

# THE PROSPECTOR



Vol.2 No.5

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

March 14, 2013



**Battle Color Detachment  
visits MCLB Barstow**

**FSD: Can't take the heat?**

**Get out of the kitchen**

**Where are they now: Bar-  
stow royalty sticks to her roots**

## On The Cover:

### Front cover:

Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Reina Barnett

Gunnery Sgt. Keith Martinez, Assistant Drum Major with the Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps, known as "The Commandant's Own," renders a salute to the base commanding officer, Col. Michael L. Scalise, during their 2013 "Music in Motion" tour.

### Back cover:

Photo by Sgt. Shannon E. Yount

Marines with the Silent Drill Platoon, based out of Marine Barracks 8th and I, Washington D.C., shows his rifle and bayonet to children from Barstow Unified School District after their performance at Sorensen Field on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, March 11.

## THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California  
Colonel Michael L. Scalise, Commanding Officer  
Sgt. Maj. Richard Charron, Base Sergeant Major

### Public Affairs Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Rob L. Jackson

Public Affairs Chief: Gunnery Sgt. Reina Barnett

Press Chief: Sgt. Shannon E. Yount

Combat Correspondent: Cpl. T. Allen Bricker

Combat Correspondent: Lance Cpl. Norman Eckles

Combat Correspondent: Pfc. Samuel Ranney

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Photo by Pfc. Samuel Ranney

(From left to right) Barbara Hillery, a Navy Marine Corps Relief Society services assistant on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Ana Bateman, Jennifer Houck, Sherly Wolcott, Diana Verdin, Nicole Marks, all Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., thrift store volunteers, and Meredith Lozar, the director of the NMRS on Camp Pendleton, pose together, March 4, for the re-opening of the thrift store here. The thrift store here is open Mondays and Wednesdays, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Norman Eckles

Marines with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 166, 3rd Marine Air Wing, land a V-22 Osprey on a marked landing zone at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, March 7. The Osprey was here to test their aircraft for environmental purposes and future training operations.

## On the web

### Website:

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

### 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 Rob Jackson

After delivering his remarks honoring the Montford Point Marines during the christening ceremony of the USNS Montford Point, (MLP-1) Gen James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps, concluded saying: "Thank you for your courage, your sacrifice, and your fidelity ... I am honored to be counted among you and to stand in your midst," at which time he put on the cover of the Montford Point Marine Association as an honorary member and received a rousing applause, March 2, San Diego.

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# Green eggs and ham breakfast

**Come support the Single Marine Program!**

**Wednesday, March 20 from 6 to 8 a.m. at the Family Restaurant**

**Tickets are \$5 and include your choice:**

- 1 - Green western omelette and hash browns**
- 2 - Green eggs, ham or bacon, hash browns, biscuits and gravy**
- 3 - Green eggs, ham or bacon, 3 pancakes and hash browns**

## Leave Share Program

The following is a comprehensive list of individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of leave donations: **Johnny Davis Jr., Eileen Garcia, Cindy Hernandez, Tulu Niusulu.**

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Sharing Program may do so by obtaining a leave donor application form from the Human Resources Office. Ensure completed forms are turned into HRO as well. For more information, contact Josie Marquez at 760-577-6915.

## New Library Hours

Effective immediately, the base library located in McTureous Hall will have a change in hours. It will be open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The library will be closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. For any questions, comments or concerns regarding Personal & Professional Development Programs, call 760-577-6118.

## New Gym Hours

The base gym will have a change in hours. It will be open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. On Saturdays the gym will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed on Sundays.

## TSP iPhone App

A free iPhone App, TSP funds, currently being offered through the Apple App store asks TSP participants for their account login information. This app is not being offered through the TSP and the TSP does not recommend using this application to access your TSP account. Providing this information could result in a security risk to your account. For more information, visit the TSP web site at: <https://www.tsp.gov/index.shtml>

## Nutrition Month

Eating right and being physically active are the key components to living a healthy life. With healthy eating patterns, it's possible to reduce your risk of many chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and osteoporosis. Come to Semper Fit throughout the month and receive information to help make health-conscious choices to improve your quality of life!

## Anticipated Vacancies

Installation & Logistics- Utility Systems Operator, WG-4742-09.

Installation & Logistics- Mobile Equipment Servicer, WG-5806-06.

S-6 Communications- IT Specialist, GS-221012

Please look for announcements under the new link, <http://usajobs.gov>

## Blood Drive

Give the gift of 21 life, March 21, by donating blood. Nebo: from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Building 204 and Yermo: from 11 a.m to 3 p.m. at the Employee Support Facility.

## Distracted Driving

The National Safety Council has declared April 2013 as Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Thousands die needlessly each year because people continue to use their cell phones while driving, handheld or hands-free. Below is a link to a totally anonymous survey. Please take the time to answer the questions truthfully in order for the MC L B's Drive Safe Working Group to develop a campaign to fight distracted driving on base <http://www.research.net/s/distract driver>

## Energy Tip:

If every American home installed low-flow faucet aerators, 250 million gallons of water would be saved every day.

# FSD turns up the heat with Chili Cook-off

Story and photo by Pfc.  
Samuel Ranney  
Combat Correspondent

More than 30 government employees, contractors and Marines from Fleet Support Division on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Yermo Annex, put their taste-buds to the test for the 2nd annual FSD Chili Cook-off, March 6.

The aroma of meat, cheese and a variety of spices filled the air of warehouse 406 as 10 contestants submitted everything from green New Mexico style, to spicy hot buffalo chicken chili to be judged, explained Reah Andrews, the event coordinator.

Andrews came up with the idea last year to raise money for FSD's annual employee appreciation day, May 23.

"I love cooking chili and I love eating chili," said Andrews, an Alabama native. "I thought it would be a perfect way to get all of FSD together, have a friendly competition, eat different kinds of chili and raise money all at the same time."

The event had a great turn-out with more than 30 attendees. It will continue next year as a fundraiser, explained Gregory Johnson, the committee chairman of the event. It's a fun way to raise money, he added.

Contestants paid \$3 to compete in the event. Then, attendees purchased sample cups of chili to try different varieties and voted on their favorite, or made it a meal and purchased an entire bowl.

"Plenty of people came back for seconds or thirds," Johnson explained.

"Number four (the chili labeled number four) was amazing," said Sgt. Michael Pressler, an artillery mechanic here. "It was full of flavor and meat." Lance Cpl. Kevin Baquet, another

Marine with FSD, and his mouth full of chili, nodded his head in agreement.

After everyone sampled as much chili as they pleased, they turned in their anonymous votes to Andrews and

out," said Joann Williams, a fire and chili inspector here. "It was the only green chili placing top three and had just the right amount of spice and kick to it."

The creator of chili number four, Stacey Decker, a supply technician with FSD, was called to the front to accept her trophy, a miniature chili pot. She used New Mexico chili pods and made it only mildly spicy to beat out the competition, she explained.

Major Michael Graham, director of FSD, also competed in this year's contest and had the spiciest chili in the competition, according to Johnson. It was a buffalo chicken chili with various peppers and spices thrown in. "Some people just can't take the heat," Graham explained as he chuckled.

Although Graham did not win, he said the event is a great way to boost morale and raise money for employee appreciation.

"By doing events like this and funding our employee appreciation day ourselves, we can be sure to recognize every

employee we have. Our contractors, our government employees and our Marines," said Graham.

The FSD Chili Cook-off brought people together through competition, while enjoying their chili.

People from different areas have different interpretations of good chili, and this competition allows you to experience those different interpretations, explained Anderson. Look through some recipes, practice for your families and keep an eye out for next year's FSD Chili Cook-off; you may be the next divisional chili champion.



Stacey Decker, a supply technician with Fleet Support Division on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Yermo Annex, receives a trophy from Gregory Johnson, FSD's chili cook-off committee chairman, for winning the 2nd annual chili cook-off challenge, March 6. The friendly competition raises money for FSD's employee appreciation day.

Amanda Zamora, a heavy equipment mechanic here, to count up and narrow down the top three contestants. From there, the "chili experts" comprised of fire inspectors from MCLB Barstow's Fire Department, judged the chili and picked the winner.

"Who better to judge chili than fire inspectors?" asked Johnson. "They often inspect our facility so why not have them inspect our chili."

The inspectors meticulously judged the top three samples on texture, flavor, consistency, spice, taste, aroma, and color. In the end, they decided chili number four was the best.

"This chili (number four) really stuck

# Battle Color Detachment leaves las



Photo by Pfc. Samuel Ranney

The Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon, based out of Washington D.C., march onto Sorensen Field on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., March 11. The 24-man rifle team visits MCLB Barstow annually as part of the Battle Color Detachment.



Marines with the Silent Drill Platoon from Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., perform precise rifle spins and exchanges, as part of the Battle Color Detachment's visit to Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, March 11. The rifle inspector highlights the platoon's intricate drill routine, performed without verbal commands. The rifle inspector highlights the platoon performing difficult rifle spins and exchanges.



Photo by Cpl. T. Allen Bricker

A member of the 'Commandant's Own' Drum and Bugle Corps performs his part during the ensemble's 'Music in Motion' show March 11 at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow. During the show, the band played traditional songs such as the Star-Spangled Banner along with music selections from the upcoming show "Motown the Musical."



Photo by Cpl. T. Allen Bricker

A Marine with the Battle Color Detachment's Silent Drill Platoon speaks with a child after their performance at Sorensen Field on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, March 11.



A member of the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon is the official Color Guard for the 2011 Marine Corps Ball. An estimated 200 members of the Silent Drill Platoon and

# sting impression on Barstow crowd



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Reina Barnett  
e and deliberate movements with their highly polished M1  
arch 11. These Marines entertained the audience with their  
performance with an unrivaled inspection of his Marines,



Photo by Sgt. Shannon Yount  
e Corps League stands at attention during the presentation of the colors conducted  
ard of the Marine Corps at Sorensen Field on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow,  
audience of 2,500 welcomed the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the  
the Color Guard of the Marine Corps, better known as the Battle Color Detachment.



# MCLB Barstow's very own beauty queen

Story by Pfc.

Samuel Ranney

Combat Correspondent

"Amid screams of joy and tears of happiness ... the crown of Miss Barstow 1974 will be placed atop one lovely head, heralding the beginning of another reign of another queen," reads an article in a 1974 special edition of Barstow's Desert Dispatch.

The same beauty queen mentioned above continues to thrive here in Barstow more than 30 years later. In fact, perhaps you've seen her here on Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow Calif., where she's been working for more than 20 years.

She is a past honored queen of Job's Daughters, past DeMolay sweetheart, and enjoys outdoor sports and cooking; her name is Monica Patterson-Sims, a purchasing agent on base.

Patterson-Sims moved here at a young age from San Francisco in 1961, after her father was hired as a welder on the Yermo Annex of the base, explained Patterson-Sims.

Being a part of girl's youth foundations such as Job's Daughters as an adolescent gave Patterson-Sims the tools she needed to become the next Miss Barstow.

"I learned how to calm my nerves under pressure," explained the Barstow native. "It helped a lot when it came to poise walking down the runway."

Although the youth organizations gave Patterson-Sims the confidence and form to compete in beauty pageants, she did not expect to ever compete, let alone win.

"I first heard about the pageant from my mom. She told me that I should



Photo courtesy of Monica Patterson-Sims

Monica Patterson Sims, a purchasing agent on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., is crowned Miss Barstow 1974 by the previous Miss Barstow, February 16, 1974 at the Barstow Community Center. Patterson-Sims, an 18-year-old at the time, competed against 12 other young women to win the title.

do it and pointed out the scholarship opportunity for the winner," she explained.

At the time, Patterson-Sims was a box girl at a local grocery store. It was rare in the 1970's for young women to have jobs, she explained. Reluctant at first, the John F. Kennedy High School graduate decided to accept the challenge.

"I was 18 and a freshman at Barstow Community College when I decided to compete. I was working toward my associate degree and planned on becoming a court reporter or a legal secretary," Patterson-Sims said. "I decided the scholarship money would be worth it."

The first step in this challenge was for Patterson-Sims to find a sponsor for purchasing items like a swimsuit and evening

gown to wear during the beauty pageant. A local drug store stepped up to the plate alongside the young woman and represented her.

The process was pretty simple, she added.

"I walked in the store and asked for a sponsorship, the manager asked if I was going to win and I responded with, 'of course I will.' It was said and done after that," she said.

On February 16, 1974, Monica Patterson-Sims, along with 12 other young women, were judged on everything from their figure in a bathing suit to how they responded to a random current event topic in front of an audience.

The hardest part was overcoming the nerves Patterson-Sims explained. "A lot of my friends were in the

audience and it made speaking publicly a little difficult."

"The order we went out on stage was by height," said the petite brunette. "I was the shortest one and had to go first."

Patterson-Sims recalled the master of ceremonies asking her how she felt about women's liberation in front of the audience. As a working young lady herself, she laughed and responded, "I knew you were going to ask that." She then explained that women should be recognized for doing a job well-done just as males are.

"Women's liberation was a huge deal in the 1960's and 1970's ... having a job that was male dominant made me feel very strong about equal rights and gratitude," Patterson-Sims said. "I feel the same way today."

After being judged on her figure, her appearance in a formal gown, her walk and poise, her smile, her voice control, her stage presence, her interview response, and her overall beauty, Patterson-Sims became the 35th Miss Barstow.

"I really didn't think I was going to win," she said.

Patterson-Sims cried with joy, then regained composure when the crown was placed atop her head, stated an article covering the event. The misty-eyed queen received a dozen roses and a standing ovation from the Barstow Community Center's crowd as she began her reign as Miss Barstow 1974.

As Miss Barstow, Patterson-Sims was given many lucrative opportunities. She represented the city in the Orange County show beauty pageant and in Miss California, and was even promoted to cashier in her job upon winning, explained the beauty queen.

See Queen page 11

# Military vehicles survive through the ages

Story and photo by  
Lance Cpl. Norman  
Eckles

Combat Correspondent

When looking at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Yermo Annex, Calif., people will see miles of warehouses and outside storage spaces filled with a wide variety of military equipment.

Among those warehouses is Strip 8, a shop that is comprised of Marines and Civilian Marines specializing in preserving and transporting equipment to the empty spaces. Preserving equipment, mostly vehicles, entails the Marines and Civilian Marines to prepare the equipment to sit for long periods of time.

In the last nine months, Fleet Support Division has preserved 75 M777 Howitzers, eight Humvees and 27 three-way hydraulic forks. The process for preserving the M777 Howitzer is a long one, but it is the breadwinner among preserving military gear, explained Sgt. Michael Pressler, a senior artillery mechanic with FSD.

Planning is the first thing that's done for the M777 Howitzer. The shop ensures everyone is on the same page before they start working on the gear. The workers then inspect the gear to make sure the paint, pressure gauges, and data plates are all in good order. Next, employees service the weapon system by cleaning it and plugging the barrel so rust doesn't start to form. Finally, the weapons are taken out to the storage area and covered with a tarp. Altogether, the process takes 12 man-hours to complete.

Along with the process, there are challenges that arise every day such as working on different gear and not everything going as planned, explained Cpl.

Keith Tisdale, a quality control supervisor with FSD.

"The different challenges make me realize that there is more to being a mechanic than just knowing how to turn a wrench ... because anybody could do that," said Tisdale. "Now that I know what kind

really appreciated why it looked so good. Now, he's part of the process that makes that happen. He also gets the opportunity to learn more about his trade and become a better mechanic.

Pressler, who has served ten years in the Corps, three of which have been in preservation, said

**"I want to make sure that the Marines in the fight have combat ready equipment at all times."**

*-Deshawn Phillips,*

*preservation mechanic with Fleet Support Division*

of work goes into preservation, I look at the equipment in a different way."

Tisdale, a Salt Lake City, Utah native, further explained when he was with his previous unit, they would receive gear and it would look like it was never driven before. He never

the shop does a lot of behind the scenes work, and every piece of gear receives the same time and effort from the last.

Even though some of them wear utilities and the others don't, everyone in the shop has a valuable part in ensuring the Marine Corps stays combat

ready.

"Working in this shop is great," said Deshawn Phillips, a preservation mechanic with FSD. "I get to personally interact with the Marines and work with them and that's why I put a lot of time and effort into my work. I want to make sure that the Marines in the fight have combat ready equipment at all times."

When the shop is in full swing, everyone helps one another. It's the basic Marine Corps way. When one guy in the shop needs help finishing a piece of gear, the other guys in the shop come together and help him complete his goal, explained Tisdale.

"Every job has a purpose in the Corps or else it wouldn't have been created, no matter how big or small your job is ... it's important to someone," concluded Tisdale.



*Deshawn Phillips, a preservation mechanic on Strip 8 with Fleet Support Division on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Yermo Annex, Calif., preserves a M101 trailer, March 8.*

**Around MCLB Barstow**  
*compiled by the Public Affairs Office staff*

*Corporal Aaron Thornton, a calibrations technician with Fleet Support Division on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Yermo Annex, shoots the Beretta M9 on the shooting range here for pistol qualification. Marines here are afforded the opportunity to pistol qualify in support of Security Augmentation Force Training.*



*More than 40 sophomores from Barstow High School interact with Marines and civilian Marines while touring Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., March 8. The tour included visiting Marine Depot Maintenance Command here, going inside of a light armored vehicle, visiting the MCLB Barstow fire station, and observing many other aspects of the base.*



*Children from the Child Development Center and Play Morning, on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., compete in an egg balance race, March 1, outside of the base library, McTureous Hall. More than 30 children enjoyed movies, snacks, readings, crafts and myriad other activities and games in recognition of Dr. Seuss's 109th birthday.*



*Captain Stafford Buchanan receives the Headquarters Battalion guidon from Capt. Clinton Holbrook during the change of command ceremony held Feb. 28 on base at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow. The Marines with HqBn. hiked to the base's wind turbine for the event.*

# Chaplain's Corner

By Lt. Benjamin Warner  
Base Chaplain

From the title of this article, you may presume I'm writing a series of books. After all, the things I *don't* know could fill a library. However, this is not an article about the limits of my knowledge, but what it means to admit we don't know something. As a Christian, and particularly as a pastor, I oftentimes feel an overwhelming pressure to know *everything*. If someone is hurting, I want to know all the things to help them feel better. If someone has questions about God, Jesus, or the Bible, I want to have information to answer their question. This stems from a belief that having information is the same thing as having security.

A conversation I had with my wife this weekend reminded me of the journey I've had where I've become more comfortable with my ignorance. Being a hospital chaplain confronted me with my inability to solve things with information. I remarked to my wife that I've gotten better at my job ever since I figured out that I don't know everything. She then proceeded to remind me of a time when we were younger and my conviction that I knew everything resulted in us yelling at each other for a

## The things I don't know

good half an hour over the correct way to put up our tent. This is one of those events she doesn't let me forget, but it's good for me not to forget it.

In fact, there's a good biblical incident that happens where it is confirmed that having limited knowledge really is okay. It comes at the end of Job—but let me set it up before we get there. If you read the book of Job, you have to understand what you're getting. The book begins with Job's sufferings—he has everything and loses it. Then it starts a cycle of speeches as Job's friends try to help him understand what has gone on. They debate the nature of evil and how it is that God operates in condemning evil (and justifying good). Throughout all of this, many opinions are offered while Job maintains his righteousness. So, if you jump in to Job at the middle, you may hear some opinions about life and the nature of God that aren't necessarily the whole story—you have to get to the end of the book for that. That's because at the end of Job (chapters 38-42), God finally speaks. As these men have debated His character, God has stood by and let them have their say. But in the end, God does not answer



any of their questions. In fact, the only thing God tells them is that they don't have all the information. God doesn't give an answer to how evil is punished or how good is rewarded. He merely informs Job and his friends that their constant attempt to find an answer creates more confusion.

Herein I find the solution for my life today (and maybe for yours): admitting that I don't know everything (and that that's okay) is step one on the way to being comfortable. It's also step one on the road to being human. Turns out that when I have answers for everyone is when I'm responding to difficulties in a way that's very different from how God does. He tells Job that it's His presence and His involvement in the world that brings security—not having all the answers.

## Queen continued from page 8

"I had a lot of fun at Miss California. I built friendships with many of the other girls around the state, and it was a great opportunity for networking," Patterson-Sims said. "I also met a lot of prominent people at the time, such as Bob Hope, Michael Landon and Joanne Worley."

When in Barstow, the beauty queen was invited to openings and ceremonies around town, making appearances and giving speeches. The owner of a local jewelry store gave Patterson-Sims a charm bracelet with a charm for every event she attended; she keeps the bracelet, jam-packed with charms to this day.

Although Patterson-Sims

originally only competed for the scholarship opportunity, she gained more than just money and is very happy with the decision she made to compete.

"The Miss Barstow Pageant gave me a boost of confidence that I carry with me to this day," she revealed.

The 1974 Miss Barstow has been invited to this year's pageant as a special guest.

"I'm very excited to attend the next competition in April," said Patterson-Sims enthusiastically. "This will be my first pageant in a while."

Today, Miss Barstow 1974 has been happily married to Bill Sims for more than 35 years; they have three daughters, eight grandchildren and one great-grandson.

"I'm going to try to get my grandchildren to compete," Patterson-Sims said laughing. "My daughters weren't so interested, so I'll have to give it another shot with them (my grandchildren)."

Patterson-Sims plans on retiring in the next few years. She's looking forward to traveling and enjoying time with her family and friends. She added that she will always have fond memories of her hometown.

"Barstow has been good to me," said Patterson-Sims. "As for future plans ... I'll be enjoying whatever life has to offer."



Monica Patterson-Sims, a purchasing agent on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., stands wearing a charm bracelet she received more than 30 years ago for winning Miss Barstow 1974.

