

BLACK WIDOW NEWSLETTER

MCAS YUMA ARIZONA

MARINE AVIATION LOGISTICS SQUADRON 13

ISSUE: MARCH 2014

COMMAND ELEMENT

Commanding Officer:
LtCol Andrew Thompson

Executive Officer
Maj Chris Story

Sergeant Major:
SgtMaj Lonny Solari

FAMILY READINESS OFFICERS

Family Readiness Officer:
Larry E. Leaver
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Deputy Family Readiness Officer:
SSgt Roussel Ordnance 269.2689
SSgt Dominguez Supply 269.2430
GySgt Tabora Maint 269.2148
SSgt Vega HQTR 269.2070
SSgt Casebolt Avionics 269.2697

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DATES TO REMEMBER

PREP Mar 12
Chapel/Fellowship Hall 7:30am-4:30pm

MCAS Yuma Air Show Mar 15 & 16
FLIGHTLINE

Station Welcome Aboard Mar 19
Sonoran Pueblo 8-11am

Squadron Hike ~ Senators Wash
Mar 28 0200-0800

Commanding Officer's Comments



Dear Marines, Sailors and Families of MALS-13,

Please join me in a warm Congratulations for Corporal Gregory, who was the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Marine of the Year! His exemplary performance was recognized by the Commandant of the Marine Corps in a meritorious promotion ceremony on February 13th.

Corporal Gregory's example is indicative of what we see from our Marines and Sailors on a regular basis.

Upcoming events in March include the first MALS-13 Birthday Celebration. To the best of our knowledge, it's the first and only time in the unit's 72 years that we've honored the squadron lineage.

All Marines, Sailors and families are invited to the celebration/ceremony on March 21st. Additional details are forthcoming.

We appreciate the continued sacrifices of our deployed Marines, Sailors and families. They are shining examples of American patriotism.

Thank you for your time and concern,

LtCol Andrew J. Thompson

Sergeant Major's Message



Family and Friends,

February was a very special and interesting month, the Commandant stopped by to promote one of our Marines, Cpl Gregory, for Marine of the Year. We also went through a Commanding General Inspection and did very well. Marines live up to their reputation, hard workers and very professional. I am proud to say that I am part of this command. Thanks to everyone for all that you do, please take care of each other, safety is always important to us.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. I am here for you just as much as I am here for your Marine or Sailor.

R/S

SgtMaj Solari, Lonny



INFO from the FRO

Black Widows and families,

It is already March! Where does the time go? Well, we have kicked off 2014 with some great unit, family/spouse events and will continue to keep pushing forward and bringing you much more. We are looking at a couple of unit events for March, like the MALS 72nd Anniversary and a Squadron Hike at Senators Wash, then there will be a pizza delivery to each of our departments in March. We should get some smiles out of our Marines from the last one! On April 12 will be our first big event of the year with the Spring Family Day.

DSTRESS Line staff not only has call and chat capabilities but they can Skype too! Skype has been used for couples counseling and to talk about the everyday stressors of life. This approach allows couples (even geographically separated couples); another avenue to discuss issues with veteran Marines, former FMF corpsmen with years of experience on 'the green side', Marine Corps spouses or other family members, and licensed behavioral health clinical counselors who have taken Marine Corps-specific training to understand our culture. To set up a Skype appointment, call the DSTRESS Line at (877) 476-7734.

The Family Readiness Program (FRP) 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

Spring is here! The weather is usually perfect this time of year, and yet, it reminds us that the heat is coming. The heat this year will take on such new meaning. Although the "war is winding down," we will still see a busy schedule of deployments. As things boil over in Congress with the sequestration, MCAS Yuma will feel the heat of cuts in funding and services.

The tough decisions being made are part of a much bigger picture. Please know that MCFTB will do all it can to continue the support of our Marines, Sailors and families.

Thank you for being part of our family.

Warm regards,
Rob, Lauren & Steve

SMP

MALS-13 SMP Reps

- HQ - Cpl Latoya Jefferson
- 600 -Cpl Manuel Moreno
- 500 - LCpl Nicolas Fiske
- ALIMSD - Cpl Grey Crone
- PC - Cpl Rachel Christensen
- 900 - Cpl Dylan Miller
- Cpl MaryBeth Monson (MALS Pres)**
- 700 - Cpl Nathan Fee
- PC - Cpl Mitchell Majors
- M/A - Cpl Alyssa Altieri

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

Mar 6, 1500-1630 – Station Conf. Room (bldg. 980)

SMP Vol. Op- Crossroads Mission

Mar 29, 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

Dinner and a Movie

Mar 5/12/19/26, 190000 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Art Week

Mar 25 (25-28 Mar), meet 1800 @ SMP Rec. Center



SMP Vol. Op-Humane Society

Mar 12 & 26, 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op- Yuma Food Bank

Mar 5 & 19, 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP – UFC 17 (FREE food)

Mar 15, 1900 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op: City Neon Run

Mar 15, 1800 @ SMP Rec. Center

Marine Corps Family Team Building Building 598

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

SCHEDULED CLASSES

FRO Monthly Meeting

Mar 6 @ MCFTB, 9-11am

FRO/DFRO Training

Mar 11 @ MCFTB, 9am-4pm

LINKS for Marines

Mar 13 @ MCFTB, 9am-4pm

Auto Care Class

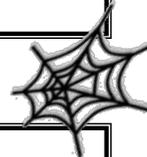
Mar 19 @ Auto Skills Center, 6-8pm

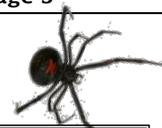
FR Assist/CT Adv Training

Mar 20 @ MCFTB, 1-5pm

LINKS for Couples/Spouses

Mar 26 @ MCFTB, 9am-4pm





Voting News

Black Widows and Families,

This is a reminder for all Texas and Illinois residents. Your state's primaries are scheduled for March 4 and March 18, 2014, respectively. If you have not already turned in your Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), it is not too late; simply fill out a new FPCA at www.fvap.gov. Registered voters, you should be receiving your absentee ballot in the mail shortly. If for some reason you have not received your absentee ballot a month before your state's primaries, you can fill out a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) at www.fvap.gov.

Programs such as Project Vote Smart are available to assist Marines in gathering unbiased and relevant information about the candidates <http://votesmart.org/>. Please pass this information on to your spouses and family. If you have any questions or concerns regarding voting, please feel free to contact any of your MALS-13 Unit Voting Assistance Officers.

Capt Barnes (928) 269-0402
 GySgt Kealen (928) 269-2510
 GySgt Mendoza (928) 269-2995

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** to utilize these services as well for with a MyCAA grant (\$4000) for approved transferable training.

Testing Schedule

Mar 4: AFCT/DLAB/DLPT, 0800 & 1300	Mar 5: College Exams, 1300-1600
Mar 6: College Exams, 0800-1100	Mar 6: College Exams, 1300-1600
Mar 12: ACT, 0800-1300	Mar 18: AFCT/DLAB/DLPT, 0800 & 1300

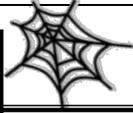
College 101 (Tuition Assistance Brief): EVERY Friday, 1000-1100

MGIB and Post 9/11 Bill Brief: Mar 3 & 17, 1000-1100

Spouse Education and Employment Brief (call 269-3248 for reservations): Mar 5, 1000-1100

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 – 14 Mar, 0800-1600 (must call and register)
2. Mom’s Basic Training, held at NPSP – 28 Mar, 0800-1600 (must call to register ~ as soon as you know you’re expecting)
3. YRMC Hospital Tour, held on 1st Thursday of each month at 3:00pm – 6 Mar 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: NO March Classes.

Breast Feeding Class: 7 March (by reservation only).

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

1. Budget for Baby, classes held Wednesday morning, 0930 (please call to register).
2. Pay Day loans up to \$500.
3. Grant and Loan program for emergencies.

Military OneSource



Provided is a link to the Military OneSource website regarding the SECO program.

<http://www.militaryonesource.mil/seco>

Do you want a career that you can carry with you the next time you PCS? Whether you are just starting your education, trying to advance in your career, or looking for that next great career opportunity, the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities Program can help you search for information on portable careers, get you started on your education, finalize that perfect resume, or assist you with your career planning. Use these resources, tools, and articles to help you get started!