

# The Department of Florida

## News

The official publication of the Department of Florida, Korean War Veterans Association, by and about its members. <http://dfl.kwva.org>

October —December 2011

### "Merry Christmas" from Pres. First



to be robbed of our hard earned money to be given to the rest of the world without our approval.

We the people must stand up for our rights; we must be heard.

Once the richest and most powerful Country on earth, it has fallen into debt and deprivation by the people being silent.

**M**erry Christmas comrades.

Thank God we still live in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Political correctness with its "holiday tree," "holiday season" and "happy holidays" has about done me in! How about you? I deliberately put out my nativity scene and lit it up for all to see and still greet everyone with Merry Christmas and respect this Holy time of year with one of the few precious truths we have to depend on, Life liberty and the pursuit of freedom to worship, as all Veterans fought and some even died to preserve.

I believe it's time for the silent majority to speak up and let the politicians know WE ARE THE MAJORITY and we will not stand

My church (congregation) population has sent Christmas cards to the ACLU by the hundreds. I encourage others to do the same. Merry Christmas to the ACLU will be sent by the thousands and they have to open to see if it's a contribution. Hopefully, it will keep them too busy to screw up Christmas any further.

Please remember me in your prayers. I will be in Morsani Medical center, as U.S.F. and VA Physicians operate this Tuesday \* (forehead lift & eyelift operation). Thank God I married a nurse.

God Bless you all, GOD BLESS AMERICA and AMERICA BLESS GOD.

Charlie



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\* Ed Note: Charlie wrote this several weeks ago; I have a note from him saying his procedure went well and that he is well into recovery. tjt

# Veterans in Classrooms *by Hank Butler*



military career in the Army National Guard.

Date: Sat, Nov 12, 2011 at 9:26 AM

Subject: Veterans in Classrooms

To: Newsletter DFL <kwva169@gmail.com>

Herman (Hank) Butler, Jr.

Commander Chapter Citrus 192

352-563-2496

Every year, the first two weeks in November, Citrus County, FL Veteran's ad hoc committee selects Veterans to go into classrooms to present military experiences.

This year, 128 classes were requested by area teachers.

Hank Butler, Commander of Chapter Citrus 192, is a member of selection committee and also, with his wife, Rita, made presentations in ten classrooms.

We began with the Korean War and later, Hank's



*(Aging Continued from page 4)*

and shook his hand right off the bat and he saluted back.

intention of visiting Ed Browne and Bob Langstaff again.



Above: President Thiel visits with Mrs. Langstaff

His sister should know that he is well cared for and likes the people he is with. It was a good visit, I told him we would

Below: Thiel with Dick Pfahler.



er. When we mentioned Pearl Harbor, he replied: 'I was at breakfast.' But that is about the most that we could get from him. I saluted him

visit him again." Chapter 169 is in its infancy with this program, but we have every

## Dr. Herbert R. PEARCE



Dr. Herbert R. Pearce of Jacksonville passed away on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at Memorial Hospital Jacksonville.

Dr. Pearce was born on April 19, 1929 in Smithville, MS to the late Dr. Rex and Jessie (Rush) Pearce.

In 1934 the family moved to Wesson, MS where he was active in the Boy Scouts of America and became an Eagle Scout in 1943.

He enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1947 and honorably served as a Hospital Corpsman with the 5th Marine force in Korea. Dr. Pearce took part of the invasion of Inchon and the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.

He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal; Good Conduct Medal, Korean Service Medal; and, the Presidential Unit Citation & Bronze Star.

Dr. Pearce was a graduate of Mississippi College and the University of Mississippi School Of Medicine, and practiced in Mississippi for five years before moving to Jacksonville in 1967 for his surgical training. He then practiced General Surgery in Jacksonville for thirty years.

He was actively involved in the growth and development of Memorial Hospital. Dr. Pearce served on the Boards of Directors for the Brooks Health System and the Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital for twenty years. He was a member of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Pearce was active in many mili-

tary organizations and associations including Semper Fidelis, The Chosin Few, 1st Marine Association, Korean War Veterans Association, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Dr. Pearce is survived by his wife of nearly sixty years, Betty Rodgers Pearce; daughters Lynda Crymes; Kathryn Larsen (Kris); Deborah Davis (Bill); Elethia Chase; and son, Charlie Pearce. He is also survived by eleven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and one brother, Dudley Pearce of Winchester, VA.

Graveside services were held Monday, September 12, 2011 at the Jacksonville National Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Wounded Warriors Project, [www.woundedwarriorproject.com](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.com).

Arrangements were under the care and direction of Hardage-Giddens Funeral Home, Jacksonville, FL 32207. (904) 346-3808. Published in the Florida Times-Union on September 11, 2011

Submitted by: Henry Moreland

### The DoF WEBSITE: <http://dfl.kwva.org> *By Tom Thiel, Webmaster*

The website is operational on the Association computer server in Charleston, IL. It does not cost the Department anything. I created and maintain the site on my own computer also at no cost to the Department. I use my own copy of Microsoft's Expression Web 4.0 to create and maintain the site.

I used one of their business templates, and just substituted our content for theirs. EW creates a standards

-compliant web site that most any web person can readily take over so that you will not be bound with an albatross should I no longer be able.

The site is, by design, functional, not shiny with waving flags etc.

The nine primary content buttons (also referred to as

**(Web** *Continued on page 7)*

## As age overtakes us, dementia and Alzheimer's

An emerging 169 program, by Tom J Thiel, President, Chapter 169 KWVA.

\*\*\*

As age begins to overtake the Korean Veteran, its tentacles are many, but one that haunts us perhaps as much as any is labeled dementia or Alzheimer's. Chapter 169 members have initiated a program to respond the needs of their Korean War veteran brothers. Locating affected members involves many avenues, some quite unique.

For example, on Dec. 2, Lois G. Herbst of Shoshoni, Wyoming, wrote me: "I receive the Florida 24thIDAVets newsletter for Major Edward J. Browne, who is now in Arbor Village at Wildwood, FL.

"Ed started his military career at age 16 in Jan. 1941 when he joined the U.S. Army, was with the 24th Infantry Division at Pearl Harbor (Schofield Barracks). He served in South Pacific. The Leyte battle helped him be assigned to Gen. MacArthur's Honor Guard during the occupation of Japan. He then went to Korea with the First Cavalry (wounded twice)...he has commendations and medals from three wars.



From left, standing: Chapter 169 Color Guard members, Don Lynch, Charlie White and Bill Shumaker, visit with dementia patient, Major Edward Browne at Arbor Village in Wildwood, Florida on Dec. 7, 2011. Browne was at Pearl Harbor on the same date in 1941.

"He has no family in Florida. I am trying to get someone ... to visit him on Dec. 7th. Ed has dementia, but I think he would enjoy a visit from a fellow military man."



Above, Chapter 169 VP Dwight Brown talks with Bob Langstaff in his Tavares FL home trying to help Bob remember his youthful days as well as his days in service.

Another such contact came as a result of an advertisement one of our

members, Don Lynch placed in a neighborhood shopping guide. Marie Langstaff called Don and asked if any of our members might be available to visit with her husband, Robert (Bob) Langstaff, who served during the Korean War.

I'm proud to say that Chapter 169 members rose to the occasion.

On November 2, after a Tell America trip to Christian Academy to meet with middle and high school students there, Dwight Brown, Dick and Vi Pfahler, and Tom

Thiel visited the home of veteran Bob Langstaff, and his wife Marie. Bob suffers from Alzheimer's. We spent the better part of an hour with Bob and Marie around their dining room table and helped Bob remember events from his service time and home in Ohio as a youth.

And Don Lynch, Charlie White and Bill Shumaker visited Ed Browne early afternoon on Dec. 7, 2011, after they had done their color guard duties at the Villages Veterans Memorial that morning.

Don reported "... that Ed looked alert and healthy, but he couldn't put things togeth-

*(See Aging Continued on page 2)*

# DOF WINTER COUNCIL MEETING

## Saturday January 28, 2012

*Orientation Class 10 AM-10:50 AM ~~~~~ Council Meeting 11AM -4PM*  
The Plantation Inn Golf Resort & Spa/ 9301 West Ft. Island Trail Crystal River, FL 34429

## MEETING AND LUNCH RESERVATION FORM

Mail the information below and your check to:  
KWVA DOF c/o Joan Arcand, Treasurer  
5674 Bay Pine Lakes Blvd, St Petersburg, Florida 33708

**Deadline for Meeting and Lunch Reservations is January 24, 2012**

Sorry, we are unable to make any refunds if cancelled after January 25, 2012

**\*Please PRINT information**

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

**KWVA special room rate is \$99 +tax includes complimentary breakfast.**

Phone 352-795-4211 800-632-6262

**Deadline for special KWVA room rate is December 28, 2011**



*cut here*-----

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter# \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ *As you would like it on your ID badge)*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email address \_\_\_\_\_

*\*My (National) Association dues are current* \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday noon lunch: Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ X \$18 = Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE ORDER:

# Pasta Primavera \_\_\_\_\_

# Chicken Picata \_\_\_\_\_

*All lunches come with salad, vegetable, rolls, coffee, tea and dessert.*

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### For DOF Office use only:

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date received \_\_\_\_\_ National membership confirmed by database \_\_\_\_\_



## KWVA DOF WINTER COUNCIL MEETING INFORMATION

Maxine Parker Secretary

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**Saturday, January 28, 2012**

**Orientation 10 AM**

**Council Meeting 11AM-4PM**



DOF Webmaster and Newsletter Editor, Tom Thiel will present an educational seminar and orientation on **Association and Department Online Electronic Resources** from 10 to 10:30AM for all Chapter Officers. This is primarily for new Chapter officers, however, experienced officers should enjoy and benefit from this program as well. Other members are invited to monitor this class. The Regular Council Meeting will begin promptly at 11 AM

Chapter Presidents who cannot attend the Council Meeting should send an official delegate. Please designate authority to your representative in writing and submit to Maxine Parker prior to January 28, 2012. E Mail will suffice.

Meeting attire is the KWVA uniform or Business Casual.

Please remember to bring your Chapter flag and flag stand.

A reminder that Chapter Activity Reports should cover only the last three months, and should be a brief, one or two paragraph report which summarizes the Chapter's activities during that period. Written reports may be turned in to Maxine Parker for inclusion in the DOF newsletter.

**Everyone** planning to attend should submit a reservation form, even if you are not planning on having lunch. We want to be certain that we have meeting materials prepared for you.



# DOF NEWS

Publication frequency – Quarterly—See table for schedule.

Your cooperation is critical

Content, variable depending on events and content, but to include the following:

Keep ED appraised of future schedules

- President’s message
- Minutes – Annual member meeting, Council meetings and Board meetings.
- Council Chapter report summaries (subject to reassessment)
- Annual Convention reports
- Future events schedule
- Elections – Candidates, and forms
- Meeting registration forms
- TAPS
- Chaplain – material unique to DoF Chaplain responsibilities (might include TAPS)
- DoF Board Roster
- Feedback (letters to editor)
- Editor column
- Chapter submissions
- Special event reports

Adapt past communications to include using the News and Website as an integral means of appraising Chapters and members. i.e., no mass emails to members; we can send all members the newsletter via email.

Chapters supply content, stories, special events in chapter, etc.

Distribution

Electronic only – directly to all members on email

ISSUE	INCLUDES	PUBL DATE	DEADLINE
Winter	Jan - Mar	Mar 31	Mar 15
Spring	Apr - Jun	Jun 30	June 15
Summer	July-Sept	Sept 30	Sept 15
Fall	Oct-Dec	Dec 31	Dec 10

*(Web Continued from page 3)*

pages or maybe menus) are arranged vertically along the left margin; they are titled: Home, About DoF, Officers, Membership, Chapters, Reunion, Newsletters, Contact, and Links. I decided on these categories by examining our Department Mission Statement.

Each of these primary pages has many content elements (or submenus or subpages); for example, the About DoF button has the following clickable submenus: Meetings, KWVA, Reunion & Fellowship, Recruitment & Membership,

PDF Files, Chaplain, Stories and Books, Getting Your Military Records, History, EX-POWs, and TAPS.

And in turn, each of these has many subpages themselves. In all there are about 280 computer files where a file may be a single page of text or a photo to an 800-page book. For example, There is one 842-page book on the site. It is “South to the Naktong, North to the Yalu,” by Appleman. I do not know how many actual pages are on the site.

The Chapters Button is a place where each Chapter may place material of value to your chapter

members—your stuff. So far, I’ve only gotten material from Hank Butler and Henry Moreland .

Lack of Content, the informational stuff that websites are built with, is the most serious problem with the website. Some officers have not even sent me your photos yet!

Another problem is the lack of user feedback. I have received two or three comments; it makes me wonder if it is worth the effort.

Finally, keep in mind that everything on the site is viewable to the entire cyber world! ###TJT

## DoF Executive Board

### ELECTED

#### **Charlie First, President/ 173**

5439 Denise Ave  
Orlando, FL 32810  
407-429-5539  
cfirst@cfl.rr.com

#### **Bill Shibler, First VP/188**

1763 Crowned Ave  
Groveland, FL 34736  
352-241-2347  
ford4647@aol.com

#### **Bob Hebner, Second VP/155**

404 SE 28th Terrace  
Cape Coral, FL 33904-3465  
239-573-1983  
bobh@hifo.net

#### **John Stelling, Third VP/173**

148 N Ulysses Dr  
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407-886-2169  
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#### **Maxine Parker, Secretary/ Chapter 188**

3515 Mount Hope Loop  
Leesburg, FL 34748  
352-787-7417  
hog99ultra@aol.com

#### **Joan Arcand, Treasur- er/014**

5674 Bay Pines Lakes Blvd  
St. Petersburg, FL 33708  
727-392-5648  
rearcand@yahoo.com

#### **Jim Bradford Imm. Past Pres./158**

1776 6th Street NW Unit #308  
Winter Haven, FL 33881  
863-293-3055  
jbradford15@tampabay.rr.com

### APPOINTED

#### **Harold Sievers, Chap- lain/169**

510 St. Andrews Blvd  
Lady Lake, FL 32159  
352-753-4929  
colsievers2@aol.com

#### **Mickey Tutolo, Sgt-at- Arms/210**

1502 Elm Terrace #210  
Titusville, FL 32780  
321-269-4221  
thetutolos@cfl.rr.com

#### **Hank Butler Judge Advo- cate/192**

2110 NW 17th Street  
Crystal River, FL 34428  
352-563-2496  
hankrita@tampabay.rr.com

#### **Eddie Ko, America/Korea Liaison/175**

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#### **Jake Feaster, Assoc. Liai- son/016**

2273 N Highway 329  
Micanopy, FL 32667  
352-466-3493  
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#### **Tom J Thiel, Ed.&Web/ 169**

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Eustis, FL 32736  
352-357-3943  
kwva169@gmail.com

#### **Carol Becker Photo- Historian/169**

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Clermont, FL 34715-9299  
352-394-5451  
carolbecker@juno.com



## From your editor

Tom J Thiel

With this, the last issue of the News for 2011, we close out another year we didn't expect to see. Despite a lot of gloom there were some personal bright spots. I'll not bore you with the details—just say 83 is here!

As probably most of you know I believe in letting the computer do my work. There is no possible way I could do what I do without the electronic power of the computer.

And you likely also know that I include in that the power of other computers too, such as our Association Membership Database.

But sadly, our Association leadership apparently does not realize this as the severe crunch of year-end renewals is impossible to manage with the resources currently allotted to getting them logged into the system in a timely manner.

What do I mean? Dues payments we made the first of November are still not logged at the end of December! Yet the auto-

mated computer converts memberships from Active to Inactive status while our check lies somewhere in the pile of 5,000 or so year-end renewals!

Need I say more?

Of course very soon into 2012 we will be again assembling at the January 28 Council meeting in Crystal River. If you haven't registered yet, please do so now—form on pg. 5.

From the Information on page 6, you will learn that I'm to do a 30-minute presentation about On Line Resources "primarily for Chapter Officers." Yet the greatest need to better utilize computer resources, especially online, has long-been at the DoF level—and I assure you that is not improving. We could have used a full day!

I want to thank Hank Butler & Henry Moreland for supplying material for this letter. I urge all of you to provide material for future newsletters.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and that you will have a Happy New Year! Tom J. Thiel