

Navy Seabee Veterans of America

CAN DO

Volume 27, Number 3, Sept. 2017

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Island X-6 Fayetteville, NC Seabee Float at Dedication of Seabee Monument at Airborne and Special OPS Museum at Fort Bragg, NC.

CAN DO is published for members of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America four times each year—in March, June, September, and December. **EDITORS NOTE:** Please send in your submittals prior to the cut-off date to allow time for editorial work to be accomplished by the printing deadline. If possible all submittals must be in either PDF or WORD file. Please send all submittals to the new e-mail address for the Can Do (jtangen@rochester.rr.com). Photos and listings in regular mail will be returned. All Can Do Articles with photos must be submitted as you would like it to see it with all personnel listed L-R in WORD program if you can! **CAN DO EDITOR:** Jack Tangen, 5553 Brockport Spencerport Rd., Brockport N.Y. 14420-2807

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NOTICE: DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 2017 CAN DO IS NOV... 15, 2017!



Navy Seabee Veterans of America welcomes all veterans age 18 or older, any rank, rate or branch of service, with honorable service in or with the U.S. Naval Construction Forces or Naval Facilities Command. [Down load a membership application at www.nsva.org](http://www.nsva.org) or contact National Secretary: Charles H. Coffin, 16 Graham Ave., West haven, CT, NSVA, and New Seabee Phone Number: 203-843-5513.

Please read this is very important

A great Seabee day to all:

As a lot of you may know the **Can Do** has fallen on hard time with higher costs and less issues being printed, in an effort to bring it back to full publication we need to update a lot of information.

Over the last few years many have moved, passed away or just plain lost interest. This form will be placed in the **Can Do** for one year and must be filled out or the information forwarded to the National Secretary if you wish to continue receiving the mailed copy.

The publication will be on the web site each quarter from here on out. If you wish to stop receiving hard copies, one can be E-mail to you.

It is of the utmost importance that we receive this information as soon as posable. If NO response is received from you to the National Secretary we can only assume you do not wish to receive the **Can DO**.

MEMBERSHIP: Island _____

Name _____

Address: _____ City _____

_____ State; _____ Zip _____

_____ Phone _____

Unit(S) Served with: _____ E- _____

Mail Address: _____ Life _____

Membership Number if you are one: _____ Signature _____

Date: _____

Mail or email this information to: Charles Coffin, National Secretary
 Navy Seabee Veterans of America 16 Graham Avenue
 West Haven, CT., 06516 Phone: 1-203-843-5513
 Email: NSVASEC@Gmail.com



Seabee Diamond Anniversary Exhibit

Photos on Display May 16 - 22

The U.S. Navy Seabees are celebrating their 75th Anniversary this year! We will have a display of photos in the main part of the library behind the customer service desk showing how the Seabees supported the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard and Marines during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraqi and Afghanistan. Come see the display!

Navy Seabee Veterans of America Island X-5



Island X-5 West Valley – Arizona

Contact John O'Brien Sec/Treasurer Island X-5, AZ 623-974-8791 obeyjobazbee@hughes.net



Photos of construction men and woman of the United States Navy Seabees supporting the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard and Marines during WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Iraqi and Afganistan.

Planes need runways, Convoys need roads, and Rivers need bridges. Fire Bases need bunkers, Ships need docks and piers, Amphibious landings need pontoons, Fuel needs storage tanks, Ammo needs ammo dumps, Beer needs refrigeration, Doctors and nurses need hospitals, Medics need morphine. The fighting men need food, ammunition, and a place to rest.

This picture and article were in the Wareham Weekly News Paper and online



Bill Tatlow presents a check for \$1,000 on behalf of the Seabee Island X-7 Plymouth Chapter to Friends of the Wareham Veterans Council President Jean Sarnelli.

The Seabee Island X-7, Plymouth chapter, donated \$1,000 to the Friends of the Wareham Veterans Council Saturday to help bring a replica of the Vietnam War Memorial to town.

Members of the Seabees Plymouth chapter are all former members of the United States Naval Construction Battalions.

Seabee Members from left to right - George Lewis, Ken Proctor, Eben Bumpus, Latin Peck & Bill Tatlow along with Friend of The Wareham Veterans Council.





The Foregoing photos are from the Seabee Monument Dedication at the Airborne and Special OPS Museum in Fayetteville, NC. Some members of Island X-6 in Fayetteville paid for this monument to have it placed at the Museum. The project was two years in the making and it was a big step for the Seabees. "CAN DO" but at times the impossible takes a little longer.

THE SPIRIT OF THE GREAT FIFTY-EIGHT LIVES ON

Much has been said of warships having a spirit that lives on long after the ship has gone to rest. While not a warship, the spirit of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 58 lives on long after the battalion had been relegated to the annals of naval history. Recommissioned and having made three deployments during the Vietnam War, NMCB58 is unique among Seabee Battalions. Because NMCB58 deployed only to Vietnam, every battalion member is Vietnam War Veteran. Decommissioning did nothing to dilute the spirit of the greatness; *The Great Fifty-Eight* lives on. *Esprit de corps* and love for their Battalion brothers is what keeps *The Fifty-Eight Seabees* together.

The NMCB 58 Association is dedicated to taking care of its own, and that, they do very well. Recently, one of *Fifty-Eight's* finest Seabees, a combat-wounded veteran, who had lost his entire shoulder, arm and hand to a Viet Cong booby trap learned that his remaining shoulder required a complete reverse shoulder replacement. This would be a traumatic operation for anyone; mobility of the arm is restricted for several weeks during recovery. Combat wounds exacerbated our Seabee's situation.

Members of NMCB 58 Association refused to allow one of their own to be isolated without connectivity outside hospital walls. Most Bluetooth phone devices require pushing a button or flipping a switch to activate a smartphone. Manual manipulation of a device was not an option; there had to be a better way. Association members researched and located a special phone device that can be magnetically activated without being touched. Once activated, incoming and outgoing calls are accessed by voice command. This no-touch device enables their Seabee to reach out to family and friends in a way that would not have been possible otherwise. In addition to taking care of their shipmates, *The Great Fifty-Eight* continues to reach out to those in need. Since its inception, *The Great Fifty-Eight* Association has contributed more than \$75,000 to 25 military affiliates and community based non-profit organizations, has continued to support the families of those Shipmates lost in Vietnam, and has established its own website. (www.nmcb58.org).

Submitted by John Hughes



President's Perspective
By Nancy Staples

YOUR 2015-2017 NSVAA NATIONAL OFFICERS



Treasurer Linda Schmuck, Secretary/Parliamentarian Elaine Coffin, Chaplain/Historian Linda Hillyer, Vice President Betty Nelson, and President Nancy Staples

Hello all. I hope you are planning to attend the National Convention in Tampa the 28-30 September 2017. This is the year for election of officers. After the convention, my term will be over...it has been very rewarding. As President, I have been able to sign charters for 5 Island Auxiliaries. I would love to sign a couple more before my term is up. Think about it please. It only takes 3 members to start an auxiliary. I have also had the privilege of presenting membership pins at last year's convention and at this year's mid-year meeting to ladies who joined the auxiliary at those events.

The midyear meeting in Chicago went very well. We were in the meeting for almost three hours and accomplished many things. There are two resolutions we recommended and will be up for the membership vote in September. The National Convention was discussed with Linda Hillyer, the National Chaplain/Historian and President of her own Island X-11 Tampa, FL, and Betty Nelson, National Vice President. Linda showed us shirts that have been designed specifically for the 75th birthday of the Navy Seabees. If you want one, it MUST be ordered now as there will be none available at the convention. If you have not seen the shirts, please email Linda or Betty (email addresses below).

History (I think) has been made this year. There is now an Island male president. Frank Stulic III has taken command of the Island X-16 Sun City Center, FL Auxiliary. He is the son of Frank Stulic Jr. Frank III's mother, Susan, is also involved with the Auxiliary. Congratulations Island X-16 Auxiliary for this ground breaking action. I attended the All-Seabee Reunion in Gulfport, MS in April. The attendance was terrific. I did a couple of excursions; one to the World War II Museum in New Orleans. If you have never been there, you should go and see what the Greatest Generation of Military did for our freedoms. I also toured the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Biloxi; another amazing tour. I was so impressed with what the veterans have available to them at the Home. Bowling, a weight lifting room, a doctor, a dentist, a wood hobby shop, an arts and crafts area, a post office; all state of the art equipment for their use just to name a few of the areas.

The Meet and Greet, Luau, Banquet, and Departing Picnic for the reunion had door prizes and raffles at each event. I have to say that Island X-1 Gulfport, MS knows how to put on a great event. KUDU's to Island X-1 members and Auxiliary Gulfport, MS. I hope to meet many more Auxiliary members at the National Convention in September. Remember to check that you are an auxiliary member on your registration form. **If you need information on how to form an Auxiliary or become a Member at Large, please let one of the officers know. Application for membership is on the NSVA.ORG website.**

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lindahillyer@aol.com



NOW HEAR THIS ... Plan to attend our

27th Annual MCB 7 – NMCB 7 Reunion September 14 - 17, 2017 in Fishkill, NY in Dutchess County, north of New York City. MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND PLAN TO JOIN US FOR "SEABEES ON THE HUDSON"! For more information contact: **Denny Blaisdell**, Executive Director mcb7ra@yahoo.com or (419) 867-9371 *"Reuniting Seabees from U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion SEVEN for over 25 years"*
Can Do! Dennybee

**NMCB-11 & 11th NCB Reunion 9/17 to 9/21
Gettysburg area, Larry Hagler 512-267-8873
Email: mcb11reunion@earthlink.net.**

Attention!! All Hands on Deck. To All Hands:
Island X 5 Ft Lauderdale FL. Now has 10,000 new Memorial Brochures for use to inform and to increase the awareness of the Seabee Memorial Monument in Arlington, Virginia, Honoring Navy Seabees, The Past, The

Present, and The Future.

Our coverage, upon request, will be to spend brochures to all Islands. We will continue to cover the Welcome Centers of Northern Virginia and Eastern Maryland, all Navy Museums, Annapolis, BWI Airport, DC Visitor's Centers, Chambers of Commerce within 50 miles, Naval Reserve Centers, Recruiting Offices and Centers of choice, Parades etc. All Seabees that we have on our email list will receive this information. We are requesting that you forward this information to your email list to get this information to all hands.

This is our 75th Anniversary!

The man who stops advertising to save money is like the man who stops the clock to save time? Thomas Jefferson. {Para phrase}

If anyone who receives this information wants to assist with the cost of postage & handling, it is OK and appreciated. Send checks payable to Island X 5 Ft. Lauderdale Fl. Memo the check "Brochure Account".

Address to Jim Dyer, Treasurer

5501 SW 163 Ave.,

South West Ranches FL. 33331

Thank You,

Co Chair. Jim Dyer

Henry Harbinson. Sr.

Note to readers: I checked this article below out and you can procure your records through them for a FEE! Carl Barrett, Editor, Can Do

Here is an article for anyone who wants to get a copy of

their service record.

For all Seabees, Sailors, Marines and all military folks and their dependents or relatives.

For years the NMCB 62 Alumni Group has been searching for a business, group or person who is able to get a copy of a person's military service record for them. We have finally found such a business, located near St. Louis, MO. It is called Redbird Research LLC. For more information on Redbird Research go to our website: www.nmcb62alumni.org and click on link #5. Finally after all these years of fruitless trying, we now have the opportunity to finally get a copy of our service record.

Thank you, Norm Hann



**Welcome Aboard to our Newest Life Members!
By Joe Scott, Life Membership Chairman, Navy Seabee
Veterans of America**

**It is with pleasure that we welcome the following
Seabees as Life Members of our Organization:**

**NSVA Life Membership Cards have been forwarded to the
respective new members:**

- Gary M. Shepard, X-1 Gulfport, MS #6609
- Richard E. Streeter, X-3 Tucson, AZ #6610
- Gerard Romagnoli, X-19 Syracuse, NY #6611
- David Sharp, X-1 Davisville, RI #6612
- William Clough, X-1 Davisville, RI #6613
- Charles F. Rohrer, X-5 Lancaster, PA #6614
- James Langtry, X-1, Oakhurst, NJ #6615
- Henry C. Humphries, X-4, Peoria, IL #6616
- Dustin Kurre, X-5, Girardeau, MO #6621
- Christopher M. Stipano Sr, X-14, Hudson Falls, NM #6622
- Luther W. Rogers, X-7, Mid-Columbia, WA #6623
- Russell R. Coates, X-7, Mid-Columbia, WA #6624
- Mark Berkenmeier, X-1, Atlanta, GA #6625
- Theodore L. Montuori, X-2, New York, NY #6626
- Kathleen L. Fowler, X-24, Battalion At-Large #6627
- Larry L. French, X-24, Battalion At-Large #6628



FINAL SALUTE

BY NATIONAL SECRETARY, NAVY
SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA,
INC.



CONSTRUIMUS, BATUIMUS - WE BUILD, WE FIGHT

	BRENDEN	CHARLES	C.	X-5	WEST VALLEY	ARIZONA
	DUVAL	JAMES	W.	X-5	WEST VALLEY	ARIZONA
	MANNING JR.	CLARENCE	L.	X-5	WEST VALLEY	ARIZONA
	REALE	DARREN	J.	X-5	WEST VALLEY	ARIZONA
4158	ORANGE	EDWARD	NEIL	24TH	BATTALION	AT LARGE
1318	POOLE	CHESTER	L.	MCB7	ISLAND	AT LARGE
	SOLT	PAUL	V.	NATL	ISLAND	AT LARGE
DEC	HENRY	FORREST	C.	X-7	PORT HUENEME	CALIFORNIA
2674	BUTTERFIELD	RICHARD	S.	X-23	CRYSTAL RIVER	FLORIDA
4569	DOLLEY	MARTIN		X-23	CRYSTAL RIVER	FLORIDA
4568	GONSALVES	JOHN		X-23	CRYSTAL RIVER	FLORIDA
4701	HALL	DALE	W.	X-23	CRYSTAL RIVER	FLORIDA
3219	PUFFER	DAVID		X-23	CRYSTAL RIVER	FLORIDA
3305	WHIPPLE	ANDREW	L.	X-23	CRYSTAL RIVER	FLORIDA
5438	WILFORD	JAMES	N.	X-23	CRYSTAL RIVER	FLORIDA
4754	HEFTI	JOHN	Q.	X-12	WEST PALM BEACH	FLORIDA
5614	LUCKETT	GREGORY	A.	X-3	WARSAW	INDIANA
6163	GATHERCOLE	KIRK		X-1	DUBUQUE	IOWA
6164	KRAMBECK	DAVID	L.	X-1	DUBUQUE	IOWA
649	HUGHES	M.	J.	X-1	GULFPORT	MISSISSIPPI
6580	CROFT	EUGENE			OMAHA	NEBRASKA
3569	MICHAELSON	RAYMOND	C.	X-1	RED BANK	NEW JERSEY
2403	FRANCHELL	E.	RAYMOND	X-8	TONAWANDA	NEW YORK
2837	HAMIESTER	NORMAN	R.	X-8	TONAWANDA	NEW YORK
3558	MISNER	DANIEL	A.	X-8	TONAWANDA	NEW YORK

2765	JANKA	LAWRENCE	L.	X-9	CLEVELAND	OHIO
2446	SIEGEL	ROBERT	E.	X-4	TOLEDO	OHIO
	STETHEM	PATRICK		X-2	VIRGINIA BEACH	VIRGINIA
	PASSALACQUA	PHILIP	A.	X-2	HUNTINGTON	NEW YORK
	SCAGLIONE	TONY				
2617	KNOERL	MELVIN	J.	X-5	BUFFALO	NEW YORK
	COBERLY	EDWARD		X-4	NEW CASTLE	INDIANA
	HURD	DONALD	D.	X-4	PEORIA	ILLINOIS
	MCGEE	LOUIS				
	ENDERS	WILLAM				
5142	BYRNE	PATRICK	F.	X-9	KINGSTON	NEW YORK

From other sources:

Miley, Gene WWII Seabee

Miller, J. BSW1, USN

Romanczyk, Raymond R. SWCS, USN

Scott, John D. UT2, USN

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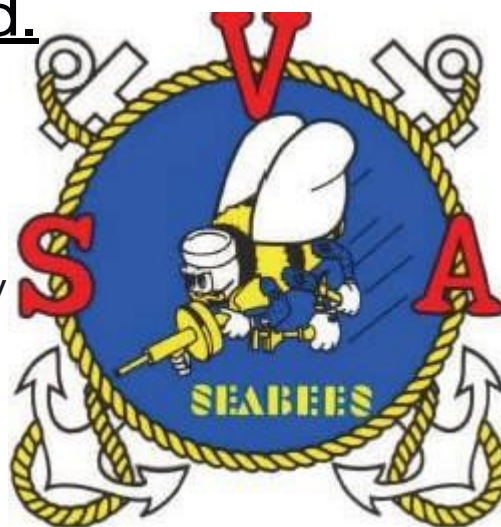
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all veterans, age 18 or older, any rank, rate,
or branch of service, with honorable
service in the U.S. Naval Construction
Force or Naval Facilities Engineering
Command.

Download a membership application at

www.nsva.org

Or contact Charles Coffin, Natl. Secy. Navy
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