

ON POINT

MARINES

EQUIPPING THE WARFIGHTER TO WIN

CHANGE *of* COMMAND

MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND MAGAZINE
SUMMER 2010, VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

BROGAN

KELLEY

- ▶ **Commander's Farewell**
- ▶ **MCTSSA Turns 40**
- ▶ **AE Day Award Winners**

A message from the COMMANDER



To all team members of Marine Corps Systems Command and Program Executive Officer Land Systems:

With several weeks under my belt as Commander of Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), I thought I would take the opportunity to offer my perspective. In general, I feel very comfortable with my remarks at the Change of Command. With everything going on during the ceremony, those remarks may not have seemed like intent or guidance. So, let's review briefly.

First, I asked that everyone look back on the last four years under Brigadier General Michael Brogan's leadership. I, like you, do that with great pride. It was a time of tremendous growth in terms of programs, money and personnel. It is unlikely we will see similar growth in the coming years. I would also ask that you look at the lessons of the last four years to seek opportunities where we can improve.

I also mentioned that our Commandant has asked us "to cast an eye back to sea" and embrace our Naval heritage and expeditionary ethos. While I am more familiar with Carrier Aviation, my time working in the Office of Expeditionary Forces programs got me very excited about the power and flexibility of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force and its unique capability. We need to look at a program and ask, "How does this fit on or integrate into a ship? How do I deploy from a ship and eventually get back on it for the next evolution?" We need to look at our programs from a resource perspective and ask ourselves what the impact will be to manpower, training, operations and support.

We have also been asked to seriously consider two management imperatives. First, we have been asked to squeeze the maximum value from every dollar we spend on behalf of the American taxpayer. This means we must understand what "value" means. We must also understand what our contracts say and how those contracts impact industry and our operational forces. The second management imperative is in recognizing the value of best practices. We must develop and implement best practices across everything we do. That may mean overcoming the tendency to dismiss best practices that were not "invented here." Fortunately, we do not need to look far. Clearly, Executive Director Dr. John Burrow's Senior Program Reviews are an effective example of a best practice.

I would ask that we do these things deliberately with much consideration for the second- and third-order consequences. I also ask that we approach our tasks with discipline, keeping first-order principles in mind. We need to provide visibility for all of those we work with and for, and finally, we need to seek out opportunities for collaboration across the entire enterprise. This may seem daunting, but the future is not as ambiguous as we may think. Our leadership has given us considerable direction in both *Strategy and Vision 2025* and also *Marine Corps Operating Concepts*. I encourage everyone to become familiar with both publications.

I am greatly humbled to assume this new position and comforted by the fact that I know you and you know me. Together, as MCSC, I know we will be up to whatever tasks our Corps demands.

Semper Fidelis!

F.L. Kelley
Brigadier General
U.S. Marine Corps

MARINES ON POINT

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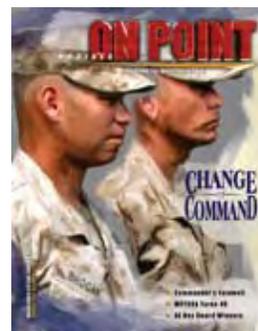
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On the Cover: During Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) Change of Command Ceremony and Parade in July, then-Colonel Frank Kelley (right) assumed command of MCSC from Brigadier General Michael Brogan. See story on Page 20. (Graphic art by Kirk Nelson)



AE Day speakers offer advice for future success

Dr. John Burrow, Executive Director, Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), kicked off Acquisition Excellence (AE) Day in June by highlighting many of MCSC's and Program Executive Officer Land Systems' (PEO LS) accomplishments during the past 12 months. His comments covered 17 different systems and programs in which both Commands had great success.

These achievements "define how we are making a difference, I think, not only for Marines today, but for Marines in the future," Burrow stated. "We look to continue to be successful in this endeavor. We've got to build a workforce, the processes, the discipline and the commitment to continue leading and setting the example for the acquisition community, not just in the Department of the Navy, but across all services. We must deliver quality, affordable and capable systems to the warfighter."

According to AE Day's Keynote Speaker, MCSC and PEO LS have been doing just that for warfighters in Afghanistan. Brigadier General Lawrence Nicholson, former Commander, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, mentioned a few of those systems, but specifically pointed to Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles and new MRAP All-Terrain Vehicles (M-ATV) as "saving countless lives."

"We hear a lot about the decades it takes to go from the drawing board to fielding," Nicholson said. "Well, I don't know exactly how many months it took, but we measured it in months. It was only a few months from the time that somebody said, 'Hey, we need something a little more survivable than a Humvee,' to the point where young Marines were driving that vehicle."

The leader of warfighters stressed his appreciation and gratitude to the acquisition team for providing lifesaving equipment in a timely manner.

"MCSC has been an agent of change for me in problem solving, so I just want to say thank you," the Brigadier General stated. "I want to say thank you for your innovation, for your agility, for your ability to listen to the warfighter and support to the warfighter. Thank you for your responsiveness. Thank you for your attention. Thank you for finding innovative ways to support Marines. My hat's off to you."

Nicholson's closing comments fit well with the theme for the day, "Changing times, creative minds, a strategic focus on innovation and change." The morning guest speaker also touched on the theme. John Kilcullen, creator of the "For Dummies" book series, stressed innovation through simplicity in his remarks.

"With all the beauty of invention and all the amazing technology and tools that we have, my



Major Erwin "E.J." Wunderlich and Tim George speak with a visitor at the Systems Engineering, Interoperability, Architectures and Technology kiosk during Acquisition Excellence Day.
(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

MENTS HIGHLIGHTED

goal in life and in my career is to make things simple so that great innovation can happen," Kilcullen stated. "Take stock of yourself as a leader and as a manager and figure out a way that you can make life and business for your team, your colleagues, simple. Make things simple, strip out the complexity, and you'll make innovation happen."

The afternoon speaker discussed "Exploring for Excellence."

Pat Johns, an athlete, adventurer, photojournalist and motivational speaker, has completed the Himalayan 100 Mile Stage Race four times. He used stories from his racing days to explain his five important steps for success: leave your comfort zone behind; make a commitment and follow through to its completion; connect with the people around you to achieve goals; use common sense and trust your instincts; and act with compassion and mean it.

"I can't emphasize them enough," Johns said concerning his five tips. "Success is really all a matter of perspective."

Dr. Burrow offered his own advice following the day's speakers.

"Continue to be responsive," he said. "In my personal view you are faster than other services, but I think that we should continue to try to get faster. I think we should continue to try to be more responsive. We need to continue to elevate the bar and set the standard. Since I've been here that has been extremely important, extremely impressive and it has left a brand on my heart knowing what you're able to do, how quickly you're able to do it and the passion that you do it with."

The Executive Director mentioned that many Civilian Marines in the workforce, including himself, have never worn the uniform.

"That drives me and motivates me, because I haven't worn the uniform, to serve even more, to work even harder, to do everything I possibly can to honor and support those who have," Burrow said. "I encourage you to do that as well. Bottom line is, everything that you've heard today is a cornerstone, a metric, a characteristic of the tremendous workforce and organization that we have. We deliver capabilities. We save the lives of Marines, Soldiers, Airmen and Sailors everyday. We deliver capabilities that our warriors can fight and win with. I don't know about you, but I feel good about that."

— By Bill Johnson-Miles, MCSC Corporate Communications

Brigadier General Lawrence Nicholson, former Commander, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, delivers the keynote address at Acquisition Excellence Day. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



John Kilcullen, creator of the "For Dummies" book series, stresses simplicity while delivering his remarks at Acquisition Excellence Day. (CVIC photo)



At Acquisition Excellence Day in June Pat Johns, an athlete, adventurer, photojournalist and motivational speaker, shares his experiences competing in the Himalayan 100 Mile Stage Race. (CVIC photo)

Marine Corps Awards for Acquisition Innovation and Excellence for Achievements in 2009

Andrew J. Higgins Award
Major Robert Bailey
U.S. Special Operations Command

Eugene M. Stoner Award
Gunnery Sergeant Rick Gardner
Ground Transportation and Engineer Systems

Donald Roebing Award
Troy Wright
Ammunition

Commander's Honorary Awards for Achievements in 2009

Excellence in Teamwork

Individual Award
Julie Matlocks
Operations Cell

Team Award
Mobile Trauma Bay Team

Excellence in Acquisition Support

Individual Awards
Allen Canfield
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Panama City

William "Gary" McAllister
Maintenance Center
Albany

Brooks O'Steen
SPAWAR Systems Center
Atlantic

Karen Hogue
SPAWAR Systems Center
Atlantic

Terry Foreman
Naval Surface Warfare Center
Dahlgren

Excellence in Information Technology

Individual Award
Erik Bailey
Office of the Command
Information Officer

Team Award
MAGTF Command and Control
Technology Transition Team

Excellence in Provisioning

Individual Award
Mark Maynard
Mine Resistant Ambush Protected
Vehicles Joint Program Office

Team Award
Marine Corps Tactical Support Systems
Activity Supply Team

Excellence in Engineering

Individual Award
Salvadore Fanelli
Infantry Weapons Systems

Team Award
Mobile Trauma Bay Team

Excellence in Operations Research / Systems Analysis

Individual Award
Major Scott Willette
Programs

Excellence in Innovation

Individual Award
Timothy Schoen
Marine Corps Tactical Systems
Support Activity

Team Award
Mobile Trauma Bay Team

Excellence in Contract Management

Individual Award
Christine Kuney
Information Systems and Infrastructure

Team Awards
Information Systems and Infrastructure
Contracts Team
Program Executive Office Land Systems
Contracts Team

Excellence in Financial Management

Individual Award
Christine Costello
Ground Transportation
and Engineering Systems

Team Award
Combat Equipment and Support
Systems Financial Management Team

AE Day honors expert individuals and teams

Troy Wright, Major Robert Bailey and Gunnery Sergeant Rick Gardner basked in the spotlight during Acquisition Excellence Day in June as they received the top acquisition professional awards for civilian, officer and staff noncommissioned officer, respectively.

For almost 20 years Wright has been Ammunition Programs and Budget Division Head for the Ammunition Program Manager at Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC). The last decade "pos-tured him well as a balanced, capable, energetic and skillful Program Manager," wrote his supervisor Jerry Mazza, Program Manager, Ammunition. That experience, combined with his accomplishments in the last year, earned him the 2009 Donald Roebing Award for Acquisition Innovation and Excellence.

Bailey accepted the Andrew J. Higgins Award for Acquisition Innovation and Excellence. The award recognized his service as Systems Acquisition Manager for the Program Executive Officer Specialty Programs (PEO-SP), Special Operations Research, Development and Acquisition Center, U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.



Gunnery Sergeant Rick Gardner of Ground Transportation and Engineer Systems shows off the Eugene M. Stoner Award he received at Acquisition Excellence Day. (Photo by Lance Corporal Reagan Lodge)

TOP PROFESSIONALS

The Major provided cost, schedule, performance and security oversight to the most challenging and highest priority programs in the PEO-SP portfolio of more than 450 programs and projects valued at \$1.175 billion. "His leadership and acquisition expertise set the standard for acquisition officers from every service that supports SOCOM's critical mission," wrote his supervisor, Colonel Paul Ostrowski, Program Executive Officer Specialty Programs.

Gardner is an environmental and fiscal zealot, "squeezing out the best value and getting the most out of every last dollar," according to his award submission. For his tenacity the Environmental Control Equipment (ECE) Project Officer for MCSC's Ground Transportation and Engineer Systems Product Group received the Eugene M. Stoner Award for Acquisition Innovation and Excellence. As the sole Project Officer for this family of equipment, the Gunnery Sergeant oversaw procurement and lifecycle management of more than 2,100 new pieces of ECE fielded in 2009. According to his citation he was directly responsible for ensuring the equipment was logistically supportable and integrated into the total vision of future Marine Corps logistics concepts.

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications

Excellence in Staff Support

Individual Award

Sergeant Bryan Finney
Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity

Team Award

Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity Civilian Manpower Team

Excellence in Logistics

Individual Award

Richard Sessions
MAGTF C2, Weapons & Sensors Development & Integration

Team Award

Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Independent Logistics Assessment Team

Excellence in Knowledge Management

Individual Award

Lieutenant Colonel John Calvert
Communications, Intelligence and Networking Systems

Team Award

Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity
Operating Forces Tactical System Support Center Team

Command Vision Achievement

Individual Award

James Westerholm
Communications, Intelligence and Networking Systems

Team Award

Strategic Plan Implementation Team

Customer Focus

Individual Award

Deborah Webb
Program Executive Officer Land Systems

Team Award

Mobile Trauma Bay Team

Lawrence P. Kreitzer Leadership Award

Jerry Mazza
Program Manager, Ammunition

Brigadier General Lawrence Nicholson (right), former Commander, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, congratulates Major Robert Bailey, U.S. Special Operations Command, for earning the Andrew J. Higgins Award. (Photo by Lance Corporal Reagan Lodge)



Dr. John Burrow (right), Executive Director, Marine Corps Systems Command, presents Troy Wright of Ammunition with the Donald Roebling Award. (Photo by Lance Corporal Reagan Lodge)



MCSC and PEO LS Awardees

Bronze Star

Major Brian Fulks
MRAP JPO

Legion of Merit

Master Gunnery Sergeant Patrick Anthes
GCSS-MC

Meritorious Service Medal

Lieutenant Colonel Chad Burke
LCL

Lieutenant Colonel Ben Garza
PEO LS

Lieutenant Colonel Rodney Lewis
MCTSSA

Lieutenant Colonel Brock McDaniel
MC2I

Lieutenant Colonel Kirk Mullins
PEO LS

Lieutenant Colonel Charles Parton
CESS

Lieutenant Colonel A.J. Pasagian
CESS

Lieutenant Colonel Eric Rine
MCTSSA

Lieutenant Colonel Casey Travers
CINS

Lieutenant Colonel David Wallis
IWS

Major Skip Barth
AFSS

Major Steven Brand
MC2I

Major Charles Brown
IWS

Major Billy Cornell
MCTSSA

Major Matthew Howes
IWS

Major John Smith
IWS

Captain Charles Reiche
MC2I

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jeffery Farmer
PEO LS

Chief Warrant Officer 4 David Thomas
PEO LS

Master Gunnery Sergeant Davis Corbin
GTES

Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Norton
CINS

Master Sergeant Anthony Anderson
GCSS-MC

Master Sergeant Michael Jackson
GTES

Master Sergeant Harry Jones
GCC-MC

Senior Chief Petty Officer Michael Langley
CESS

Master Sergeant Eric Owens
MCTSSA

Master Sergeant Ronald Sewell
AFSS

Master Sergeant Paul Sowa
CINS

Gunnery Sergeant Aaron Furness
AFSS

Dr. John Burrow (center), Executive Director, Marine Corps Systems Command, congratulates Command members in July for graduating from the Naval Postgraduate School's Advanced Acquisition Program. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



MCSC and PEO LS Awardees

Members of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) Joint Program Office received awards at a Pentagon ceremony in August. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates (right) and Ashton Carter, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (left), presented the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service to (from second left) David Hansen, MRAP Principal Deputy Program Manager, and Paul Mann, MRAP Joint Program Manager. Brigadier General Michael Brogan, former MRAP Joint Program Executive Officer, received the Defense Superior Service Medal. *(Pentagon photo)*



Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal

Lieutenant Colonel Gregg Stimatze
PEO LS

Major John Kim
GCSS-MC

Lieutenant Commander Jennifer Smith
CESS

Major James Utsler
MCTSSA

Captain Geraldine Carey
PAO

Captain Jose Colunga
TRASYS

Captain Phillip Dibella
GCSS-MC

Captain John Dickens
MCTSSA

Captain Garrett Hager
TRASYS

Captain Alfred Hunter
GCSS-MC

Captain Jeffrey Patubo
ISI

Captain Paul Rivera
MCTSSA

Captain William Smith
LCL

Captain Bryan Welles
IWS

Captain Francis Williams
AMMO

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Terry Carden
CESS

Master Sergeant Kevin Gilley
GCSS-MC

Master Sergeant Matheu McCool
PEO LS

Master Sergeant Thomas Sharpe
AFSS

Master Sergeant Brian Wensel
CINS

Gunnery Sergeant Charles Amicangelo
MC2I

Gunnery Sergeant Jeffery Amorose
GCSS-MC

Gunnery Sergeant Roland Cleveland
AMMO

Gunnery Sergeant Russell Millhouse
PEO LS

Gunnery Sergeant Berle Sigman
IWS

Gunnery Sergeant Joseph Stamper
CINS

Gunnery Sergeant Carl Thomas
ISI

Staff Sergeant Jason Glavich
PEO LS

Staff Sergeant John Stephens
CINS

Staff Sergeant Danny Wilson
AFSS

Kelly Gibson, Assistant Commander for Life Cycle Logistics, presents Captain William Smith with the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal in May. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*



MCSC and PEO LS Awardees

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Captain Paul Sok
GTES

Sergeant Michael Bright
ISI

Sergeant Christopher Kline
MCTSSA

Superior Civilian Service Award

James Irwin
RES MGMT

Meritorious Civilian Service Award

Marcia Case
RES MGMT

Jill Mills
MRAP JPO

Certificate of Retirement

Colonel Phillip Chudoba
CINS



Master Sergeant Brian Wensel of Communications, Intelligence and Networking Systems poses with his wife, Heather, and son, Parker, at the National Museum of the Marine Corps following his retirement in June. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*

Master Sergeant Brian Wensel
CINS

Marsha Brandenburg
MRAP JPO

Lynn Ehleiter
TRASYS

Nancy Harmon
TRASYS

James Irwin
RES MGMT

William Jarvis
Security

George Seidl
SCMC

Federal Length of Service Award

Susan Jones (40 years)
Security

Frank McMahon (35 Years)
ISI

Charles Trude (35 years)
PEO LS

Kurt Carruthers (30 years)
CESS

Craig Pritzker (30 years)
MC2I

Kim Smith (30 years)
RES MGMT

Willie Bridges (25 years)
RES MGMT

Tung Dang (25 years)
PEO LS

Inez Lowe (25 years)
RES MGMT

Jill Mills (25 years)
MRAP JPO

Hung Nguyen (25 years)
ISI

Harivadan Patel (25 years)
IP

Shawn Prablek (25 years)
IP

Janice Sinozich (25 years)
FSS

Lin Thiry (25 years)
ISI

Michelle Travis-Jeffries (25 years)
CESS

Eric Chukwu (20 years)
IWS

Wayne Chun (20 years)
AFSS

Shelley Godwin (20 years)
MRAP JPO

Vickie Mitchell (20 years)
IP



Brigadier General Michael Brogan, then-Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command, presents Jim Irwin's wife, Donna, with a certificate of appreciation during the former Workforce Management Director's retirement ceremony in June. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*

Dr. John Burrow (left), Executive Director, Marine Corps Systems Command, congratulates George Seidl, Strategic Change Management Center, during his retirement ceremony in June. *(Photo by Jim Katzaman)*



'Exceptional contributions' produce best protective equipment

Robert Huggins, who is now attached to Marine Corps Systems Command's Ground Transportation and Engineering Systems Product Group as the Lead Engineer for the Vehicle Engineering and Integration Cell, has earned a 2009 Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition) Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Scientists and Engineers of the Year Award. During a July ceremony at the Pentagon the Department of the Navy recognized Huggins for his superior accomplishments while serving as the Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device (RCIED) Electronic Warfare (CREW) Lead Engineer.

He "made exceptional engineering and technical contributions" to the Very High Power Hunter, Chameleon and CREW Vehicle Receiver Jammer (CVRJ) 2.1 systems, according to his award citation. He worked closely with the CVRJ vendor, product support integrator and support team at Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command in Charleston, S.C., to design and install Vehicle Installation Kits for integration of the jamming systems onto a variety of combat vehicles.

Huggins ensured that jammers and their associated components achieved their operational specifications and personnel safety requirements on the Mine

Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle, Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacement, Logistics Vehicle System, Logistics Vehicle System Replacement, Light Armored Vehicle and High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles. As the Marine Corps engineering lead to larger Department of the Navy CREW efforts and the Joint IED Defeat Organization, he was responsible for representing and defending the engineering and test requirements for the CVRJ 2.1 systems.

Because he quickly integrated 1,499 counter RCIED Jammers in Iraq and Afghanistan, Marine Expeditionary Force Commanders had added flexibility in executing combat operations. Huggins established performance standards and directed all activities involved with the development and testing of frequency waveforms used by Marine Corps CREW systems to deny enemy forces use of certain frequency ranges of the electromagnetic spectrum.

"He overcame many technical challenges to make sure Marine Corps CREW systems do not inadvertently jam friendly force communications," his award citation stated. "Mr. Huggins' engineering skills and technical efforts were instrumental in ensuring that Marines in combat received the best protective equipment at the necessary time."

— By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



Robert Huggins, now attached to Marine Corps Systems Command's Ground Transportation and Engineering Systems Product Group, earned a 2009 Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition) Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Scientists and Engineers of the Year Award at a Pentagon ceremony in July. (Photo by Jennifer Gonzalez)

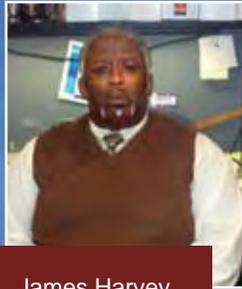
Albany worker questions cost of canvas cloth

Instinctively, James Harvey knew the price was too high. In fact, as he discovered, the actual cost of the display cover wasn't even close. His alertness earned him recognition as an Honorary Price Fighter.

A Senior Equipment Specialist for the Marine Corps Systems Command contingent at Albany, Ga., since 1987, Harvey was suspicious when he saw the National Stock Number standard unit price of \$7,425 for a display unit case cover.

"It kind of rubbed me wrong a little bit," he said, "considering it was just a piece of canvas. We had it made to shade a display case from the sun."

He decided to challenge the price under the little-used Price Challenge Hotline program. In his submission, Harvey stated that the maximum price should be less than \$200. He was right. After a price challenge investigation, the actual price of the cover



James Harvey

dropped to \$23.29. The Army resolved the price in February and updated it in the Army system, which then led to other supply system corrections.

"I thought that was a fair price," Harvey said with some understatement. "This was something we could live with. I guess the manufacturer got the stock numbers crossed."

For successfully challenging the suspect price, Harvey received a \$500 cash award and Certificate of Recognition as an Honorary Price Fighter.

More importantly, he said, he hopes to be at the forefront of the revival of the Price Challenge Hotline program. Since his award he has talked with Marines in the field about challenging prices.

"We lost visibility with price challenges," he said. "Now I expect we'll soon get more challenges from the field."

— By Jim Katzaman, MCSC
Corporate Communications





Command continues to hone the tactical edge

Forty years ago the Vietnam War became the first in military history to exploit the full-scale use of electronic data, fundamentally changing the nature, timeliness and the availability of battlefield information.

The milestone is even more significant when you consider the state of electronic and computing technology at the time. The Marine Corps' version of a standard Navy tactical computer – known as the CP-808 – was about the size of a refrigerator with pitifully little memory; radar “graphic” displays located in a Tactical Air Operations Center were enormous, immobile cathode ray tubes that presented data as simple alpha-numeric blips on the screen; and the world’s first eight-bit microprocessor – the catalyst in opening the door to the powerful, inexpensive personal computers commonly used throughout the Marine Corps today – had just been invented.

Despite the mammoth size of these computers and their lumbering processing speed, this technology was amazing for its time. The growing value of computers occurring in the 1960s and 1970s – coupled with the obvious advantage and potential success that automated tactical systems could provide Marines fighting on future battlefields – led the Commandant of the Marine Corps to establish an organization to serve as the single focal point for computer-driven tactical systems. That organization, established July 1, 1970, is the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity (MCTSSA).

The Corps formed MCTSSA around the nucleus of Marine Air Control Squadron-3 elements located at the Marine Corps Helicopter Station in Santa Ana, Calif. The unit also included the Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch that had previously existed as a West Coast component of the Development Center, supporting amphibious tractor development and testing at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Additionally MCTSSA included the newly constituted Marine Tactical Command and Control System Test Bed facility under construction at Camp Pendleton.

In 1972 the Marine Corps completed the construction of a special research and development complex for MCTSSA at the southern edge of Camp Pendleton and the bulk of MCTSSA moved from Santa Ana to the newly completed facility over the next few years. Bordered by the Pacific Ocean on the west, tomato fields to the south and vacant lowland prairies to the north, this somewhat remote site favored MCTSSA’s operational needs, providing secure, unfettered access to flight corridors and seaward ranges for testing and evaluating radar and tactical systems.

In its earliest years MCTSSA’s responsibilities included the development and testing of innovative air command and control systems, writing tactical software programs and providing technical support teams to units in the Fleet Marine Force. Later the Corps added to MCTSSA’s duties the deliberate

MCTSSA turns



Major Carol Mutter was assigned to the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity in the late 1970s. In 1994 she became the first woman in the Marine Corps to be promoted to Major General and served as Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command until August 1996. She would go on to become the first woman in the history of the U.S. Armed Forces to be appointed to a three-star grade. (MCTSSA photo)



examination and evaluation of automation technology and its application to tactical systems.

A decade later – in an article appearing in a 1982 Camp Pendleton newspaper – MCTSSA’s unique, high-tech Marine enterprise would be dubbed the “Idea Factory.”

“It makes no difference whether we’re looking for ways to improve what we already have or trying to purchase a new system,” said Lieutenant Colonel Tony Conlon, MCTSSA’s Executive Officer at the time. “The Marines here are involved in all stages of testing and evaluation.” MCTSSA had come to represent an entirely new spectrum of Marine talent.

The Command broadened its support to computer hardware, software, and firmware development and testing of more tactical data and communications systems. It became the Corps’ primary Post Deployment Software Support Activity while continuing to deploy teams to support Fleet Marine Force units around the world. As computers began to shrink in size and grow in processing power they found their way into tactical applications within the Ground Combat Element. The Marine Air-Ground Task Force was

able to take advantage of this emerging technology and move into the “digital” age as more and more computer-based command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I) systems matured.

When MCTSSA was about to enter its third decade of service, the Corps established Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC). A natural fit, the Marine Corps realigned MCTSSA to this new Command charged with being the Commandant of the Marine Corps’s agent for acquisition and sustainment of systems and equipment.

The 1990s also saw an ever-increasing number of C4I systems being developed, and the concept of “systems of systems” emerged as the Marine Corps connected the new C4I systems together. To assist the Fleet Marine Force in its efforts to assimilate this growing bow wave of systems and technologies, MCTSSA established a centralized C4I Help Desk and Support Center, which by 2010 would grow to a continuously operating 24-hour function fielding more than 17,000 queries per year. As it expanded its specialized engineering laboratories to become the Marine Corps’ center of excellence in tactical C4I, MCTSSA began participating in a variety of advanced technology experiments while still providing worldwide lifecycle hardware, software and firmware support.

Today, as MCTSSA concludes its fourth decade, it has developed into the home for a highly technical military workforce, encompassing some of the most technically and operationally qualified officers and





Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity's Debra Suminski conducts a Transition Switch Module systems integration test in 2009. (Photo by Thomas Prothro)

Marines in the Corps. This unique military workforce is complemented by an equally unique population of Civilian Marines – civilian electrical and computer engineers, information and telecommunications specialists, and a significant number of computer scientists. With a demonstrated ability to support tactical C4I systems worldwide, MCTSSA's primary customers include MCSC, Program Executive Officer Land Systems, Headquarters Marine Corps and the Marine Corps' operating forces – providing everything from technical support to programs as they go through acquisition milestone evaluations, to a wide array of testing, engineering, fielding and sustainment services.

MCTSSA's routine testing and technical support efforts – including on-the-move and secure satellite communications, operational interoperability, systems integration, tactical network engineering and independent software verification and validation – provide benefits across the MCSC acquisition community, as well as to the forward-deployed forces operating fielded systems in combat. The Command has become a worldwide support operation with its Marines and Civilian Marines routinely embedded with units for exercises, pre-deployment workups and in combat theaters of operation.

In 2005 Major William Conner, Officer in Charge of the MCTSSA deployment team at Camp Fallujah, Iraq, stated, "We bring

technical expertise to warfighters to make them as effective as possible in battle."

Now as MCTSSA celebrates its 40th anniversary and enters its fifth decade, its mission is becoming even more significant.

"As the tactical environment and technology continue to evolve to include conventional and unconventional or hybrid warfare as well as terrorism, Marines around the world will need to adapt more than ever before," said Colonel Alan Pratt, MCTSSA's current and 19th Commanding Officer. "Technology and those security trends are now shaping how we work and prepare at MCTSSA, so we continue to provide Marines the tactical edge to succeed today – while keeping ahead of what we will need for the battlefields of tomorrow."

– By Wil Williams, MCTSSA Public Affairs



In 1972 the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity started moving from Santa Ana to a newly constructed special research and development complex at the southern edge of Camp Pendleton, Calif. (MCTSSA photo)

MCTSSA marks 40 years with day to remember

Months of planning and anticipation culminated in a lively week of celebration as former and present members of the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity (MCTSSA) came together at Camp Pendleton, Calif., to commemorate the Activity's 40th anniversary. Recalling its history and legacy, more than 500 past and present members and supporters, including five former MCTSSA Commanders, reunited and reminisced in July, concluding a week that included tours, social gatherings, displays and a Rededication of Colors Ceremony.

"This anniversary celebration and the rededication of our colors provided a unique opportunity to recognize our lineage and honor the Marines and civilians who served before us," said Colonel Alan Pratt, MCTSSA's Commanding Officer.

During the rededication observance it was noted that each battle streamer represents a story of meritorious achievement or service stretching from the 1970's Vietnam War to today's Global War on Terrorism.

"We have a rich and important past," Pratt said. "This ceremony allowed our current Marines and Civilian Marines to hear and learn about that legacy. After all, they are now part of it."

Earlier in the day MCTSSA also dedicated its new Ground Combat Element Lab to the memory of Major Gerald Bloomfield, who was lost flying combat support near Ar Ramadi, Iraq, in 2005. Bloomfield served as a member of the MCTSSA team from 2000 to 2003. The building dedication was attended by more than 40 Bloomfield family members and friends.

Additionally MCTSSA
Marines built,
unveiled and



Master Gunnery Sergeant Charles Gunn (right), Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity's (MCTSSA) Operations Chief, joins Colonel Alan Pratt, MCTSSA's Commanding Officer, to rededicate and reattach battle streamers to the organizational colors during the Activity's 40th anniversary celebration. (Photo by Lance Corporal Miranda Hartley)

dedicated a new Memorial Brick Plaza. The Plaza's pathway contains personalized inscribed bricks honoring all the MCTSSA Marines and Civilian Marines who have passed away while actively serving the Command.

Following these events and the Rededication of Colors Ceremony, the Command concluded the day's festivities by hosting a barbecue, topped with multiple birthday cakes, an endless exchange of stories and, of course, another day to remember.

"MCTSSA's 40th Anniversary Event was FANTASTIC!" a former MCTSSA alum posted on a prominent social website. "Thanks to all the Marines and Civilians who put on this event. It felt very much like a family reunion. Semper Fidelis!"

— By Wil Williams, MCTSSA Public Affairs



Cutting the ribbon for the Major Gerald Bloomfield Ground Combat Element Lab dedication are (from left) Colonel Alan Pratt, Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity's Commanding Officer; Julie Bloomfield, the Major's wife; Gerald Bloomfield, the Major's father; and Shirley Spears, the Major's mother. (Photo by Lance Corporal Miranda Hartley)

MCTSSA CHAMPION



Captain Jonathan Disbro competes at the inaugural Warrior Games in May at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., where he won the gold medal for the 1,500-meter run. (U.S. Paralympics Photo)

Captain Disbro earns the gold in Warrior Games

Competing in the inaugural Warrior Games, Captain Jonathan Disbro – whose right leg has been amputated below the knee – won the gold medal for the premier middle-distance track event, the 1,500-meter run, crossing the finish line with a time of 5 minutes, 41 seconds.

Held in May at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., the Captain was one of 200 wounded and injured servicemen and women from all branches of the military selected to compete in the Warrior Games. The competition, a partnership between the Department of Defense, the U.S. Paralympics and other

organizations, gave wounded warriors an opportunity to push themselves and demonstrate their abilities.

“I applied to compete in the Warrior Games for several reasons,” said Disbro, who currently serves as Test Branch Head for Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity’s (MCTSSA) Test and Certification Group. “I wanted to represent the Marine Corps and support the ongoing effort of other wounded Marines who are still recovering. The games were a great way for injured service people to challenge themselves.”

Deployed in 2004 for his second tour in Iraq, the Captain’s mission was to provide combat

engineer support to the Battalion Landing Team in Iskandariyah, south of Baghdad. A mortar round landed on his position, sending shrapnel fragments through his right ankle. Six months and 18 surgeries later Disbro concluded that his foot was too severely damaged to save. With that reality he chose to receive a lower leg amputation in 2005. In the hospital he met two Marines successfully using their prostheses and remaining on active duty. That’s when the Captain realized he was going to be OK, reenergizing his passion for athletics.

At the Warrior Games, in addition to the 1,500-meter run, Disbro also competed in the 100-meter dash, 50-meter swim, shot put and marksmanship trials.

“My competition in the Warrior Games gave me personal enjoyment,” the Captain said. “It made me set a goal, train for it and reach it, which was a satisfying thing for me. Plus, this was an endeavor that continued to keep me in shape.”

Like the two Marines he met at the hospital, Disbro appreciates the need to motivate others around him. Today, when he’s not managing tests on Marine Corps and joint command, control, communications, computers and intelligence systems, the Captain can be seen daily exercising on the MCTSSA quad, working out in the gym and running around Camp Pendleton.

“I try to challenge other Marines, especially when I get the chance on the Physical Fitness Test and Combat Fitness Test,” Disbro said. “We get stronger when we push each other.”

– By Wil Williams, MCTSSA Public Affairs



Captain Jonathan Disbro lost his leg after he was injured during a 2004 deployment to Iraq when a mortar round landed on his position, sending shrapnel fragments through his right ankle. (Photo by Wil Williams)

MCSC co-ed volleyball team earns Quantico title

Vince Lombardi, the great coach of the Green Bay Packers, once said, “There is no room for second place. There is only one place in my game and that is first place.”

For the past few years Marine Corps Systems Command’s (MCSC) co-ed volleyball team had earned the second-place trophy in Marine Corps Base Quantico’s intramural volleyball league and playoff tournament. And this year looked as if it might end up the same way. After going 16-0 in the regular season, and winning three straight matches in the May playoffs, they lost. But thankfully, it’s a double elimination tournament, so one more match had to be played, and against the team they had just lost to.

“After we recomposed ourselves and went back to having fun, we started winning games again,” said player and assistant coach Gunnery Sergeant Chris Glocke of Information Systems and Infrastructures (ISI). And win they did. MCSC took a page out of Lombardi’s

playbook, won the final match and earned the Quantico title.

“It feels great to finally win the base tournament,” said player/coach Tom Frush of Ammunition. “Last season we played six games total in the playoffs, two matches coming out of the losers’ bracket, but just could not get it done to win. So we had to settle for second place.”

“I am so ecstatic that we were able to come together and win it big this year,” said team member Kelly Fugle, also with ISI, “especially for Tom!”

“The season is a losing season if you lose in the end,” added team member Scott Rideout of Program Executive Officer Land Systems. “Best loser is not a good feeling. I feel proud of what this team accomplished this year. It feels satisfying.”

Before losing the one match in the playoffs, the last time this team had lost had been more than a year earlier. Last year MCSC went 9-1 in the regular season. Other Quantico teams may feel like they are playing the New York Yankees because MCSC is stacked.

“I have been playing intramural volleyball for 33 years, and I have never seen this much talent on one team,” Frush said. “Our men and women on the team have a lot of experience. Four of them are former All-Marine players, and several members played in college and high school.”



CHAMPIONS



Rich Stich (4) of Information Systems and Infrastructures (ISI) taps the ball over the net while Pat Kline (7) of Combat Equipment and Support Systems and ISI’s Gunnery Sergeant Chris Glocke (14) and Kelly Fugle (11) look on. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

"I grew up playing volleyball," Fugle said. "I played for a high school that won seven state championships, and then I went on to play Division I volleyball for UMBC [University of Maryland, Baltimore County]. Volleyball is very fun and exciting. I had missed the competitiveness and being a member of a team."

Glocke attributed their success to MCSC's team cohesion.

"The best thing about volleyball is that it is not a one-person sport," the Gunnery Sergeant said. "You have to work as a team. There is no 'I' in team. I don't care how good you might think you are."

"We all play really well together," Fugle added. "We have a camaraderie that is easy to see as a spectator and even easier to feel and see as a team member. We gel really well, and it was just great chemistry. Plus, it was fun!"

"Volleyball is a fun sport, and it is something that I have been doing competitively in the Marine Corps since 1988," said another assistant coach and player, Patrick Kline of Combat Equipment and Support (CESS).

Team member Mary Beth Krob is also with CESS. "I am excited to be a part of the

undefeated history," she said.

Krob missed the final matches of the playoffs because she was on travel, but the team member was confident they would be successful.

"We have seasoned players who know and love the sport of volleyball," she said. "When you get veteran players out there who mesh well as a team, it only equals success. This season we had constant communication on and off the court. We had several players who could fill any position, and we had experienced players who could substitute in, which allowed adequate rest for all players on the team."

Words like "seasoned," "veteran" and "experienced" can also mean the players are a little older. Can this older team win it all again next year?

"The MCSC volleyball team we had this year is a highly skilled team, which looks very promising for next year," Krob concluded.

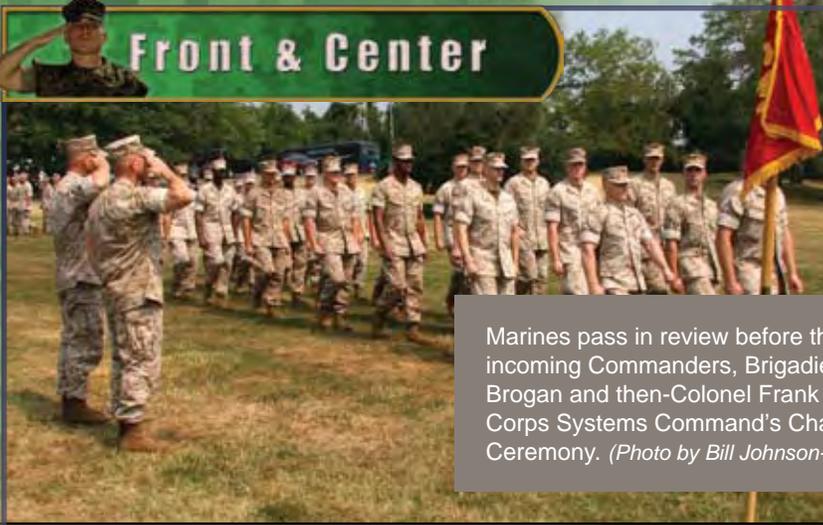
Rideout agreed, "Hopefully, this year will start a streak of volleyball championships for Hospital Point."

– By Bill Johnson-Miles, MCSC Corporate Communications

Player/coach Tom Frush (right) of Ammunition shares the championship trophy with the entire team. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Marine Corps Systems Command's co-ed volleyball team won the Marine Corps Base Quantico's intramural volleyball league and playoff tournament championship in May. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Amy Rideout of Communications, Intelligence and Networking Systems and Rich Sitch of Information Systems and Infrastructures prepare to bump the ball up for a teammate during Quantico's intramural volleyball league playoff tournament. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Marines pass in review before the outgoing and incoming Commanders, Brigadier General Michael Brogan and then-Colonel Frank Kelley, during Marine Corps Systems Command's Change of Command Ceremony. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

CHANGE of COMMAND

Brogan era comes to an end as Kelley assumes command

On a very hot and humid day in early July with temperatures rising toward three digits, then-Colonel Frank Kelley assumed command of Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) from Brigadier General Michael Brogan.

"The first thing that I'd like you to do is think about the last four years under General Brogan's leadership," Kelley said. "I am confident that it will be known as the Brogan era, with unprecedented growth in personnel and budget authority, and in saving the lives of our men and women in OIF and OEF [Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom]."

"This has been an incredibly rewarding tour," Brogan said. "To look at the M-ATV [MRAP All Terrain Vehicle] and know that nearly 27,000 other MRAP [Mine Resistant Ambush Protected] vehicles were produced, fielded into Iraq, Afghanistan and other places around the world – we have made a difference in the lives of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines. And it wasn't just MRAP.

The Marine Corps Base Quantico Band performs during Marine Corps Systems Command's Change of Command Ceremony held on Hospital Point, Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



It was each piece of equipment produced by this Command that increased both the lethality and the survivability of the Marine Corps, provided command and control capability, or improved situational awareness. Thank you all."

With a traditional ceremonial parade and passing of the Command Colors, salutes rendered and handshakes accepted, Kelley and Brogan switched places, signifying the change of command. Under new leadership MCSC's mission to equip the warfighter to win will continue, and major revisions are not expected anytime soon.

"For Marine Corps Systems Command, our mission is not going to change," the new Commander said. "I don't see a wholesale reorganization on the horizon."

But there has been a personal change for the Commander. In a ceremony in late July, the Marine Corps promoted Kelley to the rank of Brigadier General.

As the MCSC Front Office changes, Kelley would like the Command workforce to consider a few ideas.

"Our Commandant has asked us to cast an eye back out to sea so that we can embrace our naval heritage



GE ND

Then-Colonel Frank Kelley receives the Command Colors from Brigadier General Michael Brogan signifying the Change of Command at Marine Corps Systems Command. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



and our expeditionary role,” Kelley said. “I would also like you to consider two imperatives that have been revealed to us recently. The first of those is to squeeze maximum value out of every dollar we spend on behalf of the American taxpayer. The second is to

develop and implement best practices.”

The Commander stressed that these tasks need to be tackled deliberately, extensively and out in the open.

“We’re going to provide visibility to the people we work with,” Kelley said. “I would ask you to keep the collaboration throughout this entire enterprise. Doing that is not going to be easy in an environment where we don’t really know what the future is.”

The future may be unclear, but the new Commander’s confidence level is high.

“General Brogan has told you that I have been working at MCSC for awhile,” Kelley concluded. “I do know you, and you know me. I know that we will be up to any task or demand that our Corps has for us.”

– By Bill Johnson-Miles, MCSC Corporate Communications



Brigadier General Frank Kelley’s family celebrates as they pin the Commander’s stars on his collar at a ceremony in July. His six children include a set of quadruplets. (Photos by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Standing in formation with a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All-Terrain Vehicle in the background, Marines are dismissed, marking the conclusion of Marine Corps Systems Command’s Change of Command Ceremony. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)





Parting Words



BGen addresses final Town Hall of his MCSC tour

Brigadier General Michael Brogan looked back on almost four years as Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC), and saw symmetry and felt nostalgic.

"So we will end where we began 44 months ago," the outgoing Commander said at his last MCSC Town Hall in June. "This has been a wonderfully rewarding tour. I have enjoyed coming to work at Marine Corps Systems Command every day. On balance, it's been a great time."

The Brigadier General talked about MCSC's achievements during his tenure along with tasks left for his predecessors.

"When I arrived we set some near-term priorities," Brogan said. "The first one was to deal with the remaining balances in our Fiscal Year [FY] 2007 appropriations. We also talked about continuing to support the operating forces moving forward. You have done that then and still do it now. The establishment of PEO [Program Executive

Officer] Land Systems was accomplished in February of 2007. We also created the plan for a new campus."

The plan, he said, was a plus. Its execution, however, is pending.

"I just was not successful in convincing either [Marine Corps Base] Quantico or the folks up in Installations and Logistics to support a [military construction plan] for the Command to get us on the other side of I-95," he said. "We need to get out of all the leased space we're in and co-locate as a Marine Corps Acquisition Center – all of MCSC, all of PEO LS, and those folks who work for PEO Enterprise Information Systems, all of us together. I am leaving that for [incoming Commander] Brigadier General [Frank] Kelley to deal with."

In the near term the Commander said, "systems engineering remains a work in progress. Certainly, we have revitalized that. We have added some folks down in SIAT [Systems Engineering, Interoperability, Architectures and Technology], but there's still more to do."

He also cited professional development for



Brigadier General Michael Brogan speaks in June to the Command at his final Town Hall. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



In front of the Headquarters Building on Quantico's Hospital Point, Brigadier General Michael Brogan speaks in June at his final Town Hall as Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Marines and civilians, and praised Assistant Commander for Programs, "Dick Bates and his folks who were able to bring the Naval Postgraduate School here via video teleconference. We've made lots of opportunities available."

Recruiting to fill critical billets was another plus, as Brogan stated, "Nearly every single leadership position in this Command has turned over in the time I've been here. Lindo Bradley is the only Product Group Director [Operational Forces Systems, Product Group 09] who is the same as when I arrived. We have a new Executive Director, new Deputy Commander SIAT, and it must be hard to be a money manager here because we've gone through several Comptrollers. Dick Bates is probably the only Assistant Commander still in place."

At all levels, Brogan explained, recruiting has been a complete effort from inside and out.

"Many of those hires came from within," he said, "but we also brought in some talent from outside. We had about 850 civilians here at Quantico, about 1,063 over the course of the whole Command across the country in 2006. Today we number about 1,900 civilians across the Command. We've actually grown the military structure. We're just short of 2,600 people, compared to just under 1,700 four years ago."

For the long term, the Commander said, "We updated the Strategic Plan, and in the fall we rolled it out."

On a lighter note he added, "John Young [Facilities, Services and Supply Director] did manage to get the snack bar in the basement of the building. I didn't think it could be done. I had given up; but he managed to do it."

Budget expansion also topped Command achievements, especially in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and the launch of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

"You all know that before 9/11 our annual budget was about \$2.6 billion," the Brigadier General said. "In FY '06, right before I arrived, it was just under \$7 billion. In FY '07 it was \$9.5 billion, it reached its zenith in FY '08 with \$22.4 billion, was \$12.4 billion in FY '09 and is \$7.5 billion so far in FY '10. There's still going to be more work to do as we try to wind down this FY and close out those expiring funds."

In the end the outgoing Commander said, "There are far too many people to thank. Each and every one of you deserves thanks for what you've done for our Marines and Sailors, for our Nation, for our Corps. It has been a distinct pleasure and an honor to have been at MCSC for the last four years.

"I've often said that being a general officer is a pretty good gig," he added. "But it's because of what you do – the folks who arrange military aviation that allowed us to make a number of day trips when it might have required an overnight stay; the folks in the [Operations] Cell who, on a daily basis, handled more than most people know, just keeping track of where all the MRAPs [Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles] are in the world; all the support staff; the special support staff; as well as those in the Product Groups and the [Independent Program Managers]. You've done a great job, and you're going to get a great new Commander."

Brigadier General Brogan once more turned to MCSC's ultimate customer to put everything in perspective, "Our focus has always been on that 19-year-old Lance Corporal who is forward deployed, who employs the wherewithal that you provide."

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



The Command's leadership listens to Brigadier General Michael Brogan at his final Town Hall as Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

EFV ROLLOUT

Marine Corps receives new prototype vehicles, begins testing

Over the past few months the Marine Corps has taken delivery of five of the seven new Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV) prototypes, and at press time, the remaining two prototypes were in the final stages of assembly at the Joint Systems Manufacturing Center in Lima, Ohio. In early May Program Executive Officer Land Systems (PEO LS) rolled out the first of those prototype EFVs at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Va. More than 500 guests, including members of the EFV Program Office and their industry partners, took part in the program's newest chapter.

"I'm extraordinarily proud of this team and what they've managed to achieve to get us to this date," said Colonel Keith Moore, EFV Program Manager. "They have performed unsurpassed labor over the last several years in refining the design of this vehicle, in getting it through the manufacturing process."

The System Development and Demonstration-2 (SDD-2) phase of the EFV Program culminates nearly three years of the program's restructure and redesign in order to meet reliability requirements.

"Let us celebrate the strengths of our government-industry partnership and the achievement of this significant program milestone since its restructure," said Bill Taylor, PEO LS. "The development, integration, assembly and delivery of

this first new prototype – a commitment of our leadership to see this day through to fruition, the support of so many who have made this possible, and to all who share our common objective – providing the Marine Corps the continued ability to maneuver from the sea, enabling our naval ships to remain over the horizon and out of harm's way."

"The craft being delivered today represents our commitment to explore all options for enhancing our amphibious capabilities and flexibility," said Lieutenant General George Flynn, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration. "It represents our willingness to examine new operational concepts and capabilities in the pursuit of maintaining warfighting relevancy for today and tomorrow. Significant investment and remarkable engineering achievement have brought this capability to where we are today. The performance of these new prototypes over the next few months will have a significant influence on the future warfighting concepts and requirements of the Nation's sea-based expeditionary force."

Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch (AVTB) at Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Aberdeen Test Center (ATC) in Maryland are handling the Developmental and Reliability Growth testing. Marines at AVTB and at ATC are putting the new SDD-2 EFV prototypes through a series of





Members of the media speak with Colonel Keith Moore, Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle Program Manager. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

rigorous land, amphibious and firepower developmental tests that are expected to be completed by early next year. The testing is “to ensure that the more than several hundred engineering design improvements, made over the last three years since the program’s restructure, actually measure up,” Taylor stated.

“Marine Sergeants, Corporals, Lance Corporals and Staff NCOs [Noncommissioned Officers] are extremely demanding customers,” Moore said. “Marines make no apologies about that. We will continue to wring everything that we can out of these vehicles as we mature the design and increase the reliability so that we’re ready for production. It’s what we have to do. It’s our charge.”

The program will undergo nearly 18 months of various tests, including operational testing, and if all goes well, a production decision will be made at the end of that period. Initial low-rate production is scheduled for fiscal year 2012, with initial operational capability for the Marine Corps fielded by 2016. The Marine Corps expects to have all 573 EFVs by 2026.

With successful testing, production and fielding, “the mobility, the lethality and the survivability of the EFV will bring to our Corps the capability to equip Marines to meet the challenges of any clime and place that they’ll face in the future,” Moore stated.

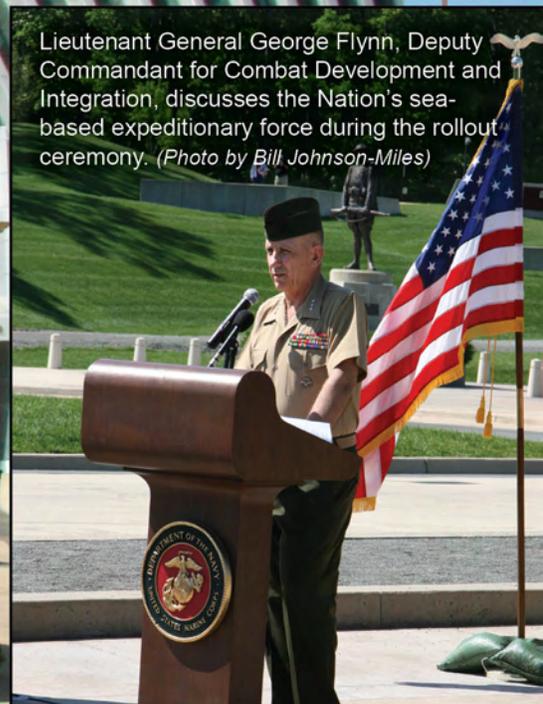
The Congressman representing Virginia’s 1st District agreed with the EFV Program Manager.

“The EFV represents a remarkable contribution to our national security,” said Rep. Rob Whitman. “I believe strongly that it will enable the projection of versatile naval forces where and whenever necessary, both now and into the future.”

That’s an exciting prospect for Sergeant Peter Charles, an Assault Amphibious Vehicle Operator and current EFV Program Office Operations Chief.

“I want to be a part of the future,” Charles said. “This is history in the making right here; it’s this vehicle.”

— By Bill Johnson-Miles, MCSC Corporate Communications



Lieutenant General George Flynn, Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration, discusses the Nation’s sea-based expeditionary force during the rollout ceremony. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Mass Hiring SUCCESS

Job Fair brings in hundreds of qualified candidates, many new employees

More than 1,300 people attended Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) first-ever Job Fair in May at the University of Mary Washington's College of Graduate and Professional Studies in Fredericksburg, Va., and more than 140 positions have been offered to qualified candidates. At press time the folks at Workforce Management and Development (WMD) were still collecting data related to the Job Fair and waiting for hiring decisions to be made, so these numbers could even increase.

"The Job Fair was a mass hiring success," said Karen Gillaspie, WMD's Recruitment and Marketing Manager. "It was highly productive and has been widely recognized as a hallmark event. The success came thanks to pre-planning and close coordination with the Command's Competency Domain staff and our Human Resources Office. Plus, we were able to leverage the Expedited Hiring Authority to extend tentative job offers on the spot to highly qualified non-status candidates."

Gillaspie headed the Job Fair Committee that handled all the pre-

event planning and required tasks. She also oversaw more than 130 MCSC team members who worked the actual Job Fair.

"Karen was the lead for the Job Fair, and she and her team did a fabulous job," said Ann Firth, WMD Director. "Her detailed planning of the Job Fair created a unified Command team approach that helped make it such a successful event."

"Huge kudos to Karen and all the Command on this huge event," added Ann-Cecile McDermott, MCSC Deputy Commander for Resource Management. "The professionalism and excitement reflecting MCSC clearly came through to everyone who attended. Even the Mary Washington staff stated how impressed they were."



Karen Gillaspie, Workforce Management and Development's Recruitment and Marketing Manager, speaks with a job candidate at the Command's Job Fair. Gillaspie was the lead for the event. (Photo by Shannon Davis)



Liz Brown of Workforce Management and Development (WMD) helps a job candidate at one of the Job Fair's WMD screening stations. (Photo by Shannon Davis)



Brigadier General Frank Kelley, then-Colonel and Chief of Staff, now-Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command, speaks with a job candidate waiting in line at the Command's Job Fair. (Photo by Shannon Davis)

According to Gillaspie the Command held the Job Fair to address critical recruitment shortfalls. The event was set up so would-be job candidates could submit resumes ahead of time. MCSC selected 99 candidates for pre-scheduled interviews; but all resumes submitted at the Fair itself were accepted. The Command screened walk-ins at different stations before they were advanced to the next station or selected for interviews.

"Only the candidates deemed a better match for the vacancies were allowed to advance to the interview rooms," Gillaspie said. "More than 85 percent of walk-in candidates advanced to the Competency Domain screening stations from the WMD screening stations. And 60 percent of those were found to be a match to our vacancies and received onsite interviews."

The Competency Domain staff provided the interviewers and subject matter expert recruiters, and Corporate Communications handled most of the publicity. Besides press releases and word of mouth, the Command used social media to spread the word to specific interest groups.

"The targeted marketing worked well since a significant number of candidates had the qualifications we were looking for," Gillaspie said.

The successful publicity also created some long lines. MCSC's senior military leadership walked the lines, speaking with the

attendees and keeping spirits up. About 20 percent of those interviewed filled out surveys and provided mostly positive feedback.

"It was the best I've been to," wrote one job candidate on his survey. "This was the first time I felt relaxed in an interview and comfortable."

"It operated smoothly," another candidate said. "Interview was enjoyable. It was an all around good experience."

"Very professional and handled the right way, considering the number of persons to be interviewed," an additional job candidate stated on her form. "Very well organized. I appreciated the courtesy and professionalism of the event staff."

With positive comments like this, and the Job Fair's large numbers, no wonder the event was considered a "mass hiring success."

— By Bill Johnson-Miles, MCSC Corporate Communications



Ignacio "Iggy" Filgueira (left) of Information Systems and Infrastructure talks with a job candidate at one of the Job Fair's Competency Domain screening stations. (Photo by Shannon Davis)

Paying Forward

TRASYS walks in rain to defeat Lou Gehrig's Disease

More than 20 Marine Corps Systems Command employees from Training Systems (TRASYS) were not deterred by storm clouds and intermittent rain while walking in a fundraising event in Orlando, Fla. They honored their commitment to the 10th Annual Orlando Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Walk in April.

"We're here today for the ALS patients who struggle every day with this disease," said Cecilia Hansborough, TRASYS Team Captain. "They are truly our heroes."

ALS, a fatal motor neuron disorder, is most commonly associated with baseball player Lou Gehrig. It is a paralyzing disease afflicting about 30,000 people in the United States each year. The cause of ALS is still unknown. Genetics are believed to play a minor role, but it's often not diagnosed until middle age. It affects more men than women and does so without prejudice to race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status.

Studies conducted by the Veteran's Administration and School of Public Health also correlated military service to an increased risk of ALS. The reasons are still unclear; however environmental factors such as chemical exposure, intense physical activity and physical trauma are believed to be strong influences.

"I decided to join the TRASYS ALS team when I learned that military service members had an increased risk of ALS over the general public," said team member Carol Thomas.



The "paying forward" mindset by the Training Systems group helped make them one of the top 10 teams and resulted in a trophy for team dollars donated to support amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. They also earned an award for the most creative team T-shirt. (Photo by Carol Thomas)



Out of 103 Orlando, Fla., teams in this year's amyotrophic lateral sclerosis fundraising effort, Training Systems placed eighth and raised close to \$4,000 for the cause. (Photo by Carol Thomas)

"Many of our Command members have service connections - retirees, active duty, reservists or military family members," said Anthony Carbonari, a team member and a retired Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer. "The military is accustomed to using teamwork to fight the enemy. ALS is certainly a devastating enemy."

"Before I joined the team walk I had limited knowledge of ALS," added Suzanne Rupert, TRASYS team member. "It's a very frightening disease. Imagine not being able to walk, talk, swallow or breathe!"

Many are unfamiliar with ALS, its stealth attack on the neurological system and the short life expectancy of patients upon diagnosis. Brittany Unsworth had never heard of Lou Gehrig's disease until volunteering for the TRASYS ALS team.

"What we are doing here today is significant to ALS patients, their caregivers and families," Unsworth said.

Out of 103 Orlando-area teams in this year's ALS fundraising effort, TRASYS placed eighth, earning the group a trophy for team dollars donated to ALS. The team's "paying forward" mindset helped the volunteers raise close to \$4,000 for the cause. They also earned an award for the most creative team T-shirt.

"Nearly all of the money raised supports ALS research, quality care and equipment for those affected by ALS," stated team member Teri Pecosini. "It's one of the charities where most of the proceeds are used for the benefit of the patients."

Discovering a cure has also been on the agenda of the country's lawmakers. In 2008 Congress established a nationwide registry that seeks to identify cases of ALS. The registry can be accessed at www.cdc.gov/als.

"The registry is such a great idea," said Sandra Davey, TRASYS team member. "Considering that the life expectancy of ALS patients is only three to five years after being diagnosed, it's important to identify and track patients so they can be helped quickly."

"I'm proud of the whole volunteer TRASYS ALS team," stated Colonel David Smith, Program Manager for Training Systems. "They've done a terrific job raising money and also raising awareness of this devastating disease. And we had fun as a team walking around downtown Orlando, too, even in the rain."

— By Sherri Marquis, TRASYS

In His Honor

Sunset Parade salutes Marine who fought for U.S. and Israel

Born in the lull between two world wars, fleeing ahead of Europe's anti-Semitic tide to freedom in the United States, then turning around and fighting against that tyranny and finally battling to create a new nation on distant shores, Louis "Lou" Lenart might be forgiven if he took a parade in stride.

Not so.

"I am honored to be here," said Lenart as a Marine Corps Sunset Parade Guest of Honor. He spoke these words at a reception prior to the actual Parade.

"I'd like to tell you that I'm very grateful," he

said. "I have been truly blessed that I have the opportunity to be here and to have served the United States of America during World War II."

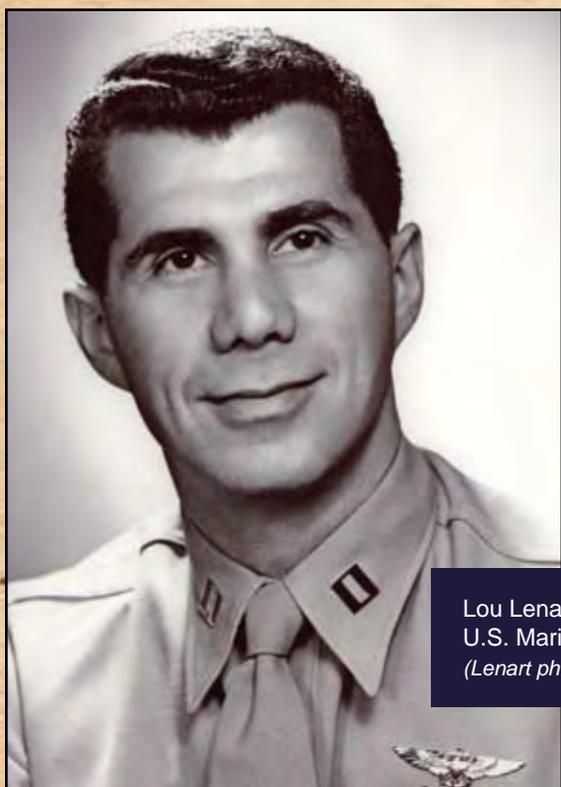
Every Tuesday evening during the summer the Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C., presents a Sunset Parade near the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Va. It features the "Commandant's Own" U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, and the Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. It is also hosted by different commands.

Marine Corps Systems Command hosted a Parade in July with Lenart as the Command's guest. His appearance is an example of Marines honoring a fellow Marine, but one with a decidedly different upbringing and background than many in the Corps.

Lenart was born to the Lenowitz family in Hungary in 1921 and, at age 10, immigrated with his immediate family to the United States where they changed their name to Lenart. As a youth he followed the rising tide of anti-Semitic forces in Germany. Soon after the National Socialist Democratic Party took power in Berlin they began their systematic harassment and imprisonment of Jews. When Germany attacked its neighbors in 1939, Lenart wanted to fight the Nazis and, in 1940, joined the Marine Corps.

During fighter training near El Toro, Calif., a low-altitude, midair collision between his aircraft and another nearly killed the new pilot. Told by Navy physicians that he would never fly again and might

not walk on his shattered legs, Lenart persevered and, predictably, was in the cockpit again in a year. He flew



Lou Lenart served as a Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. (Lenart photo)

the Chance Vought F4U Corsair during the Battle for Okinawa, made numerous attacks on mainland Japan and remained in the Pacific until the Japanese surrender in September 1945.

“As far as the Marines are concerned,” he said, “I will forever be grateful to them for giving a young man the opportunity to excel.”

After the Marine Corps released him from service, Lenart soon learned that his relatives, who had remained in Hungary, had been murdered at Auschwitz. In 1948, as a combat veteran, he volunteered to fly for the Jewish underground then seeking a free Jewish state. For a while he clandestinely flew military supplies from Europe into British Mandatory Palestine.

Then Lenart and other pilots went to Czechoslovakia to learn to fly the Avia S-199 Mezec (Mule), a Czech-built version of the World War II Messerschmitt Me-109. On May 14, 1948, Israel declared independence and was immediately besieged by neighboring nations. The Mules were quickly taken apart, airlifted to Israel and reassembled.

On May 29 Lenart and three other pilots, each with less than two hours in the fighter, launched at dusk to attack an Egyptian mechanized brigade of 10,000 troops supported by tanks and artillery at Ashdod, only 16 miles south of Tel Aviv. In the tight aerial battle space with Israeli forces amassed on one side and Egyptian forces on the other, Lenart swooped in between. “I felt like I was protecting Israel with my wings,” he said.

The Israeli’s untested aircraft, armed only with 20-millimeter cannons and 70-kilogram bombs, made history when the Egyptians, confused by the “secret air force,” halted their offensive, dug in and later retreated into the

Captain Lou Lenart stands in front of his plane during World War II. (Lenart photo)

desert. Lenart, flight leader for the air attack that stopped the shocked Egyptians, is its sole surviving pilot. One Mezec was lost in the attack and another was damaged beyond repair.

Although Lenart flew other missions, he used his World War II experience to serve on the southern front as an “air controller.” Lenart’s squadron is now known as the famed 101 “Death Angels” Squadron of the Israeli Air Force. The Hollywood movie “Cast a Giant Shadow” is based on this historic story.

After the war Lenart participated in an operation to rescue Iraqi Jews and bring them to Israel. A man of many talents, he later flew for El Al, Israel’s national airline, conducted aerial mapping missions over the jungles of Central America, moved back to the United States and produced major motion pictures including “Iron Eagle” and “Iron Eagle II.”

In the early 1980s Lenart led the San Diego Clippers of the National Basketball Association as the organization’s General Manager. He later returned to live in Israel. Today he resides in Tel Aviv, has two daughters and is currently active as a lecturer.

At the Sunset Parade, looking back on his many long and storied years, the warrior once more thanked the organization that set him on course for

his successful battles. “The Marine Corps gave me the character and resolve to always do the right thing,” he said. “When it comes to my life, I think I was born for that mission.”

— By Jim Katzaman, MCSC
Corporate Communications

“The Commandant’s Own” U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps performs during the Sunset Parade. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)





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Family Fun Day



For the second year in a row, the Command held its Family Fun Day picnic on the parade deck in front of Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) headquarters, Bldg. 2200. And even though the weather was very hot and humid, a large number of MCSC and Program Executive Officer Land Systems team members and their families attended the event.

Photos: 1) Volunteers serve the traditional picnic fare including baked beans. 2) Little ones splash around the rubber duck pool. 3) A young lady enjoys a pony ride, a new and popular activity this year. 4) Young family members enjoy the slide. 5) A child enjoys the balloon animal she received from Lola the Clown. 6) A talented girl keeps a lot of hula hoops in motion. (Photos by Bill Johnson-Miles)



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In May Marine Corps Systems Command participated in the Corps' second Marine Week, this time in Boston. Thousands of spectators came out to Boston Common and other locations to climb aboard Marine vehicles and equipment, to look over weapons and gear, and to meet members of America's Marine Corps.

Photos: 1&2) Lindy Kirkland, with the Robotic Systems Joint Program Office, maneuvers a robot to chase a young Marine Week attendee. 3) Sergeant Terry Walker of Infantry Weapon Systems explains a weapon to interested Boston citizens. 4) Chester Pennell of Training Systems provides a young shooter some guidance in the Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer. 5) (From left) Commandant of the Marine Corps General James Conway speaks with Captain Jon Mohler, Captain Ric Bridgett and a Boston visitor in the Combat Operations Center. The Captains are with Marine Air-Ground Task Force Command and Control, Weapons and Sensory Development and Integration. (Photos by Jennifer Gonzalez)

Marine Week BOSTON

MCSC additional events



Jim Houston (right) of Armor and Fire Support Systems explains the Internally Transportable Vehicle (ITV) to congressional staffers and Rep. Mike McIntyre (near vehicle), North Carolina, during Marine Day in late April. The ITV, part of the Expeditionary Fire Support System, now falls under Ground Transportation and Engineer Systems. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*

Members from seven different Command teams attended one of two Defense Acquisition University's Leadout Simulation classes in April. The Strategic Change Management Center organized and sponsored the classes. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*



Ms. Ann-Cecile McDermott (center), Deputy Commander for Resource Management, conducted two Financial Management Leadership Off-Sites. This group of Financial Management Competency Leads and the Director of Financial Management leadership met in May, while another group met in June. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*



Dr. John Burrow (top photo, far right), Executive Director, Marine Corps Systems Command, presented Facilities, Services and Supply team members with awards in April for all their hard work during the two large snow storms last winter. They were also treated to a pizza party. *(Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)*





Process clears path for military acquisition career progression

For Rich Reager, the action has been a long time coming. The Ground Acquisition Occupational Field Sponsor at Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) is leading the way to revalidate the 8059 Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) Force Structure for acquisition management professionals. The final product would give acquisition officers a clear path for professional development.

“Many officers are not on an optimal career path because the current force structure is dated,” Reager said. “We want to ensure our Marine Corps acquisition professional officers are being assigned to and are serving in our most key and critical acquisition billets. That is also going to facilitate the promotion of our senior uniformed leaders in acquisition.”

The ongoing Ground 8059 Force revalidation, the culmination of four years’ work, is defining an occupational field that has not been very clear cut since its inception, according to Reager. Through the revalidation, he said, billets will be singled out for acquisition professionals, and qualified Marines will be specifically assigned to those positions, starting as Majors.

In the last steps of the revalidation process, the Colonels Advisory Board met in May and moved forward to establish billet assessment criteria. The Total Force Structure Management

System and the Training Information Management System database created the baseline for the assessment.

One of the most important steps was to conduct individual billet review sessions. “We wanted to assess ground truth to see if our system is based on reality,” Reager said.

By the end of summer, Reager and his team planned to be at the final stage of revalidation. “We want to have changes in place in time to affect the February troop list,” he said.

To make that happen, the revalidation team had already submitted four Table of Organization and Equipment Change Requests by late May so they could start to correct personnel imbalances.

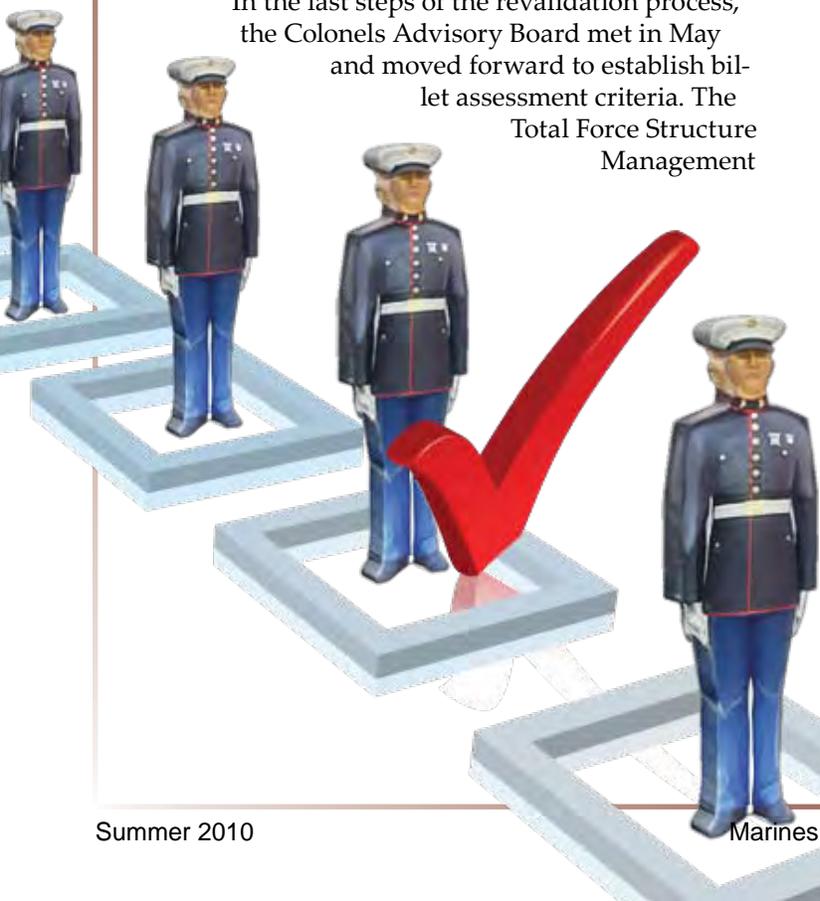
The revalidation will be a welcome development for those in the 8059 MOS, including Colonel Michael Bergerud, MCSC Chief of Staff. He entered the 8059 field as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2007. He said that would be harder to do today.

“Now we want to grow our Marines at an earlier stage as Majors,” he said. “That mostly involves process management. We want to make sure we have a good progression model for the different secondary MOSs that represent the field.”

– By Jim Katzaman, MCSC Corporate Communications



Colonel Michael Bergerud (left), Chief of Staff, Marine Corps Systems Command, talks business with Major Scott Willette of Programs. Both officers have the 8059 Acquisition Military Occupational Specialty. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Revalidation

Cresswell becomes DFM

Marine Corps System Command's (MCSC) new Director of Financial Management (DFM) is Michelle Cresswell. She was highly recommended by a panel of senior MCSC competency leads, senior organizations and Headquarters Marine Corps financial managers.

"Cresswell is a proven performer and leader with extensive experience in both government and industry working in financial management and cost estimating," said Brigadier General Michael Brogan, then-MCSC Commander. "She has established tremendous credibility in the Pentagon and on the Hill."

Prior to this position Cresswell served as the Director of Business and Financial Management for the \$40

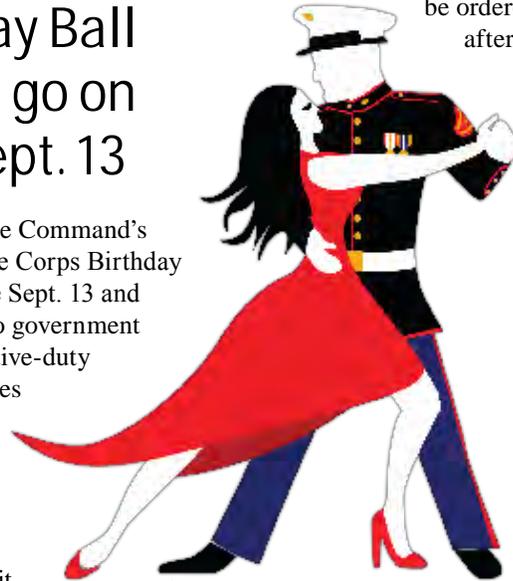
billion Joint Acquisition Category 1 Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Program, where she managed all joint business and financial efforts of the highest-priority acquisition program in the Department of Defense.

Birthday Ball tickets go on sale Sept. 13

Tickets for the Command's 2010 Marine Corps Birthday Ball go on sale Sept. 13 and are available to government employees, active-duty military, retirees and defense contractors on a first-come, first-served basis. Ball Committee unit ticket sales representatives will sell tickets through noon Oct. 22 unless tickets sell out prior to that date.

Tickets are limited, and it is recommended that attendees purchase them early. People who buy their tickets during the first few weeks of sales will be eligible for a variety of pre-ball prizes, which in the past have included a free hotel room and ticket cost reimbursements. The block of hotel rooms set aside for Ball attendees is expected to sell out early this year. Those wishing to spend the night should make their reservations as soon as the accommodations become available.

Save the Date – The Ball will be held Nov. 6 in the same location as last year, the Grand Ballroom at the Renaissance Hotel, 999 9th St. NW, Washington, D.C. Providing the dance music is a Fredericksburg group called CoverUp. There will be a \$10 sitting fee for photos and packages can be ordered via the Internet after the ball.



Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) will continue to host a series of Birthday Ball fundraising events in the upcoming months to help defray the cost of tickets and to let all junior enlisted Marines and their dates attend free of charge. It is expected that each MCSC product group, department and unit will

conduct some kind of Ball fundraiser. Organizers of these events should contact Birthday Ball Committee fundraising representative Cathy Kummer at (703) 432-3722. The committee is also selling MCSC clothing and memorabilia, including Command coins. To purchase items or place orders visit Priscilla Johnson-Miles at Security in Building 2200.

Watch TIGER for more information concerning the Ball or call (703) 432-3277 or 3288.

Annual block training is mandatory

The annual block training is mandatory for all personnel assigned to Marine Corps Systems Command and must be completed by the end of the calendar year. This training includes



Carl Owens, the Army's Program Manager for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicles, presents Michelle Cresswell with a gift at her farewell event in July. Cresswell is Marine Corps System Command's new Director of Financial Management. (Photo by Barb Hamby)

online courses and a live briefing from Security.

The Security portion will be held in the General Alfred M. Gray Research Center. Government employees can register now via the Command Calendar or the Workforce, Management and Development (WMD) pages on TIGER. The required briefing covers the Information and Personnel Security Program, information assurance and counterintelligence. Once the training is complete it will automatically be recorded to your Individual Development Plan through the TIGER Learning Center.

The WMD page on TIGER also provides information regarding the required online courses. Block training is an annual refresher mandated by Executive Order, Department of Defense and Secretary of the Navy instructions.

For more information, contact J. Erickson, (703) 432-4460 or jeffrey.p.erickson@usmc.mil.

Open season approaching for federal workers

The next open season for federal employees to change health, dental, vision and flexible spending accounts will be Nov. 8 through Dec. 13. Life and long-term care insurance programs do not have annual open seasons. Eligibility for these programs can be determined at any time.

All enrollment change forms must be submitted by midnight on the last day of open season. These changes will go into effect on the first day of your first full pay period in January 2011. For more information, visit the Office of Personnel Management website at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/index.aspx>.



Law changes CSRS and FERS

The “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010,” Public Law 111-84, was signed into law by President Barack Obama in October 2009. This bill contained landmark changes to both the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS).

There are six different sections under this bill stating the new law and its immediate effect on Department of Defense employees. Such sections include:

- Section 1901 - Credit For Unused Sick Leave under FERS
- Section 1902 - Limited Expansion of the Class of Individuals Eligible to Receive an Actuarially Reduced Annuity Under the CSRS
- Section 1903 - Computation of CSRS Annuities Based on Part-Time Service
- Section 1904 - Authority to Deposit Refunds under FERS
- Section 1905 - Retirement Credit for Service of Certain Employees Transferred from District of Columbia Service to Federal Service
- Section 1911-1919 - Non-Foreign Area Retirement Equity Assurance

For more information on these various sections and their components, visit <http://www.public.navy.mil/donhr/Benefits/resources/Pages/Default.aspx>, or if you have any

questions, call the Benefits Line at (888) 320-2917 and select menu option 4 to speak with a Customer Service Representative (CSR). CSRs are available from 7:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, except on federal holidays. The TTY number for the deaf and hard of hearing is (866) 328-9889.

Boost your career with Toastmasters

In 1924, Toastmasters International was founded to help millions of men and women become more confident speakers. Its learn-by-doing agenda is set up to help any professional, student, stay-at-home parent or retiree become a more effective and efficient leader. The program teaches members how to effectively formulate and express ideas, and how to be more persuasive and confident when giving presentations or dealing with one-on-one situations.

If this is your goal, you are invited to join the Quantico Toastmasters Club which meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. at Quantico’s Life Long Learning Center. For more information, visit www.choptm.org.

– *Compiled and written by Danielle Bivens, MCSC Corporate Communications*





Snapshots

Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Reilly presents his daughters with flowers at his Change of Charter ceremony in June. The Lieutenant Colonel replaced Lieutenant Colonel A.J. Pasagian as the new Program Manager for Infantry Combat Equipment. (Photo by Jennifer Gonzalez)



Jim Irwin (center), former Director of Workforce, Management and Development, investigates a special gift he received during his retirement party in June. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Jim Poole of Facilities, Services and Supply shows a snake he captured in one of their buildings in May. (Photo by Gary Garrett)

Robin Howard serves Kyler Truba a piece of birthday cake during a Life Cycle Logistics event in May. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



George Seidl (center), formerly of the Strategic Change Management Center, dances while others cheer him on during his retirement "roast" in June. (Photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Lance Corporal Sabrina Maxwell, a Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity (MCTSSA) Maintenance Management Specialist, enjoys barbecue and birthday cake in July with her 11-month-old daughter Taylor at the end-of-day festivities that concluded MCTSSA's week-long 40th anniversary celebration. (Photo by Tom Prothro)

Marines On Point encourages members of the Command to submit snapshots of co-workers. Printed photos may be delivered to magazine staff members in Building 2200, Room 153, or mailed to *Marines On Point* magazine, Corporate Communications, 2200 Lester St., Quantico, VA 22134. High-resolution digital photos may also be emailed to MCSCPAO@usmc.mil. Please identify all people in each submitted photo and the person who took each photo as well.

MARRINES

Marine Corps *Birthday Ball*

Marine Corps Systems Command
Program Executive Officer Land Systems

SUPPORT THE BALL

Purchase Command Shirts and
Memorabilia at Security Office

Attend Birthday Ball
Fundraisers

Enjoy the Social Event
of the Year



SAVE THE DATE

November 6, 2010

Renaissance Hotel
Washington, D.C.

Fundraisers and profits from sales help defray the
cost of tickets and enable all Command junior
enlisted Marines to attend the Ball for free.

Tickets go on sale Sept. 13
Ball unit ticket representatives will
be selling tickets through Oct. 22.
People who purchased tickets
early eligible for prizes.

For more information:
703-432-3277 or 703-432-3287

