

COMMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 7 February 2008. It was the 233rd 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, Co-chair
COL Charles A. Block	CSM James W. Harris
COL Herman S. Heath	SGM Sam McMaster
CDR James E. Cobb	1SG Jackie Ray
LTC James R. Mellish	1SG James K. Prier
LTC Carolyn Bost-Pittman	SFC Bernett Jergenson
LTC Clarence R. Collins	Mrs. Marie Wilkins
CW4 Robert N. Cooper	

MEMBERS ABSENT

COL Bob Bunting	MSG John J. McCracken, Jr.
MAJ Jack K. Swinehart	SFC Joseph Barnes
	SFC Ralph E. Reed

ADVISORS PRESENT

COL Larese, Garrison CDR	Mrs. Deborah Seimer, DHR
COL Kaminski, LAHC CDR	Mrs. Gail Braley, AG
Mr. Chris Moore, RSO	Ms. Diane Snodgrass, AAFES
Ms. Leslie Gordnier, PAO	Ms. Evy Bludsworth, DMWR

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 celebration of Black History month, lawn mower race, spring horse trials, the grand opening of Singing Pines at Lake Tholocco, and the Senior Leader Conference.

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b. Legislative Affairs - COL Hyers reported the Defense Bill became law when President Bush signed the FY 2008 Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 110-181) on 28 January. Among other things, it authorizes a 3.5% military pay raise (retroactive to 1 January), bars any TRICARE fee increases for FY 2008, and extends full concurrent receipt to "unemployable" disabled retirees and those forced into early retirement by combat related disabilities.

c. Health Care - COL Kaminski reported "No Show" appointments cost \$55.00 per cancellation and that approximates to \$16,000 lost each week at LAHC. The average wait time at Lyster Pharmacy is 14 minutes versus one hour at CVS and Walmart pharmacies. The grand opening of the VA clinic is projected for March. The VA is proposing to renovate space at Lyster to add a dental clinic (\$2.9 million expense). Flu and shingle shots are still available at the Immunization Clinic. LAHC received \$40,000 for its 18% workload increase above last year's.

d. Commissary - Case lot sale 2-4 May 2008

e. PX - Sale on precious jewelry and they have "Cherish" jewelry for Valentine purchases. The Garden Center has seeds and rosebushes for early planting. Outdoor furniture is available and there is a huge winter clothing sale.

f. Golf Course - Intramurals will start early with senior gold tees and there will be a ladies round robin tournament in June. The golf/pro shop has new merchandise and the snack bar will open 1 May.

g. Equestrian Center - COL Heath reported that 16 February is the Open Horse Show and 1-2 March will start the spring horse trials, and the summer shows will be discontinued.

h. Outdoor Recreation - The deer season harvest was down 300%, 44 deer were killed. Buckhorn Lake opens in April, Sun-Thur. Six cabins are completed. There is no limit on crappie fishing. The dam is working to sustain water levels.

i. Bowling Alley - Boston Butts will be on sale 1 March at the Bowling Alley. They will cost \$18.00 each; call 255-9503 to order.

j. RAD - A request for CG approval to hold this year's RAD the last week of October is being staffed. A guest speaker needs requested by the chain of command. Suggestions for guest speaker can be e-mailed to Chris Moore, RSO.

6. Advisors' Comments

a. Mrs. Braley reported approval to recruit the RSO position at a GS-11 level.

b. Ms. Gordnier reported that the Senior Leader's Conference calendar is in the Army Flier.

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c. Ms. Bludsworth reported on the bicycle/lawnmower race on 23 Feb from 1000-1600 hours.

d. COL Larese reported on the new HQ building ribbon cutting ceremony 25 April, the completion of 118 new homes and that the housing project was four homes ahead of schedule and on budget. COL Larese also stated that the 25th anniversary of Aviation Branch is in April.

7. New Business - None.

8. The meeting adjourned at 1230. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the Aviators' Landing on 6 March 08 at 1130.

Approved via-email

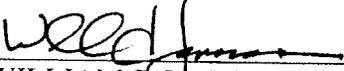
BOB BUNTING
COL, Retired
Co-Chairman

Approved via-email

CHARLES E. FRYE
CSM, Retired
Co-Chairman

Prepared By:

Carolyn Bost-Pittman
LTC, Retired
Secretary



WILLIAM S. LARESE
COL, AV
Garrison Commander

FEB 28 2008