

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS of AMERICA

CAN DO



75th Convention Biloxi, MS 8/18 – 8/22
Volume 31, Edition 2, June 2021

Cover: Navy Seabee Veterans of America 75th Anniversary Challenge Coin, designed by Ernie Nelson CDR. Island X-11 Tampa, FL. This coin represents 75 years of dedicated service to and by the NSVA to both its members and our Great country. The Challenge coin along with a Lapel pin are available from the NSVA Ship's Store. See page 20 for order form (get them while they're **HOT!**)

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CHAPLAINS CORNER

Now that the summer is here and we can again gather together outdoors let us pause & offer a prayer of thanks for the rapid development of vaccines that allows us the freedom to do so. I hope everyone that is eligible will receive the vaccine so that we can continue to defeat this terrible plague that has befallen mankind.

Let us not forget all those who suffered during the pandemic and especially those who lost loved ones to this terrible disease. Now is not the time to let our guard down, we must continue to follow the guide lines set forth by the CDC and those experts who offer suggestions & advice on how to stay safe. Frequent hand washing, continuing to wear face coverings & social distancing will probably be the new norm for the foreseeable future.

Finally let us offer prayers of thanksgiving to God that we have survived and ask him to deliver us from this pandemic and implore him to keep us safe from any more disasters of this kind.

Michael Boncheck, National Chaplain
Navy Seabee Veterans of America



Commanders Corner

Hello fellow SEABEES and HONEYBEES, well we have had a challenging year regarding Covid 19 with all of the on again, off again restrictions. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 75th Anniversary of the SVA organization in Biloxi this August.

Hope everyone had a nice MEMORIAL DAY and took a few moments to remember our service members, especially those that gave all to give us the freedom we enjoy.

By now you should know that the SMSA scholarship for the FALLEN SEABEE is fully funded thanks to all of you. The SMSA still needs your support to fund all the other scholarships, check our website for additional information.

The SHF has some new programs to help those transitioning from the service to civilian life, including an employment program to help make it a little easier to adjust.

As you all know our membership is getting smaller and smaller with each passing year. We need new members, both old and young. Therefore, I am asking all members to be recruiters; and get at least one new member each.

Our publicity chairperson, Christina Cheline, after overcoming various obstacles, has our face book page up and running. Chris has other ideas to get us noticed more out there and we need your help. Please notify Chris with any information about your Island meetings, events your planning, outreach projects and photos of who your helping (scouts, church community, etc.).

Thanks to all the intense effort and determination of Betty and Ernie Nelson, our Small Stores is up and running. Please check them out, you will like what you see.

We lost a lot of momentum not being able to have our convention last August 2020, leaving quite a few items still needing to be addressed.

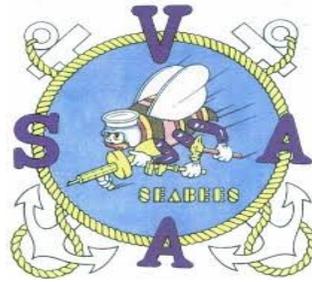
On a personal note, I would like to thank all the officers and members for their continued support during the last three years.

Yours in the CAN DO SPIRIT

James J. Furey

NSVA National Commander

Seabee Veterans of America Auxiliary



Greetings from sunny Florida. It is getting close to the 75th Anniversary Convention in Biloxi Mississippi.



August 18-22! The NSVAA is working hard with the NSVA to make this convention worthy of all the hype. 75 years of convention history is a lot to talk about. It is a time to reflect on Seabee contributions for the United States of America. The 75th convention brings all Seabees together to reunite at one place. The NSVAA is always here to support any effort to promote the continue legacy of our Seabees.

Make your plans to attend. Everything you will need is here. The registration, Hotel information, Convention Shirt order form and Ship Store merchandise is in this edition of the Can Do.

Respectfully,
Betty Nelson
NSVAA President

Your 2020-2021 SVAA Officers are:

President: Betty Nelson
Secretary: Elaine Coffin
Chaplin/Historian: Linda Hillyer

Vice President: Lorraine Santo
Treasurer: Linda Schmuck
Parliamentarian: Carol Parker

Visit the NEW Ships Store tab on the NSVA Website www.nsva.org more and more NSVA memorabilia and uniform regalia items are being added frequently.

See page 21 for the National Convention Program sponsoring opportunities

Daily News

ATTENTION ON DECK!

Father and Son Team

(Both Retired Marines)



Wants To Be
Your "Go To" for
"Can Do" Gear!



**Your source for
Military & Veterans'**

- Hats
- Patches
- Pins
- Flags
- Magnets
- Key Rings
- Gifts
- Belt Buckles
- Decals
- Custom Items

Hat n' Patch

Our History:

2005: HatnPatch business established.

2012: Island X-6 Spokane made HatnPatch's founder, Rod, an **Honorary Life Member** for Recruiting, Fundraising, and Community Service

2018: HatnPatch moved to Jacksonville, NC!

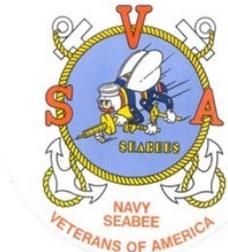
**EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT
CODE FOR ALL SEABEES**

Visit our website:
www.hatnpatch.com

At check-out,
use code:
NSVA-2020

Hat n' Patch Veteran Owned
and Operated

Seabee Veterans of America Island X-11 Tampa, Fl Proudly Supports the “Can Do”

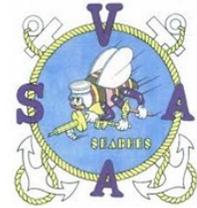


CDR Ernie Nelson
813-376-0500

VCDR Walt Sauers
813-505-7415

TREAS. Bob Marlette
813-817-7440

SEC. Dwight Ham-
borsky 813-681-5861



PRES. Betty Nelson
813-376-3947

VP Anna Baker
863-409-6493

SEC. Cinda Huntley
813-415-9681

TREAS. Doreen Doe
727-599-8253

CHAP. Dianne
Dukhart 813-837-6890

Island X-11 Restarted over five years ago. Since then we have re-gained the Seabee enthusiasm, and willingness to serve and help others. We don't just meet and eat. We help support the Robert Jenkins Veterans home in Lake City affecting the lives of 150 Veterans. We have donated and participated in the Warrior Walk in Lakeland as well as the Marvin Shields Sea Cadet Battalion. In an effort of preserving the Seabee Legacy we have placed three Seabee Monuments, Two in National Cemeteries and one at Veterans Memorial Park in Hillsborough County. “Lucky Leven”



Our meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month
18:30, Dinner is \$11.00 inclusive.
Tony's Ybor Restaurant 2001 22nd Street ~ Tpa., FL
Drive on over, Lots of parking and room to spread out!

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 donate to the NSVA 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 Department of New York and its affiliated Islands
- NMCB-14 Alumni Association
- NSVA Island X-5 Whidbey Island WA., Maurice Aasland Commander
- Hat N' Patch, Jacksonville, NC
- Department of Florida
- NSVA Island X-5, Fort Lauderdale FL., Vince Mancusi
- John Duengfelder Jr.

ISLAND HOPPING



Island X23 Crystal River Fl 's annual picnic was held at the winter home of Dave and Lynn Spanski in Inverness, Fl. The picnic, besides great food, had a fun auction where over \$240 was received. These attending include...front row Nancy Ward, Karen Lowe, Murielle Heath, Debbie Malin- Wurtz, and Don Malin. Middle row. Nancy Staples, Sandy Pesch. Ann Lyons, Chris Westhall, Barb Manley, MaryJo Kenyon, and John Lowe. Back row Lynn Spanski, Dave Spanski, Dave Buchanan, Jeanette Bare, Jim Bridgeland, Phil, Manley, and Pat Lyons. Photographer was Joan Buchanan.

A word from out west in the Rockies

WHAT A SUCCESS WE HAD, YESTERDAY! The weather was great (maybe a little warmer than desired) with no rain and a pleasant light breeze. There were three NSVA members participating, and three guests joining and providing a **MAGNIFICENT AND INVALUABLE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND TO THE ISLAND!** The time spent with friends, while catching up on what is new in each other's lives, was uplifting and rewarding.

The six of us (Patrick Reinard, Liz Reinard, Mark Abromski, Richard Miller, Rodney Rice and myself) spent ~ 4 hours picking up and beautifying the West portion of our assigned section of State Highway 66. We removed 32 bags of discarded or lost items from the motoring public, in addition to a microwave (in the box), automobile body and parts (including an RV rooftop cooling unit), rugs, towels, clothing, lumber and metal parts.

"With willing hearts and skillful hands, the difficult we do at once, the impossible takes a bit longer."

U.S. Navy Seabees CAN DO!

BRAVO ZULU, to you! Text submitted by Gerald Kissinger member Island X-4, Longmont, CO.

Island X-19 Daytona Beach FL. Annual Seabee Birthday Picnic



Cake cutting with C. Shockey & Don Polan



HoneyBees 1st



MC Bill Waters



Opening Prayer

Daytona Beach Island X-19 held its annual CB Birthday party one month late due to the Corona Virus. It was held at the Deland Naval Air Station Museum under the pavilion which was built with the help of some of the Island Bees. The museum was chosen because of the open air atmosphere. After starting the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, Chaplain Joe Licata gave an opening prayer. Upon completion of the meeting Bill Waters held a quiz on CB information which yielded a gift for the person with the correct answer. After the Q&A period Charter members of the Island Charley Shockey and Don Polan cut the cake assisted by a few of the island Honeybees. Article and pictures submitted by Don Rowley member Island X-19 Daytona Beach, FL.

U.S.NAVY SEABEES DESERVE A STAMP TOO (see pg.31)

Veterans Day 2020 and Wreaths across America, Woodlawn Cemetery Elmira, NY 2021



Larry Sherman & Grandson Veterans Day Pledge Honor Guard Woodlawn Cemetery Elmira, NY



Honor Guard with Honored Veteran family member Wreaths across America Woodlawn Cemetery

BUC Larry Sherman served with MCB 10 in Vietnam and in the Echo detachment of MCB 13 and after they were decommissioned MCB 21 at Horseheads NY. After retirement Chief Sherman became active in the local Vietnam Museum, coordinator of the Wreaths across America at the National Cemetery in Bath NY and the coordinator for the Honor Guard at the National Cemetery in Elmira Heights, NY.

Article & pictures submitted by Larry Green member Island X-12 Rochester, NY

The NSVA Department of New York and its affiliated Islands extends its Congratulations and Best Wishes for a Well Done to the Navy Seabee Veterans of America on their 75th Anniversary



Island X-2 Huntington, NY
The Long Island Seabees

Island X-5 Buffalo, NY
The Western New York Seabees

Island X-8 Tonawanda, NY
The Monument Builders

Island X-9 Kingston, NY
The Rebuilding Seabees

Island X-10 Albany, NY
The Capital District Seabees

Island X-12 Rochester, NY
The Flour City Seabees

Island X-14 Hudson Falls, NY
The Adirondack Seabees

Island X-19 Syracuse, NY
The Salt City Seabees

Once a Seabee, Always a Seabee

Happy 75th Anniversary to the Navy Seabee Veterans of America
Ooh – Rah CAN DO

Pictured below is Anthony Amezcuita Jr. showing the X-1 Plank Holder (wooden) Certificates for Island X-1 members in San Antonio Texas. Anthony is the Secretary of the newly formed X-1. Anthony assures us that X-1 San Antonio will have a great showing at the upcoming 75th Convention in Biloxi, MS. In case you've overlooked it or already forgotten, the Convention will be held at the Golden Nugget Casino in Biloxi beginning on August 18th and running through August 22nd, 2021.



Editorial

The upcoming Navy Seabee Veterans of America 75th Anniversary Celebration is notable to say the least. We all know and recognize the fact that the Seabees (you, I and most all the other Seabees out there) are not prone to being anal about being organized or mastering organizational skills. Well some of us are and thank goodness for them. Without their dedication to our organization there is no way we were going to make it to our 75th Anniversary. These guys and gals (our brothers and sister Seabees, the Auxiliary and associate members) all played a part in keeping the NSVA actively engaged in the spirit that has brought us to this point in our history.

As we celebrate this milestone event, let us not forget those that have gone before us, let us not forget the dedication, resourcefulness and energy they have expended on our behalf that has made this upcoming 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 the 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 a junk yard dog). Wear your Seabee attire, let them know who and what you are, Once a Seabee, Always a Seabee. Results may be slow in coming, but it will come if you put yourself into it.

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS of AMERICA, Inc.



Seabee Monument in every National Cemetery Project

Greetings to ALL, I hope this note finds everyone doing well and staying healthy.

The **Seabee Monument in every National Cemetery Project** is alive and well having set Monuments in Fayetteville National Cemetery in Arkansas, Pikes Peak National Cemetery in Colorado and the Black Hills National Cemetery in South Dakota in the early months of 2021.

The COVID pandemic slowed the program down a little with the National Cemeteries limiting the number of people at any of their gatherings including burial Services. As a result of the pandemic our donor-carrier, ABF out of Arkansas, terminated their charitable contributions forcing us to look for alternative transportation.

With that being said, the Monuments are still **\$1625.00** but the transportation fee has to be added, and that cost is dependent on the location of the National Cemetery. As an example, transportation of the Monument to South Dakota was \$650.00.

We still have approximately 100 National Cemeteries that **NEED** our SEABEE Monument so we are still seeking all the donations we can find. Any amount, no matter how large or small, is greatly appreciated so we can fill these National Cemeteries.

With the reactivation of Island X-1 San Antonio and the **SEABEES** in that area, applications have been made to 5 National Cemeteries in Texas.

Please make your donation **checks out** to **David J. Buchanan** and write SEABEE Monument on the memo line. This makes it easier for me to deposit the checks to clear for your bookkeeping. Checks can be **mailed to** the address below.

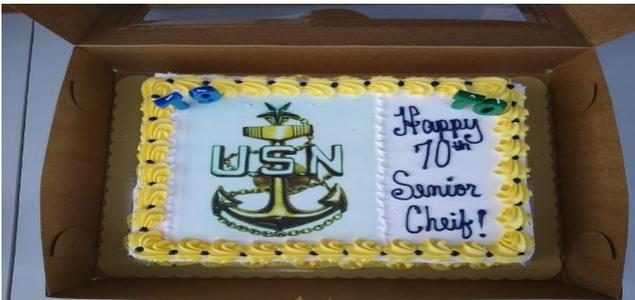
I would like to thank ABF for their past contribution of cartage, Tim Stallman for keeping the Monument cost at a minimum and everyone who has donated to this most worthy cause. Please let's keep this program going and fill ALL the National Cemeteries.

David J. Buchanan
David J. Buchanan, volunteer administrator
8491 N. Desertrose Ter.
Crystal River, Fl. , 34428
352-564-0378 , dbuchanan@centurylink.net

050121

NSVA Island X-2 Maryville, TN gather for Meet & Greet at Texas Roadhouse

On the afternoon of 6 March 2021, members of NSVA Island X-2 Maryville, in cooperation with Texas Roadhouse, met for a Meet and Greet. Many veterans from the area were greeted, information was shared and support funds were raised to assist Island X-2 in the construction of handicapped ramps for local veterans. Pictured are: NSVA Dept. of TN Commander Frank Acs, Island X-2 Cdr. John Drexler and Vice Cdr. Chett Winchell.



Taking advantage of the gathering, the Maryville Island procured a Birthday cake in honor of X-2 Commander John Drexler's 70th Birthday. Good looking cake, I'll bet a good time was had by all.

SEABEE MUSEUMS REOPEN

By now many of our readers are aware that the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park in Davisville, RI will reopen on June 4th, 2021 and the Seabee Museum in Port Hueneume, CA is scheduled to reopen on June 2nd 2021. Ooh-Rah

The Museum at Davisville, located at 21 Iafrate Way, North Kingston, RI will be open Wednesday, Friday and Saturdays from 9:30am to 3:00pm. For additional information call 401-294-7233.

The Museum at Port Hueneme located at 1001 Addor St., Port Huneume, CA will be open Wednesday thru Saturday from 10:00am to 4:00pm. For additional information 805-982-5165



New York City and Vicinity District Council of Carpenters

Joseph A. Geiger
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Paul Capurso
President

Michael Cavanaugh
Vice President

THANK YOU TO THE NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA FOR THEIR SERVICE.



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Since 1881



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The Bees are working hard on a cold and chilly Saturday at YMCA Camp Kon-O-Kwee Spencer.



Island X-3 Seabees revamp bridge over stream, allowing campers with special needs to traverse stream



Standing behind the Seabee Monument L-R is X-3 CDR. D. Wojtaszek, past Island Sec'y, J. Monecupo, Project Chair B. Hetrick and VCDR. Randy Judd. Not pictured photographer D. Woytek

Here are pictures of Island X-3 Pittsburgh's first work party of the season at YMCA Camp Kon o kwee/Camp Spencer on Saturday May 8. The work party consisted on revamping the bridge over a small stream as well as upgrading a Seabee monument. Island members who participated were: Bill Hetrick (Island Projects Chairman), Dennis Woytek..... Island Photographer, Randy Judd...Island Vice Commander.....Dave Wojtaszek....Island Commander and Jerry Montecupo.....past Island Secretary.

The monument is dedicated in memory of NMCB 23 member EO1 Bruce Nelson...who designed the bridge...unfortunately Bruce Passed away not long after the project was completed by a NMCB 23 Det. The reason for the bridge is so that the children ...both handicap and other campers can access a fire pit and stage on the other side of a small stream. Island X-3 Pittsburgh has done many projects at the YMCA camp for the last 25 years or so. The Island was honored by the YMCA as "Volunteer Group of the Year" in the past.

Camp Kon o kwee....which has section of housing and recreation for children with special needs is called Camp Spencer. The entire camp has been closed for the last year because of the covid 19 epidemic. We will have several more construction projects this year at Camp Kon o kwee/Camp Spencer.

Text and pictures submitted by Jerry Montecupo & Dennis Woytek, members of Island X-3 Pittsburgh, PA.

NSVA Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting

Rosemont, IL. commencing on 13 March, 2021

The recorded minutes of the mid-year meeting are posted on the NSVA website at www.nsva.org It was decided that the Executive committee would try to accommodate a venue including call-in type conference call for those not able to be in attendance physically. This attempt was precluded due to technical difficulties. However the members in attendance used their mobile phones to allow those off site to listen and provide feedback on the agenda items being discussed.

Due to the cancellation of the 2020 National Convention scheduled to be held in Colorado there is unfinished business that will need to be addressed at the upcoming Convention in Biloxi. There is the Election of National Officers (Commander, V. Commander, Treasurer, Secretary, District Commanders and Trustees) and appointed positions.

- There are three (3) Resolutions going forward from the 2020 Mid-Year meeting to the National Convention general membership assembly in 2021. They are:
- **RESOLUTION #2020-1 Life membership per capita**
*Proposal to eliminate the Life membership per capita to the Departments and Islands and invest the revenue toward the publication of another issue of the **CAN DO**.*
*Jerry **SCHMUCK** stated income would only cover a partial cost of an issue of the **CAN DO**.*
*By a voice vote there were **ALL** yeas and **NO** nays. This Motion was **Approved** to send the Resolution to the Membership at Convention with a **RECOMMENDATION TO DISAPPROVE**.*
- **RESOLUTION # 2020-2 (a)mended- CHANGE THE WAY THE MEMBERSHIP VOTES**
*This is a proposal to **CHANGE THE WAY THE MEMBERSHIP VOTES** during its meetings.*
Voting would be changed from multiple votes per person holding more than 1 position, the multiple votes from the Islands reduced to (2) and the (5) allowable votes to the Departments eliminated.
Each Island shall be entitled to two (2) Delegate votes with no fee required when physically attending the Convention.
*There was a **MOTION** made by Jerry **SCHMUCK** and seconded by John **HILLYER, III** to forward **RESOLUTION #2020-2a, (an amended) version of Resolution 2020-2, to the Convention membership with a recommendation for APPROVAL.***
- **Resolution 2020-3, Establishment of a combined SVA/SHF into a single not-for-profit organization**
*Vice Commander Douglas **BOWER** read the proposed Resolution as a Co-author.*
*Kevin **SLATES**, Chairman of the SHF Merger Committee elaborated on the Resolution.*
Discussion ensued;
Many negative comments were mentioned on behalf of many Islands and members and the positive aspects were discussed.
The consensus of the members in attendance was that the resolution as written was not in the best interest of the NSVA at this time, but may be viable sometime in the future.

Ernie **NELSON** had quite a lot to say, mostly against the merger.
David J. **BUCHANAN** talked about all the negative comments that were given to him through e-mails and phone calls.
Jim **ZYWOT** spoke in favor of the merger using the deaths in the NSVA as a yardstick. The **SHF** is run like a business and so should the NSVA.
Jim **FUREY** explained the different objectives of each organization.
Jerry **SCHMUCK** stated there was not enough information to make an informed decision at this time and all comments that have been sent to the Commander or the National headquarters should be **referred back to the Merger Committee for a reply**. There was a **MOTION** made by Jerry **SCHMUCK** and seconded by Jim **SORENSEN** to forward Resolution 2020-3 (Merger) to the NSVA General Convention “**with no recommendation**” and tasking the existing Committee with answering all questions and better educating the membership.
By a voice vote All ayes and 1 nays, this Motion was approved.
Submitted by National Secretary Coffin

Pictured below are the NSVA attendees at the 2021 Mid-Year Meeting in Rosemont IL.



L-R Ernie Nelson Resolutions Chr., Charlie Coffin Natl. Secretary, Gerald Schmuck Natl. Treasurer, John Hillyer III PNC, David Buchanan PNC, Doug Bower Natl. Vice Commander and Anthony Amezcua Jr Island X-1 San Antonio TX Secretary.

NSVA 75th CONVENTION Registration, Hotel Reservation and Convention program sponsor forms and information

NSVA 75th National Convention 8/18/2021 to 8/22/2021



The group code that you will need is S210318. Attendees may make their reservations by calling 1-800-777-7568 and using the group code, **or** they may click on this link (no group code needed): <https://goldennuggetbiloxi.reztrip.com/ext/promoRate?property=1262&mode=b&pm=true&sr=594680&vr=3>

The last day to make reservations will be **7/28/2021**
Rates and charges, you need to know about

| | Wed 08/18 | Thu 08/19 | Fri 08/20 | Sat 08/21 | Sun 08/22 |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Room Block | 10 | 40 | 50 | 30 | 15 |
| Luxury King Rooms | \$59.99 | \$59.99 | \$109.99 | \$129.99 | \$59.99 |
| Luxury Two Queen | \$79.99 | \$79.99 | \$129.99 | \$149.99 | \$79.99 |

All rates and a \$12.99 per night resort fee are subject to Harrison County room tax, currently five percent (5%), and state sales tax, currently seven percent (7%). County and state taxes are subject to change without prior notice.

ALL hotel rooms are non-smoking. A \$200 charge will be assessed for smoking in a hotel room.

Balcony rooms are available for an additional \$20.00 plus tax per night, based on availability.

| Additional Incidental Deposit | Method of Payment Accepted |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| \$100.00 per stay | Credit Card, Debit Card |

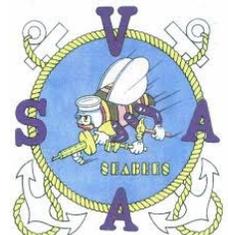
Be part of the Largest and Best NSVA Anniversary Celebration of our time. Attend the 75th Convention and be a part of NSVA history.

Please consider sponsoring an advertisement in the NSVA 75th Convention program

Navy Seabee Veterans of America Auxiliary



NSVAA Secretary E. Coffin
2047 Ridge Road
Queensbury, NY 12804



The person presenting this letter to you is authorized to represent the Navy Seabee Veterans of America Auxiliary (Navy SVAA) to request donations for the organization.

The Navy Seabee Veterans of America is a national not-for-profit 501c4 organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois since 1954. This year marks the 75th Anniversary Convention which will be held in Biloxi, MS.

The Navy SVAA is the supportive unit that is comprised of family members. We continue to assist this organization in their efforts to promote the Seabee heritage and community.

All donations collected will be used to support this memorable event for Seabee veterans.

To have your advertisement displayed in our Commemorative 75th Anniversary program please make checks payable to **Navy Seabee Veterans of America Auxiliary** and give to authorized representative or mail to address noted above. You may select from the options listed below.

_____ Full Page - \$100.00 _____ Half Page - \$75.00 _____ Quarter Page \$50.00

You may include a copy of your ad with donation, or send an electronic copy to navysvaasec@gmail.com.

You will receive notification from this e-mail address when your check and ad have been received.

Deadline for ad submission is 30 July 2021.

Thank you for your support of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America and it's Auxiliary.

Respectfully

Betty Nelson National President NSVA Auxiliary

Representative/Position:



**2021 Navy Seabee Veterans of America
75nd National Convention Registration Form
August 18th – 22nd**



151 Beach Boulevard
Biloxi MS 39530

Make your check payable to NSVA Memo line "CONVENTION"

Name: _____

positions held /Island _____

Spouse/Guest name: _____ NSVAA Member _____

Mailing Address _____

Email address _____ Contact phone number _____

| DATE | EVENTS: Details of the tours on following pages REGISTRATION DEADLINE AUGUST 1. Mail check to: Dave Buchanan 8491 Desertrose Terr. Crystal River FL 34428 | COST | # of PEOPLE | TOTAL COST |
|--|--|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | Convention Registration Fee at 2021 convention | \$20.00 ea. | | |
| 8/21 | Saturday night Dinner | | | |
| | Banquet Dinner Prime Rib | \$50.00 ea. | | |
| | Banquet Dinner Seared salmon | \$50.00 ea. | | |
| | Banquet Dinner Pan seared Chicken | \$50.00 ea. | | |
| <p align="center">Total amount enclosed Make your check payable to NSVA Memo line "CONVENTION" Mail check and registration form to: Dave Buchanan 8491 Desertrose Terr. Crystal River FL 34428</p> | | | | Total enclosed: |
| Deadline August 1 2021 | | THANK YOU | | |

The following agenda is preliminary and may be changed due to circumstances beyond the convention committees control. Should a change be necessary, notifications will be given as soon as the information becomes available. An updated agenda will be available at the registration table.

NSVA 75th CONVENTION AGENDA

Golden Nugget, 151 Beach Blvd. Biloxi MS.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Thursday 19th | 9am | Pre convention meeting and other committees |
| | 10am | Registration starts |
| | 12pm | Hospitality room open |
| Friday 20th | 9am | Joint opening and meetings |
| | 3pm | Post convention meeting |
| | 5pm | Memorial practice |
| | | Free time if not in a meeting |
| Saturday 21st | 9am | Memorial service |
| | 1pm | *Seabee Heritage Center (NCBC Gulfport, MS.) |
| | 5pm | Reception |
| | 6pm | Dinner |
| | | Speakers RADM John Korka SMSA student Sidney Brown |

*The Seabee Historical Foundation in conjunction with the NSVA will host a dedication ceremony commemorate the placing of 403 Memorial Bricks in honor of ALL Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps Officers killed in action. The ceremony will take place at Heritage Plaza directly outside the Seabee Heritage Center at NCBC Gulfport, MS. The Chief of Civil Engineers and Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, RADM John Korka, will be in attendance.

Key Note Speaker at the NSVA 75th Convention

Rear Admiral John Korka



Commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command/ Chief of Civil Engineers

Rear Admiral Korka was born in Rota, Spain and is the son of a master chief petty officer. He received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Old Dominion University in 1986 and commissioned an ensign through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps program. He holds a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Pennsylvania State University, a Master of Science in National Strategy Resources from the National Defense University Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and is a graduate of the Executive Advanced

Management Program at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.

Korka's operational tours include electrical officer, USS Sylvania (AFS-2); company commander/OIC Detail Souda Bay, U.S. Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133; operations officer, NMCB 1; and commanding officer, NMCB 4. He also served as commodore of 31st Seabee Readiness Group, the Pacific Fleet Seabees.

His shore assignments include assistant resident officer in Charge of Construction, Norfolk Naval Shipyard; facilities engineering department head, Public Works Center, Guam; military construction and energy program officer, Office of Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Fleet Readiness and Logistics); executive assistant to the commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) and chief of civil engineers; executive officer, NAVFAC Europe and Southwest Asia; and director, maritime headquarters NECC/NECCPAC. He commanded officer in charge of Construction, Bethesda; Naval Facilities Logistics Center, Port Hueneme; and NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic.

Korka is currently serving as commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command/ Chief of Civil Engineers. His previous flag assignments include deputy commander for Facilities and Environment, Navy Installations Command and deputy commander for Facilities and Environment, Marine Corps Installations Command; commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific and fleet civil engineer/N46, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Korka is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Virginia, a member of the Defense Acquisition Corps and qualified as a Seabee Combat Warfare and Surface Warfare officer. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit (five awards), Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), and other personal, service, unit and campaign awards. He also received the 1997 Society of American Military Engineers' Adm. Ben Moreell Medal for his leadership and engineering contributions in support of Operation Joint Endeavor while deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Sidney Brown

an SMSA Scholarship holder will speak about how it helped her education



Sidney Brown was born in Idaho, but Mississippi has been her home since 2005.

Sidney's family includes her father, EOC Jason Brown, her mother, Debin Brown, and her brother, PVT US ARMY Dakota Rodgers (deceased April 8, 2016).

After graduating from Stone High School in 2018, Sidney started attending The University of Southern Mississippi, where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences (Microbiology Emphasis) and double minor in Spanish and Chemistry. She is a Lucky day Scholar, Hatten Externship Scholar, and Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP).

Sidney aspires to be a physician in the future, specifically working within academic medicine to mentor other students. She currently mentors fellow premedical students as the newly elected President of the Southern Miss American Medical Student Association. Sidney is also involved with her sorority, Alpha Delta Pi, of which she has served as the Property Specialist, Archivist, Director of Inclusion, Chaplain, and Vice President of Member Development. Outside of school, she works in a Molecular Biology laboratory performing PCR assays for COVID-19 nasal swabs as well as volunteers at Forrest General Hospital with the ER CARE Partners.

NOW HEAR THIS NOW HEAR THIS NOW HEAR THIS

New Scam ... you will be contacted with an email saying your order on Amazon can not be shipped. It will then direct you to a link that takes you to a very legit looking 'Amazon' page. Here they ask you for your personal information - name address and credit card numbers to complete your order.

This is a very clever and realistic looking SCAM..... let me repeat ... SCAM.

Please NEVER give anyone your information unless YOU initiated the contact.

If Anyone Contacts You before, during or after a purchase ... just Don't Do It ...

Don't give them any info - Ever!

Buy Local, Spend your money where your heart is.

The US NAVY SEABEES DESERVE A STAMP TOO
(See page 31 for details)

The Deadline for the September

CAN DO is **August 24th**

NSVA SHIPS STORE MANAGER

5142 Endeavour Ave. Dover Fl. 33527-5881

813-376-3947 (Attention Betty or Ernie Nelson)

CONVENTION SHIRT ORDER FORM DEADLINE **1 JULY 2021**

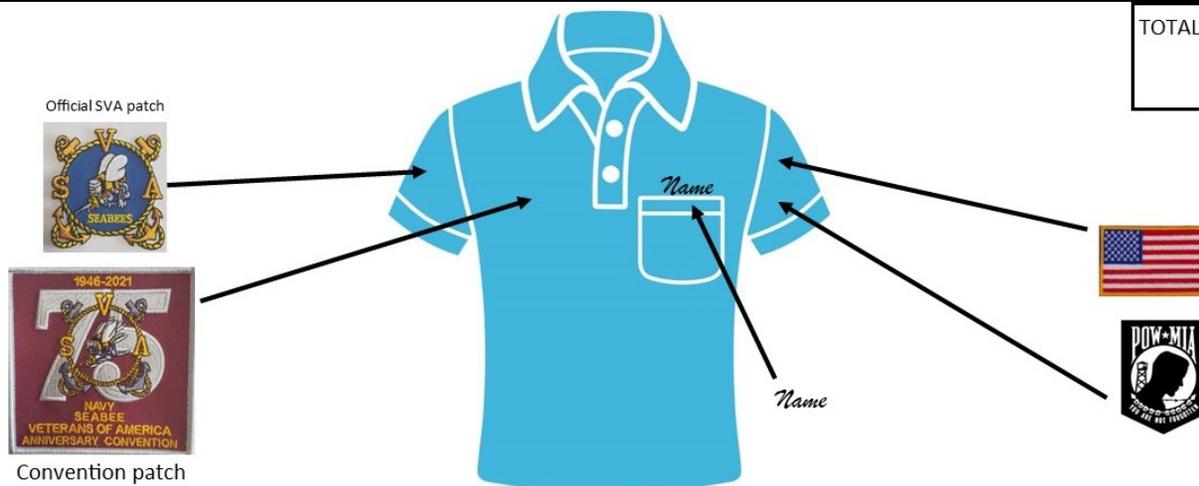
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NSVA: Mail form and money to the above address for processing

Name _____ Embroidered Name for shirt _____

Email _____ Phone ____ - ____ - _____

Customer Signature _____ **This is a custom order, not subject to change, refund or cancellation.**

| | S | M | L | XL | 2XL | 3XL | 4XL | 5XL | Flag | POW/MIA | Subtotal: |
|---|---|---|---|----|------|------|------|------|------|----------|-----------|
| Men's "Celebrity Pro Burgundy Shirt S-XL Shirt W/ Convention Patch, SVA patch and Embroidered name \$45.00 American Flag Additional \$5.00 POW/MIA Patch Additional \$5.00 | | | | | +\$2 | +\$4 | +\$6 | +\$5 | +\$5 | +\$5 | |
| Pick up shirt order at Convention | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Woman's Burgundy Sport Tek Shirt Woman's cut polo style no pocket V neck S-XL Shirt W/ Convention Patch, SVAA patch and Embroidered name \$43.00 American Flag Additional \$5.00 POW/MIA Patch Additional \$5.00 | | | | | +\$2 | +\$4 | +\$6 | | +\$5 | +\$5 | |
| Pick up shirt order at Convention | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Additional patches can be purchased for \$6 s/h included | | | | | | | | | | Quantity | Subtotal: |
| Official SVA patch | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 75th Convention Patch | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL: | | | | | | | | | | | |



Navy Seabee Veterans of America

5142 Endeavour Ave., Dover, FL 33527

813-376-3947 (Atten: Betty or Ernie Nelson)

Make checks payable to NSVA

Ships Store Order Form

Shipping Information

| |
|---------|
| Name |
| Address |
| E-mail |
| Phone |

Patches



Convention
\$5.00



Shirt and Garrison
\$5.00



Auxiliary
\$5.00

| Item | Quantity | Patch/Pin Cost | Shipping Cost | Total |
|---|----------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| All patches and pins are \$1 per ITEM to Ship | | | | |
| SVA Shirt Patch (3.75"x3.5") | | | | |
| Garrison Hat Patch (2.25"x2.25") | | | | |
| SVAA shirt Patch | | | | |
| 75 th Convention Patch | | | | |
| 75 th Anniversary Lapel Pin (1" Diameter) | | | | |
| \$2.00 Shipping for each coin 1-4 \$9.00 shipping for 5-20 coins | | | | |
| | Quantity | Coin Cost | Shipping Cost | Total |
| 75 th Anniversary Coin (2" Diameter) | | | | |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | | |

Lapel pin



\$5.00

75th Anniversary Challenge Coin

Front

Back



\$10.00

Send no CASH!! Check or Money Order Only at this time.

Vietnam Perspectives



In the March issue a picture similar to this was posted on page 24. Here is a response and the picture of another graduating class in Gulfport MS.

Page 24 brought back memories: Capt. Leap was right on- that is indeed Gulfport.

Here is a photo of my Company graduating In April 1968. I think all of us were DPPO's- (or IPO's - Instant Petty Officers)

We enlisted for 30 months-with the stipulation that we would serve two eight month tours in Vietnam. If you worked in the trades, they would offer you at least 3rd class, If you were a more experienced journeyman : maybe 2nd class, and if you had prior service and a trade: 1st class or even Chief PO. We had one Korean war vet come in as a super chief

builder. I think most of us ended up in Port Hueneme with MCB 5 and then onto to Camp Hoover in Danang. (I'm in the top row by the Seabee's elbow) Submitted by Frank Dorobiala X-12 Rochester, NY.

Veterans Should Be Aware of This

This is a follow-up notification for [Vietnam Veterans](#) who may be suffering from [Parkinson's disease](#) and those who had boots on the ground in Vietnam that they may be entitled to [compensation](#) from the [Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\)](#).

Also, a federal court ruled that the [Department of Veterans Affairs \(VA\)](#) must pay retroactive benefits for [Agent Orange-related health problems](#) to [Navy veterans](#) who served on [ships](#) off Vietnam's coast. These payments will honor the terms of a 1991 settlement between the [VA](#) and [veterans](#). The settlement also requires payments to surviving children and the estates of deceased [veterans](#). [Blue water veterans](#) do not need to file new claims to request [benefits](#); [veterans](#) who filed [Agent Orange-related](#) claims in the past will now have those claims automatically reviewed. (Note this is a change from the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act that Congress passed in 2019, which required [Blue Water veterans](#) to file a new claim to be considered for [benefits](#).)

[Vietnam Veterans](#) who were on rivers or coastal waters off Vietnam and are suffering from potential [Agent Orange related disease](#) should check this.

This article was submitted by Dave Howard, past Island secretary of X-1 Greenville, TN. Perhaps some of you have had the opportunity to receive or read his newsletters, they are fantastic.



NMCB-14 Alumni Association

Our 2021 Annual Reunion will be held 5 - 7 November at the Sheraton Tampa Brandon located at 10221 Princess Palm Avenue; Tampa, FL 33610. Details on registration and schedule will be posted soon on the Association's website <http://www.nmcb14alumni.com/> . You can begin booking your room now (see details on our website).

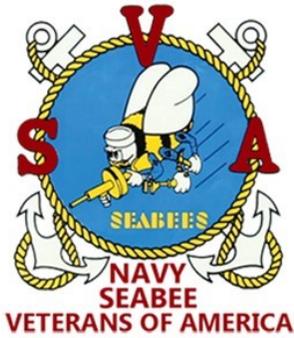
If you are or ever were a member of NMCB-14 or RNMCB-14, you are encouraged to join the Association. Application and dues structure can be found at the Association's website.

NEW - NMCB-14 Alumni Association Challenge Coin



Cost \$10 each plus \$1.00 shipping within the US. Contact Gregg Harkness at g.harkness@earthlink.net for ordering information.

The NMCB-14 Alumni Association is a non-profit organization under Internal Revenue Code 501(c) (19). Our purpose is to provide charitable, educational, and spiritual support and to help provide for some of the basic necessities of life for widows, children and other family members on active or inactive duty and former members of NMCB-14, especially for members that were wounded or killed in conflict while on active duty with the Armed Forces of the United States of America.



Island X-5 Fort Lauderdale Florida



Commander:
Vince Mancusi

Vice Commander:
Larry Maleta
Secretary:/Treasurer:

Karl (Chuck) Dougé
(305) 230-8000
combatelectric@aol.com



Department of Florida 52st.
State Convention Hosted X-5
20-21 May 2022

Comfort Suites Maingate East
Orlando FL (407) 397-7848

Group code: Rate
\$90 plus tax. Question contact

Chuck Dougé (305)230-8000
combatelectric@aol.com

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA 2021 CONVENTION ATTENDEES



Standing L to R Vince Mancusi, John Hillyer, Chuck Douge, Gary Chitwood, John Lowe, Dave Buchanan, Pat Lions and Teddy Montuori. Seated L to R Dwight Hamborsky, Doug Bower and Ernie Nelson

To: The Membership of the Seabee Veterans of America

Re: USPS Stamp Commemorating the U.S. Navy Seabees 80th Anniversary

My Fellow Seabees, as our 80th anniversary in March of 2022 draws closer, it behooves us to mount a letter writing campaign requesting a USPS Seabee Stamp be issued in recognition of the U.S. Navy Seabees and to commemorate this milestone event. Past initiatives to persuade the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee to issue a Seabee stamp, recognizing our existence and our previous anniversaries, ended without success. We cannot and must not let these past rejections deter us from seeking the recognition and acknowledgement the Seabees have earned.

"The difficult we do now, The Impossible takes a little longer" is a statement about the Seabee creed of "CAN DO". Seabee pride and esprit de corps are never ending, but not readily shared with outsiders. This initiative is our opportunity to have the legacy of our past, present, and future brother and sister Seabees recognized for their service to God and Country.

The Seabee Veterans of America along with the Seabee Historical Foundation have joined together in championing this cause. We are asking YOU, the SVA and SHF members to pick up the torch and to display that CAN DO Spirit by signing and mailing the stamp request letter below. Please mail your letter to either the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee or Douglas Bower, National Vice Commander, his address is listed below. Because the wheels of bureaucracy move slowly, the sooner everyone responds to this request for action the better. The more requests mailed the greater the impact. Let's commit to making this happen.

Stamp Development
Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300
Washington, DC 20260-3501

Douglas Bower, National Vice Commander
Navy Seabee Veterans of America
999 Co Rte. 85
Oswego, NY 13126-5690

We, the U.S. Navy Seabees, request the U.S. Postal Service Citizens Advisory Committee consider the U.S. Navy Seabee emblem be used to create a USPS Seabee stamp to recognize our accomplishments and to commemorate our 80th Anniversary occurring in March, 2022. This request is made on behalf of all Active duty, Reserve and Retired Seabee Veterans. The signatures on these letters are from the members of the Seabee Veterans of America, who respectfully request this Seabee Stamp be issued soon before the passing of our founding WWII Seabees; followed by the Korean War, Cold War, Viet Nam, Iraq and Afghanistan presence. Many patriotic citizens would also support this stamp.

We fought for your freedom; would you fight for this stamp for us???

We have requested a Seabee stamp be issued before, but due to circumstances out of our control, it never materialized. We're requesting a Seabee Stamp again to commemorate our 80th year in 2022. Would this office please help us see it come to pass at this time?

Signature



Blessings to you
and your families!



Thank you
for your service
to our country!



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

44-14 Broadway, Astoria, New York 11103
T: 347-448-2549
Email: dfurey@fureylaw.net Web: fureylaw.net

CONVENTION AND REUNION INFORMATION

75th NSVA National Convention 8/18/21 thru 8/22/21

Golden Nugget Casino, Biloxi, MS.

MCB-11 Association Reunion

September 9th - 13th in Nashville, TN

Contact Larry Hagler at mcb11.2021@earthlink.net for details

Navy Fleet Hospital 15 (CBHU 20 Desert Storm '91, Saudi Arabia) Reunion

September 17 & 18, 2021, Bethlehem, PA. contact G. Lebeduik: jnmdl@ptd.net

The 133 Seabee Association Reunion

Woodbridge, VA Sept. 24th- 27th, 2021

Contact D. Ruocco at gulfport67@gmail.com for info. & registration

Scholarship Donations

The CAN DO will acknowledge donations to the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association and The Seabee Historical Foundation.

Donations should be mailed directly to: Charles Coffin

NSVA National Secretary, 2047 Ridge Road, Queensbury NY 12804.

- A donation in the amount of \$200.00 was made in the name of Donna Tangen by Island X-9 Kingston, NY to the SMSA Fund.
- A donation in the amount of \$200.00 was made by Island X-9 Kingston, NY to the SMSA Fund.
- A donation in the amount of \$500.00 was made in the name of Jose Defrancoph by X-5 Lancaster PA to the SMSA Fund.
- A Donation in the amount of \$100.00 was made by Robert W. Huscheroly to the SMSA Fund.
- A donation in the amount of \$1,000 was made in the name of Judi Scanlon by Island X-5 Buffalo, NY to the SMSA Fund.
- A donation of \$50.00 was made in the name of David Phillips by Island X-5 Buffalo, NY to the SMSA Fund.
- A donation in the amount of \$30.00 was made in the name of Jacob Beebe by Island X-5 Lancaster, PA to the Fallen Warrior Fund.
- A donation of \$100.00 was made in the name of Past National Commander Gerald Landcastle by the NSVA to the SMSA Fund.
- A donation of \$100.00 was made in the name of Gene Clifford by Island X-6 Johnstown, PA to the SMSA Fund.
- A donation for \$25.00 was made in the name of John Laszik by Island X-7 port Hueneme, CA to the SMSA Fund.

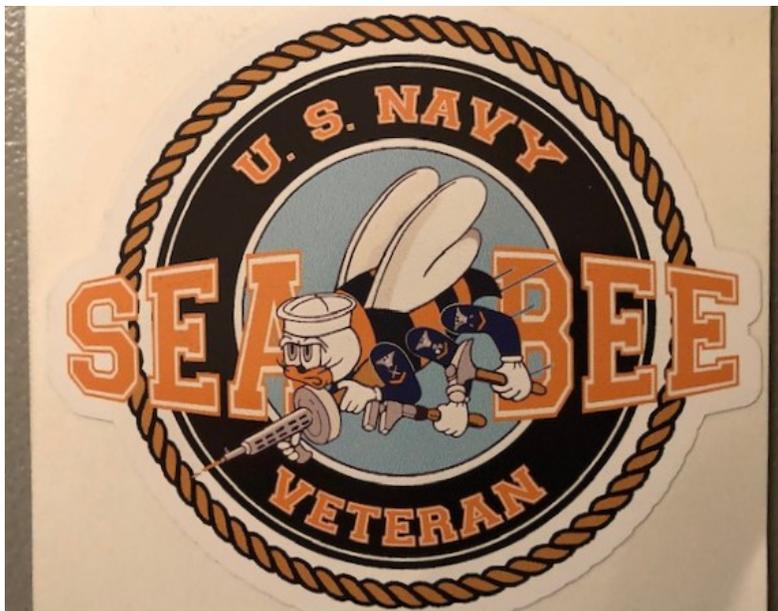


Welcome Aboard to our Newest Life Members!
John Cubit, Life Membership Chairman, Navy Seabee Veterans of America
It is with pleasure that we welcome the following Seabees as Life Members of our
Organization:

| NAME | LM # | ISLAND | CITY | STATE |
|--------------------|------|--------|--------------|-------|
| Michael Efferson | 6871 | X-9 | Jacksonville | FL |
| Herbert D. Hall | 6872 | X-4 | Scranton | PA |
| Paul J. Sobolewski | 6873 | X-5 | Lancaster | PA |
| William Boeckman | 6874 | X-14 | Manitowoc | MN |
| Eric Lamb | 6875 | X-1 | St. Louis | MO |
| Gary Snow | 6876 | X-19 | Daytona | FL |
| Dennis Vanzuiden | 6877 | X-2 | Davenport | IA |
| Ronald Fogle | 6878 | X-2 | Hillsborough | FL |
| Krista Gleason | 6879 | X-14 | Manitowoc | WI |
| John Martel | 6880 | X-9 | Jacksonville | FL |
| Wayne Kiley | 6881 | X-14 | Manitowoc | WI |
| Robert McMahan | 6882 | X-1 | Gulfport | MS |
| Samuel Clemence | 6883 | X-19 | Syracuse | NY |

Fellow Seabees, I'm John Cubit the NSVA Life Membership Chairman. 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



This Seabee decal was generously donated by Bob Gagne, member Island X-4 Laconia NH. Bob and Peter Baker were instrumental in designing the Memorial Bench in Jeff Ingalls name. (March 2021 issue)



FINAL SALUTE

COMPILED BY THE NATIONAL
SECRETARY, AS REPORTED BY THEIR
ISLANDS AND UNITS

Blue = SVA Members

Black = Brother & Sister Seabees
Non NSVA Members



| LM# | Last Name | First | MI. | Island # | City | State |
|--------|-------------|---------|-----|----------|----------------------|-------|
| 2214 | Couto | Thomas | M | X-1 | Davisville | RI |
| 6722 | Carey | Michael | | X-1 | Davisville | RI |
| 3054 | Edwards | John | | X-7 | Port Hueneme | CA |
| 4287 | Christensen | Kenneth | | X-4 | Longmont | CO |
| 2525 | Bender | Mark | E | X-1 | Davisville | RI |
| 4063 | Hard | Daniel | W | X-16 | South Hillsborough | FL |
| 4890 | Coalts | Richard | P | X-1 | Greenville | TN |
| 0462 | Krout | Walter | | X-5 | Lancaster | PA |
| 1760 | Phillips | David | A | X-5 | Buffalo | NY |
| 4141 | Campbell | Leo | T | X-5 | Buffalo | NY |
| 2358 | Stuckey, Sr | Harry | A | X-8 | Tonawanda | NY |
| 2780 | Daus | William | | X-10 | Albany | NY |
| 4831 | Albrecht | Kenneth | | X-8 | Tonawanda | NY |
| 5719 | Laszik | John | J | X-7 | Port Hueneme | CA |
| 4761 | Conway | Robert | E | X-1 | Davisville | RI |
| 6080 | Clifford | Eugene | | X-6 | Johnstown | PA |
| 3789 | Johnson | Robert | P | X-2 | Twin Cities | MN |
| 0423 | Gammon | Kenneth | D | X-11 | Tampa | FL |
| 6594 | Ownby | Cecil | | | 24 Battalion @ Large | |
| 4071 | Webster | Robert | F | X-1 | White River Jct. | VT |
| 4772 | Luce | Russell | G | X-1 | Davisville | RI |
| 5191 | Oesterle | Douglas | | X-1 | Gulfport | MS |
| 5986 | Stadtmiller | Robert | | X-12 | Rochester | NY |
| 4237 | Jenks | Frank | C | X-8 | Tonawanda | NY |
| 2272 | Evans | James | F | | MCB-1 @ Large | |
| 2801 | Spears | Gerald | D | X-2 | Davenport | IA |
| Annual | Benedetto | James | P | X-1 | Torrington | CT |
| Annual | Mandile | Anthony | | X-4 | Laconia | NH |

The Can Do Magazine is committed to honoring the NSVA members on their passing by listing them in the Final Salute pages. Please notify the SVA National Secretary at nsvasec@gmail.com or by calling 1-203-843-5513 of a members passing as soon as possible. Be sure to include the members Life Member number (if applicable) and their Island/Unit affiliation. To view more deceased Seabee names go to the Seabee Historical Foundation website at www.seabeehf.org

U.S. NAVY SEABEES DESERVE A STAMP TOO
(See page 31 for details)

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA

CAN DO

2047 Ridge Road
Queensbury,
N.Y. 12804

1-203-843-5513

Visit us on line at WWW.nsva.org



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Twin Cities, MN
Permit No. 7911