

# GET TO THE POINT

MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND  
MONTHLY EMAG - MAY 2013



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## GET SOME

Nearly 90 Marines assigned to Marine Corps Systems Command participated in the quarterly Command Run April 19, at Quantico Marine Corps Base, Va. The three-mile run was hosted by MCSC Commander Brig. Gen. Frank Kelley and Sgt. Maj. Fletcher Pearson to build camaraderie and unit cohesion. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Jim Katzaman)



## CRESSWELL-ATKINSON ENTERS SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE

BY JIM KATZAMAN, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Michelle Cresswell-Atkinson took the Senior Executive Service Oath April 18 to officially become the newest Marine Corps Systems Command member of the SES.

Preceding her SES appointment, Cresswell-Atkinson served as the MCSC director of financial management and deputy comptroller. She also served as the director of business and financial management for the Joint Program Executive Office Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle Program. She was also the MCSC strategic financial manager for the Ground Transportation and Engineer Systems Product Group.

"After almost 25 years of my career, I'm the person I am today because of all of you," Cresswell-Atkinson said to her family, and Marine Corps and Navy colleagues after taking the SES oath.

FULL STORY



Brig. Gen. Frank Kelley, commander of Marine Corps Systems Command, gives Michelle Cresswell-Atkinson the Senior Executive Service oath during her SES induction ceremony April 18 in Harry Lee Hall at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

# Promotions & Retirements



## PROMOTIONS

Capt. Hans Carnice  
Capt. Patrick Jones

*Meritorious Civilian Service Awards*  
Axel Fait  
Theresa Walker

## AWARDS/HONORS

*Meritorious Service Medal*  
Gunnery Sgt. Geoffrey Nebocat  
Master Gunnery Sgt. Marvin Thorpe

*Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal*  
Capt. Scott Jennings  
Gunnery Sgt. Thomas Leonard  
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Brian Olsen  
Master Gunnery Sgt. Ronald Tipton Jr.

*Federal Length Of Service Awards*  
Fred Day, 35  
Barbara Fielding, 30  
Michael Halloran, 35  
Margot Haycook, 25  
Wendy Perry, 25  
Mary Provost, 30  
Buddy Rodgers, 35  
Michelle Scott, 30  
Shirley Shanahan, 30



Brig. Gen. Frank Kelley (left), Commander of Marine Corps Systems Command, presents a promotion certificate to Capt. Patrick Jones during his promotion ceremony April 1 at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, Va. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Monique Randolph)

*Retirement Awards*  
Paul Doe  
Douglas Elmy  
Axel Fait  
Sue Grunauer



## HAILS & FAREWELLS

### Welcome Aboard

Maj. Norris Alexander  
**Chief Warrant Officer 3**  
Thomas Dever  
Sgt. Mark Stimeling

### Permanent Change Of Station

Maj. Mark Braithwaite  
Master Sgt. John Nichols  
**Chief Warrant Officer 4**  
Brian Olsen  
Lt. Col. Brian Seiffert  
Col. Joseph Shrader  
Master Gunnery Sgt. Ronald Tipton Jr.



Axel Fait receives the colors from Col. Andrew Bianca, program manager for Infantry Weapons Systems, with the assistance of Staff Sgt. Kenneth Thorson. The flag was flown over Marine Corps Systems Command and was presented to Fait April 24 during his retirement ceremony. Fait served in the federal government more than 32 years, most recently as Marine Corps Systems Command's product manager for Anti-Armor Systems. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



**DAVE HANSEN** HAS BEEN SELECTED TO SERVE AS PROGRAM MANAGER FOR THE GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM-MARINE CORPS PROGRAM. HANSEN IS A SEASONED ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL WITH NEARLY 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN DEFENSE ACQUISITION POSITIONS. SINCE JOINING MARINE CORPS SYSTEMS COMMAND IN 1993, HE HAS SERVED IN ASSIGNMENTS WITH INFANTRY WEAPONS AND INFANTRY COMBAT EQUIPMENT PROGRAMS.

MOST RECENTLY, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE JOINT MINE RESISTANT AMBUSH PROTECTED VEHICLE PROGRAM WHERE HE SERVED FIRST AS THE DEPUTY PROGRAM MANAGER AND SINCE AUGUST 2011 AS THE PROGRAM MANAGER. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE ACQUISITION CORPS AND IS DEFENSE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE IMPROVEMENT ACT LEVEL III CERTIFIED IN BOTH PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND ACQUISITION LOGISTICS.

**ANDY RODGERS** HAS BEEN SELECTED AS DEPUTY PROGRAM MANAGER FOR COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEMS. A SEASONED ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL, HE HAS SERVED AS ASSISTANT PROGRAM MANAGER FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT IN CSS SINCE EARLY 2011. PRIOR TO THAT HE SERVED TOURS WITH THE MINE RESISTANT AMBUSH PROTECTED JOINT PROGRAM OFFICE AND WITH MOTOR TRANSPORT PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE IN THE FORMER PRODUCT GROUP 15.

RODGERS IS A MEMBER OF THE DEFENSE ACQUISITION COMMUNITY, DEFENSE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE IMPROVEMENT ACT LEVEL III CERTIFIED IN PM, AND IS A CERTIFIED PROJECT MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL. HE ALSO HOLDS DAWIA LEVEL I CERTIFICATION IN LIFECYCLE LOGISTICS, PRODUCTION QUALITY AND MANAGEMENT, AND TEST AND EVALUATION.

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Cindy Davis (left), Marine Corps Foreign Disclosure program manager, speaks to Mike Ansley, Marine Corps Systems Command's Foreign Disclosure team lead, and Staff Sgt. Antonio Navarro and Christina Balocki of the Director of Marine Corps Intelligence at Headquarters Marine Corps, during the 2013 Marine Corps Foreign Disclosure Working Group meeting. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

## MCSC HOSTS FOREIGN DISCLOSURE WORKING GROUP

BY BILL JOHNSON-MILES, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Three foreign disclosure officials, or FDOs, who work for International Programs at Marine Corps Systems Command conducted this year's Marine Corps Foreign Disclosure Working Group, a meeting hosted by MCSC last week at the Gray Research Center in Quantico, Va.

responsibility], to hear firsthand what MCSC is about and how our foreign disclosure program works," Ansley said.

The working group's objectives included providing training to FDOs and key personnel who work FD issues, developing better FD guidance, networking with peers and updating training and career path information for the FD community.

"The majority of FDOs are at operational commands," said Cindy Davis, Marine Corps Foreign Disclosure program manager, PP&O. "They are more concerned with foreign disclosure as it applies to sharing operational and intelligence information during exercises, operations and during visits by foreign personnel."

She also outlined the times command personnel should contact their FDO.

That call should be made "as soon as they know they will be in contact with a foreign person or government," Davis said.

Foreign disclosure is the review, release determination and sanitization, if required, of all U.S. government-controlled information prior to its release to a foreign entity

"Safeguarding controlled information helps the U.S. maintain the technological edge," said Mike Ansley, MCSC foreign disclosure team lead. "The other part of FD is sharing with partners."

Plans, Policies and Operations at Headquarters Marine Corps asks a different command to host the annual Foreign Disclosure Working Group.

"I welcomed the opportunity for others to come into our [area of

FULL STORY

# By The Numbers

- 1986**: THE YEAR MARINE GUNSMITHS BEGAN MODIFYING THE M1911 PISTOL — THEY NAMED IT THE MEU(SOC) .45
- 4**: THE NUMBER OF TIMES BRIG. GEN. KELLEY HAS TESTIFIED ON CAPITOL HILL AS MCSC COMMANDER
- 43**: THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN DISCLOSURE OFFICERS IN THE MARINE CORPS — UP FROM **2** IN 2004
- 438**: THE NUMBER OF MCSC CONTRACT ACTIONS IN APRIL
- \$132,690,479**: THE TOTAL AMOUNT PUT ON CONTRACT BY MCSC IN APRIL

## HOSPITAL POINT VOLUNTEERS DOCTOR MOTHER EARTH

BY BILL JOHNSON-MILES, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

On April 22, more than 30 MCSC volunteers joined the millions in 192 countries who participated in the 43rd annual Earth Day. Employees, contractors and family members planted flowers and picked up trash and debris around Hospital Point and along the Potomac River and Quantico Creek shoreline.

"I believe this year was the least amount of trash we've picked up thus far," Wood said. "I participated for the third year and have noticed what a difference each year has made."

Volunteers at MCSC's Reconnaissance and Amphibious Raids also deployed two open-water safety crafts and deposited 50 Marine Corps Base Quantico Marines on Potomac River beaches to assist in the base cleanup.

Some of the unusual items they picked up included tires, a large plastic cooler, inhalers, lighters, flip flops, a car's bumper, a sweater, a bowling ball and what appeared to be railroad tracks.

MCSC's Earth Day event was organized by Poppy Harrover of the command's Safety Directorate. This was her third year managing the project.

According to Harrover, about 80 percent of this year's volunteers have participated all three years.

"The first year at Hospital Point we had 45 volunteers and collected the most trash," Harrover said. Susan Wood of Combat Support Systems guessed that 800 pounds of trash was picked up this year.

"The dedication of the Earth Day volunteers to ensure the beaches are spotless shows a dedication to our command, our mission and our MCSC family," Harrover said.



Volunteers carry a heavy piece of metal off the Potomac River beach April 22 during Marine Corps Systems Command's third annual Earth Day and Shoreline Cleanup event. MCSC's Safety Office orchestrated the event held at Hospital Point, Quantico, Va. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

Marine Air-Ground Task Force Command, Control and Communications sponsored a Chili Cook-Off Birthday Ball fundraiser the same day and provided each volunteer with a free chili lunch.

FULL STORY

# MCSC TRAINS MARINES ON NEW CLOSE QUARTERS BATTLE PISTOL

BY MONIQUE RANDOLPH, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS



The Marine Corps Base Quantico Special Response Team and Marines from the Weapons Training Battalion fire the M45A1 Close Quarters Battle Pistol during a New Equipment Training class April 10. The pistol replaces the Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) .45-caliber pistol, and will be fielded to Marine Corps Special Operations Command, reconnaissance organizations and military police special response teams across the Marine Corps. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Monique Randolph)

Members of the Marine Corps Base Quantico Special Response and Marines from the Weapons Training Battalion at Quantico, participated in New Equipment Training for the M45A1 Close Quarters Battle Pistol April 10. The pistol will be fielded to Marine Corps Special Operations Command, reconnaissance organizations and military police special response teams across the Marine Corps.

“The new equipment training is two-part,” said Mike Flanagan, Ordnance Test Facility team lead. “One part is for maintainers. We teach them what they would normally learn at the basic schools—how to care for, maintain and repair the weapon. [In the second part] we teach the operators how to

disassemble, reassemble, care for and clean [the weapon], along with weapons handling that may include live fire.”

The commercially produced M45A1 replaces the Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) .45-caliber pistol previously custom made by the Marine Corps Weapons Training Battalion Precision Weapons Section in Quantico.

By 2009, the pistol receivers had become unavailable through the supply system and it was determined that another source of supply was needed, said Chris Goins, M45A1 project officer in Infantry Weapons Systems.

The M45A1 has drop-in replaceable parts so that it would not require the hand or machine fitting for maintenance and repairs needed for the MEU(SOC) .45 pistol. The M45A1 also has tritium night sights that glow in the dark without an outside power source and a military standard 1913 accessory rail so Marines can attach lights, lasers or other accessories to adapt the pistol to the operational environment.

Over the next few months, members of IWS will field the weapon and complete operator and maintainer training for the new equipment to selected Marine Corps units.

[FULL STORY](#)

## INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT, MILITARY VISIT MCSC EXHIBIT AT SEA-AIR-SPACE

BY BILL JOHNSON-MILES, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Hundreds of equipment items filled the Marine Corps Systems Command display for the Sea-Air-Space Exposition at the Gaylord National Convention Center in National Harbor, Md.

The 1,000-square-foot booth was just one of many at the expo heralding, “Maritime Crossroads: Strategies for Action,” during the show’s April 8-10 run on the outskirts of Washington, D.C.

Systems and equipment at the MCSC booth included those managed by Acquisition Logistics and Product Support; Combat Support Systems; Infantry Weapons Systems; Information Systems and Infrastructure; and Systems Engineering Interoperability, Architectures and Technology.

More than 25 MCSC subject matter experts manned the exhibit during the expo, including Chief Warrant Officer 3 James Hatcher of ISI.

“Many in the fleet and industry don’t understand what MCSC does, how we support the Marine Corps mission,” Hatcher said.

“We’re trying to help the public become more aware of how MCSC supports our warfighters, how we provide modern cutting-edge capabilities in the field and save lives,” added Mark Urrutic of Family of Field Medical Equipment. “This helps those at home who have sons and daughters, nieces and nephews, in the military.”

[FULL STORY](#)



Lt. Col. William Yates, Modeling and Simulation program manager under Systems Engineering Interoperability, Architectures and Technology, discusses the Framework for Assessment of Cost and Technology with a visitor April 8 during the Sea-Air-Space Exposition at the Gaylord National Convention Center in National Harbor, Md. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

# SYSTEMS COMMAND KICKS OFF 2013 MENTORING SESSION

BY MONIQUE RANDOLPH, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Marine Corps Systems Command kicked off a new mentoring program with orientation training for mentors, mentees and supervisors March 28 in Dumfries, Va. The program uses web-based tools to connect mentors and mentees based on criteria and information provided by employees who applied in February.

“MCSC has had a mentoring program since 2005, but this particular program is a prototype for sessions to come,” said Pam Null, mentor and leadership coordinator for MCSC. “This kick-off [event] starts a 10-month session for those who are matched with mentors. The program will help strengthen the connection between employees and organizational effectiveness.”

The orientation training included explanations of the program, roles and responsibilities for mentors and mentees, and how to use the various online tools, as well as a “speed mentoring” session that allowed the group to mingle and meet with potential matches.

“The training answers three questions,” said Kathy Wentworth Drahosz, facilitator for the mentoring program and president of Training Connection. “What is mentoring, why it’s important and how to find a mentor or mentee?”

Participants “have a voice in the matching process,” Drahosz said. Mentors and mentees review profiles, conduct interviews and recommend five potential matches. A combined team of experts from MCSC then suggest appropriate

matches based on the mentor’s ability to support the mentee’s needs.

Once the pairs are matched, they are encouraged to attend another formal training session. They also complete a mentoring action plan and a mentoring agreement that clarifies the expectations of the partnerships over the next 10 months.

The mentoring program is open to all MCSC employees on an annual basis. When available, information about the next session will be posted on VIPER. Employees may mentor or be mentored by individuals in separate geographic locations, so employees at all MCSC locations are encouraged to apply.

For more information about MCSC’s mentoring program, contact Pam Null at (703) 432-4488, or email [mentor\\_program@usmc.mil](mailto:mentor_program@usmc.mil).

FULL STORY

Participants in Marine Corps Systems Command mentoring program engage in a “speed mentoring” activity in which they were able to mingle with and get to know potential mentor and mentee matches. MCSC held orientation training for the 2013 mentoring session March 28 in Dumfries, Va. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Monique Randolph)



## ACQDEMO ASSESSMENT WRITING COURSES AVAILABLE ONLINE

BY TINA COBLE, MCSC WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The Department of Defense Civilian Acquisition Workforce Personnel Demonstration Project, or AcqDemo, Program Office offers online training to help employees author self assessments for mid-point reviews and annual appraisals. This cumulative, optional training consists of three courses offered via Defense Acquisition University’s online portal.

The first course is AcqDemo 101, which is similar to what Workforce Management and Development offers via its New Join Orientation training. The class includes an explanation of AcqDemo, its purpose, the six contribution factors and level descriptors, how the pay pool process works, and how scores and payouts are determined.

The second course is Contribution Planning. For employees, the course focuses on plan content and structure, as well

as tracking yearly contributions for mid-point reviews and annual appraisals. For supervisors, this course teaches how to use the contribution planning process to balance tasks among employees, what documents to share with employees and what to discuss during contribution plan preparation.

The third course, Writing an Annual Appraisal Self-Assessment, builds on materials from the Contribution Planning course. It address the materials necessary to write a self-assessment and the anatomy of an effective contribution statement.

Register online at <http://acqdemo.dau.mil/training.html>. For assistance, contact a member of the WMD Performance Management Team: [warren.williams1@usmc.mil](mailto:warren.williams1@usmc.mil); [tina.coble@usmc.mil](mailto:tina.coble@usmc.mil); [michael.mallinger@usmc.mil](mailto:michael.mallinger@usmc.mil); [leigh.baysden@usmc.mil](mailto:leigh.baysden@usmc.mil)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### HeritageMonthSpotlight

Marine Corps Systems Command would like to spotlight Asian American and Pacific Islander members of our workforce as part of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, celebrated each year during May. This year’s theme is “Building Leadership: Embracing Cultural Values and Inclusion.” Individuals interested in participating can email [michelle.conner@usmc.mil](mailto:michelle.conner@usmc.mil).

### SequestrationSharePoint

A SharePoint site has been established where Marine Corps Systems Command employees can get information about sequestration. Employees can submit questions, access a “Frequently Asked Questions” list and receive email alerts when new information is added to the site. The site may be accessed at <https://mcseviper.usmc.mil/sites/cs/wmdcrc/sequestration/SitePages/Home.aspx>. For questions or help, email [mcscpao@usmc.mil](mailto:mcscpao@usmc.mil).

### ALPSTownHall

Assistant Commander, Acquisition Logistics and Product Support will hold a Town Hall from 1-4:30 p.m. May 20 at Little Hall Base Theater, Quantico, Va. Attendance is mandatory for the ALPS workforce; however, members of the lifecycle logistics workforce, interested MCSC employees, support contractors and external agencies are welcome to attend.

### SSEBWorkshop

A Source Selection Evaluation Board workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 29-30 in Dumfries, Va., for members of the acquisition and contracts workforce, and contract officer’s representatives. The course will cover legal issues, regulations, proper evaluation of a proposal and more. To enroll, visit <https://mcsceviper.usmc.mil/sites/cs/wmdcrc/lc/SitePages/Home.aspx>. For more information, email [beverly.hobbs@usmc.mil](mailto:beverly.hobbs@usmc.mil).

### VIPERTraining

Computer-based training is now available for Vital Information Portal for Enterprise Resources, or VIPER, users. The VIPER CBT provides a short interactive overview of the homepage and tabs on the page. Access the CBT via the “Training” link on the VIPER homepage.

### MandatorySupervisorTraining

Supervisors and hiring managers—including military supervisors of civilian employees—are required to take Merit Systems Principles for Hiring Managers training by June 30. The training is designed to increase awareness of the merit systems principles and prohibited personnel practices and applicable standards governing the workforce. The training is available at <https://twms.nmci.navy.mil/login.asp>.

# Family Readiness ON POINT



Inside:

- Bring Your Child To Work
- Family Readiness
- Calendar of Events
- Family Power Hour
- Family Fun Day
- Family Photos

COMMUNICATING - CONNECTING - CARING

## Kids at Work!

Ariel Kisiah, daughter of Aimee and Stephen Kisiah, both with Resource Management, checks out a weapon at the Infantry Combat Equipment display April 25 during Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



### CHILDREN LEARN WHAT THEIR PARENTS ACCOMPLISH AT MCSC BY BILL JOHNSON-MILES, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

"Our Marine heroes in Afghanistan think your parents are the heroes," Col. Michael Berg-erud, Program Manager for Marine Intelligence, told the children attending his command brief April 25 during Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." He said warfighters think MCSC employees are heroes because they provide gear, equipment and systems that help Marines succeed and saves lives on the battlefield.

Children learned this and much more during the MCSC Diversity Program event hosted by PM MI.

"We learned to think," said Elijah Reynolds, the son of Resource Management's Elex Reynolds. "We learned what our parents do and how the money works. I think it's pretty cool."

"I think it's interesting, but I wouldn't want to do it," added Mya Currie, Elijah's sister.

Julia Bauer, the daughter of Infantry Weapons Systems' John Bauer, was impressed with her dad's job.

"He provides the backpacks and clothing to Marines," she said. "If he didn't, the Marines wouldn't have that stuff. So it's important."

Julia, Mya and Elijah are just three of more than 80 who participated in the event, according to Ward

*Story and photos continued on page 11*



## A Message from the Family Readiness Advisor:

Last month my family had a whirlwind week of spring break activities. We went camping at Lake Anna, flew kites at the D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival, watched a Nats

home game and went to the National Zoo. The only real thing missing was the “spring” weather. I can’t remember being any colder on a camping trip than on this past month’s adventure, but it was fun. The fish must have been cold, too, because they weren’t biting at all.

Thank goodness May is finally here, and we will all begin to enjoy some great (warmer) outside activities. The first flowers and gardens are sprouting, birds are nesting, and the cold temperatures are gone. What more could we want? I know my kids also love May because it is the last full month before school gets out for summer. They are already making their summer plans.

This month we celebrate Memorial Day, Mother’s Day, Armed Forces Day, Cinco de Mayo, the Kentucky Derby and other important days and events. May is also Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month. Take a moment to reflect upon the people and events that shape our lives. Never forget the sacrifices of those gone before us and remember all they have done. It is often through the sacrifices of others that we are able to pursue our dreams and live full lives today.

So let’s be thankful we have this beautiful month and make the most of it. Enjoy the holidays, special celebrations and wonderful weather with your family and friends. Plan a picnic, outdoor barbecue or other activity to get some fresh air and sunshine. Do it before the truly hot summer days arrive. I absolutely love this time of year!

Sincerely,  
Traci Kelley



## A Message from the Family Readiness Officer:

A week or two ago the Quantico post office was closed for a few hours because of a suspicious package. It re-opened with no incident to report – thankfully, a false

alarm. We all know what happened in Boston, and I’m sure you heard about the letters with ricin sent to government leadership. Events like these remind us to be observant of things going on around us. They also bring me to my main topic – the Family Care Plan, which helps families to be ready for the unexpected.

Last month the Marine Corps released its latest version of the Family Care Plan. All Marines must complete the new plan by March 25, 2014. The plan’s forms and documents are set up to help Marines record important information they may need in the event of a family emergency. The Family Care Plan is designed to help warfighters think through the unthinkable now, so should such an event strike their family, they will have access to information recorded when they were more clear headed.

This is a good idea for civilians and their families, too. We all need a plan to take care of our families when disasters and emergencies hit. Having a Family Care Plan is like being a Boy or Girl Scout: Always be prepared. One last thought, once you have your plan filled out, make sure family and friends know where it is located. When the worst case scenario happens, they will know how to find and implement your plan.

On the brighter side, Mother’s Day is just around the corner. Make sure you check the Quantico web page to learn about the special activities planned for the moms in our lives. Also, save the date and start planning to attend MCSC’s Family Fun Day, 12-3 p.m. June 20 on the command’s Parade Deck at Hospital Point. The rain date is June 24. Tickets will go on sale May 20. You won’t want to miss this annual gathering of MCSC families.

Sincerely,  
Mac McManus



## Family Readiness On Point Team Representatives:

Family Readiness Officer  
Family Readiness Advisor  
Single Marine Rep and Staff Sec Admin  
DC RM and Small Business  
DC SIAT (includes Safety)  
AC Programs  
AC ALPS  
AC Contracts  
PM ISI (PMM-110)  
PM MAGTF C3 (PMM-111)  
PM MI (PMM-112) and Ops Cell  
PM IWS (PMM-113)  
PM AFSS (PMM-114)  
PM CSS (PMM-115) and Office of the Counsel  
PM AMMO (PMM-116)  
GCSS-MC (PMM-230)  
JPO MRAP (PMM-301)  
JPM Protection (PMM-302)  
CMO  
Corporate Communications and Security  
International Programs

Mac McManus  
Mrs. Traci Kelley  
Cpl. Rodolfo Estrada  
Elizabeth Taylor  
Katie Ruskin  
Capt. Jason Lindauer  
Rod Montgomery  
Lorraine Foley  
Lavonne Robinson and Judith Campbell  
Chris Zaffram and Amy Knapp  
Mark Billow  
Shelly Bianca and Lori Forrest  
Chad Kernen and Jeff Nebel  
Bobbie Cave  
Master Gunnery Sgt. Larry Freetage  
Pam Sims and Veronica Ackers  
Derek Hutson  
Noel Saunders  
Frank Dumlaio  
Bill Johnson-Miles  
Antoinette Lloyd and Rick Wienert

KEEPING FAITH WITH OUR MARINES, OUR SAILORS AND OUR FAMILIES

**COMMUNICATING  
CONNECTING  
CARING**

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS**

**Family Readiness Officer:  
(703) 432-3861**

**Corporate Communications,  
Public Affairs:  
(703) 432-3958, mcscpao@usmc.mil**

**Command Officer of the Day  
(24-hour duty):  
(703) 432-3966**

**FRO**  
LINKING OFFICERS & FAMILIES

**ON POINT**  
COMMUNICATING. CONNECTING. CARING.

# Mark your Calendar

- May** *Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month*  
*National Military Appreciation Month*
- May 10 *Military Spouses Appreciation Day*  
 May 12 *Mother's Day*  
 May 13 *Lifeskills: Healthy Blended Families*, Quantico Religious & Family Service Center, 10 a.m.-noon  
 May 14 *Family Power Hour*, Topic: Quantico MCCS Services and Facilities Available to Civilians, Trailer 2209, 11 a.m.  
 May 14-16 *LINKS for Spouses*, Quantico Religious & Family Service Center, 5:30-9 p.m.  
 May 16 *Lifeskills: Emptying the Nest*, Quantico Religious & Family Service Center, 5-8 p.m.  
 May 17 *National Bike to Work Day*  
 May 18 *Armed Forces Day*  
 May 20 *Exceptional Family Member Program Town Hall Meeting*, McHugh Woods Community Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
 May 20 *Tickets go on sale for Family Fun Day*  
 May 25 *Quantico 50M Pool Opens*  
 May 27 *Memorial Day*  
 May 28 *Muffins with Mommy*, Quantico Religious & Family Service Center, 9-10:30 a.m.  
 May 29 *Managing Income Expenses, Savings and Credit*, Quantico Religious & Family Service Center, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- June**
- June 5-6 *New Join Orientation*, Bldg. 2207, Hospital Point  
 June 7 *Last Day of School: Quantico and Spotsylvania County*  
 June 14 *Flag Day*  
 June 14 *Last Day of School: Fredericksburg and Stafford County*  
 June 17 *Final day to purchase tickets for Family Fun Day*  
 June 18 *Last Day of School: Prince William County*  
 June 20 *Family Fun Day*, Parade Deck, Hospital Point (rain date: June 24), 12-3 p.m.



Cpl. Rodolfo Estrada  
MCSC Single Marine  
Program Representative

## A Message from the Single Marine Program Representative:

As the Marine Corps Systems Command Single Marine Program Representative, I attend Marine Corps Base Quantico's SMP meeting the first Wednesday of each month. If any MCSC single Marines have recommendations for events and activities, please let me know and I'll take the suggestions to the next meeting.

Also on the first Wednesday of each month, The Clubs At Quantico hosts a Troop Appreciation Day. This past Wednesday it was a Cinco de Mayo themed event with salsa dance lessons, Tex-Mex food, a DJ and door prizes. I don't know yet what the theme is for June 1, but it should be a lot of fun.

Speaking of fun, the SMP House (Bldg. 206) on Hill Ave. will be hosting a Spring Cleaning and Cookout 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 18. The house also offers free lunch and a movie night every Tuesday. Movies begin at 7 p.m. On the last day of May a Busch Gardens trip is scheduled. Get your free ticket at [www.herosalute.com](http://www.herosalute.com) and then be at the SMP house by 9 a.m. for free transportation to Williamsburg, Va. There's also a white water rafting trip scheduled for June 3.

SMP officials need 10 volunteers for a living history Memorial Day presentation at Riverview Elementary School on May 24. For more information on this or for any of the events and activities, call the SMP House at (703) 432-0363.

Sincerely,  
Cpl. Rodolfo Estrada



### May

- May 18 SMP House Spring Cleaning and Cookout, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- May 24 Memorial Day Presentation at Riverview Elementary School
- May 31 Trip to Busch Gardens, Williamsburg, Va., 9 a.m. departure

### June

- June 3 White Water Rafting Trip
- June 5 Troop Appreciation event at The Clubs At Quantico
- June 7 Trip to Water Country USA
- June 27 Trip to Six Flags

- Every Tuesday Free lunch at the SMP House, Bldg. 206, 11 a.m.
- Every Tuesday Free movie at the SMP House, Bldg. 206, 7 p.m.

## Upcoming Single Marine Program Events

SMP events are open to all active duty and Reserve single Marines. To register for events and trips, call the SMP House at (703) 432-0363. The SMP House is open for visitors and is a great place just to spend an afternoon or an evening. Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., Fridays 9 a.m. to midnight, Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to midnight and Sundays 9:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

# FAMILY Notes

## Family Power Hour covers MCCS services

The May 14 Family Power Hour will cover the Quantico base facilities, events and services that Marine Corps Systems Command employees and possibly their family members may use and attend. Marine Corps Community Services' Stephanie Tabor will present the seminar.

"The purpose of this Family Power Hour is to brief all of our command families about the base programs and activities available to them, regardless if they are Marine or civilian Marine," said Mac McManus, MCSC Family Readiness Officer.

The Family Power Hour, sponsored by the Family Readiness On Point Team, will take place from 11 a.m. to noon in Hospital Point's Trailer 2209 conference room. All command personnel and their family members are welcomed to bring lunches and participate in the discussion. Those wishing to attend need to send an email to [mcscpao@umsc.mil](mailto:mcscpao@umsc.mil) by May 13.

This will be the final Family Power Hour before the summer break. The next event will take place the second Tuesday in September.

## Bring loved ones to Family Fun Day, June 20

Bring all your loved ones to work for the command's Family Fun Day, 12-3 p.m. June 20 on the Parade Field in front of Marine Corps Systems Command Headquarters, Building 2200, Hospital Point. The rain date is June 24.

All family members are invited to participate in traditional picnic-type events and activities, which include face painting, balloon animal creations, moon bounce, water slide and pony rides. A DJ will play tunes, and door prizes will be given away. There will also be a dunk tank supporting the Command's Marine Corps Birthday Ball.

Traditional drinks and eats such as hot dogs and hamburgers will be available. The Family Readiness On Point Team is also looking at a catering company to provide additional food. Kids can also enjoy cotton candy, popcorn and snow cones.

The Commander's Cup competition is being organized by Infantry Weapons Systems, last year's winner.

Tickets go on sale May 20 and through June 5 tickets are \$6 per person with a

\$25 maximum charge for an entire immediate family of five or more. From June 6-17 tickets will cost \$8 per person or \$30 for family of five or more. Admission is free for Marines and children under age 12. Marines still need to sign up for their free tickets. Tickets will not be sold after June 17 and will not be sold on the day of the event.

To purchase Family Fun Day tickets, see your unit ticket representative. A list of representatives will be posted on VIPER. If you have questions about the event or to volunteer, contact Mac McManus at (703) 432-3861 or Bobbie Cave at (703) 432-3934.

## Mother's Day celebrated on base

The Marine Corps Exchange is offering a Mother's Day Sale Event and specials on Mother's Day fragrances through May 12. For more information, call (703) 432-8800.

Don't miss the Mother's Day Champagne Brunch with seatings at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., May 12, at The Clubs At Quantico. Call (703) 784-4264 to make reservations.

## LifeSkills workshops scheduled in May

Two LifeSkills workshops are available in May. The first workshop on healthy blended families will take place 10 a.m. to noon May 13. This workshop is designed to help Marines and family members gain a better understanding of the common and practical issues facing blended families. Topics discussed include stages of blended family development, and tips for nurturing and enriching the family relationship.

The second LifeSkills workshop on emptying the nest will be taught 5-8 p.m. May 16. Both workshops will be at the Quantico Religious & Family

Services Center. Call (703) 634-2672 to register for any LifeSkills workshops. LifeSkills training workshops offer skills and tools that enhance personal growth and education for both the individual Marine and their family member.

## L.I.N.K.S. sessions available for spouses

L.I.N.K.S. for Spouses will hold its next session 5:30-9 p.m. May 14-16 at the Quantico Religious & Family Services Center. Free on-site childcare is available. Reserve a seat by calling (703) 634-2663 or sending an email to [mcftbquantico@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:mcftbquantico@usmc-mccs.org). [Click here to register online](#). The session recognizes that as spouses begin their Marine Corps journey, there is no instruction manual. Connect with other spouses, while learning more about the Marine Corps lifestyle.

L.I.N.K.S., or Lifestyle, Insight, Networking, Knowledge and Skills, helps family members become part of the Marine Corps family. Volunteers are dedicated to welcoming Marines and their families into the Marine Corps community. Attendees network with other family members and increase their knowledge and skills as they learn to navigate the Marine Corps lifestyle.

## Ride your bicycle to work May 17

May 17 is National Bike to Work Day, and all employees are invited to ride their bicycles to work that day. Join more than 10,000 area commuters for a celebration of bicycling as a clean, fun and healthy way to get to work. Attend one of 70 pit stops throughout D.C., Maryland and Virginia to receive a free T-shirt, refreshments and be entered into a raffle for a free bicycle. Each pit stop will offer food and beverage, entertainment, dynamic speakers and chances to win prizes.

One of the pit stops is at the Dumfries Town Hall – Community Center, 17755 Main Street. The pit stop time is 7:30-9:30 a.m. The Dumfries pit stop contact is Cindy Neville. Contact her for more pit stop information: [cneville@dumfriesva.gov](mailto:cneville@dumfriesva.gov), (703) 221-3400, ext.144.

Riders must register for the event and select the pit stop they will attend to be eligible for prizes. Free t-shirts will be available for the first 12,000 registrants who are in attendance at the pit stop they are registered. [Click here to register](#).

EFMP Town Hall meeting set for May 20  
An Exceptional Family Member Program Town Hall meeting will be held 10:30-11:30 a.m. May 20 at the McHugh Woods Community Center. Free childcare will be provided onsite at the town hall upon request. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet a panel of representatives and discuss topics related to special needs. The primary purpose of the EFMP is to ensure the continuum of care for eligible family members by identifying families with special needs and maximizing the provision of medical, edu-



Sarah-Elizabeth Wagner's "Fox 10 Chili" was selected as the winner of the April 22 chili cook-off sponsored by Marine Air-Ground Task Force Command, Control and Communications, also known as MC3. Wagner's concoction was chosen over 14 other entrants during the Marine Corps Birthday Ball fundraising event on Earth Day. Wagner supports MC3. (U.S. Marine Corps photos by Bill Johnson-Miles)

cational and local services. If special accommodations are needed, inform EFMP 48 hours in advance. For more information, call (571) 931-0524.

### Enjoy Muffins with Mommy

Moms, spend a special morning with your little ones ages 3-5 and learn some new skills together at the "Enjoy Muffins with Mommy" workshop, 9-10:30 a.m. May 28 at the Quantico Religious & Family Services Center, Room 125. This is part of FOCUS (Families OverComing Under Stress), a program designed to train military families, couples and children to use strength-based resiliency skills to meet many of the challenges and stressors commonly experienced in the military. These skills fortify family cohesion, care and communication.

To RSVP, call (703) 784-0189 or email [quantico@focusproject.org](mailto:quantico@focusproject.org). Space is limited. Childcare for children 2 years and younger will be provided. Reserve childcare by May 23. [Click here for more information.](#)



### Learn how to manage expenses, credit

The Personal and Professional Development Program is offering a class on managing income, expenses, savings and credit. The class will take place 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 29 at the Quantico Religious & Family Services Center.

For more information, call (703) 784-2650, or visit their [website](#). Register online for the class by [clicking here](#).



### Appreciate military spouses May 10

In 1999, Senator John McCain introduced legislation to create National Military Appreciation Month. Both the Senate and House of Representatives adopted resolutions calling for Americans to recognize and honor U.S. service members during May each year. May is characterized by five national observances highlighting the contributions of each and this year includes Loyalty Day (1st), VE Day (8th), Military Spouse Appreciation Day (10th), Armed Forces Day (18th) and Memorial Day (27th). Military Spouse Appreciation Day recognizes the important role military families play in the U.S. armed forces. The Friday before Mother's Day

every year is set aside to honor military spouses. The following are some military spouse day activity links for May 10:

- Live Online Hangout with Mrs. Bonnie Amos, spouse of the Commandant of the Marine Corps
- Send a military spouse an E-Card
- Military Spouse Appreciation Virtual Career Fair
- Sign up to be a military spouse mentor or protégé

### Family SGLI benefits change

Service members married to other service members are no longer automatically enrolled in the Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program, Pentagon officials said.

The change was effective Jan. 2 and to date affects about 4,500 service members. Forms are available at all military finance offices. For a spouse 35 years old, the Family SGLI premium is \$5 a month.

Officials said that dual-service member couples should ensure the marriage is reported in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. They also urged service members to check their leave and earnings statements to ensure they are enrolled and are paying the correct premiums.

For more information, [click here](#).

## ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS CITE ACHIEVEMENTS BY JIM KATZAMAN, MCSC CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebrates the culture, traditions and history of these many nationalities in the United States. Observances at Quantico, Va., range from activities sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services to weekly meal specials served at the Marine Corps Systems Command Riverside Café. The Chief Management Office is coordinating MCSC activities for this observance as part of the command's diversity program.

Congress passed a joint Congressional Resolution in 1978 to commemorate Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week during the first week of May. This date was chosen because two important anniversaries occurred during this time: the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in America on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad (by many Chinese laborers) on May 10, 1869. In 1990, Congress voted to expand the observance from a week to a month long celebration. In 1992, the month of May was permanently designated as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month."

The 2013 theme is "Building Leadership: Embracing Cultural Values and Inclusion." Asian Americans have contributed to the growth of America in every walk of life for more than 200 years. From the arrival of Chinese and Filipino immigrants during the early 18th century through today, Asian Americans continue to contribute in the development of the nation.

Throughout U.S. history, Asian Americans have answered the call to defend and protect the nation and liberty. The dedication and valor of Asian American men and women can be traced in every American battle since the Civil War.

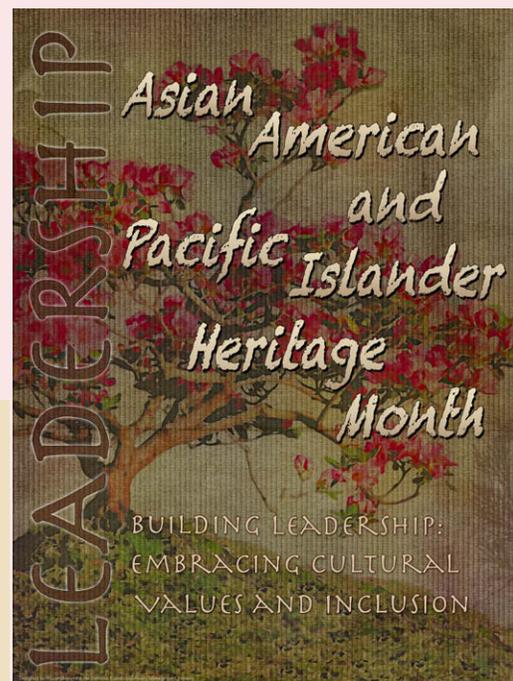
Among notable Asian Americans are Maj. Kurt Chew-Een Lee, the first regular Marine

Corps officer of Asian extraction; Pvt. Jose Nisperos, the first Asian and Filipino to be awarded the Medal of Honor; Col. Young-Oak Kim, first minority officer to command an Army combat battalion; Captain and later Senator Daniel Inouye, Medal of Honor recipient in World War II, president pro tempore of the Senate and highest-ranking Asian American politician in U.S. history; and Gen. Eric Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff and current secretary of Veterans Affairs.

The Quantico library will feature easy-reading books related to this subject during children's story time hours at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Education Center. For more details, see the Marine and Family Programs section of the Quantico MCCS website at <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/>.

At the Riverside Café, Wednesdays throughout May will feature different Asian-themed menu items. See their listings for details.

**In proclaiming May as Asian-American Pacific Islander Month, President Barack Obama acknowledged the contributions of Japanese Americans who fought for the United States during World War II and called on Americans to learn more about the history of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders. The Defense Department answers the president's call in this American Forces Press Service special report highlighting their accomplishments. [Click here to view the special report.](#)**



Warren, PM MI operations manager. "It was very successful," Warren said. "The youth who attended were engaged and attentive. The feedback we received was all positive."

"I want to thank the team for the outstanding job everyone did in support of the event," said Amy Cooper of Ground Combat Supports Systems - Marine Corps. "My daughter had a great time and really felt special. The whole team made her feel like a VIP."

Daughters and sons from ages 7 to 18 were first issued their VIP Marine badges, then they visited their parents' work space, attended an MCSC overview brief, toured an Infantry Combat Equipment display of weapons and gear, and enjoyed a pizza lunch.

Brig. Gen. Frank Kelley, MCSC commander, joined the children during the afternoon meal.

John Bauer of Infantry Weapons Systems and his children, Julia and Lucas, visit Bauer's cubicle April 25 during Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



"I want you to feel very proud of your parents, because I am very proud of them," Kelley said. "Your parents make it happen."

At the end of his visit with the youngsters, the commander gave them an order.

"Ask your parents what their job is," Kelley said. "Find out what they do here. Then feel proud and thank them, and thank them for me, too."

# Bring Your Child To Work Day



During Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day" April 25, Brig. Gen. Frank Kelley, MCSC commander, speaks to a young attendee. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

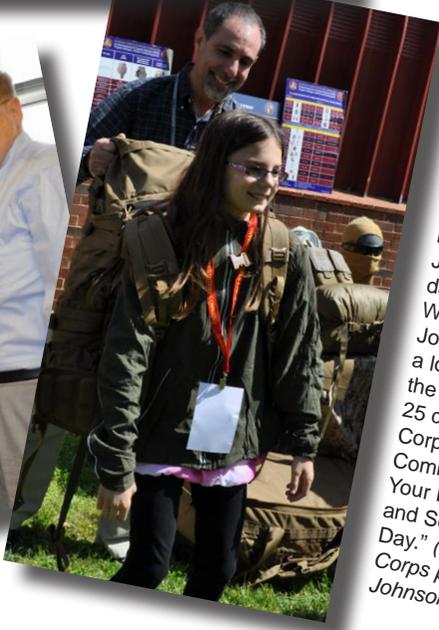


Capt. Jason Latta of Programs helps his son, Jack, with a weapon at the Infantry Combat Equipment display April 25 during Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

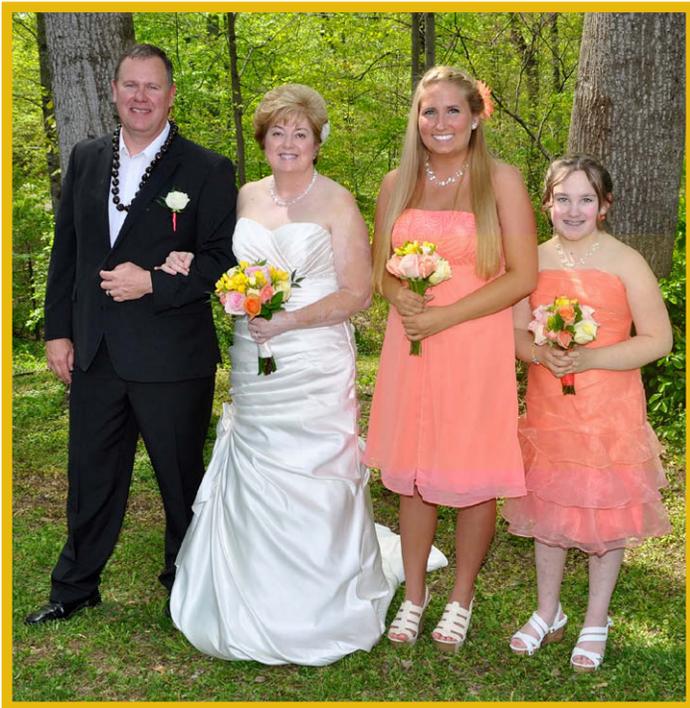


From right, Yolanda Lopez, Ashley Cox and Winter Johnson-Farrish, all with Marine Intelligence, serve pizza April 25 during Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

David Maylum and his son Jeremiah stand by the bell on the Bldg. 2200 Quarterdeck at Hospital Point April 25 during Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." Jeremiah was actually baptized with the help of this bell in 2002. His is one of many inscriptions inside the bell indicating baptisms. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



Miguel Reis of Infantry Combat Equipment helps Julia Bauer, daughter of Infantry Weapons Systems' John Bauer, try on a loaded pack at the ICE display April 25 during Marine Corps Systems Command's "Bring Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day." (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)



## Tying the Knot

Cathie Opsahl (formerly Cathie Kummer), a contract specialist supporting the Acquisition Center for Support Services at Marine Corps Systems Command, married David Opsahl April 27 in a backyard Stafford, Va., ceremony. Her daughters, Mackenzie (right) and Caitlin Kummer, served as bridesmaids. (Opsahl photo by Bill Johnson-Miles)

## Stork Announcement

Cpl. Andres Medina and his wife, Lisa, became parents in February with the birth of their daughter, Marilyn Andrea Medina, 6 pounds, 3 ounces, 18.5 inches, at Stafford Hospital, Va. Medina is an administrative support assistant who works in the Marine Corps Systems Command Mail Room. (Medina photo)



### Make the MCSC Family Connection



**Do you have a story, photo, announcement or information to share? Submit it by email to [mcscpao@usmc.mil](mailto:mcscpao@usmc.mil).**