# Delivering the Message 

J oint Communications Unit

Volume 5, Issue 2

## Message from the Commander

First I'd like to apologize for this newsletter being so late. Todd has been ready for weeks but has been waiting on me so I apologize to all of you and to Todd for making this late.

Operationally, the Relief-in-Place between $D$ and $C$ Troop went extremely well, probably the smoothest I've seen. It's a testament to the great preparatory work that both troops did to prepare for the handover of responsibilities. Back at home we've had some excellent training events in New Mexico, New York, and Washington State. It is very important for the unit to train in other geographic locations. It builds experience working with different satellites and teleports that make it far easier and quicker to establish communications when we have to do it for real.

I want to give you a heads up that we are going to make a change to the cycle system. Basically we are adjusting the order of the cycles. The new method will be recovery, alert, training, deployment. This will enable the Troops to focus training on the next mission they will execute, in
other words do the drills required prior to alert cycle and concentrate on manning the forward sites prior to the deployment cycle. It also fixes the concern that under the current cycle schedule if someone gets deployed on the alert cycle it could impact their ability to replace the deployed Troop which could impact when they return. That wouldn't be good. I would have preferred to have started with the schedule we are about to implement, but we just didn't have enough Service Members in the line troops to be able to implement a year and a half ago. Now we do and it will be a big improvement. Importantly, thanks to OPS for figuring out how to do it smoothly, no deployment schedules will change.

I want to share something that happened recently. When I was redeploying earlier this month I got impacted by the big snowstorms in DC. First, there were multiple delays while still overseas as flights got delayed due to weather on the East Coast. We finally took off for our 13 hour flight into Wash DC. One hour out we got redirected to New York due to the snow. Spent 3 hours on hold on the phone with SATO Travel (I never did
get through) trying to change my flights, missed a chance to get at least to Raleigh, paid for my own ticket the next morning, etc, etc, etc. Bottom line I was still fuming the next morning knowing that I had another TDY I had to go on within a day of getting home. My Irish was up, I was hot. As we took off the next day from JFK in NYC the plane banked at the right moment and I got a great view of the NYC skyline. It all came into perspective. Something is missing, the Twin Towers. Sometimes you get reminded of what it is all about. I guess the travel delays didn't suck so bad after all.

Again l'd like to thank all the families and the Unit Members for all you have sacrificed over the last 9 years of war and the sacrifices you will continue to make as we strive to defend our way of life against a determined enemy. Most of our nation doesn't understand the severity of what we are up against. You do and you stand up and make a difference. Thank you.
~ John McLaughlin


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## Special points of interest:

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- J CU Old School
- New Baby
- Upcoming Events
- 30th Anniversary dates set

back together again should be good training.
We still have a lot of moving pieces at this time. Five of

Our first month of standing by the fire pole has come and gone. Even though it is hopefully a bit more relaxed around here, the guys remain busy. Inventories and packing lists are now complete; always the highlight of any week. Rudy led the push to pull everything out of our training facility so the maintenance guys can get in and install a raised floor and improve the power situation. Putting it all
the guys are TDY learning how to design and document new data center facilities. Seven others went north to continue training and work on standby packages. The men still in garrison have just chased down a rather elusive KG setting that I am sure they will never forget; loading and unloading the vehicle every day gets old fast. Next month is already packed with SERE, I-Direct Hub, Call Manager, and a host of other training.


The month of January has been extremely busy for B-Troop and we literally started the month off full go. We participated in one of the largest exercises to date out in New Mexico and as usual when JCU was called upon we were able to support the exercise and everything thrown at us. The training was great for the troop as we were continually able to push our limits day in and day out in support of the exercise. The month didn't slow down any for us any as towards the end, the troop split in half and are tackling exercises on both the east and west coast. One of those being Cold Weather Training at Ft. Drum, which the few brave
souls will definitely have some nice stories to tell about sub-zero weather and a new appreciation for the mild winters we have here! To all our families, thank you again for the support you continually show and give to us as we continue to push the limits of ourselves as communicators. Without the spouses and children remaining as strong as they do, we would never be able to accomplish all that we have.

> ~ Augie


Above: SFC Travis Jenkins is promoted to MSG by his wife Lakecia in a ceremony held on 29 JAN 10
anniversaries, apparently no one likes to get married in January, so there are no anniversaries, but there are three birthdays. Happy birthday to Rachael Gorman, Jeremy Trejo and Cary Wise. Also, when I mentioned the January promotions, I forgot to mention the DEC promotions. Congrats to Cary for pinning on E-6 last month.

Well this will probably break the record for the shortest input from CTroop. I'll try to have more for next month. Enjoy your down time and time together and we will see you all soon.

- Millsy


Derek! Big Jon Woosley has

Valentine's day is approaching and your loved ones are deployed. Sad I know, but lucky for you we have a VTC scheduled on VALENTINE'S DAY! Timelines will be posted and A -Troop will be assisting in our endeavor to keep you in touch with your loved ones. The changeover with C-Troop has gone rather smooth and I would like to thank C-Troop for their assistance. The D Troopers have been getting up to speed on their new duties and l've heard that Goody's been looking like a zombie trying to adapt to the time change. Derek and Amanda Hollingshead have patiently awaited the arrival of mini-Derek. Already like his dad, he's taking his sweet old time. Just kidding
made it his personal mission to get Smario "pumped up and tanned," but l'm not sure how Smario is going to fare carrying ALL of Jon's weight around the track. I remember Morgan's saying something like, "I'm tired of carrying John and Josh Smith. Stinking new guys!" And with that comment, the "not-so-new-guys" have been a tremendous asset, already making big changes, implementing new ideas, and completing tasks that were once considered, "seasoned communicator" responsibilities. Great job Chaz, Eric, Al, and Jonesy! All in all, I can't go without mentioning the tremendous efforts Dave and Vanessa have put into getting everyone positioned at their sites and manning up the battlefield. The team is getting themselves settled in and I'm sure the majority of them have already
told "funny stories about their buddies." Nothing like a deployment to bring out the best in the people around you. For next month, I would like to offer something new to the D-Troop spouses. I would love it if you would send me some funny stories about your deployed spouse. Please limit your inputs to five sentences or less and ensure it is family friendly. The DET Chiefs and I will select one and post it in next month's newsletter. If they're really good, we can make it a regular occurrence. Please send it to me prior to the $20^{\text {th }}$ of February (cnichols16@nc.rr.com). I appreciate the continued support that each and every one of you has given to this unit, command, and the US Armed Forces. Right people, right place...always delivering the message!
~ Jack


Wow, this month has brought some great news to E Troop! Congratulations to both Mike Crain and Sergio Hernandez on being selected for promotion to Master Sergeant. That is 100\% of the eligible Army E7s being selected from the Troop. Now let's just hope that the existing promotion list is expended quickly so that both of them can get promoted and start getting paid. It has been long overdue, but I
was finally able to get the materials together so that we could present Adrian Williams with his going away gift from all of us. E Troop visited A Troop and presented the gift to Adrian. This has really been a fairly busy month for everyone in $E$ Troop. It seems like we have had people constantly traveling and working extended hours. By the time everyone receives this Bryan Fooshee should have graduated from the Military


Happy belated Ground Hog Day! I know Ground Hog Day is not a widely celebrated day but I had to open this month's newsletter somehow. I hope this finds everyone doing well. G-Troop welcomes Randy and Melissa Amsler who came to the team this month. I am sure A-Troop is already missing y'all. As you already know, there is no better place to work than in JCU. Whatever I can do to make your time in G-Troop better, don't hesitate to ask.

We had a few reasons to celebrate in January. Brooke Schaffer and Heidi Evans returned home after a long time away from their family and friends. They did some outstanding work providing top level support to the guys on the ground. Good job guys, welcome back. Casey Mues was selected as the winner of the Lance P. Sijon Award for Leadership. A well deserved recognition to the professionalism that Casey brings to the unit every day.

## Congratulations Casey!

A couple of other notable events. Rich McAlister provided very realistic fire prevention education to his neighborhood. He hosted a working lunch for the local fire department. Rich went all out in his demonstration of what NOT to do when lighting a "controlled" fire. Good job on your community service efforts Rich. Mike Foy, Pete Nunnery and Ken Smith had the opportunity to go through the interview process required for all personnel wanting to work in JCU. As civilians they did not have to endure the physical fitness test but, the stress of answering hundreds of test questions and appearing in front of an interview board sure gave them an appreciation of the process.

People in the Troop are moving around; Will, Darren, OT and Rich left out of here to go work with the team forward. Soon to follow will be Graham, Chris and Mike. Jim will be returning

Freefall Jumpmaster course, provided I didn't just jinx him. Brian Zebrowski will have completed all of his prerequisite formal training for the CNO course. Now the rest of us will start testing him to see if he has actually learned anything. The real fun starts once he gets into the CNO course. Happy Birthday to Scott Bachand, he celebrated his $31^{\text {st }}$ birthday on the $17^{\text {th }}$. I heard Chuck E Cheese was rocking that night.
~ Tony
home very soon.
A very smart man told me something this week. I thought I would pass it along to you. He told me, "We are not the ones driving this train. Heck, we can't even blow the whistle. We just hope it stays on the tracks. "I think he was trying to tell me, I know you think you are busy now but, you are not the one in charge. The workload is not going to stop. Hang on and enjoy the ride.

As always... thanks to all of you that come to work every day and give 100\% for the team. You are appreciated a great deal.

Happy Valentines Day!
~ Dutch


Another busy cold month is behind us, but the work never stops. EMS has Adam and Dana coming home after a great tour. Jerry and Vince are taking up the spear and leading the way. Like to say welcome to Shane, Jared and Russ the newest members of our team and family. They've hit the ground running. Thanks to Dick and Jeff for doing such a great job on the development of the new work order and supply program. The system will aid both maintenance and LRS for years to come. Steve Page has been working tirelessly testing equipment and packages as they go out the door on mission. Mike Clark and Eric have exhaustively been scrubbing the massive amount of bench stock streamlining it after years of organized chaos. Ameer has two feet in the breeze; literally, he's out the door to jump school. AIRBORNE!! Jeff is a single man on a mission holding down the fort with his team in the cold of the frozen
north. Burrrr!! Have Fun! Steve Powell has stepped up to the plate as Team Leader since Darren is preparing to PCS. And speaking of Darren, we must say goodbye to another great American and JCU member. You will be greatly missed in maintenance; your knowledge and experience make you irreplaceable. "Fair winds and Following Seas" to a great naval chief!
Motor pool is on the move again. Roger is in trigger time teaching those paper bad guys who's boss; UP and DOWN range. While Roger is having fun Andy is doing all his hard work with no issues. JTF 99 is in full swing. It's like an episode of Extreme Home Makeover as they completely gutted, redesigned and rebuilt the facility. Scott Scott - Scott, has anyone seen Scott, he's here somewhere. Mike is in charge providing all his moral support and direction. This is what Great Leadership is made of. FM is hard at work juggling the many irons in the fire. All the folks are either TDY or off
base working multiple issues. They're working hard to keep the unit at the tip of the technology spear. Just keep the great ideas coming.
Have a Great February,
~ Mike Clark



Above: Adrian Williams receives the E-Troop departure gift from Tony Gillespie. Adrian will continue his JCU tour as an A-Troop member

Hello everyone,
We would like to thank all the spouses that attended the Unit newcomers brief and participated in the spouse luncheon. We would like to welcome SSG Lopez and Natasha to the unit. The past month has been very busy for SOROC Class 1-10 with training on initial responder medical tasks, the small arms range and a culmination field training
exercise. Both events were a lot of fun with great learning experiences and team building for everyone. We had a lot of first times over the past month, some include; driving HMMWV's, walking through the woods with night vision, flying on helicopters and firing M4 and or 9 mm 's. The weather was a factor on the last night of the field exercise when it started to rain and the temperature dropped. We quickly found out
who did not understand how to waterproof equipment and build expedition poncho tent's even after the Gunny and I built the example hooch. One unnamed individual found out the lockers are not only for storage of equipment but a great spot for a 2 hour snooze after returning from the training exercise recovery.
~S\&T


January has been an interesting month for Executive Comms; Rob Londers was selected for MSG, for the first time, in a long time, there have been more than 2 x EC personnel in the office at the same time, I have been back on the road travelling, and we have officially added two (2) sheets of $4 \times 4$ plywood to our kits (Mark Garcia leads the way).

As we move into February, Mark is going forward and we await Tigo's return (1 x Marine in the office at a time - just the way we like it). I'm sure Tigo will return from his "world tour" bearing gifts (probably baked goods); we can hardly wait!

Jimmy and Rob are eagerly awaiting a turnover. Rumor has it they are going to draw straws to determine who, if anyone will
remain in country to provide comms support. Good luck to the both of you!

Hopefully, the months ahead will bring a little more excitement to the EC team; we'll see. Until then... CONGRATULATIONS Rob! Cheers!
~ Marcus


## 

Left; SSgt Derek Hollingshead and Amanda are the proud parents of Zachary Charles Hollingshead. Zachary was born on January 30, 2010 at 7:29 AM in the Cape Fear Valley Medical Center He weighed in at 7 lbs .8 ozs. and was $21.5^{\prime \prime}$ long.

LOOK WHO JUST DROP

# ANNIVERSARIES 

| Andre \& Citwyler Tate | 3 FEB |
| :--- | :--- |
| James \& Samantha Brown | 11 FEB |
| Troy \& Shani Zimmermann | 12 FEB |
| German \& Ximena Salcedo | 17 FEB |
| Travis \& Lakecia Jenkins | 19 FEB |
| Kathryn \& Daniel Little | 22 FEB |
| Sergio \& Patricia Hernandez | 22 FEB |
| Raphael \& Anjenette Halmos | 27 FEB |

## UPCOMING VTC DATES

March 14, 2010


JCU Spouses Social
Tuesday, Feb $23^{\text {nd }}$ 6:30pm

Paint Your Own Pottery
"Just Claying Around"

## 201 S McPherson Church Rd

Fayetteville, 28303

Must RSVP to Michelle by Sunday, Feb $21^{\text {ta }},(910)$ 717-3519 or moljm4@aol.com

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.



11th Annual SOCA Golf Tournament Entry Form Individual/Group $\$ 45.00 / \$ 180.00$ Hole Sponsors $\$ 400.00$ Phone\# $\qquad$ NAME/s
1.
2. $\qquad$ 3. 4.

Send Entry form to: SOCA, Attn: Deb Stewart P.O. Box 73409 Fort Bragg, NC 28307


The 30th Anniversary has been scheduled. The dates will be December 16-17, 2010. A variety of events are on tap and more information will be posted throughout the year. Please visit our website as well for more information. We plan on seeing everyone there, mark your calendar's now for what will be the event to remember.

## WELCOME OUR NEW JCU MEMBERS

Mr. Ken Willett \& wife Sharon (Recruiting, returning JCU Alumni)
SSG Roberto Lopez \& wife Natasha (SOROC Class 1-10)
SSgt Benjamin D Holmes (SOROC Class 1-10)

## GOODBYE TO FRIENDS \& FAMILY

ETC Daren Pallugna \& wife Lori, children; Richie, Niki \& Ally JAN 05 - FEB 10 (M-Troop) SSgt Adam Merlino \& wife Dianna JAN 06 - FEB 10 (D-Troop)


Above: Daren Pallugna is presented his departure gift from M-Troop by Chris Smith on 29 JAN 10

Right: SSG Rudy Messex is reenlisted by LTC Parsons in a ceremony held on

10 FEB 10



Left: SMSgt Travis Knutson takes the Oath of Reenlistment from COL McLaughlin in a ceremony held on 17 FEB 10

Right: Correction to last month's edition. IT1 Chris Choyce received the coveted Naval Parachutist Insignia (Gold Wings) in a ceremony held on 9 DEC 09


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



Last month's RETRO picture is none other than Mr. Joe Miller from M-Troop. The picture was taken in April of 1968 at age 20 when Joe first arrived in Viet Nam. Young Joe still had all his fingers when this was taken. After two tours there with the 199th Light Infantry Brigade and having been awarded two Purple Hearts, we are glad that Joe is a part of our team. Joe retired as a SGM, thank you for your sacrifices and your continued commitment to this great nation. I would like to thank his wife Suzi for directing me to this picture and sharing a little piece of Joe's life with us.


## Meet the SOROC'ers of Class 01-10



Name: Steven Comeau
Rank / Service: ET1 / USN
Enlisted: 24 May 2000
Birthday: 11 Sep 1982
Spouse name: Tara M. Comeau
Children: Grace \& Samuel
Hobbies: Playing with my kids, Guitar, Working on Cars, Previous Assignment: Special Boat Team Twenty-Two Goals/Expectations: Continue higher education, Find a place to live that my wife likes.

Name: Benjamin D Holmes
Rank / Service: SSgt / USMC
Enlisted: 1 Feb 2002
Birthday: 22 Oct 1976
Hobbies: Gaming, puzzles, soccer
Previous Assignment: MWCS-28
Goals/Expectations: To learn new systems and learn and grow as a person.


Name: Bryant Paul Locke
Rank / Service: SFC / USA
Enlisted: 1 Feb 2008
Birthday: 22 Apr 1982
Spouse name: Emily Locke
Hobbies: football, scuba diving, grilling
Previous Assignment: $7^{\text {th }}$ Special Forces Group (Airborne)
Goals/Expectations: To always improve myself and become the best at my job

Name: Anderson, Clyde, IV
Rank / Service: ETC(SW/AW) / USN
Enlisted: 27 Jul 1999
Birthday: 16 Jul 1979
Spouse name: Cheria
Children: Clyde \& Caylah
Hobbies: Family Time
Previous Assignment: Naval Air Station Brunswick, ME
Goals/Expectations: Learn as much as possible, have a successful tour, and advance to Senior Chief


## OLD SCHOOL

Early days of JCU. This picture was sent in by then, ET1 Glenn Pearson (JCU Alumni MAR 82 - JAN 84). This picture is from late 1982 or early 1983 after a rappel training session. This group of steely-eyed, red-blooded Americans were about all the unit had for manning back then, there were a few more, but not many. One thing that should remain at the forefront is our history. These guys started this great unit and whether you know it or not, you are making tomorrow's history today. Thank you!

## February Promotions, Awards \& Special Occasions



Below: SFC Scott Beadell and SSgt Casey Mues are awarded the Bronze Star Medal by COL McLaughlin in a ceremony held on 12 JAN 10


Right: IT1 Joe Worley is awarded the coveted Naval Parachutist Insignia (Gold Wings) in a ceremony held on 12 JAN 10



Mark your calendars for these important dates

20 May
21 May
6 August

Pre-Golf Tournament Social with sponsors 11th Annual SOCA Golf Tournament
Annual JCU Summer Picnic

1800-2200: The Mash House
0830-1400: Carolina Lakes
1000-1800: Fantasy Lake Water Park

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"DoD's Finest Communicators"


## LEADERSHIP THAT CARES

| Position | Name | Work | Home |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Commander | COL McLaughlin (J ohn) | $243-0200$ | $717-3519$ |
| CSM | SGM Long (Steve) | $243-0201$ | $568-6408$ |
| XO | LCDR Hill (Nick) | $243-8850$ | $678-0209$ |
| Unit 1SG | 1SG Spencer (Todd) | $243-0469$ | $423-5644$ |
| OPS Officer | MAJ Pishock (J oe) | $243-0524$ | $273-3879$ |
| Ops SGM | SGM Adcox (Mike) | $243-2439$ | $919-499-2541$ |
| A-Troop SGM | SMSgt Knutson (Travis) | $243-1321$ | $273-5668$ |
| B-Troop SGM | 1SG Hargrove (Bryan) | $243-4079$ | $483-0231$ |
| C-Troop SGM | 1SG Mills (J ohn) | $243-0115$ | $717-2224$ |
| D-Troop SGM | SGM Nichols (J ack) | $243-4147$ | $424-1805$ |
| E-Troop OIC | Mr. Gillespie (Tony) | $243-1217$ | $875-1045$ |
| E-Troop SGM | MSgt Lewis (Chad) | $243-1465$ | $864-1670$ |
| G-Troop SGM | 1SG Broussard (Dutch) | $243-0991$ | $436-1113$ |
| M-Troop Chief | ETC Lewis (Stacey) | $243-0439$ | $893-4015$ |
| S\&T NCOIC | 1SG Leach (Chris) | $243-0577$ | $480-1118$ |
| JCU FRC | Mrs. Michelle McLaughlin |  | $717-3519$ |
| Social Worker | Mrs. Wanda Crawford | $396-7489$ |  |
| Chaplain Office | Mrs. Windia Mitchell | $243-2515$ |  |
| J SOC FRG | Mrs. Agnes Adamczyk | $396-7500$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |


|  | JCU FRG Key Callers |
| :--- | :---: |
| Michelle McLaughlin | $717-3519$ |
| Lori Knutson | $580-2956$ |
| Kris To | $644-5587$ |
| Kim Melby | $717-4942$ |
| Michelle Roscoe | $875-9266$ |
| Natalie Lewis | $864-1670$ |
| Rhonda Broussard | $436-1113$ |
| Lisa Dover | $960-0037$ |
| Gini Walker | $(919) 499-5710$ |
| Kim Leach | $480-1118$ |

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jlsadover@hotmail.com
ginimomof4@windstream.net
dawgs2win@embarqmail.com

## 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 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).

