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WWW.COMBATANTCRAFTCREWMAN.ORG

The Latest CCCA News and Updates

In Memoriam

With great sadness, I share the loss of a dear friend and brother-in-arms over this past holiday season. On December 23, 2023, **MAC (CC) Mark W. Jansen** passed due to a Heart failure. He was discovered deceased in his apartment during a courtesy check by friends.

We thank you for being so patient as we work with family and friends on final military honors.

Mark was a pillar of our unique community and was always giving of himself to comfort others in their time of need. A Lifetime Member of the Combatant Craft Crewman Association, he passionately believed in our mission. Mark's selfless actions prove a testament to his sincere convictions, compassion, and good works.

It was an honor to serve with this legendary man and a privilege to collaborate with him in building the CCCA. You are dearly missed, my friend.

Fair Winds and Following Seas' Brother

Sincerely, Joseph Zemlin, CCCA President



Picture 1. MAC (CC) Mark W. Jansen
01/01/1966 – 12/23/2022

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James Grant, CCCA CACO

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Learn about this critical research



Picture 2. Dr. Gregory Stewart of
(Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano)



TULANE UNIVERSITY
— CENTER FOR —
**BRAIN
HEALTH**

Over the past couple of years, TBI research has been growing, and the new Tulane University Center for Brain Health (TUCBH) is leading the way. Dr. Gregory Stewart and his medical research staff of over 30 specialists of different disciplines oversee a veteran-focused program designed to address veterans' unique medical needs.

Their work is critical to veterans who need competent medical evaluations and documentation to present to the Veteran's Health Administration.

We thank Jack Birge, Bill Redmond, Steve Chance, and Michael Anthony Smith for their encouraging endorsements to help raise awareness of on this important research!

Please check out this video at <https://youtu.be/6TfWMhjmXAI>

"TUCBH has partnered with the Jung Hotel and Residences for "Sleep Well, Eat Well, Be Well initiative. Veterans are encouraged to stay during their evaluation or treatment and will be provided with lodging, meals, laundry, and other comforts for the duration of their treatment."

You can apply to participate in their 3-day research study by contacting Jeremy Brewer, LCSW Clinical Patient Navigator at jbrewer3@tulane.edu or call (504) 941-0644.

It has been reported that the cost of flights is also included if you are selected for the study. However, please be aware that your participation window date may take some time due to availability. Once selected, you will receive an acceptance letter and additional instructions.

E.W. Johnson, CCCA Secretary

Bylaw Review Update

The Executive Board is pleased to announce that our ten-year bylaw review is nearly completed and has been submitted to our lawyers for their legal compliance review. Much growth has occurred since the CCCA's establishment, and each convening Board has instituted course corrections to address those emergent needs. Therefore, approximately six months ago, a Ten-Year Review was authorized to identify and address our organizational processes to keep faith with our values of transparency and to provide clarity for our national charitable organization.

The CCCA Executive Board will address any legal issues and submit the final package to the full Board of Directors for final approval. Once accomplished the Executive Board will post to the new Bylaws to our website and make a general announcement to the membership.



Picture 3. CCCA Seal of
Incorporation.

Mike Sigsworth, CCCA Treasurer

Amazon Smiles Ends!



The CCCA is run by a dedicated group of volunteers passionate about building a community of Service with Honor. We are a grassroots charitable association that relies on Naval Special Warfare veterans who believe in our mission of “Preserving the History and Honoring the Brotherhood of all those who have operated and supported the Naval Special Warfare community.

It is a privilege for us to represent you and your families. We hope you will find the CCCA a valuable resource.

We want to remind you that we cannot sustain our operations on goodwill and membership dues alone.

Your financial contributions are critical to our long-term capability to provide emergency relief, awareness, and educational excellence assistance.

Our Amazon Smiles revue stream will end soon as Amazon has officially notified all participants that they plan to change the direction of their charitable program.

Please consider making your donations directly through the CCCA Webpage at: <https://combatantcraftcrewman.org/>

Our volunteers logged over 9,567 volunteer hours helping the CCCA fulfill its missions of Preserving the History and Honoring the Brotherhood of all those who have served and supported the Naval Special Warfare Family!

Preserving the History and Honoring the Brotherhood



Volunteer Opportunity! The CCCA is seeking a motivated community member who is willing to become the **CCCA Regional Manager for Region One (West Coast)**. This position of leadership within our charitable organization will provide you an opportunity shape our ability to serve the Naval Special Warfare Family by representing Region One, shaping policy, servicing Requests for Services (RFS), and building our capacity by bringing our community together. You will become a voting member on our Board of Directors and be placed into a position of trust within the organization.

Email: Pres@combatantcraftcrewman.org for additional information.

CCCA Region Two

50th Anniversary of CRD-22: Honoring the Past and Educating the Future!



Picture Group 4-7. Various pictures of 50th Anniversary of CRD-22 Event. Bruce Lemmert receiving recognition for the historic educational support provided by the CCCA. Notice the framed timeline of the evolution of CRD in the background.

On the 16th of December 2022, the CCCA in Region Two sponsored a ceremony that recognized the 50th anniversary of Coastal River Division Twenty-Two. We had the Blue Crab restaurant in Slidell cater and host the event.

Our honored guests included: the Commanding Officer of Special Boat Team Twenty-Two, CDR Weers, the Executive Officer LCDR Gibbons, Command Master Chief Powell, and our keynote speaker was a member of CRD-22 and Commanding Officer for Special Boat Unit Twenty-Two from Jul 1985 to Sep 1987, Captain Bill Fisher.

After Paul Niehaus spoke about our combat craft heritage, CAPT Fisher discussed some of the challenges and growing pains of the boat units. We conducted a POW/MIA ceremony. Then we presented a graphic layout of the unit's history to CDR Weers and our CCCA plaque to CMC Powell. We finished with a cake-cutting ceremony with the youngest and oldest cutting the cake. Everyone enjoyed a little bit of food. The weather was fantastic and helped to make this a magnificent event!

Bruce Lemmert and Paul Niehaus are CCCA Veteran Advocates of the Year 2022 for their outstanding good works!



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CCCA Election Committee

2022 Treasurer Election Results: Your CCCA Treasurer is **Mike Sigsworth**



Picture 9. Mike Sigsworth, CCCA Treasurer

The CCCA is proud to announce the Ray Hinton Memorial Golf Tournament. This will be the fourth time that the CCCA was selected as its beneficiary. We are sincerely honored to be part of this memorial event and thank the Ray Hinton Family, friends, and the Chula Vista Golf Course.



Picture 10. Nix White, Ray Hinton, Charlie Philpot, and friend.

The CCCA Board of Directors acknowledges the Treasurer, Mike Sigsworth, ran unopposed. Therefore, Mike accepted the duties and responsibilities of the CCCA Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer for another three-year term.

We thank Mike Sigsworth and his family for his time, dedication, and talents making things happen! Our charitable association is better for it!

Mike is by far one the hardest working member of the CCCA. This organization would not be the same without his leadership and passion towards our charitable missions, with transparency and Integrity!

It is an honor to work with Mike!

V/R,

Joseph Zemlin
CCCA President

Region One Charity Event! Family Friendly Fun!



Ray Hinton Memorial Golf Tournament

Sunday Feb 19th, 2023
4 Person Scramble
12:00om Shotgun

\$89 Per Player Includes:
Green Fee, Cart Fee,
Range Balls, 1 Drink
Ticket, Lunch Ticket &
Taco Bar after golf.

Includes 10 Raffle
Tickets & 50/50
Raffle.
-Raffle Items
-Long Drive
-CTP's
-1st, 2nd, 3rd
Place Prizes

Benefiting the
Combatant Craft Crewman



Reserve Your Spot Today at 619-479-4141
4475 Bonita Rd Chula Vista Golf Course

SWCC Class 122

“The Tarantulas” Graduates

By

Phil G. Garn

Due to foul weather the staff at the SWCC School House wisely decided to hold the graduation ceremonies for Class 122 in their Boat Bay. Chuck Chaldeckas, Joe Zemlin, and I met the SWCC Instructors and Class 122 the day before. Chuck gave a presentation for the Vietnam Unit Memorial Foundation (VUMMF) and a little history about Task Forces 115 Game Wardens, Task Force 116 Game Wardens, and Task Force 117 Mobile Riverine Force in Vietnam. Joe followed up with a presentation about the mission of the CCCA emphasizing our mission: "Preserving the History and Honoring the Brotherhood." I gave a history brief on US maritime special operations from colonial times to today. Then we passed out our organizational challenge coins, conversed and showed the graduates our "WARBOATS" book.

The next day we did not get much rain, but it was very blustery, so being in the Boat Bay was great, especially good for families. Class 121 was in the area getting ready for joint jump training with their SEAL counterparts and was a welcome addition to 122's ceremonies. They were very proud of their juniors and savored the moment from the other side.



Picture 11. SWCC Class #122 Graduation

Captain Tim Sulick, Commanding Officer of the Naval Special Warfare Basic Training Command, gave the introductory remarks. "Your families are now our families," and "no equipment or gear can replace you (our SWCCs)." Captain Sulick continues the fine tradition of relating stories about each graduate to the audience. One unusual experience for Class 122 occurred at Camp Pendleton during weapons training. They were overrun by tarantulas while picking up brass on the range. The class had 13 men finished up between Halloween and the Day of the Dead! How's that for spooky? Captain Sulick closed his remarks with a story from one of his tours in Iraq, where SWCCs unleashed unbelievable suppressive fire against the enemy on the river.

CWO4 Chris Moore was the principal speaker. Some of you may remember him from our 50th Anniversary. After welcoming everyone with a big "Aloha," CWO4 Moore began with Second World War history, including John Buckley and his PT men extracting General MacArthur and his staff, PT Raiders (MTB Squadron 24's commandos), and the OSS (Office of Strategic Services) PTs (MTB Squadron-2(2) inserting agents into occupied France. He continued with an account of our historical recon and sabotage activities during Vietnam, Panama, Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan, and JTAC. His examples show that our community was outnumbered and outgunned yet persevered. "Now we are moving on to the Great Power Competition, and the demand for SWCCs exceeds the supply. New SWCCs must adapt and embrace new technology. SWCCs must pull from their heritage and training and continue as quiet professionals." He then related a story from his experience with a civil affairs team in Iraq, where a sniper ambushed them. A man went down beside him in the blink of an eye. His training instantly kicked in! He was able to take charge, get the wounded man and team out of the line of fire, and successfully evacuate. He the Class they could do the same if they remained calm let their training take over! He added some fascinating statistics during his remarks. "Class 122 started with 55 men and graduated 13, which means a 24% success rate." He asked the audience, "if they knew the completion rate for medical school?" Everyone was dumbfounded when he said, "84%, and law school was at 75%." CWO4 Moore closed by thanking the families and encouraging a big round of applause for them. He then reminded all of President Teddy Roosevelt's famous words, "To strive and do the deeds, the most critical mission is the next one."

The pinning ceremony was added to by a long receiving line of the 121 graduates and SWCC instructors (they had just secured from the Tour for a later class, and we saw men from the next class hobbling by with smiles on their faces earlier in the day.) The "Honor Man" received the Seaman David G. Ouellet award. Seaman Ouellet was a PBR (Patrol Boat River) sailor who posthumously received the Medal of Honor for saving his boat crew from a grenade in March 1967.

The **SEAL Family Foundation** provided a lovely lunch, and we spent time connecting with some of their board and catching up with old friends and comrades.

Afterwards, Chuck gave two rounds of tours to graduates and their families at the Vietnam Memorial before it began to rain.

HOOYAH, Class 122!

The Latest History Projects

History in the making

CCCA Historians

Pictures 14 and 15.

Jim Gray (Left)

Phil Garn (Right)



Our Historians Jim Gray and Phil Garn continue to represent our Association with distinction. Here are some of the fantastic projects that are being worked.

TF-117 Documentary Project: Collaborating with Jeff and Shannon Arbello of the famed *Scramble the Seawolves* Documentary. Providing a lot of historical background and research material for the Task Force-117 Documentary Project.

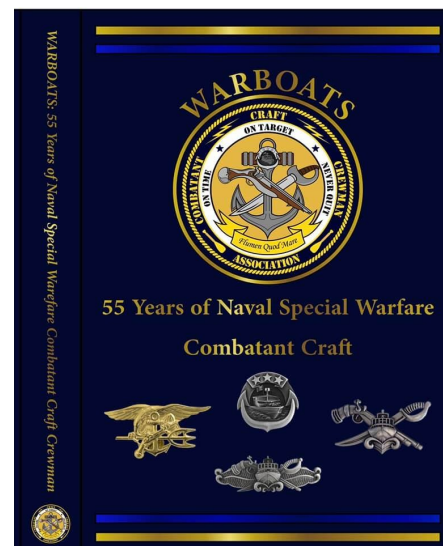
NSWAC Project: NSW Historian Dr. Pedro Loureiro contacted our historians to request collaborate assistance with Contractors Chris Wyllie a former SWCC/SEAL, and architect and designer, Sue McCoy, regarding a project they were working on for the new Naval Special Warfare Assessment Command (NSWAC), Building 116. They had blocked out an NSW Timeline consisting of dozens of slides with captions, photographs, and pictures from World War II to the present. They asked Jim and Phil to review the captions and images for historical accuracy and requested better photos and pictures if available. Jim and Phil spent many days studying dozens of captions, made corrections and additions, and provided more dynamic images from their historians' collections to improve the display.

Jim and Phil Co-Authoring *WARBOATS, 55 Years of Naval Special Warfare Combatant History*.

Please purchase your copy of WARBOATS at our online ships store and help us raise vital funds to fulfill our charitable missions. [CCCA SHIP STORE](https://combatantcraftcrewman.org/ship-store/)

Upcoming Events...

1. Region One: "WARBOATS" Historical Society Book Signing, Coronado, CA. 16 February 2023.
2. Region One: Vietnam Memorial Preservation Working Party, NAB Coronado, Chisum Field 18 February 2023.
3. Region One: Ray Hinton Memorial Golf Tournament, Chula Vista Golf Course, 19 February 2023.
4. Region Two: Chat Session, 21 February 2023.
5. Region One: 26 February 2023. CCCA National Board Meeting (Dial-In/Go to Meeting/In-person).
6. Region One: May Ride2023, Biggs Harley Davidson, San Marcos, CA. 20 May 2023.



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<https://combatantcraftcrewman.org/ship-store/>