

**Joint  
Communications  
Unit**

# Delivering the Message

**Volume 2, Issue 9**

**November 1, 2007**

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**Special points of  
interest:**

- Sick humor
- Pictures galore
- New Unit ISG
- Answer to last months RETRO JCU
- JCU Iron Chef



United States Marine Corps  
232nd Birthday  
November 10, 1775 - 2007  
"Semper Paratus"

## Message from the Command Sergeant Major

Service members (Active and Civilians)

JCU you've all been hired to handle the most pressing communications needs of this country. JCU needed each and every one of you with your skills and experience. Thanks for stepping up to the plate!

Throughout your tour in JCU, you will be asked to do many things. You will have many chances to excel and to confirm that we made a good choice in hiring you. However, there is one responsibility that may never be specifically requested of you, but that you need to always keep in mind through out the duration of your tour.

Always Do What Needs to Be Done Without Waiting to Be Asked!

If it is never said again, don't think it's not important or that the leadership has changed our priorities. All of us are likely to get caught up in the daily fires of the GWOT, the never-ending changes to the operations tempo, and the constant rush of tasks and training. This may make it look like this principle no longer applies. It does!

Make this concept a guiding principle in your service to JCU and the nation; make it a philosophy that is always with you, constantly driving your thoughts and actions.

As long as you are assigned to JCU, you have the duty to act in the commands best interests. If at any time you do not feel we (JCU) are doing the right thing, please say so. You have the CDR's and

my permission to speak up, to make a suggestion, or to question an action or decision. This doesn't mean we will always agree with you, or that we will necessarily change what we are doing. But we always want to hear what you believe would help us better achieve our goals and purpose and create a successful JCU.

Like much sound advice, this seems like common sense. But don't confuse what sounds simple with what is easy to do.

**Family members**

You too are a member of the JCU family and the leadership recognizes that you are making great sacrifices while your spouse/family member serves in JCU. I want to say thank you for all that you do to support your spouse, the unit, and your families. There truly is no greater service to the country than that of a Soldier, Sailor, Airman, or Marine spouse and immediate family. You make it possible for us to do the things this country needs done.

I would like to reemphasize what the CDR said last month about all the support available to you as a

member of this command. This newsletter provides contact information for many command sponsored activities and resources please take advantage of any resource you may need. If there is something you need and can not find it please contact your Troop or section leader, they will provide any help you need. If they can not be reached please feel free to contact me CSM James Givens (contact info on back page) and I will insure that help is provided.

-CSM Givens  
(James)

Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.

- Robert Collier

The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work.

- Mark Twain

What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Group photo during the SOF Comms Conference





- A-Troop has continued to be very busy as usual with deployments and conducting training exercises. Some of our troop highlights over the past month; Anthony Melby reenlisted to continue service in the Navy. Roland Marks graduated Basic Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Noe Abad graduated the 7-Level Course, Mathew Heist and Angelo Caraballo-Schweitzer completed the Airman Leadership School and Jeremy Pinkelman completed ANCOC. Angelo Caraballo-Schweitzer was selected for Staff Sergeant. Christian Martin has

earned Senior Parachutists Wings. We have several personnel attending schools; Christian Martin is attending Military Free Fall School, Greg Bogyo is attending BNCOC, Ricardo Cross is attending Radio Chiefs Course and Adam Merlino is attending Airman Leadership School. Welcome home Jesus Castro and James Jordahl. I am amazed by the commitment to excellence and professionalism that every one in the troop presents on a daily basis as they continue to be DoD's finest communicators.

— Chris



Jared Schaffer and John Vasquez relax after a hard days work during the SOF Comms Conference



"In honor of Vic Vinnedge"

Much love from B-Troop



John Vasquez chows down on a fish that looks like the ones that were taking over the waterways in Virginia a few years back, a Snake fish I believe.

Another month goes by and the guys are still going like a bunch of big energizer bunnies. Congratulations to Vic "cups" Vinnedge for jumping out of an airplane one time and earning a "Chairborne" tab. He jumped out of a plane and that takes a lot of guts. We in the Troop are proud that he isn't giving up and will go back in Jan to get the 4 jumps he needs to upgrade to

an Airborne tab and hopefully pick up the added skill of landing without breaking an ankle. Congratulations to DJ "350 aka stinky" Holly for getting his Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist in Windows Vista and almost passing his MCSE, one more test buddy – we know you can do it. At least DJ will be prepped if we ever go to Windows Vista. We would also like to welcome MAJ Mike "Master P" Parsons and his family to the Unit and want

to thank him for all the support he has given us as we implement "The Parson's Project; a Valid Path". I am poking fun at these guys but they know that I really do respect the hell out of them. They are talented, dedicated, and outstanding Americans. I am out and about visiting the guys again and am very proud of the amazing job that they are doing. I would like to thank each and every family member for the sacrifices that you make everyday so that these guys can do what they do best. As always never hesitate to call if you need anything.

-Mike



This has been one of the busiest months in recent memory. The highlight however, was the night combat equipment jump with a 14 mile forced road march after the tactical assembly. There were some "hurt feeling" reports submitted, but in the end we finished as we started...One Team. Between conducting Combat Airborne Ops, advanced weapons training, mission prep, and crack 'o' dawn smoke-fest PT sessions, we haven't had time the time to complain. Though arduous and

intense, the morale/camaraderie couldn't be higher.

We currently have three detachment members attending (and one instructing) Military Freefall school, one in ANCOC, two going to Basic Airborne and one to Jumpmaster school. The rest of the fellas are on mission or prepping to go downrange. Jeff Carlson and Ramsey Brown were the latest to deploy and are sure to do great things at their respective sites. They were assigned



OT & Carlsen concentrate on the impending night jump

to the Troop two newsletter's ago and now they're out the door.

Our mission, deployment and executive comms teams continue to train hard, PT hard and directly support the GWOT while leading "DoD's finest".

— Jake



Hello to all D Troop families! I hope everyone is enjoying the wonderful start to the fall season. It was a brutal summer and I think everyone was glad to see it come to an end, I know my lawn was. Well, I would like to start off by sending out a "welcome home" to Daren Pallugna and Jerry Dover. Daren's and Jerry's dedication to the unit and the unit's mission was apparent in the professionalism and expertise that was exhibited during this last mission. Like everyone on the maintenance team, they are willing to put in literally hundreds of hours to ensure that our customers are receiving the absolute BEST communications possible.

Of course, I cannot go without mentioning the troops who are continuing their long deployments overseas. Chris Smith and Derek Hollingshead are doing phenomenal things. This unit and the units that we support

rely on their expertise and technical abilities and they are NEVER disappointed. They complete jobs that take other military units up to 20 service members and they do it in record time! They certainly would not be able to do that without the support of their families. So, thank you! And, even with all of these projects continuing overseas we are equally busy with projects back here at Fort Bragg. Between new project builds, work orders, training, and planning for the SOCA 10K run the maintenance, motor-pool, Configuration Management, and ERS shops have been busier than ever. Lucky for us, we have folks that give their all to get the mission completed. One typical day for us this past month included Penny deployed to complete inventory at a deployed site, Scott, Mike, and Roger conducting training with another unit for 30 service members, Todd,

Will, and Mike processing upwards of 20 orders for unit members overseas, and the maintenance shop—Mike, Glenn, Dick, Ken, Ameer, Eric, Jeff building new packages, completed scheduled maintenance, testing new gear, installing new equipment items, and completing work orders. Whew! And that is not including the folks I don't have room to mention! So each month when I repeat just how lucky I am to be involved with the most dedicated and professional folks in the Department of Defense (or anywhere else for that matter), you can see just exactly why. A sincere thank you and much appreciation goes out to each service member, civilian, and D Troop family member for all that they do and for making every project that we are involved in a huge success.

— Carleen



Class 02-2007 of the CNO Course graduated on 4 October. Finally after 13 weeks I was able to pass the CNO Course. This was a difficult course and it was questionable every week whether I was going to make it or not. It is a testament to the instructor's patience and ability to teach that I was able to successfully pass this course. Thanks to everyone in the office that provided me guidance and suggestions to get me through. There was a highly secretive wager between Mike McKlveen and SGM Watts on whether I would make it or not.

Since I made it, McKlveen won and therefore the SGM owes AIS a case of beer. Thanks for your confidence Mike. Ronny have I told you lately how much I appreciated HR # 63. Congratulations and welcome back to Sergio Hernandez. He completed ANCOC on 18 October and reported back to work on 22 October. We would like to welcome Gama Rodriguez to E Troop effective 29 October. His expertise will be welcomed in E Troop and I am sure that everyone will miss his contributions in SOROC. Most of the office went to the Roush Rush

Hour racetrack in Raleigh. Chad Lewis was the overall winner! Shannon Hook led most of the race, but was more interested in looking at the scoreboard than looking at the track. This resulted in a spinout into the wall and allowed Chad to win. Bryan Fooshee has been busy all month trying to get trained in Linux and Cisco to prepare him for the next CNO Course. Congratulations to Scott Bachand for getting MCSE certified. We all knew he was certifiable, but now he has the paper to prove it.

— Tony

### Iron Chef Bryan Hargrove cooks a mean Deer Chili; The rest of the afternoon was full of surprises.





# SELECTION & TRAINING



Below; SOROC Class 2-07 during a class project with Habitat for Humanity



On September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007 twenty-two students from SOROC class 02-07 made a tremendous impact on the lives of the local Fayetteville community. They gave their time and hard work in support of the Cumberland County Habitat for Humanity. For six hours the students measured, cut, and nailed the floor stringers that would make up the foundation for two habitat homes in the southeastern block of Fayetteville. They worked hand-in-hand with local community volunteers and future habitat home recipients influencing their lives in a positive manner. Class 02-07 distinguished themselves and honored the JCU community.

SSG Candace Chapman, SOROC 01-08, graduated from ANCOC at Fort Gordon, GA on 26 October 2007.

1SG Jack Nichols attended the US Army 1SG's Course at Ft Bliss, TX.

Also, the S&T shop welcomes SFC Jason Tolle into the shop as the replacement for SFC Reynolds, as the Unit Air NCO. Welcome, Jason.

Lastly, thanks to SFC Reynolds for his hard work and dedication to the unit during his time in the S&T shop.

LT Hill and 1SG Spencer cook up a feast for the fella's on what we like to call "JCU Hooah Appreciation Day". We had a pretty good spread and everyone was just coming off a night jump, road march or other activities throughout the evening. The LT and I appreciated the support for sticking around until lunch, it was a great time. — Todd

Jesus Flintstone



I know someone can come up with a Barney picture

Dookie



## RETRO JCU (can you guess who it is?)

This section features a current Unit member. It is a look back before all of those military regulations, haircuts and discipline. Stay tuned for the answer posted in next months edition.



# Night Airborne Operation

We had an opportunity to test our night jumping skills in October. It had been a while since our last night jump. A lot of preparation went into this jump and the Jumpmasters and DZSO support crew did an outstanding job. There were no major injuries which is always a good thing. Below are some highlights of the evening.

Todd Spencer



COL Arnold taking a breather before load time



Military Freefall jumpers kneeling from left to right: Max Fermin, Mike Adcox. Standing left to right Bob Cocco, Chris Leach, Jay Pylman, Dave Allen, Carl Worthington, Court Mclain, Joe Kelly & Jamie Slife



Jared Schaffer getting his Jumpmaster on



Primary MFF Jumpmaster Chris Leach



Justin Hoffman seems to be enjoying his JMPI a little too much thanks to CPT Kaloostian.

Primary Static Line Jumpmaster MSgt Chris Martin (A-Troop)

Congratulations to our three newest Senior Parachutist , they earned their wings during this jump.

TSgt Ken Klynstra (C-Troop)

SFC Ulysses Otero (C-Troop)



# New Unit 1SG



Hello I am 1SG Todd Spencer (Dookie), I have served in the Army for 20+ years. I am originally from Middletown, Ohio. I am the incoming Unit 1SG and have been in JCU for 8+ years. I have been hopelessly in love with my wife Marsha, originally from Middletown, Ohio for 22 years; she is currently a Homemaker and is the love of my life and the foundation of our family. We have two children, Stacie and Stephanie. Both are students at the University of North Carolina Pembroke. Stacie (21) is a junior, and Stephanie (18) is a freshman. Both girls graduated from South View High School, where I might add the Tiger football team is undefeated this year. We currently reside in Hope Mills. JCU is a great place to be because of the camaraderie shared by all and the satisfaction of knowing your working with true professionals that make a difference in this world. I look forward to my new job, please don't hesitate to ask me any questions.

## JCU Family Spotlight



December Activities- Volunteers needed (RSVP with Marsha Spencer 423-5644 or [marshypooh@aol.com](mailto:marshypooh@aol.com) )

- December 14, 2007 at 2:00 PM - Holiday Party table centerpiece construction (JCU Classroom )
- December 14, 2007 at 2:00 PM - Children's Christmas Party gift wrapping (JCU Classroom )
- December 15, 2007 at 2:00 PM - Holiday Party room decoration / set-up (Holiday Inn Bordeaux)



It is my pleasure to welcome Sandi Angello to the JCU family. Mr. Lou Distefano (Force Mod) and Sandi were married on Saturday the 13th of October. Sandi is originally from New Jersey and served as a Navy Corpsman. Earned her Masters degree from Columbia University and is currently working as a Nurse Anesthetist at Moore Regional Hospital.

— Jim Jones



Newly promoted MAJ Mike and Leslie Kaloostian & SGM Ronny and Sarah Watts pose for a photo-op during their promotion party at McKellar's Lodge on October 26, 2007

Jesse Casari's son Eric sports a jacket with the "Purple Monkey" patch on it. Cool, very cool.



Hello, my name is Linda Haymans. I am a DoD Civilian and work in the Command Section as the Budget Manager for JCU. I have been a Federal employee for 22 years and 15 of those right here in the best place in the world to work, JCU. I was born in Kalispell, MT but grew up in Kent, WA. I have three children, Jennifer (28), Jolene (25) and Lindsey (18). Both Jennifer and Jolene are Federal employees as well. Lindsey is a Freshman at Fayetteville State University. I have three grandsons that I spoil at every opportunity. I like to read and am an avid history buff. I am my family's Genealogist and spend a lot of time on research. I enjoy working with a fantastic JCU family and feel privileged that I can contribute to JCU's mission.



## Special Spouse Event

There will be an event for military spouse's held at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux on December 1, 2007 starting at 2:00 PM. For more information and a schedule of events, please visit [www.spousebuzzlive.com](http://www.spousebuzzlive.com). The event is free and looks like a good time for all.  
- Todd

### WELCOME OUR NEW JCU MEMBERS

SSgt Rory Halprin & wife Elaine, their children: Kaiden and Xander (CMD)  
SrA Ceven Epps (Awaiting SOROC Class 01-08)  
Mr. Scott Capan & wife Yvonne, their children: Sean & Sydney (S&T)

### GOODBYE TO FRIENDS & FAMILY

SFC Brian Schmidt (JTEP)  
SFC James Reynolds, wife Cheryl & daughter Rebecca (S&T)  
SFC Donovan Holden (JTEP)

### SFC James L. Reynolds September 2000 – November 2007 (S&T)

Goodbye to JCU!!!!!!

I would like to thank everyone for the great support while I have been in the unit. This last seven years, it has been a privilege to work with the best in the communications field from all services. Also, special thanks to all the jumpmasters in the unit for their great support in making our air program the best on the compound.  
— JR



### SFC Donovan T. Holden December 2001– November 2007 (JTEP)

In the past 6 years I've had the distinct pleasure of working with some of the finest individuals in the DOD. As I move on to my next step as a Warrant Officer I'll continue to use my experiences and training I've received for years to come. My JCU experience began in A Troop, under the watchful eye of Todd Spencer. I have to say Todd, I miss the 18 hole golf course runs and watching Clay do pushups every 5 minutes. I spent the next 3 years of my time in the unit with C Troop where I had some great experiences. Some of which I think Frank and Gary can attest were fun and a little exciting at times. For the past 10 months I've been in the JTEP where all the experience and training come together. I won't be moving too far from the flag pole so I'll say see you around instead of goodbye. I could fill the newsletter with the names of people I'd like to thank so instead I'll say thank you all; for the both the experiences and friendships. I'll see ya down range!! Hibbidy shibbidy out....

### Answer to last months RETRO JCU ? (did you guess correctly?)



Last months RETRO JCU picture is none other than ISG Jack Nichols. Jack has always been very fashion savvy. He decided in 2004 that the 1970's collars were not working for him and after talking to some C-Troop guys, he got his fashion groove back. Jack is currently the S&T NCOIC, if you see any of the new guys wearing weird clothes, you will now know why. Thanks for the picture, Sir, I mean Jack.



# Meet the SOROC'ers of Class 2-07



**Name:** Christopher B. Choyce  
**Rank / Service:** IT2 / USN  
**Enlisted:** 27 MAR 93  
**Birthday:** 18 JUL 73  
**Spouse name:** Marlene Choyce  
**Children:** Christian & Mason  
**Hobbies:** Computers, Soccer, Family  
**Previous Assignment:** PATRON FOUR  
**Goals/Expectations:** To learn a lot at SOROC, both academically and about teamwork.  
 Short Term: Pass/survive SOROC  
 Long Term: Finish my Bachelors.

**Name:** Marcus D. Lewis  
**Rank / Service:** SSG / USA  
**Enlisted:** 27 FEB 96  
**Birthday:** 1 MAY 77  
**Spouse name:** Tanari L. Lewis  
**Children:** Tondalia, Malik & Leonta,  
**Hobbies:** Computers, Music Producing  
**Previous Assignment:** 586<sup>th</sup> Network Support Company, Network Operations  
**Goals/Expectations:** Learning as much as possible, from everyone possible, to better myself and the unit.  
 Short Term: Learn as much as I possibly can during SOROC  
 Long Term: Attain the highest rank that I can in the next 10 years



**Name:** James H Wagner  
**Rank / Service:** SSG / USA  
**Enlisted:** 18 JUN 98  
**Birthday:** 1 FEB 75  
**Spouse name:** Jennifer V. Wagner  
**Hobbies:** Cross-Fit, Mountain Biking,  
**Previous Assignment:** 52<sup>nd</sup> Sig Bn Stuttgart, Germany, USAREC, 29<sup>th</sup> Sig Bn, Fort Lewis, 51<sup>st</sup> Sig Bn Fort Bragg  
**Goals/Expectations:** Become expert on phases of communications  
 Short Term: Get promoted to SFC  
 Long Term: Obtain BS in Business Marketing

- **Name:** Lauront Pepin
- **Rank / Service:** IT1 / USN
- **Enlisted:** 19990913
- **Birthday:** 19800606
- **Spouse name:** Silvia V. Pepin
- **Child:** due date Nov 07
- **Hobbies:** Mechanics, Break-dancing
- **Previous Assignment:** HQ/SOCOM
- **Goals/Expectations:** Short Term: Pass/survive SOROC, Get selected for ITC  
 Long Term: Complete Associates.





# November Promotions, Awards & Special Occasions

## Officer Promotions



CPT Michael Kaloostian to MAJ (Current OPS)

LT Nick Hill to LCDR (Unit XO)



## USAF Airman Leadership Course Graduates

SrA Caraballo-Schweitzer (A-Troop)

SrA Matthew Heist (A-Troop)

## JSOC USAF Senior NCO Award Winner for 3rd QTR

MSgt Sam Stanley (E-Troop)

## Basic Airborne School Graduates

MAJ Les Himebrooke (D-Troop)

## BIRTHDAYS

Mike Adcox	3 NOV
Adam Merlino	6 NOV
Cathy Montes	10 NOV
Jeremy Jenkins	10 NOV
Nathan Hannah	11 NOV
Roy Campbell	11 NOV
Micah Modest	11 NOV
Brooke Moore	12 NOV
Tim Tapio	14 NOV
Jim Guillemette	18 NOV
Darren Thornton	19 NOV
James Morris	21 NOV
Charles Brandt	23 NOV
Pablo Guerra	29 NOV
Ronny Watts	30 NOV

## ANNIVERSARIES

Michael & Leslie Kaloostian	3 NOV
Jeanice & Joseph Wehner	5 NOV
Cliff & Tiffany Varnadoe	5 NOV
Lawrence & JunChai Burgess	11 NOV
Todd & Marsha Spencer	15 NOV
Del & Gini Walker	15 NOV
Mike & Lisa Munn	18 NOV
Adrian & Ivana Williams	25 NOV
John & Una-Lee Sullivan	30 NOV
Richard & Denise McAlister	30 NOV



Leslie Kaloostian has the honor of pinning her hubby CPT Kaloostian to MAJ on October 26th. The effective date was October 1, 2007.

LT Nick Hill is promoted to LCDR by his wife Rosemary and RDML Harward on October 31st. The effective date was October 1, 2007.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE IMPORTANT DATES

2 November	11th Annual SOCA 10K Run / 5K Walk	Pike Field 7:00 AM
4 November	Daylight Savings Time ends	Set clocks back 1 hour
17 November	45th Annual JFK 50-Mile Ultra-Marathon	Hagerstown, MD
14 December	Holiday Party table centerpiece making	JCU Classroom 2:00 PM
14 December	Children's Christmas Party gift wrapping	JCU Classroom 2:00 PM
15 December	JCU Annual Adult Holiday Party	Holiday Inn Bordeaux
17 December	JCU Annual Children's Christmas Party	Fun Fun Fun
17-28 December	Half-day holiday schedule	



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## LEADERSHIP THAT CARES CONTACT INFORMATION



<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Work</u>	<u>Home</u>
Commander	COL Arnold (Jack)	243-0200	485-4529
CSM	CSM Givens (James)	243-0201	977-3441
XO	LT Hill (Nick)	243-8851	678-0209
Unit ISG	ISG Spencer (Todd)	243-2391	423-5644
OPS Officer	MAJ Worthington (Jeff)	243-0524	221-0985
Ops SGM	SGM Watts (Ronny)	243-2439	230-8073
A-Troop SGM	SFC Leach (Chris)	243-1321	480-1118
B-Troop Chief	ETC McKlveen (Mike)	243-4079	487-5004
C-Troop SGM	ISG Adcox (Mike)	243-0115	499-2541
D-Troop OIC	MAJ Himebrook (Les)	243-2302	498-9108
D-Troop Chief	ETC Nichols (Carleen)	243-0439	424-1805
E-Troop OIC	Mr. Gillespie (Tony)	243-1217	875-1045
E-Troop SGM	SFC Proskovec (Jason)	243-1465	868-7761
JTEP OIC	Mr. Tingen (Bill)	243-0291	437-5970
CST NCOIC	MSG Ogden (Oggy)	243-1147	875-6258
SOROC NCOIC	ISG Nichols (Jack)	243-0577	424-1805
Air Force SEA	SMSGt Morris (Jim)	243-1428	717-8334
JCU FRC	Mrs. Marsha Spencer		423-5644
Social Worker	Mrs. Wanda Crawford	396-7489	
Chaplain	CH Tom Solhjem	243-1224	
JSOC FRG	Mrs. Agnes Adamczyk	243-2626	

## The JCU Print

### Commemorating 25 years of JCU professionals

Damon Haigh was commissioned to create an original JCU Print designed to celebrate the outstanding contributions that JCU members have made since its inception. Everyone who has seen the print agrees that Damon did an incredible job. This print makes a great gift for current and past unit members. In order to get



your limited edition (500 signed/numbered) JCU Print, bring cash or check (payable to the JCU Activities Club) to the SGM while supplies last. The print costs \$50 and if you want a shipping tube please include an additional \$3. If you need the print to be mailed, include shipping costs of \$10 (includes shipping tube).