

COMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 6 April 2006. It was the 211th regularly scheduled meeting since the Council was established in 1973.

1. Members present/absent and advisors and guests present were:

MEMBERS (Army Retiree, except as indicated)

PRESENT

COL Stanley S. Heath	CSM Charles E. Frye
COL Charles A. Block (USMC)	CSM William Jolley
COL William E. Crouch	SGM Lloyd M. Rogers, Assoc. Sec
COL James E. Hyers	1SG Jackie Ray
LTC Clarence R. Collins	1SG John J. McCracken, Jr. (USAF)
LTC James R. Mellish	SFC Joseph N. Barnes
CDR James E. Cobb (USN)	

MEMBERS ABSENT

COL Bob Bunting, Co-Ch	CSM James W. Harris
	SGM Samuel V. MacMaster

GUESTS

Mr. Frank Toves

ADVISORS PRESENT

CSM Alfred W. Alexander, Garrison CSM
Ms. Martha Frausto, LAHC
Ms. Diane Snodgrass, AAFES Manager
Mr. Tim Laster, DMWR
Mr. Chris Moore, RSO
Mr. Mike O'Meara, Commissary Officer
Ms. Lori Yerdon, PAO

2. CSM Frye called the meeting to order at 1135 and welcomed everyone.
3. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.
4. Old Business – Mr. Laster reported that organizations could now schedule Christmas parties at Aviator's Landing. Additionally, one of the Brigades may possibly host an installation party. Due to the limited number of weekends, a 10% discount for booking events Monday through Thursday will be given.

5. Committee Reports:

a. Public Affairs – Ms. Yerdon reported the PAO Officer will be TDY to the AAAA Convention next week. The Novosel memorial ceremony was attended by two TV stations, two newspapers, and a radio station. The Easter sunrise service is 16 April, 0630 at Howze Field followed by breakfast at 0730 and brunch at 1030 at the Landing.

b. Legislative Affairs - COL Hyers reported that the House Armed Services Sub-Committee was working on issues related to the Tricare fees increase and SBP being paid up at 30 years. The Budget Committee reinstated \$730 million that was cut from the VA budget. COL Block urged everyone to write their legislators about issues affecting them because the messages do have an effect.

c. Health Care – Ms. Frausto apologized for the disorder at the Clinic caused by the renovation work. More seating is being added in the pharmacy area. She recommended Tricare Plus patients contact her to use civilian provider's downtown due to limited "space available" appointments at the Clinic. COL Denney's change-of-command is 27 June, 0800 at Howze Field instead of 27 May as previously stated.

d. Volunteers Program – SFC Barnes Reported that Cindy Cillufo from the Combat Readiness Center is Volunteer of the Month for April.

e. Consolidated Club System – LTC Collins reported the club system is finally operating in the black which will keep it from being closed. It was recommended to make reservations for the Easter Brunch.

f. Commissary – Mr. O'Meara reported the Commissary will be open on Easter Sunday because it is not a federal holiday. There is plenty of Easter candy on hand as well as hams and yams. On 5-6 May, the Tide NASCAR car will be at the Commissary and hopefully Coca Cola will have a truck load sale at that time. On 12 May, Kellogg's will host a promotional sale; 12-13 May will be the next case lot sale. Those shopping for cases only should use the warehouse door; all others will use the front door. Pet Day will be on 20 May with dog food companies running specials and promotions.

g. PX – Ms. Snodgrass distributed AAFES advertising handouts. Raymond Harris will be at the PX on 15 April along with his "Monster Truck." There will be a Kid's Carnival on 22 April with free rides, door prizes and games for kids. AAFES calendar of events will be available at all post AAFES outlets.

h. Golf Course – COL Heath reported the irrigation project has been started.

i. Equestrian Center – COL Heath reported the first Open Horse Show takes place

Retiree Council Minutes, April 6, 2006

this weekend starting at 1000. The trials last month had riders from Canada, Wisconsin, and Illinois. Fuel prices are keeping entrants from attending.

j. Outdoor Recreation – Mr. Laster reported a new 75 foot water slide will be installed at the Lake before the end of May.

k. Bowling Alley – CSM Jolley reported the renovations are complete and the floor is one level so a person does not have to step up to get on the lane.

l. RAD – Mr. Moore reported that MG (Ret) Matz, President of NAUS, has accepted our invitation to be the main speaker at the 2006 RAD. Mr. Moore should have menus for review and selection at the next meeting.

6. Advisors Comments:

a. CSM Alexander reported that RCI opened the first Community Center today.

b. Mr. Laster reported the following: The irrigation system at the Blue Course is operational and all courses should be completed by the end of April. Work has been started on the cart paths. There is a new chef at the Landing, Chef Gary, and the quality of the food should improve. There are new electronic Bingo machines in use to replace the “Quick Shot Cards”. Entrance fees have increased at the Lake. Boat launch fees will be \$3.00 per boat and annual boat launch passes will increase by \$12 per year. Fees will be charged for swimming at the beach. The Skills, Arts, and Crafts shop will be closed 27 – 29 April. On Friday nights, the Dawn Patrol Lounge hosts the Mega Bucks 2 karaoke competition with a one time entry fee of \$10 and a chance to win the grand prize of \$2,500 on 7 July 2006. The 2006 Children’s Festival is scheduled for 8 April from 1300-1600 and Outdoor Recreation will host a pan fish/catfish tournament that morning. On 13 April, the ITR Office will be holding a Space Available Class from 1200-1300. The “Members Only” Golf Scramble is scheduled for 14 April and a Volunteer Support Tournament is scheduled for 28 April with proceeds used to pay for the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Outdoor Recreation is hosting a Youth and Disabled Fishing Tournament from 0700-1100 on 22 April 2006.

7. New Business: None.

8. General Comments – COL Block stated emails have been sent asking military retirees to render honors by using the regular military hand salute instead of placing the hand over the heart.

9. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1210. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the Aviators Landing on 4 May 2006 at 1130.

Retiree Council Minutes, April 6, 2006

Approved via email 20 APR

BOB BUNTING

COL, Retired

Co-Chairman

Approved via email 20 APR

CHARLES E. FRYE

CSM, Retired

Co-Chairman

Approved via email 20 APR

LLOYD M. ROGERS

SGM, Retired

Association Secretary

ORIGINAL SIGNED

WILLIAM S. LARESE

CCL, Aviation

Garrison Commander