

THE **MARINER**

2011 Winter Edition

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The Official Publication of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association



YNC Debbie Fallon, USN (Ret.)
NERA's 1776 Awardee for 2011

Kick Fallon

NERA

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President's Message



by National President Nick Marine



Ray Robison

I enjoyed attending NERA's 54th Annual National Conference which was held this year 28 September – 2 October, 2011 in Sacramento, California. Thank you to all who attended and I appreciate all of your comments as well!

A special thanks to the entire Lion's Gate Hotel and Conference Center staff. Aziza Brown and Terry Stewart went above and beyond! I encourage anyone in the area to stay at this hotel which offered amazing meals, awesome rooms and fair prices.

THANKS to Norma von Dohren, Debbie Fallon, Kick Fallon, Joe Humphrey, Lynn Johnson, Howard George, Laura Martin, Jennifer Abbott, Steve Sandy and Tom Carroll for all of their hard work in making this conference successful.

Thanks to our senior enlisted panel, CSM John Gipe, FORCM(AW) Chris Wheeler, MCPO-CGRF Mark Allen and SGT Major James Booker. As always, we appreciate the time they dedicate to speak to our members about current issues and to answer any questions that NERA members may have.

RADM Casey Coane and CMDMCM Jerry Featherstone of AUSN made presentations to

the NERA membership about a possible partnership with AUSN and answered many questions/concerns from the floor. We appreciate their attendance and enjoyed spending time getting to know them! Steve will be sending out a survey to ALL Hands asking for inputs and comments as well to see if this is an avenue we should pursue. By the way, Steve and Executive Director Mike Hughes already work closely with CAPT. Ike Puzon of AUSN at the TMC level.

This year we heard from Sutter Health's Lynn Johnson who has supported NERA for many years and appreciate their presentation to our members.

NERA also heard from Yana Haralanova of American Standard who made a presentation and manned a table at this great event as well. We appreciate the continued support we receive from American Standard and ask that everyone remembers to support those who support NERA.

Congratulations to our newest 1776 award winner, Debbie Fallon. Debbie is a hard charger and this award is well deserved. The President's award was presented to Mike Hughes for his many hours of volunteer work and devotion to NERA. We also presented a ship's wheel to Tom Carroll and Roger Webster for acting as NERA's Master at Arms for many years! This year, we also presented large crystal engraved blocks to Collin Younger and Chris Glennon, both of USAA, for their many years of supporting NERA.

This issue will cover Thanksgiving and Christmas and I would like to wish my NERA family, your children, grandchildren, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters and many others the happiest of holidays. This is an important time to share together. Please also pray for those defending our freedoms in far

away places so everyone can enjoy a happy and safe holiday in the comfort of their homes.

May they all come home safe and pronounce to our families that we have been successful in our deployed duties.

More Later—NERA Nick



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Vice President's Message

by National Vice President Clifton Duke Hayes MNI (Ret.)

Hello Everyone.

Well as your new Vice President I have to admit that I feel somewhat like a new Seaman Apprentice just out of Boot Camp. Eager to get to the Fleet but sort of afraid of what I might find when I get there; not quite sure of what I need to do but eager to try.

I have quite an act to follow behind Geno, but I am open to suggestions and advice. My initial plan is of course, Membership, Membership, Membership! This is a constant situation that we all must address.

I intend to visit as many NOSCs as possible and assist all chapters that ask for my help. In November I will be visiting the Texas Chapter at their regional meeting in Tyler, Texas, and I may venture further south to Houston if time allows.

Again, I am ready to get to work and am looking forward to the challenge. If anyone has questions, a request or can offer advice just let me know. I will do what I can to help you individually and/or your chapter.

Talk to you soon. •

Legislative Updates

by Deputy Executive Director Michael Hughes OSC, USNR (Ret.)

With the appointment of the Deficit Reduction Panel, also known as the "Super Committee," passage of most legislation is being held in abeyance pending their report. Under the provisions of the debt ceiling agreement passed this past summer this is a bipartisan committee of 12, (6 Democrats and 6 Republicans), with each party represented by 3 Representatives and 3 Senators. The Super Committee must come up with a recommended \$1.5 Trillion in reduction of the Federal deficit over the next decade by Nov. 23, 2011. Congress must then pass these deficit reductions by Dec. 23, 2011 or automatic reductions of \$1.2 Trillion will be made, split evenly between non-security and security (mostly Defense) budgets. As of this writing in early Nov. the government is running on a continuing resolution (CR) until Nov. 18, 2011. A CR basically limits spending at the previous fiscal year's levels.

For the most part all of the legislative initiatives noted in the last quarterly Mariner are still pending and at issue. The politicians and media continue to debate and propose various cuts to the compensation and benefits for military personnel and Defense programs for the Super Committee. The debt ceiling legislation has already cut over \$350 Billion over the next decade from Defense budgets and now there's the real danger of another \$600 Billion reduction over the same period. Of particular note are proposals to increase TRICARE annual enrollment fees, including TRICARE for Life, and increase TRICARE prescription drug fees. Another proposal gaining support in Congress is a total reform of the military retirement system to a civil-

ian style 401K type plan where annuities wouldn't be paid until age 57 to 62. All of these proposals, if enacted, will undoubtedly adversely affect recruitment, retention and morale and seem shortsighted and unreasonable burdens on our service men and women and their families. We need to continue to fight and make our voices heard with our Congressional Representatives and Senators. We all want to do our share, but these proposals put an undue burden upon military personnel, the active, reserve and retired. Their numbers are a minute percentage of the total population and they have earned these benefits and continue to sacrifice to protect our Nation's freedom. There are many areas of waste and questionable programs within Defense that should be cut before considering cuts to compensation and benefits of our military members and retirees.

On another note, the leaders of both the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees have released a bipartisan letter stating that they are willing to cut funding for VA benefits and health care in support of deficit reduction. The letter was signed by the Chair and Ranking Member of both the House and Senate committees. It makes you wonder when you read their bios and note that none of them are veterans!

NERA will continue to debate and voice support for the compensation and benefits for our members and their families. We need your individual support. Please write, e-mail or call your Congressional representatives and voice your opinion. You can make a difference. •

Executive Director's Message

by Executive Director Steve Sandy



The White House has called for a special commission, similar to the BRAC Commission, to reform military retirement and health care benefits. For some time now there has been an effort by the DOD, Congress and the White House, through reports from special panels and bean counters such as the Congressional Budget Office, to vilify the earned pay, retirement and medical benefits promised to members of our military

both active and retired. They refer to these *earned benefits* in the derogatory term *entitlements*. They pronounce the word with a venomous tone that gives the impression that they are not deserved or unearned or perhaps too generous. They tell the American People, they respect the military member's service to their country, but the burden of these warriors and their generous benefits are one of the major contributors to our **15 trillion dollar National Debt**.

Many of the people professing these views are well compensated. Some are members of Congress *entitled* to Social Security, pensions and a generous salary, several with a net worth in the millions. Others are bureaucrats earning a generous salary with *entitlements*, still others are retired Generals from our military ranks. So let's examine these generous gifts, not from a multi-millionaire's, or a bean counter's perspective, nor from the exalted view of a flag officer. Let's go down the food chain to the level of the average retirement grade of our enlisted force (the grunts). For argument sake let's take a look at a First Class Petty Officer, pay grade E-6 with twenty years of service. He is 40 years old with a wife and two small children, is earning, with special pay and allowances, about \$60,000 a year. For this \$60,000 a year, he spends 6 months at sea away from his wife and family. As a result of downsizing and an uncertain future in his career field he decides to retire and accept the generous benefits he has earned. Let us go to the retirement chart and see how much he can look forward to in his retirement. First we will take away his special pay and allowances then reduce his base pay of \$3,533 a month to his retirement pay of \$1,657. Then we'll charge him the new family TRICARE rate of \$520 per month. See

when you're looking at a total annual income of \$20,384 to support a family of four that \$520 for TRICARE isn't a small amount. On the other hand if you're an O-8 pulling in \$10,000 a month in retirement that amount for TRICARE would be minuscule. Some might say that sailor is free to go out in the real world and start a new career, perhaps a consultant or serve on an advisory panel, maybe the president would select him to set on the new Retirement Reform Commission. No, with any luck he'll land an entry level job at one of the "Big Box Stores" selling home improvement products making \$10 an hour, with his 19 year old manager telling him, I don't care if you used to jump out of helicopters into the ocean to rescue pilots, you're not permitted to use the stapler until I sign you off on the qualification sheet. This is the real world of the retired sailor. Some do better, some do worse, but most will use their retirement as a small supplemental income. They will work different jobs until reaching the qualifying age for Social Security (who knows what that will be) and tell exciting stories about how he used to drive forklifts at the local Wal-Mart.

Why is PCI trying to contact you? Over the years our data base has become stale due to members not updating changes in their information. In today's rapidly changing political climate and the looming cuts in manpower, and health and retirement benefits, it is Vital that we have the ability to contact our members quickly. We entered into our agreement with PCI with this in mind. PCI absorbs the cost of the mailings and the data collection in hopes that you will purchase a directory. The questions PCI asks were formulated by NERA. The amount of information you give the call taker or whether you purchase the directory is up to you. Any and all information collected by PCI must be returned to NERA. So far this campaign has been very successful with over 4,000 members responding to the survey and the calls I have received at National have for the most part been positive.

Merger survey, at the National conference a resolution was passed authorizing the NEC to explore the feasibility of a merger with other like minded military organizations. NERA has been approached by the Association of the United States Navy (AUSN) formally Naval Reserve Association (NRA) with a proposal to merge. Pursuant to the resolution located on the top of page 7 is the NEC survey form requesting the memberships guidance on this proposal. Mail or email it to the office let us know what you think. •

Prospective Merger Survey

Based on changes to the Constitution and By Laws voted on and accepted at the September 2011 National Conference, NERA was approached by the Association of the United States Navy (AUSN) regarding a prospective merger. The NEC would like your opinion on merging with AUSN.

Mark below to indicate whether you are for a merger with AUSN or against a merger with AUSN. Please use the comment space provided for any additional information or thoughts that you would like included with your position.

All surveys should be mailed to: 6703 Farragut Ave, Falls Church, VA 22042 or the survey can be scanned and emailed to the Executive Director, Steve Sandy at neraexec@nera.org. **Deadline for submitting surveys: April 30, 2012**

____ **For Merger**

____ **Against Merger**

Comments:

Survey Submitted by: _____

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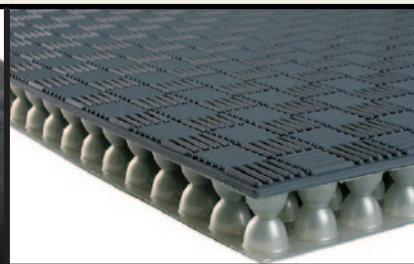
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NAS JB-MDL/NWS EARL 9/11 Encampment—USS New Jersey

by ISC(SW) Joshua Mangum

Commissioned in May of 1943, today the Battleship New Jersey (BB-62) is a floating museum docked pier side in Camden, New Jersey. The ship has become indelibly etched upon the pages of the history of the United States Navy. She has seen action in some of the most famous naval engagements of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Arabian Gulf to name but a few. She served as Admiral Halsey's Flag Ship during the war in the Pacific.

On September 10th and 11th, over 60 Chief Petty Officers and Chief Petty Officer Selectees came aboard the USS New Jersey for a weekend of naval heritage and to continue the tradition of an annual encampment, facilitated by the bond between the JB-MDL & NWS EARL CPOAs and the crew of the most decorated Battleship in US naval history. The CPOs and Selectees interacted with the crew and participated in shipboard life to include taking part in morning and evening colors, SWEEPERS, brass shining on the Flag Deck, as well as performing other forms of maintenance on the ship. The Selectees also stood pier sentry and quarterdeck watches and learned how to pipe.

On September 10th, the Selectees, led by CPO (Ret) John Stickney (Big J volunteer), performed morning colors. Chief Stickney is a veteran of the U.S Navy. Born in 1938, John entered naval service in 1956. He became a Fire Control Technician (FC) and maintained weapons and radar systems aboard a number of destroyers, tenders, and frigates. He retired as a Chief Petty Officer in 1996 after more than 35 years of active duty and reserve service. He has been a volunteer aboard the New Jersey since 2004.

Following a full day of field daying the ship, the Selectees were in for a true surprise when Senior Chief Andy Okolovich, along with volunteer firefighters, Chief Henry Less and Stew Grossmith showed up with a fire truck from East Whitehouse, NJ. This was a rare opportunity for Selectees to participate in damage control

Reenlistment—LSC(SEL) Kevin Schloss



Ray Robson



Ray Robson

Damage Control
Training with
Senior Chief
Andy Okolovich



Joanne Elliott

training! Two hoselines were stretched and charged, giving the Selectees some hands-on experience with the operation of firehoses and the responsibilities of a number one nozzelman. Senior Chief Okolovich, who led the damage control training, is a Naval Aircrewman serving with VR-52, based at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Later that evening, Engineman Second Class (Ret) Paul Niessner provided a somber reminder of the dangers of shipboard life when he described his experience while serving aboard the USS Forrestal. In July of 1967, while an Alpha Strike was about to be launched for an air strike in Vietnam a fire fueled by rocket fuel and bombs ignited on the flight deck of the Forrestal. The fire claimed the lives of 134 men and injured 161 more. During the fire, EN2 Niessner became trapped below decks in the number two generator space when an explosion warped the bulkheads to the extent that the hatches could not be opened. EN2 remained trapped for three days until his shipmates were able to cut their way into the compartment and rescue him. Many of today's ordnance handling precautions were borne out of the fire aboard the Forrestal. Following EN2's heroic tale, the Forrestal video was played to bring home the importance of properly trained Sailors in basic and advanced DC.

On the Tenth Anniversary of the September 11th

ISC Mangum

Below: EN2 (Ret.) Niessner
and CPO (Ret.) Sticknew
with CPO Joe Moran
Bell and Plaque



Ray Robson



ATC (Sel) William Averill



Flag Ceremony on USS New Jersey



Wreath Ceremony

attacks on the United States, the Chief Selectees and CPOs participated in a 0600 Heritage 5k Run and later in the day performed a burial at sea in remembrance of the victims of 9/11. The ceremony took place at 1029 to coincide with the moment of the collapse of the North Tower of the World Trade Center. With local media, ABC news, and civilians in attendance, ATC(Sel) William Averill presented a stirring speech as the master of ceremonies, and the Selectees burial at sea detail was led by ISCM (AW/NAC) Joe Dooley who recently returned from a tour in Afghanistan. Upon the completion of the Committal the ship's 5" guns fired a salute to the victims of 9/11 and TAPS was played. LSC(Sel) Kristin Stout

year of a heart attack following major surgery. Joe was the encampment program's director and initiated the first JB-MDL CPO Selectee event onboard the BIG J in 2009.



Flag Ceremony, Chief Select Caro and ISCM(AW/NAC) Joe Dooley

He was a staunch supporter every year thereafter, and his knowledge of naval history and true patriotism was unmatched. His loss can not be put into words and the CPOA, knowing that Joe wanted to get a real ship's bell for the quarterdeck of the Big J, purchased it out of their funds. A breathtaking backboard was handcrafted out of oak by Senior Chief Jack Deffler, JB-MDL CPOA.



NAS FDML and Earl NJ Chiefs

fired the 5" guns, thereby joining a group of only a handful of women to ever fire this weapon system as those guns have been retired from Naval service for many years.

Immediately following the ceremony, LSC(Sel) Kevin Schloss reenlisted into the United States Navy, holding in his right hand a photo of a close friend he lost in the 9/11 attacks. Once the reenlistment was complete, ISC (SW) Joshua Mangum put the command at ease and called forward EN2 (Ret) Paul Niessner and CPO (Ret) John Stickney, where he presented a gift to the crew of the BIG J of a 10" solid brass ship's bell. The placard on the bell read, "Presented by the JB-MDL Chief Petty Officer's Association to the Crew of the Battleship New Jersey this day September 11th 2011, In Loving Memory of Joe Moran." Joe Moran passed away this



Ft. Dix, Earl New Jersey Selectees

All in all, it was truly a testament to the CPO "Season of Pride" and a somber reminder that we are still at war today, no fight is an easy win, and every life is precious. The event has everyone even more excited and looking forward to next year's encampment! •



Coastie Corner

by Sgt. Ray Reyes

Coast Guard Takes Lead on New Simulator

Coast Guardsmen who normally patrol the high seas for drug runners or environmental hazards were the first behind the wheel of the latest high-tech combat convoy simulator addition at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. earlier this year. The Coast Guard's Redeployment Assistance Inspection Detachment (RAID) Team 13 was the first military unit using the newly-fielded Reconfigurable Vehicle Tactical Trainer (RVTT) simulator in a training exercise on April 2, simulating an Afghanistan defensive combat situation. The RAID Team had been undergoing a month-long Army basic combat skills training at the mobilization station.

"The RVTT simulator is an invaluable tool since it combines elements of all of the training the team has acquired from the Army over the past month from Army Support Activity-Dix, and actually puts it together in real-time scenarios in deployed environments," said USCG RAID Training Officer Lt. James Cullen of Lake Hopatcong, N.J.

Training on the RVTT in preparation of their upcoming deployment to the U.S. Central Command area of operations, most RAID members will be assigned to Afghanistan, Iraq, or Kuwait working closely with Army units, overseeing hazardous materials movement from remote locations in combat zones. The RVTT simulators were installed and tested at Dix in the 3500 training area in February before becoming the newest addition to the military's growing arsenal of realistic simulations.

Military personnel training on the RVTT experience the feeling of being in a convoy of full-sized vehicles that simulates the rumbling of the engines in their seats, sound of the engine roaring louder as the vehicles accelerate, gunshots and feeling the recoil as they fire their weapons to fend off the enemy. As the military relies more heavily on advanced simulations to prepare warfighters for combat, realism has become a key aspect to training. If the RVTT was any more lifelike, the RAID team would have needed to clean bugs off their windshields.

The RVTT system is unlike most traditional computer simulators or engagement skills trainers because it surrounds personnel in a realistic, 360-degree virtual world. It consists of a series of trailers equipped with life-size replicas of four Humvees surrounded by floor-to-ceiling movie screens. These simulators contain everything found in the real tactical vehicle, to include secure radios, individual and crew-served weapons, and current command and control systems. Troops familiar with the equipment require only moments to be fully operational in the simulator. An additional trailer provides a training room, command and control, and full AAR capabilities.

Cullen, who recently completed a RAID Team combat tour in the Middle East and now serves as the RAID Team Training Officer, arranged for his students to have the opportunity to train on the new equipment because he felt the RVTT was very realistic. He recalled during one convoy training exercise experiencing motion sickness because he was so involved in the simulator's realism. "The simulators can convince you that you're really there," said Cullen. One of the RVTT's features is its ability to change the type of vehicle configuration to suit the training. For example, the dashboard for the RAID Team's exercises is configured to HMMWV using touch screen display. Another change inside the vehicle can also replicate driver and convoy training. If another training unit will be conducting missions using a Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck, a touch of the button and exchange of a few cosmetic pieces, the vehicle is ready for training.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Chad Pendarvis loads the RVTT 50-caliber machine gun for training on the latest Fort Dix training simulator called the Reconfigurable Vehicle Tactical Trainer. U.S. Coast Guard photo by Lt. James Cullen, USCG Training Team East.

"During these tough economic times, the RVTT provides a cost-effective option to military units who want more training for the buck," said RVTT simulator supervisor Bret Bussman, of Young America, Minnesota. As the Warrior Training contract manager, Bussman noted that with the current economy, "everybody is looking for cutbacks."

Using an on-site virtual reality simulator saves fuel and ammunition costs and will provide more training in less time than if personnel were actually taking their own vehicles and weapons out to remote training areas. The RVTT can be scheduled for unit training use through the Joint Mission Management system as the Dix Home Page at <http://www.dix.army.mil>. For more information, call the Training Management Division at (609) 562-2198. •



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NOSC Tucson and VADM Debbink Remember 9-11

by MCCS Bob Hansen, USN (Ret.)

The sailors in their crisp summer whites and the submarine seemed strangely out of place next to the tall saguaro cactus in the Sonoran Desert. The submarine is a scale model of the Los Angeles class submarine USS TUCSON (SSN-770). However, the cactus and sailors are real and together with the submarine they provided a dramatic backdrop at the U.S. Naval Operational Support Center in Tucson, Arizona during a memorial service marking the tenth anniversary of the September 11th attacks.

NOSC Tucson, located just outside Davis Monthan Air Force Base was also celebrating a grand reopening after a \$1.6 million modernization.

NOSC Tucson sailors and marines stood at attention while

Below, VADM Debbink, Reggie Candelaria of Candelaria Corp., LCDR Jackson, and CDR Orvik cut the ribbon on the newly-refurbished NOSC Tuscon.



the official party was piped aboard and the National Anthem sung. Then came a somber moment when Taps was played and the Marine Color Guard gave a 21-gun salute in memory of those who lost their lives on 9-11.

“We are the Sonoran Desert Navy,” said Commander Ross Orvik, Commanding Officer of NOSC Tucson as he introduced

Continued on page 14





PH1 Dawn Hill

Members of the Submarine Veterans of America pose in front of the USS Tucson (SSN 770) model at the NOSC Tucson.



MCCS Bob Hansen

Above: CDR Ross Orvik, Commanding Officer of Naval Operations Support Center Tucson, is piped aboard prior to the NOSC Rededication and 9-11 Memorial Service on September 11, 2011



MCCS Bob Hansen

Continued from page 13

special guest speaker, Vice Admiral Dirk Debbink, Commander, Naval Reserve Forces Command. CDR Orvik noted that sailors and marines from NOSC Tucson were among those who answered America's "call to service" after the attacks.

VADM Debbink, in his remarks, echoed CDR Orvik's sentiments and added that approximately 70,000 Navy Reserve sailors have deployed since 9-11-2001. He then asked for a round of applause for the families and employers of those who mobilized.

"To the family members who remained behind and supported their service member and the employers who enabled their Navy Reserve sailors to serve and return to work – THANK YOU!"

Acknowledging the many veterans attending the ceremony he noted that the 9-11 generation can be favorably compared to the World War II "greatest" generation for their service and sacrifice. "The 9-11 Generation are all volunteers," he said. "They all joined knowing that deployment to the war zone was probable."

He also cited the recent earthquake in Japan and other humanitarian disasters around the world as examples of where reservists have served alongside the active component and the dividing line between them has become blurred as they became more and more integrated.

"NOSC Tucson is not just a building," he noted. "It is the embodiment of the Navy's mission. NOSC Tucson is where it all comes together. Because of you we are part of today's Navy – a true global force for good."

He concluded, "Thank you for your sacrifice and support. Because of you we are free in the United States of America."

Shortly thereafter the mood became festive as LCDR Carl Jackson, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, officially transferred the upgraded facility to CDR Orvik. VADM Debbink cut the ribbon to officially open the "new" NOSC. Following Navy tradition the order was then given to "man the ship" and NOSC sailors and marines ran to man their stations while "Anchors Aweigh" played.

After the ceremony VADM Debbink joined FORCM Chris Wheeler, contractor representatives, veterans, civic leaders and family members as honored guests to enjoy tours of the facility and refreshments. In a separate ceremony the contractors were acknowledged and awarded honorary "plank owner" certificates and souvenirs. •

MCCS Bob Hansen is a member of NERA in San Francisco. He drilled out of the Tucson Reserve Center before going on active duty.

At left: ENC(SW) Steve Kennedy, NOSC Tucson, Senior Enlisted Advisor, FORCM(AW) Chris Wheeler, CDR Ross Orvik, NOSC Tucson Commanding Officer, and VADM Dirk Debbink

Tips & Clips

by Past National President Joanne Elliott



Ray Robson

How Do I Get My DD214?

Military.com/Week of October 31, 2011

Do you need a copy of your DD214 or a family member's DD214? Visit the National Archives website. Click on 'Launch the eVet-Recs System to start your online request'. Follow the instructions in the pop-up window. The DD214 will be mailed to you after completing the form. You can also download a form to mail

or fax your request for your DD214 by clicking on the 'Download form SF-180 to Mail or Fax your request' and following instructions. A DD214 Record of Military Service is always free to obtain for the member and family members. For more on the DD214, plus complete guides to all veterans benefits, visit the Military.com Benefits Center.

Helping Homeless Veterans

Military.com/Week of October 24, 2011

Helping a homeless veteran is only a phone call away. The Department of Veterans' Affairs' (VA's) Homeless Veterans Program Office is on a mission to ensure that everyone from VA employees, to first responders and civilian personnel know who and where to call should they encounter a homeless veteran or a veteran at-risk of becoming homeless. Veterans can be directed to three primary channels: the National Call Center for Homeless Veterans (1-877-424-3838); the VA Homeless Veterans website at <http://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/> and local VA medical centers.

VA Extends Traumatic Injury Benefits

Military.com/Week of September 26, 2011

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is extending retroactive traumatic injury benefits to servicemembers who suffered qualifying injuries during the period Oct. 7, 2001 to Nov. 30, 2005, regardless of the geographic location where the injuries occurred. Effective Oct. 1, the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

Traumatic Injury Protection benefit (TSGLI) will be payable for all qualifying injuries incurred during this period. This retroactive benefit is payable whether or not the servicemember had SGLI coverage at the time of the injury. Applications are currently being accepted by branch of service TSGLI offices. To find out if you are eligible, visit the VA website at www.insurance.va.gov/sgliSite/TSGLI/Retro.htm

New Online VA Health Benefit Form

Military.com/Week of September 19, 2011

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has automated its online Health Benefits Renewal (10-10EZR) form. Previously, veterans filling out the online 10-10EZR were required to print a copy, sign it and send it to their local medical center before updates to their personal, insurance or financial information could occur. Veterans may now submit these updates online. For additional information, visit the VA Health Eligibility homepage or call VA's toll-free number at 1-877-222-VETS (8387). The online form is available on the VA website.

Shift Colors

Shift colors will only be accessible online at Shift Colors website (www.shiftcolors.navy.mil) and on Facebook (at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Navy-and-Marine-Corps-Retirees/134031983278683>).

System Reduces Hassle of Getting ID Cards

Many Department of Navy retirees may not realize they can renew their military identification card via the mail rather than physically applying in person at an identification card (ID) processing center. There are procedures in place for those who are unable to make it to an ID card facility. While verification of each individual's circumstance may be required, some examples of those unable to report in person are: those who live far from a military facility, are physically handicapped, have no means of transportation, or are hospitalized or sick. Retirees can review BUPERSINST 1750.10C/Marine Corps Order 5512.11D at: www.npc.navy.mil/reference/instructions/BUPERSInstructions/Documents/1750.10C.pdf. Each military identification card issuing location should be

Continued on page 16

Tips & Clips, Continued from page 15

familiar with these procedures and prepared to assist as required. After reviewing the instruction/order, retirees should contact their issuing location to explain their situation to receive instructions for applying via mail. United States applicants should contact their issuing facility by letter, telephone or online via Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) locator at: www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl. If outside the United States, please use the following contact information for your particular service: Navy (retirees and families residing in the Philippines, South America and Canada): Naval Reserve Personnel Center, 5722 Integrity Drive, Building 239, Millington, TN 38054, Telephone number: 1-866-250-4778. Marine Corps (retirees and families): Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps (MMSR-6), 3280 Russell Road, Quantico, VA 22134-5103. As the applicant, you will provide an 8x10 or 5x7-inch portrait photograph, including your physical characteristics (i.e., eyes and

hair color, weight, and height). The requirements for the photo are very specific so call the nearest ID card issuing facility for the detailed information. A notary must verify your signature on a written statement concerning your identity. In cases of medical impairment, a statement from an attending physician is acceptable. After you submit your request for an ID card by mail with your photo to your ID card office, you will be sent an ID card/application by certified mail for signature. You sign the proper block on the ID card and return to the issuing ID card office. Enter "INCAP" when the individual cannot sign because of a mental or physical incapacity. The issuing activity will laminate the card and return to the applicant by certified mail. The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) will be automatically updated when a new ID card is obtained. Retirees who acquire new family members after retirement should contact the nearest ID card facility for information on ID Card issue and DEERS enrollment. www.shiftcolors.navy.mil •

Letters

Passing of BMCM Musielewicz

BMCM Musielewicz was an incredible man and an unbelievable Sailor.

Capt Melidosian and I had the pleasure of meeting him in 2007. HMCS Sherman was a CPO selectee then and was drilling at Toledo when I tasked him and his fellow selects to get BMCM new ribbons, his were looking aged as were his summer whites. Capt Melidosian went one further and wrote a check to have the selects purchase BMCM an entire new uniform with ribbons.



Even VADM Cotton was amazed by his service. BMCM Musielewicz was one of the Master Chiefs that interviewed the five finalists for NR Force SOY in 2008. When I was editing *The Mariner*, NERA sent me plenty of photos of the event for the magazine. Most of them seemed to be of VADM Cotton talking with BMCM M.

I enclosed a copy of the email with photos that HMCS Sherman sent me after he was pinned as a follow up to his tasking to buy BMCM a new uniform.

The Navy lost one of its longest serving Sailors.

V/r

CMDCM (FMF) Ron Naida
Command Master Chief
Operational Health Support Unit Great Lakes

Date: Sat, 13 Oct 2007 15:55:09 -0500

Master Chief,

I just wanted to thank you and the CAPT for the donation for Master Chief Musielewicz's working white uniform. I just wanted to send you some pictures of him after he received it. I have just transferred over to OHSU Det U and November drill weekend I will in full force at OHSU Det U. I am sure I will be emailing you for advice. Thanks again for all the support.

V/R

HMC(FMF/PJ) Sherman

Constitution and Bylaws, Amendments

2011 Delegate Consideration of Proposed Amendments to Naval Enlisted Reserve Association Constitution and Bylaws

Form 9—Serial # C&BL 11-1

Constitution and or Bylaws Proposal for Consideration at the 2011 NERA National Conference

Proposer: ED Steve Sandy

Whereas: Austerity efforts to reduce the operating expense of NERA HQ have now reached their practical limits.

Whereas: Efforts to further economize via the implementation of virtual office solutions cannot be immediately implemented.

Whereas: Endeavors to fund NERA National operations through fundraising raffles have produced inadequate results.

Whereas: Increased annual dues cause life membership to appear more economically attractive.

And Whereas: Continued drawdown of LMIF assets will hasten NERA's demise.

Therefore Be It Resolved: That annual dues be increased from \$30 to \$35 effective on January 1st 2012.

Consideration: AUSN dues are currently at \$30 annually.

Approved by the North Central Regional Conference.

Amendment Failed: The vote was 7 in favor; 16 against.

Form 9—Serial # C&BL 11-2

Constitution and or Bylaws Proposal for Consideration at the 2011 NERA National Conference

Proposer: National President Nick Marine

Whereas: Maintaining a professional, adequately funded operating tempo is necessary to maintain NERA's excellent reputation and continued success.

Whereas: NERA's current operating revenue is sporadic, and inconsistent.

Whereas: Periodic shortfalls in available cash result in HQ's inability to respond to reasonable requests and expectations from our military partners, potentially compromising NERA's reputation.

And Whereas: Funding generally becomes available within a few months of these anticipated public relations opportunities.

Therefore Be It Resolved: That the NEC be authorized to establish a \$25,000 (maximum) Equity Line of Credit leveraged against the HQ building.

Further Be It Resolved: That this line of

credit be arranged so that its balance is payable, in part, or in full with the next available funds from any source other than the LMIF. Two signatures of NEC members, or the ED and a NEC member be required to execute a short term loan from this account.

Consideration: Approved by the North Central Regional Conference

Amended by Joe Humphrey: Add a second "Further Be it Resolved": Use of this line of credit for a loan shall require a 2/3 vote of the NEC. Seconded by Bobby Aglubat

Amendment Passed 27 For 0 Against

Form 9—Serial # C&BL 11-3

Constitution and or Bylaws Proposal for Consideration at the 2011 NERA National Conference

Proposer: Steve Sandy—Date: 4 June 2011

Whereas: C&BL amendments have been approved to lengthen National Officer Terms and reduce the frequency of National Conferences.

Whereas: Provisions have not been determined to provide contingency strategies for a C&BL required National Officer Election in the absence of a National Conference (re:9/11).

Whereas: Postal expenses if all members are to be notified of their right to vote would be prohibitive and likely would produce limited participation.

And Whereas: The mailed hard copy edition, the website edition and NERA's email address database provide reasonable access to those interested and most likely to respond to an opportunity to vote for National Officers, without incurring additional expense.

Therefore Be It Resolved: That in any instance where the National Executive Council determines a National Conference is not feasible (as provided for in the C&BL, or otherwise) they may choose to conduct an election using electronic and mail-in ballots. NERA's NEC shall make an economical, good faith, effort to notify NERA's entire membership. A forty five day period shall be allowed for response before tallying the election results.

Consideration: Since all members can vote under this procedure, no chapter vote is required, nor authorized.

Form 9—Serial # IR 11-4

Internal Resolution for Consideration at the 2011 NERA National Conference

Proposer: Nick Marine/Jim Premeske—Date: 24 Jun 2011

Whereas: Continual technology advances promote operation of a virtual office providing maximum convenience at limited expense.

Whereas: The financial burden inherent in maintaining dedicated, fixed office facilities continues to escalate.

Whereas: NERA's National Headquarters Building occupies a desirable location, in the highest cost city in the United States.

And Whereas: Any comprehensive consideration of liquidating the National Headquarters building will require resolution of numerous factors and will necessarily be a lengthy consideration.

Therefore Be It Resolved: The National Executive Committee review the transfer of NERA business to a D.C. area provider of virtual business systems, having office support and conference facilities.

Further Be It Resolved: That the 2011 National Conference Delegates determine the means for implementation of the results of this study.

Voted 21-0 to to delete "Further Be It Resolved". Motion passed with Ayes

Form 9— Emergency Resolution / Internal Resolution Serial #ER/ IR 11-2

Internal Resolution for Consideration at the 2011 NERA National Conference

Proposer: Jim Premeske

Chapter: Windy City—Date: 24 Jun 2011

Whereas: All military fraternal organizations currently suffer recruiting impediments, economic adjustment and revenue shortfalls during a period when overseas military operating tempos, the absence of "drill decks" and changing attitudes offer the greatest challenges to the success of such organizations when the need is greatest.

Whereas: The existence of multiple, 'competing', representative associations fail to benefit from synergies available through unity.

Whereas: A 2009 proposal promoting the NERA NEC to explore merger options was soundly defeated by National Conference delegates on the basis of anticipated gains in membership and revenue projections by past and present National officers.

Whereas: while recognizing progress has been most substantial, it is measured in inches where gains of yards are necessary.

Continued on page 24

54th NERA Conference Summary

by Kick Fallon

NERA held its 54th Annual National Conference from Wednesday, September 28 through Sunday, October 2. Dubbed the “Coast to Coast” Conference and sponsored by the Gold Country Chapter of Sacramento, CA and the USS Constitution Chapter of North Reading MA, it was held at the Lion’s Gate Conference Center, formerly McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento, CA.

Members from sixteen local chapters representing 17 states and the District of Columbia as well as the NEC, national staff, military personnel and invited guests participated in various business, social and extracurricular activities.

The conference kicked off in a relaxing and welcoming fashion with the Meet and Greet. This traditional opening social event was held in a converted officer’s residence and allowed for camaraderie, laughs and great food. Everyone was treated to some wonderful Filipino cuisine. This was also the setting for the hospitality gatherings each night for the remainder of the conference.

The opening guest speaker was CW0-3 Brian L. Brooksby, USMC. The Chief Warrant Officer spoke of his experience serving in the Corps as well as his commitment to his men and his country. He ended his talk expressing his need to leave us earlier than planned to attend a meeting regarding the start of the “Toys for Tots” holiday campaign. And in true NERA spirit, many of the conference participants bought and presented gifts to the Marines on the final session day for the local campaign.

The conference had wonderful sponsorship once again this year with American Standard, Ashford University, ESGR/EPAF and for the 20th year, USAA. American Standard and Ashford University gave brief impromptu presentations, while ESGR and USAA had scheduled sessions. Conference participants also had the opportunity to interact with these vendors every day between sessions.

ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) and EPAF (Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces) were represented by USAF Lt. Colonel (Ret.) Craig S. Morris and US Army Colonel (Ret.) Richard P. Stage, respectively. They gave a joint presentation on the importance of maintaining strong and positive relationships regarding current and future employment opportunities between employers and armed services personnel.

In addition to talking of the strong and effective work between NERA and his agency, USAA Representative Collin Younger introduced FORCM (Ret.) Ronney Wright as his successor in maintaining this important relation-

ship. NERA President Nick Marine presented Collin an award for his many years of service and personal commitment to our organization.

Lynn Johnson (Gold Country Chapter), gave a presentation on behalf of Sutter Health where she works as the Special Events Coordinator. She talked of the health and educational opportunities for veterans.

One of the most important issues at the conference involved the Association of the United States Navy (AUSN) presentation. The presentation, made by RADM Casey Coane and CMDCM Jerry Featherstone involved a perspective merger between NERA and AUSN. The topic of a merger between the two associations created an emotionally charged dynamic that persisted throughout the entire conference.

Prior to their scheduled presentation on that first afternoon, an emergency resolution regarding merger strategies was presented by Jim Premeske on behalf of the NEC immediately following the opening ceremonies. The original resolution presented authorized the NEC to enter into a merger if it was deemed in the best interest of NERA and only required a notification to the general membership after the merger was made. This was challenged and an amendment was proposed to alter the authorization status to require that the NEC present any merger options to the general membership in the Mariner and ask for input from the general membership before being allowed to proceed. The amendment passed unanimously, the amended resolution passed 23-2.

The State of the Association, general organization business and ongoing efforts from the NEC and National Staff were presented at various sessions throughout the conference. Executive Director Steve Sandy gave a brief overview of the day-to-day association activities and issues including improving the web site and chapter communications; Deputy Executive Director Mike Hughes talked of current actions in Congress on behalf and/or against veterans; and Treasurer Paul Smurawski presented the FY11 budget for discussion and adoption.

Vice President Geno Koelker and National Counselor Gene McCarthy gave a report on membership and recruitment efforts and encourage members to share their ideas and success stories on their local recruitment strategies.

The slate of officers was presented and the only change going forward was in Vice President. Outgoing VP Geno Koelker completed his term and Duke Hayes

Continued on page 24

54th NERA Conference Photos



Casey Coane—
Merger Discussion

AWFC James Henson
(2010 RSOY) with Service
to the Reservist, CS2
Demontray Braswell,
and Force Wheeler



Howard George

Howard George



Dorothy Texidor
and Debbie Fallon

Coast Guard Reserve
and Active Compo-
nent members



Joanne Elliott

Joanne Elliott



Force Wheeler,
CS2 Braswell, and
RADM Gregory C.
Horn

Colonel (Ret.)
Richard P. Stage
explains Employer
Support of Guard
and Reserves
(ESGR) Mission.



Joanne Elliott

Howard George



Gene McCarthy
answers questions
on membership.

Delores, Master Chief
Allen, Mike Hughes
and Steve Sandy



Joanne Elliott

Joanne Elliott

Continued on page 20

Joanne Elliott



Nick Marine with
CWO3 Brooksby

Geno Koelker—
VP Report



Howard George

Joanne Elliott



Sacramento
Marines

Jake Kriebel—
Nomination
of Officers



Howard George

Howard George



Saturday Night
Get-Together

Mike Hughes with
James Premeske



Joanne Elliott

Howard George



Steve Sandy presenting the
Sergeant at Arms Award
to Tom Carroll.



Howard George

Swearing-In
Ceremony



Howard George

Norma Von Dohren at
the POW MIA table

14 PARTS VS. 4.

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Faces of NERA



At Left: Left to right ADCS Pete Lulis, USN, (Ret.), CMDCM Jo Ortloff, USN and MCCS Bob Hansen, USN, (Ret.) compare hash marks during the Northern California Navy Ball held during San Francisco Fleet Week. Master Chief Ortloff is the Command Master Chief for Commander, Third Fleet.



MCCS Bob Hansen, USN, (Ret.)

Above: San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee welcomes VADM Gerald R. Beaman, Commander Third Fleet to San Francisco for San Francisco Fleet Week. This year's San Francisco Fleet Week was Fleet Week celebration the Country this year and marked the culmination of year-long festivities marking the 100th Anniversary of Naval Aviation.



MCCS Bob Hansen, USN, (Ret.)

Above: The Northern California Navy Ball included entertainment from the USS HORNET "Singing Blue Stars" who strike a pose with (left) SKCS Norma Van Dohren, USN (Ret.), President of NERA Gold Country Chapter, (center) MA3 Cameron Gianfala, USN, NOSC Alameda and (right) STGCS Patty Coons, USN. The USS HORNET (CV-12) is now a museum ship in Alameda. A veteran of World War II, it was the recovery ship for the Apollo 11 moon landing.

Below: EOC Russ Parington, USN (Ret.) poses with fellow seabees



William Schultz

1776 Award Nomination for Deborah A. Fallon, YNC, USNR (Ret.)

by Kick Fallon

Deborah “Debbie” Fallon was selected for the 2011 NERA 1776 Award. She exemplifies the spirit of the award through her character, commitment and exceptional service. She has proven adept at enlisting and sustaining the talent of others in support of the USS CONSTITUTION “Old Ironsides” Chapter and NERA national. She has set a high standard for hard work and is willing and able to take on any needed task.

They say that cream rises to the top. Chief Fallon exemplifies that adage. She has consistently risen to positions of increased responsibility throughout her military, civilian and NERA careers. One such example occurred between 2000 and 2003 when she served as Admin LPO, Admin Chief, and then as Senior Enlisted Advisor with Naval Submarine Support Facility, HQ Det. 101, New London, CT with over 230 enlisted personnel across five units.

YNC Deborah A. Fallon, USN (ret) joined NERA on February 1, 1998. Then in 2003, while still an active reservist, she accepted the position of NERA National Chaplain, which required her to not only attend all National and some regional conferences in official capacity, but she also volunteered at her own expense to send condolence cards to the families of departed members.

In 2005, at the request of the then ailing Constitution Chapter President John Palmer, she volunteered to assume the position of Vice President for the USS Constitution Chapter to help him continue his fine work and proudly represent the Chapter in his absence. Then in 2006, Debbie took the next dramatic step—she became the first female President of the USS CONSTITUTION “Old Ironsides” Chapter. Since then, Chief Fallon has worked diligently to promote the Constitution Chapter throughout New England and the Northeast Region. Her innovative ideas and strong commitment to NERA have enabled her to successfully coordinate Chapter involvement and support of related organizations such as the Sea Cadets.

In her personal life, Debbie has always been supportive of community organization and events that provide much needed services to at-risk children and families.

Chief Fallon was nominated for the award by ETCM (SS) Joseph J. Humphrey, USN (Ret.). Master Chief Humphrey has been a member of NERA for 38 years and is a Life Benefactor. He has been a member of the USS Constitution Chapter since 1982.

NERA Achievements

1998	Newsletter Production Assistant
1999	Newsletter Editor
2000	Chapter Received Certificate of Appreciation for Newsletter Competition
2003–2005	NERA National Chaplain
2005	Appointed Constitution Chapter Vice President
2006–Present	Elected as Constitution Chapter President
2006	Chapter Received 1st Place Award NERA Newsletter Contest
2009	Chapter Received Outstanding Chapter Recognition, US Naval Sea Cadet Corps
2010	Chapter Received Crystal 30th Celebration Award from NERA National

Military Status and Awards

82Mar02	Good Conduct Award
82Mar02–02May31	Navy Achievement Medals (4 awards)
82Mar02–02Jan01	Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medals (5 awards)
82Mar03–02May02	Armed Forces Reserve Medals (2 awards)
90Aug02	National Defense Medal Award (1st)
93Jan01–95Sep30	Navy Unit Commendation
96Jan01–96Dec31	Noel Davis Battle “E”, VR-62 NASB
98Apr24	Letter of Commendation (FLAG), CINCPACFLT
00Oct01–03Feb28	Meritorious Unit Commendation
03Mar01–04Oct21	Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal
04Oct21	Retired (4 years active duty, 22 years USNR)

Volunteer Community Service

1993–1996	Just-A-Start Summer Youth Program
1996–Present	Joyce Moriarty Scholarship Fund
1996–Present	YWCA Haverhill
2009–Present	Haverhill Rotary Duck Race

Constitution and Bylaws, Amendments, continued from page 17

Whereas: all affected military fraternal associations have squandered unrecoverable, valuable time to negotiate terms acceptable for a more unified solution to mutual challenges; that these lost years now comprise the ability to procrastinate further in predicting NERA's future.

Therefore Be It Resolved That: The NERA National Executive Committee is authorized to consider merger proposals with similar military fraternal organizations.

Further, be it resolved that: (Amended to): *If a 2/3 vote of the NEC determines a merger is satisfactory to the membership and NERA National: following publication in the*

Mariner the NEC is authorized to further negotiate the terms of the merger.

Seconded by Joe Humphreys. Motion Passed 21-0

Emergency Resolution for Consideration at the 2011 NERA National Conference

2011-Emerg.Resolution 11-2

Proposer: National Executive Committee

Dated: 9/30/2011

Address: HQ Falls Church Virginia

Chapter: NEC - HQ

Whereas: The NEC's routine periodic communication with key membership is important to the success of NERA, especially during the current critical period.

Whereas: The absence of such timely communication may result in exacerbating the

impact and pending issues.

Whereas: Previously approved legislation changing National officer terms to two years is acceptable and not compromised by this proposal.

And Whereas: Several issues of utmost importance to NERA's future are currently pending and could be jeopardized by the absence of a 2012 National Conference.

Therefore Be It Resolved: NERA's NEC is authorized to execute a National Conference in 2012 upon approval of delegates to the 2011 National Conference. Because of the significance of pending issues the conference will include sessions to consider C & BL proposals and Internal Resolutions.

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

27 delegates present •

54th NERA Conference Summary, continued from page 18

stepped in. Because there was a single slate of officers and only one new candidate, general voting was not necessary as the national secretary casts the votes according to organizational by-laws.

The amendments and resolution presented prior to the conference were debated and addressed in the scheduled business sessions. Proposal 11-1, to increase the annual dues, failed; 11-2, operational line-of-credit, passed; 11-3, non-meeting elections, passed with an amendment requiring 2/3rds vote; and 11-4, transfer NERA office responsibilities and facilities, failed.

Throughout the conference and specifically at the Awards Luncheon, many members and distinguished guests were recognized for their outstanding service to NERA and the military and civilian communities. Those acknowledged included Debbie Fallon of the USS Constitution Chapter, North Reading MA who received the 1776 Award. CS2 Demonty Basswell received the Service to Reservists Award. Sailor of the Year was presented to AWFC(NAC/AW) James L. Henson. HS1 William Hilt received the Coast Guard Reserve Enlisted Person of the Year. The President's Award was given to Mike Hughes recognizing his efforts on behalf of his work with NERA members and veterans.

The highlight of the conference was the Senior Enlisted Panel Discussion. The four panelists represented a combined 110 plus years of military experience and included FORCM (AW) Chris Wheeler, Navy Reserve; MCPO-CGRF Mark H. Allen, Coast Guard Reserve Force; Sgt. Major James E. Booker, Marine Reserve Force; and Command Sergeant Major John D. Gipe, Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. They talked of their efforts on behalf of active and serving reservists and answered questions from the audience.

Conference hosts scheduled some welcomed fun activities for participants. These off hour events included Friday night dinner at the Cattlemen's Restaurant that went from an intimate gathering of 12 to a boisterous party in a private room for 36. For those interested, this was followed by a wine tasting at a local winery/café.

As business concluded Saturday morning, participants had plenty of free time on their hands before the evening's installation dinner dance. Some took advantage of the hotel's amenities lounging by the pool, shopping at the BX or strolling the manicured grounds. For those with more energy there was a delightful day trip to Old Town Sacramento for sightseeing and shopping.

Because of the continuous serious issues facing NERA from survival of the organization to veteran benefits, the need for an important interim national conference for 2012 was presented and unanimously approved by the participants. Delaware Valley Chapter offered and Philadelphia, PA was selected for the location.

The Windy City Chapter volunteered to host the 2013 Annual Conference to be held in Waukegan, IL on or near the Great Lakes Naval Station. They were unanimously approved.

A successful conference requires a lot of hard work from many people. The host chapters, Gold Country with Norma von Dohren, Bobby and Elma Aglubat, Lynn Johnson and Howie George, and the USS Constitution with Debbie Fallon, Joe Humphrey and Kick Fallon worked tirelessly to keep everyone involved and energized. The guest speakers informed and challenged the audience at every session. And the NEC and National Staff continuously showed their passion and commitment for the association. And finally, kudos to everyone who came to Sacramento to take part in a very important conference. •



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Branch of Service

- ☐ Navy
☐ Marine Corps
☐ Coast Guard
☐ Other
☐ Civilian

Membership Type

- ☐ Active
☐ Associate

Dues Payment Amount

- ☐ \$30 - 1 Year
☐ \$57 - 2 Years
☐ \$84 - 3 Years
☐ \$300 - Life
☐ \$100 - Life

(PayPlan)*

*Partial Pay Life to be paid within six months

Duty Status

- ☐ A - Active Duty
☐ I - Inactive Duty (SELRES, IRR, VTU)
☐ R - Retired
☐ \$250 - Life Benefactor

Payment ☐ Check (enclosed) ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

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TAPS

*We mourn the loss of our NERA members and compatriots.
We suffer for their loved ones, who grieve the loss of vital
love, companionship, and guidance. Their place will always
remain vacant among this patriotic assembly. Amen.*

Member

Mrs. Nancy Balk
AK2 Dolores Beier
BMC John V. Cupo
MMC James A. Effting
CWO4 Richard R. Fedor
CUCM Martin E. Geraghty
EM2 Richard Gettler
AW1 Louis J. Guerra
ADC Denis H. Hoffman
BMCS Adolf T. Krzyzanowski
HMC Wilbur J. Meiners
BMCM(SW) E. J. Musielewicz
AEC Richard G. Reale
EMC Ronald J. Reynolds
BTC Charles C. Sizemore
EMCM B. J. Smith

Chapter

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Delaware Valley
Greater New York
Greater Lehigh Valley
Greater Lehigh Valley
Greater New York
Delaware Valley
Delaware Valley
Gerald R Ford
Delaware Valley
St Cloud
Ohio State MAL
Delaware Valley
San Francisco
Greater Pittsburgh
Indiana State MAL

NERA Involved in the Community

Members of Girl Scout Troop 5366 of the Nation's Capital collected shoes to send to Honduras, through The Art for Humanity charity. The girl scouts meet monthly

Troop members Brooke Martin and Marissa Fedora, with a portion of the shoes collected



in NERA's back conference room, their initial goal was to collect 100 pairs of shoes. They exceeded their goal and collected over 240 pairs over a 2 week period. •

Troop members Sage Fedora (honorary member), Marissa Fedora, and Sarah Young, counting the shoes they just collected



Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

LIFE BENEFACTORS

A Tribute to HMCM Manny Ratner

A distinguished group of NERA lifetime members whose outstanding dedication and support continues to fortify the legacy of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association thus inspiring future generations to absolute greatness.

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 AO1 Thomas B. Carroll
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 AMSC William F. Clark
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 HM1 Mary E. Finley

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Congress should learn from history, not repeat it.

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Air Force Women Officers Associated
AMVETS
Army Aviation Association of America
Association of Military Surgeons of the US
Association of the US Army

Association of the US Navy
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