New base fire regulations

Montford Point Marines

From the Bunker
On The Cover:

Cover photo by: Jack Adamyk
Rene Rocha, heavy equipment mobile mechanic, uses spray paint to touch-up paint on a Detroit Dieses 6V53 engine component at Production Plant Barstow, on Marine Corps Logistic Base Barstow, California, Aug. 24, 2021. Rocha leverages experience from overhauling Light Armored Vehicles (LAV-25), Caterpillar transmissions, to the Detroit Diesel 6V53 engines to ensure quality vehicles make it to our nation’s war fighters.

The editorial content of this magazine is prepared, edited and provided by the Communication Strategy and Operations Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer, Attn: CommStrat Office, Box 110130, Barstow, CA 92311-5050. The CommStrat is located in Building 204. Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6450, 577-6451, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282.

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Website: http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil
http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow

On the web

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow
Barstow, California

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Hsiu Coe, store director, poses with staff and a cake during the Click to Go kickoff event held at the commissary aboard Marine Logistics Base Barstow, California, Aug. 17. Using Click to go, shoppers can shop online and schedule a time to pick up their order.
**News Brief**

**MARADMIN 428/21**

**ANNOUNCEMENT FOR 41ST ANNUAL MODERN DAY MARINE EXPO**

This message announces the 2021 Modern Day Marine Expo, taking place from 21-23 September 2021 at Lejeune Field on Marine Corps Base Quantico, VA. Registration is open on the following site: www.marinemilitaryexpos.com.

The Modern Day Marine Exposition is hosted by the Marine Corps League and the Marine Corps Association for the purpose of transforming service priorities into future force capabilities. This is accomplished through interaction between exhibiting U.S. defense manufacturers and private-sector U.S. companies with service leadership and serving Marines of all ranks and occupational backgrounds. Modern Day Marine is an annual three-day professional networking and education event that is open to the entire force. All Marines are encouraged to register and participate, either in person, if local to the national capital region, or to view the recorded sessions featuring Marine Corps and Department of Defense leaders which will be available on the website to registrants following the event.

The Modern Day Marine website and recorded content platform is accessible via the MCEN and authorized for use. The Marine Corps is not responsible for content on sites that may be accessible from the exposition site. Marines are reminded to practice ethical conduct when visiting any websites. Service level recorded sessions will be available to registrants for sixty days following the expo.

Day 1: (September 21) Industry Day
  - 0945 Opening Ceremony
  - 1000 Report to Industry Panel
  - 1400 Requirements, Experimentation, and Acquisition Panel

Day 2: (September 22) Leadership Day
  - 0900 Enlisted Award Parade
  - 1000 Service Level Update on Force Design 2030
  - 1200 Keynote by Deputy Secretary of Defense
  - 1400 Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Leadership Remarks

Day 3: (September 23) Professional Military Education Day
  - 1000 TECOM Holistic Overview and Updates
  - 1200 Naval Campaigning and Stand in Forces Presentation
  - 1400 Future Capabilities Presentation

In addition to the main briefing center, numerous other presentations and briefs will take place including presentations from the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab, the Capabilities Development Directorate, the Human Performance Branch, the Cunningham Group, the Krulak Center, C4I, TECOM, and I&L. For more information, visit: marinemilitaryexpos.com/moder-day-marine/home.

**MARADMIN 446/21**

**RENTERS INSURANCE GUIDANCE FOR RENTAL PROPERTY TENANTS**

Individual Marines, Sailors, and their families who are in rental housing, whether off installation or resident in Public-Private Venture (PPV) housing onboard an installation, are strongly encouraged to obtain personal property and liability renters insurance, which provides protection against the loss of valuable personal items and liability for property damage or injuries to other parties. It is critical for service members and their families to understand their renter’s insurance policy coverages, including what components of loss, liability, and medical bills are covered, the exclusions from policy coverage, and the policy deductible limits, which set out the amount the policy holder must cover financially before the insurance coverage begins.

**MARADMIN 429/21**

**CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2021 VIRTUAL BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT NATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE CONFERENCE**

This message announces the 2021 virtual Blacks in Government (BIG) National Training Institute (NTI) conference from 23-26 August 2021. This year’s theme is “Training Matters – Roadmap To Securing Your Career Goals.” Manpower and Reserve Affairs’ (M&RA) Opportunity, Diversity, and Inclusion Branch (MPE) will sponsor 35 conference registration fees for this event.

Requests to participate in this event should be emailed to the group mailbox MPE(underscore)Outreach@usmc.mil, Marc Sheppard (marc.sheppard@usmc.mil), and Sergeant Anthony Quinones (anthony.quinones@usmc.mil) via your Officer-in-Charge and include the following information: name, rank, unit, email, and duty station.

The uniform of the day for the event is Service “C” for any attendee broadcasting images or video in the course of their participation.

**Leave Share Program**

Individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of leave donations.

**Montez-Diaz, Steven**

**Goodwill, Francis**

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Share Program should contact the Human Resources Office at 577-6915.
It is an honor to be part of the best fighting force in the world. What makes us the best? What is different between the Marine Corps and our other armed services? Why are we the 911 force for our nation? There are many answers to these questions. We can tie it back to boot camp, Officers Candidate School, or The Basic School. This is where teamwork and the values of the Marine Corps were taught to us, and we soaked it up like a sponge. It could also be the values that we have learned through our journey in the Marine Corps or the leaders we have served with in the past.

When I look at my career I think how fortunate I have been to have had leaders teach me what a team is and how teamwork is needed to be successful in the Marine Corps. As an individual you can accomplish your personal or professional goals but you will never go to the next level unless you implement teamwork skills. When you are part of a team you can complete far more goals than you could ever do on an individual level.

The team is built with one goal in mind, which is to succeed together. Each member will bring their strengths and weaknesses. Teams have one thing in common, a leader. A leader does not just bark out orders and tells the team what to do. A great leader is capable and willing to perform any task that the team is assigned. Leaders lead by example, not only in combat, but as a person. Setting the example as a leader challenges the rest of the team to improve themselves. This will also gain trust and respect within the team.

There are several steps needed to build a team and make everyone feel like they are included. Communication is a key step to having a successful team. This is an area that we all can work and improve upon. Being a well-oiled machine with regard to teamwork and communication allows you to be flexible and adapt to any situation. Attention to detail enables strong communication (sending and receiving) throughout the team and all the team members. Effective communication with planning enables the team to be prepared when things go wrong. You cannot succeed as a team without communication skills. This is also a reason why leaders over communicate.

Sharing the load is also a way to help members get involved. As leaders, we know that we can accomplish the mission or goal if we perform the task ourselves. But who learns from that? As a team we must build each other up and have members work outside their comfort zone. We need to value the team’s opinions. Listening to what the team has to say will also open up a broader perspective. Once we have listened to the team members we are able to use their ideas to help coach, teach, and mentor the team.

Much of a team’s success depends on having a leader who can take a group of individuals and mold them into a team. Teams will increase their success by building a common ground, training for capability, managing by end state, rewarding success, discussing failures and, most importantly, setting the example with your own actions.

Semper Fi

SgtMaj E.C. Kretschmer
August 26 marks the 79th anniversary of Montford Point Marines beginning their training at Camp Montford Point, Jacksonville, North Carolina, in 1942.

On June 25, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order No. 8802 establishing the Fair Employment Practices Commission which was intended to erase discrimination in the Armed Forces. A board headed by Brigadier General Keller E. Rocher was organized to study the integration of African-Americans being assigned to the 2nd Composite Defense Battalion, which included coastal artillery, anti-aircraft, infantry and tanks.

Then in 1942, President Roosevelt established a presidential directive giving African-Americans an opportunity to be recruited into the Marine Corps.

These recruits, from all states, were not sent to the traditional boot camps located at Parris Island, South Carolina and San Diego, California. Instead, Black Marines were segregated and sent to basic training at Camp Montford Point. By October only 600 recruits had begun training although the call was for 1,000 for combat in the 51st and 52nd Composite Defense Battalions.

Initially the recruits were trained by white officers and noncommissioned officers, but citing a desire to have Black Marines train Black recruits, the Marines quickly singled out several exceptional Black recruits to serve as NCO drill instructors. In January 1943, Edgar R. Huff became the first Black NCO as a private first class. In February Gilbert “Hashmark” Johnson, a 19-year veteran of the Army and Navy, became the first Drill Sergeant. Then by May, 1943 all training at Montford Point was done by Black sergeants and drill instructors, with Johnson as Chief DI. Both Johnson and Huff would be renowned throughout the entire Marine Corps for their demanding training and exceptional leadership abilities.

Exceptional recruits were singled out to assist in the training of their own platoons. Mortimer A. Cox, Arnold R. Bostick, Edgar R. Davis, Jr. were also selected for their leadership and maturity and became Drill Instructors. All of these first DI’s would eventually join the staff to reinforce the training mission at Montford Point which was to develop African American Marines for support roles in the Corps, following their graduation.

Approximately twenty thousand African American Marines went through basic training at Montford Point between 1942 and 1949. That’s less than 10 percent of the total Marine Corps strength during World War II. The initial intent of the Marine Corps hierarchy was to discharge these Marines after the War, returning them to civilian life and returning the Marine Corps to an all-white organization. Attitudes changed, and reality took hold, as the war progressed. Once
given the chance to prove themselves, it became impossible to deny the fact that this new breed of Marines was just as capable as all other Marines regardless of race, color, creed or National origin.

The men of the 51st soon distinguished themselves as the finest artillery gunners in the Marine Corps, breaking almost every accuracy record in training. Unfortunately, discrimination towards Black Marines’ fighting abilities still existed and when shipped to the Pacific, the 51st and 52nd were posted to outlying islands away from the primary action. The only Montfort Marines to see action, and record casualties, were the Ammunition and Depot Companies in Saipan, Guam, and Peleliu. Private Kenneth Tibbs was the first Black Marine to lose his life on June 15, 1944.

The largest number of Black Marines to serve in combat during WW II took part in the seizure of Okinawa, with approximately 2,000 seeing action.

In July of 1948 President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order No. 9981 which desegregated the U.S. Armed Forces. Then in September of 1949, Camp Montford Point was deactivated, ending seven years of training segregation. The training facility was later named Camp Johnson, on April 19, 1974, in honor of the late Sergeant Major Gilbert H. “Hashmark” Johnson. Johnson was one of the first African American’s to join the Corps, a Distinguished Montford Point Drill Instructor and a Veteran of WWII and Korea. The Camp remains the only Marine Corps installation named in honor of an African American.

Information for this article was compiled from the following websites:

https://montfordpointmarines.org/

https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/montford-point-marines-1942-1945/
The Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard participated in a mock swearing-in ceremony as part of their community relations outreach while Caldwell, Idaho, for a rodeo event August 20.

The entire rodeo event took place from August 18 to 21, with various opportunities to meet and greet the public, to include the rodeo queens.

“The team helped with mutton busting, too, and threw shirts to the crowd during that event,” said Staff Sgt. Enrique Valencia, the staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the MCG teams.

With nearly 6,000 people in attendance each night, the team has the opportunity to introduce The Colors, and engage with the community, as the last remaining Mounted Color Guard in the United States Marine Corps. They were honored, when asked to present the colors at the mock swearing-in ceremony.

“A mock swear in ceremony is the oath of enlistment into the military, done outside of MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Station), and typically all participants have already gone to MEPS and sworn into their respective branch,” said Sgt. Amy Polacheck, MCG stableman. “A mock swear-in ceremony is for ceremonial viewing purposes at an event, such as the Caldwell Rodeo.”

They held the mock swearing-in on August 20 because Friday Night was Patriot Night for the Rodeo event.

“The rodeo committee wanted to honor the military that specific night and worked with the local recruiting offices to bring recruiters and applicants to the stage,” Valencia said. “This has been an ongoing event for many years. There were two Marine recruiters and 20 Marine enlistees (recruits) in attendance. There was an estimated 60 individuals total participating, with Army and Navy recruiters and their applicants.”

As rodeo attendees looked on, the MCG presented the colors, the enlistees swore in, as families and friends stood by to support their loved ones as they embarked on this new chapter of their lives.
I t’s that time of year when families are either excited or dreading sending their littles back to school, and there is help in navigating the process for those aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

“Although we have families in schools as far as Phelan, I focus most of my efforts on the districts within our community, which are Barstow Unified School District and Silver Valley Unified School District,” said Adam Diaz, School Liaison Officer and Exceptional Family Member Program case worker with Marine Corps Community Services. “If a family requires my assistance advocating or communicating with another school in the High Desert, I am still ready to help.”

After more than a year of pandemic related restrictions, all schools are permitted to resume in-class instruction per the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.

Students and staff are discouraged to attend if they are exhibiting any recent new symptoms:

- Fever (100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher) or chills
- New uncontrolled cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- New onset of severe headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Diarrhea, vomiting, nausea

“Families should contact their school as soon as possible if any of these symptoms are observed in their child,” said Diaz. “All schools have implemented options for alternative educational opportunities, as well. Each district will have their own process and system to administer those programs. So, it will definitely look different across the desert.”

All of the schools in the High Desert have begun their school year as of now and have updated COVID protocols in place.

“COVID cleaning protocols are in place and they vary by school district,” he explained. “All children and staff are to wear a mask indoors unless exempted for medical reasons, regardless of vaccination status. The schools are each following guidance set forth by county and state departments of public health.”

With the new protocols in place, class sizes are returning back to normal.

“Evidence is showing that as long as mitigation measures are being followed, social distancing while learning is not necessary,” Diaz said. “Face masks, hand washing, and material sanitation help to reduce the spread. However, social distancing is still enforced during meal breaks.”

Masks must also be worn during Physical Education if conducted indoors, but the masks are optional if the PE and recess breaks are outdoors.

If parents, or guardians, have questions or concerns about their schools, or their child's return to in-person schooling, Diaz has a broad depth of experience to help. Sometimes there may be a disconnect in terminology, and he can help decipher the communications.

“Overall, I serve as the middle-man between the schools and the installation,” he explained. “Civilians and military can sometimes speak different languages. Having been with MCCS for seven years now, and being a veteran myself, I can help bridge the gap in understanding for the families and school staff.”

If a family is in need of assistance, you can find him in McTureous Hall, email him at adam.diaz@usmc-mccs.org, or give him call at 760-577-5854.
New fire regulations aboard MCLB Barstow

Story by: Laurie Pearson
COMMSTRAT Chief

As fires continue to burn throughout parts of the state, new fire regulations ban charcoal barbecues, fireworks and more aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

New Base Order 11320.5J, Fire Prevention Regulation and Instruction outlines a long list of changes. In one section it addresses Fire Wardens, both Primary and Secondary assignment for Commands, Units, and Sections aboard MCLB Barstow. This puts more responsibility on the personnel given this collateral duty to assist the Fire Prevention Department in finding and removing potential life safety hazards in their work centers.

“These update will bring our Fire and Emergency Services in line with present requirements put forth by the Unified Facilities Code and National Fire Prevention Association Codes,” said Kenneth Seymour, Fire Prevention chief for the base. “The purpose is to establish and maintain an effective and efficient Fire Protection and Emergency Services Program that incorporates fire prevention and public fire education; fire protection engineering; all-hazards emergency response; and fire protection systems inspection, testing, and maintenance. The updated policy protects Marine Corps personnel and the public from loss of life, injury, and illness due to fires and other emergencies as a result of Installation activities, disasters and terrorist incidents.”

One of the pressing issues regarding fires, and fire safety, is the severe fire conditions that continue to be problematic for the State of California.

“California is in a very dry condition right now with our lack of rain from the winter months,” Seymour explained. “This will of course increase the potential for fire danger throughout the state, not just here in Barstow.”

One thing that will help is to work together to remove the hazards from around residences or workplaces. The Order specifies a clearance of 30 feet from structures, exterior storage areas, and utility equipment pads.

“Removing things such as trash and debris, vegetation that is in large quantities within our properties and around our homes, will help the Fire Services in the event of a wildland fire in our area,” he said.

As is typical with summer, families often enjoy cooking outside, so barbecuing is on the rise, but use of charcoal grills is no longer allowed on base. Page 9-3 of the Fire Prevention Order states:

Single-family dwellings shall not have or use charcoal grills and/or store them on balconies, or within 10 of combustible patios on the ground floors.

“This base is kind of unique,” Seymour explained. “We do not have the proper disposal sites for hot ashes which are created when using charcoal to
cook. There were too many situations in which occupants have taken the hot ashes and threw them in the trash or in the dumpster, which in turn caused a fire to start.” So, charcoal is out, but propane is still good to go, with a few additional limitations.

As we quickly approach Labor Day weekend, and other holidays, not only during the rest of 2021, but moving on into 2022, there are other things to keep in mind, as well. Families sometimes want to enjoy fireworks, not just during Independence Day, but other holidays, as well. However, fireworks are strictly prohibited on base. For those living off base, reach out to the local fire department or fire authority for specific fireworks guidelines for the jurisdiction.

“Fireworks are not authorized aboard MCLB Barstow (Yermo or Nebo),” Seymour said. “Additionally, per the Base Order, there are no open flames or fires of any type. No fires for any purpose will be started or maintained on the installation without approval of the Fire Prevention Division.”

“I truly look forward to assisting the Command and helping our community grow, keeping the community risk at a minimal level and educating the public on how to make their workplaces and homes safe,” he said. “Please feel free to reach out to our Fire and Emergency Services with any questions.”

Fire, cont. from page 11

Fire and Emergency Services
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**August 2021**

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- **17th**: Century Anger Management
- **18th**: Self-Defense
- **19th**: Warri...