



## 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 NOVEMBER 2009

We just finished a very interesting weekend. I consider our National KWVA Membership meeting to be a great success. Several members of our chapter were there for the Membership meeting on Monday and the banquet on Monday night, I think we had about 30 of our members involved during the 3 day period. **Bill and Bea Hoyle** took good care of the Registration Desk and **Sam and Rho Bass** did a great job managing the Hospitality room where a lot of people hung out a good part of the time. I really appreciate all the good support and participation we had in making things work so well. As usual, **President Mac Swain** did a great job of presiding at the various meetings and a number of good things were accomplished. The 6.25 ROK Chapter from Dallas presented a beautiful live flower wreath to the KWVA during the banquet Monday night. **Bettye** and I placed it near our chapter monument at the DFW National Cemetery Tuesday morning after receiving permission from the Cemetery Director.

At the last meeting we had excellent participation at the picnic and auction. We were pleased to have 6.25 ROK President **Charles Lee** and wife **Grace** for the first time at one of our meeting. We also had **J. D. Randolph**, President of Chapter 270 and two of his members in attendance. I really appreciate them making the effort to come over to visit us. Thanks again to **Barbara and Al D'Agostino** for preparing and cooking that delicious brisket. **Janet Baker** is doing pretty well after her fall in the parking lot as they were leaving. It turns out that she had a broken thumb, two fingers and wrist and is sporting a cast from her hand to shoulder. She says she has very little pain now but is limited in what she can do but has had help from her neighbors. **Jim Wetmore** and **Burleigh Casler** were very helpful in getting them to the hospital and home after that. **Janet** asked me to relay their appreciation for the help and comfort given by all who were there. She will be wearing the cast for about six weeks.

Don't forget the services on Veterans Day Wednesday November 11<sup>th</sup> at Arlington Veterans Park and D/FW Cemetery. Details appear in another part of this newsletter. **Note: Complimentary lunch will be served at Veterans Park to the first 200 people following the ceremony. RSVP by Friday Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM to 817-795-2020 or [runz-law@swbell.net](mailto:runz-law@swbell.net). Traffic may be a problem with all the construction at DFW Cemetery. Please wear your uniform at both services.**

**Carolyn Noonan** and her mother **Millie Kirk** will be our program at the next meeting on November 21. They will talk about her father, Terry Kirk, a China Marine who was captured in the beginning of WW II and spent the war in a Japanese prison camp. We will see some photos taken with a crude camera that he fashioned while in the camp. This should be a very interesting program. Hope to see you there.

*Larry Kinard, President*

## LISTEN UP 2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES:

This is the *first* reminder that dues of \$40 for those regular members of National with 01/01/09 and those wives who are Associate Members at \$12 with the second or third 01/01/09 on your Bulldog Bugle mailing label are now being asked for 2010.

Those who owe \$40 -- this includes National at \$25 and \$15 for Chapter dues. The Treasurer will send in your National Membership renewal for you. Please make out your check to Chapter #215. Those of you who owe \$12 as Chapter Associate Members (mostly the wives or family members of members who also wish to support the chapter) may include your payment in the same check. Mail your check to Chapter #215, PO Box 122084, Fort Worth, TX 76121-2084. Be sure and Memo your check as 2010 Membership dues. The Treasurer will accept dues at the November and December Membership Meetings. Those who are National Life Members but not Life in the Chapter dues are \$15. Other with dates before or after 01/01/10 will receive a letter in the mail about their dues.

The Executive Council appreciates your membership in the Chapter and hopes that all will submit their renewal dues payment before the end of December 2010. If you have any questions, please contact the Secretary/Treasurer at 817-244-0706 or e-mail [BillMacSwain@charter.net](mailto:BillMacSwain@charter.net).

---

## STAYING IN TOUCH

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS		MEMORY		ANNIVERSARY	
Bobby Faries	5	Betty Stovall	24	Alice & James Hall	2/72
Bill Mac Swain	7	Joseph Pena	25		
Sara Brown	7	Gregory Vial	26	Betty & Nathan Stovall	20/54
Rebecca Dillard	8	Glenn Smith	28	Carolyn & John Fisher	24/50
Del Goss	11	James Parker	30		
Don C Jones	13	Cora Hogan	30		

---

## EILEEN'S CORNER

First let me mention our prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Janet Baker who tripped and fell in the parking lot at Randol Mill Park on Saturday during our picnic. She cut her chin open and also broke her right wrist and thumb. Many members rushed to her aid while one of them called 911. The EMS ambulance came and took Janet to Arlington Memorial Hospital where the emergency room folks took care of her. She is at home resting and advises she won't be going near her computer till she can use both hands again! She hopes to be able to attend the November meeting.

**News from Roy Hill:** He brought a shoe box to the picnic and advised anyone who wants to be part of the gift exchange at our Christmas party to write their name on a slip of paper, drop it into the shoe box, and draw out another name, and that's the person you'll buy a gift for. **Roy** says that the gift should be no more than ten dollars or less if possible. By the end of the picnic there was one name left in that box so someone put their name in but forgot to take another name out. He'll bring the shoe box and that single name to the November meeting. Anyone who did not get a chance to submit their name at the picnic or didn't attend it, can still enter their name (and draw another name) at the Nov. meeting.

The Christmas party will be held on Dec 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at Outlaw's Restaurant at 2334 South Beltline Rd (1/2 block north of Hwy 303), Grand Prairie. Wear your uniform as this will also be a regular meeting. **Roy MUST** have your RSVP no later than Dec 10<sup>th</sup>! You can call Roy at 972-262-7222, or let him know at the November meeting.

Upon your arrival at the restaurant you pick up a meal ticket. Without one you will not be served. A short regular meeting will take place at 1:00 p.m., then the announcement of the Christmas Angel, and any other awards. After the meal and meeting there will be a sing-along, gift exchange drawing, door prizes, and adjournment.

**Roy** has also invited members of Chapter 625 to join us. This party is being hosted by the generosity of **Roy Hill**. Please make an effort to be present and join the festivities, and to be sure and RSVP no later than Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

## MEMBER BIOGRAPHY – JACK COOPER

This month's biography is on Jack Cooper. Jack was born in Pharoah, Ok. He attended Wewoka High School. He joined the National Guard in 1948 and the entire 45<sup>th</sup> Division of the Oklahoma National Guard was mobilized for the conflict in Korea. He was in the Army Artillery.



He was sent to Camp Polk, LA, and shipped out of New Orleans to Hokkaido Japan, then on to Korea in November of '51. He was Chief of Section of a 105<sup>th</sup> Howitzer Gun Section. On Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 1951, his Howitzer fired the first official round for the 45<sup>th</sup> Division. Jack served in the Chowan Valley, Jamestown Line. He was discharged in July 1952.

After getting out of the service he went straight to college. He spent 6 years working for International Harvester after which he spent the rest of his working life as a specialist in fire protection equipment for several companies. He retired in 1999.

He lived in Jacksonville, FL for two years and returned to Dallas in 1959. He married Vernell on Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1957. Between them they have two sons, two daughters, several grand kids and great grand kids plus one cat "Ms. Pettie."

Jack's hobby is exercising. He's been a member of our chapter for 8 years and has held officer's positions for 7 of those 8 years – not to mention he's also a great auctioneer!

Al D'Agostino surmises that even though he didn't serve with Jack, he bets he was an outstanding latrine lawyer while on active duty.

---

## 2009 KWVA Chapter Picnic

Walton H. Walker Chapter had a very successful picnic last month at Randol Mill Park. Pictured facing the camera are Chaplain & Mrs. Don Smith and Jose Ruiz sitting at the picnic table. This has become the premier social event of the year. There were between 50 and 60 people in attendance.

We invited the Republic of Korea (ROK) veterans, and Chapter 270 to join us.

An auction was held at the park under the pavilion and \$701.00 was raised which will be used toward Chapter expenses and the Angel recipient. Thank you all for such great support.



By *Marvin Dunn*

---

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE

- To Jim Wetmore for his hard work chairing the telephone committee & keeping up with sick call.
- 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.
- To Eileen Montanez, Marvin Dunn and Sandy Moran for putting the newsletter together every month.

GENERAL WALTON H WALKER CHAPTER 215, INC.  
NO MINUTES SINCE NO BUSINESS WAS CONDUCTED AT OCTOBER PICNIC & AUCTION

---

**SICK CALL**

Janet Baker, Al D'Agostino, Jim Hall and Marvin Dunn all had surgery. Let's keep them in our prayers for a speedy recovery.

---

**CHAPTER 215 OFFICIAL**

Executive Council:

President	Larry Kinard	682-518-1040	Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com
First Vice President	William Hoyle	972-937-4528	William.Hoyle@yahoo.com
Second Vice President	Al D'Agostino	817-299-8708	Dag299@tx.rr.com
Secretary & Treasurer	Bill Mac Swain	817-244-0706	BillMacSwain@charter.net
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
Director (09 - 11)	Jack Cooper	972-641-2642	OklahomasJack@sbcglobal.net
Director (09 - 11)	Marvin Dunn	817-261-1499	MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com
Director (09 - 11)	Roy Hill	972-262-7222	None

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
Communication Officer Assistant	Carolyn Fisher	817-477-4247	FishTex1@sbcglobal.net
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	William.Hoyle@yahoo.com
Meeting & Entertainment	William Hoyle	972-937-4528	William.Hoyle@yahoo.com
Meeting & Entertainment	Larry Kinard	682-518-1040	Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com
POW/MIA Officer	Col. James Stone	817-861-8481	None
Membership	Jack Cooper	817-477-4247	OklahomaJack@sbcgloba.net
Membership Assistant	Nathan Stovall	817-261-2109	None
Quartermaster	Fred Berry	817-354-7607	FBerry001@tx.rr.com
Special Events	Al D'Agostino	817-299-8708	Dag299@tx.rr.com
Service Officer	Sim Goodall	817-483-4443	SimGoodall@yahoo.com
Historian	Larry Kinard	682-518-1040	Larry.Kinard@yahoo.com
Bulldog Bugle Editor	Eileen Montanez	817-483-1157	eileen.montanez@gmail.com
Bulldog Bugle Assistant	Marvin Dunn	817-261-1499	MarvDunnJr@yahoo.com
Publicity	Faye Landham	817-861-3821	FabFaye60@sbcglobal.net
Parade Officer	Sam Bass	214-361-4697	None
Parade Officer	Ken Dillard	817-468-8714	None

---

**WIDOWS WIN SBP LAWSUIT**

On October 22, the Defense Department announced it will not appeal the August 2009 ruling of the U.S. Court of Appeals in the case of three widows who sued the government to keep both their VA survivor benefits and their military Survivor Benefit Plan annuities. At issue is a 2004 law that restored DIC payments to veterans' surviving spouses who remarry after their 57th birthday. Before the law change, survivors lost DIC upon remarriage at any age.

In July 2007, three widows filed a lawsuit claiming that the unique wording of the 2004 law entitled widows who remarry after age 57 to receive both Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities from DoD and VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), without any offset between the two.

Defense Department lawyers argued that was a flawed interpretation, arguing that the 2004 law's language barring offset for any other "veteran's benefit" didn't apply to SBP, because SBP is a DoD benefit, not a VA benefit. After the U.S. Court of Federal Claims ruled in favor of the widows, the government filed an appeal. But the U.S. Court of Appeals issued a strong rejection of the government's appeal, and the Pentagon's decision not to appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court ends the discussion.

The Defense Department has issued guidance to the services and Defense Finance and Accounting Service to identify all SBP annuitants who are eligible for DIC and who remarried after their 57th birthday. Qualifying survivors will be eligible to receive both payments in full, retroactive to January 1, 2004 or the date of their remarriage, whichever is later.

Payments will be reduced by the amount of any previous SBP premium refund and by the amount of any Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance payments the survivor may have received.

Although the number of survivors affected is relatively small, this decision gives us yet another equity argument to change the law for all remaining SBP-DIC widows. It simply doesn't make sense to have two separate standards in the law, one that allows payment of full SBP and DIC for survivors who remarry after age 57 and another that forces a dollar-for-dollar offset between the two benefits for all others.

---

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

[omitted from online version]

## VETERANS DAY SPECIALS 2009

Following are some Veteran Day specials for 2009. In addition to this list many companies, restaurants, and recreational sites offer military discounts which are not well advertised. When making purchases it is always a good idea to first ask if they have military discounts is available for your military status.

- 1 Nov 06 -11: Lowe's Companies will offer all active, reserve, honorably discharged retired military personnel a 10% discount on in-store purchases.
- 2 Nov 08: McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurants is honoring veterans who have served in war or peace.
- 3 Nov 11: Applebees- Choose from five dinner entrees which will be provided at no charge at participating stores during business hours on Wednesday.
- 4 Nov 16: Golden Corral-The 2009 Military Appreciation Monday dinner at no cost. The no cost "thank you" dinner is available to any person who has served in the military.



## VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

D-FW National Cemetery  
2000 Mountain Creek Parkway  
Dallas, TX

**NOVEMBER 11, 2009**

3:00 p.m.

**Guest Speaker**

**Captain**

**T.D. Smyers**

*Commanding Officer NAS JRB Ft. Worth*

**Mountain View College Community Band**

**Reflections Home School Choir**

**457<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron Fly Over**

**Cannon Salute**

**Rendered by**

**Second Battalion, 14th Marines**

The 2009 Veterans Day Program at the Dallas – Fort Worth National Cemetery will begin at 2 p.m. sharp on November 11<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) at the Dallas – Fort Worth National



**2009 Taste of Korea** L-R Bill Hoyle, *Unknown*, Patrick Shin -Dallas Korean Consulate, and Jim Wetmore



**2009 Taste of Korea** L-R *Unknown*, Houston General Consul Yun Soo Cho, John Fisher & Sim Goodall

*Great Southwest - Arlington Rotary Club*

*Cordially invites you and your guests to attend*

## *Veterans Day Commemoration Ceremony*

*honoring veterans who served in the  
armed forces of the United States*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Wednesday, November 11, 2009  
11 a.m.*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Featured Speaker: Major General James L. Williams  
Commanding General, 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division  
Marine Forces Reserve*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Special patriotic music provided by Hon. Brent Carr, Judge,  
County Criminal Court No. 9, and the Cowtown Music Club*

\*\*\*\*\*

*Arlington Veterans Park Memorial  
Spanish Trail at Arkansas Lane  
Arlington, Texas 76014*

You and your guests are also invited to join us for a complimentary luncheon immediately following the ceremony at the park pavilion. Please RSVP by Friday, November 6, at 5:00 p.m. to 817-795-2020 or [runz-law@swbell.net](mailto:runz-law@swbell.net). Luncheon will be limited to first 200 respondents.

## AKAKA HOLDS HEARING ON PENDING VETERANS LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Daniel K. Akaka (D-Hawaii) held a hearing today to review pending veterans' benefits and health care legislation. The Committee questioned witnesses and reviewed 22 bills in preparation for later legislative action.

**"I am pleased with the support we have in Congress and among the public to improve the care and benefits veterans have earned by their service,"** said Akaka. **"We will develop legislation based on the bills pending in Committee, while we continue to push for Congressional action on important veterans' bills unanimously approved in the summer. Two of those bills -- the Veterans Health Care Authorization Act and the Caregiver and Veterans Health Services Act -- are being blocked from Senate consideration by a single Senator. Until the Senate is allowed to act, wounded warriors and their families will continue to be denied the much needed improvements those bills would provide."**

The 22 bills reviewed today included several which address veteran homelessness. Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki has highlighted this issue, calling for an end to homelessness among veterans.

Chairman Akaka's full statement, written testimony from today's witnesses, and a webcast are available here: [LINK](#). The Committee markup has not yet been scheduled. For more information, visit [veterans.senate.gov](http://veterans.senate.gov). -END-

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:

- November 10** Executive Board Meeting - Hugh Smith Center 7:00 - 9:00 PM  
**November 11** Veterans Day  
**November 21** Regular meeting at 1030 SW Green Oaks Blvd, south of I-20,  
between Cooper and Matlock Streets

---

**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.