

FALL 2023



A JOINT PUBLICATION OF THE SEABEE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION AND THE SEABEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ASSOCIATION

# SEABEE NEWS

## Seabee Celebration...Back Where it All Began

Each year, the Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF) and Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA) hold a Seabee Celebration to recognize outstanding Seabees and Seabee supporters. On September 23, the celebration took place at the Seabee Museum & Memorial Park (SMMP) in Davisville, Rhode Island, where the Seabees began. The event sponsors included Involve, ESPN, Blue Trident, Salem FIVE, and Commodore Builders.

We are deeply grateful to the SMMP team, including individuals like Joe Frigon, SMMP President, Tom Santos, SMMP VP, Jack Sprengel, SMMP Curator, and Dave Spears, SMMP Member, for their support. This dedicated group of Seabees and their "Can Do" volunteers have regularly organized



working parties to upgrade, operate, and maintain the Museum grounds.

Representing SMSA, Lou Cariello, the Chairman of the Board, presented three awards. The Can-Do Award, typically given to a corporation, foundation, or organization embodying the Seabee "CAN DO" Spirit, was presented to the Francis T. & Louise T. Nichols Foundation, which had generously supported SMSA since 2010. This foundation's contributions have exceeded \$250,000 over the years, benefiting students in the Northeast. Francis and Louise Nichols, parents of EOC William Thayer Nichols, a dedicated Seabee in the Naval Reserve, were instrumental in supporting the Scholarship Program.

*(continued on page 4)*

### WHAT'S INSIDE:

- From the Director ..... 2
- Seabee Celebration ..... 4
- Seabee Golf Recap ..... 6
- OktoBEEfests ..... 8
- Seabee Stories ..... 12
- Scholarships ..... 14
- Upcoming Events ..... 19



**2023 OktoBEEfest**  
*Check out all the event photos!*

Pages 8-11

SEABEE GOLF TOURNAMENTS were held from coast to coast throughout 2023 to raise funds for Seabee Scholarships. More on pages 6-7.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As we wrap up 2023, I continue to be excited about the people who worked this year to make the SMSA and SHF a success. So many volunteers gave significant time to one or both organizations to support our efforts and I want to recognize them.

**The Boards of each organization** - There are over 50 board members who take on the responsibility of overseeing these two nonprofit organizations. Many are involved in meetings weekly and even daily in some cases. The commitment of time and treasure is appreciated. We couldn't do it without them.

**Volunteers for events** - Between golf tournaments, reunions, OktoBEEFests and other events, there are over one thousand people who work throughout the year to organize and participate in events that benefit the SMSA and SHF. These volunteers make it possible for the events to be successful fundraisers for our cause.

**Seabees, spouses, and family members** - We are lucky to meet so many Seabees and their families at events throughout the year. At our Seabee Celebration at the Davisville Museum in September, there were two WWII Era Seabees who attended. It was an honor to meet them and recognize their service.

Looking forward to 2024, I am excited about the proposed merger between the SMSA and SHF. It's an exciting time for the Seabee community.

- Dan Miller



Dan Miller, SHF/SMSA Executive Director meets with a Seabee centenarian at the 2023 Seabee Celebration. More Celebration photos on pages 4-5.

# SEABEE NEWS

is a joint publication of the Seabee Historical Foundation and the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association



CEC/SEABEE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Honoring "Can Do" Service. Building Community for the Future.

PO Box 657, Gulfport, MS 39502

(228) 575-3858

info@seabeehf.org



SEABEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ASSOCIATION

Providing scholarships to children and grandchildren of Seabees.

P.O. Box 391

Springfield, VA 22150

(703) 690-7672

smsa@seabee.org

---

**FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMEN**


---


**KEVIN R. SLATES**

RDAM, CEC, USN (Ret)

 Chairman of the Board,  
Seabee Historical Foundation

In 2023, the Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF) achieved unprecedented milestones, thanks to donors and Seabee supporters. A remarkable \$105,000 was directed to the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum, the highest annual contribution since its establishment. This funding significantly backed the success of the "Read with a Seabee" children's program, STEM initiatives for local school children, internet services for Museum visitors, and the meticulous restoration of a stained-glass window from the original base chapel in Davisville, RI, now on display.

Collaborating with the Navy History and Heritage Command, a comprehensive exhibit plan is underway, with efforts to fund the first gallery of exhibits for OEF/OIF. Additionally, SHF continued its support for the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park in Davisville, contributing to the renovation of the recently reopened Chapel in the Pines for the second consecutive year.

For the first time, financial aid was extended to each Seabee Family Readiness Group, enhancing support for families during deployments and in homeport. The success of this program underscores its significance and the intent to sustain it.

SHF facilitated 21 OktoBEEfest events globally, bringing together over 1200 attendees, and the Seabee Celebration event, marking the Seabees' 81st Birthday, drew over 150 guests, including two WWII Seabees, at the Davisville, Rhode Island Seabee Museum and Memorial Park.

The boards of the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association and the Seabee Historical Foundation will vote at our December board meetings to merge into a single organization becoming the Navy Seabee Foundation. I'm excited about this opportunity to better serve the Seabee community and their families (past, present, and future). Thank you for your continuing support. Ooh-rah!


**LOUIS V. CARIELLO**

RDML, CEC, USN (Ret)

 Chairman of the Board,  
Seabee Memorial  
Scholarship Association

As we bid farewell to 2023, there's much to share and celebrate. This year stands as a record-breaker for scholarship awards, with an impressive \$564,300 granted for the 2023-24 academic year. This brings our cumulative scholarship awards to an astounding \$7.5 million since our inception in 1972, a testament to the unwavering support of donors like yourself.

Currently, we are privileged to support 190 scholarship recipients, each with a unique story encapsulating their dreams, ambitions, and the transformative impact a Seabee scholarship can have on their lives, as illuminated in their compelling applications.

Beyond the realm of scholarships, our focus this year extended to fostering camaraderie among Seabees through various events. In collaboration with the Seabee Historical Foundation, we organized golf tournaments,

OktoBEEfests, and the annual Seabee Celebration at the Davisville Seabee Museum. This year's celebration was particularly special, featuring the attendance of two WWII-era Seabees. Noteworthy awards were presented, including the "Everyday Hero Award" to SW1 Cayla N. George, the "Distinguished Scholar Award" to Courtney Santos, and the "SMSA Can Do Award" to the Francis T. & Louise T. Nichols Foundation.

On the horizon, the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA) and Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF) are progressing toward a merger. The upcoming December 2nd board meeting marks the final vote on merging these entities into the Navy Seabee Foundation, a strategic move aimed at better serving the Seabee Community. With anticipation, we look forward to the promises and possibilities that 2024 holds.



*(SEABEE CELEBRATION, continued from pg1)*

The SMSA Distinguished Scholar for 2023 was Courtney Santos, who had earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in moderate disabilities from Bridgewater State University. She also held a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Autism Spectrum Disorders from Arizona State University. Courtney was in her fifth year as a Special Education Teacher at the elementary level, expressing her passion for teaching and witnessing her students' growth.

Courtney's Seabee Sponsor was CM3 Tom Santos, SMMP Vice President, and SHF Board of Trustees. The SMSA Everyday Hero Award recognized Seabees who demonstrated outstanding performance beyond their regular duties. In 2023, the award was presented to SW1 Cayla N. George from NAVFAC EURAFCENT PWD Sigonella, Italy, for her exceptional bravery in saving a fellow sailor's life during a potential suicide attempt.

SW1 George couldn't attend the event but was presented with her award in person in November when she returned to Gulfport MS from her duties in Sigonella.

The SHF, represented by Kevin Slates, the Chairman of the Board, presented three awards, including the Montoya Award, given to Rear Admiral Robert (Bob) M. Gallen, a long-term supporter of the Foundation. Bob, a former trustee on the Board, was unfortunately recovering from surgery, and his brother, CAPT John Gallen, accepted the award on his behalf.

The Fighting Seabee Award went to CM1 Rodney H. Paris from Naval Special Warfare Group ONE, who had made outstanding contributions to mission operations, life support, and infrastructure upgrades

in support of missions in the Arabian Peninsula. CM1 Paris's achievements greatly enhanced the security and response time for forward-deployed forces.

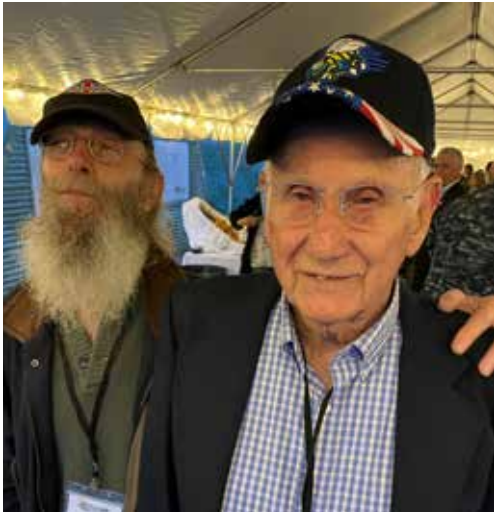
The RADM Lewis B. Combs Award, presented to the individual who contributed significantly to perpetuating the legacy of the Seabees and the Civil Engineer Corps, was awarded to LT Kody Price, an Ocean Engineering Graduate Student at the University of Rhode Island. LT Price's exceptional leadership and dedication were evident during his command of India Company and detail Tinian for NMCB FOUR, where he led various training programs and infrastructure improvement projects, leaving a lasting legacy for the Seabees and the Civil Engineer Corps.



**Fighting Seabee Award Recipient - CM1 Rodney H. Paris**



**RADM Lewis B. Combs Award Recipient - LT Kody Price**



**SMSA Distinguished Scholar Recipient - Courtney Santos**



**Everyday Hero Award Recipient - SW1 Cayla N. George**



**SMSA CAN DO AWARD**  
**Francis T. & Louise T. Nichols Foundation**

*Awarded to a corporation that makes a significant contribution to the SMSA Scholarship program.*

**SHF BEN MONTOYA AWARD**  
**Rear Admiral Robert (Bob) M. Gallen**

*The Montoya award is named after former SHF Chairman RADM Ben Montoya. It's awarded each year to an individual or company that makes a significant contribution to the Seabee Historical Foundation.*

**FIGHTING SEABEE AWARD**  
**CM1 Rodney H. Paris**

*Awarded to an enlisted Seabee that has made the most outstanding contribution in perpetuating the legacy of accomplishments and traditions of the Seabees past, present and future.*

**EVERYDAY HERO AWARD**  
**SW1 Cayla N. George**

*Awarded to a Seabee that has proven performance above and beyond normal routine, significant impact in the local community - on or off duty.*

**SMSA DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AWARD**  
**Courtney Santos**

*Awarded to an SMSA scholarship recipient who distinguishes themselves in their chosen field.*

**RADM LEWIS B. COMBS AWARD**  
**LT Kody Price**

*Awarded to the individual who has made the most outstanding contribution in perpetuating the legacy of the Seabees and the Civil Engineer Corps.*

# Swinging for a Good Cause: 2023 Seabee Golf Tournaments Support for Education and History

Beyond the well-manicured greens and competitive swings, the Seabee Golf Invitational tournaments carry a deeper purpose — supporting education and preserving the rich history of the Seabees. These tournaments not only bring together golf enthusiasts but also serve as a means to raise funds for scholarships benefiting the children and grandchildren of Seabees, while also contributing to the Seabee Historical Foundation. Here's a recap of the four tournaments held this year. To see more pictures from 2023 Golf, go to: <https://bit.ly/3sEXeHI>

## SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



The 7th Annual San Diego Seabee Golf Invitational kicked off as the first tournament of the year due to the rain postponement in D.C., on August 28 at the picturesque Fairbanks Ranch Country Club. With 112 golfers in attendance, the event showcased camaraderie and sportsmanship. Appreciation goes to the top sponsors – Pacific Coast Iron, Rossin Steel, Harper Construction, Moffatt & Nichol, W&W/AFCO Steel, Clark Construction, Hawthorne Cat, Milwaukee Tools, Hensel Phelps, Clyde Marion, and WSP. Save the date for next year: August 19, 2024, with registration opening in January.



**Join us next year  
Monday, Aug 19, 2024  
for San Diego Seabee Golf**

## WASHINGTON, D.C.



After the original June 12 date was a no go due to thunderstorms, the 2023 D.C. Seabee Golf Invitational was rescheduled on October 2 at the Springfield Golf and Country Club in Springfield, VA. This sold-out event saw 136 golfers in action. A special thanks to sponsors Fluor, Bechtel Nuclear and Environmental, Harry and Zoe Poole Foundation, HITT Contracting, DeWalt/Pronto, Planate, Chris Mossey, and WSP. Mark your calendars for June 12, 2024, and get ready to register in January for another exciting round.



**Join us next year  
Wednesday, June 12, 2024  
for D.C. Seabee Golf**

# VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA



The 9th Annual Virginia Beach Seabee Golf Invitational followed suit on October 12th at the Virginia Beach Golf Club, attracting 136 golfers for yet another sold-out tournament. Major sponsors ADS, Inc, Stantec, Michael Baker, Moffatt & Nichol, Skanska, Orion Marine Group, CAVU, and WSP were instrumental in the event's success. Anticipate the next invitational on October 10th, 2024, and ensure you register early in January.

**Join us next year  
Thursday, Oct 10, 2024  
for Virginia Beach Golf**



# GULF COAST, MISSISSIPPI



Closing out the year was the Gulf Coast Seabee Golf Invitational on November 8th at the Diamondhead Country Club. The event was a sellout and the weather couldn't have been better. Thanks to sponsors Huntington Ingalls, WastePro, New York Life, Harrison County Development, Oceanetics, and GCR. Prepare for the next edition on May 1st, 2024, with registration opening in January. The decision to coincide with the All-Seabee Reunion and Seabee Day adds a new layer of excitement and camaraderie to the event. Golfers and Seabee enthusiasts can now look forward to a weekend filled with golf, memories, and the unique spirit that defines Seabee gatherings.

**Join us next year  
Wednesday, May 1, 2024  
for Gulf Coast Seabee Golf**



# OktoBEEfest 2023: Uniting Seabees Worldwide in "Can Do" Camaraderie and Celebration

In its sixth year, OktoBEEfest continued its tradition of bringing Navy Seabees together in different geographic areas for camaraderie and networking. The annual event, a combined effort of the Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF), Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA), and the Seabee Veterans of America (SVA), has evolved beyond a fundraiser into a heartwarming "friend raiser," uniting Seabees, CEC officers, and their friends and families.

This year, OktoBEEfest spanned 21 locations, with eight of them being first-time event locations, each offering a unique experience to celebrate the Seabee spirit. Let's take a journey through the OktoBEEfest 2023 event calendar.



As the last notes of the OktoBEEfest 2023 journey played out, it was evident that the event had achieved its goal of uniting Seabees

across the globe. Each location brought its unique character, reminding us of the enduring strength of the Seabee community.

With the success of OktoBEEfest 2023, it's clear that the spirit of camaraderie and pride in Seabee heritage remains strong. We look forward to the promise of future OktoBEEfest events and adding even more locations. If you're interested in being part of this Seabee tradition, please email us at [info@seabee.org](mailto:info@seabee.org). Your involvement can help us expand our reach and celebrate the Seabee spirit in more places around the world. Can Do!

To see more pictures from 2023 OktoBEEfest events, scan the QR code, or go to: <https://bit.ly/3sEXeHI>







Jacksonville, NC



Ventura, CA



Cleveland, OH



Jacksonville, FL



**2023 LOCATIONS:**

Norfolk, VA  
Cleveland, OH  
Guam\*  
Ventura, CA

Rota, Spain\*  
Lubbock, TX\*  
Roanoke, VA\*  
Naples, Italy\*  
San Antonio, TX

Denver, CA  
Boston, MA  
Chicago, IL  
San Diego, CA  
Jacksonville, FL

Georgetown, KY\*  
Jacksonville, NC\*  
Port Orchard, WA  
Oahu, HI

Washington, D.C.  
Gulfport, MS  
Salt Lake City, UT\*

*\*first time location*



Salt Lake City



Boston



Guam



Roanoke, NC



Norfolk, VA



Cleveland, OH



Lubbock, TX



# Thank You, 2023 OktoBEEfest Sponsors!

PRESENTING SPONSORS:



SILVER SPONSORS:



BRONZE SPONSORS:

- AFE Group, Inc.  
Broaddus  
& Associates
- GM Hill Engineering  
Legacy Ale Works  
Levesque Household
- POND & Company  
RLM Government Services  
Sauer Construction
- Stanley Consultants  
Trudy Hoff and Team:  
RE/MAX Alliance
- Vietmeier Household  
Vintage Vibe

Seeking Sponsors for OktoBEEfest 2024 events. Email [info@seabee.org](mailto:info@seabee.org)

# Seabees Construct Facility as Part of Innovative Readiness Training Program

BOSWELL PA (Nov. 15, 2023) - Seabees assigned to Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit (CBMU) 202 partnered with the Air Force's 436th Civil Engineering Squadron in September and November to construct a cabin in Boswell, Pennsylvania for a local outdoor leadership non-profit organization, Outdoor Odyssey, as part of the Department of Defense's innovative readiness training (IRT) program.

The IRT program delivers hands-on training opportunities to military units to increase their deployment readiness while providing key services, like construction capabilities, to American communities. CBMU 202 began working on the cabin project in August and completed their participation this week. The construction project offered not only leadership opportunities to the Seabees but also helped refine their mission essential skills in a new environment.

The project required the skillsets of almost every Seabee rating to include builders, construction electricians, engineering aides, equipment operators and construction mechanics.

Engineering aids refined the layout of the building and surveyed the land while equipment operators and mechanics operated heavy machinery to excavate and grade the surrounding area so that the construction could begin. The builders used their skills of rough and finish framing, roofing, siding and finish carpentry, and the electricians wired the building from start to finish which includes both indoor and outdoor lights and outlets.

“Our Seabees were able to sharpen their skills for their specific rates, but this program has also given the crew the opportunity to teach and learn outside of their expertise so that each individual Seabee could broaden their skill set and strengthen the team,” said Builder 2nd Class Agnes Neal, a Seabee who participated in the project.

Outdoor Odyssey was founded in 1998 by retired United States Marine Corps Maj. Gen. T.S. Jones, with the primary mission to pair western Pennsylvania youth with a mentor to build



leadership skills, resiliency and teams. The program has since evolved and expanded to embrace a variety of organizations, including veterans, active duty, and the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

“I’m extremely proud of our team and their desire to better themselves through real-world construction tasking but also to contribute towards improving local communities through our service,” said Lt. Ensz, executive officer, CBMU 202. “We train to conduct missions where military construction and advanced general engineering support are needed in response to global contingencies, and this project gave us an opportunity to improve our readiness in an isolated location while building partnerships in our communities—that’s a win-win scenario for all involved.”

CBMU 202, is a subordinate command to Navy Expeditionary Combat Command, who mans, trains, equips, organizes and sustains their forces to bridge the gap from sea to shore and provide expeditionary capabilities in remote, complex and austere environments.

*STORY BY: Petty Officer 3rd Class Shanice McNulty  
Navy Expeditionary Combat Command*

# Reliving the WWII Seabee "Can Do!" Spirit

The annual Mid Atlantic Air Museum's "WWII Weekend" in Reading, PA, stands as the largest U.S. living history event dedicated to World War II. Now in its 32nd year, the event showcases over 1500 reenactors, 200 WWII vehicles, and 60 WWII aircraft, drawing an average of 30,000 attendees each year.

Among the participating reenactment groups, the "4th Naval Construction Battalion" is a longstanding and integral part. Founded by Tom Oehme, a former



The group engages and educates show visitors, many of whom are unfamiliar with the Seabees and their history. Through speaking, demonstrating, and exhibiting, they offer insights into the Seabees' mission. The group's display includes vintage WWII construction vehicles used for airfield and building construction, such as a 1944 D7 Bulldozer and a 1943 Caterpillar 2-12 Grader. Visitors can also enjoy hands-on experiences, climbing and sitting on some vehicles under supervision.

The 4th Naval Construction Battalion reenactment group provides an authentic representation of Seabee duties from WWII to the present, serving as an inspiration, particularly to veterans, embodying the "Can Do!" spirit. Save the date for the next event on June 7-9, 2024, at Reading Municipal Airport. More details at <https://www.maam.org/maamwwii.html>.

Seabee, the group accurately portrays a Pacific Island Seabee encampment. With members possessing practical skills as equipment operators, mechanics, and welders, they often assist other reenactment groups with fabrication and repairs in the field.




# SMSA Awards 54 Scholarships to Class of '27

After an extensive evaluation process, SMSA awarded 54 scholarships to incoming freshmen in June. They are the daughters, sons and grandchildren of Seabees and CEC officers who have or are currently serving around the world.

The class of 2026 hail from twenty-eight states and will attend two-year, four-year, community or career technical institutions. Their majors include accounting, engineering, business and

nursing. In addition to the freshmen, we have renewed 104 upper class scholarships. Through the generosity of our donors, we are pleased to award 161 scholarships this year valued at \$497,000. Awards range from \$1,100 to \$5,300 and can be applied to tuition, housing, textbooks and academic related fees. We are well on our way to reaching our goal of awarding over 200 scholarships a year by 2025.



“The Seabee Memorial Scholarship allows me to dedicate my time in college to learning and building connections to succeed after college; rather than, focusing on working and wondering how I am going to pay for my education. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for me and with the help of this scholarship I will truly be able to focus on my education and giving back to the community.”

- Zoe Hall (Radford University, Class of '27)

**ELLA ADDISON**  
St. Mary's College  
Library/Info Sciences  
UTC Mark A. Morris\*\*

**JAKE BAER**  
Christopher Newport Univ.  
Psychology  
CDR Bradley Baer\*

**CLAYTON BARTMAN**  
Iowa State University  
Mechanical Engineering  
BUC Chad Bartman\*

**EMILY BEERENS**  
Oakland University  
Communication  
EO2 Douglas Beerens\*\*

**MELODIE BERLIN**  
Univ. of Wisconsin River Falls  
Equine Science  
BU1 Dean Berlin\*

**ANNA BUONINCONTRO**  
Franciscan University  
Nursing  
CS3 Leonard Buonincontro\*\*

**JACOB BURKE**  
University of South Carolina  
Information Systems  
CDR Patrick Burke\*\*

**ERICA BURNS**  
University of Texas at Tyler  
Psychology  
EO1 John Burns\*\*

**KEEGAN BURRELL**  
University of Alabama  
Cybersecurity  
BUCS Gary Babel\*\*

**KINSLEY BUSH**  
Univ. of Wisconsin- Eau Claire  
Pre-Med with Biochemistry  
EQCM Michael Bush\*\*

**BENSON CAMPBELL**  
Utah State University  
Mechanical Engineering  
CDR Ross Campbell\*

**KAEA CHARFAUROS**  
Florida State University  
Biochemistry  
LCDR Jonathon Charfauros\*

**HALEY COGGINS**  
California State Univ Northridge  
Kinesiology  
CDR Chris Coggins\*

**KAYLEE COLLINS**  
Colorado School of Mines  
Biochemistry  
CM2 Gregory Collins\*\*

**ANNABELLE CRANDALL**  
West Virginia University  
Aerospace Engineering  
CM2 Michael Crandall \*\*

**SOFIA DE GUZMAN**  
Southwestern College  
Kinesiology  
CE1 Michael De Guzman\*

**RYAN DEBELLIS**  
Misericordia University  
Healthcare Administration  
BUCS Charles DeBellis\*

**ALEAH DINMORE**  
Stevens Institute of Technology  
Computer Science  
BUR3 Grant Dinmore\*\*

**JOSEPH DOHERTY**  
Providence College  
Economics-Business  
BUH3 Joseph Barry \*\*

**SHANE EDENS**  
Oklahoma State University  
Mechanical Engineer  
UTP2 Richard King\*\*

**PRESTON EDMONDS**  
Liberty University  
Sports Management  
EQCM David A.Preston, III\*\*

**ABAGAIL FELTHOUSEN**  
Abraham Baldwin  
Agricultural College  
Agricultural Education  
EOC Aaron Felthousen\*

**GRAYSON FERGUSON**  
Orangeburg-Calhoun  
Technical College  
Applied Science  
SW2 Jody Allen\*

**LANE FISHER**  
Michigan State University  
Computer Science, Cyber Security  
LT Stephen Fisher\*

**JENNA FITZSIMMONS**  
University of Delaware  
Undecided  
BUC Xavier F. Ruggiero\*\*

**KAITLIN FLAHERTY**  
University of Mass - Amherst  
Public Health  
SKC Stanley Herriott\*\*

**SARA GILL**  
Mississippi Gulf Coast  
Community College  
Elementary Education  
CM3 Otis Breland\*\*

**KENNEDY GUNN**  
Carlow University  
Data Analytics  
& Computer Science  
CMH3 Kenneth Gunn\*\*

**ZOE HALL**  
Radford University  
Leadership & Education  
CM1 Sean Hall\*

**ADELIA HAYES**  
Temple University Japan  
Political Science/  
International Affairs  
LCDR Andrew Hayes\*

**AIDAN HAYES**  
Univ. of Colorado - Boulder  
Aerospace Engineering  
LCDR Andrew Hayes\*

**KYNLI JONES**  
University of Oklahoma  
Pharmacy  
EO3 Floyd Stephen Allen\*\*


**JOSHUA KAMENITZER**  
University of Iowa  
Exercise Science  
SW2 Thomas Kamenitzer\*

**TYRUS KAMENITZER**  
Northeastern University  
Mechanical Engineering  
SW2 Thomas Kamenitzer\*

**NATHAN KEARNEY**  
Stonehill College  
Business  
UTP3 Albert D. Raymond\*\*

**CHRISTOPHER KIPP**  
Chico State University  
Agriculture Business  
EO2 Donald Harris\*\*

**MIRANDA LEE**  
North Carolina State University  
Chemistry  
EO2 Jackie Honeycutt\*\*



“With college tuition nearly doubling since the 1980s, scholarships are more and more popular today. The Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association helps me achieve my educational goals without the burden of overwhelming debt. Receiving the Seabee Memorial Scholarship not only helps me achieve my goals but also honors my father's service to our country. Thank you!”

- Lane Fisher (Michigan State University, Class of '27)



"The Seabee Memorial Scholarship is very beneficial to my education and future endeavors. My education is very important to me as I plan to attend Gannon for my undergraduate and go on to get my doctorate in psychology. This scholarship is helping me with my long-term goals – thank you!"

- Grace Parker (Gannon University, Class of '25)

CONGRATULATIONS



**KAYLYN LUPPINO**  
University of Virginia  
Biology  
SW1 Casey Luppino\*

**AVA MAYGINNES**  
Kansas State University  
Family & Consumer  
Sciences Education  
CE2 Terry Robins\*\*

**CARTER MAYGINNES**  
Manhattan Area  
Technical College  
HVAC Technician  
CE2 Terry Robins\*\*

**DELANEY MCCANN**  
University of Connecticut  
Medical Field  
CECS Joseph McKinnon\*\*

**GRACE PARKER**  
Gannon University  
Psychology  
CM2 John Parker\*\*

**ALYSSA PERKINS**  
University of Kentucky  
Finance  
BU3 Kurt Zumdick\*\*

**THOMAS PORTER**  
Texas A&M University  
Chemistry  
CDR Michael D. Porter, Sr.\*\*

**CHRISTOPHER RITCHIE**  
Univ. of TN at Chattanooga  
Civil Engineering  
CE3 Christopher Ritchie\*

**SOPHIA SCHMIT**  
Point Loma Nazarene Univ.  
Education  
EAS2 Robert Herder\*\*

**CHEYAN SMITH**  
Nova Southeastern  
Exercise & Sports Science  
CE2 Thomas Smith\*

**GRADY SMITH**  
Gannon University  
Physician Assistant Studies  
LT Douglas Smith\*

**PARKER STALLINGS**  
Western Kentucky University  
Professional Legal Studies &  
Philosophy  
CUCM Paul Hoffman\*\*

**KATHRYN SYCHRA**  
Quinnipiac University  
Health, Medicine & Society/  
Pre Med  
CEW2 Walter McNally\*\*

**BRYNN TARABOCHIA**  
Lower Columbia College  
Nursing  
CE2 Jeffrey Tarabochia\*

**HENRY WEINPEL**  
University of Mary  
Mechanical Engineering  
LTJG Dwight Smith\*\*

**NEVAEH WHEELER**  
Mississippi State University  
Psychology  
UT2 Jarred Jones\*

**ISAAC WHITE**  
Kansas State university  
Engineering  
BU1 Ryan White\*

**MARANDA WILSON**  
Eastern Illinois University  
Elementary Education  
CE2 William Hallam\*\*

\*Seabee Parent Sponsor

\*\*Seabee Grandparent Sponsor

**Know a high school  
senior graduating in  
2024? Scholarship  
Applications  
accepted online  
JAN 1-APR 21  
[www.seabee.org](http://www.seabee.org)**

**KATHERINE BELL**  
Purdue University  
Health Science/Pre-Med  
Seabee Sponsor: BU1 Clem Bell\*

**KATELYN CROCKETT**  
West Virginia University  
Electrical Engineering  
BMSN Daniel Crockett\*

**LARA FEDERSPIEL**  
Savannah College of  
Art and Design  
User Experience Design  
UT1 Jeff Federspiel\*

**CATHERINE HUDSON**  
Mississippi University for Women  
Speech Language Pathology  
CM3 Walter Hudson\*

**JOSHUA IRVIN**  
Northwestern University  
Computer Science & Linguistics  
SF2 Maurice Irvin\*\*

**LAUREN JOHNS**  
University of Florida - Animal  
Sciences  
EO2 Allen Johns III\*

**AARON KEATHLEY**  
Wayne State University - Economics  
SW3 Randall Keathley\*

**SARAH KEISER**  
Liberty University  
Computational Mathematics  
& Physics  
LCDR Robert Keiser\*

**BRIDGET KRAUSE**  
Arizona State University  
Conservation Biology/Ecology  
EO3 Thomas Krause\*

**JULIANNE MARQUART**  
California State University, Sacramento  
Criminal Justice  
UT1 Ronald Marquart\*

**ETHAN MOLL**  
Western Washington University  
Entertainment Entrepreneurship  
EQCM Alexander Moll\*

**KELSEY MORGAN**  
Northern Arizona University - Biology  
CE1 Douglas Morgan\*

**LUKE SARGENT**  
St. Olaf College - Trumpet Performance  
LT Twig Sargent\*

**GRAHAM SEILER**  
Indiana University  
Mathematics & Japanese  
EOC Scott Seiler\*

**ELIZABETH SHINGLETON**  
University of North Carolina - Chemistry  
BU1 David Shingleton\*

**CARLIE SIMMERS**  
Virginia Tech - Public Relations  
EO3 Arthur Morgan\*\*

**JAKE VORBURGER**  
University of Charleston  
Sports Business/Psychology/  
Exercise Physiology  
EO1 Michael Vorburger\*

# Have You Made Your Year-end Charitable Giving Plans?

It's a hectic time of year, but you need to make sure you have made your year-end charitable giving plans to take maximum advantage of any tax benefits you might receive. Here are some ways you might be able to save some money and help the charitable organizations of your choice.

**Donating Appreciated Stock** - With the rapidly changing economy and changes in the deductibility of cash gifts, donating appreciated stock may be a great strategy for some donors. When you purchase stock and hold it for years it may go up significantly in value. This is good for your investment, but when you sell the stock, you may be liable for taxes on the difference of what you paid and what the stock is worth now. If this is the case, donating the stock to a 501c3 charity may be a good strategy for you. By donating the stock at its current value, you may be able to deduct the full value without having to pay taxes on the growth. Of course, consult your tax advisor or attorney before making any large donation to see if it will benefit you and your unique situation.

Donating appreciated stock to the SMSA or SHF is easy. Do not sell it yourself, simply have your broker transfer it directly to our brokerage account and we will handle the sale and provide you with a letter stating the value of your donation.

**Donating directly from your IRA** - This could satisfy your yearly required minimum distribution (RMD.) IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions are excluded from gross income for federal income tax purposes on your IRS Form 1040. The gift counts toward your required minimum distribution for the year in which you made the gift. You could avoid a higher tax bracket that might otherwise result from adding an RMD to your income.

To qualify, you must be 70 ½ or older at the time of the gift. Distributions must be made directly from a traditional IRA account by your IRA administrator and gifts must be outright, meaning they go directly to a charity like the SMSA or SHF.

If you are interested in supporting the SMSA with a gift of stock or a direct donation from your IRA, contact Dan Miller, at danmiller@seabee.org or 859-327-1830.



*The information in this article is provided as general information and is not intended as legal or tax advice. For advice and assistance in specific cases, you should seek the advice of an attorney or other professional adviser.*

**Help Spread the Word! Seabee Scholarship Season Opens January 1, 2024!**

## Because You Served with the Seabees, They are Eligible.

Seabee Scholarships are awarded annually to children and grandchildren of military members who have served in a Naval Construction Force unit.

**Know a high school senior graduating in 2024?  
Scholarship Applications accepted online  
January 1-April 21, 2024!**



*\*Eligible sponsors are enlisted personnel with a Seabee rating, CEC officers, or others who have served or are serving in a Naval Construction Force unit. This includes members of other service branches assigned to a Seabee unit. Active duty, reserve, retired and honorably discharged Seabee children and grandchildren are eligible to apply.*



seabee.org







# SMSA STUDENT PROFILES



**JILLIAN RUDOLF '24**  
Oregon State University  
Major: Rangeland Sciences  
Seabee Sponsor: CM3 Alan Parks (Grandfather)

*Ever since I can remember, I have been involved with agriculture. Many of my childhood memories involve visiting my grandparents on the family ranch in Silver Lake,*

*Oregon. While deciding what I wanted to do with the rest of my life it was simple, agriculture. My grandfather has been my biggest supporter throughout not only my childhood but in my agricultural efforts as well. He has not only influenced me throughout my life but has impacted my career and college decisions as well. I chose a degree in Rangeland Sciences because I feel that it is a supremely well-rounded agricultural program. I take classes in Animal Science, Soils, and Crops, all of which are my passions. Understanding rural communities and agriculture gives you a broader perspective on the world.*



**CAIN CERVENKA '25**  
University of South Florida  
Major: Civil Engineering  
Seabee Sponsor: CDR Norman Cervenka (Grandfather)

*My grandfather, CDR Norman L Cervenka, was a great patriot and served our country for twenty years in the Navy. He had a strong influence as a veteran and an elder on my youth. His work in Civil Engineering speaks to me as an extension of his character: someone who dedicated everything he had to build and ensure a future for his family and the world. When I think of what I want to do, what my purpose is, I find myself thinking back on what I learned from him. My choice of Computer Engineering as my major and career simply couldn't have happened without the legacy of my grandfather. The assistance of this scholarship gives me a huge boost that I need for getting an education and is especially meaningful to me as another connection between the paths of my grandfather and me.*



**KAYLEE REHAK '26**  
Fairmont State University  
Major: Exercise Science  
Seabee Sponsor: BU2 Daniel Rehak (Father)

*I have always enjoyed caring for others, so a career in physical or occupational therapy will give me the opportunity to change the lives of others for the better. I dream of*

*being able to teach someone to walk whether it is for the first time or after a life-altering accident. After watching Pittsburgh Steelers Linebacker, Ryan Shazier, become paralyzed, doctors told him he had a 3% chance of walking again. I want to be one of the medical personnel that helps someone like Shazier beat the odds and get back on his or her feet and walking again. I want to help others overcome their physical challenges whether it be from an injury or another disability.*



**CLAYTON BARTMAN '27**  
Iowa State University  
Major: Mechanical Engineering  
Seabee Sponsor: BUC Chad Bartman (Father)

*Being able to honor my family members and the legacy of others who have served our country would be one of my greatest privileges. Not only do I strive to use my experience and education in college to help progress the automotive world, but I also aspire to coalesce my engineering skills with my passion for Christian servitude. I have a strong desire to become a part of Engineers Without Borders and serve communities around the world. With the love and discipline of my father throughout the years, I have learned the importance of hard work and helping others. I am inspired by my dad's work as a Seabee.*

# Veterans Day at the Navy Seabee Memorial



**All are welcome to future Wreath Laying Ceremonies. Mark your calendars for 2024 Wreath Laying Ceremonies happening on March 2 (to honor the Seabee Birthday), May 27 (Memorial Day) and November 11 (Veteran's Day)**

## SMSA and SHF Increase Charity Navigator Ratings

Charity Navigator is an independent service that provides donors with information on nonprofit transparency and finances. The Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA) and Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF) have been working over the past year to increase the Charity Navigator rating of each organization. Charity Navigator ranks organizations on a 1-4 Star ranking.

SMSA is now a Four-Star Charity and SHF is now a Three-Star Charity! Both organizations move up on step from last year's ranking. These rankings are for the whole year. You can find out more at [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org).



## SEABEE QUICK LINK



Wondering what Seabee events are coming up? Curious how to donate? Scan the link for more info!

[linktr.ee/seabees](https://linktr.ee/seabees)

# UPCOMING 2024 EVENTS



### SEABEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Monday, January 1 - application season opens online, [www.seabee.org](http://www.seabee.org)

### SEABEE BIRTHDAY WREATH LAYING

Saturday, March 2 - Seabee Memorial, Arlington, VA

### GULF COAST SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL

Wednesday, May 1 - Diamondhead, MS [www.seabeegolf.org](http://www.seabeegolf.org)

### GULFPORT ALL SEABEE REUNION

May 2-5 - Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront  
Pam Taylor 228-223-1762  
[seabeeepam@hotmail.com](mailto:seabeeepam@hotmail.com)  
Robert Smith 228-424-1185  
[smithrp1904@gmail.com](mailto:smithrp1904@gmail.com)

### GULFPORT SEABEE DAY

May 4 - NCBC Gulfport, MS

### UCT 50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

May 17-19 - Port Hueneme, CA  
CBCM(MDV) Adam Winters 805-982-2430  
[adam.s.winters.mil@us.navy.mil](mailto:adam.s.winters.mil@us.navy.mil)  
LT Tyler Anderson 805-982-3248  
[tyler.p.anderson12.mil@us.navy.mil](mailto:tyler.p.anderson12.mil@us.navy.mil)

### MCB-12 VIETNAM 1968-1969 REUNION

May 21-24 - Bath, ME  
Bob Williams 207-844-8142  
[mcb12vietnam@gmail.com](mailto:mcb12vietnam@gmail.com)

### SEABEE BIRTHDAY WREATH LAYING

Monday, May 27 - Seabee Memorial, Arlington, VA

### WASHINGTON, D.C. SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL

Wednesday, June 12- [www.seabeegolf.org](http://www.seabeegolf.org)

### SAN DIEGO SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL

Monday, August 19- [www.seabeegolf.org](http://www.seabeegolf.org)

### VA BEACH SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL

Thursday, October 10 - [www.seabeegolf.org](http://www.seabeegolf.org)

### CBMU 302 REUNION

October 10-12 - Branson, MO  
Peggie Vandenberg 509-520-5396  
[peggiev@pocketinet.com](mailto:peggiev@pocketinet.com)

### NMCB 4 REUNION

November 7-10 - Las Vegas, NV  
Jim Wilson 248-369-5129  
[jimlegendary@gmail.com](mailto:jimlegendary@gmail.com)

### VETERAN'S DAY WREATH LAYING

Monday, Nov 11 - Seabee Memorial, Arlington, VA

For more info about any of these events, go to [www.seabeehf.org/events](http://www.seabeehf.org/events)  
Have an event to add?  
Email us at [info@seabeehf.org](mailto:info@seabeehf.org)



## Save the Date to Celebrate!

### Saturday, Feb 24, 2024

- China Lake Seabee Ball

### Saturday, March 2, 2024

- Jacksonville Seabee Ball
- Blairsville, GA Seabee Ball
- Hampton Roads Seabee Ball - Virginia Beach, VA
- National Capital Region Seabee Ball - Arlington, VA
- Midwest Seabee Ball - Minneapolis, MN

### Friday, March 8, 2024

- Guam Seabee Ball

- NAVFAC NW - Poulsbo, WA

### Saturday, March 9, 2024

- Port Hueneme Seabee Ball - Ventura, CA
- Gulfport Seabee Ball - IP Casino Biloxi, MS

### Friday, March 15, 2024

- San Diego, CA Seabee Ball

### Saturday, March 16, 2024

- Rota, Spain Seabee Ball
- Jacksonville, FL Seabee Ball



# SEABEE NEWS

P.O. BOX 657  
GULFPORT, MS 39502-0657

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SPRINGFIELD, VA  
PERMIT NO. 209

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



MOVING? Email your new mailing address to [info@seabeehf.org](mailto:info@seabeehf.org).

## SEABEE SPOTLIGHT



MAJURO, MARSHALL ISLANDS (November 2023) -- U.S. Navy Sailors pose for a photo with students and faculty at Rita Elementary school in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, as part of Pacific Partnership 2024-1 Nov. 9, 2023. Pacific Partnership, now in its 19th iteration, is the largest multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster relief preparedness mission conducted in the Indo-Pacific and works to enhance regional interoperability and disaster response capabilities, increase security stability in the region, and foster new and enduring friendships. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Justin Ontiveros)