



# KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 213E  
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## NEWSLETTER

October–December 2019



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## Remembering All Who Served: Veterans Day at the Korean War Memorial

*Photos by Gerard Parker and Jeny Kwak Weber*



From L: Hagen Choi, San Francisco-Seoul Sister City Committee; Don Reid, KWMF; Mary Miller, mother of Beth Muszynski; Beth Muszynski, CalVet; Rabbi Danny Gottlieb, Congregation Beth-Israel-Judea; Judge Quentin Kopp, KWMF; Noah Griffin, the Cole Porter Society; and Frank Mendez, KWMF

At 11:00 am on Monday, November 11, Korean War veterans, families, friends, and dignitaries gathered at the Korean War Memorial in the Presidio of San Francisco to commemorate those who served in America's wars.

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After opening remarks by KWMF Executive Director Gerard Parker, Rabbi Danny Gottlieb, Chief Rabbi at San Francisco's Congregation Beth Israel-Judea, delivered a moving Invocation to pay tribute to, and to remember, all those who have served in defense of our country.



Following the Invocation, Noah Griffin, Founder and Artistic Director of the Cole Porter Society, sang a heartfelt rendition of the Star Spangled Banner.



KWMF Vice President Man J. Kim then sang an equally rousing rendition of the National Anthem of the Republic of Korea.





KWMF President and Chairman Judge Quentin L. Kopp (Ret.) placed the holiday in historical context, recalling its solemn origins as Armistice Day, commemorating World War I.



Consul General Park Joon-yong of the Republic of Korea spoke next, expressing his nation's undying gratitude for all those who served and sacrificed in defense of South Korea's freedom. The South Koreans have not forgotten the Korean War.



Next, Eric Blind, Ph.D., Park Interpretation Manager for the Presidio Trust, stressed the Presidio's centuries-old connections as a famed U.S. Army base to those who fought America's wars, tens of thousands of whom are buried in the adjacent San Francisco National Cemetery, including 2,273 who fought in the Korean War.



Beth Muszynski, Assistant Deputy Secretary of the Veterans Home Division, California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet), had driven all the way from Sacramento to express the State of California's gratitude for all her native sons and daughters who have served.



Ms. Muszynski then presented Judge Kopp with a Proclamation for KWMF from Governor Gavin Newsom.



## 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](http://www.golighthouse.com) — for their generosity in underwriting the costs of printing and mailing this newsletter.





Observing in the front row from left were KWMF Co-Founder and 2nd Vice President John Stevens, Consul General Park Joon-yong, Korean War veteran Paul Leiber, KWMF Secretary (and Paul Leiber's son) Mitchell Leiber, and Presidio Trust Park Interpretation Manager Eric Blind, Ph.D.



Next, Judge Kopp and Consul General Park lay a commemorative wreath at the Memorial wall.



Rabbi Gottlieb then delivered a solemn Benediction to bring the ceremony to a close.





Following the ceremony, KWMF Vice President Man J. Kim graciously hosted the guests at a luncheon at Seoul Garden restaurant.



As the luncheon was coming to a close, KWMF donor and supporter Jeny Kwak Weber presented Man J. Kim with a plaque, honoring him for his generous support of the Korean-American community and Korean War veterans.

## KWMF Receives Special Award from “Friends of Korea” Organization



The Friends of Korea Annual Meeting members and guests. Seated in front row center are Consul General Park Joon-yong, Republic of Korea; Gerard Krzic, President 2019, Friends of Korea; and Greg Caldwell, Board member, Friends of Korea

On November 2 at the KOTRA Office Building in San Jose, CA, KWMF was honored with a special award from the Washington, DC-based Friends of Korea organization. The award, in recognition of KWMF's Education Program, was one of only two granted this year as part of Friends of Korea's Giving Back Initiative. The other went to a Korean-language school in New York.



Friends of Korea Board member Greg Caldwell presented KWMF Education Director Wallace Stewart with a generous \$2,500 cash donation. Greg, a former Fulbright Scholar and retired director of international students and scholars at Lewis and Clark University in Portland, serves as Honorary Consul for the Republic of Korea in Northern Oregon.





Consul General Park Joon-yong of the Republic of Korea in San Francisco was also honored at the ceremony. He is seen here with Friends of Korea Chief Operating Officer and Board member Nancy Kelly.



The meeting included a panel discussion with three of Friends of Korea's up and coming next-generation members, Project Bridge Youth Ambassadors Jayda Lester, Maricelo Landazuri, and Andrea Alvarez. These impressive young high school students recounted their cultural observations and personal experiences during a trip to the Republic of Korea sponsored by Friends of Korea.



The Youth Ambassadors pose for a memento photo with former Friends of Korea Board member and current Youth Ambassador Program liaison Mary Broude (on the left) and Friends of Korea President Gerard Krzic, Ph.D. (on the right).

Friends of Korea—<https://www.friendsofkorea.net>—was founded in 2002 by former Peace Corps volunteers who served in the Republic of Korea. Its mission is to renew and keep alive the “Third Goal” of the Peace Corps: enabling people to people understanding between the United States and other nations.

It has since expanded its focus and membership to include anyone with an interest in enhancing cultural awareness of and friendship with Korea. KWMF would like to express its gratitude for Friends of Korea's generous support of our Education Program.



## KWMF's Wally Stewart Speaks at East Bay MOAA Meeting



MOAA's Fred Jaffin, CAPT, USN (Ret.) (standing) with KWMF's Wally Stewart (seated, foreground)



KWMF Education Director Wallace T. "Wally" Stewart was the guest speaker at a recent regional meeting of MOAA, the Military Officers Association of America. The November 13 gathering of the organization's Alameda County Chapter took place on the U.S. Coast Guard Base, Alam-

eda Island. Chapter President Fred Jaffin, Captain, USN (Ret.) had invited Wally to deliver a presentation about the Korean War, an invitation that Wally gladly accepted.

Before the meeting got underway, the attendees chatted informally and

renewed friendships with their comrades in arms. MOAA's members include all branches of the service, and all branches were represented at this get-together. In the photo below, two retired Naval aviators share memories over some plane models, photos, and other flying memorabilia.



Two Naval aviators reminisce



Chaplain Stevens and Fred Jaffin

Fred Jaffin formally opened the meeting. He welcomed the attendees, and introduced Chaplain Jack Stevens, Warrant Officer, USA (Ret.), who delivered the Invocation. Next came a panel discussion, with four MOAA members recounting their combat and other active duty experiences.



**Harry Stonelake,  
Captain, USN (Ret.)**

**Sidney Jordan,  
Major, USA (Ret.)**



**Fred Martin, Lieutenant  
Colonel, USAF (Ret.). Note  
the Distinguished Flying  
cross in his lapel.**



**Alex Quartly,  
Lieutenant  
Commander,  
USN (Ret.)**



**Fred Jaffin and Wally Stewart**

Following the panel discussion, Fred Jaffin introduced Wally Stewart as the day's guest speaker. Wally, a former corporal, was not only the only enlisted man on the program, he was also the only *Marine*! Consequently, with so much Navy brass in attendance, he tactfully chose for his Korean War topic not his own exploits or those of his fellow Marines, but the pivotal and little-known role played by three U.S. Navy destroyers and their heroic crews in the Battle of Inchon. His presentation was very well-received, especially by the retired Navy officers in attendance.



**Wally Stewart and Fred Jaffin with  
the plaque**

Fred then presented Wally with a handsome plaque in appreciation of his appearance, and the meeting came to a close.



# **In Memoriam**



**William D. "Denny" Weisgerber  
Gunnery Sergeant, USMC (Ret.)  
May 5, 1930 – December 4, 2019**

Our friend Denny Weisgerber passed away on December 4. In the words of his daughter Pamela Eaves, "It was a peaceful passing, and he was surrounded by loving hands and hearts."

All are welcome to attend a Celebration of Life for Denny:

**Celebration of Life  
William D. "Denny" Weisgerber  
Sunday, January 26, 2020, 1:30 pm  
Milpitas Community Center  
457 East Calaveras Boulevard  
Milpitas, CA 95035**

**Semper Fidelis, Denny. Rest in Peace.**



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Won Yi

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