



General Walton H. Walker Chapter 215

THE BULLDOG BUGLE



HONORED CHAPTER MEMBER, COLONEL JAMES L STONE, MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

HOME CHAPTER OF KWVA NATIONAL PRESIDENT: BILL MAC SWAIN

PAST PRESIDENTS: DICK PREDMORE - MARVIN DUNN – MIKE DOYLE

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

FEBRUARY 2009

Well... I am very pleased that we made it through our first meeting in the new place. I think everything worked out very well thanks to all the help from those who pitched in to get the tables and chairs in the right place for us to serve, eat and then get on with the meeting. It looks to me like the place will fit us just fine. We may still need to experiment a little with the arrangement but I think everything is there to make it work. I would appreciate any suggestions or comments you have about making it a good place for us.

There are a couple of things we need to be thinking about - One is getting pictures of members and spouses for the chapter directory. I think we will be proud of having a directory when we get it done and Annette White has agreed again to be the organizer. With her good help we know we can get it done. We will have a camera set up and available at the next two meetings to get pictures so please make an effort to help Annette to get your picture included. Second, remember that the National Convention will be held in the DFW area next October and we want all who will to attend the Convention and help with making it the best we have ever had. We will be working in conjunction with Chapter 270 to make it a big success. The exact time and location will be decided in the next few weeks and we will try to keep everyone informed as it develops.

We have just heard about an exciting event taking place in Las Vegas in June this year that some of you might be interested in. Shown below is an invitation that National President Bill Mac Swain has just received.

*"SPECIAL INVITATION FROM THE FRIENDS OF AMERICAN VETERANS OF THE KOREAN WAR...KWVA members have received an invitation for a special "Appreciation Dinner, Concert and Symposium in honor of American Veterans of the Korean War." The event is to be held in Las Vegas, NV in June, 2009. **The sponsors have requested that you respond to the invitation by February 6, 2009.** While they realize that this is short notice and a long time to commit before the actual event, they need to have some idea of the number of*

veterans that will plan on attending so they can make the necessary arrangements, hotel rooms, meals etc.

More information can be obtained on the KWVA national website: <http://www.kwva.org>
If you have an interest in this, let me know and I will help you get all the information that is available.

Larry Kinard, President

SAM BASS - MEMBER OF THE MONTH

As I mentioned last month, we have so many great members in our Chapter that I plan on mentioning something about their contribution to our chapter in our Bulldog Bugle.

This month I have chosen **Sam Bass** to be that member. A couple of the activities that **Sam** is involved in are: he always helps with the July 4th and Veterans Day parades by donating his pickup and trailer. Plus, he is always willing to do anything that is asked; and if he can't do it, he can usually find someone who will.

Some things that you may or may not remember about **Sam** are he was a prisoner of war for about 25-30 days and spent 18 months in Korea as a Sergeant in the US Army.

THANKS SAM FOR YOUR ENTHUSIASM IN OUR CHAPTER.

Reminder: I'm going to try and mention something in our newsletter about one of our members every month ... so if you want your picture included, please bring me a copy or be prepared for me to take a picture.

Submitted by Marvin Dunn

STAYING IN TOUCH

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS		MEMORY		ANNIVERSARIES	
Fenton Guiles	2	Jose Ruiz	17		
Bobbie Goodall	3	Betsy Doyle	18	Ina Lee & Glenn Smith	16/52
Neva Wetmore	3	Alfred Howard	20		
Charles Cabiness	5	James Hall	22	Dora & Ed Ashworth	17/51
Louise Vial	13	Bob Walsh	24		
Sim Goodall	15	Carolyn Fisher	25		

SICK LEAVE

Shirley Lynch has been sick.

Betsy Doyle has been ill.

We need to keep these members in our prayers.

GREATER DALLAS VETERANS COUNCIL

The council met at 2377 Stemmons Freeway at 7:30 P.M. We meet once a month. Next month the meeting will be at the VA Hospital.

There were two speakers at this meeting. Joe Dalpiaz, the Director of the VA Hospital in Dallas. Some of the things he discussed were:

1. Better communications with the veterans and their families.
 2. He discussed how veterans could get their disability.
 3. Mr. Dalpiaz indicated they wanted to improve Ethics and Conduct in the hospital.
 4. They are doing several things to improve parking. Parking should be better in the future. They are adding hundreds of parking spaces for veterans. I was very impressed with what he is doing for the veterans.
 5. They are upgrading the pharmacy where you won't have to wait so long.
 6. The VA will be opening the Mental Health section of the hospital soon.
 7. The Director indicated that the Fisher House is completed. They should be using it very soon.
- He was very excited about how this will help parents of patients and be able to be with them.

Ms. Mischelle Kochel, Assistant Director at the DFW National Cemetery, was the other speaker. She was very informative about what they are doing at the cemetery and helping veterans. Mischelle indicated they have acquired 52 acres for new burial sites. They have about 15 burials daily or about 60 per week. When the time occurs, take your DD 214 to the funeral home of your choice and they will fax it to the National Cemetery.

**GENERAL WALTON H WALKER CHAPTER 215, INC.
JANUARY 2009 MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

The Gen. Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 Membership Meeting was held on January 17, 2009 at the Arlington Police Substation in Arlington, Texas. The Chapter meeting was called to order by President Larry Kinard with 48 members and 2 guests present. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Burleigh Casler, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag conducted by William Hoyle. Jim Lucas read the Chapter Creed followed by a moment of silence.

President Kinard asked for a motion to Approve the December Membership Minutes and one for the December Financial Report all presented in the January Bulldog Bugle. Bobby Brown made the motion to approve the minutes and Gene Richards seconded. The motion was approved. He then asked for a motion to approve the December Financial Report. James Hall made the motion and Sam Bass seconded and the motion was approved.

President Kinard introduced Bob Gorham as a new member and Al Rollins who has missed a number of meetings also. He then read a Thank You card from Sandy Moran and stated we had received a card from Mission Arlington on our gift in Honor of the Martin's. He also showed the large picture brought by former member Dale Patton whose Sister-in-Law had painted. Dale apologized for it being so long since it was shown to us, but it took some time to produce a frame for it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Tell America Chairman Byron White stated that he and William Hoyle would be talking to the Waxahachie Independent School District officials about making our Tell America Program available to their schools.

Communication Officer Jim Wetmore once again "Thanked" his Communication Committee members for the fine turn out at our new meeting facility. He reported that Col Stone was recovering from his cataract surgery and that Marvin Dunn was not in attendance since he had a problem with a blister where he could not wear his prosthesis. He also reported that Dick Predmore was almost through with his rehab and will be returning to the area soon. Roy Hill was ready to leave for the meeting, but got dizzy from his medication, and could not drive.

Bulldog Bugle Editor Marvin Dunn reported those interested in helping with the newsletter would meet at 10:00 am at the Atlanta Bakery on Monday, January 26, 2009.

Quartermaster Jack Cooper reported that he had some uniform shirts for sale as well as some brass KWVA emblems. See him after the meeting to try on the shirts if you need one.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Kinard stated that the Executive Council had decided to begin work on the Membership Directory and it will include the wives/husbands of Members. Annette White will champion preparations. Photographs will be taken at the meetings.

President Kinard reported that he had invited Gary Martin to attend our last meeting, but when he did not he dropped by Martin Sprocket & Gear and dropped off the Certificate of Appreciation with his Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Kinard reported that the next meeting of the Chapter will be on February 21, 2009 and he thought our new meeting location at 1030 SW Green Oaks Blvd was very good and we would approve our setup. He stated that there would be an audit of the Treasurer.

Larry introduced Sim Goodall as our approved Nominations Committee Chairman. He asked that all consider a position to fill and that the election would be for President, 1st & 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary/Treasurer and three Directors.

President Kinard gave notice that the chapter Executive Council had approved sending a donation of \$300 to the Arlington Veterans Park Foundation "In Honor of Jim Persons" who had been instrumental in getting this project started. Jim had passed away a few weeks earlier from cancer, which he had fought for many years. Jim Wetmore then reminded the members that he had a Sympathy Card for all who wished to sign.

President Kinard told the membership that the Executive Council had been approached by National President William Mac Swain to furnish help during the upcoming Annual Association Membership sometime in October in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. He introduced William Mac Swain who asked the membership to help in all facets of the programs as a host Chapter including meeting members at the airports and helping with registration and the hospitality room and other places where those attending from out of state might see Texas Hospitality. He also stated that Chapter 270 would be asked to also participate and that if anyone had experience in Hotel selection to please see him.

President Kinard announced that Ben Echols the Chaplain of Chapter 270 had passed away and would be buried at the National Cemetery at 10 am Monday the 19th. He also asked if the members wanted to order more cookbooks to sell. The consensus was not at this time.

The 50/50 Drawing was held and Barbara D'Agostino won \$70 as her half of the drawing.

A motion was made to send a Certificate of Appreciation for the portrait painted and given to the Chapter. Gene Richards seconded and the motion passed with no objection.

Sam Bass made a motion to adjourn with a prayer and Ben Hogan seconded. Chaplain Don Jones gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Mac Swain, Secretary

CHAPTER DIRECTORY

We plan to develop a directory for the chapter. Put on your smile and come to the February meeting prepared to have your picture taken for the new photo directory. The present schedule is planned to put the directory in your hands by the May meeting. We hope we can take a photo of you and your wife.

We hope that every couple will have your picture taken. It will be nice to have a directory of our chapter.

CHAPTER ELECTION

We have one of the best chapters in the National KWVA and need members to run for positions in the chapter. I want to ask all of you to consider participating and play a part in the chapter. The chapter needs a President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and two Directors. Sim Goodall is the chairman of the nominating committee and you need to talk to him if you want to run for a position. It is an honor to be on the board of this chapter. Please consider running for a position in this chapter!!!!

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING

The Police Department for their building. It worked out very nicely.

The ladies for all the good food they bring each month.

The people who stay and clean the building.

Sandy Moran and Al D'Agostino for the help they give us on the newsletter.

The fine people who meet with me the 4th Monday of each month to help with the newsletter.

All the members who attend the meetings and fellowship.

**GENERAL WALTON H WALKER CHAPTER 215, INC.
KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC
JANUARY 2009 FINANCIAL REPORT**

[omitted from online version]

NEW SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

General Shinseki, 66, former Army Chief of Staff, has been selected to head the department of Veterans Affairs during his confirmation proceedings told lawmakers "The Veterans Affairs Department is going to have to have to change a bit of the culture and the way it's been doing business".

Among his priorities are implementing a new veterans education benefits bill, streamlining the disability claims process and bringing more veterans into the health system.

The VA, the second largest federal department by number of employees, serves 23 million veterans in the U.S. Most of its money goes toward a nationwide network of medical facilities and the monthly disability payments that veterans receive for their war injuries, but it also oversees cemeteries, education benefits and insurance programs.

While the department's budget has from rapidly in recent years, it's also strained to serve the growing number of new veterans as well as Vietnam veterans, who are using more services as they age.

The agency has been struggling with a backlog of disability claims that's hovered near 400,000 during the past few years. The average time it takes to process a new claim is about 180 days, far higher than the department wants.

Eileen's Corner

Taps is a famous musical piece, sounded by the U.S. military during flag ceremonies and funerals, generally on bugle or trumpet. The tune is also sometimes known as "**Butterfield's Lullaby**", or by the lyrics of its second verse, "**Day is Done**".

The bugle call was composed by the Union Army Brigadier General Daniel Butterfield, an American Civil War general who commanded the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Division in the V Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac. Butterfield wrote the tune at Harrison's Landing, Virginia, in July 1862. *Taps* also replaced "Tattoo", the French bugle call to signal "lights out." Butterfield's bugler, Oliver W. Norton, of Erie, Pennsylvania, was the first to sound the new call. Within months, *Taps* was used by both Union and Confederate forces. Villanueva states that the tune is actually a variation of an earlier bugle call known as the Scott Tattoo which was used in the U.S. from 1835 until 1860.^[1]

(Paragraph omitted) ...

Taps is sounded during each of the 2,500 military wreath ceremonies conducted at the Tomb of the Unknowns every year, including the ones held on Memorial Day. The ceremonies are viewed by many people, including veterans, school groups, and foreign officials. *Taps* is also sounded nightly at 9 PM (2100 hrs) in military installations at non-deployed locations to indicate that it is "lights out." When *Taps* is sounded at a funeral, it is customary to salute if in uniform, or to place the right hand over the heart if out of uniform. ... *Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Taps>*

Submitted by Eileen Montanez

HOW DOES THE STIMULUS PACKAGE AFFECT YOU?

Many MOAA members have asked whether the income tax cuts in the economic stimulus package proposed by Congress would affect retirees as well as the currently employed.

Now that the Senate Finance Committee has offered its version of the stimulus package, we can give you a better answer, though these deals are far from done.

The House- and Senate-proposed payroll tax reductions are the same. Both would reduce income tax withholding and liability by \$500 for singles and \$1,000 for married couples. These reductions would apply only to people who are currently employed. They wouldn't apply to retirees. At press time, both the House and Senate bills would start phasing out the tax cut for people making more than \$75,000 a year (\$150,000 for married couples). The House bill would end the tax deduction for those with incomes of more than \$100,000 (\$200,000 for married couples). The Senate bill would deny any relief to those with incomes above \$87,500 (\$175,000 married).

The Senate-proposed package (but not the House plan) has a separate provision that would provide a one-time \$300 payment to Social Security annuitants and recipients of VA disability compensation.

We asked the Senate Finance Committee staff whether a disabled vet who is also currently working would qualify for both the income tax reduction and the \$300 lump sum payment. The

answer was that the intent is to provide a maximum total payment of \$500 (single) or \$1,000 (married).

But as a practical matter, a working disabled vet would probably get the \$300 payment first, and would also see the full reduction in the income tax withholding from his/her employer. The rub would come at the end of the year, when such people could find themselves “under-withheld” by \$300.

In other words, if they get the \$300 up front and also qualify for the maximum \$500/\$1,000 tax withholding, they’ll end up having to pay the \$300 back in taxes at the end of the year. So if you’re a working disabled vet, you may want to ask your employer to increase your withholding by enough to make up the \$300 difference by the end of the year.

Source: http://www.moaa.org/lac/lac_issues/lac_issues_update/lac_issues_update_090123.htm#issue1

OPERATIONAL INFO

Executive Council:

President	Larry Kinard	682-518-1040	Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com
First Vice-President	Al D'Agostino	817-299-8708	Dag299@tx.rr.com
Second Vice-President	Jack Cooper	972-641-2642	OklahomaJackCooper@sbcglobal.net
Secretary & Treasurer	Bill Mac Swain	817-244-0706	BillMacSwain@charter.net
Director (07 – 09)	Marvin Dunn	817-261-1499	MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com
Director (07 - 09)	Roy Hill	972-262-7222	None
Director (07 - 09)	Ted Malcolm	817-446-5945	TedDotMalc@yahoo.com
Director (08 - 10)	John Fisher	817-477-4247	FishTex1@sbcglobal.net
Director (08 - 10)	James Wetmore	817-860-4050	None
Director (08 - 10)	Byron White	817-804-1161	BE.White@sbcglobal.net

Standing Committee Officers:

Co-Chaplain	Burleigh Casler	817-517-7158	None
Co-Chaplain	Don C Jones	972-660-4658	None
Communication Officer	Jim Wetmore	817-860-4050	None
Communication Officer Assistant	Nathan Stovall	817-261-2109	None
Education Chairman	Byron White	817-804-1161	BE.White@sbcglobal.net
Fund Raising	Byron & Annette White	817-804-1161	BE.White@sbcglobal.net
Judge Advocate	William Hoyle	972-937-4528	None
Meeting & Entertainment	Sim Goodall	817-483-4443	SimGoodall@yahoo.com
POW/MIA Officer	Col. James Stone	817-861-8481	None
Membership	John Fisher	817-477-4247	FishTex1@sbcglobal.net Membership
Assistant	Nathan Stovall	817-261-2109	None
Quartermaster	Jack Cooper	972-641-2642	OklahomaJackCooper@sbcglobal.net
Special Events	Al D'Agostino	817-299-8708	dag299@tx.rr.com
Service Officer	Sam Bass	214-361-4697	None
Historian	Larry Kinard	682-518-1040	Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com
Bulldog Bugle Editor	Marvin Dunn	817-261-1499	MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com
Publicity	Faye Landham	817-861-3821	FabFaye60@sbcglobal.net

CREED: All the members of the General Walton H Walker Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association are the living representatives of all Americans who gave their lives in Korea. As members we are dedicated to also represent the known American prisoners of war that were never returned after the war, and the American service personnel still missing in action in the Korean War.

OUR PURPOSE IS:

1. To motivate patriotism amongst the American people and to raise their awareness of the Korean War and those who served in it.
2. To render help and support to all the wounded and disabled American Veterans of the Korean War.

GENERAL WALTON H. WALKER CHAPTER 215
KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 122084
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76121-2084

Chapter 215 monument donated to the National Cemetery



CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

2/10/2009 Executive Board meeting at Hugh Smith Center from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

2/21/2009 Regular meeting: 11:15 AM

1030 SW Green Oaks Blvd, south of I-20, between Cooper and Matlock Streets

2/23/09 Meet with Newsletter committee at Atlanta Bread Co. 10:00 AM

3RD WEDNESDAY EVERY MONTH – HAMBURGER COOK-OUT
Dallas VA Hospital 10:30 a.m. Helpers needed– please volunteer!