

## COMMANDING OFFICER, MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP 31 WELCOME ABOARD & FAMILY READINESS POLICY

MAG-31 Marines, Sailors, and Families,

Welcome! As your Commanding Officer, it is an honor and a privilege to have you as a part of our family and team. Marine Aircraft Group 31 is comprised of six operational FA-18 squadrons and one Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron in Beaufort, South Carolina, plus one F-35B Joint Strike Fighter training squadron in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. On any given day, we have over 2,500 Marines and Sailors either training for combat or deployed around the world supporting actual combat or other contingency operations from both land bases and aircraft carriers. In addition, we have over 3,000 family members on the home front supporting our warfighters who are forward deployed in harm's way.



The Beaufort area has a tremendous amount to offer and I could not agree more with the quote from the Beaufort Tricentennial; "Three centuries in the making, Beaufort is the leading gem on South Carolina's treasured coast. With an active and engaged community, a National Landmark Historic District, a strong military presence, a vital tourism market and some of the best fishing anywhere, Beaufort has a way of reeling you in." Speaking of reeling you in, we would love for you to be very familiar with our Family Readiness Program, and hope you find the time and calling to volunteer your time and abilities to making this program better.

Per MCO 1754.9, "Personal and family readiness has been identified as a combat multiplier equally as important as individual, equipment, and combat readiness. With families in a higher state of readiness, individual Marines are better able to perform their assigned missions efficiently, effectively, and safely, thereby promoting a higher state of unit readiness." Family Readiness is vitally important to me, as both a Commander and a Parent. I have a son who is a Marine Corporal, and I have viewed the Family Readiness Program as both a Marine Officer and a proud parent. The goal of the Unit, Personal and Family Readiness Program is to provide resource information and training in addition to support services to enhance a Marine's personal and family readiness. A Marine must ensure his or her personal and family affairs are in order so that he or she will remain fully focused on the mission, whether in garrison or in combat.

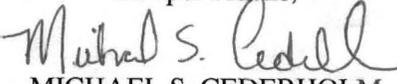
### A READY MARINE AND FAMILY:

- Is prepared for family separations and life events
- Understands the additional responsibilities that will fall on the family when the Marine departs
- Is knowledgeable of and able to utilize information about benefits, entitlements, programs and services provided through the Department of Defense, Marine Corps and the community
- Is knowledgeable of command structure and resources available to assist and contribute to the personal and family readiness goals

MAG-31 has a Family Readiness Program, as does every squadron in this command. They are vibrant, inclusive, and **HERE TO SERVE YOU**. The MAG Family Readiness Officer (FRO) is Ted Crandall. His email is [ted.l.crandall@usmc.mil](mailto:ted.l.crandall@usmc.mil), his phone number is Office: 843-228-7230, DSN: 335-7230, Fax: 843-228-7508, Cell: 843-271-4359. He is the best FRO in the Marine Corps. And that is perfect considering you are joining the best MAG in the Marine Corps.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the FRO anytime. We are happy you are joining us, and we warmly welcome you.

Semper Fidelis,

  
MICHAEL S. CEDERHOLM  
Colonel, United States Marine Corps