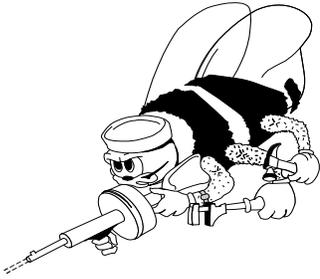


MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 11, Issue 2

Web site: <http://mcb2seabeereunion.com/>

January 27, 2016



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

Las Vegas! Which Hotel? We'll Know Soon!

Where Do We Go?

Most of the hotels in Las Vegas now have a resort fee that adds to the room rate. This limits our choice of hotels with reasonable room rates, so we may have to stay off the Strip. I have submitted a Request for Proposal to the Convention Bureau and the hotels did not want to book two years out so I have resubmitted the RFP and am now waiting for responses from hotels that can give us good room rates without any resort fees. It may be a while before we get any hotels to offer their best rates, so maybe by the time we publish the next issue we should have heard from the hotels that can make their best offer. I hope to have some news for the next issue. We'll know soon!

Branson Left Good Memories!

We all had a good time in Branson. I didn't receive any bad reviews, and we were the last group at the Branson Ramada! They closed their doors. Our Hospitality Room and Meeting Room was an excellent choice and our group enjoyed time to visit and swap sea stories. Some got out for shopping and visiting Old Town Branson and the shops that have kept their old-town flavor and atmosphere. Fun stores: ice cream shop, five-and-dime, candy store, show store, and just so much more. All in all, Branson was a fun destination for our reunion. And now, Las Vegas! The hotel choices may be limited, but we may get some offers that will need further

See Las Vegas, Here We Come! (Continued on page 2)

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) Las Vegas, Here We Come!

checking. We may not be able to make a trip there to check the hotels and I am asking some old friends there that may be able to help. It's not the same as being there to make sure the hotel can meet our needs, but it is a cost-saving measure that will help our bank account. I'll keep you posted on all the developments.

Start thinking about your stay in Las Vegas and where or what you would like to do. Would you like to attend a show as a group or take a tour of Red Rock Canyon or maybe tour Boulder Dam? When you send your notes and letters, send some feedback or comments on what you would like to do while in Las Vegas. When we were in Washington, D.C., you said you would like more time to visit and that was what I tried to do in Branson; not as much touring and sight-seeing and more time to visit in the Hospitality Room. So, there are tours and shows galore in Las Vegas, just let me know what your preferences are. If a show is to your liking, would you like a variety show, a magic show, an entertainer or something else to your liking, and what price-point would you prefer? Low-end, midrange in the \$75 range, or high-end (over \$150) per seat. Just let me know what you would like and I will check out the shows while we are there.

SEABEES

*December - February
Dates to Remember*

-
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| Dec. 1, 1937 | RADM Ben Moreell becomes Chief of Bureau of Yards and Docks. |
| Dec. 7, 1941 | Japanese attack Pearl Harbor. |
| Dec. 10, 1941 | Guam falls. |
| Dec. 23, 1941 | Wake Island falls. |
| Dec. 25, 1972 | Bob Hope's Christmas Show lands on Diego Garcia, first jet to land on runway constructed by NMCB 62. |
| Dec. 31, 1947 | Seabee Reserve established. |
| Jan. 5, 1942 | Bureau of Naval Personnel authorizes formation of Construction Battalions. |
| Jan. 17, 1942 | Ground broken for construction of Camp Allen, VA, first Seabee training facility. |
| Jan. 31, 1968 | Tet '68, initial North Vietnamese attacks occurred against major U.S. bases. |
| Feb. 13, 1945 | Fleet Admiral E.J. King authorized retention of the Seabees as a permanent part of the postwar Navy. |
| Feb. 19, 1966 | Salt water distillation unit installed by Seabees in Antarctica became operational. |
| Feb. 21, 1966 | CNO directs reactivation of CBC Gulfport, MS. |
| Feb. 24, 1945 | American flag planted atop Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima. |
| Feb. 27, 1942 | Davisville 'Advanced Base Depot' established. |
| Feb. 28, 1957 | Fleet Admiral Nimitz wrote to Admiral Moreell on the Seabees' 15th anniversary, commending them for their role in helping to defeat the Japanese in WWII. |

Minutes
of the
General Membership Meeting
August 28, 2015
Hospitality Meeting Room
Ramada Inn, Building 600
Branson, MO

Meeting brought to order by Chairman Pete Elliott at 9:03 a.m.
Pledge of Allegiance led by Chairman Elliott.

Chairman Elliott welcomed all members and guests.

Chairman Elliott asked the treasurer, Scott Williams, for a financial report:

- We are solvent. After all bills are paid for this reunion, we will have a little less than \$2,000 in our account. The next Newsletter can be published, but publishing fewer Newsletters has not really decreased the cost of publishing. We were getting a little over 500 copies printed and mailed for about the same cost of getting 200 copies printed and mailed now. Supply and demand is a big factor here.
- The cost for bulk mailing is about 37 cents per issue, but if the address is incorrect, it costs \$1.21 to send to Scott for correction. Now, to send the Newsletter to the corrected address, it costs another \$1.21 in postage. This is why it is so important to advise Scott when you move. That alone will save \$2.42 per returned Newsletter.

Chairman Elliott asked if the financial report will be accepted as read. Motion to accept by David Haines, seconded by Rex Roark. Unanimous approval.

Chairman Elliott asked all members present if a reunion in two years is wanted. Yes – 12, No – 2. We will have a reunion in 2017.

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

Suggestions from the members were Las Vegas, Laughlin or San Antonio. Much discussion on these three locations. Rex Roark made a motion, seconded by David Haines, for our next reunion to be in Las Vegas. Vote was 9 in favor, 3 opposed. The back-up location will be Laughlin (11 in favor, 0 opposed).

Chairman Elliott recognized Dan Miller, Chief Development Officer from the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association. Mr. Miller made his pitch for financial support for the Scholarship Association.

These scholarships send children and grandchildren to college with \$3,100 annual scholarship support.

Those with the greatest need are most eligible.

Two-year colleges have now been added to the eligible list of colleges.

SMSA receives 300 applications every year but only 20 to 25 scholarships are granted.

The Seabee drawdown has ended and the current status is to remain.

Applicants must submit an essay and in that essay the applicant must mention who the Seabee was in their life (father/grandfather, etc.) and how they love the Seabees (say this at least 3 times) and how they love the military, especially the Seabees. The applicant must recognize the Seabees and how they have influenced their lives.

Pete Elliott thanked Mr. Miller for his presentation.

Pete Elliott then spoke of Neil McCumber who was killed during the construction of Cubi Point. (See the article in the SEABEES Newsletter, Vol. 11 No. 1, dated September 15, 2015, page 13.) Pete made a presentation to two of Neil's brothers who were able to come to the reunion. A very emotional presentation.

The election of officers recommended by the Staff was no changes. A motion from David Haines and seconded by Rex Roark to retain all current officers. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The subject of a postage stamp recognizing the Seabees on the 75th anniversary of their founding was discussed. An effort was made to have a 50th anniversary stamp but the stamp committee did not consider it. A letter-writing campaign needs to be undertaken to support this effort. Write your congressperson (Representative and Senator)!

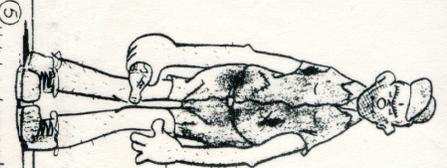
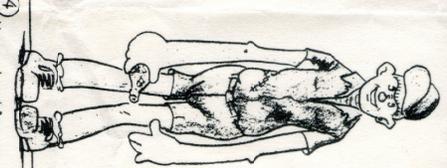
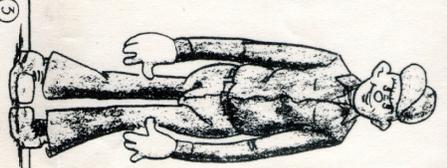
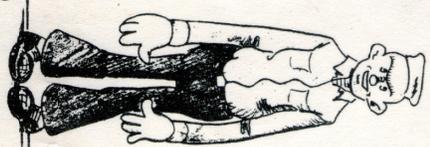
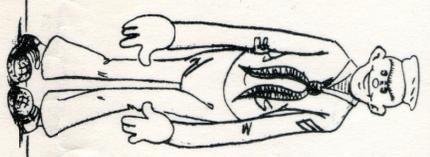
No additional comments were made.

A motion was made to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

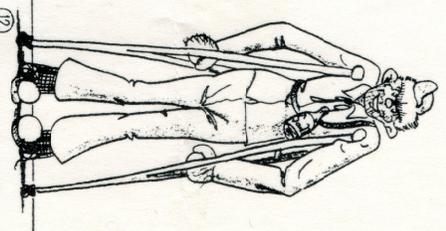
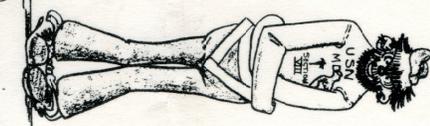
Respectfully submitted,
Scott Williams, Secretary

EVOLUTION OF A

- ① Off the transport fresh from boot...
- ② Into clean dungarees ready to tackle any construction.
- ③ He draws reissue greens and tries San Miguel. Ready to go!
- ④ He makes his own tropical revisions to his clothes. San Miguel tastes better now. Not so hot to go to work.
- ⑤ He's been here a while now - the training program begins to show. He becomes stern. - Likes San Miguel, not work.
- ⑥ His faculties adapt themselves to his environment. Mmmh! - San Miguel! Baaaah - Work!



- ⑦ Strains of his tasks take their toll on his personality. reworkmen stare at him. / San Miguel stays with him. / Good old SMIG. Phooey to work!
- ⑧ He shows up for work but that old *Enfiteza* is gone. Nobody appreciates him much from him. Searching is strange here (first in the when the Club opens)
- ⑨ Not much output now - All intake. *Cigars & Beer*. Dear SMIG, open another factory.
- ⑩ Mr. BIG (meaning) open the Beer Hall. They better get him out of here soon.
- ⑪ Rotation Date finally arrives - everybody gets special treatment going home.
- ⑫ And now, a happy civilian at last: forgotten all about the P.I. Hill / cops - still San Miguel!



Frankie
 Everybody can see what the Seabees are doing to Cubi. Here's what Cubi is doing to the Seabees.

SEABEES

(To the tune of Side by Side)

Side By Side

"Oh, we got married last Sunday.
The party lasted 'til Monday.
When our friends had all gone,
then we were alone,
side by side.

We got ready for bed then
I nearly dropped over dead when
her teeth and her hair,
she placed on a chair,
side by side.

One glass eye came out then,
one hearing aid so small.
She took one of her legs off
and placed it on the chair by the wall,
side by side.

I sat there so broken hearted.
Most of my girl had departed.
So I slept on the chair,
there was more of her there,
side by side."

The Art Collector's Wife

A New York attorney representing a wealthy art collector called and asked to speak to his client. "Saul, I have some good news and I have some bad news."

The art collector replied, "I've had an awful day; let's hear the good news first."

The lawyer said, "Well, I met with your wife today, and she informed me that she invested \$5,000 in two pictures that she thinks will bring a minimum of \$15-20 million. I think she could be right."

Saul replied enthusiastically, "Well done! My wife is a brilliant businesswoman! You've just made my day. Now I know I can handle the bad news. What is it?"

The lawyer replied, "The pictures are of you with your secretary."

**Remember that silence
is sometimes the best
answer.**

Gone Fishin'

It was raining hard and a big puddle had formed in front of the Smoky Lake beer parlor.

An old man stood beside the puddle holding a stick with a string on the end and jiggled it up and down in the water.

A curious gentleman asked what he was doing. 'Fishing,' replied the old man.

'Poor old fool' thought the gentleman, so he invited the old man to have a drink in the pub.

Feeling he should start some conversation while they were sipping their beer, the gentleman asked, 'And how many have you caught today?'

'You're the eighth; said the old man.

Girlfriends....

Bob, a 70-year-old, extremely wealthy widower, shows up at the Country Club with a breathtakingly beautiful and very sexy 25-year-old blonde-haired woman who knocks everyone's socks off with her youthful sex appeal and charm and who hangs over Bob's arm and listens intently to his every word.

His buddies at the club are all aghast. At the very first chance, they corner him and ask, 'Bob, how'd you get the trophy girlfriend?'

Bob replies, 'Girlfriend? She's my wife!'

They are knocked over, but continue to ask. 'So, how'd you persuade her to marry you?'

'I lied about my age,' Bob replies.

'What, did you tell her you were only 50?' they asked.

5 Bob smiles and says, 'No, I told her I was 90.'

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SEABEE REUNION
BRANSON, MISSOURI - AUGUST 28, 2015

Forgetter Be Forgotten?

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

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

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

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

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

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



Names for men in the picture, below, on page 6

- | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Dave Kurre | 7. Scott Williams | 13. Rex Roark | 19. Lyle McCumber |
| 2. Erling Husby | 8. Stoney Serrett | 14. Chuck Chapman | 20. Mal Pearson |
| 3. Sam Ragusa | 9. Jack Schrader | 15. Robert McCumber | 21. Vic Jaccino |
| 4. Gene Lee | 10. V. H. Barnes | 16. Richard Alman | 22. David Haines |
| 5. Larry Fairbairn | 11. Pat Badgett | 17. Pete Elliott | |
| 6. Stiles Stevens | 12. Dick Skillicorn | 18. Bob Hart | |



WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!

Erling Husby (Martha)
6426 Ojibway Path
Lino Lakes, MN 55014
651-484-5780
651-261-5678 - cell
CBD 1505

MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Dave Budworth
330 Prune Tree Dr.
Healdsburg, CA 95448
707-545-1056
ThreeDs@sonic.net
MCB 2

Harrell G. Edmondson
2102 Shannon Christine Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89104
702-460-6749
MCB 2

US Navy edges back to Subic Bay in Philippines – under new rules –

The US – which was booted from the naval base in 1992 – is being seen in a new light here as China continues to claim large swaths of the South China Sea.

By **Ralph Jennings**, Correspondent, **NOVEMBER 12, 2015**

OLONGAPO, SUBIC BAY, PHILIPPINES — When this Philippine coastal town rid itself two decades ago of a giant US naval base, it wanted to shake off a colonial past and reject the “ugly Americans.” Yet today the town is once again welcoming American military personnel and viewing the US as a vanguard against an increasingly pushy China.

The US Navy began using the base in Subic Bay last year to deliver materiel and personnel for annual joint military exercises. Some 6,000 US personnel came to Subic in April, and are set to return for exercises in 2016 in agreement with Philippine authorities, according to a Western diplomat. US ships are using Subic Bay as a resupply port during routine calls, and two towering merchant marine ships flying American flags were docked here in late October.

On Nov. 17, 2015 President Barack Obama is to visit the capital, Manila, as part of a regional economic cooperation event, and he and President Benigno Aquino III are expected to solidify military ties including use of the 60,000-acre Subic facility that the US formally left in 1992.

The return of the Americans follows a deal hammered out with the Philippine military last spring. The Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement grew out of concern over China’s spread into waters just off the coast here, and China’s claim over more than 80 percent of the South China Sea that extends far below the Chinese mainland.

In Olongapo today, a city of 220,000,

enthusiasm is strong for a US return. That’s due not only to the perceived China threat, but also because the Philippine armed forces, not the Pentagon, will govern the sprawling old base with new rules designed to curb off duty behavior.

After World War II, Subic gained prominence as the largest US naval facility in the Pacific, cherished for its deep water, sheltered spots to anchor ships, and elaborate repair infrastructure.

Yet during the heyday of Subic, US naval personnel gained notoriety for helping turn the area into a zone of hostess bars and prostitution that fostered local crime.

Now, the returning military must stay on approved parts of the base, which has added a well-groomed Harbor Point shopping mall with cinemas and some 200 stores including Starbucks, TGI Friday’s, and eventually Gold’s Gym. A midnight to 5 a.m. curfew will be enforced around the base.

To short-circuit charges of a new form of colonialism, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, a local governing body, is authorizing Philippine forces to oversee the former base and its returning inhabitants in segments of 15 years.

“My opinion is that US presence within Philippine military bases will be accepted by both the government and the public,” says Ramon Casiple, executive director of the Philippine advocacy group Institute for Political and Electoral Reform.

“However, there should be safeguards to avoid crime incidents involving the local civilian population, since this historically had started the public opinion against US military bases,” he says.

Since the US left, the Barrio Barretto hostess bar district has dropped from 60 to 27 clubs. But problems continue: Last year, a Marine private was charged with killing a transgender man in a local hotel room.

Filipinos, who were colonized by the US from 1898 to 1946 after three centuries of Spanish rule,

(Continued from page 8)

had resented the US military continuing presence after the end of World War II in 1945.

Now, however, Manila sees China as the regional bully. Chinese vessels have been fishing and exploring for fossil fuel in disputed waters off the islands of Luzon and Palawan. Filipinos worry about China's "aggressive stance" in the South China Sea, where Beijing has been dredging and forming man-made islands. (Last month, the US Navy sent a warship within 12 nautical miles of an island China disputes as its own.)

In 2012, vessels from China and the Philippines engaged in a bitter standoff over the Scarborough Shoal, a mostly submerged reef chain 123 miles west of Luzon. Mr. Aquino angered China but impressed his own people a year later by asking a UN tribunal to rule on the legal basis for Beijing's claims to most of the ocean area – a case *The Hague has agreed to hear*. (China rejects a resolution by international courts.)

"I'd like the military base to stay here because the American military personnel are nice," says Charlie Dela Cruz, a local motor taxi driver. "The American military means support for resisting China, and that's good."

"It's a big deal for us, with the issue of Scarborough Shoal," says Lance Gboy, another local who cautiously approves of allowing in US personnel. "Some [of the old problems] have disappeared but some are still here."

Some opposition parties in the Philippine Senate oppose the return of US forces, and the Supreme Court could take a case on the constitutionality of the US-Philippines defense cooperation agreement. But in recent weeks there have been statements from the military that the terms of the enhanced deal are part of an existing treaty and not subject to a Senate vote.

Love may be blind but marriage is a real eye-opener.

I'm Fine - How are you?

There's nothing the matter with me,
I'm just as healthy as can be,
I have arthritis in both knees,
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

All my teeth have had to come out,
And my diet I hate to think about.
I'm overweight and I can't get thin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

And arch supports I need for my feet.
Or I wouldn't be able to go out in the street.
Sleep is denied me night after night,
But every morning I find I'm all right.
My memory's failing, my head's in a spin.
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Old age is golden I've heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder, as I go to bed.
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup,
And my glasses on a shelf, until I get up.
And when sleep dims my eyes, I say to myself,
Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?

The reason I know my Youth has been spent,
Is my get-up-and-go has got-up-and-went!
But really I don't mind, when I think with a grin,
Of all the places my get-up has been.

I get up each morning and dust off my wits,
Pick up the paper and read the obits.
If my name is missing, I'm therefore not dead,
So I eat a good breakfast and jump back into bed.

The moral of this as the tale unfolds,
Is that for you and me, who are growing old.
It is better to say? "*I'm fine*" with a grin,
Than to let people know the shape we are in.

I'M FINE!! HOW ARE YOU?

Fascinating World War II Naval Escapade!

Sometimes in life, the guy with the drunken, so-crazy -it-just-might-work ideas hits one out of the park and saves the day. This is clearly what happened in 1942 aboard the HNLMS *Abraham Crijnsen*, the last Dutch warship standing after the Battle of the Java Sea.

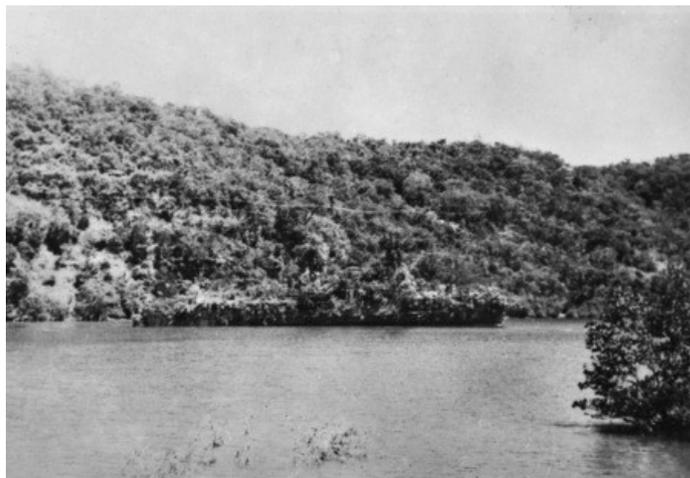
Originally planning to escape to Australia with three other warships, the then-stranded minesweeper had to make the voyage alone and unprotected. The slow-moving vessel could only get up to about 15 knots and had very few guns, boasting only a single 3-inch gun and two Oerlikon 20 mm canons - making it a sitting duck for the Japanese bombers that circled above.

Knowing their only chance of survival was to make it to the Allies Down Under, the *Crijnsen's* 45 crew members frantically brainstormed ways to make the retreat undetected. The winning idea? Turn the ship into an island.

You can almost hear crazy-idea guy anticipating his shipmates' reluctance: "Now guys, just hear me out..." But lucky for him, the *Abraham Crijnsen* was strapped for time, resources and alternative means of escape, automatically making the island idea the best idea. Now it was time to put the plan into action.



The crew went ashore to nearby islands and cut down as many trees as they could lug back onto the deck. Then the timber was arranged to look like a jungle canopy, covering as much square footage as possible. Any leftover parts of the ship were painted to look like rocks and cliff faces - these guys weren't messing around.



Now, a camouflaged ship in deep trouble is better than a completely exposed ship. But there was still the problem of the Japanese noticing a mysterious moving island and wondering what would happen if they shot at it. Because of this, the crew figured the best means of convincing the Axis powers that they were an island was to truly be an island: by not moving at all during daylight hours.

While the sun was up they would anchor the ship near other islands, then cover as much ocean as they could once night fell - praying the Japanese wouldn't notice a disappearing and reappearing island amongst the nearly 18,000 existing islands in Indonesia. And, as luck would have it, they didn't.

The *Crijnsen* managed to go undetected by Japanese planes and avoid the destroyer that sank the other Dutch warships, surviving the eight-day journey to Australia and reuniting with Allied forces.

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 713 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

TOP SECRET

You've all heard of the Air Force's ultra-high-security, super-secret base in Nevada, known simply as "Area 51?" Well, late one afternoon, the Air Force folks out at Area 51 were very surprised to see a Cessna landing at their "secret" base. They immediately impounded the aircraft and hauled the pilot into an interrogation room.

The pilot's story was that he took off from Vegas, got lost, and spotted the Base just as he was about to run out of fuel. The Air Force started a full FBI background check on the pilot and held him overnight during the investigation. By the next day, they were finally convinced that the pilot really was lost and wasn't a spy. They gassed up his airplane, gave him a terrifying "you-did-not-see-a-base" briefing, complete with threats of spending the rest of his life in prison, told him Vegas was that-a-way on such-and-such a heading, and sent him on his way.

The next day, to the total disbelief of the Air Force, the same Cessna showed up again. Once again, the MP's surrounded the plane...only this time there were two people in the plane. The same pilot jumped out and said, "Do anything you want to me, but my wife is in the plane and you have to tell her where I was last night!"

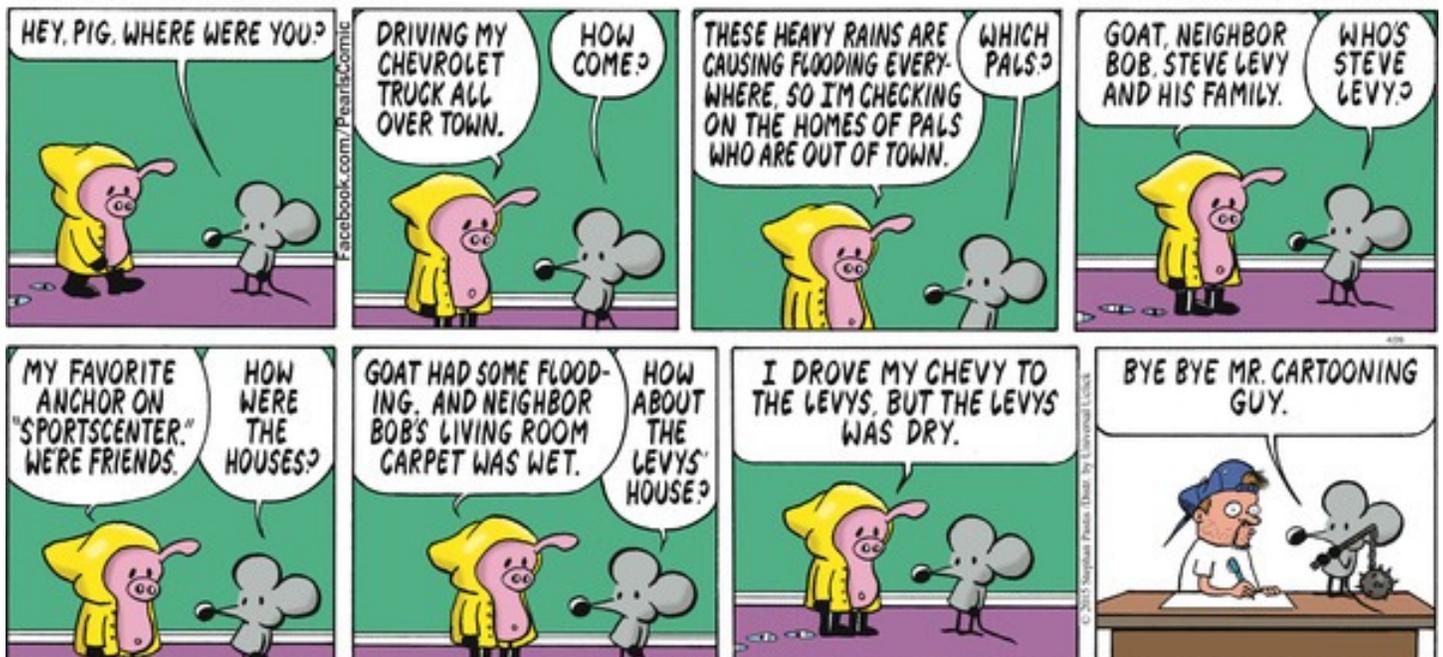
Our Fallen Comrades

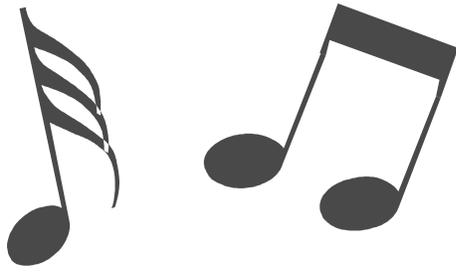
Alfred N. Burkhart	MCB 2	11/14/14
James H. Firebaugh	CBMU 1	10/7/15
Rod B. Howard	CBMU 1/101	11/10/15
Thomas J. Loftus	MCB 2	5/24/14
Edward 'Bud' Smith	MCB 2 Det. 1	10/9/15

May they live on in our memories

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



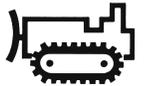


Notes from our members:

From **Sam & Larry Fairbairn**: Larry and I want to send this card and say Thanks so much for all your hard work organizing the MCB 2 reunion in Branson. You did a GREAT job and always seemed so calm! We had a really good time on our total vacation, but especially enjoyed Branson. Great shows, outstanding meals, and excellent company! We were glad to hear that you made it home safe and sound. A long drive by yourself - I would be sleeping while driving if I tried that. I had best close for now but, once again, thank you so much!..... from **Jo (Gene) McDonagh**: For all you do, Thank You. [enclosed a check for dues... thanks]..... from **Paul (Pam) Schell**: Here's a check for Dad's dues, plus a bit extra, to get back on the Good Guy List [thank you]..... from **Bob (Violet) Bowdler**: The Newsletter came today and **Bob** and I enjoyed seeing **Pat** and **Joyce Badgett**. **Bob** had a stroke March 31st, so he is unable to get his dues off to you. I told him I would get it in the mail. He is in a wheelchair and gets around quite well. His speech is affected so it's hard for him to carry on a conversation. We take "one day at a time." Our plan 'A' is to relocate in the seaside Astoria, Oregon area where our families and old friends live..... from **Roger Hamilton**: Sending a check for dues [thank you]..... from **Mary (Dan) Millett**: Enclosed is a check for **Dan's** dues and hopefully brings him current with a little extra [thank you and it does]. Put the extra where it is needed the most. **Dan** is still in Maplewood Rehab here in Amesbury. I hope all is well with you and have a great day..... from **Frank Castelvechi**: Enclosed is a check in memory of **Mike Castelvechi** [thank you]. I'm sorry I couldn't send more [what was sent was a generous gift, **Frank** and thanks very much]. He has been gone 8 years now. It doesn't seem like it [no, it doesn't!]. Have a great reunion..... from



Sonja (Ambros) Johnson: Thanks so much for sending the memorial program. **Stoney**, bless his heart, sent a beautiful framed picture of **Ambros**! He is so kind and so thoughtful. I'm sure I missed a great reunion but I just couldn't go without my guy. I'm working on moving on. Thank you for thinking of me and thanks for all you do [**Sonja** enclosed a check in memory of **Ambros**] received dues checks, some with extra, from **John Kolasz**, **Charles Kangas**, **Ralph Presson**, **C. Edner Rudolph**, **Stoney Serrett**, **William Morin**, **Robert Colquhoun**, **Pat (Jack) Foster**, **Harrell Edmondson**, **Arnold Daisy**, **Gordon Gwathney**, **Ralph Presson**, **Allan Alberg**, **Tom Dowd**, **Herb Liverman**, **Sam Holsomback**, **Jim De Keyser**, **Sharon Jessop** [thanks all]..... from **Chuck (Helen) McCabe**: Sorry I didn't send this sooner. I thought we were paid up [thanks]. We returned home in Amboy in March after spending five months in Yuma. Have been busy fishing, gardening, canning, family reunions, and all those other fun things we do. We will be heading back to Yuma in less than a month. My, how time flies!..... from **Erling Husby**: Good job, well done! We had a great time. Hope we can make it to Vegas..... from **Ivan Majetic**: Seems I forgot something [enclosed a check for dues... thanks]..... from **Mal Pearson**: **Margaret** and I enjoyed the reunion as always. We had a good trip the rest of the way and arrived home in the early evening of the 9th of September. No problems. What a surprise to meet the **McCumber** brothers. Hard to remember 60 years back when caught by surprise! I think they were surprised also to talk to **Pete** and me as we were right there when their brother **Neil** was killed! Enclosed is my check for



(Continued from page 12)

my shopping at the ship's store, dues and whatever [thanks!]. That's about it for now. Catch you later..... from **Rodney White**: I sure did hate to miss out on the reunion this time, but maybe next time I'll make it. Enclosed is my check for dues and put the remaining in the kitty as I know you can use all the help you can get [yes, and thanks!]. Thanks again..... from **Althea** (for **Jerry**) **Herr**: It sounds like Branson was really nice. Glad to hear that! [and we missed you! Make plans for Las Vegas!] I noticed my name for **Gerald** was not on the Good Guy List so I'm enclosing a check for dues to get back on the list [thank you! Your name was mistakenly deleted as I leave all the widows and benefactors on the list. But we can use the added help, so thanks.] You do a really good job with the Newsletter [thanks]..... from **Betty Krygier**: Enclosed is a check for **Emil's** dues. [thank you, **Betty**, but see my note to **Althea** above. This was meant for you, also.] I'm sorry I am late in paying as I like to keep up with the news. **Emil** loved the Seabees and I like to read all the news. I hope this keeps him up-to-date. [thank you very much, **Betty**]..... from **Kathleen (Vincent) Ryan**: Sorry for not writing before. I broke my femur bone and am still on therapy. But generally, we are both on the mend. [enclosed a check for dues. Thanks]..... from **Mal Pearson**: This check should take care of the dues plus a little extra [thanks]. All is well here. **Margaret** and I enjoy your e-mails. Winter has set in a little now after the mildest December on record, but it was 7° this morning and a high of 22° expected today [Brrrrr!]. Say 'hi' to The Boss for me..... from **Mary Ragusa**: [sent an invoice for all the hospital-ity room goodies she bought on her plastic] If a check comes, I will just tear it up if that's OK with your bookkeeping [Hmmmm... guess that works OK. Thanks.]..... from **Jim Anderson**: [Jim is Commander of the Atlanta NSVA and I brought some of the ship's store to their picnic and he sent me a check for the goodies he bought. Thanks, **Jim!**] from **Mary** (for **Duane**) **Henrichson**: Enclosed is a check for **Duane's** dues. [thanks, **Mary**, but see the note for **Althea** above.] I have been get-

ting the Newsletter by mail I could get it on e-mail. [OK! You are on the eNewsletter distribution. Thanks.]..... from **Tony Mastroianni**: [Remarking on the article on page 6 of the last Newsletter about CBD 1802 and CBD 1804] Interesting article from **Rod Howard**. First time I ever saw anything written about 1803. I sent a letter to **Ron Howard** if you would please forward it on to him. Thanks. [The note from **Tony** to **Rod**: I enjoyed reading your article on CBD 1802 and 1804. For the first time, I read about CBD 1803. I was in the reserves and was activated September 9, 1950 and was sent to Adak, Alaska October 12, 1950 where I served until September 1951. I was then transferred to Guam, M.I., and CBD 1803 on January 2, 1952. For the first time I have seen 1803 written about. Even MCB 2 Reunion Association, CBD 1803 is not mentioned in the heading. I was SV 2 in charge of a group that made the original survey of land in Guam. We had an influx of men at Change-of-Command before I left. The Commander was Lt. Cdr. Pennell. I was separated August 5, 1952 in San Francisco.]..... from **Ralph Heitt**: Sorry I couldn't make the Branson reunion. I understand the next reunion is in Las Vegas. I will see you there, I hope. Enclosed is my check for dues and the extra for expenses [thank you]..... from **John Wilborn**: [Sent a check for some Seabee pins. Thanks, **John**]..... from **Bennie Carlson**: Thanks for all you do for the group, the Seabees. The enclosed check should cover me for a few years [thank]..... from **Gerald Rice**: [Ordered two dozen each of U.S. flags and Seabee flags. Thanks, **Gerry!** Check received.] Thanks..... from **Ben Lally**: Here's a check for my dues [thank you]. I sure enjoy the Newsletter. Keep up the good work. Have you ever thought of having a reunion here in Alaska? [no. we haven't.... Might have to bring that up at our meeting in Las Vegas.]..... from **Bill Morin** - a Tournapull operator, MCB 3: You may have seen this piece about what a Seabee is in a Cubi Pointer in 1954 or so. This is for those that didn't. [See page 9 of Volume 9, Issue 3 dated April 25, 2012]..... from **Rich 'Nellie' Nelson**: [enclosed a check for dues... thanks] Thanks for **Darla** and **Dave's** address. Have a Happy Thanksgiving.....

from **Jack Wilson**: Well, another year has almost come and gone and I am a year older but no wiser. I don't want to get on the bad guy list so I am sending my dues plus a bit extra [thank you]. I have never missed a Seabee reunion in Las Vegas but I will miss the next one as my wife can't walk on her own and I am taking care of her 24/7 and I am not much of a care giver any more. We both liked coming to our Seabee reunions and seeing our old friends. We always had a good time and we will really miss that. Your planners always did a good job selecting the city and hotel. Even though we can't come, we will be there in spirit..... from **David Manley** [sent a nice Christmas card]: We would love to have gone to the reunion but my wife's sickness prevented it. We enjoy the Newsletter so much! Thank you for all the hard work! Enclosed find my check for dues [thank you]..... from **Doug Emond** [also sent a nice Christmas card]: Hope this note finds the both of you healthy and waiting for the holidays. The weather here has been great! Just hope it continues. Enclosed is a check for my dues and a little more for mailing the Newsletter to me. Sorry to have missed the reunion in Branson but I had surgery and all is well now..... from **Clyde Howe**: [Sent a nice Christmas card. Thank.].....from **Joe Sitkowski**: Enclosed find my check for dues [thanks]..... from

Stiles (Virginia) Stevens: [sent a Christmas letter. The letter recounts all of their world travels and ends with the Seabee Reunion in Branson.] ...But forget London for shopping... Our trip to Branson, Missouri for **Stiles'** Navy Seabee reunion brought the *best* shopping - Dick's Old-time five-and-dime and the 75-year old Reish Shoe Store were like stores we went to as kids. Besides fantastic shows in Branson, we took a dinner ride on the Scenic Railway into the Ozark Mountains and a lunch cruise on Table Rock Lake aboard the *Branson Belle*. The 52,300-acre Table Rock Lake was formed in 1958 when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built Table Rock Dam across the White River. The College of the Ozarks ("Hard WorkU") is an astonishingly beautiful vocational school, which includes a hotel and restaurant in the Keeter Center, with an exquisitely appointed restaurant serving an elegantly-presented Sunday brunch. Numerous nearby attractions add to the glitz and glamour of Branson. So, here we are back in beautiful St. Croix in the Virgin Islands wishing you and yours a most enjoyable Christmas season!... This looks like the end of these letters for now. Sorry for the delay in getting this out but I am trying to save one issue and that was it. That helps to keep things running..... Now, send those cards and letters and let me know what you want to do in Las Vegas!

ANDY CAPP



The Good Guy List

For 2016

Allan Alberg, Richard Altman, Basil Arnold, V.H. Barnes, John Bloem, Ralph Bokern, Bob Bowdler, Dave Budworth, Wayne Bulgerin, Bill Burns, Pat Carey, Bennie Carlson, Frank (in memory of Mike) Castelvechi, Chuck Chapman, Robert Colquhoun, Ballard Credeur, Arnold Daisy, James DeKeyser, Tony DeLeon, Mary Dick (for all the Good Guys), Tom Dowd, Howard Doyle, Harrell Edmondson, Doug Emond, Al Erb, Richard Farbo, Jack Foster, Claude Garcenot, Robert Gardner, Gordon Gwathney, Pauline (in memory of Charlie) Hagemann, David Haines, Roger Hamilton, Ruth (in memory of Alex) Hamilton, Roy Harris, Bob Hart, Ralph Heitt, Althea (in memory of Jerry) Herr, Sam Holsomback, Erling Husby, Charles Ingalls, Mal Jaeger, Sharon (in memory of Larry) Jessop, Sharon (in memory of Ambros) Johnson, Charles Kangas, Duane Keech, Denise King (in memory of her Dad, Don Truskey), John Kolasz, Betty (in memory of Emil) Krygier, Ben Lally, Ron Landrum, Thomas Lightbody, H.A. 'Herb' Liverman, Ivan Majetic, David Manley, James L. Marshall, Bob Marshall, Charles McCabe, Gene McDonagh, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Yvonne Fowler (in memory of Bob Fowler) Meredith, Dan Millett, Chuck Minert, Gary 'Mitch' Mitchell, Bill Morin, Rich 'Nellie' Nelson, Opal (in memory of Paul) Neusetzer, Joe O'Brien, Mal Pearson, John Petronka, Ralph Pesson, Sam Ragusa, Gary Rawlings, Gerry Rice, Rex Roark, Gene Robinson, Dale Rogers, C. Edner Rudolph, Vince Ryan, Paul Schell, Merle Schnepf, Jack Schrader, Stoney Serrett, Joe Sitkowski, Dick Skillicorn, Alice (in memory of Ray) Sonnen, Ray Sorrentino, Gene Staples, Marian (in memory of Clyde) Stenholm, Lucy (in memory of Lee) Stevens, Stiles Stevens, Larry Stevenson, John Stock, Judy (in memory of Richard) Todd, Dick Walters, Rodney White, John Wilborn, Scott Williams, Jack Wilson, and Steve Yunger.

Everyone listed here has their dues paid at least through 2016, 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 January 15, 2016. There are currently 100 paid up members through 2016 from a mailing list of 216 and over 250 by email. If dues have not been sent for at least five years, they do not receive the Newsletter by mail. There are 679 names on the full member roster (21 pages). The Newsletter is sent primarily by email. If you or a son or daughter has an email address and you wish to receive the Newsletter by email, please send an email to Scott at williash@aol.com. You will get the Newsletter with color pictures, which I cannot print in the U.S. Post Office-mailed version (SW)

Life is a journey, not a destination.
Enjoy the trip!

If at first you don't succeed,
destroy all evidence that you
tried.

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.

Web page: <http://mcb2seabeereunion.com/>

MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

c/o Scott H. Williams
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Villa Rica, GA 30180

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