

PAST REUNION NEWS FROM LONG BEACH

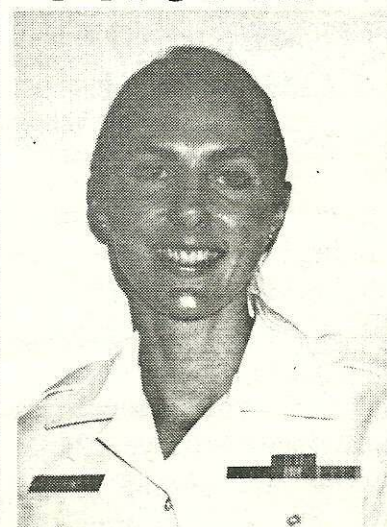
The turnout was not as good as we had expected but those that attended had a great time. Our thanks to Bob and Francis Stickney and LT Tim Paton, Commanding Officer of Momag Unit One, for arranging the reunion. The business meeting, dinner and picnic all were great and a lot of old friends turned out for the events. The Board of Directors and membership meetings approved the following matters: financial report for the period January 1, 1991 to August 31, 1991, showing a balance of \$1,628.91 in checking, \$759.43 in savings and \$7,774.96 in the History Book account; re-election of Bob Forbes and John Loonam to the Board of Directors for a 3 year term; election of CAPT Mike Nash, USN, Commander Mobile Mine Assembly Group as an Honorary Mineman; reconfirmed the 1992 meeting would be in Charleston August 21-23, 1992 and Toby Horn is chairing the reunion committee; approved Reno Nevada as the site for the 1993 reunion August 20-22, 1993 with Don Decrona as the chairman of the reunion committee. Toby Horn reported on membership and advised the mail list will definitely be purged prior to the next newsletter. He expects the list will be a little under 700 addresses. Lyal Stryker reported on the mine museum aboard the USS Yorktown, noting that we received a lot of material from Keyport (Indian Island) WN, which is literally priceless. Included in the material is a brand new K-Mechanism Test Stand, complete set of depth charge publications, complete set of depth charge test sets, a DST 115A, depth charges MK 6 and 9/14, several boxes of old OP's and some Troubleshooter magazines.

DINNER MEETING: It was disappointing that less than 100 people turned out for the dinner, but those who were there enjoyed themselves. CAPT Robert Hampe, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach, welcomed the members to the area and wished them a productive reunion. LT Tim Paton, USN, Commanding Officer of MOMAG Unit One, Seal Beach and our host also welcomed the members and told them of the arrangements for the picnic on Sunday. RADM Pearson, USN, Commander Mine Warfare Command sent his regrets and hopes to see everyone in Charleston in 92. CAPT Jim Martin, USNR (RET) was our guest speaker. Jim is a member of the AOM and has been supporting our history book project. Jim spent most of WWII in the Pacific engaged in various aspects of sea mine warfare. He received the Bronze Star in 1946 for participation in Operation Starvation. His talk was about some of the principal mining operations of WWII in the Pacific, including many that most people never heard of. President Jim Coffman announced selections of the Minemen of the Year, Active Duty - MN1 Jeffry Holt, USN, MOMAG Unit Eleven, Charleston and Reserve - MN1 John F. Zimmerman, USNR, MOMAG Unit 2218, Cape Girardo, Missouri. Awards will be presented by RADM Pearson at the next annual mine conference in Charleston. President Jim Coffman also announced the winners of the two \$500.00 scholarship assistance awards: Doyle E. Paul, III, son of MNCS Doyle E. Paul, USN, awarded in the memory of Lt. Donald Mack, USN, and Miss Rachel E. McWherter, daughter of LCDR Irving McWherter, USNR. During the dinner meeting we received a telegram from Melvin Sanborn wishing everyone a wonderful time and stating that he would see us in Charleston in 92. Also received a note from Scotty Hynd (Hawthorne era) telling us he had a stroke in May 91 but was recovering nicely. Hope to see you in Charleston in 92 Scotty!

PICNIC was a great success, mainly due to the hard work of Tim Paton and some of his crew. We really had a good time. During the picnic we were able to see in the distance the maiden flight of the new USAF C-17 transport. History in the making! Picnic location was the picnic area adjacent to Bunker 33, the club. The weather was good, the beer cold and the food appetizing and most important was the camaraderie of all present, young and old. The highlight of the picnic was the bidding auction with auctioneer Toby Horn presiding. There were 44 items donated by the members for auction and the "take" was \$1398.00 plus \$62.00 from the sale of Laverne Padgett's "river rocks" for a grand total of

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MEMBER PROFILE



Name: MN2 Katherine Frunz, USN

Born: Cleveland, Ohio, 8 January 1961

Current Occupation: COMOMAG Administration

Family: Married to MN1 Robbie L Frunz, have daughters Jamie (age 6) and Amy (age 4 months)

Favorite Place: An uncrowded beach

Favorite Food: Shrimp

Favorite Drink: French wine

Favorite Movie: Empire of the Sun

Favorite Book: North and South (all John Jakes series)

Hobby: Playing the piano

Ideal Way To Relax: Playing the piano

One Word To Describe

Myself: Impulsive

My Best Asset Is: My personality

I'm A Pushover For: Children

If I Could Take A Snapshot

With Anyone, I'd Choose:

Barbara Bush

If I Could Change One Thing

About Myself: Being too impulsive and compassionate

Greatest Accomplishment:

Working towards and receiving my B.A. in Sociology

Best Advice To A Young

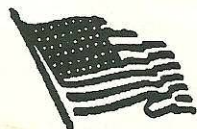
Person: Enlist

He was responsible for the Naval Hospital being built here in Charleston and the expansion of the Naval activities in Charleston. WISH HE WAS STILL WITH US!!

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Toby Horn,
Charleston, SC (803) 762-3552

Our membership appears to be stabilizing and growing. We're not shattering any records, but if our growth rate continues we'll be able to provide a considerable voting block for national issues by the year 3006. Since our last newsletter, we are happy to welcome the following new or reinstalled members: Ulys S. Allen, Centerville OH - Stephen M. Archer, Point Charlotte FL - David C. Barclay, Georgetown GA - David P. Brummell, Springfield VA - Curtis L Jones, Williamsburg VA - John H. Nalepa, Whitmore Lake MI and Michael A. Nalepa, Whitmore Lake MI. We hope all these members will take an active part in our organization. We look forward to a long and continuous friendship and professional association with each of them. Our membership now stands at 674 and the rabbit is still drumming up others (with all the money the Mine Force spent on batteries, you better believe we have some subliminal advertising in that commercial?).



1992 REUNION COMMITTEE

Chairman: Toby Horn, Charleston, SC (803) 762-3552

Mineman Master Chief Roger Adams, LCDR Will Dixon, LT John Iwaneic and the MOMAG gang, to the rescue. I had no sooner delivered the last Dashpot to the printers - having my plea for help within - than Roger, Will and John called and asked, "What can we do?" Roger volunteered to head up the planning efforts for our reunion picnic and Will and John nailed down host hotel, early bird, business meeting and golf arrangements. This has been a big load, folks. We owe them a lot of thanks for all their help.

Our theme is "BLUE AND GOLD" this year. We have lots in store for what promises to be a gala weekend. Maps (charts) and directions for all events will be available for everyone at the host hotel and Early Bird - at other events, too. Photo coverage will be provided by the *very lovely* Marty Acres of Flash Foto Studio, Charleston for our reunion book. Let me recap our plans for events as they will happen - in chronological order.

Our host hotel for the reunion will be the Knight's Inn on Aviation Avenue, which is off of Interstate 26 (I-26) at Exit 211A as you either approach Charleston from I-95, or leave Charleston from downtown or come from Route 17 (Mt. Pleasant or Savannah). They have given us special booking prices for an entire block of both regular rooms and suites - all of which are nice accommodations. Rooms vary in per night price from singles at \$24.00, one pers-two beds with micro/frig at \$27.00, two pers-one bed with micro/frig \$30.00, two pers-two beds with micro/frig at \$32.00, and suites at \$40.00. Plastic is accepted, except no Discover cards. Make your reservations early by calling 1-800-845-1927 to be able to book into the AOM block of rooms and be close to all your shipmates and room parties.

RV Park accommodations with full hookups are a little harder to come by. Fains Campground is the closest to events (walking distance to host hotel and Early Bird) - use the same exit as for host hotel, but make a right turn onto Fain Road, go past Holiday Inn and campground is on the left (\$18.00 p/day for up to two pers, bath house, but no pool or laundry, call 803-744-1005). KOA Campgrounds is located in the Summerville area as you approach Charleston from I-95, about 15 minutes drive to the host hotel area - exit from I-26 onto exit 205/205A and proceed West for one mile to 9494 Hwy 78 (for two pers \$19.00 p/day for water/elec hookup, \$22.00 for full hookup, \$25.00 p/day for full hookup w/air, have pool, laundry, rec hall, playground, area tours from campground, call 803-797-1045). The James Island County Park RV Campground is the newest and is only ten minutes drive to the ocean - from host hotel, take I-26 to Charleston (end of I-26) then Rt 17 South toward Savannah, across Ashley River Bridge then Rt 700 towards Folly Beach/Kiawah, cross Inland Waterway over Wappoo Bridge, stay straight on Folly Road for 5 stop lights, make right onto Camp Road and go 1/2 mile to end, make right onto Riverland Drive, then left into park (\$18.00 p/day for full hookup, \$16.00 for water/elec hookup, age 62+ discount, no pool, but everything else, call 803-795-9884).

On Friday evening, beginning at 6:00PM, our Early Bird get-together and reservations will take place at Sigi's Schnitzelhaus (German Restaurant) which is a half-block walking distance from the hotel. The owners and the chef are retired military, and they have gone all-out to provide us a great meeting place, eats on the side, and reasonable drink rates at the bar.

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REUNION COMMITTEE

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Saturday morning offers a wide variety of options. For the first time, we are hosting a "mixed" golf outing as arranged by our active duty crowd at COMOMAG. Believe me folks, even if you have never picked up a golf club in your whole life, this will be worth going out to a garage sale and buying a \$1.98 set of clubs (driver, 5-iron and putter is all you need) for the "Captain's Choice" format they have come up with. It is a barrel of fun designed for guys and gals of all golfing experience (including none). I have played this format several times and have never heard anyone complain that they didn't have a good time. The ones who have never played in their life seem to have the most fun - the ladies have a particularly good time and most often are the ones who are responsible for the "big gun" that wins the hole. As they say, "the meek shall inherit the golf course". The round will be played at the popular Weapons Station course, a short drive from the host hotel, with team tee-off times starting at 0900. We **must** have advanced registration for this event, so please check off your reservation form right away and mail it back ASAP. I do not have a firm handle on cost yet - which will cover greens fees, carts and prizes - but LT John Iwaniec will be trying for a package deal to keep the price down. We will ask you to please register for this in person at the Early Bird so that we can make up the teams, avoid last minute confusion and assure everyone a great fun time.

The tour of the USS Yorktown, Mine Museum and all the other ships at Patriot's Point will also be available to members, free of charge, from 0900 thru 1200 on Saturday morning. Again, we need your reservations early so we can prepare an access list for the guard office.

COMOMAG and MOMAG Unit ELEVEN will provide a tour of their facilities (within walking distance of the Knight's Inn) on Saturday morning if reservation requests indicate enough interest. The tour

of MOMAG Unit ONE in Long Beach last year was a huge success.

There is an historic Charleston tour that will leave the Knight's Inn at 0900 on Saturday morning. Current cost is \$20.00 per person, but we are trying to negotiate a reduced rate based on quantity. This tour will get you back to the hotel in time for lunch at Sigi's and the business meeting (see below). There are also tours leaving Knight's Inn at 1300 (1:00PM civilian time) for Fort Sumter (\$22.00 per) or Boone Hall Plantation (\$20.00 per). Either of these would be excellent for the ladies while the guys stay for the business meeting!!!

The AOM Business meeting will be held at Sigi's on Saturday afternoon starting at 1330 (1:30 PM civilian time). This is a **most important** meeting, since we are electing our President, Vice President and two Board of Directors to represent us for the next several years. We would ask that members try to get their morning activities finished so they can attend. Snacks will be available along with a cash bar.

Our dinner meeting will begin at 1800 on Saturday evening at the Naval Base Sports Bar. The theme is "Blue and Gold" and we have ordered up everything to promote a "casual" atmosphere. Casual attire is the uniform of the day (this means, folks, the type of casual dress that suits ladies and gentlemen everywhere) - we are geared to have fun and be comfortable at the same time. We are hoping that our guest speaker will be RADM John Pearson (COMINELWARCOM) with an interesting message for all of us. Our guest list will also include RADM Byron Tobin (COMNAVBAS Norfolk) and CAPT Danny Powers, the new Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group. We have not received confirmation letters as of this writing so this could change. There will be affordable cash bar prices for well-drinks and draft beers; extra for call brands. The food offered at our buffet promises to make you want more, music will be delivered by our own personal D.J. who will also handle your special Karaoke requests. Many surprises are in store. I think we're all going to have a great time.

The picnic on Sunday will be at the Short Stay Recreation Center which has been completely renovated (no more sand traps for your cars). The beer "truck" (no kegs for these guys) will dispense cold and frothy golden liquid of our liking; kids and adult games will offer photographers a real field-day (watch for the chocolate cup-cake-big-bite contest for the kids); hot dogs, hamburgers, and chick-filet sandwiches will be on order with all the trimmings and side orders of whatever we can manage; enter the horse-shoe tournament and try to bring the trophy back to the East Coast (watch out, the West Coast guys cheat); and there are paddle boats, volley ball and basketball courts. **MOST IMPORTANT**, we will have our annual "auction" for which proceeds go to our scholarship and our museum funds. Last year, the L.B. crowd broke the record for the proceeds taken in, and we are hoping for a repeat "breaker" this year. **PLEASE**, anyone (including our wonderful out-of town members who won't be able to be here) who is planning to contribute an item for auction, get the item to us early so we can make sure of proper recognition and thanks - and please put a minimum price on the item so we can establish a bid threshold.

I don't think I've left anything out, 'cept maybe you if you're one of the ones who won't be able to be here. Stay tuned, though, and we'll let you know how things turned out.

REUNION 1993

RENO, NEVADA • AUGUST 20-22

PLAN NOW!!

\$1460.00 which is split between the scholarship and mine museum programs. We sincerely thank all the members that donated items for the auction. All of the items were unique, including the traditional sampler afghan from Millie Reid, duckhead bookends from Toby and Jane Horn, an Angel baseball team memento from Steve Scharschan, items from the collection of Joe Glowa donated by his wife, stuffed animals from several people, and many more items. The framed laws of the Navy from the Joe Glowa collection went for \$200.00 and will be displayed in the mine museum on board the USS Yorktown in memory of MNMCM Joe Glowa. Millie Reid's afghan went for \$185.00, which was a "steal".

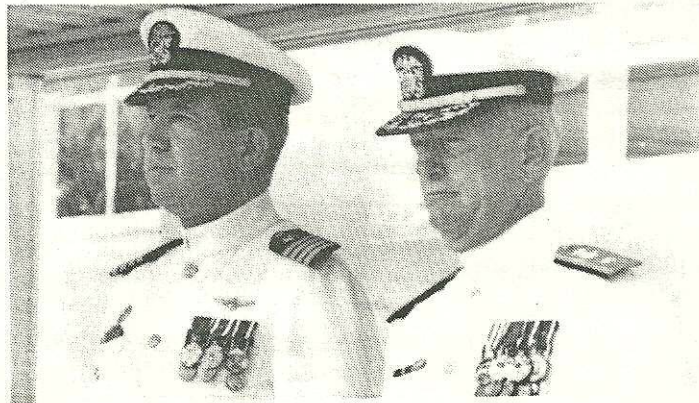
NEW NEWS: Elsewhere in the newsletter you will read about the reunion here in Charleston this coming August 21st to 23rd. Toby Horn and his reunion committee are putting together a great weekend. The 1993 reunion will be in Reno, Nevada, August 20th to 22nd. Don Decrona wrote to tell us everything is on track. He and Ann Cobis are arranging a super weekend like they have done before. We have sent a deposit on the hotel which will be the Sands again. Don tells us that they have made preliminary arrangements for golfing and are working on getting the cruise on the M.S. Dixie at Lake Tahoe. Also a new location for the picnic. Don will have more information at this year's reunion in Charleston and will be reporting more details at our board and membership meetings.

REUNION 1994: THIS YEAR WE WILL BE SELECTING THE LOCATION FOR THE 1944 REUNION WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI. Come prepared to discuss the location and if you are unable to attend the reunion drop us a note with your recommendation!

ACTIVE AND RESERVE NEWS . . .

Can't some of you enterprising active duty or reserve members come up with a better name for this column??? Lay it on me!!!

Our big news this issue is the Change of Command at Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly Group (COMOMAG). On 23 June, Captain Mike Nash both retired from active Naval service and passed over the helm of COMOMAG to Captain Danny Powers. As reported in the last Dashpot, Captain Nash became one of our AOM's Honorary Minemen last year, recognized as a significant contributor to our professional community. RADM Byron Tobin (COMNAVBASE Norfolk) and RADM John Pearson (COMINWARCOM) were on hand for the ceremony and remarks.



RADM Pearson awarded the Legion of Merit (2nd award) to Captain Nash and reflected on the custom of the "Change of Command" and the inherent responsibilities. Both Admirals lauded the many accomplishments of Captain Nash and the void he will leave in the Navy. However, this reporter was never able to get the full story on the referrals to Mike "Dancing Bear" Nash - perhaps we'll get those details at the reunion this year? Captain Danny Powers

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TAPS



Since our last newsletter we have learned of the following members and friends that have passed away. The membership of the Association of Minemen wish to express their sympathy to the families of those departed loved ones who now reside with our Most Supreme Commander.

Mineman First Class
James A. Hostetter, USN (RET) - 1988 - known as "Terrible Tim". We had not heard from Tim for some time and upon checking was told he had died at the VA hospital here in Charleston. No other details. If anyone knows any more please let us know so we can share it with the members.

Lieutenant Commander
Robert Heston Richmond, SC, USN (RET) - March 1992. Bob was a supply officer at Commander Mine Warfare Force for many years. He is remembered for all the help and advice he provided the Momat's and Momag over the years. Services were held March 18, 1992 in the St. Stephen Presbyterian Church in St. Stephen, SC. Internment was in Sunset Memorial Cemetery with full military honors.

Lieutenant Commander
John O'Brien, USN (RET) - 1992 - listed in TAPS page of The Retired Officers Association (TROA) March 1992. Residence Washington State. John was one of the old timers remembered by many of us.

WILL THE REAL YOU PLEASE STAND UP

Submit to pressure from peers and you move down to their level. Speak up for your own benefits and you invite them to your level. If you move with the crowd, you'll get no further than the crowd. When 40 million people believe in a dumb idea, it's still a dumb idea. Simply swimming with the tide leaves you nowhere. So if you believe in something that's good, honest and bright - stand up for it. Maybe your peers will get smart and drift your way. How we perform as individuals will determine how we perform as a nation. **FREE:** If you would like an 8.5 X 11 reprint of this message, write to Harry J. Gray, Chairman and CEO, United Technologies,

traditionally accepted command of COMOMAG with a minimum of comments, except for his recognition of inheriting a superb command created by Captain Nash and the men and women of COMOMAG. As our members will recall, RADM Tobin has been an AOM mentor and the one responsible for the challenge for us to document the Mineman history. His remarks to the audience included a comment that he considered his time with the Mine Force as some of the best in his career. He reflected on the evolving Navy through events of the past 35 years - Captain Nash's service period. "We have a different Navy now," he said..."a better Navy...many good changes over the years...and Mike Nash was a big part of all the good changes." As with RADM Tobin and RADM Pearson, we also bid a fond farewell to Captain Mike Nash and wish him a happy and prosperous retirement. And, we welcome aboard, Captain Danny Powers - wishing him the rewards of a new command that new friends, professional colleagues and experiences in Mine Warfare can bring.

Further acknowledging MN1 Don Gatewood's letter as reported in the Mail Bag column, the list of the NRMOMAG DET 302 Albany NY personnel receiving the National Defense Ribbon include LCDR Michael Drzonsc (current CO), LCDR Charles Fasnacht (former CO), LT Edward Whelan (former CO), CWO4 Jan Hildreth, MNC Glen Niemith, MN1 Steve Morrow, MN1 Robert Wohr, MN1 Terrence Feret, MN1 Thomas Mazza, MN1 Joseph Papa, TM2 Elton Cook, PN2 Loraine Balli, MN3 Daniel Cleveland and MT3 George Kipp. Don and his wife and MN2 Weseley Farris and his wife represented CDS Philadelphia at the ceremony.

The Navy Times (Feb 3rd) listed our new Reserve Mineman Petty Officer Second class promotees as K.L. Arney, O.E. Colvin, N. Gessler, C.A. Gray, J.H. Kirk, R.C. Welch and R. Wiggins. The Navy Times (May 4th) listed our new Reserve Mineman Senior Master Chiefs as Bren Franklin, John BaLange and Thom Sheridan. Units were not listed, but we hope our AOM congratulations reach them via this newsletter.

We have the new list of MOMAG addresses and are attempting to do a search and update of active duty member addresses to reflect same. **PLEASE**, folks, put us on your change of address list whenever you change your duty station. We are a third class rate postal customer and such mailings *are not subject to automatic forwarding*. Don't miss out on your Dashpot, sailor!!!

COMOMAG Charleston recently selected YN2 Denise Hinton as the Staff Sailor of the Quarter (SOQ) "for her sustained initiative and personal drive"; a Letter of Commendation (LOC) was awarded to MN2 Stanley King (no details); MNCM Albert Fross was awarded the Good Conduct Medal (no details regarding number).

We have the following releasable information from site reports over the last two reporting periods - so we are covering about a six month time span here.

UNIT ONE, Seal Beach (one report): MNSN D.B. Ellis was frocked to MN3; MN3 W.C. Hemmings III was awarded the Good Conduct Medal (2nd); MNC W.M. Snyder was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation Medal for services aboard the USS Seattle (AOE-03); MN3 T.R. Wark received a LOC for her outstanding performance of duty; MN2 D.E. Sharpe and MN3 J.R. Brower received a LOC for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ, respectively; MN1 R. Gutierrez and MN3 J.R. Brower received a LOC for selection as Senior and Junior Sailor of the Year, respectively; MN2 F.M. Butts and MN3 A.A. Kreiger received LOC for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ, respectively; MN2 F.M. Butts, SK2 W.A. Silvera, MN3 P.M. Ramirez, MN3 W.C. Hemmings III, MN2 D.E. Sharper, MN2 R.A. Davies, MN3 R.L. Sconierz, MN3 K.A. Rich, MN3 K. Traynor, and MNSN R.D. Edwards all received LOAs for nominations as SSOQ and JSOQ awardees; MN2 L.C. White received a LOA from MOMAG DET SIX.

DET TWO, Machrihanish (one report): YN2 Luis Elias and MN3 William A. Dalessandro each received a LOC for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (1Q92), respectively; MNCS Doyle E. Paul reenlisted for four years (our congrats, Senior Chief).

UNIT THREE, Earle (1st report): MN1 D.K. Kiper, MN3 J.M. Junek, MN3 F.G. Vargas, MN3 L.S. Blankenship, MN3 E. Hirschboeck, MN3 R.A. Stelmach and MN3 M.T. Passalacqua were advanced to their present grade; SK2 A.B. Dineros was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance of duties while at NAS Keflavik; MN3 T.R. Stultz was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance of duty at Unit THREE; Good Conduct Medals were awarded to MNCS R.W. Schreurs (6th), MN3 D.R. Pumphrey (1st) and MN3 T.M. Villarreal (1st); YN1(SW) I.S. Brown and MN3 R.A. Snow received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (3Q91); MN2 M.R. Stultz, MN1 T.A. Watson, MN3 D.R. Pumphrey, MN3 M.M. Franklin, MN3 D.E. Smith and MN2 S.L. Bridgford were each awarded LOCs for superior performance of duty; MN1 P.R. Wintjen and MN3 E.T. Smith received LOAs as runner-ups for SSOQ and JSOQ (3Q91) respectively; MN3 R.A. Stelmach, MN1 T.A. Watson, and MN3 L.S. Blankenship were each awarded LOAs for outstanding performance of duty. (2nd report): MN1 J.G. Osborne was advanced and MN3 J.E. Brown was frocked to their present rate; MN3 Holle was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for service in direct support of combat operations during Desert Shield/Storm; SK2 A.B. Dineros and MN3 F.G. Vargas received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (4Q91), respectively; MN3 R.A.

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received LOAs as runner-ups for JSOQ and SSOQ, respectively; MN3 M.M. Franklin, MN1 R.H. Gemmel, CWO2 Crocker, MN1 G.V. Harris, MN2 D.E. Crosby, MN3 G.R. Custis, MN3 E. Hirschboeck, MN3 S.D. Snider, MN3 R.A. and MN3 A.R. Zabala received LOAs for outstanding performance of duty; and CWO2 R.L. Crocker, MN1 D.K. MN2 C. Winbush, MN3 W.B. Jordan, MN3 F.G. Vargas and MN3 L.S. Blankenship received a "Bravo Zulu" from SEWARCOM for superior dedication and professionalism in support of NSWC personnel.

DET FOUR, Glen Douglas (1st report): Good Conduct Medals were awarded to MN1 Calvin Robertson, SK2 Black and MN3 Thomas Chandler; MN1 Robbie Frunz (3Q91), MN2 Dennis Doerr (4Q91) and MN3 Thomas (3Q91), MN3 Keith Dixon (4Q91) received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ, respectively; MN2 Dennis and MN3 Thomas Chandler received LOCs for selection as Senior and Junior Sailors of the Year, respectively; John Reeve, MN3 Keith Dixon, MN2 Dennis Doerr and MN1 Robbie Frunz received LOCs for outstanding PRT; with Dixon and MN2 Dennis Doerr received LOAs for outstanding performance of duty; and MNSA Catherine West, Susan Kreidler, MN3 Valarie Whitford, MN3 Troy Elliott and MN3 Donna McCutcheon received LOAs for service in PRT. (2nd report): MN3 Susan Kreidler was promoted to her present grade; YN2 Brooks Lynch was awarded Service Achievement Medal; MNC Scott Caswell, MN1 Calvin Robertson, MN1 Robbie Frunz, MN3 Keith Dixon and Daryle Mickens received LOAs for outstanding performance of duty; and YN1 Louise Maahs reenlisted on board the USS Detroit, Petty Officer Maahs).

UNIT FIVE, Sigonella (1st report): MNSN Herrera and MNSN Hoog were selected for advancement to MN3; All UNIT FIVE personnel were awarded the National Defense Service Medal; MN1 Kaiser, MN1 Willey, MN2 Ward, MN2 MN2 Nelson, MN2 Goodman and MN3 Joyce were awarded the Southeast Asia Service Medal and the Navy Unit Commendation Medal; MN1 Smith and MN3 Chitwood received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (4Q91), respectively; MN2 N. Brown, MN3 T. Brown and MN3 Joyce received LOAs for exceptional professional performance. (2nd report): MN2 M. Ward was selected for advancement to MN1; MN1 Barton, MN1 Willey, MN2 D. Ward and MN3 Herrera were advanced to their present grade; twenty-two UNIT FIVE personnel were awarded the Meritorious Commendation Medal for service during Operation Desert Shield/Storm; Good Conduct Medals were awarded to Lombard (3rd), MN2 Chitwood (2nd) and MN2 Goodman (2nd); MN2 Smith was awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal for her participation in post Hurricane Hugo operations; MN2 D. Ward and MN3 T. Brown received LOCs for service as SSOQ and JSOQ (1Q92) respectively; MNC Butterhof received a Flag LOC from the U.S. Ambassador to NATO for his participation in NATO's 50th meeting of the Nuclear Planning Group Ministerial; MN2 M. Ward, MN2 MN2 Goodman and MN3 Joyce received Flag LOCs for their participation in Operation Desert Shield/Storm while on the USS Detroit.

DET SIX, Souda Bay (1st report): MN3 Patrick Haley and MNSN Rickey Holland were selected for advancement to their next grade; CWO2 Ronald DuBois was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal from CNET; Navy and Marine Overseas Service Ribbons were awarded to MNC Henry Lindley (1st), MN3 Jennifer Doerr (1st) and MN3 Patrick (3rd); MN1 Russel Brown and MN3 Dean Venczel received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (3Q91), respectively; MNSA Michael Weekley, MN3 Eugene Barna and MNSN Eric Hubble were selected as Bluejacket of the Year for 9/91, 10/91 and 11/91 respectively; YN1 James Adams had a busy schedule organizing the NSA Turkey Trot and organizing the New Year's party and a holiday period bowling tournament; MN1 Russel Brown and cooked for DET SIX's Thanksgiving gathering in which there was 100% participation. (2nd report): Navy and Marine Corps Service Ribbons were awarded to YN1 James Adams (1st), MN2 Lonell White (2nd), MN3 Nikki White (1st) and MNSN Eric Hubble (1st); MN3 Dean Venczel was selected as DET SIX's Sailor of the Year; YN1 James Adams and MN3 Eugene Barna received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (4Q91), respectively; SK1 John Hooks and MNSN Michael Weekley received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (1Q92), respectively; Eric Hubble, MN3 Julia Raab, MN3 Julia Raab (again) and MNSN Michael Weekley were selected as Blue Jacket of the Month for 12/91, 1/92, 2/92 and 3/92, respectively.

DET SEVEN, Barbers Point (1st report): MN1 J. Lauffenburger and MN1 G. Harvey were advanced to their present grade; MNSN D. Ellis and MNSN C. Browder were selected for advancement to MN3; MN1 J. Bray received a LOC for service as Sailor of the Year; MN1 D. Lauffenburger and MN3 D. Dalton received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ, respectively. (2nd report): MNC Richard Ginn was advanced to his present grade; MNCS Juan Delgado was awarded the Commendation medal (no details); MNC Barry Hicks was awarded his fourth Good Conduct Medal; MN3 Karen Hill received her Expert Pistol Medal; MN1 John Bray received an LOA from NRMOMAGU 1813; MN1 John Bray and Gordon Harvey received LOAs for work with the Combined Federal Campaign; MNCS Juan Delgado completed the Command Master Chief Training Course; MNC Joseph Thornton received an outstanding PRT certificate; and MN2 (now at UNIT THREE) reenlisted for four years (our congrats, Petty Officer Weller). The DET also sponsored the Barbers Point Little League team, being coached by MN1 Terry Dunne and MN3 Scott Tullock.

UNIT EIGHT, Guam (1st report): MNCS Robert Bainbridge and MN1 Michael Ellis, MN2 Michelle Wiktorowski, Robert Morrison and MN3 Tony Piner were advanced to their present grade; MN1 Manuel Guerrero was awarded the Achievement Medal (no details); MN2 David Wofford and MN3 Sharlene Walker received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (3Q91), respectively; MN1 Kirby Brown, MN2 Robert Maness, MN2 Thomas Vail, MNCS Clinton

personnel (looks like the command roster - too numerous to mention here by individual name - received LOCs from MOMAG UNIT NINE for participation in the evacuation of the Philippines during operation Fiery Vigil (the list included MNC(SS) Thomas Sheridan (NRMOMAG 2318) and MNC Daniel Sarabia (NRMOMAG 1611); MN3 Nicolas Silver and MNSA Michael Lavasseur received LOAs for outstanding performance of duty; a roster of 23 personnel received LOAs for participation in the Naval Hospital Guam Blood Drive; a roster of 25 personnel received LOAs for participation in UNIT EIGHT's marching unit taking part in the Sister Village of Talofofo's Fiesta Day Parade; MN2 Robert Lackey, MN3 Frank Adorney and MNSA Honore Collins received completion certificates for the Auxiliary Security Force Course; MNCS Robert Bainbridge, MN1 Michael Ellis, YN1 Kerry Lawrence, MN2 John Wiktorowski, MN3 Peter Beville and MNSN Claude Hurlbut received outstanding physical readiness awards; the Unit personnel were honored in a Fiesta For MOMAG personnel sponsored by "Seabee Betty" (See Mili Amps Briefs Column); LTJG Nesmith represented the command at the Annual Commander's ARC Light Memorial Run at Andersen AFB - by running laps around a B-52 he earned \$99.50 from sponsors, which was used to purchase Christmas gifts airlifted to the remote islands of Micronesia; the command was also represented at the 50th Anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, a memorial service conducted at Sumay Cemetery; command personnel built the stage for the Talofofo Christmas Pageant, participated in the parade and "Santa" distributed candy and gifts to the children; MN3 Odis Parison and MN3 James East each reenlisted for three years (our congrats, Petty Officers Parison and East). (2nd report): MNC Jerry Williams, MN1 Thomas Vail and MN3 Heather McPherson were promoted to their present grade; MN1 David Wofford, MN2 Randall Childers, MN2 Nicholas Silver, MN2 Corey Vetter, MN3 Odis Spell and MN3 Rickey Holland were frocked to their grade; MNC Timothy Ealy was awarded his fourth Good Conduct Medal; MN1 Richard Rollins and MN3 James East received LOCs for selection and Senior and Junior Sailor of the Year, respectively; SK1 Tamerlin Arquines and MN2 Randall Childers received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (4Q91), respectively; MN1 David Wofford, MN2 Vicki Williams, MN2 Nicholas Silver, MN3 Sharlene Walker, MNSN Honore Collins, MN1 David Wofford (again), YN1 Kerry Lawrence, MN2 Vicki Williams (again) and MN3 Sharlene Walker (again) all received LOCs for outstanding performance of duties; MNCS Robert Bainbridge received an LOC for outstanding service during his tour; Mrs. LeeAnn Rollins received an LOA (See Mili Amps Briefs Column); MNSN Darrell Etsitty received an LOA for exemplary performance (4Q91); MN2 Michelle Wiktorowski and MNSN Darrell Etsitty received LOAs for exemplary service during their tour; MNC(SS) Thomas Sheridan of NRMOMAG 2318 received an LOA for his generous contribution to the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society; a roster of 22 personnel received LOAs for their participation in the Naval Hospital Guam Blood Drive; the command built a replica of an ancient Chamorro hut for the Annual Chamorro Week celebration at Sister Village of Talofofo; YN1 Kerry Lawrence (2 years), MN2 Donald Leavens (4 years), MN2 Robert Morrison (4 years), MN3 Sharlene Walker (four years) and MN2 Corey Vetter (3 years) reenlisted on board (our congrats to all you fine Petty Officers).

UNIT NINE, Subic (1st report): MNCS M.D. Radke (yeah Maurice), MN1 C.J. Asara, MN1 L.J. Badje, MN3 D.S. Stalcup, MN3 J.E. Wirth and MN3 M.Y. Jackson were advanced to their present grade; CWO3 R.J. Reed, and MN1 D.W. Kirker were frocked at their present grade; MN3 T.K. Ward and MNSN S.W. Brodzinski were awarded the Navy Achievement Medal (no details); MN2 J.M. Adams and MN3 C.L. Barber were awarded Good Conduct Medals (no details as to number); MN2 M.P. Despres and MNSN S.W. Brodzinski received LOCs for the selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (3Q91, respectively); MN1 L.J. Badje, MN1 R.P. Gormley, MN1 M.P. Henry, MN1 C.J. Asaro, MN2 L.L. Guzman, MN2 M.P. Despres, MN2 J.M. Adams, MN2 J.L. Carman, MN3 D.S. Stalcup, MN3 L.Z. Burroughs, MN3 M.Y. Jackson, MN3 J.E. Wirth, MNSN C.D. Dickover, MNSA B. J. Willman, MNSN J.K. Hardiman, MNSA K.S. Pratt, MNSN J.P. Walker, MNSA C.J. Lovendale, MNSA T.H. Lavake, MNSA P.M. Becker, MNSA C.J. Norris and MNSR J. D. Barnett all received LOCs (we have no details, but we assume this is in connection with the massive cleanup and evacuation effort due to the Mount Pinatubo); MNCS M.D. Radke, MNC J.G. McKevitt, MNC D.W. Patton (2), MN1 R.C. Meyer, MN1 M.P. Henry, MN1 J. Pipkin (2), MN1 R.J. Benskin, MN2 J.L. Carman, SK2 M.M. Sadsad, MN2 W.J. White (2), MN2 D.W. Kirker, MN2 M.G. Cleave, MN2 B.L. Allston, MN3 L.W. Rambo, MN3 M.D. Mullins, MN3 J.J. McBride, MN3 M.Y. Jackson, MN3 R.M. Farr, MN3 J.N. Lamidrid, MNSN B.J. Thomas (2), MNSN W.E. Shattuck (2), MNSN A.V. Hoog, MNSN D.A. Kratzer, MN3 J.E. Wirth (2), MN3 D.S. Stalcup (4), MNSN C.D. Dickover (2), MNSA P.M. Becker (2), MNSN J.P. Walker, and MNSA B.J. Willman all received LOAs (again, we have no details, but assume it was for outstanding performance during the cleanup and evacuation efforts there); a roster of 17 personnel showed rifle expert, sharpshooter and marksman awards; UNIT NINE received a "Bravo Zulu" from the USS Independence for assistance in reworking material provided to them. (2nd report): CWO3 R.J. Reed and MNC D.J. Badger were advanced to their present grade; LCDR D.D. Smith was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (no details), CWO3 R.J. Reed and MNCS M.D. Radke were both awarded both the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal; MNC D.L. Billock, MNC D.W. Patton and MNC J.G. McKevitt were awarded the Navy Achievement Medal (no details); MN1 T.D. Reichard received an LOA (no details), MN3 T.K. Ward received his Expert Rifle award; and MN2 B.L. Allston, MN3 J.M. Sullivan and MN3 J.N. Lamadrid each reenlisted for three years (our congrats to each of you Petty Officers).

DET TEN, Kadena (1st report): MOMAG DET TEN received the COMINWARCOM Mine Site Excellence Award for 1991 and all personnel attached received a Certificate of Award and LOC (we send our congratulations, too); MN3 Rhonda Orrick was frocked to MN2; first time Good Conduct Medals were awarded to MN3 Freda Tahtinen, MN3

ACTIVE AND RESERVE NEWS *continued from page 9*

James Donoghue and MN3 Larry Thetford; MN1 Troy Liggett and MN3 Larry Thetford received a LOC for selection as Senior and Junior Sailor of the Year 1991, respectively; MN2 Mark Kueckelhan and MN3 Robert Wagner received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (4Q91), respectively; MN1 Madeline Liggett received an LOC from FLTACTS Okinawa for her outstanding performance and contributions as a member of the 1991 Enlisted Navy Ball Committee; YN1 Ralph Nailon received an LOC from CO NRMOMAG Unit 2419 for outstanding support during their ACDUTRA; MN1 John McDaniel received an LOA from FLTACTS Okinawa for his efforts in support of the 1991 Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Drive; and MN2 Ronald Patterson received an LOA from FLTACTS Okinawa for his participation in the annual CFAO/NAFK Children's Christmas Party. (2nd report): MN1 Larry Witt and MN1 Madeline Liggett each received an LOA from CO 18th Wing, USAF Chief of Safety for their enthusiastic support to the Weapons Safety Program.

UNIT ELEVEN (one report): MN1 Hoffman, MN1 Coats, MN1 Demery, MN2 Bogart, MN2 Jones, MN3 Bello and MN3 Lanfair were promoted to their present grade; Navy Achievement Medals were awarded to MNCS Baldwin, SKC Galloway, MN2 Wisniewski and MN2 Pendergrass; Southeast Asian Service Medals were awarded to MNC Nahra, MNC Houston, SKC Grimm, MN1 Holt and MN2 Wisniewski; A Good Conduct Medal was awarded to MN2 Lauderdale (2nd); YN2 Mize and MN3 Lanfair received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ, respectively; MN1 Hoffman, MNSN Grant and MN2 Billingsley received LOCs (no details); MNC Houston, MN3 Standley, MN1 Kellogg, MN2 Boyd, MN3 Hein, MN3 Braham (2), MNSN Buchanan, MNSA Price (2), MNSA Spence (2), MN3 Koch, MN2 Cammack, MNSN Davis, MN2 Wisniewski, MN2 Taylor, MN2 Bogart, MNSN Kratzner and MN3 Mullins all received LOAs from various commands for their excellent performance and support (no details); a roster of 19 personnel were recognized for their preparation and execution of SKC Galloway's retirement; a roster of 16 personnel were recognized for their contribution as Combined Federal Campaign Assistants; 41 personnel were recognized for contributions to the Federal Campaign at various levels; 33 personnel were recognized with Letters of Achievement at various levels for PRT; MNSA Price was reported as having led a very successful Food and Clothing Drive to aid the needy in the Charleston area; and MN1 Kellogg enrolled as a volunteer in aid to the Boy Scouts of America.

UNIT TWELVE, Misawa (1st report): MN1 Powell, MN3 Merzier, MN3 Phelps and MN3 G. Sumpter were advanced to their present grade; MN1 Gonzales, SK1 Brusky, MN2 Hickman, MN2 S. Ostrom and MN3 Collins were frocked to their present grade; MN2 Whitmore received a nice cash award for adoption of a beneficial suggestion he had submitted; MN1 Powell and MN3 S. Ostrom received LOCs for the selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (3Q91), respectively; MN1 Powell (2), MN3 Hickman, MN2 Gonzales, MN3 Hormann and MN3 Edwards received LOAs for their participation and contributions to the 1991 Combined Federal Campaign; MN1 D. Ostrom received an LOA from NSGA for his assistance with the 1991 Navy Day Ball; MN1 Parison and MN3 VanHouten (3) received LOAs for outstanding performance during their tour at Unit EIGHT; the command assisted local farmers in Nagawa with the apple harvest - assisted with the JMSDF and MWR Bazaars - assisted in fund drivers for the NAA and 1992 Navy Day Ball funds - participated in the Red Feather Campaign (Japanese version of our Federal Campaign - participated 100 percent in our Federal Campaign - and assisted with the ALCOTHON 24 hour hotline for problem drinkers which was maintained over the entire holiday season. (2nd report): MN2 Ostrom and MN3 Collins were advanced to their present grade; MN2 Hormann was frocked to his present grade; MN2 Whitmore received the Navy Achievement Medal (2nd) for superior performance of duties and selection as Senior Sailor of the Year (1991); MN1 Ostrom and MN1 Powell received the Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance of duty; Good Conduct Medals were awarded to MN1 Gonzales (2nd) and MN2 Stultz (2nd); MN2 Whitmore and MN2 Hickman received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (4Q91), respectively; MN2 Witmore and MN2 Ostrom received LOCs for selection as Senior and Junior Sailor of the Year (1991), respectively; MN1 Powell and MN3 T. Sumpter received LOCs for selection as SSOQ and JSOQ (1Q92), respectively; a roster of 24 personnel were recognized with LOCs for their contribution to command readiness; MN3 Edwards received an LOA for creating the Unit's entry in the Christmas Lane display; MN3 G. Sumpter received an LOA for her efforts with the command Christmas party; MN1 Powell received an LOA from CO NAF for services as a Combined Federal Campaign keyperson; MN1 Powell received an LOA from COM 5th AF DCS Logistics, Yokota for assistance with the Japanese Friendship Festival; MN2 Whitmore received an LOA from NRMOMAG Unit 2016 for assistance as Reserve Coordinator during the 1992 AT Augmentation; and several personnel (unlisted) were reported to have assisted with fund raisers for the NAA and CPO's Association.

UNIT FOURTEEN, Yorktown (1st report): MN2 Robert Loveland, MN3 Laura Rodriguez and MN3 Lucinda Whitehurst were advanced to their present grade; MN1 Terry Honshul was frocked to his present grade; MN1 Darvey Hargett was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal (no details); MN1 David Fritz, MN1 Edward Moriarity and MN2 David Evanhoff received LOAs for excellence in training provided to NR MOMAG Unit 1813. (second report): MN2 Steven McLaughlin was advanced to his present grade; MNC Dale Kelley was awarded his third Good Conduct Medal.

The Association sends our congratulations for all the well deserved promotions, awards and personal achievements. We also thank you for your many important community contributions and participation which go toward fostering a sense of good will, friendship and caring. Well done, shipmates! We will be watching with pride as you move onward and upward in your Navy career.

HISTORY

We closed out the individual submission of biographies for the history book and are in the process of preparing the material for the text of the book. Most of the biographies were sent to the printer and he has put them in typeset and returned them to us for proofing. We received additional orders for the history book at the reunion along with a lot of historical material we can use for the history book, including some old (1944) Navy Training Course books from Steve Scharschan. One of them is Aircraft Munitions and chapter 7 covers mines. It shows aircraft laid mines MK 13, MK26 and MK 12. One of the quiz questions asks what kind of mine explodes when a ship bumps into it. A real tough question! Anyone out there have the answer?? A while back we received a shipment of old 16mm films from NMWEA Yorktown for our archives. NMWEA has had the film transferred to video tape. Among the film was a copy of the classic "Operation Starvation" film documenting the outstanding results of the WWII operation. We are hoping to be able to get a copy made on video tape for showing at the next and future reunions. In the past some members have questioned if the old school at Yorktown was ever called the Naval Schools Mine Warfare (NSMW). We are pleased to announce that it certainly was! In addition to other items, we have in our possession a decal and embroidered patch showing the name "NAVAL SCHOOLS MINE WARFARE".

NEW NEWS: We have made a video tape of the movie "Operation Starvation" but it has no sound track on the film. We are attempting to obtain a copy of the film that has sound on it and if not possible we will try to do a sound over based on the book "Mines Against Japan". We are in the final stages of preparation of the history book. There is a tremendous amount of material to sort through, thanks to the generosity of many of you and we want to ensure we do not miss anything. It is doubtful the history book will be completed in time for the reunion but it will be completed and mailed by the end of the year. We are soliciting corporate sponsors to help defray the cost and allow the use of more color, so if you know of a company that is or has been in the mine warfare business, drop us a line or phone ASAP. The people at Naval Mine Warfare Engineering Activity (NMWEA), formerly NMEF, have a lot of old historical documents that were sent to them by member Jack Shreve when he was at PMS 407. We expect to receive them shortly in time for inclusion in the history book. They also have told us they will provide us a set of the historical series that were on the back cover of Troubleshooters, which we plan to incorporate in the history book.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

As you have already read, we awarded two \$500.00 scholarship assistance awards to two people, a son and daughter of members. Please remember that these awards are available to children and grandchildren of members. It is not too early to be thinking about submitting applications for this year's awards, and hopefully we will be able to award two again this year. Write to us at P.O. Box 71835, Charleston, SC 29415 for an application NOW! or call Lyal Stryker at 1-803-553-1450. APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO 1 MAY!. Previous recipients may apply again. There are many other scholarship opportunities and many of them are listed in the current NAVPERS 15003-P. The Retired Officers Association (TROA) also provides interest free loans to undergraduate students who are dependent children of active, reserve or retired service personnel. Active duty and reserve officers who are eligible for TROA membership must become TROA members before their children can apply. Dependent children of enlisted personnel are eligible without any restrictions. For an application, write to The Retired Officers Association, 201 North Washington Street, Alexandria,

Virginia 22314-2529 or call 1-800-245-8762 EXT 146. We want to thank all of our members for contributing to our scholarship fund when they send in their annual dues and I guarantee you the recipients are very appreciative. We also thank all of you that participate in the annual auction where you donate items to be auctioned and then participate in spirited bidding. We love you!

NEW NEWS: Unfortunately we only awarded one scholarship assistance award last year due to one of the recipients not entering school as planned. This year we have received three applications which are now being reviewed by the Scholarship Committee. With the \$500.00 available from last year and anticipation of a great auction at the picnic plus the generous contributions of many of you to the Scholarship Fund, we hope to present three scholarship assistance awards this year. In any event we will award two for certain.

SICKNESS AND DISTRESS

Kay Branan, formerly of Mableton GA, is now residing in a nursing home. Her husband, Donald, says she would love to get a card from old friends but doesn't expect her to remember you. Cards should be sent to Kay Branan, RM 110A, Brian Center Nursing Care, 2130 Anderson Mill Road, Austell, GA 30001. She loves cards with pretty scenery and flowers but does not like animals. Pick up a card today, folks, and make a lovely lady happy for a little while. Even if you don't know Kay, it will be the best 29 cents you've spent in a long time.

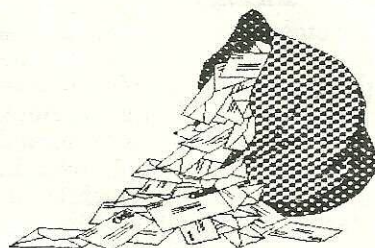
Ed "Sam" Golden, Fairfax VA with "he doesn't know and neither do the doctors" and everyone (at this writing) remains perplexed. They are doing exploratory this and that but can't find the root cause. He and wife Susan are really frustrated and hoping for a quick diagnosis, cure and "Sam" back on his feet again. We hope so too.

Jim Brannon, Paxton IL underwent a lung cancer operation, had his right lung removed but seems to be doing okay now according to wife Shirley. With a quick recovery, Jim is planning retirement this year from B.A.C. and already looking ahead to reunion in Reno next year.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO CHARLIE?

Everett Cook is searching for all Navy personnel stationed at Mine Assembly Base, Westloch, T.H. (Hawaii) from December 1941 to September 1945 in conjunction with a reunion concurrent with the Navy Mine Warfare Association reunion to be held in Oklahoma City OK during September or October 1992. Please contact MN1 Everett E. Cook, USN (Ret) at 2613 George Street, Logansport IN, 46947.

MAILBAG



I'll get organized one of these days. Some misplaced notes and letters (my apologies) that didn't make the Winter/Spring issue ...our faithful Bill and Irma Carlsen, from "Da Bronx" had sent their new year wishes to everyone, said that they were striving for retirement (perhaps this year), needed to make up for lots of money they "deposited" in Las Vegas when returning from last year's reunion in Long Beach, Irma logging her 31st year with G.E., reported that keeping up with their grandson (age 3) is keeping them in shape for when they see everyone in "Geetchville" at the reunion this year (Ed's Note: since they're in such good shape I'll issue a challenge on their behalf: all couples at the picnic with water-filled balloons tossed at twenty paces)...MN1 Don Gatewood, Philadelphia PA, had sent a letter forwarding a book for the mine museum which he found buried in records at the Quincy Mass NRC, and an expansion of the awards news (see Active/Reserve column) for NRMOMAG DET 302 reported by Bill Evers in our last issue...Ed Oyer, Williamsburg VA, a news contributor extraordinaire, had written concerning a newspaper article reporting on the tentative plans to shift the Subic Bay personnel to Guam, said that he and an Air Force General from NORAD and SERVPAC had forecasted this way back when the MILCON project for the mine unit at NAVMAG GUAM was so hotly contested and Ed's and Ron Bruce's "belligerence" to have the project expanded then becomes a real plus now, said he sold his vending business but is doing well in the wholesale end of things, wanted to pass his regards to all, especially Pappy Reagan, and he hopes to see everyone at the reunion...'Received a nice call from our own X-rated Martin (Francis X. Martin, that is) from Panama City FL, confirming dates for the reunion, saying he will be coming to a QA qualification school here in Charleston about that time (ha, that's a switch - seems to me it was Frank who always left the tail plate bolts untorqued in the days of working the Mk 25 Mod 0's up there at Whidbey Island), says all is well with the family, son now playing baseball with the San Diego Padres club, sees Harry Coker occasionally and reports that Harry's wife (Nora) now doing super after extensive medical problems (sorry, gang, didn't have this info for last newsletter Sickness and Distress column), I asked Frank to keep after Harry about being so detached from the association and to act as focal point for rounding up the troops down there for a caravan trip to the reunion this year...Bob and Connie Hart up in Newport PA dropped us a line saying they will definitely be in Charleston for the reunion, are very much interested in a golf outing (see Reunion Committee report) but Connie would like to share the experience with other ladies (so far we have lined up about four?), said they really enjoy reading the Dashpot, hope to see lots of their former friends and shipmates at the reunion but realize there is that percentage of "drop-outs" that chose to distance themselves from what he has always considered to be a "big family", thinks often of some of our shipmates who would love to be at the reunion but have been called home by our Supreme Commander...Bill Landers of Tullahoma TN and Mine Force 1943-45 era fame, called for info on the reunion, reported that he had really been through the mill with heart surgery but was doing well now on an aspirin a day and exercise, said they'll get into Charleston area about a week prior to reunion time and will be in touch, anxious to catch up with 'ol shipmates...Josh and Lynda Keeran, from various places around the country at any given time, wrote in about their travels in Arizona, Oregon and Washington, working gold mines and harvesting Pacific Yew trees (the bark is used to extract Taxol for use in treating cancer), said they didn't know about making the Charleston reunion but would definitely put the '93 Reno reunion on their calendar...our dear Shirley Brannon, Paxton IL reporting in on Jim's medical status, asking about dues mix-up, saying they think Charleston is ruled out for this year, but they are already planning for Reno next year...Jim Trick of Haverhill MA wrote to say he looks forward to the Dashpot even though it sometimes brings sad news of the death of our shipmates, said he remembers Ralph Padgett with much fondness, has been retired twenty years now and doesn't recognize a lot of the new names, remembers Paul Hanks, Dan Priest from Portsmouth NH days, sends his best to all the AOM members...our President Jim Coffman and first lady Anita reporting in from FL, had heard about Jim Brannon, gave their itinerary for getting on the road early to visit on their way to the reunion, wanting the Dashpot to get to them wherever they might be...our Board of Directors member Warren Savage, Burke VA checked in and reported that he had retired from the Naval Reserves back in November '91 as CWO4 with thirty-five years service, still working the Pentagon circuit immersed in reserve affairs...Chuck Nicklin of Bremerton WN called in to have us pass the word to everyone that he is still kicking around, a bout with bad health but now on the upswing, won't make the reunion this year but hopes for Reno in '93, misses all the Minemen crowd, would like to hear from folks...Mel and Pat Sanborn, Augusta KS called and said they are coming to the reunion and bringing their son Christopher and his new bride Sara, are looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and meeting new friends...John Tapscott of McAlester OK brought his dues up to date and then some, reports he has had diabetes and heart problems (by-pass surgery), can't do Charleston this year but is banking on Reno in '93, gives his best to all the Minemen in the organization and wants us to keep up the good work...Al Boreen's son Kevin (now a LCDR stationed in D.C) and his lovely wife and children were in Charleston, Kevin on MINEWARCOM intel orientation business, and we were able to have a delightful visit with them...Thurman Mawyer, Rehoboth Beach DE, dropped us a line, opted for the Yorktown dinner meeting (sorry Thurman - the cost kept going up) and a desire for a tour of Charleston historical places (please see reservation form), and is looking forward to seeing everyone in Charleston at the reunion...Don Hihn of Charleston checked in with our Secretary, said he is recovering from the visual acuity problem he was having, is off to Alaska (says he really loves the country there) and won't be able to make the reunion this year, will check back in shortly after he returns in mid-September...Gunner Caruthers out there in MAILBAG continued from

Cleveland TX sent in dues and best wishes to all, says he enjoys the Dashpot and news of old friends, is trying his best to hang in there...a longee from Carroll Delaney of O'Fallon MO, wrote in a note of interest (see ALERT this issue) for fellow Minemen (thanks Carroll)...good to hear from Roger Janke down in Lady Lake FL, wanting to get all the info on the reunion in Charleston and we hope he can make it...Billy Gates of Port Hadlock WA sent in his change of address, wrote that he enjoys reading the Dashpot but since he retired back in '76 there are a lot of new names he is not familiar with (the reunion is a great way to get acquainted), wants us to keep up the good work...Don Branan with sad news that he has had to put wife Kay in a nursing home, said she enjoys having cards sent to her (see Sickness and Distress column) but she won't remember who you are, said his 'ol ticker is doing pretty good and if he can stay reasonably healthy he plans to attend the reunion in August...Tom ("Windy") and Marion Roberts, from Knobhill Plantation FL called to make some History Book address changes, inquire about reunion plans, said they have been battling some health problems that have kept them near the roost, made them miss the O.D. Waters ship commissioning down in New Orleans, said their kids are off making their own history (I asked Windy to please record some of the history he made and make it available to us - he is interested in doing this via recording an oral history as was mentioned in a previous newsletter as a means of preserving our history)...Cliff Bombard of MOMAG Unit FOURTEEN Yorktown VA wrote in to inquire about MK 6 mine models, said he thinks it is about time we considered a lifetime membership program to save a lot of hassle (Ed's Note: The AOM did consider it and pros and cons were argued for over a year. The membership voted on the question several years ago and decided that we would rather have each other "reaffirm our dedication" on an annual or other more frequent basis. Our C&BL's do allow for dues to be paid three years in advance, with no adjustment having to be made if there is a voted dues increase. An other, less frequent basis may make us prone to having rising operating costs bite us you-know-where. We have already had this happen with our clothing and paraphernalia sales -see Way's and Means Quartermaster's Report)...Bernard and Betty Olsen of Farmingdale NJ wrote to correct our mistake in computing dues, checked on an old mine model order, said they had not been receiving their DASHPOT (come to find out their address has changed and we did not have a record of change?), and said they are planning to be at the reunion and hope to see a lot of old friends ...our long time friend Fritz Jewett, former OinC of NMEF, now residing in Toms River NJ, sent in his 9-digit zip and phone data, said he was sorry to hear about the passing of Ken Fister - a fine gent (we thought so too, Fritz)...and last, but not least, Fred and Agnes (she did the writing) Manzie from Williamsburg VA, updating dues and forwarding zip digit and phone data, wrote "keep up the good work" (we're trying, Agnes). That's it for this newsletter, folks. Thanks for all your letters, phone calls, et al. Keep 'em coming! Be well!!! Be happy!!! See ya at the reunion???

YOU'RE ALL WET



Our own Rear Admiral John D. Pearson, Commander Mine Warfare Command, was selected for Rear Admiral upper half recently. During his wetting down ceremony being held in the COMINEWARCOM mess and conference room, he got a taste of the real thing. A water pipe burst in the overhead and thoroughly soaked him down. This photo shows MNCM Mike Carr at a later ceremony, presenting RADM Pearson with a CMWC plaque that has an old piece of water pipe attached. Congratulations on your promotion, Admiral, from all the AOM.

ALERT !!!

Carroll Delaney, our member from O'Fallon MO passed on this information that may be of interest or concern to Minemen who participated in "Operation Castle" in April 1954 and may have been exposed to low-level ionizing radiation. He recalls a small group of approximately 50 personnel from Mine Division TWO out of Hawthorne, Nevada? He does not remember all the details of the alert he saw published in a magazine, but is positive that it required the person to submit their service data (name, branch of service, service number, SSN, name of test series, date of test series, and unit attached to during the tests) to the Defense Nuclear Agency, Attn: DNA-NTPR, Washington, D.C. 20305-1000 to receive a report of the exposure survey. This might help someone to obtain veteran's health care if they were unduly exposed to adverse radiation during their active duty service.

QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER

Chairman: Dick Rhoderick, Charleston SC (803) 762-4749

Well...Murphy caught us again. I know we told you we would place one last order for mine models in May, but the Philippine political situation kinda forced the issue, and the military closed down our MOMAG operation there before we could get a guaranteed delivery. Our source there is no longer available. That's not the end of the bad news.

In good faith and anticipation of receipt of more mine models, we admonished one and all to get in their bid for the models before they became more scarce than hen's teeth (where did that saying come from?). If only the response for membership renewals had been as overwhelming!!! We received an avalanche of orders since the last issue...namely 23 requests thru the end of June...and the MK 6 was the most popular choice. The wealth of orders has depleted our stock of MK 6 mine models and, for the time being, are no longer available. All orders received for MK 6's thru 31 December 1991 will be honored and shipped; subsequent orders cannot be filled at this time. This applies only to the MK 6 models; all other mine model requests will be filled. Our last shipment was banged around and slightly damaged in transit, so minor repairs and paint touch-up has delayed shipment in some cases. Bear with us!!!

We are trying to locate a domestic source for more models. Anyone who can shed light on a possible source, PLEASE let us know. We will be glad to subsidize a hobbyist who is interested in making molds and resin compound castings of our models for resale back to our organization on a wholesale basis. Have them contact me ASAP. In the meantime, we will plan to hold MK 6 model orders in a "pending status" until Labor Day, and if a new source is not found, we will refund your money (you can always tell us to donate the money to our scholarship or museum fund as an alternative).

Also, more bad news! According to a breakdown of our most recent invoices, we have recently been selling the bulk of our clothing at bargain prices (translated, this means a loss, folks). Only Congress can exist on deficit spending, so close examination of the new price list in this issue will show an increase in prices. We held on through three increases from our supplier but can no longer do so. Prices reflect actual cost plus a modest 15% profit (the books are open for anyone to examine) to go to our organization operating funds. Check it out...we still have the best bargains around. Sorry folks, but EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, all orders received after this issue must be at the prices on this current order form, or they will be returned to sender.

IT'S SOME OF YOUR BUSINESS

The below spaces have been purchased by AOM members or commercial entities to advertise their business venture or solicit your participation or expertise. A business card space requires \$10.00 for a single issue of the newsletter or \$30.00 for four issues. Multiples of this size space may be purchased to include a business message or solicitation. The Editor and Publisher reserve the right to refuse or edit material in the interest of good taste.

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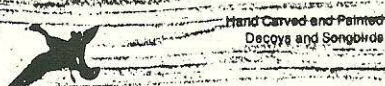
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