

The GREYWOLF Howl



Vol. III, Issue III

3rd Brigade Combat Team's Monthly Newsletter

April 2012

'Charger' Battalion welcomes new senior leader; bids farewell to Gill

 **2nd Lt. Mike Havro**
1st Bn., 12th Cav. Regt.

Soldiers and leaders from 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division endured a bittersweet moment as they said farewell to an exemplary senior leader, Command Sgt. Maj. Darryl L. Gill while also welcoming a new senior leader into the battalion, Command Sgt. Maj. Wayne A. Phillips at the battalion motor pool, April 10, 2012.

Gill held his last formation as the command sergeant major of the 'Charger' Battalion, and also the last formation of his Army career.

To begin the ceremony, Lt. Col. Andrew Poznick, the battalion commander, incoming and outgoing Command Sergeants Major, also the guidon bearer met in front of the formation to continue the tradition of the exchange of the battalion guidon.

Following the traditional exchange of the guidon, Poznick spoke about his work experience with and the career of Gill.

"He was my best friend, my battle buddy and confidant," said Poznick who went on to express his thanks for Gill's service and leadership.

Poznick told the formation that he appreciated the support and loyalty from the battalion as a whole and asked that they extend that loyalty and support to the incoming leadership of the



Photos by Sgt. Sharla Lewis

Command Sgt. Maj. Darryl L. Gill addresses troops during a recent change of responsibility ceremony at the battalion's motor pool. Gill was replaced as the 1st Bn., 12th Cav. Regt., command sergeant major by Command Sgt. Maj. Wayne A. Phillips.

battalion.

Gill then addressed the formation and reiterated his pride in the battalion.

"This is the best battalion on Battalion Ave." said Gill. He went on to express that while he will miss his time at 1st Bn., 12th Cav. Regt., he is also ready to begin the next chapter of his life which will take place apart from the Army and as such, this was a bittersweet moment for him too.

Phillips spoke last as the incoming battalion command sergeant major. He explained that he is proud and honored

to take the position as the battalion's senior noncommissioned officer and advisor to the battalion commander.

After the ceremony, Gill stayed behind to shake hands with the Soldiers that have served under him. He is set to retire from the Army in a few months with over 29 years of service. The battalion will miss Command Sgt. Maj. Gill's presence but also looks forward to the fresh perspective that Command Sgt. Maj. Phillips will bring to the battalion.

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‘Saber’ Soldiers Show Off Skills to Austin city officials



1st Lt. Stuart White
6th Sqdn., 9th Cav. Regt.

On March 28th, 6th Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, provided a fire team from Comanche Troop to perform a room clearing demonstration for several Austin city officials at the Fort Hood Warrior Skills Trainer. Sgt. Robert Skillern, a Squad Leader in Comanche Troop, 6th Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, and a Carthage, Texas native, and his team conducted room clearing procedures inside the Virtual Shoot House. The demonstration was a part of the Austin City Officials’ tour of the operations on Fort Hood.

“The ongoing partnership between Fort Hood and the City of Austin has been beneficial on both sides. They have taught us the intricacies, and we can share our experiences with them,” explained Keith Gogas Chief of DPTMS (Director of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security), and a Nolanville, Texas native.

The group included Austin City Managers, law enforcement officials, and emergency service officials. Before arriving to the Warrior Skills Trainer, the visitors from Austin spent the day touring Fort Hood and learning about the many functions of a Garrison Command. They were brought to the WST to see a demonstration of the technological capabilities, efficiency, and advancement in Army training.

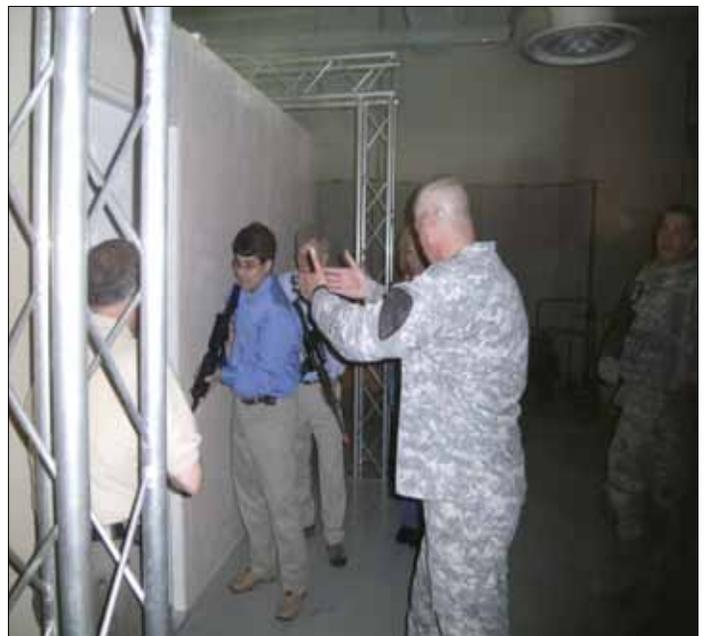
Over the last few months, Sgt. Skillern’s team trained

individual tactical skills in coordination with Saber Squadron’s Reset operations. All but one of the members of the team were deployed with 6-9 CAV in Iraq and have trained on room clearing for several months in theater as well as prior to deployment. They were picked for their high level of performance and motivation for every task they execute. So, true to form, they spent over two hours before the guests arrived making sure all of their techniques were correct and sharp.

“The team that cleared the room was very impressive, and the whole tour through Fort Hood has been enlightening to us. We can learn and gain so much from the relationship between Fort Hood and the City of Austin,” claimed Bert Lumbreras, one of the Assistant City Managers.

Once the demonstration was complete, the Austin officials took turns clearing the Virtual Shoot House themselves. Sgt. Skillern gave them a small introduction to the basics and safety involved in clearing a house. The weapons were equipped with lasers that interact with projections in the house, so the civilians could get an authentic idea of what clearing a house is like in combat.

“It was an honor to display our training for these distinguished members of the community. It was even more fun to see how interested they were to learn the tactics and methods we use,” said Skillern.



Photos by 1st Lt. Stuart White

(Left) Pfc. Jesse Chapel, and Spc. Randy Shelton practice clearing rooms before the distinguished guests arrived. (Right) Sgt. Robert Skillern, a Squad Leader in Comanche Troop, shows a group of Austin city officials the first step in clearing a room, breaking in the door.

'Blacksmiths' conduct Safety Stand Down Day

 **1st Lt. Vivian Caraveo**
215th BSB

In an effort to enhance the learning experience and promote the III Corps Safety Stand-Down mission, the Soldiers of 215th Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, got real "hands-on" demonstrations on motorcycle safety, treatment of colleagues with dignity and respect, and presentations on the prevention of domestic abuse and summer heat safety at the BSB motor pool on Fort Hood, Texas March 30, 2012. As a way to draw in the attention of the audience, the instructors started off with a show-and-tell instruction of motorcycles and motorcycle safety. Sgt. 1st Class Benjamin Merker donned his motorcycle protective clothing to show the Soldiers what was appropriate and what was mandated by Fort Hood and the Department of the Army policies. Next, the motorcycles, to include a motor scooter, were shown to the Soldiers to demonstrate the variations that can be seen with each model of motorcycle as well as the handling and feel. Al-



Photo by 1st Lt. Vivian Caraveo

Sgt. 1st Class Glenn Cook, 215th Brigade Support Battalion, shows Soldiers various models of motorcycles brought in as teaching aids for the motorcycle safety class.

though riding a motorcycle can be a very thrilling experience, whether it is a slow moving scooter, a high-speed sport motorcycle, or even a heavy cruising motorcycle, the safety of the rider should always be at the top of the rider's list of priorities.

Following the class on motorcycle safety, the Soldiers received instruction on dignity and respect and dealing with hazing.

To help Soldiers understand how to treat one another with dignity and respect, the instructors performed skits of various scenarios.

One such scenario presented was the use of corrective training versus humiliation, which asked such questions as: What would you do to a Soldier who received a speeding ticket? Do you stand him on the corner of the street with a sign that says, "I am stupid because I got a ticket for speeding" or with a sign that says, "Please slow down." Or can you use physical corrective training for a demerit that has nothing to do with physical training? Can you force a Soldier to do pushups for showing up late to formation? According to the training, that is hazing. Additional lectures given to the Soldiers included the prevention and approach to domestic



Photo by 1st Lt. Vivian Caraveo

Sgt. 1st Class Glenn Cook shows the Soldiers different version of acceptable motorcycle protective and reflective gear.

abuse and summer safety.

Whether the 'Blacksmith' Soldiers learned about correct protective gear requirement for motorcycle riders or the different ways to correct their subordinates without humiliating them, Soldiers were sure to walk away with a memorable experience.

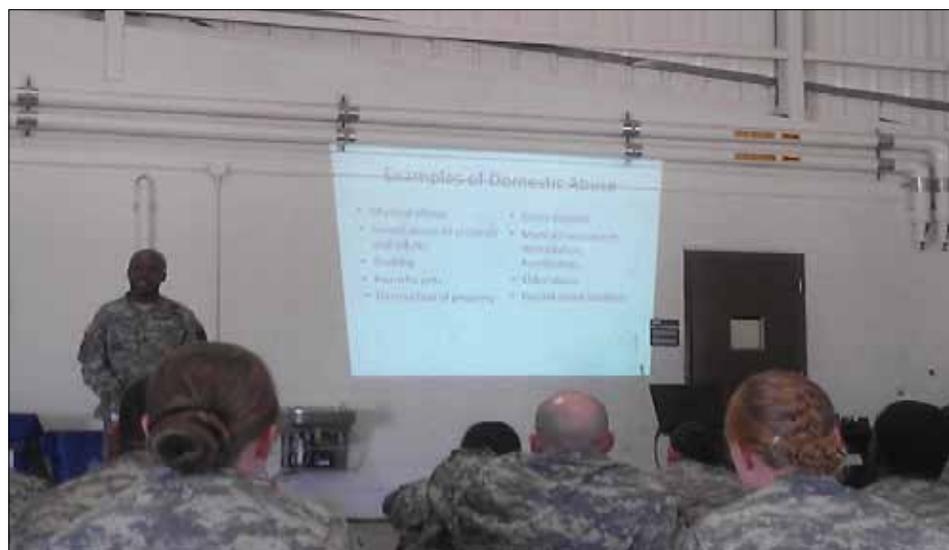


Photo by 1st Lt. Vivian Caraveo

Sgt. 1st Class Jim Fequiere teaches the class on Domestic Abuse Prevention and Approach.

‘Steel Dragons’ celebrate in style

 *1st Lt. Christopher Molaro*
2nd Bn., 82nd FA Regt. UPAR

After an 11-month deployment to southern Iraq, the ‘Steel Dragon’ Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division celebrated the success of their hard work with the annual Saint Barbara’s Day Ball, April 5, 2012 at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center, Killeen, Texas.

In all, a total of 703 Soldiers and guests, which included all ranks from private to colonel, enjoyed the festivities.

Planning for the ball stretched back to the unit’s time in Iraq. Extensive help from the rear detachment and the Family Readiness Group allowed the battalion to get a crucial head start in planning such a big event.

The evening started at 5:30 p.m. and went almost flawlessly, despite the attempts from the Master of Ceremonies and ‘Steel Dragon’ executive officer Maj. Daniel Blackmon to dance.

The battalion decided not to host a guest speaker but rather had a very moving presentation paying homage to the military’s noncommissioned officer. That, combined with the traditional “Redleg” grog ceremony, was the main entertainment portion of the evening.

“The video showing what we have done and have accomplished over the past year was very moving. It was by far my favorite part,” said Pvt. Justin Childers, a native of Las Vegas, “It pumped me up, motivated me and made me proud to be a Soldier.”

After a night of furthering their bond as a unit and forging future memories as they reminisced about past ones, a final toast was offered for the responsibility and professionalism of the unit. Since their return from deployment, not one disciplinary or alcohol related incident has occurred within the

battalion.

Following the Saint Barbara’s Day Ball, the battalion enjoyed a refreshing four day weekend, resulting in a stronger, closer and overall more effective Field Artillery battalion returning to work.



Photo by Sgt. Sharla Lewis

Master of Ceremonies, Maj. Daniel Blackmon and Command Sgt. Maj. David Osborne, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, inspect the “Redleg” Grog.



Photo by Sgt. Sharla Lewis

Col. Douglas C. Crissman, the commander of GREYWOLF Brigade and his wife Carolyn are joined at the receiving line by the battalion Soldiers.



Photo by Sgt. Sharla Lewis

The actors in a ceremony honoring the military’s noncommissioned officer, stands proudly as homage is paid.

Mother's Day Memory



*Cpt. Geun Lee
Brigade Chaplain*

In early 1980, when Nike first time came to Korea, other running shoes had an average price between two and four dollars. In 1982 as a middle school student, I wanted to have a pair of Nike shoes for myself. During these times, to own a pair of Nike shoes was a status symbol of reputation among my peers and me. For a few days, I asked my mother to buy me just one pair. Without knowing the price of the shoes, my mother and I went to shop. On the way to shop, mom said, "I think I brought enough money for your shoes. Let's buy your shoes first and then we will go to the grocery store to buy some fruits and your favorite snacks." I knew mom didn't bring her entire savings from her bank, but she brought enough money that she could spare for my shoes and the grocery shopping. However, at the store, I was surprised by the price. Most of the Nikes were over twenty dollars! I didn't want my mother to buy them anymore, but my mom looked at my face and insisted that she buy a pair for me. I told her "No," but she insisted. Truthfully, I wanted to have them, but didn't want mom to spend too much money. I can still clearly remember that day. She took all of the money from out of her purse, and we couldn't go grocery shopping that day. All of her money was spent on the pair of Nike shoes. Thirty years has passed now, and I remember that day as one of the most beautiful days of memory about my mother. Now I can buy one hundred pairs of Nike's every month if I want. But I know what I need to do to pay for them. I want to pay back the great love that I have received from my mother over the years as I grow up. Families of GREYWOLF Soldiers, I know that each and every one of you has an even a better story about your own mothers, grandmothers, and special women in your lives. In this month of May, let's take a special day in time to thank these people who poured great love into our lives, and to tell them that you love them just as much as they love you.



"Honor your father and mother which is the first commandment with a promise that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." (Ephesians 6:1-3)



3BSTB conducts fishing contest amongst troops



1st Lt. Anna York
3BSTB UPAR

The Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Program united to compete in a fishing contest March 31, 2012 at Arlington Lake, Texas.

The eager 'Gladiator' Soldiers arrived at dawn and were greeted by professional fishermen from across Texas. Each Soldier was with a professional and hit the boats for an all day bass fishing competition on the lake. Many of the Soldiers had never fished for bass before this event and were rewarded with invaluable knowledge from the professionals.

Along with an opportunity to join together with these remarkable fishermen, each Soldier received free admissions into the event, which was funded by nine different fishing shops near Fort Hood, Texas.

"We had a splendid time. I had fun being out in the boat with professional fisherman and this is my first bass fishing tournament," said 1st Lt. Bee Vengthisane, Bravo Company, 3BSTB



Photo by Spc. Kenneth Russell

Spc. Zell Ellerson from Company B., and Mr. Joe Blake pose with the largest bass of the day.

"Ron, my boater showed me how to fish and taught me all the tricks to bass fishing: water temperature, where bass like to hang out, and what bait is best to use. This was an experience that I will never forget." he added.

The Soldiers described this as a memorable event with friends.

"I learned so much and was able to let loose and have a good time. There is nothing better than a day on the water with good company." said Spc. Kenneth Russell.

All Soldiers received free hats for

participating in the competition, and the top 10 received a \$25 gift card to Academy Sports, with the top three participants receiving a free fishing pole and rod.

Spc. Zell Ellerson, Co. B was recognized for catching the biggest bass of the day, which weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces. Spc. Diana Laplante from Headquarters and Headquarters Company was the only female to enter the competition and was the overall fishing champion. In recognition of their dedication to single Soldiers, the 3BSTB team presented certificates of appreciation to James Barnett, from Rusty Lures fishing company, and Joe Blake, from TX3Bass, for organizing this event.

Lt. Col. Jack Vantress, the 3BSTB Battalion Commander said, "We truly appreciate the time and resources that these companies have given to our Soldiers. Their dedication to our Battalion is truly appreciated, and it is humbling to see Killeen businesses support Fort Hood Soldiers reintegrate into the community after our recent redeployment."



Photo by Spc. Kenneth Russell

Spc. Diana Laplante from HHC, and her sponsor show off her catch of winning bass.



Photo by Spc. Kenneth Russell

The BOSS group from 3rd BSTB, along with their professional fishermen take a picture at the end of the long fishing day at Arlington Lake.

‘Warhorse’ Battalion grows next generation of leaders



1st Lt. Richard Vogt
3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Regt

Young leaders sharpened their skills and expanded their base of knowledge during a week-long “Team Leader Academy” designed and hosted by the 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, on Fort Hood, Texas, April

20, 2012.

The academy was the first of a proposed series that orients promotable specialists and newly promoted sergeants to the range of duties, responsibilities, and resources they have to train and mentor their Soldiers, and was one of the ‘Warhorse’ Battalion’s highest priorities following the recent deployment to southern Iraq.

The course was open to junior noncommissioned officers with less than two years time-in-grade.

“The purpose was to train junior NCOs in the services available to Soldiers and how to get Soldiers in contact with these services,” said Sgt. Joshua Smith, a medic with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Bn., 8th Cav. Regt., 3rd BCT, 1st Cav. Div. and a native of Bakersfield, Calif. “We learned about

some of the ACS (Army Community Services) and contacts for them, and also some new counseling techniques.” Smith then added that the counseling portion was the most valuable information he received.

“It will make it easier to smooth out situations I may encounter with my Soldiers.” he said.

The course was designed to be developmental and informative, and for that reason course organizers omitted a pass or fail criteria.

Sgt. Jordan McLaurin, a team leader with Scout Platoon, HHC immediately saw the benefit to his career.

“This will strengthen my skills as a team leader,” said McLaurin, a native of Dayton, Ohio. “I will use the tools I learned about and different services such as ACS to help my Soldiers.”

The course instructors included senior NCO leadership from the Warhorse Battalion as well as civilians representing various Fort Hood services.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Enrico Alvarado

Sgt. Jake Blackhall, listens to a block of instruction during the ‘Warhorse’ Battalion’s Team Leader Course



Photo by 2nd Lt. Enrico Alvarado

Sgt. Bhamini Wilson and Sgt. Ronnie Cunningham both with Fox Forward Support Company recently attended the ‘Warhorse’ Battalion’s Team Leader Course



Photo by 2nd Lt. Enrico Alvarado

Spc. Jeffrey Friberg listens to a block of instruction during the Team Leader Course

What is a bar to reenlistment?



Sgt. 1st Class Jesus Chavez
Brigade Senior Career Counselor

A bar to reenlist is used to deny reenlistment to Soldiers, whose immediate separation under administrative procedures is not warranted, but whose reentry into or service beyond ETS with the Active Army is not in the best interest of the military service. The bar to reenlistment is one of the Army's under utilized and misused tools.

Only Soldiers of high morals and character, personal competence, and demonstrated adaptability to the requirements of the professional Soldier's moral code will be reenlisted in the Active Army. All Soldiers should be evaluated under the whole person concept, as set out in paragraph 3-7 of AR 601-280. Soldiers who cannot, or do not, measure up to such standards, but whose separation under proper administrative procedures is not warranted at the present time, will be barred from further service under this chapter.

The bar to reenlistment is not a punitive action but is designed for use as a rehabilitative tool. Imposition of a bar to reenlistment does not preclude administrative separation at a later date. The bar to reenlist should be initiated prior to a separation or judicial/non-judicial action because it is intended to put the Soldier on notice that:

He or she is not a candidate for reenlistment.

He or she may be a candidate for separation if the circumstances that led to the bar to reenlistment are not overcome.

Soldiers will be advised exactly what is expected in order to overcome the bar to reenlistment and be given explicit timetables to overcome the reason for the bar.

On February 2, 2012 the Secretary of the Army's directive 2012-03 (Army Retention Initiatives) was implemented.

In addition to reenlistment qualifications already outlined in Army Regulation 601-280, Army Retention Program, the new directive states that "Soldiers in the grade of staff sergeant and above not currently serving on an indefinite reenlistment contract will be considered unqualified for reenlistment if their Official Military Personnel File contains one of the following:

Relief for cause Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Report, or NCOER.

"No" listed in part IV (Army values, attributes, skills, actions).

Senior rater rating of 4 (fair) or 5 (poor) in part V -- overall performance and potential of an NCOER service school academic evaluation report indicating a failure in an NCO education system course.

Commanders will also be required to initiate a bar to reenlistment under the directive for the following reasons:

- Loss of primary military occupational specialty due to fault of the Soldier.
- A Soldier denied command list integration for promotion by the unit commander.
- An incident involving the use of illegal drugs or alcohol within the current enlistment period resulting in an officially filed letter of reprimand; a finding of guilty under Article 15, Uniformed Code of Military Justice, a civilian conviction; or conviction by court-martial.
- Two or more separate proceedings under Article 15, UCMJ, resulting in a finding of guilt by a field grade commander during the Soldier's current enlistment or period of service.
- A Soldier absent without leave more than 96 hours during the current enlistment/reenlistment period.
- As the Army begins to transition into a smaller more lethal force, we're looking to keep the best.

Reenlistment is a privilege, not a right!





Brigade Commander
Col. Douglas Crissman

Brigade Command Sgt. Maj.
Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Wallace

Public Affairs Officer in Charge
Maj. Harold Huff III

Noncommissioned Officer in Charge
Staff Sgt. Chris Bridson

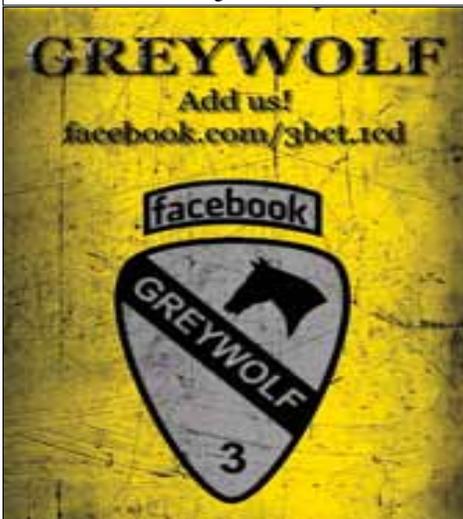
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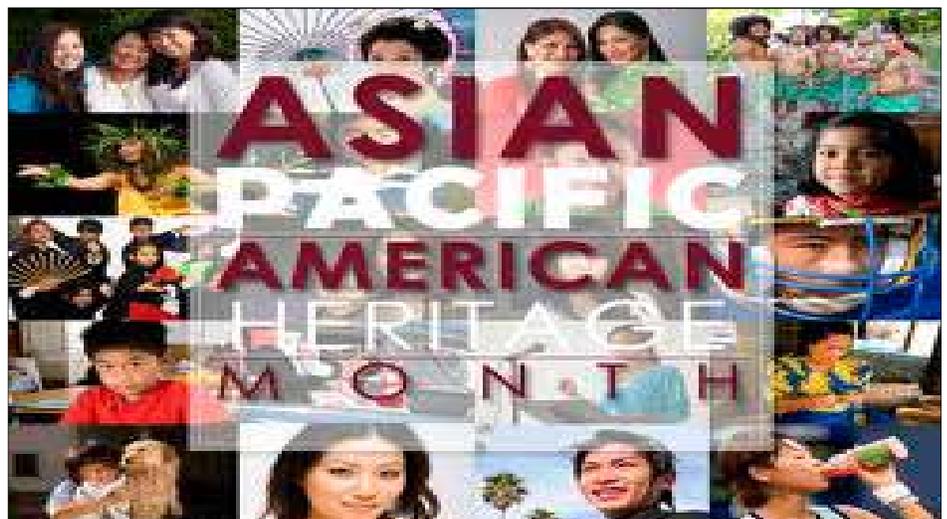
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

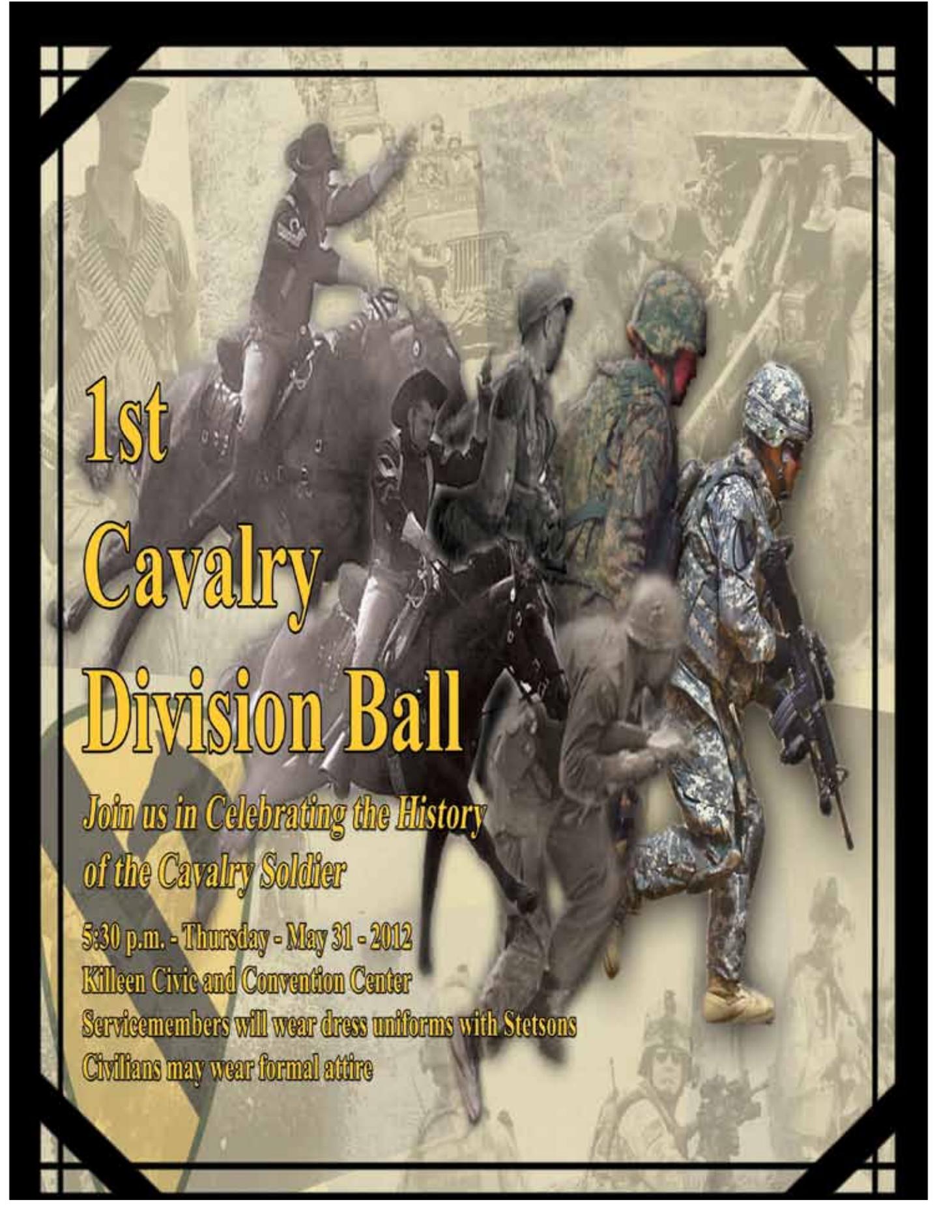


*Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Romero
Brigade Equal Opportunity Advisor*

Since 1886, the Statue of Liberty has symbolized the freedom and values americans honor, welcoming immigrants to the United States with the following words: “Give me your tired, me your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door.” Today, John F. Kennedy Airport may be the first introduction many immigrants have to the United States, but Miss Liberty’s principles still ring true. Immigrants and their progeny are still a vital part of America’s future and during the month the proud heritage of America’s forefathers.

The month of May is significant in the history of Asian Pacific Americans in that Japanese immigrants first arrived in the United States on May 7, 1843 and May 10, 1869 marks the day that the transcontinental railroad was completed, connecting the East to the West. The observance was expanded in 1992 to include the entire month. Come out and enjoy this observance to share and proudly celebrate their rich and unique combination of heritage, history, language, food and religion.





1st Cavalry Division Ball

*Join us in Celebrating the History
of the Cavalry Soldier*

5:30 p.m. - Thursday - May 31 - 2012

Killeen Civic and Convention Center

Servicemembers will wear dress uniforms with Stetsons

Civilians may wear formal attire