

# BEE NEWS



Official Newsletter of the Navy Seabee Foundation



**NMCB 133 Seabees place concrete at a storage facility project.**

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# BEE NEWS EXTRA

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## We're All About The Seabees

At the heart of the Navy Seabee Foundation mission is a promise: we're dedicated to the well-being of the Seabee/CEC Community—and their families. This support spans generations and takes shape in meaningful, tangible ways. Here's how:

- Provide Scholarships to Children/Grandchildren
- Support/Sponsor the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum
- Support the Seabee Memorial at Arlington
- Support other Museums, Memorials & Monuments, including the Seabee Museum & Memorial Park in Rhode Island and the Gulfport Seabee Heritage Center
- Support Battalion Homeport Celebrations
- Support All-Seabee Reunions
- Support Family Readiness Groups
- Sponsor Seabee events (Golf, OktoBEEfest, etc)
- Can Do Career Connection
- Annual Foundation Awards
- Support Navy STEM Camp
- Recognize Seabee Centenarians
- And much more, all thanks to your support!

## NSVA Island X-1 and the NSF sponsored the All Seabee Reunion, Gulfport MS



Louis Tippit, who turns 101 years old on May 26, is a WWII Seabee who attended the All Seabee Reunion in Gulfport. He carries his photo of him in uniform. Seabees from all eras enjoyed a day of camaraderie in conjunction with the Seabee Day event.

WWII Seabees Dick Wade and Louis Tippit are pictured above. Dick Wade is one of the only CMDCMs from WWII that are still living.



## We're looking for all living WWII Seabees.

If you know of one in your area, please contact us so we can honor their immense contributions to our legacy. Email: [info@seabee.org](mailto:info@seabee.org)



Follow the Navy Seabee Foundation on social media!

# All Seabee Reunion, Gulfport Mississippi

Several hundred Seabees from all eras attended the All Seabee Reunion last month hosted by NSVA Island X-1 in Gulfport, MS April 16-19.



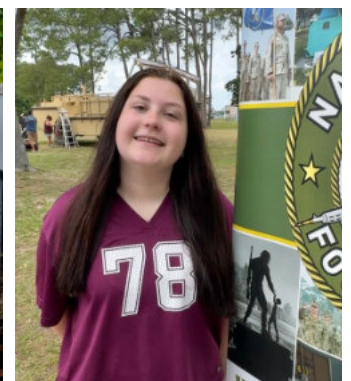
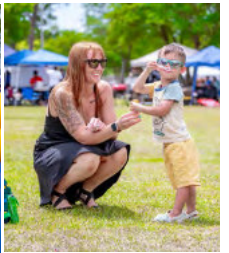
# Seabee Day 2026: A Community Comes Together in Gulfport, MS



On Saturday, April 18, Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport welcomed members of the community and their families for Seabee Day 2026.

Seabee Day brought together active duty, veterans, and community supporters for a day of camaraderie and appreciation. The Navy Seabee Foundation was proud to serve as both a sponsor and an active participant, operating a booth and connecting with attendees throughout the day.

"It was an honor to host so many members of the community," said the NCBC Gulfport MWR team. "Your participation made this day truly memorable and reflects the deep appreciation this community holds for those who serve."



## A Seabee's Story: Randy Niznick

*A Seabee's story is a series that starts with a questionnaire that a Seabee may use to get the storytelling juices flowing, but they may divert from the questions in any way they want to say their story however they choose. This is Randy's story.*

**Name:** Randall Niznick DCP, FMP.

### Tell me about your military service, or ties to the Seabees:

I come from a Navy family where my brother, stepdad and cousin all served in the Navy. We have one other cousin who joined the Army but we don't talk about him much.. just kidding. I joined the Navy Seabees in 1990 under the Targeted A-School program. This program was a bit wonky and the OF-13 rates should not have been a part of the program because you cannot go to a Seabee command undesignated.

At the MEPS I signed to be a Utilitiesman however with this program I had to wait 12-18 months before going to A-school. So we graduated boot camp then went to Seaman ATD and then sent to the fleet as an undesignated Seaman working in deck division. I was assigned to the USS Elrod FFG-55 out of Charleston, SC.

I deployed to the Persian Gulf with the "Ike" (USS Eisenhower) battle group in support of Desert Storm/Shield while stationed aboard the Elrod, it was an interesting experience. There were a handful of us that went through this program, so we are some of the few Seabees who have sea time on our LES/DD-214!

During my 23 years of service my family and I had the privilege of some great tours of duty. However, I want to highlight two significant deployments that shaped me into who I am today.

First was Operation Sea Signal, the 1994 migrant crisis. I was assigned to Air Det with NMCB 74 and we were deployed to Okinawa, Japan. We then were forward deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to build tent cities for the migrants. The initial tasking was to build a tent city to house approximately 6,000 refugees... easy day, right? Well... for those who are familiar with this crisis, that 6,000 number exponentially increased to well over 45,000 in a very short period of

time! So what was to be a quick 1 month "in and out" deployment went far beyond that.

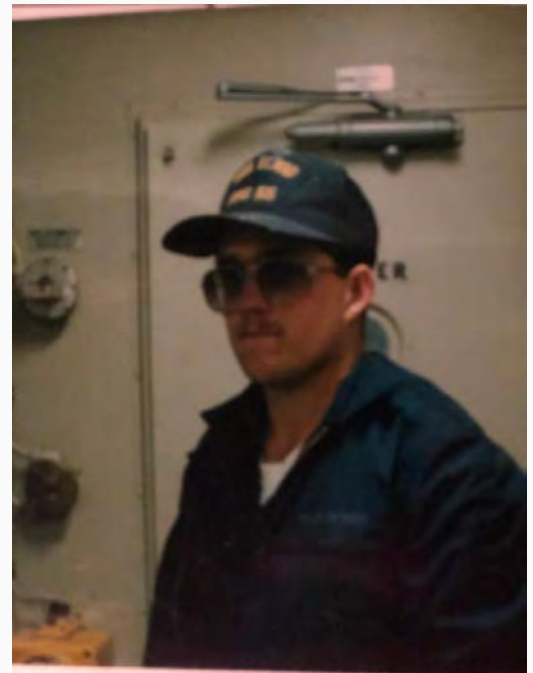
Fun fact: At the Seabee museum in Port Hueneme, there is a scale model of the full tent city. When I first visited the museum and saw that I took it as an awesome opportunity to tell my family about what we did to help those migrants find refuge and rebuild their lives in America.

My second significant deployment was disaster recovery operations in support of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. This was something none of us Seabees could possibly fathom. We were in homeport and I just made Chief Petty Officer and was assigned as the Operations Chief for a 50-Seabee detail that was to deploy to Fallujah. As many of you know, there are many trials and tribulations that we go through once we find out we are going "down range." However, as the Operations Chief, it was my job to lead the troops and truly listen to their concerns, worries, or just let them vent.

Well, as it goes with the Seabees, our mission kept changing. Finally, we ended up deploying with main body to Okinawa, Japan and not going down range. But not long after we touched down in Oki', we got word of the massive Tsunami that just happened. Almost immediately we received word that we were going to perform disaster recovery operations in Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Bear in mind, Banda Aceh was the hardest hit and incurred the highest death toll. None of us could have prepared for what we were about to bear witness to.

I will never forget that first helo flight we took from USS Fort McHenry into Banda Aceh. From the air, all we saw was mud and destruction. Once on the ground, we smelled the smells. iykyk Those smells never leave you. To this day I catch wind of them every once in awhile.

But one of the things that surprised me most were the smiles...yes., smiles. The locals who survived found reason to smile although they had lost everything. It is amazing to witness the strength of the human spirit in times of total despair, and it is something I will never forget.



## A Seabee's Story: Randy Niznick (cont.)

These two missions are what truly highlights my 23-years of service. I am proud that I was able to be a part of helping others in their most dire times of need and to be a part of these two incredibly significant historical events. This is what service to others is all about, helping others when they need it most.

I would be remiss however if I did not also talk quickly about my time at the US Naval Academy as it was there that I realized facilities management was the career I'd pursue post-Seabees. I was assigned as the Bancroft Hall Facilities Operations Chief. A CEC LT and I worked together to manage Bancroft Hall, a massive — and I mean — massive complex!

A highlight of that tour was the Annapolis Peace Conference. My team and I assisted the US Department of State, Diplomatic Security Service Agents before, during and after the Conference. I learned a ton about what it takes to host an event of this magnitude from “behind the scenes” as facilities professionals.

### What years (and how many) did you serve?

1990-2013, Active Duty

### What command/s did you serve in?

1990-1992: USS Elrod FFG-55  
 1992-1995: NMCB 74  
 1995-1997: COMNAVACTSUK London  
 1997-1998: NSA Souda Bay, Crete  
 1998-2002: NRD Chicago (recruiting)  
 2002-2005: NMCB 40  
 2005-2008: US Naval Academy  
 2008-2013: NSU State Department

### Which one was your favorite?

Each one had its own challenges and experiences that allowed me to grow.

### What was your rate and final paygrade?

UTC/E-7

### What did you do after the Navy?

That's a loaded question! As it goes with most of us, I bounced around a bit until I found my niche post-Seabees. However, I always had my sights set on being a facility manager. However, God had His plan and that was “delayed” a bit!

I started as a field services manager with a technology company. We supported intermodal yards with access control and other technical security and remote inspection systems. These are proprietary systems and are actually pretty darn cool. I never thought as a Seabee I would be leading a team supporting level 2 IT escalations! I learned a ton about the IT world and how these technologies worked. My training with NSU State Department helped me to understand these systems as the theories are similar.

From that job I moved into facilities management and now lead business operations for a nationwide account with my current firm. My current role is akin to a COO or in Seabee terms, I am the XO. In outsourced services all our accounts are a business within the business of the firm. Each account is led by an Account Director (CO/mini-CEO) and there is usually a second in command who works in partnership with the Account Director, that is where I currently sit.

### How did being a Seabee impact your life?

As I stated earlier about the two significant missions (migrant crisis and tsunami), there is no other experience in the world that could have given me the sense of service I have instilled into myself from these missions. Knowing what my Seabees and I did to help others in their most vulnerable of times is priceless. I am reminded of a quote that SW2 Dale Morris told us during the Tsunami mission. “To better the lives of others is our life's greatest reward” – Len Kaine, Capt (ret), U.S. Navy.

This quote sums up how my service in the Seabees impacted my life.

### What is something else you do that might be interesting to fellow Seabees?

I wrote a book about my service and self-published it on Amazon titled “In Service To Others, A U.S. Navy Seabee's Journey.”

How many times do you engage in conversation with someone and they ask “are you a veteran?” You say yes, then usually ask “are you?” They in turn may say “no not me, but my grandfather, grandmother, uncle, whomever did”. Lastly you ask “oh what did they do, what service?” Most times they will say they do not know. That is what inspired me to write my story. So my family and future generations will always know what Dad/Grandpa/Great-Grandpa (God-willing) Niznick did in the Navy Seabees.

I am also building a public speaking platform where I share lessons from my humanitarian and disaster recovery missions, connecting those experiences to leadership under pressure, resilience, and service to others. If any organizations or fellow Seabees are interested in learning more, I would welcome the opportunity to connect.

I want to end on some thoughts and “corporate wisdom” for those Seabees who are soon to be transitioning or those Seabees who may be struggling to adapt to corporate life.



### A Seabee's Story: Randy Niznick (cont.)

Some terms and concepts you need to understand:

Exempt vs Non-Exempt. This is what is commonly known as salaried and hourly. This corresponds sometimes to manager vs individual contributor. These are the simple definitions, there is a bit more to it than that but you get the idea. Why is this important? Because this will help you determine your career path. Do you want to be able to earn overtime but also be at the "mercy" of a timeclock? Or would you rather be paid salary and sacrifice overtime pay?

Do you want to do the work or do you want to lead and manage the people who do the work? This is difference between individual contributors and managers.

And do not ever let anyone tell you what you can or cannot do according to your last rank or enlisted/officer status. This burns me up every time I hear it. We served our country protecting the freedom to choose what career we want to pursue...be damned if anyone tells you "you can't do that, you were enlisted". It is on you to own your career and decide what route you want to take, do not let anyone sway you otherwise!

Data Centers and other critical environments need talent...strong, dependable, technical and non-technical talent. Seabees, UTs, CEs, MUSE, UPS techs, NSU State Department Seabees...we all fit the bill!!! We have the foundational knowledge and the deep understanding of uptime and I know you all can find your way in the data center industry. There are many career paths in

the industry, however, if you want to stay with your roots, critical facilities management and engineering is where you will be most comfortable. Overseeing or operating the critical power, cooling, fire suppression and security systems that protect and enable the compute at the rack.... without us, the compute doesn't happen! I am happy to speak with you on data center engineering and operations (DCEO).

Have conversations with our civilian counterparts in the workplace. They are curious. They want to better understand what serving in the military is all about. And we all have our own unique stories to share! Counter the stereotypes and narratives by sharing your personal Seabee stories with others. It is only through these conversations that we will counter the typical veteran stereotypes and help the public understand what service in the Seabees is all about.

Identify your gaps and work to close them. When I moved into a previous role I was told directly "Randy, I am not paying you to troubleshoot HVAC systems, I am paying you to run a business". That hit me and hit me hard. I realized at that point I needed to shift my thinking and focus. And now in my current role where I am overseeing the P&L and the day-to-day business operations I realized I needed to improve my business acumen. So, I started my MBA with Gies College of Business at the University of Illinois....at the age of 53!

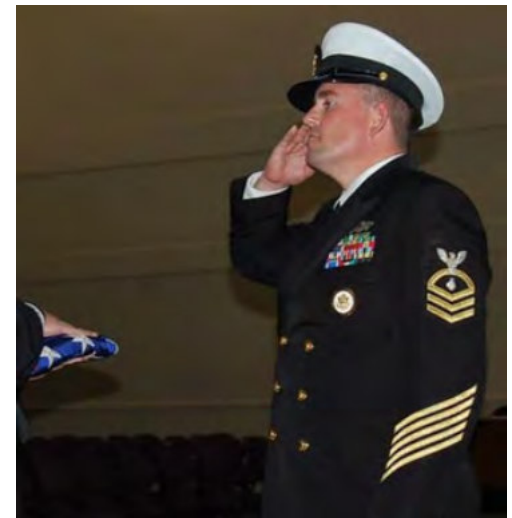
This is what it is all about. Continuous learning, continuous growth, and continuing our service to others in whatever capacity that may be.

Thank you for reading my story and if you want to connect, you can find me on LinkedIn! Peace and Blessings to all of you, you are the best America has to offer... Can Do!

References:

[https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/sea\\_signal.htm](https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/sea_signal.htm)

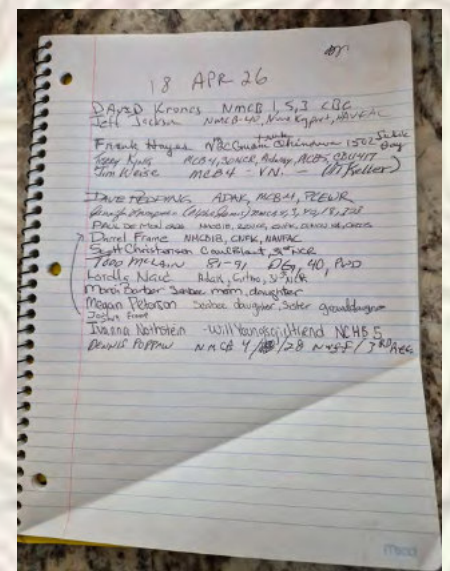
<https://www.armyupress.army.mil/journals/military-review/online-exclusive/2022-ole/curatola/>



...Always a Seabee!

### Tacoma, WA Pacific Northwest

April's Seabee Breakfast! Looks like a fun time was had by all. Situation exceptional, as always, Seabees! Thanks to Dave Krones for sending me pictures to share.



## Seabee diver stationed at NCBC Gulfport named USO Sailor of the Year 2026

By Michael Keyes, WLOX, Gulfport, MS

GULFPORT, Miss. (WLOX) — In March 2025, four soldiers of the First Armored Brigade Combat Team, Third Infantry Division, were training in Lithuania when their armored vehicle sank in a swamp. All four service members died.

For his part in the effort to recover the four soldiers, the USO has recognized Chief Petty Officer Joseph Hawthorne, a Seabee diver stationed at Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport (NCBC), as its Sailor of the Year.

"We were forward deployed to Spain, and we got the phone call about five days after the tank had sank in the bog. They told us to pack up, and probably within 12 hours, we were on a bird to Lithuania," Hawthorne said.

Hawthorne, who served as a recovery diver, voluntarily and repeatedly entered a life-threatening environment and tunneled through mud that threatened to trap him.

"As soon as we hit the ground on Saturday, we made our first dive that evening," Hawthorne said. "Within 48 hours, we had all four soldiers recovered."

During several days of nonstop operations, Hawthorne and his team worked in hazardous and toxic conditions, including zero-visibility waters, constant risks of entrapment, equipment failure and environmental poisoning, any of which could have been fatal.

"We got a picture sent to us, and it was just a puddle. But it was a bog where there's only a foot or two of soil and dirt and grass, and under it was just water and then a swamp," Hawthorne said. "We got on site, and they excavated all that stuff out, and it



was the size of a small pond."

While training to become a Navy diver with the Navy Dive and Salvage Unit in Panama City Beach, Florida, Hawthorne dove in murky conditions such as those in the bog. Hawthorne said the rescue operation was the first time that training was tested in the field.

"We dove in mucky, muddy water before, but that type of environment was our first like that," he said. "My buddy and I, we described it as trying to walk in curing concrete underwater. As soon as we hit bottom, which was only about four foot, we sank down to about our knees. It was miserable."

Hawthorne said the bog's conditions were risky, but he and his team were focused on completing their mission.

"We all wanted to get these guys home. My mind at that time was like, what have we gotten into? And then, looking at the environment, it was just horrible what happened to those guys," he said. "Our only concern was we're not leaving until we get these guys out and home."

The USO said the selflessness and persistence of Hawthorne and his team in a dangerous situation facilitated the successful recovery of all four soldiers, showcasing the highest standards of service, courage and sacrifice within the U.S. Navy.

Hawthorne said while he is honored to be recognized, the mission could not have succeeded without all parties involved.

"It's a team effort because I had two other leadership members with me and under that we had about 13 other guys from my dive detachment," he said. "Then we had another 300 people from Lithuania, Latvia, all these other European countries came to try to help the U.S. Army. I luckily got chosen for the award and I thank everyone that was there because I certainly didn't do it myself."

Hawthorne joined the Navy in 2003 as a Seabee. On his first tour in Gulfport, Hawthorne learned



about Seabee divers. He said he pursued Navy diving as soon as he could.

"As soon as I was allowed to leave, I went to dive school and started," he said. "It's a six-month school. I started October of 2008 and I graduated May of 2009. It was a very tough school. I just told myself either I'm going to make it through or if I quit or get dropped, I'll end up getting out of the Navy. So I ended up passing and getting through and here we are 23 years later. I've loved every minute of it."

Hawthorne left NCBC Gulfport and returned several times, but his love for the Coast remained.

"I was stationed here from 2003 to 2008. And then I joined the dive team and we were stationed in Virginia Beach. I was in Virginia Beach from 2009 to 2020. I came back here to Naval Construction Group TWO for three years. Then I went back to Virginia Beach in 2023. Then last year they actually moved my dive team here. My entire dive command has been here since last year," Hawthorne said. "I love the area. I'm from Texas, so I love being in the South and I love the heat and everything."

Hawthorne said he will retire at the end of April. He plans to remain on the Coast, spend quality time with his wife and two children and focus on his roll-off dumpster business, Coastal Elite Dumpsters.

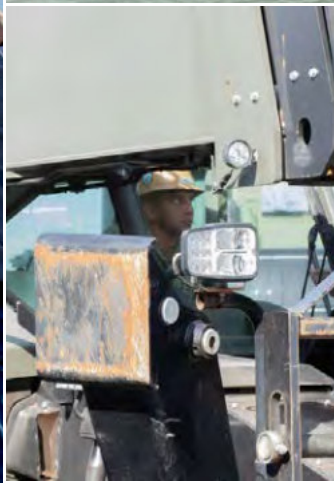
*Copyright 2026 WLOX. All rights reserved.*

# Expanding the battlespace to the stars—warfighters supporting NASA on Artemis II, ensuring mission success from launch to recovery.

San Diego, California

Amphibious Construction Battalion 1 (ACB 1) supported the U.S. Navy's successful recovery of the Artemis II crew and Orion spacecraft on April 10, 2026, operating alongside Expeditionary Strike Group 3. ACB 1 personnel and other naval units facilitated the recovery of the astronauts and capsule after a Pacific Ocean splashdown, ensuring a rapid, safe retrieval.

*Courtesy photos by ACB 1 PAO.*



**...Always a Seabee!**

## Fort Worth, TX

Seabees and other veterans meet up to share in some good ol' camaraderie.



# U.S. Navy Seabee Museum Exhibit Team are Springing into Action

By Jennifer Johnson

After a fresh coat of paint, the Seabee Museum began 2026 with empty walls in its Grand Hall. For those curious, we no longer have empty walls!

Over the past few weeks, the exhibit team has jumped into action, adding four new exhibits showcasing Ben Moreell (the Father of the Seabees), Marvin Shields, Robert Stethem, and Lost and Not Forgotten.

In addition to these exhibits, the team included 18 new informational signs. These layered panels feature Plexiglas signs with graphics and text that intricately overlap the panels beneath them. This design transforms what started as 18 individual signs into four comprehensive information displays.

How did we go from empty walls to vibrant exhibits? Our team developed a design plan that aligns with the museum's overall vision. Many museum plans can take years to come to fruition, and the new Grand Hall exhibits are no exception. We took into account the design of the signs and the potential uses for the wall space, such as electrical outlets. We then designed the exhibit cases based on sign height, artifact size, care (including UV protection), ease of use within the exhibit space (utilizing casters for mobility), and, of course, the visitor viewing experience.

Visitor experience is always a top priority, especially when creating the graphics and information for the signs. Speaking of creation — our team uses a variety of tools, from drills and leather punches to screws, stand-offs, levels, and pencils. However, some of our most important tools are planning and the ability to be flexible when adjusting our plans.

Are you still curious? Keep an eye on the Seabee Museum in 2026! There are still more empty walls in the Grand Hall, and our team is ready to spring into action once again!

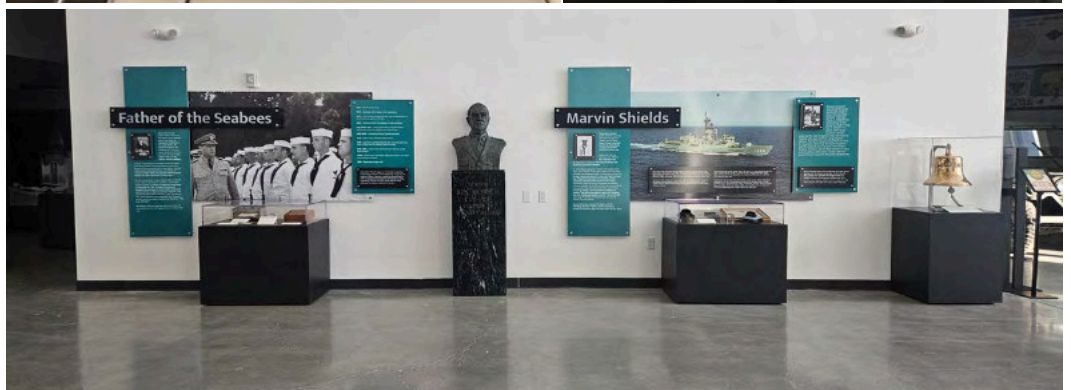
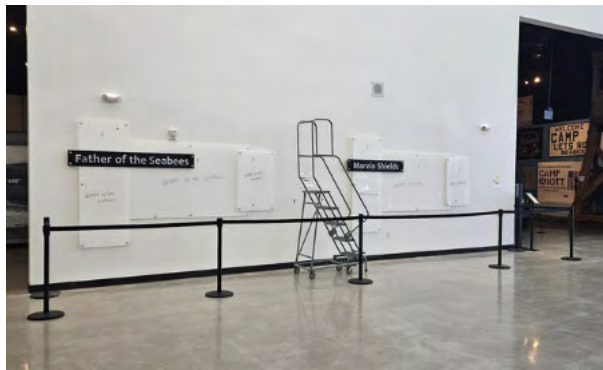


## U.S. Navy Seabee Museum

Open Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm

(Closed on Sundays & Federal Holidays)

Admission & Parking are FREE



# U.S. Army's Prime Power School celebrates 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri

U.S. Army's Prime Power School has been training Navy Seabees for 70 years, starting out at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, with a 1-year training course covering all aspects of power generation, including nuclear power. At that time, the Navy component was known as the Navy Nuclear Power Unit (NNPU) and in 1963, NNPU evolved into what is now known as the Mobile Utilities Support Equipment (MUSE) Program. In 1977, the PPS transitioned its curriculum from nuclear to fossil fuels and removed the nuclear portion of the class, but kept all other portions.

The schoolhouse that has been the foundation of NNPU/MUSE training moved to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, in 2010 during the Base Realignment and Closure program and since its inception has trained nearly 600 Seabees and 67 Hospital Corpsmen (from the nuclear training days). The PPS Director since 2023 is retired MUSE technician, CEC Brian Parker.

During the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary program, PPS Commander, CW4 Michael Dugan, discussed operations over the years and future opportunities, which include microreactors and the Microreactor Operator Course, harkening back to the beginning. The future is bright!

Chaplain (former CM2) and PPS class 1986/2 Merlin Stephan and PPS class 2006/2 CECS Andy Rapp hold a traditional MUSE ceremony.



Navy PPS Students, past, present, and (future?)



PPS Commander, CW4 Michael Dugan speaks to the group



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FROM	NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION	TO	INFO TO: ALL SEABEES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS
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**02 May 2004:** A mortar attack at Camp Ramadi, Al-Ramadi, Al Anbar Province, Iraq killed five members of NMCB 14, one U.S. Army soldiers, and wounded 28 other personnel. This represented the deadliest day for the Seabees since the Vietnam War.

**05 May 1945:** Seabees of the 30th NCR completed the last runway of the four-field B-29 airdrome on Tinian in the Mariana Islands from which Superfortresses mounted the atomic bombing of the Japanese cities, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in August 1945.

**07 May 1965:** Assisted by ACB1 manning pontoon causeways, NMCB 10 landed on the beaches at Chu Lai, Republic of Vietnam, together with United States Marine units. The landing was the first deployment of a full Seabee battalion to Vietnam. NMCB 10 commenced construction of the Chu Lai expeditionary airfield and advance base.

**07 May 1971:** CBU 201 received the Navy Unit Commendation for meritorious service from June 1966 to March 1971 for providing construction support to Operation Deep Freeze in the Antarctic. The award was presented at the unit's disestablishment ceremony held at Davisville, Rhode Island. At the time, Lieutenant John E. Perry, Jr., the Officer in Charge, accepted the award on behalf of the officers and men who had served with the unit.

**08 May 1967:** A detachment of Seabees from NMCB 4 was assigned the task of building underground bunkers, defense positions, and galley and storage facilities for a United States Army Special Forces unit at Con Thien, Republic of Vietnam. Con Thien was located approximately two kilometers south of the Demilitarized Zone. At first, the Seabees conducted their construction work on a nearly normal daily routine and were able to complete the initial portion of their projects without harassment. On May 8, however, Con Thien came under attack by an estimated two reinforced North Vietnamese Army battalions. The enemy fired an estimated 600 to 1,000 rounds of mortar at the camp. The assault on the camp was successfully repelled by Seabee, Marine, and Special Forces personnel. After the attack, the Seabees returned to their construction work, but the camp continued to be harassed by enemy mortar and small artillery fire. From the time of the first attack to the time the entire detachment of 25 Seabees was evacuated on May 13, eleven of the Seabees had been wounded. The construction work for the Special Forces camp was later completed by another detachment of Seabees from the same battalion.

**08 May 1967:** UTI Lloyd C. O'Banion was awarded a Silver Star for his actions during an attack at Con Thien, RVN.

**09 May 1969:** Seabees of NMCB 40 came under 122mm rocket attack at Camp Campbell, Phu Bai, Republic of Vietnam. Although this was the battalion's third Vietnam deployment, it was the first time their camp had received fire. As a result of this attack, two Seabees were hospitalized and thirteen Seabees were treated and returned to duty.

**13 May 1967:** One Navy man was killed and seven were wounded at the NMCB 8 compound located at Chu Lai, Vietnam, following a nighttime mortar and recoilless rifle attack on the faint Naval Support Activity.

**13 May 1968:** Due to the augmentation of the Naval Construction Force required for the war in Vietnam, Reserve NMCB 12 and 22 were ordered to active duty at Gulfport, MS, effective this date. This is the first time reserve Seabee units were called to active duty. The last C-130 flight of NMCB 10 personnel departed Quang Tri for CONUS.

**14 May 1943:** Seabees from Camp Peary, VA (six CEC officers, 18 enlisted men) report to Amphibious Training Base Solomons, MD and begin four-week training course for what became the Naval Combat Demolition Units.

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TIME SIGNED	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER	
01	MAY	2026	0001L	<i>I. M. Seabee</i>	
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FROM	NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION	TO	INFO TO: ALL SEABEES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS
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**14 May 1969:** NMCB 12 (reserve battalion) was disestablished as an active duty unit and returned to reserve status.

**15 May 1969:** NMCB 121's HM3 Gustave Pappas wounded by grenade thrown into them back of an ambulance during a civic action visit to Phu Long village.

**15 May 2004:** U.S. Navy Seabees attended a memorial service honoring seven killed during an attack while serving in Iraq. All died April 30 and May 2 in the Al Anbar Province as a result of hostile fire. They were all assigned to NMCB 14 stationed in Jacksonville, FL.

**16 May 2006:** CAPT Katherine Gregory assumed command of the 30th NCR, the first female active duty regimental commander in the history of the Naval Construction Force.

**18 May 1966:** Construction Battalion Base Unit, CBC, Port Hueneme, CA redesignated as the 31st NCR under command of CAPT Robert D. Thorson, CEC, USN with CAPT Harold F. Liberty, OIC of CBBU as deputy of the regiment.

**18 May 1969:** Team 1013 compound and Xuan Loc City came under heavy enemy rocket, mortar, and small arms fire. CE2 Phillip Lee Grieser was killed by shrapnel.

**22 May 1966:** NMCB 8 camp dedicated Camp Faulkner in memory of Arnold J. Faulkner, EOH3. Faulkner, who was attached to NMCB 4, was killed in a construction accident while rehabilitating the Special Forces air strip at Kham Duc.

**23 May 2012:** The primary hub for Seabee deployments to and from Iraq and Afghanistan was closed during a ceremony held on Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait. For 10 years, Camp Moreell served as the main Seabee ground base and assembly point for all 'Bees and many Sailors who deployed across Southwest Asia, supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn.

**24 May 1945:** Approximately 50 Seabees of the 87th NCB were working the night shift at the Yontan Airfield on Okinawa when the airfield was bombed and then subjected to an attack by airborne enemy demolition squads. This was the debut of the Giretsu, Japanese suicide warriors. At the first enemy aircraft screeched along the coral airstrip, the Japanese soldiers within it leaped for the ground, tumbling head-over-heels. They quickly recovered themselves and sprinted off into the darkness. Immediately thereafter from all directions, blinding flashes illuminated the hardstands. Gas tanks exploded and parked planes became flaming infernos. The enemy soldiers were destroying United States planes with magnesium grenades and phosphorous bombs. Seabees and Marines grabbed their guns and began firing at the Japanese, who, by now, were silhouetted around the burning planes. When the action was over, all of the invading saboteurs were dead. However, twenty United States planes were completely destroyed and a fuel dump was in flames.

**25 May 2009:** CDR Duane G. Wolfe, CEC, USNR of Los Osos, CA was killed along with three other people by a roadside bomb in Fallujah, Iraq. Wolfe was serving as officer-in-charge of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division's Al Anbar Area Office. He is the highest ranking CEC officer ever killed in action.

**27 May 1974:** On Memorial Day 1974, the Seabee Memorial Monument was dedicated. The monument is located on Memorial Drive leading to Arlington National Cemetery. It depicts the Seabee as builder, fighter, and ambassador of good will. The larger-than-life-size figure of a Seabee on the monument stands in front of a semicircular bronze bas-relief on which is portrayed a panorama of Seabees at their various construction trades.

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	TIME SIGNED	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER
01	MAY	2026	0001L	<i>I. M. Seabee</i>

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY		COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR-11)		
TIME FILED	COMM CEN NO.	HOW SENT	DATE-TIME GROUP	

# Seabee Museum & Memorial Park, Davisville, Rhode Island

Saturday  
**May 16th**  
2026

**Rotary Club**  
North Kingstown



10am-4pm  
**Camaro**  
**Car Show**

Registration Fee \$20

*Location*  
**21 Lafrate Way North Kingstown, RI**

*No pets allowed at event*

**CELEBRATING 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRODUCTION**

**All 6 generations invited**  
Plaque awarded for each generation






**North Kingstown Golf Course**  
Rhode Island

The North Kingstown Golf Course, located at 615 Callahan Road, was originally part of the approximately 1,350-acre World War II installation known as the Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Davisville—the original home of the U.S. Navy Seabees. Designed by Walter Johnson, the course opened in 1944 as a nine-hole layout to serve military personnel stationed at the base. In 1966, the course underwent a significant renovation, expanding into a full 18-hole layout. The redesigned course was once again the work of Walter Johnson, who at the time was serving as Chief Engineer at Quonset Naval Air Station. Construction is believed to have been carried out by Vietnam-era Seabees stationed at CBC Davisville. Although NCBC Davisville officially closed in 1994, the golf course continued operations and had earlier been sold to the Town of North Kingstown in 1982. Today, the North Kingstown Golf Course offers 18 of the most scenic holes in the Northeast, featuring meticulously maintained greens and fairways, complemented by refreshing ocean breezes off Narragansett Bay.

**MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2026**

**AGENDA**

- 07:30 AM Registration
- 08:30 AM Shotgun Start
- Lunch Following Golf

**FORMAT**

Scramble

**CONTESTS**

- Longest Drive
- Closest to the Pin

**WE HAVE PACKAGES FROM INDIVIDUAL GOLFERS TO CORPORATE SPONSORS**

Sponsors and Golfers Scan Here!



## NCBC Gulfport CS's train with a chef from the Culinary Institute of America

Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport culinary specialists recently took part in a unique training opportunity, Chef George Shannon, from the prestigious Culinary Institute of America visited NCBC to train the installation's CSs in preparation for the Navy's campus style dining initiative.

The training focused on advanced techniques and is part of a broader effort to enhance the quality of food service and sailor morale across the shore enterprise



# NMCB 133 operations

## NMCB 133 Builds a Storage Facility 12 cubic yard concrete placement

NMCB133's Runnin' Roos are continuing construction on a storage facility we are building for Naval Construction Group TWO. They placed 12 cubic yards of concrete, building an entry ramp for the facility. This project is one of the many ways we support the fleet and other commands through high-quality construction.



## NMCB 133 Builds a Storage Facility 25 cubic yard concrete placement

NMCB 133's Runnin' Roos placed 25 cubic yards of concrete at a storage facility project to build one of the outside pads for equipment storage. Homeport projects like this keep our Seabees' skills sharp while allowing us to provide support to other commands.



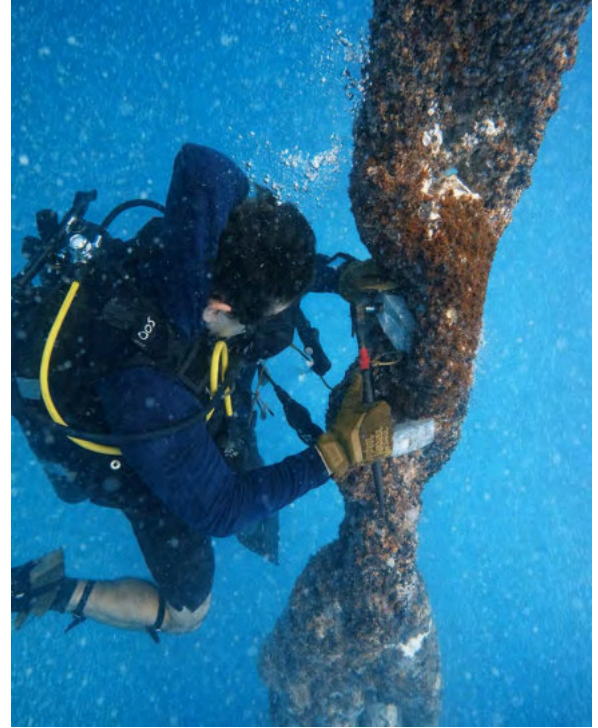
# UCT 2 Operations & Training

**Diego Garcia, British Indian  
Ocean Territories (BIOT)**

Direct support to the Fleet

Seabee Divers from UCT2 complete Fleet Mooring Inspections and various other waterfront tasks at Naval Support Facility Diego Garcia to improve capabilities to the installation and enable Fleet maneuver.

*Photos by: LT Leonard*



## Port Hueneme, CA

Divers Training Pool  
Phase

Seabee Divers from Construction Dive Detachment 2-1 UCT2 complete their Pool Phase of their Divers Training Exercise, sharpening their proficiency in SCUBA operations.

*Photos by: CEC Lewis*



**...Always a Seabee!**

## Nebraska

One VERY WINDY day, the Nebraska Navy Seabees dedicated a Seabee Monument at Ft. McPherson, National Veterans Cemetery, Maxwell, NE. Courtesy: William R. Williams, Nebraska Navy Seabees



# NAVFAC EXWC and UCT 2

## Ice Camp Boarfish - Dominating the Brutal Cold for National Security Readiness!

NAVFAC EXWC and UCT 2 divers successfully completed their mission in the harsh Arctic environment of Operation Ice Camp. This operation showcased their exceptional expeditionary skills, which are vital to advancing our nation's readiness and security priorities.

ICE CAMP Boarfish was a three-week, multi-national operation led by Commander, Submarine Forces and the Arctic Submarine Laboratory designed to research, test, and evaluate operational capabilities in the Arctic region.

"Mastery of the Arctic environment provides a decisive advantage, but it demands rigorous training and determined focus of highly trained personnel to sustain these complex, specialized skills," NAVFAC EXWC Constructionman Senior Chief Jesse Hamblin, Master Diver, said.

"Operation Ice Camp offers a crucial platform to sharpen these skills, validate equipment, and confirm our forces' readiness to dominate in the unforgiving cold," Hamblin continued.

Bravo Zulu to all involved for their dedication and success.



# UCT 1 happenings

Gulfport, MS  
Seabee Day

Seabees from UCT1 interact with the visitors during the bi-annual Seabee Day event held at NCBC Gulfport.



# 22 NCR Operations

Rota, Spain

## Training today. Ready tomorrow.

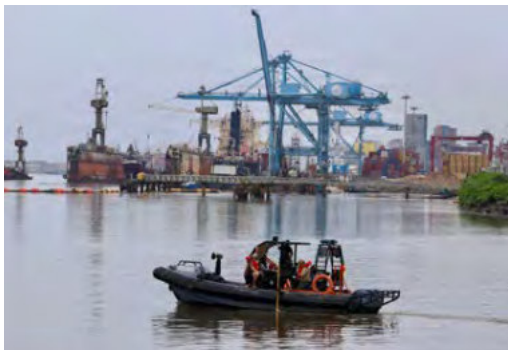
U.S. Navy Seabees/Sailors from 22nd Naval Construction Regiment conduct a unit-level training readiness assessment at Camp Mitchell aboard Naval Station Rota, Spain, sharpening the skills needed to support expeditionary operations across U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/ U.S. Sixth Fleet.



### Douala, Cameroon

U.S. and Cameroonian Engineers Collaborate on Bathymetric Survey for Obangame Express 2026.

U.S. Navy Seabees/Sailors from 22nd Naval Construction Regiment and Commander, Task Force 66, and Cameroonian Engineers conduct a bathymetric survey to measure depth and underwater features in support of Exercise Obangame Express 2026 in Douala, Cameroon, April 21, 2026. Obangame Express is one of three regional maritime exercises led by U.S. Sixth Fleet as part of a comprehensive strategy to provide collaborative opportunities to African forces and international partners to address maritime security concerns.



# NMCB 1 Operations

Douala, Cameroon

U.S. Navy Seabees, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, construct a floating dock in support of Exercise Obangame Express 2026 in Douala, Cameroon, April 21, 2026. Obangame Express is one of three regional maritime exercises led by U.S. Sixth Fleet as part of a comprehensive strategy to provide collaborative opportunities to African forces and international partners to address maritime security concerns.



**NMCB 1 Operations**

**From Pier to Platform: Seabees Enable Autonomous Operations During OE26**

*Story and photos by Chief Petty Officer Justin Stumberg, 22nd Naval Construction Regiment*

U.S. Navy Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 and 22nd Naval Construction Regiment (NCR) are enabling the next generation of maritime operations during Exercise Obangame Express (OE) 2026, constructing expeditionary infrastructure designed to support autonomous systems in the Gulf of Guinea.

The project centers on the development of a floating pier capability to support the launch and recovery of unmanned surface vessels (USVs), an emerging asset critical to expanding maritime domain awareness and operational reach in the region.

Operating alongside a live, multinational exercise, Seabees are demonstrating their ability to deliver expeditionary infrastructure in support of evolving maritime missions. Their work highlights the integration of engineering capabilities with advanced technologies to meet the demands of modern naval operations.

**Building for the Future Fight**

The floating pier provides a flexible, deployable platform that enables operations in austere environments where traditional port infrastructure may be limited or unavailable. This capability is particularly valuable for unmanned systems, which require forward staging areas to maximize effectiveness.

"This project is about enabling future operations," said Chief Builder David Madmon, 22NCR exercise planner for OE26. "We're building infrastructure that supports

autonomous systems and expands what's possible in maritime environments."

Madmon said that by delivering adaptable solutions, Seabees are contributing to a broader effort to integrate unmanned systems into routine naval operations. "Projects like these enhance both current capabilities and long-term mission readiness," said Madmon.

**Enabling Autonomous Integration**

For Commander, Task Force (CTF) 66, the ability to operate unmanned systems from expeditionary locations is a key component of future maritime strategy.

"Unmanned systems allow us to extend our presence and improve awareness without increasing demand on traditional platforms," said Lt. Alex Varon, CTF 66 exercise planner. "Expeditionary infrastructure like this pier allows us to deploy and recover those systems in locations where we otherwise couldn't operate."

The integration of USVs provides a scalable solution for maintaining maritime security, particularly in regions like the Gulf of Guinea, where persistent awareness is essential.

**Strengthening Partnerships**

Exercise Obangame Express, one of three African regional "Express" series exercises sponsored by U.S. Africa Command and facilitated by U.S. Sixth Fleet, brings together U.S., African, and partner nations to enhance maritime security cooperation and interoperability across West and Central Africa.

Varon said that floating pier construction provides opportunities for collaboration, allowing participating nations to develop shared tactics, techniques, and procedures. "Exercises like this give us the opportunity to work alongside our partners and build capabilities together," Varon said. "That collaboration is critical to addressing shared maritime challenges."



# NMCB 1 Operations

## Koblerville, Northern Mariana Islands

In the Wake of Typhoon Sinlaku, NMCB-1's Seabees Help Deliver Water to Saipan Community

U.S. Navy Seabees assigned to the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1 (NMCB-1) hand off boxes of emergency drinking water to Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands (CNMI) Fire Department at the Koblerville Youth Center in Saipan, CNMI, April 23, 2026. As conditions evolve in the aftermath of Typhoon Sinlaku, military forces will continue to adapt and provide support where it is most needed.

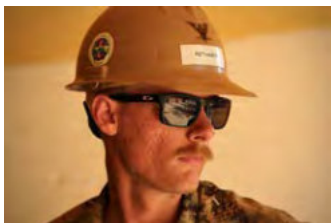
*(U.S. Air Force photos by Tech. Sgt. Kentavist P. Brackin)*



## Dakar, Senegal

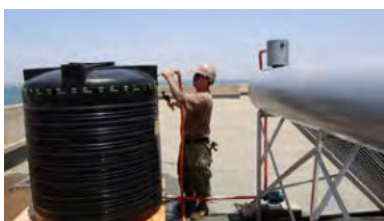
Seabees Strengthen Maritime Security Training Capabilities in Senegal

U.S. Navy Seabees, assigned to 22nd Naval Construction Regiment and Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, build a new back stop for a small arms range in preparation for exercise Obangame Express 2026 at the Senegal Navy Bel Air Base in Dakar, Senegal, Mar. 30, 2026. Exercise Obangame Express (OE) is one of three African regional "Express" series exercises sponsored by U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) and facilitated by U.S. Sixth Fleet (SIXTHFLT). The exercise will take place across five exercise zones in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Guinea that stretch from Cabo Verde to Angola, and across the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) nations.



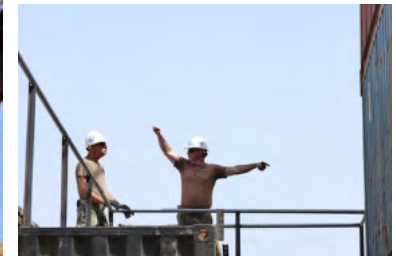
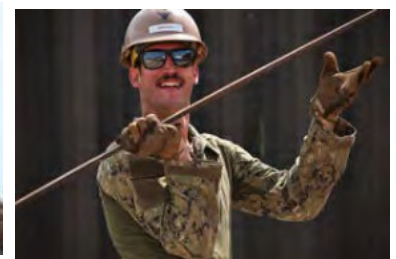
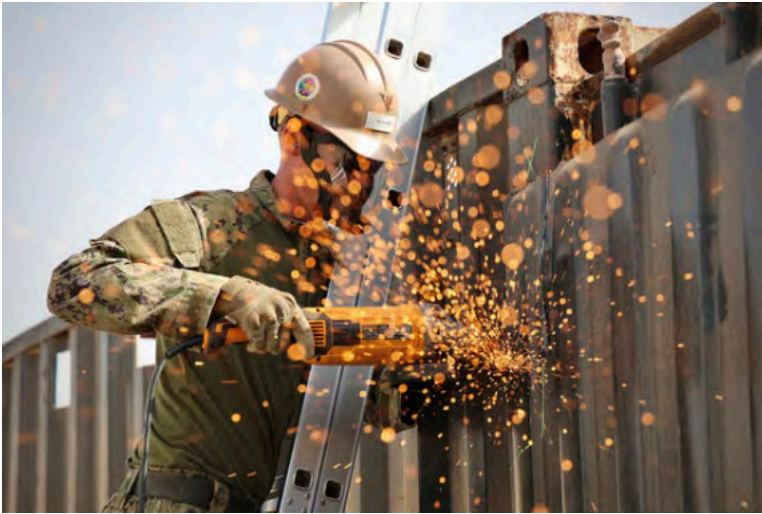
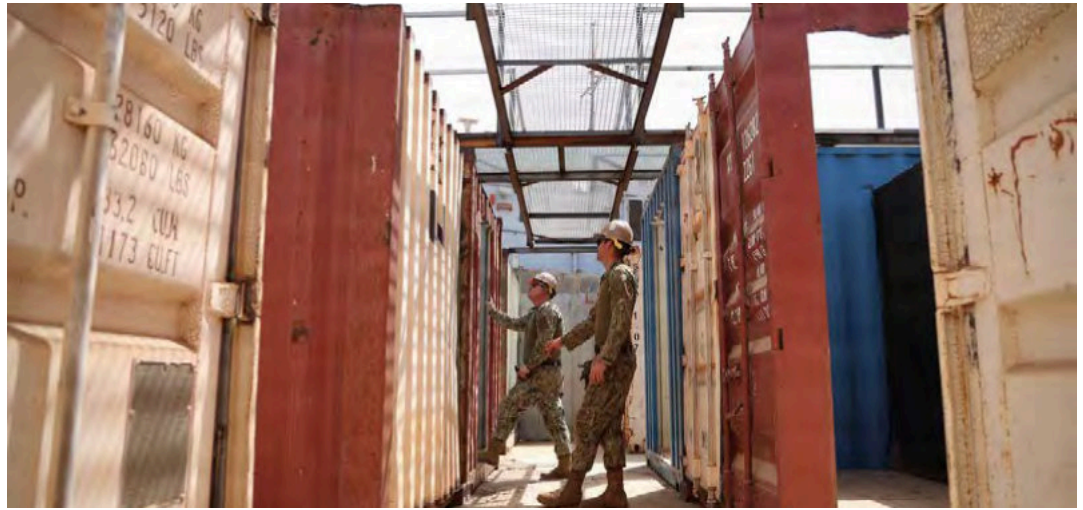
## Dakar, Senegal - Seabees Lay the Groundwork for Obangame Express 2026 in Dakar

Utilitiesman 1st Class Ryan Doering, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, fixes a barracks water supply system in preparation for exercise Obangame Express 2026 at the Senegal Navy Bel Air Base in Dakar, Senegal.



# NMCB 1 Dakar, Senegal

Seabees, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1, build a Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) shoot house in preparation for exercise Obangame Express 2026 at the Senegal Navy Bel Air Base in Dakar, Senegal.



## A Seabee's story: EOCN Robert Panepinto, Vietnam veteran

By: EOCN Robert Panepinto, Vietnam Veteran

When I graduated high school in 1968, I was 18. It didn't take long for the Army to send me down to White Hall Street to take a physical to enlist. A good friend and I went and joined the Navy instead. When we finished basic training, he was assigned to a ship and I was assigned to join the Seabees. I went to school for heavy equipment in Port Hueneme, California - it took 8 weeks.

After graduation, I was assigned to MCB 53 in Davisville, Rhode Island. I was there only a month or two before the unit was sent to Danang in Vietnam. After being there about 5 months, our unit was sent south to rebuild a Marine landing zone that was badly hit by enemy fire. We finished the job in a month and received a citation for finishing on time.

The morning of Sept 19, 1969, a convoy was setting up to go back to the base. I was the first truck to leave the camp after the mine sweeper cleared the road, but I didn't go far before I went over a landmine. Being the driver, I was thrown from the truck from the explosion and landed in a rice field.

The Seabee that was riding shotgun was badly injured. He volunteered to ride with me. I was by myself and didn't even know him. I was told he died about 6 or 8 months later from his injuries. (I hoped it wasn't true.)

I was medevac'd to the hospital ship, where I was for 2 or 3 weeks (scrap metal in my right eye, hole in my right ear drum, and burns on my right arm and face). I was Awarded the Purple Heart and the Marine Combat Ribbon from the Commanding Officer from the base where we were. Also, I received other ribbons from my unit. I was sent to Guam to see an eye doctor, who confirmed permanent damage to my eye because of my injury. I could no longer operate heavy equipment, so they sent me to the states. I finished my time at Saint Albans Hospital, in Queens N.Y. It took some time before they discharged me from active duty with an Honorable discharge.

The large frame has 6 pictures — 5 of them are from the Marine Camp where I was wounded. As you can see the truck was badly destroyed. I am grateful to be alive, although I couldn't pursue my dreams due to my injury. I'm fortunate to raise a family — 3 sons — and enjoy my 5 grandchildren.



## A Seabee's story: YN3 Irvin Gers, WWII veteran



Irvin C. Gers was born August 21, 1926 in Osceola Mills, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. In 1944 he graduated from Osceola Mills High School. Irvin answered the call to service to his country within the military, U.S. Navy, at 18 years of age. His enlisted "boot camp" was spent at the U.S. Naval Training Center, Sampson, New York. His military specialty training, as a Seabee, was spent at Camp Davisville, Rhode Island. Soon after additional Seabee training at Port Hueneme, California, he was assigned to a construction battalion which deployed to islands throughout the South Pacific theater (including Okinawa, Japan) during World War II. Irvin was honorably discharged in 1946 from the U.S. Navy. He returned to his home of record in Osceola Mills, Pennsylvania. He obtained employment with a coal mining company for the next 2 years. During the following 36 years he excelled in a career within the insurance sector; he retired during 1984. Irvin was married to Alice (Conklin) Gers for 61 years.

he returned to his home of record in Osceola Mills, Pennsylvania. He obtained employment with a coal mining company for the next 2 years. During the following 36 years he excelled in a career within the insurance sector; he retired during 1984. Irvin was married to Alice (Conklin) Gers for 61 years.

# NCB 18 Everett, Washington

NCB 18 Seabees replaced two failed concrete slabs along a main walkway in support of NAVFAC Everett. The existing sections were creating a tripping hazard, so the team demo'd the area, prepped the base, and set new pads in line with the existing path.

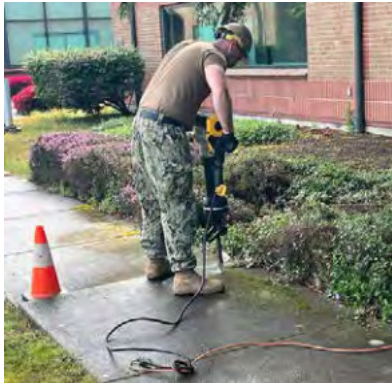
Forms were set tight, grade was held, and the pour came out clean, level and tied in properly with the walkway.

Led by a UTI, the project gave multiple rates hands-on experience with demo, forming, and placement outside their normal scope.

We appreciate Mr. Sickenberger and the NAVFAC team for pushing the work order and keeping the shop open late so the job stayed on track.

“Seeing junior Seabees take a project from demolition to final pour gives confidence in both the work and the team.”

*By BUI Delgado*



# NAVFAC EURAFCENT Mombasa, Kenya

On March 25, U.S. Navy Seabees marked a significant milestone in East African partnership building with the formal transfer of a new Close Quarters Battle Complex to the Kenyan Navy (KNAV) Marine Commandos during a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Mombasa, Kenya.

The state-of-the-art facility provides a modern, specialized training environment designed to enhance the operational readiness of KNAV Marine Commandos, supporting their advanced training in close-quarters combat and maritime operations.

The project was funded by the United States through the Section 333 Building Partner Capacity program, a cooperative effort aimed at strengthening the capabilities of partner nation security forces. By delivering world-class training infrastructure, the project reinforces the shared commitment between the U.S. and Kenya to counter regional instability and maintain a strong collective deterrent posture across East Africa.



# NMCB 40 Marks 35 Years Since Desert Storm at Reunion in Trimble, Missouri

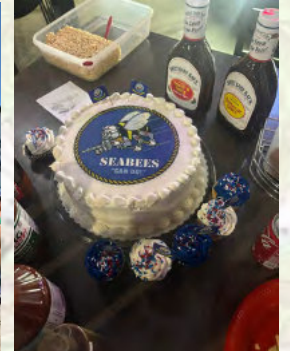
The Fighting 40 gathered in Trimble, Missouri, April 23–26, for the NMCB 40 Seabee Reunion — a four-day celebration marking 35 years since Desert Storm. Hosted at BigFoote Outfitters, the weekend brought together Seabee brothers from across the country to reconnect, share stories, and honor the bonds forged during one of the most significant deployments in recent Seabee history.

For the hosts at BigFoote Outfitters, the reunion carried special meaning. Troy, who proudly served as a Seabee with NMCB 40, was reunited with the men he served alongside — watching old friends pick up right where they left off after all these years.

The weekend was made possible by the support of friends and volunteers who kept everything running smoothly throughout the four days. Special recognition goes to Henry, Abigail, and Ford UAW friends Brent and Christal for their tireless behind-the-scenes efforts. The reunion wrapped up in style thanks to UAW brother Scaggs, who brought out the sound equipment and closed out the weekend with great music and karaoke.

"This is a reunion we'll all hold close," said the hosts. "It meant more than most of us can put into words."

*Note: Navy Seabee Foundation does not sponsor or endorse BigFoote Outfitters. We simply share NMCB 40's information on the Seabee reunion.*



## A Seabee's Story: BU2 Carl B. "Skip" Williams Jr.

By Carl B. "Skip" Williams Jr.

I served in the United States Navy in the Seabees from 1966 to 1969. The Seabees are specialized sailors within the Naval Construction Force (NCF) with the motto, "We build, we fight."

After graduating from Boothbay Region High School, I attended Northern Maine Vocational Institute in Presque Isle, Maine. While there, Jake Stevens, Joe Blake and I enlisted in the Seabees in the delayed entry program.

After graduating in June 1966, I reported to the Naval Construction Regiment in Davisville, Rhode Island for boot camp. Upon completing boot camp, I was assigned to the Mobile Construction Battalion 1 (MCB1) for further training.

Before being sent to Vietnam, I was sent to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to repair damage to Officer Quarters caused by a hurricane. We were then sent back to Davisville, where I was reassigned to MCB40 and sent to Builders "A" School for 16 weeks, followed by three weeks of intensive military training by Marine Combat Veterans at Camp Lejeune,

NC. I was assigned Fire Team Leader of 81mm mortar. Other training included weapons qualification and combat guerrilla warfare.

Having completed our training, we were sent to Chu Lai, South Vietnam for an eight-month deployment. While there, I repaired the Mess Hall, hospitals, EM Club, and rebuilt the staging area of a cargo handling facility that had been damaged by a typhoon. Being close to the South China Sea, this facility was crucial for transporting soldiers and material up and down the coast of Vietnam.

During this deployment, I was assigned to be the Delta Company Training Petty Officer. After eight months of deployment, the Battalion was sent back to Davisville for six months to train for the next deployment in Vietnam. The purpose was to train new people and for a refresher course for the rest of us.

In December of 1968, I left Phu Bai for Da Nang and was then sent to Long Beach, California, where I was separated from the Navy after three years of service.

Enlistment in the Navy's Seabees offers the

chance to learn many trades that apply to civilian life. It also enables you to see other parts of the world. It gave me a new appreciation of how fortunate we are to live in the United States of America.

*Originally written for the Boothbay Harbor 64th Annual Windjammer Days and the Boothbay Register — Wiscasset, Maine*



## A Seabee's Story: CS3 Roderick Hampton

By Mitch Meppelink, Navy Office of Community Outreach (edited for space)

GULFPORT, Miss. — Petty Officer 3rd Class Roderick Hampton, a native of Dacula, serves in the U.S. Navy assigned to Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) in Gulfport, Mississippi, home to the Atlantic Fleet Seabees.

Hampton graduated from Mountain View High School in 2019. The skills and values needed to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in Dacula.

"I learned the value of patience and the importance of self-belief," Hampton said. "Coming from my hometown, I realized everyone has a different background, but at the end of the day, if you don't support and love yourself, no one else will."

Hampton joined the Navy six years ago. Today, Hampton serves as a culinary specialist.

"I joined the Navy to build a solid foundation for my future," Hampton said. "I wanted to have a better start on life, and since my parents pushed me to start strong, this was a way for me to do that."

Whether serving in the construction force or in a supporting role, the sailors of NCBC Gulfport personify the "Can Do" attitude of Seabees and are ready to serve and support warfighters globally.

Hampton has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

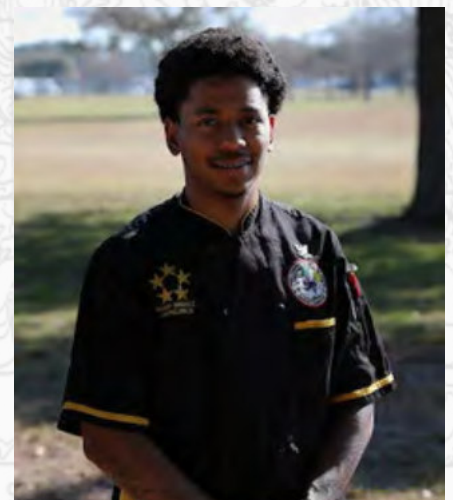
"I pride myself on the patience I maintained while serving in the maintenance department at my prior command," Hampton said. "During my second deployment, we achieved a score of over 97%, the highest on the boat, and our entire department received Navy Achievement Medals for that accomplishment."

Hampton serves a Navy that operates far forward, around the world and around the clock, promoting the nation's prosperity and security.

"I believe serving in the Navy is a patient process of self-improvement that ultimately contributes to a better world," Hampton said. "Even when your job feels small, every role matters and adds up to continue the mission, because those small things are what create the big impact."

Hampton is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

"I want to credit my parents for consistently pushing me to stay on the right path," Hampton said. "I lost sight of what was important, but they never stopped telling me how proud they are of the man I have become. They've helped me realize I can always do better for myself, and that's what got me here."



## Nonprofit in the Spotlight

In supporting Seabees, our “Non-Profit in the Spotlight” page highlights additional resources available for Bees.

It is our goal to share as much information as we can for nonprofit organizations that support military and their families. If you are part of a nonprofit or have experience with a nonprofit that you have found helpful, we would like to share it with our fellow Seabees, please send us an email at [info@seabee.org](mailto:info@seabee.org).



### Sharing the Healing power of music with our Veterans

Guitars for Vets (G4V) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization who serves at-risk United States Veterans impacted by PTSD and other service-related trauma. Through our unique, 10-week structured guitar instruction program, we put the healing power of music in the hands of our nation's heroes, helping to foster renewal, connection and community.

**Mission:** To enhance the lives of ailing and injured veterans through the healing power of music.

**Program Structure:** Veterans receive 10 private, free guitar lessons. Upon completion, they are gifted a brand-new acoustic guitar.

**Funding & Support:** G4V is supported by donations, fundraising, and over 1,000 volunteers. It has a 4/4 star rating on Charity Navigator.

**Partnerships:** Many chapters operate within Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers.

### GUITARS FOR FREE TO MILITARY Veterans

Our weekly private guitar lessons are individually tailored. They're designed to help Veterans learn at their own pace, while accommodating any physical and/or emotional challenges. After completing 10 lessons, each Veteran is presented with a new instrument and accessory pack. Individual chapters also organize monthly group sessions, where

Veterans experience a supportive, communal atmosphere surrounded by peers who understand their experiences. During these sessions, Veterans can connect, talk, play music with other program participants and explore their musical interests.

### Nationwide with The Help of Hundreds of Volunteers

All G4V lessons and guitars are provided to Veterans free of charge. Demand for our programming continues to rise and though virtually all resources go directly into programming and guitars, we sadly cannot help every qualified applicant because funding is limited. So, we're asking you to take a stand.

### FIND A CHAPTER GUITARS FOR VETS CHAPTERS

Below is the link of our chapters. To contact a local chapter coordinator, please click on the location closest to you where you can find their email address.

If you are a Veteran looking to enroll into the Guitars for Vets program at a local chapter, please email the coordinator closest to you about your interest. Each chapter is located within different departments and facilities that may have a unique admission process.

### PURCHASE MERCHANDISE OR OTHER SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Individuals can support Guitars for Vets by purchasing merchandise from our online store. The funds generated from merchandise sales go directly towards providing free guitar lessons and instruments to Veterans in need. By buying items such as t-shirts, hats, and accessories, supporters not only show their solidarity with our brave servicemen and women but also contribute towards meaningful therapy and healing opportunities for those who have sacrificed so much for our country.



For more information on how you can receive or support these services, please visit:  
<https://guitars4vets.org/>

# REUNIONS & EVENTS

“If you never did, you should. These are fun and fun is good.” - Dr. Seuss

## MAY 2026

1-3 NMCB 74 Desert Storm/  
Desert Shield Reunion  
May 1-3 - Long Beach, MS

3 Seabee  
Virtual 5K  
Sign Ups  
Open!  
Seabee5K.org  
Participate July 1-7.

Register early for the July  
Seabee Virtual 5K to get your  
t-shirt in time for your event!



Blue Trident, LLC

4 Seabee  
Spring  
Brick Sale  
May 4-June 30  
Seabee.org

12-18 MCB58 Reunion  
May 12-18 - San Antonio, TX

## JUNE 2026

8 2026 DC Seabee Golf  
Tournament  
Monday, June 8 - Westfields Golf Club, Clifton, VA -  
SeabeeGolf.org

15 Northeast Seabee Golf Tournament  
Monday, June 15 - North Kingstown, RI

23-26 MCB-12 Vietnam Reunion 1968-1969  
June 23-26 - Bath, ME

## JULY 2026

1-7 2026 Seabee Virtual 5K  
July 1-7 - Register at Seabee5K.org beginning May 3

## AUGUST 2026

10 2026 San Diego Seabee Golf  
Tournament  
Monday, August 10 - Fairbanks Ranch Country Club,  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA. Registration open now for  
Golfers and Sponsors: SeabeeGolf.org

## SEPTEMBER 2026

15-17 CBMU 302 Reunion Association  
September 15-17 - Bloomington, MN

19 OktoBEEfest - Harrisonburg, VA  
Saturday, Sep 19 - Harrisonburg, VA - OktoBEEfest.org

21-24 MCB11 & NMCB 8 Associations  
Joint Reunion  
September 21-24 - Colorado Springs, CO

26 NMCB 14 Association Reunion  
Saturday, September 26 - Orlando, FL

Submit Your Event! Reach out to the  
Navy Seabee Foundation at  
**info@seabee.org** to add your event.



## OCTOBER 2026

1-30 2026 OktoBEEfest  
More info at [seabee.org/events/oktobeeefest/](http://seabee.org/events/oktobeeefest/)

8 2026 Virginia Beach  
Seabee Golf Tournament  
Thursday, Oct 8 - Virginia Beach Ntl Golf Club, VA  
Register at SeabeeGolf.org

13 OktoBEEfest - Arizona  
Tuesday, October 13 - Surprise, AZ - OktoBEEfest.org

18-22 MCB1 - MCB9 Reunion  
September 18-22 - Virginia Beach, VA

22 OktoBEEfest - Gulfport, MS  
Thursday, October 22 - Gulfport, MS - OktoBEEfest.org



If you'd like to host  
or sponsor, go to  
**OktoBEEfest.org**

@NavySeabeeFoundation  
 @SeabeeFoundation

Follow us on social media to stay in the know!

More information about these events is available at **Seabee.org**.

2026 SPRING  
**SEABEE BRICK SALE!**

PORT HUENEME, CA

**MAY 4-JUNE 30**  
MOTHER'S DAY 5/10 • MEMORIAL DAY 5/25 • FATHER'S DAY 6/21

**\$100**  
(Reg. Price \$125)

**SEABEE.ORG**

NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION 2026

**SEABEE GOLF TOURNAMENTS**

**Can Do!**

 <b>MONDAY JUNE 8</b> Westfields Golf Club, Clifton, VA <b>WASHINGTON, DC</b>	 <b>MONDAY AUGUST 10</b> Fairbanks Ranch Country Club <b>SAN DIEGO, CA</b>	 <b>THURSDAY OCTOBER 8</b> Virginia Beach National Golf Club <b>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA</b>
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**SEEKING SPONSORS & PLAYERS!**  
SeabeeGolf.org

**Registration Now Open!**

# SEABEE 5K

2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL SEABEE VIRTUAL 5K

**Register Now! Seabee5K.org**

**Race July 1-7 Your Way!**

Support the Seabee community we proudly serve. Gather your friends and family and let's get moving! Plus, every registered participant receives a Seabee 5K performance athletic shirt.

**#Seabee5K | #NavySeabeeFoundation**

*Congratulations to CUCS Christopher Johnson of Port Hueneme, CA winner of the Seabee 5K shirt design contest!*

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 SHIRT SPONSOR:  
Blue Trident, LLC

## Stay Connected with the Navy Seabee Foundation Online

Want to see the impact of your support in real time? Follow the Navy Seabee Foundation on social media to stay up to date on inspiring stories, historical highlights, scholarship spotlights, upcoming events, and opportunities to get involved. Our social media channels are a daily celebration of the Seabee spirit — from honoring our veterans to sharing the achievements of today's Seabee families.

You can find us on Facebook at facebook.com/NavySeabeeFoundation, Instagram at @navyseabeefoundation, and LinkedIn at linkedin.com/company/seabeefoundation.

Every like, share, and comment helps amplify our mission and connect the Seabee community worldwide.

**Join the conversation today!**

**LIKE & FOLLOW THE NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION TO STAY IN THE KNOW!**

facebook  
linkedin  
Instagram

# YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

The mission of the Navy Seabee Foundation is to preserve and protect the history and legacy of the U.S. Navy Seabees and the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps. Purchasing from our shop or buying a brick helps us further our mission.



### Navy Seabee Foundation Seabee Store

Purchase Seabee and CEC merchandise to help further our mission.



### Seabee Memorial Bricks in Gulfport/Port Hueneme

Honor a Seabee family member or friend in your life by purchasing a brick in Gulfport or PT. Hueneme.



### Navy Seabee Foundation Redbubble Shop

You can purchase Seabee stickers, Navy Seabee Foundation stickers and other products.



### Old Salt Coffee "Can Do Brew"

Old Salt Coffee donates \$1 per bag of coffee sold to the Navy Seabee Foundation's efforts to support Seabees and their families.

## OTHER SEABEE STORES SUPPORTING SEABEES



### Davisville Museum Seabee Store

Support the Davisville Seabee Museum and Memorial Park by shopping from their online store.

**Check out the Jobs List!**

*new!*  
**CAN DO**  
Career Connection

[seabee.org](http://seabee.org)

**TRANSFORM LIVES WITH YOUR DONATION**

**NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION**

[seabee.org](http://seabee.org)

**Tell Us Your CAN DO Success Story!**

*We want to hear from you!*  
Employees and employers who have had success with help from the 'Can Do' Career Connection -- let us know!

**CAN DO**  
Career Connection

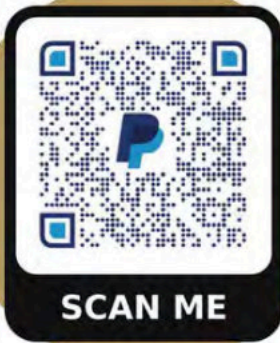
# 5 Ways to Support the Navy Seabee Foundation:



## Donate Online

One-time or reoccurring gifts can be made at

[www.seabee.org](http://www.seabee.org)



## PayPal Giving

Scan the code with your smart phone to donate to Navy Seabee Foundation with PayPal.



## Text to Give

Text "Seabee" to 44321 to donate from your phone

## Venmo Donation

Scan the code with your smart phone to donate to @NavySeabeeFoundation with Venmo.



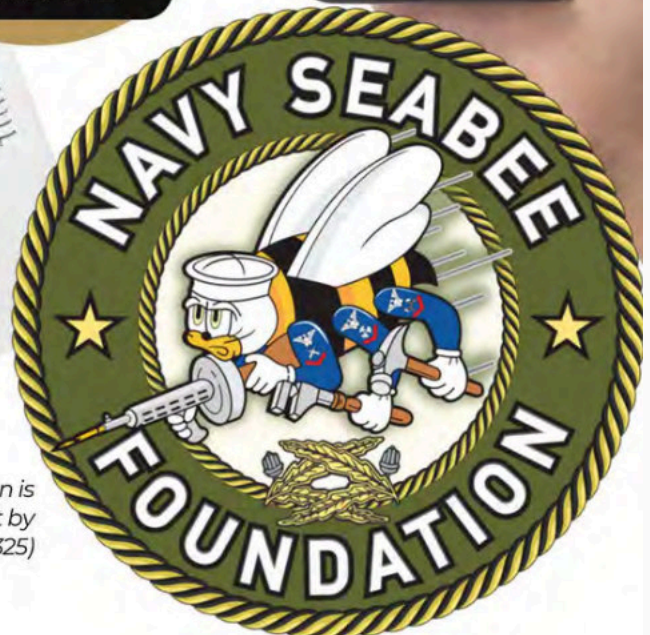
## Donate by Mail

Mail a check to P.O. Box 657, Gulfport, MS 39502



**MAIL A CHECK TO:**  
Navy Seabee Foundation  
P.O. Box 657  
Gulfport, MS 39502

Navy Seabee Foundation is designated a 501(c)3 nonprofit by the IRS (EIN #52-0910325)





# THANK YOU!

SUSTAINING PARTNER:



moffatt & nichol  
Creative People, Practical Solutions.®

THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS:

70E Solutions / AFG / Allan Myers / Alliant Insurance Services Inc. / Associated General Contractors-San Diego / Balfour Beatty / Belcastro Construction Management / Bergelectric Corp / BMK Ventures / Boeing / Broaddus & Associates / Brown Strauss Steel / C.J. Management Group Inc. / CAVU Construction / Cellon & Associates, Inc. / Crest Steel / Cross Country / Cuts, Inc / Darley Defense / ECS Mid Atlantic, LLC / Electricore, Inc. / ELEN Consulting Inc. / FA Design Build / Gannett Fleming / GCR, Inc. / GET Solutions/Terracon / GovGig / Harkins Builders, Inc. / Harkins / Harrison County Development Commission / Herman Construction / Hess Brewing / Incredible Supply and Logistics / J. L. Davis Electrical Contractor, Inc. / JWF Industries / Karpinski Engineering / Kubic Engineering / McParlane & Associates / MPC Computer Products / Pucket Cat / RE/MAX Alliance / RLM Government Services / Rock Spring Contracting / Salem Five / SAME- Hampton Roads / Savvy Builders / SDI / Steel Fab / Stranix & Associates / Superior Cleaning Equipment Inc. / Tetra Tech / Trestle Construction / The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company / Tinkle Town / United States Marine / VOC Associates, LLC /

# CAN DO!

seabee.org

To find out how your company can become a Navy Seabee Foundation corporate partner, email us at [info@seabee.org](mailto:info@seabee.org)