



The Warrior NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 4 SERVING THE MARINES AND FAMILIES OF RECRUITING STATION FORT WORTH, TX OCT 2012



Killeen All-Hands

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Melissa A. Latty



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STRAIGHT FROM THE SERGEANT MAJOR



I can't believe that I have already had the pleasure to serve as the Sergeant Major of the Marines assigned to RS Fort Worth for 27 months! Wow, time fly's when you are staying engaged and the TEAM doesn't become complacent. I look forward to the next year of developing each and every one of us into better and well polished Marine leaders. Time has gone by so fast because we have all continue to stay so busy and engaged in making great things happen for the state of Texas and our great Country. I get more and more excited as we improve our Marine leadership skills and procedures. Always challenging but nothing like serving as a Marine Corps Senior Enlisted Leader and Pool Manager! I continue to pray that every Marine, Family member, Civilian and Poolee affiliated with Recruiting Station Forth Worth, Texas have started to understand and become satisfied with the dedication, energy and focus that I bring to "the fight" daily. I will continue to ask for a lot when it comes to Marines improving themselves and making sure spouses understand the challenges of the duty assigned to their spouse. Please feel comfort and trust that my track record shows those that have followed my guidance have been rewarded in some fashion!

Marines, I will continue to remind each one of you that you are Marines assigned to recruiting duty! I will continue to teach and educate each and every one of you on Marine Corps orders and what is expected of us as "the most unique group of military practitioners in the world." Your challenge continues to be that you and your significant others need to be good students of our mission which will allow you to have a good quality of life while we simultaneously make mission.

As a T.E.A.M we have done some incredible things with contracting, shipping and overcoming adversity! Most of those few that have struggle personally or professionally have been very receptive to the guidance and advice given by us as a Command Group and our experienced 8412's. For those that have had "corrective action" taken on them, "don't take it personal, it was strictly business" and understand that we must move forward from the day of the corrective action. Daily, I look at myself and ask "what can I do to improve myself personally and professionally", so I ask that instead of blaming others, that you do the same. Remember to be very careful of the company that we keep and careful of the advise that we seek from outsiders. Make sure the advise we give is accurate and can be supported by an order, directive or historical data so that we are not misleading others! Do not become Enablers for our Marines, Children or Poolees!

The Marine Corps ball turned out very well last year and everyone was looking sharp so I look forward to the same results or better this year! Our RS Family Readiness Officer is looking forward to having a breakfast with some helpful and entertaining training for the spouses on the morning of the ball. Our plan went so well last year that it allowed everyone to

enjoy the amenities of the Solana Marriott along with their significant others and the goal is to do the same this year but we need max participation from the spouses in order to make this happen.

Once again, we have achieved quite a bit since the last newsletter! We continue to make mission very early in the month which allows our Marines to stay sharp at the other Marine (P.T., CFT, uniform, PME, etc.) things and enjoy some quality of life. We have been very successful at Meritoriously promoting Marines or winning Annual boards through the Western Recruiting level each board for the last two years which is a great "report card" for us as a Recruiting Station. I would venture to say that on average, we have statistically done better than the rest of the seven Recruiting Stations in the District in this area when you consider the percentage vs. the size of each unit. We have also done less Reliefs For Cause and Non Judicial Punishments which means that we have corrected action at the lowest level and works hard at guiding, repairing and recovering careers.

The WRR Commanding General, Sergeant Major and Chaplain have all made his visits and as the lunch or visits came to an end they complemented the Recruiting Station Sergeant Major on the unit cohesion, success and T.E.A.M. vibe that they felt while in the company of our FTW Family! I hear the same thing from civilians as I travel throughout our Area of Operation.

Welcome aboard to all families who have joined us since the last news letter. I look forward to meeting everyone affiliated with our recruiting family at the ball on 17 November so plan accordingly. More details to come. I am sure most of you have figured out that the Commanding Officer, Sergeant Major and Assistant Family Readiness Officer (MSgt. Miller) have made it part of our mission to have light lunch or a light dinner with as many different RSS's as possible each quarter.

Congratulations to the Marines recently selected for Gunnery Sergeant and Staff Sergeant!

We have a solid T.E.A.M. so let's all seek improvement daily as individuals and move forward as a T.E.A.M! Perfect your "grid square" and lead by example and the rest will fall into place.

As always, we all need to remember, Together Everyone Achieves More so that as Spartans we can continue to be victorious. Though we are small, we continue to be mighty.

Semper Fidelis

Sergeant Major Charles H. Ridgeway Jr.

HAIL & FAREWELL

DEPARTING MARINES

GYSGT QUINTERO
GYSGT MENO
GYSGT STRICKLAND
GYSGT WARE
SSGT FAUNTLEROY
SSGT SHELL
SSGT LEAKE
SGT LOPEZ
SGT WADE
SGT RAGAN

NEW JOINS

SSGT RAMIREZ
SSGT ACOSTA
SSGT NUNO
SGT REYNOLDS
SGT WYATT



PROMOTIONS

CONGRATULATIONS MARINES!

GYSGT RAMIREZ
GYSGT CABRERO
SSGT FRANKLIN

R
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R

Recruiter of the Quarter



Sgt. Ragan
RSS Lewisville

Recruiter of the Month



JUNE
SSgt Brooks
RSS Mansfield



JULY
Sgt Vanderburg
RSS Mansfield



AUG
SSgt Valadez
RSS Weatherford

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KILLEEN ALL-HANDS



SPOUSE CORNER



For those of you that are seasoned or just coming in, I want to personally welcome you to RS Ft Worth. I am the Family Readiness Advisor to each of you. My name is KC Epperson and I have known recruiting duty for the better part of 14 years now.

When I met my husband Eric, he was stationed at RS Dallas and was attached to the Garland recruiting office. Recruiting duty was my first introduction to the Marine Corps. The late hours, the sacrifices involved, and the high level of stress became my daily way of life. This new world lasted for almost three years.

Once we arrived at SOI at Camp Pendleton I thought we had hit the lottery. With new banker type hours and home on the weekends, I finally began to get to know a taste of what I thought was a "normal" life. I was able to get a really good job, we moved on base and I made many new friends. Life was good. When September 11 struck, I realized the true purpose of a United States Marine. Many of my new friends had to say goodbye to their Marines for hazardous deployments. Most came back safely but some did not.

My world changed again when, after much discussion, Eric volunteered for recruiting duty again. This time the Corp sent us to Michigan. Not only were we away from friends and family, even the climate was completely different. We invested in snow gear and four-wheel drives. The hours again were long and the stress was high. Stations were tasked with as high as 16 kids per month. There was a Marine Corp push at that time to reach over 200,000 enlistees in five years. Against all odds the Corps came through in two. My husband was a part of that mission accomplishment. I learned to be self-sufficient, to survive with the means I had, and to overcome. I told myself the situation was temporary and in three years we would be back to the fleet, where life was "gravy". Around that time, Eric realized his purpose and calling for the Marines. He changed his MOS and became the dreaded "8412". We were stationed in Michigan another four years.

On November 15, 2010 my entire world was turned upside down. My mother was diagnosed with Stage 4 Ovarian Cancer. I was on a plane to Dallas the very next day. My trip to Dallas to be with my mother turned into a permanent move for myself to become her care giver. My husband was unable to accompany me until he finally received orders to RS Ft Worth in April 2011. I continued caring for my mother while balancing my home life of a wife and mother.

Over the last 14 years of my life I have faced and overcame many obstacles. I now work as the Lead Animal Services Officer for Hickory Creek and have plans for finishing my degree in the spring. I love volunteer work and thoroughly enjoy helping people. With all this being said, I know what it is like to walk in your shoes, to worry, to feel like you are the only one. I just want you to know you are not alone!

KC Epperson
Command Team Advisor
940-368-4181



MEET YOUR SAFETY CHIEF!

GySgt. Royderick Jackson



*“Proactivity
always trumps
reactivity”*

Watch for these signs of dehydration:

STATUS	No Dehydration	Some Dehydration	Severe Dehydration
CONDITION	Well, alert	Restless, irritable	Lethargic or unconscious; floppy
EYES (Tears)	Normal (present)	Sunken (not present)	Very sunken and dry (not present)
MOUTH & TONGUE	Moist	Dry	Very dry
THIRST	Drinks normally, not thirsty	Thirsty, drinks eagerly	Drinks poorly or not able to drink
SKIN PINCH	Goes back quickly	Goes back slowly	Goes back very slowly
DECIDE	No signs of dehydration	If two or more signs are present there is some dehydration	If two or more signs are present, there is severe dehydration

3rd Quarter Spartan Rankings

Small



Large

