

THE WARRIOR

Volume 18 - Issue 8

AUGUST 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!

FIFTY FIVE YEARS - ANNIVERSARY ARMISTICE of KOREAN WAR

BEAR CREEK PARK

Saturday, July 26, 2008, was the day we celebrated the end of the Korean War at Bear Creek Park, Houston. The armistice was signed July 27, 1953. This year was a bright, clear day and not too hot. (considering that there had been rain for 2 days, following Hurricane Dolly's entrance into the lower Texas coast.)



The event brought together a large group of veterans, wives, friends and relatives and members of the Korean family, The Korean-American Association of Houston. There were over 128 people in all.

This year, there was an added touch to the presentation of colors. The young men from Boy Scout troop 686 accompanied the men as they posted colors. The addition of these young men added to the solemn event. President Carlos Ballard welcomed everyone and recognized the special guests.

The Honorable Ambassador Jung-Keun Kim, Consul General of the Republic of Korea delivered a very special speech. He was followed by Mr. Su Myong Kim, the President—Korean American Association of Houston. Dr. Francis K. Lee (M.D., PHD) and president of ROKKVAH represented the Korean community and the Korean senior citizens.

The Korean Farm Dancers again entertained us with their lively and spirited dance and drum skills. The program in its entirety, depicts celebrating the success of the spring-summer harvest.

Our keynote speaker was State of Texas Representative Frank J. Corte, Jr. Representative Corte attended Texas schools and graduated in 1982 from Texas A & M where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets and the Fighting Texas Aggie Band. In 1982, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps. After 3 years of active duty, he joined the Marine Corps Reserve and was activated during the Gulf War



After 9/11 he was called back to active duty, in 2004 he completed six months of active duty assigned to United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command Korea as a policy planner. Currently, he is a Colonel and continues to serve, most recently a tour in Iraq in the Anbar Province.

MEMORIES OF MY TIME IN KOREA

By Sal Gambino



At age 17, on Dec. 6, 1949, I went to the recruiting center in New Orleans to enlist in the Marine Corps. As I passed the Coast Guard Recruiting, a Chief Petty officer was standing in the doorway and asked me if I wanted to enlist. I told him I was heading for the Marines Corps. He said son, if you like the sea, clean facilities and food on the table at all times, sign up here. He convinced me and I enlisted. I served my Basic Training in Cape May, New Jersey.. A week before graduation, we were issued a request form asking if there was any place we would like to serve? I answered, “any place but Alaska.”

Upon completion of basic training, I was sent to my hometown for five months. Stationed on a small boat, the duty was great and when in port, I got to spend time with friends and family.

The Korean war started June 25th and on October 16th, Uncle Sam invited me to take a cruise. I boarded a train to Seattle, Washington and 31 days later I was on a Troop Transport, “The Frederick Funston”, bound for Korea. There were two to three thousand servicemen aboard as we sailed.

Two days out, I along with a couple of buddies were transferred to the “Destroyer Escort ‘Ingham’”. We sailed to a point some 50-75 miles off the coast of Korea to act as a weather station. Our sister ship the ‘Taney’, rescued a pilot from the sea, and as he was being pulled aboard, the officer of the deck, went out to greet him. He said “Sir, welcome aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Taney!” The pilot asked “What in the heck is the Coast Guard doing way out here?” The deck officer replied, “Sir, we can put you back in the water if you would rather wait for the Navy”.

My service time was in no way heroic. The Coast Guard did work in and around the peninsular of Korea, there were 24 Destroyers and Destroyer Escorts serving as support vessels and acting as weather stations to assist in the safety of air traffic and shipping in and out of Korea.

I was working my way up to a Quartermaster rating and my job was steering the ship in and out of port, taking the Helm in bad weather, plotting courses and caring for the charts. After 16 days, we set sail for Valdez, Alaska, and because of my upcoming promotion to Quartermaster 3rd Class, I was transferred to the Cutter Sedge.

After all of this I ended up in the location I didn’t want to be. ALASKA!. I spent the remainder of my 18 month tour in what was then a territory of the U.S. We sailed up and down the Aleutian Islands, conducting Air Sea Rescue and Ice-breaking in Kodiak Harbor.

I returned to the United States and my last assignment was the Coast Guard Shipyard Base in Curtis Bay, Maryland. I was assigned as a sentry at the main gate. This one evening, I had been out partying and was tired. At 2330 I reported to my watch, I had the midnight shift. At about 2 am, I got sleepy, There was no traffic, so to keep awake, I decided to hose the coal dust off of my car which was located behind the Guard shack. I rolled up my pants legs, took off my jumper and hat and got to it. When I finished, I decided to hose the coal dust off the guard shack. I was standing there with the hose in my hand when a big black Limo pulled up to the gate. It was then I knew I was in big trouble, and thanked God I hadn’t removed my gun belt. I walked up to the vehicle, the rear window went down. It’s the Admiral. In a weak voice, I asked to see his ID. He handed it to me and I could have died. I returned it and saluted and they drove on. I only had a few months until my discharge and knew I would be spending it in the Brig. At 8 AM my relief said, the Lieutenant wants to see you ASAP. This man didn’t like me and had held up my promotion to Quartermaster 2nd Class until I signed over for 3 more years.

I entered his office, saluted and he let me stand there for the longest. Finally he spoke real loud and said, “Gambino, you are either the dumbest, the stupidest or the luckiest person I know. The Admiral called and said to commend the guard on the midnight shift, for in all the years he has been coming to this base, no one has taken the initiative to wash that Guard Shack down.” “Now get out of my Office”...On Dec. 5, 1952, I was discharged.

KWVA NATIONAL ELECTIONS

The votes are in and have been counted. Following is the list of your new officers for the National KWVA:

President: William (Bill) Mac Swain
LC26546 2008—2010

1st Vice Pres: James E. Ferris
LC00436 2008—2010

2nd Vice Pres: Robert S. Banker
R028382 2008—2010

DIRECTORS:

George E. Lawhon 2008—2011
Leo D. Agnew 2008—2011
Jeffrey J. Brodeur 2008—2011
Luther E. Rice, Jr. 2008—2011

These are your new officers. Please support them.

THANK YOU.....

I want to thank all of the members who have called, sent cards and expressed their good wishes and prayers during and after my recent surgery. I am overwhelmed at the show of support and I do not have the words to express fully my thanks to all of you.

Howard Nathan

DOOR PRIZE WINNERS

July 17, 2008

Marilyn Harrison Book & Candle
Ruth Johnson Digital Safe & hat
Martha BallardHomemade peach preserves
Marianne Younger Baseball cap
Billie Blair CD
Patty GambinoAloe Vero plant
Bob Mitchell Book
Maggie Bazan CD & Aloe Vero plant
Marianne Younger Lemon Soap
Chris Carnero 2 metal tins of tea
Forrest Robinson 2 Books & tool kit
Bob Mitchell ?
Benny Younger CD
Jerry Riley Napkin holder
Chris Carnero CD program
Ted Maloy Clip art CD

The 50/50 drawing—\$64/\$32, was won by Tom Mixon. Tom donated his winnings to the newsletter. *Thank you Tom.*

The items for the nights drawing were donated by these generous people: Charlotte Henderson, David Henderson, Marlene Susca, Franko Grochoske, Billie Blair, Martha Ballard, Bob Mitchell, Tom Conte, Ruby Ehrlund, Don Napp, Ruth Johnson, Marianne Younger and Betty Graves. *Thank you everyone!!*

**Plan to attend the State Convention
In Austin!!!!**

STATE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION:

The State Department Convention will be held on **September 12-13**. This is on Friday and Saturday and we will depart on Sunday, September 14, 2008. The convention will be held in **Austin, Texas** at the **Drury Hotel at 6711 I.H. 35 North**. It is on the left going in or east of I. 35. The phone number is: 512-467-9500. When making your reservations, tell them you are with the Korean War Veterans group or group number 2041475.

Cut off date is August 12, 2008 We only have one a year so let's try and make this a fun convention. Friday the 12th, the hospitality room will be open all day on Friday the 12. The hotel will furnish goodies and soft drinks both days.

Registration will be all day Friday, but come as early as possible so you can visit the city of Austin.

Saturday will be a full day with the Executive Board meeting in the morning and the General Membership meeting that afternoon.

The good news is that we were able to get the Drury to only charge us \$82.00 a day and free parking. We checked San Antonio and Drury wanted \$109.00 plus the taxes, which would run the price up about \$120.00 plus they wanted \$14.00 a day for parking. We felt Austin was a better deal.

It is very important that you try and attend. **Bill MacSwain** will be the main speaker (our new National KWVA President) and DVD of Congress giving us our National Charter, will be shown.. Bob Mitchell will the last speaker, and talk on the library and museum.

Bill MacSwain is our new **National KWVA President from Texas**, so let's show him that we are backing him. He is going to make us proud we are from Texas.



“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. The following names will be published monthly through the July 2009 issue. Be sure and have your name included. Fill in the sponsor card, seen below, or included in your July, 2008 newsletter, (those that are mailed) and return with your contribution. Thanks: Your editors: Lee & Charlotte Henderson**

Brast, Hazel Corea, Joseph Lee, Johnney Maillet, William Munguia, Tony Napp, Don Watkins, James Wilhemson, Elizabe					<p align="center"><u>In Memory of —</u></p> <p>Finks, Clark</p> <p><i>This Space is for you to Remember someone you Care for.</i></p>
---	--	--	--	---	---

The Price of Gas vs Printer Ink

These examples do not imply that gasoline is cheap; it just illustrates how outrageous some prices are.....

Think a gallon of gas in expensive?

- Diet Snapple 16 oz \$1.29..... \$ 10.32 per gallon
- Lipton Ice Tea 16 oz \$1.19 \$ 9.52 per gallon
- Gatorade 20 oz \$1.59 \$ 10.17 per gallon
- Ocean Spray 16 oz \$1.25 \$ 10.00 per gallon
- Brake Fluid 12 oz \$3.15 \$ 33.60 per gallon
- Vick’s Nyquil 6 oz \$ 8.35 \$178.13 per gallon
- Pepto Bizmol 4 oz \$3.85 \$123.20 per gallon
- Whiteout 7 oz \$1.29 \$ 25.42 per gallon
- Scope 1.5 oz \$.99\$ 84.48 per gallon

And this is the REAL KICKER...

- Evian water 9 oz \$1.49\$ 21.19 per gallon
(Evian spelled backwards is Naïve.)

Ever wonder why printers are so cheap? So they have you hooked for the ink. Someone calculated the cost of the ink at.....(you won’t believe it.....but it is true.....) \$5,200 a gallon. (five thousand two hundred dollars).

So, the next time you’re at the pump, be glad your car doesn’t run on water, Scope, or Whiteout, Pepto Bismol, Nyquil or God forbid, Printer ink!

Just a little humor to help ease the pain of your next trip to the pump.

* - Indicates more than one donation

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 2008-July 2009

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 August 1, 2008:

Mike Dilick	M 54	Tom Fitzmorris	M593
Charles Laird	M461	Angus Lewis	M716
Rod Ramsey	M702		

RENEWALS

Bill Craigmill	Arnold Johnson
William Maillet	Tony Munguia

SALUTE !!!



Recently, title 4, United States Code Section 9 was amended by the latest National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA FY2008) so that *all active and retired members of the armed forces may render the military salute while out of their respective service uniform.* All other persons should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart, or, if applicable, remove any headdress with the right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, with hand over the heart.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Christmas Party plans are in the making. Reservations have been made to have the Lone Star 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.

FRANKO & BETTY'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.

2008

AUGUST

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

SEPTEMBER

1st - Labor Day
2nd - VJ Day
7th - Grandparents day
11th - Patriot Day
18th - Board Meeting 5:00 pm
18th - General Meeting 7:00 pm
19th - POW/MIA Recognition Day
30th - First Day of Rosh Hashanah

CONDOLENCES



It is with a sad and heavy heart that we inform that **Ed Illanne** passed away Sunday, July 20, 2008. Ed was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving in both WWII and the Korean War. He proudly served as 1st Vice President and the board of directors for the Lone Star Chapter.

Ed is survived by his wife Eloise, 5 children, 14 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren and many other loving relatives and friends. He will be missed by all.

At Ed's funeral, his family walked behind a horse drawn caisson to the memorial site at the V.A Cemetery.



Correspondence:

Bill Craigmill M-552, sent his yearly dues and a short note. Keep up the good work, although I am very far away, I am happy to say I am kept well informed of the TLSC activities & events. My thanks to the editors of the "WARRIOR" monthly newsletter. Keep up the good work. (Bill lives in Canada). *Thank you Bill, we appreciate the kind words.*

WHY, WHY, WHY???

Why do we press harder on a remote control when we know the batteries are getting dead?
Why do banks charge a fee on "insufficient funds" when they know there is not enough money there already?

CORRECTION !!!!!



I apologize for the error in the July newsletter. I did not print the July Birthdays. The August Birthdays were inserted instead. Following are the July and August birthdays, and August Anniversaries.

Happy Belated Birthday to all the July birthday celebrants.

JULY BIRTHDAYS



Lucy Ortiz 1st	Jose Cambiaso 8th	Frances G. Blackmon . .17th	Johnney Lee 24th
Phyllis Ottis 2nd	Karen Hare 9th	Camila I. Lugo18th	Anita Belcher 26th
Dottie Priger2nd	Susan Belken11th	Rose Wagner 18th	Joye Moore26th
James L. Friedel 6th	William Maillet 11th	Charles Laird22nd	Alicia Vanatta26th
Jeannie Johnson 7th	Elrose Baumgart 12th	Ray Cipriano23rd	Les Fuhrman 29th
Bill Moore 7th	Helen Friedel13th	Billy Brown24th	Tom Gregory 30th
Roland Potts 7th	Anita Melcher 14th	Billie Harper 24th	John W. Barker 31st
Jack Goodwin 7th	Oscar Cortez 17th	Hilda Harris24th	

AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

Byron Dickerson 1st	Edwin Billeck 7th	Jessie Crouther 14th	Bob Ottis 23rd
H. E. Striedel 1st	Dick Tumlinson 7th	Milly Spencer 14th	Glenn Krebs26th
Marlene Ruppert1st	R. B. Sanford 10th	David Garner16th	Lorraine Preola 26th
Earnestine Sanford2nd	Joe Glass 10th	Roy Wagner16th	Paula Maloy 26th
Dottie Bruce 4th	Donald Belken 11th	Janice Stewart 18th	Mary Brown 27th
Sayoko Hambrick 5th	Janice Levine 11th	Max McLendon18th	Millie Middleton28th
Glenda Brown 5th	Joan Griffin12th	Frank Grochoske 19th	Mary Beth Fitzmorris . . 29th
James Conley 6th	Pat McMenemy12th	Jennifer Urquhart19th	Israel Gutierrez 29th
Emma Russell 6th	Punkie Nathan12th	William Baker 21st	Jonell Glass20th
Ernest Baumgart 7th	Gene Lugo 13th	Jack Kaley22nd	Joe Romano30th
Thomas Boren 7th	Mickey Spencer 13th	Neathal Kirk 23rd	

AUGUST ANNIVERSARY'S

<u>MEMBER & SPOUSE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEMBER & SPOUSE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Bill & Karen Hare	4th	Bob & Sandy Brunat	4th
Don & Betty Estill	6th	Richard & Marlene Ruppert	6th
Joe & Lorene Romano	8th	Evelyn & Emma Jean Perkins	11th
Vernon & Frances Coleman	14th	Ray & Amy Cipriano	15th
Rod & Sandra Ramsey	15th	Stan & Betty Bozeman	17th
Clyde & Janiece Stewart	18th	John & Georgia Jackson . . 55th . 8/20/53	
Jack & Adrienne Kaley	21st	Manuel & Rosa Ramirez	21st
Guy & Pat McMenemy . . . 55th . . 8/22/53		Bob & Janie Bighouse . . .56th . . 8/23/52	
James & Glenda Brown	27th	Dick & Mary Harris	27th
Roy & Rose Wagner 51st . . .8/29/57			

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

GROCERY STORE REBATES

As many of you know, we have been part of the Kroger Plus Card program, receiving rebate checks based on our members shopping. Under the new NeighbortoNeighbor program, we were told we could no longer participate because we are a 501C-19 and they only allow 501C-3 non profits. We need to appeal this to their Consumer Affairs Dept.: neighbortoneighbor@kroger.com.

KEEPING IN TOUCH — SICK BAY

Tom Fitzmorris—recently returned from Denmark, visiting his son. His son plays football and is also a coach. (As soon as Tom fills in all the blanks, we will report his trip in full).

TOWN MEETING FOR SENIOR VETERAN’S CONCERNS

UNITED WAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

50 Waugh Drive, Houston, Texas

AUGUST 7, 2006 1:30—3:30 PM

There will be several distinguished guest speakers: Harris County Judge—Ed Emmett, Houston Director, Veteran’s Affairs ...Edwin “Buddy” Grantham Undersecretary Veterans’ Affairs, President Bush’s Cabinet - Honorable R. Allen Pittman (Retired) Panel of Distinguished Experts From: Veterans’ Land Board State Legislature Veterans’ Cemetery De Bakey Veterans’ Hospital

“If any of the Korean War Veteran members are interested, please call Tracy Gee Center at 713-266-8193 to be put on the list. Bus will leave from Tracy Gee on August 7th at 11: 56 AM.

My Return Trip to Korea

By Johnney Lee

I recently made a return trip to Korea with the Sae Eden Presbyterian Church (large congregation) in Seoul, Korea. I was invited to make the trip for the 58th Anniversary of the Korean War. This was their second annual trip.

I had planned to make a trip to Korea as a fund raiser for The Korean War National Museum in Illinois, and they invited me to join them and make the tour of different cities after talking to donors.

The dates were June 21– 26, 2008, and the host was the Sae Eden Presbyterian with So Kang-Suk and Lee, Chong-Min the Korean pastors and Joseph Park the English pastor. The Elder is Kim, Chong Dae, retired Navy Admiral, Dr. Paul Jin, Sara Park and all the volunteers. There was also a greeting –address to all those participating in the Korean War Veterans Revisit Korea Program, by President George W. Bush.

Our first day, we landed at Incheon International Airport and then checked in to our five star hotel, the Lotte Hotel, followed by a Dinner Party, hosted by Pastor Kang-Suk So.

The second day, we arrived at the Sae Eden Church for the welcome event followed at the Korean War Commemoration & Korea US Friendship Promotion Worship Service. This was followed by a ceremony (Korean Traditional Performance) and Dinner Party.

The third day we arrived at Yang Hwa Jin Martyrdom Hall. Someone donated 50 bottles of soft drinks to the visitors. It was then on to Nam San Seoul Tower for a sight seeing tour. After lunch we toured Itaewon or did shopping.

The fourth day we arrived in Panmun-jum. (My favorite stop on the tour). At Panmun-jum we had lunch at the Army restaurant with the soldiers, then on to the 1st Div. Arrival event. We then arrived at the Korean War Commemoration Museum, for a tour. After dinner we returned to the Lotte Hotel.

On the fifth day, Wednesday, June 25th, we attended the **N.M.C. 6.25 Ceremony** at the National Memory Cemetery. At 11:00 we attended the **6.25 Korean War Commemoration** event and reception for President Mr. Lee, So Knog Dong.. After lunch it was on to the Jam-sil Lotte Hotel.

On the closing day, June 26th, there was breakfast than on to Incheon Airport. My special thanks to the Sae Eden Presbyterian Church and Rev. So, Kang-suk.

Pastor So, is a man driven by his desire to serve God. He started his church in a basement at Garak-dong in Seoul. He is now the pastor of Sae Eden, a big church called the “Promise Complex”, with a total floor space of 8.2 acres, with 20 thousand believers.

A special thanks to the Sae Eden Presbyterian Church, Pastor Jang Seung Chan and all the volunteers.

TEXAS LONE STAR CHAPTER
 KOREAN WAR VETERANS
 P O. BOX 802541
 HOUSTON, TX 77280-2541
 USA
 TEL/FAX (713) 774-3662
 www.kwvahouston.org

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Houston, TX
 Permit No. 10350

Return Service Requested



OFFICERS	DIRECTORS
----------	-----------

President	Carlos Ballard	281-499-5334
1st Vice Pres.	Roland English	281-495-0092
2nd Vice Pres.	Frank (Franko) Grochoske	713-941-3845
Secretary	Bob Bighouse	713-464-3676
Treasurer	Rod Ramsey	281-497-4054

Term Expires	Jim Duncan	713-464-0633
03/09	Charles Laird *	281-345-0523
03/09	Howard Nathan	281-471-8788
03/10	Z.E. (Stoney) Stone	281-375-7675
03/10	Vito Susca	281-491-1242

Charlie Ehrlund - Past-President 713-465-5172

* Chairman of the Board

FORMER PRESIDENTS	COMMITTEES
-------------------	------------

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

CHAPLAIN
 CHAPTER TELEPHONE
 COLOR GUARD
 EDUCATION
 HISTORIAN
 MIA / POW
 PARLIAMENTARIAN
 PUBLIC RELATIONS
 QUARTERMASTER
 SGT. AT ARMS
 TELEPHONE COMMITTEE
 VA CEMETERY
 VA HOSPITAL
 VETERANS COALITION
 WARRIOR EDITOR

Charles Laird / Max Johnson
 Bennie Younger
 Henry Martinez
 Travis Riley
 Mickey Spencer
 Carlos Ballard, Alternate
 Manny Carnero
 Howard Nathan
 John Jackson
 Sal Gambino
 Bob Mitchell
 “Stoney” Stone / John Jackson / Charles Laird
 Buddy Blair
 Howard Nathan
 Lee Henderson (bhenderson49@comcast.net)
 (713) 946-9194