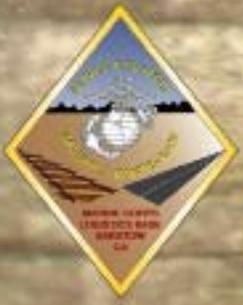


# PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow



Vol. 1, No. 2

February 9, 2012



## On The Cover:

Lance Cpl. Kellby Gietl, a landing support specialist with Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, waves on traffic during a training exercise held Feb. 2 aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's Yermo Annex. While at MCLB Barstow, Gietl, a Springfield, Ill. native, conducted traffic control and checked vehicles exiting the base to ensure they were included on the manifest during the exercise.

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## THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California  
Colonel Daniel P. Ermer, Commanding Officer  
Sgt. Maj. Donovan White

The editorial content of this magazine is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer, Attn: Public Affairs, Box 110130, Barstow, CA 92311-5050. The Public Affairs Office is located in Building 204. Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6450, 577-6451, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282. This magazine is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of **THE PROSPECTOR** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Marine Corps.



Photo By Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker

Captain Shawn Cash, commanding officer of Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow (right), announces Cpl. Darlene Diaz (left) as Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's Marine of the Year during the 31st annual Barstow Community Recognition Banquet at the Cora Harper Community Center, Jan. 28. During the banquet the city recognized service members of the year for MCLB Barstow and soldiers and airmen of National Training Center Fort Irwin along with other prominent members of Barstow's community over the past year.

## On the web

### Website:

<http://www.marines.mil/unit/mclbbarstow/pages/default.aspx>

### Follow us on:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314>

[http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB\\_Barstow](http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow)





Photo by Curt Lambert

Capt. Benjamin T. Mencke, energy officer, Public Works, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, explains to Maj. Gen. James A. Kessler, commanding general for Marine Corps Installations Command, the control system of the wind turbine on MCLB Barstow, Feb. 2.

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### Annual Notification of Right to Representation

Pursuant to Section 7114(a)(2)(b) of Title V, U.S. Code, as amended by the Civil Service Reform Act (PL 95-454) this is to inform you that AFGE Local 1482 shall be given the opportunity to be represented at any examination of a bargaining unit employee by a management representative in connection with an investigation if:

- (a) The employee reasonably believes that the examination may result in disciplinary action against the employee; AND
- (b) The employee requests representation

For more information contact Esther V. Gonzales, manager, Human Resources Office at (760) 577-6479.

### MCLB Child Development Center

The Child Development Center aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow has announced sponsorship of the Child and Adult Care Food Program

(CACFP). The program is available without charge to all enrolled children.

For more information, contact Kristi Baker at (760) 577-6287.

### Energy Tip

The energy experts at [www.cape-town.gov.za](http://www.cape-town.gov.za) remind us that thick frost on chilling panels reduces a fridges and freezer's cooling ability. If you do not have a frost-free model, defrost your fridge or freezer when frost is between .25" to .5" thick. Empty, switch off and clean your fridge before going on a long holiday. This is another Green Energy Tip from your MCLB Energy Team.

### Tax Tip

If you serve in a combat zone as an enlisted person or as a warrant officer for any part of a month, all your military pay received for military service that month is not taxable. For officers, the monthly exclusion is capped at the highest enlisted pay, plus any hostile fire or imminent danger pay received. Military personnel serving aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow who

need help preparing their tax returns can contact the Staff Judge Advocate's office at 577-6874.

### Going Green

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission at [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov), warns if lead paint is present in your home clean up paint chips immediately. Clean surfaces frequently with a cleaner made specifically for lead. Wash children's hands often. Keep children from chewing on painted surfaces. Remove shoes before entering your home to avoid tracking in lead from soil.

### Today in U.S.M.C. history

**Feb. 9, 1948 :** The first Marine helicopters, the Sikorsky H-5's, were delivered to the Corps.

### Burn Your Own Steak and Family Dining Nights

Everyone is invited to "Burn Your Own Steak Night" and "Family Dining Nights" at the Major General James L. Day Conference Center and Sugar Loaf Hill Bar. Burn Your Own Steak and Family Dining Nights start at 4:30 and run until 8 p.m. The Sugar Loaf Hill Bar will be open as well but only on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Burn Your Own Steak Night on Tuesdays- Pricing: Active Duty \$10.95; Civilian \$12.95 Family Dining on Thursdays-Pricing: Military \$6.50, children ages 5-12 years \$6.50; civilian \$7.25, (children under five are free). For questions or comments, call 577-6296.

### Story Time

It's story time every Tuesday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Come to the library, McTureous Hall Building 218, for our weekly story time. We will have crafts, puppets, and great stories. For more information, contact the library at 577-6395 or email at [LibraryBarstow@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:LibraryBarstow@usmc-mccs.org). Visit our website [www.mccsbarstow.com/library](http://www.mccsbarstow.com/library).

### Semper Fit Group Exercise/Fitness Fees

Effective Feb.1 Semper Fit will begin charging a fee of \$25 per month for civilians and dependents for group exercise classes. Fees will be due by the third of each month. Participants may attend any class for the current month for which they are paying. The fee is \$3 per class for those who prefer to pay on a per class basis, Active Duty military attendees are free. Call 577-6543 or 577-6817 with any questions or concerns.

### Victim Advocate Program

A presentation on victim advocacy services offered by Marine and Family Services takes place March 20 at 10:30 a.m. in McTureous Hall classroom, Bldg. 218. The discussion will show how VAs represent the interests of all victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. Emphasis is on VA information and services. Contact Michelle Lawing, Victim Advocate, for more information at Marine and Family Programs Division at 577-6533 or stop by Bldg 129.

### Personal and Professional Development Program

MCLB Barstow Military Family Scholarship. Military spouses and dependents at MCLB Barstow who have applied to Park University within the last year can apply for this scholarship for 15 free credit hours. Applicants will need three letters of recommendation and official transcripts. Stop by the Park University office in Bldg. 218 for a complete list of requirements and an application packet. Deadline is April 1. For more information contact (760) 256-8811.

### CPR/First Aid class

CPR/First Aid class scheduled for Feb. 23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Desert View Housing Community Center. Open to all MCLB patrons. The class is \$20 per person. For more information and to register, call 577-6408.

### STAY IN THE LOOP!

Visit [www.mccsbarstow.com](http://www.mccsbarstow.com) or pick up a Quarterly Connection Magazine at any of your MCCS facilities.

# National Black History Month Observance

According to *MARADMIN 020/12*

**B**lack History Month originated as Negro History Week in 1926 through the leadership of historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Dr. Woodson, founder of the association for the study of African American Life and History (ASALH), sought to create an observance to recognize and honor the heritage, accomplishments and contributions made by African Americans to American society.

The 2012 Black History Month theme is "Black Women in American Culture and History." This year's theme is in honor of the efforts of women of African descent who have played a myriad of roles in helping to shape our nation. These women of

indomitable strength have all enriched the nation through their leadership, patriotism, intellect and artistic expression.

In American history only a few of the many accomplishments of black women are common knowledge. The prominent and familiar names of Phillis Wheatley, Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells and Rosa Parks are widely known for enormous contributions to the black community and America as a whole. However, as equally important, are the contributions of black women Marines who blazed new trails in the traditions of American public service. Women such as Annie Neal Graham who was the first black female to enlist in the Marine Corps; Captain Vernice Armour, the Corps' first black female pilot and

its' first female combat pilot, and Colonel Gilda Jackson who became the first black female colonel and first female to command the Naval Aviation Depot Cherry Point.

To enrich our understanding of the history of Black Americans is to broaden our understanding of our nation's history, as the two are inextricably linked. During National African American History Month, commanders are encouraged to take the time to recognize and celebrate the dedicated service and contributions of African Americans, both past and present. Commanders are further encouraged to conduct programs and promote participation in observance of events at their commands and in the local community.

## CDC open house exhibits new teaching tech

By **Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker**  
Combat Correspondent

While our generation finds items like slate tablets or the abacus to be teaching tools of the past, the next generation may start to find our chalk boards and audiotapes primitive.

The Child Development Center aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow held an open house Jan. 24, to all employees of the base to showcase the many programs the CDC has to offer.

The event proved to be a night filled with valuable information given to base employees, families and friends who attended the open house.

The CDC is open to all active-duty personnel, Department of Defense civilian employees, and DoD contractors who have children between the ages of six weeks to five years. The purpose of the open house was to highlight its incorporation of technology to the children's curriculum and answer any questions the guests had about the CDC.

"We wanted to let the parents of the kids here know what their kids were doing, how they were learning, and what tools they were using to learn," explained Carey Carr, director of the CDC. "We also used it to inform them of our accreditation through NAEYC [National Association for the Education of Young Children]," she added.

NAEYC is the world's largest organization working for children's education. The program was founded in 1926 and has more than 80,000

members.

"DoD policy states we need to have our center accredited through NAEYC and we let the guests here tonight know this," Carr said. "It's good for them to know what our standards are and where they come from," she added.

Some of the parents in attendance were impressed with the CDC's focus for high standards.

"It was good to learn about the standards they have to meet being a part of NAEYC," said Jessica Cochran, a mother of one of the children at the CDC. "I'm glad my kid is at a place that has to meet higher standards than others," she added.

During the open house, employees of the

CDC explained to their guests the importance the role of using new pieces of technology with their classes played in the children's educational development. Taylor Cardova, a program assistant with the CDC, told the attendees about some of the capabilities their equipment holds.

Cardova described one piece of technology they've recently begun using, the smartboard. Cardova showed the parents how the board works as a dry-erase board but doubles as a large and interactive computer screen by allowing the children to actively use it while the adults observed.

The incorporation of technology not available to the parents during their time in grade school left guests impressed.

"I really like the idea of them using the smart boards and computers for class," said David Cochran, a heavy mobile equipment mechanic at Maintenance Center Barstow aboard the base. "It keeps things up-to-date with what the kids are being taught and it shows new ways for the kids to learn while having fun," he said.

The open house left a lasting impression on its guests. Those parents with children already enrolled in the CDC programs left having no doubt their kids were in good hands.

"It looks like a great program for the kids to get ready for kindergarten," Mr. Cochran said. He explained that he has nieces and nephews at the CDC as well, and all his friends with children there have said nothing but good things about it. "It's good to know how well things are going there," he concluded.



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker

Taylor Cardova, a program assistant with the Child Development Center explains to parents the functions of their smartboard, in their efforts to incorporate more technology into their curriculum.

# True hero says farewell to beloved C

By Sgt. Shannon E. Yount  
Press Chief

**F**rozen moments depicted by numerous framed photos and other trinkets of success adorned the walls of his office.

On the surface, they represent a timeline of honorable service, but beneath them lay the true meaning of honor, courage and commitment.

When looking back on his extensive military career, with a smile on his face, Sgt. Maj. Donovan G. White Jr. can only say, "I wouldn't change a thing."

White's military career began 30 years ago, when he stepped on the yellow footprints at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island on May 5, 1982.

It wasn't until his younger brother graduated from basic training, that White wanted to join the toughest military institute. He explained his desire to be a part of the culture of such a fine organization.

After graduating from basic training and infantry training school (ITS), White reported to 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, where he served as a mortar-man.

"I came in as open contract to be an infantry man," said White. "I guess they thought I was smart enough to be a

mortar-man," laughed the native of Winter Haven, Fla.

In February 1983, White was on his first deployment with Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 2/6, which deployed with the 22nd Marine Amphibious Unit, aboard the USS Raleigh LPD-1.

"We were doing a routine cruise (in the Mediterranean Sea) when we were re-routed to Beirut, Lebanon," he said.

White explained that when the ship arrived on shore, the Marines immediately became part of the Multi-National Peace-keeping Forces. As a part of the peace-keeping force, his responsibility wasn't his military occupational specialty, but instead he provided security and conducted patrols around the compound, checkpoints and BLT area of responsibility.

Thirty minutes after White's shift ended at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, it was bombed by terrorists.

"It could have been me, I could have been in there when it was bombed,"



Sgt. White poses for a photo.

Photo courtesy of Sgt. Maj. Donovan G. White Jr.

barracks bombing in Beirut on Oct. 23, 1983. As the forward recovery operations for those affected by the attack and his unit provided security stateside because of the loss of U.S. troops.

According to the Arlington National Cemetery website,

*"I can't imagine who I would be if I didn't join the Marine Corps," he said. "I can see myself being retired, but I couldn't imagine what I might have done had I not joined the Corps."*

-Sgt. Maj. Donovan G. White Jr.

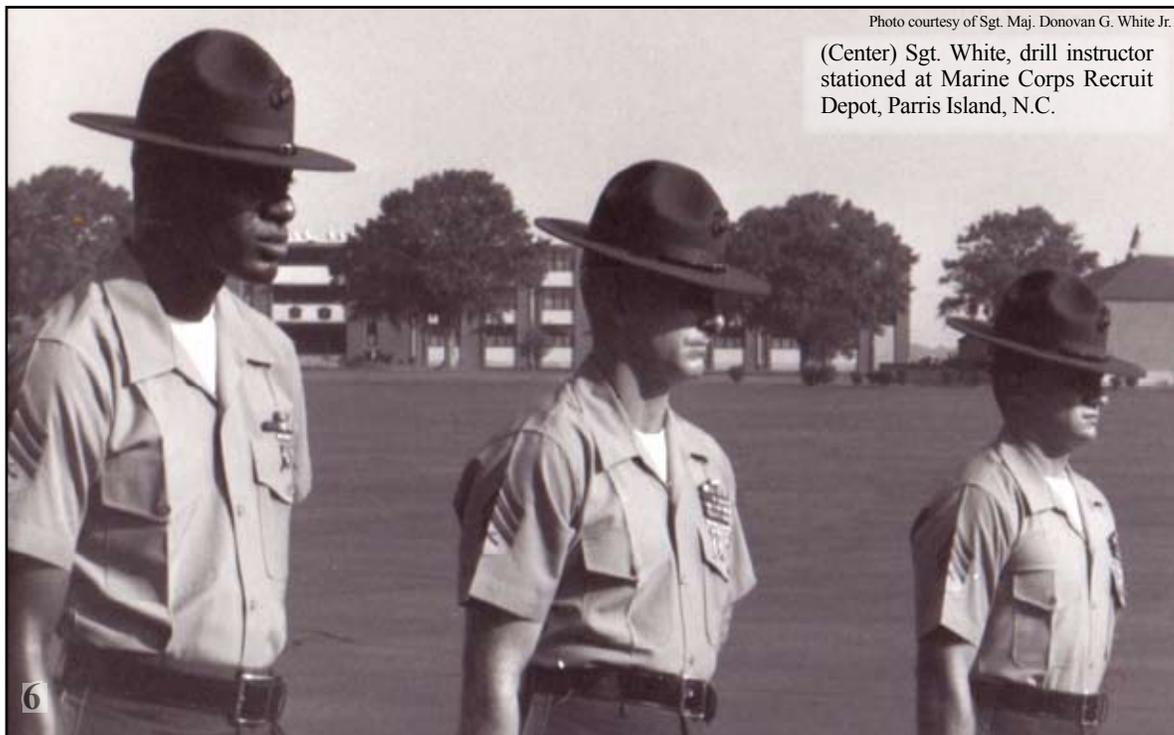


Photo courtesy of Sgt. Maj. Donovan G. White Jr.

(Center) Sgt. White, drill instructor stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, N.C.

bombing occurred when two separate buildings that were home to U.S. and French military forces and Islamic Jihad Organization members were destroyed. The death toll at the Marine barracks was 220 Marines, sailors and three soldiers. It was a single-day loss of life for Marines that surpassed the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II.

Many of White's friends were serving in Beirut with the 1st Marine Division, 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division. The attack occurred.

Remembering that day brought back memories for White. "I lost a lot of Marines over there," and as he said that his eyes were filled with pain. The kind of anguish only a tragedy of that magnitude could explain.

In May 1985, Cpl. White returned to the Marine Corps Security Force, where he served as a Corporal, Sergeant of the Guard, and Sergeant of the Guard unit's Color Sergeant.

Participating in security

# Corps

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Gunnery Sgt. White salutes a Navy officer while stationed at the Naval Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla.

Photo courtesy of Sgt. Maj. Donovan G. White Jr.



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operations were becoming fairly routine for White, as he completed tours at the U.S. naval station in the Panama Canal and at the Arraijan Tank Farm near Howard Air Force Base in the Republic of Panama.

In July 1986, Cpl. White was selected as the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year for 1986, representing Marine Forces Security Forces, Republic of Panama and the following month he was meritoriously promoted to sergeant.

"I felt honored to be NCO of the Year," stated White, especially because his unit recommended him for the recognition.

White believes he was nominated for the prestigious title because of his motivation, maturity and dedication to the Marines.

A pure example of these traits was when, then-Cpl. White, noticed a Marine standing under a shed that was barely keeping him dry from the rain. Without being told to do so, White took the initiative and built a new guard post that provided better shelter, during his off-duty time.

On the morning of Aug. 2, 1990, Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein sent invading forces of more than 120,000 troops into Kuwait. This action caused

the United Nations to quickly respond with condemning the invasion and the U.S. military supported the efforts by defending Saudi Arabia. Shortly after, White deployed to Kuwait with BLT, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division in support of Operation Desert Shield.

Though it was a challenging environment, White didn't let that stop him from enjoying the time spent with his Marines.

"The value of serving with Marines and striving through hardships and victories to build camaraderie is a value I carry with me," expressed White.

Shortly after redeploying stateside, Sgt. White was given the opportunity to fulfill yet another dream.

Prior to picking up sergeant, the Marine Corps was accepting drill instructor packages for corporals to serve on the drill field. By the time White submitted his package, however, the Marine Corps was no longer accepting them.

"I got my opportunity after Desert Shield when my commanding officer asked me if I wanted to become a drill instructor," he said. "I told him, I always wanted to become a drill instructor."

White explained that his desire to serve on the drill field came from wanting

to give something back. He wanted to see the same pride develop in young men just as it did for him, when he graduated from basic training.

"It really doesn't hit you, until you graduate your first platoon," he said. "You get a new sense of accomplishment."

While stationed at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, White was promoted to staff sergeant and served as the Senior Drill Instructor for Physical Conditioning Platoon and as Senior Drill Instructor in Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion.

Becoming a drill instructor wasn't solely for the gratification of training new Marines; actually it wasn't about him at all. White explained being a drill instructor was about carrying on Marine Corps traditions and legacies that will live on long after he is gone.

In February 1994, Staff Sgt. White deployed with 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, as part of the Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force, in support of Operation Support Democracy in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

In November 1996, White again de-

## SGTMAJ from page 7

ployed with BLT 1/8, this time serving with the 26th MEU and participating in Operation Silver Wake.

“We were on liberty in Greece when we got called back to the ship,” he explained.

White and a squad of Marines left in the middle of the night to conduct a non-combatant evacuation operation at the U.S. Embassy in Tirana, Albania.

“We held the compound for a couple of days with just a squad until our reinforcements came in to support,” said White. “We were there to rescue and protect American citizens and get them out of harm’s way.”

More than 900 personnel were evacuated during the course of that operation.

Moving closer to home, Gunnery Sgt. White received orders to Naval Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Fla. in the summer of 1998. White served as a class drill instructor, battalion chief instructor and primary instructor for physical training at the schoolhouse.

Instructing in Pensacola proved to be challenging for White, but also extremely fulfilling.

“[I was] contributing to the leadership of the Navy and Marine Corps team,” he said. “It was a worthy endeavor to train future leaders.”

Almost 19 years after first becoming a Marine, Gunnery Sgt. White was frocked to first sergeant and shortly afterward reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island where he served a second tour on the drill field, this time as a company first sergeant.

“It was one of the most rewarding assignments,” said White. “Given the ability to make Marines and mentor drill instructors.”

After successfully completing his tour at



Photo courtesy of Sgt. Maj. Donovan G. White Jr.

Sgt. Maj. White speaks to the Marine Corps Band during the Battle Colors ceremony in 2011.

Parris Island, White deployed in 2006, with his fellow brothers-in-arms from 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. This would be White’s last deployment, in a career emblazoned by many months serving with Marines in forward environments.

In May 2010, White assumed duties as the base sergeant major of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow.

Now, after three decades of honorable service and a career that epitomizes a love and passion for the Corps, White will hand over his reign as base sergeant major on Feb. 10, 2012.

“I can’t imagine who I would be if I didn’t join the Marine Corps,” he said. “I can see myself being retired, but I couldn’t imagine what I might have done had I not joined the Corps. The Corps has been a part of who I

am for the majority of my life!”

“Marines will always be able to make and be a part of history,” said White. “I feel very proud and very fortunate to be a part of this (era) and serve during the time I did.”

Looking back on his 30-year career, White encourages Marines to remember their time in the Corps.

“Don’t take being a Marine for granted,” White said. “Make sure you are ready and prepared for what the Corps has to offer.” This piece of advice coming from a man who took every opportunity given to him by the Corps.

As this chapter of his life comes to a close, White looks forward to the next, where he plans to serve as a Marine Corps or Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps instructor in his home town. Sgt. Maj. White also plans on spending more time with his wife, Miriam and children Allison and Andrew.

# Marine earns two titles

By Lance Cpl. Dominic A. Smarra  
Combat Correspondent

Have you ever wondered what it takes to make a phone call or send data over the web on a daily basis?

Well for the employees aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, it’s all possible because Sgt. Chadlin Ostrander, works continuously throughout the day making sure communication is never ceased.

As an asset manager with Headquarters Battalion, MCLB Barstow, Ostrander is responsible for integrating commercial telephone and cabling systems, mounting commercial hardware and performing general maintenance on lines of communication.

**8** The 24-year old Marine from Klamath-

falls, Ore., has only been with the unit for more than three years but has impressed leaders with his work ethic and character. He has shined amongst other noncommissioned officers so much, that Ostrander was selected as MCLB Barstow Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter - first quarter of fiscal year 2012 as well as Marine Corps Installations West.

With first-class scores on the Physical Fitness Test and Combat Fitness Test, an expert in rifle and pistol marksmanship and a green belt in Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, Ostrander strives to be the best.

His achievements weren’t solely based on his high scores. On top of the work that he does during the day, he also spends his off duty hours volunteering for the Self-Discipline, Honor, Obedience, Character, and Knowledge program with the Apple Valley Police Activi-



Official File Photo

ties League to help troubled teens.

“If working for the NCO of the Quarter award is something you want, it’s very easy to obtain,” explained Ostrander. “You already know what they are looking for, so if you are lacking in an area, do everything you can to improve in it. The best thing you can do is never stop improving yourself and always strive to be better in some way.”

# CLR-17 utilizes railhead in exercise

**Story and photo by  
Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker  
Combat Correspondent**

With its premier location for transportation methods, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow offers many training opportunities for United States service members including its sizable railhead.

Marines with Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group from Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., utilized

the railhead at MCLB Barstow for a training exercise, Jan. 27.

The week-long exercise allowed the Marines of LS company to re-familiarize themselves with certain aspects of their military occupational specialty. During their operations here, the LS Marines loaded and secured cargo to rail cars, prepared groups of military vehicles for transportation, and acted as safety officials during the Army's transfer of material.

"The purpose of this training here was to reinstall the knowledge

and importance of railhead work within the continental United States for our Marines," explained Sgt. Kevin Myers, landing support specialist with LS company. Myers said during the week-long event, the Marines were enhancing skills in their MOS they usually don't do.

With the recent draw-down in Afghanistan, Marines will need to begin focusing more on the logistical aspects of transportation within CONUS instead of cargo transportation by sea or air, Myers explained.

The company's training opportunity came about because of the soldiers' daily work on the railroad. MCLB Barstow has the largest railhead in the Department of Defense and it only seems fitting to conduct the training here.

Myers explained joint operations started four years ago when a Marine from LS company contacted the Army Movement Control Company to see if the Marines could participate in railhead operations with the soldiers.

"Since then, we've been doing joint training with the Army here and it's worked out well for both services," said Myers, a 27-year old Avon Park, Fla., native.

The Army MCC stationed at

MCLB Barstow complimented the Marines of LS company for their contributions over the week-long event.

"It works out for both services when they're up here training," said Sgt. 1st Class Chris Hammersky, senior movement coordinator with MCC. "While they're here, we have twice as many people to keep an eye out for safety issues and get the work done faster and easier."

Training conducted on base by the LS Marines has become an unofficial annual event for the company. Since their first training exercise in 2008, the LS Marines have contacted the Army for possible training opportunities for the future.

Along with scheduling potential training events in Barstow, the Marines have invited the soldiers to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to train together in various exercises.

"While they don't get to do much training with railways, the same goes for us and beach operations. It's good to know we can help each other out in these ways," Hammersky added, referring to the Marines and soldiers' training events.



Lance Cpl. Kellby Gietl, a landing support specialist with Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, secures a metal chain during an exercise held at the Yermo annex railhead on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Feb. 2.



Sgt. Kevin Myers, a landing support specialist with Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, tightens a metal chain during an exercise held at the railhead on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Feb. 2.

# Marines take break from NFL to enjoy Lingerie Football

Story and photo by  
Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker  
Combat Correspondent

When “the boys” get together to watch “the game,” for Sunday night football, they expect to see large male athletes kicking the field goal as time expires to send the game into overtime.

When the members of the Single Marine Program aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow attended the Lingerie Football League Eastern and Western Conference Championships held at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario, Calif. Jan 29, they were introduced to a whole new view of how the popular full-contact sport is played.

The LFL started as a pay-per-view event during halftime of the National Football League’s Super Bowl and has developed into an all-female, indoor, tackle, traveling football league with 12 teams. The seven-on-seven games are played with 17-minute halves.

The professionalism displayed by the players impressed several members of the SMP. The games caught some Marines off guard, when they witnessed the reality of the LFL.

“I had an idea of what to expect but I had no clue it was going to be what I actually saw,”

said Lance Cpl. Aaron Thornton, a calibrations technician with Fleet Support Division aboard the base, talking about the intensity of the athletes playing in the games. “It’s like they’re there to look good for the crowd but at the same time want to just play good football,” he added.

Others with the SMP weren’t too surprised with the ladies’ smash-mouth tactics. Cpl. Michael Pressler, an artillery mechanic with FSD is a regular follower of the LFL.

“It’s fun to see these girls play tackle football. Some might think they’re just exploiting the women who play, but I think it’s just a bunch of female athletes who love to compete,” he explained. “All in all, I think it’s a great time to watch these games.”

The games featured the two best teams from each coast in the US. For the West Coast, the defending champs, the Los Angeles Temptation beating out the Las Vegas Sin for their conference title while the Philadelphia Passion ousted the Tampa Bay Breeze. This year’s Lingerie Bowl is set to be a rematch of last year’s game between the two teams.

The league was created because of its vast appeal to both sports fanatics and lingerie aficionados.

“We try to get events for the single Marines



Photo courtesy of [www.lflus.com](http://www.lflus.com)

that will get their participation with the program,” said A.J. Jacobs, the SMP coordinator on base. “We want to get as many active with the SMP as possible but to have a good time while doing it.”

Jacobs explains that the SMP is set in place to improve the quality of life of the bachelor Marines. The SMP allows several outlets for the Marines to have fun while building camaraderie simultaneously.

Overall, the event garnered positive reactions from the SMP attendees and posed a possible revisit in years to come.

“I was really glad to see them enjoy the games as much as they did,” Jacobs said of the Marines attending the games. “If we get this reaction from them in possible future visits to the league, we may even make them a regular visit,” Jacobs concluded.



The Lingerie Football League’s Philadelphia Passion huddles for a timeout taken during the 2012 Eastern Conference Championship held at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario, Calif., Jan 29. The Single Marine Program of the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow attended the event, which featured a championship for both the East and West Coast.

# MCLB employees recognized and awarded

By Lance Cpl.  
Dominic A. Smarra  
Combat Correspondent

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow held its Quarterly Awards Breakfast Ceremony for outstanding employees during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2011.

The awardees were recognized in several categories that included Marine and noncommissioned officer of the Quarter, employee and supervisor of the quarter as well length of service awards.

Kathleen Dennis and Tina Lin-court received the employee of the quarter award and Sheri Smith received the supervisor of the quarter award. These awardees are chosen by their supervisors and staff of individuals who stand out amongst their peers in the workplace.

Anthony Rose received his certificate of security fundamentals professional certification training. Rose is one of 450 people in the Department of Defense to have earned this certification. He is qualified to ensure that people handling classified information are qualified to do so.

Ola Saylor, Freezy Smalls, Arvon Allen received the length of service award for 30 years which recognizes the years of government service and dedication to their work.

Cpl. Joleen Quitano and Sgt. Chadlin Ostrander received the NCO of the quarter and Cpl Holland and Pfc. Christopher Foster received Marine of the quarter awards which are selected by being most qualified in all training, including the Physical Fitness Test, Combat Fitness Test, military bearing, personal appearance and military professionalism.

The Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard was also presented with a letter from the Commandant of the Marine Corps for representing the Marine Corps and upholding the highest Marine Corps traditions.

The Quarterly Awards Breakfast is a program that was put in place to recognize Marines and civilians who have done outstanding things in their job during a particular quarter. Though this is only the third event that has been held this way, it has already grown to be much more than anticipated.

These awards are meant to encourage the workforce of not only Marines but civilians to work to their full potential, explained Jennifer Silva, Marketing Manager of Marine Corps Community Services aboard MCLB Barstow. It allows their accomplishments in their jobs to be recognized by the base and let them know that the work that they do is extremely appreciated.

## Chaplain's Corner

The online personality

By Lt. Benjamin  
Warner  
Base Chaplain



Recently I've had more than a couple friends pull the plug on their Facebook accounts. The reasons are varying—some object to the harvesting of personal information, others object to various facets of the "Facebook experience." Honestly, their decision is pretty appealing to me. My need to disconnect was further reinforced when I read an article last week about a man who stepped away from all virtual social connections (including texting/cell phone calls) for 90 days. He said this about Facebook (but it could be applied to any online persona): *"I think that Facebook is the biggest waste of time, because everyone is just presenting such a filtered picture of themselves. You only put up your best pictures. People only check in when they are at the fanciest restaurant in the city. They only keep things up there that are flattering to themselves. I just think it's like keeping up with the Joneses, but for life. You're never going to get on top of it. Someone's always going to have a better job than you, go on better vacations than you, have a better looking wife than you, or whatever it is. So, it's superficiality on top of superficiality. You never get to see the real parts of people."*

I would nuance what he says, but only a little bit. There is, of course, a high level of superficiality in how we present ourselves online (but this is also true of "traditional" media—I mean, you only get to hear the reasonable, thought-out version of my world in this article. For all you know, I could usually be a lot less articulate and a lot crazier). Yet, I've had the experience where I see genuine aspects of people's beliefs and views through their various online profiles—but I don't actually have the chance to talk with them about it. So, they can quote Jesus to leverage their political views (or John Lennon for that matter). And even if they completely miss the context or intent of what was intended, what they have said is left hanging in the air. Sure, I could comment on their post and try and have a rational discussion—qualifying and clarifying what it is they believe and how it impacts their life. But, how often has this actually happened in our virtual world where reasonable discussion and debate have to be contained to 144 characters?

This is the center of my real struggle: I don't want to exclude people from my life because of some "fire and forget" email or post online. I want to have a conversation with them, find out who they are and what values drive their beliefs. This is what I see in Acts chapter 17, when the apostle Paul speaks in front of the Aeropagus. He gets his turn to address a broad cross-section of people, states his beliefs with conviction, but follows that up conversing with people who want to discuss his beliefs. Of course, some of them didn't want to discuss it at all—they wanted to mock Paul's belief in the resurrection. And that's always going to happen. I may want to have conversation and relationship with people who say inflammatory things, but I realize that they may not want to talk to me. It's a question of "who do you want to be?" Do you want to be the sort of person whose convictions cause an exclusion of others? Or do you want to be the sort of person whose convictions result in the ability to hear from others? If we continue in an online culture of short bursts and talking past each other without relationship, I fear we'll all become the former.



Photo by Keith Hayes

During the Quarterly Awards Breakfast Ceremony, Marines and civilian employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center, Jan. 25.



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