

Temple recalls memories of the Korean Conflict



The United States sent about 90% of the troops that were sent to aid South Korea during the Korean Conflict between North and South Korea between 1950 and 1953. Results of the Korean War have left North Korea and the Republic of Korea (South Korea) divided to this day by the 38th parallel with South Korea remaining a free nation. North Korea is a remains a dictatorship.

The United Nations began five years before they played a role in sending military aid to South Korea.

LeRoy Temple, long-time Legion member of the Clark Post #60 is shown still fitting into his uniform that he was issued when he served in the Korean War in 1952 and 1953. Earlier this year Temple received his Korean War Medal.

To this day people of the Republic of Korea honor those brave veterans who served and sacrificed on their behalf. A reborn Korea is one that has risen from the rubble of war to be an economic world leader and a prized example of how freedom works.

LeRoy Temple of Clark is one of those brave veterans who served

in 1952 and 1953 in the U.S. Army among the 5,270,000 American troops sent to aid South Korea during the Korean War or Korean Conflict as it is sometimes called.

The above paragraph was taken from the book Korea Reborn - a grateful nation honors war veterans for 60 years of growth. This book was given to Temple along

with a 60th anniversary commemorative medal to mark 60 years since the signing of the armistice agreement that ended the fighting. In 1975, the Korean government established the Korean War Veterans revisit program whereas veterans could revisit the country whose transformation they helped create. Since their 60th anniversary, the government expanded the program to include grandchildren of the veterans. They pay all expenses and half the transportation cost for veterans to visit Korea for five days.

"I was on the boat coming home when it ended," stated Temple. "There were 1,500 men on the boat coming home. It was about a 15 day trip. I remember on the way there, there were about 2,500 of us on a boat and most everyone was sick. A lot of them half-scared too I think. There was very little sickness on the way back."

Temple served with the 45th Division. "We were on the front lines most of the time. Everything was going on at the 38th parallel - the division line between North and South Korea. We were on one side of a big valley and they were on the other. Our bunkers were all set up on top of a hill when we got there."

A bunker explained Temple was a barrier made with large logs stacked up with sandbags on top of them and sand and dirt shoveled on top of everything. "We had three peep holes through them - one looking forward and one on each side."

Temple carried an M1 rifle all of the time. "If I had it to do over again, I would have carried a carbine gun instead. They were lighter and easier to handle than the 30 caliber M1's. The M1's had eight rounds to be shot before a guy had to reload. I had a bayonet for my rifle, (a knife-like end for direct combat) but I never had to put

cannons, guns and grenades. "A grenade is what we usually threw down if we saw anybody coming. A grenade could kill up to a dozen men if in the right spot. They had five-eighths inch big squares of metal in them that would do a lot more damage than a rifle would. When they blew up, they spewed those metal pieces."

Temple stated that he was never really scared as he felt safe in the bunkers and had a good view to watch what was coming.

"The years 1950 and 1951 were bad over there in combat. Our time over there wasn't that bad I felt. We had a lot of incoming rounds but they didn't do that much damage. Hand to hand fighting was quite a little different from shooting back and forth."

"You could hear the cannon balls coming - they'd whistle," said Temple of the incoming cannon balls which were usually 105's or 155's. "We would get down on the ground or head for a bunker. When they landed, pieces would fly everywhere."

Temple reported thankfully that he didn't experience seeing a lot of his comrades fall. He did however witness one fellow who picked up a 'dud', a cannon ball that didn't explode on impact. It did explode when he picked it up however and it practically blew him in half said Temple.

The weather had a lot to do with the big guns accuracy continued Temple. "Damp and rainy conditions would make them fall short and clear, cool air would make them overshoot." The weather there was a lot like the seasons here he said of Korea.

Temple knew his comrades on a first name basis mainly with a lot of them having nicknames. 'Bud' was LeRoy's nickname which he has had for so many years, he can't remember where it originated.

The Americans fought alongside the Republic of Korea troops or ROK troops as they came to be called.

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Veterans Day is Friday, Nov. 11

Veterans Day is Friday, November 11. Take a moment to thank a Veteran for making the United States of America the greatest nation on earth. Or better yet, go to the school Veterans Day program of your choice.

The Clark School Veterans Day Program and Willow Lake School Veterans Day Program begin at 10:00 a.m. in the respective high school gyms.

mine on.

"The valley between us had turned into no man's land. All that was left were the bunkers on both sides of the hill. Theirs were pretty similar to ours and both were pretty safe to be in. Ours had two compartments to it, one we slept in.

"We worked four hours on and eight hours off, 24/7 around the clock. Someone had to be watching all the time. I was an observer, using a compass reading to determine where the returning fire should come from. If it crossed the lines, the returning fire would need to come from our left - the first battalion or the right - the third battalion.

"We were the middle - the second battalion. We had phones similar to walkie talkies to communicate back and forth. Our artillery unit was behind us. The 7th calvary was our backup unit."

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Temple graduated from Clark High School in 1948 and was farming with his parents southwest of Clark when he got his draft letter, four years later in 1952. After taking a test and receiving high marks, therefore assigned to his observer position, he went on to camp headquarters for instruction from the spotters on duty. His basic training was spent in Kentucky. His official discharge was on November 26, 1953.

After his return to the farm, he went on to meet Joyce Day at a dance at the Playhouse in Clark. The couple were married in September of 1957. Joyce was a teacher at the Darlington Country School at that time.

The couple farmed and eventually ended up on his folks' farm, the home place of Anton and Gladys Temple. They raised four children, twins, Brian and Bruce, Brad and Beth.

In approximately 1993, they retired and moved into Clark. Joyce also spent many years working for the Clark School system.

Their son Brian served in the National Guard as did their grandson Tony Temple. Their granddaughter Melissa's husband Matt

Temple
(continued on page 3)

WEATHER				
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer				
	HI	LO	PR	
Nov. 1	56	37	tr	
Nov. 2	61	42	0	
Nov. 3	65	36	0	
Nov. 4	69	36	0	
Nov. 5	72	38	0	
Nov. 6	72	38	0	
Nov. 7	60	35	0	
2016 precipitation to date	19.02			
2015 precipitation to date	20.61			



The 48th annual Clark Area Snow Queen Festival was held on Saturday, at the Clark High School gym.

From left are Senior Miss Congeniality, Michaela Flora; Senior second runner-up Alexis Lau; Senior first runner-up Lacey Waege; Senior Snow

Queen Jooce Nelson; Junior Snow Queen and Junior Miss Congeniality Saylor Burke and Madilyn Steen, Junior first runner-up.

Nelson and Burke will now represent Clark Area in competition in their respective Snow Queen Festivals in January, in Aberdeen.

Nelson is 2017 Snow Queen

▲ Burke crowned Junior Snow Queen

Jooce Nelson was crowned the 2017 Clark Area Snow Queen at Saturday night's 48th annual Snow Queen Festival. Retiring queen, Kathryn Paulson then passed on the crown to his year's winner. Nelson will represent the Clark area at the upcoming State Snow Queen Festival in January at Aberdeen.

Jooce is the daughter of Jill and Colin Gaddis. Michaela Flora

was crowned Miss Congeniality. First runner-up was Lacey Waege, daughter of Jennifer Waege and Cody Waege. The second runner-up was Alexis Lau, daughter of David and Wanda Lau.

Saylor Burke, daughter of Bobbi Jo and Ryan Burke was crowned Junior Snow Queen and Miss Congeniality by retiring queen Tavie Guzman. Burke will represent

the Clark area at the Junior Snow Queen Festival in January. The first runner-up to Junior Snow Queen Burke was Madilyn Steen, daughter of Jason and Kylie Steen.

The Mistress of Ceremonies for the night was Jessica Michalski and Gregg Stormo was the Mystery Snowperson. Sharon Stormo provided the piano music and Gus Carlson served as usher.

Crowned as Little Miss was McKinley Dunbar, daughter of Jimmy and Jill Dunbar. Little Master was Gavin Werdel, son of Tony and Angie Werdel. The entire program was coordinated by the Clarkettes and was sponsored by over 100 area businesses.

Snow Queen
(continued on page 3)

Clark City Council is close to a 2017 flat fee liquor license operator's agreement

The Clark City Council along with Mayor Larry Dreher has been working diligently with liquor establishments within the municipality to go from a percentage of sales system to a flat fee system for licensing purposes. It would be reviewed annually after the systematic change.

At Monday's November meeting of the city council, almost an hour was spent on this discussion with no formal motion forthcoming, but most numbers are in place for next month's final decision.

The motivation for the city to establish a flat fee system and do away with inventory documentation is a major change and after a somewhat heated beginning to the operator agreement's discussion, both sides wanted to come up with fair numbers to make this work.

This discussion with the liquor operators began last month at the October meeting and the city showed their ability to compromise by lowering the proposed licensing flat fees substantially.

By the end of the discussion, Mayor Dreher wanted to have firm numbers on the table, so that next month the final decision could be made, to be enacted beginning January 1, 2017.

The basis of the flat fee would be on the average of each businesses last five years. After the compromise, the license fee will be: Dakota Butcher, \$8,500; The Lookout and Sportsman's Bar, \$4,500 and Ken's, Dollar General and Clark Lanes, \$1,750.

The amount would come to \$22,750. The eight-year average is \$25,535. The consensus of the operators is that the numbers are on a downward spiral, but all could 'live'

with the numbers presented by the mayor to the council.

Said Mayor Dreher of these proposed flat fee numbers, "They are a little lower than I'd like them to be, but tolerable. We want to be fair to our establishments and it is important to look annually at these numbers.

As aforementioned, the council tabled the final decision. What needs to be ironed out, is how to handle the liquor license currently owned by Clark Lanes. The flat fee of \$1,750 proposed by the council would be a malt beverage license and therefore Clark Lanes wouldn't be able to serve hard liquor as they currently do.

If Clark Lanes was allowed a liquor license, equal to The Lookout and Sportsman's Bar, they would have to pay \$4,500. But, if they only average \$1,718 annually, it wouldn't make business sense.

The Clark Lanes question, as to what the fee should be and what license Clark Lanes will have, is what needs to be ironed out by the December meeting. As Sportsman's Bar owner Mike O'Neill stated, "This flat fee system can work, but we need, and I stress, everyone to be on a level playing field."

There are many variables involved with liquor licensing fees in Clark and Clark Lanes owner Mike Woodland brought up the fact that the city owns the golf course so they can use that license as they wish. The council, with their decision next month will need some type of seasonal, or monthly regulation as to what will be counted, it was determined. (For example, if the es-

City Council
(continued on page 3)