



# NEWSLETTER

I hope that a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year was had by all our members, their families and all of our readers.

As the Alumni Association President for 2015-2016, I want to thank Ed Crenshaw for the leadership that he displayed in 2013-2014 in growing the Association's membership and holding two well attended and fun filled reunions. Ed is continuing to contribute to the association by serving on the BOD as the immediate past president and personal counsel.

At the October 2014 Reunion in St Pete Beach, FL the attendees voted to hold the 2015 Reunion in the Panhandle of Florida at either Panama City or Pensacola Beach. The final selection was Pensacola, FL. The dates are 23 to 25 October 2015. So start making plans to attend. I want to thank Glenn Smith for gathering the hotel information and guiding the BOD/Officers in the hotel selection, which will be the Hilton Garden Inn at 1145 Airport Blvd.

Your Alumni Association has a fantastic Board of Directors and Officers that are dedicated to growing membership and assisting the SEABEE's of NMCB 14 and their families when in need. Contact an old shipmate and encourage them to become a member and attend our next reunion.

As most of you might know, effective 01 October 2014, NMCB 14's Headquarters was moved to CBC Gulfport, MS. One hundred twenty-five of their Seabees deployed to western Africa and Afghanistan in February 2015. There will be a Memorial Service in conjunction with Reunion in October to remember those Seabees of NMCB 14 killed in Iraq in 2004.

My wife Sharyn and I attended the NAVFAC Southeast/SEABEE Anniversary Ball held on 02 March 2015 at the World Golf Hall of Fame in St Augustine, FL. The World Golf Village is a beautiful facility that is less than thirty minutes south of NAS JAX and the association should consider it for a reunion site. It's been a bunch of years since I've attended a "SEABEE birthday ball" and I remember them being a lot more fun; probably because so many of you were also in attendance. I was able to talk one on one about the association and distribute some membership applications.

I would encourage each of you to get involved in the Alumni Association and to regularly review our website for future events.

Mike Grace, President

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

THANKS!!



<http://www.nmcbl4alumni.com/>

## 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Richard Biggs

Jim Caulder

Ed Crenshaw

Russ Doe

Loren Emery

John J. Hillyer

Richard Hoibraten

Dewayne Polston

Ben Slaughter

Janna Wiedeman



# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## WINTER-SPRING 2014-15



### WWII LIFE MEMBERS

James D. Rothermel  
Andrew Parretti  
Charles Sheppard  
Ted Harwood

### LIFE MEMBERS

Russell Doe  
Robert Rehkopf  
Fred S. Bossard  
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  
James Caulder  
Chris O. Snell, Jr.  
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  
David Tilki  
Thomas Kleschka  
Stan Bartholomew  
Herman Polston  
Samantha Wood  
Stephen Clark  
Clarence Dukart  
Robert Newman  
Mrs. Dee Brockway \*\*\*

Ronald L. Dollar  
Edgar McGee  
Gary Sturm  
Patrick B. Upshaw  
Shirley Williams \*\*\*  
Stella Langel \*\*\*  
Kirsten Neff  
Benjamin Slaughter  
Richard Morris  
George Dore  
Richard Leyde  
Claude "Bob" Suggs  
Anita J. Hansen  
James F. George  
Robert D. Litten  
Jerry W. Kautz  
Charles L. Meyer  
Orlando "Pappa" Chase  
David Vernaza  
Kyle J. Croce  
Michael Rambo  
James N. Nappier, Jr.  
Janna L. Robinson  
William Wiedeman  
James Boglarsky  
Ralph M. Capito  
Christopher Ritchie  
Peter Reid  
Robert "Marty" Fisher  
Francisco "Frank" Landrau  
James R. Graham  
Fred M. Derr  
Allen Boatman  
Donal Rimel  
Joseph Hale  
Linda Joiner\*\*\*  
A.J. "Jack" Dempsey  
Karen Anderson\*\*\*  
Brandi Anderson\*\*\*  
Michael Doublery  
Fred Frank  
Anthony Miller

Christopher Ritchie  
Lewis Haynes  
Doug Alvarez  
Aaron Felthousen  
Gregory Risner  
Odis Ray  
Michael Vorburger

### ANNUALS (2013-14)

Kevin Wishnacht  
John Allan  
Michael Stokes  
Paul Summers  
Ernest Nelson III  
Pauline Crenshaw \*\*\*  
Normand Dupuis  
David Cherry  
David A. Katz  
Mark Blue  
Brittany Robinson ♦  
Renee Dial  
Jacqueline Poston\*\*\*  
Lloyd Hawthorne  
Patrick Valentini  
Charles Hayman  
Ed Parada  
Robert Ashley, Jr.

### MEMORIALS

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

\* WW II

\*\* Iraq

\*\*\* Associate

♦ Active Duty



# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER - SPRING 2014 - 15

## MEMBERSHIP ROSTER CONTINUED

### MEMORIALS

Boaz Blosser \*

Jason Dwelley\*\*

Chris Dickerson\*\*

Ronald Ginter\*\*

Robert Jenkins\*\*

Trace Dossett\*\*

Scott McHugh\*\*

Michael Anderson\*\*

David Ludivici

Al Cardenelli

Marlin Cochran

Bill Kramer

John Finley

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 William

Cleveland Joiner

Peter R. Brown

Fred Ainsburg

Lindon Haworth

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

2015 paid memberships has been very slow to date, with only two new paid members, who are A.J. Dempsey (L) and Robert Ashley, Jr (A).

On the other hand, our recent offer to NMCB 14 WIA's for a free Life Membership is taking off. Ed Crenshaw has recruited (what would expect from a former recruiter?) five new WIA Life Members (see notations below). Congratulations Ed and also to others that may be assisting you.

All Alumni should be recruiting other former NMCB 14 members and urging them to join. Remember, in numbers there is strength. Thanks to all that are assisting in this effort.

## MEMBERSHIPS 2009 to DATE ♦

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Life	47	18	16	06	05	24	11
Annual	13	06	07	10	14	16	01
Totals*	60	24	23	16	19	40	12

♦ Not Including Memorial Memberships

\* Note that some previous Annuals converted to Life, and some members have passed away. Thus the "grand total" from "2009 to Date" will not match the "136" subtotal shown below.

## WELCOME 2014 - 15 NEW MEMBERS

We heartily welcome new members added since the Fall 2014 Newsletter:

### Life Members

Linda (Joiner) Hillyer

A.J. "Jack" Dempsey

\*Michael Douberly

\*Fred Frank

\*Anthony Miller

\*Christopher Ritchie

\*Lewis Haynes

\*Doug Alvarez      \*Aaron Felthousen

\*Gregory Risner    \*Odis Ray

\*Michael Vorburger

### Annual Members

Patrick Valentini

Lloyd Hawthorne

Robert Ashley

## MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

WWII Life	4
Life Members	115
Annual Members	18
Subtotal	145
Memorial Members	34
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>179</b>

Thank you all for your support and sacrifices.

\*New WIA Members

## WEBMASTER NEEDED

**Hey - All you young techies!!** We are still looking for a new [Webmaster](#). Keith Stephens, who has served us admirably for the past several years, is looking for relief. Anyone interested in maintaining our website can contact Keith at [webmaster@nmcbl4alumni.com](mailto:webmaster@nmcbl4alumni.com). Great PAY and BENEFITS - Well at least in the form of satisfaction for a "job well done and appreciated".



# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

## BIRTHDAY WISHES

Our best wishes go out to the following for a very Happy Birthday:  
Capt. Ron Helton 29 April 2015



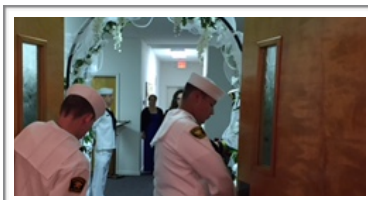
## WEDDING NEWS AND CONGRATULATIONS

We are delighted to report that two of our Board Members were recently wedded (but NOT to each other). We report them in chronological order. We extend our sincerest congratulations to both couples.

On 27 February 2015, Linda Ruth Joiner and John J. Hillyer III exchanged vows at the Community of Christ Church in Lakeland, Florida. The military style wedding was well planned and executed. Sea Cadets from the Lakeland "Marvin Shields Seabee Battalion" under the command of announced and "piped and their spouses. Many attendance to wish the new commitments to each other. Lakeland.

They both are Life Members

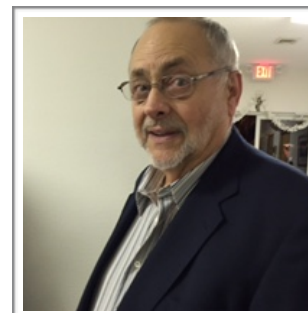
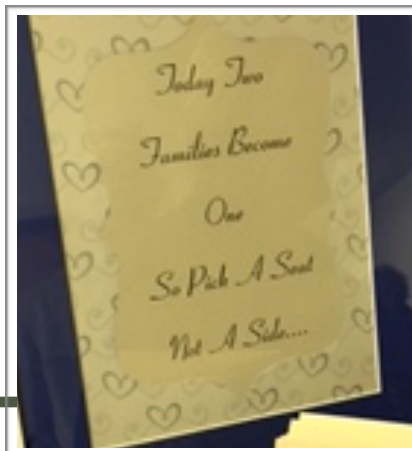
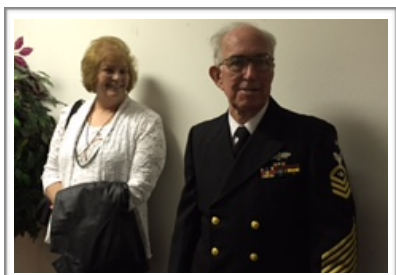
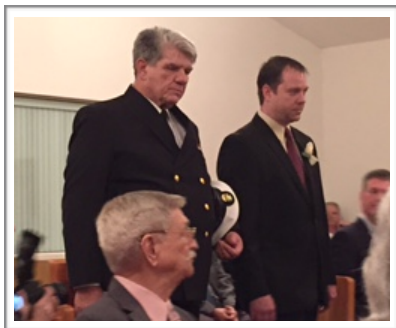
of the NMCB 14 Alumni



Association, in which John serves on the BOD.



Mrs and EQCM John J. Hillyer III



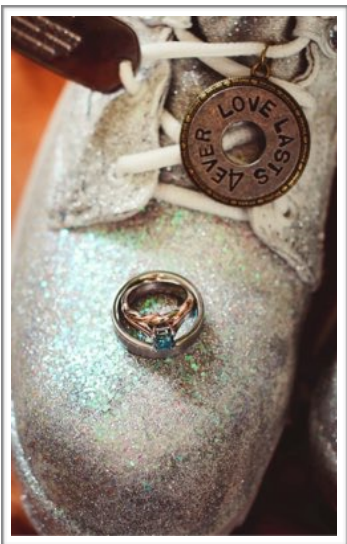




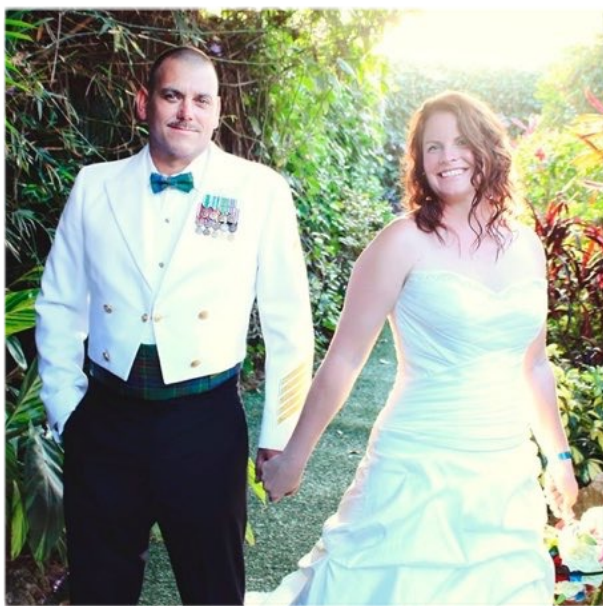
# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

## WEDDING NEWS (CONTINUED)

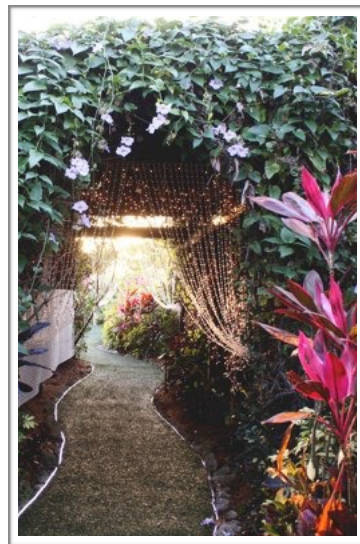
Seabees Unite! And well they did. On the Seabee's Birthday (05 March 2015), CMCS Janna Robinson and CMCS William "Bill" Wiedeman were united in marriage at "Mixon's in the Grove" in Bradenton, FL. Janna and Bill are Life Members of the NMCB 14 Alumni Association and Janna serves on the BOD. They currently reside in Myakka City, FL. Both are active reservists and Janna is the outgoing NMCB 14 Operations Chief (S3C).



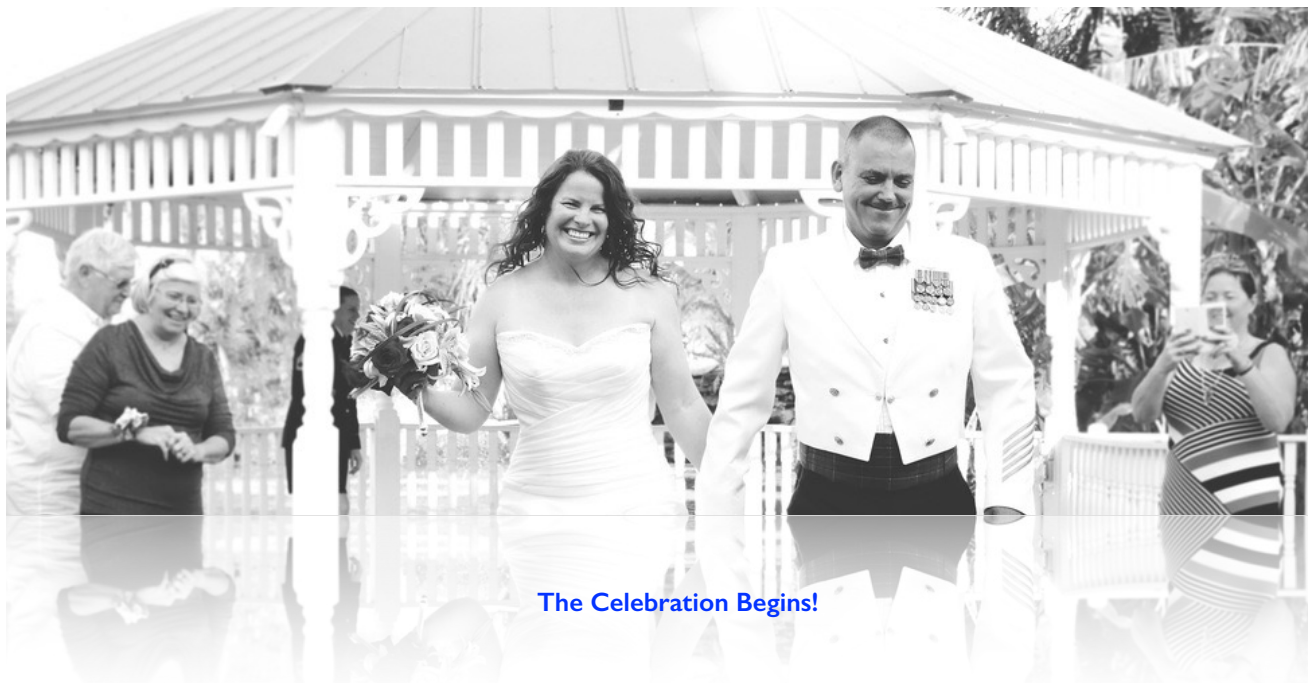
Janna's "Wedding Shoes" aka  
"Combat Boots"!!



Mr & Mrs Wiedeman



A Tunnel of Flowers



The Celebration Begins!



# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

## 2014 REUNION NEWS

The Ninth Annual Reunion held last October in St. Petersburg Beach, FL was once again an overall success despite one major glitch. It turned out that the Post Card Inn does not have an elevator to the second floor. (Who would have ever thought that was possible in this day and age?) Thus, some of the WIA's that were in attendance would not have been able to participate in the Saturday night festivities that were scheduled to be in the second floor ballroom. In true Seabee Can-Do where with all - the logistics of re-locating the Saturday night dinner to the ground floor was quickly solved. True, there was more noise and somewhat less privacy for some, but all-in-all it worked out.

On Friday morning, the spouses and a few "other half's" got things kicked off with a meet and greet on the deck outside of the main ballroom. They all had a good time getting to know each other or reminiscing past reunions and friendships as evidenced in the following photos.



In our Fall 2014 edition, it was reported that we thought that RADM Peter Brown was going to be able to make it to the reunion. That was the plan up until about a week before the reunion, when the Admiral had to go to the hospital for a day or so, which ended any hope of getting him to the reunion. So we did the next best thing and "took" the reunion to him. Around noon on Friday and Saturday, a few folks showed up at Pete's door step for about an hour visit each day. His daughter Carolyn, reported that (to paraphrase Clint Eastwood) really "made his day". Our appreciation goes out to Carolyn and one of Pete's main caretakers, Clare, for their coordination and assistance in making these visits possible. It had been RADM Brown's desire for the past several years to get to the reunion one more time.



Friday's Visitors

Front - Ron Helton, (RADM Brown) & Al Robertson  
Back - Fred Bossard & Randy Bushey



Carolyn and Pete



Saturday's Visitors

Front - (RADM Brown) & Johnny Perez  
Back - Bill Purkis & Fred Bossard

Friday afternoon was busy with presentations in the ballroom from Maria Lowe, the mayor of St. Petersburg Beach, Dan Miller from the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association, Ed Crenshaw (Past President) and Richard Mayo updated us on Space A Travel. Following a short break, the General Membership meeting was held. Mike Grace presented past meeting minutes, Fred Bossard announced the results of the BOD elections and gave a membership report. The Florida panhandle was announced as the location for the 2015 Tenth Annual Reunion by Ed Crenshaw.





## NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

Mayor Lowe is a graduate of West Point and is a retired Army veteran. Her husband was an amphibious Seabee. Thus Mayor Lowe has a unique appreciation of the Seabee community and she was the perfect kick-off speaker. She wove her West Point and Army training and leadership experiences into an interesting discussion of how it readied her for the difficult challenges of leading and managing a rapidly growing Florida beach community. Her informative talk held us all spellbound and gave us a better appreciation for intricacies of life in running a local government.

Dan Miller's update on the status of the SMSA was again informative. The talent of many of the scholarship recipients described by Dan is truly impressive and leaves no doubt that they will be tomorrow's leaders. NMCB 14 scholarship recipients too, are performing well according to Dan. After Dan's update, Ed Crenshaw called Jim Gold to the podium for a special presentation to the SMSA. Due to Jim's extraordinary leadership and work associated with the closure of the Heritage Center at the RSS, NAS JAX, the Alumni Association presented a check in Jim's name to the SMSA in the amount of \$2,500.00. Thank you Jim for a job well done!!

Richard Mayo's presentation gave us insight on all of the latest in changes to Space A travel, tips on do's and don'ts and several hand outs; including a sample check list for packing clothes, medicines and/or other necessities. Thanks Richard for keeping us up to date and informed.

The Membership approved the reading of Mike Grace's meeting minutes without correction or additions. Fred Bossard announced that the newly elected Board Members are Janna Robinson (now Wiedeman) and Russ Doe. Congratulations to both and welcome to the Board. We look forward to your input and sage advice. Janna is our first female and active reservist to serve on the Board. Bravo Zulu to Janna.



Mayor Lowe displays her Certificate of Appreciation after her lead off presentation.



Dan Miller (left) - Ed Crenshaw (center) and Jim Gold during the presentation of the \$2,500 to SMSA



Richard Mayo, above, explains the ins and outs of Space A Travel.

Richard Hoibraten, Frank Landrau, Loren Emery and others (right) are attentive and enraptured by the proceedings.





## NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

Brandi Anderson was our speaker. Brandi gave an impressive talk about her life without her father, Mike Anderson who was us through all the ups and downs positive outlook on life, despite his from high school this year. She has maintaining a 4.5 GPA and has back to the community.

The Alumni Association has supplies or other items needed for



Saturday night prime time dinner talk about her life without her killed in Iraq in 2004. She walked and how she has developed a absence. Brandi will graduating been an outstanding student, given over 1000 service hours

pledged \$500.00 for books, her first term in college.

(In a January 2015 BOD telephone conference call, Brandi and her mother Karen were awarded Associate Life Memberships by the Officers and Board of Directors.)

Following Brandi's talk, the Oldest and Youngest (future) Seabees in attendance were identified and selected to jointly cut the delicious Seabee Cake waiting to be served as dessert. Guy Sutton, an NMCB 14 Plank Holder, and Christian Anderson (Brandi's bother) had the honor of doing so.



The Cake Cutters



The Cake



The Cut



Mission Accomplished

The 2014 Brockway Award was presented to Mike Wood at a "surprise luncheon" in Jacksonville, FL.. Neither Mike nor his wife Jackie were able to attend the reunion. So Mike Grace, Randy Bushey, Jim Gold and Richard Mayo (accompanied by their respective spouses) arranged the surprise luncheon and met them there. Mike was very grateful for the honor bestowed upon him and both he and Jackie were very appreciative of being "remembered".



Mike Wood and his wife Jackie



The start of the  
Videod Presentation



Jim Gold & Mike Grace present the  
2014 Brockway Award to Mike Wood





## NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

Pat Valentini, who was one of Mike Anderson's best friends and comrade-in-arms in Iraq in 2004, closed out the Saturday night's festivities with a special presentation to Brandi Anderson. Pat told how he and Mike had become friends and how they did just about everything together. Mike always seemed to have a case or two of Mountain Dew soda with him and that was about all he drank. So Pat, along with Brandi, frequently interspersed his talk with a "toast" to Mike with a sip of Mountain Dew.

Towards the end of his talk, an unidentified box was brought to Pat. He then told us that when they were deploying to Iraq from Gulfport, tan "desert boots" were issued and the standard "black" boots were, along with other excess items, were to be shipped home. Mike didn't have room in his box so he asked Pat to put them in his box. They agreed that Mike would get them when he returned home, which of course didn't happen. When Pat got home, he put Mike's black boots in a closet and forgot about them. When he found out that Mike's tan desert boots had been stolen, he decided to have the black boot "bronzed" for Brandi. And that my friends, is what was in the box brought to Pat while at the podium. Brandi was astounded and very emotional when Pat presented her with the bronzed boots. They will be something that she will treasure for the rest of her life.



Pat prepares a "Toast"

Brandi is "Wondering" - What's in that box?

Pat presents the "Boots"

We had one of the best attendances ever for Saturday night's dinner. In excess of eighty members and their spouses were in attendance. Guests, including several WIA's and spouses and active reservists brought the total dinner count to about one hundred.



Left - Dinner is  
Served

Right - Suzanne and  
Jim Graham - Having  
a good time,





# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

## BATTALION UPDATE

As reported under the President's Corner, the Battalion deployed this past February primarily to West Africa and Afghanistan. On 17 April 2015 by a telecon between CDR Williams, CO, NMCB 14 and President Mike Grace, we learned that the number of deployed troops has grown to one hundred seventy-five. And, according to the most recent issue of the Seabee Quarterly (Vol. 21 No. 1), the specific deployment sites are Afghanistan, Chad, Djibouti, Germany, Kuwait, Maroua and Niger.

Now that the Battalion has re-located to Gulfport, most of their training activities take place there. CDR Williams advised that they can not get travel funds to JAX. Thus there would not be sufficient personnel at the JAX DET to have the KIA Memorial Service there in May, as usual. **Therefore it was agreed to integrate this year's KIA Memorial Service with the Reunion in October.** It will take place on Saturday morning, time to be determined. The CO and key staff are planning on attending.

CDR Williams also advised that the "Seabee" that had overseen the RSS has been shipped to Ft. Leonard Wood, MO where they have Seabee Construction "A" Schools. Hopefully it will inspire all the CB trainees to do their best.

In other news from far off Africa, we have received the following two stories from the deployed Seabees:

### 1) Jinja, Uganda – Eastern Accord Exercise 15 –

Eight US Navy Seabees with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 14, currently deployed to CJTF HOA at Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, travelled to Jinja, Uganda to participate in Eastern Accord 15. Eastern Accord is a military exercise focusing on humanitarian aid/disaster response with East African nations. The 10-day training exercise, which helps build partnerships with USARAF and the East African military forces, is designed to help USARAF and East African participants improve their capability to respond to regional security threats posed by Violent Extremist Groups and to more effectively counter the associated Violent Extremist Ideology.

The Seabees were there to build relationships with African militaries and local communities. They worked with members of the Army's 404 Civil Affairs team and the Ugandan People's Defense Force Construction Brigade from March 02 to March 15 to renovate the Source of the River Nile's only public latrine. The Seabees demolished the existing latrine's interior, repaired the latrine walls, replaced doors, added lighting, placed new tile and toilets, and painted the inside and outside of the latrine. All of the materials needed to complete the project were purchased from local vendors.

In what was estimated to be a routine low-key project, escalated into a high profile project that captured the focus of Commanding Generals from the United States and Uganda, officers from Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, and multiple European nations, along with the local population. The project quickly became the epicenter for current relations between the US Navy, US Army, the UPDF, and the municipality. Major General Wayne Grigsby, Commanding General of CJTF HOA stated, "You may not know what a difference this job means for the future relations with our African partners."



US Navy Seabees, along with their partners from the US Army Civil Affairs Battalion and Uganda People's Defense Force Engineering Brigade and Major General Darryl Williams pose for a photo outside of the newly renovated Source of the River Nile latrine.



Before and after shots of the inside of the renovated Source of the River Nile Latrine. US Navy Seabees demolished the interior of the latrine, then renovated it by placing new tile, adding new lighting, new sink and toilet fixtures, as well as painting the inside and outside.





# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

## BATTALION UPDATE (Continued)

The response from the Jinja municipality was overwhelmingly positive. Team members were interviewed by a local news stations, newspapers and were stopped out in town by locals who wished to thank them for their work. Deputy town clerk, Jofram Waidhuuba spoke about the partnership and the project during the ribbon cutting ceremony. "On behalf of the Jinja people, we thank you so much. In just a few days, you gave us a sense of hope and helped to promote tourism in this town."

In typical Seabee fashion, they left an impression of their Can Do spirit on everyone they met. Major General Darryl Williams went as far to say, "I love Seabees, I love what you do. They are badassess. When I get done with this Army gig *-I want to be a Seabee.*"

For photos related to Eastern Accord and the latrine project, visit: <http://www.fluidr.com/photos/usarmyafrika/tags/easternaccord15>

## 2) Hi Ed (Crenshaw),

Since we hit the ground here in Chad in mid Jan, we started work immediately after selecting our racks. Our main priority was to get the force pro up around the camp and to complete a chain link fence around the grounds that were used for the Annual Flintlock exercise. We finished the fence in time for the exercise. Flintlock is a 28 nation exercise that shares tactical and antiterrorism training. We were told from a 2 star general level that without the Seabees, the exercise would have been cancelled. Now that the last of the tents and personnel are gone, we can focus on building a block OMU and a parking apron along with drainage and retention areas for the large amounts of rainfall they get here. Also, SOCAF is pushing to make our camp a "green" camp using as little fossil fuels as possible. We have 2 sun dial systems with solar panels, a well for starters and, in the near future, a water purification trailer, shower, head trailers and more solar panels.

As for me personally, I have gotten my D6 Bull Dozer license and am the Dets SCW coordinator. Its been requested I be the dozer instructor for the Det. Not bad for a BU. Our 30 Seabees here are all doing well. Our mail situation has yet to be 100% fixed but we are dealing with the sporadic mail that we get. As of now, I can't think of anything that we need but will let you know if we do need something. We are looking at temps around 109° for the next 5 days, then peaking at 115° by next Thursday. That sums up what we are doing here. Feel free to put that in the newsletter and edit where you see fit.

Hope all are doing well. Take care.

Mike Stokes, 19 March 15

## ODDS 'N ENDS

### From Bill Charvat:

I visited Ernie (Burzumato) at the Villages yesterday (13 Feb 2015) and as I left and was about 6 blocks from his house; this was flying high and Proud by one of his neighbors! Can Do lives everywhere!!



### Anniversary Wishes:

To Mike and Sondra Stokes, who celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary on 10 April 2015. It was a long "range" celebration, as Mike is on deployment in Chad. (See Mike's note above.) Congratulations to you both and may you have many more!!





## NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

### ODDS 'N ENDS (Continued)

From Ed Crenshaw:

"I was presented with a "Quilt of Valor" at this weeks (25 Nov 14) VFW meeting.. 'Quilts of Valor' is a National organization who presents quilts to combat veterans. I was privileged to be a recipient."

Congratulation Ed. You look Great wrapped in your quilt!!



From Richard Mayo:

Update on Chase (07 Feb 2015). He is doing well and is living with his daughter and her hubby at their place (address below). He is slowly recovering from his accident. He had dizzy spells at his house and fell down numerous times. Instead of calling 911 he got in his truck to go to his daughter's. They were headed to his place because they were worried about him being late. He ran a red light and hit a panel van. He wound up in the ditch after doing a 180. His vehicle was totaled. The other driver was not hurt. He had both a stroke and a heart attack but they were not sure in what order. They did not shock him which was good. He is slowly regaining his mental and physical abilities but it is taking a little longer than normal. He is very frustrated and is stubborn as a mule. I could have told them that. Please keep him in your thoughts and if you are a prayer warrior, then lift him up to the great Physician. Please spread the word and let's fill his mail box with get well cards. Thanks and God bless.

### OBITUARIES

1) Nina Johnson - Bill Charvat and Glenn Smith have reported the death of Nina Johnson last August. Nina was the widow of CAPT Ron Johnson. Nina was a Seabee, having served as the Commodore's secretary back in the early 70's. She was a YNI at the time. She transferred to the Air Force reserve after she and Ron married so as to avoid any appearance of a fraternization violation. Should any of you who knew Nina and want to send condolences, her only living relative is her daughter: Deborah Hoffman, 105 Greencastle Drive, Goose Creek, SC 29445.

2) RADM Peter R. Brown - RADM Brown, a native of Newton, MA, died peacefully at home surrounded by his daughter Carolyn and her family on 23 November 2014. He was a Plank Holder of RNMCB 14 when it was recommissioned in 1961. His notable billets were XO and CO of the Battalion, CSO and Commodore of Third RNCB and ultimately Commander First Reserve Naval Construction Brigade. RADM Brown was an avid sailor and an accomplished musician (violin). He started his own construction company (Peter R. Brown Co, Inc.) in 1963 which became one of the premier construction companies in central Florida. RADM Brown was cremated, and on 27 March 2015. Carolyn and her family spread his ashes into the Gulf of Mexico in the vicinity of Egmont Key.

3) Robert "Bob Depew" - John Hillyer reported Bob's passing. Robert was born on March 4, 1938 and died on Saturday, September 13, 2014. Robert was a resident of Bradenton, Florida at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife Janet. Visitation was held on Thursday, September 18th from 5 - 7 pm at Farley Funeral Home Venice Chapel with a Funeral Service beginning at 7 PM. A reception will followed the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice, 5955 Rand Blvd, Sarasota, FL 3423.

4) Patrick Ingle - On 21 December 2014, Jim Hallmark wrote "I understand that Master Chief Patrick Ingle passed. Can you share any more info. Just trying to remember him." We regret that we do not have additional information.

5) Leo Benett - Glenn Smith wrote on 15 January 2015 "I also just learned of the death of BMC Leo Bennett. Again, the "old timers" will remember Leo as the "sheriff" - the Chief Master at Arms for the Battalion for many, many years. Leo's quarterdecks were legendary for always being squared away. Leo's wife died 4 or 5 years ago and the obituary did not list any close relatives. I will also add Leo to the list of deceased.

6) Fred Ainsburg - On 12 February 2015 John Hillyer wrote: It is with deep sorrow that I relay this. I have just been informed of the passing of CMCS Fred Ainsburg on 7 Feb 2015. Services at Bushnell National Cemetery on Friday, 13 February 2015. His obituary is in today's Tampa Tribune. He was 14s Command Master Chief." (Under CAPT Fred Bossard from 1984 to 1986.)

7) Phillip Richardson - On 09 April 2015 Ed Kloster advised (via Glen Kellerman) the following: "Just received word that UTCM Philip P. Richardson had passed away. Also, his wife is in the hospital and not doing well. Notification came from his daughter, Michelle Freitas. No further information is available at this time. Glen"

8) John C. Elkins - Normand Dupuis and John Hillyer forwarded this: John C. Elkins enlisted in the Naval Reserve in 1962, entered the Reserve Officer Candidate (ROC) program and was commissioned a CEC Officer. He held many positions including Commanding Officer of NMCB 62 from 1984 through 1986. He retired in August 1991 as Captain, CEC, USN. He will be missed.



# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-15

## NOW YOU KNOW THE REST OF THE STORY

You may have been wondering why this edition of the Newsletter is dated "WINTER - SPRING 2014 - 15. Well there are many reasons, but none are valid. Reason 1) Winter Blahs, Reason 2) February Snowstorms, Reason 3) Retirement Laziness Syndrome, and Reason 4) Five more inches of snow on 31 March - about ten days after the start of Spring (ha ha)! - See photos below.



## NMCB FOURTEEN TENTH RENION

As you can see, our Tenth Reunion has been scheduled for 22 - 25 October 2015 and **WE WANT TO SEE YOU THERE!!** So mark your Calendars NOW and plan on being there. They have 137 Air Conditioned Rooms and the best problem we could have is that they run out of rooms! The weather at that time of year should be near perfect with day time HIGHS in the mid 70's and evening LOW's in the mid 60's.

The final details are being pulled together now by the Hotel Committee. Look for your Registration Package and Reunion details to arrive in your in box (or mail box) by the **SECOND WEEK of JUNE.**

Hilton Garden Inn  
1145 Airport Blvd  
Pensacola, FL  
<http://hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com>



## TENTH REUNION CALENDAR

**22 - 25 OCTOBER 2015**

**PENSACOLA, FL**



# NMCB 14 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WINTER-SPRING 2014-14



## IN MEMORY OF

### 2014 -2015 Deceased

Nina Johnson  
RADM Peter R. Brown  
Robert "Bob" Depew  
Patrick Ingle  
Leo Bennett  
Fred Ainsburg  
Philip Richardson  
Other Notable  
Capt. John Elkins

## LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Ed Crenshaw sends a reminder for all to please check the Alumni web page at [nmcbl4alumni.com](http://nmcbl4alumni.com) and the Facebook Page at NMCB-14 Alumni/"Southern Pride" for periodic updates as they come available. Also, if you know or come across someone who is a VIA, please encourage him or her to join the Alumni Association. It is a great deal for them as there is no membership fees for them.

There are many who have provided needed support to the Alumni Association and we would be remiss for not once again recognizing **Mrs. Dee Brockway** for her financial generosity. Glenn Smith, our Treasurer, has reported that we received a \$1,200 check from Dee at years end. Your generosity and support is much appreciated.

So we must say THANK YOU DEE and wish you and Robin a Happy and Healthy 2015 and more.

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER**

Bravo Zulu to ALL

May God Bless Our Troops!

## Calendar

**21 March 2015**

BOD Conference Call  
0900 - 1000 EST

**02 May 2015**

BOD Conference Call  
0900 - 1000 EST

**15 October 2014**

2015 - 2017 BOD Ballots &  
Voting Deadline

**22 -25 October 2015**

10th Annual Re-Union &  
KIA Memorial Service  
BOD Election of Officers  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Pensacola, FL



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

Addressee Name  
4321 First Street  
Anytown, State 54321