

*NAVY SEABEE VETERANS of AMERICA*

# CAN DO

*Volume 29, Number 4, Dec. 2019*



**2019 Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony  
Seabee Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery  
Arlington, VA.**

**NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.**

**NATIONAL OFFICERS 2019-2020**

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**NOTICE: DEADLINE FOR the MARCH 2020 CAN DO is Feb...15th, 2020.**

**VISIT THE NSVA WEBSITE AT: [www.nsva.org](http://www.nsva.org)**

**U.S. NAVY SEABEES DESERVE A STAMP TOO**

**Cover: NSVA and NAVFAC Wreath Laying Presentation at the Seabee Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, 11-11-19**

Pictured L-R NSVA CDR. J. Furey, Lee, Katherine and Leslie Culala, children of BU2 Culala (stationed at Public Works Washington Navy Yard), Erica Coggins, spouse of CDR Chris Coggins, CAPT Kathy Donovan NAVFAC, RDML Dean Vanderley; NAVFAC Atlantic Commander and CMDCM (SWC) Thurmond Oliver; NAVFAC Atlantic Senior Enlisted Advisor.

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**CHAPLAINS CORNER**

Allow me to introduce myself. As noted in the September issue of the Can Do my name is Michael Boncheck. I wish to thank 1<sup>st</sup> Vice CDR. Doug Bower with presenting me the opportunity to become the Navy Seabee Veterans of America's National Chaplain. I reside in northern Pennsylvania and currently hold the office of Commander of Island X-4 located in Dickson City (Scranton) PA. I will try my best to fulfill the office of chaplain in a professional and compassionate manner.

As we approach the end of the year and the upcoming holidays including Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa and all the other celebrations such as solstice and those celebrated by the followers of Islam, let us keep in mind the one common thread found in all these beliefs. They all revolve around the principals of Peace and Love. I ask that everyone remember this; not only now but throughout the coming year. The only way we can achieve a lasting peace is to be tolerant and accept others views and beliefs.

In closing it is my fondest hope that the Joy, Love and Peace of this Holiday season be with you and yours not only now but throughout the coming New Year.

Yours truly: Michael Boncheck

## Commanders Corner

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

At our last reunion in Twin Cities, Minnesota this last August 2019. We had a guest speaker RADM retired Kevin Slates, he made a presentation to us saying the SHF (Seabee Historical Foundation) and the SMSA (Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association) would like to have a relationship with us; the NSVA. An exploratory committee was appointed to look into how and if it could or would work for us.

The committee had a conference call a while back and in early December 2019 had a meeting in Gulfport to discuss what could or could not possibly be good for the NSVA. The attachments below are the results from that meeting. **All NSVA members** are urged to read the attached information (proposal). Any and all thoughts on this proposal are welcome. Please send your thoughts, questions & concerns to my email [jjseabee@yahoo.com](mailto:jjseabee@yahoo.com) so our members can make an informed decision on what course of action to take.

Yours in the CAN DO SPIRIT

James J. Furey, NSVA National Commander

[jjseabee@yahoo.com](mailto:jjseabee@yahoo.com)

### ***PROPOSAL (not a resolution) FOR MARCH 2019 NSVA MID-YEAR CONFERENCE***

#### PROPOSAL

- Combine SVA and SHF into a single not-for-profit organization under a Board of Trustees comprised of current SVA and SHF membership
  - o Both current organizations will have equal standing
- New non-profit organization would represent the interests of both current organizations (it's all about the Seabees)
- To be established 1 Jan 2021
- Current Life and Annual Members of both organizations would be grandfathered in as Members

#### WHY MERGE ORGANIZATIONS

- Stronger together – strength in numbers
- Have common interests – supporting Seabee Veterans and preserving Seabee Legacy
- Provides single non-profit organization to advocate for and support Seabees/Veterans/Families – Seabees first.
- Capitalize on the strengths of both current organizations
- Eliminate competition for membership (and confusion of potential members regarding which organization to join/support)
- A single Seabee non-profit is what the current generation of Seabees and younger veterans want
  - o Today's Seabee is loyal to the Seabee community and would prefer a one stop shop versa having to choose
- Due to reduced numbers of Seabees from WW2, Korea, Vietnam ... need to attract "next" and "future" generations to keep the Seabee Legacy alive
- Efficiencies in overhead, administration and data management
- Paid staff and "Flagpole" in Gulfport for professional/administrative support
- Better communication and coordination of events and programs
  - o Consolidated website
  - o Social media (Facebook, twitter, linked in, etc.)
- Clear message "Seabees First" (Veterans, currently serving and families)
- Tie to Navy through NAVFAC, Naval History & Heritage Command, and Navy Expeditionary Combat Command
- More members help attract more donors (corporate and private foundations)
- Access to additional resources
  - o Seabee locator
  - o Memorial information
  - o Reunions/events
  - o Veteran employment opportunities

- As membership and support grows, provides ability to support more Seabee Heritage sites

#### WHAT DOESN'T CHANGE

- All SVA identity will be maintained
- SVA organizational structure (National, District, Islands)
- SVA Auxiliary
- Veteran focus
- SVA funding stream (investment and membership income)

#### WHAT DOES CHANGE

- Existing SHF 501(c)(3) charter is dissolved
- Existing SVA 501(c)(4) charter is dissolved
- New 501.3.c charter established for new organization that incorporates the charter of both organizations
- **\*\*\* NEED LEGAL SUPPORT ... INCORPORATED IN WHAT STATE, ISLANDS HAVE OWN EINS, WORK THROUGH STATE NON-PROFIT HURDLES (DAV, VFM, AMERICAN LEGION MODEL IE. ISLAND SIMILAR TO VFW POST)**

#### BENEFITS TO SVA

- A “future” – increased membership potential
  - o More members and “next” generation of Seabees
- Common database of Seabees
- Membership tracking and renewal process streamlined
- Improved communication to “Seabee Family” through social media, electronic newsletters and print publications (getting the word out)
- Event coordination and communication and support
- Flagpole (home office) – official address, paid staff, phone answered, administrative support, advertising and marking, etc.
- Reduce some administrative effort on overworked volunteer staff (i.e. Membership tracking/reports, publications, website management, etc.)
- **Can Do Career Connection** (transitioning and Seabee Veterans employment opportunities)
- Streamlines administrative work (i.e. Tax filings)
- Combined fund raising and membership campaigns

#### BENEFITS TO SHF

- Eliminates competition for members/donors
- Reduces duplication of effort (i.e. we both have websites, both track monuments, both track reunions, both put out newsletters, both have member databases, etc.)
- Better support to Seabees and Veterans
- Provides for single database of Seabees
- Better communication to Seabees/Veterans on information, events, programs, etc.

#### MEMBERSHIP

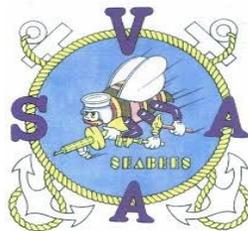
- Life and annual membership fees (*NEED TO PROPOSE WHAT THOSE FEES SHOULD BE AND SHOW HOW IT DOESN'T HARM EITHER SVA OR SHF OPERATIONS*)
- Member is member of the “new” organization (not SVA or SHF) but has choice to affiliate however they desire
- Provides benefits of both current organizations
- Larger membership base helps attract more members, donors, corporate sponsors/members

Please take the time to share your thoughts, questions and concerns regarding this proposal **ASAP**. Send your emails to Commander James Furey at [jjseabee@yahoo.com](mailto:jjseabee@yahoo.com)  
(SEE PAGE 33)

## Seabee Veterans of America Auxiliary Officers



L-R Carol Parker, Linda Hillyer, Linda Schmuck, Elaine Coffin, Lorraine Santo and Betty Nelson



### NSVAA National President Communication

Hello to all,

There was an election of 2019-2021 National Officers at the 2019 Minnesota Convention.

Your officers are:

**President: Betty Nelson**

**Vice President: Lorraine Santo**

**Secretary: Elaine Coffin**

**Treasurer: Linda Schmuck**

**Chaplin/Historian: Linda Hillyer**

**Parliamentarian: Carol Parker**

We will be convening a SVAA meeting at the NSVA Mid-Year meeting in Arlington, VA at the Marriott Westin Crystal City Reagan National Airport Hotel on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2020.

Veterans Day Wreath Presentation at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



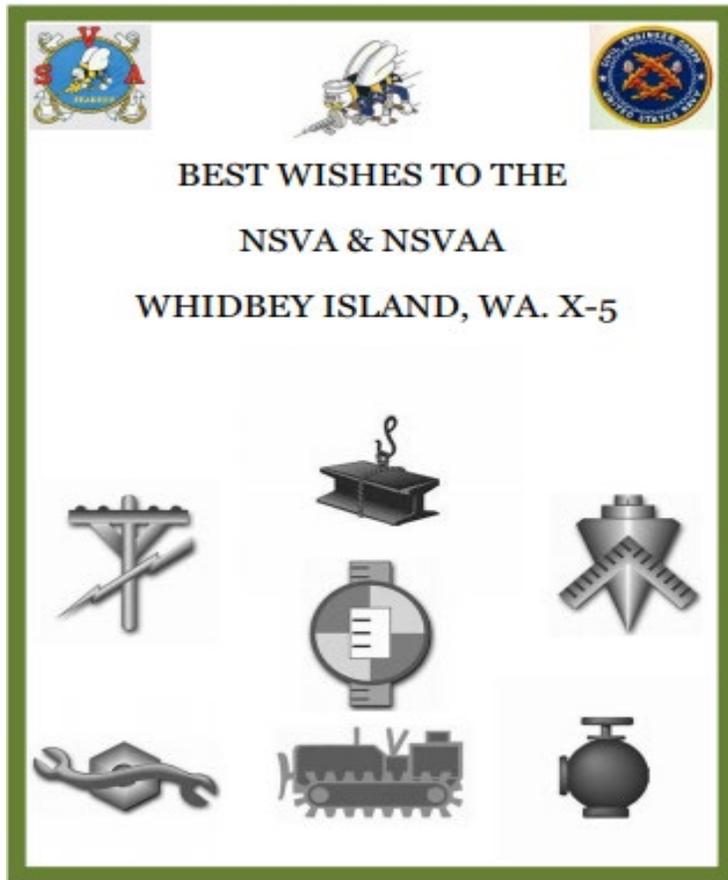
L-R Teddy Montuori NSVA Historian, VFW Honor Guard Representative, SSG Jessica DeZelar and her father Joe DeZelar NSVA Master at Arms



L-R Department of New York CDR. J. Tangen, NE District CDR. J. Cubit and members of Island X-12 Rochester, NY participate in Wreath Laying Ceremony on Veterans Day.



Pictured above is the Wreath presented by the Seabee Veterans of America, Seabee Scholarship Association and the Seabee Historical Foundation at the Seabee Memorial located at the entrance to the Arlington National Cemetery on Veterans Day 2019.



L-R Numerous Seabees from the Washington Naval Yard with NSVA CDR Jim Furey, RDML Dean Vanderley and CMDCM (SWC) Thurmond Oliver



X-19 Daytona Beach FL participated in the Deland Veterans Day Parade. They enlisted the help of Brent Leyva (flag bearer) his sister Francis and brother Ricardo carrying the banner, along with 2 other brothers Isaac and Thomas flanking the banner. Their father, a helicopter pilot, is currently deployed. Island CDR. Bob Duffy standing behind the banner.

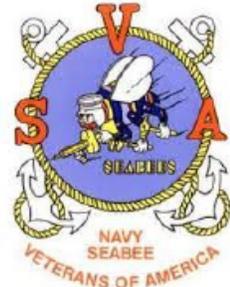


X-19 Daytona Beach float and Island members entered in the Deland Veterans Day Parade 2019.



# Island X-11 Tampa, Florida

# Lucky Leven



## SVA X-11 Auxiliary Leadership:

President: Betty Nelson

813-376-3947

Vice President: Anna Baker

Treasurer: Doreen Doe

Secretary: Cinda Huntley

Chaplin: Dianne Dukart

## SVA X-11 Leadership

Commander: Ernie Nelson

813-376-0500

Vice Commander: Walt Sauers

Treasurer: Bob Marlette

Secretary: Dwight Hamborsky



Unknown Seabee presenting Seabee Statuette to Nancy & President Ronald Reagan.



# Here is how to really honor vets

By Mike Royko, nationally syndicated columnist

This article was written some time ago but it rings true. (submitted by Frank Dorobolia X-12 Rochester NY)

I phoned six of my friends recently and asked them what they will be doing today. They all said the same thing "WORKING". Me, too.

There is something else we share we are all military veterans. And there's a third thing we have in common. We are not employees of the federal government, state government, county government, municipal government, the postal service, the courts, banks or S&L's and we don't teach school. If we did we'd be among the millions of people who will spend today "goofing off". Which is why it is about time Congress revised the ridiculous terms of Veterans Day as a National Holiday.

The purpose of Veterans Day is to honor all veterans. So how does this country honor them? By letting the veterans, the majority of whom work in the private sector, spend the day at their jobs so they can pay taxes that permit millions of non-veterans to get paid for doing nothing.

As my friend Harry put it: "First I went through basic training. Then infantry school. Then I got on a crowded stinking ship that took 23 days to get from San Francisco to Japan. We went through a storm that had 90% of the guys on the ship throwing up for a week. Then I rode a beat up transport plane from Japan to Korea, and it almost went in the drink. I think the pilot was drunk."

"When I got to Korea, I was lucky the war ended seven months after I got there and I didn't kill anybody and nobody killed me. "But it was still a miserable experience. When my tour was over I got on another stinking ship that took 21 days to cross the Pacific. When I got home on leave, one of the older guy at the neighborhood bar—he was a WWII vet—told me I was a - - - head because we didn't win we only got a tie.

"So now on Veterans Day I get up in the morning and go down to the office and work. "You know what my nephew does? He sleeps in. That's because he works for the State. And do you know what he did during the Vietnam War? He ducked the draft by getting a teaching job at an inner-city school. "Now is that a Raw Deal or what? Of course it's a raw deal. So I propose that Congress revise Veterans Day to provide the following:

1. All Veterans --- And ONLY Veterans --- should have the day off from work. It doesn't matter if they were combat heroes or state side clerk-typists. Anybody who went through basic training and was awakened before dawn by a red-necked drill sergeant who bellowed: "Drop your whatevers and grab your socks and fall out on the road" is entitled.
2. Those Veterans wishing to march in parades, make speeches or listen to speeches can do so. But for those that don't, all local gambling laws should be suspended for the day to permit vets to gather in taverns, pull a couple of tables together and spend the day playing poker, blackjack, craps, drinking and telling lewd lies about lewd experiences with lewd women. All bar prices should be rolled back to enlisted men's club prices. Officers can pay the going rate, the stiffs.
3. All anti-smoking laws will be suspended for the day. The same holds true for all misdemeanor laws pertaining to disorderly conduct, non-felonious brawling, leering, gawking and other gross and disgusting public behavior that doesn't harm another individual.
4. It will be a treasonable offense for any spouse, or live-in girlfriend (or boyfriend) to utter those dreaded words "what time will you be home tonight"?
5. Anyone caught posing as a vet will be required to eat a triple portion of chipped beef on toast or (SOS) with Spam on the side and spend the day watching a Chaplain present a color-slide presentation on the horrors of VD.
6. Regardless of how high their office, no politician who had the opportunity to serve in the military, but didn't, will not be allowed to make a patriotic speech, appear on TV or poke his/her nose out of their office for the entire day. Any politician who does will be required to spend 12 hours wearing headphones and listening to a tapes of Presidents Clinton, Obama and Trump explaining their deferments!

Now, deal the cards and pass the tequila.....



Arman Drexler, X-2 Maryville, TN, setting Christmas wreaths at East TN Cemetery, Knoxville TN.  
Photo submitted by D. Howard, X-1 Greenville, TN.

John D. McCurdy, U.S. Navy Seabee passes at 102. John was a member of the 53rd Seabees during WWII. He landed with Marine Raiders on Bougainville and saw action on Guadalcanal and Guam. After the war John returned to the construction profession retiring in 1972. In May of this year John was honored for 80 years of membership in the Carpenters Union Local 106. No other person in the U.S. or Canada has received such an award.





# New York City and Vicinity District Council of Carpenters

Joseph A. Geiger  
Executive Secretary – Treasurer

Michael P. Cavanaugh  
Vice President

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# ISLAND HOPPING

ATTENTION ALL HANDS!!! ATTENTION ALL HANDS!!!

Planning winter tour out to Port Hueneme, CA!

Starting Date about Jan.9/10 with first stop in Pensacola, FL possible visit to NSVA monument in Pensacola National Cemetery either Fri. or Sat. 10th or 11th.

Reply in OPERATION SEABEES KNOWLEDGE GROUP if you can be here either one of those days, rain or shine!

Potential stops afterward are Red Fort, AL, Lafayette or Breaux Bridge, La., and Gulfport. MS.

Further west would be Houston and San Antonio, TX, and a stop in New Mexico on the way to Phoenix, AZ.

Final destination is Port Hueneme, CA before heading back to arrive at our RV homeport in Winter Garden, FL about the middle of April.

NSVA Islands, SEABEE SWARMS, and random ALL-SEABEE Meet and Greet opportunities along the way, as well as documenting SEABEE monuments are all on our agenda. We need your input to help us work out a schedule of events and stops along the way.

Weather and travel distances will be factors in deciding on where and when we make our stops. Please post suggestions on where we can meet with groups of SEABEES for us to choose from, in the OPERATION SEABEES KNOWLEDGE group so it can be discussed well in advance of actual arrival.

We'll see you on the road!





L-R Nancy Ward is welcomed into the X-23 Auxiliary by President Nancy Staples.



L-R Island X-23 Vice CDR. John Lowe presents check to Kelly Felt Citrus United Basket of Citrus Co. FL. X-23 has Supported CUB for many years with monetary contributions



L-R John Cubit, Department of New York Treasurer presents oversized check to Roy Kraus, 2019 winner of the Department of New York's Annual Fund Raiser. Winning ticket was sold by Island X-10 Albany, NY. Roy is the Vice Commander of the Mohawk Legion Post 1450 located in Half Moon, NY. Island X-10 holds their monthly meetings at this fine facility



Dan Gordon, Secretary X-19 Syracuse, NY mans the NSVA exhibit at the Veterans Day Parade and Expo, X-19 CDR. Barry Burge & JJ McAndrews drive pickup at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse.



L-R Island X-19 members Barry Burge (not pictured) Ed Gerrick and Bill Short represented the NSVA as they attended the Veterans day Recognition Ceremony and Breakfast given by America's first ally, the Oneida Indian Nation. This Ceremony is held annually at the Turning Stone Casino and Resort in Verona, NY.

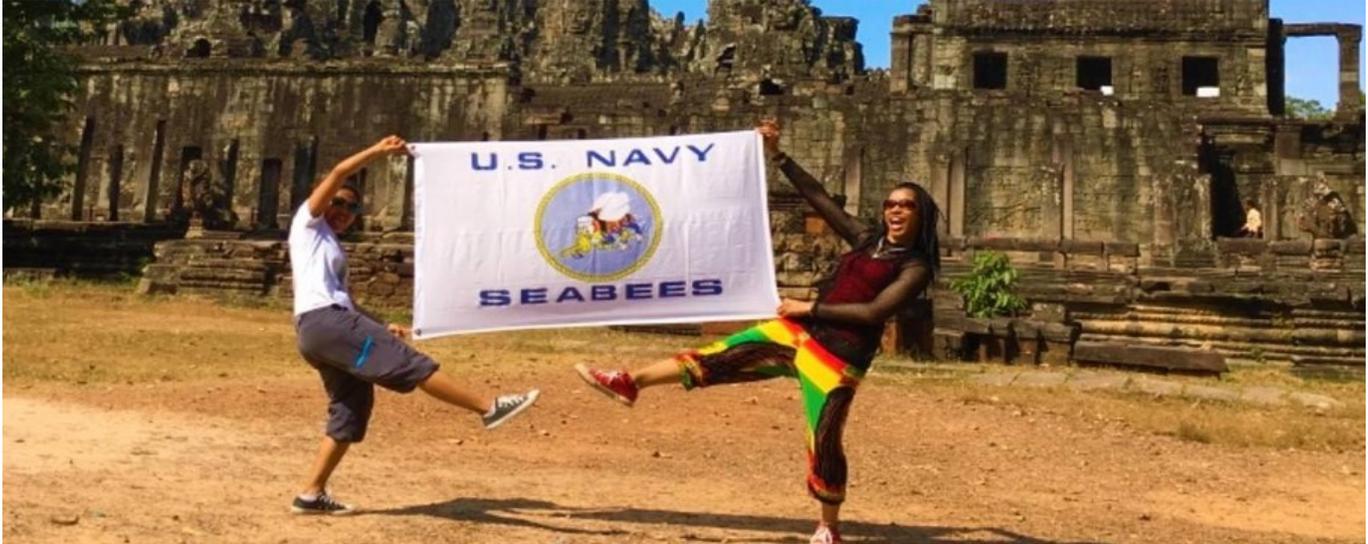


Pictured above are members of Island X-12 (Double Sixes) Rochester, NY with Nancy Van Apeldoorn founder of Lap Robes for Veterans. This completely volunteer organization has manufactured and distributed over 10,000 Lap Robes through out the greater Rochester area and surrounding counties since its inception in 2007. A lap robe is 42" X 54" (Navy Lap Robe pictured above) hand sewn cotton or fleece quilt, adequate to cover one's lap and legs. Lap Robes for all branches of the U.S. Military are made and distributed at no cost to area veterans. Recipients include Veterans Health Care Facilities, Hospice, VA facilities plus Gold Star Mothers and all Greater Rochester area Honor Flight Veterans receive a service specific Lap Robe. If you're interested in more information about this Fantastic organization contact Nancy at 585-478-6781, [nvanapeldoorn@gmail.com](mailto:nvanapeldoorn@gmail.com) or visit their Facebook page Lap Robes for Veterans.

(Picture and text submitted by J. Tangen, X-12 Treasurer)

In 1823 The Sentinel, a Troy NY newspaper, published an anonymous poem titled "A Visit From St. Nicholas" with the opening line "T'was the night before Christmas, when all thro the house". This line is arguably the best-known verse ever written by an American".

## Seabee supporting the Department of State and Diplomatic Security Service (DDS)



Seabees support the Department of State and the Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) by assisting security engineering officers with the installation and maintenance of specialized equipment, including closed-circuit TV cameras, alarm systems, electromagnetic door locks, vehicle barriers, and other special equipment in sensitive areas of U.S. embassies and consulates.

With their reputation for excellence, Seabees are often tasked with a wide range of special projects such as installing public access control systems, establishing post communications centers, and armoring embassy vehicles.

### **History**

As tensions between the U.S. and Eastern Bloc countries escalated during the Cold War, the State Department's Office of Security (SY) – the predecessor of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security and DSS – expressed grave concerns about Soviet espionage at U.S. diplomatic facilities.

There was reason to worry: U.S. officials had been finding small networks of microphones in U.S. embassies in Eastern Bloc nations. In April 1956, SY technical officers discovered a partially installed network of microphones with wires leading to the attic in the U.S. Embassy in Prague.

By 1959, the security officer at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow admitted that "Soviet radio and electronic technical capabilities are quite advanced," and that the Soviets were "keeping abreast of new technical developments in the United States." At the time, the State Department did not have the equipment that could detect these new electronic threats. SY Officers found most electronic listening devices – or bugs – by searching spaces and tracing out wiring and additional microphones.

Concerns about technical security at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow continued, resulting in several security improvements in 1962 and 1963, like installing plastic acoustic conference rooms and removing all furniture and fixtures from an existing room and sweeping it for bugs. In 1964, however, a tip from a Soviet defector prompted SY officials to return to the Moscow Embassy and look for bugs. At the end of their extensive search, the security officers found 52 bugs, some even hidden in the radiators.

As a result of these discoveries, SY adopted three changes: developing new countermeasures equipment to better detect Soviet bloc listening devices, accelerating the installation of secure conference rooms, and assigning a group of U.S. Navy Seabees to the State Department to find existing listening devices and prevent Eastern Bloc workers from installing them in U.S. embassies.

As SY had already used Seabees at the embassy in Warsaw to repair the damage caused by the removal of a microphone network, they were perfectly suited for the job.

With their training and expertise as construction specialists, they could recognize the unusual or unnecessary aspects of construction which might conceal bugs.

Major building and renovation projects were slated for the following years and SY decided to create a permanent Seabees detail to provide close surveillance of construction projects, and in some cases, complete work in sensitive areas.

The preceding article submitted by Joe Jung member X-12 Rochester, NY



# Vietnam Perspective



133 Seabee Veterans Association Reunion photo submitted by Dennis Ruocco Association President. Reunion was held in Myrtle Beach SC. 25 members attended from Vietnam and Afghanistan eras.

**U.S. NAVY SEABEES DESERVE A STAMP TOO!**



**Surfing Seabee** (submitted by John Ratomski)

Jerry, a La Jolla surfer who joined the Seabees, smuggled his surfboard into Vietnam in the hold of his ship. The Captain discovered the board and told Jerry that having the board was a court martial offense. However when Jerry subsequently used it to rescue four endangered swimmers in the South China Sea, he was recommended for a lifesaving medal.... Catch 22 for the Captain.

MCB-7 (The Magnificent Seven) Mortar crew Phu Bai 1966. At that time the most forward combat base in Vietnam. They kept the tubes hot, one night firing 109 Illum. and HE rounds.



**MORTAR CREWS —** CECN D. A. Grogg, EACN R. G. Basciano, CN D. W. Streng, SN D. E. Tessmer, CE2 R. W. Burkhartzmeyer, UT3 R. J. Petroski, SN R. Byers, UTCN R. R. Dorfner, UT3 M. C. Hansen, JT3 M. J. Albert Jr., UT3 A. A. Culmer, SW2 J. B. Christensen, UTCN R. H. Woelper, SWCN J. Spires.



Seabees repairing shell holes in the Khe Sanh airstrip, 1968.

MCB-11 Seabees level off concrete for a school in Quang Tri Nov. 1968 while local children watch.



Gill Gibson is a Docent at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Gill served in the Navy for 31 years, 7 as an enlisted Seabee with 2 tours in Vietnam, and then after finishing school, 24 years as a Chaplain including 4 tours with the Marine Corps. Gil became a Docent after visiting the museum with a chaplain friend. He enjoys meeting people from all over the world, especially those from countries he has visited. He enjoys chatting with Vietnam Veterans.

His favorite exhibit is the Short Field for Tactical Support (SATS) exhibit in the Vietnam Gallery. While serving in Vietnam Gill maintained the SATS at the Marine base at Chu Lai. Gill comes from a long line of family members that have served in the Navy or Marine Corps since 1775.

Gil, we thank you for your service and "Can Do Spirit".



VISIT [WWW.NSVA.ORG](http://WWW.NSVA.ORG)

For the latest updates in Seabee Scheduled Events and NSVA contact information.



Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc.  
16 Graham Ave.  
West Haven CT 06516



Dear Friend of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc. (NSVA):

The person presenting this letter to you is authorized to represent the NSVA to request donations for the organization.

The NSVA is a national not-for-profit 501c4 organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois since 1954. Our members recognize that service to God and Country is the foundation on which our Great Nation was founded, we dedicate ourselves to that service, and further pledge our lives and actions to preserve the fundamental ideals of American Government, which we believe are Justice, Freedom and equality for all.

We continue to serve our country by fostering camaraderie among members to stimulate and inspire interests in all fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational activities of the Navy Seabees. We perform charitable works to assist veterans, their widows, widowers and orphans in their time of distress. We promote and instill interest in, and respect for the professions, trades, crafts, and occupations of our members in times of war and peace.

Please help us continue our mission of commemoration and helping others by donating today. All donations collected will be used to keep the Seabee CAN DO quarterly magazine alive and well.

To have your advertisement displayed in our quarterly CAN DO publication, please choose annual applicable option(s):

_____ Full Page	\$500.00	(All four editions of the CAN DO plus 4 of each printed copy)
_____ Half Page	\$250.00	(All four editions of the CAN DO plus 2 of each printed copy)
_____ Quarter Page	\$125.00	(All four editions of the CAN DO plus 2 of each printed copy)

Our CAN DO publication is currently available in print form twice a year, digitally twice a year and has nearly 5,000 recipients.

Please make checks payable to Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc. and mail to address noted above. Send advertisement in JPEG format to website listed below.

For additional information please visit our website: [www.NSVA.org](http://www.NSVA.org)

Thank you for your support of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America.

Yours in Service,

*James J. Furey*

James J. Furey  
National Commander

9-17-19

Blessings to you  
and your families!



Thank you  
for your service  
to our country!



LAW OFFICES OF  
DONNA FUREY

ELDER LAW, WILLS, TRUSTS, ESTATES, MEDICAID, SPECIAL NEEDS

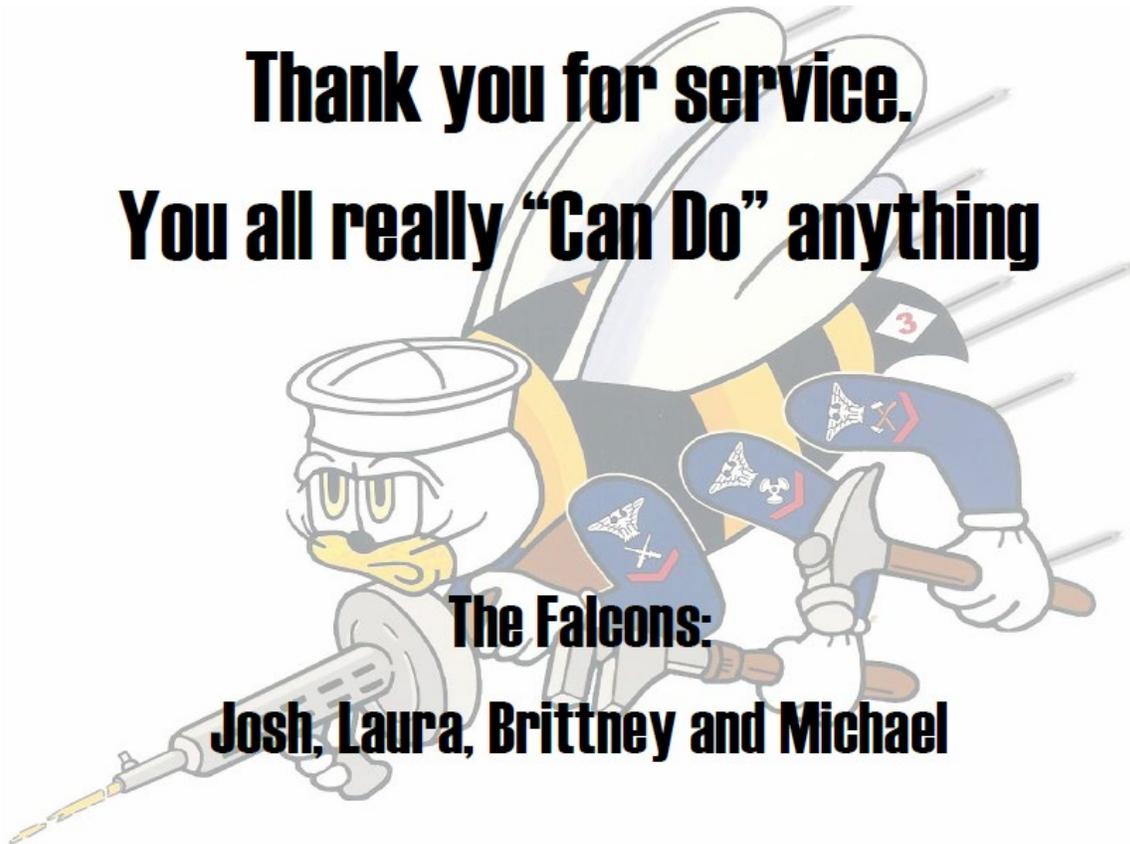
44-14 Broadway, Astoria, New York 11103  
T: 347-448-2549  
Email: [dfurey@fureylaw.net](mailto:dfurey@fureylaw.net) Web: [fureylaw.net](http://fureylaw.net)

Consider placing your Advertisement HERE or ANYWHERE in the Can Do Magazine.

The Staff here at the Can Do and all NSVA members associated with this publication wish to thank the advertisers for their generosity and willingness to take a leap of faith by donating to the NSVA Can Do magazine. Their advertisements have appeared in this electronic issue and will in the next 3 printed editions of the Can Do magazine. The contributors are:

- Donna Furey ESQ. Attorney at Law, Astoria N.Y.
- Joshua Falcon and Family, Tampa FL.
- NSVA Island X-11, Tampa FL., Ernie Nelson Commander
- New York City and Vicinity District Council of Carpenters, New York N.Y.
- NSVA Island X-5, Whidbey Island, WA. Maurice Aasland Commander

**Thank you for service.**  
**You all really “Can Do” anything**



**The Falcons:**  
**Josh, Laura, Brittney and Michael**

**2020 Navy Seabee Veterans of America  
74nd National Convention Registration Form  
August 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>**



8110 N. Academy Blvd  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
719-278-7017

Room Rate is \$89.00 a night  
With Breakfast

**Make checks payable to NSVA, on Memo line note "CONVENTION"**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Positions held /Island \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest name: \_\_\_\_\_ NSVAA Member \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Contact phone number \_\_\_\_\_

DATE	REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2020	COST	# of PEOPLE	TOTAL COST
	<b>Convention Registration Fee</b> NSVA/NSVAA Members	\$20.00 ea.		
	<b>Saturday Banquet Dinner Selections</b>			
8/21	Banquet Dinner Petite Filet of beef	\$50.00 ea.		
8/21	Banquet Dinner Seared salmon	\$50.00 ea.		
8/21	Banquet Dinner Chicken Marsala	\$50.00 ea.		
<p align="center"><b>Please make checks payable to NSVA, on Memo line note "CONVENTION"</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Mail check and registration form to:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Dave Buchanan, 8491 Desert Rose Terrace, Crystal River, FL. 34428</b></p> <p align="center">Deadline August 1, 2020      Thank You</p>				Total enclosed:

# **UPCOMING CONVENTION AND REUNION**

## **INFORMATION**

### **NSVA Annual Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting**

March 5th-8th 2020, The Westin Crystal City Reagan National Airport, Arlington VA

**[Book your group rate for NSVA MID-YEAR MEETING](#)**

You will find the information for your online reservation link above.

### **2020 Navy Seabee Veterans of America Annual Convention**

#### **Colorado Springs, CO. August 19th thru 22nd, 2020**

**SEABEE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** March 7, 2020 Dickson, PA

More Information from Island X-4 to follow

**[MID-WEST SEABEE BALL](#)** March 14, 2020

Click link above for further information

**NMCB 62 REUNION** April 23rd thru 26th, 2020

Contact Norm Hahn 715-379-8482 [normhahnjr@yahoo.com](mailto:normhahnjr@yahoo.com)

**GULFPORT ALL SEABEE REUNION** April 23rd thru 26th, 2020

Contact Jon Scott at 228-669-6858 or Bob Smith at [smithrp@cableone.net](mailto:smithrp@cableone.net)

**NMCB 74 Desert Shield/Desert Storm 3rd Annual Reunion**, May 1-2, 2020

Contact Joshua Turner at [jturner4771@gmail.com](mailto:jturner4771@gmail.com)

**NMCB 58 REUNION (ALL SEABEES INVITED)**

May 13th – 16th, 2020 Valley Forge, PA.

Contact: John Hughes at: (517) 332-5961, [jiv3hughes@aol.com](mailto:jiv3hughes@aol.com)

## **SEABEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ASSOCIATION and THE SEABEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY DONATIONS**

The Can Do will acknowledge donations to the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association and The Seabee Historical Society.

Donations should be mailed directly to:

NSVA National Secretary, 16 Graham Ave. West Haven, CT. 06516.

Please indicate on the Memo line which scholarship you wish to donate to.

### SMSA Scholarship Donations:

A donation in the amount of \$200.00 in memory of Seabee Richard Boniface to the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Fund by Island X-9, Kingston, NY.

A donation in the amount of \$200.00 to be split evenly between the Seabee Wounded in Action fund and the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Fund by Island X-9, Kingston, NY.

The SMSA has 25 SVA identified (earmarked) scholarships, listed below. They all can use donations, the most popular being #2 the Marvin Shields Scholarship, a close 2<sup>nd</sup> might be #6 the Robert Dean Stethem (killed by terrorists in 1988 on TWA Flt. 847 ,31 yrs. ago). A close 3<sup>rd</sup> might be the Mel Ramige Scholarship #23, his dedication and service to the SVA was notably impeccable.

#1 SVA William Barker, PNC Scholarship

#2 SVA Marvin Shields Scholarship

#3 SVA Sunshine State Scholarship

#4 SVA Ralph Richards 60<sup>th</sup> NCB Scholarship

#5 SVA Thomas A. Murphy 42<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Memorial Scholarship

#6 SVA SW2(DV) Robert Dean Stethem Scholarship

#7 SVA Robert C. Elrod 9<sup>th</sup> NCB Battalion Scholarship

#8 SVA Elizabeth Marie Daly White Scholarship (24<sup>th</sup> NCB)

#9 SVA Annie Vertice Wallace White Wood (Island X-24 Memorial Scholarship)

#10 SVA Anne Low-Cattly Wallace Nelson White (Island X-24 Memorial Scholarship)

#11 SVA Cecil N. Gould PNC Scholarship

#12 SVA CCM Roy E. Schaeffer 136<sup>th</sup> NCB Scholarship

#13 SVA Donald E. Laubenz PNC Scholarship

#14 SVA Charles Semms White (Island X-24 Memorial Scholarship)

#15 SVA Charles Wallace White Memorial Scholarship

#16 SVA MM3 Dale Evans Viers 75<sup>th</sup> NCB Scholarship

#17 SVA hennery (Hank) G. Brazil Scholarship

#18 SVA CWO4 Edward W. D'Angelo MCB 19 Scholarship

#19 SVA Tom Reside (Mr. Seabee) Scholarship

#20 SVA John Leptich and Willard Zonsius Scholarship

#21 SVA John W. Fletcher PNC Scholarship

#22 SVA F.E. "Ed" Jones, NSVA PNC and Gloria Jones Scholarship

#23 SVA National Secretary, Mel Ramige Scholarship

#24 SVA Herman A. Seuss Scholarship

#25 SVA Unnamed Not Fully Funded



**Welcome Aboard to our Newest Life Members!**  
**John Cubit, Life Membership Chairman, Navy Seabee Veterans of America**  
**It is with pleasure that we welcome the following Seabees as Life Members of our**  
**Organization:**

NAME	LM #	ISLAND	CITY	STATE
John Bernot	6792	X-8	Jamestown	PA
Sonny Dean	6793	X-1	Gulfport	MS
Karen Clough	6794	X-1	Gulfport	MS
Larry Foster	6795	X-2	Hillsborough	NC
Darryl Irvin	6796	X-24	Island at Large	NA
Marion Clark	6797	X-24	Island at Large	NA
Charles Massey	6798	X-9	Jacksonville	FL
Brian Condray	6799	X-4	Longmont	CO
Peter Jennings	6800	X-4	Longmont	CO
Darrell Chapman	6801	X-4	Longmont	CO
Barry Pessolano	6803	X-24	Island at Large	NA
Michael Burkett	6804	X-24	Island at Large	NA
Charles Turcotte	6805	X-4	Laconia	NH
William Glover	6806	X-9	Jacksonville	FL
Louis Giovanniello	6807	X-19	Daytona	FL
Craig Wood	6808	X-4	Laconia	NH/CO
Bruce St. Peter	6809	X-1	Gulfport	MS
Jerry Kindrick	6810	X-7	Island at Large	NA
George Snell	6811	X-7	Island at Large	NA
Max Hurst	6812	X-2	Maryville	TN
Roger Moody	6813	X-2	Maryville	TN

I would like to introduce myself, I'm John Cubit the new NSVA Life Membership Chairman. At this time I'm receiving all records from the National Secretary and past Life Membership Chairman. As I review the records and find out where we stand, I will do my best to ensure that all new membership applications are processed in a timely fashion. Please forward all requests along with any required funds to me, this will allow faster service. My contact information is:

John Cubit, NSVA Life Membership Chairperson  
 113 Kislingbury Street  
 Rochester, New York 14613-1611  
 Phone: 585-647-9294  
 Email: [eqcmcubit@gmail.com](mailto:eqcmcubit@gmail.com)



# FINAL SALUTE

COMPILED BY THE NATIONAL  
SECRETARY, AS REPORTED BY THEIR  
ISLANDS AND UNITS  
NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF  
AMERICA, INC.



**CONSTRUIMUS, BATUIMUS - WE BUILD, WE FIGHT**

LM#	Last Name	First	MI.	Island #	City	State
4461	Morrissey	James	J	X-4	Brockton	MA
5011	Hisey	Howard	A	X-8	Winter Haven	FL
3666	Cook	Michael	F	X-1	Gulfport	MS
1185	Lynch	George	L	X-16	St. Petersburg	FL
1743	Collins	Jack	C	X-1	Hammond	LA
5030	Baggett	Ronald	L	X-1	Covington	TN
5493	Ritza	Kenneth		X-7	Ventura	CA
1461	Bevilacqua	Charles	B	X-4	Burlington	MA
4710	St. Cyr	Paul	A	X-1	Gulfport	MS
6802	Nicholson	Robert		X-1	Kearny	NE
6376	Chase	Calvin		X-1	Davisville	RI
3104	Koch	Melvin		X-5	West Valley	NY
3435	Hart	Robert		X-1	Kearny	NE
5332	Utleby	Ronald		X-19	Fulton	NY
Annual	Easterby	Bernard		X-2	North Port	NY
Annual	Pinel	Bruce		X-4	Brockton	MA

**BROTHER** SEABEES not  
NSVA Members

Reynaldo	Rey	Rodriguez	BU1
Martin	J	Ford III	UDT/MCB7
Glen	Alan	Gooddale	CE1

**PLEASE** take the time to review and comment on pages 4 & 5 (Commanders Corner). This proposal by the SHF warrants our attention. Without input from our membership we may be led down a path we could possibly regret in the future. Your opinion, concerns and ideas count. Bring this proposal up at your meetings for open discussion. Get a conversation going! There are several unsolicited “Ideas”, “opinions” and “Suggestions” regarding this proposal posted on various Facebook and web sites. These postings may “appear” to be one person’s thoughts, opinions and reasons why the merger would be the greatest thing since sliced bread for our organization. In fact it almost sounds “too good to be true”.

Please send your thoughts, questions and concerns to Commander James Furey at [jjseabee@yahoo.com](mailto:jjseabee@yahoo.com)



Seabee Greeting Card Submitted by Louis Rossi, Member X-19 Syracuse, NY