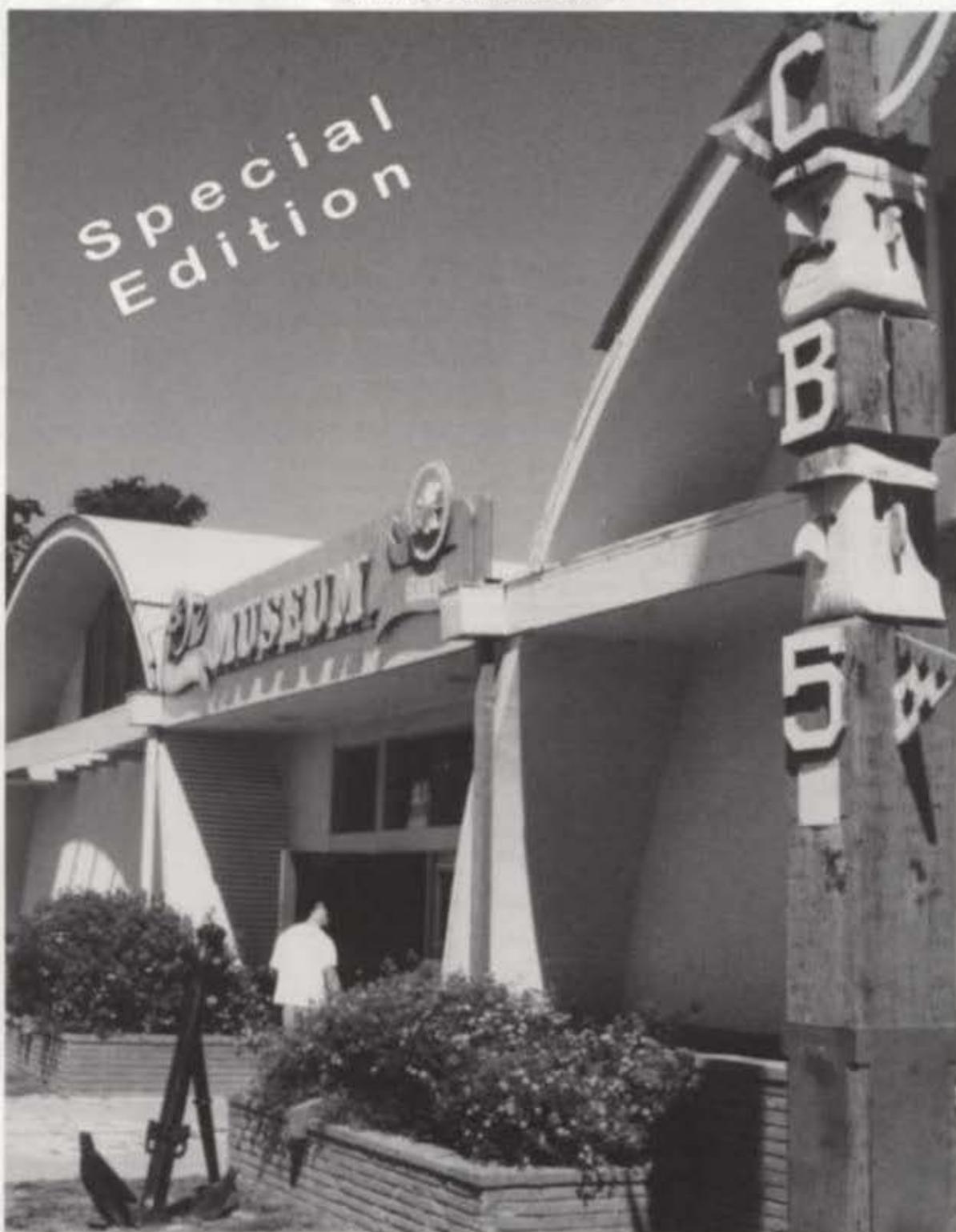


Beeline

Volume 6, Number 3



**Seabee Museum Celebrates 50th Anniversary
July 1997**



Fifty years ago, after Seabees had returned from World War II, officials at Port Hueneme, Calif., decided to commemorate the exploits of the US Navy's builder-fighters. Because the men of the construction battalions had become legendary as the result of their extraordinary efforts in the Pacific, North Africa, and Europe, it seemed appropriate to gather souvenirs that veterans had left on the base or were willing to donate. With these materials the Seabee Museum was born. On July 4, 1947, the Museum opened its doors to the public and this year is celebrating its fiftieth birthday.



Left and Right: The Seabee Museum at Port Hueneme, Calif., covers 25,000 square feet and brings in some 30,000 visitors annually. The exhibits include a vast collection of weapons, tools, uniforms, household utensils, foreign currency and captured flags. Below: One of two quonset huts used to house the original 1947 displays now serves as a rear entrance to the Museum.





Many changes have been made over the last five decades, including a move to the present location in the 1950s and a number of expansions to the facility since then. Under two previous curators, Audrey Hanes and Hark Kettles, the collections continued to grow as well. These two individuals oversaw the development of three major areas within the Museum. The core of the facility consists of two extensive quonset huts dedicated to the Seabees from their origins during World War II through the present. A second gallery (named the Moreell Wing in honor of Admiral Ben Moreell, "the Father of the Seabees") focuses on the Bureau of Yards and Docks and the Civil Engineer Corps, starting with the 19th century and continuing through the modern era. The third gallery, known as the Cultural Wing, explores many of the nations where Seabees and the CEC have served or are now serving.

Recently a renovation program has swung into high gear, with support from the museum's nonprofit organization, the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation. The Foundation is headquartered at Gulfport, Miss. Previously the Foundation had spearheaded the establishment of a branch Museum at Gulfport. Now the emphasis has turned to major improvements at the Port Huensame facility. Over the next few years all the Museum's exhibits are scheduled for change. This includes a new education center, interactive displays, and a revitalized gallery, completed in July, covering the history of the Seabees from the Second World War through Vietnam. The gallery features a video presentation in the new mini-theater that traces the Seabee story from the 1940s to the 1990s.

According to the Museum's director, Dr. John Langellier, "We are building on the solid work of those who came before us. We want to employ the most up-to-date technology to ensure that our audience comes away with a greater appreciation of what the Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps have accomplished." Langellier is quick to point out, "Videos, interactive CD-Rom, and other means of involving the visitor should enhance the experience, but the main focus will remain the artifacts and the personal stories they tell."

Langellier joined the Museum in 1996 to provide the leadership necessary to take the organization into the 21st century. With more than twenty years experience in the museum field and a doctorate in military history, he brings both professional and personal credentials to this position.

Dr. Langellier is joined by a retired command master chief, Norm Harris, who after a successful career as a builder in the Seabees came to the Museum as the exhibit specialist. Harris' craftsmanship, combined with more than three decades of U.S. Navy

experience, are the mainstay of the ambitious renovation efforts that began last year. Having lived much of the history that the Museum portrays, Harris provides a direct link to past and present Seabees. In fact he has been associated with the Museum since the early 1960s.

Another key to the museum's success is the wealth of information available from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command's historian, Dr. Vincent Transano. For almost thirty years Transano has gathered and presented the records of the Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps, all of which are housed in extensive archives within the Museum. Both these records and Transano's considerable expertise ensure accuracy in the exhibits, programs, and other educational efforts at the Museum.

Working behind the scenes, Barbara Kennerly maintains detailed records on the wide variety and numerous objects in the Museum's collections. A graduate of the University of San Diego with a major in History, Kennerly came to the staff more than three years ago. She also doubles as the education and programs coordinator. Each year many school children, retirees, veterans, and others benefit from her work, and the unselfish sharing of time and talent of the Museum's enthusiastic volunteers who lead most of the tours. Groups and individual guests from the local area and around the world account for nearly 30,000 visitors per year, a number that base officials and the Foundation's board hope to double in the coming years.

These basic ingredients should make it possible for the Museum to continue its mission well into the next century. To this end the CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation will initiate a major fund raising campaign this summer to support the completion of the renovation. The Foundation also is commemorating the Museum's half century of service with many golden anniversary items using the earliest Seabee emblem. Blue Gehres, the dynamic new director of the Museum store which is operated by the Foundation stated, "It's been exciting to create a new product using artifacts from the museum's collection." Gehres, a long time professional in museum store operations and a Navy Junior, whose father retired as a pilot from Point Mugu, went on to say, "I hope everyone takes the opportunity to purchase a fiftieth collectible, and be part of this historic celebration."

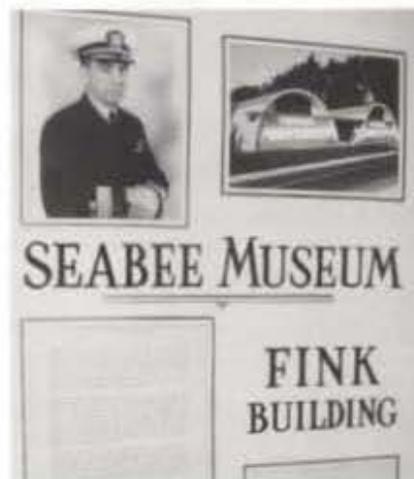
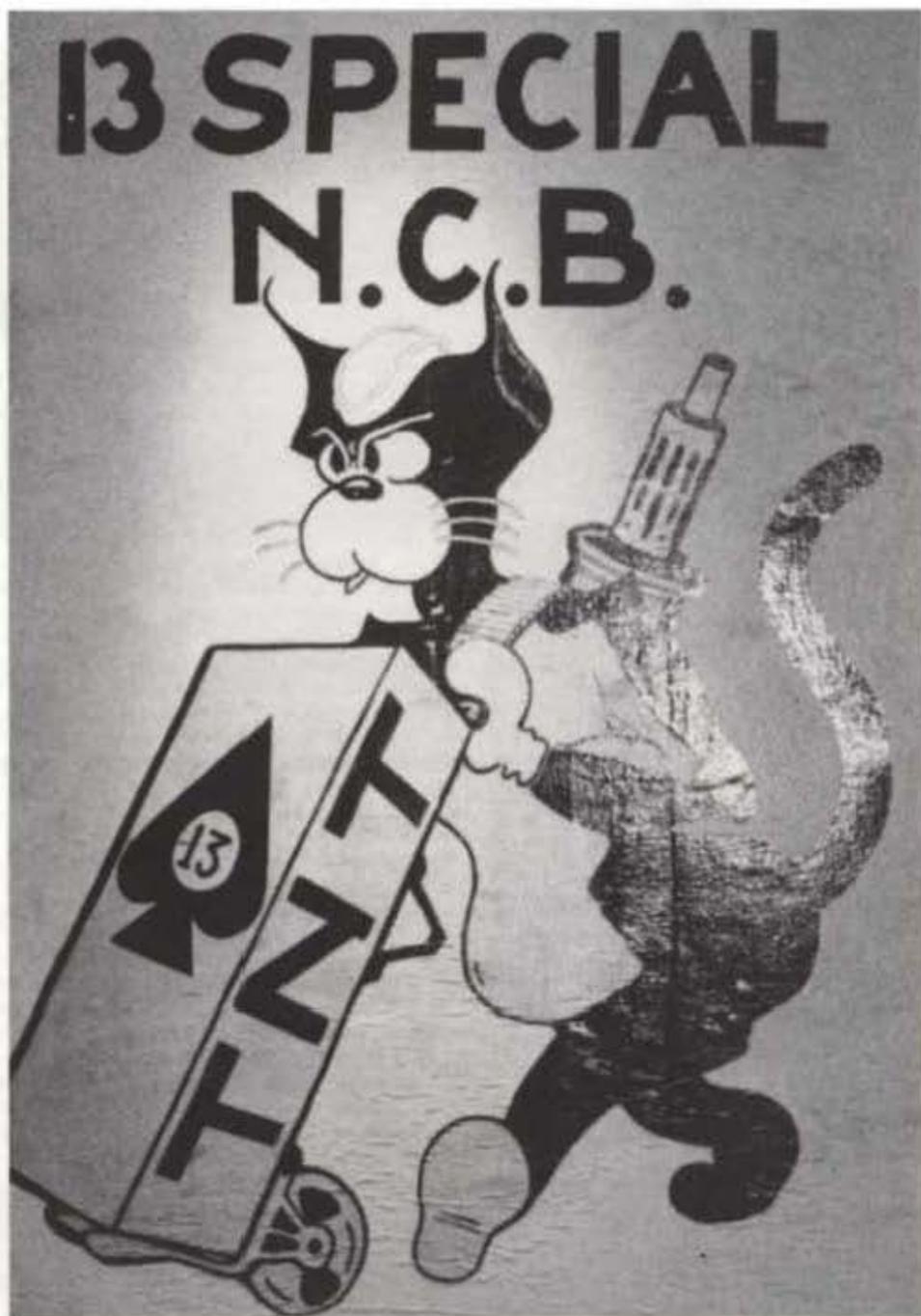
Come and help us celebrate our 50th anniversary this summer!
The CEC/Seabee Museum is free,
as are tours and parking.
For more information call (905) 982-5169.
Visit the Museum
where Seabee tradition lives!

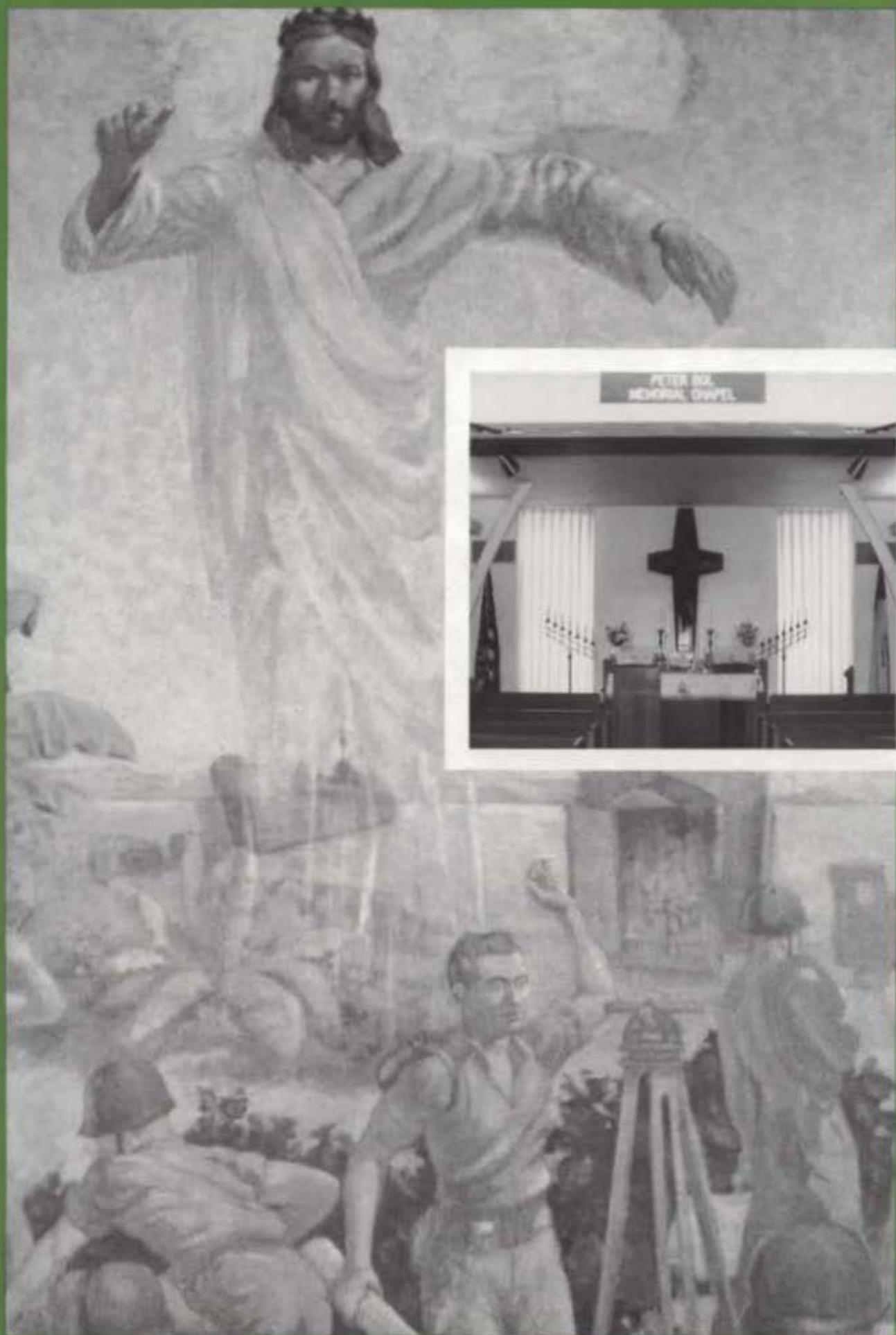
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Above: Recruiting posters focus on the dual aspect of Seabee duties, the know-how to build and the courage to fight. Right: Special Seabee units have always had their own brand of chutzpah. Here, a real "character" casually wheels explosives to a construction site. His weapon and his determination are in evidence. Below: The Fink Building display honors the establishment of the CEC and Seabee Museum on Independence Day, 1947. Capt. Fink's signature appears first on the list of signatures recorded on that day (see back cover). Below, right: John Wayne is well-known for his Seabee movie role. The Duke's last appearance before the cameras was during a visit to the Museum in 1977. Opposite page: Weddings and memorial services are still held at the Museum's Chapel.





PETER DR.
GENERAL DUPEL



Interview

**Museum Director,
John Langellier**

This interview with Museum Director John Langellier took place via e-mail between Langellier's office in Port Hueneme and the Beeline office at CBC Gulfport. Langellier talked about preparations for the Museum's 50th anniversary celebration, held July 12-13, in conjunction with Seabee Summerfest '97.

Langellier received his bachelor's and master's degrees in history from the University of San Diego. He holds a Ph.D., with a concentration on U.S. Military History, from Kansas State University.

Langellier became director/curator of the Seabee Museum in February 1996. He has held several positions with the Autry Museum of Western Heritage in Los Angeles, joining the staff there nearly 10 years ago as part of that organization's planning team. In addition to the Autry, Dr. Langellier's professional background includes assignments as the first director of the Presidio Army Museum in San Francisco, acting director of the U.S. Army Museum Hawaii, and director of state museums for Wyoming. He likewise has authored dozens of books, monographs, and articles, as well as served as a consultant for numerous television and motion picture productions.

Langellier's father was a member of the Seabees in World War II, serving in the Pacific Theater. As a consequence, Langellier is delighted to be affiliated with an organization so close to his own family's background.



Photo provided by John Langellier

Beeline: How does it feel working each day in an atmosphere of Seabee history?

Langellier: The museum continues to be a living link to Seabees past and present. Each day I'm not only surrounded by the artifacts and art that provide a constant reminder of Seabee accomplishments, but I'm also in face-to-face contact with active duty and retired Seabees constantly. This helps me keep my job in perspective. I'm not dealing with dusty historical facts, but a living legacy that surrounds me all the time.

Beeline: Tell us something about your day-to-day routine. What keeps you the busiest?

Langellier: There's no routine at the museum per se. Although I established a 5-year plan and a series of projects to achieve this plan soon after I first arrived at the museum in 1996, each day brings new challenges. For instance, I might be working on a policies and procedures manual at one moment and in the galleries giving a tour to a school group the next. Keeping the work flow for the museum staff

and volunteers along with the resources necessary for these dedicated individuals absorbs much of my time, especially given the limited budget available to accomplish our mission. Determining the most cost effective ways to reach our goals and objectives is a major challenge, but so far the results have been positive.

Beeline: Has there ever been a time when you found yourself wondering how you stack up at your job? Do you compare yourself with others?

Langellier: There were over sixty applicants for the museum director's position here when I made the final cut to be interviewed. While I am not an expert in many fields, I knew I had the right mix of professional museum background, enthusiasm, education, and interest, to assume duties at the museum. Certainly the old saying about being a "Jack of all trades..." applies, but fortunately over the decades I've been in the profession, I've come into contact with experts in all areas of museum operations that I can call upon to supplement my own experience and that of the staff. As a result,

Right: Langellier's life has been filled with Seabee history even before becoming director of the Museum. His father, Donald B. Langellier, second from left in the photo at right, was a World War II Seabee who wanted to return to Ventura County but fell ill with leukemia and died in 1960 at the age of 47. Langellier remembers his father as "a history maker." He calls himself a "history teller." The photograph and book occupy a carefully-arranged corner of Langellier's busy desk in his Museum office.



we've made great strides in building upon the five decades of work that laid the foundations for this museum and the Gulfport branch. In other words, I'm satisfied that we're all doing our best to build on this great foundation. As such, I can't think of a better assignment for me at this point in my career.

Zeeline: How would you compare the Seabee Museum with other service museums, or can you?

Langellier: The Seabee Museum is the second oldest museum in the U.S. Navy. This fact has two sides to it in that we have a fine representative collection to draw on because of the generosity of generations of donors. On the other hand, the facility, museum management procedures, and exhibits all now are in need of major change to meet with present professional standards. Over the past year and a half the museum staff has made great efforts to move rapidly toward improvements in all areas. If the pace continues, we should be able to compare favorably with the best of the other museums in both the Navy and elsewhere in DOD. The CEC/Seabee Historical Foundation's fund raising efforts will be key to achieve this goal, but I have great faith in the Foundation's ability to support us.

Zeeline: Do you have a particular area of the museum that you are most fond of? Where do you hang out when you "walk around the place?"

Langellier: The museum's chapel still holds a great deal of symbolism for me. This part of the facility essentially is unique. In fact, I know of only one other museum in the country that has a chapel. Periodically weddings are held here for active duty members and veterans, as are memorial services. This is just one more example of how the museum is a part of the community rather than just a static assembly of displays.

Zeeline: After working so directly with the artifacts of the Seabees, what is your assessment of the community — their strengths and peculiarities over the years ... what makes them unique, and how are they similar to the other military communities?

Langellier: The Seabee "Can Do" spirit still inspires me. Whether in World War II or today, it seems that Seabees always find a way to accomplish any task set before them. They're ingenious, resourceful, and hard-working. Even among younger Seabees there's a sense of pride in accomplishment that often is lacking in society at large. I consider it a privilege to be entrusted as a caretaker of their heritage.

Zeeline: What is the most difficult part of your job here at the museum. Why?

Langellier: The most difficult part of the assignment is obtaining the personnel, material, and other vital resources that will allow the many needed improvements to be made here. In this era of downsizing it sometimes is frustrating to be asked to do more with less, when for decades the museum already has done without. Nevertheless, this challenge stimulates creativity, something that the Seabees are known for.

Zeeline: Have you ever found yourself talking directly with a museum visitor who turned out to be a Seabee with an interesting past? How often do you run across Seabees with stories to tell?

Langellier: One of the real pleasures of this assignment is frequent contact with Seabee veterans from all eras and backgrounds. Each has a personal story and a strong identification with their days in the "Bees." In one case, a man who had been in a World War II Seabee Special battalion as a truck driver, then spent over thirty years in civilian life driving big rigs back and forth across the country, left his home in Tennessee to bring out his uniform and other treasured items to the museum. He did not want to entrust these precious objects to the mails or some other shipping means, but instead wanted to deliver them himself despite the inconvenience it meant for him to once again trek across country. This time, however, his cargo was the most important he had ever carried. Such an occurrence reflects the bond Seabees have to their museum.

Zeeline: Tell us a little about the cultural displays here, the international artifacts, and why they are important to the museum.

Langellier: You can take a trip around the world without ever leaving Port Hueneme. Over the years the Civil Engineer Corps and the Seabees have been deployed to all seven continents. Many brought back souvenirs including money, art, clothing, and other representations from the countries where they were stationed. These are bridges to the Seabees global assignments, just as the great work the Seabees perform overseas provides a lasting effect on the local communities they have served abroad.

Zeeline: How involved do you get in the Seabee community in your capacity as curator of the Museum? Do you travel in search of artifacts? Do you attend conferences or meetings on a regular basis?

Langellier: I'm often asked to speak to groups in Southern California or elsewhere and regularly lead tours in the museum. Besides direct contact with veterans and active duty personnel, we are called or receive mail from reunion groups and others, or such contacts are passed along



Photo provided by Museum



Photo provided by Museum

Above: Langellier's intensely personal interest in the preservation and promotion of Seabee artifacts results from his father's service with the Bees during World War II. Previous page: World War II Seabee Donald Langellier holds his daughter, Domita, prior to his deployment to the Pacific Theater.

by the Foundation to us. We also use the internet as a means to seek out materials needed to fill gaps in the collections. Last year we even requested the detachment in Bosnia to pack up uniforms, tools, and other relevant items so that both Port Hueneme and Gulfport could prepare exhibits on this recent phase of Seabee history.

Zeeline: What changes are in store for the museum at this 50-year mark? What can a visitor 50 years from now expect to see? What will their experience be like?

Langellier: While it can't be predicted exactly what the next fifty years will bring, certainly more interactive and media presentations will be incorporated into the museum over time. For our fiftieth anniversary, two brief video shows, including a five-minute overview of Seabee history in the museum's mini-theater, are up and running, while touch-screen CD-ROM and internet access is planned by the end of the year. All the exhibits covering World War II through the Vietnam War have also been refurbished for the 50th, and two screenings of *The Fighting Seabees*, starring John Wayne, along with a cake cutting, present-day Seabee equipment display, and special tours are taking place, not to mention a number of exciting 50th anniversary collectibles available through the museum store.

Zeeline: Did John Wayne play a role in the Museum's history at all? Did he visit? How often?

Langellier: Wayne was at CBC in World War II to film many scenes of *The Fighting Seabees* and returned nearly three decades later to be the host of an internal promotional film for the Navy in 1977 called *Home for the Seabees*. Many of the on-camera shots of Wayne for this approximately half-

hour show were filmed in the museum's galleries. This was "Duke's" last appearance before the camera. He died shortly thereafter from cancer.

Zeeline: I'm sure you have been the last one to leave the Museum some evenings. What are your thoughts as you walk through the empty museum and lock the door?

Langellier: Some nights when I leave the museum late I feel like Scarlet O'Hara and have to sigh, "Tomorrow will be another day." For the most part though, I can walk through the door with a feeling that the team here has made great improvement toward taking the museum into the 21st century. While we're forward looking, our stock in trade is history—the past. I can't help but think of the hundreds of thousands of Seabees from bygone times, including my dad who has been dead now for almost forty years, when I depart each night. It's almost as if they all whisper to me, "lest we forget." This makes it a solemn duty to return the next day ready to start the job again.

Zeeline: How long do you feel you will be associated with the Museum ... and with the Seabees? What are your personal motivations for staying involved?

Langellier: I truly want to literally as well as figuratively bring the museum into the 21st century. If I accomplish this with the degree of success I hope for, I could leave the museum fulfilled. I don't know when or if that will be the case, but regardless, this place will remain a part of me throughout my life. In many ways it is a dream opportunity for someone with my training and experience, not to mention the personal family tie to the Seabees that first prompted me to apply for the position.

Beeline: Tell us a little bit about your parents and what things they did or said that inspires you today.

Langellier: In 1943, my father went off to join a then little known organization—the Seabees. He had a wife and brand new baby daughter so it was a sacrifice for all three, just as the nation as a whole was making many sacrifices. My parents were people who lived through the Depression, two world wars, and numerous other difficulties, but they always worked hard and were always there for each other and the family. They had a sense of responsibility which they took seriously. They also were great believers in educational opportunity. I've tried to take to heart the basic but all important lessons they shared with me.

Beeline: You have received quite a bit of recognition during your career, including being nominated for a Regional Emmy and the Jimmy Doolittle Fellowship. What are your thoughts about your involvement with history as a career?

Langellier: Even as a child I had a passion for history, much of it learned from my paternal grandfather, father, and my father's younger brother, and their personal experiences. To me history continues to be a personal thing. Every exhibit I produce, every article, book, television show, or movie I am involved with, makes me realize how little I know and how much more I have to learn. I love sharing what I have learned with the public at large, and now also on a one-to-one basis with my daughter who seems to share my love of history.

Beeline: I'm sure that during your years with the Museum, you have had quite a few experiences which lend themselves to anecdote. Could you share one of your favorite moments?

Langellier: After a quarter of a century working in museums and history, encounters stack up. I've served as a military historian or museum director in Europe, Hawaii, San Francisco, and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth. My career has taken me many other places on research trips, speaking engagements, television assignments, and the like. Much of this has been fun, although not always easy. But I really felt I had arrived when last summer our daughter called us on the way to a family reunion in the Black Hills. She was in a hotel room with her grandmother, having just visited Deadwood, S.D. Enthusiastic about what she had seen on the trip thus far, she shared her most recent outing to *William Butler Hickok's* grave. "Daddy," she said, "I've just been to

the cemetery where *Wild Bill* is buried, and where that lady who liked him is buried too." In the background her grandmother called out, "Her name was *Calamity Jane*." Before I could reply, our daughter turned and shouted back, "Grandma, he knows that. He's a historian."

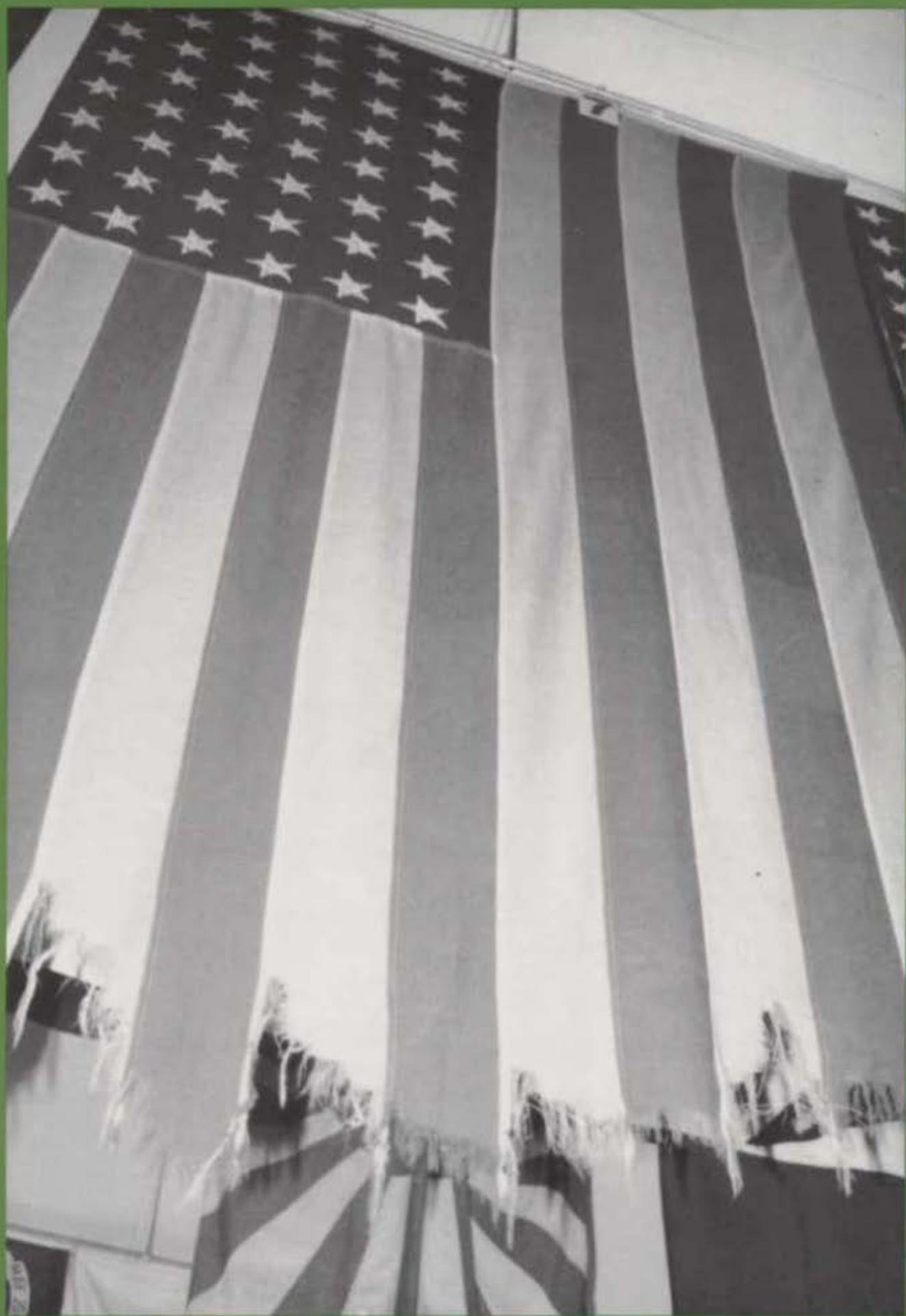
Beeline: One final question: What would you say to a Seabee on active duty who had never seen the museum ... how would you persuade him to pay a visit? What about a civilian who inquired?

Langellier: To be a Seabee and not visit either the museum at Port Hueneme or the Gulfport branch should be as unthinkable as a Moslem not wanting to make the pilgrimage to Mecca! This is their museum—it's their story and it was built in great part by them. As far as those who aren't Seabees, the story is so human and personal, yet bigger than life that anyone with a sense of adventure and pride in the country's history of freedom shouldn't miss the opportunity to experience this opportunity first hand. This goes beyond any Hollywood blockbuster, and the price is much better. Admission is free!



Above right: A visitor peruses a brochure in the Museum's gift shop. Right: Langellier takes charge of his latest acquisition, shipped from Adak, Alaska. Opposite page: The war-tattered "Stars & Stripes" hangs in front of other flags from World War II. In the background is a Japanese flag.





The Song Of The
SEABEES

JOIN THE NAVY
The Construction Battalions
"SEABEES"

(Small text describing the Seabees' role and recruitment information follows)








Above: This model of a surveying and construction project underway can be found prominently displayed at the museum. Left: Detail of above photograph. Opposite page: Paintings on display at the museum depict various Seabee projects underway. The Seabee legend of tough and dedicated professionals who can complete construction projects under fire is demonstrated by the muscular aspect of the paintings.





The Museum displays several artifacts representing the seagoing aspects of being a Seabee and a Sailor, as depicted in the paintings above, and in details from the paintings, at right. Visitors of all ages find the museum a place to explore and to learn. Below: A youngster finds her way through the Museum's Moreell Wing.





The Naval Construction Force has demonstrated both skill and strength through a myriad of different construction projects, depicted concisely in this painting, above, and in the detail, left, of muscular arms and intent surveyor.



Admiral Ben Moreell, above, is known as the Father of the Seabees. The Moreell Wing of the Museum, left, focuses on the Bureau of Yards and Docks, and the Civil Engineer Corps.





Right: A Seabee flag. Below: Visitors walk through a section of the Museum called, "The Seabee Story."





Photo by JO3 Ardelle Purcell

Left: Seabee artwork from the Branch Museum at CBC Gulfport, Miss. Below: A wood carving reflecting island operations conducted by Seabees during World War II. Bottom: Seabee "cruisebooks" record the deployment of Bees all over the world throughout history.



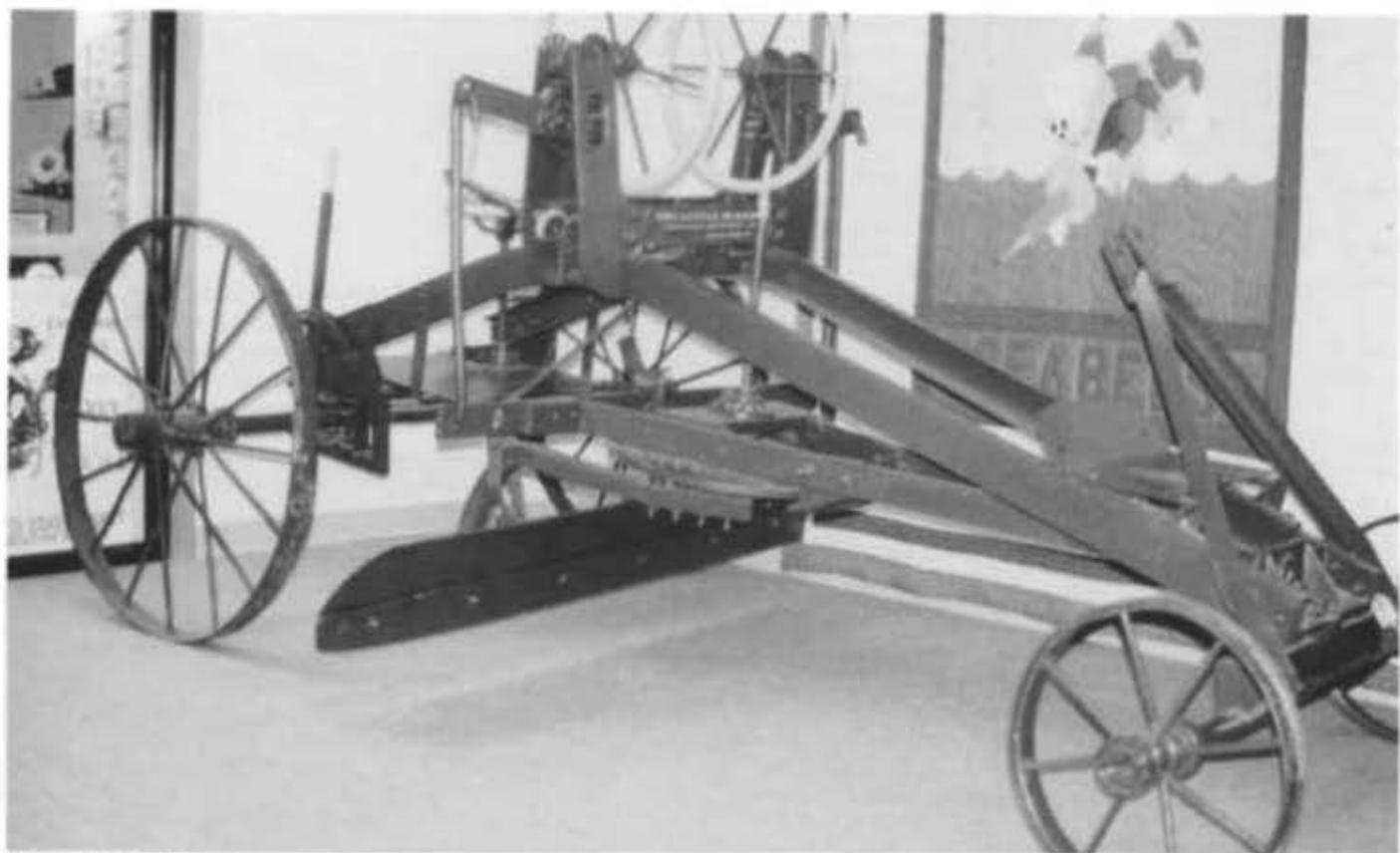


Photo by JOE Ardelle Purcell





Photo by JOS Ardelle Purcell

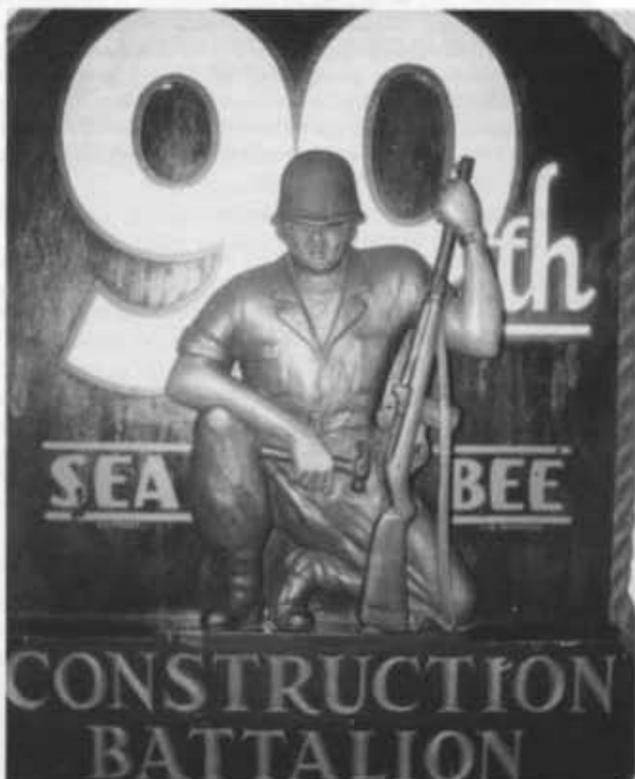


Photo by JOS Ardelle Purcell

Previous page, top: A "basic" grader. Far left: A visitor to the Museum studies a uniform display. Left: The statue reflects not only the history of the Seabees in uniform overseas, but the humanitarian efforts of those who have served in the Naval Construction Force. This page, at top left: CMSR Jeremy L. Garner, from Taft, Calif., joined the Navy in November 1996. He is assigned to CM "A School," Port Hueneme, Calif., and is one of the Sailors selected to stand four-hour security watches in the Museum. Right: An early diving suit on display at the Branch Museum in Gulfport, Miss. Above, left: Museum Store director, Blue Gehres. Above, right: One of the better-designed unit displays at the Gulfport Branch.

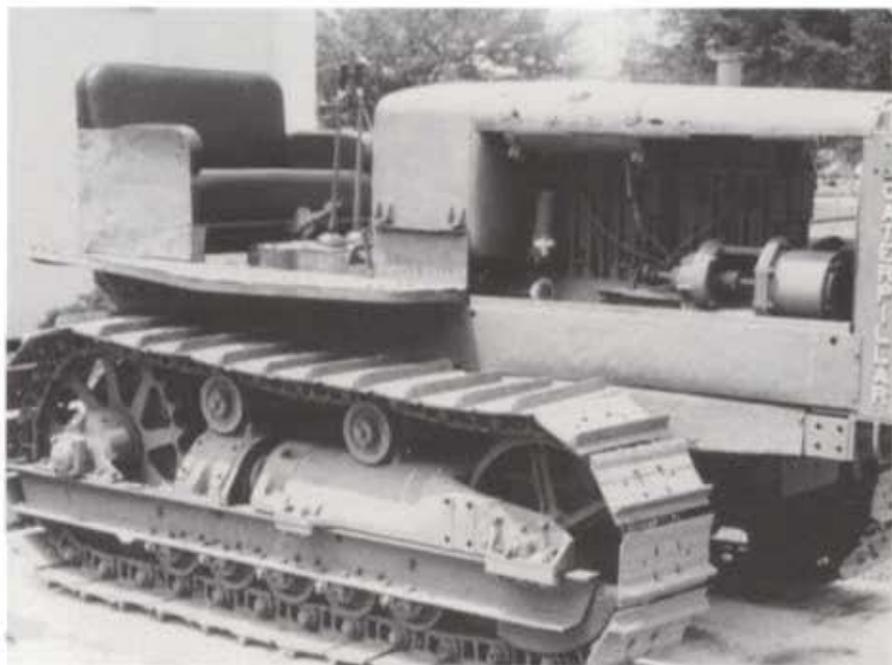


Photo by JO3 Ardelle Purcell

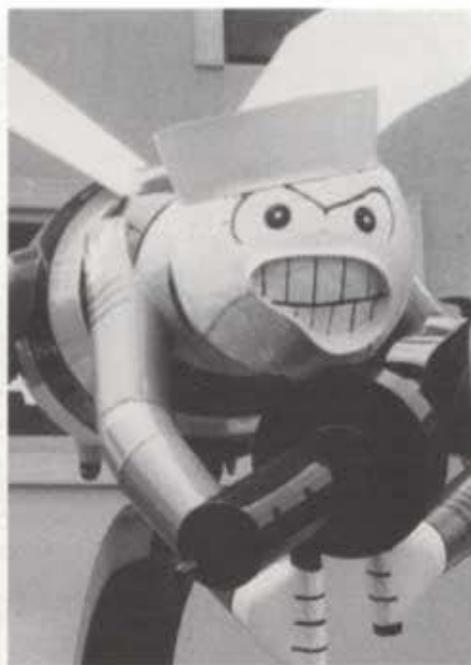


Photo by JO3 Ardelle Purcell

A conversation with Sam Christian

Curator, Seabee Branch Museum, Gulfport, Miss.

As curator for the Seabee Branch Museum at CBC Gulfport, Sam Christian gets as involved as John Langellier in the preservation of Seabee history. Christian presides over a varied and substantial collection of CEC/Seabee archives and more keeps coming in all the time. Christian enjoys a special relationship to the Beeline, in that he usually is the person who provides our "From The Archive" section in the magazine. Navy Journalist Ardelle Purcell, editor of the quarterly editions of the Beeline, caught up with Christian in May and asked him about his job at the Gulfport Museum.

Beeline: What are some interesting things you get involved in as Museum curator here at Gulfport?

Christian: I really like getting involved in the community. Three exhibits were set up at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Coliseum, I assisted the Navy Home with constructing an exhibit commemorating their 20th anniversary and I am helping Keesler AFB set up an exhibit in celebration of the USAF 50 anniversary. The most interesting though, is the visitors and listening to the stories that some of the veterans tell when they visit the museum.

Beeline: How was this Museum established and what relationship does it have with the Museum in Port Hueneme?

Christian: The CEC and Seabee Museum was started in Port Hueneme, Calif., in 1947. The CEC and Seabee Museum Gulfport is a branch of Port Hueneme and was officially opened in March 1995. Capt. William C. Hilderbrand (ret.), former commanding officer of CBC Gulfport, initiated the opening of CEC and Seabee Museum in Gulfport.

Beeline: What are some of the ways you acquire items on display here at the Museum?

Christian: Most of the artifacts come from private individual donations, from people who were in wars, Korea, Vietnam, etc. They donate books, photos and uniforms. Some artifacts come from Supply, when they are in excess or outdated. We also receive items from the head museum in Port Hueneme.



Photo by JO3 Ardelle Purcell

Top Left: Heavy equipment is featured along with many other artifacts at the Gulfport branch. Top Right: A "Fighting Bee" greets visitors at Gulfport. Above: The entry gallery at the Gulfport Branch.

Beeline: Would you consider any of the items at the Museum priceless, either in terms of historical significance or monetary value?

Christian: I consider all the artifacts priceless sentimentally and historically. As for value, we do not appraise the artifacts because there's no need to. We don't sell historical items and once they're donated they become government property.

Beeline: Which of the Museum artifacts or exhibits are your favorites?

Christian: That's a hard question to ask a curator. Every display that I put together is my favorite. My favorite time era though is World War II. The largest amount of artifacts in the museum is from that time era.

Beeline: You provide the bulk of the photos and articles for the Beeline's column, "From The Archive." How extensive is the archive that you draw from?

Christian: We have approximately 600 reference books including WWII and Vietnam cruise books. We have over 2,000 thousand photos and slides from WWII, Vietnam

and other Seabee projects. I can also go to the head branch for photos and articles or to the Navy Museum in Washington, D.C. But I haven't used them in the past for my articles.

Beeline: What types of visitors do you get here at the Museum, and how many guests do you get each year. Has the number of visitors increased over the years?

Christian: The majority of our visitors are from out of state and they are usually Seabee and Navy Veterans. The vast majority are Seabee Veterans. We have approximately 9,000 visitors each year, not including reunion groups. Since the Museum opened in March 1995, the number of visitors has increased by 23 percent. The museum is still growing and will continue to grow because we are making the public aware by posting signs about the museum on the highway, making brochures and promotional exhibits and displays.

Beeline: What are some of the more frequently asked questions that you are called upon to answer from Museum visitors?

Christian: Most of the visitors want information about a relative who served with the Seabees during WWII.

Beeline: When visitors leave the Museum, do you find yourself hoping that they go away with any particular thoughts or feelings?

Christian: I want them to have renewed memories of the time that they are interested in, or of the time that they or their loved one served in the military.

Beeline: What is in store for the Museum branch in the future, both in terms of renovations and in terms of new construction or exhibits?

Christian: An outside memorial park is in the planning stage by the Seabees Veterans of America.

Beeline: Can you make your own personal prediction as to the future of this Museum in say, ten, twenty or fifty years from now?

Christian: The future of the museum is strong and will continue to grow as long as the veterans and active Seabees have an interest in and concern for preserving their heritage.



Photo by JO3 Ardelle Purcell



Photo by JO3 Ardelle Purcell



Photo by JO3 Ardelle Purcell

Above Left: Curator Sam Christian, right, works with a Museum volunteer. Left: The entrance to the Gulfport Branch. Above: A Vietnam-era Jeep was recently added to the exhibits at Gulfport.

Naval Construction Battalion Center
Port Huenehene California
4 July, 1947

To R.S. Humes CM1C USN - for a splendid
outstanding job - Well Done

B. H. Link - Capt (CEC) USN

John W. Bard -
Richard Bard

Jeanne B. Newton
Travis Newton

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