

## COMMANDER'S CORNER HELP WANTED!!

I would like to start a new position for the objective of retaining and just plain finding lost Seabees. Several dedicated individuals in various Islands and Departments have done the impossible job of getting current email addresses and phone numbers for our members that only have an address listed on the NSVA Secretary's National Roster. NMCB 24 at Large and the Department of New York have done the best job doing this and taking from what works and using it for others will be a first step in this project.

If you have the time and desire, this meaningful job is for you. The best candidates will be retired with limited computer skills and perhaps a helpful wife or girlfriend with good handwriting skills. You can start with your local Island and we will send a current roster of who is on the list and you will know what is missing. Because the majority of us joined the club before the Commadore 64' was invented, the need for email address was not on anyone's radar. The cell phone has, for a lot of us, replaced the once dependable land line (I still have mine and use it), thus the last thing we think of is letting the NSVA know our new numbers. Areas without an Island near or the various reassigned Island at Large members that were put into Islands nowhere near the Island they were assigned seems to be the largest number of lost Seabees.

To start, I will be asking the District Commanders to reach out to individuals and Islands to see who may be able to assist. The local Island Secretary will request a roster for their Island and see what is missing on the list. I will work with Charlie Coffin, National Secretary, on a post card to send out to the last known address on the list. He sent out 300 a few years ago with some replies. We will design and print the cards. The local coordinator will send them out and we will see how many come back. I think we will be able to send out these cards with our current "Bulk Mail" ticket with the Post Office to save on postage.

I will put together a sort of handbook on what the successful guys have done in their efforts to solve this growing problem. Every day we have more members switch phone numbers and even switch emails. Back in the day it was all AOL, now the service provider is whoever is the cheapest or if you move and are required to switch from Verizon to Comcast etc. Having many local/regional/district coordinators will be a great start to this situation. If you are the least bit interested, call me 813 681-5861 or send me an email [dkhamborsky@gmail.com](mailto:dkhamborsky@gmail.com).

I will be creating a new listing on the National list of Appointed Officers for Membership and Retention, as the current position is too much for one person to do effectively. I would welcome any and all who can help us increase membership and retain the members we have who have, for no fault of their own, been out of touch with us.

It was an inspirational and moving experience to be at the Veterans Day events in DC this year. Thanks to Nancy Staples for taking pictures, especially at the Amphitheater and Wreath Laying at the Seabee Memorial at Arlington. I am looking forward to March 2nd for the Seabee Birthday Ball and another Wreath being placed to honor Ben Moreell, our Seabee Father.

In the Can-Do Spirit,  
Dwight K. Hamborsky  
National Commander  
NSVA