

The Schuttlebutt

Vol. 13, No. 10 October 2010

The Newsletter of the Korean War Veterans of Lake County (FL),
Inc., Chapter 169, Chartered 1998 <http://cid169.kwva.org>



60th Anniversary in Tampa



Seven 169 members were able to be in this picture which was taken immediately after the medallions were given: standing from left, Ted Jansen, Charlie White, Dwight Brown, and Dick Christie; seated, Ted Morford, Tom Thiel and Ed Pilarski. We apologize for not getting all members together for one photo. See pg. 4-5.

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"Guardians of Freedom: Celebrating America's Veterans."



Dwight Brown says that one belongs to organization in order to give of himself, not to see what he can get from it. And certainly, Dwight is living proof of him living his philosophy!

At the left is how Dwight has put together OUR EXHIBIT at the Guardians of Freedom celebration at the Carriage Museum, November 5-9.

Sadly, only Joe Gruber, Bob McGinty, Don Van Beck, Charlie White, Bill Simunek, Jack Reynolds, Bill Shumaker, Ed Pilarski, Carol Becker, Ted Jansen, Jack Geisinger, Gene LaJeunesse and I have signed up to help Dwight man the 40-hour exhibit.



Our 56th Member Our 57th Member



Meet our newest members, Bert Horvath (l) and Claus Tiesman. Bert and Rosalee live on Pennbrooke Pkwy in Leesburg; Bert served with 8th Army Headquarters from 1950-51. Claus and Wilma Jean live on Clara Drive also in Leesburg; Claus served with the 1st Marine Division June 1952 to Aug. 1953. Welcome Bert and Claus!

With the addition of Bert and Claus, the Association's Membership database shows 57 members. Our goal is to complete this year with 60 members.

It takes everyone to help build membership. Bob McGinty was responsible for both Bert and Claus. Don Van Beck is providing a lot of new leads.

In last two years we have welcomed 22 new members; 8 last year and 14 this year; 12 from Leesburg, two each, Lady Lake, Wildwood, and The Villages; and one each Yalaha, Tavares, Summerfield, and Mount Dora. One of these, Billy Gaston passed away just this year.

Permit me a few observations:

There were no new members the previous two years,

I'm not aware that our participation in the Villages' events has directly resulted in us obtaining any new members during the past two years.

Currently our Color Guard is being used with the Village's Voices for 3 events, two at the Villages and one at Seminole College. We were not mentioned in the news article on these. We do not have literature there for Korean Vets to pick up (We should!!), and

Everyone must be a salesperson—everyone must sell the Chapter!

RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATIONS



Jack Reynolds and Joe Lewis are giving membership their best shot!

They will be contacting mobile home residential associations starting in November to arrange for us to come to their recreation centers, and over coffee and donuts tell them about the Chapter and KWVA.

Jack has compiled a list of some 40 such residential communities.

If you would like to help Jack and Joe on this please contact Jack at 630 Misti Dr, Leesburg, FL, 34788-2447, (352) 728-3928, jreynolds1@comcast.net or to tthiel9@gmail.com

Chapter Eddie Ko Veteran of the Year Award

The Chapter created its own Eddie Ko award last year. The award is reserved for that person contributing the most to the Chapter during the past year. Recognition will be at the Christmas party. Also, any other awards to be made. The Awards committee is composed of: Gruber, Gleason, White, and Reynolds.



Chapter Funds Fund raising

Treasurer Jansen reported that we have the following funds: Checking: \$2,941.48; Savings CD: \$3,533.19; In Scholarship, approximately: \$1,146.

We should still leverage on the 60th Anniv of start of the Korean War, June 25, and plan multiple Tell America/Fund Raising events.

One more such event this year? Member support needed for all:

- Charlie White at Publix at Palm Plaza
- Dwight Brown again at Publix in The Villages—Publix has declined until after 1st of next year.
- Gleason et al at Publix Bellevue
- Thiel at Publix in Mount Dora.
- Joe Gruber suggested one at the Walmart on west 466 near where he lives. Not sure of the plan, but if one can be arranged we will get the needed help.

Bob Evans fundraiser: Judy Christie has contacted Bob Evans about a fundraiser with their locations in Leesburg and the Villages. She had previously contacted Friendly's in Eustis for the same ques-

(Continued on page 4)

Boosters

LNAME	FNAME	BST10	BST11
Becker	Carol M	\$15	
Burke	Arthur L	\$13	
Canale	Art	\$63	
Falo	Anthony R	\$10	
Gaston	Zillah		\$50
Houp	James	\$10	
Lynch	Donald J	\$120	
McGinty	Robert A	\$3	
Morford	Ted	\$100	
Olson	Harry	\$100	
Pilarski	Edward	\$13	
Rodgers	John R	\$13	
Sell	Warren J		\$38
Shumaker	William D	\$3	
Sievers	Harold E	\$44	
Simunek	William C	\$3	
Strausbaugh	Harvey E	\$8	
Thiel	Tom J	\$13	
White	Charles W	\$15	
Yohn	Alta	\$500	
SUM		\$1,031	\$88

<http://cid169.kwva.org>

In new Graybeards

Joan Bernat's article on Ray Baumbach's presentation at the Villages Memorial on POW Day appeared on pages 34-35. It was titled "Chapter holds July 27 Armistice Day event." (hey, we don't do the titles). Thank you Joan.

Chapter 169 made the TELL AMERICA HONOR ROLL on page 52.

And an article in the Tell America section entitled "Chapter awards laptop computer to Lady Lake, FL man" on page 55. The two articles had photographs, both of whom have appeared in an earlier *Schuttlebutt*.

Dept. of Florida

Council meeting, Saturday January 15, 2011, The Ocala Hilton 3600 SW 36th Ave Ocala; large member turnout desired. Receiving communications from DFL urging us to register now; form is on the web site under Links and Dept of Florida.

The Department is **looking for KWVA members to fill important positions**. Among them are members of the Board of Directors, Secretary and Treasurer. If you would like to run for one of these positions, or run for any position, please see our web site, <http://cid169.kwva.org> or contact Pres. Thiel

Chapter Officers and Directors

Officer	LNAME	FNAME	Phone	E-Mail
President	Thiel	Tom J	(352) 357-3943	kwva169@gmail.com
VP 1st	Gruber	Joseph J	(352) 750-0286	jlnancy@embarqmail.com
VP 2nd	White	Charles W	(352) 787-1885	
Secretary	Strasser	John N	(352) 253-1499	dot1jack@embarqmail.com
Treas	Jansen	Ted S	(352) 787-7818	tedj29@aol.com
Chaplin	Sievers	Harold E	(352) 753-4929	colsievers2@aol.com
Sgt @ Arms	Pilarski	Edward	(352) 742-1997	edjpolo@embarqmail.com
Dir	Van Beck	Donald L	(352) 343-1529	seafari.vb@juno.com
Dir	Reynolds	Jack D	(352) 728-3928	mjreynolds1@comcast.net
Dir	Gleason	Martin J	(352) 245-9691	
Dir	Pfahler	Richard N	(352) 787-4681	vpfahler@embarqmail.com
Dir	McGinty	Robert A	(352) 742-1901	09.islefohr@embarqmail.com
IPP	Canale	Art	(352) 750-2505	jcanale1@aol.com
Hist	Becker	Carol M	(352) 394-5451	carolbecker@juno.com

COMMEMORATION BANQUET FOR THE 60th ANNIVERSARY OF THE START of the KOREAN WAR, Tampa, FL October 9, 2010.

This beautiful and inspiring program was financially underwritten by the Kim Family Foundation of Ruskin.

The South Korean Government, and Eddie Ko were also prominently involved.

There were about 475 total attendees. Chapter 169 probably had the largest Chapter contingent there; 32 total, including Ted and Marie Morford from Nashville.

The Methodist Church bus was excellent and we thank Ted Jansen for arranging for it.

But unfortunately, only 16 of us ended up taking the bus! And this after most everyone said they thought it an excellent idea, and at one time it was projected to not be sufficient.

There were 8 unused seats; and the Chapter paid for them.

Treasurer Jansen said that in the future we should charge for any bus transportation up front at time of reserving a spot.

Selected photos are reproduced here and on the next page. Please see the program, and two sets of photos on the Chapter's website; thanks to Carol Becker and Tom Thiel for the photos.

(Continued from page 3)

tion. We have deferred these until early 2011. Members were asked if they thought we ought to proceed; they overwhelmingly did. Judy asked that we begin by selecting a place and date and then make plans to proceed. All members will need to promote this event and actually come to the dinners. (We all especially thank Judy for her efforts with this!)



Don Lynch, Delores and Olavi Laasko, and Gunther and Ingeborg Noder



Ray and Pat Baumbach, Tom Gavura, Harold Sievers, and Jackie Gleason



Jack and Dottie Strasser, Bill and Janet Simunek, and Don Van Beck



Charlie White, Ed and Darlene Pilarski, Ted and Marilyn Jansen



Bert and Rosalee Horvath, Chris and Bob McGinty, and Joe Gruber



Marie and Ted Morford, and Tom Thiel.



Lee and Dwight Brown and Dick and Judy Christie



Ted Morford, Tom Thiel and Commander Pavlos and Leonidas Michalacos. Pavlos is the Greek Military Liaison at Cen. Com. Leonidas is his son.



The photo at the left is of Carol Becker, and the special person at their table. He is not just holding Carol's hands, together they are showing the beautiful special 60th Anniversary medallion set that was awarded to all Tampa attendees!

There is a very good possibility that we can get these medallions for all our members who were not in attendance. I have been asked to compile the names, addresses, phone numbers, dates served in or about Korea and their Branch of service. I am doing this now and find that I am needing some of that latter information. If you are interested, please get it to me ASAP: 357-3943 or kwva169@gmail.com. TJT

TELL AMERICA at Carver School, Nov. 8

TELL AMERICA AT CARVER SCHOOL program will be on November 8; the school is located at 1200 N. Beecher Street, Lsbg, off Griffin Road just west of the Senior Center. Be there about 8:00 a.m. See last year's program on our web site. We eat breakfast and lunch with the students.

Our Tell America Team Members are: Jack Geisinger, Dick Pfahler, Al Schuetz (recovering from surgery), Harold Sievers, Tom Thiel, Don Van Beck, and Charlie White. Our Chapter has been invited to do the Flag Folding after lunch.

Since we needed a flag for folding and possibly presenting to Carver School, Thiel and White decided to order 5—4x6 Flags from Chapter 192, Hank Butler, at \$22 ea. plus \$1 postage. We will sell at cost to any member wishing one.

Photographs are a critical need! We must get many good photographs so we can tell the story.

Veteran's Aid and Attendance Benefits

If you are Veteran or the widow(er) of a Veteran you may be entitled to collect \$1,000 to \$2,000 tax-free per month that you earned through your service to our country. Most Veterans nationwide are still unaware of the Aid & Attendance benefit available through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Designed to help pay health care costs, this benefit can be a lifesaver (or at least a budget saver) to those aging Veterans and their widow(er)s who face the challenge of paying spiraling health care costs while maintaining their quality of life.

The VA has done very little to advertise the existence of this benefit. World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans are in need of assistance and even dying in our community daily without knowing they are entitled to a monthly check from the VA to help them.

This is also true of widows who are often hit hard after losing a spouse. By VA estimates, only one in seven widows of war veterans who could qualify for this benefit actually receive any VA funds.

What is Aid & Attendance and how do you know if you or a loved one is eligible?

Aid & Attendance is a disability pension available to Veterans and their widows to assist in paying unreimbursed medical expenses (such as in-home care, assisted living or nursing home expenses).

To qualify a veteran must:

- have served at least 90 consecutive days on active duty, at least one of those during a wartime period
- have received a general or honorable discharge
- be 65 years or older
- need the assistance of another person with at least two activities of daily living (ADLs - such as dressing, bathing, or walking)

A Widow(ER) MUST:

- have been married to the Veteran at the time of his/her death
- not have remarried
- have been married to the Veteran at least twelve

months unless they had a child together

- need the assistance of another person with at least two ADLs

NOTE: For those who do not need assistance with at least two ADLs, there are other cash benefits available for people who are housebound or simply have unreimbursed monthly medical expenses which are greater than their income.

There are also income and asset limitations. This is where many Veterans give up before realizing even people with significant income and assets often qualify. Also, the VA does not count the residence, auto, or small life insurance policies as assets.

Those who have significant assets or income should not be discouraged. There are many planning avenues available to structure income, medical expenses and assets so that Veterans (and their widow(er)s) can qualify. Anyone interested in applying should consult an attorney, accredited by the VA, who is knowledgeable about this benefit.

SO WHAT IS THE BENEFIT WORTH? SIGNIFICANT TAX-FREE MONEY FOR THOSE WHO QUALIFY:

- \$1,949/month to a married Veteran
- \$1,644/month to a single Veteran
- \$1,056/month to a widow(er)

This is cash payment to the Veteran or widow(er).

The VA makes no promises about when benefits will begin but, once approved, payments are retroactive almost to the date of application. So there is an advantage to applying as soon as possible and persistence is the name of the game.

Be careful when seeking information about this benefit. Well-meaning VA representatives have given out incorrect information as much as 40% of the time when contacted. That alone is good reason to seek professional advice.

If you know of a Veteran who might qualify, please let him or her know about Aid & Attendance. You can make a real difference in that person's life.



Eagle Canes for Disabled Veterans:

Our newest member, Claus Tiesman (left), told us about a project he and Ralph Rosignol have underway in their Lakewood Carver's Club.

They are fashioning quite attractive Eagle canes free of charge to disabled veterans who have received the Purple Heart.

A copy of their material and application form will soon be posted on our web site.

Sick Call

We are aware of the following members who are ailing:

Al Scheutz is recovering from a gall bladder infection and subsequent surgery.

Jack Strasser is trying to recover from the shingles.

Ron Regan from a variety of health issues, including a pacemaker, hearing and vision problems.

Rod Layer says his heart is still not strong enough to enable him to participate in activities.

Leonard Seidelman says "I am doing a little better having a special brace made for my leg. I am using a walker but still having problems getting out of low chairs. Going to try and make the Nov. meeting."

If you know of anyone ill please inform: Chaplain Harold Sievers, 352-753-4929 col-sievers2@aol.com or Tom Thiel 357-3943, kwva169@gmail.com

October Motions

The following motion was approved: "We the members of Chapter 169 present here today, October 27, 2010, do hereby declare that our Chapter President precisely and completely acted as we directed him in the matter of contacting any and all non-Chapter members desiring to be in the Chapter's Color Guard, informing these individual(s) of our decision to not allow any further non-member participation in said activities. Furthermore, we do hereby also state that subject person's slurry insult of our President is taken as a slurry insult to each of us, and we do hereby state our great disappointment in subject individual."

Motion approved recognizing and thanking Carol Becker for making still another Fund Raising table cover at no costs to our Chapter, and for all the photographs she has had printed at Walmart and Walgreens. Thank you Carol!

Chapter Future Schedule

Friday, November 05, 2010	Guardians Freedom -- thru Nov 9	Equine Heritage Institute	
Monday, November 08, 2010	Tell America	Carver School	8:00 AM
Thursday, November 11, 2010	Veterans Day	Veterans Memorial The Villages	10:00 AM
Wednesday, November 17, 2010	Member meeting	Leesburg Senior Center	2:00 PM
Tuesday, December 07, 2010	Pearl Harbor Day	Veterans Memorial The Villages	10:00 AM
Friday, December 17, 2010	Annual Christmas Dinner	Mission Inn Howy in the Hills	11:15 AM
Saturday, January 15, 2011	DFL Council Meeting	Ocala Hilton	10:00 AM
Wednesday, January 26, 2011	Member meeting/ New Officers	Leesburg Senior Center	2:00 PM
Tuesday, February 01, 2011	Tell America actual date TBD	St. Paul's Catholic School	TBD

Annual Christmas Party-Friday, December 17!

Our combined Chapter 169-188 annual Christmas Party will be on Friday December 17 at the Mission Inn, 10400 County Rd 48, Howey-in-the-Hills. Please—spouses or significant others are invited.

The cost will be \$17 per person, which includes gratuities and taxes. Please make your checks payable to KWVA and put Christmas Party in the memo block. Get them to Joe Gruber, 420 Thistledown Way, The Villages, FL 32162, (352) 750-0286, jlnancy@embarqmail.com NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1!

Al Leslie will provide music. Entertainment will be 10 lovely lady hula-dancers at 1:00 p.m. We will have a speaker from the VA for about 10 minutes. And last but not least Eddie and Joann Ko have accepted our invitation. Set-up committee should be there 10:30 a.m.; all others by 11:15 a.m. Meal will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Fifty-fifty by and for both Chapters. Chapter awards may be made, but there will be no installation of officers. You may wear your uniforms if you wish, but the dress of the day will be apparel appropriate for the place and time of the year. Much thanks Co-chairs Carol and Bob; everyone please come.

Officers for 2011-12.

Current officer terms end December 31; it is time to obtain a new slate. Make your nominees, including yourselves, known to the Nominations Committee: Sievers, White, Lynch, and Gleason.

To all of the 21 of you who have joined in the last two years, this is your President's urgent appeal for you to consider a leadership role in your organization.

Next Meeting November 17. Election of Officers

VETERANS MEMORIAL at FOUNTAIN PARK

If you have become a KWVA member after June 1, 2009, please send a copy of your DD-214, or equivalent documentation, to Don Van Beck, Veterans Memorial at Fountain Park, 411 Main Street, Leesburg, 34748. Be certain to mark on it that you are a member of KWVA Chapter 169 and to have it marked to the attention of Mr. Van Beck.

Revisit Korea Presentation

While in Korea on his Revisit Korea tour in September, Dwight Brown video recorded most of his trip and has now edited that to show via his laptop computer and computer projector.

Dwight showed it after last Wednesday's Member meeting.

It was great to see all those scenes of Korea, especially Inchon and Seoul, which most of us saw totally flattened and/or burned out. And he also showed us the Han River bridge.

We sincerely thank Dwight for his efforts, which we appreciate very much. We are exploring placing it on our web site as well.



Membership Dues Dates—Chapter, Department & Association

LNAME	FNAME	ASSOC	C DUE DT	AMT
Strasser	John N	R041471	11/03/10	\$37
Burke	Arthur L	R040747	11/24/10	\$37
Wiggelsworth	Ernest	R041541	12/07/10	\$37
Pfahler	Richard N	R040780	12/09/10	\$37
Corriveau	Ben	R040801	12/16/10	\$37
Canale	Art	R038775	01/01/11	\$37
White	Charles W	R033792	01/01/11	\$37
Hall	Duane	R024656	01/01/11	\$37
Sievers	Harold E	R027799	01/01/11	\$37
Laten	Harold N.	LR08406	01/01/11	\$12
McBroom	John B	LR34827	01/01/11	\$12
Seidelman	Leonard	R024568	01/01/11	\$37
McMahon	Murray D	R024785	01/01/11	\$37
McGinty	Robert A	LR10362	01/01/11	\$12
Layer	Rodney L	L040781	01/01/11	\$12
Thiel	Tom J	R032530	01/01/11	\$37
Hungerford	William D	LR24774	01/01/11	\$12
LaJeunesse	Eugene C	R041623	01/05/11	\$25
Noder	Guenther F	R041624	01/05/11	\$37
Dasilva	Almar J	R041705	02/04/11	\$37
Reynolds	Jack D	R041706	02/04/11	\$37
Falo	Anthony R	R040925	02/11/11	\$37
Good	Donald N	R040923	02/11/11	\$37
Pilarski	Edward	R040924	02/11/11	\$37
Back	William E	R024207	02/11/11	\$37

Chapter dues renewal dates now correspond with the Association renewal date. Members with one or more of these dues payable anytime from now until the end of FEBRUARY 2011 are shown at the right.

A number of those listed with a 1/1/2011 due date are Life Members of the Association, but Chapter dues are still payable on the date shown. The total amount is also shown.

This is the only notice you will receive from the Chapter asking for your dues as we do not wish to incur the costs of separate mailings.

Thank you for renewing promptly. Please use form below.

KWVA CHAPTER 169 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NOT TO BE USED FOR NEW APPLICATIONS

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY: DATE: _____ / _____ / 2010 [2011]

NAME: _____ Spouse Name: _____

ADDRESS (if changed): _____ (APT/SUITE/LOT # _____)

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____

TELEPHONE: (_____) _____ Cell (_____) _____

email: _____ @ _____ DOB: _____

Chapter 169 Dues: \$10.00, Amt Enclosed:\$ _____ Assoc. Number: _____

Dept. of FL Dues: \$2.00, Amt Enclosed:\$ _____ Requested of all Regular and Life Members

Assoc. (Nat'l) Dues: \$25.00, Amt Enclosed:\$ _____

Chapter Boosters: Amt Enclosed:\$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Check _____ Cash _____ Signature: _____

I understand that by paying my Chapter dues I am entitled to participate in membership meetings and activities, receive the *Schuttlebutt* either by email or snail mail, vote, and serve as a chapter officer, director, committee or color guard member.

Make Check Payable to KWVA Chapter 169; mail to: KWVA, Chapter 169, P.O. Box 491428, Leesburg, FL 34849-1428.

Korean Veterans Helping Veterans

Founded in 1998 by Martin "Jackie" Gleason and Joseph Turner (deceased), The KWVA of Lake County, Chapter 169 strives to:

- ◆ Promote recognition of the Korean War, and its Veterans.
- ◆ Educate the public, especially our youth, about the Korean War and the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the war. Tell America!
- ◆ Provide a venue for the fellowship and comradeship of all veterans who ever served in Korea!

Canned Food & Clothing

Bring to the next meeting. Clean & folded in bags.

Dick Pfahler will accept and deliver your donations to the Leesburg Food Bank or other bona fide charity.

Leesburg Senior Center, 1211 Penn St



**Meet every fourth
Wednesday at
2:00 P.M.**

**Please help us cut mailing costs and labor. Send an email to kwva169@Gmail.com if you have an email address, and are receiving this by US Mail.
Schuttlebutt Deadline, Tuesday following Member Meeting.**

The Schuttlebutt
Korean War Veterans of Lake
County FL, Chapter 169
Tom J. Thiel, Pres & Editor
P.O. Box 491428
Leesburg, FL 34849-1428



VETERAN'S DAY PROMOTIONS

Golden Corral's Thank You Veterans Dinner Monday November 15

**Free Hugo® Canes for Veterans
Sam's Club, November 10th, 11th
and 12th, 2010**

**Applebee's Thanking All Veterans,
Thursday, November 11, 2010**