



MAG-41 NEWS

June 2004



Volume 1, Issue 6



Colonel Hawkins Message

Greetings from Iraq! All is well with your Marines. They are serving with honor and dignity, demonstrating exactly what every American would expect of a United States Marine. If the media reports there in the states cause you to wonder or doubt, let me reassure you that your Marines are serving with the highest distinction, compassion, respect, and courage that demonstrate daily our National values.

In this time of media dominated stories of prisoner abuse, the supposed Syrian border wedding party and second guessing, I feel compelled to submit the following brief comment to reassure those of you that may be wondering what is going on over here? Although, I cannot give you my direct and personal knowledge of events, due to classification reasons, I will say the following:

The Marine Corps is doing what Marines do; we are saving lives and defeating the enemy. Your Corps is building or repairing schools, hospitals, dealing with children everyday by heroic acts to protect them, sometimes playing with them, creating positive relationships, and showing the kindness and compassion that we would be proud to show any of you, but especially our mothers. I use our mothers as an example, because once you insert how mom would feel about it, and then you get a point of reference for my comments. Family and friends we are fighting an enemy over here that is hard for the average American to conceive. I reference one, but certainly not the full scope of evil we face by the brutal beheading of Nick Berg. This war has many terrible faces, and many tragic stories, but the enduring message is positive.

Right now, that positive message is not 24/7 news worthy, but in the end, good will survive, justice will be done and a country will have a new opportunity to flourish. Be proud of your Marines, the Marine Corps, and our mission here, it is a just cause and needed more than I have space for here in the newsletter to explain. Keep the faith.

I am very proud of the service and sacrifice that you all are making for this country. The effort is not without its struggles, just like every war. A way of life is changing; human wills are clashing – both good and bad, neutral and indifferent. As an ending comment I'd like to say that there is no other country in the world that plans harder, trains harder, uses more technology, expects more of their people, machines, equipment, and specific weapons employment to minimize the loss of innocent life – NO ONE. You live in a country whose military will allow a known evil man, guilty of brutal atrocities, walk away from a capture scene if there is any chance or doubt that an innocent man, woman, or child might get hurt. It happens almost everyday over here.

In closing, let me relate one of the many heart warming stories that captures what we are the most proud of here at our base. We have found two local 10-year-old girls; one named Asma and the other named Summer, both have serious heart problems. Their fathers brought them to us asking if American medicine could save their lives. Within a very short amount of time we had arranged to get a cardiac specialist up here from Baghdad to examine the girls. As the process was less than 12 hours old, we determined the cost of surgery in Baghdad, with an American doctor, as \$400 for each child.

Overnight we had over twice that much donated by Marines on this base. Since their examinations, the doctors have determined that Asma and Summer need to go to the Children's Hospital in Washington D.C. Travel to D.C. is being arranged, and both travel and medical costs are going to be covered by our great nation.

God bless you, your loved ones, and those who serve honorably in the cause of America.

Semper Fidelis, Hawkins

Special points of interest:

- ♦ **Message from BGen Fruchtnicht**
- ♦ **Pre-deployment brief June 8**
- ♦ New Marine Spouses Club
- ♦ Base Pool open on June 2
- ♦ Newsletter is available on MAG-41 website- <http://www.mfr.usmc.mil/4thmaw/mag41>

LtCol Dietrich Message

I hope everyone had a great time at our recent base air show and military appreciation day here at the Naval Air Station. Thank you to all of those Marines and families that helped make it a fun day for all.

Word from our deployed Marines is that everyone is doing great. The 3rd MAW Commanding General has had nothing but good things to say about the contributions of the MAG-41 and that of all the 4th MAW Marines. Since we are now at the half way mark of this

deployment we can all start to look forward to the return of our loved ones. For those Marines preparing to deploy for the second half of OIF-2, please follow closely to the MAG-41 family readiness pre-deployment program to insure that you receive all of the appropriate information and assistance available.

The summer is upon us and that means that school is out for most of our kids. It also means that as parents we have to adjust our schedules to accommodate all of the off time for our children.

If anyone needs help to get through these months, please know that this is what the Naval Air Station's family assistance program is all about. In addition to having great recreational facilities available on base, they also have the counselors and resources to help out where needed. If anyone has a question on this, please contact one of our Key Volunteers.

Sincerely,

LtCol T.F. Dietrich

A note from Elizabeth Hawkins

Key Volunteer Advisor

June is here so it is time to celebrate our Dad's-I want to wish all of the Dad's out there a Happy Father's Day! Here is one of my favorite quotes about father's: *My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, he believed in me.*
-Jim Valvano

I am pleased to say that we had a GREAT turnout for our first meeting with the NEW Spouses Club. I was thrilled to meet so many new people from all the units within the MAG. The Spouses Club has already been busy volunteering our time and raising money. I want to Thank all of you who gave up your time during the Air Show to work the T-Shirt Booth- between the OWC and the MSC we sold approximately \$2500.00 our cut was \$219.00. This money will be split between the two clubs. Thanks again for your hard work.

June is proving to be another very busy month for everyone in the MAG. More units are getting activated and getting ready to deploy - I encourage all of you to stay involved. Our Key Volunteer network is always available to you if you have any questions or concerns.

More Key Volunteers are always needed, if you would like more information on volunteering your time to help with Marine families, please contact me at hawkinsel.ctr@mfr.usmc.mil or you can contact Elena Leal, Key Volunteer Coordinator at leale.ctr@mfr.usmc.mil

Have a great month, enjoy your summer!
Semper Gumby (always flexible)

Elizabeth

WORDS FROM BGen Fruchtnicht

Here is a message for BGen Fruchtnicht to all Marines of 4th MAW.

MAY 04

COMMANDERS PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS MESSAGE IS DELIVERED TO ALL HANDS.

MARINES AND SAILORS OF 4TH MAW, I WANTED TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU ALL FOR THE DEDICATION AND EXTRAORDINARY EFFORT YOU HAVE SHOWN SINCE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001. WE HAVE SHOWN WHAT THE RESERVE COMMUNITY IS MADE OF OVER THESE PAST YEARS. FROM OUR SERVICE HERE IN THE HOMELAND TO AFRICA, IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN, NOT ONLY HAVE WE REINFORCED THE ACTIVE COMPONENT HERE AT HOME, WE HAVE ALSO FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE IN COMBAT WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF PROFESSIONALISM AND ESPRIT DE CORPS. YOU HAVE PROVEN THAT TOTAL FORCE IS NOT JUST A HOLLOW SLOGAN. FINALLY, I ASK EACH OF YOU TO GO HOME AND THANK YOUR SPOUSE, PARENTS AND CHILDREN FOR THE TREMENDOUS SACRIFICES THEY HAVE ENDURED SUPPORTING US AS WE COMBAT TERRORISM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. SEMPER FIDELIS!

H. J. FRUCHTNIKT, BRIGADIER GENERAL, COMMANDING.//
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PROMOTIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to the Marines who were promoted in MAY 2004. We thank you for your service and all that you do!

SSGT TRAYLOR
CPL DALLI



MAY AWARDS

Congratulations to SGT SORIA for achieving the MERITORIOUS MAST MEDAL.



Congratulations to CPL GARCIA who received the GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

The NAVY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL is awarded to CPL MENDOZA - Congratulations!



Base Pool opening June 2

Make a splash this summer at the Base Pool; It is open Wednesday-Sunday from 1200-1900. Closed on Monday and Tuesday.

Retiree's , Active Duty Military and Family members \$1.00 daily
Children 5 and under are FREE

Water Aerobic classes are also available at \$1.00/class
Mon-wed-Fri 0730-0830
Tues-Thurs 1100-1200
Saturday 0900-1000



Party's available by appointment only \$50.00 for two hours which includes two lifeguards.

For more info call Donna Johnston Fitness Director/Aquatics Director 817- 782-7122 (pool) or 817- 782-7770 (fitness center)



If you have any questions or concerns you can contact LtCol J. Clark Leevy the Peace War Support Team (PWST) for MAG-41
WK: (817)783-7504
CELL: (817)690-5241
HM: (817)337-0505

MAG Address:
MAG-41
Bldg 1046 Boyington Drive
NAS Ft. Worth (JRB)
Ft. Worth, TX 76127

A REFRESHING SUMMER DRINK FOR YOU TO TRY

FRUITY YOGURT SIPPER

1 ripe large banana or 2 medium peaches, peeled and pitted
1 (8 oz) carton vanilla yogurt
1 to 2 Tbsp. Powdered sugar
1 1/2 cup milk
1/2 cup ice cubes

Cut fruit into chunks. In blender, combine the fruit, milk, yogurt, and powdered sugar. Cover and blend till smooth. Add ice cubes while blender is running, 1 cube at a time. Blend until smooth. Makes 4 servings

*P.S. from Elizabeth Hawkins:
Over this Memorial Day Weekend, I could not stop thinking of all of the Marines— here and away. It is incredible what they do everyday, they do not do it for money or for recognition, they do it for our country and to help others that are in need-- They do it because it is the right thing to do. What a rare breed all of the Marines are- I am so very proud and honored to be married to a Marine. I want to say Thank you to all of the Men and Women who wear the honorable uniform, I admire each and everyone of you! I also admire and thank all of the families for the support you give to your Marine and all you do at home so they can do their jobs.*

MAG-41 Mission Statement

MAG-41 will train, man, equip, and sustain an expeditionary aviation combat element, CFACC element, an aviation logistics squadron, a fighter-attack squadron, and an aerial refueler/assault support squadron in order to deploy/employ as a MAG/ACE, a special purpose MAGTF, or any combination of capabilities ISO MAGTF or Combined/Joint Warfare.

Family Pre-Deployment Brief

is scheduled for June 8, 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm.
Food and drinks served at Base Theater.

Any & all families are encouraged to attend. For more information call the Family Readiness Office at 817-782-7504

ANNOUNCING: NAS/JRB FORT WORTH MARINE SPOUSES CLUB

The MARINE SPOUSES CLUB is open to all of the units within the MAG. The main purpose of this "club" is to have an outlet to meet other Marine spouses and have people to socialize with. We will meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month, locations will vary. **For those Marines that are not married, your significant other or your parents are welcome to join any of the meetings.

Dues will be \$10.00 per year. We will have the opportunity to do different fundraisers during the year to earn money that we can donate to a variety of charities or can be donated to different units in the MAG for Key Volunteer events.

Our next meeting will be on June 15th at La Madeleine 6140 Camp Bowie Blvd 76116 (817) 654-0471.
* please note: this months meeting is on the 3rd Tuesday of the month because of conflicts with the pre-deployment brief.

To RSVP for our June 15th meeting or for more information please email CINDY OLBRICH, President MSC at olbrichc@sbcglobal.net.