

# United States Marine Corps

## 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Vietnam Veterans Association

### Newsletter – March 2003

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#### Las Vegas Reunion - 2002

June 13-16, 2002, the members of the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Vietnam Veterans' Association met at the Imperial Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada. Joined by family and friends, members renewed friendships, shared stories, photos, and honored those not present.

The hospitality room was the connecting point for all activity. Some members visited the many sights in the Las Vegas area, while others spent time relaxing with old and new friends. The highlight of the reunion was the banquet. Tables were appropriately decorated with USMC "Chesty" bulldogs, made and donated by Pat Alston (Lady of Ray Alston). The auction of these very special centerpieces brought over \$700 for the Association treasury.

Those in attendance were moved by the audio/visual presentation: "A Battalion History and Tribute." 237 Vietnam photos were collected from members of the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers. Combined with history of the Battalion, facts and data, the Power Point presentation was an inspirational and powerful remembrance.

At the business meeting, new officers were elected: President, Harry Parmer; Vice-President, Bill Spadafora; Secretary: Denny Mileti; and Paul Roy, Treasurer. It was decided that the association would establish a college scholarship fund for children, grandchildren, etc. of 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers.

There are many to thank for helping to make this reunion one to remember. Harry Parmer was responsible for creating the presentation "A Battalion History and Tribute". It was truly something none of us will forget. Richard Roy, brother of Paul Roy, designed the CD cover and made all the CD copies of this presentation so that it

could be made available for purchase. Jim Couch, son-in-law of Col. Hank Perea, created and donated special mugs with the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer logo on them. Each member attending the reunion was given one.

Gatherings such as our reunion in Las Vegas do not happen without the help, dedication and long hours given by the members, family and friends of the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers. We salute all of you.



#### Battalion Memorabilia for Sale

Items with the Battalion logo are available for purchase. Copies of the CD "A Battalion History and Tribute" are also available. Make checks payable to the "9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association". Send your order and check to Paul Roy at 10 Ridge Road, Grafton, NH 03240, ([razorridge@tpk.net.com](mailto:razorridge@tpk.net.com)).

- Hats (Red or Navy Blue) \$15
- Pins \$5 ea. Tote Bag \$21.
- T-shirts (Grey or Navy Blue)
- Small to XL \$18; 2X \$19; 3X \$20
- CD (computer) "A Battalion History and Tribute" \$ 10.00
- Add \$3.95 for shipping shirt and/or hat orders and \$4.95 shipping for tote bags.



#### 2004 Reunion Set for Washington, D.C Sheraton National Hotel

The next reunion for the United States Marine Corps, 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion/1<sup>st</sup> Shore Party/all former members will be held **June 3 – 6, 2004**. We will return to Washington, D.C. and the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. The hotel has recently completed an extensive \$25 million upgrade to its facilities. Registration information will follow in later newsletters and will be posted on the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer

Website at [www.9thengineers.com](http://www.9thengineers.com). Mark these dates on your calendars. Washington, D.C. provides us with many opportunities to share and remember.

### **Time to Pay 2003 Membership Dues**

It's the new year and time for all 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers to renew membership in the Association. Yearly dues are \$20.00 per person. Dues cover the cost of running the Association, printing and mailing information to members, and will also help to build our newly created scholarship fund. Please send checks payable to "9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association" to Paul Roy, 10 Ridge Road, Grafton, NH 03240. (We do not send statements)



### **9<sup>th</sup> Engineer College Scholarship Fund**

At the recent reunion in Las Vegas, members attending voted to establish a scholarship fund. As a basically social organization, members felt the need to establish a lasting legacy to honor the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers dedication to each other and our Country.

A committee (president, treasurer, secretary and three members at large) was appointed to research the proposal, establish guidelines, and initiate the first award. Qualified recipients are: sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, adopted sons and daughters, step-sons and step-daughters of members in good standing (paid up dues) or of a deceased member who was in good standing at the time of his death. These members of our 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer family will be encouraged to apply for the one year, one time award. Students entering their freshman year at an accredited junior college, trade school, or college would be eligible.

All friends and members of the Association are encouraged to send contributions (tax deductible) to build the fund. The size and number of scholarships

awarded will be determined by the amount of money available. Several donations have been received with our grateful thanks. All scholarship fund donations should be sent to Paul Roy, 10 Ridge Road, Grafton, NH 03240. We are hoping to award our first scholarship(s) for the 2003-2004 school year. Application forms are being finalized by the committee. They will be available by going to our website: [www.9thengineers.com](http://www.9thengineers.com), or by requesting one from Denny Mileti, 42921 Emerald Drive, Elyria, Ohio 44035, (440)324-6896. Deadline for receipt of applications is June 1, 2003.

### **Bill Spadafora, Organization's New President**

For personal reasons, Harry Parmer, newly elected 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer President, has requested to step-down from the office of president. The Board, understanding and respecting Harry's position, accepted his resignation extending our sincere appreciation for his work and dedication in that position. Harry promises he'll be back! According to the bylaws, Bill Spadafora, current Vice-President, has been asked to assume the position of President. We are honored that Bill will be able to serve the organization in this capacity. Thanks Bill!

### **Taps**

Tony Forshee  
George Ballard, Delta Co.

### **FYI**

Our web page site is: [www.9thengineers.com](http://www.9thengineers.com). Any former or current 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer can get a free Web based e-mail address by contacting Eric Kenney [elk9theg@one-eleven.net](mailto:elk9theg@one-eleven.net). Also, our secret web site is up to date. <http://shop.one-eleven.net/~wsdocs/9thbatt>  
Username: legion; Password: 9thbatt

### **Treasurer's Report**

#### **Current Balances**

Checking	\$6751.43
Scholarship Fund	200.00
Accounts Payable	- 0 -

**Total Balance** \$6951.43

Respectfully submitted  
Paul T. Roy, Treasurer