

MCEA Meeting Minutes

20 May 2006

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

0820 Jim Marapoti places call to Ken Frantz & Hank Rudge via cell phone. Frantz calls meeting to order; 12 in attendance.

Financial report: As of 17 May, Checking=\$2885.80, Savings=\$9153.22, CD #1=\$6097.72, CD #2=\$2431.13 for total cash assets of \$20,567.87

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Bylaws: Changes that were addressed at the 8 Apr Executive Committee meeting have been incorporated. The current Bylaws have been posted to our website, sent to all Executive Committee members and are included in our Newsletter. No further action required at this time.

2. Assistance Fund: Hank Rudge completed the Cover sheet and two Application packages and copies have been disseminated to all members via email and posted on our website. Jim Marapoti's article explaining the purpose of the Fund is also on our website. Frantz is still waiting on HQMC Engr POC, Maj Wando to update the Active/reserve duty POC email roster. Once that is available, Frantz will disseminate info to all the Engr & EOD units and Commanders, as well as base papers and on other websites. Due date for this years applications is 30 June 2006.

We still need more members to volunteer to serve on the committee to pursue this very worthwhile endeavor and ensure we have a financial assistance presentation this year.

Assistance Fund Chairman's comments: Marapoti states that we have received \$705 so far and two more checks are in the mail. He has several members who have agreed to assist in reviewing the Application packages. The applicants are required to submit a paper and electronic Application, so it will be easy to disseminate via email as opposed to members all needing to come together for a meeting.

Floyd Plowman stated that he & Marapoti had briefly discussed the options of financial planning for the Assistance Fund. One option that is available is using Plowman's previous employer, First Command Finance, which offers a Money Market Account with free checking/savings, no minimum balance, and better interest rate than most banks, credit unions.

Marapoti & Plowman will investigate and brief the options at the next Quarterly meeting.

Frantz stated that he had briefed Maj Paul Miller, HQMC EOD POC and asked him to communicate with all the EOD units and Commanders regarding our Association and in particular the Assistance Fund.

3. MOA with MCB, Camp Lejeune: At the 8 Apr '06 Exec Committee meeting, the motion was made and approved to table the establishment of MCEA spaces aboard any MCB, Camp Lejeune facilities until further investigation completed. Marapoti was to prepare a letter for George to deliver to MCB rep requesting the TD 24 be stored aboard Camp Lejeune until decision made as to its final location. Motion made & approved to table this issue until after Change of Command at MCES.

4. MCEA Website; 3862 visitors to site since beginning last Oct; Over 35 websites now displaying our link.

5. The Outstanding Naval Construction Force Award. The Annual Awards AImar was released 25 Apr and includes the requirement for nomination of a NCF unit. Due date from USMC Commands is 30 June '06 to HQMC. Motion made and approved to procure a rotating trophy as well as a plaque for the winning unit to retain. This first year will be for unit only; no individual Seabee will be recognized. Marapoti has several contacts that he will work with to obtain design options as well as potential sponsors. George states that we should have the packages from HQMC early Aug and convene the Awards committee soon thereafter.

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6. Reunion Planning: George briefed that he has signed and returned contract to the Peabody, Ma. Holiday Inn. Frantz has included an insert in the Newsletter for all who plan on attending the reunion to return to George so he has a better idea of the number of people attending and rooms to reserve & facility support required. Those members with email & plan on attending can notify Frantz & he'll pass total number to George. Due date is 1 July '06. General Krulak has declined our offer to be Guest of Honor since he will be in England during that time. Frantz recommends we invite BGen Panter. Motion made and approved to invite BGen Panter as Guest of Honor.

George stated that transportation to/from airport and hotel is still an issue, however, Frantz stated that our Mass. POCs, Kevin Leeman and Phil Martin had coordinated with the local Reserve 25th Marines, specifically, 1stSgt Hermann and GySgt Suzumu, regarding providing military vans/buses.

7. Newsletter: Frantz has provided the draft Newsletter to the Editor of the Army Engr Association for professional review and "fine-tuning". George is to provide Frantz a pricelist of the Ships Store items to include in the Newsletter. Best price for printing is at the Jacksonville Postal Annex at \$2.60 a copy and we're anticipating printing 400 copies. There will also be a charge for Col Morgan's Editorial work based on hours required. Once the Newsletter is ready for print, we'll add the current Members roster and send to printer who says he can complete in a day. Frantz will provide the mailing addresses for those current members who don't have email (less than 300). George will disseminate via bulk mail and Frantz will post the Newsletter minus the Members roster to our Website. George states that if printer can't do the address labels that he will print out and attach if Frantz provides him a Zip Code sorted file.

Frantz briefed that thanks to the team effort, we have validated 88.6% (476 of 537) of our current dues members contact info. We have 126 deceased members on our rolls and 306 inactive members with some dating back to expiration of dues in '92. Once this years Newsletter is published and member's info validated, inactive members will be deleted from the roster.

8. Financial reporting: Hank Rudge has drafted formats and disseminated in April: Quarterly Treasurer's Report; Quarterly Fund Report; and Reunion after-action report. He is also in the process of drafting an internal audit procedure which he hopes to have in a rough format by May 30. In order to have sufficient time to conduct the Annual Audit prior to the Annual Business meeting, we'll use 30 June as end-of-year cutoff. Echols states he is on track for completion of the comprehensive spreadsheet showing all of our Association's financial transactions. Due date is 10 June.

George states that he will provide Rudge his changes to the "Annual Reunion Financial After Action Report" in next two weeks.

New Business

1. Bylaws ARTICLE XI- FELLOWS Section 1. 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). Fellows will be provided a lapel pin designating their Fellows status.

George has discussed options with the Company that produces our name tags and lapel pins and recommends a magnetic name tag designating the respective fellows' category as well as for life members.

Frantz will include a website page to list contributors by category. Future Newsletters will also include a list of Fellows. Assistance Fund committee will need to provide contributors a written receipt verifying amount donated to our tax exempt

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Fund.

2. Associate Director: Charlie Zack of Colorado has resigned due to his age and health.

3. National Marine Corps Council: Col Warren Wiedhahn, USMC (Ret) attended the 22 April '06 meeting and provided Frantz the minutes and roster which still had Milt Drummond as MCEA POC. Frantz has notified NMCC of the updated contact list. Frantz posed the question: Does MCEA want to have a member attend the NMCC meetings? George states that Frantz should discuss this with Milt Drummond and Marapoti recommends we further evaluate NMCC's mission & functions prior to deciding. Frantz has for action.

4. Bulk Fuel Chapter: Frantz had asked the members of the Bulk Fuel organization to consider becoming a MCEA Chapter. Paul Rice informed Frantz that the 62 members in attendance at the 5-6 May reunion disapproved the motion. No further action required.

5. The next meeting is scheduled for 19 Aug' 06.

6. With no other business to discuss, motion made & seconded to adjourn.

Business meeting concluded at 0918.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

19 AUG 2006 MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

0820 Jim Marapoti places call to Ken Frantz & Hank Rudge via cell phone. VP Charlie Koenig leads group in Pledge of Allegiance; Frantz reads prayer provided by Chaplain Robinson & meeting called to order; 17 in attendance.

Financial report: As of 31 July, Checking=\$8215.68, Savings=\$2894.50, CD 50 = \$6138.56, CD 51 = \$2446.40 for total cash assets of \$19,695.14

Treasurer had previously provided copy of the Quarterly Financial Report to Exec Committee members and Jim Marapoti disseminated copies to attendees. Frantz asked for clarification on difference between "Balance from last report dated 20 May 06" and the figures that were provided in the 20 May meeting minutes. Echols states that different date was used. Echols further explained that the category "returned funds" represented money returned to him by Exec Committee members who had been issued a check, but had not used all the funds provided. Frantz asked about the \$75 income that is due from Military Historical Tour Inc for their advertisement in the annual Newsletter, but neither George nor Echols had received the payment.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Assistance Fund: Jim Marapoti, AF Chairman, Reports the fund currently has \$2755 in the Credit Union account. We've received one package for consideration and waiting on second one prior to deciding about making the first presentation of the AF at this years' reunion. Floyd Plowman recommends we wait until we have at least \$10k to consider other investment options that he will provide recommendations on in the future.

Hank Rudge completed the Cover sheet and two Application packages and copies have been disseminated to all members via email and posted on our website. Jim Marapoti's article explaining the purpose of the Fund is also on our website.

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Frantz has disseminated info to all the Engr & EOD units and Commanders and on other websites.

We still need more members to volunteer to serve on the committee to pursue this very worthwhile endeavor and ensure we have a financial assistance presentation this year.

2. MOA with MCB, Camp Lejeune: Exec Director sent ltr 26 July 06 to PWO stating MCEA would not be occupying BB250 allocated spaces at this time due to requirement for Insurance.

Col Nelson has submitted written request & initiated contract to have the TD-24 delivered to Courthouse Bay. MCES will have a new, larger concrete pad installed and MCES personnel will accomplish the rehabilitation work. Col Nelson states that he may require financial support from MCEA to procure gauges, parts or other material to complete the restoration. Motion made, seconded and carried that MCEA will provide financial support for parts &/or material.

3. MCEA Website; 5462 visitors to site since beginning last Oct (1600 since last Qtr's report); Over 35 websites now displaying our link.

4. The Outstanding Naval Construction Force Award. No nomination was submitted by any USMC unit, therefore HQMC POC, Mike Boyd, requested nomination from Seabee community; Input due late August. Jim Marapoti has done yeoman's job in obtaining the design requirements for the trophy and has the hickory to construct the rotating trophy and described the design of the plaque. Jim expects the trophy to cost at least \$500-\$600, but could be more. We need to make it right. Plan to approach Corporate Members to see if they will pick up the tab on the NCF plaque. JI Case and John Deere are great prospective candidates. Significant discussion ensued regarding the pros/cons & expense of having both a rotating trophy and a plaque for the unit to retain. As previously discussed and voted on, this is the way the USMC unit awards are currently handled and it was determined to handle the Seabee unit award the same way. Additionally, discussion ensued pertaining to presenting a new plaque each year for the unit to retain vice just adding a plate for that respective year. George states it cost approximately \$30 for a plaque each year vice a few dollars for the plate. It was decided to be consistent & obtain a rotating trophy as well as a smaller plaque for the winning unit to retain.

(Note: a vote was taken on a Motion to use a Single Plate, after Marapoti explained concerns of moving/adding plaque plates on single plaque for a unit winning in a successive year. After motion was made, it was modified to one plaque and multiple plates. The motion passed. But after the meeting, at least two people expressed disappointment in that they didn't hear the amended Motion and voted for a single plate and plaque. Others could have been confused too thinking they had just voted for the single plate/award.

This issue will be addressed at Annual Business meeting and decision made whether to use currently used synthetic plaque material or use wood for the retention plaque so screw holes will not show up on a veneer or use single plaques w/current material/veneer... Either way, we want to be sure the retention plaque is a quality product as well.

5. Awards Board results: George briefed that 11 voting members, plus the Executive Director met at MCES on 18 Aug for approximately 7 hours to review all the individual & unit nominations. In addition to the MCEA members, MSgt Wolf from HQMC LPE sat in to observe the proceedings. George & several other members who participated stated that the competition was once again extremely close and getting much more difficult to discern one ultimate winner over a very close runner-up. Main points expressed:

1. Hard copy distribution read-ahead wise way to allow ALCON to study each nominee
2. Often, no objective difference between the top two or three candidates
3. Clumping 1361's w/1371's makes it virtually impossible for 61's to credibly compete. Consideration should be given to returning to original award for 1361's.
4. A mechanism should be available by which the 2d or 3d place nominees might be able to be recognized, e.g.: Outstanding Achievement Award. A plaque and certificate could be provided to 2d and 3d place winners. Ken Frantz commented that it should be a command's choice whether or not to fund TAD for 2d or 3rd place winners to attend awards ceremony.

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5. For those who might grouse about ties in organization awards, they don't appreciate how close two bns can be in measurable accomplishments.

6. A statistical summary worksheet should be prepared to enhance objective, quantitative and qualitative assessment of accomplishments (Marapoti said he would draft worksheets).

Frantz asked George to obtain written input from all Awards Bd participants on their insights and recommended changes to the selection process. Additionally, all participants, to include MSgt Wolf, agreed that we need to return to the previous method of providing paper copies ahead of time to the Board to reduce the time required for final review & selection. MSgt Wolf agreed to provide paper copies to MCES or George so that copies could be made and disseminated prior to the convening of the selection committee. Jim Marapoti & George are to meet on 21 Aug to prepare & sign the package to be mailed to HQMC LPE announcing the winners.

6. Reunion Planning: Feedback from Mike Boyd is that BGen Panter has indicated that he plans on being our Guest of Honor at the Awards Banquet. Frantz will work the detailed schedule & agenda and disseminate to all who will be attending.

58 people have confirmed attendance with Frantz. Frantz request that the Exec Comm Officers meet with the Peabody POCs and Assoc Dirs on 11 Oct at 1400 in the hospitality room for a final mtg prior to commencement of activities.

George is still working on the final cost, recommendation for mementos & exact cost of the registration fee.

Once George has cost figured out, he will mail out info to those who have submitted RSVP and Frantz will disseminate via email.

7. Newsletter: 350 copies were printed for a cost of \$823; mailing fee = \$150 for 262 current members without email; editorial fee = \$337.50 for a total of \$1310.50 or \$3.75 per copy.

No further action required.

8. Membership: Frantz briefed that we have validated 93.8% (418 of 446) of our current dues members contact info. As of 30 June, 115 members with dues expiration of 2005 moved to "Inactive" category. We have 132 deceased members on our rolls and 394 inactive members with some dating back to expiration of dues in '92. Total members on our rolls 973. George has prepared list of our members who have achieved the enviable goal of 80 years young. We have 22 current dues members who qualify for the Lifetime members' category. George will provide the new cards to those members and Frantz will update the Members' Roster. HQMC has denied our Freedom of Information request for Retired Engr/EOD data base due to personnel security concerns. Frantz will utilize the list obtained last year and pursue potential new members after this years' reunion.

9. Financial reporting: Hank Rudge has finalized & disseminated formats for: Quarterly Treasurer's Report; Quarterly Fund Report; Reunion after-action report; and Internal audit procedure. Echols has provided the Annual Financial report & George will coordinate the convening of the Audit committee within the next two weeks so we can have the results ready to publish at the Annual Business meeting, 12 Oct.

10. Fellows recognition: Website page added. George is still pursuing magnetic name tag or other form of recognition as well as for life members.

11. National Marine Corps Council: per tasker from last meeting, Frantz discussed the pros/cons of MCEA having a rep to attend the semi-annual NMCC meetings, reviewed the NMCC mission & functions, and recommended to Exec Committee members that Col Lou Piantidosi USMC (Ret) be our rep. Frantz has notified NMCC of the POC updated info. No further action required.

New Business

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1. Combined Federal Campaign: Jim has investigated the use of the National CFC program to promote our Assistance Fund. Response has been favorable from the CFC reps that Jim has talked to. Marapoti, Rudge & Frantz will prepare an application for next years' program and ensure attendance that the planning meeting in Dec '06.

2. Replacement of Treasurer: James Echols has been our Treasurer since 1992. However, he is asking to step down due to his very busy work & family schedule and the new Financial reporting requirements that require more time and computer expertise. We thank James very much for all his support over the years. His replacement will be Mike Ellzey who has very graciously stepped forward to fill in as Treasurer until elections held in '07. All the voting Exec Committee Officers approved of the change. Echols & Ellzey will conduct turnover of records; update MFCU signature card & ensure baseline established. Frantz will provide George copy of written correspondence for his records.

3. Associate Director: Cliff York has resigned due to being too busy & expiration of dues. 10 members remain as Assoc Dirs and Frantz will contact all of them in next two weeks to remind them of their annual report required prior to the Annual Business meeting.

4. Corporate Members: George working on the letter inviting them to the reunion and solicitation of annual dues.

5. The next business meeting is scheduled for 12 Oct 06 in Peabody, Mass. Reminder about the Exec Comm Officers mtg on 11 Oct at 1400.

6. With no other business to discuss, motion made & seconded to adjourn.

Business meeting concluded at 0948.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

"A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing."

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

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12 OCT 2006

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

0840 Ken Frantz calls meeting to order & leads group in Pledge of Allegiance; Prayer provided by Paul Reynolds. 48 in attendance.

Briefings provided by: Col Mike Boyd, USMC (Ret) Head, LP; Col Rick Nelson, CO-MCES; Capt Russ Pound, Systems Cmd; Col Jim Marapoti, USMC (Ret) for Corporate Members Allied Container & Aardvark

Annual audit: Hank Rudge provided following:

Audit period covered: 1 July 05 – 30 June 06

Beginning Balance = \$16,809.20

Income = \$17,025.48

Expenses = \$14,187.22

Ending Balance = \$19,747.46

Financial report: Hank Rudge provides following status: As of 30 Sept 2006, Checking=\$10,435.58, Savings=\$2903.37, CD 50 = \$6180.35, CD 51 = \$2462.02

Total cash assets = \$ 21,981.32

1015 Break--1040 Meeting resumed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Assistance Fund: Jim Marapoti, AF Chairman, Reports the fund currently has \$2755 in the Credit Union account. We have two packages being reviewed and hope to have more prior to the 1 November '06 deadline. Marty Rosenfield stated the need for more publicity and Bernie Heaney stated the MC League has special access to information, VA & local hospitals to locate and contact injured Marines.

2. Return of TD-24 to Courthouse Bay: Col Nelson has submitted written request & initiated contract to have the TD-24 delivered to Courthouse Bay. MCES will have a new, larger concrete pad installed and MCES personnel will accomplish the rehabilitation work. At the 19 Aug 06 meeting, the motion made, seconded and carried that MCEA will provide financial support for parts &/or material. Col Nelson stated that support to Heritage Museum is priority now, but should have the TD-24 moved to the school by December.

3. MCEA Website: 6687 visitors to site since beginning Oct '05. Updates will be posted after reunion & awards banquet.

4. The Outstanding Naval Construction Force Award: All actions complete & plaques ready for presentation at tonight's Award Banquet. New Corporate Member Terex has agreed to be the NCF Unit plaque sponsor and has contributed \$1400 towards their annual dues and plaque expenses.

5. Awards Board results: George still needs to obtain written input from all Awards Bd participants on their insights and recommended changes to the selection process. Additionally, all participants, to include MSgt Wolf, agreed that we need to return to the previous method of providing paper copies ahead of time to the Board to reduce the time required for final review & selection. MSgt Wolf agreed to provide paper copies to MCES or George so that copies could be made and disseminated prior to the convening of the selection committee. The Executive Committee will review the existing MCO for the Awards pgm & submit recommended updates to HQMC, LP, as well as refine the MCEA Awards Board process.

6. Reunion Planning: Jim Marapoti is the '07 coordinator for the Camp Lejeune reunion. Based on the email votes prior

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to the meeting and the members voting during the meeting, San Diego/Camp Pendleton was selected as our '08 location.

7. Membership: Frantz briefed that we have validated 94.7% (446 of 471) of our current dues members contact info. 43 new members have joined since last year's reunion. We have 134 deceased members on our rolls and 376 inactive members with some dating back to expiration of dues in '92. Total members on rolls 981. 27 members have been added to our Honor Roll since last year's Annual meeting; some have been departed for years, but we just located them this year. Frantz read their names into the Record:

Amster, Alvin	DeNormandie, Frank	Pendergast, Richard
Armitage, George "Big Red"	Ferraro, Steve	Rushing, Ed
Bache, Terry	Gallagher, John	Saulnier, John
Bigitschke, Uwe	Jarvis, John	Stasio, Tony
Brandel, Ralph	Livezey, Jim	Stokes, Rufus
Brutsman, Don	Maxwell, Leo	Vega, Manuel
Campbell, Ken	Mastice, Joe	Vrooman, Lyndon
Carey, Ralph	Mills, Dave	Wickham, John
Cummings, Charles	Parker, Pete	Williams, Ken

8. Fellows recognition: In accordance with the new Bylaws, the following members are recognized as having financially contributed to the Fellows Program and all 3 are in the Gold Category: Terry Harris-Inman, Jim Marapoti & Ken Frantz. George is still working on a recognition device.

9. Combined Federal Campaign: Jim has investigated the use of the National CFC program to promote our Assistance Fund. Response has been favorable from the CFC reps that Jim has talked to. Marapoti, Rudge & Frantz will prepare an application for next years' program and ensure attendance at the planning meeting in Dec '06.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Associate Directors: Paul Constantinople & Gordon Strauss have resigned. Ed Rushing is deceased & Jim Tuczak has not returned phone calls and let his dues expire, therefore has been dropped from the Associate Director's list. 7 members remain as Assoc Dirs and 4 are in attendance. At a separate meeting held 11 Oct, Mark Waterhouse stated we need a detailed job description for our ADs. Don Smith has recruited member Bill Fullerton of Fla to assist. Earl Nestved states we need to utilize the internet more for publicity, recruiting & communications with potential members. Terry Scully recommends that we encourage our existing members to help publicize & recruit when they attend their local veterans group & other military association meetings.

2. Participation/support to Marine Corps Heritage Museum & Museum of the Carolinas: The much anticipated and supported Heritage Museum will open 10 November '06 in Quantico, Va. The opening of the Museum of the Carolinas is delayed once again awaiting decision on final location. There was significant discussion regarding the level of engineer involvement in both museums, if MCEA should commit to a financial contribution to either or both and the amount of the contribution. After many motions, Paul Reynolds moved that MCEA contribute \$500 to the Heritage Museum now and that any contribution to the Museum of the Carolinas be tabled until more definitive answers provided regarding where and when the Museum will be opened. Motion was modified, seconded & approved to empower the Exec committee to pursue the details with the Museum of the Carolinas and make the financial contribution, once questions are answered, to include possible use of space for MCEA and/or engineer items to display.

3. Bylaw Change: Article II, Section 1 currently states in part "Membership shall be open to all active duty, reserve, retired and honorably discharged U.S. Armed Forces personnel who served with U.S. Marine Corps engineers with no discrimination by race, color, sex, or national origin."

The proposed change is: "Membership shall be open to all active duty, reserve, retired and honorably discharged U.S.

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Armed Forces personnel who served in support of Marine Air Ground Task Forces or with U.S. Marine Corps engineers with no discrimination by race, color, sex, or national origin.” This change will accommodate the addition of other USMC occupational fields, as well as the Seabees that are in support of the MAGTFs vice being assigned to engineer units. Motion approved.

4. Frantz stated that we still need a full time Historian, but short of that he will pursue our MCEA historical goals this coming year and asks for all hands to assist in this important effort.

5. Jim Marapoti proposed that \$1,000 be transferred from the General Fund to the Assistance Fund; Motion modified by Mark Waterhouse that if funds not expensed by end of Fiscal Year, then they be returned to the General Fund. Motion approved as modified.

6. Jeff Carr of British Aero Space Engineering Systems and Tom Manley of Terex introduced themselves and talked about their Corporations.

7. Recommendation from the floor was made to advertise in the Leatherneck Magazine. Col Nelson checked the website & stated that the cost is \$250 for a one-time advertisement & up. No motion made, but Exec Committee will pursue.

8. Don Sumner commented that we need to focus on better participation from our existing members rather than recruiting new members. Additionally, we have neglected our wives who accompany us to the reunion by not having a separate agenda for them. These recommendations will be pursued by the Executive Committee members.

9. The next business meeting is scheduled for 18 November '06 in Jacksonville, NC.

10. With no other business to discuss, George moved & motion seconded to adjourn.

Business meeting concluded at 1225.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

18 NOV 2006

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

1015 Ken Frantz calls meeting to order. Charlie Koenig led Pledge of Allegiance. 15 in attendance.

Briefing provided by LtCol Jim Williams, Exec Director for the Museum of the Carolinas

Treasurer's report: Checking=\$6576.68, Savings=\$2912.12, CDs=\$8699.22 TOTAL = \$18,188.02

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Assistance Fund: Jim Marapoti, AF Chairman, reports the fund currently has \$3705.00 now that the \$1000 has been transferred from the General Fund to the Assistance Fund. Awarding of \$500.00 will be made to member, Matthew Knogge, Combat Engineer veteran. Rudge reports that he has briefed the Warren PA chapter of the MOAA and will be soliciting them for a contribution at their next meeting.

2. Awards Board: George still needs to obtain written input from all Awards Bd participants on their insights

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and recommended changes to the selection process. Frantz has disseminated a draft rewrite of MCO to Exec Committee for their review. Consensus of Exec committee was to recommend that a separate award be established for the Engineer Assistant, MOS 1361. Motion carried to have a separate category for the 1361s with three grade levels. George is to complete his review & provide comments to Frantz who will in turn provide to Mike Boyd at HQMC. Internal Awards Board procedures will continue to be refined and finalized in writing prior to convening of the '07 Board.

3. 2007 Reunion Planning: Jim Marapoti briefed a draft schedule for the '07 Camp Lejeune reunion, to include tours of Lejeune Engr units & a wives agenda including trips to New Bern/Tryon Palace and Wilmington, Cotton Exchange/Bellview Plantation. Agenda will be similar to '99 with tours on Thursday & Friday for both members and spouses. Consensus at this time is to use local hotels for billeting & Wed night social and O'Club for awards banquet.

4. Membership: Frantz briefed that we have 503 current dues members; 135 deceased members; and 375 inactive members with some dating back to expiration of dues in '92. Total members on rolls 1013. Future publication of Members' Roster will not include "dues expired" members.

5. Combined Federal Campaign: Jim Marapoti is scheduled to attend the 2007 CFC training session 28 Nov in DC. Additionally, he has contacted the local CFC reps.

6. Participation/support to Marine Corps Heritage Museum & Museum of the Carolinas: At the 12 Oct Annual business mtg, it was moved that MCEA contribute \$500 to the Heritage Museum now and that any contribution to the Museum of the Carolinas be tabled until more definitive answers provided regarding where and when the Museum will be opened. Motion was modified, seconded & approved to empower the Exec committee to pursue the details with the Museum of the Carolinas and make the financial contribution, once questions are answered, to include possible use of space for MCEA and/or engineer items to display. The \$500 has been sent to the Heritage Museum and after hearing LtCol William's briefing & discussion among those in attendance, motion carried to provide \$500 to the Museum of the Carolinas, as well.

7. Historian: Frantz repeated the need for a full time Historian, but short of that he will pursue our MCEA historical goals this coming year and asks for all hands to assist in this important effort. Jim Marapoti has provided Frantz the history of the USMC Engineer units as of '92 and Frantz will work with the units, associations & HQMC Historical section to obtain updates and then post to website & include in next year's Newsletter.

8. Publicity & Advertising: Rudge provided the following info regarding costs to advertise: Leatherneck: \$250 for one time, 1/24 page (2 1/4" X 1") up to several thousand dollars for monthly &/or larger ads. Gazette has similar prices. The Marine Corps Times: one time, 4"X6" ad = \$1000. Discussion ensued as to need & potential benefits to pay for advertising. With no motion made to devote any money, we'll continue to rely on free postings to websites, HQMC Quarterly Semper Fidelis newsltr, word-of-mouth and attempting to publish free articles. Marapoti recommends we notify the Montford Pt & 2d MarDiv Associations as well, since our '07 reunion will be in J'ville. Frantz will pursue as well as prepare letter to mail to potential members.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2006 Reunion Results: George briefed that he mailed out the Seabee plaque yesterday and has 4 individual & 4 corporate members' plaques to mail out yet. In response to question from Rudge, George states that all reunion related bills have been paid. However, there will be shipping costs for the 8 plaques.

2. George recognized Jim Echols for his 14 years of support to our Association and Charlie Koenig presented Jim with a recognition plaque. Additionally, motion carried to make Echols a Permanent Associate Director.

3. Marapoti stated that the Marine Corps Engineer School will be holding a meeting on 20 Nov & one of the issues is the relocation of TD 24 to CHB.

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The next business meeting is scheduled for 0800, 17 February '07 at the DAV in Jacksonville, NC.

With no other business to discuss, motion carried to adjourn.

Business meeting concluded at 1140.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

17 FEB 2007

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

0820 Ken Frantz calls meeting to order via speaker phone. Charlie Koenig led Pledge of Allegiance. 18 in attendance.

Treasurer's report: Checking=\$7,326.73 Savings=\$2,925.36 CDs=\$8,785.68. TOTAL = \$19,037.77

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Assistance Fund: Jim Marapoti, AF Chairman, reports the fund currently has \$3,224.53 and will be receiving \$500 from Virgil Anderson for total of \$3,724.53. Thanks to all our members and the Bucktail Chapter of the MOAA for their contributions. Two grants were awarded last year for a total of \$750. We're pursuing General Officers to serve as Board of Directors. Hank Rudge prepared a one-page letter to be mailed to all "dues current" members soliciting contributions to the Assistance Fund. Jim & George are working to complete the mail out.

2. Awards Board: Frantz provided rewrite of MCO to Mike Boyd on 27 Nov 06. Based on the current status of the comparable MOS's lumped within awards, and the on board strength of the 1361's across the ranks, BGen Panter concurs with LPE's recommendation not to amend the order to separate the 1361's from the 1371's. Marapoti handed out summary sheet of recommendations from last years' awards board and stated that units do not support ties and that we should work diligently to ensure there are no unit ties. Marapoti will draft a statistical worksheet for the board members to use during the deliberation to make the process more objective and will pass to CO, MCES for review/comment. However, we still need a process to recognize the runners-up in the individual categories. The recommendation was for a Certificate of Commendation to be prepared by MCEA and signed by General Officer at HQMC Code LP. It would be up to the parent unit to decide if they fund the TAD for the runners up to attend the Awards Banquet. George still needs to obtain written input from all Awards Bd participants on their insights and recommended changes to the selection process. Internal Awards Board procedures will be refined and finalized in writing prior to convening of the '07 Board.

3. 2007 Reunion Planning: Marapoti & Col Nelson briefed the below schedule for the '07 Camp Lejeune reunion. During registration, there will be information and sign up sheets available for the spouses' agenda including trips to New Bern/Tryon Palace and Wilmington, Cotton Exchange/Bellview Plantation. Consensus at this time is to use local hotels for billeting & Wed night social and O'Club for awards banquet. Once the schedule is formalized, it will be posted to our website with links to tour activities and also published in our Spring Newsletter.

10 Oct (Wed) Check in/Registration/Ice Breaker

11 OCT (Thur) 0800-Business meeting/1800-Awards Banquet

11 oct (thur) spouses: tours to new bern, Nc or wilmington nc

12 OCT (Fri) Tour engineer orgs all day

0800-0930: Tour Combat Engineer Battalion (Cmd Overview, Current Equipment, Marines at work)

1000-1130: Tour 8th Engineer Support Battalion (Cmd Overview, Current Equipment, Marines at work)

1200N: LUNCH, MCES Chow Hall (pay as you go)

MCEA Meeting Minutes

1300-1430 Tour Marine Corps Engineer School (Cmd Overview, Training Engineers, Urban Breaching)

1430-1500 Tour Engineer Center of Excellence (IED-Defeat, Requirements, Doctrine overview)

12 oct (thur) spouses: tours to new bern, Nc or wilmington nc

MCES will provide Bus(s) FOR tours of engr units

13 OCT (SAT) no organized tours

4. Membership: Frantz briefed that we have 547 current dues members (219 of which are Life members); 142 deceased members; and 329 inactive members with some dating back to expiration of dues in '92. Total members on rolls = 1018. Publication of Members' Roster will not include "dues expired" members. Jim Echols did not have time, therefore MGySgt Harold Hawkins USMC (Ret) has agreed to work the NC members list and several members are working the CA members list. Hawkins states that he has mailed letters to the NC members and some have been returned. He will provide that list to Frantz who will update the Members' Roster. The letter instructed them to send their dues and any contact info changes to the MCEA PO Box which George will receive and forward to Frantz.

5. Combined Federal Campaign: Jim Marapoti states that we're working to get MCEA actively involved in the CFC. Initially we'll only qualify for the local level program where we have made awards. Once we have awarded financial grants in 15 different states, then we can qualify for National level. Marapoti and George are pursuing the documents required to obtain an IRS 501 c 3 charitable organization status.

Intentions are to award a multiple of awards to accelerate fulfillment of criteria to qualify for National level. Appears use of Home Of Record may be a prudent way to denote recipient location, at least for active duty/family of active duty applicants.

A change will need to be made to the Assistance Fund application form to reflect HOR.

Marapoti will pursue an answer to the question raised regarding what CFC counts as residence.

6. Historian: Frantz is working with the USMC units & Engr POCs, associations & HQMC Historical section to obtain updates which he'll post to MCEA website & include in spring's Newsletter. Additionally, Master Chief Herb Renner USN (Ret) has volunteered to assist with the collection and publishing of our Memoirs. Col Nelson states that 3d CEB should be reflagged in 18 months at 29 Palms. Rich Smith has contact with historian who may assist us with our research. Marapoti recommends that our priority should be the beginning of the engineer units (pre WW II) and that we compile a list of what units were established and where they served. Hawkins stated that the internet search engines are still a good source for historical information and pictures. Frantz has obtained 2 CDs of Command Chronologies so far, but limited as to what Historical Branch can provide considering the volume of material involved.

7. Publicity & Advertising: Frantz has sent email reminders to our 50 "dues expired" members & has drafted a letter to mail out to our 200 MCEA "dues expired" members who we do not have email addresses for. Additionally, Frantz still needs to draft a letter to mail out to potential members which will address our Assistance Fund as well.

8. Return of TD 24 to Courthouse Bay: Col Nelson provided the following status as well as detailed brief on CES and the Center of Excellence:

Jul 06 - Request submitted for return

Sep 06 - Deferred until Dec 06

Dec 06 - Joint LTI conducted

Jan 07 - MCES requested review of historical branch requirement of full restoration.

MCES has equipment transportation Identified for minimum or no cost.

MCES has set aside repair bay to accommodate TD-24 during beautification.

MCES will construct pad w/ overhead cover for TD-24 in front of BB-28

Current Initiatives

Standardize IED-D training for formal schools.

Update the Guidebook for Marines, for Entry Level training.

MCEA Meeting Minutes

Continuous engagement with MCWL, JIEDDO, EOD School, 29 Palms, MCLL, MCSC, ICDT on TTP's with regards to CEA, IED-D, and C-IED.

- Update and maintain Marine Corps Doctrine
- Provide subject matter expertise to Program Managers at MCSC.
- Represent TECOM at OAG's, IPT's, seminars and numerous engineer conferences.
- Provide Engineer reach back to operating forces

Way Ahead

Maintain MAGTF Engineer Support to MEF's
Engineer COE organized for success.
Pursue outside funding sources.
JIEDDO for IED \$3M to date received
MCSC for Training Support within DOTMLPF
Program of Record O&M for sustain support to Engineer COE
Continue development and maintain courseware for IED-D training standardization.
Source and manage Mobile Training Teams and Train the Trainer (T3) capability ISO operating forces and reserves.
Continue to provide a pool of SMEs in support of the MAGTF engineer.
Deploy an IED-D assessment team to Iraq to assess and ensure relevancy of training standardization.
Additionally, Col Nelson states that the Engineer COE will activate the Quarterly Engineer Newsletter which will have input from all engineer units and MCEA will have a page as well. Anticipate 4th Qtr of 2007.

9. 2006 Reunion Results: George has submitted the initial After Action Report and the Executive Committee is reviewing. This is the first year we used the Financial Guidelines written by Hank Rudge and should make it much easier for the Executive Committee in planning for future reunions and ensuring we remain financially solvent. George & Mike Ellzey will coordinate to ensure that our AAR is consistent with our financial records.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Associate Directors: Mrs Judy Coy has assisted with finding our "lost members" and was appointed as our newest Associate Director on 1 Feb 2007. Bill Marseilles & Mark Waterhouse have been relieved of their AD duties due to competing demands on their time.

2. Combat Casualties: Frantz has created a spreadsheet of USMC Engr unit combat casualties from WW II to the present. With the input from many members, we currently have 424 Marines & Sailors on the list. This will be a continuous project and the updated results will be posted to our website and published with our spring Newsletter. Marapoti states we've been unsuccessful in obtaining information from the units in regards to specific KIAs or WIAs so that MCEA can offer assistance. Maj Chris Downs states that II MEF's program in conjunction with the Marines 4 Life exists to assist in this endeavor. We must remain sensitive to the Privacy Act concerns as well as the desires of the Next of Kin of deceased personnel who do not want to be contacted. The recommendation is to ensure that the unit commanders have all the information necessary to pass to the Marine, Sailor or the next of kin about how MCEA can assist them. Marapoti will draft the document for review prior to disseminating to the units.

3. Newsletter: Frantz has confirmed with Col Mike Morgan, USA (Ret) who edited last years Newsletter, that he will be available for this year. The deadline for all input to Frantz is 15 March. This year's newsletter will focus on our engineer units and history of our Marines & Sailors who served with those units. Anticipate completion & publication end of April.

4. Corporate Members: Rich Smith has volunteered to coordinate this important part of our Association and states that he will get with Marapoti and George to initiate action.

Tom Mattison expressed his appreciation for the prayer support during his recent heart attack and recommends that we include the military historical points of interest in the upcoming reunion schedule. Marapoti has for action.

MCEA Meeting Minutes

The next business meeting is scheduled for 0800, 19 May '07 and based on the recommendation from Col Nelson, will be held at Marine Corps Engineer School utilizing the Video Conferencing Center within BB28.

With no other business to discuss, motion carried to adjourn.

Business meeting concluded at 0935.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION MEETINGS 2007/8

Quarterly meetings are held the third month, on the 3rd Saturday of the month normally at the Disabled American Vets Hall, 300 Roosevelt Road Jacksonville, NC at 0800. However, the 19 May 2007 meeting will be held at Courthouse Bay, BB28 in the Video Conferencing Center.

The dates for 2007 are: 19 May, 18 Aug, 11 Oct (Annual) and 17 Nov

In 2008: 16 Feb, 17 May, 16 Aug, 9 Oct (Annual) and 15 Nov

All members and interested personnel are invited to attend!

If you have an agenda item, please notify the President, Secretary or Executive Director at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

ASSOCIATION REUNIONS

Parris Island Drill Instructor Association Reunion to be held on

26-29 April 2007

First day Thursday 26th - leave on Sunday 29. Contact: Chuck Hunter --Troutch@aol.com <http://users.aol.com/troutch/index.html>

BULK FUEL ASSOCIATION

REUNION MAY 17-19 2007 IN ANDERSON S.C. Contact Lloyd Farmer at Farmer10@earthlink.net

9th Engineer Bn. Assn. and 1st Shore Party in San Diego,

Calif., 27 June-1 July 2007. POCs: Eric Kenney or Mike Cummins, www.9thengineers.com.

2nd Battalion, 4th Marines Association Reunion

"The Magnificent Bastards" All Marines, Corpsman, support & attached personnel invited. July 11-15, 2007, North Charleston, S. C. CONTACT: Bob MASTRION, 1040 Governors Road, Mount Pleasant, S. C. 29464-9229, 1-843-881-7586, E-mail rmastrion@comcast.net

Third MarDiv Association annual family reunion, 15-19 August '07 in Las Vegas. Contact: SgtMaj Bill Krueger, USMC (Ret) 703-451-3844; www.Caltrap.com; 7622 Highland St, Springfield, VA 22150-3931

11th Engineer Bn Association

reunion 5 - 8 Oct 07 at the Drawbridge Inn in Ft. Mitchell, KY. POC: Gary Gratton at grattondsl@msn.com ph #-970 240 2841

Marine Corps Engineer Association Assistance Fund : A Helping Hand To Those In Need

14 March 2007

In 2006, Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA) inaugurated an Assistance Fund as an enduring tribute to Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) engineer and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) personnel, their families - and those who served with them. The MCEA Assistance Fund will assist qualified applicants with either educational or financial assistance, based on need.

As a Non Profit veterans' organization, 100% of all donations to the Assistance Fund are tax deductible. There are a multitude of planned gift options at one's disposal. These include, but are not limited to, gift annuities, trusts and simple wills. More opportunities exist to provide gifts with a lot of flexibility.

The MCEA Assistance Fund is an excellent option for anyone wanting to make a one-time donation, annual donations, or, include the fund in one's trust or will. All donations will be used exclusively for the Assistance Fund to provide financial support to those Marines or families who qualify. Since the Assistance Fund is operated entirely by volunteers, with no facility or equipment expenses, all donations go to the fund's growth.

In its first year, the Assistance fund made two awards totaling \$750.00: one to a disabled Sgt and one to the dependent of a MAGTF engineer senior SNCO.

Information on the MCEA Assistance Fund such as eligibility and applications is provided via the MCEA website at www.marcorengasn.org. For those who do not have internet access, the address to receive information on the MCEA Assistance Fund is: Chairman, MCEA Assistance Fund, 269 Creedmoor Road, Jacksonville, NC 28546.

A core goal of MCEA is to assist members by "keeping in touch" as well as assist by "getting the word out." To that end, we especially wish to keep the Next of Kin (NOK) of Marines killed in action aware of our services - as respectfully and properly as should be. We will stay plugged into engineer battalion and Marine Wing Support Group/Squadron headquarters and Warrior Regiments to remind them of MCEA and its Assistance Fund.

We appreciate any comments and recommendations on how to best keep NOK of deceased Marines apprised of MCEA and its Assistance Fund service - if and when they may wish to seek MCEA support.

Our Assistance Fund Executive Committee includes: Jim Marapoti, Chairman; Terry Babin, Assistant Chairman; Mike McCarthy, Secretary; and, Rich Smith - Treasurer. I wish to express my deepest appreciation to my fellow Assistance Fund Executive Committee members - and the MCEA Executive Committee - who have assisted greatly in bringing us as far as we have come on this journey and labor of love to reach and assist fellow Marines or their NOK most in need of help.

Note that annual applications are due by 30 June. If you or someone you know needs the applications, they can be downloaded from our website or provided by contacting the above address.

Finally, we solicit input on how better to serve those in need and request All Hands give this information widest dissemination to ensure it reaches everyone who should know that the Assistance Fund exists - why it exists - and how to apply. Thank You. Very Respectfully and Semper Fidelis,

Jim Marapoti
Colonel, USMC, Ret
Chairman, MCEA Assistance Fund



2006 Reunion & Awards Banquet

Color Guard member Bernie Heaney in 1812 Marine Guard uniform, along with a "future Marine" in attendance at the October 11-13 Reunion and Awards Banquet in Boston, MA. (MCEA photo)

This year's Reunion and Awards Banquet was held in Peabody, Mass, just north of Boston on 11-13 October, 2006. Award recipients and their family members came from all over the world to receive their justly deserved recognition from the 120 in attendance. LtCol Kevin Leeman, USMC (Ret) & MSgt Phil Martin, USMC (Ret) spent the last year doing the detailed planning & coordination for the event. Additionally, the banquet was well supported by the 4th Marine Logistics Group Ordnance Contact Team Color Detail and drivers from Marine Wing Support Squadron 472. The MCEA was proud and honored to have one of its own members as our Guest of Honor and present the awards. BGen Frank A. Panter, Jr., Assistant Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics, Headquarters, Marine Corps, presented the individual and unit awards to the following:

Combat Engineer Field

Officer	1st Lt Bradford L Klusmann	2d CEB, Camp Lejeune, NC
Staff NCO	GySgt Ricky L Fode	1st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
NCO	Sgt Miguel Esser	8th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC
Marine	LCpl Adrian Magraner	7th ESB, Camp Pendleton, CA

Engineer Equipment Field

Officer	CWO2 John H Walter	7th ESB, Camp Pendleton, CA
Staff NCO	GySgt James M Hatchett	MWSS 172, Okinawa, Japan
NCO	Sgt Carlos F Zambrano	1st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
Marine	LCpl John B Dressler	3rd MRB, Okinawa, Japan

Continued on next page

Utilities Field

Officer	CWO3 Jeffrey L Hare	9th Comm Bn, Camp Pendleton, CA
Staff NCO	SSgt Richard Vaneycke	8th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC
NCO	Cpl David M Fuller	7th ESB, Camp Pendleton, CA
Marine	LCpl Jimmy J Matthews	MWSS 372, Camp Pendleton, CA

Bulk Fuel Field

Officer	CWO2 James M Seippel	7th ESB, Camp Pendleton, CA
Staff NCO	GySgt Richard Lundquist	8th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC
NCO	Sgt Marcus Emerson	8th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC
Marine	LCpl Jonathan A Thraser	MWSS 371, Yuma, AZ

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Field

Officer	CWO2 Bryan E Stotts	MWSS 374, 29 Palms, CA
EOD Tech	Sgt William Callahan	8th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC

Combat Engineer Battalion

1st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
2nd CEB, Camp Lejeune, NC

Engineer Support Battalion

8th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC

Marine Wing Support Squadron

MWSS 372, Camp Pendleton, CA
Engineer Div

Outstanding Naval Construction Force Unit

Naval Mobile Construction Bn 24,
Huntsville, AL

To read the Citations or view the entire Awards Banquet Program, visit: www.MarCorEngAsn.org & click on the "Awards Program & Recipients" page.

2007 MCEA REUNION OCTOBER 10-13, 2007 CAMP LEJEUNE, NC Area contact: Jim Marapoti, 910-353-6500, 269 Creedmore Rd Jacksonville NC 28546, jimmarapoti@ec.rr.com. Location: Camp Lejeune and Jacksonville area hotels. Schedule:

Wed, Oct 10: Registration/Welcome aboard Social in Jacksonville.

During registration, there will be information and sign up sheets available for the spouses' agenda including trips to New Bern/Tryon Palace and Wilmington, Cotton Exchange/Bellview Plantation.

Thurs: Oct 11: 0800 business mtg, USMC/Corporate Sponsor presentations. Open time till 1800. Cocktails followed by Awards banquet at O'Club. Spouses tour to New Bern or Wilmington during the day.

Fri: Oct 12: Tour engineer organizations all day

0800-0930: Tour Combat Engineer Battalion (Cmd Overview, Current Equipment, Marines at work)

1000-1130: Tour 8th Engineer Support Battalion (Cmd Overview, Current Equipment, Marines at work)

1200N: Lunch, MCEA Chow Hall (pay as you go)

1300-1430 Tour Marine Corps Engineer School (Cmd Overview, Training Engineers, Urban Breaching)

1430-1500 Tour Engineer Center of Excellence (IED-Defeat, Requirements, Doctrine overview)

(12 Oct: Spouses tour to New Bern, NC or Wilmington NC) (MCEA will provide Bus(s) for tours of Engineer units)

Sat: 13 Oct: (SAT) no organized tours

Watch for updates on our website at: WWW.MARCORENGASN.ORG

2006 Reunion & Banquet Memories



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