

# MCTSSA



OneSource Brief

First Quarter, 2014

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND FAMILIES OF THE MARINE CORPS TACTICAL SYSTEMS SUPPORT ACTIVITY

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- MCTSSA & AVTB Happenings • MCTSSA personnel in the News

*Marine Corps' Networking  
On-the-Move Goes Afloat  
with developmental testing  
by MCTSSA & AVTB*



# Promotions



Corporal Obardiah S. Goodrich



Corporal Issac Hernandez



Lance Corporal Stacey Y. Quintero



Corporal Gerald L. Holman



Lance Corporal Mirna Pacheco



Sergeant Dillan J. Holland



Sergeant Jerry J. Flicek Jr.



Lance Corporal Joseph E. Musgrove



Sergeant Alicia A. Smith



Corporal Brandon L. Gordon



Sergeant Seth A. Perry



Lance Corporal Nicklas D. Zachariason



Lance Corporal Tobias Condon



Corporal Samantha K. Tilley



—LANCE CORPORAL—

- Tobias Condon
- Joseph E. Musgrove
- Mirna Pacheco
- Stacey Y. Quintero
- Nicklas D. Zachariason

— CORPORAL —

- Sherman T. Compton
- Tyler E. Fannon
- Obardiah S. Goodrich
- Brandon L. Gordon
- Issac Hernandez
- Gerald L. Holman
- Estephani A. Soto
- Samantha K. Tilley

—SERGEANT—

- Jerry J. Flicek Jr.
- Dillan J. Holland
- Seth A. Perry
- Alicia A. Smith
- Kyle A. Titus

—GUNNERY SERGEANT—

- Shaun M. Finch

—MAJOR—

- Robert A. Rogers

# Decorations

## Meritorious Service Medal

Major Steve Schnur

## Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal

Sergeant Hector Gonzalez  
 Corporal Alicia Smith  
 Sergeant Jacob McDonald  
 Sergeant Christopher Rosario  
 Corporal Logan Swank  
 Sergeant Felipe Magallon  
 Sergeant Timothy R. Melius, Jr.

## Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal

Corporal Tyler Fannon  
 Corporal Cory Life  
 Corporal Aaron Shows



Colonel C.B. Snyder, MCTSSA's CO, presents Tyler Fannon (left photo) with the Meritorious Service Medal for his superior performance while serving with the 2nd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company. Fannon was promoted to Corporal in February (right photo), the Good Conduct Medal. Corporal Aaron Shows was also awarded the Good Conduct Medal by Major Jason A. Filos, AVTB's Deputy Director.



Corporal Sherman T. Compton



Gunnery Sergeant Shaun M. Finch



Colonel C.B. Snyder presents Sgt Timothy Melius, Jr., the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his superior performance while serving with the 2nd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company.

## Awards & Commendations



Community supporter Richard "Tate" Young of First Command congratulates Sgt Jeremiah Gillette (left) for his selection as MCTSSA's NCO of the Quarter and LCpl John Kimlinger for being named MCTSSA's Marine of the Quarter. Sgt Gillette's achievements included the fabrication of multiple pieces of equipment for program managers across Marine Corps Systems Command that were used during each Operational and Developmental Test Evolution at MCTSSA. LCpl Kimlinger was noted for his performance as a test maintenance specialist while supporting the Common Aviation Command and Control System Phase 2 and Air Defense System verification and validation test.



### NCO & Marine of the Quarter

1ST QUARTER, FY 14:

NCO: *Sgt Jeremiah S. Gillette*

Marine: *LCpl John M. Kimlinger*

2ND QUARTER, FY14:

NCO: *Cpl Jordan A. Rogers*

Marine: *LCpl Roger Ortiz-Martinez*



Dave Francisco (left) and Mehdi Chitgari from Military Automotive Solutions, ClassicChariots.net present LCpl Roger Ortiz-Martinez from TISG a commemorative plaque and other gifts for being selected as MCTSSA's Marine of the Quarter for 2nd Quarter, FY14. In support of a Joint Interoperability Test and Joint Range Extension software test, Ortiz-Martinez provided over 150 hours of testing support.

# Civilian Awards



**THE QUARTER CENTURY PLUS CLUB:** MCTSSA's CO, Colonel Snyder congratulates Murray Roe for achieving 30 years of Federal Service, 13 years of which were with MCTSSA in various positions. Also pictured, from the left, are Myron Malanczuk, 35 years of Federal Service; Dr. David Rathgeber, 35 years of Federal Service; and Michael Merriweather, with 30 years of Federal Service.

## FEDERAL LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS

- Ray Clermont (35 years)
- Carmelo Gutierrez (35 years)
- Steve Lerner (35 years)
- Myron Malanczuk (35 years)
- Tim O'Malley (35 years)
- David Rathgeber (35 years)
- Larry Troffer (35 years)
- Marette Dejong (35 years)
  
- John Bowlds (30 years)
- Michael Merriweather (30 years)
- William Riddle (30 years)
- Murray Roe (30 years)
- Wilredo Santiago (30 years)
- Todd Bigalke (30 years)
  
- Brad Friedman (25 years)
- Tim Schoen (25 years)
- Roger Williams (25 years)
- Michael Lowe (25 years)
- James Baker (25 years)
- Sang Tran (25 years)
- Minh Nguyen (25 years)
  
- Eric Healey (15 years)
- Tanya Gonzales (15 years)
- Atila Kayar (10 years)
- Matthew Willis (10 years)
- Larri Schroeder (5 years)
- Billy Bertrand (5 years)

## Incentive Awards

- Patrick Hammer
- Brian Lehman



Matt Willis, 10 years Federal Service



Atila Kayar, 10 years Federal Service  
 Todd Bigalke, 30 years Federal Service  
 Michael Lowe, 25 years Federal Service  
 Marette Dejong, 35 years Federal Service



James Baker, 25 years Federal Service  
 Billy Bertrand, 5 years Federal Service

*Since the beginning of the year, 22 MCTSSA Civilian Marines have logged more than a Quarter Century of Federal Service*

## Civilian Awards



### CIVILIANS OF THE QUARTER

MCTSSA's Commanding Officer Colonel C.B. Snyder presents Timothy Harris from the Program Engineering Support Group the Activity's Civilian of the Quarter Award for the 1st Quarter during an all-hands meeting. Harris spearheaded the technical effort to diagnose and remedy network failures at a Marine unit using a newly fielded waveform, thus providing technical evidence required to prevent a costly firmware roll back.

Brian Lehman receiving a "time off" award from MCTSSA's Executive Officer, LtCol Michael Carter. Lehman was recognized for his work in improving operations within the Classified Material Control Center.



## Stork Announcements



- Matt & Lisa Kimbrell, a girl, January 9, 2014
- Cpl Simeon & Patricia Pagdilao, a girl, February 13, 2014
- Cpl Aaron & Lydia Shows, a boy, February 16, 2014
- SSgt Timothy & Leanna Melius, a boy, March 3, 2014
- SSgt William & Vilma Algarin-Mendoza, a girl, March 4, 2014
- Andrew & Amanda Sharp, a girl, March 17, 2014

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The youngest attendee at this year's LINKS orientation event held at MCTSSA in early March



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# MCTSSA Hosts LINKS Orientation

In March, MCTSSA hosted a Lifestyle, Insights, Networking, Knowledge and Skills (L.I.N.K.S.) orientation program that's designed to enhance the readiness of Marines, both single and married, and their families. The orientation included mentorship by experienced and knowledgeable Marine Corps spouses, Marine Corps Family Team Building personnel, and MCTSSA staff— as well as information sharing, small group discussions and interactive activities. "The LINKS program offers an orientation to the Marine Corps lifestyle, and helps spouses, Marines, children, teens, parents, and extended family members understand and adapt to the unique challenges of military life," say LtCol Michael Carter, MCTSSA Executive Officer and Family Readiness Officer. "Though very beneficial for all, the curriculum targets those who are new to the Marine Corps community. MCTSSA has challenges unique even within the Marine Corps, and with so many newly married Marines at MCTSSA, the Command Team felt it was important to take advantage of the opportunity to host our own, tailored LINKS training."



## Marine Corps' Networking On-the-Move Goes Afloat

**E**nhancing the commandant's efforts to move the Marine Corps back to its expeditionary amphibious roots, Marine Corps Systems Command has successfully tested a robust mobile command-and-control capability integrated onto the Assault Amphibious Vehicle, or AAV, platform. This amphibious tactical command-and-control capability is one that neither the Corps nor Navy had previously possessed.

Known as Networking On-the-Move, NOTM is now fielded on two other Marine Corps' platforms—the HMMWV and Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected All-Terrain Vehicle. NOTM is an evolutionary system, based upon the capabilities of the Mobile Modular Command and Control systems successfully employed in Afghanistan since 2009.

Now—after successfully completing more than seven weeks of rigorous amphibious testing conducted at Camp Pendleton, Calif., by the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity and Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch—NOTM is destined for fielding on the AAV.

*“This gives the Marine Corps an amphibious command-and control enabling capability that we never had before, particularly a network on the move, on the water.”*

“This gives the Marine Corps an amphibious command-and-control enabling capability that we never had before, particularly a network on the move, on the water,” said Chris Wagner, NOTM lead engineer. “Existing amphibious command-and-control units don't work on-the-move in terms of the network. This new capability allows them to keep moving—ship-to-shore. They do this while still being connected to the networks and their unmanned aerial vehicles, getting downlink feeds from the sky and doing command and control while going onto shore, and, of course, maintaining connectivity to the follow-on objective.”

To test this new amphibious capability, mission scenario data developed from Marine Corps experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan—were distributed via secure wireless local area networks to commanders and staff aboard an amphibious staff vehicle from the point-of-presence amphibious vehicle, or POP-V, which also contains the wideband-Ku satellite communications system. The system also allows full-motion video from UAVs operating over a landing beach to be pulled down to the POP-V. The video is then transmitted in real time to staff amphibious vehicles and network, allowing everyone to see what's on the beach.

“The success of NOTM is going to allow us to further develop expeditionary maneuver warfighting capabilities, not being reliant upon the capabilities that only exist thus far at the stationary Combat Operations Center,” said Maj. Keith Kovats, NOTM project officer. “We're allowing the commanders to push the fight at a significantly higher tempo.”

All the NOTM-equipped AAV testing was conducted within a realistic, operational framework. In addition to testing for shock, vibrations and pressure issues arising from transitioning the vehicle in and out of surf, travelling extended distances in differing sea states and terrain surfaces, the AAV testing included the boarding and disembarking from the USS Anchorage, an amphibious transport dock ship.

“We needed to put the AAV into an operational context,” Kovats said. “Swimming through the surf, coming to and going away from the beach; driving through and operating at the halt in the training areas at Camp Pendleton, together with the Anchorage demonstration, serve to simulate as best as possible the operational mission profile of an AAV.”



For the testing of the Networking On-the-Move command-and-control system afloat, an Assault Amphibious Vehicle was configured as a point-of-presence amphibious vehicle, or “POP-V.” Equipped with a wideband-Ku satellite communications system, the POP-V—shown approaching the beach at the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity at Camp Pendleton, Calif.—enables for the first time mission data and full-motion reconnaissance video from unmanned aerial vehicles to be distributed via secure wireless local networks. The data flows to commanders and staff aboard another amphibious staff vehicle as both vehicles operate on the move on land or at sea.

*“The success of NOTM is going to allow us to further develop expeditionary maneuver warfighting capabilities...”*



Sporting a new, ruggedized Ku satellite communications antenna, a Network-on-the-Move equipped Assault Amphibious Vehicle takes its first ocean dip, commencing seven weeks of rigorous testing by MCTSSA of this first of its kind command and control capability.

*MCTSSA & AVTB Testing demonstrates new amphibious command & control enabling capability for the Marine Corps it had not previously possessed*



All Networking On-the-Move-equipped Assault Amphibious Vehicle testing was conducted within a realistic, operational framework. This included transitioning of the NOTM-AAV in and out of surf, traveling ex-

tended distances in differing sea states and terrain surfaces, and the boarding and disembarking from the USS Anchorage, the amphibious transport dock ship shown here operating off Camp Pendleton's coast.

The MCTSSA tests, conducted at the Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch, were not a retest of the NOTM system itself; rather it entailed testing of the core NOTM functions mounted on the AAV. To eliminate potential operator errors, MCTSSA introduced automated scripts to provide continuous data such as email, tactical chat and other transmissions that would normally come from operators. Likewise, to eliminate connectivity issues created by vibration and shock common to a tracked vehicle, the system's satellite communications antenna was ruggedized.

"We've been planning the NOTM [AAV variant] testing from the summer of last year," said Scot Hoesly, a MCTSSA technical support officer and lead NOTM tester. "For the execution testing, which lasted seven weeks, we did six tests, some of which were conducted multiple times, plus four special requirement event tests. Additionally we ran AAV 12-hour, 30-minute mission profile testing a series of test segments that puts the AAV through what an AAV is expected to do."

This extensive range of oceangoing testing by MCTSSA successfully demonstrated that the NOTM system could maintain connectivity in a variety of terrains, land-to-sea movements and ocean conditions.

"We weren't sure how it was going to work on the water, because communications on the water tend to be very iffy," Wagner said. "For one test, we went out of the harbor, and we were looking up at the waves. It wasn't an issue; the system

continued to run in that sea condition, maintaining connectivity with the command vehicle."

Besides having a crew of professional developmental testers and engineers doing the evaluating coupled with a virtualized Command Operations Center broadcasting from one of MCTSSA's labs the NOTM testing also included Marine AAV crewmen, NOTM operators, and command-and-control systems operators. These Marines operated the NOTM and C2 systems throughout the operational relevant scenarios.

"We had 26 Marines from the 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion and one corpsman participate, and they have been essential to this entire event," Wagner said. "They have operated the vehicles across a rigorous schedule. The Marines start at 6 a.m., prepping the vehicles, then safety and mission briefs, followed by the launch, often returning at 3 p.m. or later. We put 40 land miles on a vehicle one day, and the next day we would go out in the water, and the next day 20 more miles."

For each day's real-world testing scenario executed during the field user evaluation, the Marines provided feedback of their thoughts, reactions and experiences with system.

Besides providing a new command-and-control capability, equipping the AAV with the NOTM system will help sustain the Marine Corps' current capability to conduct amphibious forcible entry operations in uncertain or hostile environments. ■



Riding aboard the staff AAV, Tony Atwell from SPAWAR and MCTSSA tester Ed Salipane work at NOTM staff positions connected to a virtualized Combat Operations Center used during for the NOTM developmental testing.



## *"Work hard, play hard"*

**S**ometimes we get distracted in our daily routine and forget about our accomplishments and the impact we are having. This edition of the newsletter really encapsulates the dedication, hard work, and technical contributions of MCTSSA and AVTB to the Marine Corps.

"Work hard, play hard" was a common theme not so many years ago. The chili cook off certainly proved especially "hard" for samplers of the hot or nuclear category. With smoke rising out of the workforce craniums, it is a wonder the fire department did not show up. We definitely have some talented chefs out there who can look forward to a second career. The team building day at the bowling alley was another big hit as Marines and civilians alike, displayed their bowling prowess in generating some speed, pin action, and a little money for the ball fund. Thanks once again to all who participated, but a special thanks to those organizers who stepped up and provided an opportunity for all to have fun.

There will be many changes coming in the upcoming months. I encourage everyone to stay engaged and be prepared for opportunities to meet new members of the team. Be on the lookout for more information on Multicultural Day, Science Week, and the Beach Bash.

It's an honor and privilege to be your Commanding Officer, and I take great pride in this organization.

Semper fi and thank you for what you do for our country.

*Col Chris Snyder*

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*"There will be many changes coming in the upcoming months. I encourage everyone to stay engaged and be prepared for opportunities to meet new members of the team."*

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## Major General Nicholson & Dr. Kim Deal Visit MCTSSA & AVTB



Major General Lawrence Nicholson (right), commanding general of 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, Calif., receives an on-the-spot brief from NOTM lead engineer, Chris Wagner, while touring a Networking On-the-Move-equipped Assault Amphibious Vehicle (AAV) being tested by MCTSSA at the Amphibious Vehicle Test Branch. By adding NOTM technology to the AAV platform, the Corps gains an amphibious tactical command-and-control capability that it had not previously possessed.



Dr. Kim A. Deal, (center) Director of Marine Corps Field Operations Evaluation Group for the Center for Naval Analyses, a federally funded research and development center for the Navy and Marine Corps, receives update on the Marine Corps Network Efficiency Lab (MCNEL) by MCTSSA's Technical Director, Michael Canterbury (left) and Network Engineer, Captain Nate Phillips.

## NGEN Team Nets Prestigious SPAWAR "Lightning Bolt" Award

The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) has presented the Navy and Marine Corps' Next Generation Enterprise Network (NGEN) Test and Evaluation team with its prestigious "Lightning Bolt" award for the team's exceptional, highly complex network testing and engineering achievements and excellence while transitioning legacy systems of Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) network to NGEN, the Navy's and Marine Corps' new, government-owned enterprise information technology (IT) backbone.

Composed of the Marine Corps Systems Command and Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems personnel, the Marine NGEN Team received the "Lightning Bolt" award from SPAWAR's Commander, Rear Admiral Patrick H. Brady, and Pat Sullivan, SPAWAR's Executive Director.

"This (Lightning Bolt award) is for the team," said Admiral Brady. "When I say the team, I'm not just talking about the Marines and Sailors but also our industry partners that are here day-in and day-out working. I want you to put it in a prominent location, and I want you to remember that what you achieved is no small feat."

The NGEN program was initiated to return government proprietorship of all day-to-day enterprise IT network operations to the Marine Corps and Navy after more than a decade of NMCI contractor ownership and operation. Besides garnering billions of dollars in savings, the return of government of network and enterprise ownership also fully supports the Marine Corps' C4 enterprise network Unification Plan, a vision to bring all disparate networks under one operational umbrella with 21st Century IT capabilities focused on the warfighter's needs.

"There were probably 200 folks that came together from a dozen Navy and Marine Corps commands and activities that made this all this happen; this award is for them as well," said Steve Lerner, NGEN's USMC Test and Evaluation Lead, who along with David Rodenberger, NGEN's Navy Test and Evaluation Lead, received the team award at a SPAWAR San Diego Awards Ceremony.

The Marine NGEN test team provided extensive testing over a two-year period at MCI East and Quantico to establish and prove user transition capabilities and processes needed before taking total ownership. "In essence, our team saved the government a lot of time and money to

successfully reestablish the capabilities needed to conduct IT processes that the USMC hadn't used in many years," said Lerner. "Today, the Marine Corps portion of NGEN is operational."

The transitioning from NMCI to NGEN was invisible to the user, comments Lerner. Functionally, there were no changes to user, but now the Marine Corps can update and make changes to the network faster, because "... you don't have to worry about tasking a contractor to do it."

"It means more ownership," says Lerner, who is posted at the Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity (MCTSSA) at Camp Pendleton. "It means we have the ability to start combining all the disparate Marine networks with everything falling under the same user umbrella, which will be more user friendly."

Besides Lerner and Rodenberger, other key members of the Navy/Marine NGEN team who were recognized as a result of the award include, from the Marine Corps, Stephen Mason, Marty Brown, Rob Winkler, Jeff Wiley, and Steven Osgood; and from the Navy, Aron Kirksharian, Peter Nguyen, Adam Koros, Joseph Hayes, Andrew Tash, Intae Kim, Lyle Ostensen, Will Jordan, Mike Lee, and Mark Rohrbach. ■

# MCTSSA's Hoesly named Marine Corps Tester of the Year

The National Defense Industrial Association, or NDIA, has named Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity's Scot Hoesly as the Marine Corps Civilian Tester of the Year.

Hoesly, a MCTSSA technical support officer, was recognized for being the catalyst in testing and evaluating four different command-and-control Marine Corps Systems Command systems, including the activity's extensive testing of differing Network-on-the-Move, or NOTM, mobile communications system platforms.

"It's an honor and motivating to have your work recognized with this award," Hoesly said. "I enjoy what I do; it's always a challenge, but I really like doing it."

Each year, NDIA recognizes persons who have made significant contributions to the field with Tester of the Year awards in three categories: military, civilian and contractor.

*"The entire MCTSSA team is very proud of Scot's impressive accomplishments as an emerging technology tester"*

"The entire MCTSSA team is very proud of Scot's impressive accomplishments as an emerging technology tester," said MCTSSA Commanding Officer Col. Christopher Snyder. "He has set the bar high here at MCTSSA through his testing knowledge and skills, while truly supporting the operating forces and Marine Corps Systems Command project officers."

Hoesly began his 11-year MCTSSA career as a test director and then became a technical support officer. Because of his broad testing background, however, he is routinely assigned to projects involving the significant testing of emerging technologies. In the case of NOTM, Hoesly



Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity technical support officer and Marine Corps Tester of the Year Scot Hoesly surveys the Network-on-the-Move Ku satellite communications antenna housing mounted aboard an Assault Amphibious Vehicle. Hoesly directs MCTSSA's testing of the NOTM/AAV platform that, when fielded, will provide a significantly new amphibious command-and-control capability to the Marine Corps.

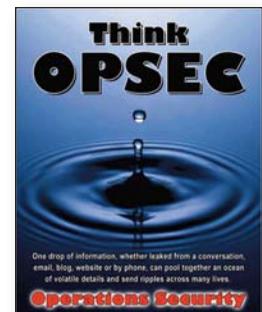
volunteered to lead MCTSSA's effort, defining requirements and designing specific tests that were comprehensive and aligned with the overall program goals and objectives

The NOTM system has been placed on three Marine Corps platforms: Humvees, then the Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles and now Assault Amphibious Vehicles, or AAVs. Having performed testing on the first two platforms, Hoesly is now directing the meticulous NOTM testing on the AAVs, a significantly new platform capability that includes full-motion video technology. ■



**I**f you are traveling outside the U.S. on leave or TAD Orders, you **MUST** complete a Foreign Travel Notification on MCTSSA's KMP 60 days prior to your departure date. Once you return from your trip, you have five working days to complete the "Post Travel Questionnaire" located at the bottom of your original foreign travel notification submission.

**Did you know...**



## Meet MCTSSA's new Director of Resources and Comptroller

An undergraduate of the University of Arkansas and Marine veteran turned civilian, Dr. Lance Raymond has joined the MCTSSA community as its Director of Resource Management and Comptroller, which includes overseeing workforce development as well as the comptroller duties.

Prior to being recruited to MCTSSA, Dr. Raymond worked for five years within Marine Corps Systems Command's (MCSC) office of the Director of Financial Management at Quantico, where he was best known for shepherding congressional appropriation matters and program financial reviews. His MCSC background also includes serving as the Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation Branch Head for the Director of Financial Management, external audit liaison, instituting paperless record keeping, as well as responsibility for signing multi-million dollar funding documents. So what brought him to MCTSSA?

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*"When I heard about this job opening up—and having actually worked with a lot of MCTSSA's people—I knew this would be a good environment and a great opportunity to be where the rubber meets the road and to be part of a respected workforce."*

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"When I heard about this job opening up—and having actually worked with a lot of MCTSSA's people—I knew this would be a good environment and a great opportunity to be where the rubber meets the road and to be part of a respected workforce," says Raymond. "I was very happy when I learned of this opportunity."

When he arrived at MCTSSA—and despite his extensive background in Marine Corps Systems Command—Raymond was a bit overwhelmed by the technical jargon and acronyms routinely bandied about at MCTSSA, as well as surprised at the expanse and depth of MCTSSA's technical efforts.

"I had no idea how much goes on here: how important the testing, evaluation, and trouble-shooting is for program management and the C4 community, and I was completely oblivious to the vast support MCTSSA provides to the warfighter around the world. I'm just getting my feet wet; the technical, information technology side—connecting the programs with the money—is the biggest challenge I have right now."

Dr. Raymond is also a living example that it is always professionally rewarding to continue your education while still working. He completed his Masters in Business Administration at National University, and in December 2012, he added PhD to the end of his name, after successfully completing—mostly on-line—his doctorate through The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. He paid for his education with MCSC tuition assistance and the Montgomery



**Dr. Lance Raymond**

G.I Bill benefits he received while serving in the Marine Corps.

Dr. Raymond doesn't miss the weather and snow that has plagued Quantico this winter. He says his wife, also a former Marine, is "very ready" to join him.

Unlike his predecessor, Dr. Raymond is competency-aligned and direct report to MCSC's Deputy Commander for Resource Management Michelle Cresswell-Atkins, making, for the first time, the MCTSSA Director's position an integrated bridge between MCTSSA, MCSC, and the program offices. ■

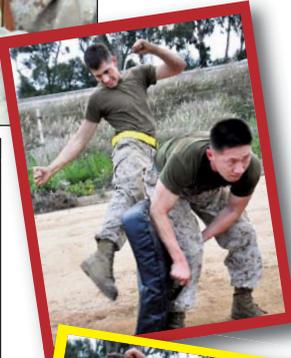
### *Riddle named CAP Chaplain of the Year*



MCTSSA's Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise (JUICE) guru and former Army aviator, Bill Riddle, volunteers time as a chaplain with the United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol. Assigned to Escondido Cadet Squadron 714, he also serves the South San Diego Cadet Squadron 201 in Chula Vista. He was recently recognized as the California Wing Chaplain of the Year.

## Semper Fu Day

Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity's Marines struck out before dawn for some serious Morning Moto March 21. Led by the activity's Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Warren, the Marines completed six Marine Corps Martial Arts Program maneuver stations circling a two-mile track. The rigorous physical training and team-building exercise included squad pushups; kicks and punches; fireman's carries and body squats; and a final two-mile run.





### MCTSSA Team wins an AFCEA PlugFest Award

One of the more interesting technology demonstration environments during the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) West 2014 conference held in San Diego "PlugFest" a live, unscripted demo where industry, academia, and government teams compete and demonstrate their ability for solving government problems using an approach called Rapid Integration Innovation Process (RI2P).

The Marine Corps Tactical Systems Support Activity Team

(MCTSSA) was among the successfully competitors, garnering a \$500 prize (insert) presented by AFCEA Vice President Eric Wostreich, which was contributed to MCTSSA's Marine Corps Ball Fund. Brian Higa (left of display screen) Vikas Azad, and Patrick Hammer (right of screen) formed MCTSSA's engineering team for the three-day competition, which included public demonstrations and briefings to crowds of conference attendees and students. ■



Co-sponsored by AFCEA International and the U.S. Naval Institute, West 2014 was the largest event on the West Coast for those interested in C4I systems and technology. This year's experience also saw significant interest in MCTSSA and Marine technologies, demonstrated and discussed by Sgt Jennifer Feliciano and MSgt Richard Cole (above) and Sgt Brandon Gordon, left.

## Marine Corps Birthday Ball Activities

As we have noted before, MCTSSA's Sergeant Major Kenneth Warren is determined to have another successful Marine Corps Ball.

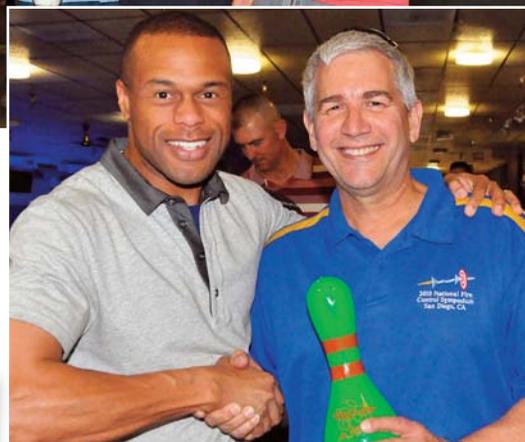
As soon as last year's ball ended, he has launched a series of fundraising events in support of this year's 239th Marine Ball, which will be held this coming November 7th at the Pala Casino Resort and Spa.

The Sergeant Major's latest—and successful—Ball fundraising events included MCTSSA's Bowling Tourney, the Chili Cook-off, and a noon-day barbecue, that “happened” to coincide — much to his surprise—on what was the CO's birthday.

What's next? How about the annual Golf Tourney, scheduled for this coming May. ■



Divided into teams, 90 bowlers participated in MCTSSA's Team Building Bowling event and Ball Fundraiser. Presented with bowling pins for having the highest team average by MCTSSA's XO, LtCol Michael Carter and Sgt Maj Kenneth Warren (left) were Kevin Armstrong, Kurt Husman, Jim Wells, Larry Denn, and Robert Bartnicki.



Murray Roe wins a Green Bowling Pin presented by LtCol Michael Carter for achieving the highest game score of 216.



At MCTSSA's annual Chili Cook off contenders endeavored to put their special recipes and best fixings together to win swaggering rights for having the best chili at MCTSSA. Divided into chili categories of regular, unique, and hot for the competition, five judges repeatedly clearing their pallets with water or milk between tastings then determined which chili would win the coveted titles of “Best Mild” and “Best Spicy,” as well as the “Best Overall Chili.” Of the 21 contenders who entered the contest, Julie Kozlowski of MCTSSA's security office landed the “Best Overall Chili” title and bragging rights for the year.

**Insert:** Ricky Williams discovering what the cook meant when he named his chili “Solar Flare.”



Sergeant Major Kenneth Warren's wife Helen (left)— while hosting a quad barbecue to raise funds for the MCTSSA's Marine Ball surprised the MCTSSA's CO, Colonel C.B. Snyder with a unique dessert: a cake to celebrate his 48th birthday.