



The DASHPOT



The Official Newsletter of the Association of Minemen

From the President

MN1 Charles Humbard (ret)

From The President,

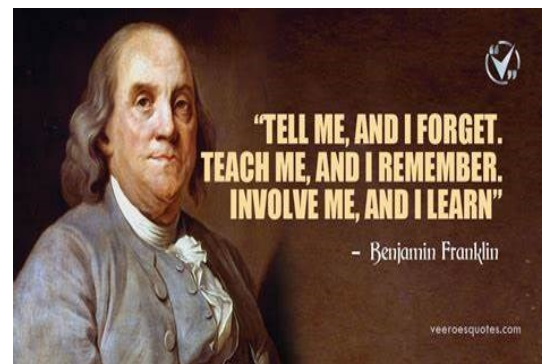
MN1 Charles Humbard, USN (Retired)

My sincerest condolences to the families of recently departed shipmates and family members. Those who are on the Binnacle List or suffering from medical issues, know that your shipmates are wishing you a full and speedy recovery. Each of you remain in our thoughts and prayers throughout your ordeal.

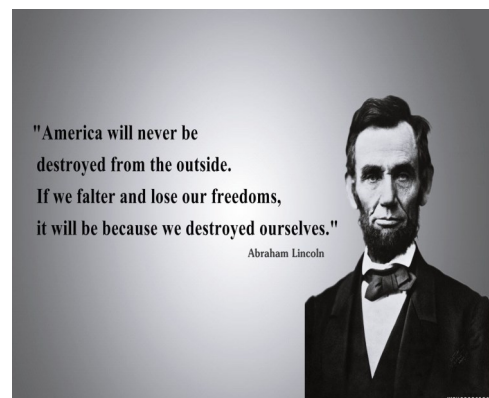
The 2023 reunion in Nashville was a hit. I would like to thank David and Shirley Badger for all their hard work. For those who could not attend this year, I hope to see you in Las Vegas next year for our 50th reunion. I would also like to thank Don Moody for his



Hello
Fall



Mine Warfare Training Center is the 2023 Point Loma Softball league champions!



DEDICATED TO SERVING THE U.S. NAVY

MINE FORCES

The DASHPOT, published quarterly is the newsletter of the Association of Minemen (AOM), a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of South Carolina ... to perpetuate the knowledge of undersea mine warfare, necessary to America's first line of defense.

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From the Editor



Greeting and welcome . This is my first attempt to do this Dashpot hopefully you all find something useful and or entertaining.

As we just finished the annual reunion this issue will cover the happenings for Nashville.

We hope everyone had a great time and are looking forward to next year in Las Vegas.

Congratulations to all the Active Duty and Reserve MN who made rate this cycle.

If you would like to submit an article for the dashpot or have anything you would like to see in the newsletter please email me at storboc@yahoo.com.

If you check your address label you will note the expiration date of your membership is listed so you will know when you need to renew.



Secretary Treasurer Report- Sept. 2023

Our Board of Directors and General Members meetings went very well. Look for the meeting minutes to be published in an upcoming Dashpot.

As a reminder, please note that the Post Office will not forward the Dashpot to your new address. Instead, they charge us \$.55 for returned mail and additional \$1.40 to resend the Dashpot to your new address! Your attention to this matter will ensure that you receive the Dashpot in a timely manner and it will save the association money! Send your change of address to assocminemen@yahoo.com. Or by mail; Association of Minemen, P. O. Box 2180, Temple City CA, 91780

Nate Miranda

Membership Committee Report- Sept. 2023

Since our last Dashpot in April 2023, the membership stats are 4 new, 1 reinstated member, and 1 deceased, bring our active membership to a total of 259. However, there are a number of members that are either past due or will be in October 2023. Please check the address label on your Dashpot newsletter to verify your dues status. If you are due or past due, I will circle the due date on the label in red. If you find that there might be an error on the due date, please let me know and I'll fix it. Remember, there are two ways you can send in your dues. 1) you can mail it to; Association of Minemen, P. O. Box 2180, Temple City CA, 91780 or 2) electronic transaction by going to <https://form.jotform.com/90215855401148>.

Nate Miranda

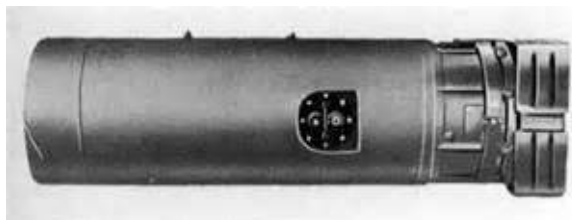


AOM 2023

Congratulation to this year's scholarship recipient.

Olivia Erwing

Granddaughter of Toby Horn



Communication Report

I have produced 1 Tribute video for departed Minemen, family members and special people.

I have sent out 2 Minemen News emails and I am always looking for input so send it my way if you wish to contribute.

I have made 3 improvements to Minemen.org/wp and 1 correction.

2023 Reunion



A great time was had by all those who attended this years Nashville Reunion at the Quality Suites Hotel. The First day was a meet and greet at La Prilla Mexican Restaurant which is attached to the Hotel. Everyone enjoyed the food, drinks and conversation. A great time to get caught up on what we have been up to since the last reunion.



2023 Reunion



Day 2 of the Reunion consisted of the Board of Director's meeting in the morning and the General Membership meetings. At the general meeting 2 new Board members were elected. New Board members are Michaelle Elliott and David Badger. It was noted that there was no Mineman of the year to report at the time. Names will be announced as soon as they are available.



2023 Reunion



Day 4 of the Reunion ended with the picnic and auction. The food was supplied by Jimmy John's Subs and Roma Pizza. The Auction was a lot of fun and netted over \$2000 for the Scholarship fund. The Auctioneer for the year was Mark McClain. Mark did a great job and there were laughs and good items to be had. The hotel internet was the issue that prevented us from doing online auction. It kept have us re-sign in after a short period. We are planning to offer online bidding during the 2024



2023 Reunion



In the evening we had a group event at Nashville Nightlife Dinner Theater. The show is a celebration of Country Music from both past and present, where you experience the classics alongside of hits from the biggest superstars.



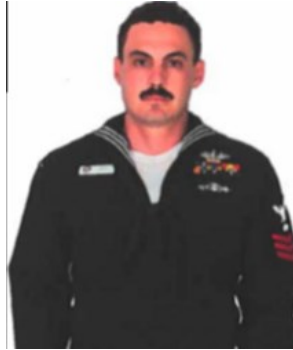
2023 Reunion



On the third day the membership had the whole day to explore Nashville. The evening was devoted to the Banquet with food provided by Pig and Pie catering. The guest speaker was Jerry Seabolt the 1st Vice Commander of the American Legion Post 88. Mr Seabolt talked about helping other



2023 MINEMAN OF THE YEAR (SHORE)



Navy Munitions Command Pacific East Asia Division Unit Guam

Assistant Mine Production Officer/ QA Leading Petty Officer

A Native of Wilmington, North Carolina. Petty Officer Lafave graduated from John T. Hoggard in 2012 and enlisted in the United States Navy in November 2013. He completed basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois, followed by Mineman "A" School in Point Loma, CA.

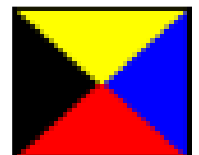
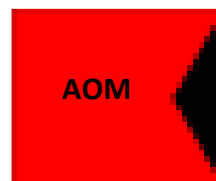
Petty Officer Lafave's first tour was on USS Dextrous in Bahrain, where he served from March 2016 to April 2018 and quickly made the rank of Second Class Petty Officer. During his tour, he qualified as Combat Information Center Watch Officer. He was the ship's primary SAR swimmer, CICWS, Helmsman, SRF-A Team Leader, Snoopie Team Leader, Work Center Supervisor, Duty Armorer, OOD In-Port, Combat Training Team, Medical Training Team, CIC LPO as a third class, Shipping Officer, and went underway on two Patrol Coastal ships to fill their SAR Swimmer requirement. Not only did he fill a gap on the PCs, he also got qualified in their watch stations to enhance the unit. He made and briefed the OPS/INTEL regularly while underway as he earned the trust to do so from the OPSO and CICO.

MNI LaFave's second tour of duty was at Mobile Dive and Salvage Unit II from June 2018 to June 2021. During this time he achieved the rank of First Class Petty Officer. While onboard, he served as Unmanned Underwater Vehicle Supervisor, Mission Planning Team

Leader, Post Mission Analysis Supervisor, Small boat Coxswain, WCS, Line Coach, COO, and ACDO. During his time at MDSU II he deployed to Bahrain, Germany, and Denmark. Committing himself to furthering his education he began college courses at American Military University pursuing a Bachelors in Natural Science with a concentration in Biology.

After completing his second sea tour, he was assigned to his next overseas tour at NMCPAC EAD Unit Guam, where he currently is filling the role of Assistant Mines Production Officer, Quality Assurance Supervisor, Quality Assurance Leading Petty Officer, QUAL/CERT Board Member, Collateral Duty Safety Officer, and CPR Instructor. He is also committed to furthering his development through the American Military University for a Bachelors in Health Science.

Petty Officer Lafave's personal awards include five Navy and Marine Corp Achievement medals and multiple unit and service awards.



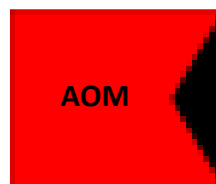
2023 MINEMAN OF THE YEAR (SEA)



Mineman First Class Petty Officer (SW) Joseph McNabb is a native of Greeneville, Tennessee and a 20112 graduate from Chuckey-Doak High School. He enlisted in the United States Navy in April 2017, where he completed Recruit Training Command in Greatlakes, Illinois, and completed Mineman "A" School in San Diego, California.

MNI McNabb's Sea duty assignments include USS DEXTROUS (MCM-14) where he served as a Mineman and Search and Rescue Swimmer, from June 2018 until July 2020. While on DEXTROUS, he participated in Operation Neptune Scepter. Additionally, he qualified as Rig Captain, CIC Watch Supervisor, and Anti-Terrorism Training Team member. In November 2020, he reported to USS CHIEF (MCM-14) in Sasebo, Japan. He currently serves as the Anti-terrorism Training Team coordinator, Operations Department Leading Petty officer, Damage Control Training Team coordinator, and Search and Rescue Swimmer, and Small Arms Marksmanship Instructor. His advanced qualifications earned onboard USS CHIEF include: MCM Evaluator, CIC Watch Officer, Chief Petty Officer in Charge, and MCM Deck Safety.

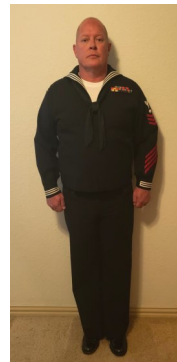
His insignias include Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist. His decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (4 awards), and various unit and campaign awards.



Old School Mine disarming

2023 MINEMAN OF THE YEAR (RESERVE)

MN1 RANDY ALLSTOT (NR NMCPAC MAU GM)



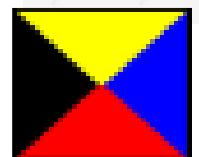
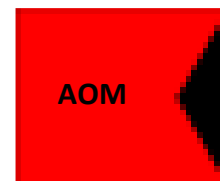
MN1 Randy Allstot

Biography

MN1 Allstot was born in Mountain View, California, on April 14, 1971. In 1981, he moved with his family to Waxahachie, TX, where he lived until he graduated from Waxahachie High School in 1989. In October 2001, MN1 Allstot enlisted in the Navy Reserve. After completing Recruit Training at Great Lakes, Petty Officer Allstot was assigned to NR MOMAU 9 at NAS JRB Ft Worth. and completed MN "A" School in Ingleside, TX. In 2009, he advanced to Petty Officer 1st Class and became the LPO for MOMAU 9 until 2014 when he transferred to IRR. MN1 Allstot reenlisted in the Navy Reserve in 2018 and was assigned to the LCS ASW Fort Worth unit and was the Assistant LPO for a 55-member unit. He returned to MOMAU 9 in 2020 and was immediately installed as the LPO for the unit. MN1 Allstot has been awarded Two Navy Achievement Medals, 4 Good Conduct Medals, The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Rifle Marksmanship Ribbon and the Expert Pistol Medal. In his civilian life, MN1 Allstot is a police officer for the DeSoto Police Department where he remained until 2018. Then he transferred to the Midlothian Police Department where he currently works. In April 2020, MN1 Allstot was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in his civilian job and transferred to the patrol division. In 2021 MN1 Allstot enrolled in college at University of Arizona Global Campus completing 29 hours toward his Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice. He lives in Midlothian, TX, with his wife Erin and his step-son Caden.



Congratulations



EXPLOSION AT ROMANIAN TOURIST RESORT WAS RUSSIAN SEA MINE THAT DRIFTED FROM UKRAINE WAR: REPORTS



An explosion rocked a popular Romanian tourist seaside resort on Monday morning, the blast at the sea wall sending a plume of water into the air, and local reports state it is believed to have been a sea mine detonating.

Local media described the blast as having taken place around 9AM in the morning, only a few dozen yards from the nearest hotel in Costinești, Romania. The resort is the busiest on Romania's Black Sea coast [says ProTV](#), which interviewed a local who said the blast threw rocks high into the air, and reported that the explosion was loud enough to cause pain in the ears for some.

There were no hospitalisations, however, which is being treated with relief in Romanian media given what a busy resort Costinești is at this time of year.

A lifeguard who witnessed the blast said: "I didn't imagine it could be so strong, because we've never seen anything like this before. The earth shook. At first, when I heard the thud and thick smoke, I thought a gas tank at the hotel had exploded. Everyone was scared, no one knew what happened."

A response including the emergency services and a naval minesweeper ship and a military helicopter were deployed to the blast area. Popular Romanian-focus news site Hot-News [reports](#) divers were seen off the coast

From JJ Gordan

At the September Veterans last patrol car and motorcycle ride to visit veterans in the area nursing homes, representing the Association of Mineman 09-30-23



Budgets cuts after new mine develop



Advancement List 2024

MNCM - Master Chief Mineman

Simoncic Brad 001

MNCS - SENIOR CHIEF MINEMAN

ARMONTROUT PA	019	BRIERLY JAMES	022
CARTER PHILLI	012	CHICKERING BR	006
CROW TAYLOR R	009	CRUZ JARED VI	002
DESSOURCES YV	018	FREE BOBBY DE	001
GONZALESBOUTO	015	HEYER CAMARYN	007
KELLY CODY EL	013	LAGRANGEGRAYE	023
OLDAG FERGUSO	011	PITTS JONATHA	005
PREWITT JARET	010	RODRIGUEZ JO	

MNC - CHIEF MINEMAN

BAKER CODY SH	039	BASCOM RICHAR	011
BAYNARD DANA	008	BRUCELAS JUAN	027
CARRERO YANIN	040	COLLAZOLUCIAN	007
COPPLE ANTHON	037	CURTIS KRISTI	009
DAVIS NATHAN	003	DUNHAM CHRIST	019
DYER GARY GLE	029	ESQUIVEL JONA	017
GURSKIS THOMA	036	HIPOJ JETHER	025
HOGAN ROBERT	016	JIRAURUIZ WIL	013
KALEMKIEWICZ	004	KIDWELL THOMA	034
KING MATTHEW	035	KLIEST HUNTER	015
KRAMER JASON	018	LAMPI ANDREW	032
MCFARLIN RYAN	020	MILLER STEVEN	021
MORSE KALEB B	033	MUSSA RAMI AL	024
NEWSTEAD BRAD	042	NICKELL CHRIS	010
NIKO DONALD	022	PERREAULT LUC	005
REYNOLDS DOUG	002	SANNICOLAS EL	043
SATTERFIELD E	038	SEVERNS SHAY	030
SOUZA ANTHONY	031	TOWERY ADAM B	041
VAUGHN JESSE	012	VILLANUEVA AD	026
WERNER FREDER	001	YOUNG KEITH D	028
ZIMMERMAN ZER	023		

EXPLOSION AT ROMANIAN TOURIST RESORT WAS RUSSIAN SEA MINE THAT DRIFTED FROM UKRAINE WAR: REPORTS (CONT)

searching.

Romanian news reports say the present working hypothesis is that the blast was caused by a Russian naval mine that became untethered from its intended position in the Black Sea as part of Russia's blockade of Ukraine. Free to drift, the mine made its way down-coast until it hit the sea wall at Costinești and exploded, creating a massive noise and sending a plume of water high into the air.

Romanian naval forces command said in a statement Monday evening that they had searched the coast and found no more mines.

Assuming the working theory is correct, this would not be the first time sea mines have drifted into Romanian waters from the Ukraine war. Others were detected as they drifted by Romania's navy and safely detonated away from people, ProTV reports. Romania's navy is on particularly high alert as Tuesday is national Navy Day, an annual holiday to honour the force.

While the stray mine may amount to an unwanted but perhaps not unexpected overspill from a neighbouring state resisting occupation, Russia has still shown a willingness to launch military strikes right up to Romania's border recently. Since Ukraine switched part of its grain exports from Black Sea ports to Danube ports — which touch Romania's border on that border — Russia has launched strikes on those facilities as part of its blockade.

The strikes coming down were so close to Romania — a NATO member state — Romanian military forces are reported to have watched them coming down from their posts.

Visit the A.O.M Ship's Store





About COMOMAG

The creation of MOMAG was directed by Commander Mine Warfare Forces on 15 October 1973 as a result of the highly successful use of Mobile Mines Assembly Teams (MOMAT's) in the early 1970's. Teams were previously chartered in both the Atlantic and Pacific regions to augment naval weapons departments around the globe with mine assembly and maintenance. With an increased emphasis on Mine Warfare Readiness, the Navy created COMOMAG to manage all aspects of the world-wide stockpile of naval mines. COMOMAG initially operated from its headquarters in Charleston, South Carolina. A number of smaller detachments and two larger Units were established around the world for on-site mine assembly and maintenance. These small detachments worked well, but to improve command and control of these activities, most MOMAG detachments were permanently converted to Mobile Mine Assembly Units (MOMAU) with a Commanding Officer to keep personnel and expertise on-station and in theater for full tours of duty. This process expanded opportunities for personnel to Permanent Change of Station (PCS) with their families and the readiness of all mine systems increased dramatically with the full time presence and dedicated expertise of Minemen for longer periods. Following the 1990 Gulf War and subsequent Base Realignment Commission recommendations, COMOMAG moved its headquarters in July 1994 to Corpus Christi, Texas to collocate with COMINEWARCOM and the MCM Squadrons, who preceded it in 1993 to the South Coastal Bend region of Texas. From a high of 14 MOMAG Units and Detachments, mining continued to evolve and consolidate its organization to a leaner, but capable structure of six permanently located MOMAU's around the globe. COMOMAG organization continues to be the U.S. Navy's sole mining resource and with both an offensive and defensive capability, is universally recognized as the "war" in Mine Warfare.

Commander, Navy Munitions Command (NMC) Division COMOMAG realigned under the newly formed Navy Munitions Command on 1 October 2006. Creating a new Mining Division responsible for maintaining and assembling the U.S. Navy mine stockpile. The six remaining Mine Activities subsequently disestablished, and consolidated with respective Navy Munitions Command Division Units collocated in Misawa Japan, Okinawa Japan, and Guam, under Commander, Navy Munitions Command-Pacific East Asia Division (NMCPACEAD); Seal Beach, California under Commander, Navy Munitions Command-Pacific, CONUS West Division; and Charleston South Carolina under Commander, Navy Munitions Command-Atlantic (NMCLANT).

COMOMAG has been at its present location at Naval Station Point Loma in San Diego California since July 2010 due to 2009 Base Realignment of Mine Warfare Commands from South Texas to Southern California. Commander, Mobile Mine Assembly

Group was realigned on 31 October 2011 as Commanding Officer, Mobile Mine Assembly Group. COMOMAG maintains oversight and provides subject matter expertise for mining programs for the Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Mine Warfare Training Center

Sept 17, 2023—MWTC is participating at SNA's Waterfront Symposium onboard Naval Base San Diego. MWTC continues to provide insight on the Mine Warfare Community. Hooyah!!





THE FUTURE OF MINE WARFARE

MNSN TORRES


"I THINK MY ONLY VICE IS OUT DOING MYSELF."
-KENDRICK LAMAR

HOME TOWN:
LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

SCHOOL:
WALTER G. O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL

Why did you join the Navy?
I joined the Navy to help people of the world, travel and support my family.



Binnacle List

From 16 Aug 2023: Hi Don Ross is back in Hospital he's in Togus VA hospital he had a very bad day Sunday 1 guess he had a uti infection and it goes to the mind. So that's where he is at the VA hospital.

Regards from Kathleen Maddocks

Editor's Note: Let's all say a prayer for Ross and Kathleen.



During the reunion we talked to Ross. He is doing better and sounded cheerful.

From Richard Smith

I'm fighting cancer ,but when I'm done I hope that you have a spot for me ,because I do want to be involved ,plus I would like to start an awareness about our exposure to PCB s ,and the importance of being checked ,again I'm sorry,and I hope I can be involved again ,I love and I am proud to be a Mineman thank you .

Tim Paton

Recovering from surgery to fuse some vertebrae He should be normal in a few weeks.

Lawrence Anthony Nathon Dickson

Recovering from heart surgery



2024 Reunion Dates- TBA

Las Vegas in 2024

Reunion Coordinator: Darryl Foxx (50 year reunion). Darryl will be looking for help, so if you live in or near Las Vegas and like to help contact Darryl. Why not help out with the fun.

2025 reunion location: Yorktown, VA- pending finding a coordinator, if you would like to take on the task let us know. We have a guide to use.

2026 reunion location: Tacoma, WA - pending a coordinator.

Departed

Claire Glasen



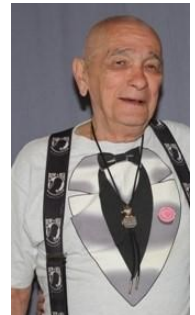
Claire L. Glasen (Nee Dowling), age 85 of Munster passed away September 21, 2023 at home with her loving family by her side. Claire was born December 31, 1937 in Charleston, SC to the late Julian and Mildred Dowling. Claire was a devoted wife of 62 years to her surviving husband, Ronald Glasen. Claire was a nurturing mother to her three sons. Loved by her six Great Grandchildren.

CWO4 Balderrama



Saturday Sept 23, I received a call from Clare Balderrama reporting that (Gunner) Joe had peacefully passed away in his sleep, on September 19, 2023. Clare indicated that

thankfully Joe did not experience pain during his last weeks of hospice care.



Patricia Jean Cummings

March 17, 1935 — September 28, 2023

Patricia Jean Cummings, Wife of MN1 (ret) Mike Cummings, of Charleston, SC passed on September 28 2023. Pat will be met by Mike, her daughter Maggie, her brother Larry, her sister Thea, her Auntie Annie, her parents, sons-in-law Sam and Terry, and grandchildren, Greg and Katherine. She is survived by her 9 children, and numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren.



**Association of Minemen
P.O. Box 2180
Temple City, CA 91780**



Association of Minemen

1974 - 2023

**Non-Profit Organization
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ RANK/RATE/TITLE _____

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ - _____

DATE _____ EMAIL _____

TEL _____ SIGNATURE _____

ELEGIBILITY _____ APPROVED _____

Application Fee: \$5.00 - Annual Dues: \$15.00 - NOTICE: To maintain membership, dues must be paid annually by the month of October. The dues expiration date is printed on the mailing label above your name. Mail checks to the Association of Minemen, P.O. Box 2180, Temple City, CA 91780 Our on-line member application link- <https://form.jotform.com/90215855401148>. If you have any questions about your membership, please send an email with your question to: assocminemen@yahoo.com.