



HHC, 312th MI

# Headhunter Newsletter

March 3, 2004



## A Note from the Commander

John Stuart Mill, a 19th Century Philosopher once stated, "War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things: the decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks that nothing is worth war is much worse...A man who has nothing for which he is willing to fight, nothing he cares about more than his own personal safety: is a miserable creature who has no chance of being free, unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself."

All of us are nervous as we leave our family and friends and the comforts of home; but each of you... soldier, spouse, or family should be proud of the service you give your nation and your fellow man. Whether you are building a strong democracy in Iraq, volunteering to help with FRG activities, or sending care packages as a worried mother or father...each of you is making a difference.

For those of you that haven't done so already, ask yourself, "How can I help someone else get through this next twelve months?" Just a few volunteer hours now and again can make a HUGE difference to someone out there that needs help. Thanks to you all that have already pitched in to help, words alone cannot express our gratitude! God Bless.

-Dan Bishop "HEADHUNTER 6"

## Kristen's Corner

Our Battalion web site is up, for families to gain information on their soldier & his/her unit. [www.hood.army.mil/1cd\\_312thmibn](http://www.hood.army.mil/1cd_312thmibn). We will be posting pictures of the soldiers and would like to post pictures of families as well. If you want to post pictures, please email them to me, or give them to me on disk at the FRG meetings.

I received a great bit of advice from one of our spouses that has been through many separations. She suggests taking up a new

hobby or starting college classes. Staying busy and developing your self is a great way to make the time go a little quicker. She also suggests staying away from soap opera TV and romance novels. These will only make up miss our soldiers more.

Family members, I am having a very difficult time getting through on email to some of you that have yahoo and hotmail accounts. With over 250 families to keep updated, it is extremely difficult to continually get email back because accounts are full. If you are a spouse, I recommend you set up AKO account to keep this from happening. For other family members I recommend setting up a separate email account just for FRG use. If you decide to move, change email addresses, or need the latest news sent again because your email was full, please shoot me an email so I can keep up with you: [Kristen.Bishop@us.army.mil](mailto:Kristen.Bishop@us.army.mil).

Seeing our soldiers off was an emotional experience to say the least. I would like to sincerely thank each of the soldier's parents that made the long trip here to Fort Hood. I know that although you felt weak and helpless sending them off, your caring showed through and your children were able to leave here strong in your love.

Spouses, while our soldiers are gone, it is up to each of us to get each other through trying times and hard days. Although turnout at our meetings has been wonderful, I am hoping that now that our soldiers are gone, more of you will volunteer to help us run needed programs. IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOUR SPOUSE'S RANK IS! I would really like to find volunteers for the following areas.

Meals on Wheels coordinator. All this will consist of is calling a one or two volunteers to set up one or two nights of meals for families when illness or injury strikes. I have many volunteers to make meals, but I really need a coordinator.

Care teams. May God keep our soldiers safe and make these unnecessary over the next year. Unfortunately, because of the career that our soldiers have chosen, there is risk involved on a daily basis. I would like to put together teams to assist spouses after they get bad news of any kind. These will consist of people who will provide comfort, watch children, make phone calls to other family members, etc. Ideally, I would like one of these per platoon.

Night out coordinator: I would like to set up events for spouses only. We could go see a movie once/month. We could do breakfast/coffee get-togethers for those who do not work. We could have dinners out. There are many possibilities. If you cannot take on this responsibility monthly, we could easily rotate this job among a few different people.

Photographers. Is there anyone with a digital camera? Whenever we have events, it would be great to have someone there to take pictures to post on the website for the soldiers to see.

Welcome wagon coordinator. Schedule our volunteers to call/visit a new spouse and try to help with transitioning to a new place.

I know it sounds like I am looking for people to do a lot. Please understand that this FRG cannot be a success without you. We have a large group (over 120 spouses) and I think we should capitalize on it and try to do as much as possible. It will be my pleasure to continue to do the newsletter, keep up to date on how to reach all of you, schedule family events once per quarter, run the FRG meetings, send out information whenever I receive it when it concerns one of our soldiers, and head-up fundraising events. I thank you for your support in helping to make this FRG a good one.

-Kristen Bishop  
FRG Leader

**Congratulations are in order!**

Please welcome the Companies newest additions. Karen McClendon (Motor pool platoon) had a baby boy on March 1st. He weighed 6lb, 11 oz. They have named him Devon Trammell McClendon. LaToya Willis (UAV platoon) had also had baby boy on March 1st. He weighed 7 lb, 14 oz. They have named him Markell Joseph Willis. Congratulations moms and dads!

**Treasury and Fundraising**

We will be conducting a second go-round of t-shirt orders. If you would like to order a t-shirt or would like more info, please email or call Kristen Bishop ([Kristen.Bishop@us.army.mil](mailto:Kristen.Bishop@us.army.mil) or 254-542-4794). I will be submitting the order May 1st, so please let me know before then. I will order a few extra, but if you order ahead of time you are guaranteed to get the size and color you want. They come in white, gray or black. All adult sizes are available. Kids t-shirts come in 4, 5/6, 7/8, 10/12. Cost in \$10 each, plus shipping if necessary.



**Community and Unit Calendar**

**Mar 6:** Rear Detachment will be moving. If you need to reach them, please call 254-287-7670, 2146, 5821.

**Mar 15-19:** Phantom Warrior Lanes - \$1 per game, free shoes from 8 am to 5 pm Skating Center - \$2.50 per person from 1 pm – 4 pm.

**Mar 25:** 1830 FRG meeting at Soldier and Family Readiness Center

**Apr 3:** Battalion is planning an Easter party/egg hunt at the Cav museum. (Can you just imagine all the awesome hiding spots?!) We could use donations of plastic eggs & candy to go in the eggs for the hunt. People can bring in donations to the FRG meeting on the 25th.)

**April 7:** First Wednesday of the month from 5-8pm at the Officer's Club. **All you can eat spaghetti. Adults \$5.00 and children \$3.00 (12 and under)** This would be a great time for us to get together just to talk and be together. My "dismount" (as Dan calls our son) & I'll be there and we'll set aside a large table if you would like to join us.

**Apr 15:** 1830 FRG Meeting at Soldier and Family Readiness Center

**April 24:** The FRG will be having a day out at the Family Fun Center on FM 440, for all interested FRG members and their families. **FRG funds will pay costs of one mini-golf game each and some quarters for air hockey or video games.** (This is an indoor facility, so rain or shine!)

**IRAQ MAIL:**

Rank, Last Name, First Name  
HHC, 312th MI  
APO AE 09379

Rank, Last Name, First Name  
B Co, TUAV Platoon  
APO AE 09313

Mail transit time is 10-20 days. These addresses will not be set up to receive mail until 25March. **Do not** send anything prior to 15March. The soldiers may not arrive at these addresses until middle or late April. Please do not send perishable items at first. If you are unsure which of the above addresses to use, please do not hesitate to call or email me.

**PIONEER SERVICES**

(This FRG does not endorse this Company) Pioneer Services would like to invite you to come into our office and utilize our FREE video e-mail service. This service

lets you send a personalized video e-mail message to your friends and family no matter where they are, and at no cost to you. Your video message will have a small file size that will make it easy to view from any location, no matter their computer type or connection speed. You can also sign up for a FREE MilitaryEmail account that provides you with anytime, anywhere access. This web-based e-mail is exclusively for military personnel and has been designed with the active-duty military service member in mind. Our offices will also ship 2 packages per service member for you free of charge each month. If you would like any additional information about these services, or about any of the other services provided by your Pioneer Services Representatives, call us at 254-634-9858 or visit us at 202 E Veterans Memorial Boulevard (Business 190) in Killeen, Texas. You can also log on to ASKPIONEER.COM. Ask for Rich or Claire. Thank you for your service and dedication to our country.

Sincerely, Your Pioneer Services Representatives

**US POST OFFICE**

The postal service will supply everything you need to send packages to your soldier. This includes pre-addressed shipping labels, customs slips, a 600 ft. roll of tape, and boxes. All you have to do is call the 1-800 number below with the address of your soldier and they will hook you up! Your supplies will be sent to you via mail. They will also replenish your supply as needed. This means you can go to the post office totally prepared.

**CALL 1-800-6108734**

**PHANTOM DISTRO INFORMATION**

Registration begins 15March for **Central Texas College**. Please go to the Education center on post if you would like info about starting classes.

**Abrams Pool** is now open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., closed on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

<b>11 a.m. to 1 p.m.</b>	<b>Lap Swim</b>
<b>1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Open Swim</b>
<b>2 p.m. to 3 p.m.</b>	<b>Open Swim</b>
<b>and Water Aerobics</b>	

**5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Lap Swim, Recreational Swim and Dolphins Swim Team.** For more info, call 287-1436.

Water Aerobics sessions are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Each session is only \$3 or purchase ten sessions in advance for only \$25. For more information, call 285-5942/287-5623.

**Apache Arts & Crafts** offers free classes as part of our supporting the spouses program. We have classes for sewing, ceramics, stained glass, framing, etc. To sign up for classes, or for more info, call the Apache store at 287-0343. Store hours are Tues. - Sat. from 11am-10pm.

#### **March Financial Readiness Classes**

The Financial Readiness Branch, a part of Army Community Service, continuously strives to offer classes that improve the financial situation of Soldiers and their families. The following classes are offered each month, and are full of information that is extremely useful for everyday situations - everything from applying for a credit card to purchasing a new home. Take advantage of these **FREE** classes - you and your family can't *afford* to miss them!

Deployment Budgets - March 15 from 6 to 8 p.m., March 12 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Personal Financial Management Training - each Mon. and Wed., 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Banking and Checking - each Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Budgets and Debt Management - each Tuesday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Financial Fitness Part 1 and 2 - Dates to be determined. Please contact 287-8979 for dates and locations.

Pre-Purchase Advice - This service is

always available through the Consumer Affairs Office. Call 287-CITY for information.

**Call 287-8979 for class descriptions, locations and registration.**

**The Fort Hood Tax Center** will be open from 20 Jan – 26 May. Hours of operation are Tues-Sat from 10-6pm. The FHTC will be closed federal holidays, and training holidays. The FHTC provides assistance on a walk-in basis. The FHTC is co-located with the Clear Creek Commissary, building 50001, on Clear Creek Road. These services are free to all active duty military, family members, and retirees.

**Palmer Theater** On Sunday March 14th, there will be two free movie screenings at 3 and 7pm at Palmer Theater for the movie: "TAKING LIVES", Starring: Angelina Jolie, Ethan Hawke, Kiefer Sutherland, Olivier Martinez and Gena Rowland. Tickets can be picked up at the managers office at the Clear Creek PX and Warrior PX on Tuesday March 9th at 8am. Limited to 4 tickets per customers.

#### **Army Knowledge Online**

[https://www.us.army.mil/portal/portal\\_home.jhtml](https://www.us.army.mil/portal/portal_home.jhtml)

Spouses should sign up for email here.

There is no limit to the amount of mail you can store on this server.

#### **Army Family Team Building Class**

##### **Schedule:**

Upcoming Classes:

3-4 Mar, Level 1, 0845-1400

22-25 Mar, Level 3, 0845-1400

23 Mar, Teen Workshop, 1800-1930

#### **HEALTH CONSUMER COUNCIL**

If you are leaving the Fort Hood area for more than 30 days, you **MUST** transfer your TRICARE enrollment to the new region if there is TRICARE Prime available in that region. In addition to transferring enrollment, you **MUST** call the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System Support Office, (800) 538-9552, to change your enrollment. If DEERS does not have your correct address, the **TRICARE contractor could deny healthcare or prescription medication** claim costs. Regions require two weeks for coverage to be effective after the new enrollment. During that time, you are still covered by Region 6 but will need to call your **toll free number (1-800-406-2832) to receive an authorization for care.** If you move to a location where no TRICARE Prime is available you need to dis-enroll and provide TRICARE with your new address. You are then covered by TRICARE Standard, which will include a deductible and co-payment fees when receiving healthcare at a facility other than a Military Treatment Facility.

For more information, visit the TRICARE Service Center, building 36023, across from Darnall's parking lot. Hours are 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Or visit the web site.

#### **NEWSLETTER**

Have something to add to the newsletter?

Please contact me by April 1st.

**POC:** Kristen Bishop, 254-542-4794

Email: [kristen.bishop@us.army.mil](mailto:kristen.bishop@us.army.mil)