



THE PROSPECTOR

Vol. 4 No. 1

Serving the Marine Corps since 1947
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

Jan. 8, 2015

2014: YEAR IN REVIEW



On The Cover:

Front Cover:

Photo by Cpl. Samuel Ranney

From Dec. 26, 2014 to Jan. 1, 2015, the last remaining Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard, from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., traveled to Los Angeles County to participate in the Equestrian Festival and the Rose Parade. On Jan. 1, the base commanding officer, Col. Michael L. Scalise and base sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Karl D. Simburger, rode in front of the MCG greeting revelers of the Rose Parade as they passed by. The MCG has participated in the Rose Parade for more than 20 years.

Back Cover:

Photo by Carlos Guerra

A Marine with the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, stationed on Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., stood guard during Exercise Desert Scimitar (DS-14), May 13. DS-14 was a large-scale, combined-arms, live-fire exercise integrating ground troops from 1st MARDIV, aviation and logistical support from 3rd MAW and 1st MLG to ensure that the nation is fully prepared for employment as a maneuver force across the range of military operations.



THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Col. Michael L. Scalise, Commanding Officer
Sgt. Maj. Karl D. Simburger, Base Sergeant Major

Public Affairs Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Rob L. Jackson

Press Chief: Cpl. Samuel Ranney

Public Affairs Specialist: Laurie Pearson

Mass Communications Specialist: Cpl. Norman Eckles

Public Affairs Specialist: Keith Hayes

Editorial Assistant: Cindy McIntyre

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. Samuel Ranney

Service members and their spouses on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., participated in Jane Wayne Day here, Oct. 17. Jane Wayne Day allows service members' spouses to be a Marine for a day. The fun-filled day included a K-9 demonstration from the Marine Corps Police Department, physical training on the O-course, a rifle and pistol range competition, eating a meal ready to eat, and a tour of Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command.

On the web

Website:

<http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

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Gunnery Sgt. Jeffery J. Worley, Toys for Tots staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., hands a toy to a child at the Barstow Toys for Tots distribution event at the Harvey House, Dec. 19. Worley and other Marines from MCLB Barstow distributed toys to hundreds of families in need living in the High Desert area.

Contents

	<p>SMP</p>	<p>5</p>		<p>Tours of MCLB Barstow</p>	<p>11</p>
	<p>MCG</p>	<p>7</p>		<p>SES</p>	<p>14</p>
	<p>Events through the Year</p>	<p>8 & 9</p>		<p>Chaplain's Corner</p>	<p>15 3</p>

2014 Outside of Barstow



Cpl. William "Kyle" Carpenter receives the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military honor, from President Barack Obama at the White House June 19, 2014. Carpenter received the medal for his actions while deployed to Marjah, Helmand Province, Afghanistan, in 2010. He became the third Marine and the 15th overall recipient of the medal for actions in Iraq or Afghanistan.



Brig. Gen. John W. Bullard relinquished command of Marine Corps Installations West and Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to Brig. Gen. Edward D. Banta during a Change of Command at the 11 Area Parade Field, Aug. 1. Bullard, who served as commanding general here since August 2013, as both the commanding general for Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton as well as commanding general for MCI-West, is retiring after 31 years of honorable and faithful military service. Before taking command of MCI-West, Banta served as the commanding general of 2nd Marine Logistics Group in Camp Lejeune, N.C.



(Left) Gen. James F. Amos, the 35th Commandant of the Marine Corps, passes the colors to Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, Jr., during the change of command and subsequent retirement ceremony Oct. 17, 2014 at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C. After more than 44 years of military service, Amos passed the duties as senior-ranking officer of the Marine Corps to Dunford, who has now become the 36th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM

GOING STRONG FOR 20 YEARS

2014 marked the 20th anniversary for the Single Marine Program. The SMP aims to boost camaraderie and morale among Marines living in the barracks. SMP accomplishes this by getting the troops out of the barracks to participate in organized group activities. This year, MCLB Barstow Marines had the opportunity

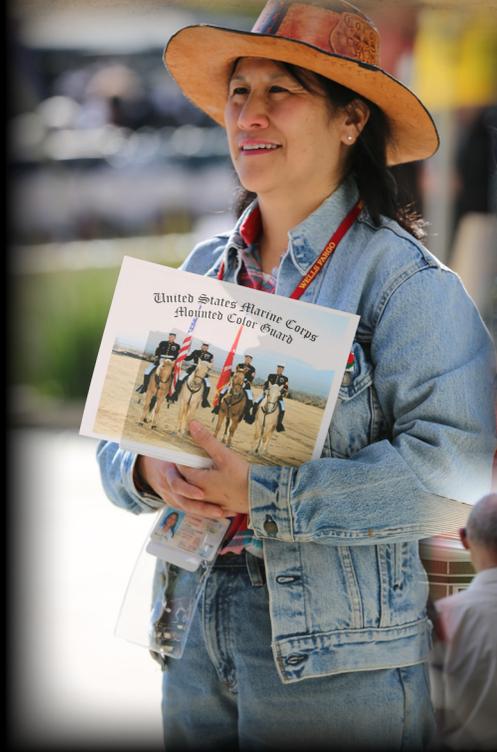
to attend various sporting events, movie and dinner nights, Universal Studios, a snow boarding trip, a trip to June Lake, the Grand Canyon and more. These trips provided opportunities for Marines to learn new things, visit new places, and build camaraderie between one another during their off-duty hours.



A Look Back at PPB and Strip 8



The one, the only ... the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard



A LOOK BACK IN



The Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Color Guard presents the Colors at the Master Gunnery Sergeant James Brewer Street Renaming Ceremony on MCLB Barstow, March 5. Brewer, a Montford Point Marine and recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal, received this honor posthumously for his exemplary service.



Staff Sgt. Frank Kovach, training chief on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., walks with his son, Blake Kovach, 4, during MCLB Barstow's Domestic Violence Prevention Survivor Walk, Oct. 21.



On May 8, Headquarters Battalion on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow held a mess night at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center. Mess night is an age-old tradition of troops of all ranks getting together for dinner, drinks and camaraderie.



(Left) Service members and base employees on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., enjoy a night of Halloween festivities with their families and friends, Oct. 23. The annual Halloween Haunt included food, music, dancing, contests, raffles and more.



TO 2014...



Participants of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's 'No More' 5K fun run/walk begin the course, May 30. The 5K was held to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault. Myriad signs with domestic violence and sexual assault statistics were posted along the course for participants to read during the run/walk.



Marine Corps Community Services held its annual Trees for Troops event on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Dec. 3. Service members living on base were given the opportunity to receive a free Christmas tree and various stocking stuffers for their children.



On March 28, more than 100 motorcycle riders escorted veterans through Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. The Vietnam veterans stopped on MCLB Barstow for a welcome home ceremony on their way to National Training Center Fort Irwin.

(Left) Gabe Lane, five years old, and Sergeant Steven Goss, K-9 handler for MCPD on MCLB Barstow, take part in the tie-dye station during the base's annual Fall Festival, Sept. 18. The festival included stations for arts and crafts, bounce houses, a rock wall and live music.



(Left) Attendees of MCLB Barstow's 239th Marine Corps Birthday celebration dance the night away following the traditional ceremony, Nov. 8, in Las Vegas.

MCLB BARSTOW REACHES OUT TO THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY



The Excelsior High Desert Young Marines pose for a group picture after a hike up “Iron Mike,” a hill outside the gates of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., April 12. The Young Marines spent the weekend here to have fun, receive military education and learn leadership and teamwork traits.



Lance Corporal Diomar Guano, range coach on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., teaches children with the Excelsior High Desert Young Marine program how to shoot weapons on an Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer here, April 12. Active-duty Marines here gave the Young Marines professional military education during their time at MCLB Barstow.



Colonel Michael L. Scalise, commanding officer of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., holds up a gift given by Col. Jonathan P. Braga, Fort Irwin garrison commander, during the 2014 Military Mixer. During the social setting, the neighboring Army and Marine Corps bases exchanged rivalry jokes.



The U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps perform during a Battle Color Detachment Ceremony on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., March 11. The BCD includes “The Commandant’s Own,” The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon, and the Official Color Guard of the Marine Corps.

A SAMPLE OF BASE TOURS

BARSTOW COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM TOUR

Adolescents from the Barstow Community College Summer Youth Program tour Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 19. During their tour, they visited with the Marine Corps Police Department's K-9 unit here, the base gym, and the rail yard where they learned about different military vehicles and equipment.



ROMEOS TOUR



ROMEOS, Retired Old Men Eating Out, from the Sun City retirement community in Apple Valley, Calif. toured Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. July 21. The base tour consisted of a briefing about the overall mission of MCLB Barstow, a tour of the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard's stables, a static display of various military vehicles, a demonstration of an assault amphibious vehicle on the base's test track, and of course, lunch at the base's Family Restaurant.

SECNAV SAFETY EXCELLENCE AWARD



On Oct. 20, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., received the Secretary of Navy's Safety Excellence Award during a ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington D.C.

Mr. Dennis McGinn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for energy, installations and environment, presented the prestigious award to Col. Michael L. Scalise, commanding officer of MCLB Barstow, and Ray Aguilar, base safety officer. MCLB Barstow received a written citation from the Secretary of the Navy, an award plaque, and the Secretary of the Navy's Safety Excellence Flag. This is Barstow's 6th award in the last seven years.

Barstow Marines stay combat ready throughout 2014



Marines set the standard in the armed forces of America, and train hard to keep up to that standard. Whether it's on the shooting range, through conditioning hikes, battalion physical training or Security Augmentation Force training, Marines are training year-round. This year, to enhance mission readiness even further, MCLB Barstow opened up an obstacle course.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ON MCLB BARSTOW

CLB - 15



Marines from Combat Logistics Battalion – 15, stationed on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, visited Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., for guidance in rail operations, Aug. 15. CLB-15 needed an efficient and cost-effective method to ship equipment to the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, Calif., for a humanitarian and disaster relief simulation exercise.

1ST MLG



Marines from Ordnance Maintenance Platoon, 13th Combat Logistics Company, 15th Combat Logistics Regiment, 1st Marine Logistics Group, stationed at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, came to Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., for on-the-job training, Jan. 6. “The Marines are training on disassembly and assembly of LAV (light armored vehicle) and AAV (assault amphibious vehicle) motors,” said Sgt. Shane Makary, AAV mechanic with OM Plt.

CLR 17



Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 17 (CLR 17), 1st Marine Logistics Group, trained with soldiers from 171st Movement Control Company in railway operations on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. in order to improve their unit’s effectiveness, Jan. 30 – Feb. 9.

Security and Emergency Services training in 2014



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER: A MOUNTAIN-TOP VIEW

Submitted By:
Commander Jeff Saville
Chaplain Corps, U.S. Navy

Another year has passed, making me reflective of what has changed. One thing that has changed is that I'm a year older. That reminds me of the following story:

A police car pulled up in front of an older woman's house, and her husband climbed out. The polite policeman explained that "this elderly gentleman" said that he was lost in the park and couldn't find his way home.

"How could it happen?" asked his wife. "You've been going to that park for over 30 years! How could you get lost?" Leaning close to her ear so that the policeman couldn't hear, he whispered, "I wasn't lost--I was just too tired to walk home."

Just before Christmas, my family visited the Grand Canyon, which I have visited many times. My wife Rebecca and I hiked six miles down into the canyon, descending 3000 feet. About a mile down the trail, we saw a sign meant to caution inexperienced hikers: "Warning: down is optional, up is mandatory." Some folks hike DOWN the canyon, thinking it is no challenge at all, but then when it is time to return back UP to the rim, they discover that climbing is much more difficult. It takes 1.5 to 2 times as long to hike up as it does to go down. Many find themselves hiking the last mile or two in the dark and cold, and some are so exhausted that they cannot continue, and require medical assistance, which can be a lot more involved than just being picked up and driven home by a polite police officer.

Rebecca and I have hiked enough times in various national parks that we know the dangers (which are real) and were ade-

quately prepared. We were able to make the six miles and 3000 feet back up in the daylight, emerging to the rim just before sunset. Nonetheless, after a total 12 miles down and up, and seven hours along the trail, we were both pretty tired. But the view--WOW! There is nothing like the Grand Canyon at sunset!

That's why I like the spirit of Charles Marowitz. "Old age is like climbing a mountain," he says. "The higher you get the more tired and breathless you become. But your view becomes much more extensive."

Atop the mountain (or at the rim of the canyon), one has a better view of the world. One can see above the differences which divide people. One can see beyond petty hurts and human fragility. Atop the mountain, one has a longer view of the past, and can perceive the future with more clarity. Atop the mountain, one looks down on dark clouds of gloom and despair and fear and notices that they are neither as large nor as ominous as those beneath them would believe. It is also clearer that however dark they may appear, they too, are fleeting and will someday pass.

If you're hiking to the rim of the canyon or to the peak of a mountain, it may seem like it takes a lifetime to the top. In a larger sense, it really does take a lifetime to climb certain mountains, or ascend to the rim of the canyon, but I believe the view will be worth the journey.

You will be richer in spirit and have so much to offer to those around you. What new vista would you like to see? What new thing would you like to know? What do you still want to feel? The top is within reach--keep climbing!



