Commandant’s Own — Sgt. Jonathan Alexander, with the U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, performs for Guantanamo Bay residents, May 1, at the Marine Hill parade grounds. See story and photos on pages 4 and 5.
Lean Six Sigma: Determining what matters

By Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel, Commander, Navy Region Southeast

Editor’s note: As part of a continuing effort to promote Lean Six Sigma, Rear Adm. Mark S. Boensel provides a three-part series on the subject with his personal thoughts and opinion. Part I is below. Parts II and III will be in future Gazettes.

Rear Adm. Boensel:

“Lean Six Sigma (LSS) is an amalgam of two concepts. “Lean” identifies waste. It is about focus and improving the way we do work. It eliminates things that are not value-added to the end product. This allows us to focus on the important stuff! Lean identifies and then eliminates waste in the process.

“Six Sigma” ensures that we are doing things right the first time. It ensures that not only are we doing these things very well, but we are operating under a close tolerance so that we don’t have to do work over again.

“In the environment in which we work, we are by definition under-resourced. We have limited resources. In our current process, to get things done, we have to find better ways to accomplish the mission. We just can’t afford to (1) waste, and (2) redo work.

Six Sigma tightens up variants in the process to ensure that we have a repeatable, reliable outcome — and that we can produce the same reliable outcome every time.

“Together Lean and Six Sigma give us the complete spectrum of process improvement. This is not a new process. It’s been used widely in business for some time, and we are able to import business methodologies to the military. Some methodologies are very adaptable, and some need to be adapted further to military concepts. The Navy operates under civilian control and oversight, and our civilian leaders such as the Secretary of the Navy come from the commercial world. This link makes the LSS concept extremely workable for the military.”

“Can you give a little history or background on LSS in CNRSE?”

Rear Adm. Boensel:

“This is an initiative from SECNAV all the way down. In our system of government, leadership is civilian — civilians exercise control and oversight of the military. Many civilian bosses are drawn out of the commercial world and public industry. I think having seen it work in those places, they realize the real opportunities to translate that into the Navy and get more efficient on business inside the Navy.

“Navy leadership, starting at the top with the Secretary of the Navy have seen that this has tremendous opportunities for us to leverage the resources that we’ve been given.

“I think that’s what this LSS effort will assist us in doing.

“This is an exciting beginning, and CNRSE is at the front end of the effort. Our first class of Green Belts just finished training in the past three weeks. These are the “working level” folks, each of whom went away from their class with a project that they are in the process of working. There’s a whole variety of projects they’re working, in all the program areas.

“The initial indications — not surprising to me — are that there’s things we can do to make our processes better. That to me is a lot of what LSS is about — improving the way we do work, eliminating things that don’t add much value to the end product. It allows us to focus on what’s important.”

What benefits do you think will LSS bring to CNRSE?

Rear Adm. Boensel:

“I think one of the major benefits of LSS is that it allows — at the end of the day — for the people working to concentrate on ‘stuff’ that really matters.

“We can put aside aggravating ‘stuff,’ the tasks and processes about which you ask yourself ‘why are we doing this?’ — and that we truly ought to stop doing or continue doing perhaps in a different way. LSS is a formalized way of determining what things matter and what we need to be doing.

Determining what things matter is really the emphasis and the impetus for this.”

Next week: Part II — Our Responsibility to the American People.
Teacher wins Commissary shopping spree

Story and photo by MC1 Igo Wordu, Public Affairs Office

It wasn’t luck, just pure math. Heather Schwartz, a teacher at W.T. Sampson Elementary School, applied her problem-solving skills and guessed the right number of paper towel rolls stashed in a 2007 Ford Focus SE parked at the NEX atrium. In doing so, she won a two-minute shopping spree at the NEX Commissary, April 28.

The promotion, sponsored by both the NEX Commissary and Military Car Sales, attracted more than 1,000 entrants, according to the NEX Commissary Manager, Courtney Jackson. To everyone’s astonishment, Schwartz guessed 336 rolls, the exact number in the car.

Schwartz said she applied her problem-solving skills, along with her mother-in-law’s vast home-management knowledge, to calculate the right number.

“It was simple,” said Schwartz. “My mother-in-law knew the exact number of rolls per box of paper towels, which was 24. So all I had to do was to determine the number of rolls a car like this could contain, and then figure out the closest multiple of 24. That is how I came up with 336.”

Military Car Sales manager Daniel Busby said the event was not only challenging, but a way to give back to the community. “We’ve had huge support from the Guantanamo Bay community,” said Busby.

“It was an exciting contest,” said Schwartz. “I certainly appreciate the shopping spree. Now I don’t have to buy groceries for a long time.”

GTMO celebrates the Month of Military Child

Story by MC2 (AW) Honey Nixon, Public Affairs Office

MWR’s Child and Youth Programs (CYP) staff and base residents came out for the Month of the Military Child festival, April 27, at Cooper Field, beginning with a parade at the Youth Center.

“It’s important to take time out to show them (children of military parents) just how much they are appreciated and loved,” said YN2 (AW) Mindy Joseph, mother of two, “they do spend most of their time in schools, youth centers, or daycares because their military parents are working or on duty.”

Being an extended family member of the military, children are directly impacted by moves, work schedules, and every consequence that come with the commitment of military service. “Children are the source strength for most military members,” added Joseph. “They have no say so in where they move to or how often they move. They are constantly being forced to leave friends and make new ones. Essentially, we ask a lot of our military children, and it is only right that we show them how important they are to military members’ morale, happiness, and overall well-being.”

Festival participants enjoyed moonwalks, carnival games, and as many snow cones and hotdogs as they could eat. Children and adults were also entertained by the saw-juggling and sword-swallowing duo, ‘Team Rootberry.’

All children received water bottles and Frisbees from the Boys and Girls Club Of America (BGCA), whose leadership were on island to present the ‘Program of Excellence’ award to Guantanamo Bay’s MWR Child and Youth Program, a club affiliate of BGCA.

The local program made history, competing against more than 4,000 other BGCA organizations, becoming the first CYP on a military installation to receive the worldwide award. In addition, the CYP Youth Program staff and several of their program workers were honored with the Presidents Volunteer Service Award, on behalf of George W. Bush and the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation.

This award recognizes the commitment to making a difference through volunteer service. The award was presented to Terrill Wicks (Child and Youth Program Administrator), Rachel Simpson (Youth Center Manager), Nadine Myrie (Youth Center staff), and the entire Youth Center Volunteer Club.

All in all, the event was considered a success by all attendees.

“The Month of the Military Child gives programs Navy wide the opportunity to celebrate military families and children served through Child and Youth Programs,” said Terrill Wicks. “We want to continue to celebrate our military families and look for opportunities to let them know how much their sacrifices mean to us.”

“It meant a lot to show the children that they are not forgotten,” agreed Joseph, “and that although we military parents cannot spend as much time with them (our children) as we like to, we are here for them, and they are very important people.”
Residents of Guantanamo Bay were treated to a performance by the prestigious United States Marine Drum and Bugle Corps, May 1, at the Marine Hill parade grounds. ‘The Commandant’s Own’ (because of their co-location with the Commandant of the Marine Corps’ residence at 8th and I St., Washington, D.C.) showed their prowess with every perfectly synchronized move, leaving spectators with a lasting impression of the Marine Corps’ legacy of discipline and dedication.

“I thought it was excellent, very entertaining, “said IT1 Matthew Allen. “It’s very impressive, the work they have done, and the training that goes into it. They make it look so easy.”

Consisting of three sections - The Drum and Bugle Corps, the U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard, and the Silent Drill Team - this traveling unit performs in such far away locations such as France and Canada. They also show off their precision skill back home during the summer months at the Marine Corps War Memorial on Tuesday evenings at the Sunset Parade, and on Friday evenings at the Evening Parade.

Bringing a performance of this magnitude to GTMO was no easy feat for local Marines (Marine Corps Security Force Co.), who have been working since last February, to ensure the performance went well.

“Trying to get these guys from Washington, D.C. took a lot of work,” said 1st Sgt. Christopher Cornell, 1st Sgt. for MCSFCo. “We just actually tied the knot on everything the night before the performance. NAVSTA providing the funding for them to come, BREMCOR helped supply vehicles, and MWR put the picnic and recreation together for them. It was typical of our Guantanamo Bay family, and we would like to thank everybody for their help.”

“It was really hectic,” said Sgt. Everton Bryan, also with MCSFCo. “We had to get flights for the unit, security clearances, arrange billeting, and make sure their chow and transportation was ready. It was challenging, but I didn’t mind doing it because I just left that unit (8th and I) and...
I really take pride in taking care of any Marines coming here.”

“The Marines here are very motivated and have taken us in with open arms,” said Sgt. Matthew Kohl, a drummer with the visiting team. “We are grateful. We don’t always get that. These guys are great and have been very hospitable. I wish we could stay longer than a day.”

The Marine Drum and Bugle Corps began the evening’s entertainment as they performed an array of musical selections, ranging from classics like ‘God Bless America’ to modern pieces, such as James Blunt’s ‘You’re Beautiful.’

“The Marines chosen for this group have to have an innate passion and dedication to service. It’s a competitive process,” said Kopp. “We started out with 63 Marines in silent drill school this year, and we only chose 16.”

Pride is inherent in all of the Marines that make up this unique Marine ‘family,’ and it was reflected on the face of every Marine who stepped onto the field. The Marine Corps Color Guard was no exception, concluding the evening performance with a parade of the official battle colors of the Marine Corps.

“People need to be reminded about what Marines do everywhere on a daily basis,” agreed Kopp. “Our goal is to reflect the discipline, the precision, and the esprit de corps of the Marine Corps.”

The Silent Drill Platoon demonstration is a routine part of parades at the Marine Barracks in Washington D.C.

The Battle Colors contain 50 streamers representing every U.S. and foreign unit award, in which the Marine Corps has ever participated, as well as those periods of service, expeditions, and campaigns, from the American Revolution to the present. The only duplicate is kept in the office of the Commandant of the Marine Corps in the Pentagon.

“I actually calculated how many hours of preparation it took for this show, and I came up with 578 hours,” laughed Sgt. Jeff Kopp, drill master for the silent drill platoon. “We practice six days a week with 12-hour days, so that’s roughly four months of drill practice for this show. We also make sure our uniforms, weapons and drill moves are flawless.”

The drill demonstration, although executed with ease, requires many hours of practice and dedication.

“The silence Drill Team was tossing the guns back and forth - that was very impressive,” said Allen, who considered the weapon demonstration his favorite part of the evening.

The drill demonstration, I said, it’s a great honor. I just want them (the audience) to leave thinking, ‘They do their job well.’”

The Color Sergeant of the Marine Corps carries the Marine Corps Flag and the Battle Colors of the U.S. Marine Corps.
Yard Sales

For Sale

(2) 12-in. Schwinn, girls, $150 OBO; Playskool picnic table, $15 OBO; 3-wheel scooter, like new, $15 OBO; gas grill, $20 OBO; small computer desk, $35 OBO; Star Wars twin bed-ding, $25 OBO; Bushnell telescope, $50 OBO. FMI call Shannon at 2358.

(2) Carpet, 12 x 15, country blue; glass shelving unit; Christmas tree, new, 7-ft., Oregon blue pine; outdoor patio furniture; Medya Tiffany fruit ceiling lamp; Christmas lights; various Christmas items; roller unit on rollers; 2 shelves; ladies tops, shorts, size MD; plants; Seatec lift bag; Hobart meat slicer. FMI call Slicer at 2986.

(2) Dive gear special, Chute 2, BCD and Oceanic Delta 3 regulator, first stage, light, catch bag, excellent condition. $525. FMI call Josh at 78650 or 84842.

(2) Two-person hammock w/stand, $100; 50-lb. punching bag package, $350; Bialetti Italian coffee maker, stainless steel, $25; Rival toaster/broiler oven, $10. FMI call Joe at 77567 AWH.

(1) Lawn mower, just over a year old, available June 18, $175. FMI call 77078.

(1) Mountain bike, $10; lawn mower, $50; children’s toys and books; pull-up bar, free; much more. FMI call 77002.

Vehicles/Boats

(2) 1994 Chevrolet Blazer $10, 4x4, four door, power windows and locks, great running condition, available immediately. FMI call Avery or Gerald at 77885.

(2) 1998 Plymouth Voyager minivan, V6, 3.0 liter, great AC, 163,000K, available May 18, $4,000 OBO. FMI call Mr. Henry at 20297 or 70063.

(2) 2004 Chevrolet Blazer, 18K, gold, black interior, automatic, power locks, seats, and moon roof, CD player, ABS, alarm system, 50/40 rear end seat, adjustable roof rack, $16,500. FMI call Shellie at 72240 DWH or 77373 AWH.

(2) 1994 Ford Taurus, low mileage, excellent condition, $3,300 OBO. FMI call 78457 or 3289.

(2) 2001 Hyundai Elantra, silver, manual transmission, runs great, AC, power windows, 1 owner, available May 12, $4,000. FMI call Stacey at 4502 DWH or 77052 AWH.

(2) 2001 GSX-R 1000, 17K, custom paint, green, silver, and black, chrome swingard and rims, Power Com-mander III, includes helmets, riding boots and riding jacket, $6,500. FMI call 79556, 84261, or 77871.

(2) 19-ft. deck boat, Evinrude 155 HP motor, lots of space, trailer included, $4,500. FMI call Troy at 74806 or Blake at 72285 and 75859.

(1) 1999 Honda Accord SIR wagon, automatic, moonroof, fog lamps, ABS, AC, power everything. AM/FM cassette, 6-disc changer, navigation system, television, 25K, excellent condition, $13,500 OBO. FMI call 2207 DWH or 75758 AWH.

(1) 2000 Chevy Silverado 1500 pickup, 77K, excellent condition, $8,200 OBO. FMI call 3410, 77198 or 90020.

(1) 1990 Dodge pickup, 77K, excellent condition, $3,300 OBO. FMI call 72240.

(1) 1996 Mustang convertible, new carpet and stereo, $7,500. FMI call Dale at 74813.

(1) 1993 Toyota Camry, AC moon roof, leather interior, $4,000. FMI call 73320.

(1) Piaggio motorcycle, blue, low mileage, $1,400. FMI call Rose at 25755 or 75758.

(1) 2000 Ford Taurus blue, automatic, very good condition, $6,900 OBO. FMI call Rose at 25755 or 75758.

(2) Two-person hammock w/stand, $10; lawn mower, $50; children’s toys and books; pull-up bar, free; much more. FMI call 77002.

Employment

(2) Human Resources Office announces the following vacancies: Financial Technician, GS-0503-05/06/07, closes May 4.

(2) Satellite Communications Inc. (SCSI) is seeking a full-time service representative. Please submit resume to the SCSI office or email ssci@nsgtmo.com.
Downtown Lyceum

Friday, May 4
The Astronaut Farmer
8 p.m., PG, 102 min.
I Think I Love My Wife
10 p.m., R, 94 min.

Saturday, May 5
Daddy's Little Girl
8 p.m., PG -13, 95min.
Premonition
10 p.m., PG -13, 96 min.

Sunday, May 6
300
8 p.m., R, 117 min.

Monday, May 7
The Number 23
8 p.m., R, 97 min.

Tuesday, May 8
I Think I Love My Wife
8 p.m., R 94 min.

Wednesday, May 9
Premonition
8 p.m., PG -13, 96 min.

Thursday, May 10
Zodiac
8 p.m., R, 150 min.

I Think I Love My Wife
Genre: Comedy, Remake
Chris Rock, Kerry Washington, Gina Torres, Eliza Coupe, Cassandra Freeman
Storyline: Richard Cooper has a beautiful wife, Brenda, but there’s just one little problem: he’s bored out of his suburban businessman’s mind. Richard can’t help but fantasize about having nearly every woman he sees. Then, one fateful day, an alluring, free-spirited, and old friend, Nikki, suddenly appears at his office door, putting him to the ultimate test. Just how much is Richard Cooper willing to risk when temptation comes after him?

Premonition
Genre: Drama, Science Fiction/Fantasy, Thriller
Sandra Bullock, Julian McMahon, Mark Famiglietti, Kate Nelligan, Nia Long
Storyline: Linda Hanson’s life is perfect, until the day she receives the devastating news that her husband Jim has died in a car accident. When she wakes up the next morning to find him alive and well, she assumes it was all a dream. She soon realizes it wasn’t a dream, and her world is turned upside down as the surreal circumstances lead her to discover that her perfect life may not have been all that it appeared.

MWR Happenings

Windjammer Dinner Theater
Monday, May 7, at 5:30 p.m. Bring the family to the Windjammer Club to enjoy dinner and then watch family oriented G or PG-rated movies. This Monday, "Kicking and Screaming," begins at 5:30 p.m., and the second movie, "There's Something About Mary," begins at 8 p.m.

Liberty Events
— May 4, 7 p.m., Paintball.
— May 6, 9 a.m., Snorkel trip, Philips Dive Park. FMI call 2010.

Army 10-Miler Pre-Qualifier
May 5, 5 a.m., at the base gym. This race can qualify participants for a 10-mile run in Washington D.C. FMI call 3181, 84010 or 9721.

Cinco De Mayo
May 5, 7 p.m., at the Bayview. Tickets are $12.50. FMI call 75604.

Arts and Crafts Fair
May 10, 6 p.m., at the Bayview Patio. Includes a special gift for Mom. FMI call 74795.

Mother's Day Brunch
May 13, 9 a.m., at the Bayview. Includes a special gift for Mom. FMI call 75604.

GTMO Golf Open
May 26 - 27, 8 a.m. Pick a day to play. Entry fee is $30 per person. Fee covers golf cart, t-shirt, breakfast, and banquet. Additional guests all-owed $15 per person. Registration begins May 1 and continues through May 20. Tournament based on Peoria format. No handicap required. Trophies and prizes will be awarded. The Victory banquet will begin 6 p.m., May 27, at the Bayview. FMI call John at 74123.
GTMO Happenings

Advancement — After more than 18 years of active duty military service, MACM(SW) Nancy Brewton is promoted to her current rank, April 27. NAVSTA Commanding Officer, CAPT Mark Leary, and Command Master Chief, CMDCM(SW/SS) Larry Cairo, pin on her new collar devices in the CO's office.

Promotion — Gunnery Sgt. Noel Santiago and Susan Peguero pin collar devices on newly promoted Marine Staff Sgt. Albert Peguero, during an advancement ceremony at the Northeast Gate May 1. Mrs. Peguero is Staff Sgt. Peguero's mother, who was here for the advancement ceremony.

Auditions — Amy Pettigrew and Eric Prim listen attentively as prospective cast members sing for a part in Missoula Children's Theatre production of 'The Jungle Book.' The last performance will be tonight at the Windjammer.

Big fish — CWO1 Tony Fisher shows off a 32-lb., 7-oz. barracuda he caught during a visit to GTMO last week.

Photo by MC2(AW) Honey Nixon

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