October 1, 2009


Troop on an outstanding deployment. Steve and I have received a great deal of comments on what a superb job you have done and you should all be very proud. By the time you read this all of you should be home, except one or two of the rear-von. C Troop moved in smoothly and has already started making a name for themselves. I'm waiting to see the logo appear all over the World.

Travis and A Troop have gotten off to a great start in their intensive training cycle. Their movement in Western North Carolina was a good warm up for our jump, hump, and shoot. I think everyone agrees that was a fun night. A

Troop has a couple of great training exercises coming up and I'm sure they are looking forward to it.

Jack and D Troop of course stand ready. I greatly appreciate his Border Crossing Kit he gave me before I left. Hopefully I won't need to use it. As always, the Specialty Troops remain busy and I appreciate all that they do for us.

Thanks to the Spouses who volunteered and attended the Silent Auction. The setup was great and I think everyone who attended had a good time. I also appreciate everyone who came by our house on Sep $11^{\text {th }}$ for the promotion party. I hope you ate and drank your fill and I'm glad you could make it.

Thanks for all the whiskey, wine, cigars, and other presents that you left behind.

Michelle has been compiling information from the surveys you've been returning. Thanks for the feedback and I'll be using this as a venue to respond in the future. One note so far is there are plenty of people who want uniforms and those who don't for the Christmas Party. Bottom line it is supposed to rotate each year. Last year was civilian attire so this year is in uniform. It sounds like it'll be a great event and remember, it doesn't hurt to wear a uniform once a year when you're in the military!
~ John McLaughlin


## 13th Annual Joint Special Operations 10K Run 5K Walk

We are proud to announce the 13th running of the Joint Special Operations 10K Run 5K Walk. This year's event will be held on November 13th starting at 0700, race packet pick-up will begin at 0530 on race day. A registration form has been posted on www.jcuonline.org. A
registration form is also posted on www.thesoca.org, on this site there is also a link that will take you to www.active.com for ease of registration with a credit card. As always there will be a pre-race mixer held at The Mash House on the evening of the 12th starting at 1800 until 2200. Please make plans to
come out and join us and meet some of the sponsors that generously donate funds to SOCA and greatly enhance the lives of our military and civilian workforce. Hope to see you all there.
~ 1SG

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## Special points of interest:

- Pictures galore
- VTC dates now posted on FRG page
- Lots of upcoming events
- Training, training \& more training
- Someone brought back bees from their training exercise


Thanks guys.
Most importantly for this month, we would like to congratulate Joe and Jessica

Howdy all. September slipped by us awful fast somehow. The men of A-Troop have been very busy getting all our equipment ready to go for our upcoming training events. There are a few things we wanted to get done that were pushed to the side by other priorities but I am confident we are ready. Here I need to take a second and say thank you to Steve and Carlos. They have been pulling extra duty helping the team leaders get all our training lined up, get EVALS and awards written, and still get themselves ready for training all while keeping me from making too many mistakes.

Cade and Matt and Pricilla Corby on their recent marriages. Welcome to the family ladies; we will have a get together soon so you can meet everyone. We wish you the best of luck in your lives together. Marrying into the military is a tough life and this community is even tougher. Please know we are all here to help out as you settle in.

Joe Cade and Jeremy Jenkins graduated the Commercial Drivers Licensing course this month; good thing they have a fall-back option if comms doesn't work out for them. Pat Ballard returned from Jump School last week.


October is finally here and the Troop is about $95 \%$ home. It has been a very busy cycle for the troop and in true JCU fashion our guys and gals performed outstanding things. We had numerous impact awards given while gone. Chris Scott, Lauront Pepin, Calvin Delaware, Andre Tate and Ameer Weston were all recognized for outstanding performance by the Commanding General. Now that we are in our recovery cycle we have tons of folks taking leave and going to professional development schools. Nate Hannah left for PRC and Ranger School. Good luck Nate. I hope all the families enjoy having their service members
home and enjoy a well deserved break before getting back to the grind. We will be losing quite a few folks in the next few months. Justin Hoffman is going PCS. Chris Lewallen will be moving up to bigger and better things and Fabian Robles will be going to G-Troop. They have all done great things for this unit and B-Troop and I truly appreciate all your hard work. I hope all stay safe during your time off.

> Thanks
> $\sim$ Bryan


Well, we are pretty much all gone now. Jeremy is the last man standing back home and will hopefully be out here soon. From what I can tell, everyone has settled into their new homes now and are ready to start knocking out some good things forward. Anthony, Ray and I are already getting compliments from our customers for the outstanding work your spouses are doing. Thanks to all of B-Troop for welcoming us and having everything ready for us to pick up the ball and continue running, I am pretty sure they were so welcoming because they were ready to leave!! But like always there is still a ton of work to do and the guys are staying busy with their normal day to day operations.

I hope the people that came in for the Family VTCs enjoyed themselves. I know that my kids always love to see me on the "Big TV" at "far away work". I'd like to thank the guys from DTroop for coming in on the weekend to do this for us. I think I can speak for Service members, spouses and children when I thank you guys for this, it is greatly appreciated. While we are talking about VTCs, I am working With

Mollee, Kim and Jack Nichols to get the time lines for the remainder of our VTCs published so you will be able to make any travel arrangements for the holidays while we are gone. This information will definitely make the next news letter, but we will push it out through Kim and Mollee as soon as the dates are set.

You will also be receiving a message in the near future from Kim reference a get together at my house for you all. Mollee is sending the invite to Kim soon with all the details. Mollee hopes that you all can make it. I am sure it will be a good time...kids are welcome.

While you guys are home having fun, we will be celebrating the following birthdays out here: Anthony Melby, Ray Hickman and Jonathon Beard... I hope there are enough candles out here for Ray. I may need some in a care package or something.

We do have a few Anniversaries this month also. The Johnson's, Hickman's, Brown's (Ramsey \& Karen) \& Campos' all will celebrate their anniversaries this month. Happy anniversary you guys. Oh wait, there is one

Please keep him in your prayers as he recovers from destroying his leg. Really Pat, you could have just said you didn't want to jump.

The next few months (up till the holidays) are going to be extremely busy; long days with sore backs, busted knuckles, and comms induced headaches. This is the pain we talked about in July but the fellas all look bright-eyed and bushy-tailed so I am sure it will be a piece of cake for them. It truly is a pleasure to work with professionals who actually want this kind of challenge. Your husbands make me proud to be a part of A-TROOP!
~Travis


Above: Lauront Pepin \& Calvin Delaware along with other members of B-Troop are presented awards for outstanding service while deployed
more family, Mollee and I were also married in October (Mollee, I love you)(The perk of writing these is I get to send my wife secret messages inside these letters... did you find it?). We all love and miss you guys and wish we were home to be with you for this... of course, I miss Mollee more than they miss their wives, but I wish she was here instead.
Well, that is about everything from out here. I hope you are all doing well. If you need anything, feel free to contact Kim or Mollee, they will be able to point you in the right direction for any assistance while we are gone.

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PS. Whoever sends the birthday candles, please send an old sewing machine. I want to do a live nativity for the JINGLE STICK Competition and need to start making the costumes now. I can't guarantee it will be returned in good condition since it will be sitting in the desert...and I can't sew.

configurations. Long story short, D-Troop did the command proud. The team overcame, tackled, and in

WOW! Any descriptive terms I use will still be an understatement of this past month's experiences! The Troop took on new responsibilities and was tested on what we've trained so hard to perfect. The command put us to the test by evaluating our training by having the troop employ its communications platforms in several different
no uncertain terms set the precedent! Through their tough training and experiences they were able to establish communications regardless of the scenario. The training was tough and the troop managed to change packages, work with different teammates, and overcome significant challenges to get the job done. Despite our busy schedule,
we made time to bid farewell to Adam Merlino. He's out in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas changing his AFSC and will return for two weeks in January. Shortly after that he'll PCS to Montana to be a heavy vehicle machine operator. Lastly, I would like to say thanks to all the families that made it out to Round-About Skating! Another shin-dig is in the works! More to follow.
~ Jack
Below: Members of D-Troop pose for a photo during a recent exercise


What an active September we have had in
E Troop. We ended last month with a baby being born and started this month with a baby being born. Congratulations to Chad and Natalie on the birth of their son, Richard Aiden Lewis. He was born on September 2, 2009 at 0407 hours at Womack Army Medical Center. He weighed in at 6lbs, 14 oz and was 20 inches long. Chad has spent most of the month off taking care of Natalie and the baby. At least that is what he says and hopefully it hasn't been Natalie having to take care of 2 infants. Gama Rodriguez returned in early September after 6 months on a rotation. It was just like getting a new person in the we hadn't seen him in so long. I am sure his honeydo list was long at the house and his family is glad to have him home again. Scott Hamilton came back from his paternity leave and jumped right into
 scheduled to graduate i n e a r l y December. After 5 years, Adrian Williams has decided to try something a little different and on September $28^{\text {th }}$ started in A Troop. It was such short notice that we were only able to provide him with a going away lunch, but we are working on his E Troop plaque and will present it to him down in A Troop shortly. I want to thank Adrian and his family for all of the hard work and support over the last 5 years. He will definitely be missed and we are glad he is staying in JCU. Mr. Sam Stanley has completed his first full


I have been out of town for the past month. I was fortunate to spend the month of September with John, Brooke, Jim, Heidi, Vanessa, Lance, Casey, Christian and Jason. Thanks for making me feel welcome in your part of the world. I appreciate all you do in support of the unit and look forward to seeing you again. Other than the visit being so short, the only thing I regret about my visit is the number of times I made the board. Thanks to Lance and Brooke, I am sure I was not the worst in that category.

A few notable achievements in September about members of G-Troop:

Casey Mues was selected as the USSOCOM 2009, Lance P Sijan Award winner. Great job Casey! Way to set yourself above your peers. John Hickey pinned on Chief Petty Officer. Congratulations John, a well deserved event for you. Bob Coccaro is back to work after attending training for a few months. Welcome back Bob now, get to work. Ken Smith and Scott Gozdzialski came back home from an extended time away. Welcome home Fellas. OT and John went to Atlanta to attend training and ended up causing the worst flood in the states recent history. Jason Bretzinger had a birthday!
month as a civilian. In true retiree fashion he came back to work sporting some facial hair, but I have noticed that the hair on top of his head isn't getting any longer. Thanks to all of the families for your support. Have a great month.

## Thereanthowe

www.jcuonline.org

Thanks to Vanessa we were able to have ice -cream and cake. No one seems to know how old Jason is so we did not have candles for him to blow out.

I am sure I did not wrap up everything that happened in the month of September but; G-Troop as a whole continues to do great work and your efforts make this the best place in DoD to work. Thanks for all you do and thank you to all of the family members that give support. As always, let me know if I can help make things better for you.

Thank you again and take care.
~ Dutch

replaced them, keep them in your thoughts prayers. A couple of more TDYs this month have left the troop thin. Penny, Earl, Jerry, Andy, Mike C. Terrell, Vince, Daren, Todd B. and Eric have all been out of the loop for some portion of the month doing great work. Despite the shortage of folks, the troop still managed to get things done and keep up with the great deal of work here.

A great milestone was achieved in Daren's career. He was advanced to the rank of Chief Petty Officer. In the Navy this is a great accomplishment for an enlisted person. He endured spending a lot of extra duty learning how to be a great CPO. Congratulations Darren and family on this outstanding achievement!

After a month of being the M-troop Chief, I am still in amazement by the professionalism and quality of work that the troop exhibits every day. I want to personally thank each and every member of the troop, but most importantly, each of the families that support your spouses, enabling them to do such a great job.

This month, filling in the specifics will be brief. I was directed by the 1SG that I needed to assist in keeping the newsletter to a maximum of 10 pages. So here we go.....!

Welcome back Jeff and Ameer, thanks for all of your hard work out there while you were TDY. As Adam and Dana have

The troop held a baby shower for Olimpia and Ryan and it was a smashing success. Thanks to all who attended and helped put this together for the Valdez's.

Lastly, Mike Clark competed in the Nations Triathlon in Washington D.C. in addition to a half Ironman competition in Augusta, Ga. Two events like that in one month is amazing and takes a lot of dedication. If we had an athlete of the month it would be Mike, but we don't, we just have a song of the month. The consensus for the M-Troop song this month is "Nothing But a Good Time" by Poison. Not sure why this was decided, the only conclusion I can come up with is that everyone is having fun. Keep it up!
~ Stacey


Hello everyone,
After the last safety message was posted in last month's edition regarding beavers, we had another near incident with the same service member probing around a beaver dam on FT Bragg during hours of limited visibility. Fortunately the animal was gone or sleeping and there were no incidents to report. Last month was very busy for the entire section with lots of extracurricular activities during a training exercise that challenged the organization. The exercise
contained a night time airborne operation and extended foot movement that was a great team building experience. The exercise finished with a BBQ and lots of great stories. SOROC has completed their second exercise and testing and well on their way to learning how to become one of DoD's Finest. The graduation date for class 02-09 will be 15 December.
~ Chris


Above: Jamey Slife said the camera snapped when his eyes were closed. It looks like he's trying to kiss his airborne buddy, you decide

Left: Just wanted to let everyone know LCDR Hill has joined the old man club on 3 OCT 09

Below: Guess who liked Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles growing up?




Left; ET1 Jeff Drew and Frances are the proud parents of Phillip Henry Drew. Phillip was born on August 7, 2009 at 12:19 PM in the Womack Army Medical Center. He weighed in at 7 lbs .15 ozs. and was 19.3 " long.


JCU Families,
Thank you so much for all the surveys that have been sent back! We are collecting the information and will be meeting to discuss the results and begin to implement some of the great ideas submitted. If you have not had a chance to fill yours out, you still have time. If you did not receive one or cannot locate it, email me and I will send you another copy. I will be sharing the results in the next newsletter.

I saw many familiar faces at the Silent Auction. It is great to see such a large JCU presence at the events. The Auction was a wonderful opportunity to get together, socialize, and bid on some wonderful baskets. A good time was had by all!

Our next monthly spouses social will be Tuesday, Oct $27^{\text {th }}$. We host it at the Annex so it will be child friendly. Please bring your favorite snack while watching Football to share with everyone!

Hope to see you all at the JSOC Halloween Party on Friday, Oct $30^{\mathrm{th},} 5-7 \mathrm{pm}$, Parachute Packing Facility. They do an excellent job decorating the facility and offering games, crafts, and food for all ages. It has always been a big hit with those that have attended in the past. Don't forget to RSVP to Agnes before Oct $28^{\text {th }}$ so you will be able to get on the compound.

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


Above: Little Katie Nichols near the cake at her daddy's frocking ceremony on 21 SEP 09


Above: LCDR Hill got a birthday surprise from his wife Rosemary \& son Izak a.k.a. Tough Guy on 2 OCT 09. Nice balloons Sir!!!!!!!!

Right; MSgt Chad Lewis and Natalie are the proud parents of Richard Aiden Lewis. Richard was born on September 2, 2009 at 4:07 AM in the Womack Army Medical Center. He weighed in at 6 lbs. 14 ozs. and was 20 " long.



Below: On a recent recruiting board there was an un-named Marine that was asked to show us his War Face. As hard as we tried we just could not get him to show it to us. That evening Marine MSgt Chad Lewis sent this photo of his little Marine Aiden showing his Marine pride with an awesome War Face. Thanks Chad \& Natalie for the picture



Above: Bruce Becherini gets suited up for the jump


Above: Members of A-Troop pause for a photo before the jump


Left: Mike Fowler cinching down his leg straps, easy Mikey!


Left: Seth Hogan is serious about the jump



Above: James "YETI" Jordahl is extremely excited for what is about to come


Above: It happened again, I was just standing there taking pictures and everyone broke out into an "all hail 1SG Spencer" Weird!!!!!

Left: Matt Corby contemplating why you have to count to 6 thousand

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 J CU




## GOODBYE TO FRIENDS \& FAMILY

LtCol Les Himebrook \& wife Andrea, children; Andrew \& John (HHT_CMD)


Above / below: SGM Long volunteered to go into the dunk booth for a fund raising event put on by the Air Force folks. It was all good for about 2 minutes and then he got wet and kept getting wet for the next hour. Steve raised the most money for the day, not sure what that's saying for him, but the Air Force event was a huge



Above: LtCol Himebrook is presented a departure gift by LCDR Hill on 17 SEP 09

Below: Jeff Carlson (L) and Stan Sweeney were both awarded the Senior Parachutist
Badge after the night airborne operation on 17 SEP 09



Last month's RETRO picture is none other than SGM Mike Adcox, the Operations SGM. The football picture was taken at age 7 in the fall of 1976. Mike was the star Fullback for the Madison Rams Peewee football team in Madison, Tennessee. He said " I looked the same when I got to JCU; 6'4" and I had an afro., so you can see what JCU will do to you". The problem I was faced with last month was which photo to use. I decided that since all of them were so cute, that I would share all of them with you. Now, I will probably get a call for a domestic disturbance after this issue is released, but I'm sure Kim won't hurt Mike too bad. Thank you Kim for the great photo's of Mike and for sharing a little piece of his life with us.
 Thank you Mike for taking one for the team (Silver Standards).

## Meet the SOROC'ers of Class 02-09



Name: Dirk T. Shelton
Rank / Service: SrA / USAF
Enlisted: 21 Nov 2005
Birthday: 10 Jun 1985
Spouse name: Marie
Hobbies: Motorcycles, hunting, fishing, art


Previous Assignment: Andrews AFB Maryland
Goals/Expectations: Make rank and do well in my job

Name: Joshua T. Morgan
Rank / Service: ET1 / USN
Enlisted: 8 Aug 1996
Birthday: 5 Jan 1978
Spouse name: Rachael
Hobbies: Soccer, volleyball, snowboarding, scuba, fishing, hunting
Previous Assignment: NCTS Naples Italy
Goals/Expectations: I would like to re-learn communications equipment and gain some network certifications. CCNA/MCSE etc. I am looking forward to working in a family like community.


Name: Timothy L Duncan
Rank / Service: ET1 / USN
Enlisted: 5 Jul 2004
Birthday: 26 Feb 1986
Spouse name: Ashlynne
Hobbies: Diving, Shooting, Martial Arts
Previous Assignment: USS LOUISVILLE SSN-724
Goals/Expectations: Excel in everything I do. I expect to be trained to be an elite communicator.

Name: Eric J. Dietzel
Rank / Service: ET2 / USN
Enlisted: 21 Mar 2000
Birthday: 4 Mar 1980
Spouse name: Dawnisha
Children: Taylor \& Madison
Hobbies: Welding, woodwork
Previous Assignment: FNMOC, Monterey CA
Goals/Expectations: College degree
Schools Military: NEC 1428 Navy communications (HF/UHF/NAVMACS), Computer/networks


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## October Promotions, Awards \& Special Occasions



Above: LTC McLaughlin is promoted to COL by his father Jim and wife Michelle in a ceremony held on 11 SEP 09

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Right: IT2 Chris Farr is promoted to IT1 by COL McLaughlin in a ceremony held on 21 SEP 09



Above: SFC Steve Alexander is promoted to MSG by his wife Altovise in a ceremony held on 2 OCT 09


Left: MAJ Himebrook is promoted to LtCol by his wife Andrea and father Ric during a ceremony on 31 AUG 09

Below: MSG Jack Nichols is frocked to SGM by his father Martin, wife Carleen and daughter Katie, in a ceremony held on 21 SEP 09


MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE IMPORTANT DATES

30 October JSOC Halloween Party
12 November
13 November
21 November
24 November
11 December
16 December

Pre-10K Mixer with the sponsors 13th Annual JSO 10K Run-5K Walk 47th Annual JFK-50 Mile Ultra-Marathon JCU Winter Highland Games 29th Annual JCU Holiday Party Annual JCU Children's Christmas Party

1700-1900: PPF (RSVP to adamczyk.ctr@jdi.socom.mil) 1800-2200: The Mash House, No RSVP's, just show up 0700-0930: Pike Field All day: Hagerstown, MD 0700-0930: Pope AFB Softball field area 1800-2400: Holiday Inn Bordeaux (RSVP to 1SG Spencer) 1730-1930: Round-A-Bout Skating Rink, Raeford Road


JCU FRG Key Callers

JCU FRC Michelle McLaughlin
A-Troop: Lori Knutson B-Troop: Holly Hoffman C-Troop: Kim Melby D-Troop: Michelle Roscoe E-Troop: Natalie Lewis G-Troop: Sheri Thornton M-Troop: Lisa Dover CMD/OPS: Gini Walker SOROC: Kim Leach

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## The JCU Print

Commemorating 25 years of J CU 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 1SG 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).

