

THE PROSPECTOR

75TH

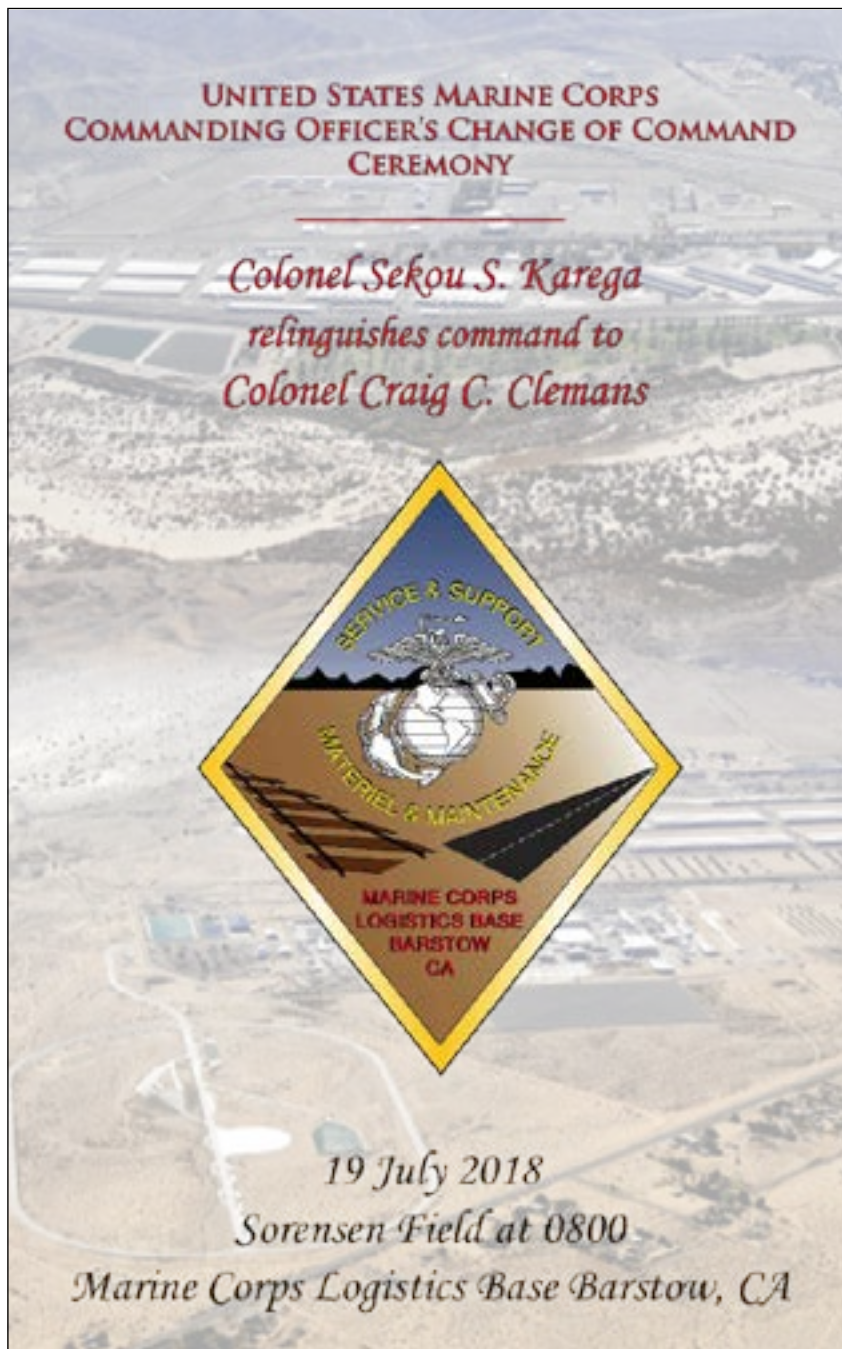
Vol. 7, No. 13

Serving the Corps for 75 Years
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow July 12, 2018



Trunnions and zero gravity help welders at PPB
MCLB Barstow's MCX tops in satisfaction survey

New Public Works Officer aboard MCLB Barstow



On The Cover:

Front Cover: Keith Hayes

Niels Woods, welder, uses a grinder attached to an Ekso Zero Gravity Arm, to smooth out welds on a Light Armored Vehicle at PPB, MDMC, aboard the Yermo Annex of MCLB Barstow, June 29. The "zero-g" arm counterbalances the 25 - to 30 - pound weight of the grinder making it easier to use for longer periods without causing stress or muscle injuries to the welder. The arm is also being evaluated for use with other tools.

Back Cover: Laurie Pearson

Families enjoy pool time shenanigans during the All American BBQ held at the Oasis Pool and Water Park aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 4. The annual event honors military personnel and their families, as well as the civilians who serve the base for their ongoing efforts throughout the year.



THE
PROSPECTOR

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On the web

Links in this publication are interactive in the online version

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314>

http://www.twitter.com/#!/MCLB_Barstow





Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Military and civilian personnel and their families enjoy a game of water basketball during the All American BBQ held at the Oasis Pool and Water Park aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.,

July 4. The event, hosted by Marine Corps Community Services, also offered a low cost meal of hotdogs, potato salad and baked beans for the families to enjoy.

Got news? Call us! (760) 577-6430

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News Briefs

Leave Share Program

Individuals currently affected by medical emergencies and in need of leave donations:

Adams, James Jr.

Jones, Anna

Ulmer, Wayne

Anyone desiring to donate annual leave under the Leave Share Program should contact the Human Resources Office at 577-6915.

Burn Your Own Steak or Chicken Night

Sugar Loaf Hill Bar

Bldg. 38

Fri. July 20

4 - 9 p.m.

Come to Burn Your Own Steak Night for a great meal and some friendly conversation. We also have food for the kiddos so bring them along. Drink specials from 4 - 6 p.m. and grilling until 7 p.m. Burn Your Own Steak is \$13.50 per person includes 8 oz. ribeye steak or chicken, salad, vegetables, baked potato with butter, sour cream, and cheese. Hot dog or hamburger with fries or chips for \$5.95.

Spin Class

Semper Fit Gym

Tues. July 17

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Classes are taught by our qualified instructor to motivating music with a variety of standing and stationary positions. For more information call 577-6817.



Summer Reading Program

Finale Party

McTureous Hall

Tues. July 17

9 - 11 a.m.

Join us for a variety of games, a scavenger hunt, and light refreshments as we celebrate summer reading and recognize all our summer reading program participants. Remember your passports and booklets are due by July 13! See you all soon!

Story Time & Craft

McTureous Hall

Tues. July 17

10 - 11 a.m.

Story time and Craft is geared towards babies and toddler age children. We read stories, sing songs and make crafts! We learn how to sit quietly, listen and share with our friends! For more information call Library Services at 577-6395.

Screens and Strikes

Movie Night

Leatherneck Lanes

Fri. July 13

All Day

\$2 bowling specials with shoes included. We'll be watching the family friendly movie "The Emoji Movie". For more information contact Leatherneck Lanes at 577-6264 or visit www.mccsbarstow.com/bowling/.



Play Morning

Desert View Housing

Community Center

Fri. July 13

9 - 11 a.m.

Come join in the fun! Play morning is every Friday. All active duty service members and their dependents are invited to come enjoy singing, stories, crafts and have structured play time with toys and interactive time learning how to socialize babies and toddlers. Make new friends and learn something new each week. For more information contact New Parent Support at 577-6533.

Early Bird Gas Day

Nebo MCX Gas Station

Thur. July 19

7 - 9 a.m.

Save 5 cents per gallon on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month from 7 - 9 a.m.

Energy Tip

Plug electronics into a power strip. This easy tip alone can save you up to 12 percent off your electric bill every year.

New Public Works Officer aboard MCLBB

Story by: Keith Hayes
CommStrat Planner

Lieutenant Commander Jamie Rivas is the new Public Works Officer aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

Rivas took over for outgoing PW officer LCDR Jeffrey Patton, July 2.

“Commander Patton and I have a history of working together before,” Rivas said, “and I know the caliber of officer he was before and I know he was able to do quite a lot of good things.”

The 11-year Navy veteran said she asked to come to MCLB Barstow right out of the University of California Santa Barbara where the Navy had sent her to complete a master’s degree in Technology Management.

Although she has worked in a public works office before, this will be the first time Rivas has been in charge of public works at a base.

“I thought it would be a great place to be a public works officer working with the Marines,” Rivas explained. “My family also lives nearby.”

Far from being the sleepy little outpost she originally thought MCLB Barstow was, she said she has been pleasantly surprised by MCLB Barstow and the level of activity she has seen.

“The best thing about MCLBB is people are very friendly,” she said. “They’re helpful and really care about the base and are committed to the mission even if they’re not from the area.”

She was also an instructor at the Naval Civil Engineer Corps Officer School in Port Hueneme, Calif., where she was stationed as a member of the “Fighting Forty” Navy Mobile Construction Battalion 40 and Naval Construction Group 1.

“My first duty station was (Joint Base) Pearl Harbor (Hickam),” Rivas said. “After Pearl Harbor I joined up with NMCB 40 in Deh Dadi II, Afghanistan, and

through their Pacific Command deployment.” After two deployments, Rivas went to NCG1 to do mission planning for the SeaBees in the PACOM theater.

Born in Bryan, Ohio, Rivas said she had always wanted to be an engineer, but a career in the military had never been on her horizon.

“If I had never joined the military I think I would still be doing much the same thing as I’m doing now, but I don’t think I would have progressed in my engineering career as quickly as I have,” Rivas said. “(The military has) given me a sense of purpose and I enjoy it.”

Rivas is also in to physical fitness and plans to focus on fitness after the sedentary lifestyle of grad school.

“I didn’t have the luxury of time to devote to exercise when I was in graduate school. I spent a lot of time driving back and forth to grad school,” she said. “I love to cycle so I will definitely be looking at getting a mountain bike while I’m out here and hitting the high desert.”

Rivas sees good things ahead and is eager to get to work.

“I think MCLBB is a tremendous opportunity for me and presents some challenges as well,” she said. “I see what you have going here and it is heading in a good direction.”



Photo by: Keith Hayes

Lieutenant Commander Jamie Rivas studies one of the many “turnover” binders to get up to speed in her new role as Public Works Officer, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 2. The native of Bryan, Ohio, is taking over for outgoing LCDR Jefferey Patton.



Trunnions and zero gravity help w

Story and photos by: Keith Hayes
CommStrat Planner



Niels Woods checks for a secure connection between the grinder he uses to smooth welds on an LAV and the zero gravity arm that counterbalances the weight of the tool, June 29, at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command aboard the Yermo Annex of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

The weld shop uses special equipment to make the job easier and safer when working on Light Armored Vehicles at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command aboard the Yermo Annex on Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow.

“This trunnion was sent out to us by Production Plant Albany about four years ago,” said Ken Nowicki, supervisor of the weld shop. “The trunnion allows us to get the LAVs into much more ergonomically friendly positions for the welders. That means the welder can do the job with the work flat in front of them, and flat welds are generally much more able to pass x-ray inspection.”

Nowicki explained the trunnion is like a giant rotisserie that an LAV can be attached to so that it is lifted off the ground and can be rotated on an axis into any position to allow welders easier and safer access.

“Before the trunnion, we had to do a lot of overhead welding, which is difficult to do successfully,” Dave Fritz, weld shop work leader, said. “The trunnion increases our weld success rate quite a bit.”

“There are so many plates on an LAV,” he said. “They have to be welded where they meet. The trunnion makes that a lot easier.”

“It’s just being used for LAVs right now,” Nowicki



Niels Woods, welder, makes adjustments to the Ekso Zero Gravity arm used in the weld shop at Production Plant Barstow, June 29.

The black boxes near his knees are the various weights used to stabilize the weight of the tool attached to the device.

The “zero-g” arm and the trunnion are the various implements used to make it easier and safer at the Weld Shop at the Marine Depot Maintenance Facility aboard the Yermo Annex of MCLB Barstow.

Welders at Production Plant Barstow

added. “We can put the MRAP (Mine Resistant, Ambush Protected Vehicles) on them, but we’d have to adjust the trunnion to be wider apart, and it’s bolted to the ground right now.”

Another innovative tool the weld shop has been using for about six months is the Ekso Zero Gravity Arm.

“Any tool, like this grinder that weights 25 to 30 pounds, can be attached to the zero gravity arm which counterbalances its weight so that all the pressure I have to put on the grinder is with my shoulder to smooth out weld joints,” welder Niels Woods said.

“If the welder was holding this grinder without the arm’s help then he couldn’t hold it as long and the weight of it could cause strain injuries, stress injuries, carpal tunnel, or pulled muscles,” Nowicki said. “We’re evaluating using the ‘zero-g’ arm on other tools to help speed up production.”

“Both the trunnion and the ‘zero-g’ arm are used not only to make the job easier for the welders, but safer, too,” he concluded, “and at the end of the day that means they go home safe to their families.”



(Left) David Fritz, weld shop work leader, stands by as Ken Nowicki, weld shop supervisor, looks out of what is actually the top of a Light Armored Vehicle attached to the trunnion, June 29. The trunnion allows for positioning of the LAV to make welding joints much easier. The trunnion has been in use for four years at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command aboard the Yermo Annex of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.



Eugene Dunford, welder, uses the controls to rotate the Light Armored Vehicle attached to the trunnion into a position to make it easier to make the numerous welds required at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command, aboard the Yermo Annex of

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, June 29. Prior to the advent of the trunnion, welders had to make many overhead welds, which increased the possibility that the joints would not pass x-ray inspection.

MCLBB MCX ranks tops in satisfaction

Story by: Laurie Pearson
CommStrat Chief

The results of the 2017 Marine Corps Exchange Associate and Customer Satisfaction Program Results are in, and Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. ranks top in both customer and associate satisfaction.

"As an example, the Marine Corps Community Service Headquarters out of Quantico sent out the questionnaire loaded on computer laptops and the Exchanges give them to their customers to fill out. Barstow had a 100 customers do the questionnaire. Bigger bases ask more customers like Lejeune asked 184 customers," said Keith Varney, Retail Overhead manager. "They then tally the results, and release them to all of the bases."

The survey asks customers to rate their overall satisfaction with various aspects of service and product availability to include:

- Layout of the store
- Customer service
- Prices
- Value for money
- Merchandise in stock

For the associates, the survey digs into their satisfaction with overall work environment and other areas to include:

- How well their work meets their expectations
- If they are proud to work in this environment
- Whether they anticipate working there the following year
- If they take pride in satisfying customers

"We got the best overall ratings regarding customer responses, as well as the associate responses," Varney said. "We really have a great team and we go out of our way to make a connection with our customers."

One customer pointed out the swift personal care offered by the MCX associates.

8 "We only have quick fifteen

minute breaks," said Myron Benally, a contractor with SAW/TST. "If something isn't readily available, like bags of ice or something, they rush to the back to get it for us, keeping things flowing for us around here so we can get back to work in a timely manner."

The associates understand that how they treat people creates an atmosphere and they want it to be a positive one for their customers, explained Carol Marquez, customer service lead.

"We provide world class customer service to everyone that steps through the front door," said Sgt. Patrik Byrne, retail manager.

"The most recognizable aspect of our customer service is the way employees have a family connection with the customers, as well as each other. That connection is established by learning customer names and their shopping preferences that makes them feel better than just a customer. The employees are very flexible and committed to providing customers with their product needs."

Marquez also pointed out that the positive and upbeat family atmosphere works from the top down.

"How you treat your employees carries over to the customer," Marquez said. "Mr. Varney trusts us to know what we're doing so he doesn't micro manage us or anything. He treats us with respect, and leads by example. He is supportive. It makes it easier here because we are one big family really."

Out of 100 points possible, when asked how satisfied customers were with specific aspects of service these are a few of the percentage results:

- Associates' courtesy – 95
- Associates' friendliness – 96
- Cleanliness of checkout – 96
- Treat you like a valued customer – 95
- Ease of finding an available associate – 95



Photo by: Jack Adamyk

Colleen Montague, Army spouse, laughs and talks with Carol Marquez, Customer Service lead, as she purchases food and drink items at the Marine Corps Exchange aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 9.

"Our base MCXs and associates just knocked it out of the park," Varney said with a smile. "I couldn't be more proud of our team."

The associate satisfaction ratings highlighted their overall satisfaction with training and tasks, but especially highlighted their relationship with their supervisor Mr. Varney.

- Is the supervisor sensitive to personal needs – 97
- Made fully aware of what is expected – 95
- On the job training teaches customer service – 97

"Everyone is treated with respect and the employees obtain greater responsibilities here in the small community," Byrne said. "The sense of responsibility in each employee provides them with a leadership position, which in turn, contributes to the satisfaction of customer and employee."

The overall ASI was 89 percent with all things taken into account. When compared to other bases it is clear that MCLB Barstow is well above average with some bases reflecting ASIs of 67 percent, and even as low as 46 percent. MCLB Barstow's overall CSI score was 86 percent, compared to other bases rating between 59 – 83 percent.

"Our associates offer that personal touch," Varney said. "We see everybody almost every day and we try to build those relationships. In the end it's those relationships that matter." 🍌

PEI Branch showcases artisans

Story by: Laurie Pearson
CommStrat Chief

At the Principle End Item Branch of Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command they are expanding workload to include foreign-owned equipment again at the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.

In addition to their usual workload of M88 Armored Recovery Vehicles, Assault Amphibious Vehicles, Light Armored Vehicles, M777 Howitzers and Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected Cougars for the United States Marine Corps, the division is also working on LAVs and M88s which belong to Foreign Military Sales.

“There is a division which works on Foreign Military Sales, and we’ve done work on vehicles and equipment for various countries in the past,” said Dan Peterson, PEI Branch head. “They may not have a Depot at their locations, or perhaps not one the size of ours and as well-equipped and staffed as ours, so rather than stand one up in their country, they ship the equipment here and pay us to rebuild it.”

The additional equipment also blends with current workflow, causing no disruption, but generates revenue. Regardless of whose equipment it is, the process is the same so the transition is seamless. The department has approximately 120 artisans on staff who are well trained and educated on specific areas of operation. For instance, in the M777 Howitzer section, they hire and train skilled people who will ensure that parameters meet with micro-precision.

“If an M777 is a mil off here, then in 10 miles, where the round lands, it can be ten miles off and that can be disastrous,” said Mike Brown, supervisor of the M777 section. His background and education are in artillery for the U.S. Army, with a degree in engineering. “Many of my people have engineering educations and training of some sort.”

When a new person is brought onboard, Brown said they ensure that the new person trains for months under the direction of experienced and skilled personnel to ensure that they have what it takes to meet the demands of the job.

“There is a lot of pressure to make sure this is right, and it has to be spot on in the field,” Brown said. “Their attention to detail is remarkable.”

All of the equipment and vehicles go through the same basic process for repair and rebuild. The artisans disassemble the equipment, rebuild it, blast it, paint it, and repair anything broken, explained Peterson.

“In the end, we send Code A-rated products back to the warfighters,” Peterson said. “Code A means it is

like new, and they can count on the vehicles or M777s to work as they should in the field.”

Using a Lean Six Sigma, Continuing Process Improvement methods, the PEI Branch ensures that they are continuously evaluating their methods and improving their processes to make things flow efficiently and safely. During part of that CPI process, they opted for a centralized disassembly area outside of the main shop, where equipment that’s taken off of vehicles is tagged, organized and stored by type and necessity.

“By centralizing the disassembly area, we made it easier for everyone to access what they need when they need it,” Peterson said. “Our processes, our skilled labor, and our well-equipped and maintained facilities have made us the Depot of choice for many of these products.”

Whether they are steaming, blasting, painting,



Photo by: Laurie Pearson

Personnel with the Principle End Items Branch at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command, work as a team to move, sort, tag and organize vehicle components in the centralized disassembly area at their facility on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., July 3. The centralized disassembly area allows for easy access for all of the departments within PE and I Branch.

working on electrical or welding, the artisans maintain a focus on their end goal, regardless of who owns the equipment and that is getting quality products to the warfighters in the field.



Around the Corps



Photo by: Lance Cpl. Koby Saunders

A CH-53 Super Stallion assigned to Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron (HMH) 464, carries a Humvee during an aerial refueling training operation with Marine Aerial

Refueler Transport Squadron (VMGR) 234 on Feb. 23, 2017. VMGR-234 assisted HMH-464 in the training to maintain interoperability.



Photo by: Lance Cpl. Christian Garcia

Recruits with Kilo Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, warm up before Pupil Sticks II at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, May 24. Physical training is utilized to strengthen the body and develop a strong character embodying our core values through teamwork. Annually, more than 17,000 males recruited from the Western Recruiting Region are trained at MCRD San Diego. Kilo Company is scheduled to graduate July 20.



Photo by: Sgt. Jesus Sepulveda Torres

MV-22B Ospreys assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 363 (VMM-363), arrive on Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, July 7, 2018. MV-22B Ospreys assigned to VMM-363 is part of the squadron's scheduled relocation to their new command, Marine Aircraft Group 24, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. VMM-363's capabilities will significantly enhance the Marine Corps' ability to perform humanitarian assistance and disaster response, respond to crises and fulfill other alliance roles in the Indo-Pacific region. Decisions regarding the arrival of MV-22B Osprey aircraft to Marine Corps Base Hawaii have been closely coordinated with Hawaii state officials.



SUMMER READING PROGRAM FINALE

TUESDAY, JULY 17 | 0900-1100

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