve as a member under Narce Caliva, our Chairman.

During the Korean War I enlisted in 1952 to serve in the First Army Band, but, as is usual with the Army and its penchant for snafu, I was sent to Camp Gordon, GA to learn to be a high-speed radio operator. After finishing training, I was assigned to the First Army Band until I came up on a levy for FECOM. I served from 1952 through 1954 (six years after I had polio), 1953-54 as a Sergeant (E-5), Tuba Section Leader, 8th Army Band, which was the ceremonial band for the United Nations Command Honor Guard. During red alerts, Bed-Check Charlie and ground alerts, I handled the 50 caliber machine gun on a tower in our compound.

Following my discharge, I served in the NY National Guard as a Court Reporter in the JAG section, 42nd Inf. Div., where I rose to the rank of MSGT (E-7) until 1960, when I received a COG Honorable Discharge which was necessitated by my employment at the United Nations as an English language verbatim reporter of debates. Seems the UN was considered a foreign government and it would be a conflict of interest for me to be in the National Guard and work at the UN at the same time.

My desire to serve my fellow veterans of the Korean War is prompted by a wish to see our membership rolls grow as a result of the hard work done by Sonny Edwards, Past Membership/ Recruiting Committee Chairman, and his successor Directors, to enlarge our membership. I want to work to get the word out about Korean veterans and what we did and how we do not want to see our efforts or the memories of our fallen comrades forgotten. We have been The Forgotten War too long; we must continue doing something about it, and that's why I want to serve you. I also want to see our organization continue on a sound financial basis.

My education and prior employment, plus my long history of service to my colleagues in my profession, fellow union members and fraternal brothers gives me the experience to serve as a Director of this great organization of ours. I attended Hofstra College (now Hofstra University), Juilliard School of Music, and have attended Skidmore College as an audit student for the past several years. I worked for 45 years as a court reporter, working in the NYS Supreme Court, NYS Court of Claims, the United Nations, and, as a free-lance reporter in New York, New Jersey and Washington, DC, where I had the opportunity to work at The White House. For 25 years, I was the official reporter for the Grand Lodge conventions of the BPO Elks. Serving the youth of my area, I skated as a USA Hockey Referee until age 70.

My association experience includes being a Past Exalted Ruler of an Elks Lodge, Vice-President of a labor union local and a board member of two other labor union locals. I am a Past President of my professional organization, with ten years as its Legislative Committee Chairman.

I am married to the former Joan Borowiec of Lowville, NY, for the past 64 years. We are the parents of five children, have nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Joan has been very supportive of me in all of my service to the organizations of which I have been a part.

All information contained in this letter and the copy of the Membership Application Form is hereby released to the Elections Committee for verification.

George S. Covell, Life Member #LR7212 130 Saratoga Blvd., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866, (518) 854-3128, [georgecovell@yahoo.com](mailto:georgecovell@yahoo.com)

I, George S. Covell, Life Member #KR7212, do hereby state that my dues are paid through the term of office I seek and beyond that term.

## BRUCE R. HARDER



I hereby release this information for verification by the election committee.

I am proud to announce my candidacy for member of the Board of Directors of the KWVA.

I am a Life Member of KWVA and member of the Northern Virginia Chapter #100. On August 1, 2015, KWVA President Larry Kinard, appointed me as the POW/MIA Coordinator for the KWVA. On August 1, 2016, President Tom Stevens reappointed me to the same position. I consider the next four years to be a critical period of transition of the

organization from Korean War Veterans to Korean Defense Veterans.

I joined the staff of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) in August 2002 and was assigned to the personnel accounting directorate. I worked on the Korean War personnel accounting issue for 13 years. I was the senior policy & strategic planning analyst responsible for developing policy positions for the Director, DPMO, and team leader of the Northeast Asia personnel accounting policy team. I retired from federal civil service on July 31, 2015.

While working at DPMO, I visited the Korean Peninsula many times including two visits to North Korea (2002 and 2005) when DoD was conducting Korean War remains recovery operations in North Korea. I am a Korean Defense Veteran and would like to participate in this process of transition. In the KWVA we have a vast wealth of experience including those who have served in Korea in wartime and in peacetime. I feel very strongly that we must work together to carry on the legacy of the Korean War veterans who served with honor and distinction during the Korean War.

From October 1997 until August 2002, I was the Director, National Security and Foreign Affairs for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. While working for the VFW, I traveled to Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Russia, and worked on National Security and POW/MIA issues.

From 1969-70, I served a one-year tour in Vietnam, as an infantry platoon commander with the First Marine Division. My second Vietnam tour was from 1972-73. I was the intelligence officer for a Marine Fighter/Attack Squadron deployed to the Gulf of Tonkin aboard the aircraft carrier America. Subsequent tours of duty took me to a variety of locations at home and abroad where I held command and staff positions and took part in planning and executing joint and combined military exercises and operations. I was assigned to III Marine Expeditionary Force on Okinawa for 6 years. During this time, I deployed many times to the ROK to participate in contingency planning and to plan and execute amphibious field exercises and command post exercises for the defense of the ROK. I retired from active duty on December 31, 1997, with 27 years of active duty, and the rank of Colonel, USMC.

I hereby certify that I will attend all called meeting of the Board of Directors and that I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could be used for my removal from office.

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce R. Harder, KWVA Life Member# LR 46746, 1047 Portugal Drive, Stafford, VA 22554, 540-659-0252 (H), 540-729-2377 (C), [harder-br@aol.com](mailto:harder-br@aol.com)

### ALVES J. KEY, JR.



Please accept this letter as notice of my intent to run for the office of Korean War Veterans Association Director to serve from June 25, 2017 to June 25, 2020. I submit the following qualifications for office.

**Military Service-Master Sergeant USAFR Retired:**

United States Air Force (08/1965 - 8/1972)

Overseas Service-Republic of Korea (04/1968 -04/1970) 6314th

MMS Det.1 Kunsan AB Korea

United States Air Force Reserve (02/1973 - 08/1986) 301st Tactical Fighter Wing Carswell AFB TX

### Professional Experience:

Tarrant County Sheriff's Office-Fort Worth, TX (12/2003 to 11/2008) Chief Deputy-Personnel

City of Longview Police PD- Longview, TX (09/1999 to 11/2003) Police Chief

City of Arlington PD- Arlington, TX (10/ 1977 to 08/1999) Deputy Police Chief (Highest position held)

### Education:

Dallas Baptist University, Dallas, TX

Master of Arts in Professional Development-Criminal Justice Emphasis (12/2008)

Bachelor of Career Arts - Applied Business Administration (05/1988)

I have served as a Director of General Walton H. Walker KWVA Chapter 215 located in DFW Texas, and currently serve as chapter president until June 25, 2016. I have also coordinated delivery of Tell America materials for KWVA national for approximately three years. I currently serve as adjunct Criminal Justice faculty at Dallas Baptist University. My military and professional experience as a law enforcement chief officer and educator required the ability to communicate and collaborate with others to achieve organizational goals. I believe that I can be an effective servant Director for the KWVA in helping achieve the KWVA mission of ensuring a "living legacy" for those who served in the Korean War and won the victory, and those who served after the armistice to maintain that victory .

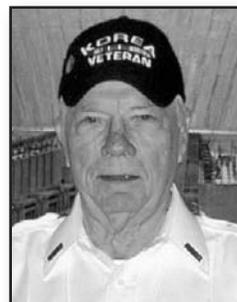
As testament of my commitment to serve, I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and understand that two (2) unexcused absences are reason for removal from office. I also authorize the Election Committee to use the application form for establishing eligibility for the office. I also certify that my dues as a Life Regular Member will be current through my term of office if elected.

With warm regards,

Alves J. Key, Jr.

President KWVA Chapter 215 DFW, TX

### WILFRED E. LACK



Today I am announcing my intent to run for a director position in the KWVA. I served on active duty in the U.S. Army from January 1951 until March 1957. My service in Korea was from April, 1953 until April, 1954. I was in several different areas of Korea during that time. First, I was assigned to G-2 section, Headquarters, Prisoner of War Command. While there, I traveled to and inspected all of our POW camps in Korea.

When the cease fire was signed, I was sent to Incheon, where I helped coordinate the swap of North Korean and Chinese prisoners for returning Americans. From there, I was assigned to the 523rd Military Intelligence Company.

We were attached to Headquarters IX Corps and worked with their G-2 section. In April, 1954, I was transferred to Headquarters South Military Intelligence Group in North Camp Drake, Japan. I was NCOIC of the production section, supervising both military and civilian personnel. In Dec.

1954, I was moved again. This time to Special Projects Branch, J-2 Division, Headquarters, United Nations, Far East Command at Pershing Heights in Tokyo, Japan. I worked with the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and several other government agencies in gathering and analyzing intelligence from the entire Pacific Rim. I remained in that position until March, 1957, when I was sent to Oakland, California for discharge. My rank at time of discharge was M/Sgt. At this point, I went to college, got a job and started my civilian life.

I worked for Sears and Western Auto for 31 years opening new stores and managing stores in MS, AL, NC, AR, FL, MO and TX. In 1988, I took an early retirement and went to Egypt, where I ran the PX system for Multinational Force and Observers (MFO). The MFO monitored the Egyptian/Israeli peace treaty. I lived in Egypt, but traveled to Israel every week. I also traveled to other countries as needed. I was there during the 1st Gulf War and was awarded a Civilian Commendation Medal for my 5 years of service there. I am now retired again but still am very active in my community. I have served on several boards and commissions at the city, county, and state level.

At the present time I'm Chairman of the Asheville ABC Board in Asheville. We control all aspects of liquor sales. We operate 10 stores that sell more than 30 million dollars a year. We also are involved in issuing licenses to restaurants, hotels, etc. and training their employees and investigating any irregularities. We also do law enforcement. My other job right now is the one I enjoy the most. I am Commander of WNC Chapter 314, KWVA. We need more chapters in North Carolina and that is why I would like to be a Director. I know that I can make a difference because I've been working with people my entire adult life.

If elected, I will attend all called meetings. I understand that two unexcused absences could be used as a reason for my removal from office. I also release my application form for verification by the Election Committee.

Wilfred E. Lack, LR43370, 319 Sulphur Springs Rd., Asheville, NC 28806, Tel: 828-253-5709

## ALBERT H. MCCARTHY



My name is Albert McCarthy and I am a candidate for the office of National Director of the Korea War Veterans Association for the years 2017-2020.

I served in the United States Air Force from July, 1968 - Nov, 1971 and achieved the rank of Captain with an AFSC of Senior Weapons Controller (1744E). My service in Korea was from Oct, 1970-Oct, 1971 as a member of 5th Air Force, 314th Air division, Command Advisory

Function, attached to the National Security Agency.

Returning to my home State of Massachusetts, I put my leadership

training to work as a Human Resources professional, rising to Vice President of a Fortune World Fifty company (NEC). In my various assignments I received two national awards for creativity and placed second nationally for Human Resources Executive of the Year. During this approximately 38 year period, I helped build one company from a start-up to over a billion dollars in revenue; merged two high tech companies to form a 1.5 billion dollar company; and expanded another company internationally, while growing revenue from 300 million dollars to over a billion dollars.

In addition to being a Life Member and current National Director of the KWVA, I have served the organization as Chairman of the Elections Committee in 2015 and 2016. I have also served as the Commander of KWVA Chapter #299 for six years, and still serve as Director and Adjutant. Additionally, I was just elected Adjutant of DAV Chapter # 4 in Massachusetts and am a member of the VFW, American Legion, and Military Officers Association of America.

I have participated in services at Arlington National Cemetery and the Korea War Memorial in Washington, DC on Memorial Day (six times) and Veterans Day (twice) on behalf of the KWVA.

Additionally, I worked closely with Second Vice President Jeff Brodeur on the creation and installation of the first-in-the-country, Korea Defense Veterans Monument in the Charlestown Navy Yard in Massachusetts.

I respectfully request your consideration and vote, so that I may continue to represent and support all who served in Korea from 1945-1950 while Korea regained her nationhood; those who fought long and hard against extraordinary odds from 1950-1953 to ensure Korea's survival; and all who served over the last six decades to protect and defend Korea and her DMZ from a determined and tyrannical dictatorship in North Korea.

If elected, I will attend all call meetings and understand that two unexcused absences could result in my removal from office.

All information contained in this letter, the Membership Application Form, my military records, and support documentation, is hereby released to the Elections Committee for verification. As a Life Member, my dues are current throughout the duration of my election and membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Albert H. McCarthy, 15 Farnum Street, Worcester, MA 01602-2101, Cell: (508) 277-7300 / Home: (508) 829-4236, Email: [mccarthy.albert@live.com](mailto:mccarthy.albert@live.com)

## THOMAS M. MCHUGH



I Am A Candidate For KWVA National Director 2017-2020. PLEASE VOTE !

**KWVA History:** I am presently Chairman of the Fund Raiser Committee. We are proud to say we exceeded our \$70,000 goal. We raised a total of \$75,026 for 2016. My personal thanks to every member that donated. Please be generous again in 2017 for the "ALL CASH" Fund Raiser. In addition I have served 9 years

as a National Director, with a break after two terms. I served 8 years

as National Ceremonies Chairman. I have served as Chairman, Election Committee, during four Elections.

**Recruiting:** Annually I attend Military Vehicle Shows in NJ & PA and display my 1952 M38A1 & 27 ft Trailer that has w/w Carpeting & Korean War Posters on all walls. They are utilized at Schools during "Tell America" Programs. I drive in the NYC Veterans Day Parade each year. On Memorial Section 2016 my M38A1 was the lead vehicle for the Korean Veterans Section in the 2016 Washington DC Parade. Another Honor checked off my KWVA Bucket list.

**KWVA Record:** Past NJ Dept. Commander (4 years), Past Commander Chapter 213, Past NJ Chairman on July 27th, for NJ Memorial Ceremonies in Atlantic City NJ four years. Presently serving as Judge Advocate, Dept of NJ and Adjutant/Finance Officer in Chapter 213.

I designed a Chapter 213 Challenge Coins. I give a Coin to every Wounded Service member that we visit at Bethesda/Walter Reed Hospital and Medical Personnel. They are greatly appreciated.

**Challenge Coins:** I designed both of our National KWVA Challenge Coins that I am holding in my picture. National KWVA Challenge Coins are for sale at the Membership Office. Prices for individual Coins and Reduced Bulk Sales prices for Coins are posted on the KWVA Website. Call Sheila for information.

**American Legion:** I have 64 years American Legion Membership, including Post Commander, County Vice Commander, NJ Department Committees including NJ Department SAL Vice Chairman.

**County Hall Of Fame:** In 2016 I was inducted into the Warren County NJ Hall of Fame. One of only 25 to be Inducted. There are a maximum of 5 per year Nominated & less inducted.

**Military:** Army Retired, after 43 years total military service. (1951 to 1994) I enlisted "RA" in March 1951 until April 1954. I served in "SCARWAF" "Special Category Army Reassigned with Air Force 332EAB, 835EAB, 1902EAB Engineer Aviation Battalions. My ARMY home base was Wolters AFB Mineral Wells TX. I then served 30 yrs NJ National Guard & 10 yrs ARMY Reserve. Duties: Included Faculty Group Member at NJ Military Academy. The training was for E-8 and E-9 NCOs. SGM, SR NCO, SR Intel NCO and 1SG.

**Civilian:** Postmaster Retired. Past President Four County Postmaster/Supervisor Assoc. Past President Warren/Sussex Chapter 1624 NARFE. Past NJ State Vice President NAPUS 6 yrs. Past NJ State Parliamentarian NAPUS. Married 59 years. Wife Barbara, 6 Children, (including 2 Veterans both NCOs) 10 Grandchildren & 2 Great Granddaughters.

As a Life Member LR7169 my dues are paid for the full term. I have signed the Code of Conduct. My application information is released to the Election Committee. My DD Form 214 is submitted. I will attend and participate in "All Called Meetings" and "Meetings Without A Meeting" of the Board of Directors and understand that 2 unexcused absences may be cause for removal from the Board.

I would appreciate the opportunity to serve as a Director for the term 2017 – 2020. As in the past I will work tirelessly for the good of the KWVA. My past activities are beneficial in my KWVA assignments.

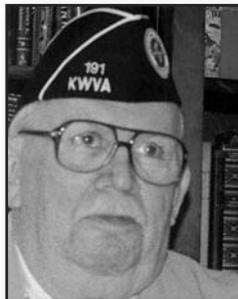
I hereby request your support. I need your Votes to continue to serve while my health allows it.

Mail Your Ballot as soon as the January/February Graybeards arrives. Do Not Delay. The only way the KWVA can get better is if you help. -Make Your Vote Count.

Always Remember: "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

Thomas M. McHugh, 217 Seymour Road, Hackettstown, NJ 07840-1001, 908-852-1964, Email: [tmmchugh@msn.com](mailto:tmmchugh@msn.com)

## L. TIMOTHY WHITMORE



I, L. Timothy Whitmore, herewith submit my declaration of intent to run for re-election as Director, Korean War Veterans Association. I have served in this capacity since 2014.

I have the honor and privilege of serving as Chairman of the Ceremonies Committee and am very involved with the KWVA presence at events such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances at Arlington National Cemetery

and the Korean War Memorial as well as other occasions where the KWVA is represented. I serve as the KWVA member representative of the National Veterans Day Committee. I am eager to continue the work already begun in preparation for the major role our Association will play as VSO Host for Veterans Day, 2017. I am completing my 2nd term as Commander, Department of Virginia. I am the Past (two term) Commander of Chapter #191 where I continue to serve as Adjutant/Secretary.

In 1976, I retired from the USAF in the rank of Master Sergeant. For the first eleven years of my military career I was a Medical and Surgical Technician. In 1965, I retrained as a Military Training Instructor and was assigned as Senior MTI of the 3761st Student Training Squadron, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. After serving a tour as First Sergeant of the Security Police with the 56th Special Operations Wing in SEA and later as 1st SGT of a Radar Station with the 26th Air Division, I returned to the medical field as one of the first 100 people trained as a Physician Assistant. I retired from active duty at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, on 31 July 1976. On 3 August 1976, I entered practice with a large, diverse medical practice in Richmond, VA.

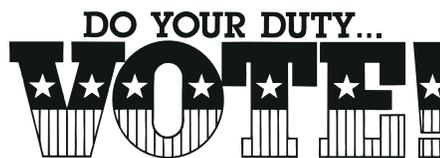
In 1986, I became the Clinical Director for a program for long term treatment of health care professionals with alcohol and/or drug addictions. I have worked, primarily in psychiatry, in the Tidewater Virginia area since. I am certified by the National Association for Accreditation of Physician Assistants and Licensed by the Board of Medicine of the Commonwealth of Virginia. I serve on and am appointed Chaplain of the Virginia Joint Leadership Council on Veterans

Affairs. I earned an Associate's Degree in General Studies from Golden Gate University, Bachelor of Science in Medicine and Surgery from the University of Nebraska and Master of Science from the Virginia Commonwealth University. I have earned many post-graduate credits and continue to regularly pursue expanding education. I am a Life Member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Irish Veterans Association. I am a Fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, Fellow and Past President (2

term) of the Virginia Academy of Physician Assistants and Member of the Medical Society of Virginia.

I believe my background in administrative and personnel services and as a health care provider together with my experience in a variety of leadership capacities, including the KWVA, qualifies me to be of further service as a member of the Korean War Veterans Association Board of Directors. I am a fully paid Life Member of the KWVA (LR40158). I will attend all called meetings of the Board of Directors and respond to Business Without a Meeting requests. I understand that two (2) unexcused absences could result in my removal from office. The enclosed Application Form may be utilized by the Election Committee for verification.

L TIMOTHY WHITMORE, LR40158, 5625 Canterbury Lane, Suffolk, VA, 23435.



### 2016 Membership Report

- Average Deaths Per Month 2016 .....105
- Average New Members Per Month 2016..... 56
- Last 90 Days 2016 Departments Showing Some Growth  
CA-16; FL-20; NV-10; PA-8; TX-10

*Provided by Sonny Edwards,  
KWVA Membership Committee.*

## Congressman Sam Johnson will not seek re-election

### Former POW vows to spend remaining term serving constituents

Longtime third district Congressman Sam Johnson (TX-R) announced he will not seek re-election in 2018. He addressed his decision in a letter released this morning:

To My Fellow Patriots:

I come before you today with a heart full of gratitude. I thank you for putting your trust in me – time and again – to serve as your commonsense, conservative voice in Congress. It is not a responsibility I take lightly, and it has been a great honor to serve you and strive to be the kind of representative the people want, need, and deserve.

After much prayer, I have decided I will not seek re-election to serve the Third District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2018. This will be my final term in the appropriately named “People’s House.”

Scripture tells us “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.” For me, the Lord has made clear that the season of my life in Congress is coming to an end.

I have always considered the citizens I serve as my extended family with whom I have a special bond. And what a journey we have shared together! Words can never express my gratitude to those who fervently prayed for me and stood by my family during the almost seven years I spent as a Prison of War in a place so dark and desolate, it could only be referred to as Hell on Earth. The celebratory homecoming parade thrown in my hometown of Plano upon my return from Hanoi will always rank among one of my most treasured memories, encapsulating all that I love about America – faith, family, and freedom.

So many of you have also supported me during times of personal loss, especially when Shirley – my beautiful bride of 65 years – passed away about this time last year. Just as I have stood for you, you have stood by me – and for that I sincerely thank you.

It has been a distinct honor and privilege to work on your behalf all these years. From passing laws, to helping constituents with problems like obtaining their military service medals, making a difference is what motivated my service from my very first day.



Congressman Sam Johnson salutes South Korean President Park Geun-hye in September as she thanked Korean War veterans and four Congress members including Johnson during a joint session of Congress.

As a 29-year Air Force veteran and POW, one of my greatest honors has been to serve as a champion for our service members and veterans. I have fought to make sure our service members have the support they need to protect our freedoms – at home and abroad. Likewise, I fought for our veterans to see they are provided with the care they deserve. This included getting the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Plano.

During my time in Congress, the Lord has generously blessed me with many opportunities to help my home District. I’m proud of my efforts to address major problems facing North Texans, whether it was repealing the punitive Wright Amendment or fighting for the federal approval of a much-needed new water reservoir for our rapidly growing region.

One of my highlights was establishing the Republican Study Committee, a House caucus charged with advancing conservative principles, which include promoting a strong military, fiscal responsibility, traditional values, and limited government. After these past eight years, it is clearer than ever that these core principles will provide needed solutions to get our country back on the right track.

Besides serving as a conservative leader, I’ve also been privileged to stand by our seniors, most especially when it comes to Social Security. I’ve made it a mission of mine to make sure that Social Security is there not just for today’s seniors, but for tomorrow’s workers.

Make no mistake – there is still much to be done, and I intend to

Please turn to Johnson on page 59