



2d Medical Battalion Newsletter

May – July 2011

From the Commanding Officer



Dear 2d Medical Battalion Families,

Now that summer is here we are prepared to enjoy the heat as safely as possible. This past spring we have been busy preparing Bravo Forward Surgical Company commanded by LT Lofton, for entering into the predeployment phase of training. The Company was very well supported by all the staffs to include operations, logistics and personnel.

Your deployed husbands, wives, sons and daughters are performing superbly in Afghanistan and other parts of the world. The medical personnel assigned to 26 Marine Expeditionary Force were very busy during their deployment. As you know, they left ahead of schedule to support the Pakistani Flood Relief humanitarian mission. They also supported missions in Afghanistan and upon their return, they were detoured to support operations in Libya. I know you are extremely proud of their service and patriotism. It is indeed my honor to serve as their Commanding Officer as they so honorably uphold the Navy and Marine Corps core values of honor, courage, and commitment.

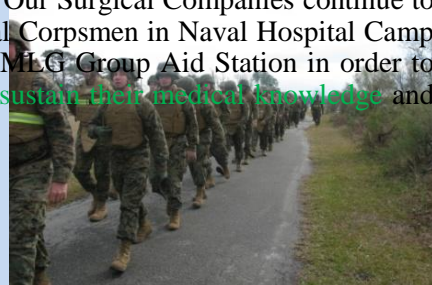
For those of you reading this Newsletter for the first time, allow me to inform you that Medical Battalions are unique in that almost one third of the personnel needed to make us operational are not attached to the Battalion until we have to deploy. The Medical Battalion is augmented by professional staff members such as doctors, nurses, physician assistants, administrators, and Hospital Corpsman and they augment the Battalion from Navy Medical Treatment Facilities around the world. This extraordinary group of medical personnel serve on forward deployed surgical and medical elements of the lead Combat Logistics Regiment, or Combat Logistics Battalion. After training with 2d Medical Battalion they are ready to receive casualties on the battlefield when deployed.

Our mission at the 2d Medical Battalion is to prepare medical personnel for service with II Marine Expeditionary Force and when the time comes, to save the lives of wounded Marines and Sailors, as well as provide humanitarian assistance when called upon. Each and every one of them can be extremely proud of their selfless duty serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and in other parts of the world.

Alpha Forward Surgical Company has reached and passed their midway point in their deployment and I am certain you are counting the days until their return. They have supported a multitude of missions and we should all be proud of what they continue to do at the Forward Resuscitative Surgical Sets, the Shock Trauma Platoons and the Combined Aid Station.

We continue to provide Marines and Sailors to support deployed units into Afghanistan with Combat Logistics Battalion Six and Combat Logistics Battalions 22. Having Just returned from deployment are the Marines and Sailors who deployed with CLB 26 and Engineer Support Battalion. Welcome back to all of them and BRAVO Zulu for a Job Extremely Well Done!

Let us not forget that we also have Corpsmen assigned to other areas such as King's Bay Georgia, Bangor Washington and Guantanamo, and Training Teams in Afghanistan. We have also staffed the Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group Aid Station in Lejeune, while the main group of Corpsmen are deployed to Afghanistan. Our Surgical Companies continue to rotate Hospital Corpsmen in Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune, and MLC Group Aid Station in order to maintain and [sustain their medical knowledge](#) and clinical skills.



Just last month we completed our battalion-wide field exercise with Bravo Surgical Company as the lead and supported by Charlie Company and Headquarters and Service Company, to prepare ourselves to receive medical personnel from around the globe to deploy with Bravo Surgical and the MAGTF Support Battalion (MSB).

- We recently conducted a ribbon cutting ceremony for our new Preventive Medicine Unit Building. After many years of working out of very dilapidated and aged buildings, the Preventive Medicine Unit personnel can now proudly continue to serve in more modern facilities where they continue their very important public health service to the MLG and other elements of the MEF and the base.

This month we will celebrate the anniversary of the Hospital Corps by kicking off a Command Field Meet and sports day. Following a round of competitive sports, we will honor the Hospital Corps with a Cake Cutting Ceremony, followed by a picnic funded by the E-5 Association and the Battalion's Family Readiness Fund. We look forward to seeing all of you on June 17 !!!!!

As always, spouses and family members of our deployed service members are encouraged to contact our **Family Readiness Officer, Mr. Tom Hawes, at (910) 451-0685**. For after normal working hours contact please call our **duty desk at (910) 451-0689**. If you have contact information of the deployed unit Family Readiness Officer, who may be other than Mr. Tom Hawes, please feel free to call them since they serve as your deployed service member's FRO while attached to the deployed unit. In any case we are here for you.

In closing, I have a favor to ask you. In II MEF we have had several Marines die in traffic accidents. These were all tragic events that could have been avoided. Please reinforce safety outside of the work space. When you're Marine or Sailor is home, remind him or her that they are not indestructible. Remind them that you, your family, country, Navy and Corps needs them. Tell them to drive safely and to not drink and drive. God Bless and thank you again for the great support you provide your loved one and the sacrifices you make every day so your loved one can wear the cloth of our nation and do their duty in such a professional manner.

God Bless You,

Sincerely,

Captain E. S. SAENZ, MSC, USN
Commanding Officer
2d Medical Battalion



Command Master Chief



Warm greetings to all, it has been such a pleasure To work with every Sailor and Marine in the 2d Medical Battalion and to be of service to families And friends as Command Master Chief. With Alpha Company deployed and Bravo Company working up to deployed it has been very busy for everyone; however, it is with great pride for me to note that each that each and every Sailor and Marine's involvement and performance in numerous training evolutions: Battalion run, Battalion hump, and Battalion/Company Field Exercises in the past several months were well Imparted and executed. I truly appreciate every-one 's effort.

Our Sailors and Marines have worked hard at consistently maintaining proficiency in performing every task that is expected of them. They have done a great job in weighing the significance of listed duties and responsibilities and balancing their time and effort accordingly. While the primary focus of each Sailor and Marine is developing and perfecting skill sets required in field combat emergency medicine aspect, Family Readiness and peace of mind that goes along with it are key to achieving this primary goal. A family that is well informed about the command operational mission is a strong resilient family that is always well-prepared for deployments.

With the help of our **FRO Mr. Hawes**, our command will continue to consistently educate and adequately inform Sailors and Marines about services that are available to them and their Families. Our command needs to address the needs to address the stigma of losing rights of privacy when they disclose of personal problems. It is our responsibility to alleviate this fear by respecting their rights of privacy and focusing on critical matters such as comfort and wellness of those involved and resolve of their problems. Our command, including its senior leaders, is here to reach out and help those of us in need.

I really appreciate all your efforts in helping the command achieve its goals on a regular basis. I especially thank our families and friends for all their support in making things happen for us. As Always in the course of history, hard work of supportive teams is instrumental to advancement and accomplishment of missions.

Sincerely,

Florian C. Rio
Command Master Chief
2d Medical Battalion



FAMILY READINESS OFFICER



Hello 2d Medical Battalion Families and Friends,

My name is **Tom Hawes** I am the Family Readiness Officer for 2d Medical Battalion. I am here to support and assist the families of our Marines and Sailors by disseminating official Communication from the Commanding Officer, providing information and referral services with regard to all of the resources available to you and to provide Deployment Support and Family Outreach. Family Readiness has been brought to forefront with this program, recognizing that it equips the service member and their family with the tools needed to be successful in meeting the many challenges of military life. As a retired Marine myself and having a son that has also been deployed twice I personally know the challenges that the rigorous deployment rotations can impress upon our homes.

Family Readiness is our Commanding Officer's program with me as the facilitator of the CO's vision and intent. In carrying out the program, we continually need the support of volunteers within the unit. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities available for all family members, near and far, to participate in. Engaging in some of the Family Readiness events and programs allows our families to connect and network; providing a much greater sense of cohesion and family support.

If you are interested in learning about our volunteer opportunities please contact me any-time.

The new Family Readiness Program truly stems From the old motto "Taking Care of Our Own". I truly believe that there is strength and comfort in knowing there is someone to turn to for support And guidance. It is the command goal for Marines and Sailors of 2d Medical Battalion to be able to focus on their mission while knowing that their families have someone they can count on. I am here to provide you that support and answer any questions you might have.

With Alpha Company deployed and the upcoming deployment of Bravo Company, this is the time to start planning to ensure that **Wills, Power of Attorneys, Navy Marine Corps Relief Authorization Forms, Child Day Care Forms And Family Care Plans** are filled out and signed by your service member. If you are not sure what you need please call me so I can assist you. I want to help you make these upcoming deployments less stressful and also help with any questions or concerns.

For Bravo Company families the following will be your service member deployment address:

**Rank, Last Name, First Name, Middle Initial
2d Supply Battalion (Fwd)**

ATTN: Surgical Company, Unit 73615

FPO AE 09510-3615



FAMILY READINESS OFFICER



IMPORTANT DATES

October 2011

Meet and Greet the New Battalion Commander and his wife. Time and date TBD

November 2011

Battalion Thanksgiving Pot Luck , Time and Date TBD.

December 2011

8 Dec. 2011: Battalion Adult Christmas Party

Location : Officer's Club

**Time: 1830 to 1900 Social
1900-2300 Dinner, Dancing and Door Prizes**

17 Dec. 2011: Battalion Children Christmas Party

Location: TT Housing Community Center

Time: 1300 to 1500 Spend with Santa Claus

I look forward to meeting all of you in the near future. I believe that together we can create a true support network and develop a sense of family with the Battalion. My office number is (910) -451-0685 and my cell number is (910)-382-1257.

Warmest regards and Semper Fi,

Tom Hawes
Family Readiness Officer
2d Medical Battalion



What's Happening around Camp Lejeune August 2011



Marine Corps Family Team Building August Classes

- **CREDO (910)450-1668**
- 26th-28th Marriage Enrichment Retreat I
- 26th-28th Family Enrichment Retreat
- **L.I.N.K.S. (910)451-1299**
- 4th LINKS Spouses Workshop
- 5th LINKS Teens (13 & Up)
- 9th & 11th LINKS Mentor Training
- 13th LINKS Spouses Workshop
- 23rd & 24th LINKS Spouses
- **MCFTB (910)451-0176**
- 4th-5th "Before I Do" Workshop
- 8th "Active Parenting for Step Families
- 11th & 12th "Before I Do"
- 11th Return & Reunion Spouses
- 18th Kids-N-Deployment
- 18th & 19th "Before I Do"
- 22nd Four Lenses Part II: Family Survival
- 26th In the Midst Workshop
- 29th "Making Children Mind w/out losing yours"
- 30th & 1st "Marriage Enrichment (Prep)" Workshop *evening

MCCS Events

- D.E.F.Y. Summer Camp for DoD youth 9-12 years of age
- Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) **August 2-12.**
- More Info: Health Promotions *Office* **(910)451-2865**
- **Aug. 2:** National Night Out 5-9:30pm
OPEN to the Public
- **Aug. 6th:** Teen Trip to Busch Gardens in Virginia
- Bus departs 0530 on Sat, 6 Aug & returns 0300 on Sun, 7 Aug.
- Teens 12-18. \$30/teen MUST register by Wed. 3 Aug.
- More Info: ***CYTP Teen Program (910)450-8674***
- **Aug. 17th** CLR-25 & CREDO offer a Marriage Enrichment One Day Retreat 8am-4pm at Shell Island Resort
- FREE of charge to include Breakfast, Lunch & Snacks
- To register: **(910)451-5566** or carl.trost@usmc.mil
- Challenging Children Evening Workshop Series
- Tuesday, **23 Aug** @ 1830-2000 – Use of Functional Communication Techniques to Decrease Problem Behaviors
- Russell Marine & Family Services Center, Bldg 40
- More Info: **(910)451-4103**



What's Happening around Camp Lejeune August 2011



- Challenging Children Daytime Workshop Series
- Wednesday, **Aug. 24** @ 1100-1300 – Choosing Your Battles
- Russell Marine & Family Services Center, Bldg 40
- More Info: **(910)451-4103**
- Chick-fil-A Customer Appreciation Celebration
- Weds, **Aug. 10th** Luau Day-11am-4pm
- Thurs, **Aug 11th** 6:30am-10:30am – FREE Breakfast (FREE Chicken Biscuit)
- 5pm-8pm Pirate & Princess Night One FREE Kid's Meal w/Combo Purchase
- Fri., **Aug. 12th** 1pm Ribbon Cutting
- 5-9pm MILITARY Appreciation Night FREE FOOD~Must Present Military ID