

BLACK WIDOW NEWSLETTER

MCAS YUMA ARIZONA

MARINE AVIATION LOGISTICS SQUADRON 13

ISSUE: MAY 2014

Commanding Officer's Comments



COMMAND ELEMENT

Commanding Officer:
LtCol Andrew Thompson

Executive Officer
Maj Chris Story

Sergeant Major:
SgtMaj Lonny Solari

FAMILY READINESS OFFICERS

Family Readiness Officer:
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Deputy Family Readiness Officer:
SSgt Roussell Ordnance 269.2689
SSgt Dominguez Supply 269.2310
GySgt Tabora Maint 269.2148
SSgt Vega HQTR 269.2070
SSgt Casebolt Avionics 269.2697

Dear Black Widow Marines, Sailors, Families and Friends,

We are thankful and grateful for the safe return of our Marines from the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit. Their performance exceeded expectations. We welcome them home with open arms.

Our Marines and Sailors deployed in Afghanistan continue to perform in an exemplary and highly professional manner. We're proud of them.

May marks the beginning of the summer season. We anticipate a time of transition (deployments, moves, well-earned leave, etc). We also anticipate a season of new opportunity and continued growth.

As we reflect on Memorial Day, let us be grateful for America's sons and daughters who have paid dearly in the name of our nation's freedom.

Semper Fidelis,

LtCol Thompson

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MALS13 Spouses Social - RSVP today!



IT'S A CINCO DE MAYO PARTY!!

Come join the MALS-13 spouses for an evening of food and fun on **Tuesday, May 6 at 6:30pm** at the **base community center**.

This is a GREAT chance to meet some WONDERFUL people and have good conversation. We'll also play a few games and give away prizes

We'll provide **Tacos from Las Palapas**, you just need to bring your appetite.

Please let us know you are coming by May 1 by email, text or phone call. Hope to see you there.

RSVP to Alison Thompson:
alandrew32@gmail.com or (817)874-9962



DATES TO REMEMBER

PREP May 14
Chapel/Fellowship Hall 7:30am-4:30pm

Station Welcome Aboard May 21
Sonoran Pueblo/Gonzalez Room 8-11am

MALS Field Meet May 22
Memorial Sports Complex 8am-3pm

MALS Spouses Social May 6
Base Community Center 6:30-9pm



INFO from the FRO

Black Widows and families,

Spouses ~ we have a Cinco de Mayo social planned for you on 6 May. If you would like to attend please RSVP to Alison (alandrew32@gmail.com or (817)874-9962) as soon as possible. HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

Our 13th MEU Marines have returned! There will be a Welcome Home Dinner, provided by the residents of Coyote Ranch, on 3 May at 4:00pm. Marines attached to the deployment should have received their invitation, but if they misplaced it please RSVP to Peggy Munger: pmunger@yahoo.com / 928-345-3020 or Debi Mustain: debi143@gmail.com / 928-581-7143.

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.

Warm regards,
Rob, Lauren & Steve

SMP

MALS-13 SMP Reps

- HQ - LCpl Cassidy Hipp
- 600 -Cpl Manuel Moreno
- 500 - LCpl Nicolas Fiske
- ALIMSD - Cpl Grey Crone
- PC - Cpl Rachel Christensen
- 900 - Cpl Dylan Miller
- Cpl MaryBeth Monson (MALS-13 Pres.)**
- 700 - LCpl Edward Wells
- 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

May 1, 1500-1630 – Station Conf. Room (bldg. 980)

SMP Vol. Op- River Cleanup/Floatdown

May 2/9/16/23/30, 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op: Precious Treasures

May 12 & 26, 1500 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Cinco De Mayo Party

May 6, 1800 @ SMP Rec. Center



SMP Vol. Op-Flight line 5K

May 2, 1630 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op-Humane Society

May 7 & 21, 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op- Yuma Food Bank

May 14 & 28, 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op- Crossroads Mission

May 10 & 24, 0830 @ SMP Rec. Center

SMP Vol. Op- Track Meet

May 3, 0800 @ Myers field (on base)

Marine Corps Family Team Building Building 598 (928) 269-6502/6503/6553/6544

SCHEDULED CLASSES

FRO Monthly Meeting

May 1 @ MCFTB, 9-11am

Growing the Green

May 6 @ MCFTB 9am-Noon & 6-8pm

Command Team Training

May 7 @ MCFTB, 9am-Noon

LINKS for Marines

May 8 @ MCFTB, 9am-4pm

Assistant/Advisor Training

May 15 @ MCFTB, Noon-4pm

Auto Care Basics Class

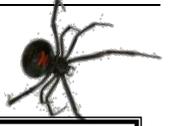
May 21 @ Auto Skills Center, 6-8pm

FRO/DFRO Training

May 22 @ MCFTB, 9am-4pm

LINKS for Couples/Spouses

May 28 & 29 @ MCFTB, 6-9pm



Voting News

Black Widows and Families,

Just a reminder - Indiana, North Carolina, and Ohio state primaries are on May 6, 2014. For more information, please visit <http://www.fvap.gov/vao/vag/upcoming-events>

"Those who stay away from the election think that one vote will do no good: 'Tis but one step more to think one vote will do no harm." - Ralph Waldo Emerson (Author)

"Bad politicians are sent to Washington by good people who don't vote." - William E. Simon (63rd U.S. Secretary of Treasury, Philanthropist)

"Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting." - Franklin D. Roosevelt (32nd U.S. President)

V\R
GySgt Mendoza, F

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.

Career & Education Fair: May 8 @ Sonoran Pueblo, 1000-1400

Testing Schedule

May 6: AFCT/DLAB/DLPT, 0800 & 1300

May 7: College Exams, 1300

May 9: College Exams, 0800 & 1300

May 14: ACT, 0800-1300

May 20: AFCT/DLAB/DLPT, 0800 & 1300

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

MGIB and Post 9/11 Bill Brief: May 5 & 19, 1000-1100

USMAP: May 29, 1000-1100

Spouse Education and Employment Brief (call 269-3248 for reservations): May 7, 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 – May 9, 0800-1600 (must call and register)
2. Mom’s Basic Training, held at NPSP – May 23, 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 – May 8 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: May 20 & 27 (call to register).

Breast Feeding: May 30 (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.

School Liaison Officer

High School Graduation Ceremonies:

Congratulations to all of our Military High School Seniors who are getting ready to graduate! This year, all Yuma area high school graduation ceremonies will be held on Friday, May 23rd in the evening at each respective campus. Yuma Union High School District will plan to provide live broadcasting of all 5 of their graduation ceremonies. Start times and details of the live broadcasting will be sent out to our families in the next few weeks.

MCX Super Star Student Program:

Don’t forget to bring your child’s 4th quarter report card to the MCAS Yuma MCX to receive a scratch-off card with a guaranteed prize. This program is open to military students in grades 1st through 12th and home-schooled students who obtain an overall B average for the grading period.

Kofa High School Offering a Summer Bridge Program for Incoming 9th graders:

If you have a child attending the 9th grade at Kofa High School, please consider enrolling him/her in the free Summer Bridge Program from July 14th - July 18th from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to all students in attendance. This program is designed to ease the transition into high school. Registration is required NLT May 16th. Please register at: tinyurl.YUHSDBRIDGE or call Robert Vitello (928) 502-5364.

USDA Summer Food Service Program Available to Military Families:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Food & Nutrition Services will offer a summer food program called “Summer Food Rocks!” The Summer Food Service Program was established to ensure eligible children, including military children, continue to receive nutritious meals when school is not in session. Free and nutritious meals (breakfast & lunch) are provided to all children at approved sites. Yuma area locations will be announced towards the end of the school year. Please call 1-866-3-HUNGRY at the end of May to find out about site locations in Yuma.

Upcoming Parent/Child Educational Events & Programs:

- **Station Library Summer Reading Program:**
The theme for this year’s library summer reading program is “Paws to Read!” The program is for children ages 6-12 years old. A student must have completed Kindergarten in order to register. Registration will be held June 8th -14th at the station library in building #633. More information will be provided about the summer reading program in the June parent newsletter.
- **PBS Literacy Project:**
The Yuma Early Literacy Project will host a free 6 week series of workshops on board MCAS Yuma to help children get ready for school. Each workshop explores a different topic from brain development, storytelling skills to using media safely. Classes will be offered on May 8, May 13, May 22, May 27 & June 5 and will run from 6 – 8 p.m. in building #598 next to the Commissary. Free Child Care is provided. Please call Steve Klauck at to register at 928-269-6544.
- **Play-Based Parenting:**
The New Parent Support program is offering a 6 session Play-Based Parenting class each Tuesday starting May 20th through June 24th from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. This is open to parents of children 1 to 5 years old. Please register by calling 928-269-2308.
- **Arizona State University Online Summer Reading Programs:**
ASU is offering tuition based online reading programs for children 4 years through 16 years old. These programs offer support from a professional reading teacher and focus on increasing reading skills in all areas. Scholarships and military discounts are offered. Please call (800) 765-5060 to register and provide Source Code: #95-S4-6132.

Last Days of School:

- Yuma School District One: May 30
- Crane School District: June 5
- Somerton School District: May 29
- Yuma Union High School District: May 22
- Desert View Academy: May 23
- Carpe Diem Collegiate: May 22
- Harvest Prep: May 30
- Amerischools: May 30
- Yuma Catholic High School: May 22
- St. Francis of Assisi: May 29
- Immaculate Conception: May 29
- Yuma Lutheran School: May 29
- Southwest Christian School: May 28