

## NEWSLETTER

Mark the dates of 14-15 and 16 August 1981 on your calendars and start planning now to be with us in Charleston S.C. for our Annual Meeting. There will be at least one more flyer before August 1981 which will contain information and registration forms for the meeting, but please note the date now and mark your calendars. The tentative plans are similar to the schedule we had at Yorktown: Early Bird Friday evening, business meeting Saturday afternoon, dinner Saturday evening and picnic Sunday afternoon.

IF YOU WERE UNABLE TO BE WITH US IN YORKTOWN YOU DID MISS A WONDERFUL TIME - MORE DETAILS LATER - BUT - WHETHER YOU WERE THERE OR NOT - WE DO NEED YOUR ANNUAL ONE DOLLAR FOR ADMINISTRATIVE FEES. PLEASE REMIT TO ABOVE ADDRESS SO WE CAN KEEP THE NEWSLETTERS COMING AND HOPEFULLY MORE OFTEN.

### Meeting Minutes

The Board of Directors met on 16 August, F.C. (Foxy) Fisher presiding. As a result of the BOD meeting, the following actions were taken:

- Bulk mailing/tax exempt discussions shelved until after election of new officers. (More info on this later).

- Fifteen (15) Fifth Wheels were made available by Jack Smoot, Vice President. Decision was made to award one each to the following members: Oldest Mineman Present; Youngest Mineman present; Mineman traveling the furthest distance and outgoing officers.

The Annual General Business Meeting was held on 16 August 1980 at the FRA Branch 172 at 1300, President F.C. (FOXY) Fisher presiding. The following actions were taken by the general membership:

- Membership Committee report made by Toby Horn. Mineman of the Year Award explained. Additional nominations for Honorary Mineman were submitted. The following were approved as Honorary Minemen:

RADM A.J. Monger, USN (RET)-previous COMINEWARCOM; RADM C.F. Horne III, USN-current COMINEWARCOM; Mr. Haines Miller-first Technical Director (TD) of the Naval Mine Engineering Facility (NMEF); Mr. T. B. McConnell - current NMEF TD; and LCDR Arnold S. Lott, USN (RET)-author of Most Dangerous Sea.

- Current committees as appointed would stand for the next year, 1981.
- Two new committees established each with five members and are Rules and Awards.

- In conjunction with Commander Mine Warfare Command (COMINEWARCOM) a Mineman of the Year Award program was established.

- Nominations for Honorary Mineman Awards were submitted.

- Reunion Committee recommended annual meetings alternate between Yorktown and Charleston until there is sufficient interest and support to have it somewhere else.

- The establishment of a Ladies Auxiliary was discussed and strongly supported.



- The recommendation to allow for proxy voting was not approved.
- The office of Past President and the terms of office for Association Officers were discussed. The Rules Committee will review the current situation and make appropriate recommendations to the BOD as part of their review of the Constitution and By-Laws.
- All Association members are welcome to attend BOD meetings, however, unless a BOD member or Committee Chairman/Representative they cannot participate, unless previously approved by the BOD.
- Reunion Committee met after the General meeting. Decision made and approved by the BOD to hold the 1981 Annual Meeting in Charleston S.C. Subsequently, dates of 14-15 and 16 August 1981 submitted and approved. Annual Meeting in 1982 will be held in Yorktown, VA. with subsequent Annual Meetings to alternate between Charleston S.C. and Yorktown, VA. until sufficient interest and support allow us to consider holding the meetings somewhere else.
- Patriots Point Committee reported receiving considerable amount of obsolete and excess mine material from the Fleet and Minewarfare Training Center, as authorized by Naval Sea Systems Command. The mines that were on display all around the hangar deck on the USS Yorktown have been gathered together in one area adjacent to the Smokey Stover Theatre, which is to your immediate right when you board the ship across the elevator. A berthing compartment has been made available to the Association and is being prepared as a storeroom and workshop.
- The Nominating Committee report was presented by John Loonam. There were no inputs from the committee members. A slate of nominations that had been prepared with the assistance of COMOMAG personnel was submitted. The committee was disestablished due to no requirements for elections next year (1981). Nominations from the floor were solicited and accepted.
- Election of Officers: The offices of President, Vice President and three Board of Directors were up for election. Result of the election as follows: President - Lyal Stryker; Vice President - Harry Coker; BOD - Toby Horn, Jack Smoot and Phil Dechene. Continuing BOD members are Bob Forbes and Charlie Hunt.
- Rules Committee Members: Frank McCarthy, Chairman, Gordon Webster, R.H. Blankenship, Herb Fairbanks and Fred Reid.
- Awards Committee Members: Jim Coffman, Chairman, Earl Oldenburg, Ted Newton, Milton Baird and Fred Bergey.
- Ladies Auxiliary: Needs and purpose discussed. Establishment unanimously approved. Matter was discussed with ladies at picnic and more info later.

#### DINNER MEETING 16 AUG 1980

Before we report the results of the dinner meeting, we want to note that several comments have been received concerning the length and format of the meeting. Most comments concerned the amount of time taken up by reporting various business matters that left too little time to socialize, which is after all, the main reason for the dinner meeting/banquet. Your comments have been heard and heeded. Next year (1981) there will be a



minimum of talk from the head table, guests or master of ceremonies. Any business information will be posted in an appropriate area for view by those that are interested.

GUEST SPEAKER. Rear Admiral C.F. Horne, III, USN, Commander Mine Warfare Command. Radm Horne's address was very well received and we all appreciated that he was able to take time out of his very demanding schedule to be with us. His report of the changes and improvements that have taken place in the last couple of years along with plans for the future indicate there is a resurgence of interest and awareness of the great value of mine warfare to our Navy and the Nation. At the conclusion of his address he announced, on behalf of the Association of Minemen, the selection of MN2 Jackie R. Cooley, of Mobile Mine Assembly Group, Charleston, as Minemen of the Year for 1980. The Admiral then proposed toasts to MN2 Cooley, Minemen everywhere, the United States Navy and the United States of America.

#### THANK YOU'S

To the officers that served the Association so well our first three years, Foxy Fisher, President; Jack Smoot, Vice President; Jim Longway, Secretary/Treasurer and Ed Sprecher, Board of Directors. Also to those past officers re-elected to office for the next three years and the newly elected officers.

To Jack Smoot and the personnel of MOMAG RESERVE DETACHMENT 1006 for putting on the picnic.

To John Loonam, Jack Smoot, Jim Longway and Harry Coker for arranging the banquet.

To John and Bobbie Loonam for running the raffle.

To June Smoot, Nora Coker, Bobbie Loonam and Mrs. Epperly for registering attendees, selling raffle tickets and greeting members.

To Gordon Webster and FRA Branch 172 for hosting the Early Bird and our business meetings.

To everyone that attended and made 1980 another successful year for the Association.

To Gabby Goode for the Association Logo done in gold string, plague from the Ogalala and other items.

To Roy Schardin for the original Navord saying about the art of mine warfare and a large photo of the USS Lindsey DM32.

To Gordon Webster for the large photo of the USS Robert H. Smith, DMS23.

To Herb Bairbanks for an old Lab Manual from the Mine Warfare School, Yorktown VA.

#### AWARDS

Consolidated Order of Clock Cockers (COCC) - CDR M. D. (Toby)Horn, USN(RET).  
Oldest Mineman present - CWO-4 Roy Schardin, a 1940 graduate of the Mine School at Pearl Harbor.

Youngest Mineman present - MN2 Rodgers from the CAPTOR IMA at Yorktown -  
Mineman traveling longest distance to attend - Gabby Goode, California,  
(again & thanks, Gabby).



### Distinguished Guests

RADM C.F. Horne, III, USN, COMINELWARCOM, our guest speaker  
CAPT Carl Scherrer, USN (RET)  
CAPT Ted Pstrak, USN (RET)  
CDR W.A. (Bill) Roberts, USN, Officer in Charge, NMEF  
Mr. Trist McConnell, Technical Directory, NMEF  
LCDR Arnold Lott, USN, (RET) author of Most Dangerous Sea.  
CAPT Buck, CO NWS Yorktown was unable to attend and sent his regrets.

TAPS A minute of silence was observed to honor the memory of our departed Minemen and associates. MNSN Jeffery Davis, MN2 John Weidner, MN2 Jim Comechee, LT David V. Wilson, CDR Jack Thorp, Frank Hyman. Subsequent to our meeting, we learned of the following departures, MNCS Buck Fowler, MN1 Digiomico, CDR Jeffords, (first NMEF/O-IN-C) Tom Nevitt (Chief B. Arnaclebut of the Troubleshooter), MNC Boeth and MNC Waldermarsen. It has been suggested we need a permanent method for remembering our departed Minemen. MNCM Milton Baird, MCPOC of COMINELWARCOM has volunteered to provide an appropriate permanent memorial. It should be on display at the next annual meeting here in Charleston August 1981. A recommendation to appoint a Chaplain has been made and approved. Anyone interested in serving in this important capacity should contact one of the Association Officers or communicate with our President at the above address.

Following the dinner meeting, dancing to the music of the Navy Band from the Naval School of Music, Norfolk, was enjoyed by all. The band was dressed in the whites jumper and neckerchief that are now coming back into style.

Picnic News - The annual picnic was held on August 17, 1980 at Wright Circle Picnic Area, Naval Weapons Station, Yorktown, VA. There was plenty to eat and drink for all, ably prepared and cooled by Jackie Smoots MOMAG DET 1006 personnel, assisted by Jim Longway and some of the men from the CAPTOR IMA at Yorktown. A brief meeting of the BOD was held, and \$100.00 was donated to the ladies to help them start an auxiliary.

### Ladies Auxiliary News

During the picnic on 17 August 1980 at the Wright Circle Picnic Area, Naval Weapons Station, Yorktown, Virginia, the ladies held their first organizational meeting. June Smoot volunteered to preside over the meeting and prepare the minutes. After some discussion, June asked those present to indicate by a show of hands all those in favor of forming a Ladies Auxiliary. The majority of those present voted in favor and there was no opposition. The next order of business was to elect officers to fill the office of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Evelyn Dechene was unanimously elected to the office of President. A discussion followed concerning the remainder of the offices to be filled. It was the opinion of those present that upon Evelyn's return to Charleston she meet with the women in the Charleston area from which the re-

maining offices will be filled. It was also suggested that since the Association of Minemen annual meeting in 1981 would be held in Charleston, SC, the Ladies Auxiliary could best serve its purpose if the officers are elected from the area where the annual meeting is to be held, thus Charleston 1981. The annual meeting will be held in Yorktown, VA in 1982, thus officers will be elected from women living in the Yorktown area. It was agreed officers would serve a one year term.

Any lady that would like to serve or assist the Ladies Auxiliary should contact Evelyn Dechene, 978 Mayflower Drive, Charleston, SC 29412 phone 803-795-0043.


Ladies interested in becoming a member of the Ladies Auxiliary should send a \$1.00 membership fee to Evelyn Dechene at her home address.

#### ASSOCIATION STATISTICS

Dues paying members ----	<u>204</u>	Voting
	<u>25</u>	Associate
	<u>6</u>	Honorary
Business Meeting Attendance ----	<u>42</u>	
Banquet -----	<u>130</u>	
Picnic -----	<u>97</u>	(Paid & children under 12)

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Association Expenditures (picnic and dinner)	\$	<u>1737.13</u>
Savings Account Balance as of 2-23-81	\$	<u>1000.00</u>
Checking Account Balance as of 2-23-81	\$	<u>561.50</u>

  
Ron Swart  
Secretary/Treasurer

#### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Congratulations to the personnel of MOMAG UNIT EIGHT Guam for being awarded the first Mine Site Excellence Award by Commander Mine Warfare Command. Well done and congratulations from the Association of Minemen! First Mineman husband and wife to serve on active duty together recently reported aboard the CAPTOR IMA at Yorktown, Virginia for duty. They are MN2 and MN2 BACH. Congratulations!

Please note who your elected officers and committee personnel are. The more people involved in the business of the Association, the better it will be for everyone. Any suggestions, complaints, ques-

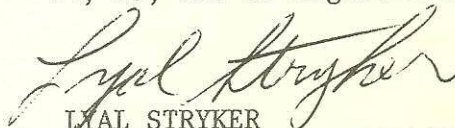


tions, etc. that you may have should be directed to the appropriate person or committee. All mail addressed to an officer or committee at the address on the first page will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

A part of this flyer is a membership application blank and we would hope that if you are not yet a member of the Association of Minemen, you consider completing the application and mailing it with your dues. If you are a member we still need the one dollar (\$1.00) annual fee to defray mailing costs, etc., and you can pass the application to someone else. Please note the membership requirements cover both regular and associate members.

I am looking forward to working with all of you to continue strengthening the Association and building on the good start we got the last few years. Please help us when and where you can and especially when asked to serve or assist.

Looking forward to seeing all of you this summer in Charleston, SC and remember the dates - 14, 15, and 16 August 1981.

  
LYAL STRYKER  
President

P.S. We are now officially chartered as a non-profit corporation in the state of South Carolina.

CONGRATULATIONS: To the new Chiefs (1980 list).

MNCM's David Murner, Dennis Linner, Ted Newton and Kenneth Brown.

MNCS's Roy Tyrrell, Dale Smith (Ens), Larry Moir and Donald Wright.

MNC's Charles Leonard, Ronald Ellis, Charles Cook, Thomas Sannino,

Darrell Doane, Michael Carr, Edward Simmons and John Epps.

Also congratulations to the new crop of LDO's:

MNC Mike Bera, Cominewarcom to NMEF;

MNC Clint Snyder, Momag Unit Eight Guam to Comomag;

and MNCS Dale Smith, Momag Unit Eight Guam to Comomag.

They will be commissioned Ensign this year.

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Did you know that the Mineman rating was officially established on October 12, 1943, disestablished January 1, 1948 and re-established June 9, 1948?

CAFB GATE

## N. CHARLESTON

## AREA MAP &amp; SUMMARY OF EVENTS

FOR

AUGUST 14 - 16, 1981

FRIDAY	AUG	14	1600	EARLY BIRD AT FRA
SATURDAY	AUG	15	1300 - 1500	MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT CAFB O/CLUB
SATURDAY	AUG	15	1830	COCKTAILS AT CAFB O/CLUB
SATURDAY	AUG	15	2000 - 2200	DINNER, CAFB O/CLUB
SATURDAY	AUG	15	2100	GUEST SPEAKER
SATURDAY	AUG	15	2200 - 2400	DANCING
SUNDAY	AUG	16	1200 - DUSK	PICNIC AT CAFB PICNIC GROUNDS

AIR PORT  
TERMINAL

OFFICER'S CLUB

AVIATION AVE.

RIVERS AVE.

DORCHESTER RD.

TO CHARLESTON

SPRUILL AVENUE

NAVAL HOSPITAL

FRA

NAVAL BASE  
MAIN GATE

COSGROVE AVE.

REYNOLD'S  
AVE.

## ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN

P.O. BOX 71835 CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405



I wish to join the Association of Minemen and include payment for one time dues of \$5.00 for Regular Membership or \$3.00 for Associate Membership.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRST) (MIDDLE) (LAST)

RATE / RANK \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

RECRUITED BY \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE: A FEE OF \$1.00 IS DUE ON SEPTEMBER 1ST ANNUALLY FOR MAILING EXPENSES, ETC.

Received From: \_\_\_\_\_

The Sum of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For dues in the Association of Minemen.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



# ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN ELIGIBILITY

REGULAR MEMBER: ANY PERSON ACTIVE OR RETIRED, REGULAR OR RESERVE, MILITARY OR CIVILIAN WHO IS A GRADUATE OF THE BUORD SPONSORED MINEMAN SPECIAL TRAINING COURSE AND MINE CRAFT SCHOOL, PEARL HARBOR, T.H. (1935 TO 1941), THE NAVAL SCHOOLS MINE WARFARE AT YORKTOWN, VA. FROM 1941 THROUGH DECEMBER 1958 AND/OR THE FLEET AND MINE WARFARE TRAINING CENTER, CHARLESTON, S.C. FROM JANUARY, 1959 OR WAS DESIGNATED A "MINEMAN" SHALL BE A VOTING MEMBER.

ASSOCIATE: ANY PERSON PREVIOUSLY OR CURRENTLY INVOLVED IN ALL FACETS OF MINE WARFARE, INCLUDING DESIGN/DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, TESTING, TRAINING, LOGISTICS, MINE LAYING/SWEEPING AND/OR SEA/SHORE MINING OPERATIONAL ASPECTS SHALL BE NON-VOTING ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN: TO PROMOTE INTEREST, COMRADESHIP AND *ESPRIT DE CORPS* IN THE MINE WARFARE COMMUNITY: TO BRING ABOUT IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS AND COOPERATION OF PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN MINE WARFARE; TO PROMOTE RECOGNITION IN MEMORY OF THOSE GAL-LANT PERSONNEL WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR OUR COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN MINE WARFARE OPERATIONS; SUPPORT THE MINE WARFARE MUSEUM ON BOARD THE USS YORKTOWN AND/OR OTHER SUITABLE MEANS OF PRESERVING MEMORABILIA ASSOCIATED WITH THE MINEMAN RATING.

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ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN

P.O. BOX 71835

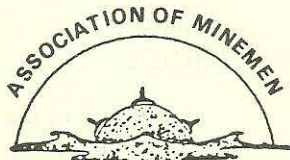
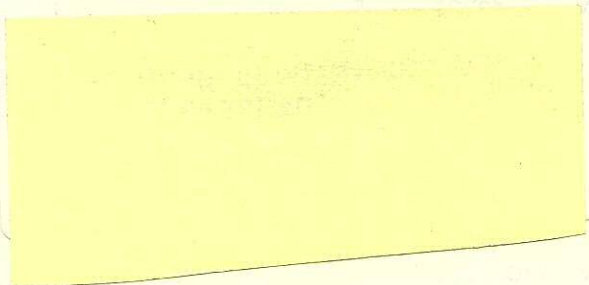
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CHARLESTON, S.C. 29405

BULK RATE  
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CHARLESTON, S.C.

**7TH ANNUAL MEETING  
AND REUNION IN  
CHARLESTON, S.C.  
AUGUST 14 - 16, 1981**



DEDICATED TO SERVING  
THE U.S. NAVY MINE FORCE

.....TO PERPETUATE A KNOWLEDGE OF UNDERSEA MINE WARFARE, NECESSARY TO AMERICA'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE.....

FEB 81