



NMCB-8 NEWSLETTER



**U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION EIGHT –
Joint reunion with NMCB11 Charleston, SC. April 24th - 27th More information
will be available on the battalion website soon**

**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 MIDDACH UT
NMCB 8 4/25/68
DIED BUNG KAN THAILAND**

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

**RUDY P KRISSMAN
NMCB 8 7/10/68
DIED PHU BAI VIETNAM**

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



I WANT TO APOLOGIZE to Ken in getting my letter to him late.

I can't believe that we are finely getting back to somewhat normal.

I have been flying all over the place. The only thing that is still crazy is the airlines. I have been stuck in every airport throughout the country.

Our Port Hueneme reunion was a great success, even with COVID hampering travel. I don't know where Ron found the caterer but the food was by far the best we ever had.

I want to let everyone know we are looking forward to returning back to Charleston, SC for our next reunion April 24-27, 2023. We had one of the best reunions there in 2014.

There is so much history. Charleston, the South Carolina port city, founded in 1670, is defined by its cobblestone streets, horse-drawn carriages and pastel antebellum houses, particularly in the elegant French Quarter and Battery districts. The Battery promenade and Waterfront Park both overlook Charleston Harbor, while Fort Sumter, a federal stronghold where the first shots of the Civil War rang out, lies across the water. Charleston's 300+ year history cannot be told without highlighting its military significance. Military sites, include Charles Towne Landing State Historic Site, Fort Moultrie, Fort Sumter National Monument, the Charleston Navy Base and Naval Shipyard Memorial at North Charleston Riverfront Park and Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum.

Ron Sabbatis has worked hard with Larry and Liz Hagler (MCB 11) setting up our MCB 8 combined reunion with MCB 11. We are very fortunate to have this opportunity. Remember, we had one of the best times there. MCB 11 has set up a great agenda. Please go to our web site reunion to get the information and fill out the forms. Send payment back to MCB 11. Use the address on the form. Get your hotel reservations and airline tickets.

It's very special to see new members attending and seeing their expressions of joy as they reacquaint themselves with their Seabee brothers. We really have something special. Let us all remember some of our brothers need our support in the way of being together to remember the good times and forget the bad times. It's also a sad time that some of our brothers are no longer here to attend the reunion. We miss them, but will never forget them.

I want to thank the members who have sent us some extra money to keep the treasury in good order. Again, It would be of great help if all of our members who are in a position to, could send a small donation to the group. This will help with keeping the newsletter active and help with the miscellaneous costs for the reunion.

Make your Tax Deductible donation payable to: NMCB8 and send to Ken Bingham, 1773 Tamarin Ave., Ventura Ca. 93003. 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, please update this information by going to the web site NMCB8.com and send a message. —Arnie Cicerone

(Late delivery of this newsletter is also due to Ken Bingham being a "sicky." —Ken B.)



—Brothers in Arms—

by

Mark Knopfler—Dire Straits

THESE MIST COVERED MOUNTAINS
ARE A HOME NOW FOR ME
BUT MY HOME IS THE LOWLANDS
AND ALWAYS WILL BE
SOMEDAY, YOU'LL RETURN TO
YOUR VALLEYS AND YOUR FARMS
AND YOU'LL NO LONGER BURN
TO BE BROTHERS IN ARMS
THROUGH THESE FIELDS OF DESTRUCTION
BAPTISMS OF FIRE
I'VE WITNESSED YOUR SUFFERING
AS THE BATTLE RAGED HIGHER
AND THOUGH THEY DID HURT ME SO BAD
IN THE FEAR AND ALARM
YOU DID NOT DESERT ME
MY BROTHERS IN ARMS
THERE'S SO MANY DIFFERENT WORLDS
SO MANY DIFFERENT SUNS
AND WE HAVE JUST ONE WORLD
BUT WE LIVE IN DIFFERENT ONES
NOW THE SUN'S GONE TO HELL
THE MOON'S RIDING HIGH
LET ME BID YOU FAREWELL
EVERY MAN HAS TO DIE
BUT IT'S WRITTEN IN THE STARLIGHT
AND EVERY LINE IN YOUR PALM
WE'RE FOOLS TO MAKE WAR
ON OUR BROTHERS IN ARMS

"Brothers in Arms" happens to be one of the most famous songs by the British rock band Dire Straits. The lyrics of "Brothers in Arms" were purely inspired by the Falklands War of 1982.



James F. Daniels, Jr. was born March 9, 1926. He grew up in the coal-mining town of Beckley, West Virginia. In 1942, at age 16, Jim enlisted in the Navy, beginning his career as one of the original Seabees. Jim served as an Equipment Operator for 26 years, serving during World War II, Korea, and Viet Nam. He earned a Purple Heart for injuries sustained during a rocket attack in Viet Nam. He retired from the Navy with the rank of Senior Chief Petty Officer in 1969. In 2008, he received the designation of Honorary Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, one of his proudest moments.



Following his Navy career, Jim worked at the Hueneme School District for 17 years, retiring as head of maintenance. After his retirement, he was elected to the City Council in Port Hueneme, where he served for eight years, two of them as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Jim was an active member of the community until very recently, with many service and community organizations. He was an avid supporter of Naval Base Ventura County, and was beloved by many in the Naval community in Hueneme as the "Oldest Seabee".



Jim is reunited in heaven with his son Bill, who passed away in 1973 after succumbing to cancer attributed to Agent Orange; his wife Ginny, who we lost in 1999 after she had a stroke; and his daughter Brenda, who died in 2012 after battling ALS (Lou Gherig's Disease). He is survived by his granddaughters Dawne Hamilton and Robyn Eykjian (husband Nerces), his great-granddaughters Hailey Chapman (husband Jacob), Alyssa, Ariana, and Addison Eykjian, his son-in-law John Klopstein, his loving friend Kitty Hurliman, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Since Jim never met a stranger, he also leaves behind countless friends who loved and respected him deeply.

Services for Jim will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at First Presbyterian Church of Oxnard, 850 Ivywood Drive in Oxnard, beginning with a viewing at 10:00 am, and service at 11:00 am. This will be followed by a graveside service and reception at Conejo Mountain Memorial Park, 2052 Howard Rd in Camarillo at 1:00 pm.

In lieu of flowers, please remember Jim's service to country and community by making a donation in his name to the Gary Sinise Foundation or to the Shriner's Hospitals.

—JACK WILLIAMS OBITUARY—



Jackie (Jack) Williams, 80, of Bartlesville, OK passed away on August 21, 2022.

Jack was born on November 13, 1941, to Roscoe and Ellen Williams (Barnes) at the Claremore Indian Hospital. He lived in the Bartlesville area for most of his life and also lived in Dewey with his cousins Annette Ketchum and Paula Pechonick. Jack graduated from Dewey High School in 1959, where he was known as a fun-loving class clown. Jack told the story being a small kid who would escape fights, but as a bigger kid and adult, he never turned down a fight. After high school he trained as an electrician and became a proud member of the IBEW, Local 584. In 1968 he was drafted into the Navy and served two years in the Vietnam War as a proud Seabee, the Navy Construction Battalion, a brotherhood that he valued.

Jack enjoyed spending time at the lake fishing, watching football--both college and the pros (Go Sooners!). He enjoyed watching horse racing, winning games of chance, and road-tripping. Jack also loved telling stories to his friends and family. He was known for his sense of humor and tall tales.

He is survived by his partner and companion, Alison Treat, his three daughters: Sharal Dietzel of Bartlesville, Dana Williams of Glenpool, OK, and Shaunda Williams Bittner of Claremore, OK; his grandchildren: Stephanie Hoppock of Dewey, Tyler Haase of Carl Junction, MO, Audra Bittner of Mobile, AL, and Philip Wingfield II of Caney, OK; his great-grandchildren: Tyren Ricks and Mitchell Downing Jr, of Dewey, OK and Annastasha Bittner of Mobile, AL. He is preceded in death by his parents and his wife Sue Moody Williams.

A graveside service will be held on August 31st at 2pm at the Ramona Cemetery.

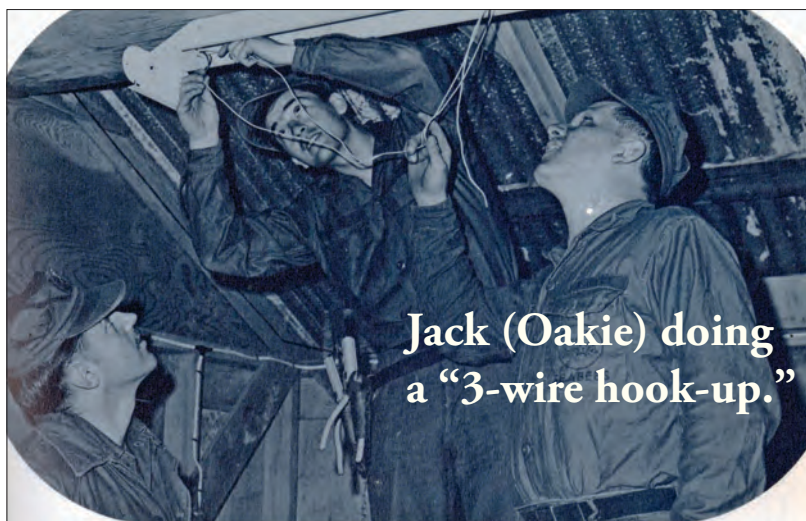
I was fortunate that Jack picked me to be on one of his detachments in 1968. Ken B.



"Okie" Jack Williams - Bartlesville, OK
"WORLD" Champion Water Buffalo Rider - Year 1968



Jack (Oakie) enjoying a nice Schlitz in the 3-hole outhouse.



Jack (Oakie) doing
a "3-wire hook-up."

C'ST LA GUERRE

Can't write a thing,
The censor's to blame.
Just say that I'm well,
And sign my name.
Can't tell where we sail from,
Can't mention the date.
And can't even number,
The meals that I ate.
Can't say where we're going,
Don't know where we'll land.
Couldn't inform you,
If met by a band.
Can't mention weather,
Can't say if there's rain.

All military secrets,
Must secrets remain.
Can't have a flashlight,
To guide me at night.
Can't smoke a cig,
Except out of sight.
Can't keep a diary,
For such is a sin.
Can't keep the envelopes,
Your letters come in.
Can't say for sure, folks,
Just what I can write.
So, I'll call this a letter,
And close with, "Good Night."

From the 5th NCB, WW II



Our 782 gear—Remember?



Seabees had some of the best mortar teams in the military.



French bunker and American sand bags on road from Phu Bai to Hue.



Dodge M37 "Weapons Carrier". 115,000 were produced between 1951-1968



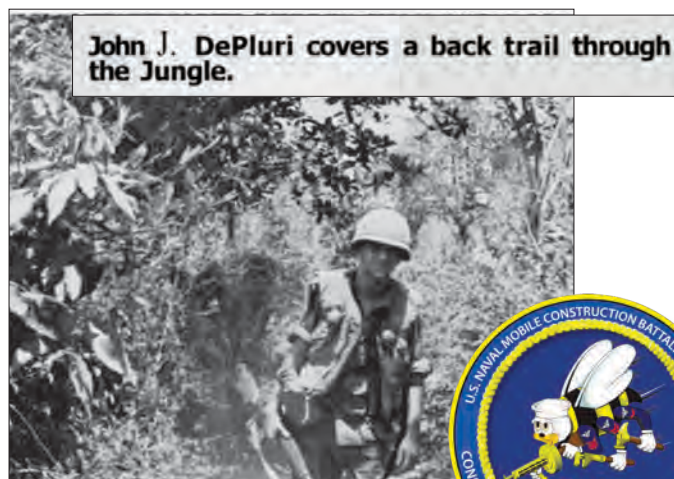
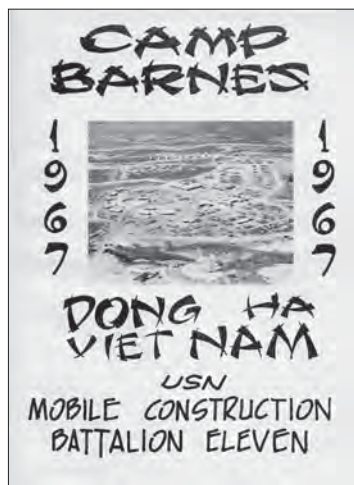
Modern Seabees assisting Africans.

"The largest and most well equipped army in the world is useless unless you can get them to where they are needed"

(Copied from a previous MCB8 Newsletter.)

NMCB 11 1953—1969

THE NMCB-11 ASSOC. INVITED MCB-8 TO JOIN WITH THEIR REUNION THIS YEAR. I THOUGHT IT APPROPRIATE TO SHARE SOME OF THEIR HISTORY. —kb



Patrolling the hedge-grove area.

JAMES LAMURE "KITE" KITELINGER PASSED AWAY on Tuesday, January 24, 2023. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy Seabees NMCB 11 from 1965 through 1969. Kite was a proud Vietnam Veteran serving 2 tours as a heavy equipment operator in the Northern I Corps Area. He received numerous medals during this time including 2 Purple Hearts. He loved to tell anyone that would listen to his stories of his time in the war.

—Submitted by John Ratomski

<https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/seabee/explore/post-wwii-cruisebooks/nmcb-cruisebooks.html>



NOTE: ALL SEABEE UNIT CRUISE BOOKS—WW II THROUGH VIETNAM— ARE AVAILABLE FREE FOR VIEWING AND DOWNLOADING AT THE WEBSITE SHOWN ABOVE. SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR CELL-PHONE AND THE BOOKS WILL APPEAR. KB

A SIGNIFICANT DATE IN NMCB-11 HISTORY. On June 9, 1965, STAT 1104 was involved in heavy fighting when overwhelming North Vietnam forces overran their camp in Dong Xoai (pronounced Dong "Sway"), a small village north of Saigon, Vietnam. They suffered two men KIA and 7 men WIA. CM2 Marvin G. Shields, USN was KIA and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor and Purple Heart for his heroism. Shields was the first and only Seabee, and the first Navy man in Vietnam, to receive the Medal of Honor. A Seabee camp in Vietnam and one in Okinawa were named in his honor. A destroyer escort, USS Marvin G. Shields, DD- 1066, was also named in his honor. An

Army Special Forces officer, 1st Lt. Charles Williams, also received the Medal of Honor and Purple Heart for his heroism in the same action. SW2 William C. Hoover, USN was KIA and posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his heroism. A Seabee camp in Vietnam was named in his honor. Two other team members, including the Team OIC, LTJG Frank Peterlin, CEC, USN, and Team AOIC, EOC Johnny McCully, USN were awarded Silver Star and Purple Heart medals. The remaining five team members on site received the Bronze Star and Purple Heart medals. Members of Seabee Team 1104 at the site on 9-10 June 1965 were awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for their actions.

SEABEES AT OMAHA BEACH—D DAY, JUNE 6TH 1944

Seabees Were The First in at Bloody Omaha Beach Landing



—*"Navy Beach Battalion sir! I've gotta clear the obstacles! Make holes for the tanks!"*
Miller (Actor Tom Hanks)—*"All the armor is floundering in the channel!"*
N.B.B. man—*"Orders sir! You go somewhere else! I'm clearin this way!"*—

The above actor—with the accompanying movie script—is from the movie "SAVING PRIVATE RYAN". This scene was about the 7th Naval Beach Battalion (*note the USN and #7 on helmet*), charged with clearing obstacles at the beginning stages of the invasion at Normandy. Naval Combat Demolition Units (NCDU's) were attached to the 7th N.B.B. and included Seabees specially trained for this hazardous duty. Casualties were high.

(Copied from a previous MCB8 Newsletter.) kb

DECLASSIFIED
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CONFIDENTIAL

HANDBOOK OF NAVAL COMBAT UNDERWATER DEMOLITION TEAM TRAINING



PREPARED BY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL TRAINING
STANDARDS AND CURRICULUM DIVISION
AND
UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
AMPHIBIOUS TRAINING COMMAND
U. S. NAVAL AMPHIBIOUS TRAINING BASE
NAVAL COMBAT DEMOLITION UNITS PROJECT
FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA

1944

DECLASSIFIED
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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR

NOTE:
I will be reprinting this
88 page book soon. It
will become available
soon on Amazon Books.

—kb

FOREWORD

This handbook is intended to acquaint the Fleet Amphibious Forces and other branches of the armed services with the qualifications of Underwater Demolition Teams, and the training given to the teams at the Amphibious Training Base, Fort Pierce, Fla. In addition, the handbook serves as a guide to the Naval Combat Demolition Units Project in carrying out its training responsibilities at the Base.

Information is given in the following pages on the mission and tactical use of Underwater Demolition Teams, duties of team members, selection of trainees, organization of the school, methods and facilities for training, description and length of courses, instructional references, and training aids.

F. W. ROCKWELL,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy,
Commander, Amphibious Training Command,
United States Atlantic Fleet.

—6th Special Seabees at Peleliu
— September 15, 1944—

Volunteer services of a Navy Seabee battalion received high praise for a job well done during the 1st Marine Division's landing at Peleliu. First wavers landed less than 90 minutes behind the 1st assault waves, and fought side-by-side with the Marines in the same foxholes and were subjected to a deadly mortar barrage for days. The Seabees were part of the shore party, but while engaged in that duty, on the first night responded to a call for volunteers when a shortage of ammunition was reported in the front lines. Practically the entire battalion carried ammunition to the front and brought back wounded. The Seabees also took part in the fighting, when the Marines became shorthanded in one sector. Some of the men manned 37MM guns and did whatever was needed. Narrow escapes were a dime a dozen for the first week, from mortar, machine gun and sniper fire. After the Marines crowded the Japanese off their end of the island, the The Seabees turned again to it's important task of unloading supplies, working under the most difficult circumstances, The weather turned almost as hostile as the Japanese, and a couple of hurricanes and typhoons were added nuisances. The Seabees shouldered the major part of the job alone of getting the supplies and equipment ashore for the thousands of men and various components of the war-machine.

—Submitted by John Ratowski



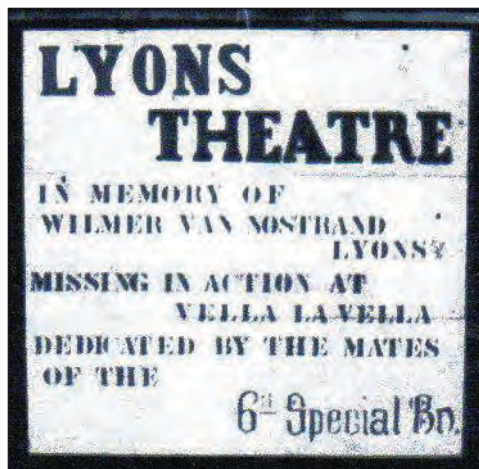
6th Special "1st Section" arrives at Ulithi, Western Caroline Islands. October 10, 1944. —Submitted by John Ratowski

Seabee Gold

Pirate Gold of Adak Island is a documentary which has been recently released on Netflix. The story of this documentary is based on true events all the way in the 1800s when a pirate visited this remote island and hid his gold coins worth 359 Million dollars in milk cans and buried those cans on the island. The Island Adak is located in Alaska where no one lives.

During the construction of the Adak base in 1943, a worker found a tin can with gold coins from the 1880s-90s which was worth thousands of dollars. Later on, in 1959, another can with \$2.5 million dollars worth of gold was found by a Seabee while constructing drainage.

By the way—a Seabee in Vietnam got busted for spending too much time looking for gold at a rock crusher up on the DMZ. —Ken B.



—Submitted by John Ratowski



Fleet Navy, December 1945 was a good time for beer lovers to be in Manila. The war was over and the city was awash with Australian lager after U.S. Navy divers salvaged 1,000 cases from a sunken ship. Sailors could buy a case of 48 bottles for \$1.



REGARDING DISABILITY CLAIMS FOR BAD WATER INGESTED AT CAMP LAJEUNE

For proof of your presence at Camp Lajeune, go to:

<https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/seabee/explore/CampLejeuneSeabeeRecords.html>

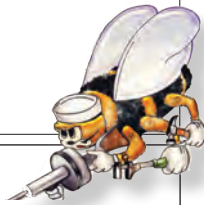
Thanks to Gina Nichols' Team at the Seabee Museum archives.

Note:

East Coast Seabees did their AIT at Camp Lajeune.

West Coast Seabees did their AIT at Camp Pendleton Ca.

MCB-8 did both places.
Ken B.



John Hampton
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Chiang Mai, Thailand 50290
+66 84 805-5909
ore.lake@yahoo.com

Assigned MCB-8 March 1967 through December 1969 GMG-3 (gunnersmate). Went on to retire from the USA as a CW3 in 2008 and then moved to Thailand. Enjoying my 2nd life very much. Married my Thai wife (teacher) and we have been traveling ever since. I am now 75 and going strong. Excellent health care in Thailand!

I hope everyone else is doing well also. Love your newsletters. Thought I would give you an update on my address.

John Hampton

"Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference in the world; US veterans don't have that problem." jwh

A BRAHAM LINCOLN IS OFTEN CREDITED with saying, "Whatever you are, be a good one."

Solomon said in Ecclesiastes 9:10, "Whatever your hands find to do, do it with all your might."

As I sit to write this I realize that most anyone taking the time to read this is retired or, at the most, working part time. The days of racing the clock, meeting deadlines, and solving complex problems are part of our past. But as we all know, time moves on. We still have obligations to so many things. And, we are called to do whatever job we are given to the best of our ability. This applies to our faith: our faith in God, our obligation as husband, father, brother and friend, just to name a few.

A theme that repeats itself throughout the Bible is the importance of doing the best you can with what you have. (Let me pause here and say I remember NMCB-8 doing this when we were deployed.) We don't all have the same talents, strengths or smarts, but we are called to do the best with what we have. Jesus taught this message with the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:13-30). This parable has many meanings and lessons, and one of them is about our effort. Remember that the three servants were given three different amounts of money, 1, 2, and 5 talents, (a talent was a measure of money=6000 denarii) "each according to his ability." Two invested well, but the person with one did nothing with the money. In the parable, Jesus points out that the problem was not that there was no result, but there was no effort.

As it is said in the song, Dust in the Wind, "we are here for a moment and the moment's gone". Over the coming days, please consider this: Is there something that I am doing half-heartedly? Is it possible that, if I did more with all my might, I could accomplish mighty deeds? We were put here for a time and a plan...let us make that time as productive as possible. Using our talents to the best of our ability can make us feel good about ourselves and also pleases God.

In the love of Christ, — Billy



Still hard to believe none of our fellow MCB8 Seabees were killed during this road-mine incident. Some were wounded—but none died.



MCB 11 & MCB 8

2023 Reunion

Charleston, SC

April 24-27, 2023



Join us this year in Charleston, SC, a city filled with history and beauty.

This year members of the NMCB 8 Association will be joining us in Charleston. We will share both the hospitality and banquet rooms. Each Battalion will have its own room for their business meeting.

The reunion will officially start with registration at 3:00 PM on Monday afternoon, April 24, followed by a welcome reception and lite meal.

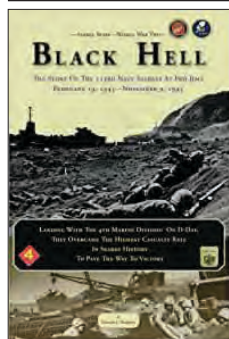
On Tuesday, we will visit Magnolia Plantation & Gardens and have lunch, then have a drive through the Historic District of Charleston.

Wednesday will start with a business meeting at 9 AM, with each Battalion in a separate room. After the business meeting, you will have free time until 4 PM, when we start taking couples' pictures. A joint banquet will follow.

Hotel Information

We will be staying at the Town & Country Inn and Suites, located at 2008 Savannah Highway in Charleston. They have a restaurant on site.

To make reservations call 800-334-6660 or 843-571-1000. Tell them you are with the "**Seabee Reunion**" when making your reservation. The weekday rate is \$134++/night and weekend (Fri. & Sat.) rate is \$199++/night. The cut-off date for these rates is **Thursday, March 23, 2023**. Requests received after that date will be considered on a space availability basis.



February 19, 1945, 09,20. The 133rd NCB (Seabees) lands with the 4th MARINES at Iwo Jima

Book is available at Amazon Books, and all book stores

<https://www.amazon.com/Seabee-Book-World-BLACK-HELL/dp/1466367393>

Sales help support the CEC/Seabee Hist. Foundation

This book is a compilation of histories—both personal and general—including all Seabee units that served on Iwo but concentrating primarily on the U.S. Naval 133rd Naval Construction Battalion (Seabees) that was part of the 4th MARDIV at Iwo Jima. Numerous stories from individuals and news journalists are included to give the reader different perspectives and a thorough overview of the Seabee Iwo Jima experience. The bloody battle on Iwo's beaches and the build-out of the Island are included in detail. Over 200 images are included. The book begins by describing the island and the importance of it from the perspective of both the American and Japanese sides. It tells of the heroic and painful taking of Iwo Jima (Sulphur Island) by the Marines, and of the little known story of the 133rd Seabees that accompanied them during the fiercest part of the assault. Personal stories from the men of the 133rd Seabees are told and numerous pictures are included. A well written colorful chapter about the Seabees on Iwo—by the famous William Bradford Huie—is also included and provides an insight into what the Seabees were, their personalities, their developing lore, and what they sacrificed and accomplished for their country. Another well written chapter by Commander Edmund L. Cas-

tillo, USN from his book; The Seabees of World War II is also included. Other Iwo Jima Seabee unit histories are also included. Some of these units—or elements of them—were also part of the initial landing, and others came later. In total, over 7000 builder-fighter Seabees served on Iwo. The story is also about building Iwo's 3 airstrips and the supporting infrastructure built by the Seabees; its runways became some of the longest in the Pacific. A small city was formed on Iwo for thousands of Marine, Navy, Army, Army-Air Force, Seabees and Coast Guard men. The successful take-over of Iwo Jima meant that our heavy bombers—with their fighter escorts—were now within 650 miles of the Japanese mainland. Japan's "inner defenses" were now crushed thus portending the war's outcome. The cost in human life was grim. Part IV describes the 133rd's other battle; the on-going battle for the award of the PUC (Presidential Unit Citation). Hopefully this book will serve as a reinforcement in that quest. This book—with its collection of histories—is designed to serve future generations as a near single-source of information about the critical accomplishments that the men of the Navy Seabees achieved on Iwo Jima—especially the 133rd Seabees. —kb

MCB 11 & MCB 8 Associations 2023 Reunion Registration Form

REGISTRATION: Received on or before 3/1/2023 - \$290 each x ____ = \$ _____.00
Late registration received after 3/1/2023 - \$310 each x ____ = \$ _____.00

If Cancelled on or before 3/1/2023 = Full refund
after 3/1/2023 = Full refund minus \$20 per person.

TOTAL COST \$ _____.00

If you cancel, don't forget to call the hotel and cancel your room reservation.

Registration Covers:

- ✓ **Monday** evening Welcome Reception with lite meal
- ✓ **Tuesday** Breakfast, Lunch and tour of Magnolia Gardens and City Historic District.
- ✓ **Wednesday** Breakfast, Business Meeting and evening Banquet

All associated taxes and gratuities, excluding hotel room charges.

Please complete and return ASAP with your check or money order.

Provide the name of each person attending.

1. Name: (Last) _____ (First) _____

2. Name: (Last) _____ (First) _____

First Name(s) you want printed on ID badge. 1. _____ 2. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact*: _____ Phone: _____

(*Someone who **will not** be at the reunion with you.)

SPECIAL NEED(s) – Dietary, Transportation or other: _____

Make check or money order payable to MCB 11 Association

Mail to: MCB 11 Reunion Committee
P.O. Box 4647
Lago Vista, TX 78645-0054

Check the MCB 11 web site <http://www.mcb11.com> for updates

2023 AFTER-REUNION CRUISE SWARM

by NMCB-11 Editor

If anyone cares to join in this after reunion swarm, three couples have already booked to participate. Charleston, SC is not a big cruise port, so only Carnival Cruise ships depart from there, but several other lines do dock there during their sailings. The reunion is scheduled from April 24-27, 2023. The cruise is 5 nights/6 days and goes out on Saturday, April 29 at 4pm returning May 4 at 8am on the Carnival Sunshine. A balcony room for 2 on deck 8 was about \$1,600 for cruise fare and port taxes. The itinerary is Charleston, a day at sea, Half Moon Cay-Bahamas, Nassau-Bahamas, a day at sea and Charleston. We booked through a AAA travel agent that we had used on a previous cruise and she can book anyone whether a member of AAA or not. Of course, you can book anyway you want, but if interested, contact Rachel Kelso, 512-351-2534, or email at:

Kelso.Rachel@aaa-texas.com.

If you book this cruise, then when you book your reunion hotel, a suggestion may be to book additional night(s) after the reunion, but remember Friday night is about \$200 at the reunion hotel. There are other hotels in the area that may be more reasonable, especially those near the airport or near Patriot's Point where the Yorktown aircraft carrier is docked. A quick search of these areas for Friday night rate shows that 2-3 star hotels in the Mt. Pleasant/Patriots Point area are around \$150 and up and similar class hotels near the airport are about \$110 and up. Not many hotels offer transportation to/from the terminal, but other options would be taxi, Uber or Lyft. If you're driving to the reunion, a few hotels may offer stay and park packages or there is cruise terminal parking at \$21/day (or

more). The Town and Country Inn advised us that they offer cruise parking at \$10/day. Cruise line transportation may be available, but are about \$30-35/person each way and higher than taxi or other ride-share services.

Like our last swarm in Branson, nothing special is planned. People can do what they want regards excursions, on-board activities, etc. But there will probably be opportunities to have meals together and/or have impromptu get-togethers during the cruise. Also, if you think that you'll be coming in early or staying after the reunion at the Town and Country Inn, book it upfront when you book the reunion nights. Otherwise the rates may not apply if you decide to do so later. Just be aware of the hotel cancellation policy and cancel with appropriate timelines should that be needed. Other options worth noting should you come in early are the various activities and places to see in and around Charleston. There's the Yorktown exhibit, harbor cruises, seafood restaurants, various islands, additional local tours of the historic district and city market, and Ft. Sumter (note this site is not handicap friendly) and sunsets. Also, the Angel Oak Tree Park is about 8-10 miles away and free. The tree is about 400 years old and said to have a life span of about 900 years. Just a word of note, the last part of the access to this park is an unpaved road about ¼ mile, but fairly well maintained. Plus the ground is somewhat sandy and a lack of paved pathways for wheelchairs. They were grading the road when we visited on 9/22. At times, they have people there making the local sweet grass baskets which they generally have some for sale. As an FYI, a sign on the wall indicates that the baskets are only sold via cash or check. Not much else to do there, but an interesting excursion.

As additional information becomes available, it'll be put in the next newsletter.

The above is from the NMCB-11' Newsletter. It is meant to give you info on additional activities that are available during our reunion with NMCB-11. —kb.



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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SEABEE UNDERWATER CONSTRUCTION TECHNICIANS

With their skills sets, UCTs can deploy to support a Naval Special Warfare Command, either with SEAL teams, Special Boat Teams, Navy EOD Teams, or other dive elements. They also can apply for selection to support Naval Special Warfare Development Group. (DEVGRU)

TO:



By Artist/Architect
Rick Clark.



-NMCB-8 Association Roster Update

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone & E-mail: _____

Tiger Kills Camas GI

CAMAS, Wash. (Special) — A Camas soldier has died in Vietnam from injuries received when he was attacked by a tiger.

A sister, Mrs. Baanche Starks of Camas, said she was notified of the death of Pfc. Gerald R. Olmstead, 21. The Army said Olmstead was on a night patrol when he was fatally injured. He was serving with the 4th Infantry Division.

The soldier's parents are deceased. In addition to Mrs. Starks survivors include seven other brothers and sisters.

Pfc. Olmstead entered the Army in August of 1966 and went overseas last spring.

Stoller Memorial Chapel in Camas will be in charge of funeral arrangements.

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.

Thanks for your support!