

BLACK WIDOW NEWSLETTER



MCAS YUMA, ARIZONA

MARINE AVIATION LOGISTICS SQUADRON 13

ISSUE: FEBRUARY 2015

Commanding Officer's Comments



COMMAND ELEMENT

Commanding Officer:
LtCol Andrew Thompson

Executive Officer:
Maj Luke Watson

Sergeant Major:
SgtMaj Richard Hunt

FAMILY READINESS OFFICERS

Family Readiness Officer:
Larry E. Leaver
Office: (928) 269.2279
Cell: (928) 287.7293
Email: larry.leaver@usmc.mil

Deputy Family Readiness Officers:

SSgt Person	Ordnance	269.6212
SSgt Vazquez	Supply	269.3160
SSgt Temple	Maint	269.5478
SSgt Colpitts	HQ	269.3566
SSgt Garcia	Avionics	269.3166

Dear Marines, Sailors, Families and Friends,

Thank you for your continued support. Without you, we couldn't do what we do, nor would we be who we are.

Congratulations to LCpl Figueroarincon, Cpl Espinoza and Sgt Cook for their meritorious recognitions this month. Well done, Marines!

Cpl Espinoza will represent MALS-13, MAG-13 and 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing and compete for I MEF "Marine of the Year"...we wish him well, and know he is a fine ambassador of our squadron.

We eagerly anticipate the return of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) deployment. Several members of our squadron, led by GySgt Harrison, will be returning after a successful and noble effort.

Thanks again for your continued support.

Sincerely,

LtCol Thompson
Commanding Officer

In This Edition:

Commanding Officer's Comments	1
Sergeant Major's Comments	1
INFO from the FRO	2
Single Marine Program	2
MCFTB	2
MAG Imbedded MFLC	3
Lifelong Learning	3
New Parent Support	4
Yuma Mardi Gras on Main flyer	4

DATES TO REMEMBER

YRMC Maternity Ward Tour Yuma Regional Medical Center	Feb 5 3pm
Squadron Hike Breakfast Telegraph Pass	Feb 13 6-9am
Station Welcome Aboard Sonoran Pueblo	Feb 18 8 -1030am
Spouse Connection: BUNCO Family Team Building	Feb 26 7-9pm

Sergeant Major's Comments



Dear Black Widows, Family and Friends,

Anita and I cannot be more excited about being here. We have settled in well and have already gotten to know many of you. I cannot be more excited about being your SgtMaj; I consider it a true honor.

I know many of you go your entire day and not see anyone from the command deck. Please rest assured that I appreciate everything you do for the institution and this squadron. You are the ones that truly make this squadron shine. Thank you!

As you carry on with your lives, I ask that you please take a moment and remember those that are deployed, away from love ones and may be in harm's way.

I look forward to getting around and meeting every single Marine and Sailor in the unit.

Sincerely,
SgtMaj Hunt

INFO from the FRO

Black Widows and families,

The 11th MEU will be home mid-February; actual return dates are still tentative at this time. There will be a Spouses Return & Reunion Brief (in conjunction with VMA-211) on February 5 at Family Team Building in the large classroom (bldg. 598, located next to the Commissary) from 6-8pm.

We have also planned a Jane Wayne Day! The event will be 20 February from 8:45am-2:30pm at the Memorial Sports Complex (Ramada). How does the weapons simulator, martial arts instruction, combat fitness test, gas mask/chamber and MREs sound?! Department tours are available with your Marine after the event concludes. Flyer is coming!

Tax season is here! Your 2014 W-2 is available on the www.mypay.dfas.mil website. The Tax Center officially opened on 15 January. Hours of operation are: Mon-Friday, 0730-1630. No weekends. The Tax Center is located in Bldg. 852 (Base Legal/ ID Center).

The Unit Personal & Family Readiness Program (UPFRP) is *currently seeking volunteers*, if you would like to support the unit with some of your spare time, let me know and I will send you an application form and information documents. The FRP is here for you, we look forward to providing any assistance to questions or needs you may have. If you would like to be a volunteer for the unit, whether officially or unofficially, contact me and I will get you more details on the opportunities.

Semper Fi ~ Larry

MCFTB

Marine Corps Family Team Building

Marine Corps Family Team Building is committed to empowering military families with information and awareness that keep them healthy and safe. All of our classes and events are meant to provide an opportunity to learn about resources available to military families, skills to cope and thrive in the military lifestyle, meet new people and build relationships. After all, the tight-knit military community is a great place to find true friends who will provide a lifetime of support.

Rob Wendt (Director)

Steve (Readiness & Deployment Trainer)
steve.t.klauck@usmc.mccs.org

Angie (LINKS & Lifeskills Trainer)
angela.olberding@usmc.mccs.org

SMP

MALS-13 SMP Reps

- PRESIDENT** – Cpl Jessica Gesky
- VICE PRESIDENT** – Cpl Gardner
- ALIMSD – LCpl Fisher
- IMRL/TOOLS – LCpl Fiske
- 400 – Cpl Montgomery
- 500 – PFC Church
- 600 – LCpl Quiros
- 700 – Cpl Wells
- 800 – LCpl Hamilton
- 900 – Cpl Maples



SMP Recreation Center

Hours of Operation ~ 269-5794
 Mon - Thurs: 11am - 11pm
 Fri thru Sun: 11am - Midnight
 Holiday Hrs: 1:00pm - 11:00pm

Upcoming Events

SMP Monthly Council Meeting

Feb 5, 1500-1630 – Sta. Conf. Room (bldg. 980)

FREE Art Class-Beginners

Feb 9 & 23 – 1800 Bldg. 645 (3rd deck)

Flagstaff Ski/Snowboard Trip

Feb 20-23 -depart from SMP Rec. Center

Texas Roadhouse Dinner

Feb 12 – 1715 @ SMP Rec. Center for trans.

SMP Vol. Op- Face Painting

Feb 27 – 0815-1300 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op-Humane Society

Feb 11 & 25 - 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op- Yuma Food Bank

Feb 4 & 18 - 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op- Crossroads Mission

Feb 14- 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

PR Meeting

Feb 10 - 1130 @ SMP Rec. Center

Marine Corps Family Team Building Building 598

(928) 269-6502/6503/6553/6544

SCHEDULED CLASSES

Monthly FRO Meeting

Feb 5 @ MCFTB, 9-11am

PREP

Feb 11 @ MCFTB, 9am-4pm

Auto Skills: Oil Change & Lube

Feb 11 @ MCFTB, 6-8pm

Family Care Plan Class

Feb 13 @ MCFTB, 9-11am

LINKS for Marines

Feb 18 @ MAG Univ., 1pm-4:30pm

Assistant/Advisor Training

Feb 19 @ MCFTB, 5-9pm

LINKS for Spouses/Couples

Feb 21 @ MCFTB, 9am-3pm



MAG13 Imbedded MFLC

The MAG-13 Embedded MFLC office is located at MAG Headquarters, NOT at the Post Office. I discovered today that if you send a Marine to the station MFLC office at the Post Office looking specifically for me, the station MFLC may simply make an appointment with that Marine and not refer them back to me or to my location. (This is fine, unless you want the Marine to meet with me in particular.) The program embeds MFLCs (as I am embedded with the MAG) because it makes it easier for Marines and their leaders to become acquainted & comfortable with that individual, and more trusting of the work they do.

Because I do outreach and meet people outside of the office, I am often out and about on base. Please call my cell phone and leave a voicemail when you have a referral. If it is a pressing matter, please text me with URGENT and your contact information, and I will get back within the hour. Please, never put any PII in a text or email to me, as this creates a "record" which is not allowed under the MFLC program. My office hours are 0800-2000.

Remember that I can come to the unit when you need me to, including evenings, to meet with you or your Marines & Sailors. I can meet with clients on or off base, anywhere but their home (including barracks rooms, obviously).

PLEASE NOTE: You are free to refer your Marines, and they are free to see, whichever MFLC they feel most comfortable with. We are all here for the same reason: to serve the Marines, Sailors, families, commands, and the mission.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

Beth

Beth Banks

Military & Family Life Counselor

(MFLC) Embedded with MAG-13

cell 928.210.6192

beth.banks.ctr@usmc.mil

mflc.mag13.measyuma@gmail.com

Lifelong Learning

When our Marines check into the unit they have to check into Lifelong Learning, the Station Education Center (building 850). There are opportunities for **spouses** (E5 and below) to utilize these services as well for with a MyCAA grant (\$4000) for approved transferable training.

Testing Schedule

Feb 11: SAT, 0830-1400

Feb 10 & 24: AFCT/DLAB/DLPT, 0830 or 1300

**College exams are by appointment only and must be scheduled at least two weeks prior to exam date.*

Please call 928-269-3248 to register.

**TABE (Test of Adult Basic Education), GED Locator and GED Practice exams are by appointment only.*

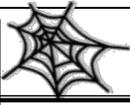
College 101 (Tuition Assistance Brief): **EVERY Friday**, 1000-1115 **FAFSA Brief** (Fed. Fin. Aid): **Feb 6 & 27**, 1300-1330.

MGIB and Post 9/11 Bill Brief: **Feb 9 & 23**, 1000-1130

USMAP: **Feb 26**, 1000-1030

Spouse Education and Employment Brief (call 269-3248 for reservations): **Feb 4**, 1000-1130

Station Education Staff: Cindy Harry - Education Services Officer @ 269-3589 or cindy.harris@usmc.mil, Jessica Davis - Education Services Specialist @ 269-5614 or jessica.a.davis@usmc.mil, or Alvina Johnson - Education Services Specialist @ 269-3248 or alvina.johnson@usmc.mil.



New Parent Support & Navy Marine Corps Relief Society

The New Parent Support Program (NPSP) and Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) offer our Marines, and families who are expecting, some great opportunities prior to your "new joins" arrival.

New Parent Support: Located in building 645 (corner across from the Gym) 269-2308

- 1. Daddy's Baby Boot Camp, held at NPSP – Feb 13, 0800-1600 (must call and register)
- 2. Mom's Basic Training, held at NPSP – Feb 27, 0800-1600 (must call to register ~ as soon as you know you're expecting)
- 3. YRMC Hospital Tour, held on 1st Thursday (normally) of each month at 3:00pm – Feb 5 is the next tour (if you cannot make the tour call YRMC they will usually do a private tour too). Normally last about 45 minutes, you can also pre-register and complete all required paperwork while you are there.

Play Based Parenting: Jan 6-Feb 10 (5 week class). Breast Feeding: Feb 20 (reservation only, 269-2308).

Navy Marine Corps Relief Society: Also building 645 (use side entrance facing the Station Theater) 269-2373

- 1. Budget for Baby classes scheduled for February 11 and 25 beginning at 0930 (please call to register).
- 2. Pay Day loans up to \$500.
- 3. Grant and Loan program for emergencies.

Yuma Mardi Gras on Main

Mardi Gras on Main
Downtown Main St., Yuma AZ

2015 FREE ADMISSION

Brought to you by:

FORT YUMA ROTARY and...

ALEXANDER
TOYOTA SCION

Friday, February 13th
5pm to 11pm

DOWNTOWN RESTAURANTS - SHOPS - LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

www.MardiGrasOnMain.com