

THE PROSPECTOR

Vol. 16, No. 3

Serving the Corps since 1943
Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow

February 28, 2026



Fire and Emergency Services Awards

ACMC Tours Base

Sergeant Major's Corner



Cover photo by: Leo Ritualo

MCCS Quarterly
BARSTOW

FLEA MARKET

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~~28 FEB - 10-2PM~~ Feb date is postponed

23 MAY - 8-12PM

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FOLLOWED BY A CONCERT

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**LOCATION: MCLB SORENSON FIELD
INSIDE THE MILITARY BASE NEBO**



A Marine with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit moves gear during a training exercise held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, January 29. The base offers a wide variety of unique training opportunities to military units, to include a range area of 2,438 acres, with a live fire known distance range complex and an open area for various maneuvers. The ranges are equipped for rifle, pistol, and shotgun qualifications, providing sustainment and qualification training for service members. The base also offers more than 2,400 acres for training to units in the southwest region.



THE PROSPECTOR

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
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IN THE ONLINE VERSION

Website: <http://www.mclbbarstow.marines.mil>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Marine-Corps-Logistics-Base-MCLB-Barstow/116845431679314>

Instagram: [mclb_barstow_official](#)

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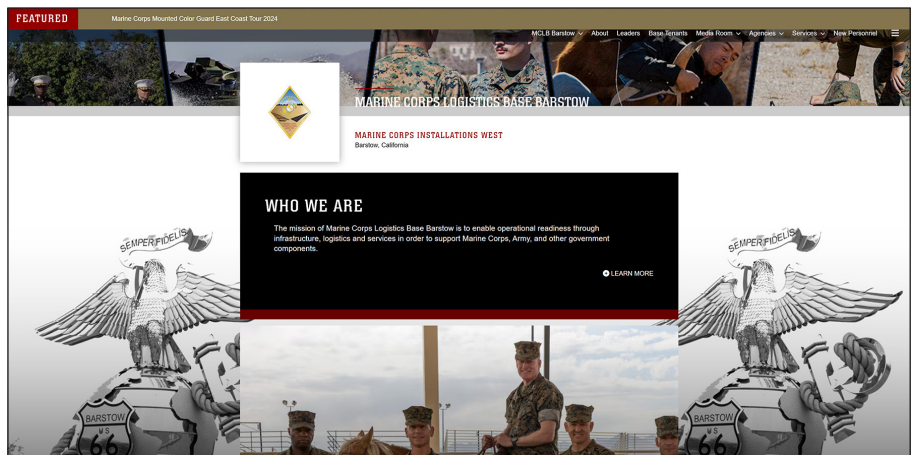




Photo by: Leo Ritualo

Sergeant Maggie Hardy, stableman, introduces children from the Child Development Center, and the School Age Care facility, to the horses and riders of the Mounted Color Guard, during a meet and greet held aboard

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, January 14. The children and thier families got to socialize with the riders and pet the horses from the MCG during the event.

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Firefighters of the Quarter

Story by: Katherine Cortez
Public Affairs Specialist

Fire Captain Robert Manz and Firefighter William Moorman, with Fire and Emergency services, were honored for their achievements during a ceremony held aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, February 5.

Manz and Moorman were recognized for their outstanding efforts in areas such as training, system calibrations, technical expertise, and overall dedication to the department. Both were acknowledged by Fire Chief Ryan Tworek for their strong teamwork, as well as their individual contributions as firefighters.

“My family being here to see this accomplishment is awesome, and it gives them a sense of reason as to why I can’t always be at every holiday or special event,” said Manz.

Manz has earned recognition through numerous accomplishments and has been appointed Fire and Emergency Services Employee of the Quarter for two out of four quarters. One project that highlights his technical confidence is the Hazardous Materials Program. Manz has contributed through equipment calibration, sensor replacement, and Level A testing, efforts that have led the hazmat program aboard the base to be recognized by other military installations.

“Since the tragedy of 9/11, protocols for communication have greatly advanced through improved radios that we are now using at this installation,” Manz explained.

He has played a key role in the upgrade and utilization of the ELMR Tri-Band radios with 400, 800 and VHF frequencies, transitioning to P25 digital radios that offer improved clarity, range, and security.

“Instead of having three different 4 systems of communication, the



Photo by: Leo Ritualo

Fire personnel and staff pose with Employee of the Quarter, Fire Captain Robert Manz, and Civilian Firefighter of the Quarter William Moorman, during an award ceremony held at the Route 66 Eagle Globe and Anchor statue,

aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, February 5. The event highlighted outstanding efforts in areas such as training, system calibrations, technical expertise and overall dedication to the department.

team is now down to one radio platform that can change frequencies from various locations such as the fire engine, dispatch, command centers, and on the firefighter themselves. This promotes a safer and more accurate form of communication and meets safety requirements,” Manz said. The seamless transition of communication systems is just one of his many accomplishments on base.

Moorman received the award for Civilian Firefighter of the Quarter and was also recognized for his contributions to the department. He has been acknowledged as the key subject matter expert in the Technical Rescue Program, for his creation of curriculum for Technical Rescue Awareness, and Operations JPRs, and for the countless hours of training he has completed that benefited the entire team.

“I am passionate about the technical rescue program and have felt a lot of freedom to create all the plans my team and I need to be successful,” Moorman said.

Alongside the Technical Rescue Program, Moorman has been heavily involved in Confined Space operations.

“We are excited to see how the technical rescue JPRs evolve throughout the year building on the knowledge and expertise Moorman has gained,” said Chief Tworek.

Success in high-stress environments such as emergency services requires a strong level of mental preparedness. Moorman has practiced martial arts, which have influenced his role as a firefighter through the problem-solving skills gained from jiu-jitsu.

“Jiu-jitsu has helped me focus on the things I am able to control, and that mindset has carried with me through the years and into my position now,” Moorman said.

His knowledge and expertise have helped both him and his team navigate programs such as technical rescue and various training initiatives, allowing the department to succeed collectively in its mission.



ACMC Tours Production Plant Barstow



Photos by: Leo Ritualo

General Bradford J. Gering, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, Col. Daniel J. Skuce, military asstt, Maj. Rebecca R. Carlson, aide-de-camp, Col. Nicholas J. Lozar, commanding officer Marine Depot Maintenance Command joined Col. Russell W. Savatt, base commanding officer, Sgt. Mario Virto, base sergeant major, Nathan Pepler, Production Plant Barstow plant manager, for a tour and briefing at PPB, MDMC, on the Yermo Annex aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, February 20. The tour included a view of craneway operations within PPB, and hands-on exploration of the plant capabilities.



Valentine's Day Paint and Sip

Photo by: Veronica Mears

Marines, civilians and their loved ones made valient efforts to paint their partners at the Valentine's Day Paint and Sip event, sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services, at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day conference center, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, February 13. Some participants played it safe, and opted out of that challenge, choosing to paint something else instead.



Sergeant Major's Corner:

Morning and Evening Colors Customs and Procedures

Written by: Sgt. Maj. Mario Virto
Base Sergeant Major



This message serves as a command-wide reminder of the procedures, customs, and safety considerations required during morning and evening colors. Adherence to these protocols is a measure of our discipline and a sign of respect for our National Ensign.

Morning colors are observed daily at 0800. Evening colors are observed at sunset. The following procedures, in accordance with Marine Corps regulations, will be observed:

Personnel Outdoors and on Foot:

At the first note of music (“To the Colors” in the morning; “Retreat” in the evening), all activity will cease.

In Uniform:

Face the flag (or the direction of the music), come to the position of attention, and render a hand salute. Hold the salute until the last note has played.

Not in Uniform/PT gear:

Face the flag (or music), stand at attention. Headgear should be removed with the right hand and held over the left shoulder so that the right hand is over the heart

Civilians:

Face the flag (or music), stand at attention, and place your right hand over your heart. Headgear should be removed with the right hand and held over the left shoulder so that the right hand is over the heart.

Personnel in Vehicles

Safety is paramount. At the first note of music, vehicle operators will safely pull to the side of the road, stop the vehicle, and turn off any music. All occupants will remain in the vehicle and sit quietly at attention until the ceremony is complete. Do not exit the vehicle.

Safety Exception: Group Physical Training

Formations or Groups: For safety reasons, formations or groups of personnel engaged in physical training (e.g., unit/group runs) will NOT stop upon hearing colors. The risk of injury from a sudden stop in a large group is significant. The individual in charge of the formation will continue the activity and render the appropriate salute on behalf of all participants.

Individuals:

Personnel running or conducting physical training on their own are expected to stop safely and render the proper courtesies as described above.

Your diligence in observing these customs reflects the discipline inherent in our Corps. Thank you for your cooperation in upholding these time-honored traditions in a safe and respectful manner.



Base Beautification

Photos by: Leo Ritualo

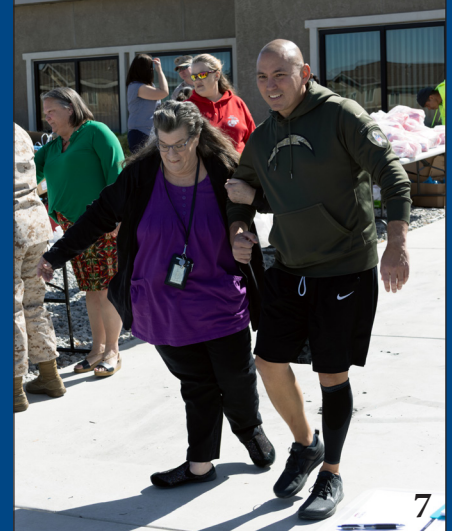
Marines and civilians pull weeds and clean up debris as part of a base beautification project aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, February 11.



Food Pantry

Photos by: Leo Ritualo

The Food Pantry was open to military personnel, and their families, at the Desert View Housing Community Center, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, February 23, ensuring that cupboards are full and families are well fed.



Barstow HS Football Championship Parade

Photos by: Adam Diaz



Colonel Russell Savatt, commanding officer, and Sgt. Maj. Mario Virto, base sergeant major participate in celebrations and a parade honoring Barstow High School Aztec football team's historic California Interscholastic Federation, D4AA Football Championship, at City Hall, Barstow, California, February 7. The win took place in December, and the celebratory event was supported by the City of Barstow, VIPs and citizens alike. It is the first win of this type for the high Desert.



Marines challenge themselves in PT

Photos by: Leo Ritualo

Marines conducted their routine physical training aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, January 9. This included a three-mile run followed by a pull-up challenge. The training exemplified the Marines' commitment to discipline and mental toughness.

Staff Sgt. Nolan Ceja, inspection chief, described the importance of mental preparation for demanding situations.

"Mental dexterity and going through so much in life prepares you for things like these and motivates me to accomplish new wins," he said.

"Rediscovering mental toughness and building on what you've already developed is one of the key takeaways for me," said Lance Cpl. Esperanza Gonzalez. She stays motivated during the run by pushing herself to keep pace with the group.



11th MEU Training on Base



Photos by: Leo Ritualo

Marines with 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, and neighboring units, participated in a raid and seizure exercise, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, January 29. Through this exercise the Expeditionary Operations Training Group specializes in preparing Marines for deployment and war readiness. Marines are provided tools like the Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel force to respond to fallen personnel or to recover sensitive information..



MCLB Barstow Quarterly Awards

Photo by: Jeremy Bledsoe



Marines and civilian personnel were honored with awards for their outstanding work in their areas of expertise, during a quarterly awards ceremony held at the Maj. Gen. James L. Day conference, aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, February 19. Awardees Jun Hubbard, Employee of the Quarter; Joe Baca, Employee of the Quarter; Emelia Sanchez, Supervisor of the Quarter; Drew

Santana, Certificate of Appreciation; Maxine Macdonald, Certificate of Appreciation; Julianna Adams, Certificate of Appreciation; Veronica Mears, Certificate of Appreciation; Veronica Ellison, Certificate of Appreciation; Michelle Bledsoe, Employee of the Year; David Hernandez, Supervisor of the Year.

Brigadier General Brown Tours MCLB Barstow

Photos by: COMMSTRAT

Brigadier General Nick I. Brown, commanding general, Marine Corps Installations West-Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, and Sgt. Maj. Sherri, N. Cook, senior enlisted leader aboard MCI-West were greeted by Col. Russell W. Savatt, base commanding officer, and Sgt. Maj. Mario R. Virto, base sergeant major, as they began their tour aboard Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California, January 6. Throughout the day, the team met with Command and Staff for a briefing about current affairs for the base, and to discuss upcoming events on base and throughout the region.



BARSTOW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

BRUNCH & BRIEF

Interested in transferring your military education and starting college? Join us for brunch to learn how Barstow Community College can help you reach your educational goals. Bring the family and enjoy a welcoming, family-friendly event while you explore your next steps.

MARCH 06, 2026

0900-1100



**Location: MCLB McTureous Hall,
Bldg. 218 O'Bannon Ave.
Barstow, CA 92311**

 Application

 Registration

 Residency

 FAFSA Application

**BARSTOW COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**



**MARINE CORPS
LOGISTICS BASE**

**Food will be provided by the Military & Veterans Programs
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST**



MORE INFORMATION CONTACT 760.252.6801 OR VETS@BARSTOW.EDU

LEPRECHAUN 5K DASH



03-11-26



WARRIOR ATHLETE
READINESS & RESILIENCE

TIME: 1600 Check In / 1630 Race Begins

LOCATION: Bldg. 44 / Fitness Center

INFO: Come compete and have fun. Medals for the top finishers. Catch a Leprechaun and win a prize. **Wear Green!** Open to all MCCS patrons. Sign up @ the Fitness Center.