

OCTOBER 2026

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BEE NEWS



Official Newsletter of the Navy Seabee Foundation



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NCBC Gulfport

Hosts 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony



Sailors assigned to Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport parade the colors during a 9/11 remembrance ceremony, September 11, 2026. NCBC Gulfport is home to the Atlantic Fleet Seabees, the Naval Construction Training Center, the Expeditionary Combat Skills Training Center and nearly 40 tenants from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force. (U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Brittney Kinsey)



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NMCB 4 Field Training Exercise ~ FTX 2026

Terrain Model

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 4 brief the mission via a terrain model during a field training exercise (FTX) on board Fort Hunter Liggett, California. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



Sentry Post

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 construct a sentry post during FTX on board Naval Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, California. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



Airfield Damage Repair

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 conduct an airfield damage repair drill during FTX on board Vandenberg Space Force Base, California. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



Water Purification

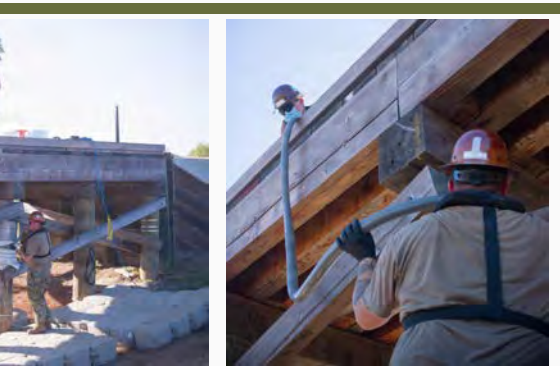
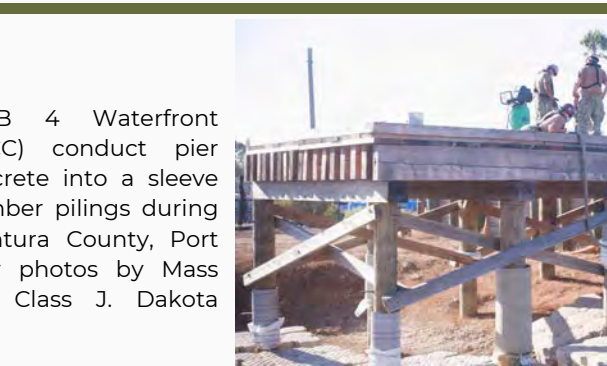
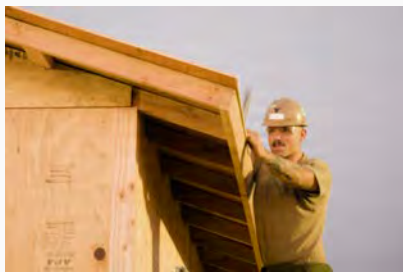
Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 deploy lightweight water purification systems to collect potable water from a reservoir during FTX on board Fort Hunter Liggett, California. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



NMCB 4 Field Training Exercise ~ FTX 2026

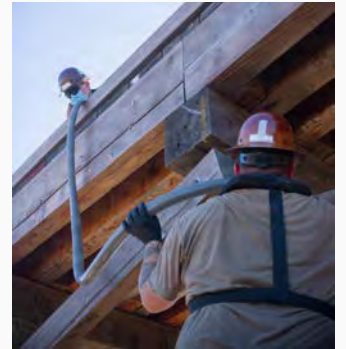
Southwest Asia Huts

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 construct modified Southwest Asia Huts during FTX on board Fort Hunter Liggett, California. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



Repair Pilings, PDR

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 Waterfront Construction Companies (WCC) conduct pier damage repair by placing concrete into a sleeve encapsulating the damaged timber pilings during FTX on board Naval Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, California. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



Security

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 conduct security operations during FTX on board Fort Hunter Liggett. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



NMCB 4 Field Training Exercise ~ FTX 2026

Litter Bearer Training

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 receive litter-bearer training during FTX on board Fort Hunter Liggett. They learned how to transport a patient to where they can receive treatment while reducing risk of further injuries.



Expeditionary Field Kitchen

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 operate an expeditionary field kitchen during FTX on board Fort Hunter Liggett.



Seawall Repairs

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 Waterfront Construction Companies (WCC) conduct seawall repairs during FTX on board Naval Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, California. (US Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class J. Dakota Rayburn)



Wildfires Movex

Seabees assigned to NMCB 4 operations planning team, make plans to redeploy NMCB 4, NMCB 3, and Amphibious Construction Battalion (ACB) 1, from Fort Hunter Liggett to alternate locations in response to actual wildfires during FTX on board Fort Hunter Liggett.



Seabee honors Shields at Gardiner Cemetery during cross-country trek

By Matthew Nash Sequim Gazette

A few days before finishing her trek across America with the Warrior Bike program, U.S. Navy Seabee Builder Chief Mary Montigny of Rhode Island paid her respects to a fellow Seabee in Gardiner.

Montigny rode to Gardiner Cemetery on the afternoon of Aug. 26 to see the grave of U.S. Navy Seabee Construction Mechanic 3rd Class Marvin G. Shields, the only Seabee to receive the Medal of Honor.

"He is an absolute legend in our community, and you don't become a Seabee without learning about him," Montigny said.

She was the final veteran bike rider to come through the area this summer participating in the Warrior Bike program through Warrior Expeditions. Four veterans rode the full 3,700-mile Great American Rail-Trail from Washington, D.C. to La Push. Montigny said she purposefully finished her cross-country ride the same day she joined the Navy.

To see Shields' grave was a special part of her trip, she said. Montigny was greeted by representatives with the Peninsula Trails Coalition and Shields' widow Joan (Shields) Bennett and her current husband Dick Bennett.

"I am so impressed by what she has done, and that she knows him," Shields-Bennett said.

"It makes me feel proud for him because he gave his life, and all the other (men) in his small battalion. They would not have lived without him and to have done what he did after he'd already been hit by a gun twice, he's an amazing person."

President Lyndon B. Johnson awarded Shields the Medal of Honor posthumously on Sept. 13, 1966.

According to the award, Shields "at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty" on June 10, 1965 in Dong Xoai, Republic of Vietnam, was wounded resupplying fellow Americans with ammunition for three hours. He was wounded a second time and carried a critically wounded man to safety, and resumed firing at the enemy for four more hours. Shields then "unhesitatingly volunteered" and successfully took out a machine gun emplacement with a rocket launcher although he was mortally wounded.

The Navy continues to recognize Shields on Memorial Day in Gardiner.

Montigny served as a Seabee from 2000 to 2020 and was deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. On Aug. 29, her husband, U.S. Navy Seabee Master Chief Nathan Kimball, met her in LaPush. She said they planned to explore the West Coast before driving back home.

Montigny works a few days a week for the Navy Exchange as a tailor outfitting new officers, and she and Kimball operate the small business Can Do RV Rescue.

She first explored biking as a benefit for multiple sclerosis research before learning about the Great American Rail-Trail.

"It was always something that interested me, but (in the Navy) you can't really get a few months off to do things like this," she said.

"So since I retired in 2020, I've been working on these bucket list items because we're not getting any younger."

For the veteran riders, various supporters and groups, including the Military Officer's Association of America Olympic Peninsula Chapter and others greeted the veterans in Sequim and provided lodging, meals, and other support. The Bennetts hosted Montigny on Aug. 26.

For more information on this program, visit <https://warriorexpeditions.org>.

Additional photos and commentary on the following page.



Seabee completes Great American Rail Trail cross-country bike trek

This page shares more of BUC (retired) Mary Montigny's bike trek and a little deeper dive into the person and family.

Mary completed the Great American Rail Trail in 100 days and covered 3,780 miles, with many stops along the way to take it all in. Her trip was book-ended by friends, Gina and Kelly, sending her off in Washington, DC and greeting her as she completed her trek in Washington State.

After retiring from the Seabees, Mary and her husband, retired Seabee Master Chief Nate Kimball, traveled the states for 2-1/2 years of full-time RV living. To support their nomadic lifestyle, Nate started a small business, Can Do RV Rescue.

Mary has been involved in another nonprofit, The Highpointers Foundation, and has reached all 50 states highest elevations in support of their mission.

Nate has pursued his passion, as well, through the Veteran's Golf Association, and is also working toward achieving all of the 50 high points as well.

When asked, Mary said the favorite parts of the cross-country trek were on the trails, which were more fun than the roads and highways. Her favorite part of all was the North Olympic Discovery Trail. Here she took the small side hike to Devils Punch Bowl at Crescent Lake and said, "The water was an unbelievable Gatorade blue color when the sun hit it just right. A bridge spanned over an extremely deep portion that seemed to go all the way down to the depths of hell. I thought the name might have reflected the warmth of the water, but abruptly discovered that was not the case. It was exhilarating!!!"

She had many other great experiences to notch off her bucket list, including staying at a farm in Nebraska, getting to go into the grain bin and riding a tractor.

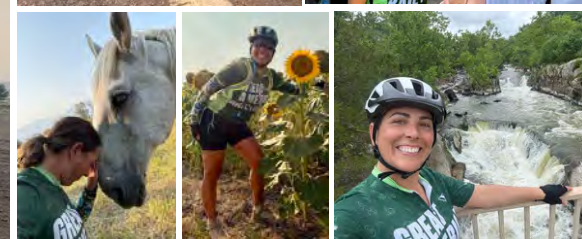
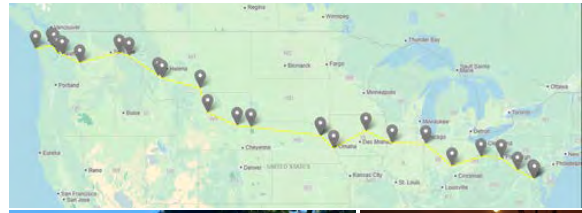
And while in Columbus, Montana, she met a veteran Seabee who eats at Uncle Sam's Eatery every weekday morning at 0900 hours. He had never met a female Seabee, so it was a very memorable encounter for both Seabees.

When asked about a unique story about her life she'd like to share, she said when she enlisted in the Navy, her mom, Cheryl Cromwell, was at a point in her life she was looking for a change and enlisted with her, and mom and daughter went to boot camp together.

Cheryl enlisted in the reserves as an AG (Aerographer's Mate) and later cross rated to BM (Boatswain's Mate). She was assigned to Amphibious Construction Battalion TWO (ACB 2) in Little Creek, Virginia and earned her Enlisted Seabee Combat Warfare designation and retired as a Seabee BMC(SCW).

Mary and Nate are meandering their way back to Rhode Island, taking about a month to do the drive back and experience as much of this beautiful United States of America as they can along the way.

To see more of Mary's many exciting adventures along the Great American Rail Trail, she kept a blog you can visit at <https://trackmytour.com/HrBrw>. These are some of her memories along the way.



NCB 27 ~ Built for the Cold:

Seabees Adapt Expeditionary Infrastructure During Northern Viking 26

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

U.S. Navy Seabees participating in exercise Northern Viking 2026 are helping refine a familiar piece of expeditionary infrastructure for a different operating environment, constructing the third prototype of an Arctic Bee Hut at Keflavik Air Base.

The Arctic Bee Hut builds on generations of rapidly constructed wooden shelters used by the Naval Construction Force (NCF) to provide expeditionary living and working spaces.

While the Southwest Asia hut, commonly referred to as a SWA hut, became a familiar structure during operations in hot, arid environments, the Arctic version adapts that concept for colder climates.

"The environment matters when we build expeditionary structures," said U.S. Navy Lt. Arthur Hines, 22nd Naval Construction Regiment future operations officer. "What works in one location may need to be adapted somewhere else."

Compared with a traditional SWA hut, the Arctic Bee Hut incorporates additional insulation and structural changes intended to make the shelter better suited for freezing temperatures, wind and snow.

Seabees assigned to Naval Construction Battalion (NCB) 27 are putting those changes into practice during Northern Viking, positioning precast concrete footers, constructing the floor and walls and installing insulation as the structure takes shape.

"The basic construction skills are the same, but there are some significant differences in the design," said U.S. Navy Senior Chief Jon Murray, NCB 27 Arctic Bee Hut project lead. "We're dealing with heavier framing, a steeper roof pitch, and extreme insulation measures for cold prevention. The crew has to understand not only how to build it, but why those differences matter."

The NCF is developing the Arctic Bee Hut in partnership with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), located in Vicksburg,

Mississippi. Feedback from the Seabees constructing the prototypes is being incorporated into the design, which will ultimately be available to the joint engineer community through the Joint Construction Management System.

The Keflavik build provides another opportunity to evaluate both the design and the construction process.

Lessons from the build will be returned to ERDC, while the completed structure will remain in Iceland for use as a storage building and provide an opportunity to observe how the design performs over future winters.

"Because this is still a prototype, we're not just building it and walking away from it," said Murray. "We're looking at locational requirement differences where the crew runs into challenges and what could be done better the next time. What we learn here can help improve the design for the next crew that has to build one."

The Northern Viking project follows another Arctic Bee Hut build earlier this summer during Baltic Operations 2026, when NCB 14 Seabees constructed a prototype in Skrunda, Latvia. Lessons from previous builds have already contributed to adjustments in areas such as floor insulation and structural details.

The Northern Viking build gives the NCF another opportunity to evaluate the design in the environment it is intended to support.

"This new design is part of the NCF's larger effort to be more ready for a conflict in the high northern regions of Europe or North America," said Vollmer.

Operating in Iceland also exposes Seabees to considerations that cannot be replicated by reviewing construction plans alone.

"Material, logistics, permitting, environmental and host-nation distinctions can only be learned on the ground," said Vollmer. "With the establishment of the U.S. Navy Cooperative Security Location Keflavik, it is vital Seabees can seamlessly perform in Iceland whenever required."

For NCB 27, the project provides both an immediate training opportunity and a

chance to contribute lessons that could shape how joint engineers construct expeditionary infrastructure in cold-weather environments in the future.

Northern Viking 26 is a U.S. European Command-directed, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-led exercise executed by U.S. Sixth Fleet. The exercise brings together U.S. and Allied forces to strengthen interoperability and readiness in the defense of Iceland and the strategic lines of communication across the North Atlantic.



NCB 27 Seabees Modernize Airfield Repair on Historical Iceland Footprint

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

Operating under the rainy, cold conditions of the High North, U.S. Navy Seabees assigned to Naval Construction Battalion (NCB) 27 are validating a critical operational capability during exercise Northern Viking 2026 (NV26).

Through dedicated Airfield Damage Repair (ADR) evolutions, these construction specialists are training on the rapid coordination required to restore damaged runways and maintain the joint force's primary aviation lifelines.

"Airfields are critical to how the joint force moves people, equipment and combat power," said U.S. Navy Lt. Arthur Hines, future operations officer for the 22nd Naval Construction Regiment. "If an airfield is damaged, the ability to restore that operating surface directly affects how quickly aviation operations can continue."

The Technical Assembly Line

The ADR process functions as a highly coordinated assembly line that brings multiple Naval Construction Force capabilities together to manage airfield infrastructure recovery. For this evolution, the Seabees utilized heavy engineering equipment to break up sections of the pavement, manually creating the damaged scenario holes to simulate tactical strikes without live explosives in the area.

Once the training craters were established, the crew executed a rigid, multi-step engineering sequence to return the surface to operational status:

Excavation and Debris Clearing: Equipment operators use wheeled excavators with hammer attachments to break up the fractured, up-heaved concrete around the target crater. Heavy front-end loaders then scrape the area clear down to the stable subgrade soil.

Backfill and Compaction: Builders fill the crater with lifts of crushed stone and aggregate ballast. A vibratory plate compactor or roller is run over the rock to ensure a dense, highly stable foundation that will not sink under heavy loads.

The Concrete Cap: A volumetric mixer truck dispenses a specialized, rapid-setting cementitious cap material directly over the compacted stone. Unlike standard commercial concrete, this high-strength compound is engineered to withstand the immense landing stress of fully loaded tactical fighter jets within days of placement.

Screeding and Finishing: The crew manually levels the wet mixture with an aluminum screed bar to match the exact elevation of the surrounding runway. Finally, mechanical kick brooms sweep the area to remove loose gravel, eliminating foreign object damage (FOD) risks to jet engines.

Connecting Construction to Combat Operations

For the personnel on the ground, the specialized nature of the mission shifts how they view their traditional construction roles.

"A lot of the construction skills are familiar, but the purpose changes how you approach the job," explained Builder 1st Class Stephen Glovak, assigned to NCB 27. "You're not building something from scratch. You're working with damaged infrastructure and trying to restore that capability as efficiently as possible."

This focus on rapid infrastructure recovery carries deep historical significance for the units involved. According to Chief Construction Mechanic Frank Harrison, NCB 27 operations chief, the mission directly mirrors the legacy of early Seabees who worked day and night under fire to repair the runway at Henderson Field during the Battle of Guadalcanal in September 1942.

"Our history as Seabees is deeply rooted in the rapid restoration of tactical aviation capabilities. When you look back at Guadalcanal in 1942, the fight for Henderson Field proved that a military unit is only as fast as its runway," said Harrison. "That lesson still dictates our training today. We don't clear debris and level craters for the sake of construction, but because that operational surface is the primary pipeline for combat power and humanitarian relief. Maintaining that capability is exactly how we honor the 'Can Do' legacy."

The choice of training grounds in Iceland adds another historical parallel. The crews are utilizing segments of the decommissioned Patterson Air Field footprint near Road 44, the exact base built from the ground up by the 9th and 28th Naval Construction Battalions during World War II.

Strategic Logistics in the North Atlantic

The capability to fix runways rapidly has implications beyond tactical defense. Air assets provide the fastest logistics pipelines for both combat reinforcement and humanitarian assistance. While maritime supply chains can take days to reach isolated northern sectors, aviation assets can deliver emergency relief and medical evacuation programs within hours.

Sponsored by U.S. European Command and led by U.S. Naval Forces Europe and executed by U.S. Sixth Fleet, NV26 focuses on safeguarding strategic lines of communication across the Greenland-Iceland-United Kingdom (GIUK) gap. For the Reserve Seabees of NCB 27, practicing the high-speed choreography of ADR in Iceland's unpredictable environment ensures the team is prepared long before a real-world crisis demands it.

"The value is getting the repetition now," Glovak said. "If we ever have to do this for real, we don't want that to be the first time the crew has worked through the process together."



UCT 1 Seabee Divers Complete Six-Month Expeditionary Engineering Deployment in U.S. 6th Fleet

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

U.S. Navy Seabee divers assigned to Underwater Construction Team (UCT) ONE, Construction Dive Detachment 1-3 (CDD 1-3), completed a six-month deployment in the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations.

During the deployment, CDD 1-3 conducted underwater construction, maritime infrastructure repair, hydrographic surveying, salvage operations, force-protection activities, and allied and partner engagements across Europe.

CDD 1-3 assumed responsibility as Commander, Task Unit 68.2.2 from Construction Dive Detachment 1-2 during a transfer of authority at Naval Station Rota, Spain, March 13. The transition continued UCT One's expeditionary underwater construction presence in support of U.S. 6th Fleet and Commander, Task Force 68 requirements.

"This deployment demonstrated exactly what an expeditionary dive detachment is designed to do," said Lt. Alice Morgan, CDD 1-3 officer in charge. "Move quickly, assess a requirement, integrate with our partners and deliver an engineering effect that matters to the Fleet."

CDD 1-3 began its deployment with the first bilateral diving skills exchange between the detachment and personnel from the Spanish Navy Diving Center in Cartagena, Spain. Working alongside Spanish Navy divers, the detachment conducted SCUBA operations, underwater inspections, remotely operated vehicle operations and hydrographic survey training. U.S. and Spanish divers also completed waterfront facility inspections to collect engineering and hydrographic data supporting infrastructure sustainment and construction planning.

The engagement helped establish conditions for future bilateral exchanges and set a theme that continued throughout the deployment by using diving and expeditionary engineering to improve maritime access, infrastructure and Fleet readiness.

Early in the deployment, CDD 1-3 also operated in Souda Bay, Greece, where Seabee divers supported the installation and evaluation of emerging maritime force-protection technology. The mission allowed the team to rehearse expeditionary employment requirements while contributing to the protection of critical maritime infrastructure.

"The common thread throughout this deployment was readiness," said Senior Chief Constructionman Estephan Lopez, CDD 1-3 master diver and assistant officer in charge. "Whether we were inspecting a waterfront, repairing a quay wall, helping build a boat ramp or conducting salvage operations, every dive required disciplined planning, technical skill, and trust in the team. Doing that work in real operating environments makes us better divers and gives the Fleet a capability it can rely on."

In the Adriatic Sea, CDD 1-3 shifted from assessment to construction. At the Port Brizine fuel terminal in Split, Croatia, Seabee divers repaired severely degraded quay-wall structures identified during previous infrastructure assessments. Divers used reinforced-concrete encapsulation techniques to restore structural integrity and extend the service life of a maritime refueling facility supporting Croatian, NATO and U.S. operations. CDD 1-3 personnel also participated in an underwater cleanup effort in Pag, Croatia.

Beyond construction and repair, CDD 1-3 maritime infrastructure survey teams operated in the Faroe Islands and Estonia, collecting engineering and hydrographic data on waterfront infrastructure and maritime facilities. The surveys demonstrated the detachment's ability to rapidly assess maritime infrastructure and provide technical information to support future planning and operations.

CDD 1-3 then supported a series of major multinational exercises across the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations. During Baltic Operations 2026 in Liepāja, Latvia, CDD 1-3 divers worked alongside Amphibious Construction Battalion One and Royal Netherlands Navy divers to construct a boat ramp supporting access to Karosta harbor.

Divers conducted underwater construction and assisted with placement of a concrete toe block and panels, helping

transform a temporary vessel-launch site into a more durable launch and recovery point. Additionally, the Royal Netherlands Navy divers conducted salvage operations alongside the detachment and supported the testing of maritime force protection technology.

The engagement renewed ties between U.S. and Dutch Navy divers while demonstrating how expeditionary underwater construction can improve maritime access and interoperability among allied forces.

During Sea Breeze 26, CDD 1-3 performed salvage operations and trained alongside Ukrainian military divers, exchanging techniques and strengthening partner diving capabilities. The detachment performed underwater cutting, welding and hydraulic tools operations. The engagement provided another opportunity for Seabee divers to share technical expertise, test emerging capabilities, and increase interoperability with partner forces.

CDD 1-3 concluded the operational portion of its deployment in the High North during Northern Viking 26. Operating from Ramsund, Norway, the detachment conducted bathymetric surveys, diving and salvage operations, survivability training, and underwater infrastructure work in the demanding conditions of northern Norway.

"What I'm most proud of is how this team responded every time the mission changed," Morgan said. "They went from working with partner divers in the Mediterranean, to underwater construction in the Baltic, to salvage operations in the High North and continued to perform at a high level. That adaptability is what expeditionary engineering is all about."

(Continued on next page)



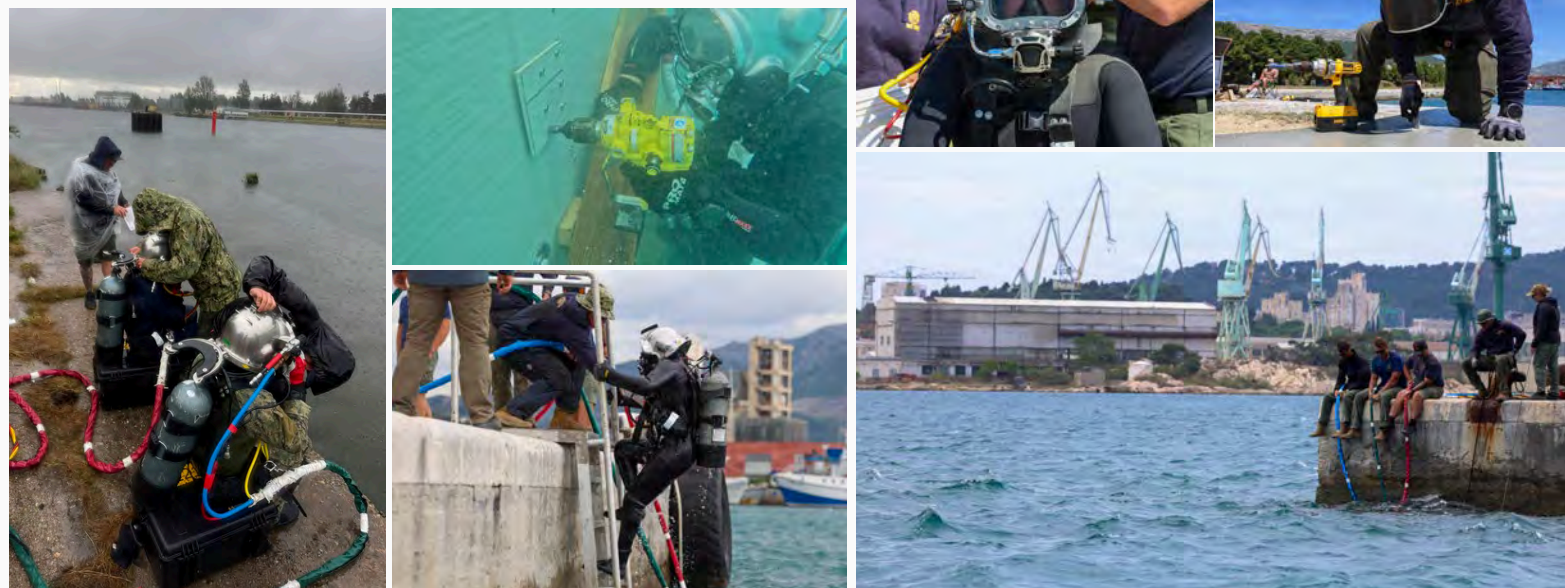
UCT 1 (cont.)

Across six months, CDD 1-3 executed expeditionary construction and diving operations throughout the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations, combining underwater construction, infrastructure assessment and repair, hydrographic surveying, salvage, force protection, and allied and partner integration to support maritime access and Fleet readiness.

The deployment demonstrated the ability of a compact, expeditionary dive detachment to operate across dispersed locations, rapidly transition between mission sets, and integrate with U.S., allied and partner forces in support of maritime operations.

UCT ONE provides specialized underwater construction, inspection, repair, light salvage, military diving, and maritime engineering capabilities in support of naval, joint, and combined operations worldwide.

22nd Naval Construction Regiment commands Naval Construction Force elements supporting Navy Expeditionary Combat Forces Europe-Africa/Task Force 68 across the U.S. 6th Fleet area of operations.

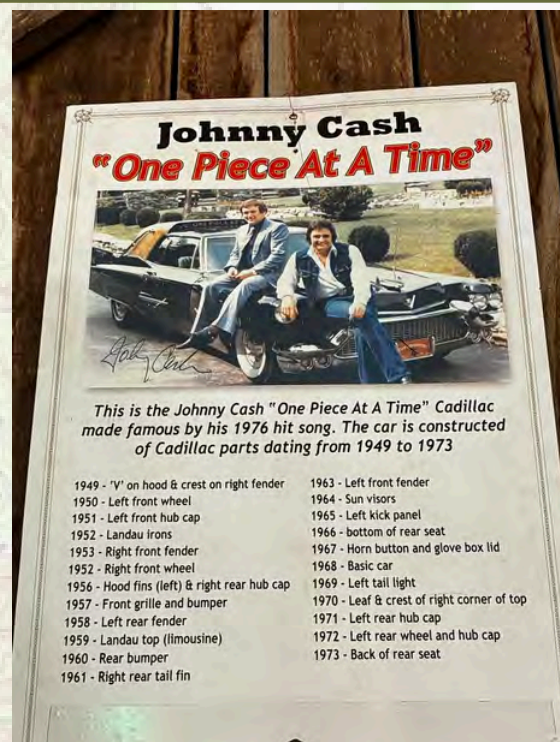


Always a Seabee...

NMCB 71 Reunion Bon Aqua, TN

With Tom and Pam Taylor:

Pam and I are spending the weekend with a group of NMCB 71 Seabee Veterans that I served with back in the early 70's. One of our group field trips was to Johnny Cash's country home in Bon Aqua, TN.



ACB 1 operations

Dili, Timor-Leste

Canadian Armed Forces Col. Alain Lafrenière, center, deputy mission commander of Pacific Partnership 2026 (PP26), poses for a group photo with U.S. Navy Seabees, members of the Timor-Leste Defence Force (F-FDTL), and Escola Básica Filial (EBF) Kasnafar administrators after a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a PP26 engineering line of effort construction project at EBF Kasnafar in Dili, Timor-Leste, Aug. 24, 2026.

During the project, U.S. Navy Seabees assigned to Amphibious Construction Battalion (ACB) 1, alongside engineers from the Timor-Leste Defence Force, renovated an exterior school building and added a new water tank, increasing the school's capacity to accommodate students and improving its facilities.

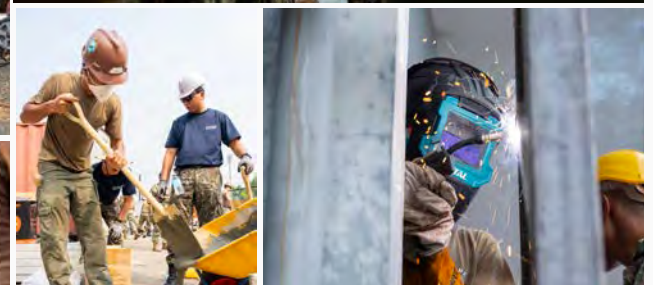
Now in its 22nd iteration, the Pacific Partnership series is the largest annual multinational humanitarian assistance and disaster management preparedness mission conducted in the region. Pacific Partnership works collaboratively with host and partner nations to enhance regional interoperability and disaster response capabilities, increase security in the region, and foster new and enduring friendships in the Indo-Pacific. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class T'ara Tripp)



Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

Pacific Partnership 2026 conducts facility renovations at Telipok Health Clinic

U.S. Navy Seabees, assigned to Amphibious Construction Battalion (ACB) 1, Malaysian Armed Forces engineers, and Republic of Korea Navy sailors team up as part of a Pacific Partnership 2026 engineering project to construct a shade structure at the Telipok Health Clinic in Kota Kinabalu, Sept. 5, 2026. Renovations include the placement of concrete footers, metal tubing and tin roof sheeting in the construction of a 15-by-6-meter shade structure that will provide a covered waiting area for patients at the clinic, improving existing infrastructure and enhancing the quality of care. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Moises Sandoval)

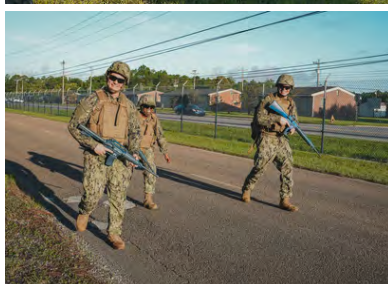


NMCB 11 operations

We are settling into our homeport training cycle!

Lucky Eleven Seabees are in Tactical Unit Leaders Course (TULC) where they participated in a combat fitness test, completed a ruck march, and practiced ground fighting skills.

TULC focuses on enhancing mission planning, communication, and tactical decision-making in support of expeditionary Seabee operations.



CLASSIFICATION UNCLASS		PRECEDENCE R		☐ SEND MOD CLEAR		☐ SEND CLEAR	
FROM NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION				TO INFO TO: ALL SEABEES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS			
01 October 1985: Command status of UCTs upgraded to Commanding Officer.							
02 October 2010: RDML Paula C. Brown became the first female Deputy Commander of the First Naval Construction Division and just the second female in the Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) to be promoted to rear admiral during a ceremony at the Seabee Memorial, Arlington, Virginia. This new assignment caps a series of firsts for RDML Brown, who was also the first female commander of a Seabee regiment in combat.							
03 October 1942: The first decorated Seabee hero was Seaman Second Class Lawrence C. "Bucky" Meyer of the 6th NCB. While working as a truck driver on Henderson Field, Meyer took cover in a Marine machine gun pit during an enemy strafing attack on the airstrip. Manning the machine gun, he fired at the lead Japanese Zero and shot it down. For his exploit he was awarded the Silver Star Medal. Unfortunately, the medal had to be awarded posthumously, because 13 days later Meyer was killed in action when Japanese dive bombers attacked and destroyed the gasoline barge on which he was working.							
03 October 1964: NMCB 7 inaugurated the first fully computerized programming of a Seabee construction project when that battalion's workload at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba was planned and programmed by computer. This method of planning was to become a useful tool in preparing for subsequent construction projects.							
04 October 1969: At 2330, GMG2 P.W. Larremore was killed in action about 5 miles southeast of Da Nang in Binh Ky Hamlet, RVN.							
06 October 1945: Seabees are ready to build anything, anytime, anywhere. Thus it came as no surprise to Seabees stationed on Attu in the Aleutian Islands in 1945 when they were ordered to Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula to build a Fleet Weather Central to be operated by the U.S. Navy. Work on preliminary plans began immediately and within seven days 20 Seabees were aboard ship with supplies and equipment bound for the southern end of Kamchatka Peninsula. The site chosen for the weather station was near the city of Petropavlovsk. It was in rolling, wooded country within view of the active volcano, Koryakchaya. The weather central itself consisted of six standard-size Quonset huts attached to a central wood structure. The arrangement permitted centralization of utilities and complete access to all facilities without the necessity of going outdoors. It included quarters for the nine U.S. Navy officers and the 24 U.S. Navy enlisted men who were to operate the station. The project was completed in eighteen 10.5 hour working days. The Seabees were assisted by the weather station personnel and Russian Army laborers. In addition to the housing, the Seabees cleared the site and leveled it, erected radio masts, and installed utility and weather equipment. It was on October 6, 1945, that the project was completed and the Seabees returned to Attu.							
07 October 2008 - On the flight line of Naval Air Station Point Mugu onboard Naval Base Ventura County, California, Builder 2nd Class Ross Amend held his daughter Leah for the first time. More than 35 Seabees from NMCB 3 deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan leaving behind expectant mothers and becoming fathers over deployment.							
12 October 1970: CNO authorized establishment of "an underwater facility construction capability" within Naval Construction Force for purposes of engineering, construction, and repair of underwater facilities; unofficial names of UCT 1 and UCT 2.							
13 October 1942: CMM Henry L. Thompson of the 6th NCB was the first Seabee killed in action. He died during a Japanese Naval bombardment of Henderson Field on Guadalcanal. Thompson and five other Seabees were huddled in a deep dugout to avoid the huge 14-inch armor-piercing shells that the Japanese naval task force was hurling into the Seabee camp area. One shell landed directly in the hole. The concussion collapsed the sides of the hole, burying the six men. Two Seabees, bravely disregarding their own safety, dug the six men out of the dirt-filled hole. Though the other five men survived, Thompson was found dead, sitting upright in the bottom of the dugout. It was believed that he died from the concussion as much as from suffocation. The two men who dug out the men, SFlc H.L. Osborn and SFlc D.L. Gillis, received the Silver Star for their actions.							
DAY 01	MONTH OCT	YEAR 2026	TIME SIGNED 0001L	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER <i>I.M. Seabee</i>			
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY TIME FILED				COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR-11) HOW SENT			
COMM CEN NO.				DATE-TIME GROUP			
10 September 1943: First Civil Engineer Corps officer killed in action, LT Carl M. Olson at Salerno, Italy.							

Disclaimer: There is much more Seabee history each month than the two pages captured here and the goal is to share a little from each era.

CLASSIFICATION UNCLASS	PRECEDENCE R	☐ SEND MOD CLEAR	☐ SEND CLEAR
FROM NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION		TO INFO TO: ALL SEABEES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS	

16 October 1967: A critical need developed in the fall of 1967 for an air and helicopter station in Quang Tri Province in the Republic of Vietnam. The station was needed to counteract a threatened monsoon offensive by North Vietnamese soldiers. The Naval Construction Force responded to the threat by forming a construction battalion made up of Seabee detachments representing nine different naval mobile construction battalions working in Southeast Asia. Work proceeded on the airstrip despite the hindrance of heavy rains and occasional mortar fire. The field was officially opened on October 16, 1967.

16 October 2008: Seabees of NMCB 4 Det. Addis Ababa attend the dedication ceremony of the Abadir Primary School, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. NMCB 4 continued the school refurbishing project after it was turned over by NMCB 74 in August. Seabees upgraded all facilities at the Abadir school, including roof repair, electrical wiring and lights, and tile and plumbing fixtures. New paint was also applied to the school's interior, as well as a fresh surface for the exterior.

17 October 2004: Construction Electrician 3rd Class John J. Petty II, NMCB 4 was wounded bringing electricity into tents and buildings under construction in Camp Fallujah, Iraq, when an RPG (rocket-propelled grenade) struck the area. CE3 Petty fulfilled his active duty requirement in June 2005, and waited more than six years for his medal due to miscommunication about the criteria for the Purple Heart. However, a CAT scan performed by the Veterans Administration revealed a piece of shrapnel from the attack still stuck in his head. Armed with this information, U.S. Rep. Steve Austria, R-Beavercreek, a congressman from Petty's home state of Ohio, convinced the military to review the case once again. Petty received his long-awaited medal from Rep. Austria in March 2011.

19 October 1943: The Secretary of the Navy designated the Advance Base Depot Receiving Barracks, Davisville, RI as Camp Thomas.

19 October 2011: Chief Builder (SCW) Raymond J. Border of West Lafayette, OH was killed by an improvised explosive device in Afghanistan while assessing a road in Paktika Province. Chief Border had volunteered for an individual augmentee tour back to Afghanistan after deploying there with NMCB 74 the prior year.

22 October 2010: Seabees assigned to NMCB 40 ran for cover to nearby bunkers at the sound of a rocket attack during a concrete placement for a project site in Konduz, Afghanistan. NMCB 40 was working in various locations around the country in support of the International Security Assistance Force.

23 October 1944: Advance Base Depot Receiving Barracks (Camp Thomas), Davisville were disestablished and facilities and functions of the barracks were transferred to NCTC, Davisville.

23 October 1967: The first Civil Engineer Corps officer to be killed in Vietnam was Lieutenant Joseph J. Rhodes, CEC, USN, a member of Mobile Construction Battalion 121. Lieutenant Rhodes was riding in a jeep that struck a land mine and he died from multiple shrapnel wounds. Two other occupants of the jeep, SWC Gordon J. Dibble and BUR3 Jon R. Morbay, were also killed. A Seabee camp at Quang Tri, Vietnam was later dedicated in his memory. A plaque bearing the inscription "Camp Rhodes Dedicated in Honor of Lt Joseph John Rhodes, Killed in Action October 23, 1967" was unveiled by Rear Admiral A.C. Husband, then Chief of Civil Engineers.

25 October 2006: Just two months into an Iraq deployment, Construction Electrician 2nd Class Charles V. "Chuck" Komppa, a Navy Reservist with the Fort Lewis, Washington based NMCB 18, was killed in action while serving in Iraq's western Al Anbar Province. Komppa was serving with the battalion's Detachment 0618, based out of Billings, Montana.

DAY 01	MONTH OCT	YEAR 2026	TIME SIGNED 0001L	SIGNATURE AND RANK OF RELEASER <i>I.M. Seabee</i>	
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER USE ONLY				COMM CENTER OR RELEASER USE (INSTR-11)	
TIME FILED		COMMICEN NO.		HOW SENT	DATE-TIME GROUP

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NCB 25 operations

Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2026

NCB 25 Seabees supported the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2026 exercise, the world's largest international maritime exercise.

RIMPAC brings together military forces from partner nations to train across land, sea, and air—building the shared skills and working relationships needed to support maritime security and keep vital sea lanes open.

This year, 30 nations and more than 30,000 personnel participated in and around the Hawaiian Islands. NCB 25 contributed Navy construction capability while working alongside joint and international partners. We build. We fight.



Seabee Museum and Memorial Park

Quilt of Valor

Recently, Vietnam Veteran Paul M. Wasiuk received a Quilt of Valor in the Chapel in the Pines at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville. Family and friends received a museum tour and Seabee history presentation by our Curator Jack Sprengel followed by a barbecue luncheon. It was also Paul's 80th birthday. Fabulous afternoon was had by all who attended.



Vietnam Seabee boards the Puget Sound Honor Flight to Washington, DC

EOCN Raymond Cruz

CBMU 303/NSA Khe Sanh Veteran

Vietnam veteran Seabee enjoys a trip to Washington, DC, via the Puget Sound Honor Flight, a regional hub of the Honor Flight Network. This program honors World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War era veterans. "In-country" service is not required and it is completely free for qualifying veterans (excluding personal souvenirs). Support volunteers who accompany veterans must pay a tax-deductible guardian fee (currently \$1,025 to cover airfare, shared hotel, meals, and gear) and complete online training. Spouses of veterans are generally not permitted to act as guardians unless they are eligible veterans themselves. In Ray's case, his daughter, Laura Axtell, accompanied him as his guardian. For more information, and for qualifying veterans in the Pacific Northwest, you can visit their website and support or apply for a trip at <https://pugetsoundhonorflight.org/home-1>.



Gulfport CPO Selectees honor Marvin Shields legacy

Naval Construction Battalion
Center Gulfport

This year's class of chief petty officer selectees performs the annual reenactment of the Battle of Đồng Xoài at the Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport crane yard, Sept. 10, in memory of Construction Mechanic Third Class (CM3) Marvin Shields, the only Seabee to have earned the Medal of Honor.

During the reenactment, Sailors assigned to various units across NCBC Gulfport tried to recreate the heroic actions leading up to Shields' death during the 1965 battle. The chief petty officers recreate the annual reenactment to honor Marvin Shields and to serve as a living history account of that fateful battle.



NMCB 1 operations

Guam

WWII Tank Turret

Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 1 load a World War II Japanese Type 95 Ha-Go tank turret for transportation at Naval Base Guam, Guam, Aug. 28, 2026. NMCB-1 Seabees assist Naval Base Guam's Public Works Department in transporting the recently excavated turret to the T. Stell Newman Visitor Center at War in the Pacific National Historical Park for preservation and public display. (U.S. Navy photo by Builder 2nd Class Roger Ibarra, Jr.)



Osceola man recognized for his service in WWII

The Progress, Osceola Mills, PA

OSCEOLA MILLS — During the annual Osceola Spirit Day on Saturday, Sept. 12, the Osceola Masonic Lodge No. 515 along with the Osceola Mills VFW recognized 100-year-old Irvin Gers.

A 72-year member of the Lodge, Gers was recognized for his dedication to his country as a Seabee during World War II serving in the South Pacific with the 146th Construction Battalion under wartime conditions in Okinawa.

Gers is one of a few surviving WWII veterans from Osceola Mills.

Also in recognizing his 100th birthday, there was a birthday proclamation

certificate from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The presentation on behalf of the Navy Seabees was performed by Commander Jim Rice of the VFW. The recognition from the Grand Lodge was performed by Bob Hanna P. M. acting Worshipful Master & Richard Bush P. M., Lodge Secretary.

The Lodge congratulates Irvin Gers, and notes that the members are looking forward to seeing him when he turns 101.

Photo: Irvin Gers, center, was recently recognized for his dedication to his country as a Seabee during World War II serving in the South Pacific with the 146th Construction Battalion under wartime conditions in Okinawa.



Always a Seabee...

Prairieville, LA

(Recently) we met for dinner at Frank's in Prairieville, Louisiana. The food was great and the conversation even better. Always look forward to seeing my Brother Seabees and their significant others. L to R: BU3 Ralph King, Donna King, Sandy Dietz, YN3 James Dietz, Tammy Marcel and EO2 Donald Marcel. Missing our Brother, CEC Pat Hodges! Hoping he returns to our Swarm soon.



NMCB 5 operations

Alii, Palau

Building Stronger Communities, Together

True security begins with strong friendships and resilient communities. Across the island of Palau, our Seabees are honored to work together with our local hosts and partners:

In Koror: Our detachment is focused on restoring essential community infrastructure, ensuring local families and neighborhoods have the sustainable public works they rely on every day.

In Peleliu: Seabees are teaming with the U.S. Marine Corps to work directly alongside the Palauan government, designing community-focused engineering solutions that honor the island's heritage and build for its future.

More than concrete and steel, these projects build trust, mutual respect, and enduring ties across the Pacific.



Okinawa, Japan

Tech Training

U.S. Navy Steelworker Second Class Bradley Wittenmeyer practices stick welding.

U.S. Navy Builder Constructionman Kiernan Horn lays concrete masonry units as part of a unit developed training for Pacific Partnership 2026.

U.S. Navy Equipment Operator 3rd Class Mason Snyder oversees crane training.

(U.S. Navy Photos by Lt. Bryant Chau)

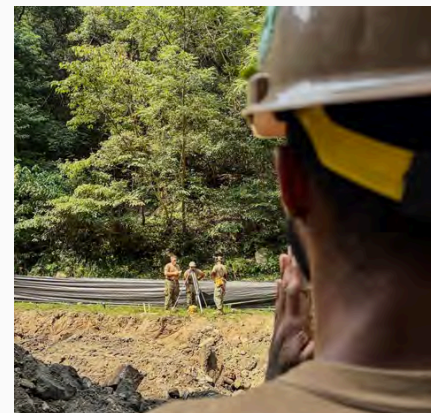


Sasebo, Japan

Seabees in the Spotlight: Detail Sasebo

These hard-charging Seabees are laying the foundation for mission success across the PACOM AO. Their critical construction projects directly empower our surface fleet to stay mission-ready and operate forward!

Keep up the great work and show the fleet why we're the Professionals!



NMCB 5 operations

Iwakuni, Japan

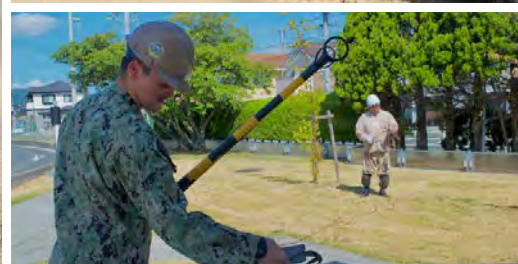
Seabees in the Spotlight: Detail Iwakuni

The Seabees of Det Iwakuni are delivering critical engineering and construction support to Public Works onboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni. Working seamlessly alongside our U.S. Marine Corps and Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF) counterparts, Det Iwakuni strengthens base infrastructure to directly enhance the operational readiness and lethality of forward-deployed Marines.

True to our heritage—building and fighting wherever the mission demands.

Can Do!

Let those Devil Dogs know why we're the Professionals, team Iwakuni!



Atsugi, Japan

Seabees in the Spotlight: Detail Atsugi

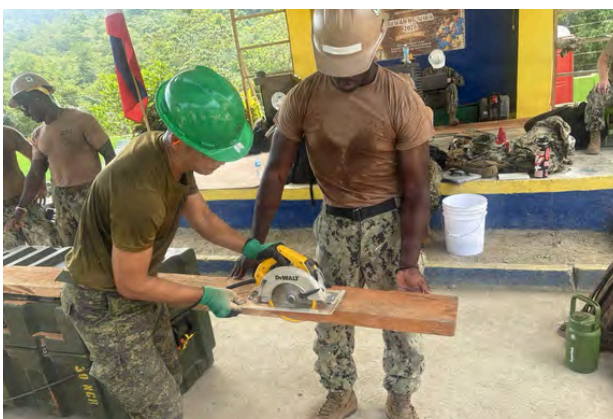
Det Atsugi is teaming up with our U.S. Air Force onboard Naval Air Facility Atsugi. This joint engineering effort directly strengthens infrastructure to ensure naval air assets remain forward-deployed, fully ready, and postured to support.



Tacloban, Philippines

NMCB 5 Seabees Work With Philippines Army on School Renovations

U.S. Navy Seabees, assigned to NMCB 5 Det Philippines, work with soldiers of the Philippines Army to renovate Lorenzo DAA Memorial School in Tacloban, Philippines.



UCT 2 operations

Battle "E" Earned

Underwater Construction Team TWO has been awarded the FY25 Navy Battle Effectiveness Award — recognizing sustained operational excellence, readiness, and mission execution. From homeport to the waterfronts of the PACFLT, UCT-2 Seabee Divers continue to prove what this team brings to the fight.



NBVC Port Hueneme

POV: You're a Seabee Diver. Underwater Cutting and welding isn't a special event. It's just part of the job.



San Clemente Island

Back to work beneath the surface.

Seabee Divers from UCT2 returned to San Clemente Island for another iteration of critical undersea facility maintenance. Through routine inspection, assessment, and maintenance, our divers help ensure vital underwater infrastructure remains reliable, operational, and ready to support the Fleet.



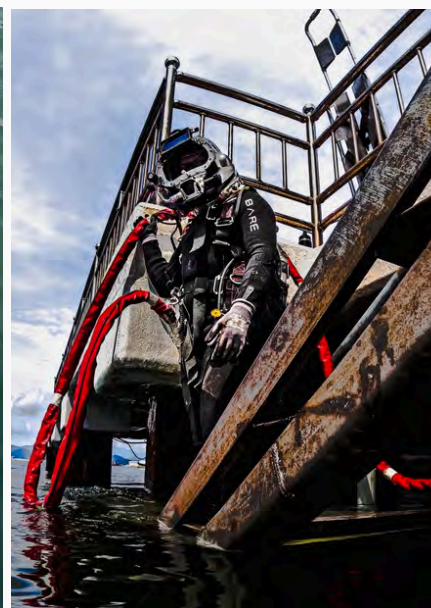
UCT 2 operations

Chinhae, Republic of Korea

Port Damage Repair

Seabee Divers from UCT2 conduct joint Port Damage Repair operations alongside Republic of Korea Navy UCT counterparts during a Subject Matter Expert Exchange as part of Exercise Ulchi Freedom Shield 2026.

The bilateral training strengthened interoperability and exchanged best practices in underwater construction and port restoration capabilities.



Always a Seabee...

Fort Worth, TX

Veterans Meet Up at BRCC celebrating Jack Stowe's 100th birthday!!



Chambersburg, PA

September 12th, 2026 South Central PA Seabee Swarm was held at Hoss's in Chambersburg, PA. Left to right: Jerry Wolfe, Wayne D. Smith, Larry Kunkle, Och Ochoa, Paul S. Barnett Jr., Ron Kauffman (USAF Retired), John Grubic.



Bend, OR

Seabees enjoying Seabee-ing, Roger Lyle, Marc Doran, and Doug Heiner catching up over a frosty beverage or two.

Centralia, WA

Seabees in the Pacific Northwest held their monthly Seabee Family & Friends Breakfast at the Country Cousin in Centralia, WA. Each month they gather in a different location to break things up and maybe get some Seabees out that don't travel as much. It's always a great time of good ol' fashioned Seabee camaraderie and if you're interested in attending, visit their Facebook page at PNW SEABEES CAN DO on the Events tab for the next opportunity.



NSU State Department Operations

Washington, DC

Congratulations, Class 26-02!

Naval Support Unit recently celebrated the graduation of Class 26-02, marking another important milestone for our newest Seabees as they prepare to take the next step in their NSU journey. Their graduation reflects the hard work, dedication and training required to support the NSU mission around the world. Please join us in congratulating Class 26-02 on this achievement!

Photos by: UT2 Gonzales



NEA Region - 1

Supporting the Mission Worldwide

From one mission to the next, every assignment brings new opportunities to support U.S. diplomatic operations around the globe. During a trip to the NEA region, UT2 Gonzales had the opportunity to join Secretary of State Marco Rubio and members of the Marine Security Guard for a group photo. Our Seabees continue to represent Naval Support Unit with professionalism wherever the mission takes them.



NEA Region - 2

Mission Continues in the Heat!

Even in 112°F temperatures, the mission doesn't stop. BU1 Brydon, alongside STS Chris Reardon, removed DS locks and decertified GSA security containers while supporting operations in the NEA region. Their technical expertise and attention to detail help ensure security equipment is properly managed while supporting continued mission readiness. Great work getting the job done, no matter the conditions!

Photos by CE1 Dixon, NEA Region PAO



UNGA 2026

NSU Supporting UNGA 2026

CM2 Kiely Quinn is putting his technical security expertise to work while supporting the Secretary of State detail during the 2026 United Nations General Assembly. As part of the mission, Quinn is assisting with camera setup and other technical security requirements in support of diplomatic operations throughout UNGA. This marks his first UNGA supporting the detail and an opportunity to put his specialized NSU training to work on a high-profile diplomatic mission. Great work representing NSU and the Seabee community!

Photos: UT2 Gonzales

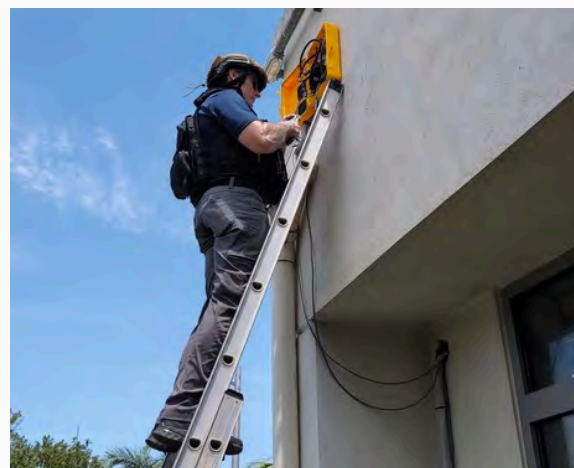


NSU State Department

U.S. Embassy, Haiti

Supporting the Mission in Haiti!

CM1 Hamner recently installed a radio communication system at a residential compound in support of U.S. Embassy operations in Haiti, enhancing communication and monitoring capabilities. From technical installations to critical maintenance, NSU Seabees continue to demonstrate their versatility and expertise in supporting U.S. diplomatic missions around the world. Photos: STS Kyle Winkel



Belmopan, Belize

Seabees at Work in Belize!

Seabees supporting U.S. Embassy Belmopan recently put their technical expertise to work on a key accountability project and fire door troubleshooting and repairs. EO1 Merriman and BU1 Garcia helped improve key organization and accountability, creating a more efficient system for daily operations. BU1 Webb also provided hands-on technical support to resolve an issue affecting a fire door. Their work highlights the versatility and problem-solving Seabees bring in support of diplomatic missions around the world. After the mission, the team also had the opportunity to experience some of Belize's history and see the impressive engineering of an ancient Maya site. Photos: WHA Region PAO



Tokyo, Japan

Recognizing Excellence!

EO1 Lofink was presented the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his outstanding work and contributions in support of the mission at U.S. Embassy Tokyo. ESO OIC Jeremy Holliman and Matt Parbs joined in recognizing EO1 Lofink for his efforts and dedication to the mission. Congratulations, EO1 Lofink, on this well-deserved recognition! Photos: EAP Region PAO



Always a Seabee...

Stillwater, OK

Back boys: Stan Dowling, Mike Prahm, Harold Evans, Floyd Comingdeer, Del Ludlum, Ralph Snyder.

Flag folks: Rhonda Woolson, Mike Stone, Elmer Mitchell.



U.S. Navy Seabee Museum

U.S.N. Seabee Museum Exhibit Team Progressing into Fall

Over the last few months, the Seabee Museum's exhibit team installed new and refreshed existing exhibit spaces.

What's new? We installed America 250! The team tackled this exhibit in two sections. Two team members were grouped together for each section, where they wrote exhibit text and artifact copy; built graphics and displayed artifacts. All of which met in the middle, accomplishing one complete exhibit. This celebratory exhibit is open until late 2027. Also new, we installed the Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist insignia (SCW) exhibit in the Grand Hall, highlighting the history and significance of earning and wearing the SCW insignia.

What spaces have we refreshed at Seabee Museum? With many Chiefs and Chief Selectees we beautified the landscape around the museum! They

removed weeds, added fresh dirt and mulch, all of which help visitors to better view the showcased artifacts surrounding the museum. Let's also say there is strength in numbers, and that was shown when they carefully lifted a steel remnant of the WWII U.S.S. Arizona from Pearl Harbor weighing close to 1,000 pounds and relocated the artifact into a new exhibit case. Helping us further, they respectfully relocated a steel girder remnant of the World Trade Center Tower One. Later, the exhibit team installed signage near the artifact. If that wasn't enough! The Chiefs and Chief Selectees pushed the museum's Vietnam jeep through the museum into the Cold War exhibit. Phew... That was an amazing Saturday morning!

What? A few more shifts in exhibits? In preparation for the jeep's big move, the exhibit team planned and revamped the

Cold War exhibit's layout. That included removing some exhibit cases and installing different exhibit ones along with adding a mosquito netting backdrop. Our team had allocated four mornings for this refresh and managed it much quicker! This meant we had time to install our CEC 2 exhibit.

Hmm... now we need to catch up on our paperwork. After all, we need to track where every artifact is when it's on exhibit or off exhibit.

Are you still curious? Keep an eye out for our progress this fall! The Seabee Museum has more space to fill in the Grand Hall, and its team is on it!



Always a Seabee...

Denver, CO

Our most recent Seabee Swarm yesterday - thanks to everyone for coming out!



NCB 18 operations

Naval Station Everett, WA

Annual Training (AT)

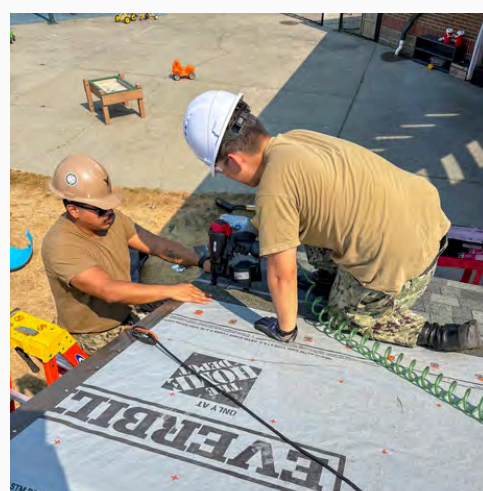
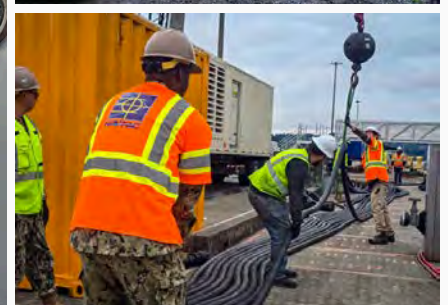
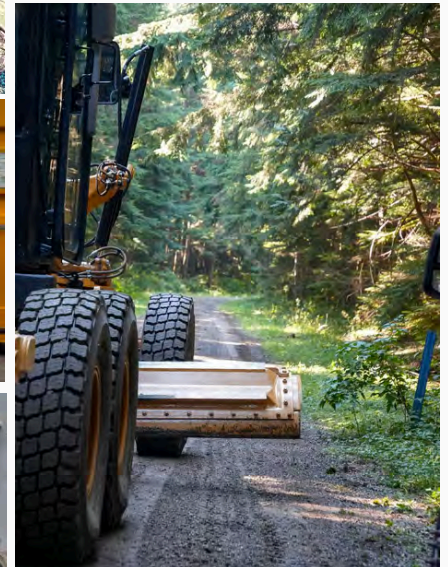
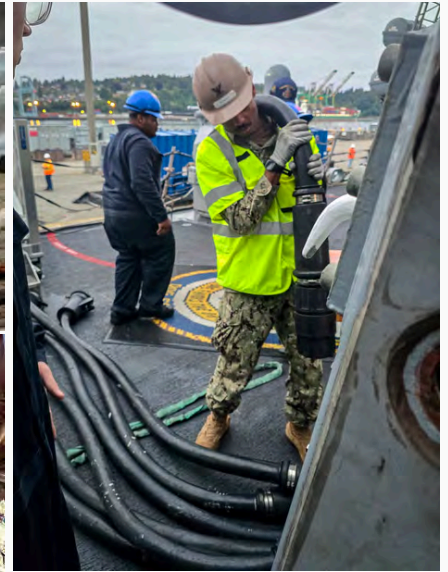
Seabees put their skills to work across Naval Station Everett during AT, supporting projects that directly benefited fleet operations and the installation community.

Along the piers, Seabees supported electrical work, including the removal of shore-power cables from a departing ship and repairs to electrical infrastructure used to provide power to ships while in port.

"The AT was an outstanding experience," said CE2 Edgington. "I had the opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience and strengthen my knowledge of my rate. I especially appreciated the trust and responsibility given to lower-level leadership, allowing them to take charge and manage their teams."

Another team supported the Child Development Center, repairing deteriorating shed roofs, a sandbox and pergola, while restoring benches and tables throughout the playground. Portions of the playground had been restricted due to the condition of the structures. Following the repairs, more of the space could safely be returned for children to enjoy.

The projects gave Seabees valuable hands-on training while completing meaningful work for Sailors and families at Naval Station Everett.



Always a Seabee...

New York City, NY

The September lunch. The NYC Area Seabee Swarm meet once a month, (1st Saturday) at Mike's Place - 4577 Hylan Blvd, Staten Island NY 10312 phone: 718-984-9479. Seabees, of all ages and eras attend. We have 2 WWII 'Bees and a Phoebee that served in Afghanistan 2015. We are a closed Group consisting of mainly US Navy Seabees. Being a Seabee or having a relation who is, or was, a Seabee will be welcomed to join this group.



Aiken area Seabees plan OktoBEEfest to swap tales, support local students in need

By Bill Bengtson
The Post Courier
Aiken, South Carolina

AIKEN — Local "Seabees" of the past and present are on track for an Oct. 10 gathering in Aiken, with a goal of sharing several decades of Navy stories and offering scholarship support for local students with Seabee heritage.

The OktoBEEfest is set to be from 5-8 p.m. at Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10601, at 250 Hudson Road, and participants are invited to bring stories and a "can-do" attitude, said event organizer Bill Bushall, a Vietnam veteran who is retired from the nuclear industry.

Bushall, whose Seabee years also included work in Antarctica "and about nine other countries," estimated that he has met at least 50 Seabees who live in the Aiken-Augusta area.

Pat Burke, a Marine Corps veteran who served for three years in Vietnam and 24 years in the Navy Seabees Reserve, endorsed the initiative, citing the example of a family member now studying at the University of South Carolina.

"It's a scholarship to benefit the children and grandchildren of Seabees, and... my first grandchild is in college," Burke said. "He's a senior now, but when he applied for that scholarship ... he got it, so for the past three years, and currently on this year, too, he's had that scholarship every year, and he's going to graduate in 2027 at the end of the school year."

OktoBEEfest gatherings, open not only to Seabees but also to their friends and families, are held at a variety of sites around the country, all in October.

Proceeds are to go to the Navy Seabee Foundation, which aims "to award scholarships to the children and grandchildren of those who have served with the Naval Construction Force and promotes the rich history and heritage of the Seabees by supporting the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum and other heritage sites dedicated to the U.S. Navy Seabees," as stated on the foundation's website.

It adds, "Our commitment also extends to supporting the well-being of current and former members of the Seabee/Civil Engineering Corps Community and their families."

Seabees, as described on a Navy website, "provide a wide range of construction in support of operating forces, including roads, bridges, bunkers, airfields and logistics bases; provide responsive support disaster recovery operations; perform civic action projects to improve relations with other nations; and provide anti-terrorism and force protection for personnel and construction projects."

The Seabee motto is, "We Build, We Fight." Admission to the Oct. 10 event is \$10. For more (local) information, call 803-480-5342, or visit <https://donorbox.org/events/951734>.



Always a Seabee...

Jacksonville, FL
NE Florida Island X-9 NSVA

We had an Awesome turnout for Jim and Laurie Zywtot's going away dinner. We love you guys and you will definitely be missed.

Jacksonville, FL
NE Florida Island X-9 NSVA

We had a productive meeting today at American Legion Post 83. It doesn't matter if the group was small. What matters is we still promote the Legacy of the Seabees. We talked about the Fall Festival in Orange Park Festival and will have a sign-up sheet soon. Please let's all get involved as it is a great fundraiser. We also talked about the OktoBEEfest Fest on October 15th. Hope to see everyone there. We are planning on a Veterans Day get together at Ed Bator's house on the 7th of November. The Island will donate money for steaks. Please let us know if you are coming and how many you plan to bring. Sign on for side dishes and BYOB. The last thing we are planning is possibly one last meeting of the year. We are changing it up just a little bit. More info to come. In the photo left to right Dwight Littleton (Dave), Terence Paparella, Dan O'Neal, John Soultanian, Rick Wilson and Tony Ceaglio. Please pass on to other Seabees. We would love to have others to participate. CAN DO! We definitely missed James Zywtot who was instrumental in our Island starting back up Brother.





October

TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Guam Great Lakes, IL Georgetown, KY Ventura, CA Boston, MA	2 Naples, Italy Denver, CO	3 Troy, NY Cleveland, OH Rota, Spain Port Orchard, WA
6	7	8 Tampa, FL Philadelphia, PA Ridgecrest, CA	9 Ft. Leonard Wood, MO	10 Aiken, SC Lubbock, TX
13 Surprise, AZ	14	15 Candia, NH Washington, DC Jacksonville, FL San Diego, CA	16	17 San Antonio, TX Salt Lake City, UT Oahu, HI
20	21 Emerald Isle, NC	22 Pensacola, FL Gulfport, MS	23	24 Fort Wayne, IN State College, PA
	28 Norfolk, VA	29	30	31



SEABEE PINT
CUP (6 MORE)
FOR ALL WHO
PRE-REGISTER!

PreRegister Today! **OktoBEEfest.org**

NOTE: Online registration closes at 11:30pm local time the night before each event.

HZ HUITT
ZOLLARS

PLANATE

INVOLVE

POND

CAN DO SPONSOR
Stantec

CLARK

Blue Trident, LLC

TITLE SPONSOR
CBG
CAPITAL BRAND GROUP

AECOM

moffatt & nichol
ORION

GOLDENWOLF

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.

The Highpointers Foundation:

- Supports public and private efforts to maintain the integrity of and safe access to state highpoints
- Aids in the conservation of the highpoints and their environs
- Provides a forum for education about the 50 US state highpoints
- Maintains positive relationships with owners of highpoints on private property
- Assists in the care and maintenance of highpoints

Our History

The predecessor of the Highpointers Foundation was the Good Guys & Gals Fund for the Highpointers Club. From 2000 to 2006, the Club members researched the possibility of transforming the Club into a 501(c)(3) organization. Numerous avenues were explored but it became apparent that the Club would be best served as a 501(c)(7) not-for-profit entity due to its nature as a social club.

In 2006, the Highpointers Club voted to approve the formation of a separate non-profit sister organization, which became the 501(c)(3), the Highpointers Foundation. The two organizations stay in close contact, with liaisons helping discuss relevant highpoint concerns and projects. Though the Directors are spread across the country and have a varying number of completed highpoints, they are all dedicated to the best interests of some of our nation's most cherished mountains – through education, access, maintenance, and more. Intensive collaboration on projects is achieved through annual meetings both in person and via Zoom.

Highpointers Foundation operations are centered in Colorado, where it is registered as a Colorado non profit corporation. Gift acknowledgements are sent from Louisiana. The Tax and Financial operations function from Maine and Connecticut. Legal Counsel is based in Massachusetts. Legacy Planning occurs in California. Website maintenance is primarily in Colorado and Utah.

Recent projects

North Dakota

At White Butte, we are collaborating to support trail expansion, an informational kiosk, signs, a self-closing gate, and more at the highpoint area. With the help of volunteers and donations, we can finish these improvements.

Maine

At Maine's highpoint, we have partnered with Friends of Baxter State Park to sponsor students to do special research projects related to Mt Katahdin. Our goal is to continue funding scholarships to support this program.

Ohio

The Highpointers Foundation provided a second glass display case in 2023 for the Highpointing Museum at the Voc Tech School campus, next to the Highpoint.

Illinois

The privately owned highpoint of Charles Mound recently received two signs funded entirely by the Highpointers Foundation, providing information and guidance on special visitation dates and regulations.



Find information for all directors listed on the webpage.

Our work by the numbers

- Over 130 projects to date
- \$250K + invested in highpoints
- Over 300 Foundation Donors



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

Retired Seabee Mary Montigny reaches Baxter Peak, elevation 5,267 feet, the Northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail, Baxter State Park, Piscataquis County, Maine.



UPCOMING SEABEE EVENTS

For more information go to seabee.org/calendar/

OCTOBER 2026

- 1 **OktoBEEfest - Guam**
Thursday, Oct 1 - Tamuning, Guam
- OktoBEEfest - Boston**
Thursday, Oct 1 - Newton, MA
- OktoBEEfest - Kentucky**
Thursday, Oct 1 - Georgetown, KY
- OktoBEEfest - Great Lakes, IL**
Thursday, Oct 1 - Winthrop Harbor, IL
- OktoBEEfest - Ventura, CA**
Thursday, Oct 1 - Ventura, CA
- 2 San Diego Seabee Ball
Fall Classic Golf Tournament
Friday, Oct 2 - San Diego, CA
- 2 **OktoBEEfest - Naples, Italy**
Friday, Oct 2 - Naples, Italy
- OktoBEEfest - Denver, CO**
Friday, Oct 2 - Northglenn, CO
- 3 **OktoBEEfest - Rota, Spain**
Saturday, Oct 3 - Rota, Spain
- OktoBEEfest - New York**
Saturday, Oct 3 - Troy, NY
- OktoBEEfest - Cleveland, OH**
Saturday, Oct 3 - Cleveland Heights, OH
- OktoBEEfest - Pacific Northwest**
Saturday, Oct 3 - Port Orchard, WA
- 8 **2026 Virginia Beach Seabee Golf Tournament**
Thursday, Oct 8 - VA Beach Ntl Golf Club, SeabeeGolf.org
- OktoBEEfest - Tampa, FL**
Thursday, Oct 8 - Tampa, FL
- OktoBEEfest - Philadelphia, PA**
Thursday, Oct 8 - Philadelphia, PA
- OktoBEEfest - Ridgecrest, CA**
Thursday, Oct 8 - Ridgecrest (China Lake), CA
- 9 **OktoBEEfest - Ft. Leonard Wood, MO**
Friday, Oct 9 - Waynesville, MO

- 10 **OktoBEEfest - Aiken, SC**
Saturday, Oct 10 - Aiken, SC
- OktoBEEfest - Lubbock, TX**
Saturday, Oct 10 - Lubbock, TX
- 12 NMCB 133 Seabee Veterans Association Reunion
Oct 12-15 - Gulfport, MS
- 13 **OktoBEEfest - Arizona**
Tuesday, Oct 13 - Surprise, AZ
- 15 **OktoBEEfest - New Hampshire**
Thursday, Oct 15 - Candia, NH
- OktoBEEfest - Washington, DC**
Thursday, Oct 15 - Washington, DC
- OktoBEEfest - Jacksonville, FL**
Thursday, Oct 15 - Jacksonville, FL
- OktoBEEfest - San Diego, CA**
Thursday, Oct 15 - Imperial Beach, CA
- 17 **OktoBEEfest - San Antonio, TX**
Saturday, Oct 17 - San Antonio, TX
- OktoBEEfest - Utah**
Saturday, Oct 17 - Salt Lake City, UT
- OktoBEEfest - Hawaii**
Saturday, Oct 17 - Oahu (Kaneohe), HI
- 18 MCB1 - MCB9 Reunion
Oct 18-22 - Virginia Beach, VA
- 21 **OktoBEEfest - North Carolina**
Wednesday, Oct 21 - Emerald Isle, NC
- 22 **OktoBEEfest - Pensacola, FL**
Thursday, Oct 22 - Pensacola, FL
- OktoBEEfest - Gulfport, MS**
Thursday, Oct 22 - Gulfport, MS
- 24 **OktoBEEfest - State College, PA**
Saturday, Oct 24 - State College, PA
- OktoBEEfest - Fort Wayne, IN**
Saturday, Oct 24 - Fort Wayne, IN
- 25 East Coast All Seabee Reunion
Oct 25-29, Pigeon Forge, TN
- 28 **OktoBEEfest - Norfolk, VA**
Wednesday, Oct 28 - Norfolk, VA

DECEMBER 2026

- 11 San Diego Seabee Ball
Winter Open Golf Tournament
Friday, Dec 11 - Coronado, CA

JANUARY 2027

- 1 Navy Seabee Foundation
Scholarship Application Opens
Jan 1-April 15 - Seabee.org

FEBRUARY 2027

- 5 The Can-Do Cup San Diego
Seabee Ball Golf Tournament
Friday, Feb 5 - Coronado, CA

MARCH 2027

- 6 85th U S Navy Seabee Birthday/
All Military Ball 2027
Saturday March 6 - Young Harris, GA

APRIL 2027

- 13 NMCB 128 Reunion
April 13-16 - Gulfport, MS
- 15 NSVA All Seabee Reunion
Island X-1 - Gulfport, MS
April 15-17 - Gulfport, MS
- 16 NMCB 74 Desert Storm/Desert
Shield Reunion 2027
April 16-17 - Gulfport, MS
- 22 NMCB 40 Reunion
April 22-25 - Arlington, TX
- 28 MCB58 Reunion
April 28-May 3 - Charleston, SC
- 28 **2027 Gulf Coast Seabee Golf Invitational**
benefiting the Navy Seabee Foundation
Wednesday, April 28 - Diamondhead, MS
SeabeeGolf.org - Register early...
This tournament sells out every year!

MAY 2027

- 24 **2027 Washington DC Seabee Golf Invitational**
benefiting the Navy Seabee Foundation
Monday, May 24 - Clifton, VA
SeabeeGolf.org - Register early...

WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING IN 2027?

SEABEE BALL?

SEABEE REUNION?

Let us know about your Seabee event!

We'll help you get the word out!

Send your event details to info@seabee.org

SEABEE.ORG





Got a Seabee Story to Tell?



Share your story.
Preserve the legacy.

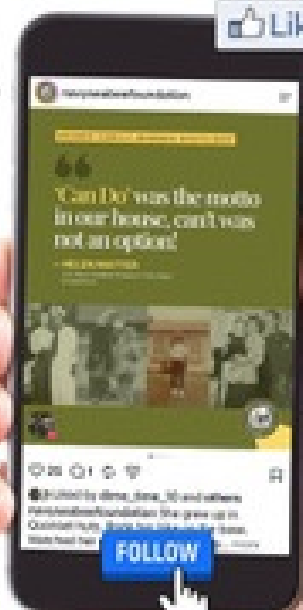


MySeabeeStory.org

STAY CONNECTED TO THE SEABEE COMMUNITY



seabee.org

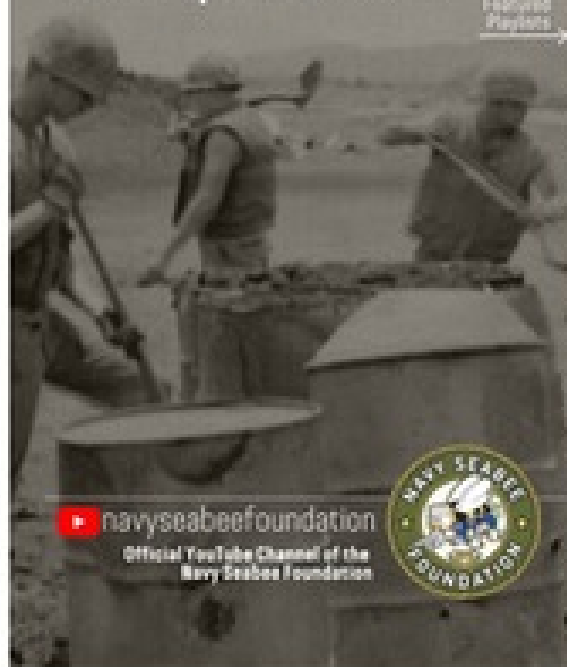


EXPLORE SEABEE STORIES ON YouTube

Explore curated playlists featuring Seabee history, today's Seabees, career stories, and inspiring personal stories.

Watch. Explore. Subscribe.

Featured Playlists



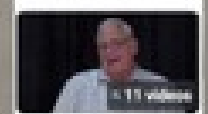
Seabees Today

Public



Life as a Seabee

Public



Seabee Stories

Public



Fallen Seabees & Remembrance

Public



The Seabees in the Spotlight

Public



Seabee History and Heritage

Public



Seabees in the Spotlight

navyseabeefoundation
Official YouTube Channel of the
Navy Seabee Foundation





Seabee History Comes to Life.

Discover the Story of the U.S. Navy Seabees.



U.S. NAVY SEABEE MUSEUM
 OPEN MON-SAT
 10AM-4PM

ADMISSION IS FREE!



SCAN to
PLAN Your Visit

3201 S. Ventura Rd.,
Port Hueneme, CA



Memorials

Seabee memorials and monuments stand as tributes to the valor and dedication of Navy worldwide. The Navy Seabee Foundation maintains memorials around the globe.



Museums

The Navy Seabee Museum in California, the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park in Rhode Island, and the Seabee Heritage Center in Mississippi preserve the history and traditions of the Seabees and Civil Engineers.



Books by and About Seabees

There are many publications written by and about Seabees and CEC officers. Seabee history, memoirs, biographies, or in-depth accounts of Seabee missions and experiences.

Here are some for your enjoyment.

If you have a recommendation to add to the list send us a note at info@seabee.org

The Navy Seabee Foundation is not selling or endorsing these books, simply offering them as a resource.



Visit these locations on our website in the Heritage section



Final Salute

The Navy Seabee Foundation pays tribute to fallen shipmates through its Final Salute list. This solemn acknowledgment ensures that their memory lives on, as their names are honored and remembered by the Seabee community and beyond, embodying the Foundation's commitment to honor our Seabee legacy.

CAN DO CAREER CONNECTION

LOOKING TO HIRE? LOOKING FOR WORK?

Connecting Seabee talent with employers ready to hire.

FREE Job Platform for Employers and Job Seekers.



NOW HIRING Featured this week

Employers actively recruiting on Can Do Career Connection

Add your jobs to our online jobs list!

CARROLL DICKSON COMPANY
Mechanical Engineer - Quality Assurance - Electrical Engineer

3 Open Positions

Plugout LLC
Low Voltage Technicians - Project Manager

3 Open Positions

ACIERTO LLC
Senior Construction Manager

Construction

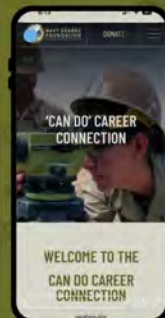
ACCENTURE I&CP
Senior Cost Manager - Infrastructure & Capital Projects

Infrastructure

CITY OF SUFFOLK
Engineer I / II / III - Stormwater

Municipal Infrastructure

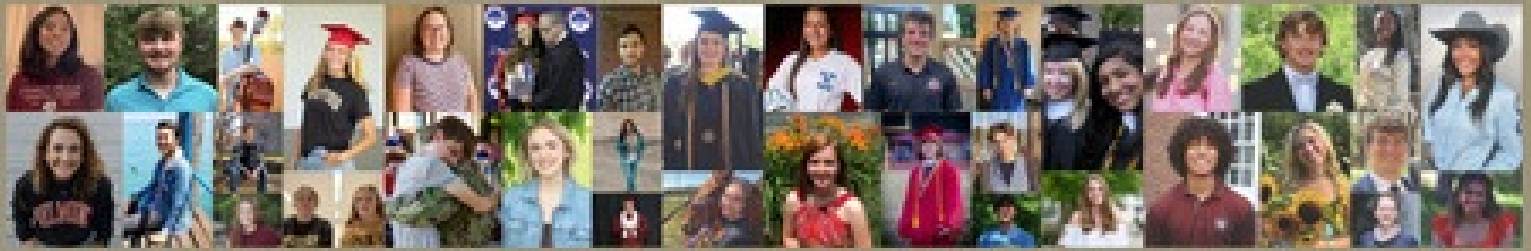
A free career platform connecting Seabees, veterans, and employers who value real-world skills.



NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION
CAN DO
 Career Connection
seabee.org/careers



POWERED BY THE NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION



BECAUSE YOU SERVED, THEY COULD BENEFIT

The Navy Seabee Foundation offers scholarships exclusively to the children and grandchildren of America's Fighting Seabees, Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) officers and those who served with the Naval Construction Force.

The Navy Seabee Foundation Scholarship Application is Open Online Jan 1 - Apr 15.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Children and grandchildren of a Seabee or Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) Officer. (Step childcare & grandchildren, too)
- Members of other service branches assigned to a Seabee unit.
- Active duty, reserve, retired and honorably discharged Seabee
- Applicants must be a senior in high school or entering college for the first time as a freshman and must be under the age of 23.

GOT QUESTIONS?

- Visit www.Seabee.org
- Email scholarship@seabee.org



NAVY SEABEE FOUNDATION
FORWARD THE PAST. BUILD THE FUTURE.

seabee.org



Check Out the Navy Seabee Foundation Online Seabee Shop

Every Purchase Supports Seabees and Their Families



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THANK YOU!



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CAN DO!

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