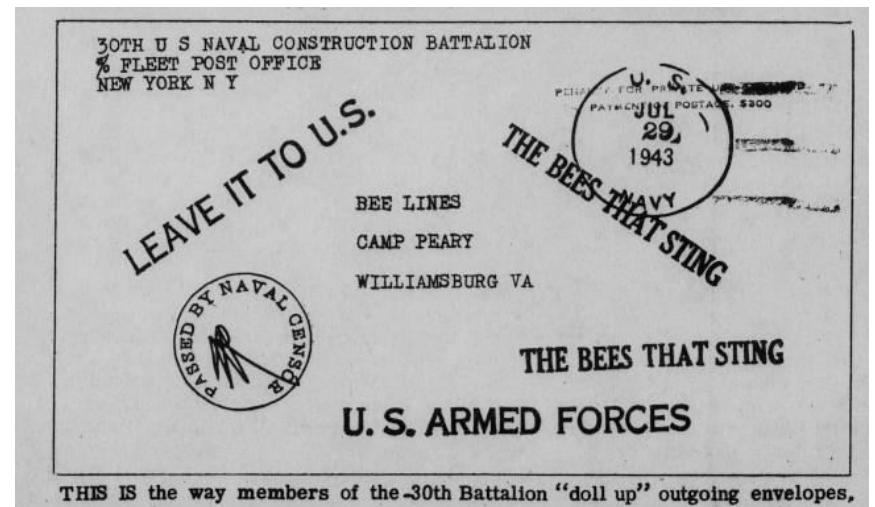


Gregory Bernard  
11853 17<sup>th</sup> Ave,  
LEMOORE, Ca. 93245

Address

# MCB 53 Beeline



# Summer 2024

## MCB 53 Alumni Association

### President

John Scheer  
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[ljscheerfamily@gmail.com](mailto:ljscheerfamily@gmail.com)

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### Historian

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Madison, WI. 53704  
608-279-4746



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## Officers/Directors 2024

### By-Laws

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(570) 262-2600



### Contact

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(515) 256-3866



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### Life Membership

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(914) 202-7643



[MJChief@optonline.net](mailto:MJChief@optonline.net)

### Chaplin

C. Anderson  
763-552-1229



### Service Officer

John Scheer  
(913) 240-5026



[ljscheerfamily@gmail.com](mailto:ljscheerfamily@gmail.com)

### Beeline Publisher "Bernie"

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."



ANNE FRANK

# Marines, Bees Trade Bouquets

Seabees and Marines on Bougainville Island appear to have formed a mutual admiration society, according to AP dispatches.

They state that a Marine raider battalion erected a big banner at an intersection of Seabee built roads which read:

"When we reach the Isle of Japan, with our caps at a jaunty tilt; we will enter the city of Tokyo on roads the Seabees built."

The Fighting Builders reciprocated with a billboard along one of their new roads reading:

"To our very good friends and able protectors, the fighting Marines, we dedicate this highway."

Payoff of the Gaston-Alphonse attitude between the two service branches was this bouquet by Marine Lieutenant Robert McDonough:

"The Seabees are the first heroes in the Marine Corps history. We were usually too busy peddling our own praise, but this time we take off our hats to them."

## OinC Storms Pillbox, Kills Jap In Gilberts

*From Seabee News Service*

The first Seabee ashore on Betio Island, Commander L. E. Tull (CEC) USNR, personally accounted for at least one Jap when, after a pillbox had been dynamited open, he and Frank R. Hearn, CM3c, tore into the wreckage and destroyed the lone enemy soldier who had survived the blast.

Commander Tull and Carl L. Catt, CM1c, made three attempts to land on Betio on 21 November, the first day of the invasion but were driven back by enemy fire. They succeeded in getting ashore the following morning, and, on 22 November, made a reconnaissance of the landing strip while it was still under sniper fire.



# July

Robert	Kanar
Victor M.	Colon-Ortiz
L.V. (Jake)	Mason
Michael T.	Fennema
Leslie R.	Wiener
Larry A.	Weber
Glenn	Ruffner
Kevin	Kelly
Charles A.	Fiorello
David R.	Bush
David R.	Gallop
A. George	Milton
John D.	Johnson, Jr.
Edward P.	Lemons
Robert S.	Meyer
Michael J.	Craparo
Ronald H.	Fuerstnau
Daniel J.	Merklin
William H.	Schuster
Paul	Glasser, Sr.
Philip N.	Saverino
Christopher	Heidgerken




# August

James A.	Van Dyke
John G.	Everitt
Philip M.	Cote
Gary G.	Elken
Robert E.	Nunley
Anthony J.	Testa, Sr.
Robert L.	Peadon
Harry A.	Kerr
Jerry E.	Roark
Arthur K.	Rumph, Sr.
Thomas W.	Shannon
William K.	Justice, Jr.
Charles D.	Mac Lean
John A.	Wanchisn
Forrest C.	Klingman
Richard A.	Newton
Gary T.	Welles
H. Clement	Jurgeleit
Richard J.	Gheller
Richard A.	Backlund
Lester R.	Headley
Michael S.	Earnest
Dominic J.	Moauero
Norman L.	Feldman
Conrad H.	Berg
J. Dale	Willard
John J.	Panagos
Ronald W.	Finks

John M.	Welch
Anthony J.	Masse
Arnold C.	Hayes
Allan E.	Neuenfeldt
Benjamin	Glynn
Larry	Gullickson
Gary L.	Allison
Theodore P.	Irwin
Robert W.	Drake



# September

James H.	Schmidt
Edward A.	Swiski, Jr.
Frederick L.	Bouchard
Cdr James R.	Smythe, Ret'd
Gregory B.	Bernard
Archie D.	Byers
Donald L.	Wolfgang
Peter A.	Turner
James H.	Barber
Glenn A.	Aagard
Gordon J.	Tyler
George R.	Kern
William D.	Leppert
Karl L.	Schilling
Sigmund J.	Horvath
Norman	Johnson
Peter C.	Remsen
Dennis D.	Meixsell
Lyle F.	Stark

Marcus D.	Case
Carl N.	Adler
Francis N.	Guyette
Peter A.	Martin
Bruce F.	Owens
John E.	Boyer, Jr.
Charles W.	Gohmert
Richard A.	Gray, II
Chuck M.	Reynolds, Jr.
Lawrence L.	Lamb
H. Bert	Noles
William L.	Adams
James A.	Pszenny
Marlin D.	Brinkley
Vincent	Bavaro
Kenneth A.	Bernier
Terry L.	Shaffer
Robert N.	Erbeck
Robert T.	De Phillip
James E.	Hyland
William L.	Thompson
Edward C.	Florian
Paul M.	Weber
Roger A.	Johnson
Clement A.	Michaud
Gale V.	Pinkston
Robert E.	Neal
William R.	Ward

[Eddie Thompson Obituary - Visitation & Funeral Information](#)  
([harrodbrothers.com](#))



Frankfort - Edmond "Eddie" Milan Thompson, 75, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Funeral services were held at Peaks Mill Christian Church at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 16, 2024. Burial at Peaks Mill Christian Church Cemetery. Military Honors observed at the graveside by VFW Post 4075.

Eddie was born in Frankfort, Kentucky

on July 15, 1948, to the late Jack and Isabelle Thompson. He graduated from Franklin County High School and Mayo State Vocational-Technical College in Paintsville, Kentucky. Mr. Thompson was a member of Hiram Lodge #4 F&AM. He owned and operated L&E Repair which opened in April 1977. Mr. Thompson proudly served his country in the Navy Seabees in Vietnam with the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 53 as a Construction Mechanic Petty Officer 3rd Class.

[George Alexander \(loutzenhiserfuneralhomes.com\)](#)

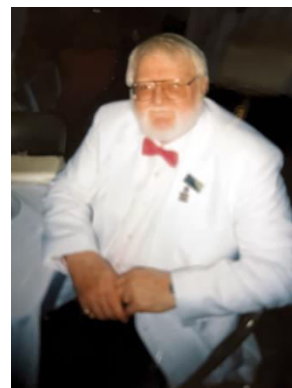
George W. Alexander, 74, went to be with our Lord Tuesday, January 25. He



was born in Greenville, PA on July 23, 1947 and graduated from Commodore Perry High School in 1966. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy Seabees where he served two tours during the Vietnam War. George was wounded in combat when his military vehicle struck an IED causing injuries to his head and upper body. George was honored for his service as the 2014 ATI Hometown Hero, and awarded the Purple Heart by Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Jonathan Greenert in the end zone of Heinz Field during Steelers Veterans Night.

After military service, he returned home and married his loving wife of 42 years, Charlene. George was employed at Greenville Regional Hospital as Chief of Security for 28 years and as a DER Park Ranger at Pymatuning State Park. He served on the Borough of Greenville as a council man for 4 years. Greenville VFW Honor Guard will rendered military honors at the conclusion of the service.

[Hardage-Giddens Riverside Funeral Home & Riverside Memorial Park](#)



Raymond Lee Clemmons, age 80, passed away on April 13, 2023 in Jacksonville, FL. He was born in Clifton Forge, VA on September 21, 1942 to Robert H. Clemmons, Sr. and Gladys Nottingham. He retired from United States Navy Bees and then worked in a boating retail store.

**Legion Of Merit Medal  
Awarded Officer Who's  
Happy To See Gyrenes**

47TH ISLAND X -(CBN)- The Seabee officer who coined the audacious and now-famous phrase -- "The Seabees are always happy to welcome the Marines" -- was presented the Legion of Merit Medal recently under leaden Pacific skies as members of the 47th CB looked on.

He is Lt. Comdr. Robert L. Ryan (CEC) USNR, 50 years old the day he received the award. His oft-quoted remark was a greeting to Lt. Col. Michael Currin and his Marine Raiders who landed on a beach to drive out the Japs and found Seabees instead.

Lt. Comdr. Ryan was a member of the original reconnaissance group which landed while Japanese ground forces were still in control," the citation reads.

A valuable air strip, it goes on, was completed in a remarkably short time "despite frequent enemy bombing and strafing attacks, the ever-present danger from Japanese ground forces, incessant rain and lack of coral for grading."

LIFE MEMBER

-AGE 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 etc.  
-DUES \$ 200 195 185 175 170 160 150 145 135 125 115 110 100 90 80 70 70 70 etc.

GOOD TIMES  
SMALL FEE

## 2024 MCB 53 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DUES INVOICE

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

(email): \_\_\_\_\_ Dues amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Tour: 1942-1945      1968      1969      \$15/annual or use Life Member Chart

Circle Company: A B C D E F G H S Team 5301

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **MCB-53 Alumni Association** and mail with this form to:  
John Scheer, Treasurer  
1917 Thornton Street  
Leavenworth, KS. 66048

LIFE MEMBER

-AGE 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 etc.  
-DUES \$ 200 195 185 175 170 160 150 145 135 125 115 110 100 90 80 70 70 70 etc.

GOOD TIMES  
SMALL FEE

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