



724th Transportation Company Family Readiness Group

July 2009
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COMMANDER'S CORNER

I know most of you don't want to hear this but we are now within our 30 day window. What that means is that you need to be FINALIZING your personal and financial affairs. A tool that will help you with this is the Yellow Ribbon Ceremony on 11-12 July in Bartonville, IL. This event is one of the final chances for you and your family to talk to experts and get your questions answered. Last month the Lexington Soldiers had their Yellow Ribbon and I can say that the feedback from the families was excellent.

If you are in a leadership position ensure that your Soldiers are squared away and ready for mobilization. Also make sure that any administrative actions that need to be completed are submitted prior to mobilization. The 1SG and I have tried to keep July free from as many requirements as possible so that Soldiers have ample time with their families and friends. Because when it is time to mobilize I want every Soldier focused on the mission ahead of us, knowing that their family is safe and taken care of.

In closing I want to talk about two weeks ago when a few of us had the honor to attend the dedication ceremony of the Bloomington Reserve Center for two fallen Soldiers of the 724th; SGT Elmer Krause

and PFC Greg Goodrich. While I never had the privilege of meeting these two Soldiers, I did talk to their families and I reassured them that the memories of SGT Krause and PFC Goodrich will always be with the 724th throughout all our endeavors and that we will represent their sacrifice with honor and respect.

"Support to the Line"

MAJ Sean Counihan
724th TC Commander

FROM THE TOP

Well, we're 30 days out from MOB. The Yellow Ribbon event is this BA on 11-12 July. There's only a few weeks left to prepare your family for our MOB. Keep in contact with your CoC for updates. Get all your stuff ready and taken care of, as August 4th will be upon us very soon. Be safe and enjoy the last few weeks with your families. Also, ensure you are keeping your employers informed and you have completed all necessary paperwork.

1SG Christopher Haines

EO CORNER

People enter the Army with differences such as gender, religion, and cultural background. However, the Army requires its members to adopt common standards, values, and norms. This "sameness" enables the Army to effectively perform its mission. When leaders also accept, understand, and value individual differences, they create an environment where subordinates are inspired to perform to their full potential while working harder to support organizational norms.

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY – August 26

On Aug 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote was certified as part of the

U.S. Constitution. Referred to as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, it states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." The U.S. Congress designated August 26 as "Women's Equality Day" in 1971 to honor women's continuing efforts toward equality.

SFC Tom Brown
EO Representative 724TC

FAMILY READINESS GROUP NEWS

So close to deployment! We're busier than ever. On June 27 I had the honor of attending the dedication of the Bloomington Drill Center to Greg Goodrich and Elmer Krause. Greg's Mom, Barb Goodrich, Step-Dad Dale Jones and Sister, Robin Kilgannon attended as did Elmer's son, Jonathan Krause, Jonathan's Step Dad, J.C. Winkler, Elmer's sisters, Deborah Bunting and Rhonda Sexton and Brother Jim Krause. There was a good turnout and the keynote speaker was former 724th Commander, Major Jeff Smith. Our FRG presented each of the family members with a memorial plaque to take home with them. The ceremony was very moving; there were lots of photos taken and we'll get them in upcoming newsletters.

LaReese Ballmer, our Fundraising Chairman has been pretty ill for the last few weeks. She is still in the hospital but her husband, SPC Scot Ballmer, tells us she is slowly getting better. Please keep LaReese and Scot in your prayers.

The Yellow Ribbon event is scheduled for July 11th and 12th in Bartonville at the Air Guard Hanger. The Soldiers should be getting their orders and details for the event for the families any day now. The FRG will have a table along with the 310th Family Programs Office. We'll also be selling bumper magnets, t-shirts and quilt raffle tickets.

The going away party for the unit is scheduled for Thursday, August 6 from noon to 5 p.m. at the Alpha Park which is across from the Bartonville

drill center. We'll have great food, some entertainment, games for the kids and a chance to be together with our soldiers before they start their mission. I hope everyone is able to attend!

As always, if you have any questions or need more information please contact me.

Mary Mullen
FRG Co-Leader

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WELCOME TO NEW SOLDIERS!

Please welcome to the 724th:
SGT David Steidel, Peoria IL
SPC Patricia May, East Peoria I

ARMY ACRONYMS

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|-------------|---|
| MOS | Military Occupational Specialty. The MOS for most 724 th Transportation Company Soldiers 88M |
| DMOS | Duty Military Occupational Specialty. Since any individual can obtain multiple job specialties, DMOS is used to identify what their primary job function is at any given time. |
| MOSQ | MOSQ is an abbreviation for Military Occupational Specialty Qualification. An individual is not MOSQ'd until they have completed and passed all required training for that MOS. |
| CoC | Chain of Command |
| BA | Battle Assembly |
| MOB | Mobilization |

MILITARY HUMOR

A Platoon Sergeant and his Platoon Leader are bunking down in the field for the night. The Platoon Sergeant looks up and says, "When you see all the stars in the sky, what do you think, sir?"

The LT replies, "Well, I think of how insignificant we really are in the universe; how small a piece of such a grand design. I can't help but wonder if what we do truly means anything or makes any difference. Why? What do you think of, Sergeant?"

"I think somebody stole the damn tent."



It's time to show our love for the
724th Transportation Company

Join us for a

Farewell Picnic!

Please come spend the afternoon with us as we
send our Soldiers on their Mission and in wishing
them good luck in their deployment to Iraq!

Free Food & Drink/DJ Entertainment/Photographer
for formal pictures/Yard Games/Face
Painting/Balloon Animals and More!



Thursday August 6, 2009,
12 Noon – 5PM at
*Alpha Park, Bartonville, IL

Bring your Lawn Chairs!

*Alpha Park is located across the road from the 724th Drill
Center, 3101 S. Airport Road, Bartonville, Illinois, between
West Smithville Road and West Garfield Avenue.

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that
we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship,
support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival
and success of liberty."

- John F. Kennedy

