

Spring/Summer 2016

#### MARSOC Foundation Progress Report

Thanks to our generous donors and supporters, the MARSOC Foundation has provided over \$1.25 million in assistance to the MARSOC community, with over \$280,000.00 being provided so far this year. In 2015, \$.93 of every \$1 spent went directly towards MARSOC Foundation programs. Your donations have helped to:

• Fund travel for MARSOC Gold Star Families to attend the MARSOC Foundation 2016 Resiliency & Remembrance Events being held in conjunction with MARSOC's 10-Year Anniversary & the Marine Raider Association's Gala and



Reunion. The MARSOC Foundation hosts the annual event to keep the families connected with one another and with the MARSOC community.

- Fund support for the Silver Star Ceremony of Staff Sergeant Nicholas Sprovtsoff, including support for family travel and catering for the reception following the ceremony.
- Provide one-time transition assistance grants for 25 MARSOC Raiders separating from the military and re-entering the civilian sector. The grants are provided to help fill the gap between the termination of active-duty pay and the commencement of DoD/VA benefits.
- Fund the memorial statue and plaque that will be unveiled at the Marine Special Operations School Rededication Ceremony later this month.
- Reduce out-of-pocket expenses for 9 MARSOC families experiencing health and welfare challenges.

#### Calendar of Events

Please click on hyperlinks to learn more about each event!

September 17th - Seaside Park, NJ –<u>3rd Annual Seaside Semper Five 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run</u> –Run the boardwalk on the Jersey Shore, get a top quality long-sleeved Under Armour t-shirt, and support the MARSOC Foundation's mission! Post race party at The Saw Mill!

October 12th to 15th - Southern CA –<u>Ride430 Challenge</u> hosted by the Free Wheel Foundation. A multi-day team cycling challenge that takes you to some awesome spots throughout southern California...not your typical charity bike ride! The route is top secret...sign up today to gain access!

October 29th - Washington, DC - <u>2016 MARSOC Foundation Marine Corps Marathon Charity Partner Team</u> - Run America's Marathon & show your support for MARSOC Raiders and their families! \$750 fundraising requirement - earn team t-shirt, invite to pre-race dinner, & fundraising incentives!

November 5th - Swansboro, NC - <u>Tideland 24</u> –Run the beautiful wilderness trails of the Croatan National Forest and see how many laps you can muster in twenty-four hours! Complete 100 miles (73.6 laps) and receive the Tideland 24 100 Mile Belt Buckle!

You can view our Calendar of Events at <u>www.marsocfoundation.org</u>. If you would like to host an event to benefit the MARSOC Foundation, please contact us at info@marsocfoundation.org or 951-551-9309.









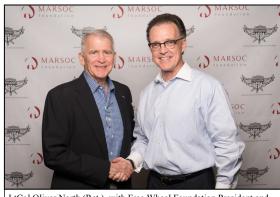
# Please join our <u>2016 MCM Charity Partner Team</u> to support MARSOC Raiders & their families!

Gain entry to a race that sells out every year, earn a cool Under Armour t-shirt, join us for our pre-race dinner, get fundraising and training tips, & have the chance to earn some awesome fundraising incentives, all while making your miles count as you help MARSOC Raiders and their families!

Since 2013, our MCM Charity Partner team has raised over \$300,000 for the MARSOC Foundation!

Simply raise a minimum of \$750 in donations and run with an amazing group of people throughout our Nation's capitol on October 30th!

Join today by emailing us at info@marsocfoundation.org!



LtCol Oliver North (Ret.) with Free Wheel Foundation President and Co-Founder John Greenway during the VIP Meet & Greet at the 5th Annual Evening with the MARSOC Foundation Photo Credit – Bradford Jones

#### 5th Annual Evening with the MARSOC Foundation Has Record Year

The Scottsdale Gun Club was the perfect setting for an evening highlighted by remarks from Retired Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, as well as the story behind this year's Operation Hero Project. Service members and civilians gathered together to show their support for MARSOC Raiders and their families. Guests were treated to a "Meet and Greet" with LtCol North and had those moments captured thanks to the very talented Bradford Jones. Delicious and decadent treats were provided by The Melting Pot of Scottsdale. Silent and live auction items covered a wide range of interests, from customized weapons to sports memorabilia and exclusive experiences provided by local businesses. LtCol North mentioned being embedded with MARSOC Raiders in Afghanistan while he was reporting for FOX News and shared his understanding of Special Operations and the importance of units like MARSOC. As a well-known author, LtCol North had additional ties to MARSOC with the inclusion of Staff Sergeant Nicholas Sprovtsoff and his family in North's

book "American Heroes on the Homefront: The Hearts of Heroes." The special and memorable evening illustrated the giving spirit of Arizonians, as well as their appreciation for MARSOC Raiders and the foundation that supports them.

From Free Wheel Foundation Co-Founder John Greenway: "This year has already brought the Free Wheel Foundation some amazing memories created as a result of providing grants to our injured heroes thanks to the funds raised from previously held events. In May, we once again partnered with the MARSOC Foundation and the Scottsdale Gun Club to present the 5th Annual Evening with the MARSOC Foundation. The event included amazing auction items that were donated by individuals, businesses and partner organizations. The auction had it all this year, from custom rifles to spa packages to helicopter flight lessons...a little something for everyone.

For 2016, we decided this year to move in a slightly different direction from previous years. For the first time, we brought in a speaker with ties beyond MARSOC, having none other than LtCol Oliver North as our guest speaker. LtCol North inspired the audience with his words about Americas service members and their dedication to the mission wherever they are sent. One of the best stories of the evening came when he showed a picture of a young medic in the middle of a battle carrying another soldier out of harms way. As it turned out, the



Prints of Raider Heritage and other works by Ellison Keomaka Photo Credit – Ellison Keomaka

medic has risked his life to save an enemy soldier. When asked why he had done that, the young medic replied "We are Americans...it is what we do."

The evening concluded with a live auction filled with amazing items! LtCol North kicked off the live auction by handing the host a check for \$1,000 for the Operation Hero Project. He then invited the audience to match his donation, raising over \$15,000 in less than five minutes. Operation Hero Project is a special grant that is given every year to a young hero in need. The great thing about this gift is that it is a surprise to the recipient during the event. This year's OHP grant recipient was Jason "JaBo" McClure. Jason was a MARSOC Operator who was injured while serving. During his recovery from combat injuries, he discovered his love for making custom cutlery. With little funding and no tools, he was unable to attend the needed schooling, much less have the ability to actual make the knives. A collaborative effort by a number of benevolent organizations resulted in JaBo receiving funding for the schooling he needed. During the auction, the Free Wheel Foundation surprised JaBo by letting him know that the knife he had made to be auctioned that evening would be used to raise funds to purchase the tools he needed to start his own business. In less than ten minutes, adequate funds were raised to completely outfit JaBo with the equipment he needed. JaBo was speechless and overwhelmed. The Free Wheel Foundation and MARSOC Foundation, thanks to amazing donors and supporters, helped to create a miracle for this young man. We changed a life and gave him a gift which he will now use to help pay it forward. JaBo is already designing knives he will make for future auctions.

By the end of the night, over \$100,000 had been raised, marking a record for the event. The Free Wheel Foundation was thrilled and humbled to be part of such a great group of Americans. As our group reflected on a memorable and successful event, we were tired, but knew our hard work and effort had made a difference."

A special thank you to all of our partner organizations and individuals who donated so generously, as without them, this event would simply not be possible:

Free Wheel Foundation Metro Sign Company Mission Support Specialists 5.11 Tactical VORTEX Canyon State Aero Vidogi Salon Erik Hoyer Scottsdale Gun Club The Capital Grille SIONICS Weapon Systems Asym Precision Robar Industries Halsey Green Pearl MedSpa James Benson James Development Corp. Follow Through Consulting AXTS Weapons Systems The Phoenician Tacflow Academy Russ & Marcia Mote Smith & Wesson Bradford Jones Melting Pot Scottsdale Haley Strategic Partners Ellison Keomaka Title Boxing Club Ed Duckworth Rainbow Ryders Mark Singer Arizona Cardinals



Sarah Christian receives the "Big Check" from Don Rogers, VP, RQ Construction Photo Courtesy of Alissa McQuestion

# 2nd Annual MARSOC Foundation East Coast Golf Tournament Hits a Hole-in-One!

The Cape Fear region was on par for another great year at the 2nd Annual MARSOC Foundation East Coast Golf Tournament hosted by RQ Construction and DPR Construction. On May 6th at Magnolia Greens Golf Course in Leland, North Carolina, members of the construction and contracting industries, along with local area businesses and organizations, all came together to show their support for the MARSOC community and help the MARSOC Foundation continue to successfully fulfill its mission. Philanthropic foursomes drove and putted their way through 18 holes, finishing off with a delicious dinner, enticing auction and raffle items, and the presentation of a check for \$45,000 to the MARSOC Foundation.

From James Davis of Cape Fear Engineering: "Primary sponsors RQ Construction and DPR Construction once again worked very hard in organizing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual MARSOC Foundation East Coast Golf Tournament. RQ, DPR and Cape Fear Engineering, who came on board to assist with the event after attending the West Coast Golf Tournament, brought the tournament to the East Coast in 2015 due to the close proximity of the Cape Fear Region to the Marine Special Operations Command's Headquarters in Sneads Ferry, NC. Leland was chosen because of their amazing venue and large presence of retired military families. The support for this golf tournament

shows how dedicated the Cape Fear community is in the effort to help these special warriors and their families during difficult times.

RQ, DPR and Cape Fear Engineering would like to thank the Cape Fear Region and especially the Northern Brunswick County business community for showing such steadfast support of the MARSOC Foundation Golf Tournament over the past two-andhalf years. Visit Leland continues to provide both sponsorship and tremendous volunteer support. The local business community attended oyster roasts at Waterford Station and Cape Fear Engineering, events held before the tournament to help bring awareness to the MARSOC Foundation. The North Brunswick Magazine was extremely helpful in helping get the message out to the local area with their coverage of these events, and local TV station WECT reporter AJ Ricketts' coverage of the MARSOC Foundation Golf Tournament was key in getting the Foundation's message



James Davis, Ken Beasley and Travis Nichols auctioning off a Kenny Chesney guitar Photo courtesy of Alissa McQuestion

to the local community. In addition, local businesses and community organizations donated their time and business contacts for sponsorships and incredible auction and raffle prizes. The generosity of the local people and businesses has been inspiring as they help in the effort to raise funds to help MARSOC Raiders and their families during trying times, as well as to bring attention to the incredible Marines, Sailors and families of the MARSOC. The positive response for the annual tournament continues to grow, as does the impact the event makes each year in the MARSOC community."

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's event possible! The event is another shining example of teamwork at its finest!



Sean Hardy (L), owner, CrossFit Lumberton, and Grant Belvin (R), event coordinator, do some "heavy lifting" that resulted in a big check for the MARSOC Foundation

#### SETX Ruck Challenge Raises Over \$5K in Texas

Backpacks filled with 25-and-50-pound sandbags were all the rage in Texas at Lumberton City Park on April 9th. The SETX Ruck Challenge invited participants to don weighted down "rucks" as they traversed a three-mile course that included flutter kicks, presses, low crawl, upright rows, and squats, all to help raise funds and awareness for MARSOC Raiders and their families. Long-time MARSOC Foundation supporter Grant Belvin, along with Sean Hardy, owner of CrossFit Lumberton, created a fun, challenging and family-friendly event that included barbecue, raffle, and top prizes for "ruckers" who conquered the course the quickest! Two-and-four-legged athletes accepted the Ruck Challenge, including the City of Lumberton Fire Department, swapping out rucks for oxygen tanks and competing in full firefighter gear. The Foundation would like to thank Grant Belvin, Sean Hardy and his CrossFit Lumberton team, as well as

everyone who volunteered, sponsored and took part in the event!

From Event Coordinator Grant Belvin: "I was looking for a way to help out our current warriors when I reached out to the MARSOC Foundation. Supporting the mission of the Foundation was exactly what I felt like I needed to do. I decided to put together a 'ruck' event because there has not been an event like this in Southeast Texas. We had great support from numerous sponsors, volunteers, and participants. A few of the sponsors are veteran-owned businesses that contributed a tremendous amount: Treadswift Tactical, Millecor Supplements, and Counter Strike Coffee, a Navy Corpsman-owned business. US Optics also provided a great item for the raffle. Overall, the event was a great success, with all of the participants saying that they are looking forward to next year."



Lumberton's finest accepted the SETX Ruck Challenge

Vic Ziliani sporting the

Foundation kit at Dirty Kanza

#### Cape Fear Highland Games—Kilts, Food, and Fun All Rolled Into One!

Tartan plaid and a generous spirit were both in play at the 2nd Annual Cape Fear Highland Games! The MARSOC Foundation was honored to be chosen as the Charity Partner for this year's event, which gave the local community the opportunity to support MARSOC Raiders and families who live and work in the Cape Fear Region. Foundation Ambassador and Event Coordinator Joe Apkarian, along with Co-Event Coordinator Ben Shaw, put on a great event that invited teams to compete against one another in some amazing and challenging physical events including the hammer throw, caber toss, and "open stone," where the athlete uses one hand to first cradle an 8-to-22 pound stone under their neck and then releases it for maximum distance. The athleticism displayed was both impressive and entertaining as teams engaged in events that originated from Highland warriors who used everyday implements to keep in shape between battles.

Attendees had a wide variety of vendors to choose from offering food, drink and merchandise, all while festive musical entertainment kept toes tapping. Children were able to try out mini-versions of some of the game's events, along with face painting and sweet treats. The weather may have created a few puddles, but it did not dampen the spirits of the athletes and attendees. Over \$3,200 was raised for the MARSOC Foundation from ticket sales, a 50/50 raffle, MARSOC Foundation items raffle, and proceeds donated from The Tilted Kilt, one of the major sponsors for the event. The MARSOC Foundation was once again impressed by the generous spirit of those who work and live in Eastern North Carolina. Thank you to everyone who helped to make the event a success!

## Belching Beaver Combines Four Wheels with Fundraising for Second Year in a Row!

Car enthusiasts of all ages gathered at the Belching Beaver in Vista, CA on June 5th for the 3rd Annual Belching Beaver Brewery Classic Car Show, which for the second year included the MARSOC Foundation as its charity partner. Keith Perrigon, MARSOC Foundation Ambassador, shared the Foundation's story with attendees and provided them with the opportunity to win some great raffle prizes, including custom MARSOC Foundation swag created by local San Diego company Bullets2Bandages. Guests left the event knowing that their support of the MARSOC Foundation would be helping MARSOC Raiders and families who live on both coasts, and with the close proximity to Camp Pendleton meant helping neighbors who lived and worked amongst them. Some amazing two-and-four-wheeled vehicles sparkled in the California sun as guests feasted on Mexico City Cuisine and listened to tunes from Hipper. Belching Beaver donated a portion of sales from the event and once again showed their unwavering support for the MARSOC Foundation that has spanned the past three years. The MARSOC Foundation would like to thank Diane McGrath and her Belching Beaver team for their continued support, as well as everyone who came out to support the event!

#### Miles for MARSOC Community Athletes Hit the Mark with Training and Fundraising

Warmer temperatures and sunshine have definitely helped boost the MARSOC Foundation's Miles for MARSOC program! Please join us in congratulating our Community Athletes who have met the \$2,000 fundraising goal, earning them a customized Miles for MARSOC race kit! Longtime supporter Vic Ziliani donned his new cycling kit a the Dirty Kanza this spring, and has raised \$2,500 in his efforts. Frank Parisi, Foundation Ambassador, is gearing up for Ironman Lake Placid later this month, and has raised over \$3,600. Brian Williams, another returning Community Athlete, just joined us this Spring and has already raised \$2,195. Brian has a full calendar of events that will take him to the end of the year, including the Seaside Semper Five and the Marine Corps Marathon in October. Gentlemen, congratulations on a job well done!

The Foundation would also like to welcome back Nicole Conrad and Dan Dinsmore, Foundation Ambassador, to the Community Athlete program! Dan has a cycling event that will take him from Seattle to Portland over a two-day time span later this month,

and Nicole will be running 32.6 miles throughout Virginia in October! Welcome back! If you would like to join the Miles for MARSOC Community Athlete program, please contact us at schristian@marsocfoundation.org or visit https://secure.e2rm.com/registrant/startup.aspx?eventid=189232! We'd love to have you join us!





Ray, Foundation advocate, at the event

Frank Parisi crossing the finish at

TriRock Philly





Highland Games to help promote the East Coast Golf Tournament and share their enthusiasm for the

MARSOC Foundation and its mission



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Ready Auto Ti	eady Auto Transport Bullets2Bandage		s Folsom OK Tire Stores		G-Code Holsters		GovX	
DreamQuest Productions		Level Zero Hero	es Harris	Corporation	RQ Construction	ı	DPR Construction	
Cape Fear Engineering		Provident Bank			-			
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Free Wheel Fo		Enterprise Holding	ngs Foundation	Iared A	llen's Homes for	Wounded	Warriors	
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White Street Brewing Co.		Cumulus Wilmington	Premier Printing & Apparel 94.5 The Hawk Coast 97.3		Skull & Paddle WAAV 980 AM		Buzz's Roost WWQQ 101.3	
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		LJ Construction, Inc.		Kirlin Carolinas		Get Solutions, Inc.		
		Savage Range Systems	Rush Masonry			Scogin Group		
Holiday Inn Express		Best Western Plus	Premier Printing & Apparel		Don Rogers		Laney Real Estate	
		Ocean Ridge Plantation	Waterford Station		RA Jeffreys		Romanelli's	
George Murra	y / Murray A	rt & Frame						
Sponsors of th	he 5th Annu	al Evening with the MA	RSOC Foundati	ion:				
Free Wheel Foundation			Scottsdale Gun Club		James Development Corp.		Melting Pot Scottsdale	
Metro Sign Company			The Capital Grille		Follow Through Consulting		Haley Strategic Partners	
Mission Support Specialists			SIONICS Weapon Systems		AXTS Weapons Systems		Ellison Keomaka	
5.11 Tactical		Asym Precision			The Phoenician		Title Boxing Club	
VORTEX			Robar Industries		Tacflow Academy		Ed Duckworth	
							Rainbow Ryders	
Canyon State	Aero	Halsey Green		Russ & Marcia M	Note			
Canyon State A Vidogi Salon	Aero	Pearl MedSpa		Russ & Marcia Marcia Messon	Note	Mark S	inger	
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Canyon State A Vidogi Salon Erik Hoyer <b>Our monthly</b>		Pearl MedSpa Arizona Cardinal	ls Sarah	Russ & Marcia Marcia Messon	Note	Mark S	inger	
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Everyone who has made a donation, been a "Community Athlete," attended a fundraiser, hosted a fundraiser, followed us on social media, designated the MARSOC Foundation as its charity of choice on AmazonSmile or iGive, or asked to be added to our "Get Involved" distribution list. You are all part of a strong and dedicated team that keeps the MARSOC Foundation mission ready! Thank you!

#### How can you become more involved with the MARSOC Foundation?

\*Visit <u>www.marsocfoundation.org</u> to learn more about the MARSOC Foundation, make a donation, Get Involved, & view our Calendar of Events

\*Sign up for our Miles for MARSOC Community Athlete program by visiting <u>Miles for MARSOC</u> or emailing us at <u>info@marsocfoundation.org</u>

\*Email us at info@marsocfoundation.org to learn more about hosting a fundraising event or becoming a Corporate Sponsor

\*Install the iGive button, purchase from participating online merchants, & generate a donation to the MARSOC Foundation: www.igive.com/MARSOCFoundation

\*Sign up with AmazonSmile, choose the MARSOC Foundation as your charity, & your online shopping generates a donation to the MARSOC Foundation: <u>http://smile.amazon.com</u>

\*Visit <u>www.givingworks.ebay.com</u> & sign up to donate a portion of your eBay sales to the MARSOC Foundation

\*Follow the MARSOC Foundation on Facebook & Twitter, & share this newsletter with family & friends

## **Remembering Our Fallen Heroes**



Cpl Travis Woods



Gilbert



SSgt Christopher Antonik



HM2 Luke Milam SSgt Edgar Heredia



SSgt David Day



Capt Garrett Lawton



Sgt Michael Roy



Meadows

SSgt Charles Cartwright



SSgt Patrick Dolphin





Sgt Justin Hansen



GySgt Jonathan Gifford



Sgt William

Woitowicz

GySgt Daniel Price



Wrinkle & Tosca



Capt Matthew Manoukian



Sgt Dennis

Kancler

GySgt Ryan Jeschke



Sprovtsoff

SSgt Gregory Copes





HM1 Darrel Enos



Sgt Michael Guillory



SSgt Eric Christian



Cpl David Sonka and Flex



MSgt Aaron Torian



Sgt Charles Strong



SSgt Andrew Seif



Capt Stanford Shaw III



MSgt Thomas Saunders



SSgt Marcus Bawol



SSqt Trevor Blaylock



MSgt Eden Pearl





SSgt Liam Flynn



SSgt Kerry Kemp







