

# NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

It seems like only a couple of weeks have passed since the 8<sup>th</sup> annual NMCB-14 Alumni Association reunion was held in Orange Park, Florida. The reunion was a fun filled weekend with a number of outstanding things to do while in Orange Park. On Friday we were privileged to have as our keynote speaker, Command Sgt. Major Billy Waugh, who is a retired Army Special Operator and CIA Operative. His exploits and stories kept us all on the edge of our seats. *Mr. Waugh also, through his wife's company, made a generous donation to the Alumni of* \$1.000.00.

During the Friday luncheon for the Spouses, many new ideas of what could be done to help the Alumni and suggestions as to the role of the Spouses in the Alumni were discussed over lunch. A number of ladies volunteered to assist with a number of the reunion functions and for this we thank you.

On Saturday we were treated to a luncheon cruise down the St. Johns River on the Jacksonville based yacht, the "Foxy Lady". A fun afternoon was had by all. The evening brought our annual dinner. Prior to dinner, we were privileged to have the CO of NMCB-14, CDR Marc Williams give us an update on the Battalion. Also, CDR Kyle Croce and UCCM Jimmy Cochrane, spoke to us concerning the Afghanistan deployment. We also enjoyed having a large contingency of the active members of "14" with us for dinner. After dinner we were entertained by a local band, "Our State of Mind", an exceptional band made up of local teenagers from the Jacksonville area.

During the annual General Membership meeting the names of those who were elected to the Board of Directors were read. The New Board members are Chris Snell, Ben Slaughter, Dewayne Polston and JJ Hillyer. We are glad you have indicated you would like to serve and we are glad to have you on board. The existing officers from 2012 were asked to serve another term and all consented to do so.

To fulfill a goal that was set for this year, a prestigious award, named after Retired Captain Bob Brockway was established. The award will be presented annually to someone who has shown outstanding dedication and work in the furtherance of the goals and objectives of the NMCB-14 Alumni Association. This year the first "CAPT. Bob Brockway Award" was presented to a well deserving Jim Gold.

I would like to thank everyone who came out this year and helped make this fun filled reunion. Special thanks go out to the Reunion Committees, The Officers, The Board of Directors, the ladies who helped everything run smoothly and everyone who had a part in making this reunion one we will remember. You all deserve a "WELL DONE"!

## **Association Officers:**

Ed Crenshaw, President

Tel: 706-897-2649

E-Mail: cecbret@windstream.net

Russ Doe, Vice President

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Michael Grace, Secretary

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THE KEYS TO SUCCESS IS PARTICIPATION.
PLEASE DO YOUR PART TO MAKE THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUCCESSFUL.

THANKS



http://www.nmcb14alumni.com/

## 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard Biggs Richard Hoibraten
Fred Bossard Dewayne Polston
Jim Caulder Ben Slaughter
Loren Emery Chris Snell
John J. Hillyer Keith Stephens

As we start planning for next year the Officers and Board of Directors have already come together. We set committee assignments and started brainstorming on the events and special items that will take place. The reunion will be in the Tampa/St. Pete area next year. We welcome any suggestions you have that would make the next reunion even better.

As we try to focus on our main goal of helping those of NMCB-14 who may have a special need, we solicit your help. If you hear of anyone from "14" that may have a specific need please notify the Alumni Ombudsman, Rev. Richard Hoibraten. With the "Alumni Assistance Plan" in place we are now able to act on these needs expeditiously.

(Continued on Page Three)



#### WWII LIFE MEMBERS

James D. Rothermel Andrew Parretti Charles Sheppard Ted Harwood

#### LIFE MEMBERS

Russell Doe Robert Rehkopf Fred S. Bossard Peter R. Brown John Dux Ronald L. Helton Terry B. Jamison John R. Johnson Randall Bushey George Milian William Purkis Glenn A. Smith Kenneth Erickson Mike Wood Michael Grace Mark Monaghan William C.Charvat William Memory Vernon Morris Richard Biggs Randall McGhee Donald N. Bridges Ernest Burzumato George A. Manning

Richard Mayo

Richard Hoibraten

Kenneth Morgan

Chris O. Snell, Jr.

James Caulder

Charles Hickey William McCallum Tommie Tyler William Travis Joseph Kolodziej Grey Duncan Charles Miller Alton F. Robertson Calvin Riley Gregg Harkness Ronald I. Russell Johnnie Nash Hilrie Kemp, Jr William Pye Loren Emery Randall Felton Terry Bailey Charles Famshaw Peter J. Araneo Thomas "Ed" Clark Leo Bennett Harold J. Murray John J. Hillyer III James A. Gold Peter R. Herrick Robert Tuten Raymond C. Walker Ronald Philpott Raleigh Ward Ed Crenshaw James R. Kautz Wilson K. Hunter John Walker Paul Mitchell Garry L. Chitwood William Smith

Keith Stephens

Thomas Kleschka

Stan Bartholomew

Herman Polston

David Tilki

Samantha Wood Stephen Clark Clarence Dukart Robert Newman Mrs. Dee Brockway \*\*\* Fred W. Ainsburg Ronald L. Dollar Edgar McGee Gary Sturm Patrick B. Upshaw Shirley Williams \*\*\* Stella Langel \*\*\* Kirsten Neff Benjamin Slaughter Richard Morris George Dore Richard Leyde ANNUALS (2013) Robert "Marty" Fisher Michael Stokes Pauline Crenshaw \*\*\* David A. Katz Jacqueline Polston\*\*\* Lloyd Hawthorne Donald Rimel Charles Meyer Dwight Hamborsky Normand Dupuis Mark Blue

Ronald Ginther \*\* Robert Jenkins \*\* Trace Dossett \*\* Scott McHugh \*\* Michael Anderson \*\* David Ludovici Al Cardenelli Marlin Cochran John Finley Bill Kramer Ed Ripoli Bill Schram Harvey Warren John Witzman Bob Brockway William P. Shiver Edward N. Orange John T. Larsen Nick San Marco U.J.C. Tom Williams \* WW II

Boaz Blosser \*

Jason Dwelley \*\*

Chris Dickerson \*\*

\*\* Iraq \*\*\* Associate

#### **MEMORIALS**

Elmer Finch \*

Charles Hayman

Ed Parada

John J. Hillyer Jr. Fred Huntley Donald L. Billstone Jim Knox Ron Patterson James V Carney \*



## PRESIDENTS CORNER (Continued)

Please help us as we strive to gain new members. If you know of someone that has served or is serving in NMCB-14 that is not an Alumni member, please tell them what we are about and encourage them to join with us. Also, Associate memberships are open to ANYONE who would like to join us in this endeavor; especially the spouses of members are encouraged to join.

In closing, I want to thank the entire Alumni membership for their help and encouragement given me throughout this past year, my initial year as the President of the Alumni. I hope this next year will permit us to move forward in fulfilling all of our goals and objectives. I know with everyone's help we can make this another outstanding year.

Pauline and I wish each and every one of you a wonderful and healthy year in 2014 and beyond.

## Ed Crenshaw, President

#### **2013 BOD BALLOTING RESULTS**

We are happy to welcome the following brave souls to the Board of Directors - John J. Hillyer (Second Term), Dewayane Polston, Ben Slaughter and Chris Snell.

Our 2013 voting for the new Board of Directors showed a slight improvement over 2013 in terms of number and percentage of members casting votes. The results are still far from where they should be, so please be sure to cast you vote this year and thereafter.

Following is a comparison of the 2012 and 2013 vote results.

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Number of eligible voters:	99	104
Number of members casting votes:	41	48
Percent of members casting votes:	43	46
Number of BOD Candidates elected	04	04
Number of BOD Candidates:	05	06
Number of Write-In Votes	05	03

We want to thank both Ray Walker and Ron Dollar respectively for stepping in and filling the vacated BOD slots of Ed Crenshaw (elected to President) and Mark Monaghan who resigned due to a major move to the northeast.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Membership growth continued at a slow pace for 2013. Our total Life Membership count now stands at 91 including our WWII and our Associate Life members. Make note in the membership list on Page 2, that Charlie Sheppard has been listed under the WWII members. That is a distinction that was long overlooked and we apologize to Charlie for the error of our ways. [Two Life Members, Neil Orange and John Larsen, died this year.]

The current Annual Membership is 13 which brings our (living) membership to 105. Memorial membership adds another 30 past members that we continue to honor.

Annual Members reminded that their memberships are good for one year from the date of receipt of their application and check. All members have a duty to keep their contact info up to date with the editor.



#### NMCB FOURTEEN CHANGE of COMMAND

Under beautiful and sunny Florida skies on 08 June 2013, CDR Mark Williams relieved CDR Todd Smith and assumed command of NMCB 14. The occasion was marked by the attendance of CAPT Roger Motzko, Commander, NCR3, family and friends. Jim Gold, Mike Wood and Randy Bushey also attended on behalf of the Alumni Association. We forward our congratulations to CDR Smith for his prescient leadership and our best wishes for much success to CDR Williams, especially in these challenging times. (The photos below are courtesy of Sam Malone. Thanks Sam.)



CDR Todd Smith passes the flag to CDR Marc Williams, under the watchful eye of CAPT Motzko.



The troops "stand tall" during the COC.

#### **UNIT DE-COMMISSIONINGS**

It is sad to report that NMCB Twenty-Four and NCR3, two Seabee units close to the hearts and minds of NMCB Fourteen Seabees and Officers, active and retired, have been decommissioned. NMCB 24's decommissioning ceremony was held on 15 September 2013. A portion of Commanding Officer, CAPT Ronald D. Gruzesky's comments,



Family and friends observe the Change of Command. Randy Bushey is in second row to the right of Jim Gold and Mike Wood are at the far right in the front row.

and further commentary can be found at the following link: <a href="http://www.navy.mil/ah\_online/ftrStory.asp?id=77319">http://www.navy.mil/ah\_online/ftrStory.asp?id=77319</a>

RADM Noah Long, USN, Ret, a former NMCB 14 officer and a former NMCB 24 CO, had the honor of retiring NMCB 24's flag. NMCB 24 had a long and honorable history and we are sad that the battalion no longer exists; except in our minds and hearts. We thank all of the great NMCB 24 Officers and Seabees, past and present, whose competitive spirt and friendly rivalry helped to make NMCB 14 a better battalion. You will not be forgotten.

On 20 September 2013, NCR 3 was decommissioned in Atlanta, GA. Many of our former officers and Seabees of both NMCB's 14 and 24 had the honor to serve in NCR 3. CAPT Roger Motzko, Regimental Commander, presided over the ceremonies. Notable past officers of 14 and/or 24 in attendance were RADM's Noah Long, Jim McGarrah, Ray Alexander, CAPT's Dean Battles, Ron Helton and (??). (See photo on Page 9.)



### **ALUMNI FACES**

Random photos during the reunion events are shown to the right and below.



Dewayne & Jackie Polston enjoying their Friday night dinner while out the town.



Billy Waugh (our primary Friday speaker) & Tom Williams listen attentively to SMSA's Dan Miller.



Pat Robertson, RoseMary & Ed McGee enjoying the St John;s River Cruise and sharing long time memories.



Dave Cherry brought his Scottish heritage to Saturday night's dinner. Thanks Dave!



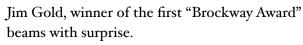
Joy Faulkner and Guy Sutton reported they had a good time aboard the 'Foxy Lady' / St Johns River Cruise



NMCB 14 CO CDR Marc Williams, Afghan Det OIC CDR Kyle Croce, and CUCM Jimmy Cochran receiving their Certificates of Appreciation for their updates on the Battalion and/or their Afghan exploits.



Richard Mayo closed out the Reunion by leading us thru the Sunday morning Memorial Service.







## SPECIAL THANKS TO SPECIAL PEOPLE

Mrs Dee Brockway has once again bestowed to the Alumni a very generous donation in the amount of \$1,500.00. It was received during the Christmas season and is very much appreciated. From the bottom of our hearts, THANK YOU DEE. We also have had a recent anonymous donation(s) in the amount of \$500.00 and \$100.00. Thanks also to Mr. andMrs. Anonymous!!

#### **REUNION SPONSORS AND DONORS THANK YOU'S**

We want to take this opportunity to publicly thank the sponsors and/or donors that furnished items for our Eighth Reunion. We had many wonderful sponsors and prizes to raffle off THANKS to the wonderful people below.

Zena Keller, First Northern Bank & Trust, Scoiota, PA; Promotional Binder Clips and Lapel American Flags

Al Robertson, Fort Pierce, FL; A free week stay in a Fort Pierce condo.

Wren Barton, Jostens - Military Sales, Corinth, TX; White Lustrium"Seabee" Ring

Charles Davis, Anza Knives, Lakeside, CA; Custom Handmade Collectors Knife

Heather Fleming; Mary Kay Cosmetics, Orlando, FL; Cometic Packages

Teresa Moore, United Community Banks, Blairsville, GA; Promotional Water Bottles, Pens and Note Cards

Heather Stefanski, Carquest, Raleigh, NC; Fleece Jackets, T-Shirts, Key Rings and Screw Drivers

Normand Dupuis, Stormin's Seabee Specialties, Winter Garden, FL; Imprinted T-Shirts

John Wishmeyer, Home Depot, Blairsville, GA; Various Hand Tools and Accessories

Tony Stewart, Wal-Mart, Blairsville, GA; \$50.00 Gift Card for the Silent Auction

Jim Crenshaw, Crenshaw Wood Creations, Toccoa, GA; Handmade "Seabee: Wood Checker Board

Tom Kleschka, Otto, NC; Handmade Stained Glass Picture

Ed Crenshaw, GA Mt'n Originals by Seabee Ed, Young Harris, GA; Birdhouse and Hillbilly Outhouse Paper Dispenser

#### **OBITUARIES and SICK CALL**

This past year saw the passing of more past NMCB 14 Seabees and officers. Some Alumni members, some not. In addition, **RADM John Paul Jones**, former CO of MCB 62 in Vietnam and Chief of Naval Civil Engineers from 1984 to 1987, died on 02 August 2013. He last resided at Fernandina Beach (Amelia Island), FL.

<u>UT1 Stanley (Stan) Jenkins</u>, (1933-2011) passed away on Sunday, May 15, 2011. He was born on May 16, 1933 in Warren, Ohio where he lived for 42 years. (Note: We just learned of Stan's death late this year.)

He retired from Packard Electric in Warren, Ohio in 1975 where he was a master plumber. He moved to Melbourne, FL in 1975 and was an innovative employee for Lockheed Martin and United Space Alliance. He proudly served in the <u>U.S. Navy</u>, both active duty (USS Baltimore '51-'53) and as a Seabee Reservist in Orlando, FL. He retired from military service in 1990.

Stan was a member of The First Presbyterian Church of Palm Bay, FL. He was also a member of Harbor City Masonic Lodge No. 318, American Legion Post 163, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 32, National Order of Trench Rats Dugout 472 and an active participant in the local Space Coast Woodcarvers of Melbourne, FL.

He is survived by his son, Jeffrey (Joni) Jenkins of Warren, Ohio; and his daughter, Jan (Mark) Lambert of Satellite Beach, Florida. He also left behind five loving grandchildren.

A memorial service was conducted at The First Presbyterian Church of Palm Bay, 1080 Port Malabar Blvd. N.E., on Saturday, 28 May at 11 am. Donations can be made in Stan's name to the Navy Seabee Scholarship Fund.



<u>UT1 William M Pierson</u> passed away on May 29, 2011, He was 77 years old. Bill was from Orlando and Retired from the City of Orlando in 1994, passed away Sunday, May 29, 2011. Born on November 24, 1933, in Orlando, "Bill" was a graduate of Orlando Senior High School. He was a US Air Force Sgt and a B-36 heavy bomber mechanic. He also later served in the US Naval Reserve as a UT1 in the Seabees. He served with NMCB-14 Det. 0314 Orlando.

Bill worked at Kennedy Space Center from Project Mercury through Skylab and was a Saturn V rocket mechanic. He retired from the City of Orlando in 1994 after having been a Supervisor for City Hall Building Maintenance, and had since resided in Navarre, FL. Bill loved camping, canoeing, visiting state parks, and growing gardenias. Bill was predeceased by his son William Michael "Mike" Pierson, Jr., and is survived by Dennis Pierson and their mother Dorl Squires. A funeral service was held on Friday, June 17, at 11:30 AM at the Florida National Cemetery, 6502 SW 102nd Avenue, Bushnell, FL.

CAPT Edward Neil Orange, 82, passed peacefully on Sunday, May 26, 2013.

Neil was born on July 19, 1930 in Nortonville, KY to Cecil Orange and Anna Ashby Orange. He married Mary Ann Kleckner and moved to Miami, FL where he worked for Dade County for 21 years, ending his career there as Chief Civil Engineer. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1959. Then in 1970, David Ludovici and Neil formed Ludovici and Orange Consulting Engineers, which grew to 55 employees and is still in operation 43 years later.

Neil served in the RNCF for almost 40 years and retired having achieved the rank of Captain. In addition, Neil along with CAPT Bob Brockway, assisted in the foundation and organization of the NMCB 14 Alumni Association.

Neil was also very active in community affairs serving on the Dade County YMCA board of directors, being a member of Kiwanis for more than 40 years and working with Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministry. He was ordained as a deacon in 1959 and served in that capacity in the churches he attended in Miami and Black Mountain.

Neil is survived by his wife of 65 years, Mary Ann, of Black Mountain, NC; his children Neil Orange, Jr., Gary Orange and wife, Judy, Salijo Orange McMechen and husband, Ben, and Craig Orange; 11 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at 2 pm on Saturday, June 1, 2013 in Black Mountain, North Carolina at the First Baptist Church, 130 Montreat Road. Due to the fact that Neil did not have sufficient time on active duty, the funeral home could not provide military honors. Therefore in the finest Seabee Can-Do spirit, MCPO's Bill Purkis and Jim Farley, GMCS John Roberts, CAPT's Ron Helton, Al Robertson and Fred Bossard formed an honor guard for presentation of an American Flag to Mrs. Orange. CUCM Bill Purkis, on behalf of the honor guard, made the flag



presentation to Mrs. Orange, noting "that in this flag was a little piece of Neil and every Seabee he had served with". Also in attendance for the services, was RADM Charles (Dick) Smith.

(L-R) Dick Smith, Jim Farley, Fred Bossard, John Roberts, Craig Orange, Al Robertson, Ron Helton and Bill Purkis. Note: "RADM for a day Craig Orange" got his wish to "out rank" his dad, if only for just a moment!



<u>CAPT John T. Larsen.</u> 85, passed away on 31 August 2013. He was born in Orange, NJ to the late Gabriel Larsen and Thora Oftedal of Norway. John was a graduate of the City College of New York. He served in the <u>US Navy</u> and retired as a Captain in the Naval Reserve Seabees. He was a civil engineer for the US Army Corps of Engineers for more than 35 years overseeing projects in Puerto Rico and other countries. John was an active member of Murray Hill United Methodist Church for more than 50 years serving in various leadership capacities and on staff as Business Administrator. John was a devoted family man and a proud patriot.

John was an active member of Murray Hill 50 years serving in various leadership capacities John was a devoted family man and a proud wife, Willie Mae Larsen, he is survived by his his children, John A. Larsen and Lori L. Rauch; beloved granddaughter, Jordan Grace Rauch; as friends. A Celebration of John's life was held at 11 Murray Hill United Methodist Church, with Park, 7242 Normandy Blvd. Jacksonville, FL



United Methodist Church for more than and on staff as Business Administrator. patriot. Preceded in death by his first devoted present wife, Gloria R. Larsen, his brother Hans C. Andersen; his well as numerous family members and AM on Saturday, 7 September 2013 at burial following at Riverside Memorial 32205.

CAPT Larsen's leadership as Commanding Officer of "RNMCB 14" in the early 1970's was instrumental in the Battalion being awarded the "Best of Type" award in 1971; the first of many such awards to follow. CAPT Larsen also led "RNMCB 14" to probably it's most successful ACDUTRA Deployments ever, when in 1972 the Battalion was deployed to the former "Roosevelt Roads Naval Station", Ceiba, Puerto Rico. "The Pride of Dixie" was the first Reserve Naval Construction Battalion to ever be deployed overseas for its two week annual training duty. The deployment was fittingly nicknamed "El Primero" (The First). Construction was the "name of the game, and construct we did. (If memory serves me right, we completed approximately 25-30 projects during this deployment.)

Thanks go out to Jack Araneo, Mike Woods, Randy Bushey and other Alumni mates that attended John's services.

CAPT Ronald F. York, Sr., age 83, passed away on December 22, 2013 in DeLand, FL after a lengthy illness. Ron was born in Detroit, MI, the son of Bernard A. York and Marie LaFaive York Brown. The family moved to West Palm Beach, FL in 1938 where Ron attended St. Ann Catholic School, graduating in the class of 1948. After attending the University of Detroit his freshman year, he transferred to the <u>University of Florida</u> from which he graduated with a degree in civil engineering. He served four years active duty in the U.S. Navy as a Seabee and 25 years in the U.S. Naval Reserve Civil Engineer Corps. He was the West Palm Beach "RNCB 14" Detachment CO for many years and a Battalion Company Commander in the early years of the Battalion. Ron's civilian jobs included being the city engineer for the City of West Palm Beach in the 1960's, a partner in the firm of Klaiber & York, two different tenures with Pratt and Whitney Aircraft, and 15 years with the South Florida Water Management District. In 1994, Ron and his wife Sylvia "Sue" retired to DeLand, FL, where Ron continued his participation in the Knights of Columbus Council #6274 and was a parishioner of St. Peter Catholic Church. He was a proud and very loyal UF Gator. Ron was a devoted husband to Sue, his wife of 55 years, and a wonderful father to his daughter Dalia Patterson of DeLand, and sons Lynn B. York of Jupiter; and Ronald York, Jr. of Orlando. Ron was also the proud grandfather of Hunter and Heather York and Devin and Lauren Patterson. He will be very dearly missed by his family, many friends, and his beloved border collie, Holly. A mass of Christian burial took place at St. Peter Catholic Church, 359 W. New York Ave., DeLand, FL on Monday, December 30, 2013 at 10:00 AM with Father Thomas Connery officiating. Donations may be made in Ron's name to End Animal Sanctuary, 1899 Mercers Fernery Road, DeLand, FL 32720. You are invited to share your memories with the family at www.lankfordfuneralhome.com.

In attendance at Ron's services were former NMCB 14 shipmates, Joe Schweigart, Bill Tydings and "long lost" CDR Johnny Perez, UNS Ret. Johnny was our program officer for in the early days of the Battalion, who provided us with outstanding active duty administrative support for training orders, pay, etc. Great to have you "back" Johnny.



CMCS Thomas E. (Tommy) Meeks age 93 of Sandy Springs, GA went to be with the Lord on January 3, 2014. Tommy devoted himself to caring for others in many ways, repairing plumbing and electrical needs for widows and the disabled. He also invested his life in Masonry through the Masonic Lodge of Sandy Springs. As a member of "The Greatest Generation", he served his country in WWII in the Navy Seabees. Tommy served in "RNMCB 14", "RNCB 24" and "RNCR 3". While in "RNMCB 14", he was one of two (EQCM J. J. Hillyer being the other) Construction Mechanics to be assigned to Delta Company in the early days of the Battalion.

Tommy was a retired Senior Tool Inspector at Lockheed Georgia. He was preceded in death by his wife, Letha Worsham Meeks and is survived by his son Stephen E. Meeks and his wife Janet of Lilburn, grandchildren Joel Thomas Meeks, Michael Stephen Meeks and Jessica Diane Meeks. He is also survived by Mary Shockley, a friend of 35 years. Funeral Services were held Saturday, 11 January 2014 at 10:30 a.m. at Sandy Springs Chapel. Following the funeral service a Reception/luncheon was held at the Sandy Springs Masonic Lodge. Interment followed the reception in Fairview Memorial Gardens. Sandy Springs Lodge #124 F&AM provided military honors. Memorial contributions may be made to Sandy Springs Masonic Lodge for the Masonic Children's Home, please contact Tom Christner at Sandy Springs Lodge #124.

A thank you goes out to Loren Emery and Dwight Smith for attending the funeral services and passing on condolences.

<u>CAPT. U.J.C. Tom Williams</u>. Just as we were getting ready to go to press, we received news from Jack Araneo on 20 January, that Tom passed away in the evening of the same date. On 21 January, Randy Felton advised that he has spoken to Tom's wife Shirley. There will be a memorial service for Tom sometime in February, the date and time to be determined. Randy Felton has advised that Steele's Funeral Home, 207 Burns Road, Winter Haven, FL will provide funeral services. Steel's E-Mail is: steele32@gte.net.

## **SEABEE FAMILY of TEN LOSES HOME IN FIRE**

On 18 October 2013, CM1 Johnnie Chenault and his family suffered a tragedy at there home in Tennessee (Springfield). While the family was out camping, their home was destroyed by a fire. The family is safe, but have lost most of their possessions. CM1 is married and has 8 children at home with him. Members from the Nashville Detachment were putting out word for donations for clothing and such. CM1 has not asked for anything other than that, but I'm sure he will need extra support soon. CM1 Cochran was detached to NMCB 14 during their last deployment to Afghanistan. Several family aid organization in the Cochran's local area were providing aid to the family. The Alumni Association, thru our "Assistance Committee and Ombudsman Rev. Richard Hoibraten, provided a \$250.00 gift card for clothing for the children. See the full story from Nashville's WKRN-TV at this link: http:// www.wkrn.com/story/23731631/family-of-10-loses-homein-fire#.UmH35jexFp4.email



Past Commodores of the NCR 3 are from left to right are: CAPT Dean Battles, RAMD Noah Long, RADM Jim McGarrah, CAPT Roger Motzko, CAPT Ron Helton, RADM Ray Alexander and (Unidentified).



### **ALUMNI MEMBER'S SON IN AFGHANISTAN**

Richard Mayo wrote to us the following: "Tonight when you lay your head down on that nice soft clean sweet smelling pillow and you feel compel to thank someone, just look up, close your eyes and say thank you God and also thank Sgt. Billy Mayo for being a "Horse Holder". If you would like Billy's address in Afghanistan just email me back and I will forward same. Have a blessed day!" (Richard's email address is <a href="mailto:richardcmayo7@gmail.com">richardcmayo7@gmail.com</a>).



Sgt. Billy Mayo Defending America

## **EDITIOR'S SHORT THANKSGIVING STORY**

My wife and I were listening a radio talk show on our way to Thanksgiving dinner. The radio host encouraged listeners to call in with their Turkey Day stories. A caller from Michigan called in with this. His wife, while not telling anyone, stuffed a cornish hen into a rather large turkey's cavity and roasted them together. When done and ready for dinner, the family - including Grandma and Grandpa - sat down at the table. When wife started cutting on the turkey's cavity, out popped the cornish hen. The caller said it took them two hours to convince Grandma to eat some turkey. Her reluctance was based her belief that a "pregnant hen and her baby" had been roasted. We laughed all the way to our destination!!

#### PROCRASTINATION PROVEN TO DELAY WHATEVER

Unlike Global Warming or Climate Change, PROCRASTINATION once again has been proven to delay whatever project or task one is working on. This newsletter is living and scientific proof of that paradigm. For whatever reason, your humble correspondent could not get his you know what in gear and get this newsletter done in a a timely manner. For that, I apologize profusely. The good news is there is a lot of content here. The bad news is that there is a lot of content here.

#### **NINTH ANNUAL REUNION**

This year's reunion committee, namely Russ Doe and John Hillyer, did a great job searching out and evaluating hotels for our (can you believe it) ninth annual reunion. *You spoke (via your critique sheets) and we listened.* 

The Post Card Inn in St Petersburg Beach, FL has been selected for our annual festivities. The Post Card Inn was chosen for its unique atmosphere, amenities and location right on the beach. (Be sure to pack your bathing suit and plenty of sun-screen.) There is a plethora of nearby quality restaurants, museums,

casinos, and much more. Plus, the weather at the end of October can be some of the best that Florida has to offer. In other words, NOT too hot. So mark your calendar and start planning and packing right now!

Your Board and officers will now get busy putting together the full content of reunion activities and agenda. Our target date is to have the full registration package in your hot little hands is by the end of June.

Anyone in the Tampa - St Pete area that would like to assist Russ and John, please feel free to contact them. They would appreciate the help.



Post Card Inn 6300 Gulf Blvd http://postcardinn.com



NINTH REUNION CALENDAR

23 - 26 OCTOBER 2014

St. Petersburg Beach, FL



#### ONE LAST THING FROM ED

Anyone who would like to purchase an Alumni License Plate, we have more on hand for purchase. They are \$18.00 each including S&H.

Call or Email Ed Crenshaw to order at: 706-897-2649 / cecbret@windstream.net.



#### HAPPYNEW YEARTO ALL

Bravo Zulu to ALL May God Bless Our Troops!

## Calendar

11 January 2014 BOD Conference Call 0900 - 1000 EST

I5 March 2014 BOD Conference Call 0900 - 1000 EDT

15 October 2014 2015 - 2017 BOD Ballots & Voting Deadline

23-26 October 2014
9th Annual Re-Union
BOD Election of Officers
Post Card Inn
St. Petersburg Beach, FL

## IN MEMORY OF

2013 Deceased
UT1 Stanley Jenkins
UT1 Willam Pierson
CAPT E.N. Orange
CAPT J. T. Larsen
CAPT R. F. York
CAPT U.J.C. Williams

Other Notable RADM John Paul Jones



NMCB 14 Alumni Association 4005 Crest View Drive Stroudsburg, PA 18360

> Addressee Name 4321 First Street Anytown, State 54321