



the morning calm



Newsletter of Ch. 173 KWVA – Volume 15, May 2011, Altamonte Spgs., Fl. 32716-0505

Due to lack of response
and other circumstances

June 5th event cancelled

The Celebration of Freedom program dedicated to honoring Korean War veterans scheduled for June 5 and hosted by the Calvary Assembly Church of Orlando has been cancelled.

The reasons given were the few responses received from Korean War veterans, and due to other circumstances surrounding the event, an official said.

This does not in any way affect our chapter's celebration of the upcoming June 25th anniversary at VFW Post 2093, which will be held on Saturday, June 25 at the VFW post.

Many defend naming of park

65th Infantry Park name under fire

More than a hundred people gathered recently at the 65th Infantry Regiment Veterans Park in the Buenaventura Lakes area to defend the naming of the park in honor of 65th Infantry veterans of the Korean War.

The park, which was named by former Osceola County Commissioner John Quinones is being disputed by Kathy Sperling who heads a group that wants to recall Quinones. She questions that the name of the park was "inappropriate" because some of the members of the unit "were court-martialed for disobeying orders to fight during the Korean War. Although nearly 100 were court-martialed they were later pardoned.

Writing in his column for the *Orlando Sentinel* on April 23, Darrel E. Owens succinctly summed up the issue: "Whatever beef Sperling's group might have with a local politician isn't worth trashing the 65th – whose record of distinguished service in the face of withering prejudice epitomizes American resilience."

According to the Borinqueneers website, members of the regiment earned a total of ten Distinguished Service Crosses, 250 Silver Stars, and over 1000 Bronze stars for valor and meritorious achievements.

The incident that details the account of the battle at Jackson Heights is recounted in the 1993 book, *Stalemate & Standoff: The Bloody Outpost War*.

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**Former chapter president Tom
Roberts dies. See story on page 8.**

Korean War Veterans group disbands

A group of Korean War veterans attending an annual meeting in New Orleans recently, elected not to meet anymore and voted overwhelmingly to disband.

Chuck Hankins, president of the 2nd Infantry Division of the Korean War Veterans Alliance, attested to the fact that due to aging and illnesses of the veterans, it was becoming difficult to predict how many members would show up at the next meeting.

Chapter 173 officers are working hard to assure that the above sad incident will not happen to the chapter. However, although the member roster reads 90 members, usually attendance at chapter meetings ranges around 15-20 members, often including one or two guests. **Next meeting: Thurs., May 19th,**

Minutes of April 17

Cathy Alessandri, 1st vice commander, serving as presiding officer for Commander Chuck Travers, on excused leave, called the meeting to order approx. 1145 hours. Other officers were present or accounted for. Twenty-one members and guests were in attendance.

Following the invocation by Chaplain Cullerton, Commander Alessandri called for committee reports.

The minutes of the previous meeting as appeared in the April issue were approved as presented.

Treasurer Bob Johnson presented the financial report, which was approved by the membership. However, available funds were listed at \$576, noting the need for fund-raising activities.

Chaplain Tom Cullerton reported on the status of several members, including Ted

Trousdale, Jack Miller, John Randall, and Bob Balzer. Bob and Ted were welcomed back.

Judge Advocate Charlie First reported on the status of several members regarding various issues; updated the upcoming medals ceremony conducted by Sen. Nelson's office; and displayed the official I.D.s of the KWVA representing the Korean War veteran and the Korean service veteran.

Adjutant Bill Russell told the membership that the June 5 event, to be hosted by the Calvary Assembly of God Church in Orlando honoring Korean War veterans had been cancelled and will not be rescheduled. (Read related story on page 1).

One of the significant points made at the meeting was the shortage of membership and fund-raising support. Members were reminded that volunteers would be needed for upcoming events such as distributing the Rose of Sharon at Publix store on SR 434 over the Memorial Day weekend (Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and May 22), at the Super Wal-Mart in Apopka on Saturday and Sunday, May 28-29. Both events will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Members were reminded of the invitation to take a tour of Boys' Town on Friday, April 29.

Announcement was made of the upcoming KWVA annual convention to be held in Quincy, Mass. on Oct. 28-31. Other announcements made included the DoF annual convention in Ocala, May 6-8, and the Caretakers M.E. Poker Run on Saturday May 14.

Member Bob Balzer described a recent program and events in DeLand to raise money for the Wounded Warrior Project. He reported that he had raised a large amount of money for the project.

The meeting adjourned at 1235 hours.

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Editor: Bill Russell
Production: Bob Johnson

Korean War Navy Vet Dies

Joseph Madeline, a member of neighboring Chapter 188 in Clermont, died on April 23. He was 76. He was buried at the Florida National Cemetery at Bushnell on Wednesday, April 27. Representing DoF were Ch. 173 members Bill Shibley, John Stelling, and Charlie First.

Madeline was a lifetime KWVA member and founder of the Citrus Towers Veterans Day celebration. He served as 1st Vice President under President Jake Feaster.

A Navy veteran, he served aboard a destroyer hit by enemy fire off the North Korean coast. His story was published last year in *The Graybeards*.

Shop at Lowe's and get 10 percent discount

The Lowe's Companies, Inc., has announced that it is expanding its support of the military by offering an all-day, every-day 10 percent discount to all military personnel who are active, reserve, retired or disabled veterans and their family members, with a valid, government-issued military I.D. card.

VOTE FOR KWVA OFFICERS

One of the few things KWVA members are asked to do is ---VOTE!

If you have received your current issue of *The Graybeards*, you will find the official ballot for the 2011 election of officers and directors.

The offices are for 2nd Vice President and four directors. Bios are presented in the

for 2nd Vice President for Jeffery J. Broadeur and Larry C. Kinard.

For directors you may vote for four of the following: Richard E. Brown, George J. Bruzgis, Louis T. Dechert, Lewis M. Ewing, George E. Lahon, and Luther E. Rice.

You are urged to read about them and then make your choice. Ballots must arrive by June 10, 2011.

A Note from the Commander

As we gear down for the summer break, please remember that our fund raisers are in full swing. We will need help with them and hope you can provide some help.

The newsletter will remind you when they are happening. Also, to keep your eyes open to the newsletter for information about our 61st annual program for the start of the Korean War that will take place in June and then the 58 anniversary of the Korean ceasefire in July.

These events are honoring all of you folks for your dedication and bravery while serving during the war. Please come out and celebrate these events and enjoy the festivities and company of your fellow veterans.

Remember we have no meetings during the summer and will pick up again in September.

Nancy and I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer, and see you in the fall.

Yours in comradeship,

Chuck Travers, Commander

Were you near an atomic bomb explosion or test site?

If you were you're entitled to benefits by the VA.

Atomic Veterans (a new kind of designation accorded certain veterans) who were near the devastated areas of Hiroshima and Nagasaki after WWII, or involved in any of

the test sites in the Pacific or Southwest U.S. Some conditions (mostly cancers) are *The Morning Calm, Vol. 15, May 2011*

considered "presumptive conditions" for Atomic Veterans. The VA is encouraging all Atomic Veterans to visit the new website for the Veterans Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction (VBDR). Also, the VA offers an evaluation, known as the Ionizing Radiation Registry, free-of-charge to all eligible Atomic Veterans. Information is available on the VA's Radiation page. - *Courtesy military.com. (A little late, perhaps for some, but this would affect all the soldiers who were present and participated in the atomic gun test in Nevada - Ed.*

Drill sergeants say

Air Force needs to add more weapon training

The Air Force needs to dramatically increase the marksmanship component of basic training, according to an Army and Air Force drill sergeant who recently identified potential improvements to basic courses. "Honestly, I think Air Force recruits should have the opportunity to qualify with their weapon," said Army drill instructor Staff Sgt. David Peters. "I know not every job in the Air Force will require you to deploy with a weapon; some of the guys don't even leave the states, but I think it would be a good experience and at least build confidence in some Airmen that are coming out of basic training that they know how to operate a weapons system and they can use it effectively. -*Courtesy military.com.*

Some Dates to Remember

- May 14- Caretakers Poker Run
- May 19 - Chapter Membership meeting
- May 21-22- Fund raiser at Super Wal-Mart in Apopka. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- May 28-29 (Sat. & Sun.) - Fund raiser at Publix on S.R. 434, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- May 30 - Sanford Memorial Day Parade,

beginning at 10.a.m.



CHAPLAIN'S REFLECTIONS

The greatness of America and the greatness of being an American definitely find its significance in the month of May each year.

The theme is found on May 5th - the National Day of Prayer. This is the day that all Americans should unite and pray for our leaders and the future of our country. It is a day to put political bickering aside and thank God for blessing America.

Then on May 8th- Mother's Day, we do well to pray for and bless our mothers and the mothers of our children. The role of mother is one of the most difficult; let us never underestimate all they do for us and our children.

May 21 - Armed Forces Day will be there to honor all the men and women serving our country both at home and in foreign lands. It is wearing the uniform that serves our country, whether or not facing an enemy, that the interests and ideals of Uncle Sam are served.

Finally, we have May 30th, Memorial Day. This is the legal holiday that we set aside to honor all the veterans who have given their lives in the service of our country. We also have heroes

still alive from World Wars I and II, the Korean and Vietnam wars and present conflicts, very much found at our VA hospitals, and among our own ranks, who do not need a special day to be remembered. America owes all its military men and women its liberty and freedom. America both blesses and is blessed. We say thank you.

-Tom Cullerton, Chaplain KWVA Chapter 173

POKER RUN TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE

KWVA members get first draw! We will only have 500 tickets to sell for the Poker Run drawing. **WIN A NEW SAMSUNG 43" PLASMA PDPTV – THE LATEST IN HD TVS.** Tickets are limited to 500 @ \$10 each.

John Stelling is conducting the tickets sales. Send \$10 per ticket requested to John at MID FLA KWVA 173, PO BOX 160505 Altamonte Springs FL 32716-0505. John will fill in your information on the stub and put your ticket in the jar and mail your ticket back to you. You may also purchase tickets at the month meetings and events. Need a gift? Birthdays and anniversaries coming up so take a chance and buy a ticket for a gift.

Anyone desiring to sell bunches of tickets or further questions call John Stelling at 407 886 2169.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE & MEDAL CEREMONY NEWS

The next parade will be Memorial Day, Monday May 30th in Sanford FL, with step off at 10 AM, with Memorial Day Program in the Sanford Veterans Memorial Park at Lake Monroe and Park Ave., Sanford.

FREE lunch will follow at the DAV Chapter 30 at South US 17-92, following the program. KWVA colors, white or light blue shirts, caps, etc. are the uniform of the day. We have a van for non-walkers and colors for those who wish to carry them. Line up around 9:15 AM on East First Street by the city park

overlooking Lake Monroe. The Medal Ceremony, conducted by Senator Nelson's office, is scheduled for Monday May 30 beginning at 4 PM in the American Legion Hall at Post 19, located at 2101 Lee Road, Orlando.

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Tom Campbell, 6/2012

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Madeline family receives flag

Joseph Madeline's family accepts the ceremonial flag from a naval officer at the funeral ceremony at the Bushnell Cemetery on Wednesday. (See story on page 3). -Photo by Charlie First



Sgt. Caldwell Returns Home

Sergeant First Class James C. Caldwell has returned home after being missing for 60 years.

Sergeant Caldwell was buried at Greenwood Cemetery in Daytona Beach on April 27. He was killed in 1950 in Korea and his remains had been returned by the North Korean government in 1990s but took years to identify.

Bob Balzer, Doris and Bob Johnson covered the story from Daytona Beach for the KWVA and the 1st CAV.

Fridays! Do you have the hum drums on Friday's. If so, join us every Friday morning around 9 A.M. and meet for breakfast. Become a 60th Anniversary Ambassador, call on fellow Veterans on sick call, sign cards for Get Well wishes, etc. Sometimes committees like the fund raising, do foot work getting ready for the next fund raiser and we sign up and process new memberships. The Maitland Breakfast Club in the medical center at the junction of Maitland Ave and Orienta Drive, just one block south of Highway 436 at the first traffic light. It sits in the middle of the medical plaza, which is behind Walgreens (on Hwy 436).

OFFICIAL MAILING ADDRESS FOR: MID FLORIDA KOREAN WAR VETERANS is:

CHAPTER # 173, Charles "Chuck" Travers, Commander, PO Box 160505, Altamonte Springs FL 32716-0505, Phone 407 252-7447 (home) gunship442@aol.com or CRTravers@yahoo.com

- OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD 1100 Hours (11 A.M.) THURSDAY MAY 19th 2011 at Orange County VFW Post 2093, located at 4444 Edgewater Drive Orlando, FL Bring a Fellow Non-member, Korean War Veteran, or anyone else you choose. Please be there and support your chapter!**

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MSGT Gilbert M. Berg * Dedicated to Rangers, Past, Present and Future (Exp 12/2012)
Vic Haas, USAF (Retired) 20th Air Force (Exp 1/12)



Ronald T York, Tank Co., 5th Regimental Combat Team, Punchbowl, Korea, April '52 – Jan '53 (Expires 12/11)

Robert D Johnson, E Co. 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, DEC 2, 1952 – DEC 15 1953
33rd Infantry Regimental Combat Team & JWTC Panama Mar 20, 1954 – Jan 31 1958
HQ 21st Direct Support Group Camp Red Cloud, Korea January 69 – December 1969 (Expires 04-12)

Thomas Horas, Co. C – 8th Combat Engineers Battalion Korea 1950 (Expires 11/2011)

TED TROUSDALE US Navy Submariners (Expires 3/2011)

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Bill Russell "Korean War Historian" (Exp 1/2011)

R. D. "Jack" Miller, 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team Korea, 5th Special Forces Group Vietnam, 11th Airborne Division, 82nd Airborne Division Association) (Exp 11/2011)



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- Recipients of the Korean Defense Service Medal 1954 to Present
- National Defense Medal
- Korean War Era Veterans 1950-1955

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Tom Roberts was founding president

Tom Roberts, Winter Park, whose name is synonymous with local veterans' organizations in central Florida, died Wednesday, May 4, following a long illness.

Tom became the first president of Chapter 173 on June 25th 1999 and served several terms in that capacity as well as his wife, Marian, an Air Force veteran.

Tom dropped out of high school at the age of 16, lied about his age and enlisted in the Army in 1946. He later served in Korea and other parts of the world during his military service. In Korea he served with the Military Police Corps and was present during the evacuation of Hungnam in December 1950.

American Legion Post 112 on N Goldenrod Rd, Winter Park will have a Memorial Service in his honor on Friday May 13th at 7 PM.
