



THE CHOSIN FEW

NEWSLETTER of the U.S. ARMY CHAPTER



Vol. 18 No. May-Dec 2017

It's Reunion Time

Save The Date And Let's Do One More Time!

While our membership gets smaller every year, the annual reunion is an important part of this Chapter. We have decided to go ahead with one more reunion in Springfield, MO. The future of our reunions will be determined by attendance this year.

A lot of people have questioned why Springfield and the answer is easy. There have been no other volunteers to host so our President, Ernie Wotring, has taken on this responsibility. After discussions at the business meeting last year, it was decided Branson was too crowded and too expensive. An attempt was made to schedule at a different hotel in Springfield but again it was cost prohibitive. So we will once again be at the Oasis Hotel. Their accommodations are very nice and they understand our needs. The dates for the reunion are set for **May 23rd through May 26th**. The Board will need to arrive May 22nd. Of course you early birds are also welcome to arrive on the 22nd. Last year's reunion was full of surprises and lots of events (see page 3). We are still in the planning stages for extra events. Last year we didn't have a final schedule until March but here are the basics:



HOTEL: Oasis Hotel & Convention Center
2546 North Glenstone
Springfield, Missouri 65803
1-888-532-4338
www.springfieldoasis.com

LOCATION: I44-Exit 80

ROOM COST: \$100 (\$88.00 + tax)
Army Chapter of the Chosin Few rate
(Hot breakfast is included)

Guaranteed Reservation deadline is May 1st

The Sahara Room on Level C above the Atrium will serve as Hospitality, Registration and for all scheduled meet-
Tuesday- May 22 Board and Early Bird arrival

Wednesday- May 23 Board Meeting, Registration

Thursday- May 24 General Business Meeting, Registration

Friday- May 25 Registration

Saturday-May 26 Memorial Service, Banquet

The final event schedule will be available at registration and will be listed on our website www.chosinfewarmy.com as events are added. See you there in May!

Task Force Faith Documentary Hits Amazon Video

In September, Julie Precious released her documentary *Task Force Faith: The Story of the 31st Regimental Combat Team* on Amazon Video. She is pleased to say the documentary has been rated 4.9 out of 5 stars. It is available in the US and Great Britain for rental. All rentals are free with Amazon Prime. At the time of this writing, the film has been viewed more than 70,000 times. The DVD continues to be available exclusively at www.taskforcefaith.com. Julie is very proud that the 31st RCT's story has been so well accepted and is committed to setting the facts straight about the Army units at the Chosin.

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

Don't let your membership lapse. Membership expires January 1. You will be dropped from the roles on March 31 if dues are not current.

Annual dues- The Chosin Few (National)

Send **\$35.00** to:
The Chosin Few
Corey Fisher, Business Manager
238 Cornwall Circle
Chalfont, PA 18914

(Cory is Don Gee's step-son and has taken over the position on Don's passing)

Annual dues- Army Chapter

Send **\$15.00** to:
Army Chapter of The Chosin Few
Charmaine Griffith, Secretary/Treasurer
1737 S. Jasmine St.
Denver, CO 80224

You can also pay online at:
www.chosinfewarmy.com

KUDOS & THANKS

So many wonderful people made the 2017 reunion a very special. These are a few that made it happen.

Ron Strickland, our "go to" guy. Ron coordinated the Task Force Faith night, orchestrated the Consul General's visit and handled any task, big or small, that we needed. Thanks Ron, we couldn't have done it without you!

Susan Key, Korean-American who has dedicated her life to thanking the veterans who saved her country. Susan was the contact with the Consul General's office and arranged for him to be at the banquet. She also kept us briefed on all protocol needed. Thanks Susan, you are a blessing.

Harrison Lee, President of the Korean-American Association in Springfield. He provided a wonderful group of entertainers for our evening. Thanks Harrison and the beautiful people who came to participate.

REUNION NOTES 2017

MEETINGS

Nominations and elections were held for the Board of Directors and Officers. No changes were made and the addresses and names are listed on page 2. A letter from Col. John Gray was read explaining his inability to travel. The decision was made to grant the Title of Director Emeritus to Col. Gray for all his hard work with the Chapter. John also sent a substantial donation to help with the reunion expenses.

The Minutes of the last meeting and Treasurer's report represented. The Chapter is in good shape thanks to the many donations of our members. Our number of Members and Associates has dropped 120 with the majority being Lifetime Members and widows. Recommendations were made that our members get in touch with their buddies and get them involved.

As we have no editor for the newsletter, it will be tabled for now. Charmaine Francois-Griffith will send out the reunion notifications by mail and hard copy. Any updates will contain only Chapter business. The reunion bulletin will be double sided sheet printing sent by regular mail. It will also be emailed and available on our website.

The Chapter website is www.chosinfewarmy.com. It is being updated and will contain not only reunion information but other newsworthy items.

General discussion was held of whether to continue with another reunion. The decision was made to try and locate another venue in Springfield. However, the available hotels could not accommodate our needs or we're not cost effective.

An attempt was made to hold the reunion in April but nothing was available for that time period.

Announcements were made about the Quantico Monument to The Chosin Few in Washington DC. It is an octagon shaped Memorial with the shining star on top located at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

Ernie Wotring explained about Veterans Court which handles nonviolent veterans convicted of crimes. It is an 18 month long program in which the veteran needs to check in once a month, meet guidelines and work with a judge approved mentor. Ernie asked for volunteers to act as mentors on Saturday. Five of our members attended to speak with these veterans about transition to civilian life.

Yearly Dues by March 31

Reserve Room by May 1

Attend Reunion

May 23-26

See you there!

HIGHLIGHTS

Even though our numbers get smaller and the attendance at the reunions reflects this fact, this reunion was event filled.

Chapter subscriber, Robert Brooks, brought his cameras and interviewed members about their experiences. Robert has a YouTube channel TheRBrooks502. These interviews have been posted on his channel and are available to the public.

Julie Precious hosted a special night,

An Evening With Task Force Faith. Ron Strickland coordinated the event which was open to the public.

Julie's documentary, Task Force Faith, The Story of the 31st Regimental Combat Team, was shown. Following the viewing, a lively panel discussion was held featuring several of our members. It was very informative and everyone had a wonderful time.

Representatives of the College of the Ozarks spoke with our group. They gave a presentation of the plans for a new Korean War Memorial that is being built on their campus. "The purpose of The Korean War Memorial is not only to honor the 944 Missourians who paid the ultimate sacrifice but to honor all 36,574 Americans who gave their lives, to pay homage to all Korean War veterans who served their country, and to ensure that students learn about the sacrifice of so many who served in this historic conflict." It is expected to be completed in Spring of 2018.

The highlight of the event was the banquet. Thanks to the hard work of Susan Key and Ron Strickland, our VIP visitor was the South Korean Consul General, Jong-Kook Lee. Also in attendance was Consul Changwon Jung and Springfield Mayor, Ken McClure. Harrison Lee and the Korean Association provided the entertainment with wonderful dancers and singers. The Consul General made a formal presentation of the South Korean Ambassador for Freedom Metal to the members that were present. The evening ended with a fun filled drawing for door prizes.

We are encouraging our members to attend this year as more surprises are in store.

**US ARMY CHAPTER OF THE CHOSIN FEW
RAMADA PLAZA & OASIS CONVENTION CENTER**

2546 North Glenstone
Springfield, Missouri 65803

888-532-4338

I44 TO EXIT 80 – SOUTH ON GLENSTONE

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

MAY May 22-26, 2018

EARLY BIRD ARRIVAL **TUESDAY, MAY 22**

REGISTRATION **WEDNESDAY TO FRIDAY MAY 23-25**
10:00 am – 4:00 pm

HOSPITALITY and REGISTRATION

SAHARA ROOM

LEVEL C above the Atrium

Note: Hospitality Room will be closed during meetings

BOARD MEETING **WEDNESDAY, MAY 23** 9:00 am

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING **THURSDAY, MAY 23** 9:00 am

SAHARA ROOM

LEVEL C above the Atrium

MEMORIAL SERVICE **SATURDAY, MAY 26** 10:00 am

Room to be determined

CONVENTION CENTER

CASH BAR **SATURDAY, MAY 26** 5:30 pm

BANQUET **SATURDAY, MAY 26** 6:30 pm

Room to be determined

CONVENTION CENTER

Other events are in the planning stages. Final schedule will be available at Registration.

Chosin Army Identifications 2016-2017

Name	Unit	ID Date
SGT Shepard, Ollie E.	I/3/31/7ID	17-Nov-17
SFC Harris, Max E.	L/3/31/7ID	23-Jun-17
PFC Hill, Charlie H.	D/15AAA-AW/7ID	21-Jun-17
MSGT Housekeeper, George R.	L/3/31/7ID	21-Jun-17
CPL Henson, Freddie Lee	A/57FA/7ID	03-Apr-17
CPL Sadewasser, Wm R.	HQ/31/7ID	23-Mar-17
SGT Sharp, James W.	B/57FA/7ID	10-Jan-17
SFC Colley, Eugene J.	C/1/32/7ID	20-Dec-16
SGT Zimmer, ThomasE	A/57FA/7ID	18-Dec-16
CPL Hauterman, Jules	Med CO/32/7ID	14-Dec-16
CPL Perreault, George A.	I/3/31/7ID	13-Dec-16
CPL Mainhart, James T.	I/3/31/7ID	12-Dec-16
CPL Pool, Edward	HM/31/7ID	09-Dec-16
SFC Haugland, Harold P.	15AAA-AW/7ID	15-Nov-16
SGT Martin, James E.	I/3/31/7ID	18-Oct-16
CPL Crofts, Charles B	HQ/1/31/7ID	15-Oct-16
CPL Hill, Melvin R.	HM/32/7ID	12-Oct-16
CPL Fink, Roy C.	B/1/32/7ID	14-Sep-16
CPL Hendrickson DR	HQ/57FA/7ID	07-Sep-16
CPL Presswood, VernonD	HM/32/7ID	06-Sep-16
SFC Baxter, Louis M.	HQ/57FA/7ID	06-Sep-16
SGT Campbell, James L.	A/1/32/7ID	26-Jul-16
CPL White, Charles A.	G/2/7/3ID	14-Jul-16
SGT Curtis, Harold L.	I/3/31/7ID	08-Jun-16
PFC Butz, William R.	K/3/31/7ID	08-Jun-16
SGT Keeton, Bailey Jr.	D/1/32/7ID	02-Jun-16
CPL Trepasso, Joseph	L/3/31/7ID	18-May-16
CPL Eldon W. Ervin	HQ/57FA/7ID	09-Feb-16

Army Chapter reunions through the years

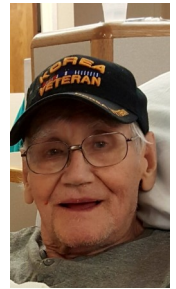
1984	The Chosin Few first mini-reunion, Crystal City, VA	1994	Rapid City, SD	2007	Charleston, WV
1985	The Chosin Few reunion, San Diego, CA	1995	Corpus Christi, TX	2008	Indianapolis, IN
1986	Army Chapter formed at 31st Inf reunion, Lawton, OK	1996	Ashville, NC	2009	Branson, MO
1987	Lawton, OK	1997	Albuquerque, NM	2010	Little Rock, AR
1988	Little Rock, AR	1998	Bloomington, MN	2011	Charleston, WV
1989	Columbus, GA	1999	Branson, MO	2012	Branson, MO
1990	Louisville, KY	2000	Lancaster, PA	2013	Branson, MO
1991	Lawton, OK	2001	San Antonio, TX	2014	Springfield, MO
1992	Colorado Springs, CO	2002	Colorado Springs, CO	2015	Springfield, MO
1993	Branson, MO	2003	Branson, MO	2016	Springfield, MO
		2004	Rapid City, SD	2017	Springfield, MO
		2005	Ashville, NC	2018	Springfield, MO
		2006	Daytona Beach, FL		

TAPS



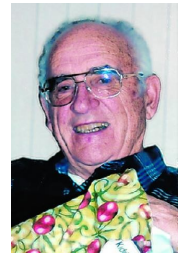
George Nightingale - L/3/31/7 age 86 of Pueblo, CO passed away February 17, 2017. He is preceded in death by his wife, Nona, in 2016. George was a lifetime member of the Army Chapter of the Chosin Few and a familiar face at the reunions. He loved woodworking, and was an avid skier, skiing into his mid 70's. He retired from the Rail Mill at CF & I. Interment was at Imperial Memorial Gardens, Pueblo, CO.

Jack Hecker -A/31FA/7 age 89 of Charlestown, IN passed away on August 12, 2017 at Green Valley Care Center in New Albany, IN. Jack was a lifetime member of Army Chapter of The Chosin Few. He was also active with the American Legion and VFW. He enjoyed ginseng and arrowhead hunting, bingo and the outdoors especially his squirrels some of whom he named. He retired after 38 years of service with the Louisville Cement Company. He was preceded in death by his wife, Bonnie in 2012. Interment was in Silver Creek Cemetery, Charleston, IN. Expressions of Sympathy in memory of Jack may take the form of donations to the Wounded Warriors Project.



Gordon R. Kennedy - Hq X [AG], age 85, passed away March 14, 2017 in Bryan, TX. Gordon grew up in Limestone, NY and lived in Bryan for the past 39 years. Chief Warrant Officer Kennedy retired from the U.S. Army after 31 years of service. He had served for 22 years overseas with the Army in Japan, Korea, Poland, Hong Kong, Syria, Finland, Vietnam and Jamaica. He was a veteran of the Chosin Reservoir Campaign in Korea in 1950. His last duty station was with the Defense Investigative Service as the agent in charge in Bryan. He was also employed with the U.S. Postal Service for 10 years. Gordon was a lifetime member of the Army Chapter of the Chosin Few. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lucille Kennedy. Interment was at Rest-Ever Memorial Park Cemetery with full military honors.

John "Jack" H. Downing - A/3AAA/3, age 86, passed away September 5, 2017 in Ballston Spa, NY. Jack worked for many years at Curtis Lumber Co. in Ballston Spa, retiring as a construction manager. He was a member of the Army Chapter of the Chosin Few, the Korean War Veterans Association and Saratoga National Cemetery Honor Guard Association. He enjoyed woodworking and wood carving and loved spending time with his family.

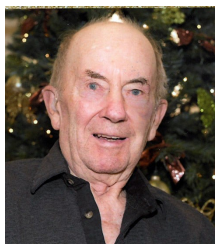


John J. "Jack" Friend- F/7/3, 89 years of age, he passed away September 7, 2017, in Hastings, NE. Burial with military rites was at Parkview Cemetery, Hastings. Jack served in World War II and the Korean War. Along with his parents and brothers he started "Friends Motor Supply" in 1943. This single store grew to seven and with their "Friends Truck Equipment" became the largest NAPA dealer between Omaha and Denver. He served as Vice President and Director of Omaha Warehouse, Inc. and was the founder and past board member of the Nebraska Automotive Wholesalers. He served on the Board of Trustees of the National Truck Equipment Association. He served on the Board of Governors of the Adams County Agricultural Society and Norwest Bank Advisory Board. He was a lifetime member of the Army Chapter of the Chosin Few, VFW and American Legion. Jack was preceded in death by his wife, Annette.

Milton (Butch) Margan -K/3/31/7 passed on July 22, 2017 in Colorado Springs, CO. Butch served 23 years in the U.S. Army fighting in the Vietnam and Korean Wars. He retired in 1972 as a Sergeant First Class. He worked at Hewlett Packard and Phil Long Ford in Colorado Springs after his army retirement. Butch was a longtime member of the Army Chapter of the Chosin Few and 31st Inf Association. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ursula.



TAPS



Marvin Pearson - Tk/17/7, age 88, of Twin Valley, MN, formerly of Motley, MN passed away September 27, 2017. Services for Marvin will be 11:00AM, Interment was at Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery near Little Falls, MN.

Marvin owned and operated a custom meat processing plant called Marv's Lockers in Nashua, MN. Later, they moved to Motley where Marv worked for Gold's Turkey Farm. Marv was a proud lifetime member of the Army Chapter of the Chosin Few and member of the VFW. He enjoyed deer hunting, going to auctions and flea markets. Marv especially loved spending time on his hunting land- the

Dr. Patrick T. Gannon, Sr. - SPCGrp/X age 86, passed away at his home in St. Augustine, FL on April 7, 2017. He was a lifetime member of the Army Chapter of the Chosin Few.

Dr. Gannon was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars , retiring from the US Air Force with the rank of Major. He joined the Army after high school and was assigned to the GHQ Raiders where he participated in reconnaissance and other special forces activities in Korea. He attended college at the University of Florida, University of Chicago and MIT. He joined the Air Force as a meteorologist, and was a trusted tropical forecaster. He served in Vietnam during the Tet Offensive, performing experimental meteorology. After retiring from the Air Force, he completed his doctorate at the University of Miami and worked with NOAA in Boulder, CO. His studies included early research on climate warming. He retired from Lyndon State college in Vermont in 1997 where he taught meteorology. Internment was at San Lorenzo Cemetery, St. Augustine, FL.



Robert "Bob" W. Jaskowak -B/48FA/7 age 86, passed away on July 1, 2017 in Mt. Pleasant, WI. Bob served in the United States Army from 1948 until 1968. He fought in the Korean War and retired from the Army after being stationed in Germany, Korea and Addis Ababa, (capital city) Ethiopia, Denver and Durango, Colo., Freeport, and Chicago, Ill., and Camp Atterbury, Ind. After his army retirement, he was employed at Sears and Turnstyle in Racine, and as an Industrial Sales Representative at Crane & Son in Waukesha.

He was a lifetime member of the Army Chapter of Chosin Few. Along with his wife, Joan, they attended almost all of the Army Chapter reunions. Bob was also a member of the VFW, American Legion, Korean War Veterans Assoc., Berlin U.S. Military Veterans Assoc., 31st Infantry (Dixie) Division, DAV, and the 7th Infantry Division Association.

Bob was laid to rest with full military honors at Southern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Union Grove, WI.

Maurice H. Krug - 58MP/XCORPS age 90, passed away on December 26, 2017 in Hanover, PA. He was a lifetime member of the Army Chapter of The Chosin Few. Prior to his tour in Korea, his most memorable experience was standing Honor Guard for President Harry S. Truman in 1950. Maurice was a member of the American Legion, VFW, Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of the Union Veterans and he was a 32nd Degree Mason. Maurice was retired from P.H. Glatfelter Co., Spring Grove, where he was a member of the Quarter Century Club. He enjoyed antique cars, his pets and animals and his daily meeting of friends at Rosie's Restaurant. Burial was in Rest Haven Cemetery, Hanover with military honors.



Charlie F. Pharr - A/4th Sig/X age 87, passed away on December 6, 2017 in Ogden, Utah.

Charlie was a lifetime member of The Army Chapter of the Chosin Few and had held a position on the Board. Along with wife, Edith, they were a familiar sight at most reunions. After serving in Korea, he enlisted in the Air Force, served during the Vietnam War and retired in 1971. Originally from North Carolina, they settled in Layton, Utah. He worked at Hill Air Force Base as a radar technician after his retirement from the Air Force. Charlie was also a life member of DAV, VFW, and Purple Heart. He enjoyed golfing and his family.

Donald H. Gee Sr., longtime Business Manager for The Chosin Few (National) passed away on July 28, 2017 at age 77. Don was a proud Gunnery Sergeant with the US Marine Corps retiring in 1977, after 20 years of service. Following his retirement, he remained active with the military as the Public Affairs Officer with the Veterans Administration, Philadelphia. Don's step-son, Cory Fisher, has stepped into his position as Business Manager.





REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

U. S. Chapter of The Chosin Few

May 23-26, 2018

Springfield, Missouri



Name	_____	Unit at Chosin	_____
Address	_____	City	_____
	_____	State	_____
Phone	_____	Zip	_____
	_____		_____
Guest #1	_____	Relationship	_____
Guest #2	_____	Relationship	_____
Guest #3	_____	Relationship	_____
Guest #4	_____	Relationship	_____
Guest #5	_____	Relationship	_____

Registration Fee (includes meal and Hospitality Room) @ \$45.00 per person.

NUMBER ATTENDING X \$45.00 _____

Choice of meal (please indicate number of each) **BEEF** _____ **CHICKEN** _____ **SALMON** _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make your **reservations** at the **Oasis Convention Center** by **MAY 1** to insure you have a room. *Any rooms not reserved by that date will be released to the public.* Call **toll-free 888-532-4338** or **417-866-5253**. Be sure and mention the Army Chapter of The Chosin Few.

Room Rates are **\$100.00** (\$88.00 plus tax). You can go to at their website www.springfieldoasis.com to view the hotel, rooms and amenities.

Chapter Officers and Directors need to arrive early for the meeting on the 23rd.

Make check or money order **payable to Army Chapter of The Chosin Few**

Mail to: Charmaine Francois-Griffith
1737 S. Jasmine St.
Denver, CO 80224