



# ENGINEERS UP!

**2023 Newsletter**





## MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

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

### MCEA Purpose/Bylaw highlights:

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

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

### Membership Benefits:

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

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

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

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

**Reunions/Awards Banquets:** Camp Lejeune, NC '92, '93,'99, '07, '15; Camp Pendleton, CA '94; '08, '14; Gatlinburg, TN '95; Wilmington, NC '96; Denver, CO '97; Savannah, GA '98; Quantico, VA '00, '10; Branson, MO '02, '12, '23; Harrisburg, PA '03; Portland, OR '04; Myrtle Beach, SC '05; Boston, MA '06; Las Vegas, NV '09,'22; San Diego, CA '11,'18. Orlando, FL '13; Pala, CA '14, '16; Fredericksburg, VA '17, '21; San Antonio, TX '19

MCEA, PO BOX 279, BEECHGROVE, TN 37018-0279 Phone: 931-307-9094  
GET ALL THE DETAILS AT: [WWW.MARCORENGASN.ORG](http://WWW.MARCORENGASN.ORG)

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



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## MESSAGE FROM MCEA PRESIDENT ED MONTANEZ

Dear Marine Corps Engineers and Supporters of MCEA,

I am proud and honored to be the president of your Association. Before I comment on what lies ahead, I wish to express on behalf of all members our heartfelt thanks to my predecessor, George Carlson. As MCEA President, George expertly led the Association through the many challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through his selfless efforts our programs and essential activities were sustained and enhanced during this turbulent time.

I think it is worthwhile to regularly remind ourselves that the Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA) was created to establish strength and unity in working toward common goals in the military engineering profession. In that regard, we seek to award the finest active-duty Marines for their accomplishments as identified by HQMC and to build camaraderie among our members. Our Association, like others among the many Marine Corps affiliated associations supporting the U.S. Marine Corps, serves in carrying forth the indomitable spirit enduring the Marine Corps legacy.

I take pleasure in reporting that our association is financially solvent and due to the convictions of those on the Executive Committee (EC), has continued addressing the resolve of our founding purposes as stated in our mission. The members of this committee have given so much of themselves in the advancement of our engineering community. MCEA EC has a prominent role in the advancement of this organization. It has been the vision they have had and the follow-through provided which has made this association what it has become.

Our goals in steering the Association remain the same; to increase membership, improve the retainment of members, research, and document historical contributions, Honor our Fallen, attain additional sponsors to support awards, increase our involvement with like-minded organizations and groups, and sustain the Annual Banquet presentation.

The Marines of the Engineer Association represent the traditions of our Marine Corps by strengthening them through their deeds. I look forward to seeing many of you at our 31st Annual Reunion & Awards Banquet this September in Branson, Missouri.



**Semper Fidelis, EngineersUp!**





# NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

**Dear Fellow Engineers and Friends,**

Once again it's been my privilege to coordinate this edition of your newsletter. Last year's 30th Anniversary edition was a collector's item and will be hard to beat. However, I hope you will see in the following pages that your Marine Corps Engineer Association had a very successful year and 2023 is turning out to be a winner also.

As our new president Ed Montanez wrote on the preceding page, we will be eternally thankful to our outgoing president, George Carlson, for guiding us through the last four years. In addition to the turmoil caused by Covid 19 which upset some of our plans, like cancelling the 2021 Reunion, the Marine Corps itself over the past few years, changed course to meet the challenges and the threats of the future. These changes known as Force Design 2030 significantly altered Marine Corps engineer organizations and mission focus. Read the inspiring citations describing the exemplary performances of our "Best of the Best" outstanding engineers and EOD technicians. Whether it was participating in the evacuation of Kabul, Afghanistan or developing new techniques and procedures in support of Force Design 2030 concepts, you will see that they have led the way. We can rest assured that our Marine Corps is in good hands.



As much as I am in awe of the achievements of our award winners, I am always amazed at the life stories and contributions of our recently deceased members that we honor in the "In Memoriam" section of the newsletter. These Marines have served both the Corps and their communities in a variety of interesting and genuinely admirable ways. Pam Jeans, our Together We Served coordinator, continues to make sure all are remembered and honored for their service. I encourage everyone to join TWS and leave a lasting legacy for your family, shipmates and friends.

This past year Phil Martin, the MCEA Historian for many years and author and compiler of numerous engineer unit histories, articles and historical MCEA events, stepped down. Phil has been instrumental in preserving Marine Corps engineer history. You will find one of his last efforts, A Brief History of Wing Engineer Squadron 37 (WES-37) within. To those who have been around for a few tours, acronyms like WES, WETS, MABS, WERS, HGMS may be more familiar to you than MWSS or MWSG. Reading the article should bring back some fond memories. Another of his recent articles, Tinian, can be found on the MCEA website in the history section. Incidentally, all of the previous Historical Supplements as well as MCEA Newsletters are posted there.

Finally, you will see some pictures from the Reunion & Awards Banquet in Las Vegas last fall. More pictures are also posted on the website, thanks to our superb photographer Debbie Hellman and our webmaster, Geoff Nicely. I hope you will be in some of the photos from our upcoming reunion this September in Branson, Missouri.

*Happy reading,  
Joel Cooley, MCEA Newsletter Coordinator*



# MCEA OFFICIALS & KEY SUPPORTERS

## Executive Committee

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

## Support Staff

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

## ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

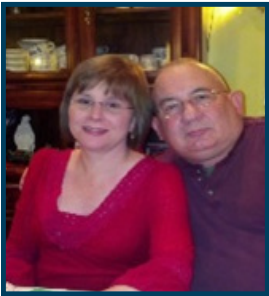
The Associate Directors (ADs) for the MCEA are the main points of contact to the membership. We have 22 ADs covering several regions throughout the country. Each is responsible to establish and maintain contact with the MCEA members within their respective area or region. The ADs ensure that the contact information of each member is current, and they transmit information to the membership and monitor those who are ill or in distress. They offer condolence calls to family members when needed and let them know that the Association is there for any of their needs. These Marines gladly volunteer their time to be the spokesmen for the MCEA and its members and should be recognized for their hard work. The Association is very grateful for their commitment to their Marines. As our membership grows, we are always looking for volunteers to be ADs to assist in this vital work. If you would like to step up, please contact Ron Coleman at [ron.coleman@cox.net](mailto:ron.coleman@cox.net).





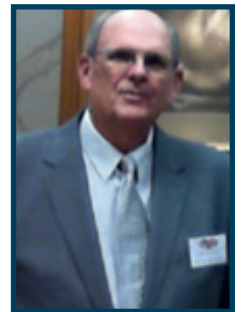
**RON COLEMAN**, AD Director (2nd Vice President & Membership Chairman) . I reside in Gilbert, AZ with my wife Denise. I am originally from Michigan, and have lived in Arizona since 1999. In addition to being retired from the Marine Corps, I am also retired from a 31 year career in electronics manufacturing. In December 2019 I started my own business in auto restoration. As a former AD I can testify that everybody I contacted was happy to hear from me.

**GEORGE W. BARRIS**, AD For North East region, lives in East Bridgewater, MA, Marine Vet; Gbarris01@comcast.net



**WAYNE BENNETT**, AD NC, TN regions, Lives in Lynchburg, Va., retired MGySgt, Married to Kim; e9wab@aol.com

**JOHN CHAMPEAU** , (Soapy), AD VA region, lives in Virginia Beach, VA., retired LtCol. I would like to make a recommendation. With the relentless aging of our member base, I have found that it has allowed me to be a help to those family members who are in need of information on how to deal with illness and death. I have made a point of having information that I can get to them readily available. There is a ton of information on the internet but I have found that the Semper Fi Newsletter out of HQMC contains a standard article on what to do when a Vet or Retiree passes. There is also info on how to deal with the survivors status as an annuitant and any action that is required. As our membership ages I believe we will encounter this situation more and more frequently and we should be ready. jchampeau@cox.net



**ROGER COHOE**, AD MI, MN, OH regions, lives in Lewiston, MI, Marine Vet; Rcohoe3@gmail.com





**JOSEPH COOMBS**, AD NC region, lives in West Jefferson, NC., Marine Vet; Coombsj247@gmail.com



**GLEN DAEHNKE**, AD NJ region, lives in Westhamton, NJ., retired Maj; Ghd525@gmail.com

**JOE DEHART**, Lives in Galax, VA., AD VA Region, retired MSg, married to Betty Jo; Dmsgt123@gmail.com



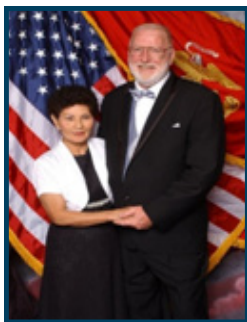
**STEPHANIE L. DAMREN**, Active Duty Captain, AD for Active Duty class Awardees 2020, she was the MCEA Engineer Officer of the Year for 2020.

**HELMUTS FEIFS**, AD NC region, lives in Durham, NC., former Captain; Hfeifs66@gmail.com



**BILL FORD**, AD OR, WA regions, lives in Corvallis, OR., retired LtCol; bford@usa.net



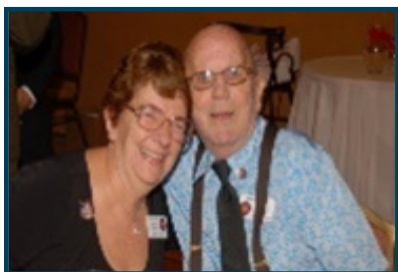


**RONALD E. FULLER**, MGySgt, USMC, Ret. AD for western region. Enlisted in the Marine Corps a couple months out of High School in 1959. I spent a year (1966-67) with the 11th Engineers Battalion in DongHa, South Vietnam. Retired after 26 years in the Marine Corps in 1985. Went back to school and got my Bachelor's Degree in Business. Was selected for an Internship in Contracting and worked for the United States Navy Public Works Center and Naval Engineering Field Division San Diego for 14 years. Retired as a GS-13 in 2005. Married my wife Yoshi in 1962 after a couple years of paperwork to get approval. We traveled back to Okinawa and Miyako in 2006 for a vacation and to see all the relatives. Joe DeHart asked me to join his crew of Associate Directors in January 2020 and I accepted. Cvvet1234@gmail.com

**TONY HILLARD**, AD GA region, lives in Tucker, GA., retired LtCol., married to Peggy.  
Ashill44@comcast.net



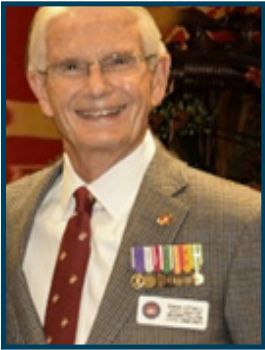
**MELVIN IRWIN**, AD NV, UT, AX, MO region, lives in San Jose, CA, Marine vet;  
Mel\_irvin@yahoo.com



**PAM JEANS**, AD for TogetherWeServed and Next of Kin, lives in Fresno, CA., has devoted her time to develop profiles of Marine engineers for the TogetherWeServed web site. If you have not done so, contact Pam at jeans@netptc.net, to add your profile. Pjeans703@gmail.com



**PETER T. LEONARD**, AD For PA, DE, VA regions, lives in Marshfield, MA,  
Retired MGySgt; pleolleo@aol.com



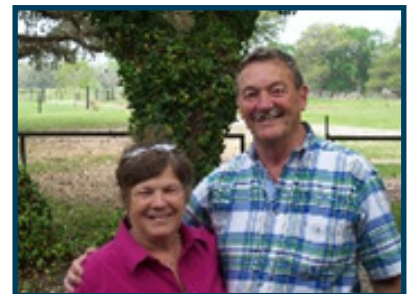
**DAVE LITTELL**, AD CA region, lives in Oxnard, CA.,  
retired LtCol; dbllmu@aol.com

**CLAIRE C. MARVIN**, AD For IN, IL, OH, ID regions, lives in  
Westerfield, Oh., retired Capt; clairmarvin@gmail.com



**LOU NAPPI**, AD VA region, lives in Haymarket, VA.,  
retired LtCol; lgnappi@aol.com

**LARRY VARLEY**, AD TX region, lives in Sheridan, TX.,  
married to Darnell, Marine Vet; Idvarley45@gmail.com







**JAMES W. WHEYLAND**, AD AK, CA, MO, NE, NM, NV regions, Marine Vet. I became an Associate Director in 2020, serving members in the states of Alaska, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Nebraska, Missouri and California. The responsibilities are straight forward, that no Marine is forgotten and notify MCEA of special needs or conditions for which the association might provide support and assistance. My first forays were tentative, for fear I might be thought of as another unsolicited call. I soon learned that the calls are appreciated and not a nuisance. I am pleased that the contact with our Marines, be they a lifer, six-month reservist, or any of the variations in between, is an opportunity to recall the time and trials of claiming the title of United States Marine. Each of us came from a different place to step onto the yellow foot prints of those we were to emulate. We left as Marines. It's a special bond, worthy of random Marines recalling our decision that defined much of our lives, bring a smile recalling the times of calm or peril with the remarkable, the unforgettable and a few genuine American original characters with whom we all served no matter when or where. Doing so is very much in keeping with the highest traditions of our Corps. [agpc@aol.com](mailto:agpc@aol.com)

**MIKE ZACCHEA**, AD NY, CT regions, lives in Floral Park, NY, Marine Vet; [mgzacc@gmail.com](mailto:mgzacc@gmail.com)



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



# HONOR ROLL

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

AIKENS, DAVID W. MSGT (RET)  
 ALO, THOMAS T. GYSGT (RET)  
 AMSTER, ALVIN A. VET  
 ANDERSON, DAVID L. LTCOL (RET)  
 ANDERSON, JESSE E. LTCOL (RET)  
 ANDERSON, LOUIS S. SSGT (RET)  
 ANDERSON, VIRGIL P. VET  
 ANGELL, HENRY L. SSGT (RET)  
 ARMITAGE, GEORGE L. CAPT (RET)  
 ARMSTRONG, MILTON L. SSGT (RET)  
 BABE, GEORGE ALVIN COL (RET)  
 BACHE, TERRANCE W. VET  
 BACKO, JOE L. CWO4 (RET)  
 BALLANCE, HENRY G. MSGT (RET)  
 BANISH, THEODORE A. VET  
 BANN, DONALD W. VET  
 BARDIN, JAMES (LANCER) N. VET  
 BARKE, ARTHUR J. VET  
 BARKER, LAWRENCE S. MAJ (RET)  
 BARNETSON, WILLIAM H. MAJ (RET)  
 BARRON, REYNOLDS MSGT (RET)  
 BATEMAN, JOSEPH S. VET  
 BATES, WILLIAM G. COL (RET)  
 BAUBLITZ JR, JOHN G. VET  
 BEDFORD, WARREN R. (JACK) VET  
 BENSTEAD, DARYL E. COL (RET)  
 BERNIER, RICHARD J. CWO4 (RET)  
 BETTS, MICHAEL R. VET  
 BIANCHI, ROBERT A. VET  
 BIBBEY, BRUCE F. VET  
 BIGITSCHKE, UWE D. VET  
 BILLICH, EMIL J. VET  
 BLUM, CARL H. VET  
 BONNELL JR, JOHN C. MSGT (RET)  
 BONNER, D. L. SSGT (RET)  
 BOTELHO, RODNEY W. LTCOL (RET)  
 BOTTS, LAURANCE B. CWO 2 (RET)  
 BOURQUE, RAYMOND D. MAJ (RET)  
 BOUTRY, NORMAN VET  
 BOWMAN, CHARLES VET  
 BOYER, JASPER J. MSGT (RET)  
 BRANDEL, RALPH E. COL (RET)  
 BREAKFIELD, BROADUS C. GYSGT (RET)  
 BRIEGER, JAMES (JIM) F. VET  
 BRISBOIS, DONALD J. CAPT (RET)  
 BROOKS, JOSEPH MSGT (RET)  
 BROWN, MICHAEL M. VET  
 BROWN, WILLIAM E. MSGT (RET)  
 BRUTSMAN, DONALD C. VET  
 BUCY, CLYDE T. MGYSGT (RET)  
 BUFFINGTON, CARL J. VET

BURCH, VERLE E. CAPT (RET)  
 BURGE, CHARLES E. VET  
 BURM, JOSEPH VET  
 BURRIS, KENNETH CAPT (RET)  
 BUTLER, FRANKLIN D. GYSGT (RET)  
 BYTOF, CLARENCE CAPT (RET)  
 CALLAHAN JR, FRANCIS H. VET  
 CALLAHAN, WILLIAM (BILL) J. SSGT KIA  
 CALLOWAY, FRED E. VET  
 CAMPBELL, KENNETH B. CWO (RET)  
 CANRIGHT, ROBERT C. 1STSGT (RET)  
 \*CAPECI, ROBERT L. CAPT (RET)  
 CAREY, JAMES W. MSGT (RET)  
 CAREY, RALPH J. VET  
 CARNEY, CHARLES N. VET  
 CAROTA, MARTIN L. 1STSGT (RET)  
 CARPENTER, JACK W. VET  
 CATALOGNE, CHIPS LTCOL (RET)  
 CELLI, JOHN G. LTCOL (RET)  
 CHYTKA, JOSEPH M. MSGT (RET)  
 CLARK, ELMO A. CAPT (RET)  
 CLARKE, HARRY D. COL (RET)  
 CLINE, PAUL L. CAPT (RET)  
 CLUKA, DANIEL MSGT (RET)  
 COCHRAN, BUEL E. VET  
 COLANGELO, NICK E. MGYSGT (RET)  
 COLE, JAMES D. MSGT (RET)  
 COMPTON JR, JOSEPH O. MAJ (RET)  
 CONSTANTINOPLE SR, PAUL M. VET  
 COOK, BILL MSGT (RET)  
 COOK, GLENN L. MGYSGT (RET)  
 COOPER, FRANCIS L. MGYSGT (RET)  
 COROMELAS, NICK VET  
 CORP, WILLIAM L. MSGT (RET)  
 CRAIG, JACK RAY CWO 2 (RET)  
 CRESAP, CHARLES C. LTCOL (RET)  
 CREWS JR, DUANE D. COL (RET)  
 CROFT, EARL G. (RET)  
 CROMWELL, MELVIN E. VET  
 CROSBY, ARTHUR E. GYSGT (RET)  
 CUKROWICZ, CHESTER E. CWO4 (RET)  
 CUMMINGS, CHARLES F. (RED) VET  
 CUMMINS, MARTIN R. MSGT (RET)  
 CUNNINGHAM, CHARLES R. 1STSGT (RET)  
 CURTIS, CHARLES F. VET  
 DABROWSKI, WALTER W. VET  
 DAMON, ROBERT K. LTCOL (RET)  
 \*D'ARCO, ANTHONY J. CAPT (RET)  
 DAVIDSON, DARRELL COL (RET)  
 DAVIDSON, RUSSELL G. MSGT (RET)  
 DEGENNARO, ANTHONY A. CAPT (RET)  
 DENNIS, NICHOLAS J. COL (RET)  
 DENORMANDIE, FRANK R. COL (RET)  
 DERRICK, LEWIS C. VET

DESKIEWICZ, GARY S. VET  
 DOERR, JOHN H. VET  
 DOUGHERTY, DANIEL F. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 DRISCOLL, BERNARD E. LTCOL (RET)  
 DRUMMOND, MILTON D. LTCOL (RET)  
 DUDDY, ROBERT J. VET  
 DUFFY, FRANCIS J. SSGT (RET)  
 DUFFY, LEROY (JOHN) M. LTCOL (RET)  
 DUHE, CLARENCE H. VET  
 DUNCAN, DAVID N. CWO4 (RET)  
 DYBES, FRANK E. VET  
 ECHOLS, JAMES M. CAPT (RET)  
 EDWARDS, ROBERT I. LTCOL (RET)  
 EINUM, JAMES VET  
 EISLER, JOHN P. VET  
 ELLIOTT, MARION I. VET  
 ELLIOTT, RICHARD LTCOL (RET)  
 ELSTON, RICHARD F. MSGT (RET)  
 EVANS, RAYMOND D. MGYSGT (RET)  
 \*FADELY, CHARLES R. VET  
 FADICK, CARL VET  
 FAUST JR, RUDOLPH F. MAJ (RET)  
 FAY, CHARLES D. MAJ (RET)  
 FELLINGER, BARRY E. MAJ (RET)  
 FERDERER, RICHARD J. VET  
 FERGUSON, EDGAR R. VET  
 FERGUSON SR, HARRY J. VET  
 FERNANDEZ, ORLANDO (AL) MAJ (RET)  
 FERRARA, DIEGO A. 1STSGT (RET)  
 FERRARO, STEPHEN L. VET  
 \*FERRIS, CARLTON L. VET  
 FEUER, HENRY O. CWO2 (RET)  
 FIANDER, WILLIAM A. MAJ (RET)  
 FICHTHORN, DONALD G. MAJ (RET)  
 FIELDING, JOHN M. MSGT (RET)  
 FILKINS, FRED W. 1STSGT (RET)  
 FINTON, PATRICK D. CAPT (RET)  
 FISCHETTI SR, PETER VET  
 FISH, ROY D. VET  
 FLECK, EDWARD E. CWO2 (RET)  
 FLOYD, JOSEPH C. MAJ (RET)  
 FLYNN, JOSEPH FRANCIS (VET)  
 FOLEY, THOMAS J. VET  
 FONTAINE JR, ARTHUR GYSGT (RET)  
 FOORE, MARSHALL BRAD LTCOL (RET)  
 FOSTER, CHARLES E. 1STSGT (RET)  
 FOSTER, DANIEL H. MSGT (RET)  
 FRANKOWSKI JR, JOSEPH MGYSGT (RET)  
 FREY, HUBERT I. LTCOL (RET)  
 FUNDERBURK, RAY LTCOL (RET)  
 GALBREATH, ROBERT VET  
 GALLAGHER, JOHN F.  
 MGYSGT (RET)  
 GANGEWERE, KENNETH R.



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

HUDSON, JOHN HENRY VET  
 HUGHES JR, JAMES M. VET

HUNTZINGER, HENRY J. LTCOL (RET)  
 HUPP, WILBERT D. VET  
 \*JACKSON, ROBIN C. MAJ (RET)  
 JACOBSON, MILTON R. GYSGT (RET)  
 JACQUES, MAURICE J. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 JARVIS, JOHN F. VET  
 JEANS, DUEL N. VET  
 JOHNSON, CLARENCE G. VET  
 JOHNSON, DAN E. CWO4 (RET)  
 JOHNSON, GUSTOF C. VET  
 JOHNSON, STEPHEN J. CAPT (RET)  
 JOHNSON, WARREN E. MGYSGT (RET)  
 JONES, THOMAS W. LTCOL (RET)  
 KANALEY, THOMAS J. VET  
 \*KELLEY, ALLEN D. VET  
 KELLEY, GEORGE E. GYSGT (RET)  
 \*KERR, RICHARD A. LTCOL (RET)  
 KETTLER, ALEX V. VET  
 KING, CHARLES L. VET  
 KLEIN, ROBERT VET  
 KOENIG, CHARLES G. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 \*KROLAK, RICHARD S. MAJ (RET)  
 KROPINAC, ROBERT C. MAJ (RET)  
 LAIL, THOMAS E. VET  
 LANGLEY, JOSEPH A. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 LANIER, LUTHER L. MSGT (RET)  
 LAWLESS, EDWARD N. MSGT (RET)  
 LAWRENCE, RICHARD E. GYSGT (RET)  
 LEAHY, EDWARD P. VET  
 LEAKE, NORMAN G. GYSGT (RET)  
 LEWIS, J. C. MSGT (RET)  
 \*LIFSET, EDWARD W. LTCOL (RET)  
 LIGGETT, JAMES E. MSGT (RET)  
 LINDSEY, JOEL (FRANK) CAPT (RET)  
 LIVEZEY, JAMES W. MAJ (RET)  
 LOVE, RAEFORD N. GYSGT (RET)  
 LOY, WILLIAM CAPT (RET)  
 \*LUYSTER JR, THOMAS VET  
 MACHA, JAMES F. MSGT (RET)  
 MacKENZIE, JAMES M. LTCOL (RET)  
 MACKEY, MARION L. GYSGT (RET)  
 MADER, JOHN F. COL (RET)  
 MARJANOV, JOHN MGYSGT (RET)  
 MARKUS, HOWARD M. MAJ (RET)  
 MASON, PAUL M. GYSGT (RET)  
 MASTICE, JOSEPH VET  
 MATAVA, ROBERT J. VET  
 MATTHEWS, DREW I. LTCOL (RET)  
 MAXWELL, LEO F. GYSGT (RET)  
 McCANDLESS, JOHN R. MSGT (RET)  
 McCARTER, LARRY A. CWO4 (RET)  
 McCCLURE, GARY L. LTCOL (RET)  
 McCOY, JAMES F. MGYSGT (RET)  
 McCREA, DONALD S. VET  
 McDOWELL, GERALD GYSGT (RET)  
 McGILL, DENNIS C. VET  
 McLANE JR, DONALD C. MAJ (RET)  
 McLAUGHLIN JR, HOWARD N. VET  
 McLAUGHLIN, RICHARD S. CAPT (RET)

McLAWHORN, LEON CAPT (RET)  
 MEEKER, ERMINE L. COL (RET)  
 MENKE, RONALD M. SSGT (RET)  
 MENTZER, JOHN F. COL (RET)  
 METCALFE, EDWIN A. CAPT (RET)  
 MICKLEBORO JR, HARRY C. VET  
 MIGLIORNI, FRED L. CAPT (RET)  
 MILLICE, KENNETH COL (RET)  
 MILLS, DAVID C. LTCOL (RET)  
 MISHIK, CORNELIUS NEAL GYSGT (RET)  
 MOCKLER, THOMAS J. VET  
 MONROE, RICHARD D. CAPT (RET)  
 MOOREFIELD, HUBERT (BO) L. MAJ (RET)  
 MOYER, GERALD E. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 MUNSON III, ALBE (SKIP) E. VET  
 MURPHY, JOHN M. SSG (US ARMY)  
 MURPHY, ROBERT F. MSGT (RET)  
 MYERS, JOHN D. VET  
 NAHRGANG, DONALD V. LTCOL (RET)  
 NEWELL, JAMES F. CAPT (RET)  
 NICE, LLOYD (NICK) B. LTCOL (RET)  
 NIEHOFF, HARRY H. VET  
 NOGGLE, JAMES M. VET  
 NORRIS, LENVER E. TSGT (USAF RET)  
 NOVAK, WILLIAM F. VET  
 NUNN, GRANT P. GYSGT (RET)  
 OAKLEY, JOHN D. COL (RET)  
 O'CONNOR, JACK F. MAJ (RET)  
 O'CONNOR, JOHN B. VET  
 OLSON, FREDRIC O. COL (RET)  
 O'MAHONEY, MICHAEL J. MAJ (RET)  
 PALMER, RALPH CWO2 (RET)  
 PALMER, ROBERT M. CWO3 (RET)  
 PANKEY, PAUL A. COL (RET)  
 PARKER, PETER W. VET  
 PATCH, BRADLEY PAUL CWO4 (RET)  
 PEAGLER, JOSEPH H. LTCOL (RET)  
 PEHOWIC, STANLEY A. GYSGT (RET)  
 PENDERGAST, RICHARD L. GYSGT (RET)  
 PEREZ, RICHARD T. GYSGT (RET)  
 \*PERRONE SR, THOMAS B. CWO2 (RET)  
 PERRY, JAMES L. SSGT (RET)  
 \*PETROFF, RICHARD LTCOL (RET)  
 PHANEUF, JOSEPH R. LTCOL (RET)  
 PHELPS, WILLIAM E. LTCOL (RET)  
 PICCIONE, JOSEPH M. VET  
 PLOWMAN, FLOYD C. MAJ (RET)  
 POPE, FRANK G. VET  
 PORTWOOD, TROY G. VET  
 POTEAT, KENNETH M. MSGT (RET)  
 PRICE, DONALD L. MSGT (RET)  
 PUGH, ROBERT C. GYSGT (RET)  
 QUALLS, MENTRAL (BOB) GYSGT (RET)  
 QUEEN, WAYNE A. MGYSGT (RET)  
 RATLIFE, CURTIS L. VET  
 RAU, HARVEY L. MAJ (RET)





RAU, ROLANDA A. GYSGT (RET)  
 READ, JOE H. CWO2 (RET)  
 \*REDIFER, JOHN L. CAPT (RET)  
 REFFELT, EDWIN L. CAPT (RET)  
 REID, KENNETH R. VET  
 REITMEIER, WALTER C. 1STLT (RET)  
 REYNOLDS, PAUL C. MSGT (RET)  
 RICE, WILLIAM M. LTCOL (RET)  
 RINGER, EDWIN E. VET  
 RITTER III, JOSEPH M. GYSGT (RET)  
 ROBERTS, JOHN E. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 ROBERTS, KENNETH L. VET  
 ROBERTS JR, LONNIE G. MSGT (RET)  
 ROCKWELL, NOEL VET  
 RODEBAUGH, ROBERT G. MSGT (RET)  
 ROSE, MURRAY F. COL (RET)  
 ROZICH, FRANK J. VET  
 RUBADUE, WILLIAM J. VET  
 RUBIO, JOSE R. MSGT (RET)  
 RUDAT, JUNIOR D. GYSGT (RET)  
 RUSHING, EDWIN K. VET  
 RYNDERS, RUSSELL L. VET  
 SARDO, EUGENE VET  
 SAULNIER, JOHN L. CAPT (RET)  
 SCHEER, CARL E. MGYSGT (RET)  
 SCHULTZ, JACK T. MAJ (RET)  
 SCHWENK, KEITH A. VET  
 SCULLY, TERRENCE J. CWO2 (RET)  
 SHAFER, ROGER L. LTCOL (RET)  
 SHANNAHAN, JOHN K. MAJ (RET)  
 SHARKEY, LEO W. VET  
 SHAWARYN JR, EUGENE T. VET  
 \*SHEARMAN II, JOSEPH A. MAJ (RET)  
 SHELKOFISKY, EARNEST L. MSGT (RET)  
 SHELTON, OTEY H. CWO4 (RET)  
 SHEPPARD, WILLIAM A. GYSGT (RET)  
 SHIELDS, JIMMIE R. VET  
 SHIPLEY, DONALD R. GYSGT (RET)  
 SHORES III, GEORGE W. VET  
 SHORTT, HARRY R. MAJ (RET)  
 SHOVAR, ROBERT J. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 SHUMAKER, JAMES C. CAPT (RET)  
 SILVA, ANTONIO B. MAJ (RET)  
 SILVERMAN, ALBERT VET  
 SIMONSON, ARTHUR K. VET  
 \*SINK, ERSKINE J. GYSGT (RET)  
 \*SKINNER, RICHARD F. VET  
 SMITH, CONWAY J. LTCOL (RET)  
 SMITH, GORDON F. LTCOL (RET)  
 SMITH, MICHAEL J. SGT (RET)  
 SMITH, RAYMOND C. MGYSGT (RET)  
 SMITH, RAYMOND K. MGYSGT (RET)  
 SNYDER, GUY MSGT (RET)  
 SOFRONAS, GEORGE P. VET  
 SOGHOIAN, AVEDIS H. MSGT (RET)

SOLTER JR, HARRY L. COL (RET)  
 SOUZA, JOSEPH W. VET  
 SOWA, JEROME J. MGYSGT (RET)  
 SPIESE, PAUL A. VET  
 SPIKERMANN, JACK L. MAJ (RET)  
 STANCHEK, JOHN VET  
 STANDIFER, BENNIE W. VET  
 STANDISH, PETER J. VET  
 STASIO, DR. ANTHONY VET  
 STERN, HERBERT GYSGT (RET)  
 STEVENS II, STEVEN P. LCPL KIA  
 STEWART, BILLY K. GYSGT (RET)  
 STOCKSTILL, PAUL R. VET  
 STOKES, RUFUS R. MSGT (RET)  
 STONE, RUSSELL M. VET  
 STUBBLEFIELD, ROBERT E. VET  
 STURGEON, WILLIAM R. VET  
 STURZA, RAYMOND P. CAPT (RET)  
 SULLIVAN, JOHN W. VET  
 SUMNER, DONALD W. CAPT (RET)  
 SURKAMP, RICHARD E. VET  
 SUTTON, GERALD F. CAPT (RET)  
 SVILKA, ALIUS J. VET  
 SWENSON, KENNETH G. VET  
 SWINDALL, THOMAS E. VET  
 TERRY, EDWARD MSGT (RET)  
 THOMAS, RAYMOND W. VET  
 THOMASON, RONALD M. VET  
 TOBIN, JOHN W. GYSGT (RET)  
 TOMPKINS SR, ROBERT J. VET  
 TOTH, FRANCIS A. MAJ (RET)  
 TUCK, CALVIN C. 1STSGT (RET)  
 TURNER, BLAINE L. VET  
 TURNER, GEORGE W. MSGT (RET)  
 TURPIN, RUSSELL B. LTCOL (RET)  
 ULSH, AMMON J. SSGT (RET)  
 VEGA, MANUEL M. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 VIERS JR, W. GUS LTCOL (RET)  
 VINAL, KENNETH E. VET  
 VOAKLANDER, ARCHIE 1STSGT (RET)  
 VOORHEES, JOHN D. CWO2 (RET)  
 VROOMAN, LYNDON F. CAPT (RET)  
 WAGES, EDWARD J. MAJ (RET)  
 WALL, CALEB N. LTCOL (RET)  
 WALLIN, ALPHONSE I. VET  
 WATTERS SR, RONALD T. (MESSIO) MGYSGT (RET)  
 WEAVER, RALPH (BO) L. VET  
 WEIGHTMAN, ROBERT L. 1STSGT (RET)  
 WELCHERT, JERRY W. VET  
 WELDEN, MAX L. VET  
 WHITT, ELLIS H. VET  
 WICKHAM, JOHN D. VET  
 WIDEMAN, WILLIAM D. VET  
 WIECZOREK, ALFRED S. VET  
 WIGGINS, ANDREW J. GYSGT (RET)  
 WILCOX, LEE ROY MGYSGT (RET)

WILDER, WALLACE W. VET  
 WILKINSON, ROY E. GYSGT (RET)  
 WILLEY, CLAUDE E. MSGT (RET)  
 WILLIAMS, KENNETH W. GYSGT (RET)  
 WILLIAMS, STEVE L. CAPT (RET)  
 WILLIAMSON, MELVIN R. GYSGT (RET)  
 WINOSKI, WALTER M. COL (RET)  
 WITKOWSKI, ROBERT R. VET  
 WOLF, RICHARD L. VET  
 WOOD, GARY M. VET  
 \*WOOD, GERALD D. VET  
 \*WOODWARD JR, KENNETH A. MGYSGT (RET)  
 WOODWARD, LEEMAN E. MGYSGT (RET)  
 WORKMAN, JOHN L. VET  
 WRIGHT, RICHARD M. CAPT (RET)  
 YEAMAN, DONALD W. VET  
 YORK, CLIFFORD T. SSGT (RET)  
 YORK, WALLACE E. CAPT (RET)  
 YOUNG, LAURITZ W. LTCOL (RET)  
 YOUNGHANS, ROBERT A. SGTMAJ (RET)  
 ZACK, CHARLES T. VET  
 ZANCK, EUGENE D. VET  
 ZEMATIS, WALTER J. MGYSGT (RET)  
 ZIMMERMAN, JAMES N. VET  
 ZYSK, FRANK L. VET

The \* indicates additions since last year's newsletter.



## IN MEMORIAM

### REMEMBERING OUR DEPARTED ENGINEER BROTHERS

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

#### **\*CAPECI, ROBERT LEE CAPT (RET.) TWS 286515**

Robert Lee Capeci, Captain, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 89, of Brooklyn, New York City, New York, passed away on August 9, 2022. Born on March 24, 1933 in Brooklyn. Robert joined the Marine Corps in December 1948. He attained the rank of staff sergeant and was commissioned in July 1966 and was promoted in 1969 to captain as a combat engineer officer. Robert was a Korean War and a Vietnam War veteran and a Life Member of the Marine Corps Engineer Association.



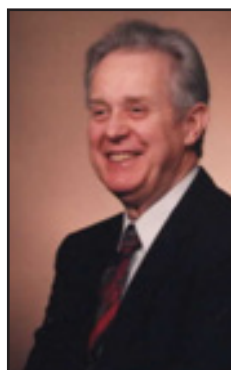
#### **\*D'ARCO, ANTHONY JOSEPH, CAPT (RET.) TWS 384948**

Captain Anthony (Tony) Joseph D'Arco, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 91, a resident of the Fox Hill Neighborhood of Plains Township, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania died on November 21, 2021 following a recent injury. He was born on December 16, 1929 in Brooklyn, New York City, the only child to the late Aniello "Danny" and Carmella Annunziato D'Arco. Tony was educated in the New York City public schools and then earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Pennsylvania Military College. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in June 1953. After officer basic school at Quantico he was assigned to Company D, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division in 1954. Returning to the United States he served with 1st Shore Party Battalion and later 1st Force Reconnaissance Battalion at Camp Pendleton. Later he was a recruiting officer in the Wyoming Valley area of northeastern Pennsylvania, where he met his wife, Dorothy Ann Sochko. During the Vietnam war he served as a supply officer and having been wounded in action, Captain D'Arco was forced to retire early as a disabled veteran.

Following his military career, he did not sit idly by. He furthered his education by attaining his Master of Science degree from Long Island University. Tony then put his education to good use becoming a computer programming professor at Nassau County Community College in New York. He was a published author of several textbooks within the field of computer programming and related studies. His greatest rewards as he recalled were the countless students he mentored, many of whom kept in contact years afterward, sharing stories of the difference he made in their careers and even their lives. During July 2021 he experienced one of the biggest highlights of his life, being named "Veteran of the Game" at Citi Field for the New York Mets.

Captain D'Arco is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy; sons, Daniel J. D'Arco, M.D., and his wife; David A. D'Arco and his wife, Joelle; and Christopher J. D'Arco and his wife, Maria; and eight grandchildren. He was a member of Holy Assumption of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, North Wilkes-Barre, and held membership in the New York State Education Association and the Marine Corps Engineer Association. Interment was held with entombment in St. John's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Queens Borough, New York City.





**\*FADELY, CHARLES RUSSELL (VET.) TWS 556347**

Charles Russell Fadely, 91, of Vilonia, Arkansas passed away on June 20, 2022. He was born in Honey Creek, Indiana on October 18, 1930 to Joseph Russell and Minnie Lee (Barrett) Fadely. He attended local schools in Indiana and joined the Marine Corps in 1951. After boot camp at MCRD, San Diego and training at 1st Infantry Training Regiment he was assigned to the 1st Engineer

Battalion in Korea where he served from 1952 to 1953. After active duty he was a sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserve until 1957. Later he graduated from Brigham Young University with a major in music. He was a respected music teacher and band director for several high schools in Indiana and Utah. He was married to Shirley Bernice Anderson of Garfield, Utah for almost sixty years. They had two children. Charles is buried in Redwood Cemetery, Taylorsville, Utah.



**\*FERRIS, CARLTON LEWIS (VET.) TWS 292989**

Carlton Lewis (Carl) Ferris, 92, a resident of Rio Rancho, New Mexico since 1985, passed away March 11, 2023. He is survived by his wife Peggy, his two beloved dogs, Molly Marine and Gunner, his Marine Corps brothers and sisters, and many friends. He was born March 15, 1930 in New Jersey to Patrick and Johannah (Kellner) Ferris. He was predeceased by his parents and sister Jackie Holcomb.

Carl proudly served in the United States Marine Corps from 1948 to 1952 attaining the grade of corporal. He was one of the 'Chosin Few' having fought at the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir during the Korean War with the 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He was an active member of the Marine Corps League - LCpl Christopher

Adlesperger Detachment in Rio Rancho. Carl was also a longtime member of the Masons, and the Shriners, where he held many positions over the years.

A Graveside service took place on March 21, 2023 at Vista Verde Memorial Park, 4310 Sara Road, Rio Rancho, NM.



**\*HOLMES, NILE HAMILTON (VET.) TWS 556337**

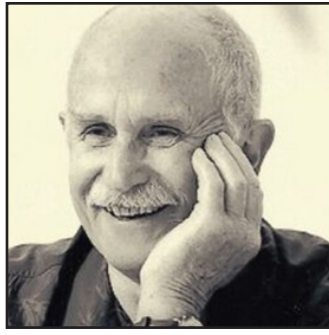
Nile Hamilton Holmes, 91, of Las Vegas, Nevada passed away on February 11, 2023. Nile was born on February 23, 1931 in Seguin, Texas to John Glenn and Rao La Vae Curtis Holmes. Nile grew up in Texas and joined the Marine Corps in 1947 when he was 16 years old. After boot camp at MCRD San Diego he was stationed in Hawaii as a supplyman at Marine Corps Supply Depot, Oahu. Returning to California he married Virginia Margaret Dittman in 1951. He served with the 1st Marine



Division in Korea in 1952 and was discharged as a sergeant in 1953. Fifty years later he was a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of the 1st Marine Division Association, serving as sergeant-at-arms, vice-president and president of the chapter. Nile and Virginia raised their family in the southern California area. He is survived by his two sons, two daughters and several grand and great grandchildren. Nile is buried in the Riverside National Cemetery, Riverside, CA next to his wife.







**\*JACKSON, ROBIN C. MAJOR (RET.) TWS 54822**

Major Robin Carol Jackson, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve (Ret.), 88, of Santa Rosa died on June 2, 2021. Robin was an adored husband, father, and grandfather. He was also an admired educator, a born leader, an Officer in the USMC Reserves, a British car mechanic, and an accomplished race car driver. He was a kind and gentle man who touched the lives of many and brightened the lives of all.

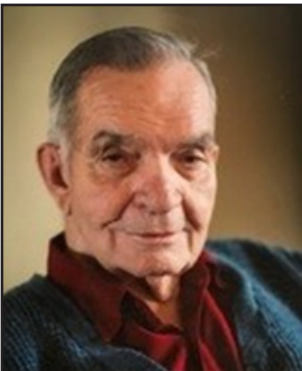
Robin was born on May 18, 1933, in Ross, CA, to British parents Marjorie and E. Carol Jackson. Robin grew up in Mill Valley. He attended Homestead and Old Mill Elementary schools and from the sixth grade on, San Rafael Military Academy, which he attended until he graduated high school in 1951.

After high school, Robin attended the University of Nevada, Reno, where he studied English Literature while enlisted in the USMC Platoon Leader Program. After two years, he transferred to San Francisco State, where he earned his BA in Theater Arts in 1955. After college, Robin (or Rob, as he was known among Marines) went to Quantico and in 1956 received his commission and attended The Basic School. Rob reported to the 3rd Engineer Battalion on Okinawa, where he proudly served as a First Lieutenant. He left active duty but continued in the Marine Corps Reserves for several years.

In his fifties, Robin returned to the world of cars and opened a small auto repair business, Jackson Automotive Repair, at Freestone Corners. Eventually, he founded Apex British Motors in Santa Rosa, a shop that specialized in vintage British car repair which he operated until his retirement. Robin was a life-long educator. He served on the Wright Elementary School District Governing Board continually from 1986 until his death. Of all his professional accomplishments, he was most proud of his work on the Wright Elementary School District Board.

Rob joined the Marine Corps League Detachment 686 in 2003 and was a Life Member in the Marine Corps Engineer Association. On May 23, Robin's family met at his home to celebrate his 88th birthday. Robin died at home unexpectedly and peacefully a little over a week later. Robin was vibrant and engaged until his last breath, and he was a constant joy to his family and friends.

Robin is survived by his wife, Sue; his children, Melissa (Mike), Colin (Annie), and Nicholas (Lisa); his five grandchildren, Caroline, Hannah, Cian, Lucas, and Theo; and his beloved pups, Summer and (Mini) Cooper.



**\*KELLEY, ALLEN D. (VET.) TWS 556343**

Allen Dee Kelley, 90, passed away on June 18, 2021 at the Walla Walla Veteran's Home in Walla Walla, Washington. He was born November 15, 1930 in Wheatland, Wyoming to Ellis John Kelley and Inez Maude (Hise) Kelley. He graduated from Torrington High School, Torrington, WY. On September 16th, 1951 he entered the United States Marine Corps as a selective service volunteer. After initial training

at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego and Marine Corps Engineer Schools, Camp Lejeune, he was assigned in 1952 to the 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division in Korea where his primary duty was to detect and disarm land mines while on patrol. He was discharged as a sergeant from active duty after returning from Korea. Allen married Audrey Lou Perryman in August 1953. They resided in Torrington, WY until 1965 when they moved to Prosser, WA where he began his employment for the U.S. Department of Agriculture at the Irrigated Agricultural Research Center. He retired from the USDA in March of 1991.

After enjoying a brief retirement Allen and Audrey began their work with Laborers for Christ. For many years they traveled around the United States helping build church buildings and schools. Allen started his time with Laborers for Christ as a volunteer and ended his time there as a project manager.

After Audrey's passing, Allen was fortunate enough to find love again with Ione Bisping.



Unfortunately, she passed away after only two years of marriage. At the time of his death he was married to his loving wife of 8 years Leah Baird Kelley. Allen was also preceded in death by his parents, his sister Jean Werkele, and his brother Richard Kelley. He is survived by his wife Leah, his son Stephen and wife Karen, son Michael and wife Kandie, daughter Cara McLemore, 9 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren. A graveside service and burial was held at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Richland, WA.



**\*KERR, RICHARD ALLEN (DICK) LTCOL (RET.) TWS 535915**

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Allen Kerr, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 84, of Scottsdale, Arizona died on January 21, 2021, surrounded by loved ones after a short battle with COVID-19. He was born to Helen Gertrude and William Richard Kerr in Van Wert, Ohio on June 10, 1936, the second of three children. In 1951 his family moved to Arizona, where a few years later his father opened up Kerr Sporting Goods. Dick loved sports and played both football and basketball at North Phoenix High School. He attended Phoenix College on an academic and sports scholarship. Dick and five of his closest friends enlisted into the Marine Corps together. He was in the reserves each summer until he graduated from college. He served our country for 26 years starting in the reserves, then active duty, two tours in Vietnam with the 7th Engineer Battalion. Later in his military career, after receiving his MBA Finance

from Arizona State University, he served as the Comptroller of Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, Japan, attended Command & Staff College in Quantico and served as a budget officer at Headquarters, Marine Corps. After retiring from the Marine Corps, Dick worked for the defense contractor, Raven, in Indiana for several years before returning to Arizona where he was the Instructional Resource Facilitator for the Scottsdale Unified School District, and Airport Operations Coordinator for the City of Scottsdale Airport.

He loved to be of service to people and volunteered in many organizations: Hospice in Virginia and Arizona, Gideon's International, the American Red Cross-Grand Canyon Chapter. After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Dick was awarded the Clara Barton Award for the six weeks he served as a Red Cross Liaison with the military working to get assistance to families. Dick was a member of the Mountain View Presbyterian Church for 30 years where he served as a deacon. He was a 3rd Degree Master Mason, 33rd Degree Scottish Rite, and a Shriner.

Dick is survived by his wife, Danalu, whom he met while in college, daughters Debra Kerr of Fredericksburg, VA and Denice Kerr (Mark Hankin) of Bellevue, WA, four grandchildren and two great grandsons, and sister, Shirley Wolters and numerous nieces, nephews and their families. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Robert Kerr, grandson Isaac Powell and granddaughter Rachael Powell. Dick was interred at Arlington National Cemetery.



**\*KROLAK, RICHARD STANLEY MAJ (RET.) TWS 556517**

Major Richard "Dick" Stanley Krolak, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 90, of White Stone, Virginia died peacefully on October 20, 2022 surrounded by his sons and daughters-in-law. He was born on March 14, 1932 to Lottie Theresa Krolak and Stanley Aloysius Krolak of Chicago, IL. Dick grew up in Chicago's South Side Bridgeport neighborhood, attended Weber High School and received a scholarship to Saint Benedict's College in Atchison, Kansas where he excelled academically, enrolled in ROTC, lettered in football and basketball and was a member of the St.

Benedict Ravens team that won the 1954 NAIA Division I College Basketball Championship.

After college, Dick was drafted by the Chicago Cardinals (who later became the St. Louis Cardinals and are now the Arizona Cardinals) but honoring his ROTC commitment, in 1955 enlisted into the U.S. Marine Corps. After Officer's Candidate School in Quantico, Lieutenant Krolak became part of the



Navy Diving Team and served as an ordnance and underwater demolition expert in Japan where the Team was charged with neutralizing bombs and mines leftover from World War II in the Sea of Japan. He also served in Thailand and other areas in the Pacific.

He married Mary Ruth McClymond in 1959 and together Mary and Dick, pursued a life of travel as a military family. They had six children throughout the 1960s and early 1970s (five sons and one daughter), while posted in Camp Pendleton, Stimpson Beach, CA, Knoxville, TN, Quantico and Camp Lejeune. He served in Vietnam, once as an advisor in the early 1960s and later (1967-1968) as a major in the 3rd Marine Division, leading an engineer company. He served in a variety of engineer billets including Marine Corps Engineer School. After retiring from the Marine Corps in 1975, Dick worked as an engineer for the Maryland State Highway Administration and later the Maryland State Aviation Administration, the City of Annapolis and Bermuda's Department of Planning. After several years in Bermuda he returned to White Stone where he was active in Saint Frances de Sales Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus and other volunteer community efforts.

Dick was preceded in death by his mother and father, his infant son, John Charles Krolak, and his beloved wife. He is survived by his son, Richard Gregory and wife Stephanie, four grandsons Jack, Theo, Max and Zachary Krolak; son, Joseph and wife Donna Morrow; son, William Alan; son, Michael Romuald and wife Hope Krolak; and daughter, Kristin Mary Krolak; his sister, Marilyn Krolak; and several nieces and nephews. Major Krolak was interred with military honors next to his wife, Mary, and son, John, at Knoxville National Cemetery in Tennessee.



**\*LIFSET, EDWARD WRUBEL LTCOL (RET.) TWS 54772**

Lieutenant Colonel Edward Wrubel Lifset, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 80, of Oceanside, California died on October 21, 2021. Edward was born on August 25, 1931 in Schenectady, New York to Theodore and Dorothy Lifset. He grew up in Middletown, Connecticut attending public schools and graduating from Wesleyan University in 1953 with a major in government. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in June 1953. During his Marine Corps career, he served in numerous engineer billets with 1st and 2nd Marine Aircraft Wings, 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions and Force Troops. Highlights included being the Commanding

Officer of 8th Engineer Battalion 1968-1971 and Commanding Officer of 1st Combat Engineer Battalion 1977-1978. A Vietnam veteran, he retired in 1979. He is buried in Miramar National Cemetery, San Diego, California.



**\*LUYSTER JR., THOMAS (VET.) TWS 535919**

Thomas Luyster Jr., 91, of the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home of Paramus, formerly of Saddle Brook, NJ passed away on Tuesday, February 1, 2022. Thomas was born in Paterson, NJ on June 12, 1930, to Thomas Luyster and Mary E. Tilsher. He loved hunting and fishing as a child.

Thomas enlisted in the Marine Corps at the age of eighteen and served from 1948 to 1953 obtaining the rank of Sergeant during the Korean War and was a Rifle Marksman. He served in Company A, 2nd Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division. He also served in the Marine Corps Reserves for another 2 years until 1955. He went on to become a Chemical Engineer and later became a Technical Director for a NJ chemical company and worked there over 41 years.

He married Helen in 1957 and they had two sons. In his spare time, Thomas loved to play Golf, build golf club sets for family and friends, refurbish, and build furniture. He and Helen built a house on Cape Cod, Massachusetts and spent many years traveling back and forth from NJ to the Cape. His family has many memorable memories of their vacations on Cape Cod.





In his retirement Thomas was continually active in Marine Corps programs and Associations. He was a proud Marine Corps Korean Veteran. Thomas and his wife Helen volunteered much of their time to the Toys for Tots program and collected thousands of toys over 10 years. They also participated in many Marine Corps Fundraisers and loved attending the Marine Corps Ball. He was a Life Member of the following organizations: Marine Corps Association., Marine Corps Engineer Association, 2nd Marine Division Association, Marine Corps League, Korean War Veterans Association, American Legion, and Disabled American Veterans.

Loving husband, predeceased by Helen E. Luyster married for 60 Years, loving father of Thomas Luyster III and Edward D. Luyster and his wife Monica. He was a treasured grandfather of six children and great grandfather to two. Internment was at the George Washington Memorial Park, Paramus, NJ.



**\*PERRONE SR., THOMAS B. CWO2 (RET.) TWS 55146**

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Thomas B. Perrone Sr., U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.) of Raleigh, North Carolina died on December 26, 2020 after developing complications from a fall. Tom was born October 1, 1927, to Jessie (Meleski) Perrone at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. He left home at age 17 in June 1945 to join the US Marine Corps during World War II. He ended up loving the Corps and decided to make it a 25-year career. He met his wife, Mary Jane (McAllister) at Fort McHenry, MD as he returned from the Korean War in 1952. Tom and Mary married July 3, 1955 in Philadelphia, PA. He started his career as a truck driver, later became an engineer equipment mechanic and finished as an engineer

equipment officer. He served at numerous bases and stations in the states and overseas. He was an instructor at Marine Corps Engineer Schools and served with the 1st Engineer Battalion in Vietnam. After retirement Tom was very active in veteran organizations for many years and was a life member in the Marine Corps League, Marine Corps Engineer Association and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Thomas is survived by his wife, Mary; son, Thomas B. Jr. (Betty) of Waxhaw, NC; daughters, Theresa of Louisburg, NC; Tammy of Matthews, NC; Trisha (Billy) Sanders of Raleigh/Longs, SC, and Tracey (Will) Hawkins of Clayton, NC. Tom was also blessed with 10 grandchildren and two great grandsons. He is also survived by his younger brother, Joseph J Perrone of Kingsville, MD and a much-loved niece and nephew.



**\*PETROFF, RICHARD LTCOL (RET.) TWS 54772**

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Petroff, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 88, of Palm Desert, California, passed away on September 22, 2021 of Alzheimer's disease. Richard was born to Eastern European immigrant parents, Christ and Bonka Petroff in Waukegan, Illinois on April 10, 1933. He entered first grade without knowing English. He quickly excelled in school and sports, earning a wrestling scholarship to attend Purdue University after graduating from Waukegan High School in 1950. After graduation from Purdue University in 1954, Richard joined the USMC as an officer. He had a tour of duty in Vietnam where he was awarded the Bronze Star and served two tours in Okinawa. Richard later earned his MBA from the Naval Post Graduate School. Richard served 27 years in the Marine Corps retiring in 1981,

he then began a second career in the aerospace industry. After living in Oceanside for 23 years, Richard and his wife relocated to Palm Desert in 1996 to officially retire but remained active volunteering at Eisenhower Medical Center, Palm Springs International Film Festival and joining many clubs. Richard was preceded in death by his parents and sister Ellen. He is survived by his wife of 57 years Jeanette, daughter Lydia Petroff of Oceanside, son Clay Petroff and wife Agnieszka of Huntington Beach, daughter Lisa Howard and husband Bert of Jupiter, Florida, and son Christopher Petroff and wife Jill of Seal Beach, as well as seven grandchildren.





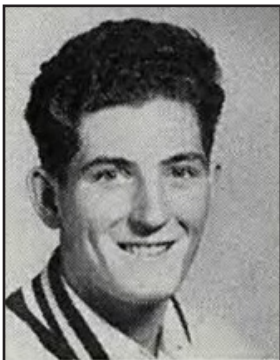


**\*REDIFER, JOHN LEONARD  
CAPT (RET.) TWS 537346**

Captain John Leonard Redifer, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 91, of Jacksonville, North Carolina passed away on March 10, 2022 at his residence. John was born in Baltimore, Maryland on July 24, 1930 to Raymond and Mildred Marie (Eiser) Redifer. John enlisted in the Marine Corps in May 1946. Following graduation from MCRD Parris Island, he served

in numerous engineer billets in Marine bases and stations stateside and in Japan. During his career he served in the 2nd and 3rd Engineer Battalions and 2nd Pioneer Battalion attaining the grade of staff sergeant. He was commissioned in 1966, served in Vietnam with the 1st Engineer Battalion, was promoted to captain in 1969 and retired in 1972.

John "Uncle Lanny" was preceded in death by his loving wife of over 21 years Ruthanna Redifer, son James Mickel Redifer, grandsons Paul Redifer and Henry Barnes, and brothers Donald Francis "Uncle Duck" Redifer and Raymond Douglas "Uncle Puds" Redifer. He is survived by his son Charles Raymond Redifer and wife Teresa of New Hope, AL; daughter Mary Theresa Barnes of Poplar Bluff, MO; seven grandchildren; eighteen great grandchildren and four great great grandchildren. A memorial service was held at Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery with full military honors.



**\*SHEARMAN II, JOSEPH ALOYSIUS MAJOR  
(RET.) TWS 537584**

Major Joseph Aloysius Shearman, Jr., U.S Marine Corps, 89, of Beaverton, Oregon died on 11 November 2018. He was born on July 1, 1929 in Portland, OR to Joseph A. and Sue Ann (Bunch) Shearman. He

attended local schools and graduated from the University of Portland in 1951. After Officer Candidate School he was commissioned, attended The Basic School at Quantico, VA and was assigned to the 2nd Engineer Battalion. During his career he served in numerous engineer organizations to include the 1st, 3rd and 8th Engineer Battalions and the 3rd Pioneer Battalion. He taught at Marine Corps Engineer School at Camp Lejeune and also served with the 2nd Bulk Fuel Platoon and 7th Separate Bulk Fuel Company in Vietnam.

Joseph married Melodee Marguerite Baldwin in 1955 and together they had five children. He was predeceased in death by his wife and son, Joseph A. Shearman III. Major Shearman is buried in Mount Calvary Cemetery, Portland, Oregon.

**\*SINK, ERSKINE J. GYSGT (RET.) TWS 556166**

Gunnery Sergeant Erskine James Sink, Jr., U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 88, of Blue Ridge, Virginia died on October 16, 2021. "E.J." was born on July 24, 1941 in Alleghany, VA to the late Erskine and Ruby Posey Lee Sink of Covington, VA. He attended local schools and graduated from Covington High School in 1960. His father had been a First Sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserve prior to World War II. Erskine joined the Marine Corps in 1962 and served in a variety of engineer billets and duty stations including Vietnam prior to his retirement in 1986.



He was preceded in death by his brother Dan Caldwell, and his grandson Michael R. Bolling. E.J. is survived by his wife of 56 years, Linda C. Sink; his daughter Lisa Bolling and her husband Ron; his son Todd Sink and his wife Margie; his grandson Bryan Persinger and his wife Sarah; his granddaughter Stephanie Brookman and her husband Rex; 4 great grandchildren; and sister Debbie Kennedy and her husband Herbert. He is buried in the Quantico National Cemetery, Virginia.



**\*SKINNER, RICHARD FREDERICK (VET.) TWS 535716**

Richard Frederick Skinner, 88, a resident of Burlington, Massachusetts for 61 years died on 14 January 2022. Richard was born in 1934 in Boston and grew up in Somerville. He was one of two sons born to Harold and Edith Skinner. He enlisted in the Marine Corps and served from October 1952 to October 1955. He held the rank of sergeant. He served in the 2nd Engineer Battalion as an engineer equipment mechanic. He was the recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, National Service Defense Medal, Korean Service Medal and the Navy Occupation Medal. He was extremely proud to serve his country as a U.S. Marine.

After his military service Richard went to work for Jerguson Gage & Valve as a machinist. There he met and married a fellow employee, Eleanor Yarmello. He was forced to retire in 1984 when he was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. He volunteered for many years at the Choate Hospital and then Winchester Hospital. He also remained deeply involved in veteran's organizations. He had a number of interests and hobbies over the years. He was a loyal Red Sox fan, a talented gardener, birder and stamp collector.

Richard was the beloved husband of 62 years of Eleanor and devoted father of John Skinner and his wife Collen, Donna Douglas and her husband Bob, and Diane Hynes and her husband Frank. He was the proud grandfather of nine grandchildren and great grandfather of five. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at Saint Margaret Church in Burlington, and Robert was buried with full military honors at Chestnut Hill Cemetery.



**\*WOOD, GERALD D. (VET.) TWS 555782**

Gerald Dale Wood, 93, formerly of Aurora, Minnesota died peacefully on January 10, 2023 in Hudson, Florida. He was born on November 26, 1929 in Hibbing, Minnesota to Walter Wallace and Mable M. (Trevena) Wood. Jerry graduated from Hibbing High School in 1948 where he was a member of the swim team. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1948 and entered active-duty in 1950. Jerry was in- theatre during the Korean War serving there in 1951-52 as part of the 1st Shore Party Battalion, 1st Marine Division. He was honorably discharged in December 1952. Prior to entering active-duty Jerry met the most beautiful girl he had ever seen, Grace Marie Pecharich. They married after the war and spent 57 wonderful years together. Jerry worked for Erie Mining Company in Minnesota retiring after 37 years of service.

Gerry and Grace's life was centered around their family. Given a break in family activities Jerry loved riding his road or mountain bike, staying fit throughout his life. During the last 15 years of his life Jerry was involved with the Marine Corps League, of which he was a very proud member. Gerald was preceded in death by his loving wife, his parents and siblings Donna, Nancy and Dale. He is survived by seven children, LuAnn, Mary Jo, Thomas (Lynn), Judilyn (Jeff), Jane (Bob), Pamela (Nick) and Patricia (Mike). Also surviving are 13 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren. A memorial service and inurnment are planned for June.





**\*WOODWARD JR., KENNETH ALLEN MGYSGT (RET.) TWS 531518**

Master Gunnery Sergeant Kenneth Allen Woodward Jr., U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), 76, of Troy, Texas passed from this life on March 16, 2021 at Baylor Scott & White Hospital in Temple. He was born in Dallas, Texas on February 16, 1945 to parents Kenneth Sr. and Mittie Christine (Coker) Woodward.

Kenneth lived in the Dallas area until the age of 13 when his family moved to Kentucky. He enlisted into the Marine Corps in Louisville, KY in 1962. Kenneth made a career in the Marine Corps, spending over 28 years in service to his country. He was a proud combat engineer veteran having completed three tours of duty in the Republic of Vietnam. He served in numerous engineer units in division, aircraft wing and reserve units.

He married the love of his life, Rose Lee Goebel, in 1962 in Louisville, Ky. Together they had two children. Although the service kept the family moving around quite a bit, Kenneth and Rose made a good loving home for their children. After retirement from the Marine Corps in 1989, he and Rose moved to Troy to be closer to family. Kenneth loved to read books, enjoyed travelling and being in the outdoors. He was a Masonic Lodge Mason, a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans and the Marine Corps Engineer Association. Kenneth attended church at Heights Baptist Church in Temple, Texas.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Teena Woodward and Renee Collett as well as one granddaughter Kendra Woodward. He leaves behind his wife of 58 years, son Kenny Woodward III of Troy and daughter Karen Reid of North Carolina. He also leaves behind sisters Marlene Harrison and Jeanette Woodward and brother Jesse Woodward all of Kentucky. He also leaves behind one grandchild and two great-grandchildren.

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

*“Theodore Roosevelt”*





# FELLOWS PROGRAM

## OUR BYLAWS STATE: ARTICLE XI – FELLOWS

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

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FULLER, RONALD MGYSGT USMC (RET)  
GATEWOOD, JR. WAYNE USMC (RET)  
HNTB FEDERAL  
KALMAR RT CENTER, LLC  
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### **GOLD**

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APLIN, CHARLIE COL(RET)  
ARNCO  
BRENNAN, JACK (VET)  
BUTLER, JACK COL(RET)  
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COOLEY, JOEL COL USMC (RET)  
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DRUMMOND, MILT LTCOL USMC (RET)  
FEIFS, HELMUTS (VET)  
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HARRIS-INMAN, TERRY LTCOL USMC (RET)  
HEARNE, STEVE M. (VET)  
HOWARD, MIKE COL USMC (RET)

JEANS, PAM  
LATKA, TRUDIE  
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MAY, ROLLAND MSGT USMC (RET)  
McBRIDE, DENNY COL USMC (RET)  
MENTZER, JOHN COL USMC (RET)  
MURPHY, JIM MAJOR USMC (RET)  
NELSON, NIEL BGEN USMC  
OSTERMAN, KEN (VET)  
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QUEEN, WAYNE A. MGYSGT USMC (RET)  
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RUDGE, HANK COL USMC (RET)  
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SMITH, GORDON LTCOL USMC (RET)  
SUMMIT MORTGAGE CORPORATION  
TERRAGROUP CORPORATION  
TRAUM, GERALD (VET)  
VFW POST 9010  
WALKER, JOHN LTCOL USMC (RET)  
WOLFF, BOB DR. USA (RET)  
WORKMAN, JOHN (VET)  
WRIGHT, BILLY (VET)

### **SILVER**

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





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

**BRONZE**

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BELLESHEIM, RICHARD USMC (RET)  
BOTTS, LAURENCE CWO 2 USMC (RET)  
BROOKS, JOE MSGT USMC (RET)  
BUNTING, JERRY CAPT USMC (RET)  
BURCH JOE CAPT USMC (RET)  
CALLANAN, MIKE COL(RET)  
CHECKERBOARD INDUSTRIES  
DAEHNKE, GLENN MAJ USMC (RET)  
DEWEY ELECTRONICS CORPORATION  
DEWITT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY  
DISMORE, CHARLIE MAJ USMC (RET)  
EASTERDAY, STEVE COL USMC (RET)  
EMERSON, JOHN SSGT USMC (RET)  
FASULO, JOHN MAJ USMC (RET)  
FECHTER-VEHR, MARGARET  
FLETCHER, FRED CAPT USMC (RET)  
FORD, BILL LTCOL USMC (RET)  
FRALEIGH, PATRICK  
GOODING, BILL COL USMC (RET)  
HACKETT, BILL LTCOL USMC (RET)

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

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# A Brief History of Wing Engineer Squadron 37 (WES-37)

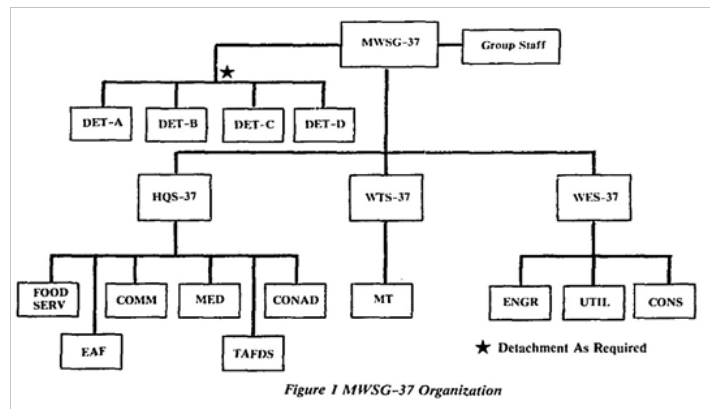
Compiled from command chronologies/official records and summarized by

Master Sergeant Phillip D. Martin

U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), MCEA Historian

## Introduction & Background

With the implementation of the revised Marine Corps Combat Service Support Concept, the Marine Wing Support Groups (MWSG) were reorganized in 1976. On 20 April 1976 MWSG 37 ceased all aviation support functions for the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing headquartered on Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California. On 13 May 1976 the ground maintenance, motor transport and engineer functions were moved from the Marine Air Base Squadrons (MABS) attached to each Aircraft Group and incorporated into MWSG 37 to provide all essential aviation ground support to the Marine Aircraft Groups. This support included motor transport, engineer services including bulk fuel and aircraft refueling.



## Units Activated

Units activated within the Group included the Headquarters and Squadron 37, Wing Transportation Squadron (WTS-37) and Wing Engineer Squadron 37 (WES-37).

## Personnel Transferred

Personnel transferred into WES-37 from 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing units numbered some 1500 Marines and Navy personnel including approximately 350 women Marines. Barrack spaces were reassigned to accommodate co-location of personnel assigned to WES-37. The female Marines were assigned to a female barracks. The female Marines were carpenters, plumbers, electricians, equipment mechanics, equipment operators and bulk fuel personnel.

## Equipment

Engineer equipment included tractors, graders, compactors, cranes, forklifts, water purification equipment, generators and refrigeration equipment. Bulk fuel equipment included the Tactical Airfield Fuel Dispensing System (TAFDS) used for receiving, storing and dispensing fuel in support of expeditionary airfields. With the single fuel on the battlefield concept, the system was able to supply fuel to both aviation and ground assets with a storage capacity of 320,000 gallons and a pump capability up to 600 GPM. The system had 12 aircraft dispensing points for multi-aircraft refueling and the capability to receive fuel from multiple sources. The system could be deployed as a complete system or tailored to meet specific mission requirements. Aircraft launch and recovery equipment is the equipment that launches aircraft from a naval ship or an expeditionary airfield and recovers them safely. The Marine Corps systems equipment transferred to WES-37 included stocks of AM-2 expeditionary airfield aluminum matting and portable arresting systems which can stop



a 54,000-pound aircraft in less than 350 feet. These portable arresting systems were often used on the paved runways at El Toro for Marine Corps pilots to practice arrested landings similar to landing on an aircraft carrier.

### **Colors**

As a new organization WES-37 rated a set of organizational colors and they were ordered. Each unit in the Marine Corps of battalion or squadron size or larger rates organizational colors which make up the unit's colors along with the National flag. It is usually identical to the Marine Corps battle color, though the scroll will have the unit's name (Wing Engineer Squadron 37) instead of "United States Marine Corps". It will also bear any streamers authorized to the unit, or scarlet and gold tassels if none are authorized.

### **History**

On 3 January 1977 Wing Engineer Squadron 37 was formed. LtCol Thomas J. DALZELL was assigned as the Commanding Officer of this new unit. The receipt of all engineer equipment and personnel from MWHS-3, MAG-11, MAG-13, MAG-16 and MWSG-37 commenced at that time.

WES-37 provided operational engineer support to all elements of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing as well as providing support to units of the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, 1st Marine Brigade, 4th Marine Aircraft Wing and elements of the United States Army, Navy and Air Force. The support provided include both vertical and horizontal construction, material handling equipment support, mobile electric power, water supply and Expeditionary Airfield Operations. The efforts of personnel of this squadron supported eighteen (18) major and minor operations to include operation BRAVE SHIELD and five (5) Palm Tree Exercises as well as assisting the State of California and the U.S. Forestry Service in firefighting operations in Southern California. Seventy-five (75) engineer personnel and thirty-six (36) items of engineer equipment were sent TAD to MCB 29 Palms in support of Operation BRAVE SHIELD. A Visual Approach Slope Indicator was installed at EAF, MCB 29 Palms during July. Twenty-two (22) Marines and Fifteen (15) items of engineer equipment were sent TAD to MCB 29 Palms in support of Palm Tree 6-77 and 7-77. WES-37 Marines provided generator and personnel support to MAG-16 COMMEX at MCB 29 Palms. WES-37 personnel supported the Military Police with two (2) A265 floodlight units. Five (5) Marines were sent TAD to MCB 29 Palms in support of EAF in accordance with CG THIRD MAW msg 210336Z dated July of 1977. Fourteen (14) Marines and 13 items of engineer equipment were provided to State and Federal authorities to support firefighting operations in Fresno, California. This unit provided generator and equipment support to MAG-11 and MAG-13. WES-37 conducted generator licensing school for fourteen (14) 3rd MAW personnel. Seven (7) construction personnel were sent TAD to Det MAG-16 MCB Camp Pendleton to construct Lewis Buildings. Six (6) TAFDS personnel were sent TAD to EAF, MCB 29 Palms.

LtCol Dale R. THIBAULT assumed command of WES 37 on 22 September 1977.

A demonstration was held for Military Airlift Command on aircraft recovery on Runway 34 RIGHT. Ten (10) TAFDS personnel and one (1) TAFDS system were sent to MCAS, Yuma, Arizona in support of VMFA212 and VMFA-531. Thirty-seven engineer personnel and twenty-nine (29) items of engineer equipment were sent to MCB 29 Palms in support of Palm Tree 9-77. WES-37 supported Det MAG-16 with three (3) personnel and twenty-seven (27) items of engineer equipment for a field exercise. Nineteen (19) personnel and eight (8) items of engineer equipment were sent to Fort Erwin, California to install VSTOL pad in accordance with CG 3D MAW Msg 182133Z dated Aug 1977. WES-37 Marines began a Camouflage Paint program. A flight test of the VSTOL Pad at Fort Irwin was conducted. This unit provided instructions and equipment to USAF 146th Engineer Squadron for training operations and also provided fifty-two (52) items of EAF equipment to EAF MCB 29 Palms in accordance with CG THIRD MAW Speed letter 15:RB:1sw 4a23dtd 29 Oct. 1977. Generator support was provided to MAG-16 and MAG-13 for a joint COMMEX. Eight TAFDS personnel and one (1) TAFDS system were sent to MCAS Yuma in support of HMH-361. Generator support was



provided to MAG-11 for COMEX. Recon of runway 16r Overrun project was conducted. Twelve (12) items of engineer equipment were provided for Palm Tree 2-78. WES-37 Marines conducted generator operator's course for Thirty-four (34) 3D MAW personnel and provided generator support to MWSG-37 for COMMEX. Packaging of AM-2 matting was commenced for airfield overrun. The efforts of personnel of this squadron supported sixteen (16) major and minor operations to include WINTEX 78 and WTI 1-78 and four (4) Palm Tree Exercises. WES-37 relocated all of the AM-2 matting to 16R for the Airfield Overrun Project. One (1) Officer, twenty-two enlisted Marines and twenty-seven (27) items of engineer equipment were sent TAD in support of Operation Hunter-Ligget. One (1) Officer, twenty-one (21) Marines and twenty-two (22) items of engineer equipment were sent TAD to MCB 29 Palms in support of Palm Tree 3-78. One (1) Officer, seven (7) Marines and one (1) item of engineer equipment were sent TAD to San Clemente Island in support of MAG-11, and VMFP-3. WES-37 provided equipment and personnel support to MAG-38 for MABLEX. Two (2) Marines from the Expeditionary Airfield Section were sent TAD to MCB 29 Palms to work on airfield lighting. Nine (9) Marines from the Expeditionary Airfield Section installed a Harrier Pad at MCB 29 Palms. Seven (7) TAFDS personnel were sent to support refueling operations at MCAS Yuma, Arizona. Seven (7) TAFDS personnel were provided to support refueling operations in the Mobile Mechanized Task Force Phase I at MCB 29 Palms. WES-37 provided support an Engineer Display at the 1978 MCAS El Toro Open House. Fifteen (15) items of engineer equipment were provided in support of Palm Tree 6-78 at MCB 29 Palms. Utility support was provided to establish a Field Mess at Dining Facility #2. Three (3) Platoons were sent with the WES-37 CO to attend the Change of Command Ceremony at MWSG-37. WES-37 provided another forty-two (42) personnel to participate in the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Sgt Maj. Change of Command Ceremony. TAFDS Section augmented by ten (10) HE personnel conducted combat field training at Camp Pendleton. WES-37 Marines returned from Fort Irwin, Bicycle Lake after recovering a VTOL pad. Eleven (11) items of equipment were provided to 29 Palms in support of Palm Trees 8-78 and 9-78. This unit shipped eighteen (18) F-11 AM -2 matting packs to Harbor Sandblasting Co. Total weight of cargo was 36,000 pounds. WES-37 Marines dismantled, relocated and erected two (2) Lewis buildings. Seven (7) Fresnel Lens Cells, four (4) 15 KW regulators, ten (10) A4 bridles and two (2) air conditioners were sent to EAF. Total weight of cargo was 7,360 pounds. One (1) Fresnel lens was shipped to McDonnell Douglas for a test program. Tank Farm #2 was closed for renovation. The Fuel Farms capability was increased from 60,000 to 80,000 gallons of fuel. Engineer School conducted a class on RT 6000 forklifts. Eighteen F-11 AM-2 matting packs were shipped to 29 Palms. WES-37 Marines shipped one (1) C-17, Three (3) C-33, one (1) C-28, two (2) air conditioners, four (4) C-35, one (1) C-36, three (3) C-34, one (1) C-1, one (1) C-2, and two (2) C-37 to White Sands, New Mexico. Total weight of cargo was 69,788 pounds. Four Marines were sent TAD from WES-37 to DET "A" Camp Pendleton as engineer equipment instructors. WES-37 generator instructors held a Generator School and licensed 28 Marines from various 3rd MAW units. Five (5) Marines were sent TAD to 29 Palms to augment EAF. Major R.E. SQUIRES assumed command of WES-37 on 1 Sept. 1978. Relocated EAF Pack up Area to a new site after moving 1,429,583 pounds of cargo after the new site was prepared. Engineer School conducted classes on the RT 6000 Forklift. Six Marines were sent TAD to Nellis A.F.B. in support of VMGR 352. Three (3) Spools of arrester rope was sent to Camp Pendleton.

LtCol T.K. McKEOWN assumed command of WES- 37.

The Engineer School opened for operation on 2 January 1979. Engineer School personnel trained eleven (11) reserves on refrigeration and generator equipment. Two (2) Officers, thirty-nine (39) enlisted and fifty-three (53) items of engineer equipment were sent in support of MTFIII. Recovery section installed lighting and strobe assemblies on runway 34L. Fifteen (15) TAFDS personnel were provided in support of EAF augmentation. Thirteen (13) items of engineer equipment were provided in support of WES-47 reserves. Engineer School trained twenty-eight (28) reserves on utilities equipment. Four (4) enlisted Marines and fifteen (15) items of engineer equipment were sent in support of CAX 4-79. Eighty (80) WES-37 Marines were provided for the monthly retirement parade. Eleven (11) TAFDS personnel were sent to support augmentation of the 1st FSSG. Recovery Section trained HSL-31 personnel in EAF procedures for Navy deployment





to Borneo. BGen. Comfort makes Recovery's 20,000 arrested landing in a A-4 Skyhawk aircraft. Thirty-two (32) Marines and thirty-eight (38) items of equipment were sent in support of CAX 5-79. One (1) M-21 arresting gear system and one (1) FLOLS cells were sent to MARTD Willow Grove, PA. As an Operational Readiness Technical Exercise conducted by FMFPAC this Squadron developed and tested a method of using pre-assembled AM-2 matting to make expedient repair of a bomb-damaged taxiway. Maintenance personnel for Utilities and Engineer Heavy Equipment were joined from H&GMS37 to provide WES-37 a second echelon maintenance capability. Forty (40) Marines and equipment were sent in support of CAX 1-80. Second Lieutenant Michael J. Jones and fifteen (15) men erected a 40X100 foot Pasco Building at the EAF, 29 Palms. The TAFDS section and the Launch and Recovery sections were transferred from WES-37 to H&GMS-37. Provided equipment support to 36th MAU, Bridgeport and also to CAX 2-80. Assigned thirteen (13) Marines to assist in laying 33,000 Square feet of M8A1 matting for a parking apron at MCAF, Camp Pendleton. The major exercise supported was the joint operation GALLANT EAGLE 80, Fort Irwin, California, which was an extremely valuable "hands on" training vehicle for all participants. With the exception of an existing 5,000-foot dirt runway and the MSR, a fully operational airfield with supporting facilities and a base camp for 2,000 were built up from a completely barren desert area. Long demanding hours were worked to accomplish the mission and often under harsh weather and adverse terrain conditions. CAX 4 and 5 at 29 Palms provided additional training in combat support skills. Major engineer projects accomplished during this period were four Expeditionary Shelters and two Butler buildings erected at the Expeditionary Airfield at MCB 29 Palms. An armory building was rehabilitated at El Toro. An operational test of various methods of laying and anchoring large sections of Mo-Mat was conducted. Along with deployments and engineer projects WES-37 found time to interface with the local community to assist the Boy Scouts in readying their camp for the summer by doing electrical, plumbing, carpentry and road work. A Station Open House, Squadron Open House and Field Meet and a change of command ceremony were fitted into the Squadron's busy schedule.

Major Lindon T. LaVIANO assumed command of WES-37 from LtCol. T.K. McKEOWN on 25 June 1980. LtCol T.K. McKEOWN departed for the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

Major engineer projects accomplished were the erection of MCESS shelter system at MCB, 29 Palms, California, the construction of eight (8) TAFDS POL berms and the improvement of drainage runoff at Marine Corps Base, 29 Palms, California. Combined arms exercises during this period provided additional training in combat skills. Other accomplishments included supporting MAG-70's Rapid deployment Force with forty-two (42) of WES-37 personnel, providing personnel to assist U.S. Air Force personnel located at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma in the laying of AM-2 matting and providing engineer support to Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro by laying 52,000 square feet of AM-2 Matting.

LtCol Robert V. NICOLI assumed command from Major LaVIANO on 11 Aug 1980.

Wing Engineer Squadron 37 has significantly contributed to the command readiness of the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing by providing tactical and logistical engineer support to include, horizontal and vertical construction, construction and maintenance of aircraft landing sites; the provision of potable water, shower and laundry facilities, mobile electric power, and material handling equipment support. Major engineer projects accomplished during this period include completed Twenty-one (21) Wing and Group requests, providing support for four (4) close air exercises and hosting and instructing the reserves and detached from WES-47. Utilities Section supported two (2) operations at MCAS Yuma and two (2) deployments to EAF 29 Palms utilizing a total of 3770- man hours, 6590 equipment hours, 13,115 gallons of diesel fuel, and 480 gallons of gasoline.

Col R.V. NICOLI relieved of command by Major J.B. McKENNEY on 30 June 1981.

Major engineering projects accomplished include completion of fifty-one (51) Wing, Group, and Squadron initiated engineer supported requests, in addition to three (3) Combined Arms Exercises, one (1) Weapons Training Instruction, one Stratobex, two (2) 7TH MAB exercises, three (3)



Airplane Squadron Deployments, and one Water Supply Field Exercise. Some of the completed engineering projects included graded new horse trails at Station Stables, EAF matting support, MCB 29 Palms, California, dugout construction for special services, surveyed and constructed sub base for parking lot across from bldg. 329, graded access road to picnic grounds, TAFDS berm construction, MCAS Yuma, Az., and participated in 1st Engineer Bn. Field exercise involving twenty-two (22) enlisted Marines. A few of the exercises WES-37 was involved in included CAX 8/8B Augmentation with Personnel and Equipment, CAX 9-81 involving one (1) Officer and twenty-six (26) enlisted Marines, 7th MAB Field Exercise with the support of two (2) Officers and twenty-eight (28) enlisted Marines, provided Combat Engineer Support for PHIBEX 3-81, plumbing and water supply field exercise, provided generator support for MACG-38 and Mag 13 CPX. Major engineer projects completed include the construction of a load ramp at the EAF, 29 Palms. The erection of a timber playground equipment set for the Daycare Center, MCAS El Toro and the construction of a dugout at the baseball field, MCAS El Toro. Also, during this period 73 work orders were completed. Construction projects at Bridgeport, California provided the Squadron with new opportunities for training and allowed WES-37 to work closely with other engineer units. MAG-70 operations and combined arm exercises 3 through 8 conducted during this period provided additional training and exercised the Squadron's ability to support the third MAW.

The Squadron's colors were passed from LtCol J.B. McKENNEY to LtCol E.J. TURSE on 13 May 1982. The major project undertaken during this period was the reconstruction and continued development of the expeditionary helicopter facility at MCMWTC, Bridgeport, CA. During the late fall of 1982, this unit enlarged the facility to include a 1000 foot- runway, a 150' x 650' parking apron, and two hangars. Poor weather and a forced work schedule did not permit installation of adequate or proper base course preparation. From July through September in 1983, engineer operations concentrated on major drainage work, including the drainage of an intermittent spring under the parking apron, the installation of culvert under the parking apron and runway to handle runoff, and the removal of the existing base material and installation of a select gravel material base to promote drainage under the AM2 matting. Berms for two TAFDS bladders were also prepared for winter operations. Experience gained in this operation points out: 1) the need for increased training in soils analysis and drainage for engineer officers and SNCO's; 2) that gravel for AM2 installation should not exceed 1/4" (WestDiv specifications went to 3/4" and additional fine material had to be purchased to permit grading for mat laying); and 3) engineer equipment used for gravel handling and grading required ripper teeth replacement and mold board repair, respectively, after 24 hours of operations. This experience was similar to that of the Royal Engineers in the Falklands and points out that airfield work may become totally dependent upon quarrying and crushing capabilities being available to a deployed MAGTF.

In an attempt to enhance its project management capabilities, the squadron began to experiment with a computerized project management system entitled "MISTER" provided by VTN Consolidated, Inc. of Irvine, CA. Developed by the Shirley Software Company of Santa Ana, CA, "MISTER" enables the user to develop a network plot or critical path via on—line computer input. As required, the program is capable of producing numerous graphics (bar charts, line charts, CPM plots, etc.) for analysis and redesign. The dynamic nature of the system allows for continual up-dates and changes as they occur and presents a quantum leap from the planning and scheduling practices of the past. As a test case for possible future application, "MISTER" was employed to schedule and plan the current rehabilitation effort of the Marine Corps Expeditionary Shelter System buildings at the MCAGCC, Twenty- Nine Palms, CA. Initial response to the system has been favorable. Shortages of Staff NCO's and earthmoving equipment and the lack of personnel trained in soil stabilization techniques continued to plague this squadron. Recently (December), progress was made to correct the earthmoving equipment deficiency with the acquisition of two MS—100 scrapers (TAMCN B1920), one MRS—100 wheeled tractor, and the scheduled delivery (in January 1984) of two Terex 82-30 medium tractors. Staff NCO shortages continue to affect the quality of training and operational readiness in some key areas as noted in the UNITREP over the past two years. Furthermore, the artificial "overage" in MOS 1371 and current staffing rules for the squadron have created a critical shortage in this MOS. Projection of personnel losses over the next 90-120 days against known gains indicate that the squadron will be unable to



do more than minimal garrison support, and only at a reduced level from current operations. Separate action has been initiated to document this issue. The issue remains open, however, and problems were still encountered obtaining hydraulic lift cylinders for the MC6000 (TAMCN 2560) forklift. The local Maintenance Issue Point (MIP) has worked with the Item Managers at MCLB, Albany, GA, however problems continue. This problem has hampered the load testing program and has reduced the availability of material handling equipment. Through the second half of 1984, the Wing Engineer Squadron continued to provide effective combat and combat service support to the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing. Personnel shortages, especially in MOS's 1141, 1142, 1161, 1171, 1341, 1345, 1349, and 1371, have continued to plague the Squadron. Nevertheless, task organized detachments from the Squadron participated in numerous operational and training exercises involving 3d MAW units at many different locations. The Squadron took great strides to improve its productivity with the purchase of a Zenith 2-120 minicomputer and software, and a panel saw. The former will be used, among other things, to automate training records and enable planners and project officers to better manage prospective and assigned projects, while the latter will increase the efficiency of the embarkation box construction effort. The Squadron has also continued to participate in the Marine Corps Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Development program. 1stLt Charles Schaupp did extensive research into the problems and premises of the systems presently under study, (SPAN and RUBB) and has prepared a study paper and presentation for higher headquarters. Preliminary work also commenced on the most ambitious project undertaken by the Squadron to date; the advanced VSTOL facility at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), 29 Palms, CA. The VSTOL facility will be comprised of a 2000' runway, six AV-8 "Harrier" hides, refueling pits, ordnance sites, and deception roads. The project, scheduled to commence in mid-January 1985, will take approximately six months to complete and be composed of three phases; phase one, preliminary earthwork done by WES-37 Marines; phase two, soil stabilization performed by a civilian contractor; and phase three, the actual construction of the facility (i.e., laying of AM-2 matting, revetment construction, deception road construction, etc.).

Current personnel procurement and staffing policies of the DC/S Aviation continue to adversely affect the ability of Wing Engineer Squadron 37 to provide combat service support to the 3d MAW.

Specifically, attempts to support the 3d MAW's high operational tempo while maintaining a satisfactory level of equipment readiness, within the context of chronic and persistent personnel shortages, have had a deleterious effect on training, morale, and reenlistments.

The lack of a decision on the MWSG organizational issue has contributed to the decision to hold T/O and T/E modifications in abeyance at HQHC. The Commanding Officer has recently (December 1984) participated in a conference that attempted, among other things, to resolve an impasse regarding the distribution of engineer functions that has been the subject of much concern and controversy. The resolution of these organizational issues will be the determining factor in the finalization of the aforementioned T/O and T/E. Wing Engineer Squadron 37 possesses 98.6% of authorized engineer equipment. On hand readiness was 86.9% on 31 December 1984. Wing Engineer Squadron 37 has maintained its high level of operational readiness with minimal personnel. Over this reporting period, this Squadron averaged 84.3 percent combat readiness despite personnel shortages and a high operational tempo. To reduce the failure rate and increase the availability of equipment without compromising safety, WES 37 initiated more stringent standards for load testing and corrective maintenance prior to inducting engineer equipment in the MCAS El Toro load testing center. Furthermore, as a result of budgetary constraints and personnel attrition at the load test center, the 3d MAW authorized WES 37 to conduct its own load test certification program.

Through the second half of 1985, the Wing Engineer Squadron continued to provide effective combat and combat service support to the 3d Marine Aircraft Wing. The Squadron participated in numerous operational and training exercises involving 3d MAW units including BRIGHTSTAR 85, WTI 1-86, and MABCAX 1-86. The renovation of the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center's Helicopter facility at Bridgeport, CA was completed during this period. Approximately 125,000 square-feet of airfield subgrade was repaired and the entire runway was anchored. Improvements were made to the airfield's drainage system, airfield lighting, and to the two helicopter maintenance facilities. Prior to the second phase of



the construction of the advanced VSTOL facility at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center {MCAGCC}, 29 Palms, CA, an adequate drainage system including ditching and culverts was installed. Phase II, cement soil stabilization was completed by Palomar Paving and Grading Company during December 1985. The third phase, airfield installation, is scheduled to commence during January 1986. Two water purification training exercises were conducted during this period. The first water purification exercise was conducted at Las Pulgas Lake, MCB Camp Pendleton, CA, and included instruction in water route reconnaissance, water site-selection, field sanitation techniques, and water distribution systems. Training was conducted utilizing the 1500 GPH erdlator water purification unit, the bath unit, and refrigeration equipment. An M-60 machine gun shoot and a demolition shoot were also conducted. The second water purification exercise was conducted at Red Beach, MCB Camp Pendleton, CA, to train in the operation and maintenance of the Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU). The Squadron recently received 42 ROWPU's to replace the 600 GPH and 1500 GPH erdlators. The Squadron is planning to conduct a cold weather water purification exercise during January 1986 to test the operation of the ROWPU in a cold weather environment.

In an effort to reduce the magnitude and frequency of maintenance required due to erosion of the EAF's subsurface, The Squadron deployed to MCAGCC, 29 Palms, Ca, during February to May 1986 for a combined renovation and soil stabilization project. The Squadron accomplished the removal then reinstallation of nearly 3 million square feet of AM-2 matting, the mechanical stabilization and grading of over 5913, 9916 square feet of area on the MAG ramp, the installation or repair of 13 culverts, the construction of six M-21 arresting gear pits and four Fresnel lens pads, and significant improvements to the airfield drainage and lighting distribution systems. After the removal of the AM—2 matting, Palomar Grading and Paving Company stabilized the airfield subsurface with a soil-cement mixture. Approximately 200 Marines from the Squadron, augmented with personnel from Wing Transportation Squadron 37 and Headquarters Squadron 37 participated in the project. Over 156 major pieces of engineering and motor transportation items were required to accomplish the project. The Squadron was also provided daily with 30 to 50 Marines from the Communications and Electronics School, MCAGOC, 29 Palms to assist in the removal and installation of AM-2 matting. In conjunction with the VSTOL and EAF projects, the Squadron continued to provide effective engineering support to the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing: The Squadron participated in numerous operational and training exercises including Gallant Knight, Combined Arms Exercises, Kernel Blitz and Freedom banner. During this period 40 Marines were trained and licensed for the proper maintenance and operation of various pieces of engineer equipment. Wing Engineer Squadron 37 and all other wing engineer squadrons throughout the Marine Corps were deactivated in 1986 as part of the Marine Corps wide reorganization of aviation ground support which resulted in the standup of the newly established Marine Wing Support Squadrons (MWSS). In effect, the centralized assets of the MWSG with its three squadrons (HQSqdrn, WES & WTS) were realigned into MWSSs with each MWSS configured to support a Marine aviation group (fixed wing or rotary wing) with the headquarters of the MWSG coordinating support to an entire Marine aircraft wing. (See notes.)

*Notes: Figure 1 is from a May 1, 1983 Marine Corps Gazette article by Col H.M. Whitfield.*

*Information on MWSG restructuring from Marine Corps History Division, Chronologies of the Marine Corps 1986.*





# Brick Program



Tony Raniszewski

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

These engraved bricks affirm our Esprit de Corps with Marines, past, present and future who risk their lives to insure our freedom.

Each purchaser receives a Certificate of Registration acknowledging their contribution and confirming the engraved inscription as it will appear on the brick.

Additionally, each purchaser has their name added to MCEA's donor list located on the web page below. All bricks located in the monument area must be purchased through MCEA.

The program has progressed steadily with 297 bricks already purchased and 292 of those already installed. Our next installation date for 5 bricks is spring 2023. MCEA is continuing this program with periodic purchases approximately three times per year. Bricks purchased in April 2023 will be installed in the fall.

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

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

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



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



# MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

## 2023 REUNION ITINERARY

Branson, Missouri ~ September 28 – 30, 2023

### Thousand Hills Resort Hotel

**120 S. Wildwood Drive, Branson, MO 65616/ Ph: (417) 335-5767**

The Thousand Hills Resort Hotel (formerly the Raddison-Branson, where we held our 2012 Reunion) is located just off State Route 76 (West 76 Country Blvd.) 3 miles west of downtown Branson. Group room rates are \$119.95/night for 2-double beds, double occupancy (\$135.96 including 13.5% tax). It is \$5 additional for triple occupancy and \$10 additional for quad occupancy. Rate includes a hot breakfast buffet. There is no resort fee (for Wi-Fi, etc.). These rates will be honored up to Sunday, 27 August and may be honored after that at the hotel's discretion based on availability. Reservations to come early or stay later may be honored at the Group Rate based on availability. Reservations will be guaranteed by payment of the first night's charge. Check-in time is 1600, check out time is 1000.

Reservations can be made by calling (417) 335-5767. Guests must mention the group name, "Marine Corps Engineers", to receive the group rate. Individual reservations may be cancelled up to 48-hours in advance with full refund. After that, the first night cost will be forfeited.

### SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, 27 September:** Executive Committee arrives

**Thursday, 28 September:** 1200 Executive Committee sets up displays, etc.

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

**Friday, 29 September:** 0800-1200 Business Meeting (no charge)

1800-2400 Awards Banquet (\$80 per person "early bird" by Saturday, 27 August; \$90 after that; Awardee and one guest are free)

**Saturday, 30 September:** Tours/activities on own or in small groups.

Late afternoon/evening Executive Committee pack up displays

**Sunday, 1 October:** Departure, check out time is 10:00 AM. **Thanks for coming!**

Registration Form available on line at [www.marcorengasn.org](http://www.marcorengasn.org)  
(2023 Reunion under the Reunions Tab)

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



# ADMIN NOTES

Be sure to note the mailing address which was changed last year: MCEA, PO Box 279, Beechgrove, TN 37018-0279

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our 28-30 September 2023 reunion will find us returning to Branson, Missouri. You may remember that our 2002 and 2012 reunions were also in Branson. Hope to see you all there!

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

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

## ACTIONS REQUIRED

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

Enclosed is the 2023 Reunion Registration Form for you to complete and return if you are planning on attending this year's reunion. The form is also available online at [www.marcorengasn.org](http://www.marcorengasn.org) ([2023 Reunion under the Reunions Tab](#))

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



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



# CORPORATE MEMBERS & SPONSORS

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

Danahy Family Endowment In Memory of Corporal Scott Francis Bianco USMC (Sponsor of Engineer Equipment Individual Awards)  
Dr. Robert Wolff LTC USA (Ret.) (Sponsor of Naval Construction Force Award)  
Gateway Group LLC, MSgt Wayne Gatewood Jr. USMC (Ret.) CEO (Sponsor of Combat Engineer Battalion Award & Color Guard Table)  
LtCol George Carlson USMC (Ret.) (Sponsor of Utilities Individual Marine Awards)  
Marine Corps Bulk Fuel Association (Sponsor of Bulk Fuel Individual Awards)  
Marine Corps Engineer Association (Sponsor of the Engineer Company, MWSS Award)  
MGysgt Michael Aichele USMC (Ret.) (Sponsor of the Expeditionary Warfare School Outstanding Engineer Student Award)  
Mr. Ken Osterman USMC (Vet.) (Sponsor of Engineer Support Battalion Award)  
RJY Group LLC, Houston Texas, Mr. Richard J. Young USMC (Vet.) (Sponsor of EOD Individual Awards)  
Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) (Sponsor of Awardee & Guest Banquet Fees, Sponsor of SAME outstanding Senior Marine Engineers of the Year Award)  
VFW Post 9010 Clemmons, NC (Sponsor of Combat Engineer Individual Awards)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

As you can see by the financial statements your Association remains exceedingly healthy. Our reserves are such that we not only can, but should plan activities as near to "break even" as possible. On the Balance Sheet you will find two endowment funds: The Aichele Fund (AF) is an endowment for the Martin Award at EWS (the honor engineer graduate); and, the Danahy Fund (DF) endows the individual Engineer Equipment Marine awards in our annual awards program. Those two funds, plus pending brick purchases at our Monument create the need for "interfund" entries to track who owes who how much. You will note that there are balancing receivables and payables for those entries.



On the Income and Expense Statement everything should be self-explanatory. Of course if you have questions, feel free to contact me at [treasurer@marcorengasn.org](mailto:treasurer@marcorengasn.org) or 931-307-9094 (text or voice).

George A. Carlson

LtCol, USMC(Ret)

Treasurer



# MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

## BALANCE SHEET DEC 31, 2022

ASSETS	2021	2022
	0.00	
	0.00	
	0.00	
Cash Accounts	42,746.28	43,970.14
	0.00	
Certificates of Deposit	95,052.67	96,193.09
Endowment Accounts	40,572.05	39,337.55
Stores Inventory	8,134.51	7,691.99
	0.00	
Fixed Assets	4,344.87	4,344.87
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>190,850.38</b>	<b>192,010.05</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>472.41</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	<b>190,850.38</b>	<b>191,537.64</b>
<b>EQUITY BREAKDOWN</b>		
Aichele Fund Equity (Restricted)	9,663.64	9,336.55
Danahy Fund Equity (Restricted)	29,638.59	29,738.59
General Fund Equity (Unrestricted)	151,548.15	152,462.50
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>190,850.38</b>	<b>191,537.64</b>

## INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT 2022

<b>INCOME</b>		
Direct Public Support	46,623.60	16,000.05
Program Income	3,999.00	4,178.64
Investments Earnings	1,476.44	2,024.13
Sales Related Income	356.71	101.61
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>52,455.75</b>	<b>22,304.43</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
General Management Expense	423.70	419.91
Contract Services	2,021.10	2,498.20
Recruiting and Goodwill	860.71	449.48
Operations	406.48	688.30
Program Expenses		
Awards Programs	1,785.63	2,490.95
Newsletter/Communications	5,077.44	4,661.31
Reunion & Awards Banquet	9,253.96	9,029.02
Monument	660.00	1,380.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>20,849.02</b>	<b>21,617.17</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>31,606.73</b>	<b>687.26</b>

## Membership Status as of 31 December 2022

Dues Current	874.00
Dues Delinquent	323.00
Deceased	457.00
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>	<b>1,654.00</b>



## 2022 MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION AWARD RECIPIENTS

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>WINNER</u>	<u>UNIT</u>
TOP ENGINEER EWS GRADUATE	CAPT IAN SIMPSON	EWS
S.A.M.E. SENIOR ENGINEER	MAJ ADAM K. KLEMM	1ST MAW
S.A.M.E. ENGINEER SNCO	MSGT JOSEPH C. HERMAN	MWSS373
COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER	1STLT EVERETT L. KOZLOWSKI	2ND CEB
COMBAT ENGINEER SNCO	GYSGT MATTHEW E. O'NEIL	9TH ESB
COMBAT ENGINEER NCO	SGT JEFFREY A. KNOLL	7TH ESB
COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE	LCPL RAYMOND M. GARCIA	9TH ESB
ENGR EQUIPMENT OFFICER	CWO3 DANIEL P. OPPER	1ST CEB
ENGR EQUIPMENT SNCO	GYSGT KALEN T. GALL	1ST CEB
ENGR EQUIPMENT NCO	CPL DREW SCHIEFELBIEN	6TH ESB
ENGR EQUIPMENT MARINE	CPL VITO M. BOTTICELLO	2ND CEB
UTILITIES OFFICER	WO3 DOUGLAS W. COX	MWSS 373
UTILITIES SNCO	GYSGT MONICA R. KNIGHT	7TH ESB
UTILITIES NCO	CPL SAMUEL VELASCO-SANTIAGO	MWSS 172
UTILITIES MARINE	LCPL MORGAN L. BITNER	MWSS 372
BULK FUEL OFFICER	CWO3 KYLE A. BABKA	1ST MLG
BULK FUEL SNCO	SSGT CLAYTON S. LEVERENZ	7TH ESB
BULK FUEL NCO	SGT TY G. SHAWVER	MWSS 172
BULK FUEL MARINE	LCPL KEVIN T. GARNICA-MADRIGAL	7TH ESB
EOD OFFICER	CWO2 TREVOR J. HICKS	7TH ESB
EOD TECHNICIAN	SGT TRAVIS J. GAY	CLB 24
COMBAT ENGINEER BN	2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION	2ND MARDIV
ENGINEER SUPPORT BN	9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION	3RD MLG
MWSS ENGINEER COMPANY	ENGINEER COMPANY, MWSS 172	1ST MAW
NAVAL CONSTRUCTION FORCE	NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BN 133	NECC





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***OUTSTANDING 2022 ENGINEER GRADUATE OF THE  
EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE SCHOOL  
CAPTAIN IAN SIMPSON***

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



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



The Award is presented to the outstanding USMC engineer officer graduate. Pictured is Captain Ian Simpson and MCEA Representative, Col Joel Cooley USMC (Ret.). Standing in front of Warner Hall, Marine Corps University at Quantico is Captain Simpson with his wife, daughter and parents.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER OF THE YEAR***  
**FIRST LIEUTENANT EVERETT L. KOZLOWSKI**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS PLATOON COMMANDER, 1ST PLATOON, COMPANY C, 2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 2ND MARINE DIVISION FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. FIRST LIEUTENANT KOZLOWSKI BROUGHT GREAT DISTINCTION TO HIMSELF AND HIS MARINES WHILE SUPPORTING TRAINING AND OPERATIONAL EVENTS FOR BATTALION LANDING TEAM 1/8 AND THE 24TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT. HE SUCCESSFULLY LED HIS PLATOON'S EFFORTS DURING THE EMBARKATION OF ALL PERSONNEL AND \$3 MILLION WORTH OF EQUIPMENT ONTO VARIOUS NAVAL VESSELS OF THE AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP. HIS EFFORTS TO MANAGE AND SYNTHESIZE OUTPUTS OF THE RAPID RESPONSE PLANNING PROCESS WERE VITAL TO THE BATTALION LANDING TEAM THROUGHOUT

THE ENTIRETY OF THE DEPLOYMENT. WHILE UNDERWAY, HIS EFFORTS TO PLAN, DEVELOP AND EVENTUALLY IMPLEMENT MULTIPLE TRAINING EXERCISES AND CONDUCT BILATERAL TRAINING IN PORTUGAL, SPAIN, SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT, AND AFGHANISTAN LED TO TOP-TIER OPERATIONAL READINESS AND DEMONSTRATED THE USEFULNESS OF AND VERSATILITY OF HIS PLATOON IN SUPPORT OF THE BATTALION LANDING TEAM'S OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS, IN PREPARATION FOR OPERATIONS IN KABUL, AFGHANISTAN, HE REQUISITIONED \$50 MILLION OF EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS TO SUPPORT DEFENSIVE OBSTACLE EMPLACEMENT AT HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, WHILE UNDER CONSTANT THREAT OF ENEMY ATTACK, HE COORDINATED VITAL ENGINEER SUPPORT THAT DIRECTLY INCREASED THE FORCE PROTECTION MEASURES OF THE OPERATION AND ALLOWED FOR THE SAFE PROCESSING OF 124,000 EVACUEES. FIRST LIEUTENANT KOZLOWSKI'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT ON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 COMBAT ENGINEER STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED  
OFFICER OF THE YEAR***

**GUNNERY SERGEANT MATTHEW E. O'NEAL  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION DEMINING TEAM LEADER, HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE COMPANY, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3RD MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. GUNNERY SERGEANT O'NEIL REVISED THE HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION CURRICULUM AND STANDARDIZED DEMINING GEAR FOR FIELDING ACROSS THAILAND'S MINE ACTION UNITS WHICH SAVED THE PROGRAM 118 THOUSAND DOLLARS WHILE PROVIDING EXTRA COURSE CONTENT. THESE CURRICULUM UPDATES DIRECTLY LED TO HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION STUDENTS DEMONSTRATING AN IMPROVED PROFICIENCY REGARDING THE FULL SPECTRUM OF SURVEY AND CLEARANCE OPERATIONS. GUNNERY SERGEANT

O'NEIL ALSO DEVELOPED A BILL OF MATERIAL, SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS, AND BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR MARINE FORCES PACIFIC COMMAND THAT CREATED A MORE EFFICIENT 5-YEAR OPERATIONAL PLAN, EXECUTABLE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION PROGRAM, AND SECURED A BUDGET TOTALLY OVER 770 THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022 AND 2023. GUNNERY SERGEANT O'NEIL'S INITIATIVE AND EXCEPTIONAL EXPERTISE IMPROVED THE HUMANITARIAN DEMINING TRAINING CENTER IN FORT LEE, VIRGINIA AND LED TO A STATE DEPARTMENT CURRICULUM CHANGE TO MORE EFFECTIVELY TRAIN PERSONNEL OPERATING IN THE INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND REGION. GUNNERY SERGEANT O'NEIL'S INITIATIVE, RESOURCEFULNESS, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT ON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 COMBAT ENGINEER NON-COMMISSIONED  
OFFICER OF THE YEAR***

**SERGEANT JEFFREY A. KNOLL  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



FOR SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS PLATOON GUIDE, ALPHA AND CHARLIE COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. SERGEANT KNOLL LED MARINES FROM SEVEN DIFFERENT MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTIES IN SIX DIFFERENT TRAINING EXERCISES THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD. HIS SKILLED LABOR AND LEADERSHIP RESULTED IN A COST SAVING OF 518,400 DOLLARS IN CONTRACTOR COSTS DURING MULTIPLE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THESE EXERCISES. WHILE DEPLOYED UNDER COMMANDER, TASK FORCE 75, HE SERVED AS DETACHMENT OFFICER IN CHARGE TO TIMOR LESTE AND LED A JOINT TEAM OF ENGINEERS CONSISTING OF MARINES, SEABEES, AIR FORCE RED

HORSE ENGINEERS, AND TIMOR LESTE DEFENSE FORCE PERSONNEL IN ANTI-TERRORISM FORCE PROTECTION MEASURES AT BAUCAU AIRFIELD. ADDITIONALLY, AS A MARINE CORPS MARTIAL ARTS PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR, SERGEANT KNOLL HELD THREE COURSES, COMMITTING 2,000 MAN HOURS OVER FOUR MONTHS TO TRAINING MARINES. THIS RESULTED IN 20 GREY BELTS, 32 GREEN BELTS AND 8 BROWN BELTS BEING AWARDED TO MARINES UNDER HIS INSTRUCTION. ADDITIONALLY, SERGEANT KNOLL VOLUNTEERED TO BE AN INSTRUCTOR FOR TWO LANCE CORPORAL LEADERSHIP AND ETHICS SEMINARS, PERSONALLY TEACHING AND MOLDING OVER 45 MARINES. HE ACCOMPLISHED ALL OF THESE TASKS WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY ENROLLED AT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY FOR HIS UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE IN GRAPHICS TECHNOLOGY. SERGEANT KNOLL HAS COMPLETED 73 CREDITS TOWARDS HIS DEGREE WHILE CONTINUING TO EXCEL AS A LEADER OF MARINES. SERGEANT KNOLL SERVED AS A ROLE MODEL FOR ALL MARINES TO EMULATE AND HAS GARNERED WIDE RESPECT ACROSS THIS BATTALION. SERGEANT KNOLL'S EXCEPTIONAL PROFESSIONAL ABILITY, SELFLESS DEVOTION TO DUTY, AND PERSONAL INITIATIVE EARNED HIM THE 2022 MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD.



**THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING**

***2022 COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE OF THE YEAR***  
**LANCE CORPORAL RAYMOND M. GARCIA (IN ABSENTIA)**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**

LANCE CORPORAL RAYMOND M. GARCIA IS RECOGNIZED AS THE 2022 MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION COMBAT ENGINEER MARINE OF THE YEAR FOR HIS EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AS FIRE TEAM LEADER, SECOND PLATOON, COMPANY A, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 3RD MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP. DURING THIS PERIOD, LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA DISPLAYED THE TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY AND LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES OF A SEASONED NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER. AS A FIRE TEAM LEADER IN GUAM, HE EMPLOYED AN EXPERIMENTAL BIOCEMENT PRODUCT IN COORDINATION WITH THE NAVY AND THE DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY THAT INFORMED FUTURE EMPLOYMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN SUPPORT OF EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCED BASE OPERATIONS. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA EARNED A POSITION ON THE BATTALION'S LITTORAL ENGINEER RECONNAISSANCE TEAM (LERT). WHILE BEING ASSIGNED TO THE LERT, LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA EMPLOYED ADVANCED RECONNAISSANCE TECHNIQUES BEYOND THAT OF MOST ENGINEERS AND ATTENDED THE MAGTF/MARINE SECONDARY IMAGERY DISSEMINATION SYSTEM COURSE. DURING A 12 DAY FIELD EXERCISE AT THE JUNGLE WARFARE TRAINING CENTER (JWTC), LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA LED HIS SQUAD IN OVER EIGHT KILOMETERS OF RECONNAISSANCE PATROLS AND IDENTIFIED 18 EXPLOSIVE HAZARDS DURING A CACHE SWEEP. AFTER THE RECONNAISSANCE PATROLS, LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA LED THE CONSTRUCTION OF CREW SERVED WEAPONS POSITIONS WITH OVERHEAD COVER DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND 82MM CONTACT BURSTS. UPON COMPLETION OF THE DEFENSIVE POSITIONS, LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA AND HIS SQUAD BEGAN THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE AND BLOCK STRUCTURES THAT WERE DESIGNED FOR USE BY THE JWTC PERSONNEL AND STUDENTS. LANCE CORPORAL GARCIA'S LEADERSHIP, INITIATIVE, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER COMMUNITY.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

## ***2022 ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR***

**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 DANIEL P. OPPER**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER OFFICER, HEADQUARTERS BATTERY, 11TH MARINE REGIMENT AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT OFFICER, HEAVY EQUIPMENT PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 1ST MARINE DIVISION, FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER OPPER WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EFFECTIVE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ENGINEER EQUIPMENT FOR TWO BATTALIONS, IN WHICH HE SUPPORTED MOBILITY, COUNTER MOBILITY, AND SURVIVABILITY OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF VARIOUS BATTALION, REGIMENTAL, AND DIVISION LED EXERCISES SUCH AS STEEL KNIGHT 2021, MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE WARFIGHTING EXERCISE 2021, EXERCISE SUMMER FIREX 2021, FALL FIREX, AND MULTIPLE BATTALION AND COMPANY FIELD EXERCISES. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER OPPER ALSO SUPPORTED RANGE MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TRAINING AREAS BOTH IN CAMP PENDLETON AND ABOARD MARINE CORPS AIR-GROUND

COMBAT CENTER, IN WHICH HIS EFFORTS IMPROVED ROADS AND FIREBREAKS AND ALLOWED CONTINUED EFFECTIVE TRAINING AND PROTECTED THE BASES' CRITICAL ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE. IN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE ENGINEER COMMUNITY, SPECIFICALLY COMBAT ENGINEER BREACHING AND PROOFING CAPABILITIES, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER OPPER MADE PROFOUND IMPACTS BY SPEARHEADING THE CONSTRUCTION OF MULTIPLE INNOVATION PROJECTS BY CONVERTING A MINE PLOW INTO A BREACHING ATTACHMENT FOR TWO PIECES OF ENGINEER EQUIPMENT, A TRAILERED TOWED MINE CLEARING LINE CHARGE INTO A SKID MOUNTED ASSET CAPABLE OF BEING MOUNTED ON MULTIPLE VEHICLE VARIANTS, AND A BLADE ATTACHMENT FOR URBAN BREACHING, TOTALING OVER 1180 MAN HOURS OF WELDING AND FABRICATION. FURTHERMORE, HE LED THE PROCUREMENT OF OVER FIFTY-THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF EIGHT ADDITIONAL BLADES FOR FUTURE TRAINING EVOLUTION FOR OBSTACLE CLEARING DETACHMENT TEAMS. SIMULTANEOUSLY, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER OPPER SUPERVISED OVER 90 MARINES IN PREVENTIVE AND CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE REQUESTS, MAINTAINING AN AVERAGE OF OVER 92 PERCENT OVERALL MAINTENANCE READINESS. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER OPPER'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

## ***2022 ENGINEER EQUIPMENT STAFF NCO OF THE YEAR***

**GUNNERY SERGEANT KALEN T. GALL**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS HEAVY EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE CHIEF, HEAVY EQUIPMENT PLATOON, ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY, 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 1ST MARINE DIVISION, FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD, GUNNERY SERGEANT GALL MADE PROFOUND IMPACTS TO THE ENGINEER COMMUNITY. GUNNERY SERGEANT GALL PROVIDED INSTRUMENTAL FEEDBACK TO THE CONDITIONS BASED MAINTENANCE PROGRAM, SUPERVISED THE DIVESTMENT OF 7.5 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE REMOVAL OF THE M9 ARMORED COMBAT EARTHMOVER, AND SPEARHEADED THE 1ST COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION'S EXPERIMENTATION STRATEGY BY CONVERTING A MINE PLOW INTO A BREACHING ATTACHMENT FOR TWO

PIECES OF ENGINEER EQUIPMENT, A TRAILERED TOWED MINE CLEARING LINE CHARGE INTO A SKID MOUNTED ASSET CAPABLE OF BEING MOUNTED ON MULTIPLE VEHICLE VARIANTS, AND A BLADE ATTACHMENT FOR URBAN BREACHING, TOTALING OVER 1180 MAN HOURS OF WELDING AND FABRICATION. SIMULTANEOUSLY, GUNNERY SERGEANT GALL SUPERVISED 395 MAINTENANCE SERVICE REQUESTS, MAINTAINING AN AVERAGE OF 95 PERCENT OVERALL MAINTENANCE READINESS. IN ADDITION, GUNNERY SERGEANT GALL WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CLOSING OUT OF 38 MOTOR TRANSPORT MAINTENANCE SERVICE REQUESTS AND CONTRIBUTING TO A 40 PERCENT INCREASE IN THE MOTOR TRANSPORT MATERIAL READINESS. GUNNERY SERGEANT GALL'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 ENGINEER EQUIPMENT NCO OF THE YEAR***  
**CORPORAL DREW J. SCHIEFELBIEN**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



CORPORAL SCHIEFELBEIN HAS EXHIBITED INITIATIVE, DRIVE, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY WHILE SERVING AS THE MAINTENANCE CHIEF FOR DETACHMENT 1, BULK FUEL COMPANY ALPHA, 6TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 4TH MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 13 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD, CORPORAL SCHIEFELBEIN'S INSPIRATIONAL WORK ETHIC, SUPREME TECHNICAL SKILL, AND PROFESSIONALISM WERE INSTRUMENTAL TO THE DETACHMENT'S SUCCESS. HIS DRIVE TOWARDS MISSION SUCCESS WHILE SERVING IN MULTIPLE BILLETS SUPPORTING MANY INACTIVE DUTY DRILL PERIODS. IN DOING SO HE QUICKLY ESTABLISHED HIMSELF AS A KNOWLEDGEABLE AND RELIABLE MARINE. CORPORAL SCHIEFELBEIN CONTRIBUTED TO THE COMPLETION OF 58 PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE ACTIONS, 72 CORRECTIVE MAINTENANCE ACTIONS ON ALL 31 PIECES OF

EQUIPMENT RESULTING IN AN EQUIPMENT READINESS LEVEL OF 97%. ADDITIONALLY, CORPORAL SCHIEFELBEIN HAS WORKED TIRELESSLY TO MASTER THE DUTIES OF WAREHOUSE CHIEF AND TOOL ROOM NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER. HE SUCCESSFULLY ACCOUNTED FOR \$300,000 OF INDIVIDUAL CONSOLIDATED EQUIPMENT AND RESTORED \$30,000 OF NUMEROUS TOOLS IN SUPPORT OF MAINTENANCE PRODUCTION. CORPORAL SCHIEFELBEIN'S TENACIOUS WORK ETHIC, INITIATIVE, AND COMMITMENT TO THE MISSION HAVE SET A HIGH STANDARD FOR ALL MARINES TO EMULATE. CORPORAL SCHIEFELBEIN'S POSITIVE INFLUENCE WITHIN THE DETACHMENT HAS UNDOUBTEDLY LEFT AN INDELIBLE IMPRESSION ON HIS PEERS AND SENIORS ALIKE AND WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE THE FUTURE OF 6TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION IN A POSITIVE DIRECTION.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 ENGINEER EQUIPMENT MARINE OF THE YEAR***  
**SERGEANT VITO M. BOTTICELLO**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER EQUIPMENT OPERATOR, ENGINEER EQUIPMENT PLATOON, 2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 2ND MARINE DIVISION, FROM 1 APRIL, 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022, CORPORAL BOTIICELLO'S EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE, KNOWLEDGE, AND LEADERSHIP SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTED THE OPERATIONAL SUCCESS OF 2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BAITALION, BATTALION LANDING TEAM 1/8, AND THE 24TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT. HE WAS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONAL STATUS OF MORE THAN 90 PIECES OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT. HE DIRECTLY SUPPORTED 110 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MISSIONS TOTALING 527 OPERATING HOURS AND MORE THAN 7 MILLION POUNDS OF MATERIAL HANDLED. FURTHERMORE, HIS SELFLESSNESS

AND SUBJECT MATI'ER EXPERTISE ENABLED HIM TO OPERATE 17 PIECES OF EQUIPMENT TOTALING 220 HOURS THROUGHOUT 13 DAYS IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION FREEDOM'S SENTINEL. CORPORAL BOTIICELLO DIRECTLY INFLUENCED THE SAFE EVACUATIONS OF 124,000 PERSONNEL FROM THE 24TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT, THE SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE, THE 82ND AIRBORNE, AND OTHER NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION FORCES AND REFUGEES AT HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, KABUL, AFGHANISTAN. CORPORAL BOTTICELLO'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT ON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





***2022 UTILITIES OFFICER OF THE YEAR***  
**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 DOUGLAS W. COX**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS UTILITIES OFFICER, ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 373 FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. THROUGHOUT, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 COX DEMONSTRATED UNWAVERING COURAGE AND INGENUITY IN SUPPORT OF COMBAT OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES. WHILE DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE- CRISIS RESPONSE-CENTRAL COMMAND. HE WAS SELECTED TO SUPPORT THE NON-COMBATANT EVACUATION OPERATION IN KABUL, AFGHANISTAN. HIS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE IN ELECTRICAL WIRING WAS VITAL IN REPAIRING ABANDONED VEHICLES THAT WERE ESSENTIAL IN THE EVACUATION EFFORTS OF THE

122,000 REFUGEES AND EVACUEES. HE PERSONALLY RESTORED ILLUMINATION SYSTEMS TO ENHANCE FORCE PROTECTION CAPABILITIES AND HELP SECURE THE AIRFIELD FROM ADVERSARY THREATS. UPON REDEPLOYING FROM THE CENTRAL COMMAND AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 COX WAS CRITICAL IN PROVIDING UTILITIES SUPPORT TO MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 373 AND 1ST LANDING SUPPORT BATTALION DURING THE CONDUCT OF WEAPONS AND TACTICS INSTRUCTOR COURSE 2-22. AS THE ONLY UTILITIES OFFICER ON-SITE, HE LED HIS PLATOON IN ESTABLISHING MULTIPLE ELECTRICAL GRIDS AS WELL AS HYGIENE CAPABILITIES FOR THE ENTIRE CANTONMENT SITE. WITH THE UNWAVERING COMMAND OF HIS MARINES AND HIS EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE OF AVAILABLE UTILITIES CAPABILITIES, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 COX LED THE UTILITIES SUPPORT OF OVER 600 MARINES AND SAILORS THROUGHOUT THE SEVEN-WEEK EXERCISE. HIS ABILITY TO FIND CREATIVE SOLUTIONS AND DEDICATION TO PROVIDING IMPECCABLE UTILITIES SUPPORT DEFINED HIS EFFORTS OVER THE YEAR IN PROVIDING PREMIER AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT IN ANY CLIME AND PLACE. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 COX'S LEADERSHIP, COMMITMENT AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT ON HIM AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 UTILITIES STAFF NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR***

**GUNNERY SERGEANT MONICA R. KNIGHT  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HER DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS MAINTENANCE AND UTILITIES CHIEF, ENGINEER COMPANY, TASK FORCE KOA MOANA 21 AND 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022.

THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, GUNNERY SERGEANT KNIGHT'S SUPERIOR KNOWLEDGE OF MAINTENANCE AND UTILITIES OPERATIONS ENABLED ENGINEER COMPANY TO MAINTAIN A 99 PERCENT EQUIPMENT READINESS FOR EIGHT CONTINUOUS MONTHS. ADDITIONALLY, SHE PROVIDED OVER 2,000 HOURS OF UNINTERRUPTED TACTICAL ELECTRIC SUPPLY TO THE TASK FORCE'S INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS CENTER AND TACTICAL SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED

INFORMATION FACILITY SUPPORTING ALL COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS, COMPUTERS AND INTELLIGENCE (C4I) SYSTEMS. LEVERAGING HER ELECTRICAL EXPERTISE, THE TASK FORCE SUCCESSFULLY WIRED A 2,200 SQUARE FOOT CONCRETE MASONRY UNIT AT THE JOINT RANGE COMPLEX IN PALAU ON TIME, UNDER BUDGET, AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE CALIFORNIA ELECTRIC CODE. ACTING ON HER OWN INITIATIVE, GUNNERY SERGEANT KNIGHT TOOK IT UPON HERSELF TO BUILD FLEXIBILITY INTO THE ELECTRICAL PLANS BY INSTALLING A TRANSFER SWITCH, ALLOWING FOR THE SOURCE OF THE BUILDING'S POWER TO DERIVE DIRECTLY FROM HOST NATION INFRASTRUCTURE, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS GENERATORS, OR CIVILIAN GENERATORS. GUNNERY SERGEANT KNIGHT'S INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HER AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



**THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING**

***2022 UTILITIES NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR***

**CORPORAL SAMUEL VELASCO-SANTIAGO (IN ABSENTIA)  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS UTILITIES SITE CHIEF AND WATER SUPPORT SECTION LEADER, UTILITIES PLATOON, ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 36, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. CORPORAL VELASCO-SANTIAGO PERFORMED HIS DUTIES IN AN EXEMPLARY AND HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL MANNER, AND HIS ACTIONS HAD A PROFOUND EFFECT ON THE SUCCESS OF MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172'S MISSION IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY. CORPORAL VELASCO-SANTIAGO DISPLAYED TREMENDOUS VERSATILITY BY BALANCING MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THROUGH THE UPKEEP OF 95 INDIVIDUAL UTILITIES ASSETS WORTH APPROXIMATELY \$2,647,999 WITHIN THE WATER SECTION. HE EXPERTLY COORDINATED, TASKED, AND EXECUTED OVER 84 CORRECTIVE AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY SERVICE REQUESTS, ALLOWING THE SECTION TO MAINTAIN A READINESS OF 92 PERCENT. ADDITIONALLY, CORPORAL VELASCO-SANTIAGO DILIGENTLY LED FROM THE FRONT IN ALL ASPECTS OF FIVE MAJOR EXERCISES TO INCLUDE THE MWSS-172 2021 MARINE CORPS COMBAT READINESS EVALUATION. DURING THE EVALUATION, CORPORAL VELASCO-SANTIAGO WAS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF MOST OF THE CAMP SERVICES WHILE FACILITATING THE PRODUCTION OF 10,700 GALLONS OF WATER FROM A RAW SOURCE, STORING A TOTAL 16,500 GALLONS, AND DISTRIBUTING 3,000 GALLONS OF POTABLE WATER. HE ALSO MANAGED THE HYGIENE SITE FACILITIES FOR APPROXIMATELY 130 MARINES AND SAILORS WITH FIELD SHOWERS AND FIELD SINKS, IMPROVING CONDITIONS, HYGIENE AND PREVENTION AGAINST COVID-19 AND OTHER DISEASES. CORPORAL VELASCO- SANTIAGO'S ZEAL, SKILL, SACRIFICE AND DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 UTILITIES MARINE OF THE YEAR***  
**CORPORAL MORGAN L. BITNER**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HER DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS LAYETTES NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, UTILITIES PLATOON, SUPPORT COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 372, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 39, 3RD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. LANCE CORPORAL BITNER PERFORMED HER DUTIES AS A WATER SUPPORT TECHNICIAN IN SUPPORT OF WEAPONS AND TACTICS INSTRUCTOR COURSE 2-21 BY PROVIDING OVER 336,000 GALLONS OF PURIFIED WATER, DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE FOR OVER 500 PERSONNEL OVER A 40 DAY PERIOD. SHE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN EXERCISE MOLE AQUAE, EXPERIMENTING WITH WATER PURIFICATION METHODS AT A MEF LEVEL. THIS TRAINING EVENT ALLOWED LCPL BITNER TO INCREASE HER KNOWLEDGE IN WATER PURIFICATION IN ADVERSE CONDITIONS, MAKING HER A FORCE MULTIPLIER FOR THE SQUADRON. DURING SERVICE LEVEL TRAINING EXERCISE 1-22 SHE ASSISTED WITH 190 HOURS OF POWER GENERATION AND DROVE OVER 120 MILES OF TACTICAL VEHICLE SUPPORT FOR THE ENTIRE EXERCISE FORCE.

HER EFFORTS ALLOWED THE SQUADRON TO SUCCESSFULLY

COMPLETE ALL UTILITIES MISSIONS AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL LIFE-SUPPORT SERVICES TO MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 13 AND UNITS FROM THE UNITED STATES ARMY. ADDITIONALLY, SHE COMPLETED COUNTLESS HOURS OF LAYETTES INVENTORIES AND DEBRIEFED OVER 600 PARTS. HER EXPERT ATTENTION TO DETAIL LED THE PLATOON TO ACHIEVE A 99 PERCENT ON THE FIELD SUPPLY MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS OFFICE INSPECTION. LANCE CORPORAL BITNERS' INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HER AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 BULK FUEL OFFICER OF THE YEAR***  
**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 KYLE A. BABKA**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS GROUP BULK FUEL OFFICER, G- 3, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 BABKA DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF THROUGH RELENTLESS DRIVE AND INITIATIVE. HE WAS ON THE LEADING EDGE FOR BOTH INTRODUCTORY PLATFORMS AND NEW PERSONNEL INITIATIVES ACROSS THE ENGINEER COMMUNITY. HE ADVANCED AND MODERNIZED THE BULK FUEL COMMUNITY BY STANDARDIZING THE EMPLOYMENT OF RECENTLY FIELDIED TACTICAL REFUELING AND EXPEDITIONARY ADDITIZATION SYSTEMS. HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN PROVIDING PROGRAMMATIC CHANGES FOR THE FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT OFFICER-IN-CHARGE COURSE, PLACING CERTIFIED AND TRAINED MARINES AT EXPEDITIONARY FUEL SITES. HE WAS THE PRIMARY PLANNER FOR THE THIRD ITERATION OF THE AGILE FUEL DEMONSTRATION, A WARFIGHTING LAB INCENTIVE FUND CONCEPT SPONSORED BY THE UNITED STATES

INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND, WHICH TESTED JOINT FUEL SUSTAINMENT IN THE LITTORALS WITH UNIQUE PROTOTYPE PLATFORMS OF BOTH MANNED AND UNMANNED SYSTEMS. HIS EFFORTS PROVIDED UNITED STATES INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND WITH THE CRUCIAL DATA TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE JOINT CAPABILITIES DEMONSTRATION AND FURTHER EVOLVE OVER-THE-HORIZON REFUELING CAPABILITIES. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 3 BABKA'S NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PERSEVERANCE, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 BULK FUEL STAFF NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR***

SSGT CLAYTON S. LEVERENZ  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS THE EMBARK CHIEF, FUELS CHIEF, AND SURVEY TEAM LEADER WITH ENGINEER COMPANY, TASK FORCE KOA MOANA 21, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. STAFF SERGEANT LEVERENZ'S INITIATIVE AND ABILITY TO SOLVE COMPLEX PROBLEMS WHILE LEADING MARINES TOWARDS MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT RESULTED IN THE SUCCESSFUL EMBARKATION OF 67 BRAVO TABLE OF AUTHORIZED MATERIAL CONTROL NUMBER ITEMS FROM CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA TO THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU. THE EMBARKATION OF THIS EQUIPMENT VIA LIMITED STRATEGIC LIFT CAPABILITIES INTO THE SECOND ISLAND CHAIN ALLOWED STAFF SERGEANT LEVERENZ TO INNOVATE AND INCORPORATE

NEW METHODS OF LOGISTICAL SUPPORT TO ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION. ADDITIONALLY, HE COORDINATED WITH THE DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY TO SUCCESSFULLY PROCURE AND DISTRIBUTE BULK FUEL TO HEAVY EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT AND GENERATORS, DIRECTLY ENABLING THE CONSTRUCTION OF MULTIPLE PROJECTS ON THE I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE ADVANCED NAVAL BASE BUILD PLAN. THROUGH HIS SUPPORT OF THE ENGINEER RECONNAISSANCE MISSION, STAFF SERGEANT LEVERENZ SPEARHEADED THE ASSIGNMENT OF MILITARY LOAD CLASSIFICATIONS TO ALL 45 BRIDGES IN PALAU AND LED TO THE SUCCESSFUL BOTTOM-UP REFINEMENT OF I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE THEATER FUEL PLANS FOR PALAU. STAFF SERGEANT LEVERENZ'S INTELLIGENCE, PROFESSIONALISM, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE..



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 BULK FUEL NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR***

**SERGEANT TY G. SHAWVER  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS TEAM LEADER, FUELS PLATOON, AIRFIELD OPERATIONS COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 36, 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. SERGEANT SHAWVER DIRECTLY IMPACTED THE SQUADRON'S ABILITY TO CONDUCT EXPEDITIONARY AVIATION REFUELING OPERATIONS ACROSS EIGHT FLYING SQUADRONS AND ADJACENT UNITS. HE OPERATED AT AN EXTREMELY HIGH OPERATIONAL TEMPO, SUPPORTING SEVEN JOINT AND COMBINED EXERCISES RANGING FROM UNIT LEVEL TO MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMAND LEVEL. HE SUPERVISED THE RECEIPT, STORAGE, AND

DISPENSING OF 237,407 GALLONS OF AVIATION TURBINE FUEL WORTH APPROXIMATELY \$712,000. HIS LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT LED TO THE SUCCESSFUL ISSUE OF 172,248 GALLONS OF AVIATION TURBINE FUEL TO 249 AIRCRAFT AND ACROSS JOINT AND COMBINED FORCES. SERGEANT SHAWVER DEPLOYED AS THE ADVANCED PARTY FOR RESOLUTE DRAGON 21, ENSURING THE SQUADRON'S EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL ARRIVING TO THE EXERCISE WERE PROPERLY RECEIVED, STAGED, SLATED FOR ONWARD MOVEMENT AND INTEGRATION TO THEIR RESPECTIVE END LOCATIONS. WHEN THE MAIN BODY'S ARRIVAL WAS DELAYED, HE WAS CALLED UPON TO SERVE AS THE DETACHMENT SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR AND FUELS CHIEF IN THEIR ABSENCE. FOR 21 DAYS HE ADVISED THE DETACHMENT COMMANDER IN MANAGING THE SQUADRON'S PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT ARRIVING IN THE AREA OF OPERATIONS. HE CONCURRENTLY ENSURED HIS SUPPORTING TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEM WAS CONSTRUCTED, PREPARED FOR RECEIPT OF FUEL, AND OPERATIONAL TO SUPPORT AVIATION REFUELING REQUIREMENTS AS REQUIRED. SERGEANT SHAWVER'S PROFICIENCY, PERSEVERENCE, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIMSELF AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 BULK FUEL MARINE OF THE YEAR***  
**LANCE CORPORAL KEVIN T. GARNICA-MADRIGAL**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



LANCE CORPORAL GARNICA-MADRIGAL DEMONSTRATED OUTSTANDING PROFICIENCY WHILE SERVING AS A BULK FUEL SPECIALIST, SECOND PLATOON, BULK FUEL COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. DURING APRIL AND MAY 2021, HE ASSISTED IN CONSTRUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE EXPEDIENT FUEL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM-SMALL, A 60,000 GALLON CAPACITY FUEL SYSTEM SUPPORTING INTEGRATED TRAINING EXERCISE 2-22 ABOARD CAMP WILSON, MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA. LANCE CORPORAL GARNICA-MADRIGAL MAINTAINED ACCURATE INVENTORY OF PRODUCT AND QUALITY SURVEILLANCE WHILE RECEIVING AND DISPENSING MORE THAN 132,000

GALLONS OF JP8 TO OVER 40 DIFFERENT UNITS THROUGHOUT THE EXERCISE. DURING AGILE FUEL, AN INDO-PACIFIC COMMAND LEVEL EXERCISE, LANCE CORPORAL GARNICA-MADRIGAL DISPLAYED CREATIVITY AND INITIATIVE BY TAKING DECISIVE ACTIONS TO ENSURE MISSION ACCOMPLISHMENT. WHILE OPERATING THE COMBAT RUBBER RAIDING CRAFT, THE TOWING TETHER BECAME TANGLED IN THE CRAFT'S PROPELLER. HE QUICKLY SHUT OFF THE MOTOR AND UNTANGLED THE STOPPAGE ALLOWING FOR QUICK REENGAGEMENT OF OPERATIONS. FROM SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2021, LANCE CORPORAL GARNICA-MADRIGAL PARTICIPATED IN SERVICE LEVEL TRAINING EXERCISE 1-22, AUGMENTING MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 372 IN FORWARD ARMING AND REFUELING POINT OPERATIONS ABOARD MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA. HE PROVIDED FUEL SUPPORT BY DISPENSING OVER 350,000 GALLONS OF JET-A FUEL TO FUEL MEDIUM LIGHT ATTACK HELICOPTER-469 SQUADRON AND MARINE HEAVY HELICOPTER-361 SQUADRON. LANCE CORPORAL GARNICA-MADRIGAL'S NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PERSEVERANCE, AND DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIM, THE BULK FUEL COMMUNITY, AND THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS.





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR***

**CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 TREVOR J. HICKS  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT WHILE SERVING AS PLATOON COMMANDER, EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL COMPANY, 7TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION, 1ST MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP, I MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, FROM APRIL 2021 THROUGH MARCH 2022. WHILE SERVING AS THE LITTORAL EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE NEUTRALIZATION PLATOON COMMANDER, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 HICKS DEMONSTRATED EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE AND INITIATIVE IN THE EXECUTION OF HIS DUTIES AND DIRECT INVOLVEMENT IN SERVICE AND PROGRAM LEVEL INITIATIVES. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 HICKS DISPLAYED OWNERSHIP AND ADVOCACY OF THE LITTORAL EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE NEUTRALIZATION PROGRAM, EDUCATING COMMANDERS AND STAFF ON THE VALIDITY OF THE PROGRAM IN FUTURE LITTORAL OPERATIONS. CHIEF WARRANT

OFFICER 2 HICKS SUCCESSFULLY LED HIS MARINES IN FURTHER PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN BALTIC OPERATIONS 50, CHROMITE WATCHFIRE, LITTORAL EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE NEUTRALIZATION AND LITTORAL ENGINEER RECONNAISSANCE TEAM INTEGRATION, AND SEVERAL TECHNOLOGY CONCEPT EXPERIMENT EVENTS. DUE TO HIS DEDICATION AND DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE 38TH COMMANDANT'S PLANNING GUIDANCE, CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 HICKS' ACTIONS INFORMED THE COMBAT DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION DIVISION OF MARINE CORPS COMBAT DEVELOPMENT COMMAND ON LITTORAL OPERATIONS IN A CONTESTED ENVIRONMENT AND EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCED BASING OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE NAVY'S DISTRIBUTED MARITIME OPERATIONS. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 HICKS' INTELLECT AND PERSONALLY DEVELOPED PARTNERSHIPS WITH NAVAL SERVICE PERSONNEL HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS ACROSS THE NAVY AND THE MARINE CORPS. CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 HICKS' INITIATIVE, PERSEVERANCE, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT UPON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

**2022 SSGT WILLIAM J. CALLAHAN MEMORIAL AWARD  
TO THE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TECHNICIAN  
OF THE YEAR  
SERGEANT TRAVIS J. GAY  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



SERGEANT GAY HAS EXEMPLIFIED SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TEAM MEMBER, COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 24, COMBAT LOGISTICS REGIMENT 2 FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD, SERGEANT GAY REMAINED STEADFAST IN HIS FOCUS TO BUILD RELATIONS, COACH MARINES, AND PROVIDE PROTECTION TO THE FORCE. HE RESPONDED ON MULTIPLE OCCASIONS TO THREATS FROM POSSIBLE IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICES AND UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE AT HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. ACCEPTING GREAT PERSONAL RISK TO HIMSELF AND UNDER CONSTANT THREAT OF ENEMY EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, SMALL ARMS FIRE, AND INSIDER ATTACKS, SERGEANT GAY

APPLIED AGGRESSIVE AND CREATIVE THREAT MITIGATION TECHNIQUES. THIS RESULTED IN THE DESTRUCTION OF OVER 38,000 ROUNDS OF SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION, 380 POUNDS OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES, AND COUNTLESS WEAPON SYSTEMS. REACTING TO A SUICIDE BORNE IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE ATTACK AT THE ABBEY GATE, HE RESPONDED IMMEDIATELY AND INSERTED HIMSELF AT THE POINT OF FRICTION. HIS EFFORTS CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE MASS CASUALTY RESPONSE AND PREVENTED THE FURTHER LOSS OF LIFE. SERGEANT GAY'S IMPACT ON THE FULL RANGE OF MILITARY OPERATIONS IS REMARKABLE FOR A MARINE OF HIS RANK AND BILLET AND IS A TRUE TESTAMENT TO HIS ABILITIES. HIS INFLUENCE WILL HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON HIS UNIT AND THE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

Note that the award for the MCEA EOD Technician of the Year was renamed the SSGT William J. Callahan Memorial Award in 2007 in honor of SSGT Callahan who on 27 April 2007 in Iraq became the first MCEA member killed in action.



**THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING**

***2022 MCEA COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION OF THE YEAR***

**2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION**

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE FOR PROVIDING UNPARALLELED COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT TO 2ND MARINE DIVISION AND II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. 2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED SUPERIOR COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT TO THE DIVISION AND FIVE COMBATANT COMMANDERS THROUGH SEVEN INTEGRATED TRAINING AND ADVERSARY FORCE EXERCISES, TWO UNIT DEPLOYMENT

PROGRAM DEPLOYMENTS, TWO MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT DEPLOYMENTS, AND THREE CRISIS RESPONSE DEPLOYMENTS. THE BATTALION'S SUPPORT TO BATTALION LANDING TEAM 1/8, THE 24TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT, AND TASK FORCE 51/5 WERE CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESSFUL EVACUATION OF 124,000 EVACUEES FROM THE HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN KABUL, AFGHANISTAN. AS THE II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE'S CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES-BASED ALERT FORCE, THEY DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY, U.S. NORTHERN COMMAND, AND TASK FORCE DELTA BLUES TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE SITES FOR 3,000 DAILY COVID-19 VACCINATIONS. AS THE DIVISION'S MARITIME DEFENSE SUPPORT OF CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES FORCE, THEY DEPLOYED TO HAITI TO PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER RELIEF FROM HURRICANE GRACE. THEY SUBSEQUENTLY DEPLOYED IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ALLIES WELCOME TO OPERATE AN AFGHAN REFUGEE ARRIVAL, RECEPTION, PROCESSING, AND TRANSITION BASE CAMP. THE BATTALION CONTINUED ADVANCING THE COMMANDANT'S PLANNING GUIDANCE THROUGH TESTING AND EVALUATING NEW TECHNOLOGY AND CAPABILITIES DURING JOINT AND BILATERAL EXERCISES AND THE EXPEDIENT MILITARY TRAIL PROJECT. THEY EXEMPLIFIED "ANY CLIME AND PLACE" BY FORGING LIMITED USE MOBILITY CORRIDORS THROUGH THICKLY VEGETATED TERRAIN IN SUPPORT OF FORCE DESIGN 2030, EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCE BASE OPERATIONS, INFANTRY BATTALION EXPERIMENTATION EFFORTS, AND FIRE SUPPORT TO THE GROUND COMBAT ELEMENT. BY THEIR NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, IMPECCABLE PROFESSIONALISM, AND COMPLETE DEDICATION TO DUTY, THE MEMBERS OF 2ND COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION PROVIDED ESSENTIAL COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT TO MARINE INFANTRY UNITS. THEIR HALLMARK ACHIEVEMENTS REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON THEMSELVES AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



**THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING**

***2022 MCEA ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION  
OF THE YEAR***

**9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**

FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE WHILE PROVIDING UNMATCHED COMBAT AND GENERAL ENGINEER SUPPORT TO III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD, 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION SUPPORTED 50 NAMED EXERCISES THAT INVOLVED SEVEN PARTNER NATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PACIFIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY WHICH GREATLY IMPROVED ENGINEER INTEROPERABILITY IN THE REGION. THE BATTALION PROVIDED TRAINING, EXPERTISE, AND INCREASED CAPABILITY TO THAILAND THROUGH TWO ITERATIONS OF HUMANITARIAN MINE ACTION PROGRAM TRAINING TEAMS AND DEFENSE PRISONER OF WAR/MISSING IN ACTION ACCOUNTING AGENCY DEPLOYMENTS. DURING THE KOREAN MARINE EXCHANGE PROGRAM 21.3 AND 22.2, THE BATTALION CONDUCTED BILATERAL TRAINING WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA MARINE CORPS WHERE THEY TESTED DISTRIBUTED EXPEDITIONARY ADVANCED BASE OPERATIONS CONCEPTS WHICH ULTIMATELY ENHANCED INTEROPERABILITY WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA MARINE CORPS BY PROVIDING VALUABLE TRAINING AND PROOF OF CONCEPT FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS. 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION ALSO SUPPORTED THE PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND DURING MULTIPLE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE PROJECTS AND JOINT MILITARY EXERCISES. 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION SERVED AS THE LOGISTICS COMBAT ELEMENT DURING BALIKATAN 22, SETTING CONDITIONS FOR THE FIRST-EVER BI-LATERAL AMPHIBIOUS LANDING OF THE MARINE LITTORAL REGIMENT IN NORTHERN LUZON. 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION ADDITIONALLY SET THE STANDARD FOR NAVAL INTEGRATION AND FUTURE CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT FOR HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS FORCE DESIGN 2030 INITIATIVES; DIRECTLY INFORMING AND INFLUENCING FUTURE FORCE CONCEPTS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. BY THEIR NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PROFESSIONALISM, AND DEDICATION TO DUTY, THE MARINES AND SAILORS OF 9TH ENGINEER SUPPORT BATTALION PROVIDED UNMATCHED SUPPORT ACROSS THE PACIFIC THEATER. THEIR OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING SUPPORT AND ACHIEVEMENTS REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON THEMSELVES AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



**THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING**

***2022 MWSS ENGINEER COMPANY OF THE YEAR***  
**ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172**  
**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**

ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172 IS DESIGNATED AS THE MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON ENGINEER COMPANY OF THE YEAR. THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022, THIS ENGINEER COMPANY DISTINGUISHED ITSELF AS A HIGHLY PROFESSIONAL AND LETHAL COMPANY CAPABLE OF OPERATING THROUGHOUT THE INDO-PACIFIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. DEMONSTRATING OUTSTANDING TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND RESILIENCY, THE COMPANY COMPLETED FIVE MAJOR EXERCISES. IN ORDER TO ALIGN WITH FORCE DESIGN 2030. ENGINEER COMPANY FOCUSED ON EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS IN A JUNGLE ENVIRONMENT, PLACING A STRONG EMPHASIS ON SIGNATURE MANAGEMENT, CAMOUFLAGE, AND DECENTRALIZED OPERATIONS WITH LIMITED COMMUNICATIONS. ENGINEER COMPANY COMPLETED TWO LANDING ZONE CLEARING OPERATIONS. DURING THESE TWO EXERCISES, THE COMPANY ENABLED SQUAD-SIZED ELEMENTS TO CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS, VARIOUS MILITARY OPERATIONAL SPECIALTY MISSIONS, AND JUNGLE CLEARANCE MISSIONS TO INCLUDE LANDING ZONES AND COMBAT TRAILS IN SUPPORT OF OPERATIONS. WATER PRODUCTION TEAMS CREATED CACHES TO FACILITATE RESUPPLY MISSIONS IN ORDER TO TEST CACHE CONCEPTS THROUGHOUT THE AREA. IN KEEPING WITH SIGNATURE MANAGEMENT, POWER PRODUCTION TEAMS RECHARGED REQUIRED COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT USING ONLY THE GREENS GEAR EQUIPMENT. THROUGHOUT ALL EVENTS, ENGINEER COMPANY MAINTAINED AN EXCEPTIONAL REPUTATION AS A RESPONSIVE, EFFICIENT, AND “FIGHT TONIGHT” FORCE OF READINESS PROVIDING TOP QUALITY FORWARD AVIATION COMBAT ENGINEERING IN SUPPORT OF 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING AND III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN A FORWARD DEPLOYED ENVIRONMENT. ENGINEER COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 172’S AGGRESSIVE TRAINING, HIGHLY EFFECTIVE SUPPORT, AND TOP-NOTCH READINESS PROCEDURES REFLECTED CREDIT UPON THEMSELVES AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





THE MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

## ***2022 OUTSTANDING U.S. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION FORCE UNIT OF THE YEAR***

NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 133,  
NAVAL EXPEDITIONARY COMBAT COMMAND, UNITED  
STATES NAVY

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:



*Senior Chief Petty Officer Jared Nugent accept  
the award on behalf of NMCB-133.*

FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE WHILE PROVIDING UNMATCHED GENERAL ENGINEERING SUPPORT FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD U.S. • NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 133 CONSISTENTLY ENGAGED WITH MARINE CORPS ENGINEERS ACROSS MULTIPLE EXERCISES AND TRAINING EVOLUTIONS, INCLUDING NAVAL LARGE-SCALE EXERCISE 2021 AND COLD RESPONSE 2022, TO DEMONSTRATE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS GENERAL AND COMBAT ENGINEERING CAPABILITIES ESSENTIAL TO ENABLING FLEET MANEUVERABILITY IN A DISPERSED OPERATING ENVIRONMENT. THE BATTALION CONTRIBUTED TO ENHANCED AIRFIELD DAMAGE REPAIR DOCTRINE DURING EXPEDITIONARY RAPID AIRFIELD DAMAGE REPAIR JOINT CAPABILITY TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS WITH MARINE CORPS, ARMY, AND AIR FORCE ENGINEERING UNITS.

THE BATTALION RAPIDLY DEPLOYED UNDER THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF MARINE FORCES NORTH AS THE ONLY NAVY FORCE INVOLVED IN THE DEFENSE SUPPORT TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES' RESPONSE TO HURRICANE IDA IN SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA, PROVIDING ROAD CLEARANCE AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT TO ENABLE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR DISASTER RESPONSE FORCES. BY THEIR NOTEWORTHY ACCOMPLISHMENTS, PROFESSIONALISM AND DEDICATION TO DUTY THE SERVICE MEMBERS OF U.S. NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALION 133 PROVIDED UNMATCHED ENGINEERING SUPPORT TO THE NAVY-MARINE CORPS COMBAT TEAM. THEIR OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENTS REFLECTED GREAT CREDIT UPON THEMSELVES AND UPHELD THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE..

Please note that NMCB-133 has a long history with the Marine Corps going back to World War II. The battalion was attached to the 4th Marine Division during the battle for Iwo Jima where it suffered heavy casualties. Further connection with our Corps occurred in Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. Numerous deployments to Okinawa have supported Marines. During the award period, NMCB-133 SeaBees worked with Marine Engineers from 7th and 8th ESBn and MWSS 271 and 272. The "Runnin Roos," are a great part of the Navy/Marine Corps engineer team.



THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS TAKES PLEASURE IN PRESENTING

***2022 OUTSTANDING MARINE CORPS ENGINEER  
OFFICER OF THE YEAR***

**MAJOR ADAM K. KLEMM (IN ABSENTIA)  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**

MAJOR KLEMM DISPLAYED SUPERIOR INITIATIVE, VISION, AND TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY WHILE SERVING AS THE WING ENGINEER FOR 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022. DURING THIS PERIOD, MAJOR KLEMM CHAMPIONED THE BOLDEST EVOLUTION OF WARFIGHTING CONCEPTS AND FORCE POSTURE IN THE INDO-PACIFIC AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY SINCE THE END OF THE VIETNAM ERA. HE TIRELESSLY COLLABORATED WITH HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS, MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS-PACIFIC, MARINE FORCES-PACIFIC, AND NUMEROUS PARTNERS AND ALLIES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC TO RESOURCE AND POSTURE 1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING'S 8,000 PERSONNEL AND 199 AIRCRAFT FOR GREATER RESILIENCE AND DEPLOYABILITY IN AN EVOLVING SECURITY ENVIRONMENT. HIS EFFORTS TO HARDEN SECURITY PROTOCOLS AND TAILOR FUTURE FACILITIES TO SUPPORT KEY MANEUVER ELEMENTS IN AN INTEGRATED MANNER TRULY BROUGHT TO LIFE ABSTRACT WARFIGHTING CONCEPTS. DURING THIS PERIOD, MAJOR KLEMM CHAMPIONED 25 ENGINEER PROJECTS VALUED AT 635 MILLION DOLLARS, DIRECTLY SUPPORTING FORCE DESIGN 2030 WHILE NAVIGATING POLITICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, CULTURAL, AND CAPACITY CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH POSITIONING FORCES ABROAD. HIS ARBITRATION EFFORTS, PROCESS-KNOWLEDGE, AND GENERATION OF NOVEL SOLUTIONS WERE VITAL TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS. FURTHER, MAJOR KLEMM DELICATELY BALANCED FUTURE PLANS WITH CURRENT OPERATIONS TO MAXIMIZE THE CAPACITY OF AGING BUILDINGS AND LIMITED BILLETING TO SUPPORT ORGANIC FORCE PROTECTION EFFORTS, REDUCING THE QUARANTINE BURDEN ON INSTALLATIONS AND HOST GOVERNMENTS. IN SUMMARY, MAJOR KLEMM DISPLAYED SUPERIOR PROFICIENCY, INITIATIVE, VERSATILITY, AND VISION DURING A GRUELING OPERATIONAL TEMPO, WHILE POSTURING THE WING TO EXECUTE FUTURE CONCEPTS FROM A POSITION OF ADVANTAGE. MAJOR KLEMM'S FEATS ARE NOTHING SHORT OF REMARKABLE AND ARE DESERVING OF THE 2022 SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS SENIOR ENGINEER OFFICER AWARD.



***2022 OUTSTANDING MARINE CORPS ENGINEER  
SENIOR STAFF NCO OF THE YEAR***

**MASTER SERGEANT JOSEPH C. HERMAN  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**

**FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING CITATION:**



FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT IN THE SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES WHILE SERVING AS ENGINEER OPERATIONS CHIEF, ENGINEER OPERATIONS COMPANY, MARINE WING SUPPORT SQUADRON 373 FROM APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022. THROUGHOUT, MASTER SERGEANT JOSEPH C. HERMAN EXHIBITED EXCEPTIONAL ENGINEER PROFICIENCY WHILE DEPLOYED WITH MARINE WING SUPPORT DETACHMENT 373 IN SUPPORT OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR- GROUND TASK FORCE-CRISIS RESPONSE- CENTRAL COMMAND. HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN TRAINING 200 MARINES AND SAILORS IN ALL MANDATORY PRE-DEPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS WITH A CONDENSED 56-DAY DEPLOYMENT WINDOW. WHILE DEPLOYED, HE WAS PIVOTAL TO ENGINEER SUPPORT MISSIONS FOR THE JOINT TASK FORCE AVIATION COMBAT ELEMENT, TO INCLUDE AIRFIELD DAMAGE REPAIR AND ENGINEER MISSIONS. WHILE IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ALLIES REFUGE AT THE HAMID KARZAI INTERNATIONAL

AIRPORT IN KABUL, AFGHANISTAN, MASTER SERGEANT HERMAN ENSURED ALL PERSONNEL WERE PREPARED TO CONDUCT EVACUATION CONTROL CENTER OPERATIONS, LANE CLEARING, OBSTACLE EMPLACEMENT, SECURITY, AND SURVIVABILITY MISSIONS. DURING THE EVACUATION, HE PERSONALLY AND SINGLE-HANDEDLY COMMANDEERED AND OPERATED HEAVY EQUIPMENT TO ESTABLISH THE AIRPORT EAST GATE HOLDING AREA, THEREBY ALLOWING MARINES TO SECURE AND EXPAND OPERATIONAL SPACE IN SUPPORT OF EVACUATION OPERATIONS. MASTER SERGEANT HERMAN'S ABILITY TO PLAN, COORDINATE, AND EXECUTE COMBAT ENGINEERING HAD A TANGIBLE AND DIRECT EFFECT ON THE SUCCESSFUL EVACUATION OF 122,000 REFUGEES FROM THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS DURING THE FINAL DAYS IN AFGHANISTAN. HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO ALL FACETS OF ENGINEERING IN BOTH TRAINING AND OPERATIONS WAS DEMONSTRATED BY HIS INDELIBLE ACTIONS IN EVERY CLIME AND PLACE. MASTER SERGEANT HERMAN'S LEADERSHIP, PROFESSIONALISM, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DUTY REFLECTED CREDIT ON HIM AND WERE IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.





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For further information and to submit your order, contact George Carlson at [treasurer@marcorengasn.org](mailto:treasurer@marcorengasn.org) or 931-307-9094.





