



HONOR
PLATOON



Company G meets 12-Stall

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Young Marines build teamwork

Pg. 8

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MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2010

Association Marines pass on legacy, knowledge



Sgt. Stella A. Weishaar, left, assistant warehouse chief, Property Control Office, and Sgt. Mary B. Barrera, separations noncommissioned officer, Finance Office, share a laugh with former Marine, Cpl. Flo Harris, Nov. 20, while visiting Chula Vista Veteran's Home, Chula Vista, Calif. Headquarters and Service Battalion Marines from the depot visited the veteran's home during an appreciation luncheon hosted by both H&S Battalion and the Women Marine Association. Marines took the opportunity to speak with and learn from history-rich veterans from all services who served in various wars, including World War II. WMA's objectives include preserving and promoting the history and traditions of Women in the Marine Corps from World War I to the present; to counsel, assist and mutually promote the welfare and well-being of elderly, disabled women Marine veterans as well as women serving in the Marine Corps; and to promote the civic and social welfare of the community.

Cpl. Rebecca A. Lamont/Chevron

Corps teams up with Infinite Scholar Program

BY SGT. BRYAN McDONNELL
Marine Corps Recruiting Command

QUANTICO, Va. - The Marine Corps is continuing to pursue diversity among its ranks and has found a new partner in the Infinite Scholar Program.

The ISP assists disadvantaged minority students, primarily black and Spanish-speaking Americans, by providing mentorship and financial support to continue their education at colleges across the nation.

The ISP was created in 2003, but its beginning has much deeper roots. Thomas Ousley, founder of the ISP, had one goal: get students to college.

"I worked for 29 years as a teacher for the Jennings School District," he said. "Most of the kids came from single-parent homes with the mother as the head of the household. The parents didn't have the money to send their kids to school or the credit to get them a loan. I was just trying to send

my kids to college, like every teacher does. So every summer, starting in 1992, I called colleges and asked, 'What is your scholarship platform?' College fairs seemed to be a big waste of money to me with kids going around and talking to each other and maybe talking to a school. It occurred to me, 'What if you asked the students to be more serious about this?'"

Over time, the list of schools interested in Ousley's program grew, along with the number of participants, and the ISP was created. Students involved with the ISP typically start out in a mentorship program where they receive guidance starting in the 7th and 8th grade. The goal is to have the students' prepared to attend college by the 10th grade. From there, the students transition into College Scholars during their junior year of high school where they are encouraged to start and finish their bachelor's degree and move into a master's program.

ISP fairs provide a venue for students to meet with college representatives. The fairs are held in 19 cities nationwide and have more than 50 schools in attendance. While admission is free, students are required to bring an unofficial copy of their transcript, two letters of recommendation, a resume and an essay. Due to enhanced requirements, the students are often able to find out on the spot if they are accepted to attend that particular school or if they meet scholarship requirements.

This is where the Marine Corps comes into the picture. Many of the students involved in the ISP are uniquely qualified to become Marine Corps officers due to their high grade point averages and American College Testing scores. Maj. Frank Moore, diversity officer, Marine Corps Recruiting Command, Quantico Marine Corps base, said working with the ISP shows the students a different path they can take

with their degree.

"What we recognize is that there are many young people who are not aware of commissioning opportunities in the United States Marine Corps," said Moore. "So our participation with the Infinite Scholar Program is one, to share Marine Corps opportunities with young people who are already academically qualified for programs, and two, just to spread the word about scholarship options, mainly Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps with the Marine option."

The NROTC is a college program for those who seek the challenge of becoming a Navy officer. Because the Marine Corps is a part of the Department of the Navy, NROTC applicants who think they have what it takes to lead Marines can choose the Marine Corps option of the program and earn their commission as a Marine officer.

Ousley said the Marine

Corps will continue to be welcome at the ISP fairs.

"I'd like to think that if we keep working on this, we can bring the qualified students in and the Marine Corps will sell itself. What I want to do is send kids to college and send kids to the Marine Corps," Ousley said. "With the discipline and training the Marine Corps gives, you teach them to keep themselves under control, which is just what some of these kids need."

Students seeking more information can contact the ISP at infinitecholar.org.

Moore said the Marine Corps interest in the ISP boils down to one thing.

"We are interested in young people achieving success," said Moore. "That is why we say we make Marines, we win America's battles, and we return quality citizens. A young person doesn't have to be a Marine to become a quality citizen, but we want to encourage that wherever we can."

Around the depot

Now that the holiday season is in full swing the Chevron asks: “What’s your favorite holiday? Why?”



“Christmas, because everyone is getting together with family and sharing gifts. My brother is a Marine so we get to meet up because he is on the East Coast.” 1st Lt. Ian M. Johnston, operations officer at PMO



“Thanksgiving because of the four F’s. Family, friends, football and food.” Gunnery Sgt. Michael Cruz, interviewer, Recruit Liaison Section



“The Marine Corps Birthday because I get to travel and go to a lot of different birthday balls. I get to see a lot of units.” Sgt. Eduardo Espinosa, guitar player, Marine Corps Band San Diego



“Christmas is my favorite holiday because it is when families come together the most and it is most meaningful” Pfc. Damian Lee Parrott, technician, MCRD San Diego Communications and Information Systems Division



“Christmas, because everybody is happy.” Frank Slama, retired Navy chief and Pearl Harbor survivor



“Halloween, because for me it signifies the end up the year. I enjoy the dress up aspect of it and the fall.” Melissa Hansen, library technician

BRIEFS

Alive at 25 driver improvement class

The depot safety office will be conducting a defensive driver training today for all military personnel ages 26 and under, who did not receive it in boot camp. The course will be held at Bldg. 111 from 8 to 11 a.m. For more information, contact Alfonso Vazquez at (619) 524-8764.

Clothing branch closed

MCRD Clothing Branch will be closed today for semi-annual inventory. For emergencies, please contact Gunnery Sgt. Burns at (619) 524-8198.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

The San Diego chapter of Pearl Harbor Survivors will honor those who served and fell during the battle of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. The ceremony will be held in the main exhibit hall of the Veterans Museum and Memorial Center in Balboa Park. The ceremony, open to all visitors, will be held Tuesday. Doors will open at 8:45 a.m. The ceremony begins at 9.

Healthy cooking class

Sign up for the Healthy Holiday Cooking Class on Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m., at the Bay View Restaurant. Learn creative ways to eat well during the holidays & turn holiday favorites into healthy meals. Work in small groups to prepare different meals following a healthy recipe and sit down to dinner and taste each group’s final product. All materials are provided. The cost is \$10 per person and is open to all authorized patrons. RSVP required. Contact Andrea Callahan, Health Promotions Coordinator, (619) 524-8913, CallahanAL@usmc-mccs.org.

H&S Battalion Christmas Party

The Headquarters & Service Battalion Christmas Party will be held Dec. 11, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Bldg. 15, for all Marines, sailors, civilian Marines and families from HQSVCBN. You can enjoy lunch, an inflatable obstacle course, sumo wrestling, a bouncy house, gaming truck, cotton candy, craft stations and a visit with Santa. Don’t miss out! For more information, call the battalion’s family readiness officer, Dawn Williams, at (619) 524-0160.

Annual MCRD San Diego Holiday Concert

The MCRD San Diego Marine Corps Band will perform its annual Holiday Concert Dec. 12, outside of Pendleton Hall (the commanding general’s building). The event, free and open to the public, begins at 6 p.m. The concert will include well – known Christmas, Hanukkah and seasonal winter music for the whole family. The evening will end with a sing-a-long and a visit from Santa Claus. Bring your blankets and enjoy time with family and friends. Prohibited items include: coolers, alcohol, glass bottles and pets (except service animals). Vehicle access to the depot for the concert will be through Gate 5 (Washington Street) with a valid driver’s license, registration and insurance. All entering vehicles are subject to search. For information, call (619) 524-1754.

Send briefs to: mcrdsdpao@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

La Jolla students spend time on depot



Students from La Jolla Elementary School, La Jolla, Calif., gather around the depot mascot, a 1-year-old English bulldog, named Pfc. Belleau Wood, during their visit to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Nov. 30. The children visited John L. Day Hall, the command museum; learned about the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II; ate lunch at the depot mess hall, and spent time with a Marine Corps drill instructor. Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron

Commandant sets priorities in 2010 Planning Guidance

BY SGT. JIMMY D. SHEA
Headquarters Marine Corps

WASHINGTON — The 35th Commandant, Gen. James F. Amos, tells Marines to prepare for what the future holds – a transformed, flexible and lighter force ready to respond to any contingency.

“As befits our expeditionary nature, Marines will be forward deployed and engaged in areas of instability and potential conflict” said Amos in his Commandant’s Planning Guidance, released Oct. 27. Marines must remain

“a multi-capable, combined arms force, comfortable operating at the high and low ends of the threat spectrum, or in the shaded areas where they overlap.”

With keeping the focus on the fight in Afghanistan as his top priority, Amos stresses the importance of being prepared for arising threats to the nation.

“As we look ahead, we see a world of increasing instability and conflict, characterized by poverty, competition for resources, urbanization, overpopulation and extremism,” said Amos. The world is changing but “one thing has

not: America needs an expeditionary force in readiness that is prepared to respond to any crisis.”

In order to maintain the “spirit of innovation and institutional flexibility,” the commandant’s priorities are clear. The four main priorities are:

- Continue to provide the best trained and equipped Marine units to Afghanistan. This will not change. This remains our top priority!
- Rebalance our Corps, posture it for the future and aggressively experiment with and implement new capabilities and organizations.

- Better educate and train our Marines to succeed in distributed operations and increasingly complex environments.
- Keep faith with our Marines, our Sailors and our families.

The Commandant sets tasks with due dates in order to achieve each of his four priorities.

For more details and a copy of the Commandant’s Planning Guidance, go to:

<http://www.usmc.mil/unit/hqmc/cmc/Documents/CMC%2035%20Planning%20Guidance%20FINAL.pdf>

Marines seek and destroy Taliban hold on Afghan locals

BY CPL. NED JOHNSON
Regimental Combat Team 2

FORWARD OPERATING BASE JACKSON, Afghanistan — Marines know that one of the most important things to Afghan locals is the security of their village. Sometimes providing them with that security means putting the mission of the Marine Corps rifle squad to use: “Locate, close with and destroy the enemy.”

Marines with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, conducted an overnight mission,

Nov. 23, with a goal to kill the enemy and deny their ability to maneuver in the area.

“We want to push the enemy out, kill them, and deny them the ability to resupply,” said Sgt. David Doty, a squad leader with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines. “If we can do those things, it will make our job easier.”

The infantrymen set their sights on a few compounds where the insurgents often hide and shoot at the Marines. The Marines of first platoon quickly found the compounds and

searched them for improvised explosive devices.

“We blew a hole in the wall and I sent in my dog, Mocha, to sniff for home-made explosives,” said Cpl. Jonathan Williams, a dog handler with Company I. “She found a bag that had 200 pounds of ammonium nitrate in it.”

The Marines cleared the area and then burned the bag to destroy its contents. At the next compound, Mocha found several IEDs. The Marines finished searching the compounds and began to move in a different

direction when the insurgents unleashed an ambush from about 40 meters away.

“Two squads started taking contact first from the northwest and then the south and the southwest,” said Sgt. Gregory Wenzel, 1st Platoon, Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines.

The Marines immediately began firing at the enemy and gained superior firepower. The fight intensified as Marines were under fire from medium-machine-gun and small-arms fire.

The Marines then played

their trump card, calling in 60 mm and 120 mm mortars and close air support. An UH-1 Huey and an AH-1W Super Cobra fired hundreds of rounds, and a KC-130J ‘Harvest Hawk’ fired a Hell-Fire Missile.

Artillery Marines played their part as well, firing multiple GPS-guided shells.

The firefight lasted about two hours and killed an estimated 8-10 enemy fighters, said 1st Lt. Stephen Cooney, executive officer, Company I, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines.

The Marines then resupplied their ammunition and patrolled to a different area and set up a makeshift patrol base.

Throughout the night, Marines monitored the local area for enemy and local activity, said Wenzel, a 26-year-old native of Altoona, Pa. The Marines woke early Nov. 24, to patrol an area, which rarely sees Marines.

“We want the enemy to know that they do not own this area,” Wenzel said. “We also wanted to show the locals we are here to protect them.”

The Marines did not engage the enemy on the second day, but Doty says the operation was a success.

“Any mission where you kill the enemy and every Marine comes home safe is a good mission,” said Doty, a 27-year-old native of Mokane, Mo.

Marines completed the mission and returned to their base, but the warriors know they will be on patrol in the same areas again.

“We aren’t afraid to go anywhere and we want the enemy to know that we will continue to go after them because we aren’t afraid,” Doty said.

The Marines are going to do just that and continue to fight through every day.

“The environment is tough here—crossing waist-deep water and dealing with the cold,” Wenzel said. “But the Marines keep their head on a swivel, do what they are trained to do, and continue to get the job done.”



Lance Cpl. Zachary Allen, an infantryman with India Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, walks through a corn field during an operation, Nov. 23. Allen, a 21-year-old native of Fruita, Colo., and his fellow Marines stayed in the Southern Green Zone for more than a day to observe and hunt the Taliban. Cpl. Ned Johnson, 1st Marine Division

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Company G recruits work their way across a rope bridge, avoiding pieces that were marked red, to get their simulated casualty to safety during the 12-Stall exercise during the Crucible. The recruit who was the simulated casualty was not allowed to hold on in any way. The group had to get all of their gear, an empty 50-gallon drum, and themselves across safely. Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron



Recruit Carlos Diaz, Platoon 2143, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, sits on a simulated transportation device, a tire tied to a rope, to get across a simulated river during the 12-Stall exercise of the Crucible. Diaz' group was given a tire and a piece of rope to get all of their gear and men across the river using a pole spanning the area. Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron

Company G re



Recruit Zachary Janke, Platoon 2143, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, is shown in a close-up shot, holding a pole during the 12-Stall exercise of the Crucible. The poles were placed there by the training staff to help the recruits cross the water to a wooden wall in the middle. Once they made it to the other side, they had to use the poles to get to the other side. Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron

Recruits foster teamwork during Crucible



BY LANCE CPL. KATALYNN THOMAS
Chevron Staff

It's cold and recruits stare anxiously at their next obstacle of the Crucible. The red paint on the wooden structures signifies death and the gravel below indicates water. The drill instructors who have guided the recruits through eleven weeks of one of the toughest military training regimens have stepped back and given them the reins.

The recruits of Company G tested their mental abilities in the late afternoon of Nov. 23 at the 12-Stall site of the Crucible at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

"The 12-Stall portion of the Crucible is a way to test mental toughness and show that the recruits can come up with their own plans without guidance," said Sgt. Nathaniel Morgan, field instructor, Field Company, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, MCB Camp Pendleton

"It gives them their independence to take care of their own business without guidance," said Morgan. "It also teaches them how to properly read an order and figure out what to do with the information they have been given through the letter of intent."

The recruits are split into even groups and assigned a stall to begin the training exercise.

Half of the squad provides security while the other half comes up with a plan to accomplish the mission they are given. Once the first half has accomplished it, they provide security for the rest of the squad members to complete the mission.

However, if one of them touches the gravel or red painted areas, he is considered a casualty. If this is the case, the recruits must scurry down a dirt road next to the stalls and pick up an ammunition can and run it down a portion of the road and back. Also, if their squad loses a piece of critical equipment, they all have to run with the ammunition cans.

"This is something we can use in the field," said Recruit. Maurice Gomez, Platoon 2143, Company G. "It makes us think about how to be Marines, to survive and to be a team. Without a team you could easily end up dead."

Throughout the course the recruits are given various objects such as pipes, rope, tires and empty 50-gallon drums. They have to use only the items given to them to help them get their gear and men across the obstacles.

Some of these objects are more critical than others. If the recruits were to lose the rope or plank they needed, they would have

to start over, explained Morgan, while other pieces of gear can touch the ground if they are not listed as essential gear.

The recruits don't necessarily take to the tasks since this is one of the first times they're given decisive control.

"At first there is a lot of confusion with the recruits," said Sgt. Dominik Trujillo, drill instructor, Platoon 2141, Company G. "It's like they aren't sure if we are going to come around the corner and give them directions or not. Once they figure it out that they do it themselves they take charge and accomplish the mission."

Once the recruits completed their current stall, they were able to move on to the next available stall after being checked by an instructor. They would discuss the tactics used with the instructor before moving on.

"I feel like this particular training event is really quite fun," said Recruit Michael Dacey, Platoon 2143, Company G. "I mean, you can laugh about some of the things you did wrong here. You think back after you get done with the ammo can run, and you're like 'why in the world did I have them do that?'"

After they complete the 12-Stall, their next goal is to conquer the Reaper, a long hike that tests their stamina and strength and 'all they have done in recruit training.



Company G recruits emerge from tunnels to a wall of red, signifying something that they shouldn't touch, during the 12-Stall exercise of the Crucible. The 12-Stall is an event that tests the recruit's leadership and organizational capabilities.

Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron



Company G recruits ponder over which way to lay planks down to get across a simulated river during the 12-Stall exercise of the Crucible. The gravel on the ground beneath them represents water, and the posts coming out of the ground represent stepping stones. The recruits have only two planks to use to get their gear and men across the water.

Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron

Weapons and Field Training Battalion shimmies his way across the Crucible at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. The recruits to span across simulated water. The gravel on the ground beneath them represents water, and the posts coming out of the ground represent stepping stones. The recruits have only two planks to use to get their gear and men across the water.

Hard times sows deep passion in Californian’s soul



Recruit Chris Farhat, Platoon 2143, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, takes a moment to observe the obstacle his group has to overcome during the 12-Stall exercise, Nov. 23, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. During the exercise, the recruits are allowed to make their own plan and decisions without the drill instructor’s help. Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron

BY LANCE CPL. KATALYNN THOMAS
Chevron Staff

Think of all the things that are in a normal household. Many Americans have running water, enough food, and television. These are all freedoms that many people take for granted, including one boy who grew up in California. Recruit Chris Farhat, Platoon 2143, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, was born in Orange County, Calif., and enjoyed a very happy childhood until a day he will never forget – the day he moved to Syria to visit an ill relative.

“I know what it’s like to not have freedoms and not love the country that you live in,” said Farhat. “Until you see how other people live and the standards that they live by on the other side of the world, then you see how great the United States of America is,” said Farhat. “Until then, you really can’t appreciate it.”

Farhat’s father received a phone call from his family in Syria, telling him that Farhat’s grandmother had become terminally ill. His father decided right away to leave everything behind and take them to Syria so that his family could be with his ailing grandmother, Farhat said. Upon their arrival, Farhat’s father decided that they were there to stay.

When his father decided to stay in Syria permanently, the remainder of Farhat’s family did not share his enthusiasm, especially Farhat’s mother.

“My dad even went as far as to take away our passports so

that she (my mother) couldn’t try and leave with me,” said Farhat. “Finally, my mom couldn’t take it anymore, so she lied to my dad and told him that we were going shopping.”

Instead, she went to the U.S. Embassy and told them the situation they were in and they devised a plan to help them out, Farhat said. He was too young to really know what was going on, but one morning around three, his mom woke him up and told him that they had to go.

When they met up with the U.S. Embassy they gave his mother two passports, a set of airline tickets, some cash and a ride to a taxi. They then went into Jordan and flew back to California, he said.

“After we arrived in California, it was hard on us,” Farhat said. “My mom couldn’t get a job and all the money we had was what the embassy gave us and government assistance. Mom used the money to buy a beat-up car that we lived out of most of the time.”

After living that way for almost a year, his mom decided to go back to his father, Farhat said. He flew the family back to Syria where they lived until Farhat was in high school.

“I hated every day of my life there,” he said. “I couldn’t adapt to their culture and being an American in a Middle Eastern country, I was picked on every day. I usually got into fights and was threatened regularly. I skipped school all the time.”

Farhat was living in Syria during the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Because

of the proximity of Syria to Iraq, the war hit close to where he lived many times and plenty of Syrians were infuriated because they felt like they were being bullied, he said.

“It made me wish I was older and part of the people doing the invading,” he said. “I wished that the war would still be going on when I (became) old enough (to enlist). I would pretend I was in the military, running around with firecrackers pretending I was blowing things up.”

Farhat pleaded with his father daily to take him back to the U.S. His dad finally saw how miserable he was in Syria and moved the family back to America, he said.

“When I returned, I immediately knew that I wanted to join the military to serve the country that I really loved and called home,” he said. “As soon as I graduated school I enlisted in the Marine Corps.”

“I’m definitely glad the Marines got me first,” he said. “There are so many great experiences to be gotten out of it and it makes you the best you can be.”

Farhat’s experience made him love America so much that it made him want to die for it at any given moment, he said. He felt like he owed it something, like he should give himself to his country.

“I’m happy I had the experience I did,” he said. “It brought me to the Marines where I belong. If I didn’t, I probably would have wound up some average kid going to a mediocre college, and I probably wouldn’t have joined the military.”



Recruit Chris Farhat, Platoon 2143, Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, provides security for his group during the 12-Stall event, Nov. 23, at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. It is important that security is provided during this exercise so that the recruits understand that there should always be someone on the lookout. Lance Cpl. Katalynn Thomas/Chevron

Retired Sgt. Maj. Anthony Reese

Parade Reviewing Officer

Retired Sgt. Maj. Anthony Reese enlisted in the Marine Corps in September 1965 out of Philadelphia, and completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S. C., in December.

Upon graduation and Infantry Training School, he was assigned to the 26th Marines at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Reese was transferred to Marine Barracks, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, in March 1966, where he served subsequent tours of duty that included machine gun section leader, right guide and platoon sergeant

with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, in the Republic of Vietnam. He then served as company gunnery sergeant with Company I, 3rd Bn, 6th Marines. He subsequently was first sergeant with Company L, 3rd Bn., 9th Marines, and then first sergeant with Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Bn.

Reese has served as sergeant major at The Basic School in Quantico, Va.; the 13th Marine Expedition Unit participating in Operations Desert Shield and Storm; 1st Marine Regiment; Recruit Training Regiment, Marine Corps Recruit Depot and the Western Recruiting Region, San Diego. Reese has also served as a drill instructor, recruiter, Physical Fitness Academy instructor, and as the non-commissioned officer-in-charge of NCO Leadership School.

Reese is a graduate of the Army Airborne Parachute School and the Army Sergeant’s Major Academy.

His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit; Purple Heart Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star in lieu of 2nd award; Navy Commendation Medal with Combat “V” device with gold stars in lieu of 2nd and 3rd awards; the Combat Action Ribbon with gold stars in lieu of 2nd award; Good Conduct Medal 10th award; and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Silver Star.

Reese holds an associate of applied science degree in management from El Paso Community College; a Bachelor of Business Administration, with emphasis in marketing, from National University; and a Master of Arts degree in human resources management from National University.



 Platoon 2142 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. R. A. Lightle Peculiar, Mo. Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. Dubois	 Platoon 2145 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. J. D. Longoria San Antonio Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. Medrano	 Platoon 2141 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. B. M. Ligon Sierra Vista, Ariz. Recruited by Sgt. A. Bledsoe	 Platoon 2143 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. J. Hughes Murrieta, Calif. Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. L. Chambers	 Platoon 2146 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pvt. J. R. Schuman Warrenville, Ill. Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. M. Tackett	 Platoon 2147 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. K. M. Sommers Oregon, Wis. Recruited by Sgt. L. B. Keck	 Platoon 2146 HIGH SHOOTER (333) Pfc. R. Z. Stutzman Scio, Ore. Marksmanship Instructor Sgt. L. M. Brigham	 Platoon 2147 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. O. N. Santoyo Dallas Recruited by Staff Sgt. D. G. Hernandez
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Pvt. J. K. Donohoe
Pvt. B. M. Dunham
Pvt. M. O. Duran
Pvt. B. J. Fiedler
Pvt. R. N. Flores
Pvt. A. G. Ford
Pvt. J. J. Fuller
Pfc. J. J. Garcia
Pvt. M. R. Gill
Pfc. T. J. Gourneau
Pvt. T. N. Guillermo
Pfc. C. M. Hecht
Pfc. T. A. Hodges
Pvt. S. R. Kanugh
Pvt. K. D. Kibbe
Pvt. J. L. Leonard
Pvt. D. L. Lepere
*Pfc. B. M. Ligon
Pvt. J. T. Long
Pfc. J. T. Mankins
Pvt. J. F. Martinez
Pvt. M. M. Martinez
Pvt. T. McGraw
Pvt. W. L. McNew
Pvt. N. D. McNulty
Pvt. A. L. McPherson
Pvt. B. A. Monson
Pvt. G. Moulden
Pvt. J. J. Munoz
Pvt. D. Murphy
Pvt. R. J. Muztenberger
Pvt. A. Neely
Pvt. C. J. Neely-Lizarraga
Pvt. J. T. Noseworthy
*Pfc. J. M. O'Brien
Pvt. J. P. Palomino
Pfc. L. B. Passmore
Pvt. R. J. Pehay
Pvt. K. D. Pedersen
Pvt. J. E. Pelino
Pvt. J. Phan

Pfc. B. D. Pharis
*Pfc. T. P. Pike
Pfc. B. F. Robins
Pfc. D. L. Rodgers
Pfc. M. A. Shevchenko
Pfc. H. M. Solis
Pfc. R. W. Spicer
Pfc. S. R. Tackett
Pvt. T. Truesdale
Pvt. M. A. Williams
Pvt. J. M. Wise
Pvt. J. Zhen

PLATOON 2142

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. P. Tennison
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. W. S. Crespin
Staff Sgt. G. C. Guevarra
Staff Sgt. R. E. Jackson
Sgt. J. A. Greidanus

Pvt. A. Adams
Pvt. N. J. Anders
Pvt. F. Avila
Pvt. G. A. Avila
Pvt. T. A. Beranek
Pvt. Z. A. Billings
Pvt. N. V. Bosteder
Pvt. C. R. Bracken
Pvt. C. M. Brewer
Pfc. D. L. Brown
Pfc. E. S. Bunning
Pfc. R. J. Butler
Pvt. W. D. Cambell-Williams
Pvt. B. W. Campbell
Pvt. T. B. Carlson
Pvt. M. Carnes
Pvt. D. O. Cartes
Pvt. J. J. Castillo
Pvt. C. S. Charley
Pvt. D. T. Cleary
Pfc. L. Cruz
Pfc. A. D. Deleray
Pvt. C. R. Dillman
Pvt. M. S. Dolezal
Pvt. A. Dowdy
*Pfc. M. F. Dusik
Pvt. A. S. Ealey
Pvt. R. D. Eddington
Pvt. J. C. Erwin
Pfc. J. Faith
*Pfc. J. A. Ferguson
Pfc. A. F. Fiack
Pvt. J. A. Fougere
Pvt. J. L. Fredrick
Pvt. J. Fry
Pvt. M. A. Futia
Pvt. C. K. Gee
Pvt. N. J. Gerdes
Pvt. J. J. Goldsmith
Pvt. M. J. Gonzalez
Pvt. T. M. Haffner
Pvt. N. R. Hamilton
Pfc. J. L. Hancock
Pvt. K. C. Hansel
Pvt. J. J. Heiden
Pvt. J. L. Heider
Pvt. D. W. Hitt
Pvt. J. L. Hopkins
Pfc. J. B. Howell
Pvt. J. E. Iliff
Pvt. B. W. Jones
Pvt. A. M. Kanicka
Pvt. L. Keithley
Pvt. J. P. Keller
Pfc. R. T. Kulakowski
Pfc. J. K. Kumer
Pfc. K. J. LaFave
Pfc. M. T. Le
*Lance Cpl. R. A. Lightle
Pfc. J. Lopez
Pvt. J. E. Leduc
Pvt. J. Ludington
Pvt. C. H. Lujan
Pvt. R. Marchan
Pfc. J. A. Mason
Pvt. J. Mason
Pvt. K. M. Mausling
Pfc. M. B. Maves
Pfc. J. C. Maxwell
Pvt. C. A. McDowall
*Pfc. B. E. Medina
Pvt. A. B. Milroy
Pvt. L. Obregon
Pfc. A. W. Olson
Pfc. J. B. Payne
Pfc. R. W. Peck

Pvt. S. Perez
Pfc. M. A. Rocha
Pvt. J. A. Sellers
Pvt. E. J. Webb

PLATOON 2143

Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. J. K. Spray
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. J. L. Russell
Sgt. D. C. Downing
Sgt. D. Hernandez
Sgt. C. J. Marcus

Pvt. J. F. Aguirre
Pvt. A. A. Alcaraz
Pvt. V. A. Anaya
Pvt. M. Angel Jr.
Pvt. A. M. Arevalo
Pvt. T. M. Armstrong
Pfc. D. E. Avellaneda
Pvt. R. Avila
Pfc. M. A. Bastrieri
Pvt. J. J. Begich
Pfc. M. C. Bowers
Pfc. J. M. Brion
Pfc. C. M. Brown
Pvt. A. D. Bui
Pvt. D. A. Burke
Pvt. J. D. Cain
Pvt. D. F. Caniz-Lopez
*Pfc. J. W. Carpenter
Pfc. C. R. Carr
Pfc. J. L. Carranza
Pvt. R. Carrillo Jr.
Pvt. C. D. Cazares
Pvt. C. R. Christiansen
Pvt. J. D. Cline
Pvt. G. W. Cole
Pvt. C. N. Contreras
Pfc. M. J. Dacey
Pvt. C. A. Diaz
Pfc. S. A. Elliot
Pvt. D. G. Epstein
Pvt. J. R. Estrada
Pvt. S. A. Ezell
*Pfc. H. Farhat
Pvt. A. L. Fickas
Pvt. A. M. Flores
Pvt. R. Flores Jr.
*Pfc. S. J. Flores Jr.
Pvt. C. J. Forrester
Pfc. T. J. Foulke
Pvt. P. G. Frazier
Pfc. R. Garcia Jr.
Pvt. J. A. Garcia-Ochoa
Pvt. J. E. Garza-Trevino
Pvt. J. M. Gerstenburg
Pvt. I. R. Glover
Pvt. M. J. Goldie
Pvt. J. M. Gomez
Pfc. E. J. Gonzalez
Pvt. E. Gonzalez Jr.
Pvt. M. F. Gonzalez Jr.
Pvt. Z. T. Goodenough
Pvt. S. M. Goulding
Pvt. P. D. Guerra
Pvt. C. A. Gutierrez
Pvt. J. L. Hale
Pvt. N. J. Hatheway
Pfc. C. H. Haunert
*Pfc. B. J. Hennings
Pvt. E. Herrerasoto
Pvt. K. E. Hite
Pfc. D. S. Hoffman
Pvt. R. C. Howard
*Pfc. T. J. Hughes
Pfc. B. R. Hunter
Pvt. T. I. Jackson
Pvt. Z. D. Janke
Pvt. S. A. Jasman
Pvt. A. A. Jim
Pvt. B. S. Kabban
Pvt. D. R. Kaemerer
Pvt. J. D. Kendrick
Pfc. T. T. Khuu
Pfc. T. V. Le
Pvt. J. Lee
Pvt. B. J. Long
*Pfc. J. M. Longenberger
Pvt. J. J. Meyers-Reynolds
Pvt. J. C. Quevedo-Lopez
Pvt. I. Saine
Pvt. T. N. Sechrest
Pfc. H. J. Serrano
Pfc. E. J. Toledo
Pvt. M. L. Webber

SERIES 2145

Series Commander
Capt. S. L. Sandaval
Chief Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. R. Conwill

PLATOON 2145

Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. L. F. Medina
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. J. A. Arellano
Staff Sgt. D. P. Chavez
Sgt. V. A. Black
Sgt. A. J. Cole

Pvt. A. Alvarado
Pvt. J. N. Bain
*Pfc. H. I. Borrego
Pvt. M. A. Brown
Pvt. T. A. Chapman
Pfc. X. A. Chavarria-Lopez
Pvt. M. T. Clinard
Pvt. M. A. Contreras
Pvt. J. J. Diaz
Pvt. B. R. Dixon
Pvt. P. T. Duong
Pvt. F. Duque
Pvt. M. A. Duque
Pvt. J. A. Flint
Pvt. J. R. Gonsoulin
Pvt. M. W. Gore
Pvt. B. G. Hammersberg
Pvt. W. S. Henriquez
Pfc. M. D. Holden
Pfc. M. D. Houston
Pvt. P. A. Kaufman
Pfc. J. S. Kim
Pvt. A. Kincaid
Pvt. S. M. Klemcke
Pvt. E. L. Kraft
Pvt. E. A. Lara-Ceja
Pfc. G. N. Lawas
Pfc. S. H. Lewis
Pfc. Z. C. Lewis
Pvt. R. F. Lizama
Pvt. M. A. Llamas
*Pfc. J. D. Longoria
Pvt. M. Lopez
Pfc. N. J. Losman
Pvt. J. G. Luna
Pvt. T. J. Lyons
Pfc. R. H. Magnuson
*Pfc. L. W. Martin
Pvt. K. R. Martinez
Pvt. V. H. Martinez
Pvt. C. McCarthy
Pfc. T. S. McKnight
Pfc. E. R. McLeish
Pfc. A. P. Medina
Pvt. C. L. Merritt
Pfc. C. J. Morales
Pvt. N. D. Moreno
Pvt. R. E. Moseley
Pvt. M. D. Nash
*Pfc. T. Q. Ngo
*Pfc. J. H. Nguyen
Pvt. R. W. Nichols
Pfc. J. G. Noceloti
Pvt. L. L. Nolasco
Pfc. C. D. Norman
Pfc. B. M. O'Hallaran
Pvt. J. S. Olson
Pfc. G. A. Osorio
Pvt. B. Park
Pfc. R. L. Pena
Pvt. L. T. Pettigrew
Pvt. A. Pimentel
Pvt. J. Pina
Pvt. A. N. Puente
Pvt. A. S. Rasmussen
Pvt. A. M. Richmond
Pvt. K. B. Riley
Pvt. F. J. Rivera
Pvt. K. Rodriguez
Pfc. J. N. Rodriguez
Pfc. T. Ruiz
Pfc. M. J. Ryne
Pvt. F. A. Salas
Pvt. J. Salazar
Pvt. E. Sanchez
Pvt. D. D. Sanders
Pvt. B. M. Sullivan
*Pfc. D. J. Temple
Pfc. D. R. Williamson

PLATOON 2146

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. B. E. Price

Drill Instructors

Staff Sgt. J. Cervantes
Staff Sgt. C. O. Harris
Sgt. J. W. Hacker
Sgt. L. B. Soderbery

Pvt. L. C. Acosta
Pvt. R. K. Anderson
Pvt. A. S. Baker
Pvt. T. M. Baldwin
Pvt. J. L. Berger
Pvt. S. C. Bernard
Pfc. S. M. Breidt
Pvt. A. Campbell
Pvt. C. Coleman
Pfc. C. Corona
Pvt. Z. S. Costenaro
Pfc. E. Cotto
Pvt. J. M. Cruz
Pvt. J. A. Cyrus
Pvt. C. W. Denton
Pvt. F. O. Diaio
Pvt. J. K. Dorsey-Bishop
Pfc. E. V. Escaros
Pvt. J. E. Estupinian
Pvt. B. T. Evans
Pfc. N. C. Fetner
Pvt. U. F. Figueroa
Pvt. J. C. Gaines
Pfc. J. C. Gange
Pvt. J. R. Gloria
Pvt. A. D. Harmon
Pvt. S. E. Harpold
Pvt. Z. P. Jansma
Pvt. D. M. Kohut
*Pfc. C. Kolar
Pvt. T. H. Lam
Pfc. T. Le
Pvt. I. L. Macaraeg Jr.
Pvt. C. P. Manquiquis
Pvt. J. L. Mattingly
Pvt. A. L. McDavid
Pvt. J. R. McGaffigan
Pvt. M. L. McGhee
Pvt. Z. S. McMillan
Pvt. S. J. Meyer
Pvt. D. S. Navarro Jr.
Pvt. J. X. Nunez
*Pfc. N. Ortega
Pvt. E. A. Nelson
Pvt. M. J. Nettles
Pvt. C. T. Nishek
Pvt. R. P. Nuccio
Pvt. C. B. Patch
Pvt. A. E. Pessein
Pvt. D. K. Peterson
Pvt. J. L. Power
Pvt. A. J. Ramirez
Pvt. N. Reynoso
Pfc. P. A. Santiago
Pvt. C. M. Schaffer
Pvt. D. V. Schroeder
*Pvt. J. R. Schuman
Pvt. J. M. Severson
Pvt. R. J. Shure
Pvt. S. D. Simbre-Medeiros
Pfc. R. E. Sioux
Pvt. B. C. Smith
Pfc. F. Somsavath
Pvt. C. R. Spartz
*Pfc. R. Z. Stutzman
Pfc. H. G. Swift
Pvt. J. C. Taylor
*Pfc. E. A. Thompson
Pvt. A. L. Todd
Pvt. C. M. Turpen
Pfc. E. A. Umanzor
Pfc. J. T. Valdez
Pvt. F. S. Valdivia-Gonzalez
Pvt. J. A. Valenzuela
Pvt. N. S. Villaseñor
*Pfc. M. Q. Vu
Pvt. D. R. Waters
Pvt. G. A. Watkins
Pfc. A. D. Westpfahl
Pvt. M. J. Wilson
Pvt. H. S. Woldseth
Pvt. C. J. Wood
Pfc. C. A. Yamada
Pvt. D. F. Zuniga

PLATOON 2147

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. C. Galvan
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. A. Diaz
Staff Sgt. C. D. Willis
Sgt. J. A. Felix

Sgt. J. F. Hernandez
Sgt. C. A. Sanchez

Pfc. A. J. Austin
*Pfc. L. R. Hastay
Pvt. T. M. Nordyke
Pvt. C. M. Oland
Pfc. J. C. Oord
Pvt. C. Ortega
Pvt. J. A. Pelly
Pvt. V. V. Perez
Pvt. A. A. Peterson
Pvt. C. W. Pifer
Pvt. O. Pineda
Pvt. G. M. Powell
Pvt. D. Pryor
Pvt. B. A. Puch
Pvt. G. Quezada
Pvt. A. A. Ramirez
Pvt. M. F. Ramirez
Pvt. D. J. Rathman
Pfc. B. A. Reynolds
Pvt. J. J. Richardson
Pvt. A. Rios
Pfc. T. R. Robasciotti
Pvt. J. J. Robinson
Pvt. G. K. Rodriguez
Pvt. J. A. Rodriguez
Pfc. E. A. Roe
Pfc. M. P. Rose
Pvt. J. A. Ruiz
Pvt. M. M. Ruiz
Pvt. G. T. Russell
Pvt. J. S. Saberon
Pvt. F. Saeteurn
Pvt. T. D. Santana
Pfc. O. N. Santoyo
Pfc. T. L. Schewe
Pvt. E. J. Scroggins
Pfc. J. T. Searls
*Pfc. N. P. Sears
Pvt. J. M. Sedlacek
Pvt. J. M. Seeley
Pvt. L. J. Serfling
Pvt. T. M. Silva
Pvt. T. J. Skinner
Pvt. D. R. Skrintney
*Pfc. K. M. Sommers
Pvt. P. R. Soto
Pvt. R. Spates
Pvt. S. D. Spensko
Pvt. R. T. Stark
*Pfc. J. M. Stegmiller
Pvt. S. T. Stellmach
Pvt. D. D. Stevenson
Pfc. K. J. Stogner
Pvt. J. P. Stolhammer
*Pfc. B. D. Sutton
Pvt. J. L. Tate
Pfc. N. D. Tayone
Pvt. J. L. Thomas
Pvt. B. A. Tiemann
Pvt. P. A. Toliver
Pfc. M. J. Torres
Pvt. J. S. Torres-Peralta
Pvt. M. G. Tovar
Pvt. S. W. Trunnell
Pvt. J. Vargas
Pvt. S. Vargas
Pvt. L. A. Vasquez
Pvt. F. J. Vejarmora
Pvt. A. V. Vicicondi
Pfc. C. M. Voth
Pvt. J. Walsh
Pvt. W. Z. Wang
Pvt. N. T. Weeks
Pvt. A. W. Westcott
*Pfc. J. K. White
Pfc. A. T. Wines
Pvt. E. L. Winston
Pfc. R. O. Winter
Pfc. S. A. Wood
Pvt. N. S. Wu
Pvt. J. Zuniga-Hernandez

* Indicates meritorious promotion

Corps hosts ‘Young Marines’ youth program

BY PFC MIKE ITO
Chevron staff

It was like many other mornings on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Nov. 13. Echoes of “aye-aye, sir” rang through the hills and salutes were rendered during a formal colors ceremony. But something was different. Those responding with such passion and respect were not Marines, yet.

These were the young Marines, a youth service and education program that promotes the moral, mental, and physical development of its members, according to its official website, www.youngmarines.com. Yet, to its members, it is so much more.

The Young Marines is sponsored by the Marine Corps League, and is the face of the Marine Corps’ youth anti-drug initiative. It is designed to keep youths 8 to 18 years old, out of potentially harmful situations by providing them with constructive free-time activities. The activities come in the form of group meetings or outings, and lessons designed to develop the core values that make up the backbone of the Marine Corps.

Young Marine Gun-nery Sgt. Adam Derkum, 16-year-old unit leader for the Saddleback Raiders detachment of the organization, based out of Camp San Mateo, MCB Camp

Pendleton, says, “the Young Marines program gives so much to each of us.”

“The (Young Marines) program is an opportunity to instill competence and give (the children) confidence when they may have been shy,” says retired Sgt. Maj. James Harkins, volunteer leader of the Saddleback Raiders unit.

Harkins explains that, in no way is the program a recruiting tool for the Marine Corps. It is simply a way to instill a sense of pride and responsibility in our country’s youth.

Another distinction Harkins is adamant about making is that the program is not a rehab solution for problem children, but rather a place where they can belong to a family.

“The program is inclusive. They will take children as they are, never lowering their standards, and use the right mix of discipline and mentorship to help them achieve their goals,” said Deanna Cedillo, mother of 10-year-old Young Marine Pfc. Josiah Cedillo.

“The lessons we learn here carry over into real life,” says Derkum. “The discipline helps kids in school and at home. We learn teamwork, and how to get along with people. It’s not often a 16-year-old, like me, can see the difference between a normal kid and someone who obviously knows how valuable responsibility and integrity are.”

But the program is not all hard lessons. “We get to have a ton of fun, too,” adds Derkum.

It is very important that participants get all the same opportunities as Marines. They get to hike, do the obstacle course, jump out of helicopters, step off the tower in the swim tank, almost anything they want, said Harkins.

It might seem that this is too much for children as young as 8, but Cedillo explains, as a group, they (Young Marines) are incredibly strong. There’s not much they can’t figure out.

Their hard work and development does not go unnoticed. The Young Marines are awarded with ribbons and medals just like in the Marine Corps. They are recognized for excellence in everyday activities like maintaining a high grade point average or outstanding physical condition, as well as devotion to community and Corps.

Whether it be a full-sized rappel tower, or a fun Saturday afternoon game of two-hand touch football, the Young Marines is an organization that vies for a strong youth.

“The Young Marines have given me everything I need to be a successful person,” said Derkum. “I wouldn’t give up my five years here for anything. I’ve learned too much and had so many great opportunities.”



Young Marines of the Saddleback Raiders unit, Camp San Mateo, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., play two-hand touch football during their day aboard Camp Pendleton. The Young Marines program is sponsored by the Marine Corps League. *PFC Mike Ito/Chevron*



The Young Marines of the Saddleback Raiders unit, Camp San Mateo, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., aid a fellow Young Marine while running on the track to build team work and unit cohesion, Nov. 13 aboard MCB Camp Pendleton. The program is designed to keep children 18 and younger out of potentially harmful situations. *PFC Mike Ito/Chevron*