

Desert **WARRIOR**



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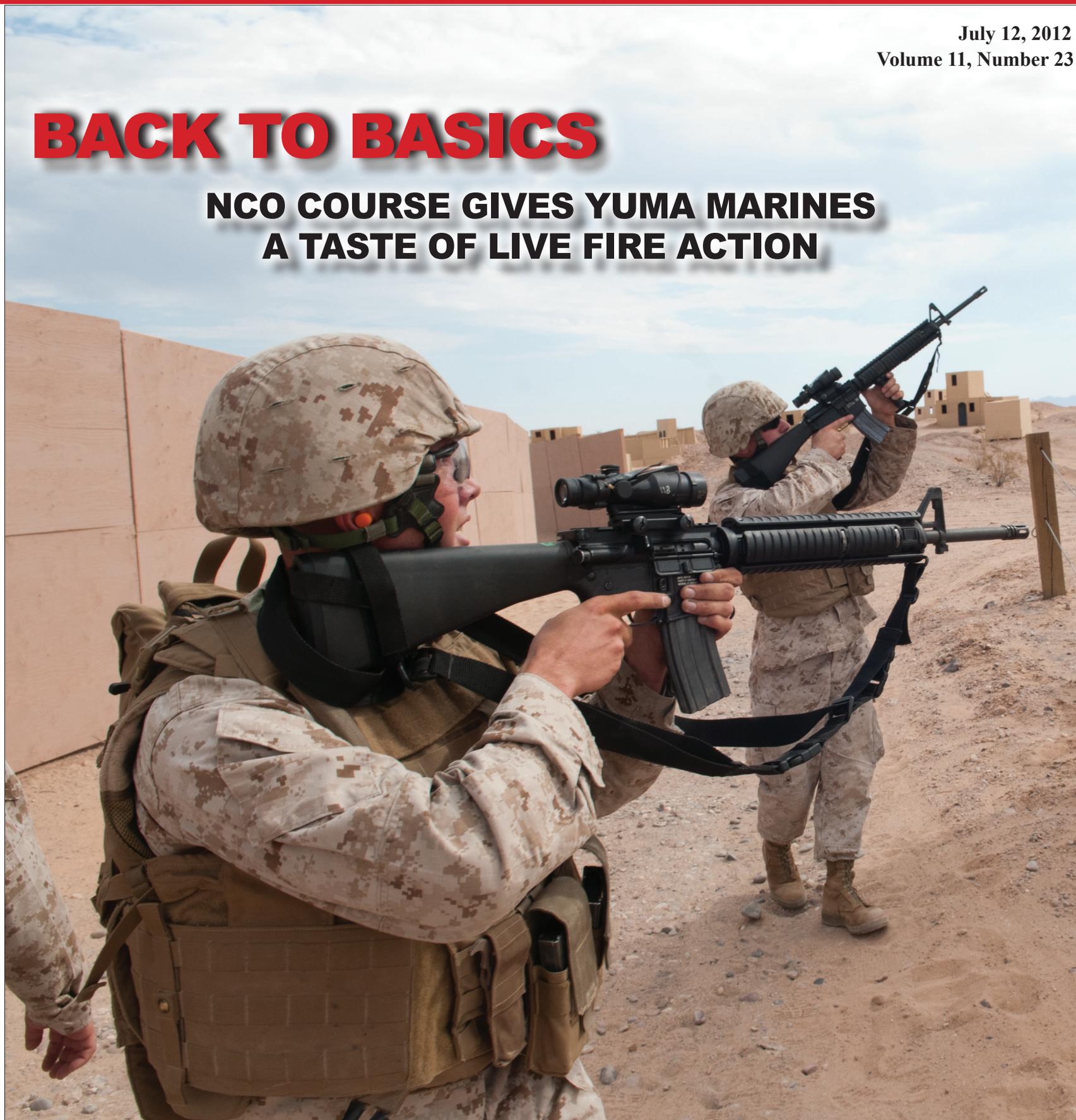
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July 12, 2012
Volume 11, Number 23

BACK TO BASICS

NCO COURSE GIVES YUMA MARINES A TASTE OF LIVE FIRE ACTION



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Video gallery

Supporting vs. enabling, a fading line

Virgil Tapisipan

Drug Demand Reduction Program Coordinator

When is supporting and enabling the same?

Growing up in the Philippines, I remember my mother providing me with the money so I could pursue my educational goals and pay for tuition expenses. I was not asked to look for employment to do it on my own. In my mind, my mother helped me to attend college. A professor I had in college, through her kindness and support, inspired me to pursue a degree in psychology and use the knowledge to help others. That said, these are both examples of positive enablers who supported me in gaining my education and living a happier, more productive life - there was no line drawn between supporting and enabling, the two concepts were virtually the same.

When is supporting and enabling not the same?

In the world of self-help and modern psychology, a distinct line is drawn between supporting and enabling. If your spouse is simply providing you with the means to purchase drugs or alcohol, the spouse would be considered an enabler, or 'enabling a destructive behavior'. Often, families and friends try to 'help' those who have substance abuse problems in an attempt to 'keep the peace' within the family

or avoid conflict with the person struggling with substance abuse. These measures allow the person with an addiction problem to avoid the consequences of their actions. They would continue with their addictive behavior knowing that no matter how they mess up, somebody will be there to rescue them from their mistakes.

If the spouse acknowledges that his/her spouse

“When is supporting and enabling the same?”

has a problem and suggests counseling, the spouse would be seen as a supporter. In this instance, the difference between an enabler and a supporter is very clear. Enabling, is doing for someone something that they should be doing themselves, while supporting is doing something for someone that they are not able to do themselves.

Consider the following instances: supporting or enabling?

- Assign a Designated Driver for a night of drink-

ing. While it appears to be a practical means and an ethical way in providing transportation to those who are permitted to drink, it avoids drunk driving and ultimately saves lives. It could also appear to give permission to get drunk knowing that the driver will drive the person back to their place of residence.

- Parents providing alcohol to their children saying, "I'd rather have my kids drink at home than drinking and driving." Most parents would agree that it's an occasion and an opportunity to start a dialogue with their teenagers about alcohol, substance abuse and the dangers of drinking and driving. To some parents; however, providing alcohol at home is an unhealthy approach to take because of the long-term consequences of underage drinking. They view the notion that "their kids will be drinking somewhere, so why not have it at home" as a cowardly attitude, and have already lost the battle with their children.

Now, what do you think of the following situations:

- Ask a Marine to seek help after you observe his/her heavy drinking episodes.

- Staff Noncommissioned Officer providing alcohol in a BBQ at his house: "At least I can keep an eye on my Marines."

Want your opinion heard? Here's how! Send your opinion or comment on previous articles to editor.deedub@gmail.com

The Desert Warrior reserves the right to choose content and edit as necessary.

Front Page Photo



Cpl. Wyatt Aschenberenner, left, an MCAS Yuma Corporals Course student and a native of Phoenix, scans a building for enemy threats with Cpl. Jonathan Russell, a another student and a native of New Berlin, Wis., at Range One near Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Zac Scanlon

Hot Shot

Range High Shooters
Pistol Range PR 9-12

Capt. Kyle Ugone, H&HS

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Gy. Sgt. Ryan Dingmon, H&HS

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Lt. Col. Charles Carrol, H&HS

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Desert WARRIOR

MCAS Yuma's Official Newspaper

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C.W. BILL YOUNG / DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MARROW DONOR PROGRAM



Marrow Program



Shane is a 35-year-old GySgt stationed at MCAS Yuma, AZ as a Low Altitude Air Defense Gunner assigned to MAWTS-1. In April 2012, he and his wife welcomed their first child, a baby girl. In May 2012, Shane was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. A condition called FLT3 mutation makes his disease more resistant to treatment. He must find a matching bone marrow donor in order to be healthy again.

You could be his bone marrow match!!
Please take a moment and give...*The Gift of Life.*

Friday, July 13, 2012
Marine Corps Exchange
0900 - 1500

What does it take to register?

An oral swab sample, a consent form, and you join the exclusive life-saving National Marrow Donor Registry!!

Contact: Ms. Sandra Rookey
(928) 269-6401

1-800-MARROW-3
www.dodmarrow.org

To be eligible to join you must be:

Ages 18 to 60 and in good health

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Fact or Fiction?

Debunking Lance Corporal underground myths

Q: So what's the actual deal with hands in the pockets?

A: Along with chewing gum or smoking and the like (to exclude reading books), hands in the pockets are disallowed while walking in uniform or in formation. However, **good judgment** will govern the application of this policy in the field environment. Hands in pockets will probably be more commonplace in ten years when the lance corporals now are staff and gunnery sergeants.

Submit your question to editor.deedub@gmail.com

News to Use

FAMILY CARE BRANCH RESOURCE FAIR

The MCAS Yuma Family Care Branch will host a Family Care Back to School Resource Fair on Wednesday, Aug. 1 at the Sonoran Pueblo from 5-7 p.m. The Resource Fair is an excellent opportunity for military families with school age children to come learn about the various community and installation resources available to them to support their children throughout the school year. School supplies, door prizes and a hamburger dinner will be provided. For more information, parents can call Elena McShane at (928) 269-5373.

OPERATION HOMEFRONT AT YPG

The U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground is scheduled to host Operation Homefront's Back-to-School Brigade at the Desert Breeze Travel Camp (Bldg. S6) on Saturday, Aug. 4, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will provide free backpacks and school supplies for children of active duty service members ranks E1-E6, reducing some of the stress of the new school year for military families. Online registration is mandatory, and one can do so at www.operationhomefront.net/arizona. Patrons are reminded they must present their military ID cards to participate. For more information, contact YPG's Army Community Service office at (928) 328-2513.

SATELITE COLLEGE RELOCATION

Northern Arizona University and Arizona Western College Military Services have temporarily relocated to Bldg. 1093 (Community Center) until further notice. For questions, please call (928) 269-3589 or 5614.

EDUCATIONAL COMMISARY TOURS

Take a tour of the commissary and learn a variety of things about eating healthy, shopping smart and how to make healthier and more informed food choices. The next tour is Aug. 15, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Nikki Dallam at (928) 269-6642.

MESS HALL HOURS

Monday-Friday:
Breakfast: 5:30-7:30 a.m.
Lunch: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner: 4-6 p.m.
Midrats: 11 p.m. to 12:45 a.m.
SubMarine Bar: 7-9 p.m.

Weekend Schedule:
Brunch 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Dinner: 3-5 p.m.

For full menu online, www.yuma.usmc.mil.



5 Questions

Station Kennel Master

Staff Sgt. Jeffery Worley

1. What does the Military Working Dog Program bring to the Corps?

The Military Working Dog program has two different types of missions. We have the Field MWDs and the Garrison MWDs. Field and Garrison are completely different from each other, like night and day.

The Field MWDs conduct both day and night training and use several different types of explosive training aids. They train to meet requirements for combat operations in Afghanistan. They are constantly evolving their training techniques to keep up with the ever-changing threats they face. The Garrison MWDs' missions are geared more toward the safety of the Air Station and provide humanitarian support to local law enforcement agencies. Garrison dog teams are capable of safely responding to bomb threats, locating missing children, detecting narcotics, and providing support during U.S. Secret Service missions, including but not limited to; Presidential, Vice Presidential and Secretary of State Missions, in which they deploy worldwide.

2. What does being a MWD handler involve?

A Dog Handler is a select breed of Marine. The Marine must be well rounded in all aspects and must be able to adapt to every situation accordingly. A dog handler must be very flexible in their work/rest cycle. At any time they can be called upon for any type of mission. Not only must the Marine train to better themselves, they also train to better their MWD and the team as a whole. They must also take care of their MWD as if it were their own child. They bathe and groom them, ensure constant vet visits, administer medications, and even brush their teeth.

3. What are the primary breeds used by the MWD Program?

MWDs are purchased mostly from European vendors. We select the dogs that are the best well-rounded for the current mission at hand. We currently use dogs like the German Shepherd, a loyal dog with a strong bite and great sense of smell. We use the Belgian Malinois, also known as the Maligator and that name really speaks for itself. We also use Labradors, an amazing non aggressive dog that has proven time and time again that they can adapt to any type of terrain they encounter.

4. What happens to MWDs when they retire?

When a MWD reaches retirement age or has a medical condition that limits their ability to act at 100 percent, they are considered for adoption. Several things are taken into consideration during this lengthy process. The biggest factors in adoption are the adoptee, the animal's demeanor and the adoptees living quarters. Not everyone is a suitable candidate for adopting these dogs and most of the time it is the MWDs' last handler that takes them home. A Military Working Dog will be a Marine-trained dog until the day they chew on their last tennis ball. We recently retired out MWD Bernie to her handler, Bret Reynolds, a former Marine Corporal. To date, they both enjoy doing nothing together, all day long.

5. What does the future hold for the MWD Program?

With our operational tempo, including deployments and missions, I foresee us maintaining our current status. The MWD Program has proven over and over again to be very valuable and extremely successful.



Tailspotter

Gretta

Gretta is an adult kitty at 6-years-old and quiet, already spayed and declawed, and with all of her vaccinations. For more information about adopting, contact the Humane Society of Yuma at (928)782-1621.



Voices of our Ancestors: the Navajo Code Talker's Story

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet
Desert Warrior Staff

A few Marines fortunate enough to be in the right place at the right time witnessed an amazing piece of history come alive. On July 2, for the first time in more than 60 years, the Marine Corps' Navajo code from World War II was again passed over radio transmission.

The code was transmitted by Bill Toledo who served as a Navajo code talker with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines and is a native of Laguna, N.M., and was visiting the men and women of Marine Wing Communications Squadron 48 during Exercise Javelin Thrust to commemorate 70 years since the code talker program was founded in 1942.

In spite of triple digit temperatures, gusting winds and clouds of dust at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Bill Toledo and fellow code talker Sidney Bedoni, who served as a Navajo code talker with the 2nd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions and is a native of White Cone, Ariz., insisted on visiting Marines out in the field to see how modern radio Marines live and work. After reviewing a static display of modern radio communications equipment, Toledo discussed his experiences as a code talker in the Second World War and, during the story, Toledo keyed the handset of a nearby PRC-150, performed a brief radio check, and then reenacted a coded message from the story. Toledo simulated calling for fire on a Japanese-held hill before the awestruck Marines.

"We are in the presence of greatness and true American heroes," stated Master Sgt. John Roberts, the MWCS-48 communications chief and a native of Cleveland who was assigned as an honorary code talker liaison for the duration of the event.

Toledo and Bedoni came to visit the Marines and to tell the story they lived almost 70 years ago. Their visit began with video interviews conducted by the Marine Corps History Division for the sake of posterity, including a recording of the Marine Corps hymn in Navajo. Following these inter-



Bill Toledo, left, who served as a Navajo code talker with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines and is a native of Laguna, N.M., and Sidney Bedoni, right, who served as a Navajo code talker with the 2nd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions and is a native of White Cone, Ariz., speak about their time as code talkers to the Marines of Marine Wing Communication Squadron 48 at the Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 2. This visit was planned in conjunction with Exercise Javelin Thrust 2012, one of the largest reserve exercises in the Marine Corps.

views, the code talkers ate chow with several junior Marines and non-commissioned officers. Later, active and reserve Marines, Marine Corps League members, and local civilians gathered in the chapel to hear their tale firsthand. The day ended with a banquet in their honor.

The code talkers' storied history began in early 1942, when Philip Johnston, a white Protestant missionary's son, presented the idea of using the Navajo language to create a code the Japanese couldn't break. Johnston recruited 29 young Navajos to become Marines, not informing them about the plan for the code. Once the Navajo Marines had graduated boot camp and combat training, they were instructed to create a code based on their native language.

The code was first tested on Guadalcanal by six Marine code talkers who landed with the 1st Marine Division. Four weeks after the landing, then Maj. Gen. Alexander Vandegrift, the division commander, sent back to the Pentagon, "The enemy doesn't know what they're saying. We don't know what they're saying, but it works."

The code was based on the language of the Navajo people, but not everyone could understand it. Each Navajo Marine still had to go through a school to learn how to speak the code. The code was based on words which were familiar to the Navajo people. For example, the word for potato meant hand grenade and the word for turtle meant tank.

In order to test the code, the government had Navajo elders try to decipher it. When they couldn't, the government knew they found something special.

There was another code in use by the Marine Corps at this time, but it was extremely complicated and could take 10 times longer to send a message than with the Navajo code.

Because of this, the Navajo code began to grow larger and more widespread, ultimately being used in every major offensive of the war in the Pacific. Throughout the course of the war, there were 420 Navajos who served as code talkers. Thirteen didn't return.

"Today, we have thousands of dollars of cryptologic equipment to encode messages," said Sgt. Karl Lipovsek, a MWCS-48 electronic maintenance technician and a native of Elm Grove, Wis. "The code talkers did it by themselves with almost nothing and won a war."

Toledo, who served with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines and a native of Laguna, N.M., enlisted in the Marine Corps after finishing eighth grade at the age of 18. He was convinced to join because of another young Navajo Marine who returned to the reservation and spoke about the Corps. Toledo then traveled 50 miles to see a recruiter.

Before leaving for boot camp, the Navajo Marines were not

told what they would be doing in the war. They were all signing up to be Marines, not knowing the code talkers existed.

When Toledo reached his unit, the other Marines at first thought he was the Japanese interpreter.

"Once the other Marines found out what I was doing in the war, they turned around and had a lot of respect for me," said Toledo.

He then traveled throughout the Pacific, seeing combat on Bougainville, Guam and Iwo Jima while transmitting messages in the code he had memorized. Writing anything down was not allowed because of the risk of capture.

Each code talker had a white bodyguard, who had orders to go as far as killing the code talker in the event of capture to protect the code. However, this never happened, and most code talkers were unaware of this reality until many years after the war. In fact, the bodyguards were necessary to keep the code talkers safe from Americans, as they were commonly mistaken for Japanese soldiers masquerading as Marines. To this day, Toledo still corresponds with the man who fought by his side.

Many code talkers were right behind front line troops and were constantly in danger. The Japanese would use the radio signal used by the code talker to find the range for their mortars and begin shelling the code talker's position.

"Through a barrage, or an air attack, or naval gunfire, you still have to get the message off," said Toledo. "We were taught to ignore the world around us and focus on the message. We saved a lot of lives using the code."

Even when the war was done, the code talkers were sworn to secrecy.

"I was told, 'When you go home, keep your mouth shut,'" Toledo added. "We couldn't let anyone know what we did in case (America) needed to use the code again. So we never talked about the war, and our families never asked questions."

In 1968, the code was finally declassified. The code talkers then held a large reunion and shortly thereafter established the Navajo Code Talkers Association.



Bill Toledo, who served as a Navajo code talker with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines and a native of Laguna, N.M., explains what each device on his cover means to Pfc. Rachel Wagner, a Marine Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Squadron 4 administration clerk and a native of Chinle, Ariz, July 2. The code talkers who ate lunch in the chow hall with Marines while sharing stories with them.

For full story, visit
Yuma.usmc.mil



Photo by Lance Cpl. Uriel Avendano

Brig. Gen. James Hartsell, the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade commanding officer for Exercise Javelin Thrust, is briefed by Maj. Theodore Batzel Jr., Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 detachment commander, before an orientation indoctrination flight on an AH-1W Super Cobra at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 7. "To be able to see what I saw today, from the front seat of a Cobra, gave me a better understanding and perception of what I'm asking my pilots to provide my Marines on the ground," said Hartsell.

General gets front row seat for Exercise Javelin Thrust

Lance Cpl. Uriel Avendano

Desert Warrior Staff

As Exercise Javelin Thrust 2012 completes its final week of air-ground task force training, Brig. Gen. James Hartsell, the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade commanding officer, met with Marines from Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 773 at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma July 7.

Javelin Thrust 2012 is an annual, large scale U.S. Marine Corps training exercise that builds the interoperability between active and reserve aviation, ground and service support forces to improve contingency, disaster relief and combat operations. New for this year's exercise, in an attempt to improve planning, command and control among active and reserve units, reserve units are training underneath the cognizance of an active duty command.

"Between Twentynine Palms and Yuma, we have over 5,000 Marines working together on this large scale exercise," said Capt. Kevin Hyde, a public affairs officer with MAG-49 and a native of Philadelphia, Penn.

The command element for this year's Exercise Javelin Thrust is the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, based out of Camp Pendleton, Calif. The ground element is composed of 25th Marine Regiment, Fort Devens, Mass. while the air

combat element is Marine Aircraft Group 49, based out of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. The logistics element is Combat Logistics Regiment 4 based out of Kansas City, Mo.

Hartsell came out to meet and speak with HMLA-773 Marines in an effort to get a better understanding of, and show his great appreciation for, their hard work.

After shaking Marine's hands and getting set up for his first ride in an AH-1W Super Cobra, Hartsell was ready to take flight with his pilot, Maj. Theodore Batzel, Jr., HMLA-773 detachment commander.

"We went on an orientation indoctrination flight," said Batzel.

Hartsell spent about an hour in the air with Batzel, going over tactical, rearming and refueling procedures.

"To be able to see what I saw today, from the front seat of a Cobra, gave me a better understanding and perception of what I'm asking my pilots to provide my Marines on the ground," said Hartsell.

For Hartsell, the opportunity to get a first-hand look into how his Marines are training in Yuma was very important, as was showing his sincere appreciation and gratitude to the MCAS Yuma community for providing outstanding support and being great hosts.

CHECK YOURSELF BEFORE YOU WRECK YOURSELF

Cpl. Aaron Diamant

Desert Warrior Staff

Vehicle collisions on the air station have risen at an alarming rate, most of them occurring in parking lots as people back into other vehicles.

"People aren't paying attention when backing up," said Sgt. Kristopher McGurgan, station accident investigation division chief. "People are driving too fast and not paying attention to their blind spots."

In fiscal year 2011, there were a total of 87 on-station collisions. So far this fiscal year, there have already been 95, said David Haller, station traffic safety program manager.

"People are driving too fast, especially in parking lots," said Haller. "The law states you must drive at a speed that is prudent in a parking lot. People are often driving closer to 25 miles per hour, when they should be going 10 mph at most."

With the large amount of construction occurring on station and the influx of Marines coming to Yuma for exercises, such as the Weapons and Tactics Instructor course and Javelin Thrust, the number of people regularly traversing the air station has grown.

"The parking lots are getting more and more crowded, so it's increasingly important to take your time and pay attention," said McGurgan. "Slow down. Take your time exiting the parking stall."

Station orders state any accident occurring on station must be reported to the provost marshal's office, no matter how minor, added Haller.

At-fault collisions also earn the offender a traffic citation. Citations add points to a person's station driving record, and too many points can lead to a revocation of on-station driving privileges.

Additionally, any traffic citation received on station requires the recipient to attend an eight-hour course called Attitudinal Dynamics of Driving. Classes occur over two sessions, on Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Friday from 4-8 p.m. Participants must attend both sessions.



Courtesy photo

Prime for Life program promotes wise drinking decisions

Cpl. Aaron Diamant

Desert Warrior Staff

For the first time, the station's Substance Abuse Counseling Center offered Prime for Life, an early prevention course for alcohol abuse instead of only offering treatment programs, for station personnel, June 28-29.

"Prime for Life is a risk reduction program," said Kate Osborne, the station alcohol abuse prevention specialist. "The first goal of the program is to help each participant in the program reduce risk for any type of alcohol or drug problem. The second goal focuses on self-assessment to help people understand and accept the need to make changes to protect the things most valuable in their lives."

Three different units are covered in the program: preventing, reflecting and protecting.

"Within each unit there are several different topics that are covered," said Osborne. "Each topic has depth and applies a research-based approach to lead each individual to a greater understanding of protecting what they value most."

The course gives participants a better understanding of themselves relating to alcohol use.

"We learned about how family history can play into alcoholism, about tolerance and trigger levels when drinking," said Lance Cpl. Samantha Stanko, Marine Aircraft Group 13 intelligence analyst. "I have a better understanding of how to recognize where my level is and what responsible drinking truly means."

This course differed from previous offerings of the material because the target audience was Marines with no history of alcohol problems.

Stanko summed up the reason the class was given in a simple way, one the facilitators of the course were hoping for.

"For the target audience, Marines without alcohol related incidents, it's a good, informative class," said Stanko. "They'll be better equipped to make wise decisions in the future."

"Early intervention can be extremely effective in preventing drug and alcohol problems before they become substance abuse or dependence issues," added Osborne. "If we can encourage someone to re-evaluate how they use alcohol and make low risk choices, the risk for future health or impairment problems is significantly reduced."

For more information or to find out when the next class is, contact Kate Osborne at 928-269-3079.

Full Ads

DOD Leaders: Sequestration Threatens Military's Successes

Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The nation's military has logged historic achievements in the past 12 months, but faces a future clouded by financial threat, Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta said June 29.

The secretary and Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, both spoke about the topic of sequestration during a briefing with Pentagon reporters.

Panetta summed up the department's main activities since he became Defense Secretary last summer, noting that the Iraq War has ended, a "responsible draw-down" of U.S. forces in Afghanistan has begun, and the NATO mission in Libya concluded alongside the fall of Moammar Gadhafi.

The department has also "maintained a relentless focus on al-Qaida," and put in place a new defense strategy and a budget request focused on the future force and rebalancing toward the Asia-Pacific region and the Middle East, the secretary said.

DOD has also maintained faith with troops by protecting pay and benefits, and has increased employment opportunities for veterans and spouses, he noted.

"We implemented the repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,'" Panetta said. "We've also opened up 14,000 military positions to women, and we've put in place enhanced measures to prevent sexual assault."

The biggest threat to all of those accomplishments and initiatives is sequestration, he said.

Sequestration is a mechanism built into the Budget Control Act that will trigger an additional half-trillion-dollar cut to defense spending over the next 10 years if Congress doesn't otherwise identify spending reduc-

tions the act requires.

Panetta said the uniformed men and women he's met in war zones, and the wounded warriors he's visited in military hospitals and rehabilitation centers, "deserve better than the threat of sequestration."

"Too often today, the nation's problems are held hostage to the unwillingness to find consensus and compromise," the secretary said.

Next week on the Fourth of July Americans will celebrate their nation's birth, he noted.

"It is a time for our leaders and for every American to recognize that the blessings of freedom are not free," Panetta said. "They come from a legacy of sacrifice, of courage and of leadership. That legacy is now our responsibility to fulfill, so that hopefully our children can enjoy a better life in the future."

Panetta said the defense industry leaders he has consulted with also face an uncertain future which could include

The 9th Marine Corps District color guard carries the colors before a crowd of thousands of high school and college students during the SkillsUSA awards ceremony, June 27. Sequestration could mean less funding for the Corps, from mission-critical tasks to public relations activities.

widespread layoffs and lasting damage to the nation's military modernization programs.

"We are very much a team," he said. "... [Defense] companies, as well as the Defense Department, are making very clear to Capitol Hill that this is a matter that ought not to be postponed."

For full story, visit

Yuma.usmc.mil



Sgt. Cory Tepfenhart

Exercise Javelin Thrust 2012



Photo by Cpl. Aaron Diamant

Marines with 25th Marine Regiment, based out of New England, board a Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 772 CH-53E Super Stallion at Camp Wilson in Twentynine Palms, Marine Air/Ground Combat Training Center, Calif., as part of Exercise Javelin Thrust 2012, July 10. Javelin Thrust is the premier training evolution for Marine Corps Forces Reserve. The Marines from Marine Aircraft Group 49 served as the air combat element for the exercise with HMH-772 serving as the heavy lift transportation unit for Marines between MCAS Yuma, Twentynine Palms and Camp Pendleton, Calif.

1/2 Ads

VMA-211 shakes a leg



Deployments for the most part sucks, but if anyone knows how to have fun, it's Marines. Marine Attack Squadron 211, currently deployed to Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, managed to record a music video with the help of Kandahar's United Services Organization, Inc., personnel. During the video, the Marines lip-synch and display fabulous choreography to Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe", all while working on their AV-8B Harriers and providing security for the base. Shown are Stills from the video. To watch more, head over to MCAS Yuma's Facebook and youtube pages.



"HARD TIMES"

Lt. Greg Woodard
Station Chaplain

In the Christian scriptures, the psalmist writes that the right living person is "like a tree planted by streams of water that yields fruit in season, whose leaf does not wither, who consistently prospers." But a few psalms later we read: "My bones are in agony. My soul is in anguish. How long, O Lord, how long? ...I am worn out from groaning; all night long I flood my bed with weeping and drench my couch with tears."

Throughout history, there have been many individuals who have suffered what has been termed a "Dark night of the soul." The human experience is full of hardships: sickness and accidents; disappointments, strained and broken relationships. Difficulties in life will come and we must not allow them to keep us down.

A clear understanding of the value of these hardships will make it possible to have a positive attitude in the face of struggle. Here are some points for you to consider as you face the troubles that you are either dealing with now or are sure to face in the future: 1) Adversity can both mature us and can bring out the best in us; 2) Suffering and distress can produce perseverance and endurance.

Perseverance is not a passive acceptance of circumstances. Perseverance instead refers to the ability to display steadfastness and constancy in the face of the most formidable difficulty. It is a courageous resolve in the face of suffering. It is continuing on

even when times are tough, no matter the circumstances. Hard times can have a purifying quality; they are the arena in which, and the process through which, a trial transforms into a blessing.

Too often, we want to get our difficulties over with quickly. There are times when the best course is to bear up patiently instead of grumbling and complaining. We need to endure, and to continue doing well, understanding that perhaps the trial is meant to refine something in our life.

Marines understand the value of resistance training and they know that the slogan, "Pain is weakness leaving the body." And they know that to keep their edge, they must patiently endure the pain of increased resistance. Though often not enjoyable in the moment, resistance training pays dividends in the long run.

Letting a trial do its perfect work is not easy. If we wish to run the race of life well we need to develop patience. That patience, in turn, will come only through a form of "resistance training," that consists of doing well in enduring the misfortunes of life.

Our goal should be to turn trials into triumph. Remember that patient endurance of adversity can accomplish much good and spirituality can be a powerful tool in developing the wisdom to help us gain a proper perspective toward our hardships.

Chaplain's Corner



Chapel Schedule

Catholic Mass

Sunday 9 a.m.

Protestant Service

Sunday 11 a.m.

Ladies Bible Study

Tuesday 9:15 a.m. to

11 a.m.

(Fellowship Hall)

Lunch Time Bible

Study

Thursday 11:30 a.m. to

12:30 p.m.

(Fellowship Hall)

Marriage Prep Class

Call for appointment

1/2 Ads



MCAS Yuma Corporals Course students and range coaches look at their targets after firing for table three practice at Range One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9. Table three qualification is a required training prior to deploying.



Sgt. Andrew Gutierrez, the chief instructor of MCAS Yuma's Corporals Course and a native of Fannin, Texas, gives a safety brief before Marines start table three qualifications at Range One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9. The live fire event is the final culminating event before these Yuma Marines graduate the course.

NO LIVE



Above: An MCAS Yuma Corporals Course student sights in down-range at the beginning of table three qualifications at Range One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9. The students calibrated the scopes on their rifles by firing down-range and adjusting the scope depending on where their rounds landed.

IRRE



Opposite right: Cpl. Jonathon Russell, an MCAS Yuma Corporals Course student and a native of New Berlin, Wis., lays down in the prone position while firing at a target at Range One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9. This was the first pair of Marines to run through the newly-made endurance course.

Marines Unload Ammo in Corporals Course First

**Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Zac Scanlon**

Desert Warrior Staff

Two Marines cautiously walked and waited for potential enemy contact, not knowing where they will take enemy fire from next. Then, a sudden break in the silence occurs as the sound of gunfire erupts. Both Marines hit the ground as fast as gravity could take them. Once the enemy is located, they engage. As they get up from the engagement, a phrase is called out: "Unload, show clear!"

"This is something new actually," said Sgt. Andrew Gutierrez, chief instructor of the MCAS Yuma Corporals Course and a Fanin, Texas native. "This is the first ever live fire event [MCAS Yuma] Corporals Course ever conducted."

Approximately 30 Marines participating in the Marine Corps Air Station Yuma Corporals Course, Class 3401-12, hosted by Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, were the first to run the new course July 9 on Range 1.

The course is designed to help enhance the Marines readiness in combat situations.

"We decided to implement something that would take the Marine into the actual environment and make him think as a noncommissioned officer," explained Gutierrez.

During the live fire course, two Marines patrol through a mock urban town. When the sounds of gunfire are heard, targets simulating enemies appear in makeshift buildings where the Marines have to engage. Once the targets drop, the Marines continue on until their next engagement.

Along with this new live fire component, all Marines also qualify on table 3 which is a qualification needed to deploy.

"They're going to leave here with table three qualification," said Gunnery Sgt. Jimmy Spence, H&HS deputy director of MCAS Yuma's Corporals Course. "Not too many Marines, especially at the air station, get that."

With ample safety training provided prior to beginning the live fire event, students were able to focus more on improving their marksmanship skills.

"They're definitely taken the right precautions to make it safe, fun and be able to learn

at the same time," said Cpl. Anthony Ward, a Corporals Course student.

Everything was a success for the new event. Even the weather made for a beautiful day to be at the ranges.

The live fire event is expected to be an integral part of future MCAS Yuma Corporals Course evolutions. So, for those newly promoted corporals or NCOs looking for the next challenge, talk to your command leadership about signing up.



Above: Cpl. Jonathon Russell, left, a Corporals Course student and a native of New Berlin, Wis., uses the bounding tactic with Cpl. Wyatt Aschenberenner, a Corporals Course student and a native of Phoenix, as he suppresses the enemy at Range One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9.

Left: A Corporals Course student sights in down range at the beginning of table three qualifications at Range One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9.



MCAS Yuma Corporals Course students wait for the go-ahead to fire upon their targets during table three at Range One, Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, July 9. As part of the training, Marines got to pre-qualify before qualifying for that day. The live fire training was part of the graduation requirement for Corporals Course.

Full Ads

SEPARATION

Put your best foot forward

Richard Piske
usmilitary.about.com

There is a method to the madness of integrating into the civilian workforce. Once you decide what field or profession you want to pursue, you'll need to update your resume and tailor it to each job for which you're applying. Remember, your resume usually creates an employer's first impression, so here are a few things to keep in mind as you create your resume.

Tip 1: Clearly Communicate Your Skills And Experience. When giving a description of your accomplishments, use direct, active verbs. Such words as managed, designed, sold, saved and developed are just a few examples. It's also important to use facts and measurable results wherever possible (e.g., "Helped the company realize a 30% savings in 2004 through a newly developed employee accountability policy.")

Tip 2: Keep Your Paragraphs Short (No Longer Than Six or Seven Lines). Doing so will give your resume a more organized appearance and will make

it easier to read. Also, avoid wordiness and irrelevant information such as how long you played the drums in your high school marching band; unless, of course, you're looking to embark on a career in the music industry!

Tip 3: Proofread Your Work. It's crucial that you use correct spelling and grammar on your resume. So be sure to use spell check on your computer and have someone proof read your resume before you start putting it out there.



Courtesy photo

Tip 4: Be Upfront about Your Work History. Don't worry about trying to cover up every gap in your employment. If you worked somewhere for three months doing something unrelated to the position to which you're applying, you don't necessarily need to include that in your resume. However, you must be prepared to clearly explain any gaps that you may have when you interview.

For the full 'Transitioning Out of the Military' article by Richard Piske, visit <http://usmilitary.about.com/od/lifeafterthemilitary/a/transitionout.htm>.

The Reel Deal

Station Movie
Theater Times

Thursday

Battleship (PG13)
7 p.m.

Friday

Men In Black 3 (PG13)
6 p.m.

Chernobyl Diaries (R) 9 p.m.

Visit www.mccsyuma.org for updated movie schedules. Or call, (928) 269-2358.

Events Calendar

Don't forget to mention you saw this on the MCCS Events Calendar!

july 12

Free Cake (Birthday Shout-out)

WHEN Thu, July 12, 12 pm

where SMP Rec Center

Who doesn't love free cake? Come on down and celebrate someone's birthday with delicious edibles in a party atmosphere

College 101 Brief

WHEN Thu, July 12, 2pm - 3pm

where Building 850

This hour long brief focuses on the policies and procedures that are in place for using military Tuition Assistance. This brief is required for anyone who wants to use Tuition Assistance.

july 13



Toddler Crafts

WHEN Fri, July 13, 10am - 11pm

where Building 645

Weekly on Fridays, until Dec 28, 2012. Call (928) 269-2561 for more information.

Teen Only Trivia Night

WHEN Fri, July 13, 7pm - 10pm

where Youth Center

Teens, have you ever had a question you didn't know the answer to? Come to the YC hang out and enjoy a game of trivia while hanging with your friends. 269-5390 for more info.

july 14

Live DJ

WHEN Fri, July 13, 8pm - Sat, July 14, 1am

where Club Pulse

Every Friday and Saturday come out to Pulse the Nightclub to listen to the Live DJ. Call (928)269-2711 for more information.



july 15

No Scheduled Events

july 16

Play Morning

WHEN Mon, July 16, 10 - 11 a.m.

where Fellowship Hall

Playgroup for parents and children ages 5 and under. For more information, call (928) 269-6053.

july 17

Anger Management

WHEN Tue, July 17, 1pm - 3pm

where Building 598

Learn alternative methods for managing anger. Call 269-2561 for more information.

july 18

SMP Fear Factor

WHEN Wed July 18, 6pm - 8pm

where Youth Center

Think you have what it takes to face your fears? Come participate in Fear Factor at the Rec Center. Teams will consist of 3 competitors. We dare you to play with SMP! Free food and prizes. 269-5794 for more info.

Full Ads

Say Cheese: You're on Combat Camera

Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison

Desert Warrior Staff

Where does imagery you see around base come from?

Those photos on the slides you saw in boot camp? The pictures in your curriculum at MOS school? The pamphlets for that Marine Corps Birthday you attended? The training videos seen at safety stand downs?



Photo by Cpl. Ken Kalemkarian

U.S. Marines with Second Low Altitude Air Defense Battalion, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., provides security during Assault Support Tactics 3 (AST-3) at Kiwanis Park, Yuma, Ariz., April 20, 2012. AST-3 supported Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course 2-12 hosted by Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 based in MCAS Yuma.

They come from the Marines within the 4600 military occupational specialty field, Combat Camera.

They're common sights around any Marine installation, the Marines toting cameras and capturing moments of Corps life.

"There are COMCAM assets assigned to every element of the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) at the (Ground Combat Element, Air Combat Element, Marine Logistics Groups and bases and stations)," said Gunnery Sgt. Rhonda Mera, the station Combat Camera chief and a native of Niagara Falls, N.Y. "Marine Corps Combat Camera is organized and structured to provide commanders with photographic, video, digital, printed products and archival capabilities which directly support Marine Corps operations, enhancing decision-making processes and situational awareness."

Combat Camera Marines have been around since at least World War II, according to Mera. Throughout the field's history, it's been called the Training Audio Visual Support Center, the Training Visual Information Support Center and Combat Visual Information Center. Today, it's known across the Corps as Combat Camera.

While normally falling under the S-3/G-3 Training sections, MCAS Yuma's Combat Camera is unique regarding the section it's a part of.

"Yuma COMCAM is the only Combat Camera in the Marine Corps to fall under communications," said Mera, noting that station combat camera is part of the S-6 department.



Photo illustration by Cpl. Justin Bopp

Combat cameramen and women provide a variety of products for commanders to use for mission-essential tasks, including still photography, videos and graphics. The material's use includes advertising an event on station, official command photos and providing source material for imagery analysts.

With the job requiring an eye for detail, it's no surprise, then, a few of the Marines here have backgrounds in art or graphic design.

"I joined specifically for Combat Camera," Cpl. Justin Bopp, the Combat Camera graphics and reproduction section chief and a native of Des Moines, Iowa, whose experienced in a variety of art forms. "I knew whatever job I had in COMCAM, I'd be fine with it."

"I originally went to college for graphic design," said Lance Cpl. Ryan Lampro, the Combat Camera video chief and a native of Pittsfield, Mass. "I didn't like where my life was going and wanted to change."

For full story, visit

Yuma.usmc.mil

1/2 Ads

WHERE IN THE WORLD



Photo by Sgt. John Odette

Light Armored Vehicles, belonging to 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance, are staged at Range 500A in Twentynine Palms, Calif., prior to conducting assault drills. Javelin Thrust is an annual large-scale exercise which allows active and reserve Marines and Sailors from 38 different states to train together as a seamless Marine Air Ground Task Force.



Marines with Company G., Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, pass belts of linked machine gun ammunition during the siege of Raspberry Creek here, July 5. The major engagement of the multi-week war during Exercise Hamel 2012. 50 Marines fend off the advancing Australian Army 1st Brigade before eventually being overrun. Exercise Hamel 2012 is a multi-national training evolution between the U.S. Marine Corps, Australian Army and New Zealand Army, aimed at certifying the Australian 1st Brigade for operational deployment. The 31st MEU is the only continuously forward-deployed MEU and is the nation's force in readiness in the Asia-Pacific region.

Photo by Cpl. Jonathan Wright



Photo by Staff Sgt. Clifton Firstbrook

Recruiting Substation Coon Rapids' Sgt. Matt Talbot reaches the end of the Forest Lake Festival parade July 4. Talbot and several poolies distributed stickers and bookmarks along the parade route while pulling the Gold Star Family Weekend float. This is the second year in a row that Marines with Recruiting Station Twin Cities have participated in the parade.

Around town, Yuma's hidden hot spots! *Oasis in the Desert: Waylon's Water World*

Capt. Staci Reidinger
Desert Warrior Staff

On most weekends, I escape to sunny and cool San Diego. But, little did I know that Yuma had a hidden oasis being constructed less than five miles from the air station's front gate. With only a quick remembrance of the name, "Z Fun Factory," my husband and I ventured out to see if this new water park was on par with others we had frequented over the years. We were just a tad bit nervous that Yuma + Water Park would = hot tub waves!

We pulled up right before 2 p.m. and each bought a half day pass for \$18.00. As we walked to the entrance, we didn't see any signs of ocean fun...but, a few steps later we captured why this water park is ranked as one of the largest in Arizona!! With three multi-person slides, four side-by-side racing slides, a kiddie pool area with slides, a lazy river looping around the park and plenty of shade for picnics and lounging, we descended the stairs down to begin our fun.



Our first slide was a two-person float down that swirled around and dropped us in a refreshing pool of water. Now, as a precaution, don't be discouraged if this first slide seems a bit warm.

We were dry during the first slide and as we sailed downward, I felt like I was in a simmering pot but the sensation ended once we hit the water for the first time.

After enjoying a ride down each slide choice and taking a spin around the lazy river, the water temperature was a bit warm so we headed to the, "Pirates Shipwreck" play station. By far, this was the most fun we'd had in years as we sprayed each other while running past buckets dumping cold water, traversing cargo netting and making our way down a few high rise kiddie slides.

Well, Waylon's Water World far exceeded our expectations. From the ease of parking on a Saturday afternoon and the reasonable cost of entry to the clean lockers, showers and cold adult beverages offered at poolside, this accidental visit turned in to one that will keep us returning a few more time this summer.

DO YOU KNOW THE BEST SPOTS IN TOWN? OR READ A GREAT BOOK RECENTLY? WE WANT TO KNOW! SHARE REVIEWS OF YOUR FAVORITE HANG OUTS, BOOKS, MOVIES, GAMES AND MUSIC! SEND THEM TO EDITOR.DEEDUB@GMAIL.COM

Entertainment Review Sun Tzu's "The Art of War"

Lance Cpl. Bill Waterstreet
Desert Warrior Staff

Battles are won by slaughter and maneuver. The greater the general, the more he contributes in maneuver; the less he demands in slaughter.

- Winston Churchill

The above quote has been the prevailing thought in western military strategy since World War II, but before this, war resembled the killing fields of the Great War, where the price of lives paid was astronomical. All war costs a terrible price; it's more acceptable when embarked on with the ideal of sparing as many lives, civilian and military, as possible.

These ideals are the essence of sound strategy and tactics, and were outlined about 2,500 years ago in The Art of War in ancient China by the general Sun Tzu. Unfortunately these teachings didn't reach the West until shortly before the French Revolution and didn't gain widespread acceptance until the 20th Century.

Sadly, western thought was governed by the often misunderstood philosophies of Carl von Clausewitz outlined in On War. Clausewitz preached the ruinous practice of total war, the utter destruction by any and all means of one's enemy. Due to the proliferation of Clausewitz's ideas, the West, as it had for centuries, continued waging war on a scale of mass attrition, culminating in the World Wars. Had the teachings of Sun Tzu been propagated and given due weight, millions upon millions of lives could have been saved.

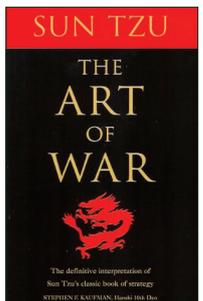
Because western culture achieved dominance

throughout the world as globalization occurred, peoples who took the ideals of The Art of War to heart began to abandon them in favor of Clausewitz. It took two World Wars and the deaths of millions for us to see the light.

Sun Tzu, in a time which would appear ancient and uncivilized to the modern observer, outlined the most expansive and in-depth treatise on the theory and conduct of war that has ever been written. Sun Tzu's writings, often referred to as the "Thirteen Chapters," display the aspects and practices of war with such wisdom they can only be described as the veritable general's Bible.

However, Sun Tzu himself might never have existed. It has been concluded through the study of history in relation to the text that Sun Tzu did not live in the time or situation canonically ascribed to him. The traditional story is false. This is not to say Sun Tzu was not real. He quite possibly could have lived at a later time, about 300 years later than originally thought, in the latter 400s B.C., under the same or a different name. Authors of the time frequently credited their works to popular figures of old to lend them credence. Nevertheless, the Thirteen Chapters are no less enlightened, correct or important.

The Art of War is essential reading not only for military commanders, but also enlisted personnel, coaches, teachers, businessmen, politicians, and everyday people.



MAWTS-1 hosts hot, sweaty softball game

Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison
Desert Warrior Staff

Rough and tough as they're known to be, the average Marine would not condone a game of softball in one hundred degree weather with 30 percent humidity.

But that's exactly what the noncommissioned officers and staff noncommissioned officers of Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 did at the station's softball field, July 2.

MAWTS-1's inverted pyramid hierarchy—officers far outnumber enlisted Marines—separates the unit from other entities in the Marine Corps. This results in responsibility being thrust upon junior Marines that most would not envy.

"When our instructor staff go on (permissive temporary additional duty) our younger kids are staying behind," said Sgt. Maj. Michael Parks, the MAWTS-1 sergeant major and a native of El Paso, Texas.

Approximately 40 sergeants and below are keeping MAWTS alive, added Parks.

Factor in MAWTS-1 boasts the Weapons & Tactics Instructor course twice a year and the fact 14-hour work days are a common reality, the Marines of MAWTS-1 can hardly be considered average.

The softball game, a spirited competition between NCOs and Staff NCOs, let the enlisted bodies of MAWTS-1 know

their hard work is appreciated and always considered.

"This is all about cohesion," said Parks. "It's all about being a family."

The game, the first of its kind put on by MAWTS-1, formed as a result of Parks walking in on Marines practicing softball.

"I decided to get all NCOs and below to get together and play softball because there's just enough to do it," said Cpl.

Jordan Treichler, a MAWTS-1 SIGNIT intelligence analyst and a native of Luling, La.

After Parks came out, Treichler joked, "We were having try-outs to beat the Staff NCOs at the game. He (Parks) took it seriously."

"And now we're here," he added.

The SNCOs dubbed themselves Hip Replacement, with the NCOs going with the moniker Team Winning ("Even if we

lose, we'll always be Winning," noted Treichler). Despite proficiency and conduct marks may reflect, Treichler still said he was looking forward to playing against the SNCOs.

Before the game began, Col. Bradford Gering, the MAWTS-1 commanding officer, recommended the NCOs hydrate and the SNCOs stretch.

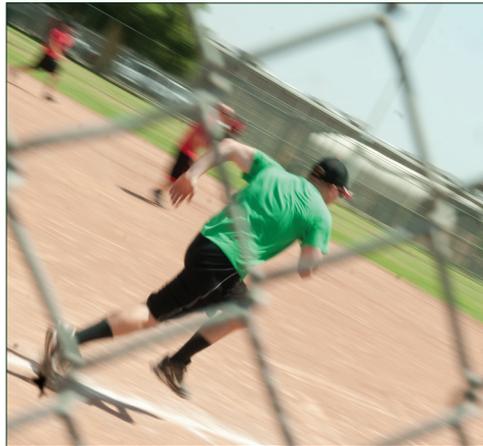
Participants also grilled and set up

picnic-style refreshment as the Marines sweated towards victory. Arizona Adventures provided most of the equipment.

Thankfully, no hip replacements were needed, though there was humiliation aplenty as the SNCOs walked away with a 39-2 victory. Team Winning took it in good humor.

"This was done to show our appreciation to them," said Parks.

"Too bad we had to beat 'em so bad," he added.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Sean Dennison

Opposite, above: Marines with Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1 compete in a softball game at the station softball field, July 2. The game, played by noncommissioned officers against staff noncommissioned officers, was put on to build camaraderie and teamwork at MAWTS-1.

1/2 Ads

