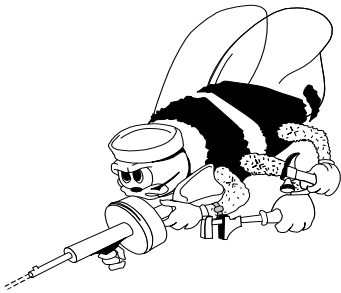


# **MCB 2 Reunion Association**

Volume 5, Issue 5a

November 15, 2004



# 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

# Happy Thanksgiving!

**Less Than 12 Months to Go  
For Our Reunion!**

## **Reservation Forms will be in the next issue**

The Palace Station Hotel is preparing their staff for our reservations and arrival in October of 2005. Be sure to make your reservations early as you can cancel but, when our allotted rooms are booked at our rate, they will not be able to extend the rate to additional rooms. So, when the form is published in the next Newsletter, be sure to have all of the information filled in and call the hotel to get a confirmation number for your reservations. Many are planning to attend, so don't be left out. A really great reunion is planned for October 10-12, 2005.

1

## **Don't Forget! October 10-12, 2005 at the Palace Station Hotel!**

Everything is coming together for our reunion next October. The hotel management has made excellent rooms available at very reasonable rates. Our Hospitality Room is large and will accommodate about 100 seated around tables, so bring your pictures and memorabilia to share. And, start saving items that you would like to donate for our door prize table.

*(Continued on page 2)*

We had excellent participation at our last reunion in Cleveland and hope all will bring at least one gift for the door prize table. If everyone brings at least one prize, everyone will be able to win something. The hotel will donate a nice jacket as a grand prize, so start thinking about the door prize you will bring.

## Seabees!

### I need letters and pictures!

This issue has the least amount of pages in the 10 years I have been the editor. What can be done about this, you ask? Send me some letters with your dues, which will be coming due in a couple of months, and pictures that you may have in your album. I cannot use Xerox copies of pictures. Either take your pictures to Wal-Mart or your drug store and make photo copies or send the originals to me with a note to return them and I will make copies. But please, write to me! And send pictures.... And dues.

Thanks,  
Scott

## Correction!

Well, your editor made a few mistakes in the last issue. The BIG ONE is that the Palace Station provides a shuttle to/from the airport and the Strip. The shuttle does NOT take anyone to any other property. Sorry for this mistake. Now, some of you called to ask about the issue number. The last issue should have been Issue 4. Guess I just got ahead of myself. That's why this issue is Issue 5a. Those are the biggies, but there were a couple others. See if you can find them. ☺

# Seabees

## November — January Dates to Remember

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Nov. 8, 1942	Seabees land in North Africa with American assault force.
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Dec. 7, 1941	Pearl Harbor attacked.
Dec. 10, 1941	Guam falls.
Dec. 23, 1941	Wake Island falls.
Dec. 31, 1947	Seabee Reserve established.
Jan. 5, 1942	Bureau of Naval Personnel authorizes formation of Construction Battalions.
Jan. 27, 1942	Bobcat detachment sent to Bora Bora, Society Islands; first Navy construction unit sent to overseas duty.



Mike Kazarian called me when he saw this picture in the last issue and said, "That's ME!" Guess I got Mike's pictures mixed in with Karl Weisenbacher's. Anyway, this is Mike, UT2, ready to go on liberty in Guam. Sorry for the mix-up guys.



## Notes from our members:

Received dues from **George Terry** [thanks]..... from **Joseph O'Brien**: Enclosed is my check for dues, two car window flags and some extra for whatever [thanks].... from **Robert Coley**: Please send me a membership roster with names and addresses. I only need the names for CBMU 1/101 [on the way, but all names are included with CBMU 1/101 noted] ..... from **Mary Dick**: Here's some dues money and some extra for whatever [thanks, **Mary**]. Thanks to all of you guys for your service to our country. I have a friend who is now in Iraq and another who is being deployed later. Please remember them in your prayers (Jimmy & Donnie). [Note to all: **Mary** is a friend of **Mike Castelvecchi** and I correspond by email with her. A very nice lady and we appreciate her support.]..... from UTC **Michael DiIanni**: The Seabee Ball Committee is constructing a brick paver walkway around the Seabee Monument in Heritage Park across from the Museum. The pavers are \$25 and can be inscribed with up to three lines of 14 spaces each. The bricks are selling fast and we plan to have 2,600 pavers installed well before the Seabee birthday, March 5th, 2005. The funds will be applied to the manufacture and installation of the pavers and to the Seabee birthday celebration. Anyone interested can contact Chief **DiIanni** at 363 Whitehouse Way, Port Hueneme, CA 93043 (805) 982-1441..... from **Stoney Serrett**: I sure hope this letter will find you and **Rachel** well and enjoying life [it does and we are! Thanks.]. As for **Gladys** and me, we continue to do okay. I certainly want to thank you for another well-done MCB 2 Newsletter (May 15, 2004 issue). [thank you] It is good to know that we will be having our reunion at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino. It sounds like the weather will be cooler during the time we will be there. I noticed in the Newsletter that **Phil Wagenschnur** is 87 years old this year. It reminded me that **Phil**



was the main reason that MCB 2 was able to pass in review during our battalion commissioning back in 1950. He sure had a time teaching us how to keep in step and look presentable. All of us owe him a vote of thanks for his hard work. The weather here in Abilene is starting to get very hot. We have been pretty lucky so far as the weather has been rather comfortable for the month of July. We had lots of overcast during late July that helped a bunch. I bought one of the MCB 2 caps that were available in Cleveland and one of my friends here in Abilene took a liking to it, latched on to it and won't let go! Do you still have any of them left? These are the red, white and blue caps with MCB 2 embroidered on the front. [I'll check with **Mal** as he is the keeper of the plunder.] I'll close for now but I will continue to stay in touch..... from **Leslie Keller**: This note is to inform you that I will not be sending any more annual dues. I have macular degeneration and I cannot read anything. I do have library books from the Tennessee Library for the Blind, so I can listen to books being read. Thanks for all everyone has done regarding the Seabees — a great outfit to have been associated with..... received dues from **Gene Staples**, **Charles Trimarchi** and **Frank Mingo** [thanks, guys]..... from **Phil Matalucci**: I would like to order a 3'X5' Seabee flag with white background. Enclosed is my check [thanks]..... from **Bill Ganske**: Please send me two T shirts and two caps. My check is enclosed [on the way]..... from **Lew Shugar**: Here is a check for my dues and sorry I'm late, but with the stroke, rehabilitation and physical therapy, I have been pretty busy. I have recovered to the point of walking around inside the house without the aid of a cane. All in all, I am one lucky guy [amen!]..... from **Hance Morton**: Hope you are doing OK [I am, thanks]. You are doing a great job with the Seabee Newsletter. Many thanks! I was with CBMU 577. We were at Tarawa and then Eniwetok. The 2nd Marines were at Tarawa. What outfit were you with, Scott, and where? [I was with MCB 2, MCB 3, and then NAS Kodiak from January 1955-February 1959] I am an old retired Mason Builder Contractor. I always look forward to the Seabee Newsletter. Thanks..... from **Edwin Carlson**: I was with the 74th NCB from 1943-1946. Enclosed is a





(Continued from page 3)

check for dues [thanks]..... from **Russ Granby**: Enclosed find my check to cover dues and a green T shirt [on the way]. My wife had a cornea transplant and is doing well,

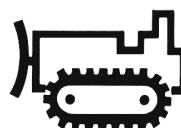
so maybe we will see you in Las Vegas..... from **Sam (Mary) Ragusa**: Enclosed is a check for one green T shirt [on the way. Thanks.]..... from **Ray Hooter**: Enclosed is my check for dues and four US flags, plus some extra to be used as needed [thanks!]. I enjoy the Newsletter very much and thanks for all you do. I hope to make it to Vegas in '05..... from **Art Leable**: I am enclosing a check for dues as I guess I got behind [thanks] and some extra for a roster. Would you let me know if you found John Schneider? [I was not successful in locating him, **Art**.] He was from Bloomington, IL, and we were together on Midway with MCB 2..... from **Claude Garcenot**: [sent an email] I am a member of the Seabee Reunion Association (CBMU 101) and would like to order some items but, before I do, I would like to know if my dues are soon due. I am still on the Good Guy List but maybe not for long. Please let me know when my membership expires. My email address is FROG8@AOL.COM. You are doing a wonderful job with this Newsletter. Keep it up [thanks, I'll try]. ..... from **Tem Tyler**: Enclosed is a check for two Seabee flags, one with a white background and one with blue. Thanks..... from **Walt Waddell**: We missed the Cleveland reunion because the date was in conflict with my high school reunion. Enclosed is a check for my dues and we hope to be in Las Vegas..... from **Bob Lohrentz**: You have me listed with MCB 2. Actually, I was with CBMU 101..... from **Denise King**: I would like to pay dues in honor of my father, **Donald L. Truskey**. Also, I would like to order a T shirt [on the way and thank you very much]..... from **Ed Ballerstein**: Enclosed is a check for dues and extra to be used however you choose. Thank you for the good work..... from **Al (Barbara) Fritz**: Thanks for all the good information you send over email. We have enjoyed it all and so have our children.

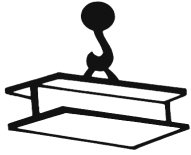
Sorry we have waited so long to send in the dues. We'll try and keep up after this..... from **Ray Hooter**: I received four flags about a week ago and another four on 9/4. I am enclosing a check for the extra flags as I will keep



them. That will give me a two year supply. I'm looking forward to the reunion in Las Vegas next year..... from **Harold Freeland**: Enclosed is my check for dues, three US flags, a blue Seabee flag, a white Seabee flag, and three caps [wow! Thanks, and all on the way!]...... from **Roy Peak**: Time to pay my dues. Also enclosed is a travel promotion from the Seattle Times about visiting Las Vegas. It made me wish I was 10 years younger [make that 25, **Roy**. ☺] See you in Las Vegas..... from **Doug Thorp**: Good to talk to you again. Per our telephone conversation of this date, I wish to procure six caps and eight pins, and please send the last newsletter to me here in Washington State. I should be back in La Paz, Mexico, after December 1. I will send this year's donation to the Seabee Museum directly to them with a note denoting credit to MCB 2 Reunion Association. Enclosed is a personal check to cover the cost of all items plus a little something for the postage fund (or whatever) [thanks]. It was good to hear from you again and hope to see you next October at the reunion..... from **Basil Arnold**: Please send me two Seabee flags. My neighbor, an east coast Seabee, has his whipped apart with the wind and mine is headed in the same direction. Time to replace them..... from **Roger Germundson**: Enclosed is a check for dues and keep up the good work..... from **Silas (Ida) Bucher**: I didn't see **Silas'** name in the Good Guy List so I guess I forgot to renew his membership. Sorry about that. Enclosed is a check for his membership dues [thanks]. **Silas** is in a nursing home now. Four years ago he was having mini strokes and the VA doctors kept telling us it was just the medication he was on. When he had a bad one, I had him go to our hospital here and they faxed his records from the VA. They said he had been having mini strokes all the time. I read the Newsletter to him and sometimes he listens and sometimes he doesn't.....from **Dick (Betty) Keyes**: **Dick** really enjoys the Newsletters. "Happy Holidays" to all. [enclosed a check for dues.... Thanks] ..... from **Bill Knight**: **Marilyn** and I both enjoy

your emails but, as I explained before, I don't type so **Marilyn** sends. We both are looking forward to Las Vegas in October 2005. We just returned from the All-Seabee Reunion in Gulfport





(Continued from page 4)

and saw many old friends, including **Rex Roark** from our Association. **Scott**, I would like to have a Seabee window flag and two white Seabee flags. Enclosed is a

check and the extra for whatever [thanks & they are on the way]. Say 'Hello' to **Rachel** and we will see you in Vegas..... from **Frank Gresser**: I'm sending a check for dues [thanks]. If there is some over, would you please send me a T shirt and a roster [on the way]. I sent you an email and have not had a reply. I guess you have your hands full this time of year, but I'm just trying to get back on the Good Guy List [you're on!]..... Guess that's all..... Send me some letters and have a Happy Thanksgiving!  
Scott

## A Note From Kim Crowell

(see the article to the right)

Dear Scott:

Just for information, I am the curator for the Naval Facilities Historical Program, so I am responsible for both the Port Hueneme and Gulfport exhibits, hence my title is Curator, CEC/Seabee Museum. Our Director, Ms. Lara Tobias, oversees both facilities.

The Gulfport facility is not a 'stand alone' but is considered an annex to the main museum in Port Hueneme. Anything donated to either facility goes into one catalog and is usually stored at Port Hueneme if it is not on display. Identical photo essays will be located in both museums no matter what. The more artifacts we are able to locate, then the better the exhibit will be in our annex facility since the goal is to have mirror exhibits. As you can see, it is critical to recover as much Korean era history as we can in order to tell the story in the best way possible!

Thank you for all the help from your group.

How is it that we put man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage?

## Korean Era Seabees! The CEC/Seabee Museum Needs Your Help!

Kim A. Crowell, Curator of the CEC/Seabee Museum, Naval Facilities Historical Program, is asking Seabees that served in Korea during the Korean War help her locate artifacts and historical information about the Seabees that served in-country during the Korean War (25 June 1950 to 27 July 1953) in preparation for exhibits in the new museum. All pictures/photos must be identified as to location, date and names of the individuals in the pictures (who, what when, where). Artifacts of interest include uniforms (particularly boots, belts, covers, insignia); winter gear; anything labeled "Seabee"; anything issued for language and communications in Korea; any memorabilia from any of the "K" airfield sites that Seabees built including equipment, flags, artwork, plaques, native gifts, "C" rations, menus, posters, etc.; and travel documents. If you have any items that you would like to donate to the Naval Facilities Historical Program, please contact Kim Crowell at:

Kim A. Crowell, Curator  
CEC/Seabee Museum

805-982-5611

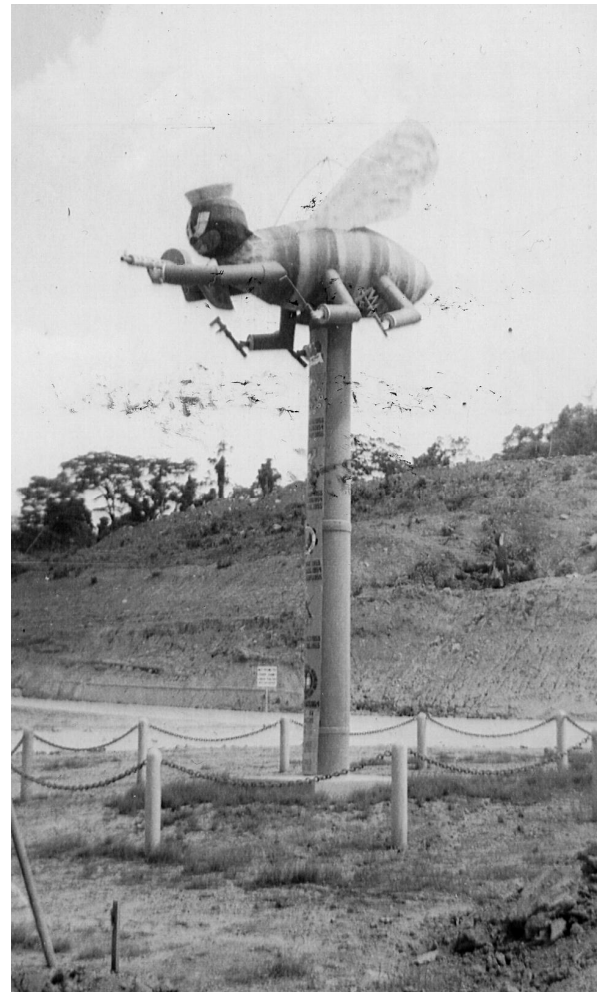
or [kimberlyn.crowell@navy.mil](mailto:kimberlyn.crowell@navy.mil)

Naval Base Ventura County has very strict guidelines for access to the base due to its location and accessibility, so visitors to the CEC/Seabee Museum, Port Hueneme, must plan ahead as there is often a two to three week backlog to visit. Recently, some of our members wanting to visit the museum were turned away at the main gate as they had not made prior arrangements for access. Please call 805-982-5611 for current base access requirements.

For those that would like to visit the CEC/Seabee Museum Annex located at the Gulfport Seabee Base, the requirements for access are not as strict currently as Port Hueneme. Call 228-871-3164 for access.



Above: Scott Williams and Doug Emond at Sangley Point to visit Bill Wisnowski, 1956



Above: Cubi Point Bee placed by Robert Swanson 1956, now erected at Port Hueneme Museum.



Left: 'Old Salty' Lane Freitag. Tap dances with the Happy Hoofers. 10 women and 2 men.

Below: Ron Landrum, CBMU 101; Korea 1955





## 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 775 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

## MCB 2 Reunion Association CEC/Seabee Museum Pledges

### Name/Source

#### Contributed This Period (July-Nov.)

\$0.00

#### Total Dues Increase Sent to Date

\$2,900.00

#### Total Actually Contributed to Date

\$8,885.41

#### Total Pledged to Date

\$7,510.41

#### Total Pledged plus Dues Increase

\$10,410.41

If you send any money to the Museum, please include a note that it is to be included in the MCB 2 account total.

## MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Carl L. Fogelsong  
7603 Sea Crest Way S.  
Noblesville, IN 46062-6896  
(317) 877-3498  
MCB 2

Frank B. Gresser  
demouse@charter.net

Leslie J. Keller  
221 McNeil Drive  
Murfreesboro, TN 37128  
MCB 2

Conrad E. Lawlor  
13475 NW 128th St.  
Madrid, IA 50156  
MCB 2

Malcolm Pearson  
301 Brooksby Village Drive, #516  
Peabody, MA 01960  
(978) 535-7396  
MCB 2

Daniel J. Svendsen  
1923 Highwood Ave.  
Pekin, IL 61554-6423  
(309) 348-3013  
MCB 2

## *Our Fallen Comrades*

Glen Grimes	10/24/04
Harry W. Nelson	7/12/03
Norman E. Britain	10/11/04

*May they live on in our memories.*

# THE GOOD GUY LIST

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Vance Adams, Harry Agles, Allan Alberg, Vern Ammentorp, Don Anderson, Gene Antoine, Basil Arnold, Joe Ates, Pat Badgett, Lewie Baker, Richard Baker, Jack Balding, Lowell Baldwin, Ed Ballerstein, Benjamin Balog, Michael Barron, Don Barry, Glen Bates, Dale Baugh, Henry Benguerel, Hank Bentsen, Frank Betonte, Ken Bingham, Ralph Binney, Vernon Blakeslee, John Bloem, Bill Body, Ralph Bokern, James Bolton, Alexander Borys, Robert Bowdler, Donald Bradley, Art Bredefeld, John Brown, Philip Brunelle, Alfred Bryant, Silas Bucher, Tom Budiselich, David Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, Al Burkhart, L.P. 'Pop' Burleigh, Ralph Burnley, Bill Burns, Patrick Carey, Bennie Carlson, Edwin Carlson, William B. Carter, Mike Castelveccchi, Ken Catchpole, Mylo Cayou, George Chang, C.L. Chapman, Ken Chew, Ron Claypool, Walter Cloonan, Bob Coley, Bob Colquhoun, Roy Cone, Robert Conroe, Howard Cornwell, Jack Coulter, Fred Cozad, Kim Crowell, Warren Culberson, Pat Cunningham, Robert Daisy, Paul D'Angelo, Stan Dauer, Harold Davis, Ed Dechant, Joseph DeFranco, Jim DeKeyser, Mary Dick, Jimmie Dillman, Mel Dixon, George Dorge, Howard Doyle, William Duensing, Pete Elliott, Don 'Ike' Eminhizer, Doug Emond, Ralph Evans, Norman Eveleth, Richard Fairbanks, Dick Farbo, Frank Fibich, Warren Flading, Forrest Foland, Jack Foster, Bill Frazier, Harold Freeland, Lane Freitag, Al Fritz, William Ganske, Claude Garcenot, Ken Gaskell, Roger Germundson, John Ginther, Ron Glasser, Bob Graf, Fred Granata, Russ Granby, John Grasz, Jim Green, Clem Gregurek, Frank Gresser, Glen Grimes, Roy Grisham, Don Grobbel, Marvin Guetling, George Gustin, Gordon Gwathney, Charles Hagemann, David Haines, Les Hall, Luther Hall, Alexander Hamilton, Roger Hamilton, Arlin Hardwick, Roy Harris, Bob Hart, Ralph Heitt, Bert Helms, Don Henderson, Duane Henrichson, Wayne Heple, Gerald Herr, Bob Hoare, Don Hofstetter, Sam Holsomback, Ray Hooter, Arthur Hoskinds, Rod Howard, Ron Howatson, Charles Ingalls, Hugh Ireland, Victor Jaccino, Frank Jacus, DeVon Jensen, Larry Jessop, Ambros Johnson, Charles Johnson, Ordean Johnson, Henry Jones, Don Jones, Robert Jones, John Jurkash, Robert Kaempfe, Lloyd Kallsen, Chuck Kangas, Greg (Isabel) Karekin, Mike Kazarian, Duane Keech, Gordon Keen,

Hark Ketels, Richard Keyes, Capers Kinard, William Knight, John Kolasz, Stephen Korkes, Emil Krygier, Ervin Lampe, Ron Landrum, Art Leable, Max Leavell, Cameron Lee, Herbert (Red) Liverman, Robert Lohrentz, Robert Long, Wes Loveall, Dale Lundstrom, Tom 'Moose' Maere, Ivan Majetic, Philip Matalucci, William (Jack) Mayo, Chuck McCabe, Don McDaniel, Norris McDaniel, Riley McDaniel, Gene McDonagh, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Herbert Meade, Dick Merit, Bob Michael, Neil Middleton, Daniel Millett, Dan Mills, Frank Mingo, Gary Mitchell, James Modglin, Roger Mohs, William Moore, Pat Morris, Finley Morrison, Hance Morton, Paul Muma, Richard Muns, Richard Nelson, Ray Nethercott, Charles Neugent, Don Nitsche, John Noetzel, Joseph O'Brien, Donald O'Connell, Mel Olson, Dwight Padgett, Billy Partridge, Roy Peak, Malcolm Pearson, Ben Pedrotti, Daniel Pelaez, John Petronka, Amos Phillips, Jack Phillips, Mike Piro, Earl Presson, Cecil Price, David "Ernie" Pyle, Sam Ragusa, Robert Rasmussen, Gary Rawlings, John Recklitis, Rex Roark, Gene Robinson, Thomas Roy, John Ruby, C. Edner Rudolph, Vincent Ryan, Paul Schell, Darl Schmidt, Millard Schneider, Jack Schrader, Gerald Seger, Stoney Serrett, Don Seethaler, Rik Shafer, William Sharp, Don Shoff, Lew Shugar, Jim Sichel, William Sigmund, R.W. 'Dick' Sim, Fred Simon, Bill Simpson, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Ed 'Bud' Smith, Walter Smith, Joe Sobczak, Ray Sonnen, Ray Sorrentino, Ted Speros, Ken Stancombe, Gene Staples, Tom Stapleton, Clyde Stenholm, Jim Stephens, Lee Stevens, Larry Stevenson, George Stewart, John Stock, Willis Struecker, Dan Svendsen, Richard Swallow, Robert Swanson, Vic Swanson, Danny Terry, George Terry, Doug Thorp, Richard Todd, William Tracy, Charles Trimarchi, Wayne Turley, Al Ulman, Gene Urmev, Gerald Vasquez, Lionel Vidrine, John W. 'Jack' Vidusic, Walter Waddell, Philip Wagenschnur, Dick Walters, Harold Wardenburg, John Weires, Karl Weisenbacher, Duane Weltlich, Cecil Westwood, Rodney White, John Wilborn, Bill Wilcoxon, Jerry Wilkening, Marshall Williams, Pete Williams, Scott Williams, Verle Williams, C. R. 'Lefty' Williamson, Jack Wilson, Jesse Wilson, Preston Wilson, Bill Wisnowski, Jim Womack, William (Carolyn) Wright, Dwight Yetter, and Stephen Yunger.

All men listed here have their dues paid at least through 2004, 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 Decem-

(Continued on page 9)



ber 31 (no dues card sent out). This list is as of October 29, 2004. There are currently 313 paid up members from a mailing list of 535. If dues have never been sent, they do not receive the Newsletter. There are 775 names on the full member roster. (SW)

# The Commander and Staff

*Our leadership consists of:*

**Commander  
Pete Elliott**

**Staff:**

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

## Who to contact about your 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

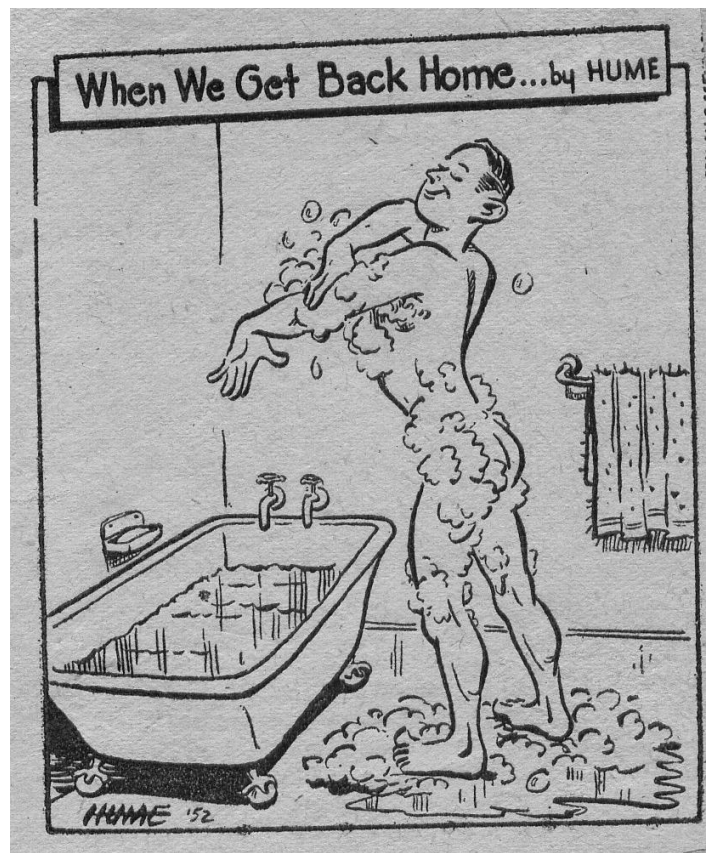
Dues are \$20/year  
January - December

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

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"—Here's wishing you all a VERY pleasant good evening"



## Reflections.....

by John Wilborn

We had four children---two boys, two girls. Three of the four were born in naval hospitals scattered around the world. Our first child, a daughter, Carmen, was born in North Africa --- Morocco to be exact, in 1957. A short year later, son John Jr. was born in Santa Monica, California, as I was overseas at the time. During a September hurricane in 1961, son Timothy was born at the naval hospital in Davisville, Rhode Island. In January 1963, daughter Marjorie was born at the naval hospital, Port Hueneme, California.

We used to tease the kids over the years that military record keeping, haphazard the way it was at times, we probably got someone else's kids as they were so much different from one another. I suppose if you are parents yourselves, you can relate to those times when you are told things, after the fact, when you may comment, "you didn't really do that, did you?" Most times though, aren't we pretty proud of our kids? I know I have been over the years.

Recently, I asked Scott Williams about an old MCB 2 shipmate by the name of Ketels. I asked Scott if Yung Ketels and Hark Ketels were the same person. He said they were. Less than a month after that conversation, the wife and I were doing some closet cleaning and we came across a box of old photos and stuff that belonged to the kids. They hadn't been broken out of those boxes in years. Aged and yellowed for the most part, but still legible and well preserved. In one of the boxes, we came across a photo of son John and Yung Ketels, who was then serving as Security Officer at Port Hueneme. There was a letter of congratulations from Yung to John dated 4 November 1971. It seemed that John had found \$10.00 over at the Navy Exchange and his mother had taken him to the base security office and turned it in. John always remembered that event, and even though his siblings teased him about it, he held to his guns that he would have done it even if his

Mother hadn't made him do it.

I remember this event being recalled again in the summer of 1996. John was terminally ill from the ravages of AIDS. He was living at home and we were caring for him. There were days when John and I would sit and talk as we had never talked before. We talked of life's fickle finger---we talked of fools and kings---we talked of family and the way things might have been. John recalled to me that he had always tried to be honest in all his dealings with people. We laughed about that time when he was a kid and turned that money in to the base security and how he was called back a month later to have it presented to him. John succumbed to that dreaded disease short weeks later during the terrible summer heat of July 1996. I have asked Scott to print this story about John and Mr. Ketels. That's what John always knew him as, and also the photo and what Yung wrote to John that time so long ago. Memories...



Picture inscription: To a fine young lad/with sincere congratulations/Y.H. Ketels/LCDR, CEC, USN/CBC Security Officer

NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION CENTER

PORT HUENEME, CALIFORNIA 93041

IN REPLY REFER TO:

120/jf

4 November 1971

John Wilborn, Jr.  
4111 San Juan Avenue  
Oxnard, California 93030

Dear John:

Your recent act of turning over to the Security Department \$10.00 which you found on Center is very noteworthy. You are to be commended for your honesty and integrity. If all human beings, no matter what their age may be, practiced this type of integrity and honesty, the community as a whole would benefit greatly.

It is this type of good citizenship that all parents hope to instill in their children and to witness as a reality.

Congratulations.

Very sincerely,



Y. H. KETELS  
LCDR, CEC, USN  
CBC Security Officer



Left: Chuck Baker,  
CBMU 101  
Korea 1955

# MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

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

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
LAS VEGAS, NV  
PERMIT NO. 28



We're the **SEABEES** of the Navy

*Return Service Requested*