



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 APRIL 2010

In spite of the bad weather last week we had very strong attendance at our March meeting. Cold, windy and wet but our members showed up to hear a great program arranged for us by **John Fisher**. **Lt. Col. Chris Yancy** Commander of the 457 Fighter Squadron at the Joint Reserve Air Base at Carswell AFB gave us a good understanding of what his Squadron's responsibilities. He and his group are the ones who do the flyovers during local ceremonies like the one on Memorial Day. He is a graduate of Texas A&M, a reserve pilot with 22 years service and 9 tours of Iraq and Afghanistan. We can be proud of having young men like Col. Yancy protecting the freedom of our country.



John Fisher & Lt. Col. Chris Yancy

Once again we reminded everyone of the special Korea revisit tours that are going on during this 60th Anniversary of the start of the war. **Richard Vaughn** told us that he and his son are going in September and **Byron and Annette White** will be going in October for the special Air Force commemorative trip. I understand the June tour is full but there is still space available for all the others.

Thanks to **Bill Hoyle** our Tell America group has two presentations scheduled, in March at the High School in Palmer, Texas and April at the High School in Red Oak, Texas. Both of these schools are located near Waxahachie. These are wonderful opportunities for us to tell the young people about what went on during the

Korean War and also to help them understand the sacrifices that our soldiers have made through the years to preserve the freedoms of this great country. We really need a few more members to help with this program. If you think you might be interested in working with this group please call **Bill Hoyle** or **Byron White**.

It was good to see **Barbara Mac Swain** at the meeting after her knee replacement surgery. She seems to be doing much better after a rough couple of months. **Jim Wetmore** mentioned several of our members that are ill at this time that we need to offer encouragement and remember in our prayers.

I am in the process of getting a Nominating Committee together for the election coming up in June. We would appreciate hearing from any member of the chapter who is interested in being considered for any officer or directors position.

Our next meeting will be April 17 and we hope to have another good program. I will be out of town but Bill Hoyle will preside.

Larry Kinard, President

LISTEN UP: If you have noticed that your Name has not been mentioned either in the Birthday area or the Anniversary area it is because the Secretary does not have this information. Please send it to him by e-mail, note or give it to him at the Chapter Meeting. We only need the Month and Day for the Birthday and the Month, Day and Year for the Anniversary.

STAYING IN TOUCH

<u>APRIL BIRTHDAYS</u>		<u>MEMORY</u>	<u>ANNIVERSARY</u>		
Louis Bafo	1	Alice Hall	10	Jean & Del Goss	6/52
Ben Hogan	6	Joanne Hill	26	Rho & Sam Bass	7/73
John Angell	19	Mary Lou Stone	27	Louise & Gregory Vial	16/66
				Joanne & Roy Hill	20/51

BIOGRAPHY OF THE MONTH RUSSELL STEPHENS

Russell was born in San Antonio Sept 30th 1929. He attended Sabinal H.S. between San Antonio and Del Rio. He graduated from there in 1947. He lived in several places as his father moved around trying to find work during the depression. He lived in San Antonio, Waco, Ada OK, Austin, San Angelo, and Brownwood. He remembers the paper boy crying that Will Rogers had been killed in a plane crash.

Russell's grandfather had a 340 acre ranch where his father went to work cleaning thorns off of the prickly pear cactus so the cattle could eat them as feed. When the cattle would eat the pears with thorns on them, his dad would have to take 2 sticks, pull out the steers tongue and scrape the thorns off of it so they could lick the salt block.

Russell attended college in Ada, Oklahoma for one year but left to try and find a job. A recruiter came to town and Russell and three friends got on a bus to Houston and joined the Navy in 1948. After boot camp, RM3 Russell was assigned to the Endicott on May 5th, 1949, the morning after she came back from Tsingtao, China. He served on other ships for awhile till he was reassigned to the Endicott where he started in the radio shack but after a couple of months was transferred to the bridge to become a signal/quartermaster striker.

Eventually the Endicott was on its way to Korea where she saw plenty of action off the coast while she became gun fire support for the Army's 25th Division. She also served in mine warfare, sweeping and picking up survivors from ships that had been sunk, transporting them to a hospital ship. After serving on the Endicott for three years and 19 days he was discharged four years from the time he had enlisted.

Russell then went to work driving a tractor and working in a heavy equipment shop and as a mechanics helper in Sabinal. He then went to college on the G.I. Bill and transferred to N. Texas to finish college. He worked in the Ford Assembly plant in Dallas for three years then moved to Atlanta, GA to work for the Federal Aviation Agency as an air traffic controller. He stayed for three years. He finally wound up in El Paso as a controller and was transferred to Fort Worth in May 1963. He retired in 1983 and when the ATC's went on strike later that year, Russell was called back to work for the FAA in Fort Worth and finally retired for good in 1988.

Russell is married to Ada and they have three children, six grandchildren, and just found out they're going to have a great grandchild.

Russell has been a member of our chapter for two years and helps Barbara with selling tickets to the 50/50 drawing. Russell belongs to three Masonic lodges and is the Grand Master of one of them. He also belongs to three Veteran's organizations. He used to build fishing rods and picture frames as well as working on his own vehicle but is now just taking care of the "honey-do" list as Ada is having some health problems.

Russell has a five page biography of his experiences on board ships during the Korean War which he'd be happy to share.

GENERAL WALTON H WALKER CHAPTER 215, INC.
MARCH 2010 MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

The Gen. Walton H. Walker Chapter #215 Membership Meeting was held on March 20, 2010 at the Arlington Police Substation in Arlington, Texas. The Chapter meeting was called to order by President Larry Kinard with 46 members and 2 guests present. The Invocation was given by Bill Hoyle followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag conducted by Stan Bullard. Jim Wetmore read the Chapter Creed followed by a moment of silence.

President Kinard asked for motions to approve the February Membership Minutes and Financial Report both presented in the March Bulldog Bugles. Ben Hogan made the motion to approve the February Minutes and Del Goss seconded. The motion passed. Russell Stephens made the motion to approve the February Financial Report and Byron White seconded. The motion passed.

President Kinard welcomed Guest Dave Moore as a prospective member and he related his service time and area. President Kinard then called on member John Fisher to introduce our Guest Speaker LTC Chris Fancy the Commander of the 457th Fighter Squadron station at the Joint Reserve Airbase in Fort Worth. This group flies F-16 Aircraft and they do the fly over at the National Cemetery. The Commander first showed a film of combat in support of our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and then explained their duties and answered many questions from the members. It was a well presented program and we learned just how professional our Reserve Pilots and Maintenance Crews are today. He also made a comment about how he makes sure to tell his pilots that they are to continue to strive to maintain the excellence that those who have served before have done in the past.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

John Fisher made the announcement that Volunteers for the cemetery are being asked to wait until the front gates are completed before they apply to the cemetery. When completed the number of burials will increase and more Volunteers will then be needed. He will remind us when that happens.

Jim Wetmore reported that Honorary Member Louis Holmes told him to relate his Hello to the chapter. He then reported that Lon Golden's wife was in a Rehabilitation Center in Fort Worth, Dorothy Malcolm had pneumonia and Bill and Barbara Mac Swain and Marvin Dunn were doing much better and Roy Hill was not feeling well and had lost 15 pounds.

Bill Hoyle reported that the Chapter will present our "Tell America" presentations at the Palmer High School on Wednesday the 24th and then in Red Oak on April 15th. He invited any of the members to participate. He is also working on the City of Ennis.

Eileen Montanez reminded the membership that the Bulldog Bugle Newsletter meeting will be on Monday, March 22 at the Atlanta Bread Company at 10:00 am and invited all to attend and help with the preparation before printing and mailing.

Ken Dillard reported that he would be attending a meeting for the Arlington Fort of July Parade. Secretary Mac Swain reminded the chapter that the Arlington Parade Committee was going to have to charge a \$25 fee entrance fee since some of the sponsors have become unable to donate funds this year. A motion was made to pay the entry fee and a seconded given and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Kinard again reminded the group that we are still looking for volunteers to man a popcorn machine at the new Fort Worth VA Facility to raise money for the chapter. Byron White also reported that we need to present who will be doing the volunteer work to the Dallas VA Hospital for approval before we can start.

Treasurer Mac Swain reminded those in the chapter who owed dues that those dues in March, April and May were now being called for.

NEW BUSINESS:

President Kinard reminded the chapter that the next meeting would be on April 17, 2010 at the same time and place.

Communication Chairman Jim Wetmore and President Kinard then awarded those on the calling committee with plaques that were not present at the last meeting. Nathan Stovall, Joe Roberts and Jo Ann Dunn were recipients.

John Fisher reported that the chapter would again go to DFW Airport to meet the Troops on the Wednesday following the next Membership Meeting and that he would present a sign-up list at that meeting. The visit would then be on April 21, 2010.

President Kinard again reminded the chapter that a visit to the Cowboy Stadium is being looked at to see what the cost will be for a special tour.

The 50/50 drawing was held and Tom Landham won \$49 as his half of the drawing.

At this time LTC Yancy was asked to come forward and Barbara D'Agostino presented him with a hand made Star Mobile made and donated by member Leonard Plog.

A motion was made to adjourn with a prayer by John Fisher and seconded by Jim Wetmore and Russell Stephens gave the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Mac Swain, Secretary

EILEEN'S CORNER by *Eileen Montanez*

From the US Army Times newspaper:

Lowe's has expanded its 10 percent holiday discount to all day, every day, for active- duty, National Guard, reserve, retiree and disabled service members, and their families, company officials announced. The Home Depot also now offers this 10 percent discount year round. To receive a 10% discount at Lowe's and Home Depot just show your valid military I.D. card.

Car Tax deductions: The IRS is reminding tax payers who bought a new car, light truck, motor home or motorcycle between Feb. 17, 2009, and Dec 31, 2009, that they can deduct state and local sales and excise taxes on the purchase. In states that don't have a sales tax, the law provides a deduction for other taxes and fees. The deduction is limited to taxes and fees paid on the purchase price, up to a maximum of \$ 49,500. It also reduced or eliminated for joint filers with modified adjusted gross incomes above \$250,000 and for other filers with adjusted gross income above \$125,000.

Three San Antonio area bases to become one: The three military bases in San Antonio are coming together to form the largest installation in the Defense Dept. Joint Base San Antonio, encompassing Lackland AFB, and Randolph AFB- is one of 12 joint bases mandated by the 2005 Base Closure and Realignment law.

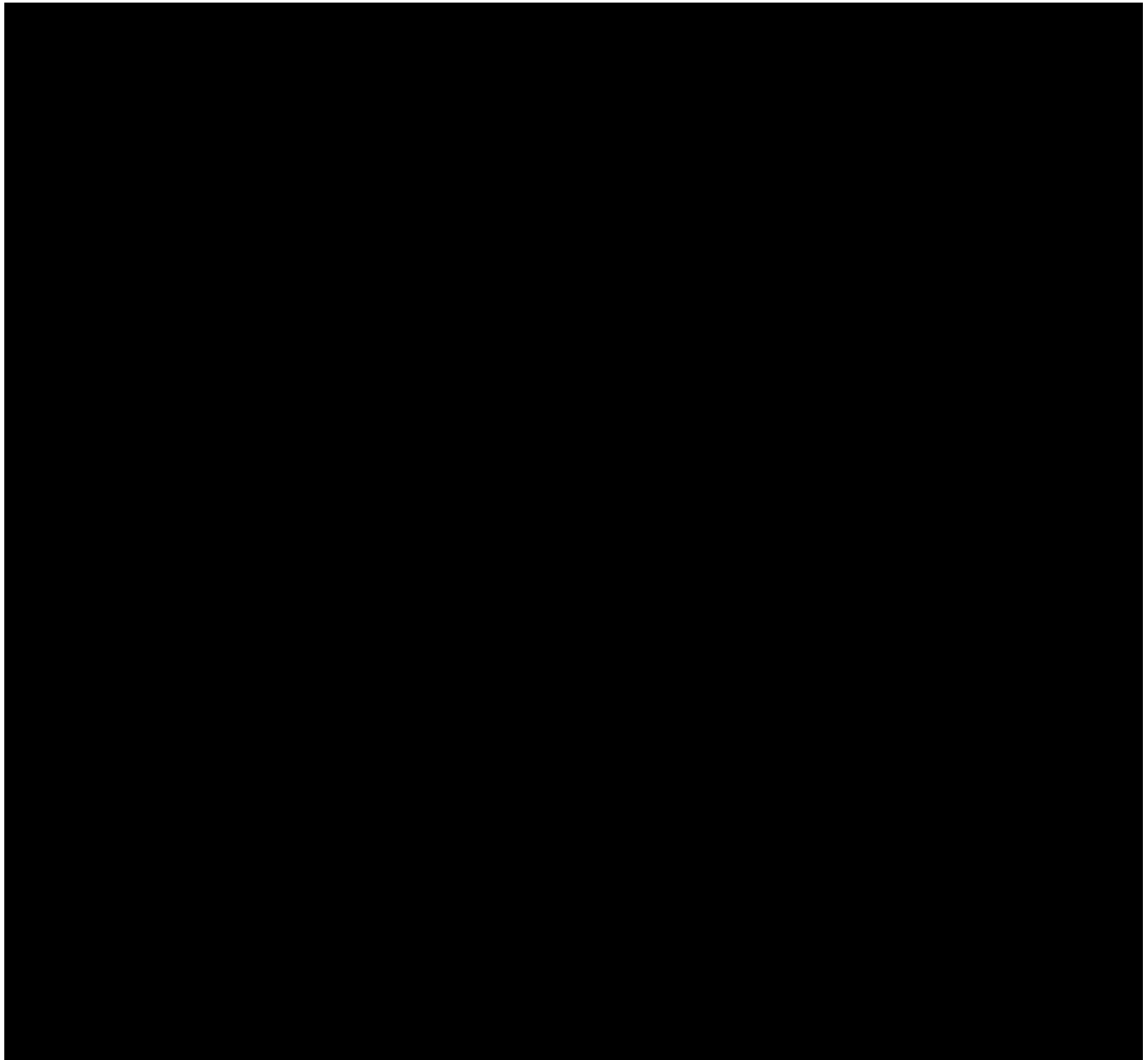
It will be the only joint base to have 2 Air Force bases, and one of two composed of installations that don't share a common fence line. In San Antonio, the 3 bases each are separated by 15 - 25 miles. On Oct 1, when Joint Base San Antonio reaches full operational capability, it will be home to 80,000 employees, an annual load of 138,000 students, and 211 separate missions.

It may be smaller in land mass than many other bases, including Ft Hood less than 3 hours away, but it will support the largest number of employees and students, officials said.

The joint base's executive agent will be the Air Force.

**GENERAL WALTON H WALKER CHAPTER 215, INC.
KOREAN WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION, INC**

MARCH 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT



GENE & JUDY RICHARDS TO HOST MILITARY REUNION

On April 22nd - - 24th, Gene Richards' 1952 Field Artillery OCS class of Fort Sill, Oklahoma will get together to mark the 58th anniversary of the graduation of their class during the Korean War. The reunion will take place in downtown Fort Worth, and Gene and Judy will host a barbeque supper for the class at their home in North Richland Hills.

Gene's OCS class has been holding reunions about every 2 years, since 1994. Gene and his classmate, Dwight Thomas (originally from Waco, Texas) were reunited at an OCS reunion in Fort Sill, in 1990. They had been out of contact for 38 years. Gene and Dwight teamed up at that time, and went on a crusade to track down their 74 graduates; most of them had not seen nor heard from each other since graduating from OCS on 8 April 1952. It took them 3-1/2 years to track down the other 72 classmates, but they managed to find or account for all 74 grads of OCS Class #11-52. Just 2 months

before a planned reunion in Orlando, Florida was to take place, they located the last “lost” member (#74 of 74). Of the total 74 graduates, 66 were still living at that time, and 32 of those 66 showed up at that Orlando reunion.

Since then, the class has tried to get together every other year, and this upcoming reunion in Fort Worth will be their 9th reunion. At each subsequent reunion, the number of attendees has decreased, as their ranks have thinned drastically, due to deaths and poor health of the survivors and/or spouses. Of the original 74 grads, 32 are now deceased. This April 2010 reunion might just be their last.

Most of Gene’s OCS class served in Korea, with the majority of those arriving there in the fall of 1952. They all share their war stories, and enjoy the camaraderie of being reunited, after the passing of over 40 years (now 58 years).

CHAPTER 215 OFFICIALS

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
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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
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Quartermaster	Don Jones	072-660-4658	None
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Publicity	-----		
Parade Officer	Sam Bass	214-361-4697	None
Parade Officer	Ken Dillard	817-468-8714	None

IF YOU'RE IN AN EMOTIONAL CRISIS, CALL THE NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE AT 1-800-273-TALK (8255) AND PRESS "1" FOR VETERANS.

MISC. PICTURES FROM MARCH 2010 CHAPTER MEETING



L-R: Leonard & Grantis Plog, and Ron & Jean Lange



L-R: Richard Vaughn, Tom Landham, Nathan Stovall
Background facing camera: Colonel Stone, Russell Stephens (sitting)
and Ron & Jean Lange



L-R: Jim Wetmore & Ben Hogan



L-R: JoAnn Dunn, Bill Mac Swain & Marvin Dunn. Background: (L) Eileen Montanez (Far R) Mary Lou Stone



L-R: David Moore & Bill Hoyle

Living Wills and Advance Directives

Creating a Living Will is one of those things most people want and plan to do, but often neglect to do. Less than 30 percent of Americans currently have one. But preparing one now, gives you say in how you want to be treated at the end of your life. Here's what you should know.

To spell out your wishes regarding your end-of-life medical treatment you need two legal documents: A "living will," which tells your doctor what kind of care you want to receive if you become incapacitated, and a "medical power of attorney" that names a person you authorize to make medical decisions on your behalf if you become unable to. These two documents are known as "advance directives."

Today, there are several free or low-cost resources to help you write your "advance directive," and it takes only a few minutes from start to finish. The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization provides free information and state-specific "advance directive" forms with instructions on their Web site www.caringinfo.org that you can download and print. Or, you can call 800-658-8898 and they will mail them to you and answer any questions you may have.

Source: NAUS January/February 2010

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:

April 13 Executive Board Meeting - Hugh Smith Center 7:00 - 9:00 PM

April 17 Regular meeting: 11:15 AM 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.