

OKINAWA MARINE

NOVEMBER 21, 2012

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Mike Battery conducts live-fire training



Marines fire an M777A2 155 mm howitzer during a demonstration for local government officials and media at the North Fuji Maneuver Area, Shizuoka prefecture, Japan, Nov. 13. The demonstration allowed Marines to showcase their proficiency to visitors attending the event as part of Artillery Relocation Training Program 12-3. Mike Battery is currently assigned to 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Katelyn Hunter

Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

NORTH FUJI MANEUVER AREA, Shizuoka prefecture, Japan — Marines and sailors with Mike Battery conducted live-fire training with M777A2 155 mm howitzers and crew-served weapons during Artillery Relocation Training Program 12-3 here Nov. 10-19.

ARTP 12-3 is regularly-scheduled, routine training that promotes regional stability and security by allowing the artillery battalion and batteries on Okinawa to improve their ability to support III Marine Expeditionary Force's see **ARTP** pg 5

CFC-Overseas ends; Marines give thousands

Lance Cpl. Brianna Turner
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — After two months of collecting donations, the 2012 Combined Federal Campaign-Overseas fundraising campaign came to an end Nov. 16 with U.S. Marine Corps Forces Japan donations totaling more than \$575,000 donated and more than 18,000 contacted.

“Overall, I think the campaign was successful,” said Maj. Allen D. Agra, the CFC-O component project officer for MARFORJ. “Even the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, which is often deployed on its ships, made a great effort to ensure everyone had the opportunity to donate.”

The CFC, which was established 51 years ago, is one of the only authorized solicitation of federal employees on behalf of charitable organizations.

The campaign offered more than 2,400 charities to choose from, which gave contributors the see **CFC** pg 5



Marines of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band play side by side with numerous bands from the Japan Self-Defense Force during the 2012 Japan Self-Defense Force Marching Festival at the Nippon Budokan Arena in Tokyo Nov. 17. Hours of practice were put into the festival by the Marines to ensure their performance with the other bands would go smoothly. Photo by Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

III MEF Band impresses at Budokan

Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

TOKYO — The Japan Ground, Air and Maritime Self-Defense Force Bands performed with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band and U.S. Army Pacific Band during the 2012 Japan Self-Defense Force Marching Band Festival at the Nippon Budokan Arena here Nov. 17.

Thousands watched the bands perform

together at the two-day festival following hours of practice earlier in the week. Their harmonious product was a symphonic display of their friendship, unity and mastery of the art of music.

“We appreciated the opportunity to combine with the Japan Self-Defense Force and U.S. Army bands and perform in front of thousands of spectators,” said Chief Warrant

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Thanksgiving fosters good will

Our modern Thanksgiving celebrations can be traced back to 1621, when, following a long and arduous winter, the pilgrims at Plymouth Rock celebrated a plentiful harvest with a feast. During the previous winter, the pilgrims' food ran short and they were afflicted by disease. The Wampanoag tribe noticed the pilgrims' plight and helped by giving them food and seed and teaching them to fish. As a result of the Native Americans' help, the following harvest not only fed the entire colony, but allowed the pilgrims to invite the Wampanoags to share in their meal. Thanksgiving continued to be unofficially celebrated until 1941, when it was declared a federal holiday.

During your Thanksgiving holiday, take time to reflect on the abundant gifts and opportunities the past year has brought. Make the extra effort to get in touch with family and friends who might be miles away and be a part of their celebrations. Most importantly, make sure you reach out to those who are away from their loved ones and invite them into your homes to share in this time of Thanksgiving. A simple gesture can go a long way in making the holidays special and memorable for everyone.

Liberty commences as follows:

For III MEF and MCIPAC military personnel, to include those stationed on Hawaii: 4:30 p.m. Nov. 21 to 7:30 a.m. Nov. 26. For civilian employees: supervisors of U.S. civilian appropriated fund employees may permit liberal leave procedures for their employees if mission and workload permit. The observed holiday for all civilian employees, U.S. and Japanese, is Thursday, Nov. 22. A liberal leave policy will be in effect on Friday, Nov. 23.

Enjoy your well-deserved liberty and time with friends and family. As you celebrate, do so responsibly. Maintain standards of conduct and discipline. Do not drink and drive. Be proactive, be safe, and take care of each other. We are a Marine Corps, Navy and civilian family.

Make the most of the opportunity to share this uniquely American holiday with those outside the military. For those of us forward-deployed to Okinawa and mainland Japan, let us continue to demonstrate that we are great representatives and ambassadors of our nation and share this holiday of thanksgiving with our Japanese friends and neighbors.

*Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Allard Jr.
Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri*



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OKINAWA MARINE

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AROUND THE CORPS



Cpl. Jeffery L. Allen fires a .50-caliber Browning heavy machine gun during a close-air support mission over Helmand province, Afghanistan, Nov. 8. Allen provided close-air support to members of the International Security Assistance Force during an operation in the province. Allen is a crew chief with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 469, Marine Aircraft Group 39, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward). Photo by Sgt. Keonaona C. Paulo



Marines and sailors step off a landing craft utility vehicle onto the shore of Breezy Point, New York City, Nov. 9. The Marines and sailors partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the National Guard to clear debris from walkways and public spaces in order to help local residents return to their normal lives as soon as possible. The Marines and sailors are with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit. Photo by Cpl. Bryan Nygaard



Marines conduct a six-mile hike at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Nov. 15. The Marines conditioned themselves through the rugged terrain to maintain their combat readiness and prepare for future operations. The Marines are with Company C, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik

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Camp Kinser

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Law professionals share expertise during social

Lance Cpl. Ian McMahon

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Members of the Okinawa Bench and Bar Association hosted a social at the Ocean Breeze here Nov. 16.

The OBBA is a private organization open to any individuals who practice law in Okinawa. The group promotes mutual understanding and professional exchanges of ideas, typically through social events.

The social attracted legal professionals from all over Okinawa to take advantage of the opportunity to speak in an open forum about recent events, share experiences, and exchange law practice ideas.

“The main focus of the meeting was to facilitate a stronger relationship between the Japanese’s legal system and the U.S. military’s system,” said 1st Lt. Alec Pourteau, the organizer of the social and foreign criminal jurisdiction officer for the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

Before arriving at the social, Japanese attendees received a tour of the legal services support section



Darren S. Jump speaks to members of Okinawa Bench and Bar Association during a social held at the Ocean Breeze, Camp Foster, Nov. 16. The event focused on creating a social environment to share knowledge on the legal practice. “The shared experience is invaluable,” said Junichi Oshiro, a Japanese attorney and OBBA member. “I wish we could meet more often.” Jump is the counsel for the Pacific Area. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ian M. McMahon

from members of the SJA’s office.

“This allowed the guests to see a little of the inner workings of LSSS,” said Pourteau.

Once the tour was completed, the group moved to the Ocean Breeze to mingle with various legal members from the military branches, discuss different methods for cooperation, and build new networks with each other.

“We have based much of our judicial system after the U.S.,” said

Junichi Oshiro, a Japanese attorney and OBBA member. “It is important that we communicate and learn from each other.”

Information shared at the socials can give insight into how to better handle future cases.

After welcoming the U.S. military and Japanese guests, Darren S. Jump, the guest speaker at the social and the counsel for the Pacific Area, set the tone as his speech touched on recent local issues and the need to

continuously improve ties between U.S. and Japanese legal practices.

“The subject of my remarks is ‘Our Island Home,’ and I see acts of courtesy every day here on my island home,” said Jump. “These acts are essential to living at peace on the island. Realize that there will be times when members of the U.S. armed forces violate the laws of Japan, and that will require legal professionals, including myself, to rededicate ourselves to public service and work together to the best of our abilities under the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security.”

Following the speech, the OBBA awarded Jump with a certificate of gratitude.

“The OBBA is a long-standing organization that has been here longer than I have,” said Jump. “I’m just thankful I was given a chance to speak to its members.”

The OBBA hosts the social annually, but for some, once a year is not often enough as local lawyers or service members always walk away with new knowledge and experiences.

“I wish we could meet more often,” said Oshiro. “The shared experience is invaluable.”

Residents, nursing home staff feast with service members

Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

KIN TOWN, Okinawa, Japan — Service members with 7th Communication Battalion provided a Thanksgiving meal for nearly 200 elderly Japanese residents and staff during a community relations project at Hikarigaoka Nursing Home here Nov. 15.

The Thanksgiving dinner was a continuation of the relationship the battalion and the nursing home has developed over the past two decades.

“This event is one of the most important we have,” said Navy Lt. Stephen F. Brown, the chaplain for 7th Comm. Bn., which is part of III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. “We are able to come together and enjoy a meal with our ‘family members’ at the nursing home.”

The event was significant because it allowed the service members to interact and communicate with the residents and staff of the nursing home, according to Brown.

“The residents’ warm welcome and amazing hospitality make it easy for the service members to mingle with the residents and staff,” said Brown.

For some members of the battalion, the dinner and visit was a new and unique opportunity.

“This is my first time at the nursing home,” said Sgt. Richard M. Campbell, a data systems technician with the battalion. “I hope I can come back to participate in future events.”

Events like this create stronger relationships between service members and their Okinawa neighbors, according to Ayako Ginoza, the facility manager of the nursing home.

“The residents and staff here always look forward to every time the service members visit



Staff Sgt. Noel P. Lopez serves Mitsu Afuso during a Thanksgiving meal at Hikarigaoka Nursing Home in Kin Town Nov. 15. Marines with 7th Communication Battalion provided the meal for nearly 200 elderly Japanese residents and staff at the nursing home. The dinner is a symbol of the close relationship the battalion and the nursing home has developed and shared for the past two decades. Lopez is an electronics maintenance technician for 7th Comm. Bn., III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. Afuso is a resident at the nursing home. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

our home,” said Ginoza. “It really makes their day that much better.”

The opportunity to share the Thanksgiving holiday with others also brightens the holiday for service members stationed overseas, according to Campbell.

“With service members being so far away from home, they sometimes feel homesick, and that emptiness is filled by the warm welcoming from the residents of the nursing home,” said Campbell.

“Even with the language barrier between us, the residents of the home take us in as if we are family.”

As the service members shared a meal in the family atmosphere, good fortune was brought to everyone, according to Ginoza.

“There is an old Japanese saying that when you laugh or smile, it brings good fortune,” said Ginoza. “With all the happiness that was brought to the home today, I have no doubt that we all will have good fortune.”

BRIEFS

TSA MILITARY PRECHECK

The Transportation Security Administration now offers TSA Precheck, which gives expedited screening benefits to active-duty service members who possess a valid common access card at Charlotte Douglas, Orlando, Seattle-Tacoma and Washington Dulles International Airports, as well as Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

Active-duty service members should present their valid CAC to the TSA travel document checker along with their boarding pass at the TSA Precheck lane. Once the checker verifies the service member is in good-standing with the Department of Defense, they will receive expedited screening benefits, to include not removing shoes, laptops from bags, belts, light jackets or a compliant bag filled with liquids.

Eligible service members do not need to be in uniform to take advantage of TSA Precheck benefits and family members ages 12 and under can also process through the expedited screening. TSA hopes to expand the program to additional airports once they are operationally ready. For more information, visit www.tsa.gov and click the TSA Precheck tab.

MARINE CORPS POST OFFICE HOURS OF OPERATION FOR HOLIDAY WEEKEND

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, all Marine Corps post offices will observe the following schedule:

- Nov. 21: Closed
- Nov. 22: Closed
- Nov. 23: Normal business hours. Parcel pickup is available from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Retail services are available from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Nov. 24: Normal business hours. Parcel pickup and retail services are available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

MARINE CORPS TOYS FOR TOTS

The U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots campaign is now accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys at drop-off locations at the Army and Air Force exchanges at Camp Foster and Kadena Air Base.

For more information, call 645-8068 or 645-8073.

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT MARINE CORPS MESS HALLS

A traditional Thanksgiving meal will be served at Marine Corps mess halls from 3-5 p.m. Nov. 22. The cost is \$7.50 for this special meal.

Command and staff volunteers are welcome to serve the meal to guests. To volunteer, show up at 3 p.m. or contact mess hall managers for more details.

TO SUBMIT A BRIEF, send an email to okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil, or fax your request to 645-3803. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon Friday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.



Marines conduct an amphibious landing at Camp Schwab in the authorized landing area Nov. 15 as part of Exercise Keen Sword 2013. "The primary goal of the assault amphibious vehicles during this operation was to provide a lift capability to the infantry and to conduct an amphibious assault," said Master Sgt. Frank Edling, the operations chief with AAV Company, Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. The Marines and AAVs are with CAB and 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division. Photo by Lance Cpl. Adam B. Miller

Showcasing amphibious landing Exercise Keen Sword 2013 concludes

Lance Cpl. Adam B. Miller

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP SCHWAB — Marines and sailors concluded Exercise Keen Sword 2013 with an amphibious landing here Nov. 15.

Keen Sword, which was executed Nov. 5-16, is a regularly-scheduled, joint, bilateral exercise between U.S. and Japanese forces at training locations throughout Japan. Keen Sword allows the U.S. and Japan to practice coordination procedures and improve interoperability required to effectively defend Japan or respond to crises throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

"Overall, I feel that the operations went smooth and showed how units from different countries, with different languages, can work together in a combined effort to accomplish any task," said Master Sgt. Frank Edling, the operations chief with Assault Amphibious Vehicle Company, Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

During the 12th biennial exercise, Marines with CAB and Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, conducted marksmanship training and an amphibious landing, and held a cake-cutting ceremony for the Marine Corps' 237th birthday while aboard the USS Denver. Japan Self-Defense Force members were also aboard the USS Denver to observe the Marines' training.

The amphibious landing tied into the Marine Corps' recent push to get back to its amphibious roots. Keen Sword provided an opportunity for members of the JSDF to observe how Marines conduct amphibious operations.

"The primary goal of the AAVs during this operation was to provide a lift capability to the infantry and to conduct an amphibious assault," said Edling. "Overall, Keen Sword went very well. By conducting the amphibious landing, we showed how the AAV plays a part in larger missions."

Having members of the JSDF on hand was critical for the exercise, as the real purpose of Keen Sword was to facilitate the interaction and improve the interoperability of the U.S. forces and the JSDF.

"Both countries' forces displayed their ability to work as an integrated force in readiness," Edling said. "During the final day of the exercise, our Marines showed they are very capable of landing the surface assault element and their equipment in a single lift from a naval vessel to inland objectives."



Lance Cpl. Jordan A. Finestone posts security on the back of an assault amphibious vehicle during an amphibious landing at Camp Schwab during Exercise Keen Sword 2013 Nov. 15. Keen Sword allows U.S. and Japanese forces to improve interoperability required to effectively defend Japan or respond to crises throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Finestone is a rifleman with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Adam B. Miller

Some operations were designed to familiarize JSDF members and infantry Marines with how AAVs function and maneuver.

"I am glad the AAVs got the chance to do their part. The execution went smoothly due to good preparation and maintenance," said Sgt. Bart C. Pryor, an AAV technician with AAV Company.

Members of the JSDF also got a glimpse of the Marine Corps' illustrious history when the Marines held a cake-cutting ceremony to celebrate the Corps' 237th birthday.

"It is important for them to know our traditions and for us to know their traditions. It brings us closer and unifies us as a fighting force," said Staff Sgt. Djahnn A. McClellan, a food service specialist with Headquarters Company, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division.

The success of Keen Sword relied on U.S. and Japanese forces practicing effective communication and interoperability. It is vital that both countries' service members interact with each other and get to know each other better, according to McClellan.

"It is unbelievable," said McClellan. "Not many Marines can say they spent their Marine Corps birthday on an amphibious ship, in the Pacific, off the coast of Okinawa and with members of the Japan Self-Defense Force. Considering how far we have come, it is just unbelievable."

CLB-4 receives new commander



Gaines



Chalkley

Lt. Col. Travis T. Gaines assumed command of Combat Logistics Battalion 4, Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, from Lt. Col. Adam L. Chalkley during a ceremony at Camp Foster Nov. 16. Chalkley commanded CLB-4 since June 2010 and will become the deputy G-4, logistics, 3rd MLG. Gaines' previous assignment was with Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd MLG, where he served as the executive officer.

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role in the defense of Japan under the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security.

Mike Battery, which usually trains at its home station of Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., is exercising its artillery capabilities in unfamiliar terrain while assigned to 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF.

"I think it's a good opportunity for the Marines to get out of Twentynine Palms and experience a new environment and culture," said 1st Lt. Richard O. Littlefield, the executive officer for Mike Battery. "We're training hard out here and preparing for any contingencies that might happen in our area of operations."

The training during ARTP 12-3 allows Mike Battery to increase its proficiency in the core task of providing fire support to maneuver units, which could be called upon in any climate or terrain.

"This is good training for our Marines. We're really working on our mission essential tasks," said Staff Sgt. Shawn J. Dudley, the battery gunnery sergeant with Mike Battery. "This gives us an opportunity to

hone our skills as an artillery battery, and I think we're accomplishing our goals."

Due to the dense vegetation in the maneuver area, occupying a gun position becomes challenging for the battery. Positioning of howitzers is dictated by terrain.

"In Twentynine Palms, it's a lot more open and it's a desert environment," said Littlefield. "Out here, the positions we put the artillery in are a lot smaller, so organizing the battery in order to be effective in these areas presents a new challenge for us."

Despite the different environment, the Marines and sailors of Mike Battery remain proficient in their duties and each member of the unit still has a specific role they must perform in order for artillery rounds to impact on time and on target in support of friendly units.

Throughout ARTP 12-3, the battery's Marines took advantage of the training opportunities to maintain their readiness.

"I think the past 10 days of training gave the Marines a chance to maintain the basic skills they have been taught," said Littlefield. "The Marines worked together on many different events."

CFC from pg 1

opportunity to find and support a cause that had personal significance, according to Capt. Christopher M. Eyre, the CFC-O community area project officer for Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

The CFC is composed of local campaigns that organize the annual fundraising effort in federal workplaces in the U.S. and abroad, according to Agra.

While the money donated is important and will provide needed help to many charities, the overall objective of the CFC was not monetary, according to Eyre.

"The goal was 100 percent of personnel informed on the opportunity to give," said Eyre. "We were more focused on everyone having a chance to donate than the dollar value we collected."

Service members understand when and where there are people in need and they want to help, according to Franciela P. Itule, the campaign manager for CFC-O Pacific.

"Natural disasters seem to have a great effect on donations," said Itule. "Last year, everyone was interested in helping Operation Tomadachi. This year, we have received many questions about which charities are supporting the disaster relief on the East Coast."

The soliciting season may have ended, but the CFC-O will continue collecting donations until the end of the year.

"It is important that we look out for one another, especially during the holiday season," said Itule. "So many people have lost so much due to the economy and now Hurricane Sandy. We need to stick together."

The CFC is a great way to lend a helping hand, according to Agra.

"Whether you want to help find cures for diseases, feed the hungry, or house those displaced by disaster, the choice is yours," said Agra. "Your support will help make our world a better place for another year. Through the CFC-O, you can help organizations continue to offer assistance to others."



Students of the National Defense Academy of Japan preform a drill routine during the 2012 Japan Self-Defense Force Marching Festival at the Nippon Budokan Arena in Tokyo Nov. 17. The festival attracted crowds of up to 7,000 people and showcased a variety of musicians and entertainers. Photo by Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

BAND from pg 1

Officer Stephen B. Giove, the officer in charge of the III MEF Band.

Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 Marvin Cardo, the commander of the U.S. Army Japan Band, agreed that the festival was a unique chance for his soldiers to step onto a big stage with the other bands.

"This event is truly a special one," said Cardo. "There is a huge amount of teamwork that goes into something like this, and it showcases the great working relationship we have with the Japanese."

In addition to the military bands, there were numerous other performances during the festival, including demonstrations from London 2012 Summer Olympic Games medalists and JGSDF members Capt. Hitomi Obara, 1st Lt. Shinichi Yumoto and 2nd Lt. Tatsuhiro Yonemitsu, who competed in wrestling, and 2nd Lt. Satoshi Shimizu, who competed in boxing.

"I think that this festival is an amazing thing," said Yonemitsu. "I feel that there is a great deal of harmony between the U.S. and Japanese musicians."

This year's festival was the 46th since the inaugural event in 1963. This year, the theme

revolved around peace, progress and harmony.

"In Japanese, the word 'harmony' has many different meanings," said Warrant Officer Shigeru Fukuda, the stage manager with the JGSDF Central Band. "During this festival, it represents strength to show how far we have come since the Tomodachi disaster."

Throughout the two-day festival, Brig. Gen. Craig Q. Timberlake, commanding general of the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, III MEF, and Gen. Eiji Kimizuka, the JGSDF chief of staff, made appearances to show their support for the festival as well as to see the unique performances.

"An event such as this festival can only have a positive influence on the Japanese people," said Fukuda. "They get to not only see the JSDF bands, but also the U.S. Marine (Corps) and Army bands, which gives a positive influence to the relationship between the U.S. and Japan."

The III MEF Band rehearsed throughout the week prior to the festival to make sure they were in sync with the other bands during their performance, according to Giove.

"The Marines performed magnificently," said Giove. "This festival gave us a chance to show who we really are and how much pride we take in our job."



Competitors in the Kadena Special Olympics receive a warm welcome as they arrive at Risner Fitness Center, Kadena Air Base, Nov. 17. During the Kadena Special Olympics, athletes of all ages with disabilities gathered and displayed the courage and strength they use in their lives to overcome obstacles. This is the 13th year the Kadena Special Olympics has been held on Okinawa. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ian M. McMahon

Volunteers share special event with local athletes

Pfc. David N. Hersey
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The crowd watches excitedly as athletes race past them with the finish line barely visible through the pouring rain. A cheer erupts as the athletes victoriously cross the finish line.

This scene was common to those at Risner Fitness Center, Kadena Air Base, during the 13th Annual Kadena Special Olympics Nov. 17.

Hundreds gathered to volunteer for the event and show support for the participating athletes, who showed the same courage and strength they have used throughout their lives, to achieve victory in events during the Kadena Special Olympics.

"This event really gives the athletes something to be proud of," said Chip Steitz, the senior advisor for the Kadena Special Olympics. "We had a great turnout this year and we were able to organize a fun and exciting day for the athletes and their families."

Athletes competed in track and field events, a wheelchair softball throw, tennis skills, a flying disc toss, the standing long jump, floor hockey, basketball, and a wheelchair beanbag toss during the Kadena Special Olympics.

In order for the Kadena Special Olympics to take place, Steitz and other organizers for the event raised \$60,000 through various fundraisers and with the help of several corporate sponsors.

"It amazes me how much people care and are willing to contribute to make this all possible," Steitz said.

Volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the day, helping to set up and break down each event, assisting in the registration process, and working as huggers during the various events.

"The athletes are really positive and strong," said Misa Miyagi, a volunteer at the Kadena Special Olympics and student at Shogakuin

International Business Academy. "I like to help them in any way I can."

Huggers are volunteers assigned to an athlete to assist them while traveling between events. Huggers also offered positive encouragement and support throughout the day.

"As huggers, we were able to make the athletes happy and ensure they had a good time," said Cpl. Gianmarco A. Decastro, a hugger at the Kadena Special Olympics and a refrigeration and air conditioning technician with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. "The most important thing was that the athletes had fun competing in the events."

Each volunteer had a smile on their face while they assisted the athletes, as they knew just how important the event was to the athletes and their families.

"I really feel happy," Miyagi said "We can see their smiles and that is what makes me want to help them."

Steitz started the Kadena Special Olympics 13 years ago when he came to the island of Okinawa.

"I was involved in the program back in the states, so I brought my experiences from there and applied them here," said Steitz.

The Kadena Special Olympics provides an opportunity for people to gather and support the athletes, who overcome obstacles in their daily lives. The event has also become a place where military members and local citizens can work together for a common cause.

"I wanted to encourage a partnership between the American and Japanese communities, and this seemed like a good way to do it," said Steitz. "This year's event went extremely well despite the rough weather. We're already looking forward to next year's event and just want to thank everyone who helped out."



Hiroyuki Urasaki runs the 100-meter dash at the Kadena Special Olympics Nov. 17 at Risner Fitness Center, Kadena Air Base. Urasaki is one of many athletes who attended the Special Olympics. "This event really gives the athletes something to be proud of," said Chip Steitz, the senior advisor for the Kadena Special Olympics.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Ian M. McMahon



Competitors arriving at Risner Fitness Center, Kadena Air Base, Nov. 17. During the Special Olympics, participants compete in flying disc toss, the standing long jump, floor hockey, basketball, and wheelchair beanbag toss. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ian M. McMahon



Masataka Nakamura runs for the finish line during the 100-meter dash Nov. 17 as part of the Kadena Special Olympics at Risner Fitness Center, Kadena Air Base. Though around midday it started to rain, it did not spoil the attitudes of the competitors who continued to compete despite the change in weather. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ian M. McMahon

ir Base, are welcomed by superheroes during the Kadena Special Olympics, eted in events such as track and field, wheelchair softball throw, tennis, asketball, and wheelchair beanbag toss. Competitors came from all over

Service members help Okinawa citizen keep promise

Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As Tomoko Hiro stumbles through the field with sweat rolling down her face, the only thing pushing her forward is a dream and a promise.

"I promised my father I would take care of his business before he passed away two years ago," said Hiro, the owner of the Hiro Coffee Farm. "It's been a struggle because of all the damage done by the typhoons, so all the help provided is great."

Marines, soldiers, sailors and retired service members teamed up at the farm in northern Okinawa Nov. 10 to help keep her promise by cleaning up debris created by recent typhoons.

The ongoing effort to help clean up the farm was started at the beginning of October by a family friend.

"I knew him before he passed away. (My) motorcycle group would ride up north and stop there on the way back for some of

his coffee," said Timothy Dennis, a retired Marine Corps master sergeant. "He was one of the nicest guys I've ever met."

The past two typhoons not only damaged some canopies and coffee trees; it left both the Hiro family and Dennis feeling devastated.

"Hiro Coffee Farm has been a favorite stop for me for the past seven years, and when I saw the extent of the damage from the typhoons, I just had to help," said Dennis.

Dennis organized a barbecue and was able to raise both money and awareness for the farm. Before long, Marines and other service members volunteered to help and were working diligently.

Though the Marines had been volunteering for the past three weeks, this particular day brought a different sense of accomplishment.

"It's the Marine Corps birthday, and what better way to spend it than helping out someone in need," said Sgt. Melvin G. Reno III, an instructor with the Jungle Warfare Training Center, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine

Corps Installations Pacific. "I know it's my obligation as a Marine to help someone in need if I can, and that's why my buddies and I came out here to help clean up the farm for Tomoko."

The service members were able to clear out the majority of the fallen trees and underbrush from the farm's field.

"It's amazing to see how much we were able to accomplish in just the few hours we were out here," said Spc. Joseph A. Medeiros, an information systems specialist with the 78th Signal Battalion at Torii Station. "It's been a great experience coming out here and working with the other service members to give back to the community."

At the end of the day, a barbecue was held to show appreciation to the service members who came out to help clean up the farm.

"Thanks to all the help that was provided, I can try to keep true to my promise to my father," said Hiro. "If it wasn't for all the help they provided, it would have taken me months just to get this much work done."



Sgt. Melvin G. Reno III removes a portion of damaged artificial canopy at the Hiro Coffee Farm Nov. 10. Service members volunteered to clean up debris created by recent typhoons at the farm. Reno is an instructor with the Jungle Warfare Training Center, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson

Forward observers' skills essential during artillery training

Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As high-explosive artillery rounds thunder into their intended targets and Marines on the gun lines rush to reload and fire for effect, a separate group of Marines provide support and feedback required to ensure the success of the fire mission.

Forward observers located at an observer position downrange communicated with the fire direction center to ensure high-explosive rounds fired from Mike Battery's four M777A2 155 mm howitzers landed on the intended targets at the North Fuji Maneuver Area in Shizuoka prefecture, Japan, Nov. 10-19.

The forward observers located targets to shoot in the impact area for Mike Battery as part of Artillery Relocation Training Program 12-3. Mike Battery, part of 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, and currently assigned to 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force,

conducted 10 days of live-fire artillery training during ARTP 12-3.

"The forward observer's job is to provide data and feedback on targets to the gun positions," said Lt. j.g. Darius A. Luna, a naval gunfire liaison officer currently assigned

to 3rd Bn., 12th Marines and the officer in charge of the fire support coordination center during ARTP 12-3. "It is critical to have an accurate target location to ensure that the rounds hit the intended target."

The information forward observers provide to the FDC allows the gun lines to properly employ the battery's artillery capabilities.

"Without forward observers, the gun line wouldn't get the critical feedback and adjustments needed to put rounds on a target," said Luna. "We provide visual clarification to the fire direction center and pass along any corrections needed for accurate fires."

Communication is critical between the forward observers and the FDC during firing missions.

"If we weren't able to communicate constantly with the battery's fire direction center, they could not fire," said Pfc. David E. Gray, a forward observer with 3rd Bn., 12th Marines. "Acting as the eyes on the battlefield, we have to inform (the battery) how to correct howitzer's direction and give them a description of the target."

Similar to other military occupational specialties in the Marine Corps, forward observers improve their skills through experience and training. ARTP 12-3 provides them a great opportunity to gain additional responsibilities.

"As forward observers progress in their career field and become more proficient, they can expand their ability to call for indirect fire," said Sgt. Luis A. Feliciano, the liaison chief with 3rd Bn., 12th Marines during ARTP 12-3. "The observers can become trusted to call for fire without any further approval once they prove they are ready."

ARTP 12-3 reinforced the importance of forward observers during artillery live-fire training, and the Marines benefitted greatly from the training at the base of Mount Fuji.

"Without forward observers having 'eyes' on the target, rounds could not be adjusted if needed and firing would not be effective," said Cpl. Jordan L. Steffey, a forward observer with 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, "We are literally the eyes of the unit."

Cpl. Jordan L. Steffey observes the impact of an artillery round fired from an M777A2 155 mm howitzer into the impact area Nov. 11 at the North Fuji Maneuver Area in Shizuoka prefecture, Japan, during Artillery Relocation Training Program 12-3. Steffey is a forward observer with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.



Gunnery Sgt. Andrew Bauer, left, and Maj. John P. Arnold pilot an MV-22 Containerized Flight Training Device at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma recently. Arnold is the officer in charge of Marine Aviation Training Systems Site Futenma. Bauer is the site's staff noncommissioned officer in charge.

Osprey simulator promotes safety, prepares pilots

Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Mike Granahan

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

All Marine pilots face an endless number of variables every time they take to the air in their respective platforms. However, the Corps provides its personnel with special equipment, preparing pilots for as many of those variables as possible.

On Okinawa, Osprey pilots train with the MV-22 Osprey Containerized Flight Training Device, an Osprey flight simulator located at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. The air station has two simulators, which can be linked together for simultaneous training of two pilots.

The simulator is a safe and cost-effective training device in which pilots sit in an Osprey cockpit and conduct virtual flight missions, allowing them to experience and respond to almost any foreseeable flight situation without putting lives or aircraft at risk.

"In the real world, mistakes can cost lives and damage equipment," said Gunnery Sgt. Andrew Bauer, the staff noncommissioned officer in charge of Marine Aviation Training Systems Site Futenma, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "Practicing emergency procedures and specific

flight patterns in the simulator allows aircrews to pilot the Osprey more efficiently and safely in the real world."

While the simulator offers a unique, valuable opportunity for pilots, it is important to note that virtual flight hours are no replacement for the critical training and experience that real-life flights provide, according to Col. Jeff A. Hagan, the assistant to the chief of staff, G-3, operations and training, 1st MAW.

"The simulator is a fantastic asset for our Osprey pilots, but the actual sensations and feelings experienced in the air during actual training flights are critical," said Hagan. "The role of the simulator is to supplement training flights and provide opportunities for pilots to practice a variety of scenarios."

The device simulates situations the pilots may encounter, from enemy threats to friendly maneuvers to inclement weather conditions,

according to Maj. John P. Arnold, the officer in charge of MATSS Futenma.

"They can conduct air-to-air refueling, link two simulators together and see each other's aircraft, and practice (flight) formations," said Arnold.

Since the majority of flight missions for Ospreys involve a two-aircraft formation, simulators

provide excellent opportunities for realistic training when linked up, according to Arnold.

"The pilots get to conduct the same mission and rehearse communications procedures over the radios in the presence of their instructors," said Arnold. "This allows the pilots to get instant, direct and invaluable feedback while training."

Another advantage of the simulator is its ability to prepare pilots to fly in a wide range of weather conditions, simulating unpredictable weather.

"We can put any weather condition possible in the simulator, so pilots can practice flying at night, in the snow, during heavy winds, rain, dust storms, brown or white out landings, and in any cloud level," said Arnold.

Using a virtual alternative to an actual aircraft promotes safety while saving training dollars.

"With the high cost and wear and tear on actual aircraft (during real-world training), flight simulators allow Marine aviators to safely train and execute any of the various missions that could be given to them in a cost-effective environment," said Wendell Smith, the MATSS Futenma contracting officer representative.

Perhaps most importantly, the simulator gives pilots a chance to think through what actions they would take in a variety of scenarios virtually before encountering them physically.

"This approach to training ensures every conceivable 'what if' scenario is identified and properly dealt with before ever strapping into the cockpit," said Bauer. "It greatly reduces the risk of an actual mishap."

"This approach to training ensures every conceivable 'what if' scenario is identified and properly dealt with before ever strapping into the cockpit. It greatly reduces the risk of an actual mishap."

Gunnery Sgt. Andrew Bauer

Sisterhood within brotherhood

Identical twins endure change while developing sense of self

Pfc. Kasey Peacock

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

When the senior drill instructor shouted for Recruit Carbajal, two voices screamed at the top of their lungs, "Yes, ma'am!"

It was not because they merely shared the same last name or were being belligerent, but because they were identical twins in the same platoon.

"It was nothing like I had ever experienced, and I was extremely out of my comfort zone," said Cpl. Melinda L. Carbajal, a combat engineer with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "As uncomfortable as I felt, I also felt very lucky to have my sister with me because having her there was like having a piece of home with me."

The Carbajal twins grew up near Arlington, Va., and, like most twins, are extremely close. As they got older, they aspired to get out of Virginia and see the world.

"It took me a few weeks to convince my sister to join with me," said Melinda. "As twins, we were so close and had done everything together our entire life.

It just seemed right that we join together and experience everything the Marine Corps has to offer."

Although joining the Marine Corps did not have an immediate impact on the twins ability to remain together, the dreaded thought of being separated soon became reality.

"I remember feeling sad and a little scared," said Lance Cpl. Melissa L. Carbajal, a traffic management specialist with the distribution management office, G-4, supply and logistics, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. "When my sister got orders to Okinawa and I got orders to Beaufort, (South Carolina), I felt like I had to do everything I could to get to Okinawa. We had never been separated before, and it was going to be a difficult challenge for us."

To say the separation was challenging would be a gross understatement. The twins found themselves in unfamiliar territory both literally and figuratively.

"I felt like a part of me was gone when we were separated," said Melissa. "It was hard to adjust at first because I had to get used to being my own person. It helped that we were able to stay in contact, but it was still the hardest thing we've had to do."

Modern technology helped the Marines stay in contact despite being thousands of miles apart. In the end, both sisters appreciated the opportunity to

learn more about themselves.

"While we were apart, we did our best to stay in contact over the phone and internet," said Melinda. "Being apart allowed us to gain a sense of individuality and showed us we can do things on our own. While we missed each other, the separation was beneficial in the end."

Although the separation was difficult, it would end sooner than either anticipated, as Melissa's hope to get stationed on Okinawa would eventually become a reality after spending close to a year in Beaufort. She was given orders to fulfill the rest of her commitment to the Marine Corps on Okinawa, where she would be reunited with her sister after their long separation.

"It was strange at first seeing her after so long – she seemed like a different person," said Melissa. "It didn't take us long to get back in sync with each other. It made me realize that no matter how much time we spend apart, she is more than my sister – she is my best friend."

As Marines and ambassadors in another country, the Carbajal twins are expected to set the standard for professional and respectful behavior. They hope their brothers and sisters-in-arms can learn a little something from their close relationship.

"I have no problem telling her how it is," said Melinda. "Sometimes, Marines are scared or nervous about correcting each

other or telling them when they think something is a bad idea. With Melissa and I, we don't have that problem. Before we do anything, we check each other and make sure we have a solid plan."

While it would be extremely difficult to tell the twins apart walking down the street, in the workplace, it is obvious who is who.

"Even though we are identical, our jobs are complete opposites," said Melissa. "I have my own desk and spend most of my day in an office, while Melinda spends most of her time in the field as a combat engineer."

The twins are the youngest of five siblings and the first to earn the title Marine.

"They have been inseparable since high school when they were cheerleaders and the only two females on the varsity boys wrestling team," said Kathy Martinez, the twins' eldest sister. "Now, they are closer than ever in the Marine Corps."

While the twins are uncertain about the future of their Marine Corps careers, one thing that is for certain is the mark the Marine Corps has already left on their relationship.

"The Marine Corps has brought us even closer together than before," said Melissa.

"Being apart allowed us to gain a sense of individuality and showed us we can do things on our own. While we missed each other, the separation was beneficial in the end."

Cpl. Melinda L. Carbajal



The Carbajal twins hug their stepmother Flavia Diaz after graduation from Marine Corps Recruit Training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., Oct. 8, 2010. Photo courtesy of Lance Cpl. Melissa L. Carbajal



Then Pvt. Melissa, left, and Melinda Carbajal pose for a picture during Marine Combat Training at Camp Geiger, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., Nov. 2010. Photo courtesy of Cpl. Melinda L. Carbajal



Cpl. Melinda Carbajal cuts a piece of wood for a combat engineering project at Camp Foster Nov. 14. Photo by Pfc. Kasey Peacock



Lance Cpl. Melissa Carbajal sorts through emails during work at Camp Foster Nov. 8. Photo by Pfc. Kasey Peacock



The Carbajal twins reunited on Okinawa after being stationed thousands of miles apart following their military occupational specialty schools. Photo courtesy of Cpl. Melinda L. Carbajal

In Theaters Now

NOVEMBER 21 - 29

FOSTER

TODAY The Expendables 2 (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG), 1 p.m.; Skyfall (PG13), 4 and 8 p.m.
FRIDAY Chasing Mavericks (PG), 5 p.m.; Skyfall (PG13), 8 p.m.
SATURDAY Paranorman (PG), 11:30 a.m.; Chasing Mavericks (PG), 2:30 p.m.; Fun Size (PG13), 5:30 p.m.; The Expendables 2 (R), 8:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 1, 4:30 and 8 p.m.
MONDAY Flight (R), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 3 and 7 p.m.
FRIDAY Trouble with the Curve (PG13), 6 p.m.; Flight (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Skyfall (PG13), noon and 4 p.m.; Flight (R), 8 p.m.
SUNDAY Skyfall (PG13), noon and 4 p.m.; Flight (R), 8 p.m.
MONDAY Skyfall (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Skyfall (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

TODAY Flight (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed
FRIDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 2, 5:30 and 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Trouble with the Curve (PG13), 6 p.m.
SUNDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 2 and 6 p.m.
MONDAY Trouble with the Curve (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Flight (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY-THURSDAY Closed
FRIDAY Lawless (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 4 and 7 p.m.
SUNDAY Chasing Mavericks (PG), 4 p.m.; Lawless (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY Skyfall (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Fun Size (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
FRIDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 3 p.m.; Trouble with the Curve (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Wreck-It Ralph (PG), 3 p.m.; Trouble with the Curve (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY-TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Flight (R), 6:30 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY-THURSDAY Closed
FRIDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 6 and 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Lawless (R), 6 and 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Paranorman (PG), 6 and 9 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN

TODAY Closed for base function
THURSDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 7 p.m.
FRIDAY The Expendables 2 (R), 7 p.m.; Hit and Run (R), 10 p.m.
SATURDAY The Man with the Iron Fists (R), 6 and 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Trouble with the Curve (PG13), 2 p.m.; The Expendables 2 (R), 5:30 p.m.
MONDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
TUESDAY Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Trouble with the Curve (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Skyfall (PG13), 7 p.m.

THEATER DIRECTORY

CAMP FOSTER 645-3465
KADENA AIR BASE 634-1869
(USO NIGHT) 632-8781
MCAS FUTENMA 636-3890
(USO NIGHT) 636-2113
CAMP COURTNEY 622-9616
CAMP HANSEN 623-4564
(USO NIGHT) 623-5011
CAMP KINSER 637-2177
CAMP SCHWAB 625-2333
(USO NIGHT) 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit www.shopmryexchange.com.



**SINGLE
MARINE
PROGRAM
EVENTS**

For more information or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

SMP TOYS FOR TOTS GOLF TOURNAMENT - DEC. 7

• Join the SMP for a day of fun and golf at the SMP Toys for Tots golf tournament at Taiyo Golf Course. All players are encouraged to donate a new, unwrapped toy. Deadline to register is Nov. 30.

SMP BLACK AND WHITE HOLIDAY PARTY - DEC. 24

• Come dressed to impress for an evening of fine dining, prizes, dancing and entertainment at the Manza Beach Resort Hotel. Ticket includes dinner, entertainment and transportation to and from the event from each base. Deadline to sign up is Dec. 17.

Mention of any company in this notice does not constitute endorsement by the Marine Corps.

Japanese phrases
of the week:

“Oishii”

(pronounced:
oh-ee-shee)

It means,

“It tastes good”
(while eating)

“Oishi katta.”

(pronounced:
oh-ee-shee

kah-tah)

It means,

“It was delicious”
(after finished
eating)



CHAPLAINS' CORNER

*“What is meaningful,
true and right?”*

Maintain values to guide through hard times

Lt. Wesley Scholtz

CHAPLAIN, MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA

Recently, the Commandant of the Marine Corps visited Marines around the world to express his concerns over several troubling displays in some members' lapses of judgment. While these lapses do not epitomize the ethos of the Corps, or the majority of men and women who serve in it, they have caused some to doubt the trust which we hold so sacred. In response, the commandant offered a remedy: “Get back to true north.” While the technical definition of “true north” refers to the direction of the north pole relative to a navigator's position, it also serves as an excellent metaphor for us, especially regarding our core values.

Often, we forget what we value most and that we are capable of acting in contradiction to what we hold most dear. It is in these times that we lose our way in the sea of life, mistaking

other headings for the one direction that is truly meaningful. Getting our bearing wrong almost always leads to disaster. We often feel the emotional and even physical pain of being dashed upon the rocks. But getting back to “true north,” or perhaps never losing it, keeps us from making decisions that not only diminish the quality of our lives but also the lives of those around us.

It is important to note this is not just an issue for Marines and sailors. Every person, young and old, must wrestle with the questions: “What is meaningful, true and right? What kind of person do I want to be known as? What do I want to leave behind when my time on earth is over?”

It is through answering these questions and comparing them to our actions that we can tell whether or not we are on course. So how are you doing? Are you headed in the right direction, or is it time to dust off life's compass and adjust back to true north?

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS, CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT WWW.MCIPAC.MARINES.MIL AND LOOK UNDER “AROUND MCIPAC”