

# THE WIDE

A JTF Journal



## Honor Bound

Medal of Honor recipients visit GTMO

## Guardians at the gate

Devil Dogs on the fence line



# Perception may last a lifetime

**Army Sgt. Maj. Rafael Villamil**

JDG S-3 Operations NCOIC

In philosophy, psychology and the cognitive sciences, perception is defined as the process of attaining awareness or understanding of sensory information.

Our perception of the world around us begins with the senses, which lead us to build a belief system of the world we live in. We then use this belief system to evaluate new ideas and incorporate them with things we already believe to be true.

We exist as “a power” affecting others. We are part of a reality, a force among forces that makes up the outside world.

Humans develop and learn individual perceptions that help them understand interactions with others at different cultural levels.

Since no two people are alike, think alike, or totally share the same interest, how is it then that order, harmony, and peace between us is possible?

Let’s look at potential and reality. Someone’s behavior is part of our external reality and consists of their potential – like limitations, abilities to be developed, dispositions such as attitudes, or, determinables like income, age, occupation and power.

As a person comes into our area of awareness, they become a reality; a person’s presence demands our attention and requires us to focus our perception and process the information with our own disposition, potential, determinables and power. As we focus on someone, we can identify attitude – if he shows an aggressive disposition, if he looks passive or contemptuous, if he looks happy; if the person is well-dressed or wears an expensive suit, if he is friend or foe, if the person shows good or bad intentions, and so on. Some of these perceptions are powerful since they capture our focus and attention.

Now, if we compare our perceptions of one person to our perceptions of a crowd of people walking on a heavily congested sidewalk, the crowd would just appear to be shadows, momentary images in our minds. We no longer have the ability to see each individual’s attributes; or the specifics that make each one unique.

In the business that we are in, where training, uniformity, consistency, passing of information, supervision, mentoring, counseling and many others are important behavioral practices, we must assure that facts, performance measures, and constant assessment of ourselves and others is a high priority as we strive to portray a clear, transparent and professional image to our nation and the international community.

But, we have to remember that if it sounds, acts, and looks like a duck, we shouldn’t immediately assume it is a duck, nor everything that shines is gold. We must continue to evaluate and ensure that what we do in our own little world of Guantanamo Bay is just and right so that the reality of what we do affects the perception of the rest of the world instead of perception affecting our reality. ★



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### COVER:

**Coast Guard Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class William Cline with MSST 91101 blocks an attempt over the net during an MWR 4-on-4 sand volleyball tournament.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. David W. McLean



The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. The WIRE seeks to provide maximum disclosure with minimum delay with regards to security, accuracy, propriety and policy. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by the Document Automation & Production Service with a circulation of 1,000.

**Army Capt. Jose Izquierdo, Joint Task Force Guantanamo's officer in-charge of detainee programs, receives an update on the art work of the detainees from Adam, the art instructor, August 4, 2009. The art program provides intellectual stimulation for detainees. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Michael Baltz**



# Drawn to inspiration

**Army Sgt. Michael Baltz**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Detainee programs at Joint Task Force Guantanamo provide art classes for detainees on a weekly basis as a part of successfully conducting safe, humane, legal and transparent care and custody.

“The main mission is to provide a mental [outlet] and recreation through art classes,” said Army Capt. Jose Izquierdo, detainee programs officer-in-charge. “There are detainees who have been here for seven years, so for the safety of our Troopers and

to keep the detainees mentally busy, we provide programs for the detainees.”

The art classes are a mental escape for the detainees that draws them away from thinking about ways to disobey camp rules, guards and interrogators and gives them something to look forward to.

Adam, the art instructor, has been teaching for more than 40 years. He has been teaching the detainee’s for the past eight weeks.

“He is a great art instructor,” Izquierdo said. “The first thing to be a great teacher is the chemistry between the teacher and student. He has great chemistry with the students. Prior to his arrival, attendance in the art classes was zero, and now it is [more than 50] students a week.”

Izquierdo is well-qualified to analyze Adam’s performance.

“What I do here, with the programs and the classes is very close to what I do in my civilian life. I am an elementary school principal,” Izquierdo explained. “The instructors provide me with a weekly report on how many are enrolled and how

many attended.”

Adam also has experience in classrooms.

“I have taught in elementary schools and in colleges in Iraq and in the United States,” Adam said.

However, teaching at GTMO has been a little different for Adam.

“Before I got here I heard all the bad things, all negative things about GTMO, but I decided to work here as a challenge,” Adam said. “I felt I could do something different here. I have worked with kids and adults, so I felt maybe my way of arts, or painting, could do well in a special case with detainees.

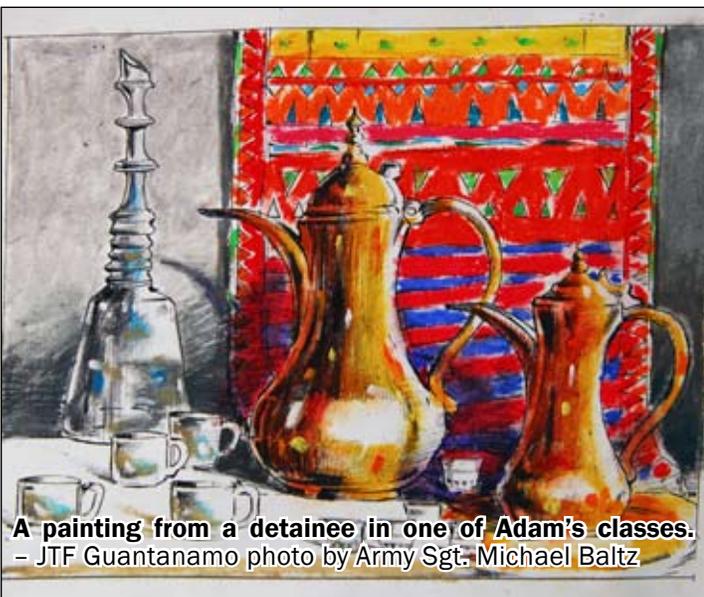
“I feel when we make a painting, we change our theme or mood,” Adam continued. “I now see everything is different since I have been here. Everything is organized and everything with the detainees is very good.”

There are indicators of Adam’s art class being successful.

“I give them the feeling I am a friend, not just an art teacher,” he said. “Being part of the culture and teaching Arabic writing also helps in making them [comfortable] with me.”

Adam is also sure to keep them occupied during classes.

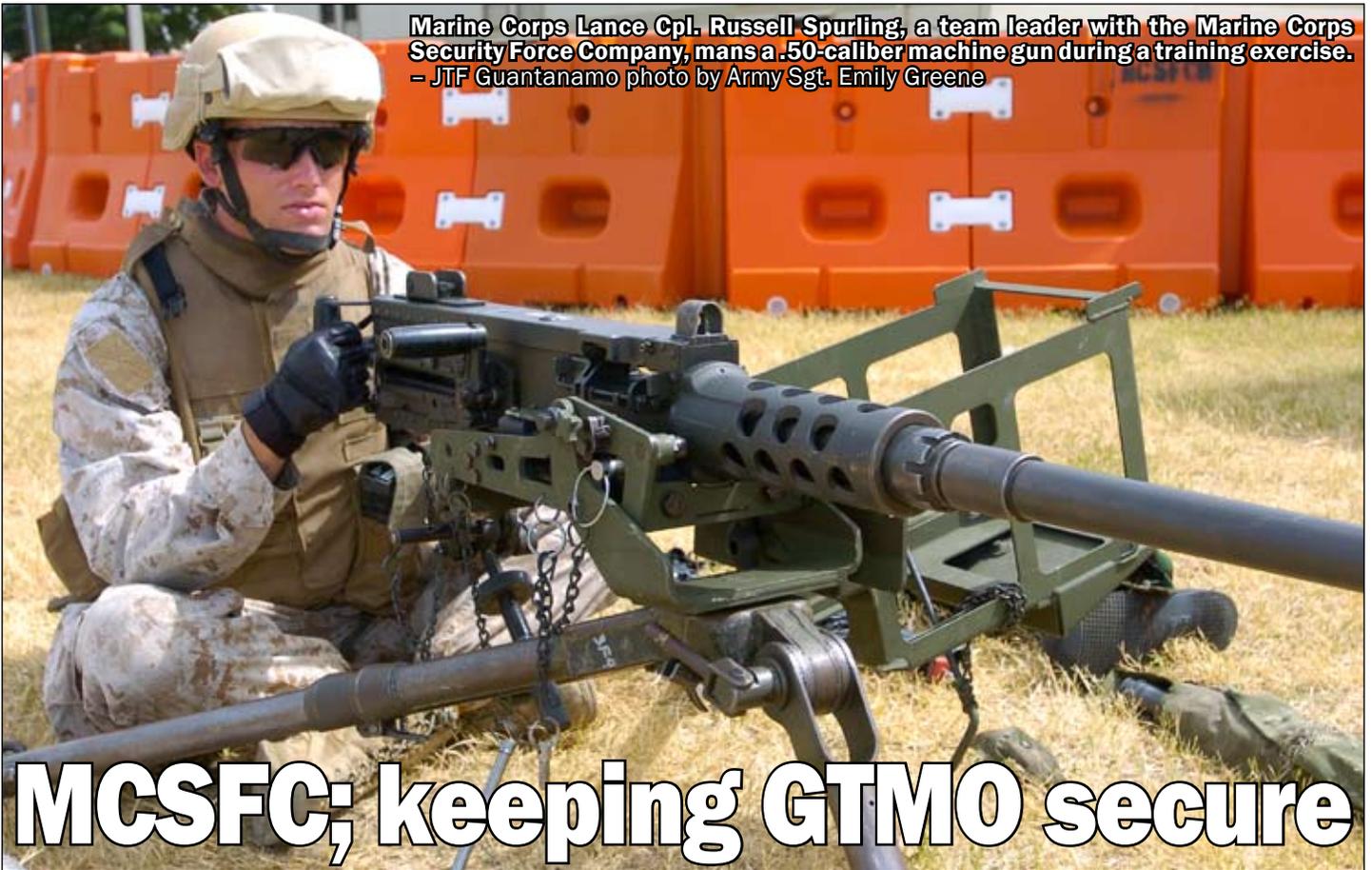
“When they start my class, they are busy the whole time. When the class is over they ask, ‘How is this two hours? It has not been two hours.’ I tell them it has been more than two hours, since I arrived 20 minutes



**A painting from a detainee in one of Adam's classes. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Michael Baltz**

See **ART/12**

**Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Russell Spurling, a team leader with the Marine Corps Security Force Company, mans a .50-caliber machine gun during a training exercise.**  
- JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Emily Greene



# MCSFC; keeping GTMO secure

**Army Sgt.  
Emily Greene**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Day and night, through sunshine and rain, the border between Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and Cuba is held secure. For more than four decades members of the United States Marine Corps have manned the towers and guarded the fence line in order that those operating within be kept safe and unencumbered in their mission.

The Marine Barracks' mission was to provide fence line security, observe the Cubans and provide ground defense when needed. Today the Marine Corps Security Force Company still holds this responsibility.

"Our mission today is to conduct continuous security operations along the shore side perimeter and directed waterside approaches between Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and Cuba," said Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Kenneth Waterman, gunnery sergeant for the MCSFC. "This allows the naval station to conduct advanced naval base operations without interference."

Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Miguel Rivera is the communications chief for the MCSFC and a member of the permanent staff that provides everything needed for the Guantanamo Bay mission.

"This mission is all day and all night, [24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week]," Rivera said. "We are constantly rotating Marines on and off this mission and this

keeps us busy here at MCSFC."

Between the necessary paperwork and training and the ongoing mission, operations are constant, Rivera said.

Some of the tasks for the MCSFC include maintaining continuous observation of the perimeter, providing reaction forces on both Windward and Leeward sides, conducting shore-side screening and reconnaissance and conducting checkpoint operations for the repatriation of Cuban nationals.



**Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Ian Pheifer, a rifleman with MCSFC stands guard during training on Marine Hill, July 29.** - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Emily Greene

"We are always training our Marines on all aspects of the mission in order to maintain the highest level of performance," said Rivera.

The company's platoons receive approximately two weeks of training when they first arrive in Guantanamo Bay and periodic training throughout their deployment here.

Marine Corps 1st Lt. Adam Steele, a platoon commander with the MCSFC is at Guantanamo Bay for the first time. His platoon deployed out of Norfolk, Va., and is relatively new, having been stood up earlier this year.

"This is our platoon's first deployment and the mission here plays an important role in the development of our Security Force Marines," Steele said. "Here they take the skills they learned in training and apply them in their daily mission. The experience they gain here enhances their capabilities when they deploy to other regions later."

Steele said the mission here at Guantanamo Bay is challenging and is instrumental in his platoon's development.

"The mission here directly translates to the Security Force mission anywhere in the world," Steele said. "This is a great opportunity for junior Marines to jump into doing their job right away."

Waterman said while operations on Guantanamo Bay have their own nuances, the mission is carried out the same as anywhere else; with pride and professionalism. ★

# Honor, valor, courage

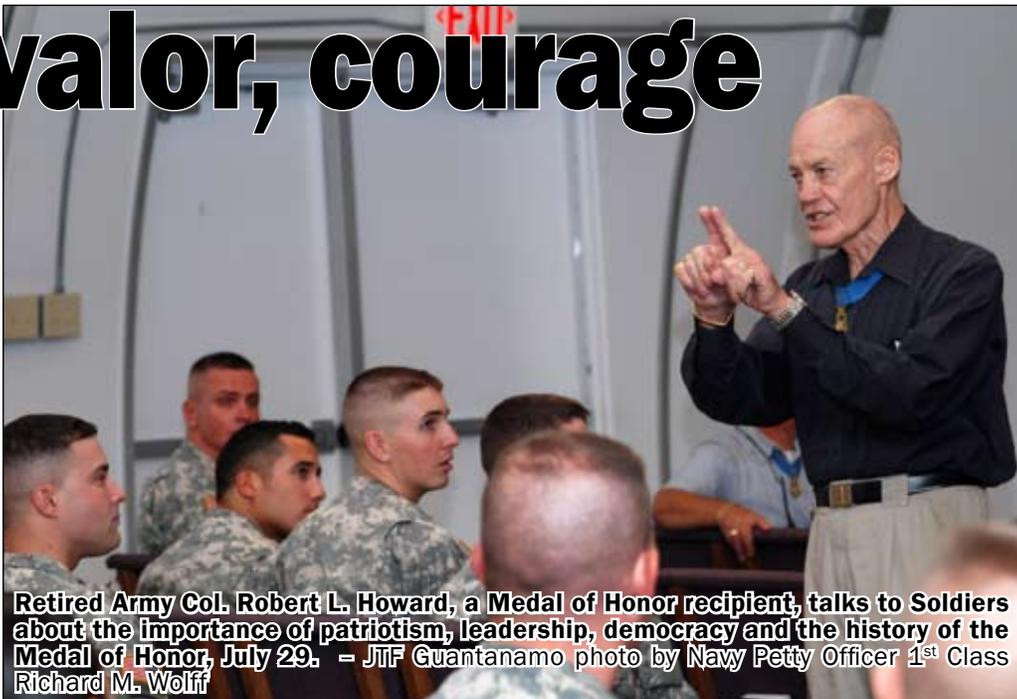
## Army Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Steven Rougeau

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

The Medal of Honor is the highest military decoration awarded by the United States government to service members who distinguish themselves through gallantry and intrepidity, risking his or her life above and beyond the call of duty against enemies of the United States of America.

Two such heroes, Medal of Honor recipients retired Army Col. Robert L. Howard and retired Army Command Sgt. Maj. Gary L. Littrell visited Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to share their experiences of valor with Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Liberty Center at Camp America, and throughout the naval station.

Both retired Soldiers travel around the country and overseas visiting troops, telling their stories and talking about the importance of patriotism, leadership,



**Retired Army Col. Robert L. Howard, a Medal of Honor recipient, talks to Soldiers about the importance of patriotism, leadership, democracy and the history of the Medal of Honor, July 29.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Richard M. Wolff

democracy and the history of the Medal of Honor.

“We just go around the country to extend our appreciation for your service,” Howard said. “We are privileged; this medal that I wear around my neck is for all service members.”

Howard is arguably one of the most highly-decorated service members in American history, with a list of awards and decorations that would impress any experienced Trooper. He served five tours in Vietnam and has been nominated three times for the Medal of Honor for three different heroic actions during a 13-month period. By today’s law, only one Medal can be issued to any one person in their lifetime, regardless of how many heroic acts they have performed.

Littrell’s list of heroics, awards and decorations are equally impressive from his tour in Vietnam. Both Howard and Littrell risked their own lives to save the lives of others by taking charge of their unit, engaging with the enemy during a fierce battle, caring for the wounded and evacuating their Soldiers to safety.

“The best advice I can give to young men and women in the military today, and especially our young leaders, is to make sure before you deploy

into a combat zone that your troops are properly trained,” Littrell said. “Training is everything and everything is training.”

These stories left the audience speechless and astounded at the heroic acts that saved the lives of the men’s comrades during the battles in which they both served.

“One of the biggest things they mentioned was about taking care of your troops, not yourself, and that’s one of the things people needed to learn if you’re here for them and not for yourself,” said Army Master Sgt. Jose Alicea.

Some of the Troopers in the audience could relate to their stories through their own experiences while deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan.

“I am just in awe being in their presence and [the fact] that some of them are still alive to receive this honor,” said Army Capt. Kathy Babin. “Just listening to Col. Howard, it brought me back to that moment when I was deployed and my first thought was about taking care of my Soldiers.”

The Medal of Honor was established in December 1861, and since then has been awarded to 3,447 recipients, of which 95 recipients are still alive today. There have been 19 double recipients of the Medal of Honor.

Howard told his audience that commitment to your troops and doing the right thing is important. The message they brought to the Troopers of Guantanamo was the importance of patriotism and leadership, which they both spoke about repeatedly.

When each of the Medal of Honor recipients was asked about his own heroism and what inspired them to do what they did, both modestly replied “This was something that had to be done at the time.”

Both Howard and Littrell travel extensively every year visiting Troops worldwide to boost morale and share their experiences, talk about patriotism and the love they have for this country. ☆



**Retired Army Sgt. Maj. Gary Littrell, a Medal of Honor recipient, removed his medal from his neck to pass around to Troopers at Trooper's Chapel, July 29.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Richard M. Wolff



**Navy Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Joshua Treadwell, of the team Afterlife, blocks the attempt from a Dirt Merchant player during the MWR Sand Volleyball Tournament Aug. 2.**

- JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. David McLean

# Kings of beach reign over new court

**Army Spc.  
David McLean**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Strong winds and a hot sun could not stop Team Varsity players from going undefeated in match play and winning the Captain's Cup Sand Volleyball Tournament at the Denich Gym outdoor volleyball court, August 2.

Varsity defeated GTMO Fire in two straight games during the two-day, double-elimination competition featuring 12 teams from Naval Station Guantanamo Bay and Joint Task Force Guantanamo battling for top honors and bragging rights at the newly-renovated pavilion.

Navy Lt. j.g. Brian Boyer, the captain of Varsity, assembled an experienced team to defend his top tournament finish in March: Army Sgt. Aaron San Luis, Wisam Samuel and Raj Shanderkumeri.

"Our team has a lot of experience," San Luis said. "Brian has been in many tournaments and, of course, I've been in many tournaments as well. Raj has been here for six years, and Sam has been playing for a long time. We had good passes, good sets and good kills. We had smart plays, kept our serves in play and tried to avoid giving up easy points. Teamwork and communication played an important role."

The team's experience was one of the elements of success where gusting winds forced many teams to play defensively as the ball moved all over the court.

"The wind bothered a lot of people,"

Boyer said. "I think that is why we won. We were able to adjust to the conditions, and take advantage of opportunities."

Conditions may have been difficult, but were not the only highlight of the tournament. Twin brothers Wisam and Wiaam Samuel met in the final match on opposing teams for the first time. They play a lot of volleyball together, but they decided to try new teammates for this tournament.

"This was the first time ever we have played against each other," Wisam Samuel said. "I always try to beat him when we play around. It was fun, and I try to hit [the ball] at him."

Hitting on this court was different, as Morale, Welfare and Recreation recently upgraded the facility with new sand and shaded areas.

"We replaced the old, coarse dirt court with fine, white sand and added two shade structures for people who come out and watch the games," said Robert Newman, sports coordinator for MWR. "The facility looks great, and the play looks even better. Good volleyball on a nice court is something to watch."

More play on the court is expected in the near future as Newman discussed a midnight tournament with the remaining players left after the championship match.



**Army Sgt. Aaron San Luis sets teammate Raj Shanderkumeri during the final match of the 4-on-4 tournament. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. David McLean**

Boyer said he expects to defend his title against all challengers.

For more information about volleyball tournaments or sporting events, contact the MWR sports office at ext. 2113. ♠



**Army Sgt.  
Emily Greene**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

It's understandable. Four dudes go to Vegas for a bachelor party, get blitzed out of their gourds and lose one of their friends. Hasn't everyone done that?

"The Hangover" is one of those movies that Americans love to watch. Boys behaving badly is a timeless theme that only seems to get better every time. Directed by Todd Phillips ("Old School" and "Road Trip"), this film has all the crude jokes and dumb humor which are frequently leavened with nuggets of inventiveness and wit.

The movie opens with four normal(ish) guys headed to Las Vegas for their buddy's last hurrah before his wedding. Their wild bachelor weekend quickly spins out of control. The groom-to-be goes missing after a night of revelry and his friends spend the rest of the movie looking for him.

Bradley Cooper's portrayal of Phil Wenneck offers a more interesting variation on an old standard, playing the aggressive, cocky frat boy with a snarl of rage that masks an anxiety as hard to account for as it is to miss. This weekend with the boys is his chance to live college dreams and ends up teaching him to appreciate his real (albeit boring) life.

Ed Helms is Stu Price, an anxious

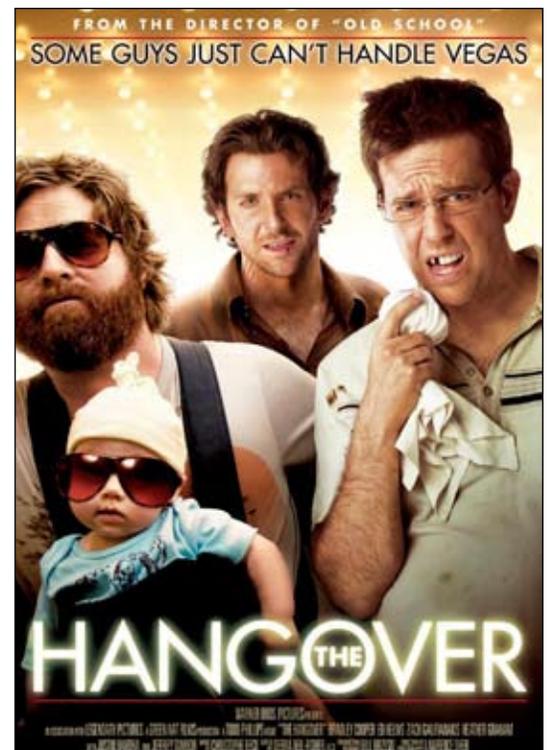
dentist who is cowed by his overbearing girlfriend. While his character could have been the boring one, Helms continued to surprise with gaffs like random tooth loss and an impromptu Vegas wedding.

Zach Galifianakis is Alan Garner, a childlike loser whose borderline-creepy non sequiturs are more hilarious the less sense they make. Some of his best moments are played off a baby he finds in a closet and totes around for a good portion of the movie.

"The Hangover" peaks early and runs on that steam for the remainder of the movie. Even the craziest stuff has a way of becoming less so in the course of being explained. Still, there are some moments of dizzying, demented lunacy, most of them immune to being spoiled by mere verbal description.

The film is sprinkled with a tiny handful of women who provide the stereotypes to their male counterparts. There is the sweet and patient bride, the emasculating shrew and the friendly prostitute; all three very funny and very necessary to balance the film's overbearing male flavor.

"The Hangover" presents the wildest imaginable scenario and asks the audience to buy it; which they do. Somehow, throughout the craziness of the film the characters capture the essence of human desire and teach us all a lesson about how the grass is not always greener on the other side. ♡



**Rated R**

**100 minutes**

**Rating:** ★★★★★

# USA Express



The USA Express band performs at the Tiki Bar for Troopers July 31. The band, comprised of artists who perform outside of their primary military occupation, to include Joint Task Force Guantanamo's own Army Sgt. Daniel Jaggie, is open to members from all five branches of the military. Jaggie earned the chance to play with USA Express through auditions and competition against other talented members of the military. Jaggie will tour with the band for six months before returning to GTMO, where he looks forward to picking up where he left off performing for Troopers at O'Kelly's.

JTF Guantanamo photos by  
Army Spc. April D. de Armas

The Iguana Xing offers a place to unwind and spend time with friends, use the Internet or watch TV and play games. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Pfc. Christopher Vann



## A place to unwind

**Army Pfc.  
Christopher Vann**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

If you're looking for a place off the beaten path, a place to take a break from the monotony of everyday life, then look no further than Iguana Xing (Crossing).

At the top of Chapel Hill, opposite from the Naval Station Chapel, Iguana Xing has an inviting environment which offers more than meets-the-eye. While there, you can use the big-screen TV for watching movies or one of your favorite shows, and you can settle into the soft couch, with a pleasant atmosphere and enjoy various refreshments.

"It's a good resource," said Crystal Sciarratta, a civilian volunteer. "I see it as a comfortable hangout, a place to study and use the Internet, plus it's quieter and less crowded than going to the library."

Crystal and her husband, Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Joshua Sciarratta, volunteer at the Iguana Xing. They first heard about it at the Protestant church service given by U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Chaplain Doug Holmes. There he informed the congregation that they needed more volunteers to keep the program operating. The Sciarratta's stepped up to the plate, to extend a helping hand.

"It's a place for all Troopers to hang

out," said Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Brandon Enck, a religious programs aide. "It's an excellent alternative to the party scene."

Iguana Xing's doors are open every night, 7 days-a-week, from 6 until 10 p.m., for anyone wishing to visit.

"It's an ideal location for relaxing after work or after the library has closed for the day," Enck said.

The facility has been used by various support groups, and is available for reservations.

The two computers, which operate on the same system as Columbia College, are beneficial for those Troopers enrolled in courses to complete their class requirements.

The gathering place is geared toward individuals age 18 and up, both civilian and military alike, and operates on contributions of refreshments.

"This is a religious-based program," said Chaplain Holmes. "However, it is open to all; all we ask is that you abide by the rules and enjoy your time."

Holmes encourages Troopers to use the time they have on island in a productive manner. Whether it be completing assignments or chatting online to family members back home.

"Iguana Xing is always looking for volunteers, and as always donations of refreshments are welcomed wholeheartedly," said Sciarratta.

For more information about volunteering or donations for Iguana Xing, contact Chaplain Doug Holmes at ext. 2843 or [doug.holmes@usnbgtdmo.navy.mil](mailto:doug.holmes@usnbgtdmo.navy.mil). ★



**Crystal Sciarratta, a volunteer at the Iguana Xing sets out plates and cups for visitors at the Iguana Xing.** - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Pfc. Christopher Vann



# GTMO Trooper returns to perform for peers

**Army Sgt. Daniel Jaggie, a member of the 525<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, rocks out with his guitar for Troopers at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, July 31. Jaggie recently left GTMO to join the all-military traveling band USA Express, and will return to regular duty in mid-November.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. April D. de Armas

## **Army Spc. April D. de Armas**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

For many Troopers, deployment to U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay means spending the next six months to a year supporting Joint Task Force Guantanamo. For one Trooper, the opportunity of a lifetime presented itself in the form of an all-military traveling band that would break up his deployment to GTMO.

USA Express is a band created by the Army Entertainment Division and Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Army Sgt. Daniel Jaggie, a military policeman with the 525<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion at JTF, was chosen by the USA Express band to do a six-month tour around several different military bases all over the world, to perform for Troopers.

“I have been playing guitar for 12 years; I have performed in the civilian world as well as for Troopers and was very excited to get this opportunity,” Jaggie said.

Before Jaggie joined USA Express, he spent some of his off-time performing at O’Kelly’s, the local pub located here at GTMO.

“I really enjoyed playing at O’Kelly’s the last few months but I was looking for more,” Jaggie said. “Any time a band would perform for the Troopers here, I would think, ‘man I wish that were me up there,’ so this is really cool.”

Jaggie is joined by several other Troopers from military units from other bases.

Army 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Rockell Allen, a member of the Georgia National Guard’s 319<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, has been with the band for the last seven weeks as a vocalist and keyboardist.

“I am a National Guardsman and was looking for a full-time job when my husband found the Web site and asked me if I wanted to audition,” Allen said. “I was very excited to be chosen. I love being with the Troopers and am very excited to be performing with the people in the band.”

USA Express has already been to Fort Bragg, N. C., and will be making their next few stops in Puerto Rico and Hawaii.

“The Troopers at Fort Bragg, N. C., were really awesome and so far the reception we have received here has been just as amazing,” said Army Sgt. Terrance Jones, 82<sup>nd</sup> Maintenance Company from Columbus, Ga. “I am looking forward to the rest of the tour. Being a Trooper myself, performing for the Troopers has been a humbling experience; they are all great and deserve to be able to relax.”

When the Troopers are done with their six-month tour with USA Express, they will be replaced with new Troopers from other areas and will return to their respective commands.

“I will return to GTMO in mid-November to complete my tour,” Jaggie said. “I look forward to coming back when the tour is

done and I hope to pick up where I left off performing at O’Kelly’s again. However, until then, I am really enjoying this diversion and I know the Troopers enjoy seeing us come out to give them a little entertainment during their off hours.” ☆



**Army 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Rockell Allen a member of the 319<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, sings for Troopers at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, July 31.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. April D. de Armas

# Art provides positive outlet

ART from 3

early,” Adam said. “This is how I know they like my class. I don’t have to convince them to come, because now they believe. Every week I have new students. When I started teaching I had two classes, and now I have seven classes.”

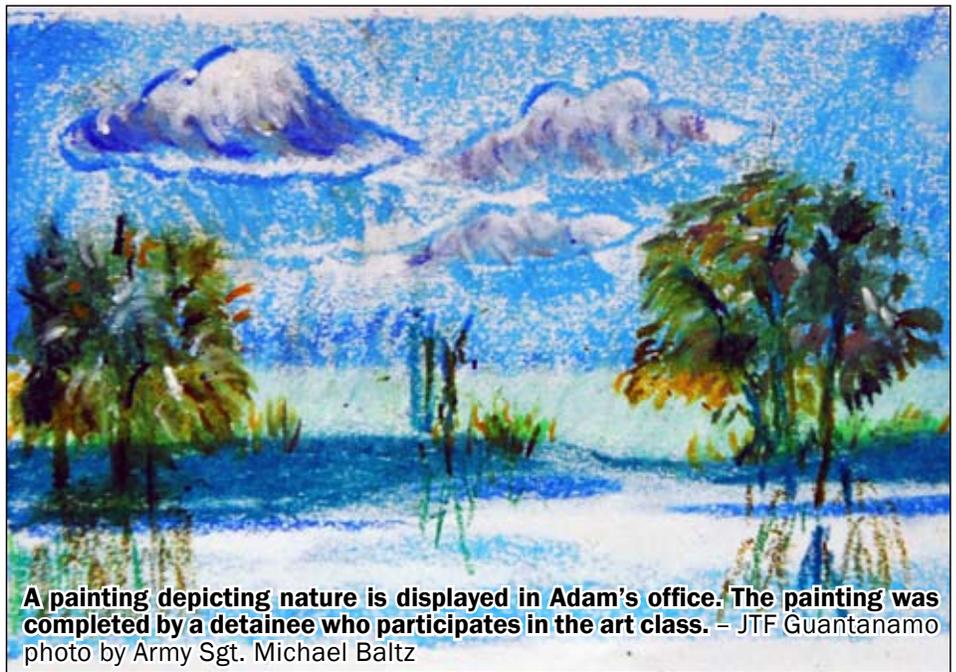
An aspect to the detainees is preparing for the future, according to Adam.

“They look for the future,” Adam said. “If you are good with me, and are good at painting, maybe somebody takes this as a job when they go back home. They need something to start a life. When they say ‘I am an artist,’ people will respect them. And if they cannot get a job as an artist, at least they will be able to teach their children.”

Adam explained that several detainees have negative thoughts, but his effort with art is helping to change that.

“This is very good for their psychology,” Adam said. “I am not just giving them practice; I also talk about why art is important. We change our life if we do something beautiful. I tell them that when they start to paint they will see things more beautifully.”

Adam even assigns homework and when detainees return to class, he is amazed at



**A painting depicting nature is displayed in Adam's office. The painting was completed by a detainee who participates in the art class. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Michael Baltz**

the work from the detainees.

“This isn’t only education; this is culture,” he said. “It is a shame for people not to know about da Vinci or Michelangelo, who spent five years on paintings, and they are amazed and honored when I tell them.”

One of the goals for the detainee art program may be a surprise to some.

“One of my goals is to have an exhibit

of the detainee art,” Izquierdo said enthusiastically. “I would like to present it in the camp in hopes that it will motivate other detainees to attend the class.”

The art classes are only one example of how JTF Guantanamo continues to enhance the lives of detainees by providing intellectual stimulation, social recreation and instructional training. ☆

## Scuba Diving Safety

- All divers must be certified and registered with Port Services.
- Each dive must be filed with Port Operations. Call in your dive plan before diving and call out your dive plan upon completion of the dive (ext. 4188).
- Dive with a buddy. Diving alone is strictly prohibited.
- When making multiple repetitive dives, plan your dives so that you make the deepest dive of the day first and work progressively shallower, staying *well within* the no decompression limits. Make a safety stop at the end of all dives.
- Stay hydrated. Remember that sun, wind and heat deplete body fluids, as do caffeine and alcohol consumption.
- Take a day off from diving every few days.

For more information, review the GTMO diving regulation 1711.1 found on the JTF Intranet homepage, or call Port Services at ext. 4898.



## GTMO's National Night Out

Navy Petty Officers 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clint Woodson and Buddy Snedeker took a moment to pose with “McGruff the Crime Dog” during Guantanamo’s National Night Out. National Night Out provides an opportunity for our military members and residents of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay to join The National Association of Town Watch and other law enforcement agencies across the U.S. in celebrating and promoting efforts to increase awareness and strengthen participation throughout our community. The National Night Out, ‘America’s Night Out Against Crime,’ was introduced in 1984 and has been dedicated to the development, growth and maintenance of organized crime and drug prevention programs nationwide. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Orlando Quintero

## Boots on the Ground

by Army Pfc. Rachel Simpson

What is your favorite super hero pose?



Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Bill Schick

“It would have to be Batman.”

Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class George Stowe  
“Wonder Woman!”



Army Pvt. Gregg Allen

“My favorite superhero is Spiderman.”

Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Andrew Lindsay

“My superhero’s got to be the Juggernaut!”



# Spiritual success

**Navy Lt. Cmdr.  
Lee Hellwig**  
NEGB Chaplain

Working in a joint environment may bring about the thought that many things would work much better if everything was universally adapted, to be used the same way by everyone every time. This approach may not work in the environment of a joint task force, but there is universal applicability in the development of spirituality and the fostering of relationship with one's God, which is indeed universal to all people no matter what uniform they may wear.

I am thinking of a universal prayer attributed to Pope Clement XI as an example because it touches on many military values. Giovanni Albani, pope from 1700 to 1721, was born in Italy in July 1649. He received an extraordinary education in theology and law, filled various important papal offices, and in November 1700 became Pope Clement XI.

Clement was a polished writer, and a generous patron of the arts. His private life and his administration were blameless, but it was his misfortune to reign in tempestuous times in the world. In the War of the Spanish Succession he would willingly have remained neutral, but found himself being manipulated by the crowned heads of Europe. In the Peace of Utrecht his guidance was ignored. In a disagreement with the Duke of Savoy regarding policies of investiture in Sicily, his instruction was treated with contempt.

When a doctrinal controversy broke out and was supported by some bishops, division within the church was prolonged. The prestige of the papacy had never been lower in two centuries. Clement died in March 1721. In spite of the troubling times in which he lived, he was able to succeed on a personal level and as a leader due to his ongoing spirituality. No doubt his universal prayer offers insight into his spirituality and the source of his strength in times of public controversy and personal demands.

## A Universal Prayer

My God, guide me by Your wisdom, correct me with Your justice. Comfort me with Your mercy and protect me with Your power.

I offer You my thoughts: to be fixed on You; my words: to have You for their theme; my actions: to reflect my love for You; my sufferings: to be endured for Your greater glory.

I want to do what You ask of me: in the way You ask for as long as You ask, because You ask it. Lord, enlighten my understanding, strengthen my will, purify my heart, and make me holy. Help me

to repent of my past sins and to resist temptation in the future.

Help me to rise above my human weaknesses and to grow stronger as a person. Let me see myself as I really am: A pilgrim in this world, a person called to respect and love all whose lives I touch, those under my authority, my friends and my enemies.

Help me to conquer anger with gentleness, greed by generosity, apathy by fervor. Help me to forget myself and reach out toward others. Make me prudent in planning, courageous in

taking risks. Make me patient in suffering, unassuming in prosperity.

Keep me, Lord, attentive at prayer, temperate in food and drink, diligent in my work, firm in my good intentions. Let my conscience be clear, my conduct without fault, my speech blameless and my life well-ordered. Put me on guard against my human weaknesses.

Help me to prepare for death with a proper fear of judgment with a greater trust in Your goodness. Lead me safely through death to eternal rest. Amen. ✠



**Pope Clement XI**

## JTF CHAPEL SCHEDULED PROGRAMS

**Catholic Mass**  
**Sunday - Friday:**  
6:30 a.m. Mass

**Spanish Catholic Mass**  
**Sunday: 5 p.m.**  
at NAVSTA Chapel

**Protestant Worship**  
**Sunday: 9 a.m.**

**Spanish Protestant**  
**Worship**  
**Sunday: 11 a.m.**

**Bible Study**  
**Sunday: 6 p.m.**  
**Wednesday: 7 p.m.**

# 'You oughta know'

**Army Sgt.  
Michael Baltz**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Every Sunday O'Kelly's Irish Pub at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay allows Troopers with Joint Task Force Guantanamo and NAVSTA to perform in front of their friends and guests.

"The purpose is to get musicians out there to perform and to afford people the opportunity to hear live music," said Marine Corps Capt. April Coan, anti-terrorism officer for the JTF. "You don't get to hear that too often. There is a lot of talent on this island, it is amazing how much talent is here. It is also a good place to see people do their thing."

The event is called Sunday Sit-Ins With April.

"Everybody is welcome," Coan said. "I envisioned this as an open forum for any band here. It is for people to go out there and have fun. If they need a guitar or just want to sing I have that stuff there."

There is a wide range of music. There have been people who sing anything, either a cappella or accompanied, from country to rock, according to Coan.

Along with managing the Sunday event, Coan also participates with her band called Backwoods.

"I started playing 10 years ago, and I started performing about four or five years ago," Coan said. "So when I got here, I started looking for people to play with."

Coan taught herself how to play.

"We had an old guitar in my house and I picked it up and started playing," Coan said.

Coan was in band when she was growing up and credits that to her current ability.

"The first time I went to an open [microphone event] was five years ago in Virginia," said Coan, an Alanis Morissette fan. "Now I am running one here, so it is kind of cool."

Coan's band member has been playing the harmonica for 13 years.

"I always wanted to play the harmonica as a kid," said Navy Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Lance Burleson, a combat cameraman. "One day in school, I heard some kid messing around with one. They didn't know how to play it, but I wanted to learn. So I got a book from them and started learning, playing simple tunes like 'She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain.'"

"Later, I found a book on how to play blues harp and that opened a whole different world for me," continued Burleson, who admires harmonica player Little Walters. "Once I began to learn how to bend notes, everything I heard on the radio sounded like what I was starting to play, so from then on I just started imitating."

The two kick off the Sunday night event at 8 p.m. If you wish to join them, sing your own music or bring your own band, call Coan at ext. 78235.

"If you play an instrument or sing, come out and join us. We are all out there to make friends." Burleson added. ✨



Coan sings the song 'You oughta know' by Alanis Morissette, a song that Troopers often request Coan to play. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Michael Baltz



Coan and Burleson sing together as Backwoods at O'Kelly's Irish Pub at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, August 2. The duo play and sing together every Sunday evening, 8-11 p.m. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Michael Baltz

# Around the JTF



Army Staff Sgt. Roberto Ramos performs Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services on a dispatched vehicle for the Joint Task Force, August 3. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. Cody Black



Marine Cpl. Miguel Machado, Fleet Marine Force corpsman, Marine Corps Security Force Company Guantanamo Bay, and a Marine Corps martial arts instructor with the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, delivers a leg strike to a sparring bag, Aug. 4. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Pfc. Christopher Vann



Army Sgt. Debra Dyson is presented with the Non-Commissioned Officer Creed by Navy Cmdr. Don Martin, after a promotion ceremony at the JTF Guantanamo Headquarters, July 31. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Richard M. Wolff