



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 SEPTEMBER 2009

I know we have talked about the coming National Convention at the Westin Dallas/Fort Worth Airport on October 24-26 at all the meetings lately, but I want to take this means to emphasize a couple of points. This is a wonderful opportunity for those of you who have never attended a National KWVA Convention to see what takes place at these meetings. This is the first time and may be the only time it will ever be in the DFW area. I hope most of you will attend all or a part of it.

Secondly, our own **Bill Mac Swain** will be presiding and we certainly want to support him. The Convention Planning Committee is working diligently to make it an interesting and enjoyable experience for all who attend. Page 50 of the July-August issue of the Graybeard magazine is a reservation form and a brief look at what is to happen each day. Registration deadline is October 3.

Also Chapter 215 and 270 are the host chapters, and it will be necessary for us to help with some of the duties such as Registration desk, Hospitality room hosts and perhaps providing some transportation. At our meeting this month we will be discussing these needs and hope to get your commitment to help.

Charles Shiner, Master Gardener, formerly of Arlington, now of Southlake will be our speaker for the September meeting. He has a good program on gardening, composting and water conservation and will be happy to answer any questions you might have.

See you on the 19th.

Larry Kinard, President, Chapter 215

STAYING IN TOUCH

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS		MEMORY		ANNIVERSARY	
Ken Dillard	10	Calvin Langford	18	Judy & Gene Richards	5/98
Gene Richards	13	Judy Richards	22		
Dan Shiro	16	Ed Ashworth	29	Julia & Bob Walsh	27/91
George Wolf	17	Russell Stephens	30		

EILEEN'S CORNER

Two weeks ago, Joe & I drove to NAS Pensacola to spend three days at The Navy Lodge there. We were amazed at the size of that Naval Air Station. It was huge. It even had an 18-hole golf course and a large cemetery. The only disappointing thing was the CPO and Officer's clubs weren't open and the only place for us to eat while on base was the food court in the NEX building. We were tickled to see they even had an NCIS building on the base. It's one of our favorite TV shows!

We had a very nice room complete with a kitchenette, and a patio with a table and two chairs. The stairs down to the beach were only a few yards from our room. The Museum of Naval Aviation was only a block and a half from the Lodge and since there was no fee to get in, we went there three times. There was much to see in there. Even as large a museum as it is, they still need to expand in order to accommodate more of their exhibits. We also enjoyed seeing a movie on Helicopters in the IMAX Theater there.

NAS Pensacola is home to The Blue Angels and on our last morning we went out to the flight line at 7:15 and waited for the gate to open at 7:30 so we could get a good seat in the bleachers. This was in preparation to watch the 8:30 performance of the Blue Angels. What a thrilling show it was. There are six of them, four flew as a group and the other two flew together. It took your breath away to see these two fly at each other, roll on their sides and pass belly to belly. At one point they snuck up from behind us and flew at tree top level over our heads! By the time you instinctively ducked, they were up and away.

The precision flying of the other four was a sight worth seeing and we were sorry when the show ended 45 minutes later. Needless to say there was a huge crowd watching and there was standing room only.

When the six planes taxied back up to the flight line, all the children lined the taxiway waving the American flags the volunteers had passed out. I'm sure the pilots enjoyed the spectacle as much as the audience did. After they parked their planes, the pilots went into the museum to sign autographs.

MEMBER BIOGRAPHY – GENE RICHARDS

This month's biography is on Gene Richards. Gene was born in Nolan City, TX and attended Hermleigh High School, a small school between Sweetwater and Schneider. He is the 5th child in a family of 10 children. Six of the ten served in the Armed Forces. One sister was a WAC.

Gene lived out in the country near Hermleigh until he graduated High School then went to work in the oil fields as part of a seismograph crew. He was drafted and went into the Army in January 1951. He got married four days before he went into the Army.

He went to OCS and was eventually sent to Korea in 1952 as a Lt with the 7th Infantry Division Field Artillery. He served in the vicinity of Pork Chop Hill. He also served as Artillery Air Observer. He earned the Air Medal with 4 oak leaf clusters and finally rotated out in July of '53 and was sent back to the U.S. He was discharged in October of '53.

Gene returned to the oil fields (Haliburton) for about 6 weeks, left and went to college on the G.I. Bill. After graduation he moved to Fort Worth and went to work as an electrical engineer for Texas Electric Service Company which became TXU in 1987. He retired in 1992.

Between him and Judy they have 8 children and 8 grandchildren. Gene's hobby is yard work and he and Judy won the North Richland Hills "Yard of The Month" award in July.

Gene has been a member of the chapter since 2000 when Larry Kinard, an old friend, recruited him.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

- To the D'Agostino's and Sandy Moran for putting the newsletter together every month.
- To Jim Wetmore for his hard work chairing the telephone committee and keeping up with sick call.
- To Annette White for all her work on getting our directory put together.
- To all the ladies who provide the delicious meals at every meeting.
- To Roy Hill for the gifts he gives the ladies at every meeting.

KWVA NATIONAL CONVENTION -- OCT 24TH-26TH

Don't forget, the National Convention will be held on Oct 24th -26th at the Westin Hotel in Irving. The last issue of the Greybeards has the application in it with the hotel's telephone number and a copy of the agenda. Be sure and send your application in. Since this will probably be the last time the National Convention will be held in Dallas, let's have a great turnout.

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

[omitted from online version]

KWVA CHAPTER NOTES

- Just a note about your Executive Committee. They meet every month to discuss ways to improve the chapter. They then send their suggestions to the Board to be voted on. If a membership vote is needed, it then goes to the floor to be voted on.

- Everyone is invited to contribute anything to the Bulldog Bugle that they think may be of interest to our chapter members. Please come to the newsletter meetings held once a month at the Atlanta Bread Company on the west side of Cooper just north of Arbrook. Or, you can pass the information on to Marvin at one of our chapter meetings.

- If you'd like to buy a directory, please bring your \$15 to the next meeting to buy one as Annette White still has some for sale.

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

The Gen. Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 Membership Meeting was held on August 15, 2009 at the Arlington Police Substation in Arlington, Texas. The Chapter meeting was called to order by President Larry Kinard with 53 members and 4 guests present. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Burleigh Casler followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag conducted by William Hoyle. Russell Stephens read the Chapter Creed followed by a moment of silence.

President Kinard ask for a motions to approve the July Membership Minutes and the July Financial Report both presented in the August Bulldog Bugle. Sam Bass made the motion to approve the July Minutes and Jim Wetmore seconded. The motion passed. William Hoyle made the motion to approve the July Financial Report and Jose Ruiz seconded. The motion passed.

President Kinard announced that he was happy to see Connie Singleton with her husband Ed. Marvin Dunn then asked to say a few words and "Thanked" all those who had called, sent cards and came by to see him during his recent surgery. Larry then introduced our Guest Speaker Dave Lieber. The Watchdog, who writes in the Star Telegram newspaper, who helps those who are having problems with scams and trying to contact the proper individuals to solve problems they have with bills, overcharges and other problems. His talk was very informative, some funny and some serious but, always followed with what should be done and what each person should be wary of when choosing someone to work for them or to solve a problem. He also had books available and CD's and answered many questions from the membership. It was great entertainment for those in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Kinard introduced Annette White and Annette had the new Directories available for purchase. President Kinard "Thanked" Annette for her hard and thorough work on completing the Directory.

Special Events Chairman Al D'Agostino reminded the membership of our up coming Picnic in October and that an Auction would also be held at that function. More information will be in the Bulldog Bugle. The Picnic will be at the Randal Mill Park.

Communication Officer Jim Wetmore reported that, his Calling Committee had received new information, and then reported on those with health issues. Janet Baker had surgery, John Fisher had microsurgery on his nose, Roy Hill was experiencing back pain, Jim Hall is recovering from his aneurism surgery and Past President Dick Predmore has just come off the walker after having both hips replaced.

President Kinard, "Thanked" Eileen Montanez for her help with the August Bulldog Bugle preparation meeting and work on the newsletter. Marvin Dunn said the September Newsletter meeting would be Monday, August 24th at the Atlanta Bakery he also "Thanked" Eileen.

OLD BUSINESS

President Kinard reported that the Dedication of the General Walton H. Walker Statue in Korea has been postponed until sometime in June 2010.

President Kinard reported that Burleigh Casler's 'Big Birthday' was a success and Burleigh said he was overwhelmed at all the attendance he saw at the party and appreciated the kind thought, cards and well wishes he received.

Secretary Mac Swain reported that a Bill from Congress has been signed into law by President Obama on July 27, 2009 (Armistice Day for the Korean War) called the Korean War Recognition Bill where the flag will be flown at half mast each year on July 27th to honor all those who gave their lives in this war.

President Kinard reminded the members that each Friday is red shirt day and asked Bea Hoyle to once again repeat what red shirt day was. Belief in God, Belief in America and belief in supporting our

troops was her answer, and our answer, if asked why we are wearing a red shirt, should be the same. President Kinard reported on the July 26th Korean War Remembrance Program at the VA on Sunday, July 26 at 3:00 pm. Both President Kinard and Jack Cooper were part of the program as well as a Chapter Honorary Member, Reverend Holmes who did the Remembrance Table. He then called upon Secretary and Bill Mac Swain reminded the membership of the National Annual Korean War Veterans Association Membership Meeting at the Westin Hotel in Irving, TX on the 24th through the 26th of October.

President Kinard then called Ted Malcolm forward and awarded him with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Chapter, for his work on the Executive Council and as Parade Chairman, where he arranged for parades in Ft Worth, Dallas and Arlington. It was a task well done.

NEW BUSINESS

President Kinard reported that the next Membership Meeting will be September 19, 2009 at our regular third Saturday and time. He then announced the new committee officers recently approved by the Executive Council. A list is attached to the original minutes and also is posted on the Bulldog Bugle Miscellaneous Page which is often printed in the Newsletter.

President Kinard called on KWVA President Mac Swain to give a short recap of the National Board of Directors Meeting held with the gathering in Washington, DC July 25th through the 27th.

President Mac Swain reported that the Board of Directors met for two days and approved numerous changes in the Bylaws and that those changes would appear in the July - August, 2009 Graybeards Magazine. He asked all to look over the changes since they would be required to vote on them on October 26, 2009 at the KWVA Annual Membership Meeting in Irving, Texas.

1st Vice President Cooper reported that the Membership would have a contest from August 15, 2009 through 31 December 2009 and an award of free National and Chapter annual dues would be made for whom ever brought in the most new members in that time frame. He also reported he would keep a look out on the possible use of the old DAV Building or the new building if it is built for a meeting place for the Chapter.

The 50/50 Drawing was held and Judy Richards won \$64 as her half of the drawing. Five Special Books were supplied by Gene and Judy Richards. The five books were won by Billy Smith, La Verne Roberts, Annette White, James Lucas and Burleigh Casler.

Sam Bass made a motion to adjourn with a prayer. Russell Stephens seconded and the motion carried. Chaplain Don Jones gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Mac Swain, Secretary

DAV NATIONAL CONVENTION

DENVER—The Disabled American Veterans convened its national body to address the needs of disabled veterans from all wars during the DAV National Convention August 20 – 24, 2009.

More than 4,000 DAV delegates reviewed important legislative initiatives aimed at building better lives for **all veterans** including disabled veterans and their families. The major issues addressed by the Convention included the need to fix the Department of Veterans Affairs' overwhelmed, antiquated benefits claims process...

Al D'Agostino, one of our KWVA members, is commander of DAV Chapter 42 in Grand Prairie; he attended the DAV National Convention as a delegate. Other KWVA members who are also members of DAV chapter 42 include: **Jack Cooper, Marvin Dunn, Jim Hall and Roy Hill. Marvin Dunn** was also a DAV convention delegate but was unable to attend due to health reasons.

Secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki addressed the convention Aug. 22nd as the Key Note Speaker. It was reported that the claims backlog is approaching 1 million open claims, and they are preparing to unveil a comprehensive plan to overhaul the system. Secretary Shinseki is committed to speeding up the process which includes **all veterans** who have claims pending.

In the Legislative Focus of the 111th Congress, there are over 130 bills which have been introduced on **veteran-related issues** including:

- Veterans Health Care Funding Reform
- Family Caregiver Assistance
- Women Veterans
- VA health Infrastructure
- Mental Health
- Traumatic Brain Injury

For those interested, more information can be found at www.DAV.org



History of the National League of POW/MIA Families' POW/MIA Flag

In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff, an MIA wife and member of the National League of Families, recognized the need for a symbol of our POW/MIAs. Prompted by an article in the Jacksonville, Florida Times-Union, Mrs. Hoff contacted Norman Rivkees, Vice President of Annin & Company which had made a banner for the newest member of the United Nations, the People's Republic of China, as a part of their policy to provide flags to all United Nations members states. Mrs. Hoff found Mr. Rivkees very sympathetic to the POW/MIA issue, and he, along with Annin's advertising agency, designed a flag to represent our missing men. Following League approval, the flags were manufactured for distribution.

On March 9, 1989, an official League flag, which flew over the White House on 1988 National POW/MIA Recognition Day, was installed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda as a result of legislation passed overwhelmingly during the 100th Congress. In a demonstration of bipartisan Congressional support, the leadership of both Houses hosted the installation ceremony.

The League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag ever displayed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda where it will stand as a powerful symbol of national commitment to America's POW/MIAs until the fullest possible accounting has been achieved for U.S. personnel still missing and unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

On August 10, 1990, the 101st Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, which recognized the League's POW/MIA flag and designated it *"as the symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation"*.

The importance of the League's POW/MIA flag lies in its continued visibility, a constant reminder of the plight of America's POW/MIAs. Other than "Old Glory", the League's POW/MIA flag is the only flag ever to fly over the White House, having been displayed in this place of honor on National POW/MIA Recognition Day since 1982. With passage of Section 1082 of the 1998 Defense Authorization Act during the first term of the 105th Congress, the League's POW/MIA flag will fly each year on Armed Forces Day, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, National POW/MIA Recognition Day and Veterans Day on the grounds or in the public lobbies of major military installations as designated by the Secretary of the Defense, all Federal national cemeteries, the national Korean War Veterans Memorial, the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the White House, the United States Postal Service post offices and at the official offices of the Secretaries of State, Defense and Veteran's Affairs, and Director of the Selective Service System.

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For more information visit www.pow-miafamilies.org

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Director (09 - 11)	Roy Hill	972-262-7222	None

Standing Committee Officers:

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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:

September 8 Executive Board Meeting at Hugh Smith Center from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

September 19 Regular Monthly Meeting **11:15 AM**

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

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

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.