

SWRMC hosts annual command picnic

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Southwest Regional Maintenance Center Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO—Southwest Regional Maintenance Center (SWRMC) held the command's annual summer picnic for its military, DoD civilians, and their families at Admiral Baker Park and Recreation Center, July 25.

The command's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) committee organized the event which is designed to be a fun activity facilitating conversation between command personnel in a causal environment, said Master Chief Petty Officer Anthony Rivera, SWRMC's command master chief.

"Interacting with coworkers outside of the work environment helps us to better realize the best qualities of our peers," said Rivera. "It affords us an opportunity to learn more about one another which leads to increased teamwork and productivity."

More than 100 children accompanied their parents to the picnic and enjoyed the three bouncy houses, face painting, and arts and crafts.

Corrine Sparkman, a management analyst at SWRMC, said she appreciated all the hard work MWR put into making this a fun event for all ages.

"This was one of the best organized command picnics I have been to," said Sparkman. "All of the activities kept my children entertained for hours and I am thankful for the opportunity to bring them to the picnic to meet some of my coworkers."

Along with the activities for children, there was also a Captain's Cup tournament which included: Softball, Basketball, Volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee and Tug of War. Teams were comprised of both military and civilian members from various departments. Even in the competitive environment, the activities facilitated dialog between the command's departments.

"I really enjoyed the sporting activities because they kept people engaged and enabled people to interact with individuals they normally wouldn't," said Nick Lara, a SWRMC safety specialist. "In the safety office, we have a safety specialist that interacts with the divers but I typically do not get that opportunity. So it was really nice to interact with different codes, meet different people, and see their families."

Rivera along with SWRMC's Commanding Officer Capt. Heide Stefanyshyn-Piper arrived to the picnic wearing "Keep Calm and Join CSADD" shirts. CSADD is an acronym for Coalition of

Sailors Against Destructive Decisions which is a program that helps to reinforce the Navy's culture of Shipmates helping Shipmates while preventing destructive behavior and building leadership skills.

“Events like these are really important for the command because they provide a sense of community while also allowing us to promote important programs like the Voluntary Protection Program and CSADD,” said SWRMC's commanding officer. “Our people are our number one priority and during this event we were able to reinforce that message.”