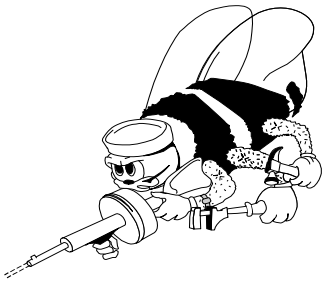


# MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 9, Issue 1

September 30, 2011



# 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

**ALL I CAN SAY IS,  
WOW!  
SEATTLE WAS GREAT!**

## **WE HAD A GREAT TIME!**

The time visiting with each other and meeting new friends was just outstanding while we were in Seattle. The tours were fun and enjoyable and it is hard to pick just one event that was more outstanding than another. The tour of Seattle and the time at the Museum of Flight was educational and the old airplanes were just amazing. I just can't believe some of those contraptions actually flew! And don't get me started on that wonderful salmon feast at Tillicum Village. The ferry trip there, the beautiful lodge, the clam chowder as a welcome treat, the aroma of the salmon as it cooked... it was all just great! I hope you enjoyed it as much as I

*See Great Time! (Continued on page 2)*

## **A Message From Pete Elliott**

Again, I would like to thank each and every one of our members who have supported Scott and me and the board over these many years. We will continue to support you and keep this great group going. It was another great reunion, dampened by the loss of 42 members since 2009.

We are already making plans for DC through contacts I have there. My wife has fully recovered from her arrhythmic heart beat. She went into the hospital on Tuesday after I got home and the medication she was given did the trick. She was home by Friday, and my back is on the mend

*See Message from Pete (Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1) *Great Time!*

did.

But now we are gearing up for a really great time in Washington, DC. We are making plans for a five-day reunion as there is just too much to do to crowd into three days. The Navy Museum; Arlington Cemetery; the Seabee Memorial; the WWII, Korean & Vietnam Memorials; The Mall; the White House; and the list just goes on and on. So you see why we cannot limit our visit to just a couple days for tours. Tours can start at 9 am and return us back at the hotel by 3 or 4 pm with lunch on the go each day. This will be an exciting reunion with so much to see and do. Start making plans to be with all your friends and enjoy a full week of friendship and fellowship.

As soon as a hotel and dates are chosen, that information will be published in the Newsletter. But start making plans! August, September or October 2013! Let me know your thinking.

## Members, Wives, Children

In Seattle, we had quite a number of added family attend our reunion. As we get older, we tend to need help from our wives and children more and the Staff would like to extend a welcome to the widows and children of our members to attend our next and all future reunions. Widows Moya Barton and Mary Cure attended in honor of their husbands Bruce Barton and John Cure (see p. 19 ); Stoney Serrett was accompanied by his son and daughter, Darrell and Karen (see p. 17); Paul and Wandalee D'Angelo were accompanied by their daughter and granddaughter, Karen and Krista OBlack (see p. 18); and Paul Schell was accompanied by his daughters Phyllis Schell Moynihan, Trish Schell Luce, Paula Schell, and Pam Schell Bennett (see p. 15).

Seabees, please extend an invitation to your children and consider this an invitation to our widows.

(Continued from page 1) *Message from Pete*

again.

Remember to start off the day with a smile and get it over with.

God bless you and God bless America.

J.K. 'Pete' Elliott

Your Commander

# 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.  |
| Sept. 14, 1892 | Admiral Ben Moreell's Birthday.   |
| Sept. 15, 1950 | Seabees land at Inchon, Korea   |
| Sept. 15, 1952 | MCB 2 Commissioned  |
| 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.  |

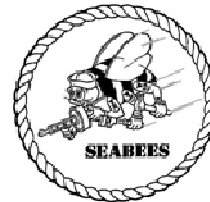


## Notes from our members:

Well, I received reservations for the Seattle reunion from **Jerry Landcastle, Bill (Darlene) Wilcoxon, Bill (Shari) Wisnowski, Rich Nelson, John Reidy, Ray (Louise) Frank, Ralph (Joanne Willis) Evans, Moya Barton & Mary Cure, Stoney Serrett, Clyde (Marian) Stenholm, Paul (Wandalee) D'Angelo, Warren (Barbara) Culberson, Paul (Pamela Bennett) Schell, Charles (Helen) McCabe, Charles Kangas, Ralph Burnley, George (Kay) Gustin, Sam Ragusa and Alexander 'Cat' Borys.....** from **John Noetzel:** Thanks for all you do for the MCB 2 Association . I joined because of my father who was a member of MCB 2 and I have lost touch with any of the men who knew him, so please delete my name from the MCB 2 roster and discontinue any mailings to me. Enclosed is a small token of appreciation for keeping me on your Newsletter mailing list [thank you]..... from **Vern Ammentorp:** Do you still have the American flags? If so, would you please send me two or three? If I didn't send enough money, send me an email with the bill. If there is any left over from this check, use the extra for postage or wherever you need it. Thanks for all your hard work. Hope you got up to Branson [nope... too much rain and flooding]. I don't think things have settled down yet in TN, OK, MO, etc. Our weather is still cold and wet. We may have frost tonight [this was in May]..... from **Bob Gardner:** You will be getting two more couples from MCB 3: **Ray Franke and John Reidy.** You do one helluva good job [thanks]..... from **Jack Schrader:** I hope this finds you and **Rachel** doing good [we are and thanks]. Enclosed is a check for the reunion activities [thank you]. My daughter is my chaperone this time [Good! And glad you found your wallet at the reunion!] We plan to take two extra days and go to Victoria, BC. She didn't have any extra time or we may have taken the cruise. Take care and we'll see you in Seattle!..... from **Stoney Serrett:** Sure hope this finds you and **Rachel** well [thanks]. I received the latest Newsletter and, as always, enjoyable to read. I have made my hotel reservations, auto rental reservations and my son has the air travel tickets, so we should be there on August 25th..... from **Leilani (Richard Coulson's daughter) Logan:** [Leilani sent me the funeral announcement card



sent out to family and friends re: Dad. The last line on the card reads: My body may be here but my heart is running with the wind] ..... from **L.P. 'Pop' Burleigh:** I received the MCB 2 Newsletter today and enjoyed reading it. Job well done, as usual [thank you].

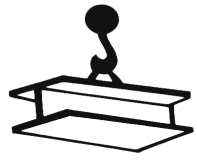
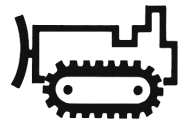


It did remind me that I had not paid my dues for 2011 and sorry about that. **Estelle** and I will not be able to make the reunion in Seattle. I surely will miss not being able to be there again this year. **Stoney** and I have been talking to each other on the phone. Hello to all of you out there. I sure miss all of you and the memories of the past reunions and the time we served our country together will always be a treasure to me. God bless all of you. Enclosed is a check for my dues [thanks]..... from **Pete & Sylvia Williams:** Hi there! Sorry for being so slow in keeping in touch. We are doing as best we can. Hope the storms haven't hit near you [a glancing blow is all, so far]. They have been so bad this year. We think about you often and hope all is well [thank you and all is well]. **Pete** has his ups & downs with his health and doing the best he can. Keep in touch and let us hear from you. I'll write more later. Our best always..... email from **Les Hall:** Do you have any Newsletters left? I have a new Seabee friend who was in Korea with me. His name is **Donald Blankenship** and lives in Tucson. He was in 1804 and CBMU 1 and maybe 101. I only get to talk with him on the phone. He said he was at K-3 for a long time and then he came to K-6. We went to Korea at the same time along with eight others..... from **Tom Stapleton:** I hadn't noticed that I had fallen off the Good Guy List! Sorry about that. Please put me back on the list and use the extra as you please [thanks]..... from **Mal Jaeger:** I see that I have not sent you anything for a while, so I'm sending a check to make up for that, plus a couple rosters [thanks and on the way]. Thanks for all the info you have sent me..... from **Doug Thorp:** Please find my reservation and personal check for the Seattle MCB 2 reunion [thanks!]. I am going to make it to this one! Everett is only 70 miles north of the hotel on I-5. Nothing good to say except that I am still alive. I came up here last November [from La Paz, Mexico] for medical treatment and am due to return to Mexico in February, but things kept happening including four trips to the hospital. I am now on continually doctor screening but expect to leave for La Paz right after the reunion. One small item - photos copied from Kodachrome slides, both black and white and color. Which reproduces better in the MCB 2 magazine? If you should use them, that is. [As long as they are photocopies, not Xerox copies, I can use them. I have been using color photos in the on-line version of the Newsletter but print them in black and white to hold the cost down.] Or, I can send copies of both if that would be better. We can discuss this at the reunion [and we did].

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Well, I hope that you and your loved ones are all in good health and ?? The weather here has been clouds and rain for 7 months. Less than a week of sunshine so far. I'm taking a handful of vitamins each day to counteract the weather. Hope to get back to La Paz sunshine!..... from **Stoney Serrett**: [enclosed a copy of a photo] This is a photo taken from Popular Mechanics while we were at Atsugi, Japan. Ensign Roy Peak is on the left side of the picture, others are Chief Frazier [see page 9]..... from **Dan (Mary) Millett**: Enclosed are **Dan's** dues and a little extra. Put it where it is needed most [thank you]. **Dan** is recovering from another stroke and will be out of rehab in a few days and coming home. We will not be coming to the reunion in Seattle this year but will try to make it to the next one. We will be thinking of everyone and have a great time! ..... from **Stoney Serrett**: If you can, please send me a list of our latest fallen heroes [done]..... from **Roy Peak**: You run a great reunion [thank you, but I had a lot of help, you included]. I ask for your MCB 2 address lists, one each of the Alpha list and one of the ZIP list [on the way]. I have a new address [see the MAKE A NOTE column on page 12]. My daughter **Pamela** has taken charge of finding me an assisted living situation, away from Kennewick and closer to her and my grandchildren. At this time, her address is the surest one to use. [**Roy**, we very much enjoyed your company in Seattle and appreciate the effort you made to be there. Thank you for joining us and we hope you can make it to Washington, DC!]..... from **Rodney White**: Enclosed is a check for my dues and put the rest where you need it as I know you can use it [thanks very much]. We had a real good time in Seattle and ready to go again..... from **Frank Castelvechi**: Sure am glad I got hold of you. Here is a check for flags and keep in touch with me on the reunion in 2013..... I guess that's all, folks! No more letters to add and I want to get this to the printer as soon as possible so you can see some of the pictures from Seattle. Pete and I are working on tours and accommodations in Washington, DC. If you have any thoughts, please let Scott know..... Scott



## Our Fallen Comrades

Eugene J. Antoine	6/22/2011
Benjamin P. Balog	1/22/2005
Richard H. Coulson	5/17/2011
Bill L. Frazier	10/16/2010
James Lortie	2008
Neal Middleton	2011
James L. Modglin	8/4/2011

*May they live on in our memories*

I was looking at an on-line auction of John Wayne's property and saw a pith helmet that was worn by Duke in *The Fighting Seabees* and I sent the connection around the Seabee network. The following is what I received back from Pat Morris.....

In all of the time that I was in the Seabees I saw only one Bee wearing a pith helmet and that was Junior Billstone a CE at K3 Korea.

When I was on Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands I was griped out by a Navy officer that obviously was new on the Island. I was an eighteen year old telephone installer/repairman working out of an old WW2 weapons carrier trucking along down the road when this Navy officer pulled along side me and motioned for me to pull over.

Officer: "You are speeding. Can't you read a speedometer?"

Me: "Sir, there is no speedometer"

Officer: "Why are you wearing that cap?"

Me: To keep the sun off of my nose, sir"

Officer:(Shaking his head) pulled away never to be seen again.

The Seabee Commander on the Island was also named Morris and he was known to be protective of 'Bees that were messed with by other Navy officers.

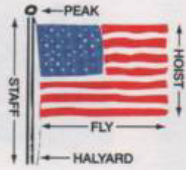
4 I never heard another word about the run in.

# HOW TO DISPLAY OUR FLAG

When we view the flag, we think of liberty, freedom, and pride. The American flag has accompanied mankind on its greatest achievements. It flies at both poles, on the moon, and sits atop Mount Everest. **The flag is how America signs her name.**



When the National Anthem is played, all present should face the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men should remove their hats. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and salute.



The American flag features 13 horizontal stripes—seven of them are red and six are white. In the upper quarter of the flag next to the staff are white, five-pointed stars that designate each state.



When the flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.



When the flag is flown at half-staff, it should first be elevated to peak position, held there momentarily, and lowered. At the day's end, the flag should again be elevated to peak position before lowering.



The American flag, when carried in procession with another flag, should be on the marching right—its own right.



During the unveiling of monuments or statues, the flag should never be used as a covering.



When displayed with another flag in the crossed-staff format, the American flag should be on its own right—and in front of the other flags staff.



The American flag should be centered and at the highest point when displayed on its staff with other flags.



If other flags are flown on the same staff with the American flag, the American flag should be placed at the peak of the staff.



The American flag should always have the position of honor on speakers' platforms, standing to the right of the speaker. All other flags should be on the speakers' left.



Bunting for ceremonial or decorative use should be arranged with the blue on the top, white in the middle, and red on the bottom.



Another flag or pennant may be flown above the American flag only during church services conducted at sea by U.S. Naval Chaplains for Navy Personnel.



When the flag is suspended from a staff projecting horizontally from a building, the union should be at the peak of the staff—except when the flag is at half-staff.



When displayed over a street, the flag should be suspended vertically. The union will be to the north in an east-west street, and to the east in a north-south street.



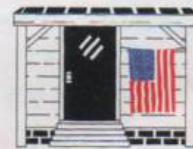
It is the custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset outside. However, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.



When covering a casket, the flag should be positioned so the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. It should not be lowered into a grave or allowed to touch the ground.



During the raising or lowering of the flag, or during its passage in a parade, all present should face the flag, and stand at attention with hand over their hearts. Men should remove their caps.



When the flag is displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be at the top and to your left. When in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same manner as seen from the street.

Minutes  
of the  
General Membership Meeting

August 30, 2011  
DoubleTree Suites Hotel  
Seattle, WA

Meeting brought to order by Cdr. Pete Elliott at 9:30 a.m.  
Cdr. Elliott asked Scott Williams to lead the group in prayer.  
Pledge of Allegiance led by Cdr. Elliott

Cdr. Elliott welcomed all members and guests.

Cdr. Elliott recognized all Staff members present.

The minutes for the 2009 meeting in Myrtle Beach were distributed. A motion by Sam Ragusa to accept the minutes and to suspend the reading of the minutes was made, seconded by John Petronka. Vote was unanimous in favor.

A question from the floor was made regarding saluting the flag while covered or uncovered. The Navy does not salute while uncovered but current common civilian practice does not hold to these standards. It would be preferable to hold the right hand over your heart if uncovered but again, current common civilian practice does not hold to these standards and a hand salute is acceptable.

Cdr. Elliott asked treasurer Scott Williams to give a financial status of the Association. Scott stated that, after all bills for this reunion are paid, we will have a little over \$1,000 in our checking account, which should be adequate for the next mailing of the Newsletter. Scott then raised the question about the frequency of our Newsletter. The Newsletter costs about \$700 each issue. Scott has purged the list of delinquent members that have not paid since 2004 and will make an additional purge to about 2007. If the Newsletter is cut from four issues per year to two issues per year, this would save about \$1,400 per year. A motion was made by Ralph Burnley to continue a quarterly Newsletter, seconded by Doug Thorp. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Cdr. Elliott recognized Sam Ragusa. Sam made a motion to raise the dues to \$25, seconded by John Petronka. Motion was carried with two in opposition. The annual dues is now set at \$25 per year.

Cdr. Elliott recognized Scott Williams. Scott noted that we are all getting older and we have a large number of members that have passed away with 40 names to be read at our Memorial Service. Scott suggested that we consider having annual reunions rather than bi-annual, or possibly district or zone reunions. Voice from the membership was to keep our reunions as they are now.

Cdr. Elliott announced that the Executive Committee recommends Washington, DC for our next reunion. A discussion from the floor about Port Hueneme and asked when the museum exhibits would be complete. Scott stated that he has heard from reliable sources that it will probably be 2016 or possibly later before all the museum exhibits will be complete. Visitor Jerry Landcastle asked to be recognized. Jerry is the NSVA National Vice Commander-at-Large and is a Member of the Board of the Museum who recently attended the Grand Opening of the museum in June. He stated the 2016 date may not be too far off as the museum is having a fund-raising drive in a down economy. The museum needs about \$10 million to complete the exhibit area and is having some difficulty in raising this amount.

Jerry noted the museum branding logo caused quite a stir among the Seabees that are Internet-connected or have Facebook accounts. The museum did not propose to change the Seabee logo; it was only trying to establish a mark, or brand, for the museum products. This mark, or museum logo, is a semi-circle of OD green with a white area inside the semi-

*(Continued from page 6)*

circle that displays the traditional Seabee in black. Beneath this artwork, or possibly to the right side, are the words "United States Navy Seabees Museum" in white block letters on a pseudo-OD green background.



Cdr. Elliott announced that we have had two of our Staff ask to be removed from their position: Joe DeFranco, due to health reasons, and Roy Peak, also due to his health and eyesight issues.

Cdr. Elliott asked for nominations for Commander. Rich Nelson made a motion that our Commander, Pete Elliott, be retained as Commander, seconded by Doug Thorp. The vote was unanimous.

Cdr. Elliott asked for nominations for Vice Commander. Sam Ragusa nominated Rich Nelson, seconded by Doug Thorp. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Cdr. Elliott asked for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor. Rich Nelson nominated Scott Williams, seconded by Doug Thorp. The vote was unanimous.

Cdr. Elliott recognized our Commander Emeritus, Stoney Serrett. Cdr. Elliott also recognized Roy Peak and Scott Williams noted that Roy was a tremendous help when Scott made his trip to Seattle to select a hotel and plan the tours. Roy was able to drive Scott around Seattle and made the trip to Tillicum Village to plan the dinner outing and also went to the Museum of Flight and helped in the discussion for this tour. Roy was excellent help in planning our Seattle reunion. Thank you, Roy

Cdr. Elliott recognized a member from the floor that complained about the reunion badges and pinning them to clothing. Scott noted that Seabee lanyards were given in the Welcome Package in Myrtle Beach and should have been brought to Seattle. It was noted that not all that are at the Seattle reunion were at the Myrtle Beach reunion. Scott said that Seabee lanyards will be in all Welcome Packages henceforth.

A member noted that we announced a time for a tour and the tour bus left early, leaving at least one member behind. If a departure time is announced, it should be adhered to. Noted.

Cdr. Elliott asked for motions from the floor for locations for our next reunion. Rich Nelson made a motion that Washington, DC is our number one location, seconded by John Petronka. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Doug Thorp made a motion for Covington, KY as a back-up location for our next reunion, seconded by Clyde Stenholm. The vote was unanimous in favor. (Covington, KY is across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, OH and is the location for the Cincinnati airport.)

Cdr. Elliott asked for volunteers to fill the vacancy in the Staff left by Joe DeFranco and Roy Peak. Don McLain and Paul D'Angelo volunteered and were unanimously accepted. Thank you, Don and Paul!

A question was asked if anyone has any information about Jude McCumber who was killed at Cubi Point. This may not be the correct spelling, but if anyone has any information, contact Pete Elliott.

No additional comments were made.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott Williams, Secretary

All: I received the following letter in March 2010 from Pamela Schell-Bennett about her Mom and Dad, Paul and Pat Schell. Pamela and her three sisters accompanied Dad on the cruise to Alaska and all stayed for the Seattle reunion (see page 15, top picture). What wonderful memories they made with Dad and what a wonderful letter follows.

~~~~~  
Dear Scott,

My parents, Paul & Pat Schell, attended the Seabee Reunion last October in Myrtle Beach. They'd been looking forward to the reunion for 2 years, planning for all the places they'd visit before and after the reunion, and all the people they hoped to see at the reunion. As you may remember, Mom got sick and ended up in the hospital and missed the dinner. She was discharged the day after the dinner and after staying on a couple of days they continued their trip with a couple of modifications. They cut out the stop in Savannah, GA and headed west to my sister's in Dallas after a 4 day stop in New Orleans. They had a nice month-long visit with my sister and headed home in time for Thanksgiving.

I'm writing to tell you that Mom passed away on March 5th after surgery to replace her aortic valve on March 1st. The 4 hour operation turned into 13 hours on March 1st. The surgeon replaced the aortic valve, then had to replace the aorta root and did 2 bypasses. Then on March 3rd, Mom had a triple bypass to repair a "spontaneous tear" in another artery. That additional 3 hours of surgery proved to be too much for her.

Dad is coping. He has his moments but he's hanging in there. He & Mom had celebrated their 57th anniversary January 24th. He met her on November 23rd, 1951 when he was home on leave. She took him to the train station when he left for Korea 3 weeks later, he proposed right before getting on the train and they were married a year later. Dad's telling us all his memories of meeting Mom and his time in the service after that fateful meeting. I think reliving those memories right now are what's helping him hold on.

Mom & Dad were looking forward to the next reunion and already planning to attend it. I've been thinking that maybe a couple of us girls can get Dad to Port Hueneme for the next reunion.

Sincerely,

Pamela Schell-Bennett  
[tapestry413@yahoo.com](mailto:tapestry413@yahoo.com)

## Answering Machine Message for the Mental Health Institute:

Hello, and welcome to the Mental Health Hotline.

If you are obsessive or compulsive, press 1 repeatedly.

If you are co-dependant, please ask someone to press 2 for you.

If you have multiple personalities, please press 3,4,5 and 6

If you are paranoid, we already know who you are, but stay on the line while we trace your call.

If you are delusional, press 7 and your call will be transferred to the mother ship.

If you are schizophrenic, listen carefully and a small voice will tell you which number to press.

If you have short term memory loss, press 9, if you have short term memory loss, press 9, if you have short term memory loss, press 9.

If you have low self esteem, please hang up. All our operators are too busy to talk to you.

~~~~~  
Giving a man his physical, a doctor noticed several dark, ugly bruises on his shins, so he asked, "Do you play hockey, soccer, or any physical sport?"

"Not at all. I just play bridge with my wife."

~~~~~  
A newly appointed young clergy person was contacted by a local funeral director to hold a graveside service at a small country cemetery in Iowa. There was to be no funeral, just the committal, because the deceased had no family or friends left in the state.

The young pastor started early to cemetery, but soon became lost. After making several wrong turns, he finally arrived a half-hour late. The hearse was nowhere in sight and cemetery workers were relaxing under a near-by tree, eating their lunch.

The pastor went to the open grave and found that the vault lid was already in place. He took out his book and read the service. As he returned to his car, he overheard one of the workers say, "Maybe we'd better tell him it's a septic tank."

~~~~~  
Borrow money from pessimists - they don't expect it back.

Half the people you know are below average.

99% of lawyers give the rest a bad name.

42.7% of all statistics are made up on the spot.

The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

8 Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now.



# Seabees and D-Day

June 6th is D-Day, a good time to remember the role the Seabees played. The 25th Naval Construction Regiment was formed in England just before D-Day and included the 28th, 30th (special), 69th, 81st, 97th (2nd Section), 111th, 114th, 146th Naval Construction Battalions and CBD 1006. (The 97th [2nd Section] was redesignated as the 108th on April 27, 1944.)

Seabees assembled and operated the artificial harbor (Mulberry A) at Omaha. They constructed and operated oil and lubricant installations and naval beach camps at Utah and Omaha Beaches. They also helped reopen captured ports. But their most critical mission ... and one largely forgotten today ... was delivering about 35 percent of soldiers and the vast majority of vital war machinery to the beaches using Rhino Ferries. These motorized barges were made of interlocked pontoons, a system designed and tested at the Davisville Base. [Pictures below from National Geographic, May 1945, Scott Williams' library]



U. S. Army Air Forces, Official

## On D Day, Rhinos Ferry Yanks to "Root, Hog, or Die" on Beaches Sown with Barbed Wire, Upended Rails, and Land Mines

In the hills, Ninth Air Force bombs dust off Nazi pillboxes and, as a by-product, dig craters to shelter our soldiers. Crawling ashore in shallow water, two Army vehicles carry boats on their backs, so that crews can get ashore in case of breakdowns. A soldier launches his dinghy from the stranded truck second from right. Mobile cranes for removal of wreckage travel on a Seabee rhino. These rafts consist of steel floats bolted together.



U. S. Army Signal Corps, Official

## From a Floating Road, Half-tracks Tow Guns onto a Beach Surfaced with Steel Mats Like Those Used on Airstrips

Seabees, landing on D Day, built this Omaha Beach road, which rises and falls with the tides. Spare parts appear to right. Tugs towed pier sections in 480-foot lengths.



Interior of the lodge at Tillicum Village on Blake Island (<http://www.tillicumvillage.com/>).

**Shoe** by Chris Cassatt and Gary Brookins



HAMLET, WHEN YOU GROW UP YOU'LL REALIZE THAT...

... MONEY ISN'T EVERYTHING!

IT'S NINETY-EIGHT PERCENT OF EVERYTHING, BUT IT ISN'T EVERYTHING!



# *The Good Guy List*

## **For 2011**

Vance Adams, Walter Ahern, Allan Alberg, Clark Alexander, Bill Alwine, Vern Ammentorp, David Anderson, Gene Antoine, Basil Arnold, Pat Badgett, Richard Baker, Hank Bentsen, Dan Beran, Frank Betonte, Ralph Binney, Vernon Blakeslee, John Bloem, Bill Body, Ralph Bokern, Alexander (Cat) Borys, Robert Bowdler, Don Bradley, John Brown, Philip Brunelle, Alfred Bryant, David Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, L.P. 'Pop' Burleigh, Ralph Burnley, William Burns, Elwin (Shorty) Campbell, Pat Carey, Ken Catchpole, Frank Chambers, George Chang, Chuck Chapman, Ken Chew, Bob Colquhoun, Howard Cornwell, Pat Cunningham, Arnold Daisy, Paul D'Angelo, Stan Dauer, Joe DeFranco, Jim DeKeyser, Tony DeLeon, Ted Devit, Mary Dick (for all the Good Guys), Bob Doezie, George Dorge, Tom Dowd, Howard Doyle, Marshall Dunne, Harrell Edmondson, Pete Elliott, Doug Emond, Al Erb, Ralph Evans, Richard Fairbanks, Richard Farbo, Galen Farnsworth, Jim Firebaugh, Forrest Foland, Dick Forster, Jack Foster, Ray Franke, Bill Frazier, Harold Freeland, Al Fritz, Claude Garcenot, Robert Gardner, Roger Germundson, Ron Glasser, Robert Graf, John Grasz, Jim Green, Frank Gresser, Clem Gregurek, Don Grobbel, George Gustin, Gordon Gwathney, Pauline (for Charlie) Hagemann, Walt Hagen, David Haines, Les Hall, Roger Hamilton, Ruth (for Alex) Hamilton, Roger Hamilton, Roy Harris, Bob Hart, Ralph Heitt, Bert Helms, Charlie Henderson, Wayne Heple, Althea (for Gerald) Herr, Mary (for Duane) Henrichson, Bob Hoare, Don Hofstetter, Ben Hollar, M. P. 'Holly' Hollingsworth, Sam Holsomback, Ray Hooter, Rod Howard, Ron Howatson, Fred Immermann, Charles Ingalls, Vic Jaccino, Bob Janson, Larry Jessop, Ambros Johnson, Charles Johnson, Don Jones, John Jurkash, Charles Kangas, Ed Kazarian, Duane Keech, Les Keller, Hark Ketels, Denise King (for her Dad, Don Truskey), William Knight, John

Kolasz, James Krause, Betty (for Emil) Krygier, Ben Lally, Ervin Lampe, Ron Landrum, Art Leable, Thomas Lightbody, Herbert Liverman, Charles Loeffler, Clive Lorenz, Dale Lundstrom, Ivan Majetic, David Manley, Anthony Marcella, Robert Marshall, Phil Matalucci, William Mayo, Chuck McCabe, Gene McDonagh, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Dan Millett, Dan Mills, Chuck Minert, Gary Mitchell, Roger Mohs, Bill Morin, Pat Morris, Finley Morrison, Hance Morton, E. Wes Nelson, Rich Nelson, Ray Nethercott, Opal (for Paul) Neusetzer, Joseph O'Brien, Mel Olson, Billy Partridge, Don Pastell, Brenda Pate (Villa Rica Postmistress - for all the Good Guys), Roy Peak, Mal Pearson, Ben Pedrotti, John Petronka, Norm Pratt, Ralph Presson, Cecil Price, David 'Ernie' Pyle, Sam Ragusa, Gary Rawlings, John Recklitis, Gerry Rice, Rex Roark, Gene Robinson, Dale Rogers, Tom Roy, John Ruby, C. Edner (Rudy) Rudolph, Vincent Ryan, Paul Schell, Millard Schneider, Jack Schrader, Gerald Seger, Stoney Serrett, William (Willie snow-job) Sharp, Don Shoff, William Sigmund, Dick Sim, Fred Simon, Jack Sims, Art Siple, Glenn Sisco, Joe Sitkowski, Richard Skillicorn, Joe Sobczak, Ray Sonnen, Ray Sorrentino, Gene Staples, Tom Stapleton, Clyde Stenholm, Stiles Stevens, Larry Stevenson, Dan Stewart, George Stewart, John Stock, Willis Struecker, Dan Svendsen, Richard Swallow, James Taylor, William Taylor, Doug Thorp, Richard Tittle, Judy (for Richard) Todd, Wayne Turley, Gerald Vasquez, Richard Walters, John Waltrip, Harold Wardenburg, Bud Wheless, Rodney White, Walter Whitney, John Wilborn, William Wilcoxon, Jerry Wilkening, Marshall Williams, R. G. 'Pete' Williams, Scott Williams, Jack Wilson, Jesse Wilson, Preston Wilson, Bill Wisnowski, Dwight Yetter and Steve Yunger.

Everyone listed here has their dues paid at least through 2011, 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 September 10, 2011. **There are currently 227 paid up members through 2011** from a mailing list of 414. If dues have never been sent, they do not receive the Newsletter. There are 718 names on the full member roster (22 pages). **There are 107 names paid through 2012.** (SW)

## 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 (22 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

# The Commander and Staff

*Our leadership consists of:*

**Commander  
Pete Elliott**

**Staff:**

Paul D'Angelo  
David Haines  
Vic Jaccino  
Bill Knight  
Don McLain  
Rich Nelson, Vice Commander  
Malcolm Pearson  
John Petronka  
Stoney Serrett, Commander Emeritus  
Scott Williams, Sec'y/Treas./Publisher



## MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Roy Peak  
C/O Pamela Johnson  
14406 320th Avenue, NE  
Duvall, WA 98019  
509-783-6049  
rdpeak1026@yahoo.com (sometimes)



## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Donald Blankenship  
4758 E. Lee St.  
Tucson, AZ 85712-4021  
520-325-0098  
MCB 2

Raymond M. Franke  
1160 East 300 South  
Bountiful, UT 84010  
801-294-7008  
MCB 3

## 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)

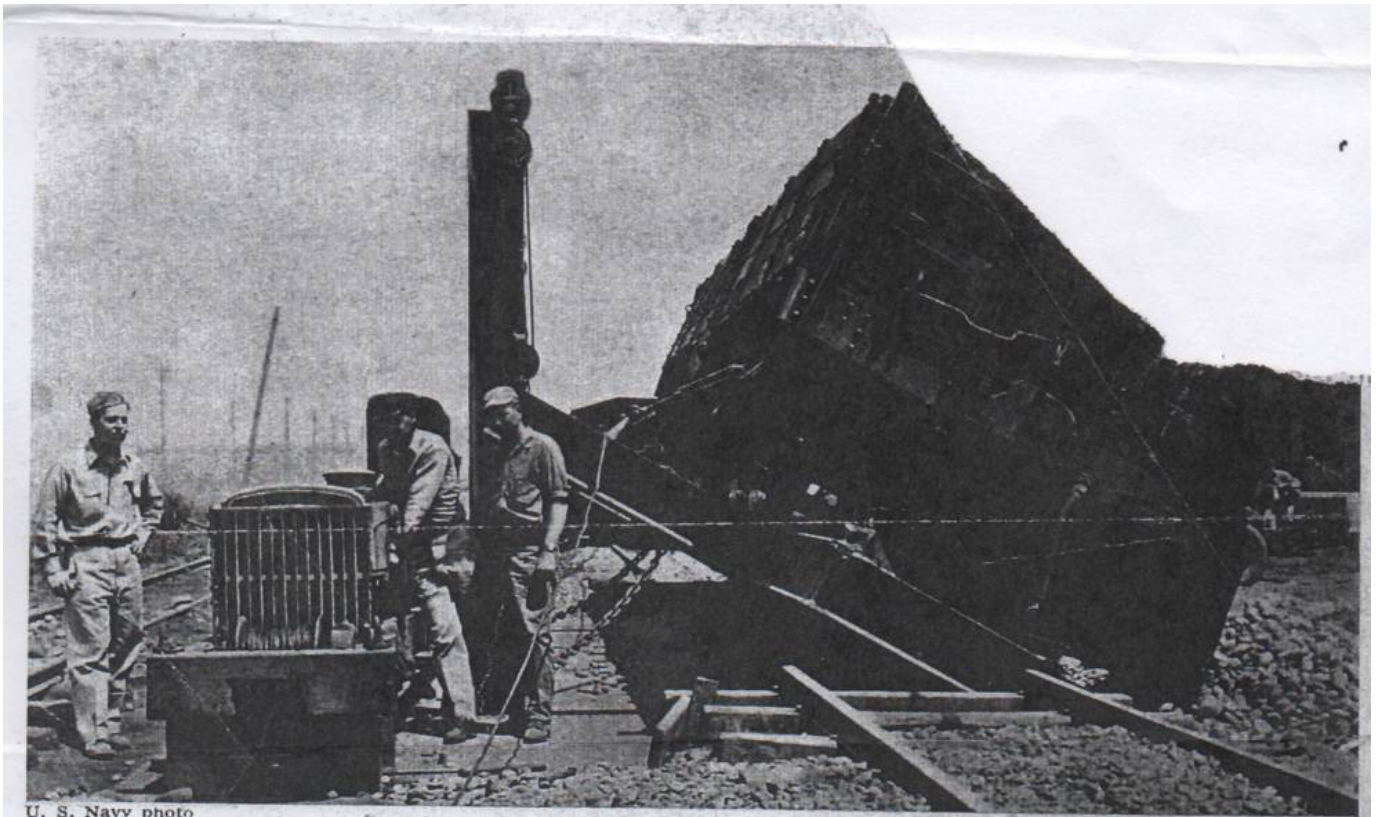
e-mail: williash@aol.com

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

**Dues are \$25/year**  
(more, if you can)  
January - December

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

\*\*\*



U. S. Navy photo

## Seabees Make Rail-Car Dumper Out of Scrap Material

Built by the Seabees from scrap material, a railroad-car dumper at Atsugi, Japan, unloads 100 cars every eight hours. It is a car-length concrete slab laid under a spur track with a framework of 12-inch steel I-beams embedded in the slab. The

track section is tilted 35 degrees by two winches operated with rear-drive shafts powered by a scrapped truck. Three men are needed to operate the equipment. A complete unloading cycle can be accomplished by the crew in five minutes.

Photo above taken from Popular Mechanics while MCB 2 was in Japan. Ensign Roy Peak on left, in the middle is Chief Frazier. Thanks to Stoney Serrett for sending this.



Ron and Norma Howatson with Vic Jaccino



Joyce and Pat Badgett



Thanks to Ralph Heitt and Betty Williams, we sent our ship's store merchandise to their home before our reunion and helped in many ways during the reunion and taking us to FedEx to ship what was left back.

Worn out already on the first day! Paul D'Angelo and Clyde Stenholm had to find an easy chair to relax.... But not for long! Here comes the bus for our tour!



L-R: Vi Bowdler, Darlene Wilcoxon, Rodney White, Bill Wilcoxon getting ready for the city tour and Museum of Flight..



Ken Chew and Vicki Pond heading out on the city tour. Everyone really enjoyed Pike's Market and the Museum of Flight.



Part of the fish market at Pike's Market.



Part of the flower market at Pike's Market.



What a group! At the Museum of Flight: L-R: Don McLain, Phyllis Schell Moynihan, Paul Schell, Trish Schell Luce, Paula Schell, Pam Schell Bennett, Larry Stevenson. Looks like CBMU 1 is well-represented!



L-R: Geri Petronka, Marian Stenholm, Sam and Mary Ragusa.



Doug Emond (R) can't believe it! Pete Elliott is actually smiling!



Pat and Joyce Badgett