THE WARRIOR

Volume 18 - Issue 7

JULY 2008

Chapter 76, Houston, Texas. Chartered - 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!

FEDERAL CHARTER TO THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION

After many years of trying, the National KWVA has succeeded in getting us officially recognized by our Government. On June 17th, U. S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD), House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) and U.S. Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX) hailed House passage of legislation they sponsored to grant a Federal Charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, one of the few veterans' service organizations of its size that has not been recognized with the prestigious classification. The bill, which has already passed the Senate, will now be sent to the President

"Korean War veterans deserve the same official recognition for their struggles and sacrifices on behalf of freedom that other veterans enjoy," said Majority Leader Steny Hoyer. "Granting this Federal Charter delivers a long overdue honor to the 5.7 million Americans who fought and served during the Korean War. It is but a small expression of this nation's eternal appreciation for the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of our Korean War veterans."

"The Korean War is often referred to as the 'forgotten' war; and recognition of our veterans from this war is long-overdue," said Senator Benjamin L. Cardin. "This legislation would let the nearly 1.2 million American veterans of the Korean War who are still alive know that we have not forgotten them, and we honor the sacrifice they made for our nation."

"We owe a debt of gratitude to the brave men and women who valiantly served in the Korean War," said Congressman Sam Johnson, a 29-year Air Force veteran who flew 62 combat missions during the Korean War. "Many paid the ultimate price for freedom. The Korean War veterans want, need and deserve a national charter and the prestige it offers. I'm gratified that we could finally make it happen. Considering the Korean War armistice occurred in 1953, the proclamation of a national charter is long overdue."

Congress has long recognized various military and veteran "patriotic" organizations in public law as a means to acknowledge that a group serves the public interest by providing member services and community support. In addition to bestowing special recognition, granting this charter to the Korean War Veterans Association would allow it to expand its mission and further its charitable and benevolent causes.

Specifically, it will afford the Association the same status as other major organizations and would allow it to participate as part of select committees with other Congressionally-chartered veterans and military groups. A Federal Charter will also help the Association gain accreditation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, which will enable its members to assist in processing veterans' claims.

The Korean War, often overlooked in American history, is anything but forgotten by the nearly 1.2 million American veterans of the Korean War still alive today. During the three-year course of the war, some 5.7 million Americans were called to serve, and by the time the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed in July 1953, more than

MEMORIES OF MY TIME IN KOREA

BY BOB HANKS

I grew up in Houston, and met my best friend, Marvin Treadwell in high school. In February 1949, Marvin suggested that we join the Marine Reserve. I thought he had lost his mind, but he explained that we would receive a "full days pay" for meeting once a week for two hours on Thursday night and during the summer we would travel to California to attend summer camp for two weeks. We would also get a week-end pass to Hollywood. That convinced me! We made the meetings and 2 summer camps. We were then U.S. Marines! Marvin and I graduated from San Jacinto High School in June 1950.

Shortly after the N. Korean invasion, our Marine Reserve Unit was put on notice to be activated. We left Houston on Wed. Aug. 23, 1950 and arrived at Camp Pendleton on Friday, Aug. 25th. After evaluation, we were classified as "Combat ready". Marvin was sent to an Infantry company and I ended up in an artillery 105 mm Howitzer battery; both in the same regiment of the 1st Marine Division. On Sept. 1, we boarded the USN Okanogin and set sail. We arrived in Kobe, Japan on Sept. 18 and departed for Inchon on Sept. 19. We were the reserve regiment for the invasion that had started on Sept. 15. I looked out over the Inchon harbor and finally realized that I was fixing to enter into a real war! I wondered "What in the world am I doing here?"

I was assigned to a FO (forward observer) team as a wireman. Since I received training as an infantry man, I had no idea what an FO team did or what a wireman's duty was. I soon found out. We were assigned to an infantry company to direct artillery fire in support of them. I progressed from wiremen to wire chief and then to scout sergeant.

After securing Inchon, Seoul and Uijonbu, the 1st Marine Division boarded ships to Wonsan. At this point, we became involved in Operation Yo-Yo, sailing up and down the east coast of Korea, waiting for the USCG and Navy to clear the heavily mined harbor to be cleared. Upon landing, we discovered that Bob Hope had made a USO show the night before.

The Division was split into regimental teams, one team went south and two teams north. The 7th Regiment and the 5th Regiment was sent to Hamhung. The 7th Regimental Combat team was sent to Sudong-ni to relieve the ROK Regiment. As we continued north toward the Chosin Plateau, the temperature began to turn cold, with temperatures well below freezing and snowing, and we were still in our camo dungarees. We finally received our cold-weather gear at Hagaru-ri. Finally the 5th & 7th rejoined at Hagaru-ri, and began advancing north to the Chosin reservoir. After Thanksgiving, the Chinese sent 12 divisions against the small force the Yudam-ni, Hagaru-ri and the two 7th Army battalions on the east side of the reservoir. The Army battalions were decimated by 2 Chinese divisions. The temperature in the Chosin Valley reached minus 25 to 30 degrees. In the mountains the temperature reached minus 40 degrees, with winds reaching 40 mph, yielding chill factors of minus 70 degrees.

The 1st Marine Division began withdrawing around the 1st of December beginning with the 5th & 7th regiments and with what was left of the 2 Army battalions to Hagaru-ri. The group continued toward Koto-ri with heavy fighting along the way. The Division augmented by the hand-full of Army personnel and a British Royal Commando Force reached Hamhung by the 11th of December. During the seventy miles to the coast, we decimated seven of the twelve Chinese Divisions. We set sail for Pusan and a new war.

Around the 1st of February, our next operation was the guerilla hunt outside Pohang. During this encounter, I received my Purple Heart, when the Recon Platoon I was with was ambushed. Since my officer was badly wounded, I was left to fire our artillery.

Toward the end of February, the Division was reassigned to the eighth Army and we started "Operation Killer". We had a new Commander of the 8th Army, Gen. Mathew Ridgeway. Then came the Chinese Spring Offensive. The ROK Army "bugged out" on our left flank and we were forced to retreat to consolidate our lines. The Peace Talks began in July, by August they were still talking and we were still fighting. During 1951 I was training "Shave-Tail Lieutenants" and calling in points of fire for our artillery. My greatest thrill was directing Corps Artillery on a hidden gun that had been harassing my position.

The Division was pulled out of the line and I was then told that I was going home. During 1950 & 1951 I had seen Marvin a number of times but not in a couple of months. "Lo and behold" Marvin was being sent home at the same time. We left on the same ship the General Black from Pusan via Japan about the 8th of August and arrived in San Diego the 31st of August.

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ARMISTICE OF KOREAN WAR

On July 26, 2008, the Korean War veterans, friends and family, will gather in the Pavilion, at the War Memorial in Bear Creek Park, at 9 AM. The War Memorial is located on War Memorial Drive. (To reach it, take I-10 West, turn North on Eldridge Parkway, and proceed to War Memorial Drive, Bear Creek Park).

The program begins early, 9 am, because of the summer heat in Houston.

This program will be shared by Korean Veterans and the Korean Community. Take the time and join your fellow veterans in commemorating the end of the war. There will be speeches, entertainment and refreshments.

WE'LL SEE YOU THERE!!

FROM KWVA NO. 76 **BOARD OF DIRETORS:**

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE CONSIDERING CHANGING THE STARTING TIME OF OUR MONTHLY GENERAL MEETINGS TO 1:00 PM IN-STEAD OF 7:00 PM. THIS WOULD GIVE ALL MEM-BERS DAY LIGHT HOURS FOR TRAVELING TO AND FROM MEETINGS, WHICH WILL BE A MUCH SAFER TRAVELING TIME.

WE ASK ALL OF YOU TO LET A BOARD MEMBER KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS CHANGE MADE. HERE ARE THE CONTACTS:

OFFICERS:

281-499-5334
281-495-0092
713-941-3845
713-464-3676
281-497-4054

DIRECTORS: *

JIM DUNCAN	713-464-0633
CHARLES LAIRD	281-471-8788
STONEY STONE	281-375-7675
VITO SUSCA	281-491-1242

*Director Howard Nathan is not listed due to illness. Please do not call him.

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS June 19, 2008

Billie Blair Book, & fresh cucumbers
Martha Ballard Candle
Chris Carnero Box of Chocolates
Tom Campion Box of Chocolates
Bob Mitchell Tin of Pate'
Cliff Montgomery 2 Thermal mugs
Marilyn Harrison Box of Chocolates
Evelyn Stone Miniature Tea Pot & Tea Cup
Forrest Robinson 2 ball caps
Betty Grochoske Fresh cucumbers
Chris Carnero Fresh cucumbers & tin of Pate'
Bennie Younger Plant

The 50/50 drawing was won by Chris Carnero. The amount was \$63.00/\$31.50, and Chris & Manny donated the winnings to the gas fund for the Cemetery Patrol. Thank you very much for the much needed gas money.

The generous people that donated the items for the drawings were: Marianne Younger, Dixie Hanks, Marilyn & Wayne Harrison, Nelda Napp, Marlene Susca, Charles Laird, Tom Conte and Rod Ramsey. Thank you very much everyone.

SOCKS - VA HOSPITAL

On Friday, June 20th, seven members and four wives, met in the volunteer office at the VA Hospital. A little after 10 am, four groups departed with carts laden with socks, caps and books, to distribute to the patients on four different floors.



If you have never distributed socks, you really miss the good feeling from doing good. Join us next December!

NEW IDEAS

Franko & Betty Grochoske have come up with a great idea for the newsletter. Franko noticed that a number of our members and/or their spouses have contributed to the betterment of the TLSC/KWVA. If you would like to send in your stories or someone else's story, please send the information for "Get to know your fellow member" to;

Franko & Betty @ 726 Gilpin St., Houston, Tx., 77034 or to

FRANKOGRO@YAHOO.COM

"WARRIOR DONATIONS" Honor Roll for "July 2007 to July 2008"

The editors would like to acknowledge and thank the following members and patrons of the Warrior who have contributed \$10 or more 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 and to help pay the cost of the website. The following names will be published monthly through the July 2008 issue. Be sure and have your name included. Fill in the sponsor card, seen below, and return with your contribution. Thanks: Your editors: Lee & Charlotte Henderson

Aquilera, Vincent Balke, Joyce Ballard, Carlos Ballard, Katy Bazan, George Bergen, Bernie Bighouse, Bob Brast, Hazel Brunelle, Harry* Caldwell, Harry Cambiaso, Jose Canny, Pat Coleman, Vernon Conte, Tom Correa, Joseph Cortez, Richardo Coussons, Charles Crouther, Charles Daidone, Frank

D'Amico, Vincent DeCoste, Ralph Del Bosque, Rachel Dickerson, Byron Dilick, Michael Duncan, Jim Ehrlund, Charlie English, Roland Fitzmorris, Tom Fuhrman, Les Fuoco, Bob Garcia, Abel Glass, Joe Graves, Dick Griffin, Doyle Harper, Jessie Harris, Richard Harrison, Marilyn Hollas, Alvin

Hollan, Albert * Illanne, Ed Jackson, John Johnson, Max Juergens,, Eugene Kaley, Jack Kennison, Bill * Krebs, Glenn Laird, Charles Lee, Johnney * Ledford, Jack Levine, Dr. Jack Maloy, Ted ** McFarland, Don McKay, Frank * McManners, Arthur Melcher, Ralph Mixon, Tom Montello, Stephen *

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In Memory of —

Balke, Billy Cavazos, Santos Cortez, Al Del Bosque, Anecito Mathis, George O'Flynn, John J. Russell, Rov Sikkley, Leland Sloan, Story Treadwell, Sloan M. Urquhart, Sam Weber, Gerry Zock, Pete

* - Indicates more than one

This Space is for you to

HOW OLD IS GRANDPA?

One evening a grandson was talking to his grandfather about current events. He asked his grandfather what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age and just things in general.....

The Grandfather replied, "Well, let me think a minute, I was born before:

Television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill. There were no: credit cards, laser beams or ball-point pens. Man had not invented: pantyhose, air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air

Your Grandmother and I got married first, ... And then lived together.

Every family had a father and a mother. Until I was 25, I called every man older than me, "Sir" and after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, "Sir." Our lives were governed by the Ten Commandments, good judgment and common sense. We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions. Serving your country was a privilege; living in this country was a bigger privilege. We thought fast food was what people ate during Lent. We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt or guys wearing earrings. We listened to the Big Bands, Jack Benny and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey. If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan' on it, it was junk. We had 5 & 10 -cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents. You could buy a new Chevy Coupe for \$800...but who could afford one? In my day: "grass" was mowed, "coke" was a cold drink, "pot" was something you mother cooked in, "rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby. "Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office.

I bet you have this old man in mind...you are in for a shock! This man would be only 59 years old!!!

donation

"Warrior" Sponsor I want to be a sponsor of the Warrior for July 2007-July 2008				
Name				
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City	State	Zip		

Texas Lone Star Chapter - KWVA

P. O. Box 802541—Houston, TX 77280-2541

WARRIOR SPONSOR

As everyone knows, the contributions in past years have paid for the printing and mailing of the newsletter. Thank You and

Please Continue to give.... so we can continue.



Membership Chapter & Other Events

TIME TO RENEW

Dues are \$20.00 - Life Membership \$200.00 - Send renewal to KWVA - P O Box 802541 - Houston TX 77280-2541.

The following memberships are due July 1, 2008:

Neal Barbee	M264	Chris Carnero	S778
Francisco Garz	za M 75	Sam Hambrick	M763
Max Johnson	M796	Don Napp	M543
Frances & Day	rid Velale	esco	S45

RENEWALS

Bob Bighouse	Thomas Boren
Harry Caldwell	James Currigan
Frank Daidone	Byron Dickerson
Jessie Harper	Dr. Jack Levine
Nuncio Martino	Ray Priger
Herbert Rerich	Travis Riley
Frank Weeden	Bennie Younger







LIVING WORD CHURCH Of THE NAZARENE

On Sunday, June 29th, several of our members were present and posted the colors for the Church's annual 4th of July celebration. Our organization has participated and helped the church for many years now. The flag bearers were: Carlos Ballard, Stoney Stone, Charles Laird, Lee Henderson and Henry Martinez. Josh Flynn sang several solo's, Christian and patriotic songs.

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes? Why doesn't Tarzan have a beard?

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Christmas Party plans are in the making. Reservations have been made to have the Lone Star **1** Chapter Christmas Dinner at the Monument Inn. This is located on Battle Ground Road, next to San Jacinto Monument, on December 13, 2008, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. More Details later.

2008

JULY

1st - Canada Day

4th - Independence Day

17th - Board Meeting 5:00 pm 17th - General Meeting 7:00 pm

26th - Bear Creek Park 9 AM

AUGUST

2nd - Dinner— Korean Church 21st - Board Meeting 5:00 pm 21st - General Meeting 7:00 pm

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Congratulations to the new KWVA National President: Bill Mac Swain.

Many of our members know Bill and wish him well. We in Texas are especially proud that he will represent the National in a positive way.

INTERESTING FACTS.... .

The Texas Lone Star Chapter has a large membership. There are 360 active members that are listed in the data base, and of those, 55 are POW's

Each month, 250 newsletters are mailed to members without email addresses. Everyone does not live in Houston, only 127 members live in the Houston area, the balance live in 100 cities and towns in Texas, and 14 other states, plus 4 members living in Canada. Several of our members have passed away but their widows have requested to continue receiving the newsletter, 19 in all. These widows enjoy reading about our chapter and the things that are happening.

FRANKO & RETTY'S 2nd ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Franko & Betty Grochoske will be hosting their 2nd annual Christmas dinner. This year it will be the 1st Sunday of December, the 7th. Everyone is invited.

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JULY BIRTHDAY'S



The second			
Byron Dickerson 1st	Edwin Billeck 7th	Jessie Crouther 14th	Bob Ottis 23rd
H. E. Striedel 1st	Dick Tumlinson 7th	Milly Spencer 14th	Glenn Krebs
Marlene Ruppert 1st	R. B. Sanford 10th	David Garner 16th	Lorraine Preola 26th
Earnestine Sanford 2nd	Joe Glass 10th	Roy Wagner 16th	Paula Maloy 26th
Dottie Bruce 4th	Donald Belken 11th	Janice Stewart 18th	Mary Brown 27th
Sayoko Hambrick 5th	Janice Levine 11th	Max McLendon 18th	Millie Middleton 28th
Glenda Brown 5th	Joan Griffin 12th	Frank Grochoske 19th	Mary Beth Fitzmorris 29th
James Conley 6th	Pat McMenemy 12th	Jennifer Urquhart 19th	Israel Gutierrez 29th
Emma Russell 6th	Punkie Nathan 12th	William Baker 21st	Jonell Glass
Ernest Baumgart 7th	Gene Lugo 13th	Jack Kaley	Joe Romano 30th
Thomas Boren 7th	Mickey Spencer 13th	Neathal Kirk 23rd	2



JULY ANNIVERSARY'S



MEMBER & SPOUSE D	ATE	MEMBER & SPOUSE D.	<u>ATE</u>
David & Frances Velasco	7/1	John & Shelia Kronenberger	6
Antonio & Beatrice Munguia . 51 yrs . 7/	7/57	Sam & Sayoko Hambrick	['] 11
		Mickey & Milly Spencer	17
		James & Helen Friedel 56 yrs 7/19	
Ray & Dottie Priger	7/25	Howard & Punkie Nathan . 57 yrs 7/28	3/51
Manny & Chris Carnero			
,	٠,٠		

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

GET TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW MEMBER

By Franko & Betty Grochoske

Our first article is on a very new member, **Jim Shepard**. Jim lost his loving wife of fifty plus years in 2007. Jim and my brother worked for an Investigative Firm a few years back that was formed by Jim. He recently took a part time job delivering Pizza, because as he states, he enjoys meeting people. I met Jim at his first meeting at the KWVA, and we have been friends since.

What I found out about him is pretty interesting to me. He worked for a Radio station in Taylor, Texas after WW-II and played a steel guitar with the Tommy Thompson Bans which played in Night Clubs and Dance Halls all over central Texas.

In 1947, a buddy of Jim's who also was in the band, asked him to help write a song about trying to get rid of an old girl friend. Jim sat down and put together the words of "Please Release me and Let me go". His buddy moved on to another band and later sold the song to Ray Price. The song has been recorded by many famous singers, but none bigger than Ray Price. Other well known artists include Ray Charles, Kitty Wells & Johnny Rodriguez, to name a few. Jim states that Johnny was the only singer who sang the song like it was written.

Spending some fifty years on and off a dance floor and following country & western music, "Release Me" in my opinion has to fall in the top ten of all Country & Western songs ever recorded.

VIDEO TAPING OF KOREA STORIES

These talks are videotaped. The tapes will go to the Korean War Museum, to become part of their archives. Since time at our meetings is limited, we will have to follow some simple rules:

Members will have 10 minutes max, to speak. The time limit will be controlled. To be able to tell your story in that time frame, you should plan your talk in advance. List the things you want to cover, and try it out at home first and watch the time it takes. If it is way over the time, trim out some things to make it fit.

Remember you're being taped and the Museum won't know who you are...... Start with your name, rank, branch of service, time you were there and what your specialty was. Then tell your story.

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LOYALTY * VALOR * HONOR * FIDELITY

KEEPING IN TOUCH — SICK BAY

Bennie Younger is much better, in fact, he attended the June meeting with his wife, Marianne. Bennie looks great, and he says that he is feeling good.

Eva Martinez's hip replacement surgery seems to have been a success. She reports that she has more movement than she has had in a long time. She still needs Henry to help getting up sometimes, but is trying more and more to do things herself. She can exit the car more easily now. Keep up the good work Eva.

Howard Nathan had his surgery on Wednesday, June 18th. His surgery turned out to be extensive oral surgery. He was scheduled to go home on Thursday, but went home on Friday instead. He still has a lot of rehab to go through, so please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

<u>Dan Ammerman</u> has not been feeling his best lately. Doctors have diagnosed him with Neuropathy. Please remember him in your prayers. With prayer, all things are possible.

Jack Levine recently spent 10 days in the hospital. He's home now and returning to his old self. Stay Well!!

Vito & Marlene Susca recently went on a 3600 mile trip through Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Arizona and on to home through El Paso, with the last weekend spent in San Antonio. The trip was more than just a trip, they attended their grandson's high school graduation in Denver and visited old friends in Las Vegas.

Franko Grochoske went in for his heart cath and a blockage was found, so the doctors inserted a stint. He is home and doing fine. We're glad they were able to correct the problem so easily.

BENEFIT DINNER

Everyone (Members and Spouses) is invited to an evening dinner at the:

PLACE: KOREAN CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF HOUSTON

LOCATION: 10410 Clay Road, Houston, Tx. between Beltway 8 and Gessner Rd.

4:00 PM TIME:

August, 2, 2008 **DATE:** This event is for Orphan Children.

We will be posting colors, so men, please wear your class A uniform, or other.

Please let a board member know if you plan to attend.

SEE YOU THERE!

PRESENTATION

At the recent dinner hosted by the Easthaven Baptist Church, it became apparent that the military music CD that Henry Martinez has been using for years, was getting old. In fact, Henry had a lot of trouble getting the songs to play as the service flags were posted. Well hopefully, that will be a problem no more. At the meeting, Franko Grochoske presented Henry with a new tape/CD/radio player and a new

In the future, the music accompanying the posting of the service flags should be flawless.

Thank you very much Franko!!

TEXAS VETERANS LAND BOARD

All veterans are invited to attend and learn about the remarkable benefits that are available through the VLB, at a FREE BENEFITS FAIR on Saturday July 12, 2008. Whether its home loans, land loans, home improvement loans, state veterans homes, State veterans cemeteries, employment benefits, disability & pension claims, etc., the benefits available to Texas veterans are the best in the nation

WHEN: Saturday, July 12, 2008

TIME: 10 AM TO 1 PM (Come and Go)

PLACE: **College of the Mainland**

> Main Gymnasium 1200 Amburn Road Texas City, Texas 77591 www.texasveteans.com

REUNION **45th INFANTRY DIVISION THUNDERBIRDS**

WHEN: 25 - 27 Sept. 2008

CONTACT: Raul Trevino

2145 NE St.

Oklahoma City, OK, 7311

210-681-9134

Volume 18 Issue 6 Page 7 TEXAS LONE STAR CHAPTER KOREAN WAR VETERANS PO. Box 802541 HOUSTON, TX 77280-2541 **USA** TEL/FAX (713) 774-3662 www.kwvahouston.org

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1997-98 - John Jackson

1998-99 – "Stoney" Stone

1999-00 - Sal Gambino

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2002-03 - Carlos Ballard

2003-04 - Don Napp

2004-05 - Charlie Ehrlund

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