



Funding Proposal

Korean War Educator Foundation
to the Korean War Veterans Association

June 23, 2003

FUNDING PROPOSAL

**Korean War Educator Foundation
to the Korean War Veterans Association**

Korean War Educator
c/o Lynnita Jean Brown
111 E. Houghton St., Tuscola, IL 61953

Submitted by
Lynnita Jean Brown
June 23, 2003

Visit our website at
www.koreanwar-educator.org

KWE Grant Proposal

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Introduction

In June of 2003, the Korean War Educator submitted a grant proposal to the Korean War Veterans Association, seeking funds to help support the KWE. If it were granted, the award amount was to be applied 100% toward the non-salary needs of the KWE Foundation. The grant proposal was rejected by the Finance Committee prior to the Executive Council meeting at the annual convention in July of 2003. The committee members who killed the proposal were Coonite Dot Schilling, Coonite Joe Pirrello, and Coonite Jim Jones. Also present in an “advisory” capacity at the meeting was Coonite Thomas Gregory. According to director Jim Ferris, the proposal was never brought before the council for comment or review after it was rejected by Harley Coon’s financial committee. KWE founder Lynnita Brown sent an e-mail message to Schilling on August 7, 2003, inquiring about the status of the proposal. Schilling replied that the KWVA secretary Howard Camp would be sending a letter about the KWVA’s decision. Brown did not hear from Camp or know about the rejection until September 5, 2003.

In April of 2004, Harley Coon used the fact that the Korean War Educator’s proposal was rejected to explain to members why Brown purportedly wrote and distributed a document entitled, “Recap of the Harley Coon Administration.” He said, “Lynnita Brown, representing the KWE, was turned down by the Finance Committee for a \$15,000 request to help finance the Web site that she maintains. Since then she has been very vindictive in her pursuit to maligned [sic] the Korean War Veterans Association with false accusations.”

In the most blatant, illegal electioneering tactic in the history of the KWVA, Coon used KWVA treasury money to distribute a “Special Bulletin” to every member of the KWVA after the Year 2004 election voting has already begun. Besides utilizing the bulletin to make negative comments about Brown, Coon also used it to urge KWVA members to vote for his Coonite slate of candidates. (See Election 2004 for further details.)

This page of the Korean War Educator includes the cover memorandum and grant proposal that was distributed to all members of the KWVA Executive Council in 2003. It also contains letters from two KWVA officials: Howard Camp and Dorothy Schilling, as well as KWVA Ad Hoc message board posts written by Lynnita Brown and other Ad Hoc members. The purpose of posting the grant proposal and auxiliary materials is to allow KWVA members an opportunity to review the rejected grant proposal in detail.

Remember when reading the proposal that the KWE made no request for salary money in the proposal abstract. Consequently, it stands to reason that the only persons who would

suffer from the rejection of the grant proposal were Korean War veterans themselves. There would have been no personal gain whatsoever for Lynnita Brown, the grant writer, if the Korean War Veterans Association had agreed to fund the website needs of the Korean War Educator.

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Cover Memorandum

Korean War Educator Grant Proposal to KWVA

June 24, 2003

MEMO TO: KWVA Board of Directors

FROM: Lynnita Brown, CEO, Korean War Educator

RE: Grant Proposal

Enclosed is a grant proposal, submitted to each board member of the Korean War Veterans Association on behalf of the Korean War Educator Foundation. The proposal asks for financial support to offset expenses for web work, printing, and general operating expenses.

The Korean War Educator was incorporated in Illinois less than three years ago. Since then, numerous veterans and volunteers have helped to create one of the world's largest Korean War-related websites. Thousands of visitors browse the site every year, including veterans, members of the news media, educators, authors, students, and the general public. As the popularity of the Korean War Educator mounts, so do the expenses associated with expanding the site to include the enormous amount of Korean War-related materials and memoirs being submitted almost daily by veterans and their families. Because the Korean War Educator Foundation has no membership base, the organization is entirely funded by private donations and grants. Although the Korean War Educator recently received a \$5,000 grant from the McCormick Tribune Foundation, those funds are nearly exhausted due to web work expenses.

I hope that each board member will review the proposal to fully understand the financial need of the Korean War Educator. In keeping with the stated purpose in the KWVA incorporation papers, it seems to me that the board of directors of the Korean War Veterans Association should be particularly interested in supporting the work of this organization. The Korean War Educator's website serves as a unique online memorial to our nation's Korean War veterans. Its many pages will continue to inform and educate the general public about the Korean War and its veterans long after the recent three years of commemorative events end.

If you have questions about the Korean War Educator that are not answered in the grant proposal, I would be happy to address them. I can be reached by mail, phone, or e-mail as indicated on this letterhead. Thank you for your consideration.

LB/lb

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Grant Proposal

Korean War Educator to KWVA

FUNDING PROPOSAL
*Korean War Educator Foundation
to the Korean War Veterans Association*

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ADDENDUM

990EZ short form tax return - 2001

990EZ short form tax return - 2002

Articles of Incorporation

Proof of tax exempt status

Sample invoices (web work & web hosting) Simplified Computers

Current advertisement, *Graybeards*

INTRODUCTION

This proposal from the Korean War Educator Foundation requests a grant from the Korean War Veterans Association in the amount of \$15,000 to make improvements to the Korean War Educator website and assist with general operating expenses that are not salary-related. An itemized list of specific expenditure needs is included in this proposal.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Korean War Educator came into existence as the direct result of a short-term exhibit held in a local history museum in 1996. That year, the Douglas County Museum in Tuscola, Illinois, planned and implemented a Korean War exhibit entitled, "The Korean War: Cold, Bloody, and Forgotten." Lynnita Brown, one of the founders of the Douglas County Museum and its volunteer administrator, is also the founder of the Korean War Educator. In 1996, she coordinated the Korean War exhibit in the Douglas County Museum.

In order to understand the war that had happened in her lifetime, but that she knew nothing about at the time, she began to interview Korean War veterans and Gold Star family members. During the exhibit months, she interviewed more than 100 Korean War veterans and Gold Star family members in full-length taped interviews.

The interviews conducted for the Douglas County Museum were with veterans who were in the geographic area of Illinois. The museum's tape recordings are currently being transcribed by a museum member and volunteer, as well as by an area library that is using some of the memoirs for a book about local veterans' memoirs.

When the Douglas County Museum's Korean War exhibit ended in December of 1996, exhibit themes changed and the staff moved on to other subjects of historic interest per the mission of the museum. After doing so many interviews with veterans, however, Mrs. Brown was convinced that the history of the Korean War needed more exposure to the public, and that the Korean War veterans themselves needed assistance to document their memoirs. While continuing her work with the Douglas County Museum, she wrote

a proposal for a national Korean War museum. She submitted the proposal to the Korean War Veterans Association in February of 1997, and in the fall of that year, the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library came into existence. For the next three years, Brown (then Lynnita Sommer), served as that organization's first elected national secretary, and performed a myriad of duties in that capacity until 1999.

That year, Brown left the Korean War Museum group, and became an independent researcher and oral historian on behalf of Korean War veterans. She receives neither salary nor reimbursement for the expenses that have been associated with her Korean War work. Mrs. Brown believes that the Korean War is not actually "the forgotten war" as so many people call it. Rather, it is "the unknown war" that people know nothing about because history books, and the veterans themselves, rarely discuss it. She wants the story of the Korean War and its veterans to be available for future generations.

In the year 2000, Mrs. Brown established the Korean War Educator Foundation in an effort to obtain funding for her very unique Korean War veterans' project. Mrs. Brown continues the interview process with veterans, but now works under the auspices of the federally-tax exempt Korean War Educator Foundation. She has interviewed some 400 plus Korean War veterans since she began her research, turning all the interviews which she conducted independently over to the Korean War Educator Foundation. She still does not draw a salary. All the work that she does for Korean War veterans is done out of appreciation and respect for them, and not for monetary gain. One hundred percent of all funds donated to the Korean War Educator goes to the foundation's work—most particularly its website, located at www.koreanwar-educator.org. The organization's expenditures are documented in its annual 990EZ tax forms, which can be found in the Addendum of this proposal. They are also publicly posted on the Korean War Educator website under "About Us."

MISSION

The purpose of the Korean War Educator Foundation is to establish and maintain a website on the World Wide Web that will disseminate information and materials to educate the general public about the Korean War. The Foundation mission also calls for the dissemination of similar materials to members of the general public who do not have access to the World Wide Web. The Foundation also locates Korean War veterans worldwide to obtain full-length interviews about their pre-military, military, and post-military experiences. The interviews are to be preserved and used for educational purposes.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Korean War Educator Foundation is actively pursuing the mission for which it was established, but it has not yet reached all of its goals. It accomplished one objective when its website was established. Since it opened in June of 2001, the Korean War Educator website has expanded from a few web pages to hundreds of web pages which educate the public about the Korean War. The Korean War Educator is already one of the world's largest Korean War-related websites, but with the proper funding, it will grow even larger. It is utilized regularly by Korean War veterans,

researchers and authors, the news media, educators and their students, and the public in general.

Most recently, the quality of the Korean War Educator website has been greatly improved by the creation of templates for uniformity and ease in changing and expanding existing text. Many new and informative web pages, as well as several veterans' memoirs, have also been added. These changes were made possible through a \$5,000 grant from the McCormick Tribune Foundation. The grant money was also used to place twelve half-page advertisements in *Graybeards*, as well as twelve advertisements in *Military* magazine. Thanks to the grant award, new brochures are also in production.

The website has given the Korean War Educator Foundation, and the Korean War itself, greater public exposure. But there are other objectives that must be met, including the following:

- Continue improvement of the quality of the website by modifying and transferring the text and photographs on the old site onto the new site
- Add new web pages and expand existing web pages
- Transcribe tape recorded interviews for posting on the website
- Print 10,000 new brochures
- Continue the interview process, making sure all branches of service and veterans from all three years of the war, plus DMZ veterans, are well-represented with oral histories
- Advertise in national military magazines in an effort to reach out to Korean War veterans who want to document their memoirs
- Create traveling educational programs for schools
- Publish interviews and factual materials about the Korean War in order for the non-computerized public to access the information
- Establish an Endowment Fund for the Korean War Educator Foundation to perpetuate its educational programs into the future

Sadly, government statistics show that 100,000 Korean War veterans die annually. Time is running out for these good and brave men to document their war memoirs so that they can be preserved for future generations. The Korean War Educator's oral history project is already one of the largest such projects in the world. It is unique because the interviews are full-length rather than episodic. In this high tech, computerized world, one of the best ways to reach large public audiences and the veterans themselves is through a website that is extremely professional in appearance.

PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

Naturally, not all of the objectives of the Korean War Educator Foundation can be met with a \$15,000 grant from the Korean War Veterans Association, but if that amount were to be awarded to the Korean War Educator Foundation, the money would be used in this manner:

- Three hundred and thirty two hours of web work at \$30.00 per hour = \$6,960.00
- Digital printing, 10,000 brochures (Dixon Graphics, Champaign, IL) = \$1,620.00
- New transcribing machine to transcribe veterans' memoirs = \$400.00
- General operating expenses as follows:
 - Twenty-four months of web hosting @ \$20.00 per month = \$480.00
 - Travel expenses to veterans' reunions to interview Korean War veterans and record their memoirs = \$3,000.00
 - Telephone expenses (one year) = \$336.00
 - Office supplies (ink, stamps, copy paper, envelopes, etc.) = \$2,000.00
 - Miscellaneous (small print jobs, scanning photos, etc.) = \$204.00

Explanation of Need:

The original webmaster for the Korean War Educator Foundation worked free of charge because he was a Korean War-era veteran. Julian Blagg was diagnosed with lung cancer last year, so he had to give up his computer work. The Korean War Educator Foundation then contracted web work to be done through the Simplified Computers company in Champaign, Illinois. The company's website designer, Ron Janowski, is very dedicated to the mission of the Korean War Educator because it not only pays tribute to that war's veterans, it also educates the public about the misunderstood and unknown war that his father served in back in the 1950s. The original webmaster, though also very dedicated to the Korean War Educator Foundation, was a novice at web work. Janowski is a professional in the field of computers. Through the use of new templates, he is making the Korean War Educator easier to navigate, as well as giving it a much more professional appearance. Old design features are being replaced with dynamic new ones. The bulk of McCormick Tribune Foundation's recent grant to the Korean War Educator went toward this vital web work. An invoice from Simplified Computers is included in the addendum of this proposal to show KWVA decision-makers the expense involved in web work.

New brochures are currently being designed by Ron Janowski, and 5,000 of them will soon be printed with McCormick Tribune grant money. However, these brochures will be widely distributed over the following summer months, so the Korean War Educator's supply of them will not last long.

Two years ago, a Korean War veteran in Brentwood, Tennessee, donated a used transcribing machine to Lynnita Brown. Brown's speed at the typewriter is 85 words per minute, and she is familiar with Korean War and military terms. However, because the used transcribing machine is very old and has seen a lot of use, the machine's foot pedal now sticks, interrupting the transcribing process. A portion of the KWVA grant money would be used to purchase a new transcribing machine to replace the faulty one currently being used to transcribe historic and insightful Korean War veterans' memoirs.

The remainder of the grant money would be used for general operating expenses. Since 1999, nearly all general operating money for Brown's independent work with veterans, as well as for the work she now does for the Korean War Educator Foundation, has been paid by her. As indicated on the 990EZ forms in the Addendum of this proposal, small

sums of money have been donated to the fledgling Korean War Educator Foundation over the past two years. However, the amount given has generally been immediately absorbed by the expense of web work. General operating expenses, whether to pay for the monthly phone bill for Brown's Internet line or to pay for her travel (by car), food, and motel expenses at veterans' reunions, are typically paid by Mrs. Brown personally. It is a costly expense that she has carried for the most part by herself because she so firmly believes that oral history and written memoirs are significant to the understanding of military history.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The board of directors of the Korean War Educator Foundation consists of Lynnita Jean Brown, 111 E. Houghton Street, Tuscola, IL 61953; Norma Jean Aldridge, 503 North Center Street, Tuscola, IL 61953; and Dennarda Kay Hubert, 710 West Oregon Street, Urbana, IL 61801. They are a mother and her two daughters, and all serve without compensation and in appreciation of Korean War veterans. Mrs. Hubert is an antiques expert and the owner of an historic bed and breakfast in Urbana. She is a certified court appraiser and a frequent public speaker on the subjects of costume jewelry, the restoration and renovation of residential and commercial properties, and antiques in general. Mrs. Aldridge is retired from a jewelry store business and is now the collections care manager of the historic artifacts owned by the Museum Association of Douglas County in Tuscola.

Mrs. Brown is the founder of the Korean War Educator, as well as its program administrator. She holds a Master's Degree (cum laude) from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL, and completed nearly all of the course work for a PhD from the University of Illinois. In 1991, her remaining PhD studies and exams were permanently interrupted due to a difficult pregnancy and the birth of her only child.

From 1988 until the present, Mrs. Brown has served as the volunteer administrator of the Douglas County Museum in Tuscola. There, she has been responsible for the daily operations of the museum, including grant writing, exhibit design and implementation, public outreach, and general administration. In addition to her volunteer work at the museum, she is a waitress. Her college/university activities and honors, as well as non-collegiate and Korean War-related activities and honors, are listed below.

Activities and Honors (college/university)

Eastern Illinois University: Phi Alpha Theta, national history honor society; Tassels (Mortarboard) honor society; Kappa Delta Pi, national educational honor society; Livingston C. Lord nominee (highest university honor); Ardath Louise Fogelsanger history scholarship recipient; Coleman Scholarship recipient (highest history department honor – paid Master's Degree full tuition and stipend); Social Science Writing Award—first place, 1985 (Anti-Semitism Under Hitler 1933-1939) and second place 1986 (Minorities in Interwar Poland). Parkland Community College: Alpha Omega scholastic honor society; contributor (peer-chosen) to Images '82, a publication of student writing, art and photography.

Activities and Honors (non-collegiate)

Co-founder, past president, and current museum administrator for the Museum Association of Douglas County. Charter member and past president, Douglas County Genealogical Society. Member of Tuscola Woman's Club. Past member, Board of Directors, Illinois State Genealogical Society. Treasurer, Douglas County Museum. Collector of

Douglas County, Illinois history and memorabilia. Collection includes over 6,000 photographs of scenes and people in the history of the county. Presenter of slide shows relating to these photographs. Public speaker and grant writer for the Douglas County Museum. Paper presenter at Illinois History Symposium, 1991. Recipient, 1993 Tuscolian of the Year award. Guest speaker, national convention, American Association for State and Local History, 1996, Nashville, TN. Guest speaker, Illinois History Teacher's Conference, 1999, Charleston, IL. State certified, Food Service Sanitation. Notary Public. Past surrogate parent, Illinois State Board of Education. Past regular and specialized foster parent for more than three dozen children, Catholic Social Service and Department of Children and Family Services. Past co-chair of Tuscola Christmas Bureau. Past Girl Scout leader. Organizer of the Tuscola Community Halloween Party for 15 years. Past secretary of the First Baptist Church, Tuscola.

Activities and honors (Korean War-related)

Creator, Korean War Educator Foundation. Text editor and assistant to the webmaster, Korean War Educator website. Grant-writer, Korean War Educator. Independent researcher, Korean War veterans (general) and Korean War combat Marines and Navy Corpsmen. Has conducted over 400 interviews with Korean War veterans in 3-9 hour sessions (interviews continue). Recipient of plaques of appreciation from the Imjin Chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association (1997) and the Charles Parlier Chapter of the KWVA (1997). Author of the original 44-page proposal for the founding of a national Korean War Museum. First elected National Secretary of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library, Tuscola, IL. Korean War Museum delegate to Korea, September 27-October 4, 1998. Author of 90 pages of the Korean War Museum's original 103-page website. Author of museum's formal Case for Support and Synopsis. Editor of the museum's first five newsletters. Associate member, Corporal Clair Goodblood Chapter, Korean War Veterans Association. Associate member, national Korean War Veterans Association.

Guest speaker (topic –Korean War): VFW District 17, Mattoon, IL; Tuscola Kiwanis Club; American Legion, Mattoon; 84th/62nd Engineer Construction Battalion reunion, Kissimmee, FL; Moultrie County Historical and Genealogical Society, Sullivan, IL; Retired Mail Carrier's Convention, Effingham, IL; Missouri Korean War Veterans Association Council, Columbia, MO; national convention, Korean War Veterans Association, Tyson's Corner, VA; Tuscola Memorial Day service, Tuscola; Nebraska Korean War Veterans Reunion, Grand Island, NE; Chapter 2, Korean War Veterans Association, Independence, MO; 44th Combat Engineer Construction Battalion, Tuscola; Missouri Korean War Veterans Rendezvous, Lake of the Ozarks, MO; Charles Parlier Chapter, KWVA, Decatur, IL; Atwood Lions Club, Atwood, IL; Piatt County Historical and Genealogical Society; Arthur Business & Professional Women's Club, Arthur, IL; H-3-5 Marine reunion, Indianapolis, IN; Missouri Korean War Veterans Rendezvous, Branson, MO; Tuscola Woman's Club, Tuscola; Coles County Historical Society annual banquet, Mattoon, IL; 728th Military Police Battalion, Tuscola; H-3-7 Marines, Branson, MO; USS Consolation reunion, Bloomington, MN; and West Chicago Museum and Library, West Chicago, IL.

Publications

Editor, Douglas County Museum newsletter, 1984-present. Past editor, Douglas County Genealogical Society newsletter. Technical insert in Illinois Heritage Association newsletter. Author, Illinois Farmers in Revolt: The Corn Belt Liberty League, Illinois Historical Journal, Vol. 88, No. 4, Winter 1995. Author, The Corn Belt Liberty League Takes A Stand Against Government, Illinois History Teacher, Vol. 3, No. 1, 1996. Numerous history features for the Tuscola Journal, Tuscola Review, Newman Independent, and Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette newspapers. Author of three family genealogy books. – Korean War Educator, visit our website at www.koreanwar-educator.org.

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Notification Letter

Howard Camp to Lynnita Brown

September 2, 2003

Korean War Educator
Lynnita Jean Brown
111 E. Houghton Street
Tuscola, IL 61953

Subject: Grant proposal

Dear Lynnita,

The lateness of this letter is entirely my forgetfulness. I had forgot that director Dorothy Schilling had asked me at Arlington VA to forward the Finance Committee decision onto you concerning your request for a grant from the Korean War Veterans Association.

So I accept the sole responsibility for this oversight.

The finance committee did not grant your request. The Korean War Veterans Association does give scholarships to those students who qualify under the guidelines that the association has set forth.

Sincerely,
Howard W. Camp
Secretary
Korean War Veterans Association

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Responses to Notification Letter

Marty O'Brien to the KWVA Ad Hoc

September 7, 2003

“Well now, if Howard Camp sent off a letter on behalf of Dot Schilling, Harley's appointee, and head of the budget/finance committee, informing Lynnita that the KWVA only gives educational grants, why then is this even being considered if that is KWVA policy?”

And, pray tell, why has national given tens of thousands to Korea 2000 Foundation in the past, and other monies to other "Goodwill" projects, all worthy, I'm sure, but not all for educational grants. Anybody know what KWVA's policy on grants is? And, oh by the way, Harley Coon & Vince Krepps are on KWM&L advisory board, may one or both can answer John's question. - Marty O'Brien, Augusta, Maine

Jim Ferris to Dot Schilling

Sept. 8, 2003

[KWE Note: Jim Ferris is a national director of the Korean War Veterans Association.]

“Dear Dotty: I have received many emails and phone calls from our members asking me certain questions that as a new member of the board and not having attended a meeting as of yet I cannot answer. Therefore, I need your assistance. Question number one: Who exactly other than you and Joe Pirrello are on the finance committee. When did the discussion on the grant proposal take place and exactly why was it turned down. In addition would you please detail the vote, i.e., who voted and how they voted. I would appreciate a more detailed explanation. Harley's explanation is too vague. I believe our members should have all the details whenever possible. Thank you.” - Jim Ferris. National Director Syracuse, New York, Central NY Chapter

Lynnita Brown to Jim Ferris – Sept. 8, 2003

Thanks for checking, Jim. I would like to know myself why the grant proposal for the Korean War Educator was turned down. Based on Camp's letter, Marty is right. Why could the Korea 2000 Foundation (Harley

Coon and other KWVA members serving on the advisory board), MACK (Ken Cook having a role in this group), the Korean War Museum (Coon and Cook both involved) and other non-profits get non-Educational Foundation grants from the KWVA, but the Korean War Educator can not? Of the three mentioned, the Korean War Educator is the only one that does not expend any money for salaries--100% of the money coming in to it goes to further the KWE's mission to educate the public about the Korean War. In the non-profit world, where shameful skimming of money for personal gain is common and rampant, that is an unheard of percentage. (Finally! There is one organization that is actually not ripping off Korean War veterans.) And yet, the KWVA turns its back on it. Very strange. -
Lynnita

John Kronenberger to the KWVA Ad Hoc

[The following message was written on Sept. 7, 2003, in response to a derogatory remark made by Harley Coon about Lynnita Brown's role as founder of what Coon identified as the "ill-fated Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library." At a future point in time, the KWE will be posting information on a new page called "Museum Watch." It will provide extensive information about the "KWVNM&L", as well as information about an ill-fated "national Korean War Museum" in Utah, and an extension of it now sanctioned by Harley Coon in Hawaii. In the meantime, the KWE advises all veterans to use extreme caution when approaching or being approached by any museum that seeks donations of artifacts or money.]

Kronenberger: "Some days when I read my e-mails I have a hard time trying to understand the meaning of them. One in particular was Harley's "Tell me what good will it do for the KWVA. Remember Lynnita is the one that started the ill fated L & M."

How can starting a well-intended project that was taken over by others cast blame on Lynnita? Her involvement in the Korean War Educator is for all interested parties in helping Korean War Veterans. Just the other day Lynnita asked Harley if he knew a P.O.W. who was in Camp 2. Harley answered her inquiry with what he knew.

Now to make no sense at all is why is the KWVA considering a donation of \$88,000.00 to the Museum and Library if Harley feels it is ill fated. Could it be that the Korean War Educator might cast a dark light on Harley Coon and his record? Or could it be that the Korean War Educator will not be censored like the KWVA newsletter, the Graybeards? It has been proven the Freedom of the Press showing both sides of issues can only solve problems and improve on matters of importance.

How can Lynnita be held responsible when she started something that has had little or no support from the KWVA and its members? This remark about Lynnita is coming from a person who claims he was at No-Gun-Ri, in the Chosin area, has 10 clusters on his Korean Service Medal and his United Nations Ribbon, made insulting and accusing remarks about a new Director and questioned the military record of a decorated member who lives in Florida.

I speak from my own personal experiences from Harley Coon accusing me of being kicked out of two Chapters (not true), putting out false and misleading information (also not true), threatened with expulsion from the KWVA and a legal suit on unfounded remarks.

I find Mr. Coon has shown he resorts to character assassination when he deals with members he disagrees with. In several cases several of our members were suspended under his leadership. This is a heck of a way to lead a Veterans Organization.

Mr. Coon's insinuating remark about Lynnita's association with the Museum and Library is insulting to say the least. All she was asking for is help and this is the reply she gets from Harley.

There can be no harmony in the KWVA as long as Harley Coon is in the position he is in because his remarks are not conducive to allow this to happen.

I will continue to support Lynnita Brown in any way I can for her intentions are honorable for the good of the Korean War Veterans. I hope you will do the same. We need to seek the truth even if it hurts.

Respectfully,
John Kronenberger
Life Member KWVA
Imjin Chapter # 95, Southern Illinois

Jim Ferris to Lynnita Brown

September 12, 2003

“Here are the answers to your questions about the finance committee and why your grant was turned down. I suggest you resubmit your grant prior to the fall meeting whenever that is going to be.”

Dot Schilling to Jim Ferris

[Unedited by the Korean War Educator]

From: dot1919@webtv.net (Dorothy Schilling)
To: reddogferris@att.net
Subject: Re: Grant request by Lynnita Jean Brown
Date: Fri, 12 Sep 2003 00:13:10 -0500 (CDT)

Hi Jim

I have been out of town for the last few days and just returned this evening. You can see by when this email is posted, it is after midnight here. But I did want to respond to you. I will try to answer your questions. The members of the finance committee are Joe Perriello, Jim Jones, and myself. The treasurer Tom Gregory is also present but is there as an advisory position and has no vote. We held our finance meeting the afternoon of the day before the board meeting with only those people in attendance. That is when we addressed Mrs. Brown's proposal. All three of us on the committee voted to turn down the proposal. I requested Tom Gregory to have our Sec Howard Camp to write Mrs. Brown with our decision. I even informed Mrs. Brown in an email that she would be hearing from him. When I found out this was not done I made a second request and then the letter was sent. The reason the request was turned down was we KWVA all ready a website. There was no other reason. She writes a beautiful proposal, very professional and every person on the ex. board at that time received a copy from Mrs. Brown. I personally would like to help in some small way perhaps with a donation towards the transcriber. At the present time I am going through some personal financial problems so I can't help right now. If I am put on the agenda at the midwinter meeting I will be happy to answer any questions. I will bring my copy of the proposal with me. Welcome to the board – Dot

Lynnita Brown Response to Jim Ferris

September 12, 2003

Do not insult me, Jim. I will not resubmit a grant proposal to the KWVA for a pittance of support when the Korean War Educator needs so much more help than crumbs. The KWVA received a reasonable request to support one of the world's finest Korean War-related websites. In its two years of existence, the Korean War Educator has done more to honor Korean War veterans and to educate the world about the Korean War than most other groups or individuals have done in five-plus decades. (And nobody lined their pockets in the process, either.) When I think that the KWVA spent \$300 for sponsorship of a ballteam in Harley's community, I seethe. The KWVA has its priorities WRONG, WRONG, WRONG!!!!

I'll take my waitress money and buy a transcribing machine for the Korean War Educator out of my own pocket. That will free up the Korean War Veterans Association's \$600,000-plus so it can concentrate on further sponsorship of baseball teams. - Lynnita Brown

Jake Feaster to KWVA Ad Hoc

September 12, 2003

Subject: RE: [KWVA-AD-HOC] Re: Grant request by Lynitta Jean Brown (fwd)

Ms Schilling stated below,

"The reason the request was turned down was we KWVA all ready a website. There was no other reason.[sic]"

Feaster response – "Have you visited the KWVA website [<http://www.kwva.org/>] lately? I wonder if any of the finance committee has visited it? Did they visit the Korean War Educator site [<http://www.koreanwar-educator.org/>] ? When was the last time the KWVA site updated [see sample of old information below]? I sent in a link to the Florida KWVA Memorial in Tallahassee, FL [<http://www.floridavets.org/memorials/korea.htm>] months ago and it is yet to be linked or the request responded to. The KWVA site leaves much to be desired in the way of information, a lot of "hit and miss," antiquated links, lack of depth; etc. This page [<http://www.kwva.org/Vetlinks.html>] has about 80 links randomly listed with no rhyme or reason! I could go on and on, but you go see for yourself. Does the webmaster contact/send out notices [Email & Graybeards] to the Department/Chapter Presidents to advertise the site and get updated information? Go to the two sites that were compared by the Finance Committee and see which one would be worthy of the support of KWVA for the proposal by Lynnita Brown! I'm not saying the KWVA site is not to be kept in lieu of the Korean War Educator site. They both have a place [providing they are current in the information they present and list the information in easy to access order]!

I would suggest that the Finance Committee reconsider Lynnita's proposal without further action on her part. I feel that their rejection of her proposal was done without sufficient review of the two websites in question. In fact, if anything was wrong with her proposal, it was TOO WELL WRITTEN! You know the old saying, "If it is too good to be true, it is." Maybe that is what happened in the minds of the Finance Committee. I will guarantee you that if the proposal was put on the ballot and all of the members had a chance to review the websites and the proposal, it would be overwhelmingly approved. I believe the Finance Committee's job is to recommend in terms of requests, guidelines, appropriateness and financial consideration.

'Nuff said! - Jake Feaster, President, FL Department, KWVA <http://dofkwva.tripod.com/>
JFeaster@att.net

Nick Pappas to the Ad Hoc

January 7, 2004

This is in response to the letter sent to the KWVA requesting a \$15,000 Grant to support the Korean War Educator Website. The attached answer is more "hogwash" from National. Especially the quotes; " The Finance Committee did not grant your request. The KWVA does GIVE scholarships to those students who QUALIFY under the guidelines that the Association has set forth." What has the above request have to do with scholarships?

First, the Finance Committee is ONLY an "advisory" committee, "not" decision-makers. That is the "sole" responsibility of the Executive Council!

Secondly, the KWVA has NO " guidelines" concerning student SCHOLARSHIPS. The KWVA College Educational Committee established in 1994 to provide scholarships to families of Korean War veterans was "replaced" by the Korean War Veterans Educational Grants Corporation in July 1996. A separate not for profit corporation, NOT "affiliated" with the KWVA, but the KWVA would continue to "contribute" \$1.00 of active membership dues to the KWVEGC to help fund scholarships (Oct/Dec 1996 Graybeards, page 38).

At the Nov. 14, 1998 Council Meeting; " A motion that the KWVA will DISCONTINUE their financial commitment in support of the KWVEGC after we have paid them funds owed and this RESOLUTION be put on the 1999 Election Ballot in the May/June Graybeards. a roll call vote was taken. Motion PASSED, Yes 9, No 3". (Jan/Feb 1999 Graybeards, page 5.).

The results of the "balloted" membership vote on the Education Resolution: Agree (yes) 380; Disagree (no) 166. The membership approved that the KWVA DISCONTINUE contributing to the KWVEGC scholarship fund. (Sept/Oct 1999 Graybeards, page 16).

Does the above information sound like the KWVA has GUIDELINES for awarding student scholarships? Wonder what the "guidelines" were for awarding a \$20,000 Grant to the U.S. Korea 2000 Foundation in 2002 and for the rejection of the Korean War Educator Grant request? Maybe National can answer the above questions.

Nick Pappas LM6509

Lynnita Brown to the Ad Hoc

January 7, 2004

“The problem I have with the KWVA Financial Committee's rejection of the Korean War Educator's grant proposal is not the rejection per se. I have written over \$200,000 in successful grants for the Douglas County Museum; \$10,000 in successful grants for the Korean War Museum in Tuscola; and one successful \$5,000 grant (so far!) for the Korean War Educator. I don't get all buzzed out when one of my grant proposals is

rejected. I do sometimes think (as in the case of the KWVA) that those rejecting the grant request are very narrow-minded and silly, but as a seasoned grant writer, I learned long ago that you "win some/lose some" in the world of the non-profit.

Here's what troubles me about the rejected grant proposal: (1) As Nick Pappas stated, the Financial Committee should not have been the authority that rejected the grant proposal. That should have been a council decision. (2) If the KWVA has a policy to only give money to an educational scholarship fund, what would explain the distribution of treasury money as "goodwill gifts" for non-scholarship-related funding requests? (3) Along that same vein, why would the KWVA turn down a grant proposal that requested funds to improve the quality of one of the world's largest Korean War-related websites, when it had earlier given away members' money to sponsor a baseball team in Harley Coon's local hometown area?

The President's Message in the most recent Graybeards said that I "attacked the KWVA" when the Korean War Educator's grant request was turned down by the Financial Committee. Get real, Harley. In the first place, I haven't "attacked the KWVA". What I *have* done is voice my opinion about its weaknesses, which stem from its extremely poor leadership. I strongly believe that the KWVA is systematically being destroyed by its illegal president, and by a whimpy council that will not stand up to that illegal president. To voice my opinion about Coon & Company is not the same thing as "attacking the KWVA." They are as different as chalk and cheese.

Furthermore, my outspoken opinions about Coon & Company were voiced long before I received Howard Camp's letter dated September 2, postmarked September 3, and not received here in Illinois until around September 5th or 6th. My first message on the Ad Hoc was posted in May of 2003. My first comments on KWVA-related issues were posted on August 7, nearly a month before I heard anything from the KWVA about the rejected grant proposal. So you see, Coon's most recent President's Message was just more of the same phony baloney that is continually being dished out to unsuspecting KWVA members by their phony baloney president. Coon wrote those comments about me for one purpose only, and that was to discredit me in the eyes of the members of the Korean War Veterans Association.”