# Delivering the Message

March 2014 Volume 9, Issue 2



# The Joint Communications Unit

### Message from the Command Sergeant Major

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It has been some time since I've had a chance to write to you all. In fact, the last time I wrote we were getting ready for winter; which as it so happens has turned out to be an atypically cold and snowy winter for North Carolina. As things are beginning to warm up we will venture outside to enjoy the warmer weather all the and activities we've been forced to put on hold for the last several months. Spring will quickly change to summer, so enjoy it. With summer the kids will be out of school, and summer vacations will be taken making lasting memories. Enjoy your off time as the Command continues to be very busy, and will continue to be busy in the future. In the few months the Commander and I have traveled around the world to see JCU Service Members in training and on exercises. We continue to be impressed, and are amazed at everything JCU is doing. Lastly, I want to personally thank everyone for their dedication, sacrifice, and outstanding work in supporting our Unit, it's families and our Nation.

DoD's Finest. ~Rob

# Upcoming Events

7-12 April JSOC Health & Wellness Symposium

9 April MSgt Smith Retirement Ceremony

18-21 April Easter Weekend

24 April JCU Spouse's Social (Location TBD)

9 May MSgt Garcia Retirement Ceremony

12 May SMSgt Rosario Retirement Ceremony

23-26 May Memorial Day Weekend



#### A Troop

Greetings,

First of all, thanks to Dave Allen for handing over the keys to his "state of the art" Lamborghini known as A Troop. ľve thoroughly enjoyed my time as the "Interim" A Troop SGM. It's going to be a sad day when I have to turn the keys over to Jared Schaffer, who will take over Troop SGM duties in May, as I make preparations

for my PCS. I will tell you that A Troop is highly motivated and have been extremely busy over the last couple months. I don't want to bore you with all the techy accomplishments, but rest assured that these long hour days are flying by as I continue to receive "jobs well done" across my desk. This past month we had the

privilege of reenlisting Justin

Melendez. Kvle Kramer. Andrew Reynolds, and Geoffrey Orwiler. It's rumored that Justin received a significant reenlistment bonus which I'm sure he will use to sponsor our next troop get together. By the time you read this, we will have promoted Anthony Pillitiere to MSgt (USAF). Congratulations to all for these significant accomplishments!

Lastly, A Troop would like to send our condolences to the Williams and D Troop family for their recent loss. Our thoughts and prayers are being sent from afar during this difficult time. He was a true American Hero and will be greatly missed.

Take Care, ~Ryan



#### B Troop

Greetings to all from B Troop! Wow, this year is really flying by. We have been focused on training and the men of B Troop have consistently performed at the highest level. Before we tell you all about it, we want to welcome aboard the new B Troop family members. We welcome Jose and Jessica Brito with their little ones Xavier, Taviano, and Mia; and Amon Amanda Georgewill; Kyle and Kerry Lammerding with their daughter Kaitlyn; and Eric and Kayla Graves and their little B Trooper Alaina.

Congratulations go out to the B Troop Highland games team. Team Leader Aaron Morrill led his team of Jeff Farmer, Eric Graves and Amon Georgewill to victory by dominating the Highland Games events. The 1SG scheduled the games during the coldest day he could find, but that didn't stop B Troop. D Troop put on a good show Miley with their Cyrus entrance anthem and skin tight leprechaun suits but in the end, the team that showed up to take care of business did just that. Good job B Troopers and we look forward to earning another streamer at the next Unit competition.

We were also proud see two of our top performers gain recognition this Quarter. Grayson Killebrew and Jeff Farmer competed in the 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter Service Member of the Quarter Board. They had some good competition, but in the end Jeff Farmer was selected as the Air Force Service Member of the Quarter and Grayson Killebrew took the Navy and overall JCU Service Member of the Quarter. Grayson will compete at the end of the vear for Service member of the year. Good job guys and congratulations.

Also. Andrew Cash and Nathan Sanchez reenlisted, adding another 4 years of for service these two outstanding Servicemen. Congratulations guys! We have also sent some of our Troop members off for tactical training and professional education. Gordon Bover graduated Basic Airborne School in January and has already done his first jump with the Unit. Will Tilley "sailed off" to the Navy Senior Enlisted Advisor School and left us hanging here for a month and a half while he schooled his Navv comrades in Joint Warfare. Jesse Harmon is currently at 29 Palms doing his Cyber Systems Chief Course and learning what it takes to be a Cyber Marine. Congrats to our graduates and graduatesto-be.

B Troop is knee deep in training as we prepare relieve our A Troop Brothers. We

started out by doing some Land Navigation and backpack communication. We also sent our "smart guys" to an advanced network course that has been everyone's head, except for Darren who has been sitting in the back of the class smiling every day. Everyone's head is smoking from the knowledge gained but we know the classroom time will pay dividends down the road.

B Troop Leadership looking forward to transitioning to some team events in the weeks to come. We are poised and ready as the next few months are going to scream by. In the meantime, 1 encourage everyone to enjoy the time we have off, and enjoy the time we have with our families. Thanks for everyone staying motivated and keep up the great work!

~Tim

## C Troop

Once again it is that time when the Unit lets me show off my impeccable writing skills and my complete of the English mastery language. Hopefully everyone enjoyed and survived the winter apocalypse of 14 and is now looking forward to the wonderful North Carolina The pace has not spring. slowed down and the guys have been doing outstanding job. Justin Day

spent even more time on a ship, very close to becoming a real sailor. With his last trip he can finally say that he as more time underway than most of the Army guys in the Troop. The guys have been doing an outstanding job at SONOC and walked away with a 100% pass rate for the class. With the new members of the Troop truly showing that they are very capable communicators. Over the last

month we have learned that Rob Panek can pull off any color combination of plaid shirts, Dylan Mask is trying hard to keep up but just doesn't have Robs fashion sense. We wish a speedy recovery to Eddie Ayala who is recovering from shoulder surgery. The best of luck to Brian Allen and Steve Overton in Jump Master school, Brandon Stefanowski in MFF and Dwayne Camacho in

Airborne. Tom Freymiller is enjoying his time in the T-11 transition course and getting reacquainted with the ways of the 82nd. Finally we send our condolences to the Hodson family on their recent loss, you are in our thoughts and prayers.

~Stan



D Troop

February is drawing to a close and we are getting ready for another wonderful year. It seems I just saw the last newsletter come out. I would like to welcome the Troop back from their well earned weeks off. Now it's back to work to prepare for the next phase. The D Troop leadership have been diligently working on all of the upcoming training iterations.

Congratulations to Tim Strawn on his promotion to Sergeant First Class. His success is no surprise to those that know and have

with worked him. Unfortunately we say goodbye to Gregory Durr and Donald Brantley as they move to over to other troops. We are sorry to lose such good guys, but it will help them gain experience and spread the D Troop knowledge throughout the Command. They will always have a home in D Troop and are always welcome. I want to welcome Tony Carrillo and Barrett Overton and their families to the Troop. Barrett is currently attending static Jumpmaster School; we wish him luck and a safe return.

Also attending school are Rob Luna and Jason Haines at the EXOS Performance Mentorship Training in Raleigh, NC.

I'm always amazed at the caliber of personnel that we have in D Troop and this Unit. The entire Troop continues to be motivated and talented individuals that consistently place the mission first. Most of us just accept this as part of military life, but those sacrifices are significant. I am extremely proud of the contribution from each member of D Troop and this

It is with great sadness to say D Troop has lost another great hero and friend. Words seem so inadequate to express the profound sadness at PO1 Nathaniel Williams's loss. I only hope you can find a small bit of comfort in knowing we will never forget the sacrifice Nate made. His love for his work was dwarfed only by his love for family and friends. Nate always had a smile and a positive thing to say. We love you and miss you Brother!

~Sergio

#### Headquarters & Headquarters Troop (HHT)

Winter finally showed up here in North Carolina and I'm sure that most of the kids don't mind at all. The rest of us will have to wait for this groundhog-voodoo-polar-vortex-magic to end so we can enjoy warmer weather.

January and February brought more than just cold weather for us in HHT; it also brought retirement papers for some truly outstanding Americans. LCDR Nick Hill retired after serving a very distinguished career in JCU

and the US Navy. LCDR Hill undeniably had a positive impact on the careers for scores of Service Members and his absence will no doubt be felt in our great organization. Also leaving and starting a new chapter was

SFC Jimmy Wagner. Jimmy made sure to keep the Army's balance of Wagner's in check and retired shortly after his oldest son enlisted. Lastly, our thoughts and prayers go out to the Williams Family and our Brothers/Sisters in D Troop.

#### M Troop

Another quarter has come and gone. The year has started with many snow days that the Troop has been able to enjoy; but Mother Nature could not stop M Troop's productivity. Our four new maintainers have hit the ground running and are going through even more training (and they thought SOROC was the end of their training).

Daren completed his EXW qualifications, a hard earned well deserved accomplishment. Drew completed his 10<sup>th</sup> airborne jump during a toy drop; earning the privilege to wear his Navy/Marine Corps Parachute Jumper wings. It's hard to believe that Shandra, Drew and Jared are halfway done. They have been doing great things out there. Tim is on a whirlwind world tour to see all the great work our Troop has accomplished. I'm sure he'll have some stories for us after his almost month long vacation around world.

CPO Michael Larson, a truly great American, signed the dotted line to take him out to 20 years. The Navy is keeping

a great asset, now only 10 more years to go before it is all over.

On another note, Mr. Richard "Dick" Linder is retiring after 24 years from Civil Service. His presence, knowledge and guidance will be sorely missed. We will miss DoD's Finest Communicator. We wish you the best on all your future endeavors.

~JR

#### SMT

What's happening SMT family? I know it has been a while since you've seen a message from us but let's not hold grudges.....fair? I told the guys at the beginning of the year that we are going to sprint all the way to the next holiday season and up to now I've been right. As I type this we have four guys starting their first week of MFF training. We expect Jason Muncy, Dirk Shelton, Eddie Robles, and Gus Daffara to do exceptional as they learn to fly. Just so the families are tracking, if they don't do well they will stay in Arizona forever until they pass. IO has been steadily chugging away at a good number of current projects and preparing for all the new ones that are just around the corner. They've also been getting quite adept at planning for unforeseen projects; don't ask me how you can plan for unforeseen stuff, but these guys are amazing. Earlier this year they let Brandon Moorhead escape the brain trust. He's

moved

on

to

different

pastures, not greener, within the command. It's nice to still be able to reach out across the command and talk with him. Scott Hamilton just got back from Warrant Officer Candidate School and will move on to Fort Gordon in the next week to complete his training. Once he's developed his Warrant Officer skills in the "Big Army", it'll be nice to see him back here someday, if he ever decides to return. Throughout the other sections you're going to see me farewell a slew of other guys. The once exception will be that SSG Eric Fredrickson form 2nd BN 10th SFG(A), Fort Carson, CO. Welcome aboard Eric, we will work you to de....We look forward to you. working with CST has also had a lot to Christmas break. continuing the

brag about. They haven't stopped to take a breath since They're normal support down range as well as providing support to new potential commitments. While doing all of that, they've been building new packages back here, and

coordinating exercises for the entire troop. Without a doubt they are all over the globe doing great things. SGM Chad Peters, now CSM Chad Peters, left early February for more hooah pastures in the 82nd. I haven't talked to him personally but I hear the biggest issue he's had to deal with so far is nice parchment paper to print out awards...oh man that gig must be tough. Of course I kid, Chad will be missed. CST has had some luck with the MSGs lately. Chris Quayle just got selected and hopefully we can see him pinned before the year is out. Congrats Buddy! Luke Blum was able to pin just before heading up for a stint in the DC area, well deserved and congrats! Chris Lewallen even got selected for MSG but he'll be off in about a month to Warrant Officer Candidate School and will not get to see it. Chris, you can always turn it down and come back to the greatest Corps there is...not the Marine Corps, but the NCO Corps. Not to be out-Caraballodone, Angelo Schwsomething also got



promoted. Congrats to you too, Tech Sergeant, also very well deserved! Dave Smith decided we're not cool enough for him and assessed at another unit on the compound. He of course knocked the selection out of the water and we'll be seeing him take off sometime in the spring. You'll be missed but you wont be too far away so it'll be convenient when we want to borrow your noggin for some our tough problems.

SRT, as the common them in SMT, also picked up the year sprinting. They're also all over the glove whether it's supporting deployments, exercises, or one off missions. They've been without one of their brothers, Jason Bateman, for the past two months. He's been in school but should be back at the end of this (continued page 5)

(continued from page 4) week. Cant wait to get you back! John Costin arrived to pick up some deployment slack and has already moved over to EC. Thanks for your help in SRT, John. Tim Duncan left early this year after nothshort of superb performance throughout your time with us. You'll be missed brother and we hope to see back here someday. Congrats to Marcus Jett for reenlisting. We'll waste no time keeping you employed. Now if I can just keep you guys healthy, I'll consider it a win. Between Mark laid up in the hospital for a good while at the end of last year, Lopez taking his turn in being laid up and just recently healthy (ish) enough to deploy, and

now Al getting his knee cut open and being out for 30 days, I'm starting to worry. At least you guys have the courtesy to go one at a time rather than all at once. So, thanks I guess?

EC has had a busy quarter and spent a lot time on the road as usual. Jerry Dover retired after 26 years of faithful service. Good news is that IO hired him to work with them. So welcome back too! For everyone's knowledge, I saw Jerry just yesterday and after only being out for a few weeks, he's gained about 100 pounds, grown a full beard, everything has gone gray and I think he's almost blind in one eye and definitely cant see out of the other. The moral of the story is never let

your spouse retire or leave SMT, the road downhill is fast. Clyde Anderson took the bag from Jerry and the DCG has been on road since. Doug Rosario is preparing for his retirement. We broke the emergency glass and brought MSgt Noel Santiago our of RTO retirement to carry the bag for the CG. Jonas Johnson and Johnathan Costin just conducted turnover for the Navy ACG and we welcome from them back their deployment. Bryant Locke is currently living in a plywood condo doing great things for the Unit, stay safe brother. Let me double check here for a minute...with the loss of Doug Rosario, we are also going to be losing SMT's FRG Key Caller, Dea Rosario. I am

on the lookout for any and all that would like to take the reins. Dea has been a great help to SMT and JCU family members the entire time she's been in the JCU family. Please reach out and express you appreciation for her support. Thanks Dea, you'll be missed!

Well everyone, that's all I have for now. I want to truly thank all the spouses for the support they give everyone here every day. We truly could not be as successful as we are on a daily basis without vour support. I think the snow is done for the season and I for one cannot wait for the spring weather. Until next time, take care, stay safe, and we'll be seeing you.

~Pink

#### SOROC

Well here we go again; the holidays are over, I'm a little fatter from all the egg-nog and turkey I consumed, and class 1-14 is underway! Before I get into all that I just want to take a moment and wish Class 2-13 good luck. It was an honor to be your TAC and I'm sure you will do great things. Also, I want to thank the SOROC Cadre for doing what they do. Oh, and Class 2-13, I definitely wasn't lost that day; it's called terrain association guys.....didn't we end up right on that corner of the DZ? Right we did, that's what I thought...ok enough about that!

Like I said Class 1-14 has kicked off the New Year with a bang and by the time you read this they should be putting some rounds down range and getting some excellent instruction from Jim and the other instructors. Maybe even grouchy Ken will come out and do some teaching, who knows! He is the head bus driver around here.

I also want to welcome in the new families to JCU as well. This is going to be a long 6 months for you and I really do appreciate all the support you give your husbands. There is no way we could do what we do without it, so please let me know if you have any problems or issues and I promise you I will either have the answer or find the answer.

I am sad to report that we will not be participating in this year's Highland Games; I know how upset the troops must be. Hey guys I don't like winning and embarrassing everyone anymore then you like to lose! All right All right, I know what you're going to say, and yes this is my real hair and no I do not take steroids. Ok that's all for now from SOROC, Happy New Year and everyone stay safe!

~Paul



### Note from the FRG



#### JCU FRG NEWS

Hello Friends and Family of JCU,

Our names are Ann Johnston and Katie Mitcham, and we are the FRG leaders for JCU. Ann has a 7-year-old son and works full time at FTCC. She and Wade have lived in Fayetteville for the past three years on this tour (they've been here 3 times). Katie has three boys (12, 3, and 21 months) and works full time as an Army Civilian on Fort Bragg. Sean and Katie have lived in the Fayetteville area for five years.

Our primary goal is to make contact with every spouse in our organization and let you all know who your FRG representatives are for the Command.

Our second goal is to pass along all the great information available! This is done in an effort to improve your quality of life while your family is a part of JCU. We will accomplish this through emails, Facebook, and/ or the Command newsletter. Please keep an eye out for updates!

Our third goal is to encourage participation in the awesome social events JCU and JSOC has to offer. We will keep you posted as we receive information on all the upcoming events. We

suggest that everyone join the JSOC and JCU FRG Facebook groups once you sign into the Unit. These are great forums for information and both are secret pages that only members can see (they will all be vetted before being allowed to join). These pages are both wonderful ways to keep up with what is going on in JSOC/JCU as well as meet other spouses. These pages are also both great forums to ask questions about the area/ facilities (always keeping OPSEC in mind).

In order to join either of these pages you have to 'friend' an admin so they can add you. We are both admins for the JCU FRG pages (Porter Potamus & Katie

Moore Mitcham are our profile names respectively). Zita Bain is one of the main admins for the JSOC FRG page.

Please call us with any questions or thoughts you may have!

Respectfully, Ann Johnston and Katie Mitcham



JCU FRG:

www.facebook.com/groups/jcufrg/

JSOC FRG:

www.facebook.com/groups/3326209 03427452/

## New Additions to the JCU Family

2014 JCU
-20 BABY GOAL
-15 -10 -5 -

TOTAL TODAY= 3 2012 Record= 29

- ♦ Joe and Renee Worley are the proud parents of Willow Brianne, born January 9th, 2014
- John and Sarah Hayse welcomed Hunter Hayse on January 18th, 2014
- ◆ Matt and Heather McDougall are the proud parents of Elizabeth Margaret McDougall, born February 6th, 2014

## Farewell to the following friends and families~

- ♦ LCDR Nick Hill and Family retired after many years of service to JCU, the Navy, and our Nation.
- Mr. Dick Linder retired after serving 24 years in JCU; over 50 years of Active Duty and Civil Service.
- SGM Chad Peters moves on, and up, to become a Command Sergeant Major in the 82nd Airborne Division.
- SMSgt Jerry Dover retired from the USAF and showed back up here not to long afterwards....so farewell!?
- ◆ SFC Jimmy Wagner retired after what was described as, "a once in a lifetime retirement ceremony."
- ◆ CPO Becky Wiser headed back to the Navy where she'll provide invaluable training and mentorship to many Sailors.
- PO1 Tim Duncan and Family leave JCU after four years of outstanding service as one of DoD's Finest Communicators.
- Mr. Terrell Kemp headed out west after many years in our Force Modernization Section.

GOODBYR TO FRIRING & FAMILY

#### **Promotions**



Thomas Freymiller (C Trp) to SFC Samuel Siegel (SOROC) to SFC Tim Strawn (D Trp) to SFC Paul Trowbridge (SOROC) to SFC



Mike Williams (OPS) to SMSgt Tony Pillitiere (A Trp) to MSgt Angelo Caraballo (SMT) to TSgt

# JSOC Health and Wellness Symposium Schedule



#### 2014 HIGHLAND GAMES





Some would say that the 2014 JCU Highland Games were colder than most. Everyone listening would agree.

On this cold January morning, members of the Joint Communications Unit got first hand experience of what meteorologists across the nation were calling a Polar Vortex. Temperatures started in the low 20's and ended up in the low teens before it was all said and done. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines battled through the elements, and spandex, to see which troop could throw things the furthest, carry heavy items the fastest, and avoid cold weather injuries such as trench foot.

There were many winners throughout the competition. D Troop won best dressed..... but I am not able to provide photos since this is a family publication. Several of us are still wondering where their 'uniforms' came from and more of us want to know exactly what kind people we work with. The runners up to best dressed were M Troop. When asked why M Troop went with an all black uniform, Tim Renfro said, "It's so we can express our rage." Although not really winning much that day, SMT pulled out a warming tent. Several veteran spectators to the Highland games commented that they were just copying an old C Troop play from years before; noting that C Troop also cooked food everyone. for

All in all it was a very close competition and the scores had to be triple-checked. Scott Eveler and B Troop took it again this year and added another streamer to an already decorated guidon. Thanks for everyone that came out!





# IN LOVING MEMORY NATHANIEL J. WILLIAMS



SEPTEMBER 20, 1979—FEBRUARY 13, 2014



# JCU Leadership

Position	Name	Work #	Cell or Home #	Email
JCU Commander	COL Wade Johnston	243-0200	919-499-1492	johsntonw@jdi.socom.mil
CSM	CSM Rob Flaker	243-0201	910-584-1238	flakerr@jdi.socom.mil
DCO	LCDR Chris Halsan	243-8850	757-641-8750	halsanc@jdi.socom.mil
1SG	1SG Sean Mitcham	243-0469	706-231-9531	mitchams@jdi.socom.mil
Chaplain	CPT Brad Bruce	243-2515	919-909-1492	brucebv@jdi.socom.mil
OPS Officer	MAJ Steve Herman	243-0524	910-759-2478	hermans@jdi.socom.mil
OPS SGM	SGM Steve Trevino	243-2439	910-584-1239	trevinos@jdi.socom.mil
ECS CDR	MAJ Jorgenson	243-4556	703-282-0007	jorgensonb@jdi.socom.mil
ECS SGM	SGM Greg Williams	243-1447	910-987-1863	williamsgre@jdi.socom.mil
A Troop SGM	SMSgt Ryan Speck	243-1321	910-639-1388	speckw@jdi.socom.mil
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SMT SGM	MSG Jeremy Pinkelman	243-0473	910-273-7110	pinklemenj@jdi.socom.mil
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NOSC SGM	SGM Chris Leach	243-0991	910-480-1118	leach@jdi.socom.mil
M Troop SGM	SMSgt Tim Renfro	243-0439	910-487-0293	renfrot@jdi.socom.mil

# FRG Contact Info and Misc #s

Position	Name	Work #	Cell or Home #	Email		
FRG Coordinator	Ann Johnston		910-322-2850	redhauk@aol.com		
HHT Key Caller	Katie Mitcham		706-294-5492	katie.mitcham@gmail.com		
A Troop Key Caller	Misti Speck		910-759-9369			
B Troop Key Caller	Nancy Eveler		845-548-4959	nm2003@verizon.net		
C Troop Key Caller	Marlena Sweeney		910-574-0955			
D Troop Key Caller	Erika Carrillo			naunie5252@msn.com		
SMT Key Caller	Deanna Rosario		910-489-9775	D3c_rosario@yahoo.com		
NOSC Key Caller	Amy Wedekind		910-729-1303	alwinnc@gmail.com		
M Troop Key Caller	Kelly Larson		530-524-4038	larson101@gmail.com		
Social Worker	Mrs. Wanda Crawford	396-7489		crawfordw@jdi.socom.mil		
JSOC FRG Coordinator	Mrs. Marie VanHeusen	396-7500		vanheusenm.ctr@jdi.socom.mil		

- If for any reason you need assistance, please contact your Key Caller, Troop SGM or Unit 1SG
- CYS has a free children's program for deployed service members. You need a memo, email mitchams@jdi.socom.mil to request it
- Please attend unit activities, if not just to get out and meet new people. We NEED your support to make the FRG a success
- Family members are able to use the gym and "yard" (cross fit gym) at work. You must be escorted by your service member