

Delivering the Message

Volume 7, Issue 1

January 1, 2012

**Joint
Communications Unit**

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Message from the Commander

Happy New Year! I hope everyone has started to recover from too much food, too much football (is that possible?), and too many fights with Christmas tree lights that seemingly go out as soon as you untangle them. It really has been a great holiday season. I want to thank all those who attended both the Children's Christmas party and the JCU Anniversary party with a special thanks to the FRG who helped put both events together. It truly was an incredible year in the life of JCU. Service in this unit comes with a sense of pride and satisfaction that you are part of something special that is making an impact on our way of life. Much to be thankful for to be sure!

Since the last newsletter we have had some big personal achievements within JCU. The Army E8 list came out and 13 JCU personnel were selected for MSG. I think the Army selection rate was 16%. The JCU selection rate was 92%. Seven JCU Air Force members competed at the SOCOM Level for Information Dominance Awards. Seven JCU Air Force members

WON at the SOCOM level. CSM Long says he thinks that is a 100% success rate. Our only Marine GySgt eligible for promotion was selected for Master Sergeant. 21 JCU members recently graduated SOROC and have formally entered the ranks of DoD's Finest. Congratulations to all the SOROC graduates. We look forward to integrating the new graduates and their Families into the Troops.

The packing away of Christmas ornaments normally coincides with dreary weather, cars that won't start, and driving conditions that show how little people from North Carolina know about driving in the snow. Please take the time to go ahead and get that new car battery you've been putting off, put emergency roadside gear in the vehicle, and take extra precaution out on the road. For Family members of deployed service members, please make sure you have good contact information for the JCU Chain of Command as well as the FRG in the event you have any problems.

I want to make a special mention of a leadership change within JCU. LCDR Nick Hill will officially relinquish his duties

as the Deputy Commander of JCU on 3 January 2012 to MAJ Andy Bender. There are very few people in the history of JCU who have contributed more to the mission of this unit and the command than Nick Hill. I want to personally thank him and Rosie for their dedicated service to this command. We will talk more about Nick at his retirement ceremony later this year. MAJ Bender has gigantic shoes to fill but comes to JCU with a wealth of SOF experience and is ready to represent the unit and their Families.

I would like to close by saying that 2012 will certainly provide JCU with new challenges, as well as new opportunities to continue to show why we are worthy of the title of "DoD's Finest". I'm honored to serve with each of you.

~Sam Anderson
CDR JCU



HAPPY 2012



To the Families, Men, and Women of A-Troop:

This month we bid farewell to Frank Perez and his wife Beverly after an extremely successful tour as the Troop SGM. Frank is retiring after a career of faithful service, best wishes to him and his family in all of their future endeavors.

The Commander appointed me as Frank's successor and my wife, Elizabeth (Eli), and I are honored to be members of A-Troop. We have two

sons: Jordan (21) who is a senior at University of North Carolina this year and Aaron (18) who is a senior in high school. Eli sent an e-mail to all of the addresses on the Troop FRG list to introduce herself, so if you did not receive her e-mail, please let her know and we'll get you added. I encourage all of you to communicate with Eli and let us know if you need support.

To say that I am impressed with the performance of the A-Troop service members during this deployment is a gross understatement; they have received countless accolades from the



Hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas and New Year celebrations. It's hard to believe another year has passed, but when I look back, it's amazing how much was accomplished.

December was a restful month for most of troop. Steve, Dre,

OT, Pablo and Clyde enjoyed a few weeks down in Savannah, they excelled as always and set a new precedent for the unit. Chuck tried to submit a travel claim for his cruise, by making his family wear JCU lanyards and call it a recruiting trip. We welcomed some new families and service members that have successfully completed SOROC.

I hope you all have a blessed



Happy New Year and a belated Merry Christmas! I hope that everyone has had a good Holiday season and is ready to begin another exciting, fast paced year. Looking back over the last 12 months, the troop has been very active as we've spent some time away from home, said goodbye to many of our brothers and sisters, and welcome many new ones into our mix. As always, it is the strength and talent of our teammates that keep us strong and able to meet the challenges given to us. We are a young team, but

everyone brings skills and knowledge that one usually finds in more senior communicators. Recently we completed an exercise in Indiana, and our team did an outstanding job, despite the 50 degree drop in temperature! We were part of the longest exercise with the most injected problems of any to date and everyone knocked it out of the park! As seen in one of the pictures, we showed our versatility when attempting to conduct a little surgery on Drew, but to no avail; he had to go and see a real doctor. I hope your ear is feeling better Drew! Pesky ear buds...

December has been a good month for us. Brandon Stefanowski has been selected for MSG, congratulations and well deserved! We also bring into our mix from the last SOROC class Steve Overton, Matthew Keller, Aaron Brunner, and John Hayse. Welcome to you and your families! This season wasn't all roses however, C-Troop finally lost the Jingle Stick competition. We tried

Unit's leadership and the leaders on the ground at the bases where they are serving. Considering that this deployment is the first or second for the majority of the Troop's members, that is an incredible achievement. As we prepare to turn-over and hand the reigns to C-Troop, I know that all of us who are deployed are anxious to come home and spend some quality time with our families during a well-deserved block leave.

Happy Holidays and God Bless.
"DoD's Finest"

~Dave

new year, and if you made a resolution, you are able to keep it. We're looking forward to celebrating the births with those expecting in the coming year and getting to know the families that have recently joined the troop.

~Dave

to put a good fight, but M-Troop was waiting for us this year and after a (not) so close one last year; they got us!

Again, have a Happy New Year from Natty and I,
~Christian



"Careful Jay, don't grab his brain or anything that might be vital."



So...by the time ya'll read this, the Holiday season will be over, the presents unwrapped, the eggnog (leaded or unleaded) is gone, and at least 3 people in your neighborhood will still have Christmas lights on their house. And in true New Years tradition everyone will be making (or breaking) their New Year's Resolutions. So I figured I would try and help out by suggesting a few, non-traditional, New Year's Resolutions. Now we all have heard the folks who are going to start working out and getting in shape and for the first 2 weeks in January you can't even get in the Gym (except for the Squat Rack for power clean super sets, which is where me and the rest of the power lifters hang out.... Ain't that right Tim Duncan!). Occasionally you will hear some folk's claim how they will try and read more, or be nicer to the less fortunate, or some other well intended/noble self improvement idea. Those are well and good resolutions but they typically don't last more than a few weeks, so why set yourself up for failure so early in the Year. In an effort to help ya'll out in this matter, I figured I would lay out a few Resolutions that are more JCU centric and perhaps easier to achieve. Below is a short list of suggested JCU New Year's Resolutions for 2012. Drum Roll Please.....

#3. E-mail free Tuesday (feel free to substitute a day of your choice). Let's try talking to each

other.

#2. OPS O appreciation. Once a week (or month, again looking for an obtainable goal) try to stop by and let the Ops O know how much you appreciate him. Positive comments only!

#1. Please make it your #1 JCU New Year's Resolution to give Todd "Dookie" Spencer a nice gentle smack on the backside or what is otherwise known as a "Good Game" every time you see him. I know how much he would appreciate it, no matter how much he scowls, especially during football season. Oh and Please no cupping. OK maybe just a little.

Just a quick word about all the great work the troop has been doing. Congrats goes out to Amy Smith as being selected as a USSOCOM Information Dominance Award Winner for 2011. She will go on to compete at the Air Force level. Now that is just AWESOME! Speaking of awesome, I think we had 100% of the troop who attended the Sec + class receive their certifications, testament to the talent and dare I say "leadership" in the troop. We also had a few guys get their sea legs and earn their salt aboard a US Naval vessel recently. I understand this experience helped to reaffirm their service choices. Good job on the high seas fellas. The troop continued to represent by playing a vital, if not the most crucial role during the last Unit validation exercise. I'm quite certain that it was our

break neck pace, and complete focus on the job, that led to the success of the entire event. Way to Go. Especially to David Smith, who, to be honest doesn't get as much credit as he deserves, or so he continuously tells me. So here's to you David, for all that magical, level 73 administration wizardry that you do. Lightning Bolt, Lightning Bolt, Lightning Bolt!

And the whole troop would like to warmly welcome all the new D Troopers and their families; I can't tell you how excited we are to have you as a part of our team. We are looking forward to getting to know each of you better as we move into our fast and furious upcoming training cycle. To the new families, please let me know if there is anything we can do to help with your transition to the troop. Again we look forward to serving alongside you in the coming months.

OK, well looks like my house if the one on the block with the lights still up so..... guess I better get on that. Oh wait... maybe I'm just the first to have New Years lights up (yes... that's it, feels good to be a trend setter) Looking forward to seeing each of you commit to at least one of the suggested New Year's Resolutions. I really hope it is #1. Love ya Todd!

~Del



Hello everyone. Welcome to the New Year! We sure celebrated the end of 2011. Between the Kids Christmas Party and the Anniversary Party, I think we gave it a strong showing. Carleen did a great job as Jingle Stick project manager/head of decorations committee. The maintenance bay looked extremely festive, if not somewhat disturbing with the hotdog-adorned Christmas tree and all. Not sure if the forklift driving, parachute equipped, armed Santa was delivering gifts or launching a mission to invade Iraq (again). Fun was had by all and the Ugly Christmas sweaters lived up to their name.

Russ and Blake will soon be returning. We are all proud of their accomplishments. Jeff Drew and Gabe will soon be high 5ing with them as their replacements. We wish them the best and know they will do great things. I'd like to welcome a new member of the EMS team,

Reggie Geter. Fresh from SOROC, he's jumping right in with both feet and unabashed optimism. He's already fitting in with some of the guys in EMS who are NASCAR fans. Just the other day he was talking about his favorite driver, Jimmy Stewart.....seriously. You can't make this stuff up. In spite of his gross lack of knowledge of NASCAR, the Navy has seen fit to promote Reggie to IT1 on 6 January! Congrats Reggie. Well deserved!

In LRS, we said "Goodbye" to an iconic JCU figure, Chief Master Sergeant Todd Petzel after 18 years in JCU! Todd and his lovely wife Brandy are headed to Scott AFB, Illinois where Todd will take the reins of an AF Logistics Readiness Squadron. We are hoping that Todd will not be too terribly shocked when he learns that the outlying areas away from North Carolina are not infested with Sea Dragons and the Earth is not flat. Seriously, Todd and Brandy will be greatly missed! Mike Larson is taking care of business downrange supporting our logistics needs and will be

home soon.

Over in the Motor Pool, Mikey Beach and Co. are still keeping the gears meshing smoothly and well lubed. Keep up the good work guys.

Looks like M-Troop made a clean sweep with the Air Force Information Dominance Awards at the USSOCOM level! Please congratulate, Jeff Huffman, Tim Renfro, and Mike Medgyessy for winning their respective categories. They will now go on to the Air Force level to compete at the very top tier of their Service! Good luck as you move forward with what is already a huge accomplishment! Well done!

Stick a fork in this one....it's done! Best of luck to everyone with 2012...the Mayans weren't so optimistic but I think we'll be ok. 2012 brings with it plenty of opportunities. Wish all of you the best throughout the upcoming year! Stay Safe and Take Care.

~Mike



Happy New Years from SMT! Now that we are all, or at least should be, rested from the holiday it's right back to work for everyone. SMT didn't skip a beat rolling into 2012. We have guys keeping us safe abroad (THANKS GENTLEMEN), guys in schools, participating in exercises, and guys turning the gears back home. This month we

welcomed back Chad and gave a "see you soon" to Jory, Rick, Tom, and tough guy Cotten. Rob, Rick, and Doug roll into new jobs in SMT, and we wish the best of luck to the guys starting up the many courses that start in January. We are very happy to welcome Natasha and Rob Lopez, and Lindsay and Josh Espersen to the SMT family. SMT-SRT was able to take the wives out to the range and we're glad

everyone made it out in one piece. I would also like to take this opportunity to preannounce SMT as the Champions in the upcoming Highland Games. If your SMT hubby starts drinking raw eggs and protein shakes as well as doing two-a-days it's because training starts NOW! Thanks for every ones continued support to the organization.

~Josh



What an awesome ending to a wonderful year!! After all of the crazy weather we had in 2011, who could have imagined or predicted this great weather to close out 2011? We would like to congratulate Bryan Watkins for receiving the John P. Jumper Award for Excellence in Warfighting Integration and Ceven Epps for being selected as the Air Force Outstanding Cyber Transport Systems NCO for USSOCOM. Great job! Best of luck as you both move forward to compete at the Air Force level of

competition. Keep up the good work. You guys once again prove this organization is indeed comprised of DOD's finest communicators.

Congratulations are also in order for Jeremy and Melinda Bloom, who exchanged vows just in time for the Holidays. Congratulations! We would like to thank our deployed members and their families for their work and sacrifices. Even during the holiday season, it is impossible to pause all operations; someone always has to be at work. There is great chow in the DFAC but nothing compares to sharing that special meal with the ones you love the most, the sacrifice of our deployed members and families have become common place but

never unappreciated. Thanks. Please take the time to pray, friend on facebook and/or drop Randy Amsler (The Ramsler) an email of encouragement as he fights to defeat Leukemia. Randy is residing in Germany and remains in good spirits and of strong mind and heart. He is truly one of the strongest warriors I've ever met and an even better person. We often joked of his "unnatural" strength prior to learning of this condition. It is that very strength and will propel him through these difficult times. Stay strong and keep the faith Randy! Our prayers are with you.

~TJ



Since I was gone most of last month to get married, I missed the opportunity to thank everyone for all of their hard work and dedication that was put into the Leader's Off-Site in Camp Lejeune and Fort Fisher, NC. For those that provided backside assistance, thank you for putting your best foot forward and making it a success! I'd like to give a special thanks to MSG Mike Clark for all of his efforts in making the tactical portion of the event so successful. Because of your efforts we were able to meet the CDR's intent to build Esprit de Corps amongst the leaders.... They now have a unified front in hating us for making it "challenging" to say the least. However, I could not get by without also thanking mother nature for pulling her weight and ensuring people were cold, wet and oh so pleasant to be around. Oddly enough, Ranger Rutka could not stop smiling since he was right at home. For everyone that participated in the event, I AM SORRY!!!! I did however take great efforts to make that part up to you all by having a fun leader's outing planned out on the high seas. To Dennis Smith and Mike Beach, I hope you were able to enjoy your time in between leaning over the side of the boat.

Almost immediately following the Leader's Off-Site, I took off to get married at the all-inclusive Sandals Resort in Exuma, Bahamas. It was the most stress free and amazing wedding I could have had and I highly recommend it to anyone. I look forward to introducing my husband Jeremy to everyone as soon as I get the chance. Unfortunately he is currently deployed, but I always look at the bright side of things and that just means we will appreciate the time we do have together more. I am currently in the middle of changing my last name, but the Army likes to take longer to get things done so hopefully soon you will start seeing my new last name on distros. Just remember my new last name will be Crawford, like Cindy... not Joan. That means when you see an email from CPT Crawford, PLEASE read it and don't delete it!

As we rolled out of the Leader's Off-site last month we rolled right into the JCU Battalion validation exercise following the Thanksgiving Holiday. I want to give a huge round of applause to the S&T staff for ensuring all supporting efforts were well planned out and executed. This year's event would not have been the success it was without you! Steve, Kyle, Jim and Ken thank you for doing what you do best and making it happen!

We'd first like to recognize Mr. Jim McKnight for all of his hard work and dedication throughout his tenure on the 2nd deck in S&T. Jim has literally sat in the same seat for the past 10 years; so even though he's not really leaving the section, but only transitioning out of the 2nd deck and into another office, we want to recognize him and thank him for all of his hard work and dedication to the unit. Jim will continue to be a valuable asset to S&T and the SOROC students as he is able to focus on the tactical phase (Module 0) and RTO phase (Module 1) of the course.

I would also like to welcome MSG Jason Coleman and his family. Jason & Kim, an 8th grade school teacher, have been married for 18 years and have two children, Keigan (8) and Aislyn (5). Born and raised in the mountains of North Carolina, Jason brings a wealth of experience to S&T and will be running our Military Free Fall Instructor Candidate Program (MFF ICP). He has 15 years of active service, 6 years of reserve time, and 4 years as a police officer under his belt to make him a valuable addition to the unit. Welcome to JCU Coleman family!

~Mary

SOROC Class 2-11 completed the FINAL JCU PT TEST. Congratulations are in order for SPC Paparone, he was awarded the IRON MAN for outstanding physical fitness. Great job! I challenge their respective Troops to maintain their SOROC bodies during their entire tour here at JCU. Module #4 was completed leaving one man standing as the HONOR GRADUATE in Academic Achievement, so Congratulations again to SPC Paparone for the HONOR GRADUATE award. Upon completing both events, SOROC Class 2-11 packed up all gear & equipment, inventoried, and transported it to Muscatatuck Urban Training Center (MUTC), IN where they conducted the final culmination exercise in conjunction with the Battalion validation exercise. We would like to give a big SHOUT out to the great INSTRUCTOR CADRE staff, and M-Troop for all your hard work and dedication that made this exercise a great success!

Al, thanks for being a good Team Mate and staying a day later to clear the buildings...you totally missed a great 15 hour drive back to Ft. Bragg. We would also like to recognize a great Team Leader and Team Mate to the INSTRUCTOR CADRE staff MSG "Big Jon" Woosley!! We know that your great Leadership and Mentorship will carry on the living SOROC Ethos & Core Principles for many classes to come! Welcome to the TEAM! As we gain one, SOROC and S&T loses another... SFC Kyle Roscoe departs for the well deserved DET-Chief position. Kyle, thanks again for

stepping up to the plate and landing on that grenade. You are a great Team Mate and are truly going to be missed in S&T. Best of luck to you in your new position! Oh and thanks for the HOT CHOW! Because Hot Chow is not a Crime!!!

After (ENDEX) was passed and all gear was packed up and brought back to Ft. Bragg, the students thought that the training was over...SIKE!! The students were then told to get in columns of two for a run to an unknown location where they established the final element of "Esprit de Corps", known to the Marines as WARRIOR NIGHT. Warrior night will never have the same group of men together, under the same roof at the same time in this setting ever again. We want to thank you all for your commitment. Consider your board sanded and remember to sustain the transformation and keep your foundation solid. Congratulations to SOROC Class 2-11, you are truly worthy!!!!

"Quotes" from SOROC 2-11 Final Exercise:

"The most important team is the HEAT Team!" -Brunner
 "I learned the HARD-WAY!" -Roberts
 "At the MMS..." -Haines
 "The hardest thing about last night was breakfast." -Braiser
 "Stand-by to copy password.....?" -Geter
 "Is Brunner still on profile..? I don't know what day is it?" -Gunny/Haines
 "I was cramped; the furniture was made for small people!" -Brasier
 "Don't be jealous, Semper-Fidelis!" -Gunny

MISSION: To develop better Leaders and a more cohesive Communication TEAM!

Solid board----<Foundation starts in SOROC>

ETHOS & CORE PRINCIPLES: We are good Team Leaders, good Teammates, and we prepare ourselves every day to fill either role. We do so by making a commitment to our (3) core principles:

- 1- We are physically and mentally tough.
- 2- We don't make excuses and we don't let others make excuses for us.
- 3- We work hard! And to us (YOU!), in SOROC, working hard means we do "ONE MORE!" -Gunny

Bring on SOROC 1-12!!!

~Gunny

F.Y.I. **JCU FRG NEWS**

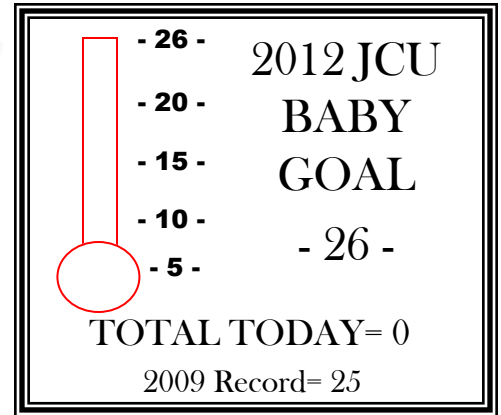


Above: JCU has a 1 mile stretch of road on Gillis Hill Road beside the Raeford Walmart. What originally started as a new opportunity for Navy volunteers, turned more into a command effort lead by ET1 Jonathan Beard to recognize JCU as the guardian of a strip of road. "Seeing this sign gives such a great sense of pride not only for starting this, but that we have our name attached to such a meaningful program." A few JCU members and family showed up for the inaugural clean-up on 17 DEC 11. The turn-out was small but they were treated to Krispy Kreme donuts and coffee. The event took nearly four hours, but with earlier notice and several more people, our next effort would take less than half of that. Those not pictured here were Christian Martin and Steve Long. [The next clean-up will probably be in March, hope to see more folks out there.](#)

Below: CPT Mary Almquist tied the knot with fiancé Jeremy Crawford at Sandals Resort in the Bahamas. So, now we all get to be confused when CPT Crawford calls or sends us emails.



LOOK WHO JUST DROPPED IN



ANNIVERSARIES

Terrell & Vanessa Kemp	2 JAN
Noel & Maria Santiago	7 JAN
Josh & Lindsay Espersen	7 JAN
Sam & Michelle Stanley	10 JAN
Todd & Jamie Brown	10 JAN
John & Tanya Trevino	11 JAN
Ramondoe & Noriko Goodrich	16 JAN
David & Amy Smith	17 JAN
Randy & Melissa Amsler	18 JAN
Roger & Carol Darling	23 JAN
Justin & Katelynd Day	23 JAN
Mike & Amber Medgyessy	29 JAN

**JCU Activities Club
year end roll-up**

To give you an idea of how the JCUAC works for you, I will list a few of the expenditures for 2010. We gave out 17 baby baskets for those newly arrived members of the unit. A total of 13 flower arrangements were sent to the families of those that had lost a loved one or had an extended hospital stay during the year. The majority of the JCUAC funds supported all of the free or reduced price unit and FRG lunches, annual summer picnic, and Children's Christmas Party. With the unit growing, we can only expect these numbers to grow in 2011. Thanks to all who have contributed to the JCUAC and we look forward to another great year. Remember the JCUAC works for you!

~ 1SG



2011 Annual Children's Christmas Party

This year's Children's Christmas Party was held on 14 DEC 11 at Camp Rockfish in Parkton, NC. It was a good time, had by all. Santa showed up to get pictures and pass out candy canes. Below are some of the moments captured that evening.

~ 1SG



WELCOME OUR NEW JCU MEMBERS

TSgt Brett Anderson & wife Mary, daughter Katie and sons Christopher & Joshua(SOROC Class 1-12)
 TSgt John Bass & wife Amanda, and daughter Madeline(SOROC Class 1-12)
 SFC Chase Blanton & wife Leigh, daughter Natalie, and son Nicholas(SOROC Class 1-12)
 SPC Kevin Blunt (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SSgt Andrew Cash (SOROC Class 1-12)
 Sgt Daniel Cebulla & wife Jessica, and daughter Isobel (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SSG Gonzalo Contador & wife Margaret, daughter Lillian, and son Isaac (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SGT Christian Dela Cruz (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SGT Anthony Garcia & wife Ebonie, and sons Anthony Jr, Gabriel & Noah (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SPC Brian Grob (SOROC Class 1-12)
 IT1 Matthew Harrison & wife Veronica, and sons Christian & Micah (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SGT Daniel Himes & wife Chelsie, and daughter Adriannah (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SFC Jonas Johnson & wife Kristi (SOROC Class 1-12)
 IT1 John Killebrew & wife Brenda, and daughters Madeline & Lillian (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SSG Jason Loy & wife Robin, daughter Rylee, and son Jason (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SSG Derreck Martin & wife Heather (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SGT Jason Muncy (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SSgt Jeremy Padbury & wife Melissa (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SSG Robert Panek (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SGT Andrew Reynolds (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SFC Camie Rodgers (SOROC Class 1-12)
 MSgt Pedro Rodriguez & wife Melissa and daughter Thalia (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SGT Ian Sweeney & wife Anna, daughter Rebecca, and son Jameson (SOROC Class 1-12)
 SSgt Gabriel Urdaneta & wife Juliana, and sons Joshua & Adrian (SOROC Class 1-12)
 TSgt Anthony Vigil & wife Erica, and son Lucas (SOROC Class 1-12)

GOODBYE TO FRIENDS & FAMILY

CMSgt Todd Petzel & wife Brandy, sons Brandon & Dawson (M-Troop, Dec '93—Jan '12)
 MCPO Jay Pylman & wife Lisa, daughters Taylor & Mickinley, and son Hunter (B-Troop, May '00—Jan '12)
 MSG Bryan Fooshee & wife Brandy, daughter Ella (SMT Troop, Aug '07—Jan '12)
 MSG Mike Crain & daughter Thalia (SMT Troop, Apr '02—Jan '12)
 IT1 Jessie Trejo (COMSEC, Dec '07—Jan'12)

Below: Danny Knouse was a little busy this winter. As you saw in a previous newsletter, he was busy in Wyoming harvesting mule deer and antelope. Now that he is back in NC, he decided to lower the animal population by two. This time he took a white tail deer with a 100 yard slug shot (which is pretty impressive), a really nice bobcat. If anybody has any pictures of their hunting/fishing/sporting exploits please feel free to email them to me so that I can publish them.



31st Annual Anniversary Party Photos





Who doesn't love the Robot?



4th Annual Jingle Stick Competition

The fourth edition of the Jingle Stick Competition was conducted on December 20th. For those new to JCU, the Jingle Stick may just be the most highly sought after award in JCU. The competition: show the most Christmas cheer by decorating your individual work spaces here at work. The prize: the illustrious JINGLE STICK. MAJ Bender and I are pleased to announce that this year's competition was between a few troops/sections. M-Troop took this year's challenge very seriously. This year's winner was M-Troop! With this win, M-Troop dethrones C-Troop of this prestigious award. Runner-up was C-Troop with SMT taking third. M-Troop had some very interesting items in their space. We first walked up and were greeted by Santa's elves, MCPO Addaman and Maj Landez who welcomed the judges to "Weiner Wonderland and to give them the stick now". Inside, we found everyone wearing nice festive winter sweaters and elf hats. There were signs of forced child labor as Katie Nichols was handing out chocolate kisses to schmooze the judges. M-Troop had a fine layout of all of the finest meats and cheeses in all the land for all to partake of. There was even copious amounts of Electric Sex present (aka the leg lamp from The Christmas Story, full size of course). The forklift was manned by an armed Santa who was indulging in some holiday drink, thus the requirement of having a

parachute on. There was plenty of Christmas music playing to keep the holiday spirit alive. Everything that wasn't moving was wrapped in Christmas paper. There was even a Christmas tree adorned with ornaments for each M-Trooper. There was even a huge Christmas tree that was topped with a M-Troop's famous wiener. C-Troop was in the competition this year, but their focus was elsewhere, so they were only able to have a lighted train in their area. SMT did their greatest impersonation of the Charlie Brown Christmas Tree. I think they succeeded in that. After all was said and done, M-Troop came out on top, so the major award will now reside on the hook that hangs in the M-Troop hallway for the next year. Thanks to all that participated. We look forward to next year. Pictured below is the jingle stick. It is adorned with ribbons, bows, garland, lights, and of course, plenty of bells.

~ DCO / 1SG



January Promotions, Awards & Special Occasions

Air Force Promotions



TSgt Alton Seglund to MSgt (SMT)
SSgt David Smith to TSgt (D-Troop)



Army Promotions



SSG Mark Krob to SFC (B-Troop)
SGT Luis Gonzalez to SSG (B-Troop)
SGT Deborah Williams to SSG (D-Troop)



Right: Mike Lamb was re-enlisted by LCDR Nick Hill. With this new enlistment, Mike has assured himself the ability to retire at the 20 year mark.



Below: CMSgt Todd Petzel is presented with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal by LTC Anderson. Todd is also presented with the coveted JCU Plaque, and JCU Colors by CSM Long. After nearly 19 years with JCU, Todd has decided it was time to move back to the Big Air Force.



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BIRTHDAYS

Bradley Pike	1 JAN
Jesse McMahan	1 JAN
Carlos Calvo	3 JAN
Raphael Halmos	3 JAN
Craig Wilson	4 JAN
Joshua Morgan	5 JAN
Adam Groves	8 JAN
Ryan Miller	8 JAN
Michael E. Clark	10 JAN
Ryan Oswald	10 JAN
Seth Hogan	11 JAN
Joseph Yacopino	11 JAN
Brian Cochran	12 JAN
Michael R. Clark	14 JAN
Camie Rodgers	17 JAN
Noel Santiago	18 JAN
Jeremiah Vanderneut	18 JAN
Julian Walle	21 JAN
Jody Elkins	22 JAN
Andre Tate	22 JAN
Roger Darling	23 JAN
Howard Wright	23 JAN
Steve Trevino	24 JAN
Mark Landez	25 JAN
Marcus Jett	25 JAN
Rachael Gorman	25 JAN
Kevin Angell	28 JAN
Samuel Knox	29 JAN
Jack Nichols	31 JAN
Thomas Knoll	31 JAN

Mark your calendars for these important dates

6 January
4 February
18 February

JCU Winter Highland Games
Command Ball
Retirement of MSG Timothy Holton

0700-0930: Pope Softball Field area
POC: Deb Rosen @ 910-243-0200
1400-1600: Parachute Packing Facility

**Joint Communications
Unit**

P.O. Box 70239
Fort Bragg, NC.
28307-5000

Phone: 910-243-0469

Fax: 910-243-0310

E-mail: prassej@jdi.socom.mil



"DoD's Finest Communicators"



LEADERSHIP THAT CARES



<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Work</u>	<u>Home</u>
Commander	LTC Sam Anderson	243-0200	339-0108
CSM	CSM Steve Long	243-0201	568-6408
DCO	LCDR Nick Hill	243-8850	678-0209
Unit ISG	1SG Jim Prasse	243-0469	426-9305
OPS Officer	MAJ Ken Rutka	243-0524	706-587-8884
Ops SGM	SGM Rob Flaker	243-2439	919-499-5570
A-Troop SGM	ITCS Dave Allen	243-1321	639-1388
B-Troop SGM	ITCS Dave Kelly	243-4079	339-9547
C-Troop SGM	SMSGt Christian Martin	243-0115	919-498-1192
D-Troop SGM	SMSGt Del Walker	243-4147	919-499-5710
SMT Troop SGM	SGM Jack Nichols	243-1589	424-1805
NOSC SGM	1SG Chris Leach	243-0991	480-1118
NOSC Director	MAJ Tom Rascon		973-2489
M-Troop SGM	ETCM Mike Addaman	243-0439	487-0293
S&T NCOIC	MSG Steve Trevino	243-0577	988-4721
XO	Maj Mike Medgyessy	243-2301	919-352-9599
JCU FRC	Mrs. Gillian Long		624-7611
Social Worker	Mrs. Wanda Crawford	396-7489	
Chaplain Office	Mrs. Windia Mitchell	243-2515	
JSOC FRG	Mrs. Marie VanHeusen	396-7500	

JCU FRG Key Callers

JCU FRC	Gillian Long	624-7611	gillian.long@erac.com
A-Troop	Eli Arroyo-Allen	635-6955	madrinaeg@aol.com
B-Troop	Kris To	644-5587	krissylynn1330@yahoo.com
C-Troop	Natalie Martin	919-498-1192	mrsmartin4@hotmail.com
D-Troop	Gini Walker	919-499-5710	ginimomof4@windstream.net
SMT-Troop	Brandy Fooshee	565-0500	b_louella@yahoo.com
NOSC	Barb Rascon	973-2483	brascon71@yahoo.com
M-Troop	Kelly Larson	530-524-4038	larson101@gmail.com
CMD/OPS	Deborah Prasse	426-9305	dsp729@yahoo.com
SOROC	Kathi Knouse	919-498-9042	kgknouse@yahoo.com