



**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 JUNE 2009**

**➡ ALERT: OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON THE THIRD SATURDAY JUNE 20 WHICH IS THE REGULAR MEETING DATE. PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF THIS.**

We voted at the meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> to change the meeting to June 13<sup>th</sup> because Larry and Bill Mac Swain will be in Korea on June 20<sup>th</sup>. After the voting we found that the meeting place will not be available on June 13<sup>th</sup> so we must maintain the regular date of June 20<sup>th</sup>. Jack Cooper has agreed to preside during the meeting and conduct the election of new chapter officers and directors as planned. Please make your plans to be there on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

I am writing this on Memorial Day and have just returned from a very impressive service at the DFW Cemetery. Keynote Speaker Col. Barney Barnum, USMC Ret. and MOH recipient did an outstanding job of honoring those who have died in the service of our country and remembering those who have served and are serving today. I met and talked with several Korean War veterans and invited them to come to one of our meetings. That is a good place to recruit new members. I also talked with a 91 year old WWII Army veteran of the Bataan Death March and found his story very interesting. He may be a good program for us one of these days.

My thanks to the membership for their patience and help with the update of the Chapter By-laws. William Hoyle and Bill Mac Swain did a good job in reviewing and making the necessary changes to this document. Hopefully this will not have to be done again for awhile.

It was a pleasure to have Col. Jack Drain as our speaker last meeting. Gene Richards had recommended him as a speaker and we finally managed to match schedules with him. His service as an Air Force pilot and contributions to the community since his retirement are noteworthy. I have read his book “Life on a Short Fuse” is worthwhile reading. Thanks Col. Drain for coming to tell your story.

**📧** Don't forget to mark your ballots and return them to the meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Larry Kinard, President*

**STAYING IN TOUCH**

JUNE BIRTHDAYS		MEMORY		ANNIVERSARY
John Fisher	1	Roy Hill	11	Louis & Edna Holmes 10/51
Al D'Agostino	7	Vernell Cooper	23	Alice & Eldon Armstrong 22/85

**KWVA CHAPTER DIRECTORY**

**📧** Annette White will bring her camera one more time to take pictures for our directory. You have the option to mail her a picture if you should choose as opposed to taking the picture at our meeting.

## CHAPTER ELECTIONS

You will receive in this Bulldog Newsletter who is running for the positions that are open. The ballot will be in this Newsletter. Please vote and return it to Bill Mac Swain where they can be counted at our meeting. We would like for more people to get involved in the chapter. We have a wonderful chapter and are adding to it every month. It is a wonderful opportunity to help Korean War Veterans. TRY IT AND I KNOW YOU WILL LIKE IT.

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## NATIONAL ELECTION

Many of you have already voted but it's not too late. If you have any questions about who to vote for, ask someone that might know the candidates. It is very important to get someone that will follow the President's leadership. You can't believe what he has to do every day and he needs people that will listen and give him good information so he can make good decisions for the good of the organization.

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## VISIT WITH THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Some of the members from chapters 215 & 270 visited with Yun-Soo Cho, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea at a restaurant in North Dallas. Mr. Cho is replacing the one that retired and the Korean Community wanted us to meet him. It was a very nice meeting and we



enjoyed meeting him and seeing Patrick Y. Shin, Consular Assistant DFW Consulate General.

Consulate General Cho has many connections and he indicated he would be able to help us in fundraising. Since I am Chairman of the Fundraising Committee that interested me very much.

I really think he is going to help us with the ROK and we can involve them more in our chapter. I talked with him and he said he would be very pleased to help us.

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## SICK CALL

Jack Cooper had surgery and is doing well. (Jack doesn't need our prayers)

Let's keep Betsy Doyle in our prayers.

Let's keep Dorothy Malcolm in our prayers

Let's keep Roy Hill in our prayers because he is having some health problems.

Let's keep Neva & Jim Wetmore in our prayers. They both have been in the hospital.

Let's keep Gene Richards in our prayers – he had pneumonia.

Let's keep Jim Hall in our prayers – he's in the VA Hospital with pneumonia.

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### **EILEEN'S CORNER** *By Eileen Montanez*

The administration is asking Congress in 2010, to start lifting the ban on "concurrent receipt" for Chapter 61 medically retired service members. The plan will gradually phase in benefits and would gradually be expanded to include Chapter 61 retirees. In the first year Chapter 61 retirees with 70-100% disability ratings would be eligible to draw both VA disability compensation and military retired pay for years served.

Early estimates are that 12,000 Chapter 61 retirees will benefit under the first step.

The planned changes also will not impact regular retirees. Many thousands have service connected ailments rated 40% or less, but are not tied to combat or combat training. They continue to see retired pay decreased by the amount they receive monthly in VA disability compensation. For this group, the ban on "concurrent receipt" will continue.

Taken from the May 15th issue of the NAUS Newsletter

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### **TELL AMERICA PROGRAM**

We had a very busy month in the Tell America Program. We stayed two days at Arlington High School (left picture) and talked to all the students in the History Department. They were very responsive to our program. We presented Connie Martino, coordinator of the History Department, who is retiring this year a Certificate of Appreciation for all the help she has given us over the years. She was very appreciative of the certificate.

We also visited Donna Shepard Middle School for one day. (right picture) We had all the students in the lunchroom and everything went well. The students were very receptive and asked many questions. Donna Redden accepted the Certificate of Appreciation for her school. I think this will be the last school this year. Byron White did a great job of setting everything up for us. THANKS BYRON!!!



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### **ANNUAL PATRIOTIC PROGRAM AT THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Dick Bove of 270 has an annual patriotic program at the



Knights of Columbus honoring POW's, MIA's and KIA's. Dick asked me and Jo Ann to attend so he could introduce me as a National Director. It was a very good program and Bill had to give a presentation on the Forgotten War. Bill, as usual, did a great job. He also had to present the POW, MIA and KIA using the table that he does so well. The National Organization can be very proud of the fact he did a fantastic job of representing them.

The keynote speaker was US Congressman Sam Johnson and he had a great story to tell. I had never heard his story before from him but it was so moving and was very appropriate for the theme of the program. It is difficult to comprehend what he went through for 7 years. He is a very strong person and as he indicated, God helped him through this period of his life. He told of some of the things they put him through and you had to be strong and have faith to get through it.

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### MEMORIAL DAY

I hope you had great Memorial Day and found time to honor our veterans and the ones that didn't come back. We need to always remember the MIA's and POW's and the sacrifice they made for us. We still have over 8,000 MIA's in North Korea and they want allow us to get them. We know where most of them are and it would put closure to many families. They are in North Korea and we are not allowed to go search for them.

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### 215 GENERAL WALTON H. WALKER (TX)

John Fisher and Sim Goodall received plaques for their volunteer service at the Dallas/Fort Worth National Cemetery. John Fisher (left) has served 9 years and logged 1,315 hours volunteering. Sim Goodall (right) has served 5 years and logged 1,080 hours volunteering. The Dallas/Ft. Worth National Cemetery is the only National Cemetery that the Public Information Office is staffed by volunteers seven days a week, three hundred and sixty-three days a year.



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### ROY HILL'S 87<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY

**Reminder:** The men of Walton H. Walker Chapter are invited to help celebrate Roy Hill's birthday. It will be on June 11, 2009, at the "Yes China Buffet" on the northeast corner of 303 and Robinson We will gather at 11:30 A.M. and have the invocation at 12:00 noon. (See last month's newsletter for map)

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### PEOPLE TO THANK

The Police Department for using their building  
The fantastic ladies for all the great food they bring. We couldn't have a chapter without you.  
Thank Sandy and Al for being so helpful in getting the newsletter out.  
Thank Jim Wetmore for all the work he does getting people to the meeting.  
Thank Bill Mac Swain for taking on two jobs while being the National President.

Thanks to the Executive Board for meeting once a month for about two hours which really helps our chapter.

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### TEXAS HOUSE CALENDARS COMMITTEE

Update: SB 469: 100% Property Tax Exemption for 100% Disabled Veterans. Status: 5/409: SB 469 was considered in public hearing, reported favorably without amendments, and a report was printed and distributed on 5/7/09, and sent to Calendars.

What does this mean? Translation: SB 469 has already passed the Senate. Texas House Ways & Means Committee saw no financial problems with SB 469. The next step is to get SB 469 placed on the House Calendar.

Once again the Texas Coalition of Veteran Organizations asks every veteran to contact the members of the House Calendars Committee and ask them to schedule SB 469 and HB 742 as expeditiously as possible. Please contact Chairman, Rep. Brian McCall: 512-463-0594 email: brian.mccall@house.state.tx.us This is a very important bill that will help veterans that receive 100%.

**SCRIPT:** Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I am calling from the Veterans Group \_\_\_\_\_, from \_\_\_\_\_: I respectfully ask Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ to have SB 469, the tax homestead exemption for our disable veterans by Senator John Carona et al. be reviewed and scheduled by the House Calendars as expeditiously as possible. As you are aware, the Texas Constitution was amended in November 2007 allowing for 100% property tax reduction for 100% disabled veterans by the House Calendars Committee it can be placed jointly on the House General Calendar. I understand time is of the essence especially at this time during the session so I respectfully ask for these bills to be scheduled immediately by the Calendars Committee in order for them to be placed on the House calendar as soon as possible. Thank you for your time and I appreciate the work you do for our State.

*By: Texas Coalition of Veteran Organizations, Texas Veterans Caucus, Texas Veterans*

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### GENERAL WALTON H WALKER CHAPTER 215, INC. MAY 2009 MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

The Gen. Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 Membership Meeting was held on May 16, 2009 at the Arlington Police Substation in Arlington, Texas. The Chapter meeting was called to order by President Larry Kinard with 48 members and 5 guests present. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Burleigh Casler followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag conducted by Ken Dillard. Bob McLaren read the Chapter Creed followed by a moment of silence.

President Kinard ask for a motions to approve the April Membership Minutes and the April Financial Report both presented in the May Bulldog Bugle. Russell Stephens made the motion to approve the April Minutes and Byron White seconded. The motion passed. James Craig made the motion to approve the April Financial Report and Sam Bass Smith seconded. The motion passed.

President Kinard announced that he was happy to see member Ed Singleton who has not attended previously. His wife Connie was also present for the first time. Jean Goss was also present. The Craig's were present after being absent for quite a few meetings due to illness.

President Kinard asked Sim Goodall to introduce our Guest Speaker Lt. Col Jack L Drain, USAF (Ret) who spoke about his book. Lt. Col Drain mentioned his many missions and the many Aircraft he flew during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and problems associated with defective fuses placed on bomb loads that went off prematurely killing quite a few Vietnam Flyers. The cause of the fuse failures were later traced to an employee who left her work station during the manufacturing process and how exposed wires were not separated with a special separation part and thus short circuited. He also introduced a friend Rory O'Donnell. Lt. Col Drain gave a very good recap of the problems often encountered with fighting equipment due to neglect during the manufacturing process.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Kinard reported that our October Picnic Meeting would also be our Annual Auction Meeting since we could not have an Auction in our new meeting area.

Communication Officer Jim Wetmore reported that Gene Richards had pneumonia and Judy was still recovering from back surgery. Jack Cooper was still recovering from a hernia operation and Roy Collins had lost his wife Ann. Roy Hill also had Pulmonary Congestion and Dorothy Malcolm was back in attendance after having health problems for a few meetings.

Tell America Chairman Byron White stated that he and William Hoyle led a group in making a two day presentation of our "Tell America Program" in May to the Arlington High School and also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Connie Martino who is retiring from teaching and who has asked us back each year for many years. Mansfield, Donna Shepard Middle School, will be visited on Monday 18, 2009 and a presentation made starting at 12:15 pm.

Membership Chairman John Fisher reported that the Executive Council had made a motion to offer the shirts, patches and hat to the new members free until cancelled by the Council. President Kinard reported that the Parade Committee had placed our request in to do the July 4<sup>th</sup> Independence Parade on July 4, 2009. We will receive our position in the parade later.

President Kinard stated that Editor Dunn had requested those interested in helping with the May Newsletter would meet at 10:00 am at the Atlanta Bakery on Monday, May 26, 2009.

## OLD BUSINESS

President Kinard reported that the September Statue Dedication of Gen Walton H Walker in Korea was still being held and if you need more information to contact him.

Sim Goodall made the following report on the Chapter election coming up in June. Those running for Office were: Larry Kinard, President; William Hoyle, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Al D'Agostino, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Bill Mac Swain, Secretary/Treasurer; Marvin Dunn, Jack Cooper and Roy Hill for Directors. All Officers and Directors are running unopposed.

President Kinard announced that Rho Bass was taking pictures for the Directory. Members who have not had their pictures taken should do so since this was the last time they would be taken.

Bill Mac Swain reminded the Chapter of the National Annual Membership Meeting scheduled for October 24 - 26, 2009 at the Westin Hotel on Highway 114. Dates before and after were also available should anyone wish to stay longer and tour the area. Registration information will be available in the May - June & July - August editions of The Graybeards Magazine.

John Fisher stated that since we had so many activities to do during May the visit to welcome home those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan is being postponed until June.

William Hoyle presented and answered questions on the changes being made to the Chapter Bylaws by the membership. There were two changes discussed that were suggested by the Membership and will also be voted on with the other changes discussed last month. There were 28 votes for the changes, and one individual who stated that the Bylaws changes were not proper. The Secretary declared a quorum of 16 voting members were needed and there were 29 present. The vote was 28 for the changes and 1 against. The Bylaws changes were approved by more than the necessary 2/3 vote.

## NEW BUSINESS

President Kinard reported that the next Membership Meeting will be June 20, 2009 which would also be our Election day voting meeting. The ballot will be sent out in the newsletter the first part of June. He then had a discussion on finding a new meeting place. It was decided that the DAV place should be investigated. It was also decided to participate in the Dallas Veterans Day Parade and a check to see when the Veterans Park Ceremony might be held. Secretary Mac Swain then read three

correspondence letters.

John Fisher reported that the National Cemetery had their Memorial Day Ceremony on May 25, 2009 at 11:00 am and you should arrive very early to make sure you get a good seat and be sure and wear your uniform.

The 50/50 Drawing was held and Annette White won \$61 as her half of the drawing. All the men were reminded that Roy Hill's Stag Birthday Party would be on June 11, 2009

Sam Bass made a motion to adjourn with a prayer. Ted Malcolm seconded and the motion passed with Chaplain Don Jones giving the closing prayer.

*Respectfully submitted, Bill Mac Swain, Secretary*

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

[omitted from online version]

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**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:

**June 9** We have our Executive Board Meeting

**June 11** Roy Hill's Birthday Celebration -- place this on your calendar

**June 20** We have our Regular Meeting \*\* Jack will be conducting the meeting, so be nice to him. Bill and Larry will be in Korea for a visit \*\*

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

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For the friendship to our chapter and all the donated bakery goods, remember to patronize Atlanta Bread Company located at 3700 S Cooper St., Arlington, TX 76015. They offer pastries, salads, and pizzas.