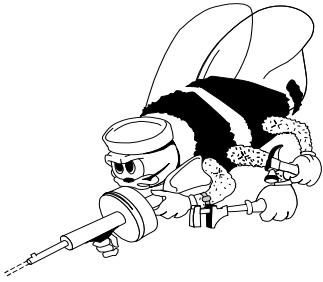


# MCB 2 Reunion Association

Volume 12, Issue 2 - Online Only

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

January 15, 2018



# 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

# Our First Electronic-only Issue. If you want a printed copy, read below.

## Printed Copies Available

I checked with my local Office Depot store and they can make a hard copy of our Newsletter for about \$2 to \$3, depending on the number of pages. So, if you would like a hard copy of the Newsletter, let me know. I can email the Newsletter to Kinko's, Office Depot/Office Max, or Staples and they can print it out from that. You would have to get their email address from their print department and send that to me. The printed copy would be available within a few days and you would pay for it as you leave the store. Now, if those that do not have a computer could get this message, they could still get their copy.

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## Let Others Know About Our Newsletter

Not only your friends and neighbors, but also other Seabees that you know, especially those Seabees that are part of the MCB 2 Reunion Association, I hate to lose contact with friends that have supported our reunions and may not have a computer. It may be that they have a son, daughter or grandchild that has a computer and could receive this Newsletter. If I could get that email address, I could send them this Newsletter. I don't know how else to contact them so I hope you know some guys who would like to get the Newsletter is not receiving it.

Also, I glean a lot of news from Bugle Blasts and if you would like to read the entire publica-

See *On-line Issue* (Continued on page 2)

# The Commander and Staff

Our leadership consists of:

**Commander  
Pete Elliott**

## Staff:

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

See our web page:

<http://mcb2seabeereunion.com/>

(Continued from page 1) **On-line Issue**

tion, type in Mike Berger's email address ([bugleblasts@gmail.com](mailto:bugleblasts@gmail.com)) and ask him to add your email to his mailing list . There is a lot of information in his entire Newsletter that I do not use but might be of interest to you or others. I have put a number of articles from Bugle Blasts in this issue to give you an idea of what he has in his Newsletter.

## The Vietnam Virtual Wall

Go to <http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>.

Click on a state where you live or lived. When it opens, scroll down to the city or town where you live, lived or perhaps went to high school and you will see the names of all Vietnam casualties from that place. Click on a name and you will find details about the person's death, a picture or at least a bio and awards and decorations. Whoever created this site spent a great deal of time and effort doing the work. Everyone who sees this should appreciate what those who served in Vietnam sacrificed for our country. There are also links to six other index pages that are part of the Vietnam Virtual Wall.

# SEABEES

*January - March  
Dates to Remember*

- 
- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Jan. 1        | Happy New Year—2018!   |
| Jan. 5, 1942  | Bureau of Naval Personnel authorizes formation of Construction Battalions.   |
| Jan. 15       | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  |
| Jan. 17, 1942 | Ground broken for construction of Camp Allen, VA; first Seabee training facility.  |
| Feb. 13, 1945 | Fleet Admiral E.J. King authorized retention of the Seabees as a part of the postwar Navy.   |
| Feb. 19       | President's Day  |
| Feb. 21, 1966 | CNO directs reactivation of CBC Gulfport, MS.  |
| 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. |
| Mar. 11 1942  | RADM Ben Moreell requested the Navy construction units be authorized to use a distinctive designation and insignia; The Seabee insignia was authorized.  |
| Mar. 2 1867   | Civil Engineer Corps established.  |
| Mar. 5, 1942  | Seabee Birthday.   |
| Mar. 13, 1946 | MCB 53 arrives on Bikini Atoll to construct facilities for atomic testing.   |
| Mar. 18, 1943 | Pontoons demonstrated for use in amphib assault in Narrangesett Bay, R.I.  |
| Mar. 19, 1942 | Secretary of the Navy authorizes CEC Officers to assume full command of Seabee units.  |
| Mar. 21, 1942 | First Seabee training base, Camp Allen, commissioned at Norfolk.   |
| Mar. 22, 1945 | Seabees ferry Gen. Patton's 3rd Army armored units across the Rhine.   |
| Mar. 25, 1945 | Iwo Jima secured.  |

## **"Workin' fer the gov'ment"**

A guy stopped at a local gas station and, after filling his tank, he paid the bill and bought a soft drink. He stood by his car to drink his cola and watched a couple of men working along the roadside. One man would dig a hole two or three feet deep and then move on. The other man came along behind him and filled in the hole. While one was digging a new hole, the other was 25 feet behind filling in the hole. The men worked right past the guy with the soft drink and went on down the road.

"I can't stand this," said the man tossing the can into a trash container and heading down the road toward the men. "Hold it, hold it," he said to the men. "Can you tell me what's going on here with all this digging and refilling?"

"Well, we work for the government and we're just doing our job," one of the men said.

"But one of you is digging a hole and the other fills it up. You're not accomplishing anything. Aren't you wasting the taxpayers' money?"

"You don't understand, mister," one of the men said, leaning on his shovel and wiping his brow. "Normally there's three of us: me, Elmer and Leroy. I dig the hole, Elmer sticks in the tree and Leroy, here, puts the dirt back. Now just because Elmer's sick, that don't mean that Leroy and me can't work."

My neighbor knocked on my door at 2:30 a.m. Can you believe that! 2:30 a.m.?  
Luckily for him I was still up playing my bagpipes

An East Indian fellow has moved in next door.  
He has travelled the world, has swum with sharks, has wrestled bears and climbed the highest mountain.  
It came as no surprise to learn his name was Bindair Dundat.

**I heard a guy complaining about how expensive his wedding is. He is really going to be upset when he finds out how much his divorce is going to cost.**

**When a man opens a car door for his wife, it's either a new car or a new wife.**

We are here on earth to do good unto others.  
What the others are here for, I have no idea.

**Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off?  
He's all right now.**

Stopped at a friends shop the other day and found him stalking around with a flyswatter. When I asked if he was getting any flies, he answered;  
"Yeah, 3 males and 2 females".  
Curious, I inquired as to how he could tell the difference.  
He answered; "3 were on a beer can and 2 were on the phone".

## Did You Know? State Military Awards

I recently learned that New York State, where I lived until I entered active duty in 1962, has awards for current residents who serve in the military or for people who were residents when they served. Most States have similar awards. In my case I learned I was entitled to award of the New York State Medal for Merit. I applied for it and received it in the mail along with a very nice certificate. Other New York State awards for active service include the Conspicuous Service Cross and the Conspicuous Service Star. Each State posts criteria for its awards as well as application forms on line. A bit of Internet research will get you there. There are State awards for service on active duty as well as for service as a member of the State's National Guard. Check it out. Mike Berger / Bugle Blasts

Source: Bugle Blasts: [bugleblasts@gmail.com](mailto:bugleblasts@gmail.com)

## Vietnam Lapel Pin

Source: Vietnam Commemoration

On the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, a national initiative aims to make sure veterans from that era are never forgotten. The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, which was authorized by Congress in 2008, is conducting events and activities across the country to honor those who served in a deeply divisive war that left a generation of warfighters without the proper recognition they deserved. One part of the initiative is to honor vets who served between Nov. 1, 1955, and May 15, 1975, with a commemorative Vietnam Veteran lapel pin. Living US veterans who served on active duty in the US Armed Forces at any time during the period noted above, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin. The pins will be presented in a dignified manner to each Vietnam veteran during public event held in their communities by Commemorative Partners. For more information on the Vietnam War Commemoration go to: [www.vietnamwar50th.com/](http://www.vietnamwar50th.com/)



Stiles and Virginia Stevens at a Branson show, August 2015, above and in Washington, DC, October 2013, below



Source: Bugle Blasts: [bugleblasts@gmail.com](mailto:bugleblasts@gmail.com)

## The ultimate GI gift

WAKE UP WITH YOUR K-CUP

Source: Army Times. What: A dozen 'rounds' of single serve goodness from Black Rifle Coffee Company, complete with ammo box. As one online reviewer put it: "Finally ... a 'k' cup that tastes like coffee." There are four ground varieties as well. Black Rifle is caffeinated as . . . heck. Buy it for the caffeine lover in your life. Cost: As low as 12.99. Don't buy it for: Anybody whose regular Starbucks order involves whipped cream. For Info: [www.blackriflecoffee.com/collections/coffee/products/brrc-k-cups](http://www.blackriflecoffee.com/collections/coffee/products/brrc-k-cups)



STEVENS, Stiles F.

## Capt. U.S. Naval Reserve, Retired

**P**assed away peacefully on December 3, 2017, in Norwood, Massachusetts, of natural causes. He was in his 88th year and was a resident of both Christiansted, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Westwood, Massachusetts.

He was born on October 11, 1929 to Anna Elizabeth (Schlegal) and Stiles Stevens in New Haven, Connecticut. At his age of two years, the family moved to North Haven, Connecticut, which he subsequently called his home town.

He was predeceased by his parents, his brother, Robert and his first wife of 40 years, Claire M. (Burke) Stevens. He has left to mourn his second wife of almost 16 years, Virginia Lee (Wilder) Stevens, one nephew, the congregation at the Sacred Heart Chapel (of the Holy Cross Catholic Church Parish), Christiansted, St. Croix, and friends at his favorite watering holes in St. Croix and the Boston area.

He attended Center Elementary School where he was local representative to the American Legion Boys' State at Storrs, Connecticut. He then attended Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford, Connecticut, where he was treasurer of his junior class and president and valedictorian of his senior class. In June 1951 he was graduated summa cum laude from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. During this time he was invited to become a member of Chi Epsilon (honorary civil engineering fraternity), Tau Beta Pi (honorary engineering fraternity), and Society of the Sigma Xi (honorary research fraternity). He then attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was graduated in June 1953 with a Master of Science degree ("S.M.") in Civil Engineering, with dual majors in Structural Engineering and Geotechnical Engineering.

In July 1953 he enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve. In November he was commissioned as an Ensign, Civil Engineer Corps, and was assigned to nearly four years of active duty. His first tour of duty was with the Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit #101 (CBMU 101), headquartered in Korea, and assigned to construct and maintain aviation support and logistic facilities for the Third Marine Air Wing. With the cessation of hostilities in Korea and in preparation of the Marine Air Wing deployment, CBMU 101 was sent to Japan to construct and maintain similar

facilities, initially at Naval Air Station Atsugi, and then at Naval Air Station Iwakuni. His second tour of Active Duty was as assistant Assistant Public Works Officer at the Naval Underwater Ordnance Station in Newport, Rhode Island (during World War II, known as Naval Torpedo Station, Newport). After release from Active Duty in February 1957, his inactive duty military assignments included increasing levels of command with Reserve Seabee and Civil Engineering Units, generally along the eastern seaboard. During this time he became an active member of the Association of Naval Civil Engineering Officers with worldwide membership. His final military assignments included the organization and subsequent implementation of a wartime construction management program in the Mediterranean/Middle East region under the command of the Commander-In-Chief Naval Forces Europe headquartered initially in London and then in Naples. Captain Stevens retired from the U. S. Naval Reserve on 30 September 1984, completing 31 years of commissioned service.

In his civilian professional career after Active military duty, he joined Charles A. Maguire and Associates, with offices in Providence, Boston and Hartford as a Civil Engineer. He became Chief Geotechnical Engineer in the Boston office in 1957 and subsequently in the Hartford office in 1960. During this period he was responsible for the geotechnical and foundation design aspects of several sections of the National Highway System, including Route I-95 in Providence, Route I-91 in North Haven, Connecticut, and Route I-84 in Hartford and Waterbury, Connecticut. During the 1960's and 1970's, he was in charge of the foundation design of the Neponset River Bridge and Approaches in Boston and Quincy, the Moral Container Port Expansion in Charlestown, the NASA Electronics Research Center in Cambridge and the Amelia Earhart Flood Control Dam and Navigation Locks. During this time he was a member of many Civil Engineering and Marine related construction organizations including the Deep Foundation Institution (a charter member and initial Parliamentarian), the American and Boston Societies of Civil Engineers, the Society of American Military Engineers, and the National Society of Professional Engineers. In addition to these major projects, he was responsible for Civil



and Geotechnical Foundation Design of many industrial, marine (harbor), and commercial facilities throughout the central and eastern United States. He also provided specialized expertise to the Armada de Chile for the repair and retrofit of earthquake-damaged port facilities in Chile, and to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for hospital and other logistical installations along the eastern seaboard. During his final major assignment, he served as the vice-president for International Projects, in charge of the Civil Engineering portion of the design-build contract for the construction of major oil storage and transportation facilities at a new harbor location in Port Harcourt, River State in Nigeria. He retired from the several engineering successors of the Maguire organization in 1982 after 25 years of engineering and administrative roles, and commenced consulting design services to several entities in the general Boston area, including engineering and construction firms and local law offices. He provided construction advisory services to the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office in relation to real estate activities and for expert witness testimony in heavy construction-related court disputes. During this time he also provided legal and construction advice in many disputes with the Boston and Providence chapters of the American Arbitration Association. Capt. Stevens retired from his engineering and consulting activities in the early 2000's and relocated his legal residence from Westwood to St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands, for the remainder of his retired years.

As per his wishes he will be cremated, and his remains interred at the Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. For guestbook, please visit website.



Folsom Funeral Service  
[www.folsomfuneral.com](http://www.folsomfuneral.com)

## **Vet Burial Plans: Pre-Planning Is A Must**

No one likes to think about death, but if a vet wants to be buried with military rights, or in a national cemetery, preplanning is a must. VA has a website which includes information about national cemeteries, preparing in advance, donating burial flags and burial benefits for veterans buried in a private cemetery. For burial in a VA cemetery discharge papers are required. Family members should be made aware of where these papers are kept. The discharge papers are also required for burial benefits in a private cemetery. The VA has 131 national cemeteries and those eligible for the benefits are entitled to a gravesite at one of the national cemeteries, providing space is available. Opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone or marker, a burial flag and a Presidential Memorial Certificate are provided at no cost to the family. Burial benefits are also available for spouses and dependents of the veteran in a national cemetery even if they predecease the veteran, accessing the website [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov) (click on Veteran Services, then on burial benefits in the drop-down menu). Family members need to contact a funeral home to assist with making burial arrangements at a national cemetery. To schedule a burial, fax documentation to the National Cemetery Scheduling Office at 1-866-900-6417 and follow up with a phone call to 1-800-535-1117. Veterans are entitled to burial benefits when buried in a private cemetery including a government headstone or marker, a burial flag and a Presidential Memorial Certificate at no cost to the family. Some veterans may also be eligible for burial allowances. For more information on eligibility call 1-800-827-1000. Arrangements for military burials in private cemeteries can also be arranged by calling the local VFW or American Legion Post.

## **Did You Know?**

The International Association of Certified Home Inspectors (InterNACHI) has created a chart that details the predicted life expectancy of virtually everything in and around your house including appliances, products, materials, systems and components. You can find the chart at:

<https://www.nachi.org/life-expectancy.htm>

## **FY 2017 Defense Authorization Bill Impact on TRICARE**

Source: MOAA.com

House and Senate leaders have resolved hundreds of differences between their respective versions of the Bill. Here are final decisions regarding TRICARE Benefits and Fees.

- There will be no changes to TriCare for Life (TFL). The bill rejects the Pentagon proposal to impose an annual TFL enrollment fee of up to 2 percent of military retired pay.
- Rejects a DoD proposal to roughly double TRICARE pharmacy copays over 10 years.
- Imposes significantly increased fees and copays only for those who will enter service on or after January 1, 2018.
- Grandfathers currently serving and currently retired members and families against most increases.
- EXCEPT current retirees and family members enrolled in TRICARE Standard (to be renamed TRICARE Select) will pay a new enrollment fee of \$150/\$300 (single/family) per year, starting in 2020 (NOTE: Chapter 61 (medical) retirees and survivors of members who died on active duty will be exempt from this enrollment fee).
- Establishes a new requirement for retired members and families (except TFL) to execute a formal annual enrollment in either TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select, starting in 2017 (IMPORTANT: this means they will have to physically sign a piece of paper to enroll; enrollment will be required for TRICARE coverage).
- Eliminates a requirement to get pre-authorization for urgent care, and requires all military medical facilities to maintain urgent care hours until 11 pm.
- Authorizes DoD to provide hearing aids to family members of retirees at DoD cost.
- Authorizes a pilot program of offering commercial insurance coverage to Reserve component members and families on the same basis as federal civilians.
- Requires implementation of standard appointment system at all military facilities no later than Jan. 1, 2018, including issuance of appointment on first call and 24/7 online service availability.
- Authorizes retired members and families to participate in federal civilian dental and vision plan (the current retiree dental program will go away).
- Restores provider payments for treatment of autism to higher rates that were in effect before April 2016.

## Top Wage Growth Jobs

source MoneyTalks

News Wages are growing, but some fields are doing much better than others, according to the latest edition of the Glassdoor Local Pay Reports. Overall, the pace of wage growth remains anemic. The latest Glassdoor statistics show the median annual base pay for full-time workers reached \$51,491 in September. That reflects a wage growth increase of 1.8% since September 2016. “At today’s sluggish rate of wage growth, it will take America roughly 40 years to double the nation’s median base pay.”

September’s year-over-year increase is a smidgen better than that of August, 1.6%. But it’s still far from the peak wage growth of 3.5% seen in January. Glassdoor’s chief economist, Andrew Chamberlain, notes in a blog post: Glassdoor Local Pay Reports are based on an analysis of millions of salaries collected by the jobs data website. The 10 jobs that saw the steepest rates of wage growth in September - and their median base pay - are:

- Barista: \$24,305 - up 5.6% from one year ago
- Truck driver: \$52,280 - up 5%
- Recruiter: \$50,491 - up 4.8%
- Bank teller: \$28,633 - up 4.3%
- Restaurant cook: \$28,456 - up 4.3%
- Solutions architect: \$102,184 - up 3.7%
- Business development manager: \$69,503 - up 3.6%
- Store manager: \$48,701 - up 3.5%
- Pharmacy technician: \$30,688 - up 3.4%
- Web designer: \$51,767 - up 3.4%

## VA Dental Program

Enrollment began in November

source VA Newsrelease

In September, VA selected Delta Dental of California and MetLife to once again offer private dental insurance plans as part of the VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP). The program was extended until Dec. 31, 2021, by the VA Dental Insurance Reauthorization Act of 2016. Veterans enrolled in the VA health-care system and beneficiaries of the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the VA (CHAMPVA) can now enroll in the program. VADIP offers eligible individuals the opportunity to purchase discounted dental insurance coverage, including diagnostic services, preventive services, en-

Despite seeing the fastest wage growth, however, baristas earned the lowest base pay of any job in the September report. Bank tellers and restaurant cooks were also among the 10 lowest-paying positions. “Jobs with the highest pay growth aren’t always the ones with the highest earning potential,” Chamberlain writes. The 10 jobs with the highest earnings and their median base pay and pay growth are:

- Pharmacist: \$127,506 - up 0.4% over the past year
- Solutions architect: \$102,184 - up 3.7%
- Data scientist: \$95,624 - up 0.6%
- Tax manager: \$94,180 - 1.7%
- Attorney: \$93,920 - down 1.9%
- Product manager: \$91,035 - 1.2%
- Professor: \$87,244 - 2.6%
- Software engineer: \$85,806 - 2.7%
- Systems engineer: \$78,514 - 1.8%
- UX designer: \$77,994 - 1.2%

This list reflects a continuing trend. Chamberlain explains: “Once again, three fields dominated the highest paying jobs in September: Healthcare, tech, and professional services. Pharmacist, solutions architect, and data scientist again topped our list as the jobs with highest U.S. median base pay in the September Local Pay Reports.

dodontic and other restorative services, surgical services and emergency services. Individuals who enroll in one of the dental insurance plans will pay the entire premium in addition to the full cost of any copayments. Enrollment is voluntary and does not affect eligibility for VA outpatient dental services and treatment. The plans are available to eligible individuals in the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Delta Dental and MetLife previously offered insurance plans as part of the three-year VADIP pilot program and more than 115,000 Veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries enrolled before it expired in January 2017. Individuals who enrolled in a plan during the pilot period must select and enroll in one of the new plans offered by Delta Dental or MetLife. While the insurance providers will remain the same, plan options, fees and other factors may have changed from those offered during the pilot. For more information, call 877-222-VETS (8387) or visit

## From Previous Reunions



Clorinda and Pete Elliott, Branson, MO - 2015



Rich & Carol Nelson, Washington, D.C. - 2013



**MCB 2 Seabee Reunion 2013 - Washington D.C.**

Back row, L-R: 1. Jack Robertson, 2. Scott Williams, 3. Mal Pearson, 4. Rich Nelson, 5. Stuart Hood, 6. Jack Schrader, 7. Ralph Burnley. Middle row, L-R: 8. Paul Schell, 9. Pat Badgett, 10. Vic Jaccino, 11. Roger Germundson, 12. Ray Sorrentino, 13. Stiles Stevens. Bottom row, seated, L-R: 14. John Petronka, 15. David Haines, 16. Ralph Heitt, 17. Sam Ragusa, 18. Alex 'Cat' Borys, 19. Vince Ryan, 20. Pete Elliott, 21. George Gustin, 22. Bob Hart. We had a mix of MCB 2, MCB 3, CBMU 1,



Left: Clorinda & Pete Elliott, Washington, D.C. - 2013

Right: Geri and John Petronka, Washington, D.C. - 2013





## From Previous Reunions



Mary and Sam Ragusa, Washington, D.C. - 2013



L-R: All CBMU 1/101: Vi Bowdler, Darlene Wilcoxon, Rodney White, Bill Wilcoxon, Elaine Hauser-Hart; Seattle, WA - 2011



Ken Chew and Viki Pound; Seattle, WA - 2011



Betty Williams, Jack Schrader, Ralph Heitt; Seattle, WA - 2011



L-R: Don McLain, Phyllis Schell Moynihan, Paul Schell, Trish Schell Luce, Paula Schell, Pam Schell Bennett, Larry Stevenson; Seattle, WA - 2011

# Why Clocks Run Clockwise

(And Some Watches And Clocks That Don't)

source hodinkee.com (edited for length)

The first thing most of us notice about clocks and watches when we learn to tell time, is that the hands turn clockwise – the habit of perceiving clockwise motion as a representation of the forward movement of time is deeply ingrained; so much so that once having learned it, most of us cease to notice it at all. Theoretically, we could just as easily tell time if they went from right to left, so why do clock and watch hands overwhelmingly have rightward, or clockwise, motion? Why is there no period in history where anticlockwise and clockwise rotation competed for supremacy?

The explanation is somewhat obscure, but a likely explanation (and one often cited) is that if you happen to be in the northern hemisphere, and you stand facing the Sun's path across the sky, you'll see it describe a clockwise arc as it travels from the east, to the southern sky overhead, and finally to the west, where it sets. If you make a sundial, the shadow the sundial throws will likewise follow a clockwise course, going from west to north to east (in opposition to the path of the Sun). Early clocks, so the thinking goes, simply reflected the apparent motion of the Sun, and of the gnomon (pointer) of a sundial.

Whether this is actually true is hard to establish with absolute certainty, but there is no reason mechanically for a clockwise direction of the hands to be preferred (it is as easy to make a clock with anticlockwise motion of the hands, as clockwise) and so, the idea that the movement of clock hands was generally made to ape the motion of a sundial's shadow seems a reasonable one. There may very well be documentation to that effect somewhere in the historical record; I haven't found anything specific but it's possible that somewhere out there is a manuscript in which a clockmaker from the 1300s writes, " ... and as the sundial goeth, so shall goe ye olde hands of ye clocke, forsooth," or words to that effect.

This raises a couple of interesting further questions, which are: what did people call clockwise motion before there were clocks? The second of these is, what's so special about the northern hemisphere?

The answer to the first question is difficult; the idea that one would need to specify motion one way or the other around a circle doesn't seem to have

been very widespread prior to the development of clocks, and people simply seemed to have said left or right, in most cases. Two old terms in English exist: widdershins (counterclockwise) and deosil (clockwise) though again, these seem to originally have more had the sense of left and right rather than clockwise or counterclockwise per se.

There are a number of rather charming superstitions about clockwise and anticlockwise motion; one in Britain was that walking widdershins around a church three times was sufficient to summon the Devil and in general moving anticlockwise seems to have been considered unlucky (as an extension to the idea that anything to do with leftward motion is also unlucky; after all, the Latin for left is "sinister" and not for nothing does "right" mean both the direction, and that which is proper or correct).

As to why the relative motion of the Sun in the northern hemisphere should have come to dominate clock and watch design globally, the answer is probably that mechanical clocks were first widely developed in the northern hemisphere – a simple case of history being written by the victors (or inventors, in this case. Geography is also at work; nearly 70% of the Earth's land surface area is in the northern hemisphere as well). The subject would not have come up for many early clockmakers as many early clocks did not have hands at all, but rather, struck the hours on a bell or gong. However, that clockwise motion of clock and watch hands derives from astronomical observations in the northern hemisphere, and from the development of clock making in northern European nations, can seem culturally chauvinistic, and there have been attempts to make anticlockwise motion of the hands a standard – in 2014, Bolivia's national congress building in La Paz received a new clock whose hands move anticlockwise.

There are other public clocks with hands that move counterclockwise – one of the most famous examples is the great clock of Paolo Uccello, inside the Duomo; and in Prague, the Jewish Town Hall tower has two clocks; one has Roman numerals, and runs clockwise; the other has Hebrew letters on the dial, and runs counterclockwise.

If you want a watch with counterclockwise hands, you must expect thin pickings; for obvious reasons this is not a stock-in-trade for serious watch brands (or even semi-serious ones). However, there are a few out there. In fact Ebay is a bit of a mother lode for "backwards" watches and clocks.



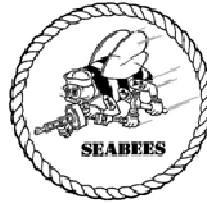
## Notes from our members:



From **Jim Stauffer**: [I had sent a note and picture of the “Marines need heroes too” to many Seabees on my email list] Thanks for the T shirts and all the good work you do. [Jim enclosed a check for the shirts.

Thanks, **Jim**]. . . . . from **Pam Schell Bennett**: Thank you for sending the shirt and cap [Pam had emailed me that dad, **Paul**, wanted a T shirt with a Navy / Seabee on the front and also a Seabee cap.] It was great seeing everyone at Las Vegas. It was the usual great reunion. We are sorry it is the last one but, like all great things, they must end. We hope to plan trip and Dad can invite all his brothers who are able and interested to join us. So, maybe the “reunion” can go on in some form. He wants to go to Port Hueneme’s All-Seabee reunion. We did get to the Grand Canyon and it was great. We’d like to go back. Let me know when you need me to proof the next Newsletter for you. That never ends. Here is a check for the cap and shirt and a little bit extra [thank you!]. Let us know when you get more shirts - the Marines and anything Seabee! . . . . . from **Frank Castelvechi**: I just thought I would drop you a line or 2. Sorry to hear about the reunions. I will keep in touch with you and probably get a couple more flags next year. I’ll keep sending dues for **Mike** as long as I am here [thank you!]. . . . . from **Clorinda Elliott**: I’m sending a check for four flags and dues for **Pete** that he got at the reunion [thanks] Thank you for all you do. We had a great time in Las Vegas. . . . . from **Howard Doyle**: I was glad to hear

that everyone had a blast at the Reunion. Sorry I missed it. I will be 86 years old in a few days and travel is largely limited to trips down memory lane. Enclosed is my check for dues



and a bit extra. I want to be a Good Guy. ]you are and will always be!] . . . . . from **Ed Carlson**: Enclosed is a check for dues plus a bit extra [thank you!]. I served in the 74th NCB from 1943 to 1946. Now, at

94 years old, I’m wondering if I’m one of the last from our battalion. I bought a depleted gravel pit after I retired and have been pushing dirt around to make land and build some buildings. Don’t ever retire. Keep working, walking and keep reading the Bible. Blessings to all. . . . . from **Carol (Chuck) Kangas**: [Carol sent a check in memory of her husband, **Chuck**] In memory of my loving husband of 62 years. . . . . from **Don Kaegebein**: I was planning to come to the reunion in Las Vegas but could not make it [we missed you!]. My wife had both knees replaced earlier in the year and was not walking very good at the time of the reunion. I am really sorry to read that there will not be any more reunions and not the printed Newsletter either [I know. It is hard to grow ‘old’ to the point we cannot get around by ourselves any longer.]. I am enclosing a check for dues to help keep thing going [thank you very much! We still have expenses that need funding and your help is needed!] Thank you for all your work. My new email address is MOKAEGEBEIN@SBCGLOBAL.NET . . . . . from **Gordon Gwathney**: [sent a check for dues plus extra. . . . . thanks!]. . . . . from **Roger Hamilton**: [sent a check for dues. . . . . thank you!]. . . . . from **C. Edner Rudolph**: First, thanks for all your work, all the years. Good job [thank you]. Now, find my check for dues plus two XL T shirts and whatever [thank you!] I’m not good with e-mail but try using rudy3@centurytel.net . . . . . from **Bob Feiereisen**: [eBay] Please send me two large Marines Need Heroes T shirts . . . . . from **David Manley**: Enclosed is my check for two XL t-shirts. I enjoyed the Newsletter! Thanks for your hard work. Can Do! . . . . . from **Hank Balconi**: [Hank is our Nevada agent for corporate papers with the Secretary of State. He was a Marine in his younger days and an old friend.] Enclosed are the annual Nevada corporate filing papers. I was glad



(Continued from page 11)



to attend your reunion this year and was saddened to read in the following Newsletter that it was the last one to be held. Nothing lasts forever, I guess!..... from **Pam (Paul Schell) Bennett**: We are both sad that we aren't going to get to see everyone every other year. It is so sad to see how few guys were able or willing to get to the reunion. I know it wasn't easy for a lot of the guys. I saw the changes in Pete Elliott and how sad he was that this was the last year. And I appreciated the kind words about the wives, children, family and friends who got guys to the event. It wasn't a hardship for us, the children. It was a privilege to be able to get Dad to that reunion and to see all of the guys, to listen to all the stories. I'm sure I am not the only child to feel that way. I want to thank all the other children, family and friends who took the time to get their own Seabee to that convention. As I said after Washington's convention, we didn't need a lot of tours, just getting to sit and listen while you guys visited and remembered was all that was needed. In a way, I think it was like after my mother passed in 2010. Dad didn't eat much, slept a lot, didn't go out more than he had to. He didn't have a reason to. That convention was a reason to keep going, to go see old comrades and to share those memories in a good way. I am proud of my father and his service to our country. I am proud of all of you for your service to our country. Without men like you, we wouldn't have this country. And as the Seabees say "CAN DO!" "WE BUILD, WE FIGHT!" As the Marines say "Semper Fi!" (Guys! Write your service history down or tell it to a young family member and have them write it down. If you don't something will be left out that is important.)..... from **Dan Svendsen**: [Dan sent a check for dues and a US flag... thanks.] ..... from **Jack Schrader**: I'm sending you a check for the 'help' fund [thank you!]. I would also like a copy of the group picture of all at the reunion that was in the Newsletter [coming right up!]. I had left my camera on the table to be used but I guess the girl missed it. Have a great holiday season!..... from **Paul Schell**: I hope this check helps



[thank you!]. We got great room rates but the rest of it hurt [yes!, and thank you]..... from **John Wilborn**: Looking back on those years, I'm pleased with myself and about decisions made.

Enclosed is a check for the 'help' fund [thank you, **John!**]..... from the **Henrichson** clan [I received a beautiful card with the Seabee emblem and a picture of the Seabees in Las Vegas] It has been a privilege to attend the last three MCB 2 reunions in my Dad's (**Duane Henrichson**) honor. As a farmer, he seldom took a vacation, but he SO looked forward to the Seabee reunions. It cannot be said enough... THANK YOU!! ... signed by **Mary Henrichson, Dean & Nancy Henrichson, Dave & Susan (Henrichson) Miller, Greg Henrichson, Julie Henrichson, Kevin Henrichson, Joel & Amy (Henrichson) Moline**..... from **Peg Forman**: [bought 2 T shirts.]..... from **Rex Roark**: I am so sorry it has come to this. I hope this check helps [thank you!]...... from **Carl Roesler**: [eBay T shirt buyer] Thanks. They look great! Have a great Thanksgiving..... from Capt. (CEC) **J.R. MacCloskey**: [Seabee on-line friend. Bought two T shirts]..... from **Wayne & Nancy Heple**: SALUTE! Well done! Great Reunion. **Nancy** and I thank you so much for the opportunity to attend the reunion. Great friendships renewed and fellowship. The enclosed Seabee Song: I have an original copy. We made a copy for you [thank you!] just in case you may not have one. The picture was in our email upon our return home. WOW! Very nice. It is framed and on the wall. Thank you again for all your kindness. PS: We were arrested at the airport because of the gift we received at the banquet. We thought it was a pen light but hidden in the handle were two small knives... "OOPS"! Because of my new Seabee hat, he just smiled and, after a short lecture and stating we could not take it on the plane, he took it out of our suitcase and wished us well..... from **Jim Green**: Thanks for all you do. I couldn't



make it to Las Vegas. Not much fun without **Shirley** being there too. She had a pacemaker installed two years ago. She's OK and stays with our daughter in

(Continued from page 12)



Florida [**Jim** sent a help check. Thank you!]...... from **Sam Holsomback**: Hope all is well and you “keep telling the story!” I am getting my 2018 dues in on time, I think! Plus some extra [thank you!]. It is good to hear about everyone and as for me, I can walk a mile in 20 minutes - mighty good for an old man! Hope you are staying warm with all the snow and have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year [thank you!] ..... from **Mal Pearson**: Not late with dues this time! [yaay!] You know what to do with the rest [thanks!] Hope it helps and others come thru! No winter weather here in our area yet. Hope we haven't been forgotten! Ha! Ha! **Margaret** is doing well. Give The Boss a little hug for me! [I can do that, and thanks for the help]...... from [**Ralph**] **Earl Presson**: [Sent dues plus some extra... thanks!]...... from **Vic Jaccino**: [Sent a check for a cap and T shirt plus extra... Thanks!]...... from **Bob & Elaine Hart**: All is well here and **Bob** and I want you to have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year [thank you and we hope to]. **Bob** is improving from his sciatic nerve problem that he has been fighting since October. He is finally able to walk with a cane. **Bob** wants you to take this check and add it to the Seabee account to help with the bills [thank you!]. The weather map enclosed is why we live in western Nebraska, **Bob** says. Our weather has been exceptional so far this time of year. I know we probably will get it later. Take care and thanks for all you do..... from **Jack Schrader**: Thanks for the pictures. One problem. The group picture you sent doesn't have me sitting on the deck in front of **Pete** and next to his daughter. The picture of the group in the Newsletter is the one I wanted [I'll get it right, **Jack**] I want to thank you for all the great work you have done for our group. Also, I want to let you know that although we didn't have as big a group as we have always had, I'll remember this reunion was a great event. Here's wishing you and your family a great holiday season. PS: Here's a check for dues and some help [thank you!]...... from **Mal Pearson**: I thought you might find this interesting [**Mal** sent the obituary that was printed in the paper and repro-

duced on page 5.] **Stlies** got around. All is well here..... from **Mary Henrichson**: [**Mary** sent a nice Christmas card with dues in memory of **Duane**. Thank you very much.]...... A Christmas card from a Seabee friend in Las Vegas, **Norm Pratt**..... from **Bob Colquhoun**: [Sent a check for dues plus extra. Thank you!]...... I received cards and checks from **John Petronka (Geri)**, and **Howard Cornwell**..... That's all the letters, folks. I'll get another Newsletter out as soon as I get enough letters from you! And thanks to all who helped with our unexpected expenses! We should be OK but I still need your dues to keep us going. Scott

## Exercise program

A manager has to take on some sport by his doctor's orders so he decides to play tennis. After a couple of weeks his secretary asks him how he's doing. "It's going fine", the manager says. "When I'm on the court and I see the ball speeding towards me, my brain immediately says: 'To the corner! Back hand! To the net! Smash! Go back!'"

"Really? What happens then?" the girl asks enthusiastically.

"Then my body says: 'Who? Me? Don't talk nonsense!'"

## Success is getting up, one more time.

## A Survey of US Army Uniforms, Weapons and Accoutrements

I recently ran across this 2007 document written by an old Army friend David Cole, a professional military historian. The document runs 133 pages and is quite large (over 7MB). Fascinating reading on line or to download.

[https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey\\_uwa.pdf](https://history.army.mil/html/museums/uniforms/survey_uwa.pdf)

## When a Con Man Calls

source AARP Magazine

Eighty-five percent of adults are confident they can spot an imposter (con man), but a survey by AARP found most flunked their “Imposter IQ” test.

Never accept a pitch and never give any information to a stranger – on the phone, in person or over the Internet – without first independently verifying that it’s legitimate. If you answer the phone (or get an email or a stranger says any of these lines, the very highest probability is it’s a scam.

- “I’m calling from the courthouse, you missed jury duty, pay \$xxx or go to jail.”
- “As a dog lover you should know we just got a litter of purebred pups, and. . .”
- “We will shut off your electricity in 24 hours if you don’t pay \$xxx on your bill immediately. . .”
- “You have unclaimed property with our State, simply pay a fee of \$xxx and we will release. . .”
- “As a major ticket vendor, we can get you seats for. . .”
- “There’s a problem with your checking account, please verify your account numbers. . .”
- “I’m from the lottery, you just won \$1 million, simply pay \$xxx in taxes and fees now. . .”
- “Your doctor recommended I call, our capsules are guaranteed to cure (whatever you have) simply pay. . .”
- “We’re raising money for police and fire-fighters injured on the job, how much will you donate. . .”
- “This is the IRS, you owe taxes and are at risk of jail time unless you pay \$xxx to settle the account. . .”
- “I’m from VA, as a veteran you are entitled to benefits, I just need to know the following. . .”
- “Grandma (or grandpa), I’m in trouble and I need you to send me \$xxx right now. . .”

Want more information? go to:

[www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork)

## MAKE A NOTE! ADDRESS CORRECTION

Virginia Stevens  
10 Longwood Dr, Suite 132  
Westwood, MA 02090  
(781) 326-7152  
CBMU 1/101

Don Kaegebein email address  
mokaegebein@sbcglobal.net

C. Edner Rudolph email address:  
rudy3@centurytel.net

## *Our Fallen Comrades*

Charles A. Kangas	MCB 2	8/27/17
Daniel J. Millett	MCB 2	11/27/17
Joseph C. Sitkowski	MCB 2	11/11/17
Stiles F. Stevens	CBMU 101	12/3/17
Herbert W, ‘Bud’ Wheless	CBD 1804	9/20/17

*May they live on in our memories*

## 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

# The Good Guy List

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## For 2018

John Bloem, Bill Body, Dave Budworth, William Burns, Edwin L. 'Shorty' Campbell, Pat Carey, Ed Carlson, Bennie Carlson, Mike Castelveccchi, Ken Catchpole, Chuck Chapman, Bob Colquhoun, Roy Cone, Ballard Credeur, Mary Dick (for all the Good Guys), Doug Emond, Al Erb, Richard Farbo, Frank Fibich, Richard Forster, Jack Foster, Yvonne Fowler (in memory of Bob Fowler) Meredith, Claude Garcenot, Robert Graf, John Grasz, Jim Green, Gordon Gwathney, Pauline (in memory of Charlie) Hagemann, Roger Hamilton, Ruth (in memory of Alex) Hamilton, Robert Hart, Ralph Heitt, Mary (in memory of Duane) Henrichson, Wayne Heple, Althea (in memory of Jerry) Herr, Juanita (in memory of Leonard [Hersh]) Hershberger, Erling Husby, Vic Jaccino, Joe (Frenchie) Jandreau, Sharon (in memory of Larry) Jessop, Sharon (in memory of Ambrose) Johnson, Carol (in memory of my loving husband of 62 years Charles) Kangas, Duane Keech, Denise King (in memory of her Dad, Don Truskey), John Kolasz, Betty (in memory of Emil) Krygier, H.A. 'Herb' Liverman, Lloyd Madison, Ivan Majetic, Bob Markey, Don McLain, Bobby McMillan, Charles Minert, Joe O'Brien, Mal Pearson, John Petronka, Earl Presson, Sam Ragusa, Gary Rawlings, Rex Roark, C. Edner Rudolph, Paul Schell, Jack Schrader, Stoney Serrett, Bill Sharp, Jack Schrader, Dick Skillicorn, Alice (in memory of Ray) Sonnen, Marian (in memory of Clyde) Stenholm, Stiles Stevens, Lucy (in memory of Lee) Stevens, John Stock, Willie Struecker, Judy (in memory of Richard) Todd, Rodney White, John Wilborn, Scott Williams, R.G. 'Pete' Williams, and Bill Wisnowski.

Everyone listed here have their dues paid at least through 2017, 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 25, 2017. There are currently 75 paid up members through 2017 from

a mailing list of 212 and over 250 by email. If dues have not been sent for at least three years, they do not receive the Newsletter by mail. There are 674 names on the full member roster (21 pages). The Newsletter is sent primarily by email. If you or a son or daughter have an email address and you wish to receive the Newsletter by email, please send an email to Scott at [williash@aol.com](mailto:williash@aol.com). Online, you will get the Newsletter with color pictures if they are in the original, which is

**The best cure for sea  
sickness, is to sit  
under a tree.**

## Who to contact about your dues

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

e-mail: [williash@aol.com](mailto:williash@aol.com)

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

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

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

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

# MCB 2 Reunion Association, Inc.

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

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