

THE **MARINER**

2007 FALL EDITION

VOLUME 50, NO 4

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NAVAL ENLISTED RESERVE ASSOCIATIONS



NERA-National Conference
Atlanta, Georgia
October 2007

"New National Officer Candidates Inside"

Celebrating 50 years

NERA

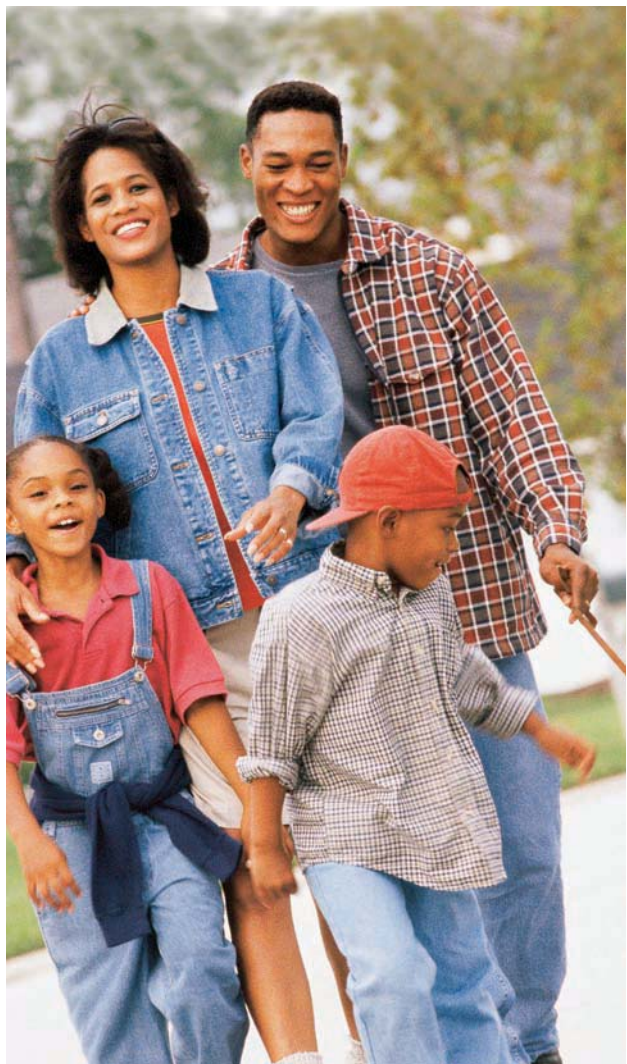


SERVING ENLISTED RESERVISTS OF THE SEA SERVICES SINCE 1957

At last, you can have TRICARE coverage at a reasonable cost ...

PLUS, you're guaranteed acceptance* for NERA/USBA TRICARE Supplement.

Effective October 1, 2007 ...
Request Your Free TRICARE Supplement Kit
Call 1-800-368-7039



While new TRICARE coverage is now available to all eligible members of the Guard and Reserve ... the new NERA/USBA TRICARE Supplement Plan is designed specifically for NERA members like you and your family.

Why consider insurance to supplement TRICARE?

Even though TRICARE pays a generous amount of your medical bills outside the military system, your remaining share of the cost could be a budget-breaker ... unless you have supplemental coverage.

The NERA-endorsed plan picks up where TRICARE benefits leave off (after meeting your deductible). Developed in conjunction with USBA, it provides the protection you need at a price you can afford:

- Out-of-pocket expenses paid according to the Plan you select
- Same rates for retirees and spouses
- Both TRICARE Standard/Extra Supplement and TRICARE Reserve Select Supplement available
- No network restrictions, no gatekeeper
- No medical exam required
- No "cost penalty" for smokers
- Guaranteed acceptance* with 30-Day Satisfaction Guarantee

Learn more about supplementing your TRICARE health care coverage. Request a free NERA/USBA TRICARE Supplement Kit. Call 1-800-368-7039 or visit www.usba.com/nera. There's no obligation for receiving this information. The Kit includes Plan information such as costs, exclusions, limitations and terms of coverage.

*A pre-existing condition may initially limit the extent of your coverage.

Brought to you by



Uniformed Services Benefit Association®
P. O. Box 25956
Overland Park, KS 66225-0956

Sponsored by



Underwritten by



Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company,
Simsbury, CT 06089
Policy Form SRP-1269(HL) (5688)

Administered by Association & Society Insurance Corp.
P.O. Box 2107, Rockville MD 20847
165-7/07

**NAVAL ENLISTED
RESERVE ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

6703 E. Farragut Avenue
Falls Church, Virginia 22042-2189
Office: 703-534-1329
Toll Free: 800-776-9020

National President

SKC (AW) Penny Padour, USN (Ret.)
(H) 815-477-4179
president@nera.org

**National Vice President/
Editor**

YNC Joanne Elliott, USN (Ret.)
(H) 215-547-7004
vp@nera.org

National Secretary

ADCS Michael F. "Mike" Hayes, USN
(Ret.) 215-357-8749
secretary@nera.org

National Treasurer

ISCS Jon C. Altmann, USN (Ret.)
treasurer@nera.org

National Counselor

ACCM (AC) Delores Rucker, USN (Ret.)
803-359-1171
nc@nera.org

Past National President

EOCS (SCW) Nicholas (Nick) DeFeis, USN (Ret.)
863-859-9208
pnp@nera.org

Executive Director

Stephen R. Sandy, DCCM, USNR (Ret.)
neraexec@nera.org

Deputy Executive

Director/Managing Editor

SKCS (AW) Nick Marine, USNR (Ret.)
770-426-8060
neradeputy@nera.org

Editorial Assistant:

CTAC Pat Reding, USN (Ret.)
ea@near.org

Layout/Design:

RasGraphics
rick@rasgraphics.org
www.rasgraphics.org
"Visual satisfaction with design"

THE MARINER

"Not For Self But For Country"

- 
- | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|
| 4 | President's Message |
| 5 | Vice President's Message |
| 6 | Letters to NERA |
| 7 | Executive Director's Report |
| 8 | Tips & Clips |
| 9 | Years Ago in NERA |
| 11 | Member of the Quarter |
| 12-13 | Atlanta Conference Agenda |
| 14 | Marine Marquee |
| 15 | Coastie Corner |
| 17 | Faces of NERA |
| 19-21 | National Candidates Bio's |
| 22 | Financial Planning |
| 23 | TAPS |



WE NOW HAVE NERA COINS FOR SALE. THE PRICE IS \$10.00 EACH (INCLUDING SHIPPING AND HANDLING). IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PURCHASING ANY FOR YOURSELF OR YOUR CHAPTER, PLEASE CALL NERA NATIONAL.

The Mariner, official publication of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, is devoted to the interests and mutual benefit of its members. Regular Membership is open to all enlisted personnel of the Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve; others may join as Associate Members. Annual dues in the amount of \$3.75 per member is set aside to defray the cost of publishing *The Mariner*. Single domestic subscription price is \$15 per year. Persons eligible for Regular Membership are not entitled to published subscription rates. Articles, letters, and jpeg photos for *The Mariner* should be submitted to the Managing Editor/DED via email to: NERADEPUTY@NERA.ORG or NERA Headquarters, Falls Church, VA. Credit will be given for materials used. Letters may be condensed for publication. Articles and letters appearing in *The Mariner* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the National Executive Council of the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association or the Editor, or are they to be interpreted as official policy of the United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast Guard or the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association. *The Mariner* (ISSN0164-3029), is published quarterly by the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association, 6703 Farragut Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042-2189. Periodicals postage paid at Falls Church, VA and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address change to *The Mariner*, 6703 Farragut Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22042-2189. For general questions, advertising or to learn more about NERA email: NERADEPUTY@NERA.ORG



PRESIDENT'S



My Last "FROM THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE " By National President Penny I. Padour

The end of my two-year consecutive term is near and this means that my next title will be Past National President.

Shortly after taking the oath of NERA's National President, a member came up to me and said, "You have no idea what you got yourself into." Boy, was that an understatement. He was right.

We started at the beginning. Customer service and communication are what members want from any National Headquarters. I would like to thank Steve Sandy, our Executive Director and his right hand, Jennifer Abbott, for their devotion and countless hours toward improving that 100%.

Our link to you, our members, is **THE MARINER**. Articles from staff and our readers give you something to look forward to. We now have paid advertisers that are waiting to assist you in your needs. Although we can't beat the cost of postage rising, we have improved the price of production.

Because of the two above items that have been greatly improved, we have gained recognition and membership. Along with the good, we also have to look at the sad side of this picture. We have had active members pass away. We will miss them. This is life and every organization out there has to look at the gains and losses.

Accountability and credibility is necessary when talking about finances. We have a no fat budget. No one drives a company car, carries a company cell phone or has a padded expense account from NERA. In the last two years, most of the NEC officers never took a dime from the expense account that is given to them. I'm proud of that. There are chapters and members that have helped in our travels by offering us to stay in their homes; paying hotel bills and giving us free airline travel. Thank you all.

Our website is changing as you read this. We are getting into more user-friendly programs that anyone at the office can use. This will transport useful information to you and update membership information much easier. Also, this will greatly improve our website. Again, communication is imperative in this ever changing world that we live in.

I shared many experiences of this tour with my NEC. This President's tour included TMC and NEC meetings, knowing a face with a name from Regional and National Conferences. "Sailor of the Year" week included sharing meals and stories with tomorrow's Navy Chiefs. The "Service to the Reservist" program showed NERA the over and above Full Time Staff winners. We have gone to NOSC's to meet CMC's, participate in retirement ceremonies and dinners. Presenting awards at the Senior Enlisted Academy was truly an honor. We attended Congressional and Senate hearings. Most of the NEC received a tour of the Pentagon. We met in Admiral Cotton's office to discuss the state of our Reserves. Last, but certainly not least, was shaking hands of our Active and Reserve military from E-1 to Admiral. God Bless you all for serving when we retired can no longer fall in.

I'm sure every NEC worked hard during the last fifty years. These last two years certainly wasn't easy. It takes a good team to accomplish something great. I had the opportunity to have a good team.

Thank you for allowing me the honor and privilege to be your National President. The legacy of NERA is that we have the dedication, the talent and the leadership to respond to whatever concerns our Sailors, Marines and Coasties and especially those serving in the Reserve.

Lots of new things going on with NERA. USBA is now providing an exclusive Tricare Supplement package for our members. USBA's history in the Tricare Supplement business, is well respected by the Hartford Insurance Company, which is the underwriter. See inside front cover of this Mariner for more details.

FROM THE VP



This will be my last message to you as National Vice President as I have submitted my BIO for your review to run as your next President. Our Deputy Executive Director, Nick Marine, has expressed his desire to run for National Vice President. I heartily endorse his nomination and election. For the past year, Nick and I have worked closely on membership and retention issues as well as on the Mariner to ensure that each issue brings to all of you the pertinent information you need to continue on as a drilling reservist, grey area retiree, or retired with pay. Many of you have written or called to tell us how great the Mariner has now become and I thank you for that.

As many of you know, we are rapidly coming to a crossroads, where major decisions will have to be made to keep NERA operational. Over the past year, I have made several suggestions either in my message or via email to all of you on how to recruit new members. Some have listened and we now have over 200 new members. With Swifty's help, we have added money to the account to help fix our building. Those of us on the NEC have reduced costs further by having telephone conferences rather than physical meetings at headquarters, thereby saving thousands of dollars. Penny's chapter has foot the bill for her expenses and we have even come to Washington on our own dime.

Nick Marine has obtained advertisers for our Mariner, which has proven a cost savings. Nick, Steve, and Gene McCarthy have fixed plumbing problems and rerun electrical wiring, thereby avoiding costly fees.

However, as I look back over the past two years (one as VP and one as DED), I note that it's the same few people who are working out there to ensure the continuity of NERA. I know that many of you don't have the time or have issues that would preclude you from physically going out to the Reserve Centers

to meet with our enlisted, but many of you do have computers and phones and can make calls. If each of us would either recruit one member a year or send in \$10.00 extra each year, we could refrain from delving into the LMIF. I am asking this of every life, regular and associate member. If you want to save NERA then let's all step up to the plate. If you have a program that has worked for you, let the rest of the Chapters know about it. Start trading information.

Steve Storbridge from the TMC has asked us to have our members take the TRICARE web-based survey to try to identify specific localities around the country where TRICARE beneficiaries of all kinds are experiencing difficulty finding a doctor who will accept TRICARE patients (or in the case of TFL beneficiaries, doctors who will accept Medicare). Please take the time to go to the following website and take the survey: www.moaa.org/tricaresurvey.

Navy Times/Marine Times subscription: If you use the following code (J76B55) when you initially order either the Navy or Marine Times through the end of this year, you will qualify for the \$39.95/one year subscription plus receive a free Athletic Tshirt. Five Dollars will go to NERA. So take advantage of getting the latest and greatest news and help NERA

Thank you all for your support during the past year. I look forward to continually serve you.

Joanne Elliott

*We sleep safely in our beds because
rough men stand ready
in the night to visit violence on those who
would do us harm.
— George Orwell*



Letters to NERA

Hello Again Joanne,

- Sorry to have taken so long in replying to your last email but I have been in recovery mode from having a total knee replacement surgery on one knee and an arthroscopic surgery on the other knee causing me to be MIA for the last three or four weeks. It is amazing however how they can perform these surgeries and have patients like myself up and walking and dancing in four weeks time. That is slow dancing of course, LOL.

Yes I do read the Mariner on a regular basis as soon as it arrives. It most definitely has taken on a new look with a lot of new and interesting articles which I find to be very informative. There are many things that are under constant flux which we retirees and drilling reservists are not aware of without people such as you and others who are serving as guardians or watch dogs, pointing them out to us and acting in our interests. That is what I see when I read the newsletter and constantly see the names of people whom I have never met like Jake Krebel and yourself and others who have dedicated their selves to put in so much extra effort collectively acting in our interests. I don't know how with the demands of personal life and Military obligations that you and others can perform at such a high level but I do applaud and appreciate all of your efforts. I know that when I retired in 1991 from active drilling status that I dropped out of sight but the Navy and those who serve are and always will be near and dear to my heart. One of the proudest moments for me was when I was called "Chief" for the first time. It meant that I had finally reached a crowning point in my career where I could give back and support others as had been done for me by a "Chief" who took me under his wing by instructing me as a young immature boy rather than punishing me militarily. I had been delivered to the quarterdeck of my ship by the Shore Patrol well past the expiration of my Cinderella liberty in Puerto Rico in the year of 1966. The act of that one man choosing to point me in the right direction on that early morning in 1966 prior to getting underway touched and made a difference in a life and a career and let me know that one person can make a difference.

Please feel free to publish and to keep in contact at any time. I am still physically rehabbing but as you can see I at least now can access and use the computer and as an old Radioman can still manage to type. LOL

Take care and again thank you for your efforts and all that you do in keeping us informed.

Respectfully,

Gary L. Dorsey RMC (SW)
USN-USNR-RET

Fall 2007

Letters

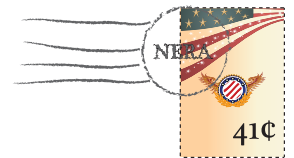
Joanne:

- Just finished paperwork to place me back in the system. Many thanks for all your tireless efforts. I wish the system had just part of your willingness and the war on terror would have been won a few years ago!

Thanks,

Don

To: Joanne



- Just received the July news letter. Don't think you have my e-mail address. (OMITTED). Hope this helps to cut expenses in the future. I don't really understand why it is so hard to get reservists to join. They all want more, but don't understand it is the hard working, organizations like NERA and FRA that gets there benefits for them. Thank You for your hard work. You're doing a great service.

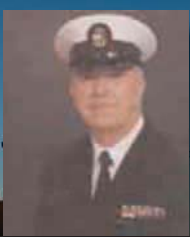
Ron Erieg CMCS USNR RET.

Penny:

- Please pass along a well done to the staff for the Summer Edition of the Mariner. Absolutely the most informative and best presentation of any Mariner. There's a lot of information in those 24 pages and the layout is great. Just another example of the great leadership you and V.P. Elliott are providing NERA. Continue steaming "ahead full"..

**Best Regards,
DKCM Stan Kittredge, USN (Ret.)**

In the beginning of a change, the patriot is a scarce man, and brave, and hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot. ~Mark Twain, Notebook, 1935



FROM THE *Executive Director*



In conversations with my family, friends, and neighbors I often hear them complain about local and national political leaders, the policies they support or the laws they enact. The most common quotes are "how did they get elected?" or "Who voted for that?" When you look them in the eye and ask: Did you vote? They start squirming and shifting their feet and change the subject.

NOW HEAR THIS!!!

Our 50th Anniversary National Conference is being held in Atlanta Georgia, the 17th thru 21st of October. There will be some Major Issues decided and Constitution and By Law changes made. If you do not cast a vote or arrange for your views to be heard, then please don't stand around the water cooler and complain about how things are screwed up and if you were in charge they would be different. As my Old Skipper would say, and we've heard throughout our Military careers "Don't bring me a problem, bring me the solution".

Speaking of anniversaries October marks my 1st year as executive director with NERA, and I would not have gotten through the first month if not for our Lead Officer Manager Jennifer. Anyone who has had contact with national headquarters knows what I'm talking about. Although we are working toward achieving positive buoyancy and the inclinometer indicates an even keel, we're not making headway. What needs to be done at headquarters and around Washington, D.C. cannot be accomplished by two part time employees and the National Executive Committee, who travel the distances on their own time and many times at their own expense. What we need is help that comes from our members in and around our National Headquarters. This would mean putting on a business suit and going up on Capitol Hill or to an awards dinner, updating our new web site or just spending some time at the office kicking around some new ideas and strategies. For the rest of you across the country, you can do two things to help: go out and recruit a new member, and then the two of you go to your congressperson's regional office and tell them that you are from the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association and you will be very interested in how he or she votes when a bill comes before congress that affects the men and women serving our nation in the military. From Joe Wasson's history of NERA I've come to one clear conclusion, that this organization was founded by a group of Volunteers who banded together to fight for the rights and benefits of Sea Service Reserves. They went as a group they were not paid for there time and the Senators and Congressmen understood that and respected them for their dedication. They were Shipmates all fighting for a common cause. There was no budget, no LMIF, just a bunch of sailors fighting for what they thought was right.

BZ to Norma out their in California for the welcome home events for the troops and their families (hope you like the banner), also thanks to our top recruiter Chuck Sherrick 44 members and Greg Zimmerman who is trying to reconstitute our chapters in southern Virginia. Welcome aboard to Jim Friedman and all our new members, now roll up your sleeves and get to work.

Steve Sandy

Fall 2007



THE MARINER



TIPS & CLIPS



*By Joanne Elliott
NERA Vice President*

Per NAVPERSCOM (PERS-40) ltr 1221 of 18 Apr 07, a Navy Enlisted Classification (NEC) Code 9578 Command Senior Chief designation has been approved.

ARLINGTON, Va. (AFRNS) – Participants in the Uniformed Services Survivor Benefit Plan for retired military members now have a new milestone to mark on their calendars. Effective October 1, 2008, SBP participants who reach 70 years of age and have made 360 payments (30 years), will no longer have to pay premiums for continued SBP coverage and will be placed in “Paid-up SBP” status. Paid-up SBP provisions were mandated by the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 1999. The law also established a paid-up status, also beginning on October 1, 2008, for participants in the Retired Those military retirees who become eligible for Paid-up SBP status after the initial group will be notified of their SBP status on their December 2008 annual Retiree Account Statements that will note the number of premiums paid to date. Each RAS issued after December 2008, whether annually or as a result of a pay change, will include the Paid-up SBP premium “counter,” based on DFAS records, to help retirees monitor their eligibility status.

More information on Paid-up SBP, including frequently asked questions and news updates, should be available at the DFAS Web site at www.dfas.mil/retiredpay.html within the next several months. (Courtesy of the Defense finance and Accounting Service).

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) protects the employment and reemployment rights of federal and nonfederal employees who leave their employment to perform military service. The Department of Labor (DOL) investigates and attempts to resolve

claims filed by servicemembers, and if not successful, DOL is to inform the federal claimants that they may request to have their claims referred to the Office of Special Counsel (OSC). Under a demonstration project, from February 8, 2005, through September 30, 2007, OSC is authorized to receive and investigate certain USERRA claims, with DOL continuing its investigative role for others. As required by Pub.L. No. 108-454, this report describes the (1) processes, (2) outcomes, and (3) major changes during the demonstration project. GAO selected a random sample of cases from DOL's and OSC's databases and traced data for selected elements from the electronic files to source case files. GAO recommends that the Secretary of Labor develop an internal review mechanism for all unresolved claims before they are closed and claimants are notified and establish internal controls to ensure the accuracy of data entered into DOL's database. DOL agreed with GAO's recommendations.

VA Pension with Aid and Attendance

“Aid and attendance” is a commonly used term for a little-known veterans' disability income. The official title of this benefit is “Pension.” The reason for using “aid and attendance” to refer to Pension is that many veterans or their single surviving spouses can become eligible if they have a regular need for the aid and attendance of a caregiver or if they are housebound. Evidence of this need for care must be certified by VA as a “rating.” With a rating, certain veterans or their surviving spouses can now qualify for Pension. Pension is also available to low income veteran households without a rating, but it is a lesser dollar amount. For more information go to http://www.veteransaidbenefit.org/what_veterans_aid_attendance_pension_benefit.htm



YEARS AGO IN NERA

By *Manny Ratner*



FIFTY YEARS AGO: In The first issue of the "NERAN" in July 1957 was published by the newly formed NERA and the editorial stated -- NERA's prime objective shall be to inform and encourage members to keep themselves informed, of current changes in legislation concerning the Armed Forces, of laws enforced affecting Reservists, BUPERS Manual changes and any other information pertinent to the Naval Reservist. Information appearing in the "NERAN" will be in digest form for the sake of brevity. "The 2 WWII Chief Enginemen who founded NERA were Joseph WASSON, National Treasurer, and Tom PATTEN the Editor of the "NERAN" and also the National Executive Director. The 1957 issue of the "NERAN" led off with an editorial on how to figure Reserve retirement and the amount of expected pay at age 60. This made for a good case for active participation in the Naval Reserve, plus many other benefits. The Naval Reserve medal for 10 years of satisfactory service and how to procure it was explained and noted that after 12 SEP 1958, Naval Reservists will receive the Armed Forces Medal. The Executive Director made many contacts such as BUPERS (Retired Activity Section); also contacted NRA and ROA; offices of several Senators; and attended the formation of the Wash., DC Chapter and was present at the 27 OCT Naval Memorial and attended the joint Navy -- Marine Corps Council held at NAS, ANACOSTIA. The NED's November Schedule had the 14th for another N & MC Council meeting; NERA organizational meeting at Willow Grove, PA on the 15th. NED was also working with YN2 Ed ABRHAMS in the New York area to help form a chapter. The following was a quote in the "NERAN" by RADM Hilliard HOLBROOK, USNR (Ret), Asst. Director for Navy at ROA said "Congratulations to the newest Naval Reserve organization for enlisted personnel. I wish to compliment you on a very informative national newsletter."...NERA dues were \$4.00 with \$1.60 going for the National Office maintenance and the monthly newsletter. NERA at that time had No Paid Officials and operated "at cost". PL476, 82nd Cong. ARMED FORCES RESERVE ACT -- defined Reserve Components, organization of; enlistment active duty agreements, separation, and administration of the Reserve Components. There was 2,699,191 on active duty with 647,000 in the navy and approximately 144,000 Naval Reservists in drill pay.

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

300 delegates gave a standing ovation as outgoing President Robert J. ROLFSEN read the telegram from President Reagan in which he stated "It is a great pleasure to extend my warmest regards and best wishes to those who gather for the 25th Annual National Conference of NERA". The gathering was held at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington. DOD, Navy Dept., and Naval Reserve officials addressed the delegates on Navy Reserve policy and programs. The keynote speaker, Dr. Edward J. PHILBIN, Deputy Asst. Secy. of Defense Reserve Affairs, told the delegates that the Secy. of Defense has a personal and great interest in the Reserve program. The second speaker at the Conference, the Hon. John LEHMAN, addressed the issues of a 600 -- ship Navy, stabilization of uniforms, and equipping the Naval Reserve forces with the same "hardware" that is being used in the fleet. In regard to uniforms the Secretary said "Salt and Pepper" uniforms will be gone next year. He also said that he would personally like to see the return of dress khaki for officers and chief petty officers. LEHMAN also called for help from NERA in finding volunteers for the 2 year recall program to man Battleship IOWA. Asst. Secretary of the Navy (Res. Affairs) the Hon. Fred DAVIDSON, III explained the Naval Reserve policy on the age 60 drill program and changes to look forward to in the Naval Reserve. He particularly addressed the need to improve the Reserve medical program and to recruit additional doctors and nurses into the Naval Reserve. DAVIDSON addressed the need for strong middle management and retention of qualified chief and senior petty officers. "I have always been told that chiefs run the Navy. So, chiefs take charge and do it." Other guest speakers included the Chief of Naval Reserve RADM Robert DUNN, Master Chief of the Naval Reserve Force, YNCM Ken GALLAHER, and representatives of the Navy Military Personnel Command. Byron A. DEVONISH from the Hawaii Chapter again attended. The Hawaii Chapter and NERA are grateful for his dedication. NERA's Tom MORRISETTE from Michigan, our first life member was in attendance, along with some other familiar faces such as Anne POWELL ANDERSON from California's CHUMASH Chapter and Capt. Dave WOODS, a life member almost as long as Joe WASSON. Not only was the 25th Conference a significant celebration but our Legislative Director John THOMAS and his wife Vera had their 37th wedding anniversary. We had a lot of accomplishments in 1982: A merger of the USN's Sailor of the Year Award and NERA's Outstanding Enlisted Naval Reserve Sailor; and the Service to the Reservist Award. With the aid of EM1 Ed FITZSIMMONS Coosa Valley in East Gadsden, AL, and Greater Knoxville Chapters were formed. In the Northeast BMCM Ed COUTO formed chapters in Boston, MA., Portsmouth, NH as well as Hartford, CT. In the Midwest SOY 1982, STGC Terry ZIEBA and the outstanding 1980 enlisted SOY FTMC Marty MIHALICH were getting a chapter underway in Gary, IN. On the West Coast Anne ANDERSON, our Red Com 19 representative was able to get groups started in Phoenix and Tucson AZ. One of our members of the Greater New York Chapter DT2 Ron SPIELMAN, an insurance agent in civilian life came up with an interesting idea to promote NERA. With the recent drop in SGLI premium cost from \$5.25 a month to \$4.06, he said that the Reservists will save \$14.28 a year which can pay for a NERA membership. NERA dues at this time were still \$15.00 and rooms for the National Conference were \$48.00 (this year they are \$99.00 -- the effects of inflation).

FIVE YEARS AGO IN NERA

The Mariner had a four page interview with Naval Reserve Force Master Chief Thomas W. MOBLEY Before becoming the top enlisted man in NAVRES, MOBLEY assumed duties in 1999 as the Command Chief for the Naval Air Force. A full page article describes uniform standards for Reserve Retirees and there was also a fine article about Non-Prior service members who had to complete a fifteen day military instruction course conducted aboard the Recruit Training Center Command at Great Lakes, IL. What was unique about the training was the Reservists were mostly 32 to 35 years old while in the USN Recruits Training Division the average age was between 18 to 20 years. This required the NPSAC Commanders to utilize adult learning techniques which were quite different than those for the active duty USN recruits. The Naval Reserve Sailor of the Year was ISC (AW) Kerstin ELLEDGE who was an intelligence analyst with Joint Forces Intelligence Command at Ft. Devens, MA. She was one of the five finalists and she held Bachelors Degrees in German and History and in August, 2001 completed her Masters Degree in Education. She served as her unit's Carrier Counselor guiding more than 80 officers and enlisted people in change of rates, officer programs, reenlistments, educational opportunities, and member benefits. The Coast Guard named Chief Port Security Specialist Alexander A. GAYSON of Port Security Unit 311, San Pedro, CA, their 2001 Reserve Person of the Year. GAYSON was selected from more than a dozen finalists from Coast Guard stations around the country. Among his 2001 accomplishments, was lauded for his actions on Sept.11th. Within one hour of the terrorists attacks on the East Coast GAYSON had reported for duty at his unit, assisting in the recall of personnel to respond and assist in both patrols and shore security in the L.A. area. In less than six hours, his unit had three boats under way conducting around the clock patrols. GAYSON coordinated the watch schedules and standing underway watches for ten SPU boat cruise. The 2001 Marine Reserve of the Year was SGT. Michael G. ANKRUM, Platoon Sergeant with Company B, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 4th Marine Division. All were to be honored at the Conference in Newport, RI. At this time the Naval Reserve Force Headquarters in New Orleans had a new look with the result being improved service to Naval Reservists and the Fleet. In ceremonies July 20, VADM John TOTUSHEK, Commander, Naval Reserve Force ushered in a new command within the Force and disestablished another. The Naval Reserve Force aligned its three headquarters staffs in New Orleans to better serve the Navy and 88,000 Reservists in the field. Subordinate Commands reporting to the commander, to NRFC includes nine regional NAVRES Readiness Commands; 156 Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Centers, 22 Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Units; 12 NAVRES Cargo Handling Battalions; 4 NAVRES Fleet Hospitals; 14 Inshore Boat Units, and 12 Construction Battalions. There were also 25 Naval Reserve Force ships as well as the command overseeing 3 Naval Air Stations Joint Reserve Bases, 1 Naval Air Station, 1 Naval Air Facility, and 6 Naval Air Reserve Commands located throughout the United States. (Editors Note -- Notice the terrific downsizing of the Naval Reserve).

The Naval Enlisted Reserve Association Platinum Plus® MasterCard® Credit Card Power. Prestige. Flexibility.

There is a card that truly deserves to be the only card in your wallet. We couldn't be more proud to offer you the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association Platinum Plus® MasterCard® credit card at competitive rates.



Exceptional Benefits

- No Annual Fee
- Low introductory Annual Percentage Rate (APR)*
- Generous credit lines as high as \$100,000
- Emergency card replacement
- Cash access at thousands of ATMs worldwide

World-Class Service

- 24-hour Customer service
- Billing dispute advocates
- Complete online account access and bill pay features
- Instant credit line decisions
- Travel planning services

Complete Security

- Around-the-clock fraud protection
- Zero liability for fraudulent charges
- Secure access to your account online
- Common Carrier Travel Accident Insurance coverage

What's more, each time you make a purchase with your credit card, a contribution is made to the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association – at no additional cost to you.

Learn more—call toll-free 1-866-438-6262. TTY users, call 1-800-833-6262. Please refer to priority code **FAA84D** when speaking with a representative to apply.

*For information about the rates, fees, other costs, and benefits associated with the use of the card; or to apply, please call the above toll-free numbers.

This credit card program is issued and administered by FIA Card Services, N.A. Any account opened in response to this application shall be governed by the laws of the state of Delaware. Travel planning services are provided to customers by an independently owned and operated travel agency registered to do business in California (Reg. No. 2036509-50); Ohio (Reg. No. 87890286) Washington (Reg. No. 6011237430) and other states, as required. MasterCard is a federally registered

service mark of MasterCard International -Inc., and is used by the issuer pursuant to license. Platinum Plus is a registered trademark of FIA Card Services, N.A. Bank of America and the Bank of America logo are registered trademarks of Bank of America Corporation.



©2007 Bank of America Corporation
T-703259-032707



Gerald (Swift) Swift
Nebraska State Membership Director



MEMBER
OF
THE
QUARTER

CUCM Gerald M. Swift, Retired, has been selected at this quarter's Member of the Quarter for his dedication and outstanding efforts toward the betterment of NERA.

Master Chief Swift has been in NERA since July 1969 and a life member since February 1980. He has been the Nebraska State Membership Director since the inception of the State Director program. He is also currently Point of Contact for his NERA Chapter, Leo J. Milobar, Jr. Memorial (previously the Aksarben Chapter).

Master Chief Swift was recipient of the NERA 1776 Award in 2004 – NERA's highest honor.

Master Chief Swift has served in the following positions in his NERA Chapter – Secretary, Vice-President and President. He has been the editor of the Chapter's Newsletter for approximately 15 years. Through his efforts, the Chapter has won the Medium Chapter Newsletter Award 6 out of 7 years and because of their Chapter's growth the Chapter won the 2006 Large Chapter Newsletter Award.

Master Chief Swift was instrumental in sending out a letter in April 2007 to all NERA Life Members requesting donations for a new heating/air conditioning system and other improvements at NERA National HQ.

Master Chief Swift is one of the few dedicated reviewers of Chapter Rosters. He reviews the information for accuracy and uses the Expiration Report to help keep the members in his Chapter.

Master Chief Swift has trained an Assistant Membership Director, Dorothy Texidor, who is able to attend NOSC Meetings as his representative as he is unable to attend because of his disabilities.

Master Chief Swift will be married to Joan Martin Swift for 55 years come 20 September 2007.

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them. ~John Fitzgerald Kennedy



Wednesday, October 17, 2007

1800-2100 Registration/ Welcome Aboard

Meet & Greet Mixer (Light Hors d'oeuvres)

1630 1745 National Executive Council Public Meeting

2100 2400 Hospitality Suite (Gene McCarthy)

Thursday, October 18, 2007

0630 0730 Registration / Coffee & Rolls

0745 0900 Opening Ceremony-(Greater Atlanta)

Parade the colors, Chaplain Invocation, Welcome to ATL film & Penny Padour

0900 0930 Address by CAPT. Terry Bragg- Commanding Officer, NOSC Atlanta

0930 0945 ---BREAK ---

0945 1000 Nominations for National Officers

1000 1045 Social Security/Medicare Speakers

1045 1100 --Break---

1100 1230 State of the Association-Reports by National Officers

ED-Steve Sandy (.25)

VP-Joanne Elliott(.25)

LMF- Gene McCarthy(.25)

Sec-Mike Hayes(.25)

Counselor-Delores Rucker(.25)

Past Pres-Nick Defeis (.25)

1230 1400 AWARDS LUNCHEON- Service to Reservist, 1776 Award, SOY Award, Chapter Awards & Special Tribute to PAST Natl Presidents(Steve Sandy)

1400-1430 ---BREAK ---

1430 1445 National Vice President Membership Report

1445 1545 Business Session: Constitution & By-Law Proposals

1545 1600 ---BREAK ---

1600 1700 Business Session: Constitution & By-Law Proposals (cont.)

1700 1745 Chapter Presidents Meeting

1700 2400 Hospitality Suite (Rebecca)

Friday, October 19, 2007

0700 0745 Coffee & Rolls

0745 0830 Candidate Forum

0830 0945 Business Session: Intro. of Budget FY 08

*This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.
~Elmer Davis*

0945 1000 ---BREAK ---

1000 1115 NATIONAL GUEST SPEAKER:

Intro. by: Georgia Dept of Veterans Service, Deputy Commissioner= Tom Cook

-U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs, Under Secretary=Admiral Daniel L. Cooper

1130 1300 OPEN LUNCH -On your own

1300 1330 Time & Place Committee - Future Conference Site

1345 Load buses to Lockheed

1400 1800 Lockheed Marietta F-22 Raptor Plant Tour (Bill Bradshaw)

1800 2400 Hospitality Suite (Bob Vaughn)

Saturday, October 20, 2007

0700 0715 Load Buses to NOSC Atlanta

Note...Spouses/Non attendees going to Marietta Square Tour with SKC Will Duda/Peggy Eastis will depart from Hotel 0930 and will depart from Marietta Square at 1215. (Lunch on your own) Return time to hotel will be approx 1300.

0745 0800 Intro. by Capt Terry Bragg- Commanding Officer, NOSC Atlanta

0800 0845 Admiral Cotton(Admirals Call) NOSC Gym

Admiral Cotton escorted to 6th Fleet spaces for Unit CO/XO brief

0845-0850 Break

0900 1050 Senior Enlisted Panel Discussion-Gym

Navy Reserve Force= MC Dave Pennington

Marine Forces Reserve=SGT MAJ Jimmy Cummings

Coast Guard Reserve Force= Master Chief Jeffery Smith

Office Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff= CSM Gainey

1100 1115 Load Buses back to hotel

1200 1300 OPEN LUNCH - On your own

1300 1330 Voting for National Officers

1330 1630 Business Session: Adoption of FY08 Budget

1730 1830 No Host Cocktail Hour

1830 2359 Inauguration of New National Officers, Dinner-Dance with Live Band (Frankly Scarlett)

Sunday, October 21, 2007

0700 0710 Coffee & Rolls

0715 0900 National Executive Council Public Meeting

50th National Conference(Important Hotel News)

We have locked in rate of \$99.00 a night for the Crowne Plaza Hotel up to September 19th. (After this date there are no guarantees on rate or even a room)You must call the hotel yourself since registering for the conference doesn't guarantee your room.

When calling Hotel, Tell operator that you want the Crowne Plaza (Atlanta Perimeter) off Powers Ferry Road in Atlanta to avoid getting it mixed up with other Crowne Plaza hotels in Atlanta. Call 1(800)227-6963 ASK FOR THE (NERA) NAVAL ENLISTED RESERVE ASSOCIATION GROUP RATE.



Marine Marquee



HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS, Washington (Aug. 18, 2006) -- Richard Litto does not like the term "weekend warrior." In fact, he despises it, and the mere mention of the phrase triggers a standoffish response in a thick, South Boston accent. "I don't like it," said Litto, a reserve Marine on active duty at Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass. "We're all Marines regardless of what status we're in." And Litto is a true Marine. The 46-year-old sergeant currently serves with Marine Air Support Squadron 6; however, when called up for active duty from the reserves, he wanted to be with the action. He wanted Iraq. Litto adjourned his civilian duties as a Boston police officer and joined the 6th Civil Affairs Group, a unit that primarily focuses on promoting good community relations in Iraq. "I made the choice. I volunteered. I wasn't told I had to go to Iraq," said the Boston native. "I owe the Marine Corps for everything the Marine Corps has done for me." Nowadays, a typical reserve Marine no longer goes by "weekend warrior," a term derived from reservists who typically trained two days a month, and two weeks a year. Litto, and thousands like him, have whirled into fast-paced lifestyles as a result of the Corps' high operational tempo. And reserve Marines no longer dwell in the shadows of active duty but rather shine by augmenting active-duty units. They man the gates in the rear when active-duty Marines deploy, or they join fellow infantrymen in the thick of battle. Reserve Marines can be found in some of the most dangerous hotspots in Iraq. When mobilized to active duty to the Al Anbar province in 2005, Marines from Ohio's 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, took perhaps the heaviest toll of any unit: 48 Marines and sailors killed in action. But a reserve warrior's daily life on the home front can be much different from active duty, as some are everyday citizens living double lives as Marines. These citizens, however, must nevertheless maintain military standards – and oftentimes where workout facilities, uniforms, and training can be hard to find.

There is now a USMC Virtual Vietnam Archive Library USMC Reserve News

Texas Tech University that provides free unlimited access to the more than 12,000 documents (1 million pages) of official "USMC in the Vietnam War" reports, histories, and other materials from 1954-1975. These materials are available free to anyone with Internet access. There is no registration and no fees involved. Just visit www.vietnam.ttu.edu. Click on the link to the Virtual Vietnam Archive. The USMC Records can be found most easily by entering "Marine Corps" in the Collection Title field. Specific unit materials and reports can be located using additional keywords. Searches can also be limited by date. These USMC Vietnam War Records complement the million pages of materials we already had online in the Virtual Archive, meaning the Virtual Archive now contains two million pages of material related to America's involvement in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War. Virtual Archive materials cover all aspects of the history of the war, all branches of service, many civilian agencies and organizations. It comprises official government and military materials, personal veteran collections, scholar and author collections, and family collections as well. Researchers can locate documents, letters, diaries, audio recordings, video recordings, a near complete set of 1:50,000 scale maps of Southeast Asia, oral history interviews, and much more.

Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world, but the Marines don't have that problem.

— Ronald Reagan



ADM THAD ALLEN SENDS.

AUGUST 4TH MARKS THE 217TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD. AS AMERICA'S LIFESAVERS AND GUARDIANS OF THE SEAS, COAST GUARD MEN AND WOMEN HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO SERVING OUR NATION AND ITS PEOPLE WITH HONOR, RESPECT AND DEVOTION TO DUTY FOR MORE THAN TWO CENTURIES. THIS YEAR WE CELEBRATE A REMARKABLE MILESTONE IN OUR HISTORY. THE COAST GUARD HAS SAVED MORE THAN ONE MILLION LIVES SINCE 1790. WHAT COULD BE A GREATER CALLING THAN TO SAVE LIVES? NO OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY DOES WHAT WE DO, AND NO OTHER SERVICE HAS SUCH A BROAD ARRAY OF MISSIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES THAT TOUCH THE LIVES OF SO MANY PEOPLE, ALL ACROSS AMERICA, AND TO THE FARTHEST REACHES OF THE GLOBE.

SINCE THE EARLIEST DAYS OF OUR NATION WHEN WE BRAVED THE SURF IN WOODEN BOATS, THE COAST GUARD HAS BEEN THERE. THROUGH ELEVEN WARS, IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE MOST HORRIFIC TERRORIST ATTACKS TO HIT U.S. SOIL, AND IN RESPONSE TO DEVASTATING NATURAL DISASTERS, WE HAVE BEEN THERE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHEN THEY NEEDED US MOST. IT WAS 70 YEARS AGO, IN FACT, THAT THE COAST GUARD RESCUED A TOTAL OF 43,853 PEOPLE AND 11,313 HEADS OF LIVESTOCK DURING THE 1937 MISSISSIPPI FLOOD, ECLIPSING THE NUMBER OF LIVES SAVED IN OUR MOST RECENT HURRICANE KATRINA OPERATIONS.

THIS YEAR ALSO MARKS THE INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR AND THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE. FOR THE COAST GUARD AND THE NATION, THE ARCTIC REPRESENTS A NEW FRONTIER WITH NEW CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES. IT WILL BE YOUR COURAGE, YOUR COMMITMENT, AND OUR CORE VALUES, THAT WILL GUIDE US AS WE PLOT A SAFE COURSE THROUGH THE UNCHARTED WATERS THAT LAY AHEAD FAR INTO THE 21ST CENTURY.

TODAY, AS WE CELEBRATE OUR BIRTHDAY, TAKE A MOMENT TO THINK ABOUT WHY YOU SERVE, AND HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE THESE EXTRAORDINARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS POSSIBLE. WHETHER YOU ARE ON PATROL IN THE FLORIDA STRAITS, RESPONDING TO A FISHING VESSEL GROUNDING IN ALASKA, OR PREPARING FOR DEPLOYMENT TO SOUTHWEST ASIA IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, YOU ARE THE REASON FOR OUR EXCEPTIONAL REPUTATION. YOU PROVIDE THIS COUNTRY WITH THE SAFETY, SECURITY, AND STEWARDSHIP OF OUR OCEANS DEMANDED IN AN UNCERTAIN TIME AND AN OFTEN DANGEROUS WORLD. WHEREVER YOU ARE STATIONED, WHATEVER JOBS YOU DO, AND WHATEVER MISSIONS YOU EXECUTE OR SUPPORT, YOU ARE VITAL TO OUR SUCCESS AND THE PEOPLE WE SERVE. EVERY MEMBER OF THE COAST GUARD IS A LIFESAVER.

TO OUR ENTIRE ACTIVE, RESERVE, AUXILIARY, CIVILIAN AND RETIRED WORKFORCE AND YOUR FAMILIES, THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO. I WISH YOU A HAPPY AND SAFE 217TH BIRTHDAY!

SEMPER PARATUS!

INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.



FACES OF NERA



GREAT LAKES CPOA DINING IN



Vets Helping Vets -- National Volunteer Week was 15-22 April, and your "dirty dozen" from the Minnesota NERA Chater(323.103) and Viking Branch 136 of FRA made quite an impression on the management of the Veterans on the Lake Resort on Fall Lake near Ely, Minnesota. The number and variety of tasks accomplished frankly, astounded them. Two electricians, two master carpenters, a licensed re modeler and seven general assistants spent the week at the combined NERA and FRA first "vets helping vets" volunteer week. project. Special thanks to shipmates Ray Firnstahl and Dick McClellan for their generous donations that supplied


three home cooked meals per day (plus the cook's wages) that kept everyone healthy and charged for the day. (It was noted several even gained some weight because of this tremendous support). The group drove, collectively, over 6,000 total miles getting to and from the resort which is located over 250 miles North of the Twin Cities. The "dirty dozen" contributed over 436 man hours to accomplish: a mass donation mailing; construction of a new set of patio steps, construct two 6'x8' cabin decks, three wheelchair ramps to the cabins; re sided one cabin; finished the inside a cabin with trim work and new doors; mounted cabinets; plus wired a cabin including stove, water heater and air conditioner: started the electric work on another Time ran short, but with the good food, outstanding accommodations, beautiful weather (for the time of year), and watching the deer graze outside our cabin windows -- the work turned to fun and a good time was had by all. The group so impressed the resort management that they asked us to stay, and if not, could we please come back again next spring. Plans are already in the woks for that to happen. The "dirty dozen" consisted of Lenny Campbell, Ron Campbell, Jon Comb, Paul Dooley, Tom Dooley, Gene Jarnagin, Ron Jones, Sam Mongiat, Don Rask, Dave Schroeder, Donn Steffenson and Jack Tourtillotte These men are members of NERA or FRA, or in some cases both organizations."



In the group picture in the front row from **left to right** are Jack Tourtillotte, Paul Dooley, Donn Steffenson and John Comb.

Back row **left to right** are Sam Mongiat, Tom Dooley, Dave Schroeder, Gene Jarnagin, Lenny Campbell, Ron Jones, Don Rask and Ron Campbell

"Vets Helping Vets -- National Volunteer Week was 15-22 April, and your "dirty dozen" from the Minnesota NERA Chapter(323.103) and Viking Branch 136 of FRA made quite an impression on the management of the Veterans on the Lake Resort on Fall Lake near Ely, Minnesota. The number and variety of tasks accomplished frankly, astounded them. Two electricians, two master carpenters, a licensed re modeler and seven general assistants spent the week at the combined NERA and FRA first "vets helping vets" volunteer week project. Special thanks to shipmates Ray Firnstahl and Dick McClellan for their generous donations that supplied three home cooked meals per day (plus the cook's wages) that kept everyone healthy and charged for the day. The "dirty dozen" contributed over 436 man hours to accomplish: a mass donation mailing; construction of a new set of patio steps, construct two 6'x8' cabin decks, three wheelchair ramps to the cabins; re sided one cabin; finished the inside a cabin with trim work and new doors; mounted cabinets; plus wired a cabin including stove, water heater and air conditioner: started the electric work on another. The group so impressed the resort management that they asked us to stay, and if not, could we please come back again next spring. Plans are already in the woks for that to happen.



NERA Members: Insurance with a personal touch.

Great News!

**Coverage from a MetLife Auto & Home® policy
is available to you at *special group rates*.**

In addition to these rates, you'll get unique built-in coverages* that could save you money.

MetLife Auto & Home policies feature:

- Convenient payment options
- 24-hour claim service
- Coverages to meet all of your personal property needs

*See your policy for exact details.

MetLife®



Call 1 800 GET-MET 8 (1-800-438-6388)

For free insurance reviews and no-obligation quotes.

MetLife Auto & Home
700 Quaker Lane
PO Box 350
Warwick, RI 02887

0708-5593 1900030264(0807) L0505HVJX(exp0509)
© 2007 MetLife Auto & Home
PEANUTS © United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

MetLife Auto & Home is a brand of Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company and its affiliates: Metropolitan Casualty Insurance Company, Metropolitan Direct Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Metropolitan General Insurance Company, Metropolitan Group Property and Casualty Insurance Company, and Metropolitan Lloyds Insurance Company of Texas, all with administrative home offices in Warwick, RI. Coverage, rates, and discounts are available in most states to those who qualify. See policy for restrictions.

VETS Corner (Carmine Mezzacappa) PTSD Information (Reserve Personnel) Military.com

Recent conflicts abroad have placed new tolls on U.S. National Guard and Reserves personnel. More reliance has been placed on these voluntary personnel than ever before. Of the American troops currently in Iraq, over 40% are from Guard and Reserve units. The emotional and psychological experiences of National Guard and Reserve members returning home will differ from those of full time military personnel. Transitioning from active duty back to normal everyday life presents unique challenges, including returning to be productive employees in their former job or workplace. National Guardsmen and Reservists return to normal civilian life following deployment. They will no longer be regularly surrounded by others who have shared similar experiences. Their normal lives are significantly disrupted when they are deployed. They return from service to an everyday life full of many friends and coworkers who have not shared their military experiences and just months after their return they can face redeployment. The lives of the families of these servicemen are also disrupted; spouses suddenly faced with making decisions without a partner, financial changes, emotional upheaval and at the same time these families may not share the close ties that full time military families obtain from one another. Children grow and develop new skills in school. All parties need to work and adapt to a new and mutually acceptable family pattern. A wealth of information on our website is targeted to veterans and their families and certainly this applies to National Guard and Reserve members.

Seamless Transition = <http://seamlesstransition.va.gov>

VA Health Care Benefits = www1.va.gov.health

Vet Centers = <http://www.vetcenters.va.gov>

Disability Benefits For Wounded Warriors from Social Security Administration.

Military service members can receive expedited processing of disability claims from Social Security. Benefits available through Social Security are different than those from the Department of Veterans Affairs and require a separate application. You may [apply online at www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/woundedwarriors), in person at the [nearest Social Security office](#), by mail or by telephone. You may call 1-800-772-1213 to schedule an appointment. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you may call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778. Online we have a "disability starter kit" available to help you complete your application.

Benefactor Memberships

\$250.00

(Offered only to fully paid Life Members)

Sign up for a Benefactor membership by using our existing membership form today! (Check the Benefactor block). Benefactor members will have their **names engraved** on a large plaque with all other benefactors recognizing their continued LIFETIME support of NERA. This plaque will be prominently displayed at the NERA National Headquarters. Benefactor names will also be published in **every annual** National Conference book on a dedicated Benefactor page. Benefactors will receive recognition at **ALL** National Conferences during the opening ceremonies. For more info Pls contact: NERADEPUTY@NERA.ORG

Membership Application Form



Mail completed applications to:

NERA
6703 Farragut Avenue
Falls Church, VA 22042

Branch of Service:

- ☐ N-Navy
☐ M-Marine Corps
☐ C-Coast Guard
☐ O-Other

Annual Membership

- ☐ \$25=1 year
☐ \$47=2 years
☐ \$70=3 years
☐ \$112=5 years

Lifetime Membership

- ☐ \$250 Lifetime
☐ \$62.50 Lifetime *Partial Pay
*Installment option to be paid within 18 months



- ☐ \$250-Life(Benefactor)
Must be LIFETIME member

Type of Service:

- ☐ A-Active Duty
☐ I-Inactive Duty
☐ R-Retired

Total Amount: \$

Name <input type="text"/>		
Rate <input type="text"/>	Date of Birth <input type="text"/>	
Street Address <input type="text"/>		
City <input type="text"/>	State <input type="text"/>	Zip Code <input type="text"/>
E-mail Address <input type="text"/>		
Chapter <input type="text"/>		
Home Phone <input type="text"/>		
Cell Phone <input type="text"/>		
Recruiter or Sponsor <input type="text"/>		

Payment By: ☐ Check (enclosed) ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

Expiration Date:

Signature Required:

Call NERA at (800)776-9020 for updates

Do we have your current address? If not, please use this form and send us an update.

REMEMBER TO NOTIFY NERA IF YOU MOVE. ALSO LET US KNOW ANY CHANGES IN YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS.

National Candidates Bio's



President Candidate

YNC Joanne Elliott is a life member of NERA; and is currently NERA's National Vice President. She is also President of the Delaware Valley Chapter. She retired from the Navy after 28 years of service in 2006. She has served three tours of duty between 1999 and 2003.

Since 2003, YNC Elliott has been working with issues concerning sailors who are experiencing medical and pay issues as well as problems with premature demobilization and continuity of care. To that end, she has met with the Senate and House Armed Services Committees and has formed a network of advocates within the Department of the Navy to assist the many sailors who contact her.

Chief Elliott continues to be the Editor for the Mariner. Under her guidance, the Mariner has evolved into a magazine that is now widely read and continues to receive numerous accolades from its members.

As a civilian, YNC Elliott is a licensed realtor with over 30 years of experience and has been affiliated with several law firms since 1970, as a secretary, paralegal, and as an administrator of an immigration department.

She is a member of the American Legion Post 0933, United States Naval Institute, The Navy League, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6393, The Women's Memorial, the U.S. Navy Memorial, and a life member of the Willow Grove Chief Petty Officers Association.

She graduated from Excelsior College (cum laude) and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.



Vice President Candidate

Nick Marine is proud to be a **NERA** Lifetime member as well as a **NERA** Lifetime benefactor.

Nick was the Greater Atlanta Chapter President from 1999-2001. He was honored by VADM Totushek and FORCE Master Chief Chris Glennon for being NERA's recruiter of the year in 2000. He has also served as the Georgia State Membership Director from 2002-2006 and presently serves as National Deputy Executive Director and Mariner Managing Editor since 2006.

Nick has been to **NERA** National HQ several times this past year to attend various functions with our National ED, Steve Sandy, most recently the July NEC meeting. He also attended a SECNAV Luncheon and met with the Commandant and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps. Nick also performed numerous remodeling tasks for the National HQ during these visits as a donation to **NERA**.

This past year, Nick lowered Mariner costs and improved quality by changing our past suppliers to new ones. Nick also recruited advertisers who support **NERA's** mission. The Mariner now brings in \$11,300 in advertising revenue a year, compared to nothing in previous years.

Nick retired from the Navy in August 2006 after 24 years of service. Nick was Command Senior Chief of COMCAR-STRKGRU TWO assigned to USS Theodore Roosevelt. Nick was responsible for 168 sailors, 16 officers and 5 CPOs. Nick is proud to be a graduate of the Navy's Senior Enlisted Academy as a reservist and being onboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt in the Arabian Gulf during Operation Enduring Freedom seeing the last of the Tomcats.

While serving on active duty, Nick earned his (EAWS) Enlisted Aviation Warfare designation, plus a bachelor's degree in Human Resources Administration from St. Leo University in June, 1991. Nick is currently president of Marine Plumbing Services, Inc., and is a third generation, licensed Master Plumber in Marietta, Georgia. Last but not least, Nick has been happily married to his childhood sweetheart Jennifer for 19 years.

Nick and Jennifer have a daughter named Danielle who is 11, and son Ryan is age 8. Nick spends most of his free time going back and forth between baseball and soccer practices for the kids.

National Candidates Bio's



Treasurer Candidate

Senior Chief Diemert entered the Navy in December 1977. His first assignment was Naval Communications Station, Diego Garcia. From there he went to Naval Facility, Newfoundland, Canada and finished his five years of active duty on the USS Virginia. He returned to Alabama in 1983 to run the family business.

The Attic Printing and Graphics, a company his dad founded in 1963 was a successful, award-winning, business having developed ordering and branding systems for Tropical Smoothie, Signs Now, Milliken Environmental Services and fulfillment programs for the Atlanta Braves/Captain D's "Kids Club and Subway.

September 11, 2001, he decided to shut the business down. He wanted to deploy. Less than fourteen months later he was mobilized.

A Lifetime Member, he was President of the John D. Wood Chapter right up to his first deployment to Joint Task Force, Detainee Operations Guantanamo in November 2002. When he returned he served on the Alabama Korean War Veterans Memorial Dedication Committee negotiating for no cost to the Association production of the "The Forgotten War" video.

Just prior to a second deployment, he was a committee member of "Operation Home Front" an organization that raised over \$85,000 dollars providing financial and emotional support for all branches of mobilized area service member families.

In 2004, he deployed a second time. Assigned to Combined Coalition Forces Landward Component, he served as Seaward Security Watch Officer overseeing force protection for the Port of Ash Shuaiba, Kuwait, the only Enlisted Watch Officer logging over 2,100 hours – almost double than that of any Watch Officer on the deployment.

Demobilized in May 2005 he became the Production Director for Pixallure Design - a full service corporate identity and brand development firm. He is responsible for production and budget management for media, print and promotional products.

With almost thirty years of service, he has served as Senior Enlisted Leader for MIUW Ft Dix until August of this year and is currently the Senior Enlisted Leader for MIUW Gulfport, MS.

He developed a rigorous qualification program for both Ft Dix and Gulfport for the newest Navy Warfare Qualification Program – the Expeditionary Warfare Specialist, having earned his certification as an EXW warrior in February 2007.

He has been married to the former, Susan Diane Woods of Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada for 26 years. They have four sons and one little angel, are members of Christ the King Catholic Church and live and play in beautiful Daphne, Alabama on the eastern shore of historic Mobile Bay.



Candidate for National Counselor

Gene McCarthy has been a member of NERA since 1977.

Active member of the Greater Atlanta Chapter of NERA, Held elective offices of the Chapter including President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

Served as Georgia State Membership Director and Southeast Regional Director Responsible for Eight Southern States.

Received national recognition for membership activities at chapter level and regional level.

Presently serving on NERA's Life Membership Investment Fund committee.

Volunteers in support of the "National Salute To Hospitalized Veterans" at the Atlanta Veterans Administration Medical Center.

Enlisted in the Naval Reserve May, 1964 in the 2X6 program. Served on active duty aboard USS C. S. Sperry DD-697 Homeported in Newport, Rhode Island.

During 29 plus years of Active and Reserve duty, served on 3 Destroyers, 2 Fleet Oilers, 1 Destroyer Tender, 1 Submarine Tender.

Saw duty in various shore commands; NAS Atlanta, NAS Rota, NAS Bermuda, NAS Sigonella, NSC Charleston, NSC Pearl Harbor, NS Key West, NS Guam, ASU Bahrain.

Retired from active drilling reserve October 1993.

Employed by Delta Air Lines Inc Atlanta, Georgia for 38 years as a Technical Procedures Analyst.

Married to wife Maggie for 40 years, two Daughters, Carolyn and Allison and three grandchildren.

It is easy to take liberty for granted, when you have never had it taken from you.

~Dick Cheney



Candidate for National Secretary

Senior Chief Mike Hayes is a life member of NERA, having joined in 1971. He served 40 years as a Reservist and was a plank owner of VP-64 at NASJRB Willow Grove. He qualified as a flight engineer in 1973 and became the Maintenance and Material Control Senior Chief in 1989. He served in numerous deployments to the Lajes Azores, Sigonella Italy, Rota Spain, and NATO exercises in Kinloss Scotland. He was deployed with VP-90 to Misawa Japan in 1987. He also participated in UNITAS in Brazil in 1986. During the course of his career, Mike received the Meritorious Service Medal (3), Navy Expeditionary Medal, and National Defense Medal.

Senior Chief Hayes is an active member of the Delaware Valley Chapter and has served in the following capacities: President (1993-1994 and 1997-1999); Vice President (1991-1993); Treasurer (2002-2006).

Additionally Senior Chief Hayes has been a Squadron Commander, Group Director of Operations, Wing Aircraft Maintenance Officer (responsible for 23 aircraft) for the Pennsylvania Wing, Civil Air Patrol. Presently, he serves as an Incident Commander, who is responsible for managing and conducting emergency services and disaster relief missions. In his role as the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), he served as the Air Branch Director during the recent 2006 floods (statewide). He has been with the Civil Air Patrol for over 47 years.

- Mike was employed as Inside Sales and Service Department Manager for Fischer & Porter Company (an industrial instrumentation and control manufacturer) for over 25 years.
- Mike is a member of the Navy League, the American Legion, and the NASJRB Willow Grove CPOA.
- Mike is married to his wife of 37 years, the former Willa Wagner. They have five children, seventeen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.
- Mike is currently serving as the National Secretary for NERA

2007 SHIP Reunions

USS Perkins(DD26- DD377-DDR877) has scheduled 17th annual reunion for 15-18 October 2007 in Newport, RI. Contact Edward Kaufmann (518)372-4967

USS Lindenwald (LSD-60) has scheduled event 11-14 October 2007 in Warwick, RI. Call Brian Reeder at (347)623-4342

USS Theodore Chandler has scheduled event 11-13 October 2007 in Branson, Missouri. Call Dorothy Crouch at (505) 746-2379

USS Intrepid (CV/CVS/CVA11) has scheduled event 11-14 October 2007 in Washington, DC. Call Peter Giambalvo at (609)448 -8252

USS Iwo Jima (JPH2/LHD7), USS Okinawa (LPH3), USS Tripoli (LPH10 & CVE64), USS New Orleans (LPH11) and all USMC personnel has scheduled an event 10-14 October 2007 in Hampton, VA. Call Robert McAnally at (866)237-3137

USS Laffey (DD724/459) has scheduled an event 07-11 October 2007 in Virginia Beach, VA. Call Sonny Walker at (410)515-3223

USS Huse(DE145) has scheduled an event 07-10 October 2007 in Branson, Missouri . Call David Perlstein at (561) 268-7167

USS Philippine Sea (CV/CVA/CVS-47) has scheduled an event 03-08 October 2007 in Washington, DC. Call Chuck Davis at (941)743-5460

USS Wasp (CV/CVA/CVS-18) has scheduled an event 01-05 October 2007 in Las Vegas , Nevada. Call Richard Vanover at (716) 649-9053.

USS Diablo (SS479) has scheduled an event 21-25 October 2007 in Virginia Beach, VA. Call Robert Johnson at (321)254-8459

USS Boxer (CV/CVA/CVS21/LPH4/LHD4) has scheduled an event 03-06 October 2007 in San Diego, CA. Contact Tom Lawrence at (717) 428-9404

REUNION - SAILORS WANTED - VIET-NAM – 1965-1968

U.S.S. Monmouth County (LST-1032) Please send information including telephone and E-Mail address to Frank Betz, francis.betz@vncap.org, (503) 526-1726, if interested in a reunion.

"The United States Navy is the envy of every other navy in the world. They don't want to be like us - they want to be us."
[Admiral Leighton Smith]



Financial Planning Should Be Simple

By Peter Engelbach, President, J. Alden & Associates

A famous general, who later became our President, once told us Plans are worthless, but planning is everything. Much the same can be said for financial plans.

Bookstores have stacks of self help financial planning books bearing titles such as the Nine things you need to know now, or Eight secrets to a successfulor Seven Rules for ...etc. All miss the real point of financial planning and that it is the process and not the plan that counts. It's how one lives their financial life that really matters.

I believe we get carried away with the idea that financial planning is a huge, complex task. In fact, it can be pretty simple. Or, as I once heard a speaker conclude at an industry conference, "We all want the same thing -- that is to pay our taxes, educate our children and retire comfortably."

Over the years I have written many, many financial plans. To one degree or another, these plans touched the major areas of planning; cash flow, investments, net worth, taxation, risk management, specific goal achievement, estate plan and finally retirement. No doubt, every one of these areas is key to a good plan, but I've learned that the analysis that goes into the plan is not as important as the organization of the materials, the process of thinking through the relationship of each area to the plan as a whole, and the establishment of benchmarks by which we can mark progress.

One of the simplest, most straightforward, descriptions of this process came from the late John Savage. Savage was a well-known life insurance salesman from Ohio, highly regarded within the life insurance industry for his ability to simplify a complex problem and communicate it to his clients and, in later years to the thousands who heard him speak at industry gatherings.

The underlying theme of a John Savage financial plan was simply "There are two kinds of people; those who spend first and save what is left, and those who save first and spend the remainder. The former always end up employed by the latter.

Last week I met with a client who is well along in retirement, although he looks and acts 25 years younger than the clock. Over the years I have learned a great deal from him. As we talked about retirement living, he passed along his secrets for successful retirement Watch what you put in your mouth, get plenty of exercise, and always put a little aside.

My friend hits a home run with that advice. A successful retirement is not just about money, it's about your health and well-being as well. It doesn't matter how much money one has when they enter retirement if their poor health precludes enjoyment of their riches. Proper dietary practices and a good exercise regimen are the least expensive of all "set-asides" in life, but for some, the most difficult. There is nothing complicated about a financial plan that calls for eating right, exercise and saving a little at a time.

Setting up a dietary plan or a gym routine is beyond the scope of my expertise, but I do think we can tune up our financial lives by considering what author Thomas Stanley, PhD, The Millionaire Next Door describes as common denominators of the wealthy. They live well below their means. They allocate time, energy and money efficiently in ways conducive to building wealth. They believe financial independence is more important than social status. Their parents did not support them. Their adult children are economically self-sufficient.

"The cost of freedom is always high — but Americans have always paid it." ...John F. Kennedy

TAPS

TAPS-MARINER SUMMER 2007

NAME

CHAPTER

Last Updated: 8/22/2007

BAUR, DONALD C

BURKE, JAMES F

CANDLISH, GEORGE A

CERNY, DONALD C

DAVIS, DUDLEY

HANSEN, MURRIEL H

KATZ, LEO P

MAJORS, EUGENE B

MANN, ARCHIE R

MARCIANO, ELLIOTT L

MATUSCAVAGE, FRANK J

MORANO, ANTHONY

NAGLE, THOMAS W

POWELL, RONALD L

READY, WILLIAM A

ROMAN, EDWARD F

STEWART, LAWRENCE D

GREATER PITTSBURGH

GREATER NEW YORK

NERA National M.A.L

LEO J. MILOBAR MEMORIAL

FLOYD BENNETT

LEO J. MILOBAR MEMORIAL

LEAGUE ISLAND

FLOYD BENNETT

California State M.A.L

GREATER NEW YORK

GREATER NEW YORK

NERA National M.A.L

LEAGUE ISLAND

EDMUND COUTO

NERA National M.A.L

LEAGUE ISLAND

Michigan State M.A.L

Printed incorrectly in Summer 2007 Mariner, stated they were members of Lehigh Valley instead of Delaware Valley.

AFCM MARTIN, PAUL J

DELAWARE VALLEY

AOC PITONYAK, STEVE

DELAWARE VALLEY



On August 15, 2007, we lost one of most colorful and long-time NERA Members, AFCM Eugene B. Majors. He will be remembered by those who drilled with him as a quiet, soft-spoken, cigar smoking Master Chief, but who commanded and got respect from his subordinates.

The following is an excerpt from Bill Severns' email to the Mess: "The news of Gene's passing was tragic...it's like losing a second father. I believe we genuinely enjoyed each others company at the numerous Navy outings we shared....We have had the privilege of spending portions of our lives with so many wonderful Navy people & as CPO's have known these individuals as "Brothers & Sisters"...these are the souls that will stay with us for eternity and deservedly TRULY missed. May those of us who remain behind, respect the time & events that we continue to share and ENJOY these to the fullest! This is what a truly great Chief's Mess is built upon...too bad we can't party forever! I'll hoist the next cold one & share a cigar on the back-porch, today, in memory of Gene & ALL who have departed our midst...and another cold one for ALL of US that have been enlightened by their presence in our lives and proudly respect their memory. Bill."

Gene joined the Navy in 1942 and ended his active service in 1946. He then joined the Reserves in Floyd Bennett Field in 1947 as an E-5. Within 10 years he had made Chief. In 1963 he was advanced to E-8 and by 1968 became Master Chief. He left Floyd Bennett Field in 1970 when the closed the base and affiliated with the VR Squadrons in Willow Grove. He was affiliated with NAS Bermuda 0693 from 1977 until 1983. Afterwards, he drill VTU with the Bermuda unit and stayed on Permissive Orders well past the age of 60. He was President of the Floyd Bennett Chapter and its Newsletter Editor. Until this past year, Gene never missed a Dining In at NASJRB Willow Grove. The CPOA flew a flag over Willow Grove on August 16, 2007 and inserted the CPOA Coin and the Willow Grove coin, along with one of his favorite stogies. FAIR WINDS AND FOLLOWING SEAS Master Chief. You will be sorely missed.



Membership helps you:

Bank from home.
Buy life insurance.
Safeguard your family's financial future.
With USAA, insurance is just the start ...

DEPOSIT@HOME, NOT @ THE BANK. DEPOSIT CHECKS ONLINE FROM ANY COMPUTER.

Wherever you go, USAA keeps you close to your bank account.

With USAA Deposit@HomeSM you can make fast, easy and secure deposits 24/7 by scanning your checks from your computer.* Your deposit will be credited to your USAA No-Fee Checking account – whether you're at home, at your office or deployed halfway around the world.

» Open an account today at usaa.com or call 800.531.9159.
You or your spouse serve in the military? Parents ever been members? See if you can join USAA.



We know what it means to serve.[®]

INSURANCE • BANKING • INVESTMENTS • MEMBER SERVICES

*You must qualify for Deposit@Home; go to usaa.com for more details; credit approval required. Availability restrictions apply. • Banking products provided by USAA Federal Savings Bank, Member FDIC. Use of the term "member" does not convey any legal, eligibility or ownership rights. USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates. © USAA 2007. All rights reserved. 1640:26547 FSB-2007-2047