



The Dust Devil Dispatch

November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



Featured Article

Weather

Reunion Workshops

Quote of the Week

Question of the Week

Events

Notices

Shout Box

Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

Thanksgiving, 2005!

Thanksgiving is the time when we pause to express our gratitude for the blessings of peace, freedom, and opportunity that are the birthright of all Americans. As we near the end of our deployment, we have much to be thankful for. I hope that, with the end in sight, this will be an extra special Thanksgiving for all. As families and friends gather, Thanksgiving also provides an opportunity to show our gratitude for the blessings we enjoy in a free and prosperous Nation.

While this Thanksgiving will be one spent separated from family, friends and loved ones, it will still be a day of reflections for both those back home and the men and women of the 891st Engineer Battalion. There is no doubt that each Soldier will be thinking of those back home leading the battle there, as they've done each and every day since the deployment began. Our loved ones on the home-front have provided the utmost support and dedication to the battalion throughout the entire time we've been in Iraq. For the Soldiers here, it will be a day of reflection on this past year and the anticipation of the upcoming reunion with loved ones.

During our time in country, the Soldiers of the battalion have performed rigorous missions with exceptional success. The accomplishments of the 891st Engineer Battalion are helping pave the way to a successful new beginning for the Iraqi people. One day the men and women who have served their country and the citizens of Iraq, will look back on their time spent here and pass the story of freedom and perseverance on to their children and grandchildren. Each person here has helped in one way or another to make the world a better place to live, for that I am thankful.

So as we celebrate the Thanksgiving season and draw nearer to the holidays, I encourage all Soldiers to take time and let their loved ones back home know how much we appreciate all that they have done for us in our time away from home.

I pray that the principles of Thanksgiving are contagious and that they will spread amongst the Iraqi people and others here in the Middle East. May people around the world take time to reflect on the blessings which all people should embrace; those embodied in our great American holiday of Thanksgiving:

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**patriotism, family, community, and faith. Let's get the job done
and return to our homes safe and secure.**

Happy Thanksgiving!

**Lee E. Tafanelli
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army
Commanding**

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The Dust Devil Dispatch








November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



- Featured Article
- Weather
- Reunion Workshops
- Quote of the Week
- Question of the Week
- Events
- Notices
- Shout Box
- Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

Weather in Iraq

| Date | . | Hi / Lo | Percip |
|--------------------------|--|---------|--------|
| Sunday November 20 |  Partly Cloudy | 71 / 50 | 10% |
| Monday November 21 |  Mostly Sunny | 73 / 48 | 10% |
| Tuesday November 22 |  Partly Cloudy | 74 / 47 | 10% |
| Wednesday November 23 |  Sunny | 71 / 40 | 0% |
| Thursday November 24 |  Mostly Sunny | 68 / 40 | 0% |
| Friday November 25 |  Sunny | 73 / 42 | 0% |
| Saturday November 26 |  Sunny | 77 / 46 | 0% |

E-mail the
Editor



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November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



Featured Article

Weather

Reunion Workshops

Quote of the Week

Question of the Week

Events

Notices

Shout Box

Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

Reunion Workshops

For the Families of Service Members deployed to Iraq, there are several Reunion Workshops that are being offered in the State of Kansas. You are encouraged to participate in one of these workshops to help educate yourself about issues that may arise upon reunion with your Soldier. Here is a list of available workshops:

Lenexa

November 20, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Lenexa Armory, 18200 W. 87th St. Parkway

POC: Cherie Herlinger, 785-806-1761 or 785-742-5651

Independence

December 3, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Methodist Church, 200 South Penn Ave

POC: Dave Fehr, 785-806-1756

Iola

December 4, 10:00am - 3:00pm

Iola Armory, 1021 N. State St.

POC: Dave Fehr, 785-806-1756

Manhattan

January 7, 10:00am - 3:00

Manhattan Armory, 721 Levee Drive

POC: Laura Wheeler, 785-806-1751 or 785-539-0241

There will be several speakers at each workshop to include, but not limited to, TRICARE Reserve Select, Chaplain services, Veterans Affairs, Reunion Expectations, and The Vet Center.

Hotel Accommodations:



Family members who live more than 120 miles from the workshop and their RSVP is received on time, may qualify for government lodging for one night, either Friday or Saturday. Please indicate on your registration if you would like to have accommodations. The Family Programs Officer will reserve all rooms for those who qualify for government lodging.

Youth Program and Childcare:

An informative youth program on reunion issues will be available for children ages 6-17 at no cost. Meals provided free of charge. Due to new regulations, NO child care, supervision or meals provided for children under 6 years of age. If your children have a special diet, please provide a meal, drink and snack for them.

All this information plus a map of workshop locations and registration form can be downloaded by clicking the following link. For additional information, please contact your Family Readiness Coordinator.

[Download: reunionworkshop.doc](#)

(right click & choose 'Save Target As')

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The Dust Devil Dispatch

November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



Featured Article

Weather

Reunion Workshops

Quote of the Week

Question of the Week

Events

Notices

Shout Box

Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

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The most universal quality is diversity.

- Michel Eyquem De Montaigne

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E-mail the
Editor



The Dust Devil Dispatch

November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



Featured Article

Weather

Reunion Workshops

Quote of the Week

Question of the Week

Events

Notices

Shout Box

Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

Question of the Week

Last weeks question was,

"What item appears on the menu every day of the year at Congressional dining areas?"

The Answer -

Bean Soup



According to custom, bean soup must be available on the menu every day in the congressional dining areas. This tradition, which dates back to the early twentieth century, is said to be based on an edict by Senator Fred Dubious of Idaho. Fortunately the recipe and the type of bean are allowed to vary.

Those who answered correctly: Nobody answered bean soup this week! However, SSG John Sheehan said the Seal of Congress of the United States which is probably a true statement and Ruth Sprague answered coffee which is probably also available every day in the dining facility.

Thanks to all who participated!!!

THIS WEEKS QUESTION



"During the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 1957, what unexpected event happened with the Popeye balloon?"

Please use the form below to answer this weeks question.

Your Name:

Your E-mail:

Answer:

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The Dust Devil Dispatch

November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



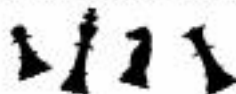
| |
|---|
| Featured Article |
| Weather |
| Reunion Workshops |
| Quote of the Week |
| Question of the Week |
| Events |
| Notices |
| Shout Box |
| Dust Devil Dispatch Information / Contact |

Events

What's Happening at your MWR?

Nightly tournaments and events. Play for prizes or just bragging rights!!

Mondays
@ 1900



Chess Club... Free your mind...or just decide to use it for a while!

Tuesdays
@ 1900



Ping Pong... doubles and singles

Thursdays
@ 1900



Backgammon



Scrabble...
Put on your Thinking caps!

Fridays
@ 1900



Death and destruction
.....'nuff said!!!



Billiards
8 and 9 Ball

Saturdays
@ 1900



Slap down
Them Bones!!!!



Who's the best?

Sundays
@ 1900



Spades....Cut throat cards at it's Finest!!!

Check it out at Bldg 327 or call SSG Swan at 833-1745

If you know of an event not listed here, contact me at jay.gfeller@us.army.mil.

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The Dust Devil Dispatch

November 13 - 19, 2005

Issue 31



Featured Article

Weather

Reunion Workshops

Quote of the Week

Question of the Week

Events

Notices

Shout Box

Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

Notice

There are no notices this week, please check back next week!

**If you would like to place a notice in the Dust Devil Dispatch,
please e-mail us at jay.gfeller@us.army.mil**

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E-mail the
Editor



The Dust Devil Dispatch

November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



Featured Article

Weather

Reunion Workshops

Quote of the Week

Question of the Week

Events

Notices

Shout Box

Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

Shout Box

Friday November 11th

- Sweetpea Stewart that was a heck of a shout thank you and that dress thing i could do without ha ha!! Baby thought of a song for you. Baby im coming home. Love you babe

Saturday November 12th

- To all the members of the 891st, stay safe and we are all so proud of the job you are doing, keep up the great work and we will see you home soon. Dave Fehr (891st CSM Retired)

- SPC WOOD I LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU SO MUCH AND KNOW THAT I AM GOING TO BE HERE WAITING FOR YOU WHEN YOU ARE DONE WITH THE NEXT DEPLOYMENT.. IT WILL BE DIFFICULT BUT I AM STRONG AND WILL MAKE IT.. STAY SAFE AND KNOW THAT YOU ARE LOVED LANNETTE

- HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL 891ST SOLDIERS.. YOU ARE IN MY PRAYERS DAILY.. GLAD YOU ALL WILL BE HOME SOON.. AGAIN THANK YOU FOR HELPING KEEP AMERICA SAFE.. LANNETTE WOOD

Sunday November 13th

- I am scared too but don't shut me out....

Monday November 14th

- SPC Ricchard Ouderkirk.... We are getting very excited about



you rejoining into our lives. We hope you are just as excited. It has been a very long and stressfull year for all of us, we are looking forward to a better year for us next year. We can't wait to see you and move on with whatever next year has in store for us. We love you!! Your Girls

- SGT Peterson-Happy 37th Birthday on the 25th! Hope you have been enjoying the sweets we sent. You have to wait for your present, but not long. Soon we are gonna have more than just your b-day to celebrate! Enjoy your day & make your wish, we will be thinking of you (while xmas shopping). We are so PROUD of you, our HERO! You have remained strong & that strength has kept us going. We are anxiously waiting for your safe return home to us! We love & miss you! Tam, Chris & Sky P. S. Happy Thanksgiving too!

- I would like to give a shout out to all of the Women in the 891st since they are left out of so many of the posts. I hope you all make it home safe and sound for the holidays. It's going to be one [great] homecoming.

- SSG Jim Edwards, I want to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving. It won't be the same here without you, but I know that you will be home soon. We love you and are very proud of you. Love always, Judy/Maddie

Post a shout in the next edition:

Shouts will be accepted until 1700hrs on Thursday, any shouts after that will be posted in the next week's edition.

Type in this box exactly what you want the Shout to say.

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November 20 - 26, 2005

Issue 32



Featured Article

Weather

Reunion Workshops

Quote of the Week

Question of the Week

Events

Notices

Shout Box

Dust Devil Dispatch
Information / Contact

Information / Contact

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Published weekly by Task Force Dust Devil for troops and families of the 891st Engineer Combat Battalion, Heavy and the Alpha Company of the 230th Engineer Battalion.

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Drop us a line:

Your Name:

Your E-mail Address:

Comments:

Don't forget to check out the 891st Engineer Battalion website at

<http://www.891engineerbattalion.com>

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