

PASS IN

VOLUME 26



REVIEW

ISSUE 3



BELLEAU WOOD
2006

HEROES HONORED AT 8TH AND I
HOME OF THE COMMANDANTS TURNS 200



SEGEANT MAJOR'S GRID SQUARE



Marines,

With the 2006 parade season officially completed, I'd like to take this occasion to thank all of the Marines, Sailors and civilians here at Marine Barracks Washington.

This season marks the final parade at the Barracks for many of our Marines, and we are also saying farewell to many of our senior leaders. We will miss the esprit de corps they generated, but I am confident their successors understand the challenges ahead, and are ready to step up and take charge.

Marine Barracks holds a special place in my heart, as I know it does for you, too. Marine Barracks Washington, the "Oldest Post in the Corps," was founded in March, 1801. It represents everything we are as Marines — past, present and future. All of the Marine legends spoken of in boot camp or Officer Candidate School protected our country's freedoms from the hallowed grounds which we call home today. While we all wish we could pick up an M-16 and fight with our brothers-in-arms overseas, our duty is here in South East Washington, D.C., keeping the pride and tradition of our Corps alive.

Remember the overall focus of the Corps: we are here to do two things: win battles and make Marines! I could not be prouder of all my infantrymen and ceremonial marchers. While you may not have expected to be stationed here, your precision, discipline and performance in front of thousands has undoubtedly played a role in recruiting platoons full of future Marines. You were each hand-picked for this role, and for good reasons. Know that you are making Marines, and know that your infantry platoons will look forward to your leadership when you move on to your next duty station.

The marching platoons don't do it alone. Marine Barracks is a team effort like none other — from the Drum & Bugle Corps and the Marine Band, to the unseen Marines on parking details at Iwo Jima and the hosting details on 9th St. to our Color Guards, the Staff and all of our Civilian Marines — I could not be prouder of all of you! Did I forget Chesty? For his efforts, I'll see about securing a "must promote" in his next fitness report, but I make no promises.

Here is one promise I am proud to make: As your Barracks Sergeant Major, my commitment to excellence, the continued success of Marine Barracks, and the welfare of its Leathernecks will never falter. As you share in this commitment with me, we will handle the inevitable challenges ahead with ease.

It seems like just yesterday we were marching proudly — first for our friends and family parade, and then for our Commander In Chief, President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura. I can remember vividly our parades for Secretary of the Navy, Dr. David Winter, and Sgt Maj. John L. Estrada. Then came the 200th anniversary of the Home of the Commandants, the Drum & Bugle Corps' official recognition as the "The Commandant's Own," and the Medal of Honor Flag Presentation Ceremony. These are fond memories for us now, for we must focus on the hardball in front of us — building on our successes and keeping our commitment to excellence as only Marines of the "Oldest Post" can.

We have two major milestones ahead of us in November: we are about to bid "Fair winds and following seas" to our beloved commandant, General Michael W. Hagee, after 38 years of service to the Corps, and welcome aboard the 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James T. Conway. This will be a change-of-command ceremony not to be forgotten. We are also about to celebrate the 231st birthday of the Marine Corps!

You have made the 2006 parade season one for the history books. Now, let's march ahead and make 2006 another year to be remembered!



Sgt. Maj. Michael J. Watkins at a Friday Evening Parade with the grandchildren of Lt. Gen. George R. Christmas, United States Marine Corps (Ret), June 30.

**Semper Fidelis and God Bless!
Your Barracks Sergeant Major
Michael J. Watkins**



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On The Cover: Company B's Body Bearer section provides a saluting battery during the Friday Evening Parade, Aug. 4. The 40 millimeter cannons were fired in coordination with the climax of the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps' performance of "Ode to Joy." Photo by Cpl. Earnest J. Barnes

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Ceremonial marcher pursues dream

Story and photos by
Cpl Jordan M. Welner



Dressed in blue whites, Lance Cpl. Nikolas R. Scott slams the butt of his rifle to the cement alongside dozens of his fellow Company A Marines. The precision and uniformity of their marching and rifle drill leaves an indelible impression on all who witness the performance. What the audience doesn't know is this leatherneck before them will be giving a performance of another kind later that night.

As a ceremonial marcher, Scott has his hands full with responsibilities to the "Oldest Post." Fortunately for those with a taste for live, local music, a demanding schedule can't stop this talented Marine from performing solo acoustic shows in and around the nation's capital.

"As a jazz student in Illinois, I would play gigs five nights a week, sometimes driving three to four hours to find an open mic," said the Oswego, Ill., native.

It's no wonder, with this type of previous work ethic, Scott is able to handle such a rigorous schedule.

"They are two different worlds, each containing their own, demanding challenges," he said. "When playing music to a crowd, you really put yourself out there. There are no boundaries."

"The mentality we have as marchers is much different," said Scott. "It's a much more restricted performance. There's no room to let your personal feelings get in the way."

Despite the cultural border between marcher and musician, the young lance corporal has discovered many similar qualities in the two.

"In both realms, people are watching every detail of the performance," said Scott. "You are forced to build confidence and there is always room for improvement in what you are doing."

Rather than being overcome by this endeavor, Scott said that marching benefits his performance on stage. ♣

"When we nail a performance on the parade deck, I will take that confidence and put it towards what I'm doing on stage," said Scott. "I think I stand a little bit prouder knowing I'm able to conquer the spotlight - whether it be on my own or with a company of Marines."

Currently, Scott performs every Saturday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Potbelly's in Chinatown, and is part of a group of performers called the D.C. Acoustic Underground whose goal is to bring solo acoustic performers into the public eye.

To find out where you can see Scott perform, email swinginfool17@yahoo.com.



Lance Cpl. Nikolas R. Scott, a ceremonial marcher by day, entertains a crowd in Old Town Alexandria with a combination of original songs and some of his favorite covers.



It can be done

Barracks Marines earn higher education

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. John J. Parry

Having a degree is important for Marines who wish to expand their opportunities while they're in the service. It is also an achievement that provides them with more opportunities in the civilian world.

Two Headquarters & Service Company Marines from the "Oldest Post" received their degrees, May 25, while stationed here. Sgt. Johnathan W. Triplett, ammunition technician, and Cpl. Everton A. Bryan, Jr., protocol specialist, received associate degrees in general studies from Central Texas College.

Triplett and Bryan faced many challenges along the way to earning their associate degrees.

"I needed a college education so I could earn a well-paying salary after I finish my time with the Marine Corps," said Triplett, who plans on pursuing his bachelor's degree in computer science.

Bryan said there's still work to be done.

"My long term goal is to be in the secret service, and the job I've wanted requires a four-year degree," he said.

After a hard day on the job, Triplett said the hardest part about college is making the sacrifice of personal time. "Trying to be responsible and focus on my degree was difficult because of balancing time between work, family and school," he said. "Marines who are attending both college and work show maturity in their ability to develop and pursue goals. They are more appealing to employers. I'm better at multi-tasking now. I can handle a full work load and then some."

The leathernecks used different approaches to studying for class, demonstrating there are many ways to fit in study time between work and class.

"I didn't like to study before class because the knowledge didn't sink in for me," Triplett said. "I'd study for short periods of time on breaks and on the weekends."

Bryan took a different strategy.

"I usually studied after work and again after class," he said. "Sometimes, I would be up until the early hours of the morning doing class work."

They both agreed on one thing: if they'd started earlier, they would be even better off than they are now.

"If I'd have started once I got settled into the Barracks, I would likely have my bachelor's degree by now," Triplett said.




Sgt. Johnathan W. Triplett, ammunition technician, Headquarters & Service Company, and Cpl. Everton A. Bryan, Jr., protocol specialist, H&S Co., received associate degrees in general studies from Central Texas College.

According to Sgt. Clint V. Reynolds, education officer, Marine Barracks Washington, the senior enlisted Marines are generally the ones who take advantage of the educational opportunities the Marine Corps provides. The junior enlisted don't make education a major priority because they are just beginning their career and haven't thought as much about life after the Corps.

According to Reynolds, Marines looking to get a head start on college should look no further than their Sailor/Marine American Council on Education Registry Transcript transcripts.

SMART is an official transcript of military education and training credits received in the service. Marines receive credit for military training such as recruit training and Marine Combat Training. College credits can also be received by completing certain Marine Corps Institute courses.

"Marines who have both their degree and the work experience from their time in service go into the civilian world with a double-edged sword," Reynolds added. "These Marines are setting themselves up for the future. More Marines need to take advantage of this opportunity." 

DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED AS “THE COMMANDANT’S OWN”



STORY AND PHOTOS BY CPL. DAVID REVERE

The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps was officially recognized as “The Commandant’s Own” by Gen. Michael W. Hagee, 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, during a ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, June 7.

The Marine Corps’ musical history began November 10, 1775, when the first and second battalions of

Continental Marines enlisted drummers and fifers. Three years later, President John Adams approved a bill charging the Marine Corps to enlist a drum major, a fife major, and a company of drummers and fifers to be deployed for active service.

Bugles replaced fifes when Col. Charles G. Crawley, 8th Commandant of the Marine Corps, adopted them to increase



Chief Warrant Officer Brian Dix directs the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, who were officially named “The Commandant’s Own” by the 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Michael W. Hagee, June 7.



troop efficiency in the battlefield. The drummers were to provide cadence for troop movements, while the buglers established communication between the ranks through a variety of bugle calls.

It was not until 1934 that drummers and buglers were formed into a unit assigned to Marine Barracks Washington and designated to augment "The President's Own," United States Marine Band. A field music school was formed here that same year.

The musicians continued to support "The President's Own" until 1956, when Gen. Randolph Pate, 21st Commandant of the Marine Corps, officially designated the unit "The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps."

During the ceremony, Gen. Hagee proclaimed that "The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps be officially recognized as 'The Commandant's Own' and that June 2006 be officially recognized as the 72nd anniversary of the founding of The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps."

Gen. Hagee also recognized the Marines currently in "The Commandant's Own" as dedicated men and women whose musicianship grows more outstanding with every passing year and distinguishes them from other musical units.

"They always rise to the occasion," agreed Master Sgt. Kevin Buckles, D&B assistant drum major. "It's great just to see how the Marines take their music and run with it. That dedication is what sets us apart from other musical organizations."

From inspirational marches to modern show tunes, these musicians believe in their music, traveling in excess of 60,000 miles a year while completing more than 500 ceremonies.

"There's something about the way they play that makes all the goodness come out of you," said Brenda Miller of Sulphur Springs, Texas. Miller has traveled to see "The Commandant's Own" for the past five years during their annual performances at the Texas State Fair. "They always play from the heart, and it shows."

Dallas native Thomas Justuce said the performances are about a feeling every true American shares.

"I've lived through tumultuous times," said the Vietnam veteran. "Life is always changing,



Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps, officially recognizes The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps as "The Commandant's Own."

but the Drum and Bugle Corps has always been there. They've been a foundation that never changes. They bring together all the military organizations, all the political parties and solidify them into one thing: America."

As the only drum and bugle corps in the entire armed forces today, perhaps it is that unifying, patriotic spirit expressed through expertly-performed music that makes these Marines' presence so enduring. 🦅

HOME OF THE COMMANDANTS CELEBRATES 200 YEARS

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE CPL. JOHN J. PARRY

Withstanding the fury of fire, battle and age, the Home of the Commandants stands as the oldest continuously occupied public building in Washington, D.C.

The current residence of Gen. Michael W. Hagee, 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, the home celebrated its 200th anniversary, June 17. A small ceremony was held, including a performance from "The President's Own," the United States Marine Corps Band, ceremonial drill from Marine Barracks Washington's marching companies and a uniform pageant showcasing uniforms from 1798 until the present.

Overlooking the "Oldest Post" since its completion in 1806, the home has reached its bicentennial by surviving the torching of the nation's capital by British forces during the War of 1812 and undergoing a number of renovations. The Department of the Interior



Cpl. Junrel C. Sumagang, administrative clerk, Marine Barracks Washington, marches wearing the green uniform of President Andrew Jackson's tenure during the 200th anniversary celebration of the Home of the Commandants.

recognized the historical significance of the home and adjacent Barracks by designating them as national historic landmarks in 1976.

"It's a piece of irreplaceable Marine Corps history," said Master Sgt. Phillip R. Gibbons, senior docent for the Home of the Commandants. "With three-foot thick, clay brick walls, I think the home will stand forever."

The building is still used for its original purpose, which was to house the commandant of the United States Marine Corps. Each commandant has lived in the home since its first occupation by Lt. Col. Franklin Wharton, the third

commandant of the Marine Corps.

"We're doing the same thing Marines have done here for the last 200 years," said Gibbons. "It's important for us to be able to carry on their legacy."



A growing legacy: what commandants leave behind

History and tradition go beyond the home itself at the Home of the Commandants.

Over the years, Commandants have left items in the home to be added to its already rich history.

According to Master Sgt. Phillip R. Gibbons, senior docent, Home of the Commandants, the



Henderson Sofa was brought into the home during 5th Commandant of the Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Archibald

Henderson's tenure. It was on this sofa that Henderson passed away after his daily walk to the Anacostia River.

In the music room resides a baby grand piano donated to the home by Gen. Clifton B. Cates, 19th CMC.



It has become a tradition for the commandants to leave an item to the home after their tenure, Gibbons said. With the designation of the establishment as a National Historic Landmark, each item left behind adds to the already unique history of the oldest continually occupied public building in Washington, D.C.

According to Gibbons, there are many legends of how the Home of the Commandants was one of the few buildings spared by the British when they sacked the nation's capital in 1814.

One popular story has the British using the building as their headquarters during their occupation and then sparing it upon their hasty withdrawal from the city.

Another theory states the British were so impressed by the Marines' defense at the Battle of Bladensburg during the War of 1812, they spared the house and the Barracks out of respect.

The home is unique to the surrounding community because of its Georgian-federalist design. In 1806, the original floor plan for the home consisted of two floors, a basement and an attic.

The bottom floor was used for dining and recreation while the second floor contained four bedrooms. Cooking was done in the basement and the attic might have been used as servants' quarters, Gibbons said.

The Home of the Commandants has undergone a number of renovations over the years. The first renovation occurred in the 1830's and included the installation of the building's first bathroom as well as a white paint job (the home was originally salmon pink). Renovations in 1891 created the third floor and the still-existent mansard roof.

In 1907, the last major addition to the home occurred with the construction of the solarium, which overlooks the Marine Family Garden and the north end of the Barracks' hallowed parade deck.

The home is so well kept, according to Gibbons, many simple details still remain. One example is on Brig. Gen. Archibald Henderson's desk. An inscription remains from a servant on the bottom of a desk drawer stating, "Mrs. Henderson wants a lock put on this."

"I can't think of any better place for

this type of Marine Corps history to be on display," said Gibbons. "The environment of the home is better suited for preservation than many other historic sites."

According to Dennis B. Martin, facilities maintenance manager for the Barracks, it takes over 500 man-hours of deterioration-prevention work each year to keep the home in good shape.

The home is occasionally opened for docent-guided tours throughout the year and for special events. ♪



BROTHERS IN ARMS. Three commandants of the Marine Corps stand reunited for the 200th anniversary of the Home of the Commandants celebration. Barracks Marines, donning uniforms spanning more than two hundred years of service, gather with Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps, and former Commandants Gen. Carl E. Mundy and Gen. James L. Jones in front of the Home of the Commandants.

Marine Heroes Recognized

Story and photos by Cpl. David Revere

Twenty-five legendary Marines were honored at a Medal of Honor flag presentation ceremony held at Marine Barracks Washington, Aug. 3.

A crowd of more than 1,000 friends, families and patriotic spectators watched on as General Michael W. Hagee, 33rd Commandant of the Marine Corps, and Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada, 15th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, presented flags to 15 Medal of Honor

law by President George W. Bush in October, 2002.

The Medal of Honor flag commemorates the sacrifice and blood shed for freedom, and emphasizes the Medal of Honor's place as the highest award for valor that can be given to an individual serving in the armed forces of the United States. The flag's light blue color and white stars match the colors found on the Medal of Honor ribbon.



Medal of Honor recipients or their next of kin gather with Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps, after a ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington where they were presented with Medal of Honor flags.

recipients, as well as 10 family members of MOH recipients.

"On behalf of all Marines, thank you for your service and example for the thousands of Marines that followed you," said Hagee, addressing the recipients. "Your legacy is these Marines."

The concept of the Medal of Honor flag was approved by both houses of Congress and signed into

The medal is awarded "in the name of the Congress of the United States," and for this reason, it is often called the Congressional Medal of Honor. It is only on rare occasions, however, that Congress awards special Medals of Honor. A 1905 executive order signed by President Theodore Roosevelt directed that ceremonies of award "will always be made with formal and impressive ceremonies" and that the recipient "will,



Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps, assisted by Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada, Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, presents the Medal of Honor flag to Marilyn Paige at Marine Barracks Washington. Mrs. Paige accepted the flag on behalf of her husband, Mitchell Paige, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in the Solomon Islands during World War II.

when practicable, be ordered to Washington, D.C., and the presentation will be made by the President, as Commander in Chief, or by such representative as the President may designate.”

At the ceremony, each MOH recipient or family member accepted a flag from Gen. Hagee. As Vietnam War MOH recipient Sgt. Maj. Allan J. Kellog, Jr. was presented with his flag, the final presentation of the evening, the crowd gave the honorees a rousing standing ovation.

Cpl. Amber T. Chavarria, a Marine Barracks Washington protocol non-

commissioned officer who assisted Gen. Hagee and Sgt. Maj. Estrada in presenting the flags, said she felt proud just to be in the presence of such heroic individuals.

“It’s hard to describe how it feels being a part of this,” Chavarria said. “These gentlemen did so far above and beyond what they were asked - and they did it in order for me to be able to do my job.”

From one-man stands against attacking enemies, to throwing

“Being in the presence of these Marines is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

-Lance Cpl. Sean J. Sorbie

themselves over exploding grenades to save the lives of their fellow Marines, the heroism and pride generated by these warriors, who span the generations from World War II to Vietnam, was palpable.

“Being in the presence of these Marines is a once-in-a-lifetime

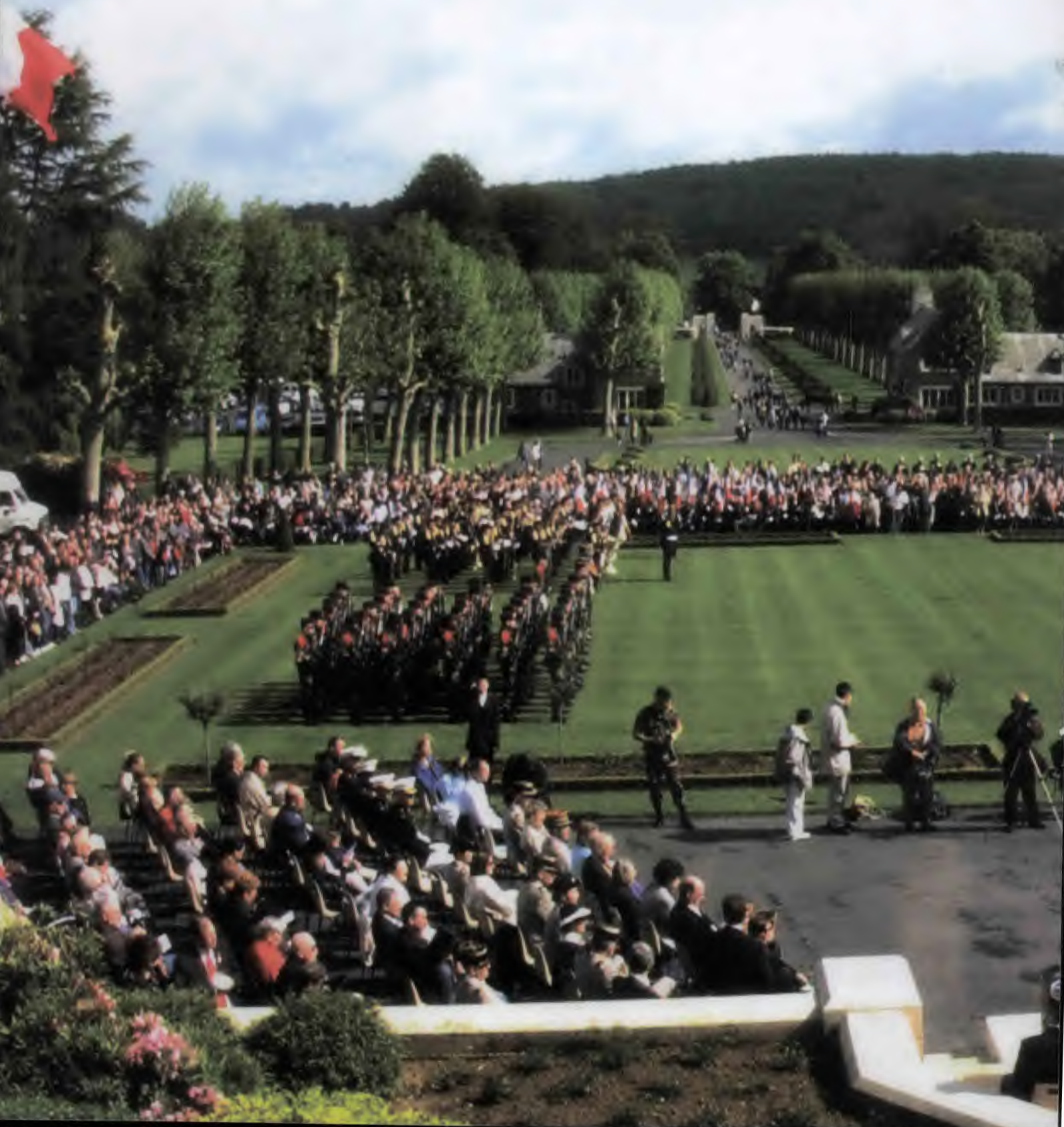
Jacklyn Lucas shares his love for the Corps with Marines from Company B. At age 17, Lucas became the youngest MOH recipient ever by jumping on two grenades in only his second day of combat at Iwo Jima in order to save his Marine brethren.

experience,” said Lance Cpl. Sean J. Sorbie, MBW training NCO. “I don’t think there has ever been this many Medal of Honor recipients together at one time before. I am proud just to have been a part of it.”

The parade ceremony concluded with the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps’ playing of the Marines Hymn, and a pass-in-review featuring companies A and B. The pass-in-review brought the crowd to their feet as nearly 200 Marines of the “Oldest Post” in the Corps rendered an official salute to this elite group of Marine warriors and family members.

“Nobody does it up like the Marine Corps,” said Jacklyn H. Lucas, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for actions against Japanese forces on Iwo Jima. “To have these young men here in our presence - it just rejuvenates this old heart of mine. I love the Corps even more knowing my country is defended by such fine young people.”

Marines visit history



c Belleau Wood

Story and Photos by Staff Sgt. Will Price



A pivotal chapter in Marine Corps history was written in blood at Belleau Wood, France, in June of 1918, on a small stretch of land that was the scene of one of the most savage and deadly battles the United States fought during the first World War.

Eighty-eight years later, on May 28, 2006, the battle of Belleau Wood was commemorated by the Battle Color Detachment from Marine Barracks Washington comprised of the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, the Silent Drill Platoon, and the official Color Guard of the Marine Corps. The event was attended by more than 2,000 spectators, including soldiers, statesmen, and dignitaries, both Americans and Frenchmen.

The proceedings opened with a ceremony at France's Aisne-Marne Cemetery, located near the scene of the battle. The memorial service was led by Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael W. Hagee, and Chief of Staff of the French Army, Général Armée Bernard Thorette, who conducted a wreath-laying ceremony with other American and French dignitaries.

In honor of the fallen, both American and French colors were raised to half-mast as French soldiers, a marching band, and the Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment marched to the parade deck, centered in front of the 80-foot Memorial Chapel. A detachment of U.S. Air Force jets flew over the ceremony as the French Band played their National Anthem, "La Marseillaise," and the Drum & Bugle Corps followed with, "The Star Spangled Banner." Flanking the parade deck were 2,289 tombstones, one for each U.S. service member who fell in defense of liberty at Belleau Wood.



The Marine Corps' Silent Drill Platoon performs in front of more than 2,000 spectators, including soldiers, statesmen, and dignitaries, both Americans and Frenchmen.



In the thick of Belleau Wood, high above Aisne-Marne Cemetery, Gen. Michael W. Hagee, and Chief of Staff of the French Army, Général Armée Bernard Thorette, took part in a separate wreath-laying ceremony in front the Iron Mike statue. Only meters away from the ceremony, remnants of the battle, such as artillery, bullet-scarred trees and fighting holes, could still be observed.

"Being here makes you realize how tremendously important this battle was to the Marine Corps of the time, and to America as well," said Staff Sgt. Bryan Duprey, platoon sergeant, Silent Drill Platoon. "It was a turning point for both the war and the Corps."

Continuing the program, French soldiers and Marines fired their rifles into the air, followed by Battle Color Detachment Bugler Sgt. Clint Owens' rendition of Taps. Owens donned a World War I Marine uniform and played while perched atop the towering Memorial Chapel as many in the audience bowed their heads in respectful silence.

Belleau Wood was a turning point in WWI as well as a landmark in the history of the Marine Corps. In mid-1918, with the German army just 50 miles outside Paris, the Allied Second and Third Divisions mounted a counter-attack to halt the Germans dead in their tracks and retake Belleau Wood — but the only way into the woods was through an adjoining wheat field and this field was heavily protected by massive German firepower.



As American forces arrived on the scene, Captain Lloyd Williams of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Regiment was told by the retreating French army that turning back was the best course of action. He declined, giving the now-famous reply, "Retreat, hell! We just got here!"

With little to no cover, Marines maneuvered through an 800-yard wide-open wheat field, trying to reach the heavily entrenched German soldiers. The Marines began their advance with unwavering courage and the use of precision long-distance marksmanship. According to Gilles Lagin, a Belleau Wood historian, the Germans were familiar with British snipers, but the Marines' ability to hit a target from more than 500 yards away stunned them so badly they believed there was an entire regiment of Marine snipers attacking.

"I had read about that 800-yard advance," said Gen. Hagee in a speech delivered at the ceremony, "but I never fully appreciated how difficult it must have been until I walked it myself. The enemy had every square inch of that field covered with interlocking machine gun and artillery fire. The Marines paid dearly with every step they took. The enemy couldn't believe that the Marines would advance in the face of such devastation, but they did. When officers fell, sergeants led the way. When sergeants fell, corporals took the lead. And when corporals fell, the privates fought on."

In the end, the Marines of the 4th Marine Brigade's 5th and 6th Regiments took the blood-soaked grounds of Belleau Wood. The battle that had begun June 1



Sergeants Clint Owens and Michael Ervin represent U.S. Marine buglers, past and present, as they pay respect to the 2,289 U.S. service members laid to rest at the Aisne-Marne Cemetery in Belleau, France.

ended June 26 when Maj. Maurice Sheaerer, Commanding Officer, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, could finally report with pride, "Woods now U.S. Marine Corps — entirely."


More than 1,800 Marines lost their lives at Belleau Wood. This was the greatest loss the Corps had ever sustained in a single battle at the time, and it was tragically high — but it is estimated that a staggering 8,000 German troops were killed during the battle with another 1,600 taken prisoner. This was a huge victory for the Allies, especially as a morale booster to weary troops who had started to believe the Germans were invincible. America had decisively proven otherwise.

Out-numbered, out-gunned, out-manned, and warned to retreat immediately, the United States Marine Corps defied the odds and managed to smash the superior German forces to pieces. For every fallen American, no less

than five enemy troops paid the ultimate price.

Little wonder that from the time of this fierce battle to the present day, Marines are still known by the nickname given them by the awed Germans they vanquished at Belleau Wood: "Teufelhunden," which means "Hounds from Hell," or "Devil Dogs." In honor of the fallen, the area was rechristened "The Wood of the Marine Brigade."

The commemoration of the 88th anniversary of this legendary battle ended with a stellar performance by the Drum and Bugle Corps, the French Marching Band, and an amazing display of precision marching and rifle maneuvering from the Silent Drill Platoon.

This concluded the remembrance ceremony of the battle of Belleau Wood, an unforgettable chapter in the courageous history of the United States Marine Corps. 



"The Commandant's Own" Drum Major, Master Sgt. Mark Miller, leads the United States Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps in a performance at Aisne-Marne Cemetery.





E Club:
what's
in it
for you?



Story and Photos by
Cpl. Jordan M. Welner

This week, like the one before, Marines from the “Oldest Post” will carry out their ceremonial missions. They will represent the face of the Marine Corps at home and abroad; and finally, once their mission is complete, they will seek a place to enjoy some well-deserved liberty and entertainment.

So what better place, asks Sgt. Christof H. Coleman, than their own living room?

A facility that houses hundreds of movies, games, pool tables, dart boards, music, and a bar serving the cheapest drinks on Capitol Hill should be enough to attract any fireteam of jarheads and their

friends, right? Interestingly, if you poke your head into 8th and I’s enlisted club on any given evening, you will see that this is not always the case.

Coleman is the assistant operations chief for Marine Corps Community Services at the Barracks, the organization responsible for providing the fully-functional club.

“It’s the perfect atmosphere for Marines to hang out and socialize without going out in town and burning a hole in their pocket,” said Coleman.

Still, the Devil Dogs don’t bite as much as he would like.

Could it be that living in a city with so many

“It’s the perfect atmosphere for Marines to hang out and socialize without going out in town and burning a hole in their pocket.”

-Sgt. Christof H. Coleman
MCCS Assistant Operations Chief

avenues of entertainment, the E Club is easily overlooked by Marines? Perhaps they just don't know what they are missing, or (in terms of money) losing.

"You're not going to find a club out in town serving \$1.90 beer regularly," said Coleman, "Not to mention, we serve free hamburgers and hotdogs every other Friday."

Along with providing a weekly service to its Marines, the E Club is available to all Marines for special events by request.

"Anyone can arrange to hold an open bar event at the E Club," said Coleman. "All they have to do is submit a request and provide the what, when, why and enough Marines to make it worth our while."

According to Coleman, MCCA would like to keep the club open as often as possible for events like the Monday night football party he organized last year, but participants are needed in order to give reason for worker's presence.

"In the past, Marines have had ideas and then failed to follow up on them," Coleman said.

Nevertheless, some Barracks Marines are taking advantage of the club's resources.

"With our responsibilities, it's the only place we can all sit around, relax and socialize," said Cpl. Gregory T. Zarger, Body Bearer section.

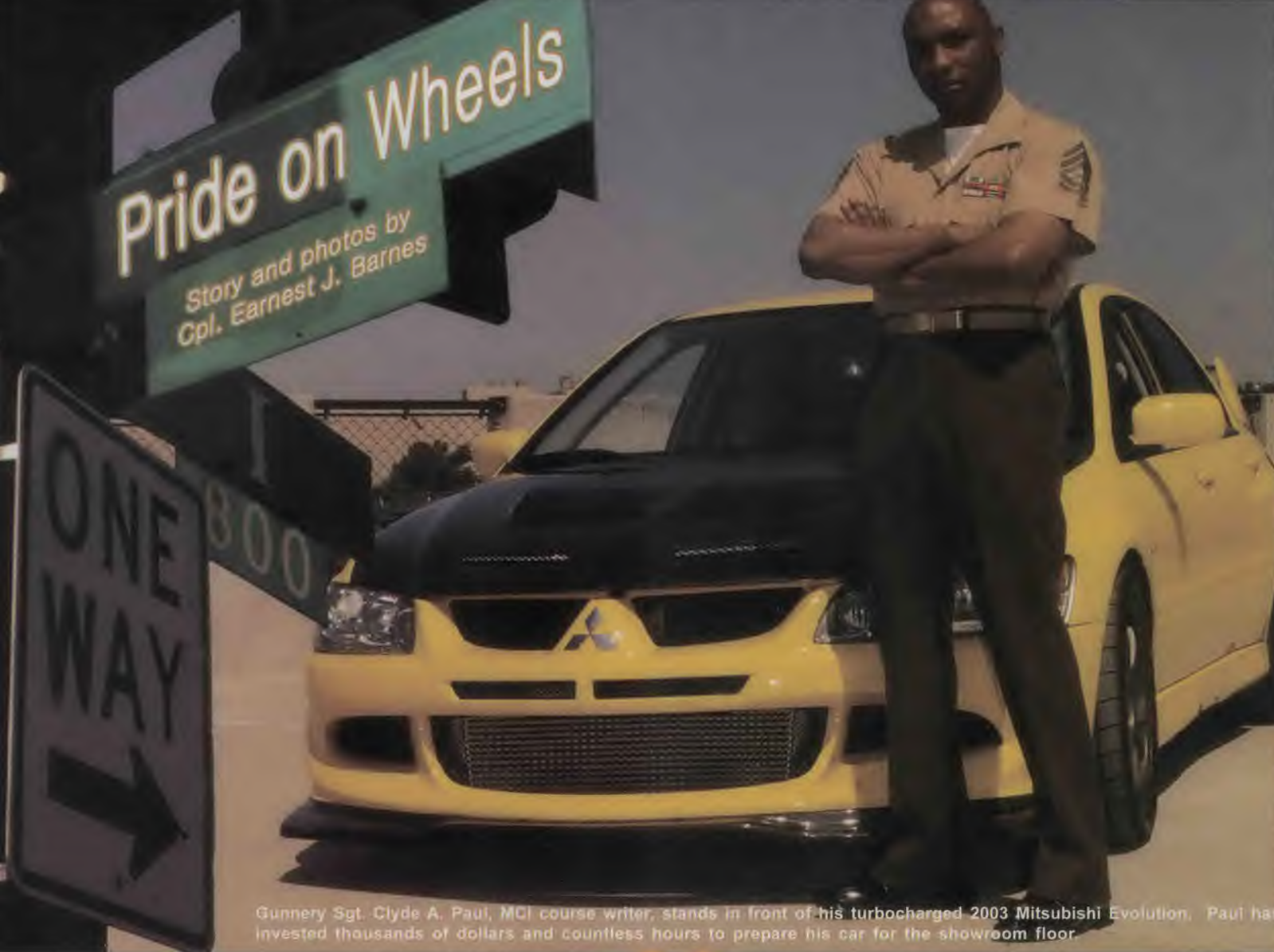
"I love to have a place to go to that's kind of like my own," agreed Cpl. Daniel West, company office clerk, Headquarters and Service Company. "I can shoot some pool and eat some free food."

For now, the club gets plenty of use as a lounge for range briefs and periods of military education, but its full potential will only be realized by Marines who take advantage of it.

"I think if more things were organized, like UFC fights and Monday night football, Marines would come," said Zarger.

Thousands of dollars worth of entertainment facilities are available for Marines to take advantage of at the Marine Barracks enlisted club and recreation center. They include a full-size bar serving a variety of beverages, two pool tables, 50" and 65" big screen HDTVs and comfortable seating for more than 200 guests. For information on how to reserve these facilities, contact Sgt. Christof H. Coleman at (202) 433-2336.





Gunnery Sgt. Clyde A. Paul, MCI course writer, stands in front of his turbocharged 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution. Paul has invested thousands of dollars and countless hours to prepare his car for the showroom floor.

The grinding of transmission gears, the roaring of an engine and the shine of freshly polished rims are a few parts of everyday life for some Marines at the Barracks.

Once the liberty bell rings and everyone

secures for the day, these Marines don't take time to kick off their shoes to relax but steer toward another way to get away. With the click of a seatbelt and the turn of a key, they hurry their way to the blacktop roads of freedom.

"It is nice to have a fast car, but it isn't about going fast. It is just knowing that I can that brings satisfaction," said Cpl. Brad Sanders, a mellophone bugler in "The Commandant's Own," The United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps.

The challenge that comes along with making a high performance car is why Sanders spends a majority of his spare time along with

thousands of dollars on a vehicle.

"I like buying a \$3,000 commuter, putting a little money in it and having a nice-looking, fast car that I built," said Sanders. "I like the idea of a small four cylinder engine, instead of a \$65,000 car that is already fast."

Sanders has put close to \$15,000 worth of engine modifications into his blue 2000 Honda Civic Si. The largest modification was a turbocharger, which is a device that compresses air flow in the engine.

"Having a fast car, there is always a temptation to speed, but I'm smart enough to know there's a wrong and a right time and place for doing that," said Sanders.



The interior of Gunnery Sgt. Clyde A. Paul's 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution is customized to make his ride a home away from home.

“Controlled environments like race tracks have safety regulations and trained professional monitors.”

Marines have a responsibility to uphold the Marine Corps’ high standards of honor. In a car, this means obeying the district and state laws, keeping the vehicle speed under the legal limit and wearing a seatbelt at all times.

But speed isn’t a necessity for taking pride in a set of wheels. A high octane gasoline and quarter mile race track isn’t for everyone. If you asked Gunnery Sgt. Clyde A. Paul, a course writer for Marine Corps Institute, he’d tell you style, shine and show is another way to turn in the car enthusiast world.

Paul, a Brooklyn, New York native, owns a turbocharged 2003 Mitsubishi Evolution. Though Paul’s Evolution has no problem going from zero to 60, he prefers to show off what he has on a show room floor.

“Since my car is sometimes showcased, I usually work on the appearance of the car more than anything else,” said Paul.

Paul originally gained an interest in enhancing cars when he was a private first class stationed in Okinawa, Japan in 1989.

“On the way to the movement center, I saw a beautiful car parked on the side of the road. It was a car I had never seen before and I fell in love,” said Paul. “One year later I saw the same car again and talked to the owner. He told me it was a Nissan Skyline and explained all the modifications that had been done.”

Inspired as a young Marine, Paul added modification after modification to his car. He said he has invested a lot of money upgrading the engine, the body and interior.

“It’s one of my many hobbies I have to help me relieve stress,” said Paul. “With Mitsubishi, you have endless possibilities when it comes to enhancing the performance and looks of your vehicle, also its not as expensive as brands like BMW.”

There’s nothing quite like being complimented on the look of your car after you’ve put in countless man hours along with thousands of dollars, according to Paul.

“My satisfaction comes from being at car shows and interacting with the many spectators as they take pictures of and pose with my vehicle.”



Cpl. Brad Sanders, mellophone bugler for the United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, poses in front of his 2000 Honda Civic Si.

Rather than show and shine, some car enthusiasts prefer to get down and dirty by taking their vehicles off-road. When it is time to get off of work, Cpl. Matthew R. Schwarz, Sergeant of the Guard, Headquarters and Service Company, will be one of the first to hit the off-road trails in his 1994 Jeep Wrangler.

Schwarz’s Jeep is what is commonly referred to as “jacked up,” or having modifications done to the vehicle that raises the overall height to enable clearance over fallen trees and creek beds.

“I can go places the average vehicle cannot,” said Schwarz. “In my opinion, a big Jeep with huge tires looks awesome.”

“Where one goes, many will follow” is the case for many Jeep owners as well as any other genre of cars.

A social network can be built from individuals having similar interest in their vehicles.

“Jeep owners, for the most part, are a pretty close bunch,” Said Schwarz. “They have trips just for the sole purpose of driving their Jeeps.”

Whether they head straight to the local auto craft shop to tune up their engines or go off road to splash around in a mud hole, the one thing these Marines have in common is the love they have for their cars.

“I think cars are works of art,” said Sanders. “Just pop a hood and think about what went into engineering that machine!” 🐦



Under the hood of Cpl. Brad Sanders’ 2000 Honda Civic Si is a four cylinder turbo charged engine equipped with large fuel injectors, performance enhancing computer chip and various other performance improving parts.

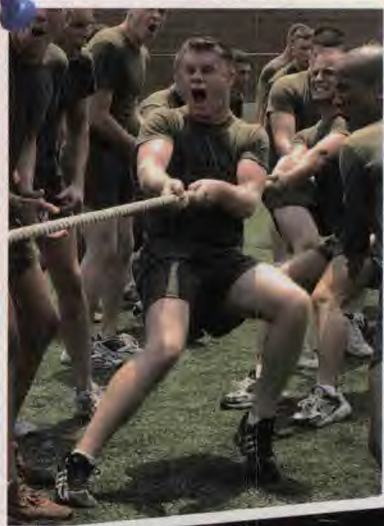
Around the Barracks



Staff Sergeant,
SSgt Jones called.
Please phone back
-Cpl. B



Around the Barracks



PROMOTIONS



H&S Company

1st Sgt. P.W. Ferral
 Gunnery Sgt. A.D. Moore
 Sgt. M.G. Libengood
 Sgt. M.R. Miller
 Sgt. E.J. O'Brien
 Sgt. D. Paredes
 Sgt. L.E. Rabenstein
 Cpl. N.L. Adams
 Cpl. D.A. Berardini
 Cpl. E.M. Dixon
 Cpl. L.C. Gamez
 Cpl. J.J. Jimenez
 Cpl. I.A. Kenny
 Cpl. S.J. McLane
 Cpl. M.A. Navas
 Cpl. J.B. Neel
 Cpl. N.P. Onofrio
 Cpl. E.M. Slates
 Cpl. C.M. Spradlin
 Cpl. J.M. Welner
 Cpl. C.M. Whicker
 Lance Cpl. M.L. Andrews
 Lance Cpl. Z.D. Aragon
 Lance Cpl. S.M. Bayne
 Lance Cpl. E.D. Burns
 Lance Cpl. E. Destephano
 Lance Cpl. E.B. Donoghue
 Lance Cpl. N.W. Dueck
 Lance Cpl. B.J. Dyson
 Lance Cpl. B.P. Erickson
 Lance Cpl. N.J. Farrell
 Lance Cpl. J.J. Graves
 Lance Cpl. N.M. Griffin
 Lance Cpl. D.P. Hamilton
 Lance Cpl. K.L. Haynes
 Lance Cpl. J.D. Head
 Lance Cpl. B.T. Hickey
 Lance Cpl. S.J. Kiernan
 Lance Cpl. D.R. Kroeger
 Lance Cpl. D.W. Kraemer
 Lance Cpl. J.R. Lepage
 Lance Cpl. M.A. Litsey
 Lance Cpl. J.C. Maldonado
 Lance Cpl. E.A. Marmarinos, Jr.
 Lance Cpl. R.E. Miller
 Lance Cpl. J.T. Miner
 Lance Cpl. M.A. Mursuli

Lance Cpl. D.P. Newton
 Lance Cpl. B.M. Nunnery
 Lance Cpl. E.J. Owen
 Lance Cpl. A.R. Pryor
 Lance Cpl. C.J. Puma
 Lance Cpl. M.E. Schaufler
 Lance Cpl. M.J. Schneider
 Lance Cpl. J.T. Shuey
 Lance Cpl. N.R. Simone
 Lance Cpl. A.C. Smith
 Lance Cpl. A.J. Sokolowski
 Lance Cpl. Stimeling, Jr.
 Lance Cpl. D.L. Turner
 Lance Cpl. Z.E. Turner
 Lance Cpl. R.P. Vogel
 Lance Cpl. N.J. Yoscovits

A Company

Sgt. T.J. Maurer
 Sgt. D.J. Slocum
 Cpl. J.T. Johnson
 Cpl. J.B. Leuthold
 Cpl. M.T. Morales
 Cpl. M.L. Morneau
 Cpl. J.J. Sinovich
 Cpl. A.M. Strong
 Cpl. R.J. Stukel, Jr.
 Cpl. C.B. Vandorn
 Lance Cpl. K.S. Bennin
 Lance Cpl. J.K. Bolhuis
 Lance Cpl. J.R. Castor
 Lance Cpl. M.S. Corey
 Lance Cpl. A.R. Crockett
 Lance Cpl. S.S. Ferguson
 Lance Cpl. K.E. Gardner
 Lance Cpl. B.L. Griffin
 Lance Cpl. S.P. Harger
 Lance Cpl. A.S. Heatherton
 Lance Cpl. C.D. Heckman
 Lance Cpl. J.T. Holster
 Lance Cpl. S.J. Jones
 Lance Cpl. M.K. Morgan
 Lance Cpl. R.A. Morton Jr.
 Lance Cpl. R. Sadler
 Lance Cpl. J.J. Sand
 Lance Cpl. G.E. Sawyer
 Lance Cpl. N.R. Scott
 Lance Cpl. D.J. Trester

Lance Cpl. C.D. Tweedyfigueroa
 Lance Cpl. J.R. Zimmer

B Company

Cpl. D.S. Arendt Jr.
 Cpl. J. Garcia Jr.
 Cpl. R.D. Johnson
 Lance Cpl. A.L. Block
 Lance Cpl. J.R. Burnett
 Lance Cpl. L.R. Canty
 Lance Cpl. N.D. Comeau
 Lance Cpl. G.E. Dixon
 Lance Cpl. B.D. Dunkelberger
 Lance Cpl. J.E. Durham
 Lance Cpl. M.C. Forry
 Lance Cpl. R.A. Fugate
 Lance Cpl. B.K. Geesaman
 Lance Cpl. T.N. Gravitte
 Lance Cpl. G.M. Konieczki Jr.
 Lance Cpl. J.U. McFarland
 Lance Cpl. M.P. Mock
 Lance Cpl. D.A. Monk
 Lance Cpl. C.M. Montoni
 Lance Cpl. N.R. Murray
 Lance Cpl. D.S. Petersen
 Lance Cpl. J.K. Roberts
 Lance Cpl. T.A. Ronk Jr.
 Lance Cpl. R. Rosales
 Lance Cpl. A.G. Shaw
 Lance Cpl. C.N. Vollnogle
 Cpl. C.J. Wells
 Lance Cpl. J.E. White
 Pfc. R.D. Rock

Marine Corps Institute

Master Gunnery Sgt. F. Dubose Jr.
 Master Sgt. B.A. Davis
 Master Sgt. P.R. Gibbons
 Master Sgt. T.L. Sawyer
 Master Sgt. R.D. Williams
 Gunnery Sgt. R.L. Lane
 Staff Sgt. O.D. Williams
 Cpl. A.C. Mikicic
 Cpl. M.A. Valdezfermin
 Lance Cpl. J.K. Hayes
 Lance Cpl. T.B. Lloyd
 Pfc. J.C. Hinkle

U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps

Staff Sgt. W. Canty Jr.
 Staff Sgt. D.L. Toothman
 Sgt. J.R. Alexander
 Sgt. B.J. Budd
 Sgt. J.D. Dannemiller
 Sgt. S.R. Duncan
 Sgt. J.T. Fraking
 Sgt. W.D. Young
 Cpl. J.R. Enriquez
 Cpl. K.W. Beck
 Cpl. H. Williams
 Lance Cpl. N.J. Tandy

Security Company

Sgt. D.J. Bauer
 Sgt. Z.P. King
 Sgt. R.L. Lane
 Sgt. A.F. Perez
 Cpl. K.S. Askren
 Cpl. T.L. Buchanan
 Cpl. R.K. Clarke
 Cpl. H.M. Creekmuir
 Cpl. A.D. Eastwood
 Cpl. L.M. Hammond
 Cpl. M.W. Hartley
 Cpl. C.G. Johnson
 Cpl. M.J. Jones
 Cpl. D.P. Juda
 Cpl. T.L. Love
 Cpl. J.B. O'Brien
 Cpl. J.K. Owston
 Cpl. A.D. Reilly
 Cpl. C.N. Warner
 Cpl. M.E. York
 Cpl. J.L. Zumbro

U.S. Marine Band

Cpl. L.A. Berry
 Cpl. P. Martins
 Cpl. P.M. Pages



Chaplain's Corner

Sweating the small stuff

Marines,

The German infantrymen strode confidently over the wheat fields of France. Their June 1918 offensive had been remarkably successful. In a short period of time, the German war machine had punched through French defensive lines. The French were now retreating in force and the German army was only 90 kilometers outside Paris. But the German advance was halted as they ran headlong into a squad of U.S. Marines. Over the next three weeks, the Marines fought with such ferocity that the Germans came to call them "Devil Dogs," a nickname still in use today.

Why were the Marines so successful against the Germans? One reason was their superior marksmanship. Learning to shoot is definitely not a glamorous affair. First come the marksmanship lectures in the bleachers (usually given on the hottest or the coldest day of the year). Then come the aches and pains of "snapping in" and dry-firing at barrel targets again and again. One drifts off to sleep at nights dreaming of sight alignment and sight picture, only to be woken up 15 minutes later because you have to be at the range well before the sun rises.

Learning to be a dependable marksman is not a glamorous affair, and it can also be downright tedious. Are YOU ever tempted to do less than your best, especially when it comes to doing a tedious task that no one really cares about? For example, do you take that hour to hone your skills at drill or on your instrument when you're pretty sure that you can do pretty good without it? Do you get that second haircut in a week? Do you Scotch-guard your medals even if you're pretty sure it's not going to rain?

If this describes you, I certainly feel your pain! As much as I love the structure of the military, it has plenty of tedious tasks that bring me no joy. Why should I do my very best at these tedious tasks, especially when no

one else seems to know or care? The Bible answers this question through the story of Joseph, the obvious favorite of his father's 12 sons. Joseph has a dream he will one day rule over his brothers, and he makes the mistake of telling them about it! Their reaction is severe. They sell Joseph into slavery in Egypt, and tell their father that he died (Genesis 37:1-36).

In Egypt, the enslaved Joseph shows himself to be completely dependable, no matter what task is assigned to him. Even after he is thrown in jail on false charges, the warden begins to trust him, granting him more and more responsibility until, ultimately, he is almost running the prison. Joseph later saves the Egyptian people, as well as his own family, from starvation (Genesis 41:1 - 48:22).

Like the Marines at Belleau Wood, like Joseph in Egypt, if you show yourself to be dependable and trustworthy when doing tedious tasks, you, too, will be given greater and greater opportunities.

I don't know exactly what lies ahead, but I'm quite sure that God has big plans for you! Let me give you two challenges. First, do your very best at the tedious tasks, if only for an all-important audience of One: Your heavenly Father! "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Second, be encouraged! God wants to use you in a manner that will bring you fulfillment.

So DO sweat the small stuff — and He will give you bigger and bigger opportunities, sometimes disguised as challenges, which will enable you to bring Him the glory that He deserves!

Your Chaplain,

LT. MICHAEL E. FOSKETT





Photo by Cpl. Earnest J. Barnes

Second Platoon, Company B, gathers at Arlington National Cemetery, July 9. In addition to their marching performances for the Sunset and Friday Evening Parades, the Marines of Companies A and B performed ceremonies throughout the national capital area and at ANC, including wreath laying, funerals and remembrance ceremonies, during the 2006 summer parade season.

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