

Headquarters Battery 11th Marines

Newsletter

Letter from the Commanding Officer

Dear Headquarters Battery Families,

Over the past couple of months we have prepared and deployed a large portion of our Battery in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom-2. Our deployed Marines are part of an important mission to stabilize Iraq and return control of the country to the Iraqi people to govern peacefully and democratically. In the words of our Commanding General, we want to "work ourselves out of a job" handing back to the Iraqi people a stable, secure and free Nation.

This will be a difficult task for our Marines, but they are well trained and up to the mission. The First Marine Division deploys with the same philosophy from OIF-1: "No Better Friend, No Worse Enemy". Marines will work closely with the Iraqi people to rebuild damaged infrastructure, enhance security, and ultimately return authority to a democratic Iraqi government.

Because of the nature of the enemy we face, families and friends here at home are important to this mission's success. Our enemy believes that if the American people lose heart then they stand a better chance of winning. By your strong support for our deployed Marines, you help to undermine this way of thinking, and increase our chances of an early victory. We must stand together and face this challenge.

Please know that the Key Volunteers, my staff and I are available at all times to assist our families. If you are a spouse who would like to get more involved, you can contact our Key Volunteer Coordinator for information on becoming a Key Volunteer. Our website is also now up and running and can answer many questions for you. Please check it out at: www.11thmarineskvn.org and click on the "Headquarters" tab on the left-hand side.

Sincerely,

J. Christopher Lewis



March/April 2004

Inside.....

- *Be a mystery shopper on base!*
- *Letter to families from General Mattis*
- *VITA tax prep info*
- *Volunteer Opportunities*
- *AFRO introduction*
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From the Key Volunteer Coordinator

To the families of those recently deployed, I would like to say that the key volunteers are committed, along with the Command, to keep you informed and assist you with any referral services we can during this deployment. I hope you have visited the 11th Marines website to review the latest information releases. (www.11thmarineskvn.org).

The Key Volunteers make every effort to keep you informed, but you can help by providing your key volunteer with your e-mail address to expedite the passing of information. If you do not receive information via e-mail from the KV Network, contact your key volunteer inform her of it. If you are planning to leave the area for a period of time, please inform your key volunteer or the Battery FRO, Lt. Manzanedo in the event the Command needs to contact you. He can be reached at 760-725-3535.

There are many opportunities available to assist the families of HQ Battery. If you are interested in becoming a key volunteer, there are many training dates available. If you would like to make yourself available to provide meals for a family in need, please inform your key volunteer.

Congratulations to Chelsea Sionni who is our newest Key Volunteer for OPS Platoon. We are happy to have her as part of our team. An additional Congratulations to Kristin Galey who will become the new Key Volunteer Coordinator effective April 1, 2004.

Beth Lewis

Key Volunteer Coordinator
HQ Battery, 11th Marines



WO Marsh

A message from the
A.F.R.O...

My name is Warrant Officer Greg Marsh. I am the Assistant Family Readiness Officer (AFRO). I am the link between the command and the Key Volunteer Network for the family members/Legal Guardians of single Marines attached to Headquarters Battery, 11th Marines. Please visit <http://www.11thmarineskvn.org> for up to date information concerning your Marine or Sailor.

Did you know we have a website?
www.11thmarineskvn.org

"Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they ever made a difference in the world, but the Marines don't have that problem"

-Ronald Reagan



Important Dates

Operations and Training

Deployments to OIF:

Ongoing

DESEIREX in 29 Palms:

28 FEB-13 MAR

Regimental CPX:

26-30 APR

*No Extended Liberty Periods

FREE TAX PREPARATION by VITA

Locations: Mainside (760)763-2518

Tues-Fri 0800-1700

Sat.....0900-1400

San Onofore (760)725-4130

Tues-Fri 1000-1900

Sat.....0900-1400

Pacific Plaza (760)763-0655

Tues-Fri 1500-2000

Sat.....0900-1400



E-File your taxes on base for free.

WHAT TO BRING

- All W-2's
- Military ID's
- Both spouses must be there is both filing, or POA specifying tax filing.
- Social Security Cards if claiming children

Volunteers Needed:

—> **Mary Fay Pendleton School** needs volunteers to play with the students during recess hours between 1130-1300. Work one or five days a week

—> **Santa Margarita Elementary School** needs volunteers for their Chess Club to help students learn how to become better chess players. Tuesday from 1030-1230.

—> **Youth Sports** needs Little League and Spring Soccer coaches. The season runs from March 6—May 10.

If you or someone you know is interested in the above volunteer positions, please contact **Carmen Carlisle at 725-3856.*



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

The St. Patrick's Day custom came to America in 1737. That was the first year St. Patrick's Day was publicly celebrated in this country, Boston.



Deadliness & Community Support



*your Christmas
party...*

The RCS Marketing Team is looking for a few good volunteers to be our **Mystery Shopper!**

We want to ensure we are giving stellar service to our Marines, Sailors and family members. This is **YOUR** chance to tell us how we're doing!

This will be done on a quarterly basis at various RCS facilities.

If you're interested, please contact

Lori



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