

KOREA VETERANS

The Grayhairs



Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION
November - December 2014 Vol. 28, No. 6

Happy Holidays
From the Officers and Staff of the KWWA



The Graybeards

Official Publication of
THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION



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

We Honor Founder William T. Norris

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(See Directors)

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Warren Wiedhahn, Chairman
(See 1st VP)

See detailed list of committees at WWW.KWVA.ORG



From the President

Larry Kinard

As I write this in early November, Veterans Day programs are being planned all over the country. I think it is one of the best times of the year, when we pause to remember those who served in our armed forces and say thank you for your service. I hope every member of the KWVA will take the opportunity to be a part of one of these ceremonies wherever you are and make the "Turn To Busan" salute a part of the ceremony.

A Great Meeting In Rochester

I focus on two subjects in my letter for this issue, the annual Board and Membership meeting in Rochester, Minnesota and the upcoming election for four new Board members. First, I thank several of our members who did a wonderful job in planning and organizing the meeting this year, including Ed Valle, Chapter Commander of Minnesota #1, and all the members who worked hard to make all of us who attended feel welcome. Warren Wiedhahn, 1st VP, and Jim Fisher, our new Executive Director, chipped in with Ed and his people to make for a very successful effort.

At the Board Meeting on Thursday, Oct 16th, all Board members were present, along with select staff personnel to assist. One of the major items accomplished this time was the appointment of a new part-time Executive Director for our organization. The Board voted, and it was approved by the members present, to accept Mr. Jim Fisher, who has worked pro bono with us for a number of years in the Washington D.C. area. He is well known by the veterans in that area. Jim will be helping us manage the affairs of the KWVA. (More details on his job responsibilities and his bio appear on page 10.)

Friday was an off day for many to enjoy short trips around the Rochester area. Several attendees visited the local casinos, but most went on the "Color Tour" to see the upper Mississippi River Valley in its full array of late fall colors.

Socks And Speakers

Other highlights of the Membership Meeting were presentations by Congressman Tim Walz of the 1st Minnesota Congressional District and Dr. Byong Moon Kim, a Korean-American in the Minneapolis area who is a very strong supporter of Korean veterans. While there, Dr. Kim gave every veteran a pair of socks that pictured the flags of the United States and South Korea with the words "In Appreciation for President Truman and Korean War Vets 1950-1953."

Mr. Peter Taves, newly appointed Communications Director for the American Veterans of Korea Foundation (AVKF), spoke to the meeting with greetings from Foundation CEO Jung Hoon Kim. He spoke of several initiatives being planned by the Foundation that could be of significant help to all Korean veterans and their descendants and also to our organization. At the conclusion of his presentation he handed me an envelope with a very welcome \$3,000 cash gift from Chairman Kim's Foundation to help defray expenses of

the annual meeting.

As a side note, Warren Wiedhahn, 1st VP, was invited to Korea in early November to take part in the November 11 "Turn to Busan" ceremony in Seoul and Pusan. While there he had a chance to visit with Chairman Kim to discuss some of the details of the future plans of the American Veterans of Korea Foundation.

Eating And Entertainment

Approximately 200 people attended the banquet on Saturday night to hear Chicago Consul-General Sang-Il Kim speak and to enjoy dance and musical entertainment provided by a lovely group of young Korean ladies from the Jang Mi Korean Dance and Drum group from St. Paul. President Hyun Sook Han of the local Korean American Association of Minnesota very ably organized and presented the program.

At the conclusion of his speech the Consul-General invited me to the speaker's rostrum and presented me with a check for \$2,000 to help with expenses. Our visiting speaker for the Sunday Memorial Service, General Shin, graciously provided the wine for the dinner. Needless to say, all of this was greatly appreciated and was a tremendous help in covering our costs.

Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony was held on Sunday morning at the Soldiers Field Veterans Memorial Wall. A large crowd of veterans and their families gathered in the cool morning of the last day to witness the wreath laying and hear the ROK Defense Attaché General Kyoung Soo Shin speak about the bond and the strong alliance between the U.S. and South Korea. We very much appreciated General Shin making the trip from Washington D.C. to be with us during the meeting.

Overall, I thought the Annual Meeting in Rochester, Minnesota was one of the best we have had in recent years. I heard many good comments about the hospitality of the City of Rochester, the Grand Kahler Hotel, and the local Korean American community. I hope you will take a little time to review the minutes of the meeting printed in this issue of the magazine.

An Inspiring Letter

After I returned home I received a letter from one of our members, Mr. James Walsh, who emphasizes some of the tenets of what the KWVA is all about. (See the facsimile on p. 11.) In it he expresses the feelings of many of us and the benefits derived from gathering together periodically to remember, renew friendships, and celebrate the rewards of what we accomplished many years ago. I hope more of you will be able to attend these meetings in the near future.

Join Us Next Year

Please note that planning is already underway for the annual meeting, July 24-27, 2015, in Washington D.C., when we will commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Korean War Memorial and the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Korean War Veterans Association.

Continued on page 6

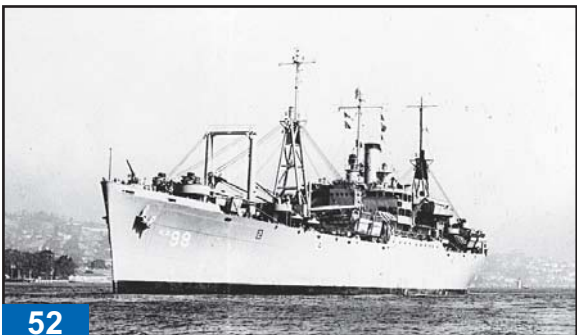
COVER: Americans, Koreans honor Bayonet Hill Soldiers
 The figure of U.S. Army Capt. Lewis Millett, 27th Infantry Easy Company commander, is displayed during the Hill 180 remembrance ceremony at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Feb. 7, 2014. Millett led the Battle of Bayonet Hill and was later awarded the Medal of Honor, July 5, 1951. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Ashley J. Thum)



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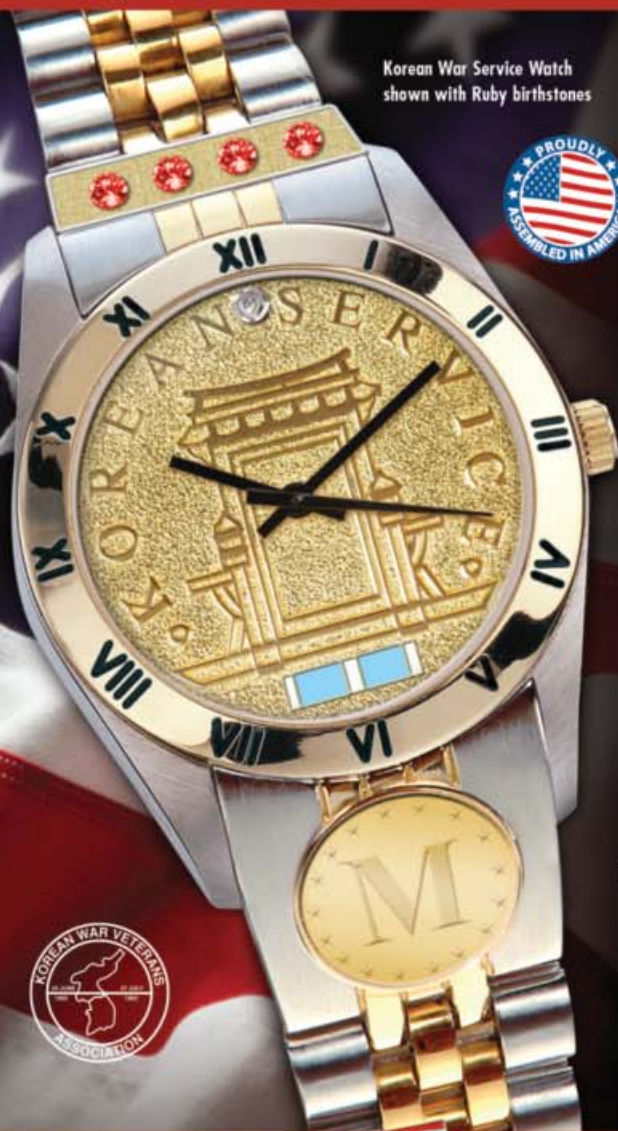
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From the Secretary

This is going to be short, because with the Minutes for the recent Board and General Membership Meetings I have taken up more than my allotted space.

I promised in the September-October issue that I would say more about the Korea Reborn book. First, I do not have any more, so please do not call and ask me to send you one. However, the membership office has some. Call Sheila at 217-345-4414 and she will tell you how you can get one.

Now for a few recent comments:

“Hi, Frank; Enjoyed talking to you last week. Have enjoyed looking and reading the book. Thanks again for sending it.”

“Dear Mr. Cohee, Just received the beautifully bound book “Korea Reborn.” Thank you for your time and trouble. It is greatly appreciated.”

“Dear Frank, I received the book, Korea Reborn, and I thank you very much. What a great book! It is such a pleasure to have it. Thanks again.”

“Dear Mr. Cohee: Just read on page 7 in the latest “Graybeards” Magazine that you are offering the book Korea Reborn. I tried several times before to obtain a copy but came up short. Hopefully you can satisfy my request. Needless to say, it is by far a great book that should be read by not only you but by your children and grandchildren, and in some cases your great grandchildren.”

This brings to mind a couple other items. I received my first birthday card from one of the members after all the years that I have been Secretary. There was one problem: obviously he could not

find one that said “Someone Special is Turning 85.” His card initially said 84, so he changed it with a magic marker to say 85.

Last, but not least, it is always good to receive some acknowledgement that some of us are doing what we think is in the best interests of the Association. I recently received this from a very close friend of mine who I have known for quite some time. Unfortunately, this was a personal note included with notification that the Department of Maryland is being dissolved. It is from Jack Cloman, Secretary, Department of MD:

“Frank, Hopefully you are doing better health wise. Thanks for your support, advice to the Department and especially your loyal dedication to the National Korean War Veterans Association. I hope you can attend the National annual meeting (Reunion) in Rochester, MN.”

The President has something in his letter about being sure to read the minutes, so this may be a repeat on my part. I want you to know that it is no easy task to take a 185-page document for the Board Minutes and condense it to about 8 or so pages and still make sense to the readers. But, we try.

Fortunately, I had help this time with the General Membership Minutes from Past Director Ewing. I think he started with 122 pages and condensed them to 5 pages. If you have questions about either set of minutes, do not hesitate to call me

Frank Cohee



Frank Cohee

PRESIDENT from page 3

Upcoming Elections

Now, for a brief thought about the upcoming election in which we need to fill four expiring Director positions on the current Board. It is extremely important that we have good candidates for these positions who are willing to serve and take responsibility if elected. Please send in your resumes to the Election Committee if you would like to be a part of the leadership of the KWVA.

As always, the future of any organization is heavily dependent on strong leadership at the top. I will say again, as I did last year, that I have been very disappointed in the ballot return in recent elections.

TO OUR MEMBERS—PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT THIS YEAR TO REVIEW THE RESUMES OF THOSE WHO ARE RUNNING AND VOTE! If you have questions, please give the Election Chairman a call.

We Have A Lot For Which To Be Thankful

I realize that I have devoted most of the space in this letter to the meeting in October. It was definitely for a purpose. When you consider our total membership, the number present at the annual meeting is generally very small and I would like to change that by encouraging more of you to make an effort to attend.

The letter written by Jim Walsh reminded me of the power of

comradeship and bonds that are created when serving together in the military. I hope you will all consider his words when reviewing the information that will be coming out soon about the meeting in 2015.

I hope for you and your families the happiest of the Holidays and a Blessed New Year, which seems to be coming around much too quickly these days.

Remember that living here in the Land of the Free, we have much for which to be thankful.

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

Hard Work Brings Rewards

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work. Work is the key to success and hard work will help us to accomplish our recruiting goals. This statement certainly applies to each member of the KWVA.

Recruiting new members is not easy in any organization. It takes planning and the desire to have positive results. Every member reading this is a member of the recruiting committee, and I thank those of you who are recruiting.

By The Numbers

As of 11-12-14 we have recruited 25 new members in November, and a total of 716 for the year. By comparison, as of this same date last year we had recruited 937, which is 221 fewer. Active members this date last year totaled 14,761. To date this year we have 14,626, which is 135 fewer. Deceased comrades reported this year number 1,502. May they rest in peace.

We have reinstated 400 plus members from the Harris Directory.

The number of active members by year of birth shows that the vast majority are 78-88 years old. The number of inactive by year of birth show the vast majority is age 79-87. We need as our top priority to recruit Korea Defense veterans if we want to continue our legacy. Jim Fisher, our new Executive Director, and I will be working on this. With Jim's contacts we will make progress.

Looking In Louisiana

Progress is being made in recruiting Korean Americans as associate members. Dave Barrett, a recruiter in Florida, made a presentation in Louisiana to a large group with positive results.

Welcome Don Loudner, Native American KWVA

Don Loudner, National Commander of the Native American KWVA, is now a member of our KWVA. I have appointed Don to serve on the recruiting committee. His primary duty will be contacting his membership to join us. We welcome each of them into our ranks.

Recruiting Native Americans

Don Loudner, the National Commander of the Native American KWVA, has joined our KWVA. He will be recruiting Native Americans into our organization.

Incidentally, the gentleman to my left in the photo below served in the 1st Cav, as I did. I am sorry I do not remember his name. He walked up to us when we were having the picture taken.

New Chapters

We will be adding new Chapters in Pennsylvania, Idaho, and Michigan due to the efforts of Steve Szekely. He works 24/7. I do not know when he sleeps.

We Have A New Motto

I thank each of you for your support and efforts in recruiting. I ask each of you to inform your Departments and Chapters that we are recruiting Korea Defense veterans.

Incidentally, our new motto is Hard Work Gets Positive Results.

John T. ("Sonny") Edwards, National Director, Membership & Recruiting Chairman, kvetedwards@yahoo.com



John T. Edwards (C), Don Loudner (R), and unidentified member at membership meeting in Rochester, MN

2014 Fund Raiser Report

My thanks to all those who supported the Fund Raiser efforts of Past Director Art Griffith in 2014. Over \$57,000 was raised. Art Griffith did a fantastic job as Chairman. His passing is a tremendous loss to the KWVA.

Congratulations To The 2014 Winners:

1st Prize - \$2,500

Charles Kalb, Creve Coeur, IL 61610

2nd Prize - 1903 Springfield Rifle

Harold Pitts, Girard, OH 44420

3rd Prize - \$1,500

Anthony Lori, Whippany, NJ 07881

As the new Fund Raiser Chairman, I hope to expand on Art Griffith's accomplishments. At this time, the prizes for the 2015 raffle have not been decided. In the past, the KWVA was pleased to accept the donation of a few old military weapons to use as prizes. If anyone has a weapon that might be donated, please contact me. It will be acknowledged as a donation and gladly accepted.

A few ideas for the prizes have been discussed, but nothing is locked in stone at this time. All suggestions will be added into the committee discussions.

My full contact information is presented below and on p. 2 of The Graybeards.

I look forward to a successful year of fund raising. Again, I thank all members for their generous support in the past years.

Always remember "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE."

Thomas M. McHugh, Director, Chairman, Fund Raising Committee, 908-852-1964, tmmchugh@msn.com

All Chapter and/or Department news for publication in *The Graybeards* should be mailed to Art Sharp, Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067 or emailed to: Sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net

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I Must Have Slept Through That War[®]

So I'm sitting and reading a history book at the tire store. An affable customer about my age sits next to me and asks, "Why are you reading a history book in a place like this?" What a curious way to start a conversation!

I had two choices: I could pretend I didn't hear him and go back to reading or answer his question. I answered, because the fact that a stranger would ask me a question like that intrigued me.

"I enjoy reading history," I said. "I'd rather read history than fiction most of the time."

He thought about that for a minute.

"Why?"

"Well, if I don't understand history, I won't understand how we got here today," I said.

"Yeah, but you are reading a book about the Spanish Civil War. How is that going to help you understand history?" he observed.

I could see that I wasn't going to put anything past him. I was indeed reading a book about the Spanish Civil War, titled "The Spanish Holocaust: Inquisition And Extermination In Twentieth Century Spain."

"The Spanish Civil War involved a lot more than the Spanish," I explained. "The Germans, the Italians, the Russians, the Moors...they all played a part. The Germans and Italians were testing weapons and tactics in preparation for a wider European war, the Moors were involved as a throwback to Spanish imperialism, the Russians were backing one Spanish side..."

His eyes were glazing over, as do the eyes of so many people at the mere mention of history.

"Okay," he said. "That doesn't explain how it affects us."

"Here's one way," I began. "The Spanish Civil War was a struggle between the right and left, similar to the two opposing and always squabbling factions we

"Well, I heard about World War II and Vietnam, but I must have slept through that Korean thing,"...

have in this country today. You think we have a problem between the two? It was worse in Spain. The right was literally trying to annihilate the left. If the members of the right had their way they would have wiped out the union members, the day laborers, the socialists...anybody they did not agree with."

"Couldn't the left fight back?" he asked.

"Yeah, but the left wasn't very well armed, and had no real access to weapons," I said. "The right had the army on its side, which was pretty well armed, and the Moors, who were just plain vindictive."

It was my turn to ask a question.

"What would happen in this country if people on the left did not have access to guns and the government decided to wipe out union members, socialists, communists, and anyone else who might not be to its liking?" I asked. "Or, look at another situation in which a poor country like North Korea attacked and tried to force communism upon its southern neighbor because it knew it had the backing of Russia?"

"Like that would ever happen," he scoffed.

"It did," I commented.

"When?"

"In 1950," I said.

"You're kidding," he said. "I must have missed that."

"You and a lot of other people," I responded.

"Well, I heard about World War II and Vietnam, but I must have slept through that Korean thing," he laughed.

"You're not the only one," I acknowledged. "A lot of people ignored it. That's why it is known as the 'Forgotten War'."

"Well, I can't forget about it if I never knew about it," he laughed. "What about the Spanish Civil War? Have people for-

gotten about that too?"

"I'm not too sure people outside Spain paid too much attention to that war when it was being fought," I said. "Just like Korea."

"There's no reason for people who aren't involved to worry about wars like that," he opined. "Outsiders aren't affected."

"Sure they are," I said. "While people weren't paying attention the Spanish Civil War Hitler and Mussolini were using Spain as a testing ground, which eventually involved Europe, North Africa, the United States... And in Korea troops from 22 UN countries, plus North Korea, China, and Russia."

A light bulb went on in his head.

"Russia? Didn't you say Russia was involved in the Spanish Civil War, too?"

"I did."

"Then the two wars have a connection!" he averred.

"All wars are connected," I said. "In fact, all historical events are connected. That's why I read history. I want to find those connections."

Then his name was spoken over the intercom. His car was ready. We exchanged the obligatory "It was nice talking to you," and he left with some parting words.

"I think I'll stop on the way home and buy a history book," he said.

Somehow I doubted that he would, at least not until he thought a bit more about the connections that create history. At least I had planted a seed. One more person had stumbled upon the fact that there was a Korean War. Maybe he would learn more about it; maybe he wouldn't.

As for me, I had four new tires on my car and a strengthened goal to promote the value of learning history—in or out of the tire store.

Meet Jim Fisher, KWVA Executive Director



Jim Fisher

At the 2014 Annual Meeting held in Rochester, MN on October 18th, the members of the Korean War Veterans Association voted unanimously to ratify the Board of Director's recommendation to employ a part-time Executive Director for our Association, effective November 1, 2014. The Executive Director is to be appointed by the President with the approval of

the Board of Directors. Following the vote, President Larry Kinard announced that he has appointed Mr. James R. Fisher, LTC, USA (Ret) to fill the position.

Retired from the U.S. Army after 24 years of service, Jim Fisher spent 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 were properly thanked and recognized for their contributions to our nation.

As Director of Operations for the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of World War II, Marshall Plan, Korean War Commemorations, and Vietnam War, Jim was responsible for planning, coordinating, allocating resources, and executing commemorative events in Europe, the Pacific, and the United States.

Jim will report directly to the KWVA President and indirectly to the KWVA Board of Directors. He will provide adminis-

trative assistance to the President for day-to-day and continuing duties as required, and will maintain all required records and documents pertinent to the KWVA office.

Jim will establish and maintain a working relationship with members of the U.S. Congress and their staff and actively monitor on behalf of KWVA key legislative issues of interest to the KWVA and will become a member of the Veterans Service Organizations Coalition in Washington, D.C.

One of Jim's primary missions will be to work closely with the Membership and Recruitment Committee to develop a strategy to recruit new members, with emphasis on recruiting Korean Defense veterans, and will provide assistance to the Fund Raising Committee.

Jim will also plan and coordinate programs and events for the KWVA, including the Annual Board and Membership meetings and other called Board of Director meetings, Korean War Armistice Day, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day programs ceremonies and wreath layings.

Jim is a graduate from Norwich University, Central Michigan University, and the Army Command and General Staff College.

President Kinard stated, "We are indeed fortunate to be able to obtain the services of someone as eminently qualified for this very important position as Jim Fisher is. Welcome aboard, Jim."

*Lew Ewing, Chairman, Executive Director Search Committee
310 Clay Hill Drive, Winchester, VA 22602, 540-539-8705,
lewewing@gmail.com*

Thanks for Supporting *The Graybeards*

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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On the value of the KWVA...

October 28, 2014

Larry Kinard, President KWVA
2108 Westchester Dr.
Manchester, TX 76063

Dear Mr. Kinard,

The October 15, 2014 KWVA Convention in Rochester, MN was the first time in 63 years that I attended any meeting or convention having to do with veterans of any war, from Korea to the present. I hadn't even joined nearby Posts of VFW or American Legion.

When I was told about the KWVA by Military Historian Colonel Kelly Jordan in 2014, only then did I act to get involved. Upon receiving GRAY-BEARDS I was alerted to the convention.

Until the KWVA Convention, I had no awareness I had a form of PTSD. After four days of in-depth conversations with other Korea War Vets, my form of avoidance was greatly alleviated. I wasn't an isolated Korean War Vet anymore with my personal recollections and research. I could write about combat in Korea, and that must have been my personal effort at self treatment, but I didn't know I needed more. I found that out at the convention in the form of discussions with veterans like Van Hatten, J. D. Randolph and others who brought me the value of peer perspectives found in membership and attendance at KWVA activities.

I'm deeply appreciative to KWVA membership for this valuable discovery.
Yours Truly,

Jim Walsh
16815 20 B Road
Culver, IN 46511

cc: Steve Szekely, 1516 Laclede Rd.
South Euclid, OH 44121-3012

Looking For Leaders

The strength of an organization lies in its ability to grow, develop, and reinvigorate itself through visionary leadership and stalwart stewardship at every level. It takes individuals committed to the mission of the organization as it is now, but with a vision of what it can be, and a desire to achieve that vision for the good of the organization.

The KWVA needs committed individuals to come forward and place their candidacy for office before the membership. It will, of course, take courage to put yourself out there as a candidate, as a representative of the people, as one of the standard bearers who believe in the organization and cares about its future and its legacy.

Do you have the talent, vision, and commitment it will take to be a Director of this great organization? If so, time is running out! Submit your letter of intent and credentials today. If not you, who? If not now, when?

*Albert McCarthy, National Director,
Election Committee Chairman*

Looking For Native American Veterans For Survey

I am a Cherokee veteran of Iraq and current graduate student (Counseling Psychology Program) who is carrying out a survey on Native American veterans and their perceptions of and attitudes towards Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is my belief that if we as Native people speak as a group through this survey, places that provide veteran services for PTSD, like the V.A. and I.H.S., will listen and will add our suggestions and preferences for treatment/healing to programs intended to help Native veterans.

The survey is open to anyone who is Native American and who has served in the military. They do not need to have been deployed or to have PTSD to participate in the survey.

The link to the online version of the survey is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/nativeveterans>. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

*Greg Urquhart, P.O. Box 641046,
Pullman, WA 99164, Fax: 509-335-0103, Ph: 509-335-8677*

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October 16, 2014

Meeting Announcement:

The Graybeards, May-June and July-August, 2014

Place Of Announced Meeting:

Kahler Grand Hotel, 20 SW 2nd Ave, Rochester, MN 55902

Announced Period Of Meeting:

October 16, 2014, 0900-1500

Call To Order:

Larry Kinard, President

Pledge Of Alligence:

Director Whitmore, Chm., NCC

Invocation:

(Remembrance Moment For Jim Fountain, Art Griffith, Gary Rockburn and Leonard Stegman) Leo Ruffing, Chaplain.

The Chaplain commented that not only do we need to remember the people who passed on this year, but we need to remember those who did not come back.

Unfilled Board Member Vacancy:

President Kinard commented that the Board needs to address the vacancy on the Board that is a result of the passing of Director Tilford Jones. The vacancy can be left unfilled until June 2015 or it can be filled by Past Director Brown, the next in line as a result from the most recent elections. Director Dappen made a motion that the position be filled by Past Director Brown; it was seconded by Director Scarlato and approved unanimously.

Installation Of New Officers And Directors:

Judge Advocate Burns asked all the new Officers and Directors to come forward. They were duly sworn in to the Association.

Recognition Of Appointments:

President Kinard commented that he has made several changes to the appointed staff which are listed on the back of the front page of the September-October issue of *The Graybeards*. "While I made the appointments, it is up to the Board to ratify them." Director McHugh made a motion that all of the appointments be approved; it was seconded by Director Martin, and approved unanimously.

Administrative Announcement:

President Kinard explained where the bathrooms were located and announced the mid-morning break time and lunch preparations.

Adopt Agenda:

President Kinard asked for approval of the Board Agenda. Director Stevens made a motion that the agenda be adopted; it

was seconded by Director Scarlato and approved unanimously.

Adopt Board Of Directors Rules Of Debate & Decorum:

President Kinard thinks that it is always wise to read these rules, so he read them. There were no questions.

Roll Call:

Secretary Frank Cohee called the roll.

KWVA Board Members:

- Larry Kinard, President
- Warren Wiedhahn, 1st Vice President
- J. D Randolph, 2nd Vice President
- Roy E. Aldridge, Director
- George J. Bruzzgis, Director
- George S. Covell, Director
- Luther Dappen, Director
- John T. "Sonny" Edwards, Director
- Tine P. Martin Sr., Director
- Albert H. McCarthy, Director
- Thomas M. McHugh, Director
- Salvatore Scarlato, Director
- Thomas W. Stevens, Director
- L. T. Whitmore, Director
- Frank Cohee, Secretary
- Tom Gregg, Treasurer
- Richard Brown

All Board members were present except Director Covell; he was excused.

Secretary Cohee stated that there was a quorum.

KWVA Staff:

President Kinard commented that he wanted to take a moment, again, to recognize the staff in attendance:

- William B. Burns, Judge Advocate; Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster; Jake Feaster, Membership Management and Assistant Secretary; Jongwoo Han, KWVA Liaison to Korean – American Assn.; Leo Ruffing, National Chaplain; Bill Mac Swain, Senior Advisor; Lew Ewing, Past Director and Past Bylaws Chairman. Last but not least is our recorder for today, Corinne Scheck, from Carney & Associates.

Approval Of Previous Board Directors Minutes Of March 11, 2014 Meeting:

(Printed in the *Graybeards*, May-June 2014 Issue). Secretary Cohee asked for a motion for approval. Director Brown made a motion to approve the minutes; it was seconded by Director Bruzzgis and approved unanimously.

Guest Speaker: Jongwoo Han, World Youth Conference.

- Dr. Han introduced the Foundations Regional Interview Director, Emily Neitzell. Emily made a beautiful presentation

of her own interview of her grandfather, a Korean War veteran, Paul Overgard, at the convention in Washington. Ms. Neitzell is also a professional videographer.

- Emily commented that doing video interviews is really a powerful way to reach the younger generations. It is one of the largest drivers of traffic on the internet, and also for the Tell America Program to pass on the legacy to the younger generations. Video is a powerful tool.

I would love to come around to your local Chapters and conduct interviews, but I really need local Chapter Presidents to help me in contacting local veterans.

- Dr. Han thanked Emily, President Kinard, and all of the Directors and Board members for their continuing support. He has Director Scarlato as Vice-President of his foundation and George Bruzgis, as the Director. Norman Champagne is also working with them.

- The foundation's name in the beginning was the Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation to preserve your memory in terms of the interview and the artifacts that you can check from my website. But, later, Dr. Han said that he found out that name was too narrow and parochial because there are more things to be done. One is your own descendants.

- We need to activate them so that they can work on your legacy. So I have been working on the Korean War Veterans Youth Corp. (At that time Dr. Han handed out brochures about the Corps.)

- Another one is your successor, Korean Veterans of America. That is, the U.S. Forces stationed in Korea since 1955. So the name of the foundation was changed to Korean War Legacy Foundation. That can embrace your own interview, your own legacy, your own descendants, and your own successor.

- The Korean Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs officially asked me to include Korea Veterans of America, 10 percent of the total interviews that I am supposed to do every year.

- The first most important project is the digital archive, the interviews, So far I have more than 400 interviews done, most of which are on my website, kwvdm.org. I also have about 6,000 artifacts, your pictures, your letters, etc. So if you know of anybody who has some interest and motivation and some skills of videographing of the interviews of the Korean War veterans, please let me know.

- So, what I want to do is that my foundation institutionalize all of the activities, your own digital archive, your own descendant organization and the Korea Veterans of America in a way that we can continue on this no matter what happens to me or the major players.

Dr. Han ended his presentation by answering a question from Director McCarthy, who asked if one could take photographs of the artifacts and then scan the photograph and send those to him. Dr. Han responded "Yes," and not just documents.

President Kinard thanked Dr. Han and commented that he thinks every one of the Board members needs to do what they can to support what he and his group have done. Dr. Han is our legacy, our children and grandchildren. We need to work with him to get done what we need to preserve our legacy.

Chaplain Ruffing commented that he has five children and all except one have children and some have grandchildren. What he does when he gets a piece of literature from Dr. Han is to reproduce it and mail copies to all of his children to tell them the benefits and the legacy that we are trying to keep going.

Dr. Han commented that if anyone knows of a history teacher that might be interested in his project to please let him know. He can offer them travel and everything free and will invite them to next year's Korean War Veterans Youth Corp convention in Washington, D.C.

Treasurer's Report:

President Kinard asked Treasurer Gregg to tell us where the Association is financially, and what we are looking at, trying to get some approval for our future budgets. Treasurer Gregg commented that:

- The first thing that needs to be looked at is the 2014 budget. We have a two-month budget that needs to be amended to include the Executive Director for November and December 2014 at a cost of approximately \$9,200 additional. Director Whitmore made a motion to amend the budget as proposed. It was seconded by Director Aldridge and approved unanimously.

- He would discuss the Association's position as of September 30, 2014.

- the Association's financial position shows that we have cash and cash equivalents of \$167,000.

- there are investments of \$792,919 for a total of approximately \$960,000.

The Association is in an excellent financial position.

At the end of Treasurer Gregg's presentation he made a comment that "yesterday he found out that our membership does have an option whether or not to join National."

...Secretary Cohee commented that whoever told him that was wrong. To be a member of a Chapter, you must first be a member of National.

Treasurer Gregg commented that it was the first time he had that said to him.

An unknown Director commented that it was in the bylaws.

President Kinard then commented that while Secretary Cohee's comment is true, we have a lot of chapters that do not enforce that.

Secretary Cohee agreed. Director McHugh made a motion that the financial report be approved; it was seconded by Director Aldridge and approved unanimously.

President's Report:

President Kinard commented that there were a few things that the Board needs to be aware of and that he needs to talk about.

- First of all, I want to welcome the new Directors and thank all of you for accepting the appointments that I have assigned.

- One thing: when you receive a call for a Board meeting you need to get your action items to the Secretary by the deadline he gives you so that he can get them on the agenda. More often, than not, that does not happen. So, at this point if you do not have them in by the deadline they are not going to be on the

agenda or discussed at the forthcoming meeting unless it is something absolutely necessary and important.

Also, most of the action items are not submitted in the right format. We need your help. If you have something you want the Board to consider, get it on time and get it on the right form.

- Another item is that in the last several months we have had the need for an attorney. As most of you know, we know longer have an attorney on a retainer fee, so I have been using my own personal attorney, whose name is Jeb Loveless.

He is a fine contract attorney, but I need to tell you that he is also my son-in-law. Some of you may have some concern with that, but he has adjusted his fees to try and help us out. He knows about the KWVA. Many of you know him, and he is easy for me to get to.

If any of you have a problem with that, you need to let me know. Otherwise, I will continue to use him to provide advice for us.

- I also want to say that I am very glad we moved forward with the Executive Director, who I think is going to be very important to this organization.

- As for the bylaw changes that we will be voting on today, you need to listen carefully and make sure you understand what we are going to be doing and why. You should now be aware of the attorney's opinion on how we need to comply with the New York rules of incorporation.

I think that we have found that there are some bylaw changes that we have made that are not in compliance with the New York rules. We have to look at that in the future.

- We are coming up on another election year. It is extremely important than we get good people to be on this Board. We need to vote on four Directors in 2015.

- The next item is House Bill 318. This is Col. Bill Weber's bill that he has in Congress to build a wall to accommodate the names of the KIA/MIA in the Korean War. A lot of effort has already been exerted by Col. Weber and his people to have this bill passed. But at this time there are only 66 co-sponsors.

I think many of you have already met Bill Alli. He is the Communications Director for Bill Weber's Group and he is here walking around and will probably talk to you and ask you to contact your Congressional person and get them to co-sponsor Col. Weber's bill.

Director Scarlato commented that he has been coordinating with Mr. Alli and they have come up with the idea to compose a letter and a chart for members to sign a petition and to send to your Congressman. So far in New York they have added three Congressmen because they were sent the letter.

I have 20 Chapters in NY and I know that at least ten of them are using this method. If anyone is interested in this process please let know.

- The 61st Commemoration in Washington was very good. The KWVA had just a small representation of the Board there, but we took part in most of the ceremonies.

- I have two other items to report on. One is the status of where we are with the proposal for having a credit card issued by USAA where the KWVA would receive a royalty every time the

card was used and they would guarantee \$25,000 up front.

At a Board meeting in March 2014, USAA changed their proposal to "up to \$25,000." That change caught the eye of the Board. "Up to" is not the same as a guarantee. The Board decided to set this aside and not do anything at this time.

- One last item:

Some time ago we talked about supporting the Puerto Rican Regiment in the 3rd Infantry Division. They have gone to Congress wanting to get a Congressional Medal of Honor. The KWVA and the 3rd Division did not support this for various reasons. They have prevailed, though, and I understand that Congress is going to present them the medal this month.

This is a good time for minority groups to go to Congress and get things passed. They were able to get a good number of co-sponsors and they did what they needed to do to push it through.

- Treasurer Gregg commented that at the Board meeting in March the Board approved the budget that included \$5,000 for the USAA card. "Do we need to amend the budget for 2015 to exclude that \$5,000?" he asked.

The President responded with "Yes, we do." Director McCarthy made a motion that the \$5,000 be removed; it was seconded by Director Brown and passed unanimously.

- President Kinard commented that Secretary Cohee will now update us on the Harris Connect Album. Secretary Cohee commented that just about all of the data gathering is complete and the draft will be available soon for review. Responses were received from 13,500 members. 5,800 placed an order, 3,200 submitted a short story, and 386 submitted a photo.

The Association is supposed to get \$10 per unit sold, so that is \$58,000 on a project that did not cost us anything. Approximately 14,950 master records were also updated, such as corrected addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, etc. Last, but not least, 414 memberships were sold at \$10 each. The Album is supposed to be released in late December 2014.

- President Kinard stated that Director Scarlato would now report on the status of the Korean War museum to be built in New York. He commented that he had handed out a detailed description earlier about what is happening with the museum, but that he would mention some of the highlights.

Director Scarlato commented that he had mentioned at the March Board meeting that the new Mayor of New York was going to revamp his staff. That has now been accomplished and the site selection is at Battery Park. However, that site is now on hold because Battery Park is a heroic site and there can be no building there because it would block the view of the Statue of Liberty.

A steering committee, composed of leadership in both business and the military, has been appointed to help guide the efforts in the establishment of the museum in New York and to help secure funding for the project.

There are some other sites under consideration. The idea now is to start small, get an address in New York, and then grow big.

- Assistant Secretary/Database Manager Jake Feaster and Webmaster Jim Doppelhammer were the next presenters.

Jake said that he wanted to address a project that he had discussed with the Board some time ago: being able to get some assistance in making contact with the chapters and departments in meeting their obligations.

We are not getting the support from them, especially in getting their election reports submitted on a timely basis and in reviewing their data and keeping it accurate. What I am providing today is sort of a draft plan to get the Directors to assist in this project by letting them be assigned a certain group of chapters and departments and a quota of the membership in those areas to monitor and be in more personal contact with. Hopefully, that will have more impact than I or the membership administrative assistant has had. A lot of what has to be done will require going to the website and checking the data that is there for each chapter and department.

At that time, Webmaster Doppelhammer gave a brief review of what one needs to do to get into the website and then some of the information that they will find there.

Approval To Award An Honary Membership To LTC Kang:

OLD BUSINESS

President Kinard asked for a motion to ratify the Honorary Membership he gave to Lt. Col. (Tiger) Kang in July 2014. He gave that to him at that time because the Col. had finished his tour here in the states and was being sent back to Korea. Director Stevens made a motion to ratify the awarding of the Honorary Membership to Lt. Col. Kang; it was seconded by Director McCarthy and passed unanimously.

President Kinard commented that while this item is not on the agenda, it needs to be done and that is to also give an Honorary Membership to Mr. Park Byeong-yeop, CEO of Pantech. He is the one that has given the Association \$100,000. Dr. Han says we may be able to get more.

Mr. Park Byeong-yeop was supposed to be at this meeting but decided at the last minute that he could not make it. Director Scarlato made a motion to present an Honorary Membership to Mr. Park Byeong-yeop; it was seconded by Director Bruzgis and passed unanimously.

Approval To Destroy The Ballots For The 2013 And 2014 Election Years:

Secretary Cohee asked for a motion to destroy the voting ballots for both the 2013 and 2014 election years. Director McHugh made a motion to destroy the 2013 and 2014 voting ballots; it was seconded by Director McCarthy and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval Of The Location Of The Spring 2015 Board Meeting:

President Kinard commented that the Board needs to vote on a location for the 2015 Spring Meeting and that he had asked Director Stevens to look around in his area, Kansas, to see what is available, so I would like to hear from him at this point.

- Director Stevens said that he checked several hotels and has narrowed it down to two, the Holiday Inn or the Marriot. The Holiday Inn is the cheapest of the ones he looked at, \$89 per

night, but they do charge \$150 for the meeting room. "I think either one would provide us with all of the services we need," he said.

- Director McHugh commented that if you look at Jake Feaster's map, 80 % of the Board is located on the East Coast. It is going to be expensive bringing all of us who are in the middle of the country to Kansas. Cost effective would mean having it closer to the east coast.

- First V.P. Wiedhahn commented that Director McHugh makes a good point. The spring meeting is strictly a business meeting. He noted, "I doubt very much that someone is going to bring their companion or even if the companion wants to go. My opinion is, why are we going to Kansas City, period? Why don't we go where it is economical for the KWVA?"

- Secretary Cohee commented that "I guess we would go to Kansas City because we have somebody who has volunteered to host the meeting. And that is the problem. If somebody wants us to go to the East Coast then who is going to host it?"

- Director McHugh said he would work with First V.P. Wiedhahn to see what they can come up with.

- First V.P. Wiedhahn asked if he could talk about the July meeting now because this has an effect. He and Jim Fisher have been working on the July meeting with Dr. Han. The hotel that we have been using, the Sheraton, has changed management and they are looking at other hotels, like the Hyatt at the Airport. There might be some advantage of having the March meeting at the same place.

- Mr. Fisher commented that we could work to get a hotel at a reasonable rate of \$89.

- First V.P. Wiedhahn said he would volunteer to find a hotel for the meeting, but he is not trying to influence anybody to say this is where you should go. But, from an economics point of view, it is better to go back to the Washington area for a one-day meeting. "Why not meet in the same hotel in March and July and possibly save some money?" he asked. Director McHugh made a motion that we work on the March meeting at a location in the East Coast/D.C. area, it was seconded by Director Bruzgis. Directors Dappen and Stevens said they did not vote and then Director Stevens said that he would vote No. Nonetheless the motion passed.

- President Kinard commented that Director McHugh, First V.P. Wiedhahn, and Executive Director Fisher will figure out exactly where the March meeting is going to be and let you know.

Introduction And Vote On An Executive Director:

President Kinard stated that the Board voted on hiring an Executive Director at the March 2014 Board Meeting. He appointed a search committee consisting of First V.P. Wiedhahn and Directors Ewing and Edwards to try and find someone who can do this job.

The Committee got together and interviewed LTC Jim Fisher, US Army Retired. Jim agreed to accept the position. A contract has been prepared and we are ready to sign it. Today we are asking you to approve the hiring of Jim Fisher as our Executive Director. Director Aldridge made a motion that Mr. Jim Fisher be hired as the Association's Executive Director; it was sec-

oned by Director Whitmore and approved unanimously.

- President Kinard asked Mr. Fisher to come forward and say a few words.
- Mr. Fisher reiterated that he has worked with some of us for many years and he personally thanked Webmaster Doppelhammer for doing a fabulous job over the years in events management.

He noted that he served in the Army for 24 years, first with the Special Forces and later at the Pentagon, where he was assigned to put together the 50th Anniversary of the World War II Commemoration under General Kicklighter. That was so successful he was asked to remain at the Pentagon to put together the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration, which he gladly did.

At that time the Korean War was better known as the Forgotten War. But now you are finally known as the Forgotten Victory. If you talk to the military historians, you were the first line of defense against communism. That is to be noted. That is to be remembered. And that is where we took a stand. You guys took the stand. And that is why it was an honor for me when the Committee came to me and asked me to consider being your Executive Director.

- President Kinard thanked Mr. Fisher and commented that shortly we will be looking at the bylaws to incorporate the Executive Director position. Jim is going to be a non-voting member of the Board. He is part time and has a business of his own to run, but he has assured me he will be able to work with us and help us to do what we need to do.
- Mr. Fisher commented that like Mr. Doppelhammer, we use some of our own people in our own business to help get some of the Korean War veteran things done, at no cost to the Association.

Approval For Changes To SPM Form 4.9.1, Election- Official Election Candidate Form:

Director and Elections Chairman McCarthy stated that anyone who sends in information to the Election Committee saying that they want to run for an office must do so by certified mail or by express mail so that someone from the Committee has to sign for it. Express mail is overnight mail and is the preferred method.

The pictures that are required to be sent in have to be good enough to be able to be reproduced in The Graybeards, at least 3-inches in size where you are the focus and not the background. If all of the required documents are not initially provided, the sender has a grace period of 48 hours to send in the missing documents. If not received in the allotted time the application will be rejected.

Director Stevens commented that he needs the recommended changes in writing so the proper changes can be made to the SPM. President Kinard told Director McCarthy to submit the changes in the proper form to the bylaws committee and they would be taken up at the next Board meeting.

Discussion Of IRS Approval For Group Exemption Under The Associations 501 (C) (19) Of The Code And, As A Result, The Required Bylaws Change:

President Kinard commented that this exemption was proposed by the late Treasurer Jones and Secretary Cohee, with a lot of help from member Elmer Austermann of CID 186. The request was submitted to the IRS in December 2013.

Treasurer Gregg finalized the documentation and will now comment on how the approval affects the Chapters and Departments.

- The letter from the IRS giving the Association's Chapters and Departments tax exemption status under 501 (c) (19) was dated August 29, 2014. However the exemption is not automatic. At this time, only Chapter 186 is included.

Each Chapter or Department must ask to be included as part of the exemption and must submit certain documentation that will be described in the SPM. The benefit to the Chapters and Departments if they become exempt under the Association's umbrella is that they will not have to file IRS Form 1024 that costs \$750.

Some of the Chapters and Departments already have their own tax exemption, so they do not need to come under the Association's umbrella, but they can if they want to. This is a very brief analysis of the exemption letter and what it means to the Chapters and Departments. It is explained in more detail in the September-October 2014 issue of The Graybeards.

- Director Stevens asked Treasurer Gregg to send him an e-mail with the wording for the bylaws change so that it can be considered by the Bylaws Committee and voted on at the next Board meeting.

Amend The First Sentence Of Bylaws, Article 1 Membership To Read "Membership In This Association Shall Consist Of Regular, Associate, Honorary And Genealogical Members":

This action item was submitted by Mike Glazzy, President of the Department of California. There was a lot of discussion by the Board members, but the bottom line is that there are some legal aspects that would need to be resolved.

Director Stevens, the bylaws Chairman, commented that after listening to the arguments, pro and con, "I will make a motion that this action be put on the back burner or put it in abeyance or however you want to look at it until such time as we get the 90 or the 10 percent rule changed. Then we can revisit the Genealogical category as a possibility for membership." The motion was seconded by Director Bruzgis and passed unanimously.

- President Kinard commented that it was brought to his attention that the Board needs to vote on the Executive Directors contract. All Directors except Director Brown were sent copies by an e-mail and there are more copies available here.

Past Director Ewing said that Treasurer Gregg had suggested a few minor changes, which he went over. Director Aldridge made a motion that the amended contract be approved; it was seconded by Director Whitmore, and passed unanimously.

- The next item submitted by Past Director and Past Bylaws Chairman George Lawhon was to change the type of the following committees from special to standing:

■ Tell America and VAVS

Director Stevens commented that it would require that the

Chairman of each Committee be a Board member. Many times in the past they have been very capably chaired by individuals who were not on the Board. That is the only problem that might stand in the way of approving this, but it is open to discussion.

- Past President Mac Swain commented that at one time the Tell America Committee was a standing committee, but we never had anybody on the Board but now President Kinard, who was made the Tell America Committee Chairman. So, it is much easier for the President to not have to select two or more people off of the Board because he can make them a special committee Chairman.

So I would recommend that those two committees not be put on the Standing Committees. Director Stevens made a motion that this particular bylaw revision proposal be defeated. It was seconded by Director Scarlato, and passed unanimously.

Enter Into The Minutes And The Record, As Appropriate, The Article, 'Compliance To The Kwva Bylaws.' Discuss And Vote As Needed:

This item was also submitted by Past Director and Past Bylaws Chairman Lawhon. Past Director Ewing stated that this item has been reviewed by an attorney and he says what the Board passed at the March 2014 Board meeting. The way it was written up and the way the Board passed it is in violation of the Charter. So no action can be taken on this particular item today. There might be a way of getting around the problem at some later date, but we have to go back and study it some more and rewrite it and run it by the attorney to make sure that what we are saying is legal and in the proper order before we can vote on it. My recommendation would be to defer any action until a later date.

- Director Stevens asked if this was in violation of the Association's Charter with the State of New York.
- Past Director Ewing responded that it is in violation of the charter of the New York Rules of Incorporation. So it is my recommendation that we need to delay this until the next meeting. Director Stevens then made that motion; it was seconded by Director McHugh and passed unanimously.

Approval of The Corresponding SPM Section To Reflect The Executive Director's Duties:

Past Director Ewing commented that the Board has approved the position of Executive Director and an Executive Director has been hired subject to final approval by the membership on Saturday. So a section needs to be written for the SPM to lay out kind of a laundry list of duties that he would be working under and would be doing.

Mr. Ewing then went over some of the duties (each Director had a list of all of them) and then commented that these are the duties that are known at this time. They may have to be changed or updated at some later date. However, it should be noted that the last one now listed says that "he shall perform all other duties as responsibly assigned by the President." Director Stevens made a motion that the changes being recommended to the SPM to accommodate the Executive Director's activities be accepted; it was seconded by Director Bruzgis and passed unanimously.

Approval To Amend Several Sections Of The Bylaws To Provide For The Executive Director Position:

Past Director Ewing commented that there were a couple of changes/additions that had to be made to the bylaws to accommodate the Executive Director's position. These changes can be approved by the Board today, but they will not go to the membership until next year's General Membership meeting. That is because they must first be published in The Graybeards.

There are two or three actions included in this one bylaw change.

- One is to add the Executive Director's position into the list of officers.
- Two is to change the number of Board Members from 17 to 18.
- Three is to draft a more detailed description of the position and to move it up within the list of officers to paragraph C, Article III, Section I, Powers and Duties.

Action item 4 is a recommendation that Mr. Doppelhammer made back in March. That was to remove the names of the appointed positions from paragraph E. As it is now, the bylaws have to be changed every time a new appointed position is created. So, if we took out the names and changed the wording to read "All appointed positions shall be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Board. The responsibilities and duties for all Appointed Positions and Standing Committee Chairmen are included in the Board approved SPM," a bylaw change would not be required. A motion was made to change the bylaws as proposed; it was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion And Approval of The Concept To Place Korean War Veterans Signs On The Major Highways Where The 38th Parallel Crosses:

Secretary Cohee commented that this was suggested by a gentleman who was going through West Virginia and saw a big sign that said "38th Parallel North, In Honor of Korean War Veterans" that crossed over a major highway. He suggested that the Korean War Veterans Association work to have such a sign erected in all of the states where the 38th Parallel crosses over a major highway. There are several states where this happens.

After a lot of discussion and comments from most of the Board members, Director McHugh made a motion that the Association get involved in the project. It was seconded by Director McCarthy and then there was more discussion prior to the vote. The motion was eventually passed unanimously.

President Kinard then asked for volunteers to serve on the committee to determine what needs to be done. Directors McCarthy, Martin, and Scarlato volunteered.

Approval Of The General Membership Meeting Agenda, October 18, 2014:

Secretary Cohee said that the agenda had to be changed because of the findings by the attorney, namely that the Association has to get approval by the General Membership for any changes to the bylaws. At that time a revised page of

the agenda was handed out. Director Dappen made a motion that the General Membership Agenda be approved; it was seconded by Director Brown and passed unanimously.

President Kinard then asked Ed Valle, Commander of the local MN Chapter that is sponsoring all of this, to please stand. Ed said everything was going well so far. He was given a round of applause.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Director McHugh, Fund Raiser Chairman, stated that his committee has sent out 129 letters to the largest firms around the country requesting donations. He further commented that the majority of challenge coins that were purchased two years ago are about sold out. So he made a motion to purchase 500 more; it was seconded by Director Martin and passed unanimously.

• President Kinard then asked Mr. Price, National Legislative Director, if he had anything to tell us about all of his efforts to get us a new bill. Mr. Price commented that this is not a good time of the year to try and do legislation. There is an election going on. This is also not a good time to do fund raising because the politicians are also doing that.

“I have talked to a number of legislators and I am so delighted the we have Jim Fisher on board now,” he said. “Between he and I we can interpret what needs to be done with the bills, the wording of them, etc., so they can be properly staffed.”

• Director Edwards, Recruiting Chairman, was asked by the President to say a few words about membership. He reported, “We have recruited 651 members this year, compared to 862 last year. This year we have a total of 14,663 members, compared to 14,755 last year. Deceased comrades reported this year is 1,364.”

• President Kinard then presented plaques to the three outgoing Directors. Only one of them, Past Director Ewing, was present, so he was asked to come forward. The other two, Past Directors Lawhon and Rice, will be sent their plaques.

• First Vice-President Wiedhahn then commented that four prominent guests would speak at the General Membership Meeting or at the banquet on Saturday: Congressman Tim Walz, General Shin, Peter Taves, and General Kim Sang-il.

Flag Salute:

Led by Director Whitmore.

Motion To Adjourn:

Made by Director Aldridge, seconded by Director Bruzgis, at 1450.

Benediction:

Given by Chaplain Ruffing.

The Board all stood and sang “God Bless America,” led by Jim Fisher, accompanied by Director Dappen playing his guitar.

Respectfully submitted, Frank Cohee, National Secretary

Selected Committee Reports:

Harris Connect AlbumSecretary Cohee

Korean War Museum ProgressDirector Scarlato

Membership ManagementAssistant Secretary Feaster/
.Webmaster Doppelhammer

OLD BUSINESS:

• Approval to Award an Honorary Membership to LTC Kang President Kinard

• Approval to destroy the ballots for the 2013 and 2014 Election YearsSecretary Cohee

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of location for spring 2015 Board MeetingPresident Kinard

Introduction and vote on Executive DirectorPresident Kinard

Approval for changes to SPM FORM 4.9.1, Election-Official Election Candidate FormDirector McCarthy

Discussion of IRS approval for group exemption Under the Associations 501(c)(19) of the code and, as a result, the required bylaws changeTreasurer Gregg

Amend first sentence of bylaws, Article 1 Membership to read “Membership in this Association shall consist of Regular, Associate, Honorary and Genealogical Member”Directors Stevens/Ewing

GEL 2-Change the type of the following committees from Special to Standing: Tell America and VAVSDirectors Stevens/Ewing

GEL 3-Revisit as required, and enter into the Minutes and the record, as appropriate, the article, “Compliance to the KWVA bylaws” Discuss and vote, as neededDirectors Stevens/Ewing

BLC-19- Approval of the corresponding SPM section to reflect The Executive Director’s dutiesDirectors Stevens/Ewing

BLC-20-Approval to amend several sections of the Bylaws to provide for the Executive Director positionDirectors Stevens/Ewing

Discussion and approval of the concept to place Korean War Veterans signs on the major highways where the 38th Parallel crossesSecretary Cohee

Approval for the Annual General Membership Meeting Agenda, October 18, 2014Secretary Cohee

For The Good Of The Order/Awards Presentations :

.President Kinard

Flag Salute:President Kinard

Motion To Adjourn:President Kinard

*Respectfully Submitted
Frank Cohee, KWVA National Se*

Minutes Of Annual Membership Meeting – Rochester, MN

October 18, 2014

Call for the Meeting: KWVA Website and July-August issue of *The Graybeards*.

Place of Announced Meeting: Kahler Grand Hotel, 20 SW 2nd Ave., Rochester, MN 55902

Call to Order: President Larry Kinard at 0901 hours.

Pledge of Allegiance: Director L. T. Whitmore, Chairman of the National Ceremonies Committee.

Invocation: National Chaplain Leo Ruffing. President Kinard asked that we all remember and keep in our prayers former members of the KWVA leadership team who passed away during the past year: Director James Fountain, Director Art Griffith, Treasurer Gary Rockburn, and Chaplain Emeritus Leonard Stegman.

Administrative Announcements: President Larry Kinard.

Rules of Decorum and Debate: President Kinard read the rules to the members and asked that they keep them in mind as we move forward.

Adopt Meeting Agenda: Upon motion by Jack Register, seconded by Bill Alli, CID 33, the meeting agenda, as revised by President Kinard, was unanimously approved.

Roll Call and Introductions: Secretary Cohee called the Roll.

KWVA Board Members:

Larry Kinard, President

Warren Wiedhahn, 1st Vice President

J. D. Randolph, 2nd Vice President

Frank Cohee, Secretary

Tom Gregg, Treasurer

Luther Dappen, Director

Salvatore Scarlato, Director

John T. "Sonny" Edwards, Director

George J. Bruzgis, Director

George P. Covell, Director

Tine P. Martin, Sr. Director

Thomas W. Stevens, Director

Roy E. Aldridge, Director

Albert H. McCarthy, Director

Thomas M. McHugh, Director

L. T. Whitmore, Director

Richard E. Brown, Director

• Secretary Cohee reported that all officers and directors were in attendance.

• President Kinard recognized and thanked all of the Department and Chapter Presidents who were in attendance: Hurley Morris, President of CID 254, Herb Spencer, President of CID 99, Bob Fitts, State of Illinois Commander and President of CID 168, Narce Caliva, Commander of CID 313, Bill Hoehn, President of CID 41, Roy Aldridge, President of CID 249, L. T. Whitmore, Department of Virginia

Commander, Tom Stevens, President of CID 181, Frank Cohee President of CID 158, Warren Wiedhahn, President of CID 100, J. D. Randolph, President of CID 270, Sal Scarlato, Department of New York President and President of CID 64, Tine Martin, Commander of CID 259, and Jake Feaster, President of CID 16.

• President Kinard introduced the following KWVA staff and others: Bill Burns, Judge Advocate, Jim Doppelhammer, Webmaster, Jake Feaster, Membership Management and Assistant Secretary, Jongwoo Han, KWVA Liaison to Korean-American Association, Leo Ruffing, National Chaplain, Tom Gregg, Treasurer, Bill Mac Swain, Senior Advisor to the President, Lew Ewing, Past Director, and Charlie Price, National Legislative Director. Also recognized were Mr. Al Baldus, KWVA member and former Congressman from the State of Wisconsin, and Ms. Corinne Schieck, Recorder.

Declaration of Quorum: Secretary Cohee announced that quorum was present, with 58 members in attendance.

Approval of Minutes of the previous Annual Association General Membership meeting:

The meeting was held in Arlington, VA, July 26, 2013. The minutes of that meeting were printed in the September/October, 2013 issue of *The Graybeards* magazine. Upon motion by Bob Hill, CID 194, seconded by Jim Wall, CID 181, the minutes were unanimously approved as printed in *The Graybeards*.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jongwoo Han, a Professor at Syracuse University and founder of the Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial Foundation, now known as the Korean War Legacy Foundation.

Dr. Han introduced Miss Emily Neitzell, who attended the Korean War Veterans Youth Corps convention in Washington, D.C. and is the granddaughter of a Korean War veteran. She is assisting Dr. Han in conducting interviews with Korean War veterans for the Foundation. So far, he has conducted about 400 interviews and collected more than 6,000 artifacts.

The purpose for his Foundation is to preserve the legacy of the Korean War veterans and to educate the public about the significant role the Korean War played in the 20th century of human history.

Dr. Han asked all Korean War veterans to talk with their grandchildren and great-grandchildren to encourage them to participate in next year's Korean War Youth Camp to be held in Washington, D. C. in July 2015.

President's Report

President Kinard:

• thanked Dr. Han for all that he does for our Association and for our Korean War veterans and his work with our grandchildren to preserve our legacy and also for his help in obtaining contributions from the Chairman of Pantech totaling \$100,000.

• reported that we are very sound financially at this point.

• stated that even though we have not reached the 10% limit of Korean Defense Veterans who are members of the KWVA, we need to increase our efforts to obtain relief from this IRS imposed limitation because we need to recruit more Defense Veterans.

• noted that one of the ways we can help get that done is to employ an Executive Director who will have the time to work on this problem. He also will assist with membership recruitment and fund raising and perform some of our administrative duties. He will become a focal point for our Association in Washington, filling a void that has existed for many years.

• mentioned that our Board of Directors voted to approve the Executive Director position in March 2014, subject to final approval by the KWVA membership. The Executive Director Search Committee recommended Mr. James Fisher, who has a long history of working with the KWVA and Korean veterans.

• introduced Mr. Fisher, who gave us a detailed account of his background, how he has worked with Korean and other veterans, and how he feels he can provide the assistance our Association is looking for and needs.

• thanked Mr. Fisher for his remarks and explained that he will be a non-voting member of our Board of Directors, working part time, since we could not afford to employ a full-time person of his stature.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Tom Gregg reviewed/discussed:

- our financial reports with the members and presented the budgets for approval
- the 2014 budget, amended to reflect the increase in expenditures to fund the Executive Director position
- the December 31, 2015 budget in detail, showing a projected net profit for the year of \$32,690.

Upon motion by Bob Hill, CID 194, seconded by Bert Hoffman, CID 40, the amended 2014 Budget and the 2015 Budget were approved without opposition.

- our current and projected financial position with the members.
- the Statement of Activities for the nine-months ending September 30, 2014
- the budget to Actual for this nine-month period
- the projected Actual to Budget comparison for December 31, 2014.
- projected that we'll have an increase in net assets at the end of December of about \$93,000.

Upon motion by Norb Bentlel, CID 26, seconded by Bob Fitts, CID 168, the Financial Statement Report was approved.

Executive Director Position

Following the comments by President Kinard and Mr. Fisher, Past Director Lew Ewing summarized the discussion regarding the proposal to establish the new Executive Director position.

- The Executive Director will be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

His primary duties will be to:

- assist the President with Administrative duties
- assist with Membership Recruitment
- assist with Fund Raising
- coordinate programs and events for the KWVA
- establish and maintain a working relationship with members of the U.S. Congress and their staff
- monitor key legislative issues of interest to the KWVA
- become a member of the Veterans Service Organizations Coalition in Washington, D.C.

A Professional Executive Director located in the Washington D.C. market will provide a very positive influence for our Association and elevate it to the level that we need and deserve.

Past Director Ewing proposed the following motion:

- that we vote to ratify the Board's recommendation to establish the new Executive Director position for our KWVA, with appointment to commence on November 1, 2014. The Executive Director will be appointed by our KWVA President subject to final approval by our KWVA Board of Directors.

Upon motion by Bill Alli, CID 33, seconded by Bob Hill, CID 194, the motion was unanimously approved.

Bylaw Revisions

With four Bylaw revisions or additions to consider, Past Director Ewing stated that in the interest of time he would summarize the verbiage in some instances, rather than reading the full text. The full text of these changes appeared in an earlier issue of *The Graybeards*, so you have had an opportunity to review them prior to this meeting.

Revision Number 1: Upon motion by Harry Smart, CID 298, seconded by Richard Dahl, CID 254 the members ratified the Board's recommendation to amend ARTICLE III, OFFICERS AND POWERS, Section 1. Powers and Duties. E. Appointed Positions and to add a new sub-paragraph to ARTICLE III, OFFICERS AND POWERS, Section 1. Powers and Duties, H. Executive Director to add the Executive Director position into the Bylaws as set forth in the May-June 2014 issue of *The Graybeards*.

Revision Number 2: Upon motion by Narce Caliva, CID 313, seconded by Harry Smart, CID 298, the members ratified the Board's recommendation to revise ARTICLE II, OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS, Section 7. Vacancies to clarify the method of filling vacant Officer positions on the KWVA Board as set forth in the September-October 2013 issue of *The Graybeards*.

Revision Number 3: Upon motion by Jim Koenighain, CID 99, seconded by Jim Hall, CID 181, the members ratified the Board's recommendation to add ARTICLE X. KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC. DISSOLUTION, Section 1. Purpose and Section 2. Method into the Bylaws to define the method to dispose of Association assets upon dissolution of the KWVA as set forth in the May-June 2014 issue of *The Graybeards*.

Revision Number 4: Upon motion by Bob Hill, CID 194, sec-

oned by Bob Fitts, CID 168, the members ratified the Board's recommendation to revise ARTICLE V, DEPARTMENTS AND CHAPTERS, II. CHAPTERS, Section 4. Officers, to allow Associate members to hold certain leadership positions in Chapters as set forth in the May-June 2014 issue of *The Graybeards*.

Guest Speakers

Congressman Walz from the 1st District in Minnesota and a former U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major welcomed everyone to Minnesota. He talked about how the United States has always been at the forefront in defending liberty, not only here in the United States but throughout the world. He thanked our members for our stand against Communism in Korea and the impact that stand had in shaping the world today.

Dr. Byong Moon Kim, a very successful and very generous and patriotic Korean American, expressed his gratitude to the American military, the American people, and President Harry S. Truman for saving his country, the Republic of Korea, from the invasion of the communistic North Korean forces supported by the Soviet Union and Communist China.

His family has established a scholarship initiative this year in honor of Americans who died in Korea. His closing remarks were, "May God bless you because your legacy will be lasting forever. Thank you."

Peter Taves is the Director of Communication for the American Veterans of Korea Foundation (AVKF) located in Seoul, Korea, founded by Representative Jung Hoon Kim, who is a member of the National Assembly in Korea. Peter is the grandson of a Korean War veteran. He is in charge of helping to develop new programs for AVHF to support veterans.

The Foundation is in its infancy and they are trying to identify ways they can best help our Korean War veterans and our descendants while supporting and protecting our legacies. For starters, last year they awarded \$10,000 in scholarships to descendants of Korean War veterans and also gave us \$3,000 to help with this year's reunion expenses.

Peter asked members in attendance to give him their suggestions of ways the AVKF can help our veterans.

2015 Annual Meeting:

Upon motion by Bob Fitts, CID 168, seconded by Narce Caliva, CID 313, the members ratified the Board's recommendation to hold the 2015 KWVA Annual Meeting July 24th – July 27th, in the Washington, D. C. area at a hotel yet to be determined.

Committee Reports

Membership and Recruitment - John "Sonny" Edwards, Chairman

- Sonny stressed the fact that we all are members of the Membership and Recruitment Committee and we all need to actively recruit new members.
- Membership is at 14,663, down 92 from last year.
- Deceased comrades this year is at 1,364.
- If 10% of our members would recruit just one new member,

we would increase our membership by 1,400. 20% would mean about 3,000 new members. It is attainable!

- We are trying new ways of attracting new members.
- He has T-shirts with "If you ever served in Korea, see Me" and he is talking with the National Commander of the Native American Association representing some 400 different tribes across the country who are interested in joining our Association.

Elections Committee – Al McCarthy, Chairman

Al reminded everyone who may be interested in running for one of the open Directors positions that the requirements are listed in the Election Rules 4.9.1 of the SPM and he thanked the members of the Committee and past Committee Chairmen Tom McHugh and George Bruzgis for their help.

Fund Raising Committee – Tom McHugh, Chairman

- Tom reported the 2014 Raffle sold 1,298 tickets and raised \$50,733.
- He has mailed 129 letters to some of the largest firms in the country.
- We will be purchasing another 500 of our National KWVA coins, plus we will design a new special coin to commemorate the 65th Anniversary of the start of the war and the 20th Anniversary of our Memorial.
- We also will hold another raffle in 2015.

Tell America Committee – Roy Aldridge, Chairman

- Roy stressed the importance of all of us putting forth the effort required to get the word out to our fellow Americans, both young and old.
- Tools are available to assist you, such as the *Korea Reborn* book, DVDs and a Power Point program that you can download from the website.
- We need to get into schools, civic clubs, military installations, anywhere we can find people to listen. They need to know the significance of what we did in Korea.

Revisit Korea Tours – Warren Wiedhahn, Chairman

Warren reported that the number of veterans involved in the Revisit Program and in the financial commitment by the ROK government has increased each year and the eligibility requirements have also changed.

Warren's son Jamie explained that the Korean government is planning to adjust the cutoff date, to a date not determined at this time, to allow Defense Veterans to participate in the Revisit Program. Also, they now have a "Students Meet Veterans Program" where high school or college age students spend a day with a veteran while touring the DMZ and the Joint Security Area.

Other recent additions are the Peace Camp for grandchildren and an outreach program called a "Good Neighbor Program."

National Ceremonies Committee – Tim Whitmore, Chairman

The Committee coordinates the logistics for wreath laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day and Veterans Day each year and ceremonies at our Korean War Memorial in Washington, including the Turn to Busan ceremony. Tim asked all Chapter and Department

Commanders to make him aware of ceremonies that are going on in their Chapters and States.

VAVS Program – J. D. Randolph, Chairman

J. D. reviewed the report from the VA of how many total volunteer hours we performed and the total for each hospital.

- Number one was Dallas with 5,167 hours
- second was Bay Pines, FL with 2,754 hours
- third was Brooklyn, NY with 2,129 hours
- fourth was Muskogee, OK with 1,843 hours

The KWVA gave a total of 26,400 hours, serving 37 different locations.

J. D. encouraged more Chapters to get involved, because the VA needs more support from Korean War veterans.

IRS Group Exemption Letter – Tom Gregg, Treasurer

- The KWVA has been granted a blanket IRS Group Exemption Letter that would grant Chapters and Departments IRS Tax Exemption status under IRS Code 501(C)19. It applies to all KWVA Chapters and Departments, as they can now be included in the Group Exemption letter, which means they would be exempt and would not have to pay taxes.
- There is no requirement to file an IRS 1094. If any Chapter or Department wants to be included, they must notify the KWVA Treasurer. The process is not difficult, but there may be some areas in the application that you may need help with. Tom will walk you through the process and answer any questions you may have.
- Please remember, it is optional; you are not required to participate in the Group Exemption program. If you already have your own Tax Exemption Number, you may continue to file under that number.
- If you have any questions, call Tom!

Comment from Dr. Byong Moon Kim:

Dr. Kim is concerned that there are numerous conflicting statistical reports regarding our involvement in the Korean War; the number of troops participating, the total wounded, killed in action, missing in action, prisoners of war, etc. He reminded us of the importance of statistics and if we don't get it right, then no one will believe it.

Membership Administrative Assistant:

Our Webmaster, Jim Doppelhammer, introduced the Membership Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Sheila Fritts. Sheila is doing a great job for the Association, and everyone who has met her or talked with her agrees.

Good of the Order:

Nothing.

Closing Ceremony:

Benediction by Chaplain Leo Ruffing.

Salute the Flag:

Adjournment: Upon motion by Bob Hill, CID 194, seconded by Mr. Behner, CID 40, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

Following the adjournment, Director Luther Dappen, played his guitar as we all sang "God Bless America."

Offered Again

The KWVA Code of Conduct

There appeared in the January/February 2010 issue of the Graybeards my original article re the KWVA Code of Conduct. The response from members was more than I anticipated. In fact, there are 1,364 current subscribers to the Code.

Since that time, over 4,000 new members have been added to the KWVA roster. Many of them may not be aware of the existence of such a thing as the Code of Conduct. I still feel strongly that the Code is timely and appropriate. Therefore, I believe it is time to offer it again.

Stephen Szekely, 1516Laclede Rd., South Euclid, OH 44121

CODE OF CONDUCT - REVISITED

The Code of Conduct has been in existence since August of 2006 when it was conceived by Past KWVA President Col. Louis T. Dechert. At that time the climate in the KWVA was somewhat turbulent, due to the questionable behavior of some members, whose apparent goal was to disrupt the administration of the KWVA.

The Code of Conduct is one of honor, a moral code, a pledge or promise, of proper attitude and behavior of members. It is meant to create a sense of pride shared by those in the same group.

By the fall of 2009, subscribers to the Code of Conduct had numbered 373 nationally. It was felt that it needed some publicity as it was known only by word of mouth. An article appeared in the January/February 2010 Graybeards along with a copy of the Code. This article has had space on the KWVA home page, just below the section of "Recently Joined New Members," thanks to our Webmaster, should you wish to look into the background of the Code.

The purpose of this follow-up article is to reach the 4,396 new members who have joined the KWVA since March 2010 and are not aware of the Code of Conduct.

Informational letters have been sent to many Chapters inviting their members to become subscribers to the Code. But, for whatever reason, response has not been that for which you would hang out the banner. Thankfully, however, the number of subscribers today is 1,363. My goal is to reach and sign up 10% of the total KWVA membership which, as of this writing, is 14,677.

Nationally, there are only two Chapters that have 100% subscribers to the Code. Lake Erie Chapter #112 of Euclid, Ohio was the first, with Danbury, CT Chapter #11 following just recently. The Chosin Few #41 in Minnesota; Lawton #319 in Oklahoma; Westchester-Putnam County #91 in New York; Quad Cities #168 in Illinois; Maryland #33 in Maryland; Washington #324 in Missouri; Richard L. Quatier #321 in Washington; and Norville B. Finney #256 in Michigan have submitted large numbers of subscribers this past year. Thank you, one and all, for your efforts to help me reach my goal.

I have enclosed a copy of the Code of Conduct on the next page for members to read, digest, sign and return to me, so that I may add your name to the list of subscribers.

Thank you, For the Good of the Order!!

Stephen Szekely LR10744, Custodian, Code of Conduct.

KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT

I will uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States.

I will adhere to the National Bylaws of the KWVA, my Department, and my Chapter.

I will not engage in any unlawful or unethical conduct, or attempt to deceive in any manner, my Chapter, my Department or the National KWVA.

I will fulfill my obligations and will be responsible for my actions to the Chapter, Department, and National Organization of the KWVA.

I will render service and comfort to bereaved families of fellow Veterans, in time of need, to the best of my ability.

I will respect the rights of others in regard to politics, sex, race, religion and ethnic background.

I will hold an open mind to the thoughts and opinions of others in any discussion or problem.

I will at all times conduct myself with proper decorum and dignity and, while a member of the KWVA, will commit no act or actions that would dishonor the KWVA, our Flag or our Country.

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

Signature _____

Membership Number _____ Date _____

IF YOU HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY SIGNED THE CODE OF CONDUCT

Upon acceptance, please sign your name, include your Membership number.

Please forward to: Stephen Szekely, 1516 Laclede Rd., South Euclid, Ohio, 44121-3012

Earlier this year nine Korean War service members were awarded the Medal of Honor belatedly. Here is the fourth citation in that series.

Earlier this year nine Korean War service members were awarded the Medal of Honor belatedly. Here is the fourth citation in that series: PFC Leonard M. Kravitz, U.S. Army..

The President of the United States
in the name of The Congress
takes Pride in presenting the
Medal of Honor(Posthumously)
to

KRAVITZ, LEONARD M.

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company M, 5th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. *Place and date:* Yangpyong, Korea, 6 & 7 March 1951. *Entered service at:* Brooklyn, New York. *Born:* 8 August 1930, Brooklyn, New York.

Citation:

For acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an assistant machinegunner with Company M, 5th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division during combat operations against an armed enemy in Yangpyong, Korea on 6 and 7 March 1951. After friendly elements had repulsed two probing attacks, the enemy launched a fanatical banzai charge with heavy supporting fire and, despite staggering losses, pressed the assault with ruthless

MOH Citations



Leonard M. Kravitz, MOH

determination. When the machinegunner was wounded in the initial phase of the action, Private First Class Kravitz immediately seized the weapon and poured devastating fire into the ranks of the onrushing assailants. The enemy effected and exploited a breach on the left flank, rendering the friendly positions untenable. Upon order to withdraw, Private First Class Kravitz voluntarily remained to provide protective fire for the retiring elements. Detecting enemy troops moving toward friendly positions, Private First Class Kravitz swept the hostile soldiers with deadly, accurate fire, killing the entire group. His destructive retaliation caused the enemy to concentrate vicious fire on his position and enabled the friendly elements to withdraw. Later, after friendly troops had returned, Private First Class Kravitz was found dead behind the gun he had so heroically manned, surrounded by numerous enemy dead. Private First Class Kravitz's extraordinary heroism and selflessness at the cost of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty, are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Christmas Dreams

Peter J. DeGaetano, whose essays appear occasionally in *The Graybeards*, also writes songs. He wrote the ode below to POWs in 1997. Unfortunately, it has never been published.

NOTE: The song is copyrighted in the composer's name.

Reach DeGaetano at 31 Tynan St., Staten Island, NY 10312.

ADAPTED BY ABABAB
Christmas Dreams
 FOR MIA'S
 WORDS AND MUSIC BY PETER DE GAETANO

1. I HAD A DREAM LAST NIGHT, I DREAMED THAT WARS WOULD CEASE, THAT
 NA-TIONS WOULD NO LONG-ER FIGHT, CHRIST-MAS DREAMS, CHRIST-MAS PEACE.

2. I WAIT-ED MAN-Y YEARS, TO SEE HIS SMIL-ING FACE, TO
 KISS A-WAY HIS BUR-ING TEARS, CHRIST-MAS DREAMS, CHRIST-MAS GRACE. MY
 DREAM SEEMED TRUE TO PLAN, WHEN ALL AT ONCE I SAW, MY
 MISS-ING SER-VICE-MAN COME RUN-NING THROUGH THE DOOR.
 SOL-DIER BOY

3. I'LL HOLD HIS HAND IN MINE, I'LL PRESS HIM TO MY HEART, WE'LL
 POUR AND DRINK THE FIN-EST WINE, CHRIST-MAS JOY, FILL MY HEART.

COPYRIGHTED 1997 BY PETER J. DE GAETANO,
 31 TYNAN ST., STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. 10312-1418

Reunion Calendar: 2015

Mail your info to Reunion Editor, *The Graybeards*, 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067, or email it to sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net. Include Unit, Date(s), Place, and Contact's name, address, phone #, email address. Entries are posted "first come, first served." *The Graybeards* is not responsible for the accuracy of the information published. NOTE: Submissions may be edited for space considerations..

2015

The Fire Brigade, 1st Provisional Marine Brigade (Korea-1950). 65th Anniversary reunion in planning. Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret), 4.2 Mortars, 5th Marines, Military Historical Tours, 13198 Centerpointe Way, #202, Woodbridge VA 22193, 703-590-1295, JWiedhahn@aol.com

JUNE

1st, 2nd, & 3rd AmTracs, USMC, 24-26 June, Biloxi, MS, Rivage Resort & Casino. For more info, call 941-496-8119.

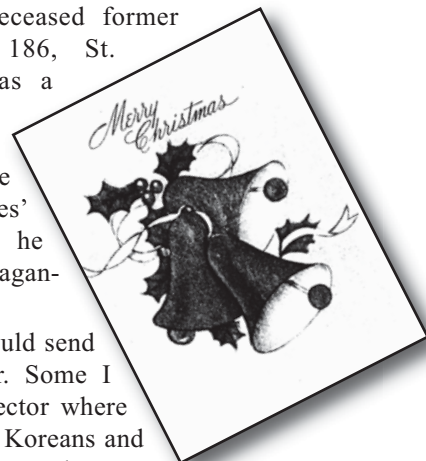
A Strange Way To Deliver A Christmas Card

Wendell Prather, a deceased former member of CID 186, St.

Charles County, MO, was a machine gunner with H Co., 3rd Bn., 7th Marines in Korea in 1952. While he was in front of the Marines' defensive line on patrols he picked up a number of propaganda leaflets. He wrote:

"When I found one I would send it home in my next letter. Some I picked up in the eastern sector where we were fighting the North Koreans and some in the western sector where we moved to fight the Chinese. I don't know which came from where. "Some were sent by us to them and some sent to us by the enemy. The Christmas card nearby was a little late, as I found it after the snow melted. I assume that most were delivered by artillery.

"Did any of the propaganda material work? In the eastern sector in the winter we did have a couple of Koreans that gave up to our unit waving the Safe Conduct Pass. They came without their hats, gloves, and boots. They were wearing those canvas shoes with a separate slot for their big toe. We assumed they left the rest for their buddies."



Greetings
 from
 The Chinese People's
 Volunteers

Whatever the colour, race or creed,
 All plain folks are brothers indeed.
 Both you and we want life and peace,
 If you go home, the war will cease.

Demand Peace!

Stop the War!

Christmas card picked up by Wendell Prather



65TH ANNIVERSARIES KOREAN WAR REVISIT KOREA TOURS



2014 SOLD OUT! TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR 2015
FAMILY MEMBERS OF KOREA VETERAN'S ARE ELIGIBLE
CONTACT MILITARY HISTORICAL TOURS FOR DETAILS



"Strong Memories and Shared Emotions" pour out in Seoul for Timothy Kavanaugh (E Co, 31st INF, 7th ID) who is supported by daughter-in-law Charlene Sipple.

**THE ROK GOVERNMENT'S MINISTRY OF PATRIOT & VETERAN
AFFAIRS WILL PAY FOR ALL MEALS, 5-STAR HOTEL ROOMS &
TOURING FOR THE VETERAN & FAMILY MEMBERS IN S. KOREA.
KWVA & PCFY QUOTAS WILL GO AS RAPIDLY AS THEY DID THIS YEAR!**

REGISTER NOW, DON'T BE LEFT OUT IN 2015!

703-590-1295 * 800-722-9501 * WWW.MILTOURS.COM

We Turn Toward Busan on Veterans Day

A message from Park Sung Choon, Minister of Patriots and Veterans Affairs, The Republic of Korea

NOTE: This message was delivered before Veterans Day 2014. We present it to give members an idea of how they can prepare for the Turn Toward Busan ninth annual program in 2015.



Jim Whitmore (R), carrying U.S. flag, Larry Kinard (C) and Leo Ruffing of KWVA at Turn to Busan ceremony in Washington D.C. General Kyoung Soo Shin, Defense Attaché with the Republic of Korea Embassy, is directly to President Kinard's left.

Preface:

This statement by Minister Park Sung Choon of the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs of the Republic of Korea is presented to the brave Korean War veterans of the United States of America, and to their families and descendants, on the Eighth Annual Turn Toward Busan International Service of Honor and Tribute to the Korean War Fallen.

The core global service [was] conducted by Minister Park Sung Choon in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan at 11

a.m. on Tuesday, November 11, 2014. All veterans and others [were] invited to join in this service throughout America by turning toward Busan at local times that are synchronized with the 11 a.m. service in Korea.

Veterans and all others also [were] invited to Turn Toward Busan in accord with their own timings on November 11.

Veterans in the United States should know that this invitation [was] extended to their comrades in all 21 nations that sent armed forces and medical humanitarian aid

units to Korea, and to all veterans of the Republic of Korea's armed forces.

Statement by Minister Park Sung Choon:

We turn toward Busan on Veterans Day, where a new American monument now stands in the United Nations Memorial Cemetery. During the Korean War, when it was known as the U.S. Military Cemetery at Tangak, 10,000 American soldiers were buried here, before being repatriated to their United States of America.

That new monument was dedicated in 2003 by the American Battlefield Monuments Commission. In a speech, the Commissioner remarked that "Honor, Freedom and Peace, the principles which the United States fought to preserve during the Korean War, are the only words engraved upon the memorial. Nothing else needs to be said."

Yet, there is another monument in that far off cemetery. It is called the United Nations Wall of Remembrance. This vast memorial was dedicated and consecrated in 1996. It is a remembrance to all who fell, a gift to posterity from the Korean people. This monument is inscribed with not three words, but tens of thousands of words. Deeply engraved in the granite panels, they softly speak the names of 40,896 soldiers who fell in the Korean War.

Of those names, 36,492—90 percent of all of those who lost their lives serving in United Nations Forces—are American. They are listed there by the states that were their homes. That great Wall of Remembrance tells a story that needs to be heard! It needs to be cried out to all states and counties in America; to all lands and all corners of our world.

The world needs to know that from the great and peace loving United States, nearly two million Americans left their warm homes to defend freedom in the fledgling Republic of Korea. If the Americans had not come to save our people, our nation would have been conquered and subjugated by an invader's cruel regime.

The brave Americans came. Probably the poorest among them was rich by the standards of East Asia. Their lives were of luxury, compared to that sad standard in



President Larry Kinard addresses crowd at Washington D.C. event. General Shin stands to his right. Leo Ruffing (back to camera) holds the flag. Terry Whitmore (R) holds U.S. flag, and Don Loudner, wearing the baseball cap, National Commander of the National American Indian Veterans organization, is far right.

our impoverished land. They were the freest, most independent people in the world. Yet they came, those magnificent Americans. They came to one of the poorest of nations, where oxen still ploughed the soil, and the rice was planted stalk by stalk by farmers who waded in the vast paddy fields.

They came to where there was sickness and horrid extremes of weather; to a harsh land of mountains that taxed their very souls. They came to face the horrible fire of the enemy, to the crucible of the tyrants. They faced nights and days of agonizing danger, of unending fear.

Yet they rose above that fear. They fought with the greatest valor one can ever imagine. Since the end of that terrible war, over and over again have come accounts from enemy records of how they were in awe of the high caliber of the American soldiers.

The Americans would fight when others would give it up, the reports of the old

enemy say. They would resist and fight back tenaciously, when everything in the enemy's plan of assault and maneuver said they should give way.

Such tribute, in reports the enemy made to their own people, within their own annals.

Even early in the war, when outnumbered, and facing superior heavy weapons, with no protection against the enemy's armor, the Americans thwarted the cruel onslaught. They thwarted it with their outright courage and their blood. They totally upset the plans of the tyrant and its allies for a quick, ferocious victory against freedom.

The Americans soon came in greater numbers and with the best battle equipment in the world, and they repelled the cruel enemies. Once on the offensive, the American forces and the units from 21 nations that came under their command, stayed in the ascendancy.

The Americans came. They were magnificent, these champions of the vulnerable! They saved our nation! They also saved the stature of the United Nations, for this was the first test under fire and world scrutiny of its principles and the policy of collective security.

These are reasons why, on this Veterans Day in 2014, it is right to Turn Toward Busan, where the new American Monument, and the Wall of Remembrance are located. We turn to honor those who fell in that war of so long ago. We do so in silence for the moment, in respect of them. But we and the world should never be silent about the deeds of those more than 36,000 Americans who died in the Korean War. The world must know about them.

The world must know about the bravery and the utter nobility of nearly two million

Continued on page 57

A group of 26 students from South Korea at the Washington D.C. Turn to Busan ceremony. They were with Hannah Kim, who was helping them tour the area while they were in the U.S. LTC Hong, Assistant Defense Attaché, is the Korean officer in the left of the picture. General Shin, Tim Whitmore, and Leo Ruffing stand in the back next to President Kinard.



The Where, When, and Why of the Korean War

Tell America

19 - GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

President Robert McCubbins spoke about the Korean War to the Golden Group of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Atlanta.

Orthodox Cathedral in Atlanta.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@com-cast.net



Robert McCubbins, Ch 19 President, speaks to the Golden Group of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Atlanta

177 - EASTERN OKLAHOMA [OK]

We made a presentation at Hilldale High School on 11 November 2013. The school scheduled a special assembly for all its students and their guests.

Close to 200 people attended the session.

Bill Webster, docwilly6@gmail.com



Bill Webster of Ch 177 speaks at Hilldale High School



Bob Thomason of Ch 177, WWII and Korean War veteran, accepts thanks from Hilldale High School students



Presenters from Ch 177 at Hilldale High School: James Blair, Duane Kutcher, Bob Thomason, Bill Webster, Tom Cotton, Bill Pollock, and Darrel Parks (L-R)



Half the audience at Hilldale High School presentation by Ch 177

199 - MANASOTA [FL]

We participated in a presentation at State College of Florida.

Thomas G. ("Skip") Hannon, tgh-skip@aol.com



Ch 199 members at State College of Florida: Commander Hannon at lectern, Walter "Scotty" Blomeley, close to camera, and Dick Caverly seated



"Skip" Hannon addresses crowd at State College of Florida

Richard Caverly, former POW, speaks at State College of Florida "Tell America" presentation



251 - SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

During August the various veterans groups from Auburn, Michigan called for the Vietnam Traveling Wall to come to their small town. For those who have never seen this monument to military personnel killed during the Vietnam War, it is half the size of the real wall that stands proudly in Washington, D.C. This was the rainy season, and the local VFW and American Legion did a great job of laying particle board and trimming the grass.

The traveling wall presented us with two opportunities: to "Tell America" about the Korean War and recruit new members. There is no KWVA chapter in Auburn, so I made an appointment with

the two other military groups to visit their meetings and try to get Korean War veterans to join ours. I have already dropped off applications and reading material with commanders of the Legion and VFW.

The Auburn high school allowed the children from the complete school to travel to see the Vietnam Wall. This small town should have invited larger area high schools to bring their students to see it. The town had speakers, but possibly should have had a parade and more celebrations to draw attention to the Wall's visit.

Bob Simon, 7286 Spring Lake Tr., Saginaw, MI 48603, 989-792-3718



Students ponder impact of Vietnam "Traveling Wall"



Auburn, MI students study names of Vietnam KIAs

Chapter & Department News

19 GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

The Georgia town of Johns Creek dedicated a plaza within the Newtown Park. It includes a Memorial Walk honoring all wars. Some of our members attended the dedication ceremony. The monuments are 6' high, 3' wide, and 5' thick.



Deputy Consul General Bok-ryeol Rhyou, Consul General Seong-Jin Kim, with Wayne E. Kidd, President of the association (L-R) at Johns Creek, GA



A large group of Koreans from Georgia at Johns Creek, GA event

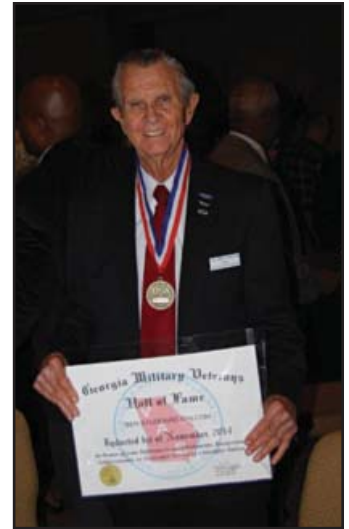


Rodney Rector (L) and Jim Conway of Ch 19 in front of Johns Creek, GA monument

Col Malcom at his induction into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame

Member Ben Studdard Malcom, Col, U.S. Army (Ret.) was inducted into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame at a dinner in Columbus, GA. Col. Malcom is known as the Father of Special Forces and a Green Beret and the author of the book "White Tigers," describing his missions leading South Korean partisan units deep behind enemy lines.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



Ch 19 Jim Conway shows off his Peace Medal at the DeKalb County Veterans Ceremony and Exposition

29 SSGT WILLIAM E. WINDRICH #3 [IN]

Members marched in the Whiting, IN 4th of July Parade.



Rich Garza (L) and Al Solis of Ch 29 march in 4th of July Parade



Joe Torres, Al Solis, Warren Eubanks, Rich Garza, and Eliseo Castenada of Ch 29 (L-R) at 4th of July parade

We sponsor a bowling team to get our name publicized. This year the team won the league championship.

Herbert A. Verrill, 1833 169th St.
Hammond, IN 46324, 219-844-4369



The championship bowling team sponsored by Ch 29 displays its trophy: (L-R) Kristine Martin, Mark Opat, Noreen Komaskinski, Mike Mish, Al Solis, Warren Eubanks, Ernie Komaskinski, Patti Rassbach, Ray Anguiano, Irene Klus, Karen Rarick (Kathy Nawrocki was absent for photo)

75 PFC STANLEY A. GOGOJ #38 [PA]

We held a ceremony in Campbell Park in Port Richmond (Philadelphia) on September 29, 2014 to honor Stanley Gogoj, after whom our chapter is named, and the first man from Pennsylvania killed during the Korean War. Pvt. Gogoj, a member of the 71 Signal Service Battalion, was killed in action on June 30, 1950.

The chapter donated a plaque in his name that was dedicated in Campbell Square in November 2013.

On June 28, 2014 we gathered with members of the Korean

American Association of Greater Philadelphia to commemorate the end of the Korean War. We shared a great dinner at the event.

Jack Green, 7233 Souder St., Philadelphia, PA 19149

EDITOR'S NOTE: The details of Gogoj's death are available at the following website: <http://www.usfallenwarriors.com/index.php?page=directory&rec=111968>. It is a source for other records as well.



Members of Ch 75 at remembrance for Stanley Gogoj



Korean American Association of Greater Philadelphia veterans gather in Philadelphia on June 28, 2014



John Novak, Jack Green, and John Plenskofski of Ch 75 (L-R) with members of Korean American Association of Greater Philadelphia



John Plenskoski (L) and Jack Green of Ch 38 with a volunteer "Blue Cap" at local veterans home



Jack Green (R) and John Plenskoski with two unidentified volunteers at Stanley Gogoj commemoration

54 THOMAS W. DALEY, JR [NJ]

Kathleen, Phillip, and Brendan Smith, great grandchildren of member Jimmy Kryzstoforski, made a donation to the KWVA.



Representatives of Ch 54 thank Jimmy Kryzstoforski's great grandchildren for their donation (L-R) Charles Kerber, Carl Letizia, Salvatore Giunta, Bill Wildman, Kathleen, Phillip, and Brendan Smith

99 TALL CORN [IA]

On Veterans Day, President Herb Spencer presented a copy of the book *Korea Reborn* to Rebecca Vernon, Director of the Anamosa Library and Learning Center.

Marjorie Spencer, handmspencer@me.com



Herb Spencer of Ch 99 presents copy of *Korea Reborn* to Rebecca Vernon

105 CENTRAL NEW YORK [NY]

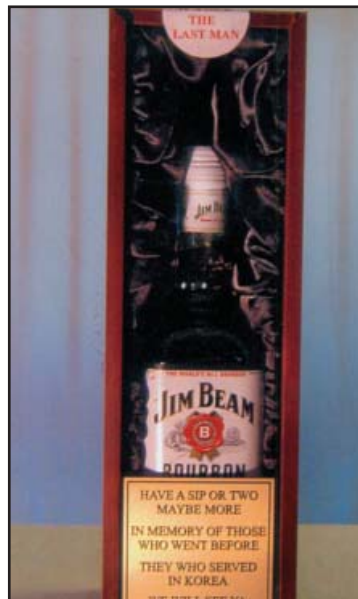
We have found a home for our "Last Man Standing" bottle of whiskey. It has been placed at the Onondaga Historical Association. These are the words that are in a frame alongside the bottle:

KOREAN WAR VETERANS OF CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER 105
The members of Ch 105 entrust this memorial to the Onondaga County Historical Association.

The last member standing shall have the honor to open the enclosed bottle, and have a drink in memory of all the past members.

This shall be done in the presence of the curator and the local press.

This task completed, the remainder shall be placed in the Korean War display at the Onondaga County War Memorial.



The box and nameplate were donated by Dan Monti, owner of the Pen and Trophy Center, Syracuse, NY. The bottle of spirits was donated by Enrico Fabrizi, manager of Liquor City, Fayetteville, NY.

Jim Low
114 Wembridge Dr., E.
Syracuse, NY 13057 315-437-0833

"Last Man Standing" bottle on display



Thomas Hunter (L), Assistant Director and Curator of Collections for the Onondaga Historical Association, accepts the "Last Man Standing" bottle from William Burns, Membership Chairman for Ch 105 and National Judge Advocate



Joe Meunier, Antonio Tarateta, John Jeon, and Henry DeGraide of Ch 147 (L-R) present wine to Consul General Ohm Song-Jun (C)

147 WEST BAY RHODE ISLAND #2 [RI]

Members attended an event in Framingham, MA to commemorate the 61st anniversary of the Korean War cease fire. The reception honored Korean War veterans. Members of two other Rhode Island chapters also attended.

We presented bottles of red and white Rhode Island wines to Consul General of Korea Ohm Song-Jun at the event.

Alfred ("Gus") Pagel, 63 Enfield Dr.
West Warwick, RI 02893, suglegap@verizon.net



Cyril Geary, Robert Cushing, John Jeon, Henry DeGraide, Antonio Tarateta, Ralph Nonnenmacher, Commander Melvin Hill, and Gus Pagel of Ch 147 (L-R) at cease fire commemoration



Korean entertainers serenade crowd at Framingham, MA event



Members of three Rhode Island chapters gather at Framingham, MA reception



Bill Kennedy, Joe Meunier, Ed Ruzzano, Ed Belben, and Tom Pankowicz (L-R) of Ch 147 enjoy activities in Framingham, MA

148 CENTRAL JERSEY [NJ]

We presented a check to Boris Reissek, Jr., LNHA Chief Executive Officer of the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Vineland, NJ. Former Chapter Commander Charles Koppelman, who was installed as the Commander of the Department of New

Jersey on September 11th, did the honor. The funds will be used for many social activities at the home.



Charles Koppelman of Ch 148 (L) presents actual check to Boris Reissek, Jr.



Sr. Vice Commander and Rose of Sharon Chairman Herbert Picker (R) of Chapter # 148 and Chapter Commander Robert D. Bliss (L) display facsimile of check presented to Boris Reissek, Jr.



Members of Ch 148 at check presentation to New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home (Bottom Row, L-R) Harry Frankenberg, Treasurer Leon Kaczmarek, Chaplain Harvey Weinberg, Jerome Berens (Back Row, L-R) Financial Secretary Edward Rappleya Sr., Sr. Vice Cmdr & Rose of Sharon Chairman Herbert Picker, Boris Reissek, Jr.

After the presentation, the members of the Department had a guided tour of the facility, during which they were shown the many different activities that are available, including bowling and ceramics. Members visited with some of the residents. Everyone appeared to have a great time.

Our donation is just one of the many contributions we have made using the money we have collected from the Rose of Sharon drives.

Charles Koppelman, 6 Yarmouth Dr., Monroe Township, NJ 08831, 609-655-3111, Charleskoppelman@yahoo.com

155 FLORIDA GULF COAST [FL]

SWFL Korean War Veterans Establish Scholarship Endowment at FSW

September 25, 2014 – FORT MYERS, FLA.: Members of Cape Coral’s Korean War Veterans of Southwest Florida Chapter 155 established a scholarship endowment for military students attending Florida SouthWestern State College (FSW).

For the last nine years the chapter has funded \$1,000 scholarships for a veteran or the sibling of a veteran from Southwest Florida who is registered at FSW, but this year the organization decided to establish a \$15,000 endowment to augment its annual scholarship giving.

“Approximately five years ago it was voted on by the organization to raise funds to start an endowment in our chapter’s name, knowing that this would be on record long after we’re gone,” said Bob Kent, chapter treasurer. “The funds for this effort have come from several raffles, soliciting at local establishments such as Wal-Mart and RaceTrac, Aviation Day at Page Field, and several small grants from various corporations.”

On average, 400 students are enrolled at FSW receive veterans benefits each year. While these students are each eligible for the \$1,000 scholarship, the endowment paves the way for more of them to receive this vitally important assistance. Veterans at the college train in a variety of fields that benefit the Southwest Florida community.



Members of Ch 155 at check presentation (Back, L-R) Marc Esteve, Omar Ortiz, Jerry Montagnino, and Trevor Nelson; (Middle, L-R) Amada Rooney, John Kloeker, Frank Rooney, and Edward Sindelar; (Front, L-R) Bob Kent, Bob Hebner, Nick Napolitano, and Harlan Hummel

“I am immensely thankful for the scholarships I received from the Korean War veterans. They helped me meet my financial obligations in the trying times of the recession,” said FSW student and veteran Carlos Barahona, who explained that he was only able to find temporary work while going to school. “Some of these obligations included purchasing computer parts and peripherals, paper and ink, and anything involving transportation to and from school like gas, car insurance and maintenance.”

Barahona, who is in his final year of completing a Bachelor of Arts in Education at FSW, concluded that the scholarship played a major role in his success at the college and he was proud to be a part of a culture that cared for fellow comrades.

Arlene M. Knox, senior director of Development and Planned Giving at the FSW Foundation, said the endowment is an exciting chance to continue supporting our veterans.

“The annual scholarships have been so helpful for veteran-students at FSW and this endowment is not only ensuring that the giving continues, but that more of these students will be eligible in the future,” she said.

Florida SouthWestern State College is Southwest Florida’s largest and one of the most affordable institutions of higher education. Annually serving more than 22,000 students globally, FSW offers a variety of nationally-ranked, career-focused academic programs with two-and four-year degrees, and professional certifications. Students are also active in clubs and programs catered to their interests. FSW will debut its intercollegiate athletics program in the fall of 2015. Visit www.FSW.edu for more information.

Kent said, “We at Chapter 155 have worked very hard to accomplish this scholarship program. We are about to present our ninth yearly \$1000.00 scholarship and hereafter we will work to build on the endowment fund. The Scholarship will always go to a veteran in need from Southwest Florida.”

Bob Kent, 239-945-3018, rkent9000@aol.com

170 TAEJON [NJ]

We attended the 19th annual memorial mass for those killed in the Korean War and deceased chapter members. The service was held on September 28, 2014 at St. Philip the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in Saddle Brook, NJ. Father Matthew Fonseko was the mass celebrant.

Sr. Vice Commander Robert O’Toole led seventeen veterans and family members to the front pews as the congregation sang “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.” KWVA National Director George Bruzzis accompanied them. Jr. Vice Commander Henry Ferrarini and Color Guard member Joseph Louis posted the colors in front of the church.

During the service three-time Purple Heart recipient George Job and John DiLonardo presented the Eucharistic gifts.

O’Toole led the veterans out of the church at the conclusion of the service as the congregation sang “God Bless America.” The veterans and their family members gathered outside for a group photo.

Following the event, everyone proceeded to a brunch buffet at



Robert O’Toole of Ch 170 and his wife Young-OK at Saddle Brook, NJ ceremony



Members of Ch 170 and guests at St. Philip the Apostle Church service



Henry and Jane Ferrarini, Edward and Cathy Frye, and Joseph and Carol Louis (L-R) enjoy buffet and fellowship after Ch 170 mass



William Burns, Activities Director of Ch 170, and his wife Elaine at New Jersey remembrance

the Riverside Manor restaurant in Paterson, NJ, where they enjoyed the food and the fellowship.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503



John and Jeanne DiLorenzo and Erwin and Elisabeth Burkert of Ch 170 at Riverside Manor



Chaplain Henry Leonhard of Ch 170 and his wife Norma at Riverside Manor Restaurant

Other events included a dinner/dance in November, an annual luncheon in mid-December, and a casual social evening at the VFW hall in Lenexa on December 1.

We send greetings and good wishes into the future to comrades everywhere.

Don Dyer, ddyer15@everestkc.net

186 ST. CHARLES COUNTY [MO]

Members attended a Memorial Day ceremony at Baue Veterans Cemetery, where various veterans groups posted their individual Colors at the start of the services.

We participated in the City of O'Fallon July 4th Parade. Bill Brooks "rehabbed" a jeep so it looked exactly like a U.S. Navy Shore Patrol vehicle. While we were waiting for the parade to start, a VFW veteran approached Bob, who was in a proper uniform, and said he was tired of running and wanted to turn himself in.

Of course, he was just kidding (we hope).



Veterans at Baue Veterans Cemetery. Bob Osborn of Ch 186 is on far left

181 KANSAS #1 [KS]

We had a successful annual picnic in early September and participated in the Overland Park City annual parade later that month. The group is still very active and participated in a Veterans Day ceremony on November 11 at the Overland Park Memorial site.



"Troops" from Ch 181 ready to load into Pete Gomez' deuce-and-a-half for Overland Park, KS parade



4th of July Parade participants from Ch 186 (1st Row, L-R) Chris Christifulli, Dick Saip, Art Minor (Back Row, L-R) Elmer Austerman, Bill Brooks, John Lacy, unidentified, Charles Langelle, Tom Koulan, Bob Osborn, Bob Breig, Merv Kreling

215 GEN WALTON H. WALKER [TX]

Founders Reunion

We hosted the 14th Birthday/Reunion of founding members at our monthly September chapter meeting. The original founders of our chapter first met in September of 2000. They are: President Richard E. Predmore, 1st V.P. Roy Aldridge, 2nd V.P. Larry Kinard, Secretary William Mac Swain, Treasurer Robert A. Fuoco, Judge Advocate Bryon Dickerson, Chaplain Louis E. Holmes, Service Officer Charles S. Smith, Historian Charles D. Cabaniss (absent), and POW/MIA James Hall (deceased).

Past Presidents of Chapter 215 are (in order): #1 Richard Predmore, #2 Marvin Dunn, #3 Mike Doyle, #4 Larry Kinard, #5 William Hoyle, #6 Al D'Agostino, and #7 current President James Wetmore. Each original officer made a short speech on his contribution to our chapter.



At the staging site for the O'Fallon 4th of July Parade, members of Ch 186



Part of the estimated crowd of 25,000 people strung out along the City of O'Fallon three-mile 4th of July Parade route

We have new officers: State Commander Frank Williams, Commander Art Minor, 1st Vice Commander Alan Brown, 2nd Vice Commander Bob Breig, Adjutant Bob Greeley, Treasurer Bob Cummiskey, and Judge Advocate Tom Stephenson.

Salvadore ("Chris") Christifulli, 923 Annabrook Park Dr., O'Fallon, MO 63366, 636-294-1836, SChristifulli@charter.net



New officers of Ch 186 (L-R) Frank Williams, Art Minor, Alan Brown, Bob Breig, Bob Greeley, Bob Cummiskey, Tom Stephenson



Louis Holmes, Dick Predmore, Unidentified, Charles Cabaniss, Byron Dickerson, Roy Aldridge, Bill Mac Swain, Larry Kinard, James Wetmore (L-R) at Ch 215 gathering



Denise & Dick Predmore and Louis Holmes & Edna (L-R) at Ch 215 reunion



Unidentified, Louis Holmes, Dick Predmore, Byron Dickerson, Roy Aldridge, Bill Mac Swain, Larry Kinard of Ch 215



Mike Doyle of Ch 215 on left, and Jean & Byron Dickerson at Ch 215 Founders Reunion

We are very proud of our chapter, which has produced current National KWVA President Larry Kinard, Past National President William Mac Swain, current National 1st VP Roy Aldridge, and others who have held local, state and national offices. We must not forget that behind every good man is a good woman! We offer a special "Thank you" to all of our ladies!

We enjoyed a catered luncheon of excellent food with deserts provided by our ladies. Flowers and corsages were donated by First Lady Neva Wetmore. Entertainment was provided by members Jack Cooper, who was MC, and Ken Dillard. They played patriotic tunes on their harmonicas. Chaplain Don Jones displayed his beautiful voice by singing the national anthem and other vocals.

Everyone had a wonderful visit with friends who have not seen each other in years. Some traveled long distances. We thank guests, our committee members, and "K.P.s," all of whom contributed to the success of this event.

Joe Arnosky, 817-431-6081, jbarnotx@verizon.net

251 SAGINAW-FRANKENMUTH [MI]

Jim James, Genessee County Sheriff chaplain, and new lifetime member of our chapter, retired after twenty years in the Army. After that he became a Methodist minister and worked with the Michigan State Police before becoming the county sheriff's chaplain.

Jim gave a great talk on crime in the Flint, MI area at our May 7, 2014 meeting.

Incidentally, he drives over fifty miles to attend meetings.

Bob Simon
7286 Spring Lake Tr.
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-792-3718



Jim James of Ch 251

258 NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND [RI]

Among our recent activities we dedicated a monument to honor veterans from Graniteville, RI, held a fundraiser for veterans, and awarded a plaque to Ralph Palmieri on his 90th birthday. He was a chapter founder and its first Commander.

Norman J. Paiva, Sr., 42 Morgan Ave.,
North Providence, RI 02911, 401-231-9176,
401-573-8338 (cell)



Ernest J. ("Pete") Robert, of Graniteville, RI, was honored at presentation of monument honoring veterans from his town



Commander Richard St. Louis of Ch 258 presents plaque to Ralph Palmieri (L)



Eugene Pezzullo, Gerald O'Neill, and Godin Russell (L-R) help out at Ch 258 fundraiser



Bo Kenahan, Eugene Pezzullo (C), and Joseph Baldino of Ch 258 help at fundraiser



Norm Paiva and Gerald O'Neill (L) at Ch 258 fundraiser

259 CENTRAL INDIANA [IN]

We have had the benefit of two lectures about the Civil War at two recent monthly meetings. History teacher Allen Andrews, dressed as a Union Captain, gave an interesting summary of uniforms and weapons, as well as the reasons why the War Between the States came about.



Allen Andrews, in period costume, speaks to Ch 259 audience

Members had the opportunity to ask questions about the use of immigrants and former slaves as Union soldiers and other hardships connected with the costly struggle around the USA, including the thousands who died from disease and surgical infections from primitive field hospital conditions.

Another speaker came as Confederate General Pickett to describe his role in battles and different commands. Niles Clark portrayed the

general; his wife Lisa played the role of Mrs. Pickett. Clark's presentation included a touching vocal of an early American folk song.



General Pickett, Mrs. Pickett, and Paul Dickerson, Vice Commander of Ch 259, at October chapter meeting



Group of Ch 259 members gathered to hear "General Pickett" speak (Front, L-R) Les Adam, Keith Roberts, Tom Shepherd, Mel Butler, Don Hall and Bill Barnhill (Back, L-R) John Quinn, Amos Broad, unknown guest, L. Nicholson, Cloise Dotson, Ed Wade, Paul Dickerson and Bob Freshour

The entertaining and educational performance was well received by a large group of chapter members. In fact, some members could relate to the hardships of the Civil War troops based on their own experiences during in the Korea battles.

John M. Quinn, saggi32@aol.com

281 ROLLA #9 [MO]

We had a special program to commemorate our 12th anniversary as a KWVA chapter. Our state KWVA Commander, Frank Williams, and his wife were there as our special guests. He recognized several of our members for their work and leadership ability.

We also had a POW/MIA ceremony led by Paul Schuler and a ceremony to remember our deceased members. Many of their wives were on hand.

I thank Eddie O'Neill of the Rolla Daily News for pictures and story on this event.

Forrest O'Neal



Paul Schuler leads ceremony honoring Ch 181's POW/MIAs



Frank Williams (R), Department of Missouri Commander, honors local chapter leaders, including Ch 181's Commander, Harrison Meaux



Ch 281 vets and their wives pay their respects to POW/MIAs

297 PLATEAU [TN]

In early October members traveled to Nashville, TN to attend the banquet honoring Korean veterans from Middle Tennessee. The banquet was held at the Korean Methodist Church.

Lunch was provided and each eligible member was awarded a

Peace Medal by Dr. Bok-Ryeol Rhyou, Deputy Consul General of the Republic of South Korea, who represented the South Korean Ambassador in Atlanta, GA.

Dick Malsack, 931-707-7292,
kaslam2001@yahoo.com



Ch 297 members at Nashville banquet (L-R) Chan Smith, Dick Malsack, Bob Johnston, Cmdr. Ted Hirabayshi, Bob Gruber, John Dory



More members of Ch 297 in Nashville (L-R) John Sohnly, Carl ("Doc") Ellis, and Chaplain Carl Hal



Members of Korean Methodist Church in Nashville entertain guests at banquet for Middle Tennessee veterans



Dick Werderitch of Ch 297 receives Peace Medal from Ms. Bok-Real Rhyou

Over 300 Korean War, Korean DMZ, and Korean Defense veterans attended the Korean Consulate General Luncheon in Framingham, MA. Lunch, entertainment, and gifts were provided by the Consulate General and his staff.

There was a very large showing by our members.

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



Veterans and dignitaries gather after conclusion of Nashville banquet



New Korean Consulate General Ohm Song-jun and staff are shown with members of Ch 299 at Korean Consulate

299 KOREA VETERANS OF AMERICA [MA]

We honored fellow Korea veteran and CMOH Recipient SFC Jared Monti. SFC Monti was stationed in Korea with the 2nd Infantry Division prior to deploying to Afghanistan, where he was KIA on 6-21-06 and posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. We helped fund the memorial for SFC Monti.



Korean entertainers perform at the Boston luncheon



National Director Al McCarthy (Korea 1970-71), Commander Al Jenner (Korea 1979-80), Vice Commander Ed Langevin (Korea 1968-69), KWVA Past National Director Jeff Brodeur (Korea 1988-89), Vice Commander Bruce Smith (Korea 1968-69), and member Bob Wessa (Korea 1952-53) at CMOH SFC Jared Monti Memorial at American Legion Post # 405 in Raynham MA.



Part of the large crowd at the Boston reception

Officials from South Korea and Arizona Korean Community Honor Arizona's Korean War Veterans



Dignitaries at the AZ ceremony (L-R) Jun Ho Jung, Jeon Yong Jin, Jong Han Kim, Mike Woo, Jong Wang Kim, Hyun Myung Kim, Ted Vogt, BGen John Burk, Maj Barret Bradstreet, Col Kurt Gallegos, Susan Kee

By Susan Kee
sk4vets@gmail.com

On October 25, 2014, a special delegation from South Korea honored Arizona's Korean War veterans. Over 400 Korean War veterans were honored at this ceremony, with a total of 850 people in attendance.

A special delegation from the Ministry of Patriots and

Veterans Affairs (MPVA) traveled from South Korea to Scottsdale, AZ and presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal. Joining the special delegation were the Consul General Hyun Myung Kim, Consul Jong Han Kim from the South Korean Consulate General's office in Los Angeles, the Arizona Korean Association, and other Arizona Korean community members.

Special guests in attendance included Ted Vogt, Director of



Director General Jong Wang Park honors family members of four KIA Arizona servicemen, Lawrence Ripley, William Otis Jr., LeRoy Bone, and Richard Loveless

Medal Presentation to Korean War veterans (L-R) James Sharp, James Myers, Tom Kilfoyle, Gilbert Romero



General Jong Wang Park of Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs thanks Korean War veterans

each of these servicemen. Over 400 Korean War veterans and family members of deceased Korean War veterans were also honored.

Following the medal ceremony, there were musical tributes to the Korean War veterans in the form of traditional Korean and American music. This was the largest gathering and ceremony for Korean War veterans in Arizona's history. It was a day to be remembered for these veterans of "The Forgotten War."

the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, Brigadier General John Burk, of the Arizona Army National Guard, Colonel Kurt Gallegos, Commander of 944th Fighter Wing of Luke Air Force Base, Commander David Praisler, of the Navy Operational Support Center of Phoenix, and Major Barret Bradstreet, of the U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Station in Phoenix.

Director General Jong Wang Park of the MPVA stressed that "Korea will never forget the service and sacrifice of American veterans and that they will continue to teach next generations about the brave Americans who fought to defend their freedom." Director Vogt highlighted the stark contrast between the oppressive regime in North Korea and the vibrant, prosperous democracy in South Korea as a result of the service of Korean War veterans in defending South Korea.

Susan Kee, the organizer of this event, and a Korean American writer, thanked the veterans for their service and their continuing devotion to all things about Korea. She said, "You have saved Korea and millions of Koreans, like me, who are able to live in freedom today and for many generations to come. We thank you and we honor you today and always." Ms. Kee is working on a book of Korean War veterans' stories as a tribute to their service.

The medal presentation started by honoring five Americans who were killed in action during the Korean War. Consul Kim awarded the Ambassador for Peace Medal to a family member of



Photography By:
Vendetta Art Studio
Lew Bradley, Captain of the Ch 122 (Arden Rowley) Honor Guard



Arizona recipients of Ambassador for Peace Medal (L-R) Rich Graham, Lew Bradley, Sherwood Rodgers, James Morris, Wes Stapleton



Susan Kee thanks Korean War veterans and facilitates medal presentations

New Jersey Chapter Members Honored

Members of three New Jersey chapters were honored by the Korean Han Sung Reformed Church in America. The event took place October 5, 2014 in Cresskill, NJ. Chapters honored included Taejon (Ch 170), MASH (Ch 216), and Chorwon (Ch 48).

Officers who spoke about the Korean War were Ch 170 member and KWVA National Director George Bruzgis, Joe Poggi, Chapter Secretary of Ch 48, and John Valerio, Past Chapter Commander of Ch 216.

The ceremony started when Rev. Peter Ko, Emeritus Pastor, welcomed the veterans and family members at the church's 11 a.m. Sunday worship service. A special banner hung in the front of the church; it read "We remember and appreciate your Defending Freedom in Korea." The veterans entered, followed by the church congregation.

When the service ended, church members entertained everyone with performances by talented individuals. That was followed by a presentation of gifts to all

by Elder David Yu.

After the blessing, the veterans, guests, and congregation sang "God Bless America." Everyone then went downstairs to the church hall, where a great buffet was served.

It was a special time of fellowship with church members and the members of other state chapters.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503



Korean War veterans and members of Korean Hansung Reformed Church



Members of three NJ chapters mingle at Cresskill church





Sr. Vice Commander Robert O'Toole of Ch 170 and his wife Young-OK at NJ church ceremony



Ch 170 newsletter editor Camille Georgison and husband Perry



John Valerio (Ch 216), Joe Poggi (Ch 48), and George Bruzgis (L-R) at Korean Hansung Reformed Church



Alexander Atheras, Ch 170 Color Guard member, Rev. Ko, and Louis Quagliero, Ch 170 Historian (L-R) at Cresskill commemoration



Some of the Ch 170 members at the NJ church ceremony

National KWVA Fund Raiser

Flower Rose of Sharon

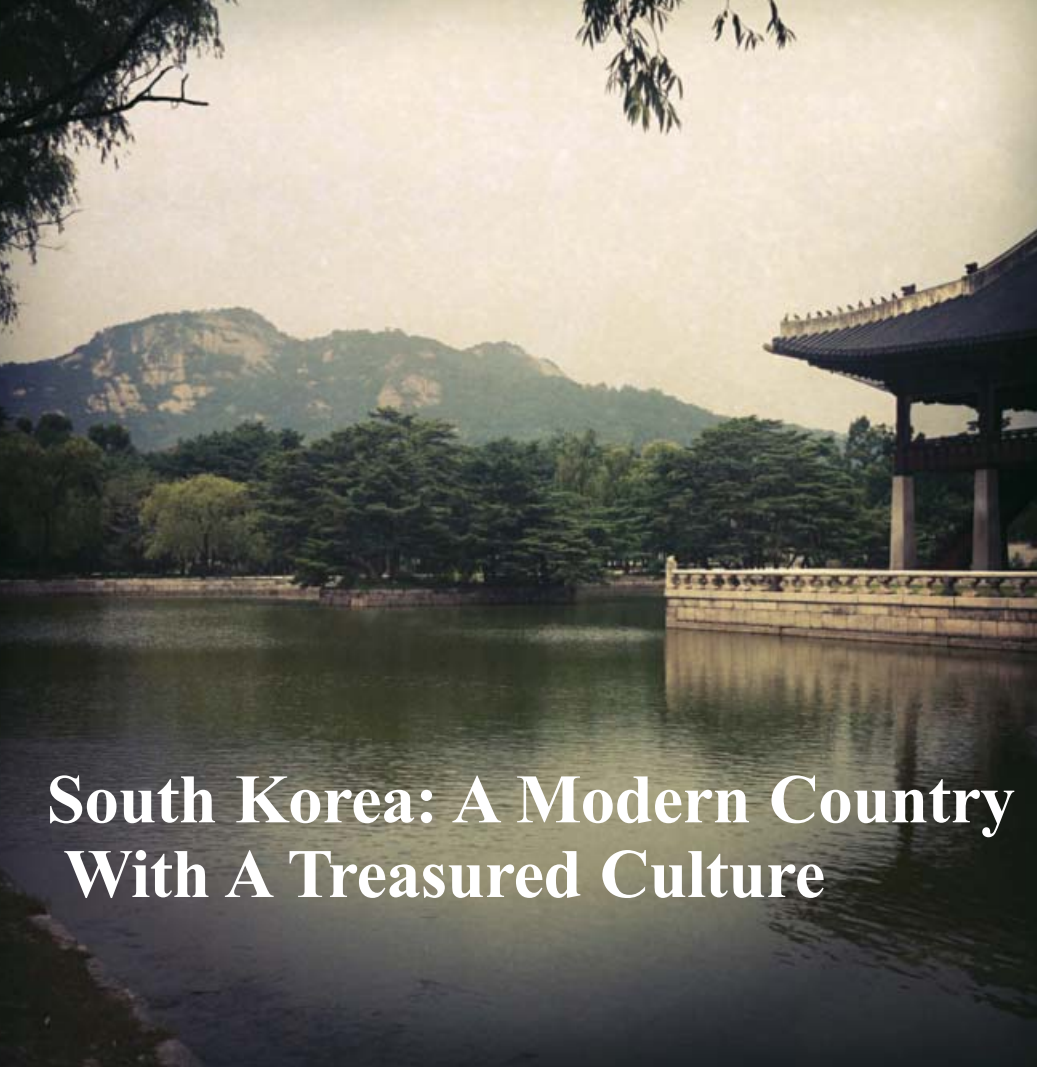
The Rose of Sharon is the National KWVA fund raising flower. The Rose of Sharon is sold by the dozen.

- 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



South Korea: A Modern Country With A Treasured Culture

By Nika Smernoff

Growing up in a generation mostly concerned with our personal futures or failures, it's easy to get lost in our own worlds and forget about any larger world. Placing ourselves in a wholly new context and making history mean more than a test grade can help us realize that the world and strife that exist are very real, and closer than we sometimes think.

Going to South Korea in July 2014 with my younger sister Bryn, about a year after my grandfather, Dean Smernoff, had gone to Seoul and done a veterans re-visit program, seemed like an opportunity I never dreamed could have existed. (He still can't stop thinking about it.) The generosity of the South Korean government in inviting about 100 college students, myself included, from the 21 United Nations countries who served during the Korean War gave us all the opportunity to con-

The imperial palace in Seoul

nect to this larger world we've heard so much about.

We were a part of the Peace Camp for Youth, which involved spending a week touring sites and attending events in South Korea. This gave us the opportunity to both learn history and give testament to the importance of remembering and honoring those who served and sacrificed for peace.

A large part of our experience involved connecting to South Korea and its people. We were assigned Korean roommates for the week, who gave us little souvenirs when we met. My sister and I received socks that superposed a perky-eared, cartoon hamster on an American flag— an interesting design that precluded some of what we would see in Korean shops in Seoul.

In fact, one of my personal favorite experiences of the trip was spending the day in the metropolitan capitol with my team of about ten students, with whom I spent most of my time. We walked

around a centuries old palace, had lunch in a traditional restaurant that served the best noodles I've ever eaten, and walked around the student area of the city.

Seeing how simultaneously similar and different the capitol could be to an American city showed that with a few decades, any country could pick itself up from destitution and war in an utter transformation to modernity. Touring a traditional Hanok village also showed us that while South Korea had modernized in so many ways, they had managed to keep vital aspects of their treasured culture alive.

One evening we attended a large commemorative banquet, where several veterans received medals for their service. After the meal, a group of incredibly talented young girls performed traditional Korean dances and songs, as well as some Western songs, like Edelweiss, for us. Everyone melted, especially when the smallest girl of the bunch gave one of the veterans a kiss on the cheek and thanked him for saving her country.

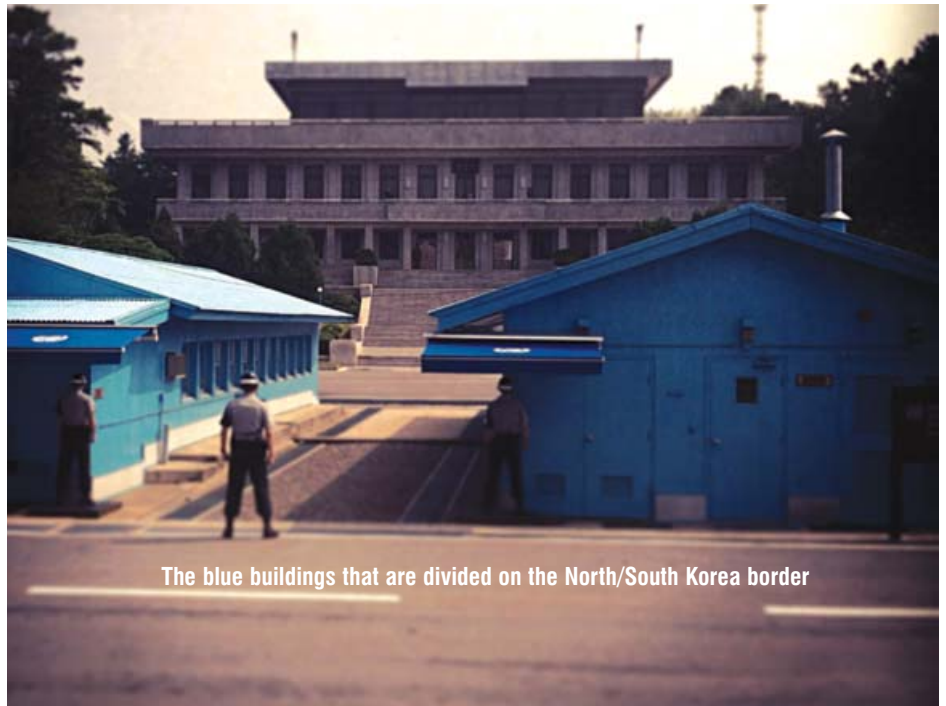


A street in the student quarter

The most memorable commemorative experience, however, was when we went to the Korean National Cemetery. While veterans from the UN countries got off their buses, we handed them flowers and thanked them for their service. A regal and formal ceremony was carried out amidst almost total silence in the beautifully verdant resting place of Korean War heroes.

It's amazing how grateful the South Koreans are for our help in the war. Sixty years later they're still thanking us, a very humbling experience for a 21 year old who played no role in the heroic accomplishments of our veterans so long ago.

We spent a few of our nights at the compound we were staying in outside of Seoul practicing the song "Hand in Hand" to sing for the veterans in a ceremony later in the week. Little had we known, this performance was going to be not only for the Prime Minister of South Korea, but broadcast on live television: a somewhat daunting task for those of us whose last singing performance was in elementary school.



Hearing the Prime Minister speak on the importance of keeping friends and allies close drove home everything we had been feeling up until then. This speech from the Prime Minister on such a topic (the closest I've ever been to any

world leader) really drove home how much the South Koreans appreciate their friends and allies, and how much they wish to achieve long-lasting peace with North Korea.

Going to the Demilitarized Zone was





Nika and Bryn (L) Smernoff at the Great Wall on the post-tour to China

particularly eye-opening. Seeing the mass amounts of firepower concentrated in such a hostile border area made us all realize, more than I think we ever had, just how real war can be. Throughout our few hours in the DMZ, we were escorted by a soldier not much older than me, or my grandfather when he served. No pictures were allowed in certain areas, lest the North Koreans get their hands on them somehow. Nametags were to be taken off to ensure that students weren't befriended on Facebook, as they were the previous year, by curious North Korean soldiers.

We toured the area mainly in buses, passing through a gap in a massive electric fence topped with razor wire and surrounded by land

mines. Entering the small blue building where both sides would meet and attempt to negotiate was especially poignant for me, an international relations student. Hearing and learning about diplomacy and sometimes fruitless negotiating is very quickly put into context in a room that's evenly divided down the middle to show the un-crossable border between the two countries.

For someone who grew up during the UN failure in Darfur, and subsequently headed the Model UN team in college, I've been skeptically hopeful about the abilities of the organization to do what is necessary to help keep the world at peace. Meeting intelligent and engaged students from the 21 countries who helped Korea during the war, who were all ready to tell stories from their grandfathers' service, gave me hope.

The Korean War cannot be the forgotten war in American history. We need to remember the lessons we've learned through many awful struggles and years of cooperation. Most importantly, the UN can be effective.

My mentor in college has told me many times: the UN is only as strong as member countries want it to be. We are all global citizens and need to remem-



Nika and Bryn Smernoff on Beijing's Hutong bicycle-rickshaw tour on the post-tour to China



PCFY opening ceremony with a July Korea Revisit attendee from the represented UN countries



The results of the cultural art project

ber that freedom is not free. Allowing people to suffer and lose their homeland while we stand idly by is never the right solution.

So many indescribably brave young Americans who went to Korea had no idea exactly where they were going or why. My grandfather told me about how these men sacrificed their youth, their education, their young wives, the births of their firstborns (my eldest aunt), and their lives to save Korea. Now, coming back to see South Korea a democratic and prosperous country backed up against the oppressive North Korean regime, I've heard some of the veterans say that they now know it was all well worth the struggle.

There's a clear sense that victory was worth the cost. One man even said that after his trip back, sixty years later, he was finally able to sleep through the night. We might not always know exactly what we're fighting against, but we know what we're fighting for.

Reach Dean Smernoff at 2777 S Elmira St. Apt 5, Denver, CO 80231, 303-695-4239, dsmernoff@msn.com



The USA group at the Korea Revisit July banquet



PCFY Korean cultural art project

Nika Smernoff is a senior at Austin College in Sherman, TX, studying International Relations and French. She notes that, "Once I graduate I'm going to graduate school for security studies and would like to work in counterterrorism, an interest of mine since high school." Bryn, her sister, is a freshman at the University of Arkansas.

The 2nd Korean War Veteran Youth Corps Convention Report

*President Jongwoo Han
Korean War Legacy Foundation, Inc.*



From July 25 to 28, the Korean War Legacy Foundation (www.kwvdm.org) hosted the 2nd Convention of the Korean War Veteran Youth Corps (KWVYC) in Washington, D.C. A total of 61 descendants of Korean War Veterans (KWVs) gathered from 12 different countries that had participated in the Korean War: United States, Australia, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, France, Greece, New Zealand, Philippines, Sweden, Turkey, and Great Britain. Compared to the first KWVYC convention in 2013, which had 25 participants, the 2nd convention achieved remarkable growth with the very important and practical theme of “Remembering our Unsung Heroes.” Attendees presented interviews of their grandparents, and learned how American textbooks treat the Korean War and the sacrifices of their heroes. The keynote speech was delivered by former commander of Combined Forces Command in Korea, Ret. General John H. Tilelli, Jr. Congratulatory and encouraging remarks were also given by KWVA President Larry Kinard, ROK MPVA Vice Minister An-keun Choi, and Korean War Veterans Support Foundation President Jung-hoon Kim (Korean National Assemblyman).

In order to equip KWV descendants with knowledge about how to keep the legacy of the Korean War and KWVs alive, President Jongwoo Han invited C-SPAN’s producer of American History TV, Ms. Delia Ross, to deliver a lecture on the art of interviewing. Since last year’s Armistice Day, she has broadcasted six select interviews from the Korean War Veterans Digital Memorial (www.kwvdm.org). During the convention, youth members practiced what they learned from Ms. Ross, using interview toolkits that had been prepared by the Foundation. The youth members were divided into 10 groups, each of which spent 3 hours interviewing a KWV who had been invited for this session. Both the youth members and the KWVs were fascinated by their conversations in this setting.

The highlight of the convention was when two Georgia’s River Ridge High School History teachers – Samantha Fraser (granddaughter of KWV Harold Maples, 1952-1954) and Kathryn Ricker (niece of KWV Kimball Brown, 1952-53) – presented their research on the coverage of the Korean War in AP World History textbooks, helping participants to create lesson plans that could be used to teach the major topics of the Korean War. Their presentation demonstrated how little the Korean War is covered in most history textbooks – receiving only 30% as much coverage as the Vietnam War (see report on the next page). Samantha and Kathryn are working with President Han on a joint presentation for an upcoming teachers association meeting on how we can improve the Korean War coverage in our history textbooks for future generations. With an ambitious plan to build a community of KWVYC

and history teachers, the Foundation plans to invite more teachers to the 3rd convention in 2015 to help advocate for a deeper analysis of the Korean War in our history textbooks and to enhance coordination among KWVs, the KWVYC, and history teachers in general. The Foundation will work with the College Board and prominent authors of history textbook, to promote better coverage of the Korean War. We all need to strive to educate the public about the historical importance of the Korean War and the sacrifices made by our heroes, the Korean War veterans.

Another significant outcome of this year’s convention was that we found the first regional interview director for the digital memorial. Emily Neitzell, granddaughter of Paul Overgaard (1950-1951), received a scholarship for her excellent interview video with Paul. Emily will schedule a series of interviews, which will simultaneously expand the digital memorial’s database. It is the Foundation’s goal to find interview directors in many different regions so that we can preserve as many firsthand accounts of our unsung heroes as possible. Both President Han and Ms. Neitzell will conduct interviews at the KWVA’s Rochester Reunion during October 15-19.

For the 3rd Convention, from July 24 – 27, of 2015, KWVs, their descendants, and history teachers will attend from all 21 of the countries that participated in the Korean War. The themes are expected to be world history textbook coverage of The Korean War and “three generations of KWV community together.” Because we would like to see much more turnout from the United States in the 3rd Convention, we ask that you please promote this wonderful opportunity. The 2015 Convention will be held in Washington, D.C. Please encourage your grand- or great grandchildren to participate in the convention, and please contact me or KWVYC President Dayne Weber to register for next year’s event, the sooner the better.

I would like to recognize Dayne Weber, Amanda Hayes, Ivy Bell, and Andrew Emmons for their commendable youth leadership and countless hours of effort to make the convention such a success. President Dayne has demonstrated great devotion to the Corps and will continue to work with me for next year’s convention. I also want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Korea’s Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs and Pantech C&I, Ltd. for the generous support they have given to the annual convention. And even though Pantech C&I CEO Park, Byeong-yeop who has donated \$100,000 to KWVA, cannot make the October KWVA reunion in Rochester, I am sure that he will continue to be an arduous supporter of KWVA. President Kinard decided to make him a lifelong member of the KWVA. I thank President Kinard and all the leaders of KWVA for this decision and supporting the cause of the Korean War Legacy Foundation. I will keep working to make KWV’s legacy alive in the form of oral and artifactual histories.

History & Social Studies Teachers Conference

(as part of the KWV Youth Corps 2015 Convention)

When: July 24-27, 2015

Where: Washington, D.C.

Host: Korean War Legacy Foundation (KWLF), Inc. (www.kwvdm.org). An organization that supports our veterans and houses 500 KWV in-depth interviews and 6,000 artifacts (KWV Digital Memorial).

How to become eligible:

- You must be a history or social studies teacher with a valid school address
- You must participate in an activity with the KWLF during the school year
 - Have your students complete an activity using the digital archive
 - Help the organization create transcripts for the current interviews in KWVDM
 - Set up interviews of veterans in your media center
 - Complete an analysis of the Korean War coverage in your history textbook
 - Toolkits for all activities are available to help you get started.

Goals for the Conference:

- Korean War in textbooks
 - Descendants from 21 countries will analyze coverage of the Korean War in their own textbooks.
 - Teachers will collaborate on how to get better representation of the Korean War in our schools & presenting the history book analysis on the Korean War
 - Work with College Board and prominent history textbook authors to

expand coverage of the Korean War in textbooks

- The Digital Memorial
 - History & social studies teachers will present their use of KWV Digital Memorial interviews and artifacts (www.kwvdm.org) in their classrooms.
- Washington D.C. Excursions
 - Attend the Armistice event at Arlington National Cemetery
 - Day and evening tour of Korean War Memorial and National Mall
 - Pentagon tour

Costs:

- If chosen, the KWL Foundation will reimburse teachers for round-trip airfare and cover the cost for all programs, meals, and lodging during convention.
- There is a registration fee for teachers who are chosen
 - \$50 by February 15, 2015 (\$100 after 2/15)

Benefits for Educators:

- Foundation will offer scholarships to schools based on the quality of presentations
- Internship opportunities for your students
- Certificate of participation to put towards PLU credits and certification

Questions? Contact Us :

Chair, Samantha Fraser (samantha.fraser@cherokee.k12.ga.us) KWLF President, Jongwoo Han (jonghan@syr.edu, 315-480-9427) KWVA Tell America Program Chair, Roy Aldridge (royaldrige@sbc-global.net, 915-494-0411)

KWV Youth Corps 2015 Convention Key Information

Dates: July 24-27, 2015

Location: Washington, D.C.

Eligibility:

- Must be a descendant (child, grandchild, great-grandchild) of a Korean War Veteran
- Must be aged 15-30 (most members are in high school or college)
- Must provide proof of veteran's service (i.e., DD214)

Activities:

- Mission goal I: "KWV 3 Generations Together"
 - Invite descendants and their heroes from 21 participant countries of the Korean War
 - Descendants interview their own heroes
 - Mission goal II: "The Korean War in World History Textbooks"
 - Descendants from 21 countries will analyze coverage of the Korean War in their own textbooks.
 - Host a conference for high school history teachers on the Korean War
 - Work with College Board and prominent history textbook authors to expand coverage of the Korean War in textbooks
 - Other activities (subject to change):
 - Attend the Armistice event at Arlington National Cemetery

- Day and evening tour of Korean War Memorial and National Mall
- Pentagon tour

Notes:

- The Korean War Legacy Foundation will cover all expenses such as programs, meals, transportation, and lodging during convention
- Participants are responsible for booking & paying for transportation, 50% of which will be reimbursed at convention by the foundation.
- **Registration fee: \$50 if registered by March 15**
After March 15, fee increases to \$100

Late registration must be received by June 1

- See Website at <http://www.kwvdm.org/youth.php?p=introduction> for more information

Benefits:

- Foundation will award \$1,000 scholarship to 10 best interviews
- Opportunity to attend MPVA's 7-day Peace Camp program in Korea

Contact information: KWV Youth Corps President Dayne Weber (kwvyouthcops@gmail.com, 724-822-8900) or Korean War Legacy Foundation President Jongwoo Han (jonghan@syr.edu, 315-480-9427).

Not The Christmas We Expected

Enclosed is a copy of a booklet given to the crew of the cargo ship *U.S.S. Montague* (AKA-98) after leaving Japan for the States in 1951. We had been away for over a year. This well-written history of our travels was written by an officer whose name I do not recall.

Montague no longer exists, but our memories remain alive.

Nicholas Prokovich, 12 Vladish Ave.,
Turners Falls, MA 01376,

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Montague* left Norfolk, VA on April 29, 1950 for a routine Med Cruise. The Marines to whom the writer refers were members of the Second Marine Division stationed at Camp Lejeune, NC. Before their cruise was over, many of those Marines were integrated into the First Marine Division and sent to Korea.

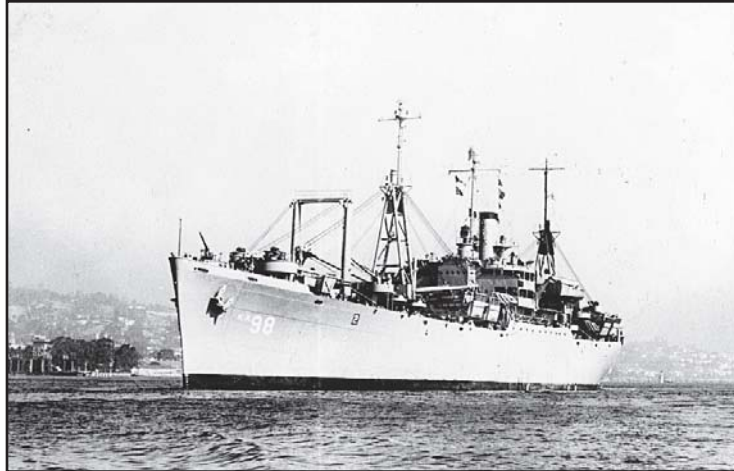
To save space, we will skip the part of the report detailing the stops on the Med Cruise and pick up the account where the Sailors and Marines aboard *Montague* realized they wouldn't be home for Christmas in 1950.

U.S.S. Montague (AKA-98)

Pleasure cruiser, workhorse, cargo vessel and rescue ship, - all these characterize the *U.S.S. Montague* (AKA 98) which, in its yet-complete cruise, has traveled over 34,000 miles, and visited over 25 ports on four continents. *Montague*, a navy attack transport, is one of these amphibious ships, which as Captain Walter Karig points out in his book, **BATTLE REPORT**, have a habit of turning up at any and all invasions.

Participation in an actual war, however, was probably the last thing to enter the mind of *Montague's* crew when, with skipper Captain Henry P. Wright Jr. at the conn, "anchors aweigh" was called at Norfolk, Virginia on the morning of April 29th of last year. The same probably held true for the company of marines which were loaded aboard at Morehead City, North Carolina, before the ship finally pointed her bow for Gibraltar. Crew and marines were doubtless expecting a tour of pleasure in the sunny Mediterranean, with a return to the States by Thanksgiving, and possible stateside duty for the Christmas Holidays....

Again the ship returned to Suda Bay, Crete, this time for the purpose of mainte-



USS Montague (AKA-98) underway, location unknown, circa 1954. Photo from 1954 Christmas Card. (US Navy photo)

This trip to Wonsan was one of the most tedious voyages in the history of *Montague*. The North Koreans, suspecting an assault landing at Wonsan, had strewn the waters adjacent to the harbor with one of the most intensive mine fields in world history.

nance and upkeep, and it was there that all hands discovered that the balmy Mediterranean, with its unending panorama of scenery, its hospitable people, its intriguing liberty ports, was soon to be left behind. The ship had been ordered to the Korean theatre. Golf clubs were stowed away and forgotten; civilian clothes, carried by all officers, were mothballed or sent home, as the ship prepared itself for a speedy run to Japan.

Underway with the *U.S.S. Bexar* (APA 237), the ship left Suda Bay and steamed down Port Said, Egypt, and then into the stifling heat of the Red Sea, zigzagging blacked-out under simulated battle conditions. Out through the Arabian Sea, into the Indian Ocean to Colombo, Ceylon, steamed the two ships. Stopping in Ceylon just long enough to refuel, they again headed eastward into the Indian Ocean, down through the straits of Malacca past Singapore, and into the South China Sea.

On Saturday, September 9th, they arrived in Kobe, Japan, and reported to the Commander, Amphibious Forces, Pacific, and much to the dismay of many, whose families and friends were residing in Norfolk, they discovered that the home port

of the *Montague* had been changed from Norfolk to San Diego. It was goodbye to Phib Lant! Unfortunately, their plans for taking part in the initial landing at Inchon were spoiled by one of those infamous typhoons, this one nicknamed "Kezia," which they were forced to put to sea to avoid, before their preparations had been completed.

The typhoon having passed, the ship returned to Kobe, continued the preparations, and then got underway for Inchon. Arriving at Inchon a few days after "D" Day, the ship disembarked personnel and unloaded equipment at "Yellow" beach. Also at Inchon, the then Executive Officer, Commander F.T. Thompson, U.S.N. was officially relieved by the present Executive Officer, Commander S.W. Carr, U.S.N.R., who had reported aboard at Kobe. Upon completion of the unloading, the ship got underway, again in company of the *Bexar*, for Sasebo, Japan.

During the short stay in Sasebo, eight new junior officers, all reservists, reported aboard for active duty, being the first of 14 assigned to the ship. After a run to Kobe, where they received orders, the ship again "set sail" for Inchon, where, with 17 other amphibious ships, they loaded the victorious

marine captors of Seoul and set out for Wonsan, on the east coast of Korea.

This trip to Wonsan was one of the most tedious voyages in the history of *Montague*. The North Koreans, suspecting an assault landing at Wonsan, had strewn the waters adjacent to the harbor with one of the most intensive mine fields in world history. During the sweeping operations which took place while *Montague* was en route to Wonsan, several minesweepers were sunk, and two or three destroyers damaged.

Because of the danger of these mines, it was necessary for the ships in the convoy to mark time by steaming back and forth for six nervous days at sea, waiting for a channel to be cleared, in danger all of that time of striking a floating mine. The infamous "round black objects" were on everyone's tongue, and a few were actually sighted and destroyed by escorting New Zealand and French frigates. It was with a great deal of relief that the ship finally pulled into Wonsan Harbor, and disembarked the marines and equipment. The landing was accomplished without resistance, since the



USS Montague (AKA-98) unloading refugees from a French LSM in southern Indo-China, circa 1955. (US National Archives photo # NWDNS-80-G-644449, a US Navy photo now in the collections of the US National Archives)

ROKs had already captured the town.

After the unloading at Wonsan, the ship returned to Japan, this time to Moji, on the west coast, where all hands had a well-earned liberty, their first in thirty days. After loading elements of the Army 3rd Division, the ship again got underway for Wonsan, where, the channel now being comparatively safe, the entrance and unloading were carried off without difficulty. The unloading completed, the ship steamed to Yokosuka, Japan, where all hands were to enjoy a ten-day rest.

At Yokosuka they again enjoyed a sight-seeing field day. The town, with its endless rows of souvenir, gift, and curio shops, was interesting enough in itself: but also within an hour's traveling time were Tokyo and Yokohama, which many visited. The base at Yokosuka provided excellent recreational facilities, and it was also arranged for parties from the ship to spend a few days, at practically no cost, at one of the luxurious mountain resorts a short distance from Tokyo.

The entry of the Chinese Communists into the war, however, marked the end of

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- 30 May - 10 June 70th Anniv of the Liberation of Italy
- ★ 1 – 9 Jun 71st Anniversary of D-Day: Normandy to Paris
- 7 – 19 Jun VN Special I Corps "Chu Lai to the DMZ"
- 18 – 24 Jun 70th Anniversary of the Battle for Okinawa
- 2 – 14 Jul WWII Russia—"Eastern Front"
- 18 - 28 Jul WWII Guam, Saipan & Tinian
- 31 Jul – 11 Aug WWII Japan Atomic Bombs
- 2 – 12 Aug Guadalcanal & "Up the Slot"
- 7 – 20 Aug 50th Anniv Op Starlite

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this all-too-brief breather, and it was then that *Montague* assumed the role of a rescue ship. Lieutenant Commander Theodore H. Thompson and his engine room force were alerted and soon *Montague* was steaming at full speed for Inchon, only to have their orders changed en route, designating their ultimate destination as Chinnampo, the port city for the North Korean capital of Pyongyang.

The entry into the harbor at Chinnampo was probably the number one nightmare of the year for Lieutenant Commander Sydney R. Weed, Operations Officer and Navigator of *Montague*, for it required going through a tortuous, narrow, and extremely shallow channel, sans benefit of pilot and with almost no buoys by which to be guided. It was accomplished successfully, however, and the ship commenced the loading of ROKs, Korean refugees, including wounded and tragically destitute aged women and small children, [and] North Korean and Chinese prisoners, all fleeing before the onrush of Chinese Communists, who at that time were 12 miles away.

The loading completed overnight, *Montague* crept out of the dangerous channel, and steamed to Pusan at the southern tip of Korea, the ship's first visit to the now-famous port.

After discharging the ROKs, refugees, and prisoners at Pusan, the ship immediately left for Inchon, where, upon arrival, it was ordered to Hungnam, on the eastern coast, to participate in the evacuation of American troops and other United Nations forces from that area. All told, *Montague* was ultimately to make three trips to that beleaguered city.

The first trip was uneventful, inasmuch as the Chinese were still being held at bay at Hamhung, several miles away. The ships then present loaded out the battle-weary "Chosin Reservoir" marines and, proceeding singly as they completed their loads, dropped them off at Pusan and returned.

On its second trip, *Montague* moored to the dock, and those aboard who managed to find time to sleep during that night of hurried loading did so over the angry protests of a battery of 155 MM howitzers that were pounding away from their position close to the deck at the advancing Chinese.

The third trip was a thundering climax to the Hungnam spectacle. From the moment of *Montague*'s arrival the air was filled with

the crack of the five-inch guns of several destroyers, the rumble of the eight-inch guns of the cruisers St. Paul and Rochester, and the occasional far-off thunder of the sixteen-inch guns of the "Mighty Mo," anchored in the outer harbor.

The day designated for the final withdrawal of the rear guard troops was December 24th, the day before Christmas, and there must have been those among the boat crews who manned their boats shortly before "H" hour on that morning, who were looking back with a good deal of nostalgia upon happier and quieter Christmas seasons.

The loading of the last troops into the boats was carried off according to plan, amid the ear-splitting explosions of supply dumps, dynamited by army and navy demolition teams to prevent their capture and use by the enemy. As the last troops pulled off the beach, and the boats were being hoisted aboard, another series of blasts began, gasoline dumps, dock facilities, and factories going up in gigantic orange mushrooms, and spreading a thick pall of smoke over the shattered city.

As *Montague* got underway and steamed out of the channel, she got in a few "licks" of her own, in the form of several rounds of five inch and 40 MM shells, fired from her batteries into targets on the beach.

Christmas night found *Montague* at dock in Pusan, with an enormous full moon casting its reflections on the tranquil harbor, a far cry from the scene of noisy destruction the crew had just witnessed. The troops were unloaded the following day, and soon *Montague* left for Yokosuka, for another brief rest, and a happy New Year's Eve and New Years Day spent in a friendly, even if foreign, port.

Montague **A county in Texas.**

Montague (AKA-98), was built under Maritime Commission contract by the Federal Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co., Kearny, N.J.; launched 12 February 1945; sponsored by Mrs. Irving S. Olds; and commissioned 13 April 1945, Capt. B. H. Thomas in command.

After shakedown in the Chesapeake Bay, *Montague* proceeded to Hawaii, arriving Pearl Harbor 10 June 1945. She departed Pearl Harbor 2 July, unloading her cargo 10 July at Eniwetok. The next 5 months she

shuttled cargo, ranging from Guam to China. After discharging equipment in China, she departed Tsingtao 29 November, for the United States. *Montague* operated off the east coast for the next 2 years, and participated in training exercises in the Caribbean. Getting underway from Norfolk, Va., 3 January 1948, she sailed for duty with the 6th Fleet, helping to stabilize the postwar situation in the Mediterranean. She returned to Norfolk 15 March, and participated in amphibious exercises off the east coast before getting underway 13 September to join the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean, returning Morehead City, N.C., 24 January 1949. The following 15 months were spent training off the east coast, and in the Caribbean.

She departed Morehead City 2 May 1950 for her 3d tour of duty with the 6th Fleet. Receiving orders to support United Nations action in Korea in August, she transited the Suez Canal, arriving Kobe, Japan 9 September. Anchored off Inchon, she disembarked troops and cargo from 8 October to 16 October. After a run to Kobe she embarked troops at Inchon, disembarking them at Wonsan on the east coast. Then she sailed to Chinnampo, the port city of the North Korean capital, to embark refugees. She continued to operate between Hungnam and Wonsan, and the port of Pusan until returning to Japan 29 December. She cruised between Korea and Japan for 3 months, before sailing home, arriving San Diego, April 28, 1951.

Between 1951 and 1954, *Montague* made three more voyages to the Far East, visiting ports in the Philippines, Japan, and Korea. On her last tour of duty, she departed Japan 2 August 1954, and proceeded to Indochina to take part in operation "Passage to Freedom," shuttling helpless victims of Communist persecution to freedom in South Vietnam. She returned to the west coast, and anchored 9 October at Long Beach. She decommissioned 22 November 1955; was berthed at Mare Island, Calif., as a unit of the Pacific Reserve Fleet; and was transferred to the Maritime Administration 29 January 1960. She remains, into 1969, a unit of the National Defense Reserve Fleet at Olympia, Wash.

Montague received four battle stars for Korean service.

Source: <http://www.history.navy.mil/danfs/m13/montague.htm>

Christmas in Korea 1951

December 22, 1951. We were on the front line on a snow covered ridge line fifty miles above the 38th parallel. It was bitter cold, with almost whiteout blizzard conditions. Huge floodlights from miles behind us lit up the hillside at night and gave the area an eerie glow. We were dug into bunkers with heavy timbers for the roof. We had a poncho over the bunker entrance that was partially blocking the snow and wind.

We were on 50% guard duty. Half of us were outside in the bitter cold standing guard. The other half was inside the bunkers trying to thaw out and stay warm. We had warm sleeping bags, heavy fur lined coats, and thermal boots. We could actually get fairly comfortable as long as we could stay in the bunker.

A quick word or two about the thermal boots. We called them "Mickey Mouse Boots." They were black rubber on the outside, with several layers of insulation hermetically sealed inside. The boot didn't "breathe" like a leather boot. As long as you moved around and wiggled your toes your feet would stay warm. The only problem was that your feet sweat so much that when you took the boot off, the socks had to be wrung out to get rid of the sweat.

A dry pair of socks helped, but even with wet socks your feet would stay warm. I don't think this boot design survived after the Korean War, but many Korean vets will remember this odd boot.

Anyway, we started out with four-hour shifts outside that gave way to two-hour shifts that gave way to one-hour shifts as the temperature continued to drop and the wind continued to howl. We told ourselves no Korean or Chinese soldier would be able to climb up the hill in this kind of weather, but past experience had made us cautious.

Luckily, each night went by without enemy action. It was tempting to get in out of the cold, but we knew better. Earlier, on a different hilltop, several of our soldiers were killed while sleeping in bunkers, out of the cold, with no one outside to stand guard.

On Christmas day, despite the extreme weather conditions, our cooks in the rear managed to get hot meals, including turkey and dressing, to us on the hill. Sitting in the bunker, all bundled up, eating turkey and dressing, made Christmas day an experience I won't soon forget.

A few days after Christmas our unit was relieved. We got to go back to reserves, hot showers, clean clothing and hot meals. That was our real Christmas, celebrated a few days late.

Korean Christmas, the Rest of the Story

I had been in Korea since early September, 1951, reassigned to the Heavy Weapons Platoon, just before a major assault. Shortly after the assault, a new, green, 1st Lt Platoon Leader joined our unit. We had lost a few men on the assault and then several of our "veteran" soldiers (anyone with more than 30 days on the front was considered a veteran) were rotated home as their enlistment ended.

The new platoon leader transferred me back to lead my old squad, a position I held until my tour was over in June of 1952. I was promoted to SFC about a month after moving back to the infantry platoon. Anyway, as I said earlier, we were on the front

We lit the fuel and instantly had to smother the "pilot" flame when flames began shooting out the top of our stove pipe and over the bunker. That was a "no-no," as enemy artillery would soon start using our flame as a target.

line, on a high ridge line, dug in, with bitter cold, blizzard conditions. We were fairly comfortable in the bunker, but would freeze our butts off when it was time to pull guard duty.

As the squad leader, I had to meet with the other squad leaders, the platoon leader, and the company commander a couple times a day for instructions, orders, and updates on enemy activity. Afterwards I returned to my squad and briefed my men. We met in the CO's bunker, which was HEATED!! He had four diesel fueled stoves.

Fuel for the stoves was fed through the bunker wall from five-gallon jerry cans of diesel. It was so cold that they had to mix gasoline with the diesel to get the fuel to flow and burn properly. After the fuels were mixed, partial jerry cans of both diesel and gasoline were left over. After one late meeting, two of us squad leaders grabbed a couple of the partial cans and took them back to our cold bunkers. This was a true "midnight requisition" in the finest sense.

We went over to the Heavy Weapons platoon and talked them out of some of their 75mm recoilless rifle ammo cans. The cans were about three or four inches diameter and 24 inches long. We made stove pipes out of them and shoved them through the cracks in the bunker roof to the inside. Then we took an empty "C" ration can, filled it half full with a mixture of diesel and gasoline, and stuck it under and about six inches from the stove pipe.

We lit the fuel and instantly had to smother the "pilot" flame when flames began shooting out the top of our stove pipe and over the bunker. That was a "no-no," as enemy artillery would soon start using our flame as a target.

We adjusted the mixture, using less gas, and tried again. It worked!! The stove pipe in the bunker took on a cherry red glow, but no flames spewed out the top. We had a nice warm bunker. The fuel burned for 20-30 minutes before we had to refill the "C" ration can. Eventually we figured out why our first mixture was too rich.

Our fuel was warm inside the bunker, much warmer than the fuel outside of the CO's bunker. With true "Southern Engineering," we loosened the jerry can lids on the CO's cans and tipped them over so it would look like the wind blew them over and the fuel leaked out. We got away with this for three nights until the platoon leader visited our bunker one night. He didn't say a word, but there were no more partial cans of fuel to be found outside the CO's bunker.

Lucky for us, a few days after our fuel was gone we were sent back to reserves.

Charles Ivy, 915 N. 16th ST., Memphis, TX 79245

NOTE: Charles Ivy was a member of Co. B, 17th Inf., 7th Div. in Korea.

Merry Christmas To The Folks Back Home

Chaplains and commanding officers sometimes recognized that the parents, relatives, friends, and acquaintances of men in their organizations worried about them. They took the time to get in touch with the folks back home around the holidays to assure them that their spiritual needs and general welfare were being looked after.

Here are two examples from the 11th Marines in 1952. The first is a Christmas card they sent that advised parents that their Marines spiritual needs were being tended to around Christmas. It documents the Protestant church service on December 25, 1952.



The second demonstrates the commanding officer's concerns. It is amusing that Col Shea makes it sound as if there were no chance of the enemy interrupting the festivities on Christmas Day. But, as some of the other stories suggest, that was not always the case.

Incidentally, the text of the two cards has been reprinted, since the originals were a bit faded and not susceptible to scanning.

Chaplain To Parents

PROTESTANT DIVINE SERVICE

Singing of Christmas Carols

The InvocationChaplain

The Responsive Reading:

Chaplain: Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings;

Response: Lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings;

Chaplain: Lift it up; fear not;

Response: Say unto the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Chaplain: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Response: Those who dwelt in a land of deep shadow, on them has light shined.

Chaplain: For to us a child is born,

Response: To us a son is given;

Chaplain: And the government will be upon his shoulder;

Response: And his name will be called "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Chaplain: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,

Response: Upon the throne of David, and over his kingdom;

Chaplain: To establish it, and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness, from this time forth and for evermore.

Response: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

p.2

The Pastoral PrayerChaplain
 The Scripture Lesson.St. Luke 2:1-16
A Hymn. "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
The Sermon "The Message of the Angels"
A Hymn "I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day"
The BenedictionChaplain

Korea
 25 December 1952

Dear Friend:

I am sure you will be happy to know that your Marine attended our Christmas Church Service. He was thinking of you, and he asked me to send you this bulletin and note as a token of his remembrance.

Every effort is being made to provide for his spiritual welfare, with frequent Divine Services, and with a Chaplain always available for personal counseling.

May God's blessing be upon you in this holy season, and throughout the coming year.

Very sincerely yours,
 R. G. Hutcheson, Jr.
 Battalion Chaplain

CO To The Folks Back Home

My dear friend:

The 11th Marines in Korea send their best wishes for a happy Christmas season.

I am sure that you are anxious to know what we shall be doing to enjoy the holidays here.

First of all, every man will be lonesome for his loved ones, and wishing he were there to spend the days with you. But we will have a full schedule of Divine Services, a Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, Christmas trees and decorations, music, and all the other customs that Americans associate with this happy day.

As you see, every effort will be made to make Christmas as home-like as possible, even under these difficult conditions.

I know that you will be thinking of your Marine on Christmas Day especially, and you may be sure that he is thinking of you.

All of us join in extending to you our best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Col. H. N. Shea, USMC
 Commanding Officer
 11th Marine Regiment



BUSAN from page 27

of their American comrades who fought for world freedom in that far off small nation most of the world had never heard of before.

There has been far too much silence masking the service of these great men and women who defended world freedom and saved the fledgling Republic of Korea. It began even while the war was raging, while tens of thousands of Americans were fighting so bravely and fiercely, and while thousands of them were dying.

Although three million soldiers were at war, counting our allies and the aggressors, silence was the rule. Pretense that it was not a major war was the rule. Many euphemisms were coined to cover the reality of that cruel and deadly war, calling it a police action, a conflict. Word of the great battles, the terrible losses – and the many, many victories – often were censored.

What was horrible and threatening the peace and safety of the entire world was kept obscure by policy on the belief that facts might propagate a third world war. So the war was muffled and masked, by downplaying what those great, brave soldiers were doing, and how they were suffering so badly.

Those who served in Korea remember, mostly with agony, the terrors of the front lines, the iciness of the seas, the heart pounding flights. There was courage, great courage! It was abundant always; flowing in blood, flowing in sweat, flowing in strength... but not written in words of praise and those great, magnificent deeds therefore have escaped the annals of our world's history.

The Medal of Honor was awarded to 136 Americans in that three-year war; one in every 170,000 who served. Of those brave souls, only 38 were alive to receive it. The rest of those recipients, 98 great heroes from America, perished in their brave acts, and the medal was awarded posthumously in their names.

Those heroes who still live will say with a humility that comes natural for most Americans, that every soldier in that war was no less brave, that all of them at one time or other, committed great acts of bravery, unrecorded more than not.

Well over 100,000 Americans were awarded the Purple Heart, in recognition of

the wounds that they suffered.

Many who served in Korea must now wonder how they managed to carry on. The land, though beautiful in peacetime, was savage to them with its great granite mountains, the horrible winters, and the rains and searing heat of the summers.

Yet soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen from the United States came, from the opening days of the Korean War, throughout every long, tortured day that followed, until victory was achieved.

They are the most compassionate, most generous people in the world. They open their hearts and their treasures to the oppressed. They will take the shirts from their backs to save the shivering beggar, while others might shun him.

These remarkable, friendly people were born to liberty, or knew it as newcomers to their land. Yet they were most fierce when fighting for the freedom of a small country from which their nation attained no commerce or benefit.

Who cannot say that America is the greatest nation in all of the world, and that the American people by their courage and their sense of right have made it so? Nobody can say otherwise, who knows the story of the Korean War!

The victory they attained, ratified by an armistice agreement, has been enforced for more than 60 years by the vigilant American presence in Korea and its region. It has been maintained by more than five million Americans, who have served in the theatre since the guns went silent.

They have taken the torch of their fathers and grandfathers to keep the Republic of Korea free, and to maintain the United Nations' principle of collective defence that will keep all nations free.

They still stand on guard in Korea and at bases near Korea, and their officers still serve in the Unified Command of the Republic of Korea and the United States. The alliance forged in war still stands with greatest strength.

Such a commitment! Can history possibly exclude this from its greatest stories?

Millions of American citizens, for more than 60 years, serving in a nation thousands of miles from their homes, to preserve it, and to preserve the basis of the United

Nations, that aggression will not be tolerated and will always be answered?

Shame on any nation, on any historian, who should overlook this! The Korean War and these great heroes, the great nation of the United States and its nobility and generosity to the unfortunate, have been overlooked for far too long.

So these are some of the reasons that we Turn Toward Busan, and we remember all who served, and all who fell.

We in Korea are in awe of them. We weep for every one of them, for every brave man and woman who served in our country. We weep with greatest sorrow for all of those who fell, and for those who went home with wounds of body and of mind.

As we turn toward Busan on this day, veterans from all 21 nations that served with the United Nations Command turn with us, to salute and hold a minute of silence for those who fell. In Korea, our veterans also turn to face the United Nations Memorial Cemetery and the new American Memorial, and the venerable Wall of Remembrance, and in their hearts, in all of our hearts, we thank every American!

From the bottom of my own heart, for everything that Korea is this day, for the great freedom that we enjoy, I salute and I thank and I extol every American who answered the call of the United Nations!

By their noble service, they saved a new nation, provided the freedom needed for it to enter and excel in the modern age, and by denying the conquest of tyrants who envisioned that all nations might come under their harsh domination, they changed the future of the world!

Park Sung Choon

Minister Patriots and Veterans Affairs

The Republic of Korea

Turn To Busan Ceremony In Washington D.C.

There was also a Turn To Busan ceremony held in Washington D.C. as part of a world-wide effort on behalf of all the UN countries that participated in the Korean War. The ceremony was held to remember the sacrifices of those killed and wounded during the war.

It was a very successful day.

Excerpt from Into the Land of Darkness: A Bombardier-

By Arthur L. Haarmeyer

Comparative Risk

During the last six months of the Korean War the front line zigzagged across the middle of the Korean peninsula, with UNC forces well entrenched along the southern edge of the sporadically shifting no-man's land and overwhelming hordes of North Korean and Chinese communist forces aligned along the northern edge. This 150-mile strip of bomb-scarred battlefields shifted here and there and from time to time, but it rarely moved any substantial distance. Every major ground offensive, almost always initiated by the communist side, was met immediately, and usually quite effectively, by massive opposition and heavy retaliation by both UNC land forces and close air support.

On most of the approximately forty-five night missions that I flew in Douglas B-26s back and forth over this front line to bomb and strafe targets in North Korea, I had many excellent opportunities to gaze down from seven or eight thousand feet at the frequent and awesome exchanges of artillery, machine gun, and small arms fire that would suddenly erupt and then dwindle and die, frequently within just thirty seconds to three or four minutes.

As a B-26 bombardier-navigator, I was in an ideal position to make these observations, as I could easily lean forward over the

bombsight and use this perfect vantage point to look straight down through clear Plexiglas at truly impressive displays of firepower. Being in a situation of comparatively little risk, at least during these brief intervals when anti-aircraft fire was only infrequently directed toward our B-26, I was able to give these surreal battlefield sightings my rapt and undivided attention.

The primary reason for this unique opportunity to view these horrific but totally fascinating ground-to-ground combat operations was that the threat of an attack upon us by Russian-built MiG-15 fighter-interceptors was minimal. Although often flown by highly skilled and World War II combat-experienced Russian pilots, the MiGs could and would be driven off by our two squadrons of F-86F fighter-interceptors stationed at K-14 AFB, Kimpo, in close proximity to the front line.

Another major reason for my sense of personal security and safety was that our small twin-engine bombers were painted jet black so that we were virtually invisible in the vast darkness of the Korean sky. Also, our enemies, strangely, did not seem to have the types of anti-aircraft artillery that had any high degree of accuracy, as we were rarely fired upon in entering or departing North Korean airspace at these mid-level altitudes.

Although a significant number of disturbing visual images of these ground-to-ground battles have become somewhat blurred in

Take an historic sixty-year journey back in time! With this book you will fly fifty combat missions, mostly low-level, low-speed bombing and strafing raids, along with young USAF bombardier-navigator Arthur Haarmeyer, leaning over his Norden bombsight in the nose of a swift and deadly Douglas B-26 light bomber. Your mission—to detect, destroy, damage, and delay the seemingly endless streams of men and materiel coursing down the roads and railroad tracks of North Korea from China and Russia through narrow and twisting snow-covered mountain passes.

This unique military history book (50 nonfiction short stories plus photos) is available in softcover at bookstores or online via Amazon and other online retailers. Priced at \$17 (ISBN: 978-0-9886-7891-2) and at \$9.98 for your Kindle, Nook, or Apple reader through Amazon and iTunes.

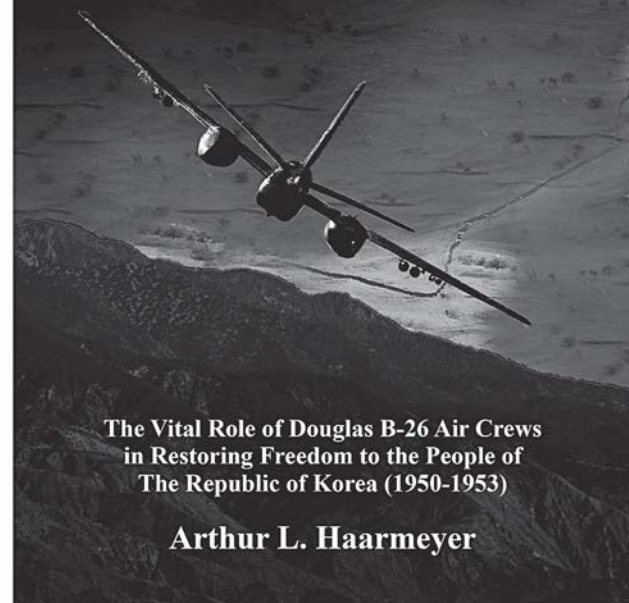
For an autographed softcover copy at \$24 (price includes tax and Priority Mail delivery within 3 days), contact the author at arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com. Mail payment (with your check drawn to Arthur Haarmeyer) to UPS Store, 3308 El Camino Avenue, Suite 300, Box 118, Sacramento, CA 95821, or use PayPal via the author's website at www.arthurhaarmeyer.com.

For answers to questions or additional information, please contact the author at arthurhaarmeyer@gmail.com.

One-third of the author's profits from this book will be donated to the Wounded Warrior's Project, Washington, D.C.

A Bombardier-Navigator's Story

INTO THE LAND OF DARKNESS



The Vital Role of Douglas B-26 Air Crews
in Restoring Freedom to the People of
The Republic of Korea (1950-1953)

Arthur L. Haarmeyer

-Navigator's Story

my recurring bad dreams over the years, I recall clearly one particularly significant incident. It occurred during one of our late night B-26 penetrations into North Korean airspace during the initial phase of my on-the-job training as a combat bombardier-navigator, probably on the ninth or tenth mission of my tour of duty.

Bob Crow had extinguished our running lights five minutes south of the front line in accordance with SOP. A brilliant chalk-white full moon was shining directly overhead, and everything below was cast in blackness or in one of many shades of silver or gray, except for the hot colors of sporadic and random exchanges of ground fire up and down the front lines.

Suddenly, directly below and before me, a long burst of machine gun fire erupted from the south side of the Punch Bowl. This half of this easily recognized and ancient volcanic crater, about five miles across and rimmed by peaks ranging from one to two thousand feet high, was then occupied by American troops, and the machine gun fire came from a position that seemed to be well forward of our line of resistance. This stream of red tracers swept quite rapidly back and forth, as if its small crew, probably just three or four men in number, were attempting to slow or suppress an advancing charge by communist foot soldiers attacking from the north.

It appeared to me that the North Korean or Chinese forces had succeeded in crawling much too close before they began a crazed charge in massive numbers, and that this UNC machine gun team was firing rapidly and almost continuously to avoid being overrun. In any event, in just moments four communist machine guns, well spaced and firing from positions of varying but higher elevations, one quickly after another, had homed in on that single machine gun team and relentlessly poured round after round into it.

All of these communist machine guns were consecutively vectoring their streams of fire upon that single gun placement, but for some inexplicable reason there was no responding cross fire, no visible retaliation whatsoever coming from other UNC gun positions nearby!


I was aghast: I simply could not understand the total lack of fire support. And it seemed to me that the incoming streams of fire continued for several long and painful minutes, although it was probably no more than thirty seconds before a small yellow-white explosion suddenly appeared where that isolated machine gun crew was located. For several minutes the communist machine gunners continued to pour in needless rounds of green tracered fire. Then these guns fell silent, one quickly after the other.

I continued to stare downward in total disbelief as I knelt in an appropriate posture of prayer above and behind the bombsight: I was quite certain that I had just witnessed three or four young American lives brutally extinguished in a matter of seconds or minutes. Although I could not see their mangled and bloodied bodies I knew that they were there, bleeding out in the snow, wind, and darkness. But then I also knew that there could and should be little time to mourn their deaths.

But now I must acknowledge, with some substantial measure

of guilt and shame, that the exchanges of deadly front line ground fire on our inbound approach to assigned North Korean targets prepared me for the bombing and strafing runs that awaited us in the deep darkness of North Korea. Witnessing these intense but short battles always sharpened my vision and quickened my reflexes. But on our outbound leg several hours later, I would almost always shudder uncontrollably with a sense of dread and sadness as we passed slowly over the front lines at a relatively safe altitude into the totally safe airspace over South Korea. It was there and then that I was irresistibly impelled to stare fixedly downward at the killing fields receding behind us while vicariously feeling the pain and loneliness of the foot soldiers below.

I would then inevitably visualize all too clearly the cold and miserable American soldiers and marines living and dying in that primitively brutal environment beneath us, with little or no hope or expectation of escaping from it. In sharp contrast, we were, with little comparative risk, fleeing to safety and personal comfort, being just a few hours away from warm and clean beds and the deep sleep of total exhaustion, as well as relief, at least for another two or three days and nights, from the anxiety, tension, and raw fear that always lurked subliminally and never really ever left us.



Occasionally, we make mistakes in *The Graybeards*. We try to be as accurate as possible, and we apologize for any errors that slip through. We do not have the funds for a fact checker, so we miss a fact or two now and then. Here are a couple clarifications. Incidentally, we rely on readers to inform us of any "misfires" that need correcting. We will print corrections in the next available edition.

It's Martins, Not Martens
We have often misspelled Ch 117 member Antero ("Ted") Martins name as Martens. He has been patient. Finally, we have the spelling correctly. So, it's Martins, and so it shall be henceforth.

He Wasn't On A KWVA Trip
In the Editor's Comments on p. 9 of the Sept/Oct 2014 edition we referenced a letter in which the writer mentioned a situation in which "a civilian on a re-visit trip to South Korea was taken prisoner by the North Koreans." The writer continued:
"As I remember, the tour was over and he was on the plane to return to the U.S. The North Koreans boarded the plane and took him prisoner, while in S. Korea."
To be clear, **no KWVA member on a revisit tour or any other tour has ever been taken prisoner by North Koreans, in South Korea or any other country.** The writer was mixing stories. We should have clarified that in the comments.



Recon Missions

Does Anybody Remember Stefan (“Steve”) Ihnat?

In the most recent issue we asked for information about Dan Blocker and his service in Korea. Now we are asking about another former actor and his time in Korea.

Steve Ihnat moved to the United States from Czechoslovakia via Canada in 1958 to pursue a career in acting. He enlisted in the Army and served a two-year hitch in Korea, but he never became a U.S. citizen. In 1960, Pvt. Ihnat won second prize in the Republic of Korea poetry contest for his entry entitled “Toil in the Night” while stationed at Hq. and Hq. Co., U.S. Army Port Incheon, South Korea.

If anyone has any info about Ihnat please send it to *The Graybeards* Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

MiG Shot Down Ends Up At Wright-Patterson AFB?

In July 1951 a U.S. Navy ship shot down a Russian MiG north of Incheon. The plane was recovered and transported by USS Epping Forest (LSD 4) to Pusan. From there it was sent to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, OH for research purposes.

(Why the enchanting name for a Navy LSD? It was named for an estate in Lancaster County, VA, where Mary Ball Washington, mother of the first President of the United States, was born.)

Does anyone remember any of the details of the incident, ranging from the shooting to the recovery and the shipment and arrival of the plane at Wright-Patterson?

Send any information you have to *The Graybeards* Editor, 152 Sky View Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067.

Researching The Korean War

I am conducting research about the Korean War. Specifically I am looking for information about the 24th Inf. Regt. and the U.S. Army’s 25th Inf. Div. I am most interested in C Co., 1st Bn., 24th Inf. Regt. between May 30th and June 15th 1951.

I would like to establish contact with anyone who may have served with C Co., 1st Bn., 24th Regt. during that time-frame.

Darrell Williams, 124 Old Court St.,
Fayetteville, WV 25840, 304-673-8088

How Does One Be “Reported To Have Been Awarded?”

Ken Markstrom submitted photos of himself and Maj. George C. Viney Jr. He wrote, “We were both in the 5th Regimental Combat Team in Korea 1951-52. Both of us are still keeping in touch after 60 some years.”

A search for George C. Viney resulted in this item on militarytimes.com (see the entry and source nearby).

George C. Viney

Awards And Citations

Silver Star

Awarded for actions during the Korean War

(Unconfirmed - Citation Needed):

George C. Viney, United States Army, is reported to have been awarded the Silver Star under the below-listed General Orders for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy while serving with the 24th Infantry Division in Korea.

General Orders: Headquarters, 24th Infantry Division, General Orders No. 470 (1951)

Action Date: Korean War

Service: Army

Division: 24th Infantry Division

Division: 24th Infantry Division

<http://projects.militarytimes.com/citations-medals-awards/recipient.php?recipientid=113787>



Major George C. Viney Jr.



Ken Markstrom (L) and George C. Viney Jr.



PFC Ken Markstrom

That entry raises several questions: why hasn’t somebody confirmed after all these years whether Viney did or did not receive the Silver Star, and under what circumstances? Does anybody know if he did indeed earn the Silver Star? And how many other military personnel are simply “reported to have been awarded?”

Please let the editor know. Incidentally, Markstrom can be reached at 5410 W. Freeway Lane, Glendale, AZ 85302.

“Frozen Chosin” Reunion?

I’m helping Hampton Sides (author of *Blood and Thunder*) research a potential book on Marines who fought at the Chosin

Reservoir in the Korean War. We're trying to find a reunion or event (however small!) for veterans who served there. We are also looking for veterans who were there and are willing to be interviewed.

Contact Gillian Brassil at 1113 Hickox St., Apt. C, Santa Fe, NM 87505, 615-818-8523, paperstar@gmail.com

Looking For MPs

I am trying to contact four of my fellow military police officers. Unfortunately, I am unable to recall their first names, but maybe someone can help me to locate them. Their last names were Freeman, Student, Griffith, and Lutz.

In 1956, I was stationed at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, AL with the 291st Military Police Company. I remember Freeman had a green LTD Ford car with one fender missing. On our three-day pass Freeman and I took a trip to his parents' home in Mississippi. We had a good three days of drinking "Fire Water," and it was a very memorable trip for me.

Griffith, I remember, took some pictures of us atop our military police car. I hope he will send me a copy of the picture. My granddaughter is making a picture story of my Army service and I would like some photos and to contact my former comrades.

Anyone with information can contact me by writing to Mike S. Mayen, 123 Regina St., San Antonio, TX 78223-1051, phoning 210-533-0302, or emailing BerMayen@aol.com.

Looking For Names

The picture below was taken around August 1951 near the 38th Parallel in Central Korea. The men pictured were in Clearing Co., 15th Medical Bn., 1st Cav. Div.

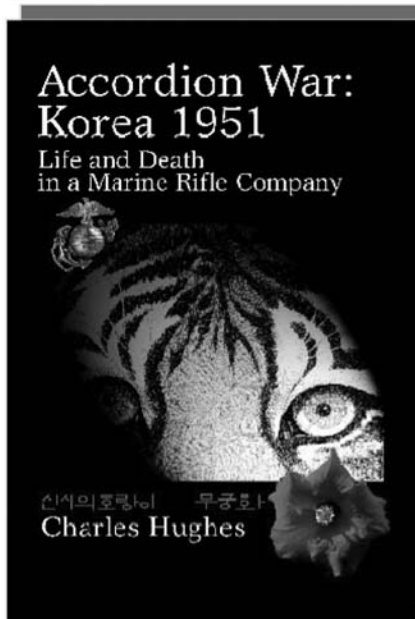
I am the fourth Soldier from the right. However, I cannot remember the names of any of my comrades in the photo. Can anyone help with the names?

Jerome A. Shaver, 22 Presidential Dr.,
Limerick, PA 19468, JShaver1212@aol.com



Members of Clearing Co., 15th Med. Bn., 1st Cav. Div., with Jerome Shaver atop truck, 4th from right

Accordion War: Korea 1951- Life and Death in a Marine Rifle Company



Learn more: dochughesbooks.com.
Kindle eBook \$9.99. For a post-paid
autographed book send \$22 (check or
money order) to Doc Hughes Books
P.O. Box 1112 Arkadelphia, AR 71923

At a time when North Korea has dramatically burst into the news once more as a belligerent nuclear power, Charles Hughes has published a historical memoir of his experiences as a hospital corpsman in a Marine rifle company during its most violent "blitzkrieg" phase, the first third of the three-year Korean War. While the descriptions of battles are up close and graphic, the conflict is also viewed from the perspective of the 21st century, from a keen awareness of the wars since - Vietnam, Afghanistan, Iraq and the war on terror.

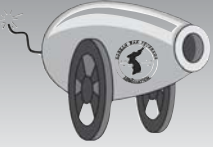
"Hughes. . . is a gifted writer. . . . This book is hard to put down. The writing is terrific. . . Well done, Doc." GySgt John Boring, USMC (Ret.) *Leatherneck, Magazine of the Marines, Sept 2007*

"I always knew that one day an FMF Corpsman would grow up, learn to write and tell their (our) unique story. *Flags of Our Fathers* came close but you nailed it." Maxwell Baker FMF Corpsman, Vietnam/Korean War vet. HMCN USN (Ret)

"*Accordion War* is a quality read. Your descriptions of that era are like paintings without the sounds, however, your recounting of the artillery barrages was deafening." Bob "Doc" Wickman, Korean War vet

"This is a gripping work and a must reading. . . .the present day overview/perspective ties the decades together and makes sense of the cost of war as well as the 'why's' of warfare. . . ." *Korean War Project Newsletter*

"This is one of the rare books that begs to be read in one reading. . . .the reader can smell both the gunpowder and the kimchi. . . .Well done, Doc." Prof. Andrew Lubin, Lead Reviewer, Military Writers Society of America



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 152 Sky View Dr., Rocky Hill, CT 06067; E-mail it to: sharp_arthur_g@sbcglobal.net, or phone it in to (860) 202-3088. Whatever the medium you choose, we welcome your input.

The Forgotten War In Korea

I have never called the war in Korea "the forgotten war." It wasn't forgotten. It was never known.

You can't forget something that you never knew. You may forget that 15 times 15 is 225. You may forget the second stanza of the "Star-Spangled Banner." You may forget the name of your second cousin's second wife. You can forget a million facts that you once knew. But the operative phrase is "that you once knew."

Let me give you just one incident that demonstrates this. When I came back from Korea, where I was with the First Marine Division for sixteen months, I reentered a surgical training program at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. On one of my first wards I asked 25 patients the simple question, "Tell me, sir, have you ever heard of Korea?" All but one said, "Yes."

I then asked, "Where is it?" Only one placed it in the Far East. Some thought it was in the South Pacific, or South America. Several thought it was in Africa. Some had no idea where it was. I then asked, "Well, what do you know about it?" I got 24 different answers but they all said essentially the same thing, "I don't really know, but I think we've got some soldiers over there."

So I prefer to call the war in Korea "The Ignored War," or perhaps "The Overlooked War." Therefore, for me, the pertinent question is why it was ignored and overlooked. Here are the answers I came up with.

Too Much War

The main reason is that the American people in general were sick of war. In WWII we had just been through almost four years of one bloody battle after another. Ten million of us had been in uniform and most had seen some action.

My high school class motto in 1943 had been, "A place in the ranks awaits us." Everyone, even those who weren't in uniform, knew a half dozen men personally who had been killed. Gold stars hung in so many windows that we could hardly look at them anymore. But the boys—and girls—were home!

We all tried to forget what we'd been through, both those of us who had been in uniform, or just as importantly, those on the home front. Then, after a very short five years, when in 1950 the North Koreans invaded South Korea, we as a nation weren't ready for bloody battlefields again. Besides, it was the United Nations that fought, not the United States.

President Truman didn't help when he called it a police action. The United States can't be at war again, we thought. Yet we were,

but only those of us who were actually in it know about it.

Where Is Korea?

The war in Korea was localized, in a place that few people had heard of and didn't really care about. Only the passage of time would show that the war in Korea was the first significant shot in the Cold War. Even our then otherwise greatly flawed president got that right when he recognized that fact in Washington in 1995 at the dedication of the Korean War Memorial.

But, by the time this significance was appreciated, two generations of Americans had grown up reading history books that ignored Korea in the 1950s. People in my age group know all too well that anything that happened before we were born has to be ancient history. My father was in uniform during the First World War but I grew up ignoring that war because "it was so far in the past!" In point of fact, that war had been over for only twenty years when I studied it in high school!

Coming Home To A "Ho Hum"

There were no demonstrations, no parades, no pageantry, when we came home from Korea. The vast majority of us merely returned to what we were doing before we went. My surgical training had been interrupted by my recall to active duty. While I was still in Korea, I made sure my position back at Cook County Hospital was still mine to take over again. And when I took off my uniform it was to exchange it for the whites of a surgeon-in-training. I didn't want to remember Korea, and few people wanted me to tell them about it!

Oh, some did, of course, and I told them what I thought they could comprehend, especially those veterans of WWII and, at that time, of WWI. I could never forget what I had seen and done in Korea, but literally in months no one else cared—except for my wife, who I tried to strangle three times in my sleep, and was told by a psychiatrist that this was "normal behavior" for someone who had been in combat and "don't worry!"

The War Wasn't "Right," "Wrong," or Anywhere In Between

Another reason follows from #2 and #3 above. Since no one had known we were gone, when we came back no one accused us of fighting a "wrong" war, a "politically incorrect" war, an "unnecessary" war.... WWII was a "popular" war, in the sense that we were in fact literally fighting for our lives and for the life of our country. So we were all heroes when we came back and the people showed it.

The Vietnam War was an "unpopular" war, and those guys were blamed for it and came back to an enraged public. But "our"

war in Korea was so insignificant that no one gave a damn about either the war or our part in it. I must say that at the time that's what 99% of us wanted: just to be ignored and allowed to get back to our own personal lives again.

Was The U.S. Actually In Korea?

Finally, the history books have actually been rewritten over the years by people wanting to play down the part that the U.S. played in the war in Korea. This has been documented by numerous studies and need not be re-emphasized here, since I don't have those papers in hand.

Birney Dibble, W 4290 Jene Rd.,
Eau Claire WI 54701, 715/832-0709

"Feedback" Makes The Magazine

Although *The Graybeards* is chock full of info on the states, reunions, etc., I believe (maybe selfishly) that "Feedback" provides more of the understanding of many events that might be lost. For example, the July/August 2013 article on "Use of Radar to Detect Mortars" has generated feedback from guys in the 502nd who were there before, during and after my time, starting with the 1st Korean winter on the Chosin Reservoir to the 2nd in the Yanggu Valley to the 3rd after we pulled out.

The feedback really defines the evolution of tracking devices that originally were housed in vans and trailers (SCR 584/MSQ 1) to the development of tracking units no larger than your fist installed in the warheads of missiles to "Remotely Piloted Aircraft" of today. (That may be an oversimplification, but I don't believe that it is too much of a stretch.)

John Schuck, 352-750-5576
colcajohn@gmail.com

Korea Veterans Need To Be Recognized—But For The Right Reasons

Re Victor M. Zavala's letter in the July–August 2014 issue, "Feedback," p. 68:

Having spent 12.5 months north of the Imjin River with 1/23rd Inf. Regt. 2 ID 1966-67 and earning the Imjin Scout certification, I had to disagree with Mr. Zavala as he asked for recognition as a Korea Service veteran and used one example of being chased out of bars by glass-wielding South Korean civilians.

Maybe his duty in 1977 at TAC Site 42 was stressful running for cover every time the sirens went off. Maybe he should have been north of the river when those alerts went off. Maybe he should have stayed out of the bars in the Ville. Maybe it would have been more stressful had he spent time on the DMZ where every day or night there could have been a life ending/altering event.

I certainly believe that Korea Service veterans deserve recognition for their service in South Korea, but we need to be careful how we ask for that recognition!

Bob Haynes, 2idahq@comcast.net

NOTE: Bob Haynes is the Secretary/Treasurer of the Second Indianhead Division Association.

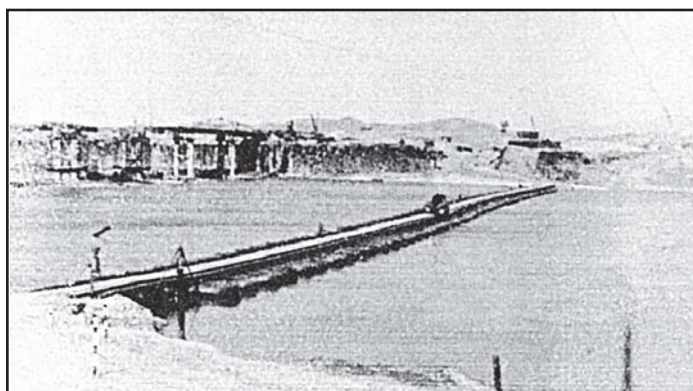
It Was Actually The Libby Bridge

There was an article on p. 67 of the March-April 2014 edition titled "I'm Not Going Home In A Body Bag" that included photos of a bridge under construction the writer said may have been the Freedom Bridge. It was actually the Libby Bridge, which was called the X-Ray Bridge until it was completed. Later it was dedicated to George D. Libby of Co. C, 3rd Engineer Battalion, who was killed near Taegon in 1950.

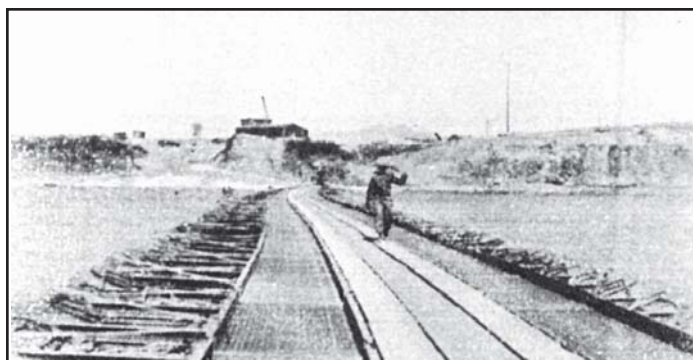
There was another Libby Bridge, which was a pontoon bridge used while X-Ray was under construction. And, there was a Freedom Bridge, which was located farther south, near Munsan-ni.

Incidentally, the Imjin River also doubled as a car—uh, jeep—wash.

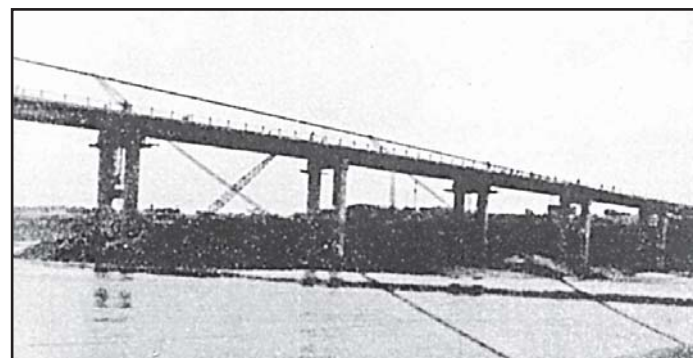
George Kleier, 5764 Idlewild Rd.
Burlington, KY 41005



The pontoon Libby Bridge on right; X-Ray Bridge on left



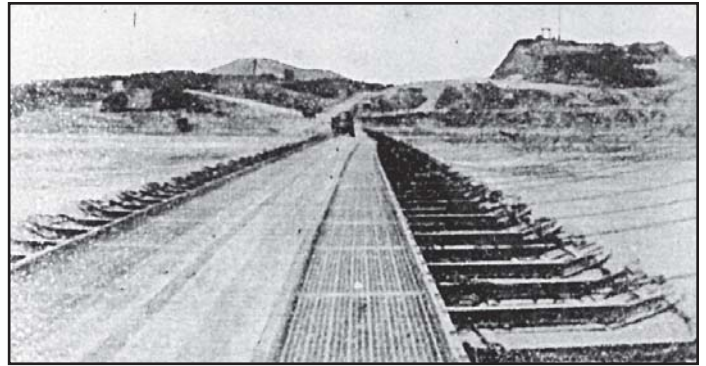
Looking south over the pontoon Libby Bridge



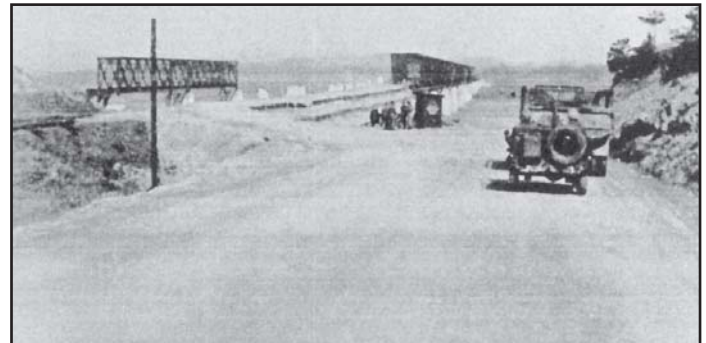
The former X-Ray Bridge renamed the Libby Bridge



The Imjin River also doubled as a jeep wash



Another view of the Libby Bridge when it was a pontoon structure



The Freedom Bridge near Munsan-ni



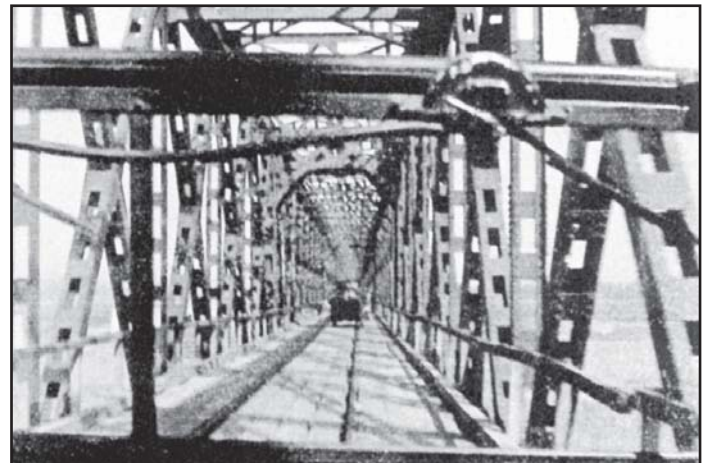
Jeeps lined up for a "bath"



The actual Freedom Bridge was heavily traveled. Vehicles wait to cross.



Vehicles traveling over the Libby Bridge when it was a pontoon bridge



A close-up look of the Freedom Bridge

Maintenance Was Crucial

Without outstanding maintenance, aircraft of the 68th FIS would have never been able to fly in combat or in defense of the Japanese home islands. No mission was ever aborted because of jet engine failure.

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



Detailed pre-flight inspection underway at Itazuke Air Base, Kyushu, Japan (which is now an international airport)



Captain Keith Guthrie, Maintenance Officer, 68th FIS, Japan-Korea 1951



68th FIS maintenance crew at the Itazuke air strip (L-R) A1C Graves, SSgt Byers, Piercy, A1C Austin, Kurtz, TSgt Smith, MSgt Delgado, MSgt Kethradre, MSgt Williams

Thanks For The Team Work In July 1950

There was a story in the March-April 2003 edition of *The Graybeards* by Mike David, titled “F-51 Mustangs Won’t Float” (pp. 48-49). Vincent Krepps, who was the editor at the time, received this response from Captain Jerome A. Dolan, M.D., recounting his experiences regarding the crash of a P-51 near Wonsan, Korea in October 1950. Dolan’s letter never made it into *The Graybeards*. But, since his comments are still relevant, we are including them here. (Capt. Dolan passed away in 2007.)

[David’s] story gave me a flashback to July 1950 in Korea. I was the surgeon for 1st Bn., 8th Cav. Regt., 1st Cav. Div. until January 1951. We were on the road somewhere (Kwan-ni or Kumchon) between Taejon and the Naktong in those bloody delaying battles that held onto the peninsula until new units with tanks and better equipment could arrive.

The late USAF LtCol Duane Biteman’s description of Lieutenant Billie Crabtree’s death “from hitting the ridge top... in late July 1950” fits with my memory. The day was so overcast that from our convoy you could not see the tops of the hills around us. Suddenly a fighter plane came in low—low enough for us to see the USAF markings—and we thought maybe the North Koreans had captured an F-51 and were bombing us. Seconds later we heard an explosion as that plane slammed into a hill.

With a couple of my medics I followed the sound of exploding ammo and burning fuel. We found the pilot’s helmet and knew he was dead. Not knowing whether an F-51 carried a co-pilot, we were edging closer to the fuselage, despite exploding ammo whizzing past, when there was a massive explosion and it was clear that there was no one to rescue. We marked the coordinates for Graves Registration and got out of there.

If there are any survivors of Col Biteman’s outfit, I would tell them that their efforts were deeply appreciated by the infantry. At a time when 85% of my casualties were from North Korean mortar fire, any airplane—even an artillery spotter plane—in the sky gave us a chance to breathe and to zero in on the North Korean mortar positions.

In our first battle, at Yongdong, just below Taejon, a platoon of T-34 tanks came clanking towards our defense line. We had no tanks or adequate weapons to destroy them. One intrepid Bazooka team from our B Co. was able to cripple the leading tank by jamming its tread so it spun and blocked the road. The F-51s then came in and disabled the rear tank. Between the USAF and our division artillery, we were saved to fight another day, and another, etc. Without those F-51s, I doubt that I would have survived to write this letter.

Now, for our Navy buddies (I was with the Navy Hospital Cops in WWII), I have questions that have bugged me for years. I was delivering babies at the Tokyo General Hospital (49th General) on 7/10/1950 when I was given one hour to kiss my wife and infant son good-bye and ship out with the First Cav. Div. We boarded LSTs, probably at Yokosuka Naval Base. I learned that these LSTs were being used by the Japanese to repatriate their POWs from Siberia. The scuttlebutt on our LST (Queen 073) was that the entire crew were Japanese civilians who had volunteered to get us to Korea.

When I tried to locate penicillin that I needed to treat some

guys, a Japanese civilian crewman escorted me to the “sick bay,” which turned out to be a large closet, filled as best I could determine (markings were in Japanese) only with anti-malarials and pain killers. When I tried to get one of the U.S. Navy destroyers escorting our convoy to send me some penicillin and other emergency medicine on a “high line,” I was told that they couldn’t leave their stations because we were being shadowed by Russian submarines.

When we got to Pohang-Dong, Republic of Korea, on July 18th, 1950, we went down cargo nets into Higgins boats, which made rendezvous and spun off the circle to hit the beach in waves. That seemed to me to be a U.S. Navy or U.S. Coast Guard type of landing. None of the many books that I have seen on the Korean War give me any help in learning a) who piloted the LSTs and b) who manned the Higgins boats.

To the Navy, which got me there safely, and the Air Force, which saved our hides more than once in those awful days in July 1950, this infantry medic says “thank you” for team work when it really counted.

The Texas Copies of Korea Reborn Were Distributed

In reference to the comment in the July-August 2014 edition, “From The Secretary,” p. 6, regarding what happened to the manuals given to the Texas VFW office, we (the local VFW chapter) received them through our VFW District Commander. I gave them to Korean War veterans at the VFW Post and also gave sufficient copies to the local KWVA chapter for their members.

Most of our VFW members have dual membership in both the VFW and KWVA.

Guadalupe Lopez, glopez2jr@hotmail.com
VFW & KWVA member, Killeen, Texas

About The Bronze Star

Reference the feedback (Sep-Oct 2014) from Raymond H. Herrington concerning the award of the Bronze Star Medal (Meritorious Service): Mr. Herrington contends that the Bronze Star Medal should not be awarded for meritorious service “for just being present.” As a holder of the Bronze Star (Meritorious Service) from Vietnam, I challenge his statement.

The BSM (MS) is not awarded for “just being anywhere.” It is more likely awarded for major responsibilities in support of combat operations. In 1969-1970 I served as the Class A Agent for Intelligence Funds and Property for a Military Intelligence Brigade. I was responsible for substantial amounts of cash in a dozen different currencies and intelligence property to support both Vietnamese Army and joint intelligence operations.

The job required extensive travel to such pleasure spots as DaNang, Natrang, and Canto. I make no claim for my BSM to be the equivalent of one awarded for bravery in combat. If I am asked about the award, I am quick to point out the differences. But, I am proud of the award and I believe it, and most other BSM(MS) awards, were well earned.

CWO2 Jack L. Kime, U.S. Army (Ret),
cwo9999@aol.com

Close, But No Cigar

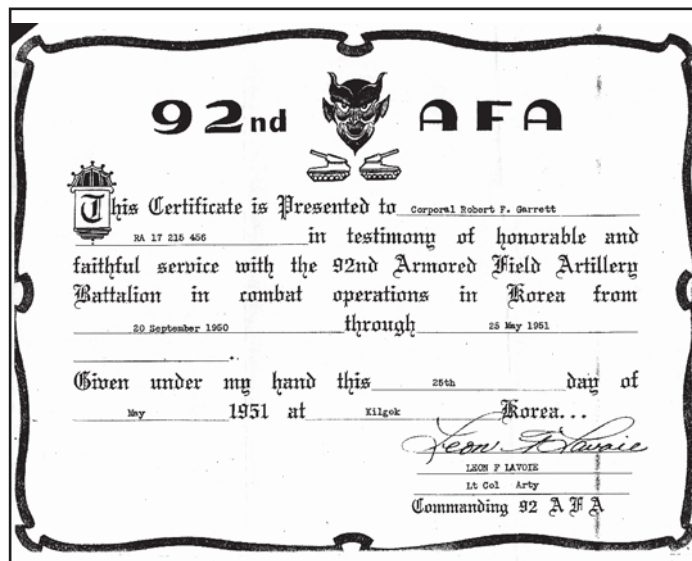
John Sonley was “close, but no cigar,” as he tried to identify

the “Red Devils” in his response to a question regarding their identity. (See “Feedback,” Sept/Oct 2014, p. 65.)

The “Red Devils” were the 92nd Armored Field Artillery. He was correct when he mentioned that we showed up all over the place. We were Corps artillery, serving where needed.

At different times we were with X Corps, IX Corps, and I Corps.

Robert Garrett, P.O. Box 362, Stuart, IA 50250



Go, Navy

I was pleased to read the article on p. 58 of the Sept.-Oct. issue re aircraft carrier operations. It brought back memories of my service aboard two Essex class carriers; ship’s crew on the Oriskany and t.d.a. (temporary duty assignment) with VC 11 aboard the Kearsarge, 1951-1955.

After boot camp and ‘A’ school in 1951, I went aboard Oriskany, which was in dry dock at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, being refitted with reinforced armor plates and gun tubs that made her too wide to sail through the Panama Canal. To get to our duty station as part of Task Force 77 off Korea, we had to sail around Cape Horn. After arriving in the Pacific we visited Chile and Peru and headed for Alameda Naval Station for repairs before going to Korea.

About half the aircraft aboard Oriskany were single engine prop planes, which were launched first. In the beginning launching was a learning experience, because sometimes one would lose sight of the launched plane as the ship went bow up and the plane dropped below the sight line for a few seconds. Experience taught the flight deck crew that this was normal and not a catastrophe waiting to happen. Most launches were accident free; recoveries could be a bit tricky.

Often, fewer planes returned than were launched earlier that day because of enemy fire, mechanical failure or some other happenstance. Loss of life was an almost daily occurrence. At times a pilot had trouble getting rid of all his bombs and had to try to “shake one loose” before returning to the carrier. Most times they were successful.

Once, we had a plane return with a “hung bomb” that wouldn’t

dislodge. The pilot radioed that he was low on fuel. The deck was cleared, and we waited. Unfortunately, when the plane hit the deck and the pilot feathered the engine, the ship was riding in rough seas and the bomb came off the lugs, bounced down the deck, armed and exploded under the plane. The pilot lost both legs, and several crew members were severely injured. They were air lifted to the nearest medical facility as the ship's crew worked into the night and had the deck repaired and ready for operations the next morning.

One didn't have time to reflect on injury or personal loss; the next day's launches and recoveries were the focus.

Every day I try to remember those injured or lost on a mission. They deserved a better fate. Thank you for including the article on the naval air operations of Task Force 77 in *The Graybeards*. You give relevance to the sacrifice of those young crew members and Navy pilots.

Eugene A. Smith, 158 Concord Rd. Apt E7
Billerica, MA 01821

There Were Gravestones In Korea

A writer stated in the Sept/Oct 2014 edition that he did not remember seeing any Korean graves with headstones. (See "Chinese In The Graveyards," p. 62.) I was in I Co., 8th Regt., 1st Cav. Div. near Munsan when the nearby photo of me was taken next to a headstone. That was in 1951.

James Haw, 11065 Colton Dr., Reno, NV 89521



James Haw standing next to headstone

Marne, Not Marine

I greatly enjoyed the latest issue of *The Graybeards*. Thank you for publishing our article on the Korean Medal of Honor recipients. (See the Sept/Oct 2014 edition, pp. 76-77.)

Please publish the following corrections/clarifications in the next issue: Page 77, MG Vandal is a MARNE (3rd US Infantry Division known as the Rock of the Marne!) veteran of Iraq, not a Marine veteran.

When I say Outpost International in the article, it is Outpost International of the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division, just in case readers get confused.

Monika Stoy, timmoni15@yahoo.com

Re Dan Blocker

I served an almost identical period in the Korean War as Dan Blocker, December 1951-August 1952. I served in the 180th Regt., 45th Inf. Div. (Oklahoma National Guard). I was aware that he was serving with the 179th Regiment. Our regiments served complementary roles. I was proud to be serving with Blocker.

I had replaced Staff Sergeant Charles Pryka as a forward observer for a 4.2 mortar company. I am 87 years old now and that period was always a memorable time for me.

Doug Beecroft, 24107 S. Agate Dr.
Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

We Never Crossed The Yalu

An article written by Don Keglovitz contains two factual errors. (See "Behind The Trucks...Forward To The Front," pp. 68-69, Sept./Oct. 2014) He says General MacArthur sent our forces across the Yalu River in pursuit of the fleeing North Korean Army. MacArthur was allowed to pursue the North Korean Army to the Yalu. The only American unit to actually reach the Yalu was the 7th Inf. Div.

In the next paragraph he states, "While aboard a ship bound for Korea we heard of this massacre on the frozen waters of the Yalu River." I believe he may have heard about the Marines and the 7th at the Chosen Reservoir. No massacre occurred at the Yalu.

He also makes reference to a daily beer ration. I very much doubt it was daily. The logistics alone would have been a problem. We got two beers a month and that did not last very long.

Floyd Wells, 32nd Inf. Regt. 7th Inf. Div.
fwells@cfl.rr.com

Did You Ever Wonder About The Folks Who Present The Ambassador For Peace Medals?

Here is a brief bio of Dr. Bok-Ryeol Rhyou, who presented the Peace Medals at the Middle Tennessee banquet in October 2014.

Prior to her arrival in Atlanta in February 2013, as a part of her diplomatic career, Rhyou has served as: the director of press relations for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA); political counselor for the Korean Embassies in Paris and Tunis, Tunisia; deputy director of European Affairs, MOFA; political secretary, Korean Embassy, Paris; and assistant director of European Affairs, MOFA.

She received her bachelor's degree in French Ewha Womans University in Seoul, and her master's and Ph.D. in French Literature from the University of Caen, France. From 1992 to 1997, Rhyou was a lecturer in Ewha Womans University. She is also the author of 15 research papers and several books.

Rhyou has received a Medal of Merit from the Korean President (2011) and was awarded a certificate from the Korean MOFA in 2004.

Source: <http://www.globalatlanta.com/event/5193/educational-dialogue-with-koreas-deputy-consul-general/>

Cardinal Leaves For Korea On Christmas Eve

After taking four months of infantry basic training I left the United States on Christmas Eve for Korea in 1952. I arrived near Inchon Korea on a Saturday night and we crawled down from the ship on the nets they used into an LST and headed into Inchon Beach. The weather was very cold, about 20° below zero. The first thing they gave us was a pair of thermal boots to keep our feet from freezing. Then they loaded us on a troop train that had the windows and doors shot out.

At nightfall we headed up through the mountains near the front lines in blocking. As soon as we arrived I was ordered to go on guard. At that time I didn't know anyone, and I was scared.

Later on we went on the front lines and I was on Outpost Ava. The winter was very cold and the summer was very hot, with a lot of rain. They kept us busy and we were all very tired.

The Chinese would talk to us over loud speakers. They would say, "G.I., go home to be with your love ones or die!" As a squad from the First Marine Division relieved us from our post, a Marine took my place on my 30 caliber machine gun; he asked if it was this bad all the time. I told him he would get used to it.

When it came time to eat we took turns going back from our outpost. We would sit about 10-15 feet apart, because the Chinese would fire several rounds in on us while we ate. That made it harder to enjoy our food, thinking that we might get killed any minute.

Going on patrols was the worst part.

Before we went out we had to blacken our face, hands and weapons. I also had to tape my dog tags together so they wouldn't make any noise. I wore a Rosary made out of string around my neck. As a point man on patrol, walking into a Chinese ambush gave me experiences that I could never explain.

The last patrol I was on was July 14, 1953. We walked into an ambush and made man-to-man contact with the Chinese. Officer Plagman called in for support and flares. After everything had died down, the officers and I heard a noise from the Chinese.

After it was over we went back in. Master Sgt. Frank Maguret told me I had lost one of our men. He told me to go back out and find him. I did, but I couldn't find him. I found his helmet with a bullet hole in it. So, I brought the helmet back and gave it to Sgt. Maguret.

Sgt. Maguret told me the officer had written a very good report on the action I took. I would love to have a copy of the report for my grandchildren. Yet, I haven't been able to locate one, for they say my records were burned in the fire at the National Personnel Records Center at St Louis, MO.

After we moved off the front lines, if we got up early on Sunday morning we could have fried eggs for breakfast before my long walk to mass.

Overall, my time in Korea was a terrible experience for me. I have had recurring nightmares of the patrols, but I am very proud for what I have done for our country and the freedom we have today.

As I look back, I feel it was truly a great honor serving in the Combat Infantry with 25th Infantry Div., 14th Regt., 2nd Bn., Easy Co.

Dale Cardinal, 2711 Peachtree Ter., Vincennes, IN 47591, 812-882-8024

Cardinal Was Right About The Patrols

Dale Cardinal referred to the "nightmares of patrols" around Outpost Ava. This excerpt from U.S. Marines In The Korean War, pp. 575-76, addresses that statement. (The editor has added the italics. The event took place on the night of 16-17 July, 1953.)

The third firefight of the night erupted just after midnight in the sector of the 7th Marines, when a 30-man patrol from Company A, 1st Battalion, was ambushed after it passed through a gate in the barbed wire northwest of Outpost Ava. Between 40 and 50 Chinese, supported by mortars, opened fire with grenades and small arms.

After a 15-minute exchange of fire in which as many as 18 Chinese may have been killed or wounded, the ambush party vanished into the darkness. As the Marines from Company A returned through the gate, a head count revealed four men missing. A recovery squad crossed and recrossed the area until dawn drew near but found only three bodies. One Marine from Company A remained missing; three had been killed and 21 wounded. The actions near Outpost Elko and in front of the Ava gate lent credence to Chinese propaganda.

Since the 1st Marine Division returned to the main line of resistance, Chinese loudspeakers had gone beyond the usual appeals to surrender, on at least one occasion warning of the fatal consequences of going on nighttime patrols. This threat, however, probably reflected a Chinese policy of maintaining overall military pressure after the resumption of truce talks rather than a specific effort to demoralize the Marines.

Source: http://www.marines.mil/Portals/59/Publications/U.S.%20Marines%20in%20the%20Korean%20War%20%20PCN%2010600000100_25.pdf

Check Your Mailing Label

Membership Number
First two characters reflect membership type

Membership Dues Expiration Date. The example shows a dues expiration date of November 1st, 2014

*****5 Digit
R012345 11/1/2015
JOHN J. JOHN
12345 MAIN ST
SMILEY NY 01234-5678
DELIVERY POINT BARCODE

Important: If barcode does not extend across the full label, then your zip code does not have 9 digits and your address is not complete according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

Check your name and address (Apt./Bldg/Lot No.). Notify the Membership Administrative Assistant at membership@kwva.org if you find an error. **If your zip code does not contain 9 digits (zip+4)**, your address is not correct according to the USPS. Contact your local Post Office for proper format.

No Peace On Christmas Day

During the winter of '52-'53, I was a Platoon Leader with "C" Co., 89th Tank Bn., 25th ID, supporting Turkish infantry on an outpost north west of Kumhwa and a few miles south of "Papa-san" Mountain. The attached pages are from the book I published in 2002 titled KOREA (Our War) ISBN 1-55369-746-4.

Dec. 25

"..... It sure didn't seem like Christmas. We had cold scrambled eggs at 7 a.m. this morning, and our Christmas dinner didn't get up here till about 3 o'clock!

Last night .Joe [Chinese]... was playing Christmas songs to us, and the girl kept coming over the speaker - "Hello, G.I. Hello, G.I., etc. - she is the "Voice of Peace," so she says! She tells us to lay down our arms and come over there, and we will be well fed, and have good medical care, and security, when it's over we will get home, etc. Also she says there's lots of girls over there too! Ha! I bet.

Last night she said let's have a truce for tomorrow, "You don't fire and we won't fire" - well today I was in an O.P. looking at the hill 800 yards away where I knew it came from - and I saw the darn loudspeaker, and it was playing, so I ran to the tank - fired 76mm gun - 3 rounds - after first round, music stopped "abruptly" and all that's left was a hole in the ground. Probably got a few enemies to boot!"

But, tonight I wonder if I was so smart - We pull guard and have no music to listen to or any of "Joe's" "bull" to laugh at (it made guard go faster - oh well?) At least Joe didn't throw back 1 round all day!!



Pete Cuthbert's tank crew on the hill at Kumhwa (L-R, standing) PFC Leon Lecker, CPL Charles Wallop, LT Pete Cuthbert (kneeling) CPL Jerry Williamson, PFC John Greco

For our dinner, we had turkey, dressing, celery, olives, pickles, cabbage, sweet potatoes, beans, ice cream, fruitcake, shrimp, nuts and candy. It wasn't too bad!!!"

On Christmas Day 1952, while we were upset about an early cold breakfast and not getting our holiday dinner until after 3 p.m., and while the enemy was trying to propagandize us and talk us into a "Truce" over the loudspeaker, things weren't as quiet all along the MLR.

About 20 miles to our west, at the T-Bone Hill complex, the enemy had a very different plan for the holiday. After a six-week lull the

Chinese chose Christmas to launch an attack on the outposts of the U.S. 2nd Division in that area. Although an attack was expected on the 23rd or 24th, the enemy achieved complete surprise by not firing any rounds prior to the operation. They just quietly infiltrated around midnight.

The 38th Regt., after some severe fighting in the trenches, finally repulsed the Chinese, who lost 11 counted KIA and an estimated 500 casualties when their reinforcing units were cut to pieces by supporting U.S. arty., mortar, and direct tank fire. On that Xmas morning, the 38th Regt. sustained 47 casualties, including 6 KIA.

And about 50 miles to our east, the NKPA also had a holiday surprise for our troops. Again, after a relatively quiet interval of patrols during the end of November and most of December, the Communists chose Christmas Day to make their next serious attack. On Hill 812, north of the Punch Bowl, K Co., 179th Inf. Regt., U.S. 45th Division, manned the outpost positions on the northern slopes of the hill.

Early on Xmas morning, the NKPD guns and mortars opened up and sent about 250 rounds on K Co. positions. A reinforced NKPA company attacked and was repulsed with hand-to-hand fighting. The enemy then launched three platoon-sized attacks and over 2,000 rounds of mixed mortar and arty, but the Americans held. K Co. suffered 25 casualties, including 5 KIA, on Xmas. The enemy sustained an estimated 36 casualties.

God knows why the enemy decided to attack those outposts instead of ours. We were very fortunate once again. Although we never heard a shot fired on that day

(except the ones we fired to eliminate the speaker), many GIs became involved in some fierce combat on Xmas Day. There can be nothing worse than to see a "buddy" killed, or to receive a notice back home that a loved one was KIA on the birthday of the Prince of Peace, especially when the war was becoming so unpopular and peace talks were taking place.

COL Peter W. Cuthbert, AUS (Ret), colpwc@optonline.net



Left: Turkish soldiers getting warm when Cuthbert's crew turned on tank engine in very cold weather. Right: The crew would drive tank into position at night, or when firing during the day



Welcome Aboard!

New Members of the Korean War Veterans Association

ALABAMA

R046170 JOHN M. COUNTS JR.

ALASKA

R046225 ROBERT J. ADAMS

ARIZONA

R046240 RICHARD N. CARROLL
R046190 PHILLIP C. GRIFFIN SR.
LR46193 WAYNE A. KONZ

CALIFORNIA

LR46199 DR. DOUGLAS N. CAIRNS
A046228 NICHOLAS F. GREENE
R046182 FRED KONG
R046178 HENRY J. MONTIJO
A046179 ROSEMARY S. MONTIJO
R046212 DELBERT R. MORRIS
R046185 DR. JOSEPH A. SALZ
LR46168 DR. JOSEPH E. SHAUGHNESSY
R046231 PAULINE Y. SMIDT

COLORADO

R046238 JOHN C. PATCHETT

CONNECTICUT

R046268 ROBERT W. HAGGERTY
FLORIDA

R046258 HOWARD G. BENNETT

R046237 ROBERT J. BROWN

R046246 ESTHER R. BRUNNER

LR46194 JOHN E. CAULEY

LR46177 THOMAS L. DENT

A046262 MICHAEL GREENE

A046263 MURRAY S. GREENE

A046189 JOSEPH A. MCCHRISTIAN

R046163 EDWIN D. O'SULLIVAN

A046270 LOUIS F. PICKETT

LR46244 JESSE D. SMALLWOOD

R046167 EDWARD L. SMITH

GEORGIA

R046160 STANLEY H. STRICKLAND

HAWAII

R046156 PAUL L. HUMMEL

R046218 JOSEPH PONTANILLA

ILLINOIS

R046204 JAMES R. ALLEN

R046223 ROBERT J. 'ROB' BAECKE

LR46248 DALE E. BROWN

R046229 GEORGE E. DIRKES

R046169 ANTHONY E. ENRIETTO

R046195 JIMMY H. 'JIM' JACOBS

R046256 RAYMOND A. LOOTENS

INDIANA

R046187 WILLIAM R. CORNELL

LR46172 WILLIAM E. GERVASIO

A046235 JOSEPH F. HALLORAN

R046188 MICHAEL N. JOYCE

A046234 WILLIAM J. 'BILL' ROWLING

R046192 ROBERT G. WILLIAMS

KANSAS

R046260 ROBERT L. MOONEYHAN

LOUISIANA

R046211 DONALD E. DIAS

MAINE

R046198 JOSEPH R. BOURGOIN

MARYLAND

R046232 DALE ALDRIDGE

R046267 ALFORD W. WOLF

MASSACHUSETTS

R046197 ANTHONY P. DAMIGELLA

A046241 MARGAUX K. FINAN

MICHIGAN

R046202 VICTOR M. LUKASIAK

R046165 EDGAR W. MAY

R046222 ANTHONY M. PEQUENO

R046247 DEWEY J. RAGAN

R046203 WARNER F. TALLMAN

R046201 J PHILLIP TRUMBULL

MINNESOTA

A046208 VIRGINIA M. BOLKCOM

R046209 RICK D. CULVER

R046206 C. E. 'BUD' VAN HATTEN

MISSOURI

R046161 ARCHIE P. 'JACK' FROST

LR46227 KENNETH E. HAYES

R046180 WILLIAM A. JEUDE

MONTANA

R046226 JOHN P. WINN

NEBRASKA

R046162 WILLIAM J. KRUSEMARK

NEVADA

R046166 MARVIN H. DIELMANN

LR46176 LARRY M. OSBORNE

LR46264 HERB L. SCHMALENBACH

NEW JERSEY

R046164 MURRAY S. ADLER

R046183 JOHN R. CASSILIANO

LR46159 VICTOR DIZENGOFF

R046200 MAURICE FASS

R046250 ANTHONY C. GIATONIO

R046184 RALPH R. GOODMAN

R046255 JAMISON MILLER

R046253 ROBERT L. REEVES

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NEW YORK

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R046266 JAMIE L. QUATTRO

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R046158 ANTHONY C. BELL

R046153 EVERETT HAMPTON

R046171 JOSEPH M. MULLEN

OHIO

R046157 ROBERT W. ABRAMS

R046221 LARRY HITCHINGS

R046265 JOHN L. KYLE

R046175 ROBERT D. PERKINS

A046257 KATY SCHOONMAKER

OKLAHOMA

R046215 WILLIAM F. HILL

R046210 THOMAS E. TRUMBLA

PENNSYLVANIA

LR46220 PAUL H. CUNNINGHAM

R046173 MARION R. DEPPEN

R046252 JOSEPH F. JENKINS

R046245 FRED KEISTER

RHODE ISLAND

R046219 AUGUSTINO T. DELFARNO

R046224 GERARD DIMEO

A046191 PHILLIP C. GRIFFIN

R046242 A DONALD MERCIER

R046251 JAMES E. MONROE

R046243 ROBERT A. SILVESTRE

SOUTH CAROLINA

R046154 CECIL D. BUCHANAN

SOUTH DAKOTA

LR46205 DONALD E. LOUDNER

TEXAS

R046174 EVERETT M. BATES

R046186 CAROLYN G. BOLDS

R046249 GEORGE E. HOLY

R046230 PERRY JEFFERIES

R046217 EMANUEL P. TRICOLI

UTAH

R046181 LLOYD G. BAKER

VIRGINIA

A046216 PETER CHEW

R046259 GEORGE W. LUTZ JR.

LR46214 DONALD E. NETSCHKE JR.

R046213 WILLIAM M. SWARTZ

WASHINGTON

R046236 JAMES L. DIZARD

R046233 NEIL E. LEITNER

WISCONSIN

R046261 DOUGLAS J. BRIGGS

R046155 EMIL G. GRATZ

R046196 DR. JACK W. REGISTER

R046207 DALE N. SCHLICHTING



.....of interest

We bring you items that might have escaped widespread notice, but that are of interest to readers nonetheless. In short, they don't fit anywhere else in the magazine, so we'll put them here.

VA Tips

Do you know that submitting a Disability Benefits Questionnaire (DBQ) with a disability compensation claim can help veterans get faster decisions on their claims? DBQs, filled out by a VA clinician or veteran's private medical provider, provide important medical information that VA rating specialists can use to more quickly make a decision.

Want to learn more about DBQs? Check out VBA's new video that highlights the basics and benefits of submitting DBQs with a disability compensation claim. Access it at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jx2Ako_TRQ&feature=youtu.be

Korean War Veterans Tribute Film "Finnigan's War" Is Now On YouTube For All To See...

This award-winning film by Conor Timmis (grandson of Korean War Silver Star recipient John Finnigan) is now on YouTube for all to see. It features narration by Mark Hamill (Star Wars). Interview highlights include members of the Korean War's all-black 2nd Rangers, Medal of Honor recipient and Holocaust survivor Tibor Rubin and the first Chinese American Marine Corps officer Maj. Kurt Chew-Een Lee.

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 _____

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.

- 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:
 - Said service was within Korea including territorial waters and airspace at any time, September 3, 1945 to Present, or
 - Said service was outside of Korea, June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955.
- 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.
- 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.

- Must not be eligible for Regular membership.
- 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

Page 2 of 2

The Man Behind The Chapter's Name

By Rego Barnett©

Many KWVA chapters are named after famous battles or well-known heroes in the Korean War. Ch 323, PO2 Taylor Morris, based in Cedar Rapids, IA, is an exception. It is named after a U.S. Navy veteran who is a rare surviving quadruple amputee. Morris is the grandson of chapter member Sid Morris.

Morris, an Explosive Ordnance Tech, was injured in Afghanistan in 2012 when he stepped on an IED. As a result, he lost both legs, his right hand, and most of his left arm. What he did not lose was his spirit—or his girl friend, Danielle Kelly.

The young man underwent a long recuperation period, with Danielle by his side. They danced at a wedding in Iowa only five months after he was wounded. The wedding marked the first time Taylor had been home since his injuries occurred.

Recently he came back to Cedar Rapids to visit at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum at Fort Dodge in Johnston, IA on September 13th, 2014. Was Danielle with him? You guessed it! She was there—along with a large group of his relatives, friends, and chapter members.

No wonder we have a KWVA chapter named after an Afghanistan War veteran.

Morris... lost both legs, his right hand, and most of his left arm. What he did not lose was his spirit—or his girl friend, Danielle Kelly.



Taylor Morris and Danielle Kelly



Alvira Morris, Taylor's grandmother (R), shares a moment with him and Danielle Kelly



Iowa Gold Star Military Museum Director Sherrie Colbert presents a quilt to Danielle Kelly



Taylor Morris (L), Lowell Lein of Military Order of the Purple Heart (C), and Danielle Kelly



Left, Sid Morris of Ch 323 speaks at Iowa museum and right, Some Ch 323 members sprinkled among the crowd at Iowa gathering



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.

ALABAMA
CARMEL D. OLIVE

ARIZONA
ROBERT L. WITTMAN

ARKANSAS
JOHN D. BROWN

CALIFORNIA
EUGENE A. DIXON
DAN HETHERINGTON
EUGENE D. HIGHLAND
GERALD A. MINTURN
DONALD W. 'HANK' NICOL
NORMAN H. PRINCE
WILLIAM K. WOODS

CONNECTICUT
ANTHONY ANGIOLILLO
S. RAY BARRY
WILLIAM A. BEEBE
SAUL BENMAOR
MELVIN T. BIDWELL
ADAM KURPAT
ROBERT F. MOYLAN
PETER SANFACON
PATRICK R. WALDRON

DELAWARE
DONALD C. AUKAMP

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
RONALD F. SMITH

FLORIDA
JAMES ABREU
ALLEN R. ALEXANDER
FRANK R. 'BOB' BALZER
JAMES D. CLINE
VIRGIL H. DUDUIT
ROBERT S. ENOS
DR. PETER FISHMAN
ROBERT KUMMINS
RUTH E. MAYES
DANIEL 'DAN' PESKI
CARLOS L. RAINWATER
WILLIAM RAY RAWLINGS
ROBERT B. 'BOB' ROCK
CHARLES H. SHANNON
RICHARD A. SKELTON SR.
RAYMOND L. TARWID
RONALD T. YORK

GEORGIA
MILTON K. ARROW
JOHN R. BECK
JOHN M. BESSZONG
HARRY BLUE
CHARLES E. BROOKS
ARMAND R. 'FRED' FREDETTE
ROBERT R. LONG SR.
LAWRENCE G. PECK
FRANCIS R. VARIAN

HAWAII
JAMES Y. KAMEHIRO

IDAHO
VELVEN L. ALBERT
MATTHEW B. BLALOCK SR.
BILL J. CHILES
RAYMOND HOHOLIK
HAROLD L. MATHES
LINTON D. 'LYNN' PARDONNET JR.
LEE G. ROACH
ROBERT B. ROBINSON
JOHN W. WORRELL

ILLINOIS
MARION D. BATEMAN
WILLIAM G. BUTCHART
RICHARD J. CAZEL
SAMUEL O. EALEY SR.
DONALD L. FRITCHER
JOSEPH G. GOMEZ
RICHARD J. 'RICHIE' LOPICCOLO
LESTER L. MILLER
RALPH J. RAISBECK
EDGAR A. RUTHERFORD
GEORGE W. RUTLEDGE
JERRY L. SEYMOUR

INDIANA
ANNA G. COLBURN
CARL N. EDWARDS
MELVIN M. FRANKE
ROBERT L. RIGGS

IOWA
RICHARD C. BLAKE
DUANE W. DATISMAN
PATRICK A. HAGNER
JOHN A. HAND
WAYLAND T. HAVIG
ROBERT F. HENDERSON
ROBERT M. HOWE
HERBERT C. JENS
JAY D. KELL
DOYLE I. MORRIS
VIRGIL R. NEMMERS
ORVAL VANLENGEN
KENNETH W. WINSTON

KANSAS
JOHN R. FLADUNG
WILLIAM E. LUX
DUANE A. SPIEKER

KENTUCKY
RONALD F. BELHASSEN
RAYMOND D. CLAYPOOLE
NORTON CUPP
DWIGHT A. ENGLAND
SARGE J. FAGAN
JOHN T. FITZGIBBON
WILLIAM H. FLANNERY
JAMES R. FOSTER

EARL GREENFIELD
BOBBY JOE HALL
RICHARD T. HILB
DONALD L. WARREN
RONALD WATKINS
NELSON K. WHITEKER

LOUISIANA
ERCEL E. BARLOW
RALPH J. BORDELON
ROBERT L. DREW
JAMES C. MYRICK

MAINE
KENNETH W. ATCHESON

MASSACHUSETTS
NORMAN M. AHLQUIST
ANITA M. ALENCE
RICHARD R. ALEXANDER
PAUL J. ARSENEAULT
GEORGE D. ARVANITIS
JOHN K. ATSA LIS
EDWARD AUSTRAS
DONALD V. BAKER
JOHN NORMAN BALL
MICHAEL A. BODINIZZO
ANTHONY J. DIPIETRO
FRANCIS D. DORIS
JOHN C. DOYLE
JULIUS ROSEN

MICHIGAN
DONALD E. CARLSON
JOHN D. ERM

MINNESOTA
JAMES A. 'JIM' GANSKE
GEORGE A. GEIST
MELVIN A. MOE
LELAND C. RAIN
MELVIN P. ROIGER
STANLEY R. STARKMAN
GORDON C. STIGEN

MISSISSIPPI
EARNEST T. WHITEHEAD

MISSOURI
DONALD L. CARLSON
TAG M. JENSEN
JOHN M. 'MAC' MCGUIRE
FRANKLIN D. RICE

NEVADA
JIM WILSON

NEW HAMPSHIRE
IVAN Q. EATON

NEW JERSEY
N. JOHN AMATO
THOMAS H. BRANCH
DOMINICK J. PUGLIESE
GENE L. 'LACK' SUPCHAK

NEW MEXICO
ANTHONY V. BIEBEL
MARTIN L. GOODWIN
JAY D. MILLER JR.

NEW YORK
JOHN BERLANDO
FRANK E. CLOVIS JR.
MURRAY DOBIN
JOHN J. HENRY
THOMAS NUZZO
DONALD J. RANKIN JR.
WILLIAM J. 'BILL' SEARS
RICHARD S. SMITH
OLIN M. TURNER

NORTH CAROLINA
RODNEY R. CLARK
CHARLES B. SOULES

NORTH DAKOTA
WILLIAM J. COUTTS
DAVE CROUCH
N. JEROME DAHLEN
MARVIN J. GLASS
EARL E. SELBERG

JAMES W. STAVROS
DONALD I. SWENSETH

OHIO
KENNETH R. DILLON
HAROLD J. FOSTER
GEORGE J. HOFFMAN
WILLIAM R. MILLER
CLARENCE H. MORGAN
DONALD J. NICHTER
JACK SMITH
CHARLES W. TACY

OKLAHOMA
WAYMAN E. SIMPSON
CARL R. SPARKS

OREGON
CHARLES J. ASCHER
GEORGE E. AVERY
SAM BADALAMENTI
PAUL G. BIERSCHWALE
RUSSLE B. BLAINE
HENRY O. BLESSING
DANIEL G. CANNON
JACK COOK
DUDLEY C. COX

PENNSYLVANIA
ROY S. DOAN
WARREN G. MCGINNIS
MORTON SCHACHER

RHODE ISLAND
EDWARD J. MACDONALD
DAVID C. MANN
ROLAND A. WATTS SR.

SOUTH CAROLINA
ELAINE M. BOMBARD

TENNESSEE
RUSSELL E. BAUGH
WILLIS JACKSON

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**

TEXAS

CARL P. MCCANN
IRVIN H. SIMPSEN

VIRGINIA

BILLIE E. JONES
PHILLIP B. TAGGART SR.

WEST VIRGINIA

BASIL D. BARNETTE

WISCONSIN

OTTO A. ANDREAE
ARTHUR P. BARTOL
EARL J. BRAUN
GUNARS BRIEDIS
DONALD R. BRZOWSKI
WILLIAM T. BURNS
MELVIN D. COHEN

JOHN H. DAMMAN
ALBERT R. DEVITO
PAUL B. DOWD
RAYMOND O. FINK
HERBERT FINKELSTEIN
RUSSELL A. FREDRICKSON
RODERICK B. FREIDEL
RICHARD K. FRIIS
ABRAHAM G. GROSS
NORMAN D. LASHLEY
NOEL C. LEHNER
DUWAYNE A. LESPERANCE
ERNEST A. MATSON
JAMES E. MCKENZIE
ROBERT F. MCKINLEY
CYRIL F. MESCHER

BILL MICHAELIS
ROBERT D. MUNRO
HYDE H. MURRAY
JENS O. NELSON
JAMES NEMMERS
DONALD F. OLLIE
HARVEY A. PAGELSDORF
LEROY L. PHILLIPS
WILLIAM RACH
ANTON F. RAJER
DAVID REDARD
WARREN R. REHFELDT
FREDERICK S. REICH
WILLIAM C. RINK
STEVE SATINA
WERNER J. SCHALOW

GERALD J. SHROBLE
WILLIAM G. SIEBERT
JERRY D. SIMENSON
ROGER H. SOLUM
RICHARD L. SORENSEN
EUGENE L. SUNIE
ROBERT T. VISINTAINER SR.
JOHN F. WEISHAN
PAUL K. WHITE
EDGAR R. WIEDERRICH
BRUCE A. WILBER SR.
THOMAS H. WYNN SR.
DELBERT E. ZIEGLER
WYOMING
KENNETH M. DOBY

Save That Jug With Your Lives If Necessary

By Joseph B. Cocke

The orders I received in a registered letter delivered to my office on a Tuesday afternoon in early September 1950 were blunt: Report to Ft. Hood, TX, next Monday morning.

I had served over 3-1/2 years during WWII, part of that time in the European Theater. Sometime after my discharge I joined the Inactive Reserve, thinking I would be recalled only in a dire emergency—after the Active Reserve, National Guard, and other units. Wrong! My stay at Ft. Hood was brief and my journey to Korea appeared to be top priority at Army headquarters.

Arriving at Incheon, I was introduced to the beginning of the coldest winter I have ever experienced. I thought the winters in Europe were cold! In retrospect, they seem to have been balmy.

I joined Team “C” of the 205th Signal Repair Company in Pyongyang in late October, 1950. There were five teams in our company, about 25-30 men on each team. The teams were assigned to different divisions or other units. Team “C” was based in a huge warehouse that could have easily served as a cold storage facility. A few days later one of our other teams joined us and we moved to a huge, unfinished apartment building.

A member of the team acquired a large quantity of apples. We ate apples until we were stuffed, but we still had a big supply on hand. Someone suggested we make some “applejack.”

One thing GIs soon learn after entering service is the ability to “scrounge.” So, out went the order: find a container for the applejack. Fortunately, one of our members found a five-gallon small neck glass jug. It was time to go to work.

Several of us pulled out our pocket knives and began cutting the apples into small pieces and stuffing them through the neck of the jug. After the jug was filled, we broke down the apples even more. We found a piece of steel rod and bent one end just enough so we could get it through the neck of the jug. Then we used a drill attached to the other end of the rod to break down the apple slices. We added some sugar obtained from our mess tent, found a stopper and a short piece of tubing, and we were in business.

Later, as the Chinese Army was approaching Pyongyang, it

was almost certain we would be heading south sometime soon. Knowing we had to protect that jug while traveling over some rough roads, we fashioned a crate and found some old rags as cushioning material. On the day of departure we placed the jug on one of the trucks with specific instructions to those on the truck to guard that jug with their lives, if necessary.

The Chinese came knocking at the north entrance to Pyongyang, so we left by the south entrance on November 27, 1950. We didn’t know our final destination or when we would get there. Anyone who traveled the road from Pyongyang to Seoul probably thought they were traveling over a plowed field. Plus, all the bridges had been destroyed.

Eventually, we arrived at Pusan and a couple more of our teams arrived several days later. No one mentioned the jug of applejack until New Year’s Eve. One of our company members said he knew where it was and went to retrieve it. When he returned, we saw a jug of the nastiest looking stuff one could ever lay their eyes on. It looked as though someone had dumped a quart of red clay in our applejack.

One of the men volunteered to be the official sampler of our product. We removed some gauze from a first aid kit, placed it over his canteen cup, and tilted the jug. After a small amount had been poured from the jug, everyone stood quietly waiting for the verdict from the official taster.

He took a small sip, then a bigger one. A big smile came over his face when he announced to the crowd, “Fellows, we’ve got some good stuff here.”

Needless to say, we had a nice New Year’s Eve party. Near our camp site was a small Korean store. A couple Soldiers decided to add a little spice to our party and paid a visit to the store. Their only purchase was a sack of dried squid, so tough it could have served as shoe leather.

AUTHOR’S NOTE: Within the past three years, I have made contact with four former members of the 205th Signal Service Company. One of them, T/Sgt. Gene Isom, aided in the initial stages of the applejack and has confirmed the events as written.

Joseph (Joe) B. Cocke, S/Sgt., 602 Downs Loop, Clemson, SC 29631

4th of July, 2014

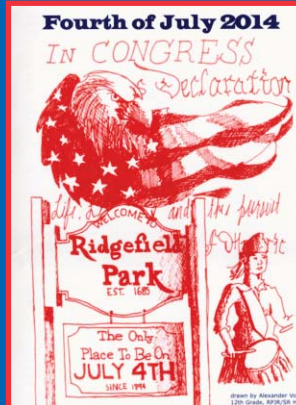
19 - GEN RAYMOND G. DAVIS [GA]

We again marched and rode in the Dunwoody (GA) Fourth of July Parade, which is the largest in Georgia.

Jim Conway, conatlanta@comcast.net



Urban Rump, Bob Hendershott, Bob Moore, Bob McCubbins, and Jim Conway of Ch 19 participate in 4th of July parade



The cover of the Ridgefield Park, NJ 4th of July brochure

The parade lasted two hours. When it ended, marchers enjoyed refreshments, including hot dogs, beer, and soda.

It was a great day to be Americans, patriots, and Korean War veterans. We hear quite often how patriotic and spirited Korean War veterans are in parades. We are forever proud.

Louis Quagliero, 142 Illinois Ave., Paterson, NJ 07503



Members of Ch 170 salute as our national anthem is played at Ridgefield Park, NJ parade

170 - TAEJON [NJ]

We participated in the annual Ridgefield Park, NJ 4th of July Parade. The community has celebrated Independence Day with a parade every year since 1894. It is one of the few places in the nation to do so in that many consecutive years.

Commander Kenneth Green led our contingent. Edward Frye and Pasquale Candela followed him with our banner.

Color Guard Captain Henry Ferrarini and Surgeon Thomas Boyle led the marchers for three miles. Ferrarini sang cadence throughout the route, to the enjoyment of the very large crowd. KWVA National Director George Bruzgis and three other members rode the route in two classic cars.



Edward Frye (L) and Pasquale Candela carry Ch 170's banner in the Ridgefield Park, NJ parade as members form behind them



Commander Ken Green of Ch 170 guards truck at Ridgefield, NJ

Kenneth Florio (L) and Frank Uvenio of Ch 170 at Ridgefield, NJ 4th of July celebration



264 - MT. DIABLO [CA]

We participated in the Concord, CA 4th of July Parade. More than 10,000 people watched the parade, which was followed by a picnic at Hillcrest Park. According to Stanley Grogan, "I have attended many of these events. Attendance has never been greater."

Our members rode in three Volkswagens furnished by Dirito Motors of Concord.

Army veterans and chapter member Ron Craven prepared donated food for everyone. Several area stores donated the food.

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



The gaily decorated judges' tent at the Concord, CA parade



Dave McDonald, Bob Hooker and Bob Witbeck of Ch 264 at 4th of July parade

Four Korean War veterans of Ch 264 at the 4th of July picnic in Concord, CA (L-R) Stan Grogan, Bob Hooker, Will Flaherty, and Bill Winstead



Bill Winstead, Bob Hooker, Don Sharp, Ron Craven and his family represent Ch 264 at 4th of July festivities in Concord, CA



289 - MOUNTAIN EMPIRE [TN]

Two walkers carried our chapter banner, and six members rode in three cars, the maximum number of vehicles allowed, in the Kingsport, TN parade.

Carol Shelton, cshelton37663@yahoo.com



Kingsport 4th of July Parade – Fred Himelwright, Dewey Harless, Bill Reed, Joe Cody, Arlen Hensley, Bob Shelton and Bill Porter

PLYMOUTH, MI

Paul Denski, Richard Raison, and Past POW Commander Robert Fletcher participated in the 4th of July Parade in Plymouth, MI. The three members are not affiliated with any chapter at this point, but Raison and Denski have signed up four new KWVA members and are attempting to start a local chapter in the Western Wayne-Washtenaw Counties (MI) area.

Denski rode in the actual 1953 Jeep he was assigned to in Korea while serving with the 21st Evac. Hosp. in 1954.

Denski was in charge of preparing and shipping surplus equipment to Japan after the cease fire. He was able to track down his vehicle, which was still stored in Sasebo, Japan in 1997. His bid was accepted by the DoD and the vehicle was shipped to Mobile, AL, where he picked it up and brought it back to Michigan for restoration.



Getting ready to participate in the 4th of July Parade in Plymouth, MI are KWVA at-large members Paul Denski, Richard Raison, and Past POW Commander Robert Fletcher (L-R). Denski is standing in front of his jeep. Fowler is next to Schultz's jeep

A second jeep in the parade was a 1952 Jeep used in WWII and owned by civilian Carl Schultz, Jr. of Plymouth. Schultz donates the use of the vehicles to VSOs for parades, etc. Riding with Denski and Raison were KWVA at-large members Louis Barretta and Harold McCourt.

Richard H. Raison, 51167 Northview Plymouth, MI 48170, 734-459-0872

APPLICATION FOR KOREA REVISIT TOURS

(UPDATE 03/07/13)

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 \$450.00 deposit / service-fee per person (check, money order or Credit Card) to Military Historical Tours. Payment in full is required for applications submitted within sixty days of tour departure.

Credit Card Authorization

I authorize **Military Historical Tours** by my signature above to charge my Visa, Master Card or Amex **\$450.00** Per Person,

The amount of **\$450.00** 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
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."

Expanded Eligibility

For the 60th anniversaries (2010-13) there will be more quotas available. In addition, those who have been on a Revisit prior to 2006 can apply to return again (Call MHT for more details). Widows and family members of deceased veterans or those unable to travel are also eligible for the Revisit as Veteran Representatives.

Benefits & Schedule

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.

Accommodations are based on (2) persons per room, if you want your own hotel room you may at your own expense. All of the above items need to be requested in writing.

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, National Cemetery.

Typical Korea Revisit Itinerary:

Day 1: Fly to Korea

Day 2: Arrival day Incheon Airport, Korea check into Seoul Hotel.

Day 3: Wreath Laying at United Nations Monuments.

Day 4: Korean War Commemoration Ceremonies.

Day 5: Panmunjom, DMZ Thank You Banquet in the evening.

Day 6: War Memorial Museum tour, Korean culture show.

Day 7: Departure

Sundry Notes

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. Hospitalization, Evacuation and Trip Cancellation 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. Transportation costs to and from Korea will be borne by each person who participates in the program. The Korean government is now subsidizing airfare for persons traveling with the group administered by MHT.
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 service fee of \$450.00 per person is still required for the insurance and administration.

A Job That Had To Be Done

By Allen Kreymer

South China Sea, 1953

Yokota Air Base, Japan. We had heard rumors of a missing plane, but had no idea it was one of the 96th Bomb Wing from next door. By the end of the day it was confirmed that the four-engine B-50 bomber was down in the South China Sea, with all hands lost.

My good friend and I were lounging around the barracks doing nothing except telling reruns of war stories when an officer from our squadron entered and informed us we had just volunteered for the job of helping pack and ship the effects of the missing crew from next door. Looking back on it, I knew I would have volunteered anyway, because someone had to do it, but I had no idea of the effect it would have on me.

We began by folding the uniforms to go into the duffel bags, a special way of loading the bags so the uniform didn't come out all wrinkled. This bothered me some, as when the bags got home the wrinkles wouldn't count anyhow. Then came the small souvenir articles of no particular consideration, but all leaping out at me, trying to identify and bring me in contact with this guy I had never met.

The trip they were on must have been intended for several days, as there was no ditty bag, a small bag for shaving gear,

toothbrush, and such. That would have just been one more thing for the next of kin to deal with.

I didn't like this next of kin bit. This bag was going to real people: a girl friend, a wife, or a mother, who would have to deal with these contents.

When we started, we had agreed to do a thorough search for anything that might betray this fallen hero as being other than the good boy friend or husband away from home. There was none found, and that satisfied my suspicious nature.

Next were two letters addressed to ladies with the same last name: maybe a wife, a mother, or a sister. They went into the bag quickly, without asking, as I am sure the regulation would have required they be mailed, as they were sealed, stamped and ready to go. My thinking was it was going to be traumatic enough back home receiving the guy's bag without these letters arriving three weeks later.

Anyhow, the bags were all sealed and the paperwork was done and ready for shipping, leaving two burned out kids who had just been to the school of hard knocks. It was a real learning experience—just a job that needed to be done.

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Audience at State College of Florida listens to Ch 199 Commander "Skip" Hannon. See 'Tell America' on page 29.