



Year in Sports
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CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”



Depot gets new CG
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2011 Year in Review

Jan. 7

Pfc. Belleau Wood, the depot mascot, is promoted to lance corporal. Belleau is an English bulldog and her responsibilities include attending ceremonies and boosting morale wherever she goes. Belleau assumed her responsibilities from Molly Marine Nov. 10, 2009.

Jan. 10

Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego's Business Process Office received the Outstanding Continuous Process Improvement Implementation Achievement Award and Continuous Process Improvement Excellence Award.

The awards were for runner-up for best organizational-wide CPI deployment in the supporting establishment and top CPI implementation leader.

Jan. 31

Marines from MCRD San Diego and WRR competed in the annual Depot Competition in Arms Program. 12th Marine Corps District took first place in the rifle team match and 9th Marine Corps District placed first in the pistol team match.

March 25

Col. Carl F. Huenefeld, former chief of staff, retires aboard the depot at Shepherd Memorial Field. Huenefeld, who joined the Corps in June 1971, now works as the assistant chief of staff, G-1 (Manpower).

Substance Abuse Counseling Center earns recertification

March 1 – The Substance Abuse Counseling Center at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego received a three-year recertification in March as a top program by the Commission on Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities International.

The SACC was recognized for having an outstanding program for its outpatient treatment which includes education, outreach services and counseling for alcohol and other drug addictions for adults.

Not only did MCRD obtain this re-accreditation, but they were able to place in the top three percent of the nation. The CARF surveyors found no discrepancies with their program.

CARF International standards ensure patients receive the best quality care. They have surveyed hundreds of thousands of programs throughout North and South America, Europe, Africa and Asia since it was founded in 1966.

Company G recruits hit marksmanship landmark

March 4 – All 389 recruits in Company G qualified on their first attempt at the Table 1 Rifle Qualification, achieving a landmark believed to be the first.

Six PMIs, one assigned to each platoon, are responsible for helping the company qualify. For two weeks each PMI instills the art of basic marksmanship like stance, sight alignment and breath control. Range coaches come to assist the PMIs during the second week to make sure every recruit has the opportunity to ask for help if they are having difficulties.

The drill instructors play an essential role in rifle qualification as well, making sure the recruits understand the importance of marksmanship and ensuring that it is the focus of their training at this point.

“When the drill instructors help out, whether it's going over the marksmanship knowledge or helping them snap in, the recruits become that much more dedicated to what we're trying to do,” said Sgt. Brandon Green, PMI, Field Company.

Corps' Battle Color Detachment, Commandant's Own visits depot

March 12 – The Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment and Commandant's Own visited the depot and performed a thrilling display of precision drill movements and harmonious music.

The Drum and Bugle Corps and Commandant's Own serenaded the crowd with performances like “Don't Rain on my Parade,” and the 1896 John Philip Sousa classic “The Stars and Stripes Forever.”

Shortly thereafter, the Silent Drill Platoon snapped to attention. The Silent Drill Platoon consists of 24 riflemen who conduct intense drill movements without spoken cadence. The performance includes an impressive rifle inspection sequence involving complex rifle spins and tosses.

The Silent Drill Platoon was put together in 1948 for a one time demonstration for an evening parade. Due to the overpowering response, they became a regular part of parades at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

April 22 – Ultimate Fighting Championship fighters toured and trained aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Edson Range. Fighters were lead through an abbreviated crucible and sparred with Marines. Their week-long training culminated when the fighters met with new Marines at graduation.

April 22 – Sgt. Maj. Michael D. Brookman was appointed as the Headquarters and Service Battalion sergeant major after relieving Sgt. Maj. Donald Jones.

April 30 – Sgt. Kenneth Carter II, drill instructor, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, was inducted into the Martial Arts Hall of Fame in Los Angeles for being awarded instructor of the year for his dedication to training civilians and military members in various forms of martial arts.

April 27 – Sgt. Maj. Carlton W. Kent spoke with Marines and recruits at Shepherd's Field aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego for the last time as sergeant major of the Marine Corps.

Kent stopped at MCRD San Diego as part of his farewell tour of Marine Corps installations to pass on his legacy before retiring after 35 years. During his service, he spent seven years as a drill instructor and knows firsthand what it takes to make Marines.

"It's always great to get back to MCRD San Diego," said Kent. "You need to know that the Marines you're putting out are truly living up to the great, war fighting legacy of our Corps," Kent said to the drill instructors in attendance.

May 17 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego conducted its annual Golden Guardian Exercise May 17. California initiated Golden Guardian in 2004 and uses a different scenario each year to test preparation and response capabilities to disasters at the local, regional, state and federal levels.

May 21 – Three battalions from the Recruit Training Regiment put their wives on the yellow footprints in hopes of giving them a small taste of recruit training.

Jane Wayne Day gives wives the opportunity to appreciate the work their husbands put into training the next generation of Marines. The billet of drill instructor is one of the most demanding positions a Marine can hold.

Each battalion had a four-woman team who was scored on each event to determine the winner. Scored events consisted of a combat fitness test, flexed-arm hang and final drill.

May 25 – Col. Michael J. Lee assumed command of the Recruit Training Regiment from Col. Robert W. Gates at Shepherd Field. Gates assumed duties as the chief of staff for the depot and the Western Recruiting Region.

Modified swim qualifications prepare Marines for aquatic combat

April 15 – Swim qualification requirements were modified to better prepare Marines for aquatic combat situations.

According to Marine Administrative Message 212/11, the Marine Corps Water Survival Training Program will implement changes outlined in MARADMIN 653/10 published in November 2010.

The Marine Corps Water Survival Training Program, or MCWSTP, now consists of three levels. Marines will now qualify as either basic, intermediate, or advanced swimmers.

The full camouflage uniform, including boots, is now required for every level of swim qualification.

The MCWSTP employs water survival skills of increasing levels of ability. It is designed to reduce fear, raise self-confidence, and develop Marines with the ability to survive in water.

Marines who need to fulfill annual training requirements, MCRD swim instructors hold water survival qualifications every Friday at 7 a.m.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Recruits from Company E step into the water as part of the Marine Corps Water Survival Training Program. Company E is the second company to qualify under the new requirements. Now there are only three different levels of qualification; basic, intermediate and advanced. The changes implemented effective, April 15, focus on making swim qualification more realistic. Marines are now required to wear the full camouflage uniform, including boots.

MCRDSD hosts National High School Youth Physical Fitness Championships

May 18 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego hosted the National High School Youth Physical Fitness Championships, May 18 through 21.

Approximately 150 male and female high school students, grouped in teams of six, from across the United States competed in five timed events including: sit-ups, pull-ups, push-ups, shuttle run and standing long jump.

The event was run by the Marines Youth Foundation with the depot

supporting the event with personnel, recreational gear, and location for the event.

The championships have been held at the depot during Armed Forces weekend for the past several years.

At the end of the championship, winning teams were presented with plaques. The overall male and female school winners were both from Emmaus High School, Emmaus, Pa. Marines were de-lighted to showcase the depot and what being a Marine is all about.

Depot conducts base wide emergency response exercise

May 25 – Marines, sailors and emergency personnel conducted a base-wide training exercise directed by Headquarters Marine Corps to evaluate emergency management operations to improve coordination, command and control, and recovery from any number of potential threats.

The scenario was formulated based on increased numbers of armed threats nationwide.

The 'Fury' began a vehicle breached the gate and tore through a simulated commanding general's

event just inside the gate, resulting in multiple injuries. A Marine was also taken hostage in Building 31.

Military and civilian authorities including the Provost Marshal's Office, San Diego Metropolitan Fire Department and Federal Bureau of Investigation all participated in the training. Results of the training emphasized the importance of communication.

Ultimately, the exercise will improve overall effectiveness if the base is ever faced with similar situations.

BRIEFS

Christmas service

A Christmas service will take place at the Depot Chapel Friday, from 10 until 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

Religious services

- Hanukkah 4th Lighting (Jewish) in building 28 in the regimental chaplain classroom, Friday, 6 p.m.

Duncan Hall holiday closure

Duncan Hall will be closed

for the holiday. The last meal will be served today, 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Normal hours resume

Jan. 4.

Marines may eat at the recruit mess hall, building 569, during the closure.

Family readiness division

Come Join the Family Readiness Division for some great kid's events!

- Safety stand down for kids.

Today. Ages 5-14. Drop off.

- New Year, New Me character workshop tomorrow. Ages 5-12. Drop off.

For information call Tracy Genica (619) 524-8030.

Holiday gate hours

In light of anticipated reduced activity during the upcoming holidays, the below gate hours will be in effect. (Gate 2 will be opened on Christmas Day and New Year's Day for the convenience of

officer housing residents.)

Christmas

- Gate 2 – Closes 6 p.m., Dec. 23; reopens 7 a.m., Dec. 25; closes 5 p.m., Dec. 25; reopens 6 a.m., Dec. 28.

- Gate 5 – Closes 6 p.m., Dec. 23; reopens 6 a.m., Dec. 28 (subject to opening on request for large vehicles)

- Gate 4 will remain open.

New Year

- Gate 2 – Closes 6 p.m., Dec. 30; reopens 7 p.m., Jan. 1; closes 5 p.m., Jan. 1; reopens 6 a.m.,

Jan. 4.

- Gate 5 – Closes 6 p.m., Dec. 30; reopens 6 a.m., Jan. 4 (Subject to opening on request for large vehicles).

- Gate 4 will remain open.

Send briefs to:

rdsd_pao@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.

June 4 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego celebrated the coming summer with carnival-like entertainment and a concert by Marine Band San Diego.

Summer Fest is a free event aboard the depot open to all service members and families. It was also the kick-off for the summer concert series. Although normally two separate events, it was decided to combine both family day and the Summer Concert into one exciting extravaganza.

Activities included carnival rides, games with prizes, laser tag, a clown, a bounce house and much more.

June 6 – The National Training Team held the National Recruiter Instructor and Recruiting Officer Conference June 6-10 aboard the depot.

The conference consisted of Train the Trainer sustainment modules. These modules were used to complete the skill sets needed to train, mold and mentor the recruiting force.

July 20 – Col. Wayne A. Sinclair assumes command of Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, from Col. Stephanie C. Smith in a change of command ceremony at Shepard Field Parade Deck.

Sinclair was previously the Chief of Plans, U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany. Smith expressed his gratitude towards her former battalion. “You’ve done extremely well and should be proud of what you’ve done,” said Smith, who’s next assignment will be with at the Navy Yard in Washington D.C.

July 15 – Brig. Gen. Joseph L. Osterman, commanding general, Marine Corps Recruiting Command, spoke to Recruiter School students during his visit to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Osterman, who took command of MCRC July 5, was able to see how MCRDSD performs the recruit receiving process.

Osterman also toured Recruiter’s School and spoke with some of the classes saying, “There is nothing more important than what you do out there,” Osterman said to the recruiter school students.

July 30 – The Marine Corps Community Service Auto Skills Center, hosted its 8th annual car and motorcycle show.

The Christmas in July Car and Motorcycle Show featured approximately 140 vehicles of all makes and models.

The show offered the opportunity for car owners to be acknowledged for the hard work they put into maintaining their vehicles. Guests voted on their favorite vehicles in 10 different categories including muscle, import and classic. Awards were given out for the top three vehicles in each category as well as People’s Choice and General’s Choice awards.



Lance Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo, center, assumes command of Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region, from Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Bailey, left, in a June 30 change of command ceremony.

MCRD, WRR gets new commander

June 30 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region bid farewell to its commanding general, Maj. Gen. Ronald L. Bailey, who relinquished command to Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo during a change of command ceremony on the commanding general’s lawn.

Bailey assumed command of the 1st Marine Division during a ceremony that same day and relinquished command of Marine Corps Recruiting Command, July 5. He expressed his gratitude

to the Marines in his charge, their families and the San Diego community.

Yoo was commissioned in 1985 as an infantry officer. He was previously assigned as the Commandant of the Marine Corps’ Military Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City.

After thanking Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos and the senior leadership who entrusted him with this command, Yoo expressed his sentiment towards those now under his charge.



Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier

Marines assist educators on the firing line at a live-fire exercise during an educators workshop. There are 12 workshops a year, offering educators from the Western Recruiting Region the opportunity to experience phases of Marine Corps recruit training.

California educators, counselors engage in live rifle fire exercise

July 21 – Forty-one high school administrators, teachers and counselors from Sacramento and San Francisco participated in live-fire weapons training with the M-16A2 service rifle at Weapons Field Training Battalion aboard Camp Pendleton during an educator’s workshop.

This workshop is one of 12 held throughout the year aimed toward providing first-hand knowledge of the recruiting process and recruit training to educators from Western Recruiting Region.

Each workshop affords educators the opportunity to visit WFTBn to witness and experience recruit field and weapons training.

Not all educator workshop group has the opportunity to undergo the live fire training. Those who do have the chance to further experience the recruit training experience.

“We do this to give them a real experience of what recruits do,” said Staff Sgt. Brody Goldthwaite, night chief, Receiving Company, Support Battalion. “For a lot of them it’s their first time holding a weapon. They get to feel the same fear the recruits go through when they get live rounds.”

The educators were supervised by primary marksmanship instructors while they fired. The PMIs taught them how to properly fire a weapon and safety procedures that go along with it.

CHEVRON
ESTABLISHED 1942

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Aug. 23 – Colleen Gaydos, a professional staff member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Lt. Cmdr. John Collins a navy congressional liaison officer with the Appropriations Matters Office, visited Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Aug. 23. They were on the depot to gain an understanding of the requirements and challenges in processing, training and transforming recruits into Marines.

After being briefed about the depot's facilities they toured the base, observed recruit training and inspected recruit squad bays. "It's good to see where our dollars are going," said Gaydos. "We're checking out the training first hand. Seeing it makes it more real."

The United States General Services Administration, as well as five Base Closure and Realignment Commissions, determined Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego to be a modern, efficient and vital national asset.

Aug. 25 – The Retail Clothing Branch and the Defense Logistics Agency implemented new technology, Aug. 25, that will change the way recruits are issued uniforms upon entering training.

Radio Frequency Identification is new equipment to the depot that will shift incoming recruits from handwritten inventory to an electronic issue.

The RFID system uses smart labels that talk to a parent network, instantaneously updating inventory as products enter or leave the warehouse. Scanners read these labels to ensure the product that's given is recorded properly.

Time management is one of the Marine Corps' most-stressed attributes. Nothing seems more important than accuracy and achieving it as quickly as possible.

The Defense Logistics Agency recognized the value of time and implemented RFID technology to accomplish quick and precise clothing issue to recruits.

Sept. 18 - Marine Band San Diego's Party Band performed during Fleet Weeks Big Bay Family Festival at Broadway Pier, San Diego. The nine piece Party Band played a 40-minute show for those in attendance. The two-day festival was open to the public and helped to kick off Fleet Week. This year's Fleet Week San Diego celebrates 100 years of Naval Aviation. Attendees were welcomed to tour ships and static displays provided by the Marine Corps, Navy and Coast Guard.

Sept. 20 – WASHINGTON – Today, after years of debate and months of preparation, the Defense Department starts on a new footing with the repeal of the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law that since 1993 has banned gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military.

In addition, former service members separated from the military under Don't Ask, Don't Tell based solely on their sexual orientation will be eligible to reapply to return to military service. Patton said their applications will be evaluated using the same standards as all other candidates, and decisions will be based on needs of the service.

Army Maj. Gen. Gary S. Patton, chief of staff for the Pentagon's repeal implementation team, said as these long-anticipated changes take place, he expects the repeal implementation to stay on track because of the pre-repeal training across the force. In addition, many other existing policies considered "sexual-orientation neutral" remain in place.

Sept. 24 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego hosted the 10th annual Boot Camp Challenge Sept. 24, giving civilians a chance to experience a day in the life of a recruit.

The Boot Camp Challenge is a three-mile race around the perimeter of MCRD featuring more than 40 obstacles used in recruit training.

Oct. 13 – Captain Penny Heisler, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Branch Medical Clinic officer-in-charge was a prime actor in the U.S. Navy's 236th Birthday celebration at the depot's Duncan Hall Galley. As the oldest sailor aboard, her duty was to cut the cake, take a bite of the first slice and pronounce it edible. She then provided a slice to the depot's youngest sailor, Seaman Gage Farry, MCRD Branch Medical Clinic hospital corpsman, who also tastes it and declares it edible. Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, 19th chief of naval operations, authorized October 13 to be the U.S. Navy's authorized day of recognition in 1972.

Oct. 19 - Recruit Training Regiment came out on top during a fierce struggle in the fourth annual Powder Puff Football Tournament at Beeson Field aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Oct. 19.

The game was played with flag football rules, and the teams were comprised of female players.

Although Headquarters and Service Battalion dominated the tournament for the past two years, they fell short against RTR and Weapons Field Training Battalion this year.

RTR finished the tournament undefeated and looks forward to defending their championship title next year.

Nov. 16 – Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego/Western Recruiting Region commanding general presented the 2011 Recruiter of the Year Award to Sgt. Carlos F. Hernandez from Recruiting Station San Diego, in a ceremony held during the 2011 Navy League Marine Corps Birthday Luncheon. Other awards presented included 2011 Drill Instructor of the Year, Staff Sergeant Jimmy F. Richard Jr., 2011 Aviation Marine of the Year, Staff Sgt. Bart C. Smith, 2011 Reservist of the Year, Cpl. Marvin E. Umama and 2011 Hospital Corpsman of the Year, Petty Officer 1st Class Brandon Jackson. Businesses in the San Diego area showed their appreciation and sponsored the event, inviting more than 50 Marines and Sailors from Southern California units to attend the event.

Kilo Co. builds Habitat for Humanity homes



Sgt. Cristina N. Porras

Sgt. Matthew A. Lee, drill instructor, Company K, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, nails sheathing onto a home constructed by volunteers through San Diego Habitat for Humanity.

Aug 30 – Before going back to the hectic reality of recruit training, Marines from Company K, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion volunteered to help build homes through San Diego Habitat for Humanity Aug. 30.

For about seven hours, 14 Marines constructed fences, nailed siding, put up home framing and sheathing, along with other tasks that would help get the homes ready for new occupants to move in.

SDHFH provides affordable housing for low-income families. This is made possible by the generosity of donors and volunteers who help build the homes from the ground up.

"No matter where the volunteers come from, they all have one thing in common – they're a group of people who want to make a difference," said Joe Carton, senior superintendent, San Diego Habitat for Humanity.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Aug 16 – MCRD San Diego was awarded approximately \$2.5 million by Headquarters Marine Corps as part of the 2012 Energy Investment Program. The depot was given this money for additional energy saving upgrades such installing roof top solar hot water heating systems.

MCRC recruits most diverse group of officers in a decade

Sept. 26 – The Marine Corps Recruiting Command continues to answer the call from Gen. James Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps, to build a Marine Corps that reflects "the face of the nation." Over the course of the past fiscal year, MCRC has recruited its most diverse group of officers in a

decade.

"In order to stay relevant with society, the Marine Corps has to look like society," said Lt. Col. Chester McMillon, head of officer programs, MCRC. "It is especially important among officers."

The command began the fiscal year with a mission to access

1,650 second lieutenants. In the end, 1,663 of the nations best and brightest reported on active duty, ready to endure six months of intense training at The Basic School here. Of those 1,663 new officers accessed, 85 were African-American, 122 Hispanic and 99 of other ethnic background.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Drury

The West Coast Drill Instructor Association held their annual memorial service Sept. 9 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego for drill instructors who have passed over the last year. The ceremony was open to members of the association and their families, giving former and current drill instructors a chance to get together and learn from one another.

Ceremony honors fallen drill instructors

Sept. 9 – The West Coast Drill Instructor Association held their annual memorial service Sept. 9 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego for drill instructors who have passed over the last year.

A rifle volley was fired in honor of the 10 deceased drill instructors who served on the drill field of San Diego and Parris Island.

The ceremony was open to members of the West Coast Drill Instructor Association and their families, giving

former and current drill instructors a chance to get together and learn from one another.

"The unity between young and old is what's most important," said Ret. Sgt. Maj. Bobby Woods, president of the West Coast Drill Instructor Association.

In 1999 the association was established to commemorate drill instructors who had passed on, much like the East Coast Drill Instructor Association Parris Island Chapter.

Post 9/11 GI Bill: Broadening educational horizons

Oct. 1 - The Post 9/11 GI Bill will now cover vocational and technical training, on-the-job and apprenticeship training and flight programs, in addition to graduate and undergraduate degree programs, correspondence training, licensing and national testing programs, and tutorial assistance

previously. Furthermore, students enrolled solely in distance education will receive new benefits.

Since the Marine Corps tuition assistance is capped at \$4500 per fiscal year for each individual Marine, consideration on how to use the GI Bill and degree planning should be of primary concern for

those seeking a college degree.

To be eligible for the Post 9/11 GI Bill, individuals must have spent at least 90 cumulative days of service on or after Sept. 11, 2001, and received an honorable discharge. The exception would be those who were discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days.



Sgt. Cristina N. Porras

Oct. 18 – General James F. Amos, Commandant of the Marine Corps, speaks to recruiting station commanders during the National Commanders' Conference at the Omni Hotel in San Diego Oct. 18. Amos spoke to the audience about the importance of diversity in the Marine Corps and addressed commanders' concerns. He also thanked them for their hard work and dedication in ensuring only the best and brightest men and women are selected to become United States Marines. The annual NCC is held to honor recruiting stations that have contributed greatly to the Marine Corps recruiting mission during the previous fiscal year and prepare for the next year.

Company G recruits receive emblem on Corps' birthday

Nov. 10 – Golf Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment marked the Marine Corps' 236th birthday with a milestone of their own. 538 recruits completed the Crucible, the final test of their



Cpl. Cristina Noella Porras

12-week journey, and were called "Marines" for the first time during an emblem ceremony at Weapons Field Training Battalion, Nov. 10. Drill instructors placed the

eagle, globe and anchor in each recruit's hands, symbolizing their transformation from recruits to U.S. Marines. For the first time in 12 weeks, drill instructors weren't screaming at the men. Instead, drill instructors offered the new Marines advice to use during their time in the Corps and reminded them never to forget what they had just accomplished.

Dozens of spectators watched as 1st Sgt. Robert Ixtlahuac congratulated the new Marines for their accomplishments and urged them to uphold 236 of Marine Corps history.

"Golf Company, you've all proven that you deserve to be among America's warrior elite," said Ixtlahuac. "You've all earned the title 'Marine.'"

"It's a feeling of overwhelming joy to be able to become a Marine today," said Pvt. Jace A. Pido, a new Company G Marine. "This means I'm becoming part of a new generation. It's just a great feeling."

Members of the Montford

Point Marine Association watched as the transformation took place. These Marines were the first African-American men to serve in the Corps when President Franklin D. Roosevelt ended discrimination in the armed forces. Still, they were segregated from other Marines and trained at a facility at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina known as Montford Point.

"Marines today talk about the Marines of the past; of the great things they've done. But standing here today, I can tell you the Marines of today have fit the groove perfectly," said Robert D. Reid, one of the seven original Montford Point Marines.

After a few tears of joy and a flurry of emotions, Company G sang the Marines Hymn for the first time as U.S. Marines then joined the Montford Point Marines in birthday celebrations including a cake cutting ceremony and the reading of Gen. John A. Lejeune's birthday message.

Depot spends week celebrating Marine Corps 236th birthday

Nov. 10 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego celebrated the 236th Marine Corps Birthday with a week-long series of events.

Celebrations included a cake cutting ceremony, uniform pageant, dedication run and birthday ball.

In 1952, Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd Jr., the 20th commandant of the Marine Corps formalized a directive written

by Lt. Gen. John A. Lejuene, the 13th commandant, as a reminder of the Corps' birth to all Marines. Shepherd is responsible for formalizing the cake cutting ceremony Marines know today.

As a precursor to the birthday, Marines aboard the depot ran one mile for every year the Marine Corps has existed. Every ten minutes, a Marine ran a lap around the depot's parade deck carrying the depot guidon.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Marines from Support Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment, run in formation during the last three miles of the dedication run Nov. 10. The dedication run was a 236-mile run where Marines, as individuals or small groups, run one mile for every year the Marine Corps has existed. Nearly every Marine and sailor aboard the depot formed up into their respective units to run the last three of the 236 miles, which was led by Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region's commanding general, Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo.

Dec. 1 - Two of Marine Band San Diego's members earned the title Musicians of the Year. Sgt. Ryan Jones and Staff Sgt. Jonathan Bley will be recognized at a ceremony during the annual Marine Corps Music Leadership Symposium in Chicago, Ill., Dec. 13.

Dec. 8 - Cpl. Marisela Martinez was one of 200 active duty members who received a free Christmas tree Dec. 8. The trees, donated by Trees for Troops, were delivered to the depot by Fed Ex, free of charge, as part of a program that provides thousands of Christmas trees to military members across the nation.

Dec. 16 - In 2012 the Commanding General's Cup will have a few changes. The CG's Cup scoring system has been reworked so that when shops enter a season to play, they earn points for their team rather than their commands.

CMC names Drill Instructor of the Year



Sgt. Whitney N. Frasier

Staff Sgt. Jimmy Richard, drill master, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, is promoted to gunnery sergeant by Brig. Gen. Daniel Yoo, commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region, at the yellow footprints Dec. 6. Richard was promoted meritoriously after winning the Commandant of the Marine Corps Drill Instructor of the Year award. Drill instructors from MCRD SD have won the award three consecutive years.

Dec. 6 - Identifying the most qualified Marines in the Corps does not have to be difficult. Most of them can be found right at the recruit depots, a place where drill instructors might as well call home. But when it comes to choosing the best of the best, things become competitive really fast.

The winner for the Commandant of the Marine Corps Drill Instructor of the Year 2011 is Gunnery Sgt. Jimmy Richard, drill master, 2nd Bn.

"Every year, each depot recognizes their top drill instructor," said Sgt. Maj. Peter Siaw, sergeant major, 2nd Battalion. "That in itself is a huge achievement for whoever wins because someone is saying a single person is the best of all the drill instructors on that particular depot." Identifying the most qualified Marines in the Corps does not have to be difficult. Most of them can be

found right at the recruit depots, a place where drill instructors might as well call home. But when it comes to choosing the best of the best, things become competitive really fast.

The winner for the Commandant of the Marine Corps Drill Instructor of the Year 2011 is Gunnery Sgt. Jimmy Richard, drill master, 2nd Bn.

Accepting the title for Richard was the easy part, but getting selected took some work.

"Every year, each depot recognizes their top drill instructor," said Sgt. Maj. Peter Siaw, sergeant major, 2nd Battalion. "That in itself is a huge achievement for whoever wins because someone is saying a single person is the best of all the drill instructors on that particular depot."

To be elected, the Marine most compete on a selection process known as a board.

Three-story tree lit after band serenades attendees

Dec. 10 - Families gathered aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego during the chilly evening Dec. 10. Under lights of green, red and gold, they chatted merrily with one another as they settled down to watch the evening's events unfold.

Marine Band San Diego entertained attendees with a variety of festive holiday music and the lighting of the depot's three-story Christmas tree. However, this wasn't just a random get-together, it was the annual Marine Corps Recruit

Depot San Diego Holiday Concert and Tree Lighting Ceremony.

As guests gathered around for the concert they were able to stop and help themselves to hot chocolate and choose from a variety of cookies provided by MCRD's Family Team Building.

Families gathered aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego during the chilly evening Dec. 10. Under lights of green, red and gold, they chatted merrily with one another as they settled down to watch the evening's events unfold.



Lance Cpl. Katalynn Rodgers

Marine Band San Diego serenades the crowd with festive holiday music during the annual Holiday Concert and Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 10.

Major General Melvin G. Spiese

Parade Reviewing Officer

Maj. Gen. Melvin G. Spiese was commissioned via the Navy ROTC program after receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in May 1976.

After The Basic School, Spiese was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines as a rifle platoon commander, executive officer and commanding officer with Company L, and served on the battalion staff. Spiese was then assigned to Marine Barracks Naval Weapons Station, Concord, Calif.

In May 1981 he was assigned to 3rd Bn., 9th Marines as the commanding officer of Company I and officer-in-charge of logistics. In May of 1983 he was transferred to the Navy ROTC Unit at the Illinois Institute of Technology as the Marine officer instructor.

After leaving Illinois in June 1986, Spiese reported to Headquarters Marine Corps and served as the head of regular officer procurement. Following his tour

at HQMC, Spiese attended Marine Corps Command and Staff College and graduated in May 1990. After graduation, Spiese was transferred to Marine Corps Air Station in Iwakuni, Japan and assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 12 as the assistant operations officer and ground combat liaison.

Spiese was assigned to 6th Marines in July 1991 as the executive officer of 3rd Battalion, then to regimental operations. He assumed command of 2nd Force Reconnaissance Company in December 1993.

Upon relinquishing command in July 1995, Spiese was reassigned to U.S. Special Operations Command, serving as a policy officer dealing with counter proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and Marine Corps matters. Upon his departure from USSOCOM, Spiese attended top level school at the U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies as a member of the Advanced Operational Arts Studies program. He remained a second year serving as a seminar leader for the Advanced Military Studies Program, a second-year program for majors attending the Army Command and General Staff College.

Spiese was assigned to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in June 1999 as the director, Tactical Training Exercise Control Group. He assumed command of the School of Infantry (East) in June 2001, and was assigned as the director, Expeditionary Warfare School upon relinquishing command in July 2003.

In March of 2005, Spiese assumed the duties of Commanding General, Training Command, Deputy Commanding General Training and Education Command.

Spiese transferred to U.S.

European Command and served as the deputy director for strategy, policy and assessments in October 2005.

He assumed command of Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center in Twentynine Palms, Calif., in July 2007. He commanded Training and Education Command in Quantico, Va., from May 2008 to August 2010.

Spiese was assigned his current billet as Deputy Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force and Commanding General,

I Marine Expeditionary Brigade in September 2010.

Spiese has been awarded three Legions of Merit, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and the Joint Service Achievement Medal. He is a military freefall parachutist and Marine combatant diver.

Spiese has earned a Master of Science degree from the University of Southern California and a Master of Military Arts and Science degree from the U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies.

"Congratulations Marines, on a job well done. You have boldly stepped forward and chosen to serve your country as United States Marines. Over the last three months, you have learned and achieved, you have demonstrated the knowledge, abilities and character to earn the title Marine. With that, you have gained entry into the finest military organization in the world. You join generations of courageous Americans who have been responsible for keeping our country secure and preserving those freedoms and liberties enjoyed by all Americans. As a United States Marine, it will be you who ensures our future is secure, and it is you whom our fellow countrymen will turn to in time of need. You can be proud of your achievement, and proud of that precious title you hold-Marine. Congratulations again on a job well done, and welcome aboard Marines."

MajGen M.G. Spiese, USMC





Platoon 3247 COMPANY HONOR MAN Pfc. A. J. Palmer Alberta, Canada Recruited by Staff Sgt. B. T. Miller
Platoon 3242 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. C. J. Kelly Overland Park, Kan. Recruited by Staff Sgt. W. Fowler
Platoon 3241 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. Q. J. Hedger Queen Creek, Ariz. Recruited by Sgt. Z. Jenner
Platoon 3243 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. R. G. Otero Grandview, Mo. Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. J. Vidul
Platoon 3245 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. Aispuro-Simon Vancouver, Wash. Recruited by Sgt. A. Wright
Platoon 3246 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. E. Ross Jr. Los Angeles Recruited by Sgt. D. Velasquez
Platoon 3242 HIGH SHOOTER (336) Pfc. J. M. Graham Puyallup, Wash. Marksmanship Instructor Recruited by Sgt. D. L. Luke
Platoon 3246 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. V. M. Ruiz Sacramento, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. S. Fonseca



LIMA COMPANY

3rd RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer
Sergeant Major
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. M. A. Reiley
Sgt. Maj. E. G. Gonzalez
Staff Sgt. J. A. Cargile



COMPANY L Commanding Officer Capt. K. M. Stahl Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. L. E. Silva	SERIES 3241 Series Commander Capt. G. K. Reed Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. T. J. Yeaman	PLATOON 3241 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. L. O. Arce Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. A. F. Formosa Sgt. M. W. Davidson Sgt. E. Y. Castillo	PLATOON 3242 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. J. C. Huerta Drill Instructors Sgt. A. Cordero Sgt. F. Velasquez	PLATOON 3243 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. F. D. Williams Drill Instructors Sgt. R. Rozane Sgt. S. A. Legaard
	SERIES 3245 Series Commander Capt. M. B. Deal Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. M. Battiest	PLATOON 3245 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. L. Lazaro Drill Instructors Sgt. R. Palacios Sgt. L. A. Arteaga	PLATOON 3246 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. T. A. Clark Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. G. F. Guerrero Staff Sgt. D. R. Begaye	PLATOON 3247 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. Foster Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. J. N. Aguilera Sgt. A. Uruo Sgt. J. A. Bernard

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

PLATOON 3241 Pfc. M. A. Aguilar Pvt. J. A. Aguilera Pfc. G. D. Atwater Pfc. R. B. Avila Pvt. C. L. Barous Jr. Pvt. C. R. Barrett Pvt. C. L. Belcher II Pvt. D. R. Bentow Pvt. A. M. Bevak Pvt. D. L. Bluhm Jr. *Pfc. A. I. Bouquet Pvt. A. J. Boviall Pvt. F. Cabrera Pvt. C. J. Campanello Pfc. D. R. Carpenter *Pfc. D. T. Carpenter Pfc. R. R. Carrasco Pfc. J. D. Chavez Pvt. M. R. Chhoun Pvt. C. D. Cole Pfc. D. W. Compton Pvt. R. G. Coochyouma Pfc. V. Corral Pvt. R. T. Davis Pvt. R. Denton Pfc. K. M. Dominguez *Pfc. J. T. Drum Pvt. A. C. Duncan Pvt. Z. T. Edwards Pvt. A. Elias Pfc. M. T. Fairbanks Pfc. C. P. Falter Pvt. R. Felton Pfc. C. J. Feroli Pvt. F. A. Figueroa-Aguilar Pvt. H. M. Fimbres *Pfc. J. Flores Pvt. M. A. Flores Pvt. P. A. Flores-Estrada Pvt. V. Fotu Pvt. R. Fregoso Pvt. M. J. Fuentes Pfc. J. J. Galindo Jr. Pvt. C. J. Gammons Pvt. S. Garcia *Pfc. S. M. Gates Pfc. K. R. Geddes Pvt. R. Gonzalez Pvt. C. A. Goss Pvt. A. J. Grosso Pvt. M. G. Guzman Pfc. J. W. Hammond Pfc. Z. V. Hankins Pvt. C. L. Harris Pfc. Q. J. Hedger Pvt. O. S. Hernandez Pfc. K. A. Hunziker Pvt. L. C. Huynh Pfc. S. D. Jackman Pvt. J. T. James Pfc. T. P. Johnson	Pfc. G. J. Kelley Pvt. N. Q. Kim Pvt. T. H. Lecander Pvt. L. F. Leon Pvt. B. M. Lund Pvt. K. C. Manibusan Pvt. A. Martinez Pfc. J. R. Martinez Pfc. A. C. Ragsdal PLATOON 3242 Pvt. A. H. Allen Pvt. C. S. Andrews Pfc. D. J. Baer Pfc. J. A. Baltrus Pvt. N. A. Barron Jr. Pvt. C. L. Barton Pvt. E. M. Beckham Pfc. A. Bergaoui Pvt. K. E. Blackman Pfc. P. J. Bohanan Pvt. C. R. Bowman *Pfc. A. R. Bradford *Pfc. K. H. Brockmann Pvt. R. J. Brooks Pvt. J. D. Butler Pvt. J. L. Campbell Pfc. D. M. Carmack Pfc. D. L. Carmer Pfc. M. R. Chavez Pvt. J. J. Clubb Pvt. A. R. Cortez Pfc. J. D. Daugherty Pvt. B. J. Davis Pvt. S. T. Davis Pvt. J. S. Decatur Pvt. T. G. Denney *Pfc. M. S. Douglas Pvt. C. A. Durbin Pvt. D. Z. Dyer Pvt. T. A. Easty Pvt. A. L. Eggenberger Pvt. A. E. Foxworthy Pvt. R. A. Garcia Pvt. J. L. Gaulin Pvt. L. D. Gehrke Pfc. T. M. George Pfc. J. D. Gilbert Pvt. S. M. Gilbert Pvt. A. R. Gilliland *Pfc. J. M. Graham Pvt. G. L. Green Pvt. R. D. Gregory IV Pfc. B. C. Griffith Pvt. M. D. Gurley Pvt. M. G. Gutierrez Pvt. D. N. Hersey Pvt. J. A. Higareda Pfc. C. G. Hodges Pvt. E. S. Hotz Pvt. C. D. Huggan Pvt. S. T. Hunt Pvt. R. E. Jones Pvt. M. J. Kallus	Pfc. C. J. Kelly Pvt. M. C. Kenna Pvt. P. R. King *Pfc. W. I. Kiskaden Pvt. B. M. Kraft Pvt. D. P. Lane Pfc. A. Lopez Jr. Pfc. M. J. Lopez Pfc. C. Q. Ly Pfc. R. A. Madriles-Gomes Pvt. R. J. Maldonado Pvt. D. R. Patzold Pfc. D. L. Samuels Pfc. G. G. Schaeffer Pvt. J. VanWeerhuizen Pvt. T. J. Underwood PLATOON 3243 Pvt. E. Albor Pfc. A. Anaya *Pfc. T. Andersen Pvt. R. R. Arias Pvt. J. C. Bilderback Pvt. M. L. Bodnarchuk Pvt. T. T. Boyet Pvt. J. K. Burress Pvt. R. Chong Pfc. R. R. Cipkar Pvt. J. F. Collins Pvt. J. A. Cruz Pvt. L. J. Daly Pvt. B. M. Daniels Pvt. J. S. Dannible Pvt. J. Davila Pvt. W. E. Deras Pvt. T. M. Devoe Pvt. D. J. Ditus Pvt. K. C. Duran Pvt. J. J. Elegreet Pfc. R. K. Euler Pvt. H. A. Faltyssek *Pfc. D. J. Farney Pfc. I. E. Galindo Pvt. D. A. Garcia Pvt. M. A. Gomez-Villagomez Pvt. J. J. Hamilton Pfc. J. A. Hawks Pvt. L. Hipolito Pvt. B. A. Hopper Pvt. J. J. Ivie Pvt. C. J. Jewell Pfc. A. C. Jimenez Pvt. C. P. Johnson Pvt. C. W. Johnson Pvt. K. S. Johnson Pvt. R. J. Jordan Pvt. F. T. Kopta Pvt. X. R. Kuhn Pvt. J. P. Lacanienta Pfc. D. Lafana Pvt. A. I. Laracuento	*Pfc. C. M. Lasnier Pvt. A. Leal Pvt. C. A. Lewis Pvt. Q. G. Lockrey Pvt. C. M. Lunday Pvt. J. C. Lynch Pvt. J. C. Lynn Pvt. C. D. Martin Pvt. L. A. Medina Jr. Pvt. D. K. Moist Pvt. M. J. Morquecho Pvt. N. G. Mosley Pfc. T. A. Moss Pvt. T. B. Murphy Pvt. M. G. Meyers Pfc. J. Nhok Pvt. E. R. Niblett Pvt. R. A. O'Bryan Jr. *Pfc. R. G. Otero Pfc. C. J. Poldervart Pvt. A. H. Prado-Herrera *Pfc. K. M. Pulliam Pfc. M. B. Raden Pvt. E. M. Renner Pvt. N. L. Richardson *Pfc. H. P. Rook Pvt. M. A. Thrasher Jr.	Pvt. Z. M. Lunebach Pvt. C. A. Maple Pvt. K. A. Marcheschi Pvt. T. J. Mason Pfc. M. D. Mayfield Pvt. C. L. McGuirl Pvt. M. Mijarez Pvt. D. D. Moore Pvt. L. J. Morales *Pfc. S. K. Mutchler Pfc. S. D. Nevliida Pvt. N. H. Norton Pvt. R. J. Ochoa Pfc. F. J. Ortiz Pfc. B. M. Osborne Pvt. J. M. Pearson Pvt. R. N. Plummer Pvt. A. L. Ramage Pvt. M. A. Ramirez Pvt. R. R. Reta Pfc. S. A. Rodriguez Pvt. S. T. Rondeau Pfc. T. J. Rutter Pfc. A. C. Salazar Pfc. K. S. Schnepp Pvt. D. W. Scott Pfc. J. T. Smith Pvt. J. R. Smith Pvt. E. I. Solano Pvt. B. L. Stuck Pvt. A. C. Sutton Pvt. E. W. Swift Pfc. M. A. Tsang Pfc. L. A. Valdez Pvt. A. J. Wasilewski Pvt. G. Wuszter	Pfc. J. D. Moore *Pfc. O. R. Morales Pvt. M. E. Mosqueda Pvt. D. X. Moua Pvt. A. S. Myers Pvt. J. I. Nahale Pvt. G. E. Nash Pfc. A. J. Nelson Pfc. M. E. Nelson Pvt. J. G. Nichols Pvt. N. J. Nissen Pvt. J. D. Nixon Pvt. T. D. O'Callaghan Pvt. A. D. Pagan Pfc. D. R. Parker Pfc. R. J. Pearce Pvt. B. Perez Pvt. R. A. Poblete Pvt. J. C. Polk Pfc. D. Ramirez-Peneleu Pvt. C. A. Raymond Pfc. D. Rodriguez Pvt. P. A. Rodriguez Pfc. T. E. Ross Jr. *Pfc. V. Ruiz Pfc. J. Ruiz-Alaniz Pfc. G. A. Saldivar Pvt. B. L. Sandlin Pfc. J. D. Sasser Pvt. A. J. Sitthydeth Pvt. L. R. Sloan III Pfc. C. J. Snyder Pvt. A. F. Sotelo Pvt. S. M. Soto Pfc. G. M. Stoudt Pvt. L. E. Torres Pfc. F. A. Trevino Pvt. K. R. Walters Pvt. R. A. Ward *Pfc. J. W. Watson Pfc. M. J. Weible Pvt. B. C. Wells *Pfc. A. J. Wenzel Pvt. J. J. Wing Pvt. M. M. Worsham Pfc. D. J. Wotnoske Pvt. S. M. Wright Pfc. A. E. Yos	Pvt. I. A. Orr Pvt. K. M. Ortega *Pfc. A. J. Palmer Pvt. N. L. Peltier III Pvt. K. C. Peterson Pvt. W. S. Pomeroy Pvt. K. C. Reer Pfc. Y. A. Reinholdson Pvt. D. B. Richardson Pvt. C. F. Roberts Pfc. K. J. Roberts Pvt. J. Robles Jr. Pfc. A. A. Romo Pvt. J. L. Ruiz Pvt. A. B. Sanchez Pvt. C. D. Sanders Pvt. P. P. Saulnier Pvt. C. R. Saviers Pfc. A. J. Schollian Pvt. A. E. Schraad Pvt. C. Schwader *Pfc. L. W. Shaffer Pvt. K. T. Siwik Pvt. B. M. Smith Pvt. C. D. Smith Pvt. L. S. Smith Pfc. C. A. Staats Pvt. W. P. Stausing Pvt. B. C. Suhr Pvt. D. J. Summitt *Pfc. L. C. Sweeney III Pvt. N. K. Tatum Pvt. K. Terry Pvt. J. Thammavongsa Pvt. D. J. Thomas Pvt. A. M. Topolski Pvt. T. T. Tran *Pfc. J. L. Triggs Pvt. M. Trujillo Jr. Pvt. B. A. Turland Pfc. R. V. VanHorn Pvt. E. R. Velez Pvt. B. J. Vicchiollo Pvt. C. C. Virgil Pfc. R. W. Wallace Pvt. B. D. Wees Pvt. R. W. West Pvt. D. H. White Pvt. S. A. Williams Jr. Pfc. J. R. Wilson Pvt. J. D. Winter Pvt. E. L. Witherspoon Jr. Pfc. C. Yang Pvt. K. P. Zysset
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Lance Cpl. Crystal Drueery

Marine Corps Recruit Depot's goalie, Adrian Mejia, blocks a penalty kick during the championship game between MCRD and Fleet Readiness Center, which ended in a tie, resulting in five players from each team taking penalty shots. After another tie, the teams alternated taking penalty shots until Maj. Phillip Peche scored for MCRD, ending a nine year slump.

MCRD Varsity soccer tops 2011 sports

June 7 – Marine Corps Recruit Depot's varsity soccer team put an end to its nine-year championship slump against Fleet Readiness Center June 7.

The FRC soccer team from Naval Air Station North Island played a tough game, but didn't quite reach their goal.

"We came in motivated, it has been the best season we've had," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Edwin Rodriguez, aviation support and coach of FRC. "We thought we had this team, but this is the best I've seen from Marine Corps Recruit Depot," he added.

No doubt about it, FRC started off strong. Minutes into the match the unbeaten team scored

first. However, depot goalie, Seaman Adrian Mejia, denied three consecutive scoring opportunities that undoubtedly kept MCRD in the game.

Just before the halftime whistle sounded, MCRD received a penalty shot after a foul in the penalty box. Petty Officer 3rd class David Barrientos, dental technician, capitalized and tied the score 1-1.

"I wanted to make that shot really bad so we could come back," he said. "I felt a little pressure but kept my composure, afterwards I felt relieved and it gave the team a little energy to feed off of," he added.

At half time Cpl. Kofi Agyeman, the team captain, finance,

Headquarters and Support Battalion, saw the need for a little motivation and gave a pep talk to make sure his team kept their heads in the game.

"We feed off each other's energy, so at half time I tried to pump everyone up a little since we weren't playing as well as normal," said Agyeman.

Gunnery Sgt. Marvin HernandezGarcia, combat cargo, USS San Diego, spoke to the team and reset their strategies for offense and defense.

"We were a little shaky in the beginning but by changing strategies I feel it gave us more chances to score," he said.

As the second half began, neither team was able to dominate

the other. A back-and-forth battle filled the atmosphere with intensity and the teams' desire to be titled champions.

MCRD nearly sealed the victory just prior to the end of regulation. A handball in the penalty area resulted in yet another penalty shot. But with the pressure rising and the game at stake, he missed the goal.

In the final seconds of the game, neither team was able to get past each other's defenses resulting in a tie.

A heart-pounding shootout followed the end of the game. Each team chose five players for penalty shots to determine a winner. Still neither team could prevail.

To close the match, teams

alternated penalty shots until Maj. Phillip Peche rifled the game-winning goal just out of the reach of the FRC keeper.

"I play defense, so I'm just glad the coach let me score that goal," said Peche, operations officer, Recruit Training Regiment.

HernandezGarcia commented to Peche, "You had the composure for it."

The coach explained how Peche and Mejia really made the difference for the team this year. Both brought different assets to the team. Mejia walked away as most valuable player of the season.

"You need a good defense and offense, having that backbone helps out a lot," HernandezGarcia added.

Top CG Cup Team, Individual Finishers for 2011

• Flag Football

1st Place: Maritime Safety and Security Team

2nd Place: Distribution Management Office

3rd Place: 12th Marine Corps District

• Bowling

1st Place: Sgt. Nathan Reep, Headquarters and Service Battalion

2nd Place: Pfc. Kody Thibodeaux, H&S Bn

3rd Place: Staff Sgt. Dustin Spina, Marine Band San Diego

• Ultimate Frisbee

1st Place: Finance

2nd Place: H&S Bn

3rd Place: 12th MCD

• Dodgeball

1st Place: Finance

2nd Place: 2nd Recruit Training Battalion

3rd Place: H&S Bn

• Ping-Pong

1st Place: Sgt Ryan Militante, Staff Judge Advocate

2nd Place: Youchay Penghuy, Marine

Corps Community Services Boathouse

3rd Place: Lt. Robert Peters, 3rd RTBn

• St Patrick's Day Run

1st Place: Recruit Training Regiment

2nd Place: H&S Bn

3rd Place: Medical/Dental

• Tennis Singles

1st Place: Master Sgt. Henry Bankard, H&S Bn

2nd Place: Capt. Timothy Sparks, 12th MCD

3rd Place: Capt. Keith Crim, 3rd RTBn

• Tennis Doubles

1st Place: Capt. Kurt Stahl & Capt. Tyson Scott, RTR

2nd Place: Capt. Keith Crim & Maj. Luis Vazquez, RTR

3rd Place: Capt. Timothy Sparks & Cpl. David Clark, 12th MCD

• 6 on 6 soccer

1st Place: 2nd RTBn

2nd Place: Finance

3rd Place: G-1

• Over the line

1st Place: 3rd RTBn

2nd Place: 12th MCD

3rd Place: H&S Bn

• Volleyball

1st Place: Recruit Administration Branch

2nd Place: Finance

3rd Place: G-1

• Softball

1st Place: 12thMCD

2nd Place: G-3

3rd Place: MSST

• Freedom Run

1st Place: RTR

2nd Place: H&S Bn

3rd Place: Medical & Dental

• Basketball

1st Place: 3rd RTBn

2nd Place: Finance

3rd Place: MSST

• Badminton Singles

1st Place: Gene Calantoc, MCCA

2nd Place: Lance Cpl. Taylor Sams, Finance

3rd Place: Richard Myrick, G-1

• Badminton Doubles

1st Place: Gene Calantoc & Dennis Davis, MCCA

2nd Place: Richard Myrick & Sgt Jose Elias, G-1

3rd Place: Lewis Sheffield & LCpl Ryan Armstrong, CPAC/SJA

• Wallyball

1st Place: G-1 Team A

2nd Place: G-1 Team B

4rd Place: 12th MCD

• Racquetball

1st Place: Maj. Luis Vazquez, Support Battalion

2nd Place: Anthony Flesuras, G-3/ATC

3rd Place: Lance Cpl. Ryan Armstrong, SJA

• 3 on 3 Basketball

1st Place: CPAC

2nd Place: SJA

3rd Place: Recruiters School

• Turkey Trot

1st Place: H&S Bn

2nd Place: RTR

3rd Place: United States Coast Guard

Information provided by Rachel Dickinson, intramural sports coordinator