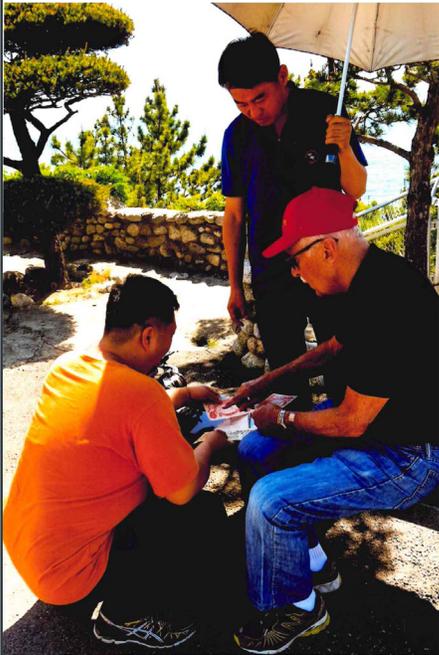


## THE KOREAN WAR REVISITED



My friend Bernie and I had just stepped out of the hotel into the smog filled air of Seoul, when he stopped to put on his red baseball cap with the U. S. Marine Corps logo on the front. As we started down the street, an older man came up to Bernie and said in perfect English, “Thank you. We wouldn’t be the country we are today without America’s help.”

This was the first of many times we heard

people express their gratitude for what we had done for their country so long ago. In 1951, just after he finished college, Bernie was sent to Korea. As a twenty-three year old Second Lieutenant in charge of a platoon of sixty men, he was assigned to an outpost on the front line. The Seoul he had seen fifty-four years earlier had been little more than rubble, so he was amazed to see before him a huge, modern city of glass and steel buildings and lots and lots of traffic.

The next day we were on our way to the East Coast to find that outpost on Hill #884. The air smelled fresh and clean, and the sun sparkled on the cobalt blue sea as we drove north to the DMZ the following morning. Our guide, Denny was very interested in the Korean War and pulled the van over when we saw the sign saying “Reunification Observatory”. We walked down a path that overlooked a wide crescent of glittering white sand ringed by waves making a scalloped pattern on the shore. It was a stunning sight marred only by the chain link fence topped with razor wire that lined the path and the cliffs surrounding the beach.

“We have to keep the North Koreans from invading us again,” Denny explained. While Reunification with the North was the national dream in the South, the memory of the invasion and fall of Seoul in June of 1950 was burned into the psyche of the country. It sounded counter intuitive, but it was the government in the North that the South Koreans feared, not the people. “You

need to see the monument to the Korean War,” Danny called, motioning to a white stone obelisk with statues of three soldiers standing in front of it. On either side stood a Korean flag and an American flag.

Just then a van with a television camera mounted on top pulled to a stop in front of the monument and three men jumped out. Seeing Bernie’s Marine Corps cap, one man went over to Denny and asked if Bernie had served in the Korean War. Denny nodded and then the producer asked if Bernie would say a few words for a television special on the War. Bernie agreed and the men scrambled to set up lights, a small stool and an umbrella. Bernie sat down and pulled out a map of Korea and showed the producer where he had been stationed. Then he told about his experiences in 1951. He was eloquent and precise as he described how the Marines traded fire with the North Korean and Chinese soldiers from their hill top outpost. “Then”, Bernie explained, “the next morning smoke from their cooking fires would rise above their villages, hidden in the trees.” Bernie had also brought with him a picture of himself with his men on that hill top. They were all really just boys, those young Marines. Last of all he pulled out some cards with Korean characters and frightening faces printed on them. American planes dropped them behind enemy lines in an attempt to encourage the North Koreans to come and surrender to the Americans. The television crew was delighted with all that Bernie had to offer and kept filming for almost an hour.

Then they asked me to speak. I had tried to stay in the background because this was Bernie’s moment, not mine. But he encouraged me, so I said that I had seen a large statue of the Buddha of Reunification the previous day and said a little prayer for the reunification of the good people of these two countries. Bernie had ended his segment with the same hope, and both Denny and the



TV crew seemed moved. The producer then told us that the program would be aired in June, which we later learned was “Reunification Month” in South Korea. The producer promised that he would email Bernie a copy. Shortly after we returned to California, he did receive a copy of the television program starring Second Lieutenant Bernard E. Egerter USMC.

*Jean Brenner*

# EVENTS

## HALF-FAST WALKERS PLAN TO WALK

Half Fast Walkers : Scheduled walks are suspended until further notice

## MOVIE

Manor House movies canceled until further notice

Exercise Videos available on Manor Website: cv8545.org  
Chair Exercise—Balance with Matt—Advanced Exercise



## **BOBCAT SIGHTING MARCH 25 6:27PM**

Just below the patio of 13-E...gender not determined, a fine specimen but no time for camera

## *Still Life*

*Carl Sandburg - 1878-1967*

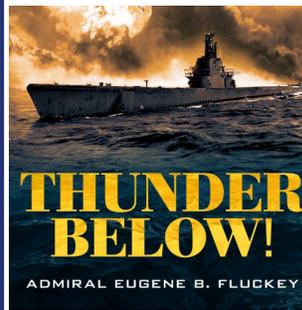
Cool your heels on the rail of an observation car.  
Let the engineer open her up for ninety miles an hour.  
Take in the prairie right and left, rolling land and new hay  
crops, swaths of new hay laid in the sun.  
A gray village flecks by and the horses hitched in front of  
the post-office never blink an eye.  
A barnyard and fifteen Holstein cows, dabs of white on a  
black wall map, never blink an eye.  
A signalman in a tower, the outpost of Kansas City, keeps  
his place at a window with the serenity of a bronze  
statue on a dark night when lovers pass whispering.

Visiting

## **“THE PLAGUE”**

(1947) by Albert Camus

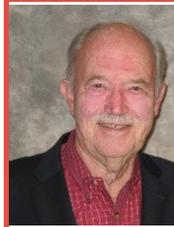
The world-wide Spanish influenza epidemic that began in 1918 killed about 50 million people, more than all the combined deaths in World War I. Camus writes: “No longer were there individual destinies; only a collective destiny, made of plague” and the emotions of exile and deprivation, fear and revolt...people returned to normal life with a clearer vision and deeper understanding of the precarious nature of human existence. “What we learn in time of pestilence is that there are more things to admire in men than to despise...By refusing to bow down to pestilence, they strive their utmost to be healers.”



In THUNDER BELOW, author Gene Fluckey tells in specific and exciting detail how he, as skipper of the submarine USS BARB, and his most capable crew did their missions in deployments in the Pacific in WW II around Japan and the Western

Pacific in support of the Allied objectives. Collectively the skipper and his team showed exemplary creativity, ingenuity, innovation, courage, team-work and trust in each other in superbly executed strategic and tactical moves that destroyed numerous Japanese logistic and fighting vessels, as well as significant shore production facilities. CDR Fluckey and his crew were highly praised by President Roosevelt, Fleet Admirals King and Nimitz, and many others for their unique accomplishments. Without question, THUNDER BELOW is one of the best WWII accounts that I’ve read; it is a most enjoyable “page-turner.”

*Al Crosby*



Al Crosby served 20 years as a Navy Supply Officer: 1 ½ years on a Navy destroyer, 5 ½ years on Admiral Rickover’s staff!! And 4 years teaching at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey.



## **DUST OF SNOW**

The way a crow  
Shook down on me  
The dust of snow  
From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart  
A change of mood  
And saved some part  
Of a day I had rued.

*Robert Frost, 1874-1963*

## **NEW/SOON-TO-BE RESIDENTS**

Sherry Morse  
Nancy Wright  
Jeffrey & Marilyn Riehl

James & Betty Kasson  
Martin (Marty) & Karen Wiskoff  
Sandy Storm

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

4/3	Carmen N.	4/11	Mel B.
4/3	Loie P.	4/12	Beverly C.
4/4	Clare R.	4/12	Sue F.
4/7	Jack F.	4/13	Roger N.
4/7	Ken R.	4/13	Deanna W.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

3/22 Kate Latimer



# LEARNING TO LIVE WITH COVID-19



**PUBLICATION STAFF**  
**ACCENTS** is published by and for the residents of  
 Carmel Valley Manor, a Life-Care Community at  
 8545 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel, CA 93923.

Editor: Janet McDaniel  
 janlaine@comcast.net

Publisher: Celina Manzanarez

Proofreader: Arden Hoppe

Photographers: Sheila Cooper  
 Kass Schwin

Contributors: Jean Brenner  
 Al Crosby

Information regarding the Manor can be obtained from  
[WWW.CVMANOR.COM](http://WWW.CVMANOR.COM)  
 or from the Director of Community Relations, Angie Machado  
 (831) 626-4867 or (800) 544-5546

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**