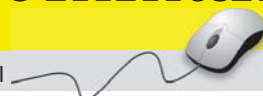




# From the JCU Commander

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Greetings and welcome to 2021!!

We live in interesting times and I am sure at some point in the future we will all look back in amazement at the resilience our families and unit displayed during this time. In mid-December JCU service members had the opportunity to get vaccinated for COVID-19. There were multiple iterations where our personnel received the first and second shots. Ft. Bragg is working expansion plan for their vaccination sites however the plan is dependent on an increase in vaccine delivery and predictability. We will continue to stay engaged with service members and families so we can inform them when vaccinations will be provided to family members/dependents. We all look forward to returning to some sense of normalcy as vaccinations increase and the spread of COVID-19 is reduced or controlled.

President Joe Biden was sworn into office on 20 January 2021. President Biden is in the process of selecting cabinet leads and

appointing civilian personnel across the government. As announced 2021 would be a year of unprecedented administration to another, there will be an impact on the military. The Biden administration is seeking to understand all aspects of military operations to leverage a whole government approach to the challenges our country faces at home and abroad today and into the future. There is a great deal of uncertainty as to what the US military's force posture overseas will look like in the future. At this time, we do not foresee any change in our tempo or deployment cycles.

During the last week of January, CSM Stefanowski and I had the opportunity to attend the Chief Petty Officer Pinning ceremony. It was a great event, rich in Navy culture, and even more significant was the participation of numerous families during the pinning ceremony. It was moving to see the pride of the parents that attended and participated, and the adoration of spouses and children for their service

member's success. The Army announced 2021 would be a year of unprecedented promotions. We look forward to the recognition of years of hard work, commitment and sacrifice by JCU members from each service. Our service members are exposed to difficult problems, whether they be communications and technology challenges, logistics, electronic maintenance or administrative. They strive to be the best at their craft and oftentimes they are acknowledged by their service with accelerated promotions. We recognize our success, both personal and professional, is inextricably linked to the love and support of our families. Thank you for your support, day in and day out. Continue to stay strong. Reach out if you need assistance. JSOC and JCU possess a wealth of resources available for service members and families.

Thank you.

COL Adam Sannutti



# Promotions & Awards

## February 2021

### **Promotions:**

ECS/SMT—SFC Bryant, Nate -> MSG

### **Awards:**

ECS/D—Sgt Nguyen, Elvis—BSM

ECS/SMT—CPO Williams, James—BSM

ECS/D—TSgt Kinsler, Corey—BSM-AR

ECS/SMT—SFC Allen, Russ—BSM

HHT/J1—MSgt Walker, Donell—DMSM

HHT/CMD GRP—MAG (CH) Allen, William—DMSM

MSS/J4—SSG Vinson, Bernard—SOCA Award JCU SM of the 1st QTR

MSS/EMS—PO1 Pallares, Kevin—SOCA Award Navy SM of the 1st QTR

ECS/A—SSgt Colangelo, Stephanie—SOCA Award Marine SM of the 1st QTR

ECS/A—SSgt Grana, William—SOCA Award USAF SM of the 1st QTR

SOSIT/OTC—Mr. Mitchell, John—SOCA Award Civilian of the 1st QTR

## March 2021

### **Promotions:**

ECS/C—PO2 Maldonado, Norm—PO1

MSS—TSgt Weber, Nate -> MSgt

### **Awards:**

NOSS— Ms. Harbaugh, Sara—JCSAA

HHT/RM—Ms. Barksdale, Kimberly—JCSAA x 2

ECS/SMT—SFC Gayadat. Surendra—BSM

ECS/SMT—SFC Spruill, Evan—BSM

ECS/SMT—SFC Gonzalez. Chris—BSM



# Command Sergeant Major

*JCU Family,*

*Another quarter has gone by and another year. With all of the struggles we all have faced with COVID, JCU was still able to get some pretty amazing things accomplished. I am optimistic that 2021 will finish off way better than 2020 did. It is my hope that later this year we will be able to bring the families back together for some much needed “team building”. With the COVID vaccine rolling out, I am hopeful that we can do it.*

*Over the last few weeks we’ve welcomed back our deployed personnel from ECS, MSS, and NOSS. You and your families have COL Sannutti’s and my sincere thanks for “keeping the watch” over the holidays. It is no small feat that I know can be challenging in many different ways. So, again, thank you.*

*Lastly, I would like to congratulate all of our Service Members that pinned on new rank, were awarded for outstanding achievements, and were moved up to positions of greater responsibility. You all humble me every day watching what you are able to accomplish. Of greater note though, none of these things are able to be accomplished without the support of our families. So thank you all.*

*~CSM Brandon Stefanowski*



# Higher Headquarters Troop

Hello HHT families!

## J1

The J1 team said farewell to MSgt Donell Walker, the Walker family departs for Davis-Monthan AFB he loss will be felt for years as he made a lasting impact to everyone within the unit that ever passed through the J1 show. CPT Davis, and SGT Perez both were selected for promotion for the next grade. Lastly J1 welcomed TSgt Iseppi, Jon and family to the J1 team, he has hit the ground running and will serve as a great asset to the organization.

## J3

The JCU continues to evolve in order to meet future challenges. Therefore, it is imperative that the JCU J3 consistently provides accurate information early and often as the operating environment changes. As of December 2020, some of our JCU communicators began receiving voluntary corona virus-2019 (COVID-19) vaccinations in order to combat the deadly COVID-19. As we say hello to 2021, we are optimistic to see positive results stemming from the continued issuance of COVID-19 vaccinations.

During the last quarter, we said goodbye to the following: US Army SFC Luis Gonzalez moved to the Development and Modernization Section (DMS) and US Air Force MSgt Brandon Thompson moved to Scott Air Force Base in St. Clair County, Illinois. US Army MSG Andrew Mish took over for SFC Gonzalez as the J3 Future Operations NCOIC. We also welcomed SSG Carlos Tucto from D-Troop, Expeditionary Communications Squadron to the J3 Current Operations section.

-SGM Holden

## From 1SG

DoD's Finest readers, welcome to the 2nd Qtr 2021, as we turn the year there have been countless challenges the unit has overcome. Everyday we are better organization than we were yesterday. I believe that 1% can change the future and the organization. This QTR I wanted to bring remembrance home with our 4 fallen Service Members that regrettably passed away while on active duty in JCU (GySgt Christopher E. Cunningham, MSgt Randy L. Amsler, PO1 Nathaniel J. Williams, and SSgt Dirk T. Shelton). We partnered with the human performance team to create workouts to bring us all together and sweat, suffer and bond over the memories of the fallen. Each QTR I will release the details of the Workout of the day or WOD. This QTR we take pause and remember GySgt Christopher E. Cunningham with:

"Wildfire"

Completed with a partner in the shortest time possible, if completed individually follow a rep scheme of (18 - 9 - 6 - 3)

37-19-11-6

Pull-ups

Ammo can press or single 30lb dumbbell press

800m run between

Post names and scores to myself (siegels@jdi.socom.mil) or on the Alumni FB page.



# A Troop

A-Troop Family,

Rob Luna is currently attending Master Leader Course (MLC), so Josh Harris and I will be covering down on his responsibilities until 9 March. It has been a wild ride for A-Troop over the last couple months. While the world celebrated the holidays in the comfort of their homes surrounded by their loved ones, A-Troop supported the fight against enemies of our nation. Thank you to the families for supporting the deployed service members and for your sacrifices.

Every member has been crushing it while forward deployed, but we do have a few specific achievements to highlight. Josh Harris, Max Staples, and Brandon Hilliard finished their distance learning MLC programs. Will Grana and Stephanie Colangelo won Joint Service Member of the Quarter in their respective branches? Rob Geyer completed the rigorous Chief Petty Officer Selection Season and secured his place in the Chief's Mess. Last but not least, Ben Friemann promoted to SFC. Great job to these members for their accomplishments.

We welcome a few newcomers to our family, Vince Mankowski, his wife Kayla, and their kids Madison, Mason, and Lyla. Vince comes to us from OPS and will be taking over as our Training NCOIC. I'll close with some bittersweet news. As A-Troop redeploys and takes some well-deserved R&R, we will bid farewell to some of our team mates as they move on to new positions within JCU. Glenn Purvis and Mark Pullar are heading over to the newly formed Edge Computing team, Brandon Hilliard is moving to position in OPS, and Rob Geyer is taking over a Detachment Chief position in C-Troop. There is no way to thank these guys enough for their contributions. We will miss them but know that they will spread the "Never Fail" spirit to their new teams. Best of luck guys; remember that your A-Troop family will always have your back.

Respectfully,  
Norm Lewis



# B Troop

Hello B-Troop Family and fellow JCU family,

The Troop has been training hard for the upcoming deployment. We have made significant progress in sharpening our technical and survival skills. No doubt the Troop is well prepared to crush this upcoming deployment. The Troop would like to give an extended Thank You to all those who recently severed B-Troop with honor, Dylan Davenport, Spencer Goodwin and Quang Phan. Thank you for your Service! The Troop received two new SOC-OTC graduates, Cory Sweat and Robert "Dennis" Mobley. Johnathan "Jay" Wright also joins the Troop from D-Troop, welcome to the B-Troop family! We had some major accomplishments in the last few months in promotions for Colin Warwick, he made Chief Petty Officer and Cory Sweat, he made Staff Sergeant. We also had Benjamin Erickson and Jake Westbrook pass the rigorous promotion board for recommendation to Staff Sergeant. Congratulations to you all! We even have some big brain College graduates earn their bachelor's degrees, John Tiger and Derreck Martin. Job well done! I couldn't be prouder of the Troop and all they have accomplished. Huge Thank you to all the spouses for their support and continued efforts of being bad ass in everything you do. We can't do it without you, again Thank you.

MSG Chase Blanton  
B-Troop  
SGM





# C Troop

C-Troop Family,

It's the start of a new year and if you're like us, we hope 2021 is better than 2020. The COVID pandemic is unfortunately still upon us. I would like to first say if there is ever a time that anyone needs anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to a troop member, my wife and troop key caller Octavia, or any of the other JCU resources available to you, such as the chaplain, social workers, or behavioral health providers. We have had our fair share of cases across the unit and I know firsthand how the quarantine and isolation process can affect families. No issue or concern is ever too small. I know the work weeks have been a lot different cycle than in the past and I genuinely appreciate everyone for being flexible while still making the mission happen. This is just another testament to why C-Troop is the Best Troop.

Since the last newsletter came out, there have been several changes within the troop. A huge congratulations is in order for MSG(P) Dwayne Camacho as he was selected to serve as the Expeditionary Communications Squadron SGM. We will also be welcoming JCU Alumni SCPO Grayson Killebrew back to fill the vacant C-Troop SGM position in March. We unfortunately had to say farewell to several people from within the troop. Mackenzie Smith and Jordan Heiser moved on to the Edge Compute team. William Amarillo PCS'd to

Korea. Vince Camarda ETS'd and Eric Callari is set to retire in March. Eric, I know you and Quynh are counting down the seconds. I want to speak for the entire troop and just say thanks to you all for the hard work you have put in throughout the years. It didn't go unnoticed. Communicators like you all are what makes this unit what it is. We have also made some solid additions to the troop and I am proud to welcome SSgt Savon Daniels and his wife Desiree, SSgt Vincent Echerer and his wife Sandra and SSgt Wesley McCulloch from SOC-OTC class 2-20. I know you have only been here for a short time, but you are already making an impact to the troop and I look forward to seeing what else you have in store.

Lastly, but most importantly, I would like to say thank you to the family members. Your spouses may pin the awards, but we all know that nothing they do could be accomplished without those of you at home. I believe this has never been truer than now as we deal with this pandemic. This has been a very rough time for us all and my most challenging time as a leader, but I wouldn't want to go through this with any other group of people. It's an absolute honor to serving with you all.

V/R

SFC Carl Brown

# D Troop

D Troop Family,

During the last quarter we were proud to receive out of SOC-OTC Steve Simpson and Mike Silakoski. Mike and Alexandra celebrated the birth of their daughter Maeven, Larry and Heather welcomed Leonidas, and Jess and I will soon be expecting Merida. Thank you all for the support you have provided to our families as they get accustomed to their new additions. Our long awaited POTFF event is scheduled for 26-28 February in Asheville, NC and we are all looking forward to seeing the families again. We will be conducting several sessions with Dr. Michelle Ambrose and Chaplain Sugrim (Naffey) to help learn more about each other and ourselves.

We recently completed training in Virginia and all of our

service members continued to perform above all expectations. During the next quarter we will continue to be busy with several exercises occurring.

Finally, in January we celebrated the promotions of Albert Martin and Dan Marino to SSgt. Stephanie Burton was selected "Most Qualified" among her peers and will be promoted to Master Sergeant soon. As we continue to try to get back to our normal routines, if there is anything that Jess or I can assist with, please do not hesitate to reach out.

v/r

Geoff Orwiler



# Special Mission Troop

Special Missions Troop families,

As always and now more than ever we appreciate your support to your significant others and the troop. The last few months have been very busy for SMT and we couldn't be more proud of our people. My Wife Jillian Bryant and myself are always here standing by to help in any way we can! Please reach out to us as we want to create a more connected troop for the families.

Over the last few months we have said goodbye and welcomed back our SMT members as they come and go on deployment. We have also had the honor of recognizing our members during Unit award ceremonies.

Most recently we had two SMT members receive the Bronze Star for their stellar performances (SFC ALLEN & CPO Williams). I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the achievements of our SMT Navy personnel who were selected and successfully completed CPO season (CPO Williams, CPO Ison, and CPO Salcedo).

We would like to welcome Keenan Arodak to the team, who attended our winter selection.

- Nate Bryant

## ECS Headquarters

ECS Families,

We hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and New Year! We want to give a warm welcome to our new ECS families from the recent SOC-OTC graduation, and the many new births throughout the command. The year 2021 is already shaping up to be a busy one and we appreciate everyone's dedication to supporting our mission. Family is important, and your support is what enables our ECS service members to focus on the mission. COVID has regrettably prevented large ECS gatherings, but we are hopeful that we are going to be able to host some activities in the next couple of months. From an operational standpoint, B Troop has been training hard over the last few months

and has successfully prepared for their upcoming deployment. With their departure, we look forward to welcoming A Troop back home from their deployment. Training continues for C and D Troops, and they will transition recall status over the next month. Lastly, SMT continues to support a diverse group of missions and continuously has members from the troop deployed or in training. We appreciate each one of you, and want to thank you again for all your sacrifices. If you ever have any concerns, or need any support please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

– MSG Dwayne Camacho (ECS SGM) and MAJ Nick Beck (ECS CDR)





# MSS Headquarters

Hello JCU family,

This is the Mission Support Squadron HQ team. We are proud to lead the most talented Squadron in the Unit. It has been great to witness our team's resiliency and flexibility over the last quarter. I have been in the seat for few months now and I am humbled to witness the team's extreme work ethic. I am looking forward to watching them grow as leaders and masters of their craft. In recent months we have welcomed home two of our teammates back from deployment, Kelly O'Connell and Andrew Romines. I am sure their family and loved ones are happy for their return. But with that we had to ship out two to take their place; Jeremy Owings and Andrey Litvin. We wish them success and pray for their safety. I would like to recognize Seth Spivey for his graduation from Staff Non Commissioned Officer Academy Advance School for the Marines. He has shown great leadership and we know he will continue to do outstanding things for the Unit. I would also like to recognize Max Beerbaum. Max, a USAF Logistician, graduated from one of the most demanding and grueling schools in the Department of Defense, US Army Ranger School. We are very proud of him for this incredible accomplishment. Additionally, Technical Sergeant Quang Phan was selected as the Air Force JCU Non Commissioned Officer of the Year and Senior Master Sergeant Edwin Lopez was selected as the Senior Non Commissioned Officer of the Year at JCU, JSOC, and US Special Operations Command levels. He will now compete for the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year Award at the Air Force level. The Navy promoted two of our finest, Greg Nahalewski and Bryce Donaldson, to Chief Petty Officer. The Air Force promoted a phenomenal Non Commissioned Officer, Sarai Phillips, to Master Sergeant. We congratulate these individuals and look forward to the impact they will make at their new rank. As we progress through 2021, we look forward to the opportunities and challenges that lay before us with the knowledge we have DoD's Finest Communicators leading the way.

-Capt Bill Moore

-SCPO Tim Duncan



# Cyber Troop

As 2021 begins we are looking to a new start to the year and want to begin by congratulating CTM1 Matthew Foley, who recently graduated from the Cyber Operator Training Course, and wish luck to MSgt Ryan Goff who is currently enrolled in the course. We extend a welcome to Mr Kris Rehder as well, who was recently hired into a GS position within the troop, we look forward to the skills and experience Kris will bring. The Troop is expecting a few new faces in the coming months and will look forward to having them on the team.

Bryce Donaldson was recently promoted to Chief Petty Officer after completing the Navy's Chief Season. Bryce continues to show his dedication to the military, the mission and and some personal grit after overcoming many obstacles in the last two years. We also congratulate award recipients

SFC Tom Lucas, MSgt Sean Walters, TSgt Michael Blanton, and SSgt Joe Moran (all seen below), for their outstanding performance within the Troop. All were recently presented their awards after a squadron ruck at Raven Rock state park.

Cyber Troop has recently said goodbye to WO1 Justin Melendez. After many years in JCU Justin applied to the Army Warrant Officer program and has PCS'd to Ft Gordon where he is currently enrolled in WOBC. Justin was a great team member, leader, and friend who will truly be missed by all of JCU.

V/R MSG Barry Hall, JCU Cyber Troop

# J4 Logistics

JCU J4

Greetings family, after all the grief and uncertainty that came with 2020, we started 2021 with a bang. We have had members from our team accomplish amazing feats.

Max Beerbaum graduated from Army Ranger School, one of the very few Air Force logisticians to do this. He was the only Air Force member to complete the course without recycling. This has been a goal of his since he joined the Air Force. Additionally, Bernard Vinson won Joint Communications Unit Service member for the first quarter. Bryant Phan won Joint Special Operations Command Outstanding Logistics Readiness NCO of the Year. Tamara Battle, the primary hand receipt holder for JCU earned an Excellent rating on a Staff Assisted Visit. Edwin Lopez won the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year at the United States Special Operations

Command level and will be competing at the Air Force level. He also won the 2020 Outstanding Logistics Staff Enlisted of the Year at the Air Force District of Washington.

Our whole team, including our civilians participated the Mission Support Squadron 5 mile ruck march at Raven Rock. Additionally, during the ruck, Bryant Phan reenlisted for the last time, officially making him an indefinite career Airman. Thank you Captain Moore for being the Reenlisting Officer.

We also participated the JCU Couples retreat at Hilton Head Island, SC hosted by our amazing Chaplain team. It was an outstanding event that brought us together as a family.

Additionally, we hosted a surprise baby shower for Erik and Taylor Deason. They have their first child, a baby girl due April

23<sup>rd</sup>. We are very excited for them.

We want to welcome Pernell Hammond to the JCU J4 team. His journey started in JCU as an active duty Sailor. He then retired and went to work for SOSIT, assisting with the new JCU members as they complete their rigorous training. Now, he is back with the team, helping and mentor us with all his wisdom and experience. However, we had to lose Mike Flynn to SOSIT. Mike was a great member of the team for many years and it is sad to see him go.

Lastly, Richard Rivera will be returning home from his first JCU deployment. However, Morgan Carlson will be replacing him during the coming months.

V/R – Edwin O. Lopez, Logistics Senior Enlisted Leader



# Electronic Maintenance Troop

In the last few months, EMS has certainly been keeping busy. Thankfully, many folks were able to enjoy a brief respite over the holidays, and take some well-deserved leave. I want to take a moment to thank everyone, for being the quiet professionals that they are. The Commander entrusted us with the responsibility to travel safely over the holidays, and we were able to do so with minimal impact to our readiness. As you look out across the greater Services and how they are handling the pandemic, it's a testament to the individuals within this Command, and that our Commander is willing to take those risks because he trusts in our ability to handle ourselves. So thank you once again.

We've had some hard-earned promotions recently in the ranks of our senior Noncommissioned Officers. Congratulations to MSgt Sarai Phillips, and CPO Greg Nahalewski! Wear your stripes and anchor with pride, we look forward to seeing what you will accomplish as you assume positions of greater responsibility. Greg will be assuming the Direct Support Detachment Chief position, and somewhere out there is a very lucky Flight that will one day have Sarai as their First Sergeant. Best of luck to you both!

2021 will be an exciting year for innovation within the Troop. Our fabrication shop is really taking off, as we start to master our 3D print machines. Additionally, for the first time

in over a decade the unit is receiving a full fleet of new communications vehicles. Our team has been an integral part of the design process, and their contributions will impact the success of the Command for years to come.

This will be my final newsletter as the Troop Senior Enlisted Leader. I've been a member of EMS/M-Troop for over 6 years now, and it's finally time for me to depart. This has been my home, my second family, and leaving is one of the hardest things I've ever had to face. I know that the Troop is in good hands however, as CPO Michael Ignoffo takes up the conn. He's been a dedicated member of the team since he came to us from A-Troop, and is set to lay the foundation of maintenance for the next generation within JCU. I'm proud of everything we've accomplished, and I look forward to hearing stories about the great things EMS does in the future!

V/R,

SFC Patrick "Bessy" Bessasparis

EMS Senior Enlisted Leader

# Motor Maintenance Shop

Greetings from the Motor Maintenance Support Troop,

This last quarter has seen many changes, from the additions of new equipment to clearing out some of the old, new training and new opportunities, and our children in online schooling and finally back to in person learning and Cabel Mckinley and his family have welcomed a grandson, Greyson James on February 16<sup>th</sup>. We here in MMS have been busy

conducting line hauls across multiple state lines from Florida to Maryland to prepare new equipment for the mission ahead and to enable our fellow Troops to conduct their mission and training.

Congratulations to Ryan Rente on his acceptance to another prestigious unit within the SOF community and to Joshua Livingston for making the Master Sergeant list, these congratulations are somewhat

somber as they mean we will soon be saying goodbye to these valuable members. Roger Darling is working towards the ability to certify personnel trained in HVAC technologies and repair, and has completed a six week online civilian leadership course. Ryan Rente has conducted ROHVA training for troops within and without the unit, incorporating recovery operations with new equipment procured to enhance mission capabilities.

Andy Miller and Ryan Nifong have made further example of our fabrication abilities here at the shop by outfitting a new range trailer for the unit.

We continue to enhance our abilities with more field specific training in the months to come as we look forward to supporting the unit with our diverse skillset, unwavering dedication and adaptability.

V/R

Brian Moyer



# NOSS

The NOSS welcomes you all to 2021! Also known as, new game plus. We appreciate the support and perseverance of our Service Members and Families during the tumultuous 2020, but we are undoubtedly looking forward to the new possibilities for the most [insert amazing superlatives here] squadron to continue modernization efforts across the JCU. As we prepare for this year, we would like to offer our best wishes to those have moved to different units across the world: Anthony Oneha and Kevin Chau – Thank you for your accomplishments and dedication to the unit and our country. Welcoming our newest members, predominantly to tackle our Edge Compute problem set, we're proud to have on our team: Christian Marino, Dan Catts, Amy Ryan, Josh Washburn, Ben Cramer, Jordan Heiser, Mckenzie Smith, Oliver St. Felix, Jacob Paugh, Josh Tuthill, Mark Pullar, Michael Purvis, and repeat offender Jose Brito. We welcome you and your Families to the NOSS, and we look forward to working with you towards amazing failures and accomplishments. We would also like to congratulate Oliver and Charlaine St. Felix on their newest addition to the NOSS, Maleah Jhene' St. Felix. Again, we look forward to this new year with each of you! - LTC Mike Denison & MSG(P) Josh Brandt.

Following up with our office redesign, the NOSS main office is essentially complete. We have a few pieces remaining to be finished with an end goal of emulating the Google workspace. So, of course, we have upped the game on the Feng Shui in our offices: standing desks, balance boards, new carpet, colorful monitors, and mechanical keyboards (not robot keyboards). We are just missing the giant beanbags (cough, cough Edwin).

AIS is continuing the fight with A-Team and Vic holding down the forward network. They're tackling some of our most challenging projects that mere, mortal communicators could not handle. Thank you for everything you do, and please keep up the excellent work. B-Team just finished up their training, and they're officially ready to take on this daunting task, replacing A-Team

sometime soon. C and D-Teams remain home to train on the big brain problems that our nation needs us to do. The AIS section wants to thank their friends and families for all the support they received and for dealing with our awkward hours over the past several months.

The Automation Assassins of the A&I section have been hard at work clearing the backlogs of bugs, developing new tech procedures, and looking towards what JCU uses in the future. After planting their flag in the renovated office equipped with standing desks and gaming monitors (RGB=Nerd Talk), productivity has picked up again. Additionally, we now have a storage room to keep the development kits out from under our feet and gear off our desks (more room to code, now). A&I recently planned and executed JCU's first-ever "Tech Day," giving the unit a behind-the-scenes peek into what it takes to automate kits for JCU and conducting an informal Q&A session on what A&I does on a day-to-day basis.

Edge Compute, is the newest section to the NOSS. They are working on a computing solution for "on the edge" which is the JCU Smart Edge device and platform as a service (PaaS). They are a new team looking to innovate towards an application delivery environment for the command to host containerized, virtual machines and workloads. Currently, we are running new members through our Edge training pipeline to help enable the rest of the team get after this priority. The team is doing a great job tackling a new challenging problem for the command. They are looking forward to hosting the next "Tech Day" for the unit, and probably more focused on fancy terms like Kubernetes.

-PM4L

# SOSIT

Greetings from Team SOSIT,

We are running at ludicrous speed, and delivering world class instruction at both Special Operations Communicator-Operator Training Course (SOC-OTC) class 1-21, and Multiple iterations of the IT Academy Advanced courses. The diligent efforts from students, cadre, and support elements make the team and continue to establish SOSIT as a premier force generation machine. We are truly a team of teams.

Since our last message we have added Mr. Kevin Bruton and Mr. Rodney Jackson (Director) to strengthen the team. SFC O 'Mahoney has also transitioned to a full time position at the IT Academy and it diligently working on new projects and improving the framework of how data is moved around the training facility.

A huge shout out to the SOC-OTC Cadre staff as they created a new classroom out of thin air as we postured to deliver simultaneous instruction in accordance with COVID restrictions and guidance. The efforts of these Great American cannot be overstated. It is a true honor to work, and lead such professionals in the pursuit of creating and training JCU Communicators.

AUT VIAM INVENIAM AUT FACIAM

"Find a way, or make one!"

SOSIT Commandant Sam Siegel (910)-309-0756

siegels@jdi.socom.mil

SOSIT FFG Kerry Siegel (910) 309-1322

siegelk1108@gmail.com

"If it is not right, do not do it, if it is not true, do not say it." – Marcus Aurelius



# CMD Psych

## The Year of Meaningful Personal Change

How are you planning to make the most of 2021? What hopes do you have for this coming year and what lasting results do you want to create? Here are some tips to create the best chance for success.

1. Start with a clear picture of what you want to accomplish and why it is important. Clarity makes it easier to visualize succeeding and stay focused.

Define what you want to achieve. Activate all of your senses to describe it.

What will it mean for you? What could it mean for others?

How will you know that you have succeeded? What will you see? What will others see?

2. Set the conditions for success before you get started.

Pick a start date that is reasonable.

Collect the resources you'll need. Don't give yourself any excuses.

Think about the ways you could stumble. How can you overcome them before you start?

How can you accept it when you do stumble? Get back up and get going – Don't Stop!

Plan for motivation to fluctuate. When things get difficult, motivation may drop.

Who can help with support and accountability? We can't always succeed by ourselves.

Set realistic expectations. Lasting change takes time. Results may not be quick. What will you need to maintain motivation and stay the course?

3. Get Started. Consider mini habits to make change. Mini habits help us reframe our approach to activities that may be good for us, but aren't always pleasant. We commonly think of performing activities in chunks of time. If we don't have the available time, our goals and habit setting fall to the side. Mini habits values performing the activity, even if for short periods: 2 to 3 minutes. Setting a new and productive habit focuses on instances performed, not hours or minutes performed.

Creating personal change is hard but rewarding. Review your desired results frequently to remind yourself why they are important. Set yourself up for success before you start. Get a partner to help stay on track. Consider easier ways to create habits that lead to the success you want.

-Dr. Ambrose



# JCU BH Team

JSOC Behavioral Health Team has grown again. We have two new providers that are ready to step up and join the family. Both are located at Special Staff Annex. We have a Dependent provider and our own Child MFLC.

## Meet our Dependent Provider – Janna Rekedal

My name is Janna Rekedal and I am the new Deputy Director for JOSOC BH. I am working alongside our well-established team to further expand our child and family program. I am a Clinical Social Worker and have worked for the past 10 years with individuals, couples, and families in both civilian and military settings. I am a military spouse with three children and my husband is also a member of the special operations community here at Fort Bragg. I am available to treat a wide variety of issues including anxiety, depression, relationship concerns, and other general stressors related to past experiences or current military life. I am located at the Special Staff Annex off Knox St. on Fort Bragg. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, or suggestions that you may have for the program or to schedule an appointment. Text or call: 715-977-1739.

## Meet our MFLC- Monica Hinkle

The Child and Youth Military Family Life Counseling program is now available for short-term, non-medical counseling services

for all service members and dependents. I am available to meet with all family members including spouses and children. Children between ages 4 and 17 may be seen with written consent from a parent or guardian who must remain in line of sight throughout the session. Issues addressed include but are not limited to: bullying, school adjustments, deployment and reintegration, sibling and parental communication, grief, self-esteem, and conflict management. I will be available for sessions in the special staff Annex (located on Knox St), via telephone/HIPAA compliant video conference, or in the community if preferred. MFLC sessions are confidential and no documentation of services is kept or medical diagnoses made. Limits of confidentiality apply in suspected cases of child abuse or neglect, domestic violence, or suicidal ideation and will be referred to behavioral health for assessment and referrals.

I am looking forward to integrating with the JSOC community and working with you and your family, please call or email for more information and to make an appointment!  
Monica Hinkle 910-882-3982 email JSOCMFLC@jdi.socom.mil

## FFG Key Callers

**JCU - Joanne Sannutti**, spouse of JCU Commander, COL Adam Sannutti; (813) 955-0880; [jsannutti@gmail.com](mailto:jsannutti@gmail.com)

**HHT - Elishia Stefanowski**, spouse of JCU CSM, CSM Brandon Stefanowski; (206) 295-3897; [elishia.ski@live.com](mailto:elishia.ski@live.com)

**ECS HQ - Christine Beck**, spouse of ECS SGM, SGM Bryant Locke; (704) 293-8747; [synciere28@yahoo.com](mailto:synciere28@yahoo.com)

**A Troop - Rocio Luna**, spouse of A Troop SGM, SFC Rob Luna;

**B Troop - Leigh Blanton**, spouse of B Troop SGM, MSG Chase Blanton; (910) 585-1087; [chaseandleigh@gmail.com](mailto:chaseandleigh@gmail.com)

**C Troop - Octavia Brown**, spouse of C Troop DET Chief SFC Blake Brown; (901) 832-9537; [Octaviastewart6@gmail.com](mailto:Octaviastewart6@gmail.com)

**D Troop - Jessica Orwiler**, spouse of D Troop SGM MSG Geoff Orwiler; (813) 924-3429; [mlj1201@hotmail.com](mailto:mlj1201@hotmail.com)

**LRS - Paula Lopez**, spouse of LRS Troop SGM, MSgt Edwin Lopez; (727) 331-3586; [paula.pava@yahoo.com](mailto:paula.pava@yahoo.com)

**MMS - Susan Miller**, spouse of MMS member, Andy Miller, (910) 308-9607; [snmiller05@gmail.com](mailto:snmiller05@gmail.com)

**EMS - Dana Ignoffo**, Spouse of EMS member, CPO Michael Ignoffo; (619) 471 5884; [ignoffomj@live.com](mailto:ignoffomj@live.com)

**Cyber - Ashley Walters**, Spouse of Cyber member, TSgt Sean Walters; (813) 361-7715; [a.carpe08@gmail.com](mailto:a.carpe08@gmail.com)

**NOSS - Juliet Denison**, spouse of NOSS CDR, LTC Michael Denison; (626) 588-7232; [julietkdenison@gmail.com](mailto:julietkdenison@gmail.com)

**NOSS - Amber Brandt**, spouse of NOSS SGM, MSG Joshua Brandt; (804) 920-1706; [foureleven2004@yahoo.com](mailto:foureleven2004@yahoo.com)

**SOSIT - Kerry Siegel**, spouse of SOSIT Commandant/1SG Samuel Siegel, (910) 309-1322; [siegelk1108@gmail.com](mailto:siegelk1108@gmail.com)

**SMT - Jillian Bryant**, spouse of SMT SGM, MSG Nate Bryant



# Chaplain's Corner

Dear JCU Family,

I trust and pray that you all are continuing to stay safe and are remaining in good health. As we journey through these winter months together, I want to remind you of this simple truth "Love is kind and kindness makes all the difference." So as we start our 2021- let us remember to be kind to ourselves and kind to others. Kindness is the simplest and most inexpensive gift we can give. A smile cost nothing but can deeply impact a person who needs it. Now I get that we are all wearing mask, so smile with your eyes. J

From November to now the JCU RST has put on several Preservation of the Force and Family Events to include The JCU Fall Fest at the Gillis Hill Farm and B Troop's POTFF Event in Ashville. We have also had the privilege of doing ministry of presence on some of the troop exercises.

The JCU RST (SSG Risco and I) are starting off the New Year in full swing. For all of JCU'S new additions, dating back to January of 2020 -we have a special token of love coming your way, command approved. If you have recently gained a new little one in your family and you have not been contacted by our office please contact us at 910-243-1321 or email us at JCURST@JDI.SOCOM.MIL - you do not want to miss out.

On Valentine's Day weekend we led a couples retreat in Hilton Head, SC. Partnered with our amazing care teams we taught the 5 Love Languages, had Couples Yoga and also gave couples

the beautiful opportunity to do a vow renewal. 8 of our very own renewed their vows. On Valentine's Day we also featured the first Chaplain's Comic Love Video Series on our JCU FB page at 1800. If you have not checked it out, please do! At the end of February we will take D Troop on their Post Deployment POTFF Event to Asheville.

In the next upcoming months we will be conducting several trainings to include one on mindfulness promoting the skills of self -regulation and self-awareness through the art of Charcuterie. Our first "Charcuterie of the Mind" training will take place on March 3RD from 5-7pm at the Annex. If you are interested please be sure to sign up- by filling out our registration sheet- it will be published one week prior to the event; space is limited. In April we are also leading a POTFF Event for A troop as well as a JCU Sustainment Event. If you have not been on one of our events or have not in the past 1-2 years the JCU Sustainment event is for you! Please know that we are always looking for ways to support you all. Please reach out if you ever need to and know that you are loved and valued by us.

I leave you with a great scripture taken from Ephesians 4:32 that reminds us "to be kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God has forgiven you." Love and kindness go a long way friends.

Sincerely, JCU RST.

## JCU FFG

Hello JCU team and families,

"SEMPER GUMBY" a.k.a "Always Flexible" is a play on the Marine Corps motto of "Semper Fidelis" a.k.a "Always Faithful". It is also based on the rubbery, super-bendable, green Claymation character from the '60s. Circumstances change quickly and we must bend and flex so that we do not break under the stress. In these extremely volatile COVID times we need to remain flexible. Uncertainty and separation are a way of life for military families, but we have always found a way to persevere due to the sense of community in the military culture. We look at change as a new opportunity. We are all learning together how to manage our lives during Covid. Please remember that you are not alone. There are resources of

support available. Please monitor the Fort Bragg webpage/ Facebook page for the most up to date information. Community resources are slowly becoming available again. Our ACS representative is Ms. Cynthia Mack at 910-432-3742 [cynthia.m.mercado-mack.civ@mail.mil](mailto:cynthia.m.mercado-mack.civ@mail.mil). <https://bragg.armymwr.com/programs/fap>

JCU's Behavioral Health Team as well as the Religious Support Team (RST) have gone above and beyond and really stepped up.

Again, Semper Gumby!

-Joanne Sannutti

JCU Senior Advisor



# MEMORABLE EVENTS

## February







# MEMORABLE EVENTS

## February





# MEMORABLE EVENTS

## March





# MEMORABLE EVENTS

## March





# Memorable Events





# Memorable Events





# SOCA

The Special Operations Communicators Association is proud to serve our communicators and their families. We have been basically shut down like everything else for 2020, but hope that 2021 will allow us to get back to business as usual. We may still have to tweak certain events to abide by the North Carolina regulations, but fully expect to be able to do more for you this year. Our first thing up will be the annual Scholarship and Young Patriot contests that will announce in April. The big test is going to be the annual SOCA Golf Tournament in June, we'll see how that goes to judge how the rest of our year will be. We have been having plenty of raffles and appreciate the tremendous support that we receive. One thing is for sure, JCU loves guns and contrary to popular opinion, we are not running a gun ring. We look forward to doing another single service member outing or two again as well, the last one was a fishing trip at the coast. We have

lots in store for you and we'll hopefully cap off the year in December with the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Reunion that we had to delay last year. Stay tuned, be safe and watch out for one another. ~Dookie Major  
Events calendar:

- Scholarship/Young Patriot contests announce; April 2021
- 20<sup>th</sup> Annual SOCA Golf Tournament; 4 June 2021
- Scholarship/Young Patriot contests winners announced; 15 July 2021
- 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Special Operations 10K; 13 November 2021
- Children's Christmas party; December TBD
- 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Reunion; 10-11 December 2021
- Ship Deployed Care Packages

Packing up the deployed care packages



# JCU Leadership



Position	Name	Work #	Cell or Home #	Email
JCU Commander	COL Adam Sannutti	243-9190	813-955-0871	sannuttia@jdi.socom.mil
CSM	CSM Brandon Stefanowski	243-9193	253-370-6839	stefanowskib@jdi.socom.mil
COS	Ms. Valerie Shuey	243-9187	813-625-5552	shueyvl@jdi.socom.mil
First Sergeant	1SG Samuel Siegel	243-9134	910-309-0756	siegels@jdi.socom.mil
Chaplain	CH Naffey Sugrim	243-1321	917-553-8716	sugrimn@jdi.socom.mil
OPS Officer	MAJ Mark Saurer	243-9151	248-444-2079	saurerm@jdi.socom.mil
OPS SGM	SGM Samuel Holden	243-9152	910-603-5225	holdensl@jdi.socom.mil
ECS CDR	MAJ Nicholas Beck	243-4556	845-239-1135	beckn@jdi.socom.mil
ECS SGM	MSG Dwayne Camacho	243-1447	915-996-5007	camachod@jdi.socom.mil
A Troop SGM	SFC Robert Luna	243-9136	910-797-3464	lunar@jdi.socom.mil
B Troop SGM	MSG Chase Blanton	243-9142	910-286-5517	blantonc@jdi.socom.mil
C Troop SGM	SCPO John Killebrew	243-0115	910-445-3081	browncj@jdi.socom.mil
D Troop SGM	MSG Geoff Orwiler	243-4148	813-299-2913	orwilerg@jdi.socom.mil
SMT SGM	MSG Nathaniel Bryant	243-0472	281-881-2910	bryantn@jdi.socom.mil
NOSS Director	LTC Michael Denison	243-2720	706-726-7517	denisonm@jdi.socom.mil
NOSS SGM	MSG Joshua Brandt	243-0991	910-709-3164	brandtj@jdi.socom.mil
MSS CDR	Cpt William Moore	243-9149	405-425-9809	moorew@jdi.socom.mil
MSS SGM	SCPO Timothy Duncan	243-0439	530-798-1522	duncant@jdi.socom.mil
Cyber Troop SGM	MSG Barry Hall	243-0462	910--580-4339	hallb@jdi.socom.mil
SOSIT Commandant	1SG Samuel Siegel	243-9117	910-309-0756	siegels@jdi.socom.mil

## Important Contacts

Position	Name	Work #	Cell or Home #	Email
JSOC FPO	Frank Eng	(910) 243-7500	(910) 853-3255	
Family Programs Coordinator	Mrs. Stephanie Plover	(910) 243-7501		plovers.ctr@jdi.socom.mil
Team Courage Health System Specialist	Bee Sinor	(910) 243-4393		
Tricare Advice Nurse		1-800-TRICARE ; option 1		MHSNurseAdviceLine.com for web chat and video chat
Suicide Hotline		1-800-273-8255		
JSOC Behavioral Health	Sarah Shepard	910-243-7502		Shepardsm.ctr@jdi.socom.mil
	Katie Connelly	910-243-7506		connellyk.ctr@jdi.socom.mil
ID Card Office		(910) 243-0556		
JSOC SHARP		910-243-7272/ 7273		
Legal		910-243-1384		
CYS		910-396-8110		



# Unit Calendar



## MARCH 2021

\*D Troop is on Telephone Standby This Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Training Holiday	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		JCU Jump Day	A Troop Block Leave			
Training Holiday						
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
A Troop Block Leave						
D Troop Exercise						
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
	C Troop Exercise					

**\*\*NOTE: ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\***





# Calendar/Events



## APRIL 2021

\*D Troop is on Telephone Standby This Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				C Troop Exercise		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C Troop Exercise						
					Training Holiday	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	C Troop Exercise					
						D Troop Exercise
Training Holiday						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	C Troop Exercise Prep					
	D Troop Exercise					
25	26	27	28	29	30	
	C Troop Exercise					

**\*\*NOTE: ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\***



# Annual Events

Frequency	Events
Recurring	<p><u>Monthly</u>            1st Friday—Awards and Promotions Ceremony (if CDR &amp; CSM not travelling)            2nd Thursday— FFG steering committee meeting</p> <p><u>Cyclic</u>            Key Caller Commo-check            Pre-Deployment Briefings            Re-Deployment Follow-ups (POTFF event)            OTC Spouses Brief</p>
	<p><u>Monthly Events/Special Interest Groups</u>            JSOC 101 (Active Duty)            JSOC Spouses Orientation (1/2-day briefing)            Book Club            JSOC Toddler Playgroup            Spouse Lunch Bunch            Spouse Evening Social            Spouse Bible Study            JSOC HHBN Steering Committee Meeting.            Event planning meetings            Security and/or Active Shooter Briefings</p>

JCU and JSOC FFG social events and special interest groups are optional. JCU requires that all members and spouses attend JSOC 101 (for active duty) and JSOC Spouse Orientation and Security Briefings (for spouses). For more information on any JSOC events, please contact the JCU FFG Advisors or your Key Caller (see current JCU phone roster). For more information on any JSOC events, which fall under JSOC HHBN, please contact JSOC Family Programs at 243-7501. JSOC is JCU’s higher “umbrella organization” and hence their Family Programs office and HHBN’s FFG offers more activities than JCU’s FFG does (and there’s no need to duplicate efforts when JCU Families, along with all JSOC subordinate unit Families, are invited to participate in all of them). However, JCU still maintains its own FFG to distribute JCU-centric information to all JCU Troops and Families and to encourage camaraderie among them.



# Civilian Recognition

*Team JCU,*

*In an effort to highlight the background, experience and contributions of our civilian workforce we will start publishing a brief biography for one Civilian each quarter. They give so much of themselves to support our organization and deserve to be recognized for their efforts. This quarter's civilian recognition goes to Mr. Mitchell, John*

*Mr. Mitchell, John*

*John Mitchell*

*JCU/SOC-OTC Instructor*

*Mr. Mitchell joined the USAF in 1996, his assignments and experience from SATCOM, Network Administration and Instruction have made him an invaluable asset to the Joint Communications Unit.*

*Mr. Mitchell retired in 2016, and has been providing world class instruction at SOC-OTC from 2018 to present. He is a quit professional who produces the best communicators possible for the unit.*

*His best moment while at JCU was when he was approached by a group of students that had just recently graduated. They were part of an exercise that utilized the lessons that I had just taught them. They told me they rocked it out. This was later validated by other members letting me know how impressed they were with them.*

*"Their success is my success." - J*

