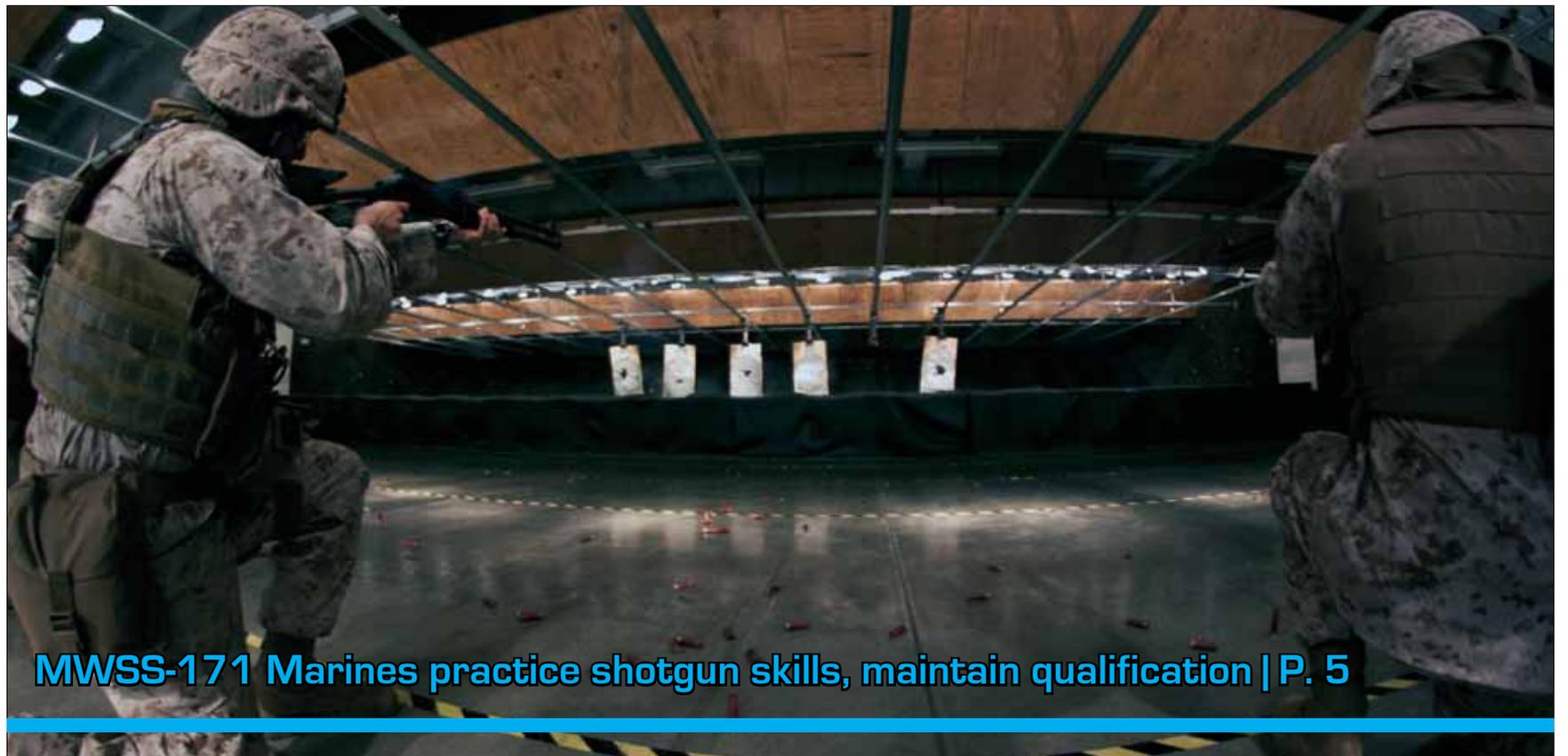


THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 22 Vol. 6 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



MWSS-171 Marines practice shotgun skills, maintain qualification | P. 5

CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Marines take aim and fire during shotgun qualification, which took place inside the Indoor Small Arms Range, June 6, 2013. Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineers, along with several other associated personnel, attended the training to receive the qualification.

Servicemembers practice for hazardous material safety

LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Servicemembers and firefighters aboard station took the opportunity to train as first responders in a Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations course provided by Bucks County Community College Department of Public Safety from Doylestown, Penn., held at the station firehouse June

3-7, 2013.

The course taught students several techniques in dealing with hazardous substances, including identification, what type of personal-protective equipment is needed for specific dilemmas and the order of controlling a spill.

For a majority of students, they had no prior knowledge of HAZMAT operations or the way certain chemicals affect the environment.

"I never knew there was a lot that can go wrong in my hometown," said Lance Cpl. Sabastian Cronen, station administration clerk. "I'm now aware my hometown has farms that use fertilizers and a lot of stuff in the fertilizers can be hazardous. Plus, I never would've thought that milk would be harmful toward aquatic life. Now I know that it sucks oxygen out of the water."

During the first two days of

training, students learned the essentials of using an Emergency Response Guidebook, which holds information on the potential hazards certain chemicals possess, evacuation processes and emergency response procedures.

The next couple of days provided students with examples of certain operations, such as how to build an underflow dam, performing vapor

SEE HAZMAT ON PAGE 3

CLC-36 visits Kinnan, promotes positive Marine Corps image

PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

While stationed in Iwakuni, Japan, Marines are expected to uphold not only the image of the Marine Corps, but also America. Station personnel represent to our host nation how Americans

back in the states conduct themselves.

Marines are ambassadors, and as such, Marines need to instill trust within their host country and set the example as positive role models.

Marines from Combat Logistics Company 36 visited Kinnan

Hoikuen, a kindergarten in Iwakuni, to teach basic English, American culture and interact with the Japanese youth, June 7, 2013.

During their visit, Marines taught proper pronunciation of the English Alphabet, performed American songs such as 'Head,

Shoulders, Knees and Toes,' and the 'Chicken Dance,' and played interactive games, allowing the children to smile, laugh and interact with Marines.

"It sounded like a good thing to do," said Cpl. Jordan R. Ingram,

SEE KINNAN ON PAGE 3

BENCH

Getting swole for the Summer Slam | P. 4



SHOOT

This 'aint granddaddy's shotgun | P. 5



SOFTBALL

Buy me some peanuts and cracker jacks | P. 11





Commanding Officer/Publisher
Col. James C. Stewart

Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Neil A. Ruggiero

Public Affairs Chief
Gunnery Sgt. Bryce R. Piper

Press Chief
Sgt. Charles McKelvey

Operations Chief
Sgt. Justin Pack

Editor
Cpl. Vanessa Jimenez
Cpl. Benjamin Pryer

Combat Correspondents
Cpl. J. Gage Karwick
Cpl. B. A. Stevens
Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.
Lance Cpl. James R. Smith
Pfc. D. A. Walters

Webmaster
Yukie Wada

Community/Media Relations
Hiroko Soriki
Hiromi M. Kawamoto

Administration
Hiro Sumida

"This weekly newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services stationed overseas and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps, and does not imply endorsement thereof." Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216. Call 253-5551.

The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.

PSG 561 Box 1868
FPO AP 96310-0019
Phone 253-5551
Fax 253-5554

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Confidentiality with chaplains: YOU hold the key

LT. TRAVIS COFFEY
MAG-12 DEPUTY CHAPLAIN

Who do Marines and sailors go to when they are in trouble or going through a difficult time? Most times, it is to the chaplain or the doc. As a chaplain, I am truly honored to be on this Navy team that serves you! However, I sometimes wonder if many people have a full scope of understanding of what chaplains really do. I hope people know we support service and family members with religious services, provide resources and counseling. I also hope we are known for leading service project efforts through community relation projects and that we even advise the command teams on moral, ethical or morale trends. However, and above all, I would hope that people know that Navy chaplains are here to listen and can be trusted to keep your confidence.

I just read an article that discussed a recent poll on a military website. Sixty three percent of 5,049 respondents did not believe that what they say to a chaplain is confidential, and 65 percent of 2,895 respondents believe that Navy chaplains are required to report certain matters to the command.

In light of these results and other

anecdotal evidence, Rear Adm. Mark L. Tidd, Chief of Chaplains, saw an opportunity to roll out an official campaign to help educate servicemembers, leadership and families across the Navy and Marine Corps on SECNAV Instruction 1730.9: Confidential Communications to Chaplains. This policy was established Feb. 7, 2008, to protect the sacred trust between an individual and a chaplain.

Per Navy policy and Marine Corps Order, servicemembers and families have the right and privilege to confidential communication with a Navy chaplain; chaplains have the obligation and responsibility to protect and guard the confidential communications disclosed to them; and commanders honor and support the unique, confidential relationship between an individual and a chaplain.

In other words, chaplains cannot be compelled by the command, medical professionals or others to disclose what a servicemember or family member shares in confidence. "What you say to us stays between us, unless you decide differently. You hold the key," said Tidd. "That being said, chaplains will always assist in guiding an individual to the appropriate resources and will

not leave an individual alone when the individual or others are at risk."

Chaplains serve as advocates to help individuals get the support needed to overcome the challenges they face before matters escalate. "This unique relationship between an individual and a chaplain can serve as a valuable safety valve to the commander to facilitate increased morale and mission readiness," said Tidd.

The Chaplain Corps is committed to caring for all with dignity, respect and compassion, regardless of an individual's beliefs, if any. One of the major ways we do this is through confidentiality. Given the sometimes continuing stigma servicemembers associate with seeking help, chaplains offer sailors, Marines and their families a safe place to talk, without fear or judgment. "Confidentiality can be particularly important when a sailor or Marine may feel they have nowhere to turn during a personal crisis, or if they're concerned about command involvement or an impact on their career," said Tidd.

As a Navy chaplain, please know we are here for you; we are here to serve ... because we care! Thank you for your trust and thank you for your service!

MAG-12 begins Haribon Tempest, trains to improve joint-military capabilities



CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

Two F/A-18 Hornets with Marine Aircraft Group 12, Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 fly to Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines in order to participate in the week-long training exercise Haribon Tempest June 8, 2013. The focus of the exercise is to improve tactical-level military proficiency and enhance U.S.-Philippine interoperability and combined abilities. Training will include close-air support, airborne forward air control and dissimilar combat training in order to enhance relationships and increase the proficiency of MAG-12 and the Philippine Air Force.

KINNNAN FROM PAGE 1

CLC-36 supply reparable issue point non-commissioned officer. "I wanted to go off base and meet the kids of the community and see how the Japanese culture is."

Ingram was one of four Marines from CLC-36 who made the trip to Kinnan. The four Marines were spread among three classrooms that had all different age groups: three years old, four to five years old, and six years old.

Ingram said he feels the Marines' presence to the

Japanese kids was comparable to a 'positive light.'

"Hopefully, getting them used to Americans at a younger age, when they get older they will be more comfortable with us and the language barrier will not have such a large gap," said Ingram.

School systems differ from country to country and some may hold higher standards than others.

Starting at three years old, Japanese kids go to Youchien, which is equivalent to preschool in America. They stay in Youchien until age six, then

continue to elementary school. While in Youchien, the young Japanese students learn small portions of the English language as well as Japanese.

Nami Yamamoto, Marine Corps Community Services youth cultural program coordinator, participated in the CLC-36 Marines' visit to the Kinnan.

Yamamoto said she feels visits to the Kinnan are important to the Japanese youth to help them get comfortable, learn and interact with people from different countries.

"It's really good for the Japanese kids to learn English

and try and communicate with other people from other countries with a language that is different," said Yamamoto. "It's also good for the Marines in that way too."

Marines are a positive influence on surrounding populations that they are connected with in any way. It is a Marine's job to provide a sense of protection, be a role model and represent the Marine Corps and America in a positive way to all ages. The CLC-36 Kinnan visit did just that, and with the monthly appearances they make, it helps support a positive presence here.

HAZMAT FROM PAGE 1

suppression and properly executing an emergency decontamination.

On the final day of training, instructors tasked students with completing a 110-question multiple-choice exam and five HAZMAT scenario operations while wearing a protective suit.

All students passed each portion of the final exam.

"Everyone did very well with the practical skills," said James Johnson, course instructor. "Military and firefighters gravitate more towards hands-on versus cognitive learning."

With training complete, servicemembers now have the skills to respond in the event of a chemical crisis, whether it's a simple spill or a terrorist attack.

"Military personnel are going out to places where there are weapons of mass destruction: dirty bombs, mustard gases and chlorine," said Johnson. "It gives them background from the civilian side and it helps on the military side."

Along with the skills, instructors made one constant evident during the course.

"The essential lesson

behind this course is safety," said Joseph Moehler, course instructor. "Every time you learn something new, it will protect you and everyone else around you."

Even if servicemembers don't pursue a career in HAZMAT operations, the training provides those servicemembers with valuable skills they can use when applying for jobs on the civilian side.

"You can have a (Department of Defense) firefighter in the states that looks for job openings and wants to move his family to another (geographic) area in the states, and training officers and chiefs check to see what type of certifications they have," said Johnson. "They're well ahead of the game now from when they leave their military life and take a civil service job."

For some of the students, this will conclude their training. For others, another two weeks of training await them as they tackle an advanced course in hazardous materials. The goal of the next course is to train students in how to work with certain types of containers as well as performing operations in a vapor-tight HAZMAT suit.

Servicemembers donning level-C personal-protective equipment work together to perform the proper operations of vapor suppression during the final exam of the Hazardous Material Awareness and Operations Training held at the station firehouse at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, June 7, 2013.



LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH

Servicemembers donning level-C personal-protective equipment work together to perform the proper operations of vapor suppression during the final exam of the Hazardous Material Awareness and Operations Training held at the station firehouse at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, June 7, 2013.

NMCRS breakfast recognizes reps

CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Navy Marine Corps Relief Society personnel gathered their station unit representatives who assisted in raising funds for the NMCRS together June 7, 2013, at Talbot Hall dining facility in Club Iwakuni.

"Today was our recognition event for all of our fund drive representatives and key persons who participated and basically helped run the fund drive," said Deanna O'Neal, Station NMCRS

Director. The purpose of the NMCRS is to provide assistance to sailors and Marines in the event of unforeseen emergencies. This year's funds exceeded those of last year by approximately \$3,000.

"This year we raised \$26,651," said O'Neal. "That is higher than previous years. In 2012, we raised \$23,170.00. I think there was an extra push this year as far as getting the word out, our representatives did very well." Those who took on the roles of

representatives did so as an extra task tacked on to their daily duties.

"This was a collateral duty ... so people are doing this alongside their full-time job," said O'Neal. "It is the extra effort that these representatives put forward that amazes me and that is why we like to recognize them for their hard work."

Though every unit had a point of contact to assist in raising funds, it was Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron that raised the largest amount.

"I wanted to do something different this year other than death by PowerPoint, make it a bit more fun," said 1st Lt. Andrew Smith, deputy budget officer comptroller. Although we still did the PowerPoints, we also organized barbecues and educated people right there on the spot, grossing a lot more money rather than just sitting people down and having them fill out a form."

Those wishing to contribute to the NMCRS may still offer donations via their unit representatives.



CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Jennifer Silvers, a bench-press competitor and the 148-pound class female first place winner, lowers 137.5 pounds during the 2013 Summer Slam Bench Press challenge at the IronWorks Gym sports courts June 8, 2013. Thirty-six participants comprised the competition. The overall female winner was Kotono Ikagawai, who benched 143 pounds at a body weight of 126.2 pounds. The overall male winner was Syuji Gotoh, who successfully benched 616 pounds at a weight of 252 pounds.

PARTICIPANTS TEST THEIR METTLE IN BENCH-PRESS CHALLENGE

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Blood and iron.
Blood and iron.

These two things were in ample supply for anyone who happened to make their way to the IronWorks Gym sports courts here June 8, 2013, as 36 participants took part in the 2013 Summer Slam Bench-Press Challenge.

Blood pumped rapidly through muscle as sinew fought against gravity and metal as participants fought to see who was the strongest at the competition. Participants were split into a women's division with 132 and 148 pound weight classes and a men's division with weight classes consisting of 132, 148, 165, 181, 198, 220, 242, 275 and super heavyweight classes. Kotono Ikagawai, overall female winner, benched 143 pounds at a body weight of 126.2 pounds. Syuji Gotoh, overall male winner, successfully benched 616 pounds at a weight of 252 pounds.

All challengers were welcome to take part in the meet.

The number of challengers, some who travelled great distances from across Japan, increased from previous years and was a welcome sight to long-time bench-press challenge participants.

"We've had the largest turnout ever for this," said Abe Roman,

bench press challenge judge and powerlifting supporter. "I'm actually thrilled that our program, which used to get 12 people, 15 people, is now drawing people from as far away as Tokyo, Fukuoka, Kyogo."

Though the tangible and quantifiable aspect of the bench-

press challenge judge and powerlifting supporter.

While seeing the multicultural effects the bench-press challenge can have on bringing people together, one group who was not well represented were active-duty personnel.

"I'd like to see more Marines participate," said Roman.

for the chance to compete, not just against other lifters but, more importantly, themselves.

"The last time I competed in a bench-press competition was about nine years ago," said Henry Pollard, bench-press challenge participant and 242 pound first-place winner, who successfully bench pressed 335.5 pounds.

Pollard also spoke of how the constant pace of changing duty stations coupled with a debilitating neck surgery he suffered years ago prevented him from competing until now.

"I decided as I'm getting closer to that golden age I'd go ahead and see if I could rekindle some of that strength I used to have."

Programs such as the bench-press competition are in place primarily for active-duty personnel but some may be dissuaded from sacrificing a weekend to test their mettle.

"If you're in there working (out), you might as well come out, compete, get yourself a medal, a shirt and have a little fun with all the big guys," said Pollard.

The chance to test one's limits and be amongst fellow weightlifters is something many wish they had the chance to do, but don't.

Competitions such as this allow men and women to showcase their training, desire and passion, embodying the theme of blood and iron.

Blood and iron.



CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Abe Roman, bench press challenge judge and powerlifting supporter, closely watches Angela Turner, a bench-press challenge competitor and the women's 132-pound weight class first place winner, lower the bar during the 2013 Summer Slam Bench Press challenge at the IronWorks Gym sports courts June 8, 2013. Thirty-six participants comprised the competition. The overall female winner was Kotono Ikagawai, who benched 143 pounds at a body weight of 126.2 pounds. The overall male winner was Syuji Gotoh, who successfully benched 616 pounds at a weight of 252 pounds.

press challenge is bench pressing, only a few active-duty personnel were present.

"It crosses cultural lines, all to share a common interest where many of our Japanese friends are competing with us," said Roman. "It just makes your time (here)

"Ultimately, this program is for Marines. I'd like to see more of them come out and take advantage of it."

Though servicemembers were in short supply, those present seemed pleased with where they placed in the contest and grateful



Cpl. Kenneth Hornung, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineer, takes aim and fires during shotgun qualification, which took place in the Indoor-Small-Arms Range, June 6, 2013. Participants performed stationary, moving while firing and turning drills during the training.

MWSS-171 Marines practice putting buck shot downrange

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineers and other servicemembers associated with the combat engineers platoon qualified on the M870 shotgun during a training course at the Indoor-Small-Arms Range June 5, 2013.

"This is a familiarization fire and a shotgun course for the combat engineers. It gets them qualified on the basic marksmanship that is required of them for the shotgun," said 1st Lt. James Woolley, MWSS-171 combat engineers platoon commander. "We're doing this in preparation for ITX (Infantry Training Exercise)."

MWSS-171 Marines travel to Twentynine Palms for ITX, which is a six-week exercise that tests the squadron's ability to support a Marine aircraft group.

"This is an annual training requirement," said Woolley. "Unfortunately though, we're not always able to lock on this

kind of training in Iwakuni. A lot of times, we do it as part of other exercises."

As Marines, being proficient with weaponry is something to be expected of more than just combat engineers.

"First and foremost," said Woolley. "We're a warfighting organization and we're here to win battles. Any Marine, despite MOS, may find themselves on the battlefield."

While the training was primarily for combat engineers, several other Marines with MWSS-171, along with a corpsman, participated in the training.

"I'm attached to a (combat engineers) platoon and there's always a chance I can get deployed with them and end up in a combat situation, so I need to be prepared for that," said Pfc. Ryan Gamino, MWSS-171 engineer assistant. "If I don't know how to use this weapon, then I might endanger the Marines next to me, I might freeze or not know what to do. I'm glad I got the opportunity to do this."



Marines take aim and fire during shotgun qualification, which took place inside the Indoor-Small-Arms Range, June 6, 2013. Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineers, along with several other associated personnel, attended the training to receive the qualification.



Marines take aim and fire during shotgun qualification, which took place inside the Indoor-Small-Arms Range, June 6, 2013. Shotgun qualification is a required certification for Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineers.



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Rice-planting event participants plant nae, or young rice plants, during the event, which took place June 8, 2013. Per demonstration, planters took approximately three seeds of rice for each spot. Each person then placed their seeds at designated locations, marked by red ribbons on a guiding string.

Station residents participate in rice-planting event

CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station residents participated in a rice-planting event, led by Cultural Adaptation, June 8, 2013. The Iwakuni Agricultural Forestry Office also supported the event. "This is an amazing opportunity for the people who live on base and those who live off base too," said Nami Yamamoto, Youth Cultural Program coordinator. "Even for the Japanese people, it was our first time to plant rice. For as long as I've known, the Marines, sailors and families can only stay here for up to three years, so I would really like them to enjoy the Japanese culture while they're here. This is one of the good opportunities to learn what rice really is and how to plant it."

Chiiki Koryu No Sato, a local non-profit organization, helped facilitate the opportunity for servicemembers to partake in this rare act. "I'm so happy that I can be a part of the program," said Yamamoto. "I love seeing people talk to each other and smile at each other. Even though they don't speak the same language, they can still communicate with each other. I deeply appreciate all the help from everyone in this local community

and the participation. If we didn't have any participation from the base, this event wouldn't happen." To some participants, even the slightest possibility of being able to attend was enough of a reason to wake up early on a Saturday. "I had gone the day after sign-up started and there were already 20 people on the list, so I thought I had missed out," said Mathew Burdick, rice-planting participant. "But I came by this morning, just in case someone didn't make it, and lucky for me at least, there was one spot open, so I was able to come." Burdick continued by mentioning his enjoyment on getting the chance to further expand his knowledge of his host country. "I think that any time you're able to learn more about someone else's culture, you just come to appreciate them and their country more," said Burdick. "I talk to a lot of people on base and, unfortunately, there are a few who don't take advantage of being out in Japan. They just spend all their time on base. I feel like they're really missing out on how great of an experience it is to be stationed in Japan."

Burdick said he plans to return for the eventual rice-harvesting event scheduled for October.



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Lance Cpl. Trevor Phillips, rice-planting event participant, takes a photo of himself planting rice during the event, which took place June 8, 2013. Participants spent the afternoon barefoot standing in mud and water while planting several rows of nae, or young rice plants.



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Mizuho Sugiyama, rice-planting event participant, places an award around Natalie Tice's neck after the rice planting, which took place June 8, 2013. The award included a five-yen coin, which is the only Japanese currency to have a rice plant emblazoned on it.



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Rice-planting event participants plant nae, or young rice plants, during the event, which took place June 8, 2013. Per demonstration, planters took approximately three seeds of rice for each spot.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

3rd Marine Regiment holds run, ceremony to honor 119 fallen heroes

LANCE CPL. MATTHEW BRAGG
MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII

MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII — With operations winding down overseas, 3rd Marine Regiment continued the tradition of remembering 119 servicemembers from the regiment killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan with a memorial run followed by a ceremony, June 6, 2013.

Marines and sailors from the regiment gathered in formations at Landing Zone 216. Of these runners, 119 Marines and sailors each wore a black shirt that bore the words, "All gave some. Some gave all. In memory of our fallen brothers." In addition, each wore the dog tags of fallen service members.

Sgt. Maj. Justin LeHew, 3rd Marines sergeant major, reminded the Marines and sailors why they were there, and encouraged them to always honor their fellow service members.

After the speech, the battalions right-faced and joined LeHew and Col. Nathan Nastase, 3rd Marines commanding officer, kicking off a 2.5-mile memorial run for motivation and to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice during war.

"I've been fortunate enough not to lose anyone in war I personally know, but the spirit and motivation here is immense," said Cpl. Jose Leey, an awards clerk with 3rd Marines. "Some of my friends might not be here one day and, if it comes to that, I will honor them with the same love, respect and passion as the fallen brothers we are remembering today."

Running down Mokapu Road, Marines could be heard a mile away, shouting cadence at the top of their lungs and added in an occasional spirited "ooh-rah."

Making their way back to the starting point, 3rd Marines formed up in front of a platform where a pair of combat boots and a M16A4 service rifle stood in the middle with a desert Kevlar helmet sitting on top. Nastase hopped on the platform and addressed the Marines.

"Marines and sailors, the easy part is over," Nastase said. "As we call the names of these 119 brave heroes who are no longer with us, I want you to remember their sacrifices and give them the ultimate respect."

The ceremony began with calling the names of the fallen Marines who served in the regiment's three battalions. For every name called, a Marine wearing a black shirt and dog tags of a fallen hero ran up to the pedestal. In front of the pedestal, each Marine removed the dog tags and placed them on the pistol grip, then took a brief position of attention as a final sign of respect.

"It's difficult to hold your composure when removing those dog tags from your neck and hanging them on that rifle," Leey said. "The best thing you can do is honor (the life) they lived."

"This symbolizes all of the friends we've lost in combat," said Cpl. Shane Owens, a training noncommissioned officer with 3rd Marines.



Members 3rd Marine Regiment run down Mokapu Road on Marine Corps Base Hawaii to honor fallen heroes from 3rd Marines, June 6, 2013. Marines and sailors ran two and a half miles before beginning a ceremony to pay respects to members of 3rd Marines killed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

LANCE CPL. MATTHEW BRAGG

"We do this to give our respect, and from here we move forward and celebrate each and every one of them."

June 6, 2013 may have marked a special tradition for 3rd Marines, but the date is also historically significant. On June 6, 1944, Operation Overlord, also known as D-Day, marked the beginning of the end of the war in Europe as more than 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces stormed the beaches of Normandy, France and marked the beginning of the end of the war in Europe. The event is remembered as the largest amphibious assault in military history. All of the heroes from D-Day are given the utmost respect as they are remembered and honored annually.



LANCE CPL. MATTHEW BRAGG

Members of 3rd Marine Regiment form up in front of the pedestal where 119 names of fallen heroes of 3rd Marines were called on Marine Corps Base Hawaii, June 6, 2013. Marines and sailors wearing black shirts ran up to the pedestal and hung their fallen servicemembers' dog tags.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

SMP Summer Slam

A Summer Slam is scheduled to take place July 3, 2013, from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. at the Hornet's Nest. The event will include a Battle of the DJs contest, tricycle race/obstacle course and more. There will be free food and drink, along with prizes to win. For more

information, contact the Single Marine Program at 253-3891.

Contractor Gate

Recently, the Contractor Gate has experienced traffic congestion due to heavy use. Due to the congestion, the Provost Marshal's Office requests personnel who are not contractors (Active Duty Military, JMSDF, MLC/IHA employees, etc.) to access

the installation via the Main Gate or Monzen Gate and refrain from using the Contractor Gate, including bicycle riders. For more information, contact Gunnery Sgt. Husman at 253-6942.

Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.

mil. Please include a contact name, a phone number and the information you want published. You may submit your community brief or classified advertisement in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. Please provide all necessary information to simplify the request process. The deadline for all submissions is 3 p.m. Friday.

Chief warrant officers celebrate heritage during social event



SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sandy Alvarez, Installation Personnel Administration Center director, left, and Chief Warrant Officer 5 Vincent C. Endresen, Marine Corps Community Services support division chief/ MCCS Marine officer in charge, light the Quartermaster Clerk/ Marine Gunner Lamp before a toast during a social event for warrant officers, held at Indian Joe's, here, June 7, 2013. During the social, Marines highlighted the history of the rank of warrant officer and recited the Code of the United States Marine Corps Warrant Officer.

MCAS TAX CENTER: FAST & FREE TAX SERVICE

The MCAS Iwakuni Tax Center is located on the first deck in Building 608 at the Station Judge Advocate's office. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The deadline for taxes is June 17.

Tax filers need to bring the following:

- Proof of a valid social security number or ITIN for both the tax filer and all dependants claimed on this year's tax return
- W-2 (wage and tax statement)
- Form 1099 (interest statements from banks earned on savings or checking accounts)
- Child care expenses
- Proof of alimony paid and SSN of person paid alimony. Court ordered document stating divorce and powers of attorney

- Mortgage interest statement
- Individual retirement account (IRA) contributions
- Dividends, interest, and capital gains and losses from the sale of stocks, bonds or property
- Charitable contribution records

The general deadline for filing your tax year 2012 federal income tax return is April 15. For those stationed outside the continental U.S., the deadline is June 15. Call the tax center at 253-5951 for more information.

INFOTAINMENT

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

Saturday
4:30-5:15 p.m. Confession
5:30 p.m. Mass

Sunday
8:30 a.m. Mass
9:45 a.m. Religious Education

Mon. — Thurs.
11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass

Protestant

Sunday
10:30 a.m. Protestant Service
10:30 a.m. Children's Church
10:30 a.m. Church of Christ Meeting
1 p.m. Contemporary
5:30 p.m. FLOW (Youth Group)

Monday
7 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Tuesday
9 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study
5 p.m. Working Women Bible Study

Wednesday
10:30 a.m. Ladies' Tea
5:45 p.m. AWANA (Bldg. 1104)

2nd Saturday
7:30 a.m. Men's Discipleship

2nd and 4th Saturday
10 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist

Bahai

Sunday
11 a.m. Bahai Meeting

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other command religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

OUT AND ABOUT: Japan

MT. FUJI CLIMBING

July and August are the official climbing months for Mt. Fuji. During this time, the mountain is usually free of snow, the weather is relatively mild, access by public transportation is easy and the mountain huts are open. Climbers are encouraged to bring proper shoes for ankle support, protective gear for low temperature and strong winds, a flashlight, and food and water. An ascent up the mountain takes approximately five to seven hours and three to five hours going down.

YAMATO 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT TOUR

August 18, 2013, will mark the 20th anniversary of the Yamato Japanese drummers. The concert will take place at the Sinfonia Iwakuni concert hall. Ticket distribution will start at 4:30 p.m., doors will open at 5 p.m. and the performance will begin at 5:30 p.m. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. Tickets will be numbered in correspondence to specific seats and ticket distribution is limited to one per person.

For more information on upcoming events visit our website at <http://www.mcasiwakuni.marines.mil/News/LocaleventInformation.aspx> or visit Information Tours and Travel located in the Crossroads Mall or call 253-4377.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, June 14, 2013
7 p.m. Tyler Perry's: Peeples (PG-13)
10 p.m. Mud (PG-13)

Saturday, June 15, 2013
4 p.m. Tyler Perry's: Peeples (PG-13)
7 p.m. Iron Man 3 (PG-13)

Sunday, June 16, 2013
4 p.m. The Big Wedding (R)
7 p.m. The Great Gatsby (PG-13)

Monday, June 17, 2013
7 p.m. Iron Man 3 (PG-13)

Tuesday, June 18, 2013
Theater closed

Wednesday, June 19, 2013
Theater closed

Thursday, June 20, 2013
7 p.m. The Great Gatsby (PG-13)

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura often for updates, or call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291 for the latest schedule.

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$3/ Ages 6-11 are \$1.50/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS



Kanji Adventures : 鵜飼
CORMORANT FISHING Ukai

Cormorant fishing is a traditional fishing method in which fishermen use trained cormorants to fish in rivers. Historically, cormorant fishing has taken place in Japan and China since about 960 AD. To control the birds, the fishermen tie a snare near the base of the bird's throat. This prevents the birds from swallowing larger fish, which are held in their throat, but the birds can swallow smaller fish. When a cormorant has caught a fish in its throat, the fisherman brings the bird back to the boat and has the bird spit the fish up. Though cormorant fishing was once a successful industry, its

primary use today is to serve the tourism industry. The types of cormorants used differ based on the location. Cormorant fishing takes place in 13 cities in Japan. The most famous location is Gifu, Gifu Prefecture, home to Cormorant Fishing on the Nagara River, which has continued uninterrupted for the past 1,300 years. Cormorant fishing in Seki also takes place on the Nagara River, but it is called "Oze Cormorant Fishing," or Oze Ukai. Only the cormorant fishing masters in Gifu and Seki are employed by the emperor and called Imperial Fishermen of the Royal Household Agency.

Intramural Softball Season brings station residents unit cohesion

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH
STAFF

Baseball is America's pastime. Softball is similar to baseball but the regulations are quite different. The ball is larger, the pitches are thrown underhanded and the bases are closer together.

When softball is hosted on a Marine Corps base, a collaboration of competitive, dedicated and hardworking Marines wanting nothing but a win emerges, in a sport called softball.

Marine Corps Community Services is hosting the Unit Intramural Softball Season June 3 - July 11. For more than a month, Marines from various units aboard station practice, compete and pour their hearts into the game in order to attain the top spot at the end of the season.

"They are always trying," said Chris B. Lombard, MCCS recreational assistant. "They never quit. Even when they are down by a handful of runs, they never slouch off. They are always in until the last inning and last out."

Throughout June and until July 11, games are scheduled to take place Tuesday - Thursday starting at 6 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Gunnery Sergeant D. Allen Baker, Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 4 maintenance control chief, coach and player for The Seahawks, participated in an opening week game June 6, 2013.

Although Baker is competitive, he wants something more than just a competition for his Marines. He wants them to look at

the bigger picture of what this can help his Marines to accomplish.

"I want them to be successful," said Baker. "This is just for fun. We are Marines first, and I want them to be successful as a unit. Anything like this comes second."

To Allen, the season keeps his Marines interactive aboard station and gives them a chance to get out of the barracks and compete in events to help them grow together as a family.

"I think it helps them out by giving them something to do," said Baker. "When they get out to these little bases, especially with a lot of the liberty restrictions they have and the curfews, it keeps them busy so they don't go stir crazy in their rooms."

Whether a team experiences wins, losses or anything else that could cause a team to rise or fall, one thing will remain the same, execution of teamwork to be champions in this softball season.

Babe Ruth, a baseball legend and Major League Baseball hall of famer, views teamwork as the key to winning championships.

"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime," said Babe Ruth.

As Marines strive for excellence, it's their competitive nature, along with Marine Corps core values, that keeps the players committed. It takes courage to step out on the field and honor to represent their units in a competitive environment.



Capt. Josh J. Rystrom, Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 4 prowl electronic counter measures officer, swings at a pitch during a game in the opening week of the Unit Intramural Softball Season, June 6, 2013. As the season continues, competition heats up as Marines compete for wins to become the softball season champions.

"The way a team plays as a whole determines its success. You may have the greatest bunch of individual stars in the world, but if they don't play together, the club won't be worth a dime."

Babe Ruth, Major League Baseball Hall of Famer



Sgt. Nate K. Ridgely, Marine Aviation Logistics Support Squadron 12 ordnance technician, slides over home plate during a game in the opening week of the Unit Intramural Softball Season June 6, 2013. The regular schedule consists of games Monday through Thursday, June 3 - July 11.



Sgt. Pete O. Marceau, Marine Aviation Logistics Support Squadron 12 aviation ordnanceman, slides over home plate during a game in the opening week of the Unit Intramural Softball Season June 6, 2013. Marines from different units aboard station will compete for more than a month to attain the softball season champion title.

The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the June 15, 1967, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the Special Services Hobby Shop, which gave station residents the opportunity to practice several leisure activities, to include carpentry, photography, film development and model building. The hobby shop also included an arts and crafts center, where it was possible to buy necessary crafting items.

Creative talents find outlet at hobby shops

Story by SSgt. Ken Barnes
Photo by Cpl. Jim Arrabito

One Marine guides a table saw as it whines its way through a piece of wood. Another holds a photographic negative to light while a third sits trimming excess plastic from a model airplane.

All are working on very different projects, but they do have one thing in common. They use the Special Services hobby shops.

Located in Bldg. 144, the shops offer Marines a place to work on carpentry projects and print their own photographs, and an Arts and Crafts Center where they can purchase most of their hobby needs.

The most valuable thing they have to offer, though, is a way to fill those long boring hours.

Like most Marines here Sgt. Jim Temple, LCpl. Walter Krieman and PFC Richard Cramblett have a lot of spare time on their hands. All three men use the hobby shop to occupy some of it.

PFC Cramblett, a communicator with MAG-12, has been using the facility since December. "I spend eight to 10 hours a week there now," the 20-year-old Marine said. "I've used the carpentry shop to build things for my cube and a set of filing boxes for my section. I guess I spend so much time there to keep my mind occupied and to keep from spending money out in town."

According to Navy Lieutenant Ronald Nunn, Special

Services recreation fund custodian, the carpentry shop has more than \$12,000 worth of equipment and can provide people like Cramblett with everything they need for woodworking projects.

"We can even supply the woodworker with lumber and all the material they need to build any of their projects from the Arts and Crafts Center," Lt. Nunn said.

"The only restriction we have is that people using scrap wood must have it inspected by the shop attendant so that none of the equipment is damaged by nails or other obstructions," he added.

LCpl. Krieman is assigned to WES-17 Construction and uses both the carpentry shop and the photo lab to take up his spare hours. According to the 19-year-old native of Chicago, it's a profitable way to pass time.

"I've built some things in the carpentry shop, but that's what I do at work so I spend more time in the photo lab," he said. "I spend roughly 10 hours a week in the lab printing photos for my friends and myself."

The photo lab charges \$.50 an hour for use of the equipment and chemicals. Photography buffs can also purchase paper for \$2-3 for five 8x10 sheets. Krieman says he spends about \$10 a week at the photo lab.

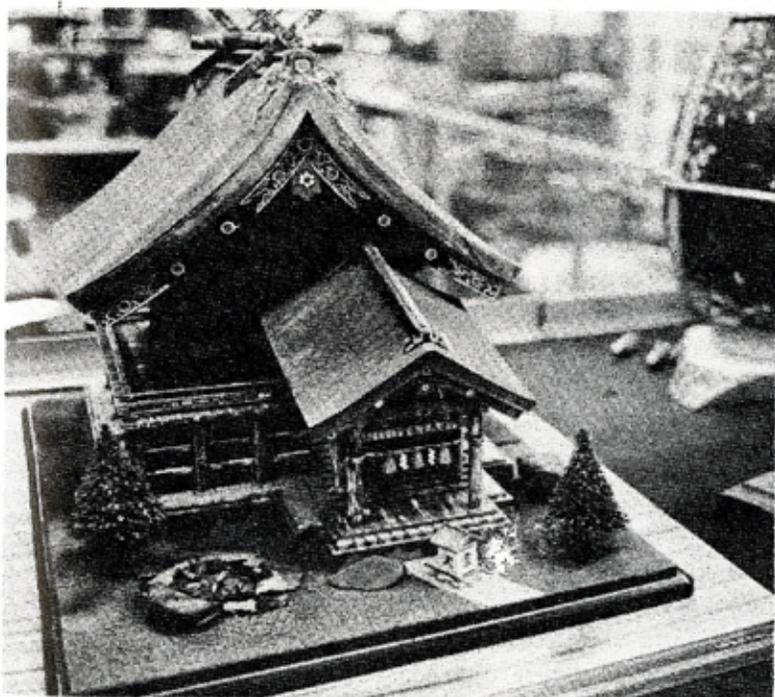
Twenty-eight-year-old Sgt. Jim Temple is an education counselor at the Joint Education Center. He started building models after his arrival here five months ago. He began his hobby to... "cultivate patience," he said.

"I'm married. When I came to Japan I found myself with a lot of the extra time that I used to spend with my family. The Arts and Crafts Center comes in handy when I have to fill those hours," Temple said. He buys most of his models there because they're less expensive. "But the main reason that I purchase them at the center is that the instructions are in English," he stated.

Lt. Nunn says the crafts center is probably as well-stocked as any in town. Although the majority of its products are plastic models, the center has tools and materials for leathercraft, woodworking and radio-controlled models. He also said that Marines can order any of their hobby needs that the center does not have stocked.

Sgt. Temple, LCpl. Krieman and PFC Cramblett are probably typical of most Marines here. They had time on their hands and nothing to do with it. Thanks to the hobby shop they now make effective use of that time.

Those seeking more information on the hobby shop's facilities and programs can get it from the Special Services office at ext. 4009. The standard hours of operation for most of the shop's facilities are 1:30 to 9:30 p.m.



MODEL SAVINGS — The Arts and Crafts Center has models to fit just about any taste. According to the custodian of the recreation fund, the center can save a Marine 15 to 20 percent on such models as these.