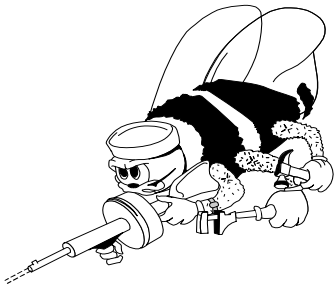


MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 4, Issue 1

October 31, 2001



Seabees

A Newsletter for Former US Naval

Mobile Construction Battalion 2 Personnel

and host to CBD 1802, CBD 1804, CBMU 1, CBMU 101 and CBMU 577

WOW! WHAT A REUNION!!

**One We'll Never
Forget!**

No matter where we were, if we made it to San Antonio or not, this is one reunion we will never forget, nor will we want to. September 11, 2001, is now more infamous than December 7, 1941, and San Antonio is going to be remembered because of it. Those that were able to attend had a great time. The tours were really good, the Ship's Store was the best ever and the banquet was superb! Now, on to Cleveland!

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**Another Great
Reunion!**

From Pete Elliott, Commander

1991, Springfield, MO; 1993, Nashville, TN; 1995, Las Vegas, NV; 1997, Denver, CO; 1999, Charleston, SC; 2001, San Antonio, TX. Next is Cleveland, OH. The list is growing and getting better.

I would like to thank the committee and the membership for re-appointing me as national

(Continued on page 2)

Cruise Book Update

The 1952 Atsugi cruise book and the 1954 Cubi Point cruise book are available. They were at the San Antonio reunion and will be made available in Cleveland. If you would like a copy of either one, please notify Scott Williams and one will be sent. Either book is \$35 including shipping.

(Continued from page 1)

chairman for the Cleveland reunion. With your help, participation and suggestions, Cleveland will be the best! Because of the events of September 11, several of our members were unable to attend. **YOU WERE MISSED.**

Scott and I have worked very hard and are pleased to announce that we have been able to get ALL the money refunded from Armed Forces Reunions, Inc., for all members who were unable to attend or arrived late and missed tours. For those of you affected, you should get a check for the full amount from AFRI owed you no later than the end of October. If you haven't received a check for the full amount owed you by now, contact Scott or myself.

Under the circumstances, the reunion was a total success. A lot of business was accomplished and a great time was had by all. For those who attended, if you have a complaint or a suggestion on how we could have done better, please write to me.

We all deeply regret the events of September 11. Our prayers will be with the victims and the families of those lost at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Flight 93 in Pennsylvania. We must also pray for our military personnel, the members of law enforcement and our firefighters who have the job of protecting America.

**FLY OUR FLAG OR DISPLAY IT AND
GOD BLESS AMERICA!**

J.K. 'Pete' Elliott
P.O. Box 771221
Lakewood, OH 44107

Seabees

August – September Dates to Remember

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Aug. 6, 1945 | Bombing of Hiroshima |
| Aug. 7, 1942 | 1st marine Division lands on Guadalcanal |
| Aug. 9, 1945 | Bombing of Nagasaki |
| Aug. 11, 1942 | Camp Endicott, Davisville, RI, commissioned. Original home of the Seabees. |
| Aug. 14, 1945 | Japan surrenders. |
| Aug. 20, 1942 | OIC, 6th NCB, arrives at Guadalcanal, first CEC/Seabee Officer to enter a combat zone. |
| Sept. 1, 1942 | 6th NCB Seabees arrive at Guadalcanal, first Seabees to enter a combat zone. |
| Sept. 2, 1945 | Formal surrender of Japan. WW II ends. |
| Sept. 14, 1892 | Admiral Ben Moreell's birthday. |
| Sept. 15, 1950 | Seabees land at Incheon, Korea. |



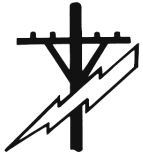
Notes from our



- thanks] I read **Bill Alwine's** report of Navy service and I remember him from K-3 and I thought Adak also, but his dates are not the same as mine. I don't think anyone that was ever station-

tioned there for any length of time liked it. **Warren Flading** and I have always wondered if anyone has ever heard the whereabouts of **Ray Sorenson** who was stationed at K-3 with us and he was up in Adak with me the second time I was sent there. He was a body and fender man and was a very good baseball player. He played on the Marines K-3 team while we were there. Came from Phoenix, AZ. Keep up the excellent work. I belong to a local Seabee group and you guys are doing a much better job than they are. [we try harder].... from **William C. Pemberton**: I am enclosing my dues [thanks]. I received the July 1, 2001, Newsletter..... from **Bill Ganske**: [an e-mail] Well, I am writing you about my status on the Good Guy List. I believe I am paid up, so please check to see if I am right. [darn! I goofed again. Glad you caught it, Bill] Also, I would like to thank you on the wonderful job you are doing. As for the item from **Erv Lampe**, yes, he was not much of a boss but that was only because there wasn't much up there (sorry, **Erv**. You know how it is.) Also, **Erv**, I still have more pictures (ha ha). My e-mail address is wag1934@jps.net. (My apologies, **Erv**. I forgot you don't know how to read.) Take care..... from **Yung Hark Ketels**: Well, it seems like I am late with my annual dues again. Will try to be more prompt in the future. [OK, and thanks for the check] I started my tour with MCB 2 in 1954 at Cubi Point. I worked primarily on the upper and lower concrete water tanks and some on the construction of the new wooden galley in the green hut area. I was also on security as Sergeant of the Guard for a three-month stint. I really enjoyed my tours at Cubi Point primarily because I learned more about construction there than any other tour I had with the 'Bees. That learning experience helped me with all my future tours with the 'Bees and the CEC Corps, as I stayed in and made it a career, retiring in 1972.

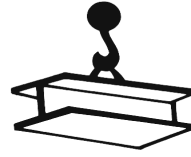
From **Chuck Kangas**: Just a short note with my dues [thanks] and a little extra for a roster [on the way]. I really appreciate the Newsletter. I was looking forward to the San Antonio reunion but will not be able to attend. I'll shoot for the next one..... from **Isabelle Karekin [Greg Karekin's sister]**: Many thanks for all your help. Did I tell you **Greg** was buried in Arlington? [yes, you did but I'm glad you told me again. **Isabelle** sent dues, also. Thank you.]..... from **Bob Janson**: I guess it is time for me to ante-up and join up and pay up! When I got out of the service, I swore I wouldn't even join a crowd, but the exception has to be this. [yes, it sure is.] Please find a check enclosed for the balance of this year and for the 2002 dues. [thanks] Also, if it is enough, please send an up-to-date roster. I don't think I can make the reunion but I'll be thinking of all of my old (REAL OLD) Seabee buddies. I didn't recognize many of the guys in the last reunion photos. They were all much too old to be the ones I was stationed with! Ha! ☺ Also, please note my new address..... from **Bruce Kitts**: I wish to re-nominate myself for the Good Guy List. Enclosed find my check for dues plus a bit extra [thanks, **Bruce**. You are back on] I wish to request a series of notes. I have been intrigued by the graphics that are printed in the *Notes from our members* sections. I'll bet that they are the present Seabee ratings. Since I go back to when the little Seabees were just climbing out of the mud (the Middle World War), I don't know what they represent. I feel ignorant. Please help my ignorance. [I sent **Bruce** an explanation of the rating symbols.]..... from **Bob Lohrentz**: I won't be able to get to San Antonio but will be sending my dues. [got them



(Continued from page 3)

Hopefully, someday I can make one of the reunions. I look forward to the Newsletter. I do not recognize many of the names, probably due to age, but ever so often I run

across a name that brings back fond memories..... received dues from **Marvin Guetling**, **Norman Eveleth**, **Wayne Bulgerin**, and **Willie Free** [thanks]..... from **Roy Emmons**: Here's my dues [thanks]. Seems like I can never remember this. Keep up the good work. I'm not sure if I will make it to San Antonio. When you get my age there are a lot of reunions to keep track of. There's my family in July, my wife's family in August, and my high school in September. I also served with MCB 4 in North Africa and Newfoundland, MCB 62 in Vietnam from 1967-1969, with ACB 2 in Virginia from 1960-1964. I would be interested in hearing from anyone who served at those times with any of those units. We thank God for our good health and staying busy every day..... from **Dan Svendsen**: Hope this catches me up [it does for 2001. Thanks]. I probably won't make it to San Antonio as we will be traveling instead to my father's birthplace in Denmark to see many, many relatives that I have never seen before and to discover my roots[great! Enjoy and we will miss seeing you] from **Myron Strausheim**: My wife, **Barbara**, has been fighting cancer for 4 years and just couldn't go anymore. The Lord called her home on June 1, 2001. We both wanted to go to San Antonio but she was too ill. We were married 30 years. [our condolences, **Myron.**] [and thanks for the dues]..... from **Mary Fudge**: [she sent a funeral notice] This is the simpler way for me to inform you of my husband's [**Jasper**] death. You may remove his name from the mailing list of the Seabees. He treasured and shared his memories of his time of maturing in the Seabees. I will miss him forever. Good luck..... **Stoney Serrett** called me to tell me about the death of **Al Ostroski** and of the health problems of **James Wommack**. [**James** has lost both kidneys and is waiting for a kidney transplant. Keep **James** in your prayers].....



from **Jim Legget**: From the day the local draft board guys came to the ranch and dragged me out from under the porch where I had been hiding, I knew I had a brilliant career in

the military ahead of me. It was either the Navy or a foxhole and the choice wasn't hard to make. September of 1950 found me in boot camp in San Diego and, after they taught me how to walk the Navy way, I ended up in Port Huene, CA. It was there that I met 3 guys that I will remember for the rest of my life. **Glen L. Sisco** from Wanaque, NJ; **James T. "Dutch" Van Buskirk** from Providence, RI; and **Jerry Wilkening** from Puddlehucky, AR. It soon became apparent that I had to do something to carry these guys through school or they weren't going to make it. It was only because of my superior knowledge of 'lectrons' and 'nuclear fisics' was I able to get them through to graduation. <Smile> After graduation from CE school, the powers that be decided that stateside wasn't good enough for us so **Jerry**, **Dutch**, and I went to the 124th NCB in Adak (I believe **Sisco** was sent to Hollywood). I was assigned to the Powerplants Division. I spent time on Engine and Electrical Board watches at NAF facility near the new barracks and the recently acquired old Air Force generating plant down by the warehouses and port area. I spent most of my time at Powerplant #2 until I 'conned' my way into being sent to Great Sitkan Island where I took care of the generator sets there for about 6 months replacing **Tommy Simmons**. After doing my year in Alaska, I was sent to MCB 2 at Subic Bay and was re-united with **Jerry**, **Sisco**, and **Dutch**. I was assigned to the night shift down on the strip and kept the lights shinning at night so the equipment operators could see. At times I would relieve an operator on a D-8 and scraper just to break the monotony. It was generally a pretty dull job except for times like when a Seabee put the right track of his D-8 Cat into the right seat of Ensign **Schwartz's** Jeep. It was the first time I realized an officer could fly without wings. Sometimes an operator would go to sleep and run his D-8 up into the back of the



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scraper ahead of him and it would sound like somebody dropped a sack of tin cans. I never realized the skill of the Seabee Tournapull operators until

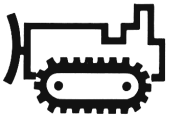
later when I ran one in civilian life. It was the only machine I ever saw that thought for itself. **Bob Basart** and I worked on the same job in Oregon. The name 'Widow Maker' was an apt name for them. Days were hot and unbearable in the tents. For the first month or so, we had no screen on the tents and bugs the size of dive bombers would descend at the first sign of light. Monkeys would get into the tents during the day and generally make a mess. In 1953, my father died and my mother was left the impossible task of running the ranch. I was able to get a hardship discharge and return to civilian life. It was then that I made a pledge to myself that the only way they would get me again would be to burn the woods and sift the ashes to find me. At the present time, I am the Accounting Supervisor for a construction company in Yakima, WA. I am enclosing pictures of **Glen Sisco, Jerry Wilkening, Elio Chica**, myself and some fellows who shared the tent whose names I forget. I am also enclosing dues [thanks, and welcome aboard!] and would like to have addresses for **Glen** and **Jerry**. [I'm sending a roster]..... from **Bill Wilcoxon**: Thanks for the prompt response and for the Newsletters [**Bill** had contacted me from an ad we ran about the reunion]. I recognized a lot of names and it brought back a flood of memories. I found you in the Oregon Vets Newsletter. I had seen the MCB 2 Reunion notice before but not CBMU 1/101. Enclosed is my check for dues, a roster and a bit extra [thanks]. If it isn't enough, please let me know. I called **Mick Kelly** and he is also going to contact you. I may call you or contact you on the Internet with a few more questions. I don't know if we will make it to San Antonio, but we're going to try [sure hope you do]. Hope to see you soon and many thanks..... from **Juanita (Leonard) Hershberger**: Just a line or two to say we received



the Atsugi cruise book today and **Hersh** is so pleased to get it. He is almost bed-ridden now with the other hip bone-on-bone. He can walk a few steps with a walker, but the

pain is BAD and can't sit up at all. Surgery is almost out of the question because he already has blood clots in his leg. We see another doctor tomorrow. He wanted you and all the old gang from MOB 2 that, tho' he can't be at the reunion, he'll be with you in spirit. Enclosed is a check for the Atsugi book [thanks]. Thanks again for your great job well done. Our regards to everyone..... received checks from **John Noetzel** and **Charles Rebb** for their Atsugi books [thanks] from **Denise King**: I am sorry to write that my father, **Donald L. Truskey**, passed away December 30, 1999. This was only 20 days after my mother passed away. With all of the arrangements and estate settlements I regret that I have not notified you sooner of his passing. My father was very proud to serve his country and to be a member of your association. To respect his memory, I would like to continue to pay his membership dues [thank you very much]. I would like for you to change the address so the Newsletter will come to my address instead of my father's. Thank you very much for your consideration..... from **Gene Kumpf**: [I sent **Gene** a copy of the Atsugi cruise book and he returned it] I didn't realize the cruise book was the same as the year book. I have one of the original year books and don't need two. Hope it's alright that I'm returning it. [absolutely.... You sure don't need two]..... from **Joe Sobczak**: Enclosed are my dues [thanks] and I have changes for the roster [OK... check the changes column] from **Mel Dixon**: I received the Atsugi cruise book and I think it is great [thanks]. Thanks for all your effort. I know it took a lot of work. I was especially glad to get the group pictures and the listing of the names. I remember a lot of them. I have a lot of pictures of all the construction but had no group pictures. Enclosed is my check for the book and a bit extra for stamps [thanks for that]. Also, if you have the time, which I doubt, I wonder if you could check and see if **K.G. Ka-**

(Continued from page 5)



rekin ordered a book before he passed away last year [no, he didn't]. He was our C.O. of the Plans Section. If you have any extra books, I would like his sister

to have one. If you can do this, just bill me for it. Tell her it is a gift from all the guys of his Section. [I called her and asked if she would like the one from you and she was delighted.] Thanks, until you are better paid..... received checks for Atsugi cruise books from **Roy Peak** and **Don Henderson** [thanks. Hope you enjoy it] **Roy** added a note saying he had been away watching his daughter's U-pick blueberry farm from **James F. Gray**: I noticed in the July issue of the American Legion Magazine a reunion for MCB 2 in San Antonio is scheduled. What years will be covered with this reunion? I served with MOB 2 in Cubi Point, Subic Bay, from February 1956 until our return to Port Hueneme in July 1956 and until my release in October 1956. I was a Builder 3rd Class and worked on the housing project in the hills on the upper deck form crew. Prior to this time I was with MOB 10 for 11 months on Kwajalein, Det. Able, and then 7 months on Guam. I don't know if I will be able to attend this year's reunion but am interested in how often you meet and would hope to be able to attend some time in the future. [I sent **Jim** six or seven back issues of the Newsletter and a note of encouragement to attend the reunions.] from **Frank Gray**: I am enclosing a check for dues, the remaining portion of this year and next year [thanks]. I appreciate your sending the Newsletters. [**Frank** found us from a VFW ad and I sent him some back issues of the Newsletter.] I have just about read all of the reading off of them. They brought back so many memories. I will attempt to come to the reunion but am not sure if I can make it..... from **Roy Peak**: Enclosed are my dues, which should take me up to the Minneapolis reunion in 2003..... from **Charles Rebb**: Sad news to report that **Tony Yri-zarry** passed away..... from **Isabelle Karekin**: [I sent a copy of the Atsugi cruise book as a gift from **Mel Dixon** and this is her response] What



a handsome volume you've turned out! It's so well-organized from the first page to the last and a real page-turner. The next thing we know you'll be in the publishing business, along with your other

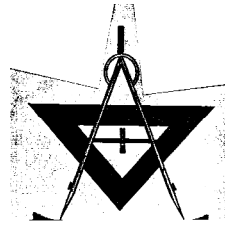
activities. I hope it sells well at the reunion. I can't imagine anyone in the group not wanting a copy. Enjoy the reunion - I'm sure it will be great. p.s. I've written Mr. **Dixon** to express my thanks for his thoughtfulness..... from **Howard Cornwell**: [**Howard** called me after seeing our ad in the VFW magazine. I sent him six or seven back issues of the Newsletter and a note of encouragement to attend the reunions.] Thanks for the Newsletters, they are great. I recognized a few of the pictures and picked out four names from your Good Guy list. I'm sending a check for my dues and the membership roster. It is a little short notice for this year's reunion but maybe next time..... from **Les Hall**: Sign me up and send a new roster please [**Les** sent a check for dues. Thanks] I was in CBD 1804 in Korea at K-3 and K-18 and K-6. I left there around August of 1953 and went to MCB 10 on Guam. Stayed there until about June of 1954 and was then discharged. Thanks for the back issues of the Newsletters. The phone number you have for **Ray Sorrentino** in Venice, Florida, has been disconnected, so hope he has sent you the new one. **Richard Jackson**, MCB 2 & MCB 10, passed away in Albuquerque about June 2000 with cancer and **Gerald Moore**, CBD 1804, passed away in Pendleton, Oregon, about May 2001 with a brain tumor..... from **Mel Dixon**: Thanks for sending the Atsugi cruise book to Ms. Karekin. I know you must be real busy now with the reunion and all. I am glad there were blank pages in the book. I filled mine up with photos. Enclosed find a check for the book and if it isn't enough, let me know. If it's too much, keep it for stamps. [thanks. Just right]..... from **Gene & Jo McDonagh**: Just a few words to bring you up-to-date. This has been a most distressing year for us involving selling our Brooklyn house (and losing the sale 4 times!), building an extension on our daughter's house (which took many, many months longer than expected),



(Continued from page 6)

renting an apartment in the interim and storing all our furniture. The costs involved were overwhelming! So... unfortunately, the trip to Texas had to be cancelled. We are saddened by

this as we love the reunions. **Gene** and I will be with all of you in spirit. Please keep us in your prayers. [check their new address on page 11] from **Paul Trotter**: My dues are enclosed [thanks]. I don't know if they are due or if it will pay me up to date [you're good until our next reunion]. I didn't get to know too many men in the battalion due to my rate. I was a surveyor and I was generally in and out of projects before the construction crews arrived. Two things I do remember doing was laying out the back road going up to the hut area and laying out the carrier pier. My crew placed a sign at the top of the road which read, "Another Freeway For Your Convenience." I returned to Cubi Point/Subic Bay in 1988, '89, and '90 as a part of the reserve unit "PWC Subic Bay." In September 1990, PWC Subic Bay was called up for "Desert Storm." I couldn't believe how everything had changed. Cubi Point NAS was beautiful. I hated to see the bases go to the government of the Philippines. I wonder what they are like now..... from **Lane Freitag**: I had a heart failure August 13. The medics got me to Antelope Valley Hospital in Lancaster, CA. I was in the emergency room and my heart just quit. They gave me a shock treatment. I survived. I was on morphine and nitroglycerine for a week. I now have a stent implant in front of my heart. I'm OK now. Have to go for a check-up in late September and November with a heart specialist. I'm here at Quartz Hill, CA. Thanks for all the info. My friend, **Bud Dunken**, is in Sepulveda Nursing Home. I'm sending my dues [thanks]. I may go to the reunion and thanks again..... from **Doug Thorp**: I will probably see you in San Antonio before you receive this letter. I'm rather a "never do today what you can put off until tomorrow" guy, as you can see on the check date, and



that's the third one I've made out but canceled due to age of check. Hope bank of America will honor it. If not, let me know. [thanks, **Doug**] A fast few words in order to get this in the mail today: I was in MCB 2 from

March 1952 thru December 1953, then transferred to CBMU 101 in January 1954. I stayed in 101 until August 1955, first at K-6 (MAG 12) until it shut down, then K-3 until about May with the last months at Iwakuni. I was called to active duty from original CB Division 13-6, Spokane, Washington, as a CN. My first job in MCB 2 was watching for "Pappy" **Bowman** painting the newly constructed Builder School at Port Hueneme. I hate painting - always have - always will. About two or three weeks later, I was told to report to the Personnel Office where the chief asked if I wanted to work there as I could type. Anything to get out of painting. Anyway, I worked in the Personnel Office for several months until PN **John Bober** and a YN 1st came aboard. I then transferred to Operations, working there until my good friend **Bob Scholl** told me they were looking for surveyors in the Surveyor Crew (Lt. **Edwards'** old group). So, I went to work with the survey crew on Camayan Point doing topo surveys and later locating the road up from the pier with Chief **Maddox**. Which reminds me, someone asked about filming of operations by the US Navy. I can attest that, yes, the Navy photo group from Pearl Harbor did, in fact, do that. Chief **Maddox's** crew was in the picture taking during the initial grading work on the sharp curve at the top of the hill up from the carrier pier. I never heard if anything was ever published, though. As survey requirements drew down at Camayan Point, I was reassigned to a crew that dug footing for the ammo huts and constructed forms for the concrete. After some time at this, I was put in charge of the fill survey crews at the POL tank farm. In Korea, I held several jobs - construction crew leader, CMAA, Operations Office YN at K-6, Personnel Office at K-3, and Personnel Office at Iwakuni where my boss was a USMC 1st Lieu-

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tenant. Well, this is way too much other than to say I reenlisted in the regular Navy as a Builder 1st in K-6. Stayed in the Navy until retirement at Naval Support Activity Seattle in September 1974. Enclosed is a check for dues and personnel listing [thanks]. Any extra is for the extra it costs to send mail here in Mexico. Also enclosed are some photos..... from **Jim (Gladys) Womack**: Jim would like to purchase a Seabee flag and we wondered if you might have an idea where we could get one [on the way!]. After the horrific acts inflicted on our country, patriotism is a high priority now and, along with flying the American flag, we would like to fly a Seabee flag. We did not try to make the reunion this year due to **Jim's** loss of both of his kidneys and the problems that has entailed for both of us. But we were glad to hear that some of the people made it there and the reunion went well. I imagine the mood was quite different from the good times of years past but also imagine it was heart-warming to be with comrades at such a time..... from **Erv Lampe**: If I can be of any help with nameplates for the next reunion, let me know. [for those that saw **Erv's** nametag at the reunion, it was beautiful. His daughter is a graphics designer and **Erv** has volunteered her help]..... from **Lloyd Kallsen**: [**Lloyd** had called me before the reunion to trade his Cubi Point book for an Atsugi book] My wife and I had reservations to attend the reunion but couldn't get there due to all flights canceled. We haven't missed any reunions in the past and really regret missing this year. Several weeks ago I contacted you by phone to ask if I could exchange my Cubi book for the Atsugi book at the reunion, but that didn't work out. Enclosed find the Cubi Point book in exchange for the Atsugi book along with my check for same. Sorry it has taken so long to get this matter corrected [hey, no problem. Glad to oblige]..... received Door Prize Certificates for one year's dues from **Donald Bradley, Michael Piro, Paul D'Angelo, Erv Lampe, and John Petronka** from **Phil Brunelle**: Enclosed are my dues [thanks]. I usually pay up at the reunion, but... I called and

talked with **Sam Ragusa** and asked him to give my best to all. **Sam** called back and informed me the next reunion will be in Cleveland, which we are looking forward to. San Antonio sounded like a great time and my wife **Pat** and I were really looking forward to another great reunion. It's the first one we have missed. Well, anyway, we are looking forward to Cleveland, and our next Newsletter..... from **Bennie Carlson**: I was glad to make contact with you and know there is an outfit that CBD 1804 has hooked up with. Thanks for the back issues of the Newsletter. They are very informative and entertaining. I'm enclosing a check for dues plus some extra for a roster. A note about myself and connection to Seabees. I signed up for a three-year hitch in August 1948 after WW II was over and the Navy was offering a three-year hitch with no reserves afterward, which sounded good to me. Then, I served a tour of duty (18 months) on Adak, Alaska — wonderful little island!! While I was there, the Korean War started — and they froze the tour of duty on Adak. Uncle Harry invited us all to spend an extra year on our enlistments, so I got to stay on that beautiful little island spot in the Aleutians for a full two years. Then he gave me an all-expense-paid trip overseas to K-3, Pusan, Korea, where I spent the final 8 months of the extra year of my hitch. Harry must have been real pleased with me as he didn't let me out even one day early from that year even though he was separating some 30 to 60 days early (luck of the draw!). After the Seabees, I went to work for a short time, got married, went back to college, got a DVM degree and spent the next 23 years in a veterinary practice before a career change to USDA, FSIS, and worked in food safety inspection service for the next 12 years. I retired in '95 and was convinced in a weak moment to continue as a retired annuitant with inspection service, where I now spend a day here and there to replace the full-time supervising veterinary medical officer. I have three children, three grandchildren and one great grandchild. Sorry I received the notice of the San Antonio reunion too late or my wife and I would have attended....th-th-that's all, folks.....until next time.

A Challenge and a Commitment

The CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation is spearheading a drive to raise \$8,000,000 to build a new museum worthy of the Seabee heritage dating back to WW II to replace the present one at Port Hueneme. For those of you who have visited the museum lately, you have seen how crowded it is and how much Seabee history is there and in desperate need of better preservation in the years to come. Numerous artifacts are stored outside in the weather. Many of the stories about the Seabees over the years cannot be displayed due to lack of space. Also, older exhibits dating from WW II are starting to show their age and, if not properly preserved, will deteriorate over the years to the point where we will lose much of our Seabee heritage to the elements.

At our reunion in San Antonio, Capt. Bill Hilderbrand (Ret.) spoke at our General Business Meeting and presented a challenge to MCB 2 members to pledge \$10,000 over 5 years to support the effort to rebuild and modernize the museum. A motion was made, seconded, and voted unanimously to support this effort by raising our dues \$5 per year to be used as a portion of the money necessary to reach the \$10,000 goal. (See page 16-17 for the minutes of the General Meeting.) Some members pledged an additional amount and we need all members to consider making that commitment. If any of you are interested in contributing to the Museum rebuild effort, cut or copy the coupon below and send it to Scott Williams at the address on the form. A record of pledges will be shown in each Newsletter with a total pledged to date (see page 14). MCB 2 Reunion Association will be recognized with a bronze plaque on the entrance to the new museum for its support of the rebuild effort.

CEC/Seabee Port Hueneme Museum Modernization Project ***MCB 2 Association Member Pledge Card***

(Name/s) _____, hereby pledge (full amount) \$ _____ in direct support of the Port Hueneme CEC/Seabee Museum modernization project. This pledge will be retired in (circle one) 1 2 3 4 5 years. The first payment ___ is enclosed, or ___ will be forwarded on or about (month/day) ____/____/2001. In the case of multiple-year pledges, this date becomes the anniversary for future payments.

Notice of payment due will be sent at least 30 days ahead of each anniversary date.

Signed: _____ Date: ____/____/____ Phone: (____) _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

*Make checks payable to: CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation.
Mail pledge cards and all payment checks to: Scott H. Williams, 7221 Trading Post Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89128*



**WELCOME,
NEW MEMBERS!**

Bennie Carlson
16553 Oster Point Road
Cold Spring, MN 56320
(320) 685-7405
docnlee@netlinkcom.com
CBD 1804

Howard K. 'Corny' Cornwell
27217 Walnut Springs Ave.
Canyon Country, CA 91351
(661) 252-0971
CBD 1802/MCB 2

Norman J. Eveleth
251 SE Arcadia Shores Road
Shelton, WA 98584
(360) 426-7342
CBMU 1/101

Lane Freitag
42243 Ringstem Ave., Apt. J-3
Lancaster, CA 93536

Kenneth D. Gaskell
305 Hunter Circle
Riverton, WY 82501
(307) 856-0574
CBMU 101

James F. (Frank) Gray
10 Crested Tern Court
The Woodlands, TX 77380
(281) 367-7608
RowGray@aol.com
MCB 2

Marvin Guetling
2145 Five Dollar Road
Evansville, IN 47720-8930
(812) 985-3126
CBMU 1/101



NEW MEMBERS!,
Continued

Robert Janson
112 Holly Ave.
Brewster, MA 02631
Rejanson@earthlink.net
CBMU 1/101 K-3

Denise E. King
For Donald L Truskey
305 Whitman Court
Edmond, OK 73003
CBMU 1/101

Donald J. 'Jim' Legget
105 N. 94th Place
Yakima, WA 98908
(509) 965-7957
Jimlegget@home.com
MCB 2

William C. Pemberton
806 State Route 25
Oswego, IL 60543-9465
Pember85@aol.com
CBMU 577

William 'Bill' Wilcoxon
1417 E. Alder
Veronia, OR 97064
(503) 429-8891
CBMU 1/101

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.

MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Wayne Bulgerin
407 Bumby Ridge Drive
Burnet, TX 78611
(512) 793-6821

Charles Hagemann
117 Tierra Grande
Cibolo, TX 78108
(210) 566-7749

Gene McDonagh
18 Hickory Lane
Levittown, NY 11756
(516) 520-4601

Pat Morris
15396 Hargis Court
Rolla, MO 65401
573-364-5506
Pat@weblube.com

Stoney Serrett
3942 Ridgmar Lane
Abilene, TX 79606
(915) 691-0325

Joseph M. Sobczak
201 Sage St.
Bay City, MI 48706
(989) 686-2873
Josephsobczak@msn.com

Dale Yoder
1083 6th Ave.
McPherson, KS 67460
(316) 834-2331

Dues Have Been Increased!

At our Biannual General Meeting held in San Antonio, Texas, the membership voted to increase our dues to help fund the Port Hueneme Modernization Project. As of September 13, 2001, our annual dues are \$20, \$5 of which will be donated to the Modernization Project. After the project has been funded to our commitment of \$10,000, the additional \$5 will be used to offset our expenses for publishing the Newsletter, etc. If you would care to send an additional amount to help this project, please see page 9.

The Commander and Staff

Our leadership consists of:

**Commander
Pete Elliott**

Staff:

Darla Budworth, Tours
Joe DeFranco
David Haines
Rich Nelson
Roy Peak, Vice Commander
Malcolm Pearson
Stoney Serrett, Commander Emeritus
Ted Speros
Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas.

THE GOOD-GUY LIST

Vance Adams, James Adkins, Harold Agles, Walter Ahem, William Alwine, David Anderson, Don Anderson, Lionel Antley, Eugene Antoine, Basil Arnold, Joe Ates, Lyle Auseth, Pat Badgett, Lewis Baker, Richard Baker, Jack Balding, Edwin Ballerstein, Benjamin Balog, Joe Barbree, Don Barry, Bruce Barton, Glen Bates, Emil Bazzoli, Raymond Beaulieu, Henry Benguerel, Hank Bentson, Frank Betonte, Ralph Binney, Vernon Blakeslee, John Bloem, John Bober, William Body, Ralph Bokern, James Bolton, Alexander Borys, Robert Bowdler, Thomas Bowen, Donald Bradley, Art Bredefeld, John Brown, Philip Brunelle, Al Bryant, Silas Bucher, Robert Buckley, David Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, Alfred Burkhardt, L.P. Burleigh, Ralph Burnley, James Cain, Lex Camden, Elwin 'Shorty' Campbell, Jim Carey, Patrick Carey, William B. Carter, William F. Carter, Mike Castelvechi, Kenneth Catchpole, Mylo Cayou, Frank Chambers, George Chang, C.L. Chapman, Ken Chew, Ronald Claypool, Walt Cloonan, Robert Coley, Robert Colquhoun, David Conahey, Roy Cone, Robert Conroe, Howard Cornwell, Charles Coughlin, Jack Coulter, Fred Cozad, Ballard Credeur, Pat Cunningham, John Cure, Paul D'Angelo, Arnold Daisy, Marvin Dalby, Stan Dauer, Harold Davis, Ed Dechant, Joseph DeFranco, Jim DeKeyser, Mike Del Busso, Don DeLisi, Theodore DeVit, Jimmie Dillman, Melvin Dixon, Bob Doezie, Tom Donahue, George Dorge, Carroll Dowell, Howard Doyle, William Duensing, Marshall Dunne, Gene Edmondson, J.K. "Pete" Elliott, Don Eminhizer, Roy Emmons, Doug Emond, George Epright, Jon Ericson, Ralph Evans, Norman Eveleth, Richard Fairbanks, Bruno Fanucchi, Richard Farbo, Galen Farnsworth, Frank Fibich, Warren Flading, John Fletcher, Carl Fogelson, Forrest Foland, Jack Foster, Bill Frazier, Willie Free, Lane Freitag, Al Fritz, Willis Gallagher, William Ganske, Claude Garcenot, Ken Gaskell, Don Gelroth, Roger Germondson, John Ginther, Ron Glasser, Albert Glenn, Allan Goller, Bob Graf, Fred Granata, Russ Granby, John Grasz, Jim Gray, Jim Green, Clement Gregurek, Frank Gresser, Roy Grisham,

Donald Grobbel, Gerald Grubb, Marvin Guetling, George Gustin, Gordon Gwathney, Charles Hagemann, David Haines, Les Hall, Luther Hall, Alexander Hamilton, Roger Hamilton, Len Hardoin, Arlin Hardwick, Roy Harris, Robert Hart, Lester Harvey, Robert Hauptman, Cleve Haynes, Arthur Hees, Ralph Heitt, Bert Helms, Tom Hendershott, Don Henderson, Duane Henrichson, Gerald Herr, Len Hershberger, Al Hisey, Don Hofstetter, Chuck Holinka, Gerald Hollebeak, Holly Hollingsworth, Sam Holsomback, Ray Hooter, Arthur Hoskinds, Rod Howard, Ron Howatson, Maurice Hughes, Charles Ingalls, Hugh Ireland, William Irvine, Victor Jaccino, Frank Jacus, Robert (Frenchie) Jandreau, Bob Janson, DeVon Jensen, Larry Jessop, Ambros Johnson, Charles Johnson, Ordean Johnson, Don Jones, Henry Jones, John Jurkash, Robert Kaempfe, Lloyd Kallsen, Chuck Kangas, Greg (Isabel) Karekin, Mike Kazarian, Duane Keech, Gordon Keen, Les Keller, L.V. Keptra, Hark Ketels, Richard Keyes, Allen Kim, Capers Kinard, Denise King, Bruce Kitts, William Knight, John Kolasz, Stephen Korkes, George Kraeer, Hazen Kritzman, Emil Krygier, Walter Kumpf, Ken Kuper, Harry Ladley, Benjamin Lally, Ervin Lampe, Ronald Landrum, Art Leable, Max Leavell, Cameron Lee, Jim Legget, Michael Linch, L. H. Lind, Herbert A. Liverman, Jr., Gary Loebrich, Bob Lohrentz, Bob Long, Stanley Lore, Clive Lorenz, Gordon Love, Ken Ludwig, Dale Lundstrom, Tom Maere, Ivan Majetic, Bob Markey, Philip Matalucci, William (Jack) Mayo, Chuck McCabe, Willie McCarley, Norris McDaniel, Riley McDaniel, Eugene McDonagh, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Herbert Meade, Richard Merit, Daniel Millett, Dan Mills, Chuck Minert, Frank Mingo, Gary (Mitch) Mitchell, Roger Mohs, William Moore, Pat Morris, Finley Morrison, Hance Morton, Paul Muma, Richard Muns, Eugene Nelson, Harry Nelson, Richard Nelson, Ray Nethercott, Charles Neugent, Paul Neusetzer, Don Nitsche, John Noetzel, Thomas Nolan, Herman Nugent, Joseph O'Brien, Melvin Olson, Ernest Owens, Tom Padden, Dwight Padgett, Deryl Parris, Billy Partridge, Robert Patinka, Roy Peak, Howard Pearson, Malcolm Pearson, Ben Pedrotti, Dan Pelaez, William Pemberton, John Petronka, Amos Phillips, Mike Piro, Gerald Powell, Earl Presson, Cecil Price, David "Ernie" Pyle, Sam Ragusa, Gary Rawlings, Charles Rebb, John Recklitis, Wayne Rewey, Rex Roark, Gene Robinson, Harry Robinson, Dale Rogers, Lowell Rohrig, Rich-

(Continued from page 12)

ard Rose, George Rosenvold, Thomas Roy, Albert Rubinich, John Ruby, Edner Rudolph, Thomas Ryan, Vinny Ryan, Fred Saathoff, Paul Schell, Darl Schmidt, Millard Schneider, Merle Schnepf, Edwin Scholtz, Cliff Schorr, Jack Schrader, Richard "Herbie" Schreiner, Irwin "Bill" Seesman, Donald Seethaler, Gerald Seger, Stoney Serrett, Richard Shafer, Bill Sharp, Don Shoff, Jim Sichel, Bill Sigmund, Dick Sim, Fred Simon, Bill Simpson, Art Siple, Glenn Sisco, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Ed Smith, Joe Sobczak, Ray Sonnen, Ray Sorrentino, Marvin Sparks, Ted Speros, Virgil Sprague, Kenneth Stancombe, Gene Staples, Thomas Stapleton, Clyde Stenholm, Norman Stentz, Jim Stephens, Lee Stevens, Larry Stevenson, Dan Stewart, John Stock, Ken Stoutland, Myron Strausheim, Willis Struecker, Bob Sutton, Dan Svendsen, Richard Swallow, Robert Swanson, Victor Swanson, James Taylor, Ernest Teoli, Danny Terry, George Terry, Doug Thorp, Richard Todd, William Tracy, Charles Trimarchi, Paul Trotter, Jim Tvede, Al Ulman, Gene Urmev, Harrison "Van" Vanderslice, Gerald Vasquez, Larry Vibber, Lionel Vidrine, John Vidusic, Walter Waddell, Philip Wagenschnur, Hugh Waltz, Billy Ward, Harold Wardenburg, Wilburn Watts, John Weires, Karl Weisenbacher, Duane Weltlich, Cecil Westwood, H.W. "Bud" Wheless, Rodney White, John Wilborn, Bill Wilcoxon, Jerry Wilkening, Marshall Williams, Pete Williams, Scott Williams, Verle Williams, Clarence Williamson, Jack Wilson, Jesse Wilson, Preston Wilson, Robert L. Winkler, Andrew Winzler, Bill Wisnowski, James Wommack, William Wright, Dwight Yetter, James Young, Stephen Yunger and Joe Zeren.

All men listed above have their dues paid at least through 2001, some much longer. If you don't find your name on this list, then maybe you have forgotten to send in your dues recently. All dues are paid through the calendar year, January 1 through December 31. This list is as of September 29, 2001. There are currently 424 paid up members from a mailing list of 453. There are 792 names on the full roster. (SW)

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Need a Membership Roster?

If you have a need for an up-to-date membership roster, drop me a line with a couple of bucks and I'll send you one. We currently have 792 names and addresses of former CBD 1802, CBD 1804, CBMU 1/101, CBMU 577, and MCB 2 personnel, so this is a pretty thick directory (23 pages). Glad to have all aboard! And keep sending those cards and letters – especially the ones with checks!
Scott Williams

Yeah... Being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

Who to contact about your MCB 2 dues -

Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas.
MCB 2 Reunion Association
7221 Trading Post Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89128
(702) 254-1929
e-mail: williash@aol.com
make checks payable to:

Scott Williams/MCB 2

Dues are \$20/year
January - December

This is what keeps us going and enables us to send this Newsletter.

Washing the Dog.....

A young boy, about seven years old, was at the corner grocery picking out a box of laundry detergent. The grocer walked over and asked the boy if he had a lot of laundry to do.

"No laundry," the boy said. "I'm going to wash my dog."

You shouldn't use this to wash your dog," the grocer said. "It's very powerful and if you wash your dog in this, he'll get sick. In fact, it might even kill him."

But the boy was not to be stopped and carried the detergent to the counter and paid for it, even as the grocer still tried to talk him out of using this detergent to wash his dog.

About a week later, the boy was back in the store to buy some candy. The grocer asked the boy how his dog was doing.

"Oh, he died," the boy said.

The grocer, trying not to be an I-told-you-so, said he was sorry the dog died but added, "I tried to tell you not to use that detergent on your dog."

"I don't think it was the detergent that killed him," the boy said.

"Oh? What was it, then?" the grocer asked.

"I think it was the spin cycle," the little boy said.

NOT GOOD NEWS.....

Doctor to patient after physical: "Well, I'm sorry to tell you, but you are dying."

Patient: "Dying! Tell me, how long do I have?"

Doctor: "Ten."

Patient: "Ten! Ten what?! Years? Months? What?!"

Doctor: "Nine..... eight....."

Our Fallen Comrades

Herf Epperson	2/25/01
George Epright	10/1/01
Jasper Fudge	5/23/01
Leonard Hershberger	9/11/01
Richard Jackson	6/00
Gerald Moore	5/01
Al Ostroski	2/16/01
Robert Pagel	11/26/00
Donald Truskey	12/30/99
Antonio R. Yrizarry	8/00/01

May they live on in our memo-

CEC/Seabee Museum Pledges

Name/Source

Rex Roark
Ambrose Johnson
Member Dues

Contributed This Period

\$270.00

Total Actually Contributed to Date

\$270

Pictures from the San Antonio Reunion Banquet

Pete Elliott and Scott Williams

John and Geri Petronka

Rex and Sue Ann Roark

Dave & Darla Budworth and Betty & Jim Young

Dan and Mary Millett

Clorinda Elliott and Sam Ragusa

Minutes
of the
General Meeting
of
MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.
September 15, 2001
San Antonio, Texas

The General Meeting was called to order by Commander Elliott at 8:48 a.m. in the Rio Grande Room of the Sheraton Four Points Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, with approximately 45 members present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cdr. Elliott.

Cdr. Elliott asked for a moment of silent prayer for those killed on September 11.

- A motion was made and carried in the staff meeting held September 12 to change the name of the chairman of MCB 2 Reunion Association from “Commodore” to “Commander” and all support personnel are “Staff.”
- A motion was made by John Petronka to retain all members of the Commander’s Staff, seconded by Rex Roark. Motion carried unanimous in favor.
- In recognition of the organizing efforts of Stoney Serrett, Cdr. Elliott recommended that Stoney have a permanent ranking as Commander Emeritus. A motion was made by John Petronka to retain Stoney as Commander Emeritus, seconded by Rex Roark. Motion carried unanimous in favor.
- Cdr. Elliott asked for all members to send a letter to their representatives in Washington, DC, requesting a National Seabee Day in March every year to coincide with the Seabee birthday. Cdr. Elliott will compose a letter to be published in the Newsletter that all may copy to send. All present agreed that a letter writing campaign is warranted.
- Cdr. Elliott requested all Seabees to support a Seabee postage stamp, but it is not supported by the Commemorative Stamp Committee except on multiples of 25-year anniversaries. Cdr. Elliott did receive a letter of support from the Committee that a stamp may be issued in 2042 on the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Seabees. It was noted that a high school class tried to get a Seabee stamp a number of years ago without success. Cdr. Elliott noted that a letter writing campaign may have a positive effect and he will compose a letter to be published in the Newsletter that all may copy and sent to Washington.
- Capt. Bill Hilderbrand (Ret) asked to present to our members the opportunity to help in the renovation and rebuilding of the museum at Port Hueneme. All major donors who pledge \$10,000 over a five year period will be acknowledged. All operating costs at the museum are separate from the construction and rebuilding costs. It was noted that we currently have about 400 dues-paying members. If the dues were increased \$5 per year, that would generate \$2,000 per year. There also would be those that would like to pledge an amount above the amount of a dues increase and a form will be made available for this pledge which will be published in the Newsletter. A motion was made by John Petronka to increase our dues \$5 with that money to be used as a portion of a pledge of \$10,000 for the museum at Port Hueneme, seconded by Rex Roark and others. It was noted by the Treasurer that a \$5 dues increase was recommended by the Com-

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(Continued from page 16)

mander's Staff in the Staff meeting to offset our operating costs. If the dues are increased \$5 per year per member for the museum, this would not provide additional funds for the MCB 2 treasury. A vote on the question was unanimous in favor. Some individual pledges were submitted which will be sent to the fund administrator with any dues paid at the new rate of \$20 per year. Capt. Hilderbrand noted that the web site to access the museum and progress of the fund is at www.seabee.org.

- In the Commander's Staff meeting it was decided to recommend to the General Membership two sites for our next reunion for consideration. The primary site recommended is Cleveland, Ohio, and the secondary site is Washington, D.C. After some discussion by the membership a motion was made to accept Cleveland as the site for the reunion in 2003 by Rex Roark, seconded by John Petronka. A majority voted in favor with one or two opposed. The motion carried. The date to be determined later but will be after Labor Day 2003, possibly the second week of September.
- Cdr. Elliott noted that we have not had the support from Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFRI) that we had in Charleston. With the tragedy that has happened this past week and the cancellation of flights and bookings, we will request a refund to MCB 2 of all monies paid to AFRI by those that either could not attend all tours/functions or canceled completely through no fault of their own. MCB 2 will disburse all refunded money to the appropriate individuals. A motion was made by Joe DeFranco to not use AFRI for our next reunion, seconded by Charles Hagemann. The vote was unanimous in favor.
- Scott Williams announced that a memory book will be made available to all present a few weeks following our reunion. A group picture will be made of all men present at the meeting and a separate picture of all ladies present at no cost. Individual/couple pictures will be made at our banquet, again at no cost. If a memory book is desired, they will be available for \$20, payable when the picture is made. The memory books will be mailed to each paid address a few weeks following the reunion.
- The Veteran's Home in Gulfport has many facilities for aging veterans, such as medical, dental and housing. Brochures and videos are available in the Hospitality Room.
- Cdr. Elliott expressed his appreciation for all of the help from those on the staff: Joe DeFranco for help with advertising and web sites; Dave Haines for his help with the Ship's Store; Roy Peak, who arrived today, Saturday, after a long effort, and his help with the selection of the hotel and facilities in San Antonio; Mal Pearson for his help with the Ship's Store, storing the Ship's Store until our next reunion, and all around lots of help; Stoney Serrett for all of his tireless efforts; Ted Speros, even though he could not get here; and Scott Williams for all his efforts, especially for the Newsletter and supplying all the items for the Ship's Store. A motion was made by Charles Hagemann, seconded by John Petronka, that there should be no out-of-pocket expenses by the committee for committee phone calls. These should be reimbursed by the treasury. The vote was unanimous in favor.
- Joe DeFranco noted that MCB 2 Reunion Association has made a serious commitment in support of the CEC/Seabee Historical Society Museum renovation project and wants all members to pledge an additional amount above the dues increase over the next five years.
- It was announced that the Memorial Service will be held in this same room at 2:00 p.m.
- A motion to adjourn was made at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Williams, Secretary



Above: Pete Elliott entertaining the guests at the banquet.



Above: Scott Williams, Bill Wisnowski and Bill's wife Shari (back to camera)



Above: Pete Elliott and Scott Williams giving away door prizes

Stoney and Gladys Serrett

The pictures on this page were sent by Doug Thorp



Above: MCB 2 Operations Christmas party, 1952

Left: Well-dressed Operations Personnel (Doug Thorp)



Left: MCB 2 Operations Christmas party, 1952.
Lt. Edwards and Lt. Elliott on right.

Right: Two brilliant engineers building highly secret building at undisclosed forward base in Korea. Petty Officer in Charge – Construction Crew #2: R.D. Thorp, BUL 2; Petty Officer in Charge – Engineering: H.V. Nelson, SV 2. (Yuk, yuk!)



MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

c/o Scott H. Williams
7221 Trading Post Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89128

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We're the **Seabees** of the Navy

Return Service Requested