



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

## 2010 Newsletter

Thirty-eight Marines and guests gathered in Naples, New York to salute our MIA, SSGT James R. Moore on Memorial Day 2010. We came to salute Jim and the entire town turned out to salute us in the process. It was a proud moment for 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers to march in a parade, led by the Marine Corps Reserve Color Guard, two bands playing patriotic tunes and thousands of people cheering us.



Following the parade we paid tribute to Jim's mother and attended a luncheon hosted by the James R. Moore VFW Memorial Post # 8726 in Naples, NY.

Other events included a luncheon boat ride on the Erie Canal, a tour of the local vineyards, and a visit to the Rochester Vietnam Memorial Gardens. Many of us just enjoyed the fellowship sitting around the hospitality room at the hotel swapping lies and finding out we are all getting older by the minute. A sense of knowing that you are not alone with the memories you have been carrying through your life is somehow comforting and binds you together. Semper Fi!

**9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Bn. Association**  
**Upstate-Finger Lakes, New York Reunion**  
**To Remember James Moore, 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer MIA**  
**May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010**

Reunion Income	\$ 8135.00
Interest	.28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8135.28</b>

Reunion Expenses

Naples Lunch VFW	\$ 1000.00
Tuesday Lunch (Riki's)	\$ 786.00
Erie Canal Boat Tour (Colonial Belle)	\$ 944.00
Casa Larga Vineyards	\$ 140.00
Wednesday Lunch (Holloway House)	\$ 724.21
Transportation (Bus)	\$ 2350.00
Bus Driver Tip	\$ 300.00
Reunion T-Shirts (James Moore)	\$ 246.00
Bob Uderitz Reimbursments	\$ 261.35
<b>Expenses TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6711.56</b>

<b>Revenue over Expenses</b>	<b>\$1423.72</b>
(On hand for next reunion)	

## **Notes from Association President Herb Shaw**

**2010 Reunion was a huge success.** I believe everyone that attended had a great time. Thirty eight of us were able to walk or ride in the Naples, N.Y Memorial Day Parade with a U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard escort. Mrs. Moore and the town welcomed us with open arms. I think I can speak for everyone that was there, we left upstate New York with a different feeling than we had when we arrived. Even the ladies had a different experience this year. They seem to be bonding more than I've seen in past years. Maybe they are finding out they are not the only Viet Nam Marine spouse. After 43 years an 84 year old Mrs. Moore found out that her son, Jimmy had been not forgotten. According to reports, Mrs. Moore still talks about the Marines that came to Naples to recognize her son. These days she is not doing well, we don't know how much longer she will be able to live alone.

One of our goals of the association should be to search out those families of our KIA's so we can let them know their loved ones are not forgotten. We must always be ready to give support to those that served with us in Viet Nam. We are finding new people that served with the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineers or 1<sup>st</sup> Shore Party almost daily.

Charleston, S.C. was chosen for our 2011 Reunion. Camp Lejeune, N.C. for our 2012 reunion Plans have been made for the Charleston, S.C. reunion and is scheduled for June 12 to 16, 2011 at the Holiday Inn Riverview. Registration information is included in this mailing. **The 2011 business meeting will be held at 9:00 AM June 14, 2011 at the holiday Inn Riverview in the hospitality room.**

**Thanks for supporting the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Bn. Association.**

## **Jim Harris's thoughts on the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Association**

I have been a member of the 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Association for some time; however, I resisted going to reunions because I didn't see any names I recognized. The distance to many of the reunions and the costs therefore against 'not knowing anyone' caused me to stay home.

Then there came the reunion in San Diego in 2007. I no longer had an excuse. It was two hours from my home in Rancho Cucamonga, California. The hotel cost was reasonable and I could always leave early. Hah! I made the arrangements and from my first arrival realized I had friends I didn't know I had. Guys, who experienced the same things I did, whether the things were good or bad, were there to talk with.

Former officers and commanding officers were there. Guys I had worked for in the battalion S-3. We talked of old times, friends and experiences. I found out they put their pants on the same way I did, one leg at a time. Their blouses may have had more ribbons than mine but it didn't seem to matter so long after our war.

I also developed a close relationship with Terry Porter, who as near as we can figure, replaced me in the battalion drafting section when I went home. And he lives an hour from me! And we both ride motorcycles (although his is a Harley-Davidson). Others came from around southern California as well. We've even gotten together between reunions. We visited the recruit depot in San Diego, took in a boot camp graduation, Camp Pendleton and had lunch with the modern engineers about to head for the middle east and the air station museum at Miramar for just a few of the highlights.

After the great time in San Diego, I decided to attend every reunion possible taking my wife when she could join me.

Our 2011 reunion promises to be equal or better than the ones I have attended. Our President and Reunion Planner Herb Shaw, as always, has gone all out to make our stay and experiences in Charleston, South Carolina the best possible. Make plans to join us. We sometimes have the family of a missing member join us. They learn what their Marine engineer did and accomplished while part of the battalion and we get to meet them.

As far as our future is concerned, we should strive to get all former battalion members to be part of our association. I'm still hoping some of the drafters and surveyors I worked with will join so I can catch up on the things we did as part of the S-3 Section.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Here is a breakdown of our four Accounts deposited in 1st Mid-Illinois Bank and Trust  
(As far as I know, there currently are no outstanding bills.)

9th Engineer Battalion Assoc. regular checking account..... \$3,182.87

9th Engineer regular scholarship checking account.....\$1,023.50

9th Engineer Battalion Association CD..... \$6,582.06 @.90 % interest

9th Engineer Scholarship Fund CD.....\$5,474.79 @ .90% interest

Grand Total \$16,263.22

Treasurer Eric Kenney

(Bonded) by Pekin Insurance Co., Pekin, Illinois

Semper Fi,

Eric Kenney

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Your association dues is due. Please remit your check for \$20.00 payable to 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Association to:

Eric Kenney  
613 Sunrise Dr  
Sullivan, IL 61951

# MINUTES OF 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

- Meeting called to order by President Frenchy Roberge at 0800, June 1, at Victor, NY.
- 28 members were present including President Roberge, Vice President Herb Shaw, Secretary Fred DuPont, Chaplain Mickey Ryan, and Board Member Terry Porter
- Minutes of the 2008 meeting were read and approved
- Frenchy Roberge gave Treasurer's report dated November 2009
- There was no old business to discuss
- New business:
  - Herb Shaw requested a reunion audit committee be formed and George Ingalls, Jim Harris, and Ray Pektivitch volunteered
  - Herb Shaw displayed signs made by Joe Plocharczyk for auction as a fund raiser at Joe's request
  - Terry Porter gave a report of Ride to the Wall
    - 1,100 bikers came together from the West Coast
    - An estimated total of 500,000 bikers gathered in D.C.
- All 4 scholarships submitted to the Scholarship Committee were discussed and approved:
  - Emily Erikson - Nursing - Johnson County Community College - Steve Erikson - Father
  - Daniel Tallman – Mechanical Engineering – Florida Atlantic University – Mike Cummins - Grandfather
  - Tatum Peery – Creighton University – Mike Peery – Grandfather
  - Mariah Kerley – Teaching – Shawnee Community College – Ed Casper – Grandfather
- Herb Shaw submitted the Financial Recap of the 2009 Reunion
- Our Chaplin, Mickey Ryan reported:
  - He has sufficient funds available

- Please keep him informed of any member you are aware of that is in sickness and distress
- If you find out that a member is deceased, please let him know when that member passed so we do not “open old wounds” for the families
- Secretary Fred DuPont reported that:
  - A separate data base for non email members is kept on his computer for “snail mail” distribution of newsletters
  - Cost of those newsletters is held to a minimum through the donated use of a copier by St. Augustine Elks Lodge #829
- Elections of Officers were held with the following results:
  - President----Herb Shaw
  - Vice President----Jim Harris
  - Secretary----Fred DuPont
  - Treasurer----Eric Kenny
  - Chaplain----Mickey Ryan
  - Other members of the Board
    - Ray Pektivitch
    - Don Gurganus
    - Terry Porter
    - Rob Uderitz
- Site of future reunions was discussed and voted on with the following results
  - 2011 Charleston, South Carolina
  - 2012 Camp Lejuene, North Carolina
- Herb Shaw discussed the following other reunion matters:
  - The difficulty of booking cruises for reunions
  - Having reunions during the week instead of weekends would save money
  - Moving reunions to the spring or fall may also save money

- Under Good of the Order:

- A big thank you was given to Rob & Pat Uderitz and Herb Shaw for the 2010 Reunion and the Memorial Day Parade in Naples, NY

- Herb Shaw gave a report on Colonel Perea's condition which is not good

- Meeting was concluded with the Pledge of Allegiance and Chaplin Mickey Ryan's benediction at 0900 Hours



**The scholarship committee has determined that the cutoff date for applications for next year is:**

**MAY 15, 2011**

**9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Association  
2011 Reunion Charleston, South Carolina  
June 12<sup>th</sup> to June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

**Holiday Inn Riverview  
Room Rate \$ 85 - No Parking Fee**

**Rate Code \*\* 9TH Engineer Bn. Association \*\* Hotel Telephone # 1-800-766-4451**

or copy and paste the web link below to your address bar

<http://ichotelsgroup.com/redirect?path=rates&brandCode=HI&GPC=ENG&hotelCode=CHSRV& PMID=99801505>

**Reservations must be made by May 11, 2011 to get this rate**

**2011 Reunion Registration Form**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Full Registration (All Functions) \$30 pp**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Tickets for BBQ on Monday June 13th \$25pp**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Tickets for Low Country Boil on June 14<sup>th</sup> \$20pp**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total Amount Enclosed for registrations**

**(checks payable to 9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Association 2011 Reunion)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this form and registration fee to:**

**Herb Shaw  
9<sup>th</sup> Engineer Bn. Assoc.  
752 Harper Street  
Jesup, Georgia 31546**

**SUPPORT YOUR ASSOCIATION -- ATTEND THE 2011 - 9<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER BN. REUNION IN Charleston, South Carolina**

**(WE WILL ONLY HAVE THE TWO FUNCTIONS MENTIONED ABOVE OTHER TIMES ON YOUR OWN)**

**2011 BUSINESS MEETING WILL BE HELD 9:00 AM, JUNE 14, 2011**

**AT THE HOLIDAY INN RIVERVIEW**