

THE WARRIOR

Volume 22- Issue 1

JANUARY, 2012

Formed - February 1991



By Lee & Charlotte Henderson, Publishers / Editors

Our Mission as Editors of the Warrior, is to Enlighten the Minds and Hearts of its Members!

TLSC CHRISTMAS PARTY....

As always, our annual Christmas party was a wonderful success. Our hostesses, Billie Blair and Betty Grochoske, did a superb job of location and food selection. The Monument Inn did a great job of providing us with a cozy place to meet and enjoy each others company. There was a good turn out of members, friends and family members.



OUR HOSTESSES:

BILLIE BLAIR – BETTY
GROCHOSKE

There was a gift exchange which made the Christmas spirit come alive. Everyone that brought a gift was included in the exchange. Lots of fun!!!

The entertainment was provided by the Harbor Lights Choir

CHRISTMAS PARTY @ V.A. HOSPITAL

On Friday, December 9th at 6:30, The Korean Presbyterian Church sponsored the Annual Christmas Party for the patients in the VA Hospital. The TLSC Color Guard opened the program by posting the colors. Everyone was then treated to the Star Spangled Banner and Korean National Anthem performed by the Children's Choir.



Master Song's TaeKwonDo students performed for the audience again this year. The little ones are so cute!

Through out the evening, the MC, John Y. Jo, would call out ticket numbers, for the guests to receive presents. As a parting gift, all the veteran's, patients included, received a blanket from the Korean Central Presbyterian Church of Houston.

KOREAN WAR EXPERIENCE

MAX JOHNSON

My career began in high school with me serving 3 years in ROTC. After high school, I joined ROTC in college, where I learned that my high school ROTC time bumped me up to Sophomore status with three years experience. I graduated with a BSME-IE degree and a 2nd Lieutenant rank in June, 1950. Due to the GI Bill influx of students, the June, 1950 group of graduating engineers across the country was the largest in history. I was a 2nd Lieutenant reservist with no active duty time, and no real job. KOREA became the focus of my life.

I was called into active duty on Nov. 24th, to Camp Rucker, Alabama. There was a problem. The camp was not located on any map, the reserve unit didn't know where it was, nor did the recruiting office. Finally a train attendant searched through an old, molded book that showed all the military installations of WWII. It is between Enterprise and Ozark, Alabama. In January, 1951, we were transferred to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, which was another WWII temporary camp. We left Alabama in 59 degree weather and arrived in Camp McCoy in minus 23 degree weather; wearing our southern region gear. We were ordered to begin conditioning hikes the next morning, still wearing southern region gear. Enter frostbite and frozen digits. WE WERE BEING READIED FOR KOREA. We continued the basic training, outside if minus 15 degrees or warmer, inside if minus 16 degrees or colder.

One of my in addition to duties at Camp McCoy was Mess Officer. Regulations were not exactly followed and I was in a lot of trouble, so I signed up for Mess Officers' training school. I was offered an opportunity to go to Food Service Supervisor over all mess halls in the facility, Fort Sheridan. I said "yes". I went to pick up my transfer orders and was told my CO had picked them up. STRANGE. Contacted my CO and was told that there had been a change. Orders superceding my transfer to Fort Sheridan were for me to be assigned to SCARWAF in Japan. Fellow officers said I would love this; Japan, since MacArthur's rehabilitation plan was great duty and working with the Air Force would be a breeze. DID NOTICE THAN NONE OF THEM VOLUNTEERED TO TAKE MY PLACE.

I got a short leave, proceeded to Camp Stoneman, CA, was processed and flew out of Edwards Air Force Base to Oahu (13 1/2 hours) to Wake (11 hrs) to Haneda Airport in Tokyo (10 1/2 hrs.) My Japan tour of duty was short. I was processed, sent by train to ASHIYA and flown to Korea on the "milk run", a multi-stop flight making stops from our Northern front to Pusan. I arrived in Korea fully "combat-ready" in my dress "pink" uniform; hadn't seen my luggage since California. Those who shared the milk-run flight were not impressed; including one "grunged-out major, equipped with hand gun, grenades and a carbine, who, it turned out, was my ROTC Battalion Commander at LSU.

I joined the 822nd Engineers at Pusan (K I) in April, 1951. We build Air Strips for the Air Force, Marines and Navy from Pusan to as far North as it was safe for them to land; and we build "chopper" landing pads for MASH units and the base Peace camp. Pusan was fairly quiet. In Wonju, the waters from the monsoons farther North, almost totaled our riverside air strip, washing away ammo, bombs, drums of asphalt and part of the strip. Chunchon was our most MASH related strip; flying MASH treated wounded, both ours and the enemies, back to Field hospitals. Kimpo was the most active and Seoul, from where I rotated out, had the greatest variety of uses.

Korea is a lumpy country. No real high mountains and very little flat land. Our strips had to be constructed alongside rivers and paved with PSP or inverted penetration macadam. The chopper pads were all PSP and were necessary because the daily activity would make them mushy. The choppers would land for the night and freeze into the mush, making morning take-offs very difficult or impossible.

PEACE NEGOTIATIONS are very protocol conscious. On-time arrival was essential. We got a call from the base Peace camp that their choppers were frozen in. NOT GOOD. We built PSP pads for them. Turned out to be very good duty. The rank of these Panmunjam peace negotiators commanded better-than-usual chow; ie..fresh vegetables and milk. While building the pads, we were allowed to have the same food. Needless to say these pads required frequent inspections.

Significant memories of my time in Korea are the total destruction of some towns, the hordes of orphans, who regardless of where you were, would 'pop-up' whenever any kind of food was in sight; the evidence of oriental justice; ie, the body hanging from a long rope from a bombed-out Han River bridge as a warning to collaborators or a body laying across the gasoline line from Inchon to Kimpo to warn against trying to steal gasoline or the electric shock treatment given those who stole recreation equipment from the Air Force. I remember the ingenuity and determination of those without anything slipping through barbed wire fences and past guards to steal whole squad tent and the winterizing lumber or the guy who put a 55 gallon drum of diesel fuel on his A-Frame and carried it over the hill from our fuel dump. During my stay, we had air superiority, so we had very little threat of air attack. Our greatest danger was the locals we hired as laborers. We could not tell the difference between North and South Koreans. Some who worked for us during the day, knowing our location and activities, were the guerillas who fired on our work crews at night.

I completed my tour and rotated out of Korea in May, 1952. I was given 6 days R&R in Tokyo and was to fly home. Weather intervened. Flights were backed up for 11 days, so I asked for an option. I was told that I could board a ship in Yokosuka for an 11 day voyage to San Francisco. The ship had 125 dependents on-board heading for Okinawa; three days in the wrong direction. I was now to enjoy a 17 day cruise. The Golden Gate Bridge and the red glow of the California sunset beneath it as we sailed into San Francisco Bay, was Beautiful!!

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



Jeanette Young and family at Nat Young's grave

The annual laying of the wreaths at the **Houston National Cemetery** was held this year on **Saturday, December 10, 2011, at 11 AM.**



Our members, will make sure that the deceased members of TLSC receive a wreath, plus as many others as possible. Our goal was to double the amount of wreaths purchased last year. The donations through the **TLSC has reached \$3,490.62**, and counting, more than twice the number from last year. Our veterans have hearts of gold. The goal of the WAA was to decorate the 25,000 plus graves at the cemetery, they were able to cover over 31,000 graves.

REMEMBERING OUR VETERENS

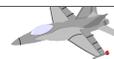
DONATIONS TO WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Ammerman, Mary (in memory of Dan Ammerman)
 Ballard, Carlos & Martha
 Bartee, Rosey (in memory of her father, Tom Campion)
 Belken, Donald
 Bighouse, Bob
 Blair, Buddy
 Carnero, Manny
 Cathers, Ernest
 Clark, Mark
 Conte, Thomas
 Correa, Joe
 Coussins, Judge Charles
 Daumann, Hank
 Dean, Charles Owen
 Duncan, Jim
 Ehrlund, Chuck
 Friedman, Abraham
 Gambino, Sal
 Green, Richard
 Habinak, Al
 Habinak, Ann
 Halferty, Dick
 Hanks, Bob</p> | <p>Hong Sop Won
 Hudson, Ronald
 Laird, Grace (in memory of Charles Laird)
 Lee, Johnney
 Levine, Janice (In memory of Jack Levine)
 Johnson, Max
 Juergens, Gene
 Malloy, Ted
 McManners, Dorothy (in memory of Arthur McManners)
 Middlebrook, Beverley (in memory of Marvin Treadwell)
 Mitchell, Bob
 Mixon, Barbara
 Morris, Roger C.
 Mouton, Danford
 Mulrooney, Maureen (in memory of Joe Mulrooney)
 Napp, Don (In memory of Mickey Spencer)
 Nathan, Shirley (in memory of Howard Nathan)
 Otis, Robert</p> | <p>Porter, Breck
 Priger, Ray
 Ramsey, Jeff
 Ramsey, Rod
 Robinson, Forrest
 Sanford, R. B.
 Shannon, Debbi (in honor of her dad - Lee Henderson)
 Singleton, C. E.
 Spencer, Milly (in memory of Mickey Spencer)
 Spring Branch VFW, Post 8790
 Stevens, Robert & Judy
 Stone, Stoney
 Susca, Vito
 Telling, Wayne
 Velasco, Frances & David
 Watkins, James O.
 Williams, Bridget, (In memory of John Williams)
 Williams, Lester
 Young, Jeanette (in memory of Nathan Young)</p> |
|--|--|--|

The Editors of the *Warrior* have tried to print all the names of donors to Wreaths Across America. Sometimes mistakes happen and names could be left off. If you name was omitted, please contact us: Lee or Charlotte Henderson at bhenderson49@comcast.net. or 5631 Berry Creek Dr., Houston, Tx., 77017.

Thank you!!

The **Michael DeBakey VA Medical Center** recently launched its own page on Facebook, the world's largest social networking site. Veterans are encouraged to use the new site but are reminded not to post personally identifiable information, personal health information, specific health questions or appointment information. There is a secure online tool for this: www.myhealth.va.gov.



“WARRIOR DONATIONS” Honor Roll for “July 2011 to July 2012”

The editors would like to acknowledge and thank the following members and patrons of the *Warrior* who have contributed in helping to defray some of the cost of printing and mailing. As you know, we now have the *Warrior* on line for those with computers, but the Post Office has informed us that the cost of mailing has gone up, so we still need your help. We thank you for your generous support and contributions. **We will be using the funds received to defray the costs of the newsletter. The following names will be published monthly through the July 2012 issue. Be sure and have your name included. Fill in the sponsor card, seen below, or included in your newsletter, (those that are mailed) and return with your contribution. Thanks: Your editors: Lee & Charlotte Henderson**

Arnwine, Cleve
Ballard, Martha
Bazan, George
Belken, Donald
Brast, Hazel
Brooks, Chet
Cathers, Ernest
Chavez, Jimmy
Cipriano, Ray
Conrad, George
Conte, Tom
Correa, Joseph
Cortez, Oscar
Coussons, Charles
Daumann, Hank
DiBello, Sam
Dilick, Michael
Dickerson, Byron
Duncan, Jim
Fitzmorris, Tom

Fuhrman, Leslie
Gambino, Sal
Glass, Joe
Hinojosa, Roberto
Hollan, Albert
Johnson, Max
Johnson, Ruth
Krebs, Glenn
Laird, Grace L.
Lawrence, D. F.
Lee, Johnney
Lynch, Juanita B.
Malloy, Ted*
McManners, Doroth
Middlebrooks,
Butch & Beverly
Mixon, Tom
Morris, Roger
Munguia, Tony
Napp, Don

Nathan, Shirley
Nittsche, Herbert
Parker, James L.
Pedraza, John
Petrey, Clifford
Priger, Ray
Ramsey, Rod
Richardson, Jimmy
Romano, Joseph
Singleton, Carl E.
Sloane, Jane
Smith, Orin
Urquhart, Jennifer
USMC D-2-7
Velasco, Frances
Won, Hong Sop



* - Indicates more than one donation

An elderly gentleman....

Had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, “Your hearing is perfect...Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.”

The gentleman replied, “Oh, I haven’t told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I’ve changed my will three times!”

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: “Slim, I’m 83 years old now and I’m just full of aches and pains. I know you’re about my age. How do you feel?”

Slim says, “I feel just like a newborn baby.”

“Really? Like a newborn baby?”

“Yep, No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants.”

A senior citizen said to his eighty-year old buddy:

“So I hear you’re getting married?” “Yep!” “Do I know her?” “Nope!”

“This woman, is she good looking?” “Not really.” “Is she a good cook?”

“Naw, she can’t cook too well.” “Does she have lots of money?” Nope!

Poor as a church mouse.” “Well, then, is she good in bed?” “I don’t

know.” “Why in the world do you want to marry her then?” “Because she can still drive!”



In Memory of —

This Space is for you to Remember someone you Care for.

All Korea POW/MIA’s
Don C. Faith (TC)
Charles W. Laird
Arthur McManners
For All Who GAVE
Pat Canny
John J. O’Flynn
Roy Russell
John Christensen
Bill Cockyell
Al Bradshaw

Howard Nathan
Story Sloane, Jr.
Marvin Treadwell
Sam Urquhart
Fred K. Fox (WWII)

Texas Lone Star Chapter – KWV
P. O. Box 802541—Houston, TX 77280-2541

“Warrior” Sponsor
I want to be a sponsor of the Warrior for
July 2011-July 2012

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Member number: _____

Membership

TIME TO RENEW

Dues are \$25.00 - Life Membership \$200.00 – Send renewal to TLSC/KWV – P O Box 802541 – Houston TX 77280-2541.

The following memberships are due January 1, 2012

RENEWALS

Walter Ballard
Dick Halferty
Don Napp

Josh Flynn
Danford Mouton

THANK YOU

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFERS

VOTE OF THANKS

The Texas Lone Star Chapter, Korean War Veterans, wish to thank the following **Korean Community Organizations** for their constant and loyal support of our activities. We very much appreciate their including us in the various celebrations and events that they sponsor throughout the year, especially the veterans' events. We thank the **Korean American Association of Houston**, the **Korean Central Presbyterian Church**, the **Republic of Korea War Veterans Association**, the **Republic of Korea Marine Corps Veterans Association** and **Consul General Yunsoo Cho**.

We veterans of the Korean War send you all **SINCERE THANKS** and **BEST WISHES** for a **HAPPY** and **BLESSED NEW YEAR**.

Chapter & Other Events

JANUARY 2012



1st - NEW YEAR'S DAY

5th - Board Meeting - 4:30 pm

19th - General Meeting 6:00 pm

FEBRUARY

2nd - Board Meeting - 4:30 pm

12th - Lincoln's Birthday

14th - Valentines Day

16th - General Meeting 6:00 pm

20th - Presidents Day

22nd - ASH WEDNESDAY

22nd - Washington's Birthday

QUARTERMASTER

We are still in need of a Quartermaster. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact the president, Hank Daumann. If you are interested in running for office, begin thinking about it, elections are in March, 2012.

Fifty-one Years ago, Herman James, a North Carolina mountain man, was drafted by the Army. On his first day in basic training, the Army issued him a comb. That afternoon the Army barber sheared off all his hair. On his second day, the Army issued Herman a toothbrush. That afternoon the Army dentist yanked seven of his teeth. On the third day, the Army issued him a jock strap. The Army has been looking for Herman for 51 years.

JERRY WEBER AWARDS

It is time again to think about nominating deserving members for the Jerry Weber award. Information about this great award can be found on the web-site: kwvahouston.org. Please visit this site to learn about it and members who have been awarded it in the past. The nominating page can be downloaded and filed in with a deserving members name and reason for the nomination, then mailed in.

PLEASE NOMINATE YOUR CHOICE.

WINNERS IN THE PAST:

2007

Jim Duncan
Sal Gambino
Henry Martinez
Bob Mitchell
Lee & Charlotte Henderson

2008

John Jackson
Howard Nathan
Story Sloan

2009

Carlos Ballard
Bob Hanks
Charles Laird

2010

Buddy Blair
Don Napp

2011

Travis Riley
Z.E. "Stoney"
Stone



JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S

Flossie Heard 1/2	Walter H. Ballard . . 1/11	Charles Smith 1/18	Jose Hinojosa 1/25
Richard Beard 1/3	Fay Talghader 1/14	Stoney Stone 1/18	Barbara Sims 1/27
Carl Sutton 1/3	Jessie Weeks 1/22	Jeanette Young 1/19	Joel Ybarra 1/28
Dorothy Mitchell 1/4	Don Hester 1/16	Ruby Stovall 1/19	James Ashby 1/28
Dorothy McManners . . 1/6	Sam Cardenas 1/17	Johnnie Sicola 1/20	Joseph Preola 1/28
Nelda Napp 1/6	Ricardo Cortez 1/17	George Crye 1/22	Manny Carnero 1/30
Peter Wallace 1/7	Betty Estill 1/17	James Watkins 1/22	Ruby Ehrlund 3/30
Michael Dilick 1/8	Wilma Watkins 1/17	Jessie Harper 1/23	Georgia Jackson 3/31
Allie Burton 1/11	Dixie Hanks 1/18	Albert Hollan 1/24	Jane Sloane 3/31

JANUARY ANNIVERSARY'S

<u>MEMBER & SPOUSE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEMBER & SPOUSE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Roberto & Emma Hinojosa	1/2	<u>Peter & Katsuko Wallace</u>	<u>.60 yrs . . 1/11/1952</u>
<u>George & Margaret Bazan</u>	<u>60 yrs 1/20/1952</u>	Stoney & Evelyn Stone	1/20
<u>Bob & Dorothy Mitchell</u>	<u>57 yrs. 1/23/1955</u>	<u>Don & Nelda Napp</u>	<u>61 yrs . . 1/28/1951</u>
Don and Ann Hester	1/29	Richard & Dottie Heard	1/30

Congratulations to our members celebrating their 50th + Anniversary's'!!

Correspondence:

Dear KWVA,

From the bottom of my heart I want to thank you for your service at Tom's Burial. All the kind words of comfort you gave to me and my family will remain with me always.

Tom was a proud American and Veteran. He was oh so proud of his membership in the KWVA. He will be dearly missed.

Thank you all again for everything.

Sincerely, Mary Beth Fitzmorris

Clean can be funny....

One day, a man came home and was greeted by his wife dressed in a very Sexy nightie. "Tie me up," she purred, "and you can do anything you want." So he tied her up and went golfing.

Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right, and the other is a husband.

KOREA WAR MIA RETURNS

The family of a young Army medic who died in the Korean War gave him a hometown military burial.

The remains of Pfc. Jimmie Jimenez Gaitan arrived recently at San Antonio International Airport, where he was met by relatives.

He was taken prisoner Feb. 13, 1951, and later named on a "death list" released by the North Koreans. He was one of more than 4,000 U.S. and United Nations troops whose skeletal remains were returned in 1954 in exchange for repatriation of some 13,000 North Korean and Chinese troops in an initiative known as "Operation Glory."

Gaitain was identified through dental records, including the No. 18 tooth missing from his jaw, and chest x-rays matching dimensions of ribs and clavicle.

Gaitain's remains long were kept in a vault marked "unknown" at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu.

The Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office in Washington, estimates more than 8,000 Americans remain missing from the Korean War.

"It is very important for families of the unaccounted to not give up hope."

KEEPING IN TOUCH - SICK BAY

Patty Gambino will have surgery on her shoulder on Jan. 11th. *We all hope and pray that this will be the last surgery for you.*

DIRECTOR of HOUSTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

The former director of the Houston National Cemetery, Arleen Ocasio, has requested and received a transfer to another position in the National Cemeteries Administration in Washington, D.C. Ocasio had served as director of the VA cemetery in Houston since last year.

Local veterans and volunteer groups had accused Ocasio and other VA officials of banning the use of religious speech including the words Jesus and God - during services at the cemetery. The VA denied the allegations of censorship.

Ocasio's departure is for the best, said Cheryl Whitfield, founder of Houston National Memorial Ladies, one of the volunteer groups that sued the cemetery. "I feel we're going to return a lot of the dignity and honor back to the cemetery, and I'm hoping that with all this, the veterans who lie there will get everything that they deserve," Whitfield said.

"I'm looking forward to getting this behind us," she said. "That was a long several months. But, the Memorial Ladies and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we stood up for what we believe in, and I'll always be proud of that. We're not going to be bullied, and if we are, we're going to make some more noise."

Another new journey begins. Let's hope it is in the right direction.

HONOR FLIGHT

Planning is under way now for at least half a dozen flights in 2012 by Honor Flight Columbus, a nonprofit organization dedicated to transporting senior veterans to see their memorials. Priority is given to World War II veterans, but the organization is also accepting applications from Korean War Veterans this year, said Bobbi Richards, a member of Honor Flight Columbus' board of directors.

Richards said people can request an application directly from the organization at (614)284-4987 or www.honorflightcolumbus.org.

Veterans must provide their own way to Columbus, but from the time they arrive at the airport, to the time they return, the trip is funded by Honor Flight, Richards said. Veterans are assigned to specially trained guardians to assist them throughout the day.

If a veteran is unable to walk long distances, a wheelchair will be provided. Oxygen is also provided to those who need it. "We do everything that we can to overcome as many barriers to them going on the trip as possible," Richards said.

In addition to the World War II site, the trip also includes stops at the changing of the guard at Arlington National Cemetery, the Korean War Veterans Memorial and the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial

KOREAN WAR EXPERIENCES PROGRAM

By Bob Mitchell

For the benefit of our newest members, we have a program that has been in operation for a few years now where Chapter members talk about their Korean War experiences at one of our General Meetings. The talks are videotaped, and copies go to the speaker, to our Chapter records, to our webmaster and one copy goes to the National Korean War Museum for their permanent archives. The webmaster posts the video on our Chapter website, where friends and relatives can view it, no matter where they are. If you go to our website at kwvahouston.org you can see those already there. To date, there are over 30 videos posted. You should consider this opportunity to tell your story for the benefit of you families. Four of those posted are of members now deceased and their families were very happy to have this memento of them to enjoy

To sign up for the program, contact Don Napp at 281-443-1809 or at DONALD.NAPP51@gmail.com. Don will sign you up and tell you how the program works and how to prepare for it. For all you other members who have not yet done so, there is plenty of room for you as well. Do it today. You won't regret it.

This program will give your children and grandchildren a visual account and written account, (as most of you will need to write your thoughts down) of your activities during the war. This is something everyone should have to pass on to their family.

The editor requests a copy of your experience to put in the newsletter. Thank You!!!

OFFICERS

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03/13	Forrest Robinson	832-259-3977
03/12	Z.E. (Stoney) Stone	281-375-7675
03/12	Dick Halferty	832-660-8286
	Carlos Ballard - Chairman of the Board	

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 1998-99 - "Stoney" Stone
 1999-00 - Sal Gambino
 2000-01 - Howard Nathan
 2001-02 - Bob Mitchell
 2002-03 - Carlos Ballard
 2003-04 - Don Napp
 2004-05 - Charlie Ehrlund
 2005-07 - Buddy Blair
 2007-08 - Charlie Ehrlund
 2008-09 - Carlos Ballard
 2009-11 - Bob Bighouse

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KOREAN COMMUNITY LIAISON	Johnney Lee
VA CEMETERY	"Stoney" Stone / John Jackson
VA HOSPITAL	Buddy Blair
VETERANS COALITION	Jim Duncan, Stoney Stone
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