



Association Newsletter



SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER
2014

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FROM THE EDITORS

FROM THE EDITORS

Now that the annual reunion is over, we can start to think about other things to place in the newsletter.....like photos that we have received and other notes.

We thank everyone for contributing to the newsletters and for the many photos that we have received. We cannot return the items, however we may use them at a later date. We keep everything that is sent.

Our reunion was a success, thanks to all that attended and many thanks go out to those who wrote to us. We appreciate all of the help that was given to us, like helping to set up the meals and also to those who helped clean up.

Our next get-together will be the mini-reunion in Branson, Missouri in September of 2014....This is a casual reunion with food all provided by the members who attend. Very rarely do you have to go out to eat unless you want to.

We know that some of you received your newsletter with a wrong date of renewing of membership on them, it was our mistake...not yours!!

We will try to make this newsletter "newsy" as possible. We want you to be able to read it and enjoy what you read. We have received many items that we will edit and print in the future issues.

Maxine and Frank Jennings
Co-Editors

5th RCT Assoc Newsletter

P.S. As I stated in the paragraph above, we have received a lot of photos and we will try to use a lot of them as space allows however we cannot use anything that is sent from a newspaper that has been printed. That is called plagiarizism....presenting someone else's writings as our own...

If you do send pictures make sure that they are the correct size to place in the newsletter pages.

2014 Branson 5th RCT Mini-Reunion

This reunion will be held in Branson, Mo. from Sept. 21-25th. It will be held at the Branson Towers, which is located at 236 Shepherd of the Hills Expressway. This is just off Hwy 248 on the North side of Branson. It is by the big water tower. Their phone number is 417-336-4500. The room rate will be \$56.95 plus tax. This includes a continental breakfast. When you make your reservation, please tell them you are with the 5th Regimental Combat Team. The front desk does not recognize 5th RCT. Please make your reservations as early as possible. They can always be canceled. If you want a certain room, please tell them when you call in. **All reservations must be made before 9/7/14.** The hotel will furnish ice, so bring snacks & drinks. There will be a drawing after the business meeting. If you have made something or have something you would like to give, please bring it to the meeting. All dress will be casual. The payment for the show and dinner is cash only! We must have a count for the show and dinner by 1PM Monday.

Sunday, Sept 21 st	2 PM to 5PM	Registration
Monday, Sept 22 nd	10AM to 1PM	Registration
	8PM	Presley's Show Ticket \$30.00
Tuesday, Sept 23 rd	6PM	Supper will be catered at the Hotel Ticket TBA
Wednesday, Sept 24 th	10AM	Business meeting & drawing

COME JOIN US IN BRANSON!

John Crail

Marvin House

Marvin Edwards



Please come and join us in Branson Mo. It is a fun reunion and you just might see some of your friends there that you have not seen in awhile.

You can go out with your reunion friends or you can go out on your own to see some of the finest shows in the country. Some of us bring goodies from home that we have baked or bought on the way to Branson. Others bring watermelons all the way from Colorado. or fresh tomatoes and home canned goods from Kentucky..., you just never know what your friends will bring. You can eat lunch with us at the hotel or you can go downtown and window shop or go to the new Branson Landing shopping area. There is a new Walmart there close by the Hotel and all kinds of restaurants...so pack your bags and get on the road to Branson.



VA Defining
HEALTH CARE **EXCELLENCE**
in the 21st Century

Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center
3200 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220-2251

June 26, 2014

5TH REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM ASSOCIATION
2815 SUMMER BROOK STREET
MELBOURNE, FL 32940-7144

Dear Members,

On behalf of our service men and women, I want to thank you for your generous donation of \$2,000.00 Check #1011, to benefit the Fisher House at the Cincinnati VA Medical Center.

The money has been deposited into General Post Fund 1011, Fisher House, and will be used to purchase food, newspapers, personal care items, and to help provide the support and comfort to our veterans and their family members during their stay.

So that we may better serve you with future donations, please check out our E-Donate service that is now available online at www.cincinnati.va.gov. Through the use of E-Donate donors can select the account in which they wish to apply their donation that goes 100% directly to the Fisher House. Electronic donations are made through a secure site at the Department of Treasury's www.pay.gov. You may use a credit card or debit card.

The staff, veterans and their families are grateful for your thoughtfulness. Support from organizations, such as yours, is vital in the continuing effort to provide the best possible care to American heroes.

Sincerely,



Karrie L. Hagan
Fisher House Manager

In accordance with VHA Directive 4721, we are required to state "the Department of Veterans did not provide you, the donor, any goods or services in consideration in whole or part for your contribution."

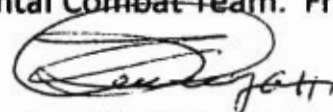
Dear Frank and Maxine,

I am writing to you because I saw a picture in the latest newsletter of a vehicle with a license plate bearing 5th RCT. This, of course, prompted me to send you a photo of my Silverado pickup with a license plate showing "C-5RCT." I am also sending a photo of a dedication plaque I have in my garden honoring Korean War veterans who also served in Charlie Company 5th RCT.

I am a disabled veteran (80 percent). I served in Korea with the 6th Infantry Division from May 1948 to December 1948. At that time South Korea was granted sovereignty by America. U. S. military forces serving on occupation duty were to leave Korean soil within four months. Some of us who were with the 6th Division were assigned as rear guards. As American forces left Korea for Japan and the Z. I. (Zone of Interior), in mid-January 1949 the 5th RCT (Regimental Combat Team) was activated and the rear guard was named Company C 5th RCT. Then in early February we were shipped to Oahu, Hawaii to join the rest of the 5th RCT that was stationed at Schofield Barracks, near the small town of Wahiawa. During our stay the 5th RCT was engaged in intensive training in hand-to-hand combat; bayonet drills; and chemical, biological, and radiological warfare. We were in the middle of setting up a jungle training course, when we were informed that we might be shipping out, destination was not given. Of course the scuttle butt led as to believe that we might be returning to Korea very soon. In May of 1950 we embarked heading back to Korea to assist the 24th Infantry Division that was having a difficult time fighting against the North Koreans who had invaded South Korea.

I am very proud of our role as members of the 5th RCT in the "Forgotten War." As you may already know, we fought from the Pusan Perimeter north, passed the 38th parallel and Pyongyang, and stopped short of the Yalu River. When China intervened, we were pushed back just below the 38th parallel. We lost many men and most of us had our share of wounds. I returned to the Z. I. in August, 1951.

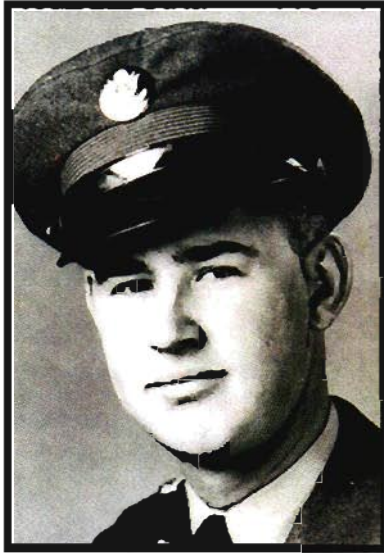
In closing, permit me to say that I was and continue to be a proud American soldier, member of the famous 5th Regimental Combat Team. Freedom is not free.



Sgt. F/C Mike Chavoya, Jr.
(mostly known as Sgt. Mike)

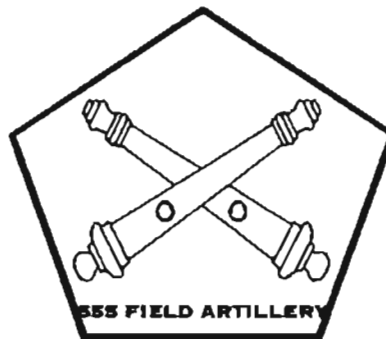


Below is a photo of one of the 5th RCT members who has passed away this year..



Charles L "Charlie" Myers

He served as a corporal with the 5RCT, Fox Co., 2nd Platoon from 1949 until 1952 Mrs. Myers (Mary) stated that Charlie had a passion for honoring military service in their community and was designer of the Korean War Memorial located in the Community Park as well as assisting with the design and relocation of the WW11 Memorial in the Community Park in Jacksonville, Illinois.



We received word of another death of a 5th RCT member, Henry Feikes, from his son, Dean Feikes of Ackley Iowa. He served with the 5th RCT in Korea in 1951 and 1952. He was a POW there and served with the Mike Company. Dean states that if anyone remembers his father or has some stories, he, Dean would love to hear from you at : d feikes @ hotmail.com. Above is a photo of his fathers' license plate.





FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Does it seem like 61 years ago that the Korean war cease-fire and hostilities ended??

One thing that each of us can be thankful for is longevity. We have traveled this earth for all of these years and seen many changes.

Let us stop for awhile and think if the changes we have seen as this note goes to folks of all different cultures and backgrounds.

We all have lived different lifestyles.

If you were born or raised in rural and small town America, let's name some of the changes.

Travel: horse and buggy, (mules sometime), Model T Fords, railroads, airplanes, interstate highways instead of rock roads. Radios, television, cell phones, Ipods, and all other gadgets. Now we have indoor plumbing, running water, electric lights, central heating and air conditioning.

We have a military with all kinds of spy and camera stuff. Why do I mention these changes we have seen in our lifetime? Would we be where we are today if Communism had not been stopped in Korea?? What would life be like for us under communistic rule??

It took many years for a lot of us to realize that our efforts in Korea were not in vain!

A WORD OF CAUTION

These freedoms that we fought for can be taken away from all of us.

As seniors we have seen all the changes mentioned. We know that it took hard work and love of family and country to make AMERICA great.

It is up to us to let our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren realize without the above mentioned things that they will lose their freedom.

If we do not pass the word down and around, WHO WILL???

ENJOY THE FALL

JW Crail
Chaplain



SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT

I would like to apologize to those members who received their latest newsletter to find that the history numbers above their name were the old numbers. I somehow gave an old list to the mailing service company. One thing I did achieve was getting the membership to read and understand our system of keeping dues up to date.

I still have a lot of members who have not responded to any of my letters which I have sent out notifying them that they are 2 years past due on their membership dues.

If I do not hear from you by the 1st of September, 2014, I will take it for granted you are no longer interested in the 5th RCT Association. If you have any type of hardship in paying your dues, please contact me. We will be glad to keep you on the mailing, if that is the case.

We just do not want to pay the postage to send out the newsletters to anyone who does not want them or if the member is deceased, the family should notify us.

Also, keep us posted on any change in your addresses or phone numbers, cell and home. We need to up date all info, name, address zip code and phone numbers and email. When we have FIRST CLASS mailings, we do seem to get a lot of returned mail to us with no forwarding address.

I'll try sir,

Frank Jennings
5th RCT Assoc.
Secretary/Treasurer

Our dues have always been \$15.00 per year, payable January of each new year.

Please keep me informed of any changes in your address, zip code or phone numbers.

In order to do our newsletters or any letter for that matter, we need all information up-to-date..

Frank Jennings
Secretary/Treasurer

5th RCT Association



Thank you Grandpa for a Trip of a Life Time.

My Grandpa, Vernon Becker served in the 5th RCT in Korea. He had the opportunity to travel back to South Korea with my mother in 2013 where they were able to attend appreciation thank you banquets and revisit some of the battle fields my grandpa fought at while in South Korea.

While they were there my grandpa learned of a trip to South Korea for grandchildren of Korean War Veterans. Grandpa shared this information and opportunity with me and in June 2014 I spent a week in Seoul with grandchildren of Korean War veterans from around the world. We spent our time sharing stories of our grandfather's experiences in the Korean War, making new friends from around the world while exploring the city of Seoul, visiting war memorials, and learning more about the Korean War while talking to veterans that were on the trip with us. It was a trip of a life time and a wonderful opportunity to learn first-hand what my grandpa did and went through when he was sent to Korea to fight so many years ago. I was amazed at the advancements that South Korea has made in the years since the war. I was even more amazed at the appreciation of the Korean people for the sacrifices that my grandfather and other soldiers like him made for their country. I came back with a much greater understanding of the Korean War, a new appreciation of what my grandfather did, and a wonderful new group of friends from around the world.

I am writing this thank you letter to my grandfather in the 5th RCT magazine for a couple of reasons. The first one is that my grandfather reads and saves these magazines. He also shares interesting stories with me and my mother when we visit him. He is very proud of his service and also very proud to be a member of the 5th RCT. So I know he will see and read this thank you note. The second reason is to let others know about this wonderful opportunity for grandchildren to experience this once in a life time trip. If you would like more information on this trip for your grandchildren, please check out the Youth Peace Camp Facebook page. You may even see some of our pictures there. I was part of group 10!

Thank you grandpa!! Love Brandon McClain



Death Notices from June 1 to August 1, 2014

Mullins, Junior
Deceased May 2012
3002 Beachtown Rd
French Creek WV 26218-2099
Letter from wife, Blanch

Viscounti, David P
Deceased 12 June 2014
821 West H St.
Colton, CA 92324-2010
Phone call from R. Doyle

Bucher, Alvin G
Deceased 23 June 2014
27 Thomas Dr
West Seneca NY 14224
Email from P. Garland
Wife, Beverly

Franklin, William V
Deceased 31 October 2010
8742 Vanca Rd
Cambry IN 46113
Son phoned

Bargiband, Donald R
Deceased 21 June 2014
1199 Windsor Pkwy
Moody AL 35004-3033
Phone call from daughter
Wife, Phyliss



We just heard on the news that the actor James Garner passed away. Some of you might remember him from the 5th RCT. He was a member of "A" Co. and was in Korea and was wounded, receiving 2 Purple Hearts. Several members knew him and wanted him to join the Association. He never did but we thank him for being in the 5th RCT and being a member of our military.

TODAY WE RECEIVED A NOTE FROM ANITA JOHNSON, TELLING US OF THE PASSING OF HER HUSBAND, ROY. HE PASSED AWAY ON JULY 26 AT HOME WITH HIS FAMILY. THEY LIVED IN GLEN ROCK, NJ AND ATTENDED MANY REUNIONS.. THE LAST ONE WAS IN SAN ANTONIO IN 2013.

ROY AND ANITA WERE VERY PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ATTEND THESE REUNIONS AND TALK "ARMY" WITH ALL OF HIS BUDDIES. ROY SERVED WITH THE 555 "C" BATTERY IN '52 AND '53. HE WILL BE MISSED.

Below is a photo sent to us by a 5th RCT members, Albert Matheis of Pittsburgh PA. He explains that the rifle was a gift from his daughter and her husband and the grandchildren. Al served in L5 in '53 and '54. Nice Photo...



Another photo is Sidney LeBlanc of Gonzales Louisiana showing off his license plate honoring the 5th RCT. He says in 1948 he was assigned to the 32 Regt of the 7th Div in Kaesong Korea and later in '48, he was relocated to Japan minus the 32 Regt and on January 1 1949 the Regt was redesignated the 5th RCT. He says in early 1949, he left Korea and went to Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He says the rest of the story, all of you probably know..... (thanks for the info Sidney.)

Another photo came our way from J.J. Cantrell from Blodgett MO. He says that the tried to get the 5th RCT but somebody already it in Kansas City MO....Somebody by the name of Hadacoh.. says he can't remember his name... (Could he be a member and we would not know..??)



Kelly Gresby of Bluefield, WV sent us the photo below... of him on Pork Chop Hill....manning the BIG gun??? Good to see you in Cocoa Beach, Kelly...



We received word from Harold J. Levy M.D. who was a surgeon to the Regiment that we now have a 3rd Medal of Honor recipient of the 5th RCT.... Dr Levy states that PFC Leonard Kravitz was serving with Company "M", 3rd Barralion, 5th RCT, attached to the 24th Infantry Division in Yangpyong. The unit was overrun by enemy and was forced to withdraw from a defensive position. This happened on March 6 and 7 1951. PFC Kravitz voluntarily remained at his machine gun to provide suppressive fire. This forced the enemy to concentrate their attack on his own position. Kravitz was killed but his actions saved his entire platoon. Dr Levy also states that PFC Kravitz had already received the Distinguished Service Cross, but that a childhood friend, Mitchell Libman began a lifetime journey to make sure that Kravitz was honored with the Medal of Honor....the highest honor.....



Sgt Gagnon of Ft Mitchell, AL and a houseboy.. in March 1952

5TH RCT ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME _____ PH NO _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

YEARS SERVED WITH THE 5TH RCT. FROM 19__ TO 19__

COMPANY/BATTERY _____ REGT/BATTALION _____ SPEC ASSIGN _____

NAME OF SPOUSE _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP IS NOT AVAILABLE, HOWEVER WE ARE ACCEPTING
DUES THROUGH 2016

NEW MEMBERS 1ST YEARS DUES \$15.00, PLUS \$5.00 FOR MEMBER
ROSTER \$20.00.

2ND YEARS DUES AND BEYOND ARE \$15.00 AND ARE DUE BEFORE
1 JANUARY OF EACH YEAR.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTERS ARE AVAILABLE @ \$6.00 PLUS \$3.00 FOR
SHIPPING FOR A TOTAL OF \$9.00.

ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO:

5TH RCT ASSOC.

AND MAILED TO:

FRANK JENNINGS,

P.O. BOX 410337

MELBOURNE FL 32941.

Revisit tours to South Korea

I understand that there are a few seats available on a first come-first basis on the upcoming tour in late September 2014. This is a South Korean government special invitation for **Korean War Veterans**. This is the 61st anniversary of the Korean War commemoration.

If you are truly interested in taking this tour (travel + 12 days in Korea), contact me asap. I have all of the information about the tour.

Frank Jennings
Sec/Treas
5th RCT Assoc.

321-751-9103

QUARTERMASTER

QUARTERMASTER - FRANK JENNINGS
I HAVE ALL ITEMS IN STOCK, READY TO SHIP

ITEM	PRICE
1. 5TH RCT CAP, BLACK EMBROID, 5TH RCT KOREA	\$ 13.00 Discontinued
2. 5TH RCT CAP, BLACK WITH, 5TH RCT PATCH & DESIGNATED WITH KOREAN WAR VETERAN., 1950-1953	\$ 15.00
3. 5TH RCT SHIRT WITH COLLAR BLACK EMBROID, 5TH L & XL.....	\$ 25.00
10. 5TH RCT PATCH OVERSIZED RED WITH WHITE TRIM.....	\$ 4.00
11. 5TH RCT PATCH (ONLY) SAME AS ON CAP # 2	\$ 5.00
12. KOREAN WAR VET PATCH (LIKE HAT) 60TH ANNY NEW.....	\$ 5.00
13. 5TH RCT PATCH REPLICA OF HAT PIN	\$ 4.00
14. KOREAN WAR 60TH ANNY PIN., NEW	\$ 4.00
15. 5TH INFANTRY REGT CREST, SILVER.....	\$ 7.00
16. PURPLE HEART HAT PIN	\$ 4.00
17. PURPLE HEART LAPEL PIN	\$ 4.00
18. KOREAN WAR PIN (1 1/4")	\$ 4.00
19. CIB REGULATION SIZE 3". BRIGHT SILVER.....	\$ 5.00
20. CIB 2" SILVER	\$ 5.00
21. COMBAT ARTILLERY BADGE 3 REGULATION SIZE.....	\$ 5.00
22. COMBAT ARTILLERY BADGE 1 1/2".....	\$ 5.00
23. FIELD ARTILLERY, 1 1/4" CROSS CANNON, GLOD COLO	\$ 4.00
30. KOREAN WAR VETERAN (BLACK) LICENSE PLATE FRAME.....	\$ 4.00
35. PIN KEEPERS 10 PINS WITH ALLEN WRENCH PER BAG	\$ 6.00
60. MAGNETIC PLAQUE 8" X 4" SAME AS HAT PATCH	\$ 4.00

PLEASE ORDER WITH ITEM NUMBER AND ITEM NAME

PLEASE NOTE: PACKAGING AND POSTAGE COSTS ONLY

PATCHES, PINS, BADGES, \$1.50 TOTAL FOR ALL, 1 SHIRT \$ 3.00 1 CAP \$ 3.00

EACH ADDL SHIRT OR CAP, ADD \$ 1.00

PLEASE NOTE: MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FRANK JENNINGS

ANY QUESTIONS, CALL 321-751-9103

FRANK JENNINGS

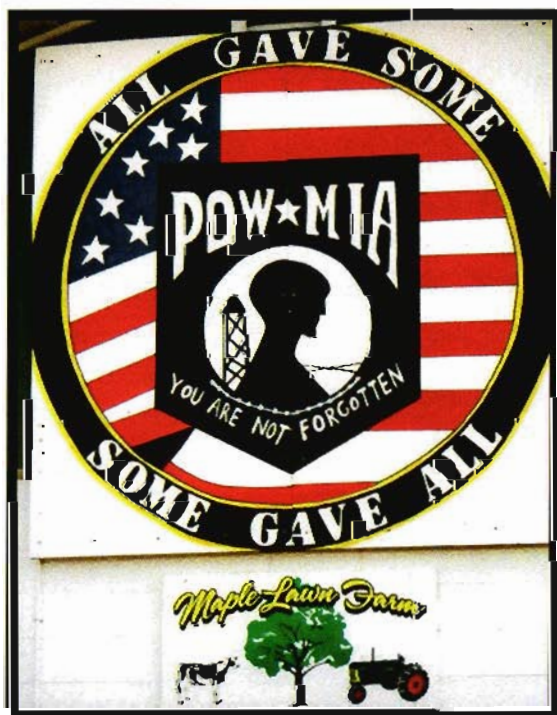
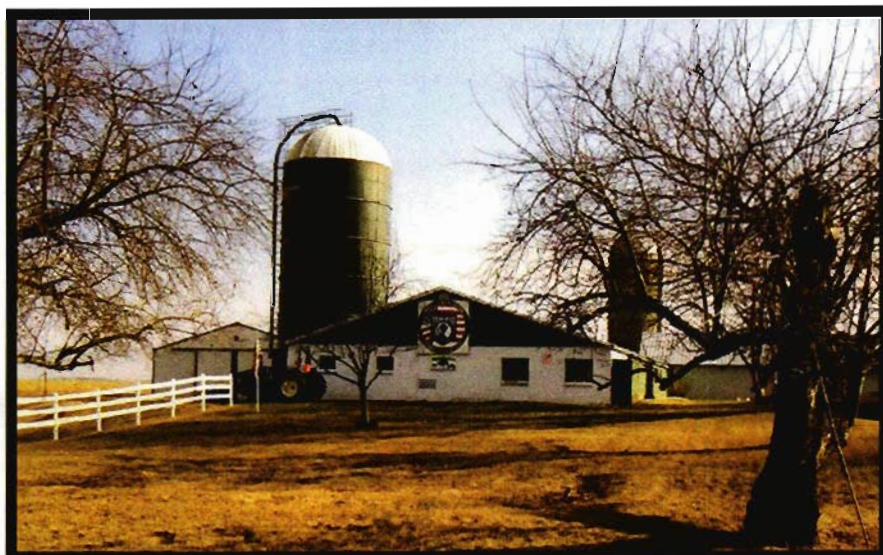
P.O. BOX 410337

MELBOURNE, FL 32941-0337



*****AUTO**ALL FOR ADC 328

357 S2 P8
TOM J THIEL
19147 PARK PLACE BLVD
EUSTIS FL 32736-7262



ON THIS PAGE ARE 2 PHOTOS
SENT TO US FROM VERNON BECKER
OF HOPKINTON IOWA, A FELLOW 5TH
RCT VETERAN. HE STATES THAT
THROUGHOUT THE STATE, PEOPLE
WHO ARE DRIVING THE HIGHWAYS
AND BYWAYS, ARE TREATED TO
LARGE BARN QUILTS PLACED ON
BUILDINGS OF MANY SHAPES
AND SIZES. MOST OF THE QUILTS ARE
OF TRADITIONAL QUILT DESIGN,
BUT WHEN HE DECIDED TO PLACE
ONE ON HIS BARN, HE WANTED
TO HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED,
DIED OR ARE MISSING IN ACTION. SO
IF YOU ARE EVER IN EASTERN IOWA,
SWING BY AND LOOK FOR THE QUILT
THAT VERNON MADE. HIS PLACE IS
OUTSIDE OF WORTHINGTON IOWA,
LOCATED IN EASTERN IOWA.
VERNON AND HIS BROTHER WERE
IN SOUTH KOREA ON A REVISIT TOUR
WHEN WE MET THEM.