



VOL. 5

THE GATOR BAIT

6TH RTB
QUARTERLY NEWS
April, May, June 2010

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VIP Visit

The Secretary of Defense, Robert Gates, made a brief visit to Camp Rudder on May 15. Secretary Gates was presented with a Ranger walking stick and a real tree Ranger hat as he flew by helicopter out to visit Rangers and Cadre. He was met with a warm welcome from Ranger Students as he handed out Snickers bars to all of them. The Secretary also had lunch at the DFAC with a few of the R.I.s where he learned a lot about some of the specifics of working and living out at Camp Rudder. He then made a quick stop at the Gator lounge to try out his own mug. Although he only spent a few hours at the Camp, Secretary Gates shook the hand and took a photograph with everyone he met.



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** - April (sandersapril06@gmail.com)
- C Co** - Laura (teammyer5@hotmail.com)
- BN** - Jill (cmattcjill@yahoo.com) or Tricia (venus7698@yahoo.com)

Next Jump

When: Aug 10
Where: Rudder DZ
Time: TBD

More dates on the Calendar.

><> CHAPLAIN'S QUARTERLY INSPIRATION <><

You have a new Chaplain!

Hello, my name is Charlie Shields, and I am your new Chaplain. I would take this opportunity to greet you and give you a little background about my experience and family. As you can tell by my salt and pepper hair, I am no spring chicken. I came through Camp Rudder as a lowly ranger student in November 1985 as a 3/75 private. I went on to serve in a LRS company and spent two years as a drill sergeant before exiting the Army in 1992 to attend college and seminary—twice! Along the way, I met and married Patti on June 11, 1987, in Copenhagen, Denmark. The next ten years were filled with work and school for both of us until August 1997 when we were blessed with our first child, Seth. Lydia came along in December 1999.

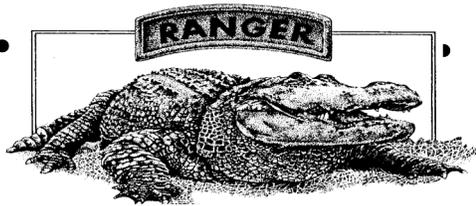
When I left the Army in 1992, I never thought that I would be back in uniform. At that time, I was certain that the Lord had called me to fulltime Christian service as a pastor, so I headed off to get as much theological education as time and money would allow. I completed a Doctor of Ministry in Expository Preaching at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY in DEC 2005. By then, I had been a fulltime pastor for twelve years and was currently serving a wonderful church in Indiana. Being the "type A" airborne ranger that I am, I was at a loss after finishing my D.Min, since I no longer had an "objective" to accomplish. Patti and I discussed a number of options—everything from heading to the foreign mission field to doing a church plant way up north, but nothing seemed to click until June 2008 when I met the current Chief of Chaplains, CH (MG) Carver at the

Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis.

After a brief conversation and a week in prayer, Patti and I realized that the Lord was leading us back into the Army to be a Chaplain. By January 2009, I was in my basic course, and in April we landed at Fort Bragg with a great assignment in USASOC. Although our time there was short, it was profitable. Now that we are here, we are looking forward to serving the Lord by serving you all.

I want you to know that I absolutely love being a Chaplain. I am available to you and your family 24/7. If you ever need me, please don't let the time or the day of the week prevent you from calling me (850-685-0129) or just knocking on my door—2 Overlord. And you will almost always find a fresh pot of coffee in my office, so feel free to stop by anytime for chat.

CH (CPT) Charlie Shields



News from the Bulls

HHC News **CPT Anzagasty & ISG Krcelic** **FRG Leader - Romina Anzagasty**

Families and Friends of HHC-

Traditionally the summer months are synonymous with PCS moves and new arrivals. As many people and families said good bye to Camp Rudder and the 6th RTB, new personnel came in to take their place. Welcome to SPC and Mrs. Turner, SPC and Mrs. Ludwig, SGT and Mrs. Byrd, Chaplain and Mrs. Fields, MAJ and Mrs. Squires, SPC Vissering, SPC Allen, SPC Schmidt, PFC Almendar, SPC Steibugl, SPC Pugh and SPC Dukes. HHC extends our warmest welcome to our new soldiers and families.

Several soldiers within HHC graduated from Army courses or schools despite continuing to perform their duties. Our Boathouse platoon congratulates Sergeants Baker and Lathrop for completing the Master Driver Course and Sergeants Valencia, Gomez and Baker for completing the Army Basic Instructor Course. Our Medical platoon was very busy in the months of May and June as several personnel went on to complete a course or become certified as an instructor. SSG Shaw and SSG

Golston are the newest members to the Airborne community having completed the Basic Airborne Course and SGT Cermak completed the Warrior Leader Course in May. In addition to this, the

Medical platoon also certified SGT Martinez, SPC Wade, SPC McKenzie, SPC Bailey and SPC Baker to be instructors for the Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support course (PHTLS). The PHTLS course is taught to all Ranger Instructors and HHC Support personnel to assist in the event of an emergency during Ranger training. These new instructors will directly contribute to the safety control measures in place that allow us to conduct high risk training. Along with the instructors, the Medical platoon also had SPC Pugh and SPC Dukes complete the PHTLS course. SPC Beplay from the OPFOR platoon completed the SERE course and Sergeants Marler, Hausmann and Holman completed Ranger school and our Pathfinder school graduates include SFC Couch and SSG Fernandez.

As usual, there is always an event on the horizon at Camp Rudder. Our next family oriented event is the "Wives Swamp Walk" to be held on the 31st of July 2010. This year's walk will be similar to those in the past. The day will begin with a welcome brief by the

Battalion Commander along with an infamous snake show in the main class room followed by a rope bridge and hoist demonstration down at the Pine Bluff area on the Yellow River. At Pine Bluff, families will traverse a rope bridge similar to the training Ranger students receive on the 4th day of the cycle. Following the rope bridge, families will conduct a boat movement on the Yellow River in rubber Zodiac boats before a walk through the swamps in the vicinity of Mason's Landing on the river. Following the swamp movement, families will be trucked back to Camp Rudder for a closing ceremony and BBQ at the Gator. The "Wives Swamp Walk" always turns out well and is a welcomed event by many families and friends. HHC will be providing a large amount of support, particularly on the water, so you may see many of your soldiers during the boat movement.

As we close this Gator Bait we want to say a special thank you and good bye to Chaplain Murray and his family for their outstanding support to the soldiers and families of 6th RTB. Although he was in HHC, Chaplain Murray supported the Battalion as a whole and significantly impacted many lives. Take care and be safe.

RANGERS LEAD THE WAY!

A CO News **MAJ Pesature & ISG Laskoski** **FRG Leader - Tobe' Pesature**

ALPHA Company

Greetings to all Alpha Company families and friends. For those of you who I have not met, I am the new Alpha Company Commander, and I am extremely excited about being a part of the Alpha Company family. I have only been here for a short amount of time, but I quickly saw how much your Soldiers do for Ranger Students, the local community, and family and friends, and it is an honor to be here.

Alpha Company was busy over the last three months training two cycles of ranger students, conducting marksmanship training, and supporting community events. The Ranger Open House was a great event for the community and 6th RTB Soldiers, families, and friends. Your Soldiers did an excellent job demonstrating what it is like to be a Ranger, and we are

grateful for the family members that helped support the event. The Battalion Ball was another great time for our Rangers and families, and the perfect way to start a well-deserving block leave. I hope everyone relaxed over leave and spent some good quality time with friends and family.

The heat is now upon us, but we will continue training ranger classes through the summer. We have a nice three week cycle break and there are some fun events for family and friends throughout the summer and early fall, such as the swamp walk and fall fishing trip.

Tobe' and I would like to thank everyone for the warm reception, and we really look forward to meeting everyone and working together with the Alpha Company family.

Hails:

SSG Postel – Incoming from Fort Campbell, KY. We would also like to welcome his wife, Christina, and sons, Zack and Tyler.

SSG Fernandez – Returning back to Alpha Company from HHC. We welcome back his wife, Shannon, and children, Eduardo, Elizabeth, Yudith, and Alejandra.

SFC Greenhalgh – Returning from a deployment to Afghanistan. Welcome back!

Farewells:

SFC Wipperman – SFC Wipperman is moving to Fort Campbell, Kentucky. We wish you and your wife, Annabelle, the best of luck.

SFC Alvarez – SFC Alvarez left Alpha Company to be the Platoon Sergeant for the OPFOR platoon in HHC. He isn't far and will continue to work with the company.

CPT Carr – CPT Carr is moving to Fort Campbell, Kentucky to eventually take command of a company. Good luck!

Recent graduates:

SSG Clark – graduated from Jumpmaster school in May 2010.

SSG Rosenbalm – graduated from SERE school in June 2010.



B CO News
CPT Yee & ISG Applegate
FRG Leader - April Sanders

BRAVO COMPANY

We have had several events take place since the start of summer. First, I would like to thank all of the wives and our FRG leader, April Sanders, that helped support this year's Open House. Due to your hard work, we were able to have a great venue and cost effective Ranger Ball. We also need to recognize SFC Magana and SFC Ayotte for their outstanding performance at this year's Best Ranger Competition in FT Benning.

I hope everyone was able to enjoy the break in June and spend some quality time with family and friends. Hopefully, everyone was able to recharge their batteries and enjoy the sun and beach. As the summer keeps driving on, be sure to check the beach warnings daily as they will open and close on a day to day basis from the oil.

During the month of June we have had a lot of people come and go through the company. I would first like to introduce and welcome CPT Val Moro and his wife Desiree. On 30 July, I will change command over to CPT Moro and PCS to Huntsville, AL to transition into the Acquisition Corps. CPT Moro comes

to us from the 4th BDE, 2ID (SBCT) in FT Lewis, WA where he served as a company commander at 2-23 IN. We also have had three new Ranger Instructors come to the company. I would like to welcome SFC Devine, his wife Tabitha, sons Anthony and Derek and daughter Kylie, SFC Lusk who has moved onto CJR with his wife Daphine and daughter Mattie as well as SSG Dominguez. Since June, we have had SFC Vargas, SFC Stack, SFC Ivory, SFC Colon, SSG DeFranco and SSG Hume and their families all PCS. We wish all of them continued success in their future endeavors. We will conduct our annual Wive's Swamp Walk on 31 July so be sure to leave the date open. Enjoy the summer!



C CO News
CPT Myer & ISG Olsen
FRG Leader - Laura Myer

CHARLIE COMPANY

Charlie Company has completed another great quarter of Ranger Training logged into the history books. Charlie Company continues the great tradition that began in 1951 as the Jungle Training Committee. Thousands of Rangers have passed through the swamps over the years.

This past quarter, 6th RTB has enjoyed many fun events around Camp Rudder and Fort Walton Beach. If you didn't attend, you surely missed out. The Ranger Ball was a wonderful time for the Rangers to get cleaned up and treat their wives/girlfriends to an evening out. As hard as we work, it was nice to see everyone enjoying themselves. If you missed it, remember to come next year.

Camp James Rudder had a pool party get together that included many people from off camp to celebrate the 4th of July. All families

are welcome to use the CJR facilities as they are for all families in the battalion, not just families on CJR. This includes the Gator, gym, Prisoner's Pond, and the pool.

As always, the company has some change-over every few months. This month we welcome in SFC Weaver and SSG Vasquez and their families. A big loss to the Charlie Team was SFC Cunningham moving on to Ft. Hood, SFC Armendariz to Korea, SFC Clancy to Ft. Bragg (AIRBORNE!!!!), and SSG Grochowiak to Ft. Carson.

THE SNAKE HOUSE

The renovations to the Reptile Facility are coming along nicely. If you haven't been inside recently, you should stop in and say hello to our pets and check out their new habitats.

If you have looked in the Alligator pen, you may have noticed "stumpy" (female alligator) has been acting a bit



more moody than her usual self. We believe she may be preparing for eggs so keep your fingers crossed.

The snake team took a certification trip around southern Florida to increase proficiency in reptile handling and care. SSG Heath Henley was almost knocked out when a Cuban Crocodile thrashed and head-butted his jaw. "Respect" was the lesson-learned when dealing with dangerous reptiles. The trip was a huge success in training our team to continue teaching Rangers and the Florida community about reptiles.



Ranger Training Battalion and our Community

Written by: CPT Marsh

BEST RANGER

The 27th Annual David E. Grange JR Best Ranger Competition was conducted 7-9 May at FT Benning GA. This grueling three-day competition challenges the two-man Ranger teams in events that will test their physical conditioning, Ranger skills and team strategies. The events are scheduled back-to-back and around the clock with no scheduled periods of sleep from the start of the



Florida teams and coach -- 2010 Best

competition to the finish line.

The Best Ranger Competition was established in 1982 and has been compared to Ironman and Eco-Challenge competitions. Best Ranger competitors (Buddy Teams) are faced with events

such as rock wall climbing, rappelling, weapons firing, rope bridges, extended road marches, land navigation courses, Rangers skills and parachute jumps. All events are timed and competitors score points for each completed event. Both team members must complete each task. It is esti-



The Competitors meeting General Grange after the Darby Queen.

ated that each competitor will cover upwards of 60 miles on foot over the course of the weekend. Of the 45 teams that started the competition, only 25 finished the entire competition which ends with a 9-mile canoe event followed by a four-mile buddy run to the finish line at Fort Benning's Freedom Hall.

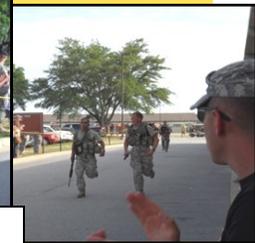
Representing the 6th RTB and Camp Rudder were two teams consisting of SSG West & SFC Magana, and SFC Ayotte & SSG Skaggs with MSG Pena as their coach. These Rangers made it and completed every step of the competition demonstrating the true meaning of mental toughness and intestinal fortitude. SFC Magana and SSG West completed in 13th place, while SFC Ayotte and SSG Skaggs took 15th place. Well done!!



The Combatives event will go down in Ranger lore with SSG West beating the 6'5" OPFOR with his



Both teams crossing the finish line.



6th Ranger Training Battalion Open House

The Battalion Open House was held on May 22nd. In spite of the heat and the long drive, approximately 2000 visitors came out to Camp Rudder. Some of the favorite events were the snake show, weapons, combative demonstration, and the downed pilot rescue. The Open House was featured on channel 3 news and the local print media. This year's event raised over \$4,500.00 for the Emerald Coast Fisher House on Eglin which will open this year.





Ranger Ball



With the busy schedule and long days out at Camp Rudder, it is good to get dressed up, go out on the town and have some fun. We were able to do that on Friday, June 4th at the Ranger Ball held this year at the Emerald Coast Conference Center. Over 350 guests attended this year's event including our guest speaker COL Flohr, Retirees, VIP's, Rangers, families, and friends of Camp Rudder.

I would like to thank everyone who attended and who helped out in making this year's event such a great success and a lot of fun. If you weren't able to attend, you missed a great time but don't worry, we are already making plans for next year.

The DFAC hours are:

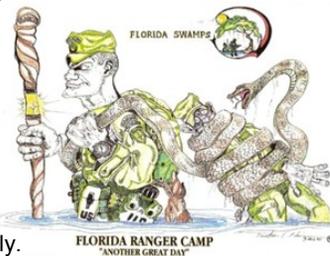
Breakfast: 0700-0900
(0730-0930 in cycle) Cost: \$2.30
Lunch: 1130-1300 Cost: \$4.25
Dinner: 1700-1800 Cost: \$4.25

Family members are always welcome to eat in the DFAC anytime.

Mr. B has been preparing the DFAC for the Connelly inspection which takes place 13-15 July. He will be putting our DFAC up against the other DFACs in the Army so wish him Luck.

THE GATOR

CPT Marsh
 SSG Schultz



You may have noticed a few new faces at the Gator Lounge recently. After six years of service SSG Schultz will be leaving the Army and the Gator at the end of August we wish him well. SFC Kemp, formerly of B CO has stepped up and is now the new Gator Manager. We also have the help of SGT Byrd who recently arrived on camp and will be working in the Gator. We have been trying to improve the Gator by putting up some new photos and memorabilia.

The Gator is your community center and we would be glad to facilitate any event you would like to have and we can be open at special hours. Please come in and see CPT Marsh or SFC Kemp to coordinate details. We should also be getting a new shipment of merchandise soon (T-shirts, Hats, Mugs etc.).

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

Ranger Camp Shoppette

Tel. (850) 664-5904

Our shoppette manager Ms. Courtney is taking over operations at the East Gate shoppette. She is being replaced by Trena Keller. Trena is a resident of Crestview and has already learned the back way to Camp. We are in the process of working with AAFES to get a better inventory of items 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

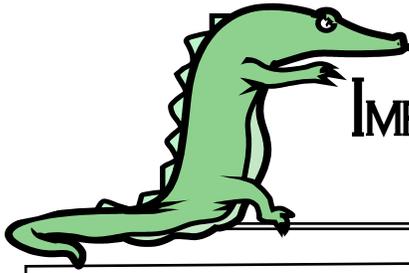
- Check out Snack Avenue! We have coffee, cappuccino, hot cocoa, hot dogs, tornados, nachos and more

*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

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY 2010

JULY

16-18 JUL: Training Holiday
19 JUL: FRG Hurricane Brief
21-22 JUL: Cadre Jump
22 JUL: Hail and Farewell
23-26 JUL: Training Holiday
31 JUL: Swamp Walk

AUGUST

02 AUG: Training Holiday
05 AUG : Back to School*
06 AUG: Training Holiday
09 AUG: LTC (RET) Grossman Visit
10 AUG: Cadre Jump on Rudder DZ
11 AUG: Ranger Jump on Elizabeth
27-29 AUG: Training Holiday

SEPTEMBER

02 SEP: Crane Lake TEWT / Early Release day(Elementary & Middle)*
03 SEP: Training Holiday
06 SEP: Labor Day / School Holiday*
08 SEP: Ranger Jump on Elizabeth
09 SEP: Cadre Jump on Rudder DZ
24-27 SEP: Training Holiday
25 SEP: Fall Fishing Trip

OCTOBER

01 OCT: Training Holiday
06 OCT: Ranger Jump, Elizabeth DZ
07 OCT: Early Release Day*
08 OCT: No School*
15-17 OCT: Mullet Fest
22 OCT: Training Holiday
27 OCT: Training Holiday

NOVEMBER

04 NOV: Early Release Day*
11 NOV: School Holiday*
11-14 NOV: Training Holiday
19 NOV: Training Holiday
23 NOV: Cadre Thanksgiving Dinner
24 NOV: Ranger Jump on Elizabeth DZ / School Holiday through Nov 26*
25 NOV: Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

11-29 DEC (T): Block Leave
17-Jan 3: School Holidays*

* In accordance with Okaloosa County School District

For more events in our area visit <http://www.destin-fwb.com/Activities/Events/>



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

Swamp Walk July 31!!