



NMCCB-8 NEWSLETTER



– U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION EIGHT –

Volume 16-Issue 2 — October 2016

JAMES O MILLER UTP2
NMCB 8 2/6/67
DIED TAM KY VIETNAM

RAY L WILLIAMS BUR2
NMCB 8 3/13/67
DIED CHU LAI VIETNAM

MICHAEL D ESTOK BUR3
NMCB 8 5/13/67
DIED CHU LAI VIETNAM

HARRY H MIDDAGH UT
NMCB 8 4/25/68
DIED BUNG KAN THAILAND

LOREN F STUDER SWF2
NMCB 8 5/31/68
DIED TAN MY VIETNAM

RUDDY P KRISMAN
NMCB 8 7/10/68
DIED PHU BAI VIETNAM

WILLIAM C LEGAT BU1
NMCB 8 10/30/69
DIED DANANG VIETNAM



WELL, ONCE AGAIN WE HAD AN OUTSTANDING REUNION IN SAN DIEGO. I can't say enough, about the effort put out by everyone involved. I want to thank Rick Clark, Ron Sabbatis and Rick Reese for all the

ground work involved in coordinating and implementing such a great reunion. I also want to thank Sally Boggs and Leslie Haws for their work in planning the ladies' luncheon. It's always a great pleasure to visit with our Seabee brothers their wives and guests. It was a special honor to have Master Chief Jim Daniels join us this year. At each reunion a few Seabees show up who haven't attended before. It's a credit to those of you who pass the word between reunions. As the years go on, we realize time is fleeting and we must take time to appreciate those dear to us.

We were very fortunate to have two esteemed warrior and patriot guest speakers that served with the SEALs—SEAL Captain Bob Rohrbach (Ret.) and SEAL Master Chief Kirby Horrell (Ret.). We thank you.

Captain Rohrbach spoke about his mission of recovering the Apollo 11 Space Capsule (with Neil Armstrong aboard) after the “Splashdown”—very fascinating and educational.

Captain Rohrbach and his two sons are the only family in SEAL history to have a father and two sons in SEALs. All three have been CO's of separate SEAL teams—amazing.

SEAL TEAM Master Chief Kirby Horrell spoke of his harrowing exploits in VIETNAM—including his assignment with the CIA's Phoenix Program—educational, gritty and entertaining.

During our association meeting on the last day of the reunion all the officers were reelected for another two years. I want to thank the members for their support and hope we, your working board, can continue to provide the association with the same service.

The newsletter and the reunion are the heart and soul of our association. Again I want to thank Ken Bingham for his work as the Newsletter Editor and Treasurer.

—Continued on next page.



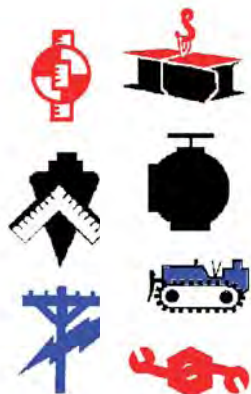
Guest Speaker & SEAL Captain Bob Rohrbach.



Guest Speaker & SEAL Master Chief Kirby Horrell.



Master Chief Jim Daniels— A three-war Seabee Vet and Purple Heart Recipient.



—POOLSIDE BARBECUE—

—Continued From Front Page

Harry Davis brought up the fact that 2017 is the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Seabees during WWII. Next year there will be a lot of festivities throughout the country celebrating this event. As information becomes available as to the celebrations, we will post information on the NMCB-8 website. Harry also reminded us that the NMCB-8 Association will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2019.

The Board also voted to have our next reunion in Boston two years from now in September 2018. I will be preparing and coordinating the details for this reunion in the coming months. When we get the dates and location confirmed, we will let everyone know so please keep an eye on the website.

It was brought up that some members could not open the roster on the website. The password is **8cando**. Please check out both rosters (1) Master List of All Known Personnel; (2) NMCB-8 Paid Members Roster. Let Ron Dougal know of any changes. Ron and Carol Dougal have been doing a great job of tracking everyone down and getting addresses and phone numbers for the roster.

We should have pictures from the San Diego reunion on the web soon. Please keep checking. In case you forgot the website address is <http://www.nmcb8.com/>.

Again I want to thank our association officers and special project personnel. Without them this outfit would not be what it is today. We show respect for one another and have great pride in the traditions of the Seabees.

—YOUR PRESIDENT, ARNIE CICERONE



Clockwise; Paula Davis, Rick Clark, Nilsa Clark, Jackie &r, Ken Kerr & Dee Bloom.



Clockwise; John C. (Moose) Malmos, Dennis Layman, Joan Layman, Mary Moriarty, Jim Moriarty, Frank (Speedy) Gonzales.



Clockwise; Pat Bingham, Nancy Thede, Gary Thede, Tom Anglier, Dan Epplert, Jim Wasson, Linda Hedden, Pat Dautel.



Clockwise; Carol Dougal, Ron Dougal, Jim Daniels, Jon Irwin, Ron Vietmeir, Helen Adams, Dennis Stanfill, Betty Stanfill.





Clockwise; Sally Boggs, Ron Sabbatis, Leslie Sabbatis, Arnie Cicerone, Rick Reese, Gina Fisher, Craig Fisher, Gil Gilbertson, Billy Boggs



Clockwise; Lou Drapeau, Jim Albers, Erline Albers, Pam Payton, Steve Payton, Jennifer Albers, Teena Cheely.



Clockwise; Brenda Rosengrant, Bob Rosengrant, Jane Olsen, Bob Olsen, Ken Kelton, Sue Kelton.



WE THANK THE MCB-8 SEABEES THAT MADE THE REUNION HAPPEN:

L-R

- Ron Sabbatis
- Rick Clark
- Rick Reese
- Arnie Cicerone.



Back Row L-R: Lou Drapeau, Lou Beland, Steve Frankum, R. Vatalaro.
 Front Row L-R: Rick Clark, Harry Davis, Dr. Hazouri, Ken Kerr, Skip Dautel.



LTJG Sherman W. Dautel,
 Company Commander

LTJG R. D. Vatalaro

ENS L. C. Drapeau

LCDR H. P. Davis

DR. G. G. Hazouri

DR. K. E. Kerr

ENS R. D. Clark

LTJG John A. Schroeder

ENS L. E. Beland

Rick Clark



John Schroeder
 Came in Later.

M
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“—The battalion had about 1,000 enlisted and about 25-27 officers (about 2-1/2 %), so I guess 11 out of 41 (27%) to show up here was pretty good” —Harry Davis.



Rick & Nilsa Clark.



Lou Beland.



Paula Davis with Jackie Kerr



The "IDLE RICH" at the Coronado Hotel,
Gary & Nancy Thede.



WO1 Ronald Vietmeier Asst.
Co. Commander 1968.



↔ Ron Vietmeier; John Schroeder.



Trish Beland & Nancy Thede.



Dan Epplett, Steve Frankum, Nancy & Gary Thede, Lou Beland.



September 27, 2016
Gil Gilbertson with Tom Angier on Midway Aircraft Carrier.



Steve Frankum and your editor/treasurer Ken Bingham on the Midway.



SW1 ROBB RUDDLUFF, (ON THE RIGHT) AND HIS TEAM, VOLUNTEERED on their own time to scan the Seabee Statue in front of the Needham Theater (PORHUE).

Rudluff was also instrumental in 3D scanning of the Washington Seabee Memorial. Mora is holding a piece of the Seabee Memorial. It, along with the rest of the monument/statues, will be replicated in bronze for the Seabee Museum Gift shop. —Thank you Robb. kb

L-R, EN1 (SW) Hampton, Jay Curtis, BMI Mora, Christine and Team Leader SW1 (SCW) Rudluff, Robb,

Shown Below Are Images From The 2015 Reunion— by Bob Rosengrant. For More Images See Our Website At— <http://www.nmcb8.Com/>



—Seabees and the *Secret War* in Laos—

“—IN HIS DRIVE TO GET THINGS DONE Major Aderholt never let hurdles like regulations or protocol stand in the way. Once, when Admiral Felt’s headquarters asked how it could be of assistance, Aderholt said that he needed help in developing STOL [*Short take off and landing*] sites. He failed to mention that the sites were in Laos. CINCPAC deployed a Seabee detachment to Takhli [Thailand], thinking it was to be used in Thailand. As soon as the Seabees arrived, Aderholt flew them to Laos to extend the landing strip at Sam Thong [Laos] (Lima site 20), without obtaining embassy approval or documentation. After construction had been underway for several days, Admiral Felt was amazed to learn that the detachment was in Laos without authorization. He sent a message pulling them out.”

—From the book, *Air Commando One: Heinie Aderholt and America’s Secret Air Wars* By Warren A. Trest

“—Again, the first U.S. military engineers on the Laos scene were the Seabees. They were a Seabee detachment, the Zorro Team, which arrived in 1959. Zorro Teams I and II deployed to Laos to perform work for OICC Thailand doing work in Laos.

The first part of the Team was deployed into Laos under [SEABEE] Warrant Officer Herman W. Filbry. The group had the mission of exploring the upper reaches of the Mekong to check for sites for possible barge and river supply bases if future military operations should involve this area.

The Zorro work included grading and rehabilitation of the Wattay airstrip, and roads on the outskirts of Vientiane, the largest city and administrative capital.

Another part of the original 60-man Zorro team was called Zorro II. Zorro II was slightly smaller and it was deployed in Thailand [LAOS], on a secret job. Like Zorro 1, it was made up of Seabees from NMCB-9, NMCB-10 and NMCB-11. Like Z-I, Z-II was not a regular Seabee unit, but a special group made up especially for the mission.—”

—From the book, *Southeast Asia Building The Bases and MCB 11 Records.*



—Notes From Your Editor—

IF THE REUNION PICTURES ARE ASSIGNED WRONG NAMES, please contact me for corrections. I’ll update the images/ names in the next newsletter. (*People move around and I make mistakes.*)

RECENT SEABEE MUSEUM STORE VOLUNTEER WORK has rendered 3D files of the Seabee Monument in Washington D.C. We also 3D scanned the Statue in front of the Needham Theater at PORHUE.

Plastic 3D printouts will facilitate miniature bronze casting (*lost wax method*) models of each. Hopefully they will be ready in time for Christmas. They will be offered for sale at the Museum Store. (*See article on page opposite*)



I ENCOURAGE YOU TO DONATE to the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation. They need our support to maintain their Seabee Missions. <http://www.seabeehf.org>—1-228-865-0480

I ALSO ENCOURAGE YOU to donate to the 75th Anniversary fund. The Seabees’ 75th is in March 2017 and they need *beaucoup dong* (\$) for the Gala Events.

<http://www.seabee75.org/support>

—If We Don’t, Who Will?—

FROM CAPTAIN BILL HILDERBRAND, PRESIDENT, CEC/SEABEE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION.

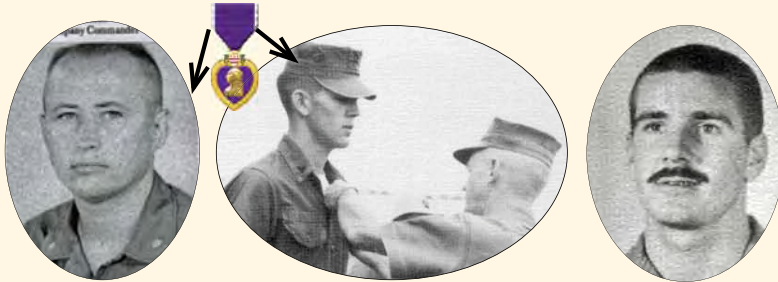
”—A huge “THANK YOU” to EIGHT for the continued support. On the Campaign side, this will take EIGHT over the \$30,000 point in their support for the Museum.— “



NEW LOGO FOR THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY



WE THANK OUR ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENTS—BOTH PAST AND PRESENT. L-R, GORDEN GILMORE (deceased), KEN KERR, Rick Reese ARNIE CICERONE.



AND
WE THANK OUR ASSOCIATION'S EDITORS—BOTH PAST AND PRESENT:
L-R, HARRY DAVIS, JACK QUINN-DENNIS AND KEN BINGHAM.



AND—OUR TREASURERS:
TOP TO BOTTOM: LONE RANGER,
BATMAN, ZORRO
AND HOPALONG CASSIDY.

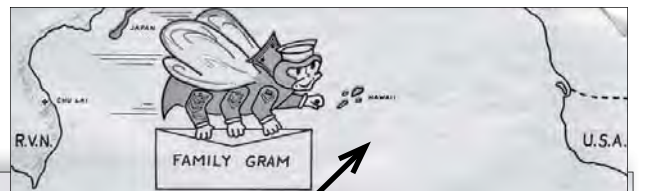


— Take-It-Away Paula Davis —

We're the Seabees of the Navy
We can build and we can fight
We'll pave the way to victory
And guard it day and night
And we promise that we remember
The "Seventh of December"

We're the Seabees of the Navy,
Bees of the Seven Seas.

*Words by Sam M. Lewis
Music by Peter de Rose*



Chu Lai, RVN
11 April 1967

Dear Families and Friends of MCB EIGHT:

On Sunday, 2 April, I relieved CDR P.A. Phelps as Commanding Officer in an impressive ceremony at our camp here in Chu Lai. The Battalion was in formation, the First Marine Air Wing Band provided music, and many guests from other MCBs and Marine units attended. Our April issue of the Newsletter should include pictures.

I am very proud to have command of an organization with the ability and spirit of MCB EIGHT, and am pleased to be serving with your husbands and sons. I hope to soon get to know each of them and look forward to meeting many of you on our return to homeport.

It is mid-deployment, the weather is good, and our construction pace is going strong. We are currently working on 56 projects including a milk reconstitution plant, a 120' timber bridge, a fire station, two large aircraft hangars, a hospital complex, and many metal Butler buildings. The men of EIGHT are constantly proving to be among the best, and have an unexcelled reputation among the Marines. You can be proud of their service to our country.

The Battalion sports program has been successful and fun, with volleyball and basketball league play completed and softball starting now. With the warm weather, our nearby beach will also be a great asset on Sunday afternoons.

It's been a good deployment so far. Your letters, though, can make the difference. I urge you to write often.

You can expect to hear from me through this Familygram again in the near future.

May God be with each of you.

Sincerely

J.F. O'Leary
J.F. O'LEARY
Commanding

STILL ALIVE

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
 I am not there. I do not sleep.
 I am a thousand winds that blow. I am the
 diamond glints on snow.
 I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
 I am the gentle Autumn's rain.
 When you awaken in the morning's hush.
 I am the swift uplifting rush of quiet birds
 in circling flight.
 I am the soft star that shines at night. Do
 not stand at my grave and weep, I am not
 there. I do not sleep.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DENNIS VAUGHN McCORD
 BORN
 Susanville, California Septem-
 ber 6, 1946
 ENTERED INTO REST
 Vacaville, California Septem-
 ber 11, 2016
 AGE 70 Years 5 Days

—Chaplain's Corner

Brotherhood

OUR BROTHERHOOD IS MORE IMPORTANT as we age. The bond that we forged throughout our history as Seabees is as solid as ever. As our reunions come and go over the years, we are so privileged to see different parts of this incredible country that we swore to defend. I am continually in awe of the wonder and beauty that is all around us. As I am writing this, I would like each of us to stop and ask ourselves how we can make a difference for our fellow man. How can we encourage peace, justice, and love right where we live? There is no reason it cannot begin with us. And, as with all things of this sort, it begins within our own families. As leaders of our families, let us set the example of this attitude and execute it with the "Can Do" spirit that we all have.

In the love of Christ, —Billy

DO YOU REMEMBER THE NIGHT WHEN?

IT WAS SO GREAT TO SEE SO MANY OF YOU HERE in San Diego after nearly 50 years. The reminiscing of so many of our experiences together in-country seemed never-ending.

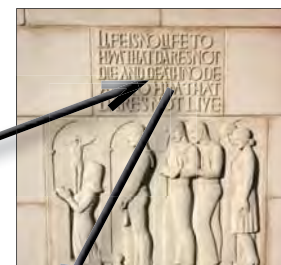
One such memory, however, occurred for many of us while back here in the States during our home port between the Chu Lai and Hue-Phu Bai deployments.

Part of our combat/weapons training consisted of a couple of weeks at Camp Pendleton, just north of San Diego. The last day and night, December 13, 1967, consisted of a bivouac exercise where we would attack a hill (with marines being the bad guys), set up camp and stay the night. Busses were scheduled to pick us up the following morning and take us directly back to Port Hueneme. Early that evening, however, it started to snow and we were freezing! Since we were not prepared for such cold weather, before midnight Captain O'Leary decided to call the busses to take us directly back to Hueneme that night.

Forty years later, on December 13, 2007 the San Diego Union Tribune wrote an article entitled "The Day It Snowed In San Diego". Comments included surfers who encountered snowflakes landing on them and one longtime resident was quoted, "We all remember where we were when John Kennedy was assassinated, when Neil Armstrong walked on the moon and the night it snowed in San Diego"!

On Monday of this reunion, the official temperature was well over 100 degrees, one of the very hottest in San Diego History..... So MCB8 was involved in both ends of the San Diego thermometer.

—Rick Clark



**"LIFE IS NO LIFE TO HIM THAT DARES
 NOT DIE,
 AND DEATH NO DEATH TO HIM THAT
 DARES NOT LIVE."**

—SIR HENRY NEWBOLT.

NEEDHAM THEATER STATUE, PORHUE



Seabee Marvin Shields, Medal Of Honor Recipient for action at Special Forces Camp, Dong Xoai Vietnam, June 9, 1965.

— SEABEES WHO WERE STILL IN SAIGON AT THE TIME OF EVACUATION—

- BU-1 Thomas Harold Hoge. (Passed on 20015?)
- UTC James E. Martin, Jr. (Still verifying.)

—From Ken Crouse - Folsom, CA via Bruce MacDougal.



OPERATION DEEP FREEZE '64

PRESENTED

BY

TOM ANGIER, MCB-8



For more info on Antarctica see: <https://www.navalhistory.org/2013/02/01/february-1-1955-task-force-43-commissioned-to-plan-and-execute-operation-deep-freeze>.

Joe, Mike, Tom Angier, Bob, Tony, Mac, Duke. (If you have last names that I can match to faces please send to jorden2323@msn.com -kb

IN 1955, SEABEES BEGAN DEPLOYING YEARLY to the continent of Antarctica. As participants in Operation Deep Freeze, their mission was to build and expand scientific bases located on the frozen continent. The first "wintering over" party included 200 Seabees who distinguished themselves by constructing a 6,000-foot (1,800 m) ice runway on McMurdo Sound. Despite a blizzard that once destroyed the entire project, the airstrip was completed in time for the advance party of Deep Freeze II to become the first to arrive at the South Pole by plane.

added to their list of accomplishments such things as snow-compacted roads, underground storage, laboratories, and living areas. One of the most notable achievements took place in 1962, when the Navy's builders constructed Antarctica's first nuclear power plant, at McMurdo Station.

During the Cold War, the Seabees undertook a number of other missions, including constructing the Distant Early Warning Line in the Arctic. Again operating often under extreme conditions, the Seabees successfully completed every mission assigned to them.

Over the following years and under adverse conditions, Seabees

—Wikipedia



55,000 gallon water tank and interior view of the salt water distillation plant.



MCB8 Detachment Bravo in Operation Deep Freeze 63 in Antarctica

by
Hank Campbell



SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MORE IMAGES

In July 1963 MCB8 Detachment Bravo of about 40 men left Davisville, RI for Christ Church, NZ. We flew on a C-121 Super Constellation aircraft by way of California, Hawaii and several smaller islands.

Our job in Christ Church was to rehab some old World War II buildings at the airport. Sometime in October, we boarded a C-130 aircraft, fitted with skis for our flight to McMurdo Station, Antarctica, where we had to wait for the weather to cooperate for the last leg of our trip to South Pole Station.

While at McMurdo Station, we worked on a new warehouse building and several small projects. On November 23, 1963, news came over the teletype that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated. That was a shock for everyone!

When the weather finally cleared, the 40 of us and our equipment were loaded on a C-130 and left for the South Pole Station. This was a different kind of place than any of us had ever seen. We were at almost 10,000 feet above sea level, it was perfectly flat and daylight 24 hours a day, with a temperature of about minus 25-mi-

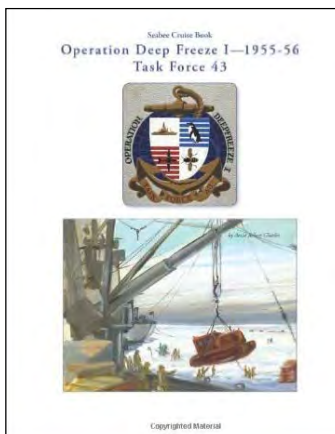
nus 30 degrees. Keep in mind that this was summer temperatures.

During our time at the South Pole Station we built what we call a wonder arch tunnel for storage, rebuilt the mess hall and galley, worked on a new generator building and built two communication towers. There was little time for recreation, but we did have a football game with US Antarctic Research Program civilians. On Christmas there was a Catholic mass with Archbishop Francis Cardinal Spellman and a Protestant service with Rear Admiral, Floyd Dreith.

When our projects were done in early March, we boarded a C-130 for McMurdo Station to meet up with the rest of the Battalion and then on to Christ Church for a week or so of R & R.

After our R & R, it was time to head back to the USA. We boarded a MATS C-135 Stratolifter for the long flight back to Quonset Point, RI. This ended our time with Operation deep Freeze 63 and Task Force 43.

*Henry Campbell, BUL3
Detachment Bravo MCB8 63*



For more stories about cold Seabees, these books are available at the Seabee Museum Gift Shop (805-382-2585) <http://seabeesmuseum-store.org/store>. Or, at Amazon Books.

Continued from previous page.



Cardinal Spellman at the South Pole station.



Half Mast.



McMurdo Station.



Communication Towers.



Wonder Arch.

MCB8 Detachment Bravo in Operation Deep Freeze 63 in Antarctica

by Hank Campbell

Thanks Hank—kb



TV Host Mike Rowe Builds with the 'Bees. —February 26, 2015



Mike Rowe (center), host of CNN's "Somebody's Gotta Do It," congratulates EO3 (SCW) Joshua D. Earhart, NMCB 1, after receiving his *Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist Qualification*. NMCB 1 hosted Rowe during Operation Bearing Duel, Camp Shelby, Miss.



"I was going to tell you about the many physical challenges of the day, and rave about the skill and work ethic of these extraordinary people. But at the moment, I'm preoccupied by their physical toughness and refusal to complain. These men and women have been quartered here for the last two weeks in "teacups," tiny one-man pup-tents that sit in the mud. As I ride to a nice hotel in

New Orleans with delicious heat blasting onto my frozen feet and into my frosty face, these guys are hunkering down for another evening of 5-star luxury under the invisible stars, in a place the Mississippi Tourism Bureau doesn't feature in their brochures. And if tomorrow is anything like today, there will be no quarter, and no complaining.

If you want to feel good about the skilled trades, and the future of the country, reacquaint yourself with The Seabees. Or better yet, just say thanks. They'll appreciate it. And if you're looking for a comfortable corner office with reliable climate control, look somewhere else."



Advance Party to Danang 1965

From Antarctica to Vietnam.



Line Crew Danang RVN 1965-66. Back row L-R: Jim Woods, Andy Ditori, Bill Reed, Ron Cottman & Bob LaGore. Front L-R: John Barber, Tom Angier, John Penezic.



Line Crew: L-R: Tom Angier and Jim Woods.



On Ground: L-R: Chief Cottman & Jim Woods.

**MORE
FROM
TOM ANGIER, MCB-8**

(SEE PAGE 10)

—EXPOSURE TO AGENT ORANGE IN VIETNAM—

For the purposes of VA compensation benefits, Veterans who served anywhere in Vietnam between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975 are presumed to have been exposed to herbicides, as specified in the Agent Orange Act of 1991.

These Veterans do not need to show that they were exposed to Agent Orange or other herbicides in order to get disability compensation for diseases related to Agent Orange exposure.

- AL Amyloidosis
- Chronic B-cell Leukemias
- Chloracne (or similar acneform disease)
- Diabetes Mellitus Type 2
- Hodgkin's Disease
- Ischemic Heart Disease
- Multiple Myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Parkinson's Disease
- Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset
- Porphyria Cutanea Tarda
- Prostate Cancer

Cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men

- Respiratory Cancers (includes lung cancer)
- Soft Tissue Sarcomas

Note, If you haven't already done so, you should consider registering with the VA. At our age, who knows what's coming down the pike.

Talk about Temperature extremes—which did you like best Tom, Antarctica or Vietnam? (See page 10.)



GIVING BACK IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME, but I only take on causes I truly believe in. I wanted to support the Seabees but first needed to know more. They brought me out to tour their facilities and meet the foundation's leadership team, an outstanding group of people. I was impressed with what I learned. Since their beginnings in World War II, Seabees have built roads, hospitals, schools, wells, bridges, and airstrips, supporting our troops and peacekeeping forces, often operating under enemy fire. Like a good linebacker, a Seabee tenaciously embraces a challenge, never giving up until the job is done.

Once I heard all this, I was on board. Supporting the Seabees is a natural extension of my longstanding commitment to the U.S. armed forces. I've served in the National Guard and have been privileged to go on several USO tours, traveling the globe to visit our troops. In 2003, I became the national spokesperson for the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation campaign to provide a new facility to house the Seabee museum. I was happy to sponsor four golf tournaments that raised more than \$800,000.

Coming from a vocational high school that trained for the crafts and trades, I relate to what the Seabees are: builders, masons, plumbers, carpenters, engineers, and electricians. These days everyone wants to be the boss, not the laborer building bridges and roads. The Seabees have done all this and more, serving behind the scenes with no sense of entitlement.

The CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation will celebrate the Seabees' 75th Anniversary in March 2017 with a Diamond Anniversary Campaign focused on securing funds to install major new exhibits in the museum and to spark public interest in the accomplishments of the Seabees and CEC. Please consider becoming a part of the Seabee "Can Do" heritage. Your contributions will honor their legacy and help create exhibits showcasing the many ways in which they've helped build our country and the world.

There's another reason I support this project. Throughout my life I've made a point of learning as much about technology as I can. Technology is at the heart of what the Seabees do. Their training is based on construction, engineering, and science, and never has this knowledge been more important to our country's future than it is now. Through your support you can inspire the new generation to learn these life-changing skills.

Please join me in celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of the Seabees. Let's support them as they've supported our country. There is no better way to thank them for all they have done for us, as soldiers, builders, peacekeepers, and humanitarians. —*Dick Butkus.*

<http://www.seabeehf.org>

Thinking Outside the Box: Ingenuity is Key to Seabees' Success

By Steve Forbes
Chairman and Editor-in-Chief, Forbes Media



THE U.S. NAVY SEABEES POSSESS A TRUE ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT. They're typical people who make extraordinary contributions to our country through innovation and ingenuity. They're great at multitasking too—sailors, builders, engineers, and soldiers, all at once. The word "can't" is not in their vocabulary.

I know quite a bit about the Seabees from my uncle, Wally Forbes, a former Navy Civil Engineer Corps officer. He served with Seabee battalions during the Korean War from 1949 through 1954. During this time one of the Seabees' most remarkable accomplishments was construction of a naval air station at Cubi Point, a mountainous peninsula in the Philippines. Civilian contractors were first brought in to build the base, but they said it couldn't be done—the terrain was too rugged. So the Seabees took the project over. NMCB-9, a construction battalion my uncle served with, was on the scene, along with many others. After years of hard work and literally moving mountains, the Seabees completed this base, true to their motto: "The difficult we do immediately. The impossible takes a little longer."

This kind of ingenuity and innovation has long been key to American success and prosperity. Today, in our increasingly high-tech world, it's not just what you know that counts—it's what you can do with what you know. It is more important than ever to have the knowledge to solve problems, think analytically, and process information. We gain this knowledge by studying science, technology, engineering and math—known as STEM literacy.

Here the Seabees can teach us some valuable lessons. They exemplify improvisation and learning through experimentation, and experience has demonstrated this innovation drives economic growth. The Seabees' training in STEM, construction, and engineering gives them the ability to build almost anything. On top of that, they learn efficiency, teamwork and reliability. These skills and qualities are in great demand both in the military and the civilian work world.

To celebrate their 75th Anniversary in March 2017, the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation has initiated a Diamond Anniversary Campaign to benefit the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum in Port Hueneme, CA. The campaign will raise funds to install new exhibits highlighting how the Seabees improvised, experimented, and 'thought outside the box' to accomplish great things. Young people visiting the museum will be inspired to pursue STEM literacy as a ticket to good jobs.

I've signed on as a Diamond Anniversary Campaign Ambassador to support this fundraising effort and I'd like to ask for your support as well. The Seabees' approach and work ethic fits the mood of our country right now, so the efforts to complete this museum couldn't be better timed. A contribution to this campaign will not only pay tribute to the Seabees, it will also help keep our spirit of entrepreneurship alive for future generations.

—*Steve Forbes Seabee Diamond Anniversary Ambassador*

<http://www.seabee75.org/support>

Robert Rosengrant
25747 Risen Star Drive
Wesley Chapel, FL 33544
3 May 2016

Dear Ken,

Sorry it has taken so long to update my information and bring my dues up to date. Has been a very busy year (2015) and up to now, with moving and other events too detailed to go into.

At any case, please find enclosed an updated information for the roster and a check for \$30.00 which I hope is enough to bring my membership up to date. Looking forward to the newsletter and information on the next reunion.

Sincerely,

Robert Rosengrant
Robert Rosengrant, YNC, USN, Ret.
(Last enlisted member of MCB-8)

Ken Bingham, Treasurer
1773 Tamarin Avenue
Ventura, CA 93003-6855

Dear Ken,

Please update me to Life Member. I have enclosed a check for \$100.00.

I reported to NMCB-8 as an HM3 in October 1965 and transferred as an HM1 in May 1968. I was also a member of Seabee Team 0808.

I will not be able to attend the reunion this year but should be able to next year.

V/R,

Karl E. Holland
Karl E. Holland

Ken
Inclosed find
Dues for 2015 + 2016
Thanks for the kind
words for Ron Day.

Thanks for
Everything
Ken Eisel
Aug 1963

658 Gilda Drive
St. Augustine, FL 32086
April 27, 2016

Jesse Droughn is no longer AWOL.

VENTURA DISTRICT SUPT. JESSE A. DROUGHN
DISTRICT MISSIONARY DIANE M. DROUGHN

CAMARILLO FIRST CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
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Sunday Service 11 A.M Sunday School 10 A.M



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Email: CAMFIRST@NETZERO.NET Church Phone: (805) 445-9830

1968 RVN—Bravo Company had Lynch at the coaching reins and came up with a 6 and 7 record. Leir and Bingham had the pitching chores.

5/16/2016

Ken:

I was in MCB-8 from 1961-1965, went to "A" school in Port Hueme, then to Guantanamo Cuba in September or early October to meet up with MCB 8.

I have not seen any articles in the newsletter about the "Ice". I went there in 1963 with MCB 8 from Christchurch to McMurdo and on to South Pole Station. Have many slides of both McMurdo and of South Pole Station. Was at McMurdo when President Kennedy was assassinated, and have pictures of the flag at South Pole at Half Staff.

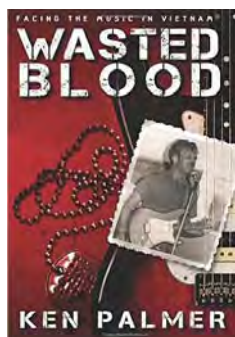
South Pole was quite an experience. It has all changed now and I don't think any of the structures we built under the snow are still there.

Keep up the good work always look forward to the Newsletter.

Sincerely,
Henry "Hank" Campbell 13063

PS Also have slides of our deployment to Bruce

New Book by Vietnam Seabee Vet Ken Palmer—



I was 21 and since high school I had been carrying around an old guitar that was my Dad's. When I came to Gulf Port, Mississippi from Boot Camp it came with me. I reported to the Construction Battalion Center awaiting the Battalion's return from Nam. While in Vietnam, I guess word got around because someone heard me, and told someone else. The rest just happened! Like a guitar player's dream, in the last place you'd expect a Rock, Country and Mo Town band in whose name alone stated how the people in our country felt at the time; to form and play and add a little more to rock n roll history in the War everyone at home was protesting. In some cases I only added a little to the story because my memory is foggy. But all events happened. I may have the sequence of the occurrences wrong, but they all happened. Other than the names of the guys in the band and our commanding officer, all names have been changed. The songs and partial lyrics were and are part of all of our lives living then, and since that time.

—Ken Palmer

Book is available from: Amazon Books,
Book Stores, or directly from Ken Palmer
at—treepalmer13@gmail.com.



**Dick Butkus ,
NFL Hall-Of Famer
And Long Time Seabee Supporter.
<http://www.seabeehf.org>**



“THE ONLY EASY DAY WAS YESTERDAY”



**Steve Forbes
Seabee Diamond 75th
Anniversary Ambassador. [http://
www.seabee75.org/support](http://www.seabee75.org/support)**



To order a copy of this painting go to: <http://www.seabeehf.org>

NMCB-8 Seabees' Association
1773 Tamarin Ave. Ventura Ca. 93003
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

To:

Note: The above numbers denotes your membership dues status (Month-Year). (Due date)

-NMCB-8 Association Roster Update-

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone & E-mail: _____

The mailing list and roster for the NMCB-8 Association needs to be continually updated. Only through a current roster can we ensure your receipt of the newsletter and information of current and future reunions. If you have had a change of address within the past year, you can update this information by filling out the above form. Please include your e-mail address, if you have one. Detach the form at the dotted line and return to: Ken Bingham, 1773 Tamarin Ave., Ventura Ca. 93003. If you have e-mail and want to make your update electronically, please do so. Send updates by e-mail to; jorden2323@msn.com.