

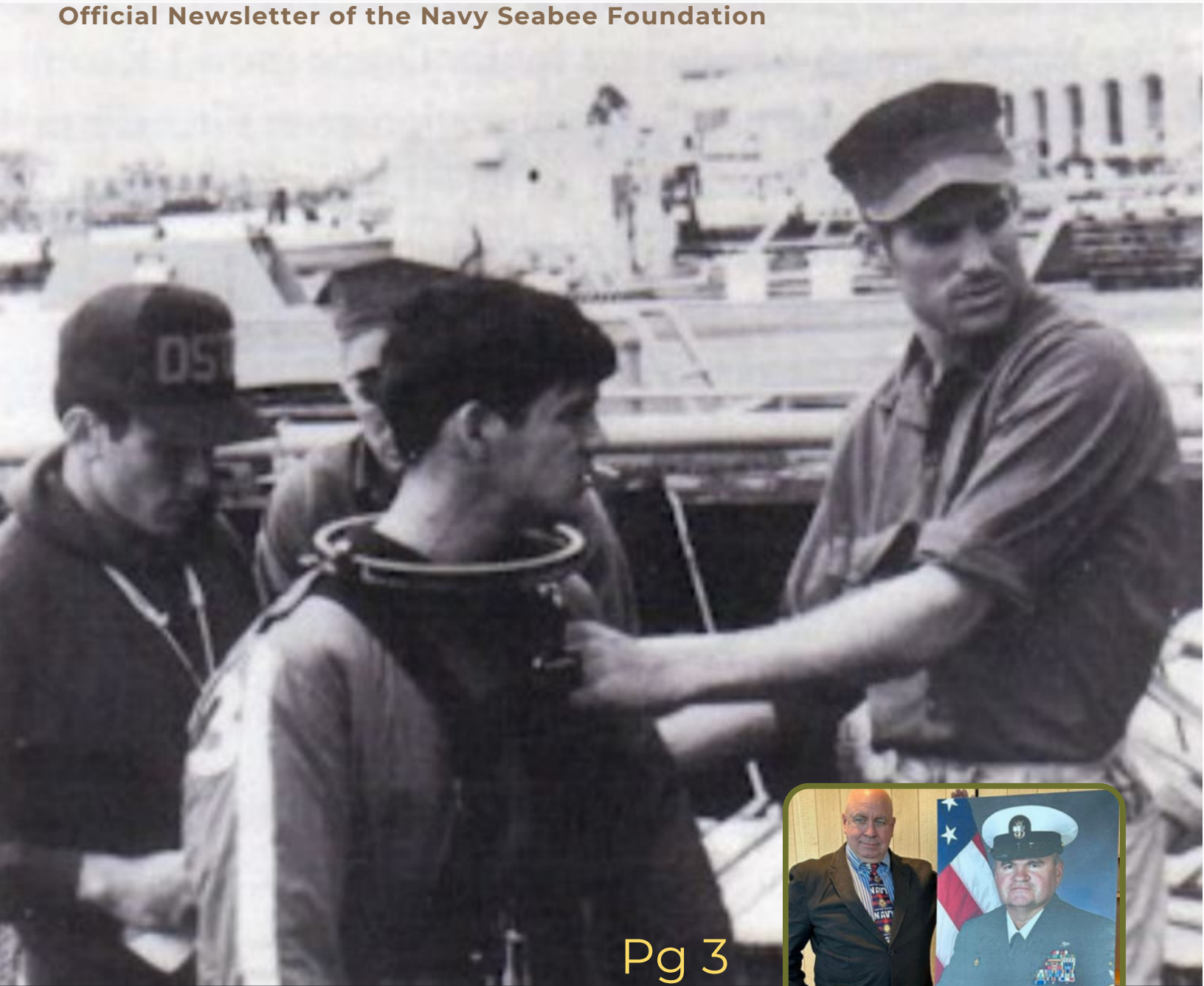
MARCH 2024

EXTRA

BEE NEWS



Official Newsletter of the Navy Seabee Foundation



Pg 3

SW2 Robert Stethem preparing for a dive while part of UCT-1. Robert Stethem was killed by Hezbollah militants during the hijacking of TWA Flight 847. The USS Stethem (DDG-63) is named in his honor. On August 24, 2010 onboard USS Stethem in Yokosuka, Japan, Stethem was posthumously made an honorary Constructionman Master Chief Petty Officer by the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy.



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UCT celebrates 50th anniversary

BEE NEWS EXTRA

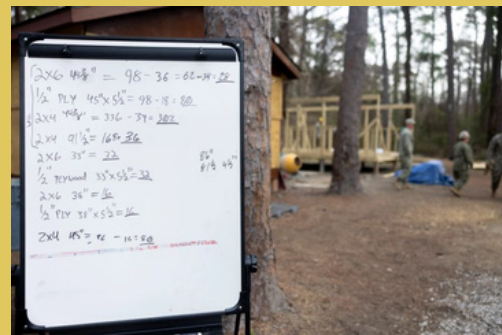
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For more news, check out www.seabee.org & follow @navyseabeefoundation on social media!



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1



U.S. Navy Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, U.S. Marine Corps Engineers with 8th Engineer Support Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 27, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, and construct shelters during Winter Pioneer 2024 on Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Feb. 17, 2024. Winter Pioneer 24 is a tactical-level exercise demonstrating integrated U.S. Marine Corps Engineer and U.S. Navy Construction units to establish and sustain an advanced naval base, and expeditionary advanced bases, and contribute to maritime domain awareness.

(U.S. Marine Corps photos by Lance Cpl. Jessica J. Mazzamuto)



U.S. Navy Builder Constructionman Liam Murphy, left, with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, and U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Vincent Garza, a combat engineer with 8th Engineer Support Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 27, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, cut wood to construct a shelter during Winter Pioneer 2024.

50 Years of Building and Restoring Maritime Capabilities: Celebrating the Underwater Construction Teams Anniversary

By Navy Expeditionary Combat Command PAO, with additional photos

The Navy's Underwater Construction Teams (UCT) One and Two will celebrate half a century of subsurface construction progress and prowess Feb. 15. The Chief of Naval Operations tasked the Naval Construction Force with "developing and maintaining the capabilities to support the underwater construction requirements of the Navy" in November of 1967, and the teams were formally commissioned as their own units on Feb. 15, 1974, after serving as underwater construction branches of naval construction regiments.

Historical documents show Seabee leaders were soliciting ideas for the name of their unit. When reviewing historical documentation about the unit's establishment, team members discovered a civil engineer corps officer jokingly wrote to the officer-in-charge of the underwater construction branch at the time that they needed "a catchy acronym" for the team, less they might be called the "Seabee Ocean Floor Team (SOFT)" or the 'Construction Force Undersea Engineering Detachment (CONFUSED)." Ultimately, the underwater construction branches became the Underwater Construction Teams, a fitting name that not only captured their capabilities succinctly but stood the test of time.

Despite their commissioning date, the Seabee diving community can trace their roots back to World War II where specially trained Seabees qualified as Navy divers and participated in underwater demolition of reef obstructions, beach clearing operations, and in-shore construction necessary for the development of channels, harbors, and mooring facilities for the fleet. During the 1960's,



EOC Steve Sako, UCT Diver

Seabee divers became major contributors to the early success of the "Man-in-the-Sea" programs, including SEALAB II and TEKTITE undersea laboratories, where saturation diving was refined.

"Our underwater construction teams are an absolutely critical component of the Navy Expeditionary Combat Force," said Rear Adm. Brad Andros, commander, Navy Expeditionary Combat Command. "Our Seabee divers provide direct and tangible support to not only the Fleet but to our allies and partners who rely on their unique skillsets to restore and build maritime infrastructure for more secure and prosperous sea lanes and maritime commons."



The UCTs were initially composed of 12-15 Seabees with temporary additional divers and support personnel assigned as project needs required. With the growing workload and increased complexity of the missions over time, today's UCTs have approximately 90 personnel assigned including eight civil engineer corps officers. Like all Seabees, in addition to their construction role, the unit must be capable of sustaining and defending itself if the situation required.

EACS Blair Mercado's final dive.

“Our underwater construction teams are always looking for more dedicated Seabees to join our ranks, said Master Chief Petty Officer Brian Strantz, the Naval Construction Force’s Force Master Diver. “Serving as a Seabee diver offers unique training opportunities, specialized skillsets valued across the dive industry, and the opportunity to deploy forward and see the immediate impact and benefits of your work.”

Since formally commissioning the units in 1974, the teams of Seabee divers have deployed to every continent and participated in projects and missions that include: repairing and re-opening piers, wharfs, and ports; providing mission critical waterfront facilities during combat operations; providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief following natural disasters; completing subject matter expert exchanges with ally and partner dive forces; and repairing underwater infrastructure for the U.S. military which has saved the government significant funding over the past five decades and has enabled distributed maritime operations.

“Today’s underwater construction teams were built on the legacy of the many Seabee divers who came before us and continued to challenge the status quo”, said Cmdr. Mike Duffy, commanding officer, UCT One. “We are proud to carry on the tradition and heritage of the early Seabee divers as we continue to deploy ready and capable teams globally in support of our fleet.”

Long known for their trademark Seabee “can do” attitude, the Seabee divers continue to lead technological advances within the underwater construction field. Over the past few years, the divers have increased their waterfront engineering expertise and effectiveness through usage of developing hydrographic survey and remotely operated vehicle technology, along with expedient port damage repair materials.

“I’m continually impressed with our Seabee divers who embrace new technology and look for innovative ways to conduct their work in a more efficient or safe manner.” Said, Lt. Cmdr. Tyler Anderson, executive officer of UCT Two. “I believe it says a lot about the type of personality this line of work attracts—we’re a team of problem-solvers who embrace challenges, operate in austere environments, and take care of our teammates.”

While the commands will recognize the anniversary locally in Pt. Hueneme and Virginia Beach on Feb. 15, the Hampton Roads Seabee Ball will be held on Mar. 2 and will have a Seabee diver theme, and a larger celebration and reunion is planned for May in coordination with the National Seabee Divers Association at the United States Navy Seabee Museum onboard Naval Base Ventura County where the UCT exhibit will be re-dedicated.

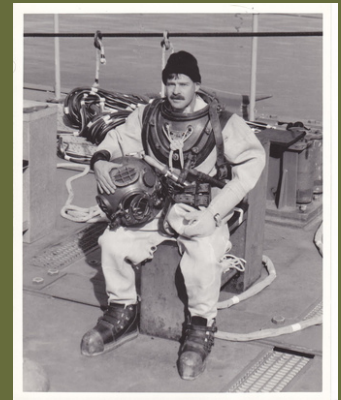
For more information about becoming a Seabee diver, contact a UCT Recruiter at NCG_UCT_Recruiters@us.navy.mil.

UCT 1 and 2 are part of the Naval Construction Groups in the Navy Expeditionary Combat Force, who bridge the gap from sea to shore and provide capabilities in complex and austere environments. For more information about NECC and our units, visit our website:

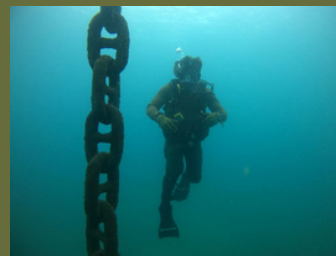
: <https://www.necc.usff.navy.mil/>



Sang Park



Rusty Deen



Nathaniel Yarbrough



Clinton Lee Suggs



Gary Tyler



Roseanne Oliveros

NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION 2024 GOLF TOURNAMENTS



GULF COAST SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024

The Club at Diamondhead
7600 Country Club Circle, Diamondhead MS 39525



WASHINGTON, DC SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL
MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024

Springfield Golf and Country Club
8301 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield VA 22152



SAN DIEGO SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2024

Fairbanks Ranch Country Club
15150 San Dieguito Rd, Rancho Santa Fe CA 92067



VA BEACH SEABEE GOLF INVITATIONAL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

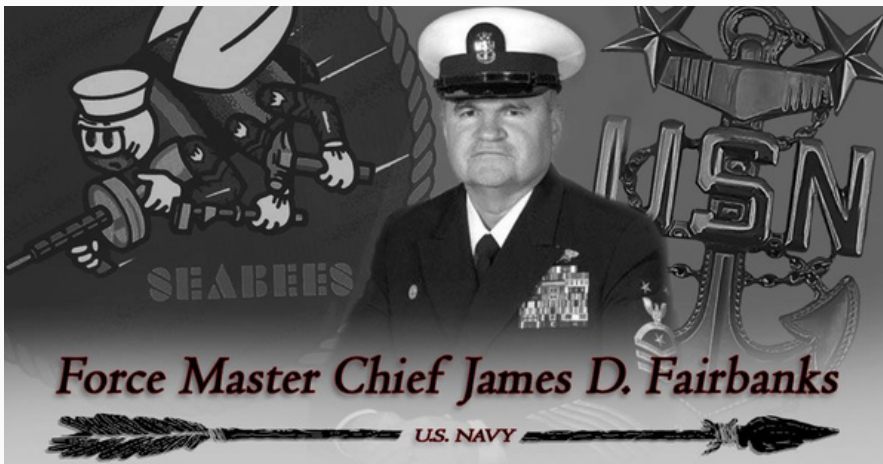
Virginia Beach National Golf Club
2500 Tournament Drive, Virginia Beach VA 23456



www.seabeegolf.org



NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION
HONOR THE PAST. BUILD THE FUTURE.
WWW.SEABEE.ORG



SECNAV Del Toro Delivers Remarks at USNS James D. Fairbanks (T-ATS 13) Naming Celebration (and shared memories)

Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro announced that the future Navajo-class Towing, Salvage, and Rescue (T-ATS) ship will be named in honor of James D. Fairbanks, member of the Chippewa Tribe and the 13th Force Master Chief Petty Officer of the Seabees.

Secretary Del Toro made the announcement during a ship naming ceremony at the National Museum of the American Indian, Feb. 21.

The naming selection of the future USNS James D. Fairbanks (T-ATS 13) follows the tradition of naming towing, salvage and rescue ships after prominent Native Americans or Native American tribes.

“The names of thousands of indigenous heroes who have served with distinction in our military – and especially our Navy and Marine Corps – echo and inspire us still,” said Secretary Del Toro. “This Navajo-class ship bearing the name James D. Fairbanks will carry his legacy of service forward and symbolize his dedication to the Seabees and our Nation.”

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Chairman of the White Earth Indian Reservation Michael Fairbanks joined Secretary Del Toro for the ceremony honoring James D. Fairbanks, who was born and raised on the White Earth Indian Reservation in Northern Minnesota. Both spoke about the honor and meaning behind the naming of the Navy’s newest T-ATS.

“What the Navy knows, and what White Earth [Nation] knows, is that stories matter. That history matters. That traditions matter. Honoring warriors like FORCM Fairbanks matters,” said Governor Walz.

“Force Master Chief James Fairbanks was in our language an Ogiichidaa, a Warrior for our People - the Anishinaabeg, and the citizens of the United States. He served with distinction and valor with great honor,” said Michael Fairbanks, Chairman of the White Earth Indian Reservation. “A Warrior in Native American culture holds a great deal of respect by tribal members. James Fairbanks was a true Warrior that represented the White Earth Nation and the U.S. Navy with honor. He unknowingly became a great role model for not only White Earth youth, but for all Native youth. Due to his exemplary leadership, he has earned the right to have a ship named in his honor.”



Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro announced that the future Navajo-class Towing, Salvage, and Rescue (T-ATS) ship will be named in honor of James D. Fairbanks, member of the Chippewa Tribe and the 13th Force Master Chief Petty Officer of the Seabees.

For those who knew Master Chief Jim Fairbanks, this is a great honor for a great man! We served together in NMCB 133 and at Naval Construction Training Center, Gulfport, Ms. I consider it a privilege to have known and served with him.
~ George Freese



Born Jan. 9, 1952, James D. Fairbanks served in both the U. S. Navy and Marine Corps. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1970 and served as an ordnanceman with 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, until he was honorably discharged in 1972. He then worked as a civilian welder until 1977 before enlisting in the Navy. Fairbanks served with an amphibious construction battalion (ACB) until his honorable discharge in 1979. In 1986, he resumed Naval service as a Seabee. While deployed to Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Fairbanks received the Bronze Star for meritorious leadership under proximate enemy fire and threat of enemy attack. From 2005 to 2008, Fairbanks served as the 13th Force Master Chief for the Seabees, the highest-ranking enlisted Seabee and first Native American to hold this position.

Along with the ship's name, Secretary Del Toro also announced the sponsors for the future USNS James D. Fairbanks as Paulette Fairbanks Molin, the late Fairbanks' sister, and Mrs. Susan Sharpe, the spouse of the 19th Force Master Chief Petty Officer of the Seabees. They, in their role as sponsors, will represent a lifelong relationship with the ship and crew.

"The USNS James D. Fairbanks is the namesake of a great leader, one who worked selflessly and tirelessly to serve our great country throughout his extraordinary career," said Fairbanks Molin. "He was a builder, but not just any builder, he was a Seabee."

Navajo-class ships will provide ocean-going tug, salvage, and rescue capabilities to support Fleet operations. The current capabilities are provided by Powhatan-class T-ATF Fleet Tugs and Safeguard-class T-ARS Rescue and Salvage vessels, which began reaching the end of their expected service lives in 2020. Navajo-class ships will be capable of towing U.S. Navy ships and will have 6,000 square feet of deck space for embarked systems.



Honoring a great leader. My first C5 as a young Seabee who not only remembered me when I ran into him eight years later in the desert, but was thoughtful enough to ask about the status of small family details in our conversation. He was always firm, always fair and always inspiring.
~ Martin Villalondo



Navy Seabee Awarded Commendation Medal for Heroic Rescue in Traffic Accident

In a stirring example of valor beyond the call of duty, BU1 Daniel Kvale, a distinguished member of the U.S. Navy Seabees, has been awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his pivotal role in a life-saving intervention following a catastrophic traffic accident in Oxnard, California.

The incident unfolded on December 23rd, in the southbound lanes of Victoria Avenue near West 5th Street, where an SUV carrying six teenage girls lost control at high speed. The vehicle struck the center-divider, became airborne, and began spinning, during which one of the passengers was ejected and pinned beneath the vehicle as it came to a halt on its side.

Without hesitation, Kvale, alongside retired Chief of Police Larry Manion and Mrs. Stephanie Rutz, a local substitute teacher, rushed to the scene of the accident. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, they coordinated a daring rescue to lift the heavy SUV and extricate the trapped girl, displaying remarkable strength and resolve.

Their swift and fearless actions were crucial in preventing a tragic loss of life, underscoring their exceptional courage and selflessness. The Navy Commendation Medal is a testament to BU1 Kvale's extraordinary bravery and his commitment to serving others, reflecting the highest ideals of the U.S. Navy and the nation.

The community and the Navy have expressed their deepest admiration for Kvale's deed, as well as for the collaborative efforts of his fellow rescuers. This accolade not only celebrates his heroic conduct on that December day but also honors his ongoing dedication to duty and his unwavering readiness to assist those in peril.

BU1 Daniel Kvale's actions are a profound reminder of the impact individuals can have through acts of valor and quick thinking. His receipt of the Navy Commendation Medal is a recognition of his bravery, embodying the spirit of heroism and the noble tradition of service above self.

"The incredible bravery and quick action demonstrated by BU1 Daniel Kvale and his fellow rescuers during this tragic accident reflect the highest values of the U.S. Navy and our armed forces. His heroism under pressure is a testament to the training, discipline, and compassion that define our service members. We are immensely proud of BU1 Kvale and all who stepped forward in this moment of urgent need." said Commander Joshua Baker, Chief Staff Officer - Naval Construction Group One. "



BU1 Daniel Kvale stands next to Josh Baker - Chief Staff Officer, and Larry Manion Retired Chief of Police as he is recognized with a Navy Commendation Medal for his exceptional bravery and quick action during a life-threatening incident on December 13, 2023, in Oxnard, CA. His decisive actions, along with the help of a retired Chief of Police, Mrs. Stephanie Rutz, and an unidentified civilian, led to the rescue of a teenager trapped under a four-thousand-pound SUV following a severe traffic accident.

Story and photo by Oscar Garcia, NBVC PAO

Naval Construction Group One (NCG1) operates from its homeport and serves as the Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC) for its assigned forces. NCG1 leads and manages the overall capability and readiness of Naval Construction Regiments (NCR's), Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (NMCB's), Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit (CBMU), and Underwater Construction Team (UCT). NCG1 is responsible for manning, training, equipping and deploying combat-ready Naval Construction Force(NCF) units in support of combatant commanders(CCDRs) and Navy component commanders (NCC). NCG1 also provides program management and oversight in support of subordinate units and supports the Navy Expeditionary Combat Enterprise Force Development (Fd) efforts. NCG1 provides the required engineering support that the Navy and Nation needs to construct and maintain base facilities, repair battle damaged facilities, conduct defensive operations as required, and to meet disaster preparedness and recovery missions.



4

NMCB 4



Seabees, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 4, Airmen, assigned to 18th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES), and Marines, assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) 172, work together to assemble fiber reinforced polymer matting (FRP) in an airfield damage repair exercise, during Keen Edge '24. Keen Edge is an annual bilateral exercise conducted by the United States Forces Japan and the Japanese Self Defense Force. NMCB 4 is forward deployed throughout the Indo-Pacific region to support and maintain a free and open Indo-Pacific. As the stand-in, crisis response, naval engineering force, NMCB 4 maintains a ready posture to deliver in-theater expeditionary logistics via expeditionary shore infrastructure, forward damage repair, and mobile construction.

(US Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Dakota Rayburn)

INFO CNO WASHINGTON DC

Seabee Awards

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SUBJ/CALENDAR YEAR 2023 RADM LEWIS B. COMBS AND SW2 ROBERT STETHEM AWARD WINNERS//
POC/D. DEMONTAGNAC/CBCM/UNIT: NAVFAC HQ/WNYD BLDG 33/TEL: 202-685-9276/
EMAIL: DENISE.N.DEMONTAGNAC.MIL(AT)US.NAVY.MIL//
GENTEXT/REMARKS/1. I AM HONORED TO ANNOUNCE THE RECIPIENTS OF THE CALENDAR YEAR 2023 RADM LEWIS B. COMBS AND SW2 ROBERT STETHEM AWARDS.

2. THE RADM LEWIS B. COMBS IS PRESENTED TO RECOGNIZE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS MADE THE MOST OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION IN PERPETUATING THE LEGACY OF SEABEE, CEC, AND NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING SYSTEMS COMMAND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TRADITIONS.

2.A. THE WINNER OF THE 2023 RADM LEWIS B. COMBS AWARD IS CUCS(SCW/EXW) ANTHONY THIBODEAUX FROM NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (NMCB) ONE. SENIOR CHIEF THIBODEAUX IS RECOGNIZED FOR HIS MERITORIOUS SERVICE AND SUSTAINED SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS OPERATIONS CHIEF FOR NMCB ONE. THROUGHOUT FISCAL YEAR 2023, SENIOR CHIEF THIBODEAUX SUPERBLY ORGANIZED 580 SEABEES TO EXECUTE FOUR PHASES OF THE FLEET RESPONSE TRAINING PLAN, INCLUDING A SIX-MONTH DEPLOYMENT IN SUPPORT OF NORTHCOM, EUCOM, AFRICOM, AND INDOPACOM. HE OVERSAW THE TIMELY CONSTRUCTION OF 7,600 MANDAYS OF WORK ON 22 PROJECTS AND EXERCISES VALUED OVER \$11.6M. SENIOR CHIEF THIBODEAUX SET A NEW STANDARD FOR EXCELLENCE THROUGH HIS TEAM'S EXECUTION OF SIX JOINT AND MULTINATIONAL EXERCISES, DEMONSTRATING THE VALUE AND CAPABILITY OF THE NAVAL CONSTRUCTION FORCE TO ENABLE FLEET MANEUVER AND LETHALITY IN MAJOR COMBAT OPERATIONS. HE DELIVERED CONSISTENT, TIMELY, AND SOUGHT-AFTER ADVICE TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE BATTALION AS THEY EXECUTED WORLDWIDE OPERATIONS.

3. THE SW2 ROBERT STETHEM AWARD IS PRESENTED TO AN INDIVIDUAL WITH OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL MORAL COURAGE IN SUPPORT OF SEABEE TRADITIONS WHILE CONDUCTING ACTUAL OPERATIONS.

3.A. THE WINNER OF THE 2023 SW2 ROBERT STETHEM AWARD IS CM1(SCW/EXW) BRYAN WILLIAMS FROM NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION FOUR. PETTY OFFICER WILLIAMS IS RECOGNIZED FOR HIS MORAL COURAGE WHILE SERVING AS NMCB FOUR LOGISTICS DEPARTMENT COST CONTROL MANAGER. PETTY OFFICER WILLIAMS LED A TEAM OF 65 SAILORS AND FIVE CIVILIANS IN THE MAINTENANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENT OF 335 UNITS OF CIVIL ENGINEER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT, PRIOR TO THE READY TO DEPLOY EVALUATION AND IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR IN CHARGE 3M INSPECTION. A SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT IN 3M AND MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT, HE WAS CALLED UPON TO STEP IN ON THE FAILING MAINTENANCE PROGRAM DUE TO HIS PROVEN LEADERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL EXPERTISE. WITH AN UPCOMING READINESS TO DEPLOY EVALUATION AND 3M INSPECTION, HE WAS GIVEN ONLY SIX WEEKS TO REVAMP HIS BATTALION'S MAINTENANCE PROGRAM AND ADMINISTRATION REQUIREMENTS THAT RECEIVED A BELOW AVERAGE SCORE IN THE INITIAL SELF ASSESSMENT OF 72%. AS A RESULT OF HIS LEADERSHIP AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, THE COMMAND RECEIVED AN IMPRESSIVE ABOVE AVERAGE SCORE OF 92% DURING THE IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR IN CHARGE GRADED READINESS TO DEPLOY EVALUATION AND 3M INSPECTION, DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING TO THE BATTALION'S CERTIFICATION TO DEPLOY INTO INDOPACOM FOR MAJOR COMBAT OPERATIONS RESPONSE.

4. THE NOMINEES FOR THIS YEAR'S AWARDS REPRESENT THE STRENGTH, DETERMINATION, AND STALWART LEADERSHIP OF OUR FORCE. THESE SEABEES EXEMPLIFY THE SEABEE CAN DO SPIRIT. THEIR IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE AND PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS MERIT THE RECOGNITION AFFORDED WITH THE AWARD. CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE! REAR ADMIRAL VANDERLEY SENDS.//

Seabees, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133, conduct airfield damage repair training alongside U.S. Airmen, Marines and international allied forces during Cope North (CN) 24.

NMCB 133 is currently deployed in various locations across the Indo-Pacific region and participating in CN24, a multinational, U.S. Pacific Air Forces-sponsored, field training exercise focused on airborne integration for large-force employment and agile combat employment.

(U.S. Navy Photo by Ensign Kelvin So/Released)



NMCB 133

133



From the NMCB 1 Family Readiness Group (FRG)

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the Navy Seabee Foundation for their generous \$500 donation to our FRG.

This donation will make the world of difference in our organization as we prepare for more fun events throughout the year!

Bob Smith, Navy Seabee Foundation, presented a grant to the NMCB1 FRG at their monthly meeting.



RADM VanderLey with NCHB 1 that are assigned from Navy Expeditionary Logistics Force supporting cargo operations in Antarctica.



“Time well spent recognizing a great leader” during FORCM Fairbanks ship naming ceremony.

Percy Trent, FORCM(Ret) and NSF Board of Directors

With FORCM Larry Sharpe, FLTCM Delbert Terrell, and CMDCM(Ret) Dean Joyce.

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FROM	NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION	TO	INFO TO: ALL SEABEES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS
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01 March 1943: Rear Admiral Ben Moreell requested the Navy construction units be authorized to use a distinctive designation and insignia; the Seabee insignia was authorized.

02 March 1867: By Act of Congress, it was provided that civil engineers should be appointed by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate. Previously, all civil engineers in the Navy were civilian employees. This is considered the birthday for the establishment of the Civil Engineer Corps.

02 March 2003: Seabees assigned to NMCB 3 and NMCB 25 built a hangar in Valdez, Alaska as part of Operation Northern Edge 2003. Operation Northern Edge was designed to practice cold weather operations and enhance interoperability among the armed forces.

02 March 2013: NMCB 5 Commanding Officer Cmdr. Peter Maculan and CMDCM Delbert Terrell receive a Presidential Unit Citation (PUC) from Deputy Commander, Naval Expeditionary Combat Command (NECC) and Commander, First Naval Construction Division (INCD) Rear Adm. Mark Handley. NMCB 5 received the PUC for service alongside Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan during the period of May 29, 2009 to April 12, 2010. The award was presented during the 2013 Okinawa Seabee Ball at Camp Shields.

03 March 1962: The Seabees installed and serviced the PM-3A nuclear power plant at McMurdo Sound, Antarctica went critical. In July the plant began delivering electric power to the McMurdo station thus relieving that station of the dependence on fuel oil shipments and at the same time alleviating the fire hazard caused by the use of oil burning devices.

04 March 1911: All Navy Public Works construction was placed under the Bureau of Yards and Docks by act of Congress.

05 March 1942: The designation of construction battalions as Seabees and the use of the distinctive insignia on major items of construction equipment were officially approved by Rear Admiral Ben Moreell.

05 March 1955: It was in 1955 that the Seabees first celebrated their birthday on March 5. Before that the birthday had been celebrated on December 28, the date in 1941 that authority was requested from the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation to recruit enlisted personnel for the Seabee units. However, because so many men were usually on leave for the Christmas holidays and because of the heavy financial strain that attended the holidays, it was almost impossible for everyone to participate in a suitable celebration. Therefore, Rear Admiral John R. Perry, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, decided to change the celebration date to March 5, the date the personnel of the construction battalions were granted official permission to assume the name Seabees. Admiral Perry felt this would assure a more favorable observance of the birthday.

06 March 1947: 104th NCB reactivated, eventually being reestablished in October 1950 as ACB 1.

06 March 1971: NMCB 3 Detail Borealis at Ca Mau received eight rockets and heavy small arms fire. BU2 F.D. Lupo, USN, was killed in action and four other Seabees wounded. Two of the wounded required medevac. "Being on a detail did have its advantages: close camaraderie, a personal touch on meals, and maybe a little more freedom. It was also more dangerous; few Borealis men will forget the morning of March 6th at Ca Mau." NMCB cruise book 1970-1971 p.27

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TIME SIGNED	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER
01	MAR	2024	0001L	<i>J.M. Seabee</i>

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY		COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR-11)		
TIME FILED	COMMICEN NO.	HOW SENT	DATE-TIME GROUP	

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FROM	NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION	TO	INFO TO: ALL SEABEES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS
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07 March 1967: EOC J.C. Haines, CET3, L.R. Riddle, and CMH3 R.E. Kasper were killed in action in a mine explosion on the road from An Hoa to Da Nang. The men were from NMCB 4.

08 March 1968: Camp Barnes received 10 rounds of enemy rocket and artillery fire. The action resulted in 3 KIAs, CN E.E. Nevins, CEW2 J.P. Hartlage II, and BUL2 J.W. Borders. There were 8 men wounded in action. One berthing hut was completely destroyed.

09 March 1950: A detachment of 105th NCB arrived in the Caribbean for a practice invasion. The occasion was marred by squalls and heavy surf conditions, making the battalion's job of invading the beach and setting up pontoon causeways doubly hard. The battalions had to make three tries for the beach before their task was accomplished, to put ashore the Army's Third Division. The invasion was successful due to the unstinting efforts of the Seabees.

09 March 1971: Seabees of NMCB 40's advance party waded ashore at the remote atoll of Diego Garcia in the middle of the Indian Ocean. The Seabees were there to begin a highly-significant undertaking – the building of a United States Navy Communications Station. Up to this time, Diego Garcia had been a relatively unknown tropical atoll whose only industry was copra. Commissioning ceremonies for the Naval Communications Station, Diego Garcia were conducted two years later on March 20, 1973.

10 March 1966: NMCB 1 arrives in Da Nang; First Atlantic Battalion to deploy to RVN.

10 March 1968: BUH3 Frank G. Goelz, USN, was killed in an accidental fall while engaged in constructing a pile bent as part of repairs to Liberty Bridge, Da Nang, RVN. Memorial services for Petty Officer Goelz were held at Camp Hoover on 11 March and at Liberty Bridge on 12 March.

11 March 1945: Many times in the Second World War the Seabees were called on to do odd jobs of an urgent and extemporaneous nature. These jobs were dictated by the demands of combat operations. When the German lines in France were breached, the United States Army asked the Seabees to operate landing craft, pontoon causeways, and rhino ferries to help breach the Rhine River Barrier. The Naval Construction Force accepted the challenge on March 11, 1945. The task was assigned to detachments from Construction Battalion Maintenance Units 627, 628, and 629. At ports in Normandy, the Seabees loaded their landing craft and pontoons on mammoth trucks and hauled them across France and the German borderlands to the Rhine River. The Rhine's swift and tricky currents had baffled armies since the time of Julius Caesar. However, the Seabees made the crossing with comparative ease. They first crossed the Rhine at Bad Neuenahr near Remagen. On March 22, General George Patton put his armored forces across the Rhine at Oppenheim in a frontal assault which swept away the Germans. The Seabees participated in the operation. In addition, the Seabees built pontoon ferries similar to their famous Rhino ferries to move tanks across the river in pairs. In all, the Seabees operated more than 300 craft as ferry service which shuttled thousands of troops into the heart of Germany.

11 March 2011: Seabees of the Naval Construction Force's UCTs were called on to assist with salvage recovery missions following the 9.0 magnitude earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan.

13 March 1946: 53rd NCB arrived at Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands to take part in Operation Crossroads. Operation Crossroads was the Department of Defense's first large-scale atomic weapons research testing program. The 53rd NCB built observation towers, piers, communication towers, and general facilities to prepare the site. The battalion dredged the lagoon of Bikini to allow the capital ships to enter and anchor for the bomb blast. It also built a recreational area for the members of the Armed Forces engaged in the testing. Thus, Seabees were used to build a facility that helped to usher in the Atomic Age.

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TIME SIGNED	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER	
01	MAR	2024	0001L	<i>J.M. Seabee</i>	
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY			COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR-11)		
TIME FILED		COMM CEN NO.	HOW SENT	DATE-TIME GROUP*	



Storytime with a Seabee

Join us every Thursday for a special story time with a Seabee

Perfect for pre-K to 3rd graders!

Thursdays, 10:30 am



Hey, class of '24 high school seniors! 🇺🇸 Do you have a connection to the Navy Seabees? Did your parent or grandparent serve in the Naval Construction Forces?

The Navy Seabee Foundation offers scholarships for children and grandchildren of Seabees! Check out <https://www.seabee.org> for more information on how your family's service can pave the way for your bright future. Scholarship applications accepted now thru April 15!

Share the news and support education for Seabee families. CAN DO!



Preserving the History, Protecting the Legacy so that others know our story Seabees from the S.E.A class 270 stopped by the museum today for a guided tour by our curator Jack Sprengel and got a peak at our new display honoring Marvin G Shields CMH recipient.

Nonprofit in the Spotlight

In supporting Seabees, our “Non-Profit in the Spotlight” page highlights additional resources available for Bees in need.



About Us

It is our responsibility and our honor to give back to those who have served.

WHO WE ARE

We are a catalyst for community connection. E4V mobilizes civilians and professionals to support our greatest national treasure- our veterans and their families.

WHO WE SERVE

We serve eligible veterans (and spouses) who are experiencing financial difficulties. We do not provide assistance for emergency care.

WHAT WE DO

We work in concert with civilians and professionals to provide free comprehensive dental care, goods, & services, to eligible veterans of the U.S Armed Forces and their spouses.

Our Mission

Everyone for Veterans empowers veterans to lead healthy and fulfilled lives by providing them with resources, support, and comprehensive dental care.

Our Core Values

Service: Each day, we make intentional decisions and take action to benefit others.

Compassion: We are committed to compassionately serving veterans with empathy, respect, and dignity.

Gratitude: We approach every day from a position of gratitude, being thankful for the opportunity to serve those who have served and sacrificed so much.

Community: We believe in including the community in the care of veterans and creating caring communities where veterans feel like they belong.

Respect: We value everyone and treat people with dignity and professionalism.

Everyone for Veterans (E4V) was founded by Dr. Theresa Cheng, 2021's American Dental Association Humanitarian of the Year Award recipient. Wanting to give back to our nation's veterans returning home from deployment, in 2008 she decided to pay forward her dental expertise and provide free dental care to several combat veterans and their spouses at her private practice in Issaquah, WA. It immediately became apparent the veteran community was greatly underserved concerning dental services, so she contacted some colleagues who eagerly agreed to provide the same pro-bono services at their clinics. E4V became a 501c3 in January of 2017 and has developed into an award-winning non-profit partnered with an extensive network of pro-bono dental providers.

Everyone for Veterans is driven and enriched by the diverse perspectives each individual member brings to our E4V community. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our board and staff, clients, volunteers, subcontractors, and vendors. E4V does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), national origin (ancestry), immigration status, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, employment status, military or veteran status or any other characteristic protected by applicable law.

For more information on how to obtain services or support this cause, please visit:
www.everyoneforveterans.org

REUNIONS & EVENTS

“If you never did, you should. These are fun and fun is good.” -Dr. Seuss

SEABEE BIRTHDAY EVENTS

Hawaii Seabee Ball
Friday, March 1 - Honolulu, HI,
Hale Koa Hotel

National Capitol Region Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - Arlington, VA
Crystal Gateway Marriott

Hampton Roads Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - Virginia Beach, VA
The Westin, Virginia Beach Town Center

Jacksonville, FL Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - Jacksonville, FL,
The River Club

Blairsville, GA Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - Hiawassee, GA,
The Ridges Resort

Midwest Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - Bloomington, MN,
Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington

Camp Lejeune Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - Camp Lejeune, NC, Marston
Pavilion

China Lake Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - China Lake, CA
Kerr McGee Community Center

Oklahoma Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 2 - Oklahoma City, OK
OKC Bricktown Hilton Garden Inn

Guam Seabee Ball
Friday, March 8 - Hyatt Guam

Pacific Northwest Seabee Ball
Friday, March 8 - Kiana Lodge, Poulsbo, WA

Okinawa Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 9 - Camp Butler Officer's Club,
Camp Foster

Sigonella Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 9 - Sigonella, Sicily
Blue Panorama, Aci catena CT

Gulfport Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 9 - IP Casino Biloxi, MS

Newport Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 9 - Reef Restaurant

Ventura County Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 9 - Commemorative Air Force,
SoCal Wing, Camarillo

San Diego Seabee Ball
Friday, March 15 - Marriott Marquis

Rota Seabee Ball
Saturday, March 16

SEABEE REUNIONS & EVENTS

Wreath Laying
March 2
Seabee Memorial, WA DC

Wake Island Reunion
August 15-17
California Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

NSVA Island X-24 Reunion
April 30-May 5
The Ramsey Hotel,
Pigeon Forge, TN

MCB 11 & NMCB 8 Reunion
Sept 23-26,
Stone Castle Hotel, Branson, MO

NSVA Island X-1 Gulfport All Seabee Reunion
May 2-5
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront

NMCB 12 Reunion (2nd)
Sept 27-29
Hampton Inn, Westport, MA

NMCB 121 Reunion
May 2-5
Courtyard Gulfport Beachfront

NMCB 121 Reunion (2nd)
Sept 27-29 - Westport, MA
Hampton Inn, Westport, MA

UCT 50th Anniversary Reunion
May 17-19
Port Hueneme, CA

CBMU 302 Reunion
October 10-12,
Thousand Hills Resort Hotel
Branson, MO

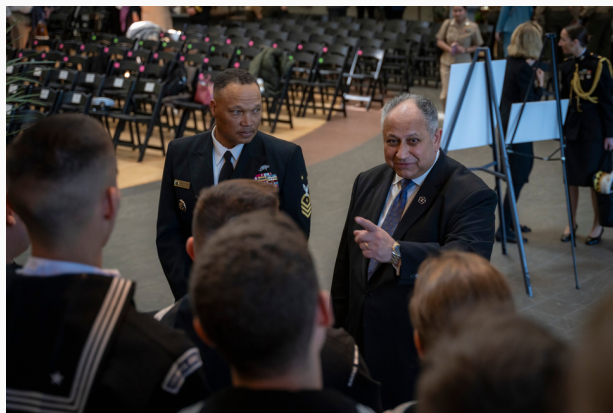
MCB 12 Reunion
May 21-25, Bath, AME

NMCB 14 Reunion Association
October 12,
NAS Jax

Belvoir Nukes & MUSE Reunion
June 17-21
Riverside Inn
Grants Pass, OR

NMCB 4 Reunion
November 7-10
Golden Nugget Casino/Resort
Las Vegas, NV

For more details about these events,
go to www.seabee.org/events



SECNAV Carlos Del Toro talks to Sailors as FLTCM Delbert Terrell looks on prior to the USNS James D. Fairbanks (T-ATS 13) Naming Celebration