

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 19 Vol. 6 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Marines perform drill movements as part of the Commanding General's Inspection Program at the station parade deck May 15, 2013. The CGIP serves as the eyes and ears of the commandant and Headquarters Marine Corps by inspecting, assisting and assessing the various operations and inner workings of individual stations and bases. It is also a way for junior Marines to shine in their personal effort and dedication to their jobs.

## Station places its best foot forward during CGIP

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Corps Installations Pacific Commanding General Inspection Program team, based out of Camp Foster, recently made its stop here May 14-17, 2013.

The CGIP serves as the eyes and ears of the commandant and Headquarters Marine Corps by inspecting, assisting and assessing operations and inner workings of individual stations and bases.

"It is (Maj. Gen. Talleri's) team

that can go out to units under his command and inspect them for operational readiness," said Lt. Col. F. Lance Lewis, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron commanding officer.

The last CGIP inspection here took place two years ago. The

latest one's finding showed all functional areas of the station, 90 plus in all, are mission capable. Only five of those possessed findings and the rest had either no discrepancies or very few.

SEE **CGIP** ON PAGE 3

## OSC presents scholarships to deserving students

LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Students from Matthew C. Perry High School and station residents gathered at building 1200 for the Officers' Spouses' Club Scholarship Night here, May 16, 2013.

"We've been doing this scholarship night for as long as the history of the OSC has

existed here, so more than 30 years," said Jaime Yasumatsu, OSC president. "This year, we had 15 residents apply for the scholarship."

Among the 15 who applied, three students won the scholarship: Zack Lewis and Josiah Ricafrente, M. C. Perry High School seniors, and

SEE **SCHOLARSHIP** ON PAGE 3

## MALS-12 awarded for going above, beyond

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 won the 2013 Marine Corps Aviation Association Donald E. Davis Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron of the Year Award.

Named after Marine Col. Donald E. Davis, who designed the Marine Aviation Logistics Support

Program, it is awarded to the MALS unit that, "demonstrates the highest degree of leadership, logistic expertise, innovation and superior accomplishments in support of Marine aviation."

MALS-12 demonstrated its ability in these areas throughout 2012 by providing logistical support for 10 squadrons that

SEE **AWARD** ON PAGE 3

### RE-USE

Can we build it?  
Yes we can! | P. 4



### STRONG

I lift things up  
and put them  
down | P. 5




### CLEANUP

Everybody do  
your share  
| P. 6&7







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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.*

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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## ‘Stand firm’

LT. ALEXANDER CHO  
MWSS-171 CHAPLAIN

Abraham Lincoln once said, “Be sure to put your feet in the right place, then stand firm.”

Whether someone is Christian or not, an excellent quote to live by is, “You have every right to stand firm and fight for what you believe in.”

Speaking as a chaplain, I urge that your feet be planted in godly ways. What are godly ways?

Godly ways are Biblical ways. It’s not simply your own thinking because you think things should be a certain way. Rather, godly ways are finding answers within the Bible, because the Bible is true and inerrant. The difficult part about having godly ways is that it might cause a lot of friction. When your group of friends is drinking too much and even providing alcohol for underage Marines and sailors, the godly way is to stop that from happening. When you are on a short exercise deployment and all your friends are out contributing to prostitution, the godly way is to prevent that from happening. Doing the right thing, showing the godly way, might get you

ridiculed and made fun of, but that is why you need to stand firm. We as Christians need to be a light in a dark place. We need to stand firm!

1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV reads, “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Be steadfast, immovable, always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

Like a rock in the middle of a surging river, we need to stand firm against the river, against the worldly ways. We need to stand firm in our Biblical truths and not let the world sweep us in the current. We need to be the rock who stands firm in our beliefs.

## III MEF CG visits, speaks to Iwakuni



Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck, III Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general, speaks to servicemembers and station residents during his visit to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, May 20, 2013. Glueck spoke of several pressing topics, such as the possible revision of the current III MEF liberty campaign.

## Got News? Got News? Got News?

Do you have an idea for a story or need coverage for an event? We are here for you. Contact the Public Affairs Office two weeks in advance of projected publication date by e-mailing iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, calling 253-5551 or stopping by Building 1, Room 216.

CGIP FROM PAGE 1

The commanding general is not the only one who uses this information to better both his Marines and mission accomplishment. It gives commanding officers, senior enlisted leaders and even the most junior Marine insight into what they are doing right, what they can do to improve and see the big picture.

“We can think everything is running so smoothly in our day-to-day ops and tempo,” said Lewis. “It’s a nice chance for us to stop, re-cage everything (and see) whether we’re doing things by the book or are we doing things the way the last guy told us how to do it.”

The CGIP isn’t just for the senior-ranking officials to see what, if any, changes need to be made. Getting a true sense of the scope and diverse processes which go into the CGIP is something junior Marines should see, allowing themselves to zoom out from their

AWARD FROM PAGE 1

participated in 24 exercises throughout the Asia-Pacific region. This allowed permanently-stationed units and Unit Deployment Program units here to perform 6,400 sorties, amass approximately 10,000 flight hours and assist in the disbursement of 369 tons of ordnance. Along with these already impressive numbers, MALS-12 went above and beyond when it completed its net-supply effectiveness rate 91.9 percent, six percent more than expected.

“I can think of 649 personnel who deserve the credit for this award,” said Lt. Col. Mike Gonzalez, MALS-12 commanding officer. “Additionally, I have to recognize and thank those UDP Marines from MALS-11, MALS-13, MALS-31, and MALS-14, who join the Marauder family every six months and contribute to our mission accomplishment.”

This sentiment was also shared by the senior enlisted leader.

“To give credit to a single department, or a single (military occupation specialty), would be unfair,” said Sgt. Maj. Sergio MartinezRuiz, MALS-12 sergeant major. “From the Pfc. who turns wrenches, to the lance corporal who deals with parts at supply, to the admin clerk

own tiny cog and see the whole machine and also a way for junior Marines to showcase their skills, abilities and serve as a direct example of their work section.

“They should look at their individual department head, section head and they should be the direct reflection of that individual and strive to do their best to ensure the community sees their department head’s vision,” said Master Sgt. Lionel Saulsberry, station postal and H&HS HQ department chief. “What the (CGIP) does is take us away from the norm, the hustle and bustle of the day. It allows an opportunity to step back and look at the intricate parts of our jobs.”

For senior leaders, the two valuable areas were safety and legality.

“Those are my two primary concerns,” said Lewis. “Sometimes it’s very difficult to make sure we have our arms wrapped around everything. So is everything being done

pushing paperwork in S-1, they all have a part in this success.”

The feeling of pride in their accomplishments and humbleness in recognition for their efforts of how the squadron went above and beyond in its endeavors resonated deeply with Gonzalez.

“I am very proud of all the Marines, sailors, and civilians who give 110 percent every day to meet the squadron’s mission of providing seamless aviation logistics support to (Marine Aircraft Group 12),” said Gonzalez. “It is especially humbling that the MCAA would recognize MALS-12, since there are 10 other MALS in the Marine Corps who face their own unique challenges in supporting their respective MAGs.”

That opinion resonated with others as well.

“I feel privileged to be MAL-12’s sergeant major,” said MartinezRuiz. “Most importantly, I feel that these Marines and sailors have just raised the bar and through their efforts, hard work, and dedication, have challenged me to also give my best every single day.”

This is not the first time MALS-12 has won the award, having done so in 1999. This may come from the squadron’s mindset of one team, one fight, and the fundamentals of the Marine Corps.

legally, especially when it comes to things like pay, punishments or promotions? These are very big-ticket items in the lives of Marines. The other thing is safety. Are we doing some procedure where we’re not in compliance with some safety regulations?”

Another aspect of the CGIP is having an outside pair of eyes.

“We learn from those guys by not only showing us, ‘Hey, here’s how to do things by the numbers,’ but they see every unit in MCIPAC and they can tell us we’re in compliance and everything is fine but, ‘what you may want to do is this because we saw this in Hawaii and it just kind of makes sense,” said Lewis.

Marines should always be prepared and ready. The CGIP is merely a formality in reinforcing that concept. Whether it’s uniform inspections, drill, or any of the myriad things that go into making Marines Marines, the CGIP is there to serve as the guiding light.

## Officers’ Spouses’ Club gives students financial support

SCHOLARSHIP FROM PAGE 1

Hailey Desselle, Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic registered nurse.

“I was honored to be one of the three selected for the scholarship,” said Lewis. “This scholarship will go a long way toward paying for my time at the U.S. Air Force Academy.”

According to Deanna O’Neal, OSC philanthropy chair, the scholarship requirements include being a graduating high school senior or a dependent spouse who plans to attend college or is currently enrolled at a college. Applicants also had to submit an essay, their current transcript and an information form.

Each of the recipients received \$2,000, with money raised earlier in the year.

“The biggest fundraiser that we did was Wilson’s Auction,” said Yasumatsu. “We put on a huge furniture and Asian antique auction and that is where we make a majority of the money for our scholarship fund. We do other fundraisers throughout the year as well, with all proceeds going toward the scholarship fund.”

Once the students received the scholarship, each took a moment to stand before their peers and briefly share their plans.

Lewis said he intends to become a Russian linguist at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. Ricafrente’s plans are to study aerospace engineering at the University of California at Irvine. Desselle, who is currently enrolled at the Chamberlain College of Nursing, said she is determined to acquire her bachelor’s degree in the Science of Nursing.

“We are all just excited to see what they do with the money in the future,” said Yasumatsu. “If you think about the different avenues, we’re helping a nurse, a future Air



Deanna O’Neal, left, Officers’ Spouses’ Club philanthropy chairman, hands Josiah Ricafrente, Matthew C. Perry High School senior, his scholarship at the Officers’ Spouses’ Club scholarship night held in building 1200 at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, May 16, 2013. Ricafrente said he plans to use his money toward paying for his tuition at the University of California at Irvine as he pursues his studies toward becoming an aerospace engineer.

Force officer and someone who is going to design airplanes. I’m just excited to hear stories about them from their parents about their education.”

With a total of \$6,000 awarded to help further the education of three students, the OSC can now build funds toward the scholarship for next year’s graduates.





(Right) Jesareli Delagarza, 12, a 6th grade student and cardboard convention participant, instructs fellow students on the operation of her Tow Mater tow truck May 17, 2013, at the Matthew C. Perry Elementary School playground. The truck was made from scrap metal and cardboard and featured a working crane in the bed of the truck.

# Sixth graders show off inventions throughout cardboard convention

CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Matthew C. Perry 6th grade students gathered at the M.C. Perry playground in the second cardboard convention with their contraptions made from recyclable material May 17, 2013, to better understand engineering and the fun of creating something once imagined.

"We do this in conjunction with STEM, Science Technology Engineering and Math," said Jennifer Walker, Math and Science 6th grade teacher and cardboard convention sponsor. "Last year, we decided to have the kids make things out of recycled material, mainly cardboard, because there is always a lot of cardboard around."

The level of skill shown by the young engineers wowed the gathering crowd.

"We have a car made completely out of recycled metal, a soda vending machine, a skeeball machine that returns the balls, working gumball machines and a stop light that works, as well as various other items the kids have made," said Walker.

Along with the other items on display, viewable at the front of the rows of items, a large Tow-Mater tow-truck with a working crane made from recycled cardboard and

metal. In addition, one student's project stood ready to satisfy thirsty passers-by.

"I made a vending machine," said Alexia Lopez, 12, a 6th grade student and cardboard convention participant. "I took two golf club boxes and stacked them on top of each other, then inside I placed a little box where there was a slot where the coin would go in and then a stick where it would push the soda off the edge when the coin hit it."

Learning to think outside the box at a young age helps improve young minds toward better success in the future, Walker said.

"We want to encourage these kids to use more recyclable materials to make things work better and learn because companies are always looking for people like that," said Walker.

Students possessed different opinions about the process of participating in the convention.

"I enjoyed painting it and learning the science behind what makes things work,"



(Right) Alexia Lopez, 12, 6th grader and cardboard convention participant, instructs another student on the operation of her soda machine May 17, 2013, at the Matthew C. Perry Elementary School playground. The machine was created from old golf club bag boxes.

said Lopez. "I like science, building things and architecture. I would maybe like to be an architect one day."

The 6th grade cardboard convention is the first step in the process of another cardboard convention slated for the entire school in upcoming weeks.

## Strongman Competition fosters friendships through struggles

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

Marine Corps Community Services hosted a strongman competition at Penny Lake fields here, May 18, 2013.

Twelve competitors, spread throughout four weight classes, competed in five events - a tire flip, farmers walk, steel log press, crucifix, and Humvee pull.

Coming out on top of the 190 pound plus weight class was Lance Cpl. Michael J. Young, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting crew chief.

"The main reason I came out was to have fun," said Young.

Young said when he first arrived on station two years ago, he weighed 205 pounds, but through hardwork, dedication and the gym, he is now 265 pounds.

"I decided to do this to see where I was and compare myself to others," said Young. "Also to see how far I've come in the past two years."

The Humvee pull was the last event and drew more attention and brought the competitors together through cheering, motivating and hyping each other up.

"My favorite event was the Humvee pull because that took the most energy," said Young.

Mai Tajima, MCCS Recreation Specialist and organizer of the Strongman Competition, said she was pleased with the outcome of 12 competitors compared to last year, which had 10 competitors.

Tajima wants to create an atmosphere which allows others to meet new people and build friendships through friendly competition.

"What's most important is people coming out here, the staff, volunteers, participants, and at the end, all coming together," said Tajima.

Tajima said her favorite part about events like this is seeing people's attitudes change throughout the event and watching them enjoy themselves.

"In the beginning, they are all kind of quiet, but at the end, they all come together," said Tajima.



Lance Cpl. Haley Millet, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighter and Strongman Competition participant, performs the tire flip event, which took place by the Penny Lake fields here, May 18, 2013. The Strongman Competition is an annual event that allows residents an opportunity to test their physical and mental limits to prove who is the strongest aboard station.

"That's friendship, and I'm so happy I can be the bond of those friendships."

Young had some words to encourage more people to come out to these events.

"I think everyone that goes to the gym should come here," said

Young. "Not only for the fun, but to see where they are at compared to others."

The Strongman Competition is an annual event that allows residents to test their physical and mental limits to prove who is the strongest aboard station.



Lance Cpl. Michael J. Young, an Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting crew chief and Strongman Competition participant, performs a Humvee pull, which was the final challenge of the event, at the Penny Lake fields here, May 18, 2013. The other events included a tire flip, farmers walk, steel log press and a crucifix hold.



# STATION VOLUNTEERS PRESERVE JAPAN'S BEAUTY DURING CLEANUP

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN  
PRYER  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Station residents participated in a Single Marine Program cleanup event, which took place at Futashika Umezu Falls and park.

Volunteers donned gloves and traveled the main pathway of the park, picking up trash and debris along the way.

“I like to volunteer to a cause,” said Maria Molinalemus, SMP river cleanup participant. “If you can’t give out money, then you have to give a piece of yourself and I think helping out the community is the best thing. ... It’s about helping out.”

While each participant has his own personal reason for volunteering, A desire to help the local community can be an underlying cause to give one’s personal time.

“It feels really good actually, it feels really nice,” said Molinalemus. “It keeps me humble. It keeps peace knowing that I could at least do something with my time and with the Japanese community. I think it changes, at least

this community, their perspective of us, the military members.”

The event also gave participants the opportunity to meet new people and form new bonds of friendship.

“I came here by myself but that doesn’t ever matter,” said Molinalemus. “Being in a good environment and a watching everyone have a good time is all I need to make my day, and it’s made my day.”

Ryan Leming, installation solid-waste manager and Japan resident, facilitated the interaction with the local community.

“I coordinate with people here at Futashika and let them know we’re coming, make sure the pavilion will be available for us to use and get all the food together to cook up,” said Leming. “I’ve been here for almost 25 years, so I live in the area and have a home close to here. This is actually the fourth cleanup, I’ve done.”

Leming said that he hoped to provide more opportunities to do similar cleanup events in Iwakuni.

“We’re trying to make it a tradition to come out here every spring and fall,” said Leming. “This

is just a beautiful place to come back to, and being an American out here, you’re kind of on the outside. (The locals) don’t see that I’ve probably been in Japan so long I’m part Japanese at heart. When they look at me, they still see an American, and everything we do over here reflects on us. Whether you’re associated with the base or not, if you look American, the locals will assume you’re part of the base. I try to make people understand that they’re in a beautiful country and we need to keep it that way.”

Maria Molinalemus, Single Marine Program cleanup event participant, crawls through part of an obstacle course located at Futashika Umezu Falls and park, May 17, 2013. Participants spent the later half of the trip enjoying a barbeque and exploring other areas of the park, one of which included an obstacle course with several sections that scaled up a nearby mountain.



A Single Marine Program cleanup event participant picks up trash while walking through one of the trails at Futashika Umezu Falls and park, May 17, 2013. “I like to volunteer to a cause,” said Maria Molinalemus, SMP river cleanup participant. “If you can’t give out money, then you have to give a piece of yourself and I think helping out the community is the best thing. ... It’s about helping out.”



Single Marine Program cleanup event participants take photos and pick up trash while walking through one of the trails at Futashika Umezu Falls and park, May 17, 2013. Volunteers split into several groups in order to cover more area within the park and falls. Ryan Leming, installation solid-waste manager and Japan resident, facilitated the interaction with the local community. Leming also mentioned his desire to make this cleanup event a tradition for every spring and fall.



Christopher Pou, Single Marine Program cleanup event participant, feeds Koi fish after the cleanup at Futashika Umezu Falls and park, May 17, 2013. Volunteers spent the first part of the day traveling down paths through the falls and park, picking up trash and debris along the way. Participants spent the other half of the trip enjoying a barbeque and exploring other areas of the park, one of which included an obstacle course with several sections that scaled up a nearby mountain.



CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Dark Horse Battalion reunite with family and friends after tour with 15th MEU

Cpl. Jonathan Hunter, an infantryman serving with Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, and a Dallas native, hugs Joanna, his wife, and their daughter on the parade deck at Camp San Mateo here, May 13, 2013. Families and friends reunited with their Marines and sailors after an eight-month deployment with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit. The MEU deployed Sept 17, 2012, and traveled to Dubai, Jordan, Oman, China, and Hawaii.



CPL. ROBERT REEVES

CPL. ROBERT REEVES  
15TH MARINE  
EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

MARINE CORPS CAMP  
PENDLETON, Calif. —

Family and friends watched Marines and sailors serving with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, currently the Ground Combat Element for the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, march onto the Camp San Mateo parade deck here, May 13. Loved ones camped out since 3 a.m., waiting to see their servicemember return home safely after an eight-month deployment. The servicemembers deployed Sept. 17, 2012, and traveled to Dubai, Jordan, Oman, China and Hawaii throughout the past eight months. Marines and sailors of the “Dark Horse” battalion, the nickname for 3rd Bn., 5th Marines, marched across the parade deck and stood at attention in front of their families and friends waving banners, signs and small U.S. flags. After dismissal from the formation, the Marines and sailors rushed to their eager families. “It feels so good to be back on solid ground again,” said Cpl. Daniel Lepsch, an infantryman serving with Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. “It’s been just over

eight months and it feels like it’s been forever.” Homecomings are special, not only for Marines, but also for those who support them. “One of the things that makes 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, so special is that we have an entire community’s support and care,” said Kimberly Reese, the battalion family readiness officer. Families embracing their loved ones filled the parade deck. Mothers and fathers held their sons, children embraced their fathers and spouses reunited with their husbands. “This time it feels better than coming back from Afghanistan,” said Cpl. Jonathan Hunter, an infantryman, and Dallas native, serving with Weapons Co., 3rd Bn., 5th Marines. “Honestly, I think it’s because I have a wife and kid now. When I got back from Afghanistan it was just back to the rat race, so I like this much more.” The battalion deployed aboard USS Greenbay, USS Peleliu and USS Dubuque as part of the Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group, U.S. Central Command theater reserve force, providing support for maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts. The 15th MEU is a Marine Air Ground Task Force comprised of approximately 2,400 personnel.



CPL. ROBERT REEVES

Sgt. Nick Richardson, an Infantryman serving with Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment and a native of Broken Arrow, Okla., hugs his wife, Lana, after being dismissed from a formation on the San Mateo parade deck here, May 13, 2013. Families and friends watched their Marines and sailors march onto the parade deck after an eight-month deployment with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit. The MEU deployed Sept 17, 2012, and traveled to Dubai, Jordan, Oman, China, and Hawaii.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Off-limit Establishments

The following establishments in Iwakuni and Hiroshima are off-limits:

- The multi-tenant building “NOW.” Tenant occupants’ names change frequently. Past names for this building include Ran, Massage Parlor, Welcome American, Follow Me and F-18.
- Hiroshima’s Tougan Goods Company
- Spice Ecstasy
- 4-4 Nagarekawa, Naka-ku Hiroshima City, Japan
- Buri Buri Nomi
- 1-18 Horikawa-cho, Naka-ku Hiroshima City, Japan
- Joint
- 3-22 Yayoi i-cho Naka-ku

Hiroshima City, Japan

Okinawa CREDO

The Okinawa Credo is scheduled to host a Family Enrichment Retreat from July 17-19, 2013. Children five years and older are invited to participate and each family may bring two children max. For more information, contact the station chapel at 253-3371.

Infertility Seminar

An Infertility Seminar is scheduled for June 13, 2013, at 5 p.m. in the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Branch Health Clinic lobby. Dr. Atsushi Tanaka, a local gynecologist and infertility specialist, will speak about the different non-TRICARE infertility treatment

options. The seminar is open to anybody interested. For more information, contact the TRICARE representative at 253-3126, or your Primary Care Manager via Relay Health message.

Vehicles

Nissan Cube 1999

Nissan Cube, 1999. \$2,500. Automatic drive, air conditioning, power doors, windows, steering and brakes. Four door, hatch, 4 seats. Amenities include a JVC CD player with bluetooth and two USB inputs, snow chains, owner’s manual, road flare and basic care tote (wax, rags and detailing products). JCI good through Feb. 2014, road tax paid:

timing chain, tension relay and head gasket recently replaced. For more information on “Bumblebee,” please call Karma Rich at 090-9061-7783.

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 would like to be 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 the requested information to simplify the request process. The deadline for all submissions is 3 p.m. Friday.

KUNI TOONS: LIBO CARD WOES

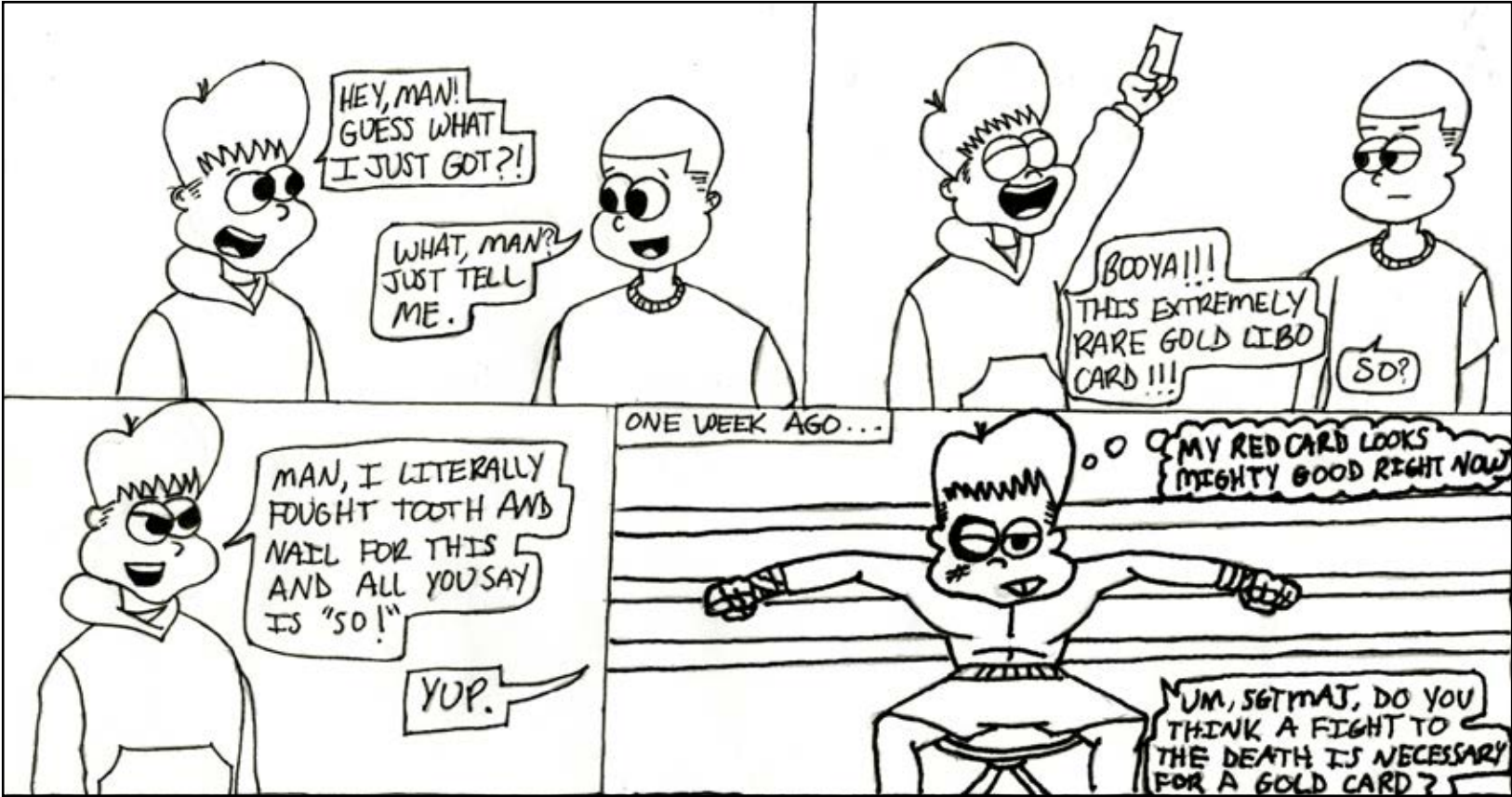


ILLUSTRATION BY CPL. MICHAEL DIAZ

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

TAKIGI NOH PERFORMANCE

June 1-2, 2013, Noh performances will take place, illuminated by blazing torches with the classic architecture of the Heian Shrine in the Okazaki district of Kyoto and the Higashiyama hills in the background. The only unreserved seats are the mats and benches at ground level. Many bring their own picnics, and tickets are on sale for 300 yen from 4:30 p.m. Performances last until around 9pm. Bus number five will travel from Kyoto Station to Kyoto Kaikan-mae, an approximate 20-minute ride.

BAKEMONO MATSURI

May 25, 2013, marks the Bakemono Matsuri, more properly known as the Tenjin-sai, where participants wear costumes and hats to hide their faces and wander around downtown Tsuruoka, Yamagata Prefecture, giving sake to passers-by. It's said if you participate for three years without being recognized, your wishes will come true.

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

<b>Friday, May 24, 2013</b> 7 p.m. Scary Movie 5 (PG-13) 10 p.m. G. I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13)	<b>Monday, May 27, 2013</b> 7 p.m. 42 (PG-13)
<b>Saturday, May 25, 2013</b> 4 p.m. Jurassic Park (1993) -2D- (PG-13) 7 p.m. 42 (PG-13)	<b>Tuesday, May 28, 2013</b> Theater closed
<b>Sunday, May 26, 2013</b> 4 p.m. Scary Movie 5 (PG-13) 7 p.m. Oblivion (PG-13)	<b>Wednesday, May 29, 2013</b> Theater closed
	<b>Thursday, May 30, 2013</b> 7 p.m. Oblivion (PG-13)

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check [www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura](http://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](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACHCULTURAL LESSONS



Kanji Adventures : 筍  
BAMBOO BABIES : Take no ko

The young shoot of certain species of the bamboo genera Dendrocalamus and Phyllostachys are sliced, cooked, and eaten. Take no ko are shoots of bamboo. Pre-boiled ones are often available at grocery stores. They are usually harvested around March to May in Japan and are a spring delicacy. Fresh bamboo shoots tend to be bitter, so they need to be pre-cooked after harvested. The longer they are kept, the more bitter and harder they become. Fresh bamboo shoots are pulled from the tender inner part of young bamboo trees. With a firm and crisp bite, bamboo shoots add great color and texture to Asian style dishes. In certain parts of Japan, China and Taiwan, the giant timber bamboo Bambusaoldhamii is harvested in spring or early summer. The bamboo has a very acrid flavor and should be sliced thin and boiled in a large volume of water several times. The sliced bamboo is edible after boiling. It is usually sliced and soaked in water for two to three days, where the water is drained and replenished with fresh water each day to extract and remove toxins.



Cpl. Joshua Douglas, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 mobile facility technician, prepares to bump a serve during the Commander's Cup two-on-two volleyball tournament hosted by IronWorks intramural sports at the outdoor volleyball courts near IronWorks Gym at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, May 17, 2013.

Station residents go Top Gun during volleyball tourney

LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

With the weather heating up and the sun shining brightly, Marines from various units at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, entered the “danger zone” to compete in the Commander's Cup two-on-two volleyball tournament hosted by IronWorks intramural sports at the outdoor volleyball courts near IronWorks Gym here, May 17, 2013.

Each team consisted of four members, two for play and two to substitute at any time in a double elimination tournament.

Before play began, the team from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 said they had already won.

"It's a usual outcome for us whenever we come out; MWSS-171 winning at Commander's Cup events," said Gunnery Sgt. Chawa Pearson, MWSS-171 administrative chief. "Plus, we play quite a bit of volleyball."

The tournament started off with Combat Logistics Company 36 against the MWSS-171 team. Justifying their confidence, MWSS-171 beat CLC-36 and moved onward in the competition.

The next match consisted of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine Aircraft Group 12. MALS-12 took an early lead, with the "Ready Group" catching up. Despite the effort, MAG-12 would take a loss early in the tournament.

As the competition progressed and the number of teams dwindled, one thing became evident as competitive natures flared.

"When you win a Commander's Cup challenge, you get bragging rights for a year, saying your unit is the best at these sporting events," said A. J. Gray, MWSS-171 family readiness officer. "It's more about the prestige of the base."

It came down to the last two teams: MWSS-171, who managed to go the entire tournament without a loss, and MALS-12, who sustained only one loss.

Rules stated in order to win a match, the team needed to win by two points.

The rule came into play as the match became a back-and-forth battle with both teams giving their all.

When the sand settled, MWSS-171 kept their promise and came out on top, beating MALS-12, 15-13.

"We want to thank (Marine Corps Community Services) for putting this event together, because without them, we wouldn't have a Commander's Cup," said Gray. "And of course, thank you for all the money that they put into the units, because those funds allow us to do events for Marines and it builds morale."

With yet another Commander's Cup victory under their belt and more bragging rights for the unit, MWSS-171 looks forward to the next Commander's Cup event: Intramural Sports dodgeball tournament June 7, 2013.



Lt. Alexander Cho, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 chaplain, prepares to hit a volleyball during the Commander's Cup two-on-two volleyball tournament hosted by IronWorks intramural sports at the outdoor volleyball courts near IronWorks Gym at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, May 17, 2013.



# *The Iwakuni Time Machine*

In the May 25, 1996, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the Matthew C. Perry prom, which took place at the Kokusai Kanko Hotel, located in Iwkauni. While normally held aboard station, determined fundraising made the opportunity to host the prom off base possible.

## Students make memories during prom

by LCpl. Pauline Render  
Torii Teller Staff

Some consider it the pinnacle of teen life, an evening of elegance looked forward to by young people all over the United States.

And, although they're far from home, the students at Matthew C. Perry High School managed to make this year's prom an event to remember and one not soon to be outdone.

In the past, the Junior-Senior Prom has been held someplace on the air station. However, with the help of some hard-working parents and a fund-raising frenzy by the junior class, 86 students attended this year's event, which took place Saturday at the luxurious Kokusai Kanko Hotel in Iwakuni.

"This year's prom was really rockin'," said 15-year-old sophomore, Larah S. McKay. "It was a lot fancier and everyone had a great time."

Although the final results may have been well received, the original idea of having the prom at the expensive hotel was not.

"When we first got the idea, a lot of parents and students didn't think it was possible, but as time went on, they came around," said Ann Babbitt, chairman of the prom committee.

The junior class and the '97 Samurai Parents Association began fund raising in February — a late start by most standards. But as time went on, everything came together.

"Everyone we asked went out of their way to help us," said Babbitt. "The communities on station and in town were extremely generous."

The Filipino-American Association, Morale, Welfare and Recreation, Pizza Inn, the Officer's Club and a host of other organizations

helped out by donating time, money, door prizes for the after-prom party and other necessary items. In town, local small businesses did what they could to contribute decorations and food to the cause, once they understood what a prom was all about.

"Our motto was 'Working Together to Make a Difference' and it really did," said Babbitt.

After working nearly four months to pay for it, the dream came true as the first students entered the hotel laughing and smiling. Candles and flower arrangements adorned each table, and a beautiful food buffet filled the back of the room. The young men and women, dressed in their finest attire, looked exquisite as they casually toured each table, talking with friends.

"We wanted this year's prom to

be special," said Babbitt. "In the military, these kids move around a lot, and miss out on a lot of things growing up. We just wanted them to have something special to remember."

As the night went on, the students enjoyed dinner, a brief show of Japanese dancing, and the crowning of the royal court before they got to cut loose and dance the night away. After the event, the End Zone held an after-prom party that took prom goers well into the next morning.

"This year's prom was excellent," said 16-year-old junior Ra Guerrero III. "The establishment was outstanding, the music was great, and people were more involved than last year. It really brought us up to the standards of proms in the states." ¶

photo by LCpl. Pauline Render



Seventeen-year-old senior Yesny Mraz eats dinner with her escort, LCpl. Brian E. Winkels, stationed here with air traffic control, during the Matthew C. Perry Junior-Senior Prom Saturday.