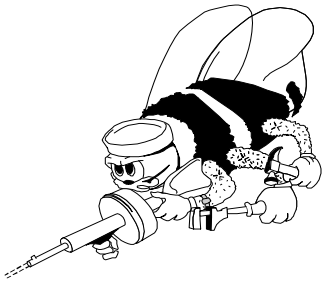


MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 10, Issue 1

November 15, 2013



SEABEES

A Newsletter for Former US Naval

Mobile Construction Battalion 2 Personnel

and host to CBD 1802, CBD 1804, CBMU 1, CBMU 101, CBMU 553 and CBMU 577

AWESOMIE!

Washington, D.C. was superb! Next stop: Branson, MO!

The Tours Were Awesome!

Our tour company did a marvelous job under some very stressful conditions. It first looked like our planned tours were going to be all scrapped due to the government shutdown, but the tour company, Mid-Atlantic Receptive Services (MARS), was able to reschedule private venues that were open, such as the National Rifle Association Firearms Museum, a tour around the White House grounds and the Navy Memorial. We went to Phillips Seafood restaurant that evening and had a nice tour of Washington after dark. On Wednesday, we went to the Seabee Memorial and on to Arlington Na-

See *Tours!* (Continued on page 2)

A Message from our Commander **Pete Elliott**

Even though the Government shut down, WE did not.

We had a great time on tours that were manufactured at the last minute. A special thanks to all who helped out and took part.

A special thanks to OI' Scott!!!!

Our business meeting was very productive and we voted to carry on to continue and support our reunions.

Information on "JUDE" McCUMBER

See *From Pete* (Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1) *Tours!*

tional Cemetery and watched the changing of the guard then on to all the war memorials: WWII, Korea and the Vietnam Wall. All were very impressive! On Thursday, we went to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum then a tour of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and watched as twenty-dollar bills were being printed and ended with a wonderful tour of the United States Capitol. A wonderful three days and some great tours!

The Commander and Staff

Our leadership consists of:

**Commander
Pete Elliott**

Staff:

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

See our web page:

<http://mcb2seabeereunion.com/>

(Continued from page 1) *From Pete*

was located. NEIL AVERY McCUMBER was born July 22, 1934 in Mt Vernon Oregon, enlisted Sept 1953, died at Subic Bay, Cubi Point on March 25, 1955. He was buried at Mt Hope Cemetery in Baker, OR. Gone, but not forgotten.

SEE you at reunion # 13, BRANSON, MO in 2015. God bless you all and GOD Bless America.

SEABEES

*November - March
Dates to Remember*

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Nov. 1, 1943 | NCB 71 part of Bougainville assault. |
| Nov. 4, 1942 | NCB 14 arrived on Guadalcanal. |
| 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. |
| Nov. 12, 1942 | Naval Battle of Guadalcanal begins. |
| Nov. 19, 1944 | NCB 50 arrived on Tinian. |
| Nov. 22, 1944 | NCB 23 arrived on Guam. |
| Dec. 7, 1941 | Pearl Harbor attacked. |
| Dec. 10, 1941 | Guam falls. |
| Dec. 23, 1941 | Wake Island falls. |
| Dec. 31, 1947 | Seabee Reserve established |
| Jan. 5, 1942 | Bureau of Naval Personnel authorizes formation of Construction Battalions. |
| Jan. 27, 1942 | Bobcat detachment sent to Bora Bora, Society Islands; first Navy construction unit sent to overseas duty. |
| Feb. 1, 1944 | Seabees land with Fourth Marine Division on Kwajalein. |
| Feb. 19, 1945 | Seabees land with 5th Marine Division, Iwo Jima. |
| Mar. 2, 1867 | Civil Engineer Corps established. |
| Mar. 5, 1942 | Seabee Birthday. |
| Mar. 19, 1942 | Civil Engineer Corps officers given military authority over construction units. |
| Mar. 22, 1945 | Seabees ferry General Patton's armored units across Rhine River into Germany. |



Notes from our members:

From **Fred Simon**: Enclosed is my check for the three flags [thanks!]. It was great talking with you yesterday. My service includes 124th NCB Adak; 103rd NCB Guam; MCB 2 Japan; MCB 11 Kwajalein; CBD 1802 Okinawa, Korea, & Guam; CBD 1803 Guam 'again'; 10th Brigade, Det. Alpha, Japan; Ships Co. USNTC Port Hueneme, USNRTC New Jersey; Commander of Island X-3, NJ; and Commander Island X-1, Vermont. WOW! I've been busy.....

from **Roger Germundson**: It looks like some very good tours! [yes, and with the shutdown the tours were modified. We had some excellent alternative tours and the shutdown ended the day before our last day of tours and we were able to tour the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and a wonderful tour of the Capitol! Our group even had our picture in the Washington Post on Saturday, October 19, 2013 taken while we were at the Smithsonian October 17.]

..... from **Clyde [Marian] Stenholm**: Enclosed are dues for **Clyde** [thank you!]. We will see you in DC. We made reservations when we got our Newsletter in October 2012. We had a lot of water again in our basement and the pump never stopped. The river is now down where it should be.....

from **Bill Burns**: [sent a check for dues plus a bit extra. Thanks.] Thank you, thank you, thank you.....

from **Jack Schrader**: Here is a check for our reunion reservations [thanks]. **Annamarie** and I are coming a day early as she wants to go to Monticello. We plan on doing that on Monday then take all the tours. It all sounds exciting and we are looking forward to it and also seeing all my friends. Hope all is well with you and Rachel.....

from **Galen Farnsworth**: Here is my overdue payment of dues [not overdue and thanks]. Did you know that Forrest D. Foland passed away? [no, I didn't and thanks for that. I'll include him in our next Memorial Service.] He was my best buddy in Subic Bay and Guam. We played in the Cubi Point Hillbillies band together. I'm en-



closing the name, address and phone number of my new location [see Make a Note, page 5.] Old Foley was a right good, grade A faithful friend..... received reservations from **Pete [Clorinda] Elliott, Vic Jaccino, George & Gustin, Rex Roark, Clyde Stenholm, Robert Colquhoun, John Bloem, Paul Schell, David Haines, George Rosenvold, Alex 'Cat' Borys, Stuart Hood, and Mary [Sam] Ragusa** from **John Ruby**: [sent a check for dues. Thanks.]..... from **Mary [Dan] Millet**: Enclosed are **Dan's** dues with a little extra [thanks]. Please put it where it is needed the most. **Dan** is still in Maplewood Rehab here in Amesbury [MA] with a very slow recovery. I hope all is going well with you and have a great day.....

from **Vin & Kaye Ryan**: I hope this note finds you feeling well. We are looking forward to the trip to Washington and seeing all the sights you have planned for us and meeting you. Thanks so much [sent their check for the reunion] from **Pat [Ralph] Presson**: I'm a day late in getting this in the mail [**Ralph** had ordered some US and Seabee flags which I had sent]. There were some stamps on the package I couldn't read, so enclosed is a check plus extra for the postage. Keep whatever is extra for what is needed [thanks].....

from **Charles Ingalls**: Sorry I'm late and I hope this brings me up to date [yep, you're all paid up and thanks].....

from **Judy Todd**: I keep locating all kinds of things as I never seem to get to the end of unloading decades of stored treasures. I happened upon the two enclosed items: the apron was a gift I gave **Dick** which obviously didn't get far and the flag is one he ordered. In thinking about a home for them, I hoped that maybe you could make use of them as door prizes or to someone who might not spend money on himself, so would appreciate the gift [thanks and they were added to the Door Prize table]. Just as long as someone gets to enjoy them. I continue to read the MCB 2 Newsletter with great interest, always looking for familiar names. I had given thought to D.C. but just can't do it. Most of my summer has been spent limping as a hip muscle problem decided to travel down my leg for a knee vacation. It sure hasn't been much of a vacation for me! Recent days have brought much improvement. So, I'll spend Labor Day weekend on my porch watching all the tourists race to their spots on Lake Winnepesaukee, by far a much safer occupation. I'll look forward to seeing many photos



(Continued from page 3)

in the late fall. My best to all who can remember my face with this name!..... from **Jim Marshall**: Sent a change of address..... from **Marilyn [Bill] Knight**: Enclosed is a check for dues for **Bill** and some extra to be used for any purpose you need [thank you!]. **Bill** is doing OK and staying busy at the home in Gulfport. His hip replacement was a great success. However, he has some nerve damage in his legs and cannot walk very far without a cane. He is having an MRI on his back to see where the problem is and then will try to take care of it. Unfortunately, we will be unable to attend the reunion in Washington, D.C. We will miss everyone and all the sights and fun of the event. Take care, enjoy the reunion and say hello to Rachel for us..... from **Bob & Vi Bowdler**: We just got back from a month-long trip to the northwest. We spent four hours visiting the Bonneville Dam and never saw it all. We stayed a few days with the Wilcoxens playing Mexican Train. I put a small dent in his bar stash. The four of us take our annual trip to Port Hueneme next week. It's too big a hassle to take my oxygen tank to D.C. Enclosed is my check for dues plus some extra [thanks]..... from **Ginny Stenholm-Aulik**: My parents will not be able to go to Washington, D.C. as mother [**Marian**] is very ill and dad [**Clyde**] will be 92 on the 8th of October. They are sad to miss out on this trip as it could be my dad's last. Take care and enjoy..... from **Dick Sim**: Thanks a million for

the pins, patches, decals and the roster. Your choices on the patches and pins were received yesterday and was great. Enclosed is my check and a bit extra [thanks]. If there's enough left over for a roster by ZIP would be good to have [on the way!]. Also, one more pin of the US flag and Seabee flag would be great. I don't have one of them for myself. If I'm short, let me know and thanks a million..... from **Jack Schrader**: Here is my check for the flags plus some extra. Also, I want to thank you for all your labors setting up our reunion and for being a great friend. We had a very good reunion and we are looking forward to the next one. Once again, thanks for all you do for our enjoyment..... from **Rich 'Nellie' Nelson**: Just a line to let you know the Afghan arrived. It looks great in my room on the love seat. My baby thinks it should be in the closet. Ha! I missed you on Saturday at the hotel. I bought some booty but didn't pay for it. Enclosed is a check to cover it [thanks]. C U 'maybe' in Branson. P.S. Good hotel, good reunion..... from **Pam Schell**: Dad asked me to send you a check for his dues plus a 'little' extra for the 'kitty' [thanks]. It was great seeing you and all the others in DC. Dad said it felt weird to be home and not have all the guys around to talk to. He's really looking forward to Branson in 2015..... Well, that's all the letters for this issue. I have begun checking with Branson hotels and will try to get the best possible location for us. Pete and I will check it all out and keep you informed. Scott



Korean War Memorial

This squad of stainless steel soldiers on patrol is quite impressive. Each statue is about 7½ feet tall, so is a bit larger than life, but when viewed from a short distance, they appear to be life-size. This is the largest use of stainless steel for any statue or monument.

SEABEE STORY OUT OF DAVISVILLE...

The era of this long ago story happened out of East Greenwich, Rhode Island... 'EAST GEE', it was known as, was a neighbor to the Seabee base at Davisville. It was about 1961 and the Seabees had a Civic Action program going on building a soft ball field for the young people there in East Gee. The story goes there was this young man named 'Johnny'... an extroverted youngster who had a wide and varied knowledge of many things, plus a vocabulary of swear words matching most of the Seabees he worked with... This day, Johnny's Mother brought Johnny his gloves he'd forgotten that morning. When she approached she heard Johnny mouth a foul expression having something to do with pigs, of all things... "Johnny", Mom exclaimed loudly. "You go right now and get me a switch!" "Get your own (4 letter bomb) switch, Maw... I'm strikin' for builder, not electrician!"

**There ought to be one day --
just one -- when there is open
season on senators. ~ Will Rogers**

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.

MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Galen Farnsworth
1500 Village Dr., #230
Cottage Grove, OR 97424
541-729-2078
MCB 2

James L. Marshall
302 Mockingbird Lane
Longview, TX 75601-3732
903-757-3329
NCB 79

Power outage

We had a power outage last week and my computer, TV and games console shut down immediately. It was raining, so I couldn't golf so I had to talk to my wife for a few hours. She seems like a nice person.

**Politicians are people who, when
they see light at the end of the
tunnel, go out and buy some more
tunnel. ~ John Quinton**

Our Fallen Comrades

Bob Doezie MCB 2	9/20/2013
Forrest D. Foland MCB 2	6/2/2013
Benjamin C. Hollar CBD 1804	6/8/2012
L. Tom Sheehy MCB 2	6/30/2013

May they live on in our memories

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting

October 18, 2013
Potomac III Meeting Room
Dulles Hilton
Washington, D.C.

Meeting brought to order by Cdr. Pete Elliott at 9:04 a.m.
Pledge of Allegiance led by Cdr. Elliott
Cdr. Elliott asked Scott Williams to lead the group in prayer.

Cdr. Elliott welcomed all members and guests.

Cdr. Elliott asked all members present if a reunion in two years is wanted. Yes – 12, No – 2. We will have a reunion in 2015.

Cdr. Elliott then asked the members where they would like the next reunion to be held.

Discussion from Sam Ragusa: We are getting old and it is hard to get around.

Pete Elliott added that travel is more difficult and costly.

Sam Ragusa added that there are fewer and fewer attending.

Jack Robertson noted that the locations should be more centrally located.

Pat Badgett asked if we could have our next reunion in Port Hueneme. Scott Williams responded that Port Hueneme / Oxnard does not have the amenities to host a group. There is a motel that could accommodate guests for sleeping but they do not have any meeting rooms and large groups have to rely on the Seabee base to provide meeting rooms and meals. Getting to and from would have to be contracted with the base or a private company. There is no provision for a hospitality room at the motel, so a gathering place for our group would be limited to the bar / lounge at the motel. The distance to the new museum is quite a way and a bus again would have to be contracted with from the base or a private company. Individuals are encouraged to visit Port Hueneme but it is not conducive for a large group.

Pete Elliott suggested Minneapolis or Atlanta.

A motion by Jack Robertson to reject Port Hueneme was seconded by Sam Ragusa. Vote: 16 for, 0 against. Suggestions from the floor for the next reunion were Branson, MO; Minneapolis, MN; New Orleans, LA.

It was requested to return to the Agenda outline and have a financial report.

Treasurer Scott Williams responded that we are solvent and will have about \$2,000 in our bank account after all bills are paid for this reunion. We will have funds for the next Newsletter and no dues increase is needed. Scott suggested that the Newsletter could be limited to those with Internet access and sent by email only, or at least very few by regular mail. After some discussion, Bob Hart made a motion to email the Newsletter only, seconded by Ray Sorrentino. Vote was unanimous in favor. BE ADVISED!

Our next reunion will be in two years. A motion was made by David Haines to hold it in Branson, seconded by Vic Jaccino. Bob Hart made a motion that there are no more locations nominated and there was no second on this motion. Scott noted that Branson has a small airport now and is a bit easier to get to, although Springfield is a larger airport. Motion called for Branson and the vote was 12 in favor and no votes against.

The election of officers recommended by the Staff was no changes. A motion from John Petronka and seconded by Sam Ragusa to retain all current officers. The vote was unanimous in favor.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Jack Robertson wanted to thank the committee for all their work.

No additional comments were made.

A motion was made to adjourn by Rich Nelson, seconded by Ray Sorrentino.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Williams, Secretary

Glenn Sisco, Jerry Wilkening, and I (Jim Leggett) were close friends during our Seabees life. We went through boot camp together. Jerry and I were at Adak. We were all three together at Subic Bay.

http://www.northjersey.com/news/110954169_Mayor_s_retirement_dinner_well_attended_.html?page=all

Glenn Sisco gets a big send-off upon his retirement as Kinnelon's long-time mayor

As a tribute to a man who gave so much to this borough in his 42 years as mayor and three years as a councilman, a sold-out crowd attended Mayor Glenn Sisco's retirement dinner at The Brownstone in Paterson, New Jersey on Nov. 21., 2010.



Kinnelon Mayor Glenn Sisco and his wife Barbara pose with Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen (center) at the mayor's retirement soiree held last week at The Brownstone in Paterson.



Mayor Sisco is a longtime volunteer fireman. His daughter, Gail Bresett, son-in-law, Alan Bresett, and grandchildren, Jeff and Denise, continue to serve the fire company, which is a source of pride for the mayor.

Congratulations to an MCB 2 Seabee!



Here are two pictures from our tour of the Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C. The picture on the left is of the plaque showing the work of the Seabees in the Pacific, one of a group of plaques that surround a fountain in front of the Memorial, each plaque showing an activity or ship of the Navy. The picture on the right is of the Lone Sailor near the fountain at the Memorial.



Pictures from our Washington, D.C. Reunion



Above, left: Grave marker for Audie Murphy in Arlington National Cemetery; Above, right: Pacific side of WW II Memorial



Left: From L-R: Kay Gustin, Patti and Ralph Burnley, Helen Hayes (Hallie's twin).

Washington, D.C. Tour to Arlington National Cemetery Seabee Memorial



L-R: 1. Pete Elliott; 2. David Haines; 3. Scott Williams; 4. Mal Pearson; 5. Stiles Stevens; 6. Ralph Burnley; 7. Bob Hart; 8. Ray Sorrentino; 9. Rich Nelson; 10. Paul Schell; 11. George Gustin; 12. Jack Schrader; 13. Roger Germundson; 14. Jack Robertson; 15. John Petronka; 16. Vince Ryan; 17. Pat Badgett; 18. Stuart Hood; 19. Ralph Heitt; 20. Vic Jaccino. All group pictures, and some others, were taken by Hallie Young, daughter of Marjorie and David Haines. Thank you, Hallie! They are all marvelous!

Some notes on the reunion in Washington, D.C. from October 14-18, 2013.

The wine and cheese reception was a huge success and we really enjoyed the time to visit together to kick off our reunion. The government was divided on some political issues and from October 1 through 16, 2013, the United States federal government entered a shutdown and curtailed most routine operations after Congress failed to enact legislation appropriating funds for fiscal year 2014, or a continuing resolution for the interim authorization of appropriations for fiscal year 2014. Regular government operations resumed October 17 after an interim appropriations bill was signed into law and our group had an excellent tour of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum Thursday morning, the 17th, then a tour of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and that afternoon we were able to take the Capitol tour. All tours were wonderful!

The first two days of our tours during the shutdown, Tuesday and Wednesday, were also memorable with some excellent locations. We went to the National Rifle Association Firearms Museum and saw some magnificent firearms. The engraving on the metal and carving of the wood was beyond superb. All enjoyed this tour very much. Our second day of tours began with a stop at the Seabee Memorial at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery (see the group picture on page 9), then on to watch the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns, which was very impressive. After we left Arlington, we went to the war memorials and went to the WW II Memorial first, which is a very large memorial and a great tribute to all WW II veterans. A short distance away is the Korean War memorial, which is the first memorial to use stainless steel on a large scale memorial. It shows a squad of men walking through junipers, which represent the rugged terrain of Korea, wearing ponchos. Across the grassy field a short distance is the Vietnam Memorial with some statues around. All in all, the tours were just a good taste of what is available to see in Washington, D.C. I hope many of our Seabees and their families will have the opportunity to come back and spend more time to see all of the sights available.



The Korean War Memorial 10



MCB 2 Seabee Reunion 2013 - Washington D.C.

Back row, L-R: Jack Robertson, Scott Williams, Mal Pearson, Rich Nelson, Stuart Hood, Jack Schrader, Ralph Burnley. Middle row, L-R: Paul Schell, Pat Badgett, Vic Jaccino, Roger Germundson, Ray Sorrentino, Stiles Stevens. Bottom row, seated, L-R: John Petronka, David Haines, Ralph Heitt, Sam Ragusa, Alex 'Cat' Borys, Vince Ryan, Pete Elliott, George Gustin, Bob Hart. We had a mix of MCB 2, MCB 3, CBMU 1, and CBD 1804.



L-R, top row: John Miles, Scott Williams, Mal Pearson, Margaret Hunt, Geri Petronka, Kathleen Ryan, Vince Ryan, Pam Schell Bennett, Linda Diamond, Rich Nelson, Carol Nelson, Stuart Hood, Pat Badgett, Vic Jaccino, Myrtle Arnold, Roger Germundson, Jack Schrader, Annamarie Schrader, Ralph & Patti Burnley, Ray & Claire Sorrentino, Stiles & Virginia Stevens, Amy Moline, Mary Henrichson, Julie Henrichson and Nancy Henrichson (seated). Back to the left again, below Scott, Joyce Badgett, John Petronka, David Haines, Ralph Heit, Sam Ragusa, Alex 'Cat' Borys, Vince Ryan, Pete Elliott, George Gustin, Bob Hart. Bottom row, seated, L-R: Margie Miles, Marjorie Haines, Betty Williams, Mary Ragusa, Kathleen Ryan, Clorinda Elliott, Kay Gustin, Elaine Hart, (Mary Henrichson's daughter-in-law Nancy Henrichson, already noted).



Some great monuments and buildings in Washington, D.C.



Left: Looking up at the inside of the capitol dome. The defender of the union with her sword raised, the tip of which is pointed toward George Washington. Called “The Apotheosis of Washington.”



Statue of Washington & painting of Signing the Declaration by John Trumbull.



Above: Back view of the capitol; House of Representatives on the left, Senate on the right.