Marine pilot makes history, lands strike fighter at sea

An F-35B Lightning II, piloted by Marine Corps test pilot Lt. Col. Fred Schenk, prepares to vertically land for the first time at sea on the flight deck of the amphibious assault ship, USS Wasp. The purpose of F-35B sea trials on the USS Wasp was to test the F-35B systems and ship's support functions.

Marine Corps was born to perform these functions, created by the Continental Congress on Oct. 13, 1775. Congress knew that within the Navy a force would be necessary to protect marine, provide ship security and provide priory for shore landings. On Nov. 30, 1775, the U.S. Marine Corps was born to perform these functions, creating a team-based war-fighting machine that still exists today. More Navy support functions were created to provide non-combat support for both services. The Navy Chaplains Corps was formed by the Continental Congress on Nov. 28, 1777 but performed ceremonial aboard ships for both Marines and Sailors. More than 100 years later, the Navy Chaplains Corps was approved by Congress on June 17, 1899, in preparation for the Spanish-American War and has provided for the Department of the Navy's medical needs ever since.

The Cherry Point Mess Hall will open at 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. today for Marines, Sailors and their families. The dinner cost for non-meal card holders is $7 and for dependents E-4 and below, the cost is $5.95.

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A short quiz
1. Name the last five Nobel prize winners.
2. Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
3. Name the last six Academy Award winners for best actor and actress.
4. Name half a dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.
5. Think of a few people who have made you feel thing worthwhile.
6. Name half a dozen whose stories have impressed you.

A bit easier? The lesson? The people who make a difference in your life are not the ones with the most accolades, the most money or the most awards. They are the ones that care. Pass this on to those who make a difference in your life.

Perhaps it is time.

As a chaplain I often have people send me cute stories and anecdotes. I appreciate and enjoy it, even if it happens to be one that I have been sent several times before. It is always the things that are funny and a little out of the ordinary that I get one worth keeping and filing away. Not long ago I received one that I think is very much worthwhile, because it points out what really matters.

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The smell of pork filled Hancock Lodge as the guests arrived. The volunteer servers peeled back the tinfoil-covered trays and were arranged in buffet line fashion on one side of the room. Outside on the patio, service members, both retired and active duty, enjoyed refreshments together while the food was prepared inside. Down the flight of dark wooden stairs to the deck that reside behind the lodge, children happily played with multi-colored balloons and bouncy balls while their parents watched and enjoyed the company of their fellow Marines and Sailors.

The Havelock Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee hosted its quarterly pig pickin’ at the Cherry Point Hancock Lodge for Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Marine Unit, and Fleet Readiness Center East Sept. 27. The committee supplied food and refreshments to the service members to show their gratitude for everything Cherry Point has done for them.

“We do this to take care of our troops, it’s all about them,” said retired Maj. Gen. Michael Sullivan, a former commanding general of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, and now a member of the Military Affairs Committee. “I love having the pig pickin’s. They’ve been going on for over 20 years and they’re better now than they’ve ever been.”

“This is a way for the Military Affairs Committee to not only thank the Marines but also the families,” said Stephanie Duncan, a member of the Military Affairs Committee. “Sometimes the families’ contributions are forgotten and this is a way to thank them and it’s the least we can do to give back.

CNATT brought both instructors and students to the event as a chance for all to socialize with each other and members of the community.

“This has been excellent,” said Sgt. Maj. William Swann, the CNATT sergeant major. “It’s good food, good company and good fun. It’s good seeing the young Marines interact with retirees, the MAC and their instructors.”

“This pig pickin’ is a way for the young Marines to get a feeling of appreciation for what they do from the community, explained Swann. Something the student Marines haven’t received yet.

“I’ve enjoyed everything,” said Pfc. William Leggins, a CNATT student. “Everything has been great, from the food to meeting everybody.

The pig pickin’ was an open invitation for not only Marines and Sailors but also their families.

“It is very enjoyable,” said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Frechette, a CNATT instructor, while holding his five-month-old son, Jackson. “There’s been great food, weather, friends and family, and this builds on our unit cohesion too. It’s great seeing everybody outside of work.”

“It’s awesome!” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Zachary Small, a CNATT instructor, while playing with his 2-year-old son, Koda, who was throwing a balloon sword.

“The event was open for the guests to come and go as they pleased. After eating dinner many took a walk down to the marina to look at the boats and the water, or enjoyed the fall evening chatting away with family and friends.

Military Affairs Committee volunteers serve Marines, Sailors and their families during the quarterly pig pickin’ at the Cherry Point Hancock Lodge Sept. 27.

Alison and Isabella Sawyer eat with their father SSgt. Quinn Sawyer, a CNATT Unit instructor, at the quarterly pig pickin’ at the Cherry Point Hancock Lodge Sept. 27.

Owen McAndrew, two-year-old son of Staff Sgt. Shawn McAndrew, a Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Marine Unit instructor, shies from his dad feeding him hush puppies during the quarterly Pig Pickin’ at the Cherry Point Hancock Lodge Sept. 27.

The pig pickin’ served up southern style foods such as fried chicken, hush puppies and coleslaw.

Marines, Sailors and families from CNATT and Fleet Readiness Center East mix during the quarterly pig pickin’ at the Cherry Point Hancock Lodge Sept. 27. The event was a way for service members to build unit cohesion with each other and meet with friends and family.

The Windsock
CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — The gentle thump of spinning helicop-
ter blades wafts over a formation of Ma-
rines at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.

In a predawn ceremony, the Marines of Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 as-
sumed the mission of ensuring that sound
never stops.

Support squadrons complete a number
of missions on the ground to keep the air-
craft of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (For-
ward) flying. This includes refueling jets
and helicopters, aircraft rescue firefight-
ing, construction and motor transport sup-
port.

MWSS-272, based at Marine Corps
Air Station New River, N.C., carried out
those tasks until early October when they
relinquished command to MWSS-371, de-
ployed from MCAS Yuma, Ariz.

Lt. Col. Dale K. Koss, the MWSS-272
commanding officer, led his squadron in
support of 2nd MAW (Fwd.) for more than
six months.

“It’s been a highly productive deploy-
mant,” said Koss, a native of Monroe,
Mich. “Not only have the Marines excep-
tionally executed our standard missions,
they’ve also been part of several large-
scale building operations.”

Support squadrons also expand the reach
of 2nd MAW (Fwd.) by creating landing
zones, expeditionary airfields, and forward
arming and refueling points. These sup-
port squadron projects allow British and
U.S. Marine Corps aircraft to fly farther
and stay in the air longer supporting coali-
tion troops in Southwest Afghanistan.

While deployed to Afghanistan, MWSS-
272 added taxiways to the runway of Camp
Bastion, created a runway for unmanned
aerial vehicles at Camp Leatherneck, and
built dozens of helicopter landing zones,
dotting the Helmand River Valley.

“Each day we’d start fresh and start a
mission, knowing there’d be one right af-
ter it,” said Koss. “That was a great moti-
vating factor.”

Though MWSS-372, deployed to Af-
ghanistan two years ago, they will support
a much larger force in this deployment.

Lt. Col. Michael Prosser, the squadron’s
commanding officer, and a native of Gold-
en, Colo., said his Marines are ready for
the challenge.

Prosser, who first deployed to Afghani-
stan in 2001, said the progress the country
has made is noticeable.

“Afghanistan’s lights are on now,” he
said. “When I flew here in 2001, not a lot
of power was up. When you fly around
now, you get to see the lights.

“My plan is to capitalize on the suc-
cess of previous [squadrons] using their
achievements as a model for my team to
emulate,” Prosser said. “We intend to sup-
port combined teams and assets at multi-
ple locations to ensure the aviation combat
element is prepared to provide the Marine
Air-Ground Task Force with the most ef-
cient and effective air support.”
KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — The temperatures in Afghanistan are cooling, but the Marines of Marine Attack Squadron 513 are losing no steam as they continue to support NATO International Security Assistance Force operations from Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

Since May the Marines have been working around the clock in conditions far from comfortable. Temperatures have turned the working environment into an oven. An intense flight schedule has kept the Marines on their toes for as long as they’ve been deployed.

However, for the Marines, it doesn’t keep them from accomplishing their mission of supporting NATO ISAF Operations with their AV-8B Harrier attack jets.

“Each shop has its own specific job to make sure each and every system performs at maximum to send the safest aircraft out with that pilot to a sortie,” explained Cpl. Brandon Jones, a Marine Attack Squadron 513 airframes mechanic and Huntsville, Ala., native.

The “Flying Nightmares” of VMA-513 re part of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) the aviation combat element in support of NATO operations in Southwest Afghanistan. The Marine Corps uses the vertical take-off and short-landing capabilities of the AV-8B Harrier attack jet to provide close-air support to Marine infantrymen and other coalition forces on the ground.

“If there’s anything I can do to protect them, I will,” said Staff Sgt. James Seigfried, the Harrier squadron’s avionics noncommissioned officer in charge and a Rosamond, Calif., native.

Throughout their four months in Afghanistan, the Harrier squadron has racked up hundreds of flight hours and dropped dozens of bombs. Yet, even with the prospect of home only a few months away, the Marines haven’t forgotten their mission.

“This deployment has given me a sense of self-satisfaction and a ridiculous amount of self-confidence,” said Cpl. Michael Garetz, a VMA-513 ordnance technician and Comstock, Texas, native.
CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Allen Rader’s service to the Air Force took his family from their home in Charleston, W.Va., to Alaska, Arizona and Florida. Even overseas.

Years later, two of his children, Eric and Rebecca, find themselves overseas. The siblings serve together at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan.

“We always had each other,” said Sgt. Eric Rader, who deployed to Afghanistan in February. “Looking back at it now I really appreciate having her and my brother, and appreciate serving with her now.”

Eric’s sister, U.S Air Force Staff Sgt. Rebecca McHenry, arrived in Afghanistan in September. The siblings said they’ve had a lot to catch up on in Afghanistan — including Rebecca’s wedding.

“We both have our own families now,” said Rader. “We will definitely spend more time together when we get back home.”

McHenry serves in Afghanistan with the U.S Air Force’s 651st Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. Her squadron flies injured troops out of Afghanistan when the medical care they need is greater than military hospitals here can provide.

“I love being able to help those who need it most and keep brave troops alive,” said McHenry.

“There is a great sense of pride in knowing that my sister helps my fellow Marines and other troops get back on their feet and home to their loved ones,” said Rader.

Rader is deployed with 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. He serves with the headquarters of the air combat element for NATO’s International Security Assistance Force southwestern regional command, and helps units rotating in and out of Afghanistan.

“My sister is always sitting at the dining facility waiting for me at lunch,” said Rader. “It makes the time go by faster, having something to look forward to almost every day.”

“He used to pick on me sometimes,” said McHenry of her brother. “Since being out here he has only been protective. The perfect gentleman.”

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CPL. JUSTIN BOLING

Marine brother serves with Air Force sister in Afghanistan

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Challenging projects in remote parts of the world

Fluor, one of the world’s leading engineering and construction companies, is searching for individuals in support of Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) in Afghanistan.

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© 2011 Fluor Corporation. All Rights Reserved. Fluor values the contributions of a diverse and inclusive workforce and is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.
On Oct. 4, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 252 received a multifaceted Marine, titled a crewmaster, which is the first school-trained in the Marine Corps for operations on the KC-130J. A crewmaster replaces the roles once designated as loadmasters and crew chiefs. Overall, the job consists of operations on the KC-130J, which is the first school-trained in the Marine Corps for 252 received a multifaceted Marine, titled a crewmaster, MCAS CHERRY POINT LANCE CPL. GLEN E. SANTY Every long journey begins flight but that happens. If we were looking for a Marine to tion,” said Sgt. Thomas Bahr, a loadmaster and a crew-joyed it.” and finally back to Cherry Point. they passed through Germany, Lajes Air Base, Portugal to Canada, Italy and Afghanistan. On the return flight, Moses also explained the difficulty of creating a new military occupational specialty. “There is a unique set of challenges in creating a new MOS,” explained Moses. “Then applying that to aviation to sustain the Marine and post-flight operations, like inspections and refuels explained Tripp. Each aircraft has a certain window for the crew chief becomes the functional leader of the back of the aircraft in the case of an in-flight emergency. A loadmaster was in charge of planning the mission, explained Tripp. Each aircraft has a certain window for each flight and loadmasters calculate the weight and balance of the aircraft for their missions. The loadmasters also configure airbags and rapid ground refusals for each mission. Striefler arrived to Cherry Point on his “check flight,” which is the final qualification of Marine Corps aviation schools. His flight started at Cherry Point and progressed to Canada, Italy and Afghanistan. On the return flight, they passed through Germany, Lajes Air Base, Portugal and finally back to Cherry Point. “I was post,” said Striefler. “Challenging, but I enjoyed it.” Both loadmaster and crew chief instructors with VMGR-252 watched Striefler while he completed his final test. “Taking on both of these jobs is a challenging qualification,” said Sgt. Thomas Tripp, a loadmaster and a crew-master student instructor, with VMGR-252. “His attitude has helped him a lot. There were a few hiccup’s on the flight but that happens. If we were looking for a Marine to qualify, he’s exactly that.” In the past, Marine Corps aviation has sent student Marines to either a 10-month crew chief course or a 12-month loadmaster course. The crewmaster goes to school for eight months and covers both jobs. "It’s not a question of if we can train the Marines, it’s where. They can still perform at the same level,” said Moses. “I can train a dog to sit but it doesn’t mean he will sit every time. I say, ‘what we want to is safely prepare these Marines while sustaining our current capabilities.’ Moses explained that the transition was not going to be easy and that this was just the beginning. “We want these Marines trained to sustain the Marine prepared for duty across the board is September 2015. The projected date for all crewmasters to be trained and post-flight operations, like inspections and refuels explained Tripp. Each aircraft has a certain window for each flight and loadmasters calculate the weight and balance of the aircraft for their missions. The loadmasters also configure airbags and rapid ground refusals for each mission. Striefler arrived to Cherry Point on his “check flight,” which is the final qualification of Marine Corps aviation schools. His flight started at Cherry Point and progressed to Canada, Italy and Afghanistan. On the return flight, they passed through Germany, Lajes Air Base, Portugal and finally back to Cherry Point. "I was post," said Striefler. "Challenging, but I enjoyed it."

Lance Cpl. Martin J. Striefler Jr., 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing’s inaugural crewmaster with VMGR-252, arrived at Cherry Point Oct. 4.
Marines with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 466 fly CH-53E Super Stallions carrying first responders of the San Francisco Bay Area past the Golden Gate Bridge on their way to the USS Bonhomme Richard, Oct. 5. Members of the police department, fire department and emergency management team visited the USS Bonhomme Richard to witness Navy-Marine Corps capabilities in the case of a natural disaster. The ship ported hours later to kick off Fleet Week and to showcase the equipment, personnel and the ability of the Marine Corps to respond to crisis.

THEME COMPETITION

MAY 4-6 2012

THEME COMPETITION

MCAS CHERRY POINT

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A VIP parking pass
An official air show poster autographed by the CG of 2d MAW & the CO of MCAS Cherry Point
2 official air show T-shirts
2 official air show hats
A chance to meet and greet the pilots
Air show memorabilia

The Winner Will Receive...

Rules
• 6 Word Limit
• No Art Work Needed
• Only 1 Submission Per Person
Themes should reflect Marine Corps Aviation Centennial and Cherry Point’s 70th Anniversary

2010’s winning theme was:
Semper Fi over the Carolina Sky
For more information call 466-2178

To Submit your proposed theme:
option 1. Scan the QR code
option 2. Visit the URL below
http://linkzip.com/airshowtheme

Deadline: October 31, 2011
ground troops when needed. The Marine Corps provided security detachments for this role until 1990. The Marine Corps continues to provide naval aviation support, as well as conducting amphibious operations as its primary mission. During World War II, the Marine Corps also contributed to the successful landings at Normandy, securing the beachheads, and enabling the Allied invasion of Europe.

During the 1970s, the Marine Corps was involved in several conflicts, including the Vietnam War, where it played a crucial role in military operations. The Vietnam War was a conflict fought from 1955 to 1975, during which the United States and its allies, including the South Vietnamese government, fought against Communist forces in what is now known as the Vietnam War. This conflict was marked by significant amphibious operations and the development of new military strategies.

The Marine Corps continues to serve as a key component of U.S. military strategy, providing amphibious readiness groups and crisis response capabilities. The Marine Corps is known for its ability to project military power across a range of military operations, from conventional warfare to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

The Marine Corps also works closely with other branches of the U.S. military, such as the Navy, to ensure a coordinated and effective military response to various threats.

HISTORY

Some history of the Marine Corps has been mentioned, including its involvement in several conflicts and its role in providing security detachments for naval operations. The Marine Corps has played a crucial role in military operations and continues to provide amphibious readiness groups and crisis response capabilities.

The Marine Corps is well-known for its ability to project military power across a range of military operations, from conventional warfare to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. The Marine Corps also works closely with other branches of the U.S. military, such as the Navy, to ensure a coordinated and effective military response to various threats.

The Marine Corps is the oldest branch of the U.S. military, and its history dates back to the American Revolutionary War. The Marine Corps was established by the Continental Congress on November 10, 1775, as the Marine Battalion of the United States. Its purpose was to provide maritime security and protect American ships.

The Marine Corps has a rich history and has played a significant role in U.S. military history. From its early days to the present, the Marine Corps has been involved in several conflicts and has provided security detachments for naval operations.

The Marine Corps has a reputation for being a elite and disciplined force, known for its ability to operate in harsh conditions and its commitment to the values of brotherhood, honor, and courage. The Marine Corps continues to be a vital and integral part of the U.S. military, providing amphibious readiness groups and crisis response capabilities.

SOCIAL

Social media continues to evolve, offering new ways to connect and share information. The Marine Corps has a social media presence, allowing it to reach a wider audience and share information about its operations and achievements.

The Marine Corps has a strong tradition of brotherhood, with a focus on camaraderie and mutual support. Social media provides a platform for the Marine Corps to connect with Marine Corps families, friends, and supporters.

The Marine Corps also uses social media to promote its values and mission, sharing information about its operations and achievements. Social media provides a platform to showcase the Marine Corps’ dedication to serving the nation and its commitment to excellence.

The Marine Corps continues to be a vital and integral part of the U.S. military, providing amphibious readiness groups and crisis response capabilities. Social media provides a platform for the Marine Corps to connect with Marine Corps families, friends, and supporters, promoting its values and mission, and showcasing its dedication to serving the nation and its commitment to excellence.
Coalition builds camaraderie by remembering loss, celebrating triumph together in Afghanistan

Col. Ben Hancock, the assistant wing commander of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), said Afghan troops have shown their strength in military training and operations. The dinner highlights the importance of building camaraderie, he added. "The Marines and British troops served as hosts, explained Col. Peter Earle, the commander of Task Force Alpha, the British aviation element of the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Southwest Afghanistan. The event was very good for our relationship with our allies, said Maj. Gen. John Toolan, the commanding general of International Security Assistance Force Regional Command Southwest. "Tonight is about the collective sacrifice of our nations and to play tribute to all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, 2nd Lt. Jay Glover said, the most junior officer present at the event. Spread throughout the tables were 60 identification tags looped around flickering candles. Each tag bore the name of a fallen coalition troop who had given his life in Afghanistan. "Our relationship with our Afghan peers is very strong, explained Col. Peter Earle, the commander of Task Force Alpha, the British aviation element of the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Southwest Afghanistan. Our relationship with our Afghan peers is very strong, explained Col. Peter Earle, the commander of Task Force Alpha, the British aviation element of the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Southwest Afghanistan. Our relationship with our Afghan peers is very strong, explained Col. Peter Earle, the commander of Task Force Alpha, the British aviation element of the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Southwest Afghanistan. Our relationship with our Afghan peers is very strong, explained Col. Peter Earle, the commander of Task Force Alpha, the British aviation element of the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Southwest Afghanistan. Our relationship with our Afghan peers is very strong, explained Col. Peter Earle, the commander of Task Force Alpha, the British aviation element of the NATO International Security Assistance Force in Southwest Afghanistan. The underwriting for the evening was to celebrate their working together and the strength of our partnership despite our losses," said Eadie. "We spent a lot of time planning and preparing this event to share our traditions with our Afghan allies," said Hancock. "I feel that the hope is to teach the Afghans the importance of both building troop appreciation and remembering those lost."
CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan — The Marines of Marine Wing Support Squadron 371’s fuel division are well acquainted with military aircraft. Not only do they fuel almost every Marine Corps aircraft on Camp Bastion, a major hub for aviation combat operations in Southwest Afghanistan, they also serve a major role in allowing those aircraft to reach the far corners of the region.

The Marines refuel thousands of aircraft each month according to Staff Sgt. Tirrell Enoch, the squadron’s fuel division staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, and a native of Greensboro, N.C.

“This is one of the busiest fuel sites in Afghanistan,” said Lance Cpl. Paul Rodriguez-Sanchez, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 bulk fuel specialist and a native of Oceanside, N.Y.

The squadron supports 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward), the aviation combat element for the southwestern regional command of NATO’s International Security Assistance Force.


The fuel division Marines also support forward arming and refueling points which speckle the deserts of Afghanistan’s Nimruz and Helmand provinces.

“A FARP is an oasis for fuel,” said Sgt. Jason O’Hearn, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 motor transportation refueler, and a native of Merrillville, Ind.

These refueling points, created when and where they’re needed, allow aircraft to stay in the air longer, providing extended support for ground forces. With the forward arming and refueling points, pilots need not return to major bases, like Camp Bastion, when they run low on fuel or ordnance while supporting a mission.

Refueling truck operators like O’Hearn convoy to the various forward arming and refueling points to keep them fresh with fuel.

“There are aircraft constantly moving,” said O’Hearn. “With all the missions we support out there, we’re a big part of what drives them.”

USS ESSEX, OKINAWA, Japan — For almost 20 years, Marines and Sailors of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265 (Reinforced), have supported the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit during deployments to the Asia-Pacific region. Recently that tradition was continued as HMM 265 (Rein) flew aboard USS Essex to support the MEU’s and the Essex Amphibious Ready Group’s deployment and upcoming certification exercises near Okinawa.

“HMM 265 (Rein) is the backbone of the Air Combat Element to which all the other attachments fall under,” said Lt. Col. Damien Marsh, the commanding officer of the ACE, 31st MEU. “It’s our job to provide aviation support to the battalion landing team and the 31st MEU as a whole.”

The squadron provides the 31st MEU with multiple capabilities, ranging from close air support from AH-1W Cobra helicopters, to medium lift transport with the CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters, and even heavy lift capabilities with CH-53E Super Stallion helicopters.

On the 31st MEU the number one priority is to never fail the BLT or the MEU, understanding that teamwork is the key to mission success explained Marsh.

While with the MEU, the Marines of HMM 265 (Rein) have to overcome many challenges. Just landing on USS Essex when the squadron joined the MEU proved to be demanding.

“When the ship is pitching and rolling the sight pictures in the cockpit are a little different than the one we are used to,” said Capt. Joseph Scholer, a CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter pilot with HMM 265 (Rein), 31st MEU. “We just rely on the crew chiefs to give us a nice call down to the deck, they’ll let us know if we’re drifting off target or not.”

Like the experience gained from landing on a moving vessel, the Marines of HMM 265 (Rein) also gain valuable skills during their deployment with the 31st MEU.

“The longer we are with the MEU the better the training is that we will get, and the greater our mission readiness becomes,” said Marsh.

As the 31st MEU begins its certification exercises, the Marines and Sailors of HMM 265 (Rein) remain ready to support the 31st MEU as directed, including participation in future theater security exercises.

With the ACE on board, 31st MEU provides a forward-deployed, flexible sea-based force capable of conducting amphibious operations, crisis response and limited contingency operations in the Asia-Pacific area. The 31st MEU is the only continually forward-deployed MEU, and remains the nation’s force-in-readiness in the Asia-Pacific region.

CPL. GARRY J. WELCH
31ST MEU
Sailors with Amphibious Squadron 11 run off the flight deck after securing an AH-1W Cobra with HMM-265 (Reinforced), 31st MEU, Sept. 28. The Squadron flew onto the USS Essex to participate in the MEU’s certification exercises.

‘Dragons’ of the 31st MEU fly aboard USS Essex

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**SPRINT CUP**

**Race:** Bank of America 500
**Where:** Charlotte Motor Speedway
**When:** Saturday, 7:30 p.m. (ET)
**TV:** ESPN (9pm)

2010 winner: Jamie McMurray (right)

**NATIONALWIDE SERIES**

**Race:** Dollar General 300 Mile of Courage
**Where:** Charlotte Motor Speedway
**When:** Friday, 7:30 p.m. (ET)
**TV:** ESPN (9pm)

2010 winner: Brad Keselowski

**CAMPING WORLD TRUCKS**

**Race:** Smith's 360
**Where:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway
**When:** Saturday, 3:30 p.m. (ET)
**TV:** ESPN

2010 winner: Austin Dillon

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**NOTEBOOK**

Johnson ends drought with kill at KS

When Jimmie Johnson qualified 11th at Kansas Speedway last week, many NASCAR watchers said it was another in a series of bad luck moments that were slowly adding up to a major problem. But the win at Kansas was Johnson's first since winning at Talladega in April, ending a 21-race losing streak. "It's going to be a narrow groove the first couple races and I think this track in particular has a much younger team that that has won races and testing, as well as other information...
Cpl. Corey Showers, a crew chief with Cherry Point’s Marine Transport Squadron 1 waves to patrons attending the 31st annual Mumfest in New Bern, N.C., Saturday.

“This type of event helps us keep the public knowledgeable about us and what we do at VMR-1,” said Cpl. James B. Edwards, a rescue swimmer with VMR-1.

Steve Myott, native of Westfield, Vt., entertains patrons as they walk around Mumfest in New Bern, N.C., Saturday. Myott can be found at many festivals and air shows along the East Coast each year.

Seaman Michael S. Harris, left, a search and rescue corpsman with Marine Transport Squadron 1, begins his descent down to a boat during a demonstration for the 31st annual Mumfest in New Bern, N.C., Saturday.
13 ways ANY ADULT can make ending domestic violence his or her business.

1. Cultivate a respectful attitude toward all in your family and at your workplace. Avoid behaviors that demand or control others.

2. When you are angry with your partner or children, respond without hurting or humiliating them. Model a non-violent, respectful response to resolving conflicts in your family. Call a domestic violence or child abuse prevention program for their help if you continue to have conflicts at home.

3. If you have a friend or co-worker who is afraid of their partner or who is being hurt, offer them your support and refer to the 24-hour, toll-free, National Domestic Violence Hotline number at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

4. Learn about domestic violence services in your community; contribute your time, resources or money. (888) END-ABUSE to find out more.

5. Call the police if you see or hear violence in progress.

6. Talk to your friends and neighbors when they belittle spouses, make a joke about violence, or ignore the issue. Ask that physicians and other health care professionals receive training about domestic violence and follow the diagnostic and treatment guidelines about domestic violence as well, as well as other breast issues. Your progress will be monitored to produce the best possible outcome.

7. Your local domestic violence program can educate you and your family members about drugs and alcohol. Ask that physicians and other health care professionals receive training about domestic violence and follow the diagnostic and treatment guidelines about domestic violence as well, as well as other breast issues. Your progress will be monitored to produce the best possible outcome.

8. Develop a spouse's safety campaign in your workplace, neighborhood, school or community. Building a community of support will enhance your abilities to achieve your goals.

9. Write to music producers, movie companies, Internet businesses, video game developers, and ask them not to perpetuate the family violence stereotype. (888) END-ABUSE to find out more.

10. When you are angry with your partner or children, respond without hurting or humiliating them. Model a non-violent, respectful response to resolving conflicts in your family. Call a domestic violence or child abuse prevention program for their help if you continue to have conflicts at home.

11. If you have a friend or co-worker who is afraid of their partner or who is being hurt, offer them your support and refer to the 24-hour, toll-free, National Domestic Violence Hotline number at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

12. Write to music producers, movie companies, Internet businesses, video game developers, and ask them not to perpetuate the family violence stereotype. (888) END-ABUSE to find out more.


Smoke Alarm Safety at Home

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Facts

- REPLACING smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they do not respond properly when tested or batteries are missing.
- REPLACING batteries in all smoke alarms at least once a year, or if after a battery warning the battery is low, replace the battery. 
- INSTALL smoke alarms inside every bedroom where occupants sleep, on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Large homes may need ADDITIONAL smoke alarms to provide enough protection.
- For the best protection, INTERCONNECT your smoke alarms so that if one sounds they all sound.
- INSTALL smoke alarms following manufacturer’s instructions based on the size and shape of your home or on a ceiling.
- An INITIATION smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires than to a SMOKE PROTECTIVE alarm, which is generally more responsive to smaller flaming or smoldering fires. For the best protection, both types of alarms or a combination alarm (photocell and ionization) are recommended.

Contact your local fire department for assistance if needed.

Cherry Point Fire and Emergency Services

Smoke Alarms

- All smoke alarms should be tested at least once a month using the test button.
- Replace smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they do not respond properly when tested or batteries are missing.
- Marking smoke detectors with the date of inpurchasing is not recommended.

Smoke Alarm Safety at Home

Smoke Alarms

Smoking can make sleeping in a home with smoke alarms more hazardous.

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**Cherry Tree House.**

The meetings are held in Room 201 in Building 4335.

**Anonymous meetings aboard the Naval Auxiliary Air Station.** The meetings are held at 8 p.m. on Tuesdays at 8 p.m., and 11 a.m. on Saturdays. For more information, contact your career retention manager today.

**AA Beginners Meeting**

The meetings take place in the Phoenix Center, Building 4335. The meetings are held at 8 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**Al-Anon Family Group Meeting**

There are Al-Anon family group meetings. The meetings are held at 7 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**Together For Life**

The “Together for Life” one-day premarital seminar is held for active duty personnel age 26 and older, within 90 days of marriage.

**Domestic Violence Victims**

A help group for victims of domestic violence is provided by the Current Domestic Court Violence Program.

**Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society**

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society offers free counseling services to sitting and retired military members.

**McAS Cherry Point Area**

The McAS Cherry Point Area is the service area for Cherry Point and the surrounding communities.

**MCB Camp Lejeune Area**

The MCB Camp Lejeune Area is the service area for Camp Lejeune and the surrounding communities.

**Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command**

The Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command is the service area for the Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command.

**MCAS Cherry Point Area**

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**MCB Camp Lejeune Area**

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