

SEAHORSE STANDARD

April 2011—June 2011

a message from seahorse 6

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Soldiers, Families and friends of the Seahorse Battalion,

Hopefully, this issue of the Seahorse Standard finds each of you enjoying springtime in Kentucky, having finally shaken off the effects of our unusually cold and icy winter, and not submerged by the excessive rainfall along the Ohio Valley this spring. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the notable accomplishments that occurred over the last few months, address what lies ahead, and reinforce the importance of Safety for every member of the Seahorse Team.

Looking back over the last three months, it is truly amazing how many great actions the Soldiers and Families of the battalion have accomplished. Throughout February and March, we had Soldiers from the 15th and 76th Engineer Companies involved in construction missions here at Fort Knox and in support of the US Border Patrol in Texas and Arizona. HHC and FSC conducted multiple field training exercises reestablishing their ability to live and operate in somewhat austere conditions. The 502d completed RESET and initiated training programs that included force protection training and fielding of new equipment. In order to be prepared for future deployments the battalion conducted a Deployment Exercise (DEPEX) in late March which included training on everything from preparing deployment paperwork to rail loading equipment. We then followed up with a Command Post Exercise that tested our communications and battle tracking capabilities. Overall, it has been an exceptionally effective and challenging quarter.

Looking ahead I would like to start by inviting everyone to come out and participate in, or watch, the Seahorse Spouse's Challenge on 29 April, starting at 0830 at Flipper Field. This event is designed to give our Seahorse Spouses a small taste of what the Soldiers of the Battalion take on and accomplish each and every day. Events will run until approximately 1430 hours, and at that time we will recognize the toughest spouses in the battalion for their efforts. Come on out and take part or just cheer on a few others that will need some extra motivation by the end of the day.

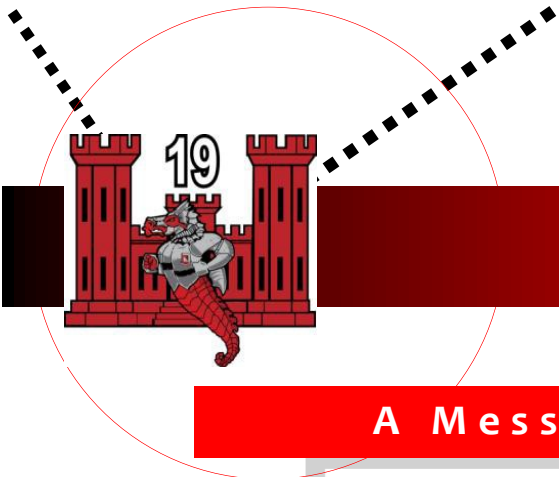
Over the next three months the battalion will continue to stay busy training Soldiers, fielding and maintaining equipment, and supporting Fort Knox and the local community in multiple ways. Our next big training events will be focused on weapons and demolitions ranges through the month of May. Though our main focus is building, every Soldier in the Battalion must be capable of effectively employing our many weapon systems. Construction projects on and off Fort Knox will continue with the deployment of 2nd Platoon, 15th Engineer Company and a select group of individuals from the 76th Engineer Company and 72d S&D Detachment to Nogales, Arizona in order to complete the road project started earlier in the year. 502d MRBC will continue its "wet gap" training now that it has been fielded the critical Bridge Erection Boats. The entire battalion will move out to the field for continuous training the first two weeks in June to wrap-up all the hard work we have been conducting over the last 9 months. We will then conduct a thorough recovery and implement a "max leave" period 24 June - 9 July, providing the battalion a chance to spend some time with family and friends this summer. July will then be busy with the Soldier's focus on conducting Individual and Team-level training, first class support to military veteran's, and preparing the 15th Engineer Company to participate in a disaster relief exercise.



Finally, I would like to provide a short reminder about Summer Safety to all Soldiers and Family members on the Seahorse Team. It is just starting to warm up and everyone will be jumping back into the summer activities they enjoy so much. Whether you are hunting, fishing, riding motorcycles, or just grilling out in the back yard, take a few minutes to become reacquainted with your equipment and review the steps to stay safe. We constantly reinforce the importance of Soldiers recognizing hazards associated with each mission and reducing them every day at work, but that process is just as important to our Family members as they are a critical part of the Seahorse Team. Enjoy your summer activities and time outdoors, but always keep an eye on safety.

As we head into the summer of 2011 I would like to thank each and every one of you for your service and contributions, whether as a Soldier, immediate Family member, or one of the "extended" Seahorse family members. CSM Walton and I expressly appreciate all you do for our Nation and Soldiers every day.

BRIDLE AND REINS... STAND TALL!!!



Command Sergeant Major

A Message from the CSM

I would like to start off with thanking the Soldiers and family members for your hard work and support over the last couple of hectic months. The Sea Horse Battalion over these months has made a lasting positive impact not only here on Fort Knox but also in Laredo, TX and Nogales, AZ. I am confident that we will continue to make a positive impact in the future.



The face of the Sea Horse Battalion has changed over the last couple of months. We have had to say goodbye to some great warriors as we welcomed many new warriors to our formation. To those of you who have been in the battalion for sometime and those who have recently arrived, I challenge you to get involved and make a difference. Fort Knox and the surrounding community are committed to providing our Soldiers and their family's opportunities first class support. Below are just some of the upcoming events:

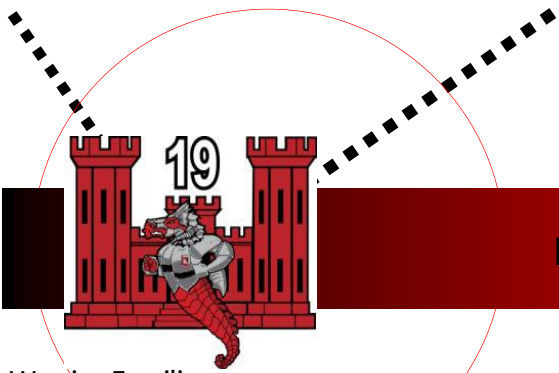
The 113th Army Band will conduct a series of Summer concerts at the Eastman Amphitheater at 7 PM on 1 May, 5 June, 4 July, 7 August, 7 September

Hooray for Heroes-The surrounding communities will honor Soldiers and their families with a free BBQ at a carnival type atmosphere on 21 May from 12-5 PM.

The Louisville Bats baseball team will show their appreciation for Soldiers and their families on 30 May with free tickets.

These are just a few of the events for our Soldiers and families, so get out of the barracks or house and get involved!

SEA HORSE 7



Headquarters and Headquarters Company

Warrior Families:

Spring has sprung! The weather is warmer, we moved the clocks forward, we got our bikes, fishing poles, beach balls, and lawn mowers out, and we are ready to get busy having fun. And in case you haven't talked to a Seahorse Soldier lately- we are staying pretty busy at work too! Since the beginning of the year we have gone to the field for a few days, taken a few more PT tests, and completed our deployment and command post exercises. These exercises ensured that we are ready to deploy worldwide by land, sea, or air and defeat the enemies of freedom in the event our country needs us to. But don't worry- we have not been called upon yet to deploy anywhere- we are just making sure that if the call comes- we will be ready to go!



Getting our vehicles off the rail cars during the Deployment Exercise

In the mean time we will spend as much time as we can hanging out with our families and friends enjoying the spring and summer months. A great way to meet other families is at our company FRG meetings; they are held the second Thursday of every month at 1800 in the battalion classroom. Mrs. Tammy McCarter has taken over as the FRG leader and is ready to hear your ideas about how to make the Warrior Family better. Mrs. Sandi Carnahan will still be involved as much as she can, but has just started a new chapter in her life as foster mother and will be pretty busy over the next few months as her family grows.



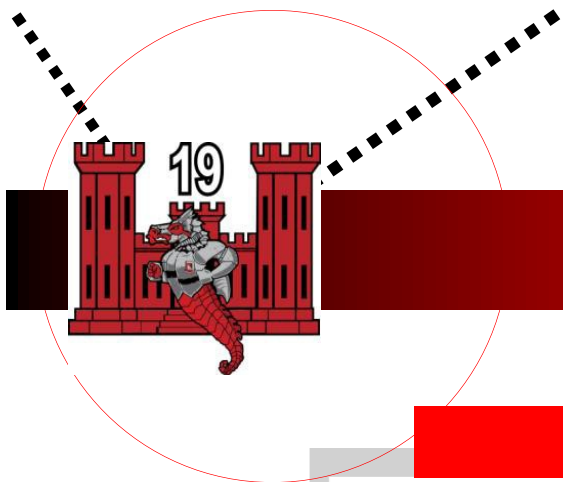
538th Soldiers put finishing touches on the sidewalk at Barr Library

The Seahorse Spouse Challenge is on 29 April from 0830 to 1500. Whether you get dirty as a competitor or cheer and snap pictures as a spectator- it is bound to be a bunch of fun! Then on 26 May is the Battalion Family BBQ- we'll keep you posted with more details as they come. In the mean time- get out and enjoy the weather.

Take care, have fun, be safe... Warrior First!

HHC Special Announcement!

SFC Larry Finley became a first time Grandfather on March 31, 2011. Welcome to our extended family, Payton Wayne Murrill (Ybarra), 7 lbs 3 oz, 19-1/2" long.



Forward Support Company

FSC monthly update...



SGT Rickley guiding SGT McTiernan driving the M88 onto a railcar during DEPEX.

Spring has finally arrived and FSC has continued to improve and excel as a company! We have been to the field numerous times now and it shows how we have improved. All our training has been in preparation for the Battalion Platoon Certification in June; Distro and Maintenance will conduct a live fire exercise and prove to the Battalion that FSC is the best.

Headquarters has continued to excel at field feeding operations. LTG Freakley presented two coins to SPC Richardson and SPC Hatfield for their out-

standing work for providing chow for the Battalion during the Command Post Exercise. Over the past few months we have had two Soldiers promoted to the rank of Corporal. Congratulations to CPL Rohrer and CPL Pops. The FSC Headquarters Tactical Operations Center was also chosen as the best out of the entire Battalion. Keep up the great work!

Distribution Platoon has continued to complete all fuel and ammunition mission. They have been put to the test and excelled every time. Every range and construction mission has been a success due to their efforts. Two major fuel missions have been supporting the 15th EN CO in Training Area 3 and supporting the Battalion Command Post Exercise with the amount of generators used. Thousands of rounds of ammunition has been delivered to all companies to allow them to continue to train. Tremendous job!

Maintenance Platoon has done an excellent job keeping up to date on services and allowing HHC, FSC, 72nd, and 538th vehicles to remain operational. Their recovery team has also been in action fixing and towing simulated and deadlined vehicles. The Platoon has a new Platoon Leader, 1LT Andrew Hines. Welcome to the team and great job Maintenance!

The Forward Support Company would like to bid farewell to the following Soldiers that have left and are leaving soon: SGT Mitchell, SGT Murdoch, SGT McMinn, SGT Leach, SGT Hurta, SPC Brown, SPC Figueroa, SPC Hall, SPC Baker, and SPC Jones. These Soldiers have done an excellent job supporting the company and battalion. Good luck in your future endeavors!

Chain of Command

Commander:

CPT Robert J. Smith

First Sergeant:

1SG James Wedding

Executive Officer:

IMPORANT DATES

-Field operations 9-12 May, 16-20 May, 23 May, 1-16 June

-26 April BG Akin Maint Terrain Walk-through

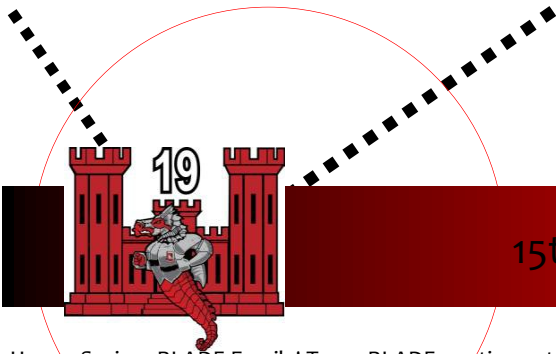
-26 May Battalion Cookout

-27-31 May 4-Day Weekend

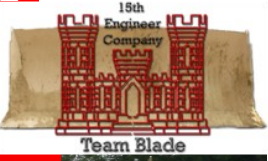


Soldiers from HQ, Distro, and Maint conduct convoy training at St. Vith Range





Team BLADE



15th Engineer Company (Horizontal)

Happy Spring, BLADE Family! Team BLADE continues to do great things everywhere we go and this past quarter was no different. From Nogales, AZ to Camp Atterbury, Indiana and all around Fort Knox, BLADE Soldiers and families are busy!

Leadership Changes: Over the past couple months we've had five notable leadership changes in the company. We promoted SGT Kimble to Staff Sergeant and SPC Melchert from Maintenance platoon to Sergeant. We promoted our 3rd Platoon Leader, LT Zetelski, to First Lieutenant and we will soon promote our XO, LT Kim, from 1LT to Captain! Our final upcoming change is our platoon sergeant transition in 1st Platoon. SSG Govan will be departing as the platoon sergeant as he prepares to return to his family at Fort Lewis. SFC Steese will be taking over as the 1st Platoon Sergeant. He and his family are coming to us from Hawaii.



IMPORTANT DATES

- 14 April: Easter Egg stuffing (BN Classroom, 6PM)
- 16 April: FRG Easter Party (Thorne Park, 11AM—2PM)
- 19 April: BN Town Hall
- 22-25 April: Easter Weekend
- 26 April: FRG Meeting (BN Classroom, 6PM)
- 29 April: Spouse's Challenge
- 4 May: Nogales 2 ADVON departs
- 6-7 May: KY Oaks/Derby Fundraiser
- around 10 May: Nogales 2 Main Body departs
- 26 May: BN Family BBQ (Hurley Motor Park)

Growing the Team BLADE Family: Team BLADE certainly did our part to keep the Ireland Nursery employed this past quarter! 1st Platoon welcomed two new baby girls, Serenity Batterman and Aalyih Amand and the platoon celebrated PFC Utoaluga's marriage to Julianna. 2nd Platoon welcomed three new babies, Jordan Harris, Conner Skaff and Killen. 3rd Platoon welcomed two new babies, Dominick Rossano and Rowan Strausser. Maintenance Platoon celebrated SPC Stefan's marriage to Jessica and welcomed new babies Chance Moore and Stanek. Headquarters Platoon stayed content this quarter with no major family changes!

Past Social Events: Over the past quarter, the company did not conduct too many social events, mainly just FRG meetings. Our FRG held a pancake breakfast in February as well as a cookout in March. As part of the cookout, several Soldiers participated in the Chili Cook-off. By vote, SGT Cochran won, followed by SPC Asmus (who brought the largest crock-pot I've ever seen!). 1st Platoon had a bowling party before the platoon's deployment to Nogales, AZ.

chain of command
Blade 6: CPT Haravitch
Blade 7: 1SG Johnson
Blade 5: CPT Kim
Blade 57: SFC Smith
Blade 16: 1LT Matthews
Blade 17: SFC Steese
Blade 26: 1LT Sullivan

BLADE Training Events

As always, the 15th EN CO remains busy. From supporting our fellow Soldiers in the 3rd Brigade, 1st ID to executing construction missions in support of multiple organizations, Team BLADE continues to execute all mission with the utmost professionalism and dedication. Over the past quarter, we've conducted a construction mission in support of Joint Task Force-North, worked a construction project in support of Fort Knox Range Control, supported the Fort Knox Quick Reaction Force, completed two construction projects in support of the Fort Knox Department of Public Works and a mission in support of Army North and the Joint Task Force—Civil Support, as well as conducting a Battalion-level Deployment Exercise as well as a Battalion-level Command Post Exercise. All-the-while, we continued to conduct multiple missions and tasks across the 19th EN BN and Fort Knox.

1st Platoon (pictured below) executed the border road construction mission in Nogales, Arizona.



the a safety award for their safe execution of the mission. Additionally, for their hard work and efforts, LT Matthews, SGT Rodriguez, SPC Clagg, SPC Mote, and PFC Jones received Army Achievement Medals and SGT Fuoss received an Army Commendation Medal for their hard work, leadership, and dedication to mission success. The platoon gained much experience and knowledge by executing this mission. The platoon, similar to the rest of the company, has not constructed a road in its recent history. This was a great chance for our Soldiers to conduct training critical to their MOS and was a great chance for them to execute this road construction mission in support of a CONUS law enforcement agency.

2nd Platoon has been busy conducting Operation Tree Bat as they prepare for Nogales Dos. The platoon has the opportunity to execute a road construction mission on Cedar Creek Range as they prepare for their road construction mission in Nogales, AZ. 2nd platoon will deploy to Nogales, AZ in early May 2011 and will return at the end of June 2011. They have the task of completing the road that 1st platoon started, as well as finishing several other tasks. The platoon also assisted in the Deployment Exercise with several Soldiers and NCOs.



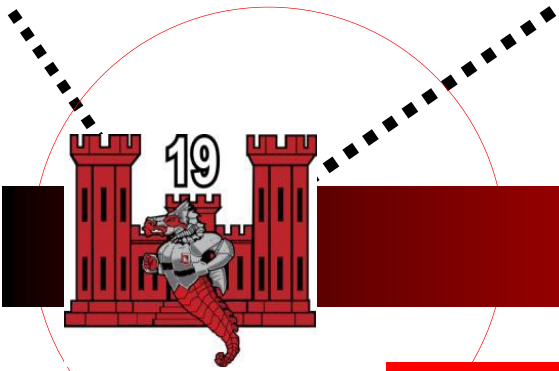
3rd Platoon has also been busy this past quarter with finishing Operation Blade Destruction and Triangle Park, as well as participating in Vibrant Response 11.1 in support of the 77th EN CO. The platoon has been extremely busy with these multiple missions and has done a great job of managing these multiple responsibilities. The platoon also participated in the Command Post Exercise where the whole platoon executed the AT/FP mission on multiple occasions over the period of two days.



Maintenance platoon has also been busy. without our maintenance platoon, none of these missions could happen. Maintenance platoon Soldiers were the heroes of the vibrant Response 11.1 mission, especially our recovery teams. Under SFC Tran's tutelage, our mechanics are all experiencing a new way of life. Our mechanics are executing repair missions that they would not normally execute. The maintenance platoon is getting some great training, while enabling the rest of the company to execute any mission they are called upon to execute. The platoon participated in Vibrant Response 11.1, then the Battalion's Deployment Exercise followed closely by the Battalion's Command Post Exercise. Needless to say, maintenance platoon is certainly earning their paycheck!



There are so many other great things going on within Team BLADE that this page cannot address. Every member of our team, either family member or Soldier, is critical as we move forward. 1SG and I thank you for all of your hard work and your understanding of this intense and complicated schedule we have. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Every member of this organization is important to our success and without you, we would not have the outstanding reputation we have now. **Keep your head down, keep coloring, DIG DEEP! ~ BLADE 6 and 7**



76th Engineering Company

hammer 6

- Chain of Command**
- Commander:**
CPT Riesel (Outgoing)
CPT Meade (Incoming)
- First Sergeant: 1SG Hunsaker**
Executive Officer: 1LT Enriquez
OPS NCO: SSG(P) Foster
- 1st PSG: SFC Hovermale**
1st PL: 1LT Brown
- 2nd PSG: SFC McKinney**
2nd PL: 1LT Kane
- 3rd PSG: SSG Leggett**
3rd PL: 1LT Underhill
- Maint PSG: SSG Stokes**
Maint PL: 1LT Pargett

The Soldiers of the 76th Engineer Company have been working hard this quarter. 1st Platoon spent almost 45 days in Laredo Texas supporting Joint Task Force - North. They were tasked to build a boat ramp and parking lot for the Border Patrol - Laredo Sector. The boat ramp is right on the Rio Grande, the river that borders Mexico and the United States. The boat ramp will allow the Border Patrol agents to place their boats in the water and patrol the Rio Grande for anyone trying to illegally cross the river. This project was a win-win for both the 76th Engineer Company and the Border Patrol. The 76th Engineer Company was able to execute realistic training separate from the main body and the Border Patrol got the ramp they needed to support their mission. 2nd Platoon and 3rd Platoon were working hard here on Fort Knox supporting agencies here on post. 2nd Platoon installed electrical outlets and lights at the Post's Horse Stables. 3rd Platoon installed pneumatic piping in a motor pool maintenance building on Wilson Road. The company is anticipating more construction projects like this to ensure that we are able to maintain our technical proficiency and support the post we live on.

On the 27th of April at 1000 in the Sadowski Field House CPT Terry Riesel relinquished command to CPT Jason Meade. CPT Riesel took command of the company on 08 November 2009 on FOB Spin Boldak, Afghanistan. Thanks for coming out and showing your support for us!

God Bless - CPT Riesel



Soldiers from 2/76E prepare for upcoming Change of Command inventories Soldiers from 3/76E layout carpenter kits for the inventories



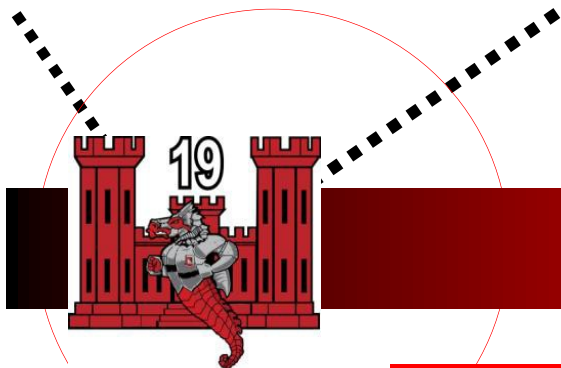
Soldiers from 1/76E pour concrete in Laredo, Texas. The Soldiers built the Border Patrol-Laredo Sector a parking lot and boat ramp



Soldiers from the maintenance section load equipment on to railcars during the Battalion Deployment Exercise



502nd Multi-role Bridge Company



Bridge 6

IMPORANT DATES

UPCOMING 502nd Events

22-25 APR—Easter Weekend 4-Day

29 APR—Spouse Challenge

3-5 MAY—BN M249 Range

3-5 MAY—DEMO Range

6-7 MAY— Derby Support

27-30 MAY—Memorial Weekend 4-Day

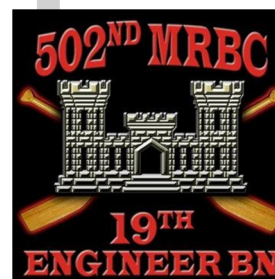


Over the past few months we have had a large turn over in personnel; saying hello to new Soldiers, both seasoned Veterans as well as those fresh from basic. Also, we have been saying some tough farewells to a few who have served this unit with pride, leaving behind lasting impressions. With these constant changes comes the need to train the new force and our non-commissioned officers are rising to the challenge. They are working hard to bring the new Soldiers up to speed; and what better way to accomplish this than with new equipment.

We have recently received 7 bridge erection boats (BEBs) and soon will be receiving a Dry Support Bridge (DSB). It will not be long before all our 21 Charlies are back doing what they do best, conquering obstacles and spanning gaps.

Not all training involves a bridge, however; we recently completed the battalion deployment exercise (DEPEX) where we completed our administrative and medical readiness as well as loaded equipment onto rail cars for shipment. Currently we have executed the battalion's command post exercise (CPX), testing our coordination of Soldiers and resources during a simulated mission scenario while maintaining normal company operations.

Coming up in May we have the battalion DEMO range and battalion M249 range, both lead by the outstanding Soldiers of 502D. As well as the Derby Fundraiser at Churchill Downs. A Family Safety Day is in the planning for the end of June which will include a BBQ, look for exciting details soon! Also, we need some energetic, motivated, go-getters to represent the company at the Spouses Challenge, 29 APR. Let the FRG Leader, Cassie Burks or Co-Leader, Angie Ratliff know if you are interested.



Bridge 7



100 miles an hour! That is the best way to describe our company right now. We are moving at a very high rate of speed and we will not slow down anytime soon. Our reset period is over, nearly all of our containers from down range are back, and it is time to start training. This week we started receiving our boats, next week our Soldiers will be rafting on the Ohio River. On July 1st our Dry Support Bridge will be arriving and we will be building bridges all over Fort Knox. The Soldiers in this company are by far the best bridge builders in the Army, we proved this in Afghanistan, and we will continue to prove it in our training.

The company has changed a lot in the last few months. There are many new faces. New platoon leadership has been put into place and they are making a great impact on the unit. New Soldiers are coming right out of Basic Training and are hitting the ground running. These Soldiers are coming right out of AIT trained and ready to join the unit. With all of these new Soldiers coming in, we have to say goodbye to some of our old friends. Many great Soldiers have left this great company and are currently improving the standards in units all over the Army. I get phone calls from these Soldiers and they all tell me the same thing; "This unit is ate up, and I miss the Deuce!"

With all us moving at this rate, we need to remember our families. Over the last months, our FRG has taken a heavy hit. We have lost a lot of great Soldier, and we have lost their families as well. Our FRG needs volunteers to help make it a fun and fully functional organization. There are FRG events being planned, however it takes more than a handful of volunteers to make them work. If you are interested please let me or my wife know. Thank you for all that you do! Thanks to all of the great Soldiers, "Never Quit!" 1SG Ratliff



Team Bridge

Commander: CPT Hutter

First Sergeant: 1SG Ratliff

Executive Officer: 1LT Calloway

1st PSG: SFC Keib

1st PLT: 2LT Dominique

2nd PSG: SFC Staton

2nd PLT: 1LT Corley

HQ PSG: SFC Harris

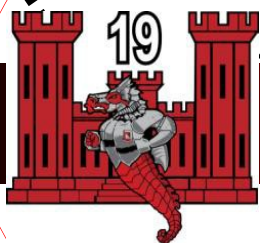
HQ PLT: 2LT Maci

SPT PSG: SSG Champagne

SPT PLT: 1LT Servideo



72nd Survey and Design Detachment



Outgoing CDR, CW2 Hayman

72nd is doing well and has been progressing these last months with the training focus on AutoCAD Civil 3D and types of surveys. One team consisting of SPC Collins and PFC Babcock were sent down to Nogales Arizona to assist 15th EN CO in the JTF-North road project while SPC Denman and SPC Marsh went to Laredo, TX with 76th EN CO.

Ongoing projects that

the team has been involved with are Cedar Creek, Seahorse monument, sidewalk for the Barr Library, Wilson Rd elevation, Handicap ramp, and the Seahorse Trophy case. The focus for the month of April has been the Change of Command inventories followed by the Change of Command on the 21st of April 2011 between CW2 Hayman and CW2 Springette.



Incoming CDR, CW2 Springette



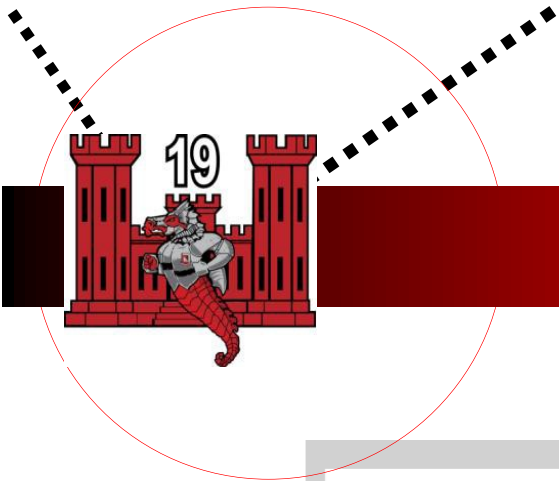
Battalion Chaplain

The Purpose of the Unknown

Everyone loves a good mystery from time to time, and there's something fulfilling about solving a puzzle. From Sherlock Holmes to Nancy Drew, newspaper crosswords or a Rubik's cube, unraveling the unknown gives us a sense of accomplishment and worth. However, there is nothing more frustrating than a mystery unsolved or a case gone cold.

It goes without saying that life is full of mysteries. Some as grand as the secrets behind the Great Pyramid and UFO's, but some are more practical like one's finances or daily routine. What kind of mysteries in life do you attempt to solve?

I believe it is healthy to work out problems. I also believe that if there's a problem too difficult to solve, it is not the end of the world. This is why I rely on God. He offers wisdom and grace greater than any issue that I'll ever face. It is no wonder the Proverb says "Ears to hear and eyes to see — both are a gift from God." (Proverbs 20:12) May He lead you as often as you choose to follow. God Bless!



Battalion Calendar

29 April

Seahorse Spouses Challenge

06 May

Kentucky Oaks

07 May

Kentucky Derby

14 May

Fort Knox, Red Cross 5k/10k Walk and Run

20 - 22 May

Strong Bonds Family Retreat

26 May

19th EN BN, Family BBQ @ Hurley Motor Pool

27 - 30 May

Memorial Day Weekend 4 Day Training Holiday

01 - 10 June

Platoon CERTEX

24 June - 10 July

BN Max Leave Dates

ACUTUM ACUMEN



the Seahorse Standard



19TH ENGINEER BATTALION
2374 HELL ON WHEELS AVENUE
FORT KNOX, KY, 40121

