



# 1st Battalion, 1st Marines

## RIGHT OF LINE FIRST AFOOT

NEWSLETTER

November 2010

### MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Hello families and friends of Battalion Landing Team 1/1.

October was the first opportunity for many Marines and sailors of BLT 1/1 to participate in ship-based amphibious operations. The BLT executed various missions off the coast of Camp Pendleton against simulated enemy forces. These missions included helicopterborne attacks, amphibious assaults, and a live-fire supporting arms exercise. The Marines also spent considerable time working with their Navy counterparts as they learned the many intricacies of shipboard life. Marines take a great deal of pride in operating on the high seas alongside their Navy brethren, a tradition that extends back to the earliest days of our Corps.

Although the Marine Corps Birthday falls on November 10, the BLT held its annual Birthday Ball at the end of October because of training commitments in early November. The Ball was held at the Pechanga Resort in Temecula, CA and Brigadier General Neil, USMC (Retired) served as the Guest of Honor. BGen Neil is a 30-year veteran of the Marine Corps, having held a wide range of billets and commands to include Battalion Command, Commanding General of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, and Assistant Division Commander, 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Division. He is also a recipient of the Navy Cross, the Purple Heart, and six Air Medals from his time spent in Vietnam. The evening proved to be a memorable one and a great time was had by all.

The BLT will spend more time aboard ship throughout November conducting additional amphibious training. Marines will pause for a few hours on November 10 to recognize the 235<sup>th</sup> Birthday of our beloved Corps, remember those Marines that have gone before us, and salute those who are currently forward deployed in harm's way. We could not be prouder of those serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Marines and the Marine Corps as a whole. There truly is no finer fighting organization in the world.

On behalf of all the Marines and sailors of Battalion Landing Team 1/1, I wish all of you a happy and safe Thanksgiving and look forward to updating you again in December.

Semper Fidelis.

LtCol C.R. Wonson



LtCol Craig R. Wonson

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First Battalion, First Marines Facebook Page:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Oceanside-CA/1st-Battalion-1st-Marines-FIRST-OF-THE-FIRST/11208242257039>

First Battalion, First Marines Website:

<http://www.i-mef.usmc.mil/external/1stmardiv/1stmarregt/1-1/>



## BLT SGTMAJOR



Hello families of BLT 1/1. I cannot explain in words how fortunate I am to be the Sergeant Major of this fine battalion. Since arriving I have witnessed some of the most impressive and intense training in preparation for our upcoming deployment. From WTI, Bridgeport, through our first at-sea period, moral continues to stay high as training continues. You surely must be proud of your Marines, just as I am. As we reflect on our first at sea period with our Navy counterparts, Marines of 1/1 executed missions with precision and tenacity. One variable that never waivers is their spirit in training.

Moving into November, we begin the holiday season and I asked you all to stay vigilant during your travels. Stay focused on safety precautions for you and your family. The training has been very intense and the Marines and family members have spent many days and nights apart. It is of utmost importance that we spend as much time as possible with our families during the upcoming holiday season before the battalion deploys. As your Sergeant Major, I often worry that it is not the training but leave and liberty that compromises whether a Marine within the battalion makes it to the gangplank in February. It is imperative that we stay accountable to one another, make smart, logical decisions when on leave and liberty then make it back safely so we may carry out the mission ahead.

Renee and I wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season. We pray you cherish the time with your families, spouses, and children as you celebrate the accomplishments of the last year and the incredible journey in which we will embark in 2011.

Semper Fidelis.

SgtMajor J. Henry



# ALPHA COMPANY NEWS

**Dear Families and Friends of Alpha Company “Team Mech”,**

I would like to take the time to quickly introduce myself. I am Capt Lucas Balke, and I was given the honor of being Alpha Company’s new Company Commander on October 5. I’m also bringing my wife and three boys to the Alpha Company family. I would like to thank you for all of the sacrifices you have made and will continue to make in supporting your Marine/Sailor.

As most of you already know, October was a busy month for your Marine/Sailor. The company started off the month by participating in Battalion Field Exercise (FEX) IV. The company conducted a 12 mile hike out to the training area, and followed up the next day with platoon supported attacks. This was an excellent chance to integrate our AAV platoon in a live fire training event.

Following FEX IV, the company ran a “Red Death Challenge.” For those of you new to the company, Red Death is our call sign. The challenge portion of the name refers to a physical training-based exercise. This month, our Marines ran the obstacle course twice, a PFT wearing boots and their utility trousers, a CFT, and then completed a swim in the pool. This was extraordinary on their part, as most Marines would only run one of those four events in a given day. The Red Death Challenge is a company tradition, and we look forward to finding creative ways to continue this training once on ship.

Alpha Company’s next major event was participating in PMINT from 15-25 October. During this training, the company adjusted to ship life and learned naval customs and courtesies. Logistically, we verified that our 15 AAVs and 4 tanks can in fact fit on a Navy ship. Additionally, the company executed a mechanized raid in which we loaded up in AAVs, swam to shore, raided an enemy compound, and then swam back to ship in our AAVs. Again, the Marines performed exceptionally.

Since coming home from PMINT, the company has been busy preparing for our upcoming at-sea period. Amidst all of the maintenance and administrative work required, we were able to celebrate a Marine Corps tradition—the Birthday Ball. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and spent some well-deserved time with their spouses.

In November, Alpha Company “Team Mech” will move into our next at-sea period. During this time, the company will again conduct a mechanized raid aboard San Clemente Island. We will continue to build our company’s proficiency in preparation for future at-sea periods and our deployment.

Congratulations to the following Marines and their families on their promotion:

LCpl Durocher      LCpl Taylor      LCpl Hendricks      LCpl Borsodi  
Cpl Golden

Semper Fidelis,

Capt. L. Balke



## BRAVO COMPANY NEWS



**Dear Families and Friends of Bravo Company,**

October marked the first of four at sea periods with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU). For Bravo Company, the ten-day evolution allowed us to practice onloading and offloading the USS Comstock from the pre-boated Landing Craft Utility (LCU) with our vehicles. Moreover, the company utilized our time ashore to focus on motorized operations. While at San Clemente Island, members of our Fire Support Team (FiST) got to call in mortars, artillery, naval gunfire, and close air support. The evolution was impressive and our Marines performed well.

Immediately following our offload, the non-commissioned officers (NCO) in the Battalion Landing Team (BLT) went through a 3-day NCO Development Course led by the senior enlisted leadership of the battalion. The classes were motivating and the feedback I received from the Bravo Company NCOs was that the course taught them a lot. One of the guest speakers, LtCol Dave Grossman, spoke to the Marines on 27 October. LtCol Grossman is the author of many books, most notably, *On Killing* and *On Combat*. Both of these books are featured on the Commandant's Reading List, and *On Killing* was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He travels around the world over 300 days a year training and teaching some of the world's most elite military and police units. His 4-hour class was incredible, and the NCOs are now charged with passing on their knowledge to their Marines.

Upon conclusion of the NCO Development curriculum, the BLT had its Marine Corps Birthday celebration at Pechanga Resort and Casino. I was privileged with meeting many of the spouses and significant others that continue to keep Bravo Company a united and strong unit. I hope everyone had a great time – I know Cindy and I enjoyed spending the Marine Corps' 235th birthday with the families and friends of Bravo Company I/1!

The following Marines were promoted during the month of October:

Corporal	Lane M. Bachamp	Lance Corporal	Nicholas A. Lee
Lance Corporal	Arthur R. Distefano III	Lance Corporal	Isidro M. Lucero
Lance Corporal	George N. Ditto	Lance Corporal	Spencer R. Lulloff
Lance Corporal	Jamison A. Hudspeth	Lance Corporal	Matthew D. Mcclanahan
Lance Corporal	Abraham D. Juarezlira	Lance Corporal	Keith A. Prak

The following Marines graduated from Infantry Mortar Leaders Course during the month of October:

Lance Corporal Casey D. Bacon	Lance Corporal Matthew A. Gomes
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The following Marine graduated from Infantry Machinegun Leaders Course during the month of October:

Sergeant James W. Harris

The following Marine was selected to the rank of Staff Sergeant during the month of October:

Sergeant James W. Harris

In November, Bravo Company will embark on its second at sea period. This training is vital to our ability to conduct amphibious operations from ship to shore. Until next month, fair winds and following seas.

Semper Fidelis,

Captain C. D. Godwin



# CHARLIE COMPANY NEWS



## Dear Families and Friends of Chosen Company,

October was a great month for the Sailors and Marines of Chosen Company. The month was filled with preparing for our first time at-sea aboard the USS Boxer. Because our primary mission upon deployment will be helicopter-borne operations, launched from the sea to the shore, we spent the bulk of our time preparing for and proving that capability.

Our time at sea was filled primarily with training alongside our naval and aviation counterparts. We practiced our ship-board drills, our mission readiness drills, and practiced getting into a routine on the Boxer. While not exciting, these drills ensure that we are most ready when the Nation calls.

Our time at sea culminated in a long range helicopter raid ashore, where we practiced our planning and preparation and ultimately launched in helicopters and flew to the coast where we conducted our raid. While the weather ashore was colder and wetter than the weather on the Boxer, your Marines and Sailors were grateful for the opportunity to get off the ship and stretch their legs.

The month of October ended with the Battalion Landing Team's (BLT) Marine Corps Birthday Ball. Your Marines and Sailors got a chance to clean up and don their Dress Blues and enjoy a night of camaraderie and reflection at the Pechanga Indian Casino just up the road in Temecula, CA. The evening paid tribute to the Marine Corps' illustrious 235 year tradition of excellence and was a fine way to end the month of October.

November holds another at-sea period which will consume most of the month leading up to the Thanksgiving holiday break, where we will extend our helicopter-borne legs once again as we reach even further ashore.

Congratulations to the following Marines and Sailors that were promoted or received awards during October (current rank is listed):

Cpl Spencer Holmes LCpl Austin Smith LCpl Alex Spencer LCpl Logan Watters

### Awards

Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal LCpl Barry Shamp HM3 Tim Maier

Chosen Company welcomes the following Marines, Sailors, and future Marines into the family:

Cpl Flynn Dillard HM3 Elliot Long

Noah Patrick Golden was born to SSgt Richard Golden and his wife Tamara. He was 8 lbs. even and 19 inches. (eligible for enlistment in November 2027)

GySgt Oscar Ornelas re-enlisted while on the USS Boxer. Thank you for your continued commitment to the Marines and Sailors of the Chosen Company.

### In memoriam

Chosen Company bids farewell to one of our brothers from the last deployment. LCpl Irvin Cenicerros was a Machine-gunner with Charlie I/1 during the last deployment and recently volunteered to join 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Marines for their deployment to Afghanistan. On October 16<sup>th</sup>, he gallantly gave his life for his country. Semper Fidelis.

Semper Fidelis,

Capt. N. Simpson



## H&S COMPANY NEWS



Dear families and friends of Headquarters & Service Company,

October was an extremely busy month for the entire Battalion, but even more so for the dedicated Marines of H&S who ensure the Battalion's readiness for all missions. The month began with a seamless change of command between myself, Capt James Richardson, and the outgoing Company Commander, Capt Tony Canarelli. The change of command was extremely quick due to the incredibly high operating tempo of the company. Coming off the recent support of Battalion FEX IV in September, H&S Company had to immediately turn-to on the critical task of preparing the Battalion for the first at-sea period. Preparations, planning, and coordinating took up most of the days during the first week and a half of October, mercifully broken up by a 3-day weekend.

On Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, the Battalion headed down to the port of San Diego to embark on three amphibious naval vessels, the USS Boxer, USS Green Bay, and USS Comstock. The incredible amount of gear for an entire Battalion Landing Team, from tanks and trucks to personnel, was placed with extreme precision in the holding decks of the three ships. The MEU headed out to sea on 16 Oct for ten days of fast-paced training. During the at-sea period, the BLT conducted two heli-borne operations, a full mechanized raid, a CAAT/LAR Tactical Recovery of Aircraft/Personnel (TRAP) mission, and a live-fire combined arms exercise utilizing artillery, mortars, aircraft, and a Navy destroyer. The training was fast-paced and difficult, but everyone learned a great deal about the intricacies of off-loading and re-loading the massive amount of equipment, vehicles, and personnel a MEU can bring to the fight.

October ended on a very high note, with an outstanding Marine Corps Ball hosted by Pechanga Casino in Temecula. Following the long weekend, the Battalion Landing Team again prepared to depart on the second at-sea period, looking to reinforce previous success and continue to build toward excellence.

I would like to congratulate the following Marines on their promotions:

Sgt Scott A. Patterson      Sgt Rick E. Dunn      Sgt Markus A. Hillard  
Cpl Jerome A. Garcia      Cpl William B. Cobb      LCpl Rafael Sandoval

Congratulations to the following outstanding performers from our Battalion Aid Station:

HM3(FMF) Richard Sander and HM2(FMF) Rodrigo Colocho earned their Enlisted Fleet Marine Force Warfare Specialist designation on 27 Oct.

HN(FMF) Adam Smith won the 13<sup>th</sup> MEU Navy Blue Jacket of the Quarter

HM2(FMF) Dennis Marin won 13<sup>th</sup> MEU Junior Sailor of the Quarter

HMI(FMF) Eric Anderson won 13<sup>th</sup> MEU Senior Sailor of the Quarter

Congratulations to the Patterson family (Sgt Scott A. Patterson) for the birth of their twins! Ezhiah Allan Patterson and Rebekah Rei Patterson were born on 07 Oct 2010.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for the outstanding support you give your Marine, and extend my deepest gratitude for the important role you play in their lives. Please continue to visit the Battalion's Facebook page and website for updates on training and the upcoming deployment.

Semper Fidelis,

Capt J. A. Richardson



# WEAPONS COMPANY NEWS



Dear Families and Friends of Weapons Company,

October was the first opportunity the company had to get out on the ships and validate all of the hard work spent planning and preparing to conduct amphibious operations. The learning curve was steep, and more than a few of our expectations were challenged, but in the end, everyone walked away from the at sea period much more proficient than we arrived. The highlight of the month though was certainly the Ball. The Marines looked crisp and sharp, the ceremony was well done and the ladies looked wonderful. I hope everyone had as good a time as my wife, Stacy and I did.

November will be more of the same. The company will again embark on our ships and go to sea, this time for a longer period of time with more complex and demanding missions. Our purpose during Composite Unit Training Exercise (Comp2Ex for short) will be similar to the first at sea period – ensure that we have all the right equipment, vehicles and gear to operate from the ships, to make sure that we learn how to operate effectively with the Navy and finally, to make sure that we are able to perform all of the missions we are supposed to be able to do. Furthermore, the Navy will be evaluated on their performance (Don't worry, we'll get our chance to be evaluated at CERTEX, our third at sea period). Once Comp2Ex is over, we'll have a long weekend over Thanksgiving to decompress and spend time with loved ones and friends.

Several Marines were promoted and recognized this month. Current rank is shown on the promotions:

Cpl Jonathan Cummins  
LCpl Anthony J Cook  
LCpl Steven B McCraw  
LCpl Robert J Wolf  
LCpl Anthony Flores  
LCpl Patrick Werme  
LCpl Jamie Kuehl  
LCpl Austin Jett  
PFC Jacob Bell

The following Marines were recognized during September:

Justin L. Haish – Certificate of Commendation  
LCpl Trey Cholewa - Certificate of Commendation  
Cpl Justin R Urbany - Certificate of Commendation  
LCpl Kyle P Rogers - Certificate of Commendation  
Cpl Jesse Brumback - Certificate of Commendation  
LCpl Carlos Gutierrez – Meritorious Mast  
LCpl Jeremy K Harbour – Meritorious Mast

Semper Fidelis,

Capt. C. Niedziocha



# FOX BATTERY NEWS



Dear Families and Friends of Fox Battery,

As you know, Fox Battery had its first at sea period during October. Our time aboard the USS Boxer was interesting and we learned a lot as a battery about how to effectively conduct ourselves aboard a naval ship. The Marines learned very quickly how to maximize the use of limited space. From October 21<sup>st</sup> through 23<sup>rd</sup>, Fox Battery disembarked to San Clemente Island to provide artillery fires in support of the 13<sup>th</sup> MEU's supporting arms control center exercise.

We had an interesting time riding on Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) vehicles and were able to occupy the island throughout the first day. As you can see from the pictures, the position was scenic and we were able to see the USS Preble engage targets with naval gun fire and the mechanized raid force come ashore. The entire evolution increased our experience base and your Marines performed well!

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Fox Battery promoted the following Marines to their current rank:

Sgt Derrick Dennis, Sgt Jose Quintero, Cpl David Winkel, Cpl Shawn Mathis, and LCpl Marco Diaz

Congratulations to these Marines! Their promotions demonstrate the trust that Fox Battery has in them and their abilities. It also brings with it the further expectation of continued above par performance.

As we depart for the second at sea period, I would like to remind you of the ladders to success program given by Marine Corps Family Team Building. It is a great tool to strengthen our families and empower them for a successful deployment! Thank you for the continued support you provide to your Marine, and if there is anything that Anja or I can do for you, please let me know. Take care and God bless.

Semper Fidelis,

Captain C. Loomis



## RECON PLATOON NEWS



### Dear Families and Friends of the BLT I/I Reconnaissance Platoon,

October was a busy and worthwhile month for the Marines and Sailors of the Reconnaissance Platoon. The majority of the Marines conducted reconnaissance and surveillance operations from the USS Green Bay during our first at sea period, while the others attended various schools (combatant dive, free fall, and TACP). This was followed by a two week training package where the Marines refined their shooting abilities, conducted jump operations from a C130, and hung from a CH-53 helicopter as they did wet SPIE operations.

Over the past four weeks five Marines were attending the various schools identified above, as the Platoon participated in our first at sea period. During this at sea period the platoon conducted amphibious reconnaissance as they swam 2.2 kilometers to establish a beach landing site for a follow-on raid force. Once it was determined that the beach landing site was suitable the platoon moved over 10 miles to an observation post where they reported on role players doing various activities. This information they gathered was sent back to the USS Green Bay and used to conduct a Company sized raid on an objective where these role players were located. Upon completion of the at sea period we spent one week shooting our weapons in order to prepare for close quarter battle. Each Marine did numerous drills practicing interior and exterior shooting drills designed for an urban environment. On the evening of 27 October 2010 the majority of the platoon jumped out of a C130 aircraft with full combat equipment to refresh and refine our ability to operate the MC-7 parachute. The last training evolution the platoon conduct this month was a helicast into a wet SPIE. This entailed each member of the platoon loading a CH-53 helicopter, jumping out into the ocean, and being picked up by a rope hanging from the aircraft and dropped on land.

On the schools front the platoon has gained some much needed capabilities with the completion of numerous schools. Sergeant Holden was the honor graduate from Summer Mountain Leaders Course in Bridgeport, CA that is designed for Staff Sergeants through Captain. He is qualified to conduct hazard evaluation and safe route finding over all types of mountainous terrain. Sergeant Sine was the honor graduate from the Helicopter, Rope, Suspension, Technique course which teaches specialized insertion and extraction methods from helicopters. In addition, Sergeant Richards, Corporal Reher and Johnston all completed the challenging Marine Corps Combatant Dive School in Panama City, FL.

November will be full of challenges as the Battalion embarks for the second at sea period, which ends just prior to Thanksgiving. During this time the platoon will operate off the USS Green Bay (LPD-20) to conduct amphibious and ground reconnaissance operations on San Clemente Island and training areas across Camp Pendleton. It was great to see everyone in attendance at the BLT I/I Marine Corps Ball.

Semper Fidelis,

Capt. P. Zuber



# ENGINEER PLATOON NEWS



**Dear Families and Friends of Battalion Landing Team (BLT) 1/1  
Engineer Platoon,**

Happy Halloween. It was a pleasure meeting many of you at the Marine Corps Ball on the 29<sup>th</sup>. With October behind us, we prepare to embark on our second sea period.

The focus of effort during October was the PHIBRON/MEU Integration (PMINT) at sea training period. During this training evolution the Marines working in support of Alpha Company participated in a mechanized raid – moving from ship to shore in AAV's. The Marines in support of Bravo Company conducted convoy training after moving from ship to shore on LCU's. The Marines in support of Charlie Company participated in the Helo Raid – flying from the ship to shore. It was a good opportunity for your Marines to get familiar with ship-board life, and for the Navy-Marine Team to work together conducting mission essential tasks.

Our second sea period, Command and Control Exercise (C2EX), will have your Marines conducting much of the same training – continuing to improve on the skills and standard operating procedures necessary to conduct complex missions in a time compressed environment.

Additional training opportunities coming up for your Marines are vehicle licensing courses, a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program instructor course, and the Urban Mobility Breachers Course. Increasing the level of training for the individual Marines pays dividends to the platoon and assists us in better supporting the BLT.

Congratulations to the following Marines that were promoted in November (current rank is listed):

Cpl Victor Renalli Promoted November 1<sup>st</sup> 2010

Cpl Cody Sisco Promoted November 1<sup>st</sup> 2010

As we approach the Holidays, my wife and I want to wish each of you Happy Thanksgiving. I am certainly thankful for the effort and professionalism shown by your Marines each and every day.

Semper Fidelis,

1st Lt. K. Julian



# CHAPLAIN ' S CORNER



## Blessings to the Family and Friends of Battalion Landing Team 1/1!

The Holidays are here! And for the families of deploying Marines and Sailors, that takes on a whole new dynamic. The good news is that we are currently scheduled to be here to celebrate the holidays. The challenge is that we have added to our to-do list all of the tasks that come with a deployment. For many people, the expectations and business can be overwhelming and that ends up taking the joy out of what should be a very joyous time. I have included a few suggestions to help you get a handle on holiday stress:

*Lower your expectations:* Remember that most stress is self imposed. Talk about what you and your family would like to get most out of your time together and focus on those things.

*Don't forget the Reason for the Season:* The Holiday's are a time to be grateful for our many blessings and to cherish loved ones. It is hard to be thankful and overwhelmed at the same time.

*Stick to your budget:* Make sure that November–December you talk about your budget. Gift exchanges are a great way to reduce the financial strain and they allow you to chose quality over quantity.

*Keep moving:* Don't let shopping and eating become your only forms of exercise. Take care of your body and it will help immensely with your stress management.

*Make a plan:* Communication and planning are the keys to success. Talk through your weeks to make sure that you don't overbook your time, and then set realistic goals.

*If you don't have traditions, make some:* The military life is different than any other life. Without a doubt, you have much more community support and resources than most others do. But you may have to work around the time restraints that come with the job. My extended family and I have decided that New Years Day is a much better time to get together and is less stressful than Christmas Day... Plus we can hit the after Christmas specials (see tip #3).

As you face the challenges that accompany both pre-deployment and the holiday's, It is my honor to serve you, so let me know if I can be a friend. You can reach me at 760-763-1414.

May God continue to bless you and your family,

Chaplain Charlie Owens





# Family Readiness Officer (FRO) UPDATE



Dear Families and Friends of I/I,

It was vary nice to celebrate another Marine Corps Birthday with I/I at Pechanga this year. I really enjoyed being able to speak with many of you and it looked like everyone was having a good time. Especially when they started the line dancing. It would like to put out a special thank-you to the SgtMajor and his wife Renee and the wonderful people from their church who provided the Day Care while we celebrated the Birthday Ball.

On 10 November the 4th session of Ladders to Deployment success was held at MCFTB. We started off with a nice meal of Lasagna and Salad that was enjoyed by the wives and their children prior to taking their children to day care. We then learned about Social Media and the importance of protecting your identity followed by a very motivating information about the Marine Corps and our traditions and how a spouse fits in and is a very important part of this team. We then had a very important guest speaker, The MEF Commanding Generals wife Mrs. Gail Waldhauser. She gave a very inspirational speech with a very important message about how important it is that all the spouses pull together and help one another thru the upcoming seperations and deployments. Then we celebrated the Marine Corps Birthday by having a Cake Cutting Ceremony of our own. The guest of Honor had the first piece of cake followed by the spouse that had been married the longest. The next piece of cake went to the spouse that had been married the least amount of time. The passing of the Cake from the oldest to the youngest is to symbolize the passing on of tradition and knowledge. There are still 2 more chances to get to attend the December Sessions of Ladders to Deployment success.

I would also like to thank Kaydee Hirsch for preparing the Tasty sandwiches for Session 1 and the Green Chilli Enchilada's during session 2. Thanks to Stephanie Bailey for her delicious and creative cup cakes. I would also like to thank Jessica Silva for helping one of our Families watch their children during their time of need. It looks to me like our Family Readiness Team is pulling together very well and I am very proud to be a part of it.

### Upcoming Events:

Ladders to Deployment Success	Tue 07 Dec 6:30pm-8:30pm	Building 1795 MCFTB
	Sat 11 Dec 9am-4pm	Building 1795 MCFTB
BLT Family Day	Fri 03 Dec	Lake O Neal
BLT Christmas Party	Mon 20 Dec	South Mesa Club

If you have any immediate concerns during our training cycle, you can call the Battalion Officer of the Day at 760-763-1439 or you can call me at 760-760-429-3514 (cell). You can also reach me via email at:

**rick.andersen@usmc.mil.**

Semper Fidelis,

Rick Andersen

# Important Contact Numbers

<b>BN OOD</b>	<b>760-763-1439</b>
<b>BN Chaplain</b>	<b>760-763-1414</b>
<b>BN FRO</b>	<b>760-429-3514</b>
<b>MCFTB</b>	<b>760-725-9052</b>
<b>Marine and Family Services</b>	<b>760-725-3400</b>
<b>Military One Source</b>	<b>1-800-342-9647</b>
<b>Base Information</b>	<b>760-725-4111</b>
<b>PMO</b>	<b>760-725-3888/763-2077/2075</b>
<b>Naval Hospital</b>	<b>760-725-1288</b>
<b>JRC, Vehicle Registration</b>	<b>760-725-2106</b>
<b>Sato Travel</b>	<b>760-725-4396</b>
<b>Relocation Office</b>	<b>760-725-3802</b>

