# SUMMER 2023



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

SEABEE NEWS

# Serving Seabees Past & Present

The Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF) is not just about Seabees of the past, but also supports Seabees currently serving. One new way the foundation aims to do this is with a new grant program for Seabee FRGs (Family Readiness Groups). It's quick, easy and impactful!

A Family Readiness Group (FRG) is a command-sponsored organization of family members associated with a particular unit within the United States Navy. They are an integral part of a support service network. Lasting friendships, the satisfaction of helping others and a sense of pride are all positive results of belonging to a strong FRG. When families of deployed service members know their resources, have fun and can draw on the strength of new friends, coping skills are enhanced and deployment anxiety is reduced. A group that works well promotes a team effort and brings out the best of this challenging lifestyle.

SHF reached out to the active Seabee battalion FRGs to provided monetary grants which could directly impact active-duty Seabee families. So far, grants have been given to the Family Readiness Groups of seven Seabee commands. SHF also plans to give to reserve battalions and other Seabee units in the future.

Upon receiving the grant, Jessie Bankston, NMCB 5 FRG President, couldn't be more grateful for the timing of the generous Visa gift card, "NMCB 5 Family Readiness Group works hard to support our battalion families when and where we can. Hosting events to

*(continued on page 8)* 



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WWII Seabee Story Prepping for D-Day, 1944 Pages 4-6 PORT HUENEME, CA - CECOS Basic Class 129, April 1973. <u>Back Row</u>: Bobby Humphreys, Dick Oksness, Rich Arfman, Gary Shorb, Bill Lewis, Quinn Quillinan, Tim Morton, Burns Whittaker. <u>Middle Row</u>: Rob Borchardt, Dan Hambrock, Howard Coogler, Paul Coderre, Barry Wittschen, Marcello Ranalli, Gary Gretencort, Jeri Rigoulot, Tom Ames. <u>Front Row</u>: Joel Reed, Karl Goedecke, Jay Shaw, Bill Sironen, Dale Johannesmeyer, Dave Davis, Don Patton, Pete Saunders, Steve Miller, Bob Fesler. (Read about their 50 year reunion on pages 12-13.)

#### • FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I recently received a note from a Seabee about his neighbor who was a Seabee during WWII and just celebrated his 101st birthday. It reminded me that 2023 and 2024 have many significant WWII anniversaries that will be celebrated with Seabees playing a part in many of these pivotal events. One of the missions of the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation is to help preserve and protect the history of the US Navy Seabees. One way we do that is by supporting the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum in Pt. Hueneme. The Museum tells the story of the Seabees from WWII to today and preserves important documents and artifacts that are part of the heritage of the men and women who served. The museum is free and worth visiting if you are in the area. To learn more, go to their website- https://www.history.navy.mil/ content/history/museums/seabee.html

Turning to today, the deadline just passed for applications for scholarships from the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association. This is an exciting time for the SMSA. We work all year raising funds for these scholarships and this is the time we get to distribute the scholarships to deserving children and grandchildren of Seabees. The applicants' stories are energizing. Their accomplishments are impressive. Their dreams are inspirational. I look forward to telling you more about the new recipients later in the year.

I want to say a big thank you to all the people, groups and companies that support the SMSA and SHF. We could not do what we do without your support.

This year is going to be an exciting time for both the SMSA and SHF. Please join us at one of our many events throughout the year! To find an event near you, go to https://seabeehf. org/events/

- Dan Miller







SHF & SMSA Board meetings were held in Gulfport, MS on March 11. Both boards voted to pursue a unification of the two organizations.

### **SEABEE NEWS** is a joint publication of the Seabee

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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

**KEVIN R. SLATES** RADM, CEC, USN (Ret) Chairman of the Board, Seabee Historical Foundation I hope that everyone had a chance to celebrate the Seabee birthday, and hopefully attend one of the many Seabee Balls and reunions around the country. First, I want to say THANK YOU to our great Vice Chairman, FORCM Chris Levesque (Ret), who left our Board after our March Board meeting. Chris served on the SHF Board for 6-years (five as the Vice Chairman). SHF accomplished a lot under Chris' watch and I for one am grateful for his leadership, candor, and absolute passion for our Seabees, Families, and our proud history. While Chris will be greatly missed, our new Vice Chairman, CMDCM Doug Heiner (Ret), has been on the Board for three years, and has already jumped into his new role and will no doubt continue to raise the bar.

Each year we've had more and more people attend an OktoBEEfest and have seen the number of locations continue to grow. In 2023 it looks like we'll be adding even more locations to the 14 we had last year. Our strong partnership with

#### See info on page 16.



SMSA has been great and we've got several joint events planned for this year, including our annual Seabee Celebration in Davisville, RI at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park on September 23rd. As always, please take a look at our website for a list of upcoming SHF/SMSA events along with a list of reunions and NSVA events that we are aware of.

It's an honor to serve as the Chairman of SHF along with the great leaders on our board and with our SMSA partners. I'm excited about the opportunity we have with SMSA to hopefully grow our two organizations into a single Seabee nonprofit in the future that supports the missions of both organizations that will allow us to better support Seabees and their families ... past, present and future.

Finally, I want to say thank you for your continuing support and commitment to both SHF and SMSA. It's all about the Seabees! Ooh-rah.



LOUIS V. CARIELLO RDML, CEC, USN (Ret) Chairman of the Board, Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association On the heels of our 81st Seabee anniversary celebrations, this is an exciting time of year for SMSA and our community. We are busy assessing scholarship applications for the continuing education support we will provide to the children and grand-children of Seabees this year. I want to thank the Scholarship Committee, led by FORCM Percy Trent (ret) for their ongoing work – and I want to add a special "Big BZ" to Beth Reuning who has (again) worked so hard to communicate and inform applicants along the way. Both Beth and Heather Deviney have done yeoman's work to significantly streamline our processes this year!

I want to highlight a couple of items from our annual SMSA Board meeting in March. First of all, we had the opportunity to recognize the contributions of members departing our Board this year. Our heartfelt thanks go out to and Dave Laib, Joe Hogan, Mike Traylor and Tom Luscher for their time, insights and contributions to SMSA the past few years. And an extra special note of recognition and thanks goes put to CMDCM Jim Farlay who served most loyally and with distinction with SMSA for over 15 years! On top of his many years in uniform, we are grateful for his consistent example and inspiration to us all!

Secondly, I am pleased to report a significant milestone reached for SMSA in March with our Board approving to stand up a Joint Task Force to explore unification with the Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF) to form a single nonprofit organization that supports Seabees and Seabee Families. There is a great deal of work in front us to execute a detailed plan of merger which is now being drafted and will need to be negotiated and voted on/approved by both boards to execute the action.

I will close here with a simple thank you in advance for the work we will do together in the coming weeks and months to take advantage of this golden opportunity we have now to further unify and enhance the pride we and the future generations have for our great Seabee community. All The Best, and Lead The Way... OohRahh!

# How Seabees Prepared a 6,000 Ship Armada, 1942-1944, for the Invasion of Normandy:

The 29th Naval Construction Battalion in the Amphibious Operation and the D-day Landing WRITTEN BY: SUZANNE POOL, daughter of Chief Warrant Officer James A, Pool

With the beginning of the World War II, the urgent need for a separate Naval construction force was recognized and was created under Rear Admiral Ben Moreell on 5 January 1942. Since he was looking for professionals, he expanded the age range for recruits up to 50 years old. These men would become known as "Seabees" from the initials of their motto, Construimus, Batuimus, "We Build, We Fight." By the end of the war 325,000 men had served as Seabees in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters.

Eager to join the fighting forces, James A. Pool, 42 years old, a former boxer, merchant marine and home builder, submitted his application on July 10, 1942, but wasn't sworn into the Navy until September 22, 1942 in Cincinnati. He reported for training at Norfolk, VA the next day. On November 8, 1942 a small article with his photo in his Naval uniform appeared in the Cincinnati Enquirer with the heading, "Builder in Navy," and stated that James A. Pool, designer and builder had been commissioned Warrant Officer for Great Britain and the second wave, consisting of 282 enlisted men and 14 officers, including Pool, departed on 8 December on the converted luxury liner RMS

"Eager to join the fighting forces, James A. Pool, 42 years old, a former boxer, merchant marine and home builder, submitted his application on July 10, 1942"

in the US Navy with the 29th Naval Construction Battalion and was stationed at Camp Bradford, Norfolk, VA.

After a month of training at Camp Bradford, the 29th NCB arrived at Davisville, R.I. The first wave of the battalion, consisting of 12 officers and 725 men, departed from New York harbor on 5 November 1942 Queen Mary. Refitted as a troop transport for the war, the massive ship carried 10,389 servicemen and 950 crew on this historic voyage to Scotland. Pool wrote in a letter to his wife that they had a "rough trip," one that he "never will forget." On 16 December they arrived at the port of Rosneath Bay on the Gare Loch, Scotland. Despite being a prize target for all German naval captains, by 1945 Queen Mary had transported over 765,000 mostly US troops across the Atlantic.

The first Seabee unit to arrive in Europe, the 29th battalion reorganized at Rosneath, Scotland--one of the four original lend-lease naval bases created for both British and American use. Known as "Base II," Rosneath was bordered by the deep-water Firth of Clyde and was just 40 miles from Glasgow. The historic castle of the Duchess of Argyll, built in 1860, became the base headquarters for US Naval commanders and the quarters for some of the officers. From 1943 through 1944, the base was the main receiving station for thousands of US soldiers and sailors, who then were transferred to various training areas in Great Britain to prepare for the invasion.

After his arrival at Rosneath, Pool spent about three weeks there before he was ordered to move.



The personnel of the 29th CB were distributed at various bases throughout the UK during their next 21 months of service, including Gare Loch, Finnart and Exeter in Scotland; Londonderry, Ireland; Penarth and Milford Haven, Wales; England—Appledore, and in Falmouth, Fowey, Plymouth, Dartmouth, Teignmouth, Salcombe, and St. Mawes, with headquarters in London, Exeter and Heathfield. In a letter Pool explained that he moved around so much because his company-- "D" --had 7 branches in all parts of the British Isles and he had a variety of jobs. Not only was he in charge of ordnance and the armory, he was often on sea duty for weeks at a time, directing and training crews of landing crafts, such as LCVPs and Rhino ferries. When he was ashore, his work involved overseeing construction of hangars and barracks, the installation of pipelines: "We have done a lot of pipeline work in parts of Scotland and built tank farms and pipelines on docks to pumping stations."

The construction of a fuel pipelines near Rosneath Bay area had been underway since 1942, but the challenges caused by the rugged terrain and ceaseless rainfall extended the difficult task started by civilian contractors. Within a year of their arrival in Britain, the 29th completed the pipeline and several other projects, including three pumping stations and fuel lines, three boiler houses, a 150foot pier with roads and services, 50 Quonset huts, a recreation building, and installation of antiaircraft 40-mm. and 20-mm.gun emplacements on many landing crafts and ships. During the year before the invasion, the 29th was deployed in southern England to prepare small vessels and landing craft for the invasion.

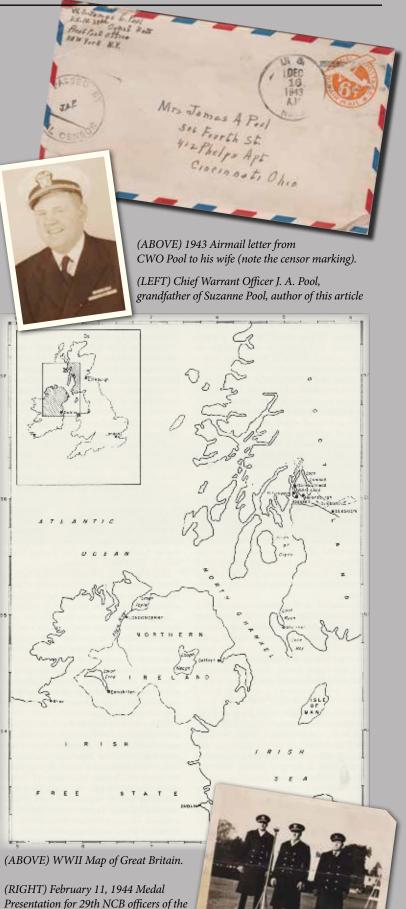
In the spring of 1942, the Germans had increased their attacks on Allied merchant marine ships and also began to target US naval ships with torpedoes from their U-boats (Unterseeboot,'under-sea-boat', or submarine). On 4 May 1943 Pool said: "I spent a big part of the day on a captured German sub." One US submarine "got 3 German ships and one sub." But until the Normandy invasion, German subs and E-boats (Schnellboot, or S-Boot ") still haunted the waters around the southern English coast and the Channel. There were many deaths during this pre-invasion period. Pool recalled sending the belongings of man in his company killed during training back to his family and attending the service in his honor.

"Important admirals of our Navy and British ones" would make visits to the military bases and training exercises, according to Pool. Three Admirals from London came "to give four of our boy's medals." The Seabees in Great Britain were under the command of Rear Admiral John Wilkes, Commander Landing Craft and Bases, Europe (COMLANCRABEU) who trained over 87, 000 men to sail, maintain and repair over 2500 ships and craft and to maintain five Advanced Amphibious Training Bases as well as numerous smaller bases.

In September of 1943 Pool and 50 enlisted men headed to Falmouth, a small town "with a lovely beach" on the southern coast. The next month he moved again, this time to St. Maws. He wrote: "I just came in on a landing barge and seas were so rough they came over the top.

battalion at Exter Base included (l-r)

Lt. D.E. Rogers, Lt. W.B. Norton and Chief Warrant Officer J. A. Pool.



<sup>(</sup>continued on page 6)

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"The first to arrive on the beaches of Normandy were the Seabees in thirtytwo Naval Combat Demolition Units (NCDUs) along with Army engineers."

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#### *(continued from page 5)*

We all got wet. I am living in a big English house when I'm ashore and have 4 officers in my room and 10 in the house. I'm the only Seabee officer on the base—all the rest are line officers. Have to go now for a chance to take a bath." When they returned from seaduty, they all needed baths to wash off the salt from getting drenched by the waves.

In the spring Pool and his men were moved to Plymouth, "one of the most bombed out cities in Britain." He remarked how it had changed since he was first there: "You never saw Americans, now you see them all over and the bays are full of American ships. I have been here over 2 years...some of the boys longer. Had a big raid last night which lasted 3 hours. I had just gotten undressed and ran to the air raid shelter in my bare feet."

In a letter of 3 April, 1944, he explained to his wife: "There is little I can tell you, because I am the censor. If I was caught, I'd never hear the end of it." Within two weeks he was on the move again to "right back where I started in Falmouth and will be here until the big show starts." He drove down in a jeep and was living in a hut on the beach with another junior officer because the town was overcrowded." The British

people couldn't help but notice the growing number of troops in southern England-- a jump from 8,000 American personnel in 1942 to over one million in 1944. In another letter Pool commented: "all are waiting for that D-Day which won't be long." His letter of 2 June indicated the big day was approaching: "This will be the last news for a while."

Meanwhile General Eisenhower and the SHAEF team at Southwick House had to decide whether or not to postpone D-Day. The critical call depended upon the weather-due to a possible storm and cloud cover, they did postpone the invasion from 5 June to 6 June. Operation Neptune's commander Admiral Ramsay's orders were "to see that the attacking forces arrive at the beaches in time, that their landings receive adequate support, and that thereafter the build-up of our forces on the mainland proceeds as rapidly and as well as possible." To accomplish this mission was an armada of over six thousand ships and smaller vessels to transport thousands of troops and their vehicles and equipment.

The pre-invasion departure schedules for the five fleets were very complicated, not only logistically, but in regards to proper timing of arrival on the five landing beaches in Normandy— Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. "Force U", the first to depart because Utah beach was the furthest, consisted of 12 separate convoys sailing from Belfast, Plymouth, Torquay, Weymouth and Dartmouth.

The first to arrive on the beaches of Normandy were the Seabees in thirty-two Naval Combat Demolition Units (NCDUs) along with Army engineers. They crossed the Channel in LSTs carrying smaller rubber crafts loaded with tons of explosives to blow the steel hedgehogs, clear mines and other beach obstacles. In the first light of day, the demolition teams came under intense German fire causing a great number of casualties but nevertheless were successful in their missions. Following the minesweepers, which cleared two shipping lanes for each of the five beaches, came the battleships which blasted the German bunker positions with their 14inch guns. Then came the Seabees of the 25th NC Regiment-the 111th CB at Omaha and the 28th and 81st at Utah-- bringing pontoon causeways onto the beach to be used by the landing infantry. More Seabees manned Higgins boats and Rhino ferries loaded with troops, jeeps, trucks and bulldozers. During the Channel- crossing, the Rhinos were towed by larger LSTs. In the rough seas the tow-lines would

suddenly jerk, causing the men to get knocked off their feet.

Pool later told how the men were wretchedly seasick during the crossing due to the peaking and plunging 8-to-10-foot waves. The anxious troops on the barges asked Pool to lead them in the "Our Father" prayer. When the LCIs and Rhino ferries approached Omaha Beach, German fire rained upon them so intensely that some of the coxswains tried to reverse their crafts off the beaches, but this created a traffic jam for the following wave. The barges which weren't destroyed or sunk made numerous trips back and forth bringing more troops and equipment to the beaches and returning with the dead and injured.

The Seabees were also responsible for the construction of offshore docks and harbors to facilitate the hundreds of vessels unloading tons of military material. They sank old cargo ships to form breakwaters called Gooseberries--and towed across the Channel huge concrete "Phoenixes" to form floating artificial harbors known as Mulberries. By 5 July the Seabees helped to bring to shore thousands of tons of vehicles and artillery as well as more than a million Allied soldiers.

Pool wrote to his wife in mid-July:



"We haven't stopped moving for the last month over water and land." He and 10 other men from the 29th NCB went to Omaha beach at the beginning of July, to assess the condition of the Cherbourg harbor. Seabees from the 25th Regiment then made repairs to restore the ports of Cherbourg and Le Havre, which had been heavily damaged by the retreating Germans. Within a month the harbors were fully functional. By the 21st Pool was staying in a hotel outside of Teignmouth, where the battalion assembled before departure from Britain.

The historical log of the 29th NCB shows that the battalion embarked on Queen Mary 4 September, 1944, arriving at New York harbor on Sept. 12, 1944". On 15 September, 1944 they arrived back at Davisville. After a 30 day leave the men of the 29th prepared for their next deployment-this time to Samar and Leyte in the Pacific where they would continue to "build and fight" to the end of the war. Pool finally returned home in July 1945 and continued to serve in the reserves for several years. The 29th NCB, one of the few units which served in both the Atlantic and Pacific campaigns, received a unit commendation from Admiral Harold Stark for "outstanding services in support of the Amphibious Assault on the continent of Europe".

# Seabees, We're Looking for <u>YOU</u>!

An important function of the Seabee Historical Foundation is to act as a clearing house for Seabees and CEC officers, past and present, and we need your help to make our listing as complete as possible.

We maintain a comprehensive database of 80,000+ names that is used to help connect Seabees and CEC officers and assist veterans and their family members with finding information about Seabees they served with or relatives who served.

We are continually searching for Seabee and CEC veterans of all eras to add to our database. This list is not made available for commercial purposes and information is released only to Seabees seeking other Seabees. To further protect your privacy, this list is not available online. We will respond to requests for information about specific individuals or units by email or in writing.

To provide the Foundation with your updated contact information, look for a lost service record, or to connect with Seabee units looking for lost members, scan the QR code with your smart phone.



seabeehf.org/resources/where-are-they-now/



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(SERVING SEABEES PAST & PRESENT, continued from page 1)

#### "Because of you, we could do! Thank you to the SHF for the donation to our FRG team."

- CAPT LaKeeva Gunderson, Commanding Officer, NMCB-3

help spouses build connections to our community during deployments and training is our purpose. We take pride in being a representation of the families and command. Often being the voice between the two. Donations keep our celebrations alive and fun. The overall well-being improves, and we become a family with each gathering. With this donation, we have funding for our reintegration cookout, beach day, and post deployment picnic!" NMCB 11 FRG in Gulfport, MS, plans to use their grant to purchase a pop-up canopy, portable projector and inflatable movie screen canopy for their group. "Instead of borrowing or renting these items, our FRG will now own our own items that can use used for years to come. We are so appreciative of this unexpected gift to our FRG. Thank you, Seabee Historical Foundation!" Commented Amanda Key, president of NMCB 11 FRG.

In Port Hueneme, CA, NMCB 3 used their grant to help fund their recent predeployment fair. When asked about the SHF grant, CAPT LaKeeva Gunderson, Commanding Officer of NMCB 3, had this to say, "Because of you, we could do! Thank you to the SHF for the donation to our FRG team. Your donations aided us in providing a successful pre-deployment fair for our sailors and our families. From raffles to activities, we would not have been as successful with this event if we did not have your support! Thank you!"





### Well Informed and Well Fed SHF & SMSA Host Lunch and Information Session for Senior Seabee Enlisted Advisory Group



(ABOVE, LEFT) CMCs enjoy a catered lunch provided by SHF/SMSA

(ABOVE) FORCE Chris Levesque (Ret.) briefs the group.

(LEFT) CMDCM Pam Taylor (ret) reconnects with old friends in attendance, including CMDCM Denise Demontagnac. Once a year, a meeting of SSEAG (Senior Seabee Enlisted Advisory Group) meets to discuss the current state of the active-duty Seabee community. The meeting includes all Seabee Command Master Chiefs and invited guests. This year the group met in Gulfport, MS May 16-18.

The Seabee Historical Foundation and Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association had the opportunity to attend one of the sessions to brief the group on what SHF and SMSA do for the Seabee community. FORCE Chris Levesque (Ret.) has been a SHF board member for the past 6 years and briefed the group on what the SHF and SMSA could offer their sailors both in and out of their time in service.

"Reaching this key group will have a direct effect for years to come. They speak to Seabees on a daily basis. Keeping them informed about our organizations is essential to continuing to educate and communicate about what the two Seabee organizations do," said SHF/SMSA Marketing Coordinator, Heather Deviney.

# Seabees Break Ground at Ghana School

NUTEKPOR, GHANA – U.S. Navy Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 Detail Gulf of Guinea and local leadership from the village of Nutekpor and South Tongu District, Ghana broke ground on a new three-room school house, March 23, 2023.

The new facility will replace the old elementary school in the village of Nutekpor, adding classroom space and improving student-toteacher ratios, increasing the overall quality instruction for underserved populations of Nutekpor, Ghana.

"We are very grateful for the gift of the school by the U.S. Navy and by the Seabees," says Mr. Benjamin Agbeyesu, an assemblyman representing the village of Nutekpor at the South Tongu District.

To conclude the ceremony, Lt. j.g. Quinn Parlier and Chief Utilitiesman Benjamin Waits were joined by Agbeyesu, Nutekpor Village Chief Torgbe Martin Agbenyadzi, Nutekpor Basic School Headmaster Johnson Amedzo, and one elementary student to break ground for the project.

After the project had officially begun, the people of Nutekpor then invited the Seabees to join a ceremonial dance and a game of soccer, along with food and drinks.

Doing construction projects alongside the Ghanaian Navy, Naval Training Command

(NAVTRAC) and in the village of Nutekpor, has proven to be an invaluable opportunity to practice general engineering in the Gulf of Guinea region of Africa and deepen partnerships working alongside Ghanaian allies.



### "We are very grateful for the gift of the school by the U.S. Navy and by the Seabees."

- Mr. Benjamin Agbeyesu, South Tongu District Assemblyman

The Seabees have been joined by Ghana Army, 48th Engineer Regiment and 8th Engineer Support Battalion (USMC) in construction of the Nutekpor Basic School. The new Nutekpor Basic School will be complete in June 2023.

NMCB 1 is forward deployed to execute construction, humanitarian assistance, and

theater security cooperation in the U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Sixth Fleet areas of operation in direct support of CTF 68.

22NCR provide command and control of Naval Construction Forces in U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command areas of responsibility in direct support of CTF 68.

CTF 68 headquartered in Rota, Spain, commands all Navy Expeditionary Forces in U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command areas of responsibility and is responsible for providing EOD operations, naval construction, expeditionary security, and theater security efforts in direct support of U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa and U.S. Sixth Fleet.

For over 80 years, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa (NAVEUR-NAVAF) has forged strategic relationships with allies and partners, leveraging a foundation of shared values to preserve security and stability.

Headquartered in Naples, Italy, NAVEUR-NAVAF operates U.S. naval forces in the U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) and U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) areas of responsibility. U.S. Sixth Fleet is permanently assigned to NAVEUR.

Story by Petty Officer 2nd Class Richard Pang Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1



### Seabees Clean Up Following Super Typhoon Mawar

In late May, Super Typhoon Mawar, Category 4, left a path of destruction across Guam and Tinian where Seabees are currently deployed. After the passing of Super Typhoon Mawar, NMCB 5 Seabees in Guam and Tinian were safe and eager to get back to work. Seabees are always standing by to lend support crucial disaster relief efforts. (*Photos by BU2 Dakota Fin*)





### NMCB 11 Receives Safety Award

NATIONAL HARBOR, Md., - The Navy League of the United States presented the 2022 Admiral Vern Clark Safety award to Lt. Cmdr. Steve Moyer, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11's executive officer, during the Navy League's 2023 Sea-Air-Space Exposition in National Harbor, Md., April 4, 2023. Moyer accepted the award on behalf of the entirety of NMCB 11, which is the first Seabee battalion to earn this distinction.

The Navy League distributes the award annually to recognize individuals, units and organizations in the Navy and Marine Corps that advance a culture of safety and innovation in reducing workplace mishaps and fatalities.

"The importance of safety is to keep our battalion ready and capable to fight at all times", said Chief Builder Matthew Speece, who is currently in charge of NMCB 11's safety programs. "Our people are our greatest resource." Additional safety awards were given to Chief Construction Electrician Brian Neilsen in Port Hueneme, California, Marine Corps Installations, Pacific, in Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan, and Mr. Michael A. James, in Quantico, Va.

NMCB 11, assigned to Naval Construction Group TWO, is homeported in Gulfport, Ms., as part of the Naval Construction Force (NCF). The NCF is a vital component in U.S. Maritime Strategy and is comprised of deployable battalions capable of providing contingency construction, disaster preparation and recovery support, humanitarian assistance, and combat operations support for regional partners and combatant commanders.

Story by Petty Officer 2nd Class James Hong, NMCB 11



# Reunions Help to Keep Seabee Memories Alive



PIGEON FORGE, TN - NMCB 24 has been fortunate to have had a large number of Vietnam War Seabees in their Reserve Battalion over the years. This year, saw eleven Vietnam Seabees attend the reunion, including Danny Mcdowelll, David Long, Jim Farley, Roger Flinn, Jim Arnold, James Anderson, Allen Garver, John Tilley, Buddy Collins, Dan Scheidel, and Jerry Jones. Photo by Ronald Oneal Beard



GULFPORT, MS - During the Gulfport All Seabee Reunion, held April 27-30, attendees had the chance gather for a crawfish boil and visit the National WWII Museum in New Orleans.



Master Chief Robert Stroop, World War II veteran, attended the 2023 Island X-24 reunion in Pigeon Forge.

It is impossible to describe the bonds that are created from brothers and sisters serving in the military, especially those that have gone to war together. Those who have not served or have not been in a family that has served, will never be able to understand. Reunions keep alive the memories and share them from one generation to the next. We accomplish this by setting aside one week each year to come together and renew our friendships, travel, share a meal, and tell our stories again.

From the Gulf Coast to the Smokey Mountains, Seabees come together to reminisce with fellow service members. Here are some of the remaining reunions for 2023:

- Aug 12 All Seabee Reunion Picnic, Kodak, TN
- Aug 15-19 NSVA National Convention, San Antonio, TX
- Sep 14-17 NMCB 62 Reunion, Harpers Ferry, WV
- Sep 14-17 MCB 7 All-ERA Reunion Assn. Nashville, TN
- Sep 22-29 MCB1 Swarm/Reunion, Davisville, RI
- Sep 23 SEABEE CELEBRATION, Davisville, RI
- Sep 28-30 CBMU 302 Reunion, Boise, ID
- Oct 6-8 NMCB 23 CPOAA Decomm/All Era Reunion D.C.
- Oct 7 NMCB 16 Reunion Picnic, Arcadia, CA
- Oct 19-22 NMCB 3 Veterans Reunion, Nashville, TN
- Oct 22-26 East Coast All Seabee Reunion, Pigeon Forge, TN

More details about these Seabee Reunions can be found online at www.seabeehf.org/2023-reunions. If you know of a reunion group or event that is not listed, please contact us at (228) 575-3858 or by emailing the Seabee Historical Foundation at info@seabeehf.org.



### Quilts for Veterans

For the last three years, thanks to the support of Mrs. Fran Randolph with the Quilts of Valor Foundation, the QOV has presented quilts to several of Island X-24 veterans.

This year's Quilts of Valor recipients being presented with their quilts include: (L-R), Fran Randolph with QOV, Otis Graham, Mary Phillips, Jim Farley, Danny Cole, Jeff Anders, Cliff Cook, and Elizabeth Mulkey with QOV.



### Back to Class Fifty Year Reunion of CECOS Basic Class #129

BY: CAPT PETE SAUNDERS, (RET.)

On 19 April 2023, 11 members of CECOS Basic Class 129 gathered at Naval Base Ventura County in Port Hueneme, CA to hold a reunion marking the 50th Anniversary of their graduation from the NAVAL SCHOOL CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS OFFICERS (CECOS).

In early 1973, 28 newly designated Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) officers reported for eight weeks of duty at CECOS to learn what they would need to know to succeed in their first assignments as CEC officers. Basic Class 129 included one LT, one LTJG and 26 Ensigns. Two had graduated from the Naval Academy, seven from ROTC programs and 19 were recently commissioned out of Officer Candidate School (OCS). One class member – ENS Jeri Rigoulot – our class's only architect, had the distinction of being the first active duty woman CEC officer since the end of WWII.

CECOS Basic Class instruction at the time was divided into two phases of four weeks each. The entire class took the first four-week "Basic Class" together, covering those common Navy and CEC topics that all newly accessed CEC officers needed. During the second four weeks, the class was divided into three "pipeline" courses targeting each officer's first duty assignment: public works administration, contracts management or SEABEEs. After completion of the specialty courses, all students were recognized in a formal graduation ceremony on 27 April 1973. Most of the class detached at that time and headed off to their first duty stations, but those with orders to Seabee battalions,



Back Row: Rob Borchardt, Bill Lewis, Dan Hambrock, Gary Gretencort, Bob Fesler, Tim Morton. Front row: Steve Miller, Burns Whittaker, Dale Johannesmeyer, Tom Ames, Pete Saunders.

where they would be supervising enlisted Seabees, stayed on for one additional week to complete a basic military justice course.

Even after heading off across the country and around the world following CECOS, most Basic Class 129 members remained friends with other classmates over the years – while on active duty and afterwards, and even on into retirement. When a small cadre of class members began talking about a 50th reunion a year ago, we were able to locate and reconnect with 22 of our original 28 classmates. Unfortunately, we discovered that one classmate had already passed away, some had unavoidable conflicts and two others were too ill to travel and would not be able to attend the reunion.

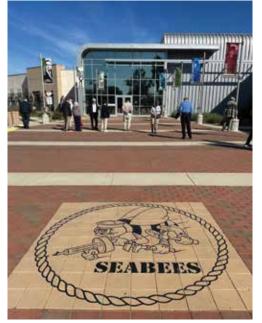
Nevertheless, we take collective pride in knowing that our classmates were successful both in and out of uniform, with 12 members completing Active Duty or Reserve Component careers, (including one in the US Public Health Service). While we are proud that 6 classmates were promoted to Captain, 4 to Commander, and 2 to Lieutenant Commander, we are prouder still that many were selected for command billets, including NAVFAC Southern Division, the



Eight members of BC 129 returned to CECOS in 1980 for the LCDR Refresher Course and reunited with "Commodore" Eileen Hunt. Back Row: Don Patton, Gary Shorb, Bill Lewis. Front Row: Pete Saunders, Burns Whittaker, Eileen Hunt, Jeri Rigoulot, Tim Morton, Steve Miller. Note: Jeri Rigoulot of BC 129 was the first female CEC officer since 2 women were briefly in the CEC during WWII.

Construction Battalion Center Port Hueneme, the 31st Naval Construction Regiment, the Civil Engineer Corps Officer School, the Public Works Center Guam, the Engineering Field Activity Mediterranean, the Center for Seabees and Facility Engineering, and 4 Naval Mobile Construction Battalions.





After taking off their uniforms and hanging up their Navy hard hats for the last time, our classmates excelled in their field of expertise, owning engineering and construction companies and being successful program and project managers of large capital projects in the US and overseas.

In addition to swapping many sea stories and re-living memories during the 2½ day reunion, attendees enjoyed a private, guided tour of the Seabee Museum and received unclassified Current Operations briefings and facility tours from Naval Facility Expeditionary Warfare Command (NFEXWC) and Naval



Construction Group ONE (NCG1). We were grateful for their support of our reunion and impressed by the modern elements of CEC support of Naval warfare and the great work they are doing to serve all facets of our Navy-Marine Corps team. A distinct highlight of the reunion was the opportunity to meet and greet the current students of CECOS Basic Class 274 during a pizza and soft drink lunch and then share a Happy Hour with them at local watering hole where we were able to share our experiences and memories of CECOS with the next generation of CEC officers.

At the end of the day, we left the reunion buoyed by renewed friendships with our classmates and pleased with the knowledge that the Civil Engineer Corps has a wonderful crop of new, dedicated officers to help lead it and our Navy in the next decades to come. (ABOVE) - Fifty years after they graduated from CECOS, members of Basic Class 129 meet current students of Basic Class 274

(FAR LEFT) - A visit to NBVC Port Hueneme would not be complete without a stop and tour of the wonderful Seabee Museum.

(LEFT) - Checking out CECOS Multi-Media capabilities.

GRADIA

BASIC CLASS 129

1000 on 27 April 1973 Port Hueneme, California CORPS OFFICERS

### NMCB 3 Awarded Peltier Award for Excellence

PORT HUENEME, Calif. – Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 3 was announced as the winner of the fiscal year 2022 Rear Adm. Eugene J. Peltier Award, recognizing the most outstanding active battalion in the Naval Construction Force (NCF), via naval message, March 26th.

In his message, Rear Adm. Dean VanderLey, Commander Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Chief of Civil Engineers, stated that, "NMCB 3 thrived in executing all assigned tasking while maintaining COVID-19 protective measures in a deployed environment across the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility (USINDOPACOM AOR). NMCB 3 successfully projects completed while remaining ready to support blue water fleet maneuverability during major combat operations or aide partner nations through humanitarian assistance/disaster recovery."

From December 2021 to July 2022, NMCB 3 deployed ambitious, proud, respectful and combat-ready Seabee Teams to the USINDOPACOM AOR and executed 31 projects valued at over \$25.4 million while remaining ready to support blue water fleet maneuverability during Major Combat Operations

Readiness Training Plan the battalion completed a successful Field Training Exercise, only three months into their homecycle, with camps spread out in multiple Southern California locations. The skills that were sharpened in this field exercise will ensure that NMCB 3 is positioned to support a variety of



or aide partner nations through Humanitarian Assistance/ Disaster Recovery efforts.

As part of a modified Fleet

humanitarian and partner nation cooperation tasking during its future deployment to the Indo-Pacific region, and is also ready to enable the integrated Maritime Force with critical combat construction support. The Peltier Award, named after Rear Admiral Eugene J. Peltier, former Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks and Chief of Civil Engineers, and past president of the Society of American Military Engineers, has been awarded to the best active duty battalion in the NCF every year since 1960.

NMCB 3 has previously won the Peltier Award 4 times, most recently in 2016. NMCB 3 is homeported in Port Hueneme, Calif., training on high-quality construction, expeditionary logistics, and combat operations to execute construction and engineering projects for major combat operations, disaster response, and humanitarian assistance.

Story by Petty Officer 2nd Class Austin Ingram , Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3



GULFPORT, MS. (April 25, 2023) SWCN Zachary Burdge, a native of Lillington, N.C. assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 11, mans an M240B machine gun during a crew-served weapons class onboard Naval Construction **Battalion** Center Gulfport, Mississippi, April 25, 2023. NMCB 11, assigned to Naval **Construction Group** TWO, is homeported in Gulfport, Ms. as part of the Naval Construction Force. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class James S. Hong)





### Want an OktoBEEfest Near You? Local Coordinators Needed!



Cheers, Seabees! October will be here before you know it. Every October, OktoBEEfest brings active-duty, retired Navy Seabees, Civil Engineer Corps officers, friends and families together in different geographic areas for camaraderie and networking. These events are hosted by the Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF), in partnership with the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA) and the Seabee Veterans of America (SVA). Last year saw 14 OktoBEEfest events around the globe. This year, we hope to add even more locations, but hosts and sponsors for each location are needed now.

"If you have 10-15 Seabee friends in your area, you can put on an event," said Bert Ramsey (CEC, Ret.) one of the founders of OktoBEEfest. SHF will take care of all the logistics from ticket sales and marketing to securing sponsors and ordering and shipping the commemorative glasses. All the coordinator has to do is line up the venue and be

on hand to check attendees in at the event. In addition to event coordinators, sponsors are also needed. See page 22 in this newsletter for OktoBEEfest sponsorship details.

Email <u>info@seabeehf.org</u> if you want more details about hosting and/or sponsoring an OktoBEEfest event this year.

# WWII Seabee Celebrates his 101st Birthday

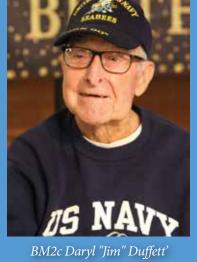
NOTE -- Mr. Duffett passed away while this issue was being printed.

CANFIELD, Ohio – Only a handful of World War II veterans are living today, one of whom happens have served as a U. S. Navy Seabee. He enlisted in a branch of the Navy that many people didn't know about.

Daryl Duffett turned 101 years old in June. Many know him as 'Jim,' a nickname he's had since childhood. Duffett was drafted at 20 years old. Growing up, he learned how to operate cranes with his father's construction business, leading him to enlist in the Navy Construction Battalion, better known as the Navy Seabees.

"I got a letter from the Seabees. If I was still interested in the Seabees, report up to Cleveland on January 4, 1943," Duffett said. The Seabees were founded to build camps and structures in World War II.

### Happy 101st Birthday, Seabee!



Duffett first ran cranes for the Seabees in North Africa in April 1943, building causeways for the invasion of Italy. He also worked on a secret project in Hawaii in 1944. "We built barges for an invasion. It was Iwo Jima, but we didn't know that. You couldn't tell," he said.

Duffett was also part of the invasions of Okinawa and Ie Shima. He even was on a ship to be part of the invasion of Japan, but plans changed. "Four days before Truman dropped the bomb on Japan, we loaded onto an LSD 566 slated for the invasion of Japan," he said. Duffett says that was a close call. His ship diverted to Korea because of the bombings in August 1945. Five months later, Duffett was discharged from the Seabees.

Duffett doesn't want his generation of Seabees to be forgotten. Duffett still sings their song to honor them. "We're the Seabees of the Navy. Bees of the seven seas..."

Story Courtesy WYTV.





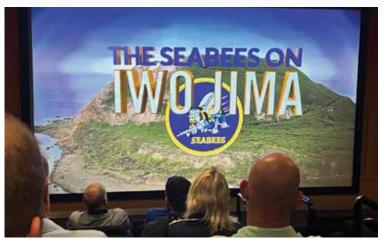
Are you looking for employees who are: Hard Working, Dedicated, Reliable, and Innovative? On the SHF website you can post open job listings and search resumes of qualified Seabees with "Can Do" attitudes and the skills to match. Consider adding a Seabee to your team today!

Are you a Seabee transitioning to the private sector, or a Seabee veteran looking for a new opportunity? On the SHF website you will find employers who are looking to add members to their team those who exemplify the Seabee "Can Do" ethos. **Registration is FREE for employers and job seekers!** 

We are looking for feedback on the "Can Do" Career Connection as a resource for Seabees. Has it helped you land a job or hire a Seabee? What was good about your experience with this site? What can be improved on this site to make it more user friendly? Contact us at (228) 575-3858 or email info@seabeehf.org and let us know how we have supported you or how we can support you better. Thank you to the companies who have registered and are posting jobs with the Can Do Career Connection.

#### www.seabeehf.org/careers







### New Documentary Features WWII Seabees on Iwo Jima

A new documentary produced by the WWII Foundation, "The Seabees on Iwo Jima", is narrated by CBS Sports' Jim Nantz, and focuses on the U.S. Naval Construction Battalions in World War II, which built all the infrastructure for the Allies in Europe and the Pacific in WWII.

Premier showings of the documentary were held in March at the Seabee bases in Gulfport, MS and Port Hueneme, CA. NMCB 133 had their entire battalion in attendance for the showing at the Seabee Cinema in Gulfport, MS which was especially poignant given the battalion's history with the epic WWII battle. After the screening was over, Naval Construction Group Two Commander, Commodore Jeff Deviney presented NMCB 133 with the 2022 Battle Efficiency award.



If you would like to see the documentary, check your local PBS station for schedule times or visit the WWII Foundation website at https:// wwiifoundation.org (scan the QR code with **U** your smart phone)



# History of the Seabee Memorial Scholarship

In 1970, the Seabee Memorial Association (SMA) was formed to sponsor and build a monument in Washington, D.C. to honor the memory of those who served in Naval Construction Battalions (Seabees). The original concept for the memorial would have a Seabee stepping off a bulldozer and being greeted by children. The theme being presented is "Building for Peace". A 401-foot-long bas-relief would stand in the rear of the Seabee depicting various construction tools, equipment and skills. Mr. Felix de Weldon, who also sculpted the world famous United States Marine Corps Iwo Jima Memorial, was selected to design the memorial. The monument was to be located on Memorial Drive entering into Arlington Cemetery.

At that initial meeting the basic organization of the Association and the initial functional plans were approved. A tentative estimated fund raising target of \$1.5 - 2.0 MM, of which \$250,000 - \$500,000 would possibly be used for a Seabee Memorial monument and the remainder for college scholarships was established. A Joint Resolution was introduced (H.J. Res. 1407) on November, 23, 1970 in the House of Representatives; that a possible target date for completion of the memorial could be March 1972, the 30th anniversary of the Seabees. The proposed college scholarship program included awards, ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 for deserving dependents of active, retired, reserve or deceased Seabees. At the time it was suggested that the names of major contributors be used for the various scholarship grants and that practice continues today. The two first donations to SMA were Mr. Hunter Wharton, on behalf of the International Operating Engineers, for \$5,000 and Spearin, Preston & Burrows of New York City, which contributed \$25,000.

The Seabee Memorial was dedicated on Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, 1974 and was attended by the officers, sailors and civilian supporters of the Seabees. The initial budget of \$224,000 for the Memorial had been exceeded by \$77,000, making the total cost of the monument \$301,000.

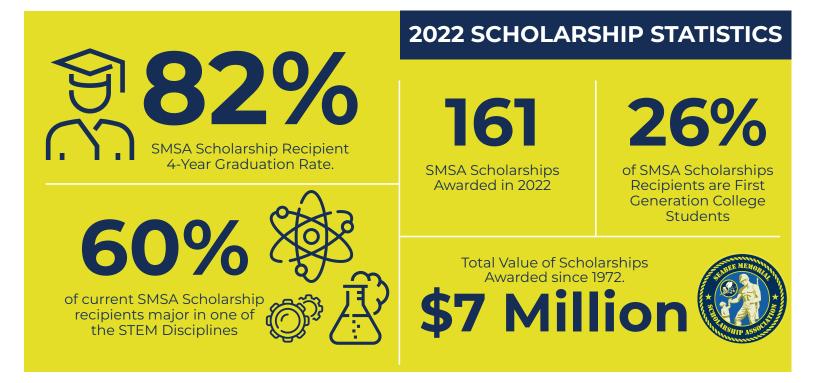
In 1979, SMA was re-incorporated as the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA). Today, the Board of Directors is composed of retired, reserve, and active duty officers and Seabees and the National Commander of the Seabee Veterans of America. The Scholarship Selection Committee consists of a cross



section of officer and enlisted Seabees and volunteers. This board meets annually to review applications and select scholarship recipients for the upcoming school year.



Since 1972, through the generosity of its supporters, SMSA has provided scholarships to over 900 children and grandchildren of Seabees and CEC Officers seeking a college education. Over the years, SMSA has increased the value of each scholarship from \$600 to \$5,300 and the number of students with SMSA scholarships in any year has grown from 6 to over 160. The SMSA desires to double the scholarship award amount in order to keep up with the rising costs of a college education, and to increase the number of students receiving scholarships.





# SMSA STUDENT PROFILES



LARA FEDERSPIEL '23 Savannah College of Art & Design <u>Major</u>: User Experience Design <u>Seabee Sponsor</u>: UT1 Jeff Federspiel (Father)

*My dad was deployed as a Seabee when I was 9 years old. He missed* 

birthdays, graduation, bring your parent to school day, and a year full of holidays, but I drew him a picture for each. Art had become a focal point in my life; something I could do to communicate with my dad thousands of miles away. My dad pushed me to continue my hobby of drawing and turn it into a career as a User Experience Designer at Savannah College of Art and Design. His absence helped me realize that connecting with others through my artwork was how I planned on changing the world.



#### FIONA DUNPHY '26 Fordham University <u>Major</u>: Communications & Culture

<u>Seabee Sponsor:</u> SW2 Michael Dunphy (Grandfather)

I love being a leader, even when it's leading by example. My grandfather's commitment

to the Seabees and all of his service has inspired me, during college especially, to take leadership risks. I think being a positive influence and leader for others, both older and younger, is very important. I know I look up to my grandfather as a leader and role model and it is a goal of mine to be that person for others to look up to, just like he is for me.



#### MATTHEW LIM '25

University of Washington <u>Major</u>: Engineering <u>Seabee Sponsor</u>: CDR Augustus Lim (Father)

*Ever since I was little, I had an interest in making and designing objects. My Dad was a great influence on who I am today. His most important advice was to be* 

kind to others. He often did small acts of kindness for the people around him. I saw how even a simple hello to someone walking down the street can go a long way. By his example, I was able to gain a sense of service for helping others. This led me to volunteer for the community. I plan to become a robotics engineer to continue this passion by being able to make people's lives easier through robotics.



#### AIDEN CHIMIENTI '24 University of Michigan, Dearborn <u>Major</u>: Computer & Information Science <u>Seabee Sponsor</u>: EOCA Robert Dewyer (Grandfather)

Throughout my life, my grandfather has always been an exceptional role model for me. He has taught me so many valuable life lessons. However, the most important lessons I have learned from him have not come through conversation, but by example in who he has been for me my entire life. Through him, I have learned the importance of family. I see how critical it is to always be there for the ones that are closest to you. He also taught me how essential it is to have a good work ethic. I refuse to ever give up just because a task is not easy, and I always put my best effort into everything I do.



# SMSA Named Scholarship Profiles

SMSA has 154 Perpetual Named scholarships. SMSA Perpetual Named Scholarships Awarded each Year to a New or Returning Student.



#### MICHAEL D. HOLLINGSWORTH SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2019 by officers of MCB 128 who served with Michael Hollingsworth in Vietnam from 1967-68. On 4 February 1968, Lieutenant Junior Grade Michael Dennis Hollingsworth was serving with Charlie Company, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 128 (NMCB-128), 3rd Naval

Construction Brigade, US Naval Forces Vietnam, in Quang Nam Province, South Vietnam. On that day, LTJG Hollingsworth was killed when his jeep struck an unknown type of explosive. The jeep was destroyed in the explosion and its three passengers, Seabees BU1 Paul T. Hallman, LTJG Michael D. Hollingsworth, and Marine CPL Otis L. Phillips were all killed. LTJG Hollingsworth had 4 years of service in the Navy.



#### SAME SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2011 by the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) to support students interested in Engineering or Architecture. Founded in 1920, the Society of American

Military Engineers builds leaders and leads collaboration among government and industry to develop multi-disciplined solutions to national security infrastructure challenges. With a National Office in Alexandria, Va., and more than 100 Posts and Field Chapters around the world, the Society unites public and private sector individuals and organizations from across the architecture, engineering, construction, environmental and facility management, cyber security, and contracting and acquisition disciplines.

#### DON AND MARTHA RODGERS SCHOLARSHIP

Established in 2012 by a gift from the estate of Don and Martha Rogers. Don was a WWII Seabee serving with the 136th Naval Construction Battalion. Don and Martha married in 1950 and bought the Montpelier Auto Auction which they owned for 20 years. Don was the auctioneer



and sold the cars and Martha was responsible for the paperwork concerning title transfers and collecting the purchase price of the automobiles. Don passed away in 2002 and Martha in 2012.

For information on funding a named scholarship with the SMSA, please contact Dan Miller, at danmiller@seabee.org.

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"Thank you so much to all of the donors making this scholarship possible to help further my education! Thank you for allowing me to take a leap of faith and explore the world on my own this time. Thank you for allowing me to pursue my dreams and aspirations to be a leader

for the future! " MADALYN DUVALL Belmont University, Class of '25 Global Leadership Studies





### BUILD YOUR LEGACY... FUNDING PERPETUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

USN MCB 128 Building for peace in Southeast asia

#### • Perpetual Honor Scholarship

#### Funded at \$150,000 and payable over five years or less.

A Perpetual Honor Scholarship will provide for an annual scholarship to be awarded in perpetuity to the top student for each application pool. The value of each scholarship will be \$1,500/year higher than that established for Perpetual General Named Scholarships, and will be awarded for four years to the most deserving student(s) each year.

#### Perpetual General Named Scholarship Funded at \$120,000 and payable over five years or less.

A Perpetual General Named Scholarship will provide for an annual scholarship in perpetuity for a four-year, two-year or Career and Technical Education (CTE) scholarship as the donor designates. As of 2021 the annual scholarship award amount is \$3,500 per year.

#### Shared Perpetual General Named Scholarship Funded at \$60,000 and payable over five years or less.

A perpetual Shared Named Scholarship will provide for an annual scholarship in perpetuity for a four-year, two-year or Career and Technical Education (CTE) scholarship as you designate. Other scholarship funds will also be awarded to the same student to fully fund the annual scholarship.

NEW SMSA SCHOLARSHIPS ADDED IN 2022

- The Jackie Adams Mosher
  Scholarship Fund Perpetual
  Honor Named
- The SW3 Eric Knott Scholarship - Perpetual General Named
- The Richard Dean Padrick Scholarship - Perpetual Honor Named
- The CAPT Lawrence Burks Scholarship - Perpetual General Named



# **2023 SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Last year saw 14 OktoBEEfest events around the globe. This year new locations will be added for even more exposure for your sponsorship!



#### ALL-EVENT TITLE SPONSOR - \$10,000

Logo on souvenir beverage glasses given out at all locations\*

Largest logo and recognition on event website, all social media ads, associated print material, and signage at all events\*

- Complimentary Tickets for all OktoBEEfest events
- · Verbal recognition and opportunity to speak at any and all OktoBEEfest event
- Opportunity to hand out approved branded materials during the events

#### ALL-EVENT PRESENTING SPONSOR - \$5,000

- Logo and recognition on event website, all social media ads, associated print material, and signage at all events\*
- Complimentary Tickets and verbal recognition for all OktoBEEfest events ,
- Opportunity to hand out approved branded materials during the events

WHAT IS OKTOBEEFEST? These annual events held every October, OktoBEEfest brings active-duty and retired Navy Seabees, Civil Engineer Corps officers, friends and families together in different geographic areas for camaraderie and networking. OktoBEEfest events are hosted by the Seabee Historical Foundation (SHF), in partnership with the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA) and the Seabee Veterans of America (SVA).

Sponsor a LOCAL OKTOBEEFEST EVENT!

**2023 LOCAL SPONSORSHPS -- PICK YOUR OKTOBEEFEST LOCATION** THE FOLLOWING PACKAGES ARE FOR A SPONSORSHIPS AT THE OKTOBEEFEST LOCATION OF YOUR CHOICE.

#### GOLD SPONSOR - \$2,500

- Logo recognition on website event page and social media\*
- Verbal recognition at event
- Logo on local event signage and associated print material\*
- Up to 20 tickets to the event
- Opportunity to hand out approved branded materials at the event

#### SILVER SPONSOR - \$1,000

- Logo recognition on website event page and social media\*
- Verbal recognition at event
- Logo on signage and associated print material\*
- Up to 10 tickets to the event

#### **BRONZE SPONSOR** - \$500

Sponsor ALL

**OKTOBEEFEST** 

EVENT

LOCATIONS!

- Name recognition on website event pages, event signage and associated print material\*
- Verbal recognition during remarks
- Up to 5 tickets to the event

#### EMAIL INFO@SEABEEHF.ORG FOR MORE INFO!

### **SEABEE QUICK LINK**



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

\*linktr.ee/seabees

#### **O**WASHINGTON, D.C. Seabee Golf Invitational

Monday, June 12- www.seabeegolf.org

#### **ALL SEABEE REUNION PICNIC**

Saturday, Aug 12 - Douglas Dam Overlook Park, Kodak, TN 720-560-3834

**ONSVA ISLAND X-1 GOLF TOURNAMENT** Monday, Aug 14 - 210-999-1076

#### **Mater States and Convention**

Aug 15-19 - San Antonio, TX www.nsva.org/events.html

**SAN DIEGO SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL** Monday, Aug 28 - *www.seabeegolf.org* 

# UPCOWING EVENTS

**Image Sep 14-17 - Harpers Ferry, WV, 703-785-1428** 

MCB 7 ALL-ERA REUNION Sep 14-17 - Nashville, TN / jandjstanger@yahoo.com

MCB1 SWARM/REUNION Sep 22-29 - Davisville, RI / purfectstorm@comcast.net

SEABEE CELEBRATION Saturday, Sep 23 - Davisville, RI

CBMU 302 REUNION Sep 28-30 - Boise, ID / peggiev@pocketinet.com

#### NMCB 23 CPOAA DECOMM / All Era Reunion

Oct 6-8 - Washington, D.C. *TBruceHanna@gmail.com* 

#### **MMCB 16 REUNION PICNIC**

Saturday, Oct 7 - Arcadia, CA cnortoneqcm@yahoo.com **VA BEACH SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL** Thursday, Oct 12 - *www.seabeegolf.org* 

MICE 3 VETERANS REUNION Oct 19-22 - Nashville, TN seabee6568@gmail.com

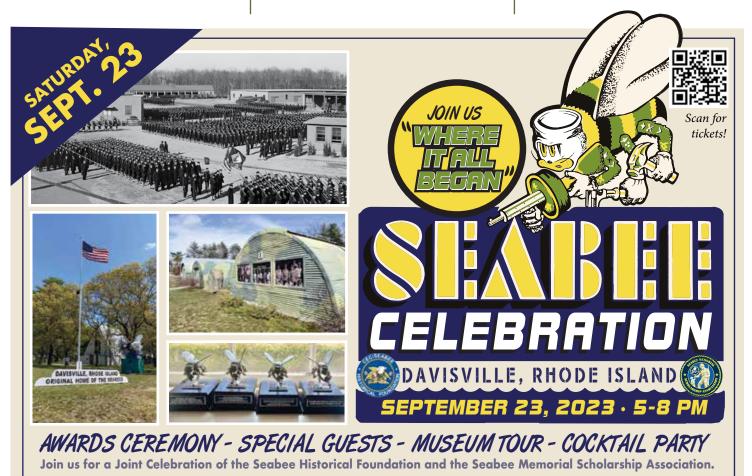
ALL SEABEE REUNION Oct 22-26 - Pigeon Forge, TN / 865-924-9023

**GULF COAST SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL** Wednesday, Nov 8 - Diamondhead, MS www.seabeegolf.org

VETERANS DAY WREATH LAYING

Saturday, Nov 11 - Seabee Memorial, Arlington, VA

For more info about any of these events, go to <u>www.seabeehf.org/events</u> Have an event to add? Email us at info@seabeehf.org



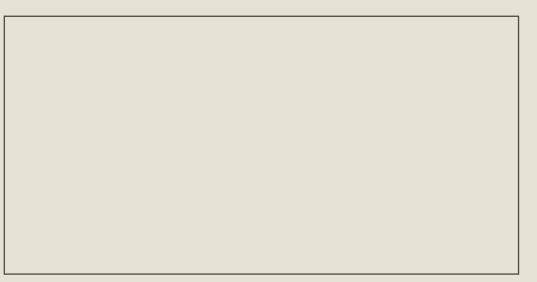




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MOVING? Email your new mailing address to info@seabeehf.org.



TIMOR LESTE, Southeast Asia (May 2023) -- Building partnerships everywhere they go! NMCB-5 Seabees work with from Forças de Defesa de Timor Leste engineers and foster lasting relationships with local communities around the world. We employ fully capable, task-organized engineer units independently or as part of a joint, combined, or multinational force. (*Photo by SW3 Naheim McCowan*)