



# The Convoy

June 17, 2011

Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group

Volume 3 Issue 2

## Marines volunteer for cause

Story and photos by  
Cpl. Michele Watson  
Staff Writer

### MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.

– The Marine Corps participates in humanitarian efforts across the globe, from the earthquake in Haiti to the typhoon in Japan. Here at home, some Marines enjoy taking the time out to volunteer in the local community and help make a difference in someone else's life.

Volunteers from Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group donated their time and energy to a local Habitat for Humanity site, June 7.

A block of homes in the local area has been built by the organization to sell at a discounted price to low-income families.

“Habitat for Humanity has been called by God to bring people together to help build affordable homes,” said Joe F. Carton, the superintendent of the construction site.

The Marines spent the day framing the homes' structure by nailing plywood, hammering two-by-fours together and putting up walls, among other construction necessities. The contribution of volunteer work is what makes organizations like Habitat for Humanity possible.

“What I love about volunteering for Habitat for Humanity is it gives the opportunity for less for-

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*Cpl. Nicholas S. Chase, the disbursing noncommissioned officer in charge, Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, raises part of the structure of a home while volunteering with Habitat for Humanity in Oceanside, Calif., June 7.*

## Summer safety campaign kicks off

Story by  
Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin  
Staff Writer

### MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.

– In order to prevent deadly mishaps during the summer, 1st Marine Logistics Group is participating in the annual 101 Days of Summer challenge here.

Memorial Day weekend kicked off the annual 101 Days of Summer, which includes the 15 weeks between the Memorial Day and Labor Day holidays when the majority of off-duty fatalities and serious injuries occur.

Service members and their families enjoy a lot of activities during the summer heat, such as barbecuing and swimming. Although these activities may be fun, they can pose many safety hazards.

“The biggest mishaps seen during the summer are heat injuries, water accidents and vehicle accidents,” said Petty Officer First Class Glorille Jackson, safety representative, 1st MLG. “Because of the holidays, a lot more people travel.”

Last year during those critical days, the Marine Corps suffered

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# Volunteer

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tunate people to be able to afford a home,” said Pfc. Joel M. Roberts, a disbursing clerk with Service Company, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “I think it’s one of the best organizations to volunteer for, because they have such a great cause.”

Cpl. Nicholas S. Chase, the non-commissioned officer in charge, Disbursing, Service Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, said his office was fortunate to be able to participate in many volunteer opportunities.

“Working together as a shop outside of our job helps strengthen morale and camaraderie,” said Chase, 27, a native of Plymouth, Mass. “Simple fundamentals, like building a house for those less fortunate, increases the maturity of our junior Marines.”

For example, Lance Cpl. Alex J. Cantave, disbursing clerk, Disbursing, Service Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, frequently volunteers for multiple organizations and events. He said his driving force for getting involved in the community is to stay in touch with life outside of the military.

“Volunteering gives me a bigger perspective,” said Cantave, 24, a Miami native. “Marines get so caught up in the ‘Ooh-rah’ Marine Corps that it’s easy to forget there is actually a society out there.”

The final five homes of the 20-house project are nearing their com-



**Cpl. Nicholas S. Chase and Pfc. Joel M. Roberts, raise plywood sheathing to a second story during a home construction.**

pletion, with hopes to be finished by December of this year. Carton said the families are chosen before the project is complete and contribute to building the homes as part of the agreement for being able to purchase one at such a low cost.

“I am a firm believer in paying it forward,” said Chase. “I believe when you do something good for someone, chances are they will do something good for someone else.”

Habitat for Humanity sites are located throughout the U.S. as well as in some foreign countries. Carton said regardless of the location, the mission to provide low-cost homes remains the same. There are continuous projects in place, and the organization is always accepting volunteers. For more information on how to volunteer, log onto [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org).



**Lance Cpl. Pierre D. Hilliard, a disbursing clerk, volunteers with Habitat for Humanity in Oceanside, Calif., June 7.**



**Disbursing Marines raise a 50-foot wall frame to the second story of a Habitat for Humanity home.**

## HAPPENINGS

### Motorcycle Safety Courses

An Advanced Riders Course will be held weekly Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. A Basic Riders Course will be held weekly, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Both courses will take place at Bldg. 200071. For more information, call Kevin Frantum at (760) 725-2897.

### Filthy Fun Fest

Get dirty at the filthy fun fest mud run, June 18, at Lake O’Neill on Camp Pedleton. Enjoy a live band, games, rock climbing, drinks and food during the World Famous Mud Run.

### Semper Ride Dirt Days

Active duty off-road motorcycle and quad riders are invited to attend the Semper Ride Dirt Days event June 17 and 18 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The event will take place at Thunder Horse Ranch, located off Interstate 8 at exit 54. The event will feature two motocross tracks and two trail loops. Motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle training will be given by professional riders. Classes include a motorcycle cornering and jumping clinic, a Motorcycle Safety Foundation dirt bike school and a Specialty Vehicle Institute of America ATV course. Call 760-725-1154 to sign up.

### Father’s Day Luncheon Buffet

Treat your Dad on Father’s Day to a luncheon special June 19, at the Pacific View/South Mesa Club from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Reservations are strongly suggested. For more information call 760-725-2231.

### Knott’s Berry Farms

In a small way to show appreciation to service members for their service, Knott’s Berry Farms and Knott’s Soak City is providing one free admission to each theme park for each active duty service member during the Independence Day weekend, July 3 and 4, 2011.



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# Marine escorts POW remains to family

Story by Cpl. Michele Watson  
Staff Writer

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** - In 1954, the family of Army Sgt. Ralph Carlson received news that their loved one passed away in a Korean internment camp. Today, with the help of DNA testing, science has helped to identify his remains, bringing closure to Carlson's family and countless other families across the country who had lost loved ones.

Carlson's remains will be escorted to Braham, Minn., June 25, by his great nephew Pfc. Jonathan C. Wescott, a legal services specialist with Legal Services Support Section, Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group.

"It's a pretty big honor to be able to do this for my family; it's overwhelming," said Wescott, 21.

Nearly 60 years after his death, Carlson's remains will be buried in what was once an empty grave and bring closure to a family that has been left with many unanswered questions.

"My family is very close, and there was definitely a hole left when he didn't come home," said Wescott, a Gig Harbor, Wash., native. "I think this funeral will bring us closer, and it's a great opportunity to be the one who escorts him home."

When Wescott's mother, Linda, heard about an organi-



Courtesy Photo

**A photograph of Army Sgt. Ralph Carlson (left) was taken before his deployment during the Korean War. Carlson's family was notified of his death in 1954, but his body was never recovered. Today, science has made it possible to identify remains using DNA processing to return prisoners of war and those missing in action personnel to their families. Pfc. Jonathon Wescott, (right) a legal services specialist with Legal Services Support Section, Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, will be escorting his great uncle's remains to a proper funeral in Braham, Minn., June 25.**



Photo by Cpl. Michele Watson

zation that helps reunite families with relatives who were prisoners of war and missing in action, she contacted them and arranged for the family to provide DNA, which is used to compare to samples of remains from previous wars. In November 2010, five members of Carlson's family went to Hawaii to give DNA samples.

The Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command based in Oahu, is home to the largest forensic laboratory in the world. Since its founding in 2003, JPAC has contributed to the identification of more than 560 American service members missing from World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

"It's astounding that they were able to find his remains," said Wescott. "After being gone for so long, it's amazing he will finally be able to go home."

Wescott said his great uncle had planned to start farming in his hometown after the war. The small town is a close-knit community, and the return of Carlson's remains affects more than just family members. Volunteer organizations, including the Girl Scouts and a veterans' biker group, have offered their support for the homecoming.

As the town eagerly awaits the funeral where Ralph Carlson's remains will be laid to rest, Wescott said he is excited to have the honor of escorting his great uncle to the cemetery.

"I think it's cool to see how far his story has gone," said Wescott.

In addition to being reunited with their missing soldier, Wescott said his family is anxious to see him.

His mother said Carlson's brother and sister could not be more thrilled that Wescott is able to take a part in this event.

"It's a wonderful circle that I think comes from God that Jon, who is serving his country, can bring home his great uncle who died serving this country," said Linda Carlson Wescott, Wescott's mother. "To have Jon be the one that brings him home is bigger than words can say because



Courtesy Photo

**Army Sgt. Ralph Carlson, second left, is photographed with members of his platoon during the Korean War. Carlson became a prisoner of war and died in the camp. After 60 years, Carlson's body will finally be laid to rest, June 25.**



# - GIVE HIM ONE! - 1ST MLG BULK FUEL MARINES



Winners and runners-up of the 2010 American Petroleum Institute Awards pose after an awards ceremony at Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 8. The annual API awards recognize service members who have made significant contributions to bulk fuel operations, petroleum supply chain management and fleet fuel support.

Photo by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik

**Story by  
Staff Sgt. Jennifer Brofer  
Press Chief**

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** -Many Bulk fuel Marines with 1st Marine Logistics Group were awarded for excellence in fuels management in a ceremony at the base theater here, June 8.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Luc P. Brennan, bulk fuel officer for 1st MLG, was named the American Petroleum Institute's Marine Corps Fuel Officer of the Year, and Gunnery Sgt. Damien Anderson, bulk fuel specialist for 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st MLG, was named the API Marine Corps Fuel Staff Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

The API presents annual awards to recognize military members that have made a significant contribution to Department of Defense bulk-fuel operations, petroleum supply-chain management and fleet-fuel support, according to Marine Administrative Message 211/11.

Brennan and Anderson were

directly responsible for planning, coordinating and managing more than 10 million gallons of fuel in support of more than 30,000 Marines and coalition forces conducting counterinsurgency operations within Regional Command (Southwest).

"I am proud and honored to receive this award on behalf of all the Bulk Fuel Marines whose hard work and dedication support the warfighter each day," said Brennan, 39, from Scottsdale, Ariz., who joined the Marine Corps in January 1991.

While deployed to Afghanistan in 2010, Brennan and Anderson ensured the storage, delivery, inventory, receipt and reporting of all bulk fuel supplies at 16 fuel sites throughout Helmand Province, which distributed 29,000 gallons of fuel daily.

Anderson said to receive the award is a great accomplishment within his military occupational specialty.

"It is a great honor to receive the API award," said Anderson, 36,

from Opelousas, La., who joined the Marine Corps in August 1995. "I really appreciate the senior leadership in taking the time to nominate and recognize my efforts."

Also honored during the ceremony was Sgt. Kevin Hicks, bulk fuel specialist, 7th ESB, 1st MLG, 29, from Richmond, Va., who was named the runner-up API Marine Corps Fuel NCO of the Year.



Photo by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik  
**Chief Warrant Officer 3 Luc D. Brennan, 39, from Scottsdale, Ariz., was awarded the American Petroleum Institute Marine Corps Fuel Officer of the Year award.**



Photo by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik  
**Sgt. Kevin Hicks, 29, from Richmond, Va., was awarded as the Marine runner-up for the API Fuel Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.**



Photo by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik  
**Gunnery Sgt. Damien D. Anderson, 36, from Opelousas, La., was named the American Petroleum Institute Marine Corps Fuel Staff Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award.**

# SUMMER FUN:

## Summer

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25 fatalities, and the Navy suffered 19 fatalities.

To help combat mishaps, Marine Corps Community Services will host a series of events that require unit participation. Points are earned by attending scheduled events, monthly meetings, competitions and scheduled unit training.

“Other than the summer challenges, regimental safety commanders hold classes for the Marines and sailors throughout the summer on preventing heat injuries, vehicle and motorcycle safety and other safety topics,” said Jackson, 33, from Angeles City, Philippines.

Points are awarded based on the percentage of the unit’s overall strength that participates in each of the scheduled summer events. Each event has a safety, injury prevention and alcohol education theme. The units that gain the most points will be awarded unit recreation funds.

There are three divisions, broken down based upon unit size: Division One includes units with 700 or more service members; Division Two includes units with 300 to 699 service members; Division Three includes units that have fewer than 300 service members.

With units participating in friendly competition and keeping their minds poised on safety, service members can mitigate safety risks while having fun in the summer sun.



Photo by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik

Sailors with 1st Dental Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, play flag football during their annual sports day at Del Mar Beach, June 9.

### Summer Safety Tips:

1. To avoid heat illness: drink plenty of water and take regular breaks
2. Water Safety: never swim alone and whenever possible, swim near a lifeguard
3. Cookout safety: Make sure to have a functional fire extinguisher within reach when barbecuing.



Photo by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik

Sailors with 1st Dental Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, play soccer during their annual sports day at Del Mar Beach, June 9.

# Word on the Street

**What is your favorite summer-time activity?**



*“Playing football. I like it because it gets you running. It also builds team camaraderie.”*

**Cpl. Deante M. Rodolph**  
Warehouse Clerk, 1st MLG



*“I like paintball; I just find it fun.”*

**Lance Cpl. Kevin E. Arrant**  
Warehouse Clerk, 1st MLG