



VOL. 6

# THE GATOR BAIT

## In Memory of SSG Casey James Grochowiak Leader, Soldier, Neighbor and Friend



SSG Casey Grochowiak is photographed here with Celestina (Cele),  
and children Deegan, 6 and Matia, 14

6TH RTB  
QUARTERLY NEWS  
Oct, Nov, Dec 2010

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**Next Jump**

When: 26 OCT  
Who: Cadre Jump  
Where: Rudder DZ

### ><> CHAPLAIN'S QUARTERLY INSPIRATION <><

#### "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"

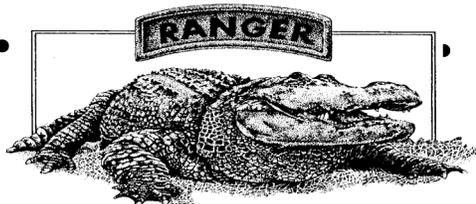
Someone once said that marriage requires a man to prepare four types of rings, the Engagement Ring, the Wedding Ring, Suffering Ring, and Endu-Ring! I am sure he was just trying to be funny, but the truth is he was right on track. 1 Corinthians 7:28 says, "Whoever marries will have tribulation in this life." I have been married for more than twenty-three years, and I love Patti more today than I did the day we met, but I can also tell you from experience that marriage is work (trust me, she read this and said, Amen!). If you have been married for any time at all you have already figured out that there is no such thing as an "easy" marriage,

and being in the Army only compounds the trials.

If we all get married to live "happily ever after" why is it such a struggle to stay together sometimes? There is a plethora of reasons, but they all boil down to one major relationship flaw—a lack of commitment. Commitment is the glue that will hold a marriage together through the good, the bad, and the ugly times in life. If you are not careful you will buy into the lie that love or happiness is what keeps a marriage together. Such Pollyanna ideology is summed up in the sentiment, "Love is one long sweet dream, and marriage is the alarm clock." This kind of cynicism guarantees failure as soon as the newness wears off your marriage and you are faced with the reality that meaningful relationships that stand the test of time are

work. Happy feelings come and go, and come and go, in every marriage, so if your "feelings" are your standard you are more likely to bail out once the going gets tough, and it gets tough, from time to time, in every marriage. However, if you are unwaveringly committed to God and one another to maintain the vow that you made "to love and cherish one another until death do you part" you will find that you can work through anything. Couple that kind of commitment with communication and compromise and you have the ingredients of a relationship that will weather a lifetime of storms.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**  
**Singles Ski Trip to WV Jan 27-30, 2011 More to Follow!**



# News from the Bulls

## HHC News CPT Anazagasty & 1SG Krcelic FRG Leader - Romina Anazagasty

Friends and Families of HHC-

Welcome back to another edition of the Gator Bait. We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and is well into the routines associated with the fall months. As usual HHC, said farewell to many Soldiers and families and welcomed an equal amount. Our warmest welcome is extended to SPC and Mrs. Alaimo, SPC and Mrs. Campbell, SPC and Mrs. Dwyer, CPT and Mrs. Bucci, SPC and Mrs. Smith, SPC and Mrs. Pugh, PFC Felx, SPC Solomon, SPC Tallosi and PFC Vissering. CPT and Mrs. Meyer are also new arrivals to HHC, but are not strangers to the Battalion coming from Charlie Company. We are sure everyone's time here will be a new and fulfilling experience. Welcome aboard!

The long break from training Ranger students over the summer months allowed HHC Soldiers to better themselves in various ways. Many Soldiers took time away from their families to complete the Combatives Level 1 course, Airborne school, SERE school, Jumpmaster school, Pre-

Hospital Trauma Life Support course, Warrior Leaders Course and Ranger School. Congratulations to SGT Cermak, SGT Plummer, SPC Dukes, SGT Hausman, SPC McKenzie, SPC Schroder, SGT Velncia and SPC Lussier for Completing the Combatives Level 1 course. SSG Golston, SSG Shaw, SSG Gomez, SGT Martinez, SPC Black and SPC Jimenez are our newest members to the Airborne community after graduating Airborne school at Fort Benning, GA. Staff Sergeants Bowman, Stephens and Nguyen all completed the grueling Survival Evasion Resistance and Escape (SERE) course recently and are glad to be back on Camp Rudder! SGT Slaughter, CPT Meyer and CPT Chu completed Jumpmaster school and are ready to begin pulling duties in support of student and cadre jumps in the future, CPT Meyer and CPT Chu were both Honor Graduates of their Jumpmaster class. SPC Plazyk from the Motor Pool completed both the vehicle recovery course in addition to graduating the PHTLS course along with SSG Bowman, SPC Bailey, SPC Baker, SPC Dukes, SPC Dwyer, SPC Fleener, SPC Laughter and SPC Sanchez. SSG Anderson, SGT Smith and SGT Grogan all completed the Warrior Leaders Course and are now eligible to continue in the

NCO Corps leading Soldiers. CPT Goodyear, the HHC Executive Officer, graduated Pathfinder School in July and continues to support the Battalion in many ways. Lastly, HHC wants to congratulate SGT Hartinger from the Boathouse for graduating Ranger School.

Just as the summer brought extreme heat and time off, the fall brings us football, festivals and holidays. Please be on the lookout for information regarding our annual Fall Festival here on Camp Rudder and the many local activities in the area, to include the Mullet Festival. Our Soldiers from HHC and across 6<sup>th</sup> RTB will support those events and will undoubtedly do a great job representing the Battalion. As we bring this Gator Bait to a close, HHC has several Soldiers competing in the All Army Combatives Tournament from 30 September to 03 October. SFC Mitchell, SSG Lopez, SSG Skaggs and SFC Barreiro will represent the battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia and we wish them the best of luck. As always, we hope everyone is doing well and is well informed. Please do not hesitate to call us with questions or concerns.

Rangers Lead The Way!!



## A CO News CPT Pesature & 1SG Roberts FRG Leader - Tobe' Pesature

### A Company 1<sup>st</sup> QTR 2011 News Letter

Greetings to all Alpha Company families and friends. We are finally escaping the heat of the summer and are welcoming the cooler fall temperatures. Your Soldiers did an excellent job training ranger students through the blistering summer heat, and they always ensured that the students had a realistic but safe training environment.

Alpha Company had a very busy summer training three cycles of ranger students and conducting Company and Battalion level training. We conducted a small arms range where your Soldiers competed in a challenging stress shoot, and LTC (R) Grossman traveled to 6<sup>th</sup> RTB to instruct the Battalion on the psychological aspects of combat. He gave a very interesting presentation and stirred a lot of conversation throughout the Battalion for days. Lastly, the Battalion executed a

classroom briefing and walkthrough of the 1995 accident, and all the Ranger Instructors traveled down the Yellow River to the accident site on Crane Lake. It was an excellent learning experience for all attendees and gave everyone a true appreciation of the many risks involved in training ranger students. Most importantly it showed how your Soldiers play a vital role in safely training our Army's future leaders. I hope those of you that participated in the Swamp Walk gained an understanding of ranger training and what your Soldiers do on a daily basis. Thank you for your participation and continued support.

Alpha Company will train three more ranger cycles this fall, but we will have some time to enjoy the cooler weather. Everyone will be able to relax over a four day weekend from 11-14 November. Everyone is encouraged to participate in Mullet Fest from 15-17 October and Fall Fest on 24 October. Lastly, I know everyone is waiting for our well deserved winter block leave from 11-29 December.

Hails:  
CPT Cascino – Incoming from the Maneuver

Captain's Career Course. We would like to welcome his wife, Allison, and newborn daughter, Ella.

1SG Roberts – Incoming from Bravo Company. We would like to welcome his wife, Michelle, and sons, Marcus and Malcolm.

### Farewells:

SFC Greenhalgh – Departing to Fort Lewis, Washington.

SSG Flaherty – Departing to the 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment at Fort Benning, Georgia.

SFC Harris – Departing to Fort Stewart, Georgia.

### Congratulations on the following births:

CPT and Allison Cascino and daughter, Ella  
SFC and Jackie Schweers and son, Benjamin  
SSG Flaherty and son, Luke

### Recent graduates:

SSG George – graduated from Jumpmaster school in August 2010.

SSG Szymczyk – graduated from combat diver qualification course in September 2010.



**B Co News**  
**CPT Moro & 1SG Applegate**  
**FRG Leader - Desiree Moro**  
**& Katie Applegate**

Over last three months we have trained another three cycles of ranger students through the Florida phase of ranger school. Since the last newsletter, we have had several key Family and Soldier events. 1SG Applegate married Katie in September. We welcome Katie to the Army and to the B Co Family.

SFC Roberts has moved on to become the Alpha Company 1SG. His time and effort in Bravo Company has been very beneficial to the team. He

has contributed a tremendous amount of knowledge to ensure our future Ranger Leaders are successful. We send SFC Roberts and his Family our best regards as they take on their new mission in Alpha Company.

SSG Royalty and his wife are expecting a baby in October. As they prepare for the new addition to their family, the men and families of Bravo Company are ready to support them. This will be SSG Royalty's second child.

With the summer coming to an end, we welcome the cooler weather as we prepare to train more future Army Rangers. With that cool weather, also comes continued family fun in and around the Destin area. The following website is for beach information in and around Destin: <http://www.cityofdestin.com/index.php?src=gendocs&link=BeachSafety&category=Main&noframe=y> If you are boating you can reference the Destin Coast Guard Station (850-244-7147) to ensure you have all the appropriate gear aboard your vessel.

The Wives Swamp Walk was a great event for our Family Members to experience a little bit of what we do while training Rangers. If you were not able to participate, there will be more fun and family oriented events coming up in the near future to include a Fall Festival to be held on Camp Rudder on 24 October. This is just one of several upcoming events for the family and friends that you can attend and have some food and fun.

**C Co News**  
**CPT Myer & 1SG Olsen**  
**FRG Leader - Laura Myer**

Greetings again to the Charlie Company Families and Friends –

I was reflecting on another quarter of training of Ranger Students and one cannot avoid noticing how similar it was to the previous quarter. Day in and day out not many things change here at 6<sup>th</sup> RTB; but one thing is ever changing: the people. Every quarter we welcome more people in and send others out. Just this quarter we welcome SFC Jesse Leimbach and his family, as well as SSG Justin Ray and his family. While they are only two instructors they have 6 kids with one on the way (Congrats to the Ray Family!!).

The Leimbach Family is also one of the newest members of Rudderville. In addition, both SSG Wagner and SFC Weaver have recently moved into the first circle with their families. To truly experience 6<sup>th</sup> RTB you should live in Rudderville. It is an adventure in every sense of the word and the sense of community cannot be replicated elsewhere. If you want to live in Rudderville let 1SG Olsen know, we will make it happen!!

We bid farewell SFC Stephen Voline and his family who remain in the NW Florida area completing

college at University of West Florida before moving on to be an officer. While the soon to be 2LT Voline admits that moving to the "dark side" was a big decision, it gives him the opportunity to take time for a college degree and eventually move

back to Italy. It will be hard to get in touch with him because he is extremely busy with one college class per week.

We work and live in a 'people centered' organization. The Army is all about the people you work with, live with, and fight alongside. In this nearly decade long war every member of Charlie Company including our families is affected by war. On 30 August 2010, SSG Casey Grochowiak was killed in Afghanistan. He and his family had just left our company in May, and Casey was only in Afghanistan for less than a month before he was killed. This tragic news reminded us of our precious time here at RTB. While our thoughts and prayers are with Casey's family, his wife Celestina, and his two children Deegan and Matia, I also feel obligated to take advantage of time with my family. This event helps me argue less with my wife and not feel the need to spend so much time harping on my children. Enjoy your time here and we all should do what Casey Grochowiak did while he was here: train the Army's future young leaders, get healthy by "always keeping myself mentally alert, physically strong, and morally straight", and spend time with our families.



SSG Casey James Grochowiak  
17 December 1975- 30 AUG 2010

**Are you receiving our FRG emails and Phone Calls?** We don't want you to miss out on important info or events. Please contact your FRG Leader with your current email address and phone number.

- HHC - Romina (romina.anazagasty@us.army.mil)
- A Co - Tobe' (tobepesature@yahoo.com)

- B Co - Desiree (desireehuronfrg@gmail.com) or Katie (ktgeary@yahoo.com)
- C Co - Laura (teammyer5@hotmail.com)
- BN - Jill (cmattcjill@yahoo.com) or Tricia (venus7698@yahoo.com)

To All who participate, THANK YOU!!



## 6TH Ranger Training Battalion and our Community

### The Snake House News



The Snake team with Kimberly Locke, American Idol finalist.

The Ranger Reptile team continues to be the Ranger ambassadors to the local community. The reptiles made their most recent appearance for the Armed Forces Appreciation Day at the Ft Walton Beach fairgrounds, the Ranger Reptile tent was set up right inside, and although there were many displays and exhibits to include American Idol contestants and local heroes, the Ranger Snake team stole the show. The snakes are getting ready for their next appearance at the Boggy Bayou Mullet Festival in Niceville on the 15<sup>th</sup> of OCT.

\*\*FYI Inside the Snake House see the new baby alligator exhibit.



The Ranger Display tent Armed Forces Appreciation Day.

## Wives Swamp Walk 2010

This year's annual Ranger Wives Swamp Walk was held on 31 July. The weather was absolutely perfect so



we were able to conduct all of the events. We had over a hundred participants broken down into three platoons. The day started with a reptile show and a weapons familiarization. We then moved down to Pine Bluff where the



ladies had a quick M.R.E. lunch and then went right back to training. The ladies conducted a one rope bridge, they then loaded the rubber boats and paddled down the river to Mason's landing, and finished the training with a movement through the swamp. Later there was an awards presentation and Barbeque at the



Gator Lounge. Everyone had a good time; we would like to thank all the ladies who braved the snakes and the mud and we hope to see you all next year.



## The Emerald Coast Fisher House

On September 10<sup>th</sup> the Emerald Coast Fisher House officially opened across the street from the hospital on Eglin AFB. The Fisher House provides a "home away from home" so that our military families can be together during treatment for serious illness or physical/occupational therapy. The House will be within steps of the Eglin Air Force Base Hospital and Veteran's Clinic. Camp Rudder has contributed some of the proceeds from our events to support the construction of The Fisher House. Now that it's open we will continue to donate to support the operating of the facility. Over the past three years, the Ranger Camp has donated more than \$15,000.00 to The Emerald Coast Fisher House.



MAJ Davis and CSM Elder receive an award from BG(RET) Oder at the Fisher House Grand Opening

**Annual 6th RTB Fall Fest**  
**Where: Camp Rudder**  
**When: October 24th**  
**Time: 5:00pm**  
**Join us for some spookable fun!**  
 (More information to follow from your FRG)

## CONGRATULATIONS DFAC

If you visited the Camp Rudder Dining Facility lately you may have noticed that the trophy case is getting a bit crowded, that is because the Camp Rudder Dining Facility won the Commanding Generals Award for Best Dining Facility on FT Benning. Of course we already knew how great they are but it is nice to see them getting the recognition they deserve. The next time you stop in for some coffee or a giant omelet make sure you congratulate MR B. and the DFAC Staff.

Family Members are always welcome! DFAC Hours: Breakfast 0700-0900 (in cycle 0730-0930 ) Cost \$2.30, Lunch 1130 - 1300 Cost \$4.25, Dinner 1700 - 1800 Cost \$4.25

The Thanksgiving Super supper will be served on 23 November.

Come out and have a great dinner with the Ranger Cadre!



## THE GATOR

CPT Marsh  
SFC Kemp

### Gator Lounge Hours of Operation

**MON: 0800-2100**  
**TUE: 1000-1400 & 1700-2100**  
**WED: 1000-1400 & 1700-2100**  
**THU: 1000-1400 & 1700-2100**  
**FRI: 1000-1400 & 1700-2100**  
**SAT: 1700-2200**  
**SUN: CLOSED**

**BARBER MON & WED 0800-1500**

Football season is here, and there are six televisions tuned to the game with \$1.00 bud light, and free popcorn the Gator is the place to watch you team; we have also expanded our draft and bottled beer selection to include wine coolers for the ladies. We are always happy to host a party we can help with setup and the catering, see CPT Marsh or SFC Kemp to make arrangements.

Christmas is coming up; get your holiday shopping done with Ranger polo shirts, T-shirts, hats, coffee mugs, beer steins, and wine glasses. If you have stopped in recently you know we have Raffles and drawings going on each cycle and there are food and drink specials every day.



## Ranger Camp Shoppette

Tel. (850) 664-5904

Come see the better inventory of items we have in stock. at our shoppette to make life out at Camp Rudder a little more comfortable.

- Now accepting GSA cards inside
- Gas is available 24/7, just pay at the pump
- Need an item not normally stocked? Ask an associate to place a special order
- Check out Snack Ave-

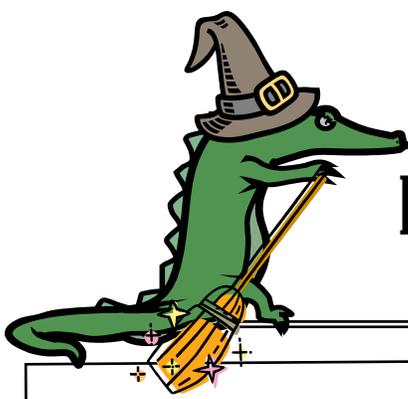
nue! We have coffee, cappuccino, hot cocoa, hot dogs, tornados, nachos and more

\*Sales & Shoppette Specials available everyday!

**The Shoppette Hours are:**  
**MON-FRI 0700-1700**  
**SAT-SUN 0700-1500**  
 (\*The gas pump is always open.)



\*These are normal operating hours and are subject to change. Special hours or closures are posted on the front door at least one week in advance. Call 664-5904 with any questions.



# IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2010

## OCTOBER

03 OCT Church Service  
 05 OCT: Cadre Jump- Rudder DZ  
 06 OCT: Student Jump- Elizabeth DZ  
 07 OCT: Early Release Day\*  
 08 OCT: No School\*  
 10 OCT Church Service  
 11 OCT Columbus Day (Day 10 Class 10-10)  
 15-17 OCT: Mullet Festival-Niceville  
 22 OCT: Training Holiday



24 OCT **Fall Festival-Gator Lounge**

26 OCT Cadre Jump-Rudder DZ  
 27 OCT: Student Jump-Elizabeth DZ  
 31 OCT Church Service

## NOVEMBER

04 NOV: Early Release Day\*  
 11 NOV: School Holiday\*  
 11-14 NOV: Training Holiday (Veterans Day)  
 19 NOV: Training Holiday  
 21 NOV Church Service  
 23 NOV: Cadre Thanksgiving Dinner DFAC-1700  
 24 NOV: Student Jump-Elizabeth DZ,  
 24 NOV: School Holiday - NOV 26\*  
 25 NOV: Thanksgiving  
 28 NOV Church Service

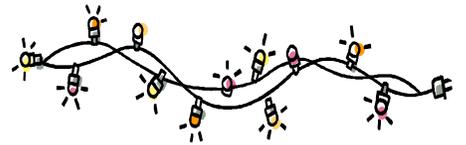


## DECEMBER

11-30 DEC (T): Block Leave  
 17-Jan 3: School Holidays\*

\* In accordance with Okaloosa County School District

**Have a safe and Happy Holidays!!**



US Army 6th Ranger Training Battalion  
 6069 Walker's Lane  
 Eglin AFB, FL 32542

**6TH RTB FALL FEST 2010 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24**