

Guantanamo Bay Gazette

GTMO Holds Warrior of the Quarter Luncheon



Command representatives and “Warrior of the Quarter” winners take a group photo after the “Warrior of the Quarter” luncheon July 22. The luncheon was held to honor their hard work and dedication over the last three months.

MCSN Jason Bawgus

Photo Journalist

Military personnel from Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Marine Corps Security Force Company (MCSFO) Guantanamo Bay, Naval Hospital and Joint Task Force attended a “Warrior of the Quarter” Luncheon at the Bayview restaurant July 22.

According to NS Guantanamo Bay Command Master Chief Ross Cramer the Warrior of the Quarter luncheon was established to recognize the Sailors, Marines and Troopers of the Quarter. Because of the joint effort NS Guantanamo Bay’s Commanding Officer, Capt. J.R. Nettleton decided to call the luncheon the Warriors Luncheon.

MCSFCO 1st Sgt. Jonathan Martin was the guest speaker and explained what it meant to be a Warrior of the Quarter by emphasizing how important it was for the senior leaders of the honorees to guide them further into their careers.

“It was awesome to be recognized like that,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Curtis Dryman. “After hearing 1st Sgt. Martin’s speech I really felt like I went above and beyond, I felt really motivated to go out and try and do it again.”

Senior members from each branch of service and Civilians turned out for the event to congratulate the recipients on

being named a “Warrior of the Quarter”.

“I never thought that I would be selected,” said Seaman Alyshia Nettles. “I am very grateful for the opportunity to present Naval Station as the Blue Jacket of the Quarter.”

The Warriors were each given plaques and certificates by Nettleton and representatives from Navy Federal, Morale Welfare and Recreation and the Navy Exchange were on hand to present gifts to show their appreciation as well.

“Warrior’s of the Quarter”

From Naval Station – BM1 Bob Didier, YN2 Curtis Dryman, MASA Alyshia Nettles

From JTF – HM3 Daniel Worrell, Sgt. Dustan Mathy

From MCSFCO- Lance Cpl. Ryan Gibson, Sgt Derrick Wyatt

From USNH- HM1 Ted Deleon, HM3 Timothy Sena, HN Daniel Nerino

From PSD – PS1 Augustine Kanu, PS2 Jameson Ayers, PSSA Sasha Brown



Sailor of the Week

NS Guantanamo Bay's Commanding Officer, Capt. J.R. Nettleton congratulates MA3 Samantha Jackson on her selection as Sailor of the Week.

- Job/Department: Dispatcher
- Age: 21
- Hometown: Nixa, MO
- Favorite Musician: All of them
- Favorite Movie: The Lord of the Rings series
- Favorite Book: Harry Potter
- Favorite Sports Team: The Cubs
- Favorite GTMO Restaurant: Cuban Club
- Goal: Become a Teacher
- TV Show: The Mentalist
- Hero: Father

MASTER AT ARMS 3RD CLASS SAMANTHA JACKSON

■ **Sailor of the Week Because:** MA3 Jackson is a hard charging Sailor who has handled numerous calls for services with the utmost professionalism. She has provided quality training to 10 Sailors on Dispatch Operations and the 911 system, resulting in the Sailors qualifications and a more productive Dispatch Operations Center.



GUANTANAMO BAY GAZETTE

COMMANDING OFFICER
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

CAPT. JOHN NETTLETON
CMDR. COLIN CASWELL
CMDMCM (SW/EXW/AW) ROSS CRAMER



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
GAZETTE EDITOR
PHOTOJOURNALIST

KELLY WIRFEL
MCC(SW/AW) KEITH BRYSKA
MCSN JASON BAWGUS

General John F. Kelly's Joint Task Force Change of Command Speech

Good morning, and welcome. We're gathered here today to say goodbye to Rear Admiral and Mrs. John, call sign "Boomer," Smith, and welcome the new commander Rear Admiral Richard Butler and his wife Lana. Boomer has been a tremendous leader and done a magnificent job during his time here in the sunny Caribbean paradise that is Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, and he has rightfully earned a plum future assignment as the Commandant of the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, VA. He and I both know he is leaving JTF-Gitmo in good hands. Instead of a typical change of command speech, however, I'd like to talk instead to the most important people here: the men and women that are the joint force at Guantanamo Bay.

Let me start with the number seven. Seven values, to be exact: Loyalty. Duty. Respect. Selfless Service. Honor. Integrity. Personal Courage. These are not just our Army's core values. In reality they are ideals every service man or woman lives, fights, and dies by. What most people don't know is what these seven values mean for the joint force at JTF-Gitmo... these are not, after all, words the self-appointed critics of what we do here typically use to describe operations. It's ironic, really, because one of those seven values is quite literally the first thing that everyone entering JTF-Gitmo sees, although few seem to notice it. Every visitor passes by an old metal sign just inside the main entrance gate. On the sign contain a simple pronouncement: JTF-Gitmo's "value of the week." Visitors should pay more attention to that sign, because it would tell them, at it tells us, everything they'd need to know about what really goes on here, and the kind of Americans who are doing it... it would tell them the meaning behind the JTF's motto, "Honor Bound to Defend Freedom." This is no welcome sign, no morale boost, no empty slogan; it is instead an unbreakable promise, a steadfast affirmation, a code to live by... it's a vow that each and every one of you upholds, day in and day out, in one of the toughest and most unforgiving military missions on the planet.

That is no exaggeration; the mission here at Guantanamo is one of enormous complexity and sensitivity—the care of detainees that are occasionally compliant, but most often defiant... and violent. At times many pretend to be on hunger strike and a pretty good number splash you with cocktails of filth, while you work to implement the mission our commander-in-chief has dispatched you here to accomplish. While doing your jobs, by the way, you also provide essential support to intelligence, legal, medical, security, and public affairs operations, all within a pressure cooker of international scrutiny and oversight. To be clear, we who wear the uniform are responsible for one thing: detention operations. We don't make policy. We follow the exact orders of the President and the Secretary of Defense.

They have sent you here to conduct a mission, to serve in one of the most intense environments you will ever experience, to work long shifts, to deal with an enormous amount of stress, and where—if you read certain newspapers or op-eds—you are either implicitly or explicitly accused of being a part of a shameful and illegal undertaking. But despite all this, you are the essence of professionalism... you unfailingly abide by those seven values every day, all day, and in doing so you have made detention operations here a recognized model for the entire world. Period.

This is the topic that rarely gets discussed, this is the article it seems few journalists want to write—and so today, I'd like to remind all of the reality of JTF-Gitmo. The story I think is worth telling: what it's really like here for you young military professionals, for the detainees, and what your conduct says about the truth of this effort and our country as a whole. This story is worth telling because today, more than ever, America needs to understand that her soldiers, sailors airmen, Coast Guardsmen and Marines, the citizen soldiers she sends here are exceptional... live by a code of duty, honor, and country... are guided by ideals bigger than themselves... are among the best 1% of their generation. That is the kind of young person who stands duty night and day here at Guantanamo, and in so doing keeps the nation safe from men like these.

Let's begin with a young sergeant on the Guard Force, leaning down to talk to a detainee during her rounds... to ask a routine question... to double check on his health, and wellbeing. In response, the detainee punches her in the side of the face smearing her with a handful of his own of feces. What does she do? Does she get angry, does she retaliate, does she launch into a litany of verbal abuse? On the contrary, she walks to the head, washes her face, and returns to resume her duties. Or a junior NCO who's walking the tier in Golf Block. Detainees spit on her, level despicable gender insults at her, and when they can splash her with a sickening cocktail of feces, urine, and bodily fluids mixed up in their own hands. That is not an unusual tour for this NCO. Rather it's like this every day, but she simply continues her rounds, showing no outward anger, and paying no attention to the hate that's directed towards her because she is an American, and the extra hate because she is a woman. Finally, a young specialist, a black soldier, who is splashed with the same kind of cocktail of human excrement, and has to endure hate-filled racial slurs the like of which he's never heard before in his life. We can only guess what this young man would like to do, but know only what he does: he walks away, cleans up, and completes his tour of duty. These three examples are not unique; they are representative of what you, the Guard Force, routinely experience, and how you react, every day. The reality is that there is only one group here at Guantanamo that is treated with respect... with humanity, and with dignity... the detainees.

And let's not forget who these men are that are treated so well. They are among the most violent and hateful men on earth. Terrorists, extremists, al Qaida leadership, who are in most cases still at war with our country. Men who would do us immeasurable harm if they could only find a way. Yet you men and women of the JTF are executing your assigned mission of caring for these detainees in a way that exceeds conditions mandated by the Geneva Convention. And for your trouble you endure endless hours of insults, splashing, and physical assault. And this includes the sailors of the Medical Group who are routinely assaulted and spat upon even while you are providing life saving care and assistance.

Most of the men you deal with everyday are seasoned terrorists taken of the battlefield who spend each day trying to get into your heads by taunting and name calling, performing vulgar sexual acts, doing

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Splash Pad



GTMO Residents Enjoy New Splash Pad

MCC Keith Bryska
Gazette Editor

Cmdr. Colin Caswell, Executive Officer Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Tara Culbertson Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Director, and Mike Sombati MWR Teen Director conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the opening of the new Splash Pad for Guantanamo Bay July 25.

According to Caswell improvements to our base like getting a new splash pad makes life more enjoyable for base residents.

“This will be really popular with the children and anything that makes the community happy is a good thing,” said Caswell. “Especially on days like this when

the temperature gets into the nineties”.

“This is awesome for everyone on base and seeing these kids having so much fun makes my job more enjoyable” said Sombati. “We have set hours for the youth center and base residents so everyone can come out and enjoy this opportunity.

According to Culbertson the splash pad recycles all its water in an effort to be environmentally responsible.

“The splash pad was built as a morale enhancer for GTMO residents and children. I believe the children will especially enjoy this,” said Culbertson. “There is no standing water and therefore, a facility that can be enjoyed even by those who cannot swim.”



Grand Opening

anything and everything to elicit a reaction from you. Even the smallest retaliatory reaction from you would be immediately misreported, misrepresented, lied about to the media or the courts and make front page news. . . news that would tarnish the reputation of the American Armed Force, our nation, and our people. And the agenda-driven self-appointed guardians of these men are forever frustrated, because that is precisely what they don't get, what they will never get here, because you are all world-class professionals. You stay cool and calm. . . you display patience and restraint; you don't know anger or resort to violence, even when you are soiled with a concoction of bodily fluids that turns the stomach even in the telling, let alone when it's on your face, in your hair, and all over your uniforms.

You are all ordinary young people performing remarkable and selfless acts of duty to a cause bigger than yourselves. You are among the best our country produces. You are the best 1% and are all good and decent young men and women from city neighborhoods and small towns across America. Most of you are from working families that are the "salt of the earth" foundation of our society. You are mostly the sons and daughters of cops and firemen, factory and service workers, farmers and the like. You are ordinary Americans who do an extraordinary job in a stress-laden mission. . . one you likely never envisioned when you signed up to serve your country. Soon enough you will return home to your families and try to forget the unwarranted and most often fabricated criticism you have endured, but know there is honor in duty done. . . and in the case of Guantanamo done remarkably well. Be proud of what you do here, and that you did not succumb to the pressure. Also be comforted by the fact that no matter how bad it got, you did not give the detainees and their champions the response they so desperately wanted. That at the end of the day you showed decent Americans—those honest enough to believe the truth—that conditions here are not what the agenda-driven chattering class allege they are. That regardless of the policy that is Guantanamo, you showed the world that you and your country are honorable while doing a difficult job. . . and doing it in an exceptional way.

And this, in my mind, is something that is missed by most of the

reporting on Guantanamo. For the cynics, Guantanamo is a symbol of America's fall from grace, of our darkest days during the war on terror, of evidence of something we collectively lost as a country—our moral compass, our national integrity. And since it's impossible to divorce the people from the mission, by extension those of us involved in detainee operations are part of something disgraceful. I reject this notion. . . in fact, I categorically refute it and say it's not true. Those who will take the lies and falsehoods of men like these and their supporters as fact know it is not true. They should be ashamed of themselves. They all know the truth yet are willing to go along with the deceit for their own purposes. If Gitmo is the symbol some self-serving or misguided pundits claim it is, then your professionalism is the proof that they are wrong—even if they are unwilling to publically acknowledge it. They will never stop hurling their dishonest accusations at us, however, because it does not work to further their ends, but we know what we do, what the truth is. . . and so do they.

Loyalty. Duty. Respect. Selfless Service. Honor. Integrity. Personal Courage. These are the truths you follow here at JTF-Gitmo. . . it is who you are. I have commanded troops all over the world, in every clime and place, in my career. I have never been prouder of any that I have commanded than I am of you. For your decency, for your approach to your duties, for your professionalism, for your patience with the naysayers who relentlessly misrepresent the truth, for your long-suffering dedication to a tough but critically important mission. I know Boomer Smith shares this pride, and I also know our President and Secretary are proud as well.

To the outstanding men and women of this JTF—I thank you. I also thank you on behalf of our President and Secretary of Defense, and for reminding us of what love of country and selfless devotion to duty is all about. What you do here every day is reflective of why our country is the greatest nation on earth. That there is an exceptionalism about our America that will remain forever safe only so long as we never run out of men and women like you. Dedicated men and women of character willing to step forward, when few don't even consider it, and hunt down and kill, or bring to justice, men who work to kill our people and destroy our way of life. Semper Fidelis.



The Child and Youth Programs (CYP) at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba hosted the Missoula Children's Theatre production company, July 15 to 19. Forty Department of Defense Activity (DoDEA) W.T. Sampson Elementary school students auditioned and were cast in this year's production of "Red Riding Hood," providing the children with a theatrical learning experience. Missoula Children's Theater instructors focus on the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts. Students rehearsed throughout the week while learning skills specific to the theatre and musical production.

GTMO SHOPPER

E-mail classified ad submissions to **PAO-CLASSIFIEDADS@USNBGTMO.NAVY.MIL**

If sent to any other e-mail, it may not be published. Submit your ad NLT noon Wednesdays for that week's Gazette. Ads are removed after two weeks. Re-submit the ad to re-publish. The Gazette staff and NS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, page. The Public Affairs Office has final editorial discretion on all content. Call MCC Keith Bryska at 4520 with your questions or concerns. Please keep ads to a minimum of 5 items.

VEHICLES

2003 Kawasaki ninja ex500 low miles maintenance done regularly asking \$2000 call 77795-Steve

1996 Chevrolet S-10 Pickup Teal and Silver Approximately 182,000 miles 5-Speed Transmission 2 new tires A/C CD/USB/AUX Radio and Speakers Asking \$2,200 Call Jason 3192 1800-2100-78647

2002 Chevy Impala, ex. condition, 44,000 miles A/C \$4500 OBO

1998 Plymouth Voyager, excellent condition, recently tuned up \$3250 contact Nada 78236 or 8235 after 3pm or on weekends.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Entertainment Centre \$60, Small coffee Table \$20, Clothes Dryer \$150, Large Wall Mirror \$15 – Call Esaleta at 77148

Blender \$15, 10 cup Hamilton Beach Food Processor \$20, Cool Daddy Fryer \$15, Power Juicer \$40, Red Sofa with 2 pillows \$100, Living room table \$40, 200 count DVD shelf \$20, Computer Table \$25, All in one HP wireless printer \$25
– Call Tony at 77106 after 1500

\$5 EACH: backpack, white bathroom scale, large picture frame W/ out glass, tan bathroom rug, set of 5 nylon hibiscus totes, star pattern tote, bath & body works colorful handbag, blue plaid Aeropostale tote, vintage Coach handbag, beach bag, hibiscus backpack, set of curtain rods. \$10 EACH: gray bathroom rug, tan Justin boots sz 8 B, Reebok hiking boots sz 8 1/2, Bunn coffee maker (needs pot) \$15 EACH: Zip It swing bag/tote, area rug approx. 55 in. X 30 in.

\$70: Very gently used black Coach leather handbag, no scuffs or stains \$100 firm: Custom made, never used, ships wheel shadow box If interested, please contact Lori @ 77749

OUTDOOR REC

2 Beach Cruiser Bicycles, 1 black with red trim, 1 blue with black rack \$80 each or \$150 for both contact Olivia Lowery at 84740

Boat for sale, 19' CENCON Stapleton, 130 Honda Motor, Radio, fish finder/GPS and mp3 player included. Asking \$8K call Lara Tur at 75578.

Front Bumper for 4X4 Jeep Wrangler model 2010 for \$150 Briggs & Stratton 500 Lawn Mower, Paulan Weed Eater and Black & Decker Cordless Broom for \$150 call Ed at 90025 email at edballesteros@brgtmo.com

\$275 firm: Seac Caccia 135 pneumatic speargun with high/low regulator. Only in the water 1 time and only shot 3 times. This is currently the largest speargun manufactured If interested, please contact Lori @ 77749

Charbroil Grill, Bicycle car capacitor, 2200 watt Car Amp two 900 watt 12 DC speakers prices negotiable call JR at 90139

ELECTRONICS

32 GB Ipod 4th Gen. with accessories \$150 call robert at 77075 or 4165

“Panasonic 42” Plasma HDTV and home theater system. DVD/Blu-Ray player with iPod dock and Netflix/ Youtube streaming, 6 speakers, manuals, 2 remotes. New list prices are TV \$499, theater system \$399. Selling set for \$500 OBO. Contact Greg, 84656/dixongregory@gmail.com.”

4FT Direct TV Satellite that receives HD signal from 99,101,103 at the same time, includes SWM and power inserter. Works in GTMO and yes you will receive all the HD channel the Direct TV offers. Asking for \$500. Available July, 11th
3D Samsung Blu-Ray Player with built-in wireless. \$80
All in one HP printer available July, 11th for \$25
Call Tony at 77106 after 1530 or by email Satcat661@gmail.com

SCSI modem including accessories \$50, Cisco linksys E2500 router in original box \$50, both for \$90 Call john at 84645 between 7 a.m and 6 p.m.

4 FT Satellite Dish for Broadband Internet Package comes with full internet package and active account ready to go and no wait list necessary \$600 e-mail david@kingfx.com

YARD SALE

July 27 and July 28 Villamar 20 A, 0800-1200- Furniture, Girl Clothes, Home Decor, etc. No Early Birds.

The scoop

SAFE RIDE

Out drinking? Put the keys down and call Safe Ride at 84913 or 84781. Don't drink and drive.

WATER RESTRICTIONS

The Naval Station is currently experiencing water production limitations and is under a tight water restriction. We are asking all residents to adhere to the following rules; no lawn watering, no vehicle washing at homes, limit plant watering, no washing of sidewalks with potable water and residents are asked to report possible leaks to the Public Works Department at 4535.

GTMO BIKE RUN

Interested in participating in a motorcycle run? Twenty riders are needed to organize the event. If you are interested email Erano Vasquez at erano.vasquez@gtmo.navy.mil.

QUALITY OF LIFE BOARD

Q. I recently saw a MWR leaflet stating that the Marina would be offering half price boat rentals on the older boats on Thursdays. With recent happenings (furloughs), is there any way that MWR could change the day of half price rentals to Friday? Having been in GTMO a long time, it is sad to look down at the marina and see all of the boats that are not being used.

A. Provided from the MWR Director: In fact we have a number of “Furlough Busters” specials going on right now - these are on the roller as well. We will definitely take a look at the specials and the days as well - typically we create those half price specials to increase business on slow days. Fridays and weekends are never slow days (with or without furloughs) - as you can imagine - so it's something we will have to wrangle with.

Q. I'm trying to get in touch with someone from MWR who can help me with the following issue: I've booked my son's birthday party at the bowling alley for Sunday, July 28. We planned on having Pizza Hut provide pizza, but a woman from the bowling alley just called me and said that Pizza Hut isn't making pizzas again until August 1. She said that if we were going to have food, it would have to be MWR food, which would leave only House of Yum or Taco Bell. The party is for kids ages 3 - 7 and most of them do not like either of these options. Can someone confirm that Pizza Hut is not serving pizza? And, if it is correct that Pizza Hut isn't available, is it possible to make an exception on the MWR food requirement in this situation so that we could bring in Subway or McDonalds or our own food? We can't change the date of the party because several of his friends are PCSing on the 7/30 flight.

A. Provided from the MWR Director: Yes - we had a contracting issue with Pizza Hut. As we renewed our contract with them, the lawyers on both sides were doing their thing for a number of months, and in the mean time, Pizza Hut would not allow us to order new product. We ordered our own “Windjammer Pizza” product to cover the interim period, but that was so popular that it ran out as well (not how we had planned it, sadly). The Pizza Hut issue is resolved now and we've ordered a lot of product, however, it won't arrive until 1 August.

For your July 28th party, yes, I will

make a one time exception to allow you to bring in Subway.

I am so sorry about the Pizza Hut snafu - but I hope you have a WONDERFUL birthday party for your son.

Q. With the recent unannounced drastic increase in prices at Taco Bell, is MWR contemplating lifting the ban on outside food and drinks being brought into the bowling alley during league play?

A. Provided from the MWR Director: Yes, we raise prices every year in order to maintain the Navy's 35% cost of goods sold for snack bars (which this is, as part of bowling). I apologize - I know with the economy, we're all watching our dollars and cents. We did have signs up showing that the price increase would take effect. To answer the second part of your question, no, we're not considering allowing outside food in during league play. I know that's not what you're probably hoping to hear. However, with our costs increasing as well, this is a part of our business model to not allow outside food into the facility. I hope you'll still join us at Bowling.

GTMO JOB HUNT

Women, Infants & Children (WIC)
Overseas office has a part time position for:
Nutritionist/Dietitian/Nurse/Home Economist/Physician Assistant.
Requires a B.S. in Nursing, Nutrition, Dietetics, or Home Economics.
Experience in prenatal, maternal or infant nutrition desirable.
Must be U.S. citizen.
Please e-mail your resume and cover letter to: wicoverseasjobs@choctawcontracting.com.

Social Services Assistant
Comfortable working with a diverse population
Must be fluent in Spanish
Full time and part time positions available
Local hires only – G4 position, one year fixed term contract
Call 74788 FMI

MOVIES DOWNTOWN LYCEUM

No movies this week due to technical problems.

Naval Station Holds Quarterly Sports Day

Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay and tenant commands held their quarterly sports day on July 19. The sports day allowed Sailors to compete in a softball tournament between the “Khakis” made up of officers and chiefs, the First Class Petty Officer Association and the Junior Enlisted Association (JEA). During the tournament there was a cookout that provided hotdogs and refreshments. The JEA came out on top against the Khaki team in the Championship Game.



JEA Champion Team

