

# PROSPECTOR

MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE BARSTOW



Fidelis



Vol. 1, No. 9

May 24, 2012



## Barstow Mud Run

Barstow Marines make a splash at Veteran's Home Mud Run

## Spring Fling

MCLB Barstow brings fun with the warm weather

## Solar Farm

MCLB breaks ground on solar farm for Nebo and Yermo



Photo by Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker

Gunnery Sergeant Mike Bate, staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard waves to members of the Redding, Calif., community as he leads his Marines during the annual Redding Rodeo Parade. During the rodeo week, the MCG was involved in many of the community's events including the city's annual pancake breakfast and the rodeo's grand entry each day.

## On The Cover:

**Photo by: Keith Hayes**

Fire Prevention Officer Gabriel Hammett, with the Fire Department aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, demonstrates to Agent Jeff Swearingen with Criminal Investigation Division of the Police Department aboard MCLB Barstow, how to use the Keiser sled, which replicates hitting an object with a hammer or axe, May 9.

### Public Affairs Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Rob L. Jackson  
 Public Affairs Specialist: Keith Hayes  
 Public Affairs Chief: Gunnery Sgt. Reina Barnett  
 Press Chief: Sgt. Shannon E. Yount  
 Prospector Editor: Lance Cpl. Dominic A. Smarra  
 Combat Correspondent: Cpl. Thomas A. Bricker  
 Combat Correspondent: Pfc. Victoria Fairchild

### THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California  
 Colonel Daniel P. Ermer, Commanding Officer  
 Sgt. Maj. Richard Charron, Base Sergeant Major

The editorial content of this magazine is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer, Attn: Public Affairs, Box 110130, Barstow, CA 92311-5050. The Public Affairs Office is located in Building 204. Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6450, 577-6451, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282. This magazine is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of **THE PROSPECTOR** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Marine Corps.

## On the web

### Website:

<http://www.marines.mil/unit/mclbbarstow/pages/default.aspx>

### 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 Curt Lambert

Marines and Department of Defense employees aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow stand together with awards they received during the Quarterly Awards Breakfast at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day Conference Center, May 9. The Quarterly Awards Breakfast is held to recognize MCLB Barstow employees their outstanding accomplishments and proficiency in their work place.

## Contents



**News Briefs** 4



**Solar Farm Groundbreaking** 8



**Veterans Home Mud Run** 5



**Police Cross Training** 9



**Spring Fling** 6&7



**Chaplain's Corner** 11

**Leave Share Program**

The following is a comprehensive list of individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of leave donations. Valerie Ashbrook, Patricia Benavidez, Lester Bonner, Marilyn Cochran, Helen Duty, Christopher Garcia, Kendra Huyck, Hayde Jones, Sandra Perez.

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. Please ensure completed forms are turned into HRO as well. For more information, please contact Michelle Eichler at 760-577-6915.

**Today in  
U.S.M.C. history**

**May 24, 100:** The USS Oregon arrived in China at Taku Forts with 28 U.S. Marines and 5 seamen, under the command of Capt. John Myers, to protect American citizens during the Boxer Rebellion.

**Classic Car Tour**

MCCS presents the Nevada Rides/Saturday Night Cruisers 'Round Nevada 2012 Classic Car Tour June 6 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the parade deck aboard Nebo. Lunch will be available for purchase by the Marine Corps Ball Committee. For more information, call MCCS Marketing at 577-6968/5893.

**Story Time**

Its story time every other Tuesday from 9:30 to 10 a.m. Come to the library, McTureous Hall, Building 218, for our story time the first and the third Tuesday each month. We will have crafts, puppets, and great stories. For more information, contact the Library at 577-6395 or email at LibraryBarstow@usmc-mccs.org. Visit our website [www.mccsbarstow.com/library](http://www.mccsbarstow.com/library).

**TGIF...TGIV !!**

Thank goodness, it's Friday (on Wednesdays) Thank goodness for YOU! Wednesdays in May is "What's it mean?"

May 30 - "To Set Goals..." & Wednesdays in June is "What's My Part In It?" June 6 - "As A Human Being..." June 13 - "As A Family Member..." June 20 - "As An Intimate Partner..." June 27 - "As A Winner..." Come to the Desert View Housing Community Center from 1 - 2 p.m. For more information contact 577-6533.

**MCX Specials**

May 28 come see us for our Memorial Day sale items. For more information contact 256-8974.

**Family Advocacy**

Transitional Compensation Community Brief on May 29 at McTureous Hall classroom from 3-4 p.m. call 577-6533 for more information.

**Welcome Home Heroes**

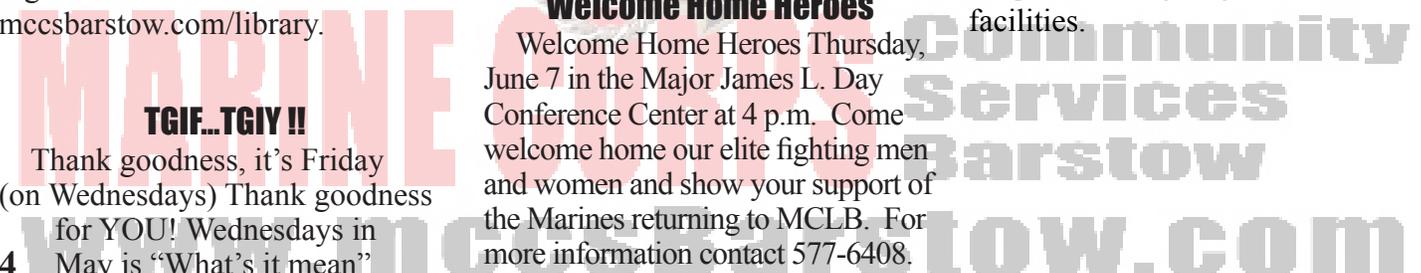
Welcome Home Heroes Thursday, June 7 in the Major James L. Day Conference Center at 4 p.m. Come welcome home our elite fighting men and women and show your support of the Marines returning to MCLB. For more information contact 577-6408.

**American Red Cross  
Babysitting Class**

Tuesday, June 12 from 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. in the Marine & Family Programs, conference center room Bldg 129. Students must be 12-18 years old. Cost for the class is \$25 and includes babysitter's book, CD and babysitters' card. Students must bring their own lunch. Sign up at the Child Development Center Bldg. 372 between 5:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. must be registered by close of business Thursday, June 7. For more information contact grace walls at 577-6287.

**STAY IN THE LOOP!**

Visit [www.mccsbarstow.com](http://www.mccsbarstow.com) or pick up a Quarterly Connection Magazine at any of your MCCS facilities.





Cpl. Thomas Bricker, combat correspondent and Lance Cpl. Christopher Foster, adjutant clerk, prepare to leap into a mud trench during the first Veterans Home of Barstow Mud Run, May 17. More than 1,000 people participated in the 3.1 mile race to show appreciation to the Veterans and promote a healthy well-being.

## Barstow Marines make a splash at Veterans Home Mud Run

Story and photo by Pfc. Victoria Fairchild  
Combat Correspondent

Mud flying, people sliding and scrambling for the finish line can only mean one thing; a well organized, chaotic mud run.

Seven Marines from Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow participated in the First Veteran Home of California - Barstow 5k Mud Run, at the retirement complex, held on May 12.

The mud run was held at the Veteran's Home to show appreciation to the Veterans and come together as a community, as well as promoting a healthy lifestyle with physical fitness.

Veterans watched more than 1,000 running participants take their places at the starting line, waiting for the sound of the bell to begin the race. Once started, the runners went through mud and water filled trenches, and were sprayed with gallons of water provided by the Barstow Fire Department at the event and mud slides.

With the run having a military theme, runners fought their way through 3.1 miles of different obstacles which included stationary tanks, hummers and jeeps alongside 12 different mud pits with tires to trudge through.

"It was a great run to have in Barstow," said Cpl. Joleen Quitano, a Guam native and base supply administrative clerk aboard MCLB Barstow. "We usually

don't have big events like this and it was good to have everyone come together."

Different teams were formed throughout the entire competition; one of the Barstow Marine teams sported flashy costumes, resembling KISS and became the most popular team in the run.

"I dressed up as Ace Frehley from KISS with two other Marines," said Lance Cpl. Christopher Foster, adjutant clerk aboard MCLB Barstow. "We were the most popular group there, it seemed as though we were the only ones actually wearing real costumes."

It was a really fun race, a lot of people were involved, said Foster, a 20-year-old Cleveland native. "There were a lot of people who were there in the military that were talking with the veterans. It's great to see that they have more people around to talk with and get to know. Sometimes they don't really have anyone there, so for this run to be held where so many vets live, I think it's a great honor."

Plans began in 2012 with Barstow's Mayor Joe Gomez, wanting to incorporate volunteers from Barstow and neighboring cities.

"I want to thank all of the veterans and active duty military members here," said Gomez. "Every one of you does so much for our community."

Free t-shirts and prize bags were given to each runner that registered for the race.

# Spring Fling

Where fun in the sun



Dianne Yslas, manager of the Family Restaurant aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow serves food to the patrons of MCLB Barstow during the Spring Fling, May 17.



Single Marine Program volunteers Lance Cpl. Christopher Foster, adjutant clerk, and Cpl. Joleen Quitano, supply clerk, serve drinks during the Spring Fling, May 17.



Pfc. Stephone Duncan, supply clerk at Headquarters Battalion for Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, and Lance Cpl. Aaron Thornton, calibration technician, Fleet Support Division, MCLB, square off in the boxing ring during the Spring Fling held on MCLB Barstow, May 17.



Brother and sister take a swing at each other during the pug Spring Fling is a way for Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow together to enjoy themselves and relax after a hard day's work.

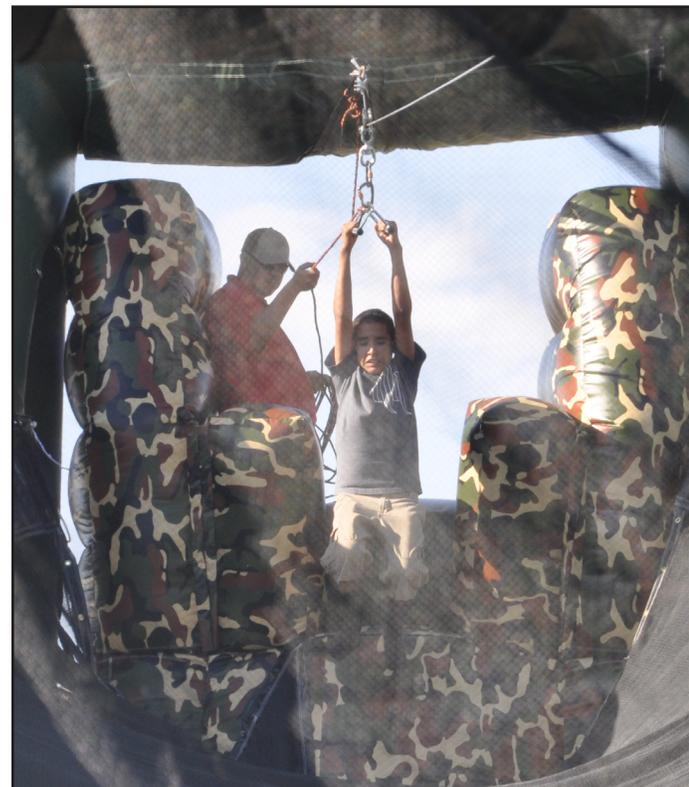


Photo by Rob Jackson

Fun equals a great time!



Children participate in a game during the Spring Fling, May 17. The event was held to bring Marines and Department of Defense employees and their families together for a day of fun and activities.

**Photos by Lance Cpl. Dominic A. Smarra**  
Combat Correspondent



(Above) Children try to choose the spot where the ball would fall into while they play 'plinko' at the Spring Fling, May 17.

(Left) The zipline allowed children to climb to the top of a tower and speed towards the bottom while holding on to the zipline as long as they could during the Spring Fling, May 17.



Gabe Hammett, fire prevention officer with the Nebo Fire Department for Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, places firehats on children's heads after they made their way through the base fire department's burn house during the Spring Fling, on MCLB Barstow, May 17.



A Father and his children race their inflatable horses down the track during the Spring Fling aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, May 17.



Desert Reign, a band from Hesperia, Calif. provided entertainment for all of the guests during the Spring Fling held on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, May 17.

# Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow breaks ground for solar farm

Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Dominic A. Smarra  
Combat Correspondent

City and base officials marked the groundbreaking of a solar farm, here, May 15, that is expected to provide nearly 25 percent of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's electrical needs as well as save the base nearly \$3.9 million over the next 20 years.

It also marked the first power purchase agreement in the Marine Corps, which will help MCLB Barstow become a more self-sufficient installation.

The project is made of two sites that contain approximately 4,500 photovoltaic solar panels that are expected to produce nearly one megawatt of electricity which is enough to power roughly 150 homes.

"This is an incredible solar power asset," explained Al Bucknam, CEO, Sundurance Energy. "It has been a challenge to meet the needs of the base as well as complying with the standards, but we need to make it work. We cannot just think about the consequences we have on our environment, because whose shoulders do we put the burden of fixing renewable energy on if not our own," he concluded.

The energy generated from the solar panels, is expected to limit the amount of electricity purchased from Southern California Edison and will also comply with the Department of Defense's policy to reduce energy cost and increase independent energy efficiency.

The purpose of the power purchase agreement is so that the solar farm is built at no cost to the Marine Corps or the base. The project is funded by Sundurance Energy, the same company who will construct the solar panels. The PPA is a 20-year agreement in which the base will purchase the electricity produced by the solar panels at a much lower cost than they would purchase, if they were to buy it directly from the state of California.

"Generating more electricity on site means the base can avoid purchasing electricity from Southern California Edison at higher prices,"

said Julien Trinh, project manager. "Our goal is to help the military in any way we can, and this is a very large step in the right direction."

Along with producing power, the solar farm will also reduce nearly 18,000 tons of carbon dioxide that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere. The amount of carbon dioxide that the solar farm is expected to reduce is equivalent to as taking more than 200 cars off of the I-15.

Construction of the solar farm is expected to begin in early June and completed by the end of August. The speed of construction is largely due to many of the components being pre-built and only requires minor adjustments. The two slated sites are to be a 10-acre site on Nebo, across from the Youth Activity Center, and a 20-acre site on the Yermo Annex of MCLB Barstow.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2007 mandates that the Department of Defense receive 25 percent of its total electricity from renewable sources by 2025. By adding the solar farm to the already in place wind turbine, Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow is expected to be in compliance with this mandate by the end of summer.



City and base officials broke ground on one of two slated sites, for Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's solar farm, May 15. The solar farm is expected to provide nearly 25 percent of MCLB Barstow's electrical needs as well as save the base nearly \$3.9 million over the next 20 years.

# Marine Corps police cross-train with base fire department in arson investigation

Story and photo by Keith Hayes  
Public Affairs Specialist

The Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow fire department is cross-training a Criminal Investigation Division agent in arson investigation in a program unique to Marine Corps Installations West.

“Marine Corps Order (P11000.11) requires that any arson investigation be turned over to the CID,” said Gabriel Hammett, the fire prevention officer and fire investigator for MCLB Barstow, “and that’s where the idea came up to get CID trained in arson investigation so that they have a better understanding of it.”

For the past year CID Agent Jeffrey B. Swearingen with the base police department, has been training in major aspects of arson investigation and firefighting.

“Investigating arson is like investigating any crime as far as procedure is concerned, but there are some aspects of arson that are unique, and that’s where this training comes in,” Swearingen said.

There are subtleties to arson investigation that require careful study.

“It’s not like you have a bunch of Molotov cocktails lying around,” he said. “It could be something as simple as an employee sticking paper in something to cause a fire so they can get out of work for the day.”

The arson training program is presenting its own specific challenges for the agent.

“The course on arson investigation is difficult for me because I had no prior experience in the field,” Swearingen said. “I relied on the fire department for a lot of the experience I lacked.”

Swearingen needs the certifications required by the Office of the State Fire Marshal to become an arson investigator.

“To get Level 1 certification as an arson investigator I need about 100 point-of-origin determinations and to get Level 2 it’s about 150,” he said. “I have about 20 so far.”

Accompanying base firefighters to actual blazes is one source of the point-of-origin determinations the Hesperia, Calif., native needs, but there is also a burn “lab.”

“We’ve had live fire burns where they started about seven or eight fires down at the Ben Clark (Public Safety) Training

Center in Riverside, Calif.,” Swearingen said.

Hammett thinks the cross-training is critical to develop effective relationships between the MCLB Arson Task Force and the San Bernardino County Arson Task Force, where cross-training is established procedure.

“Swearingen has been accepted into the San Bernardino County Arson Task Force, which includes agents from the (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives) and investigators throughout

arson investigator to protect yourself from any type of hazardous material that may be in the area after the fire,” he said.

At some point, Swearingen will don the full firefighting gear and go in to the burn tower aboard base, Hammett indicated.

“It’s a vital training area that exposes Agent Swearingen to basic firefighting tactics so he’ll have a better understanding of what goes on during and after a fire,” Hammett said.

Agent Robert Cline with the Marine Base Camp Pendleton CID office, where



Agent Jeff Swearingen (right) with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Police Department aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow and Fire Prevention Officer Gabriel Hammett, with the Fire Department aboard MCLB Barstow, don their self-contained breathing apparatus during a cross-training session at the main fire station aboard the base May 9.

the entire county, both fire and law enforcement,” Hammett said.

During a May 9 training session, Hammett enlisted the help of SCBA trainer Firefighter Ryan Hanify to instruct Swearingen in the use of the self-contained breathing apparatus.

“That SCBA is the air tank firefighters use,” Hammett said. “The SCBA and mask can create a claustrophobic environment and this training will help build Swearingen’s confidence and familiarization while utilizing the air pack in an immediately dangerous to life or health environment.”

Swearingen said the SCBA training was similar to the gas mask training he and other police officers had to take.

“We use the SCBA when you’re an

Marine Corps Installations West is located, said the cross-training in arson is unique among the seven bases overseen by MCI West.

“We here and at every other office I’ve been at rely on the fire department and their arson investigators,” Cline said. “Arson is not a typical training for CID agents, not even in advanced training.”

If the training proves successful, then the program could be expanded to other bases, Hammett said.

“Any other detectives or investigators in the MCPD will eventually be brought on board and involved in the arson training as well,” he concluded.

# Get your car washed aboard MCLB Barstow

“Car wash! Get your car washed” was heard by Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow employees and residents during the afternoon of May 22.

Volunteers held signs and waved passing cars to come on in, to get their car washed for a small donation of \$10. Funds raised during the event will go toward the Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow 237th Marine Corps Birthday Ball celebration.

The hard work and determination paid off for the Marines, as they were able to raise more than \$270 in donations during the event.

The next car wash the Marines with MCLB Barstow will be hosting is scheduled for June 5, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Bldg. 322. This time it will be a car wash and BBQ to raise more funds for the ball. While vehicle owners wait for their cars to be cleaned, they can enjoy a tasty hamburger and refreshing beverage.



Photo by Pfc. Victoria Fairchild

Cpl. Sir Edward Daniels, armorer, volunteers to dry cars during Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow's car wash held at Bldg. 322, May 22. Marines with the unit spent the afternoon washing vehicles to raise money for the 237th Marine Corps Birthday Ball celebration.



Photo by Pfc. Victoria Fairchild

**10** Marines with Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow volunteer to clean cars during the unit's car wash held at Bldg. 322, May 22. Marines with the unit spent the afternoon raising money for the 237th Marine Corps Birthday Ball celebration.

# Chaplain's Corner

## "Manly" faith

By Lt. Benjamin Warner  
Base Chaplain

From the outset, I'd like to express my apologies that this article is mostly targeted at men. That doesn't mean female readers won't benefit or learn from this—it's just that you are not my target audience today. In the past week, I've had a couple of opportunities to reflect on the intersection of what it is I believe about God and what it is I believe about the place of men in the world. One author I was reading stated that "boys are lost" in our world. What this author meant was that boys have lost the role they once had—to grow into men who were protectors, providers, and numerous other things that they are now told it is sexist to be (or to at least let girls be these things as well). This discussion has been mirrored in Christian circles for the last ten years or so. There have been books talking about recovering Biblical manhood, others speaking of re-engaging the "wildness" of being an adventurous Christian man, and still more suggesting that gender roles are merely cultural features, not something that Christians should even care to talk

about.

Regardless of your faith background, these are questions we all could be asking ourselves: does being a man (or woman for that matter) come solely from how my culture defines it? Or, does God have some opinion on how it is men should behave? Does the answer fall somewhere along a spectrum between these things? Full disclosure for me: I believe that God has some definite opinions on what it means to be a follower of Jesus and on what it means to be a distinctly male follower of Jesus. However, I believe that too often people have used similar beliefs to mine to justify cultural definitions of masculinity that are not necessarily congruent with anything Scripture has revealed.

Unfortunately, God does not ever give a list of commandments such as, "Every male among you shall crush cans on his forehead and never wear pink." (Those are just a few extreme examples from our cultural definition of manliness) What I believe God does offer is models of faithful masculinity. The two greatest for me are Jesus (obviously) and David.

Both are willing to embody the traditional male role of protector: David of his nation (1 Samuel 17) and Jesus of God's holiness (John 2). Juxtapose that with both of their willingness to weep at the loss of a friend: Jesus at the death of Lazarus (John 11) and David at the separation from his best friend (1 Samuel 20:40-41). Here we have two men who model faithfulness to God and an ability to defy some of what we have come to expect as culturally normative for men.

My suggestion for you (guys) in all of this is to love God and be who you are. Chances are God has made you (and your history has shaped you) into a certain type of person. Some of you will fall in line with culturally mandated definitions of men more readily, others will not. Find out what it is you truly believe a "man's role" is (informed by your faith as well as your culture), and seek to embody faithfulness to God, family, and neighbor through that role. Then you can never be lost—you'll always know who you are.



## Victim Advocacy Services

Submitted by

Marine and Family Programs Division

Victim Advocates represent the interests of all victims who are abused and or sexually assaulted. They provide community education on domestic violence and sexual assault and ensure the availability of 24-hour victim advocacy services by having an on-call schedule. The victim's immediate needs are addressed, crisis intervention is provided and victims are assisted in developing a safety plan. Victims are also offered information regarding local resources. Victim Advocates encourage victims to seek medical consultation/examination when appropriate. They can provide assistance in applying for military protective orders and civilian protection orders and may

accompany a victim during a medical exam, to court or social services and act as an informed and supportive guide.

Victims who are eligible for services are service members and their families. DoD employees can receive information and referral services on a space available basis. Victim Advocates work with and on behalf of the survivor-victim, who is in charge of the process and sets the pace of services.

For more information, contact Michelle Lawing, Victim Advocate at Marine and Family Programs in Bldg. 129 or call 577-6533.



KEISER