



KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 213E
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NEWSLETTER

April–June 2019

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June 25 Commemoration: Anniversary of the Start of the Korean War

Tuesday, June 25 saw a strong and enthusiastic turnout at the Korean War Memorial for a ceremony commemorating the 69th anniversary of the start of the Korean War.

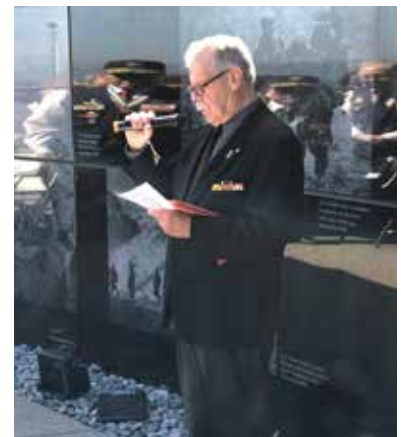
KWMF Executive Director Gerard Parker welcomed the guests, and asked them to stand for the Invocation by Steven D. Wiegert, Chaplain, Marine Corps League Chapter 686, Santa Rosa, CA, a Vietnam veteran and Purple Heart recipient.



Photos by Steve Bosshard and Jeny Kwak Weber



Chaplain Wiegert delivered the Invocation.



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Solemnly listening to the Invocation, from left, are KWMF's Pete Gleichhaus, Mitch Leiber, and Frank Mendez; Jeny Kwak Weber, President of the Korean American Community Center; Noah Griffin, Founder and Creative Director of the Cole Porter Society; KWMF's Don Reid, Quentin Kopp, and Man J. Kim; and members of the Northern California Korean American Veterans Association.

Following the Invocation, Noah Griffin sang a stirring rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner."



Judge Quentin L. Kopp (Ret.), KWMF President and Chairman, addressed the audience. He put the war into historical and geopolitical context, and emphasized its relevance in today's world.

Following Noah's performance, KWMF Vice President Man J. Kim sang the Korean National Anthem.



KWMF's partnership with the Government of the Republic of Korea was pivotal in getting this Memorial built. KWMF was honored to have Deputy Consul General Jimin Kim of the Consulate General in San Francisco speak on behalf of his government.



Also pivotal in getting this Memorial built was KWMF's partnership with the Government of the United States, specifically with the dedicated men and women of the Presidio Trust. Eric Blind, Ph.D., Park Interpretation Manager, spoke on behalf of the Trust.



Listening intently were members of the Northern California Korean American Veterans Association. These men and women are staunch supporters of KWMF's activities.



Two members of the talented Presidio Trust team responsible for the Memorial's striking design and serene setting dropped by to attend the ceremony: Michael Lamb, Historic Landscape Architect, and Genevieve Bantle, Associate Director, Park Design and Construction. When this photo was taken, the Master of Ceremonies had just praised their contributions, and the Korean-American veteran seated on the left can be seen applauding them accordingly.



Next, Korean War veterans Frank Mendez, KWMF Board member, and Paul Jaejeong Yoo, President of the Northern California Korean American Veterans Association, placed a commemorative wreath at the base of the wall, in remembrance of all who served and sacrificed in the Korean War. The wreath ribbon reads "Remembering the Forgotten War." KWMF owes a debt of gratitude to KWMF Board member and Korean War veteran Wallace I. "Wally" Levin, LtCol, CSMR (Ret.). As Community Service Officer of historic VFW 91st Division/Chinatown Post 4618, Wally arranges to have fresh floral wreaths donated for all of KWMF's events at the Memorial.

As the ceremony wound to a close, KWMF Education Director Wallace Stewart, a Korean War veteran, played "Taps." This was followed by a parting Benediction from Chaplain Wiegert.



Following the ceremony at the Memorial, KWMF Vice President Man J. Kim hosted his annual Korean War Veterans Appreciation Luncheon for more than 200 guests at his Golden Gate Grill restaurant in San Francisco.

Seated, from left: KWMF's Quentin Kopp, Gerard Parker, and Frank Mendez with KWMF supporters Kathryn and Richard Friedman, a Korean war veteran. In the right foreground—with his back to the camera, alas!—is former KWMF Secretary Arthur W. "Art" Curtis, LCDR, US-CGR (Ret.).



A U.S. Navy veteran shared a laugh with some new Korean-American friends.



A group of Korean War veterans from the Veterans Home of California in Yountville came down by chartered bus. A traffic accident en route delayed them from getting to the morning ceremony at the Memorial, but fortunately, they made it to the luncheon on time.



Following good food, wine, and exciting traditional Korean musical performances, KWMF's Man J. Kim and Don Reid took to the stage for an impromptu duet of the beloved Korean folk song "Arirang."



The duet soon became a chorus, as other guests joined in the singing, bringing the luncheon to a cheerful conclusion.



Thank you, Lighthouse Worldwide Solutions

KWMF wishes to thank Dr. Kim Tae Yun and her staff at Lighthouse Worldwide Solutions in Fremont, CA — www.golighthouse.com — for their generosity in underwriting the costs of printing and mailing this newsletter.

Presidio Trust Staff and KWMF Officers and Staff Meet with Docent Volunteers at Memorial



Interspersed among the docent volunteers are: 1. Mitchell Leiber, KWMF; 2. Libby Zazzera, Presidio Trust; 3. Barbara Berglund Sokolov, Presidio Trust; 4. Aricia Martinez, Presidio Trust; 5. Judge Quentin L. Kopp (Ret.), KWMF; 6. Donald Reid, KWMF; and 7. D. Peter Gleichenhaus, KWMF. *Photo courtesy of Libby Zazzera, Presidio Trust*

On Saturday, June 1, 2019, the Presidio Trust’s Historian Barbara Berglund Sokolov, Volunteer Engagement Specialist Libby Zazzera, and Visitor Services Coordinator Aricia Martinez hosted 12 Docent and Ambassador volunteers at what they term an enrichment event at the Korean War Memorial. These events help the docent volunteers serve the visitors to the Presidio more effectively.

Also participating in this educational session were KWMF’s Judge Quentin L. Kopp (Ret.), President and Chairman; Mitchell Leiber, Secretary; Donald

Reid, Treasurer, Wallace Stewart, Education Director; D. Peter Gleichenhaus, Board member; and Gerard Parker, Executive Director. Pete Gleichenhaus and Mitch Leiber had done much of the initial coordination with the Presidio Trust in preparation for this day.

Gerard Parker led the docent volunteers on a brief historical tour of the Memorial; and Wallace Stewart and Donald Reid, both Korean War veterans, provided a more personal context by sharing their memories of that long ago, faraway war. The Presidio Trust staff later reported that



KWMF’s Gerard Parker and Wallace Stewart speaking with the docents at the Memorial wall

the docents found this event to be a positive and productive experience.

This session was particularly relevant for the docents who lead the Presidio's "Main Post Walking Tour," which they conclude by recounting the poignant story behind the large Monterey cypress tree at the entrance of the Korean War Memorial. It was planted there as a tiny sapling nineteen years ago, in remembrance of Santiago "Jimmy" Rosas, a nineteen-year-old U.S. Army corporal and Ohlone warrior who was killed in the early months of the Korean War. It is a moving story that brings this walking tour to a fitting finale at the Korean War Memorial.

To learn more about Santiago Rosas and the Monterey cypress planted in his remembrance, go to this KWMF website link to a story that ran in the May-June, 2016 KWMF Newsletter, and then scroll down to page 6:

https://www.kwmf.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/KWMF_Newsletter_May-June-2016.pdf



**Corporal Santiago "Jimmy" Rosas,
Company A, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry
Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, U.S.
Army**

**Costanoan
Rumsen Carmel
(Ohlone) Tribal
Chairman Tony
Cerde, who planted
the sapling in 2000
in remembrance
of his cousin
Santiago, revisited
the massive
mature tree for
a purification
ceremony in 2016.**



Memorial Day at the Korean War Memorial

Photos by Carol Ann Mendez and Jeny Kwak Weber

On Monday, May 27, friends and supporters of KWMF gathered at the Korean War Memorial to remember and honor the fallen.



A number of the dignitaries and guests posed for a group portrait. Seated, from the left, are KWMF Vice President Man J. Kim; former Assistant Secretary of the Navy E.C. Grayson, Korean War veteran; Chief Rabbi Danny Gottlieb, Congregation Beth Israel-Judea; Consul General Park Joon-yong, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in San Francisco; KACC (Korean American Community Center) President Jeny Kwak Weber; & KACC Board member Kwang Ja Gae.

Standing, from the left, are KACC Chairman William Buck; KWMF Board member Wallace Levin, Korean War veteran; KWMF Treasurer Donald Reid, Korean War veteran; KWMF President & Chairman Judge Quentin L. Kopp (Ret.), Korean war veteran; Cole Porter Society Founder & Artistic Director Noah Griffin; Presidio Trust Chairman William Grayson; KWMF Board member Frank Mendez, Korean War veteran; KWMF supporter Richard Friedman, Korean War veteran; and Presidio Trust Park Interpretation Manager Eric Blind.

KWMF Executive Director Gerard Parker welcomed the guests and commenced the ceremony.



Rabbi Danny Gottlieb delivered a thoughtful and heartfelt invocation, and a moment of silence for all those who made the ultimate sacrifice.



Following the Invocation, Noah Griffin, Founder and Artistic Director of the Cole Porter Society, gave, as always, a stellar performance of The Star Spangled Banner. Then William Buck, Chairman of the Korean American Community Center of San Francisco, provided a powerful rendition of the Korean National Anthem. Several attendees later commented that the singing performances were one of the highlights of the day.



Judge Quentin L. Kopp (Ret.), KWMF President and Chairman, welcomed the guests and spoke of the roots and meaning of this solemn American holiday.



Without the support of the Korean Government and the Consulate General, this Memorial might not exist today. Consul General Park Joon-yong, Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in San Francisco, expressed his respect and gratitude for all those who had lost their lives in defense of South Korea's freedom, and emphasized the strong bonds that exist between the Republic of Korea and the United States.



The strong support of the Presidio Trust was equally critical in getting this Memorial built. Speaking on behalf of the Presidio Trust was Park Interpretation Manager Eric Blind, Ph.D. His remarks stressed the solemnity of the holiday.



Next came the presentation of a commemorative wreath at the Memorial wall. This was done by special last-minute guest E.C. Grayson, former Assistant Secretary of the Navy during the Reagan Administration, Captain, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Korean War veteran, and father of William Grayson, Chairman of the Presidio Trust.



Joining E.C. at the wall was a decorated Republic of Korea veteran of the Korean War, whose name, regrettably, was not available at press time. (KWMF's apologies, sir.) Seated with his back to the camera watching was E.C.'s son William Grayson, Presidio Trust Chairman.

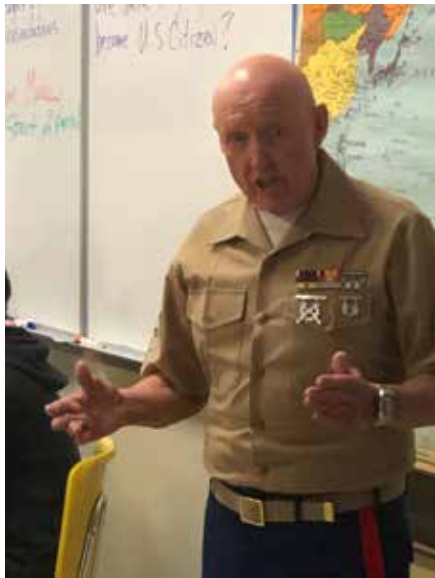


With the wreath in position, KWMF Education Director and Korean war veteran Wallace Stewart played "Taps," and Rabbi Danny Gottlieb delivered a parting Benediction to all.

Alameda High School Students Learn about the Korean War—from Someone Who Was There

Photos by Gerard Parker, KWMF

KWMF's Education Director Wallace T. "Wally" Stewart is a man with a mission: to ensure that Korean War history is included in the curriculum of secondary schools. To help accomplish this mission, he has personally taught classes about the war to high school students throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. His lesson plans cover the war's geopolitical causes, major military developments, outcome, and lessons learned—as well as its direct relevance to the global tensions that remain rooted in the region today.



KWMF Education Director Wally Stewart

The native San Franciscan's credentials for this role are two-fold. First, he saw combat in the Korean War as an eighteen-year-old Marine. So he has visceral knowledge and still-vivid memories of what it was like. And second, following his military service and subsequent studies at Stanford University, he had a long and rewarding career as a teacher in the San Francisco Unified School District. So he knows how to teach.

Wally's most recent effort occurred on Friday, April 12, when he was the guest lecturer in teacher Michael O'Malley's junior social studies class at Alameda High School. When the physically fit 86-year-old, wearing his Marine uniform from the 1950s, told the students

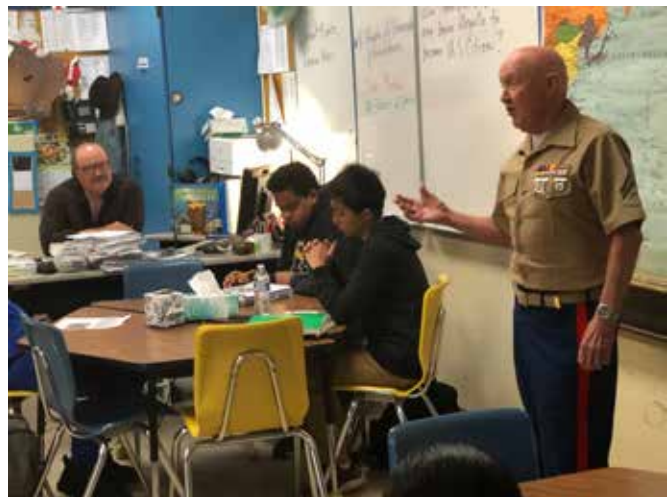


Alameda High School juniors.

that he was about their age when he served in Korea, he made a connection. And students who had at first seemed rather disinterested proved to be more curious in the animated Q & A session that came at the end of Wally's presentation.

Wally is aware, of course, that he and his fellow Korean War veterans will not be around forever, and that other, younger teachers will have to carry the torch forward. With that in mind, Wally has attended the National Council of Social Studies annual convention for the past two years, and donated his teaching materials to the participating educators. As a result, his lesson plans have now been implemented by social studies teachers in schools well be-

yond the Bay Area: in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, and other states. Writer George Santayana famously wrote, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Wally Stewart is doing his part to see to it that the Korean War will be remembered.



Wally describes what Korea was like in the early 1950s. Two students pore over Wally's handout materials while Alameda Unified School District Social Studies teacher Michael O'Malley observes.



1ST ANNUAL KOREAN CHUSEOK FESTIVAL

Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019 | 11AM - 5PM

THE PRESIDIO Civil War Parade Ground, San Francisco

To celebrate, showcase and promote Korean Chuseok (Harvest/Thanksgiving) culture, arts & cuisine, and the Bay Area's Korean American community

HIGHLIGHTS

- *5-6,000 expected from around the Bay Area
- *Korean singers & dancers (traditional & pop)
 - *Martial arts demonstrations
 - *K-pop dance lessons
- *Family-friendly games & activities
- *Food trucks & booths offering traditional & fusion Korean cuisine
- *Ranger-led tours of Korean War Memorial
- *Nonprofits showcasing community services
 - *Booths highlighting local businesses
 - *Exciting raffle prizes

JOIN US!

Ways to support & get involved:

*Individual Donations

\$1,000 (*Benefactor*)

\$500 (*Patron*)

\$250 (*Supporter*)

\$100 (*Friend*)

*Sponsorships

*In-Kind Donations

(including raffle prizes)

*Volunteer



KOREAN
CENTER, INC

All proceeds from the festival will go toward supporting the work of non-profit community-based organizations serving the area's Korean American population.

For donations or more info: koreancentersf.org/chuseok2019 or 415-441-1881



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