

THE PROSPECTOR



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

January 24, 2013

Welding Shop

MDMC employees take pride in work

Thrift Store

Save a little Money

1st MLG

Pendleton Marines train at MCLB Barstow





Photo by: Lance Cpl. Norman D. Eckles

Colonel Michael L. Scalise, base commander, trains with the Marine Corps Police Department K-9 unit and gains insight on how the K-9 unit operates, Jan. 17. The officers with the K-9 unit train their dogs to heed their commands and listen no matter what is going on around them.

On The Cover:

Robert Hoskin, a welder aboard Marine Depot Maintenance Command, Production Plant Barstow, lances a pin on a LAV frame, Jan. 11. Hoskin travels across MDMC performing multiple jobs. Hoskin welds two different materials such as steel and aluminum, and works inside the shop performing multiple welds on vehicles. Hoskin welds Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle and Humvees.

THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
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Photo by: Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney

Colonel Stephen Medeiros, commanding officer of Marine Depot Maintenance Command, Production Plant Barstow on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., sits beside Mike Bogdahn, deputy commander of production operations, during the Continuous Process of Improvement kick-off, Jan. 14. The CPI, from Jan.14-17, is planned to increase productivity, safety and standardize operations between PPB and MDMC Production Plant Albany, Ga.

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of ... 4**



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Local resident, historical hero passes away

Master Gunnery Sergeant James A. Brewer, United States Marine Corps retired, at the age of 84, passed away on Jan. 12, 2013. A memorial service honoring his life, both as a Marine and family man, was held at MCLB Barstow's Marine Memorial Chapel Jan. 19.

Brewer was one of the first approximately 20,000 African Americans to enlist in the Marine Corps and train at Montford Point, N.C., a segregated recruit training facility from 1943 to 1949. He, along with about 2,000 surviving members of the original Montford Point Marines, was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in the summer of 2012.

He enlisted in the Corps in 1946 and served for 26 years, retiring in 1972. Brewer later worked as a civilian employee on MCLB Barstow until retiring a second time in 1995.

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., Elieen Garcia, 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 Michelle Eichler at 760-577-6915.

Girls Night Out

The Dessert View Housing Community Center will be holding

an active get together open to all active duty spouses, Jan. 31, Feb. 28, and March 28 from 7-9 p.m. Come by for a night without the guys or kids. Spouses are encouraged to come play games, watch movies or just hang out and socialize. There will be a different host each month.

Childcare will not be provided.

Play Mornings

Play Mornings will be held at the Desert View Housing Community Center Jan. on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. They will be open to all active duty service members with newborn children to age 5 children. The events will give children and parents an opportunity to meet and interact with one another.

Transitional Compensation Program Community Brief

The Family Advocacy Program will be holding a Transitional Compensation Program Community brief for abused family members March 14 from 11-12 p.m. at McCutcheon Hall, building 218. The program offers assistance in extending financial and medical services for abused family members as they transition into abuse-free lives. For more information, contact Michelle

Lawing at 577-6533

WHY PAY MORE? TRY THE THRIFT STORE

By **Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney**

Combat Correspondent

“One man’s trash is another man’s treasure,” this common saying could apply to Marines and civilians who utilize the thrift store on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow.

For the service members, family members, retirees, and civilian employees aboard the installation who are unaware, MCLB Barstow does in fact, have a thrift store. It has been closed due to flooding, however should be reopening around February, according to Nicole Marks, MCLB Barstow’s thrift store chairman of volunteers.

Thrift stores should be taken advantage of; buying used things, when they’re often as good as new anyway, is a great way to save money in today’s economy, explained Marks.

The chairman has been volunteering at the base’s thrift store since 2011. She believes the store is much more organized than the average thrift shop and she takes pride in the work her and her co-workers accomplish.

Mike Hire, the direc-

tor of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, and frequent visitor of the shop, agrees that MCLB Barstow has an above average thrift store.

“Thanks to the efforts of the command, Barstow has an outstanding thrift shop; it’s bright, big and very well organized. The management does an excellent job,” he added.

Marks and Hire both encourage service members to shop at the thrift store for the low cost merchandise.

“People would save a lot of money by doing their shopping at the thrift store. Shoes for example, are all under \$5; many of which people donate brand new, still in the box,” Marks said as she pointed to a pair of Nikes on her feet. “These were only \$2, brand new.”

She explained that most of the store’s donations come from Marines who get a permanent change of station. These donations often include many uniform items available to Marines at a much lower cost than anywhere else. Marines must show their military identification card prior to buying uniform items,



Marks added.

The best part about buying things from MCLB Barstow’s thrift store is that the money goes right back to the service member. Hire explained that all the money the shop gets is turned into Camp Pendleton and funded into the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society uses the money to then provide financial assistance to service members in need.

As part of the reopening, hours are slated to change to accommodate the Marines. Marks explained that the shop will be open during lunch hours to give base personnel the time to come

in and shop. She also hopes, with the help of more volunteers, to be open a couple of Saturdays each month.

The biggest reason more Marines aren’t utilizing the store is because they are unaware of its location, said Marks. It’s located in warehouse three aboard the base, a sign reading, “Thrift Store” on Wake Avenue will direct you toward the shop.

Keep an eye open for the shop’s reopening in February ... from movies and books to children’s clothing and furniture, the thrift store may have exactly what you’re looking for.

1ST MLG MARINES WORK WITH MDMC

Story and photos by: Cpl. T. Allen Bricker
Combat Correspondent

Marines train in every clime and place and despite its remote location in California's High Desert, the Marine Corps' largest single-story building is a prime candidate for a training site.

Marines with Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, from Camp Pendleton, Calif., took advantage of this opportunity and will spend nearly a month at the Mojave base learning how to disassemble and rebuild tactical vehicles.

The Marines taking this opportunity work mostly with basic vehicle repairs on a normal basis. Working with the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle and MATV, an all-terrain version of the MRAP, the MLG Marines will be

able to get more in-depth training on repairing these vehicles and see how they operate from the inside.

"Our Marines don't usually get this detailed when it comes to repairing these vehicles," said Staff Sgt. Matthew Thompson, maintenance chief and staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the Marines sent to MCLB Barstow from 1st MLG. "While we're here, I want my Marines to get a better understanding of how these vehicles work. I think it'll benefit them greatly in their work if they know more about the vehicles they work on," he added.

Thompson explained that the Marines he brought to the installation will be able to see the inner workings of these tactical vehicles and

gain a more insight as to the reasons for the vehicle repairs.

"If they understand why their doing what they're doing, their work will go a lot further than if they were just doing what they learned without reason," Thompson said.

A majority of the Marines on this trip haven't spent much time in the fleet. Most have been in the Marine Corps less than two years. Thompson hoped getting this training for the Marines would help them get the most out of their career in the Marine Corps.

"It's a really good experience for us. I'm glad we got to come up here to do this," explained Lance Cpl. Jose Flores, a motor transportation technician with 1st MLG. A lot of the work the maintenance Marines did in Barstow were tasks they wouldn't have an opportunity to do on a regular basis back at their duty station, Flores added.

The training for the Marines began as an idea from MDMC employees looking to utilize the plant in more innovative ways.

"Several officers thought our plant had a lot of potential," explained Betty Jackson, a program analyst with MDMC. "Some of us at MDMC thought it'd be a good idea to bring in units from different bases in the Marine Corps to have them train. This way, we can have Marines learn in more detail how the MRAP or MATV work."

Jackson also stressed the importance of allowing the Marines to see the battle damage done to the vehicles returning from combat. This way, they could have a better understanding of how important their job is, she said.

Both MDMC and its visiting Marines have benefited from the training opportunity.

"The Marines coming up [to



Lance Corporal Jose Flores, a motor transportation technician with Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group from Camp Pendleton, Calif., torques part of an engine at Marine Depot Maintenance Command, Production Plant Barstow, Jan. 14. Flores, along with 11 other Marines from Maintenance Battalion, came to Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow to train by tearing down and rebuilding tactical vehicles being repaired at MDMC. The knowledge the Marines learned will be passed on to the rest of their unit when they return to their base.

DMC TO REPAIR TACTICAL VEHICLES



Lance Corporal Adriana Aravjo, a motor transportation technician with Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group from Camp Pendleton, Calif., works inside an MATV, an all-terrain version of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected tactical vehicle, Jan 14.

MDMC] to work on these vehicles have helped us out more than we could have imagined,” said Jackson. “Our number one goal is to support the warfighter and helping these Marines out is doing exactly that. Having them here also helps get the word out about our invite to other units,” she added.

The success of the Marines training at MDMC has opened the door for others to come hone their skills at the production plant.

“We already have two more groups scheduled to come up and do the same training,” explained Thompson. “This trip has been more than helpful to my Marines. We’ve gotten more out of this than we could have hoped for. I look forward to keeping this up,” he concluded.



Marines with Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group from Camp Pendleton, Calif., works on engine of an MATV, an all-terrain version of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected tactical vehicle, Jan 14. During their stay at MCLB Barstow, the Marines were able to learn how to tear apart and rebuild several tactical vehicles.

Welders from MDMC take on challenges all around the base

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Norman D. Eckles
Combat Correspondent

Production Plant Barstow on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., plays a key role in the repairing process on ground combat equipment that has returned from combat.

The men in the welding shop work not only in their shop but they also have two welders who travel and complete welding jobs in other shops that may have equipment too large or cumbersome to be moved.

Robert Hoskin and Alcario Castaneda comprise the mobile unit. They travel around MDMC welding each vehicle at the finalizing stations as well as welding on various weapons systems.

The finalizing station is the last place vehicles are worked on prior to being sent back to their original unit. In this stage, the personnel will carefully inspect the vehicle to see if there's a crack anywhere on the frame.

mobile cart is always changing, explained Castaneda.

"Each day is filled with challenges that we deal with and we have to change the way we weld accordingly," explained Castaneda.

"We have jobs that will take 20 minutes and then there are others that could take up to an hour," said Hoskin.

"We are always moving," said Hoskin. "At the end of the day we ask each other, how many miles have we traveled today?"

With the numerous jobs that need to be done at various shops throughout MDMC, it takes a well-rounded individual to know what they are doing without supervision, explained Castaneda.

In addition to operating the mobile cart, Hoskin and Castaneda work in the main shop.

"A lot of the guys in the shop have had formal training," said Daniel Peterson, welding shop supervisor.



Alcario Castaneda, a welder aboard Marine Depot Maintenance Command, welds a component Jan. 11. Workers with MDMC weld components for multiple vehicles such as LAVs, MRAPs Humvees and MATVs..

We develop our welders' skills and certify them, Peterson added.

With a trade school background, Hoskin began working as a welder for MDMC in 2005. Although he had a basic welding background, his fellow welders mentored him and showed him different techniques he could use. Now, Hoskin uses a variety of techniques to accomplish the mission.

The men that work in the welding shop put their absolute best in everything they do because each member of the shop has a military member in their family or knows someone serving in the armed forces. This means the welders take great pride in what they do,

and they know it could mean saving a life, explained Castaneda.

"There are people out there with sons and daughters in Afghanistan; which makes me work ten times harder," added Castaneda.

The welders on the installation make sure each vehicle is free of cracks and immaculate which makes the welding shop an essential component of MDMC and an imperative element in ensuring the safety of our military servicemen and women serving abroad.

MCLB BARSTOW PERSONNEL GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

By Lance Cpl. Samuel Ranney
Combat Correspondent

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow held its first quarterly awards breakfast for calendar year 2013, Jan. 16.

As base personnel enjoyed their breakfast in the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center, Col. Michael L. Scalise, commanding officer of MCLB Barstow, and Sgt. Maj. Richard Charron, base sergeant major recognized several civilian employees and Marines with awards.

Awardees were recognized for going above and beyond in their job fields and their respective departments, and Marines who received quarterly awards last year were also recognized once again.

The Marines awarded for fiscal year 2013 first quarter were Lance Cpl. Adrian Velasco, an administrative clerk aboard the base, and Cpl. Jonathon Norita, a supply clerk here. Velasco was recognized for winning Marine of the Quarter and Norita for winning noncommissioned officer of the Quarter.

These Marines performed their demanding duties in an exemplary and highly professional manner. After a highly competitive evaluation process, a board comprised of senior enlisted Marines selected them as Marine, and NCO of the quarter, stated Scalise as their awards were presented.

Following the awards ceremony from the command, Lonnie Long, a Pacific Marine Credit Union



The supply shop aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow stand proudly with two of their clerks who received awards during the 2013 first quarter awards breakfast, Jan. 16, at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center aboard the base. Corporal Joleen Quitano (front left) was named Marine of the Year and received a Noncommissioned Officer's Sword for going above and beyond. Corporal Jonathon Norita (front right) was named NCO of the Quarter for exceeding the standards in his job field.

representative and retired Marine Corps sergeant major, recognized some of the Marines by presenting them with gifts from the credit union.

After those Marines were recognized, Cpl. Joleen Quitano, a supply clerk aboard the base, was named Marine of the Year and presented an NCO sword.

"I had no idea I was going to receive the sword; it's truly an honor," said Quitano. "I never imagined I would receive an NCO sword in my Marine Corps career, let alone be named Marine of the Year."

Quitano, a native of Guam, explained that she has been awarded two letters of appreciation, four certificates of commendation, one meritorious mast, a good conduct medal, and received NCO of the quarter twice since being stationed at MCLB Barstow. Advancing in the Marine Corps takes a desire in self improvement, physical training, work, life, education, and looking out for fellow Marines, said Quitano.

The Marines and civilian employees at the event gave Quitano a standing ovation before the end of the ceremony. The Marines and civilian employees who filled the conference center left with their stomachs satisfied and their minds set on entering the second quarter as strong as the first.

Supervisor of the Year -- William Atkinson, base deputy police chief

Employee of the Year -- Rose M. Vickers, labor relations specialist

Supervisor of the Quarter -- Keith Varney, director of business operations for Marine Corps Community Services

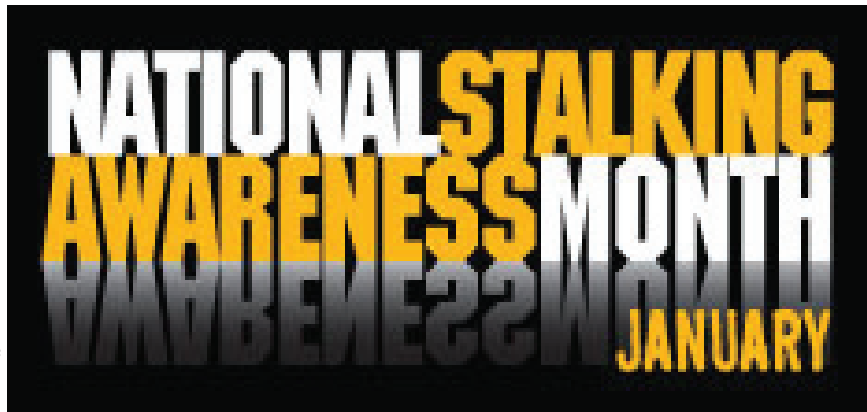
Employee of the Quarter -- Wayne Wilbourn, Information Technology operations, base communications ,

Employee of the Quarter -- Arley Lessard, financial technician with the comptroller's office

Length of Service Award -- Richard Wiley Jr., engineering technician

Cyber Stalking and Domestic Violence:

How technology makes it even harder to escape domestic abuse



Submitted by

Michelle Lawing

civilian victim advocate
of MCLB Barstow

Cyber-stalking is nothing new. Troll the web for information on domestic violence and you'll notice something ... many sites contain cautions like "WARNING" and "IMPORTANT PRIVACY NOTICE". These flashing messages alert victims to a terrifying reality... technology makes it even harder to escape domestic abuse and in some cases, might even help the offender abuse.

Technology is being used more and more to track, stalk and monitor victims wherever they might go. For example, your own cell phone can be used to help someone locate you in order to stalk you. As an advocate for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault,

I thought I was familiar with the many ways victims can be stalked but I have learned about disturbing ways that computers and cell phones can deliver potentially dangerous details about our whereabouts. Cell phones with GPS "locator services" are a key culprit. If activated, anyone with the account information can see where a cell phone is located and by extension, providing the cell phone is with the owner, where the person is. Abusers have been known to give such devices as gifts, especially to children. Tragically, battered woman have already been found and harmed in shelters through this method.

Another safety concern to guard against is

information unwittingly provided by individuals – those who are at risk and even those who are not - through social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter. A recent "upgrade" in the Facebook system makes phone numbers available. The good news, though, is that you can protect yourself from this "advancement" and at the same time safeguard your information. This can easily be accomplished through adjusting privacy settings.

It is suggested that "at risk" individuals and others concerned about their privacy, should follow these steps to restrict access to their phone numbers: Select "Account" at the top of your Facebook page.

Next, click on "Privacy settings." Select "Custom," then "Customize Settings." Next, click on "Contact Info." You can then customize your phone numbers for "only me" or whatever level you want. Word to the wise...protect yourself by limiting the number of persons who have access to your personal information.

For more information, contact, Michelle Lawing, Victim Advocate at the Marine & Family Programs Division office in Bldg. 129 at 577-6533 and/or visit the Stalking Resource Center at the National Center for Victims of Crime and Safety Net Project of the National Network to End Domestic Violence.

Chaplain's Corner

The way in which we view the world

By Lt. Benjamin Warner
Base Chaplain



One of the (many) downsides to not having cable television is that you watch some of your favorite shows through an internet service—this means you only see the same half dozen commercials who sponsor said online service. It's possible you've seen the same commercial as I have—it's a shampoo commercial claiming that the problem with hair is not the ends, but the roots. The solution is to treat the roots and that will make the ends better. If I hadn't seen this commercial roughly four million times, that may be some sort of startling insight regarding hair. But, it was not a new insight for me when thinking about transformation of one's spiritual life. We're talking about two things here: process and outcome. When it comes to our lives, we focus almost exclusively on outcomes and we wonder why we're never able to change.

Let me point out one

of the ways in which Jesus talked about this phenomenon. In Matthew 6:22-23, Jesus makes some comments about eyes: *The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!* That may not make a whole lot of sense at first glance. In Jesus' day, the "health" of the eye was a metaphor that often referred to one's generosity. He's saying that generosity is not solely an issue of how much you give to someone else—that's merely the outcome. He's saying that it starts before there with how you view other people (hence the imagery of the eye). Let's take that same example and run with it, but realize we could apply this to any sort of spiritual or behavioral growth you would like to see in your own life.

If you desire to be more generous, it's likely that you look at your checkbook or budget (if you've even gotten so far as to have one!) and decide whether or not you can give money to a worthy cause or to share with a neighbor. If you have some, you may give it away. If you don't, you may decry the sorry state of your finances and pray for God to give you more money to give away to other people. That may sound a little extreme, but let's keep going. To find real change (in this case, the ability to be more generous) you have to find a different starting point: go to the root, as it were. How do you view your fellow human beings? How do you view your money? The things that make one generous are to start with a belief that giving/sharing are required because of the inherent worth of another person AND a view that what you "own" does not necessarily belong to

you—you are merely a steward (Psalm 24:1).

This same approach can work for ending negative behavior as well. For example: studies show that exposure to sexual material at a young age leads to sexually risky behavior in teens. A reactive approach would be to try and police the behavior (or, using the grand misnomer of our day, to make it "safe"). To actually treat the issue at hand, maybe we should reconsider what sort of entertainment is marketed predominantly to teenagers. Policing the behavior (or trying to start a new behavior through sheer force of will) only treats a symptom; it does not get to the cause. What are the areas where you want to see change in your own life? Do you need to start something new or end something destructive? Go to the source first. That leads to real change.

