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DENTAC, Ft. Hood, TX (254) 287-5336

Copeland SSC Dental Clinic: Ready, Set, Well!!



Members of the Copeland Soldiers Service Center Dental Clinic Team (from Top Row): Ms. Fernandez, Ms. Rabon, SPC Cantu, SPC Jager. (Middle Row): CPT Wilson, Ms. Hilliard, Mr. Harris, SFC Weinell, CPT Asare, CPT Ochsner. (Seated): Ms. Knight, CPT Nistar.

by CPT Abena Asare

The Copeland Soldiers Service Center Dental Clinic is the smallest dental clinic on post, with a total of 6 dental chairs, 15 staff members, and 312 assigned active duty patients. However, the small size of this clinic doesn't stop Copeland Dental Clinic from going above and beyond its mission of inprocessing all active duty Soldiers arriving at Ft. Hood and

providing routine operative and hygiene care for assigned clinic patients.

Since early 2011 when the Ft. Hood DENTAC began a unit-wide effort to improve dental readiness and wellness of all Ft. Hood troops, the Copeland SSC dental clinic first sought to improve its own readiness and wellness ratios; this was accomplished by communicating and coordinating with

individual units. Front desk staff even called patients individually to remind them of their dental needs and schedule appointments.

The outreach effort paid off with an impressive 100% clinic dental readiness (Class 1 and Class 2) and 70% dental wellness rate (Class 1), reached in August.

(continued on pg. 2)

TOP'S CORNER

*by 1SG Ronnie Weimer
First Sergeant, Ft. Hood
DENTAC*

Have you ever felt like you didn't know whether to scratch your watch or wind your butt? Well, it has been a busy few months and it seems like there are never enough days in the week to accomplish everything that needs to get done, I guess that is why God invented Saturday and Sunday. The mission here at Fort Hood continues to grow, and the outstanding personnel who work hard each and every day accomplish this growing mission each and every time. I am very proud of all the Officers, Enlisted and Civilian personnel here, they work tirelessly to support the troops and to me there is no greater job on this earth.

Our SRP mission at Fort Hood is hands down the busiest in the country and our MSU personnel are fantastic! With the mentorship of SGT Arakaki, they do it day in and day out sending troops on their way to war, or demobilizing the lucky ones that are coming home. The work ethic of this group is phenomenal and the command team could not be any happier, well, if we were to get more than 10 we would be VERY happy.

In December we say goodbye to our DENCOM Sergeant Major: SGM Exerline Drumm. She will surely be missed and has done outstanding things not only for the enlisted population, but for the DENCOM as a whole. The Fort Hood DENTAC dining out will commence in Mar 2012, and our guest speaker will be SGM Drumm. I invited her so we can milk the last bit of mentorship marrow out of her, and say goodbye to an outstanding NCO who has mentored, coached, instructed, and on occasion, cursed my butt out for the last 20 years!!

The DENTAC reached another mile stone by finishing the "mountain trail" in the fastest time EVER by any DENTAC in the country or the world for that matter (because we are the only DENTAC to ever do it!!). Yep, it is true, and I am preparing a memo to the Guinness Book of World Records right now, inviting them down to see this catastrophic event that takes place once a month. It truly is comical to see, officers against enlisted trying to best each other, tripping each other, pushing each other, etc, etc. But it was a good time for all and we will do it again real soon.

Thanks for all your hard

work and dedication to this command, without you, the mission would fail! Every individual in this organization pulls their weight and it makes this command look good. Right now I can think of no other place to be than here as your First Sergeant (well, that entirely true, but you know what I mean).

EXCELLENCE IN ACTION!!

"Bad" Ron, Out

(continued from pg. 1)

In continuing to provide support to the greater Ft. Hood DENTAC mission, Copeland Clinic also aims to help ease the burden of care on other clinics and increase readiness and wellness at other clinics by offering routine operative and hygiene care for patients who are newcomers to Ft. Hood but will be assigned to other clinics.

As the gateway to the "Great Place", the Copeland Soldiers Service Center is often soldiers' first encounter with Ft. Hood. As the gateway to DENTAC, the Copeland Dental Clinic aims to welcome newcomers with the best dental experience to reflect what Ft. Hood DENTAC has to offer!



1SG Weimer serves as auctioneer for O-day Gift Basket Fundraiser during Commander's Call in September.

Combined Federal Campaign

COL Johnette Shelley
Commander, Ft. Hood
DENTAC

Its that time of year, it's the time of year where federal employees and Soldiers are asked to donate to CFC or Combined Federal Campaign. The purpose of CFC is to raise money for federally sanctioned charities. In these current distressed economic times, we can all think of a dozen reasons why we can't give to charities (pay freeze, kids in college, gas prices and cost of living increases, and I already give to my church, etc, etc) and as a result donations to charities are down

significantly even in a time when they are needed most due to natural and manmade disasters (Hurricane Irene, tornadoes, floods, fires, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc). Last year the DENTAC raised over ten thousand dollars in our CFC campaign. We had several super givers in the DENTAC who donated over 1,000 dollars each to various charitable organizations. I am asking that all employees consider donating to a charity or charities of your choice. I am very proud of the DENTAC and their generosity. I have seen random acts of kindness

and generosity offered up anonymously and without fanfare. To celebrate and acknowledge your generosity, we will recognize the SuperGivers at the December Commanders call with three levels of awards. These awards are purchased by myself, not the DENTAC.

There will be three levels of recognition.

Thank you for your consideration!

**\$500-\$999
contribution**



**\$100-499
contribution**



**Over \$1000
contribution**



Members of the Ft. Hood DENTAC pose after completing an early morning hike at Dana Peak Park in August. Even at 0700hrs, it was approaching 90 degrees in the shade in Texas!





Tobacco Cessation Program

Available to active duty
service members,
dependents, and retirees.

Phone:

254-288-8488

Location:

Bldg. 12019,
31st St. & Battalion Ave.

Hours: 0900-1700

No waiting list! Patients
are generally seen within
10 days.

Visit

<http://www.hood.army.mil/resiliencycampus/Wellness.aspx> for more
information about the
Army Wellness Center at
Ft. Hood.



Best wishes
to all of our
outgoing
Unit
members!

Hails ...

LTC THOMPSON, DAVID from FT SAM HOUSTON, TX

SGT CHILDS, DENIS from HAWAII

SGT CORREA, NESTOR from WALTER REED, DC

CPL MERI, DONNA from FT STEWART, GA

CPL MERI, MARIO from FT STEWART, GA

SPC BACANI, FRANCISCO from ALASKA

SPC MAIOLA, BREANN from GERMANY

SPC MOORE, RACHELL from GERMANY

SPC PAYNE, STEPHANIE from FT IRWIN

SPC PRUITT, STEPHEN from FT CAMPBELL

SPC SPIKES, CARL from GERMANY

PFC LE, ANGEL from FT SAM HOUSTON, TX

Farewells ...

LTC GONZALEZ-MARRERO, JUAN going to ETS

MAJ HART, KRISTOPHER going to ETS

CPT MCCONNELL, PAUL going to FT CAMPBELL, KY

SSG SNEAD, KAMESHA going to ALASKA

SGT BUTLER, NATALIE going to KUWAIT (KOREA)



Morale Days!

Morale Day will start effective 1 Oct 11 for **military** and **GS/NSPS civilians only**. Contract cannot participate even in a non-pay status. DENTAC will authorize one morale day per quarter for 4 hours and it must be on a Thursday afternoon, to coincide with III Corps Family Time.

Morale days may be scheduled and approved by OICs and NCOICs; Mr. Schimmels cannot approve a Morale Day without confirmation from the clinic leadership. Please remember that morale day is subject to cancellation by the Commander if she feels mission requires it; mission always comes first.



Q-Tips

Tips to Ensure a Safer DENTAC

by Dr. Rebecca Greening, Patient Safety Manager, Ft. Hood, DENTAC

Incident Reports

1. A patient who had reported an allergy to latex was inadvertently examined by provider wearing latex gloves.

2. A patient was given ibuprofen although had reported an allergy to the medication. The first patient was given Benedryl prophylactically; both were kept for observation.

TIP: Update and check the patient's medical history at each appointment—never rely solely on the comments section of the 603A.

3. A patient received multiple operative restorations. When soldier returned to sick call in pain it was discovered that the restorations were in traumatic occlusion, and that large overhangs were irritating the gingiva.

4. A patient returned to sick call following

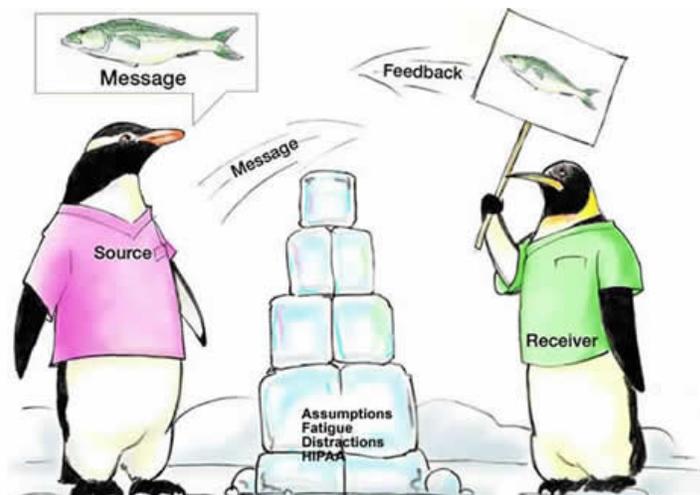
operative restorations reporting pain on chewing since restorations placed. Inter-proximal contact was discovered to be inadequate. In both cases, the restorations were replaced.

TIP: Use of proper wedging techniques and thorough checking of occlusal and interproximal contacts are imperative in operative dentistry.

5. A patient experienced syncope after administration of anesthesia. The patient's legs were elevated, and cool compresses were applied. Later the patient reported that he had not eaten anything all day, and was given Gatorade and a granola bar. The patient seemed fine, and the procedure was completed. However, when the patient tried to stand, he reported dizziness and began to collapse. Fortunately, his fall was intercepted by the assistant and doctor. EMS was activated. Vitals were taken and appeared normal. A

follow-up phone call revealed that IV fluids were administered at the hospital.

6. **TIP:** Close observation and questioning of your patient can be of the utmost importance.



Good Catches

1. A patient's 603A was found on the floor, out of its chart.

2. A patient's chart was discovered to contain the 603As from more than one patient.

3. The treatment plan on a 603A was discovered to have been transferred incorrectly.

TIP: Patient charts are medical/ legal documents. Care and attention to detail

must be used when handling them at all times.

4. Provider noticed oil dripping from high-speed handpiece when removing it from its port. The handpiece was run in the sink until all oil was dispersed.

TIP: It is importance to use the proper amount of oil in handpieces. Always check the handpiece before placing it in a patient's mouth.

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Congratulations to ... PFC Houck!

PFC Brian Houck recently graduated from (WLC) Warrior Leader Course September 1st. This is a challenging course for up and coming Army Leaders that is normally attended by SPC(P) thru SSG. This course shapes the Soldiers of today into the NCOs of tomorrow. PFC Houck was selected to go after he did

outstanding on his PT test. He accepted the challenge and completed the task.

PFC Houck hails from Philadelphia, PA, and has been active duty since only October 2010. We are very proud of PFC Houck and wish him the very best in his career!



Congratulations to PFC Houck!

Community Events

DENTAC Organization Day

O-day is fast approaching! DENTAC will have its annual O-Day celebration on Thursday October 6 at BLORA. This year's theme is "Hollywood." We look forward to seeing you there!

Oktoberfest

Fort Hood's Annual German-themed festival will be held 14 Oct at the Phantom Warrior Center Parking Lot from 1700-2200. Activities for the whole family will include: Live Band, interactive activities, children's

activities, arts and crafts, and vendors. Gruss Gott! For additional information call 288-7835 or visit the DFMWR web site: <http://www.hoodmwr.com/calendar.html>

Do you have any great stories, ideas or quotes to include in the newsletter?

We welcome your contributions! Please send stories, photos or any other news and information you would like to share with the DENTAC Unit to the newsletter coordinator, CPT Abena

Asare, via Outlook email on the AMEDD Exchange server.

DentACTION!! is a quarterly publication; the next edition will be published in October

2011. All submissions are due 15 days before the next publication date.

Remember to get your information in early to avoid being cut-off before the deadline!

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CITY, ST 22134

