

QUARTER 2 2011

SEAHORSE STANDARD

january 2011 — march 2011

a message from seahorse 6

Soldiers, Families and friends of the Seahorse Battalion,

I would like to start by wishing all members of the "Seahorse Family", both past and present, a Happy New Year. This year is already underway and it is shaping up to be a fast and exciting for the 19th Engineer Battalion. My intent for this issue of the Seahorse Standard is to recognize outstanding efforts of Seahorse Volunteers, highlight a few notable accomplishments since the last issue, provide some insights into what lies in the future, and remind everyone on the Seahorse Team to keep Safety at the forefront through the rest of the winter season.

I would like to invite everyone to the town hall meeting at Wayburn Theater at 1800 on 27 January 2011, where we will recognize all the Volunteers, both active duty and family members, that stepped up over the holiday season to put on some of the best FRG social events I have had the opportunity to attend during my time in the Army. From the Thanksgiving potluck dinners that included special treats such as 2LT Dominique's (502d MRBC) Tofu Turkey, to the ugly sweater contests, holiday auctions, and visits from "Santa Claus" on his festive Christmas Bulldozer, the events were first class in every respect.

In addition to enjoying the holiday season with friends and family, the Soldiers of the Seahorse Battalion stayed busy over the last few months with innumerable training and community support missions. Some of our most notable training and mission support actions were the 76th Engineer Company providing military honors at over 150 funerals for military veterans during the month of November, the 15th Engineer Company's ongoing removal of condemned WWII-era buildings for Ft Knox DPW, and the entire battalion's support to the Ft Knox force protection exercise in December. We also wrapped up our focus on individual Warrior Skills and Battle Drills training with the first Seahorse Challenge event the 2nd week in January by recognizing SGT Delgado and SPC Stoddard, both from the 502d MRBC, as our top Seahorse Soldiers. On the community side, Soldiers of the battalion stepped up during our annual Santa March to provide an unmatched level of support to the Fort Knox Santa's Workshop. Additionally, the companies and Soldiers continue to find ways to support our local schools, youth centers, and Veteran's organizations. I am continually amazed at how individuals across the Battalion are able to continually balance meeting mission requirements with making our community a better place to live.

I am sure everyone is interested in what lies ahead for the bat-

tion over the next few months. Our primary focus has shifted from individual skills to collective tasks that involve teams, squads, sections and platoons. From now until July, the Battalion and Companies will focus on training events that allow the squads and platoons to conduct collective tasks that support their "warfighting" missions. These missions and training events will range from "old school" Field Training Exercises (FTXs) here at Fort Knox to short "deployments", within the United States, to conduct construction missions. By the middle of March we expect to have Soldiers conducting construction missions in places such as Laredo (TX), Nogales (AZ), and Camp Atterbury (IN) along with projects and training right here at Fort Knox. I expect these missions, along with our continued requirement to conduct post support here at Fort Knox, will keep us very busy over the next few months.

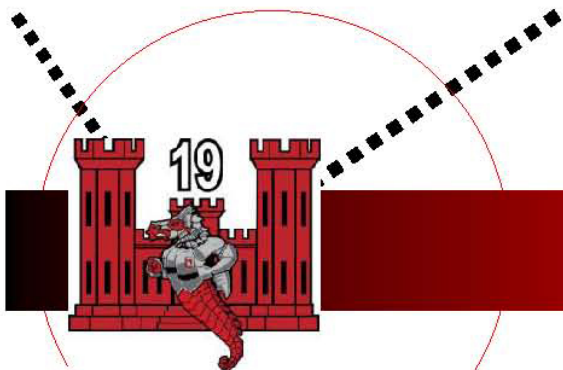
Finally, I would like to provide a short reminder about Winter Safety to all members of the Seahorse Family. Though we have already experienced a healthy amount of snow and very cold temperatures, I have been informed by the experienced members of the battalion that the worst of the winter weather has yet to come. As such, I would like to remind everyone to exercise extreme caution when roads are icy and temperatures get below 15 degrees. Vehicle accidents are extremely dangerous and costly to those involved as well as to the overall well-being of the Battalion. In addition to the guidance issued by the Post Commander, we will continually assess road conditions and attempt to ensure Soldiers are not unnecessarily operating vehicles (military or POVs) in risky conditions. During icy conditions, please slow down as it is better to arrive late than not at all. Additionally, everyone should be cautious when outside in extremely cold weather. Be sure to bundle up and keep an eye on kids, as sometimes they stay outside just a little too long sledding or playing in the snow. Overall, it is very important to that we keep everyone safe throughout this winter season.

As always, I am confident the Seahorse Standard remains an informative and effective way to keep all of you connected with what is going on across the Seahorse Battalion. To start off 2011 I would like to thank each and every one of you for your service, whether 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!!!



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headquarters and headquarters company

Warrior Families:

Welcome to 2011! I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday break with family and friends. Thanks to all of you who helped with the Thanksgiving and Christmas parties. Everyone who came had a good time eating, meeting new friends, and hanging out with Santa. If you would like to help with or participate in future events please contact our FRG leader Sandi Carnahan at [redacted]

Over the past few months as the temperatures have dropped, we have been finding plenty of ways to stay warm. We have ran several weapons ranges, taken a few PT tests, conducted vehicle operators training and several classroom training events, and our Quick Reaction Force platoon spent a week training with a Special Forces unit



QRF Commando training with Special Forces

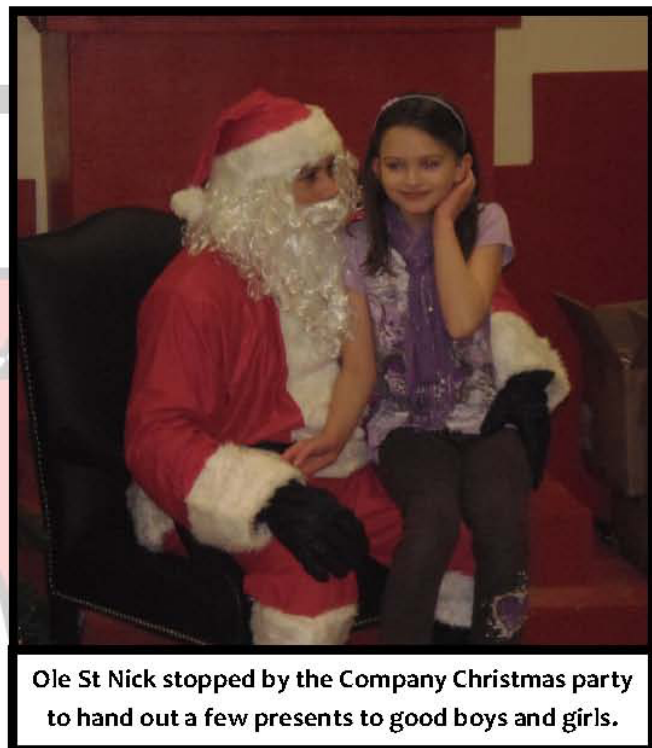
from Fort Bragg, NC. Throughout all these events we made sure to keep everyone as

safe as possible by taking a good look at all the risks involved and by putting systems in place to reduce those risks. Please ensure that you all continue to weigh your own risks before driving in snowy or icy conditions. Make sure you dress appropriately for cold or wet weather, and if you haven't gotten a flu shot yet- please get one!

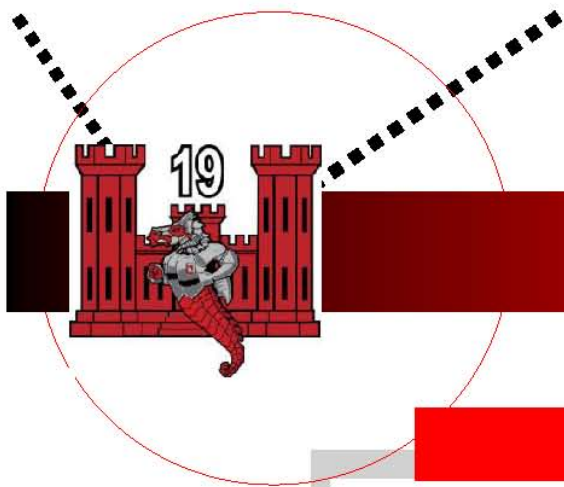
Our next FRG meeting will be February 10th at 6:00 pm in the battalion classroom. We will have a trainer from Army Community Service teach us about some of the programs available on post and about how to lead happier and safer lives by taking a look at the way our minds work in normal and stressful situations. This class should be pretty interesting and worthwhile- I look forward to seeing you there.

A few upcoming training events are a trip to the gas chamber on 8 February, the company field training exercise from 22-25 February, and the battalion dining-in on 4 March. A few of our Soldiers are even going down to the Mexican border to help 15th and 76th companies build roads and boat ramps. More information will follow through your Soldiers about all of these events. 1SG Gross and I look forward to seeing you at future FRG meetings and company events.

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



Ole St Nick stopped by the Company Christmas party to hand out a few presents to good boys and girls.



forward support company

FSC monthly update...



Soldiers reacting to a simulated IED

The holidays are over and FSC has hit the ground running! We have already been to the field twice and over the next few months that number will multiply. It is the intent of the command group to train in the field and get away from the flag pole. FSC will be in the field now in order to allow a slower paced training schedule during the warmer months to facilitate family time.

Headquarters has continued to gain outstanding Soldiers and is turning heads. The Field Feeding Section lead by SFC Rahmer has proven their keep by providing food in the field for the company and Battalion command teams.

Distribution Platoon continues to complete Battalion support missions. They have delivered ammunitions ranging from 9mm to .50 Caliber all around Fort Knox. Twice a week the fuel section drives out to the 7000 block where 15th EN CO is tearing down old barracks. Without the support of our Distro Soldiers their mission would not be such a success. During our first two field exercises Distro platoon was able to show their competence on convoy operations by conducting convoys at Yano Range and Training Area 6 with pyrotechnics to simulate IED's. They were able to pin point their weakness' and will concentrate on improving during the following exercises.

Maintenance Platoon has their work cut out for them during the next few months. Not only do they have to conduct field operations, but they have Battalion Maintenance to lead and numerous services to complete. While out in the field with Distribution Platoon they have worked on recovery drills and reacting to IED's. The platoon in undermanned and still able to complete their maintenance mission. Great job Maintenance!

The Forward Support Company would like to bid farewell to the following Soldiers: SPC Perez, SPC Childers, SPC Smith J., SSG Leaks, SGT Keedy, SGT Dawkins, SSG Litsey 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:

1LT Kyle Hudalla

IMPORANT DATES

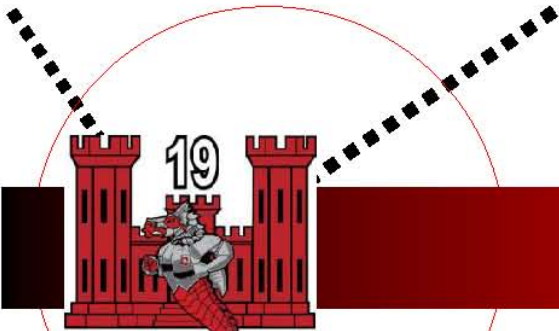
-Field operations 2-4 FEB, 16-17 FEB, 22-25 FEB, 2-4 MAR, 29 MAR-1 APR, 14-15 APR, and 25-28 APR

-4 MAR Seahorse Dining-In for NCO's and Officers

-18-21 FEB 4-Day Weekend



Soldiers closing the MKT during a field operation at Yano range.



Team BLADE



15th engineer company (horizontal)

Happy 2011 Team BLADE! As always, the company has been busy since our last Seahorse Standard edition. I had to use small font to keep this at one page! Thanks so much to everyone who has helped support Team BLADE and for continuing to make Team BLADE the strong organization we are today!

Leadership Changes: Over the past three months, we experienced some changes in our senior leadership. In early November, 1LT Jo Kim took over from 1LT Rob Davis as our company's second in command/Executive Officer. 1LT Kim comes to Team BLADE from the Battalion Training section and has already made an impact in Supply and Operations. In December, 1LT Sean Sullivan replaced 1LT Baber Haider as our 2nd Platoon Leader. These two Lieutenants exchanged jobs as 1LT Haider is now the Battalion's Assistant S4 officer, the job which 1LT Sullivan comes to us from. We also welcomed 2LT Talisa Dauz as the new Maintenance Platoon Leader. January 2011 started by promoting 2LT Matthews to 1LT. Then, we welcomed SFC Adam Whitford and his wife, Ann Marie, as 2nd Platoon's new platoon sergeant. Though we say goodbye to SSG Davis, we will still work closely with him as he is now the Battalion's Construction Management Section NCOIC. And finally, 2LT Thomas Zetelski took over for 1LT Katherine Haimann as our 3rd Platoon Leader. 2LT Zetelski is no stranger to Team BLADE, as he was previously the Maintenance Platoon Leader. 1LT Haimann, along with SSG Bruce Eldred (formerly 2nd Squad Leader, 3rd Platoon) were personally selected by the 20th EN BDE Commander to deploy to Iraq with the 20th EN BDE to serve as liaison officers. So, as you can see, we have a lot of new, motivated leadership within the company!



IMPORTANT DATES

- 3 Feb 11: FRG Meeting, 1800 (6PM) in the BN Classroom
- 14 Feb 11: Nogales mission begins.
- 18-21 Feb 11: President's Day Weekend.
- TBD Feb 11: BLADE Spouse's coffee.
- 4 March 11: Battalion Dining-In (CPL and up, Soldiers only)
- Mid-March 11: Vibrant Response mission (dates TBD).
- 25 March 11: (T) Training Holiday.

Growing the Team BLADE Family: The BLADE Family keeps growing stronger. Since November 2010, we've been blessed with several new team members. 1st Platoon celebrated PFC Bailey's marriage to Lindsee, 2nd Platoon celebrated SPC James' marriage to Amanda. 3rd Platoon had two weddings: SPC Neesmith married Lauren and SPC Oliver married Heather. We've had two new, healthy BLADE Babies - 3rd Platoon welcomed Mr. Brayden Edelman to the team on 30 December 2010 and just recently, Maintenance Platoon welcomed Mr. Nathaniel West on 15 January 2011. Within the next three months we are looking forward to the arrival of eight more BLADE Babies! Good luck to all of our expecting families!

Past Social Events: We definitely do "Whatever It Takes" to have great events. The FRG Bowling Party in early November was a great event. Then, we had the amazing Company Christmas Party. Thank you so much to all who helped make the Christmas Party a success. From setting up (and decorating) the D7 Bulldozer, feeding over 215 people, to providing thoughtful gifts to each Lil' BLADE in attendance, this Party set a new standard for Team BLADE events! We continued that effort to the recent Pancake Breakfast. Thanks so much, again, to our FRG Team for taking on and delivering these top-notch events! Thanks so much to all who continue to volunteer their time to help and support Team BLADE. From joining us at 0600 to participate in the Santa Toy March to spending full days baking cookies, our Company is better because of you!

chain of command
Blade 6: CPT Haravitch
Blade 7: 1SG Johnson
Blade 5: 1LT Kim
Blade 57: SFC Smith
Blade 16: 1LT Matthews
Blade7: SSG Govan
Blade 26: 1LT Sullivan
Blade 27: SFC Whitford
Blade 36: 2LT Zetelski
Blade 37: SFC Hammond
Blade 46: 2LT Dauz
Blade 47: SFC Tran

BLADE Training Events

BLADE Soldiers have been busy executing MOS-specific training as well as training on our Fort Knox Force Protection mission. We had a well-deserved, safe holiday break and returned to work in 2011 with vigor. 1st Platoon continues preparing for their deployment to Nogales, Arizona in February. 2nd Platoon continues to execute multiple missions in support of Team BLADE and the Battalion. One of these missions is taking over the Fort Knox Quick Reaction Force squad from 2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon. By the end of January 2011, SSG Matthews and her squad from 2nd Platoon will be Team BLADE's representation to the QRF and SGT Hall and his squad will return to 3rd Platoon just in time to demolish at least one building as part of Operation BLADE Destruction (OBD). 3rd Platoon continues OBD and will soon begin to prepare for their mission to Camp Atterbury, Indiana. Maintenance Platoon continues to gain more mechanics and the ability to repair our critical engineer equipment. And Headquarters platoon continues to support each and every one of the missions and efforts within the Company. The next three months will test our ability to deploy, manage our respective elements, execute horizontal construction and return to Fort Knox, all done safely and with the utmost professionalism.



1st Platoon (with a team from 2nd Platoon) deploys to Nogales, AZ in mid-February and returns at the end of March 2011. This mission is a great, unique opportunity for the Company and the Battalion, as this will be the Battalion's first mission in support of US Border Patrol. This will be a challenging and demanding construction project for the platoon, but they are prepared to safely execute the mission.

2nd Platoon will be challenged as the Company's support element for this quarter. The platoon provides one squad on a permanent basis to support the QRF. Additionally, the platoon is providing one team to support 1st Platoon's Nogales, AZ mission and is also providing a team-sized element to the 76th Engineer Company's construction mission in Laredo, TX along the Rio Grande River. 2nd Platoon will execute the Battalion Deployment Exercise and will execute valuable deployment training, along with Fort Knox Force Protection training. 2nd Platoon will also start on two construction projects in support of Fort Knox Range Control; one project is road construction, and the other project is to construct a retention pond on Atcher Drop Zone on southern Fort Knox.

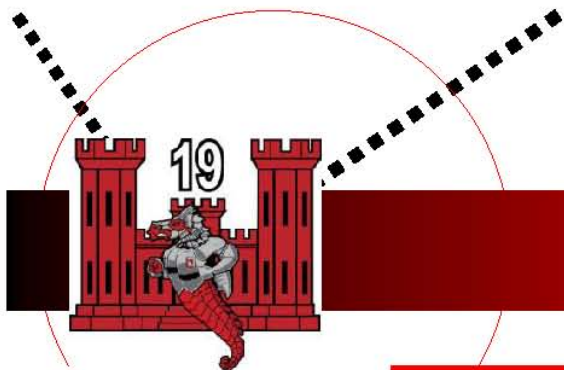


3rd Platoon was in the Turret Newspaper for their demolition mission, Operation BLADE Destruction (article available here: <http://www.turret.com/content/era-ends-knox-15th-eng-co-demos-7000-block-barracks>). This project started in mid-December 2010 and consisted of demolishing over 11 structures. This is a great project for both Fort Knox and for us as Equipment Operators, since demolishing structures is not a traditional mission for us. This project has created additional opportunities for us throughout Fort Knox, thanks to 3rd Platoon's professional execution of this project. 3rd Platoon will also represent Team BLADE at a mission in mid-March 2011 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Maintenance Platoon will continue to keep our equipment ready to execute all of the aforementioned missions. Maintenance Platoon will support all of 2nd and 3rd Platoon's missions, as well as executing their own missions and supporting Fort Knox Force Protection.



Last but not least, us in HQ Platoon, well, we're all over the place, commanding and controlling all of the above activities!
Thanks Team BLADE. Keep your head down, keep coloring and DIG DEEP! ~ BLADE 6 and BLADE 7



76th engineering company

Hammer 6

chain of command

Commander: CPT Riesel
First Sergeant: 1SG Hunsaker
Executive Officer: 1LT Byrne
OPS NCO: SGT Michalski
1st PSG: SFC Hovermale
1st PL: 1LT Brown
2nd PSG: SFC McKinney
2nd PL: 2LT Kane
3rd PSG: SSG Leggett
3rd PL: 1LT Underhill
Maint PSG: SSG Stokes
Maint PL: 1LT Hines

IMPORANT DATES

UPCOMING 76th EVENTS

12FEB 1st PLT Deploys to TX
 12-14FEB Strong Bonds event
 18-21FEB Presidents Weekend

The 76th Engineer Company has returned from the Holiday break and has been working hard. This hard work will continue for the next several months. I want to thank all the families of the Soldiers of the 76th Engineer Company for their continued dedication to their Soldier! Your support and dedication to your Soldier makes him/her a better Soldier and I thank you.

The company will be getting back to some construction training to start off the new year. It might be tough at first to knock all the rust off of the construction skills that we haven't used in a while but I know that the Soldiers of the 76th are ready to execute this tough training.

Also, next month 1st PLT will be deploying to TX to support Joint Task Force - North. This will be a great mission that will last about 45 days. They will be gone the whole time but they'll have a few opportunities to see the sights on a few MRWV trips that we'll take.

2nd PLT did a great job building some trusses in JAN



Hammer 7

Hello Hammer Family—Happy New Year to all. 2011 is here and our schedule is going to be full. We are going to be sprinting for the next 3 months, but we are ready to engage and knock down targets. Reenlistment is quickly becoming an issue within the Company. I have explained to the Soldiers that the Army is down sizing and the opportunity to reenlist is steadily going away. For your knowledge anyone who does not reenlist when their window for reenlistment opens will not be allowed to. This means that if your Soldiers window for reenlistment opens and they do not act on it then they will have no choice but to exit the Military. The bonuses are gone and attempting to hold out for a better option is no longer an option. I encourage you to get the thinking process on this going before the window opens. Jobs in the civilian sector are not very good and health care is going up all the time. I need you to really think about this, think about your future. Congratulations to SPC Wallingford for winning the Soldier of the Month board and SGT Sutor for winning the NCO of the month board. I am trying to get more of our Soldiers to attend these boards, however most are showing little interest in attending the Promotion Board. They must show career progression in order to reenlist also. WLC is mandatory for Soldiers before they can be promoted to the next higher grade. I encourage you to continue to push your Soldier into career progression, cause at reenlistment time it might be too late. SFC Walker is leaving the Hammer Family and is enroute to Virginia to train incoming Soldiers in the maintenance field. I know that he will do a great job. SSG Stokes has replaced him in the motor pool and I expect he will carry on the great work that our maintenance section does on a daily basis. Have a great New Year and I will hopefully see you all very soon HAMMER STRENGTH



SPC Sharpnack performing an oil change on 6K forklift



502nd multi-role bridge company

Bridge 6

IMPORANT DATES

UPCOMING 502nd Events



- 2 FEB - Company FRG Meeting
- 4 MAR - Dining In
- 23 MAR - BN Convoy Exercise (DEPEX)

First I would like to thank all of the Soldiers and Families of the 502d for their warm welcome into the company. I am very honored to have this command and look forward to working with the many skilled professionals we have in our ranks. I would also like to thank CPT Lucas for his guidance and patience during my transition process. CPT Lucas has put a lot of sweat and dedication in the company and they are better and stronger for it. He and Jennifer will be missed.

Next, the holiday season has come and gone and the 502d is nearing the end of its RESET period. We will be drawing a lot of new equipment over the next 6 months and soon we will be back into a regular training battle rhythm. The Soldiers are looking forward to executing missions again and getting reacquainted with their equipment (as soon as it gets here).

In the upcoming weeks, the company will be conducting Combat Water Survival Training (CWST), an M249 range, and a DEPEX where Soldiers will conduct air and rail loading operations as well as a small convoy trip through Kentucky. We will also have our FRG meeting in February; we plan on discussing ideas for upcoming Family and Soldier Events as well as fundraising. The success of the 502d is due in part to the great family volunteers; let us know if you are interested!

Thanks for all that you do.

Americans never quit. – Douglas MacArthur
- CPT Amy Hutter



NEVER QUIT!

Bridge 7

The Honeymoon phase of our redeployment is over, and it is time to start preparing for our next mission. Our company is currently going through the "Reset" phase of our redeployment. This is our time to repair our equipment and prepare ourselves for another deployment. Within this time we normally say goodbye to some of our fellow Soldiers, and hello to the new arrivals.

The company has changed a lot since our redeployment. We have seen many leadership changes, including a new company commander. Three new Platoon Sergeants have stepped up, and are doing great things for our unit. However it seems as if we are losing more leaders than we are gaining. Recruiting Command and the Drill Sergeant School are taking seven great Non-commissioned Officers from our ranks. Each one of these great Soldiers has been selected for their outstanding leadership and promotion potential.

With all of these Soldiers leaving we are also losing many FRG volunteers, and we need new spouses to step up and help the company. Without support from families we cannot have fun FRG events like we have in the past. If you would like to volunteer please contact the FRG leadership or myself.

As I said before, the Honeymoon is over, and some issues are starting to arise. I am seeing an increase of problems at home and money problems. I want everyone to know that I am here to help, however I cannot help if I do not know there is a problem. My door is always open to assist Soldiers and their families at anytime. Please let me know about problems, before they snowball out of control,

Thanks to all of the great Soldiers and the spouses that support them.

"Never Quit!" 1SG Ratliff

Team Bridge

- Commander: CPT Hutter
- First Sergeant: 1SG Ratliff
- Ex Officer: 1LT Calloway
- 1st PSG: SSG Keib
- 1st PLT: 1LT Dalton
- 2nd PSG: SFC Staton
- 2nd PLT: 1LT Corley
- HQ PSG: SSG Harris
- HQ PLT: 2LT Dominique
- MT PSG: SSG Champagne
- MT PLT 1LT Servideo



72nd survey and design detachment

During the last few months the 72nd Engineer Detachment has forged ahead with their technical training and their efforts to support the Battalion's construction projects. The Detachment traveled to Indiana for a recon and produced scale drawings of the Matthew Welsh Bridge. Team Laser also surveyed and staked-out the site of 338th's concrete pad pro-

ject in Hurley Motor Pool and provided 15th with a site drawing of the buildings to be demolished on FT Knox. The Detachment is proud of SPC Lewis and SPC Aleman

for their completion of the Seahorse Challenge and congratulates SPC Janka for his graduation from WLC. The 72nd enjoyed the holidays, but now looks forward to supporting the road building efforts in Arizona and the boat ramp construction in Texas. The Detachment will also continue its work at home with survey support for projects on FT Knox.



SPC Collins holds the range pole for a survey.

battalion chaplain

The Purpose of the Unknown

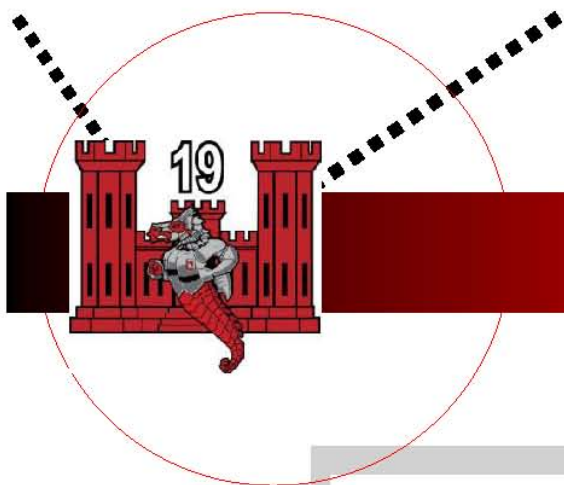
Everyone loves a good mystery from time to time, and there's something fulfilling about solving a puzzle. From Sherlock Holmes to Nancy Drew, newspaper crosswords or a Rubik's cube, unraveling the unknown gives us a sense of accomplishment and worth. However, there is nothing more frustrating than a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



battalion calendar

- 04 FEB 2011—Battalion Run (0600 Natcher Field)
- 17-21 FEB 2011—Presidents Day Weekend (Four Weekend Day)
- 28 FEB 2011—Battalion Run (0600 Natcher Field)
- 04 MAR 2011—Battalion Dining In (NCOs/Officers)
- 25 -28 MAR 2011—18th Airborne Corps Training Holiday (Four Day Weekend)

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

please talk to your soldiers to get more information about the events listed and about events in the battalion that are not listed in the newsletter...

*****an informed spouse is the best spouse*****

