

The *Schuttlebutt*

Vol. 14, No. 01 January 2011

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



2011 Officers Sworn-in



January 26, 2011, Chapter and Department Chaplain Harold Sievers (right), swears-in the 2011 Chapter Officers team; from right: President Tom Thiel, 1st VP Dwight Brown, 2nd VP Jack Reynolds, Treasurer Joe Grubler, Alt. Sec./Treas. Bill Shumaker, Secretary Charlie White, and Sergeant-at-Arms and Director Ted Jansen. Immediately thereafter Chaplain Sievers also swore-in all members, especially those joining recently who had not been properly received. This was at the Senior Center at the beginning of our Chapter 169 Member meeting on January 26.



Carol Becker Award

Joe Gruber presents Chapter Award for 2010 to Carol Becker who was not at the Christmas party. The Chapter greatly appreciates all that Carol does, including Photo-Historian, Activities, and Chapter Seamstress! Yea Carol!

Next Meeting: February 23, 2:00 p.m., at Senior Center. Fred Harrop from the Sumter County Veterans Affairs Office.

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On Membership

Membership and moneys; two things an organization must have to be effective. That is why they are so predominant in our efforts.

We did not sign any new members at our January meeting; we did, however, have five guests.

Jack Spearman and **David Devine** of the Blue Parrot Community were guests of Dwight Brown; David served with the 1st Cav in Korea 1950 and Jack with the USAF in 1967-68 also in Korea. They heard about us from Dwight when he visited the Blue Parrot as an extension of Jack Reynolds's program.

Rob Roy from Leesburg CR 33 area served in the Army in Korea in 1950.

George Maxin of Mount Dora found out about us from the Sentinel Lake paper; George served with the 24th/19th in Korea 1953-54.

And last but not least **Carl Russell**, who came with Harry Olson. Both live in the Holiday Travel Resort, CR33 in Leesburg in the win-

ter. We had the pleasure of Carl visiting us in Jan. and Feb. 2009. Carl was our 50:50 winner at the latter meeting, and, guess what, he won the 50:50 last Wednesday! Welcome one and all!

Membership now 55.

The Association's Membership database shows we have 55 Active and 3 Inactive members. President Thiel maintains both the Association as well as a Chapter membership file on his own computer for the many purposes the Association base does not meet.

It shows that we have two more members, one Gold Star Spouse and one Honorary Associate Member.

But sadly, it also shows that seven members with a due date of 1/1/2011 or earlier have not paid one or more of the dues they owe, and hence cannot be considered members. These persons will be notified with this *Schuttlebutt*, after which they will be dropped from the Active roster.

Our membership goal was to complete 2010 with 60 members on the Association DB; we fell two short before renewals caught up with us. We need to set a goal for 2011; we think that 65 or more should be reachable.

Efforts to get new members:

VP Reynolds told of his efforts contacting mobile home residential associations to try to arrange for us to come to their recreation centers, and over coffee and donuts tell them about the Chapter and KWVA. Joe Lewis is helping Jack as are some other members, Dwight Brown being one.

But Jack has asked again for additional teams to help.

Harry Olson is one of those who is helping by planning one of these events for Thursday, Feb. 10, from 9:30-11:00 a.m., at the Activity Center, Holiday Travel Resort, CR33 — ½ mi W of U.S. 27, Leesburg. A press release was sent to the Daily Commercial and to the Lake Sentinel. ###

Funds *Continued from page 3)*

This in itself is a major Chapter achievement since I do not believe that the Chapter has ever had multiple fund-raising tables in an event before.

But that leaves seven Publix stores still to be addressed. We have some plans on how to address these either with more teams or with our existing teams doing more than one store. Additionally, we will also ask

each member to commit to selling tickets individually like we had done last year.

Please consider your role in your Chapter and ask yourself if you could be helping your Chapter more.

Dwight put a lot of work into this for which we are truly grateful.

We will do what it takes to make it a success! TJT

And on Funds

On the Funds side

Treasurer Gruber reported that we have a total of \$5,549.63 in the bank. Your new officers have met at the bank and the account now reflects our P.O. Box address to avoid the biannual ritual of changing checks.

President Thiel then presented a "tentative 2011 budget" and told of his plans for tracking income and expenses against that budget. A motion approving this budget as an annual working tool was approved.

Funds Raising/Annual Drawing

VP Dwight Brown, our Funds Committee chairperson, then discussed plans for the 2011 Chapter Drawing / Fund Raising/Tell America Event.

The Board at several early January meetings agreed to again hold a drawing and authorized procurement of the prizes.

The drive is to begin in March and culminate at our July 27, 2011 Member Meeting when the drawing will be held.

Dwight and Joe Gruber purchased the prizes approved by the Board, two 24-in flat panel Televisions.

Dwight planned for the Chapter manning exhibit-funds tables at each of twelve Publix stores in our general area from Bellevue to Mount Dora. He developed a packet containing all materials that members would need to approach store managers, including a letter explaining who we are and what we do, our state and federal 501c19 papers, our liability insurance, a list of members authorized to participate and 40 tickets.

But, after some extensive discussion at our January meeting it became evident that we could not get all twelve teams populated from the 24 members present at the meeting.

Five teams were organized with the following team leaders: Jack Gleason in Bellevue, Tony Falò in the Villages, Jack Reynolds in the Leesburg Mall area, Charlie White at the Palm Plaza, and Tom Thiel at Mount Dora.

(See Funds Continued on page 2)

On Memorial Bricks for deceased members:

At our Nov 18, 2010 meeting, a motion was offered and seconded to purchase bricks for all deceased Chapter members; that motion was then placed on the table until more information could be obtained about bricks already at Villages Memorial, and who paid for them. The motion was taken from the table and placed on the floor for action at the January 26, 2011 meeting.

This was originally suggested by Ted Morford in recognition of John Yohn; Ted thought that we

might also want to do the same for other members who have passed away. Some questions raised: (a) How much for a brick? Villages \$55; VMFP \$50; (b) At the Villages or at VMFP? (c) What about past members? and (d) Will this become our policy?

Harold Sievers determined that eight former 169 deceased members had bricks at the Villages; only one of these is known to have been paid for by the Chapter (Marcelle). Ray Wilkensen, has a memorial in Marion County.

Our discussion included such items as: a) that the Chapter have a uniform policy for all its members, b) that it is not clear if the Chapter will be able to support such a policy five or so years in the future, and c) that all Chapter 169 members will fairly soon have, a priori, their names engraved on the wall at VMFP, unless they have opted out.

The motion question was then called; there were 5 yeas and 13 nays. Motion failed.



Eric Laasko, son of Olavi and Delores Laasko, Dies Suddenly

POMPANO BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Former Miami Dolphins tackle Eric Laasko, 54, a member of two Super Bowl teams in the 1980s, was found dead of natural causes in Pompano Beach on Christmas Night, according to the Broward Medical Examiner's Office. Laasko, who had battled heart disease, was son of our fellow Chapter 169 member Olavi and Delores Laasko. Laasko played at Tulane before being drafted by the

Dolphins in 1978. He spent seven seasons with them, started 61 games and was part of Miami's two most recent Super Bowl teams in 1982 and 1984.

A funeral was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Menorah Gardens in Southwest Ranches, Fla.

Olavi and Delores Laasko, 25409 Waterbrook Ct., Leesburg, FL, 34748, (352) 365-2786,

Tell America

Tell America is a new Chapter Program designed to tell America about the Korean War, it's impact on America and on freedom, how South Korea has become a freedom showcase in Asia, and about those who have served in Korea since the war. Our emphasis has been mainly on school children, who are both very receptive and tremendous to work with.

Events planned are as follows: St.

Paul's Catholic School, February 3. We will be meeting with 7th and 8th graders (be at the school on Sunshine Avenue, Leesburg about 7:45 a.m.).

Others being planned are: the Boys and Girls Club of Leesburg, Leesburg High, First Academy, Holy Trinity, and Carver School, which we share with the AmVets.

See the website <http://cid169.kwva.org> or past Schuttlebutts (also on website) or Gray-

beards to see more about these programs.

Our Tell America members: Harold Sievers, Dick Pfahler, Don Van Beck, Jack Geisinger, Charlie White, Al Schuetz and Tom Thiel. All members are welcome.

A motion was approved at the January 26, 2011 meeting to award a portion of the Chapter's Scholarship reserves to our Tell America program, including awards to students.

Chapter Activities:

The Social Event scheduled for the Golden Corral was cancelled due to lack of sufficient member participants.

Picnic Tentative April 27 at Hickory Point.

Christmas Party Tentative for December 14.

Department of Florida

Council meeting, was Saturday January 15, 2011. Brown, Reynolds, White, Gruber, Shumaker, Becker, Canale and Gleason attended.

Annual Convention, May 6-8, Ocala Hilton, 3600 SW 36th Ave, Ocala; large member turnout desired. See Chapter Website, Links and Dept of Florida.

Thiel is on Web Committee

Lakewood Carvers free Canes for disabled Veterans project: Claus Tiesmann announced that applicants for free hand-carved canes no longer need to have been wounded in combat in order to be considered for a free cane; he urged members needing canes to apply. See: http://cid169.kwva.org/chapter_official_activities/documents/Tieswman%20Cane%20Project.pdf Call Claus at (352) 742-0110



Your Color Guard needs You!

Our Color Guard is our showcase; it is special. But we have been one or more short on several occasions.

We urgently need one or two new members

Please give **Charlie White** a call at 787-1885 if you might be interested in serving. Or call me, tjt

Chapter Web Site:

<http://cid169.kwva.org/> Go to the site often as it is constantly changing. Remember to include as a chapter resource with anything you write, etc.

Sick Call

We are aware of the following members who are ailing:

- **Arthur Burke** emailed me to let me know he has been saddled with a long time ailment.
- **Harvey Strausbaugh** is also dealing with a serious health challenge.
- Are there others; Including family members?
- Let us know please!

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

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year to all - YA FELIZ NAVIDAD from Keller, TEXAS, Mary Lum

60th Anniversary Medallions. We received email late Friday 1/21/2011 from Korean Consulate in Atlanta asking for names of those members who have not received said medallion and certificate; list supplied half-hour after request received. Atlanta does not have the medallions on hand, but we are quite confident that all members will receive theirs soon. Unlike some countries, South Korea truly appreciates what we did 60 years ago!

When a man is gone from this earth, he will be measured by what he gave, not what he got. I believe this to be true. Dwight Brown from his grandfather via his father.

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.

Construction to begin Feb. 15 and dedication will be on Nov 13.

2010-11 Boosters

LNAME	FNAME	BST10	BST11
Becker	Carol M	\$15	
Burke	Arthur L	\$13	
Canale	Art	\$63	\$63
Falo	Anthony R	\$10	
Hackett	Robert A	\$0	
Hanold	Audley W	\$0	
Houp	James	\$10	
LaJeunesse	Eugene C		\$15
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	\$3
Simunek	William C	\$3	
Strausbaugh	Harvey E	\$8	\$5
Thiel	Tom J	\$13	
White	Charles W	\$15	
Beyerly	Lillian L		\$100
Gaston	Mrs. Zillah		\$50
Yohn	Mrs. Alta	\$500	
SUM		\$1,031	\$274

President's Message

Happy 2011, albeit a wee bit late. It promises to be a great year!

I have great hopes for the Chapter in 2011. First of all, your new officers have gotten together three times prior to the Jan 26 Member Meeting to plan and organize.

The new year looks good because several members tell me that they can foresee our membership reaching 65 or 70! I hope so and I also hope that a good portion of those members come from that community of veterans who served in Korea after the war ceased. We need their new perspectives and talents.

And it appears that we will be on firm ground financially as well. We start the year on a firm basis and our leaders are planning a number of activities to enhance funding.

Members and funds—seems like I am always harping on that but without both, we really cannot survive. So, you will likely hear it again—often.

And our year looks exciting from an activities point of view also.

Though we have had to cancel the social event planned for Feb 18, I want to raise that item again. And it is not too early to again begin to plan for our April picnic at Hickory Point and our Christmas party in December.

Our Chapter has finally gotten active in the KWVA Tell America program which also promises to be exciting. If any of you might think you'd like to become active in this, give it a try—I assure you there is nothing like visiting with children!

Our Honor Guard continues as our showpiece; you can be proud of your Guard. It has more than a half-dozen appearances scheduled for the Village's Memorial and at least one for the Veterans Memorial at Fountain Park.

The VMFP is another activity for us to get behind. For our newer members that project came from our Chapter which nursed it for a while and when it became too large for us it was handed it off as its own Corporate identity.

So, there is much too much for us to do in 2011 to sit on our laurels. We need each of you to participate in as many of our activities as you possibly can.

I thank you all for considering it!
Tom Thiel

Chapter Officers and Directors

Officer	LNAME	FNAME	Phone	E-Mail
Pres., Ed & Web	Thiel	Tom J	(352) 357-3943	kwva169@gmail.com
VP 1st	Brown	Dwight E	(352) 205-8536	kaydees@embarqmail.com
VP 2nd	Reynolds	Jack D	(352) 728-3928	mjreynolds1@comcast.net
Secretary	White	Charles W	(352) 787-1885	
Treasurer	Gruber	Joseph J	(352) 750-0286	jlnancy@embarqmail.com
Alt Sec/Treas	Shumaker	William D	(352) 323-0807	shuy352@earthlink.net
Chaplin	Sievers	Harold E	(352) 753-4929	colsievers2@aol.com
Dir & Founder	Gleason	Martin J	(352) 245-9691	
Dir & Sgt at Arms	Jansen	Ted S	(352) 787-7818	tedj29@aol.com
Dir	Pfahler	Richard N	(352) 787-4681	vpfahler@embarqmail.com
Dir	Van Beck	Donald L	(352) 343-1529	seafari.vb@juno.com
Dir	Vaccant			
Dir	Vaccant			
Hist	Becker	Carol M	(352) 394-5451	carolbecker@juno.com
IPP	Canale	Art	(352) 750-2505	jcanale1@aol.com

**Membership Dues Dates
Association, DoF, Chapter**

Members whose dues—Association, Department and/or Chapter—are payable now or soon are shown at the right. The total amount is also shown.

Unless we have your dues in hand by the end of the month shown you will be removed from membership.

This is the only notice you will receive as we do not wish to incur the costs of separate mailings. Please use form below. Thank you for your consideration.
Chapter Membership Committee.

**Member Dues Payable Dates
through 3-31-2011**

STATUS	LNAME	FNAME	C DUE DT	AMOUNT
*****	Burke	Arthur L	11/24/10	\$37.00
*****	Wiggelsworth	Ernest	12/07/10	\$37.00
*****	Hungerford	William D	01/01/11	\$12.00
*****	Laten	Harold N.	01/01/11	\$12.00
*****	McBroom	John B	01/01/11	\$12.00
*****	McGinty	Robert A	01/01/11	\$12.00
*****	McMahon	Murray D	01/01/11	\$37.00
***	Back	William E	02/11/11	\$37.00
***	Good	Donald N	02/11/11	\$37.00
***	Pilarski	Edward	02/11/11	\$37.00
	Houp	James	03/07/11	\$37.00
	Veliky	Donald J	03/25/11	\$37.00

******* = PAST DUE, PLEASE PAY NOW!**

***** = Due NOW; Thank you.**

KWVA CHAPTER 169 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NOT TO BE USED FOR NEW APPLICATIONS

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY: DATE: _____ / _____ / 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 Chapter Regular and Life Members

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

Chapter Boosters: Amt Enclosed: \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Check _____ Cash _____

Signature: _____

Using this form for all re-
newals will help us. Thanx

I understand that by paying my 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. I also hereby swear to uphold the Constitution of the United States, and the Bylaws of the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., and the Lake County KWVA Chapter # 169, so help me God.

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
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Tom J. Thiel, Pres & Editor
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Leesburg, FL 34849-1428



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