

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF USS MAKIN ISLAND (LHD 8)

# AROUND THE ISLAND

SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2



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# NEWS YOU CAN'T LOSE

## Your Deployment Checklist:

- A COMPLETE SEA BAG
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- CIVILIAN CLOTHES
- COFFEE MUG
- CONTACT LENSES
- ENTERTAINMENT ITEMS
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- FINGER NAIL CLIPPERS
- FOOT ODOR SPRAY
- FOUL WEATHER GEAR
- FREEZE ACCOUNTS
- GLASSES/SUNGLASSES
- GYM TOWEL
- HAND SANITIZER
- HOLIDAY DECOR
- LAUNDRY DETERGENT
- LOCKS
- LONG-TERM PARKING
- MAIL FORWARDING
- MOVIES/TV SHOWS
- PATCHES FOR NEXT RANK
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- SHAVING EQUIPMENT
- SHOWER SHOES
- SOAP/SHAMPOO
- STORAGE
- TWEEZERS
- WARFARE PINS
- WATER BOTTLE
- WILL

## Fitness & Safety Tips:

- ELECTRIC SAFETY CHECKS
- SET FITNESS GOALS
- CREATE FITNESS PLAN

## PFA - 2011 Cycle 2:

- COMPLETE PARFQ
- PRT DATES SET:
  - 1 NOV- BCA  
0600-1600, MEDICAL P-WARD  
EXEC/CHAP/NAV/SAF/DECK/ENG/  
WEPS/DPS  
(EARLY BIRD & SWIMMERS REQUIRED)
  - 2 NOV- BCA  
0800-1600, MEDICAL P-WARD  
FSA/SUPPLY/AIR/AIMD/MED/DENT/C5
  - 3 NOV- EARLY BIRD RUN  
0700-0900, NBSD TRACK
  - 4 NOV- EARLY BIRD RUN  
0900-1000, ADM PROUT GYM  
(ALL SWIMMERS)
  - 7 NOV- PRT RUN  
NBSD TRACK  
0700-0800, EXEC/CHAP/NAV/SAF  
0800-0900, DECK  
0900-1000, ENG
  - 8 NOV- PRT RUN  
NBSD TRACK  
0700-0800, WEPS  
0800-0900, OPS
  - 9 NOV- EARLY BIRD RUN  
NBSD TRACK  
0700-0800, FSA/AIMD/MED/DENT  
0800-0900, C5
  - 10 NOV- PRT RUN  
0700-0800, FSA/SUP  
0800-0900, AIR
  - 11 NOV- PRT RUN  
0700-0900, FINAL STRAGGLERS  
0900-1000, SWIM ADM PROUT GYM
  - 14 NOV- BCA  
FOR MACHINE TESTING
  - 15 NOV- PFA USING MACHINE  
(0800-1000) SHIP'S GYM

## Enroll in warfare programs:

- ROUTE ENROLLMENT CHIT
- EAWS POC  
ABF1 CASTILLO, JONATHAN
- ESWS POC  
IT1 LABASAN, EUGENE

## AROUND THE ISLAND

### COMMANDING OFFICER:

CAPT JIM LANDERS

### EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

CAPT CEDRIC PRINGLE

### COMMAND MASTER CHIEF:

CMDMCM(SW/AW) STEVEN ALT

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### ON THE COVER:

Seaman Floyd Taylor, lee helmsman aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8), changes the ship's speed during a strait transit navigation exercise. [Photo by MC2(SW) Alan Gragg]



Sailors and Marines aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island bow their heads during the invocation at a 9/11 remembrance held on the ship's mess decks. More than 300 Sailors and Marines came together for the ceremony to reflect on the terrorist attacks ten years ago. [Photo by MC1(SW) David McKee]

# WE REMEMBER 9/11

## Sailors, Marines Reflect on Last 10 Years

By MC1(SW) David McKee, Around The Island Staff

**H**undreds of Sailors and Marines joined together Sept. 11 aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8) to observe the 10th anniversary and remember those lost during the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The ceremony was organized by the Makin Island FY-12 Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Selectees and included performances by the Makin Island Choir, as well as speeches from the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) leadership.

"I remember the whole day, being somewhat numb, like I was watching a movie, and it didn't feel real to me," said Capt. Jim Landers, Makin Island's commanding officer who served as one of the guest speakers.

Landers shared his personal 9/11

experience with the crew, explaining how 10 years ago he was a 14-year Navy veteran who worked at the Pentagon. He recalled he was at the Washington Navy Yard across the Potomac River at the time when a hijacked aircraft crashed into the Pentagon.

**"I joined [the Navy] almost exactly ten years ago... I went to the television where I saw the events unfolding. The next week I was at the recruiter's office signing up."**

*-Hull Technician 2nd Class Cruz Gutierrez*

"It changed our military, it changed our way of life, and it changed our view of the world," added Landers.

Capt. Humberto L. Quintanilla II, commander of Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) 5 currently

embarked aboard Makin Island, reminded Sailors and Marines of how the attacks changed the nation during his remarks.

"They brought the war to us, something we were not used to, something we did not recognize, but in our hearts, we knew what to do," said Quintanilla.

"We, the Makin Island ARG, understand the price that we have to pay," he said. "We are able to look our parents in the face and say 'Mom and Dad, it's my turn, and it's going to be OK.'"

Col. Michael Hudson, commanding officer of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, also spoke during the event.

"I know a lot of you looking up here right now, were not in

**REMEMBER, continued on Page 7**

# A LOOK AROUND



Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Hampton (SSN 767) cruises alongside Makin Island during a Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX). [Photo by MCC(SW/AW) John Lill]



An AV-8B Harrier, assigned to the Red Dragons of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 268, prepares to land on the flight deck of the amphibious assault ship USS Makin Island (LHD 8). [Photo by MC1(SW) David McKee]



Cmdr. Michael Dowling, Makin Island's Air Boss, administers the oath of enlistment anniversary of 9/11 aboard an MH-60S Seahawk helicopter, assigned to the Wildcard from the New York City Fire Department to honor the fallen victims of 9/11 on the ship.



Chief Quartermaster Larry Watkins looks through a stadimeter during a straight transit navigation exercise aboard Makin Island. [Photo by MC2(SW) Alan Gragg]

# IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ISLAND



...t to Aviation Boatswain's Mate 1st Class Alayn Yasay, who reenlisted on the 10 year anniversary of the terrorist attacks. [Photo by MC2(SW) Stephen D. Doyle II]



Sailors from Makin Island's Engineering Department stand watch in the ship's Central Control Station (CCS). From the various watch stations in CCS, all functions of the ship's engineering systems are monitored and controlled. [Photo by MC1(AW) Andrew Wiskow]



Lt. Eric Hewitt uses an ultrasound fast exam looking for internal bleeding in a simulated patient during a mass casualty drill aboard Makin Island.. [Photo by MC2(SW) Alan Gragg]



Lance Cpl. Carlos Luque, assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, takes aim during tactical drills in Makin Island's hangar bay. [Photo by MC1(SW) David McKee]



Information Systems Technician Seaman Seth Kiefer shops in Makin Island's store. [Photo by MC2 Jason Behnke]

# MAKIN ISLAND'S STORE

## A Global Force For Goodies

By SN Danielle Burgess, Contributor

USS Makin Island's ship store strives to increase the morale of Sailors and Marines on board by offering a variety of basic products, from snacks and essential hygiene items to official Makin Island clothing and souvenirs.

The store contributes all profits to the ship's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) fund, which supports recreational activities at-sea and in-port for the crew.

"The ship's store has all the products I need," said Interior Communications Electrician 3rd class Walter Seward. "Every time I need something bare necessity-wise, they are there for me."

The other various products provided by the store include sports drinks, energy drinks, juice, an assortment of chips, jerky sticks, chocolate, candy, gum, cookies, frozen treats, soups, dietary supplements, lighters, tobacco products, playing

cards, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, hair products, sunglasses, contact solution, towels, blue and white undershirts, socks and a small selection of uniform items.

Makin Island Sales Officer, Lt. j.g. Jeffrey Borrromeo, said his crew is working on improving the selection for customers by surveying the crew to find better ways to meet their needs.

The most recent survey was the women-at-sea survey.

"In the past, most products were targeted for men, and we want to improve the selection for women," said Borrromeo.

Borrromeo also said past surveys, such as the healthy choice survey, have increased the product line of healthy choices available. The store now offers whole grains and protein packed snacks.

Suggestions are welcome via email and within the store's suggestion box.

## Business Hours:

**Underway:**

**Mon-Sat**

0830-1100, 1200-1500,  
1800-2200

**Sundays & Holiday Routine**

1200-1500

1800-2200

**In Port:**

**Mon-Fri**

0800-1230

**Weekends & Holiday Routine**

Closed

**Liberty Call & Early Liberty**

Closed



**Capt. Humberto L. Quintanilla II, commander of Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) 5, speaks at a 9/11 remembrance held on the mess decks. More than 300 Sailors and Marines came together for the ceremony to reflect on the terrorist attacks ten years ago. [Photo by MC1(SW) David McKee]**



**Yeoman 2nd Class Takesha Ware, a member of the USS Makin Island (LHD 8) performance choir, sings lead vocals during a 9/11 remembrance held on the mess decks. More than 300 Sailors and Marines came together to reflect on the terrorist attacks ten years ago. [Photo by MC2(SW) Justin L. Webb]**

### REMEMBER (cont.) from Page 3

the military on Sept. 11. You were doing something else," said Hudson speaking to the crowd. "You had a different destination, but that day brought us together on many different levels."

Chief (Select) Operations Specialist Jason Brunzman, who served as master of ceremonies for the event, said he was extremely proud that the chief petty officer selectees were allowed to organize the ceremony.

"All of us [CPO Selectees] were already on active duty ten years ago, but many of the young Sailors and Marines aboard Makin Island joined the military as a direct result of the events that took place that day," said Brunzman. "This was our opportunity to remember those who lost their lives and as well as honor those who answered the call to serve."

Sailors and Marines who attended the event recalled how 9/11 changed their lives forever.

"I joined [the Navy] almost exactly ten years ago," said Hull Technician 2nd Class Cruz Gutierrez, who was working a civilian night-shift job Sept. 10, 2001. "I got home, went to sleep and was awakened by my girlfriend."

The San Pedro, Calif., native said he will always remember the events of that day.

"I went to the television where I saw the events unfolding," said Gutierrez. "The next week I was at the recruiter's office signing up."

Gutierrez was one of the thousands of Americans who felt compelled to serve in the military following the 9/11 attacks. Of that group, a total of 217,140 naval officers and enlisted personnel are still serving today.

The Makin Island ARG is currently conducting a composite unit training exercise (COMPUTEX) off the coast of Southern California. COMPUTEX is a training exercise designed to test capabilities and ensure overall readiness prior to deployment.



REMEMBERING

9/11

Service, Sacrifice, Selflessness