May 2007



Scuttlebutt

A Squid newsletter for Doc's of all Services!

Meet the Staff of Corpsman.com CrazyCajun

HMC(FMF/SW/AW) TRACY P. BARLING

Last month in our inaugural issue you got to find out a little more about our Supreme Commander Northwest - HMC Darrell Crone (Da-Chief) that article prompted requests to hear about the other members of the staff of Corpsman.com - That said, this month we invite you to learn a little more about HMC Tracy Barling (CrazyCajun)

I joined the Navy as a Split SAM, 04 Sep 1985 in Baton Rouge, LA. Went through Boot Camp at RTC Great Lakes, graduated Oct 1985 and completed Apprenticeship Training Deck (ATD) Nov 1985. I then reported to Navy - Marine Corps Reserve Center Baton Rouge, served there as part of SIMA San Diego Detachment. In 1987 I decided to get a different job, so I went to HM "A" School and found myself back in Great Lakes from May - July 1987. Again I returned to NMCRC Baton Rouge where I ended up on the Marine Corps side of the house without attending FMF "C" School. In April of 1988, I decided to go full time and went Active Duty

The following are my duty stations:

May 1988 - June 1990 - Navy Branch Medical Clinic Key West FL

July 1990 - Feb 1991 - HM 8432 "C" School Oakland CA

March 1991 - June 1993 - USS Ranger (CV-61)

June 1993 - Jun 1994 - USS Long Beach (CGN-9)

July 1994 - May 1997 - Naval Hospital Pensacola FL

May 1997 - Sep 1997 - Field Medical Service School Camp Lejeune NC

Sep 1997 - Oct 2001 - 2d Marine Division Camp Lejeune NC

Oct 2001 - Oct 2004 - II Marine Expeditionary Force Camp Lejeune NC

Oct 2004 - Present - 2d Marine Aircraft Wing Cherry Point NC

Deployments: 2 West PACs ISO Desert Storm/Desert Shield/Southern Watch onboard CV-61, 1 Caribbean PAC onboard CGN-9, UDP Oki with 2nd Bn 6th Marines, Med Float with 2nd Bn 6th Mar (24th MEU), OIF with 2d MEB (Task Force Tarawa), OIF with MWHS-2.

Highlights from the 2007 Milblog Conference By Sean Dustman

Last Saturday I was invited to be a panelist for the 2007 Milblog Conference, myself, <u>Matt of Blackfive</u>, <u>Bill Ardolino of INDC Journal</u>, <u>Bill Roggio of the Forth Rail</u> and <u>Jim of Sgt Hook</u> took part in the panel called "From the Front" - covering blogging from the war zone and the importance of citizen journalism.

I arrived that morning and sat in the back with the other panelists waiting for the opening speakers to do their thing when Andi of Andi's World announced that the first speaker would be none other then the President of the United States. Giggles erupted in the crowd (I'm sure most of us thought that it must have been a joke). And sure enough he started speaking. (You can find the video at my blog) or read it on the next page:

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(I missed the first line because of all of the cheering)

"For all of you that support our troops, their families and the cause of freedom, the 2007 Milblog Conference brings together military bloggers from every walk of life, some bloggers are veterans, some are active duty service members, some are spouses or parents of those in uniform, many are private citizens who just want to get involved and help others who are defending our country. All are united by the belief that during the time of war, we have a responsibility to support our troops and families. Each day America's military tell stories of courage and sacrifice by our men and women in uniform. You report important developments on the War on Terror. You update your friends and families on the health and well being of loved ones. You rally your fellow citizens to send letters, ship gifts and offer up prayers for those serving in harms way. Your work strengthens our nation and shows that that America's greatest strength is the good hearts of our people. America's Military Bloggers are an important voice in the cause of freedom. You understand that our nation is fighting the war terror in Afghanistan, Iraq and many other fronts. You understand that defeating the terrorist requires us to defeat the ideology of hatred and of death with a more powerful, vision of human liberty. As we go forward in these challenging times I thank your support and prayers for our troops. I thank you for making your voice and your energies to the cause of freedom. By working together we can lay the foundation for peace for generations to come, may God bless you all, may God bless our troops and may God bless America."

And then a Q and A with Rear Admiral Mark Fox from the multinational force Iraq by video conference in Baghdad, he answered questions on the conditions and progress in Iraq.

From the Front was the next group up and following the Commander in Chief and Rear Admiral Fox, it was a tough act to follow. Not to worry, the panel went smoothly, we talked about the changes in technology from the beginning of the war to today, the new Army OPSEC rules and how that would affect future milblogging efforts and how blogging had affected our lives then we answered questions from the crowd. There was a constant strain between the main stream media (MSM) and the citizen journalist, the MSM thinking we were a gaggle without editing integrity and the bloggers saying that they were biased only covering the shock and awe stories. We also gave advice to other milbloggers out there on how to avoid getting in trouble with their writing.

Before we knew it, the time was up and CNN was waiting out front to grab interviews along with the Pentagon Channel, Washington Post, Wired magazine and a few more. It was a mad rush being mobbed by the press, I still don't understand why CNN only used my piece, maybe because I was the only blogger that wasn't really bashing them that morning.

While we were doing the interviews the panel titled "All in the family" was going full swing, Andi of Andi's World who put the conference together was the moderator, Rachelle of ArmyWifeToddlerMom, Sarah of Trying to Grok, Carla of Some Soldier's Mom and Becky of Military Families Voices of Victory. I missed most of it but have since seen video highlights. Carla and Becky both have multiple sons in the military, Carla's son Noah was injured last year by an IED. Rachelle, Sarah and Andi all have spouses that have deployed multiple times. Robert Stokley talks about the loss of his son two years ago. They told about how during the periods of silence from their loved ones, they could always click on a milblog. It gave them comfort to see how things were from the ground.

Then it was lunch time where we heard a moving speech from Army Captain Chuck who lost the use of both of his hands. He talked about a program called <u>Valour IT</u> ran by <u>Soldier's Angels</u>, they would give voice-activated laptops to wounded troops in the hospital to let them connect to the world. It's good, 2000 laptops given away so far.

The next group was called "Rapid Fire", it included:

Mark at <u>Eagle Speak</u>- covers maritime security issues

Murdoc-<u>Murdoc Online</u>- Started in 2003- Blogs about military issues

Noah Shachtman of <u>Wired Magazine</u>- an MSM employee with interest in blogging Slab from OPFOR- a popular military blog

Captain Anthony Deiss from CENTCOM

Very hot topics with much arguing between the MSM and the bloggers, Noah tried to dispel some of the myths about the MSM being anti war. He was taking a beating. The words rolled fast.

And the final panel was "Support - More then just a bumper sticker" with once again Chuck Z as the moderator who blogs From My Position...On the Way! Participants: Sandra Edens for Sew Much Comfort, Roxie Merritt for OSD/America Supports You, Patti Patton-Bader for Soldier's Angels, and Mary Ann Phillips for Soldier's Angels Germany. This was the emotional panel, they told stories that could make stones weep and gave advice on how to set up soldier support sites. Chuck talked about how he met Mary Ann from Soldier's Angel Germany, at the time he couldn't use his hands and she asked if she could do anything for him and he said pick this booger out of my nose.

Rant from Da-Chief by HMC Darrell Crone

Thank you. To all of you for being so patient. I have been outta the loop for the last 2 weeks, and CrazyCajun and DeeDee have been running the place without a hitch while I was gone.

After I finished with the Navy on the 27th of April, I had to get ready to go to Ohio for my Brother-in-Laws wedding. All 3 of my kids were in it. (Mikayla and Courtney were Flower Girls, Spencer was the Ring Bearer..)

This trip was long etc with 3 kids and my wife had just gotten off a night shift prior to leaving. We got back from Ohio last Sunday late in the Afternoon and were completely wiped, but I could not rest because....

Mikayla had her "1st Communion" today (It's a Catholic thing) and we had a bunch of family and friends over for the celebration. If any of you are married, which a lot of you are.. if your wife knows people are coming to your house in advance.. Stand By for heavy rolls..;-)

I was hit with a "HONEY DO" list for the last week, and to be honest.. I got them all done except for a few..

- 1. Ground Tree Stumps down to the ground after we rented a "Industrial Tree Stump Grinder" and not only did ours but 2 other neighbors as well, stumps..
- 2. Finished off the Basement to include..Painting, Baseboards, trim, more painting, Shampooing Carpet, cleaning up after the kids etc..
- 3. Cleaning and planting in the yard. Serviced our yard. And then planted over 15 plants for my wife after the stumps had been ground down.
- 4. Which leads to today, the last 2 days were massive clean up days in the house. We cleaned from "TOP" to "Bottom".
- 5. Which leads to the end result above. It was all worth it, Mikayla was beautiful, Dad had the tears flowing today. It seems like yesterday I had the little boo in my arms and was just amazed that something so small could change my life so much. She is still my little baby, but wow.

I am used to being deployed on holidays, birthdays etc.. These last few years I have been able to fit myself into the family daily life, it is not a easy thing to do...

Mom's do a much harder job then we men ever do, especially you mom's who are out there working too. I don't know how you do it.. I really don't.

The last 2 weeks I have had the kids, and am at home with them 100% of the time. (Not to say Karen is not here, but she is working in the ICU 3 nights a week with 12 hours shifts that really go 14 hours!), and I can tell you... The Navy and Marine Corps are Cake compared to family life.

All of you go and kiss your wife today, Tell her how much you admire her and her tenacity with the family. Your family unit is nothing without her..

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY ALL!

Da-Chief..
"Da-Chief" Darrell F. Crone
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Mikayla and Daddy

By Kerry "Doc" Pardue

Who is the baby on the LEFT?





Test your brain power and see if you can figure out which member of Corpsman.com is pictured above with his twin sister.

Email your guesses to the editor at: editor@corpsman.com

Correct guesses will be posted in the June issue.

Have a baby picture you would like to add and see if anyone can guess who it is? Send it to me at the above address

Some well known people have served as medics or corpsmen....



Ozzie Davis was born on December 18, 1917 in Cogdell, Georgia. After graduating from high school, he entered Howard University in Washington, D.C. Eager to pursue a career in the performing arts, he left before graduation and moved to New York, where he joined Harlem's Rose McClendon Players and studied acting under Lloyd Richards. After serving in the Army in WWII, as a medic he began a long career as an actor and civil rights activist.

Thanks to Doc Pardue for this tidbit

DUST-OFF

Bandaid 26 calling Dust-off 47... Bandaid 26 this is Dust-off 47... Dust-off, Dust-off where you be? Flying tree-top high coming to thee You need to hurry I got wounded and dead We are in a Hot LZ Bandaid 26, about 3 ETA pick your favor of smoke Popping yellow please hurry now I see your smoke approaching from the West Get them ready I am coming in These are my men please get them out Out of supplies but not out of hope Bandaid I brought a friend Cobra's his name he'll provide the cover Load them up we're moving out There's not enough room, there's 12 Just get them on and I'll fly away Come on Doc, get your ass on Flying low and slow we start our assent Leaving the Hot LZ No man left behind Mission of mercy accomplished once again Dust-off 47 just nods at Bandaid 26 Doc nods back and mouths the word, thanks He is forever thankful his men are safe and will be treated They arrive at Dong Tam at the 3rd Surg Another call is received Dust-Off 47 where you be? On another mission to rescue thee Off again he flies away Just another day in Paradise

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Classified Ads

HN(SW) Cohan here. My wife will be graduating from FMSS on 4 May. I am getting medically discharged and will be out by May 24th. She will be leaving for Iraq around July. **If anyone knows of a place to stay in Lejeune/Jacksonville** can you let me know. I will be coming back to Baltimore and staying with my family until December and will be purchasing a home for Rachel to come home to. So if anyone has any options for us please let me know....my wife HM3 Rachel McGriff (hasn't changed her name yet) and I greatly appreciate all help. You can contact me via Corpsman.com (navyhmsemt), navyhmsemt@hotmail.com, jsco-han@bethesda.med.navy.mil or cell phone 443-271-5721. Thanks to everyone.

V/R HN(SW) Jeffrey Cohan National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, Md 20889

P.S. Can anyone help get a list together so I can send Rachel to Camp Fallujah with the proper gear?

WANTED:

Pictures from Cruise Books, A-School, FMSS, the Sandbox, EVERYWHERE (working and relaxing) - to share with the corpsman.com community. Tell us what you were doing and identify the people in the picture.

Please email to: editor@corpsman.com - be sure to include your name, rank and location for proper credit:)

Is there one special individual that has influenced your career? Tell us your story. Include photos if you have them. Email to: editor@corpsman.com

Searching for.....

Doc Higgins (aka Bald Headed Squid) is searching for an old shipmate - HMC(FMF) Dave Campbell. Dave worked for me when we were both with 2/9 in Somalia. The last time that I knew he was stationed at NRMC Bremerton. If you know where HMC Campbell is please contact Bald Headed Squid on the corpsman.com member page or email me at editor@corpsman.com. Lets help send Bald Headed Squid in the right direction.

Looking for someone? Tell me about it and I will post it here - email: editor@corpsman.com

VISIT US ON THE WEB: WWW.CORPSMAN.COM

Want to tell the rest of the members of Corpsman.com about yourself? I am looking for members willing to be interviewed and featured in upcoming issues of Scuttlebutt. Contact me at editor@corpsman.com and we will set up an online interview in one of our chat rooms.

Scuttlebutt Staff Editor: DeeDee Reno Contributors:

Darrell Crone Kerry Pardue Marie Wolfe Sean Dustman

Bits and Pieces

What Is A Mother?

It takes a Mother's Love to make a house a home. A place to be remembered, no matter where we roam. It takes a Mother's Patience. to bring a child up right, And her Courage and her Cheerfulness to make a dark day bright. It takes a Mother's Thoughtfulness to mend the heart's deep hurts. And her Skill and her Endurance to mend little socks and shirts. It takes a Mother's Kindness to forgive us when we err. To sympathize in trouble and bow her head in prayer. It takes a Mother's Wisdom to recognize our needs. And to give us reassurance by her loving words and deeds. It takes a Mother's endless Faith. her Confidence and Trust, To guide us through the pitfalls of selfishness and lust. And that is why in all this world there could not be another Who could fulfill God's purpose as completely as a Mother!

~ Helen Steiner Rice ~

Thank you Marie Wolfe for this piece

Are you a Democrat, Republican or Southerner?

Here is a little test that will help you decide. The answer can be found by posing the following question:

You're walking down a deserted street with your wife and two small children. Suddenly, an Islamic Terrorist with a huge knife comes around the corner, locks eyes with you, screams obscenities, praises Allah, raises the knife, and charges at you.

You are carrying a Glock cal 40, and you are an expert shot. You have mere seconds before he reaches you and your family. What do you do?

Democrat's Answer:

Well, that's not enough information to answer the question! Does the man look poor or oppressed?

Have I ever done anything to him that would inspire him to attack? Could we run away?

Why is this street so deserted?

We need to raise taxes, have paint and weed day and make this a happier,

healthier street that would discourage such behavior.

What does my wife think?

What about the kids?

Could I possibly swing the gun like a club and knock the knife out of his hand?

What does the law say about this situation?

Does the Glock have appropriate safety built into it?

Why am I carrying a loaded gun anyway, and what kind of message does this send to society and to my children?

Is it possible he'd be happy with just killing me?

Does he definitely want to kill me, or would he be content just to wound me?

If I were to grab his knees and hold on, could my family get away while he was stabbing me?

Should I call 9-1-1?

This is all so confusing! I need to debate this with some friends for few days and try to come to a consensus.

Republican's Answer:

BANG!

Southerner's Answer:

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! Click..... (Sounds of reloading)

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! Click Daughter: "Nice grouping, Daddy! Were those the Winchester Silver Tips or Hollow Points?"

Son: "Can I shoot the next one!"

Wife: "You ain't taking that to the Taxidermist!"

Thanks to "Da-Chief" Darrell F. Crone for this one

Recommended Websites to visit: Welcome to the Army Medical Department Regiment http://ameddregiment.amedd.army.mil/

Military Times - pick your branch and check these sites out

http://www.navytimes.com http://www.airforcetimes.com http://www.marinecorpstimes.com http://www.armytimes.com

Another recommended site is - http://www.togetherweserved.com/

If you know of a website you would like to share with the Corpsman.com family please email it





COW-A-SOCKY