Dedicated To The
Patriotism, Valor and Sacrifices of
Marine Corps Engineers—Past and Present.

ENGINEERS UP!

2014
2014 Newsletter Content

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

This past year has been an exceptionally satisfying one. After re-connecting with many “military acquaintances” (my D.I. informed me that is who you are - Marines don’t have “friends” ... or so he said), after so many years, I discovered that I really missed you. We were family together, fighting side by side, then training under challenging circumstances and sharing social experiences -- always as a team. I feel so grateful to once again work with you to pursue the goals of our association.

Last year was the first reunion for me, an event I will long remember. We had been too long away from the camaraderie and esprit de corps that was imbedded deep within us during our time together. Our annual MCEA Engineer Awards Program honoring the finest among our active duty engineers serves not only to recognize superior performance, but continues our tradition for encouraging and motivating others to follow the examples set by those so honored.

As a non-profit organization, we are strong financially and have leveraged that strength substantially over the past few years. Thanks go to our able Treasurer, George Carlson and his superior money management skills. His depth of caring for the best financial interests of our organization combined with great knowledge of accounting procedures and how to get “the most bang for the buck” in any given situation serve us all extremely well. You can review for yourself our continued growth in this area elsewhere in this newsletter.

When I first learned of the MCEA Associate Director program, I was both surprised and extremely impressed. How many associations come decked out with their own chain of command for communication, control and built-in fabric for operating a more cohesive outfit using volunteers rising to serve as contacts and sources of information for us in so many of our diverse venues. I salute the efforts of this team and commend Chairwoman Judy Coy for their activities on all our behalf. Thank you, AD’s!

Our Monument Committee has been working for you to make the final event of this action one to remember for all time. You would all be proud of the way this committee has operated from its beginning last year. Using division of labor and the unique talents of each of our members, we set our goal to make this dedication ceremony and related events a true once-in-a-lifetime experience. Please know that the individual and collective talents of Jim Marapoti, Tony Raniszewski, Joel Cooley, Jerry Goodwine, George Carlson, and Dave Sebastian, under able guidance from Executive Director Ken Frantz, amassed an operation plan as good as any military exercise you can remember. I hope you were able to attend and personally share in the ceremony and camaraderie. But if not, check out the article and photos included in this newsletter.

Closely associated with the monument dedication is our Brick Program, so named due to the inclusion of bricks around our monument for purchase by members/associated parties and organizations who wish to commemorate their service or the contributions of others to our unique engineer history. Details for purchase of bricks to support the monument fund are provided in this newsletter.

Thanks sincerely to the untiring and continuous beneficial efforts of Ken Frantz. No organization I have ever been associated with has had the depth of care and devoted service from its Executive Director that Ken provides to MCEA every day. He is here to remind us of our heritage, our responsibility to our engineer community, our combat casualties and Honor Roll, the “doings” at the Engineer School, our counterparts with other services, corporate supporters and associated groups such as the Society of American Military Engineers, among others. And so much more.

Please plan to join us for our 2014 Annual Reunion in Pala, California October 20-23. We will share the reception, business meeting and awards banquet together. I do hope you will be there to join with us in more camaraderie and esprit de corps.

God bless and Semper Fi. Engineers Up!

Charlie
### MCEA OFFICIALS & KEY SUPPORTERS

#### Executive Committee

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Major Charlie Dismore, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>LtCol Tony Ranizewski, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>2d Vice President</td>
<td>MSgt Joe DeHart, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>LtCol George Carlson, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>Cpl Doug Kirk, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>Historian</td>
<td>MSgt Phil Martin, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Col Ken Frantz, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>Executive Director (Appointed)</td>
<td>Col Ken Frantz, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>Permanent Associate Director (Founder)</td>
<td>Col Jim Marapoti, USMC, (Ret)</td>
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<td>Col Hank Rudge, USMC (Ret)</td>
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<td>Permanent Associate Director</td>
<td>Col Jerry Goodwine, USMC (Ret)</td>
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#### Other

- Webmaster: Vet, Geoff Nicely, USMC
- Obituary search: Pam Jeans
- TWS profile of fallen Engrs: Vet, Judy Coy and Pam Jeans

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### MEET OUR NEW LEADERSHIP

**Major Charlie Dismore’s Marine Corps career began at MCRD, San Diego in 1967 and ended at MCRD, Parris Island in 1987. He is proud to claim the title of “Mustang.” Duty stations included a tour in Vietnam (1968-69), platoon and company commands with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Engineer Battalions, and Facilities Engineer assignments at Camp H.M. Smith and Parris Island. Returning to civilian life, he held senior management positions in commercial real estate organizations with Trammell Crow, Lincoln Property Company and Capstone Real Estate. Since 1993, Charlie has operated as a professional speaker and consultant to real estate associations and corporations across the country. His web site is www.charliedismore.com.**

**LtCol Anthony Ranizewski, USMC (Ret), was born 18 July 1946 in Bayonne NJ. After graduating from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a degree in Physics in 1968 he entered the Marine Corps through the Platoon Leaders Class (PLC) program. He served at various locations throughout the Corps to include Vietnam. While in the Corps he received a Masters Degree in Physics (Electro-optics and Laser Technology) at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. Among his assignments he served as the Weapons System Engineer at HQMC (I&L) and taught in the Engineering Department at the US Naval Academy. He was nominated twice by the Marine Corps as a Mission Specialist for the Space Shuttle Program.**

**After retiring from the Corps in 1989 he worked for a high tech Infrared Engineering company and served as it’s Vice President. After retiring from this company he was recalled on a part time basis and taught the Physics portion of an IR imagery course for the National Geo-spatial Intelligence Agency (NGA). Tony has since retired (again) and resides with his wife Chris in Stafford VA. He has 2 grown children and 3 grandchildren.**

**Master Sergeant Joseph DeHart, USMC (Ret), was born 13 December 1949, in Radford, VA. After graduating from Radford High School in 1969, he entered the Marine Corps and served in MOS’s for Air Field Crash Unit, Military Police, and Combat Engineer, during his time in service. He married his wife Kim in 1975. In 1980 he transferred to the Marine Reserve and served with C Company and B Company, 4th Combat Engineer Bn. He was activated with 2nd Combat Engineer Bn. and assigned to the 8th Marine Regiment during Desert Storm. He served as Engineer Chief for 4th Marine Division. He was assigned as Plans Chief for the 4th Combat Engineer Bn. where he retired in 1999.**

**After retiring from the Marine Corps, he started a construction company. He lost his wife in January 2010. Joe resides in Bedford, Va. and has one son living in the Bedford area.**
ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

OUR ENTIRE ENGINEER BROTHERHOOD OWES ALL OF OUR ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS!

JUDY COY of Barton, VT. CHAIRPERSON AND VT. AD. AD since 2007

The Associate Directors are the main contacts to our members. Each year we verify the members’ contact information and offer Birthday wishes. Through contact, we seek input on how to improve the association and always encourage former members to reinstate their membership. The AD’s offer condolence calls to family members when needed and encourage them to remain in contact with the Association. The AD’s advise members, sponsors and organizations about our Fellows Program and Assistance Fund. All members are encouraged to visit our website for ongoing information and updates. More AD’s are needed and always welcome.

SCOTT ARNOLD of Lebanon, MO. covers Missouri and Iowa

JOHN CHAMPEAU of Virginia Beach, VA. One of our VA ADs.
During the past year, I maintained contact with those members in my region and provided updates to our records, made birthday calls and provided info regarding the upcoming monument dedication at the NMMC as well as encouraging others to donate to this monument. I look forward to seeing as many engineers as possible in Quantico on May 14th!!

JOE COOMBS of West Jefferson, NC; one of our NC ADs.

JOE DeHART of Bedford, VA assists with our Virginia members.
Since last report, I was able to get a better handle on my duties as AD, still working out a few issues as to the passing of information. Was able to contact all members in this region by e-mail and did talk to all be phone.

JOHN HANCOCK of Belle, W. VA covers SC and W. VA.

TONY HILLIARD of Tucker, GA. Continues serving as our only GA. AD.
PAM JEANS of North Fork, CA continues to provide superb support to our engineer brothers and others on the website Together We Served, while coping with the death of her husband, Duel.

JAY KERLIN of Vernal, Utah handles Associate Director duties for members from: Colorado, North Dakota, New Mexico, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Utah and Wyoming! Good thing he uses email and the phone to cover this vast region!

DAVE LITTELL of Oxnard, CA. Our only California AD! The activity in my group has been pretty much the norm, that is, calling members on their birthday and usually having a nice chat with them. In some cases, my efforts to contact members on their birthday’s ends up to be an e-mail or a message left on a phone recorder. The other real time consumer is trying to run down members to validate their current addresses and phone numbers or tracking down members who haven’t paid their dues for one reason or the other. On a sad note, we did loose one of our oldest members, Paul Spiese of Lompoc, CA, he was 96 and a Life Member. His son told us he was ready to meet the Lord. Please pray for his soul. On a positive note, to end this brief report, I did contact every member I could by phone to ask them to please consider donating to the Marine Corps Engineer Monument fund if they already had not done so and several of them did respond in a positive way with a donation. I hope we have a good turn out this October from our California members to this years reunion at Pala, CA, near Camp Pendleton.

PHIL MARTIN of Springfield, MA is our only AD for Mass. Associate Directors are pretty busy making birthday phone calls, updating members’ files and all related jobs assigned by the Executive Director and the Associate Director Chairman. I have made a few friends by making the phone calls and lost one member for making too many phone calls to him! Recruiting is also a part of our job that remains a daunting task. I know new members are out in the local community but there are very few joiners at this time. New incentives have to be made to entice these Marines to become members.

RON MENKE of Sneads Ferry, NC. One of only three NC ADs. I made contact with all my members in reference to updating their info on the members’ roster and also all members needing to renew their dues have done so and submitted their checks.

LOU NAPPI of Haymarket, VA. One of our VA. ADs.
KEN OSTERMAN of Martinsville, NJ. Only NJ AD.

GEORGE SAENZ of Bluffton, SC. Our only active duty member to volunteer to serve as Associate Director for our active/reserve duty MCEA members.

DAVE SEBASTIAN of Stafford, VA. has begun his duties as one of our Associate Directors for our Virginia members. Dave still works full-time and has just completed his efforts as a member of our Engineer Monument Committee! Dave is 1st one on the left.

RICH WILMES of Goodyear, AZ is responsible for our Arizona members.

JACK WING of Apopka, FL. Our only Florida Associate Director. I can report that all Florida members are up to date on dues. Most all members were contacted on their Birthdays and all information updated. The 2013 Reunion held in Florida was well planned and successful, thanks to Ken Frantz. My highlight of the Reunion was seeing fellow Engineers whom I haven’t seen in many years. Florida lost two members who are now Guarding Heavens Gates.

FLOYD WULFECK of Millford, Ohio. One of NC ADs, plus he covers Kentucky. While serving as an Associate Director, I have accomplished the following:
1. Verified addresses, phone numbers and other data by phone or email.
2. Provided “Happy Birthday” messages each month.
3. Provided notices pertaining to our MCEA Reunion by email or phone.
4. Contacted members by email and phone whose dues were expiring in 2013 and encouraged them to send in their dues and remain current.
5. Provided updates for the Master Roster pertaining to last date of contact.

MIKE ZACCHEA of Floral Park, NY is our only NY AD.
Membership Committee input from Chairman, Joe DeHart

The newly formed Membership Committee is identifying the committee structure, objectives, and goals that will assist in recruiting/retaining members in the MCEA. The committee members are Wayne Bennett, Roger Cohoe, and Darryl Knight, who have volunteered to take on the tasks of enrolling new members and retaining current members. Each committee member will be assigned an area of responsibility for recruiting in that region and following through with action items that will assist them in their tasks.

The objective of the committee is to continue the present membership recruiting procedures and to develop new procedures that will increase the membership in the MCEA, and target new areas that have not been cultivated in the past.

For example: making contact with individual Marine Corps Engineers that have shown an interest in enrolling in the MCEA; increasing our corporate membership by informing what they can do for Marine Corps Engineers and what the MCEA could do to assist them; getting the word out about who we are and what we are doing to promote the Marine Corps Engineer community; contacting those who have left the MCEA and reenrolling them.

The Membership Committee is assigned to increase membership, but it needs the help from each member to: submit names of Marine Corps Engineers that can be contacted and offered membership in the MCEA; volunteer to be a committee member to cover a region. The committee is looking for coverage in the areas of the North West, South West, and South East. The strength and heart of the Marine Corps Engineer Association is its membership. Help us to make MCEA stronger to be able to promote the Marine Corps Engineers, past and present. Contact me if you have any questions or can assist this worthy effort.

Join MHT for the 23 Aug - 4 Sep Special MCEA I-Corps Return

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Brigadier General (select) Tracy W. King is currently the Commanding Officer Combat Logistics Regiment 15.

He was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and was commissioned in 1988 after graduation from the University of Oklahoma.

Colonel King has served in all three Marine Expeditionary Forces and with all four elements of the MAGTF. His tours of duty include the Mountain Warfare Training Center, Bridgeport, California, MARFORRES in New Orleans, Louisiana, Marine Corps University as the Director of SAW, Joint Duty with the Institute for Defense Analyses, as AC/S G4, 1st Marine Logistics Group, and as the Chief of Staff, 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

In 2003 he was assigned to I MEF for Operation Iraqi Freedom. During that same year he reported to II MEF and served as the Pacific & European Command Regional Plans Officer and as the Future Operations Officer for II MEF (Fwd). In 2005 he reported to 1st MAW for duty as the Commanding General’s Staff Secretary and as Commanding Officer, MWSS 172.

Colonel King’s experiences include patrolling/base defense with Marine Barracks PI, Humanitarian Relief Operations in the Federated States of Micronesia, Urban Warrior, various planning billets during Operation Iraqi Freedom I, III, & IV, compartmentalized planning with SOCOM, and Service level planning to develop the Marines Corps’ SAPR Campaign Plan.

Colonel King is a graduate of Summer/Winter Mountain Leaders, Amphibious Warfare School, School of Advanced Warfighting, Naval Command and Staff, and the National War College. He holds an M.A. in Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and an M.S. in National Policy from National Defense University.

Colonel King is married to the former Ms. Ann Fenton also from the great state of Oklahoma. They have two children, Chase, a Midshipman at the University of Oklahoma, and Sydney, a junior at Oceanside HS.

Brigadier General David A. Ottignon, Deputy J3, European Command

A native of Mount Laurel, New Jersey, Brigadier General Ottignon attended Ithaca College and was commissioned through the NROTC program in August 1987. He received a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Rochester’s Simon School of Business in June 1997 and a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in June 1998.

Brigadier General Ottignon served as a Platoon Commander and Company Executive Officer in 3d Combat Engineer Battalion, 3d Marine Division; as a Company Commander and Operations Officer in 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Force Service Support Group; as an Executive Officer and Commanding Officer in 2d Combat Engineer Battalion, 2d Marine Division; and as a Group Commander, Marine Wing Support Group 37, 3d Marine Aircraft Wing Commander.

His staff duties include duty as a Series Commander, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD San Diego; Marine Officer Instructor, University of Rochester; J4 Engineer Plans Officer and Deputy Executive Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Pacific Command; Executive Assistant to the Deputy Commandant for Installations and Logistics, Headquarters Marine Corps; and Military Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy. Brigadier General Ottignon participated in peace keeping operations in Somalia (Operation Restore Hope), counter insurgency operations in the Southern Philippines (Operation Enduring Freedom – Philippines) and combat operations in Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08).
Brigadier General Ottignon is a graduate of the Army Advanced Engineer Officer’s Course, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, Naval Command and Staff College, Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island and former CMC National Security Affairs Fellow, Hoover Institution, Stanford University. Brigadier General Ottignon has been awarded a Legion of Merit with gold star, a Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, Navy Commendation Medal, the Joint Meritorious Achievement Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal with gold star and the Combat Action Ribbon.

Brigadier General (sel) Terry V. Williams, Director, Public Affairs

Brigadier General (sel) Terry V. Williams was commissioned as 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps in 1986 after graduating with a Bachelors of Science degree in Mathematics from the University of California in Los Angeles, CA.

BGen (sel) Williams has served throughout the MAGTF, with command and staff assignments at every level. From 1987-1996 he served as Platoon and Company Commander at 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion; Series Commander and Battalion Adjutant, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego; Engineer officer, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing; Ground Operations Officer, Marine Wing Support Group 27; as well as Operations Officer, Logistics Officer and Engineer Division OIC Marine Wing Support Squadron 274. In 1992 during his tour with the Wing, he deployed to Dade County Florida in support of Joint Task Force Andrew as SPMAGTF LNO to the Joint Task Force. Additionally, he served with 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2d Force Service Support Group as a Company Commander and Battalion Staff Officer.

From 1998 to 2008, BGen (sel) Williams’ service included Staff Officer at US Pacific Command deploying to Australia and East Timor to support International Forces East Timor. Other assignments included Aide de Camp for the Commander, US Pacific Command; Executive Officer, Marine Corps Detachment, Fort Leonard Wood Missouri; and Commanding Officer, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, where he deployed to Haiti in 2004 in support of Operation Secure Tomorrow and in 2005 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Assigned to Allied Command Transformation Staff Element Europe, as a Logistics Planner for NATO, he deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom to serve with Headquarters International Security Assistance Forces. He subsequently served as Operations Officer, Facilities and Services Division, Installations & Logistics Department, Headquarters Marine Corps.

In 2009, Brigadier General (sel) Williams took command of Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany and was subsequently assigned to Headquarters Marines Corps as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics in 2012. He assumed the duties of Director of Public Affairs in June 2013.

Brigadier General (sel) Williams’ professional military education consists of The Basic School, Amphibious Warfare School (non-resident), Marine Corps Weapons and Tactics Instructors Course, Army Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Army Joint Course on Logistics, Naval Command and General Staff College, Joint Professional Military Education Phase II, and the National War College.

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; any man’s death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind, and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

The Works of John Donne. vol III
Below are our members who have died. May they join their fellow Marines and Sailors in God's Love and Peace.

**Honor Roll**

Those with an asterisk by their name are new additions.
IN MEMORIUM

IN MEMORIUM OF OUR RECENTLY DEPARTED ENGINEER BROTHERS

Bates, William Guy, born January 29, 1929 in Bloomington, IL, died September 7, 2013 after a three-year battle with cancer which he waged with exceptional courage.

His life was characterized by service to his country, community, family and friends. After graduating from Illinois State University, he served 26 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, including one tour in Korea (advisor to Korean Marine Corps) and two tours in Vietnam (CO, 1st Marine Brigade Engineer Group and CO, 7th Engineer Battalion), retiring in 1978 with the rank of Colonel. He then earned his MS from Central Michigan University and worked in various project/construction management jobs in the private sector before establishing Bates Consulting, Inc., providing logistics and registration services to PHMA for military housing seminars.

Bill served his community through involvement in the Lake Occoquan Homeowner’s Association in Virginia where he lived before retiring to Naples in 2002. He quickly became involved in the Longshore Lake Homeowner’s Association, serving two terms on the Board of Directors as president, vice president and director, and five years as chairman of the board of the road committee. Four years ago, he began attending Center Point Community Church where he was involved in a small group and helped serve coffee on Sunday mornings. And after a lifetime of unbelief, with all that he had accomplished, he realized there must be something more and placed his trust in Jesus Christ. He was a loving father, an awesome grandfather, and took great care of his family. He will long be remembered by the many lives he touched for his selfless care and concern for others.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia. He is survived by his children, Mike and Chris Bates of Springfield, VA; Kelly Thomas of Naples, FL; and Kevin Bates of Chandler, AZ; and his grandchildren, Josh Thomas of Naples, FL; Corey Bates of Manassas, VA; Daniel and Mackenzie (Thomas) DeWitt of Tucker, GA; Kyle and Kim Thomas of Flagstaff, AZ; and Drew Bates and Hannah Bates, both of Springfield, VA.

A memorial service was held September 22, 2013 at Center Point Community Church; Naples, FL.


Beloved husband of Mary. Dear father of Sheri Jorgenson, Jessie Bowman, Debera (Gene) Guenther, the late Lisa Bowman and the late Betsy Bowman. Grandfather of 13 and great-grandfather of 9. Brother of Irene Boggs, Billie Musselman, Susan Ide, and the late Sandy Olson. Memorial visitation was held July 16th with Memorial Service at Hopcroft Funeral Home, Madison Heights, Michigan.

Clarke, Colonel Harry Devereux USMC Ret. Winter Park, FL - passed away peacefully on January 2, 2014. Harry was born in Washington, DC on April 7, 1919 and grew up in Wauwatosa, WI. In May 1941, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a BS Civil Engineering, and was commissioned in United States Marine Corps in September 1941. He attended The Basic School in Philadelphia, PA and was subsequently assigned to the USS RANGER (CV-4) during WWII, participating in multiple European and African campaigns. After completion of Combat Engineer training at Camp Lejeune, NC in 1945, he served in command positions with the 3rd and 5th Marine Divisions during the post-war occupation of Japan.

He returned to Camp Lejeune, NC for additional command positions with the 2nd Marine Division, followed by subsequent assignments at MCB Quantico, VA and MCB Parris Island, SC. During the Korean War, he served with the 1st Marine Division as Commanding Officer, 1st Engineer Battalion and the Division Engineer Officer, coordinating the building and maintenance of bridges and facilities throughout the Korean peninsula. Upon his return from Korea, he was assigned to HQMC, Washington, DC and later attended the Senior Course at MCB Quantico, VA. After graduation, he was transferred to HQ FMFPAC, Hawaii. In 1960, he became the Facilities Maintenance Officer, Camp Pendleton, CA and in 1963, returned to Camp Lejeune, NC as the Assistant Chief of Staff (G-4) and later, the Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Engineer School. In 1966, after more than 25 years of distinguished service, he retired from the United States Marine Corps. His personal awards included the Legion of Merit with Combat V for service in Korea, as well as numerous unit, campaign, and service awards. He was a member of ASCE, Phi Beta Sigma, Chi Epsilon, Phi Mu Epsilon, and Psi Upsilon. Upon relocating to Winter Park, FL, he completed additional graduate education at Florida Technological University (University of Central Florida), worked with Field Enterprises, Inc., taught mathematics at the
Sanford Naval Academy Preparatory School, and volunteered with the Disney Golf Tournament for many years. He was an avid golfer at the Winter Pines Golf Course well into his 90’s. In retirement, he maintained his Marine Corps connections through his participation with the Central Florida chapter of the 1st Marine Division Association. He was a member of the First Congregational Church (UCC) of Winter Park. Harry is survived by his wife of over 67 years, Amy, son Scott Clarke and wife Carolyn of Oviedo, FL; son CAPT Steven Clarke USN (Ret) and wife Janet of Virginia Beach, VA; son Craig Clarke of Sanford, NC; granddaughter Valerie Clarke and husband Paul Diaz of Maitland, FL; granddaughter Kelly Harris and husband Justin of Richmond, VA; grandson Andrew Clarke of Oviedo, FL; grandson Christopher Clarke and wife Nicole of Ashburn, VA; and great-grandson Paul (PJ) Diaz of Maitland, FL. A Memorial Service was conducted January 31, 2014, at the Mayflower Retirement Ctr. Interment will be at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA., with full military honors on a future date to be scheduled.

**Fernandez, Orlando “Al”, Major USMC (Retired), 77, of Aiken, SC, was called to rest on February, 26, 2014 at Aiken Regional Medical Centers.** Funeral services were held March 1, 2014, in the chapel of GEORGE FUNERAL HOME. Burial, with full military honors will be held at a later date at Beaufort National Cemetery.

Born in Truchas, NM, he was a son of the late Monico & Erminia Leyba Fernandez. He was a resident of Aiken for the past 24 years. He was preceded in death by two sisters and one brother.

Al began his military career in 1953 with the United States Marine Corps, beginning as a private, serving 2 tours in Vietnam, a tour in Okinawa and several tours in Puerto Rico. He co-authored the military heavy equipment schools at Fort Leonard Wood MO, and retired after 26 ½ years, after serving in all four active Marine Division, at the rank of Major.

After retiring from the military, Al was employed as a training manager for Brown & Root, C E Lummus, Houston Lighting & Power & Bechtel, writing numerous Nuclear Plant Procedures. In 2002 he retired as Central Shops Manager from SRS. Al also operated a gift & alterations shop in downtown Aiken, O&R Enterprises with his wife Rita for 10 years. Being community minded, Al was a published author, started Toys for Tots program at SRS and was a member of the VFW, American Legion, Marine Corps League, Society of Military Engineers, Marine Corps Engineer Assn. and the Military Officers Association of America. He supported various charities, including the SPCA, Salvation Army and the Veterans Administration.

He leaves behind his loving wife of 57 years, Rita S. Fernandez of Aiken; a son, Orlando Fernandez, Jr. (Debbie) of Bristow, Virginia; daughters, Rita Frances Fernandez of Aiken and Adele Ginn (Alton) of Chappells; 5 grandchildren, Sgt. George Alton Ginn, II USMC (Retired), Robert Chapman, Jr., Anna Marie Arico, Adele Marie Hernandez and Kristina Stegall (Jeffrey); 12 great-grandchildren and he best buddy, TJ.

**Guthrie Jr. Lt. Col. Clarence Luther, USMC Retired, 78, of Spartanburg, SC died April 8, 2013, at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center.** Born July 5, 1934, in Gaffney, SC, he was the son of the late Clarence Luther Guthrie, Sr. and Rosa Jane Thackston Guthrie.

Lt. Col. Guthrie retired from the U. S. Marine Corps after 33 years of service. A graduate of USC-Spartanburg, he was also a SC probation officer, a member of American Legion Post 28, State Constable, and of the Baptist faith.

Survivors include his wife, Catherine Marie Turner Guthrie; children, Anna Guthrie Irmiter (Kevin), Rose Guthrie, Col. John Guthrie, USMC (Susan), Dr. Linda Fuqua (Kevin), Clarence Luther Guthrie III (Phyllis), Roger Guthrie (Kim), Cindy Grice (Mark), and Robert Guthrie; 15 grandchildren; 2 great-grandchildren; and sisters, Juanita Guthrie Rogers and Rose Patryce Guthrie Britton. He was predeceased by brothers, Roger Guthrie and John Guthrie; and a sister, Maryann Guthrie Mizzell.

A memorial service, with military rites by the U. S. Marine Corps Honor Team, was conducted April 12, 2013, at Floyd’s Greenlawn Chapel, Spartanburg, SC.

**Hager, John F.H. age 89, of Port St Lucie, Fl passed away March 11, 2013 at Treasure Coast Hospice in Fort Pierce.** Mr. Hager was born 10 Feb, 1924 in Baltimore, Maryland and came to Port St Lucie in 1979. He was retired from the U.S. Army and a veteran of World War II, The Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War serving in the United States Marine Corps, U.S. Navy and the U.S. Army respectively. Mr. Hager was a member of First Congregational Church of Port St Lucie, Marines Jack Ivy Detachment 666, Moose Lodge #1213, American Legion Post #318, Shriners, Masons and Disabled American Veterans.

He is survived by his companion of 14 years, Mattie Kelly; son, Scott S. Hager; daughter, Robin Savoie, and
three grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife; Hope Hager, sister Catherine, and brother Edward, and parents George and Margaret.

**Hodges, Billy Joe** was born April 21, 1932 and passed away on his birthday, April 21, 2013. He served in the Navy during the Korean War, and had retired from the US Postal Service after many years as a letter carrier. Billy was proud to be a Mason, and loved the outdoors. He was an avid gardener, fisherman, hunter and golfer; and barbecuing was one of his favorite things to do.

He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Joy Hodges; son Tim Hodges and his wife Patsy; daughter Judy Finnell and her husband Scott; brothers Edward Ahrens and Milton Byrd; sisters Bonnie Gordon and her husband Ed, and Dinah Jaks; sister-in-law Zela Hodges; grandchildren Bailey White, Amanda Brown, McKenna Sutton, Zachary Hodges and Mitchell Hodges; great grandchildren Rhett Brown and Abel Brown; and many other loving family members and friends.

**House Sr., Donald Cloyce** 82, of Emerald Isle, NC, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great friend, passed away peacefully on August 2, 2013. Mr. House had been ill for more than a year. Graveside services were held Aug. 9, 2013, at Coastal Carolina State Veterans Cemetery, Jacksonville.

He served in the Marine Corps as a Combat Engineer for over 21 years and was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars and achieved the rank of Captain. Upon his return from Korea he married his high school sweetheart Helen Evelyn Spencer of Bridgeton, N.J., and began a life together that would span more than 57 years.

Don followed one successful career with another as a Field Underwriter for New York Life Insurance Company, helping countless people with financial planning for more than 40 years.

He was a dedicated Mason ultimately serving as Master of the Semper Fidelis Masonic Lodge #680.

Don was a skilled carpenter, gardener, pianist and bridge player. Bridge gave him the opportunity to practice his true calling, that of teacher. He was an ACBL Bronze Life Master and taught classes all over the United States.

He was a tireless volunteer for many causes, including the USO and Disabled American Veterans.

Don was preceded in death by Helen who passed into heaven in 2009.

He is mourned by his four sons, LtCol. Donald C. House Jr. USMC Ret and his wife, Pamela of Bedford, Va., Richard A. House and his wife, Kathy of Jacksonville, Kevin L. House and his wife, Tracy of Eden, Brian K. House and his wife, Jennifer of Hayesville; one sister, Joan Galle of Bridgeton, NJ; one brother, Gary House of Orlando, Fla.; eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and extended family and friends.

**MASON, Gunnery Sgt. Paul Michael** (USMC, Ret.) “Gunny,” 77, of Ivor, VA. passed away April 17, 2014. He was a member and deacon of Millfield Baptist Church, as well as a member of the Franklin VFW. Mr. Mason was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Helen McQuade Mason; his brother, Thomas Mason; and his sister, Patricia Conway.

Mr. Mason was a decorated U.S. Marine engineer, who has seen many battles with tours in both Korea and Vietnam. His awards are as follows: Purple Heart (2nd Award), Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation (2nd Award), U.S. Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Good Conduct (6th Award), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Republic of Vietnam Service Medal, Recruiting Ribbon, Marine Security Guard Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Citation, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Linda S. Peaco-Mason; daughters, Michelle Mason Alston and her husband, Keith, and Wendy Charlie; sons, Paul Michael Mason Jr. and his wife, Sonya, and Wade Charlie; grandchildren, Darran and Emily Mason; brothers, Kimbel Mason, Richard Mason and James Mason; numerous nieces and nephews who include a very special niece, Mairé Mason Coyne, and her family of New York, and his church family at Millfield Baptist Church. A graveside service, with full military honors, was held April 22, 2014, at Albert G. Horton Jr. Memorial Veterans Cemetery.

**Meeker, Colonel Ermine Lindsley “Chug”**, 89, of Cheyenne, WY. passed away at CRMC Davis Hospice Center on October 9, 2013 due to respiratory complications resulting from a fall, two broken ribs and muscular dystrophy.

Chug was born August 21, 1924 in Wheatland, Wyoming, son to Grover and Sarah Grace, ranchers in Chugwater. He was the youngest of 6 children and attended Chugwater schools graduating in 1942. He attended Colorado State College of Education in Greeley, Colorado where he met his future wife, Marg Margaret Painter from Kimball, Nebraska. He joined the Marines in 1944 and soon married Marg at the Methodist church in Hyattsville, Maryland on June 9th, 1945. He and his family were relocated many times during his service time. Chug retired in 1972 to their Happy Jack ranch west of the Cheyenne. He also worked for the Wyoming Legislature for a number of years.
He was a Christian, a long-time member of the Cheyenne First United Methodist Church, a gentleman, and always a Marine. He enjoyed visiting with fellow Marines, especially those of the 7th Engineer Battalion who served with him in Vietnam. He loved the Happy Jack mountain ranch where he raised race horses and enjoyed science, building, family vacations, leather work and jewelry making.

He was a wonderful father, devoted husband, and loving grandfather and great grandfather. He had 3 grandsons, 2 great-granddaughters and 2 great-grandsons. Last year he welcomed 2 more great-grandsons into his life and his heart. He wishes them all the best life has to offer. He will be missed but his lessons and memories will be kept in the hearts of his loved ones.

He is survived by daughters: Darcy Meeker (Jim Pease) of Blacksburg, Virginia; Nancy Krois (Jerry) of Cheyenne, Wyoming; and Lisa Crandall (Ben) of Marion, Indiana. He is also survived by 3 grandsons and families, Andrew Krois (Mitzi) of Cheyenne, Wyoming; Jacob (Satara) Crandall of Tulsa, Oklahoma and Caleb (Lyndsey) Crandall of Gas City, Indiana.

He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 65 years, Margaret Painter Meeker, his parents and all his sisters and brother.

A memorial service was conducted October 28, 2013 at the First United Methodist Church in Cheyenne. Cremation is under the direction of Wiederspahn Radomsky Chapel of the Chimes.

Spiese, Paul, 96, of Santa Maria, CA. was born May 19, 1917 in York, PA to William and Minnie Spies, the third of four sons. He went to see his Lord on Dec. 17, 2013 in Santa Maria after a lengthy illness.

A child of the Depression, he left school at an early age to work and help support his family. He worked in door-to-door sales of bakery goods, a foundry, and construction. On June 15, 1935 he married the love of his life, Esther Fitzkee in Elkton, MD and enjoyed 66 years with her until her home-going in March, 2002.

In Aug., 1943 he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served as a heavy equipment operator with C Co., 5th Engineer Battalion, 5th Marine Division attaining the rank of Corporal. He fought at the battle of Iwo Jima and always considered himself blessed to be one of the few who survived and was able to walk away from Hell on earth. In route to Japan with the occupation forces, his ship broke down and he returned to Hawaii and from there back to the United States. After his separation from service in 1946 he returned home to raise his family and continue his career as a carpenter until retirement in 1984. He enjoyed working with his hands and made many improvements to his homes over the years. Paul also built from the ground up two of the family residences in Pennsylvania.

When his children were younger he was involved in sports, scouting, and fishing and hunting. In his later years he enjoyed being with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A man of strong faith, he was a member of Grace Lutheran Church, Santa Maria where he worshipped for many years. He also was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2521, the Marine Corps Engineer Association (life member), the Fifth Marine Division Association, and the Iwo Jima Association of America. He was also a life member of Carpenter’s Local 1506 in Los Angeles.

He leaves behind a son and daughter-in-law, Jody (Rhonda) Spiese of Lompoc; a daughter, Paula Spiese of Oakland; grandchildren, Wendy (Shawn) Mello and Gary Spiese; great-grandchildren, Sarina, MaKayla, and Shane Mello; sisters-in-law, Phyllis Spiese and Katherine Doll; god-daughter, Cris Westerfield, and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife he was preceded by his son, George William in 1937.

Memorial services, with military honors, were Feb. 1, 2014 at the Veteran’s Memorial in Santa Maria Cemetery with Rev. Herb Burch of Grace Lutheran Church officiating. Burial will take place at a later date in Mt. Rose Cemetery, York, PA.

Lcpl Steven P. Stevens II, 23, of Tallahassee, Fla., died June 22 while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif. His son was born just eight days after Steven was deployed to Afghanistan. He saw the baby boy that he and his wife named Kairo for the first time over Skype. Relatives say he was looking forward to holding his only child, born March 29, when he was scheduled to return in October.
The MCEA recognizes the importance of its members, partners and stakeholders who are a valuable and sustaining element of the Association. The MCEA is proud to recognize these organizations and individuals by establishing a Fellows category to acknowledge their contributions in support of the Association and/or its Foundation, special fund/assistance programs. As a tax exempt, Non Profit organization under the IRS Code section 501c (19), tax exempt donations to support the MCEA will be solicited from a wide range of potential donors, to include members, organizations, numerous charitable organizations, and individuals. Contributors, who make significant donations, one time or cumulatively, will be recognized by “Fellows” status and be so recognized both at the annual reunion/ Awards Banquet and on the MCEA website. Fellows’ categories include Platinum ($5000 or more); Gold ($1000 to 4999); Silver ($500 to $999) and Bronze ($250 to $499).

**PLATINUM**

- BAE CORPORATION
- CARLSON, GEORGE LTCOL USMC (RET)
- CATERPILLAR CORPORATION
- FORCE PROTECTION INDUSTRIES
- FRANTZ, KEN COL USMC (RET)
- HNTB FEDERAL
- KALMAR RT CENTER, LLC
- SOCEITY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS
- SUMNER, DON CAPT USMC (RET)
- TEREX CORPORATION

**GOLD**

- ANDERSON, VIRGIL (VET)
- 9TH ENGR BN ASSN
- CONCURREN TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION
- COOLEY, JOEL COL USMC (RET)
- DARKFORGE LLC
- DeGENNARO, ANTHONY A, CAPT USMC (RET)
- FOORE, BRAD LT COL USMC (RET)
- GATEWOOD, WAYNE USMC (RET)
- HARRIS-INMAN, TERRY LT COL USMC (RET)
- HOWARD, MIKE COL USMC (RET)
- LATKA, TRUDIE
- LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES
- MARAPOTI, JIM COL USMC (RET)
- MARINE CORPS BULK FUEL ASSOCIATION
- McBRIEDE, DENNY COL USMC (RET)
- MENTZER, JOHN COL USMC (RET)
- MURPHY, JIM MAJOR USMC (RET)
- NELSON, NIEL BG EN USMC
- OLF, NELSON LT COL USMC (RET)
- QUALITY SUPPORT INC.
- QUEEN, WAYNE A, MGYSGT USMC (RET)
- SCIENCE APPLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
- SUMMIT MORTGAGE CORPORATION
- TERRAGROUP CORPORATION
- TRAUM, GERALD (VET)
- WRIGHT, BILLY (VET)

**SILVER**

- APLIN, CHARLIE COL (RET)
- 7TH ENGR BN ASSN
- BOUTRY, NORM (VET)
- BOYD, MIKE COL USMC (RET)
- BUTLER, JACK COL(RET)
- CONPIOLOG INTERNATIONAL
- DANGLER, JOE MAJ USMC (RET)
- EDWARDS, BOB LT COL USMC (RET)
- FEIFS, HELMUTS (VET)
- FERRIS, CARLTON (VET)
- HARRIS, FRANK COL USMC (RET)
- HEARNE, STEVE M. (VET)
- HOWARD, ANDREW (VET)
- HUCKABY, RICHARD BG EN USMC (RET)

**BRONZE**

- INGENIEUR EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS
- JOHN, DAVID COL (RET)
- JONES, JUNIOR MGYSGT USMC (RET)
- KOONTZ ELECTRIC COMPANY
- MARTIN, PHIL MSGT USMC (RET)
- MAY, ROLLAND MSGT USMC (RET)
- NEREIM, MONTY LT COL USMC (RET)
- PANTER, FRANK LT GEN USMC (RET)
- REINNER, BILL COL USMC (RET)
- RODEBAUGH, ROBERT LT GEN USMC (RET)
- RUDGE, HANK COL USMC (RET)
- SMITH, GORDON LT COL USMC (RET)
- THEENER, RON (VET)
- WHITE, DAN LT COL USMC (RET)
- WUERCH, GEORGE LT COL USMC (RET)

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MCEA OR THE MCEA ASSISTANCE FUND & MAIL TO:**

MCEA, 807 CARRIAGE HILLS BLVD, CONROE, TX 77384
Please note that our mailing address has changed to:
MCEA, 807 Carriage Hills Blvd, Conroe, TX 77384 Phone #: 936-273-4830/716-720-1206

Individual dues are: $25 for 1 year; $60 for 3 years; and $500 for a lifetime membership. Corporate members’ dues are $400 per year.
Annual dues expire 31 Dec, but members will remain in good standing until 28 February. Email and/or phone reminders will be provided for one year.
Upon reaching the age of 80, “dues current” members will automatically change to Lifetime membership and no further dues are required.
Remember: 100% of your dues and contributions to MCEA, the Assistance Fund and the Engineer Monument Fund are tax deductible.
The enclosed Members’ roster lists our deceased members, who remain on our rolls and their next of kin receive the newsletter as long as they desire, free of charge.
We are communicating weekly or more often via email, as well as updating our website: www.MarCorEngAsn.org. Even if you don’t have internet access at home, you can use the library or other locations to visit our website and keep well-informed of what is going on year round.
Our 20-23 Oct, 2014 reunion will find us in Pala, California at the Pala Resort, Spa and Casino. Room rates are $99. Hope to see you all there!
As you can see by reading the minutes and reviewing the financial status report, we continue to increase our assets which allow us to invest more wisely as well as spend more on other key areas. Like most everything else, our Association expenses increase every year. Our significant expenses are the printing/mailing of the newsletter, reunion expenses and awards. Since we rely totally on dues & contributions, we’re constantly restricted on what we can accomplish. If you as an individual or through your company can sponsor any of our annual expense categories, please let us know.
We’ve loaded over a thousand pictures and documents to our website which includes all the material that our Association has accumulated since inception in 1991. Webmaster, Geoff Nicely continues to work tirelessly to keep the site updated. We now have a website that is extremely versatile, interactive and can be the “go to” place for all things relating to Marine Corps Engineers! Let us know what we can do to make it even better.

**ACTIONS REQUIRED**

CHECK THE ENCLOSED MEMBERS’ ROSTER & PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE # OR EMAIL ADDRESS SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS AND KEEP YOU CONNECTED. Our newsletter is sent as Bulk Mail, so it won’t be forwarded or returned.

Enclosed is the 2014 Reunion Form for you to complete & return if you are planning on attending this years’ reunion.

If you know of someone who is interested in joining MCEA & needs more information, please let Frantz know the contact info.

Please help us by spreading the word to your contacts who served with us as well as other associations about our upcoming reunions. Additionally, help us publicize our Assistance Fund; we truly are “here to help”!
This is what it says on the front of the monument:

THE KOREAN WAR LEFT AN ENORMOUS LEGACY THAT HAS CHANGED THE VERY COURSE OF THE WORLD. THE STRUGGLE NOT ONLY SAVED THE SOUTHERN HALF OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA FROM COMMUNIST RULE, BUT ALSO SET IT ON THE ROAD TOWARD DEMOCRACY.

* * * * * * * * * *

THIS MONUMENT IS DEDICATED IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO FOUGHT AND SERVED IN THE KOREAN WAR
25 JUNE 1950 — 27 JULY 1953
UNITED STATES CASUALTIES
36,574 DEAD
103,284 WOUNDED
8,177 MISSING
7,140 POW

Lawrence G. Baker and Roy E. Wilkinson
Both are Retired U. S. Marines.
Both were from Vermont
when they met for the first time onboard ship
as they left Korea in 1951
-- Larry was from Goshen, Roy from Rutland --
and they have been friends ever since.
They arrived in California from Korea
62 years, 1 day before this dedication
on September 27, 1951..
Larry lives in Pittsford, Roy in East Middlebury, VT.
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

UPDATE AS OF 1 April, 2014

TREASURER’S REPORT.
As of 31 March 2014:
- TOTAL EQUITY = $159,130.44
- GENERAL FUND = $113,523.04
- ASSISTANCE FUND = $14,741.67
- MONUMENT FUND = $30,865.73

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ASSISTANCE FUND: The AF Committee was dissolved 7 Feb, 2014. The single POC is now the Treasurer, George Carlson. This is an interim action taken for two reasons: 1) to comply with Jim Marapoti’s request to be replaced as Chairman; and 2) for the Executive Committee to re-evaluate the purpose(s), methods, and goals for the AF. Carlson for action.

2. MEMBERSHIP STATUS: Frantz reports:

   - Dues current: 535 299 of these are Life members; 69 (13%) are active duty/reserve
   - Dues expired for 2013: 54 29 are active duty
   - Deceased: 293

   TOTAL: 882

3. HISTORIAN: Phil Martin’s efforts continue to improve our historical files, especially with our engineer units. Unit updates were included in the 2012, 2013 and 2014 newsletters. Martin for action.

4. COMBAT CASUALTIES: Spreadsheet has been updated and posted to website with total of 904. Judy Coy and Pam Jeans have created profiles for each Fallen Marine and Corpsmen from our list to the website-- Together We Served. Request all hands review the roster and help fill in the blanks and add the names of others. Frantz for action.

5. 7 of our 14 corporate members have paid their 2014 dues so far this year. 4 have stated they’ll be unable to contribute this year due to sequestration and the struggling economy. Awaiting payments from the other 3. Anticipate it’ll get worse in next few years. Frantz for action.

6. MARINE CORPS ENGINEER SCHOOL:
   (1) The Instructor of the Year Awards were not supported by HQMC (LPE) but CO, MCES continues to pursue the issue among the Formal Learning Centers involved with training engineers.

   (2) MCES has developed the plot plan and rough designs for an Engineer Memorial at Court House Bay. It would essentially be the design submitted for the NMMC memorial that was determined to be too large.

   (3) Return of TD 18 to Courthouse Bay: MCES has coordinated w/NMMC regarding options on restoring and returning the TD-18 to Courthouse Bay. The TD18 will again be outside BB28 and will be refurbished to “display condition” (not fully functional museum condition) with “Marine Corps Engineer School” written across its bull blade in old English script. The TD-18 will be on loan from the Marine Corps Historic Program of the NMMC. Concrete pads are complete at the end of BB-28 for both the TD-18 and the recently restored 8230 TEREX. Col Johnson for action.

20 - Engineers Up!
7. RETURN OF TD 18 TO COURTHOUSE BAY: CO, MCES and Rich Smith continue to coordinate with Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and MCB Camp Lejeune representatives regarding return of the TD18 to MCES. MCEA is awaiting response from MCES as to what, how and when MCEA can provide support and assistance. Marapoti for action.

8. FELLOWS PROGRAM: 63 individual and 21 corporate sponsors currently qualify. Frantz for action.

9. HONOR ROLL: Since the last report, the following MCEA members have been added to our Honor Roll: Ermine Meeker; Bill Bates; Duel Jeans; Harry Clarke; Paul Spiese; Al Fernandez; Charles Curtis. Pam Jeans has created a profile on the website Together We Served for all of our deceased members. Webmaster, Geoff Nicely has included the hyperlink on our MCEA website Honor Roll listing, so you can click on the name and be directed to their TWS profile and return to the MCEA Honor Roll page. Frantz and team for action.

10. ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS: Chairman Judy Coy reports: Three members have dropped out as Association Directors. Our remaining 19 Associate Directors completed another year of supporting members in their states (and/or areas). We continue to contact members during their Birthday month and wish them a Happy Birthday. This important gesture gives the Association an opportunity to convey support to our membership. These Birthday contacts are made via telephone, mail and email. Support, friendship and condolence calls were also made to members by Associate Directors offering assistance where needed. The Associate Directors worked diligently on the annual update of the membership roster and contact information was validated. Outreach contact was made to dues expired members to encourage rejoining the association. Information and reminders was disseminated to members about the annual reunion. Coy for action.

11. WEBSITE: Thanks to the superb efforts of Geoff Nicely, the site allows members to upload articles, pictures, participate in forums and a “members’ only” section. 1044 registered users and over 3 million page views since activation August 2008. Nicely for action.

12. 2013 REUNION: After action report was published 13 Oct, 2013. Profit of $1,349.76 with only 91 in attendance. COMPLETED.

13. MONUMENTS/MEMORIALS. The contract for the MCEA Engineer Monument was awarded 8 June 2013, with a contract cost of $54,620. Contract completion date is anticipated for mid-April 2014. A dedication ceremony is scheduled for 14 May, 2014 at the National Museum of the Marine Corps (NMNC) Memorial Chapel (capacity 90 seating and 50 standing) and then moving to the Monument which is to be located at Site #38. There will be additional costs associated with the dedication ceremony, two nights reception at the hotel, and lunch at the Globe & Laurel restaurant after the ceremony. The Monument Committee was activated 27 Aug 2013, with President Charlie Dismore as Chairman. Marapoti and Dismore for action.


15. MEMBERSHIP: The membership committee was activated 27 Aug, 2013, with 2d VP Joe DeHart as Chairman. The committee is tasked to formulate, develop and report to the Executive Cmte. and our membership, their medium (2016) and long range (2020) visions for MCEA. DeHart for action.

16. 2015 REUNION: Reunion will be in the Camp Lejeune/Wilmington area. Frantz for action.
17. 2016 REUNION: Due to anticipated sequestration restrictions, recommend Camp Pendleton or San Diego area. Invite was extended to 7th Engr Assn to co-locate, but their schedule didn’t support that option. Frantz for action.

18. ANNUAL AWARDS: MarAdmin 3/14 released 3 Jan, 2014 announced the call for nominees by 31 April, 2014. Once all nominations are received, we’ll convene the email based selection board. Frantz for action.

19. FUTURE ANNUAL HONORING OF MARINE CORPS ENGINEERS. As discussed during the 26 Sept, 2013 annual business meeting, the desire is to have an annual memorial service at our MCEA Engineer Monument at NMMC, perhaps on the Wednesday before Memorial Day. We would notionally:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>Have a Chaplain-led service at the Chapel and read the names of any KIAs or members who died in the past year and ring a bell for each name read</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>Move to the MCEA Monument and complete a final prayer there</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>Advertise the event in an ALMAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>Set up the service with NMMC as an annual event on the specified day of May. Marapoti for action</td>
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</table>

NEW BUSINESS:

1. BRICK PROGRAM: 1 Jan 2014, MCEA implemented the brick program, in conjunction with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. For a tax deductible donation of $300, the purchaser’s name, or that of someone you wish to honor or remember, will be engraved on a brick. MCEA will solicit contributors to purchase brick(s) at the standard rate of $300/brick. There is no discount for multiple purchases. MCEA will send one check to MCHF @$210/brick and MCEA retained $90/brick. Initial order of 65 bricks was submitted on 20 Jan, 2014, in order to ensure purchased bricks will be properly engraved and installed in advance of our 14 May, 2014 monument dedication event. Subsequent submissions will be scheduled in support of the contract installation dates dictated by MCHF. We have over 500 bricks remaining to sell. Frantz for action.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Frantz
Secretary

“The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best, knows the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.”

- “Theodore Roosevelt”
The Monument Fund (MF)

By George Carlson

As originally conceived, the MF was to support the erection and dedication of the Engineer Monument in the Memorial Park at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. That seemed at the time to be pretty straight forward and a finite life. However, as time progressed, two factors have complicated that simple beginning. The first was the plan to have fee-based events (receptions, luncheon, etc.) in conjunction with the Monument Dedication. The second was the incorporation of what has become known as the “Brick Program.” The result is that those three functional areas are now “imbedded” in the MF. The first two will essentially “close out” once the Dedication gathering is over. However, we intend to continue the brick program beyond that time, potentially until all the bricks are purchased and installed.

The monument erection and dedication portion is funded by donations to the MF. These include both individual and corporate donations as well as $90 from each brick purchased. That $90 is a discount allowed to us as an organization for managing and consolidation brick purchases in groups and alleviating the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) of that administrative burden. The expenses include all those directly related to the erection and the dedication ceremony itself (but not the fee-based events surrounding the dedication). Most of those will be paid well before the dedication with only a few remaining around the dedication. I should note here that the General Fund (GF) has absorbed and will continue to absorb some of the ancillary costs (PayPal charges for example). We expect that there will likely be a small positive balance left in this portion which will be clearly identified once the final bills are paid.

The fee-based events surrounding the dedication are designed to be self-supporting from the fees paid by attendees. As with anything like this (our annual reunion and awards banquet for example) there is always a possibility of either a small surplus or deficit once all bills are paid.

The brick program, as an on-going process is a bit different. First the actual cost to MCEA (the amount we pay MCHF) is precisely funded by the brick purchases. Only the $90 “discount” is a variable. Until the erection and dedication costs are paid, that amount is credited to erection and dedication. After the fee-based events are fully paid, that $90 per brick will be credited to the GF as a donation.

As we previously indicated, excess funds from the monument erection and dedication not needed to cover any shortfall in fee-based events will be transferred to the Assistance Fund (AF). Any excess in the fee-based events (presuming no shortfall in the erection and dedication effort) will be transferred to the GF. Once both of those functions are fully funded, all subsequent “discounts” on brick sales will be credited to the GF.

The initial bulk brick order, submitted on 20 Jan, 2014, included MCEA funding of our five engineer Medal of Honor recipients and our two MCEA members Killed In Action. We intend to continue to fund MCEA-paid bricks to enhance our monument. Several ideas have been mentioned for those bricks. Let us know if you have a better idea.

Continue to fund bricks for engineer Medal of Honor recipients and MCEA members Killed In Action.

1. All founding officers/directors of MCEA
2. All previous officers/directors of MCEA
3. All engineer KIA (non-members)
4. All engineer units (including all the various name changes)
In a simple one liner, we are in excellent financial health! As always, questions and comments are welcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET WORTH as of 31 December 2013</th>
<th>GF</th>
<th>AF</th>
<th>MF</th>
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<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
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Corporative Members/Sponsors

ARNCO Corporation
Caterpillar Inc. Defense & Federal Products (Sponsor of Engr Spt Bn Trophy)
Checkerboard Industries, non mbr-provides Golf & T shirts
HNTB Federal (Sponsor of MWSS Engr Co Award)
Ingenieur Executive Search Consulting
Kalmar RT Center, LLC (Sponsor of Engineer Equipment Individual Awards)
Marine Corps Bulk Fuel Assn (Sponsor of Bulk Fuel individual awards category)
Pearson Engineering
Quality Support, Inc.
Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) (Sponsor of Awardee Banquet Costs)
Terex Corporation (Sponsor of Naval Construction Force Unit Award)
Terragroup Corporation (Sponsor of Utilities individual awards category)

Quotes to Ponder

When we are sick, we want an uncommon doctor; when we have a construction job to do, we want an uncommon engineer, and when we are at war, we want an uncommon general. It is only when we get into politics that we are satisfied with the common man.

- Herbert Hoover

A good engineer thinks in reverse and asks himself about the stylistic consequences of the components and systems he proposes.

- Helmut Jahn

A good scientist is a person with original ideas. A good engineer is a person who makes a design that works with as few original ideas as possible. There are no prima donnas in engineering.

- Freeman Dyson

I didn’t write because in the corps I took mining engineering of all things and, you know, they, they graduate a mining engineer as a sort of an illiterate.

- Rube Goldberg

When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don’t throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer.

- Corrie Ten Boom
The Marine Corps Engineer Association (MCEA) was established in 1991 by Col Jim Marapoti, USMC (Ret) and MGySgt George Hillebrand USMC (Ret) to reconnect – and keep connected – past and present Marine Corps engineers. MCEA quickly gained momentum and enthusiasm joining over 200 members within the first year of existence. Marine Corps EOD was added to the organization several years later. Today, membership has grown to nearly 1000 members across the globe. In 1998, an awards program was started to recognize superior individual and unit achievements across the engineer, Bulk Fuel and EOD fields as well as superior Naval Construction Force units. An MCEA Assistance Fund was begun in 2006 to assist members in financial need. A Marine Corps Engineer Monument will be erected at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in May 2014 to recognize past and present Marine Corps Engineers.

Our objectives have been consistent through the years and remain:

- **PROMOTE** Marine Corps engineering in combat engineer, engineer equipment, utilities, landing support (shore party), bulk fuel, topographic and construction engineering, drafting, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD)
- **RENEW** and **PERPETUATE** fellowship of retired, former and current military (US and Allies) who served with or were attached to Marine Corps Engineer units
- **LOCATE** those who served and **PRESERVE** their memories
- **PRESERVE** and **PROMOTE** an accurate historical record of the contributions of Marine Corps engineers, especially during combat operations
- **FOSTER SOLIDARITY** of Marine Corps engineers
- **RECOGNIZE** and **Honor Superior Achievement** of active duty and reserve Marine Corps engineers and EOD and engineer organizations at the Annual awards banquet

The MCEA is now ready to complete an effort that began over three years ago, the donation and dedication of an Engineer Monument. After much discussion and deliberation, the Executive Committee of the MCEA decided to go forward with the Engineer Monument project in 2011. Steve Heesacker, MCEA 2dVP at the time, stepped up to be the project officer and in early 2012, then MCEA President, Jim Murphy, chaired the committee to select the winning design from the designs that were submitted by MCEA members. Unfortunately, the selected design did not meet the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) design criteria and the Executive Committee opted to go with the runner-up to ensure the monument design would be approved by the MCHF, which was accomplished on 30 May, 2012.

That’s when the detailed work began on the monument design and fundraising. Not the least of which was the ultimate decision to make this a monument, not a memorial, and to not attempt to list the names of the over 900 USMC engineers and USN corpsmen that have died in combat while assigned to USMC Engineer units. That ultimately led to the phrase included on the front of the monument: “DEDICATED TO THE PATRIOTISM, VALOR AND SACRIFICES OF MARINE CORPS ENGINEERS-PAST AND PRESENT”.

All of the MCEA members were extremely pleased to have fellow MCEA member, Major General Mike Lehnert, USMC (Ret), accept the position as Honorary Chairman and his 25 June, 2012 letter officially kicked off the fundraising campaign with a financial goal of $30,000. We established the below levels of recognition for all who contribute to the Monument Fund.

**ALL CONTRIBUTORS WILL:**
- Have name listed on MCEA website;
- Receive a copy of the dedication program;
- Have their name included in the Engineer Monument dedication program;
- Have their donation added to our MCEA Fellows Program.
SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- Less than $20 will receive a Certificate of appreciation;
- $20 to $99 Certificate of appreciation and Monument commemoration replica;
- $100-$699 Certificate of appreciation, Monument commemoration replica with velvet display case;
- $700 or more will receive a certificate of appreciation and unique Engineer Monument memento.

18 July, 2012, Steve Heesacker stepped down as 2d VP and Monument Project Officer and MCEA Founder, Jim Marapoti became the project officer. In September, the Executive Committee created a Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M) which included the detailed changes to the design and specifics required to include in the solicitation for bids. After several months, three bids were received and on 3 June, 2013, the contract was awarded to William Stone & Tile in Hubert, North Carolina. Mark Byrd, a Marine Corps helicopter pilot in Viet Nam, and sculptor with extensive experience with Marine Corps sculptures for MCA and other Marine Corps organizations, was subcontracted for the two bronze Eagle Globe and Anchors (EGAs) and a bronze MCEA Logo/Medallion on the monument rear.

Monument contract cost was $54,620. All this was coordinated by Jim Marapoti who had previously served with a group of retired/former Marines to construct and place a Basic School Officer’s Memorial. Jim used the experience and lessons learned from that project to contribute significantly to the design and placement of the Engineer Monument that will be dedicated at Semper Fidelis Memorial Park, National Museum of the Marine Corps, on 14 May, 2014, which was approved unanimously by all members in attendance at the 26 Sept, 2013 annual business meeting. Considerable work and forethought went into the design which resulted in the finished product below.

In addition to the many design details, much care and thought were expended to include fine details in the EGA you see on the monument. The EGA located at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego was selected for the monument’s EGAs. That is because of its confident, determined, perhaps defiant stance. Subsequently, islands that are historically significant to our Corps were added, i.e., Iceland, Cuba, Haiti/ Santo Domingo and Hawaii. The pedestal is made from black granite, while dense gray Georgia granite was used for the castle and base.

Marine Corps Engineer history is long and storied. Initial engineer organizations began in
1913 with the formation of Company H, 1st Regiment, 1st Advance Base Brigade. Following in the 1920s, the short-lived first “Engineer Battalion” paved the way for the 1st and 2d Engineer Companies to serve our Corps in the 1930s. Engineer Training was formalized in Quantico at the “Engineer Training Center”—a forerunner to our current Marine Corps Engineer School located at Courthouse Bay in Camp Lejeune. During World War II, over 30 engineer battalion or larger units joined the fight including the 1st and 2nd Engineer and Pioneer Battalions. They became part of the 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th Marines, which included Naval Construction Battalions as well as the 1st and 2d Aviation Engineer Battalions.

The Monument Committee was activated 27 Aug, 2013, and chaired by our MCEA President, Charlie Dismore, with support from committee members: Tony Raniszewski; Jerry Goodwine; Dave Sebastian; Ken Frantz; George Carlson; Jim Marapoti; and Joel Cooley, provided oversight of the collection efforts and coordinated the details and logistics of the dedication ceremony. Cost estimates for the administrative aspects of the Engineer Monument Dedication gathering are $10,000 which increased our Monument Fund financial goal to $65,000!

The opportunity to implement a unique MCEA brick program was officially announced 1 Jan, 2014. MCEA leadership worked with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation (MCHF) to procure bricks to surround our MCEA Engineer Monument in Semper Fidelis Memorial Park overlooking the Museum’s awesome structure. For a tax deductible donation of $300, your name, or that of someone you wish to honor engraved on a brick. Initial order of 65 bricks was submitted 20 Jan, 2014, in order to ensure purchased bricks will be properly engraved and installed in advance of our 14 May, 2014 monument dedication event.

For a tax deductible donation of $300, your name, or that of someone you wish to honor engraved on a brick. Initial order of 65 bricks was submitted 20 Jan, 2014, in order to ensure purchased bricks will be properly engraved and installed in advance of our 14 May, 2014 monument dedication event.

Your engraved brick will affirm for posterity your Esprit de Corps with the men and women who risk their lives for the freedom we value. And your gift will help the National Museum of our Marine Corps preserve Corps history and heritage, and forever attest to the honor, courage, and commitment that embody America’s “first to fight”. For each $300 gift, you will receive a special Certificate of Registration recognizing your contribution and confirming the inscription(s) you have submitted as they will appear on the engraved brick(s). All brick purchasers will have their name added to our MCEA website’s donor list. Space for our unique MCEA bricks surrounding our monument is limited to 502, and they will be installed in the order in which purchases are received. MCEA will continue to support the bulk brick program until all the bricks are purchased.

As part of the detailed planning, the committee contacted those members who had contributed to this project to give them an opportunity to express their feelings and motivation to be part of it.
One of those contributors, Virgil P. Anderson, a member of the 2nd Engineer Battalion during WW II provided the following comments:

“My service in the United States Marine Corps included service with Company B, 2nd Engineer Battalion shown in this photo. The Second’s history had started with its initial deployment to Iceland and thereafter was in many battles in the Pacific. When the war ended the Second was deployed to Kokura for the dismantlement of the Japanese arsenal located there. It had been bypassed for atomic destruction because of weather, and the bomb was dropped instead on the secondary target of Nagasaki. Our duties at Kokura had been completed by April 1946 when this photo was taken and we were about to return to the States. Although a noncombat veteran, I have always felt honored to have been included in the occupation duties with this fine organization and with my fellow Marines. The USMC has always been such a positive in my life and it is an honor to be able to contribute to the perpetuation of these memories with fellow Marines and to my personal heritage of service with the USMC for which I am grateful.”

Semper Fidelis! Virgil P. Anderson USMC 1011421

Mike Boyd, a retired Marine Corps engineer who presently works at HQMC in LPE provided the following words:

“As we enter the second century of Marine Engineers, this monument stands as a symbol of the countless thousands of Marine Corps Engineers and Seabees who built and fought in battle, giving of their sweat and blood and lives to accomplish the mission whenever the word went out for “Engineers up”! During the brief intermissions in American History between conflicts, they built and powered and fueled and disarmed and dug and lifted to conduct the multitude of functions under the engineer umbrella as displayed in the stars radiating from this memorial, inevitably making it happen! This monument stands for the young enlisted Marine, overworked but managing, through creativity, innovation and stalwart persistence to accomplish the job at hand, never thinking of himself but attempting to provide for the needs of the mission at hand, and called out for every humanitarian assistance and disaster relief mission, providing for theater security cooperation long before the buzzword became possible. The monument is dark in honor of those who gave all to provide for our security and get the job done, lest we forget that success in battle never comes easy. Last the Eagle, Globe and Anchor is superimposed over the castle, providing us the reminder that we are Marines first and foremost, espousing the Core Values of Honor, Courage and Commitment! That’s what the monument means to me. “

Engineers Up! Mike Boyd

Another one of our members, who is not only our MCEA Treasurer, but serves on the Monument Committee, is a retired Marine Corps engineer named George Carlson. George offered these heartfelt words:

“Marines are a pretty tight-knit bunch of people, even internationally between the various countries that have Marines in one form or another. U.S. Marines are clearly so. All you have to do is sit in an airport (I worked in/at one for four years) and observe. Other services will most often pass fellow members and give a nod of acknowledgement, but that is about all unless they see some additional common thread (like the same ship or unit). Not Marines. We seek each other out and compare notes, have a drink or a meal together, and not uncommonly exchange addresses and phone numbers to stay in touch. And it isn’t just those in uniform. It includes folks in civvies with the smallest indication that they are or were in the Corps. It includes old retired guys like me – sometimes approached ONLY because of the haircut.

But, within the Corps, I know of no other group that is tighter than the engineers, including the topo, utility, shore party, and now the EOD (though there are still some hard feelings to be overcome). Among Marine Corps Engineers, we all still see the EGA as our foremost symbol, but right behind that is the Castle of military engineering. Yes, the Army Corps of Engineers uses it. But it is used by far more military engineers around the world than any other symbol. Given all that, I feel that it is most appropriate that the MCEA should erect a monument in the Memorial Park of the National Museum of the Marine Corps that places the EGA (two of them, even) on the Castle as a fitting tribute to our Corps and all our fellow engineers. “

God bless and Semper Fidelis, George

(Continued on Page36)
May 14, 2014 was a perfect day to dedicate the Marine Corps Engineer Association Monument at the National Museum of the Marine Corps! The monument is dedicated to the patriotism, valor and sacrifices of Marine Corps Engineers, past and present. It was the idea of the Marine Corps Engineer Association and made possible by donations from more than 200 individuals and organizations.

Attended by over 160, many current and former Marines, family and friends, other retired service members, and distinguished guests, among them, former Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Al Gray; President of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, Lt. Gen. Robert Blackman; and our Guest Speaker, MCEA member, Lt. Gen. Frank Panter, the event began with a ceremony in the chapel.

The ceremony was highlighted by Marine Corps engineers representing World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm and Operations Enduring Freedom/Iraqi Freedom. Each veteran shared their recollections of serving as Marine Corps Engineers during these conflicts and what it meant to them to be a part of such a noble fraternity, while proudly being “Marines first, Engineers second.”

Following the chapel ceremony, a bagpiper led a processional down the hill to site 38 on the Marine section of the Semper Fidelis path. A dedication prayer, placement of a wreath and sounding of Anchors Aweigh and The Marines’ Hymn brought the morning to a close.

Raising the necessary funding, designing and procuring the monument has taken almost four years for the Marine Corps Engineer Association—but its efforts will endure to help properly remember those who served. The Marine Corps Engineer Association was established in 1991 to promote Marine Corps engineering; renew and perpetuate fellowship of retired, former and current U.S. Marines who served with Marine Corps engineer units and sister service members; preserve the memory of those who served; promote an accurate historical record of the contributions of Marine Corps engineers; foster solidarity; recognize achievement of active duty and reserve Marine Corps engineers; and provide financial assistance to Marines, next of kin or other deserving personnel.

For more pictures of the 2 day gathering and to learn more about the Marine Corps Engineer Association, go to their website: www.MarCorEngAsn.org.
Members and guests quickly filled the chapel.

President Charlie Dismore leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nate Howard looks on as our four General Officers Pledge Allegiance to our Flag.

What a wonderful surprise! General Gray had some very kind words about his engineers!
At least most of the 160 in attendance had a seat!

LtGen. Blackman welcomes us to the National Museum of OUR Marine Corps.

LtGen. Panter, our guest speaker and MCEA member expressed his appreciation to all those involved in making our dreams come true!

Col. Jim Marapoti, MCEA Founder, past President and Monument Project Officer explained the elaborate process and how the attention to details provided such an outstanding monument.
Rip Harper, our oldest MCEA member represented WWII era.

Bob Edwards, MCEA Life member, represented Korean War era.

John Workman, MCEA Life member, represented Vietnam War era.

Left - Mike Howard, MCEA Life member, represented Operation Desert Storm - Shield era.

Right - Major Joe Montedoro, MCEA member and Combat Engineer Officer of the Year for 2011, represented the Iraq-Afghanistan era.

Let our voices be heard!

Eternal Father...
From the halls of Montezuma....

Route step to our long awaited monument.

Cdr J R Arthur US Navy (ret) performs America to begin the official dedication.

Jim Marapoti points out the intricate details on the engineer castle.

Note the Eagle, Globe & Anchor is larger than the castle; we never forget that we’re Marines first!
Cdr. Stallard offers the dedication prayer while our wartime era reps reach out to our monument.

LtGen Panter and Jim Marapoti place the wreath while our piper plays Amazing Grace.

Beautiful contrast.

For all of those who have gone before us and all of those who will follow, we dedicate this monument.

Marvelous!

Your Monument Committee - Dave Sebastian, Tony Raniszewski, Charlie Dismore, Joel Cooley, Ken Frantz, Jim Marapoti, missing George Carlson and Jerry Goodwine.

Jack Moore, Jim, Tim Foley
Similar to George’s thoughts are those of John Champeau:

“This monument is a testimonial to the dedication and sacrifices of all engineers who answered not only the call to the colors, but also responded immediately to the cry “Engineers Up” in every clime and place! Within this monument, I will always see the faces and the determination of every engineer with whom I have served. Their memories will be mine forever!”

John Champeau, LtCol USMC (Ret)

Steve Heesacker was grateful for the opportunity to share and penned these words:

“To me, a Marine Corps Engineer Monument is a permanent testament to those engineers who so selflessly supported their Marine brothers. Whether or not it was clearing a path through an explosives laden area, or providing electricity, fuel, shelter, showers, or water, Marine Corps Engineers have been under-appreciated too long. Though most engineers enjoy a certain degree of anonymity, we all believe each other deserve some sort of subtle, yet enduring recognition. This is thanks to all who paved the way, or made for a better day…”

Semper Fidelis, Steve Heesacker Colonel, U.S. Marines (Retired)

Another retired Marine Corps engineer thought of those who did not return. Jim Luce said:

“I’m not the type that usually stands to be recognized. I believe I belong to several distinguished organization’s with one that brings brotherhood close to my heart, which is our beloved Marine Corps Engineers. Our engineer legacy spans millenniums however rarely recognized. We leave behind our accomplishments for those heroes that never returned to our land of opportunity; that is why the monument is so necessary. We always hope when the call goes out “engineers up”, someone is always there to respond.

Thank you for all you do!

God bless & Semper Fi, Jim

General Gray and a very proud Jim Marapoti.

General Gray and Jay Ellington

(Continued from page 29)
One of our members reminded us of our support mission. Nelson Olf said:

“I have really not thought much about this subject. I have always taken great pride in being a Marine Corps Engineer, mainly because I knew how valuable we were to the Corps in combat, particularly to our fellow Marines, the Infantry, who were the tip of the spear. Marine Corps Engineers (except for those who support the Air Wing) exist only to support the infantry, either directly or indirectly. What more could be asked for ourselves?”

SF, Nelson

For a few of our members, this reminded them of those they fought alongside and they included some memories of combat tours. Jack Wing said:

“I have always been proud of our Marine Corps Engineers. In 1958 I got my first taste of what engineers are all about, and that was with the 2nd Pioneer Battalion at Camp Lejeune. After that, I was stationed in ‘A’ Company 3rd Pioneer Battalion, Okinawa, at camp Koza. Before my discharge as a Corporal in 1962, I was with the Engineer Unit at Quantico. In 1966 I re-joined the Corps and served with ‘A’ Company 1st Engineer Battalion. From there to Albany Georgia with the Base Maintenance Section. Two years later another Vietnam tour with ‘B’ Company, 7th Engineer Bn... After Vietnam I spent time at the Engineer School at Courthouse Bay as an Instructor and Rifle Range maintenance after Courthouse Bay. From there I was sent to the Minefield Maintenance Team at Guantanamo Bay Cuba. I was selected for Warrant Officer in 1972 as a Bulk Fuel Officer and spent several more tours as such....My heart has always been with the engineers as I have met and served with many professional and dedicated Marines.

What this Monument means to me is really a dedication to a few Marines that served with me and were lost in Vietnam. I was a Sergeant in charge of a Mine Sweep and a Marine that I was close to lost his life. That was in 1969, and I still have contact with his family.           ...‘Semper-Fi’ Jack”

George Wuerch also remembered his time in Vietnam:

“As a Vietnam Vet, I first remember those unsung heroes, the young engineers who went out each morning in front of the infantry to sweep the roads for mines and booby traps. Today they call those devices IED’s but our generation faced innovative explosive devices just as deadly. Fortunately during my 14 months in country as a company commander, in 1965 and 1966, none of my Marines were casualties from IED’s but there were numerous close calls. I’ll never forget the grader operator who was pulling a ditch through a village when he saw a 155 mm projectile roll along the mold board of the grader. He immediately jumped off the grader which continued on until it ran into a tree and stopped. The 155 never did explode but I sure had a shaky operator for a day or two. Many thanks for your volunteer efforts for MCEA.

... Semper Fi, George”

Throughout the years, the Corps has employed engineers in many different roles and combat formations. Regardless of the title of the unit, the critical role of the engineer as a combat multiplier was recognized by our fellow Marines and in the heat of battle the call “Engineers Up!” has gone out over the generations. Our Engineers in Iraq and Afghanistan have continued the proud traditions begun by those who have gone before us in places like Belleau Wood, Iwo Jima, and Khe Sanh.

Tony Raniszewski, a member of the Monument Committee and MCEA Vice President, wrote:

“Having served in the Marine Corps for over 20 years, I have seen the excellent work our Engineer community has provided to our Marine Corps fighters. Many efforts were completed because “that’s our job” with no reward expected. With the dedication of the Engineer Monument we have the chance to say “thank you” for all the efforts the engineers have provided up to and including giving their lives in support. I personally am glad to be part of that “thank you”. It is something that will last long after we are gone and future bricks laid around the monument will allow our future engineers to take part in this acknowledgement.”

Ken Frantz, past MCEA President and current Executive Director and Secretary provided his perspective on our Engineer Monument:
“I fervently believe that not one of our fallen heroes or deceased veterans died in vain! They served selflessly; they fought bravely; they sacrificed nobly. They exhibited the finest traditions of duty, honor, courage, and commitment to GOD, Country, Service and family!

We must always remember how blessed and privileged we are to be Americans! As members of the military family we also painfully realize those privileges are protected by our military at a very high cost. We can never truly repay the men and women who served in the military, whether it was three months or three decades. But we have an obligation to remember and honor their legacy! Our Marine Corps Engineer Monument helps achieve that obligation.”

GOD Bless and Semper Fidelis: Col. Ken Frantz, USMC (Ret)

In closing we have included a moving recollection that was provided by Mike Howard when asked what the monument meant to him. We included his words because they seem to embody the emotions and pride we all have felt at one time or another.

“To answer your question Dave, my commitment to our MCEA Monument is to Honor Marines who had an impact on my life and career. It comes down to three Marines I really respected:

Andrew John Link (4th Engineer Bn, WWII, Warrant Officer), made all the 4th MarDiv landings. When I asked him to rank each on a scale of 1-10 (low intensity to high intensity) he rated Roi-Namur as a 3, Saipan as a 7, Tinian as a 5, and Iwo Jima as an 11 :-). John lived to be 96 and passed away last fall. When I commanded 4th CEB 2001-2004, he invited me to their 4th MarDiv annual reunions so I got to meet all the remaining Bn members. It was really special. They also attended our 4th CEB dining-ins and other Baltimore events. Really gave us a sense of heritage. They shared their photos, maps, artifacts, and stories.

Harry H.W. Niehoff (2nd Engineer Bn, WWII, Sergeant) was from Portland, Oregon so I knew him for decades. A very gentle, humble guy who kept meticulous records and scrapbooks throughout WWII. He passed away a few years ago and left me his .45 from Tarawa. He was a vet of Pearl Harbor, Guadalcanal, Tarawa (Silver Star next to Lt Bonnyman when he was KIA & received the MOH), and Saipan (Bronze Star & Purple Heart). Harry presented me with my second Bronze Star (Fallujah-Baghdad) at 6th ESB here in Portland following my return from my second combat tour in 2005. Harry was truly one of the nicest guys I’ve ever known.

David G. Ries (6th ESB, Iraq War, KIA Fallujah Nov 2004, Staff Sergeant) was one of our outstanding SSgts at 6th ESB and an expert with a .45 pistol & 9mm. Great guy with a sweet wife and two little kids. He really helped get 6th Engineers ready for war in Iraq training younger NCOs. Troops really looked up to him. I once sold him a Colt Combat Commander .45 when I was the 6th ESB XO. He worked at a local shooting range (our Bn Staff would shoot once each month & then go out for Mexican food - we called it “Guns & Guacamole”). 6th ESB has always been a real close unit. We were both in Iraq second tours, when he pulled his HMMWV over to check on another USMC vehicle that had been hit by an IED, Dave and his crew of four other Marines were all KIA by a Daisy Chain set of IEDs. I am still in touch with his family.

These were great Marines, men of faith and integrity, wonderful guys, outstanding fathers & husbands, and proud Combat Engineers! I miss them.”

And so that brings us to 14 May, 2014, and the dedication of the Engineer Monument that you all had a part in making a reality. We fervently believe that our Marine Corps Engineer Association continues to make a positive difference for our members, our active/reserve duty Marine Corps engineers, Bulk Fuel and EOD plus our Seabee brothers! This has been a superb opportunity for all of us to be part of a lasting tribute to honor all Marine Corps Engineers, past, present and future. This will be a significant part of our MCEA legacy!
MCEA 2013 REUNION AFTER ACTION REPORT

The WYNDHAM Hotel, Lake Buena Vista, FL was our headquarters for the 2013 reunion and awards banquet. We had $89 run of the house room rates effective 20-30 Sept. Traditional room rates for this timeframe were over $149. Government rate was $97. $16 Resort fee was waived. Complimentary wireless internet in guest rooms. $10 self-parking fee was reduced to $6/night, but wasn’t charged. 10% food vouchers were provided.

We had a smaller turnout this year due to the economy and sequestration which prohibited the active/reserve Marine Corps and Navy units from using their funds to support TAD of the award recipients. 5 active duty MCEA and 2 SAME award recipients attended at their own expense, with banquet fees and hotel costs covered by the Society of American Military Engineers! For the first time since 2002, we had an award recipient who was killed in action and we invited the widow, mother and aunt of LCpl. Steven Stevens. The widow was unable to attend but the mother and aunt accepted Steven’s posthumous award. Their expenses were paid by our Assistance Fund.

Wednesday night reception 25 Sept, 1900-2200; We tried something different this year since we never seem to get the type and amount of food just right. We had no food! Just a cash bar, therefore, there was no registration fee! Drawing at 2000. 64 attendees. We did not make the minimum receipts from the bar so that cost plus other related expenses, net loss of $273.50

Thursday Biz meeting 26 Sept, 0800-1200 Continental breakfast at $25/person; 26 attended. See the biz mtg minutes for details. Loss of $343.67

Thursday night banquet 26 Sept, 1800-2130: 1800 cocktails. 1900-Buffet Dinner with 2 entrees at $55/person. 91 in attendance. General Fund paid for our Guest of Honor, Major General Beydler and his wife to attend plus one night at the hotel since they drove from Tampa to be with us. Door prizes were held as we were finishing our dinner and before the start of the program. And following the program, we conducted an auction of items obtained by our fundraiser of the year, John Workman. The proceeds of $755 and $1,200 direct donations all went to our Engineer Monument Fund. Loss of $1404.73

Attendance: Total of 91
Awardees: 8 + 15 guests = 23
Corporate mbrrs 8 + 3 guests = 11
Guests 2
Members 25 + 22 guests = 47
Non Mbrs 8

NET FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Overall Reunion Accounting: Profit of $1,349.76
Less Sponsorship Surplus: ($4,298.92)
Net on Fees: ($2,949.16)
Treasurer’s comments:

Significantly higher Audio/Visual costs ($1812.51) due to needing a special system to support Boyd, Johnson and Marapoti’s briefings and input to the biz mtg. In the past, we’ve had HQMC LPE rep and MCES rep on site, but due to sequestration and prohibition of use of TAD funds, they were prohibited from attending. Normal A/V costs are $200-$300. This additional cost was not known when we established the registration and event fees, which explains why the total fees didn’t cover most or all of the expenses.

The lower attendance means fewer bodies to spread other fixed costs over. Additionally, having to make multiple shipments of smaller numbers of plaques and shirts to a variety of locations cost significantly more than one large shipment.

However, bottom line is, as it has so often been, that our Corporate Sponsors continue to cover the shortfall and MCEA stays in the black.

Links:


Pics on photographer’s website for purchase-http://www.dgmphoto.com/mcea%20awards%202013/index.html


ATTENDEES

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</table>

Nothing happens…..but first a dream.

Carl Sandburg
MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION
2014 REUNION ITINERARY
Pala, CA~ October 20th – 23rd, 2014

Pala Casino and Resort, 11154 Highway 76, Pala, CA 92059; Ph: 877-946-7252

Fri, Sat, Sun; 17-19 Oct:
Check in after 3 p.m. Take advantage of the hotel discount rates ($133 for Friday & Saturday; $99 for Sunday) and enjoy yourselves with all the sites to see!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20th
• Welcome to the Pala Casino and Resort; Check-in after 3 p.m. $99 room rates
• Enjoy the day sightseeing on your own.
• 7-9 p.m. Registration/Reception with cash bar and light Hors D’Oeuvres; biz casual attire. Cost=$15
• Dinner & rest of evening are on your own.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21st
• Breakfast on your own.
• 8:30 a.m. Association Business Meeting with coffee/teas. Biz casual attire. Cost=$10
• 8:30 a.m. Bus departs for tour of Camp Pendleton Ranch House; returns to hotel at 12:30; Minimum of 20 required; casual attire, no food. Cost=$22
• Lunch is on your own.
• 6 p.m. Registration--Cocktails available from the cash bar. Coat & tie; mini ribbons optional; MCL Red Blazer; Svc A uniform; informal evening attire for the ladies. Cost=$65
• 7 p.m. Buffet Dinner served, followed by Awards Banquet.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd
• Breakfast on your own.
• 8 a.m. Bus departs hotel for Camp Pendleton tour of engineers units and lunch at dining facility. Minimum of 40 required; Casual attire/walking shoes. Cost=$23
• 4 p.m. Bus returns to the hotel.
• 6:30-9 p.m. join us in the hospitality room for final goodbyes.

Thur, Fri, Sat 23-25 Oct: Take advantages of the post reunion hotel discount rates ($99 for Thursday and $133 for Friday and Saturday) and enjoy yourselves!

Hotel check out time is 11 a.m.

Thanks for coming! We wish you good health and safe travels!!

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR AT CAMP LEJEUNE!

WWW.MARCORENGASN.ORG

MCEA 807 CARRIAGE HILLS BLVD, CONROE, TX 77384
PH # 936-273-4830/716-720-1206
2013 AWARD RECIPIENTS

COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER    CAPT. C. Y. KIM     1ST CEB
COMBAT ENGINEER SNCO    SSGT. S. J. GREEN     1ST CEB
COMBAT ENGINEER NCO    CPL. M. A. DUTTON     9TH ESB
COMBAT ENGINEER    LCPL. S. P. STEVENS*     1ST CEB
ENGR EQUIPMENT OFFICER    CWO3 C. T. BESTUL     CLB 2
ENGR EQUIPMENT SNCO    SSGT. J. M. BLAISDELL     2D CEB
ENGR EQUIPMENT NCO    SGT. J. L. CREEDON     MWSS 373
ENGR EQUIPMENT MARINE    LCPL. J. K. GIESE     9TH ESB
UTILITIES OFFICER    CWO3 J. M. BARTRAM     II2D CEB
UTILITIES SNCO    SSGT. R. E. BATTLES     1ST CEB
UTILITIES NCO    SGT. A. SERNA     MWSS 373
UTILITIES MARINE    CPL. S. S. JARRELL     MWSS 273
BULK FUEL OFFICER    CWO2 S. LOPRESTI JR     6TH ESB
BULK FUEL SNCO    GYSGT. D. A. EDWARDS     7TH ESB
BULK FUEL NCO    SGT. M. A. CONTRERAS SANCHEZ     6TH ESB
BULK FUEL MARINE    LCPL. M. J. MAXEY     6TH ESB
EOD OFFICER    CWO2 D. P. KARR     MWSS 171
SSGT WILLIAM CALLAHAN MEMORIAL EOD TECHNICIAN
SGT. A. F. AMAYARAMOS     9TH ESB

* Posthumous Award
THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEER AWARDS:

USMC ENGINEER OFFICER OF THE YEAR
- CAPTAIN LARS ROCKHOLM

USMC ENGINEER SENIOR NCO OF THE YEAR
—SSGT. CHARLES DISHMAN
COMBAT ENGINEER OFFICER OF THE YEAR

LCPL STEVENS’ POSTHUMOUS AWARD
And the Fundraiser of the Year goes to John Workman.

President Feifs
Dr. Wolff

Major General Beydler

Bestuls & Loprestis

Capt. Kim

Bruce Summit & Workmans

Charlie, MGen Beydler & Bobby Purnell
Then & Now

Lauletta's

The McMillers

Ms Sferas & Grace Hoffman

Diana, Sharon Dismore, Joel & Nancy Cooley

Dr. Wolff & Capt Rockholm

Head Table
Raniszewskis

SSgt Dishman & Angela O’Leary

Strategy Meeting

Davidsons

Present Arms

Are we having fun yet, Bill?
Martins

Bif Mott checking out the door prizes

March on Colors

George, Mikki & Mrs. Stevens

Tony & TEREX Rep

The Lopresti Family
Is it too late to make another change?

Sal Lopresti III taking it all in

Rip Harper holding school circle

Varleys

Pick a winner Nate

Joe & the General
The proud Kim family

John Workman

Nelson Olf, Paul Wilcox & Bobby Purnell

And another thing...
Thanks for all your support General

What am I bidding?

Thanks for all your support John

Next up for bid

I think I’ll wear it home
## SHIPS STORE ITEMS

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<th>Merchandise for Sale</th>
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<td>MCEA Logo Coin</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<td>MCEA Logo with Crossed Flags Lapel Pin 1.25” dia, color</td>
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<td>Embroidered MCEA Logo Cloth Match 3” dia, color</td>
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<td>MCEA Windshield Decal 4 ¼” dia, color</td>
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If ordering multiple items, contact Frantz for accurate postage charge.
General Gray & Charlie

Jim & our stone contractor, Stan Cucksee

Monument Committee and LtGen Panter

Charlie’s farewell visit to our monument.

Thanks to all our donors, you made our dreams come true!

We’ll never forget, nor will those to come

Nothing like this anywhere else!