

THE WARRIOR

Volume 22- Issue 8

AUGUST, 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!

Commemoration of the End of Korean War

On Saturday, July 28th, the Lone Star Chapter members and members of the Korean Community gathered at the Korean Central Presbyterian Church, for the celebration of the end of the war in Korea. The change in location was mandated because of the heavy rains in the area for the past several weeks. The park is located in Addicks Reservoir, and the runoff had flooded the area, and the park was closed. Having the ceremony in the church was a wonderful experience, (no heat or mosquitoes), the downside was that firing the 21 gun salute and playing taps was not possible.

Our president Hank Daumann, welcomed everyone and thanked the members of the church for allowing the ceremony to be held indoors. The beautiful wreaths were presented by the Lone Star Chapter, Korean Consul General, the Korean Community and the POW/MIA. Josh Flynn sang the National Anthem followed by Ms Me Wha Pak singing the Korean Anthem. Josh sang a closing song "Only in America". The different speakers were Dr. Francis Lee, from the Korean Community, followed by Paul Kirley, President of KAAH. Consul General Park Suk-Bum, representing the Republic of Korea, also gave a wonderful speech.



The Key-note speaker was John Miterko of the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations. John has a broad range of experience and knowledge. From 1968 - 1972 he was a U.S. Army Captain, Military intelligence serving initially as a Special Agent and subsequently as an Area Intelligence Collection Officer. He served in Vietnam from 1971- 1972, as the Chief of Military Intelligence Collection Operations for the 3rd Military Region. John is the holder of the Bronze Star.

Following the ceremony in the church, we were invited to move into the gym, where tables and chairs had been set up and food was in the process of being prepared for our enjoyment. Before we ate, we were entertained by three young men playing drums, this was followed by three women dressed in native dress, doing the dance of the fans. After this wonderful entertainment, we were invited to line up to go through the serving line for the delicious Korean food.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO THE MEMBERS OF THE KOREAN CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FOR HOSTING THE CEREMONY ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE.

2012 TEXAS ANNUAL CONVENTION

You are invited to the **Annual State Convention** being held in San Antonio this year. Make your plans now to attend the convention being held at the **Menger Hotel, San Antonio, Texas, November 16th—18th**. The keynote speaker will be Depute Commander, Major General of the Joint Base (Fort Sam & Lackland). Other honored guests are the Korean Conciliate of Houston, a City Councilman from San Antonio, a Brigadier General (Ret) from USAA and a representative of the Governor's office. *This is one gala event that you do not want to miss.*

The event is being hosted by the Alamo Chapter.

AT MY MOTHER'S SIDE

By: David A. Velasco

I was at my mother's side
The day the notice came,
It said your son is missing
We share your grief and pain.
I was at my mother's side
When she cried and carried on,
I really didn't understand,
But I knew that something must be wrong.
I was at my mother's side
As she anxiously did search,
For word that would reveal to her
Where her son could be.
With the passing of my parents,
They may think the matter closed.
Just another M.I.A.
To mark our struggles fought.
An M.I.A. he is not!
He's more than that to me.
For what he meant to her,
He also means to me.
What They never realized is
I was at my mother's side.
The answers that They kept from her,
They now must give to me.

A BROTHER'S LOVE

By: David A. Velasco

You ask why I embark on this,
This search that has no hope.
If you can't feel, I can't explain.
You'll never understand.
If I were there and he were here, he'd
Do the same for me.
A brother's love cannot be measured by
Instruments of man.
No time to great of distance far to
Dissuade me from my search.
I must not stop, I will not stop.
I need to know the truth.
I cannot buy the MIA.
The line so freely used.
If I should find his last remains or know
The place he died. Then I can stand and
Speak for his and let his know I tried.
To let his know I missed him so.
To let him know I cared.
I always felt that when one dies, some
Words would ease the pain.
Some words of love some word of hope,
To rest eternally.
I know some day we'll meet again, of

But till that day has come for
me, I must continue on.
To know the men who knew
His well, his final resting
place.
I cannot buy the MIA, it does
not sit with me.

*(Written after Memorial Day
Services)*

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Plans are being made for our annual
Christmas Party. The date has been set: December
22nd, a Saturday. The cost will be \$22.00 per person.
The location has also been selected: **Brady's
Landing, 8505 Cypress St., Houston, Tx. 77012.**
Contact Nelda Napp 281-443-1809.
Make checks payable to: **KWV/TLSC**

"VOICES FROM THE FRONT"

A 15 yr old Boy Scout, Kyle Miller, is trying to compile
1,000 interviews with WWII and Korean War veterans for
his Eagle Scout project. Kyle plans to collect the stories
and post them on his website he designed with his father.
He calls the project 'Voices from the Front'.
The site, www.voicesfromthefront.org is up. Kyle has
interviewed 20 people so far and posted 5 of their stories.
If interested. Contact Kyle at his website.

MY STORY

David Velasco

My time in service is 1964—1967. That makes me a Vietnam Era Veteran. I choose to follow the Korean War Veterans, because two of my older brothers were Korean War Vets.



I was 6 yrs old in 1950, when the Korean War started. I was the kid brother that stayed behind. One of my brother's Frank A. Velasco, was lost to that war. His remains never recovered. It is because of that, together with my wife, Frances, that we are the MIA Family for the Chapter.

I also, was in Korea, 12 months, between 1964—'65. I got there by ship, "The Breckenridge", leaving out of California. After two weeks on the water, it was one of those "Oh, Oh!" moments. "What? We're going to get off here in the water?" It was over the side by cargo net to a waiting 'Landing Craft'. I never thought we would have to get off the ship that way. I had seen that type of move only in movies. I know now, the place we landed must have been Inchon. They had no docking facilities.

The landing craft took us to the beach and we formed up in groups. After a head count, we boarded a train with shades drawn and headed North. It was like they didn't want anybody to know we were there. All the other guys who had been with me went to Camp Casey. I spent three days there, and then boarded a 3/4 Ton truck and headed further North. I went to a compound located three miles South of the DMZ. It was known as 'Charlie Block'. It was not big enough to qualify as a camp. But I heard it was also known as Camp Paine. (Maybe because of what you felt when you got there!

My company was "B" Company, 707 Maintenance Battalion. Our mission there was to service Division Artillery. To be honest, going to Korea was like going to prison for a year. I lived inside a barb wire enclosure and we lived a regimented life! Much like they do in prison. We had PT after work, one road march a month with full pack, we maintained our own weapons, "to the ready". We had at least two Field Exercises during the year. The Alerts were called Field Exercises. I had heard that we were on the North Korean Invasion Route and we were expendable. The house boys used to taunt us by saying, "Snow Come! Joe Come!"

I don't have any actual "war experiences" to tell about, but I do have a Religious experience that I had while in Korea, but I guess that going to Korea was a Religious experience in itself.

One winter, the Sergeant came through our Hooch, hollering, "Round House! Round House!" We ran around loading everything we were to take with us and securing what we couldn't take. We started our trucks. After some time, the alert went to "Fast Pace". We formed our convoy and headed south to a designated Alert field. This was in the early, early morning. It was still dark! It seems like all this type of stuff is done at an inopportune time. Our Sgt. was at the Alert Field to scatter out the vehicles. Once there I had to wrestle what seemed like a 300 lbs camouflage net out of the back of the truck. Every truck had a camo net, but when finished, it looked like a truck under a camouflaged net, but we were not finished, there were many more things to do to get the camp ready to receive customers, as we were a service company. At the end of the day, I thought at last, REST! but it was not to be.

I was selected for guard duty on the perimeter. Two hours on, four hours off, so they told me. Dress warmly they told me. For clothing I wore long johns, fatigues, field pants, thermal boots, wool shirt, field jacket and parka with two sets of gloves. I thought I was ready for cold weather. My equipment was an empty rifle and a canteen of water. Two hours came and passed. Four hours came and passed! I closed my parka where I couldn't see out. The wind was stinging my face. The water in my canteen had frozen. I didn't know that moving water could freeze.

I put my empty rifle down and moved around stomping my feet, just trying to keep warm. My hands under my arm pits. My thoughts were, if they find me like this, they might get mad and take me in to a warm tent somewhere. The frustration of not being able to control your environment is incredible! Finally, I prayed! Not like you pray over a meal or pray for someone's health. But I prayed from the depth of my soul! I said "God!@ I'm cold!" A voice inside my head started a conversation with me. **Q:** Who are you? **A:** David Velasco **Comment:** Your brother Frank and Fred passed this way! Not only did they have the cold to contend with, but also a determined enemy! **Q:** What are you? **A:** An American soldier! **Comment:** the best the world has known! **Q:** Where are you from? **A:** Texas! **Comment:** Texas has some pretty tough people! **Q:** What's your heritage? **A:** Mexican **Comment:** Also, some strong and courageous people! Now! You are the brother of Fred and Frank! You are an American soldier! You are from Texas! You are of Mexican Heritage! You say you are Cold???

I guess God could have sent fire or a burning bush from heaven to keep me warm. Instead he started a fire inside of me that spread a warmth through my entire body! The warmth was based on all who had gone before me and I could do no less! I opened my Parka, faced the wind, and said, "Take your best shot!" The stinging was not as bad as it had been. I picked up my rifle and walked my post. I was undefeatable! In the morning when relief came, they said "Sorry! We forgot about you!" I did not know such cold existed anywhere in this world!

When I left Korea, there was sadness in my heart. I was leaving some of my best friends.

At this point, I would like to stand and salute ALL my older brothers!!!



“WARRIOR DONATIONS” Honor Roll for “July 2012 to July 2013”

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 2013 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:**

Ammerman, Mary Arnwine, Cleve Barnhart, Harvey Beecroft, B. E. Chavez, Jimmy Coussons, Charles Duncan, Jim Hollan, Albert Johnson, Ruth Kirk, James Levine, Janice McLendon, Mary Middlebrooks, W. Munguia, Tony Pedraza, John Robinson, Forrest Romano, Joe Singleton, Carl Sloane, Jane Spencer, Milly	Striedel, H. E. Younger, Marianne				Your editors: Lee & Charlotte Henderson * - Indicates more than one donation
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And They Ask: Why Do I Like Retirement!

Question: How many days in a week?
Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Question: When is a retiree’s bedtime?
Answer: Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?
Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: What’s the biggest gripe of retirees?
Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: Why don’t retirees mind being called Seniors?
Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?
Answer: NUTS!!

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?
Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?
Answer: Normal

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?
Answer: The never ending Coffee Break.

In Memory of —

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

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 2012—July 2013

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Member number: _____



Membership Chapter & Other Events

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 August 1, 2012

Michael Dilick M547	Tom Fitzmorris	M593
Dick Halferty M839	Rod Ramsey	M702

RENEWALS

John Alvarado	Roland English
Tony Munguia	Bennie Younger

DRAWING 7/19/2012

Hank Daumann	Deck of cards
Bob Mitchell	Deck of cards
Georgia Jackson	Homegrown Jalapeño Peppers
Hank Daumann	Wallet & pre-paid phone card
Jim Duncan	Book
Rod Ramsey	Fan
Hank Fry	Desk set
Bob Bighouse	VHS tape
Ruth Johnson	Calendar
Chris Carnero	First-aid kit

The 50/50 drawing was won by Forrest Robinson. Forrest generously donated his winnings to the *Warrior*. *Thank you very much Forrest.*

The items for the nights drawings were donated by these fine people: Ruth Johnson, Max Johnson, Bob Mitchell, Martha Ballard, Jim Duncan, Marlene Susca, and Buddy Blair. *Thank you everyone!! And a special thanks to Georgia Jackson for taking notes for me in my absence. (p.s. If I got the drawings wrong, I'm sorry. I was a little distracted.)*

* CHAPTER COIN *

Recently, members of the Board, voted to have a Chapter Coin. This coin is available for sale to members only, or spouses of deceased members, the coins can be given to anyone the member chooses.

Since it contains the image of our Monument in Austin, on one side, it cannot be sold to the general public. (This monument was given to the State of Texas.) The other side of the coin contains the Texas Lone Star Chapter emblem.

The coin sells for **\$8.50** each and members can purchase as many as they want, to give to kids or grandchildren, as a momento of your service

AUGUST

2nd - Board Meeting 4 pm
 4th - U.S. Coast Guard established --1790
 7th - Purple Heart Day
 14th - Japan Surrenders ending WWII
16th - General Meeting 6 pm

SEPTEMBER

3rd - LABOR DAY
6th - Board Meeting 4 pm
 11th - Patriot Day
18th - U.S. Air Force Established
20th - General Meeting 6 pm
 21st - POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

SUMMER GATHERING

Betty and Franko Grochoske are planning a Pot Luck Lunch on 19 August (Sunday) from noon till— Everyone is invited and please RSVP—713-941-3845.

FIREWOOD

Because of the sever drought last summer, there is a supply of firewood available. One of the people that has extra firewood is Chuck Henderson, son of Lee Henderson. Chuck lives in Huntsville and has an abundance of Oak firewood. If interested, you can contact him at 713-410-0834.

CONDOLENCES

Our sincere condolences are sent to member **Wayne Telling** and wife **Marlene**, on the recent loss of their middle son, **William Telling**. Wayne and Marlene along with their three children who live in the Houston area, traveled to California for the memorial service on Saturday, July 28th. William is survived by his wife, parents Wayne & Marlene Telling, two brothers and a sister and two nieces.

HONOR DUE

We don't have to turn to our history books for heroes. They are all around us.

*Pres. Ronald Reagan
 State of the Union Address 1/26/82*

AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

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

AUGUST ANNIVERSARY'S

<u>MEMBER & SPOUSE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEMBER & SPOUSE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
George & Margie Conrad 58 yrs 8/1/1954		Bill & Karen Hare 8/4	
Bob & Sandy Brunat 8/4		Richard & Marlene Ruppert . . . 52 yrs . . 8/6/1960	
Evelyn & Emma Jean Perkins 8/11		Vernon & Frances Coleman . . . 51 yrs . . 8/14/1961	
Ray & Amy Cipriano 8/15		Rod & Sandry Ramsey 8/15	
Stan & Betty Bozeman 8/17		Clyde & Janiece Stewart 8/18	
John & Georgia Jackson 59 yrs 8/20/1953		Jack & Adrienne Kaley 8/21	
Manuel & Rosa Ramirez 8/21		Guy & Pat McMenemy 59 yrs . . 8/22/1953	
James & Glenda Brown 52 yrs 8/27/1950		Dick & Mary Harris 8/27	
Roy & Rose Wagner 55 yrs 8/29/1957			

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

SPECIAL INVITATION FROM KOREAN GOVERNMENT TO ALL KOREAN WAR

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATION

TRIP TO KOREA WILL BE THE FINAL ONE IN 2013

YOU MAY TAKE JUST KOREAN GOVERNMENT PROGRAM ONLY OR
EXTEND TOUR TOGETHER. IT IS YOUR CHOICE
THIS JOURNEY WILL BE A DREAM COME TRUE
ONCE IN A LIFETIME

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS
I ONLY HAVE 20 SEATS AVAILABLE

THANK YOU, WON PAE PAK

5815 Creekway St. San Antonio, Texas, 78247

E-mail: kwv625@yahoo.com

KEEPING IN TOUCH - SICK BAY

Rick Henderson, son of **Lee & Charlotte Henderson**, was involved in a bad wreck on July 19th. Rick is an A/C technician, and was on his way to a business in Kingwood, traveling on 59, when he came over the overpass and found the traffic stopped. He's not sure what happened after that because he came to as the firefighters were cutting him out of the wreckage. He maintained his sense of humor by asking them to please not cut his foot. At the hospital, he was x-rayed and had ultra -sound which showed no real damage. He was very lucky as he had no broken bones, just a cut lip and loose tooth, which eventually fell out, a bruised right shoulder and right knee. He is doing fine, attends therapy twice a week for his shoulder. The down side is that his employer had to terminate him, as the insurance would not cover him driving a company truck.

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 children 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!!!

Whether you're retired from the military, presently serving in one of the branches of the armed forces, or living each day protecting and serving in the local communities of the United States of America you are to be honored for your brave sacrifice.

Your unwavering fortitude and resolve to protect the freedoms that are held dear by every American will forever impact our nation. Your individual name may not be written on the pages of American history books, but your spirit, sacrifice, and determination have written history and preserved freedom!

Perhaps President George W. Bush said it best: Your courage, your willingness to face danger for your country and for each other, made this day possible. Because of you, our nation is more secure. Our commitment to liberty is America's tradition-declared at our founding, affirmed in Franklin Roosevelt's Four Freedoms, asserted in the Truman Doctrine and in Ronald Reagan's challenge to an evil empire. In the words of the prophet Isaiah: "To the captives, 'Come out,' and to those in darkness, 'Be free'"

Thank you for serving our country and our cause.

WREATH'S ACROSS AMERICA

The Wreath's Across America campaign for 2012 has begun again.
Last year was a great success, and this years goal is to cover even more resting places than was
achieved last year. Be a part of History. Donate to the WAA.

The distribution of the Wreath's will be:
December 15, 2012 @ 11:00 AM @ Houston National Cemetery

OFFICERS

President	Hank Daumann	281-785-6992
1st Vice Pres.	Jim Duncan	713-464-0633
2nd Vice Pres.	Rod Ramsey	281-497-4054
Secretary	Roger Morris	713-729-5929
Treasurer	Bob Bighouse	713-464-3676

DIRECTORS

Term Expires		
03/13	Hank Fry	713-774-3613
03/13	Wayne Telling	281-376-0100
03/13	Forrest Robinson	832-259-3977
03/14	Carlos Ballard	281-499-5334
03/14	Dick Halferty *	832-660-8286
	* Chairman of the Board	

FORMER PRESIDENTS

1991-92 - Nat Young
1992-93 - W. B. Kirchheim
1993-94 - Don Foisie
1994-95 - James Duncan
1995 -97 - Bill Hare
1997-98 - John Jackson
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

COMMITTEES

CHAPLAIN	Max Johnson
COLOR GUARD	Don Napp, Asst. - Wayne Telling
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HISTORIAN	Carlos Ballard
MIA / POW	David Velasco
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Manny Carnero
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SGT. AT ARMS	Forrest Robinson
KOREAN COMMUNITY LIAISON-	Johnney Lee
VA CEMETERY	“Stoney” Stone / John Jackson
VA HOSPITAL	Buddy Blair
VETERANS COALITION	Jim Duncan, Stoney Stone
WARRIOR EDITOR	Lee Henderson (bhenderson49@comcast.net)
KWV MUSEUM LIAISON	Bob Mitchell
MEMBERSHIP DUES	Bob Mitchell
WEBSITE LIAISON	Jim Duncan
NEWSLETTER LIAISON	Rod Ramsey