

KWVA Chapter 210
An organization of Brevard County Korea War and Korea Service Veterans.
Brevard Veterans Memorial Center, 400 So. Sykes Creek Pkwy., Merritt Island, FL 32952
Office: (321) 453-1776 Veterans Service Office: (321) 452-1774 Fax: (321) 453-1152

January 20, 2013

Dear Fellow Americans,

I say "Fellow Americans" because at this point in time as the newly elected President of Chapter 210 I have not had the opportunity to be made aware of who are paid up members of the organization and who are yet to forward their annual (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31) Chapter dues of \$25.00 to Treasurer Jack Kuehne at the address above. I perhaps should have said, "Dear Fellow Members Past and present."

On Saturday Jan. 19 T. J. Snyder, Jack Kuehne, Maurice Meisner and myself manned a table at the Publix on Courtney, Merritt Island from 9AM to 6PM. Joe Hershey was excused because of illness. We took in donations amounting to \$674.74. These monies go into a restricted fund known as the "Rose of Sharon" fund. Rose of Sharon as you may know is the National flower of The Republic of Korea (South Korea). KWVA National, Dept. of Florida and the chapters use this designation for all fund raising activities. 100% of these funds go to help needy Korea War Veterans, survivors, active military & other veteran services. None of these funds are used to operate the Chapter or for any other purpose.

We were tentatively scheduled to solicit donations at the Rockledge Publix store on Rt. 1, but had to withdraw our request because of the inability of management to secure approval from their area supervisor in a timely manner. We are approved to solicit at the St. Johns Publix on N. Rt. 1 Feb. 9. Mickey Tutolo, Ted Trousdale, Paul Spescia, Jack Kuehne, Barbara Rathbun and myself are committed to handle that solicitation. Kelly Fiorentino has volunteered to be on stand-by as an alternate. Other venues for KWVA 210 solicitations have not been secured at this time, but we anticipate other opportunities to gain funds for the Chapter's benevolent services to be forthcoming.

Our Bylaws have not been updated for several years. John Howard has volunteered to head a committee to review current Bylaws and make recommendations to the Executive Committee for additions, deletions and typographic edits. Revised Bylaws will then be presented to the membership for approval. Any member in good standing interested in such matters please contact John or myself ASAP. Thank you.

George Rosenfield, Joe Hershey, Paul Spescia, Ray Tenkka, Maurice Meisner and myself were tentatively scheduled to man the Rockledge Publix solicitation, but since this has been postponed, they are released from that volunteered obligation. This brings me to another point...If you, as a member of this benevolent, charitable and patriotic organization, are not able or wish not to participate in these fund raising activities, but are dedicated to our cause...you may wish to contribute directly to the "Rose of Sharon Fund" or to the General Fund of the Chapter, as a loyal supporter of 210 in lieu of providing physical services. Your support will be recognized and appreciated. Thanks for helping either way.

PLEASE NOTE: Mark your calendars now...The first Wednesday of February (Regular membership meeting date 2/6/2013) will be our first Fellowship Luncheon of 2013. We will meet at 11 AM for a very brief business meeting to be followed by an awards presentation and then lunch at the Olive Garden on Merritt Island. I hope you all will be in attendance.

Over please

I believe these are exciting times for KWVA. With the recent broadening of requirements for membership to include not only those who served within and without The Republic of Korea from Sept. 3, 1945 to Jan. 31, 1955, but also those who served honorably since then to the present, our potential for membership enrollment has escalated. As you come in contact with others who fall within these qualifications, please do not hesitate to encourage them to join our ranks. As we grow in numbers we grow in ability to better accomplish the goals and objectives of our organization.

Now on a personal note... Many of you know me, some don't. I have been around the BVMC for over 20 years, active in Disabled American Veterans Chapter 123 and for some years produced a newsletter for KWVA 210. This I pledge to you. I intend to conduct meetings as short and as orderly as possible. I have no qualms or reservations about expending whatever time it takes to do the job and do it well. In the little over one month that I have been in office I have devoted considerable time, travel and some personal expense for the good of the Chapter and that's OK. Applause or "Attaboys" are not expected nor necessary. Members of any organization can show their appreciation and support for what their leaders and officers do, how they conduct themselves and how they promote and serve the organization, by attending the monthly meetings. Not to just be physically present, but to take an active part in the operation, to volunteer their services when and where needed and hold the various elected and appointed offices of that organization. I want each and everyone of you to help make this the best darn KWVA chapter around. Will you do that? If so that will be my reward.

Rest assured that I will be attentive to your ideas and suggestions. If you like the way the Chapter moves in the future, tell others. If not, tell me!

We are seeking to fill several appointed positions in the Chapter. Please consider volunteering your services. Help us also to be better informed about our membership. Report sickness and distress to our Chaplain Sam Stapleton at (321) 253-3490 or by calling the Veteran Memorial Center asking that your message be placed in the KWVA 210 mailbox. Sometimes we are late in learning of the demise of a member or former member. As you learn of these things please inform the office. That will be very helpful.

In closing let me say that I consider it an honor and a privilege to serve you and the organization. I'll do my part, but I will press you to do yours as well. I won't ask you to do anything that I wouldn't do. Together we can accomplish the mission of The Korean War Veterans Association, Inc., Local, State and National.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for taking these comments into consideration.

Sincerely yours for the good of the order,



Don Rathbun, President, KWVA, Brevard Chapter 210