935th Aviation Support Battalion



Battalion Commander LTC Roger R. Bodenschatz

Battalion Sergeant Major CSM Javier R. Acosta

Battalion Executive Officer MAJ Craig C. Schnaufer

HSC Commander CPT Casey B. Steiner HSC First Sergeant ISG Joseph C. Dorsey

Alpha Company Commander ILT Matthew M. Holmes Alpha Company First Sergeant ISG Gregory L. Lowe

Bravo Company Commander MAJ Keith A. Noppenberger Bravo Company First Sergeant ISG Brian L Boyer

Charlie Company Commander 2LT Edward A. Maidment **Charlie Company First Sergeant** ISG Charles D. Holt

Battalion Chaplain CPT Clifford T. Brown

S-I CPT River Tene SFC Heather S. Olson S-2 ILT Joseph J. Henry S-3 ILT Christa J. Nieland MSG Lawrence R. Welty S-4 CPT Suzanne P. Rodriguez ILT Zachary Kral S-6 CPT John W. Zarbock SFC Randall L. Fear

CSSAMO

CW2 James H. Hosford SFC Wayne E. Harrell SPO CPT Norma-Gene Cottrell SGM Robert H. Maze UMO ILT Christopher C. Johnson

UPΔR

ILT Brittany A Adair workhorseupar@gmail.com CW3 Daniel W. Lieber SPC Jesse Merritt



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31 December 2012

Chief Phillip Fels from HSC 935th recently retired and would like to send the following message to all our Soldiers:

"Just want to say a BIG THANK YOU for our retirement gifts. The Bird Dog Picture is hanging over my chair in the living room and I'm very proud of it. I am missing the people and routine and it's not even been a month yet. I've had a couple dreams lately and some of you have been in them. Just can't quit. HAHA. Aunt B says DITTO to the above!"

From Becky Fels (aka Aunt B) and Chief

Family and Friends of 935th ASB Soldiers Unit FRG's HSC, A, B and C Companies

Operation Sunscreen for MONG (Karen Irwin)

Operation Support Our Troops

Operation Troop Appreciation

Mrs. Jeri Anne Rackers Christ-

Christ Church of Oak Brook

Girl Scout Troop 1024 Chicago

Sinnissippi Quilters Rockford, IL

American Legion Auxiliary T.H.B. Unit

Fox Valley Troop Support

Tampa Bay Troop Support

Crown Point High School

Belair Elementary School

The Popcorn Factory

Cub Scout Pack 36

Cub Scout Pack 38

The Desert Angel

Stonie's Sausage

Operation Gratitude

Operation Shoebox

Mrs. Paasch school class

Operation Santa

Soldiers Angel

mas Card group

USO Illinois

Lubetek

All Soldiers in the 935th would like to extend a HUGE thank you to the following organizations for all their care, support and packages during this holiday season and beyond:















If there is something you would like to see in the 935th Newsletter, please send an email to ILT Brittany Adair at workhorseupar@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook: 935th Aviation Support Battalion http://www.facebook.com/935thAviationSupportBattalion



935th Aviation Support Battalion

LTC Roger R Bodenschatz

r<u>oger.r.bodenschatz@kuwait.swa.army.mil</u>

Hello WORKHORSE Family and Friends! I pray that everyone had a HAPPY and SAFE Holiday Season and that your New Year has started off relaxed and ready to tackle the next 4.5 months. We conducted a little Holiday celebration on 16 December to bring together Thanksgiving and Christmas. It was a big success and some pictures were posted to the 935th Facebook page and I got to be the brunt of many jokes....ha ha! Since we had our celebration in mid-December, it allowed the Soldiers to connect to Family and Friends on Christmas Eve or Christmas day. Camp Buehring and 35th CAB were conducting events to keep Soldiers involved so no one was alone unless they chose to be alone. This was a first time away during Christmas and New Year for many Soldiers, including myself, to be away from family and friends and we all made the best of it.



A big news item for the 935th was a visit from the Governor of Missouri, Governor Jay Nixon. The Governor came to Camp Buehring and visited with 935th ASB and 35th CAB Soldiers. The Governor took the time to talk to the Soldiers, receive a short briefing from each Company

Governor took the time to talk to the Soldiers, receive a short briefing from each Company Commander and take a few pictures. We showed him the 935th area of operations on Camp Buehring so that he could see the Soldiers work and living areas. He was briefed on our operations at Arifjan but was unable to visit the Soldiers working there. It was a quick visit for the Governor but none the less it was great to talk about all the great things the Governor is doing in Missouri for the Soldiers and Citizens.

We had some more graduates from WLC in December. Congratulations to SPC Joseph Barnes, SPC Jesse Miller, SPC Danielle Fitzgerald, SPC Gary Knerr, and SPC Jacob Ogden. Outstanding Job!

I want to take the time to thank all the families, friends and organizations that have sent letters, cards and care packages to the Soldiers of the 935th ASB. All these people and organizations put in much of their free time and a lot of effort putting many care packages together to send to Kuwait and put smiles on the faces of each and every Soldier. I cannot say THANK YOU enough!!

January is going to be a busy month for the 935th with supporting missions and completing individual and crew served weapons qualifications. All these missions and training are great because it is important for the Soldiers and will make January go by quickly.

Don't forget we are on Facebook at 935th Aviation Support Battalion to see all the awards, promotions and re-enlistments in the WORKHORSE Battalion.

The 935th has survived the Holidays, but please understand we deeply missed all our Family and Friends. With the Holidays behind us it is time to get back to work, finish up the next 4.5 months, hand this operation over to the 449th ASB and get home safely in time for Mothers Day! So until next month's newsletter, I say goodbye from the BEST UNIT IN THE ARMY and wish you all the best in 2013!

LTC ROGER BODENSCHATZ

WORKHORSE!



CSM Javier R. Acosta

Soldiers and Families of the 935th, the month of December is over and we are still riding the high that is the holidays. Throughout December we received numerous boxes and letters of thanks and, of course, every one of them meant something special to us. The Colonel and I were amazed at the outpouring of patriotism and care for our Soldiers, it was sincerely well received. The holidays are a mixed bag of emotional highs and lows but your Soldiers weathered through it with grace and professionalism. True warrior professionals that have performed to the level the Nation demands.

It's been a little hectic with the comings and goings of our Soldiers, their mail, last minute missions and all. We've had multiple visits by Distinguished Visitors who came to thank the Soldiers on the Nations behalf. The sincerity of their words was truly nice to hear. Many Soldiers spoke of how they appreciated a common message of gratitude and love from the families and the people back in our States. The Soldiers need to hear their sacrifices are important, and the sacrifices of the families are also no less important. That is what makes it so appealing to be a military member with wonderful support from families and our communities.

Missions will pick up almost immediately as the holidays end. The Soldiers have attained a well-rounded expertise that enables them to command success no matter the mission. They take charge absent orders and they rise to the occasion every time. We are constantly planting seeds amongst the Soldiers to remain vigilant: we are almost there, to remain strong: we are almost there, to stay safe: we are almost there. That goes for all our families, stay true to us: again we are almost there. The New Year will bring on new challenges and together the 935th will overcome them. I hope your New Year will bring much needed happiness and peace of mind.

CSM Acosta Workhorse 07

ARCENT Spartan Shield Hero of the Week: SSG Donald Johnson

NAME: SSG Donald W. Johnson
UNIT Co C, 935th Aviation Support Battalion
MOS: 92Y30 Supply SGT
HOME OF RECORD: Concordia, MO
FAMILY: Wife Melissa, Son Matthew, Daughters Kara, Lydia

SSG Johnson's performance has been vital to the success for the 935th Aviation Support Battalion. SSG Johnson has performed Supply Sergeant duties for two separate companies of the battalion since arrival to Kuwait, establishing all supply accounts for both units and managing property accountability. In October, SSG Johnson stepped up and assumed the duties of the Battalion Supply

Sergeant, a duty that he will retain throughout deployment. He has been spot on with his property accountability procedures and management of the property books for the Battalion and takes every opportunity to train and mentor junior Supply Specialists on logistics best practices and procedures. He is recognized by both the Brigade S-4 and also the Brigade Property Book Officer as the best Supply Sergeant in the Brigade. For these achievements he is nominated as the Spartan Shield Hero of the Week.

35th CAB Task Force Santa Fe Hero of the Week: SGT Ricki Jenkins

NAME: Ricki J. Jenkins UNIT: B CO "Blacksmith" 935th Aviation Support Battalion MOS: 91B, Light Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic HOME OF RECORD: Pekin, II FAMILY: Son's: Jake, Brody, Cody, Austin

SGT Ricki J. Jenkins has spent 140 hours moving over 90 T-walls in 10 bunkers in the Battalion living areas. His efforts for force protection included replacing the barriers and bunkers to make them mission capable and removing the trash from the bunker areas. His expertise was invaluable. SGT Jenkins coordinated the resources and equipment necessary for the assembly of an improved volley-ball court and horse shoe pits in the BA7 living area. He has spent approximately 30 hours filling over

200 sand bags putting these together. The volleyball court and horse shoe pits have taken over 12 tons of sand to complete. SGT Jenkins has supported, serviced, and cleaned all of B Co's 18 tactical vehicles and trailers. He has cross-trained soldiers from other MOS's to help with making B Co's equipment mission capable and serviceable. SGT Jenkins' "Mission First, Soldier's Always" attitude has been an example for NCO's and Soldiers to emulate. He is the consummate professional that brings great credit to the 935th ASB and the 35th Combat Aviation Brigade.







MAJ Craig Schnaufer

Merry Christmas to all friends and family of the 935th ASB !!!

I realize by the time you read this, it may already be past the New Year celebration, but I have to wish everyone a Merry Christmas anyway. I also realize that, more than ever in our country's history, it may be viewed as inappropriate or politically incorrect to use the phrase "Merry Christmas" for whatever flawed logic may cause people to see it as such... Here is why I say that. In the America that I grew up in, wishing others a "Merry Christmas" was a heartfelt expression of the highest order. It's wishing that others would at least for this one time of the year have some joy in their hearts and that their burdens would be lightened. Those of us who know the reason for



the season, know that there is something way beyond our temporary light afflictions on this Earth that gives us a glimpse of "peace on Earth" like nothing else can.

Now, there are those who would have us feel guilty because of something as innocent and good as Christmas, that we should stop our traditions in the name of consideration of others. How ridiculous...I do not celebrate Halloween, but I am not offended by those who choose to do so and may wish me a "Happy Halloween". I am not Jewish but would never get offended by someone of the Jewish faith saying "Happy Hanukah" to me. The fact is that Christmas is a holiday with a definite foundation of faith as its origin, and therefore I will not have that taken away from me as one of my freedoms as an American. Merry "x-mas" is an anathema to me, and Happy Holidays is just not going to cut it for me. So, while I am free to not celebrate the holiday of Halloween without fear of persecution for my lack of faith or holiday spirit, you too are free to not share my faith and holiday spirit as I wish you a Merry Christmas.

It is with a sincere heart that I wish all of you a Merry Christmas! The invitation is a standing one to all who share my faith to continue to feel free to wish all others a Merry Christmas as well. For all of those who do not share my faith, you are free also to continue not to share it and to not use the term "Merry Christmas". Isn't that great? That freedom is why we serve, to preserve these freedoms of the greatest nation that God has ever put on the face of the Earth.

There is nothing inherently offensive about the message "Merry Christmas", and there is nothing offensive meant. There have been untold thousands serving far from home and family on many holidays over the years, to ensure your right to wish others a "Merry Christmas!" Sincerely,

MAJ Craig Schnaufer

Chaplain Clifford Brown

Can you believe it? 2012 is over and the New Year is upon us. Christmas was a time of celebration and family connectedness, even with the great distance separating Soldiers from their families. Your gifts and support during this time of year was important and you did not disappoint, you were amazing. Like many of the Soldiers here, I was able to Facetime with my family as they opened gifts, and although being home for those moments would have been great, being connected through the magic of technology was a blessing that Soldiers in years past would not have been able to participate in. I am very thankful for that opportunity.

This New Year brings with it so many exciting possibilities. For one, most of you will be reunited with your Soldiers this year (that should generate a smile, it did for me). Another is the second chance offered. New Years is a time that signifies renewal and hope. Many people make resolutions, trying to improve in areas that have been challenging for them or trying to do things that they have put off, like learning an instrument or going on a trip somewhere. This time of year is often a time of reflection. Where are we, where have we been and where do we want to be? What a natural time to do something different, something valuable that makes a positive difference for you and yours. Work towards accomplishing one of those goals.

There are those moments in life that define who we are, moments that challenge us with difficult decisions which either result in an increase in character or an offense against character. SPC Davis has a statement he says whenever he leaves a room, "Make good choices." Whether you are a Soldier here in paradise or a loved one back home, make good choices that show an increase in character. It will prove to be fruitful as life progresses. We love you all and look forward to the day we are reunited.



Stay strong and stay close, Chaplain Clifford Brown

Headquarters and Support Company

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CPT Casey B. Steiner



1SG Joseph C. Dorsey



Greetings to our Friends, Families, and fellow Mustangs,

Happy New Year! We are very glad 2012 is behind us because it means we are that much closer to being home with all of you. We had a good Holiday season, with plenty of opportunity for our Soldiers to observe the season and enough down time to relax a bit. The Dining Facility did a great job for Christmas Day's meal. Everyone got stuffed on roast turkey, smoked turkey, ham, shrimp, roast beef, plenty of sides, and way more deserts than our waist lines needed.

This month we issued Physical Fitness Excellence patches to LTC Bodenschatz, CSM Acosta, CPT Rodriguez, CPT Tene, ILT Kral, ILT Adair, SGT Reed, SPC Johnson, SFC Harrel, SGT Boutelle, SSG Cross, and yours truly. These are Soldiers who achieved over 270 points on the record PT test. ILT Kral, ILT Adair, SGT Reed, and SPC Johnson also received Army Achievement Medals for going beyond what the Army considers a perfect score of 300 on the record PT test. SPC Nkosi was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for her excellent performance within the SI shop. SPC Hamm was awarded an Army Achievement Medal for being honor graduate in his recent Army Combatives Course, AND he got the honor of leading HSC in the NCO Creed as our newest Sergeant! Great job to all these Mustang Soldiers!

Thank you for your continued thoughts, prayers, packages, and support. Next year we'll be there to celebrate the season with you!!



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Alpha Company

1LT Matthew M. Holmes

A-Team!

1SG Gregory L. Lowe





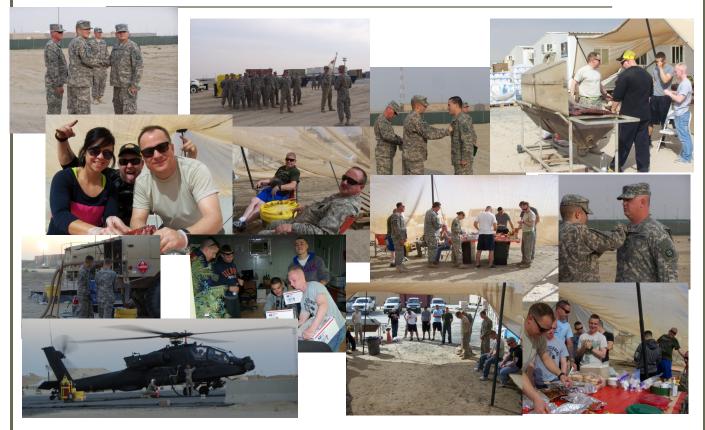


Everybody at A CO wants to wish all of our families and friends a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! The amount of mail and gifts sent our way is overwhelming. We can't express just how heart-warming the outpouring of love has been. We have seen tons of care packages filled with a plethora of food, candy, and reminders of home.

December can be a rough month for deployed Soldiers and their families. For this reason, both the 935th ASB and A CO took time out of our schedules to celebrate the holidays. On the 16th of December the Battalion held a "Mayan End of the World Party" to celebrate as a unit both Thanksgiving and Christmas. There were several events that soldiers participated in, including a volley-ball tournament, Officer vs Enlisted dodgeball, Ugly Hat/Scarf contest, and a ISG/Commander egg toss. Special food was prepared by HSC, including camel and chicken hearts!

A Co held its own Christmas party on Christmas Eve at the refuel point, and the weather couldn't have been more ideal. Several racks of ribs along with bratwurst were expertly grilled by SFC Clifford and SGT Kris Smith, as well as a unique dessert made from the many chocolate candies we've gotten in care packages. Some soldiers took part in a game of washers, with some going 10 rounds undefeated.

With the New Year approaching we are definitely on the downhill side of this deployment. We are definitely looking forward to our return home, but remain focused on the missions at hand. We can't thank you all enough for the huge amounts of support!



Bravo Company

MAJ Keith A. Noppenberger





1SG Brian L. Boyer



I would like to thank everyone for their service to our nation over the holidays. Everyone continues to do an outstanding job. The next four months will be very busy and the time will fly by. Our leadership is actively engaged to ensure we continue to achieve our goals in the safest manner possible. We are preventing complacency by remaining focused on our mission. It will not be long until we are re-united again.

From all of us, to all of you, Hope you had a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year.

MAJ Keith A. Noppenberger

Bravo has been busy this month with 16 re-enlistments, 4 promotions, 7 AAM presentations, 4 Soldiers earned the APFT badge for scoring over 270, 2 Soldiers earned a coin of excellence from the BDE CSM, 2 Soldiers earned a coin of excellence from ISG Lowe of Alpha Company and the AMCOM Commander, MG Collyar, visited Bravo at the Udairi Army Airfield. To see more pictures of all these presentations and the Bravo Company unit Christmas Party, please read the wonderful newsletter that CW3 Dan Lieber has put together!



Charlie Company

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1SG Charles D. Holt



2LT Edward A. Maidment



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all our families and friends! Whatever holiday you celebrate, I hope it was full of cheer and may the next one be brighter with your Soldier at home. In addition to what our loved ones have been sending us we have received a significant number of packages from a number of organizations. The Soldier's Angels, Operation Support Our Troops, Operation Shoebox, Operation Troop Appreciation, and Operation Gratitude are all organizations whose packages I have in front of me right now. There have been many more. We should not have to buy toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, and a number of other items as long as we are here. And with the amount of candy that has come along with them, free toothpaste is a very good thing!

This month SPC Ruther completed the Security + course, and SPC Croan and SPC Spence completed Network + at Signal University. Charlie Company provided a week long session on radio training for the entire Battalion. We use advanced features of the radios here and the Soldiers who use the radios need to know how they work. SPC Haight, SPC Jessica Smith, SPC Christopher Smith, and PV2 Collins got to attend an off road driving course. They got to drive the sand dunes of the desert, learning how to safely maneuver in the special conditions that creates.

We are looking forward to the New Year. There are many more opportunities for good training. We are also beginning to take advantage of Morale Welfare and Recreation. Eight Solders have already gone to a golf course with another eight scheduled to go next month. There is also a science center, the Grand Mosque, and an Art Museum available. Soldiers will have the opportunity to have some of the same casual dining they have at home or experience new and exotic tastes. It is a welcome change from the same Army chow we get every day.

We are now more than halfway through the deployment but there is still a lot of work and training to perform. Your Soldiers are continually asked to assist other units, even some from the Regular Army. There is still a lot to be done.



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S-6: CPT John Zarbock, SSG Randy Fear, SPC Robert Davis, SPC Tamara Matthews





The S-6 Section of the 935th ASB has an overall responsibility for providing Information Technology (IT) and communication support for all sections and companies within the 935th Battalion. These responsibilities include but are not limited to: troubleshooting all computer problems, re-imaging computers, printer maintenance, port security, monitoring and installing updates, email and software support, monitoring OPSEC violations, and the implementing of replacing computers through the lifecycle program. The S-6 section is comprised of four dedicated individuals that are highly motivated, well versed in the IT industry and very well educated. They are: CPT John Zarbock, SSG Randy Fear, SPC Robert Davis and SPC Tamara Matthews.

CPT Zarbock manages, makes plans for and coordinates the use of all the signal assets for the Battalion. He is also responsible for the training, maintenance and accountability of each signal asset for each company. The S-6 is the senior subject matter expert in communications in the Battalion. He enlisted in the Army Reserves in 2002 as a PFC and spent two years in the Quartermaster Corps before signing a contract with ROTC at Washington University in St. Louis in 2004. After commissioning as a Signal Officer into the Missouri National Guard in 2006, he deployed immediately after his Officer Basic Course to Kosovo, so Kuwait is his second deployment. He currently works for the Homeland Response Force (FEMA Region 7) back home at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis as a communication plans officer. He also works on the cyber defense team with the 1st Cyber Action Unit. He has a wife, Missy, and three children; Sophia (7), Blair (7) and Trevor (9 months).

SSG Fear manages and maintains the 935th ASB helpdesk. He assigns personnel to assist Soldiers with IT problems as work tickets arrive and is responsible for overseeing that all communications equipment in the battalion is updated and properly running. He works on a daily basis with brigade and Camp Buehring helpdesk to ensure the battalion has uninterrupted network and phone connectivity. SSG Fear began his military career in 1986 as an infantry soldier assigned to the 2/3 Air Defense Artillery (Patriot) unit stationed in Germany for three years, and then took a break from the military before deciding to join the Missouri National Guard, and he has devoted all of his National Guard career to the 935th ASB. He holds a number of military occupational skills (MOS) to include: 92F Small Arms Artillery Repairer, 11B Infantry, 65H , 25F Network Switching Systems Operator Maintainer, 31B Military Police with a current MOS of 25U Signal Support Systems Specialist. This is SSG Fears second deployment. SSG Fear lives in Springfield, MO with his wife Liz who presently works in the Courts Division for the State of Missouri. They have three boys: Thomas, Brandon and Grant. Thomas is a graduate of MSU and resides in Chicago, Illinois. Brandon is a sophomore at MSU and Grant is in the eighth grade at Cherokee Middle School looking forward to high school next year. In the civilian world, SSG Fear works full-time with the Missouri National Guard assigned to the Counterdrug Program.

SPC Matthews has been in the Army National Guard for 4 years. She has been with the 935th since Jan 2011 and this is her first deployment. The most important thing that SPC Matthews has learned from this deployment is that 110v and 220v are not the same and tend to blow power supplies. She currently has blown up two computers and a printer which have all thankfully been fixed by amazing people. One day she hopes to become an officer and is working hard to achieve this goal. She resides in Springfield, MO where she works with Autistic adults and she hopes to graduate from Missouri State when she returns back home, with a degree in Computer Information Science and Awesomeness!

SPC Davis has been in the Army National Guard for seven years, and this is his first deployment with the Guard. He holds two MOS's, 25C Radio Operator Maintainer and 25B Information Systems Operator Analyst, and has an extensive communications background. He helps maintain the S-6 section with all duties mentioned in the first paragraph and agrees that printers are the best piece of equipment that we have here!





MWR/USO Events

Families- your Soldiers do have fun stuff they can participate in at Camp Buehring! **Soldiers**- use this guide for your after duty time

MWR (what can you do with your DEC/JAN on Camp Buehring?)

SI MWR Report...Featured Activity: Spartan 300 Challenge Phase I – This competition will test endurance and speed of the competitors in a variety of fitness challenges; the fastest competitor wins the challenge. The event will be held 06JAN12 in the Camp Buehring Main Gym at 1700. Sign-up/registration begins 23DEC13.

Other events... what to do...? (Call 438-3130 for more information)

- Visit the USO-Camp Buehring Facebook page to view The Camp Buehring Mirage newsletter for a complete listing of all January events
- Weekly movies are available from 0700-0100 daily, weekly schedules are posted in the marquee at the front of the BN TOC
- The Oasis, MWR Palms, and Udairi Center are all 24 hour facilities that offer a wide variety of activities to include video games, television, poker, Bingo, trivia, Texas Hold-Em, dancing, and much more. These centers and all they have to offer will be featured in upcoming issues of the newsletter (for more information call 438-3202)
- 5K fun runs are scheduled every Wednesday at 0600, at the Green Bean (next to the MWR Stage). The runs are timed and offer an excellent opportunity for fitness, building endurance for the APFT run, an occasional t-shirt, and opportunity to build esprit de corps
- T-shirt run MLK Day 21JAN13 @ 0600
- The aerobics tent (near the main gym) now offers spinning classes M-TH 0600-0700. A variety of daily schedules include Yoga, Muay Thai, Zumba, Insanity, Hapkido and more. Weekly schedules are posted in the marquee at the front of the BN TOC (call 438-3130 for more information)
- Camel rides are scheduled on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 1500, the next scheduled ride date is 20JAN13

Our BN Christmas Party was a huge success with planning and organizing from Mister McDaniel, ISG Holt, SFC Olson, SSG Pyatt and ILT Adair. Soldiers were able to enjoy some camel meat and chicken hearts, Bravo won the volleyball tournament, LTC Bodenschatz and CSM Acosta won the egg toss, the officers beat the enlisted in dodge ball (great job from both sides!), and Soldiers were chosen from each company to represent for the worst hat/scarf competition. ISG Dorsey, SGT Banuelos, ILT Holmes and SPC Lichtenauer represented their companies well with SPC Griffin taking home the BN award.

