

MCB 53 Alumni Association  
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# MCB 53 BEELINE



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the one you love,  
Or pray to love the one you marry.  
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## USO Wounded Warrior & Family Center

FORT BELVOIR, VA. — The USO's first domestic Wounded Warrior and Family Center in Fort Belvoir, Va., to care for our nation's returning service men and women as they cope and recover from injuries incurred in battle. The centers are being built for wounded warriors and their families and will host troops, husbands, wives, children, parents, brothers and sisters – everyone important to recovery – and offer a homelike environment to receive the training, education and job placement services needed to move forward in life. The Fort Belvoir center is slated to open in Fall 2012. The USO program [Operation Enduring Care](#), a \$100 million capital fundraising campaign: \$25 million will be allocated to build two new Wounded Warrior and Family Centers (Fort Belvoir and Bethesda, Md.); \$50 million will support ongoing programs at the centers and worldwide and \$25 million will endow the two centers. The center will be run by the experienced staff and volunteers of the USO of Metropolitan Washington D.C., who have been working with wounded warriors for over a decade. "Supporting the troops has to be more than a slogan; it has to be reflected in action. Especially for those who have suffered the visible and invisible wounds of war. While this center will not provide medical care, it will nonetheless be a place of healing." Key partners include: [Northrop Grumman](#), [Turner Construction](#), [The Anschutz Family Foundation](#), [Lowe's](#), [News Corporation](#), [AMA](#) and Sue Timken, [Anheuser-Busch](#), and [P&G](#). "The people this campaign aims to assist aren't the kind to ask for help. They've always taken care of themselves and taken care of others, and they've asked for nothing in return. But now it's their turn to need care, support and encouragement." The groundbreaking for the second stateside Wounded Warrior and Family Center at Bethesda's new Walter Reed Hospital is slated for Fall 2011.

## William Schmid Jr.

September 19, 1946 - October 22, 2011  
Gulfport, Mississippi

Bill was a native Of Steubenville, Ohio and a Resident of the Coast since 1976



Mr. Schmid graduated from Steubenville High School "Big Red" in 1964, and his highlight was marching in the inaugural parade for John F. Kennedy. He joined the Navy Reserve while in high school. After graduation, he went on Active Duty. He later became a Construction Mechanic and served in NCB 53. He completed two tours in Vietnam and in 1969 he was wounded in combat and received the [Purple Heart](#). While stationed in Dallas, TX he met his soul mate, Iris. His final assignment, he was in Gulfport, NCTC. He retired from Civil Service, with over 40 years of Federal Military Service. He was an active member of Gulfport Church of Christ; was a member of the Patriot Guard Riders; Past President of the Harrison Central High School Football Gridiron Club, 1988-1992; and received an Associate's Degree in Accounting. He was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers, New Orleans Saints and Ohio State Buckeyes fan. He coached youth sports, loved to cook, hunt, and fish - highlight was winning 1st place in the 45th Annual MS Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo in 1993 in the Dolphin category. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Iris Lee Schmid; three children, Butch Schmid (Karen) of Anaheim, CA, Susie Nelson (Rob) of Jacksonville, FL and Bill (Sheri) Schmid of Gulfport; six Grandchildren; three Great Grandchildren; and his beloved dog, Ginger. He is also survived by his one Sister, Peg DeGarmo (Wilbur) of Steubenville, OH.



## Woodcarvers help Seabee Museum complete exhibit

*Patty Kreider of Ventura, a member of the Channel Islands Carvers, shows the two plaques she carved.* When the U.S. Navy Seabee Museum moved to its spacious new quarters at Naval

Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, Director Lara Godbille was eager to see the Navy's 151 World War II-era Naval Construction Battalions represented on a plaque wall.

She envisioned each battalion's carved wooden plaque out of storage and on display where every retired Seabee who walked through the doors could look, point and say, "That's me." There was only one problem. Thirty-six were missing. Longtime museum volunteer Pete Magoon, a retired chief equipment operator who served in the Seabees from 1972 to 1994, had a solution. Magoon is a member of the Channel Islands Carvers of Ventura, chapter 15 of the nonprofit California Carvers Guild. He and 12 woodcarvers re-created the missing plaques. They started in June of 2010. The plaque wall is now being installed and is expected to be completed soon. "The Channel Islands Carvers exemplified the "Can Do" legacy of the Seabees with their enthusiastic support of this project." "Without their hard work, the plaque room exhibit would not have been possible." The plaques have always been a visitor favorite, Godbille said, not just because visitors identify with them, but because they are beautiful examples of American folk art. "The work that the Channel Islands Carvers did for the museum illustrates the timelessness of that type of artistry," she said. "Unless it was pointed out, you can't tell which ones are actually World War II-vintage versus contemporary."

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## November

Gary L.	Eberle	VIETNAM
Francis P.	Pappas	VIETNAM
Leonard W.	Pettitt, Jr.	VIETNAM
William E.	Johnson	VIETNAM
Phillip D.	Bottenfield	VIETNAM
Dale M.	Berg	VIETNAM
Stephen C.	Wilson	VIETNAM
Keith J.	Kusch	VIETNAM
W. Glen	Martin	VIETNAM
Clarence E.	Harris, Jr.	VIETNAM
John J.	Koza	VIETNAM
Bruce R.	Tremmel	VIETNAM
Michael Y.	Sandborn	VIETNAM
Donald E.	Butler	VIETNAM
Edward J.	Gaillard	VIETNAM
Orin D.	Nelon	VIETNAM
Paul A.	Sprayburry	VIETNAM
Roney J.	Steele	VIETNAM
Ralph J.	Storti	VIETNAM
David L.	White	VIETNAM
Barry L.	Wren	VIETNAM
John A.	Haynie	VIETNAM
Robert E.	Barnhart	VIETNAM
Keith	Harley	VIETNAM
Nelson L.	Stants	VIETNAM
Gilbert S.	Harrington	VIETNAM
Thomas N.	Earp, Jr.	WW II
Neil L.	Jensen	VIETNAM

## December

Charles R.	Markley	VIETNAM
Cpt. Bruce L.	Runberg, Ret'd	VIETNAM
Willis L.	Walker	VIETNAM
Harrison P.	Barton	VIETNAM
Frederick O.	Pais	VIETNAM
Carmine M.	Serapiglia	VIETNAM
Howard R.	Vanscoy	VIETNAM
Cap L.	Jeannerett	VIETNAM
Larry D.	Whitely	VIETNAM
Cary L.	Snow	VIETNAM
Gerald L.	Hayward	VIETNAM
Clifford L.	Thorburn	VIETNAM
David S.	Ramirez	VIETNAM
Robert D.	Tansley	VIETNAM
Joseph R.	Hayden	WW II
Charles P.	Schmainda	VIETNAM
Lyle W.	Beckman, Sr.	VIETNAM
Ronald J.	Bush, Sr.	VIETNAM
William P.	Kalbach	VIETNAM
John E.	O'Daniel	VIETNAM
Harper P.	Duely	VIETNAM
Orval F.	Hoenike	VIETNAM
William G.	Rydalch	VIETNAM
Donald G.	Fernandez	VIETNAM
Robert W.	Kinsman	VIETNAM
Lester W.	Garden	VIETNAM
Richard H.	Gallagher	VIETNAM
Wayne G.	Schwetje	VIETNAM
Stephen W.	Garrett	VIETNAM
John M.	Dienst	VIETNAM
Clifford W.	Keener	VIETNAM
Joseph G.	Bilak	VIETNAM

## January

Donald D.	Hicks	VIETNAM
Robert W.	Kilber	VIETNAM
Robert J.	Dupalo	VIETNAM
Jeffrey M.	Musburger	VIETNAM
Charles W.	Guenzel	VIETNAM
Ross E.	Likens	VIETNAM
Richard A.	Reda	VIETNAM
Joseph M.	Bridgers	VIETNAM
William T.	Frost, II	VIETNAM
Charles C.	Iliff, III	VIETNAM
Donald C.	Jentsch	VIETNAM
Stephen M.	Cutting	VIETNAM
Paul L.	Wertz, Sr.	VIETNAM
John M.	Kearns	VIETNAM
Nathan P.	Laborde	VIETNAM
Randall L.	Schneider	VIETNAM
David N.	Mc Cord	VIETNAM
Thomas J.	Van Eynde	VIETNAM
William	Shehab	VIETNAM
Lawrence C.	Haller	WW II
George F.	Malo	VIETNAM
Robert D.	Simpson	VIETNAM
Manley M.	South, Jr.	VIETNAM
Ronald D.	Quinn	VIETNAM
Dale W.	Musolf	VIETNAM
Dennis R.	Kiebach	VIETNAM
Albert J.	Lanoie	VIETNAM
John H.	Mc Intosh	VIETNAM
Frank J.	Lavin, Jr.	VIETNAM
Ronald P.	Bieri	VIETNAM
David C.	Hanos	VIETNAM
LCDR R.H.	Knauf, Ret'd	VIETNAM
Fred L.	Allen	VIETNAM
Jerry D.	Loughridge	VIETNAM
Thomas M.	Smith	VIETNAM

## February

Louis S.	Langford	VIETNAM
John M.	Scheer	VIETNAM
Arthur D.	Mc Collum	VIETNAM
Gary W.	Burch	VIETNAM
Dana L.	Littlefield	VIETNAM
Walter	Shkapich	VIETNAM
Steven M.	Stover	VIETNAM
Edward E.	Fitzgerald	VIETNAM
Willard J.	Cheirrett	VIETNAM
Terry L.	Drobny	VIETNAM
Jack H.	Baldwin	WW II
John D.	Behan	VIETNAM
John D.	Mc Curdy	WW II
Thomas L.	Dutton	VIETNAM
Robert W.	Conley, Sr.	VIETNAM
Alfred F.	Garrison, Jr.	VIETNAM

## March

Jesse W.	Willett	WW II
Arlan J.	Marks	VIETNAM
James V.	Bartlett, Jr.	VIETNAM
Gordon F.	Ballard	VIETNAM
Michael M.	Micklos, Jr.	VIETNAM
Donald J.	Strandell	VIETNAM
Robert E.	LaCasse	VIETNAM
Fred S.	Kuznia	VIETNAM
Richard E.	Jackson	VIETNAM
Lane L.	Plauche, Sr.	VIETNAM
Longin J.	Dziczkowski	WW II
William L.	Bradley	VIETNAM
Charles M.	Jorgenson	VIETNAM
John C.	Corwin	VIETNAM
Leslie E.	Green	VIETNAM
Raymond P.	Mc Collum	VIETNAM

Happy Birthday



Life can be a beach, and buddy, MCB 53 was living it at our latest reunion hosted by Brian and Sara. Living like the high rollers we are at Perdido Key.

Most of us rolled in late Sunday or during the following day. Just in time for the Monday night ice breaker dinner at the finest restaurant of the area, the Cobalt: with patriotic decorations, slide show projection of our time with the Battalion, a cool breeze with sailboats and dolphins going by.



In fact, patriotic decorations wherever we went or stayed – thank-you Sara. Tuesday had we, of 53, escorted to up front reserve seating for the Blue Angels show. Awesome, and then a trolley ride over to the National Museum of Naval Aviation, where we also enjoyed lunch at the “Cubi” bar (built by the Seabees).

Naturally the great decorations and refreshments were plentiful at our hosting room. Loved that hosting room, why, you could get into it any time you wanted (Cope mentioned something about being waaaay over budget on beer and booze, yeah, I’ll drink to that).

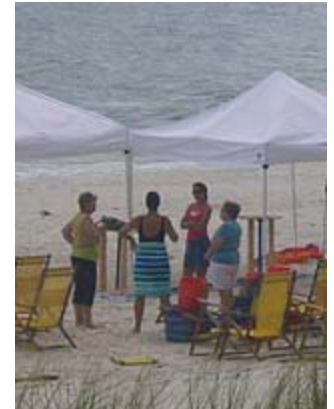


Speaking of drinking, Tuesday night we headed over to, perhaps, the last great honky-tonk, the Florabama. We were warned “dear God don’t eat there, just drink”, so we did. Follow the last order given. Some of the ladies worked on getting free CD’s (if they would just do one little thing).



Wednesday was beach party day with plentiful beer, wine, pulled pork, and ribs, with volleyball on the beach for those taking a break from our mid-deployment par-tay.

You know the Seabees of today share a big one with we Seabees from yore, namely, the geterdone attitude. Additionally the Seabees of today have some



unimaginable state of the art training equipment, which we got to see at Gulfport on Thursday.

Saturday morning was the best goings-on money can’t buy, our business meeting. Unscripted good times. Next reunion will be at Council Bluffs, Iowa, followed by a reunion of Viagra at Niagara.

Finally, like the good Bee’s we be, we invited ourselves into the Officers Club. Saturday evening was our closing dinner at the Mustin Beach Officers Club.

The entire reunion is always getting together with old friends and making new friends. Brian and



Sara worked their butts off and recharged our batteries, thank-you. It is always good.

