



APR 2004 Edition

### **SKIPPER'S CORNER**

Hello again from the front office. I am going to be especially brief in this edition in order to provide plenty of writing space for our new XO to introduce himself. Please join me in welcoming aboard LCDR Rick Hayes, his wife Janice and their four young children Gabi, Jack, Owen, and Avery. They come to us from Panama City, Florida where, like our Low Country, palm trees abound and hot weather is the norm; just hope they find our State Bird as beautiful and friendly as we all do. It's only a matter of days now until those migrating blood sucking little humming birds return—oh joy!

Best wishes go out to CDR Vince Martinez and his wife Gael who are now en route to the sunny island of Guam where he will take over as Commanding Officer, EODMU FIVE. CDR Martinez distinguished himself as a dedicated and competent Executive Officer and EOD Technician; his service will be missed but not forgotten.

As always, I leave you with a simple request; please take the time to pay reverence to those who place themselves in harms way in the defense of our Constitution and way of life; our servicemen ask little more in return.

### **XO's Greetings**

Greetings from the new Executive Officer! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the warm welcome to the EODMU SIX family. This is a great place with outstanding people. I am truly impressed with the level of professionalism and pride.

I would also like to thank my predecessor, CDR Martinez, for the great turnover. I could not have asked for a smoother transition. He left me in great

hands.

Janice, the kids and I are excited to be in the Lowcountry. We plan on taking advantage of all it has to offer. Our two years will most likely fly by and we don't want to miss a thing.

Have an outstanding Spring. Take advantage of the great weather while you can. Thanks again for everything.

### **CMC's View**

Spring is in the air and summer is just around the corner. The March advancement exam is behind us and we anxiously await the results. I'm sure you all did your best on exam day. However, one person was spared the exam this time around, congratulations to GM1 Johnson on his selection for the Command Advancement Program (CAP). He is well deserving of this promotion and it is a great program. I remember some 22 years ago I was Command Advanced to E-4.... Keep up the great work Guns! Our Sailor of the Year, AO1 Dexter, also received recognition by the Surface Navy Association during a luncheon held on March 4<sup>th</sup>. PO Dexter continues to represent the command well and to serve with distinction. These are just two examples of the many outstanding sailors we have at MU-6. We are also fully engaged in training and operational deployments, which have left the compound rather empty the last 2 months. These deployers would not be successful without the countless hours spent by all personnel supporting their mission. Your efforts ensure our success and you should be proud of your daily accomplishments. Keep up the great work, CMC.

### **FROM THE OMBUDSMAN**

#### **New Babies**

Carter; son of LT Limbert and Mrs. Limbert

Luke Brennan; son of LT Cuthbert & Mrs. Cuthbert

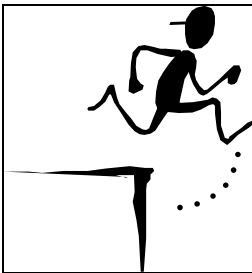
Robert Myzell; son of YN3 Spears

### **Family fun Day**

The base is having its annual Family Fun day. On April 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am—2pm at Locklear park. There will be free food, games, and more. There will also be a stroll-athon with new parents and new babies to small children. Please call the Fleet Family Support Center for times and more information.

### **Youth Center**

There are a lot of new classes starting at the Youth Center for spouses. If interested please call for more information at 764-7809 Michelle Dial (843)764-2735  
[dial.michelle@nwschs.navy.mil](mailto:dial.michelle@nwschs.navy.mil)



### **Safety Spot**

Reminder: The traffic control area on housing/south-side of base requires that vehicles approaching explosive laden trucks (with flashing lights/diamond placards) pull off to side of road and allow the explosive vehicle to pass/ have right of way.

### **COMMAND CAREER COUNSELOR CORNER**

A new service offered by the College Board, in partnership with the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) program, allows military service members to save time and money as they work toward a college degree. For the first time, service members, including members of the National Guard and Reserve, will be able to access computer-based College-

Level Examination Program<sup>®</sup> (CLEP<sup>®</sup>) exams at college test centers across the country.

CLEP, sponsored by the College Board, allows individuals to demonstrate mastery of introductory college-level subjects. By earning a successful score on one of 35 CLEP exams, students can skip one or more introductory courses and receive college credit for their knowledge. While the examinations have been funded for all military service members since 1974, funded exams were available to service members only in a paper-and-pencil format and only on military installations. This made access particularly challenging for National Guard and Reserve members who often do not live near a military base.

### **Welcome aboard**

LCDR Hayes  
LT Sullivan  
LT Gerhardstein  
AOC Bunde  
BMC Dixon  
PRC Dorazio  
STG3 Callaway  
TM3 Coleman  
AO3 Gowen  
AO3 Speer  
HT3 Wright

### **Retirement**

Special thanks go out to CWO4 Gipson for his 28 years of distinguished service. Hoo-Yah Gunner!!! Thanks a lot.

### **Fair Winds & Following Seas**

CDR Martinez  
LT Holly  
CWO4 Gipson  
BMC Vaughn  
ET1 Reagin  
EN1 Andros  
HT2 Compton  
SK2 Pizzaro  
YN3 Spears

**Bravo Zulu**

Navy Commendation Medal  
CDR Martinez

Navy Achievement Medal  
LT Dewitt  
LT Holly  
AO1 Dexter  
SK2 Pizarro

Good Conduct Medal  
HTCM Ervin (7<sup>th</sup>)  
EO1 Swaja (3<sup>rd</sup>)

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**Geek Gab**  
**HOW TO ADD RAM**

Don't let your computer slow you down. Follow my easy steps to add more memory to your computer. It's an easy thing to do and it's about the cheapest way you can soup up the performance of your PC. Almost everyone can use more memory.

The first question is what type of memory do you need?

Start by checking your computer manual for the kind of memory you need. The number of memory types is expanding, so you really need to be careful when buying RAM. The manual should also tell you if you have to install RAM in pairs. Newer computers can use a single RAM stick, but many older computers require a pair of RAM sticks. Here are kinds of memory out right now (SDRAM, DDR SDRAM, Rambus (RIMM), and SODIMM, which is used in laptops). It's wise to buy memory from a vendor who will exchange it if you have a problem. Crucial, Kingston, PNY are good ones but you also have local stores Office Max, Bestbuy and Circuit City.

Now open your computer. Always ground yourself. Once again your manual will

come in handy, because every computer case is different. Memory is usually inserted upright. Release the tabs and then gently push the memory stick into place. The tabs should snap up, lock, and hold the memory. You do have special cases with older PC's may still use SIMMs. SIMM slots are white and are held in place by clips at each end. Inset the SIMM at a 45-degree angle and gently tilt it up until it's upright. The clips should snap into place and the SIMM should be held firmly in its slot. IF it's wobbly or uneven, release the clips and try again. Once you've added your memory, turn on your PC. It should recognize the new memory automatically. Again check your manual for any exceptions to this rule. That's IT! You've added more memory to your computer and you should see a real performance increase. Next time I will talk about adding RAM to a Laptop.

\*\*\*News from around the nation\*\*\*

**A family reunion in Baghdad**  
*Twins united thousands of miles from southeast Kansas*

**By NIKKI PATRICK**  
*Lifestyle Editor*

(This story appeared in the Morning Sun on August 24, 2003. The two brothers were awarded the Bronze Star Medal.)

In spite of the war, it's still a small world.

Twin brothers Jason McMurry and Jeremy McMurry, 34 hadn't seen each other since March 2002, but recently had a brief reunion in Baghdad, Iraq.



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Jason McMurry is a U.S. Army Sergeant First Class, tank commander and platoon leader, based at Fort Riley. His twin is a U.S. Navy Senior Chief, serving with a Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team based at Ingleside, Texas.

They are the sons of Barbara Milano Reid, Midland, Texas, and Pat McMurry, Oklahoma City, OK. Both parents are formerly of Pittsburg, and the twins were born in Fort Scott. Grandparents are Reed and Stella McMurry.

“They were both called to be deployed on the same day, which is unusual, though they didn’t leave on the same day,” their grandmother said.

The Army twin was deployed March 5 to Kuwait with Alpha Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 70<sup>th</sup> Armor. From there his unit moved into Baghdad to support the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne. He has been in Baghdad since then, policing the war-torn Iraqi capital.

The Navy twin was deployed March 10th to Bahrain in the Persian Gulf. Through March and April he was on the USS Ardent, a minesweeper. Following that, his EOD team was flown to Kuwait, then went by land into Iraq to take care of any ordnance they found there.

He knew that his twin in the Army was in Iraq, and hoped there would be some way for the two of them to get together.

As it turned out, there was.

Around the first of May, Jason McMurry’s Army unit was going across a bridge and found that it had been booby-trapped with explosives. The EOD unit was called in to disarm the bridge.

Knowing that his brother was part of such a team, the Army twin approached one of the team members and asked, “Do I look familiar to you?”

When the man replied, “Yeah, kind of,” McMurry told him that he had a twin brother who was part of an EOD team.

When the man returned to his camp, he happened to hear Jeremy McMurry talking about how he hoped to find his twin brother who was serving in the Army in Iraq.

“I know where he’s at,” the man told Jeremy, and drove him to Jason’s unit headquarters.

The brothers were able to spend some time together that evening and the next day. A week or so later, the Navy twin was even assigned to the Army twin’s unit for about three days. They had hoped to spend their joint birthday together, but the Navy twin was sent elsewhere.

The twins’ mother happily reported to friends and family that she received a very special call on May 30. “Jeremy called, and he asked me to guess who was standing next to him,” Reid wrote in a letter. “I got to talk to both of them for about half an hour. All I could keep saying was “this is too wonderful.”

Their grandmother said that she believed Jason is still in Iraq, but that she wasn’t sure where Jeremy is now assigned.

She and the twins’ parents joined in asking for prayers that the brothers, and all troops overseas, will be home soon and safely.

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Hello, from everyone on DET 12! We are currently deployed onboard USS George Washington in support of Carrier Group Eight. We are all doing well, and doing great work out here supporting the Global War on Terrorism.

We have accomplished a lot since joining the George Washington Carrier Strike Group at the end of 2003. During the

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George Washington Carrier Strike Group's Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX) in November we started off with a very successful split team operation. One half of DET 12 was at Camp Lejuene, NC with our Marine Corps EOD brothers doing some first-time-ever combined range clearance operations training while the other half of the team supported the Carrier Group by conducting a floating mine response drill, and several exercises with the embarked helicopter squadron, including: three Special Patrol Insertion Extraction (SPIE) operations, and two fast-rope insertions onboard USNS Supply. Halfway through COMTUEX the teams traded places and carried out more successful training with the Marines and several members of other Detachments from EODMU6 in Camp Lejuene, one fast rope insertion onboard USS Elrod, one combination fast-rope/ fly-away dive onboard USS Ramage, two floating mine response drills, and provided the Force Protection diving support for an incident free port visit to Key West, FL. Additionally, all members of DET 12 qualified to work on the flight deck aboard George Washington ensuring uninterrupted flight operations for the exercise and throughout deployment.

The actual deployment began on January 20<sup>th</sup> when USS George Washington, with EODMU6 DET 12 aboard, sailed from Naval Station Norfolk, VA accompanied by USS Vella Gulf, USNS Supply, and USS Bulkeley. We all entered the Mediterranean Sea about two weeks later.

Our first stop was Souda Bay, Crete. After completing the required force protection support for the arrival of the George Washington, BMCS Tony Diaz, BMC Rob Womble, MN1 Michael Englert, GM1 Casey Rogers, ET2 Chad Black and IT2 Jason Erickson toured all around the island and enjoyed many of the Mediterranean island's sights. They visited a few monasteries and visited St. John's Tomb and Roman ruins dated before 400 BC.

Shortly after leaving Souda Bay, DET 12 performed another floating mine response

drill in the Mediterranean Sea before crossing into the Red Sea via the Suez Canal a few days later—a definite “photo opportunity.”



A few days into the Red Sea transit four members of the team were sent to the Seychelles Islands in the middle of the Indian Ocean to conduct force protection dives for the USS Thorn's port visit there. On the way to Seychelles the team had a stop over in Djibouti. While at Camp Lemonier in Djibouti, the dive team from DET 12 said hi to AO2 Jeff Dickey ( a former member of EODMU6/DET 12 during Operation Iraqi Freedom) who has been forward deployed there in support of Joint Task Force Horn of Africa since October 2003. The next day the team arrived in the Seychelles: an absolute paradise with the notable exception of its very expensive food and drink. The team was on the island of Mahe', Seychelles for nine days and in addition to conducting numerous pier dives and inspections of small boats to ensure a safe visit for the USS Thorn, the team also completed some dive operations with the Seychelles Peoples Defense Force Divers, who were very helpful throughout the visit. However expensive, leaving the Seychelles was hard to do.

LT Tim Limbert, MN1 Michael Englert, and GM1 Casey Rogers flew back aboard the ship from the Seychelles via Dubai and Bahrain on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Currently DET 12 is again split into two four man teams. One team is in Qatar doing force protection diving for incoming ships, and the other half is onboard the George Washington in port Jebel Ali. The DET has several upcoming

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operations including the opportunity to train and work with other countries and seeing more ports.

We are having a very successful cruise so far and are looking forward to what lies ahead. We miss everyone and will be very happy to return home to our families when our work out here is done. Until the next newsletter, this is DET 12 signing off!

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Detachment Kings Bay celebrated a ground breaking for a building addition to the existing EOD shop on 24 February 2004. The Commanding Officer of EOD Mobile Unit Six and the Command Master Chief attended the ceremony. Other guests included TMC (ret.) John Youhas.

The project was identified/initiated in January 2002 by CW03 Thomas Douglas and TMC (EOD) John Youhas. SUBASE Kings Bay Public Works (Joe Pergola, Gary Gallagher, and Bill Humberson) helped with the initial design and engineering requirements. LCDR Ron Eickoff from SUBASE Kings Bay and Captain Stephen Duba from Jacksonville PWC identified and secured funds for the project. Dana Mizzell-Goethe from Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southern Division out of Charleston, SC spearheaded the final design specifications and contract bidding.

The building project consists of a double garage bay (2404 square feet) and includes HVAC, automatic overhead doors, IDS, sprinkler system, compressed air piping, power, and a small bathroom with a shower. The project also includes a new concrete driveway for quicker access to the main road.

The addition will allow for the EOD response vehicle and the EOD 24' RHIB to be parked inside increasing their service life, as well as providing physical security.

The contract, at a cost of \$621,895.00, was awarded on 22 September 2003 to BKM Architects, Inc out of Jacksonville, Florida. The estimated completion date is 07 October 2004.



The ground breaking culminates many months of hard work by a team of dedicated professionals from the Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base, Naval Region South East, and Naval Facilities Engineering Command and will ultimately result in a facility that will meet the needs of the Kings Bay EOD Detachment for decades to come.



**Community Projects**

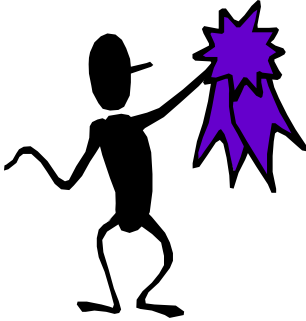
Bravo Zulu to:

- BMC Prewitt
- GMC Wolf
- AO1 Tshcannen
- IC1 Kern
- AO1 Culbreth
- STG1 McClish
- AO2 Demakas
- HT2 Edmonds

All volunteered to go to Westview Elementary School for a Job Fair on February 6<sup>th</sup> and show off EOD tools to all the kids. Thanks guys for taking the time to represent EOD.

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EODMU SIX is currently in 1<sup>st</sup> place with 265 points in the run for Naval Weapons Station Captains Cup. The year long competition ends the last day of September. We have currently participated in five events. They are (with points earned) as follows: Volleyball (70 points), Disc golf (45 points), Horseshoes (45 points), Walleyball (80 points), and Basketball (25 points). Thanks to all participants and especially the coaches, GM1 Ziliak (Volleyball, Horseshoes and Disc Golf), IC1 Kern (Basketball), and DC2 Earwood (Walleyball). We now have a strong softball roster which is sure to be a legitimate contender in this highly competitive league. GM1 Johnson has rogered up for the duties, obligations and responsibilities associated with the coaching. Games will start around the first week of April. BZ to those runners who brought home 20 more Captain's Cup points at last Saturday's 5K run. The participants all placed in the top 3 in their age group. ET3 Wood placed 1st in his age group and 3rd overall for 10 points, XO placed 3rd in his age group for 5 points, YN1 Philbrook placed 2nd in his age group for 5 points and EMC Miller placed 1st in his age group for 5 points. Hoo-Yah, GOOD JOB! Ultimate Frisbee will be starting soon, as well. Contact DC2 Earwood in the dive locker if interested in playing Ultimate Frisbee. Remember, we can earn points in Captains Cup events by (1) Participation and (2) Winning!!!! Let's stay focused and blow away all the other commands at Naval Weapons Station. Chief Miller is our Commands POC for any and all information concerning "The Run for Captain's Cup, 2004!"

**A picture is worth a thousand words**



Master Diver Ervin snapped a few pictures during our dive ops yesterday. Great working with you all, enjoy!

V/R,  
LT Tim Limbert

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Detachment 22 deployed officially on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2003 to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to assist NSF Security in Anti Terrorism and Force Protection in three Marine Ports during Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

Det 22 has been split in two mini Det's for our deployment. Some of us are in the bustling city of Dubai and the rest in the beautiful desert mountains of Fujairah.

Det Jebel Ali is comprised of LT Jonas "I now have 8 minutes in EOD" Frey, HTC/M/MDV Ron "Elvis" Ervin, AOC Buster "Mr. Dubai" Stancil, HTC John "J-Money" Juricek, MR1 Garrett "Bullfrog" Nichols and our newest addition HT2 Brian "(not so) Lucky" Levens. Det Jebel Ali is an all star cast of techs and divers compiled from Mobile Units Four and Six. Det Dubai gives new meaning to "All Chief's and no Indians," just ask (not so) Lucky Levens who was last heard mumbling something to the Master Diver about "having the most bottom time in the navy in the last four years." Levens is also diligently working on his Diving Supervisor Qualification. I'll let you know next issue how that turns out.

In Fujairah, ENC Jim "Smokey" Winkle and EO1 Dale "Friar Tuck" Woodard are forward deployed to Fujairah. They are complimented by Deep Sea Divers HM1 Jon "Fabio" Dent and PH3 Alek "I ate so much chicken I have a headache" Isokangas hailing from EODMU Six. Life in the sleepy town of Fujairah is anything but sleepy. Daily operations have been increasing steadily since mid February. Additionally, we will be moving to the tallest building in Fujairah (7 stories) in a few days. We bid the stalwart of Det Four MM1 Lejay Colborn fair winds and following seas as he has departed for his next command at NAVSCOLEOD. We welcome AO1 Dale Woodard to our Det but regretfully have no construction equipment here for him to drive around because they obviously don't teach boat driving to EO's. Dale has quickly become an integral part of

the team and immediately volunteered to stay for the duration of our deployment. HM1 Dent, the workhorse, not only ensures that everyone remains alive and healthy, he does the majority of the daily swims and dives. In constant competition with young buck PH3 Isogankas, HM1 ensures his quantitative numbers far outreach those of his diving buddy. Alek, a new addition to the diving community, reminds the old guys how the new diving community really works. "He isn't afraid of jelly fish, he just doesn't like them." Having seen the cool guy equipment that techs get, he is considering turning in his hard hat for a MK16. We are all grateful to be at the front door to the Gulf ensuring all are safe to enter. Until next time, Roger Out .....

For all of you that hear that the UAE is a good deployment, the latest rumor is that they are taking away the Per Diem, moving us into open bay barracks and making us dive with lots of jellyfish. With this in mind, we the people of Detachment Four Volunteer to stay down here until conditions improve.....We will keep you posted. Hoo Yah!

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### Newsletter Inputs

Please send all Newsletter inputs to GMC Wolf : [wolf.kyle@nwschs.navy.mil](mailto:wolf.kyle@nwschs.navy.mil) and SK3 Zaebst: [zaebst.misty@nwschs.navy.mil](mailto:zaebst.misty@nwschs.navy.mil) and we will get your inputs into the "MU's News". Thanks, GMC.