



ENGINEERS UP!

2008 Newsletter





2008 Newsletter Contents

	PAGE
EXEC COMMITTEE	4
PRESIDENT'S LETTER.....	5
GENERAL WISSLER.....	6
ADMIN NOTES	7
HONOR ROLL.....	9
SSGT. CALLAHAN ARTICLE	10
GREER OBITUARY	13
FELLOWS PROGRAM	14
BYLAWS REVIEW	15
BIZ MTG MINUTES.....	22
TREASURER'S REPORT	28
AWARDS BANQUET	31
TRIBUTE TO GEORGE & CHARLIE	36
TOUR	38
REUNIONS	41
MEMOIRS	44
SHIP'S STORE ITEMS.....	48
ENGINEER CREED	50



Elected Officials as of 16 Oct 2007

President/Secretary: Ken Frantz, Col, USMC (Ret)

Vice President: Hank Rudge, Col, USMC (Ret)

2d Vice President: Steve Easterday, Col, USMC (Ret) Resigned

Treasurer: George Carlson, LtCol, USMC (Ret)

Chaplain: Vacant

Historian: Herb Renner, MCPO, USN (Ret) Resigned

Appointments:

Executive Director: Vacant

Permanent Associate Directors:

Jim Marapoti, Col, USMC, (Ret)

Terence J. Scully, CWO2, USMC (Ret)

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

NAME	TITLE	STATE	EMAIL
COY, JUDY	MRS	VT	YES
FULLERTON, BILL	MR	FL	NO
MARTIN, PHIL	MSGT	MA	YES
REYNOLDS, PAUL C	MSGT	TN	YES
SANDLIN, ROBERT E	CWO3	SC	YES
SHORES, GEORGE W	MR	WI	NO
SPANOS, GENE	MR	IL	YES

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



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings to one & all!

We sincerely hope that all of you survived the winter and early spring storms and are enjoying life wherever you might be.

We trust you'll enjoy reading this year's newsletter and catching up on all that occurred over the last year. I've included several memoirs that have been graciously provided and want to thank all of you that have responded to our request. I'll continue to collect, organize and eventually publish all of those that we've received.

We had another good turnout at our Camp Lejeune reunion and awards banquet and want to express our thanks to Col Jim Marapoti, USMC (Ret) & Capt Chris Felder from Marine Corps Engineer School for all their hard work in preparing and conducting our gathering.

Speaking of reunions, we genuinely expect you are planning on joining us at Camp Pendleton for this year's reunion. It's been 14 years since we've been able to tour the base and visit the Engineer units and we're looking forward to a large turnout and a gala event. Additional details and a reservation form are included. Read about our future reunions as well and please make your plans accordingly. We need your help in spreading the word to other individuals as well as the engineer related associations that you belong to. We sincerely hope that all of the associations will co-locate with us in the Alexandria, Virginia area in Oct 2010! This is our first attempt at having an Engineer Gathering!

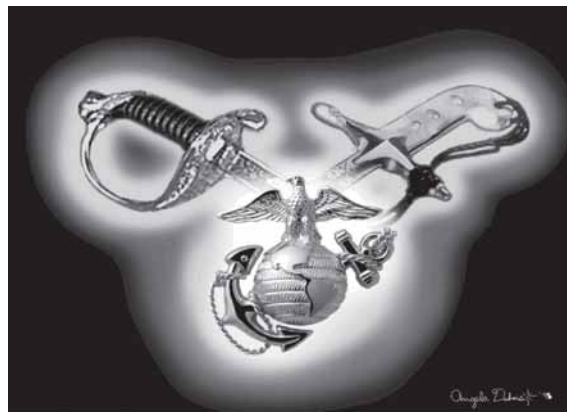
I've included the results of our election of new Officers at our October 2007 business meeting. Additionally, we had the opportunity to provide a proper recognition to two of our original members and Officers, MGySgt George Hillebrand & SgtMaj Charlie Koenig. You'll find more information and pictures enclosed.

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

Three grand essentials to happiness in this life are: something to do, something to love and something to hope for. Joseph Addison



General Wissler



Brigadier General Wissler was promoted to his current rank on 1 January 2006 and is currently serving as the Senior Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Brigadier 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.

Upon completion of The Basic School and the Engineer Officer Basic Course, Brigadier General Wissler reported to the Engineer Company, Brigade Service Support Group, 1st Marine Brigade, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii in June 1979. BGen Wissler served as both a Landing Support Platoon Commander and Combat Engineer Platoon Commander in the Engineer Company and completed two 31st Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) deployments to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean, first with MAU Service Support Group (MSSG) 31 as the MSSG Landing Support Platoon Commander and next with Battalion Landing Team 3/3 as the Combat Engineer Officer. He subsequently served as the Engineer Company Executive Officer. Brigadier General Wissler was promoted to First Lieutenant in June 1980. Brigadier General Wissler left Hawaii and graduated with honors from the Special Education Program at the Air Force Institute of Technology in September 1983, receiving a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering. He was promoted to Captain in January 1983.

Brigadier General Wissler reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD), San Diego, California upon graduation and served as the Facilities Maintenance Officer for the Recruit Depot. In May 1987, he transferred to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division. During this assignment he served as the Commanding Officer for Headquarters and Service Company, "B" Company, and Engineer Support Company; and served on the Battalion staff as the Battalion Operations Officer. He was promoted to Major in July 1990.

Brigadier General Wissler was designated a distinguished graduate from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College at Quantico, Virginia, in June 1991 and during the academic year was temporarily reassigned to the Commandant's Amphibious Plans Study Group in support of Operation Desert Storm. He subsequently attended the Armed Forces Staff College at Norfolk, Virginia, and after graduation reported to The White House serving as the Marine Corps Aide to the President from July 1991 to August 1993. Brigadier General Wissler reported to 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa, Japan in August 1993 and served as the Operations Officer for Marine Wing Support Group (MWSG) 17 and subsequently as Executive Officer for Marine Wing Support Squadron 172. Upon promotion to Lieutenant Colonel on October 1, 1995, he returned to the MWSG-17 staff and served as the Group Executive Officer and Group Operations Officer.

In July 1996, Brigadier General Wissler reported to Headquarters Battalion, 2d Marine Division, where he served as the Division Engineer until assuming command of 2d Combat Engineer Battalion from January 1997 through July 1998. In July 1998 Brigadier General Wissler proceeded to Washington, DC to serve as a Commandant of the Marine Corps Fellow at The Brookings Institution in the Foreign Policy Studies Branch. Upon completing his fellowship in June 1999, he reported to HQMC as the Deputy 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. In May 2000, Brigadier General Wissler assumed duties as Director, Strategic Initiatives Group. He was promoted to Colonel on 1 July 2000.

Brigadier General Wissler commanded 2d Transportation Support Battalion, 2d FSSG, from July 2002 to June 2004, and deployed to Kuwait and Iraq from February through July 2003 supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. During combat operations in Iraq, he commanded Task Force Pegasus, providing operational and tactical level battlefield distribution capabilities in support of I Marine Expeditionary Force. In July 2004, Brigadier General Wissler assumed the duties of Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, 2d FSSG and in September 2004, he assumed command of the 2d FSSG Forward for service in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 04-06. He assumed the title of Brigadier General on 18 May 2005. Brigadier General Wissler redeployed from Iraq in February 2006, serving as Commanding General, 2d Marine Logistics Group at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Brigadier General Wissler reported to the Office of the Secretary of Defense in April 2006 for service in his current assignment.



Administrative Notes

**Please note that our mailing address has changed to:
MCEA PO Box 322 Ashville, NY 14710**

- 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 & contributions to MCEA and the Assistance Fund are tax deductible and most of your Reunion fees as well.
- The enclosed Members' roster does not include our members who have 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 as long as their Next of Kin desire.
- 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 find out what is going on year round.
- Our Oct 15-18, 2008 Reunion/Awards Banquet will be held in Oceanside, Calif. Details & the RSVP 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 allows us to invest more wisely as well as spend more on advertizing and 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.
- Our business meetings are on call of the President and we anticipate the next one during July.

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 2008 Reunion Form for you to complete & return if you are planning on attending this years' reunion.
3. Please review the Bylaw changes and provide any non-concurrences by 1 June 08.
4. Enclosed is the announcement regarding our 2010 gathering in Alexandria, VA; please help us by spreading the word to your contacts who served with us as well as other associations.
5. Also enclosed is our latest report of our Combat Casualties for all of our Fallen Warriors who died while assigned to Marine Corps Engineer Units. If you have additions or changes, notify Frantz.
6. If you know of someone who is interested in joining MCEA & needs more information, please let Frantz know the contact info.
7. We have inventoried our Library of donated items and would gladly accept additional books, memoirs, pictures, etc. Send to Frantz.



8. 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.

We have a handful of members who continue to carry the burden of filling Executive Committee billets and a few more who have volunteered to function as Associate Directors. But the reality is that we cannot adequately address all of the above stated goals with the limited number of part-time volunteers. As you may have heard or read in the meeting minutes, our Executive Director, George Hillebrand stepped down last year & our Historian, Herb Renner resigned earlier this year and we have no replacements for either of them. And just before going to press with this Newsletter, our 2nd Vice President, Steve Easterday had to resign due to competing demands.

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

If you would like an updated Members' Roster, copy of the Bylaws or meeting minutes, contact Ken Frantz at frantzkd@alltel.net or 716-763-5655 or PO Box 322 Ashville NY 14710.

A nation's greatness resides not in her material resources,
but in her will, faith, intelligence and moral forces.

James M. Hoppin



Honor Roll

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

ALO, THOMAS T. GYSGT (RET)
 AMSTER, ALVIN A. MR
 * ANDERSON, DAVID LTCOL (RET)
 ANDERSON, JESSE LTCOL (RET)
 ANGELL, HENRY SSGT (RET)
 ARMITAGE, GEORGE L CAPT (RET)
 BACHE, TERRANCE MR
 BALLANCE, HENRY G. MSGT (RET)
 * BARDIN, JAMES "LANCER" VET
 BARKER, LAWRENCE S MAJ (RET)
 BARNETSON, WILLIAM H MAJ (RET)
 BATEMAN, JOSEPH S. VET
 BAUBLITZ, JOHN VET
 BENSTEAD, DARYL E. COL (RET)
 BERNIER, RICHARD J CWO4 (RET)
 BIGITSCHKE, UWE MR
 BLUME, CARL VET
 BOURQUE, RAYMOND D MAJ (RET)
 BRANDEL, RALPH E COL (RET)
 BREAKFIELD, BRODUS GYSGT (RET)
 * BROWN, MIKE VET
 BRUTSMAN, DONALD MR
 BUCY, CLYDE T MGYSGT (RET)
 BUTLER, FRANKLIN D GYSGT (RET)
 * CALLAHAN, BILL SSGT KIA
 CALLOWAY, FRED VET
 CAMPBELL, KENNETH B CWO (RET)
 CAREY, RALPH J MR VET
 CLARK, ELMO A. CAPT (RET)
 COLANGELO, NICK E. MGYSGT (RET)
 COLE, JAMES MSGT (RET)
 COOPER, FRANCIS MGYSGT (RET)
 CRESAP, CHARLES C. LTCOL (RET)
 CREWS, JR., DUANE D. COL (RET)
 CROMWELL, MELVIN E VET
 CROSBY, ARTHUR GYSGT (RET)
 CUMMINS, MARTIN R. MSGT (RET)
 CUNNINGHAM, CHARLES R 1STSGT (RET)
 DAMON, ROBERT K. LTCOL (RET)
 DENNIS, NICHOLAS J COL (RET)
 DENORMANDIE, FRANK COL (RET)
 DERRICK, LEWIS C MR VET
 DRISCOLL, BERNARD E. LTCOL (RET)
 DUDDY, ROBERT J. MR VET
 DUHE, CLARENCE VET
 DUNCAN, DAVID N. CWO4 (RET)
 EVANS, RAY MGYSGT (RET)
 FADICK, CARL MR VET
 FAUST JR., RUDOLPH MAJ (RET)
 FELLINGER, BARRY MAJ (RET)
 FERRARO, STEPHEN L. MR (RET)
 FEUER, HENRY O. CWO2 (RET)
 FIANDER, WILLIAM MAJ (RET)
 FIELDING, JOHN M. MSGT (RET)
 FISH, ROY MR VET
 FLOYD, JOSEPH C. MAJ (RET)
 FOLEY, THOMAS MR

FRANKOWSKI, JOSEPH MGYSGT (RET)
 FUNDERBURK, RAY LTCOL (RET)
 GALLAGHER, JOHN F MGYSGT (RET)
 GANGEWERE, KENNETH SSGT (RET)
 GAZZA, HENRY J MR
 GILBO, PATRICK F MR VET
 GILES, SAM E MR
 GIRAFFE, FRANK CPL (RET)
 GLENN, CARL J GYSGT (RET)
 GOINS, ROBERT LTCOL (RET)
 GOSS, EUGENE W MYGYSGT (RET)
 GRADL, MICHAEL J VET
 * GREER, GENE MSGT (RET)
 GUBALA, TIMOTHY LTCOL (RET)
 HOLLINGSWORTH, JAMES K CWO4 (RET)
 HOLZINGER, BERNARD MAJ (RET)
 HORTON, EVERAD MR VET
 HUNTZINGER, HENRY J LTCOL (RET)
 JACOBSON, MILTON R GYSGT (RET)
 JACQUES, MAURICE SGTMAJ (RET)
 JARVIS, JOHN VET
 JOHNSON, GUSTOF MR VET
 JOHNSON, STEPHEN J CAPT (RET)
 JOHNSON, WARREN MGYSGT (RET)
 JONES, THOMAS W LTCOL (RET)
 KROPINAK, ROBERT C MAJ (RET)
 LANGLEY, JOSEPH A SGTMAJ (RET)
 LANIER, LUTHER L MSGT (RET)
 LEAKE, NORMAN GYSGT (RET)
 LIGGETT, JAMES E MSGT (RET)
 LIVEZEY, JAMES W MAJ (RET)
 LOY, WILLIAM CAPT (RET)
 MacKENZIE, JAMES M LTCOL (RET)
 MACHA, JAMES F MSGT (RET)
 MADER, JOHN F COL (RET)
 MARJANOV, JOHN MGYSGT (RET)
 MAXWELL, LEO F GYSGT (RET)
 MASTICE, JOSEPH MR VET
 * McCARTER, LARRY CWO 4 (RET)
 McClURE, GARY L LTCOL (RET)
 McCOY, JIM MGYSGT (RET)
 McGILL, DENNIS VET
 McLAWHORN, LEON CAPT (RET)
 MILLS, DAVID C LTCOL (RET)
 MURPHY, ROBERT F MSGT (RET)
 NAHRGANG, DONALD V LTCOL (RET)
 NUNN, GRANT P GYSGT (RET)
 O'CONNOR, JOHN B MR VET
 OLSON, FREDRIC COL (RET)
 PALMER, RALPH CWO2 (RET)
 PALMER, ROBERT M CWO3 (RET)
 PARKER, PETER MR
 PEHOWIC, STANLEY A GYSGT (RET)
 PENDERGAST, RICHARD L GYSGT (RET)
 PHELPS, WILLIAM E LTCOL (RET)
 PORTWOOD, TROY G MR VET
 * READ, JOE CWO 2 (RET)

REID, KENNETH R VET
 * RITTER, JOE GYSGT (RET)
 ROBERTS, JOHN SGTMAJ (RET)
 ROBERTS, KENNETH MR
 ROBERTS, LONNIE MSGT (RET)
 ROCKWELL, NOEL VET
 RUDAT, JUNIOR D GYSGT (RET)
 RUSHING, EDWIN VET
 SAULNIER, JOHN L CAPT (RET)
 * SCHEER, CARL MGYSGT (RET)
 SHARKEY, KEO J VET
 SHELKOFISKY, EARNEST L MSGT (RET)
 SHELTON, OTEY CWO4 (RET)
 SHIELDS, JIMMIE R MR
 SILVERMAN, ALBERT MR VET
 SIMONSON, ARTHUR K MR
 SMITH, RAYMOND C VET
 SMITH, RAYMOND K MGYSGT (RET)
 SNYDER, GUY MSGT (RET)
 SOFRONAS, GEORGE VET
 SOGHOIAN, AVEDIS H MSGT (RET)
 SOUZA, JOSEPH W VET
 SPIKERMAN, JACK MAJ (RET)
 STANDISH, PETER VET
 STASIO, ANTHONY DR
 STOCKSTILL, PAUL R VET
 STOKES, RUFUS R MSGT (RET)
 STUBBLEFIELD, ROBERT MR VET
 STURGEON, BILL VET
 STURZA, RAYMOND CAPT (RET)
 SURKAMP, RICHARD VET
 SWINDALL, THOMAS MR VET
 TERRY, EDWARD MSGT (RET)
 *TOMPKINS, ROBERT VET
 TURNER, BLAINE L MR
 ULSH, AMON SSGT (RET)
 VEGA, MANUEL SGTMAJ (RET)
 VIERS JR, W.GUS LTCOL (RET)
 VOORHEES, JOHN CWO2 (RET)
 VROOMAN, LYNDON F CAPT (RET)
 WATTERS, RONALD T (MESSIO) MGYSGT (RET)
 WICKHAM, JOHN D MR VET
 WIGGINS, ANDREW J GYSGT (RET)
 WILLIAMS, KENNETH W GYSGT (RET)
 WINOSKI, WALTER M COL (RET)
 WOODWARD, LEEMAN MGYSGT (RET)
 WRIGHT, RICHARD CAPT (RET)
 ZEMATIS, WALTER J MGYSGT (RET)
 ZYSK, FRANK L VET

Those with an asterisk by their name have been added this year.



Staff Sergeant William J. Callahan



We were extremely pleased to have met Bill & his family at our 2006 Peabody, Mass. awards banquet and honored to present him his well deserved award. Just six months later, Bill along with his team member, SSgt Peter Woodall would pay the ultimate sacrifice for their service to GOD, Country and Corps. Bill was our first MCEA member to be Killed in Action and as such we wanted to pay him special recognition. We've recommended to HQMC that the EOD tech award be named in honor of SSgt William Callahan. Additionally, our Assistance Fund has contacted Amy & Bill's mother to offer assistance. We used our Assistance Fund to pay for Bill's family to attend our Camp Lejeune awards banquet, but unfortunately Amy was not able to attend due to Daniel being sick. We were delighted that Bill's mother, Mary Ellen, and his sister, Marissa could attend and be honored by all those in attendance.

Staff Sgt. William (Bill) J. Callahan was born on August 15, 1978. He was the only son of Mary Ellen Callahan and the only brother of Marissa A. Callahan. Bill was raised in Hanson, Massachusetts and graduated from Whitman-Hanson High School in 1997.

He was an avid Basketball player, standing at 6'5" tall and quite the Track Star. He attended St. Joseph the Worker parish, where he was an altar boy for several years. Bill excelled in whatever he did and was wise beyond his years.

In January of 2003, he married his longtime girlfriend, Amy Simonsen of Easton, Massachusetts. The couple could light up any room they entered with their bright eyes and beautiful smiles. Amy and Bill made their home in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Amy and Bill soon became first time parents, to their only child, Daniel Allen Callahan; born on April 10, 2007. Bill was in Iraq during the birth of his precious son, and via telephone heard one of Danny's first cries. In an email to his Aunt he stated; "I have never heard anything more beautiful!"

Staff Sgt. Callahan joined the United States Marine Corps in September, 1997; graduating from Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island in February, 1998. Staff Sgt. Callahan reported for Rifleman training at Marine School of Infantry East at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. There he completed his training as the "Honor Grad" for which he was meritoriously promoted to Private First Class.



Staff. Sgt. Callahan immediately checked into Company A, 1/25 Marines, in April of 1998 and deployed to Okinawa, Japan for Jungle Warfare Training in August 1999. During his tour in the Reserves, he was the Toys for Tots Coordinator and was a member of the Color Guard. Staff Sgt. Callahan attended Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Defense Specialist (NBC) School in the summer of 2001 and conducted training operations in Canada, resulting in him being awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Due to his leadership skills, Staff Sgt. Callahan was appointed Corporal of the Guard at the Congressional Medal of Honor Conference at Logan Airport, Boston, MA. During this time he also checked in to II Marine Expeditionary Force (II MEF) UNITAS and attended the following courses in preparation for a South America deployment: Combat Rubber Recon Craft Course, USMC Military Tracking Course, and Non-Lethal Weapons Course. Upon returning from II MEF UNITAS, Staff Sgt. Callahan returned to 1/25 and deployed again to Okinawa, Japan. Upon returning home awaiting orders to Explosive Ordnance Disposal School (EOD), he worked at Recruiting Service Station Brockton, MA, serving as a Recruiters Assistant. Staff Sgt. Callahan was also a Volunteer Police Officer with Rockland, MA Police Department.



In 2005, Staff Sgt. Callahan reported to EOD School. At EOD School, he was appointed the Non-Commission Officer in Charge of 25 joint service students. He also volunteered and participated in the clean up of the Florida Panhandle after Hurricane Ivan. Staff Sgt. Callahan graduated #2 in his class at EOD School and immediately reported to 2nd EOD Company, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

In September 2005, Staff Sgt. Callahan deployed as an EOD Technician to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his time he conducted numerous Explosive Ordnance Disposal combat missions where he was tasked with rendering safe Improvised Explosive Devices, destroying enemy weapons and Ordnance caches and conducting post blast analysis in Ar Ramadi. For his heroic actions he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with the Combat Distinguishing Service Device.

On November 1, 2005, Staff Sgt. Callahan's Team responded to an IED in Ar Ramadi. He expertly maneuvered the robot to the IED and emplaced a small disruption charge. After initiating the charge and confirming it was safe to proceed, Staff Sgt. Callahan exited the vehicle and proceeded to collect the IED components when a secondary IED detonated directly beneath the team's vehicle. The blast mortally wounded the Team Corpsman and another EOD Marine and seriously wounded the Team Leader. Despite being engaged by a large volume of enemy fire and RPGs, Staff Sgt. Callahan quickly regained his bearings after being knocked down by the blast. He assisted in putting out the fire which had engulfed his Team Leader and assisted other Marines in the evacuation of the wounded. He then returned to the site and without security, proceeded over 200 meters to the blast site and once again receiving enemy fire, completed the post blast investigation. These actions demonstrate an uncommon resolve to persevere in the face of grave danger.

After his Tour, he returned to 2nd EOD Company Camp Lejeune and worked in the Special Training Unit, providing specialized training to the EOD Company and deploying units in preparation for Iraq. Staff Sgt. Callahan attended the FBI Large Vehicle Post Blast Course, U.S. Army Global Anti-Terrorism Operational Readiness Course, Bill Scott Raceway Anti-Terrorism Driving Course, and the AT Solutions IED Electronics Course. He also was appointed a Team Leader for the EOD Operations on United States Secret Service Missions in support of the President of the United States. Staff Sgt. Callahan was named the United States Marine Corps Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician of the Year for 2006 by the Marine Corps Engineer Association.

In February 2007, Staff Sgt. Callahan deployed for his second time to Iraq as an EOD Technician in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his time he conducted numerous Explosive Ordnance Disposal combat missions where he was tasked again with rendering safe Improvised Explosive Devices, destroying enemy weapons and ordnance caches and conducting post blast analysis in Ar Ramadi.

On April 27, 2007, Staff Sgt. Callahan was serving with 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) in support of combat operations in Ar Ramadi, Iraq. While conducting EOD procedures on an IED, to ensure the safety of his fellow Marines, military, and civilian personnel, enemy forces detonated the IED, inflicting fatal wounds to Staff Sgt. Callahan.

Staff Sgt. Callahan's courage, steadfast devotion to duty and personal sacrifice reflected great credit upon himself, his family, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Naval Service, and the United States of America.



Staff Sgt. Callahan's Awards:

Purple Heart (Posthumously)
Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat
Distinguishing Device
Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal
Combat Action Ribbon
Selected Marine Corps Reserve Medal (with 1 Bronze Star in lieu Of 2nd award)
National Defense Service Medal
Armed Forces Reserve medal
Iraq Campaign Medal
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (with 3 Bronze Stars in lieu Of 4th award)



Gene was one of the original members of our MCEA and has been a dedicated supporter of our Association filling numerous billets, organizing reunions and performing many other administrative duties.

MSgt Gene Greer will be sorely missed by all.



Garland Gene Greer

Garland Gene Greer, 76, of Knollwood Drive, Morganton, NC, died Saturday, December 22, 2007. Born in Mount Eden, KY on December 8, 1931, he was the son of the late Walter Drake Greer and Marjorie Mae Warford Greer. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Robert G. Greer.

Garland retired from Drexel Heritage. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, having served 20 years as a combat engineer. He completed tours in the Korea Conflict and Vietnam War. He was a member of the Valdese First Christian Church. Upon retirement from Drexel Heritage, he traveled the northwest, especially enjoying the Oregon Trail and Salmon River. Mr. Greer was a life-long member of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Division Marines, American Legion, the Marine Corps Engineer Association and the Marine Corps League.

Garland is survived by his wife, Evelyn Ann Stephenson Greer of the home; a son, William D. Greer of Boone, NC; a daughter, Sue A. Greer of Boone; a brother, William S. Greer of Kentucky; and grandchildren, Emily, Elizabeth, Will, and Brian Greer.

The funeral was held at 4:00 p.m., Sunday, December 23, 2007 in the Colonial Chapel of Sossoman Funeral Home with the Reverends Denny Camp and Diana Spangler-Crawford officiating. Burial followed in Burke Memorial Park with military graveside rites performed by Table Rock Detachment #1147. Memorial contributions may be made to Burke Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc., 1721 Enon Road, Valdese, NC 28690.



OUR BYLAWS STATE:

ARTICLE XI- FELLOWS

The MCEA recognizes the importance of its members, partners and stakeholders who are a valuable and sustaining element of the Association. The MCEA is prepared to recognize these organizations and individuals by establishing a Fellows category to acknowledge their contributions in support of the Association and/or its Foundation, special fund/assistance programs.

As a tax exempt, Non Profit organization under the IRS Code section 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

GOLD

BAE SYSTEM
FRANTZ, KEN COL USMC (RET)
HARRIS-INMAN, TERRY LTCOL USMC (RET)
MARAPOTI, JIM COL USMC (RET)
TEREX CORPORATION

SILVER

ANDERSON, VIRGIL
RODEBAUGH, ROBERT MSGT USMC (RET)

BRONZE

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

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



By Laws

Your Executive Committee has completed the final review of our Bylaw changes. Below is the list of significant changes that George Carlson provided & briefed at our 16 Oct '07 business meeting.

The changes being proposed accomplish the following objectives:

1. General clarification and/or improved format.
2. Include what has become a normal practice of the Association.
3. Place matters that are subject to fairly frequent change in the hands of the Executive Committee rather than making them an integral part of the by-laws requiring membership approval. The current status of these items will be included as an appendix to the by-laws so that members can readily access them.
4. Place the annual dues renewal deadline earlier in the year to allow for better fiscal planning.
5. Make the Annual Meeting "during October" rather than a set week to allow flexibility to schedule around possible conflicts with other organizations.
6. Change the title of the 1st Vice President to 2nd Vice President to clarify that this position follows the Vice President in seniority/succession.
7. Delete the position of Sergeant-at-Arms. Increased use of technology-based meetings has made this position only minimally useful.
8. Make the position of Executive Director optional at the discretion of the Executive Committee. Duties will be dispersed among the Executive Committee until such time as a suitable volunteer is found or the Association has sufficient financial strength to allow for a paid Executive Director.
9. Allow the Executive Committee to establish appropriate levels of control for the expenditure of funds for routine, recurring expenses.
10. Change IRS Code section to conform to their determination for MCEA.

In accordance with our Bylaws, our dues current members with email have already approved all of the changes.

Those of you receiving the printed newsletter now have your opportunity to provide any non-concurrences to the President NO LATER THAN 1 June 2008.

**The highest use of capital is not to make more money,
but to make money do more for the betterment of life.**

Henry Ford



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 will be limited to not more than one third civilian personnel members of the total membership strength (not former or retired military) so as to maintain the private organization as an entity. 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 parent 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.

Section 3. Dues. Annual dues will be assessed to members based on the Association’s financial necessity to cover administration costs such as postage, publication of the Association Newsletter and any other costs necessary for the Association to operate. 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. Currently, the cost of Lifetime membership is \$500.00. 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, 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, to be held during October. 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 include the following: Review of the Treasurer's Report; Nominations; Annual Reunion; and Newsletter. Committees 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 President.

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 have charge of the affairs of the Association and shall see that all membership decisions are implemented. The President 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 that an IRS Report is required, the President, with the assistance of the Treasurer, will be responsible for its submission. 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 President.

Section 5. Second Vice President. The primary duties of this office will be to plan and monitor the Association's annual Reunion. 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 be the custodian of the records of the Association. 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 will also 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 90 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 Audit 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 President 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 President will read the summarized reports 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 may be appointed by the Executive Committee. The position will have no term of office. The Executive Director is not an officer, is a non-voting member of the Executive Committee, and may receive financial compensation. If an Executive Director is appointed, that person 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, checks, bonds, or 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.

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

Section 14: Authorization to Expend Monies. Monies shall be expended as determined by the dues current membership at periodic meetings. For such expenses as may occur between general membership meetings, the President may issue written or verbal authorization to expend funds in the amounts necessary to defray expenses in connection with legal obligations of the Association or to satisfy any other expenses that will benefit the membership as a whole. Monies may be temporarily lent to the Association without interest to ensure payment of expenses. Checks shall be signed by the Treasurer or Executive Director (if one is appointed). The Executive Committee may authorize the Treasurer and/or the Executive Director to make routine payments up to certain 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 | d. Treasurer |
| b. Second Vice President | e. Historian |
| c. Secretary | 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. Procedure. 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- FELLOWS

Section 1. The MCEA recognizes the importance of its members, partners and stakeholders who are a valuable and sustaining element of the Association. The MCEA is prepared to recognize these organizations and individuals by establishing a Fellows category to acknowledge their contributions in support of the Association and/or its Foundation, special fund/assistance programs. As a tax exempt, Non Profit organization under the IRS Code section 501(a), tax exempt donations to support the MCEA will be solicited from a wide range of potential donors, to include members, organizations, numerous charitable organizations, and individuals. Contributors, who make significant donations, one time or cumulatively, will be recognized by "Fellows" status and be so recognized both at the annual reunion/Awards Banquet and on the MCEA website. Fellows' categories will be established and adjusted as necessary by the Executive Committee. Fellows will be provided a lapel pin designating their Fellows status.

NOTES CONCERNING THESE BYLAWS

1. The provision concerning "Associate Membership" is limited so that 90% of membership remains military veterans. This is necessary for the organization to qualify as "tax-exempt" under provisions of the IRS.
2. Provisions concerning the officers are standard.
3. Compensation is not provided to officers in order to maintain "tax-exempt" status.
4. Authorization of officers to expend monies is necessary to ensure continued business operations of the Marine Corps Engineer Association.
5. The dissolution provisions are necessary in order to obtain reduced mailing expenses from the Post Office.

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.

Article IX, Section 1, Fellows:

Categories and Dollar Amounts—

Platinum (\$5000 or more);

Gold (\$1000 to \$4999);

Silver (\$500 to \$999);

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

Annual Audit Guidelines (TBD)

Reunion SOP (TBD)



Business Meeting Minutes

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

19 May 2007

BUSINESS MEETING

0807 Ken Frantz calls meeting to order via speaker phone. Jim Marapoti led Pledge of Allegiance. 8 in attendance at the MCES VTC, Steve Easterday & Hank Rudge participated via conference call.

Frantz offered Armed Forces day prayer & thanked CO, MCES Col Nelson & Maj Castora & Mr Pendergrass for their support in hosting the meeting using the VTC & conference call.

Treasurer's report: Checking=\$ 5,930.29 Savings=\$2,898.11 CDs=\$8,882.43
TOTAL = \$ 17,710.83

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Assistance Fund: Jim Marapoti, AF Chairman, reports \$275 deposited this last week which brings total balance to \$6266.27. Lawyer has advised that it's better to have a separate 501 c (3) education fund vice having a financial assistance fund due to the IRS rules & regulations. Additionally, we're reviewing the options of how best to help the family of SSgt Callahan who was Killed in Action on 27 Apr '07 in Iraq. The AF committee mbrs will pursue the options.

2. Awards Board: George provided Frantz the input of 5 of the 11 Awards Bd members. Consensus is that a "hard copy" read ahead package will make the process more efficient. Marapoti states that we need to ensure we have a minimum of 3 man team for each category & should have paper copies printed at our expense if necessary. Rudge inquired as to existence of a scoring matrix & Marapoti states he has one & will provide to all Awards Board members. **The Exec Committee will review the input & refine the procedures prior to convening the '07 Board late July or early August.**

3. 2007 Reunion Planning: Marapoti states the previously briefed schedule remains unchanged except that MWSS 272 will not be available for the Friday tour. Cline is refining list of hotels & attempting to obtain group discounts. Location of the Wed night social & Thursday morning business mtg still being evaluated. O'Club is reserved for Thursday night Awards Banquet. Col McGowan, Camp Lejeune ISS, states that "by name" base & PX passes will need to be provided ahead of time. Frantz states that these passes, along with all other registration info should be consolidated in one envelope & handed out at the registration on Wed night. Frantz has mailed letter to CG, II MEF, LtGen Stalder, inviting him to be our guest of honor. No response to date. Discussion ensued pertaining to pros/cons of mementos vs door prizes & raffles; Exec Committee to decide. Hawkins has info on the River cruise & will provide so Frantz can include in the registration form as well as on the website. Rudge recommends the business mtg include a briefing from the VA & that MCEA should invite SSgt Callahan's family to the Awards banquet.

4. Membership: Frantz briefed currently have 534 dues current members (219 are Life mbrs); 155 deceased members & 327 dues expired members for a total of 1016. Emails have been sent to all dues expired members as well as letters mailed out in March & April reminding them of their expired dues status. Total cost for printing/mailing 230 letters was \$163.11. 21 renewed their dues & 6 responded to drop them from our rolls. Many other letters returned with no forwarding address. Frantz will continue to attempt to locate our members with no valid contact info.

5. Combined Federal Campaign: Jim Marapoti states that MCEA has had very little participation from the Active/reserve community. With the establishment of a separate 501 c (3) fund, new opportunities are available and that fund can then be on the CFC list for contributions.

6. Historian: Renner & Frantz continue to solicit & consolidate unit & individual input with the goal to post to our website & have printed copy to distribute at our annual reunion. Hawkins says we need to ensure that all of our members are aware of this on-going effort.



- 7. Publicity & Advertising:** Frantz still needs to draft the letter to mail out to potential new members.
- 8. Marine Corps Engineer School Update:** None provided.
- 9. 2006 Reunion Results:** Treasurer continues to refine the After Action financial report to ensure George's report is consistent with our financial records.
- 10. Combat Casualties:** Frantz has created a spreadsheet of USMC Engr unit combat casualties from WW II to the present. We've added 4 Marines to our list since the last report for a total of 446. KIA in Iraq 23 Apr '07 was LCpl Dale Peterson from 2d CEB. LCpl Johnathan Kirk, also from 2d CEB, died 1 May from wounds he suffered 23 Apr '07. Our first MCEA member to be killed in action was SSgt William Callahan who along with his partner SSgt Peter Woodall, were killed while disarming a command detonated IED in Iraq on 27 Apr '07. We expressed our condolences to the Unit Commanders and family of these Marines, in addition, member Pat Barnes represented MCEA at the services for SSgt Callahan in So. Easton, MA. Hawkins asked if we've previously sent a condolence letter to the Next of Kin. Frantz states that we've not always been able to obtain the contact info due to the Privacy Act. Marapoti states that it's been frustrating trying to get the units to provide us the information. Frantz states that the most recent example of this was with SSgt Callahan. The first anyone in the association knew about his death was when Frantz received a phone call from a Boston Globe reporter who had been informed of SSgt Callahan's death, did an internet search & found the MCEA website. Cline states that additional informal communication with unit Sergeants Major & others may help. Rudge states that if we can't get the personal address, we can send the condolence letter to the unit & have them forward it. The previous recommendation was to ensure that the unit commanders have all the information necessary to pass to the Marine, Sailor or the next of kin about how MCEA can assist them. Marapoti will draft the document for review prior to disseminating to the units.
- 11. Newsletter:** Frantz states that the annual newsletter is complete & was posted to the website on 9 Apr '07. George has completed the mail out of the 238 hard copies to those dues current members without internet connectivity. Cost was \$435 editing fee, \$2507.45 printing/labor & \$123 for mailing. Total = \$ 3065.45.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. SSgt William Callahan:** As mentioned in the Combat Casualties item above, SSgt Callahan was our first member to be Killed in Action. Marapoti made motion to rename the EOD technician of the Year award to the SSgt William Callahan EOD Award; motion unanimously approved. Frantz will pass to Mike Boyd at HQMC.
- 2. Corporate Members:** Rich Smith had to step down due to potential conflict of interest. However, LtCol Mike McCarthy has picked up the duties of the Corp Mbr POC and is in the process of mailing letters to existing as well as potential corporate members. Cline states we should solicit more financial support from our corporate members. Another option is to request a pledge, but Rudge says better to have the money than a pledge. Hawkins will contact Bob Gray regarding his company joining MCEA as a corporate member. Easterday states the Marine Corps Reserve Association, in conjunction with HQMC, conducts golf tournaments around the country to recognize the corporate members and as fund raisers. Marapoti states the Assistance Fund should follow the MC-Law Enforcement foundation business plan which also uses golf tournaments as fund raisers.
- 3. 2008 Reunion:** Col Steve Easterday USMCR (Ret) from San Diego is our coordinator and has provided possible hotel locations, depending on whether we want to be in San Diego or closer to Camp Pendleton. Discussion ensued regarding schedule & dates so as to reduce conflicts. Executive committee members & Easterday to evaluate options; Cline to execute hotel contract.
- 4. 1st Vice President:** Charlie Koenig has resigned due to medical reasons. Billet will remain vacant until elections in October.
- 5. Executive Director:** George Hillebrand will step down effective 1 June '07 after 15 years as our Executive Director. Sergeant Major Mike Cline, USMC (Ret) of Jacksonville NC has agreed to accept the billet and is in the process of turnover with George. A meeting was conducted on 5 May '07 with Cline, Hillebrand, Marapoti, Ellzey & Frantz in J'ville. Cline states that having a Form 990 is very important and we've not previously submitted the form. 15 May was the start date and we need to pursue. Additionally, with the separate fund and soliciting more financial support from our



corporate members, the Strategic & Business Plans become even more important to the progress of our Association. Cline for action.

6. Chaplain: Steve Robinson has resigned due to medical & personal reasons. Frantz will be soliciting the members for volunteers to fill the billet until elections in Oct.

Next meeting is scheduled for 18 August 2007-possible locations discussed were: MCES, Golden Corral, Motor Transport Assoc building aboard Camp Johnson. Additional discussion pertained to use of the conference call capability. Easterday states that the MC Reserve Assoc pays \$300 for a 2 hr session.

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

Business meeting concluded at 1016.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION 18 October 2007 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

0805 President Ken Frantz calls meeting to order & leads group in Pledge of Allegiance. 42 in attendance plus 2 Exec Committee Officers participated via conference call.

Briefings provided by: Col Mike Boyd, USMC (Ret) Head, LP; Maj Steve Castora Dir of Instruction, MCES; LtCol Joe Klocek-Pgm Mgr, Engr Systems, SysCom; Tom Manley, VP Gov't Pgms, Terex Corporation; Dave Tebo, Pgm Mgr, Combat Engr Sys, BAE Corporation.

1100 Business meeting began

Treasurer's report: Checking=\$ 13,139.94 Savings \$2,915.76 CDs \$9,022.33 **TOTAL = \$25,078.03**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Assistance Fund: Jim Marapoti, AF Chairman, reports current balance of \$8435.41. Due to the convoluted requirements to become a c (3) charitable organization, recommendation is to remain as c (19), non-profit, veterans association. SSgt Bill Callahan's mother & sister are guests at this year's Awards Banquet and expenses are being paid by the Assistance fund. Bill Callahan's widow was invited and her expenses were to be paid by HQMC, but she could not attend due to illness of her infant son. Ed Lawless stated that the MC Law Enforcement Fund is available to help our KIA/WIA as well. The 12 Oct 2006 annual business meeting stated that \$1000 was to be transferred from the AF to the MCEA General Fund if it was not expensed this year. Motion was approved to overturn that decision and leave the \$1K in the Assistance Fund. Additionally, the motion was approved to transfer \$1K from the General Fund to the Assistance Fund and address this issue one year at a time in the future. Carlson for action.

2. Awards Board: Ken Frantz reports that we initiated a new process this year due to the delay in convening a board of members in one location at one time. The awards board was accomplished via email. 27 of the 45 members solicited to participate, agreed to review groups of the nominee packages & provide their rankings to Frantz for compilation & submission to HQMC. Board members completed their review 17 Aug; results provided to HQMC, LPE 19 Aug. Additionally, those participating in this inaugural process provided input for the assemblage of an SOP & creation of a score card to be used in future boards. Mike Boyd supports this initiative and states that many of the boards are handled this way by other occupational fields. Additionally, this process helps remove any misunderstanding/perception of favoritism. Motion approved to use the email for future Awards Board. Frantz for action.



3. Membership: Frantz briefed currently have 1099 members on our rolls. 635 are dues current; 158 are deceased and remaining are inactive. 224 of the 635 are life members. We've joined 130 new members since last year's business meeting. We have 5-90 year old members & the two youngest are 21.

4. Combined Federal Campaign: As addressed in para. 1 above, MCEA will not pursue CFC funding since it requires us to change to a C (3) organization.

5. Historian: Renner & Frantz continue to solicit & consolidate unit & individual input with the goal to post to our website & have CD to distribute. Additionally, Frantz is obtaining Command Chronologies from MCU and will request assistance from other members. Frantz for action.

6. Honor Roll: Frantz read the following new additions since last year's Annual Business Meeting: John Baublitz; Carl Blume; SSgt Bill Callahan; Fred Calloway; MGySgt Francis Cooper; Melvin Cromwell; Clarence Duhe; MGySgt Ray Evans; GySgt Carl Glenn; CWO4 Larry McCarter; MGySgt Jim McCoy; Dennis McGill; Capt Leon McLawhorn; CWO 3 Robert Palmer; MSgt Lonnie Roberts; Noel Rockwell; Ed Rushing; Capt John Saulnier; Leo Sharkey; CWO 4 Otey Shelton; Ray Smith; George Sofronos; Joe Souza; Pete Standish; Bill Sturgeon; Richard Surkamp; GySgt Andy Wiggins.

7. Associate Directors: Frantz states we currently have 5 ADs. Don Smith is stepping down and he has found a replacement who is Bill Fullerton of St Petersburg, FL. 3 ADs attended the reunion: Don Smith, Paul Reynolds & Bob Sandlin.

Bob Qualls & Luke Guthrie addressed the issue of not receiving a printed copy of the Annual Newsletter. Frantz briefed that the Executive Committee decided that in order to save money we would only mail printed copies to those "dues current members" without email. Qualls stated that he could no longer read his computer screen and Guthrie stated as members get older their situation may change. Frantz stated that members should notify him of any change in their contact information as well as desire to receive printed copy & written correspondence vice use of email. Guthrie stated that other associations he belongs to charges for printed material and he contributed \$100 to assist in the printing/ mailing costs.

Next meeting is on call of the President.

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

Business meeting concluded at 1240.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Frantz
President/Secretary

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

16 Feb 2008

1020- President ICen Frantz calls meeting to order via conference call & Jim Marapoti leads group in Pledge of Allegiance. 8 in attendance at Jacksonville USO, plus 4 Exec Committee Officers & Mike McCarthy participated via conference call.

Treasurer's report

	General Fund	Assistance Fund	Total
Available Cash			
(Checking & Passbook Savings):	\$15,684.45	\$8,917.13	\$24,601.58
Time Deposits (CD):	\$9,199.48	0	\$9,199.48
Total Liquid Assets:	\$24,883.93	\$8,917.13	\$33,801.06
Fixed Assets	\$ 3,281.65	0	\$ 3,281.65
Total Assets:	\$28,165.58	\$8,917.13	\$37,082.71



OLD BUSINESS:

1. Assistance Fund: Jim Marapoti, AF Chairman, reports that we'll not pursue a separate Non-profit 501 c (3) status but remain a subset of the MCEA. No applications were received in 2007, but the AF did fund the expenses for Mrs Callahan & her daughter to attend the Awards banquet. George Carlson has taken over the duties as Treasurer for the AF. No applications have been received for calendar year 2008. Rudge will brief his Knights of Columbus organization & George Carlson will brief his American Legion chapter regarding the availability of financial assistance. The 12 Oct 2006 annual business meeting stated that \$1000 was to be transferred from the AF back to the MCEA General Fund if it was not expensed this year. During the 18 Oct 07 Annual business meeting, the motion was approved to overturn that decision and leave the \$1K in the Assistance Fund. Additionally, the motion was approved to transfer SIIC from the General Fund to the Assistance Fund and address this issue one year at a time in the future. 10 Dec 07, \$1K was transferred from the General Fund to the Assistance Fund. Action complete.

2. Awards Board: Frantz reports that with the significant help of Phil Martin, a draft SOP for the Awards process has been produced & provided to Exec Comm Officers for staffing with intent of using during upcoming selection process. Easterday for action.

3. Membership: Frantz briefed currently have 1105 members on our rolls. 536 or 49% are dues current; 167 are deceased and remaining have expired dues. 221 are life members. We've joined 3 new members since 1 Jan 08.

4. Historian: Renner & Frantz continue to solicit & consolidate unit & individual input with the goal to post to our website & have CD to distribute. Additionally, Frantz is obtaining Command Chronologies from MCU and will request assistance from other members. Hawkins states we need to remind our membership that this capability is available for individuals to obtain free info. McCarthy volunteered to assist with coordination with MCU since his drill site is Quantico. Marapoti states he received a load of historical material. Frantz recommends an inventory be conducted to determine what duplicates exist & then consider using scanning service for those items we need to add to the Library. Marapoti & Frantz for action.

5. Combat Casualties: Spreadsheet is updated & posted to our website; latest version will be included in our next Newsletter. Currently have 576 names on the list. The previous recommendation was to ensure that the unit commanders have all the information necessary to pass to the Marine, Sailor or the next of kin about how MCEA can assist them. GySgt Wilson recommends a card be developed to provide to the units & families. Dave Tebo mentioned that the Family Support Groups can also be a source of information & assistance. Marapoti states we still have to work around the Privacy Act restrictions. Marapoti to draft the documents for review prior to disseminating to the units.

6. SSgt William Callahan Memorial Award: Frantz passed the recommendation to rename the EOD tech award to reflect SSgt William Callahan's name to Mike Boyd at HQMC. BGen Reist has been presented the recommendation. Mike Boyd states that the proliferation of naming awards is a challenge & a slow process since the CMC must approve the name. The MLG CGs are supportive. MCEA will continue to use the naming process in the interim. Mike Boyd for action.

7. Corporate Members: Frantz briefed recruited 32 prospects last year & 1 joined. Currently have 6 corporate members.

8. 2008 Reunion: Col Steve Easterday USMCR (Ret) briefed the event will be 15-17 Oct in Oceanside, Calif; Marty's Valley Inn & Guest House provided rates. Frantz states that proposals from 7 additional hotels plus S. Mesa SNCO club & Flying Bridge Restaurant have been obtained & will be provided to Exec Comm for decision. Easterday & Exec Committee for Action.

9. 2009 Annual reunion in Las Vegas: 4 hotels have replied so far with rates between \$70-\$269 & 7 hotels said too soon to quote prices. Renner & Exec Committee for Action.

10. Bylaw changes: Carlson has drafted bylaw changes & Rudge prepared the rewrite that was disseminated via email 12 Feb 08, with non-concurrences due NLT 15 March. Modified Bylaws will be included in the printed Newsletter for members to vote on. Frantz for action.

11. Fellows Program: Frantz briefs total contributions to GF & AF of \$13,379. Lastest member to qualify as Fellow is Master Sergeant Robert Rodebaugh.



12. Marine Corps Engineer School/ECOE: No rep attended. Frantz briefed inaugural edition of the ECOE newsletter released Jan 08 & posted to MCEA website. Frantz working with MCES on MCEA graduation certificate in addition to displaying MCEA pictures/articles throughout CHB. Frantz for action.

13. Return of TD 18/24 to Courthouse Bay: Marapoti reports still have to overcome challenges to get the National Museum to release the TD 18. MCES has agreed to build the pad & structure. McCarthy volunteered as POC for any potential support needed from Caterpillar. Marapoti for action.

14. 2007 Reunion: 155 members, award recipients & family members attended the Jacksonville, NC reunion. Total cost = \$ 5029.74, Income = \$ 6035 for net profit = \$1005.26. Pictures of the banquet & tour of the Camp Lejeune Engr units are posted to the website & will be included in the Newsletter. A video of the banquet is available from Frantz.
Action complete.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Annual Financial Review:** Rudge is in the process of completing review of 1 July-31 Dec 07 financial records. Rudge action.
2. **Newsletter:** All input was due to Frantz by 15 Feb, but none received. Frantz solicited cost proposals from 4 professional editors/printers & provided recommendations to EC. Industrial Press of Malone, NY was selected. Anticipate publication/mail out mid April. Frantz action.
3. **2010 Annual Reunion:** Frantz briefs that EC is in agreement to hold the reunion in the Quantico area, with intent to use the NMMC for the reception. Desire is to invite all the Engr, Bulk Fuel & EOD associations to have their reunions the same week so all of us can join together for week long events of tours of DC, MCB Quantico, NMMC and surrounding areas & reception and banquet. Military Reunion organization is soliciting hotels. We'll advertize this event in the Gazette & Leatherneck. Frantz action.
4. **Dues:** During December, Frantz sent emails & letters to our 197 members whose dues expired 31 Dec 07. 99 have renewed. 5 have replied to drop them from the rolls; 4 are deceased and 6 letters were returned as undeliverable. Frantz sent email reminders in Jan & Feb to 72 members and has called the 25 without email. Frantz action.
5. **Treasurer's update:** Converted financial records from Excel to MS Money. Calendar Year end close out reflects net increase in net worth of \$8,802.54, which includes durable equipment and inventory. IRS form 990 filed 21 Jan 08.
6. **Library:** Frantz prepared spreadsheet of those books & pamphlets that have been donated. Marapoti states he has not obtained the books from Hillebrand & we need to decide what we'll do with the library. Once reconciled, listing will be placed on website & included in Newsletter. Carlson has included the library inventory in our physical assets listing for accountability purposed. Marapoti & Frantz for action.

Next meeting is on call of the President; anticipate June or July 2008.

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

Business meeting concluded at 1135.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Frantz
President/Secretary



Treasurer's Report

MCEA remains financially healthy. We have made several changes to improve our financial situation and our accounting practices. Briefly, they are:

1. Changed from a fiscal year (July-June) to a calendar year to more easily match IRS reporting requirements. This change was back-dated to include 2007.
2. Moved record-keeping from Excel spreadsheets to Microsoft Money.
This change allows far more detailed record-keeping without additional time demand on the Treasurer as well as more flexible reporting using the built-in report functions of MS Money.
3. Initiated accounting for fixed assets as well as cash accounts.
As part of on-going efforts to inventory and account for our non-cash assets, this change allows a more accurate presentation of our overall financial position.
4. Consolidated General Fund and Assistance Fund accounting under a single Treasurer.
This change will allow us to more easily deliver on our commitment that 100% of the Assistance Fund dollars actually go to grant recipients. It also allows members to send a single check for multiple purposes and allow us to easily divide the payment into the appropriate funds.
5. Consolidated our financial accounts in a single institution.
Eliminates many mail transactions necessitated by having our accounts split and set the stage for the improvements noted in item 8, below.
6. Rearranged financial accounts to achieve better earnings while preserving safety of principle.
We established "layers" of accounts (checking, money market, and CD's of various terms) that increase the projected earnings on the General Fund from 2.19% to 3.11% (APY) and on the Assistance Fund from 1.52% to 3.82% (APY) while retaining sufficient flexibility to meet all fiscal demands on the Association.
7. Filed our first ever Form 990 with the IRS.
While we met the criteria for 2007, we could have relied on the "3-year average" rule and avoided reporting. However, given the growth of the Association, we felt it prudent to commence reporting in the first year that met the annual criteria and establish our Association as a credible 501.c.(19) non-profit, veterans' organization.
8. Provided debit cards for President and Treasurer to eliminate monthly reimbursement for routine expenditures.

This move eliminates the need for monthly reporting, accounting, and reimbursement for expenditures of a routine nature and allows vendors, such as our conference call provider, to bill directly to the Association.

We are very grateful to our new Treasurer, LtCol George Carlson USMC (Ret) for all his diligence and hard work. George has established the following financial guidelines:

1. Our primary fiduciary duty is the security of our members' funds. All accounts must be insured to the full amount of the principle.
2. We must maintain an acceptable level of financial flexibility. Our primary purpose is to use our funds for the purposes of the organization, not to be an investment banker.
3. We need to make the highest return possible while still supporting the first two criteria.

You'll see in the following report that we continue to make progress in all areas.



ANNUAL REPORT
2007

	GenFund	AsstFund	MCEA Total
Liquid Assets 12/31/06	\$ 17,548	\$ 3,051	\$ 20,593
Fixed Assets 12/31/06	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Assets 12/31/06	\$ 17,548	\$ 3,051	\$ 20,593
Income 2007	\$ 24,064	\$ 7,097	\$ 31,161
Expense 2007	\$ 15,178	\$ 1,331	\$ 16,509
Net Increase	\$ 8,886	\$ 5,766	\$ 14,652
Liquid Assets 12/31/07	\$ 23,562	\$ 8,817	\$ 32,379
Fixed Assets 12/31/07	\$ 2,872	\$ -	\$ 2,872
Total Assets 12/31/07	\$ 26,434	\$ 8,817	\$ 35,252

QUARTERLY SUMMARY

First Quarter, 2008

	GenFund	AsstFund	MCEA Total
Liquid Assets 12/31/07	\$ 23,562	\$ 8,817	\$ 32,379
Fixed Assets 12/31/07	\$ 2,872	\$ -	\$ 2,872
Total Assets 12/31/07	\$ 26,434	\$ 8,817	\$ 35,252
Income 1Q 2008	\$ 3,549	\$ 113	\$ 3,663
Expense 1Q 2008	\$ 710	\$ -	\$ 710
Net Increase	\$ 2,839	\$ 113	\$ 2,952
Liquid Assets 3/31/08	\$ 26,024	\$ 8,930	\$ 34,955
Fixed Assets 3/31/08	\$ 3,346	\$ -	\$ 3,346
Receivables 3/31/08	\$ 75	\$ 0	\$ 75
Payables 3/31/08	\$ 172	\$ -	\$ 172
Net Assets 3/31/08	\$ 29,274	\$ 8,930	\$ 38,204

Above Figures Rounded Off Whole Dollar



The Brotherhood

“I now know why men who have been to war yearn to reunite.
Not to tell stories or look at old pictures. Not to laugh or weep.
Comrades gather because they long to be with the men who once acted at
their best.

Men who suffered and sacrificed, who were stripped of their humanity.
I did not pick these men. They were delivered by fate and the military.
But I know them in a way I know no other men. I have never given
anyone such trust.

They were willing to guard something more precious than my life.
They would have carried my reputation, the memory of me.
It was part of the bargain we all made, the reason we were so willing to
die for one another.

As long as I have my memory, I will think of them all, every day.
I am sure that when I leave this world, my last thought will be of
my family and my comrades.. ..Such good men.”

- Author Unknown



Awards Banquet

Since 1998, the 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.

Our latest Reunion and Awards Banquet was held in Jacksonville, NC on 17-19 October, 2007. Award recipients and their family members came from all over the world to receive their justly deserved recognition from the 155 in attendance. Permanent Associate Director & past President, Col Jim Marapoti, USMC (Ret) & Capt Chris Felder, OIC of the Marine Corps Engineer School Demo Range coordinated the detailed planning for the event. Additionally, the banquet was well supported by the Marine Corps Engineer School Color Detail, the 2d MAW jazz combo brass quintet & other support from MCB Camp Lejeune & Engineer units.

The MCEA was proud and honored to have one of its own members as our Guest of Honor and present the awards. Colonel Neil "Rick" Nelson, Commanding Officer of MCES & Director, Engineer Center of Excellence, presented the individual and unit awards to the following:

2007 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Combat Engineer Field

Officer	1 st Lt Joshua Guide	1 st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
Staff NCO	GySgt Gabriel Wilson	1 st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
NCO	Sgt Timothy Liners	8 th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC
Marine	Cpl Derrick Delaney	1 st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA

Engineer Equipment Field

Officer	CWO3 Jose Mora	1 st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
Staff NCO	GySgt John Morefield	MWSS 374, 29 Palms, CA
NCO	Sgt William Rueppel	2 nd CEB, Camp Lejeune, NC
Marine	LCpl Daniel Bloom	1 st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA

Utilities Field

Officer	CWO2 Sean Flores	MWSS 373, Miramar, CA
Staff NCO	GySgt Ernest Degastonguay	1 st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
NCO	Sgt Robert Battles	1 st CEB, Camp Pendleton, CA
Marine	LCpl Eric Nault	2 nd CEB, Camp Lejeune, NC

Bulk Fuel Field

Officer	CWO2 Kevin Pierre	MWSS 273, Beaufort, SC
Staff NCO	GySgt Lee Duncan	MWSS 371, Yuma, AZ
NCO	Sgt Eric Reid	8 th ESB, Camp Lejeune, NC
Marine	Cpl William Leidig	7 th ESB, Camp Pendleton, CA

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Field

Officer	CWO4 Bradley Garfield	WTBN, Quantico, VA
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SSgt William Callahan Memorial EOD Tech Award

SSgt Logan Ballew

7th ESB, Camp Pendleton, CA

Combat Engineer Battalion

2nd CEB, Camp Lejeune, NC

Engineer Support Battalion

9th ESB, Okinawa, Japan

**Marine Wing Support Squadron,
Engineer Div**

MWSS 274, Cherry Point, NC

Outstanding Naval Construction Force

Third Naval Construction
Regiment, Marietta, GA

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









We were extremely pleased to be able to suitably recognize George & Charlie at our Awards Banquet. Our Association exists today due to the outstanding & dedicated support of these two Marines. As you can see by the below comments that we included on their plaques, they've committed themselves to the continued progress of our Association & we're all very thankful for their hard work.

MGySgt George R. Hillebrand USMC (Ret)



In grateful appreciation for 16 years of continuous service, initially as Association Vice President and then as Executive Director. A Charter member who provided continuity for the many elected Association Officers through the years, George was the flywheel of the organization, handling all contracts, administrative matters and official correspondence. Additionally, George faithfully performed duties of other billets whenever they were vacant.

Throughout the 16 years, George provided consistent and dedicated service and support to our Marine Corps Engineer Association.



Sgt Major Charles G. Koenig USMC (Ret)

In grateful appreciation for your faithful years of service to the Association. A Charter member who served as Vice President, Sergeant at Arms and Permanent Associate Director during your 16 years of support to our Marine Corps Engineer Association, Charlie could always be relied on to participate in the meetings and pitch in wherever he was needed to ensure that the business meetings as well as the Awards Banquets were conducted in a professional manner.



The Reunion

by Rachel Firth

Autumn leaves rustling, together to the appointed place, the old warriors come.

Pilgrims, drifting across the land they fought to preserve. Where they meet is not important anymore. They meet and that's enough for now.

Greetings echo across a lobby. Hands reach out and arms draw buddies close.
Embraces, that as young men they were too uncomfortable to give, too shy to accept so lovingly.

But deep within these Indian Summer days, they have reached a greater understanding of life and love. The shells holding their souls are weaker now, but hearts and minds grow vigorous, remembering. On a table someone spreads old photographs, a test of recollection. And friendly laughter echoes at shocks of hair gone gray or white, or merely gone.

The rugged slender bodies lost forever. Yet they no longer need to prove their strength. Some are now sustained by one of "medicines miracles," and even in this fact, they manage to find humor.

The women, all those that waited, all those who loved them, have watched the changes take place. Now, they observe and listen, and smile at each other; as glad to be together as the men.

Talk turns to war and its related machines and foreign lands. Stories are told and told again, reweaving the threadbare fabric of the past. Mending one more time the banner of their youth.

They hear the vibrations, feel the shudder of metal as engines whine and whirl, and planes, tanks, artillery, or ships come to life. These old warriors can see in their minds eye beyond the mist of years, and they are in their youth again, even if only in their imagination, as old bones and bodies creak and groan.

Dead comrades, hearing their names spoken, wanting to share in this time, if only in spirit, move silently among them. Their presence is felt and smiles appear beneath misty eyes. Each, in his own way may wonder who will be absent in another year.

The room grows quiet for a time. Suddenly an ember flames to life. Another memory burns. The talk may turn to other wars and other men, and of futility. So, this is how it goes. The past is so much present. In their ceremonies, the allegiances, the speeches and the prayers, one cannot help but hear the deep eternal love of country they will forever share.

Finally, it is time to leave. Much too soon to set aside this little piece of yesterday, but the past cannot be held too long, for it is fragile. They say "Farewell" see you in another year, GOD willing."

Each keeps a little of the others with him forever.

A nation's greatness resides not in her material resources,
but in her will, faith, intelligence and moral forces.

James M. Hoppin



The Tour

Friday, the 18th of October we were elated to be able to once again visit our Engineer units aboard Camp Lejeune. Capt Felder had arranged bus transportation & coordinated the day long event which allowed us the opportunity to meet the Marines, see the new equipment & facilities and see all the changes taking place aboard the Base. As we've come to expect, the Marines were motivated and well prepared, the equipment in great shape & we were all re-energized from being able to interact with today's Marines.

Our sincere thanks to 2d Combat Engineer Bn, 8th Engineer Support Bn & Marine Corps Engineer School for all their hard work & preparation in support of your base tour.







Join our inaugural Engineer Community Gathering!

Who: All service personnel who served with USMC Engineer, Bulk Fuel, Topo or EOD Organizations.

When & Where: Alexandria, VA, 20-25 October, 2010

Why: We're especially desirous of having all engineer and other related associations plan their reunions to co-locate with us at the 'Crossroads of our Corps'.

Additionally:

2008 Reunion: 15-18 Oct in Oceanside, CA (If you're interested in attending, complete & return the enclosed form)

2009 Reunion: 13-16 Oct in Las Vegas, NV

MCEA 2008 REUNION EVENTS

WELCOME RECEPTION/REGISTRATION

Wednesday, October 15th (5:00pm-9:00pm at the *Flying Bridge Restaurant*)

Pre registration in the hotel begins at 3 pm & then join your friends for a casual Registration & Welcome Reception at the *Flying Bridge Restaurant*, located adjacent to the hotel featuring medium hors d'oeuvres. This is a wonderful opportunity to see who is here this year, and your first chance to re-connect with your friends.



ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, October 16th (8:00am till done at the *Flying Bridge Restaurant*)

There is no need to pre-register for the meeting; Coffee/juice & muffins will be available.

AWARDS BANQUET DINNER

Thursday, October 16th (6:00pm-10:00pm at *Camp Pendleton SNCO Club*)

Join all of your friends and our award recipients for our Banquet Dinner at the *Camp Pendleton SNCO Club*. Cocktails will be available from the cash bar at 6:00pm; Ceremonies & buffet dinner will be served at 7:00pm, followed by presentation of the Annual Awards.

EVENT A: SAN DIEGO CITY & OLD TOWN TOUR

Thursday October 16th (9:00am-4:00pm) \$45.00 per person

Especially for our spouses & guests that will not be attending the Business meeting. Board your coach at the Guesthouse Inn for a narrated tour of San Diego, which will show you the many diversified and unique areas of this beautiful city. Your tour includes the vibrant downtown, the Gas-Lamp Quarter with its old world buildings, and the *Embarcadero* offering a wonderful harbor view. You will ride through famous *Balboa Park*, home of the *San Diego Zoo*; *La Jolla*, known as the jewel of the Pacific, and see the historic landmark *Hotel Del Coronado*. You will then visit Old Town, discovered by Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo in 1542, and often considered California's birthplace. Here you will find the history and energy of the original settlement of the city of San Diego brought to life by history-tellers, a free museum, historic displays, plaques and time lines. Lunch will be on your own in Old Town; there are many restaurants and cafes to choose from. After lunch there will be time to visit Old Town on your own, you will find superb shopping and many small galleries. This will be a great outing & we'll be back in plenty of time to get ready for the Banquet!



EVENT B: USS MIDWAY MUSEUM

DATE: TBD \$35.00 per person



She was firing Tomahawk Missiles during the Liberation of Kuwait and now the *USS Midway* begins her final tour of duty in the heart of downtown San Diego's waterfront area. One of the true icons of the U.S. Navy in the latter half of the 20th century, she is a modern marvel. This is the most modern warship available for general touring today. You will take a look back at the history of America's longest serving Aircraft Carrier through many of the Museum Exhibits. The *Midway Museum* tour is a self guided audio tour, and allows you to tour at your own pace. The tour will take you from the hanger deck up to the flight deck. The museum offers light snacks and sandwiches for purchase.

EVENT C: ELEGANT DINNER CRUISE

DATE: TBD (6:00pm-11:00pm) \$75.00 per person

You are invited to experience the first class service and fabulous food aboard one of the finest yachts on the Bay. Enjoy a fabulous dinner cruise while viewing 25 scenic miles of San Diego's magnificent skyline. Dress is business casual, plated dinners include Grilled Flat Iron Steak, Fresh Atlantic Salmon, Rosemary Grilled Chicken, or Vegetable Lasagna. Please make your entrée selection on your reservation form.

EVENT D: SPECIAL COMBINATION TOUR: SIGHTSEEING TOUR & DINNER CRUISE

DATE: TBD (10:30am-11:00pm) \$110.00 per person



This is a special combination tour. Enjoy the guided tour of USS Midway Museum. You will then have extra time to spend at the Museum or neighboring *Seaport Village Shops* before boarding the yacht for the elegant dinner cruise. Please note: you will not return to the hotel between the 2 tours.

MILITARY REUNION PLANNERS®



1st MarDiv Aug 27-30, 2008 Nashville, TN

3rd MarDiv July 29 - August 3, 2008 POC: SgtMaj Krueger, USMC (Ret) 703-451-3844
Sheraton at Woodbridge Place
515 Route One South - Iselin, New Jersey 08830
Ph #: 800-325-3535 or 732-634-3600 www.caltrap.com

9th Engineer Association; Tyson's Corner, VA, 28 May-1 June '08. POC: Eric Kenney, elk9theg@mchsi.com

Navy & Marine Corps EOD Assn in San Diego, CA 4-8 June '08. POC: Wayne Wright, 7024 Luke Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93308-2040, 661-399-2517, wwright1@bak.rr.com

Korean Conflict Marine reunion. 5-8 June, 2008; Sioux City Convention Center, Iowa. POC: Christina Callaghan, 112 N 8th St., Mapleton, IA 51034-1323; Ph #: 712-881-1824



11th Engineer Bn, 3rd MarDiv mini reunion 15-17 Aug '08. Hilton Garden Inn, Des Plaines, IL. POC: Gene Spanos, 708-369-3606 watchcmdr1@sbcglobal.net

7th Engineer Battalion Vietnam Veterans Association Sept 26-27, 2008: El Tropicana (Holiday Inn) Hotel on the Riverwalk 110 Lexington Avenue San Antonio, Texas 78205
POC: Mike Moran: 847-361-1371 mikemoranusmc@comcast.net or <http://www.3rdbridge.org/reunion.htm> for a full list of information including Registration Form.

I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters. This is my highest and best use as a human. I can put it another way. Years ago, I realized I could never be as great an actor as Olivier or as good a comic as Steve Martin...or Martin Mull or Fred Willard—or as good an economist as Samuelson or Friedman or as good a writer as Fitzgerald. Or even remotely close to any of them.

But I could be a devoted father to my son, husband to my wife and, above all, a good son to the parents who had done so much for me. This came to be my main task in life. I did it moderately well with my son, pretty well with my wife and well indeed with my parents (with my sister's help). I cared for and paid attention to them in their declining years. I stayed with my father as he got sick, went into extremis and then into a coma and then entered immortality with my sister and me reading him the Psalms.

This was the only point at which my life touched the lives of the soldiers in Iraq or the firefighters in New York. I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters and that it is my duty, in return for the lavish life God has devolved upon me, to help others He has placed in my path. This is my highest and best use as a human.

Faith is not believing that God can. It is knowing that God will.

By Ben Stein



Memoirs

EXCERPT FROM **HARRY NIEHOFF'S** 190 PAGE COLLECTION OF PICTURES & MEMORIES: 1940-1945 IN THE PACIFIC WITH THE MARINES—FROM PEARL HARBOR TO THE MARIANAS

Sunday morning came like any morning on the parade ground tent camp. I had gone on liberty Saturday afternoon and I had bought myself a ukulele. Now, after having washed shaved and then had chow, I relaxed on my bunk and while engaging in a bit of chit chat with my tent mates, I began to work on a few chords on the ukulele.

After a few minutes we heard an unusual amount of air activity in the area along with a few fair sized detonations. There was enough that I rose and looked out toward the activity to locate the source. I spotted planes come diving over the ship's docking areas and some smoke rise from there but no thought of the possibility of another country actually attacking us.

Someone in the tent asked what was going on and I replied that I believed they were having a mock air attack practice run by the Navy or Army planes. The shape of the planes did not tell me much because I had not studied such identification so I assumed it was ours. The morning light was such that you could see a dark circle on the fuselage but our planes had the same only with a star in the center.

My attempted recognition involved only seconds in time before someone nearby yelled we were being attacked by the Japanese. At that moment a huge explosion sounded at Hickam Air Field which was just on the other side of the yard fence. Everyone grabbed helmets and rifles and ran out onto the parade ground while looking into the sky watching all these planes diving and dropping bombs.

During this melee we began asking for ammunition but no one had it within our company to give out. Then one of our Sergeants yelled out for a work detail to bring ammo from a nearby warehouse. Several of us followed and 1000 yards beyond the parade ground was a small warehouse that had boxes of 30.06 ammo stored and it allowed us quick access and a quick response to reply to the attack.

At that time, I only weighted about 148 pounds and when the raid came, my adrenalin must have gone up to the top because I picked up a box of ammo and dog trotted to the parade ground with it. I don't know what the weight of the ammo was but I know at a later point in the war, I found I could just barely pick one up to load onto a jeep.

After we returned to our area on the Parade Ground, the boxes were quickly opened and bandoleers of ammo were passed to all hands. Within minutes men were firing at the Japanese planes as they skimmed over our area after they had strafed or bombed Hickam Field hangers and planes which were still on the ground.

I had been assigned as one of company "A's BAR men while we were still at Camp Elliott, so naturally I brought it onto the field and loaded a couple clips. It is my recollection that of the four or five BAR's in the company's T/O, only mine and one other performed properly. Later it was decided that most of the weapons were too old and had become too worn after years of stripping and dismantling the rifle in schooling sessions.

My weapon operated very well and when one thinks that with about 100 to 150 Marines on the parade ground, aiming and shooting at any Japanese plane which flew close; we sent a lot of rounds in a concentrated mass at each plane and most likely hit more than one plane. Maybe not fatally but I think we scared the hell out of them.

I recall one plane was low enough that we saw the pilot very clearly. Everyone really let a lot of shots off at him. The plane then glided and crashed near a Navy Dispensary in the vicinity of the dry-docks. Men around us said that we had shot him down but my feeling is that his plane had been crippled and maybe, we inflicted the fatal blow.

Later, we walked down to where it had crashed and where many sailors and Marines picked up bits of metal as souvenirs.



As the Japanese air attack was going on, there was a huge blast from the harbor with an atomic type smoke eruption shooting into the sky. No one knew what blew up until after when we were told it had been the USS Arizona. The sky was one massive "black-out" with nothing visible toward the harbor.

Other explosions erupted behind us as we watched Hickam Field being hit over and over again by the Japanese planes. Machine gun fire was continuous from the air and the ground positions. AA fire kept up a repetitive beat as they tried to fight off the planes while in between you heard the bombs detonate as they were hitting their targets.

Bits of metal from the AA bursts fell all over the area. Helmets were a must. The ground where we were was covered with empty cartridges from the Marines. They gathered on the parade ground to get clear shots at the planes that came within our range and I believe many shots were fired out of range out of sheer frustration of getting back at our newly created enemy of the United States.

Midway through the bombing, I and the other automatic rifleman were dispatched to go aboard the bombed ships to offer more firepower in repulsing the bombers. This event didn't take place because there was no way to get to Ford Island, plus our firepower being offered would not have been any help.

After walking toward the ships with our BAR's and then back again, we returned in time to be loaded on empty trucks which were to take us to the Naval Ammunitions Depot, about 30 miles north at Lualualei. Some of our trucks had already made the runs there to return with supplies of mine detonators and they were strafed as the trucks were driving down the highway. Now they wanted automatic firepower on hand in case it happened again.

We made one run and nothing happened because during that period the Japanese had finished their jobs and were headed back to their carriers. This fact we did not know so we were very much on the lookout for incoming planes or any Japanese landing force which was being whispered to have been occurring.

On our return we were told sandwiches and coffee were available in the mess hall and that we were to remain by our tents on call for a pull out in case the Japanese had landed somewhere. Rumors were rife with landings at various beach sites. The water was supposed to be red with blood at Barbers Point and Japanese agents were all over the place setting up road blocks. This went on every day for the next week.

The day of the 7th left everyone numb from shock and exhaustion. People were firing at our own planes that were trying to land. A bomber group coming in to Hickam is supposed to have lost most of its planes to our gunfire. That first night the searchlights lit up some Navy planes in the sky and some of them were shot down. Everyone's nerves were as taut as a ukulele string.

If anyone slept that first night it was only because they were so tired from the strain of experiencing the raid. Shots were heard all night through. Fires still lit the sky and smoke kept pouring out from the various ship fires.

Talk between ourselves brought up a curious point which was simply why didn't one of the planes drop a bomb on the parade ground. It would have killed a lot of Marines. We were so very exposed to the planes which bombed and strafed Hickam and then flew over us on their bombing pattern to get to the ships in the harbor. We were fortunate.

I walked down to the dry-dock that held the Destroyers Cassin, Downes and the Battleship Pennsylvania. There I viewed the damage that the bombs and fire had inflicted on these three ships, and then I looked across the water to Battleship row where the ships were still on fire and smoke still climbing up into the skies. It was overpoweringly sad and it filled me with great rage and the desire for revenge.

It is beyond normal comprehension in understanding the impact one experiences in an unexpected bombing attack, its destruction and death. One moment you are lazing on your cot trying to strum some melodic chords on a new ukulele; the sun is out and it is a beautiful morning when suddenly the world as you know it goes crazy with the scenery erupting and bullets screaming by.

My naïve youth kept me together with no problems but the impact on the older men, many with families; they really were affected by what lay ahead of us. The death and destruction around us quickly revealed what war was about, but my teen age mentality kicked in like it did when I was called up for active duty and said that we were in a new adventure. Looking back, this frame of mind stayed with me until my last days overseas when during the invasion of Tinian in the Marianas, I changed.



The next few weeks were quite gripping as we assessed the damage and heard news of the sailors still aboard the sunken or capsized ships still tapping messages in the hulls in hope they would be freed. They did manage to release some but there were so many whose messages could not be answered and they had to remain trapped in their ships. This really hit home with me. I couldn't think of anything being more terrifying than to be trapped in an unlit hull of a ship which had turned over.

Life in Hawaii for the service man changed the moment the first bomb dropped. No liberty, double duty schedules, double guard duty and no more laid back life style. Regardless of your service, unit or rank, everyone was expected to sharpen up and be prepared for the unexpected.

MGySgt Wayne Queen, USMC (Ret) provided us dozens of pages of articles, books for our Association library, newspapers & his memoirs covering his involvement in the new state of Israel and how it materialized in 1948. Below are a few excerpts.

We were assigned to a Marine Combat Expeditionary Unit aboard one of the many Navy Task Force ships called the 6th Fleet that patrolled the area in and around the Mediterranean just in case they were called upon to keep the peace or to evacuate American citizens or our Embassies during January-July 1948.

After our 6 month tour of duty was done and we were relieved by another Navy Task Force, our ship was just about to clear the Straits of Gibraltar heading toward Morehead City, NC, when we received an emergency message for our ship to reverse course and set sail for Haifa, Palestine. We later found out that our ship was picked because we carried jeeps, radio jeeps and a significant amount of communication equipment. All we were told was that we were to support the UN that was being called into Palestine to help settle the war that was taking place between the Israelites and the Arabic Countries.

Upon our arrival, I, along with 29 other Marines, our jeeps and other comm. equipment were unloaded and within 24 hours, our jeeps were painted white with large UN letters on both sides.

Five of us were assigned to the G-2, which was under the UN Intelligence Command. Each of us was assigned to a UN observer team. I drove for a senior Intelligence Officer by the name of Colonel Jean V. Sarrat, a French Army Officer who had lived in Paris, France. It was his responsibility to oversee that each front line of both the Israelite's and Arabic Army's lines did not move, nor were they to violate the terms of the temporary truce agreement, and needless to say we were on the move each and every day.

Our primary mission was very unstable and "shaky" from the start because neither side wanted the UN there in the first place, because the Israeli Army wanted to destroy the Arabic Armies and the Arabic Armies wanted to push the Israelite's back into the Mediterranean Sea.

It certainly wasn't an easy task trying to keep the truce in tact for the next few months and it finally came to a head when Count Bernadotte, the Chief Mediator, and a senior French Observer, Col Andre Serot, were murdered as they drove from the Government House to an appointment with the Military Governor of Jerusalem on September 17, 1948. This assassination was carried out by men disguised in the uniform of the Israeli Army, perhaps by Irgun soldiers, who were Israelite Army extremist strong armed groups that did not recognize or accept the recognized Israel Government. Needless to say, we kept a very low profile for some time after that.

After a significant period of time, the Arabic Countries decided that their side was in a no-win situation, so after much discussion it was agreed upon that they would withdraw their troops and return to their own countries. That left the Palestinians "out in the cold" and sadly to say, to this day, the Palestinians do not have a Country to call their own.

During the 3rd day of December, 1948, our group of Marines were relieved of our duties and we received orders to return to Camp Lejeune, NC.

During my 30 year career, I had the opportunity to complete three tours of duty with the Marine Corps Engineer School (1955-59), (1960-63) and (1971-73). After completing my last overseas tour of duty with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing located in Iwakuni, Japan in '73-'74, I was assigned to the 8th Engineer Support Bn as the S-4 Chief prior to my retirement the 1st of June 1976. My career could not have ended at any better duty station than standing in front of the 8th Engineer Battalion and the Commanding Officer, Lt Col George Wuerch, who presented me my Certificate of Commendation and my retirement orders. I sincerely believe that I could have never found a better career than being a United States Marine.



Paul Broer served with: 13th Engineers, 5th MarDiv at Camp Pendleton 1966-68; Marine Wing Support Group 17, 1st Marine Air Wing Da Nang to the Vietnam DMZ '68-'69. After he left the Corps, he has devoted much of his time to research of Military history and participated as a Civil War reenactor who served with his son who was the drummer boy with the 12th South Carolina Regiment, 40th Virginia Regiment of the Confederate States Marine Corps. Paul has provided our Association a 3 ring binder of information about ancient military engineers, Engineers in the American Revolution, The Mexican War, the Civil War engineers, and his memories of his time with 13th Engineer Bn. Here's the intro to his book.

So you screwed up and your CO chewed out your butt. Well, at least he couldn't have you beheaded, as were the first engineers. The year was 480 BC. Persian King Xerxes invaded Greece after 3 years of planning. He had assembled 100,000 men, but with such a large force, they couldn't travel by ship and would have been discovered if they traveled by land. The king needed a bridge across the Strait of Dardanelles (almost a mile wide at its narrowest point). The King ordered his engineers to solve the problem and they came up with a new, unique type of bridge; which today is known as a pontoon bridge.

The engineers used the king's largest ships as anchors and put 300 small ships in between them, lashing and chaining them together. They then started to build a crude road over them. Well, as usual, the first plans failed. A fierce storm rolled in and their yet to be completed bridge was destroyed. The king blamed the bridges' failure on his engineers and promptly had them beheaded!

Within a few hours, the weather cleared and the king appointed new engineers. And after several hours they started to rebuild a new pontoon bridge. After two weeks they had the bridge built, then another week to move the men across so that Xerxes could attack Thrace. They pushed forward for a year till they met the combined forces of Greece and the Hellenic League, where they got their butts kicked. King Xerxes had to withdraw with what troops he had left. But by then, he had no bridge so they had to scatter and get back to Persia the best they could.



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Thank You and Semper Fidelis



The Engineer

The troop engineer must have labor and transport with which to do his work and be provided with a horse to inspect and speed its progress. He must serve many and accomplish much with little, yet, since he cannot do everything for all, he is beloved by none.



King Charles
Articles of War 1625



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