



NEWS RELEASE FROM THE NORTHWEST PUBLIC AFFAIRS/COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 5, 2014

Contact: Leslie Yuenger

E-mail: [leslie.yuenger@navy.mil](mailto:leslie.yuenger@navy.mil)

Voice: 360-396-6387

Fax: 360-396-0855

1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 207A

Silverdale, Washington 98315-1101

## SEABEES CELEBRATE 72 YEARS

SILVERDALE, Wash. – The Seabees of Naval Maintenance Construction Battalion 303 Detachment, and the Officers, Seabees and civilian employees of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest are hosting a Ball on Friday March 14<sup>th</sup>.

“Celebrating and honoring our Seabee heroes, “Past, Present and Future” is a time-honored tradition with the Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps, and I look forward to this event each year.” said Capt. Chris LaPlatney, commanding officer of NAVFAC Northwest.

Our guest speaker is Mrs. Joan Shields-Bennett, widow of Constructionman Third Class Petty Officer Marvin G. Shields, who was the first Sailor killed in 1965 while deployed to Vietnam. Shields-Bennett and daughter Barbara received the posthumously awarded Congressional Medal of Honor presented by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966.

This years’ ball will be held at the Baymont Inns & Suites in Bremerton and will begin with a cocktail hour at 5:00 p.m. All active-duty, reserve and retired Seabees and Civil Engineer Corps Officers are invited to attend. For ticket information please contact NAVFAC Northwest Public Affairs Officer at (360)0396-6387 before the 14<sup>th</sup>.

-30-

---

***Naval Facilities Engineering Command: The Facilities and Expeditionary Combat Systems Command***

NAVFAC is the Systems Command that delivers and maintains quality, sustainable facilities, acquires and manages capabilities for the Navy's expeditionary combat forces, provides contingency engineering response, and enables energy security and environmental stewardship. Additional updates and information about NAVFAC can be found on social media sites Facebook and Twitter. Become a Fan at [www.facebook.com/navfac](http://www.facebook.com/navfac) and follow us at [www.twitter.com/navfac](http://www.twitter.com/navfac)