

THE WARRIOR

Volume 17 - Issue 7

JULY 2007

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!

SATURDAY AFTERNOON AT THE BALLPARK

The Astro's ball game turned out to be a great afternoon. Before the game started, the Astro's paid tribute to the underage veterans. The underage veterans are those who volunteered at a very early age, some 15 or 16 years old. Our own Henry Martinez was one of those, volunteering at 16. (He wanted to be like his older brothers and join the Army.) One of the underage veterans thru out the first pitch. Also honored before the game were a large group of Iraq veterans.



Henry Martinez salutes the color guard as the National Anthem is being sung.

Our color guard did a fabulous job of presenting the colors before the start of the game. The members that participated were: Henry Martinez, Lee Henderson, Bob Bighouse, Bob Mitchell, Buddy Blair, John Jackson, Rod Ramsey and Johnney Lee.



Our organization had a **great** turnout, in fact, according to Bob Mitchell, the largest ever, with members bringing friends and family to the game. *Way to go Lone Star Chapter.!!*

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TLSC ARMISTICE DAY CEREMONY BEAR CREEK PARK— JULY 28, 2007

The annual celebration, ending the war in Korea, will be held on Saturday, July 28th, at the War Memorial, War Memorial Drive @ Eldridge Pkwy., Bear Creek Park, starting at 10:00 AM. Members of the Lone Star Chapter are urged to attend this occasion. Join your fellow veterans, friends and the Korean community in celebrating the end of the war. This date is important as it marks the end of the fighting and the beginning of peace in South Korea. With America's help, South Korea was able to overcome the devastation of war, and on their own has become an economic power.

The ceremony will begin at 10:00 AM, rain or shine, (there is a covered pavilion, with plenty of parking) with guest speaker Col. Frank J. Corte, Jr.

There will be speakers, entertainment provided by the Korean Farm Dancers and refreshments provided by the wives of TLSC and the Korean women.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend this important occasion. Everyone is welcome!!!

See You there.....

Award presentation to Cho Gares in Austin

By Sal Gambino

On Tuesday 5-June-2007, Howard, Punkie, Patty and I drove to Austin, Texas to present a trophy and resolution to Cho Gares owner of The Enchanted Florist. I had met Cho in 1999 when I was President of Texas Lone Star Chapter, as we were preparing to dedicate the Memorial and present it to the care of the State of Texas.

Cho provided the wreath for the dedication and has been placing flowers at the Memorial three times a year since..... Memorial Day, Armistice Day and Veterans Day.

Cho says she can never forget Korean War Veterans for the sacrifices made to keep her Country from Communists rule, and states she will continue to place the flowers on the Memorial as long as she owns the Enchanted Florist.

After presenting the awards, Cho, her friend David and the four of us went to lunch at Sullivan's and a fine time was had by all. Cho was also celebrating her departure to Europe the next day to visit friends in Brussels.



Suddenly it was over, and time to return home. We departed Austin and there was much conversation concerning the nice time we had. It was a great trip.

However, I would be remiss not to keep alive the names of the Memorial Committee consisting of Story Sloane, Jim Duncan, Marvin Treadwell, Dan Ammerman and Dick Arnott who dedicated the necessary time and effort in having the Memorial built.

Lest we forget

UNIFORM IN UNIFORMS....

There has been some discussion at recent meetings regarding hats, and the proper salute with uniforms worn by chapter members. The uniform components are defined on the web site, under the quartermaster link. (Note that the uniform is that selected for the Chapter, and is not intended to replicate that of any branch of the service.)

The question most raised related to wearing the hat, or cap, and the proper salute when the colors are shown, or the National Anthem played. In order to present a consistent appearance, members are requested to follow the guidelines below:

Class "A" - Wear the hat, indoors and out doors, except for prayer. Hand Salute for the colors, present arms and the National Anthem.

Class "B" - Remove the cap indoors. Otherwise remove the cap for the colors, prayer, present arms, and anthem, and place it over your heart with the right hand.

4th of July Parade



There will be a parade again this year sponsored by The Villages. The parade and party will be at the same place as in years past. Off of I-10, take the Echo Street exit, (Blalock on one side, Echo on the other) proceed down Echo, to the light, take a left then a right into the parking lot. We will begin gathering between 8 & 8:30 AM in the parking lot across from the Memorial High School practice field, with the parade starting at 9AM. The route will proceed down Piney Point to the Churches where the old fashioned 4th will be celebrated with, food, games, etc.

SEE YOU THERE.....

LIVING WORD CHURCH

Sunday evening the Color Guard was invited to present colors during the evening church services at the Living Word Church of the Nazarene. It was a wonderful start to the 4th of July celebrations. At the close of the services, fireworks went off, (confetti shot out of cannons) to the delight and surprise of everyone there.

REVISIT KOREA TOUR

KOREAN WAR VETERANS AND FAMILY MEMBERS
10 DAYS AND 8 NIGHTS
FROM: SEP. 04, TO SEP. 13, 2007

ANNOUNCED BY
KOREA NATIONAL TOURISM ORGANIZATION
AND
KOREAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION

POC: Mr. Won Pae Pak, Tour Coordinator
5815 Creekway St., San Antonio, Texas 78247
Tel: (210)257-6082 E: kafawonkwvsat@yahoo.com

Maximum Number of 40 people may sign-up on a "first come, first served" basis.

Complete tour package cost: \$2,500.00 P/P

YOUR TOUR COVERS:

1. ROUND Trip non-stop by Korean Air or Delta
2. Motor Coach for 10 Days.
3. Hotel (Double occupancy, single room available)
4. Meals (some meals will be on your own.)
5. Include Visits:
Seoul— Panmunjeom—DMZ, JSA—Chorwon Valley - Iron Triangle, Ops—Yang-gu, Punch Bowl, Ops, the 4th Tunnel—Dae-gu, Nakdong River, chilgok-Dabudong— Weagwan—Bowling Alley-Busan U.N. Memorial Cemetery—Geoge-do POW Camp— Seoul Korean War Museum—Incheon—Gen. MacArthur Freedom Park— Incheon Landing Memorial Museum—Seoul and more

Your Tour's Coordinating and Tour Guide Will be:

Mr. Won Pae Pak, President of:
Korean-American Friendship Association
Korean Freedom Democracy League of America
Mid-South Region
And
Founder of KWVA Alamo Chapter #298

*China and Vietnam Optional Tours are available

DOOR PRIZES—June 21, 2007

Johnney Lee Locket
Doug Sizemore Book
Bob Mitchell Fresh Vegetables
Bennie Younger Fresh Vegetables
Martha Ballard Fresh Vegetables
Chris Carnero Fresh Vegetables
John Jackson Calculator
Bob Mitchell Cooler
Chuck Ehrlund KWVA pin
Vito Susca Book
Charlotte Henderson Vase
Manny Carnero book on Ancient Egypt
Gracie Gambini Poster & book

The 50/50 drawing was won by Johnney Lee, and he donated the winnings to the Sock Fund. *Thank you Johnney!!*

The following people generously donated the items for the nights drawing::

Wayne Harrison, Don Napp, Marlene Susca, Frank Daidona, Bob Bighouse, Bennie Younger, Howard Nathan, Travis Riley and Johnney Lee.

Thank you everyone!!

57th ANNIVERSARY

On Monday, June 25th, the Korean community hosted a dinner marking the beginning of the Korean War. The members of the Lone Star Chapter were invited to the Korean Community Center to help mark the occasion.

Those in attendance were Johnney Lee, John and Frances Alvarado, Alvin & Bernice Hollas, Frank & Betty Weeden, Barbara Brennan and Roland English.

SPECIAL ELECTION

There will be a special election to replace board member Hank Fry. Hank has resigned, making it necessary to fill the vacancy. There is one year left on his term. **We want to thank Hank for his dedicated and loyal service. *Hank, you will be missed!!!***

Doug Sizemore has agreed to fill that vacancy, but he must be elected by the membership. Please mark the form and return it to the P. O. Box 802541, Houston, Tx., 77280-2541.

BALLOT ..

DIRECTOR: DOUG SIZEMORE

Signed: _____ Member No. _____



“WARRIOR DONATIONS” Honor Roll for “July 2006 to July 2007”

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 or the one enclosed in the enclosed envelope, and return with your contribution. Thanks: Your editors: Lee & Charlotte Henderson

Andrews, R. J. Aguilera, Vincent Arnwine, L. C. Balke, Billy C Ballard, Katy Ballard, Walter. Barbee, Neal Batchelor, James Baudoin, Theo Belcher, James Bighouse, Bob Brast, Hazel Canny, Pat Cipriano, Ray Coleman, Vernon Conte, Tom Correa, Joseph Cortez, Ricardo Coussons, Charles Crouther, Charles DiBello, Sam	Dilick, Michael Duncan, Jim Ellis, John R. Ehrlund, Charles English, Roland Fuhrman, Leslie Fitzmorris, Tom Flynn, Josh Fry, Hank Fuoco, Robert Glass, Joe Graves, J.R.(Dick) Griffin, Doyle Haider, Marvin Harris, Richard Harrison, Wayne Hinojosa, Roberto Hollan, Albert Hollas, Alvin Johnson, Max Kaley, Jack	Krebs, Glenn E. Laird, Charles Lee, Johnney Levine, Jack Maillet, William Maloy, Ted * Martinez, Henry Martino, Nuncio McFarland, Donald McKay, Frank McManners, A. E Melcher, Ralph. Miller, Billie Montello, Stephen Montgomery, Cliff Moore, Edwin W. Mueller, Joseph Munguia, Tony Nanninga, John Pendarvis, Floyd Potts, Roland	Priger, Ray Ramsey, Rod Riess, Don * Riley, Travis Roe, Harvey Romano, Joe Sholl, Vinton Smith, Charles Smith, Thomas Spencer, Mickey Stewart, Clyde Turley, Alvin C. Urquhart, Don Velasco, David Watkins, James Weeks, Jessie Younger, Bennie	
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In Memory of —
Brast, Weldon
Ehlinger, Pauline
O’Flynn, John
Padilla, Nora
Russell, Roy
St. Clair, Jerry
Urquhart, Sam
Williams, John
Young, Nat



* - Indicates more than one donation

The Hunters, The Coon Dog & the Monkey.....

Two old timer hunters from Louisiana, were discussing ‘coon’ hunting in the swamps. The first old timer said that his coon hound was the smartest dog in the state. The other hunter stated that his monkey was the best animal to hunt coons.

The decided to find out who was best, so the went into the swamp. Both animals started trailing coons and were led to a tall Magnolia tree. The coon dog started howling, indicating he treed a coon. The monkey went up the tree carrying a pistol and a flashlight. He shined the light into the tree, trying to find the coon. He looked here & there, but couldn’t find the coon.

He scampered down the tree to the baying coon dog and shot it dead. The dog owner wanted to know why the monkey shot his dog. The Monkey’s owner replied:
 The monkey hates lying coon dogs.

English is Easy. Yea, right!! **Reasons why English is so hard to learn.**

- 1) The bandage was wound around the wound.
- 2) The farm was used to produce produce.
- 3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- 4) We must polish the Polish furniture.

Texas Lone Star Chapter – KWVA
 P. O. Box 802541—Houston, TX 77280-2541
“Warrior” Sponsor
I want to be a sponsor of the Warrior for
July 2007-July 2008

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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, 2007:

Chris Carnero	S778	Sam Hambrick	M763
Max Johnson	M796	Don Napp	M543
Hong Sop Won	M808		

RENEWALS

James Currigan	Byron Dickerson
Nu;ncio Martino	Raymond Priger
Herbert Rerich	Travis Riley
Joe Romano	

JULY

1st - Living Word, Church of the Nazarene
4th - INDEPENDENCE DAY
 4th - 4th of July Parade 9 AM
 19th - Board Meeting 5:00 pm
 19th - General Meeting 7:30 pm
28th - Bear Creek Park - 10:00 am

AUGUST

13 - 14th - Dept. of Texas Meeting
 15th - Dedication of WW II Memorial
 16th - Board Meeting 5:00 p.m.
 16th - General Meeting 7:30 p.m.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Charles Laird

I recall a Sunday School lesson from many years ago in which we were taught to love God in spite of our circumstances. It's easy to love God when He grants our requests and provides what we desire. Loving Him in difficult circumstances tests our faith. In the third chapter of the book of Daniel, we read of a life and death decision Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had to make. If they chose to worship the golden image, they would live; if they refused, death was certain. They answered King Nebuchadnezzar: "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and He will rescue us from your hand, O King, but even if He does not, we want you to know, O King, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up". (vs.17-18).

Were these three lacking in faith when they said, "But even if He does not"? No. They knew God was fully capable of delivering them from the fiery furnace. Their love for God was so great that they were willing to serve Him even in death. There is a lesson in this for each of us. Is God all powerful? Yes. Is He able to deliver us from all our problems.? Yes. Does God always deliver us from our difficulties? No. We may not understand fully God's purpose in our difficulty and suffering, but we must not cease to love and serve Him. We must trust and hope in Him in spite of the trials that sometimes threaten to overwhelm us.



TLSC ARMISTICE DAY CEREMONY

SPEAKER—COL. FRANK J. CORTE, Jr.

State Representative Frank J. Corte, Jr. (District 122 – San Antonio) graduated from Texas A&M in 1982. While at A&M, he was a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Fighting Aggie Band. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, where he served three years on active duty. He then joined the United States Marine Corps Reserve and was activated during the Gulf War. After the terrorist attacks on 9/11/2001, he was called back to active duty and was sent to Egypt for duty. In 2002, he graduated from the prestigious Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

In 2004, Colonel Corte completed 6 months of active duty, assigned to UN Command/Combined Forces Command in Korea. In 2006 Colonel Corte served a 6 1/2 months tour of duty in Iraq in the Anbar Province. In March of 2007, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service in Iraq.

Col. Corte was first elected to the Texas Legislature in Nov. 1992. In January 2003, he was appointed Chairman of the Texas House Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations Committee. This Committee has jurisdiction over matters of homeland security, military issues, veterans issues, emergency preparedness, etc.

REUNION

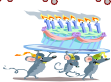
**45th Infantry Division
 (Thunderbirds)
 REUNION**

27 September to 1 October 2007

Contact Information:

**Raul Trevino
 2145 NE Street
 Oklahoma City, OK 73111**





JULY BIRTHDAY'S

Lucy Ortiz 1st
 Phyllis Ottis 2nd
 Dottie Priger 2nd
 Harry Simons 3rd
 James Friedel 6th
 Jeannine Johnson 7th
 Bill Moore 7th
 Roland Potts 7th

Jack Goodwin 7th
 Jose Cambiaso 8th
 Karen Hare 9th
 Susan Belken 11th
 Jeannie Juergens 11th
 William Maillet 11th
 Elrose Baumgart 12th
 Helen Friedel 13th

Anita Melcher 14th
 Oscar Cortez. 17th
 Frances G. Blackmon . 17th
 Camila Lugo 18th
 Rose Wagner 18th
 Charles Laird 22nd
 Ray Cipriano 23rd
 Billy Brown 24th

Billie Harper 24th
 Hilda Harris 24th
 Johnney Lee 24th
 Joye Moore 26th
 Anita Belcher 26th
 Alicia Vanatta 26th
 Bob Clark 27th
 Les Fuhrman 29th
 John Barker 31st



JULY ANNIVERSARY'S

MEMBER & SPOUSE

DATE

David & Frances Velasco 7/1
Tony & Beatrice Munguia . . 50 yrs . 7/7/1957
Charles & Grace Laird 55 yrs . 7/12/1952
 Oscar & Yolanda Cortez 7/18
 Ray & Dottie Priger 7/25
 Manny & Chris Carnero 7/30

MEMBER & SPOUSE

DATE

John & Shelia Kronenberger 7/6
 Sam & Sayoko Hambrick 7/11
 Mickey & Milly Spencer 7/17
James & Helen Friedel . . . 55 yrs . 7/19/1952
Howard & Punkie Nathan . 56 yrs . 7/28/1951

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

THE KOREAN WAR AND IT'S HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

The historical importance of the Korean War cannot be over-emphasized. First of all, under the UN resolution, the ROK Army and U.S. Armed Forces along with 16 other participating nations, repelled the Communist invaders from North Korea and Chinese Red Army, thus bringing about "freedom, peace, and prosperity" in S. Korea. Following the armistice established on July 27, 1953, the Republic of Korea, a free democratic country in South Korea has been progressively prosperous, to become the 10th world economic power, some 55 years later, while N. Korean Communist oppressive regime has miserably failed in economy, causing starvation, extreme poverty, as well as loss of freedom and human rights during the same post-war period.

Our great Pres. Reagan, persuaded the then Soviet Union's Chief Gorbachev, to tear down the Berlin Wall in 1987 and the Wall was demolished 2 years later, leading the way to reunification of Germany. Judging from the fact that the democratic S. Korea's most successful economic development, as opposed to the N. Korea's doomed economy under Communist regime, Gorbachev decided to dismantle the Soviet government. The East European Communist countries soon followed in the Russian's foot steps.

Currently the "Korean War Memorial & Museum" commemorating the historical importance in propagating democrat principle and world peace have been established by all the Korean War participating UN countries in the world. We must make a vigorous effort to complete our historical museum in Springfield, Illinois.

Francis K. Lee, M.D., Ph.D.

VIDEO TAPING OF KOREA STORIES

If you are willing to share your experiences with your fellow vets, please contact Don Napp. The next speaker will be Ted Maloy. Be sure to attend!

SOCKS - VA HOSPITAL

On Friday, June 22nd, 12 members and 3 wives, arrived at the VA Hospital's 2nd floor Volunteer Office, to prepare to distribute the socks and caps. At 10:00 AM, four carts with the volunteer members began on the 4 floors to pass out socks and caps to the patients. It was a great morning, with a giving feeling and one of pride for helping our fellow vets. Those attending were: Bob & Dorothy Mitchell, Buddy & Billie Blair, Lee & Charlotte Henderson, Tom Fitzmorris, Tom Campion, Carlos Ballard, Rod Ramsey, James Johnson, John Jackson, Don Napp, Bob Bighouse and Johnney Lee. *Thank you !!!*



KWVA STATE DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS MEETING

**DRURY INN & SUITES
6711 IH-35 NORTH
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78752**

EVENTS AND APPLICATION

The Annual Meeting of the Department of Texas will be held at the Drury Inn & Suites 6711 IH-35 North in Austin, August 13 - 14. **YOU MUST GET YOUR RESERVATIONS MADE BY JULY 12, 2007.** Please use the following information to make your reservation. Call 1-800-325-0720 make reservation at "Drury Inn & Suites - Austin, Texas North and my group is Korean War Veterans Meeting. I wish to make reservations with my arrival date on August 13, 2007 and will depart on August 15". Your reservation should be at the room rate of \$82 plus tax. Declare at this time if you wish a Smoking or Non-Smoking room. Any reservation after July 12, 2007 will be on a space available basis. Should you wish to arrive early or stay later there are rooms available for the nights of 12th and 15th of August at this same rate. Room includes Hot Breakfast, Soft Drinks and Popcorn 1500 - 2200 in Lobby, Evening Beverages & Snacks in Lobby from 1730 to 1900.

MONDAY 13, 2007 EVENTS

Registration will be at the TRAVIS Hospitality Room from 1200 to 2200 hours. Soft drinks and snacks for Registered State Department Attendees. Your badge is your entrance Ticket. Lunch and Evening Meal on your own. Information of things to do in Austin will be available at registration desk. A Welcome Reception will be held from 1800 to 1900 hours in the Hospitality Room. Snacks will also be available during the open time of the Hospitality Room. If you have a special recipe or something you want to bring that would be wonderful. We plan to have a great time and plenty to talk about with everyone who attends.

Free time is available after 1900 to see the Austin Night Life Area if you are so inclined. Other things you may want to enjoy after registration are tours of the Governor's Mansion, State Capitol, Bob Bullock's Museum, President Johnson's Library or Lady Bird Johnson's Wildflower Park. You may also wish to see the Korean War Veterans Memorial located on the State Capitol Grounds. This Monument was the work of the Lone Star Chapter.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2007 EVENTS

Free Hot Morning Breakfast in the Breakfast Area. Registration continues at the TRAVIS Hospitality Room from 0830 - 1300 hours and the Hospitality Room opens at 1000 - 1300 hours for snacks and drinks.

0930 - 1130 Hours EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING - COLORADO ROOM. (Members are invited to attend if they wish or more free time to visit in Austin). Call to Order, Roll Call of Directors, Posting of the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, Opening Remarks and Introduction of Special Guests,, Minutes of Previous Meetings, Treasurers Report, Old and New Business and any other business that comes forward. 1300 - 1500 Hours ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - COLORADO ROOM. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Memorial Service, Introduction of Officers of the Executive Council and Special Guests, Minutes of Previous Meeting, Treasurers Report, Reports from Chapters, Plans for next years Convention including time and place, Old Business, New Business, and any other business that comes forward.

Following the close of the meeting more time for Hospitality Room use followed by a Banquet this evening at 1800 Hour. Banquet will be held in a local restaurant adjacent to the Hotel in their Banquet Room. The National President of the KWVA, Inc., Lou Dechert and his wife have been invited and it is hoped they will be able to attend the Department Meeting. Other Officers of National will also be in attendance as well as your new State Department Officers who you will be able to meet and ask questions during the social events.

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Member Name: _____ **Chapter CID:** _____

Guest Name: _____

Registration Total @ \$10 each (\$ _____)

Banquet Menu:

Smoked Sirloin, 10 oz (____); Cowgirls Rib eye, 10 oz (____); Mesquite Grilled Chicken (____);

Mesquite Grilled Trout (____); Any one entrée & \$26 two @ \$52
Banquet Cost (\$ _____)

(Also includes Salad, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Bread, Ice Tea or Coffee or Soda,

Blue Bell Vanilla Ice Cream Dessert and Tax & Gratuity)

Total Cost (\$ _____)

Make Check out to: KWVADOT & mail to KWVA PO Box 122084, Fort Worth, TX 76121-2084 by 8/1/2007

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Texas World War II Memorial to be Dedicated August 15, 2007

Long overdue tribute becoming a reality on State Capitol Grounds

On August 15, 2007, the State of Texas will at last pay official tribute to the many Texans who served with unquestionable distinction and valor in the most devastating conflict mankind has ever experienced --- World War II. Over 830,000 Texas men and women proudly served our nation in World War II, and over 22,000 of those Texans gave their lives in ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Millions more supported the war effort here at home.

As noted newscaster and author, Tom Brokaw, describes them, these Americans --- these Texans --- were "The Greatest Generation." When the United States was forced to war, we turned to "these ordinary Americans and asked of them extraordinary service, sacrifice and heroics." Then, after meeting those high expectations, they simply returned home to lead ordinary lives. They gave immeasurably, but asked for little in return.

Regrettably, for almost 62 years now, the State of Texas has not officially paid tribute to all the Texans and Texas families who unselfishly and heroically gave their service, sacrifice and support in World War II. But now, through the generous support of numerous Texas corporations, associations, foundations and individual Texans, our "greatest generation" of Texans will finally get the long overdue tribute, esteem and appreciation for their commitment, bravery, perseverance and sacrifice they so richly -- and rightfully --- deserve.

A fitting memorial is being constructed on the State Capitol grounds honoring all the Texans who fought or otherwise served, and in many cases gave their lives, in World War II. Located on the northwest quadrant of the Capitol grounds, the Texas World War II Memorial fittingly joins current monuments paying tribute to Texas' Soldiers of World War I, Pearl Harbor Survivors and Korean War Veterans.

The formal dedication ceremony for the Memorial will be Wednesday, August 15, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. on the State Capitol grounds, immediately outside the East entrance of the Texas Supreme Court Building. August 15th, generally celebrated as Victory over Japan Day ("V-J Day") and the official end of World War II, was appropriately chosen to dedicate the Memorial in honor of our Texas World War II Veterans.

We invite all World War II veterans, their families and friends, and indeed any Texan wishing to help honor our "greatest generation" of Texans, to attend the Memorial dedication ceremony for this long overdue tribute.

--- *James S. Duncan and Larry R. Soward, Co-chairs, Texas World War II Memorial Committee*
TxWWIIMemorial@yahoo.com

MY KOREAN EXPERIANCES

By Charles Laird



My name is Charles Laird, and I am a Marine Corps Combat Veteran of WW II and the Korean War. I served with the 6th Marine Division in the Battle of Okinawa. After the war was over, the 6th Division sent one Regt. to Japan and two Regt. to Tsingtao, China, to accept the Japanese surrender. I was sent to China.

I was called to active duty from the Reserve in 1950 and was assigned to 1st. BN, 7th Mar. where I served in the BN S-2 Section. We landed at Inchon, fought our way to Kimpo Airfield and on to Seoul, and North through Uijonbu to the 38th Parallel. I went on a patrol, about 5 miles North of the 38th. We didn't encounter any resistance, or fire a weapon, because the N. Koreans were bugging out. The next day we were relieved by a ROK Unit and we returned to Inchon.

By this time Gen. McArthur decided Inchon was a success and he wanted a new landing at Wonsan, N. K. We boarded LST's that had been stripped of everything but radar. The night before we were to land at Wonsan, the Mess Sgt. Was told to feed us good and give any leftovers to the Japanese crew. Early the next morning, we found out the harbor was heavily mined. It took 5 days to clear the harbor, so we went North 12 hours, then South 12 hours. This became known as Operation Yo-Yo. We had to retrieve our food from the Japanese, and it was not enough for 5 days, so you know what? Japanese rice isn't so bad, when that's all you have to eat. When we finally landed the ROK's had walked from S. Korea to Wonsan and we saw a sign that announced Bob Hop was putting on a show that night (not for us). Bob Hope proudly let everyone know that he beat the Marines to N. Korea.

The 7th Marine Reg. was to lead the Division North toward the Yalu River bordering North Korea and Manchuria. We met only sporadic resistance for several days. We were moving rather well and when we reached the Sudong Valley, we set u positions to spend the night. Charley Company was on the hill to the left, Able Co. was on the hill to the right and the Batt. CP was just off the road. B Co. was furnishing security for the CP. As we were digging in for the night, dusk began to settle in and from our high ground, we saw a set of headlights coming toward us. They had placed a rocket launching team next to the road to protect from some enemy coming toward us. As they got closer, they hollered at them to turn out those #\$\$%* lights. Finally the tank turned out its lights made a U-turn and headed back North. Early the next morning before daylight we began to hear the strange sound of bugles and whistles. They were behind us (South), this was November 2, 1950. The strange signals were coming from the Chinese troops. They did not know we were there and we did not know they were they until they serenaded us with bugles and whistles. One big firefight developed that lasted until daylight. The next couple of days, the Chinese counter-attacked. After the third day, the Chinese disappeared and we began to move North again...at the first curve in the road going North we found the Russian T-3 tank. It was abandoned, but the N. Koreans had tired sand bags all around it, thus accounting for the Bazooka shells bouncing off it.

We proceeded on North with some sporadic opposition. The Chinese did not seem, at that point, to be organized. Chinhung-ni had been our original mission, but we passed on through Chinhung-ni and moved on to Koto-ri. Koto-ri was a railhead between Wonsan and Hagaru-ri. Overnight a Manchurian blizzard blew in and dropped the temperature to 16 degrees below zero. We were not equipped for that kind of weather and it took a couple of days for them to get our foul-weather gear to us. We proceeded on to Hagaru-ri and at that point our Reg. went Northwest to Yudam-ni. The 5th Marines followed us, but they went Northeast to the East side of the Chosin Reservoir. At this point in the war Gen. McArthur was pushing hard on all units to reach the Yalu River by Christmas. The Chinese drastically changed this goal.

The 1st Bn. 7th was supposed to tie in with an Army unit, however they were more than 80 miles West of us and we had no communication with them. Gen. O.P. Smith, 1st Marine Div. Commander, did not respond to well to the pressure from McArthur's staff to just GO HARD. He did not want the division so strung out that it would have difficulty defending itself. Yudam-ni is as far as we got. Able Co. captured two Chinese Privates, and brought them to the Bn. CP to be interrogated. They said they would encircle us and annilate the 1st Marine Division and whatever Army units were a part of the 10th Corps. This information was passed on th Reg. H.Q.

(Continued on page 11)

KEEPING IN TOUCH — SICK BAY

Mickey Spencer recently had a bout with kidney stones. They kept in the hospital for a time until the stone finally passed, with much relief to Mickey. Millie did a great job of taking care of Mickey and keeping all of us informed on his progress. *Mickey we hope that you don't have a reoccurrence of this problem or any new ones.*

Eva Martinez still has problems. Her hip is fine, but she has developed a few other problems. Her attitude is still up. *We need to include Eva in our prayers for healing.*

Ted Maloy was recently down in his health from unknown illness. *Ted, we miss you and pray you are better.*

Barbara Mixon was admitted to Bayshore Hospital on Thursday, 7/21, with an undiagnosed problem. *Barbara, we hope it was a minor problem, and we will pray that you overcome it.*

Linda Hughes daughter of Chris and Manny Carnero, was recently diagnosed with cancer. She had surgery and is now receiving chemo. On top of this, her husband has been transferred to Hong Kong. Linda has been dealing with her illness, taking care of her children, with Mom's help, and packing for the move. *We need to remember her in our prayers, as well as any one needing our prayers and thoughts.*

and from there to Div. H.Q. How much credence can you put in what two practically frozen Privates reveal? A couple of days later, a truck convoy pulled into the valley at Yudam-ni carrying Marines. We hollered at them and asked...what outfit?...their reply was..5th Marines.. We looked at each other and realized what the two privates had told us. The trucks unloaded their troops, turned around and went back South. That was the last traffic on the one and only road. That night one of the Co.'s of the 5th Marines was brutally attacked, leaving them with two officers and 49 men. The next night, they attacked the other Co. and when daylight came they had one officer and 51 men. The next day, Lt. Col. Davis met with all of his officers giving them the plan to leave Yudam-ni, all vehicles that we had, including one tank, would be loaded with the wounded and the dead. Col. Davis and much of his Headquarters personnel would go with the assault co. on the N side of the road. This included me. We kicked off about 6:30 AM but there were so many Chinese it took all day and into the early evening before we ran them off the first hill. There was no moon that night and only the white snow helped us to see anyone. Col. Davis said the people on the road are ahead of us, so we need to catch up. He said "Keep track of the person in front of you, no loud talking, no cigarettes and no lights of any kind that might give our position away". Keep in mind, all of this is happening in 40° below zero. and in 3' of snow, mostly frozen. Most of the night we were up one hill and down another, we could hear the Chinese that were between us and the, road talking rather loudly. Finally the Col. said we needed some rest, so we stopped for an hour. When the word to saddle up came, the fellow next to me got up on his knees to put his pack on, and a sniper shot and wounded him. I don't know how I got so lucky, but I was given 2 men with a 30 cal. Air-cooled machine gun/w tri-pod, and 6 others with a couple of stretchers. We were to bring up the rear picking up any wounded or killed. We were one hill ahead of the Chinese. As they came up behind us, we would set the machine gun up and fire several shots at them. This continued until they finally gave up.

Before daylight one morning, we were preparing to leave and we heard this marching sound with the boot heels impacting the frozen snow. When they got to us, it was a platoon of the 41st British Commandos. I don't know why they ere not in combat uniforms, but they had on their berets, clean shaven, shinny boots, making us look like a homeless lost battalion. We proceeded on then encountering opposition most of the way. The Chinese would come in waves—the first ones would have guns, the second wave would pick up the guns of their dead and the third wave sometimes would just have sticks. They were all in tennis shoes, no gloves, quilted pants and jacket, quilted ear-flap caps in 30° below temperature. After a couple of days, we made it to Koto-ri. Between Koto-ri and Chinhung-mi there was a deep chasm. The original bridge had been blown out and there was no way around it. The Chinese thought they had us because we couldn't escape. Yankee engineering took over and the chasm was photographed from the air. Engineers calculated the size of a bridge needed. They quickly came up with the answer and a plane was dispatched to air-drop a tread-way bridge. The first attempt failed but the second drop landed o.k. and our Engineers proceeded to install it. We proceeded across the bridge and on South. A short distance from Ham hung, an Army truck convoy met us to take us into Ham hung. After a few miles, the trucks pulled off the side of the road at a Puerto Rican Army Unit, where we were invited to have breakfast. (Hot coffee, pancakes, ham and eggs, better than Denny's Grand Slam). This was the first hot food we had had in eleven days. (Mostly we had C-rations which were frozen or Tootsie Rolls. The Tootsie Rolls kept us from starving.) From Ham hung we boarded a USNS ship for Mason, South Korea, where they had a ten camp set up for us. I guess I could say ... I'm the rest of the story.. Because I'm here today.

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