



The Sharp End



School of Artillery Newsletter



SITREP



MEDAL PARADE: 31 JANUARY 2019

(Capt Tumi Chabalala)

The School of Artillery held a medal parade on the 31 January 2019 at the unit parade ground. The recipients were honoured with their 10 years good service medals. Rewarding good service has always been a tradition in the SA Army. Colonel D.B.J. Schoonwinkel, The Officer Commanding School of Artillery was the functionary of the parade and during his speech; Colonel Schoonwinkel congratulated the members on the receipt of their medals.

The parade started at 10:00, the members on parade were the unit staff members and the students on course. The members enjoyed big tea after the parade.





LOVE & SORROW



Birthdays

We would like to congratulate the following members with the celebration of their birthdays. We hope that you will have a wonderful day and year:

Bdr M.C. Ntsopi – 01 Feb
Rct E.B. Stephanus – 03 Feb
S Sgt P.W. Masilela – 04 Feb
Lt Col J.J. Cronje - 07 Feb
Mrs S. Van der Merwe - 07 Feb
Bdr K.N. Mashao – 08 Feb
Sgt G.E. Motsosi - 13 Feb

L Bdr P.I.R. Johnson - 14 Feb
Rct P.J. Ngomane – 14 Feb
Gnr J.P. Horn - 21 Feb
Mr N.P. Sehume – 22 Feb
Capt P.O Mohale - 23 Feb
Rct A.F. Erlank – 23 Feb
Mr M.E. Mangwani - 23 Feb

School of Artillery Prayer Chain

The following members are on the School of Artillery prayer chain and we call on all our friends and colleagues to think of them in your daily prayers:

- **Unit Members on Course**

Maj Schwartz – JSCD
Lt Mfuku – YOC
Lt Sebati – YOC
Lt Photoane – YOC
Cpl Bloem – Junior Pers Clerk
Gnr Qulu – M5
Rct Mokgopa – BMT
Ms Makhoana – Pers Clerk

- **Detach Duty**

Capt Mohale – 4 Arty Regt
Lt Oliphant - 2 field Engineer Regt
Bdr Goliath – AMHU NW
Bdr Rambofheni – SA Army Arty Fmn
L/Bdr Montle – SA Army Arty Fmn
L/Bdr Mabaso - SA Army Arty Fmn
Gnr Jiba – Special Forces

- **Sick Leave**

Bdr Montshosi
Mrs Mqokolo
Mrs Lephoi

FAREWELLS: DECEMBER 2018

- Last year December, the unit bid farewell to many valuable members. The following members were transferred to different unit from the School of Artillery:

Maj E. Joshua – 4 Arty Regt
Maj N.N. Matsipa – Arty Fmn
Capt K. Mamba - 4 Arty Regt
Capt M.N. Khojane – 4 Arty Regt
WO2 P. Oliphant – Arty Fmn
Sgt M.C. Lukhelo – 4 Arty Regt
Sgt M.J. Mkhathswa – 4 Arty Regt

Sgt S.A Manuel – 4 Arty Regt
Sgt J. Khoza- Army Gym
Sgt J.P. Mathebula – Arty Fmn
Bdr E.G. Moleti – 4 Arty Regt
Bdr B.E. Mogodiri – 4 Arty Regt
Bdr R. Mogase – Arty Fmn
Bdr J.L. Mosina - 4 Arty Regt

Bdr N.B. Mashele – Arty Fmn
Bdr E.B. Makhukhule – Arty Fmn
Gnr T.V. Mabina – 4 Arty Regt
Gnr D.D. Maenatja – 4 Arty Regt
Gnr N. Masilela – 4 Arty Regt

- The following members resigned from the DoD, SA Army in 2018:



Lt Yamkela Jiba

Lt Yamkela Jiba served in the DoD from 07/01/2012 – 31/12/18. She did her BMT, platoon weapons and individual training at 3 SAI Bn, she also completed her Intelligence Orientation course, Advances Int and battalion Signallers Course, Aerial photography course, Int Part 1, Tis software at the School of Tactical Intelligence. In 2013 she completed her Junior Officers Formative course.

During her service to the DoD, Lt Yamkela Jiba served as the unit Military Security Officer of School of Artillery.



Mr M.J. Menzi

Mr M.J. Menzi served in the DoD from 12 April 1988 until 31 January 2019. He attended the driving and maintenance course and served as a tractor operator at the Base Maintenance Section of Support Wing.



Mr Seitidisho

Mr Seitidisho served in the DoD, SA Army from 21 January 1986 until 30 June 2018. He worked at the mess as the cleaner.



To sharpen my axe... or not

2018 really passed like a dream. Think of all the weekends we looked forward to, the long weekends, our leave days, all carefully planned... Gone! We are now looking forward to the new weekends and holidays of 2019. Sometimes we feel guilty when we take a rest... Why? We have to rest. Even Jesus invites us to take a rest in the passage at the end of this article. If you do not allow yourself a little time every day to rest actively you may regret it.

It is very important to get enough rest. These days we hear of a "thing" they call "Burn out syndrome" That is when I just can't cope with doing what I do. My job just asks too much of me. For caregivers there is another name for this thing: "Compassion fatigue" This happens when you care so much for others that you burn out all your own resources. You do not replenish your strength. The result is a person experiencing no joy in any way anymore, nor doing his/her job anymore. Tired, worn out, depressed.

There is a story about an old man and a young man who got a job to cut a certain number of trees. The first day the young man really showed the old man how trees are chopped. In time, however, the young man's success wasn't so obvious anymore until the old man, eventually cut much more than the young man each day. The young man came to the old man and asks why this happened, because he, the young man, really put in everything every day. The old man asked the young man: "When was the last time that you sharpened your axe?" The young man said: "There was no time, because then I would just fall behind even more." The moral of the story is that sometimes you have to take time, not cutting trees, so that you can sharpen your axe. Eventually the time taken to sharpen the axe prove to be time well spent, because you can cut more trees with a sharpened axe than with a blunt one.

A certain Dr Caroline Leave, in her book Switch on your brain said that you have to give your brain a Sabbath's rest. That is to, deliberately, shut down from the every day's rush and dig deep into your mind to make contact with yourself. You must get in touch with the real you and your Creator, so that you can get a new perspective about life.

If we do not take time for this "Brain Sabbath" we disturb the natural functions of the brain. This may result in a negative self-image, depression, panic- attacks and other health problems. We may come to a point where we generalize and focus too much on short term matters. This affects us in such a way that we have difficulties in coping especially because we focus on the problem and not on the solution of our problem. Eventually, if we do not take that important rest we may experience a burn out or Compassion fatigue situation and then we will not be effective anymore.

Jesus gave us an invitation to take a rest in the correct way: **Mat 11:28** "Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Mat 11:29 Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. Mat 11:30 For the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light."

Enjoy the year, be successful, make a difference, but remember to look after yourself... make time for yourself, make time for God in 2019!

Regards
Cpln J.J. Jordaan





UPCOMING EVENTS:

7 – 9 February 2019: Nelspruit High School Visit "Gatvas project".
25 February 2019 - 22 March 2019: Module X Practical Training Exercise
15 February 2019: Blood drive

DATES TO BOOK:

School of Artillery Birthday Ball – 19 September 2019

School of Artillery Corporate Golf day – 20 September 2019



A couple from Minneapolis decided to go to Florida to thaw out during a particularly icy winter. They planned to stay at the very same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 20 years earlier. Because of hectic schedules, it was difficult to coordinate their travel reservations. So, the husband left Minnesota and flew to Florida on Thursday, and his wife flew down the following day. The husband checked into the hotel. There was a computer in his room, so he decided to send an e-mail to his wife. However, he accidentally left out one letter in her email address and without realizing his error, he sent the e-mail.

Meanwhile... somewhere in Houston, a woman had just returned home from her husband's funeral. He was a minister for many years and had been "called home to glory" following a sudden heart attack. The widow decided to check her e-mail, expecting messages from relatives and friends. After reading the first message, she fainted. The widow's son rushed into the room, found his mother on the floor, and saw the computer screen which read:

To: My Loving Wife

Subject: I've arrived

Date: 3 January 2005

I know you're surprised to hear from me. They have computers here now and you are allowed to send e-mails to your loved ones. I've just arrived and been checked in. I see that everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you then! Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was.

