



ENGINEERS UP!

2022 Newsletter

30TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION



Dedicated To The
Patriotism, Valor and Sacrifices of
Marine Corps Engineers - Past and Present.

ENGINEERS UP!



2014



MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

What is it? The MCEA is a HQMC sanctioned, tax-exempt, nonprofit organization (IRS 501 (c) (19)), incorporated in NC, in 1991.

MCEA Purpose/Bylaw highlights:

- Promote Marine Corps engineering in combat engineer, engineer equipment, utilities, landing support (shore party), bulk fuel, topographic and construction engineering, drafting, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)
- Renew and perpetuate fellowship of retired, former and current US Marines who served with Marine Corps Engineer units and sister service members who served in support of Marine-Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) Units
- Preserve the memory of those who served
- Promote an accurate historical record of the contributions of Marine Corps engineers
- Foster solidarity of Marine Corps engineers
- Keep members current with the Marine Corps engineer community
- Annually recognize superior achievement of active duty and reserve establishment Marine Corps EOD and engineer individuals & organizations, as well as Naval Construction Force Units

MCEA Eligibility. All former and current Armed Forces personnel who served with Marine Corps Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) Units or in support of Marine Corps Engineer Units or US Marine Corps Base and Station billets.

Membership Benefits:

- Very affordable dues for yearly, multi-year & lifetime membership! 100% of dues and all contributions are tax deductible.
- Contributions to MCEA, Unit brick program and school sponsorship qualify for the Fellows Program.
- Access to members' roster and capability to locate and reconnect with Marines and Sailors from former units
- Annual reunion with opportunity to interact with veterans as well as active/reserve duty personnel, corporate members and "Best of the Best" award recipients and their families
- Subscription to MCEA newsletter
- Notification of employment opportunities especially in the DOD and civilian engineering community
- Capability to interact daily with other members via website and email and receive updates from MCEA
- Unlimited access to website and special "members only" section
- Access to history, lineage and other information about USMC engineer units
- Availability of unique MCEA Ship's Store items; - Discounts on Military Historical Tours, Inc

MCEA Engineer Monument. Dedicated 14 May, 2014, as an enduring tribute to all Marine Corps Engineers, past, present and future in the Semper Fidelis Park at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Personalized and unit bricks available for purchase to be located adjacent to our Engineer Monument.

Sponsorship of engineer related formal school courses. Opportunity to sponsor any of the 1000 graduates in the 20 annual courses.

Bottom Line: MCEA provides a unique opportunity to connect or reconnect and maintain communication with Marine Corps engineers, the Marine Corps family, recognize outstanding performance of individual Marines and engineer and Seabee organizations and to leave a memorable legacy for our Marine Corps engineer brotherhood.

Reunions/Awards Banquets: Camp Lejeune, NC '92, '93, '99, '07, '15; Camp Pendleton, CA '94, '08, '14; Gatlinburg, TN '95; Wilmington, NC '96; Denver, CO '97; Savannah, GA '98; Quantico, VA '00, '10; Branson, MO '02, '12; Harrisburg, PA '03; Portland, OR '04; Myrtle Beach, SC '05; Boston, MA '06; Las Vegas, NV '09; San Diego, CA '11, '18. Orlando, FL '13; Pala, CA '14, '16; Fredericksburg, VA '17, '21; San Antonio, TX '19

MCEA, PO Box 279, Beechgrove, TN 37018-0279 Phone: 931-307-9094
GET ALL THE DETAILS AT: WWW.MARCORENGASN.ORG

Engineers Up! is the annual newsletter of the Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA) published to provide members news and information about the activities of their association. Only a limited number of copies are printed to minimize costs; however, Engineers Up! is available to the general public on the MCEA website, www.marcorengasn.org. MCEA is a non-federal entity; therefore, according to regulation, neither the DoD or the U.S. Marine Corps, nor any of its components, endorse the MCEA or MCEA product, service or event.



2022 Newsletter Content

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....	4
NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS	6
OFFICIALS & KEY SUPPORTERS	7
ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS	7
HONOR ROLL	12
IN MEMORIAM	14
WARRIOR ANGELS.....	20
FELLOWS PROGRAM.....	21
THIRTY YEAR UPDATE.....	23
MCEA SIGNIFICANT EVENTS	25
THE LONGEST WAR.....	30
WING ENGINEER SQUADRON 27	33
BRICK PROGRAM.....	39
MCEA 2022 REUNION ITINERARY.....	40
ADMIN NOTES.....	41
CORPORATE MEMBERS & TREASURER'S REPORT	42
MCEA OUTSTANDING ENGINEER AWARDS	44
SHIPS STORE.....	70



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“Membership and Leadership”

I'm certain that no one is surprised when I say that 2021 was, like 2020 unique! What 2022 will bring still has a measure of uncertainty, though there are (as of this writing in mid-January) signs that COVID is changing for the better. All any of us can do is wait and see.

Your Executive Committee “rolled” into 2021 hopeful for something at least vaguely resembling a typical year. Filled with hope, we resurrected the plans for the 2020 Reunion and Awards Banquet with the hotel in Fredricksburg. The 2021 Awards announcement from HQMC indicated that the 2020 winners were also invited to attend. Like any change from the “normal” we had no idea how many would be able to attend. It turned out to be only three with others that did contact us explaining that they were fully engaged at a new billet or duty station. The Sapper Squad Competition was again cancelled. However, MCEA has indicated a desire to become the permanent host so perhaps 2022 will see it resume. Expeditionary Warfare School, like most of academia, adjusted to “distance learning” and continued on. At the graduation ceremony, the Martin Award was presented via Zoom to a virtual audience.



My primary focus for this note is to address membership and leadership. Membership is the lifeblood of any association. I encourage all of you to remember that you are our best recruiters. Please survey your Marine engineer friends and acquaintances and encourage any who are not already members to join. Two main reasons: first, as you who are members know, it's a way to maintain contact or reconnect with both folks from your past as well as new people with similar interests; and second, we do so many good things to support the active and active reserve forces. To top it off, it's inexpensive – most of us lose more in change to the sofa, recliner, car seat, and washing machine than the yearly dues!

On the leadership side, the Executive Committee and the associated volunteers are the heart of MCEA. I say that not only in terms of dedication, but also meaning that the heart is what keeps everything flowing in a living organization. We have deferred officer elections during COVID, but I intend to resume the biennial process at the Business Meeting in 2022 at Reunion. Nominations are now open for the elected officers' positions which includes: President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, and Historian. In addition, volunteers for specific tasks and functions are always needed and welcome. You may place yourself in nomination or may nominate someone else (with their permission, please!) and/or you can volunteer.

On a totally positive note, we received a very generous donation that will perpetually endow the Engineer Equipment Individual Awards in memory of Cpl. Scott Bianco who was killed in a terrible accident while deployed to Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm.

While the Treasurer's Report for 2021 is elsewhere in this newsletter, I should mention that in spite of all that 2020 and 2021 threw at us, we ended up with essentially a “break-even” year (we showed



a small increase in equity beyond the endowment already mentioned). Primary thanks must go to our Award Sponsors who continued their support. Without that support, MCEA would have survived, but would have needed to dip into our reserve to keep going.

So, what does 2022 look like? It too is likely to be unique as some things return to “normal” with others find a “new normal” and others undergo major changes. Besides the obvious uncertainty of the pandemic as both vaccination and evolving mutations of the virus make for a fluid situation, I see two things that will impact how MCEA functions in the future. The first is General Berger’s “course” for our Corps. The second is the impact of technology on communication, meetings, and travel.

The Commandant’s vision is a major change, to be sure. But I have on good authority that engineer capability is not only “tolerated” but is specifically desired. Exactly what that means only time will tell. The structure of engineers in the future Marine Corps will be different. We need to be prepared for changes that may well impact on our Awards program. Almost certainly there will be impacts on our Course Sponsorship program as academic instruction is revised to support new structure. We also may find that our Unit Bricks will have to be added to in order to reflect new names and new organizations. All I can say is, “Standby for changes.”

The impact of technology is both easier to describe and equally difficult to analyze for its impact on MCEA. Across the whole spectrum of human endeavor, from family to social/religion to education to business to government, we are learning what can and cannot be accomplished using technology. Many things that used to “require” travel are now being seen as equally effective using all the remote tools technology offers. Even when they aren’t totally equal (we all have had the experience of attending a school or conference where there was equal or greater value to the informal discussions over meals or just visiting in the evening) the question of value versus cost has to enter in. On the plus side, I see opportunities for us to share things like our business meeting and Awards Banquet using live streaming for those who cannot attend in person. On, what is to me a downside, there is a realistic possibility that our Award recipients may be denied funded travel and our ceremony must be virtual or a mixture of virtual and in person.

So, where is 2022 headed? As of the time this is written (mid-January) the Reunion and Awards Banquet is “on” (possibly subject to restrictions) for Las Vegas (details elsewhere in this Newsletter). Sapper Squad Competition is being planned. EWS has a new class in session. But all of that is subject to change. Some of these questions may be answered by the time this newsletter is published but I doubt even a majority will be. What is in store for our Corps and the MCEA is uncertain. All we can do is continue to improvise, adapt, and overcome.

God Bless and Semper Fi. Engineers UP!

George



NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS



Dear Fellow Engineers and Friends,

It is my pleasure to present to you another edition of your Newsletter. Hopefully, you noticed the banner on the cover proudly announcing the 30th Anniversary of the Marine Corps Engineer Association! Can you believe that? In this edition we have tried to capture the essence of the original founders' dream....an association that would join past and present Marine Corps Engineers fraternally and professionally. Our diligent and faithful historian, Phil Martin, has put together an article highlighting MCEA's activities over the last thirty years. If you can't wait to see or recall the many impressive achievements as the Association has grown and matured, jump to page 23 and read, *From a Dream to Reality---Thirty Year Update*. If you can wait, I will point out some other features.

For me, the recognition of outstanding Marine Corps engineers and EOD personnel through the MCEA awards program always reminds me how truly talented and dedicated today's Marines are. The awardees' citations have been included with their pictures so you can see just how good they really are.

Another section of the Newsletter that always has special meaning to me is *In Memoriam* where the obituaries of departed members are located. A great deal of effort goes into presenting as much information as possible about each person. These Marines regardless of their length of service contributed so much to their Corps, Country and local communities. Pam Jeans, Ken Frantz, Joe DeHart and the Associate Directors deserve recognition for rooting out the information and details that result in lasting memories both in our records and Together We Served.

There are two other historical articles. *The Longest War* contains a summary of the War in Afghanistan from 2001 to 2021 as well as a first-hand account of engineer activity. The other article is a unit history of Wing Engineer Squadron 27 that was compiled from its command chronologies by Phil Martin.

Lastly, I encourage everyone to attend the MCEA Reunion this September in Las Vegas, Nevada. Details are also contained herein. By the way, you can see over 100 pictures and video coverage from the last reunion on the MCEA website.

P.S. As we are going to press, the official MCEA mailing address was changed from the old Wartrace address to: MCEA, PO Box 279, Beechgrove, TN 37018-0279. Hopefully all the appropriate corrections have been made.

*Happy 30th Anniversary,
Joel Cooley, MCEA Newsletter Coordinator*



MCEA OFFICIALS & KEY SUPPORTERS

Executive Committee

President:	LtCol George Carlson, USMC (Ret)
Vice President:	LtCol Tony Raniszewski, USMC (Ret)
2nd Vice President:	MSgt Joe DeHart, USMC (Ret)
Treasurer:	LtCol George Carlson, USMC (Ret)
Secretary:	MGySgt Ed Montanez, USMC (Ret)
Chaplain:	Col Tom Dalzell, USMC (Ret)
Historian:	MSgt Phil Martin, USMC (Ret)
Corporate Membership:	LtCol Bill Ford, USMC (Ret)
Publicity/Newsletter:	Col Joel Cooley, USMC (Ret)
Permanent Associate Director (Founder):	Col Jim Marapoti, USMC, (Ret)
Permanent Associate Director:	MSgt Phil Martin, USMC (Ret)
Permanent Associate Director:	Maj Charlie Dismore, USMC (Ret)
Permanent Associate Director:	Col Ken Frantz, USMC (Ret)
Member At Large:	MGySgt Ed Montanez, USMC (Ret)
Member At Large:	Col Bo Hellman, USMC (Ret)
Member At Large:	MGySgt Wayne Bennett USMC (Ret)
Member At Large:	Col Mike McCarthy USMCR
Member At Large:	Mike Zacchea, USMC Vet
Member At Large:	Justin Watson, USMC Vet
Member At Large:	Col Chris Scannell, USMC (Ret)

Support Staff

Webmaster:	Geoff Nicely, USMC Vet
ObituarySearch/Together We Served (TWS) & Profile of Fallen Engineers:	Pam Jeans
Bookkeeper:	Wendi Watts

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

The Associate Directors for the MCEA are the main contact to the membership. We have 22ADs covering regions over the country. Each has a responsible area of their state or region, to have contact with the membership of the MCEA. This year we have the awardee for Engineer Officer of the Year for 2020 to take on her class of Awardees for 2020 as their AD. They insure that the contact information of each is current, transmit information to the membership, and monitor those who are ill or in distress. They offer condolence calls to family members when needed and let them know that the Association is there for any of their needs. These Marines give up their time to be the spokesmen for the MCEA for their members and should be recognized for their hard work. The

Association is very grateful for their commitment to their Marines. As our membership grows, we are in need of ADs to assist in this vital work. Those that would like to step up, please contact Joe DeHart, Dmsgt123@gmail.com





JOE DeHART, AD Director (2nd Vice President, AD VA Region) Lives in Galax, VA., retired MSgt, married to Betty Jo.

GEORGE W. BARRIS, , AD For North East Region. Lives in East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, Marine Vet.

WAYNE BENNETT, AD NC, Tenn. Region, Lives in Lynchburg, Va., retired MGySgt, Married to Kim.



JOHN CHAMPEAU (SOAPY), AD VA Region, lives in Virginia Beach, VA., retired LtCol.

ROGER COHOE, AD for Michigan, Minnesota and Ohio Regions, lives in Lewiston, Michigan, Marine Vet.



RON COLEMAN, Retired LtCol, AD for Western US. Resides in Gilbert, AZ with wife Denise.



JOSEPH COOMBS, , AD NC region, lives in West Jefferson, NC., Marine Vet.



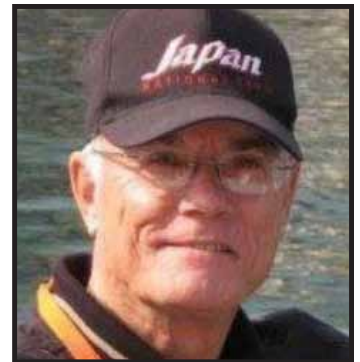
GLEN DAEHNKE, AD NJ region, lives in Westhamton, NJ., retired Maj.

STEPHANIE L. DAMREN, Active Duty Captain, AD for Active Duty class Awardees 2020, she was the Engineer Officer of the Year for 2020.



HELMUTS FEIFS, AD for North Carolina Region, lives in Durham, North Carolina, Marine Vet, former Capt.

BILL FORD, AD for Oregon and Washington Regions, lives in Corvallis, Oregon, retired LtCol.



PHILLIP Q. FOSTER, AD for Fla., lives in Pace, Fla., Marine Vet.

RONALD E. FULLER, , MGySgt, USMC, Ret. AD for California, married to Yoshi.





TONY HILLARD, AD GA region, lives in Tucker, GA., retired LtCol., married to Peggy.

PAM JEANS, AD for *TogetherWeServed* and *Warrior Angels*, lives in El Centro, California, Warrior Angel, has devoted her time to develop profiles of Marine engineers for the TogetherWeServed web site. If you have not done so, contact Pam at jeans@netptc.net, to add your profile.



PETER T. LEONARD, AD For PA, DE, VA, lives in Marshfield, MA, Retired MGySgt.

DAVE LITTELL, AD CA region, lives in Oxnard, CA., retired LtCol.



CLAIRE C. MARVIN, AD for Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Idaho Regions, lives in Westerfield, Ohio, retired Capt.



LOU NAPPI, AD VA region, lives in Haymarket, VA.,
retired LtCol.



LARRY VARLEY, AD TX region, lives in Sheridan, TX.,
married to Darnell, Marine Vet.

JAMES W. WHEYLAND, Marine Vet, AD West Region.



MIKE ZACCHEA, AD NY region, lives in Floral
Park, Ny., Marine Vet.

These Marines give up their time to continue serving, if they contact you by phone, email, or letter, please respond in some way to let them know you are in good health and your contact information is correct.



HONOR ROLL

Below are our members who have died. May they join their fellow Marines and Sailors in GOD's Love and Peace.

AIKENS, DAVID W. MSGT (RET)
 ALO, THOMAS T. GYSGT (RET)
 AMSTER, ALVINA VET
 ANDERSON, DAVID L. LTCOL (RET)
 ANDERSON, JESSE E. LTCOL (RET)
 ANDERSON, LOUIS S. SSGT (RET)
 ANDERSON, VIRGIL P. VET
 ANGELL, HENRY L. SSGT (RET)
 ARMITAGE, GEORGE L. CAPT (RET)
 ARMSTRONG, MILTON L. SSGT (RET)
 *BABE, GEORGE ALVIN COL (RET)
 BACHE, TERRANCE W. VET
 BACKO, JOE L. CWO4 (RET)
 BALLANCE, HENRY G. MSGT (RET)
 BANISH, THEODORE A. VET
 BANN, DONALD W. VET
 BARDIN, JAMES (LANCER) N. VET
 BARKE, ARTHUR J. VET
 BARKER, LAWRENCE S. MAJ (RET)
 BARNETSON, WILLIAM H. MAJ (RET)
 BARRON, REYNOLDS MSGT (RET)
 BATEMAN, JOSEPH S. VET
 BATES, WILLIAM G. COL (RET)
 BAUBLITZ JR, JOHN G. VET
 BEDFORD, WARREN R. (JACK) VET
 BENSTEAD, DARYL E. COL (RET)
 BERNIER, RICHARD J. CWO4 (RET)
 BETTS, MICHAEL R. VET
 BIANCHI, ROBERT A. VET
 BIBBEY, BRUCE F. VET
 BIGITSCHKE, UWE D. VET
 BILLICH, EMIL J. VET
 BLUM, CARL H. VET
 BONNELL JR, JOHN C. MSGT (RET)
 BONNER, D. L. SSGT (RET)
 BOTELHO, RODNEY W. LTCOL (RET)
 BOTTS, LAURANCE B. CWO 2 (RET)
 BOURQUE, RAYMOND D. MAJ (RET)
 BOUTRY, NORMAN VET
 BOWMAN, CHARLES VET
 BOYER, JASPER J. MSGT (RET)
 BRANDEL, RALPH E. COL (RET)
 BREAKFIELD, BROADUS C. GYSGT (RET)
 BRIEGER, JAMES (JIM) F. VET
 BRISBOIS, DONALD J. CAPT (RET)
 *BROOKS, JOSEPH MSGT (RET)
 BROWN, MICHAEL M. VET
 BROWN, WILLIAM E. MSGT (RET)
 BRUTSMAN, DONALD C. VET
 BUCY, CLYDE T. MGYSGT (RET)
 BUFFINGTON, CARL J. VET
 BURCH, VERLE E. CAPT (RET)
 BURGE, CHARLES E. VET
 BURM, JOSEPH VET
 *BURRIS, KENNETH CAPT (RET)
 BUTLER, FRANKLIN D. GYSGT (RET)
 BYTOE, CLARENCE CAPT (RET)
 CALLAHAN JR, FRANCIS H. VET
 CALLAHAN, WILLIAM (BILL) J. SSGT KIA
 CALLOWAY, FRED E. VET
 CAMPBELL, KENNETH B. CWO (RET)
 CAREY, JAMES W. MSGT (RET)
 CAREY, RALPH J. VET
 CARNEY, CHARLES N. VET
 CAROTA, MARTIN L. 1STSGT (RET)
 CARPENTER, JACK W. VET
 CATALOGNE, CHIPS LTCOL (RET)
 *CELLI, JOHN G. LTCOL (RET)
 CHYTKA, JOSEPH M. MSGT (RET)
 CLARK, ELMO A. CAPT (RET)
 CLARKE, HARRY D. COL (RET)

CLINE, PAUL L. CAPT (RET)
 CLUKA, DANIEL MSGT (RET)
 COCHRAN, BUEL E. VET
 COLANGELO, NICK E. MGYSGT (RET)
 COLE, JAMES D. MSGT (RET)
 COMPTON JR, JOSEPH O. MAJ (RET)
 CONSTANTINOPLE SR, PAUL M. VET
 COOK, BILL MSGT (RET)
 COOK, GLENN L. MGYSGT (RET)
 COOPER, FRANCIS L. MGYSGT (RET)
 COROMELAS, NICK VET
 CORP, WILLIAM L. MSGT (RET)
 CRAIG, JACK RAY CWO 2 (RET)
 CRESAP, CHARLES C. LTCOL (RET)
 CREWS JR, DUANE D. COL (RET)
 CROFT, EARL G. (RET)
 CROMWELL, MELVIN E. VET
 CROSBY, ARTHUR E. GYSGT (RET)
 CUKROWICZ, CHESTER E. CWO4 (RET)
 CUMMINGS, CHARLES F. (RED) VET
 CUMMINS, MARTIN R. MSGT (RET)
 CUNNINGHAM, CHARLES R. 1STSGT (RET)
 CURTIS, CHARLES F. VET
 DABROWSKI, WALTER W. VET
 DAMON, ROBERT K. LTCOL (RET)
 DAVIDSON, DARRELL COL (RET)
 DAVIDSON, RUSSELL G. MSGT (RET)
 DEGENNARO, ANTHONY A. CAPT (RET)
 DENNIS, NICHOLAS J. COL (RET)
 DENORMANDIE, FRANK R. COL (RET)
 DERRICK, LEWIS C. VET
 DESKIEWICZ, GARY S. VET
 DOERR, JOHN H. VET
 DOUGHERTY, DANIEL F. SGTMAJ (RET)
 DRISCOLL, BERNARD E. LTCOL (RET)
 DRUMMOND, MILTON D. LTCOL (RET)
 DUDDY, ROBERT J. VET
 DUFFY, FRANCIS J. SSGT (RET)
 DUFFY, LEROY (JOHN) M. LTCOL (RET)
 DUHE, CLARENCE H. VET
 DUNCAN, DAVID N. CWO4 (RET)
 DYBES, FRANK E. VET
 ECHOLS, JAMES M. CAPT (RET)
 EDWARDS, ROBERT I. LTCOL (RET)
 EINUM, JAMES VET
 *EISLER, JOHN P. VET
 *ELLIOTT, MARION I. VET
 ELLIOTT, RICHARD LTCOL (RET)
 ELSTON, RICHARD F. MSGT (RET)
 EVANS, RAYMOND D. MGYSGT (RET)
 FADICK, CARL VET
 FAUST JR, RUDOLPH F. MAJ (RET)
 FAY, CHARLES D. MAJ (RET)
 FELLINGER, BARRY E. MAJ (RET)
 FERGUSON, EDGAR R. VET
 FERGUSON SR, HARRY J. VET
 FERNANDEZ, ORLANDO (AL) MAJ (RET)
 FERRARA, DIEGO A. 1STSGT (RET)
 FERRARA, STEPHEN L. VET
 FEUER, HENRY O. CWO2 (RET)
 FIANDER, WILLIAM A. MAJ (RET)
 FICHTHORN, DONALD G. MAJ (RET)
 FIELDING, JOHN M. MSGT (RET)
 FILKINS, FRED W. 1STSGT (RET)
 FINTON, PATRICK D. CAPT (RET)
 FISCHETTI SR, PETER VET
 FISH, ROY D. VET
 FLECK, EDWARD E. CWO2 (RET)
 FLOYD, JOSEPH C. MAJ (RET)
 FLYNN, JOSEPH FRANCIS (VET)
 FOLEY, THOMAS J. VET

FONTAINE JR, ARTHUR GYSGT (RET)
 FOORE, MARSHALL BRAD LTCOL (RET)
 FOSTER, CHARLES E. 1STSGT (RET)
 FOSTER, DANIEL H. MSGT (RET)
 FRANKOWSKI JR, JOSEPH MGYSGT (RET)
 FREY, HUBERT I. LTCOL (RET)
 FUNDERBURK, RAY LTCOL (RET)
 GALBREATH, ROBERT VET
 GALLAGHER, JOHN F. MGYSGT (RET)
 GANGEWERE, KENNETH R. SSGT (RET)
 GANGI, CHARLES J. GYSGT (RET)
 *GARRIS, BERLE CWO4 (RET)
 GATES JR, ALBERT VET
 GAZZA, HENRY J. VET
 GEORGE, JAMES E. VET
 GEROW, HENRY L. VET
 GIBSON, CHARLES R. LTCOL (RET)
 GILBO, PATRICK F. VET
 GILBROOK, WILLIAM F. 1STSGT (RET)
 *GILES, EARL E. CAPT (RET)
 GILES, SAM E. VET
 GIRAFFE, FRANK P. VET
 GLENN, CARL J. GYSGT (RET)
 GOETZ, ARTHUR H. WO (RET)
 GOINS, ROBERT F. LTCOL (RET)
 GOODMAN, MONROE A. CAPT (RET)
 GOODWINE, LLOYD (JERRY) E. COL (RET)
 GOSS, EUGENE W. MYGYSGT (RET)
 GRADL, MICHAEL J. VET
 GRAHAM, DONALD C. VET
 GREER, GARLAND GENE MSGT (RET)
 GRIEVES, WILLIAM F. VET
 GRIMES, JOSEPH L. VET
 GROVES, HAROLD L. GYSGT (RET)
 GRZANKOWSKI, WALTER S. VET
 GUBALA, TIMOTHY W. LTCOL (RET)
 GUTHRIE, C. (LUKE) LTCOL (RET)
 HAENTGES, RUSSEL W. VET
 HAGER, JOHN F. 1STSGT USA (RET)
 HAGERLING, SIDNEY W. COL (RET)
 HALL, DAVID E. VET
 HAMBY, WILLIAM A. MGYSGT (RET)
 HAMMOND, JOSEPH A. VET
 HARDISON, JOHN HOWARD VET
 HARNAGE, FLOYD E. CAPT (RET)
 *HARP, JAMES J. COL (RET)
 HARPER, JAMES (RIP) A. COL (RET)
 HARRIS, ERNIE VET
 HART, DAVID R. MSGT (RET)
 HASTINGS JR, JOHN G. VET
 HAVERSTOCK, ELDEN E. VET
 HAWLEY, RICHARD T. VET
 HENNEMAN, HAROLD E. VET
 HERR, KENNETH VET
 HILLEBRAND, GEORGE R. MGYSGT (RET)
 HODGES, BILLY J. VET
 HODIN, JOHN V. VET
 HOLLINGSWORTH, GLENN W. VET
 HOLLINGSWORTH, JAMES K. CWO4 (RET)
 HOLZINGER, BERNARD E. MAJ (RET)
 HORNE, WILLIAM K. MGYSGT (RET)
 HORTON, EVERAD F. VET
 HOUSE SR, DONALD C. CAPT (RET)
 HOWARD, ANDREW J. VET
 HUDDLESTON, JOE MGYSGT (RET)
 *HUDSON, JOHN HENRY VET
 *HUGHES JR, JAMES M. VET
 HUNTZINGER, HENRY J. LTCOL (RET)
 *HUPP, WILBERT D. VET
 JACOBSON, MILTON R. GYSGT



(RET)
 JACQUES, MAURICE J. SGTMAJ (RET)
 JARVIS, JOHN F. VET
 JEANS, DUEL N. VET
 JOHNSON, CLARENCE G. VET
 JOHNSON, DAN E. CWO4 (RET)
 JOHNSON, GUSTOF C. VET
 JOHNSON, STEPHEN J. CAPT (RET)
 JOHNSON, WARREN E. MGYSGT (RET)
 JONES, THOMAS W. LTCOL (RET)
 KANALEY, THOMAS J. VET
 KELLEY, GEORGE E. GYSGT (RET)
 KETTLER, ALEX V. VET
 KING, CHARLES L. VET
 KLEIN, ROBERT VET
 KOENIG, CHARLES G. SGTMAJ (RET)
 KROPINAC, ROBERT C. MAJ (RET)
 LAIL, THOMAS E. VET
 LANGLEY, JOSEPH A. SGTMAJ (RET)
 LANIER, LUTHER L. MSGT (RET)
 LAWLESS, EDWARD N. MSGT (RET)
 LAWRENCE, RICHARD E. GYSGT (RET)
 LEAHY, EDWARD P. VET
 LEAKE, NORMAN G. GYSGT (RET)
 LEWIS, J. C. MSGT (RET)
 LIGGETT, JAMES E. MSGT (RET)
 LINDSEY, JOEL (FRANK) CAPT (RET)
 LIVEZEY, JAMES W. MAJ (RET)
 LOVE, RAEFORD N. GYSGT (RET)
 LOY, WILLIAM CAPT (RET)
 MACHA, JAMES F. MSGT (RET)
 MacKENZIE, JAMES M. LTCOL (RET)
 MACKEY, MARION L. GYSGT (RET)
 MADER, JOHN E. COL (RET)
 MARIANOV, JOHN MGYSGT (RET)
 MARKUS, HOWARD M. MAJ (RET)
 MASON, PAUL M. GYSGT (RET)
 MASTICE, JOSEPH VET
 MATAVA, ROBERT J. VET
 MATTHEWS, DREW I. LTCOL (RET)
 MAXWELL, LEO F. GYSGT (RET)
 McCANDLESS, JOHN R. MSGT (RET)
 McCARTER, LARRY A. CWO4 (RET)
 McClURE, GARY L. LTCOL (RET)
 McCoy, JAMES F. MGYSGT (RET)
 McCREA, DONALD S. VET
 McDOWELL, GERALD GYSGT (RET)
 McGILL, DENNIS C. VET
 McLANE JR, DONALD C. MAJ (RET)
 McLAUGHLIN JR, HOWARD N. VET
 McLAUGHLIN, RICHARD S. CAPT (RET)
 McLAWHORN, LEON CAPT (RET)
 MEEKER, ERMINE L. COL (RET)
 MENKE, RONALD M. SSGT (RET)
 MENTZER, JOHN F. COL (RET)
 METCALFE, EDWIN A. CAPT (RET)
 MICKLEBORO JR, HARRY C. VET
 *MIGLIORNI, FRED L. CAPT (RET)
 MILLICE, KENNETH COL (RET)
 MILLS, DAVID C. LTCOL (RET)
 *MISHIK, CORNELIUS NEAL GYSGT (RET)
 MOCKLER, THOMAS J. VET
 MONROE, RICHARD D. CAPT (RET)
 MOOREFIELD, HUBERT (BO) L. MAJ (RET)
 MOYER, GERALD E. SGTMAJ (RET)
 MURPHY, JOHN M. SSG (US ARMY)
 MURPHY, ROBERT F. MSGT (RET)
 MYERS, JOHN D. VET
 NAHRGANG, DONALD V. LTCOL (RET)
 NEWELL, JAMES F. CAPT (RET)
 NICE, LLOYD (NICK) B. LTCOL (RET)
 NIEHOFF, HARRY H. VET
 NOGGLE, JAMES M. VET
 NORRIS, LENVER E. TSgt (USAF RET)
 NOVAK, WILLIAM F. VET

NUNN, GRANT P. GYSGT (RET)
 O'KEY, JOHN D. COL (RET)
 O'CONNOR, JACK F. MAJ (RET)
 O'CONNOR, JOHN B. VET

OLSON, FREDRIC O. COL (RET)
 O'MAHONEY, MICHAEL J. MAJ (RET)
 PALMER, RALPH CWO2 (RET)
 PALMER, ROBERT M. CWO3 (RET)
 *PANKEY, PAUL A. COL (RET)
 PARKER, PETER W. VET
 PATCH, BRADLEY PAUL CWO4 (RET)
 PEAGLER, JOSEPH H. LTCOL (RET)
 PEHOWIC, STANLEY A. GYSGT (RET)
 PENDERGAST, RICHARD L. GYSGT (RET)
 PEREZ, RICHARD T. GYSGT (RET)
 PERRY, JAMES L. SSGT (RET)
 PHANEUF, JOSEPH R. LTCOL (RET)
 PHELPS, WILLIAM E. LTCOL (RET)
 PICCIONE, JOSEPH M. VET
 PLOWMAN, FLOYD C. MAJ (RET)
 POPE, FRANK G. VET
 PORTWOOD, TROY G. VET
 POTEAT, KENNETH M. MSGT (RET)
 PRICE, DONALD L. MSGT (RET)
 PUGH, ROBERT C. GYSGT (RET)
 QUALLS, MENTRAL (BOB) GYSGT (RET)
 QUEEN, WAYNE A. MGYSGT (RET)
 RATLIFE, CURTIS L. VET
 RAU, HARVEY L. MAJ (RET)
 RAU, ROLAND A. GYSGT (RET)
 READ, JOE H. CWO2 (RET)
 REFFELT, EDWIN L. CAPT (RET)
 REID, KENNETH R. VET
 REITMEIER, WALTER C. 1STLT (RET)
 REYNOLDS, PAUL C. MSGT (RET)
 RICE, WILLIAM M. LTCOL (RET)
 RINGER, EDWIN E. VET
 RITTER III, JOSEPH M. GYSGT (RET)
 ROBERTS, JOHN E. SGTMAJ (RET)
 ROBERTS, KENNETH L. VET
 ROBERTS JR, LONNIE G. MSGT (RET)
 ROCKWELL, NOEL VET
 RODEBAUGH, ROBERT G. MSGT (RET)
 ROSE, MURRAY F. COL (RET)
 ROZICH, FRANK J. VET
 RUBADUE, WILLIAM J. VET
 RUBIO, JOSE R. MSGT (RET)
 RUDAT, JUNIOR D. GYSGT (RET)
 RUSHING, EDWIN K. VET
 RYNDERS, RUSSELL L. VET
 SARDO, EUGENE VET
 SAULNIER, JOHN L. CAPT (RET)
 SCHEER, CARL E. MGYSGT (RET)
 SCHULTZ, JACK T. MAJ (RET)
 SCHWENK, KEITH A. VET
 SCULLY, TERENCE J. CWO2 (RET)
 SHAFER, ROGER L. LTCOL (RET)
 SHANNAHAN, JOHN K. MAJ (RET)
 SHARKEY, LEO W. VET
 SHAWARYN JR, EUGENE T. VET
 SHELKOFISKY, EARNEST L. MSGT (RET)
 SHELTON, OTEY H. CWO4 (RET)
 SHEPPARD, WILLIAM A. GYSGT (RET)
 SHIELDS, JIMMIE R. VET
 *SHIPLEY, DONALD R. GYSGT (RET)
 SHORES III, GEORGE W. VET
 SHORTT, HARRY R. MAJ (RET)
 SHOVAR, ROBERT J. SGTMAJ (RET)
 SHUMAKER, JAMES C. CAPT (RET)
 SILVA, ANTONIO B. MAJ (RET)
 SILVERMAN, ALBERT VET
 SIMONSON, ARTHUR K. VET
 SMITH, CONWAY J. LTCOL (RET)
 SMITH, GORDON F. LTCOL (RET)
 SMITH, MICHAEL J. SGT (RET)
 SMITH, RAYMOND C. MGYSGT (RET)
 SMITH, RAYMOND K. MGYSGT (RET)
 SNYDER, GUY MSGT (RET)
 SOFRONAS, GEORGE P. VET
 SOGHOIAN, AVEDIS H. MSGT (RET)
 SOLTER, HARRY L. COL (RET)
 SOUZA, JOSEPH W. VET

SOWA, JEROME J. MGYSGT (RET)
 SPIESE, PAUL A. VET
 SPIKERMAN, JACK L. MAJ (RET)
 STANCHEK, JOHN VET
 STANDIFER, BENNIE W. VET
 STANDISH, PETER J. VET
 STASIO, DR. ANTHONY VET
 STERN, HERBERT GYSGT (RET)
 STEVENS II, STEVEN P. LCPL KIA
 STEWART, BILLY K. GYSGT (RET)
 STOCKSTILL, PAUL R. VET
 STOKES, RUFUS R. MSGT (RET)
 STONE, RUSSELL M. VET
 STUBBLEFIELD, ROBERT E. VET
 STURGEON, WILLIAM R. VET
 STURZA, RAYMOND P. CAPT (RET)
 SULLIVAN, JOHN W. VET
 SUMNER, DONALD W. CAPT (RET)
 SURKAMP, RICHARD E. VET
 SUTTON, GERALD F. CAPT (RET)
 SVILKA, ALIUS J. VET
 SWENSON, KENNETH G. VET
 SWINDALL, THOMAS E. VET
 TERRY, EDWARD MSGT (RET)
 THOMAS, RAYMOND W. VET
 THOMASON, RONALD M. VET
 TOBIN, JOHN W. GYSGT (RET)
 TOMPKINS SR, ROBERT J. VET
 TOTH, FRANCIS A. MAJ (RET)
 TUCK, CALVIN C. 1STSGT (RET)
 TURNER, BLAINE L. VET
 TURNER, GEORGE W. MSGT (RET)
 TURPIN, RUSSELL B. LTCOL (RET)
 ULSH, AMMON J. SSGT (RET)
 VEGA, MANUEL M. SGTMAJ (RET)
 VIERS JR., W. GUS LTCOL (RET)
 VINAL, KENNETH E. VET
 VOAKLANDER, ARCHIE 1STSGT (RET)
 VOORHEES, JOHN D. CWO2 (RET)
 VROOMAN, LYNDON F. CAPT (RET)
 WAGES, EDWARD J. MAJ (RET)
 WALL, CALEB N. LTCOL (RET)
 WALLEN, ALPHONSE I. VET
 WATTERS SR, RONALD T. (MESSIO) MGYSGT (RET)
 WEAVER, RALPH (BO) L. VET
 WEIGHTMAN, ROBERT L. 1STSGT (RET)
 WELCHERT, JERRY W. VET
 WELDEN, MAX L. VET
 WHITT, ELLIS H. VET
 WICKHAM, JOHN D. VET
 WIDEMAN, WILLIAM D. VET
 WIECZOREK, ALFRED S. VET
 WIGGINS, ANDREW J. GYSGT (RET)
 WILCOX, LEE ROY MGYSGT (RET)
 WILDER, WALLACE W. VET
 WILKINSON, ROY E. GYSGT (RET)
 WILLEY, CLAUDE E. MSGT (RET)
 WILLIAMS, KENNETH W. GYSGT (RET)
 WILLIAMS, STEVE L. CAPT (RET)
 WILLIAMSON, MELVIN R. GYSGT (RET)
 WINOSKI, WALTER M. COL (RET)
 WITKOWSKI, ROBERT R. VET
 WOLF, RICHARD L. VET
 WOOD, GARY M. VET
 WOODWARD, LEEMAN E. MGYSGT (RET)
 WORKMAN, JOHN L. VET
 WRIGHT, RICHARD M. CAPT (RET)
 YEAMAN, DONALD W. VET
 YORK, CLIFFORD T. SSGT (RET)
 YORK, WALLACE E. CAPT (RET)
 YOUNG, LAURITZ W. LTCOL (RET)
 YOUNGHANS, ROBERT A. SGTMAJ (RET)
 ZACK, CHARLES T. VET
 ZANCK, EUGENE D. VET
 ZEMATIS, WALTER J. MGYSGT (RET)
 ZIMMERMAN, JAMES N. VET
 ZYSK, FRANK L. VET



The * indicates additions since last year's newsletter.

IN MEMORIAM

REMEMBERING OUR DEPARTED ENGINEER BROTHERS

Below is a listing of MCEA members who have recently passed away. We include members who we have been belatedly notified of their deaths. We honor and highlight their service, achievements and dedication to Country and Corps. Our prayers and condolences are offered to their survivors. After each name is their *Together We Served* (TWS) file number. A concerted effort has been made by Pam Jeans, our TWS/Obituary Coordinator, to insure every deceased MCEA member has been entered in TWS, where an individual's service record, units, organizations, medals and career highlights can be recorded for posterity. You can read a deceased member's TWS entry by simply clicking on the individual's name in the FYI/Honor Roll page on our website, marcorengasn.org/fyi/honor-roll/. All MCEA members are encouraged to join TWS, <https://marines.togetherweserved.com/>, and record their military service. It is a meaningful way to document history from a personal viewpoint and it is a wonderful legacy to leave for your family.

***BABE, GEORGE A. COL (RET.) TWS 525163**

George A. Babe, Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 96, of Williamsburg, Virginia passed away on July 24, 2021. Born on February 24, 1925 in Philadelphia, PA, he was raised by the late Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Babe. George met his wife Anna in the fifth grade and was married for over 75 years.

He graduated from Sharon Hill High School and Franklin and Marshall Academy, where he captained the football, baseball, and wrestling teams. He went on to play football and earn a BS degree in civil engineering at the University of Michigan. Upon graduation, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps and sent to the Pacific. He served as the executive officer for the Marine detachment on the USS St. Paul seeing combat action in China. He served as a platoon leader during the Korean War, landing at Inchon and serving at the Chosen Reservoir and being wounded three times. He was Battalion Commander of the 9th Engineer Battalion in Vietnam. His many decorations include: the Legion of Merit for valor, three Bronze Stars for valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation, Good conduct, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Combat Action, WWII Victory, Navy Occupation, American Defense, American Campaign, United Nations, China Service, Asia Pacific, Vietnam Service, Korean Service, RVN Campaign, Korean Service, and National Defense.

Following his military career, he was City Manager in Madeira, Ohio and later, Vice President of Morton Salt Bahamas. Retired or not, George was a MARINE and all that met him understood that being a Marine was his proudest accomplishment in life. Once totally retired, he was President of the Chosen Few, a society of Korean War veterans that served at the reservoir during the historic breakout against the Chinese. A life member of the Marine Corps Engineer Association, he was an avid reader of military history, travelled the world with his wife, enjoyed Saturday college football, fishing, and the beach.

He is survived by daughters, Cherly (John) Helmick, Georgia (Larry) Allen; son, Kurt (Donna) Babe; eight grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; and niece Judy (Chuck) Rasmussen.



***BROOKS JOSEPH MSGT (RET.) TWS 515888**

Joseph Brooks, Master Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 92, of Thurmont, Maryland passed away February 9, 2021 at Sunrise Assisted Living in Frederick, MD, his home for the last 10 years. Joe was born March 20, 1928 in Lantz, Maryland, the son of the late Charles Herbert Brooks and Ivey Smith Brooks. Joe joined the Marine Corps at the age of 17, serving in China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam. After retirement from the USMC in 1967, he worked as Chief of Maintenance for the Maryland Prison Systems in Jessup, MD.



After retirement from the State of Maryland, Joe moved home to Thurmont, MD. His love of the Marine Corps and his desire to travel took him many interesting places. He was a member of the Marine Corps Engineer Association, the China Marine Association, the American Legion, and the VFW. He was a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite.

His marriage to the former Jean DeLauter ended in divorce. He is predeceased by his longtime partner, Marge Embrey; his sister, Helen Brooks Overholtzer; and his half-brother, Charles Brooks. Survivors include the daughters of Marge Embrey, Carol Embrey (Fredericksburg, VA) and Betty Daley (Hattiesburg, MS); and a niece, Bonnie Overholtzer Kiel of Fayetteville, PA.

***BURRIS, KENNETH F. CAPT (RET.) TWS 524750**

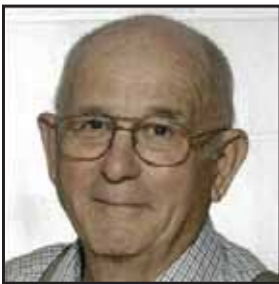
Captain Kenneth F. Burris, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 88, of Vista California passed away on September 27, 2021. Born on October 5, 1932 in Gove Township, Gove County, Kansas to Floyd S. Burris and Pearl H. Burris. He grew up in Gove and enlisted in the Marine Corps, graduated from boot camp at MCRD San Diego and then attended Marine Corps Engineer School at Camp Lejeune, NC. He worked his way up through the ranks to Warrant Officer and finally retiring as a Captain, engineer equipment officer. During his Marine Corps career, he served in various engineer billets in both ground and aviation units. He was a Korean War and Vietnam War veteran and a Life Member of the Marine Corps Engineer Association. Married to his wife Catherine Mary, they had a daughter Sharyle Kay. He is buried in the Gove Cemetery, Gove County, Kansas.

***CELLI, JOHN G. LTCOL(RET.) TWS 530178**

Lieutenant Colonel John Gerard Celli, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 89, of Palm Desert, California was born on July 26, 1933 and passed away on January 26, 2022. He was commissioned in 1955 and during the next twenty-plus years of his career he served in a variety of engineer units including the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Engineer Battalions and 3rd Shore Party Battalion. He was a Vietnam Veteran (1st Engineer Battalion) and a life member of the Marine Corps Engineer Association.

***EISLER, JOHN P. (VET) TWS 286804**

John P. Eisler, 81 of Sevierville, Tennessee passed away on December 31, 2020. He was born on October 29, 1939 in Philadelphia, PA. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1957 and completed boot camp at Paris Island. He served at the Marine Corps Supply Depot in Philadelphia and later in the 2nd Pioneer Battalion before being discharged. He lived in Florida, and New Jersey prior to settling in Tennessee. He was married to Dorothy R. Allen for eight years. John was a Life Member of the Marine Corps Engineer Association.



***ELLIOTT, MARION I. (VET) TWS 520789**

Marion Irvin Elliott, 89 of Montezuma, Iowa passed away on March 30, 2021 at his home surrounded by his family. He was born on May 19, 1931 in Sigourney, Iowa to Charles and Carrie (Thompson) Elliott. He attended Sigourney High School and enjoyed their annual reunions. In January of 1951, Marion enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, served in Korea for ten months and was involved in erecting several buildings in three different locations throughout Korea. He was honorably discharged in May of 1952 and was an active reservist until 1958. On November 13, 1955 Marion was united in marriage to Frances Greene at the Little Brown Church in Nashua, Iowa.

Marion worked for FA Moser Contractors from 1948 to 1971 taking a couple years off during the war to serve his country. He then partnered with Dorm Merryfield to create and run Mer-El Incorporated from 1971 to 1977. Following their closure in 1977, Marion and Frances started their own business, MIE Inc. traveling around Iowa installing concrete box culverts. They sold their equipment and retired in 1994.



Marion enjoyed gardening, fishing, hunting and writing poetry. His biggest joy was his family and attending his children's and grandchildren's school events and activities through the years. Marion attended Union Mills Christian Church and most recently Jackson Church of Christ in Montezuma. He was also a member of the Associated General Contractors (AGC), the Marine Corps Engineer Association and a 54-year member of the Morrison-Schrader American Legion Post No. 296 in Deep River. His legacy will be cherished by his wife of 65 years, Frances Elliott of Montezuma; his children, Charla Elliott of Venice, Florida, Lyndon (Lolita) Elliott of Iowa City, Loren (Teresa) Elliott of Montezuma, Lance (Sara) Elliott of Edina, Minnesota and Carrie (Brian) Stockman of Montezuma; 18 grandchildren; numerous great grandchildren; a brother, James (Laurel) Elliott of Cedar Falls and many nieces, nephews and friends. Burial with military rites was held in the Golden Rod Cemetery in Deep River, Iowa.



***GARRIS, BERLE CWO4 (RET.) TWS 528021**

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Berle Garris, Sr. U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 93, of Clearwater, Florida died on July 25, 2021 at Seasons Hospice in Dunedin, FL. He was born on December 21, 1927 to Leroy and Bertha Garris of Great Swamp, NC. Berle and his wife of 69 years, Anne, lived in their vintage North Clearwater Beach home ever since he retired as a CWO-4 from the Marine Corps in 1972 after serving 28 years. Berle served in assorted areas of the world from the frozen reaches of North Korea to the tropical paradise of Puerto Rico. His Marine Corps specialty was engineering working with various construction equipment including motor graders

and tractors. He fought at the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir (November to December 1950). In retirement he attended reunions of the "Chosin Few" veterans. He also fought during the Vietnam War serving two separate tours, 1964-1965 and then 1968-1969. Berle's best moment of his years in the Marine Corps might have been the time he was sent from active combat in Vietnam to represent the United States in a skeet match in Japan while serving on the Marine Corps Champion Skeet Team. Upon retirement, he purchased the small weekly newspaper owned by Anne's parents, titled Beach Views. The paper was distributed on all the Clearwater Islands. Berle went from dealing with heavy Marine Corps equipment to selling newspaper advertisements, and creating them by hand, strip by strip of printed lines, glued in place. In Clearwater he enjoyed skeet shooting at the local skeet ranges. He also had a keen interest in flying. In retirement, he owned both a Cessna 170 and a Piper Cub. In later years he and Anne were content to sit on the deck, greeting neighbors passing by and basking in the Florida sunshine. The Marine Corps emblem adorned most of his shirts and, on his collar, was a pin, "Rotary International, 43 years perfect attendance." Berle was preceded in death by his daughter Nancy Anne Dean and his sister Georgia Lee Yelverton. He is survived by his wife, Anne McKay Garris, brother Billy Garris, son Berle Garris Jr. (Cyndy), son-in-law Benjamin Paul Dean, four grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren. Cremation was followed by interment at Bay Pines National Cemetery, Florida.



***GILES, EARL E. CAPT (RET.) TWS 52802121**

Captain Earl E. Giles U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 81, passed away at the Naval Medical Center, Camp Lejeune, NC. He was born March 21, 1939 to Albert and Jeanette Giles in Merryville, Louisiana. He was one of eleven siblings. Earl graduated from Merryville High School in 1957. He continued his education through various colleges throughout and after his military service. He earned an Associate Degree in Accounting from Coastal Carolina Community College, Jacksonville, NC in 1985.

Earl Giles proudly served in the United States Marine Corps for twenty-four years from 1957 to 1981 in a variety of engineer assignments. He was appointed Warrant Officer in 1966 and served in Vietnam from 1967-1968. His last duty station was with Marine Wing Support Group—27,



Detachment “A” serving as Maintenance Management Officer and retired as a Captain in 1981.

Upon retirement, Earl established his own business, Mr. Fixer Upper; he eagerly served those in the community by repairing, remodeling, or building additions to homes of Jacksonville and surrounding areas. Earl enjoyed hunting, fishing, bluegrass music, traveling, Stallion football, trading stocks, and collecting and selling coins.

Earl was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, George, Austin, Robert, & James; and five sisters, Mary, Jesse, Anna, Mildred, & Katherine. Earl is survived by his wife, Barbara Heath Giles; son, Phelipe Giles of Virginia Beach, Virginia; daughter, Lenize Patton and her husband, Doug Patton, of Jacksonville, NC; nine grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.



***HARP, JAMES J. COL (RET.) TWS 523189**

Colonel James J. Harp, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 88, died on July 29, 2021 at home surrounded by his family. Born in Philadelphia, PA on September 11, 1932, he was one of twelve children. He enlisted in 1951 and attended boot camp at Parris Island. He was commissioned in 1953 and served in various engineer units throughout his career, retiring in 1979. He was a Korean War and Vietnam War veteran. He is predeceased by his sons, James, Jr. and Michael, and survived by his wife of 67 years, Shirley (Brown) Harp, and his children, Patrick (Patty), Dennis (Shawn, deceased), Maureen, Eileen and Colleen (Jim) Brooks, seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He joined the USMC in 1951 as a Private and retired as a Colonel in 1979. Burial was at Quantico National Cemetery.



***HUDSON, JOHN HENRY (VET) TWS 522020**

John Henry Hudson, 92, of Gresham, Oregon died on June 29, 2021. After several months of declining health, John passed peacefully with his beloved wife Elaine and his family by his side. John was born in Markesan, Wisconsin on May 26, 1929 to Arthur and Elise Hudson. The sixth of eight children and born during the Great Depression, John didn't have the opportunity for much formal education. He left school in the 9th grade to help out his family by working on the farm and in a steel mill. He enlisted in the Navy at 18 years of age and after one year of Navy service, in 1953 he then chose to enlist in the Marine Corps and was stationed in Guam and later in Korea with the 1st Engineer Battalion. He served for 6 years and achieved the rank of sergeant. He returned to the states and met Elaine Margie Blackwell in Barstow, California. They both had a love of horses and married on horseback in 1953. His first civilian job was working for the Marine base in Barstow as well as shoeing horses. After a vacation to

visit friends in Oregon, they made a decision to move and bought 20 acres in Brownsville, Oregon where he and his wife raised their three children. During this time John got his GED, completed some college and worked as an operating engineer building many of the highways and dams throughout the state. He is survived by his wife Elaine Hudson, daughter Sandra Ann Holmes (John), son John Arthur Hudson, daughter Donna Kay Jackson (John), seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Burial was at the Willamette National Cemetery, Portland, Oregon.





***HUGHES, JR., JAMES M. (VET) TWS 528846**

James M. Hughes, Jr., 93, of Altoona, Pennsylvania passed away on February 8, 2021 following a brief illness. He was born on December 30, 1927 to James and Jean (Roy) Hughes. Jim joined the Marine Corps right out of high school in 1945 and served with the 1st Separate Engineer Battalion in Tientsin and Tang Ku, China. Jim married Eve Christodoulos on June 12, 1949 in Altoona. He graduated from Penn State University in 1951 with a degree in electrical engineering. Jim was first employed by Westinghouse Electric in Baltimore, Md. He joined the engineering faculty of PSU Altoona, teaching electrical engineering in 1955 where he retired in 1986. He served as the electrical engineering consultant for DM Bare (Appleton) Paper Mill and had his own consulting firm in Altoona, retiring from consulting in 2011. He was a member of the State

Professional Engineering Society, lifetime member of the Marine Corps League, the China Marine Association, the Marine Corps Engineer Association as well as the VFW Post 8685 Fort Apache. Jim lived his life for his family-his greatest source of pride and joy. In his retirement, Jim never missed an opportunity to be with his family at reunions, tailgates, and family events. He earned his private pilot's license, taught himself to play the piano, enjoyed woodworking, and seeing his friends at Tom and Joe's and at Fort Apache. Most of all, he loved spending time at "The Cottage" on the beautiful Juniata River-a family gathering spot since his childhood. He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years in 2010 and his daughter Happiness Singler in 2019. He is survived by three daughters: Holly (Jim) Means of Westerville, OH, Hope (Dave) Furrer of Baltimore, MD, Heather (Jim) Little of Altoona; nine grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.



***HUPP, WILBERT D. (VET) TWS 520827**

Wilbert D. "Sonny" Hupp, 90, a resident of Milton, Pennsylvania, died peacefully October 1, 2020 in the Evangelical Community Hospital at Lewisburg, PA. Born on July 13, 1930 in Richfield, Juniata County, PA, he was a son of the late Charles H. and Maggie (Miller) Hupp. He was the husband of Almaretta (Schroeder) Hupp with whom he celebrated a 66th wedding anniversary on March 21, 2020.

Wilbert was a 1950 graduate of Milton High School. He honorably served his country with the U.S. Marine Corps from 1951 to 1954 as a combat engineer and later as a military policeman. He retired from the Federal Prison Camp at Allenwood in 1993 and had previously been employed for five years by the Rishel Furniture Company at Williamsport and for 20 years by the former Philco-Ford at Watsonstown. Wilbert was most proud of being a lifelong farmer. He was a member of Christ Wesleyan Church at Milton where he volunteered on the security committee. He enjoyed hunting with his two sons and grandchildren, cabin camping with his family, traveling, farming and gardening, mowing his lawn and attending his military reunions and keeping in touch with his Marine buddies. His greatest joy was when he was with his family. In addition to his wife, Wilbert is survived by four children, Danny and wife Cindi Hupp of Milton; Chuck and wife Debbie Hupp of Milton; Stella Collins and husband Jim Sprecher of Clearwater, FL and Dawn Hupp of Milton. He is also survived by twelve grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren. Wilbert was preceded in death by two sisters, Kate Russell and Audrey Mathias. A celebration of life service was held on November 14, 2020 at Christ Wesleyan Church, Milton, PA.

***MIGLIORNI, FRED L. CAPT (RET.) TWS 527998**

Captain Fred L. Migliorni U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 88, died on December 14, 2020. He was born on November 24, 1932 in Quincy, Massachusetts. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1951,



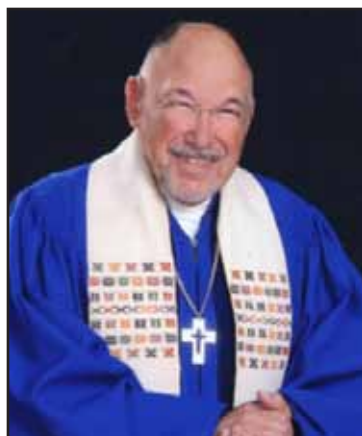
graduated from boot camp at Parris Island and served in several engineer units throughout his twenty-year career. He was with the 1st Shore Party Battalion during the Korean War and 3rd Engineer Battalion in Vietnam. He was also on the staff at Marine Corps Engineer School, Camp Lejeune. He was commissioned from the ranks as a second lieutenant in 1967. He retired in 1971 while serving at Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific in Hawaii. A Life Member of the Marine Corps Engineer Society, he was a resident of Fullerton, California following retirement.



***MISHIK, CORNELIUS NEAL GYSGT (RET.)
TWS 520256**

Gunnery Sergeant Cornelius Neal Mishik, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 90, died on April 21, 2021 on Staten Island, New York. Born on October 14, 1930 in Brooklyn to Cornelius Albert and Yolanda Mishik, he was one of four children. He enlisted in 1950 and graduated from boot camp at San Diego, CA. and was trained as a radio operator. During his twenty-year career he served in a variety of communications billets in many different units including 7th Tank Battalion, 1st Combat Engineer

Battalion and 2nd Signal Battalion. He retired as a communications center chief. He was a Korean War veteran having served with Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion. He married Marianna Gallo in 1956 in Brooklyn. A burial mass was held and he was laid to rest at Resurrection Cemetery, Staten Island, NY.



***PANKEY, PAUL ARNOLD, COL (RET.)
TWS 520256**

Colonel Paul Arnold Pankey, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 84, passed away on December 17, 2021 at Central Washington Hospital of heart failure. He was born in Yakima, Washington on March 30, 1937 to Elmer and Christine Pankey. He attended Yakima schools, graduating from Yakima High in 1955. He attended Yakima Valley Junior College, graduating in 1957. Paul joined the Marine Corps Reserve as a private on December 5, 1954 in Yakima. In 1957 he entered active duty and served on the Inspector-

Instructor staff in Yakima. In 1958 he completed the Marine Security Guard School and served as a security guard at the American Embassies in Baghdad, Iraq, and Panama City, Panama. In 1961 he returned to the states to attend college under the Navy Enlisted Scientific Education program. Paul attended the University of Idaho, graduating as a civil engineer, and was commissioned a second lieutenant. He served in many billets, attended various schools, spent several tours in Viet Nam, and was in Desert Storm. In 1993 Paul retired as a colonel from Landing Force Training Command Pacific in Coronado, CA.

In May 1996 Paul graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree (while in Oak Harbor, WA, he completed a Master's Degree in Human Resources from Pepperdine University). In December 1997 he was called to be Associate Pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Wenatchee, WA, which eventually became Saddlerock Evangelical Presbyterian Church. On December 30, 2013 he retired as Pastor Emeritus. Paul was a Rotarian and assisted children riding horses at the Alatheia Therapeutic Riding Center in Wenatchee. Paul enjoyed many activities with the church including several mission trips through Saddlerock EPC and visiting and caring for people. Throughout Paul's life, his favorite pastimes



were sailing, tennis, golf, playing games (especially bridge). He also liked spending time at The Bunker talking with the Vets. Paul was a life member of the Marine Corps Engineer Association and served as its Chaplain 2014-2019.

Paul is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Sydna, son Bruce, daughter Jill (Ron Kietzer), grandson Michael, granddaughter Jessica, and great-grandson Eli. Also, his brother, David (Kathy), sister-in-law Joyce Reese, and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a great-grandson, Anthony. A Celebration of Life was held at Saddlerock Evangelical Presbyterian Church.



***SHIPLEY, DONALD R., GYSGT (RET.) TWS 529444**

Gunnery Sergeant Donald R. Shipley, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 84, of Jacksonville, North Carolina passed away on January 21, 2021 at Onslow Memorial Hospital. He was born on January 13, 1937 to Oscar and Esther Coe Shipley of Indianapolis, Indiana. Donald proudly served our country for twenty years from 1961-1981 in the United States Marine Corps. He retired as an engineer equipment chief having served two tours in Vietnam. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #9133, the Fleet Reserve and the Marine Corps Engineer Association. He retired from the City of Jacksonville as a code enforcer and enjoyed fishing and gardening. In addition to his wife, Nancy Owens Shipley, he is survived by his children, Tracy Arnold (Dan), Sean Shipley, Shannon Shipley, and Heather

Fraser (Andy); grandchildren, Kellie Garrett, Sean T-J Arnold, Sarah and Christopher Ayer, Shawn and Robert Fraser; great-grandchildren, Aubrie Garrett and Jeremy Arnold; and sisters, Margaret Watson and Alice Shipley Watts. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Kelly Ayer. Burial was at Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery with military honors.

“The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best, knows the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.”

“Theodore Roosevelt”

WARRIOR ANGELS



The Warrior Angel program is for a deceased member's family to continue to be involved in the MCEA. The program is a way to stay in touch with friends whom they have acquired over the years through the MCEA. It also brings together those that have suffered a loss and are going through their new life journey while still keeping the memory of their Marine Engineer alive and in the hearts of the MCEA. To date there are 26 Warrior Angels. Anyone wanting information on the program please contact Joe DeHart at Dmsgt123@gmail.com. Project for this year is to make a quilt, with each patch representing a lost Marine Engineer.



FELLOWS PROGRAM

OUR BYLAWS STATE: ARTICLE XI – FELLOWS

The MCEA recognizes the importance of its members, partners and stakeholders who are a valuable and sustaining element of the Association. The MCEA is prepared to recognize these organizations and individuals by establishing a Fellows category to acknowledge their contributions in support of the Association and/or its Foundation, special fund/assistance programs. As a tax exempt, Non Profit organization under the IRS Code section 501(a), tax exempt donations to support the MCEA will be solicited from a wide range of potential donors, to include members, organizations, numerous charitable organizations, and individuals. Contributors, who make significant donations, one time or cumulatively, will be recognized by “Fellows” status and be so recognized both at the annual reunion/Awards Banquet and on the MCEA website. Fellows categories include Platinum (\$5000 or more); Gold (\$1000 to 4999); Silver (\$500 to \$999) and Bronze (\$250 to \$499).

PLATINUM

ACHELE, MICHAEL MGYSGT USMC (RET)
BAE CORPORATION
CARLSON, GEORGE LTCOL USMC (RET)
CATERPILLAR CORPORATION
DANAHY, JOHN
FORCE PROTECTION INDUSTRIES
FRANTZ, KEN COL USMC (RET)
FULLER, RONALD MGYSGT USMC (RET)
GATEWOOD, JR. WAYNE USMC (RET)
HNTB FEDERAL
KALMAR RT CENTER, LLC
OLF, NELSON LTCOL USMC (RET)
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS
SUMNER, DON CAPT USMC (RET)
TEREX CORPORATION
TERRAGROUP CORPORATION

GOLD

9TH ENGR BN ASSN
ANDERSON, VIRGIL (VET)
APLIN, CHARLIE COL(RET)
ARNCO
BRENNAN, JACK (VET)
BUTLER, JACK COL(RET)
CONCURRENT TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION
COOLEY, JOEL COL USMC (RET)
DANGLER, JOE MAJ USMC (RET)
DARKFORGE LLC
DeGENNARO, ANTHONY A. CAPT USMC (RET)
DRUMMOND, MILT LTCOL USMC (RET)
FEIFS, HELMUTS (VET)
FOORE, BRAD LTCOL USMC (RET)
HARRIS-INMAN, TERRY LTCOL USMC (RET)
HEARNE, STEVE M. (VET)
HOWARD, MIKE COL USMC (RET)

JEANS, PAM
LATKA, TRUDIE
LEICA GEOSYSTEMS
LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES
MARAPOTI, JIM COL USMC (RET)
MARINE CORPS BULK FUEL ASSOCIATION
MARTIN, PHIL MSGT USMC (RET)
MAY, ROLLAND MSGT USMC (RET)
McBRIDE, DENNY COL USMC (RET)
MENTZER, JOHN COL USMC (RET)
MURPHY, JIM MAJOR USMC (RET)
NELSON, NIEL BGEN USMC
OSTERMAN, KEN (VET)
QUALITY SUPPORT INC.
QUEEN, WAYNE A. MGYSGT USMC (RET)
RENNER, BILL COL USMC (RET)
RUDGE, HANK COL USMC (RET)
SCIENCE APPLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
SMITH, GORDON LTCOL USMC (RET)
SUMMIT MORTGAGE CORPORATION
TERRAGROUP CORPORATION
TRAUM, GERALD (VET)
VFW POST 9010
WALKER, JOHN LTCOL USMC (RET)
WOLFF, BOB DR. USA (RET)
WORKMAN, JOHN (VET)
WRIGHT, BILLY (VET)

SILVER

7TH ENGR BN ASSN
ANDERSON, MIKE COL USMC (RET)
BALDWIN, SCOTT COL USMC
BOUTRY, NORM (VET)
BOYD, MIKE COL USMC (RET)
CELLI, JOHN LTCOL(RET)
CHAMPEAU, JOHN LTCOL USMC (RET)
COHOE, ROGER VET



CONPILOG INTERNATIONAL
CORRIGAN, MIKE LTCOL USMCR (RET)
DACEC, INCORPORATED
DALZELL, TOM COL USMC (RET)
EDWARDS, BOB LTCOL USMC (RET)
ELLINGTON, JAY LTCOL USMC (RET)
FERRIS, CARLTON (VET)
GOODWINE, JERRY COL USMC (RET)
HARPER, RIP COL USMC (RET)
HARRIS, FRANK COL USMC (RET)
HARRISON, JOHN MAJ USMC (RET))
HEESACKER, STEVE COL USMC (RET)
HILLIARD, TONY LTCOL USMC (RET)
HOWARD, ANDREW (VET)
HUCKABY, RICHARD BGEN USMC (RET)
INGENIEUR EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS
JOHN, DAVID COL(RET)
JONES, JUNIOR MGYSGT USMC (RET)
KOONTZ ELECTRIC COMPANY
LINDSEY, EVA
MERRILL, MIKE LTCOL USMC (RET)
MONTEDORO, JOE CAPT USMC
NEREIM, MONTY LTCOL USMC (RET)
PANTER, FRANK LTGEN USMC (RET)
RODEBAUGH, ROBERT MSGT USMC (RET)
THEENER, RON (VET)
VARLEY, LARRY (VET)
WHITE, DAN LTCOL USMC (RET)
WITTWER, CHARLES
WUERCH, GEORGE LTCOL USMC (RET)

BRONZE

A-T SOLUTIONS
BARTLETT, GEORGE BGEN USMC (RET)
BELLESHEIM, RICHARD USMC (RET)
BOTTS, LAURENCE CWO 2 USMC (RET)
BROOKS, JOE MSGT USMC (RET)
BUNTING, JERRY CAPT USMC (RET)
BURCH JOE CAPT USMC (RET)
CALLANAN, MIKE COL(RET)
CHECKERBOARD INDUSTRIES
DAEHNKE, GLENN MAJ USMC (RET)
DEWEY ELECTRONICS CORPORATION
DEWITT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
DISMORE, CHARLIE MAJ USMC (RET)
EASTERDAY, STEVE COL USMC (RET)
EMERSON, JOHN SSGT USMC (RET)
FASULO, JOHN MAJ USMC (RET)
FECHTER-VEHR, MARGARET
FLETCHER, FRED CAPT USMC (RET)
FORD, BILL LTCOL USMC (RET)
GOODING, BILL COL USMC (RET)
HACKETT, BILL LTCOL USMC (RET)
HAMBY, BILL MGYSGT USMC (RET)
22 - Engineers Up!

HAMMOND, JOE (VET)
HATCH, JIM COL USMC (RET)
HEARNSBERGER, BRIAN OL USMC (RET)
HELLMAN, BO COL USMC (RET)
HERZOG, JENNIFER
HICKS, JOHN MSGT USMC (RET)
HOFFMANN, RON CAPT USMC (RET)
KIRIACOPOLUS, KEN COL USMC (RET)
KOLAR, KATHERINE
KROLAK, DICK MAJ USMC (RET)
KULIK, STEVE
LINDSEY, EVA
LITTELL, DAVE LTCOL USMC
LLANTERO, FERDINAND LTCOL USMC
LUCE, JIM SGTMAJ USMC (RET)
LUTTRELL, HOWARD COL USMC (RET)
MACKENZIE, MARIAN
MAGEE, MIKE SGTMAJ USMC (RET)
MAYFIELD, ALLEN
McCARTHY, MIKE COL USMCR (RET)
McMICHAEL, RICHARD(VET)
MILLER, CALEB
MOORE, JACK LTCOL USMC (RET)
MUELLER, RICHARD (VET)
NAPPI, LOU LTCOL USMC (RET)
NELSON, ELIZABETH
NORMAN, DENNIS LTCOL USMC (RET)
O'KELLEY JR, JIM COL USMC (RET)
PANKEY, PAUL COL USMC (RET)
PARTHENON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
PRICE, DON MSGT USMC (RET)
RANISZEWSKI, TONY LTCOL USMC (RET)
RANISZEWSKI, STEVE
SCHLENK, BERNARD 1ST SGT USMC (RET)
SEBASTIAN, DAVE MAJ USMC (RET)
SHORTER, JAMES SSGT USMC
SILER, PAT
SKIPPER, CHUCK COL USMC (RET)
SMITH, COLIN
SOUTHLAND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
STAGEDOOR LIGHTING COMPANY
SUTTON, JERRY CAPT USMC (RET)
TAYLOR SR, JOHN MAJ USMC (RET)
TIEBOUT, ROBERT LTGEN USMC (RET)
TOWNSEND, ED MAJOR USMC (RET)
VOGELSINGER, BRUCE LTCOL USMC (RET)
WATERHOUSE, MARK CAPT USMC (RET)
WILSON, NATE CWO4 USMC (RET)
WING, JACK CWO3 USMC (RET)
YOUNG, JOHN LTCOL USMC (RET)

*MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MCEA & MAIL TO: MCEA,
PO Box 279, Beechgrove, TN 37018-0279*



From a Dream to Reality ---Thirty Year Update

Compiled by Phil Martin

The First Twenty Years

Colonel Jim Marapoti had long dreamed of an Association for Marine Corps Engineers. In 1991, Col Jim Marapoti, MGySgt George Hillebrand, MGySgt John Gallagher and others decided to make the dream a reality. The biggest obstacle to overcome was to get other Marines to also believe in the dream. A lot of things had to go right for this venture to happen. There were several obstacles to overcome before the Association could become a reality. Here's what Jim had to say:

For many years, there were discussions about joining past and present Marine Corps Engineers together fraternally and professionally. There were a few engineer battalion organizations and the ad hoc engineer organization in SoCal.; there was no interest in a broad-based Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA).

Upon returning from deployment to MarCent during Operation Desert Storm, and mindful of the critical role and illustrious performance of Marine Corps engineers, I set about to push hard for starting an organization for Marine Corps Engineers. After looking at several sets of bylaws of Marine Corps sponsored associations, I chose to use the Mustang, Reconnaissance and Marine Corps Aviation Associations' Bylaws as a template for a Marine Corps Engineer Association. While interest within the active-duty establishment was lukewarm, and given the scope and depth of organization challenges, several retired Marines in the Jacksonville area enthusiastically supported such an effort, significant of which were George Hildebrand and John Gallagher (Iwo Jima vet). Additionally, the effort was supported by several active-duty enthusiasts including Mike O'Mahoney, Tim Foley and Jack Moore - Tim and Jack being on the Marine Corps Engineer School (MCES) staff.

Tim Foley proof-read and edited the Bylaws and correspondence to HQMC regarding sanctioning of a Marine Corps Engineer Association using the Official Eagle, Globe and Anchor super-imposed at the center of the engineer castle. Upon approval of HQMC sanctioning, active-duty units and senior active duty Marine Corps engineers were notified.

The idea of an MCEA Lapel Pin was easy to figure out: put an EGA on the US Army's engineer emblem – the essence of the MCEA Logo. Jack Moore assembled a bunch of these pins which became, and remain, quite popular. Jack also was instrumental in gathering a wide-range of Marine Corps equipment and captured Iraqi vehicles from Desert Storm for display at the MCES in a HQMC-approved "Display" of equipment. The display was in place for the first reunion. Some key "legacy" items in the display included: the Well-Drilling Rig, Track Drill, EIMCO Bulldozer, a T5 Dozer, and a Schram Air Compressor used to support inflation of pontons for the M4T6 bridge.

George Hillebrand reviewed and edited the IRS 501(c)(19) (veterans' nonprofit organization) application while John Gallagher put together our North Carolina Articles of Incorporation. Col (Ret) Fred Olson provided "Grey Beard" advice on organizational and USMC and II MEF coordination matters.

We conducted our first MCEA Reunion at Camp Lejeune in 1992 and were supported by several Corporate Sponsors. The Reunion was successful and provided a platform for improvements and expansion of the Association.

During 1996-1998, the MCEA Awards program was formulated. It was loosely patterned after the Marine Corps Aviation Association's awards program. Awards were drafted for all MOSs in Non-Rate, NCO, SNCO and Officer (up to Captain) including awards for outstanding Formal School Instructors and Research, Development and Acquisition personnel. Advised by HQMC LME that plans were under way for the EOD Community to become part of the engineer community of MOS', EOD awards were added to the Awards Program. This MOS change did not occur, but outstanding EOD Technician and Officers continue to be gladly recognized each year along with outstanding Marine Corps engineers.

It took nearly two and a half years to get a solid consensus on the MCEA Awards Program. HQMC assistance was provided by Dave Kramer to staff the awards Marine Corps wide, as well as ALMAR procedures. The first awards were presented in 1998 by LtGen Robert Tiebout and have expanded over the years."



Jack Moore remembered:

Jim Marapoti NEVER sleeps!! He has ALWAYS got something going on and/or in the works to improve Combat Engineering in the Corps. Tim Foley and I would run with him at MCES during the Noon Hour. We all would get talking, the runs would last for over an hour and cover over 10 miles of Tank Trails. Col Marapoti ALWAYS returned having fully discussed issues and reached a decision! Talk about "Multi-Tasking"! The Engineer Association went from a dream of a few to the Association it is today. The original members had to jump through a lot of hoops and do a lot of research to make this Dream a reality.

Col Ken Frantz, another superb leader with whom I have served, has REALLY pushed things along as well and has gotten us on the WEB and organized the Email awards boards for selecting the award nominees. He literally has taken the Association into the 21st Century. Our VP, Capt Helmut Feifs (Viet Nam captain, decorated Vet) is after many of us with taskings as well. Today the Engineer Association has a decent war chest to meet the demands of improving and building a super fine Engineer Association with a large number of dedicated members to assure its success. Ken also compiled a list, which now totals 912, of Marine Corps engineers killed in action starting with World War II up to the present.

The Marine Corps Engineer Association, once just a dream, has now been established for twenty years. A lot of improvements have been made as it has grown. Every year much work goes into improving the Association and the dividends are easily seen in the young Engineers' eyes as they step forward to receive their awards at the annual banquet. In addition to individual awards the MCEA recognizes the outstanding units of the year. In conclusion, the Engineer Association has been transferred from an idea to a living, vibrant association that is here to assist its members and seeing the Marine Corps' Best Engineers prosper into the leaders of tomorrow.

Thirty Year Update

The last decade for MCEA is one marked by many accomplishments. It has seen the completion and dedication of our Engineer Monument at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Since its dedication, the Monument has been proudly displayed on the front and back covers of the annual MCEA Newsletter. Jim Marapoti was the Project Officer. If you haven't seen it, it is worth the trip to Triangle, Virginia and will surely bring back evocative memories of other times, units and shipmates you may have served with. It is the embodiment and reflection of the excellent contributions that we, as Marine Corps engineers have made to the mission of the Marine Corps.

As you visit and slowly circle the monument, look down on the bricks for the name of a shipmate or a unit you may have served with, some gone or changed but never forgotten. Remember the proud Marines who were recognized by Headquarters Marine Corps for their superior achievements. Praise the dedicated MCEA members who have preserved, promoted and perpetuated the contributions of Marine Corps engineers. We should also remember the various reunions across the country we have participated in over the years. Reunions that strengthened bonds of regard and forged new relationships. And, all these accomplishments were only possible because of the hard, smart work of members who volunteer their time to our engineer family!



MCEA Monument Committee at May 14, 2014 Dedication



MCEA SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

15 July 1991 NC Articles of Incorporation Certified, and Bylaws approved.

21 October 1991 Election of Officers:

Founder, member # 1, Jim Marapoti elected as President

Vice President-George Hillebrand, co-founder

Secretary- Mitch Stroud and Jerry Massey

Treasurer-Don House

Sergeant-at-Arms-Bob Kropinack

Chaplain-M. (Feet) Lilley

Historian-Jerry Bunting

Assistant Historian-Bob Younghans

Publicity/membership-Frank Toth and Ron Watters

Associate Directors-Fred Olson; Homer Hobgood; Walt Zemaitis

As of the final edit of this document, of the above original members, Jim Marapoti, Jerry Massey, M. (Feet) Lilley, and Jerry Bunting are still active members. George Hillebrand passed away 7 March 2015; Don House died 2 August 2013; ; Bob Kropinac passed away 29 September 1994; Bob Younghans passed away 27 April 2012; Frank Toth passed away 28 January 2020; Ron Watters died 6 November 2002; Fred Olson died 14 November 1993; and Walt Zemaitis passed away 5 November 1994.

3 December 1991 HQMC approves use of the words “Marine Corps” in the title of the engineer association and the use of the Marine Corps emblem as part of our MCEA logo.

1 April 1992 IRS determination as a 501 (c) (19), non-profit organization.

8 May 1992 First membership roster contained 167 active duty and veterans.

15-16 May 1992 Reunion Camp Lejeune.

September 1992 Inaugural newsletter published.

17 June 1993 Reunion Camp Lejeune.

18-21 May 1994 Reunion Camp Pendleton in conjunction with the Camp Pendleton Chapter of the Retired Engineer Association.

19-22 September 1995 Reunion Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

25-27 September 1996 Reunion in Wilmington, NC.

24-26 July 1997 Reunion in Denver, CO.

1998 HQ USMC approved the MCEA annual awards program consisting of 24 individual and unit categories.

30 Sept-3 Oct 1998 Reunion Savannah, GA. 16 awardees selected and recognized.

3-7 October 1999 Reunion Jacksonville, NC. 16 awardees selected.

2000 Reunion Quantico, VA.

2001 Reunion – Cancelled due to 9/11 attack. Facility Management Officer, Engineer Instructor and Engineer Assistant award categories deleted from the annual awards. 11 award recipients selected.

2002 Ten Year anniversary of MCEA.

25-29 September 2002 Reunion Branson, MO. 12 award recipients. 850 members on our rolls.

1-3 October 2003 Reunion Harrisburg, PA. 21 award recipients.

6-9 October 2004 Reunion Portland, OR. 21 award recipients. The family of Corporal Matthew Henderson accepted his award for Combat Engineer NCO of the Year as he was killed in action May 26, 2004 in Iraq .

Lance Corporal Bob Roberts was Equipment Marine of the Year and killed in action 17 May 2004 in Iraq. Gunnery Sergeant Michael Clark, EOD technician of the Year, killed in action 20 July 2004 in Iraq.



June 2005 Newsletter contained 75 on our Honor Roll of deceased members and first time we listed email addresses for members. 866 members on our rolls; 261 dues current.

1 October 2005 Executive Committee approved establishment of the MCEA website.

12-15 October 2005 Reunion Myrtle Beach, SC. 21 award recipients.

13 October 2005 Annual business meeting approved addition of Fellows Program and replacement of the Memorial Fund with a separate Assistance Fund. Naval Construction Force category added to the Awards Program. 916 members on rolls; 264 dues current; 565 dues expired; 87 deceased.

8 April 2006 Executive Committee approved dues increase from \$12/year to \$15/year; \$40/3 years; \$500 for lifetime. Corporate dues increased from \$150/year to \$400/year.

5 May 2006 1st newsletter in color; 33 pages. 126 members on our Honor Roll.

11-13 October 2006 Reunion Peabody, MA; 120 attended. 22 award recipients.

17 February 2007 Combat Casualties workbook created containing USMC Engineer Unit combat casualties from WW II to the present. Initial collection of data included 424 Marines and sailors.

9 April 2007 Newsletter published; 125 pages. 144 members on Honor Roll.

19 May 2007 Executive committee approved recommendation to rename the EOD Technician of the year award to the SSgt William Callahan EOD award. SSgt. Callahan was the first MCEA member killed in action. He died in Iraq on 27 April 2007. Recommendation was forwarded to HQMC and was subsequently approved.

1 June 2007 MGySgt USMC (Ret) George Hillebrand steps down after 15 years as Executive Director.

17-19 Oct 2007 Reunion Camp Lejeune; 155 attended. 22 award recipients. Mrs. Callahan, mother of Bill Callahan, attended the banquet and assisted in presenting the EOD technician award named in honor of her son.

2 May 2008 Newsletter contained 83 pages. 163 members on Honor Roll and included obituaries for first time.

15 August 2008 Thanks to efforts of Geoff Nicely as full-time webmaster, new website operational.

15-18 Oct 2008 Reunion Oceanside, CA; 150 attended. 22 award recipients. Assistance Fund balance of \$8435.41. 1099 members on rolls; 635 dues current; 158 deceased and remaining are inactive. 224 of the 635 are life members. 659 names on combat casualties report.

11 April 2009 Newsletter contained 83 pages; 177 on Honor Roll.

13-14 Oct 2009 Reunion Las Vegas, NV; 137 attended. 21 award recipients; recipients received red golf style shirts for first time, in addition to their plaque. 1179 members on rolls; 653 current; 200 deceased; 265 Life members. 808 Marines and sailors on combat casualty list. Support and coordination for return of TD-18 to Marine Corps Engineer School continues.

19 April 2010 Newsletter contained 80 pages; 202 members on Honor Roll. Duel and Pam Jeans, plus Judy Coy began creating profiles on the website Together We Served for our deceased members and those listed on our combat casualty roster.

18-25 Oct 2010 Reunion Alexandria & Triangle, VA; 190 attended. 22 award recipients. 923 members on rolls, 643 dues current; 226 deceased; 300 Life members. Added green golf style shirts for Executive Committee and Associate Directors, plus blue shirts for Corporate Members and added t-shirts to our Ship's Store and presented to award recipients.

10 April 2011 Annual presentation of Martin Award approved by Executive Committee. Award presented to top USMC Engineer Officer in the Expeditionary Warfare School. 1st award presented 12 May 2011 and was an engraved Napoleon style mantel clock.

29 April 2011 Newsletter contained 75 pages. 217 members on Honor Roll.

26-28 Oct 2011 Reunion San Diego, CA; 193 attended. 23 award recipients (tie in Combat Engineer Bn of the year category)

27 October 2011 Annual business meeting approved the MCEA tribute to all Marine Corps Engineers and related occupation specialties by sponsoring the design and construction of a monument to be placed within Semper Fidelis memorial Park at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.



Monument Committee: Jim Marapoti; Charlie Dismore; Joel Cooley; George Carlson; Tony Raniszewski; Jerry Goodwine; Dave Sebastian; Ken Frantz. Honorary Chairman was Major General Mike Lehnert, USMC (Ret) and his 25 June 2012 letter officially inaugurated the fundraising campaign. Monument contract cost was \$54,620 and there were over \$10,000 administrative costs for the dedication gathering. 938 members on rolls; 635 dues current, 295 of those are Life members; 247 deceased. 32 individual and corporate members on Fellows program.

2012 Twenty Year anniversary of MCEA

30 March 2012 Newsletter contained 87 pages. 236 on Honor Roll. Twenty-year anniversary article "From a Dream to Reality".

10-12 Oct 2012 Reunion Branson, MO; 137 attended. 22 award recipients. 933 members on rolls; 611 dues current with 285 of those are Life members; 272 deceased. 892 on combat casualty list. Return of TD-18 to MCES back on track.

1 April 2013 Newsletter contained 52 pages with 277 members on the Honor Roll and a separate history supplement was printed consisting of 24 pages.

8 June 2013 Contract awarded for the MCEA Engineer Monument with a cost of \$54,620. Completion date anticipated to be 20 December 2013. Over \$35,000 raised to date and dedication ceremony scheduled for 14 May 2014.

25-27 September 2013 Reunion Orlando, FL; 91 attended. 22 award recipients. 925 members on rolls; 592 dues current with 299 of those as Life members; 286 deceased members. 65 individuals and corporate members qualify for the Fellows program. Our second member to be killed in action was Lance Corporal Steven Stevens, who was the Combat Engineer Marine of the Year. He was KIA, 22 June 2012 and his mother and aunt accepted his award at our banquet.

1 January 2014 Brick program began in conjunction with construction of our MCEA Monument at the Museum of the Marine Corps.

6 May 2014 Initial order of 65 bricks installed around the Monument.

14 May 2014 MCEA Monument dedication. 90 RSVP'd and chapel was overflowing to outside in the parking lot! General Al Gray was the Dedication Keynote speaker who spoke highly of the contributions of Marine Corps engineers – Past, Present and Future...

29 May 2014 Newsletter contained 60 pages with 293 members on the Honor Roll. Separate history supplement was 24 pages.

10 September 2014 Second order of 17 bricks installed.

20-23 October 2014 Reunion Pala, CA; 137 attended. 21 award recipients. 956 members on rolls; 605 dues current with 295 of those as Life members; 301 deceased members. 909 Marines and sailors on combat casualty list. HQMC approved request to return the TD-18 to MCES! Concrete pad has been poured and coordination continues. 139 individuals, next of kin and corporate members comprise the Fellows Program.

During 2014, MCEA member LtCol Nelson Olf began generously paying for each Combat Engineer Officer graduate to have a 3-year MCEA membership. Our Executive Cmte and the formal school reps (CO-Marine Corps Engineer School, Engineer Equipment Instruction Company Cdr at Ft. Leonard Wood MarDet and CO-MarDet Ft. Lee) all agreed that we should expand the program and solicit sponsors from our MCEA membership for other engineer related formal school graduating classes. The school reps recommended that we not include the basic level courses due to the quantity of students involved per class, number of classes per year and their entry level ranks. That left 20 courses. The normal cost for an active-duty membership is \$30 for 3 years. However, we reduced that even more and offered the class sponsorship for just \$20 per graduate. We firmly believe that expanding this program is a win/win for the graduates and our engineer community. The sponsorship of the classes demonstrates our continuing desire to support our active-duty engineers and better publicize our MCEA. From April-August of this year, MCEA members sponsored 27 graduating classes with a total of 352 students! Each graduate receives the MCEA new members' packet



containing our lapel pin, window decal, fact sheet, membership card and publicity card. Due to the restrictions of the DON Code of Privacy Act Fair Information Practices, further sponsorship is on hold.

23 February 2015 Newsletter contained 48 pages with 302 deceased members on the Honor Roll.

20 May 2015 Inaugural Memorial Service, honoring our Marine Corps Engineer family, was conducted with 20 in attendance. The two-day gathering included a dinner, then the next day service at our MCEA Engineer Monument on the Semper Fidelis trail at the National Museum of the Marine Corps, followed by lunch at the Museum's Tun Tavern followed by Museum tour.

31 May 2015 The formal Assistance Fund was disestablished due to lack of applications. MCEA has other appropriate means to provide assistance as requested.

23-26 September 2015 Reunion Jacksonville, NC; 186 attended. 21 award recipients. 1272 members on rolls; 918 current with 298 of those Life members; 310 deceased members. MCEA providing financial assistance to 2D Maintenance Bn's restoration efforts. 152 contributors to the Fellows Program. Monument Fund received \$72,089.28 in income; largest portion from 195 individuals who made 284 separate donations totaling \$56,247.86. Of the total donors, 61 gave less than \$100, 127 contributed between \$100-\$699 and 21 donated over \$700. All Monument mementos were either presented during the Monument Dedication or mailed. All bills have been paid and on 13 August 2015, the Deed of Gift was provided to Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, which transferred the Monument ownership to MCHF. 141 bricks have been purchased to date.

25-27 September 2015 LT. ALEXANDER "SANDY" BONNYMAN, MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT FUNERAL: Lt. Bonnyman was a combat engineer Medal of Honor recipient from the Battle of Tarawa. His remains were found in a lost temporary cemetery with 36 other Marines in May. Bonnyman's remains were transported to Knoxville, Tenn, for public viewing, celebration, and burial at family cemetery. MCEA was represented by Lt. General Tiebout who attended all events, as well as presented a binder to the family on behalf of our engineer family. MCEA also provided a floral arrangement at the funeral.

31 December 2015 Col. Ken Frantz USMC (Ret.) stepped down as the MCEA Executive Director having tirelessly served since 2005. Ken was responsible for bringing MCEA into the computer age and establishing and maintaining the highest standards of excellence for a nonprofit organization.

29 March 2016 Newsletter contained 44 pages with 322 deceased members. History supplement contained 32 pages.

25 May 2016 Annual honoring of Marine Corps Engineer family at our MCEA Monument.

17-19 October 2016 Reunion Pala, CA; 21 award recipients. 1638 members on our rolls; 1293 dues current; 345 deceased. 912 Marines and sailors on the combat casualties report. Fellows program: 67 Bronze, 39 Silver, 42 Gold and 11 Platinum. Sapper Squad competition revived, thanks to the initiative of 2d Combat Engineer Bn and sponsorship by MCEA for awards and the master plaque which is retained at Marine Corps Engineer School.

16 May 2017 Newsletter contained 56 pages with 355 members on Honor Roll. History supplement consisted of 44 pages.

10 October 2017 Major John Fasulo, USMC (Ret.) was awarded the MCEA Lifetime Achievement Award. This was the first time the award was presented.

16-18 October 2017 Reunion Fredericksburg, VA. Membership: 1771 dues current; 363 deceased for total of 2134. 266 Life members. Future MCEA Awards selection boards will be conducted by LPE section at HQs, Marine Corps. Once the MarAdmin is published, MCEA will contact the selectees and present the awards during the annual banquet.

27 April 2018 Newsletter contained 48 pages with 371 deceased members. History supplement had 44 pages.

27-29 September 2018 Reunion San Diego, CA. 2148 members on our rolls.

6 June 2019 Newsletter published with 56 pages and 381 deceased members on our Honor Roll. No History supplement was produced.

12-14 September 2019 Reunion San Antonio, TX.



11 June 2020 Newsletter contained 64 pages with 410 members listed on the Honor Roll. No History supplement was produced.

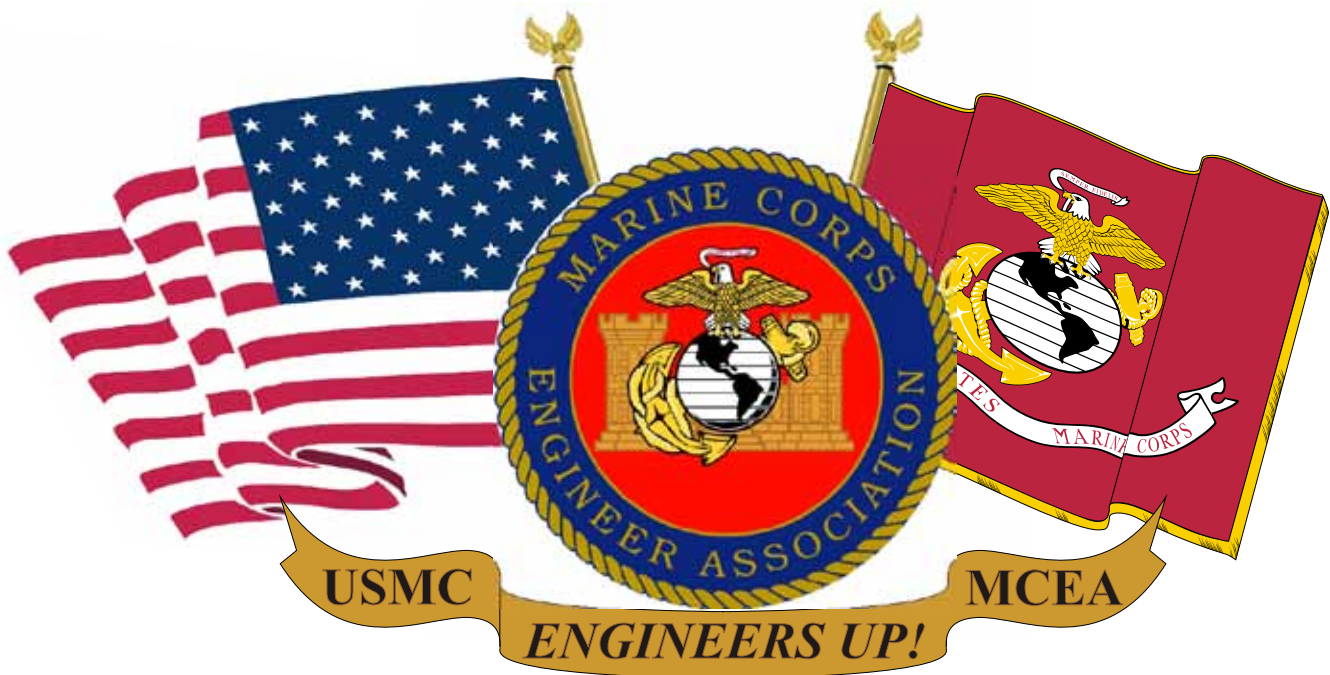
2020 Reunion cancelled due to COVID.

1 June 2021 Newsletter contained 60 pages with 419 deceased members listed. History supplement consisted of 20 pages.

23-25 September 2021 Reunion Fredericksburg, VA; 85 attended.

2022 Thirty Year anniversary of MCEA

May 2022 Newsletter published.



The above referenced newsletters, history supplements, business meeting minutes, reunion and banquet programs plus pictures and videos, awards details, engineer Monument, Brick program, Combat Casualties workbook, Fellows program, Honor Roll, Ships Store and Warrior Angels can all be found on our MCEA website: <https://marcorengasn.org/>



THE LONGEST WAR

Compiled by MSgt Phil Martin

The First Twenty Years

September 11th 2001, was a day this nation was jolted awake by the unmitigated attack by Saudi terrorists who hijacked four aircraft and flew the aircraft into the twin towers in New York, The Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania. This attack was planned by a Saudi Terrorist named Osama Bin Laden. Our country was quick to discover the terrorist organization involved and reacted accordingly. A short narrative of the timeline follows:

October 15, 1999: An Al-Qaeda and Taliban nexus The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) adopts Resolution 1267, creating the Al-Qaeda and Taliban Sanctions Committee, categorizing the two groups as terrorist entities and imposing sanctions on them. **September 11, 2001: Terrorists strike the US** Al-Qaeda operatives attack the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, killing close to 3,000 people. **September 18, 2001: A war footing** US president George W Bush signs into law a joint resolution authorizing the use of force against those responsible for the attacks. **October 7, 2001: The opening salvo** The US military begins a bombing campaign against the Taliban. Canada, Australia, Germany, and France pledge future support. **November 2001: The Taliban in retreat** The Taliban regime unraveled rapidly after its loss at Mazar-e-Sharif on November 9, 2001. Over the next week Taliban strongholds crumble. On **November 14, 2001**, the UNSC passed Resolution 1378. **December 9, 2001: The Taliban collapses** The Taliban surrender Kandahar and Taliban leader Mullah Omar flees the city. **April 17, 2002: Reconstructing Afghanistan** President Bush calls for the reconstruction of Afghanistan. The US Congress appropriated over \$38 billion in humanitarian and reconstruction assistance from 2001 to 2009. **October 9, 2004: A new president** Hamid Karzai becomes the first democratically elected head of Afghanistan. **March 27, 2009: America's new strategy** US president Barack Obama announces a strategy for the war effort, linking success in Afghanistan to a stable Pakistan. **May 1, 2011: Osama killed** On May 1, 2011, Osama bin Laden was killed by the US forces in Pakistan. **June 22, 2011: Obama announces troop drawdown** Obama outlines a plan to withdraw 33,000 troops by the summer of 2012. Polls show a record number of Americans do not support the war, and Obama faces pressure from lawmakers. May 27, 2014: Obama announces US troop withdrawal Obama announces a timetable for withdrawing most US forces from Afghanistan by 2016. **February 2019: US-Taliban peace talks progress** Negotiations between the US and the Taliban in Doha enter their highest level yet, building on momentum that began in late 2018. February 29, 2020: US-Taliban peace deal US envoy Zalmay Khalilzad and the Taliban's Abdul Ghani Baradar signed an agreement that paves the way for a significant drawdown of US troops in Afghanistan. November 17, 2020: US announces troop withdrawal Plans announced to halve the number of troops in Afghanistan to 2,500 by mid-January. NATO warns that withdrawing troops too early could allow Afghanistan to become a haven for terrorists. April 14, 2021: President decides on complete US withdrawal US President Joe Biden announces that the US will not meet the deadline to withdraw all troops by May 1 and instead releases a plan for a full withdrawal by September 11. The Afghan Regime sets a deadline of Aug. 31 to have all foreign nationals and military troops out of Afghanistan. President Biden meets the Aug 31 deadline but ends up leaving hundreds of Americans and their Afghans who helped the American government behind. **Casualties:** In total there were more than 240,000 deaths as a direct result of the war in Afghanistan. There were 2,401 U.S. military deaths in the war in Afghanistan, 1,921 as a result of hostile action; 20,752 American service members were also wounded in action. In addition, 18 Central Intelligence Agency operatives also died in Afghanistan. Further, there were 1,822 civilian contractor fatalities. More than 775,000 U.S. service members deployed to Afghanistan at least once. (Information from www.dol.gov)

Thanks very much to LtCol Ron Coleman who was willing to tell us about his tour in Afghanistan.

Deployed in 2010 with Company A, 6th ESB, we were attached to 9th ESB and augmented with a bridge platoon from 8th ESB. Arriving at Camp Leatherneck in May 2010, the battalion was tasked with



both engineering and logistics missions. I was the company executive officer for Company A. A few days after arriving in Camp Leatherneck, a fire engulfed the Supply Management Unit on May 16, burning nearly all of the stored supplies and threatening the fuel storage facility. At the same time, a large dust storm came through making the job of fighting the fire all the more difficult. Following our relief in place and transfer of authority, the company was split between Camp Dwyer and Camp Leatherneck, with the company commander located in Dwyer and I in Leatherneck. Collectively, we supported combat logistics patrols (CLP) out of both locations, as well as constructing forward operating bases, installing medium girder bridges (MGB), conducting road improvement projects and light construction projects at Camp Leatherneck, and running engineering reconnaissance missions.

In August 2010, I led a detachment doing route improvements along route “Elephant”, which was the main supply route between Marjah and Dwyer. It entailed locating and digging out suitable material for a roadbed and conducting nighttime missions to improve the trafficability of the route. Most of the route was badly worn and covered with 4-6 inches of “moon dust”. While the soil we were able to find was not ideal for a roadbed, we nonetheless took the best material we could find and created a route that was much more resistant to the effects of rainy weather and significantly improved the quality of the route.

One of the most challenging missions for the company was installing a single story MGB across the Helmand River at Sangin. After multiple attempts to transit to Sangin on the east side of the river only to be turned back by multiple IEDs and small arms attacks, one of our platoon commanders, 2ndLt Elizabeth Reynolds, led a reconnaissance mission to determine a route on the west side of the river. After successfully determining a route and a bridge deployment site, the company planned and executed the bridge emplacement with the company commander as the mission commander. The mission convoy consisted of logistical vehicles, heavy equipment, bridging and a small security force. During the transit to the bridging site, the detachment encountered few problems until reaching the west side of the river at Sangin. At that point, a number of small arms attacks were encountered, which coincided with the daily attacks being made on the FOB at Sangin. The detachment linked up with a Georgian patrol and jointly defended the bridge site.

Upon further review of the bridge site, it was discovered that the riverbank had severely eroded since the reconnaissance mission. This problem was swiftly resolved through the insightful suggestion of the dozer operator who pushed material into the river and re-build the river bank. After completing this task, the heavy equipment operators utilized the local soil to construct a bearing surface and ramps for the bridge, and the MGB was deployed. As we understood it, this became the only crossing point between highway 1 at Gereshk and Kajaki. The company subsequently deployed a detachment to further repair the aging wood bridge near Kajaki, providing further mobility to the area.



Dozens of other bridging and site improvement projects throughout Helmand province were accomplished in 2010 by the Marines of Company A and 9th ESB, most of which were in the areas surrounding the town of Marjah in southern Helmand Province. A few were conducted in the northern areas of Helmand province including rehabilitation of an aging wood bridge near Kajaki dam.



*LtCol Coleman and 1stLt Cameron Wolf at
a bridge site near Marjah*

Lieutenant Colonel Ronald C. Coleman graduated from Michigan State University and enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in June 1980. During his initial enlistment, he served as a rifleman with Company A, 1st Battalion, 24th Marines. He was subsequently accepted to the Officer Candidate Course and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in December 1981.

Upon completion of the Basic School and the Engineer Officer Course, he served as Platoon Commander with 7th Engineer Support Battalion, and Engineer Detachment Commander for CSSD-17. Following his promotion to First Lieutenant in December 1983, he was assigned to Training Facilities, Camp Pendleton, where he served as Range OIC and Impact Area Control Officer until December 1984. In September 1985, 1stLt Coleman re-joined Company A, 1st Battalion, 24th Marines and was promoted to the rank of Captain in October 1986. He subsequently resigned his commission in November 1990 in order to devote time to his family and civilian career.

In March 2008, Captain Coleman was reappointed to the Marine Corps Reserve as Executive Officer, Bulk Fuel Company C, 6th Engineer Support Battalion. In October 2009, he joined Engineer Company A, 6th Engineer Support Battalion in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and deployed to Afghanistan in May 2010. He was promoted to Major in October 2010. Upon completion of his deployment in December 2010, Major Coleman returned to Bulk Fuel Company C as Company Commander until November 2012, and then served as Executive Officer for 6th Engineer Support Battalion until May 2015. He then served as Operations Planner for 4th Marine Logistics Group and subsequently mobilized in October 2016 as Future Operations Planner with Marine Forces Africa and conducted training with the Ugandan People's Defense Forces in Jinja, Uganda. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in April 2017.

Upon completion of his mobilization, he returned to 4th Marine Logistics Group and assumed command of 6th Engineer Support Battalion from June 2018 to April 2020. He retired in May 2020, and resides in Gilbert, Arizona with his wife Denise.

Lieutenant Colonel Coleman is a graduate of the Marine Corps Command & Staff College and Expeditionary Warfare School. He also holds a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science from Michigan State University and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Oakland University.



WING ENGINEER SQUADRON 27 (WES-27)

Last year, the history section profiled WES-17. Our research on the beginning of the Wing Engineer Squadrons led us to Colonel Jim Harp, a retired Marine Corps engineer, who gave us an insight into the origins of the experimental units. To understand this origin better, I am taking the liberty of reprinting some of the basic information.

Around 1971, Colonel Harp was on a team to study Marine Corps Engineer and Motor Transport organizations in the Fleet Marine Force.

They found the wing did not have an internal engineer organization. The next thing they looked at was what engineer assets were available to the wing and where could they find them in the wing. A search revealed more Engineer personnel by MOS than there were in the division combat engineer battalion. They were in each air group's Marine Air Base Squadron (MABS) with the mission to support air base operations.

A close look at the division engineer battalion made it obvious the triangular structure was at the core of the organization: Three regiments, three battalions and three companies. The question was could this structure be adapted to satisfy the engineer requirements of the wing. The answer was the creation of the WING ENGINEER SQUADRON.

This study went to Headquarters Marine Corps where it was implemented in the Late 1970's thus creating WES-17, WES-27, WES-37 and WES-47.

WES-27 was activated on 14 May 1976 as a result of the Marine Corps Combat Service Support (CSS) Concept.

Essentially, WES-27 was a centralization of the Wing's Engineer Equipment and personnel. This centralization enabled WES-27 to provide valuable support in the areas of construction, heavy equipment, fueling and defueling aircraft, refrigeration, mobile electric power, plumbing, water supply and hygiene.

The capabilities of WES-27 were increased on 6 December 1979 with the joining of the Engineer Maintenance Section from Headquarters and Ground Maintenance Squadron-27, under the reorganization of Marine Wing Support Group-27. The addition of the Engineer Maintenance Section gave WES-27 second echelon maintenance capabilities and thereby increased the equipment readiness and efficiency of WES-27.

On 14 May 1976, WES-27 was activated. Major R. F. Faust, Jr., USMC was appointed as Commanding Officer. On 18 May 1976, Engineer personnel and equipment were transferred from H&GMS-27 to WES-27. Wing Transport Squadron 27 transferred its engineer personnel and equipment to WES-27 on 28 May 1976 and MWHS -2 did the same on 25 June 1976.

On the 15th of July the Bachelor Enlisted Quarters Maintenance Section was established in Bay "D" of building 1016. First Lieutenant J.D. Ambreu was appointed the first Executive Officer of WES-27, on the 16th of July.

On the second of August, twenty-five men led by Warrant Officer V.J. Smith were sent TAD to Marine Aircraft Group 20 to provide engineering support for exercises "Bonded Item" and "Teamwork 76". Squadron strength increased in August to total of thirteen (13) Officers and one hundred fifty-two (152) enlisted.

Second Marine Aircraft Wing's Commanding General, recognized WES-27 for a significant humanitarian accomplishment. WES-27 had been the first among FMF units to achieve 100% of their Combined Federal Campaign goal. A major project was under taken to build a one-and-a-half-mile road. The project involved surveying, actual construction of the road and a commitment for ongoing maintenance.

Support for the Fleet Assistance Program was increased from eight (8) to seventeen (17) personnel, most of whom were involved in handling bulk fuel. The road project was halted due to inclement weather.

On the fourth day of November construction began on the alteration of building 1012 for use as the unit's armory. The personnel that were sent TAD under Warrant Officer Smith returned to WES-27 from exercises "Bonded Item" and "Teamwork 76". Warrant Officer Smith submitted a concise After-Action Report detailing problem areas and possible solutions in NATO operations.

From 3 to 11 December 1976, WES-27 was tasked with providing support for VC-6 Fire Exercise conducted at Onslow Beach, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The construction of the armory in building 1012 has a completion date set for 15 January 1977. The road being constructed just off of rifle range road had to be halted due to shortage of necessary equipment.



Lieutenant Colonel G.H. Root and Captain C.O. Skipper joined the command. On 26 August 1977, a Change of Command Ceremony was held and Lieutenant Colonel G. H. Root took command from Major J.S. Hack, Jr. Major Hack resumed his former post as Executive Officer. Twenty -six personnel and support equipment began construction of the AV8A Harrier Grass Field Operations Project at LZ Lark, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Ten personnel and support equipment were furnished for an Air-to-Air Missile Firex at Onslow Beach, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

Major A.S. Hillard joined the Command in September. Construction of the AV8A Harrier Grass Field Operations Project was completed. Seven 500-gallon fuel pods were installed by TAFDS section for the AV8A Harrier demonstration for the Commandant of the Marine Corps at LZ Lark, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. From 11 – 19 September 1977 thirty-two Marines deployed to support Exercise PALM TREE 8-77 at 29 Palms, California.

On 7 October 1977, support of Exercise PALM TREE was completed. Five Marines supported Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina in construction of the Consolidated Issue Point, from 17-31 October. Seven Marines and various support equipment were sent to Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field, North Carolina to support a CPX. On 19 November 1977 Thirty Marines departed Marine Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina in support of Operation Palm Tree 2-78 at 29 Palms, California.

CPX Operations at Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field, North Carolina were completed, and all personnel and equipment were brought home. Support of Exercise Palm Tree 2-78 was completed. From 12-16 December 1977 the unit's Executive Officer performed a liaison visit to Puerto Rico in preparation for Solid Shield 78. Personnel and equipment from the TAFDS section commenced support of the 34th MAU (MED CRUISE). Personnel and equipment from the Engineer, Utilities and TAFDS sections continued daily support of Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field, North Carolina.

Engineer Section provided a four man search team with metal detectors in support of VMA 542, NAF, Fallon, Nevada to assist in an investigation of an air crash. Engineer Section commenced removing Mo-Mat located at LZ-LARK, Harrier Grass Field Operations, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Fourteen personnel from Utilities Section, three personnel from Engineer Section and three personnel from support Section with five pieces of engineer equipment and five pieces of Utilities equipment for Exercise PALM TREE 2-78 for the Aviation Support Element at Marine Corps Base, 29 Palms, California. 6-25 March 1978, personnel and equipment provided support to 3rd LAAM BN. During a MACG-28 Fire Exercise at Onslow Beach, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. From 10 March through 11 April 1978, provided personnel and equipment in support of MAG-32 for LZ LARK, Harrier Grass Field Operations at LYMAN ROAD Hide at Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. On 6 April 1978, Engineer Section commenced refurbishing thirty South East Asia Huts for MAG-40 at Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field, North Carolina in support of SOLID SHIELD-78. Personnel and equipment from Support Section and TAFDS Section provided support for an 8th and 10th Marines Fire Exercise at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Personnel from Utilities Section made repairs to water systems at Hancock Boat Docks, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina. Participated in Wing oriented NIGHT OWL exercise, on 10 thru 14 April 1978.

WES-27 supported SOLID SHIELD-78 with forty personnel and fifty- two pieces of equipment. TAFDS Section provided support for MAG-28 Operations at Camp F.D. MERRILL, Mosby, Georgia. Support Section and Utilities Section provided support for VMA 224's Mount Out at Runway #19, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina. Participated in a Change of Command Ceremony on 9 June 1978 for Major General Richard E. Carey, Commanding General of Second Aircraft Wing, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina. Marines and equipment from Engineer Section and Support Section rehabilitated camouflage netting and Mo-Mat at LZ LARK, Harrier Grass Field Operations and LYMAN ROAD, Harrier Hide Site at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Also, commenced staging engineer equipment for transport by Mike Boat to BT-11 Bomb Range, Atlantic Field, North Carolina. Four Marines were sent TAD to 20th Engineer Battalion, United States Army, Fort Bragg, North Carolina for Bailey Bridge Construction Training.

Engineer Section Commander, Captain C.O. Skipper, was assigned TAD to Marine Wing Support Group – 27 as the Marine Wing Support Group – 27 Detachment Executive Officer for NATO



EXERCISE, NORTHERN WEDDING/BOLD GUARD-78. Personnel and equipment from WES-27 TAFDS Section departed Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina, on 13 July 1978 in support of MED CRUISE LF6F-2-78. Wing Engineer Squadron – 27 participated in the Change of Command Ceremony for Colonel B.J. SUMMERS (CO, MWSG-27) who was relieved by Colonel J.J. CALDAS on 18 July 1978. Wing Engineer Squadron – 27 Engineer and Support Sections continued construction of three Bailey Bridges at BT-11 Bombing Range, Atlantic Field, North Carolina. Personnel and Equipment from the Utilities and Support Section continued to provide support daily to Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field, North Carolina.

WES-27 Utilities, Support, Engineer and TAFDS Sections provided equipment and personnel in support of NATO EXERCISE, NORTHERN WEDDING/BOLD GUARD – 78. The construction of three Bailey Bridges at BT-11 Bombing Range, North Carolina was completed. Personnel and equipment from Wing Engineer Squadron – 27 provided support for the rehabilitation of camouflage netting an MO-MAT at the AV8A Harrier Hide Site located at Lyman Road, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

On 28 September 1978 50% of the personnel and equipment returned from NATO EXERCISE, NORTHERN WEDDING/BOLD GUARD-78, with the remaining 50% still deployed. Personnel from the TAFDS Section provided support for operations at MOSBY, Georgia and a Weapons Training Exercise (WTI) at YUMA, Arizona. The Engineer Section personnel support for the set-up of AV-8A Harrier Hide Site, Lyman Road, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. During the month the TAFDS Section provided five (5) Marines in support of a FIREX at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Personnel and equipment from the Engineer and Support Sections provided support for the preparation of LZ LARK and LYMAN ROAD, AV-8A Harrier Grass Field Operations during this period for a demonstration of AV-8A Harrier Air support for the Secretary of the Navy, however, the demonstration was cancelled. The Engineer Section was tasked with and began construction of 400 urgently needed embarkation boxes for Marine Wing Support Group -27. TAFDS Section continued to provide support for Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field, North Carolina on a daily basis.

The remaining 50% of the personnel and equipment from NATO EXERCISE, NORTHERN WEDDING/BOLD GUARD-78 returned to Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina. During November, the Utilities Section provided support for MAG-32 CPX, MAG-14 CPX and the 6th SSCT CPX. The Engineer Section constructed 200 of the 400 urgently needed embarkation boxes for Marine Wing Support Group-27. The TAFDS Section continued to provide support at Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field, North Carolina. During December 1978, twenty- one Marines from Wing Engineer Squadron 27 departed Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point in support of a CAX (Combined Arms Exercise) at 29 Palms, California. Planning began for the construction of a HELO PAD at BOQ-1 at Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina.

On 2 January Engineer Squadron Two Seven deployed nine personnel and equipment in support of Combined Arms Exercise, CAX 3-79 at 29 Palms, California. Concurrently 8 personnel were deployed with equipment to support the 32nd MAU Mediterranean Cruise (LFG-1-79). Simultaneously, provided support to the Second Marine Aircraft Wing (2nd MAW) at Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina (MCAS CPNC). During this period the Engineer Section resumed construction on embarkation boxes required to support Marine Wing Support Group Two Seven, while also working with the Support Section in the construction of a Communications Shack at Sparrow's Island, and a VIP Helicopter Landing Site behind the Officer Club, Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina. The Support Section continued to labor on Runway #32 clearing trees and brush for Approach Lane. The TAFDS Section dispensed 4,329 gallons of fuel to units of the 2nd Marine Air Wing at Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field. Still, the Squadron found time to send 48 personnel to schools acquiring valuable MOS Training.

WES-27 continued to support the 32MAU Mediterranean Cruise (LFGF-1-79). All personnel in support of the CAX-3-79 at Yuma, Arizona returned with their Equipment on 5 February. At Marine Air Station, Cherry Point, continued to support units of the 2nd Marine Aircraft wing with man power and equipment while still providing personnel and equipment to other units of the Marine Corps; FIREX 3-79 at Onslow Beach, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The Engineer Section completed all 500 embarkation boxes required by Marine Corps Wing Support Group Two Seven. The



VIP Helicopter Landing Site at BOQ-1 aboard Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, North Carolina was completed by the Engineer and Support Section. The Support Section undertook a project to raise the third TEE at the MCAS CPNC Golf Course five (5) feet on 20 February. The Engineer, Support and Utilities Sections also got underway with the installation of AM-2 Matting for AV-8A Harrier Hides on Lyman Road, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune. In support of 2nd MAW operations, the TAFDS Section provided a total of 33,346 gallons of fuel.

During the month of March, the tempo picked up, commitments came more frequently, and quotas for schools, and other mandatory attendance programs began to chip away at the total enlisted structure of 263 and 14 officers. Engineer Section continued to cut trees at the end of Runway 32 to ensure clear view of approach lights, besides a few snakes nothing obstructed the completion date of 16 April 1979. Also, at the same time engineers completed 200 embarkation boxes for MAG-14. In support of beach operations (FIREX-3-79) Engineers laid 14 Kits of Mo-mat: put in a landing pad for a Harrier Hides at Lyman Road, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune complete with camouflage netting. The Engineer Section supported Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, Facilities Maintenance by demolition of Buildings 3853, 3854, 3855, and 3856. During the month of March two Marines went TAD in support of weapons training instruction at Yuma, Arizona. During the same time 3rd LAAM Bn. was supported by TAFDS, Heavy Equipment, Engineer and Utilities during their FIREX-3-79 at Onslow Beach, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. The TAFDS Section, from 18 April 1979 to 30 March, had Marines at Fort Bragg, North Carolina for FIREX of HMM-261 and FIREX of HMM-461 at Mosby, Georgia, total fuel pumped: 5,694 gallons. The Support Section had a representative attending Combined Arms Exercise (CAX-4-79) at 29 Palms, California.

FIREX-3-79 at Fort Bragg, and Mosby, Georgia was the theme for April. Mediterranean Cruise 2-79 (HMM-264) was supported with two Marines. Preparations were made to support SOLID SHIELD 79 at Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field, Bogue Field. At Lyman Road, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina gave Engineers the green light for construction of Harrier Hides. During May the Mediterranean Cruise was still being supported, along with Lyman Road Aircraft Operations at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. Foreign Services Institute dignitaries were entertained by the capabilities of the Harrier (AV-8A) and other Air and Ground Operations that were supported by 6 Marines from the Engineer Section and TAFDS Section. June was the month for Reserve personnel of Wing Transportation Squadron Four Seven were used to refurbish the Boy Scout and Girl Scout lodges at Cherry Point.

WES-27 supported exercise "Lusty Bear" with personnel and equipment. Personnel were deployed in support of LSU-32. A bridge was built on the bicycle trail parallel to Roosevelt Blvd. From 10-18 August WES-27 deployed TAFDS personnel and equipment to Mosby, Georgia. Exercise "Display Determination" was supported with personnel and equipment. TAFDS and Utilities committed personnel and equipment to Runway 23, where 10,000 and 20,000-gallon fuel tanks were installed, tested and maintained. Personnel and equipment were deployed to Puerto Rico and then to the Dominican Republic and Dominica in support of disaster relief in the wake of Hurricane David. The Hawk Missile Shoot (FIREX 1-80) at Onslow Beach, Camp Lejeune, was supported by men and equipment. A camouflaged Harrier "Hideout" was constructed for the Harrier operations at Lyman Road. Work was begun clearing trees and brush at the end of Runway 14. Personnel and equipment deployed to Cuba. CAX 2-80 at 29 Palms was supported with personnel.

Troop Training project of Runway 14 (land Clearing), 70% completed. TAFDS Section refueled 16 Air Force C-130's at Bogue Field. VMA-231 training support requested. 32 MAU, Med Cruise exercise is underway. MABS-47/49 Reserve Unit reported for annual training duty. 34th MAU returned from Med Cruise deployment in August. Hurricane Disaster Relief Operation at Haiti, personnel and equipment was deployed in support. CAX 1-2/81 Exercise supported. CMC visited WES-27. Began support for retrograde of Team Work- 80 (MAG). Helo Exercise 1-81. Sent Engineer Section Personnel to NAS Patuxent River, Maryland to disassemble Ski Jump and prepare for transport back to MCALF Bogue Field for assembly. 2-6 Dec, Ski Jump construction survey support continued. Preparation and final grading accomplished. 8-12 Dec., assembly of Ski Jump, made of medium girder bridge components, completed. Runway 14 (land clearing) 100% complete. Supported HMM 362 with a Hybrid-HERS refueling system at LZ BLUEBIRD, MCB Camp Lejeune, N.C.



WES-27 deployed personnel and equipment in support of the following operations/exercises: Solid Shield-81, LF6F 2-8134th MAU, Fire Fighting Demonstration, Yuma Tri-Squadron Deployment, SECDEF Visit, AM-2 Matting Installation, NAS Patuxent River, Maryland, Atlantic Field Exercise, Avelex 1-81, Border Star. CAX 4/5-81, Harlow (Civic Action Project), Hawk Firex 1-81, MUV-WAY Project and Rephiblex 1-81, MUVWAY #1 & #2 Project, HMM-162 Deployment, Tri Squadron Deployment, FIREX 1-81, HMM-264, 82nd Combat Aviation Battalion Exercise, VMA-231 Fallon Deployment, CAX1, 2-82, Harrier Hide Project, AV-8 Ski Jump, and AVELEX 1-82.

From 1 Jan – 30 June the following exercises and deployments were supported: Mosby, Georgia; Roosevelt Roads; El Centro Deployment 82, Ocean Venture -82, Fort Pickett, AAWX, LF6F 2-82, Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection, Combined Arms Exercise 7/8-82, Force Imagery Interpretation Unit, Combat Engineer Exercise, and LF6F 1-82.

Significant events 1 July-31 Dec 82. LF6F 3-82, Engineer Section Field Exercise, FSMAO Inspection, Fallon Nevada Deployment, Northern Wedding/Bold Guard NATO Exercise, Mosby Georgia, NTPI (Loadex MAG-32), G4 Range Exercise (TAFDS), Operations Evaluation, LHA Site Survey (MCALOF Oak Grove), CAX 1-83/283, Tri Squadron Deployment Yuma, Arizona, Fort Pickett, Virginia, A&M Inspection, Refueling Operations TLZ Bluebird, G4 Range Exercise, WTI 1-83 Yuma, Arizona, LF6F 1-83, VLA/LHA Deck MCOLF Bogue Field, Marine Corps Ball Construction Support, AVELEX 1-83, and WES-27 Field Exercise.

Significant events from July to Dec 1984 for WES-27. 1 July 1984 LtCol Charles F. Young assumed command. Approximately 40 Marines participated in live fire exercise at G Range, Camp Lejeune, N.C. WES-27 supported Reserve LIVEX 1-84. A crew from Support Section was dispatched to the south runway to construct an emergency vehicle access road from Highway 101. This was completed in three days. An element of engineers and equipment was deployed to Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field (MCALF), Atlantic Field, North Carolina to grade 120 feet of access road. Work was completed in three working days. Engineers and equipment supported the Combined Arms Operation 1-85 (CAO-85) at Camp Lejeune. Operators from Support Section deployed to MCALF, Atlantic Field to re-surface 1200 feet of gravel road. A detachment from the TAFDS Section deployed to MCAS, Beaufort, S.C. to support Operation AWAX. TAFDS personnel in ten (10) days pumped 62,000 gallons of aviation fuel and gained valuable experience while working with a TAFDS System under simulated combat conditions.

A Support Element from TAFDS consisting of ten (10) Marines departed Cherry Point for Camp Lejeune, NC. On 6 January these Marines left Camp Lejeune for Fort Drum, New York to participate in Exercise Alpine Warrior-85. This training deployment was in preparation for the Exercise Cold Winter-85 which was conducted in Norway. Combat Engineers completed the Sea-Hut Construction Project. Engineer Equipment and HERS System to support training exercise Border Star departed by commercial carrier for White Sands, New Mexico. LtCol SMITH, FMFLant Engineer Officer, and LtCol FRANTZ, incoming FMFLant Engineer Officer, made a liaison visit to WES-27. The Officers were given a Command Brief and a guided tour of WES-27 facilities. Combat Engineers completed a 72'x1200' am-2 runway and eight (8) Harrier Hides at Oak Grove. 24 November 1987, Awarded The Meritorious Unit Commendation

WES-27 COMMANDING OFFICERS

Maj R.F. Faust, Jr.	14 May 1976-30 Jun 1977
Maj Joseph S. Hack, Jr.	1 Jul 1977-26 Aug 1977
LtCol G.H. Root	27 Aug 1977 – 19 Jul 1979
LtCol Maurice A. Roesch, III	20 Jul 1979 -2 Oct 1980
Maj Anthony S. Hilliard	3 Oct 1980 – 5 May 1982
LtCol Paul D. Young	6 May 1982 – 1 Apr 1983
LtCol L.L. Woodruff	2 Apr 1983 –30 Jun 1984
LtCol Charles F. Young	1 July 1984 – 31 May 1986



ANTHONY S. HILLIARD
Lieutenant Colonel, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard, a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was commissioned a Second Lieutenant through the PLC Program in June 1966. After completing Basic School and the Combat Engineer Officers Course, he was assigned to the Second Marine Division as a Platoon Leader with Company "A" Second Engineer Battalion.

In January 1968, Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard was transferred to the First Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam and participated in various counter insurgency operations as an Engineer Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer. He was then assigned to the Headquarters Company, Seventh Engineer Battalion as Commanding Officer in October, 1968.

Upon returning to CONUS, Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard served with the Facilities Maintenance Department, MCB, Quantico, Virginia and in 1970 attended the U.S. Army Engineer Officer Advanced Course at Fort Belvoir. After graduation, Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard was transferred to Force Troops, Atlantic as Commanding Officer of Company "C", Eighth Engineer Battalion.

Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard, reported to the USS GUAM (LPH-9) in November 1972 and assumed duties as the ship's Combat Cargo Officer. During that period GUAM was testing the Sea Control Ship Concept with embarked AV-8 detachments and anti-submarine helicopter squadrons. In July 1973, he transferred to the Staff of Commander Amphibious Squadron Ten and participated in operations with Marine Amphibious Ready Group 3-73 in the Mediterranean Sea.

During July 1974, Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard was assigned duties as the Inspector-Instructor for Company "C" 4th Combat Engineer Battalion and as OIC of the Armed Forces Reserve Training Center in Lynchburg, Virginia. Upon completion of his tour, he reported to the Second Marine Aircraft Wing and served as the Engineer Section Commander and later as S-3 of WES-27. During June, 1978, Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard was transferred to MWHS-2 for duty as the Wing Engineer Officer and was assigned as the Wing Assistant G-4. He served as the Commanding Officer of WES-27 from October 1980 to May 1982 and was then assigned to WESPAC as the III MAF Engineer. Returning to CONUS, he served in the Mine Warfare Division at MCDEC, Quantico, Virginia and in 1985 transferred to 2d FSSG as the Staff Engineer Officer and subsequently as the II MEF Engineer. Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard was assigned to CINCFOR, JTF-6 as the Marine Liaison officer to the Counternarcotics Division of the J-3 at Fort McPherson, Georgia in 1989. He retired from the U.S. Marine Corps at the completion of that assignment in April 1992, with over 28 years of service.

Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard holds a B.A. degree from LaSalle College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His personal awards include the Navy Commendation Medal with a Combat "V", Navy Achievement Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon.

Lieutenant Colonel Hilliard is married to the former Margaret Ann Freeth of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. They have three children, Mark, Kathleen and Patricia.



Brick Program



Tony Raniszewski

It has now been eight years since our Engineer Monument was dedicated. Included in the monument area is a series of over 600 bricks surrounding the monument itself. As part of that dedication effort MCEA started a Brick Program to honor our Marine Corps Engineers. This program was a 3-pronged effort. Individuals could purchase one of these bricks for a cost of \$300 and have it engraved with their name or that of someone they wish to honor. Additionally, 124 bricks were reserved for the honoring of Marine Corps Engineer units both past and present. Individuals could contribute any amount to this effort and MCEA would combine the donations of all members and purchase a Unit brick from our listing. Since it's initiation all the Unit bricks have been purchased so this program is complete. There are still many individual bricks left for purchase.

These engraved bricks affirm our Esprit de Corps with Marines, past, present and future who risk their lives to insure our freedom. Each purchaser receives a Certificate of Registration acknowledging their contribution and confirming the engraved inscription as it will appear on the brick. Additionally, each purchaser has their name added to MCEA's donor list located on the web page below. All bricks located in the monument area must be purchased through MCEA.

The program has progressed steadily with 290 bricks already purchased and 287 of those already installed. Our next installation date for 3 bricks is spring 2022. MCEA is continuing this program with periodic purchases approximately three times per year. Our next purchase will be in April 2022 for installation in the fall.

In addition to the above, MCEA has developed a program where several individuals could purchase a brick as a group. If you are a member of a unit or group and would like to purchase a brick to honor that unit/group with collections from members of that unit/group, MCEA can support that purchase. All the information needed is contained on our website listed below.

As part of the effort to keep our members informed, MCEA has added all the brick information to our website. For a full explanation of the program and the forms necessary to order a brick, go to the following web page:

<http://marcorengasn.org/fyi/24-2/>



We still have many bricks left to purchase. This could be your way to say thank you to the past and present Marines who support the Marine Corps Engineer efforts. Please consider purchasing a brick.



MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

2022 REUNION ITINERARY

Las Vegas, NV ~ September 25 – 30, 2022

Four Queens Hotel and Casino

202 Freemont Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101/ Ph: (800) 634-6045

The Four Queens is on Fremont Street in downtown (i.e., “old” Las Vegas aka “before the Strip”). Group room rates are \$59/night for one king bed (\$66.67 including 13% tax) and \$79/night for two queen beds (\$89.27 with the tax). There is no resort fee (for Wi-Fi, etc. but parking is \$5/day for hotel guests and valet service is available). These rates will be honored up to Monday, 29 August and may be honored after that at the hotel’s discretion. Reservations will be guaranteed by payment of the first night’s charge. Guests will be charged for their full stay on check-in. Guests will also be charged a \$100 deposit on check-in to cover incidentals (refundable on check-out). Check-in time is 1600, check out time is 1200.

Reservations can be made by calling the central reservations number (800) 634-6045, option 1. Guests must mention the group name, MCEA, to receive the group rate. Note that the hotel’s rates for Friday and Saturday night are higher should you decide to come earlier or stay later. Individual reservations may be cancelled up to 48-hours in advance with full refund. After that, the first night cost will be forfeited.

SCHEDULE

Sunday, 25 September: Executive Committee arrives

Monday, 26 September: 1200 Executive Committee sets up displays, etc.

1700-1900 Welcome Reception \$25 per person (Awardee and one guest are free)

Tuesday, 27 September: 0800-1200 Business Meeting (no charge)

1800-2300 Awards Banquet (\$70 per person “early bird” by Monday, 29 August; \$80 after that; Awardee and one guest are free)

Wednesday, 29 September: Tours/activities on own or in small groups.

Late afternoon/evening Executive Committee pack up displays

Thursday, 30 September: Departure, hotel check-out time is 12 p.m. **Thanks for coming!**

Registration Form available on line at www.marcorengasn.org
(2022 Reunion under the Reunions Tab)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT George Carlson at (931) 307-9094 or email
Treasurer@marcorengasn.org



ADMIN NOTES

Individual dues remain the same since 2006: \$25 for 1 year; \$60 for 3 years; and \$500 for a lifetime membership. Corporate members' dues are \$400 per year; active duty/active reserve is \$30 for 3 years.

Annual dues expire 31 December, but members will remain in good standing until 28 February. Email and/or phone reminders will be provided for one year.

Upon reaching the age of 80, "dues current" members will automatically change to Lifetime membership and no further dues are required.

Remember: 100% of your dues and contributions to MCEA are tax deductible.

The enclosed Members' roster lists our deceased members, who remain on our rolls and their next of kin receive the newsletter as long as they desire, free of charge.

We are communicating weekly or more often using iContact bulk emails, as well as updating our website: www.MarCorEngAsn.org. Even if you don't have internet access at home, you can use the library or other locations to visit our website and keep well-informed of what is going on year-round.

Our 25-30 September 2022 reunion will find us returning to Las Vegas. You may remember that our 2009 reunion was in Las Vegas. Hope to see you all there!

As you can see by reading the minutes and reviewing the financial status report, we continue to maintain our assets which allow us to invest more wisely as well as spend more on other key areas. Like most everything else, our Association expenses increase every year. Our significant expenses are the printing/mailing of the newsletter, reunion expenses and awards. Since we rely totally on dues & contributions, we're constantly restricted on what we can accomplish. If you as an individual or through your company can sponsor any of our annual awards or expense categories, please let us know.

We've loaded over two thousand pictures and documents to our website which includes all the material that our Association has accumulated since inception in 1991. Webmaster, Geoff Nicely, continues to work tirelessly to keep the site updated. We now have a website that is extremely versatile, interactive and can be the "go to" place for all things relating to Marine Corps Engineers! Let us know what we can do to make it even better.

ACTIONS REQUIRED

CHECK THE ENCLOSED MEMBERS' ROSTER & PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE # OR EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS AND KEEP YOU CONNECTED. Our newsletter is sent as Bulk Mail, so it won't be forwarded or returned.

Enclosed is the 2022 Reunion Registration Form for you to complete and return if you are planning on attending this years' reunion. The form is also available online at www.marcorengasn.org
(2022 Reunion under the Reunions Tab)

If you know of someone who is interested in joining MCEA and needs more information, please let George Carlson know the contact info.

Please help us by spreading the word to your contacts who served with us as well as other associations about our upcoming reunions.



CORPORATE MEMBERS

Corporate Members/Sponsors

WE ARE VERY PLEASED TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS AS MEMBERS OF OUR TEAM!

Caterpillar Inc. Defense & Federal Products (Sponsor of Engineer Support Battalion Unit Award)

Gateway Group LLC

HNTB Corporation (Sponsor of MWSS Unit Award)

Marine Corps Bulk Fuel Association (Sponsor of Bulk Fuel Individual Awards)

RJY Group LLC, Houston Texas

Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) (Sponsor of Awardee Banquet Fees)

Terragroup Corporation (Sponsor of Utilities Individual Awards)

VFW Post 9010 Clemmons, NC (Sponsor of Combat Engineer Individual Awards)

TREASURER'S REPORT

2021 was a near “break-even” year. When one removes the \$30,000 endowment donation, our equity increased by the small but respectable amount of \$1,606.73. This was achieved in a second “unusual” year, thanks to the continued support of our Awards Sponsors. And, in spite of abysmally low interest rates on our deposit accounts and CDs. I do not expect those to improve substantially for the next year or more.



MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET DEC 31, 2021

ASSETS

Cash Accounts	42,746.28
Certificates of Deposit	95,052.67
Endowment Accounts	40,572.05
Stores Inventory	8,134.51
Fixed Assets	4,344.87
TOTAL ASSETS	190,850.38
LIABILITIES	0.00
EQUITY	190,850.38

EQUITY BREAKDOWN

Aichele Fund Equity (Restricted)	9,663.64
Danahy Fund Equity (Restricted)	29,638.59
General Fund Equity (Unrestricted)	151,548.15
TOTAL EQUITY	190,850.38

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT 2021

INCOME

Direct Public Support	46,623.60
Program Income	3,999.00
Investments Earnings	1,476.44
Sales Related Income	356.71
TOTAL INCOME	52,455.75

EXPENSE

General Management Expense	423.70
Contract Services	2,021.10
Recruiting and Goodwill	860.71
Operations	406.48
Program Expenses	
Awards Programs	1,785.63
Newsletter/Communications	5,077.44
Reunion & Awards Banquet	9,253.96
Monument	660.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	20,849.02

NET INCOME

31,606.73

This includes \$30,000 endowment donation.

Membership Status as of 31 December 2021

Dues Current	1071
Dues Delinquent	408
Deceased	440
TOTAL MEMBERS	1919



2021 MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>WINNER</u>	<u>UNIT</u>
COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER	1STLT BAILEY S. SHEPPARD	MWSS-373
COMBAT ENGINEER SNCO	GYSGT JASON W. SERFAS	CLB 27
COMBAT ENGINEER NCO	CPL DANIEL J. DOWNS	9TH ESB
COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE	L/CPL JUSTIN B. WOLFE	MWSS-271
ENGR EQUIPMENT OFFICER	CW02 HENRY D. ZAPATA	9TH ESB
ENGR EQUIPMENT SNCO	GYSGT DELSEAN D. BARROW	1ST MAINT BN
ENGR EQUIPMENT NCO	CPL JOHVANY RODRIGUEZ	7TH ESB
ENGR EQUIPMENT MARINE	L/CPL DAKOTA L. RULEY	6TH ESB
UTILITIES OFFICER	CWO2 KEVIN A. RODRIGUEZ	8TH ESB
UTILITIES SNCO	SSGT JOHNATHON P. WALKER	6TH ESB
UTILITIES NCO	CPL JAMAR J. JONES	MWSS-172
UTILITIES MARINE	L/CPL ARTHUR R. GALLOWAY, III	ST CEB
BULK FUEL OFFICER	CWO2 CLAYTON W. LEATHERWOOD	15TH MEU
BULK FUEL SNCO	SSGT NOE MEDRANO, JR.	15TH MEU
BULK FUEL NCO	SGT WESLEY A. REVEL	15TH MEU
BULK FUEL MARINE	L/CPL GAGE MCCLURE	MWSS-172
EOD OFFICER	CWO2 CHARLES D. HEYER	7TH ESB
EOD TECHNICIAN	SSGT PAUL G. BUTCHER	7TH ESB
COMBAT ENGINEER BN	2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION	2ND MARDIV
ENGINEER SUPPORT BN	7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION	1ST MLG
MWSS ENGINEER COMPANY	ENGINEER COMPANY, MWSS-372	3RD MAW



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***OUTSTANDING 2021 ENGINEER GRADUATE OF THE
EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE SCHOOL***

CAPTAIN LOGAN D. BAISDEN

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



The 1stLt Harry L. Martin Award is an MCEA sponsored award named in remembrance of the 5th Pioneer Battalion, 5th Marine Division, Medal of Honor recipient who was killed during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

The Award is presented to the outstanding UMC engineer officer graduate. Pictured above is Captain Baisden and Colonel Todd P. Simmons, the Director of the Expeditionary Warfare School

Life doesn't require that we be the best, only that we try our best. Strive for excellence, not perfection.

-- H. Jackson Brown Jr.

If you're doing everything right, but can't seem to come out on top, be patient. Hold the course. Success is rarely an immediate, overnight thing. -- Eric Harvey and Steve Ventura



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER OF THE YEAR

FIRST LIEUTENANT BAILEY S. SHEPPARD

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HER DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 373 FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021, IMMEDIATELY UPON RETURN FROM A SIX-MONTH CENTRAL COMMAND DEPLOYMENT, FIRST LIEUTENANT SHEPPARD PLANNED A WEEK-LONG FIELD EXERCISE FOR ENGINEER COMPANY. A HIGH-LEVEL DEVELOPER, SHE FACILITATED INTEGRATED, COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING TO ENSURE EACH OF THE 11 MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL

SPECIALTIES ENGINEER COMPANY RECEIVED HIGH-LEVEL, RIGOROUS TRAINING AND READINESS TESTING. UPON COMPLETION OF THE SEVEN-DAY FIELD EXERCISE, FIRST LIEUTENANT SHEPPARD OVERSAW A SUBSEQUENT WEEK-LONG SOUTHWEST ASIA HUT BUILD TO FURTHER INSTRUCT THE MARINES IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES. SHE THEN STOOD A LOGISTICS READINESS EVALUATION INSPECTION WITH FAR-REACHING SUCCESS. IN THE ABSENCE OF HER COMPANY COMMANDER, FIRST LIEUTENANT SHEPPARD GUARANTEED THE SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF ALL OF ENGINEER COMPANY'S SUPPORT TASKS AND OPERATIONAL MISSIONS DURING SERVICE LEVEL TRAINING EXERCISE 1-21 TWENTY-NINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA. SELECTED BY THE SQUADRON COMMANDER TO LEAD A FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT, AIRCRAFT SALVAGE AND RECOVERY MISSION, AND THE BASE RECOVERY AFTER ATTACK EVOLUTION, FIRST LIEUTENANT SHEPPARD PROVED UNFAILINGLY THAT HER LEVEL OF COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO THE PERFORMANCE OF HER DUTIES EXCEEDS THAT OF HER PEERS. HER DEMONSTRATED INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HERSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA COMBAT ENGINEER STAFF
NCO OF THE YEAR***

**GUNNERY SERGEANT JASON W. SERFAS
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



GUNNERY SERGEANT SERFAS, THROUGH HIS ATTENTION TO DETAIL AND COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE, PERFORMED ABOVE AND BEYOND ALL EXPECTATIONS WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER CHIEF, COMMAND ELEMENT, SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE - CRISIS RESPONSE - CENTRAL COMMAND (SPMAGTF-CR-CC) FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. GUNNERY SERGEANT SERFAS' FOCUS ON MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT ENSURED THE COMMAND'S SUCCESS DURING FOUR MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE LEVEL PROJECTS. WHILE FORWARD DEPLOYED, HIS PLANNING WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN SUPPORT OF IMPROVING CAMP AL JABER'S EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL RANGE. HE SINGLE-HANDEDLY PLANNED, SUPERVISED, AND LED A 1,250 MAN-HOUR PROJECT

WITH A JOINT UNIT OF MARINES AND AIRMEN LEADING TO A SAFE AND MORE EFFICIENT LIVE-FIRE RANGE. WHILE SUPPORTING AIRFIELD DAMAGE REPAIR, HE ASSEMBLED ANOTHER MARINE AND AIR FORCE TEAM TO REPAIR 385 SPALLS BY MANAGING 978 MAN-HOURS OVER THE COURSE OF FIVE MONTHS INCREASING THE SPMAGTF'S SORTIE GENERATION. DURING THIS PERIOD, GUNNERY SERGEANT SERFAS PERSONALLY SUPERVISED AND FACILITATED THE SUCCESSFUL TRANSPORT AND EMPLACEMENT OF 132 BUNKER CHANNELS AND 30 TEXAS BARRIERS, WHICH DRASTICALLY IMPROVED THE BASE'S FORCE PROTECTION POSTURE. DURING HIS TENURE, THE OPERATIONAL IMPACT OF SPMAGTF-CR-CC TO THE GEOGRAPHIC COMBATANT COMMANDER'S MISSION, WAS UNMATCHED. GUNNERY SERGEANT SERFAS' INFLUENCE ON OUR ENGINEER COMMUNITY WILL HAVE A LASTING, DEFINITE IMPACT ON THE FUTURE OF MARINE CORPS COMBAT ENGINEERING OPERATIONS. HIS ACTIONS REFLECT GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA COMBAT ENGINEER NON-COMMISSIONED
OFFICER OF THE YEAR***

**CORPORAL DANIEL J. DOWNS (IN ABSENSTIA)
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS SQUAD LEADER AND PLATOON SERGEANT, 4TH PLATOON, MOBILITY ASSAULT COMPANY, 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, AND ASSISTANT SQUAD LEADER, BRIDGE PLATOON, BRIDGE COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. DURING THIS PERIOD, CORPORAL DOWNS CONSISTENTLY SERVED IN BILLETS AND HELD RESPONSIBILITIES OF A MARINE FAR SUPERIOR TO HIS EXPERIENCE AND GRADE AND ALWAYS PERFORMED ABOVE EXPECTATIONS. WHILE SERVING AT 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, CORPORAL DOWNS WAS MERITORIOUSLY SELECTED TO FILL THE BILLET OF PLATOON SERGEANT FOR THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF A 59-DAY CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF- SPONSORED BILATERAL TRAINING EXERCISE IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. CORPORAL DOWNS SERVED AS THE REDUCTION ELEMENT COMMANDER FOR COMBINED ARMS BREACH OF A COMPLEX MECHANICAL AND EXPLOSIVE OBSTACLE BELT. CORPORAL DOWNS SPEAR-HEADED THE PLANNING, COORDINATION, AND DEPLOYMENT OF TWO MINE CLEARING LINE CHARGES, COMPRISING OVER 3,000 POUNDS OF EXPLOSIVES. IN OCTOBER 2020, CORPORAL DOWNS AND HIS PLATOON SUPPORTED THE III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE EXERCISE VALIANT WORKHORSE. CORPORAL DOWNS SERVED AS THE CONSTRUCTION CREW LEADER AS WELL AS THE RAFT COMMANDER, INSTRUCTING MARINES AND NAVY SEABEES IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVED RIBBON BRIDGE RAFTS. CORPORAL DOWNS LED AND SERVED AS RAFT COMMANDER IN FOUR OPERATIONS THROUGH INTERNATIONAL WATERS. CORPORAL DOWNS' TIRELESS WORK ETHIC, EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE IN MULTIPLE UNITS AND CONTINUED DESIRE FOR GROWTH ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA ENGINEER EQUIPMENT MARINE
OF THE YEAR***

**LANCE CORPORAL DAKOTA L. RULEY (IN ABSENTIA)
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

LANCE CORPORAL RULEY EXEMPLIFIED TIRELESS DEDICATION TO DUTY AND EXHIBITED THE ABILITY TO MANAGE MULTIPLE COMPETING PRIORITIES WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER EQUIPMENT MECHANIC FOR ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY DETACHMENT 11, ATTACHED TO DETACHMENT BULK FUEL COMPANY B, 6TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 4TH MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. DURING THIS PERIOD, LANCE CORPORAL RULEY'S SUPERIOR LEADERSHIP, EXCEPTIONAL COMPETENCE, AND PROFESSIONALISM WERE INSTRUMENTAL TO THE UNIT'S SUCCESS. WITH LIMITED ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER OPERATORS, LANCE CORPORAL RULEY EFFECTIVELY LOADED AND MOVED OVER 300 PIECES OF EQUIPMENT AND CARGO EXCEEDING 50 TONS. THE SOLE EFFORTS OF LANCE CORPORAL RULEY DIRECTLY RESULTED IN SUCCESSFUL EMBARKATION, ASSEMBLY, AND RETROGRADE OF FOUR TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEMS, STRETCHING OVER THREE MILES, WITH HOLDING CAPACITY OF 70,000 GALLONS OF SIMULATED PETROLEUM PRODUCT. LANCE CORPORAL RULEY'S SUPPORT OF BUILDING MULTIPLE FUEL SITES WITHOUT INCIDENT DISPLAYED AN EXPERIENCE CAPABILITY WELL BEYOND HIS PEERS. LANCE CORPORAL RULEY'S EXCEPTIONAL COMPETENCE AND PROFESSIONALISM ENABLED HIS UNIT TO MAINTAIN MAXIMUM EQUIPMENT READINESS AND ENSURED THAT ALL EMBARK, TRANSFER, AND RETROGRADE OF EQUIPMENT WAS PERFORMED FLAWLESSLY IN THE EXECUTION OF EACH MISSION. LANCE CORPORAL RULEY'S SUPERIOR LEADERSHIP, RESOURCEFULNESS, INITIATIVE, AND COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE WERE EXEMPLARY AND SET A HIGH STANDARD FOR ALL MARINES TO EMULATE. HIS INFLUENCE ON THE DETACHMENT WILL HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON THE FUTURE OF BULK FUEL OPERATIONS. HIS EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONALISM, PERSEVERANCE AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE OF THE YEAR AWARD

LANCE CORPORAL JUSTIN B. WOLFE
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS DRAFTING AND SURVEYING CHIEF, ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 271, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 14, 2D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD, LANCE CORPORAL WOLFE CONSISTENTLY EXECUTED RESPONSIBILITIES THAT ARE TYPICALLY RESERVED FOR MARINES OF HIGHER GRADES AND EXPERIENCE LEVELS. DURING A DEPLOYMENT TO SUPPORT AIRFIELD SECURITY OPERATIONS AT ISA AIR BASE BAHRAIN, LANCE CORPORAL WOLFE WAS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR LEADING A PATROL WHICH IDENTIFIED AND REPAIRED SIX BREACHES IN THE WIRE OBSTACLES ALONG THE MAIN CONVOY ROUTE AS WELL AS DEVELOPING A WATCH CYCLE FOR SEVERAL UNSECURE LOCATIONS. WHILE SERVING AS THE MINIMUM OPERATING STRIP SELECTION TEAM LEADER AND CHIEF DATA PLOTTER DURING A BASE RECOVERY AFTER-ATTACK EXERCISE, LANCE CORPORAL WOLFE

DEPLOYED HIS SURVEY TEAM IN A FLAWLESS MANNER, ENSURING ACCURATE PLOTTING OF 5 CRATERS AVERAGING 15 FEET IN DIAMETER AND 3 SPALL FIELDS IN THE 3,000-FOOT RUNWAY. GATHERING THIS DATA, LANCE CORPORAL WOLFE WAS ABLE TO PROCESS AND COMPUTE THE REQUIRED INFORMATION IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY PROPER PLACEMENT OF THE MINIMUM OPERATING STRIP. LANCE CORPORAL WOLFE'S DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN THIS EXERCISE LED TO THE SUFFICIENT TRAINING NECESSARY TO RESTORE AN INSTALLATION'S FLIGHT SUPPORT CAPABILITIES AFTER AN ENEMY ATTACK. LANCE CORPORAL WOLFE HAS DISPLAYED UNRIVALED COMPETENCY WITHIN THE ENGINEER COMMUNITY AND IS HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER FOR HIS ABILITY TO IMPART A POSITIVE IMPACT IN ALL DUTIES IN WHICH HE IS ENGAGED. LANCE CORPORAL WOLFE'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OFFICER
OF THE YEAR***

**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 HENRY D. ZAPATA
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OFFICER, ENGINEER EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3D MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. WHILE SERVING AS AN ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OFFICER, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 ZAPATA COORDINATED BILATERAL TRAINING BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA MARINE CORPS AND THE SUPPORT PLATOON MARINES DURING THE KOREAN MARINE EXCHANGE PROGRAM 20.3. IN ADDITION, HE ACTED AS MOBILITY OFFICER DURING THE REDEPLOYMENT PHASE OF THE EXERCISE AND MET WITH MULTIPLE OUTSIDE AGENCIES TO COORDINATE RETURN OF ALL 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION ASSETS. HE ENSURED THAT 123 END ITEMS VALUED AT EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS WERE PROPERLY CLEANED, MARKED AND PREPARED FOR EMBARKATION. IN SUPPORT OF NAVAL BEACH UNIT 7, HE PLANNED AND LED A BEACH RESTORATION PROJECT OF KIN BLUE TRAINING AREA IN OKINAWA, JAPAN. THE REPAIRS TO THE BEACH EXCEEDED THE EXPECTATIONS

OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS BY AVOIDING DISRUPTION OF LOCAL WILDLIFE AND A SEAWEED FARM. CHIEF WARRANT 2 ZAPATA BALANCED HIGH OPERATIONAL MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS OF HIS PLATOON, DEPLOYING 34 MARINES TO NINE DIFFERENT EXERCISES IN FIVE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY MAINTAINING AN 87 PERCENT MATERIAL READINESS RATING ON ENGINEER EQUIPMENT ASSETS. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 ZAPATA'S NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PERSEVERANCE, AND DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT ON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA ENGINEER EQUIPMENT STAFF
NCO OF THE YEAR***

**GUNNERY SERGEANT DELSEAN J. BARROW
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT EXEMPLIFYING TIRELESS DEDICATION TO DUTY, DEMONSTRATED SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE, LEADERSHIP ABILITY AND VISION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES AS MAINTENANCE CHIEF FOR 1ST MAINTENANCE BATTALION, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, 1 MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. DURING THIS PERIOD, GUNNERY SERGEANT BARROW APPLIED HIMSELF TO HIS UNIT'S MISSION, INTERMEDIATE LEVEL MAINTENANCE, AND STROVE TO ACHIEVE SHORT AND LONG-TERM SUCCESS. DURING DAILY OPERATIONS HE COORDINATED 27 MAINTENANCE CONTACT TEAMS OVER 125 MAN-HOURS, PERFORMED 43 INTERMEDIATE MAINTENANCE TASKS, PROCESSED 60 ORGANIC MAINTENANCE SERVICE REQUESTS, OBTAINED 25 SECONDARY REPARABLE ITEMS WITH THE EFFECT OF IMPROVING MARINE CORPS EQUIPMENT OVER THE LONG TERM. HE IDENTIFIED INEFFICIENT AND INEFFECTIVE MAINTENANCE TRENDS AND TRAILBLAZED MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES. HE CONTRIBUTED TO THE PUBLICATION OF A POINT PAPER ON THE M9 ARMORED COMBAT EARTH MOVER, ARTICULATING

RECURRING MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS IN ORDER TO DEVELOP HIGHER HEADQUARTERS' DECISION-MAKING ON ASSET INVESTMENT OR DIVESTMENT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COMMANDANT'S CONDITIONS-BASED MAINTENANCE CALL TO ACTION, HE DROVE THE COMPLETION OF A ONE-YEAR PROJECT TO COLLECT MAINTENANCE DATA FOR RELAY TO HEADQUARTERS ANALYSTS FOR APPLICATION AT THE TACTICAL LEVEL. GUNNERY SERGEANT BARROW'S EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONALISM, UNRELENTING PERSEVERANCE, AND LOYAL DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT ON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA ENGINEER EQUIPMENT NCO OF THE YEAR
CORPORAL JOHVANY RODRIGUEZ
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OPERATOR, ENGINEER EQUIPMENT PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, 1 MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM 1 APRIL 2020 UNTIL 31 MARCH 2021. AS PART OF THE HEAVY EQUIPMENT PLATOON, LOGISTICS COMBAT ELEMENT, SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE - CRISIS RESPONSE - CENTRAL COMMAND, CORPORAL RODRIGUEZ WAS A FORCE MULTIPLIER FOR UNITED STATES COALITION FORCES ABOARD AHMED AL JABER AIR BASE, KUWAIT. SERVING AS THE LOGISTICS COMBAT ELEMENT LICENSING EXAMINER, HE CONDUCTED OVER 200 HOURS OF CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION TO LICENSE 24 MARINES IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF OPERATORS AVAILABLE TO EXECUTE COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT MISSIONS. HIS SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTISE CONTRIBUTED TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF 21 FORCE PROTECTION BUNKERS ACROSS AHMED AL JABER AR BASE, ULTIMATELY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF TENABLE SURVIVABILITY POSITIONS BY 50 PERCENT.

HE BECAME AN IMPORTANT LIAISON WITH UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ENGINEERS AND WORKED TO ENABLE THE CRITICAL REPOSITIONING OF 15 CONTAINERS AND 20 QUAD CONS CONTAINING 3.5 MILLION DOLLARS OF EQUIPMENT TOTALING 290,000 POUNDS. WHILE IN SUPPORT OF BASE IMPROVEMENT OPERATIONS ABOARD PRINCE SULTAN AIR BASE, HE MANAGED A COMPOSITE TEAM OF MARINES AND UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ENGINEERS TO TRANSPORT 7,566,414 POUNDS OF MATERIAL TO CREATE FOUR STABILIZED SOIL PADS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH A RADAR SITE MEASURING 261,000 SQUARE FEET. HIS EFFORTS FACILITATED THE PROVISION OF COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT FOR UNITS ACROSS UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND ENGAGED IN COMBAT OPERATIONS. CORPORAL RODRIGUEZ'S EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONALISM, UNRELENTING PERSEVERANCE, AND LOYAL DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA UTILITIES OFFICER OF THE YEAR
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 KEVIN A. RODRIGUEZ
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS UTILITIES PLATOON COMMANDER, 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. WHILE SERVING IN A CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 4 BILLET, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 RODRIGUEZ TRAINED MORE THAN 175 MARINES COMPRISED OF SIX DIFFERENT MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTIES WHILE MAINTAINING OVER 1,100 PRINCIPAL END ITEMS VALUED OVER \$24 MILLION WITH A SUSTAINED EQUIPMENT READINESS AVERAGE OF

96 PERCENT. HE DIRECTLY IMPACTED 75 DETAILED CANTONMENT PLANS IN SUPPORT OF II MEF OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPED SEVERAL UNIQUE EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCED BASE OPERATION PROOF-OF-CONCEPT SCENARIOS COMPRISED OF SCAVENGING POWER THROUGH EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND INCORPORATION OF ATMOSPHERIC WATER GENERATION ASSETS INTO EXERCISES. HIS METICULOUS PLANNING EFFORTS STRATEGICALLY REDUCED PHYSICAL SIGNATURE, DIVERSIFIED DISTRIBUTION, AND IMPROVED SUSTAINMENT THROUGH MOBILE WATER PURIFICATION AND STRATEGIC CACHE DISTRIBUTION METHODS. A PLANK HOLDER IN NUMEROUS INITIATIVES, HE INSPIRED REVOLUTIONARY CHANGES IN TRAINING MULTI- DISCIPLINED MARINES IN THE ART OF ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING, ADVANCED MECHANICS, ELECTRICAL THEORY, WATER THEORY, AND EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP THROUGH EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE. CONSISTENTLY PUTTING THE MARINES FIRST, HE WORKED TIRELESSLY TO CREATE EFFECTIVE AND ENGAGING CURRICULA AND MENTORED NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN HOW TO DEVELOP MARINES WHILE ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND COHESION OF THE UNIT. PREPARING MARINES FOR FUTURE CONFLICTS, HE GROOMED AND DEVELOPED THEM TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING HIGHLY PROFICIENT AND INNOVATIVE CRITICAL THINKERS RESULTING IN SHARED TRAINING STRATEGIES THAT INFLUENCED STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND IMPACTED THOUSANDS OF MARINES. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 RODRIGUEZ'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND STEADFAST DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 UTILITIES STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER
OF THE YEAR***

**STAFF SERGEANT JOHNATHON P. WALKER
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE ASSIGNED TO UTILITIES PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 6TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 4TH MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. DURING THIS PERIOD, STAFF SERGEANT WALKER CONSISTENTLY AND TIRELESSLY PERFORMED HIS DUTIES IN AN EXEMPLARY AND HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL MANNER. KNOWING THE CRITICAL NATURE OF THE ASSIGNMENT, STAFF SERGEANT WALKER WAS HAND-SELECTED TO PROVIDE UTILITIES SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE TO NAVY SEABEES AND THE TACTICAL BATTALION AID STATION ON PARRIS ISLAND IN SUPPORT OF COVID-19 RELIEF EFFORTS. HIS ACTIONS HELPED FACILITATE THE RECRUIT DEPOT TO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP MARINES WITH MINIMAL INTERRUPTION DUE TO THE PANDEMIC. ADDITIONALLY, HE DEVELOPED POLICY WHICH IDENTIFIED SEVERAL SHORTCOMINGS AND STREAMLINED FACILITY MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES REGARDING BOILER OPERATION ON THE BASE. AN EXTREMELY PROFICIENT STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER AT HIS HOME TRAINING CENTER, HE WAS ABLE TO IMPLEMENT, MONITOR, AND TRACK

ALL EVENTS THAT OCCURRED DURING TELEWORK DRILLS, GUIDING THE PLATOON TO COMPLETE 95 PERCENT OF THE PLATOON'S CALENDAR YEAR ANNUAL TRAINING COURSES. STAFF SERGEANT WALKER'S INITIATIVE AND LOYAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA UTILITIES NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER
OF THE YEAR***

**CORPORAL JAMAR J. JONES (IN ABSENTIA)
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS ELECTRICAL SECTION LEADER AND GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM-MARINE CORPS NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, UTILITIES PLATOON, ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 36, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. CORPORAL JONES PERFORMED HIS DUTIES IN AN EXEMPLARY AND HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL MANNER, DEMONSTRATING SUPERIOR KNOWLEDGE AND PROFICIENCY WHILE SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES NAVAL HOSPITAL-OKINAWA'S FIELD PHARMACY AND NOVEL CORONA VIRUS DISEASE 19 FLU TENT WITH 12,000 WATTS PER HOUR OVER 7,200 HOURS OF EXPEDITIONARY POWER FROM TACTICAL GENERATORS. HIS EXPERTISE AND TRAINING INCREASED THE KNOWLEDGE AND CONFIDENCE OF MARINES IN TOPICS OF UTILITIES FIELD PLANNING, RISK MANAGEMENT, AND INTERIOR WIRING OPERATIONS. HE MANAGED AND SUPERVISED 13 TRAINING AND READINESS EVENTS TOTALING 140 TRAINING HOURS FOR 20 MARINES. ADDITIONALLY, CORPORAL JONES SUCCESSFULLY ASSISTED FIELD CARRIER LANDING PRACTICE 20.1 IN SUPPORT OF MARINE FIGHTER ATTACK SQUADRON 121 AND A TACTICAL DEMONSTRATION FOR THE JAPANESE GROUND SELF DEFENSE FORCE. HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN PREPARATION FOR A SEPTEMBER 2020 LOGISTICS READINESS INSPECTION AND A DECEMBER 2020 FSMAO INSPECTION. IN PREPARATION FOR THESE INSPECTIONS, CORPORAL JONES INTRODUCED 20 UTILITIES PRINCIPAL END ITEMS INTO THE MAINTENANCE CYCLE AND PROCESSED 102 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE CHECKS AND SERVICES, 203 CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE REQUESTS, AND 20 STOCKLIST- 3 ITEM REQUISITIONS. CORPORAL JONES' INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE..



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA UTILITIES MARINE OF THE YEAR

**LANCE CORPORAL ARTHUR R. GALLOWAY III (IN ABSENTIA)
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS ELECTRICIAN, UTILITIES PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 1ST MARINE DIVISION, FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021 IN SUPPORT OF 1ST MARINE DIVISION OPERATIONS. DURING THIS PERIOD, LANCE CORPORAL GALLOWAY'S SUPERIOR MANAGEMENT OF 270 RECORD JACKETS AND SL-3 EXTRACTS FOR OVER 19 PRINCIPAL END ITEMS OF UTILITIES EQUIPMENT WORTH OVER 4,082,533 DOLLARS LED TO 100 PERCENT ACCOUNTABILITY OF ALL SETS, KITS, OUTFITS, AND TOOLS. LANCE CORPORAL GALLOWAY IDENTIFIED 198 MISSING AND UNSERVICEABLE SL-3 ITEMS AND TOOLS WORTH OVER 18,000 DOLLARS. DUE TO HIS METICULOUS PREPARATION, HIS SECTION RECEIVED ZERO DISCREPANCIES DURING THE LOGISTICS READINESS EVALUATION AND HE WAS PERSONALLY RECOGNIZED AS NOTEWORTHY BY THE INSPECTORS THAT CONDUCTED THE EVALUATION. BEGINNING EARLY OCTOBER 2020, LANCE CORPORAL GALLOWAY PLAYED A VITAL ROLE IN THE PREPARATION OF 1ST MARINE DIVISION'S ANNUAL EXERCISE STEEL KNIGHT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021. HE SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS ASSISTING INVENTORY AND EMBARKATION OF 110 PRINCIPAL END ITEMS VALUED AT 1,630,085 DOLLARS. FROM 1 DECEMBER TO 11 DECEMBER 2020, LANCE CORPORAL GALLOWAY WAS ASSIGNED TO SUPPORT 1ST MARINE DIVISION HEADQUARTERS ELEMENT FOR STEEL KNIGHT 2021 LOCATED IN CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA. LANCE CORPORAL GALLOWAY EXPERTLY DIRECTED THE INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE, AND SUSTAINMENT OF THE PRESCRIBED POWER GRID, WHICH CONTAINED SEVEN ADVANCED MOBILE POWER SYSTEM GENERATORS AND THIRTEEN ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL UNITS. WITH THIS EQUIPMENT, HE PROVIDED 220 HOURS OF UNINTERRUPTED AND CRITICAL UTILITIES SUPPORT TO 1ST MARINE DIVISION COMBAT OPERATION CENTER. LANCE CORPORAL GALLOWAY'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA BULK FUEL OFFICER OF THE YEAR
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 CLAYTON W. LEATHERWOOD
(IN ABSENTIA)
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS PLATOON COMMANDER, SECOND PLATOON, BULK FUEL COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, 1 MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. AS PLATOON COMMANDER, HE SUCCESSFULLY MANAGED AND SUPERVISED 59 MARINES OF 2ND PLATOON THROUGH FIVE PLATOON AND COMPANY TRAINING EXERCISES. HE IMPROVED THE BATTALION'S BULK FUEL STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURES TO INCREASE ON-HAND FUEL CAPACITY BY 14,000 GALLONS AND COORDINATED WITH MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS AND LOGISTICS COMMANDS TO DEVELOP TRAINING AND READINESS STANDARDS FOR THE 15TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT DEPLOYMENT. IN AUGUST 2020 AT MARINE AVIATION WEAPONS AND TACTICS SQUADRON ONE, HE OVERSAW THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF TRAINING FOR THE EXPEDITIONARY MOBILE FUEL ADDITIZATION CAPABILITY. FROM OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER 2020, HE SUPERVISED ALL FUEL TRAINING FOR THE 15TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER LEATHERWOOD'S EFFORTS ENABLED THE 15TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT TO EXECUTE CRITICAL EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCED BASE OPERATIONS TRAINING, MARITIME PATROL AND RECON AIRCRAFT MISSIONS, ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE OPS AND INTEGRATED TORPEDO AND SONAR BUOY EXERCISES. HE ISSUED 594,250 GALLONS OF FUEL TO 842 NAVY AND MARINE CORPS AIRCRAFT, TRACKED AND SUPERVISED ALL PERSONNEL AND CARGO MOVEMENTS, ENSURED ACCOUNTABILITY OF ALL SUPPORT AND LOGISTICAL REQUESTS, WHILE DIRECTING CRITICAL REHEARSAL AND REAL-WORLD IMMEDIATE ACTION EXERCISES THROUGHOUT THE DEPLOYMENT. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER LEATHERWOOD HAS PROVEN HIMSELF AN INDISPENSABLE LEADER TO THE BULK FUEL COMMUNITY, AND THE MARINE CORPS. HIS DEVOTION TO MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA BULK FUEL STAFF NCO OF THE YEAR
STAFF SERGEANT NOE MEDRANO, JR.
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT OFFICER IN CHARGE, MARINE WING SUPPORT DETACHMENT, MEDIUM TILT ROTOR SQUADRON 164 REINFORCED, 15TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. STAFF SERGEANT MEDRANO WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE TRAINING, EMBARKATION, AND DEPLOYMENT OF THE FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT TEAM. HE SUCCESSFULLY PLANNED A COMPLEX MARINE AVIATION WEAPONS AND TACTICS SQUADRON ONE FORWARD

ARMING AND REFUELING POINT OFFICER IN CHARGE COURSE, INCREASING THE COMBAT READINESS OF THE ENTIRE DETACHMENT. DURING AMPHIBIOUS READINESS GROUP MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT EXERCISES, HE LED A SUCCESSFUL REFUELING OPERATION, PROVIDING INSIGHTFUL FEEDBACK TO SUPPORT EMERGING EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCED BASE OPERATIONS CONCEPTS. WHILE DEPLOYED, STAFF SERGEANT MEDRANO DEPLOYED HIS MARINES ON THE SHIP FLIGHT DECK, ISSUING 664,667 GALLONS OF FUEL TO FIXED AND ROTARY-WING AIRCRAFT AND LED HIS TEAM IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT CRITICAL TO AVIATION OPERATIONS. STAFF SERGEANT MEDRANO'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA BULK FUEL NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER
OF THE YEAR***

**SERGEANT WESLEY A. REVEL
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS QUALITY ASSURANCE NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER AND TACTICAL AVIATION GROUND REFUELING SYSTEM TEAM MEMBER, WING SUPPORT DETACHMENT, MARINE MEDIUM TILTROTOR SQUADRON 164 REINFORCED, 15TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. SERGEANT REVEL WAS A PIVOTAL CONTRIBUTOR TO THE REFUELING TEAM WHILE OVERSEEING THE QUALITY SURVEILLANCE PROCESS AND ALSO COMPLETING THE PETROLEUM LABORATORY SPECIALIST COURSE. HE

MET ALL AIRCRAFT REFUELING NAVAL AIR TRAINING AND OPERATING PROCEDURE REQUIREMENTS FOR NINE FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT EXERCISES. INTEGRATING THE TACTICAL AVIATION GROUND REFUELING SYSTEM TEAM AS A PUMP OPERATOR. SERGEANT REVEL WAS A KEY CONTRIBUTOR TO THE SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF A COMPLEX AIR INSERTED FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT DURING FLEET BATTLE PROBLEM 21-1. SERGEANT REVEL'S TECHNICAL EXPERTISE MAKES HIM A UNIQUELY QUALIFIED BULK FUEL SPECIALIST, IDEAL FOR A FORCE POSTURED FOR EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCE BASE OPERATIONS. SERGEANT REVEL'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA BULK FUEL MARINE OF THE YEAR
LANCE CORPORAL GAGE M. MCCLURE (IN ABSENTIA)
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS FORWARD ARMING REFUELING POINT TO POINT OPERATOR AND ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, AIRFIELD OPERATIONS COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 36, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING FROM 1 APRIL 2020 THROUGH 31 MARCH 2021. DURING THIS PERIOD LANCE CORPORAL MCCLURE DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF AS A SKILLFUL MARINE IN BULK FUEL MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT AND EQUIPMENT EMBARKATION BY SUSTAINING EQUIPMENT READINESS FOR 120 PRINCIPAL END ITEMS. INITIATING THE SUBMISSIONS OF 96 SERVICE REQUESTS IN GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM-MARINE CORPS, IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS AND LOCAL STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES, HE ENSURED ALL EQUIPMENT WAS SERVICED AND READY TO SUPPORT EXERCISES WITHIN THE WESTERN PACIFIC THEATER OF OPERATION. HE DIRECTLY PARTICIPATED IN FOUR NAMED EXERCISES AND HIS SUPERIOR INITIATIVE AND ATTENTION TO DETAIL RESULTED IN SUCCESSFUL AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT TO 111 MARINE CORPS AND JOINT FORCES AIRCRAFT WITH 93,663 GALLONS OF AVIATION FUEL, CONTRIBUTING SIGNIFICANTLY TO SUSTAINING FLIGHT OPERATIONS WITHOUT MISHAP OR SPILL. HIS MOTIVATION, INTELLIGENCE, AND POSITIVE MENTAL ATTITUDE ENABLED HIM TO MANAGE RETAIL SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE READINESS OF 13 TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEMS, RESULTING IN A MISSION CAPABLE RATING DURING THE SQUADRON'S 2020 FIELD SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS OFFICE INSPECTION. LANCE CORPORAL MCCLURE'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL OFFICER
OF THE YEAR***

**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 CHARLES D. HEYER
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS THE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL OFFICER IN CHARGE FOR SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE-CRISIS RESPONSE-CENTRAL COMMAND, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, SUPPORT OF OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE FROM 1 APRIL 2020 THROUGH 31 MARCH 2021. CW02 HEYER DEMONSTRATED EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE AND INITIATIVE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES. HE NOTICED A CRITICAL CAPABILITIES LOSS TO CENTRAL COMMAND'S FORENSIC

EXPLOITATION LAB AND DEVELOPED A SOLUTION FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT. WORKING WITH ADJACENT SERVICE COMPONENTS, HE HELPED CREATE ORGANIC CAPABILITIES TO THE FORENSIC EXPLOITATION LAB. HE MANAGED DISASSEMBLY AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING OPERATIONS ON FIFTEEN FOREIGN IMPROVISED ORDNANCE ITEMS. THIS LED TO DEVELOPMENT AND INFORMATION UPDATE FOR SIX JOINT EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL PUBLICATIONS. HE ALSO PROVIDED DIRECT GUIDANCE AND SUPERVISION TO OVER 20 HIGH-RISK EVOLUTIONS AND CRITICAL SUPERVISION OF THREE SEPARATE TEAMS SUPPORTING OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE AND TASK FORCE TACTICAL RECOVERY OF AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL. HIS PROFESSIONAL PARTNERSHIPS THROUGHOUT CENTRAL COMMAND, UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AND ADJACENT EOD UNITS HAVE ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS ACROSS THE MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL PROGRAM, AND HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER HEYER'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***THE SSGT WILLIAM J. CALLAHAN MEMORIAL AWARD
TO THE 2021 MCEA EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL
TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR***

**STAFF SERGEANT PAUL J. BUTCHER (IN ABSENTIA)
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL RESPONSE ELEMENT LEADER, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION AND TASK FORCE KOA MOANA 20, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. STAFF SERGEANT BUTCHER PIONEERED TACTICAL ASSAULT KIT UTILIZATION THROUGHOUT MARINE CORPS OPERATING FORCES WHILE FORWARD DEPLOYED. ADDITIONALLY, THROUGH HIS INITIATIVE AND AFTER COUNTLESS HOURS OF RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND PROGRAM MAINTENANCE, HE ENSURED TACTICAL ASSAULT KIT INTEGRATION INTO I MEF COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING, PRODUCING A CAPABILITY THAT HAS ENHANCED THE LETHALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF SCORES OF MARINE CORPS UNITS. WHILE DEPLOYED TO THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU DURING TASK FORCE KOA MOANA, STAFF SERGEANT BUTCHER UTILIZED AND MAINTAINED STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGIES CONDUCTING FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND LITTORAL EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL MISSIONS AS SOLE TECHNICAL EXPERT ENABLING MISSION SUCCESS. HE PILOTED UNDERWATER ROBOTICS PLATFORMS THROUGH 750,000 SQUARE METERS OF HARSH OCEAN ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING THAT OF A WORLD WAR II ERA SHIPWRECK CONTAINING 60,000 POUNDS OF NET EXPLOSIVE WEIGHT OF CORRODED AND ACIDIC UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE. HIS EFFORTS TO NEUTRALIZE EXPLOSIVE THREATS IN THE LITTORALS WITHIN A KEY ALLIED NATION DIRECTLY LED TO SAFE MANEUVER AND MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE TASK FORCE. HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT DIRECTLY RESULTED IN ENHANCING UNITED STATES STRATEGIC INTERESTS WITHIN THE INDO-PACIFIC THEATER. STAFF SERGEANT BUTCHER'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.

SSGT CALLAHAN, AN EOD TECHNICIAN, WAS THE FIRST MCEA MEMBER KILLED IN ACTION. HE DIED IN IRAQ ON 27 APRIL 2007.

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER UNIT AWARDS

In addition to recognizing individual Marines, the MCEA awards program also recognizes the outstanding Combat Engineer Battalion, Engineer Support Battalion and MWSS Engineer Company selected by Headquarters, Marine Corps for the year.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

2021 MCEA COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION OF THE YEAR

2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE PROVIDING SUPERLATIVE COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT TO 2D MARINE DIVISION AND II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED SUPERIOR COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT TO 2D MARINE DIVISION, FIVE COMBATANT COMMANDS DURING NINE GLOBAL FORCE MANAGEMENT MISSIONS, AND TWO MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT DEPLOYMENTS. THE BATTALION CONDUCTED CHALLENGING TRAINING THAT BUILT RELATIONSHIPS AND ENHANCED INTEROPERABILITY WITH ALLIED NATIONS. 2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION DEMONSTRATED EXCEPTIONAL PROFICIENCY AND ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH SUSTAINED HIGH LEVELS OF MATERIAL READINESS RESULTING IN NOTEWORTHY INSPECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS, EXCELLING IN ALL FIVE FUNCTIONAL AREAS. THE BATTALION CONSTRUCTED A COMPANY-LEVEL COMBINED ARMS LIVE-FIRE AND MANEUVER ATTACK RANGE THAT GREATLY IMPROVED THE CAMP LEJEUNE RANGE AND TRAINING AREA CAPABILITIES. THESE EFFORTS HAVE DIRECTLY RESULTED IN ENDURING AND SUBSTANTIALLY POSITIVE IMPACTS TO TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE UNITS TO INCREASE COMBAT READINESS ABOARD CAMP LEJEUNE. ADDITIONALLY, THE BATTALION WAS THE FIRST INDEPENDENT BATTALION ASSIGNED AS THE II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES-BASED ALERT FORCE AND WAS TASKED TO SUPPORT THE NATIONAL COVID-19 VACCINATION EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND AT A FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY DIRECTED SITE. FURTHERMORE, THE BATTALION ADVANCED THE FORCE. DESIGN 2030 DIRECTIVE BY DIVESTING ANTIQUATED EQUIPMENT AND TESTING AND EVALUATING NEW TECHNOLOGY AND CAPABILITIES DURING JOINT AND BILATERAL EXERCISES. BY THEIR NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, IMPECCABLE PROFESSIONALISM, AND COMPLETE DEDICATION TO DUTY, THE MEMBERS OF 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION PROVIDED ESSENTIAL COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT TO MARINE INFANTRY UNITS. THEIR HALLMARK ACHIEVEMENTS REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON THEMSELVES AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



Representing 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion are MSgt Phillipe Monroy and Maj Zack Pinkerton



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***OUTSTANDING MARINE ENGINEER SUPPORT BN
OF THE YEAR AWARD***

**7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BN
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



FOR MERITORIOUS SERVICE FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021 PROVIDING EXTENSIVE AND DIVERSE SUPPORT TO 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, JOINT FORCES, AND MULTIPLE EXERCISES, OPERATIONS AND DEPLOYMENTS. 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION EMBODIED THE CONCEPT OF “EVERY CLIME AND PLACE” BY SIMULTANEOUSLY SUPPORTING EIGHT NAMED EXERCISES AND FIVE WORLDWIDE DEPLOYMENTS ACROSS THREE COMBATANT COMMANDS. THE UNIT HAS MADE NUMEROUS ADVANCES IN

THE EMPLOYMENT OF AN ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION IN EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCED BASE OPERATIONS. SPECIFICALLY, THE BATTALION DROVE NEW INITIATIVES IN THE NEUTRALIZATION OF LITTORAL EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS, EXERCISED THE TRANSFER AND RECEIPT OF BULK FUEL FROM SHIP TO SHORE, AND EMPLOYED CIVILIAN TECHNOLOGY IN TACTICAL SCENARIOS TO CONSTRUCT SURVIVABILITY POSITIONS. ADDITIONALLY, THE BATTALION BOLSTERED COMBINED JOINT INTEGRATION WITH NAVY, ARMY, AND CIVILIAN AGENCIES DURING A DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT OF THE 30TH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION REGIMENT, EXERCISE TURNING POINT, DAM REDUCTION IN THE CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST, AND TASK FORCE KOA MOANA. IN SUPPORT OF JOINT TASK FORCE NORTH, THE BATTALION DESIGNED ALL-WEATHER PATROL ROADS TO DETER AND PREVENT NARCOTICS AND TRANSNATIONAL THREATS. FINALLY, THE BATTALION FORMED A 234-MARINE TASK FORCE TO COMBAT WILDLAND FIRES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. THIS TASK FORCE, COMPLETE WITH A COMMAND NODE RECEIVED ASSIGNMENTS TO COMBAT TWO OF THE LARGEST FIRES IN CALIFORNIA STATE HISTORY DEMONSTRATING THE FLEXIBILITY AND RANGE IN 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION’S CAPABILITIES. 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION’S DEDICATION TO PROVIDING AGGRESSIVE SUPPORT TO I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT ON THEMSELVES AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2021 MCEA MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON
ENGINEER COMPANY OF THE YEAR***

ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 372

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:

FOR SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT IN ENGINEERING OPERATIONS AS A PART OF MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 39, 3D MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FLEET MARINE FORCE AND IN SUPPORT OF SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE-CRISIS RESPONSE-CENTRAL COMMAND 21. 1. DURING THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 2020 THROUGH 31 MARCH 2021, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 372 ENGINEERS SUSTAINED AN INCREDIBLE OPERATIONAL TEMPO, OVERCAME NUMEROUS CHALLENGES, AND ACHIEVED UNPARALLELED SUCCESS IN EVERY ENDEAVOR. ENGINEERS PLANNED AND EXECUTED OVER 358 LOGISTICAL SUPPORT REQUESTS WHILE ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OPERATORS HANDLED OVER 4,048,025 POUNDS OF EQUIPMENT AND LOGGED A TOTAL OF 1,730 OPERATOR HOURS. THE ENGINEERS CONDUCTED MULTIPLE GENERAL ENGINEERING REQUESTS THAT FACILITATED TRAINING FOR ADJACENT UNITS, EXPEDITED EMBARKATION OF EQUIPMENT TO SUPPORT RETROGRADE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND ENABLED THE MOVEMENT OF MISSION CRITICAL EQUIPMENT TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS. CONCURRENTLY, ENGINEER OPERATIONS COMPANY MAINTAINED A HIGH OPERATIONAL TEMPO BACK IN CONUS. DURING THIS TIME, ENGINEER OPERATIONS COMPANY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED OVER 219 MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT SUPPORT REQUESTS TOTALING OVER 6,198,144 POUNDS OF MATERIAL MOVED AND OVER 853 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATING HOURS. ADDITIONALLY, THE COMPANY CONDUCTED FIVE AIRCRAFT RECOVERIES, DEMOLISHED TWO 50' X 100' CONCRETE PADS ABOARD MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CAMP PENDLETON, AND REPAIRED ONE MILE OF THE SAN MARGARITA ROAD, FURTHER DEMONSTRATING OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING SUPPORT THAT THE COMPANY IS CAPABLE OF DELIVERING. DESPITE THIS HIGH OPERATIONAL TEMPO, THE COMPANY WAS ALSO ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY DIVEST OVER 5,268,045 DOLLARS WORTH OF ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH A REDUCTION OF MANPOWER IN SUPPORT OF FORCE DESIGN INITIATIVES. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, THE MARINES OF ENGINEER OPERATIONS COMPANY DEMONSTRATED, BOTH AT HOME STATION AND WHILE DEPLOYED, THAT THE DIAMONDBACKS ARE THE MOST INNOVATIVE, RELENTLESS, RELIABLE, AND COMBAT READY MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON ENGINEER COMPANY IN THE MARINE CORPS.



*Accepting the award, 1stSgt Tealea A. Hauer
& Capt Christopher M. Kone, Engr Co CO*



REUNION AND AWARDS BANQUET MEMORIES



Welcome Reception



Cocktail Party



4th Combat Engineer Battalion
Color Guard



Missing Marine Table



Chaplain leading toast to "Missing Marine"



MCEA President's Opening Remarks





The Chow Line



Making New Friends



Guest of Honor, Col Gary McCullar, CO, MCES



USMC Engineer unit logos come in many shapes and sizes



Presentation of the Colors





Charlie Dismore & Piper



Recognizing Colonel Frank Harris



Young and Old enjoyed the evening



Post Banquet celebration in the hospitality suite



Re-living Boot Camp Memories



The Best of the Best – 2021 MCEA Awardees



A Night to Remember!

SHIPS STORE ITEMS

Merchandise for Sale

Cost

MCEA Logo Coin 1 ½ " dia, color	\$5.50
MCEA Logo with Crossed Flags Lapel Pin 1.25" dia, color	\$5.50
Embroidered MCEA Logo Cloth Match 3" dia, color	\$3.50
MCEA Windshield Decal 4 ¼" dia, color	\$4.00
Money clip	\$7.50
Car Magnet (crossed flag)	\$6.00
Key Chain	\$6.50
Seabee Medallion	\$7.00
Stickers, EG & A	\$3.50
T Shirt (S, M, L, XL, 2XL)	\$13.00
T Shirt (3XL)	\$15.00



Shipping and handling charges are included in the above prices.

For further information and to submit your order, contact George Carlson at treasurer@marcorengasn.org or 931-307-9094.



