

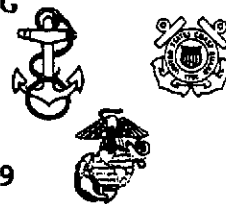


FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING ALL ENLISTED PERSONNEL USN - USMC - USCG

AKRON-CANTON BRANCH 324

MARCH 2003 EDITOR--GENE BRYAN



PRESIDENT: SAMUEL VECHTER, 3589 SR 225, DIAMOND, OH 44412 PH# 330-654-5045
VICE PRES: RAY "BOATS" TAYLOR, 1615 ALDEN AVE SW, CANTON, OH 44706 PH# 330-452-36 39
SECRETARY: H GENE BRYAN, 250 PERRY DR NW, CANTON, OH 44708 PH# 330-477-5998
TREASURER: H. GENE BRYAN

NEXT MEETING:ATTENTION**ATTENTION**** Will be held on SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2003 at the Army Reserve Training Center, 3120 Parkway St. NW, Canton, Ohio.
NOTE: Doors will open at 12:30PM, meeting starting at 1:30PM. Americanism Essay Awards will be presented to the Students in the Drill Hall AT 3:00PM. Show your support by attending this awards presentation.

AMERICANISM ESSAY AWARDS: Theme; "What was the impact of the Louisiana Purchase". First place winners will receive a \$100.00 Savings Bond, Second place winners will receive a \$50.00 Savings Bond.

1st PLACE
12th Grade; Nick McGregor
Canton Central Catholic H.S.
11th Grade: Valerie Lane
Jackson H.S.
9th Grade: Stephanie Michl
Ellet H.S.
8th Grade: Georgia T. Saftarides
Taft Middle School
7th Grade: Rachel Logan
Jackson Middle School

2nd PLACE
12th Grade: Jessica Josefczyk
Canton Central Catholic H.S.
11th Grade: Brian Smith
Canton Central Catholic H.S.
9th Grade: Kristyne Lowe
Unable to order Bond, no SS#
8th Grade: Karey Morris
Unable to order Bind, no SS#
7th Grade: Sarah Engmark
Jackson Middle School



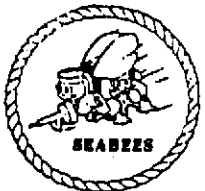
IN MEMORIAM

SWAIM, WILBER B., LT USN RET. of North Canton, OH. Joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander January 8, 2003. He had been a continuous member since September 1969. To his Wife and Family we extend our heartfelt sympathy.
THE TOLLOF THE SHIP'S BELL REMINDES US OF THE REVERENCE WE OWE TO OUR DEPARTED SHIPMATES.



MEMBERSHIP: We have 187 Total members in good Standing, 0 Past Due. THANKS to the following who have renewed: Gene A Barker, Earl Blackstone 2yrs, Linwood E Davenport, Richard R Fenton and John R Morris. We have seven Shipmates that need to renew. Please check your Membership Card or the label on your newsletter, your experation date is in the upper right hand corner. Send your dues(with your membership number to) **FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION, PO BOX 10435, DES MOINES, IA, 50306-9474.** Or check with the Branch Secretary.

COAST GUARD: Offically moves to "Homeland Security". FRA National Executive Secretary, Joe Barnes was on hand for the Coast Guard "Change of Watch" Ceremony where Secretary of Treasurer-Norman Y Mineta of his Department's oversight of the Nations 5th Armed Service. Last year President Bush signed Legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security, bringing together the Coast Guard and more than 20 other Federal Agencies. The offial transfer date to the new Department is 1 March.



5th
U.S. Navy Seabee's
Birthday (1942)

RELOCATION OF DFAS SERVICES: The Defense and Accounting Service is consolidating Annuity and Retired Pay Services and has relocated their respective Mailrooms. All annuity pay correspondence, form and requests for information should be mailed to Defense Finance and Accounting Services, U.S. Military Annuant Pay, P.O. Box 7131, London, KY 40742-7131, or fax to 1-800-982-8459. All correspondence, form and requests for information regarding **MILITARY RETIRED PAY** should be mailed to Defense Finance and Accounting Service, U.S. Military Retirement Pay, P.O. Box 7130, London, KY 40724-7130 or fax to 10800-321-1080, where customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday, 7)AM to 7:30PM (EST)

TRICARE FOR LIFE - WHO PAYS WHAT? a one liner..TELL YOUR DOCTOR OR PROVIDER TO BILL MEDICARE...Period.The "Payors" under Tricare for Life Program are MEDICARE and TRICARE: TRICARE for LIFE pays nothing.

1. For services paid by both MEDICARE and TRICARE, Medicare will pay first and the remaining out-of-pocket expenses will be paid by TRICARE.
2. For services payable by TRICARE, but not Medicare, such as overseas care, TRICARE will pay the same as if you were under age 65. You will be responsible for the TRICARE annual deductible and cost share.
3. For services payable by Medicare but not TRICARE, such as chiropractic services, Medicare will pay as usual, but TRICARE will pay nothing. You will be responsible for Medicare co-pays.
4. For services not payable by TRICARE or Medicare, you are entirely responsible for the medical bill. Remember, tell your provider to **BILL MEDICARE** That is all the provider has to do.

TRICARE MAIL ORDER PHARMACY: provider will change to "**EXPRESS SCRIPTS**" as of March 1 2003. Call Toll Free 866-363-8667. Web site www.express-scripts.com. Additional information will be mailed to beneficiaries after 1 Feb. 2003. Only people who have been using the mail order Pharmacy will receive the new booklet and order forms from "**EXPRESS SCRIPTS**." Order forms can be downloaded from their website or they can be obtained by calling 866-363-8667 for those living within the USA. Those overseas should call 866-275-4732.

SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE PART B. Q. I didn't take Medicare Part B when I turned 65 last February, but now I learned I should have taken it. Can I get it now. A. The good news is that your in luck because the annual Medicare enrollment window is about to open. People who turn down the part B of Medicare at their 65th birthday but change their minds later on can apply for the program only during the first three months of each year. So you have from Jan. 1 through March 31 to file for Medicare part B. you can do so by calling us at 1-800-772-1213. The bad news is that you pay a slight penalty for delayed enrollment. An extra 10% is tacked on to the monthly premium that's deducted from your Social Security check. The normal part B premium rate for 2003 is \$58.70. My calculator says you'll be paying about \$64.60 for your Medicare coverage.

ENLISTMENT SHORT TERM: A new military short term enlistment program will begin Oct. 1 aimed at expanding the opportunities for all Americans to serve the Country. Congress authorized the National Call to Service enlistment option as part of the fiscal Yr 2003 National Defense Authorization Act. This would allow the Military Services a new option to reach a group of young Americans who might not serve due to length of traditional enlistment options. The Recruit enlists for 15 Months active duty after Recruit training. Then they may reenlist or transfer to selected Reserve for 24 MO. obligation. Once completed they may stay in selected Reserve or transfer to individual ready Reserve for the remainder of their eight-year commitments.