

# AVENGER FAMILY READINESS NEWSLETTER

2-174<sup>th</sup> ADA (Avenger)

March 2003

Co-Chairpersons: Kathleen Ickes & Dee Vandine

Treasurer: Maggie Campfield

Secretary: Michele Fish

## Many thanks!

We would like to thank all of those who helped to make this year's Christmas parties a great success. We generated approximately \$400.00 minus expenses. We truly hope everyone had a great Christmas and a happy New Year.

During the month of February, we had our annual Valentine's Dance. There was a great turn out. Special thanks to Michele Fish, SueAnn Carroll, Maggie Campfield, Mikki Sheaffer and Kathy Ickes for there decorating efforts. The drill floor looked GREAT!! If you didn't attend, you missed a good time.

## Welcome/Farewell!!

LTC Lorenzo Mack joined the unit during the January drill. What an impressive ceremony the change of command is. We want to welcome Lorenzo and his family to the best unit in the state of Ohio. We look forward to working with him as we work to improve our family readiness group for any upcoming challenges.

We wish LTC Michael Bish the best as he moves on in his military career. The family support members will miss him. Mike thanks for all your hard work and extra caring when it came to our special needs and questions. God bless you and good luck in the future!!!

## New Addition!!

We want to congratulate Sarah & Thad Haines on the birth of their first child.

Name: Clayton Lee Haines

Born: February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Weight/length: 7 lbs. 13 ozs. & 20 1/4 inches long



## Battalion Alert!!!

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, the battalion got the phone calls we all worry about. I just want to express my personal feelings about the possible deployment. I have mixed emotions about my husband leaving. There are many responsibilities that will be left in my hands and I will miss him more than words can say. We have always prepared for this situation, but always hoped it would not come. I have been apart of the National Guard approximately 20 years. I'm very proud of my husband and the sacrifices that are required of us as a family. I am ready for the challenge/s and I hope you are too. The one thing that we can do for our soldiers is to assure them that we will be fine. We have each other, our friends & extended families to lean on during their possible deployment, when and if that comes. I want the soldiers of the battalion to know how proud we are of them. Our nation is GREAT because of your patriotism, commitment and dedication to its safety. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you during the challenges that may lie ahead for you in the next couple of weeks and beyond. Signed Kathy Ickes

God Bless you and the 2-174 ADA!!!

## Family Readiness Meeting

Please join us on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 PM for our NEXT Family Readiness meeting in the FS Room on the second floor across from the Day room. We will be preparing for the family briefs and the responsibilities that will be required of the family readiness group during possible deployment. The family readiness group will be responsible for childcare and snacks during the family briefs. We need volunteers to help care for the children while the families receive their family briefings. Donations for snacks are also needed. We will also be discussing many other items that concern possible deployment.

Please note: families are not to be with the soldier during their SRP (Soldier Readiness Processing). It is very important for the soldier to have this special time to prepare for their possible upcoming deployment.

If you have any suggestions for our newsletter, please feel free to contact Kathy Ickes at 740-454-8320 or Dee Vandine at 740-962-6037.