

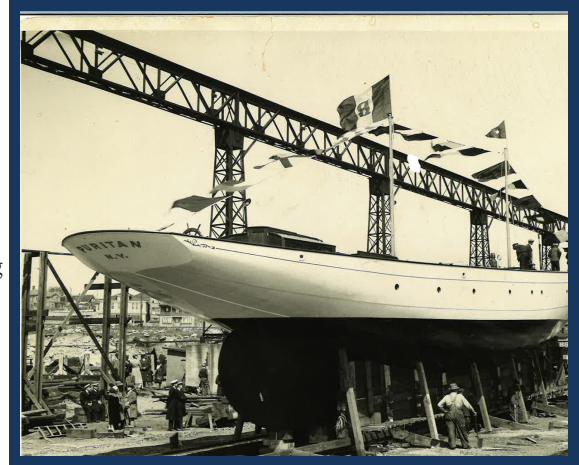


# SOUNDINGS

FEBRUARY 2023

## THE PURITAN

John G. Alden was a renowned naval architect who was best known for designing schooners influenced by fishing vessel technology at that time. Alden was known as a high-end yacht designer. In 1929, Alden would design one of the most famous sailing vessels of his career, the Puritan. She would be one of the largest schooners he would design and offer a luxurious interior floor plan. This design was known as No. 0435B.

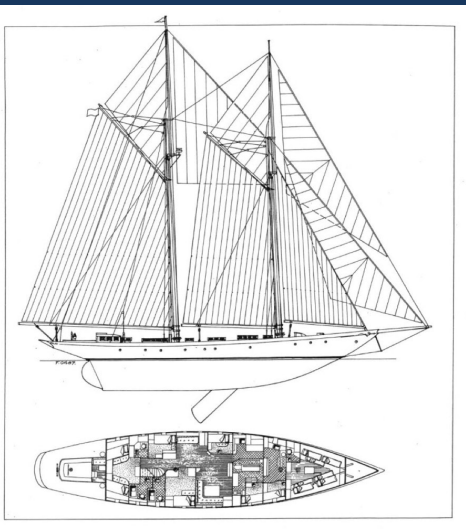


Alden initially secured funding for the Puritan from Samuel P. Curtis, a Philadelphia engineer/ financier. Soon came the October 1929 Wall Street crash, and Curtis withdrew his funding due to a loss of his fortunes. Alden would then present his plans to Edward W. Brown, a fellow New York Yacht Club member and Brown was soon on-board.

*The Puritan is in service as a charter vessel and still sails to this day.  
The Puritan reinforces EB's dedication to quality and our ship building excellence.*

The scarcity of submarine building due to the end of WW I, and the stock market collapse had added to a quiet lull at the EB yard. Then on August 12, 1930, Brown signed a contract with EB to build the Puritan, and within a month her keel was laid. Required building techniques would make EB the builder of choice for Alden's new schooner design. The Puritan would require similar craftsmanship skills already employed in the yard to build submarines. Her steel hull construction would be a mix of butt-welded and lapped seams, and required high specification steel. The Puritan would be built to stand the test of time and withstand high pressures and rough seas.

On April 25, 1931, Edward Brown's daughter; Barbara Gray, would christen her bow. The Puritan was the only pleasure boat built by the EB during that time period. The ship made its maiden voyage from New London, Connecticut to Oyster Bay.



NOM: PURITAN. • LONGUEUR HORS TOUT: 31,30 m. • LONGUEUR A LA FLOTTAISON: 27,69 m. • TIRANT D'EAU: 2,72 m. • DEPLACEMENT: N.C. • GRÉEMENT: Goélette aurique. • SURFACE DE VOILES: 370 m<sup>2</sup>. • MOTEUR: Caterpillar. • ÉMÉNAGEMENTS: Cabine, cabine d'amener, salon de jour. Quartiers d'équipage pour sept hommes. • ARCHITECTE: Alden, 1929. • CONSTRUCTION: Acier. Electric Boat Company, New London, Connecticut.

### PURITAN SPECIFICATIONS 103 FT GAFF SCHOONER

DESIGNER	JOHN G ALDEN
BUILDER	EB, GROTON, CT
DATE	1931
LENGTH OVERALL	126 FT 0 IN
LENGTH DECK	102 FT 9 IN
LENGTH WATERLINE	75 FT 6 IN
BEAM	22 FT 9 IN
DRAFT BOARD UP	9 FT 6 IN
DRAFT BOARD DOWN	14 FT 8 IN
DISPLACEMENT	127 TONS
CONSTRUCTION	STEEL
GROSS TONNAGE	83 TONS





# UPCOMING MEETINGS

**MDA-UAW  
LOCAL 571**

**Writer/Editor**

Kristen Kvist-Morrow  
kkvist@gdeb.com

**Photographers**

William E. Louis |  
blouis@snet.net

Kristen Kvist-Morrow |  
kkvist@gdeb.com

**Soundings Officer**

Amy Stephenson |  
2ndvpmduaw@  
gmail.com

**Publisher**

MDA-UAW Local 571  
uawlocal571@snet.net



## 2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

[PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT] DAVE EVANS, FINANCIAL SECRETARY;  
MARTHA FLETCHER, RECORDING SECRETARY; DAVE REAGAN, 1ST  
VP; BILL LOUIS PRESIDENT; AMY STEPHENSON, 2ND VP.;  
AND BOB FARACI, TREASURER

## 2023 RETIREE LUNCHEONS

**MAR 9** *Great Neck Country Club*

*Waterford, CT*

**APR 13** *Filomena's*

*Waterford, CT*

**MAY 11** *Richmond Country Club*

*Richmond, RI*

**JUN 8** *Great Neck Country Club*

*Waterford, CT*

**JUL 13** *Prime 82*

*Norwich, CT*

**AUG 10** *Richmond Country Club*

*Richmond, RI*

**SEP 14** *Filomena's*

*Waterford, CT*

**OCT 12** *Great Neck Country Club*

*Waterford, CT*

**NOV 9** *Prime 82*

*Norwich, CT*

**DEC 14** *Great Neck Country Club*

*Waterford, CT*

## MDA-UAW LOCAL 571 2023 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

EVENT	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Executive Board	Mar 6	3:00PM	Mystic Marriott
<b>General Membership</b>	<b>Mar 6</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Mystic Marriott</b>
Executive Board	Apr 3	3:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Council	Apr 3	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	May 8	3:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Council	May 8	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	Jun 12	3:00PM	Mystic Marriott
<b>General Membership</b>	<b>Jun 12</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Mystic Marriott</b>
Executive Board	Jul 17	3:30PM	Union Hall
Executive Board	Aug 14	3:30PM	Union Hall
Executive Board	Sep 11	3:00PM	Mystic Marriott
<b>General Membership</b>	<b>Sep 11</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Mystic Marriott</b>
Executive Board	Oct 4	3:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Council	Oct 4	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	Nov 6	3:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Council	Nov 6	4:30PM	Mystic Marriott
Executive Board	Dec 4	3:00PM	Mystic Marriott
<b>General Membership</b>	<b>Dec 4</b>	<b>4:30PM</b>	<b>Mystic Marriott</b>

### Mission Statement of the MDA-UAW Local 571

*The mission of MDA-UAW Local 571 is to serve and represent all members and their families to the best of our ability by providing work place representation, financial/job security, seniority and respect. We will achieve these goals by educating the union leadership and the membership about their roles and responsibilities in this process. We also understand that teamwork is the ability to evaluate ideas on their merit, focusing on the issue and not the person. Our teamwork starts with the membership's voice being heard which will help create an environment necessary for success. Local 571's priority is to improve the quality of life of our members and their families by maintaining the highest level of integrity in operating the union.*

*"Pride, Ownership and Accountability"*

*This newsletter will be published every other month on the MDA-UAW Web Page. We appreciate your feedback and any comments you have to make us better at how we communicate MDA-UAW news.*

**GET INVOLVED**  
*If you would like to volunteer or get involved in any of our committees, events or volunteer efforts contact, the Union Hall*



Local Union Communication Association



## JOHN F SAFFOMILLA & E.ROY COLVILLE SCHOLARSHIP NOTICE



Student applicants should take care to provide all the information requested of them on the application form. Additionally, they should check with their high school guidance departments in sufficient time prior to the deadline to ensure that their school has forwarded the required data to our scholarship committee. The deadline for the return of application forms and supporting data from school guidance departments is Friday, April 28, 2023 and this is firm.

The following guidelines will prevail in selecting the recipients and awarding the scholarships:

**1**

All applications must be received by mail only, at the MDA-UAW Local 571 Office, P. O. Box 7275, Groton, CT 06340 Attn: Recording Secretary, no later than Friday, April 28, 2023. No hand-carried applications will be accepted.

**2**

All timely applications will be reviewed and eight recipients will be selected by an impartial panel of judges non-associated with MDA Union. Incomplete or late applications will not be processed.

**3**

The scholarship awards will consist of eight awards of two thousand, five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) each.

**4**

One (1) runner-up will be selected by the impartial committee in the event one of the winners becomes disqualified.

**5**

Upon proof of enrollment, the \$2,500.00 awards will be mailed

The MDA-UAW Local 571 is pleased to announce the availability of eight (8) annual John F. Saffomilla and E. Roy Colville Scholarship Awards of \$2,500.00 each to graduating high school seniors, pursuing a higher education, who meet the qualifying guidelines.

Eligibility to apply for these scholarship awards is limited to graduating high school seniors whose parent, grand parent, or legal guardian is a Local 571 member in good standing. Applications for the scholarship awards for 2023 are available from your Grievance Representative or click [HERE](#)

Each student applicant's high school academic and social achievements are the most important considerations in choosing the winners; however, it should be noted that in the selection process a significant emphasis and/or tie breaker factor will be placed on the financial need of the students.



MDA-UAW Local 571 Union Hall, 394 Toll Gate Rd, Groton, CT 06340 (860)448-0552



### **JENNIFER GRUBE (MEMBER)**



Jennifer Grube, age 46 of Mystic, CT, passed peacefully surrounded by family, on January 20, 2023, from complications related to a chronic illness. She was a Sr Designer at EB. She had a deep love for rescue animals and was considered a loyal and trustworthy friend.



# RETIREMENT INFO

Celebrating our 25th year supporting Electric Boat Retirees!!



## Beacon

Retiree Benefits Group LLC  
AN ALERA GROUP COMPANY

Call our office today for more information at 1.888.484.0414 or email us at [info@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:info@beaconmedicare.com)



### SPECIAL INVITATION

Beacon Retiree Benefits Group invites Electric Boat Retirees to participate in a special Medicare Medical & Prescription Drug Plan...



### PROGRAM DETAILS

- This special group program is **ONLY** available to **Medicare eligible Electric Boat retirees and spouses.**
- This program was created in 1999 by your friends at the MTC, the MDA, Carpenters Union and the RSEA.
- Over 2,500 retirees & spouses participate!
- All plans, rates & benefits are the same in all 50 states!
- There are no individual plans comparable to these unique group options.

### EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

**Morning sessions start at 10AM**  
The Hilton Mystic Hotel, Mystic CT  
Wednesday, February 1, 2023  
Wednesday, March 1, 2023  
Wednesday, April 5, 2023

**Late afternoon sessions start at 4PM**  
Great Neck Country Club, Waterford, CT  
Wednesday, February 15, 2023  
Wednesday, April 19, 2023

**Refreshments will be served!**

To reserve your seat, call us at 1.888.484.0414 or email us at [RSVP@beaconmedicare.com](mailto:RSVP@beaconmedicare.com)



# IN THE KNOW

## COME HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO COMBAT HUNGER

Food insecurity is a widespread problem in the United States. The nonprofit Feeding America describes food insecurity as “a lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life.”

*1 out of 7 children in New London County doesn't know where their next meal may come from*

As prices continue to rise so does food insecurity for many families across Connecticut. In New London County, 12.2% of families face food insecurity. Connecticut has a child food insecurity rate of 12.6%, which ranks #36 highest among all states.



## Food Collection

The MDA Community Services' Committee is looking for volunteers for the food collection after the C&S food show at Mohegan Sun on March 14, 2023. Everything collected will be picked up and distributed by the Gemma E. Moran United Way food center.. If you are interested in learning more about how you can make a difference in your community please contact Jim Newman 860-433-2558 or Peter Crizer 860-433-2706.

## NEW MDA Veterans Committee designer unisex t-shirt

Working on final cost with screen printer  
Union will cover 50% of the final cost

Contact Karen Heroux @ the Union Hall 860-448-0552  
pre-order today & specify your size

**PRE-ORDER NOW !!!**



**We Take Great Pride in Our Product - MDA Local 571**



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## MDA CO-OP HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR PROGRAM

We would like to welcome the following students for being the first “Co-op” group of seniors into the MDA UAW Local 571. They will be working during school hours where they would normally be in shop. They also participated in the S.H.I.P (Summer Hire Intern Program) for 8 weeks over the past summer.



(left to right in the picture) Jomar Otero, Jaydin Lalumandier, Alejandro Rios and Camryn Hobbs

## STUDENT UNITED WAY PROGRAM OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT

The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT sponsored and hosted the Student United Way session at BioCT Innovation Commons. One of the volunteer panelists for the evening included MDA member; Joe Marmoud, an Arrangement Design Tech at Electric Boat and MDA SHIP chairman.



The Student United Way is designed to teach students about philanthropy, non-profits, and the United Way; it encourages students to interact with each other and their community, and think critically about giving, and building social capital. The group consists of 20 high school juniors and seniors from 9 area schools.

## AFL-CIO SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST 2023 WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

Each year during Workers Memorial Day ceremonies on April 28<sup>th</sup>, workers, legislators, members of organized labor unions, worker advocates and others gather to honor the memory of those workers who have lost their lives because of workplace injuries or illnesses. The ceremonies highlight the sacrifices made by these workers and of the families left behind and inspire us all to work harder on behalf of the welfare of all workers.

This year the Connecticut AFL-CIO Health and Safety Committee, as part of its efforts to “mourn the dead but fight like hell for the living”, is offering a scholarship essay contest to inspire high school seniors to think about the importance of workplace health and safety, of the consequences that arise when workers are forced to toil in unsafe working conditions and of the role that organized labor has played in protecting workers both in the past and present.

In this year’s scholarship essay contest, Connecticut high school seniors are asked to respond in 1,000 words or less to ONE of three questions with serious thought, some research (with cited sources), and, most importantly, awareness of the true cost of workplace hazards on the lives of workers.

- 1st Prize is \$1,500***
- 2nd Prize is \$1,000***
- 3rd Prize is \$500***

All entries will be judged anonymously on content, originality and clarity of vision. The winners of this contest will be asked to share a portion of their essay during our 2023 Workers Memorial Day event on Friday, April 28, 2023, at 12 pm, at the Bushnell Park Workers Memorial.

Application must be received by April 1, 2023

For additional information and application visit [HERE](#)

# RECENT RETIREES



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST MDA RETIREES

GLEN HARRIS	48 YRS	DESIGN TECH-PIPING
BONNIE MERCHANT	8 YRS	ADMIN SPECIALIST
DEBORAH ROY	46 YRS	A/A ADMIN AIDE
DAVE LANZAROTTO	39 YRS	STRCT S/DES SR SPEC
JOHN MIRSADSCHAN	44 YRS	STRCT S/DES SR SPEC
AMY CHATTEM	5 YRS	ADMIN SPECIALIST
PATRICIA CONWAY	4 YRS	STRUCT DESIGNER
JUDY KLEMP	9 YRS	ADMIN SPECIALIST
DAVID DAHL	20 YRS	COURSEWARE DEVEL
BRIAN BRIMMER	33 YRS	TECH EDITOR
WILLIAM CAPALBO	43 YRS	T/A WT/EST SR SPEC
BILL WOOD	35 YRS	MECH S/DES SR SPEC
SHARON BOGART	5 YRS	STRUCT SR DRAFT
TIM MCDONOUGH	39 YRS	MECH SR DESIGNER
WILLIAM FORSYTH	36 YRS	TEST WRITER
JOSEPH GARGANO	43 YRS	DESIGN TECH-ELECT
NICHOLAS CARCHIDI	19 YRS	PIPING SR DESIGNER
NANCY WATSON	19 YRS	ELECT S/DES SR SPEC



*Brian Mock  
42 years  
STRUCT SR DES*



*George Stankiewicz  
52 years  
STRUCT DES TECH*



*Curtis Smith  
40 years  
STRUCT SR DES/SPEC*



*John Lazur  
48 years  
ELECT DES TECH*



*Don Emmons  
47 years  
PIPE SR DES/SPEC*



*John Parfitt  
33 years  
PIPE SR DES/SPEC*

your choice  
your voice

only  
you can  
make  
the  
difference

*Come be the Difference*

Please Attend  
MDA General Membership  
Meeting and Dinner

*Mystic Marriott*

Monday, March 6, 2023  
4:30 PM

Deluxe Buffet Dinner with  
1 hour of Beverages Included

Raffles held at Event  
Bring along an MDA member that did not  
attend the December General Membership  
meeting and get a bonus raffle ticket

Please RSVP to your Union Councillor by Feb. 20th, 2023



# MDA VETERAN CONTRIBUTIONS



MDA Veteran Committee Members



\$500 donation to E. CT. Veterans Center

The MDA-UAW Local 571 recently donated over \$13,750 to Veteran Organization's from proceeds raised at the 2022 Veterans Day Cornhole Tournament and the sale of Veteran Committee challenge coins along with the MDA retirees monthly donations.

We can't thank Foxwoods enough for their support and for hosting us! We also want to thank Coastal, Thompson Speedway & Epicure Cornhole groups for their support in running the event and providing boards, stands and the electronics.

Eleven veteran organizations were presented checks from the MDA-UAW Local 571 Veterans Committee.



\$1000 donation to Groton SubVets



\$1500 donation to the CT Veteran Affairs Fisher House



\$500 donation to the Veterans Adventure Group



\$1000 donation to Veterans Equine Therapeutic



\$1500 donation to the Tunnels to Towers, NY



\$1750 donation to the Disabled American Veterans



\$1500 donation to EB Troop Support



\$500 donation to Groton Gun Club



\$2000 donation to Veterans Rally Point



\$2000 donation to American Legion



# VETERANS CORNHOLE WINNERS 2022



## SOCIAL BRACKET



**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE**



**2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE**



**3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE**

## COMPETITIVE BRACKET



**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE**



**2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE**



**3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE**

## ADVANCED BRACKET



**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE**



**2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE**



**3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE**

Tuesday 1/10/23 was an absolutely AMAZING DAY. I get a call from my friend and army veteran Tom Montgomery and President William Louis, from the UAW MDA Local 571. Back in November Tom had reached out to me for raffle prizes for their awesome annual cornhole tournament that was being held at Foxwoods casino . Not knowing the magnitude that it would lead up to this day. Yesterday both these gentlemen came down to the restaurant and presented me and my organization Veterans Equine Therapeutic Services with a \$1000.00 check . Tom kept saying I told you I was in a position to help you. Most talk the talk but this organization right here, they walk the walk. I am deeply grateful and humbled by this gesture and helping our veteran nonprofit organization . Thank you so very much and look forward to helping each other again.

Nik Alevras on behalf of Veterans Equine Services

The Groton Sportsman Club is very humbled at being chosen as one of the organizations to receive a portion of the monies raised and would like to take this opportunity to thank the Brothers and Sisters of the MDA-UAW Local 571 for their generosity.

Groton Sportsmen's Club President Thomas Phelps



# SALUTE TO OUR MDA VETERANS



**Jack Bond**  
MDA Retiree

**UNITED STATES NAVY**

**HOMETOWN: LOWELL, MA**

**TORPEDOMAN**

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:**

Joined delay entry program

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

**MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:** Qualified in Submarines, Navy Unit Citation, and Sea Service Medal

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):** USS Jack SSN 605, Groton SubBase

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

The USS Jack (SSN-605), a Permit-class submarine in commission from 1967 to 1990, was the second ship of the United States Navy to be named for the jack, a name of fish applied to any young pike, large California rockfish, or green pike or pickerel. She saw extensive service during the Cold War. She had an experimental direct-drive plant with two contra-rotating propellers on concentric shafts. This allowed the propellers to be smaller and thus make less noise.



**Keith Santor**  
Mech Sr Design/Spec, D453

**UNITED STATES ARMY**

**HOMETOWN: NORWICH, CT**

**11B INFANTRY**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 5 years

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:**

I felt that the military was the best path for me at that time.

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Fort Benning, GA

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):**

Fort Campbell, KY

**RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

SGT, I am proud that I earned my rank as a leader in the Infantry

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

While overseas, one of my company's missions was to provide security and supplies to a local elementary school and community. Providing a safe place for the locals to gather, get an education, and access the supplies they may have needed was a reassurance our company had a solid mission.



**Marilynn Raptis**  
PC Tech Aide, D491

**UNITED STATES NAVY (ACTIVE & RESERVE) AND ARMY NATIONAL GUARD**

**HOMETOWN: MYRTLE CREEK, OR**

**INFO SYSTEMS TECH**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 3 years Navy, 1 yr Army Nat Guard, and 20 yrs Naval Reserve (active)

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:** - I grew up in a small town in Oregon, and wanted to serve and be a part of something bigger than myself.

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Orlando, FL

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):** Norfolk, VA ; Pt.

Loma California; San Diego, CA; Pearl Harbor, HI; Yokosuka, Japan; Naples, Italy

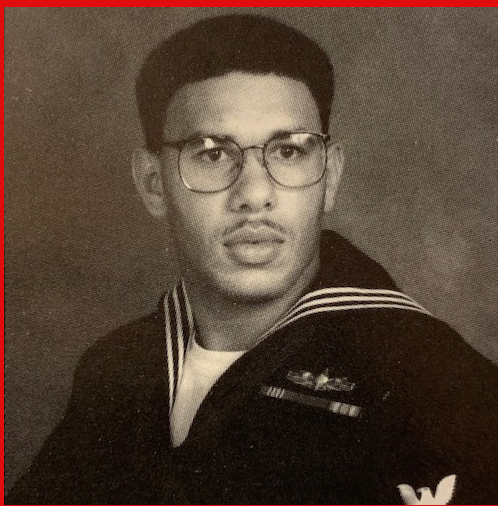
**RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

Chief Petty Officer, E7 ITC

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

On a quiet morning, I was standing look out on our bridge wing, I saw something like a hazy blob just past the horizon and verified bearing and approx. distance, and called it in to the bridge. At first they thought I was nuts but I stood my ground. Turned out to be the USS America at 33,000 yards!

# SALUTE TO OUR MDA VETERANS



**Nelson Quinones**  
Technical Writer, D403

**UNITED STATES NAVY**

**HOMETOWN:** BROOKLYN, NY

**AIR TACTICAL CONTROLLER, INSTRUCTOR**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 10 years

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:** My

Grandfather who was a Merchant Marine, and 3  
Uncles served during Vietnam War

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

**MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:**

Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist, National  
Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service  
Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Meritorious  
Unit Commendation, Naval Unit Commendation

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):**

USS John L. Hall (FFG-32) Mayport, FL, Norfolk,  
VA, Aegis Training Center, Dahlgren, VA, USS  
Normandy (CG-60) Staten Island, NY

**YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

Operations Specialist Petty Officer First Class

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

2 time Plankowner on USS John L Hall (FFG-32)  
and USS Normandy(CG-60), Desert Storm Vet



**Richard Schneider**  
Admin Specialist, D458

**UNITED STATES NAVY**

**HOMETOWN:** CLEVELAND, OH

**PERSONNELMAN**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 9 1/2 years

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:**

Needed to grow and find my place in the world

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

**MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:**

National Defense Medal, Southwest Asia Service  
Medal, Good Conduct medal

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):**

USS Trenton LPD, 14 USS Saginaw LST 1188,  
New London Subase

**RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

Personnelmen Third Class

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

Was proud to be part of Desert Shield/Storm.



**John Ruddock**  
MDA Retiree

**UNITED STATES ARMY**

**HOMETOWN:** WOOD RIVER JUNCTION, RI

**MILITARY POLICE**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 2 years

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:**

I was drafted

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Fort Riley, Kansas

**MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:** Good Conduct

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):** Fort Riley, Fort  
Jackson, and Fort McCoy

**RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

SP4

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

Met my future wife



# SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



**Wayne Burgess**  
Retired

**UNITED STATES NAVY**

**HOMETOWN: QUAKER HILL, CT**

**FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE: 4 years**

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:**

I considered it my responsibility to serve in the Vietnam War

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

**MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:**

Vietnam Campaign, National Defense and Vietnam Service Medals

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):** Coronado CA, Pearl

Harbor with 3 deployments to Vietnam

**RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

3rd Class Petty Officer

**MY MILITARY STORY:** I served on the USS Taylor DD468 during the Vietnam War. We were in the Sea of Japan and we had a huge Russian destroyer coming just yards from our fantail. We went to General quarters and manned battle stations. We had no damage but our sister ship was rammed. The Russians blamed us and billed the Navy for damage to their Whale Boat.

**U.S. ARMY**



**VETERAN**

**Josef Knetts**  
Technical Writer, D403

**UNITED STATES ARMY NAT GUARD**

**HOMETOWN: STONINGTON, CT**

**FUEL & ELECTRIC REPAIR TECH**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE: 8 years**

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:**

To help pay for my college

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Fort Knox, Kentucky

**MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:**

ARCOM, Iraq Campaign Medal

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):**

Camp Hartel, Windsor Locks, CT

**RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

E-4 Specialist, Rebuild/Repair Squadron Ldr

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

At an annual training (AT) in the Mojave Desert in 2001, I troubleshot/repairs a wiring harness on a Hum-vee in 20 minutes that the regular Army had worked on for weeks but couldn't solve.

I was awarded the ARCOM (Army Commendation Medal) for my efforts in that AT, pinned by a full-bird Colonel at Ft. Irwin, CA.



**Michael Edem**  
Mech Designer, D453

**UNITED STATES ARMY/RA**

**HOMETOWN: RHODE ISLAND**

**AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY - 1<sup>ST</sup> CALVARY**

**LENGTH OF SERVICE: 1 year 9 months**

**WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:**

Wanted to save money for college.

**LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:**

Fort Biss, Texas

**MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:**

Rifle Sharpshooter, Grenade Expert

**STATIONED LOCATION(S):**

Fort Hood, Texas - 1st Calvary

**RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:**

PFC

**MY MILITARY STORY :**

I became a Disabled Veteran (DVA) before my separation service date. Been a DVA ever since.

# SALUTE OUR MDA VETERANS



**U.S. NAVY**



**VETERAN**

**Richard Goldman**  
Tech Writer SR Spec, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: LOS ANGELES, CA

ELECTRICIANS MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 20 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

The Draft

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

San Diego, California

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Vietnam Service, Vietnam Campaign w/3 stars,

Meritorious Unit Commendation

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Long Beach, Holy Loch, Groton, Kings Bay and Charleston

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

P01

MY MILITARY STORY :

I re-enlisted on a float tethered to a mine-sweeper in the Mekong Delta

**U.S. ARMY**



**VETERAN**

**James Roselund**  
Tech Aide Optical Tool, D467

UNITED STATES ARMY

HOMETOWN: EAST LYME, CT

AIRBORNE INFANTRY

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 3.5 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

Dick Cheney

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Fort Benning, Georgia

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Bragg, Haiti, Iraq, Afghanistan

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

Private



**Dennis Latz**  
Technical Writer, D403

UNITED STATES NAVY

HOMETOWN: ROCHESTER, NY

MACHINIST MATE

LENGTH OF SERVICE: 6 years

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO JOIN:

My father was in the Navy during WW II

LOCATION OF BASIC TRAINING/BOOT CAMP:

Recruit Training Center (RTC), Great Lakes, IL

MEDALS/CITATIONS EARNED:

Two Vietnam era medals

STATIONED LOCATION(S):

Mare Island, CA; Alameda Naval Air Station, CA; Idaho Falls, Idaho; Newport, RI; Submarine Base, New London, CT

RANK YOU ARE MOST PROUD TO EARN:

MM1 (SS)

MY MILITARY STORY :

The day I was to be discharged, I reported to personnel desk in my civilian clothes' and he sent me home to change into my uniform before he would discharge me. It didn't make much sense at the time. Makes more sense now.