



ENGINEERS UP!

2011 Newsletter





2011 Newsletter Content

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....	4
ELECTED OFFICIALS	5
UPDATE FROM ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS	6
LIEUTENANT GENERAL PANTER.....	9
LIEUTENANT GENERAL WISSLER.....	10
BRIGADIER GENERAL NELSON	11
HONOR ROLL	12
CHAPLAIN LETTER	14
IN MEMORIUM.....	15
BYLAWS	19
ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES	20
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES	31
FINANCIAL REPORT	36
CORPORATE MEMBERS	38
2010 REUNION	40
IT WAS JUST A ROAD	50
MICLIC	54
2011 REUNION	56
MEMOIRS	57
SHIP'S STORE.....	59
ADMIRAL COMMENTS.....	61
TOAST TO THE FLAG.....	63



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings and heartfelt salutations to one & all!

We sincerely hope that all of you are enjoying life wherever you might be.

We trust you'll take pleasure in reading this year's newsletter and catching up on all that occurred over the last, very busy year. I've included several memoirs, articles and pictures that have been graciously provided from members and I want to thank all of you that have responded to my request. All of us are extremely proud of our Engineer heritage and I continue to be in awe of all that our currently serving Marines are doing around the World! Unfortunately, none of the units responded to my request for input this year.

I'll continue to collect, organize and eventually publish all of the articles, memoirs and pictures that we receive.

Many thanks to all of you that attended our gathering last year. It was by far, the longest, most expensive and hopefully, most enjoyable! The feedback from our attendees was excellent! You can read all the details and view the pictures in the 2010 reunion section.

Our upcoming reunion is in San Diego and I genuinely hope you are planning on joining us. We need your help in spreading the word to other individuals as well as the engineer related associations that you belong to. Read all about our 2011 San Diego reunion and please make your plans to attend.

We have almost 900 members on our rolls, but no two are alike. The one noteworthy item that we all have in common is our Marine Corps Engineer Association and our connection to our USMC engineer brotherhood. The overwhelming preponderance of our members only read the newsletters and emails and pay their dues. However, we have a special, more active and dedicated group of men and women who deserve recognition. That group consists of our elected Officers and the selfless volunteers who make all the behind the scenes, year round, actions happen. Another group that deserves exceptional recognition is our contributors, both individual and Corporate members who provide additional financial support so we can properly recognize awardees, continue to grow our Assistance Fund and offer financial support to the very deserving members and their family.

Someone once said, "Those who can-do. Those who can do more-volunteer." We're fortunate that our engineer brotherhood has many members who can do more, because without all of your help, our Marine Corps Engineer Association could not continue. Volunteers are priceless-however, often their work goes unnoticed, volunteers seldom make the headlines, and they are certainly not compensated for all their time and efforts.

As spring quickly approaches, think about how you can add your time and talent to our team and contact me. This is certainly in keeping with our Corps' ethos of discipline and selfless service.

Remember: What we do today will ensure success for our engineer brotherhood for decades to come, but only if we all communicate, plan and prepare with forethought and prudence.

Please read the Admin Notes section and ensure you complete the required actions. This is your time to communicate your desires to us, so let us know the good, the bad and especially what else we can do to continue our progress.

GOD Bless & Semper Fidelis,

Ken Frantz

4 - Engineers Up!



Elected Officials as of 14 Oct 2009

President/Secretary:	Ken Frantz, Col, USMC (Ret)
Vice President:	Hank Rudge, Col, USMC (Ret)
2nd Vice President:	Jerry Goodwine, Col, USMC (Ret)
Treasurer:	George Carlson, LtCol, USMC (Ret)
Chaplain:	Doug Kirk, Cpl USMC (Ret)
Historian:	Vacant
Appointments:	
Executive Director:	Ken Frantz, Col, USMC (Ret)
Permanent Associate Director:	Jim Marapoti, Col, USMC, (Ret) Founder and Past President
Webmaster:	Geoff Nicely

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS CHAIRPERSON & Vermont

Active Duty	Mrs Judy Coy
Bulk Fuel Coordinator/Mass.	Capt George Saenz
California	MSgt Phil Martin, USMC (Ret)
California	Major Jim Murphy, USMC (Ret)
California	LtCol Dave Littell, USMC (Ret)
Florida	Sgt Major Mike Magee USMC (Ret)
Georgia	CWO 3 Jack Wing, USMC (RET)
Maryland	LtCol Tony Hilliard, USMC (Ret)
New Jersey	Capt Jerry Sutton, USMC (Ret)
New Jersey	Capt John O’Keeffe, USMC (Ret)
New York	Vet Ken Osterman
North Carolina	Vet Mike Zacchea
North Carolina	Capt Floyd Wulfeck, USMC (Ret)
North Carolina	SSgt Ron Menke, USMC (Ret)
North Carolina	Capt Helmut Feifs, USMC (Ret)
Ohio	Vet Mike Hartley
Pennsylvania	Cpl Doug Kirk USMC (Ret)
Tennessee	Vet Bill Ward (Dr.)
Texas	GySgt Doug Dietz, USMC (Ret)
Together We Served	Vet Max Welden
Virginia	Vet Duel & Pam Jeans
Virginia	LtCol John Champeau, USMC (Ret)
Virginia	Col Bill Gooding, USMC (Ret)
Virginia	CWO 4 Brad Patch, USMC (Ret)
Virginia	LtCol Louis Nappi, USMC (Ret)

If you would like to be an Associate Director for your area or unit, contact Ken Frantz.



ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

OUR ENTIRE ENGINEER BROTHERHOOD OWES ALL OF OUR ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS!



COY

JUDY COY of Barton, VT. CHAIRPERSON AND VT. AD. Having been an AD since 2007, Judy recently agreed to take on the task of Chairperson as we quickly grew from 6 to 24 ADs over the last two months.

BILL GOODING of Dumfries, VA. One of our new VA. ADs.

BRAD PATCH of Fredericksburg, VA. One of the four new VA ADs. "Bulk Fuel, POL. How we gonna get it there, we won't tell".



PATCH



LITTELL

DAVE LITTELL of Oxnard, CA. One of our 3 new California ADs.

DOUG DIETZ, TENNESSEE –Morrison, TN. Continues as our only TN. AD for the last 2 years.

DUEL AND PAM JEANS of North Fork, CA. For two years, they have continued their superb work on the website, Together We Served by creating and maintaining profiles for our deceased members and fallen heroes; in addition to obtaining obituaries for both groups.



JEANS



WULFECK

FLOYD WULFECK of Reidsville, NC. One of four new NC ADs. I served our country as a Marine, as a Past Commandant for a Marine Corps League Det., as well as the Past President and current VP for the MC Bulk Fuel Assn. I think it is an honor and a privilege to serve as an Associate Director for the Marine Corps Engineer Assn.

GEORGE SAENZ of Woodbridge, VA. We're very pleased that Capt George Saenz, Cbt Engr Off of the year for 2008 and current student at Expeditionary Warfare School, will be AD for our active duty members. He is anxious to get involved after graduation.

HELMUTS FEIFS of Durham, NC. One of four new NC ADs.



SAENZ





WING

JACK WING of Apopka, FL. Volunteered last year to take over Florida responsibilities fulltime, after filling in for Bill Fullerton.



JERRY SUTTON of Baltimore, MD. Lone AD for MD.



JIM MURPHY of Los Osos, CA. One of our 3 new California ADs.



MURPHY



JOHN CHAMPEAU of Virginia Beach, VA. One of the four new VA ADs. "Looking forward to working with the MCEA and assisting Ken and the rest of his staff and the membership as needed. One of the best decisions I ever made was choosing "Engineers" over "Infantry" coming out of Basic School. The next 22 years were both fun and rewarding as I met and served with a cast of "characters" that made life very interesting! I look forward to more of the same since the "characters" are still the same, just a bit older!

SOAPY

JOHN O'KEEFFE of Wayne, NJ. One of two new NJ ADs.

KEN OSTERMAN of Martinsville, NJ. One of two new NJ ADs.



LOU NAPPI of Haymarket, VA. One of our new VA. ADs.

MAX WELDEN of Rowlett, TX. Lone AD for the Lone Star State!

MIKE HARTLEY of Morganton, NC. One of four new NC ADs.



OSTERMAN

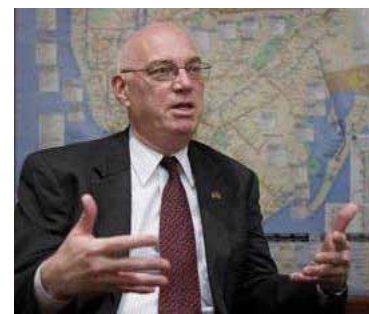


HARTLEY



MAGEE

MIKE MAGEE of North Fork, CA. One of our 3 new California ADs.



MIKE ZACCHEA of Floral Park, NY is our only NY AD.





MARTIN

PHIL MARTIN of Springfield, MA. Bulk Fuel and Mass. AD for 3 years. Continues his diligent volunteer efforts by calling each of our members on their birthday; emailing information and updates to non members and aggressively pursuing new members to come aboard; especially from the Bulk Fuel community. Looking forward to attending the annual Bulk Fuel Assn gathering, this May in Lejeune and expanding his book covering the history of the Marine Corps Bulk Fuel field .

RON MENKE of Sneads Ferry, NC. One of four new NC ADs.



HILLARD

TONY HILLIARD of Tucker, GA. Continues serving as our only GA. AD. for the last 2 years. "Here's info about the "Letters to Troops" we did at the city of Lilburn, Georgia's Fall community event. Our VFW Post had a tent and display, primarily as a "meet and greet" for the people in community...and of course we were recruiting. We had a very good response from the community.



There was much enthusiasm for the letter writing. We had folks from all age groups and walks of life come and see us. The result was over 60 letters and notes to the Marines of 3rd CEB. They were from the heart and some are very moving. I have included a picture of our Post crew. They hung in all the way for about 7 hours. The troops need to know that there are a lot of people who really care. VFW Post 12096, Lilburn Georgia.

DR. WILLIAM (GARY) WARD of Allentown, PA. Our sole AD for PA. "Being a member gives me a little of that 'coming home' feeling."

We can do more, but we need your help. If you have an hour a week or per month and are willing to help on a recurring basis or with a specific project, notify Frantz.



WARD

I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an honest man.

- George Washington



LIEUTENANT GENERAL FRANK A. PANTER, JR.

Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics

Lieutenant General Panter is presently serving as the Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics, Washington, DC.

Enlisting in the Marine Corps in August 1968, he served until 1972. This included a tour in the Republic of Vietnam with the 1st Marine Division. After graduating in 1975 from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology, he entered Officer Candidate School and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in July 1975.

Following The Basic School in 1976, Second Lieutenant Panter attended the Basic Combat Engineer Course. He then served as a Combat Engineer and Shore Party Platoon Commander, Alpha Company, 3D Combat Engineer Battalion, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii participating in several deployments throughout the Western Pacific. Transferred in July 1979 to the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Georgia, Captain Panter served as the Commanding General's aide-de-camp until 1982. Captain Panter then served as Inspector-Instructor for Headquarters & Service Company and Assistant Battalion Inspector-Instructor, 6th Engineer Support Battalion, Portland, Oregon until 1986. He was later assigned to Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington D.C. as an Acquisition Project Officer for engineer equipment.

In 1990 Major Panter was transferred to Okinawa, Japan and served as the Operations Officer and later as the Executive Officer for 3d Combat Engineer Battalion, 3d Marine Division. After being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel, he assumed command of the 3d Combat Engineer Battalion. While at 3d Combat Engineer Battalion he participated in Operation FIERY VIGIL, providing disaster relief assistance in the Philippines after the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo.

In 1993 Lieutenant Colonel Panter was transferred to United States Central Command, Tampa, Florida and served as the Branch Chief, Exercise Branch, Logistics and Security Assistance Directorate (J4) and also as the Humanitarian Assessment Survey Team (HAST) Chief.

During 1997 he was transferred to Naples, Italy, where he served as the Military Assistant and Senior Special Assistant to the Commander-in-Chief, United States Naval Forces Europe / Commander, Allied Forces Southern Europe.

In July 1998, Colonel Panter was transferred to United States Atlantic Command, Norfolk, Virginia where he served as the Deputy Chief and later Chief of the Current Operations Division, Operations Directorate (J3). During August 1999 Colonel Panter was transferred to the 2D Marine Aircraft Wing and served as the 2D Marine Aircraft Wing Inspector until assuming command of Marine Wing Support Group 27, which he commanded for two years.

From July 2002 until August 2003, Brigadier General Panter served as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Warfighting Lab in Quantico, VA and the Vice Chief, Office of Naval Research.

In September 2003 he assumed command of the 3d Marine Logistics Group. During this tour he commanded the Combined Support Group-Sri Lanka, Operation UNIFIED ASSISTANCE, which was responsible for U.S. military tsunami disaster relief assistance in Sri Lanka and the Maldives. Also during this tour, Brigadier General Panter deployed forces to Pakistan for earthquake disaster relief efforts as well as commanding the U.S. forces in Indonesia for earthquake disaster relief operations.

During August 2006 Brigadier General Panter was transferred to Headquarters, Marine Corps where he assumed duties as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics (Plans, Policy and Strategic Mobility). From 2007 to 2009, Major General Panter served as the Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Korea and Assistant Chief of Staff for Strategy and Plans, U/C/J-5, United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, and United States Forces Korea.

Lieutenant General Panter is a graduate of the United States Army's Advance Engineer Officer's Course, the Marine Corps' Command & Staff College, the Naval War College and the Air Force's Air War College (non resident). He has a Master of Education degree in Secondary Mathematics and a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.



LIEUTENANT GENERAL JOHN E. WISSLER

Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources

Lieutenant General John E. Wissler is currently serving as Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington DC.

Lieutenant General Wissler was born at Camp Pendleton, California and raised across the country, settling in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. He graduated with honors from the United States Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Ocean Engineering and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on 7 June 1978.



Lieutenant General Wissler's command assignments began with service commanding landing support (shore party) and combat engineer platoons, completing two 31st Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) deployments to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean. He deployed with MAU Service Support Group (MSSG) 31 with the MSSG Landing Support Platoon supporting OPERATION EAGLE CLAW in the Persian Gulf, and next commanded the Battalion Landing Team 3/3 Combat Engineer platoon. Lieutenant General Wissler also served as the Executive Officer, Engineer Company, Brigade Service Support Group, 1st Marine Brigade. His next command assignments occurred in 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, where he served as Commanding Officer for Headquarters and Service Company, "B" Company, and Engineer Support Company; deploying to Honduras with "B" Company and 2d Battalion 5th Marines as part of the I MEF Air Contingency Battalion. Field Grade command assignments began with service as the Executive Officer, Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Wing Support Group (MWSG) -17, 1st MAW, Okinawa, Japan; and continued with his assignment as Commanding Officer, 2d Combat Engineer Battalion, 2d Marine Division. Lieutenant General Wissler commanded twice as a Colonel, commanding 2d Transportation Support Battalion, 2d Force Service Support Group (FSSG), which served as the nucleus of Task Force Pegasus, providing operational and tactical level battlefield distribution capabilities in support of I Marine Expeditionary Force during Operation Iraqi Freedom during the liberation of Iraq; and as Commander, 2d FSSG Forward, II MEF Forward (MNF-W) for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) 04-06. General Officer command assignments have included Commanding General, 2d FSSG (Fwd) and 2d Marine Logistics Group, II MEF; Deputy Commanding General, MNF-W during OIF 09; Deputy Commanding General, II MEF; and Commanding General, 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

Lieutenant General Wissler's staff assignments include Facilities Maintenance Officer for Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD), San Diego; Battalion Operations Officer, 1st Combat Engineer Bn; Commandant of the Marine Corps' Amphibious Plans Study Group in support of Operation Desert Storm; Marine Corps Aide to the President from July 1991 to August 1993 serving Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton; Operations Officer and Executive Officer for MWSG-17, 1st MAW; Division Engineer, 2d Marine Division, II MEF; Deputy Director and Director, Strategic Initiatives Group, Plans, Policies & Operations Department, Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps where he headed the War Room for General James L. Jones, 32d Commandant of the Marine Corps; Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, 2d FSSG; and Senior Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense (The Honorable Gordon England). While serving the Deputy Secretary of Defense, at the request of the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Lieutenant General Wissler deployed to Iraq for two months in support of the Joint Forces Command Enabling Force Study that preceded "The Surge."

Lieutenant General Wissler has completed the Amphibious Warfare School non-resident program while in the Special Education Program; graduated with honors and was identified as a Distinguished Graduate at the Air Force Institute of Technology (AFIT), receiving a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and being awarded the AFIT Commandant's award for exceptional thesis research; is a distinguished graduate from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College Resident Program; completed the Armed Forces Staff College (now Joint Forces Staff College) at Norfolk, Virginia; and served as a Commandant of the Marine Corps and Federal Executive Fellow at The Brookings Institution in the Foreign Policy Studies Branch.



BRIGADIER GENERAL NIEL NELSON

Colonel Niel E. Nelson is currently the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics, HQMC. He has been selected for Brigadier General and is slated to be Commanding General, Training Command.



Following commissioning, he attended The Basic School followed by the Engineer School and was assigned to 8th Engineer Support Battalion, where he served as a Engineer platoon commander, company executive officer and company commander. His next tour took him to Inspector-Instructor duty in Bakersfield CA where he served as the I-I. Colonel Nelson then attended, and was a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Army Engineer Officer Advance Course.

Returning to the Fleet Marine Force in 1991, he became the S4 and Support Company Commander for 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion and the operations officer of 3rd Special Operations Training Group. In 1994, Colonel Nelson reported to the Marine Corps Systems Command where he was the Mine Countermine Project Officer with PM Engineers.

Colonel Nelson attended Marine Corps Command and Staff College followed by attendance at the School for Advance Warfighting. In 1999, he reported to II Marine Expeditionary Force G5 as the Southern Command Plans Officer and subsequently assumed command of 8th Engineer Support Battalion. This unit served with Task Force Tarawa and 1st Marine Division as an Assault Bridge Battalion during Operation Iraqi Freedom-I.

Following battalion command, Colonel Nelson attended the U. S. Army War College and was assigned to U.S. Pacific Command J4 as the Regional Engineer Plans Officer for Oceania and Southeast Asia. Following this tour he commanded The Marine Corps Engineer School from 2006 to 2008, when he became the Chief of Staff, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) and return to Iraq with the last Multinational Force - West (MNF-W). Colonel Nelson graduated from San Diego State University in 1984 receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree. He also holds M.S. Degrees in Systems Management, Military Science and International and Strategic Studies from Capitol College, Marine Corps University and Army War College respectively. Additionally, Colonel Nelson is a graduate of The Basic School, Basic and Advanced Engineer Officers Courses, Airborne School, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, USMC School for Advanced Warfighting, Joint Forces Staff College and the Army War College.

Personal decorations include the Legion of Merit with one Gold Star in lieu of two awards, Bronze Star with V Device, Defense Meritorious Service medal, Meritorious Service Medal with 1 Gold Star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with 2 Gold Stars, Army Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Colonel Nelson is married and has two children, both Marine Corps Officers.

*It's important to let people know what you stand for.
It's equally important that they know what you won't stand for.
--- Mary H. Waldrup*



HONOR ROLL

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

ALO, THOMAS T. GYSGT (RET)
 ANDERSON, JESSE LTCOL (RET)
 ARMSTRONG, MILT SSGT (RET)
 BANISH, THEODORE VET
 BARNETSON, WILLIAM H MAJ (RET)
 BENSTEAD, DARYL E. COL (RET)
 BLUME, CARL VET
 BRANDEL, RALPH E COL (RET)
 BRUTSMAN, DONALD MR
 CALLAHAN, BILL SSGT KIA
 CAREY, JAMES MSGT (RET)
 CLARK, ELMO A. CAPT (RET)
 COLE, JAMES MSGT (RET)
 *COROMELAS, NICK VET
 CREWS, JR., DUANE D. COL (RET)
 CUMMINS, MARTIN R. MSGT (RET)
 DAMON, ROBERT K. LTCOL (RET)
 DENORMANDIE, FRANK COL (RET)
 DUDDY, ROBERT J. MR VET
 DYBES, FRANK VET
 FADICK, CARL MR VET
 FELLINGER, BARRY MAJ (RET)
 FIANDER, WILLIAM MAJ (RET)
 FLOYD, JOSEPH C. MAJ (RET)
 FUNDERBURK, RAY LTCOL (RET)
 GANGEWERE, KENNETH SSGT (RET)
 GIBSON, CHARLES R LTCOL (RET)
 GIRAFFE, FRANK CPL (RET)
 GOSS, EUGENE W MYGYSGT (RET)
 GUBALA, TIMOTHY LTCOL (RET)
 HODIN, JOHN VET
 *HORNE, WILLIAM K. MGYSGT (RET)
 HUNTZINGER, HENRY J LTCOL (RET)
 JARVIS, JOHN VET
 JOHNSON, WARREN MGYSGT (RET)
 KROPINAK, ROBERT C MAJ (RET)
 LEAKE, NORMAN GYSGT (RET)
 LIVEZEY, JAMES W MAJ (RET)
 MACHA, JAMES F MSGT (RET)
 MARJANOV, JOHN MGYSGT (RET)
 McCARTER, LARRY CWO 4 (RET)
 MCGILL, DENNIS VET
 MILLS, DAVID C LTCOL (RET)
 NIEHOFF, HARRY VET
 O'CONNOR, JOHN B MR VET
 PALMER, RALPH CWO2 (RET)
 PEAGLER, JOE LTCOL (RET)
 PHANEUF, JOSEPH LTCOL (RET)
 PORTWOOD, TROY G MR VET
 REID, KENNETH R VET
 RITTER, JOE GYSGT (RET)
 ROBERTS, LONNIE MSGT (RET)
 *RUBIO, JOSE R MSGT (RET)
 SARDO, EUGENE VET
 SHARKEY, KEO J VET
 SHEPPARD, BILL GYSGT (RET)
 SILVERMAN, ALBERT MR VET
 SMITH, RAYMOND K MGYSGT (RET)
 SOGHOIAN, AVEDIS H MSGT (RET)
 SPIKERMAN, JACK MAJ (RET)
 *STERN, HERBERT GYSGT (RET)
 STUBBLEFIELD, ROBERT MR VET
 SULLIVAN, JOHN VET
 SWENSON, KEN VET
 TOMPKINS, ROBERT VET
 VEGA, MANUEL SGTMAJ (RET)
 VROOMAN, LYNDON F CAPT (RET)
 WEIGHTMAN, ROBERT 1STSGT (RET)
 *WIDEMAN, WILLIAM VET
 WILLIAMS, KENNETH W GYSGT (RET)
 WINOSKI, WALTER M COL (RET)
 YEAMAN, DON VET
 ZYSK, FRANK L VET

AMSTER, ALVIN A. MR
 ANGELL, HENRY SSGT (RET)
 BACHE, TERRANCE MR
 BARDIN, JAMES "LANCER" VET
 BATEMAN, JOSEPH S. VET
 BERNIER, RICHARD J CWO4 (RET)
 BOURQUE, RAYMOND D MAJ (RET)
 BREAKFIELD, BRODUS GYSGT (RET)
 BUCY, CLYDE T MGYSGT (RET)
 CALLOWAY, FRED VET
 CAREY, RALPH J MR VET
 *CLINE, PAUL L. CAPT (RET)
 COMPTON, JOSEPH MAJ (RET)
 CRAIG, JACK RAY CWO 2 (RET)
 CROMWELL, MELVIN E VET
 CUNNINGHAM, CHARLES R 1STSGT (RET)
 DAVIDSON, RUSSELL MSGT (RET)
 DERRICK, LEWIS C MR VET
 DUHE, CLARENCE VET
 ECHOLS, JAMES CAPT (RET)
 FAUST JR., RUDOLPH MAJ (RET)
 FERRARO, STEPHEN L. MR (RET)
 FIELDING, JOHN M. MSGT (RET)
 FOLEY, THOMAS MR
 GALBREATH, ROBERT VET
 GATES JR, ALBERT VET
 GILBO, PATRICK F MR VET
 GLENN, CARL J GYSGT (RET)
 GRADL, MICHAEL J VET
 *HAGERLING, SID COL (RET)
 HOLLINGSWORTH, JAMES K CWO4 (RET)
 HORTON, EVERAD MR VET
 JACOBSON, MILTON R GYSGT (RET)
 JOHNSON, GUSTOF MR VET
 JONES, THOMAS W LTCOL (RET)
 LANGLEY, JOSEPH A SGTMAJ (RET)
 LEWIS, JC. MSGT (RET)
 LOY, WILLIAM CAPT (RET)
 MACKAY, MARION GYSGT (RET)
 MAXWELL, LEO F GYSGT (RET)
 McCLURE, GARY L LTCOL (RET)
 McLAUGHLIN, RICHARD CAPT (RET)
 MURPHY, ROBERT F MSGT (RET)
 NUNN, GRANT P GYSGT (RET)
 OLSON, FREDRIC COL (RET)
 PALMER, ROBERT M CWO3 (RET)
 PEHOWIC, STANLEY A GYSGT (RET)
 PHELPS, WILLIAM E LTCOL (RET)
 READ, JOE CWO 2 (RET)
 *REYNOLDS, PAUL MSGT (RET)
 ROBERTS, JOHN SGTMAJ (RET)
 ROCKWELL, NOEL VET
 RUDAT, JUNIOR D GYSGT (RET)
 SAULNIER, JOHN L CAPT (RET)
 SHELKOFKY, EARNEST L MSGT (RET)
 SHIELDS, JIMMIE R MR
 SIMONSON, ARTHUR K MR
 SNYDER, GUY MSGT (RET)
 SOUZA, JOSEPH W VET
 STANDISH, PETER VET
 STOCKSTILL, PAUL R VET
 STURGEON, BILL VET
 SURKAMP, RICHARD VET
 SWINDALL, THOMAS MR VET
 TURNER, BLAINE L MR
 VIERS JR, W.GUS LTCOL (RET)
 WATTERS, RON T (MESSIO) MGYSGT (RET)
 WELCHERT, JERRY VET
 WIGGINS, ANDREW J GYSGT (RET)
 *WILLIAMS, STEVE CAPT (RET)
 WOODWARD, LEEMAN MGYSGT (RET)
 ZACK, CHARLES VET

ANDERSON, DAVID LTCOL (RET)
 ARMITAGE, GEORGE L CAPT (RET)
 BALLANCE, HENRY G. MSGT (RET)
 BARKER, LAWRENCE S MAJ (RET)
 BAUBLITZ, JOHN VET
 BIGITSCHKE, UWE MR
 BOYER, JASPER MSGT (RET)
 BROWN, MIKE VET
 BUTLER, FRANKLIN D GYSGT (RET)
 CAMPBELL, KENNETH B CWO (RET)
 CARPENTER, JACK (RET)
 COLANGELO, NICK E. MGYSGT (RET)
 COOPER, FRANCIS MGYSGT (RET)
 CRESAP, CHARLES C. LTCOL (RET)
 CROSBY, ARTHUR GYSGT (RET)
 DABROWSKI, WALTER VET
 DENNIS, NICHOLAS J COL (RET)
 DRISCOLL, BERNARD E. LTCOL (RET)
 DUNCAN, DAVID N. CWO4 (RET)
 EVANS, RAY MGYSGT (RET)
 FAY, CHARLES MAJ (RET)
 FEUER, HENRY O. CWO2 (RET)
 FISH, ROY MR VET
 FRANKOWSKI, JOSEPH MGYSGT (RET)
 GALLAGHER, JOHN F MGYSGT (RET)
 GAZZA, HENRY J MR
 GILES, SAM E MR
 GOINS, ROBERT LTCOL (RET)
 GREER, GENE MSGT (RET)
 HERR, KENNETH VET
 HOLZINGER, BERNARD MAJ (RET)
 *HOWARD, ANDREW J. VET
 JACQUES, MAURICE SGTMAJ (RET)
 JOHNSON, STEPHEN J CAPT (RET)
 KOENIG, CHARLES G. SGTMAJ (RET)
 LANIER, LUTHER L MSGT (RET)
 LIGGETT, JAMES E MSGT (RET)
 MacKENZIE, JAMES M LTCOL (RET)
 MADER, JOHN F COL (RET)
 MASTICE, JOSEPH MR VET
 McCOY, JIM MGYSGT (RET)
 McLAWHORN, LEON CAPT (RET)
 NAHRGANG, DONALD V LTCOL (RET)
 *O'CONNOR, JACK F MAJ (RET)
 O'MAHONEY, MIKE MAJ (RET)
 PARKER, PETER MR
 PENDERGAST, RICHARD L GYSGT (RET)
 *PICCIONE, JOSEPH M VET
 *REFFELT, EDWIN CAPT (RET)
 *RINGER, ED VET
 ROBERTS, KENNETH MR
 RODEBAUGH, ROBERT MSGT (RET)
 RUSHING, EDWIN VET
 SCHEER, CARL MGYSGT (RET)
 SHELTON, OTEY CWO4 (RET)
 SHOVAR, ROBERT J SGTMAJ (RET)
 SMITH, RAYMOND C VET
 SOFRONAS, GEORGE VET
 SOWA, JEROME MGYSGT (RET)
 STASIO, ANTHONY DR
 STOKES, RUFUS R MSGT (RET)
 STURZA, RAYMOND CAPT (RET)
 SVILKA, AL VET
 TERRY, EDWARD MSGT (RET)
 ULSH, AMON SSGT (RET)
 VOORHEES, JOHN CWO2 (RET)
 WEAVER, RALPH BO VET
 WICKHAM, JOHN D MR VET
 WILDER, WALLY VET
 *WILLIAMSON, MELVIN GYSGT (RET)
 WRIGHT, RICHARD CAPT (RET)
 ZEMATIS, WALTER J MGYSGT (RET)

Those with an asterick by their name have been added since last year's newsletter.



Caterpillar Supports our Marines...



Through history, from large-scale wars to low-intensity conflicts, from natural disasters to national emergencies, Cat® Construction Equipment has played a significant role in supporting the U.S. Marine Corps.

Caterpillar has the expertise to modify Cat Equipment to meet the needs of military customers. Caterpillar and its Dealers are actively providing technical service and parts support to all areas of the military saving the DoD millions of dollars in inventory and shipping costs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

JOHN FRAME
309.578.2244
Frame_John_J@cat.com
• USMC
• US Navy

RICK SHARP
(309) 578-3599
DFP_Machines_Manager@cat.com
DoD & FMS Machine Sales Manager
Marketing & Contracts

AFGHANISTAN
(Allied Machinery)
Phone: +93 20 232 0233
Website: www.aml.com.af
Email: support@aml.com.af

www.CATDFP.com



• Cat® parts/service support locations in Afghanistan

© 2011 Caterpillar | All Rights Reserved | CAT, CATERPILLAR, their respective logos, "Caterpillar Yellow" and the POWER EDGE trade dress, as well as corporate and product identity used herein, are trademarks of Caterpillar and may not be used without permission.



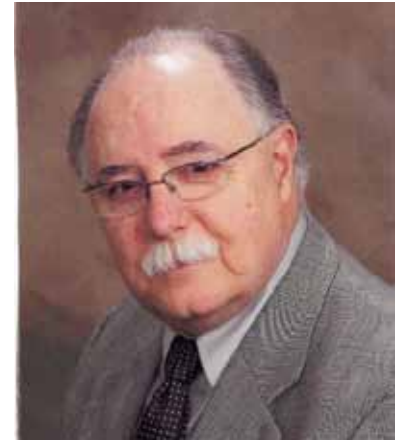
CHAPLAIN LETTER

Brother Marine Corps Engineer Association members,

As 2010 closed, we reflect on all the blessings we have received as well as those who have gone before us and those who continue to suffer illness.

Being a part of MCEA and your Chaplain has been my privilege, honor and a great blessing for me. Our Leaders have worked so diligently to keep us informed of all the latest and greatest info on our Corps and our Engineer Association.

Thank you Col Frantz for carrying me when I was unable to man my post during some trying times this year. Thank all of you for your prayers of support. They were received and much appreciated by my family and myself.



God has worked so many miracles in the lives of many of us and our family members this year past. I have been so humbled and blessed to have been used by God to pray and share those concerns and blessings, not only here but with many who do not belong to MCEA.

We pray for all those who continue to battle against illness and infirmities in our ranks and will petition our Lord on your behalf without ceasing until the Father completes his work in us.

Many in our ranks have passed on from this life to the next in 2010 and we continue to mourn with the surviving families and continually pray for God's Grace and Love to be poured out in comfort on them.

We pray endlessly for the Troops who serve in harm's way, even this day. May the Father surround them with a hedge of protection and may they feel his presence at work in their lives. We thank our Lord for raising up leaders who will support and empower our Troops to complete their missions around the world with the honor and bravery that we have become accustomed to in this great land.

We pray for our Commandant, our Corps, and our leaders, both military and political, to seek God's wisdom and act on his grace as they lead us from glory unto glory.

May 2011 find you and your families well and may those who suffer find strength and healing this year.

May 2011 be a testimony in each of our lives of God's love and grace. May we ever seek his wisdom and act upon it. May we be used to enlighten this dark world with goodness, love, dedication, diligence and fellowship that will continue to perpetuate our motto and glorify our God.

Sue and I cannot thank you enough for your support to our association and our Corps.

Semper Fidelis,

God bless each of you this year.

Doug Kirk

14 - Engineers Up!



IN MEMORIUM

IN MEMORIUM OF OUR RECENTLY DEPARTED ENGINEER BROTHERS

Cline, Paul L. Capt, USMC (Ret) VISTA, CA. -- lost his valiant battle with cancer on November 11, 2010. He was born in Middle Village, Queens, N.Y. on February 16, 1943 to Robert and Lois Cline. He left high school to join the military, but later went on to get an AA, BA, and finally a Master's degree. A decorated Vietnam veteran and Mustang, he served his country for 20 years as a US Marine. He then served his community for 17 plus years as director of Special Olympics in North San Diego. He was active with Civitan, Elks, VFW, and US Adaptive Recreation Center. Mr. Cline was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Kathleen; his parents; two brothers, (Richard and Donald); two nephews, and two nieces. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Annie; daughter and son-in-law, Maureen and Russell; daughter, Bridget; four granddaughters -Madison, Delaney, Kathleen, and Natalee; one grandson- Nolan; four sisters- Patricia, Roberta, Carol, and Priscilla; five "adopted" siblings- Neil, Eileen, Michael, Timothy, and Frank; many nieces and nephews; and numerous friends. Services were held November 19 at 11 a.m., at S. Mesa Chapel on Camp Pendleton. A celebration of life followed at the VFW in Vista.

Coromelas, Nicholas was born on May 14, 1928 to Peter and Asemo Coromelas in Canton, Ohio. He died in Los Alamitos, CA on October 15, 2009. He is survived by his wife, two sons and seven grandchildren. Funeral services were held at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Long Beach, CA, on Wednesday, October 21st.

Hagerling, Sidney, Col, USMC (Ret) of Ft. Collins, CO. died 12/2/2007, U.S. Army, WW II; U.S. Marine Corps., Korean War. He retired from the Central Intelligence Agency. He was a Mason, Shriner, and member of the Elks, Moose, VFW, FRA, American Legion, and many other military and service organizations. Preceded in death by his wife, Lt. Ruth E. Hagerling, U.S. Navy Waves, in 1996, and a son, Glenn S. Hagerling, on April 6, 1999. Survivors include sons, Don & George Hagerling; daughter, Elizabeth Ann Hagerling; daughters-in-law, Carol Hagerling and Faye Hagerling; grandchildren, Tina, Luke, & Paul Hagerling. Internment services were conducted with full military honors on Monday, December 31, 2007.

Horne, William "Bill" Kenneth of Vista, CA.- Retired MGYSGT Horne passed away at the age of 75 on Tuesday, May 11, 2010, surrounded by his family. He was born on March 27, 1935 in Cadwell, Georgia. Bill is the eldest of eight brothers and sisters. Bill faithfully served our country in the United States Marine Corps for 36 Years. While assigned to the 1st Marine Division, he fought in the Vietnam War and was decorated with a Bronze Star. While stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Bill broke the rifle range record and received Expert Marksman Awards for rifle and pistols. Following his retirement, Bill enjoyed spending time with his loving wife Marie, family, and friends, four-wheeling, camping, playing his guitars, and spending time at the rifle range. Bill is survived by his wife of 54 years Marie; daughters, Ann Keane, Jo-Ann Horne, and Teresa Bogart; his sons-in-law, Martin Keane and Ron Bogart; his grandchildren, Kenneth and Katie Keane, Dillon and Brandon Bogart. Services were held May 25, 2010, at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery, Cabrillo Memorial Dr., Point Loma, San Diego.



Howard, Andrew James "AJ" of Mission Viejo, CA. Dec 28, 1952 - Nov. 21, 2010 Dearly loved by his wife Leslie, sons James and Cory, sisters Elena, Judie, and Jennifer. After proudly serving in the United States Marine Corps, AJ returned to California where he met and married Leslie for 33 years. He loved his work and the people he worked with for 36 years in the City of San Clemente. AJ coached North Mission Viejo Little Leaguers for many years. He was a member of the Mission Viejo Activities Committee, and was active in the Marine Corps League as well as the Marine Corps Engineer Association. He was always known as one who gave more than he received. Services were held on November 27th at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest. AJ was loved by many and will be missed by all.

O'Connor, John Jack Francis, Major USMC (Ret), 77, of Hilliard, Ohio, died Sunday, May 31, 2009 at O.S.U. Medical Center. Director of Sales and Marketing for Ratcliff Hoist, he was a member of St. Thomas Moore Newman Center, U.S. Marine Corps veteran. Association of Korean War Veterans - Veterans of Foreign War, Association of Former New York State Troopers, Inc. and Ancient Order of Hibernians, Auburn NY. Preceded in death by his son, John F. O'Connor of Battle Creek, MI. Survived by wife, Madeline Sandy O'Connor of 57 years; sons, Michael, Joseph, and Matthew; daughters Nancy Ryerson, Madeline Brown, Brian O'Connor, Pamela Hogan, Heather Speaks, and Annett O'Connor; 22 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild. Burial at Resurrection Cemetery.

Piccione, Joseph, 78, died August 30, 2009 at Stuart Nursing & Restorative Care. He was born in Brooklyn, NY, and resided in Stuart, Florida for 20 years, coming from North Babylon, NY. He was a member of the VFW and the Marine Corps League. Survivors: Wife: Jean Piccione; Sisters: Frances Zuaro, Roberta Widor and Angi Scarangella. Preceded in death by: Brothers: Philip, Paul and Manuel Sister: Marie Crosley. A Mass of Christian burial was held Sept. 3 at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Interment was in South Florida National Cemetery in Lake Worth.

Reffelt, Edwin Lewis, Capt USMC (RET). 83, of Jacksonville, N.C. died November 20, 2010 at his residence. Mr. Reffelt was a native of Brooklyn, NY. He served in the US Navy from 1944 to 1947 as a Gunners Mate. During WWII he was a Member of US Navy Gunnery Crew protection convoy ship to England. From 1947 to 1976, he served in the US Marine Corps as an engineer equipment operator and mechanic and as an Engineer Equipment Officer. He served two tours in Korea and two tours in Vietnam. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal w/ combat "V", Navy Commendation Medal w/ combat "V", National Defense Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon, Combat Action Ribbon; Purple Heart; WWII Victory Medal, Atlantic Campaign Medal; Korean Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal; Vietnam Campaign Medal; Republic of Vietnam MVC Civic Action Ribbon and the RVN Cross of Gallantry. He was a member of the Masons, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Marine Corps Association, and the Marine Corps Engineer Association. He was preceded in death by his wife: Helen Clary Reffelt. A Graveside Service was conducted 24 November 2010 at Coastal Carolina State Veteran's Cemetery with Military Honors. Mr. Reffelt is survived by his daughter: Sherry Lynn Reffelt of Jacksonville; half sister: Barbra Mikelonis of California.

Reynolds, Paul C. MSgt. USMC (Ret) age 84 of Vanleer, TN. died February 22, 2011 at Walking Horse Assisted Living. He is survived by his son, Steve Reynolds (Brenda) of Hartselle, AL; daughters, Jane Edwards (Tom) of Vanleer, Gerry Browder (Bill) of State College, PA; brothers, James H. Reynolds (Ruby) of Dickson, Arthur S.



Reynolds of Burns, Franklin D. Reynolds of Murfreesboro; five grandchildren; two great grandchildren. Funeral services for Mr. Paul Reynolds were February 26, 2011 at the Chapel of the Taylor Funeral Home. Place of rest is in the Reynolds Family Cemetery.

Ringer Jr, Edwin E. "Sonny", 74, of Hickory, PA. died Thursday, May 13, 2010, in Washington Hospital. He was born July 1, 1935, in Smith Township, Cherry Valley, a son of Edwin E. and Anna E. McClements Ringer. Mr. Ringer had worked for Brady Felt and Ad Graphics in Pittsburgh, and in 1962 he started Ed Ringer's Screen Print in Westland. He served with the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War. He was a member of the Marine Corps League, Washington County Detachment 1138, where he was a founding member, first commandant and judge advocate for the state association. He also had dual memberships to several other detachments. He received several awards which included Chapel of Four Chaplains and the 1997 Marine of the Year. In 2000, he was named Mon Valley Leathernecks Marine of the Year. Mr. Ringer was founder and coach of Hickory Vikings youth football league, where he served for 18 years. He played semi-pro football from 1961 to 1973 for the Washington Generals. Mr. Ringer was a member of American Legion Post 902, Houston, and was an honorary member of Hickory Lions and Hickory Volunteer Fire Department. In 1995, he was named Distinguished Citizen of Mt. Pleasant Township. He also organized and started Boy Scout Troop 77 in Westland. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church, Washington, and was a member of the former Westland Presbyterian Church. On May 8, 1954, he married Lucille Lagoni, who survives. Surviving, in addition to his wife, are a daughter, Debra Ringer of Marianna; a son, Edwin E. Ringer III (Rosalie) of Hickory; four grandchildren, Staff Sgt. Justin Sienkiel (Rachel), Brandon Sienkiel (Cassy), Eddie Ringer and Lauren Ringer; three great-grandsons, Ian, Christian and Nolan; and two brothers, Jack R. Ringer (Dee) of Ashtabula, Ohio, and James W. Ringer (Bonnie) of Hickory. services were held May 17, with interment in National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Cecil Township. Full military rites were accorded by Marine Corps League, Washington County Detachment 1138.

Rubio, Jose (Joe) born 1 Dec 1936, died 25 Dec 2009. Retired as Master Sergeant of Marines after a distinguished career as an engineer equipment operator and Chief. Resided in Baker, Florida.

Stern, Herbert GySgt USMC (Ret), 81, was born February 8, 1928 in Cleveland, OH and passed away August 13, 2009 in Anaheim, CA. Survived by wife, Frances Stern; sons, Jimmy, Jerry, Brian and Ross; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral services were August 18, 2009, with burial at Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside County, California.

Stern, Herbert GySgt USMC (Ret), 81 was born February 8, 1928 in Cleveland, OH and passed away August 13, 2009 in Anaheim, CA. Survived by wife, Frances Stern; sons, Jimmy, Jerry, Brian and Ross; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral services were August 18, 2009, with burial at Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside County, California.

Wideman, William "Clay", 88, of Festus, MO. passed away on June 9, 2009 at Jefferson Barracks Hospice Care. He was the owner of Wideman Pools in Festus. Mr Wideman was a United States Marines Corps veteran and served in World War II. He was a member of VFW Post #3777/Festus and the China Marines Association. Born March 9, 1921 in Coldwater, Kansas to the late William and Nora (Vaughn) Wideman. He is survived by his sons: Wayne (Alice) Wideman of Imperial and Dennis (Bernadette) Wideman of Barnhart, daughter: Barbara (Charles) Schroeder of St Louis, brother: Elvin (Juanita) Wideman of West Plains, MO and sister: Vivian (Eddie) Nelson



of Bonne Terre, MO along with 8 grandchildren, 6 great great grandchildren and much loved dog, Dumpling. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy (Rodden) Wideman who passed away in 1999. Services and interment were conducted 15 June, 2009 at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

Williams, Saville “Steve”, Capt USMC (Ret) was born in Bloomfield, Missouri on December 11, 1927 and passed away at home in Sun City, CA on September 16, 2010. He is survived by his loving wife of 18 years Janet; 3 children Craig Williams, Edward "Jay" Williams, and Anne Marie Eustice; 3 step-children Laura Burgwin (Frank), Tracy Scholl (Bill), & Colin Smith (Lisa); 8 grandchildren Anthony, Edward, Christopher, Sarah, David, Heather, Jessica, & Sarah; and 2 great-grandchildren Savannah & Joey. Professionally, Steve served in the Marine Corps for 23 years and retired as Captain. He then worked as the Safety Manager for Disneyland for 26 years. Steve enjoyed fishing, traveling in his motor-home, singing, and writing songs. To name a few, he wrote "Room full of Roses" "Release Me" "Fraulein" and "All my Exes Live in Texas". Steve was a member of the Elks, American Legion, and the VFW. Steve was a very honorable and caring man. He had a love for people and made friends easily. The burial was at Riverside National Cemetery, California.

Williamson, Melvin R. GySgt USMC (Ret) born 16 June 1926 and passed away 21 Feb. 2011 in his home in San Antonio, Texas. No obituary was created.

Williamson, Melvin R. GySgt USMC (Ret) born 16 June 1926 and passed away 21 Feb. 2011 in his home in San Antonio, Texas. No obituary was created.



**Heroes: “It is foolish and wrong to mourn the dead.
Rather, we should thank GOD that such people lived.”
- General George S. Patton, Jr.**



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 proud 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 501c (19), 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

BAE CORPORATION
TEREX CORPORATION

GOLD

ANDERSON, VIRGIL (VET)
CATERPILLAR CORPORATION
CONCURRENT TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION
DeGENNARO, ANTHONY A. CAPT USMC (RET)
FORCE PROTECTION INDUSTRIES
FRANTZ, KEN COL USMC (RET)
HARRIS-INMAN, TERRY LTCOL USMC (RET)
HNTB FEDERAL
KALMAR RT CENTER, LLC
LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES
MARAPOTI, JIM COL USMC (RET)
QUEEN, WAYNE A. MGYSGT USMC (RET)
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS

SILVER

CARLSON, GEORGE LTCOL USMC (RET)
HOWARD, ANDREW (VET)
JONES, JUNIOR MGYSGT USMC (RET)
RODEBAUGH, ROBERT MSGT USMC (RET)
SCIENCE APPLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

BRONZE

CHECKERBOARD INDUSTRIES
DEWEY ELECTRONICS CORPORATION
FOORE, BRAD LTCOL USMC (RET)
MURPHY, JIM MAJOR USMC (RET)
SHORTER, JAMES SSGT USMC
TOWNSEND, ED MAJOR USMC (RET)
TRAUM, GERALD (VET)

*MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MCEA OR THE MCEA ASSISTANCE FUND & MAIL TO:
MCEA PO BOX 322 ASHVILLE, NY 14710*



ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Please note that our mailing address is:

MCEA PO Box 322 Ashville, NY 14710

Phone #: 716-763-5655/716-720-1206

Individual dues are \$25 for 1 year; \$60 for 3 years; and \$500 for a lifetime membership. Corporate members' dues are \$400 per year.

Annual dues expire 31 Dec, 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.

Fortunately we're done with tax season for this year, but don't forget that 100% of your dues and contributions to MCEA and the Assistance Fund are tax deductible.

The enclosed Members' roster includes our members with expired dues. Please help us to get them back in the active status & encourage them to join us for our reunions. Our deceased members 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 via email, 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 Oct 26-28, 2011 Reunion/Awards Banquet will be held in San Diego. Details & registration form are included. Hope to see you all there!

As you can see by reading the minutes and reviewing the financial status report, we continue to increase 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 expense categories, please let us know.

We've loaded over a 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

1. 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



2. Enclosed is the 2011 Reunion Form for you to complete & return if you are planning on attending this years' reunion.
3. Elections are due this year. If you want your name on the ballot, notify Frantz no later than 15 June 2011.
4. Review the below revised Bylaws and the Active duty recruiting initiatives; notify Frantz no later than 15 June if you non-concur with either of the proposed actions.
5. If you know of someone who is interested in joining MCEA & needs more information, please let Frantz know the contact info.
6. Please help us by spreading the word to your contacts who served with us as well as other associations about our 2011 "Gathering". Additionally, help us publicize our Assistance Fund; we truly are "here to help"!
7. Lastly, and arguably most important, our Association has had an all encompassing set of goals since inception.
 - A. Promote engineering and related MOSs.
 - B. Renew/perpetuate fellowship.
 - C. Locate and preserve the memory of those who served.
 - D. Preservation of historical account.
 - E. Foster solidarity.
 - F. Honor/recognize Active/reserve duty individuals and units.

The reality is that we cannot adequately address all of the above stated goals with the limited number of part-time volunteers.

If you are satisfied with just receiving an annual Newsletter and/or attending the Reunion, then all we ask of you is to pay your dues on time and notify us of any change in your contact information.

HOWEVER, if you agree with us that we need to pursue all of our goals further, then we need to hear from you on what you can do to help. Additionally, we need feedback from all of our members on how we can improve. You've elected the Executive Committee to represent you, so let us know what else you want done. Any and all ideas would be appreciated! Send to Frantz

Proposed revisions as of 10 April, 2011

BYLAWS OF THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I – OBJECTIVES

Section 1. General. The objectives of the Marine Corps Engineer Association (the "Association") are as follows:

To promote professionalism and fraternalism for active and former members of the Marine Corps and US Armed Forces who served with the Marine Corps in the fields of combat engineering, engineer equipment, utilities, bridging, bulk fuel, topographic and construction surveying and drafting, explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), shore party, Civil Engineering, facilities management, and facilities maintenance. To renew and perpetuate fellowship of all U. S. Marines, Navy, Army and Air Force personnel or military engineers from allied nations who served with or were attached to USMC engineer organizations; To locate and preserve the memory of those who served; To promote preservation of a historical account of USMC engineering and contributions of USMC engineers during combat operations; and, to foster solidarity of the U.S. Marine Corps engineering community.



Section 2. Non-Profit. None of the aforementioned objectives shall be construed to authorize the Association to conduct activities for monetary profit or financial gain or to attempt to influence legislation. This organization exists exclusively for fraternal, charitable, educational, and scientific purposes.

Section 3: In conjunction with Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps and the Department of the Navy, conduct an annual Awards banquet to recognize and honor outstanding leadership and achievements of individual Marines within the MOS fields embraced by this association as well as honor outstanding achievements of U.S. Marine Corps organizations and U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps organizations.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Criteria. Membership shall be open to all active duty, reserve, retired and honorably discharged U.S. 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. Membership in the Association does not confer on members the privilege of using Base facilities.

Section 2. Associate Membership. The Association shall provide for associate members. An associate membership may be granted to the next of kin of any person alive or deceased set forth in Section 1 above. Associate membership may also be granted to Army, Air Force, Navy or military engineers from allied nations and civilian personnel who supported USMC engineers. By IRS requirement, 75% of MCEA members must be veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and 97.5% must be U. S. Armed Forces veterans, their spouses, or persons who are ancestors or descendants of veterans.

Section 3. Dues. Annual dues will be assessed to members based on the financial necessity to cover administration costs of the Association. Dues:

- a. may be adjusted annually to reflect the cost of inflation and Association needs.
- b. will be adjusted by the Executive Committee when necessary.
- c. will be paid for membership from 1 January to 31 December of each calendar year.

Section 4. Lifetime Membership. Lifetime membership is open to all who meet the criteria in Section 1. The cost of Lifetime Membership will be determined by the Executive Committee and may be adjusted on an “as needed” basis.

Section 5. Corporate Membership. A legally established company or corporation, who by their efforts or products contribute to the mission of U.S. Marine Corps engineers or support military forces or veterans groups, may be granted membership with annual dues in an amount set by the executive Committee.

Section 6. Termination of Membership.

a. Members may terminate their membership or may be terminated involuntarily. A member may resign by written notification or failure to pay dues. Reinstatement may be accomplished by submitting a new application and payment of dues.

b. Members who pay their current year annual dues by 28 February will remain in good standing. Failure to pay annual dues by 28 February will automatically suspend membership until dues are paid. Renewal reminders will be provided for one year to members who are in arrears in dues payments.

c. A member may be expelled by two thirds vote of the Executive Committee for conduct prejudicial to the aims or repute of the Association or the U.S. Marine Corps, after notice and opportunity for a hearing are afforded the member complained against.



ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

Section 1. Annual Business Meeting. A business meeting will be conducted during the annual MCEA Reunion. All dues current members shall be eligible to vote on any matter. Other meetings may be called by the president or by a written petition of two-thirds of the members. To conduct business, a quorum of five members must be present. Simple majority of those current members present will constitute acceptance of routine business matters. Meetings will be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. Bylaw changes will be accomplished in accordance with Article VI-Amendments.

Section 2. Committees. Committees shall be appointed by the President from time to time, and may be appointed for any reason deemed necessary to conduct Association business.

ARTICLE IV – CHAPTERS/LOCAL GROUPS

Section 1. Chapters of the Marine Corps Engineer Association may be organized by members in good standing of the Marine Corps Engineer Association.

a. All active Chapter members must meet the membership criteria established in Article II and be members in good standing of the Marine Corps Engineer Association.

b. A Charter will be issued by the Marine Corps Engineer Association when a chapter has been organized, has adopted Bylaws of the MCEA; and such Bylaws have been presented to the Executive Committee of the Marine Corps Engineer Association along with:

- (1) a roster of Active Members of the Chapter or Group,
- (2) the names of the elected officers,
- (3) an approved petition to the Executive Committee of the Marine Corps Engineer Association requesting a Charter.

c. The official name of the Chapter will consist of the word “Chapter” preceded by the name of the chapter followed by the words “Marine Corps Engineer Association.”

d. Chapters will be chartered by the Marine Corps Engineer Association when the conditions of section 1 b (above) have been met. Chapters may not function as a part of the Marine Corps Engineer Association without a Charter.

e. When Chapters have been chartered by the Marine Corps Engineer Association, application may be made for a Charter from State or Multi-States in which the Chapter has been formed with regards to state laws regarding incorporation and tax-free status of non-profit organizations.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, and permanent Associate Directors. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the general management of the Association’s business, and will govern the Association between meetings. The MCEA Executive Committee members will maintain turnover folders. These turnover folders should be made available to their replacements once new officers are elected. In the event an office is vacant, the turnover folder will be provided to the Executive Director.



Section 2. Election, Term of Office and Replacement. The Officers of the Association shall be elected by the dues current membership for a term of two years. Any vacancy in any office caused by any reason whatsoever may be filled by temporary appointment by the President, with the concurrence of the other Officers (in writing) until the next annual meeting when the office shall be filled through election. Any Officer may be elected to a subsequent term.

Section 3. President. The President shall preside over all meetings of the membership. He shall see that all membership decisions are implemented. The President or his designated representative, shall attend, where possible, all meetings with other civic, political and/or veterans' organizations where the representation of this organization is desired, requested or deemed necessary. In the event of a vacancy in one or more of the offices of the Association, the President may assign the duties of that office to one or more of the other officers.

Section 4. Vice President. The Vice President shall have such powers and duties as may be delegated by the President. During the absence of the President, the Vice President will assume the duties of the President and direct Association business. The Vice President will monitor all assigned committees and report progress to the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Second Vice President. The Second Vice President shall have such powers and duties as may be delegated by the President. The Second Vice President will assume the Vice President's duties in the event of the Vice President's absence.

Section 6. Secretary. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Executive Committee and of the general membership and record all proceedings. The Secretary shall perform all duties pertaining to the office of Secretary and such other duties not inconsistent with these, as may be assigned by the President. The Secretary shall make certain that the minutes of all meetings are properly prepared and filed. The Secretary will develop programs to increase the membership through advertising and direct mail programs and will coordinate the recruitment of new members. The Secretary, in conjunction with the Webmaster, will maintain the MCEA website and ensure that a printed copy of the newsletter is provided to dues current members who do not have internet access. The results of the annual business meeting and Awards Banquet will be posted to the website no later than 30 days after the annual meeting.

Section 7. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys payable to the Association and deposit the same in Association accounts in a financial institution chosen by the Executive Committee. All lawful payments of obligations will be made by the Treasurer. The treasurer shall have custody of all securities, valuable papers and documents of the Association. The Treasurer shall keep or cause to be kept a book or books that contain an accurate record of all receipts, deposits and disbursements. This can be accomplished either manually or electronically. At no time will electronic records be permitted without manual records and/or geographically distributed back-ups for all but the current operating month. The Treasurer will render a verbal report of the financial condition of Marine Corps Engineer Association at each meeting and provide a written copy of the year-to-date ledger to the President and Secretary. The Treasurer shall perform all duties incident to the office of the Treasurer, and have such powers and duties as may be delegated by the President. The Association's financial records can be audited at any time. An annual review of finances will be conducted by an appointed MCEA Financial Review Committee, within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year, and will abide by statutory regulations regarding Certified Public Accountant review of MCEA Funds that may be generated from public monies such as Grants. The results of this review will be briefed at the annual business meeting.

Section 8. Chaplain. The Chaplain shall open and close all meetings with a prayer, shall correspond with all



surviving next of kin of members who may die, and shall conduct or cause to be conducted memorial services as necessary.

Section 9. Historian. The Historian shall research, catalog and maintain military historical data on USMC engineer participation in past conflicts. The Historian shall develop programs for the Association that will increase public awareness of the heroic efforts put forth by Marine engineers, Shore Party, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Bulk Fuel, utilities and drafting/surveying and topographic personnel during conflicts.

Section 10. Permanent Associate Directors. Permanent Associate Directors will be assigned, in writing, by the President and with the individuals consent. Members who previously served in an elected billet qualify to be appointed as a Permanent Associate Director. Permanent Associate Directors will be appointed for an indefinite term of office and may resign at any time by notifying the President in writing.

Section 11. Associate Directors. Associate Directors will be assigned, in writing, by the Executive Committee with the individuals consent. A copy of the assignment letter will be provided to the Secretary as the custodian of the Association's records. There will be no restriction to the number that may serve, based on the needs of the Association. Associate Directors may be selected to: represent areas of high membership residency or residency near Marine Corps Facilities; utilize special talents or expertise in leadership; represent the Association in the area in which they reside; and perform special tasks assigned by the President. Associate Directors will serve as advisors to the Executive Committee as well as representing the membership. There will be no term of office. Associate Directors may resign at any time by notifying the President and may be terminated by the Executive Committee if the purpose of the assignment no longer exists or their dues become delinquent. Associate Directors will provide a written report to the Executive Committee two weeks prior to the annual business meeting. The report will include an update on Associate Director actions and accomplishments regarding contacts with members in their area; dissemination of information; recruiting efforts; identifying any member in need of special assistance or recently deceased; and, any recommended changes to their specific duties. The summarized reports will be read into the meeting minutes. Associate Directors who cannot provide the required services and support above, should so advise the President to pass the Associate Directorship and its important functions, to another MCEA member.

Section 12. Executive Director. An Executive Director will be appointed by the Executive Committee. The position will have no term of office. The Executive Director is considered an officer for legal purposes, and is a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Director will :

- a. receive direction from the President and the Executive Committee;
- b. work closely with the elected Officers to coordinate the business activities of the Association;
- c. lend continuity to Association operations;
- d. keep the President and Executive Committee apprised of the Association's business;
- e. execute contracts, documents, and other financial instruments as authorized by the elected Officers;
- f. prepare, post and disseminate all legal notices, correspondence and other materials as required by laws, statutes and regulations;
- g. in the event that an IRS Report is required, coordinate with the Treasurer, for its submission.
- h. be the custodian for all official records of the Association.
- i. ensure that all membership decisions are implemented.

Section 13. Compensation. Officers shall not receive any salary or other compensation for services rendered as an Officer.



Section 14: Authorization to Expend Monies. Checks shall be signed by the Treasurer or Executive Director (if one is appointed). The Executive Committee will authorize the Treasurer and/or the Executive Director to make routine payments up to certain, budgeted limits established by the Executive Committee without further approval. The Executive Committee may also establish other controls and limits on expenditures as they see fit.

Section 15. Succession of Authority. In the absence of the President, the following Officers will succeed in the line of authority:

- a. Vice President
- b. Second Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Historian
- f. Chaplain

ARTICLE VI – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended, supplemented, or otherwise changed by a vote of the dues current membership. Notice of proposed changes and rationale will be provided to current members three months prior to next business meeting via e-mail and mailings (for those who do not have internet connectivity). Changes will be posted on the MCEA Website and voted on via e-mail and mailed ballots. Results of the Amendment balloting will be announced during the Business Meeting at the annual Reunion.

ARTICLE VII – DISSOLUTION

Section 1. Dissolution of the Association will be upon the initiative of the membership. The Association may be dissolved at any annual Business meeting upon a two-thirds vote of all members present provided that an announcement of such intended action has been published to all members by voting ballot at least three months prior to the intended act of dissolution.

ARTICLE VIII – DISPOSAL OF RESIDUAL ASSETS

Section 1. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in sections 501 (c) (3) and 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding sections of any prior or future law, or to the Federal, State, or local government for exclusive public purpose.

Section 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this organization will not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (a) an organization exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law or (b) an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue of 1954 or any other corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

ARTICLE IX – FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. A one-to-one ratio of cash available to current liabilities will be maintained.



Section 2. Members may be personally, financially responsible for the debts and liabilities of the Association. The liability determination will be governed by North Carolina law.

ARTICLE X – SPECIAL FUNDS

Section 1. MCEA shall sponsor such Special Funds (for example, an MCEA Assistance Fund) as it deems most effective to assist members of the MCEA, their next of kin, or others deemed eligible to receive benefits from those funds.

- a. A committee will be formed to oversee the Fund and will be comprised of at least a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
- b. Fund guidelines and operating procedures, and any recommended amendments, will be drafted and submitted to the MCEA Executive Committee for approval.
- c. Annual Reports will be provided to the MCEA Executive Committee on, but not limited to, the Fund's financial status and any required IRS Non Profit Reporting requirements.
- d. Annually, solicit nominations for award recipients and recommend award recipients to the MCEA Executive Committee by 1 August.

ARTICLE XI– SECTION 1, 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 shall 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 will be established and adjusted as necessary by the Executive Committee.

APPENDIX A

Matters Established by the Executive Committee

Article II, Section 3, Dues:

Regular and Associate Members: \$25/year; 3 years=\$60

Lifetime Membership: \$500

Corporate Membership: \$400

Article III, Section 1, Annual Business Meeting:

The Annual Reunion is currently set for the second week in October but may be changed to avoid conflict with other organizations' annual meetings and to obtain a better hotel rate.

Article XI, Section 1, Fellows:

Categories and Dollar Amounts—

Platinum (\$5000 or more);

Gold (\$1000 to \$4999);

Silver (\$500 to \$999);

Bronze ((\$250 to \$499);



Annual Financial Review: Conduct review of Calendar year financial records annually by MCEA member(s). Every third year, pay for outside financial review.

Reunion SOP Retained and utilized by Executive Director.

Associate Directors duties: Retained by Executive Director and used by AD Chairperson and Associate Directors.

GOAL: INCREASE ACTIVE DUTY/ACTIVE RESERVE MEMBERSHIP IN MCEA

24 March 2011

Current actions:

- Expeditionary Warfighting School: Present personalized clock and certificate to Honor Engineer Of ficer graduate in each class. 2010 cost: \$205 plus nominal cost for certificate. Next presentation, 12 May 2011.
- Marine Corps Engineer School: Designed & provided certificate (joint MCES & MCEA) to Dir of Instruction; informed that certificates no longer issued. MCA recognizes honor grads; nothing from SAME. Nominal cost.
- Best of the Best Annual Engr awards: Present plaque, newsltr, lapel pin, decal, membership card, 1 year complimentary membership and awardee shirt, plus MCEA T-shirt. (18 individuals plus max of 8 with 2 per Cmds) 2010 cost: \$28 per. If SAME doesn't support banquet costs for some locations and we pick up it would rise to about \$120 based on this year's attendance/absence rate.
- MCEA Rep at SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference – highly variable depending on how much travel and lodging involved. 2010 cost \$50 for local travel and parking.

Options:

1. Award 1 year complimentary membership & certificate to retiring Marine Engrs, EOD & Bulk Fuel. Complimentary membership costs \$6 for gratis issue and one time shipping. Certificate cost is nominal. Presuming e-mail for newsletter, no additional out-of-pocket costs. If no internet access, newsletter costs about \$15 for printing and mailing. Quantity is unknown.
2. Award complimentary membership &/or other items to Honor grads at: MCES; Ft. L. Wood det; Bulk Fuel School, Ft. Knox, Assault Breacher Vehicle crew & mech). Complimentary membership costs about \$6 for gratis issue and one time shipping. Costs for "other items" depend on what is given. Presuming e-mail for newsletter, no additional out-of-pocket costs. If we limit the awd pkg to certificate, decal (\$1.81) and lapel pin (\$1.33), cost will be less than \$5. Quantity=269 classes per year; 1 honor grad/class X \$5=\$1345
3. Award complimentary membership &/or other items to Engr Units: Marine & NCO of the Qtr/Year; Meritorious promotions. Complimentary membership costs about \$6 for gratis issue and one time shipping. Costs for "other items" depend on what is given. Presuming e-mail for newsletter, no additional out-of-pocket costs. Exact quantity is unknown. Using only Marine/NCO of the Qtr quantities: 1-MCES, 4-CEBs, 4-ESBs, 13-MWSS, 9-CLR, 0-CLBs, 1-CAB Engr Co=32 units; one NCO & one Marine/qtr/unit=256 X \$5=\$1280; 32 X 2/year X \$5=\$320 for total of \$1600.
4. Offer one time, 3 year membership for \$30 to AD/AR. Costs about \$6 for gratis issue and one time shipping. Presuming e-mail for newsletter, no additional out-of-pocket costs. Quantity is unknown, but dues revenue more than cover costs.



Treasurer note: 2010 sponsorships yielded \$9,000 in revenue. Total award costs are about \$2,200. Even if we tapped this source to support banquet when SAME does not (\$2,380 this year) we still have over \$4,000 that could go toward other awards/recognition from that source alone.

Of the 74 active/reserve MCEA members who were asked to prioritize the above 4 options, 14 replied and agreed with the rankings of the EC i.e. Priority remains as listed above 1-4. Therefore, **recommend implementation of all 4 options during this Calendar Year.**

For options 1, 2 & 3: Upon request from units, recommend we provide lapel pins & decals, along with word. doc of MCEA letter of congratulations (fact sheet on back) & certificate. Unit will insert Name and date & print out certificate plus letter for each recipient, as required. Letter will include requirement for recipient to activate membership via website or completion of membership application and submission by mail. That will get us the needed name and contact information and eliminate the need to provide the units a stock of blank membership cards or me having to mail one each time it's required. This will also reduce the overall cost to MCEA since the pin & decal only cost us \$3.14 to purchase. There will still be a one per year shipping cost of the items to the units. The downside is, we're relying on the units to initiate and follow through on the actions required. Additionally, if the recipients don't submit their application, they'll not become members. But at least they'll be well aware of who we are, how to contact us and what we're all about!

For option 4, 3 year membership for \$30-we'll need widespread publicity to include our website, Mil.com, Leatherneck & Gazette, plus announcements to each of our Engr unit Cdrs & Sgts. Major.

The options will be implemented incrementally and evaluated after one year to determine the feasibility, advantages and cost effectiveness of continuing the programs.

If you agree with the above initiatives and expense, you don't need to do anything; your silence is your consent. On the other hand, if you disagree with any of the outlay and enterprises, notify Frantz in writing no later than 15 June 2011.

REUNIONS

Based on feedback from our members, our 2012 reunion will be held in the Branson, MO. Dates are 10-12 Oct, 2012 and we have reservations at The Radisson Hotel. As discussed at our Annual business meeting, the 2013 location is Orlando, Florida.

Bulk Fuel Association will hold their reunion May 13-15, at Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville area. POC: CWO 4 Nate Wilson, Ph: 918-605-2307, natewilson@aol.com. The Bulk Fuel Association Dinner will be held at the Paradise Point Officers Club at Camp Lejeune. Social Hour will start at 1700. Dinner will be at 1830. Call/ email Jim Hendrix before April 15, 2011 and he will tell you what to do to get on base. Ph#: 910 581 0735 or jim.hendrix@hawthorneservices.net.

9th Engineer Bn & 1st Shore Party Reunion 6/12/11-6/16/11 (Sun-Thu), Charleston, South Carolina. Contact: Herb Shaw, 752 Harper St. Jesup, GA 31546; PH: 912-424-9084, hshaw@bellsouth.net <http://9thengineers.co>

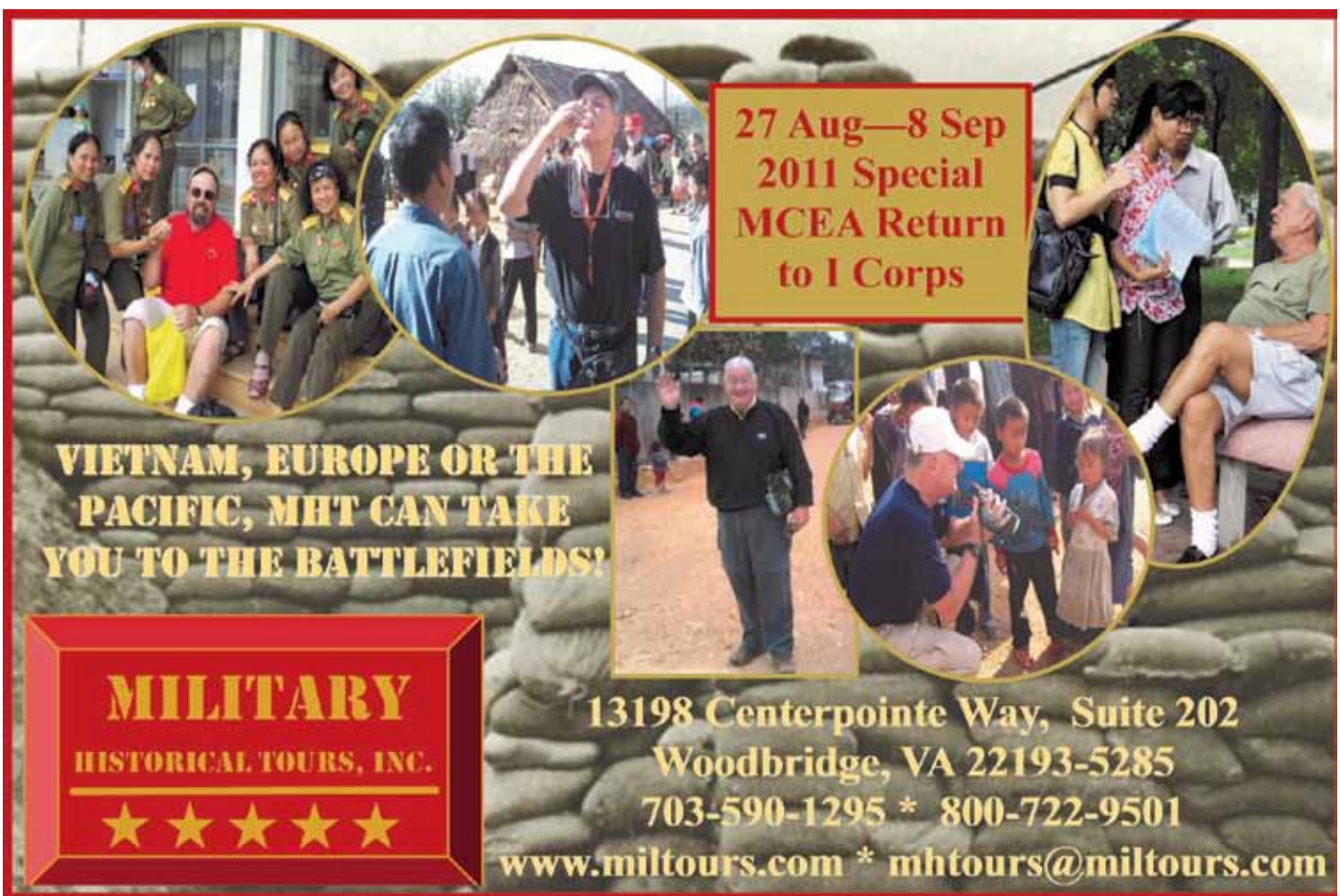
11th Engineer Battalion Veterans Association reunion will be held in Reno, Nevada from Wednesday September 14th through Saturday the 17th, checking out on Sunday morning the 18th. 40 rooms have been



reserved at the Circus Circus Hotel in Reno, Nevada for a reduced rate of \$80.00 per night plus tax. POC: Gary Gratton 1241 Manchester Drive, Montrose, CO 81401

7th Engineer Bn. Viet Nam Veterans Association-- Dates: September 22nd through September 25th, 2011
Place: Hilton Riverside, Wilmington, NC Contact: Doug McMackin gunnymac@hotmail.com

Members who served with the 11th Engineer-Vietnam Marines 66-69 are planning a mini reunion to be held in Chicago in 2012. If you served and would like to attend, contact: Gene Spanos 847-692-9119 or watchcmdr1@sbcglobal.net



**27 Aug—8 Sep
2011 Special
MCEA Return
to I Corps**

**VIETNAM, EUROPE OR THE
PACIFIC, MHT CAN TAKE
YOU TO THE BATTLEFIELDS!**

**MILITARY
HISTORICAL TOURS, INC.**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**13198 Centerpointe Way, Suite 202
Woodbridge, VA 22193-5285
703-590-1295 * 800-722-9501
www.miltours.com * mh tours@miltours.com**



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

22 OCTOBER 2010

0810 Meeting called to order and Pledge of Allegiance conducted by the 38 attendees.

Briefings: SAME-Dr. Bob Wolff; HQMC, LPE-Mike Boyd; PM Engr-CWO 3 John Kyler;
MCES-Col Pete Ramey; FPI-Mark Garrell; MHT-Jaime Wiedhahn & Bill McCulloch; Ingenieur Exec Search-
Ms. Sferas; MCWM-Jim Donovan; Caterpillar-John Frame

1310-Treasurer's Report: As of: 30 Sep '10 **AF: \$12,773.56 GF: \$83,767.45 TOTAL: \$96,541.01**

Financial Report briefed and handouts provided.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Assistance Fund:** AF Chairman Marapoti unable to attend, but provided following: MCEA will present \$1,500 to the CO, Wounded Warrior Regiment at the Awards Banquet. In March, letters were sent to the Sergeants Major and Chaplains of 22 Engineer units reminding them of the availability of the AF to assist their Marines in need. To date, no questions, comments, responses or applications as a result of that mailing. Marapoti for action.
- 2. Membership Status:**

Dues current:	643;	300 of these are Life members
Dues expired for 2009:	45	
Dues expired 1992-2008:	9	
Deceased:	226	
TOTAL:	923	

Dropped from rolls due to be non-payment, request or no contact=294
- 3. Historian:** Steve Dunkin reports that the MC Museum has a web site that describes how an individual can record and submit their active duty experiences to be archived- <http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/HD/Contents/Organization/Oral%20History.htm> Action complete.
- 4. Combat Casualties:** Spreadsheet has been extensively updated by Pam Jeans & has been posted to website. Judy Coy and Pam Jeans have created profiles for each Fallen Marine and Corpsmen from our list to the website-- Together We Served. Frantz for action.
- 5. Corporate Members:** Currently have 14 corporate members, 9 of which are award sponsors and working on several potential companies and sponsors. Frantz for action.
- 6. 2010 Annual Reunion:** Underway. Goodwine & Frantz for action.
- 7. Marine Corps Engineer School/ECOE:** D-7 has been painted and awaiting approval for the concrete pour and the pour itself to display the tractor. Col Ramey for action.
- 8. Return of TD 18 to Courthouse Bay:** There is no solid interest in pursuing return of the TD18 at this time due to the stringent MCU requirements for loaning Museum items. Marapoti for action.



- 9. Fellows Program:** 24 individual and corporate members currently qualify. Latest additions: **Platinum:** BAE **Gold:** Tony DeGennaro, Wayne Queen, Caterpillar, Force Protection Industries. **Silver:** George Carlson. **Bronze:** Ed Townsend. Frantz for action.
- 10. Unit Trophies:** a. CEB: awaiting decision regarding Joint Assault Bridge program re depiction to use on planned replacement trophy. JAB Program shifted to US Army. Possibly can use an artist rendering of an M1based AVLB or just use existing M60-based system.
b. ESB: Slight dilemma: ESB Trophy is sponsored by CAT. D7 is prominent in current Trophy. John Deere won the dozer contract. CAT won the grader contract. Need discussion as to what belongs on a replacement ESB trophy w/sponsorship continued by CAT. Request forwarded to CO, MCES for assistance in obtaining new design. Col Ramey & Marapoti for action.
- 11. Honor Roll:** Since the last report, the following MCEA members have been added to our Honor Roll: Col. Sid Hagerling, Ed Ringer, SSgt Louis Anderson and Capt Saville (Steve) Williams. Pam Jeans has created a profile on website Together We Served for all of our deceased members. Webmaster, Geoff Nicely has included the hyperlink on our MCEA website Honor Roll listing, so you can click on the name and be taken to their TWS profile and return to the MCEA Honor Roll page. Frantz and team for action.
- 12. Associate Directors:** currently have 7: Bulk Fuel/Mass: Phil Martin ; Florida: Bill Fullerton; Georgia: Tony Hilliard; Tennessee: Doug Dietz; Together We Served: Pam & Duel Jeans; Vermont: Judy Coy; Illinois: Gene Spanos. All have been significant value to our brotherhood by communicating with current members, publicizing our Assn and recruiting new members. Frantz for action.
- 13. Website:** Thanks to the efforts of Geoff Nicely, the site allows members to upload articles, pictures, participate in forums and a “members’ only” section. 681 registered users and over 956k page views since activation August 2008. Nicely and Frantz for action.
- 14. 2011 reunion:** Contracted with Crowne Plaza, San Diego for 26-28 Oct, 2011. Tentative schedule: Wed, 26 Oct reception; Thurs. 27 Oct Biz mtg and Banquet; Fri: 28 Oct, tour MCRD and Miramar. Frantz for action.
- 15. 2012 REUNION:** Based on feedback from questionnaire and costs of respective locations, decision was made to gather in Branson, Missouri during October. Frantz for action.
- 16. 2013 REUNION:** Location will be Orlando, Florida during October. Frantz for action.
- 17. SAME:** During our Oct 2009 annual business meeting, Dr. Wolff recommended SAME & MCEA pursue possibility of Active Duty MCEA members also receiving SAME membership. SAME no longer offers free memberships. They now have a new membership for those in the military services—a one-time fee of \$60.00 for officers and NCOs which lasts as long as they are in uniform. MCEA could consider this approach as well. If MCEA were to adopt a similar approach for Marines to join MCEA, a marketing flyer that covers both memberships could be utilized. However, separate membership processing and follow up would be required by MCEA and SAME. Frantz & Wolff for Action.
- 18. 2010 AWARDS.** MarAdmin 81/10 was published 18 Feb with a due date of 30 April. Final input received 26 May; 145 total nominations received. Electronic awards board conducted 27 May-16 June. 16 June results to HQMC and MarAdmin 356/10 released 25 June. **Action complete.**
- 19. RECRUITING:** VP Hank Rudge prepared letters that were sent to each Commanding Officer along with multiple copies of the annual newsletter to be distributed to their subordinate units. Additionally, a letter was mailed to 1659 retired USMC engineers. The mailing included a Fact Sheet, membership application and details on the upcoming reunion. It’s been three years since we’ve done this. Printing, labor, envelopes and bulk mailing cost \$1,122.15. 12 new members have joined since the May mailing. **Action complete.**

NEW BUSINESS:



1. **ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS ANNUAL REPORT:** Good progress being made by our 6 Assoc. Dirs that coordinate with members, but they only cover 130 members; need more Assoc. Dirs. Frantz for action.
2. **SHIRTS:** Starting in 2009, MCEA procured red golf shirts for award recipients. Those shirts were embroidered with the EG&A superimposed on engineer castle logo, the initials "MCEA" and the year. We felt that this would provide a source of recognition among award recipients without appearing as a "me wall" display. The shirts were well received and we plan to continue the program in future years.
The lady who donated the embroidery last year has affiliated with a different company. That company offered a substantially better unit price (\$14.66 compared to over \$20 last year). The Executive Committee discussed and approved a proposal for dark green shirts for Executive Committee and Associate Directors and dark blue shirts for Corporate Members. Our plan is to continue this program in future years.
At the same time, we pursued t-shirts for both award recipients and for Ship's Store sales. Ordered in a quantity of 100 in assorted sizes, those cost us about \$5.50 each (2X and 3X are slightly higher than the basic \$4.60 price for other sizes. These shirts have the EGA/castle logo on the front and "Engineers Up!" across the back. Our hope is that they become an attractive running/PT shirt for active duty engineers and help publicize MCEA throughout that community. Carlson for action.
3. Frantz asked all members to encourage other engineer, Bulk Fuel Assoc. to co-locate with MCEA at future reunions. Subsequent discussion with Charlie Luhan and Dennis Griffith, both with 11th Engr Assn. indicated they would push for 2013 in Orlando, Fl.

Meeting adjourned at 1410.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

UPDATE

MARCH 2011

Treasurer's Report: As of: 28 Feb 2011 **AF: \$72,092.65** **GF: \$ 11,979.54** **TOTAL: \$84,072.19**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Assistance Fund:** No update. AF Chairman Marapoti for action.
2. **Membership Status:**

Dues current:	578	303 of these are Life members
Dues expired for 2010:	62	
Dues expired for 2009:	3	
Deceased:	234	
TOTAL:	877	
3. **Historian:** Steve Dunkin resigned effective 9 March 2011.
4. **Combat Casualties:** Spreadsheet has been updated by Pam Jeans & has been posted to website. Judy Coy and Pam Jeans have created profiles for each Fallen Marine and Corpsmen from our list to the website-- Together We Served. Frantz for action.



5. **Corporate Members:** Currently have 13 corporate members, of which 9 are award sponsors; working on several potential companies and sponsors. Frantz for action.
6. **2010 Annual Reunion:** 190 attended banquet and participated in the 5 day events, 20-25 Oct. Total income was \$32,925 and total expenses \$30,723.44. Of the income \$12,380 came from sponsors (including SAME and Lindbergh). The remaining \$2,201.56 has been targeted to produce the replacement unit trophies. Average cost of Reunion & Banquet per attendee was \$173.58. Average cost paid by MCEA members was \$103.64 while sponsors picked up \$69.94. **Action complete.**
7. **Marine Corps Engineer School/ECOE:** No update. Col Ramey for action.
8. **Return of TD 18 to Courthouse Bay:** There is no solid interest in pursuing return of the TD18 at this time due to the stringent MCU requirements for loaning Museum items. Marapoti for action.
9. **Fellows Program:** 27 individual and corporate members currently qualify. Latest additions: **Bronze:** Major Jim Murphy and Checkerboard Industries. Frantz for action.
10. **Unit Trophies:** LtCol Coursey, MCES XO is obtaining recommendations from engineer units as to proposed designs. LtCol Coursey & Marapoti for action.
11. **Honor Roll:** Since the last report, the following MCEA members have been added to our Honor Roll: Capt. Paul Cline, GySgt. Herb Stern, Capt. Ed Reffelt, A.J. Howard, MSgt. Paul Reynolds, MGySgt Bill Horne and GySgt Melvin Williamson. Pam Jeans has created a profile on website Together We Served for all of our deceased members. Webmaster, Geoff Nicely has included the hyperlink on our MCEA website Honor Roll listing, so you can click on the name and be taken to their TWS profile and return to the MCEA Honor Roll page. Frantz and team for action.
12. **Associate Directors:** Chairperson Judy Coy reports: currently have 24. All have been significant value to our brotherhood by communicating with current members, publicizing our Assn and recruiting new members. We still need more members to volunteer to cover their area/State or organization. Coy for action.
13. **Website:** Thanks to the efforts of Geoff Nicely, the site allows members to upload articles, pictures, participate in forums and a “members’ only” section. Newest capabilities added include the shout box for quick messaging and a current events blog. 701 registered users and over 1.1 million page views since activation August 2008. Nicely for action.
14. **2011 reunion:** Contracted with Crowne Plaza, San Diego for 26-28 Oct, 2011. Schedule: Wed, 26 Oct reception; Thurs. 27 Oct Biz mtg and Banquet; Fri: 28 Oct, tour MCRD and Miramar. Detailed schedule, hotel information and registration Form has been uploaded to website and disseminated via email, plus included in annual newsletter. Frantz for action.
15. **2012 REUNION:** Contract is signed with Radisson Hotel, in Branson, Missouri for 10-13 October. 7th Engr Assn will decide at their Sept 2011 reunion if they’ll co-locate with us. Frantz for action.
16. **2013 REUNION:** Location will be Orlando, Florida. 11 Engr Assn indicated they may co-locate with us. Frantz for action.
17. **SAME:** During our Oct 2009 annual business meeting, Dr. Wolff recommended SAME & MCEA pursue possibility of Active Duty MCEA members also receiving SAME membership. SAME no longer offers free memberships. They now have offer membership for those in the military services—a one-time fee of \$60.00 for officers and NCOs which lasts as long as they are in uniform. MCEA is pursuing other options (see New Business item 1). **Action complete.**



18. SHIRTS: Starting in 2009, MCEA procured red golf shirts for award recipients; embroidered with the EG&A superimposed on engineer castle logo, the initials “MCEA” and the year. We felt that this would provide a source of recognition among award recipients without appearing as a “me wall” display. The shirts were well received and plan to continue the program in future years. In 2010, The Executive Committee approved procurement of a dark green shirt for Executive Committee and Associate Directors and dark blue shirts for Corporate Members. Plan to continue this program in future years. At the same time, we pursued t-shirts for both award recipients and for Ship’s Store sales. Ordered in a quantity of 100 in assorted sizes, those cost us about \$5.50 each (2X and 3X are slightly higher than the basic \$4.60 price for other sizes). These shirts have the EGA/castle logo on the front and “Engineers Up!” across the back. Our hope is that they become an attractive running/PT shirt for active duty engineers and help publicize MCEA throughout that community. Carlson for action.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. RECRUITING ACTIVE/RESERVE DUTY PERSONNEL:** 19 Jan 2011, Frantz emailed Rudge’s request for input to 74 Ac/R MCEA members. Letter contained the 4 options being considered by the Exec Comm for implementation to recognize honor grads at formal schools; separating Marines; Marine/NCO of Qtr; meritorious promotions. Carlson has identified financial cost of each option; LtCol Coursey, MCES, has provided quantity of classes. All input and responses received, results and recommendations to be provided to membership for vote prior to implementation. Rudge and Frantz for action.
- 2. BULK FUEL INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:** The Bulk Fuel Assn will decide at their May 2011 reunion if they will become award sponsor. CWO4 Nate Wilson for action.
- 3. ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF MARTIN AWARD:** Current Expeditionary Warfare School class will graduate 12 May. Will need to continue coordination with Mr. Brad Gates, EWS POC, and procure engraved clock for presentation at graduation. BGen (select) Nelson will represent MCEA and make the award presentation. Frantz for action.
- 4. ENGINEER WARFIGHTING WORKSHOP:** Dr. Bob Wolff, Exec Dir of SAME will host an inaugural EWW in conjunction with our Oct 2011 reunion. Plan is to have a one day event on 27 Oct for active/reserve duty from all services. The attendees are invited to attend the Awards Banquet that night. Rudge for action.
- 5. NAMING OF SAME AWARDS:** Frantz submitted the Exec Comm recommendations on 14 Nov 2010, to HQMC (BGen (select) Nelson & Mike Boyd). Recommendation was: Name the USMC Engineer Officer of the Year as: **Bonnyman Medal** and Name the USMC Engineer SNCO of the Year as: **Bordelon Medal**. Feedback from Brigadier General Nelson is that assigning individual names to awards is very problematic, especially since CMC must personally approve each one. **No further action by MCEA.**
- 6. 2011 AWARDS:** 29 Dec, 2010, Frantz provided Boyd draft MarAdmin. 10 Feb, 2011 MarAdmin released soliciting nominations for this year’s award board. Input due 30 April, then board will convene to select the “best of the best” in each of the 22 categories. Frantz for action.
- 7. 2011 NEWSLETTER:** Frantz is collecting and editing input with intent on publishing in April/May timeframe. Frantz for action
- 8. 2011 ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** New slate of Officers will be elected at the 27 Oct, 2011 annual business meeting. Marapoti for action.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Frantz
President/Secretary



FINANCIAL REPORT

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

Consolidated Balance Sheet

31-Dec-10

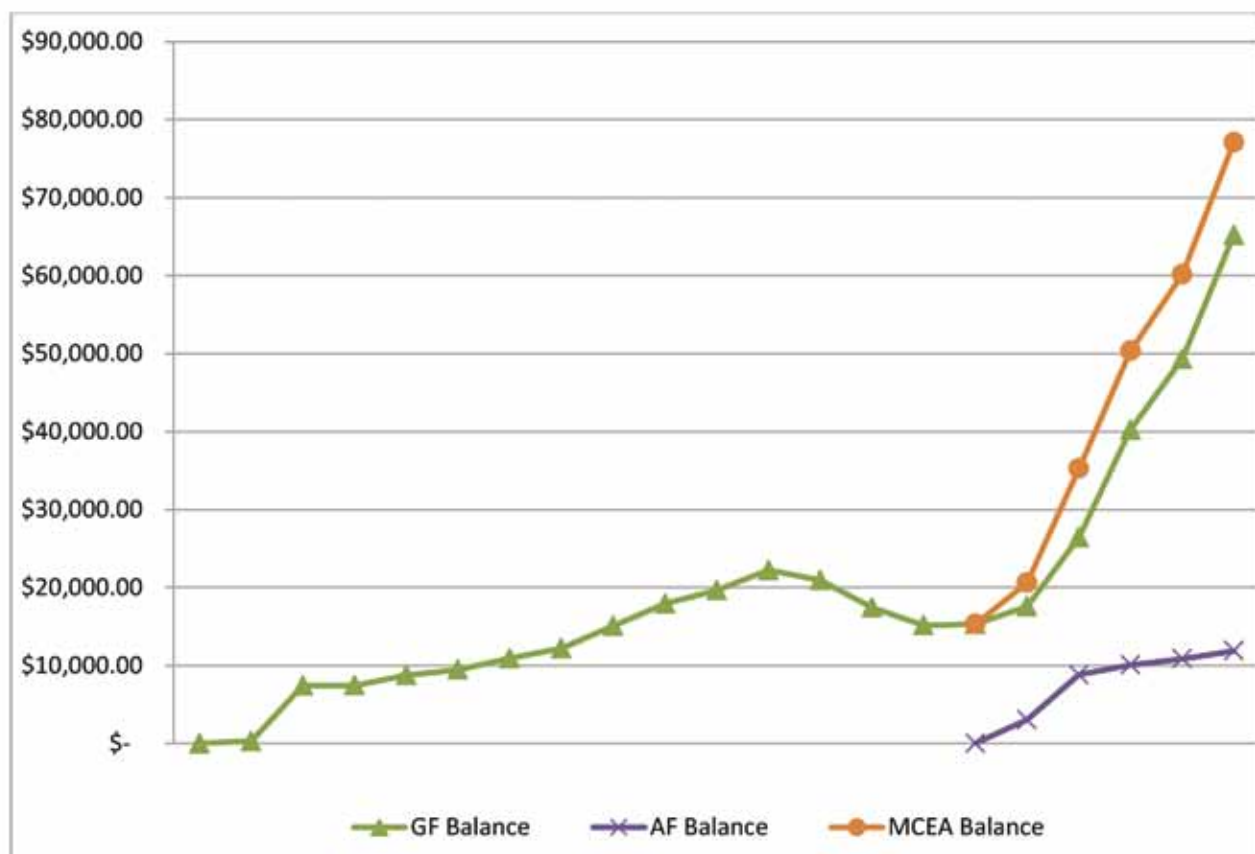
	GENERAL FUND	ASSISTANCE FUND	MCEA TOTAL
ASSETS			
Bank & Cash Accounts			
Cash	\$ -		\$ -
Deposits Pending	\$ 865.00	\$ -	\$ 865.00
Checking	\$ 7,393.01		\$ 7,393.01
Money Market	\$ 6,005.51		\$ 6,005.51
Savings	\$ 5.53		\$ 5.53
91-day CD's	\$ 22,913.03		\$ 22,913.03
1-year CD's	\$ 4,971.21	\$ 11,856.33	\$ 16,827.54
2-year CD's	\$ 8,176.65		\$ 8,176.65
3-year CD's	\$ 8,192.60		\$ 8,192.60
PayPal	\$ -		\$ -
MRP Account	\$ -		\$ -
Total Bank & Cash Accounts	\$ 58,522.54	\$ 11,856.33	\$ 70,378.87
Receivables			
Interfund Receivable	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Accounts Receivable	\$ -		\$ -
Total Receivables	\$ -	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00
Fixed Assets			
Stores Inventory	\$ 4,858.72		\$ 4,858.72
Awards	\$ -		\$ -
Equipment	\$ 866.70		\$ 866.70
Furnishings	\$ 474.99		\$ 474.99
Historical Items	\$ -		\$ -
Library	\$ 342.69		\$ 342.69
Office Tools & Equipment	\$ 166.54		\$ 166.54
Organization Records	\$ -		\$ -
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 6,709.64	\$ -	\$ 6,709.64
Prepaid Expense			
Prepaid Expense	\$ -		\$ -
Total Prepaid Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 65,232.18	\$ 11,881.33	\$ 77,113.51
LIABILITIES			
Interfund Payable	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
Vendors Payable	\$ -		\$ -
Reimbursibles Payable	\$ -		\$ -
Donations-in-kind Pending	\$ -		\$ -
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
EQUITY	\$ 65,207.18	\$ 11,881.33	\$ 77,088.51





In spite of our most elaborate and expensive Reunion ever (it cost \$2,500 more than we took in through fees to attendees), we exceeded our budgeted goal by 48%! While many elements of both income enhancement and cost control played a part, the biggest single factor was the dogged determination of our President to obtain members' dues, seek additional corporate sponsors, and encourage donations, which accounts for all of the differential and then some. This will definately allow us to seek greater visibility among the active forces through presentation of more awards at more levels and joint work with SAME on symposia of immediate benefit to our active duty brothers and sisters.

MCEA EQUITY FROM 1990 THROUGH 2010



CORPORATE MEMBERS

BAE SYSTEMS

REPRESENTATIVE: RANDY COBLE, PROGRAM MGR, COMBAT ENGINEER SYSTEMS
SPONSOR OF CBT ENGR BN TROPHY



CATERPILLAR INC. DEFENSE & FEDERAL PRODUCTS
ACCOUNT MANAGER: JOHN FRAME
SPONSOR OF ENGR SPT BN TROPHY

CONCURRENT TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION

REPRESENTATIVE: ROD PADGETT, SENIOR DIRECTOR
SPONSOR OF UTILITIES INDIVIDUAL AWARDS



FORCE PROTECTION INDUSTRIES
REPRESENTATIVE: TOMMY PRUITT, SR COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
SPONSOR OF COMBAT ENGR & EOD INDIVIDUAL AWARDS



HNTB FEDERAL
REPRESENTATIVE: DAVID McMILLER, VP HNTB FEDERAL
SPONSOR OF MWSS ENGINEER COMPANY TROPHY

KALMAR RT CENTER

REPRESENTATIVE: DAVE PEACOCK, EXEC VP AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
SPONSOR OF ENGINEER EQUIPMENT INDIVIDUAL AWARDS



SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS
REPRESENTATIVE: DR. BOB WOLFF; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



TEREX CORPORATION

REPRESENTATIVE: TOM MANLEY, VICE PRESIDENT GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS
SPONSOR OF NAVAL CONSTRUCTION FORCE UNIT AWARD



ALLIED CONTAINER SYSTEMS

REPRESENTATIVE: JAMES ODOM, PRESIDENT; SUSAN HORSFALL, CEO



INGENIEUR USA

FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL: MS. SAMANTHA SFERAS

PEARSON ENGINEERING

REPRESENTATIVE: LEW SYKES, MILITARY SALES REP.

SCIENCE APPLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION

REPRESENTATIVE: ROBERT (SHANE) EVANS, DIV MGR, VP EXPED WARFARE & LOG

SEA BOX INCORPORATED

REPRESENTATIVE: JAMES BRENNAN, JR; PRESIDENT

TACTICAL & SURVIVAL SPECIALTIES INC

REPRESENTATIVE: BILL STRANG, PRESIDENT/CEO



GEORGE CARLSON PRESENTS MCEA PLAQUES TO CHECKERBOARD INDUSTRIES (JOSH BEARD AND ROBIN BEARDEN) FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION OF SHIRTS TO THE AWARD RECIPIENTS.

QUOTES TO PONDER...

History comes and history goes, but principles endure, and ensure future generations will defend liberty not as a gift from government but as a blessing from our Creator." --President Ronald Reagan (1911-2004)

For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more. LUKE 12:48

GOD is our refuge and our strength, an ever present help in distress. Psalm 46:2

Mistakes are part of the dues one pays for a full life. Sophia Loren



2010 REUNION AND AWARDS

Several corrections to pictures from last year's reunion; my apologies for the mistakes.



Tony DeGennaro with The Fintons



*Maj. Gen. Williams and LtCol
and Mrs. Miller*



MGySgt. And Mrs. Jones

2010 REUNION

Since 1998, our Association has coordinated with Headquarters, Marine Corps to conduct the Annual Awards Program which recognizes the Active and Reserve Marine Corps engineers, EOD personnel and USMC and Navy engineer units.

Last year's Reunion and Awards Banquet was held in Northern Virginia and DC area 18-25 October, 2010. Award recipients and their family members came from all over the world to receive their justly deserved recognition from the 190 in attendance at the Banquet.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Guest of Honor, Lieutenant General & Mrs. Panter, plus Major General & Mrs. Lehnert for their attendance and support. This was an especially challenging time for them since our awards banquet was the same day as the Commandant's Passage of Command. Having the four of them attend made our special event even more elegant!

Huge thanks are due to George Carlson, Jerry Goodwine, Jim Marapoti, and Hank Rudge for all the sustained support and preparation for our 5 day event. The level of success achieved is in direct relation to their attention to detail and diligence.

Our goal was simple: Plan & conduct a successful and hopefully memorable reunion and awards banquet. This was the most ambitious, longest and expensive gathering our engineer brotherhood has had in the 19 years of our existence.

A very special thanks as well, to Dr. Bob Wolff, the Executive Director of the Society of American Military Engineer Assn. for graciously paying the banquet fees for all of our award recipients and guest. This is the 3d year S.A.M.E. has been a member and supporter of our engineer brotherhood and we look forward to a long and enjoyable relationship.



Crowne Plaza Hotel: The best, full-service hotel we've had! Having a hospitality room to accommodate our welcome reception, biz meeting and informal gathering during our privately served continental breakfast and after dinner socials provided a very convenient setting.

Welcome Reception: 75 registered, attended and enjoyed the time to get reacquainted, meet new members and family and enjoy the light hors d'oeuvres'.

NMMC tour: 60 registered to participate and 33 of those rode the bus from the hotel to the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Jerry Goodwine did an outstanding job of arranging for docents for our group and the MCB, Quantico combat camera photographer provided a good set of pictures that are available for viewing on our website photo gallery.

Biz Meeting: 30 registered to attend and with the briefers, we had 38 participate in our marathon session! The minutes are posted to our website and included elsewhere in this newsletter.

Awards Banquet: Total of 190 attended our gala event held in the National Museum of the Marine Corps; the best venue in the World! 42 rode the bus to/from the hotel. 135 paid to attend; 34 were awardees & their guests who's fees were paid by SAME; 17 were MCEA Guests plus 4 docents. The catered meal, set up and ceremony was excellent. The Color Guard from Security Bn, MCB, Quantico kicked off the event in grand style and after a delicious buffet meal, Col. Frank Harris entertained us with his rendition of "A tribute to our Flag", followed by the highlight of the evening, the presentation of the awards to our individual Marines and the USMC & USN unit award recipients. Pictures can be viewed/downloaded from our website.

VIP Veterans Tour: 28 of us spent Saturday touring the DC area and visiting the White House, WW II, Korean War, Vietnam War Memorials.

Sunday Tour: The morning was spent at Arlington Cemetery stopping at the Kennedy grave sites and observing the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown. After lunch, we conducted our final event of our 5 day gathering-the Wreath Laying at the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Monument). Jim Donovan, Executive Director of the MCWM Foundation was very kind to officiate at our ceremony.

Monday Morning, 25 Oct: Those who remained through the weekend joined together for our last breakfast and many started their journey home that day.

Financials: Total income was \$32,925 and total expenses \$30,723.44. Of the income \$12,380 came from sponsors. The remaining \$2,201.56 has been targeted to produce the replacement unit trophies. Average cost of Reunion & Banquet per attendee was \$173.58. Average cost paid by MCEA members was \$103.64 while sponsors picked up \$69.94.

Attendance roster: Of the 170 registered attendees, over 55% were members/spouses/guests; 33% were award recipients and their guests; almost 9% were non-members or guests; and 3.5% were corporate members.

All of the reunion and award photos are loaded on our website so you can view and download. Here are just a few.



TOUR OF THE MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS



Frankie Noe, Gene Spanos, Mike "Doc" Wallace, Doug Dietz



*Jerry Goodwine, Jack Butler, Virginia Ciancio,
Tony DeGennaro, Diana Frantz*



*Members gather together to begin our memorable tour
of the National Museum of OUR Marine Corps*

*Right: Now here's
what you need to
remember...*



*Don't know what he said, but certainly
getting some mixed reactions. Maybe
Larry Varley will tell us!*



So realistic!

*Left: The Hoffman's and Don Sumner
seem mesmerized!*



TOUR OF D.C. MEMORIALS AND MONUMENTS



Beginning our visit to The Wall



Diana and Larry Varley



Our Saturday tour as we depart the WWII memorial

QUOTES TO PONDER...

A man's country is not a certain area of land, of mountains, rivers, and woods, but it is a principle and patriotism is loyalty to that principle - George William Curtis

The best preparation for tomorrow is to do today's work superbly well. Sir William Osler

*Life doesn't require that we be the best, only that we try our best. Strive for excellence, not perfection.
-- H. Jackson Brown Jr.*

*No stream or gas drives anything until it is confined. No Niagara is ever turned into light and power until it is tunneled. No life ever grows great until it is focused, dedicated, and disciplined.
-- Harry E. Fosdick, clergyman (1878-1969)*



TOUR OF ARLINGTON CEMETERY AND THE MARINE CORPS WAR MEMORIAL



Above: 1st stop on our Sunday tour at Arlington Cemetery; Kennedy's grave site



Above: Next stop - the changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown



Above: Another group shot of our Sunday tour prior to departing Arlington



Wreath Laying at the Marine Corps War Memorial - What a way to finish our 5 day gathering!



Harold Groves, Jim Murphy, Ron Hoffmann and Pearl Follett observe the wreath laying.



Left: Cpl. Rob Barnard, Utilities Marine of the Year, Ken Frantz and Virgil Anderson (WWII PFC) conduct the wreath laying.



2010 AWARD RECIPIENTS

COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER	CAPT TODD A. PETERSON	1ST CEB
COMBAT ENGINEER SNCO	GYSGT JERRY F. EAGLE	1ST CEB
COMBAT ENGINEER NCO	SGT LEROY N. RICHIE	CAB
COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE	CPL DUSTIN D. WEIER	2D CEB
ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OFFICER	CWO 3 JOHN H. WALTER	1ST CEB
ENGINEER EQUIPMENT SNCO	GYSGT RENE M. GARZA	CAB
ENGINEER EQUIPMENT NCO	CPL ANTHONY D. QUEISSER	CAB
ENGINEER EQUIPMENT MARINE	LCPL DANIEL J. STENEKEN	1ST CEB
UTILITIES OFFICER	CWO 3 JEFFREY A. FOWLER	7TH ESB
UTILITIES SNCO	SSGT JOSHUA L. HOFFMAN	1ST CEB
UTILITIES NCO	SGT CURT W. VANGORDEN	8TH ESB
UTILITIES MARINE	CPL ROBERT BARNARD	9TH COMM
BULK FUEL OFFICER	CWO 3 BRADLEY D. KUSSATZ	MWSS 371
BULK FUEL SNCO	SSGT CHARLIE L. HARRISON	8TH ESB
BULK FUEL NCO	CPL BILLY J. MIRACLE	9TH ESB
BULK FUEL MARINE	CPL JOSHUA S. YOST	MWSS 371
EOD OFFICER	CWO 2 JEREMIAH T. HAMRIC	8TH ESB
SSGT WILLIAM CALLAHAN MEMORIAL EOD TECH AWARD	GYSGT ERIC J. GONZALEZ	8TH ESB
COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION	1ST CEB	1ST MARDIV
ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION	8TH ESB	2D MLG
MWSS, ENGINEER COMPANY	MWSS 372	3RD MAW
NAVAL CONSTRUCTION FORCE UNIT NMCB 5		1ST NCD





What a magnificent Museum! Marines always do it right!



Right: Treasurer George Carlson provides the Invocation



LtGen Frank Panter; our Guest of Honor, Award presenter and senior Engineer on active duty!



COMBAT ENGINEERS OF THE YEAR WITH CORPORATE SPONSOR FORCE PROTECTION INDUSTRIES REP, MR MARK GARRELL





*ENGINEER EQUIPMENT MARINES OF THE YEAR-
LCPL STENEKEN WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND*



*UTILITIES MARINES OF
THE YEAR-SSGT HOFFMAN
WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND*





*BULK FUEL MARINES OF
THE YEAR CPL MIRACLE
WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND*



*EOD OFFICER OF THE YEAR ACCEPTING
ON BEHALF OF GYSGT GONZALEZ WITH
CORPORATE SPONSOR FORCE PROTECTION
INDUSTRIES REP*



*LTCOL CALLANAN ACCEPTS AWARD
FOR 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BN*





*LEFT: LTCOL DOWNS ACCEPTS AWARD
FOR 8TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BN*

*RIGHT: CAPT LEWIS AND MSGT.
ROMERO ACCEPT AWARD FOR
MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON
372*



*LEFT: LCDR. KOHNEN ACCEPTS AWARD
FOR NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION
BATTALION 5 WITH MR. TOM MANLEY,
CORPORATE SPONSOR TEREX*

Quotes to Ponder...

"He is the richest man in the esteem of the world who has gotten most. He is the richest man in the esteem of heaven who has given most." --English preacher Frederick Brotherton Meyer (1847-1929)

If a man examines carefully his thoughts, he will be surprised to find how much he lives in the future. His well-being is always ahead. Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82)

A man is moral, and ethical only when all of like is sacred to him, that of plants and animals as well as that of his fellow man. This is the absolute principle of the moral and ethical. Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965)



Our Most Important Project: It Was Just a Road.

By Dr. Gary Ward

Gary Ward served on active duty from August, 1966 till November, 1969. His MOSs were 1302 and 1310. He was Atomic Demolition Munitions qualified. He and Sharon have been married for 48 years and are currently living in Allentown, PA. where they are enjoying their recent retirement. They have two sons in the their mid 30s who are successful in large companies.

The 9th Engineer Battalion was activated on 1 November, 1965 at Camp Pendleton. By 17 June, 1966, the entire battalion was in Vietnam located in and around Chu Lai. After some shake-out work the battalion was assigned the upgrading and maintenance of 46 miles of Route 1 from Chu Lai north to the Cau Lau River. The northern most 14.1 miles was the mission of Company "D."

June 6, 1968

From the chopper it didn't look like much. Just a north/south dirt road stretched as straight as a string across miles of shimmering rice paddies. To the east was the South China Sea, blue and calm in the distance. To the west was a deep tangle of dark gray mountains. The nearest, at the mouth of the Que Son Valley, was Hill 63. It was known locally as Landing Zone Baldy because it oddly resembled a hairless head sticking up through a black inner tube. The tube covered at least a square mile and belonged to the Army's 196th Light Infantry Brigade. An edge, nearest the dirt road and about the size of a football field, was the Command Post of Delta Company.

The chopper suddenly banked to port and aimed downward at a metal-planked landing pad just outside of the built-up berm line of the CP. Following the hand motions of one of the Army chopper crew, we grabbed our personal gear and edged to the open doors, our feet dangling outside. The two machine gun operators moved into position and chambered rounds. We were still a few feet off the deck when several sharp cracking sounds gained everyone's attention. Aided from behind, we found ourselves flat on the deck with our gear about us as the chopper powered up and away while pinning us to the deck with its prop-wash.

Hill 63 looked better from the air, smelled better too. It didn't taste good either.

The layout of the CP was simple. The water point and mess hall tents were just over the berm from the helipad. Some shelters for heavy equipment and truck maintenance were at the far end nearest the road. In between were three rows of tents with sandbags laid up around the sides and with cots inside. There were a few actual buildings constructed from wooden artillery-round boxes filled with sand and surrounded by several feet of sandbags: a communication shack, munitions and ammo storage and a couple of living quarters.

The Project

The road, National Highway 1, the only north/south road in Vietnam, was a pitiful thing. It was barely a lane and half wide. There was no crown in the road to cause the water to run off. Essentially it was little more than a dam worn with ruts that rose up three to four feet above the rice patties. There were frequent culverts to let the water equalize. There were absolutely no shoulders for breakdowns. Upon examination, the soil it was constructed of was more sand than sandy loam and would not be a good sub-base for road improvement.

That was only part of the problem in improving the road.

Each morning three mine sweep teams departed to clear the road of mines. Two teams left from the entrance to Hill 63. One turned south and swept for almost four miles. One swept north about five miles to the Ba Ren River where it met up with the third team. They were billeted with 7th and 11th Companies of the Korean Marine Corps at a compound half way between two impressive rivers, the Ba Ren and Cau Lau. The rivers were more than four miles apart.

The sweep teams were designs of experience. On the road, two men went ahead to look for disturbed soil and enemy activity. On their flanks in the rice paddies, about fifty yards out, were two men with long-handled dragging hooks. They pulled the hooks through the mud searching for communication wire that was used to command detonate mines. The draggers were followed by a squad or less of infantry. For the two teams leaving Hill 63, the infantry was provided by the Army. The KMC provided the security for the third team.

Back on the road, the two point men were followed, about thirty yards back, by two men with mine detectors. They swept every inch. Behind the sweepers were the radio



man, corpsman and sweep commander. A truck to get everyone back to the compounds followed up—a long way back in case we missed something.

Work Analysis

The sweeps took hours each morning before we could start working on the road. There was no way around it. We found explosive devices every one to three days. We were taken under significant enemy fire every three to five days and sniper fire daily. Culverts were blown out every three to seven days. That was during normal operations. When the enemy went on a major offensive, having five sections of the road blown in one night was a regular event.

Widening and strengthening the road was a massive task. Oh, and, they needed a bridge built across the Ba Ren. The current patched together bridge wasn't adequate to handle the loads needed for all the resupplies that would be coming south from Da Nang. How about a Class 60, two-lane, non-standard bridge? And, could we get it done by the end of the year? At 722 feet, it would be the longest bridge ever constructed by Marine Corps engineers.

Marine Commitment

To get more time on the road, we needed to start the sweeps earlier. To maximize work on the road, we needed to have dump trucks filled with rocks and good fill dirt following the sweep teams and laying down material at the earliest possible safe moment. To place the fill and compact it into place we needed the heavy equipment immediately following the trucks. To continue this no-wait practice of work throughout the day, we needed the trucks to make rapid turn-arounds at the borrow pits and the loaders to work without failing.

The questions went out to the troops, was this realistic? Could it be done and still meet construction safety standards? Could we keep the equipment running? How about two shifts of equipment maintenance? Where could we get extra parts? By the way, could we also manage the construction of the bridge?

We didn't know any better, almost everyone said "yes!" No matter how good or bad things were, we would make them better.

Even the units back at battalion who were going to have to give up some of their troops to bring us more up to strength, said yes. They also read our needs by developing a contact team, a truck loaded with spare parts and skilled mechanics that could get to us quickly. We also empowered our company supply NCO, already a highly skilled trader, with more Marine Corps items to trade to the Army.

The troops also developed a new phrase based on the "engineer up" calling. "Ideas up, Sir," they would state just before they offered a new solution.

Roads Don't Talk

Neither does a bridge, but if they could theirs would be a story of Marine engineers' devotion to making things better by thinking and acting. We learned to rush to the areas around us that were bombed and detonate the ones that did not explode. If we didn't, the enemy would saw off the ends of the bombs, remove the Composition B and use it to make more mines. We learned to listen to the villagers and take their needs into account when we were working on the road. In return, they watched our equipment that we had to leave on the bridge site each night. We learned to run convoys of bridging materials from Da Dang to the bridge in a 24-hour cycle. We figured out that we could build the bridge faster by putting the pile-driving crane on platoon boats and floating it ahead of the work. We no longer had to move it on and off the bridge to lay down the superstructure and decking. It just drove piles all across the river without having to stop.



We learned to run convoys of bridging materials from Da Dang to the bridge in a 24-hour cycle. We figured out that we could build the bridge faster by putting the pile-driving crane on platoon boats and floating it ahead of the work. We no longer had to move it on and off the bridge to lay down the superstructure and decking. It just drove piles all across the river without having to stop.

Also, we learned how to respond to events that were out of our hands. The usually gentle October monsoons were complicated by three mother typhoons. It rained for 13 consecutive days. Our road became a dam, miles of it in danger of being washed away. We simply blasted out a few sections to relieve the pressure and put in culverts when it stopped raining.



Success

Between June and December, 1968, the road, four miles south of Hill 63 and five miles north to the Ba Ren, was widened, shoulders improved, surface crowned, treated with oil and culverts reinforced. This required 10,050 equipment hours, 16,813 cubic yards of gravel that we crushed ourselves, 3,178 cubic yards of fill dirt and 29,400 gallons of pentaprime.

The enemy blew up sections of the road 10 times, blew up culverts 23 times, planted 91 mines and other explosive devices that we found and neutralized and left us with 5 barricades where they would hide metal fragments in mounds of dirt surrounded by wire and metal fence posts. In addition to daily sniper fire, there were 16 major firefights leaving 5 enemy KIA's and 6 captured. We called for support fire almost weekly.

In the whole construction processes several sniper points were eliminated, a Viet Cong mine-making facility was discovered and destroyed, an observation post was located on the bridge from which we could see when North Vietnam Army troops were crossing the Ba Ren to our west on their way to disrupt business at the air strip in Da Nang. "Fire Mission" was a good call.

The bridge was completed within the time frame and it was a toss up to see which group was the happiest: the local villagers, the Army motor transport guys or us. We were pretty tired of the bridge.



The Cost

On the night of June 23, Private First Class Monty Douglas Prush walked into his squad's tent, sat down on his rack and took his own life. The things we didn't know were too many.



On August 6, a seven-truck convoy bringing bridging material from Da Nang, led by the company commander, Captain Reno Rizzo, was ambushed by regular North Vietnam Army troops. They were near the village of Dien Bon between the Ba Ren and Cau Lau when they entered the kill zone. The Skipper, Staff Sergeants Edwards and Nehelia and one driver were immediate casualties. Lance Corporal Pete Troisi, firing a .50 caliber from our homemade gun truck, was hit as they raced to protect our wounded Marines.

On September 6, Sergeant Terry Corson was killed while disarming a mine booby-trapped with one of our own 155mm artillery rounds. He was one of our most experienced at disarming mines. We never figured out where the VC got all the artillery rounds, but they showed up frequently. They would screw out the fuse, push in C-4 and a blasting cap.

We missed a mine on September 19 as the sweep team from the KMC reached the north end of their sweep and were turning around to head back to the Ba Ren Bridge to go to work. It was buried in the entrance to a school yard. The VC knew what we were doing—we turned there once too often. Hospital Corpsman Third Class Kurt Duncan died at the scene. The driver, Corporal Paul Kozak dove into a rice paddy to put out his burning clothes. He survived. A Marine in the back of the truck, Private First Class Arlon Schaeffer, was manning a .50 caliber. He died two days later from complications of several broken bones.

In a major act of taking care of his men, Sergeant Gary Rivers, on the night of September 20, lunged forward to push a live M-26 grenade into a drainage ditch by the bridge. He saved his men and lost his right arm, leg and eye.

We missed another mine on September 22. A civilian bus hit it. Hard to tell, but we think there were 22 killed and 11 wounded.

There were so many others. At least three and perhaps five Vietnamese children died because of our truck traffic and actions in clearing the area of sniper hiding points. Every few weeks we would find a local Vietnamese dead on the road. Never knew why.

Then, and this happened in the village of Dien Bon, where our convoy was ambushed, the NVA just came through in the night and killed everyone and burned everything. Never knew why.



Several months after we finished the bridge, the NVA leveled the village beside our Ba Ren Bridge. The estimated number of dead was 70. Never knew why.



December, 1968

Departed for R & R. Life is to death as a river is to the ocean.

To protect against “retrospective falsification” I used the following sources of information. I kept a daily diary, which I reread. My wife, Sharon, kept all my letters, which I likewise reread (what did she ever see in me?). The Unit Diaries are now accessible online and contain a vast amount of data that you can trace right down to the company level. My apologies, I had to guess at the spelling of Staff Sergeant Nehelia’s name. Also, I could not resurrect the name of the driver who was wounded in the same battle on August 6, 1968.

MICLIC

There’s something about deserts. Empty, sun-baked wastelands of sand and rock with little apparent use - and yet, for millennia, men have been fighting wars over them.

One night this week we were camped out in the desert in southern Garmsir, about one mile east of the market town of Safar Bazaar, a Taliban stronghold that the Marines of 3/1 have now begun to clear. It was the evening of the first day of the assault, and despite a lot of explosions, some gunfire and a few close calls, there had been no casualties.

We were camped out around the armored vehicles positioned in a wide circle. 250 yards to our south was the twisted remains of a mine-clearing rig that had been blown up by an IED earlier that day - fortunately nobody in the vehicle that it was attached to was hurt. About half a mile to our east another IED had been found, but the explosives disposal teams had been so busy that day they hadn’t got to it yet. Nobody walked out in that direction.

From a small ridgeline, we could look down on the town of Safar Bazaar with binoculars as the sun went down - the explosions and gunfire had stopped and it looked peaceful in the evening light, with palm trees, mud-brick compounds and



a low hill to the west. After dark, we lay out under the clear sky, the Milky Way arching right over us, barely a sound to be heard except the occasional burst of a



radio message as some unit reported in. War is always ugly, anywhere. But the desert that night was beautiful.

The attack started at 3.30 that morning, when a platoon from Kilo Company was dropped in by helicopter under cover of darkness, close to the hill to the west of the town. Their mission was to occupy the hill with snipers and some heavy weapons to provide cover for the main force from Lima Company who would be coming in from the desert to

the east at first light.

The Taliban knew for some time the Marines would be coming, and they’d planted IEDs along all the likely access routes. To make the initial breach from the desert into the town, the Marines brought along the 4th Combat Engineer Battalion with a pretty impressive weapon - the MICLIC, which stands for Mine Clearance Line Charge. (photo above shows launch of a MICLIC)

The MICLIC is essentially a 100 meter-long flexible tube containing 1,750 pounds of C4 explosive (ie, a helluva bang) that is shot out of a tub with a rocket and deposited in a straight line along the ground. When it is detonated it is designed to clear a “breaching lane” of any mines or IEDs directly underneath it, providing a path through a minefield for advancing Marines. The man in charge of the MICLICs, Major John French, was famous for his upbeat briefings on the MICLIC capabilities, which he promised on multiple occasions during the planning sessions would function “flawlessly”. A mischievous grin on his face, however, belied the fact that, during training sessions, on average MICLICs fail between 60 and 70 percent of the time.

French, from Verona, Virginia, clearly enjoys blowing things up. The MICLICs are so powerful that they cannot be used in areas where people live -- but what better place to let off 1,750 pounds of explosive than the desert? So, at the end of that first day, Maj. French and his men (the truck that actually launches the rocket has the radio call sign “Reaper”) had set off all five MICLICs they had attempted, “flawlessly,” of course.

By day four of the assault, he had set off 16, all of which exploded, setting new records for the weapon, surprising everyone (doubtless including himself) -- and clearing more IEDs than they were able to count.

War is always ugly, anywhere. But there is something about deserts. Even after being shaken by multiple explosions, nothing much seemed to have changed, except for some blackened sand. From a distance, that first evening, the desert still looked beautiful.

Terry McCarthy, Aug 5, 2010 3rdBn, 1st Marines Part of the Afghanistan coverage



BEAUTY

IS IN THE EYE OF THE ENGINEER

WE UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO RELY ON ANOTHER FOR PROTECTION.

OUR LINE OF BATTLE-PROVEN VEHICLES LIKE THE BUFFALO AND COUGAR ARE DESIGNED TO DO JUST THAT, SO IN TURN, YOU CAN PROTECT THIS COUNTRY AND FIGHT FOR THE FREEDOMS OF OTHERS. FOR THIS, WE SAY THANK YOU. FORCE PROTECTION IS PROUD TO SUPPLY SURVIVABILITY SOLUTIONS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND WE HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEERS AND MEMBERS OF THE MCEA.

FOR SURVIVABILITY SOLUTIONS DESIGNED TO SAVE HEROES' LIVES, GO TO FORCEPROTECTION.NET



2011 REUNIONS

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

2011 REUNION ITINERARY

San Diego, CA~ October 26th – 28th, 2011

Sun, Mon & Tues, 23-25 Oct: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle, San Diego, 92108; Phone#-800-972-2802; 619-297-1101-Check in after 4 p.m. Take advantage of the hotel discount rates and enjoy yourselves with all the sites to see!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26th

- Welcome to the Crowne Plaza, Hotel Circle - Official Check-in time is 4pm.
- Complimentary full American breakfast buffet.
- Enjoy the day sightseeing on your own.
- 6-8 p.m. Registration/Welcome Reception in the Hospitality Room (cold snacks only); biz casual attire. Cost=\$10
- Dinner & rest of evening are on your own.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27th

- Complimentary full American breakfast buffet.
- 8 a.m. Association Business Meeting in the Hospitality Room, with Continental breakfast. Biz casual attire. Cost=\$20
- Lunch is on your own.
- 6 p.m. Registration--Cocktails available from the cash bar in banquet hall. Coat & tie; mini ribbons optional; MCL Red Blazer; Svc A uniform; informal evening attire for the ladies. Cost=\$55
- 7 p.m. Buffet Dinner served, followed by Awards Banquet.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28th

- Complimentary full American breakfast buffet.
- 8 a.m. Bus departs hotel for MCRD tour, recruit graduation, buffet lunch at the Bayview club & tour of MCAS Miramar. Casual attire/walking shoes. Cost=\$25
- 4 p.m. Bus returns to the hotel.

Sat, Sun & Mon: 29-31 Oct; Take advantages of the post reunion hotel discount rates and enjoy yourselves!

Hotel check out time is 12 noon.

If you will be attending our reunion, complete the enclosed Reunion registration form and mail in, along with your check. Note that registration fees increase after 20 September. Call the hotel to make your arrangements as early as possible and ensure you inform them you are with MCEA to obtain your great discounted rate of \$99. Rooms will not be held past 4 October, so don't delay!



MEMOIRS

Submitted by Col. Ed Lifset, USMC (Ret) of Oceanside, CA.

After retiring from the Corps in 1979, I spent the next fourteen years with Lockheed-Martin Missiles and Space Company and Lockheed Martin Aircraft Services Company. I traveled extensively in both jobs and retired in 1994 as Director of Navy Programs at the latter company. I then started my own company where I worked exclusively as a subcontractor erecting citrus evaporator plants only in third world countries. I never did more than 2 plants in a year, but completed units and trained foreign engineers in the operation of the complex equipment in the southern Philippines, Morocco, Indonesia, Brazil, Costa Rica, and Australia to name the major areas. When I was not working, I had the opportunity to make many adventure type trips all over the world.



All told I have hiked and climbed in over 100 countries including Iran, Yemen, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, India,



Syria and all the countries in South and Central America. I have literally thousands of photos in separate albums on my computer covering most of these trips. The W. African photos are just a few of the 497 photos I have of Mali, Senegal and Burkina Faso. I plan to go to Ethiopia in April and possibly Iraq in October. If



anyone is really interested I do have some really interesting photos of many countries all easily available and able to be forwarded on my computer. Email address: edl825@sbcglobal.net. Will be happy to respond to specific queries.

Semper Fi, Ed

From Kevin Jarvis of Georgetown, MA. son of John Jarvis, Iwo Jima veteran and deceased MCEA member. I wanted to add more about my Dad (John Jarvis) and a bit of history about the 1st and 2nd Separate Aviation Engineer battalions during WWII. It is interesting to note that initially both battalions had the same organizational structure: three light engineer companies, and a headquarters company. Their mission was to be airlifted onto recently captured airfields for repair operations. The line companies were lettered alphabetically: Able, Baker, and Charlie. These were the only units of their type in the Marine Corps during World War II. The WWII Gyrene webmaster Mark Flowers, a former "Navy Corpsman" assigned to the Marine Corps in the late 70s early 80s does a great job honoring our WWII Marines. He is so proud to have served with the Marine Corps.



Submitted by Dr. Gary Ward of Allentown, PA.

Sharon and I spent New Year's weekend in DC. On New Year's morning we visited the Wall and Arlington. It was a perfectly clear morning with brisk temps.

I avoided the Wall when it was first constructed but warmed to it several years ago. We had done our homework and had Panel Numbers and Line Numbers. There were also volunteers to help us pin point the names. We spent about an hour at the Wall talking to their memories and bring them up to date. It was good; I missed a few who I will visit next time.



At Arlington the view of the green wreaths against the white tombstones was moving. I will relate only one story. It is the background to Heinz Ahlmeyer's stone.

We went through training together. He was sent directly to Vietnam. A 2nd Lt, two days in country, and he was sent on a recon mission. They were dropped on one side of a ridge and made their way to the other side-- which happened to be the base camp of an NVA unit. They got caught between the camp and the unit returning from

a mission. Army choppers tried to support them, and finally rescued one, but the rest were left.

That was 1967 and in 2005 I was driving to work and NPR reported on the recovery of their remains. They buried what they found with Dress Blues in Arlington. When we first visited the gravesite a few years ago, it was just a metal plate in the ground. Now it has the stone. Every day is a holiday and every meal is a feast.



**Aim for service and success
will follow.**

-- Albert Schweitzer



SHIPS STORE ITEMS

Merchandise for Sale	Cost	Postage
MCEA Logo Coin 1 ½ “ dia, color	\$3.00	\$0.85
MCEA Logo Lapel Pin 7/8” dia, color	\$2.00	\$0.85
MCEA Logo with Crossed Flags Lapel Pin 1” dia, color	\$2.50	\$0.85
Embroidered MCEA Logo Cloth Match 3” dia, color	\$1.75	\$0.85
MCEA Windshield Decal 4 ¼” dia, color	\$2.25	\$0.85
Money clip	\$5.00	\$0.95
Car Magnet (crossed flag)	\$4.50	\$1.00
Key Chain	\$5.00	\$0.95
Refrigerator Magnet	\$2.00	\$0.84
Seabee Medallion	\$4.00	\$1.50
Stickers, EG & A	\$2.00	\$0.10
T Shirt (small, med, large, Xlarge)	\$10.00	\$1.00
SHIPPING AND HANDLING PER ORDER	\$1.50	

If ordering multiple items, contact Frantz for accurate postage charge.





ADMIRAL COMMENTS

MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY REMARKS 8 NOVEMBER 2010 BY A NAVY ADMIRAL

General Hanifen, fellow flags, sailors, ladies and gentlemen...but most importantly Marines. Happy 235th birthday! Congratulations.

I am honored to join this celebration, I am honored to be the speaker, but most importantly, I am honored to be a part of the Navy-Marine Corps team!

The U.S. Marine Corps is the absolute model, of professionalism, capability, and esprit de corps, more so than any other fighting force across the globe and across time. I know this because I have read your history and I have had the pleasure of serving with you.

The U.S. Marine Corps story is remarkable and replete with examples of service, sacrifice, unmatched heroism, and incredible victories. Through shared experience and success in battle, Marines have distinguished themselves in selfless service and represent a "fraternity of sacrifice."

Thank you for including me in your celebration, thank you for your dedicated service, and thank you for being Marines!

As citizens of a free democratic country, the worst sin we could ever commit is to forget the sacrifices of those who gave their lives or are willing to give their lives for us...because of them, we live and will remain free. Today, we gather to remember, to honor, and to celebrate; we will not commit the sin of forgetting.

Having recently served as the seventh fleet commander, I had the distinct honor of being the warfighting teammate of III MEF and having a Fast Company of Marines assigned to me. I had the enjoyable experience of seeing first hand your dedication, professionalism, and combat mettle in action. The few, the proud is more than a slogan. It is a way of life. The Marine Corps is recognized and revered world-wide with a reputation it has earned through perseverance, hardship, and unwavering commitment to the highest ideals of honor, discipline, and service.

As I considered what I might say to you today, I decided to visit my favorite Washington monument for inspiration...the Marine Corps War Memorial...sometimes called the Iwo Jima Memorial because of the battle it depicts. And while I had been there a number of times before, I knew this time would be different.

It is my favorite for a number of reasons. First, the view. As you approach the monument from the west, you find yourself on a small berm that gives you a spine tingling vista. To your right are the hallowed grounds of Arlington Cemetery where so many patriots lay at eternal rest. As you look through the bronze Marine figures and just below the flag they are raising, you see quite clearly our nation's capital, the Washington Monument, and the Lincoln Memorial. And if you carefully look, you can see the top of the Jefferson Memorial as well. So in one magnificent "frame", you have the story of Americans fighting half a world away on a small, remote island, putting their lives on the line to ensure the values, principles, and ideals captured in those memorials to our founding fathers and birth of our nation are carried forward. Those six men represented so many others who paid the ultimate sacrifice so that the people in that capitol could continue to govern a free and democratic nation.

As you walk closer to the monument, you see and read that these are common Americans from every walk of life who did such extraordinary acts in such uncommon, horrible, conditions. It is five Marines and a Navy corpsman (the ultimate team) cast in bronze and based on Joe Rosenthal's Pulitzer prize winning photo that lit up the news wires after he took it on 23 February 1945...five days into one of the bloodiest battles in Marine Corps and our nation's history. Below the Marines is a granite base mostly blank with a few lines on each face of the base in burnished gold listing historical Marine battles. Some of those battles include: the Revolutionary War when newspaper ad "sought a few good men" for the new Marine Corps. The Spanish American war when correspondent Richard Harding Davis reported "the Marines have landed and have the situation well in hand." Belleau Wood where in 1918 First Sergeant Dan Daly led his men over the top yelling, (come on you SOB's) do you want to live forever?" Iwo Jima where nearly 6,000 Marines died, 17,000 were wounded capturing an island 1/8 the size of D. C. A battle where Marines earned 22 Medals of Honor, almost 30% of all Medals of Honor earned by Marines during all of WWII. Admiral Nimitz's commentary had it exactly right and is engraved on the monument, "uncommon valor was a common virtue." Korea's Chosin Reservoir, where the first Marine Division had fought its way out of



a Chinese trap in weather so cold that gasoline froze! Lebanon, where 241 Americans died as the Marine barracks was destroyed by a truck bomb on 23 October 1983...an early shot in the war on terror. Some of the battles named appear twice; they are battles fought, won, and then fought again.

But more disquieting than the names of battles that are repeated, is all the blank space left for battles done, battles ongoing, and battles yet to be that will be recorded and inscribed on that base representing hundreds, thousands of Marines and American patriots that have and will die for their country.

The Iwo Jima Memorial was dedicated in 1954 on the Marine Corps 179th birthday. Of the six men from "Easy Company" depicted raising the flag on Mt. Suribachi, only three would leave the island alive. Then Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal said of this event, "the raising of that flag on Mt. Suribachi means the Marine Corps will be around for another 500 years." He was right and that is good!

So why is it my favorite monument – it is the incredible juxtaposition of this wonderful depiction of common people exercising such heroism in support of the ideals depicted in the surrounding monuments. It is the story of America; it is the story of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Why was this visit different for me? because I had the unique opportunity to visit Iwo Jima this past year, to walk the beaches to climb Mt. Suribachi, and to see the virtually impenetrable Japanese defenses. I can tell you crossing the beaches at Iwo in a simple working uniform is challenging, doing it in full combat gear extremely difficult, but with a determined enemy shooting at you, impossible! And while today Suribachi is ghostly quiet, it is not hard to see how it would have been a seven story, hollowed out killing machine in February 1945. So, yesterday, as I visited the Iwo Jima memorial, I saw it for what it represented in much greater clarity and understanding. I fully appreciated why historians referred to this epic battle as "American flesh against Japanese concrete."

Let me close by paraphrasing the words of a speech I once heard; words that I totally agree with!

It is entitled: "why I like Marines".

They set high standards for themselves and those around them, and will accept nothing less.

- I like the idea that marines cultivate an ethos conducive of producing hard people in a soft age.
- I like the fact that marines stay in shape.
- I like the fact that marines are stubborn.
- I like the way marines obey orders.
- I like the wholehearted professionalism of the marines.

It occurred to me that the services could be characterized by different breeds of dogs.

The Air Force reminded me of a French poodle. The poodle always looks perfect...sometimes a bit pampered and always travels first class. But don't ever forget that the poodle was bred as a hunting dog and in a fight it's very dangerous.

The army is kind of like a St. Bernard. It's big and heavy and sometimes seems a bit clumsy. But it's very powerful and has lots of stamina. So you want it for the long haul.

The Navy, GOD bless us, is a golden retriever. They're good natured and great around the house. The kids love 'em. Sometimes their hair is a bit long...they go wandering off for long periods of time, and they love water.

Marines I see as two breeds, Rottweiler's or Dobermans, because Marines come in two varieties, big and mean or skinny and mean.

They're aggressive on the attack, and tenacious on defense. They've got really short hair and they always go for the throat.

So what I really like about Marines is that "first to fight" isn't just a motto, it's a way of life.

From the day they were formed at Tun Tavern 200 years ago, Marines have distinguished themselves on battlefields around the world. From the fighting tops of the Bonhomme Richard, to the sands of Barbary coast, from the swamps of New Orleans to the Halls of Montezuma, from Belleau Wood, to the Argonne forest, to Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Inchon, Chosin reservoir, and Hue City, Beirut, Grenada, Panama, Somalia, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan, and a thousand unnamed battlefields in godforsaken parts of the globe.

Marines have distinguished themselves by their bravery, stubbornness, aggressive spirit, sacrifice, love of country, and loyalty to one another.

They've done it for you and me, and this country we all love so dearly.

They asked for nothing more than the honor of being a United States Marine. That's why I like Marines!

Happy birthday...thank you!



"A TOAST TO THE FLAG"

(c) by John Jay Daly of Washington, D. C. (1888-1976)

Here's to the Red of it –
There's not a thread of it,
No, nor a shred of it
In all the spread of it,
From foot to head
But heroes bled for it,
Faced steel and lead for it,
Precious blood shed for it,
Bathing it Red!

Here's to the White of it –
Thrilled by the sight of it,
Who knows the right of it
But feels the might of it
Through day and night?
Womanhood's care for it
Made manhood dare for it;
Purity's pray'r for it
Keeps it so White!

Here's to the Blue of it –
Beauteous view of it,
Heavenly hue of it,
Star-spangled dew of it
Constant and true;
Diadems gleam for it,
Liberty's beam for it
Brightens the Blue!

Here's to the Whole of it –
Stars, stripes and pole of it,
Body and soul of it,
O, and the roll of it,
Sun shining through;
Hearts in accord for it
Swear by the sword for it,
Thanking the Lord for it,
Red, White and Blue!



Colonel Frank Harris, USMC (Ret) of Manassas, VA and MCEA Life Member provides his inspiring presentation for all who attend our Awards Banquet.



