

THE PROSPECTOR



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

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Red Rock Canyon

MCLB Barstow's SMP climbs to new heights

PPB Paint Shop

Painting simulator reduces costs for government

Relay for Life

Barstow community makes strides for a cure



Photo by Cpl. T. Allen Bricker

Corporal Bryanna Kessler, a stableman with the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Calif., inspects students of Yermo Elementary School, May 16. As part of a social studies class on the Civil War, Marines with MCLB Barstow volunteered to show the students different aspects of military life.

On The Cover:

Front cover:

Photo by Pfc. Samuel Ranney
Lance Corporal Kristopher Ezell, a wireman on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, climbs up a rock during the MCLB Barstow Single Marine Program's trip to Red Rock Canyon near Las Vegas, May 19. Six Marines participated in the guided hike while learning about various geological aspects of the area.

Back cover:

Photo by Pfc. Samuel Ranney
Marvin Saines, Ph.D., an interpretive naturalist and geologist leads MCLB Barstow Marines on a hike through Red Rock Canyon near Las Vegas, May 19.

THE PROSPECTOR

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Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Reina Barnett

Private first class Samuel Ranney (right), and Sgt. Julio Acevedo (left), with Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, answer questions and talk with students at Baldy Mesa Elementary School in Phelan, Calif., May 10. The Marines participated in the Welcome Home Heroes ceremony that recognized local firefighters, local law enforcement, and military service members.

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Photo by Lance Cpl. Norman Eckles

Staff Sergeant Joseph Putney, assistant base inspector on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, receives a pamphlet from a representative from the California Conservation Corps at the Career and Education Expo in McCarver Hall on MCLB Barstow, May 17. Vendors from colleges such as Everest College, Park University and Azusa Pacific University, gave advice to service members about their life after the military. The Los Angeles Police Department, Riverside Sheriff's Department and Southernwestern College Campus Police were also present.

News Briefs

ALMAR 018/13

Each year we observe Memorial Day, honoring the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to this great nation. As a day of remembrance it is only fitting that all Marines around the world pause, reflect and pay tribute to those that have chosen to wear the uniform of any of our armed forces and lay down their life for the principles of liberty and democracy.

Memorial Day unofficially marks the beginnings of the summer holiday season and a certain amount of excitement naturally accompanies these early days of summer. As you begin to plan and anticipate the thrill of outdoor activities and getaways, I encourage all Marines and their families to enjoy the season without becoming statistics due to off-duty accidents. I want all Marines to have fun this summer, but still take safety into consideration.

This Memorial Day serves to remind us of all that our fallen and wounded have done for our nation. For those currently deployed know that you remain in our thoughts and prayers. Semper Fidelis! Gen. James F. Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps.

Blood Drive

Give the gift of life, June 13: from 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Building 375 and Yermo: from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Employee Support Facility.

Leave Share Program

The following is a comprehensive list of individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of leave donations: **Wanetta Blackwell, Jeremy Cheshire, Johnny Davis Jr., Roger Dull, Eileen Garcia, Uriah Garcia, Janiqua Green, Cindy Hernandez, Lisa Lucero, Tulu Niusulu and Lisa Wood.** 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.

Anticipated Vacancies

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

SES Department- Firefighter, GS-0081-04/05/07

SES Department- Firefighter (Para-

medic), GS-0081-04/05/07/09

SES Department- Supervisory Firefighter (Paramedic), GS-0081-11

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

Marriage Enrichment

Join us for our Marriage Enrichment Retreat, June 21 - 23, at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa in Indian Wells, Calif. During the event, childcare will be provided. For more information, contact RP3 Kreshawn Fleming at (760) 725-4954 or email kreshawn.fleming@usmc.mil.

Energy Tip:

Did you know air conditioning energy use can be reduced 40 percent or more by shading windows and wall? Position trees and shrubs to keep the sunshine off the building and nearby ground.

MCLB Barstow's SMP explores Red Rock Canyon

Story and photo by
Pfc. Samuel Ranney
Combat Correspondent

Six Marines from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., hiked through the picturesque trails of Red Rock Canyon near Las Vegas, as part of an enlightening Single Marine Program trip, May 19.

SMP trips are aimed at boosting camaraderie and morale among Marines, explained Cpl. Austin Swesey, the SMP president on MCLB Barstow. The goal of this trip was to educate Marines about wildlife, geographical features, and the history of the Mojave Desert. In addition, the Marines learned about future career opportunities in the geology field.

Red Rock Canyon is very unique, explained Marvin Saines, Ph.D., an interpretive naturalist and geologist. It's very close to urban areas with more than 2 million people, yet it has more than 200,000 acres of unspoiled terrain. The area includes desert wildlife, mountains, and many different scenic trails to hike or drive through.

The hike was led by Saines, who has been a geologist for more than 20 years and has been researching and leading hikes through Red Rock for more than two years.

Saines said he is always happy and more than willing to guide and inform people through the trails of Red Rock.

"It is very important for people to know about geology," he said. "The more information people have about the science, the more they will appreciate and protect the environment."

"This trip was unlike others we have done in the past,"



(From left to right) Corporal Austin Swesey, Marvin Saines, Cpl. John Ordonez, Lance Cpls. Kristopher Ezell and Jonathon Norita, Sgt. Sarah Faleris, and Lance Cpl. Blong Yang, participants of the MCLB Barstow Single Marine Program's hike through Red Rock Canyon, Las Vegas, pose for a photo during the hike, May 19. Saines, an interpretive naturalist geologist, led the Marines while teaching them different geological aspects about the area.

Swesey said. "It was very educational; Marines learned about geographic features as well as desert survival tips throughout the hike."

The SMP plans to incorporate more professional military education for future trips, Swesey added.

"It's great to build camaraderie while being educated," said Lance Cpl. Jonathon Norita, the SMP vice president on MCLB Barstow. "Not only was it educational, but the hike was a fun way of doing PT (physical training)."

"It's the uneducated people who deface the area with graffiti," Saines said. "If they knew about the geology, wildlife and history they would have a deeper connection and protect Red Rock instead of trying to destroy it."

The Marines all seemed very intrigued during Saines' PME, explained Swesey.

"I learned a lot of things

about the desert that I was unaware of," said Lance Cpl. Kristopher Ezell, a wireman on base. "The desert survival tips given by the guide were very beneficial, but my favorite part was the recreational climbing."

This was Saines first time leading Marines on one of his hikes. He explained that he was very impressed with their athletic ability and their eagerness to climb and explore the area.

During the hike, the Marines, led by Swesey, climbed one of the rocks and discovered a petroglyph that was yet to be discovered by the guide.

A petroglyph is a graphic, carved or pecked into rocks by Native Americans, hundreds if not thousands of years ago, explained Saines.

"It was great hiking with such athletic people. I would

have never gone up that rock and saw the petroglyph if it weren't for them," Saines said. "It's something that I will remember and point out to my future groups ... if they can make it up that rock."

"Barstow is a unique place within the Marine Corps and it offers Marines unique opportunities," Swesey said.

He added that more Marines should take advantage of the program and explore what the High Desert has to offer.

After a fun and education filled day, the sweaty Marines packed up their hiking gear and headed back to Barstow where they boasted about their discovery and encouraged their fellow comrades to join in on future SMP excursions.

Fighting Cancer, one step at a time

Story and photos by
Sgt. Shannon Yount
Press Chief

American Cancer Society website.

"This is a way to get people together, have fun and raise money," said Chikyra Potter, event chair for the 2013 Relay for Life of Barstow.

Every year there is a theme and this year's theme is "In it to win it." Potter explained that the committee chose the theme because it takes a team to find a cure and it takes a team to support the caregivers and survivors.

"We are all here to fight back," said Potter.

Among the 44 teams participating in the event, one team was comprised of Marines from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow.

"I thought it would be a great opportunity to get some Marines together and support a good cause," said Cpl. Bryanna Kessler, a member of team Desert Rat and stableman with the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard.

For one Marine with team Desert Rat, the event hit close to home since both of his parents had battled cancer.

"My mom and dad had cancer and they were able to beat



Cancer survivors, caregivers and members of the High Desert community participate in a 24-hour walk/run during the 16th annual Relay for Life of Barstow held at Barstow High School, May 18. More than 800 individuals came together to celebrate those who have battled cancer, remember lost loved ones, and fight against cancer.

it," said Pfc. Adrian Velasco, an administrative clerk with S-1. "This was a way to honor them and support a great cause."

When team members weren't trekking around the track, participants enjoyed putting their feet up and listened to live entertainment performed by local bands on a stage. Individuals were also given the opportunity to participate in raffles and games, purchase catered food, and perform well-known songs ... all to raise

money for the cause.

"The family environment is the best part about the event. There is something for everyone, and it's something the kids look forward to," said Jet Eddy, a second-time participant and team member of Dianna's Darlings. Eddy walked for her late mother-in-law, Dianna Eddy, who died of lymphoma in August 2011 at the age of 53.

In the evening, men, women, and children of all ages, placed illuminated bags along the track and held a moment of silence honoring loved ones affected by cancer. The Luminaria Ceremony honored those currently battling cancer, survivors, and those who bravely fought the disease, but are no longer here. Each luminaria bag was personalized for a friend or loved one.

"We appreciate everyone who came out and supported the cause," said Potter. "I look forward to next year."

According to the American Cancer Society website, the Relay for Life of Barstow raised more than \$90,000. All proceeds from the event will support cancer research, transportation for cancer patients and programs provided by ACS.

For more information about Relay for life, visit <http://www.relayforlife.org>.

MUD RUNS, OBSTACLE RACES HELP MARINES BRING OUT INNER COMPETITOR

Story and photo by
Cpl. T. Allen Bricker
Combat Correspondent

If you were to show me a Marine with no competitive bone in his or her body, I would show you a liar. We're Marines; naturally, we like to compete.

We try to exceed one another during our physical fitness tests. We try to score better than the Marine sitting next to us on the rifle range. Our Marine Corps was built on a strong foundation of men and women who came before us who wanted to be the best, and today our ranks are filled with Marines who feel the same.

I am not the best; I can admit. I hate to admit it, but I can. Despite knowing this, I still like to compete, physically and mentally, because I can always improve and strive to be better.

In the past 12 months, I've come across another way to help make improvements, satisfy the competitive streak in me, let loose and have some fun all at the same time: obstacle races.

The world of obstacle races seems to be sweeping Southern California by storm and I'm caught up in its hype. It's physical. It's social. It creates memories.

Barstow, Ca-

lif., held its annual mud run at its local sports complex, May 11. More than a handful of Marines and civilian employees from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow came out to participate in the race. Last year wasn't only its inaugural year, but it was also my inauguration into the downright dirty event. Since then, I've climbed through boulders in the High Desert, been chased by zombies in Southern California's wine country, and jumped through fire to finish a race.

The daily physical training I do each morning doesn't only benefit the Marine Corps; it helps with my own personal goals. Being contractually bound to stay fit, in my eyes, tells me, "hey, you're going to run, do pull ups, and crunches

anyway. Why not make use of the results outside the Marine Corps?"

And so, a year ago, I decided to participate in a race and see what the fuss was about. After I found a few friends willing to go with me, I ran my first mud run. It was a revelation.

On race day, there were people everywhere with different builds, statures, and even senses of humor. There were a wide range of eager participants including the typical long-legged, aerodynamic runners or the muscle-bound gym goers, but these 'elites' were not alone. I've started races next to young children or men weighing close to 300 pounds. Every race seems to surprise me in one way or another. I started noticing this when I began

seeing groups of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles or Power Rangers running the courses. Yes, I'm talking about costumes.

Participating in mud runs and other obstacle-style races have really been beneficial to me, not just physically, but mentally as well. Toward the end of an eight-mile obstacle race, it felt as if I was running on fumes. I didn't know how I was still going, let alone completing the obstacles and challenges along the way, but with the help of friends I ran with, and the words of encouragement from the occasional runner I came across, I completed the race.

I really enjoy how well my life in the Marine Corps compliments running these races. I think the concept of military service members participating in races in their off-time is still a hidden gem. Granted, I understand it's been happening for quite some time and I'm not the first to cross over into this new community, but I believe it has potential to grow even more.

When it all comes down to it, these runs are just plain, old-fashioned fun. I mean, letting loose with a few coworkers or friends on a weekend? Trudging through mud up to your knees? Tackling a friend into a pit of mud? I don't know about you but, count me in.



Gunnery Sergeants Chad Webb and Russell Garcia, Marines on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., climb up an obstacle during the second annual Barstow Mud Run, held May 11, at the city's sports complex. The Marine Corps' physical training standards keep Marines in prime condition to participate in races during their free time.



(Left to right) Private First Class Adrian Velasco and Staff Sgt. Jeffery Worley, Marines with Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow and members of team Desert Rat, carry the Marine Corps flag as they walk a lap during the 16th annual Relay for Life of Barstow held at Barstow High School, May 18.

Putting the 'Marks' in Marksmanship

Story by
**Gunnery Sgt. Reina
Barnett**
Public Affairs Chief

Growing up in Lewiston, Idaho, a small town of about 40,000 people, Sgt. Jacey Marks always knew he wanted to be a warrior. His family, made up largely of sailors and naval traditions, always supported the military.

Marks, who was raised alongside his two sisters, held the image of the Marine Corps as being a sort of rite of passage into manhood. And thus, in June 2004, he began a journey unlike any other.

Before arriving in 2010 with orders in hand to the Mounted Color Guard, Marks served with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment in Kaneohe, Hawaii. An infantryman by trade, Marks had already completed four deployments.

Barstow was not as structured as Marks' previous command, and it took a little getting used to.

"It was a large adjustment for me," said the 28-year old. "I had been a squad leader with 13 Marines under my direct charge."

Marks recalled some of his trips with the Mounted Color Guard as extremely enjoyable. On one particular cross-country voyage, Marks dove into the planning and found familiar territory.

"We went to support the Marine Corps Marathon and that's on the other side of the country. You have to plan for hotels, alternate gas stations, figure out what your budget is, bravo truck, alpha truck, who's driving, what the rotation is, how much feed you're going to need . . . making a checklist every time you stop . . . that kind of brought back that mission feeling."

For Marks, the joy and familiarity of planning a convoy and taking care of Marines returned; it was the same

feeling, he said, just not same sense of urgency.

Many events later, Marks explained being with the MCG allowed the Marines to interact on a personal level with small town residents. In Cody, Wyo., during their annual stampede rodeo and Independence Day parade, Marks said the crowd was so silent, he looked over and saw every man, woman, and child standing.

"Even those in wheelchairs were standing, kids had their hands over their hearts. People just stood in awe and were honored to have us there," he said.

Before the rodeo began, a young girl was playing the violin and singing the national anthem. During her performance, the sound system and speakers went out. Subsequently, the arena filled with song from the crowd in the bleachers as they joined the young performer, Marks recalled.

"Their passion is huge, it was such a big moment, and the Mounted Color Guard has a lot of those moments," he said.

After having spent a year with the MCG, Marks moved to the Nebo side of the base, where he served as the color sergeant for the base, the S-3 chief working with training, S-4 chief, managing billeting and logistics for the Marines within the battalion, and a multitude of other duties within the battalion.

An explorer and pioneer by nature, Marks sought out the opportunity to deploy once again. This time, he spent four months in Germany as part of a recovery team with the Joint Prisoners of War, Missing in Action Accounting Command, recovering World War II remains.

"It definitely put history into perspective for me," he said. For

Marks, the experience personified the concept of 'Never leave a Marine behind.'

His tour in Barstow has made Marks a more well-rounded Marine, and he said it's been a good transition that also allowed him more family time.

"Coming here was like steel hitting the water, and allowing the metal to cool," Marks explained. "It was good to see the garrison side of things."

Marks has seen a whole other side to the Corps and said he now has experienced both mental and physical exhaustion; although different, the mental strength it takes to organize pay, orders, working parties, travel . . . administrative work is difficult.

"The infantry is only ten percent of the spear," he said, referring to the popular slogan 'tip of the spear,' "it won't work if you don't have the shaft, and that's all the supporting elements within the Corps."

Another new experience for Marks has been working alongside the many civilian Marines that work day in and day out to support the warfighter.

The civilians take great pride directly supporting their military, Marks said.

"They have this sense of 'my country and my troops,' and it's a bonus to work with such people," he said. "As Marines, we have to uphold those high standards that we're known for; we work around and with civilian men and women every day. We're in the public eye more than we think."

Gunnery Sgt. Dustin Hamilton, a safety specialist on the base, believes that Marks has not only molded the junior Marines around him, but also his fellow NCOs.

"It just shows his all-around char-

acter. He is out of his realm, which is by trade, infantry, yet, he's still trying to excel. He cares about his Marines . . . I think he's one of the top NCOs here in Barstow."

Marks has the focused mindset of accomplishing the mission, regardless of what that mission is, and he tries to get those around him in that same mindset, said Hamilton.

"He's not in the infantry any more, but he still has that infantry mindset and he gives meaning to 'Every Marine is a rifleman,'" explained Hamilton.

While Marks is worried if he's left a "good enough impression," Hamilton said that's something Marks doesn't have to worry about. He's mentored and shared his knowledge and experience with those up and down the rank structure.

"I turn to him quite often. I've spent my whole career in the air wing and he's helped me see the other side of the Marine Corps. That's what a true leader does," added Hamilton.

As often is the case, when not spending time with his own family, Marks spends even more quality time with his "Marine family".

"He'll take junior Marines to the Bureau of Land Management to shoot, and teach them various tactical positions, shooting tips, and other combat skills they may find useful," said Hamilton.

"It's all about sharing your knowledge," said Marks. And with that, the young sergeant leaves one last carefully crafted piece of advice: "Remember, we crawl through the same mud. Push through all the beauracracy, accomplish the mission, and stay out of trouble."

Photo by Sgt. Cooper I. Evans

Lance Cpl. Jacey A. Marks, rifleman, stands watch in the Watapur District, Kunar Province, Afghanistan, October 2005.

CWC 749: PAINT SIMULATOR SAVES GOVERNMENT THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS

Story and photo by
Pfc. Samuel Ranney
Combat Correspondent

The Yermo Annex of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., is responsible for not only repairing, maintaining, and ensuring the quality of thousands of military vehicles, but for painting them in a manner consistent with keeping service members in forward deployed environments safe.

The Cost Work Center 749 (Paint Shop) on MCLB Barstow proficiently trains their employees to paint these vehicles using a top-of-the-line program. It is the Iowa Waste Reduction Center's Spray Technique and Research for Defense program (STAR4D). The program makes certain that waste and negative impacts on the environment are kept at a minimum.

The Spray Technique and Research program started in 1994, and was aimed at small businesses and community colleges. It focused on raising awareness about the impact spray painting has on the environment. The program incorporates curriculum and a virtual laser paint program to educate trainees, according to its website, STAR4defense.org.

In 2003, the STAR program partnered with the Defense Logistics Agency to improve painting techniques for the Department of Defense; thus creating STAR4D, a program designed to meet the military's painting needs.

"We originally sent our painters to Iowa once a year to become STAR4D certified," said Michael Jackson, the painter supervisor here and a certified STAR4D instructor. "It was becoming costly to send them (painters) to Iowa every year, so we ended up buying the (curriculum and training tools) program to evaluate and train our painters on base."

Not only does having the STAR4D program here save the base money, but the training in itself saves the base waste costs while protecting the environment.

"We are going on our fourth year of using STAR4D; since then our cost in waste has gone way down," explained Jackson, who has been

working with the paint shop here for more than 10 years.

The program is a three-day certification process. Painters need to pass both a written test and a virtual painting test in order to become certified, explained Jackson.

"The virtual portion is a great way to evaluate a painter's skill," he added. "It makes it easy to find flaws in a painter's technique that could be causing wasted paint; this allows us to fix those flaws."



Yvonne Rivera, a painter on the Yermo Annex of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, spray paints parts on an M917 dump truck, May 15. Rivera is using techniques she acquired through the Iowa Waste Reduction Center's Spray Technique and Research for Defense program to accomplish her mission as effectively as possible.

The program informs the painter whether or not they're using the right amount of coating, if they're overlapping, if they're the appropriate distance from the vehicle, and calculates how much paint they would be wasting if it were

actual paint, explained Jackson.

"It's a great program for training new painters and introducing them to the vehicles," said Teresa Fuerte, a painter here.

With painters working around the clock painting thousands of vehicles to meet the needs of the military, effective and efficient painting is a must.

Employees are painting seven days a week, 365 days a year. Between 45 painters and two shifts, painters are here from 6 a.m. until 1:30 a.m., explained Jackson.

"Every single part of every single vehicle (on MCLB's Yermo Annex) comes through the shop," he added.

The almost constant painting means a lot of possible waste. This is why the program is so beneficial, not only financially, but also for the environment.

With lives depending on these vehicles, slowing down or wasting time isn't an option.

Painters are trained to use the Chemical Agent Resistance Coating, a polyurethane paint that not only prevents corroding but also provides stealth from infrared detection for service members in the vehicles, and provides protection from biological toxins, explained Jackson.

"CARC and camouflage painting are crucial for service members to stay undetected in combat," he added.

"CARC is also very expensive, around \$400 a case," Jackson said.

That being said, proper training is a must in order to save the government thousands of dollars in unnecessary waste.

"Nothing can compare to the real thing, but it's a great, cost-efficient way to introduce novice painters," said Fuerte.

Painters here provide the military with life-saving vehicles and the ability to remain undetected when it matters most. STAR4D

provides the training these skilled painters need to get the mission done safely and accurately with no impact on the environment, and without spending a dime on paint, Jackson concluded.

Still a leader: Marine or civilian

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Norman
Eckles
Combat Correspondent

From the first time Marines step on the yellow footprints in recruit training, they are taught how to lead from the front.

Neil Pinchefskey, deputy director of Fleet Support Division on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Calif., and retired master sergeant, started his 22-year-long career on the very yellow footprints that many great leaders have stood on.

The Marine Corps gave Pinchefskey his first taste of leadership, though it wouldn't be his last. Upon completion of boot camp, he attended his military occupational specialty [MOS] school at Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he gained the skills needed to perform as an assault amphibious vehicle technician.

Pinchefskey's first duty station was General Support

Maintenance Company, 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton for a year. He then reported to Detachment A, 1st Marine Brigade, 3rd Marine Division, 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. As a sergeant, Pinchefskey served as the ramp chief, a billet commonly held by a staff noncommissioned officer.

After his time in Hawaii, the young sergeant continued to serve in leadership positions at multiple duty stations, to include Okinawa, Japan; Camp Lejeune, N.C.; Camp Pendleton and MCLB Barstow.

"I have filled every billet in my MOS," said the Richmond, Va., native.

When he was stationed on MCLB Barstow, Pinchefskey held the billet as head of movement and maintenance branch, explained Greg Johnson, who currently holds the same billet, and has worked with Pinchefskey for more than 10 years.

"I worked with Neil while

he was on active duty and as a civilian," explained Johnson. "When he retired and came back, the only difference was the clothes he wore."

When he retired from the

"The situation is ever-changing, so we have to improvise, adapt and overcome."

- Neil Pinchefskey
Deputy director of FSD on MCLB Barstow

Corps, Pinchefskey applied for the position he held as a master sergeant. The position was opened, he was qualified, and soon he was filling the billet. In less than ten years since his retirement, he's moved up the chain to deputy director.

As deputy director, Pinchefskey makes decisions that directly affect FSD's overall mission. His responsibilities include the welfare of fellow employees, ensuring deadlines are met, making sure operations have the appropriate manpower and the employees have the necessary equipment at their disposal.

"As a leader, I have to put the best foot forward and always look ahead," said Pinchefskey. "A lot of my success on base is being able to shoot from the hip and overcome any situation. The situation is ever-changing, so we have to improvise, adapt and overcome."

Pinchefskey explained while on a field operation in Twenty-nine Palms, Calif., as a young corporal he was in charge of a detachment, and truly learned the meaning of improvising and adapting. Recalling a specific event, Pinchefskey said he and his Marines came up with a roundabout way to get a jeep engine out of a vehicle. The unit did not have an engine hoist so they used a 25-ton crane to lift the engine.

"A 25-ton crane is a really

big piece of equipment," said Pinchefskey, "but we couldn't lift it ourselves and we needed to complete the mission. Sometimes you've got to do what you have to in order to

get the job done."

Thinking outside the box isn't a foreign concept to Pinchefskey, who since becoming deputy director, has led and assisted his team in clearing one and a half million square feet of outside storage and 300,000 square feet of indoor storage space, all in preparation for the retrograde and reset of military equipment.

"The success behind this is teamwork and a lot of hard work," said Pinchefskey. "The Marine Corps showed me what teamwork can do for you and your employees. If we didn't have team work it would have been a lot harder to do what we have done so far."

Along with staying on his toes, Pinchefskey tries to build trust and camaraderie with his employees, explained Jacqueline Griffin, division secretary with FSD.

"He interacts with everyone and is conscious of his division's welfare," said Griffin. "It's simple; he is what you expect from a leader. I'm positive that he gets his leadership traits and values, such as dependability, responsibility, and decisiveness, from the Marine Corps."

Pinchefskey comes into work every day ready to take on any challenges that may occur, explained Johnson. After more than three decades of service to the Corps, Pinchefskey continues to steer FSD down the path to success.

Chaplain's Corner

Knowing the whole story

By Lt. Benjamin Warner
Base Chaplain

There's a famous scene in the movie Amadeus, a fictional account of the life and work of Mozart. The court musician, Salieri, is astounded at Mozart's talent, but is befuddled by Mozart's inability to live with any sort of decorum, respect, or integrity. When Salieri sees some sheet music that his rival has written, he goes into his room and declares himself an enemy of God. He is frustrated that God would give such talent, such ability, such grace, to a man whose character and behavior deny all that Salieri believed God stood for. It's a poignant scene where Salieri bums his crucifix and renounces everything he believed in. It seems a little extreme for us—after all, is this just sour grapes and jealousy? It hardly seems worth it. But, this reflects something that each of us faces in life—we all have to question why God gives talent, and what it is we expect from God when we consider those we look up to.

Let me explain: if we invest ourselves in a personal "hero," even if that hero is God Himself, we are liable to create some expectations. Maybe we turn a blind eye to things that are less than reputable—we

all jumped on board the Great Home Run Chase didn't we? Yet, we knew there was something suspicious going on. So, why did we turn a blind eye? We want to believe that our heroes are above reproach. The situation is quite different with God—there we often set up requirements that God fulfill certain obligations, whether or not God has agreed to these obligations is irrelevant to us. When God fails to do as we think He should, we then have an excuse to abandon Him or to reject Him. Both of these share a common trait, though. It is about expectations and assumptions we live with, and how we are willing to ignore anything that does not fit with our preconceived ideas of what the "hero" should do.

With these sorts of expectations, our heroes can't help but fail. Herein lays the problem: when we set up a hero, we do not acknowledge a real person. We have created an image of a person that is not consistent with any actual human being (or, with what God has actually promised). This is why I have a personal rule that I live by and encourage in my children: make sure your role model (or hero) is someone you actually know. Then you are forced to deal with the fact that they are not perfect. You see all the little ways in which they fail to climb up on the pedestal

you have prepared for them. This is actually a better way for us to

learn maturity and to develop as people. Because it turns out that we're not perfect, either. Learning to mature and persevere in life means learning how to deal with relationships and responsibilities even after we've failed. We can't learn that from a hero who has never done anything wrong (or at least that we acknowledge has done wrong). Let us become the sort of people who are comfortable saying as the apostle Paul did: I urge you then, be imitators of me (1 Corinthians 4:16). We wouldn't say that because we believe we do no wrong, but we encourage someone to look to us so they can learn how to press on in the midst of difficulties. Maybe Salieri could have understood that God never promised to reward only the best people with the best gifts. Maybe we could have asked that our baseball players embody integrity. We would have had to acknowledge our own failures in that, but it would also keep us from ascending to the heights only to crash back to earth.



Neil Pinchefskey, deputy director of Fleet Support Division on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow Calif., looks over reports before sending them up the chain of command, May 10. Pinchefskey ensures FSD meets their deadlines and completes their mission.

MAN ON THE STREET

The MCLB Barstow public affairs office gets first-hand opinions from base personnel

MEMORIAL DAY: WHOSE MEMORY DO YOU PLAN TO CELEBRATE AND WHY?



Nicole Solorzano, a heavy mobile equipment mechanic with Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command.

"I like to remember my grandfather. He served in the Army. Each year, my family goes to the cemetery to give thanks. It's important to show appreciation for what he did."



Chad Trusty, employee development officer on base and retired Marine Chief Warrant Officer 3.

"I don't remember one particular person on Memorial Day. I celebrate the spirit of those who have come before us and led the way in the military. Being in [the Marine Corps] made it easier to understand how big of a sacrifice the people before us have made."



Joe Henley, a heavy mobile equipment mechanic with Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command.

"I celebrate Memorial Day for my uncle. He retired from the Navy and basically raised me. I think it's important we remember those who served and people we've lost. It's respectful."



Staff Sgt. Nicholas Bebermiss, SNCO of base operations, combat veteran, and Wounded Warrior.

"I'm going to remember my grandfather. He fought in the Korean War. He was a big inspiration to me and he was my drive to stay in the military."

