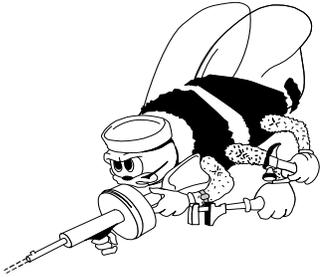


# MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 7, Issue 7

April 28, 2009



# 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

# Myrtle Beach! Send Your Reservations Now!

## It's Going To Be Great!

For those that show up on Thursday, we are planning a wine & cheese reception in the early evening. Following the reception, some will want to go to one of the recommended restaurants on page 8, so the reception will begin early and end early, probably 4-6 p.m. The Friday activities are in the evening, so everyone can go shopping or explore the Myrtle Beach area during the day. John and Walt Noetzel have written a nice review of Myrtle Beach which is on page 8, so we can all take advantage of what they learned while on vacation there. Be early for the reception and enjoy Myrtle Beach!

## DON'T FORGET YOUR DOOR PRIZE!

This is a really fun part of our reunions so bring something you think someone else may really want! Bring something fun or funny or a treasure! But bring something.

And we also always have some good raffle prizes. Fred Cozad (see Our Fallen Comrades page 11) built and donated a wood scraper for a nice raffle prize.

Be sure and come to Myrtle Beach and join the fun! See you there!

## Who to contact about your dues

Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas.  
MCB 2 Reunion Association  
725 Summer Ridge Dr.  
Villa Rica, GA 30180  
(770-456-4246)

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.

\*\*\*

## *The Commander and Staff*

*Our leadership consists of:*

**Commander  
Pete Elliott**

**Staff:**

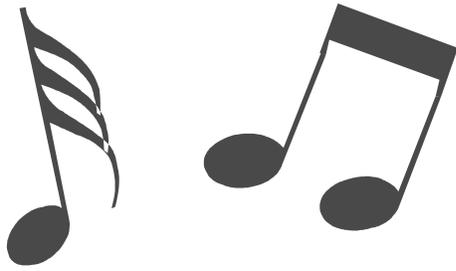
Joe DeFranco  
David Haines  
Rich Nelson  
Roy Peak, Vice Commander  
Malcolm Pearson  
John Petronka  
Stoney Serrett, Commander Emeritus  
Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas./Publisher

# Seabees

*April - July*

## *Dates to Remember*

- April 1, 1945 Seabees land on Okinawa.
- April 8, 1942 Doolittle Tokyo raid.
- April 9, 1942 Bataan falls.
- May 8, 1942 Battle of the Coral Sea.
- May 8, 1945 V-E Day. Germany surrenders.
- May 25 Memorial Day  
(observed) (Flag flown at half-staff until noon)
- June 4, 1942 Battle of Midway
- June 6, 1944 Seabees land at Normandy as Naval Combat Demolition Units.
- June 15, 1944 Seabees land on Saipan.
- June 30, 1943 Seabees land with 9th Marine Division, Solomon Islands.
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 26, 1944 Seabees land on Tinian.



## Notes from our members:

From **Richard Coulson**: I hope your 'vacation' was a good one [it was, but too much windshield time in too short a time]. We are forwarding via US mail our check for dues so we may remain on the Good Guy List [thank you]. Glad to have you back. I missed your emails..... from **Donald Jones**: I mailed you a check on April 1, 2008, for dues and a donation to the Seabee museum. Did my check get credited to someone else? I received a thank you from the museum but my name is missing from the Good Guy List [boy, oh boy.... I'm gonna hafta do something about this cheap help. After I checked my records, I just did not get you back on the GGL. You are back on and you are really a good guy]..... from **Don Pastell**: Sorry I'm late but my memory isn't as good as it used to be [thanks for the check, **Don**]..... from **George Dorge**: We have made it another year. Hope you will and are having a good time. I am late again with my dues but this time I have a good excuse. We had a bunch of sickness before Christmas and it lasted until the middle of January [rough!]. Enclosed is a check for dues plus a bit extra for whatever [thank you]. Thank you for your work and a good Newsletter..... from **Jim Firebaugh**: Enclosed is my check for dues and I hope some additional for postage [thank you]. You continue to do a great job. Even though I haven't been able to make any reunions, I enjoy the Newsletters and keep hoping I can make it to at least one reunion [I hope so, too, **Jim**]..... from **Marian (Clyde) Stenholm**: Just a note to put in with the check for **Clyde's** dues and two flags. Use the rest for mailing, etc. [thank you]. Another cold day [in Rockford, IL] even tho' the sun is shining. We have made our reservations back in December or late November. Hopefully, we can fly out of Rockford. They have flights every week going to Myrtle Beach. Our daughter has applied for a job at our VA facility in



Madison, WI. She has taken **Clyde** up there for the last six weeks for his eye appointment and he is doing great. Everything is healing really good. I must close and get this in the mail. See you both in the fall.



Excuse my writing as it is not as good as it used to be [it looks very good to me and thanks for the note] ... from **Stuart Hood**: [by email] Please send me the info re: the reunion in October. I learned about it from **Don Hofstetter**. [I sent some recent Newsletters to **Stuart**.] Thanks for the reply. I was with MCB 3. We were the first on the Point... from **Forrest Foland**: Enclosed please find my check for dues [thanks]... from **Vance Adams**: Hi, **Scott**. We have a new email address: vanell32@sbcglobal.net ..... from **Bill (Darlene) Wilcoxon**: Sorry I slipped off the Good Guy List. Please use the enclosed check to pay my dues and send one US and one blue Seabee flag. Use the rest as you see fit [thank you]. I don't know about Myrtle Beach as yet, but we're hoping. Hope all is well with you and your family [it is, thanks. We brought our 4½-year old granddaughter home with us from San Antonio for a couple of weeks while mom and dad get used to their new daughter. Big sister is so proud!]..... from **Opal (Paul) Neusetzer**: I'm happy to report that things are looking up for me. I have moved with the help of family and many wonderful friends. [see the address correction box on page 11] I was not able to do all that I had wanted to do, but I am quite content with what I could do. I couldn't attend **Gladys Serrett's** funeral as a close personal friend was also buried at the same time. Many thanks for all you do. [thank you, **Opal**, for the check. Our widows may receive the Newsletter for as long as they wish without sending any dues, but it is always welcome.] ..... from **Wayne Bulgerin**: Thank you. I appreciate you very much. Enclosed is my check for dues and please send a roster [thank you! And a roster is on the way.]..... received dues from **Roy Grisham, Kenn Catchpole, Paul D'Angelo, John Recklitis, Jerry Wilkening, Chuck Kangas, C. Edner (Bonnie) Rudolph, Jim Wommack, Roger Hamilton, Hank Bentsen, 'Holly' (Rennie Bartlett) Hollingsworth, Fred Wilmarth, Norm Eveleth, Gordon Love, Fred Simon and Bob Elder** [thanks all!]..... from **Mary Dick**: I'm sending a check for all



(Continued from page 3)

the Good Guys (and Gals). I hope this helps [Mary, you are a real sweet-heart! Thank you very much!]...... from **Richard Swallow**: I was so sad to learn of the passing of **Gladys Serrett**. She will be missed by many of the MCB 2 Association and especially **Stoney**. I remember **Stoney** very well, although briefly, in Vietnam in 1965 when he was Security Chief in MCB 8..... from **Art Siple**: My forgetter is still working overtime. Sorry [and thanks for the check]..... from **Gerald Vasquez**: See if I can get back on the Good Guy List with this check [you did... thanks]. Thanks, **Jerry** (CBD 1804, K-3, Korea & MCB 3)..... from **John Jurkash**: Sorry I'm late again with the dues [thanks for the check]. You are doing a great job and keep the good news coming..... from **Ed (Sharon) Ballerstein**: Sorry this check is so late [that's OK and thanks]. With my being in the hospital, things got behind..... from **Lloyd Kallsen**: I noticed the last two Newsletters that the Good Guy List didn't include my name. According to my records, I paid my dues on February 21, 2008. Please advise if otherwise [that is what my records show too, **Lloyd**. You were paid through 2008 and now you are paid through 2009. Thanks for the check]. I don't get to the reunions any more due to health reasons, however I enjoy the Newsletters. My wife, **Evelyn**, and I are 80 years young. I leave most everything for her to take care of, including the driving..... from **Stoney Serrett**: Thanks very much for the donation to the Children's Home. .... from **Hunter B. Smith**: I was in NMCB 11 from 1966 to 1969 and my neighbor, **Avery Stegmaier**, was in NCB 2 from 1942 to 1946 and spent his wartime deployment on Wallis Island near Samoa and Fiji. A couple of years back, he asked me if I knew anything about NCB 2 and I was able to find your association link through the Seabee Museum website. I have been downloading your Newsletter for him since he does not have Internet access. If you could please post his name and address in your Newsletter, some of his shipmates may recognize his name and write him a note. Thank you very much for your attention to this request. **Avery's** health is not too good right now and I am sure he would appreciate any response. [I responded to **Hunter** and told him that NCB 2 is not



the same as MCB 2 and there is no connection between the two. I also sent them some back issues of the Newsletter and **Hunter** wrote back thanking me for the Newsletters and the response.]..... from **Ralph (Pat) Presson**: [emailed asking for some US and Seabee flags] Thanks a lot for getting the flags to us [thanks for the check]..... from **Bert Helms**: Put me back on the Good Guy List! [you are back on, **Bert**]...... from **Chuck Ingalls**: Hope this catches me up a little [it does and thanks]. Sorry that I'm late [you're not late and it keeps us going. Thanks]..... from **Dick Sim**: Here's a check for a blue baseball cap I emailed you about yesterday. One with just the Seabee emblem and a gold strand across the back of the bill. Also, if there is enough left over, please send a roster along [all on the way]. Hopefully, the roster will have email addresses included [many, but may not be all of them]. All your work for the association is much appreciated. Wishing you and **Rachel** a great, healthful & fun 2009 [thank you]..... from **Don McDaniel**: Why not schedule the next "Gittotgether" here in Phoenix. Lots to do, chase Mesicans, watch kidnappings, ridealong with Border Patrol, witness drug busts, then if that's not exciting enough, everyone can come to my place in Sun City and watch the elderly fall off their walkers, drive their golf carts on the wrong side of the road, and watch the Alzheimer's folks get lost in the parking lots of the markets..... from **John Wilborn**: [**John** had sent me an email asking about Seabee Boonie hats. I told him we could get them and would send them to him as soon as they come in.] Enclosed is my check and thanks again..... I have received a few reunion registration forms: **Lee Stevens, Paul D'Angelo, Bob Hart, Don McClain, David Haines, and Bob Elder** .... Thanks all, and everyone else: get yours sent in NOW!..... from **Jack Wilson**: Sorry about being late with my dues but I have a good forgetter. I didn't notice until I checked the Good Guy List and saw that my name wasn't there. Here is my check and a little extra to help out [thanks very much]. You do a great job and

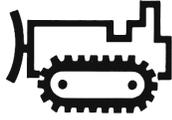


keep up the good work..... from **Jim Green**: I had a conversation recently with **Shirley**. I was trying to be clever. I said, "I'm getting so old and tired that I think I'll apply for some of that government stimu-



(Continued from page 4)

lus". **Shirley** said, "Yea, when you do they'll find out that you're shovel ready" ... .. from **Frank**



**Betonte:** [enclosed a check— thanks] Here's a little help. See you in September..... from **Jim Green:** [I received a card with Irish stories on St. Patrick's Day, appropriately enough! Thanks, **Jim.** Funny !] ..... from **Tom Stapleton:** Enclosed is a check for my dues [thanks]. I would also like to have an updated roster [printing now and will be on the way]. Anything left over from the check can go to whatever expense you need to cover [thank you!]. Looking forward to seeing you in Myrtle Beach..... from **Charles (Helen) McCabe:** Here's a check for our dues! [thanks] We just got back from our yearly winter in Yuma, Arizona. As usual, we really enjoyed ourselves and the warm weather. Sorry but we will not be at the reunion this year. It's just a lot further than we wish to travel at our age. We are hoping that one year soon we will all meet on the west coast so that we can join you. Take care and Hi to everyone..... from **Stiles F. Stevens:** In the late stages of the Korean conflict, I was a 'buck ensign' with CBMU 101, headquartered at K-6 NAS. With the withdrawal of MAG-33 to Japan, Detachment Able was then sent first to NAS Atsugi and then to NAS Iwakuni. I notice with interest that the October 2009 reunion of MCB 2 includes the remnants of CBMU 1 and CBMU 101. Please send me info of your reunion program. Altho' I live in the US Virgin Islands, I plan to be in the Atlanta/Savannah area just before the reunion dates. Thanks in advance for your reply [I sent Capt. **Stevens** Volume 6 and Volume 7 of our Newsletter and a letter inviting him to join with us as he may see some old friends.]..... That's all the mail for this issue. Keep those cards and letters coming and make plans to be with all your friends in Myrtle Beach and to meet new friends. Our numbers

are dwindling and we need to keep in contact with each other, so the reunions are a great way for us to keep in contact. Make your reservations with the hotel and send me your registration form for our activities. And don't forget to bring a door prize! See you there! Scott



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**Money isn't everything, but it sure keeps the kids in touch.**

## Thoughts From Pete Elliott

By the time you get this, I will have completed another term as Commander for the Department of Ohio for the Navy Seabee Veterans of America. Also, I have been Commander of Island X-9 for Greater Cleveland since 1993, playing the Pipes since 1994, been Commander of MCB 2 Reunion Association since 1995, finished 19 years of retirement from the U.S. Marshals Service and working on 48 years of blissful marriage.

We are going on our ninth grandchild (due in June). My son Pete, who was appointed U.S. Marshal for the Northern District of Ohio in 1993 by the Republican Party, has been nominated by the Democratic Party to continue in his position for another term of four years. This is almost unheard of.

My deep and sincere sympathy to Stoney Serrett on the loss of his wife Gladys, and to all members' families who have lost their loved one.

I am looking forward to seeing each and every one of you in Myrtle Beach. Your support is what keeps us going!

Please bring your smiles, door prizes and lots of fun with you!

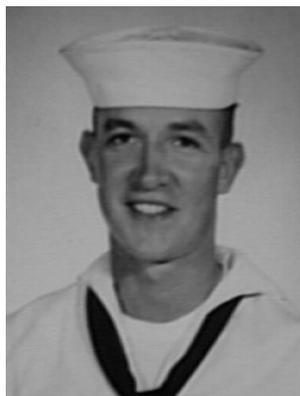
God bless you and God bless America!  
Pete Elliott

## In Memoriam

With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person which almost went unnoticed. Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "The Hokey Pokey", died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in and then the trouble started.

# Marvin Glen Shields

Marvin Shields is the only member of the U.S. Navy Seabees to be awarded the Medal of Honor in history.



## *Awarded for actions during the Vietnam War*

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Seabee Team 1104, Mobile Construction Battalion Eleven, near Dong Xoai, Republic of Vietnam, on 10 June 1965. Although wounded when the compound of Detachment A-342, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, came under intense fire from an estimated reinforced Viet Cong regiment employing machineguns, heavy weapons and small arms, Construction Mechanic Third Class Shields continued to re-supply his fellow Americans who needed ammunition and to return the enemy fire for a period of approximately three hours, at which time the Viet Cong launched a massive attack at close range with flame-throwers, hand grenades and small-arms fire. Wounded a second time during this attack, Shields nevertheless assisted in carrying a more critically wounded man to safety, and then resumed firing at the enemy for four more hours. When the commander asked for a volunteer to accompany him in an attempt to knock out an enemy machinegun emplacement which was endangering the lives of all personnel in the compound because of the accuracy of its fire, Shields unhesitatingly volunteered for this extremely hazardous mission. Proceeding toward their objective with a 3.5-inch rocket launcher, they succeeded in destroying the enemy machinegun emplacement, thus undoubtedly saving the lives of many of their fellow servicemen in the compound. Construction Mechanic Third Class Shields was mortally wounded by hostile fire while returning to his defensive position. His heroic initiative and great personal valor in the face of intense enemy fire sustain and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

# *The Good Guy List*

## **For 2009**

Vance Adams, Harold Agles, Allan Alberg, Vern Ammentorp, David Anderson, Gene Antoine, Basil Arnold, Pat Badgett, Richard Baker, Ed Ballerstein, Mike Barron, Henry Benguerel, Hank Bentsen, Frank Betonte, Ralph Binney, Vernon Blakeslee, John Bloem, William Body, Ralph Borkern, Ken Booth, Alexander (Cat) Borys, Bob Bowdler, Don Bradley, Philip Brunelle, David Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, L.P. 'Pop' Burleigh, Ralph Burnley, Bill Burns, Pat Carey, Shorty Campbell, Bennie Carlson, Ken Catchpole, Frank Chambers, George Chang, Chuck Chapman, Ken Chew, Walter Cloonan, Bob Colquhoun, Roy Cone, Bob Conroe, Howard Cornwell, Richard Coulson, Fred Cozad, Warren Culberson, Pat Cunningham, Arnold Daisy, Paul D'Angelo, Stan Dauer, Ed Dechant, Joe DeFranco, Jim DeKeyser, Tony deLeon, Don Dellit, Ted DeVit, Mary Dick (for all the Good Guys), Robert Doezie, George Dorge, Tom Dowd, Howard Doyle, Marshall Dunne, Pete Elliott, Doug Emond, Ralph Evans, Norm Eveleth, Richard Fairbanks, Richard Farbo, Galen Farnsworth, Frank Fibich, Jim Firebaugh, Warren Flading, Forrest Foland, Jack Foster, Bill Frazier, Harold Freeland, Claude Garcenot, Robert Gardner, Kenn Gaskell, Roger Germundson, Ron Glasser, Robert Graf, Russ Granby, Jim Green, Clem Gregurek, Frank Gresser, Roy Grisham, Don Grobbel, Gerald Grubb, George Gustin, Gordon Gwathney, Pauline (for Charlie) Hagemann, Walt Hagen, David Haines, Les Hall, Alex Hamilton, Roger Hamilton, Leonard Hardoin, Arlin Hardwick, Roy Harris, Bob Hart, Ralph Heitt, Bert Helms, Don Henderson, Duane Henrichson, Wayne Heple, Althea (Jerry) Herr, Bob Hoare, Don Hofstetter, Ben Hollar, Milford 'Holly' Hollingsworth, Sam Holsomback, Ray Hooter, Art Hoskinds, Rod Howard, Ron Howatson, Charles Ingalls, Vic Jaccino, Frank Jacus, Robert Jandreau, Larry Jessop, Ambros Johnson, Charles

Johnson, Don Jones, John Jurkash, Robert Kaempfe, Lloyd Kallsen, Charles Kangas, Mike Kazarian, Denise King (for her Dad, Don Truskey), William Knight, John Kolasz, James Krause, Emil Krygier, Ervin Lampe, Sherwin Larsen, Harold Lind, Herbert Liverman, Gordon Love, Dale Lundstrom, Tom Maere, Ivan Majetic, Anthony Marcella, Philip Matalucci, Jack Mayo, Charles McCabe, Don McDaniel, Norris McDaniel, Riley McDaniel, Gene McDonagh, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Grant Millard, Dan Millett, Dan Mills, Chuck Minert, Gary Mitchell, Roger Mohs, Pat Morris, Hance Morton, Richard Muns, Eugene (Wes) Nelson, Richard Nelson, Ray Nethercott, Opal (for Paul) Neusetzer, Don Nitsche, John Noetzel, Joseph O'Brien, Ernest Owens, Billy Partridge, Don Pastell, Roy Peak, Mal Pearson, Ben Pedrotti, John Petronka, Ralph Presson, Cecil Price, David Pyle, Sam Ragusa, Robert Rasmussen, Gary Rawlings, John Recklitis, Rex Roark, Gene Robinson, Dale Rogers, Thomas Roy, John Ruby, C. Edner Rudolph, Vinny Ryan, Harold Saucier, Paul Schell, Jack Schrader, Don Seethaler, Gerald Seger, Stoney Serrett, Bill Sharp, Dick Sim, Fred Simon, Jack Sims, Art Siple, Glenn Sisco, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Joe Sobczak, Ray Sorrentino, Gene Staples, Tom Stapleton, Clyde Stenholm, Norman Stentz, Lee Stevens, Larry Stevenson, George Stewart, Willis Struecker, Dan Svendsen, Richard Swallow, Victor Swanson, William Taylor, Doug Thorp, Richard Todd, Charles Trimarchi, Wayne Turley, Jerry Vasquez, Larry Vibber, Lionel Vidrine, Walter Waddell, Richard Walters, John Waltrip, Harold Wardenburg, John Weires, Karl Weisenbacher, Bud Wheless, Rodney White, John Wilborn, William Wilcoxon, Jerry Wilkening, Marshall Williams, R. G. 'Pete' Williams, Scott Williams, Fred Wilmarth, Jack Wilson, Preston Wilson, Jim Wommack, Bill Wisnowski, Dwight Yetter, and Stephen Yunger.

Everyone listed here has their dues paid at least through 2009, 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 (no dues card sent out). This list is as of April 9, 2009. There are currently 251 paid up members from a mailing list of 463. If dues have never been sent, they do not receive the Newsletter. There are 742 names on the full member roster. (SW)

# Myrtle Beach Review

John and Trudy Noetzel

Trudy and I just returned from a week at Myrtle Beach and wanted to pass on a few pointers. We didn't stay at the Sands Resorts but did take a quick look and found the check-in desk was a challenge. As you know the "Sands" is actually a complex of buildings with various names and we wandered all over the area before finally finding what we think was the right place. Our first problem was that we looked for 201 75th Avenue (re: the February Newsletter) and found that you can't get there from here. We finally parked at the "Ocean Dunes" parking lot entrance and after inquiring there and at a few other buildings, we finally came to 201 74th Avenue North, the Sand Dunes registration desk. The girl there looked up the MCB-2 reservation on her PC and assured me that this desk was the place to check in for that event. See the arrow pointing down 74th Ave from Ocean Blvd. on the hotel complex map (page 9). Another photo is actually the front entrance to the "Sand Dunes". As I already wrote, it ain't easy. By the way, you may have missed something yourself that you want to make a point of to all the reunion attendees. One of the hotel conference auditoriums is now dedicated as a war memorial, a copy of a traveling version of the Vietnam Wall Memorial. We looked for the names of people we knew.

For those who may want more things to do, "Broadway at the Beach" (Hwy 17 Bypass at 21st Ave North) is a destination in itself, a shopping, dining and entertainment complex around a lake. For a live stage show at another location we enjoyed the Alabama Theater (4750 Hwy 17 S.). Besides a great variety/musical show, their 'stagehand' comedian, Grant Turner, aka Ricky Mokel, is a riot.

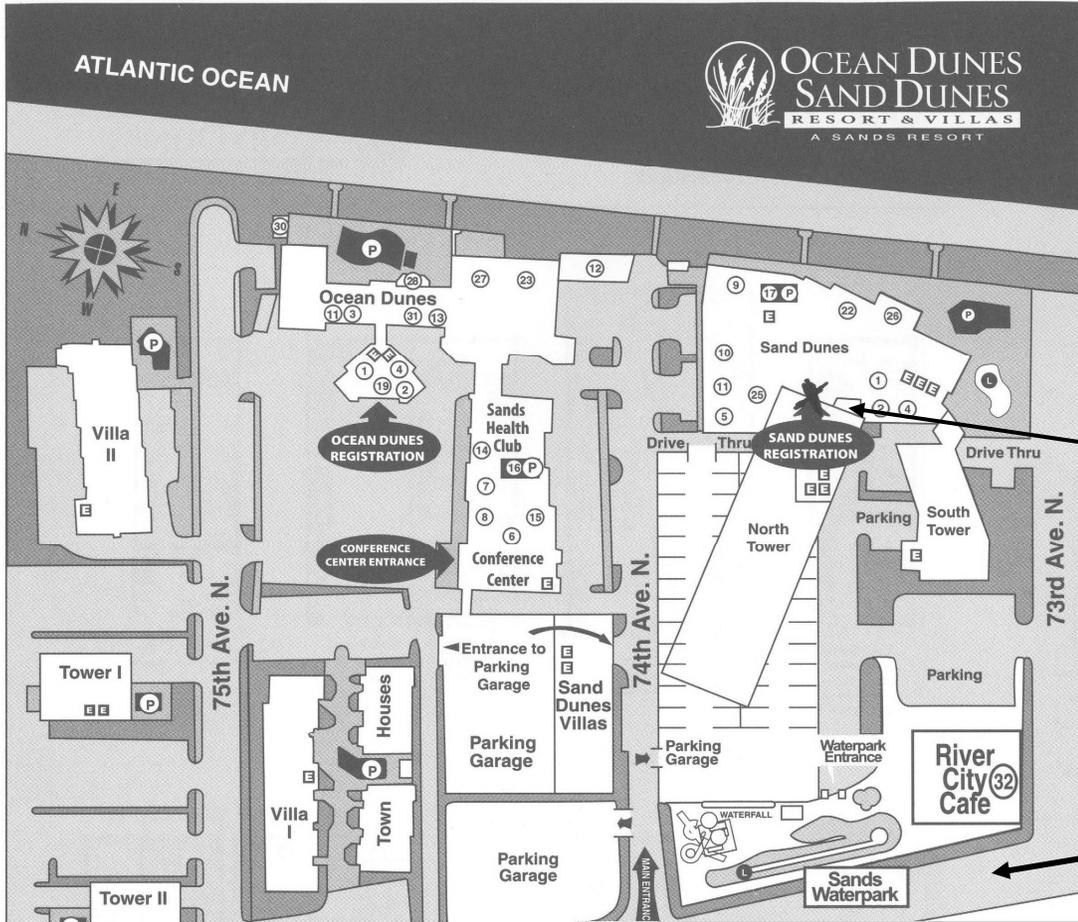
For restaurants, there are so many but we recommend Thorny's (600 South Kings Hwy), the Captain's House (3002 No. Ocean Blvd) and Benjamin's Calabash Seafood (be very careful, there are a number of "Calabash" restaurants in town. We mean specifically Benjamin's at 9593 No. Kings Hwy, phone 1-800-288-8687). At the latter, pay close attention to the many ship models in the restaurant including the 30 foot long (yes, 30 foot!) intricate model of the Queen Elizabeth, and don't miss the large Viking model over the bar. The builder of all these models, Jimmy Frost, was gracious enough to give my brother and me a tour of his on-site work shop. I'm sure he would be happy to meet with you or your group there to describe his work or answer any questions. No charge, *it is just his passion*. When not in his workshop building boats, Mr. Frost travels around the world teaching sailing and racing.

And, I want to pass on a couple of other suggestions from my brother Walt. Some of the reunion attendees may be interested in seeing the USS North Carolina in Wilmington, N.C., which is only about 65 miles from Myrtle Beach. I see on their web site there is a charge of \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors (65+) but that doesn't seem too high for what is offered. Although quite a bit further at 125 miles in Fayetteville, N.C. another great take is the Ft. Bragg Airborne and Special Ops Museum (admission free but donations accepted). Walt and I did visit that Museum with our wives a couple of years ago and we can tell you, it is an impressive, moving experience, well worth the trip and I would do it again. Actually, as Walt points out those two visits could be combined in the same day from Myrtle Beach but it would be a full day.

~~~~~  
Added notes from Walt Noetzel

My brother wrote you a couple of 'Day Trip' suggestions during the CB reunion in Myrtle Beach and I'd like to elaborate a little on the Airborne and Special Operations Museum in Fayetteville, NC. As John mentioned, we visited the museum a couple of years ago and were very impressed with all the displays including the original equipment and lifelike figures. One of the most comprehensive and very moving exhibits was the concentration camps and victims. All the displays/exhibits are in chronological order, starting in 1940, so as you progress through the museum you are walking through Military history.

As for planning a day trip from Myrtle Beach, I suggest it would be about a 2 hour drive and you would spend no less than 2 hours at the museum but upward to 4 hours. I believe that any and all veterans who take the opportunity to visit this museum, especially those who have traveled some distance to attend the reunion, will be very happy they did. For more info for those with Internet access, go to <http://www.asomf.org/>



Map from John Noetzel of our Myrtle Beach hotel location.

Note the SAND DUNES REGISTRATION that John has penciled in an 'X'. The entrance is between 73rd and 74th Avenues North.

Route 17, Business, Kings Highway



Entrance to Registration Desk, Sand Dunes Hotel.

# Civil Engineer Corps to Kick Off Year of the Seabees

Story Number: NNS090401-07

Release Date: 4/1/2009 4:26:00 PM

From www.navy.mil - official website of US Navy

By Linda Wadley,  
Naval Facilities Expeditionary Logistics Center  
Public Affairs Officer

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- A wood and plaster Seabee, longtime resident of the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum, was declared "fit for duty" for the Naval Heritage Center's "Year of the Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps: Can Do" exhibit that begins April 4, thanks to the dedication and hard work of fellow Seabees and friends.

In preparation for the year-long exhibit, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) developed a public display in coordination with the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum, 1st Naval Construction Division, and Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit-202, Detachment Washington, D.C.

The exhibit would not have been complete without the presence of the Seabee mascot – a fierce-looking bee complete with Tommy gun and tools, ready to build and fight. A five-foot tall, 50-year-old carved bee that had been on display for decades in the Seabee Museum in Port Hueneme, Calif., was discovered and chosen to stand watch at the entrance to the exhibit. Unfortunately he failed inspection prior to assuming his watch.

"We were all surprised to find that the bee was actually in need of substantial repair," said Seabee Museum Director Lara Godbille, who along with several Seabees, prepared the bee for the journey to Washington. She promised that after his makeover, he would not only pass muster but would be as debonair as the actor Sean Connery, and he has been known as "Sean Conner-Bee" ever since.

Sean Conner-Bee was accessioned into the museum's collection in 1959; however, little else is known about him. He is one of the focal points in the museum, and the only large Seabee carving in the museum's inventory, according to Godbille.

BU1 Wesley Johnson, 31st Seabee Readiness Group (31st SRG), saw firsthand the actual condition of the mascot as he and other Seabees examined him.

"The wings were damaged and splitting. Two of the shoulders were separated that were holding the wrench and hammer, plus there was some damage to several arms and missing and scratched paint," Johnson said.

With the deadline nearing for the assembly of the exhibit and the mascot planned as its centerpiece, Johnson volunteered to take on the project. Three others joined him -- his wife, Elizabeth Mueller-Johnson; BU1 Robert Mitchell, 31st SRG, and Seabee spouse Marcella Hinkle.

"My wife Elizabeth is into art as a hobby, and when she heard the bee needed painting, she wanted to help. Then a friend (Marcella Hinkle) heard about the project and volunteered," Johnson explained.

The team worked more than 90 hours, before and after work, and at lunch, repairing and painting the mascot. Johnson painted and made structural repairs; Mitchell built the pedestal, and Mueller-Johnson and Hinkle painted the bee in meticulous detail.

Johnson, a 14-year Seabee veteran, said that working on the historic bee prompted him to delve more into Seabee history, learn more about the individuals who served and the Seabee design and where it came from.

"Realizing the history of the insignias, seeing the original rating badges, it made me realize that I didn't know enough about the Seabees. I've been doing this for a while. I take a lot of pride in my Seabee heritage, but I found there is still much more to know," he said.

The "Year of the Seabees & Civil Engineer Corps: Can Do" kicks off at the Naval Heritage Center in Washington, D.C., April 4 in conjunction with the Navy Memorial's Annual Charging of the Fountains and Blessing of the Fleet. NAVFAC Commander and Chief of Civil Engineers Rear Adm. Greg Shear will be the guest speaker during the blessing.

Force Master Chief of the Seabees and Command Master Chief of NAVFAC Michael Holdcraft said, "Sean Conner-Bee symbolizes the "Can Do" spirit of the Seabees and is the perfect Seabee to showcase the "Year of the Seabees & Civil Engineer Corps: Can Do."

The "Year of the Seabees & Civil Engineer Corps;

(Continued from page 10)

"Can Do" will run until March 2010 and will include book signings, films, awards ceremonies and youth activities designed to educate the public about the history and rich legacy of the Navy's Seabees and the civil engineer corps. Upon conclusion of the "Year of the Seabees & Civil Engineer Corps: Can Do," Sean Conner-Bee will make the journey back to Port Hueneme and will be displayed with honor in the new U.S. Navy Seabee Museum that is scheduled to open in the spring of 2011.

For more news from Naval Facilities Engineering Command, visit [www.navy.mil/local/navfachq/](http://www.navy.mil/local/navfachq/).

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Builder 1st Class Robert Mitchell, left, and Builder 1st Class Wesley Johnson, both assigned to the 31st Seabee Readiness Group, take a last look before the Seabee mascot is shipped to participate in the "Year of the Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps; Can Do" exhibit.

## 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 753 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, if you would like a directory sorted by ZIP numbers, let me know. You can see who lives close to you or use it when you travel. And keep sending those cards and letters – especially the ones with checks!

Scott Williams

## MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

William A. Ganske  
5395 N. Cattail Way  
Boise, ID 83714-1779  
208-629-0540  
CBMU 1/101

Opal Neusetzer  
8169 Lavender Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70818-5337  
225-261-7310 - home  
225-368-5030 - cell  
(Paul - MCB 2)

Richard (Rik) Shafer  
32049 109th Place SE, Apt. 357  
Auburn, WA 98092-2567  
RikShafer@aol.com  
MCB 2

Sometimes too much  
to drink isn't enough...

## Our Fallen Comrades

Frederick D. Cozad	2/18/09
Herbert J. Meade	12/18/08
Marvin C. Sparks	12/22/08

*May they live on in our memories.*

Fill this form out and have it ready when you call the hotel for your reservations.  
Keep this completed form and bring it to the reunion with the Confirmation Number.

# Sands Resorts

201 74th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

## HOTEL RESERVATION WORKSHEET

**CALL 1-800-599-9872 & Identify Yourself: MCB 2 Seabees**

**Group Name: MCB 2 Reunion Association**

**Dates: Wednesday - Saturday, September 30 - October 3, 2009**

**Rate: \$79 plus 19.5% tax Single or Double Occupancy**

**One Bedroom Jr. Suite available: \$89 plus 19.5% tax**

Parking: **FREE**

Check-in Time: 4:00 p.m.

Check-out Time: 12:00 Noon

**Confirmation Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

Guest & Companion's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date

Departure Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card Number for Guarantee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Card & Expiration Date

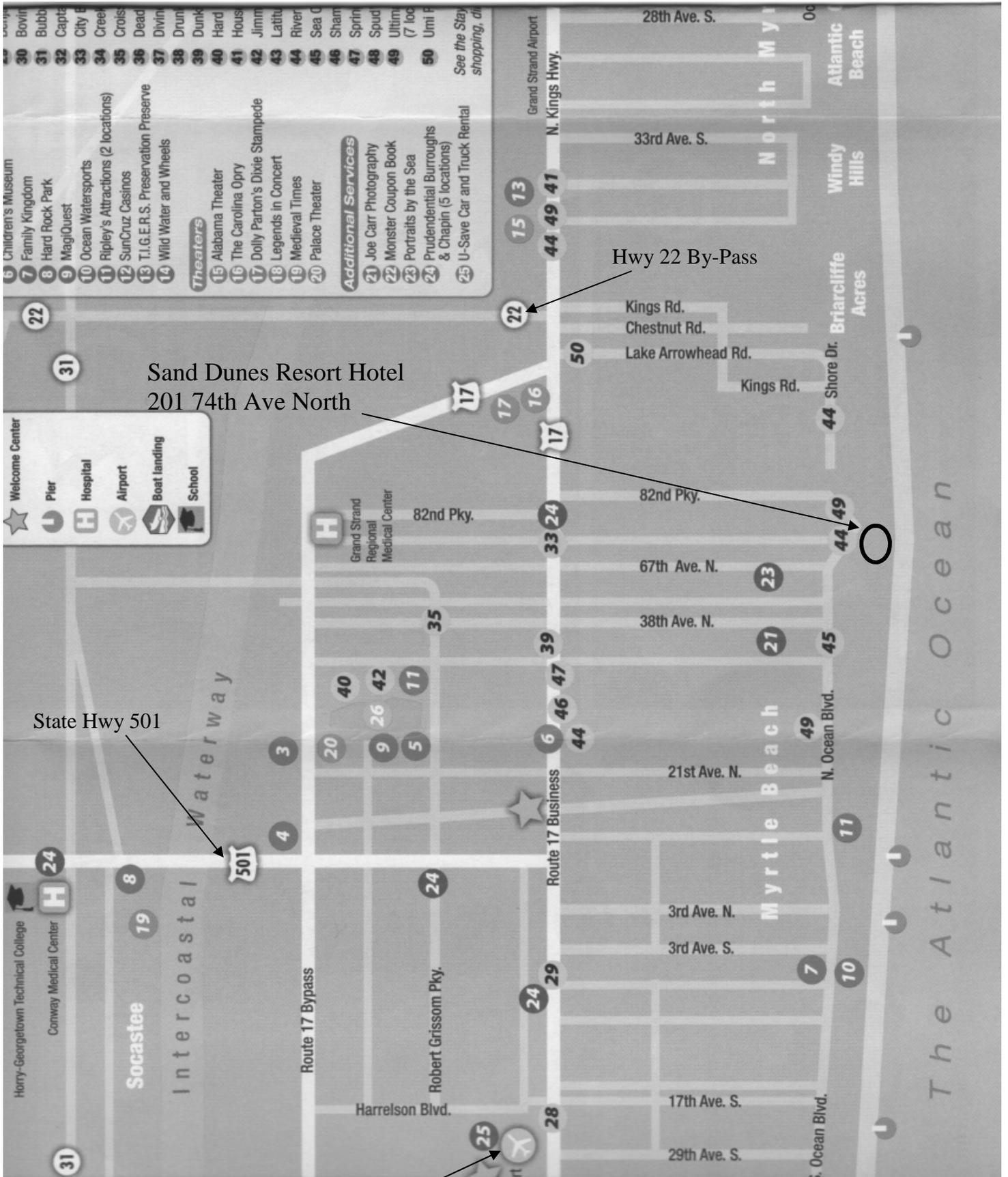
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Special needs** (subject to availability): Smoking/non-smoking; Handicap.

**Deposits:** There is a minimum one night's deposit plus 19.5% (current rate) room tax charge. Deposits must be received prior to the reservation cut-off date. A credit card or a deposit in the amount of one night's room plus tax charge must be received no later than 5 days from the date the reservation was made.

**Reservation Cut-Off Date:** All reservations must be received by the hotel no later than August 30, 2009.

**Cancellations:** Individual room reservations may be cancelled up to ninety-six (96) hours (4 days) prior to arrival with no penalty.



Sand Dunes Resort Hotel  
201 74th Ave North

Hwy 22 By-Pass

State Hwy 501

Myrtle Beach Airport

A handy map for you to use to locate our hotel if you are driving in.

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If you are flying, the hotel will pick you up.

## REUNION REGISTRATION - MYRTLE BEACH

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to MCB 2 REUNION ASSOCIATION in the form of a check or money order. No credit cards or phone reservations accepted. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before September 1, 2009. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis.

**We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.**

MAIL TO:

Scott Williams  
 MCB 2 Reunion Association  
 725 Summer Ridge Drive  
 Villa Rica, GA 30180

\*\*\*\*\*

OFFICE USE ONLY

Check Number  
 Inputted

Received  
 Nametag

\*\*\*\*\*

**CUT-OFF DATE IS SEPTEMBER 1, 2009**

	PRICE PER	X	NO. OF PEOPLE	=	\$ AMOUNT
Friday Golf Outing	\$85	X	_____	=	_____
Friday Dinner & Show (Seafood buffet & Opry)	\$65	X	_____	=	_____
Saturday night Banquet Buffet Dinner	\$40	X	_____	=	_____
Registration Fee per person (required)	\$5	X	_____	=	_____
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE TO MCB 2 REUNION ASSOCIATION, INC.</b>					= _____
<i>Please do not staple or tape payment</i>					

PLEASE PRINT NAME FOR NAME TAG \_\_\_\_\_ UNIT \_\_\_\_\_  
(MCB 2, CBMU 1/101, etc.)

SPOUSE NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU FLYING? \_\_\_\_\_ DRIVING? \_\_\_\_\_ RV? \_\_\_\_\_

Full refunds will be sent for the above mentioned activities if cancellation is received by September 1 (less a \$5 processing fee). However, after that date, refund amount will depend on vendor policies.

**CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9am - 5pm Eastern time (excluding holidays).  
 CALL (770) 456-4246 to obtain your cancellation code.**

# MCB 2 REUNION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

## Biannual Reunion Schedule of Events

### SANDS RESORTS HOTEL

201 74th Ave. North

### MYRTLE BEACH, SC

October 1-3, 2009

#### *Wednesday, September 30*

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Early Bird Registration
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Planning Committee meeting
10:30 p.m. -	Hospitality Room closed

#### *Thursday, October 1*

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Reunion Registration open
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Wine & cheese reception - Hospitality Room
10:30 p.m. -	Hospitality Room closed

#### *Friday, October 2*

7:00 a.m. -	Golf Outing - bus ride to course
8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Reunion Registration open
6:00 p.m. -	Hospitality Room closed
6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Dinner & Show at Carolina Opry

#### *Saturday, October 3*

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Reunion Registration open
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Business Meeting
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Memorial Service
12:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Late Reunion Registration open
4:00 p.m. -	Hospitality Room closed
6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	Cash Bar in Banquet Room
7:00 p.m. -	Banquet
9:00 p.m. -	Door Prize drawings

#### *Sunday, October 4*

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
	Farewells and departures

# MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

c/o Scott H. Williams  
725 Summer Ridge Dr.  
Villa Rica, GA 30180

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*Return Service Requested*

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

