



From The Point

1st Quarter 2013 Volume 8

MARINE
EXCELLENCE
CENTER for
CONTROLLING
AIRCRAFT

The Best ATC Training Facility in the Marine Corps

Table of Contents

From The Point	3
Training	5

ATC Facility Officer – Capt Scott M. Schmitz
SNCOIC – MSgt Marshall K. Crawford
Training Chief – SSgt Robert C. Kelley
Tower Chief – GySgt Christopher N. Hearn
Radar Chief – SSgt Matthew J. Lange
Writer/Editor – Joseph G. Hendrickson

On the cover

The sun rises over the world famous Cherry Point centermat.

This quarterly newsletter is published solely by the Editor and does not imply any consent, approval or endorsement by the ATCFO or the commander of MCAS Cherry Point.

WWW.CHERRYPOINTATC.COM

Apr 2013

From The Point

MSgt Bufkin Promoted/Transferred

Master Sergeant Uriah D. Bufkin was promoted to his present rank on 1 Jan 13 during a private ceremony aboard MCAS Cherry Point.

MSgt Bufkin joined the ATC Facility on 14 Jan 11 and was immediately tagged to take over as the Training Chief, a billet he held from 4 Feb 11 to 25 Mar 12. Upon the transfer of MSgt Thacker on 23 Mar 12, then GySgt Bufkin took the helm as SNCOIC.

During his tour here he has witnessed 146 Marines achieve 514 position qualifications and earn 194 MOS designations; documenting over 54,000 hours of training. Many facility training records were broken in 2011 and then again in 2012 to include total qualifications (252) and MOSs issued (103).

On 21 Feb 13, MSgt Bufkin was transferred to MCAS New River.

From The Schoolhouse

LCpl Nicholas J. Blair (Reserve)	3 Jan 13
PFC Dylan L. Shulenberger (Reserve)	3 Jan 13
PFC Jimmy L. Wurtsmith	7 Jan 13
LCpl Jonte N. Allen	28 Jan 13
LCpl Derek C. Boti	11 Feb 13
2ndLt Nicholas J. Dobrinska	25 Feb 13
LCpl Arif Hasan	7 Mar 13

MSgt Crawford Takes the Helm

Master Sergeant Marshall K. Crawford enlisted in the Marine Corps on 24 Sep 92. Upon graduating from the Air Traffic Control Course in Jul 1993, he reported to MCAS Beaufort, where he obtained his Control Tower Operator certificate and became a Tower Supervisor

In Jun 1997, he transferred to MCAF Quantico where he held billets of CTO Examiner, Tower Supervisor and FWO. During this tour he was selected as the MCIEAST Controller of the Year and promoted to Staff Sergeant. Transferring again in Sep 01 to MACS-4 in Okinawa, Japan, he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as a crew chief and tower liaison in direct support of Air Force Special Ops.

In Feb 2003, SSgt Crawford served at NAS Pensacola as the ATC Officer Course supervisor, Instructor supervisor, and RADAR phase supervisor. Additionally, he served as the MATSG-21 Corporal's Course Director and was selected as the senior Navy/Marine Corps Air Traffic Control Instructor of the Year for 2005.

In Jan 2007, GySgt Crawford began a tour at MCAS New River as a CTO Examiner, Tower Supervisor, and Crew Officer. He also served on the MCIEAST NATOPS Evaluation team. While still at New River, he transferred to MACS-2, Det B and immediately attended the Joint Air Operations Command and Control Course and deployed to Al Taqqadum, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as the Radar Chief.

In Jan 2010, GySgt Crawford reported to MACS-4 Det A Okinawa. Promoted to Master Sergeant in Mar 10 he became the Det SNCOIC and deployed to Korea, Australia and the Philippines and supported Operation Invincible Spirit.

On 16 Jan 13 MSgt Crawford reported aboard MCAS Cherry Point and officially took the helm of SNCOIC on 15 Feb 13.

From The Point

Cherry Point Furloughs Imminent

On 8 Mar 13, the Commanding Officer of MCAS Cherry Point issued a letter to all civilian employees about the potential for furloughs. Here is a portion of that letter:

“And now, we face the latest daunting challenge to our mission - sequestration. I encourage you to view the Commandant of the Marine Corps and Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps' video update on sequestration at www.marines.mil. In regards to potential furloughs, the decision to commence unpaid furloughs for the civilian workforce does not rest in our hands. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to commence your personal planning for its inevitability. I recommend you review the worst case furlough scenario - a 16 hours per pay period across 11 pay periods, or up to 22 weeks on your current and future financial situation and make adjustments now to mitigate the effects.

As we enter this new period of fiscal austerity, we shall remain focused on the mission of the air station and I ask that you act as good stewards of our limited resources. We will continue to keep you fully informed of all information and direction the air station receives. In the meantime, communicate any questions you may have on the issue to your supervisor and if able, assist others in their planning. I sincerely appreciate your steadfastness as we work through the challenges before us and thank you for all your hard work each and every day, and in the days ahead.”

UPDATE – As of this publishing, the number of days the civilians are to be furloughed has been reduced from 22 to 14.

To The Point – No More

by Joe Hendrickson

The random commentary known as “To The Point” will no longer be included in this publication.

The purpose of the articles was not to create controversy, but to foster discussion. One way to do that is to ruffle some feathers, the controversy was already there. I guess some people are afraid my opinion will be taken too seriously. As it turns out, the only opinion that really counts is that of the whiners and complainers. The most recent article focused on the division between above average and below average performance. I can only assume that the below average performers didn't like it.

Although I personally received no complaint, I was told to recall the newsletter. Apparently all the complaints went to my boss, who had nothing to do with the publication. Where are the letters to the editor? Where are the rebuttals? That's what I wanted to see, not the shutting down of the article.

It was recommended that I require the ATCFO to approve my opinion prior to publication. I don't operate that way.

ATC NATOPS Adds Marine Chapter

On 1 Feb 13, a Marine Only chapter was added to NAVAIR 00-80T-114 NATOPS ATC Manual which separated our training and standardization procedures from those of the Navy.

Originally proposed by Mr. Joe Hendrickson during the ATC Leaders Forum aboard MCAS Cherry Point in August of 2010, this chapter was necessary to remove several mandates that the Navy required and to allow Marines to focus standardization on Training and Readiness along with the MOS progression of MARADMIN 230/04.

Training

Training Program Statistics

	<u>Jan-Mar</u>	<u>Total</u>
OJT Hours	2,788	168,170
OJF Hours	619	19,890
Tower Simulation (Training)	948	7,670
Radar Simulation (Training)	1,323	11,152
Simulated GCAs	2,155	57,940
MOSs Issued	22	1,071
Position Qualifications	60	2,960

Controller of the Quarter

LCpl Mario E. Gonzalez was awarded Controller of the Quarter for the 1st quarter of 2013. He joined the facility on 1 Dec 11 and is qualified on Radar Flight Data, Radar Final Control, Tower Flight Data and Ground Control. During this quarter, he trained for 71 hours on Local Control while providing 60 hours of OJT and 20 hours of simulated instruction for eight of his fellow Marines.

LCpl Gonzalez's knowledge of his technical specialty and his drive to teach others has made him an extremely valuable asset to the Marine Corps and the Air Traffic Control Community.

Qualifications

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>MOS</u>
LCpl E. J. Ayala	7 Jan 13	RD	
LCpl M. A. Van	9 Jan 13	GC	7257T
LCpl D. C. Haydel	16 Jan 13	FC	7257R
PFC J. A. Rodgers	18 Jan 13	RD	
Sgt M. T. Carr	18 Jan 13	GC	7257T
Sgt M. E. Boyd	18 Jan 13	LC	7252
LCpl J. Navarrete	23 Jan 13	FD	
SSgt J. E. Fager	24 Jan 13	APW	7253/54
SSgt J. L. Johnson	29 Jan 13	AR	
Cpl M. J. Dufour	29 Jan 13	FD	
Cpl B. C. Piburn	29 Jan 13	GC	
Sgt C. J. Newsome	29 Jan 13	GC	
Cpl T. E. Kelch	29 Jan 13	LC	7252
SSgt W. N. Allen	30 Jan 13	APE	
PFC N. D. Pollack	30 Jan 13	FC	7257R
Cpl B. C. Piburn	30 Jan 13	FD	7257T
PFC C. A. Kennedy	31 Jan 13	RD	
LCpl Z. M. Valdez	1 Feb 13	FD	
Mr J. A. Ramsey	1 Feb 13	FD	
LCpl A. D. Frew	4 Feb 13	APW	7253/54
GySgt H. C. Black	4 Feb 13	GC	
LCpl B. M. Mack	5 Feb 13	RD/FC	
Mr J. A. Ramsey	6 Feb 13	GC	
Sgt D. J. Walsh	9 Feb 13	RD	
Cpl K. W. Thompson	11 Feb 13	AR	7253
LCpl E. J. Ayala	11 Feb 13	FC	7257R

Qualifications

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>MOS</u>
Sgt C. J. Newsome	15 Feb 13	FD	
LCpl A. D. Orton	15 Feb 13	GC	7257T
PFC J. A. Rodgers	20 Feb 13	FC	7257R
LCpl N. J. Blair	20 Feb 13	FD	
GySgt H. C. Black	22 Feb 13	FD	
LCpl C. Z. Curran	22 Feb 13	GC	7257T
Sgt C. J. Sharpe	25 Feb 13	LC	7252
LCpl D. M. Long	28 Feb 13	APW	7253/54
SSgt W. N. Allen	5 Mar 13	AR	
LCpl D. A. Harlan	5 Mar 13	FD	
Cpl S. D. Malsh	8 Mar 13	APW	7253/54
Mr J. A. Ramsey	8 Mar 13	LC	
Sgt W. T. Stanley	13 Mar 13	APE	7254
PFC B. Bonilla	18 Mar 13	RD	
SSgt W. N. Allen	18 Mar 13	FD	
LCpl D. C. Boti	22 Mar 13	RD	
Cpl K. W. Thompson	27 Mar 13	APW	