Delivering the Message

Joint Communications Unit

Message from the Commander

Volume 4, Issue 4 April 1, 2009

Inside this issue:

Troop News	2-4
FRG News	5
RETRO JCU	6
Welcome & Farewell	7
Meet the SOROC'ers	8
Awards & Promotions	9
Unit Contact Info.	10

Special points of interest:

- Marine promotions
- Airborne OP
- Training
- Celebrities among us
- Troop pride
- Goodbye & farewell
- Remember when?

This year is off to a great start. It's been busy as always but I think almost everyone has been able to squeeze some fun in as well. The unit continues it's great communications support and received multiple has accolades since I last wrote. I've received multiple messages from J6's and Commanders across the battlefield about what a great job A-Troop is doing. We've got a lot to be proud of with the exceptional performances by them as well as the G, M, E, and CST folks deployed across the world.

Here at home things have been interesting as well. I had the opportunity to visit C-Troop onboard a ship recently where they were getting some great experience that will come in handy. B-Troop had a quick trip to the Caribbean, not exactly a vacation but they did great and proved that they can expertly support the command. I would talk about D-Troop but I can never figure out what Jack is doing and wish I could find him at work. Fortunately I know his folks are doing great things and are looking forward to their own short trip next week. I can't think of another unit that has so many opportunities for its people.

I'd like to encourage our Families to take advantage of another type of opportunity. Michelle, the girls and I went on the Chaplain sponsored Family retreat to Tampa this past weekend and we had a blast. It was great to see several of our other Families were able to spend some time together and enjoy it as well. These are great events that can't be beat. For \$40 we stayed in a very classy Resort, spent one day at the beach, a second at Busch Gardens, with transportation, lodging, and most meals included. These are great programs and they do a wonderful job of putting

together first class trips for couples, singles, or families. We'll keep you posted in the newsletters about upcoming events.

Within the unit we have our own opportunities for getting together, everything from Single Service Member lunches to Spouse Socials. Many of these are sponsored by the JCU Activities Club and they are a great way to get to know folks in the unit or simply get together for great camaraderie, or try a new place to eat on the JCUAC's tab. I'm looking forward to seeing folks at the JSOC sponsored Easter Egg Hunt this Saturday, 4 April.

~ John



Another fine Airborne day!





Delivering the Message



Greetings from A-Troop,

Let's start of by saying thanks to all of you supporting us. To the families, friends and loved ones, the packages, letters and emails are great. Every one of them is appreciated, please keep them coming, we promise to write back when we have a chance. A special thanks goes to our brothers and sisters over in B-Troop for doing the VTC's every month. The families have provided wonderful



Hello JCU family! The last month for B-Troop has been a whirl-wind of adventures! Det 2, under the fine leadership of Justin Hoffman, Chris Lewallen, Fabian Robles, and Lauront Pepin, went to Puerto Rico in support of a communications exercise. It was a rollercoaster of events, but they did an outstanding job and represented JCU and B-Troop as only DoD's Finest could have. Our training schedule has not gotten any Mike "lamb chop" Lamb easier. completed the AMOCO Hazmat course and "Richard" LePage successfully completed ANCOC down at Ft. Gordon and graduated as the Honor Graduate (congrats guys!). Kelly Pond, Allen Keller and Veronica Zamora all earned their coveted Gold Wings on the last JCU airborne operation. I see Jump Master School in their future. B-Troop also went 3 for 3 for the Army Sergeant First Class Selection board. Nate Hannah, Chris



To continue with our vacation theme, The troop took another trip to VA. We wanted to take a cruise, but Carnival was all booked. We ended up having to use a US NAVY ship instead. It wasn't as nice as a Carnival cruise ship and we never found the aloha Deck or got to play shuffle board, but it was good enough for what we needed. (this is the last time I have a navy guy book our cruise). The cool thing was even though we never left the pier, you couldn't tell cause there are no windows. So it was kind of like being at work here, except the rooms were feedback and we want you to know we appreciate you going the extra mile. It's been another demanding month for the troop. Congratulations to Rudy Messex on his selection for Sergeant First Class. Jeremy Jenkins re-enlisted this month; the Army was rewarded with keeping one of its great Soldiers for the long haul. James Jordahl and Danny Knouse will be heading home shortly to witness the birth of their children. Godspeed, eighteen more years and the house will be yours again. Danny Knouse says that the food is horrible at his site, we've been trying to re-supply him with licky-chewys but he is having a hard time maintaining his statuesque physique. Semper-grumpy Danny, Strength and Honor.

~ Take Care, from A-Troop

Lewallen, and Lenin Castillo were all selected for promotion. Congrats fellas, you're buying. B-Troop also went to the rifle range at the beginning of the month and I have to say, if there was any troop that could kill paper and trees better, I haven't met them! We are, as always, busy getting ready for our upcoming new rotation cycle. Everyone in B-Troop is looking forward to this and we can't wait for the opportunity to show the command, and all of you, how awesome we are! On a more somber note Jessie Trejo was put on emergency leave this month. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. April 15th at 1830 we will be having a FRG meeting here on the compound. More information should be coming out next week. Thanks for your continued support and we look forward to seeing all of you at the FRG event. WE BOW TO NO ONE!

ČKen "Vicky"

Right: Members of B-Troop pause training for a group photo



smaller and there were way to many Navy guys around.

It was a short trip, but we did get lots of valuable training from it. Thanks to S&T for all their hard work, getting us up there and back. Without your outstanding support we would not have been nearly as successful as we were.

No birthdays this month for Ctroop, but we did have two wedding anniversaries. Happy Anniversary to the Rosario and Melby families. Also, congratulations to Ryan Dayton on his promotion to Staff Sergeant. We also had two of our members re-enlist this month, Congrats to Akins & Quigley on your re-enlistments (don't forget, I get 10% off the top of your bonuses). Last but not least, Congratulations are in order for the following guys for being selected for promotion to Sergeant First Class this year: SSG(P) Joe Quigley, SSG(P) Ryan Akins and SSG(P) Edwin Sleuth.

Volume 4, Issue 4



March has been a busy month for D-Troop. We remain focused on our training and recently held a range qualification, with night-time driving. Additionally, the troop had Pacwin and Active Directory training along with Airborne operations with follow-on tactical training. Travis remains deployed in support of the unit and is due back soon for some well deserved leave. We welcome back Hudson and Jones from U.S. Army Airborne School as fully qualified D-Troop Paratroopers. The troop has also



I would like to welcome TSgt Sean Collins and his family to E Troop. Sean was assigned to E Troop this month and we immediately sent him to school to get him ready for the upcoming IO course that will start in May. Sean has been married to Melissa for almost 4 years and he has 2 children. He has come to JCU from the Defense Intelligence Agency, RAF Molesworth, UK. I am sure after having to *suffer* through a tour in the UK, they are extremely happy to be in Fayetteville. I am not sure if Sean really wants to participate in the Marine's Combat Fitness Test anymore though. March has been an been conducting communications training for other units on Fort Bragg –

Thanks Howie. Congratulations to Adam Groves on his recent sequence number for E-7 and graduation from BNCOC making the Commandants list – Way to represent D-Troop! Jack and Chris have recently returned from Fort Gordon on a recruiting trip. Rumor has it that Jack will be running for the Mayor of Augusta here shortly. Gabe recently represented D-Troop in supporting an exercise in Miami, Florida. The troop has unfurled the new troop emblem, and some have even chosen to make it a life altering event. We

extremely busy month and I realize that most of the guys have been putting in an enormous amount of hours that have kept them away from home. It is always difficult for family members when service members spend a lot of time away from home and miss family activities. Your spouses are doing great things at work and are making an invaluable contribution to the command and I appreciate your support and understanding during these times. Mike Crain is continuing to plug away at the IO course and is still expected to graduate in April. Shannon, Rob and

has been an graduate in April. Left: Scott Bachand is presented the Defense Meritorious Service Medal by LTC McLaughlin at a ceremony held on 6 MAR 09

TRP

Right: SSgt Casey Mues receives his graduation certificate at the USAF Airman Leadership School on 27 MAR 09

Once again G-Troop had another incredible month. To start, congratulations goes out to Brooke Moore on the birth of a very healthy 8 lb 3 oz baby girl (Alli). We said goodbye this past month to Jon Vasquez and Cliff Varnadoe. Before his departure, Cliff re-enlisted on the aircraft prior to his last unit jump. Congratulations Cliff and good luck with all those Basic Trainees at Great Lakes. Congratulations is also in store for Ray Hickman on his selection for promotion to Senior Master Sergeant. An incredible milestone as only 3 out of every 100 enlisted personnel make it to this grade. Welcome back to Christian Thorsnes. Christian left active duty this past month and came back to us as a contractor. Heidi Evans toured Germany doing some equipment upgrades while ensuring other equipment remains operational and OT travelled to Virginia bid a fond farewell to Greg Bogyo and thank him for his service to the unit and the U.S. Army. Good luck Greg!

~ Gary



Vince have been overwhelming the students with information for the last 11 weeks and I am sure both the instructors and the students will be happy when graduation is here. Sergio just deployed to replace Adrian, and Adrian decided to take advantage of just coming back and take some leave. Gama finally started his 6 month deployment project and is doing great things that will bring long term benefits to E Troop.

~ Tony



providing incredible support to the line troops. Great Job! Casey Mues was selected as the Distinguished Graduate at the Airman Leadership School, outstanding job! This school was an important Professional Military Education milestone to help further his already very successful career. To all of G-Troop and their families, Thank You for a job well done!

Delivering the Message



Spring is here and the sunshine is....not.

This has been an amazingly productive month for the shop floor. They have a ton of work going on here and abroad and the fellas have definitely stepped up their pace and exceeded expectations each and every time. Stacey is getting ready to head out for a few months...he is gonna do great things. Smitty will be moving up to fill in for Stacey and will, more than likely, try to talk Stacey in to coming home early. Mr. Linder has taken Jeff Huffman under his wing....they are a lot like Pinky and the Brain. It is just a matter of time before they take over the world. Stacey, Smitty and Osh recently did some work for us overseas and Smitty managed to break a rib...

go figure. Adam and Yessinia are the proud parents of Mayah Gabriel Kelley...congratulations!

Shop floor song of the month – Erasure's "A Little Respect".

The Motor Pool made the unit look good this month by passing their Environmental inspection with flying colors. Roger is still working on Scott's Laser Cutter. As soon as they get the reactor installed they should be able to power the apparatus (kidding). There was also a fire safety inspection....The shop again set the standard. Other than that, Scott and Mike are continually giving each other a hard time and providing the Troop with much needed amusement.

The Log section should be getting Todd back in about a week. Penny has handled things flawlessly but I imagine she will enjoy being able to concentrate more on the ERS piece. Mike Larson took off and won't be back for a few weeks. Earle and Natalie Allen just returned from a very long but productive adoption process in the Ukraine...M-Troop would like to formally welcome Demetri to his new home.

So, in a nutshell, M-Troop is staying pretty busy. All is going well and we are ready to celebrate the Spring when warm weather actually shows up and sticks around for a bit.

> See you next month. ~ The M-Troop Crew



Network devices, Windows Admin Tools, Introduction to TCP/IP, IP Subnetting, Routing and VLANs are a few of the subjects SOROC Class 01-09 have been learning this month. The course is being run at a pretty fast pace and a lot of information is being covered. Each time I see the fellas in the classroom, I notice more than a few of them have confused looks about them. Regardless, they are doing well and will succeed. Almost half way through the course guys, hang in there.

To the spouses and family members of SOROC Class 01-09, thank you for your understanding and patience



It has been business as usual in EC. The guys are traveling a lot and working really hard, and a couple are coming up on a much deserved break. We just found out that two of our guys are receiving a much deserved promotion and we are very proud of them! SSG(P) Jimmy Wagner and SSG(P) Marcus Lewis were selected for SFC. Congrats to you and your families! Jimmy was pinned this

while your significant others are attending class and studying. Your support is greatly appreciated. One day your current SOROC student will tell you what most of us already know, "There is no better place to serve in the Military than JCU." Thanks again for your support.

~ Dutch

Oh Yeah: Ken..... You're the Man.



Above: Jamey Slife and Dutch Broussard take some time off from the office to get their jump on at a recent Airborne OP



Right: Jon Beard is presented the Navy Commendation Medal by LTC McLaughlin at a ceremony held on 6 MAR

week and then Marcus will pin shortly after. I just want to thank all the families for your selflessness and support that you provide. These guys could not do such an amazing job if they didn't have such great support on the back side. Until next month...

~ Fish





JCU Families,

It is so difficult to believe that April is here already! Thank goodness for the warmer, nicer weather. Thank you to Lisa Dover for setting up the March Spouses' Social at Elizabeth's Pizza. The food was wonderful and the company even better! I apologize for the changing of dates at the last minute....we will be moving the monthly socials to the last Tuesday of each month. Hope to see you at the next one, April 28th, 6:30pm, JSOC Annex. The purpose of these socials is to get to know each other and share information. Please RSVP to Shannon Parsons if you are able to attend so she can plan accordingly, msparsonsx7@alltel.net or (919) 499-1912.

Our Quarterly Spouses Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, April 22nd, 11am. We will meet at the MiCasita's in the Tallywood Shopping Center. I chose this restaurant, a little further away from post, as one that would be less affected by the influx of service members at lunch. Hope you will be able to join us. This is a sponsored event by the JCU Activities Club.

Sincerely, Michelle McLaughlin (910)717-3519 or mcljm4@aol.com

Future Dates:

4 April, 2-5pm JSOC Easter Egg Hunt, Woodland Park, Pope AFB 22 April, 11am, JCU Quarterly Luncheon, MiCasita's 209 Tallywood Shopping Center 28 April, 6:30pm, JCU Spouses Social

Visitusontheweb

www.jcuonline.org



Some of our spouses received a Certificate of Achievement from the Commander for their volunteer efforts as a key caller for 2008 at a ceremony held on 6 MAR 09. We appreciate all of our key callers for the service they provide to our JCU families







Above: SFC Derrick White and Michaela are the proud parents of Gavin David White. Gavin was born on March 6, 2009 at 2:05 PM in the Womack Army Medical Center. He weighed in at 8 lbs. 0 ozs. and was 19.4" long.

ANNIVERSARIES

Chris & Freida Richter	1 APR
Bill & Ann Tingen	2 APR
Kyle & Michelle Roscoe	3 APR
John & Susan Mosley	8 APR
Earle & Natalie Allen	8 APR
Bob & Kazue L'Heureux	9 APR
Gama & Anna Rodriguez	9 APR
Chad & Natalie Lewis	9 APR
Jason & Kristy Bretzinger	9 APR
Glenn & Ji Yun Staples	11 APR
Dana & Rebecca Roberson	11 APR
Chris & Robin Lewallen	11 APR
Jeff & Frances Drew	12 APR
Joe & Kris Pishock	22 APR
Tim & Jenny Mallett	23 APR
Chris & Amanda Smith	27 APR
John & Michelle McLaughlin	29 APR
Nate & Martinique Hannah	30 APR
Mark & Camelia Garcia	30 APR
Ken & Sabina Smith	30 APR

Page 6

Delivering the Message





Spring is here, everyone will soon own a yellow car. Don't forget your Zyrtec

Above: We all know how much Gary Rose loves seeing himself in the newsletter

Right: It seems we have a celebrity in our midst. Vic Vinnedge a.k.a. OLMACK is a level-80 Paladin Dwarf and does not take crap from anyone. In a recent conversation with a non-gamer, his World of Warcraft status was insulted and said to the gravy sucking pig dog "You judge my Dwarf, you judge me". If you're ever in a dark room on your computer and see OLMACK's profile pop-up, run, run for your life!





SULLIVAN CHURCHWELL BUCKET LIST





Left: No where near the end of their lives, Sully and Charles decided to get a head start on their list. Co-workers say that there is not to much work getting done on their shift because they are always out checking something off of their list.

Left: Kyle Roscoe randomly practices his Jumpmaster techniques at every opportunity

Below: ET1 Cliff Varnadoe is reenlisted by CW2 Cosner while in flight on 19 MAR 09. Cliff reenlisted, jump mastered his pass and took them off the ramp on a beautiful Airborne day.



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.

RETRO JCU





WELCOME OUR NEW JCU MEMBERS

SGT David Miller (C-Troop) SSG Scott Hamilton (Awaiting SOROC Class 02-09)

GOODBYE TO FRIENDS & FAMILY

SSgt Jon M. Vasquez DEC 2004 - MAR 2009 (G-Troop)

ET1 Cliff H. Varnadoe & wife Tiffany, children; Savannah & Nathan JAN 2003 - MAR 2009 (G-Troop) SSG Greg R. Bogyo JUN 2005 - APR 2009 (D-Troop)



Left: The picture of JCU (Cliff Varnadoe) has left the building. Everyone has seen the JCU recruiting video, it ends with Cliff saying "JCU's in my future, what's yours?" So it was fitting to place this picture of Cliff in here as a departure photo. Thanks Cliff, for 6 years of serving this unit and to Tiffany and the children for supporting you.





Above: SSG Greg Bogyo is presented the coveted JCU plaque by CSM Givens at a departure lunch held on 12 MAR 09. This great American was one of our guys that had spent more time away than at home. Greg will end his Army career and return home to Chicago. Thank you Greg for your dedicated service to this unit and your country and for giving something of yourself for a cause bigger than any one individual.

> Willigup on the web www.jcuonline.org

Left: Members of D-Troop during a recent exercise

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



The picture from last month is none other than SSG Rufus Messex. In a recent interview he said "That picture was taken in 1996 at my home in Martinez, GA. Which is really just a suburb of Augusta. I'd already done six years in the Army as a Medic and this was during the two years I was out and working on the Surgical Ward of the local Hospital. It was shortly after this picture that I met Pamela. I ended up shaving the beard off before I met her family because I didn't want them to think I was too old for her. She was 20 and I was 29. I'm looking forward to the day I punch the ACU time card for the last time, so I can grow it back. **Cause beards are not a perk in JCU!**" Thank you Rudy for the picture and for sharing a little piece of your life with us.



Meet the SOROC'ers of Class 01-09



Name: Brian C. Allen
Rank / Service: ET1 / USN
Enlisted: 13 Aug 2000
Birthday: 18 May 1982
Hobbies: Automotives/motorcycles
Previous Assignment: RADIAC Calibration & Repair Facility, Groton, CT
Goals/Expectations: To keep on learning as much as I can to help contribute and also keep sharp in the field. I want to advance to the next pay grade. I also would like to go to MFF training in the future.

Name: Stone, Mark A. Rank / Service: SFC Enlisted: 6 Oct 1989 Birthday: 29 Aug 1968 Spouse name: Elisabeth Children: Jesse & Jeremy Hobbies: none Previous Assignment: 1st Special Warfare Center and School Goals/Expectations: Deploy in support of GWOT





Name: Jory Mathis
Rank / Service: SGT / Army
Enlisted: 6 Jan 2005
Birthday: 11 Jun 1982
Spouse name: Jennifer
Child: Dillon
Hobbies: Baseball/Softball, Golf, Riding my motorcycle
Previous Assignment: Alpha Co. 82nd Division Special Troops Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division
Goals/Expectations: Get my CCNA certification, start my Masters Degree

Name: Cary R. WiseRank / Service: IT2(SW) / USNEnlisted: 12 Sep 2000Birthday: 8 Jan 1982Hobbies: Running, Riding MotorcyclePrevious Assignment: NCTAMS PAC, Wahiawa HIGoals/Expectations: Learn as much as I can so I will be able to contribute to my team.



Remember when?







Volume 4, Issue 4

April Promotions, Awards & Special Occasions



Army Promotion

SSG James Wagner to SFC (HHT EC)



Marine Promotions

GySgt Bruce Becherini to MSgt (D-Troop) SGT Ryan Dayton to SSgt (C-Troop)



Basic Airborne School Graduates

SSgt Kevin Hudson (D-Troop) SSgt Ramondoe Goodrich (D-Troop)



6 March; big promotion day, DOR 1 MAR 09



Left: GySgt Bruce Becherini is promoted to MSgt by LTC McLaughlin and MSG Nichols

Below: SGT Ryan Dayton is promoted to SSgt by his wife Shannon and LTC McLaughlin

Below: IT2 Morgan Smario is promoted to IT1 by his wife Kathryn and LTC McLaughlin. Morgan was promoted under the Command Advancement Program for 2009.





Right: SSgt Ryan Dayton is awarded the coveted Navy & Marine Corps Parachutists Insignia compliments of LTC McLaughlin on 6 MAR 09

BIRTHDAYS

Ceven Epps	1 APR
Robert Broussard	5 APR
David Miller	5 APR
Jeanice Wehner	6 APR
Victor Vinnedge	8 APR
Samuel Stanley	10 APR
Gregory Smith	11 APR
Jerome Kusy	12 APR
Joseph Thomas	12 APR
Ricardo Cross	15 APR
Steven Long	18 APR
Earle Allen	18 APR
Ameer Weston	18 APR
Jay Pylman	19 APR
Penny Richenberg	23 APR
John Sullivan	23 APR
Michael Runk	24 APR
Patrick Ballard	28 APR
Delmar Walker	28 APR
Kevin Hudson	28 APR
Justin Hoffman	29 APR



Mark your calendars for these important dates

JSOC Sponsored Easter Egg Hunt 4 April 22 April JCU Quarterly Spouses Lunch 28 April JCU Spouses Social 29 May 10th Annual SOCA Golf Tournament 1 July Summer Highland Games 7 August Annual JCU Summer Picnic 13th Annual JSO 10K Run-5K Walk 13 November 18 November Winter Highland Games 21 November 47th Annual JFK-50 Mile Ultra-Marathon 1400-1700: Woodland Park, Pope AFB
1100: MiCasita's, 209 Tallywood Shopping Center
1830: Staff Annex
TBD: Carolina Lakes Golf Course
0700-0930: Pope AFB Softball field area
1000-1900: Fantasy Lake
0700-0930: Pike Field
0700-0930: Pope AFB Softball field area
All day: Hagerstown, MD (Registration opens on 1 July 09)

Page 9



JCU FRG Key Callers JCU FRC Michelle McLaughlin mcljm4@aol.com 717-3519 A-Troop: dawgs2win@embarqmail.com Kim Leach 480-1118 B-Troop: Holly Hoffman 424-7415 hoffmanhm@earthlink.net jmjhhiggy@earthlink.net C-Troop: Michelle Higginbotham 426-2899 michelle.roscoe@us.army.mil **Michelle Roscoe** D-Troop: 875-9266 E-Troop: Patricia Hernandez 764-1140 patricia@ncbeautifulhomes.com Sheri Thornton drsl91@hotmail.com G-Troop: 868-8786 jlsadover@hotmail.com M-Troop: Lisa Dover 960-0037 CMD/OPS: Gini Walker (919) 499-5710 ginimomof4@windstream.net SOROC: Angela Slife (919) 499-9761 slifes1tm@alltel.net

1980

The JCU Print **Commemorating 25 years of JCU professionals**

2005



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 a shipping cost of \$10 (includes shipping tube).