



COMMANDERS CORNER

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS of AMERICA, Inc.

From the Desk of
Jack F. Tangen, National Commander

This first year in the office of National Commander of the NSVA has been both exhilarating and humbling. I have been tutored and mentored by many, I have been challenged and corrected by individuals with far more experience in the NSVA than I. I have proposed changes, suggestions, statements and opinions. But perhaps the most importantly, I have listened to our leadership team, our membership and the Auxiliary.

The office of National Commander is far more than a figurehead position. It's an office that demands and requires understanding and compassion. It requires the ability to listen to proposals, suggestions, comments, accusations, opinions and statements which may not always reflect the true situation or need. I have been fortunate to be surrounded by experienced, open minded individuals that when asked offer unopinionated answers and considerations.

The state of the NSVA is good as I see it, WE (being everyone) being involved in a committee project, forming an Island, working in an Island or Department and yes, even closing or declaring an Island INACTIVE WE are dedicated to the task. We as NSVA members are dedicated to the fellowship and comradery that brought us together in the service to our country, but I dare say more so because we're SEABEES, WE CAN DO !

We face a daunting task and have for some time, and it's called ATTRITION. Indeed attrition is our biggest challenge, we are losing members at a far greater rate through the aging process than we are signing up NEW members. Don't let the nay-sayers tell you differently. NSVA members are NOT JUMPING SHIP in favor of swarms. Our members may participate in swarm breakfast and luncheon gatherings, but they are also attending their scheduled NSVA meetings.

We have begun the work of reviewing the NSVA Constitution and By-Laws, performed housekeeping updates to the Rites and Procedures Manual, designed and issued a membership and Social Media survey to gather our members and those Seabees that aren't members (yet) thoughts and suggestions on how to improve and expand on the NSVA's membership.

There are new projects and initiatives on the horizon which we hope to help grow the membership of the NSVA. Again it's up to US to promote ourselves and the NSVA! Wear that SEABEE paraphernalia, put a SEABEE sticker on you vehicle, show that SEABEE pride and yes, the NSVA will continue to be in a GOOD state.

Yours in the Can Do Spirit
Jack F. Tangen, National Commander