

Commanders Corner

First of all let me thank the NSVA community for providing me with the opportunity to lead our organization as your National Commander. I chose the picture on the right to emphasize a point. Seabees as we all know and appreciate are a get down to business, Can Do group of hardy individuals that pride themselves on their ability to perform any given task and to complete it as quickly as possible using skill, ingenuity and the materials on hand. Today we are faced with a challenge that makes building a bridge across a



raging river look easy, and it might be. Today we are facing a challenge only we the (NSVA) can help ourselves overcome. No other organization or becoming part of another organization can do this for us. As we celebrate our 75th Anniversary this year, let us not forget those that have gone before us, let us not forget the dedication, resourcefulness and energy they have expended that has made this event possible. They mentored and led us to where we are today. Now it's our turn to do the same. If we envision a Seabee Veterans of America Organization in the future, we must search out and reach out to new members. We must engage them in comradery, in only the way a Seabee can. Every Seabee has a story or two (or more) that endears them to other Seabees. They're out there, we just have to go get them. Getting a new member is WORK. You have to be persistent (think of that junk yard dog). Wear your Seabee attire, let them know who you are. Results may be slow in coming, but it will come if you put yourself into it.

Within the coming year the NSVA leadership team will embark on several long sought after projects. A committee will be formed to evaluate and recommend changes to the NSVA Constitution and By-Laws. It's been a while since we've taken a good look at how this document fits our present operations. We have and will continue to improve our communications and recruiting tools using social media where it proves effective. We will continue to explore the realm of the Seabee swarms, visiting their gatherings and inviting them to NSVA functions, meetings and events. We are still pursuing the Seabee Stamp initiative, mentioned later in this publication. If we are going to make it happen, we need Everyone's involvement.

It is my intent to involve and engage the membership of the NSVA in these activities and more. We didn't earn our Can Do reputation by setting back on our haunches. Going forward we must do everything in our power to grow our membership. It is key to our success and survival as a veterans organization.

Once a Seabee, Always a Seabee

Yours in the Can Do Spirit
Jack F. Tangen, National Commander
Navy Seabee Veterans of America