

"Optimist OPTICS" - continued



Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:

YMCA
Camp Carson



Conscience Money

Was collected from Ron, Mike, Dan, Bob, Colleen, Jeff, Ken, and Jim.

Buddy Prizes

Colleen and Jeff won!!

Speaker

Our own Dr. John Bender spoke and presented slides on his Korean War experiences. He thanked Jeff Olson and Gary and Mike Burk for help with his slides.

Dr. Bender was on a surgical team on Koje-do, an island off the southern coast of Korea where 150,000 POWs were held. Prisoners were transported about 60 miles from the mainland by LSTs made in America. He gained confidence as a surgeon by doing what was necessary. Tuberculosis spread to 5000 patients. Not just the lungs, but the kidneys were sometimes affected. Dr. Bender ended up performing 15-20 nephrectomies which would not have happened in civilian life. Many soldiers were saved when the drug streptomycin came along. Within 2 years following the Korean War, all sanitariums and leprosariums were emptied out since the drug was effective treatment for leprosy, too. Dr. Bender also performed skin grafting on tortured patients who were made to stand naked over a campfire.

When the island was deemed too dangerous, all registered nurses were sent away. Nurses more than doctors were at a premium during the war. Three Korean nurses remained and were shown in the slide presentation.

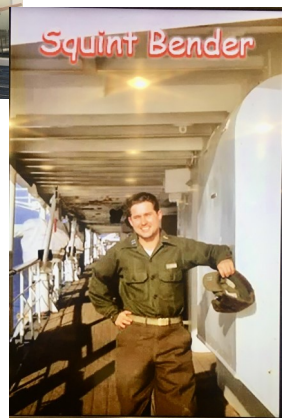
Other photos showed fellow surgeons and military personnel, Korean people at a marketplace and beautiful landscapes especially of mountains and the Taegu River. Dr. Bender's Cannon camera was from Japan and cost \$90 at the time.

Perhaps he can project more photos at a later date. Thank you Doc Bender!

Adjournment

1:06 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Olson



Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 11:45am
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Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.