



KWVA DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
MAY 8, 2010

MINUTES OF MEETING

The meeting was called to order by President James Bradford at 10:30 A.M. ,  
May 8, 2010. at the Courtyard Marriott, Bradenton, Florida

**Invocation**

Presented by Department of Florida Chaplain, Harold Siever

**Posting of the Colors**

Presented by Chapter 199 Honor Guard- Members: Terry Willis, Richard Roehr, Bill  
Gilkerson, Joseph Manna and Chapter Commander T. Hannon.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was led by Sergeant-at-Arms, M. Tutolo, Chapter 210.

**Anthem**

The National Anthem was sung by Holly and Tina Rizzo..

**Veteran of the Year Nominees**

President Bradford then introduced the nominees for the Veteran of the Year  
(Eddie Ko) award.:

Cathy Alessandri	Chapter 173
Charles E. Barker	Chapter 192
Charles Carafano	Chapter 153
Carl Hogue	Chapter 188
Joseph Manna	Chapter 199
William McCraney	Chapter 158
Thomas Thiel	Chapter 169

Nominees not attending were:

Frank Murphy	Chapter 267
George Rosenfeld	Chapter 210

### **Recogniton of Women Veterans**

President Bradford then recognized the following women veterans:

Joan Arcand  
Cathy Alessandri  
Amy Carafano  
Maxine Parker  
Mary Ann Maus

and stated ' We have some V.I.P.s with us today. They re all women and they are veterans . The reception tonight will be held in their honor'.

### **Welcome by Thomas 'Skip' Hannon, Commander of Chapter 199**

'Skip" thanked everyone for coming and thanked his Chapter members for a very lengthy campaign that resulted in the weekends' activities.

### **Bradenton Representation**

Mr. Hannon then introduced Councilman Patrick who read a welcoming proclamation from the City. Of Bradenton.

### **Past National President**

Mr. Lou Dechert was introduced and then thanked every one for the invitation to be here and spoke of the problems facing America today. North Korea remains a Hazardous state Mr. Dechert thanked all who answered the call.

### **Roll Call of Officers and Staff**

All officers were present, except for Bob Balzer, Past President, who was excused and Gene Gillette who was hospitalized. Chapters present included 014, 016, 153, 155, 158, 169, 173, 175, 188, 189, 192, 199, 200, 210 and 267.

The Secretary reported the presence of a quorum

President Bradford then introduced the Department Executive Board and Staff.

### **Minutes of May 9, 2009 General Meeting**

President Bradford accepted a motion to accept the minutes (without reading). Motion made by T. Thiel, Chapter 169 and seconded by Bill McCraney, Chapter 158. Motion passed.

## Department Reports

### Financial Report

A financial report was given by Treasurer R. Arcand (Attachment 1) There were no corrections. Motion to accept (subject to audit) was made by C. Carafano , Chapter 153. Motion passed.

### Judge Advocate

Mr. McCraney reviewed the new directive as seen in the Graybeards relating to the person giving the oath of office. (See Attachment 2).

### Chaplain

Chaplain Sievers gave a report on his activities at Chapter 169.

### DoF/KWVA J. Feaster

J. Feaster reported that many of the listed Korean War Veterans in the State of Florida do not belong to Chapters. When possible, he sends out names, addresses and telephone numbers to Chapter Presidents of those potential members in the their areas to contact. T. Thiel asked Mr. Feaster regarding use of the web site in this regard. Richard Arcand suggested a committee to update and utilize Association [National] resources to our advantage. Committee was named as Thiel, Arcand and Feaster.

### Korea/America Report-Eddie Ko

Eddie Ko reviewed current North Korea action against a South Korean warship with loss of life.

President Kim (North Korea) made a visit to China where he reserved 200 rooms in his hotel – while his Armies and people are starving.

Eddie praised the Olympic skater and addressed Toyota problems. He also noted that South Korea donated money to aid the Greek nation currently in financial distress.

### Newsletter/ R. Arcand

Please submit items to the editor in a timely manner so that the next Newsletter due out 1 August will have current interest. Also please forward photos of interest by email.

### Historian Report

No report.

### Association Report [National Organization] Frank Cohee

Frank reviewed the benefits for belonging to the Association [National]:

Six issues of a Class A magazine

Revisit tours 50% cost paid for member and 30% for spouse

Committee for Liability Insurance

Web Site

Federal Charter – laws cover membership

During the following questions and answers, the following statements were made:

Gene Swarbrick, Chapter 189, made a motion to request the Association [National] to return money to Chapters. No Action

Mr. Lou Dechert, Past Association President, noted that the Department of Florida was chartered by the State of Florida “we could do what we wanted to do”. No action required

### **Old Business**

President Bradford reviewed activities of the Executive Board and Chapters since Convention 2009.

Paul Specsia was selected as the Veteran of the Year using the new program procedures

We amended our Bylaws to allow Department of Florida Officers to continue to serve provided that no one else is running for the position. Also, all Board members must be members in good standing in their own Chapter as well as the Association and their Chapter must be in good standing with the Department and the Association [National Organization].

### **Other**

Veteran of the Year/Eddie Ko Award – Joan Arcand, Secretary

“As you all know, this is the last year we are holding the Veterans of the Year/Eddie Ko Award. It has been a grand experience, although we have had our ups and downs learning how to manage the program and recognize those outstanding members of our individual chapters.

We, on the Executive Board, have been aware of some dissatisfaction over the method we originally chose to select our Veteran of the Year. We changed the method and set up a program with definite rules and a point system. It seems to work, however- At the Board meeting in January 2010 we reviewed the current status and realized there was a declining interest in going through the nomination process. In fact, we were getting fewer nominees.

So, all good things have to end/ Its been an exciting adventure for me. I'll miss the suspense of waiting for the returns for the “Top Guy or Gal” and then the 'sworn promise not to tell a soul' and just smile because Laurie and I knew something no one in the whole state of Florida knew (I had to tell her because she bought the trophy, and had it engraved. But this was our only real secret.

We had a good run; four years of doing something pretty special for one of our own. Our heartfelt thanks to Eddie Ko for his love of all of us in sponsoring this program, and to our judges. The judges did an admirable job and played by the rules. We are proud of each and every one of them and thank them for a job well done.

Questions?

2007	15 nominees
2008	14 nominees
2009	11 nominees
2010	9 nominees.

## Special Guest

Mr. Haskins, MOPH (Military Order of the Purple Heart) spoke and reported that the MOPH Convention will be held beginning on August 13, 2010 at the Gaylord Palms Convention Center (see map) and a reception will be held on August 13<sup>th</sup> to honor all Korean War Veterans. You must register. Call for information.

## New Business

### Department of Florida Logo

President Bradford asked Secretary Arcand to read a letter from past Department Quartermaster and current Chapter 267 Quartermaster. The letter agreed to be an agent to sell the Logo and to be compliant with the copyright law.

Further, it was announced that Quartermasters from all Florida Chapters will be invited to come to meetings and conventions in the future.

### Code of Ethics

The Executive Board asked the membership to review/participate in changing the Code of Ethics written in 2002. A report by Joan Arcand indicated there was input from Chapter Presidents for the 'Code' to be more specific, encompassing gender and language to reflect today's workplace. Further, the Presidents asked if members could sign the code as part of their membership application. Ms. Arcand stated all members should be given a copy and left it up to Chapters about signing.

A motion to accept was made by T. Thiel. Seconded by Jackie Gleason. Without further discussion, motion passed.

### Department of Florida Meetings

President Bradford reported the two council meetings and the Convention 2011 would all be held at the Ocala Hilton. Registration form for Council meeting #1 will be found in all the folders.

### Chapter Activity Reports

Chapter President/Commanders and or their representatives were limited five (5) minutes per report.

### Annual Department of Florida Election

Don Sherry, Nominations Chairman presented the slate of nominees as follows:

President	James Bradford
First Vice President	Charlie First
Second Vice President	Gene Gillette*
Third Vice President	Bill Shibler
Secretary	Joan Arcand
Treasurer	Richard Arcand

As all positions were unopposed, President Bradford directed the Secretary to cast one vote for the slate. The group will be sworn in as part of the banquet ceremony

\*Mr. Hank Butler was appointed to act for Mr. Gillette who was ill and undergoing surgery, until Gene could return.

## **Good and Welfare of the Order**

Survey Response-January Council Meeting

The January meeting **survey** sheets (38 returned) indicated:

1. Time , place and date were agreeable
2. One person felt lunch cost did not justify 'just a sandwich'
3. One person requested a microphone for the middle of the room to
  1. Save time getting to the podium
  2. Greater convenience
  3. Easier on "old legs"
4. Seven people complained about the distance to the bathrooms
5. Three people felt the room was to cold

Responding to the above items:

Joan Arcand stated that we had no control over the long walk to the bathrooms. If advised early in the meeting we can speak to the person in charge to control the air conditioning.

Hotel costs are what they are- A less expensive lunch was peanut butter and jelly on Wonder Bread, a cube of Jello and a half-pint of milk Seconds were available in any case.

The cost of using hotel sound equipment is (in my eyes) outrageous-for instance, the use of the podium and the microphone was \$75.00 plus a \$15.00 gratuity. The gratuity was for placing the podium and plugging in the microphone.. The cost for a free-standing microphone in the center of the room was \$125.00 plus 21% gratuity. I apologize for the inconvenience.

## **Sick Call** Item (Joan Arcand reporting)

Several months ago, Gene Gillette of Chapter 199 and the Department of Florida was a vibrant and active Chapter member. Three months ago, he was treated for a dental problem, shortly after receiving the H1N1 vaccine at the Bay Pines VA Health Center in Saint Petersburg. Gene, His wife Dot, along with Richard and I often had lunch together during his visits to the Health Center. Gene also acted as an auditor for the Department books. Less than a week after receiving the H1N1 vaccine and the dental work, Gene became ill and saw the Mds with no diagnosis. Finally, when he lost feeling in his arms and legs and was having difficulty standing or sitting, he was hospitalized at the Blake Medical Center in Bradenton with a diagnosis of Guillian-Barre syndrome. This disease is characterized as an attack on the peripheral nervous system brought on by a breakdown in the immune system. In Gene's case, this became paralysis from his neck to his toes.

Once diagnosed, Gene began a series of treatments that included specific blood cleansing procedures; dangerous and frightening, I'm sure. His progress was very slow and

he is presently in an rehabilitation facility where he receives daily physical therapy. Once during his present stay at the rehab facility it became necessary to hospitalize Gene at the Manatee Memorial Hospital where he underwent surgery to relieve pressure from bleeding on the brain. The paralysis he endured is less each day. He can lift his arms, use his hands and eat on his own. He is, however, bedridden except for therapy where he is showing slow but definite progress although he cannot bear his weight so that he can stand or work. The prognosis is good with complete recovery over the next two years..

Dot, Gene's wife, is grateful for the support of their children and the constant flow of visitors from Chapter 199. Richard and I try to visit from St. Petersburg at least once a week and 'Skip' Hannon , Mary Ann Maus and Carl Black are very dedicated visitors and brighten his long days..Gene is anxious to return to his post as Second V.P. With the Department of Florida. Meanwhile, send those cards and letters.

### **Benediction**

Benediction was offered by Chaplain Harold Siever.

### **Salute to the Colors**

A Salute to the Colors was led by President Bradford.

### **Adjournment**

The Memorial Service that followed the meeting was announced by President Bradford and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Joan M. Arcand, Secretary

### **Attachments:**

1. Finance Report to May 1, 2010
2. Location map for MOPH meeting honoring Korean Vets

Attachment 1 – Finance Report

Attachment 1



KOREAN WAR VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION  
THE DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

Richard E. Arcand, Treasurer

May 1 2010

Carried Forward(Checkbook)		\$3492.82
<b>INCOME</b>		
Assessments	1382.00	
Convention	4795.00	
Council Mtg 2	864.00	
Quartermaster	54.00	
Donations 50/50	214.00	
Interest	0.00	
Fund Raiser Raffle	70.00	
		\$7379
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
Convention (Hotel 2010-2011)	800.00	
Convention Supplies	410.37	
Council Meeting #2 Costs	1324.95	
Corporation Fees	61.25	
Refunds	184.00	
Quartermaster	0.00	
Postage	314.06	
Printing, Copying	15.75	
Newsletter	0.00	
Board Mileage	1113.23	
Gifts, Trophies, Awards	12.00	
		\$4235.61
		\$3143.39
BALANCE (Checkbook)		\$6636.21

Savings = \$ 2983.49  
CD = \$ 4011.22

Attachment 2

Location of Gaylord Palms for MOPH Meeting in Kissimmee Florida

