



The Convoy

Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group.

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Volunteers needed for toy drive

Story by Sgt. Jennifer Brofer
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Volunteers are needed for a toy drive benefiting the Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego, and the goal is to collect at least 1,000 toys by Oct. 16.

Six to ten Marines are needed to help collect, catalog and deliver the donated toys, according to Gunnery Sgt. Kyle Shoemaker, Systems Planning and Engineering chief for G-6, 1st Marine Logistics Group.

Star 94.1 initiated the toy drive, but Shoemaker wants to help.

"It shows that we're engaging with the local community," said Shoemaker, who has been involved with toy donation drives for the past six years.

Donated toys should be new and unwrapped; used video games are also acceptable. Stuffed animals are highly encouraged because doctors can use them to illustrate to sick children the different types of operations they will undergo.

There will be several toy drop-off locations around the base, such as near the PX on Mainside, Del Mar and other locations, to be determined. Some locations will need Marine volunteers to man the collection points, but Dress Blues won't be required.

"Depending on which units want to get involved, there could be locations in their areas," said Shoemaker.

With less than a week to collect toys, it's crucial that volunteers step forward to help.

"Any unit can collect toys, put them in a van and drive them over here, or just go to a location and drop them off," said Shoemaker.

To volunteer to collect toys, or to find out how your unit can get involved, call 760-763-1590, or 760-547-3637.

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CBRN Marines train for worst



Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

Pfc. Quintin L. Harrison, a chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological defense specialist with Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, 21, from Des Moines, Iowa, uses a sniffer to detect the type of chemical in a container and measure the oxygen level in the air during the Hazardous Materials Consequence Management and Response course at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 5. For full story see page 3.

Motorcycle courses teach how to ride safely



Sgt. Joshua Cortez, chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear chief for Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Medical Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, prepares to take part in a riding exercise during the Basic Riders Course at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 8.

Story and photo by Sgt. Jennifer Brofer
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – A motorcycle rider is cruising along the road when all of a sudden his bike hits a patch of gravel that causes him to skid and lose control of his bike. What does the rider do? If the motorcyclist isn't properly trained, he could be headed down a collision course to disaster.

To educate Marines on how to ride their motorcycles safely, Camp Pendleton offers motorcycle riding courses on base that give riders the tools they need to effectively navigate the roads on their motorcycles.

The Motorcycle Safety Office offers different courses depend-

ing on a Marine's level of skill – the Basic Riders Course, the Experienced Riders Course and the Military Sport Bike Riders Course. For adrenaline junkies, they also offer classes for All-Terrain Vehicle and dirt bike riders.

The BRC is targeted for new riders, and consists of five hours of classroom instruction and 10 hours of riding time. The ERC is designed for veteran riders, and Marines are required to re-certify every three years, according to Joie Malinski, instructor for the Motorcycle Safety Office.

"The goal of these courses is to make sure that these fine young Marines are properly trained on how to handle their motorcycles

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Navy's only Buddhist Chaplain with 1st MLG

Story by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Born a prince, he had everything most people ever wanted – wealth, power and prestige. He had it all, yet, still unsatisfied with his life. He left everything behind and set out to find his purpose. About 2,000 years ago, Siddhartha Gautama traveled the world to find the purpose of life. At the age of 29, he established Buddhism, which is still in practice to this day.

Navy Lt. Jeanette G. Shin, the only Buddhist Chaplain for the Navy and Marine Corps, is now assigned to 1st Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, to share this knowledge and practice the religion with service members.

"Buddhism has been around for a long time," said Shin, from Midwest City, Okla. "(It wasn't) until the '50s and '60s that the American began to be more interested in Buddhism."

Shin said she was raised a Buddhist, but it wasn't until her teenage years that she started to practice it. Growing up, she wanted to be a scientist. But being a military brat, she joined the service instead. She enlisted to become a communications operator for the Marine Corps instead of going into the Air Force like her father because she

wanted to do something different.

After leaving the service, Shin went to school at George Mason University in Virginia, where she earned her bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Religious Studies.

After college, Shin attended the Buddhist Seminary in California, where she took her education to the next level and received a master's degree in Philosophy and Religious Studies. Her goal was to become a minister, but the plan changed when America went to war in Iraq.

"I've been a chaplain since 2004," Shin said. "Since we're at war, I thought I should go back to the military. With my background and knowledge, I thought I should become a chaplain. That way I can help our service members prepare for the war, not just physically, but spiritually."

Buddhism can be practiced in many different ways, Shin explained. "Some people find their peace of mind and gain calmness by studying scriptures; some practice Buddhism by simply showing respect to their elders. Most, however, find their way through meditation."

A public service is usually set up in a room with incense, some prayer beads and a service book, Shin said. "Meditation is a time to reflect on the things you've done."

Practicing Buddhism helps ser-



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Navy Lt. Jeanette G. Shin, the only Buddhist chaplain in the Department of the Navy, explains the Buddhist religion to a young Marine at the chaplain's office of 1st Maintenance Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, Oct. 7. Shin, from Midwest City, Okla., has been a chaplain since 2004. She has worked with Marines and sailors to help them spiritually prepare for war and relax their minds through meditation.

vice members to relax, let go of their stresses and aspire to spiritual enlightenment.

"Buddhism is about knowing who you are," Shin said. "It emphasizes ethical behavior, something every Marine knows and aspires."

Working with service members,

Shin helps them to relax, meditate and enlighten them with the history of the religion. One can find out more information about Buddhism and its services by contacting the chaplain's office at 1st Maintenance Battalion at 760-725-4001.

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Motorcycle

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out in traffic," said Malinski, 54, from Warner Robbins, Ga. "We teach them the latest safety techniques to allow them to be able to mix it up with traffic with a lot more confidence."

The courses also prepare Marines for how to react when the unexpected occurs, like when a vehicle makes a sudden lane change without signaling, or the car in front of the motorcyclist brakes suddenly.

"It's not necessarily the actions that one as a rider takes, but you've got to consider those others who are on the highway as well," said Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson, commanding general of 1st Marine Logistics Group, 50, from Zirconia, N.C. "And while one may be riding a motorcycle defensively, that may not be enough."

The courses, along with wearing Personal Protective Equipment, could help increase a Marine's survivability on the road.

Marines operating a motorcycle are required to wear appropriate PPE, to include long sleeves, long pants, over-the-ankle footwear, full-fingered gloves, a Department of Transportation-approved helmet and proper eye protection, according to Malinski, who has been riding motorcycles for 41 years.

"The more PPE that you wear," Malinski said, "the better off you are in case something ugly happens and you wind up doing a slam-dance with the pavement."

To sign up for a course, or to learn more about motorcycle safety, call the Motorcycle Safety Office at 760-725-2897, or visit their web site at <http://www.pendleton.usmc.mil/base/safety/mc.asp>.

[Editor's note: This is Part 3 of a 9-part series detailing the issues General Charles Hudson wants to address to the Marines and sailors of 1st MLG. Part 4 will deal with NCO leadership.]

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Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Navy corpsmen with 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, set up a demonstration of a Mobile Trauma Bay at the 22 Area parade deck, Oct. 9. The Mobile Trauma Bay carries the most critical portion of the Shock Trauma Platoon, which includes a doctor, nurse and three corpsmen, right out to the fight in order to give immediate treatment to injured service members. After being treated and stabilized, patients are transported back to the forward operating base, where they are evacuated to a more stable position to be treated.

Del Mar Marina offers sailing certification

Story by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Service members are afforded the opportunity to become certified to sail the seven seas.

The Del Mar Marina and Sailing Center offers sailing instruction and certification for basic, intermediate, spinnaker, youth and advanced youth sailing, along with coastal navigation.

The marina also offers rentals on kayaks, power boats and a two-hour sunset harbor cruise that tours the Del Mar boat basin and the Oceanside Harbor.

All active duty service members, retirees, Department of Defense employees and their families who possess a military identification card are eligible to participate in these boat recreations.

"The on-base marina is a benefit that most active duty service members and retirees don't take advantage of," said retired Lt. Cmdr. Glenn T. LaBarge, from Poway, Calif. "The sailing instructors are very professional and knowledgeable."

LaBarge stated that safety is the number one priority when they're out sailing. Prior to sailing, he was taught man-overboard drills, navigational courses and what to do in event of a boat collision.

With safety comes fun. Both boat enthusiasts and curious people looking for an adventure can come out to test their capabilities on the open sea.



Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

Amy Haller, a Marine spouse, 27, from Tucson, Ariz., unties her sailboat from the dock so she can take it to the open waters at the Del Mar Marina and Sailing Center, Oct. 3. The marina offers rentals on kayaks, power boats and a two-hour sunset harbor cruise that tours the Del Mar boat basin and the Oceanside Harbor.

"The marina gives service members a chance to decompress, blow off steam and spend time with their family and friends," said Peter T. Knowlton, recreation assistant, Del Mar Marina and Sailing Center, 44, from Yokosuka, Japan. "I've never had to deal with a bad customer because everyone that comes to the marina is here to have fun."

According to the Del Mar Marina and Sailing Center instructors, there are some who enjoy the marina once a summer, while others are out there

every weekend sailing the high seas.

"It's great to be out here on our own, relaxing with the fresh air on our faces and the sun on our backs," said Amy Haller, a Marine spouse, 27, from Tucson, Ariz. "I also enjoy that our boat is being powered by the wind, not an engine."

For more information on the Del Mar Marina and Sailing Center, hours of operation, rental prices and what they offer, call (760) 725-2820/7245 or visit their website at www.mccscp.com.

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Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

Retired Chief Warrant Officer David J. McConville, 50, from Camp Pendleton, Calif., maneuvers his sailboat off the dock and into open waters at the Del Mar Marina and Sailing Center. The center offers sailing instruction and certification for basic, intermediate, spinnaker, youth and advanced youth sailing along with coastal navigation. The marina also offers rentals on kayaks, power boats and a two-hour sunset harbor cruise that tours the Del Mar boat basin and the Oceanside Harbor.

No average chemistry class for CBRN

Story by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - During military specialty school, Marines learn the basics, but their education does not end there.

Fourteen chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological defense specialists with Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, are participating in a five-week course that started Sept. 28, to earn the state of California hazardous material specialist certification.

"This training is a hazardous materials consequence management and response course to update Marines on the latest civilian standards on dealing with hazardous materials and/or terrorist actions involving chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological incidents," said Lance Cpl. Craig R. Cliburn, a CBRN defense specialist with Headquarters Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, 21, from Chicago. "The training is geared toward more common industrial chemicals compared to mission oriented protective

posture gear, which is meant for warfare involving chemical agents."

Marines need to be protected from hazardous industrial chemicals to include chlorine, sulfuric acid and ammonia.

After graduating the course, CBRN defense specialist Marines will be able to work side-by-side with civilian hazardous material specialists in California. Doing the training will enable Marines to support cities surrounding the base in the event of an incident involving hazardous materials.

"The Marines will be doing three scenarios where they'll understand the situation, gather information and determine what substance is in the environment," said Cpl. David Mikulec, a CBRN defense specialist with Headquarters Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, 21, from Dallas.

Marines will conduct a variety of training scenarios in the CBRN warehouse, 22 Area boiler room and 33 Area waste water treatment plant. They will be using new equipment and strategies to qualify for the course. The CBRN Marines must also take a written test along with hands-on training to become certified.

In the 14 Area warehouse scenario the Marines wore chemical protective suits, and using air tanks to breathe, entered the building, assessed the situation and evacuated the causality.

"It's pertinent to equal the state of California's training standards and the CBRN Department of Defense certification," said Gunnery Sgt. Arthur C. Singletary, CBRN defense specialist, with Headquarters Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG. "Chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological defense specialist Marines may be thrown in a situation in Iraq or Afghanistan where they would verify a safe area for combat troops to maneuver around in."

No matter where CBRN defense specialist Marines are tasked to do a mission, their goal remains the same - protect people from hazardous materials.

Singletary, 41, from Hamilton, Ohio, stated that he wants each and every CBRN Marine here to take away the vital role of not only protecting the Marines, but also the nation.

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Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense specialist Marines decontaminate a Marine who returned from a building filled with simulated chemicals at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 5.

MP Co. prepares for upcoming deployment

Story and photo by
Cpl. Robert C. Medina
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDELTON, Calif. — Training is an on-going evolution that Marines are constantly trying to perfect. It's like practicing for a big game. One Marine in particular with Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, is doing just that, ensuring all is to 'par' for her upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

Along with many other Marines in MP Co., Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Rockhold, 23, driver for 4th Platoon, Military Police Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, has been participating in live-fire ranges, the Combat Hunter course, weapons classes, cultural development classes and getting some time to work with Military Working Dogs.

"I also have my explosive license, so I haul most of the ammunition for my unit as well as the MLG," said Rockhold. "I am pretty excited, I feel that a lot of responsibility has been put on me, but I look at it as a tool to help other Marines realize their potential."

Some of the missions that Military Police Co. could face in theater are security patrols, conducting route reconnaissance missions and conducting personal security detachment missions.

Route reconnaissance missions are one of the most important mis-



Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Rockhold, driver with 4th Platoon, Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, is a unique asset to her unit. Rockhold, from Linesville, Iowa, has her explosive license to haul ammunition for her unit. Marines with Military Police Co. are currently training for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

sions of a security element. So having all the right tools to complete the task at hand is vital to the unit's success — even if that tool is man's best friend.

"We can only do so much with metal detectors," said Rockhold, when talking about searching for improvised explosive devices (IEDs). "The dogs can instantly pick out smells from explosives and see things that we might miss. It's a huge advantage in our

capabilities in finding IEDs."

The added security of having K-9s sniff out danger could save the life of another Marine.

"The dogs provide an expanded capability in finding (IEDs). We worked with the Specialized Search Dogs in our training and they proved to be a great asset to us," added 2nd Lt. Christopher A. Robinson, 28, from Asheville, N.C., platoon commander for 4th Platoon, Military Police Co. "We hope to have their

capabilities with us as we deploy."

Similar to Military Working Dogs who are trained to sniff out danger and provide additional security, Rockhold has learned to stalk her enemies and look for specific signs of suspicious activity through the Combat Hunter Course.

The Combat Hunter course teaches Marines how to better observe, communicate and develop critical thinking skills. The Marines also learn how to analyze highly complex environments and act upon their findings.

Rockhold's training paired with the dogs' capabilities will give insurgents fewer places to hide.

The dogs have also participated in live-fire exercises with MP Co., so they can become familiar with the sounds and smells of combat.

"This training was very good for us to also become used to having the dogs with us and how to act around them," said Rockhold. "This was the first time we had the hands-on opportunity to actually work with the dogs."

Soon, Military Police Co. hopes to incorporate the dogs into their missions while on deployment. This would speed up the process of finding IEDs tremendously.

Both Rockhold and the Military Working Dogs, with all the training they have received together, can prove instrumental to the success of missions to come.

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CLR-1 Marines volunteer at Ivey Ranch

Story and photo by Sgt. Jennifer Brofer
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — More than 40 Marines from Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, volunteered at the Ivey Ranch Park Association in Oceanside to help out with a beautification project in conjunction with Volunteer San Diego, Oct. 3-4.

Ivey Ranch is a 12-acre horse ranch that provides therapeutic riding for special needs children and adults. The Marines helped out by clipping sections of ice plant to be transplanted to a soil embankment located right next to the horse stables, to prevent soil erosion and also deter ground squirrels from digging holes in and around the horses' stables and turning it into a "squirrel hotel."

"It feels good to help. It helps out kids with special needs and veterans," said Lance Cpl. Andrea Victor, Logistics Vehicle System operator for Headquarters Company, CLR-1, 1st MLG, as she tediously clipped one-inch sections of the plant and placed them in a bag.

Last Summer, Ivey Ranch extended their horse therapy program to include wounded service members, called the Horses for Heroes program, in which instructors from the North America Riding for the



Lance Cpl. Andrea Victor, a Logistics Vehicle System operator for Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, clips ice plant during a beautification project at the Ivey Ranch Park Association, Oct. 3.

Handicapped Association and other therapists team up to provide therapy sessions to improve the lives of wounded veterans.

When the Marines of CLR-1 heard about this volunteer project, they jumped at the chance to help,

said Cpl. James Miser, the Single Marine Program representative for CLR-1, 1st MLG.

"We have a lot of fantastic volunteer spirit in the Marine Corps," said Miser, 26, from Las Vegas, who helped coordinate the event. "We're working out here today with Volunteer San Diego, so it's Marines and civilians working side by side to improve the community."

After Marines collected several bags of the one-inch ice plant fronds, the next day they went to work transplanting the clippings onto the soil embankment. Not only will the plants help keep the squirrels away, but it'll help keep the horses happy, too.

"It helps with the run-off for when we have our rainy season, and it gives something for the flies to be distracted by instead of bothering our horses," said Kristin Baldwin, development director for Ivey Ranch, 25, from Phoenix, Ariz. "Projects like these allow us to beautify the area at no cost to us because we're clipping plants that we already have. We love the Marines for coming out and helping us out today. It makes a huge difference for us."

To find out more about the Ivey Ranch's therapeutic riding programs, call 760-722-4839, or visit www.iveyranch.com.

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Photos from around 1st Marine Logistics Group



Photo by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank

Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, receive a \$750 check from Marine Corps Community Services. CLR-1 received the award due to earning the most points during the 101 Days of Summer Challenge.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Chief Petty Officer Gilbert G. Medina, 45, from San Diego, leading chief petty officer of Charlie Company, 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, swings at a piñata during the National Hispanic Heritage Celebration at the 22 Area Regimental Aid Station, Oct. 8. The celebration ended with a tradition of breaking down a piñata.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Navy corpsmen with 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, set up a demonstration of a Mobile Trauma Bay at the 22 Area parade deck, Oct. 9. The Mobile Trauma Bay carries the most critical portion of the Shock Trauma Platoon, which includes a doctor, nurse and three corpsmen, right out to the fight in order to give immediate treatment to injured service members.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Corporal Ignacio G. Garcia, a motor transportation specialist, 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, practices the command 'Present Sword' during a Corporals Course run by 1st MLG at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 7.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar

Roberto Valdivia, from San Diego, a construction worker with Herrera & Sons Masonry Company, prepares cement for his co-workers to use on the new 7th Engineer Support Battalion building at the 1st Marine Logistics Group's construction site, Oct. 6. Many of the buildings at 1st MLG are being replaced by new and more efficient buildings.

Happenings

Leatherneck Field Meet

Take the ultimate challenge at the Leatherneck Field Meet Oct. 28. Test your teamwork in a series of events from tug-o-war to the agility course. For more information contact Marine Corps Community Services at 725-6614.

Texas Hold'em Tournament

There will be a Texas Hold'em tournament at the 21 Area Single Marine Program Recreational Center, Oct. 21. 5:30 p.m. sign-ins, 6:00 p.m. start. All participants will receive a free T-shirt and 1st-3rd place winners will receive prizes. For more information call 725-2019.

Chargers Game

The Single Marine Program will take a trip to the Chargers game Oct. 19. Game starts at 5:30 p.m. Tickets will not be distributed, participants must sign-up and ride with SMP to the game. They will be departing at 2:00 p.m. from the Mainside Information Tickets and Tours (ITT) & Latitudes Travel. Only seven spots are available and are on a first come, first served basis, starting Oct. 13. Marines and Sailors may only attend one game per season with the SMP.

Base Theater

Wed., Oct. 14
District 9 (PG-13) 6:30 p.m. to 8:22 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 15
500 Days of Summer (PG-13) 6:30 p.m. to 8:05 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 16
Inglorious Basterds (R) 6 p.m. to 8:31 p.m.
The Final Destination (R) 9:15 p.m. to 10:36 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 17
Shorts (PG) 3:30 p.m. to 4:59 p.m.
Julia & Julia (PG-13) 6 p.m. to 8:04 p.m.
Gamer (R) 6:30 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 18
Terminator Salvation (PG-13) 1 p.m. to 2:55 p.m.
UP (PG) 3:50 p.m. to 5:32 p.m.
The Taking of Pelham (R) 6:30 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.