



THE DASHPOT



Issue 64 Newsletter of the Association of Minemen Winter 2008



FROM THE PRESIDENT Robert Hart

As autumn fades into winter, the time comes again to send greetings to the membership of the Association of Minemen. There is much to tell you about concerning the workings of your AOM.

Thanks are in order to Dick Schommer and his family, and others who did such a great job of putting our reunion over the top. We all had the opportunity to renew acquaintances and make new friends. There were many new faces in attendance at all events, especially the picnic and auction. The feedback from our attendees has shown that the reunion was a great success.

Two new Board of Directors members were installed at this reunion. They are Gary Elliott, CWO3 Ret. of Sequim, WA, and Robert 'Bob' Reed, CWO 4 Ret. of Oil City, PA, also Derick Hartshorn has been appointed to the Association Chaplaincy. Please make note of Derick's e-mail address for the purpose of whom to notify if you learn of deaths or distress of any Minemen or families. Also, Derick has submitted a proposal to become the Membership Chairman of the Association. His proposal was accepted and I have appointed him to this position. I think he will be a strong advocate for increasing our membership.

As many of you know, Betty Wilson (Bob's wife) was taken to the hospital and underwent surgery on Sunday of the reunion. I am pleased to report that her condition is greatly improved and she is starting therapy. I'm sure we will keep her in our prayers as she recovers. Many thanks to Jani and Toby Horn for providing a home away from home for Bob while Betty was in hospital.

A recent message from Warren Savage tells me that arrangements for lodging and events for

Continued on page 3 left.

35TH ANNUAL AOM REUNION

SAN DIEGO, CA

OCTOBER 16-19, 2009

You are ALL welcome to attend the 35th Annual Association of Minemen (AOM) Reunion and be part of a most memorable event. We are putting together the final touches for our Reunion in San Diego, CA. I want to thank everyone for their assistance especially the 2007 Association of Minemen (AOM) Committee, our President, our Directors, as well as all the involved members and friends, for their assistance in our pulling together our Reunion. We are looking forward to our 33rd annual Association of Minemen (AOM) being held from 16 October to 18 October 2009 in San Diego, California at the Handlery Hotel and Resort. This hotel location was selected by the AOM Reunion Committee Team to house our reunion as well as most of our annual meetings, functions and activities. Our 1996, 2003 and 2007 AOM reunions were also held at this same location and received "WELL DONE" from all those in attendance.

The Handlery Hotel and Resort is located at 950 Hotel Circle North in San Diego only minutes from the San Diego International Airport (Lindbergh Field) in the heart of Mission Valley at Hotel Circle. The 33rd Association of Minemen Reunion is being planned and operated by a nucleus TEAM consisting of GARY CLELAND, W. C. HOLLOWAY, JERRY CHIPMAN, JIM MILLER and WARREN SAVAGE as well as other southern California AOM members

Continued on page 3 left.

ON THE INSIDE

Scholarship Scoop	3
The Mail Bag	9
Taps	11
Historian	14
Mine Assembly News	16
Countermeasures News	23



PRESIDENT
Robert N. Hart (07-10)
1237 Patrick Hwy
Hartsville, SC 29559-7759
843-383-0882

mncrn@roadrunner

VICE PRESIDENT
Ron Swart (07-10)
2020 Tupelo Court
Panama City, FL 32405
850-215- 9649
swartre@knology.net

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Curtis T. Christian (01- Morte)
303 Cypress Shores Rd.
Eutawville, SC 29048
803-492-4245
curtischristian@hotmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT
Bill Johnson (07-10)
341 Shadynook St.
Keyport, NJ 07735-5140
732-583-8546
bpjohns@earthlink.net

PARLIMENTARIAN
Warren Savage
10330 Settle Rd.
Santee, CA 92071
619-258-1478
CHIEFSKIP@aol.com

CHAPLAIN
Derick S. Hartshorn (08-Morte)
1204 4th Street Drive, SE
Conover, NC 28613-1827
(828) 464-4981
DerickH@charter.net

HISTORIAN
Jim Cernick
2305 Westlake Circle S.
Ingleside, TX 78362
361-775-1219
BARKINPIG@aol.com

YORKTOWN MUSEUM

LEXINGTON MUSEUM
Ron Swart
swartre@knology.net



THE ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN



DEDICATED TO SERVING THE U.S. NAVY MINE FORCE

The Dashpot,
published quarterly, is the
newsletter of the
Association of Minemen,
a 501-C non profit, non
political organization
incorporated in the state of
South Carolina with the
mission of perpetuating
knowledge of undersea mine
warfare and championing its
necessity as one of
America's first lines
of defense.



2009 REUNION COMMITTEE
Warren Savage
10330 Settle Rd.
Santee, CA 29071
619 258 1478
CHIEFSKIP@aol.com

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
William (Swede) Carlsen
1925 Pilgrim Ave.
Bronx, NY 10461
718-792-2298

mncsswede@aom.worldnet.att.net



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Gary L. Cleland (05-09)
12201 Sunrise Ct.
Poway, CA 92064-2865
858-748-3835

William Fortner (05-09)
1020 County Road 856.
Cedar Bluff, AL 35959
256-523-7111
mk27@httswireless.com

Robert W. Wilson (07-10)
10 Illinois Ave
Port Monmouth, NJ 07758-1108
732-787-4174
FAX 732-787-5519 (call first)
MNCUSNRET@att.net

Robert "Stan" Stancik (07-10)
151 Westminster Blvd.
Goose Creek, SC 29445-1879
843 797 2275
rfstancik@yahoo.com

Gary Elliott (08-11)
446 Hemlock
Sequim, WA 98382-3771
360-683-9569
gngelliott@yahoo.com

Bob Reed (08-11)
626 Pritchard Rd.
Oil City, PA 16301
814 678 2977

AOM STOREKEEPER
Ron Swart
2020 Tupelo Court
Panama City, FL 32405
850-215- 9649
Mobile 850-276-1750
swartre@knology.net

DASHPOT EDITOR
Bill Fortner
1020 County Road 856
Cedar Bluff, AL 35959
256-523-7111
mk27@httswireless.com

WEBMASTER
Phil Dechene
pdechene@triad.rr.com
AOM HOMEPAGE
home.triad.rr.com/aom/index.htm



President continued.

the 35th Minemen Reunion are well underway. Please refer to the Minemen website and the DASHPOT for more on this. Also take note of our Scholarship Chairman's report on the results of the recent auction.

The Hart house sends to each of you a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Bob

Reunion continued.

and associates. We eagerly look forward to this event as one to be truly remembered and surpassing our 33rd AOM reunion held at this same San Diego site.

The team is in the process of putting together activities which include our annual EARLY BIRD, BANQUET, PICNIC and AUCTION as well as other endeavors and annual meetings. We are looking forward to making this truly a FAMILY oriented function and enhance networking and camaraderie. We are looking at a USS MIDWAY and a LOCAL CASINO activity.

The Early Bird reception will be held on Friday, 16 October starting at 1600 poolside in the POOL SIDE Hospitality Room with refreshments available. This will be a great opportunity to greet, meet and mix. There will be maps and handouts available as well as photos from the past. The Hospitality Room hours will be from 7:00AM to Midnight 15 October to 18 October.

The Board of Directors meeting will be held tentatively Saturday morning 17 October at the Handlery. Our General Membership meeting is scheduled be held on Saturday, 17 October starting at 1400 hrs at the Handlery. Our Banquet will be held on Saturday, 17 October starting at 1800 hrs at the Handlery.

Our Annual AOM Picnic and Auction is planned to be held Sunday, 18 October 2007 starting at 1130 hrs at the Admiral Baker Park MWR.

We will be using our DASHPOT and the AOM WEBSITE to keep everyone up to date on what is happening. We are looking forward to having a GREAT & MEANINGFUL REUNION.

To make arrangements with the HANDLERY HOTEL & RESORT at 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108, phone 1-800-676-6567 or 1-619-298-0511 weekdays between the hours of 7AM-7PM PST or book on line at www.handlery.com. Room rates are \$99.00 plus 12.5% tax, single or double; \$109.00 triple and \$119.00 PROMO CODE "Minemen", Cut off date is 18 September 2009. Check-in time is ►

THANK YOU MOMAU 11

The members of the AOM wish to extend our deepest gratitude to MOMAU 11 for providing their fantastic color guard and two representatives for the business meeting.

The color guard members were MN1 Stone, MN2 Strech, MN2 Hanson and MNSN Ruble. MNC John Reese, and MN3 Kirkland attended the business meeting.

Your service and support are greatly appreciated and each color guard and meeting attendee will receive a one year complimentary subscription to "The Dashpot".

SCHOLARSHIP SCOOP



by Swede Carlsen

The season of giving is fast upon us. I can't think of a gift that would give you such a good feeling than a donation to the Scholarship Fund.

Donations from the membership and monies raised at the AOM picnic auction came to a tidy sum of \$4,689.18. Members were very generous in their bids for the auctioned items.

The gift of giving will also give you a little relief from 'Uncle Sam's long arm called the IRS.

Let's help all the applicants for the 2009 AOM scholarships with a donation at Christmas.

Stand Tall America

NOTICE OF BY-LAW CHANGE VOTE

We need to vote again on the motion to add "Shore duty and Sea duty" to the Mineman of the Year awards. This is the second notice of intent required by the by-laws. The vote will be tallied on 28 February 2009. Get your vote to Curtis Christian by mail or e-mail to arrive before that date.

3:00 PM and checkout time is 12:00 NOON. Hotel Parking is \$6.00 per night with complimentary in and out privileges.

ASSOCIATION OF MINEMEN

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 Oct. 2008 in Charleston SC.

Some entries are taken from the Board Of Directors meeting.

The president called the meeting to order at 1314.

Minutes of the meeting held in San Diego were read and accepted.

The treasurer's report was given and accepted.

Ron Swart reported on the selection of Minemen of the year and as a mix-up in the selection we would not present the awards this year.

It was brought to the attention of the members that we needed to vote again on the motion to add "Shore duty and Sea duty" to the Mineman of the year awards. This, due to a change in the By-Laws. Bill Fortner will publish this in the DASHPOT and asked for a vote from the members.

Bill Fortner thanked the association for the new program to help with the publication of the DASHPOT.

Robert Wilson reported the he would make more of the advertisement brochures,

Warren Salvage brought up a discussion on recruiting active duty members. Our active duty representative informed us that advertisement was not reaching all the active duty Minemen.

Swede Carlsen reported on the scholarship awards. The AOM gave 12 awards this year. Swede asked that the membership remember to donate to the fund for the 2009 year.

Dick Schommer gave the audit report on the AOM books. Auditors found the A.O.M. books in good order.

A motion was made to have the AOM pay \$25.00 per month for the web-page. Motion passed.

Ron Swart reported on the mine museums.

Toby Horn reported that he would talk to the new president of the Yorktown in a few months concerning our mines aboard the ship.

A motion was made to elect Walter D. Leventhal, MD, as and honorary AOM member.
Motion passed.

Phil Dechene inquired about a list of our honorary members. The Secretary will send the information to Warren Savage who will compile the list.

The nominating committee recommended Bob Reed and Gary Elliott to serve on the Board Of Directors for the term of 2009-2011 . There being no nominations from the floor, the above were elected.

The Treasurer requested that someone learn the bookkeeping system. This would help should the Treasurer be incapacitated. Mr. Doug Delong volunteered to set up a PowerPoint program to help with a turnover, when needed.

President Hart who also serves as our Chaplin, asked the members to inform him of the passing of any Minemen with date and place of death, if known.

Toby Horn suggested that the Storekeeper bring only one of each item along with order slips to the reunions. This would eliminate the Storekeeper having to carry or ship large amounts of A.O.M clothing and related material. The suggestion was accepted.

Bill Johnson asked if members would consider downloading the DASHPOT from the web site vice mailing them. After a discussion it was decided to table this until the 2009 meeting.

It was voted by the membership to have the 2009 reunion in San Diego, CA and the 2010 reunion in Yorktown, VA.

No further business was brought forward. The meeting was adjourned at 1535

Respectfully Submitted

Curtis Christian

CLOCK COCKER'S AWARD

Apply for induction into the august Consolidated Order of Clock Cockers. Contact Dick Schommer by e-mail at rschommer@bellsouth.net or by snail mail at 827 N. Aylesbury Dr., Goose Creek, SC, 29445-5707. I believe the requirement is 25 years continuous military or civilian duty in the Mine Force.

If you live to be one hundred you've got it made.
Very few people die past that age.



FROM THE WEBMASTER

Below are recently changed or added e-mails on the AOM WEB Site. There have been several inquiries about e-mail addresses on the AOM WEB Site that are bouncing. If you are listed on the site please check to see if your address is correct. If changes are required or you wish to be listed on the site e-mail me the information at pdechene@triad.rr.com.

E-mail – Active Duty

11/24/08 - Jarrod K. Simpson MN1 (SW); jarrod,simpson@navy.mil
11/24/08 - Jaretta Bell MN2; antiterroragent@yahoo.com
09/27/08 - Major Meliza Harris; gharris99@cox.net

E-mail – Reservist

E-mail – Retired

11/25/08 - Richard Schommer MNCM; rschommer@bellsouth.net
11/10/08 - CWO4 Gary Elliott; gngelliott@yahoo.com
10/22/08 - Ken Waringa MNCS; Panama City, FL; kcwaringa@yahoo.com
10/22/08 - LT Richard (Dick) Martin; Crossville, TN; rm03@frontiernet.net
10/22/08 - George Clark MN2; anacorita@hotmail.com
10/22/08 - Rick Williams MNC (SS); mncwilliams@conus.army.mil
08/06/08 - Jack Allen Powell MN2; 33jpowell@cox.net
08/04/08 - Robert Campbell MN2; popbob@charter.net
07/16/08 - Ron Glasen MN3; kegmine@hotmail.com
06/11/08 - Rich Joyce MN2; warden432@verizon.net
06/09/08 - John Merrell; Johnnetscape.net
10/22/08 - CDR George Kovch USNR; kotyk02@yahoo.com; gkovch@csc.com
09/16/08 - Craig Weber MNCS; c_weber@hotmail.com

E-mail – Ex-Minemen

11/24/08 - John Hughes MN3; Navy3923-Box6@msn.com
11/19/08 - Andrew Nudelman MN3; AndrewScott87@aol.com
11/17/08 - Roger Hanich MNSN; r.hanich@mchsi.com
09/10/08 - William (Bill) Cooper MN2; COOWE53@yahoo.com
08/22/08 - Misty S. Rains MN3; eternalblue83@yahoo.com
08/22/08 - Chris G. Harris MN3; kitgharris@yahoo.com
08/22/08 - Daniel J. Szarek MN3; danny.szarek@Merrell@Merrells.info

AOM WEB SITE TEMPORARY TRANSFER

Roadrunner has dictated a move to a new server. They required that the move be accomplished before 12/03/08; otherwise, the WEB Site would disappear. If you have anyone in your e-mail address book that you know uses the WEB Site would you please forward this notification to them.

This will be a temporary move and is NOT the action item given me by the BOD at the reunion in Charleston, SC. That action includes acquiring a simplified domain name, which will be completed at the beginning of next year.

The temporary address is: <http://www.home.roadrunner.com/~aom/>.
Please record this in your WEB favorites.

For a short period of time anyone who uses the old WEB address will bring up a transfer page with a link to the new roadrunner address.

After we have been at the new roadrunner site for a length of time that provides those who infrequently visit the site some time to be aware that there has been a mandatory, but temporary, move I will include a transfer page at that site that will link to a new permanent location with a simplified domain name. Notify me at pdechene@triad.rr.com if there are any problems.

Phil DeChene, AOM WEB Master

THE MAIL BAG



Derick S. Hartshorn

My web page has a guest book and I recently received the following: I am preparing to join the Navy as a Mineman and am scheduled to depart for boot camp during the first week of January 2009. Since my decision to join, I have been honored to meet many current and past mineman. The level of honor and pride I feel being a part of something so rich in history and pride is beyond words. I will keep these pictures on this website in my mind through boot camp and I hope I can make you Minemen proud. Thank you for all you have done and thank you for having this website. It is encouraging and motivating beyond words could ever express. This came from a young man, Victor Martin (vicmartin76@hotmail.com) of San Diego. It might be an inspirational entry for the Dashpot.
(My guest book page is <http://www.freeguest-books.org/guestbooks/view/1267>)

Derick S. Hartshorn

As a follow-up to the above, I received a reply that might be appropriate as an addendum:

Dear "Speedy",

Thank you so much for your encouraging words and support. I am still on schedule to leave for Boot Camp in Great Lakes in January but wanted to share a funny story about when I attended MEPS here in San Diego. While sitting with a Senior Chief going over all my entry paperwork, I was approached by the Classifier who asked if I had an opportunity to review the rates available and if I had made a decision as to what I wanted to do in the Navy. I explained that I wanted to be a Mineman. He chuckled and said that he hadn't seen that rate available in almost a year and seemed to brush off my interest in the Mineman rate. He then asked, "Well, what is your second choice?" I responded, "Mineman". He smiled and said, "Well, am I to assume that is your third choice as well?" I said yes.

After working with the Senior Chief, I was instructed to go back to the Classifiers cubical to figure out my rate. He said that I should really consider a another rate because the Mineman rate is one of the smallest rates in the Navy and that availability into that rate is extremely limited. As we talked he was hard at work entering all types of information into the computer. Then he sat back in his chair and said, "Okay, lets

see what we've got." The screen popped up on his computer listing all of the rates they were trying to fill. The list was long but believe it or not, Mineman was the FIRST LISTING with only one spot available. The Classifier looked at me and said, "I just got chills."

So, now I am officially a Mineman Recruit and couldn't be more proud. I just wanted to share this story with you. Since I have signed, I have had the pleasure of meeting many other recruits, sailors and chiefs and when they ask me my rate, I now get to say, Mineman. Most say, "oh...wow...okay." and some say, "really...like mines?" Nonetheless, their responses are very humorous.

Well, I hope this email finds you in good spirits and health.

Sincerely, DEP Recruit Martin (MN)

16 Oct. 2008

Bill

I really enjoyed the last issue of the Dashpot, especially Ed Oyer and Don Jones articles on NAD Hawthorne, Nev. during the 1950's.

Ed arrived in Hawthorne the easy way. I came by train in Feb 1953. I switched trains in Fernley, Nev. around midnight and arrived in Thorne, Nev., at 6 am in a caboose with potbelied stoves at both ends. Had to call the Marines to get a ride to the Navy barracks. Hawthorne was my first and last tour of shore duty which included Operation Castle in 1954. I do recall the Chief committing suicide; however, I thought he was a Torpedoman. I also recall soldering booster with steam irons. In fact I was in charge of that operation for a time.

Regarding Don Jones article on Zo Chuhay's comments about Birdog's last name. From what I can recall is Birdog was a nick name for Chief Warrant Officer Burton Hylo who retired in 1954 and returned to Missoula, Montana. He also served aboard the USS Shannon prior to my arrival on board.

It is nice to hear from some of the older mine-men, those few of us who are still on board.

Sincerely,
Carroll E. Delaney

Hey Shipmate

Sorry we couldn't make it to the reunion this year (first one I've missed on the East Coast since returning to the States in '88), but Hideko is a handful and Margie and family had already been down before the grand kids went back to school. If she could have taken time off we probably would have been there. The reunion is

one thing I really look forward too as I get older (60 this month), boy who would have thought I would have been saying that.

Hideko is doing ok, no better no worse, but since the second stroke in November 2004 she isn't as mobile as she was at the reunion in October 2004. In fact I think other than her non use of her right side she is in better health than I am, at least she sees the Doctors more often than I do.

Enclosed are my membership renewal and a small donation to the AOM Funds. Hopefully we will see you all at next reunion.

Leo Smith MNCM Retired

August 20, 2008

Association of Minemen
P.O. Box 69
Eutawville, SC 29048-0069

Dear Committee,

I wish to thank the Association Of Minemen Committee for the check in the amount of \$750. I am enrolled as a freshman at The College of San Mateo. Currently I am majoring in business. I also am playing for their baseball team. I am an infielder/pitcher and I am hoping that in two years I will have the opportunity to play at a D-I school.

Out of State tuition and living costs are expensive and I greatly appreciate your help. Thank you again for your support and generosity.

Sincerely, Glenn Wallace

L. J. McNamee
2167 NE Loop 410,
D-21 San Antonio, TX 78217
September 17, 2008

The Association of Mineman W. Wilson
PO Box 69
Eutawville, SC 29043-0069

Mr. Wilson,
I am a navy veteran who collects US Navy rate training manuals. I saw your message in MIL-LITARY and thought you might be able to assist me. I want to acquire copies of the Mineman 3 & 2 and the Mineman 1 & C manuals/courses for my collection. No one is offering them for sale on the used book market at this time. I saw a MN 1&C book offered on EBay a few years ago, but I was outbid on it.

Back in the early 1980s I actually completed both Mineman courses (I was in a rating which was being phased out), but the books were lost in a move. I am willing to pay something for the

books and will cover postage for them as well. If a member of the association is willing to donate one or both copies of the NAVPERS manuals, I would be willing to send a money order as a modest donation to the Association of Mineman.

Please let me know if you can help make it possible to add these books to my collection. Thank you.

Sincerely, Lawrence J. McNamee

10-08
Hello to all,
Enclosed is check for dues and a small donation Towards The Scholarship Program. We have had a few ups and downs during the year but still manage to enjoy life. Our first great grand daughter arrived in July, we now have 3 great grand children (2 boys & 1 girl). Our grandson is in 3rd year Medical School in Chicago. Our daughter Lee lives in Buena Park and that's a good thing because she is wonderful to us both. Bob still bowls in 2 leagues a Stickney week & complains because 2618 Knoxville Ave his average Long Beach, CA 90815-1516 fell below 200. Sorry to hear about H. Elston, will keep him in our prayers. Thank you for all you guys do.

**ADVERTISING MAY BE
DESCRIBED AS THE
SCIENCE OF ARRESTING
THE HUMAN INTELLIGENCE
LONG ENOUGH TO GET
MONEY FROM IT.**



TAPS

LCDR Harold Eugene Elston

Memorial services for Harold Eugene Elston, LCDR, USN (Ret), 76, of Guthrie, OK were held at 1:00 PM, Friday, November 21, 2008 at First United Presbyterian Church with Reverend Karen Rogers officiating. At the family's request, there was a private family burial.

Harold was born on August 27, 1932 in Kingfisher, OK to Lee and Jewel (LaRue) Elston. He died Wednesday, November 19, 2008 in Oklahoma City, OK.

A card of condolence has been sent to Faye Elston & family by AOM

Derick S. Hartshorn
Chaplain-AOM

Fair winds and following seas, shipmate.

Doris Carvell

Doris Lee Carvel, 80, wife of Leonard Carvell, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, November 4, 2008, at her residence.

Born June 16, 1928, in Ashland, KY, to the late Jephth Reffit and Della Riley Reffit.

Mrs. Carvell was a homemaker. She was a US Marine Veteran.

Survivors include her husband Leonard Carvell of Goose Creek, SC; three daughters, Michelle McCall of Moncks Corner, SC, Robin Lea Lunsford of Jedburg, SC, Joyce Ann Hogue of Jacksonville, FL; one son, Michael Carvell of Goose Creek; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

The funeral service and interment was held Thursday, November 5, 2008.



Max Chilcott

Max Chilcott, 84 passed away on Thursday, October 23, 2008. He was born August 24, 1924, the youngest child of Harvey and Addie Chilcott. He was born in Toronto KS.

He served in the US Navy during W.W.II and the Korean War. On his discharge in 1952, he came to Hawthorne and worked in the ordinance depot until his retirement from what was NAD in 1973. He served one term as County Commissioner of Mineral County during which time he was instrumental in assisting to establish the health clinics in several rural counties of Nevada. He served on the Board of Directors for Mt. Grant General Hospital for 16 years.

He was preceded in death by his parents in Toronto; brother, Kenneth in Sweet Idaho; sister, Hazel Woods in Yates Center, KS; brother, Enlowe in Emmett ID; sister, Helen Willhite in Toronto, KS; brother, John William in Toronto, KS and brother, Dale in Toronto KS. He is survived by his wife, Amanda Ceccarelli- Chilcott of Hawthorne NV; daughter, Marti Jane Christopher-son of Seattle, WA; son, Steve of Bayview, ID; 4 stepchildren, Charles and Carl Ceccarelli of Carson City, Janice Micou of Sparks and Jay Parker of Hawthorne; ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

There will be no memorial services held out of respect for Max's last wishes. Anyone wishing to honor Max may contribute to the American Lung Association in his name. They may be sent to 10615 Double R Blvd., Reno, NV 89521.

MN1 William G Williams

The October FRA Magazine lists William G Williams MN1 branch 099 in the Taps section.

MNCM John W. Hermesen, USN (Ret)

John W. Hermesen, 77, of Walterboro, a retired Navy Master Chief, retired farmer and widower of Nellie L. Hiott Hermesen, died Saturday, November 24, 2007. Arrangements were by Herndon and Sons Funeral Home. (Source-Aug 2008 FRA Today)

PAGE OF HONOR

Our shipmates and their military history are dying at an alarming rate, I believe that it is time and appropriate that we should make an effort to reidentify all of our Minemen that have gone in harms way and that have been recognized by the U.S. Navy, with applicable awards for doing so. I have done some research into the matter and would you believe there is no repository or Naval records available concerning most awards received and/or issued. Before its too late we must gather or attempt to gather as many names of those minemen who received combat related awards and preserve and present the data in such a manner that it will reflect the great contributions that the minemen have made to the Navy, Minewarfare and the Country and further establishing a legacy for the Minemen of the future.

The following information is requested from those that have been there, having served under combat conditions and that are reflected by the receipt of one or more of the following awards:

1. Medal of Honor
2. Navy Cross
3. Silver Star
4. Legion of Merit (combat)
5. Navy and Marine Corps Medal (Combat)
6. Bronze Star (combat)
7. Purple Heart
8. Combat Action Ribbon
9. Presidential Unit Citation
10. Navy Unit Commendation
11. Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation (combat)

It is further requested that if you are aware of any Mineman who has received at least one of these awards and they are not aware of this request or are no longer with us please forward their name (s) along with what data is available. We would like to get this project underway ASAP so your immediate response would be greatly appreciated.

Please use the following format for reporting: Name of recipient, rate/rank, award, date, location.

Forward your input to William A. Roberts, 4441 Eagle Creek Ct., Elkton, FL 32033, Roberts237@Bellsouth.net or (904)825-1594.

As a long range project this information could be presented by the AOM, in plaque form to the new Minewarfare School, San Diego.

2008 REUNION WRAP UP

The past reunion went over quite well, according to the folks that attended the three days of story telling, and sea stories, and of course the meetings, banquets, and picnic. Please notice that I didn't accuse anyone of out and out lying.

It was great that we had members that came to their first reunion; they swear it won't be their last. The numbers of members and guests really surprised me. I had a fear that this reunion could possibly go down in history as one of the least attended, but it was in Charleston, I should have known better. Enough said.

I had some outstanding help, and some advice to pull this one off. (Advice was never again will You Host another reunion.) This was from guess who. The persons that I want to thank for all of the help would be Roger and Libby Adams, from shopping to picking up equipment, cooking, helping on the chowline, and clean up. S R Stevens for supplying the chicken, deviled eggs, and the brisket, and the cooking of all that he supplied. Toby Horn our master of ceremonies, and our auctioneer on Sunday. Last but not least my family members Sue, Sam and Justin for all of the help from start to finish. Without the help of these persons this reunion would not have happened. Thanks for all of the positive comments. If you have any bad comments talk with our new Chaplain, I don't want to hear them. :-)

Dick Schommer

From the Labyrinth of the Historian



Howdy AOM and Hello MW. Finally cooling off here in Texas, not enough, but some.

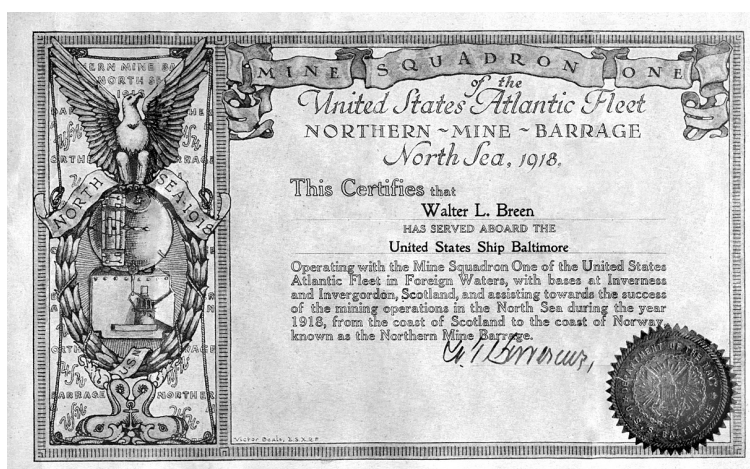
2009 sounds the close of NAVSTA Ingleside and yet another MW move. During the coming months, please keep AOM informed of any history that you think should be saved, better yet, send it to me. Too many times have we thrown away "Junk," etc., not thinking of the lost sailors down the road, only to look back and know we have lost a lot. It is a sad curse of the military, and no stranger to MW, that nobody wants to remember anything until it's thirty years past, and too late. Just look for the next Mine Sweep reunion scheduled. We already lose volumes of seemingly unimportant current information everyday, info that everyone knows, that none want, right now. It's all part of the history game, but we don't need to make it worse. It isn't lost until someone looks for it 20 years later. Case in point, all the MW plaques, WW2 and up, all the design changes and the respective years of use, including MOMAG's, MCM, MHC, etc. The compiled information just doesn't exist, and because of unknown and incomplete collections, probably never will. A reverse of that is a plaque with out any unit history, save the Navy's standard blurb entries, if that. Though I sent out an early plea, I didn't manage to get a full set of MHC plaques before they disappeared. Sorry! Thank GOD for digital imaging, but I like seeing "Stuff" at

a museum and most would agree. BTW, I still don't have a complete set of MOMAT's, MOMAG's, MOMAU's, old or new. Perhaps some OIC, or SOC, sailor of the century, that was given 8 of the same could send me one for keeping. Old and new, I need them all. Hint: The schoolhouse doesn't have a complete collection, the commands don't have a complete collection, together, and through kind generosity, we may have though. Wouldn't that be great? Our history is spread out, and about to be spread some more. Take extra care in making sure MW items move with MW, it's a very pilferable time when closing.

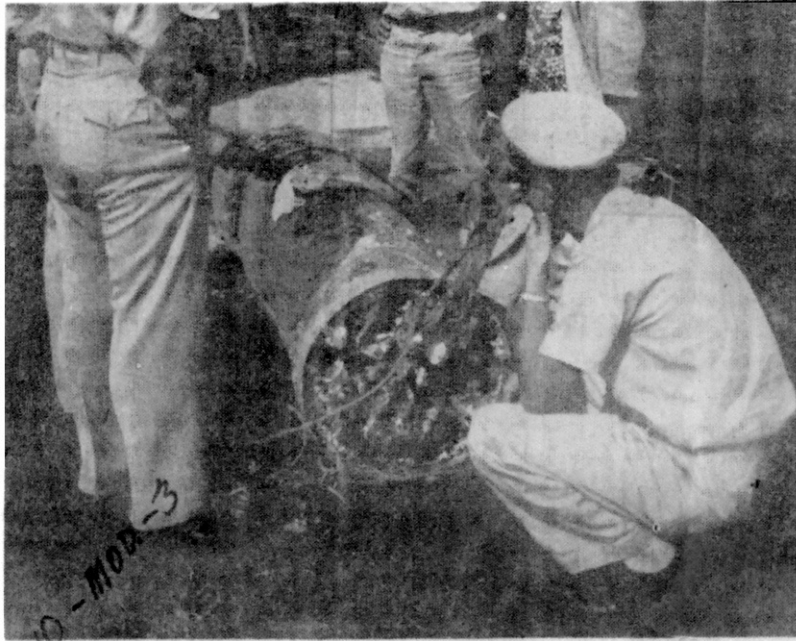
Thanks to Joe Schreiber of NMA for the Guadalcanal mining info. Thanks to Don Jones for his generous contributions to the cause. Please keep sending us the history.

Push AOM in the school again, build it in the Mineshops, and sail it in the fleet. Don't stop the flow. Give AOM memberships as an award incentive for the junior and senior SOQ/SOY, it's easy, as I STILL have 12 FREE 1-year memberships for any new members, active duty, who just contact me at barkinpig@AOL.com. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2009 to all.

Until next time, take care, DTTAFSA, BPIG sends



Stray Mine Alerts Honolulu Harbor



Navy, Coast Guard officers inspect

harmless mine at Sand Island.

Manuel J. Meller

A deadly-looking mine armed it in the channel where it drifted into Honolulu harbor yesterday and held the port in a state of tension until it was found to be a harmless dud.

Harbor operations were closed down for two hours and 10 minutes until the mine was pulled ashore at Sand Island. There, demolition experts declared it to be a non-explosive practice mine of a type used in Navy drills.

UNTIL THEN, however, it was treated with utmost respect. The Coast Guard closed the harbor from 9 a.m., when the mine was discovered near the harbor entrance, until 11:10 when it was towed ashore at Sand Island.

The device, eight feet long and two feet in diameter, was marked "inert drill mine."

TWO NAVY FROGMEN and a city policeman drew the assignment of chasing the mine. They said if it had been an honest-to-goodness explosive mine, they would have dis-

covered it, rather than towed it to shore. The frogmen were Lt. (jg) James E. Clayton and Chief Gunner's Mate John Dellagiacoma of the Navy's Explosive Ordnance Demolition Unit One. The policeman was Richard Dung.

AFTER LOOKING OVER the device, they put a line around it and towed it to the Coast Guard Pier at Sand Island. From there, it was taken back to the Navy ammunition depot at West Loch.

The Navy said the practice mine apparently broke from its mooring at a training area and was carried into the harbor by the current.

Two ships were affected by the harbor shutdown. The freighter Halcyon had pulled out of Pier 26, but was ordered back to her moorings. American President Lines freighter Hope Victory waited outside the channel until the scare was over.

Clipping provided by John McNear

<john.mcneare@prodigy.net>

Thank you, John. Bill

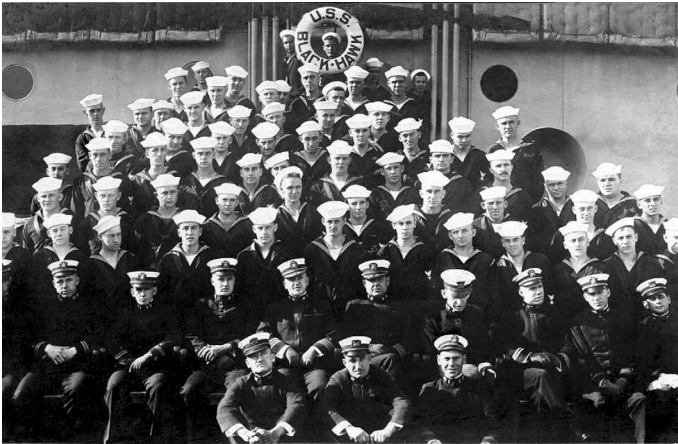
Honolulu Harbor closed for 2 hours 10 minutes by a drill mine plainly marked as such.

"If you can't go where you want to, when you want to, you haven't got command of the seas."

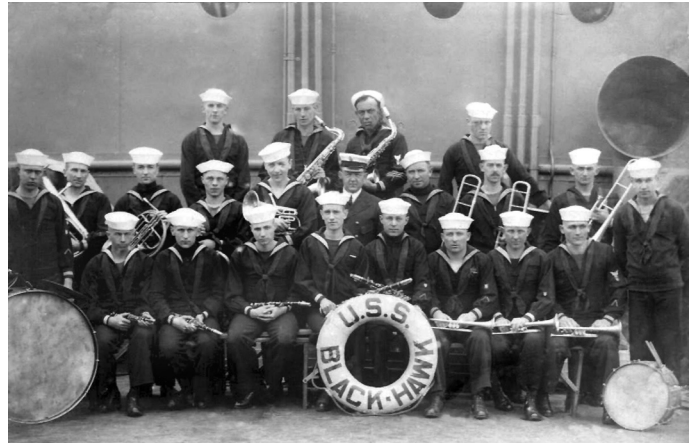


Was Pooch Troutman EVER this tender looking? :-)

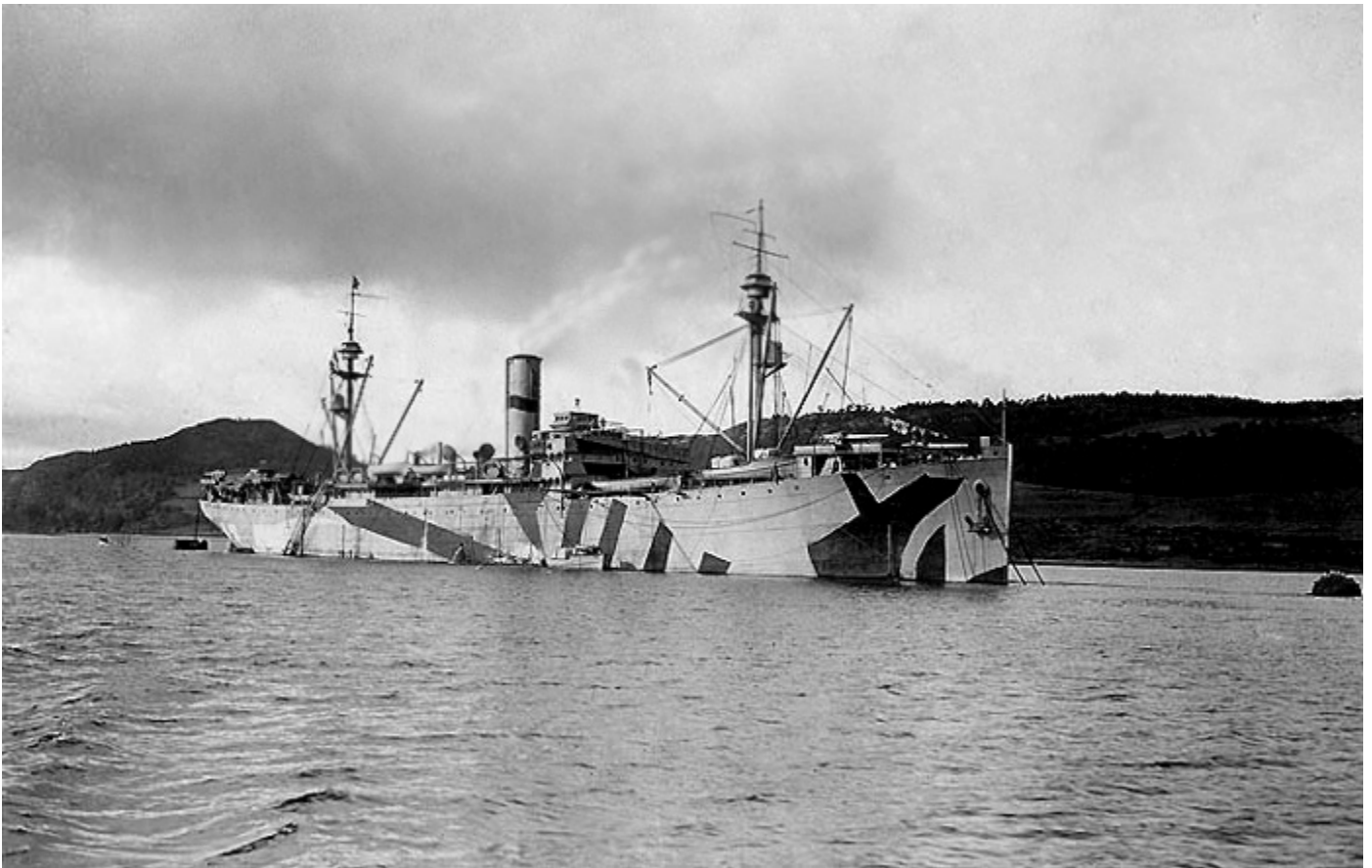
USS BLACKHAWK, ID # 1240



USS Blackhawk Crew, Scotland 1918



USS Blackhawk Band 1918



USS Blackhawk, ID # 1240, moored at Inverness, Scotland, 1918, tending minesweepers.

**NOTHING IN ALL THE WORLD IS MORE
DANGEROUS THAN SINCERE IGNORANCE
AND CONSCIENTIOUS STUPIDITY.**

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (1929 - 1968)

Rogue's Gallery



Whidbey Island, WA 17 April 1958



Capt Spiller, Lcdr Horn and
Cdr "Combat Chris" Christensen
discuss Captor. Yorktown, VA 1976



NAD, Hawthorne's Boxing Team, coached by Chief "Birdog" Hyder (squatting front row).
 Standing back row, left to right: Berry Cannon, Jim Dodd, two unknown Marines, and Don Jones.
 On July 4, 1954, at Fallon, Nevada's Rodeo Arena, NAD's boxers won all their bouts vs. NAS,
 Fallon except for one Marine who lost by a decision.



Port Lyautey, Morocco...way back when...

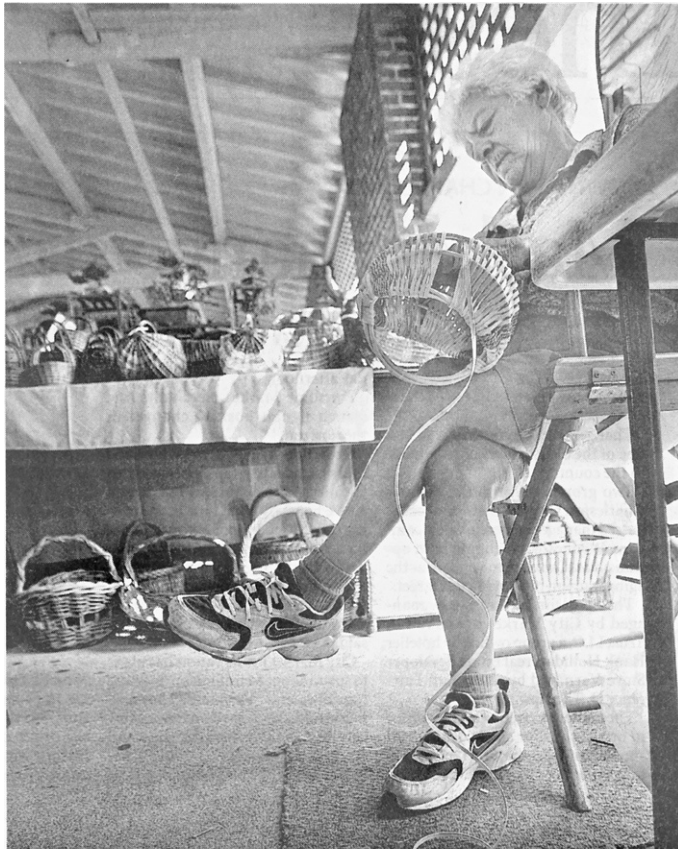
FISHER AWARDED FOR 35



Forrest C. Fisher, Supervisory Engineering Technician, center, of the Naval Mine Engineering Facility, is being presented his 35 Year Length of Service Award, with congratulations by Captain F. L. Pinney, Jr., Commanding Officer. A. J. Gustafson, Jr., left, an NMEF supervisor, was present to add congratulations to Mr. Fisher for his long and faithful service. Mr. Fisher became the sixth member of this exclusive Station Club.

Mr. Fisher has slightly under 22 years of active Navy military service and the remaining years have all been spent at this Station in a civilian capacity.

Yorktown is home to Mr. Fisher, where he lives with his wife, a son Gerald L., age 17, and a daughter, MaryAnn, age 12.



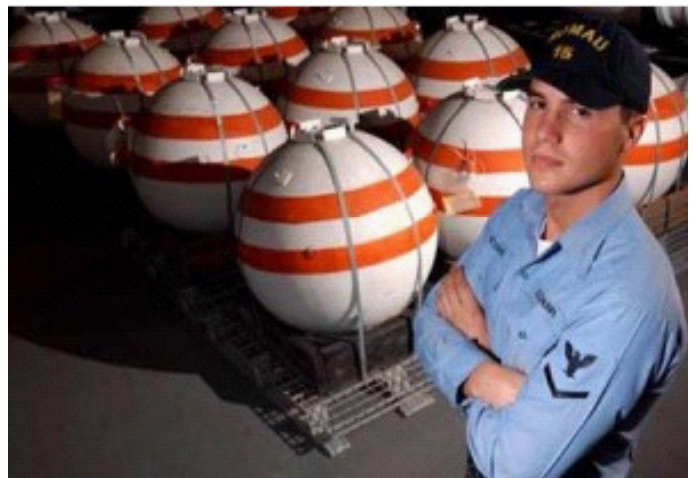
WADE SPEES/STAFF

Vera Oxendine is one of the Market vendors whose work is not only local, but is made on the spot. She was working Wednesday alongside her husband and has been in the market for 33 years, 27 of them making the baskets.



MINE WARFARE TEAM MOVING TO SEAL BEACH

by Gary Robbins, OC Register science writer-editor



Petty Officer 3rd Class Justin Stordahl of MOMAU-15 stands near MK-6 training mines.

The Navy is relocating a highly specialized mine warfare team to the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station as part of the government's realignment and closure of military bases.

Mobile Mine Assembly Unit 15 (MOMAU-15) will begin moving to Seal Beach next summer, giving the base two units that provide training mines to the fleet. Seal Beach already is home to MOMAU-1.

"They (15) do largely the same thing as MOMAU-1, which makes them a good fit, but they are also tasked with the support of the mine countermeasures ships based in Ingleside (Texas)," says Gregg Smith, a base spokesman. "Those ships are scheduled to move to San Diego."

Be a good listener. Your ears will never get you in trouble.

Frank Tyger



COMOMAG

MNCS(SW) Mike Cooley

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the staff at COMOMAG. We hope everyone had a safe holiday leave stand down period and are now refreshed and ready to kick off the New Year. 2009 will bring many changes to the MIW community as the MCM ships and the Mine Warfare Training Center begin moving from Ingleside, TX to San Diego, CA. MOMAU 15 will soon begin shutting down operations also in preparation for moving to Seal Beach. That will have an impact on CONUS exercise support

Congratulations to MOMAU 11 for passing a successful Mine Readiness Certification Inspection (MRCI) in October. "MOMAU ELEVEN STANDS MISSION READY. UNIT PERSONNEL AND AUGMENTING PERSONNEL WERE MOTIVATED AND PROFESSIONAL AS DEMONSTRATED IN THEIR ABILITY TO WORK SMOOTHLY AND EFFICIENTLY" per the MRCI Chief Inspector's (CDR J.B. Vliet) comments.

N3 welcomes aboard our new operations officer LCDR Lauffenburger who, as an old Mineman, brings a wealth of knowledge to the staff. Additionally, MNC Sanchez and MNC Hawes join us from MCM CREW CONSTANT. Both are hard charging Chiefs already making a significant impact here at COMOMAG.

Fair winds and following seas are wished to SKC Diaz as she transfers back to sea duty. She will be sorely missed and we all wish her the very best! Our loss is USS NEW YORK's gain since they are getting the finest SKC in the fleet.

N31 also bids farewell to MN1 Adkins as he transfers to COMCMRON ONE. He will also be greatly missed on the staff. RON ONE is getting a stellar young Mineman destined for a bright future.

N32 Exercise Mines Division has been busy as usual with numerous MIW exercises. One in particular involved MNC Stork joining MOMAU 15's Exercise Mine Team (EMT), consisting of MN2 Lampman and MN2 Sexton, in planting exercise shapes in support of VULCANEX 09-1 aboard the USNS HUNTER in October.

VULCANEX is an AMCM exercise developed to maintain mine hunting/neutralization proficiency for HELMINERON FOURTEEN in the VACA-PES area. After a successful exercise, the EMT returned to Little Creek, VA in November for minefield recovery with the USNS GRASP, but unfortunately bad weather prevented them from completing recovery of all assets.

Congratulations to the following personnel for their outstanding accomplishments:

AWARDS

NC - SKC(SW/AW) Rosa Diaz
NA - LT Emma Mathis
NA - MNC(SW) Darrell Bostic
NA - MN1(SW) Jason Reinhart
NA - MN1(SW) Michael Adkins
LOC- YN1(AW) Rochelle Wilson

Sailor of the Quarter 3Q08

YN1(AW) Rochelle Wilson

Civilian Special Act Award

Mr. James D. Burton
Mrs. Brenda J. Davis
Mr. Wayne A. Helgersen
Mr. Edward J. Simmons

Hail

LCDR David A. Lauffenburger
- NMC CED DET SEWELLS POINT
MNC(SW) Joseph Sanchez Jr.
- MCM CREW CONSTANT
MNC(SW) Bryan L. Hawes
- MCM CREW CONSTANT

Farewell

SKC(SW/AW) Rosa Diaz
- PCU NEW YORK LPD 21 (PCS)
MN1(SW) Michael Adkins
- COMCMRON ONE (PCS)



MNC Jeff Blackwell, LT Stephanie Cowart, and Mr. Jay Burton attend the CNATRA Bike Run 2008. (Some might recognize Chief Warrant Officer (Ret.) Chico Buyo, former COMOMAG Admin Officer over Jay's shoulder)



MOMAU TEN KADENA, JAPAN

MN1/SS Waller

This first quarter of fiscal year 2009 has seen some major changes here at MOMAU Ten. Our biggest change has come with our change of command. We bid a fond farewell to our departing CO, LT Jessie Sanchez, who is headed to the CSCS Mayport in Jacksonville, FL. as the OIC! We are pleased to welcomed in our new CO, LCDR Steven Reith, who arrived here from 3RD Fleet out of San Diego, CA.

Team Ten would like to extend our strongest thanks to CDR Vliet from COMOMAG for coming out to attend the change of command. LT Sanchez was our only farewell this quarter, but we would also like to hail in MOMAU Ten's other new arrival, MN2 Jeremy McIntosh from crew Implicit in Ingleside, TX.

Team Ten was very pleased to promote 5 sailors this past quarter! MN2 Michael Prendergast and MN2 Jeremy McIntosh have both been promoted to MINEMAN First Class, and MN-SNs Devin Keeton, Patrick Dockery, and Joseph Hamilton were all promoted to the rank of MINEMAN Third Class! Congratulations also to all of our fellow brothers and sisters who have also advanced. Job very well done!

In this first quarter of FY2009 MOMAU Ten has been aggressively preparing for our upcoming team exercises. With a full plate of local and extended exercises in the near horizon, shop prep and mine prep have been at the forefront of the schedule for the entire quarter. While no personnel deployed this quarter, Team Ten was still busy sending out various assets in support of exercises in and out of the local area.

Team Ten would like to take this time to extend our thanks to Rear Admiral James Kelly for his visit here in early December. His insights and unique perspective of Naval warfare were a treat for all sailors here at MOMAU Ten! While here, Rear Admiral Kelly was gracious enough to present MN1/SW Bishop the Navy and Marine Corp Medal for heroism, as well as reenlist SKC Pablo Arao for another four years of naval service!



Newly promoted MN1 Michael Prendergast receiving his frocking letter from MOMAU Ten's new CO, LCDR Reith.



MN1 Jeremy McIntosh also receiving his frocking letter from the CO.



MOMAU TEN's newly frocked Third Class Petty Officers! From left: MN3 Devin Keeton, MN3 Patrick Dockery, and MN3 Joseph Hamilton.



RADM Kelly, alongside MN1 Ralph Bishop and family, as he presents MN1 Bishop the Navy and Marine Corp Medal.



RADM Kelly taking an opportunity during his visit to reenlist one of his former shipmates, MOMAU TEN's SKC Pablo Arao.



MOMAU ELEVEN GOOSE CREEK, SC

Hello and welcome from the world's largest, most productive mine shop! It has been an extremely exciting and busy time here at MO-

MAU ELEVEN. First we bid farewell and following seas to LCDR Richard P. Weiss, who has turned over command of MOMAU ELEVEN to LCDR Marc T. Goode; he will be greatly missed.

Congratulations to all the CPO Selectees; your hard work and dedication has paid off. MOMAU ELEVEN was fortunate enough to have one outstanding Sailor selected this year: MNC(SEL) Benito Juarez.

Team ELEVEN has been extremely busy this year once again supporting ET missions across the country as well as getting ready for the 2008 MRCI. First our AF MAT deployed to Barksdale to train our Air Force brothers and sisters, completing the mission without a hitch. Team ELEVEN supported NAVAIR in Pax River, MD in further development of the expansion of Mine Warfare delivery platforms for use as organic carrier strike group capability. We have also provided missions in Jacksonville, FL; Norfolk, VA; Portsmouth, NH; and material support to numerous fleet exercises.

Lastly, Team ELEVEN would like to issue a Bravo Zulu to our reservists who continue to leave their jobs and families to assist us whenever they are needed. Thank you to all!



MN2 Stretch and MN1 Synder upgrade a MK65 Quick Strike.

MINE READINESS CERTIFICATION INSPECTION

Team ELEVEN rose to the challenge once again and hit a home run during our most recent Mine Readiness Certification Inspection. This was a perfect opportunity for us to show the world what we can do with a Submarine Launched Mobile Mine (SLMM), Mk 67 Mine, MK65, MK62, and MK63 Quick Strike Mines. Throughout the inspection, our Sailors upheld the standard that MOMAU ELEVEN prides itself on, and that is 100% weapons reliability with zero safety discrepancies. Way to go, guys!

WEAPONS UPGRADE ASSESSMENT

With the help of shipmates from NR MOMAUS SIX and FOUR, Team ELEVEN performed two exceptional weapons upgrade assessments. Starting off with another eye opening safety brief, we knocked out the MK 67 SLMM with only one minor discrepancy. MAT Teams 1, 2, and 3 proved their efficiency by upgrading and downgrading the MK 62 and 63 Quick Strike mines in record time. Lastly, to wrap it up without a bang, Team ELEVEN finishing up with grades of: 98.1% weapons reliability and zero discrepancies.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Team ELEVEN showed their compassion for the community once again this year with an astounding effort. Ten of our Sailors took time from their busy schedules to assist in support of the Palmetto Academic Challenge Test series at three of the local elementary schools, as well as to teach the students and staff a little about the Navy, Mineman and what we do in service for the country. Some of our Sailors actively participated in Habitat for Humanity and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Several Sailors also manned the Vietnam Mobile War Memorial to answer questions as well as lend a listening ear. Finally, Team ELEVEN also began a vigorous recycling program; collecting paper and other recyclables to help clean the environment and inspire recycling throughout the Goose Creek area.



LCDR Weiss presents IT1 Ellison with an LOA for her outstanding Community Involvement.

RETIREMENTS

MOMAU ELEVEN would like to wish fair winds and following seas to MNC(SW) Patrick Haley, MNC(SW) Stanley King, and MN1(SW) Peter Placek who are retiring after numerous years of honorable service. Best wishes to all of them and their families.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Bravo Zulu and congratulations to the following Sailors:

ADVANCEMENT

MNCS Shawn Barker
MNCS Pamela Kulisek
MNC Benito Juarez
MN1 Eric Gummersheimer
MN1 Hugh Mitchell
SK1 Thomas Ellison
MN1 Paul Antos
MN2 Jason Stevens
MN2 Alnesugi Rivera-Febres
MN2 Justin Tasse
IT2 Kuiana Barrios
MN3 Matthew Bender
MN3 Courtney Ruble
MN3 Marcelina Ortiz
MN3 Alina Boatright
MN3 Nicole Primeaux



LCDR Weiss presents MNCS Pamela Kulisek with her letter of appointment.

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS COMMENDATION MEDAL

CWO3 William Jurkowski
MNCS Pamela Kulisek
MNC Patrick Haley

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

MNC Stanley King
MN1 Bryan Walker
MN1 Richard Dubois
MN2 Kenneth Matthews
MN2 Amanda Hall

ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IN GENERAL STUDIES:

MN1 Hugh Mitchell
SK2 Thomas Ellison

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN LIBERAL ARTS:
MNCS Shawn Barker

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE:
MN1 Jason Willis

We also congratulate MN2 (SW) Eric Zenero for obtaining his South Carolina Real Estate license.

SSOQ: MN1(SW) Hugh Mitchell
JSOQ: MN2(SW) Robert Lichford
BJOQ: MN3 MNSN Matthew Lautenschlager

DEPARTURES

MN3 Charles Porter
YN2 Richard Saunders
MN1(AW) Richard Dubois
SK2(SW/AW) Sharon Paulk
MNC(SW) Stanley King
CWO3 William Jurkowski
MN3 Sean Humphries
MN3(AW) Paul Harris
MN2(SW) Matthew Joseph Giannini
MN2(SW) Ralph Maldonado
MN1(SW) Bryan Walker
MNCS(SW) Pamela Kulisek
MNC(SW) Stanley King
MNC(SW) Patrick Haley
MN2 Kenneth Matthews
MN1(SW) Peter Placek

ARRIVALS

MNC(SW) Jerry Gerhardt
MN1(SW) John Pennington
MN1(SW) Benito Juarez
MN2(SW) Paul Antos
MN2(AW) Amanda Hall
MN2(SW) Keenan Nishimura
SK2(SW) Danielle Smith
MN3(SS) Ramirez Jones
MN3(SW) Stephen Kirkland
MN3(SW) Justin Tassey
YNSN Gwendolyn Champe
MNSN Garrett Hughes
MNSN Alina Boatright
MNSN Nicole Primeaux
MNSN Matthew Lautenschlager
MNSA Alexander Martin
MNSR Marcelina Ortiz

**NEXT
DASHPOT
INPUT IS DUE
1 MARCH 2009**



MOMAU TWELVE MISAWA JAPAN

by YN1(SW) Ryan Durnell

Greetings once again, from the Land of the Rising Sun, Japan! The winter months have arrived, and many of our junior personnel experienced their first snowfall. Mobile Mine Assembly Unit TWELVE is rapidly preparing for an upcoming merger and consolidation with Navy Munitions Command East Asia Division Detachment Yokosuka Annex Misawa. This has provided unique challenges that our Sailors have striven vigorously to meet. Our Sailors are motivated to expand their knowledge base of explosive ordnance and forge stronger ties to our fellow weaponeers. In early November, we had the opportunity to test our flexibility and cooperative skills during our first combined mine/torpedo build. The innovative approach of our joint Production and Quality Assurance teams successfully maintained efficient and high quality results while flowing mines and torpedoes simultaneously. At the end of November, we stepped up the consolidation process, integrating AO's and GM's with our minemen to create one ordnance unit. A great season is highly anticipated. We are all turning up our heaters and pulling on our sweaters, but the pay-off comes from truly awesome skiing, snowboarding, and other winter sports.

HAILS WELCOME ABOARD
MN2 Stratford – Arriving from MCM CREW EX-ULTANT (February 2009)

I would also like to take some time to recognize and congratulate the following personnel for a job well done.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION
MN1(SW) Dillabough – Navy Achievement Medal

ADVANCEMENTS:
Congratulations:
MN2 Andrea R. Krouse

On the RADAR screen

This has been an excellent quarter, and the holiday stand down will be icing on our sweet

cake. The Sapporo Ice Festival is approaching, an annual celebration of the arrival of the season that allows us to refresh our relationships with our Japanese hosts. Still, all play and no work makes for unhappy people. A heavy maintenance schedule is projected into the first quarter. We are also forging ahead with the initial phases of our consolidation and integra-

tion with Navy Munitions Command East Asia Division Detachment Yokosuka Annex Misawa. This constitutes numerous changes, from simple things like letterhead to the ground-up creation of an entire new command structure. All in all, we look forward to a demanding but extremely rewarding new year. Happy Holidays!



I ain't seen nothing like that since I wuz weaned!!!!



Cheap thrills...watch him jump!



Clean up on aisle three!

REUNION SCENES



TROUBLE, TROUBLE, TROUBLE.



The ENTIRE Dashpot Staff



MINE COUNTERMEASURES NEWS

Mineman Third Class Russell L. Boone

An Ingleside Sailor is returning to South Texas after serving nearly 10 months as an Individual Augmentee in Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Mineman Third Class Russell L. Boone arrived Sunday, Nov. 9, at 1:03 p.m., at Corpus Christi International Airport.

Boone, a member of MCM CREW FEARLESS embarked aboard the USS Chief (MCM 14) berthed at Naval Station Ingleside, departed South Texas Jan., 2008 for combat training, then in May was assigned to 101st Airborne Division, 2-44th Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Battalion Counter-Rockets, Artillery and Mortars(C-RAM) as a Land Based Phalanx Weapon (LBPW) System Team Member.

His team was responsible for defeating insurgent rocket, artillery, and mortar attacks while providing localized indirect fire (IDF) early warning to Joint Base Balad, Iraq to protect JBB personnel and national assets.

During Combat Skills training, Boone completed M-16, 50-cal. Crew-served Weapons, Basic First Aid, Close Quarters Combat, Hand to Hand Combatives, and Combat Life Saver qualifications training.

Editor's Note: Petty Officer Boone, the AOM salutes your accomplishments and notes you carry on the proud traditions of those who have gone before you. Well done, Petty Officer Boone. Thank you for your service.

WEBSITES SUPPORTIVE OF OUR TROOPS

Here are a some websites that are supportive of our troops. Please pass the info on to others.

www.greatamericans.com
www.operationgratitude.com
www.communityofveterans.org
www.militaryfamiliesunited.org

They all provide great information and also ways to send packages and cards to our troops.

Adopt a Marine: www.RyanRust.com

**Those who can make you believe absurdities can
make you commit atrocities.**

Voltaire, author, humanist, rationalist, & satirist (1694 - 1778)

**Association of Minemen
P.O.Box 69
Eutawville, SC 29048-0069**

**Non Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Charleston SC
NO. 270**



Return Service Requested

NEXT ARTICLE DUE DATE IS 1 MARCH 2009

NAME _____

RANK/RATE/CIVTITLE _____

STREET _____

DATE _____

CITY _____

TEL _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____

ELGIBILITY _____ APPROVED _____

Application fee \$5
Annual Dues \$15

NOTICE: To maintain membership, dues of \$15.00
must be paid annually by the month of October.
The dues expiration date is October in the year
above your name on your mailing label.

Mail Checks to:
Association of Minemen
P.O. Box 69
Eutawville, SC 29048-0069