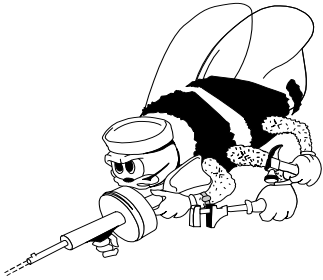


# MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 8, Issue 5

November 17, 2010



# 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

# PORT HUENEME CANCELED! SEATTLE NEW SITE!

## Port Hueneme Will Not Be Ready!

After talking with the director of the museum and learning of the schedule for exhibit readiness and with much discussion with the committee, it has been decided that we must cancel our reunion in Port Hueneme. The only part of the museum exhibit that will be ready for viewing is the Main Hall and the World War II portion. The Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan portions will be ready next in probably two phases, then the Korean era and the Vietnam War sections will be completed last. This will not be ready for viewing until 2013 or 2014, so it was decided to postpone the Port Hueneme reunion.

See *Changing Location* (Continued on page 2)

## Thank You!

In response to my appeal for funds to allow the continuation of publishing this Newsletter, you have helped tremendously! So many have sent additional funds, either with a dues check or just a check to help, you have gotten us back on track. But, with the cancellation of the Port Hueneme reunion, that means I will have to make a planning trip to Seattle and will need funds to offset this expense. It never ends, does it? This trip should not be nearly as expensive as the Port Hueneme trip and we should be able to cover it with funds on hand,

See *Thank You!* (Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1) **Changing Location**

ion until that time. Our units were exclusively during the Korean War era and, since that will be the last section built for display, we will wait for it to be completed before we tour the museum. Very disappointing to say the least. When the choice was made in Myrtle Beach, there were reservations about the museum being ready with all exhibits in place, but we were assured that all should be ready but it was not fully understood that all displays were going to be built in phases, plus all of the funding had not been received because it was pledged, not actually donated. Since then, the economy has taken a severe downturn and that pledged money is not coming in as expected, so the completion date for all exhibits has been pushed back to 2013 or early 2014. The leadership apologizes to all for this disappointing turn of events but we will convene in 2011 in Seattle, Washington at a great hotel. As you read this, make your plans to come to Seattle and see all the sights around there. Check page 15 for the hotel reservation sheet and let's change gears to have a great reunion in Seattle! See you there!

Scott

(Continued from page 1) **Thank You!**

thanks to your generosity.

Now, as we change directions for our next reunion, keep in mind that we are becoming fewer and fewer in number and the opportunity to get together is more difficult, so let's go to Seattle in 2011 and plan on a Grand Reunion in Port Hueneme in late 2013 or 2014.

Roy Peak and I have researched hotels and tour venues and have selected what we think is the best of the best. The tours are exciting and may be the best tours that we have ever arranged. We will have a bus tour of Seattle ending at the Museum of Flight where aircraft from prior to WWI and through the supersonic Concorde, with everything in between, on display. Another tour, we will be treated to a cruise to Blake Island and welcomed there by native Americans to Tillicum Village and an authentic salmon dinner prepared by them. You don't want to miss either tour! Be there!

Scott

# SEABEES

## *September - February Dates to Remember*

- 
- |                |                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sept. 1, 1942  | 6th NCB Seabees arrive at Guadalcanal, first Seabees to enter a combat zone.                                                      |
| Sept. 2, 1945  | Formal surrender of Japan. WW II ends.                                                                                            |
| Sept. 14, 1892 | Admiral Ben Moreell's Birthday.                                                                                                   |
| Sept. 15, 1950 | MCB 2 Commissioned.                                                                                                               |
| Sept. 15, 1950 | Seabees land at Inchon, Korea.                                                                                                    |
| Oct. 13, 1775  | Navy Birthday                                                                                                                     |
| Oct. 16, 1942  | Eight men of the 6th NCB killed at Guadalcanal, first Seabees killed in action. Seaman B. Meyer awarded Silver Star posthumously. |
| Oct. 31, 1941  | First Headquarters Construction Company authorized by Admiral Nimitz (forerunner of battalions).                                  |
| 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.                                                                                                            |
| 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.                         |
| Feb. 1, 1944   | Seabees land with Fourth Marine Division, Kwajalein.                                                                              |
| Feb. 19, 1945  | Seabees land with 5th Marine Division, Iwo Jima.                                                                                  |



## Notes from our members:

From **Jack Ryan**: Enclosed are the pictures I said I would send you. In 1999, Dr. **Donald K. Allen** of Youngstown, Ohio flew to Tarawa. The color photos he sent to me after his trip. He also sent me the map of Tarawa and a copy of the February 1945 National Geographic [excellent story!]. I lived in a tent at the end of the runway on Bonriki. The bomber strip is now the runway for the airport terminal. At low tide, we could go to a couple of the other spots such as Buota and Tanaea, but sometimes you would get caught on the wrong side when the tide came back in. Sure made for a long night on the beach. I hope you enjoy the pictures [I do! I will scan them into my computer and send the originals back. Thank you!]..... from **Stiles Stevens**: I have been waiting to hear more info re: reunion of CBMU 101 and all the other “hangers-on.” Particularly, what hotels are you considering or which one was picked? I hope it is the Best Western in Oxnard, then I can keep getting Best Western points. A few weeks ago, I was passing thru the Virginia-Highland section of NE Atlanta and found a copy of the “Ponce Press” for June 2010. I noticed buried in its few pages the attached ad for the 233rd Seabee Battalion of the Navy League’s Sea Cadet Corps program. I talked today to the CO (ex-Navy Air officer) and the group is sponsored by American Legion Post 233 of Logansville, GA. I thought the 700-plus members on your Good Guy List might find this of some interest..... from **Don Pastell**: I seem to have misplaced all my paperwork and I’m not sure where to send my dues or how much the dues are. Enclosed is a check that I hope covers it. If it’s over the amount of my dues, use the extra to help out on your mailing. If under, please let me know [all is well and thank you]. You are doing a fine job and I don’t know where you find the time, but I know it is appreciated. Thanks to you I was able to contact my old friend and tentmate, **Dan Millett**..... from **Fred Simon**: Here is the



business card I told you about [a card from another **Scott Williams**! This one with Verizon. Thanks]. I thought you might like to see it. Thanks for all the great emails as I enjoy them very much. I’m in the midst of a heat wave here in Vermont. It has been in the 80’s and 90’s for days. Hope you are well there in Georgia [we are and having the same heat wave] ..... from **Joe O’Brien**: Please accept this check for my dues and some extra for the Newsletter [thank you]..... from **Pauline Hagemann**: We (**Vernon** and I) are enjoying our new home and keeping up with the lawn. Thank you for all your work. I really enjoy the Newsletter. Here’s a check for **Charlie’s** dues and some extra [thank you!]. He so looked forward to the reunions..... from **Marshall (Rosemary) Dunne**: We looked through our records and discovered the check mailed in January for **Marshall’s** MCB 2 dues has not cleared. It may be in the bottom of the outdoor mailbox at our post office, or it may have been stomped to death by one of the invisible elephants who jump up and down on a lot of packages addressed to us before we get them. To make up for the delay, we’re sending a check to apply for dues and return to the Good Guy List. Your Newsletter is great, **Scott**. Many thanks for all you do to keep it going [thank you for the check and the nice compliment.]..... from **Don (Winifred) Grobbel**: **Don** is sending a few \$\$ to help with expenses [thank you]..... from **Gerald Rice**: [**Gerry** is a Seabee friend of mine from Las Vegas and sent dues to join our reunion association. Thanks!.]..... from **Bobby McMillan**: This check can extend my dues and help out a little for wherever else you need it to go [thank you!]..... from **Jocelyn Barry**: Enclosed is a check to go toward past dues for **Donald E. Barry** or just to help with the current shortage of funds [thank you very much. I have been sending the Newsletter to **Jocelyn** since he passed away. Just something for the widows of our comrades.] **Don** died in 2006 and I have not paid any dues since [not expected for the widows, but thank you!]. We were never able to attend any reunions and I do not know any of the members. In December 2010, please remove **Don’s** name from the roster and discontinue the Newsletter. Thank you..... from **Vincent Ryan**: [enclosed a check and thanks] I always wanted to be a Good Guy... now I is one! [truly!]..... from **John (Geri) Petronka**: Hope this will help a little and

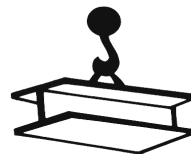


(Continued from page 3)

thanks for a great job [thank you!]. Hope to see you in California next year. Have a great summer..... from **Cecil Price** [aka Smiley, Arky, Ol' Cec]: All I can say is, you and **Pete** are going to have to quit eating so many double What-a-Burgers or maybe just get one order of fries and share it. Don't know if I'll make it to Hueneme or not. As the smog in southern California is pretty bad in September and, if the smog is bad, I get horrible headaches. Time will tell [old Smiley sent a check to help, and thanks]..... from **Bill (Marilyn) Knight**: Enclosed is my check to assist with expenses for the reunion [thank you]. Your letter sounds sort of 'iffy' about getting the museum ready on time. I hope everything works out well. Looking forward to seeing you again..... received checks for dues from **Richard Baker, Dave Budworth, Chuck Minert, Herbert Liverman, Gerald Vasquez, Don Henderson** and **Charles Loeffler**. Thanks to all!..... from **Stoney Serrett**: I have received your latest Newsletter and I enjoyed reading it as always. With all the good news in the letter as to how our plans for Port Hueneme is going, I have to say that I am deeply concerned. As you know, I am always willing to do what I can to help make our reunion fun and memorable, so I am enclosing a letter asking your permission to send it to my many friends. My hope is it will jog their memories that it takes lots more money to finance a reunion and publish the Newsletter, that you do so well. I will mail these letters myself to some who I believe would want this to be the best reunion ever. I will await your answer before I mail the form letter to my friends. [thank you for the kind words, **Stoney**. I wasn't expecting our scouting trip to Port Hueneme to cost as much as it did and that caught us short. But everyone has answered the call and we are now back in the black. Permission is granted to send your letter and it may help keep us from getting in a tight again. Thank you for keeping our group close to your heart.]..... from **John Wilborn**: Enclosed is a check to help with the expenses [thank you]..... from **Dave Budworth**: [I had called **Dave** for some history of MCB 2 to respond to someone on-line that has asked. Thanks, **Dave**] Enclosed is a copy of a Q-Bee Pointer that published the MCB 2 history. A few years ago I was cleaning out our storage shed and I came across a box full of all the Q-Bee Pointer newspapers that I had mailed home to my parents every month and



they had saved them for me. It was pretty interesting going through them after all these years and I had forgotten that I had them. I had them from issue #1 Nov. 24, 1952 to volume 11 April 15, 1955, the month I sailed home for discharge. I hope this helps..... from **Harold Wardenburg**: I hope everything is well with you and your family [it is, thanks]. We have had a hot, dry summer here in Hot Springs, Arkansas. It has been hot! Today the heat index was 103°. I am getting ready to make my hotel reservations. I have stayed at the Country Inn & Suites the past five or six All-Seabee Reunions. It is an outstanding place to stay. Very clean and friendly. I hope this check will help you out [yes, it does and thank you.]. I should have sent it out earlier but my granddaughter came from Spokane, Washington for a couple of weeks and then I had a visit from Capt. Hilderbrand (ret.) and Admiral Jack Buffington (ret.). We talked about the new museum raising money to get the exhibits and displays. Hope to see you next Fall..... from **Vernon Blakeslee**: I would like to have you send me one American flag, one white Seabee and two blue Seabee flags. My check is enclosed for the flags and the difference for help needed for the Newsletter [thank you!]..... from **Gladys Womack**: Thank you so much for your help in getting the word out and thanks for the card and memorial gift in **Jim's** honor to the children's home in Texas. I treasure the memories of the reunions we did attend in Springfield, Las Vegas, Denver and Charleston and our mini-reunion in Laughlin. I plan to drive **Jim & Faun Bolton** to Port Hueneme. See you there!..... from **Millard (Trudie) Schneider**: Sorry **Millard's** dues are late. I would have sworn that I sent them in. Oh, well. Better late than never. I sure like reading the Newsletter [thanks]..... from **Denise King**: Please accept this check to help pay for shortage in Newsletter publications! Thanks for all you do for these vets! [thank you very much and it is an honor for me to do this for my comrades.] ..... from **Bob Campbell**: This past week I was looking for information on my old outfit and I saw the name of a buddy from the past. There was no address, so I thought I would try this route as his name was on the list for the reunion. His name is **Galen Farnsworth**. We both served in MCB 2 in Atsugi, Japan



(Continued from page 4)

and Cubi Point, Philippines. If you would send me his address, I would like to make contact with him. Thank you in advance [I sent names to both and have not heard if they made contact]..... from **Ray Hooter**: Just a little \$ to help out [thank you]. Use it for whatever the need, I think my dues are paid but if not, let me know. If all goes well, we will be at the reunion in 2011..... from **Jack Schrader**: Here is some "help money" [thanks!]..... from **Stoney Serrett**: Just a few lines to say hello and to send you a little money to help with your expenses [thank you!]. September 15th has come and gone but you may remember it was 60 years ago that there was a commissioning ceremony at Port Hueneme for U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion #2. I still have pictures, the program and a roster for that day. I don't know if you would ever have need for them but, just in case you do, let me know. Some of us on the roster are still around. We call ourselves "Plank Owners." I recently received a letter from **Nancy and Wayne Heple** of the 103rd NCB Reunion Association. There were some comments in there regarding the museum at Port Hueneme. You probably get his newsletter also [yes, I do]. It seems like they are kind of in limbo regarding their reunion. Sure hope that this note will find you both well and enjoying Atlanta [we are!]..... from **Bob 'Buck' Buckley**: Enclosed is some help for the Newsletter [thank you!]..... from **Richard Forster**: I am sending some photos from Korea 1952-53 and also a donation for the kitty [many thanks]. Can you send me a membership roster sorted by ZIP numbers? [done]..... from **George Rosenvold**: I'm moving at the end of September. Please send the Newsletter to my new address. Thanks ..... from **Les Hall**: Here's a check for my dues [thanks]. Keep the rest and use it where you need it. Keep up the good work..... from **Roy Peak**: I have been away from home for two months and have **Scott's** telephone message, logged on Saturday at 2:45, but I don't know which of 7 possible Saturdays. Catastrophe is probably too mild a description. Anyway, my Internet connection has failed and I have not been able to research stories in Port Hueneme about anything. Gulfport is a fine alternative in 2011 [and since this letter, we have



changed again]. Enclosed is my check for dues plus some 'help' [thanks]..... from **Bob Bowdler**: Just a note to pay my dues with a little extra for whatever. Too bad about Port Hueneme. I was looking forward to a great party. I spent the summer on the Oregon coast and visited the **Wilco-xen's** about three different times. We played games of Mexican Train. **Bill** is still trying to find a way to win. Maybe he should keep score..... from **Richard Forster**: [**Dick** sent a whole envelope of pictures of the chapel built by CBMU 1 for Marine Air Group 33 in Korea and putting a quarried stone face on it and the officer's club, plus many other pictures of bridge repair and other work. I will try to get some of these in from time to time. See pages 8 & 9 for a few of them in this issue.]..... from **Mary Raga**: The **Petronka's** came to Newport Beach to celebrate their granddaughter's bat mitzvah. Unbeknownst to them, their four kids planned a lovely harbor cruise with lunch the next day to celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary. We (**Sam** and I) participated in both events although **Sam** is still recovering from six weeks of illness. We had fabulous sunny weather both days although it was over 100° even at the beach! Unheard of since 1984. Of course, that had to be the other "hot spell" as our daughter was married and, after they left on their honeymoon, most of the rest of the family went to Coronado Island near San Diego. The grand old hotel there, the Del Coronado, had no A/C and there wasn't a fan to be bought!..... from **Stiles Stevens**: Here's something for the dues and extra for the kitty (if anything is left over) [there is and thank you!]..... from **Dan (Mary) Millett**: Enclosed are **Dan's** dues. Take the extra and put it wherever it is needed [thanks much]. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our next reunion where-ever..... from **Richard Swallow**: Please send 10 3X5 US flags and 2 white background Seabee flags. My check is enclosed including dues [thanks much!]..... That's about it, folks. I just got back from Seattle and wanted to wait getting this out until we had Seattle hotel and tours ready. Check pages 12, 13, 14 & 15 for hotel details and one super great tour! Another great tour will be of the city and the Museum of Flight. More on that one later. See you there! Scott

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# *The Good Guy List*

## **For 2010**

Vance Adams, Harold Agles, Walter Ahern, Allan Alberg, William Alwine, Vern Ammentorp, David Anderson, Gene Antoine, Basil Arnold, Pat Badgett, Ed Ballerstein, V. H. Barnes, Mike Barron, Hank Bentsen, Dan Beran, Frank Betonte, Ralph Binney, Ralph Bokern, Vernon Blakeslee, John Bloem, Bill Body, Alexander (Cat) Borys, Bob Bowdler, Don Bradley, John Brown, Phil Brunelle, Alfred Bryant, David Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, L.P. 'Pop' Burleigh, Ralph Burnley, Bill Burns, Dan Butcher, Shorty Campbell, Pat Carey, Bennie Carlson, Ed Carlson, Ken Catchpole, Frank Chambers, George Chang, Chuck Chapman, Ken Chew, Bob Colquhoun, Howard Cornwell, Richard Coulson, Warren Culberson, Pat Cunningham, Arnold Daisy, Marvin Dalby, Paul D'Angelo, Stan Dauer, Joe DeFranco, Jim De Keyser, Michael Del Busso, Tony DeLeon, Ted Devit, Mary Dick (for all the Good Guys), Mel Dixon, Marshall Dunne, Robert Doezie, Tom Dowd, Howard Doyle, Harrell Edmondson, Pete Elliott, Don Eminhizer, Doug Emond, Al Erb, Ralph Evans, Richard Fairbanks, Richard Farbo, Galen Farnsworth, Frank Fibich, James Firebaugh, Warren Flading, Forrest Foland, Dick Forster, Jack Foster, Bill Frazier, Harold Free-land, Claude Garcenot, Robert Gardner, Roger Ger-  
mundson, Ron Glasser, Robert Graf, John Grasz, Jim Green, Clem Gregurek, Frank Gresser, Don Grobbel, Gerald Grubb, Marvin Guetling, George Gustin, Gordon Gwathney, Pauline (for Charlie) Hagemann, Walt Hagen, David Haines, Les Hall, Roger Hamilton, Arlin Hardwick, Roy Harris, Bob Hart, Ralph Heitt, Bert Helms, Don Henderson, Duane Henrichson, Wayne Heple, Althea (Jerry) Herr, Bob Hoare, Tom Hoffman, Don Hofstetter, Charles Hogan, Ben Hollar, M. P. 'Holly' Hollingsworth, Sam Holsomback, Ray Hooter, Rod Howard, Ronald Howatson, Charles Ingalls, Vic Jaccino, Frank Jacus, Bob, Janson, Larry Jessop, Ambros Johnson, Charles Johnson, Don Jones, Lloyd Kallsen, Charles Kangas, Mike Kazarian, Duane Keech, Les Keller, Hark Ketels, Denise

King (for her Dad, Don Truskey), William Knight, John Kolasz, James Krause, Betty (Emil) Krygier, Ervin Lampe, Ron Landrum, Charles Loeffler, Herbert Liverman, Dale Lundstrom, Ivan Majetic, Anthony Marcella, Robert Marshall, Tony Mastroianni, Phil Matalucci, William Mayo, Charles McCabe, Norris McDaniel, Riley McDaniel, Gene McDonagh, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Grant Millard, Dan Millett, Dan Mills, Chuck Minert, Frank Mingo, Gary Mitchell, Roger Mohs, William Morin, Pat Morris, Finley Morrison, Hance Morton, Paul Muma, Richard Muns, Eugene (Wes) Nelson, Richard Nelson, Ray Nethercott, Opal (for Paul) Neusetzer, Don Nitsche, Joseph O'Brien, Mel Olson, Billy Partridge, Don Pastell, Roy Peak, Mal Pearson, Ben Pedrotti, John Petronka, Norm Pratt, Ralph Pres-son, Cecil Price, David 'Ernie' Pyle, Sam Ragusa, Robert Rasmussen, Gary Rawlings, John Recklitis, Gerry Rice, Gene Robinson, Dale Rogers, George Rosenvold, Thomas Roy, John Ruby, C. Edner Ru-  
dolph, Vincent Ryan, Paul Schell, Millard Schneider, Jack Schrader, Gerald Seger, Stoney Serrett, Bill Sharp, Don Shoff, William Sigmund, Richard Sim, Fred Simon, Jack Sims, Art Siple, Glenn Sisco, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Walter Smith, Joe Sobczak, Ray Sorrentino, Gene Staples, Tom Staple-  
ton, Clyde Stenholm, Lee Stevens, Stiles Stevens, Larry Stevenson, Dan Stewart, George Stewart, John Stock, Willis Struecker, Dan Svendsen, Richard Swallow, Gary Talbert, James Taylor, William Tay-  
lor, Doug Thorp, Richard Todd, Wayne Turley, Ge-rald Vasquez, Lionel Vidrine, Richard Walters, Billy 'Doc' Ward, Harold Wardenburg, Bud Wheless, Rodney White, Walter Whitney, John Wilborn, Wil-  
liam Wilcoxon, Jerry Wilkening, Marshall Williams, R. G. 'Pete' Williams, Scott Williams, Fred Wil-  
marth, Jack Wilson, Jesse Wilson, Preston Wilson, Bill Wisnowski, Jim Wommack, Dwight Yetter, and Stephen Yunger.

Everyone listed here has their dues paid at least through 2010, 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 July 18, 2010. There are currently 253 paid up members from a mailing list of 453. If dues have never been sent, they do not receive the Newsletter. There are 732 names on the full member roster (22 pages). (SW)

## Change!

There's an old sea story about a ship's Captain who inspected his sailors, and afterward told the first mate that his men smelled bad.

The Captain suggested perhaps it would help if the sailors would change underwear occasionally. The first mate responded, "Aye, aye sir, I'll see to it immediately!"

The first mate went straight to the sailors berth deck and announced, "The Captain thinks you guys smell bad and wants you to change your underwear."

"Pittman, you change with Jones, McCarthy, you change with Witkowski, and Brown, you change with Schultz."

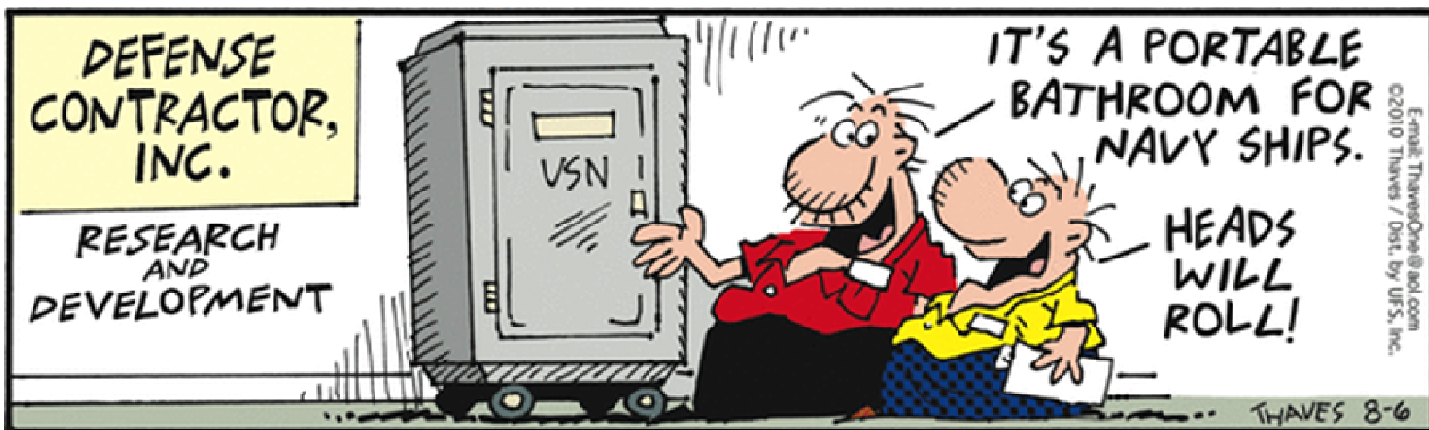
### THE MORAL OF THE STORY:

Someone may come along and promise "Change", but don't count on things smelling any better.



Pictures from Dick Forster, CBMU 1, Korea:  
Clockwise from top: Crew cutting stone for Officer's Club; finished chapel; drain from runway extension; repairing bridge to Pohang; gathering stone from quarry for cutting.





Two more pictures from Dick Forster, CBMU 1:  
 Left: Blasting stone from ledges for chapel.  
 Right: Seabees in Dick's hut; Dick is on the right rear row. Can anyone identify any others?



**WELCOME,  
NEW MEMBERS!**

---

Gerald V. Rice  
 1021 Meier Dr.  
 Pahrump, NV 89048-5217  
 775-751-3537  
[de\\_gerryrice@yahoo.com](mailto:de_gerryrice@yahoo.com)  
 MCB 9

## 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](mailto:williash@aol.com)

make checks payable to:  
 Scott Williams/MCB 2 (or CBMU 1, etc.)

**Dues are \$20/year**  
 January - December

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

\*\*\*

## Editorial

By  
Randy Evans

# Protecting Purple Hearts Unconstitutional

On August 7, 1782 gen. George Washington, the commander in chief of the Continental Army, created by order the Badge of Military Merit. His actual letter read:

“Let it be known that he who wears the Military order of the Purple Heart has given of his blood in the defense of his homeland and shall forever be revered by his fellow countrymen.”

In creating the predecessor to the Purple Heart, Gen. Washington wished “to honor those who performed ‘singularly meritorious action’ with ‘the figure of a heart in purple cloth.’ Those who demonstrated ‘unusual gallantry,. . . extraordinary fidelity, and essential service in any way, [would] meet with a due reward.”

At the same time, Gen. Washington ordered that:

“Should any who are not entitled to the honors have the insolence to assume the badges of them, they shall be severely punished.”

So who could seriously question the validity of such a command? Well, believe it or not, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals did in *United States vs. Alvarez*. In the words of the court, here is what happened.

Xavier Alvarez won a seat on the Three Valley Water District Board of Directors in 2007. On July 23, 2007 . . . newly-seated Director Alvarez arose and introduced himself, stating, “I’m a retired Marine of 25 years. I retired in the year 2001. Back in 1987, I was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. I got wounded many times by the same guy. I’m still around.” Alvarez has never been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, nor has he spent a single day as a Marine or in the service of any other branch of the United States Armed Forces. In short, with the exception of ‘I’m still around,’ his self-introduction was nothing but a series of bizarre lies.

Alvarez was then indicted under the Stolen Valor Act for “falsely representing verbally that he had been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor when, in truth, and as [he] knew, he had not received the Congressional Medal of Honor.”

Alvarez pled guilty on the condition that he could challenge the constitutionality of the Stolen Valor Act, which he then did.

Of course, the Stolen Valor Act is not the first law to make lying illegal. There are crimes for lying under oath (perjury), lying on tax returns (tax fraud), lying in making claims (false claims acts), and lying to get a ballot (election fraud). It is against the law to impersonate a law enforcement officer. But, according to the court, these ‘noncontroversial criminal laws’ “raise no constitutional concerns even though they can be violated by means of speech.”

According to the court, “many lies may be made the subject of a criminal law without creating a constitutional problem,” just not the Stolen Valor Act which happens to protect the reputation and meaning of military decorations and medals. Indeed, in a 2-1 decision, the court struck down the Stolen Valor Act as unconstitutional because, in the words of the court, “it is not narrowly tailored to achieve a compelling governmental interest.”

How could the court reach such a conclusion? Well, according to this court, “there is no readily apparent reason for assuming, without specific proof, that the reputation and meaning of military decorations is harmed every time someone lies about having received one.” These are words clearly spoken by people who have no clue.

In his dissent, Judge Jay Bybee injected a jolt of reality. In addition to the description of the background of Gen. Washington’s order, here is what he said:

“The hubris of Alvarez’s claim to have received the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1987 may not be apparent to ordinary Americans, and it may not have been obvious at the joint meeting of the water districts, but it would not have been lost on the men and women who are serving or have served in our armed services. By his statement, Alvarez claimed status in a most select group: American servicemen who lived to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. No living soldier has received the Congressional Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War.

10 Alvarez’s statements dishonor every Congress-

*(Continued on page 11)*

(Continued from page 10)

sional Medal of Honor winner, every service member who has been decorated in any way, and every American now serving. Such ‘insolence . . . [may] be . . . punished.’”

As Judge Bybee put it, “false representations not only dishonor the decorations and medals themselves, but dilute the select group of those who have earned the nation’s gratitude for their valor. Every nation needs to honor heroes, to thank them for their selflessness, and to hold them out as an example worthy of emulation. The harm flowing from those who have crowned themselves unworthy is surely self-evident.”

*Randy Evans is an Atlanta attorney with McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP. He is the former General Counsel of the Georgia Republican Party and remains active in the party on both the state and national level. He can be reached at [www.mckennalong.com](http://www.mckennalong.com) or McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, Suite 5300, 303 Peachtree St., Atlanta, GA 30308.*

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## MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Jack L. Coulter  
595 S. Orange Ave.  
Bartow, FL 33830-4928  
MCB 2

Fred A. Granata  
5029 Viewridge Way  
Oceanside, CA 92056-5415  
CBMU 1/101

Pauline Hagemann  
1501 Gwendelyn Way  
Schertz, TX 78154-1998  
210-566-7749  
[chagemann@satx.rr.com](mailto:chagemann@satx.rr.com)

Robert E. Kaempfe  
5642 Ridgeway Dr.  
Fort Collins, CO 80528-8922  
MCB 2

## MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION (continued)

Don McDaniel  
134 Blackbeary Lane  
Tionesta, PA 16353  
814-560-3050  
[mcd158@yahoo.com](mailto:mcd158@yahoo.com) or [mcd158@live.com](mailto:mcd158@live.com)  
CBMU 1/101

William C. Pemberton  
14525 S. 136th Ave.  
Lockport, IL 60441-2324  
CBMU 577

George W. Rosenvold  
4918 April Ave.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464  
757-463-1929  
CBMU 1/101

Thomas W. Roy  
PO Box 24  
Bristol, NH 03222-0024  
MCB 2

John L. Ruby  
471 Almond Dr., Spc 62  
Lodi, CA 95240-6326  
MCB 2

George J. Stewart  
1652 Exchange St., Unit 19  
Okoboji, IA 51355-2601  
[gpgeorge22@live.com](mailto:gpgeorge22@live.com)  
MCB 2

Ernest Teoli  
1954 Auburn St., Apt. B  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601-2282  
CBMU 1

# 2010 Tillicum Village Menu

## STEAMED CLAMS IN NECTAR

*As you disembark the boat join other guests for a welcoming mug of steamed clams in broth with a touch of butter and onions – delicious! As is tradition at Tillicum, the used shells are crushed under foot to create the beautiful pathway.*

❧

## TRADITIONAL ALDER BAKED SALMON

*Savor this centuries-old treat! Our salmon, baked around alder wood fires on cedar stakes, is unlike anything you have ever tasted. Taking approximately one hour to bake slowly to perfection, the salmon retains moisture and takes on a wonderful mild flavor unique to this style of cooking. Served with our signature Juniper Berry Seasoning.*

❧

## SIGNATURE NORTHWEST STEW

*This thick meaty stew consisting of venison, beef and bison is full of flavors married together in a rich veal stock, combined with root vegetables and potatoes for a mouth-watering dish.*

❧

## WILD GRAIN HARVEST RICE

*Try this wonderful combination of wild and regular rice, cooked to perfection with onions, garlic and a fragrant vegetable stock.*

❧

## WARM WHOLE GRAIN TILLICUM BREAD

*This rich, dark, slightly-sweet bread is made with a hint of molasses – our own private recipe, served warm with butter. So popular, in fact, you can even purchase loaves to take home!*

❧

## FIELD GREENS SALAD

*Seasonal greens, dried cranberries, sunflower seeds, Oregon blue cheese. With stone ground rosemary dressing or raspberry vinaigrette served on the side.*

❧

## TRI-COLORED BEAN SALAD

*A colorful display of marinated creamy-white cannelli beans and bright, fresh green beans tossed with cherry tomatoes, fresh basil and shallots in a red-wine vinaigrette*

❧

## FRESH FRUIT SALAD

*Assorted Melons, Grapes, Strawberries and Pineapple. Served with a Strawberry Honey Dipping Sauce*

❧

## NORTHWEST DESSERT TREAT

*Our Chef's signature Chocolate Chunk Brownie with Marionberry Swirl – Delicious!*

*Coffee and Tea Service with Your Meal*

This is why we are coming to Seattle! On Monday, we will board a bus to take us to dockside and board a large boat for a scenic ride to beautiful Blake Island State Park. Once ashore, you can enjoy the beauty of the island and the Native Americans greeting you. You will receive a clam shell full of a wonderful clam chowder that you toss on the pathway and crush when you have eaten the chowder. As you enter the lodge, you will see the Native Americans preparing fresh-caught salmon that have been filleted and prepared for cooking over an Alder wood fire, then served buffet-style in the dining room. After dinner, a stage presentation by the Native Americans telling their history and then a wonderful cruise back to the dock and a ride home. Don't miss this trip! This is excellent!

MCB 2 REUNION ASSOCIATION, Inc.  
Biannual Reunion  
Schedule of Events

DOUBLETREE SUITES SEATTLE

16500 Southcenter Parkway

SEATTLE, WA

August 27-30, 2011

***Friday, August 27***

Early arrival - Setup and Familiarization  
Prepare Registration Packages

***Saturday, August 27***

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Early Bird Registration
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Planning Committee meeting
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Wine & cheese reception - Hospitality Room
10:30 p.m. -	Hospitality Room closed

***Sunday, August 28***

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Reunion Registration open
9:30 a.m. -	Leave by bus for City Tour and Museum of Flight
10:30 p.m. -	Hospitality Room closed

***Monday, August 29***

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Reunion Registration open
3:00 p.m. -	Hospitality Room closed
3:30 p.m. -	Leave by bus for Cruise and Dinner on Tillicum Island

***Tuesday, August 30***

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

***Wednesday, August 31***

8:00 a.m. -	Hospitality Room open Farewells and departures
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# **DOUBLETREE GUEST SUITES**

SEATTLE AIRPORT SOUTHCENTER  
16500 SOUTHCENTER PARKWAY  
SEATTLE, WA 98188  
Hotel Direct: 206-575-8220

## **DOUBLETREE GUEST SUITES OVERVIEW**

- The Doubletree Guest Suites is an **All-Suite hotel**
- 219 **2-Room Suites** rise eight stories around a lovely atrium lobby
- Each guest room has either one king size bed or two double beds
- With a separate living room parlor that has a pull out sofa bed
- Two telephones, a coffee maker, a refrigerator, two televisions with in-room movies
- High-speed internet access in all guest rooms and in business center

## **LOCATION - FREE AIRPORT SHUTTLE - FREE PARKING**

- Centrally located at the junction of I-405 and I-5, two main highways in the Puget Sound area
- **FREE** Airport Shuttle service & **FREE** self-parking
- **FREE** shuttle to the Light Rail Station & **FREE** shuttle services within a 2 mile radius
- **Business Center** with computers, printers & Fax and High Speed Internet Access
- Located across the street from **Westfield Shopping Center**, with more than 140 stores, over 20 restaurants nearby, banks and a theatre.
- A local service offers daily shuttle service from our door to the world famous **Pike Place Market** on a convenient schedule (for an additional cost).

## **FREE AIRPORT SHUTTLE INSTRUCTIONS:**

Our Sea-Tac Airport Shuttle Service runs 24-hours a day. Guests should call us when they arrive at the waiting areas at Island # 1 or Island # 3 only. This is located one floor above baggage claim, cross over the sky bridge, go down one floor to floor # 3. Then call us from the island. Return shuttles should be scheduled with our front desk.

## **INDIVIDUAL FOOD AND DINING:**

- **Cyber Café** Early morning risers can enjoy fresh brewed coffee and espresso drinks, featuring Tully's Hand-crafted Coffee. Hours of operation: 5:30am-7:00 pm.
- **Northwest Landing Restaurant:** Without leaving the hotel, your guests can enjoy our latest culinary endeavor, for breakfast, lunch and dinner!
- **Atrium Lounge/Bar:** In the evenings, your guests can relax and enjoy an inviting atmosphere.
- **In Room Dining:** Additionally, we do offer in-room dining services (room service).

## **POOL AND HEALTHCLUB:**

Our complimentary health club facilities offer your guests the opportunity to exercise, relax and unwind. We have added to our inventory of new exercise equipment so that we are considered one of the finest and largest hotel health clubs in the city. Our health club offers:

- **Indoor Swimming Pool**
- **Exercise Equipment** (Including Precor, Nautilus and TV screens), free weights and more
- **Two Racquetball Courts**
- **Sauna**
- **Spa Tub**

## **SENSIBLE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

Never leave valuables and personal items such as purses, cameras and computers unattended or in your car. Never leave anything of value in plain sight. Always lock your car. Safeguard your room key. Remove any after market navigation/GPS systems from the dashboard or in vehicle

**TAKE A PHOTO TOUR:** [www.emarketing360.com/DoubleTree/WA/DGSSS/list.html](http://www.emarketing360.com/DoubleTree/WA/DGSSS/list.html)

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

# Doubletree Guest Suites Seattle

16500 Southcenter Parkway  
Seattle, WA 98188

## HOTEL RESERVATION WORKSHEET

**CALL 1-206-575-8220 & Identify Yourself: MCB 2 Seabees**

**Group ID: MCB 2 Seabees**

**Reunion Dates: Saturday - Wednesday, August 27-30, 2011**

**Rate: \$109 plus 12.4% tax      Single or Double Occupancy**  
Includes \$8 breakfast discount coupon per person for each day

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:

**Take a photo tour:** [www.emarketing360.com/DoubleTree/WA/DGSSS/list.html](http://www.emarketing360.com/DoubleTree/WA/DGSSS/list.html)

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

**Deposits:** Please allow one night's deposit plus 12.4% (current rate) room tax.  
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 July 26, 2011.

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

# MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

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

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

