



THE Marauder

5TH RANGER TRAINING BATTALION NEWSLETTER

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At the close of 2009, the 5th Ranger Training Battalion brought the year to an end at the annual Holiday Ball. Couples enjoyed fine dining and fellowship surrounded by the festive décor of the Unicoi Lodge. The celebration gave a fitting end to a year of hard work and dedication of the entire battalion. Over the year 2009, the battalion trained over 2,712 students with 1084 graduating from Ranger School; conducted 22 fixed and rotary wing airborne operations, 132 air assault operations, 132 convoy operations, 300 platoon level raids and ambushes, and 4,000 kilometers of patrolling through the rugged mountains of the Chattahoochee National Forrest. These statistics serve as a great accomplishment and also portray the caliber of both our Soldiers and Families.

Brigadier General Joseph Stringham served as the honorary speaker and all were honored by the presence of Mr. Phillip Piazza and Mr. Vincent Melillo; original members of the Merrill's Marauders.

As we journey into 2010, it becomes important to reflect on how the effects of 2009 have shaped as a

whole. Last year brought us a new president, the death of a pop star, the decline of a golfing legend, and the re-emergence of piracy, but the largest impact remains the Global War on Terror. As we now look to a troop surge in Afghanistan our focus will remain on training Rangers to lead the way on the front lines in the War on Terror. May we continue to maintain that focus throughout the New Year and may it be filled with hope, joy, adventure and blessings for us all.



Above CH Honbarger with Mr. Vincent Melillo and Mrs. Beth Eatman



I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and I want to take this opportunity to thank all the family and friends of our HHC Soldiers for their continuing support for their Soldiers. As we start a new year here at Camp Merrill we have three weeks till the first Ranger class comes to train. During this time the Soldiers of HHC are attending various classes and training events as well as continuing their ever day support activities that make camp run.



Hails

CPT Ryan Slocum and wife Danielle
 SGT George Smith and wife Erika
 SGT Edward Gaulin and wife Kerrie
 SPC Shane Martin and wife Emily
 SPC Jason Cooper and wife Lisa
 SPC Antjuan Laster and wife Veronica
 SPC Cedric Parham and wife Monique
 SPC Ronald Arellano and wife Whitney
 SPC Titus Omar
 SPC Nicholas Wendt
 SPC Jeffrey Winn
 SPC Sean Bahn
 SPC Brian Hahn
 SPC Jeffrey Ward
 PFC Jacob Mott

Fairwells

1SG Bartleson (retiring)
 SFC Rawlston (retiring)
 SFC John Hathaway
 SFC James Masterodomenico
 SFC Russell Ballew (retired)
 SSG Joshua Marzolf
 SGT Brandon Boan
 SGT James McFatridge
 SGT Michael Longnecker
 SGT Daniel Long
 SGT Kenneth King
 SPC Lawson Conner
 SPC Joshua Conway
 SPC Balsey DeWitt
 SPC Brandon Dickerson
 SPC Steven Martin
 SPC Nicholas Taylor



NCO of The Quarter

SSG Andrew DeCola won the Brigade NCO of the Quarter Board on 03 Dec 09

Births

SGT Alejandro Rubio and wife Karen had a baby girl, Lillian Bell Rubio, on Jan 9th 2010. She weighs 4lbs 10oz.

School Graduations

SSG Derek Ertmer and SPC Andy Lai completed Ranger School 11 Jan 10.

SSG Robert Lemon, SSG Andrew DeCola, and SPC Irwin Gau received the EFMB on 08 Oct 09. SGT Brandon Vanderwyst and SPC Frank Citizen completed Air Assault School on 22 Nov 09.

SPC David Macias completed Airborne School on 13 Nov 09.

SPC Matthew Williams completed Sapper School on 18 Dec 09.

As we get ready to start supporting Ranger classes again this year I ask that you continue your support of your Soldiers. What they do every single day is vital to the success of the Ranger course and helps return a better trained Soldier to his unit to defend our nation. Thanks again for all you do! Rangers Lead the Way!

CPT Nelson & ISG Bartleson

A

Hello to the Family and Friends of Alpha Company. Although we have all enjoyed the holidays and this extended break, we realize that it is time to again begin training the Army's future leaders.



L

Hails

SFC(P)-Weisensel
SFC Carbone

P

Promotions

SFC (P) Weisensel- to MSG
SFC (P) Loveall- to MSG

H

Fairwells

SFC(P) Weisensel -
to Bco to be the ISG
SFC(P) Loveall -
to Cco to be the ISG
SSG Marcum-
PCS to Ft. Bragg
SFC Gordon-
PCS to Kuwait tasking
SSG McClanahan- ETS
SFC Bonney-
PCS to Ft. Carson

School Graduations

SSG Bangura- BNCOC
SSG- Weiers-Jumpmaster
SFC Bryce- Instructor of the
QTR for the 1st QTR 2010

Births

CPT Jon and Lindsey
Norton- Gave birth to a
baby boy: Fisher James

A

Again, thank you for all of your support as we would be unable to accomplish our mission without the love and support of our families.

CPT David Preston and ISG Lance Kirkham

B

Greetings from B Company. I hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas break and are preparing themselves for the rest of the winter.



B

A

V

O

Hails

SFC Knoepke
SSG Leach
CPT Franceschi
1SG Weisensel

Fairwells

SFC Marceau
SFC Sparling
CPT Hammond
SSG Tisserand
SFC Rathbun
SFC Welch
SFC CJ Adams (Retired)
Special thanks 1SG Nelson for leadership best wishes as S-3 NCOIC

School Graduations

SFC Holst & SFC Malone
M-SLC
SSG Mongkeya- BNCO
SSG Garcia- ABN

B Company lost a lot of great folks the past quarter and they will be missed.

CPT Whitener & 1SG Nelson

C
H
A
R
L
I
E

Friends and Families of Charlie Company 5th RTB
1SG Holland and I hope everyone enjoyed a much
deserved break, Happy New Year in 2010.



Hails

CPT Randall Waters 15 TM PTT
SFC Jeffrey Valentine 15
TM Ranger Instructor

Fairwells

CPT Christopher Reilly
SFC Christopher Cato

School Graduations

SFC Wessling, SSG Howard &
SFC Franklin- M-SLC
SSG Kirby- BNOG
SFC Bowlan, & SFC Stockard-
Jumpmaster
SFC Baty, SFC Hawkins-
Pathfinder
SFC Valentine- RICP
SSG Dixson BMCC

Births

SSG Lombardi - Madison
Virginia, 6 lbs 9 oz, and 18"
CPT Kehoe- Kate Elizabeth,
7 lbs 14 oz, and 22"

We have began the New Year preparing for Class 3-10 and look forward to what the New
Year will bring.

Capt. Kehoe & 1SG Holland



Chaplain Honbarger

Trust

The true mark of any relationship boils down to trust. We could find ourselves surrounded by people that we like and genuinely enjoy spending time with only to discover that certain limits exist in most relationships. For example, we would not trust just anyone with our finances, or especially not our children.

In the Bible, trust takes the form of a two way street. While God expects us to put our trust in Him, that He is a loving and sovereign, additionally God desires that we show our trust for Him. One of the first places the opportunity to share in a trusting relationship shows up in the Garden of Eden, where God entrusted the “Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil” to Adam and Eve. Unfortunately, Adam and Eve trusted more in themselves, and humanity has lived with the consequences. Sometime after, Abram later to earn the name Abraham, demonstrated his trust by following God’s instructions to leave his home. Actually, God’s directions were very vague, in that God merely said to go, and did not say where or how far. In the book of Hebrews the eleventh chapter, Abraham receives a commendation for his faithfulness to leave his home, even though he did not know where he was going. I suppose having a commendation looks pretty nice, but Abraham’s true claim to fame comes from his trust in God, which allowed him to become the father of an entire nation.

The Bible contains multiple narratives of people who place their trust in God and found that in return God did amazing acts in their lives. They do share a common, but very important element. The people in these narratives were willing to step outside of their comfort zone and place their trust in a God that for the most part they could not see. Basically, God does not hit stationary targets—God hits moving targets. This may sound a little tricky, because the Bible tells us that we are not to test Him expecting something miraculous to happen against the laws of nature purely on our behalf, but that we should step outside of our comfort zones in relationship to Him. It’s always more comfortable to take a break or get a few more hours of sleep, but how about a little time of prayer? As we enter into the New Year, I encourage you to take the opportunity to show your trust to God and foster a vibrant relationship with Him —and prepare for a journey.

In the Community...

Arts & Crafts

Smiling Faces

5th RTB Playgroup

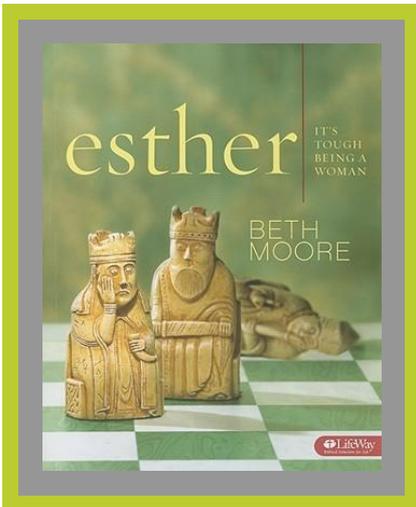
For more information contact Erin Pare at
706-867-7205 or erin.pare@us.army.mil

Snacks

Play Time



Bible Study: Spring Session



Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman by **Beth Moore** looks at the Old Testament story of Esther as a profile in courage and contains many modern parallels for today's woman.

For more information contact
Kara Honbarger at
706-867-9521 or
craignkara@yahoo.com

Calendar Highlights

31 Jan-2 Feb-
RTB SINGLE SOLDIER SKI TRIP

13-16 Feb-
BN TRAINING HOLIDAY

13-16 March-
BN TRAINING HOLIDAY

7-10 May-
BEST RANGER COMPETITION,
FT BENNING

29 May-
OPEN HOUSE, CAMP MERRILL

26 June-15 July-
SUMMER LEAVE

*Dahlongega Country Day now
NACCRRA accredited...*

Good news for parents seeking childcare. Dahlongega Country Day is accepted by NACCRRA, which offers reduced rates for Active Duty Military at satellite installations like Camp Merrill. Simply follow this link: www.naccrra.org Scan across the top on the page- click the link Child Care for Military Families. Click the Branch of Service circle, and then look on right side of the page about half way down and click on Military Subsidy Application. Once a parent applies online they will get an email back with some specific requested information to fax in. Melissa of Dahlongega Country Day has offered her services in helping any Soldier and their Families apply online at her office, where they are welcome to use her fax to send in the requested information.

LEADING THE WAY

Congratulations to SFC Bowlan for earning the Instructor of the Year Award and SSG Bryce for earning the Instructor of the Quarter. Both Ranger Instructors gained this distinguished honor after being selection as the best instructor over all other Senior and Junior Non Commissioned Officers in TRADOC stationed at Fort Benning. A team of graders circulated and critiqued all TRADOC instructors and rated SFC Bowlan at the top for the senior level and SSG Bryce at the junior level. Our best wishes go out to SFC Bowlan as he now enters into the competition for the Instructor of the Year Army wide and to SSG Bryce to continue to...

Lead the Way!!!

SFC Bowlan receiving Instructor of the Year Award from Maj. Gen. Ferriter

