

Thank You

Korean War Veterans



Appreciation Luncheon



~Photo Report~



The ***“21st Anniversary of the Korean War Veterans Appreciation Luncheon”*** was organized by the Korean War Veterans of Canada Unit 26 Hamilton (Hall1), Gapyeong Battle Victory Monument Committee of Canada (Hall 2) at Delphi Banquets 4414 Portage Rd. in Niagara Falls, Ontario on June 16th, 2022 to honour and remember Korean War Veterans. This year’s luncheon was very special since we unveiled the “Korean War Gapyeong Battle Victory Monument” at Fairview Cemetery in Niagara Falls at 11:00 A.M. and all invited guests were invited to the luncheon. We had over 320 guests therefore, we rented two halls (Hall 1 and Hall 2) to accommodate all guests. The invited guests included 17 Korean War Veterans and their family members, 80 other Veterans (served with the Royal Canadian Navy, Army including PPCLI and the Royal Canadian Air Force and U.S. Navy), Mr. Darrell Samson, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs Canada, Wayne Gates, MPP, Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim, Mayor Sungki Kim from the City of Gapyeong, Col. Keun Sik Moon, Defence Attaché, Brigadier General (Ret’d) Vincent Kennedy and PPCLI South West Association President Greg Ferguson and members, The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 479 President Elaine Hall and members, The Royal Canadian Legion Post 144, Pinellas County Post Commander Dann Oliver and members, The Korean community leaders and members were our guests. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Hon. Senator Yonah Martin, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim, Mayor Sungki Kim, Hon. Adrienne Clarkson, Colonel in Chief, PPCLI Regiment sent their greeting letters as well. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stated that ***“I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 21st Anniversary Korean War Veterans Appreciation Luncheon, commemorating the unveiling of the Korean War Gapyeong Battle Victory Monument at Fairview Cemetery, Niagara Falls. This annual event honours Veterans of the United Nations (UN) Command forces who took part in the fierce battle of April 22–25, 1951 that helped save Seoul during the Korean War, including the important role played by soldiers of the 2nd Battalion of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Regiment”.***

At the luncheon, Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim Presented 6 Ambassador for Peace Medals to the following recipients, Allan Boxshall a WWII and Korean War Veteran who served with the 2PPCLI at the battle of Gapyong/Kapyong. Alexander McKelvey served with RCR and Gordon Parks served with RCHA. Clayton Morningstar who was killed in action served with the RCR. He is from Niagara Falls. Thomas Barry Wotton served with 2PPCLI and he was killed at the Battle of Kapyong. John Firth served with 2PPCLI at the Battle of Kapyong. Mayor Jim Diodati presented the “Honourary Citizenship of the City of Niagara” to Korean War Veterans who attended the luncheon. Mayor Sungki Kim presented the “Honourary Citizenship of the City of Gapyeong” to 4 Gapyeong/ Kapyong Veterans (William Chrysler, Douglas Keeton, Carl Cardas, Ronald Bourgon) who attended the luncheon. Last year, my husband Major(Ret’d) Don Kennedy and I found 9 living Battle of Gapyeong (previously known as Kapyong) Veterans and nominated them for the Honourary Citizenship of the City of Gapyeong”. Unfortunately, Ronald Bourgon has passed away after the nomination thus, his daughter Kathy received it on behalf of him. 5 other Gapyeong Veterans were unable to travel to Niagara falls due to long distance (most of them live out of province). Their “Honourary Citizenship of the City of Gapyeong” was shipped by express post respecting their wishes. Hon. Senator Yonah Martin was unable to attend the both events however, I had the pleasure presenting her “Appreciation Certificates” and platinum jubilee pins to the Korean War Veterans. It is also my honour to receive the “Appreciation Certificate” from Mayor Sungki Kim for help erect the Gapyeong Battle Victory Monuments in Brampton and Niagara Falls. Mayor Sungki Kim also presented “Appreciation Certificates” to other members of the Gapyeong Battle Victory Monument Committee of Canada” including Major(Ret’d) Don Kennedy, Senator Yonah Martin, Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim, Col. KeunSik Moon, Defence Attaché for their help and support. I have been organizing the Korean war Veterans luncheon over 21 years, it was my honour a pleasure to see our Korean War Veterans and family members enjoying a delicious Chicken Luncheon, Korean-Canadian Entertainment and various gifts (the City of Gapyeong fans, Commemorative mugs, the City of Niagara pins and Niagara Parks Commission’s calendar and various Niagara Fall’s activity passes which are over \$200 in value). We would like to send our special thanks to the Korean War Veterans, their family members and other Veterans, the Consulate General office of the Republic of Korea in Toronto and the Veterans Affairs Canada and other sponsors for their help with sponsoring the luncheon, entertainers, and volunteers.

HooJung Jones Kennedy

Project Director of the Korean Veterans of Canada Unit 26, Hamilton and Monument Project Director
Co-Chair of the Korean War Veterans Advocates of Canada



Delphi Banquet Hall 1 Entrance



Korean War Photo Banner Display at the Hall 1 Entrance



Korean War Photos and Art Exhibition's photos were from the Korea War Veterans of Canada Unit 26 Project Director HooJung Jones Kennedy's collection. She has collected over 20,000 photos from Korean War Veterans in Canada and the U.S. during her 20 years of research work.



Korean War Art is painted by Captain. (Ret'd) Mike Megalshon

Korean War Photo Collection from HooJung Jones Kennedy



2 PPLCI Soldiers are holding Korean Flag proudly during the Korean War.



Two 2PPLCI Soldiers -Kenneth Gawthorn (right) was a WWII and Korean War Veteran who fought at the Battle of Gapyeong(previously known as Kapyong). He also served with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada.<https://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/about-vac/who-we-are/departement-officials/minister/commendation/bio/1062>



Left to Right: Private Morris Piche and L/Cpl. Willaim J Chrysler at the near Kapyong Valley.

Photo by Imperial Museum



Two Canadian soldiers serving with the Engineers (they are usually first in and last out thus, they often do not shave) are with two Korean orphans. Canadian soldiers often took care of many orphans and they fed them with their own C-rations and built schools. One soldier is holding a camera and who would guessed that Korean companies like “Samsung” and “LG” would make a smart phone with camera dominating the world market. Our dear associate, Peter Rupenas, a WWII, Korean War and Vietnam Veteran served as a US Combat photographer. He said in his book called “2 Cameras and 3 Wars” that “the most powerful weapon in the War was the Camera”.



Morley Balinon, a WWII and Korean War who fought the Battle of Gapyeong(Kapyong) serving with the 2PPCLI (signaller) . He is holding captured Chinese burp gun. He also served as Regimental Sergeant Major of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders of Canada.

He used to train Major(Ret'd) Don Kennedy and Captain(Ret'd) Mike Mcglashon. He was our dear friend and his compelling story of the Battle of Kapyong in the Hamilton Spectator.
<https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/2017/11/03/a-soldier-s-story-from-the-forgotten-war.html>



Delphi Banquet Hall 1





Hall 1 Table Setting with flowers and gifts.





Major(Ret'd) Don Kennedy and HooJung Jones Kennedy, M.C. welcoming the guests.



Mayor Jim Diodati, presented the “Honourary Citizenship of the City of Niagara Falls” to the Korean War Veterans.



Left to Right: Peter Patry, a Korean War Veteran, Raymond Plourde, a Korea Service Veteran, Margo Plourde.



Left to Right: Kyoung Ja and William Chrysler, Douglas(Bud) and Doreen Keeton



Left to Right: Joan Balinson (Morely Balinson's widow), Andy Barber, a Korean War Veteran who served with the Royal Canadian Navy on HMCS Haida, Don Arthurs, a Korean War Veteran who served with the Royal Canadian Navy.



Left to Right: Kathy and Doug Thoms, daughter and son-in law of Alex Mckelvey a Korean War Veteran.



Ron Zabrok, WWII and Korean War Veteran (97 years old) served with the US Navy.



Left to Right: John McGilp a Korean War Veteran, Mina McGilp, John McGilp Jr.



Left to Right: Lt. Commander (Ret'd) Donna Murakami-Fujimoto, Grace and Don Sudden, a Korean War Veteran and past President of KVA Heritage Unit, George Barrett, a Korean War Veteran.



Gordon Scott, Pipe Major playing his bag pipes as the VIPs were marching in from Hall 2 to Hall 1.



Left to Right: Col. Keun Sik Moon, Defence Attaché, Mayor Sungki Kim, Mayor Jim Diodati, Peter Song, President of Korea Veterans Association of Canada Eastern Chapter, Chapter Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim, Jinwoong Kim, President of Niagara (Heritage) Korean Association.



Mayor Jim Diodati presented the several Ice wines (Ice wine was originally created in the Niagara area) to dignitaries including Mayor Sungki Kim and Col. KeunSik, Defence Attaché.



Mayor Jim Diodati presenting the gift to JingWoong Kim, President of Niagara (Heritage) Association.



Left to Right: Col. Keunsik Moon, Defence Attaché, Allan Boxshall, a Korean War Veteran, Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim



Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal to Allan Boxshall who served with the 2PPCLI at the Battle of Gapyeong/Kapyong.



Left to Right: Kathy Thoms, a daughter of Alexander McKelvey, a Korean War Veteran who served with the RCR, receiving the “Ambassador for Peace Medal”.



Consul General Deuk Hawn Kim presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal to Gordon Parks, a Korean War Veteran who served with the RCHA.



Consul General Deuk Hawn Kim presented the Ambassador for Peace Medal to Kathy Cruickshank, a granddaughter of the late John Firth, a Gapyeong Veteran.



Left to Right: Gordon Morningstar, a brother of Clayton Morningstar who was Killed in Action during the Korean War serving with the RCR, received the “Ambassador for Peace Medal” from Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim. It was a serendipity to find the family of Clayton Morningstar. His name was misspelt on the bronze plaque thus his niece Michelle requested his last name to be corrected. Mark Richardson, manager of Fairview Cemetery showed us the corrected name when we visited him. That afternoon, we had a meeting with Elaine Hall, The Royal Canadian Legion Br.479 President and found the letter of Michelle and her contact information. What if his name was not misspelt? What if she did not write the letter to the RCL Br. 479? We would never have known that Clayton Morningstar’s mother received a call on Mother’s day that her son was Killed in Action. 70 years later, we found his brother Gordon Morningstar (all his siblings have passed) and we immediately requested the “Ambassador for Peace Medal”. We will remember Private Clayton Morningstar.



Private Clayton Morningstar Killed in Action -Royal Canadian Regiment

May 10th, 1953 He is from Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada



His grave site at the Busan UN Cemetery, Korea



Mayor Sungki Kim, the City of Gapyeong presented the “Honourary Citizenship of the City of Gapyeong” and gift (Korean jewellery box) to William J Chrysler, a Gapyeong/Kapyong Veteran.



Mayor Sungki Kim, the City of Gapyeong presented the “Honourary Citizenship of the City of Gapyeong” and gift (Korean jewellery box) to Douglas (Bud) Keeton, a Gapyeong/Kapyoong Veteran.



Mayor Sungki Kim, the City of Gapyeong presented the “Honourary Citizenship of the City of Gapyeong” and gift (Korean jewellery box) to Kathy Bourgon on behalf of late Ronald Bourgon, a Gapyong/Kapyong Veteran.



Left to Right: Peter Patry, a Korean War Veteran and Tatjana Jaluvka from Mayor Kim Diodati's office. She helped to delivered the gift from the City of Gapyeong.



Left to Right: George Barrett, a Korean War Veteran, Olivia Sargeson from Mayor Jim Diodati's office. She helped to deliver the gift from the City of Gapyeong.



Left to Right: Olivia Sargeson with John McGlip, a Korean War Veteran.



Left to Right: Andy Choi, Chair of KWCC, Calgary helped to deliver the “Appreciation Certificate” and “Platinum Jubilee pin from Senator Yonah Martin to Allan Boxshall, a Gapyeong/Kapyong Veteran.



Left to Right: Col. Keunsik Moon, Defence Attaché and HooJung Jones Kennedy



Left to Right: Padre Inseob Won and Tatjana Jaluvka



Left to Right: Mark Ricahrdson, Manager of Fairview Cemetery and HooJung Jones Kennedy



Left to Right: Mckenna Evans and HooJung Jones Kennedy



Major(Ret'd) Don Kennedy announcing the Door Prize winners.



Rev. Bill Thomas picking the door prize tickets.



Left to Right: Tatjana Jaluvka from Mayor Jim Diodati's office helped to deliver the door prize to Amanda Chishlom.



Left to Right: Olivia Sargeson helped to deliver a door prize to Kathy Cruickshank.



Romeo Daley, Past President of KVA Unit 15 Niagara (middle) with Brigadier General (Ret'd) Vincent Kennedy (far right) and Greg Ferguson, President of PPCLI Association South West and other members of the PPLCI Regiment and Association.



Allan Boxsahll, a Gapyeong/Kapyong Veteran with Brigadier General (Ret'd) Vincent Kennedy (far left) and Greg Ferguson, President of PPCLI Association South West and other members of the PPLCI Regiment and Association.



Left to Right: Brigadier General (Ret'd) Vincent Kennedy, Allan Boxshall with Greg Ferguson, President of PPCLI Association South West who presented "70th Anniversary of the Battle of Kapyong coin".



Carl Cardas, a Gapyeong/Kapyong Veteran with Brigadier General (Ret'd) Vincent Kennedy (far left) and Greg Ferguson, President of PPCLI Association South West and other members of the PPLCI Regiment and Association.



Left to Right: Elizabeth Daley and Romeo Daley, a Korean War Veteran



Left to Right: Romeo Daley a Korean War Veteran, Carl Cardas a Gapyeong Veteran.



Major(Ret'd) Don Kennedy with Sun Ja Lee a singer and her family.



Left to Right: Mary Oliver, Donna Murakami Fujimoto, Dann Oliver, The Royal Canadian Legion Post 144 Pinellas County Post Commander.



Sosun Suh, Defence Attache aide playing Haegum beautifully.





Yoanna Jang playing her violin beautifully.





Gordon Scott Pipe Major playing his bag pipes.



Kyoung Ja Park and her members playing Gayagum (Korean string instrument) beautifully. They are wearing Korean dress called “Hanbok”.



Hall 2



Dave Lee, Vice President of Niagara Korean Association, M.C.



Consul General Deuk Hwan Kim delivering his greeting.



Peter Song, President of Korean Veterans Association of Canada Eastern Chapter delivering his greeting.



Sungja Lee singing beautifully.



Wonpyo Hong playing his saxophone.





Gayagum played beautifully by Kyong Ja Park and members.



Joyful Singers singing beautifully.



Korean community leaders and members





Korean community leaders and members



Korean community leaders and members



We send our special thanks to
Korean War Veterans and Family members
Veterans Affairs Canada
Consulate General of the Republic of Korea
Gapyeong Battle Victory Monument Committee of Canada
Sponsors
Entertainers
Volunteers
Photos Credit:
Elizabeth Daley, Alex Rudy, Kyun Sub Jung, Andy Choi, Sosun Suh



HooJung Jones Kennedy and Major (Ret'd) Don Kennedy

Korea War Veterans of Canada Unit 26, Hamilton

Thank You

Our Canadian Heroes



Korean War

1950 - 1953

26,791 served

UN Peace Keeping Mission

1953 - 1955

Additional 7,000 served

516 Killed 1,558 Wounded, 21 Missing in Action, 32 POW



Thank you
Korean War Veterans