

TALON TIMES

Mission: Plan, direct and control all air operations in support of amphibious forces, and provide combat-ready-detachments to deployed Amphibious Ready Groups.

TACRON TWELVE
OCT/NOV/DEC

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Commander's Desk

From the XO's Desk

From the Master Chief's Desk

Ombudsman Corner

NMCRS & Navy College

American Red Cross

San Diego Metro / Events

Active Living

Detachment Two

Shipboard Firefighting

Spooktacular 2014

Welcome Aboard / Fair winds and

Following Seas / Awards

Frocking

Gallery

Birthdays

Closing Remarks



FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK...

“You are this generations heroes!”

A great big Howdy to all our TALONS, past, present and future... especially to all our family members out there without whom we would never be able to execute our mission so successfully here at TACRON TWELVE! It has truly been a phenomenal summer/fall for the TALONS and I have never been more honored to serve with such true patriots, the men and women of this illustrious command are without a doubt the best in the Navy!

A great big Bravo Zulu to the Sailors of Detachment FOUR for their legendary deployment on-board the mighty warship USS PELELIU (LHA-5) this summer executing amphibious missions during Exercise Rim of the Pacific 2014 off the coast of Hawaii. Their brilliance during this exercise was simply eye-watering; they truly set the benchmark for all future detachments to achieve. The dynamic and ever changing environment in which Det FOUR skillfully and flawlessly executed missions consisted of aircraft and naval vessels from over 20 different countries. The TALONS of Det FOUR meticulously scheduled, coordinated and controlled those aircraft without incident and were praised at the highest levels of leadership for their outstanding performance...JOB WELL DONE DET FOUR!

The Superstars of Detachment TWO, led by our very own seasoned veteran Executive Officer CDR ‘Flip’ Phillips, recently deployed to the Far East. They executed tactical missions in direct support of the US SEVENTH Fleet. While embarked on the old salty war dog USS PELELIU (LHA 5) with Expeditionary Strike Group SEVEN, Amphibious Squadron ELEVEN and the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, the Sailors of Det TWO performed brilliantly during deployment and continued that legacy of excellence that has become the trade mark of this great squadron! This was the fantastic work by Det TWO, we are extremely proud of everything you have done!

The TALONS at Homeguard in Coronado have been extremely busy as well. Our Athletic Teams have brought home two softball championships, two flag football championships and numerous trophies at this year’s Surface Line Week competitions. The championship spirit that is TACRON-12 has produced so many awards that I have had to order a bigger trophy case and I have renamed the area where the trophies are held the ‘Hall Of Champions’. Our Sailors also give their precious time volunteering countless hours with Habitat for Humanity, the Boys and Girls Club of San Diego, and the local Missions and Soup Kitchens throughout San Diego...thank you for representing us so well in the community... TACRON TWELVE Sailors are truly a "Global Force for Good!"

“ In closing I would like to thank each of you and your families for your service, for your courage, for your sacrifice, for your dedication, for your devotion, and most importantly thank you for contributing to the legacy that is Tactical Air Control Squadron TWELVE!

“MISSION FIRST, SAILORS ALWAYS!”

TALON PRIDE!



TACRON TWELVE
Commanding Officer,
CDR Paul ‘Veg’ Bandini



FROM THE XO'S DESK...



TACRON TWELVE
Excutive Officer, CDR
CDR Ryan "Flip" Phillips

I officially checked into TACRON-12 in February and my expectation prior to arriving was that this command would be much like every other command in the Navy. However, I quickly observed that this command is nothing like any previous command I have served- and that observation has been confirmed month after month. I have never seen a tighter group of Sailors who truly live under the motto "Talons take care of Talons." Each month I have welcomed new Sailors to TACRON-12, and each of them has felt a genuine warm welcome to the command. I've witnessed Talons helping other Talons through challenging experiences in their life. I have seen Talons selflessly give their time and energy to help other Talons. It is comforting to know as we enter in the New Year that as we face challenges, we will have the support and backing from each of our service members in the TALON family.

It is that TALON support for each other that breeds trust. Trust is so critical in the military and specifically in the tactical air traffic control business. Trust is the building block allowing us to open up and communicate. When communication skills are high in a unit, it boosts teamwork, morale, and ultimately mission success. I would be hard pressed to find a Sailor in our command that would argue against the presence of teamwork in TACRON-12. Just look at our success while deployed overseas and during RIMPAC. Kicking off the year we had Detachment ONE return from a successful spring float onboard USS BONHOMME RICHARD (LHD 4), Det FOUR smoothly transitioned onboard USS PELELIU (LHA 5) for RIMPAC, and Det TWO concluded 2014 also working with USS PELELIU on her final voyage for the fall float. Our advertised 96 hour tether was successfully tested after Thanksgiving with TALONS volunteering from all rates to join the effort.

Teamwork is not only evident while deployed onboard navy ships at TACRON-12. One needs to only walk up to the trophy case in our hallway at Homeguard and soak in the air of dominance on Turner Field.

We don't win championships back to back because we have a strong pull of athletes over other commands. It's because we learn to work as a team. We mesh our strengths and weaknesses to create a solid bond and overcome challenges. How could one argue against morale? It was our morale that raised money for one of the best holiday parties I have ever attended.

I am truly blessed to have been selected to serve as a TALON, and I am looking forward to 2015 with great anticipation. TACRON-12 is NOT just like every command in the Navy. In fact, we just may be the one of the best commands in the Navy and I am very proud of each and every one of you for our great success in 2014.



FROM THE MASTER CHIEF'S DESK

By CMC TAYLOR

Greetings Talons!

2015 is here! Take a moment to write down your New Year's resolutions and find the determination to finish them.

*****Welcome Aboard*****

LCDR Colwell, OSC Gomes, OS1 Shelton,
AC2 Johnson, ACAN Holmes, and ACAN Ryan

POINTS OF INTEREST:

CNO's guiding principles are: Warfighting First, Operate Forward
and Be Ready

E-7 inrate examination date is January 15, 2015. First Class Petty Officer's be prepared.

March 2015 (Cycle 227) exam dates are:

E-6: 05 March 2015

E-5: 12 March 2015

E-4: 19 March 2015

Test scores from the previous cycle were substandard. Get in the books, use your resources and ask questions if you aren't sure. Simply taking a test and passing will get you a pay raise, the civilian sector isn't as lucky!!!

-New Family Care Plan requirements have been released. Look over NAVADMIN 281/14





The Ombudsman Corner



Phone Contact Information: (619) 203-4101

Email: t12ombudsman@gmail.com

Hello Tacron 12 Family! *Your TACRON 12 Command Family Ombudsman:*

I am honored to contribute to this edition of The Talon Times. It is always a joy to interact with the command and their families! As always, I encourage you to help me help you. Please feel free to contact me and let me know what topics interest you most. I am here for you!

I have decided that I will follow my own advice and take some of the workshops offered by FFSC. Unless otherwise noted, register for workshops at :

866-923-6478 or FFSCWorkshops@mwrsw.com.

You can even call to schedule an individual appointment on any of these topics. It's up to you!





*Home is where
the heart is*



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The Ombudsman Corner



Did your spouse recently deploy? Don't forget that The United States Postal Service (USPS) offers **FREE** packing material to families of military members deployed Overseas! **To order call: (800) 610-8734. Press "1" (For English). Press "1" again (For Operator). Ask for the "Carekit04".**



This Military OneSource Navy portal allows access to Navy-specific news, resources and social media with a simple click. Navy's fleet and family programs provide a full array of services, information and tools to assist Sailors and family members in achieving personal and career goals as they excel in meeting the obligations and challenges of Navy life through resilience and self-reliance.

Call. Click. Connect.

<http://www.militaryonesource.mil/navy>



June was Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Awareness Month. Although we've entered into July, I still feel it's important to share. PTSD is a serious condition that affects a growing number of wounded warriors and their families. To learn more about PTSD and find helpful resources or to access information on warrior care, contact **Navy Wounded Warrior - Safe Harbor** at **855-NAVY WWP (855 628-9997)**, navywoundedwarrior@navy.mil or <http://safeharbor.navylive.dodlive.mil>

FOCUS: Family Resiliency Training™ for Military Families *Strengthening the Home Base!*

FOCUS (Families Over Coming Under Stress™) provides resiliency training to military children and families. It also teaches practical skills to meet the challenges of deployment and reintegration, to communicate and solve problems effectively and to successfully set goals together and create a shared family story.

Site Location

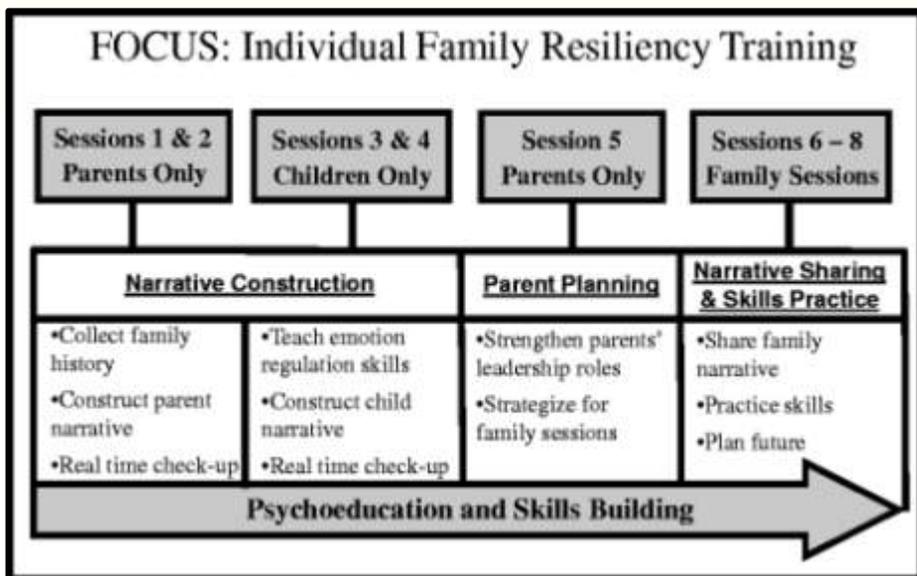
Naval Base San Diego San Diego, CA 92136

Dolphin Alley, Bldg. 265

Phone 619.556.6075

Fax 619.556.6076

SanDiego@focusproject.org



The Ombudsman Corner

Fleet and Family Support



Meeting Your Needs at Home & at Sea

FFSP provides services through the Fleet and Family Support Centers (FFSC) such as relocation assistance, new parent support, deployment services, clinical counseling services, financial management counseling, family employment services, family advocacy and the relocation assistance programs to assist service members and their families in need. FFSC has also recently opened a NEW SANTEE BRANCH!

*****One Call Serves All!*****

For 24/7 assistance at any Navy Region Southwest FFSC, call 1-866-923-6478. For more information on Fleet and Family Support Programs, please <http://navylifesw.com/sandiego/families/ffsc/>.



Career Services



Command Leadership Corner



Counseling and Assistance



Deployment Support



Disaster Preparedness



Family Enrichment



Financial Support



Relocation Support



Retiree Support



Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

Fleet & Family Support Center Locations (Near TACRON TWELVE)

Mon. - Fri., 7:30 am - 4:30 pm, Closed Sat., Sun., and holidays (unless otherwise noted)

Naval Base San Diego

3005 Corbina Alley
Bldgs. 259 & 263
San Diego, CA
(619) 556-7404

Naval Base Coronado

318 Saufley Rd.
Bldg. 318
San Diego, CA
(619) 545-6701

San Diego Military Outreach Ministries (MOM) is a community supported charity that reaches out to young enlisted military families (E-5 and below and wounded warriors) in San Diego with a broad range of helping services. Among the services listed below, they also host regular motivational briefings on base.
 (For more details, visit www.sandiegomom.org, or call (619) 461-4164.



Children's & Infant's Supplies...



Food bags & Gift Cards



... to include diaper bags filled with personal items



Household Goods & Furniture



Toys & Bikes



Baby Showers At Navy/Marine Bases



Family Readiness Gatherings & Holiday Events



Celebrating Young Military Families



Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society



The mission of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is to provide, in partnership with the Navy and Marine Corps, financial, educational and other assistance to members of the Naval Services of the United States, eligible family members and survivors when in need and to receive and manage funds to administer these programs.

Our Vision: We are a private, non-profit, volunteer, service organization. As a Center of Excellence, we are committed to ensure that all available resources are used to assist personnel of the Naval Services - active, retired, and their eligible family members to achieve financial self-sufficiency and find solutions to emergency needs.

NMCRS San Diego, FSO

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society
Bldg. 270, 3115 Dolphin Alley; PO Box 131470
Naval Base San Diego
San Diego, CA 92170

Hours: Mon-Fri 0800-1600

Phone: (619) 238-1587/1589

DSN: 526-8283

Fax: (619) 531-0083

Email: barry.white@nmcrs.org

Navy College Opportunities



Visit your local **Navy College office!** Navy College professionals provide educational services world-wide, anytime, anyplace to Sailors and their families, supporting their life-long learning goals and the Navy's mission. The following link provides information regarding the SOCNAV program and other benefits available to military families. Take full advantage of all of the awesome resources **Navy College** has to offer and go back to school!

Website: http://www.soc.aascu.org/socnav/Spouses_AidResources





American Red Cross



As a reminder, the American Red Cross has moved to a single telephone number for its emergency communication services.

All military members and their families can use one number: **877-272-7337 (U.S. Toll Free)** to send an urgent message to a service member. This means that all military members and their families can use this single number to initiate an emergency communication, regardless of where they live.

A call to **877-272-7337** allows Red Cross emergency communications services to put military personnel in touch with their families following the death or serious illness of an immediate family member, the birth of a service member's child or grandchild or when a family faces other emergencies.

Additional Red Cross services such as case management and emergency financial assistance also are available. For those stationed overseas, the three options for calling will remain the same: calling **877-272-7337** direct, accessing the number through a military operator or calling the local Red Cross station.

For more information about the American Red Cross, and how you can reach out and donate, visit their website at <http://www.redcross.org>





SAN DIEGO METRO

COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Upcoming Events

Thursday, February 5 • 5-8 pm • \$17.95 Adult • Admiral Kidd Catering & Conference Center • 619-524-6287

Join us for our Regional Catering Fair at Admiral Kidd Catering & Conference Center!

- Sample select food and beverages from our catering menu
- Talk with photographers, bakers, decorators and entertainers
- Meet with our Catering sales staff
- No-host beer and wine bar

All while enjoying the stunning view of the San Diego skyline. Call 619-524-6287 by January 29 for your reservation!



21st Annual Polar Bear Swim

Friday, February 13 • 11 am • NBPL Main Base, Smuggler's Cove • 619-553-0931

It's a 500-yard cold-water open swim with music, food, prizes and FUN for all MWR patrons! Check-in begins at 10 am. The first 100 people receive a free event T-shirt. Sign up online today or call 619-553-0931.



Wednesday, March 11 • 9 am • FREE • Admiral Prout Field House Track, behind Bldg. 3279 • 619-556-7444

Open to all ID card holders. Check-in at 8 am. Small medium command awards. Event t-shirt for pre-registered participants only. For more information, call 619-556-7444.



Support the thousands of sailors in the San Diego area by sponsoring programs and events throughout the year.

Click the following link for more information:

<http://navylifesw.com/sandiego/about/sponsorship/>

★ Active Living ★

Meet Me On Mars 2015

This is an ongoing run throughout 2015. Moonjoggers.com is looking for 30,000 people to commit to “run the 33,000 miles to mars.” to join, simply sign up and track your miles through the year.



★ ADVENTURE RUN! ★

Adventure Run 2015

2nd Thursday of every month (check website for meeting places). Participants have one hour to run to multiple locations throughout downtown San Diego, collecting raffle tickets at each location. Be sure to make it back to the starting point in time as there is a giant \$3,000 raffle after each run. Visit www.adventurerun.com for more information.

Mardi Gras 5/10/15K February 22

Celebrate in style and flare as you dash along our festive course all the way to the FINISH LINE! It's a parade for all to enjoy, so come dressed in your colorful costumes and masks, and have a ball! Cruise across the finish line and get ready to celebrate your success in the Mardi Gras Finisher's Village, you'll enjoy a post-event celebration where runners can enjoy a bit of New Orleans Cuisine.



Backlight Run March 7

A unique night experience focused less on speed and more on glow-in-the-dark fun with friends and family. Glowing participants come from all different ages, shapes, sizes, and speeds; every participant will get Glowed™ and has the time of their life.



Color in Motion 5K February 28

How many times have you paid money to run around a few city blocks, drink a cup of warm Gatorade, eat a banana, and be given a t-shirt that you will probably only wear once every two months while doing yard work? You just show up wearing white and we do the rest! As you sprint, jog, waddle, or leisurely stroll along you will be bombarded with bright colors that transform a group of ordinary runners into a moving rainbow.



Editorial By: L. & Pohl

The deployment date for TACRON TWELVE detachment arrived. Boarding the aircraft were 20 Talons outbound for Japan. The route involved a bit of island hopping to transit the Pacific Ocean. The first leg encompassed San Diego, California to Oahu, Hawaii. The journey resumed with Hawaii to Wake Island and then a continued flight to Fukuoka, Japan. Initially considered as inconvenient layovers and fuel stops, the interruptions were later recognized as historical military excursions which followed a path carved by Navy Sailors and Marines dating back to 1941.



Photo by LT Matsumoto

Not yet committed to World War II involvement, the United States recognized the need to passively yet advantageously address the movements of foreign militaries in the Far East. At that time, the bulk of the U.S. Pacific Naval Fleet called San Diego home. It was under the direction of President Franklin D. Roosevelt that a substantial portion of of the fleet *would relocate to Oahu as an effort to detour the Empire of Japan from advancing on many of the Pacific islands claimed by British and U.S. governments. On 07 December 1941, "a date which will live in infamy,"*



Photo by LCDR Pohl

a surprise attack initiated by the Imperial Japanese Navy devastated Pearl Harbor. A considerable portion of the Naval Fleet was destroyed to include over 2,400 killed and another 1,200 wounded.

Three days later marked the Battle of Wake Island. Under the leadership of CDR Winfield S. Cunningham, United States Navy, the twelve mile atoll was a strategic location in the Pacific



Photo by AC1 Ramirez

which included an airstrip. News of Pearl Harbor reached Wake Island with the same approximate speed as the Japanese bombers. The security of that position was chartered to the 1st Marine Defense Battalion, 70 Navy personnel and a few of the 1,200 civilians that took up arms. Sizeable casualties amassed during the first volley of attacks. Despite being at a great disadvantage, the motivated Marines and Sailors repelled



Photo by LCDR Pohl

all the Japanese landing attempts. With the nearest replenishment from a battered Pearl Harbor unable to reach the atoll, Wake Island was once again required to defend against a re-grouped Japanese invasion that overwhelmed the small U.S. force. On 23 December 1941, the remaining 449 U.S. combatants fought 2,500 Japanese infantry, two aircraft carriers, two cruisers and two destroyers. Most of the survivors were moved to Prisoner-of-War camps, while a select few were to remain on the island as laborers to rebuild the Japanese defense. America reclaimed Wake Island on 05 October 1943. Unfortunately, the successful air raid did not stop

the ordered execution of the 98 captives. One prisoner escaped and managed to inscribe "98 US PW 5-10-43" on a large piece of coral before his re-capture and subsequent execution. Nagasaki, Japan is only a few miles south of the city of Fukuoka. Nagasaki was the second target for the release of nuclear bombs. The date of the strike was 09 August 1945. The weapon was named "Fat Man." The ordinance was delivered in a B-29 Superfortress called "Bockscar" from the 393d Bombardment Squadron. Emperor Hirohito addressed his nation by stating



"...the enemy now possesses a new and terrible weapon with the power to destroy many innocent lives and do incalculable damage. Should we continue to fight, not only would it result in an ultimate collapse and obliteration of the Japanese nation, but also it would lead to the total extinction of human civilization."



As we traveled to our destination, the fortunate Talons that witnessed the historical landmarks found humility, education and a deeper respect for those military service members that traveled before us. All the information in this article was collected from the museums and erected monuments in which these events took place. The USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor, Wake Island and the Nagasaki Peace Park/Atomic Bomb Museum were truly a privilege to visit.

Photo by LCDR Pohl

Navy Shipboard Firefighting

The alarm sounds the call comes in for a fire onboard the vessel that you are deployed aboard. Are you ready? As a graduate of the one-day general shipboard firefighting training course at San Diego 32nd Street Naval Base, I can answer, “yes, I am.”



The training consists of classroom courses, hose handling, shipboard firefighting techniques, communication methods, and how to use firefighting equipment. The course concludes with a very realistic practical application in which students don a full set of firefighting gear including a SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus), enter a three story building with mock ship’s engine, galley, berthing, and supply spaces, and battle real flames simulating class Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie fires. The course was a lot of fun, very informative, and provided the skills and confidence to be a part of the solution if ever faced with a fire on your vessel at sea. My favorite part was being the nozzle-man of a hose team. You’re right there at the front lines, but you have a team behind you helping to support the weight of the hose and ready to assist when required. All Sailors and Marines that will be aboard a ship will attend the training. The San Diego Fleet Training Center trains more than 28,000 personnel a year and administers a total of 171 different courses, including firefighting, damage control, torpedo training, radio, and communications training.



CTG-1 Spooktacular

On October 30th Tacron 12, Tacron 11 and CTG-1 joined forces to put together a outstanding Spooktacular. The sailors showed up in costumes ranging from Spiderman to peas and carrots. There was a outstanding chili cookoff and a pretty memorable dunk tank competition where everyone in the chain of commands got very wet! We appreciate everyone who participated and look forward to next year.



Mackelmore is that you?



Spiderman and Wonderwoman waiting for the next adventure



Freddie decided to stop haunting dreams and help run our MWR



Down goes A&M!



Commodore Sparrow

Welcome Aboard

ž, ~ & Colwell
OSC Gomes
OS1 Shelton

AC2 Johnson
ACAN Holmes
ACAN Ryan

Fair Winds and Following Seas

OSCS Rowlands
IT2 Richards
AC2 Okamura

AC2 Jimenez
AC3 Jones
AE3 Daley

Awards

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

AE3 Daley
OS2 Rubin

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

OS1 Morgan
AC1 Clarke
IT2 Richards
AC2 Doxy
AC2 Okamura
AC2 Torres
AC3 Natividad

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

LT Torres
OSCS Rowlands
AC1 Bischoff
OS2 Johnson
ACAR Gomez

NAVY MARINE CORPS COMMENDATION MEDAL

OSCS Rowlands

TALON AWARDS



FROCKING CEREMONY



IS1 Roy



OS2 Harris



OS2 Thomas



AC3 Goldschmidt



AC3 Dell'Orso



AC3 McCledonn

FROCKING CEREMONY



AC3 Corey



YN3 Quinones



AC3 Ramirez



OS3 Tran



AC3 Hill



AC2 Johnson

TALON TIMES

G*A*L*L*E*R*Y



AN Chargo hits a new personal best in the squat



CS1 Taylor was successfully reenlisted by LCDR Princess Leia



CDR Bandini showing how to paint the Talon way



AC1 Williams dodging the waterworks

★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!



January

**Capt Baron
AC1 Bischoff
AC2 Gupton
OS2 Harris
AC2 McClendon
IT2 Pendley**

**LTJG Pennington
IT2 Richards
AN Wagner
IT3 Wells
OS2 Winston**

February

**CDR Bandini
OS3 Colasito
LCDR Cowart
OS2 Dyer**

**AA Gomez
CSSN Holley
LT Kane
IT2 Martinez**

March

**AC2 Anderson
CDR Butler
LCDR Dorsey
OSC Gomes
AC3 Hickman
LS1 Jauregui
ACC Mobley**

**OS2 Mora
AC1 Murphy
IS2 Richardson
OS3 Rubin
LT Torres
OS3 Tran
YNC Voyce**



TALON TIMES: CLOSING REMARKS

2015 is finally upon us Talons and we have hit the ground
t wppkpi 0F GV'vj tgg'ku'bit gcf { 'hww'vj gt g'lj qy kpi 'vj g'y qt rf "
y j cv'vj g'Vepp'y c { 'ku'epf 'vj g'F GV'Qpg'j cu'bit gcf { started
working towards their deployment. The beginning of 2015 is
often time for renewal and t guqmwkqpu0Y j cvxgt 'i qcm' { qw'
j cxg'wlenivq'vj go 'epf '{ qw'y kniceeqo r rkuj 'vj go 0Kkqmi'
hqt y ctf 'vq'cm'vj g'ceeqo r rkuj o gpw'vj cv'y g'y knil gv'f qpg"
cvVCETQP'340

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK TALONS!!

TALON Times Newsletter Editors: IS2 Gary Isabelle and ACAR Gomez

