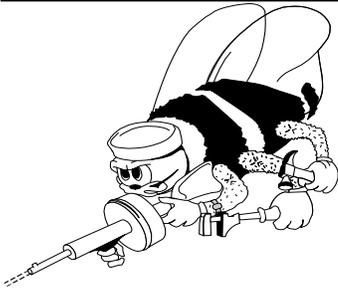


MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 6, Issue 1

November 17, 2005



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!

A Great Time Was Had By All!

Next Stop: St. Louis, MO!

Our Banquet Was Fantastic!

The door prizes were superb and enough were brought that everyone was drawn at least once and half were able to be drawn twice! Marian Stenholm sent six large boxes of beautiful crystal ware, four or five pieces of which were used for raffle drawings and one exceptional set was auctioned to Clark and Barbara Alexander for \$300! But the Grand Prize drawing for a week for two in Hawaii, provided by Don & Martie Nitsche who own a B&B on the Big Island, was won by Ken and Jimmi Willard. Congratulations to all who came as you were all winners, but special thanks to Clyde & Marian Stenholm and Don & Martie Nitsche for providing exceptional prizes. You helped to make this reunion the best!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Our reunion was fantastic and it was great to see everyone. I didn't hear of anyone winning a jackpot like Marge Pearson did last time we were in Las Vegas, so no big winners. But now we are getting ready for our next reunion in St. Louis, Missouri. There is a lot to do there and some great sights to see. We'll have to go to the Anheuser-Busch brewery for their tour and free beer tasting for sure and we may even have a river dinner cruise. St. Louis is located in the middle of the country, so I hope all can be there. I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays. Pete Elliott

My Rememberer Is Broke

My forgetter's getting better,
But my rememberer is broke
To you that may seem funny
But, to me, that is no joke

For when I'm "here" I'm wondering
If I really should be "there"
And, when I try to think it through,
I haven't got a prayer!

Oft times I walk into a room,
Say "what am I here for?"
I wrack my brain, but all in vain!
A zero, is my score.

At times I put something away
Where it is safe, but, Gee!
The person it is safest from
Is, generally, me!

When shopping I may see someone,
Say! "Hi" and have a chat,
Then, when the person walks away
I ask myself, "who was that?"

Yes, my forgetter's getting better
While my rememberer is broke,
And it's driving me plumb crazy
And that isn't any joke..

CAN YOU RELATE???

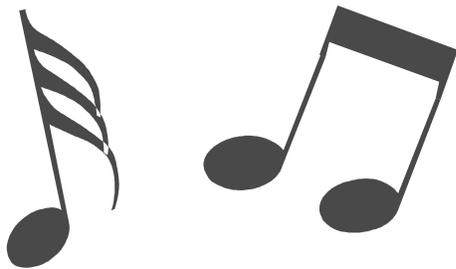
SEABEES

October-February Dates to Remember

Oct. 13, 1775	Navy birthday.
Oct. 16, 1942	Eight men of the 6th NCB killed at Guadalcanal, first Seabees killed in action.
Nov. 8, 1942	Seabees land in North Africa with American assault forces.
Nov. 10, 1775	U.S. Marine Corps birthday.
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.

Thoughts from Maxine....

- Never read the fine print. There ain't no way you're going to like it.
- The trouble with bucket seats is that not everybody has the same size bucket.
- Money can't buy happiness — but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Porsche than in a Hyundai.



Notes from our members:



Received banquet reservations for **Don McLain, Vic Jaccino, John Petronka, Larry Stevenson, Bob Conroe, Gerald Herr, Cecil Westwood, Ralph Heitt, John Ruby, Dan Millett, and Pete Elliott** received dues from **Willard Cousins,**

Richard Fairbanks, and John Ginther..... from **Millard** (Millard's 'Better Half' **Trudie**): Just a note to let you know that, as of September 29, we will have a new address [see page 7]. I see **Millard** is still on the Good Guy List. I believe he is paid up through this year and will get a check off to you soon [thanks]..... from **Roy Harris**: I'm recovering from hip surgery and I'll miss going to the reunion. Could you send me a leather jacket, size XL? [on the way and thanks.] Enclosed is a check for the jacket and dues. Whatever is left, please send to the Museum Project [done!]..... from **Vinny Ryan**: here is a check for my dues and sorry to be late. At this stage of the game, I want to be a Good Guy [you are! You are!]..... from **Norris McDaniel**: Enclosed is a check for registration and banquet for **Ann** and me. We plan to drive to the reunion and see part of our great country from 'ground level.' Keep up the good work and we will see you in Vegas. By the way, we generally celebrate our anniversary during the reunion (September 13 will be 46 years). This year it will just have to be different [and cooler while here in Las Vegas]..... from **Sam (Mary) Ragusa**: I don't think I have paid for dinner and registration. Remember, **Sam** and I will be at your house on Sunday to help load 'store' and supplies to take to the Hospitality Room at Palace Station. We will need time and directions..... from

Gene Staples: Please place my dues in your box of Good Guys and keep the Newsletter coming. Also, please send me a membership roster. I hope this check will



cover any cost of the above. I cannot tell you what the Newsletter means to me as I am very proud to have been a member of MCB 2 and to be a Seabee. You are doing a wonderful job with the Newsletter [thank you!].....



from **Tom Stapleton**: The picture on page 12 of the August 10, 2005, issue of the Newsletter has an unidentified person in the right front in the picture at the bottom of the page. That is **Taylor** and I believe his initials were **W.E.** He was an SN who had served a prior hitch either in the Marines or the Air Force. He was only in MCB 2 for part of the '52-'53 year at Cubi Point and spent his entire time working with **Gunner Clark, Jim Bolton and Willie Sharp.** He was from Tennessee. I tried to contact **Willie** but I guess his email address has changed..... received banquet reservations from **Chuck Kangas, Jim Green, Harold 'Don' Leasure, Claude Garcenot, Don Nitsche, Rik Shafer, John Stock, Frank Betonte, Bill Wilcoxon, Doug Thorp, Don Jones, Bob Bowdler, Jack Wilson, and R. G. 'Pete' Williams** received banquet reservations and dues from **Luther Hall, Roy Peak, and Frank Fibich**..... received dues from **Fred Wilmarth and Erv Lampe** [thanks]..... from **Ted DeVit**: I am not sure how much I owe you for dues and sorry I am late [thanks]. I really enjoy reading the Newsletter. I was with CBMU 101 in Korea and was with **Joe DeFranco**..... from **Bob Graf**: Sorry to be so late with my dues but I had some medical problems and forgot. I have enclosed a check for dues plus I would like some hats. By the way, In Volume 5 Issue 6, the picture of four electricians sitting on the steps of the Country Club, the one on the left front may be **Bob Whitaker, a CEL 1. Scott,** you do a great job with the Newsletter and you have my vote to continue on as editor/publisher [thanks]. I am missing a copy of one Newsletter, Volume 5 Issue 4. If you have an extra copy, I would like one. [I need to explain this. I published Volume 5 Issue 3 dated May 15, 2004. My next issue I incorrectly numbered as Volume 5 Issue 5 dated August 15, 2004. I tried to correct the mis-numbering with the next issue, which I numbered Volume 5 Issue 5a dated November 15, 2004. So, you probably have all of the issues, they just aren't numbered in the correct order. It's this cheap help.]..... from **Tom**



(Continued from page 3)

(**Nancy**) **Maere**: Enclosed is the pre-registration and banquet form and check for the Seabee reunion. We are looking forward to seeing everyone and having a great time. We will bring some items for door prizes. Would you like them wrapped so they are surprise gifts? And, they can be for men or women, is that correct? [yes, that is correct.] Hope you have a nice turnout and see you in the Fall. Thank you for all your work in making this a fun reunion..... from **Roy Peak**: The Seabee never get in the news in my small-town newspaper, the Tri-City Herald, so I was quite surprised to note the enclosed clipping about the Seabees in Mississippi [see page 13]. Perhaps our reunion members will bring more clippings to display on a board in the beer-coffee-coke hospitality room. My airline reservations are on Delta. Hope they fly..... from **David Anderson**: **Edith** and I will not be able to travel to Las Vegas this year. We pray you will have a good time. We will miss you. We want to contribute a prize to the door prize inventory [thanks! And we will miss you both.] We send our best wishes and best regards..... from **Basil Arnold**: Please send me two blue Seabee flags [on the way]. I have a neighbor who was an east coast Seabee. He always helps me out at no cost so I need to help him when possible. Sorry I didn't make it to the reunion. Maybe next time..... from **Mary Dick**: I would like one of the oak triangular flag display cases for my grandpa's flag. Enclosed is my check plus some extra for shipping [thanks!]..... from **Betty Keyes**: Here's a check for **Richard's** dues [thanks]. We are both OK. Many thanks for all the effort you make for us..... from **Stoney Serrett**: I hope you will be able to get **Don Nitsche's** year book to him [on the way]. Remember, it would have to be the Atsugi Cruise book. I think the St. Louis location should be a good location for our next reunion because it is so central to all of our membership. Hopefully, everyone who came to Las Vegas can stay well and be able to attend the St. Louis reunion. I am already looking forward to being there. Since I had to leave prior to the memorial Service and banquet, I hope all

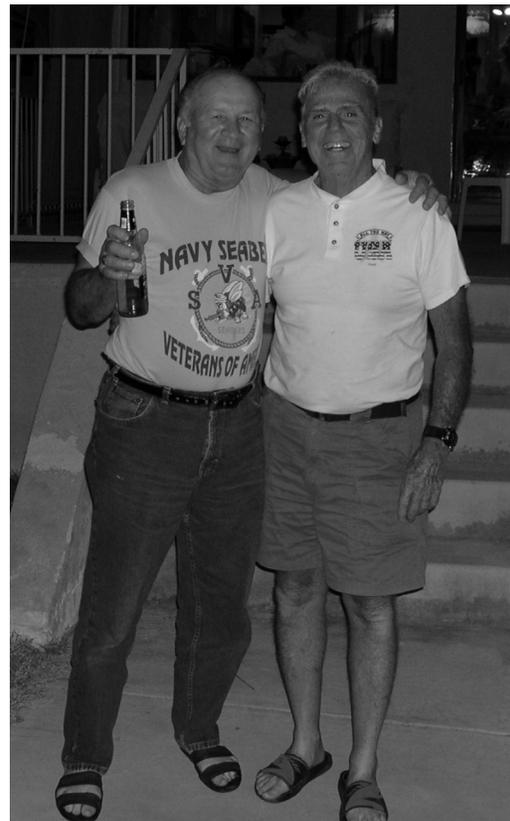
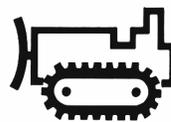


went well as usual. I didn't know if you had made a note that **Jon Ericson** had passed away. I would appreciate it very much if he would be in the next Newslet-

ter. He had lots of friends and I am sure they would want to know. **Gladys** missed not being able to visit with the ladies. She is still having some pain but not as severe as when we were in Vegas. She certainly missed not getting down to the Hospitality Room and seeing all of the ladies. As I was leaving the Business Meeting, I was stopped by **Mary Ragusa** and **Clorinda Elliott**. They wanted to give **Gladys** a little present and a get well card. We would very much like you to thank all of those that signed **Gladys'** get well card. Hopefully, you will find room in your next Newsletter to thank all of them for **Gladys**. And **Scott**, I want to thank you for all of the things that you did to make our Las Vegas reunion enjoyable. Even though I could not participate as much as I would have liked, I thought you did an excellent job. [thank you very much.]..... from **Mal**



(**Marge**, secretary for **Mal**) **Pearson**: Enclosed is a check for **Mal's** dues and some extra for miscellaneous. We are feeling good..... Well, folks, that's about all the news to share. The reunion was a great success and I hope you enjoy the pictures in this issue. SW



John Petronka and Sam Ragusa after the reunion at Sam & Mary's home in Bullhead City, AZ. Thanks for a great time!

A Boot Camp Story

from Rex Roark

At Great Lakes Recruit Training Center, we were a special unit: The State Flag Unit and our sister company was the Band and Choir. Although dress uniforms were done at a real laundry, you were expected to wash your utility uniforms by hand each day using two of the four sets you were issued, one which you would wear and the other would be drying. Each floor had a laundry room that served two recruit companies. To wash the clothes, you were issued a scrub brush, a box of detergent, and a bucket when you joined. You filled your bucket with soapy water, soaked your clothes and then scrubbed them on a long sink, rinsed them out, wrung them by hand and hung them in a steam drying room or outside in good weather.

Of all the groups assigned to special units like the drill team, academy prep, and musicians, the State Flag unit seemed to lack the esteem that the others had and we were considered instigators. We were popular and spent every weekend in Chicago or Green Bay marching in parades.

Staying true to form in our tenth week of boot camp, as we were doing laundry someone filled a bucket and went down to the next floor and soaked several of the Academy Prep recruits as they did their laundry. Several of their people retaliated and soaked some people in our laundry room. Things escalated quickly and we filled every bucket in the laundry room with warm soapy water. Five of our people ran down the stairs and soaked their people again as the rest of us waited at the top of the stairs. Ten people or so ran up the stairs and they were met with a deluge of water from 50 pails and literally washed down the stairway. We refilled the buckets and stood by for another attack and, when we heard more footsteps running up the stairs, we threw the water down the stairs. Unfortunately, it was not the company below. It was the Officer of the Deck, several Company Commanders and the barracks Master at Arms force. These were not happy people. They were wet, their quarterdeck was wet, and they were not used to being treated in this manner.

The company commanders were called in from home and the Chief's club and we were read the riot act. In our favor was the fact there were 250 people involved in the melee and, rather than tie up the Navy's Judicial system for a month, we cleaned, we exercised, we were yelled at and, worst of all, threatened with being sent back all the way to day one to start all over again. We convinced everyone that we were truly repentant and avoided becoming a six month boot camp company. We were probably legends well into the 1980's.
heh heh.

Las Vegas Reunion, 2005



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experience of the creation.**

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- 1 Private entrances
- 2 Private baths
- 3 Therapeutic Beds
- 4 VCR with excellent movie collection
- 5 BBQ & outdoor pavillion
- 6 Massage therapist by appointment

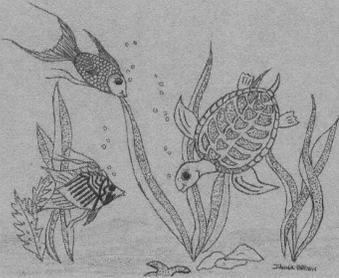
Breakfast:

Enjoy a beautiful view with a memorable breakfast served on our outside lanai or in our new dining room with your hosts, **Martie** (Certified Travel Consultant) & **Don Nitsche**.

Evenings:

In privacy - or in the great room with cards, games, satellite TV, conversation, puzzles or books.

Grocery store, gas station, laundramat. Four eating establishments for lunch & dinner within 1 mile.



Rates:

\$85 Double, (extra person \$15)

\$75 Single

Plus Tax 11.25% One night deposit with confirmation. Refund with two weeks minimum notice.

Personal checks, cash, Travelers Checks, Credit cards.

Don announced that they will offer a discount to any member of the MCB 2 Reunion Association that would like to take advantage of their Bed & Breakfast accommodations. \$75 for double accommodations, plus tax. Wow! Contact Martie for travel arrangements as she is a licensed travel agent and can help with all travel arrangements needed.

MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Millard Schneider
2970 12 Mile N.E.
Rockford, MI 49341

Picture below:

Marti & Don Nitsche, owners of the Bougainvillea Bed & Breakfast and provided our Grand Prize at the reunion banquet: a week's stay for two. Thank you very much for your generosity. You made our reunion memorable.



Minutes
of the
General Membership Meeting
October 12, 2005

Palace Station Hotel, Meeting Room A
Las Vegas, NV

Meeting brought to order by Cdr. Pete Elliott at 9:07 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Cdr. Elliott

Opening prayer led by Chaplain Scott Williams

Cdr. Elliott welcomed all members and guests.

Cdr. Elliott recognized all Staff members present. Joe DeFranco, David Haines and Malcolm Pearson were not present.

Cdr. Elliott asked for a financial report from the treasurer, Scott Williams.

Scott Williams told all that we are solvent and all bills have been paid except for this reunion. We will close after the reunion with over \$3,000 in the black. We have met and exceeded our museum pledge of \$10,000. As of September 30, our total accounted for the Museum is \$11,090.41. Scott asked if there were any questions regarding the current financial affairs of the MCB 2 Reunion Association and there were none.

Cdr. Elliott announced that the Executive Committee recommends St. Louis, MO, as our next meeting in 2007 and asked if there were any motions from the floor. There was some discussion about Oklahoma City, OK, and Branson, MO. Branson is very difficult to get to unless you drive there. One member suggested we meet in Niagara Falls, NY. A question was asked about Port Hueneme but access is currently a problem. Comments made suggested that either Port Hueneme or Portland be considered in four years. A motion was made to make St. Louis, MO, our next reunion by Mike Piro, seconded by John Petronka. The vote to hold our next reunion in St. Louis was unanimous in favor. Motion carried.

Cdr. Elliott announced that all present officers are willing to continue serving in office and asked for nominations from the floor or a motion. A motion was made by Mike Piro to continue with the present officers, seconded by John Petronka. The vote was unanimous in favor. Motion carried. The officers for 2005/2007 are Pete Elliott, Commander; Roy Peak, Vice-Commander; Scott Williams, Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor and Publisher.

John Petronka noted that our dues are currently set at \$20 per year but that, when the pledge to the museum has been met, all of the dues will stay within the MCB 2 Association. This is correct as that was the original motion in Charleston, SC. John also made a motion that the Reunion Association should cover any expenses necessary for the committee to hold our next meeting in St. Louis. All members agreed but there was no second to the motion.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

A question was asked about money being given to the NSVA Scholarship Fund should the MCB 2 Reunion Association dissolve. Scott Williams replied that when MCB 2 filed papers to incorporate, one of the requirements is that, upon dissolution of the corporation, a distribution of remaining funds must be designated to be given to a non-profit organization. Discussion followed to change our final distribution to the Museum Project. Roy Peak made a motion that our Articles of Incorporation be changed to reflect this change, seconded by Amos Phillips. The vote to make this change was unanimous in favor. Motion carried; however, some members requested this matter be brought to the table at our General Business Meeting in St. Louis, which will be done. The change to our Articles of Incorporation will be postponed until after the meeting vote in St. Louis.

Rex Roark asked the membership for a showing of support in recognition of the work for our organization by Scott Williams. All members present gave a standing ovation. Pete Elliott noted that he had made an effort to have a plaque made by the person that has made our plaques in the past but he has moved and no forwarding address is available. Rex Roark made a motion that an award plaque be presented to Scott by the Association and all members present approved.

Amos Phillips noted that telephone calls are very reasonable using calling cards and suggested that we call our buddies as often as possible, especially those that are having medical problems.

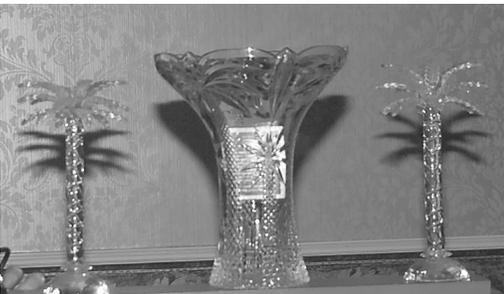
Scott Williams announced that there will be a professional photographer set up at the banquet.

Cdr. Elliott asked if there were any additional comments or suggestions from the membership. No additional comments were made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Williams, Secretary

Thanks to Marian and Clyde Stenholm (right) who provided some beautiful crystal vases and dishes, some of which were used for our raffle and one that was offered in a wonderful auction (see below). The vase was cut in palm tree motif and the candlesticks were in the form of palm trees. Clark Alexander won the auction, but Vic Jaccino gave him a good run. Thanks to all for making this reunion so wonderful.



The Good Guy List

Allan Alberg, Clark Alexander, William Alwine, Vern Ammentorp, David Anderson, Gene Antoine, Basil Arnold, Pat Badgett, Lewie Baker, Richard Baker, Jack Balding, Lowell Baldwin, Ed Ballerstein, Benjamin Balog, Mike Barron, Don Barry, Glen Bates, Dale Baugh, Ray Beaulieu, Henry Benguerel, Hank Bentsen, Frank Betonte, Ralph Binney, Vernon Blakeslee, John Bloem, Bill Body, Ralph Bokern, James Bolton, Alexander Borys, Robert Bowdler, Donald Bradley, Philip Brunelle, Al Bryant, Silas Bucher, David Budworth, Al Burkhardt, L.P. 'Pop' Burleigh, Ralph Burnley, 'Shorty' Campbell, Patrick Carey, Bennie Carlson, Edwin Carlson, Mike Castelveccchi, Ken Catchpole, Mylo Cayou, George Chang, C.L. 'Chuck' Chapman, Ken Chew, Walter Cloonan, Robert Coley, Bob Colquhoun, Roy Cone, Robert Conroe, Howard Cornwell, Richard Coulson, Jack Coulter, Willard Cousins, Fred Cozad, Pat Cunningham, John (Mary) Cure, Paul D'Angelo, Arnold Daisy, Stan Dauer, Joe De Franco, Jim De Keyser, Ed Dechant, Ted DeVit, Mary Dick (for all the Good Guys), Melvin Dixon, Howard Doyle, William Duensing, Pete Elliott, Don 'Ike' Eminhizer, Doug Emond, Al Erb, Ralph Evans, Norm Eveleth, Richard Fairbanks, Dick Farbo, Frank Fibich, Warren Flading, Forrest Foland, Jack Foster, Leonard Fowler, Bill Frazier, Harold Freeland, Lane Freitag, Al Fritz, William Ganske, Claude Garcenot, Ken Gaskell, Roger Germundson, John Ginther, Ron Glasser, Robert Graf, Russ Granby, Jim Green, Clem Gregurek, Frank Gresser, Roy Grisham, Donald Grobbel, George Gustin, Gordon Gwathney, Charles Hagemann, David Haines, Les Hall, Luther Hall, Alexander Hamilton, Roger Hamilton, Arlin Hardwick, Roy Harris, Robert Hart, Art Hees, Ralph Heitt, Bert Helms, Don Henderson, Duane Henrichson, Wayne Heple, Gerald Herr, Juanita Hershberger, Bob Hoare, Don Hofstetter, Sam Holsomback, Ray Hooter, Arthur Hoskinds, Rod Howard, Ron Howatson, Charles Ingalls, Hugh Ireland, William Irvine, Vic Jaccino, Frank Jacus,

Robert 'Frenchie' Jandreau, Bob Janson, Larry Jessop, Ambros Johnson, Charles Johnson, Ordean Johnson, Don Jones, Robert Jones, John Jurkash, Lloyd Kallsen, Chuck Kangas, Greg (Isabel) Karekin, Edward 'Mike' Kazarian, Duane Keech, Yung Hark Ketels, Richard Keyes, Denise King, William Knight, John Kolasz, Emil Krygier, Harry Ladley, Ervin Lampe, Ron Landrum, Conrad Lawlor, Art Leable, Harold Leasure, Max Leavell, Harold Lind, Herbert (Red) Liverman, Robert Lohrentz, Robert Long, Stan 'Pete' Lore, Ken Ludwig, 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, Daniel Millett, Dan Mills, Chuck Minert, Frank Mingo, Gary Mitchell, Roger Mohs, Pat Morris, Hance Morton, Paul Muma, Richard Muns, Eugene Nelson, Richard Nelson, Ray Nethercott, Don Nitsche, Joseph O'Brien, Mel Olson, Ernest Owens, Dwight Padgett, Billy Partridge, Roy Peak, Malcolm Pearson, Ben Pedrotti, Daniel Pelaez, John Petronka, Amos Phillips, Mike Piro, Earl Presson, Cecil Price, David "Ernie" Pyle, Sam Ragusa, Gary Rawlings, Charles Rebb, John Recklitis, Rex Roark, Gene Robinson, Dale Rogers, Thomas Roy, Al Rubinich, John Ruby, C. Edner Rudolph, Vincent "Vinny" Ryan, Harold Saucier, Darl Schmidt, Millard Schneider, Jack Schrader, Don Seethaler, Gerald Seger, Stoney Serrett, Rik Shafer, Bill Sharp, Don Shoff, Lew Shugar, Jim Sichel, William Sigmund, Dick Sim, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Walter Smith, Warren Smith, Joseph Sobczak, Ray Sonnen, Raymond Sorrentino, Ted Speros, Ken Stancombe, Gene Staples, Tom Stapleton, Clyde Stenholm, Jim Stephens, Lee Stevens, Larry Stevenson, John Stock, Kenneth Stoutland, Willis Struecker, Richard Swallow, William 'Pete' Taylor, Danny Terry, George Terry, Doug Thorp, Richard Todd, Charles Trimarchi, Donald (Denise King) Truskey, Al Ulman, Jerry Vasquez, Larry Vibber, Lionel Vidrine, John Vidusic, Walter Waddell, Dick Walters, Harold Wardenburg, John Weires, Karl Weisenbacher, Duane Weltlich, Cecil Westwood, Bud Wheless, Rodney White, John Wilborn, William Wilcoxon, Marshall Williams, R. G. 'Pete' Williams, Scott Williams, Verle Williams, Clarence 'Lefty' Williamson, Fred Wilmarth, Jack Wilson, Jesse Wilson,