

COMMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 7 August 2008. It was the 238th 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 James E. Hyers	CSM Charles E. Frye
COL Herman S. Heath	CSM James W. Harris
LTC Clarence Collins	SGM Sam McMaster
CW4 Robert N. Cooper	SMSGT Jean A. Woodruff, USAF
Mrs. Marie Wilkins	1SG Jackie Ray
	SFC Bernett Jergenson
	SFC Ralph E. Reed

MEMBERS ABSENT

COL Bob Bunting	1SG Ken Prier
LTC Carolyn Bost-Pittman	
MAJ Jack K. Swinehart	

ADVISORS PRESENT

COL Ruiz- Isales, LAHC	Mr. Steve Morgan, AG/MPD
Mr. Tim Laster, DFMWR	Mr. Mark Wonders, PAO
Ms. Diane Snodgrass, AAFES	Mr. Chris Moore, RSO
Mr. Mike O'Meara, Commissary	

2. CSM Frye called the meeting to order at 1130.

3. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.

4. Old Business. None.

5. Committee Reports.

a. Public Affairs - Provided a calendar of events. Highlights included the job fair at EOCC on 12 August, the AUSA breakfast meeting with Senator Sessions as guest of honor on 14 August, and the Post DONSA scheduled for 29 August 2008.

b. Legislative Affairs - The FY09 Defense Authorization Bill is stalled in the Senate leaving only one month to resolve any issues and combine it with the House of Representative's version,

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approved previously. Since this will likely not happen, a continuing resolution is expected to be needed. The House has passed a number of bills addressing a wide variety of service member, veteran and family needs. More \$22 co-pay drugs were proposed on 24 July 2008. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) will make the final decision on their move.

c. Health Care - No report.

d. Volunteer Support. No report.

e. Community Activity Center - 15 August is the Texas Hold 'em tournament. After Labor Day, the pool will only be open on weekends.

f. Commissary - 12-14 September is the next case lot sale. The NCO Wives Club will host a fund raiser, selling food in front of the Commissary during the same time.

g. PX - Ms. Patricia Austin is the new general manager, replacing Mr. Huwyler. 15-17 August are the end of summer sale dates. Customers will be surveyed during the period of 16-29 August 2008. Popeye's Chicken is expected to open in the Food Court in September.

h. Golf Course - The "Divots Restaurant and Grille" is doing well since its grand opening. The Post's "Pro-Am" Tournament is 26-28 August and vendor demonstration days will take place on 16 August, 9 September and 13 September 2008.

i. Equestrian Center - The next horse trials are scheduled for 6-7 September, depending on registrations. The cost of fuel and class limitations at our events have reduced projected entrants for the fall trials.

j. Outdoor Recreation - Fishing at all lakes is great. Hog hunting is now available in areas closed for the past 3-4 years. Snakes are active due to the dry conditions and all should be observant and on the look out during any outdoor activities.

k. Bowling Alley - Hosting a bowling world record attempt, scheduled for 30 August 2008. The next Boston butt sale will be held the first weekend in September.

l. RAD - A firm awarded the Retiree Newsletter contract, published and started distribution the first week of August. The RAD OPORD is out to affected organizations for coordination.

6. Advisors' Comments.

a. Mr. Morgan stated the new RAPIDS work station is expected by September. With Mr. Moore's recent promotion, the RSO position is now staffed at the GS-11 level.

b. Lyster Army Health Clinic - COL Ruiz-Isales introduced herself. She said the Clinic will have reduced staffing for the 29 August DONSA, to include limited pharmacy hours. A unit organization day is scheduled for 26 September 2008.

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c. Mr. Wonders said there will be a book signing at the Museum on 23 August 2008 by MG(R) Hal Moore and Mr. Joe Galloway, both well-known participants from the Vietnam War.

d. Mr. Laster said once ITR receives tickets to the Soldiers' Show, 19-20 September, they will notify everyone.

e. Mr. Steuber told the Council that once again the installation received money for upgrades. This time the Post will receive over \$1.6 million for security upgrades at the major access points. Currently, future DA-level development plans do not include any Fort Rucker projects. He reiterated we should expect to operate under a continuing resolution in CY2009.

7. New Business – CSM (R) Charles Frye recommended and the Council voted favorably on changes to the Constitution and By-Laws. The first, Article III, Section 1, Paragraph four, changed to read, "Initial term of office shall be four years. Individuals may succeed themselves for an additional four years with the approval of the Council. Terms of appointment are not to exceed eight years (AR 600-8-7, June 2008)." The second, Article V, Section 3, increases a quorum from seven to eleven members. The Council voted favorably on the applications of CSM(R) Gene Nelson and CPO(R) Fred Griffin with initial terms September 2008 - August 2012. CSM(R) Nelson was also nominated and voted favorable to replace CSM (R) Frye as Co-Chairman of the Council. Each of these actions will be forwarded to the Garrison Commander for final approval.

8. The meeting adjourned at 1230. The next scheduled meeting will be held at Aviators' Landing on 4 September at 1130.

Approved via-email

BOB BUNTING
COL, Retired
Co-Chairman

Approved via-email

CHARLES E. FRYE
CSM, Retired
Co-Chairman

Prepared By:

Chris Moore, RSO
for Carolyn Bost-Pittman
LTC, Retired
Secretary



YVETTE J. KELLEY
COL, AV
Garrison Commander