

The Joint Communications Unit



Message from the Command Sergeant Major

Hello everyone and welcome to spring! As the seasons change, and the vacation days of summer quickly approach, I want to thank you and your families for your dedication, sacrifice and outstanding work in supporting our Unit. As you know, the Command has been very busy, and will continue to be throughout the next few months. We have JCU Service Members conducting training, recruiting trips, and deployments all over the world. I ask you to keep them, and their

families in your thoughts while they complete their missions.

Despite my best efforts to stop time, this is my last newsletter as the JCU CSM, so it is bitter-sweet. Yvonne, Chris, Kaleigh, and I have enjoyed our time in JCU and know we will miss it and you all immensely. I will retire in June after 26 years of service, and will turn over my responsibilities to CSM Clay Usie. CSM Usie is coming from the 75th Ranger Regi-

ment, and is no stranger to JCU. Please welcome CSM Usie and his family to the JCU family.

- Rob

Upcoming Events	1
Troop News	2-7
Unit Events	8
FRG Cookout Night	9
Contact Info	10
FRG Event Flyer	11
SOCA Scholarship	12-13
SOCA Golf Flyer	14



Upcoming Events

15 Apr Training Holiday

18 Apr Training Holiday

8 May Mothers day

27 May Training Holiday

03 Jun SOCA gold Tournament

26 May SMSgt Tim Renfro Retirement

30 May Memorial Day

03 Jun SOCA Golf Tournament

14 Jun CSM Rob Flaker Retirement

14 Jun CSM Flaker Change of Responsibility with CSM Usie

17 Jun Training Holiday

07 Jul SOCA Scholarship voting

08 Jul CMSgt Tony Townsend Retirement

04 Jul Freedom 5 k

05 Jul Training Holiday

5 Aug Summer Picnic at Smith Lake

Editors Note:

Due to a gross oversight by the editor, last quarters newsletter omitted M-Troop's submission. To remain in the good graces of the Troop they are given first billing in this edition. In addition, the editing team was also able to acquire evidence of how much the Unit appreciates them. It is presented throughout the newsletter.

M Troop

First, I am glad to see the newsletter making a comeback. It provides the family a brief look at the amazing things the Unit is doing. It also provides the opportunity to poke fun at people in a much wider arena. So let's get started.

Harley Brydon, Pat Bessaparis and Edwin Lopez are all doing great things forward.

M troop had a few births occur recently. Congratulations to Matt Mckissack, Pernell Hammond and Steve "rat dog" Comeau families.

Josh McCormick will be taking the chicken hawk show on the road to B troop in April. Josh you did an outstanding job here for M troop and we look forward to the



M Troop rocking the litter carry

great things you will do for B troop. Mike Lee will be taking Josh's place in M troop and we are excited for his opportunity.

M troop received 2 SOROC graduates during the winter draft. Welcome to the troop Caitlin "Bruce" Ealy and Marcus "HGH" McClure. We expect both of you to be awesome maintainers!

Reggie Geter has gone back to big Navy and will be missed. It was a pleasure serving with you and hope to see in the future. Now take your knowledge of routers and switches back to the Navy!

Last but not least Tim will be joining the

ranks of the old and retired. I personally would like to thank Tim for everything he has done for the troop and JCU. Fair winds and following seas. Fly fight win really doesn't work for a good bye. Congratulations on a much deserved retirement!

- Shane



Roger Darling receives his 20 year service award

A Troop

A Troop certainly welcomed 2016 with a bang with numerous accomplishments by the Troop. In true A Troop tenacious fashion, we knocked out multiple exercises that took us coast-to-coast within two months. Our members, old and new alike, excelled just as expected and showed what it



A Troop bids farewell to Derreck Martin

truly means to be in this great organization.

We'd like to point out some of the great individual accomplishments and career milestones achieved by our brothers. First, we'd like to congratulate John Clark for his promotion from Air Force Technical Sergeant to Master Sergeant on February 1st, truly well-deserved. He's proven himself to be one of our greatest technical experts. Sadly, his skills are highly-sought out by other sections in the unit which led us to give him up to the always needy NOSC. We still have him for a few more months but we wish him luck in his future endeavors. March 23 was also

monumental for Tommy Colthart's career as he re-enlisted to continue to his commitment after 10 years of service to our great nation.

Special mention goes to Evan Spruill, Michael Leal, Jeremy Erickson, Caleb Scott, Jeremy Mory, and our newest A Troop addition, Nils "Hotsauce" Hellstrom for successfully passing their Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) exam. As we look forward, Jason Wells will be representing the JCU by participating in the JSOC Service Member of the Year competition. We wish him the best of luck and we are confident he will do well

against the other competitors.

As always A-Troop thanks the families for their unwavering support and sacrifices they make every day. The families, much like our troop, epitomize our motto "Never Fail".



John Clark is promoted to Master Sergeant

Headquarters & Headquarters Troop (HHT)

Hello from HHT and OPS. As usual this month has been as busy as ever. Thank you for all the hard work that you put in each and every day. There have been a couple new additions to the Troop. I would like to welcome Leslie Brown who is coming from Scott AFB, IL. She will be working in the finance section. I would also like to welcome Rob "hasn't earned a real desk" Lopez and Mike "its Julie-O not Hulio" Julio. They are coming from SMT and SO-ROC respectively. We also welcome Connor O'Mahoney to Current OPS. Along with new arrivals we have also had to say goodbye.

Our AF admin Swani Philipp has left us heading out to big AF. We also said goodbye to Linda Paulding. Linda retired after more than 30 years of government service. You both will be missed.

I would like to congratulate Deb Rosen for being selected as JCU's Civilian Member of the Quarter. Job well Done!



Ken Garrison received his 10 Year Civilian Service certificate. Thanks for the many years and let's see if we can get another 10 out of you. Kyle "Stubs" Kramer is a recent graduate of the Military Free-fall Jumpmaster School. Now heal up so that you can put those new skills to use. CPT Ben "whiteslip" Wingler almost got to attend Jumpmaster Course this month. Maybe next cycle sir.

It hasn't been all work this quarter. The personnel section celebrated Autumn Johnson's birthday with a potluck. Thanks for the great food. HHT+ also got

to blow some steam off with some time at the wind tunnel. CPT Megan "This is my calm face" Caldwell-Meeks was a natural in there. Lastly, thank you to the families who put up with the long hours which allows your spouses do what they do. - Luke



MSG Ryan Oswald with family during his retirement ceremony

SOROC

January brought us to the beginning of another Special Operations Radio Operator Course (SOROC) class. SO-ROC Class 1-16 began training on 4 January 2016. This class consist of 17 future "DoDs Finest Communicators" and 11 guest students from across the enterprise. SOSIT also welcomed a new SOROC TAC, GySgt Christopher Allison to backfill MSG Gilberto Serna as he moves on within JCU supporting the organization. Gil, thanks for all the leadership you provided the students over the last four classes. The class

was extremely excited to get started and take on all the challenges SOROC has to offer. Since January they have completed the tactical phase of the course. They received medical training, drivers training, attended the Trigger Time course, and completed a field training exercise which tested all the skills they were taught during the module. They completed the Radio Telephone Operator (RTO) module where they learned about basic electricity, cable making ranging from coax to fiber. They also got the opportunity to learn about radios and the skills of a



SOCA President, John Sullivan, presents class 1-16 with a certificate of appreciation for their hard work

successful RTO. They are currently in the networking module having fun learning about 1's and 0's and everything else J Mo has for them. The class volunteered over a weekend to help Mr. Spencer build a retaining wall for the JCU Memorial as their class project. They are halfway through the course and looking forward to graduating and joining the ranks of "DoDs Finest Communicators". To date, we've conducted two advanced level courses on the Systems Ad-

ministrator and Network Administrator side. The instructors have been providing the service members and civilians with all the necessary tools needed to be successful advanced level administrators for JCU. - Dennis



Name	Troop
Shane C.	M-Troop
Jennifer W.	M-Troop
Chris W.	M-Troop
Brian D.	M-Troop
James M.	M-Troop
Wilfred C.	M-Troop
Jennifer Q.	M-Troop
Jeffery L.	M-Troop
Dylan D.	M-Troop
Donny B.	M-Troop
Joshua C.	M-Troop
Mark G.	M-Troop
Shane M.	M-Troop
Kellie R.	M-Troop
Dustin L.	M-Troop
Sean C.	M-Troop

SOROC's leaked slating document shows a clear bias

C Troop

It is now springtime. The Dogwood's are blooming, the skies are blue, and the weather is great. So we hear and see through the inter-webs. We had a great hand off with B Troop and are doing phenome-

nal work. You should be extremely proud of your Service Members, I know I am. We were able to welcome the newest C Troop member Eli Foster, before we left. Congrats to the proud parents Huston and Brittni. We have a couple arrivals expected in the next few months and were all excited for Jake and Stephen. I will make sure to have them home in time for the fun. For all the C Troop spouses I ask that you keep compiling



Dwayne Camacho receives a post deployment award

those "honey do" lists to keep them all busy through block leave this summer. Until the next newsletter, I hope everybody enjoys the great weather and we will back before you know it. -Big Jon



Even Jon's incognito look couldn't hide the fact that he has a wardrobe of M Troop Polos



AFCEA presented Asher Parthun with the Copernicus Award in San Diego

B Troop

We're home! Hello from Fort Bragg. After 4 months and some change deployed over the holidays, it is nice to have the gang back together. I know B-Troop and I needed some down time following our hand over with C-Troop last month. Thanks go out to C-Troop for their seamless taking of the reigns. I know you guys are and will do well. The family and friends that support us are an amazing group. The Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines of B-Troop definitely had a busy holiday season, and though we could not be with our family, it was evident that the support we received from back home was amazing. Thank you to the family and friends that supported us over the last few months, we sincerely could not have been successful without you.



PO1 Brown receives his IDW Qualification

Now that some much needed down time with the family is coming to an end, it is time to get back on the horse and conduct our training for the next cycle. With that, we will also be saying to goodbye to a few members of the "Machine" as they move to other Troops within the unit. Sam Siegel, Nate Sanchez, and Jose Brito will be moving to the NOSC.

Brian Luther will be moving to M-Troop, and hopefully, be back on the B-Troop team. Also, Amon Georgewill, Mike Brown, and CJ Harvey will be interviewed for a position in the Special Missions Troop. I know you guys will do well, but good luck. B-Troop welcomes a couple new members from other Troops within the Unit. Josh McCormick comes to us from M-Troop and Sean Mitcham comes to B-Troop from ECS to start our turn over as the next B-Troop Sergeant Major. That's right, it's bitter sweet, but Sean and I will start our turn over this month. I know B-Troop will be in great hands.

truly an honor to call myself the B-Troop SGM.

-Brandon

It has been an amazing thing to be a part of this Troop's success over the last 20 or so months. It has been



Cyber

Hello from Cyber Troop. This quarter has been bitter-sweet as we said good bye to a JCU Cyber plank holder, Sam Stanley. We said see you later to Z, since he was re-hired to come back to the JCU Cyber.

Sadly we said farewell to the first Cyber Troop CDR, LTC Carl "Veto" Lamonica and welcomed Capt Oppenlander.

Finally, we said welcome to MSgt Fahlgren and SSgt Coppage and promptly put them in the course.

A few folks partnered with Terry Sanford High School to perform as a mentor for the Cyber Patriot program. The cyber security challenges were the toughest we've seen in recent years. As such the season came to an end for the high school and middle school teams competing. Cyber troop is looking forward to the next competition season this September to continue mentoring the next Cyber generation for this great nation of ours.

Cyber Troop came together for a shop super bowl party. Rock Band may have been played and John Bass may have the vocals of a rock legend such as Gilbert Godfrey. Likewise, Christopher Stroup can shred a plastic guitar. Almost Slash like status.

- John



Jon Campbell receives his award for being the civilian member of the year.

D Troop



Mike Reyes receives a post deployment award



Josh Martin is promoted to Technical Sergeant

D TROOP Family – As some of you know we spent some of last quarter doing what we train for, evidenced by the lack of your spouse at the dinner table. Your continued support of your spouse is paramount is always appreciated. We could not do what we do without a solid foundation at home. Thank you.

As we proceed closer to the next phase of our training cycle, the boys are completing 100's of hours of vendor and specialized training to prepare them for deployment success. Following all of this training, there

will be an exercise out west to hone the skills acquired and validate the training received. I look forward to the success we will have, as I am confident we will do well.

I mentioned "deployment success" so there it is, we need to face the music, as it is that time again to prepare for a few months of solo living. If you have items on your to-do-list, ensure you communicate what you need help with before we head out the door. If your significant other needs time away

from work to get the honey do list down, we will certainly make that happen. (You may have to remind them more than once...)

From what I am hearing many of you have some good vacations planned for the leave period, enjoy the break and time off wherever your vacation takes you.

Thank you for your support of us. Please, if there is anything I or anyone in JCU can do to make your life easier, let me know. –Chris Ingles



Chris Ingles receives an award from LTC Clifford

SMT

It's that time of year again, the pollen is out and SMT has started its bi-weekly grass cutting roster. First I would like to say thank you to the men and women in the Special Missions Troop for their amazing efforts as of late. We know our mission couldn't be accomplished without the support of their family members as well, we thank you! We had to say good-bye to a legend (in his own mind), SGM Mike Runk last month. He's now breaking hearts and increasing shin splints to a group of Soldiers at COSCOM, poor Soldiers never knew what PT was.....but oh lordy lordy will they find out! SFC Rob Lopez also returned from a long TDY up north and reported to Future Operations, he will be missed in the troop. I don't know how we will survive without his brain that contains all Army Regulations; thank God he's just down the hall. Now to the Detachment Chiefs for a quick update.

- Pink



Rules of SMT

#1 Don't talk about SMT

#2 Look cool no matter what your doing

The Executive Communications Detachment is still running full throttle, right into spring. We would first like to say farewell to Stefawn and Cindy Payne as they head out west to start a new adventure in Winchester, California. Good luck to you both! Drew Swanson remains busy as he continues the transition between Commanders and is enjoying his four days in a row at home (new record). We welcome back Brad Long from his vacation abroad, in which he earned the nickname of "The Amir of Baghdad." Rob Luna is currently in the running for Honor Graduate at Fort Gordon where he is attending the Senior Leaders Course. Hector Santana has been spending most of his days and nights flying up and down the Atlantic coastline supporting his principle. We said good bye to Dan Cebulla as he went over to SRT and will be helping them with a rotation overseas. Lastly, we want to express how hard the

EC South guys are working. As I write this, Gabe Urdaneta is sipping on a Mahi Thai while TDY in St. Lucia. Julian Walle is enjoying some well-deserved leave while Greg Durr continues to support the additional staff members. Enjoy the leave and downtime Julian and Greg, the incoming Commander is going to hit the ground running!

- Jonas



RDML Szymanski reenlists Deboris Williams

CST would like to start by welcoming back A-Aron and Rob, they drew the short stick and took care of business for us over the holidays. In the last couple of months, our extended CST family has grown at an exponential rate. Ian welcomed a healthy baby boy into the world and Scott, not to be outdone, brought home two! As always, we are staying busy work wise with no signs of slowing down. Best of luck to all of those who are out and about, supporting whatever requirements have been asked of us. And most importantly, thanks to all of our amazing families for providing us the stability we need at home to continue to be successful.

- Chris

The Surgical Resuscitation Team would first like to welcome back Josh Harris and Mark Quinlan. They both had a very successful deployment and supported the SRT flawlessly.

As most know, SRT has been hookin' and jabbin' like always. We operate like a NASCAR race, left turn wide open! Dan Cebulla and John Byrd are out the door in lands far far away and doing great things for the Detachment. We greatly appreciate them giving the Detachment a hand during these busy times. Good ol' Deboris Williams completed Free Fall train-up and supported the Rangers with SRT down in Georgia. Andrew Reynolds is back again and then gone again. He's now attending Military Free Fall Jump Master Course in Virginia Beach, working on his tan. I really appreciate the job that all SRT communicators are doing. Your outstanding work ethic and dedication to the mission and troop does not go unnoticed.

- David

NOSC

Teammates, family, and friends, I hope this newsletter finds you well. Since taking over from Vanessa in February the NOSC has continued to drive full steam ahead and is busier than ever. Our team continues to work hard and produce excellent results through their support to the command. As spring and summer approaches, the tempo and speed of work will continue to grow and become more complex. All of the Troop members are busy with training, schools, exercises, and TDY's. I am continuously amazed at what our team accomplishes through their commitment to the mission and our nations freedom. Thank you to the family members for your support to the unit member and with your support we draw our strength and purpose.

I would like to highlight a few accomplishments over the



Perfect form during the Spider harness relay

last few months within the NOSC. Sam Prichard completed his Senior Noncommissioned Officer's course and was selected for Senior Master Sergeant. We also were able to keep him for an additional year here in the command. This is pretty much a win all the way around. I would like to send a

special shout out to Dave Hollein for filling in as the Automations Detachment Chief for Sam while he was gone, job well done. A few of Dave's achievements were as follows, convinced two officers to attend "camp slappy", ensured that Aaron Brunner could not score higher than him on the JCU PT Test by convincing Aaron to get shoulder surgery. Dave also spearheaded a recruiting effort around the globe to bring in more Air Force talent into our ranks. Dave also has given out plenty of fashion advice to his subordinates.

Congratulations to Jesse Sellers on becoming a paratrooper, once he gets back from his TDY I am sure that he is planning on attending airborne refresher so that he can apply his skills immediately. Currently he is out trying to find the elusive and exclusive P-99PEW group, so that he can have full reign on the network.



Dave showing his "Blue Steel" pose during JRP

He has been on this adventure since early last year, don't give up Jesse!

The highland games were awesome this year, congratulations to the NOSC team comprised of Eric Tapp, Jon Brown, Jon Beckham, and Sam Siegel. We place 2nd overall and the competition was tough, the results were extremely close, and the NOSC is working its way up the food chain. Watch out B Troop, we are coming for you! Thank you 1SG Luke Blum and family for providing a professional bag-pipe player and support throughout the games, well done sir, well done.

We would like to welcome on-board, Jose Brito, Sam Siegel, and Nathan Sanchez along with their families. Thank you for volunteering to support JCU once again and B Troop at a higher capacity. We will try and provide enough challenge to test your networking and automations skills.

- Jason



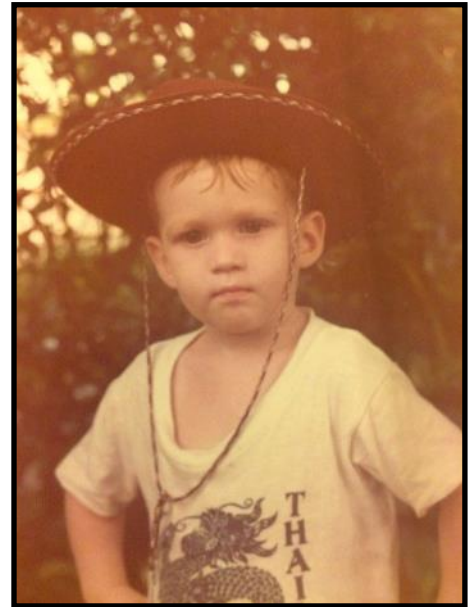
Dave whips out the rarely seen "Magnum" during a recent airborne operation



Flash back in Time



This individual has been a familiar face around the command for many years. Not afraid to lay it all out there he has had an impact on many of your careers. Can you guess who this person is?



B Troop—Winners of the Spring 2016 Highland Games

Troops battled it out in the 10th annual highland games competition. In true JCU fashion, each Troop brought their best efforts to events like the caber toss, stone throw, and litter carry. The day was capped off with a burger burn and the awarding of the prized highland games streamer. Thanks to everyone that made this day a success.



A Troop trying to perfect the "spider harness shuffle"

New Additions to the JCU Family

- ◆ Ian and Anna Sweeney welcomed Lincoln Maxwell Sweeney into the world on 12 February.
- ◆ Scott and Brianna welcomed Atticus Walker and Archer Greyson Staniszewski on 17 February.
- ◆ Kathryn Follett gave birth to Kristina Adelaide-viola Follett on 8 Apr. Eager to join the world she was born in the Cape Fear parking Lot.
- ◆ Erin and Pernell Hammond welcomed a healthy baby girl. Jordin Victoria Hammond was 4lbs 9oz at 18".
- ◆ Born January 8th, Eli Alan Foster was 6lbs 8oz. Congrats to Brittini and Huston Foster.

- 15 - 2016 JCU
 - 10 - **BABY GOAL**
 - 5 -
TOTAL TODAY= 9
2012 Record= 29

FRG International Cooking Class



On February 25th, JCU FRG hosted an International Cooking Night. Members of the command met at the JSOC Annex and put their skills to work. Thank you to Lisa Strawn and Le Mon Rice for the cooking demonstrations.



- Hannah Clifford - Hawaiian Kahlua Pig & sticky rice
- Shirani Tisdale - Mulligatawny soup
- Lisa Strawn - Schnitzel and spätzle
- Katie Mitcham - Barbecue Pulled pork
- Le-Mon Rice - Burmese Fried Rice
- De Anndrea Bobo - Mac and Cheese



The toughest critics of the night take a quick play break

Kalua Pig

Ingredients

- 1 large banana leaf
- 6-lb boneless pork shoulder Boston roast (Boston butt), cut across grain into 6 pieces
- 2 1/2 tablespoons coarse salt
- 2 1/2 tablespoons natural liquid smoke-flavoring

Preparation

Preheat oven to 500°F.

Lay 2 sheets of foil (each about 1feet long) on a work surface with long sides overlapping by about 4 inches. Cut 2 (12-inch) lengths from banana leaf and center 1 on foil. Put pork on banana leaf and sprinkle with salt and liquid smoke. Cover top of pork with other 12-inch length of banana leaf and 2 overlapping sheets of foil (each about 1 1/2 feet long). Crimp edges of foil tightly to form a packet and put in a large roasting pan. Add 1 inches of water and cover pan tightly with more foil.

Bake pork in middle of oven 4 hours. Pour off liquid from pan and, when pork is just cool enough to handle, shred with 2 forks in a bowl. Serve warm.

Family Readiness Group

In January, we asked everyone on our Facebook site for their creative ideas on what they wanted to do in 2016. Thursday evening was the most popular date for most folks. We got spectacular answers, so mark your calendars for these exciting events.

Date	Event
February 25	International Cooking Class Night - Yumm-ol From German to Burmese cuisine learn from our JCU experts. If anyone wants to teach, we would love to add more chefs to the lineup. (Thanks Lisa Strawn & Le-Mon Rice)
April 21	Relaxation Coloring Book & Wine Evening at the Annex. #1 most liked FB idea suggested by Katie Mitcham.
June 16	Celebration of JCU Entrepreneurs. Showcase of all the JCU Family owned businesses for one night only. Support our own. Get advice from others who have started their own businesses. Thanks for the great suggestion Kristal Kowach.
August 18	Painting Party. Thank you Le-Mon Rice for the suggestion. Last year's party was a great success; no doubt this one will be as fun as the last.
October 20	Game Night Like all big families, nothing beats a great night of games to break the ice. Thanks Kelly Blum for the suggestion.

More details to follow as the dates get closer. Check on our Facebook page for details. Contact Katie Mitcham (katie.mitcham@gmail.com), or Hannah Clifford (cliffordhannah@gmail.com) if you do not have access to our FB page, or want us to email you updates on our events.

JCU Leadership

Position	Name	Work #	Cell or Home #	Email
JCU Commander	LTC James Clifford	243-9190	910-584-8330	cliffordj@jdi.socom.mil
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1SG	1SG Luke Blum	243-9134	813-416-5459	bluml@jdi.socom.mil
Chaplain	CH William Allen	243-1321	919-280-3940	allenw@jdi.socom.mil
OPS Officer	MAJ Scott Macdonald	243-9151	910-364-6774	macdonaldsv@jdi.socom.mil
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Cyber SGM	GYSgt Jon Norris	243-0462	336-693-5403	norrisj@jdi.socom.mil



Adult & Children's Coloring Book Party

**Please join us for an evening of coloring,
wine, and sparkling juice for the kids!**

Thursday, April 21

6:00pm – 8:00 pm

@ The Special Staff Annex

BLDG #1-3759 Knox St. Fort Bragg, NC

Please bring an appetizer to share!

RSVP to katie.mitcam@gmail.com or on
the JCU FRG Facebook event page

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMUNICATORS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 73409, FORT BRAGG, NC 28307-5002
EIN# 20-5608419
events@thesoca.org
www.thesoca.org



April 1, 2016

2016 SOCA College Scholarship Program Announcement

To the members, alumni and families of JCU, I am pleased to announce one of the many initiatives that the Special Operations Communicators Association (SOCA) started eight years ago, the Annual SOCA Scholarship Program. SOCA will offer college scholarships for full time college students to deserving spouses and college-aged child dependents of SOCA Members. Applicants are required to submit an essay on the topic below, to the SOCA Scholarship Committee. The committee will select the winners from all of the qualified entries, and award two \$1,000 scholarships. It is SOCA's goal to show our appreciation to those who contribute and sacrifice so much in support of our Country's National Objectives. SOCA thanks the members of JCU and your families for all that you do.

Criteria for award:

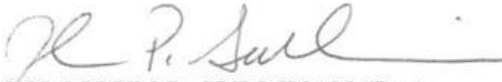
- Applicant's spouse or parent must be a SOCA member.
- Spouse must be a full-time college student (sporadic continuing education classes do not qualify)
- Child must be a full-time college student. If a graduating High School Senior, student must have declared enrollment into a selected college.
- If the scholarship is awarded and either the spouse or child drops out of said college, the entire amount of the award is to be turned back into SOCA for re-issuance to another applicant.
- Winners are required to take a presentation photo with the SOCA President and authorize the posting of their essay to the JCU website for publicity purposes.
- The scholarship check will be directly mailed to the college registrar's office to be placed in the students account.

Applicants must submit a 1-2 page essay on the below question to SOCA on our website at www.thesoca.org/scholarship.htm. Before filling out the form, ensure you have your transcripts and essay in a digital format to paste into the block provided on the application. Entries must be received by July 1, 2016. The winners will be notified by July 15, 2016 and announced in the next edition of Delivering the Message.

2016 SOCA Scholarship Topic:

- **Who has been the biggest influence in your life; how and why?**

May God Bless "DoD's Finest Communicator's" and keep them and their families safe!


SGM JOHN P. SULLIVAN (Ret)
President, SOCA

SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMUNICATORS ASSOCIATION
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April 1, 2016



2016 Young Patriots Essay Contest Announcement

JCU members, alumni and families,

I am pleased to announce the 2nd Annual, Young Patriots Essay Contest. The goal of the contest is to raise patriotism awareness among our middle and high school students and is a joint initiative between Dell Inc. and the Special Operations Communicators Association (SOCA).

Child dependents of SOCA Members (grades 6-12) are asked to submit an essay on the below listed topic to the Young Patriots Essay Committee. The committee will select two winners from all of the qualified entries, to award two Dell tablet's and an audio copy of "Rush Revere" book series to the winner from each of the two categories below.

It is SOCA's principal goal to show their appreciation to those who contribute and sacrifice so much in support of our Country's National Objectives. SOCA thanks the members of JCU and your families for all that you do.

Criteria for award:

- Applicant's parent or guardian must be a SOCA member.
- Category 1 is for students entering 6th-8th grade for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Category 2 is for students entering 9th-12th grade for the 2016-2017 school year.
- The winners for this year's awards will be required to take a presentation photo with the SOCA President and the Dell Inc. representative and authorize the use of their picture to the SOCA website for publicity purposes.
- Children must obtain their parent's permission to enter the contest and to help with the essay submission on our website.
- Previous contest winners are not eligible to participate in consecutive years.

Applicants must submit a 1-2 page essay on the below question to SOCA on our website at www.thesoca.org/young_patriots_essay.htm. Before filling out the form, ensure you have your last report card and essay in a digital format to paste into the block provided. Entries must be received by July 1, 2016. The winners will be notified by July 15, 2016 and announced in the next edition of Delivering the Message.

2016 Young Patriots Essay Topic: Who is your favorite American patriot and why?

May God Bless "DoD's Finest Communicator's" and keep them and their families safe!

SGM JOHN P. SULLIVAN (Ret)
President, SOCA

17th Annual SOCA Golf Tournament



Carolina Lakes Golf Club

Friday June 3, 2016

Shotgun Start 8:30am

Captain's Choice

- \$45 for individual Registration or \$180 per Team
- Prizes
 - 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Last Place Teams
 - Longest Drive and Closest to the Pin
 - Raffle Prizes
- Snack and Beverage carts will be available during play
- BBQ Lunch will be served at conclusion of play
- Mulligan's / Yellow Tees \$5 each (limited to 1 each per player)
- Dress Code
 - Shirt with collar
 - Slacks or shorts w/pockets
 - Soft spike golf shoes or sneakers

17th Annual SOCA Golf Tournament Entry Form

Team Name _____ Phone # _____

1. Name _____
2. Name _____
3. Name _____
4. Name _____

*******ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY MAY 20, 2016*******

Mail Order Form to: SOCA

ATTN: Todd Spencer

P.O. Box 73409

Fort Bragg, NC 28307

Make checks payable to: SOCA

For more information, contact events@thesoca.org