

COMMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 5 August, 2010. It was the 260th regularly scheduled meeting since the Council was established in 1973.

1. Members present/absent and advisors present were:

MEMBERS (Army Retiree, except as indicated)

PRESENT

BG Douglas Smith	CSM Gene Nelson
COL Bob Bunting	CSM James W. Harris
LTC Carolyn Bost-Pittman	SMS Jean A. Woodruff, USAF
LTC Clarence Collins	TSGT Bill Bieber, USA
CW4 Bob Cooper	EOC Fred Griffin, USN
Mrs. Marie Wilkins	

MEMBERS ABSENT

COL Emil Zimmermann	1SG Ken Prier
COL James E. Hyers	SFC Ralph Reed
	SFC Bernett Jergenson

ADVISORS PRESENT

COL Patrick N. Denman, LAHC	Mr. Chris Moore, RSO
Mr. Tim Laster, DFMWR	Mr. Mike O'Meara, Commissary

2. CSM Gene Nelson called the meeting to order at 1130.
3. CSM Gene Nelson opened the meeting with a prayer and introduced a guest, Mr. James Mattingly, USAF, Retired.
4. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.
5. Old Business – CSM Nelson commented that no one volunteered for the PAO position, therefore, he agreed to present the PAO report. CSM Nelson will serve as a liaison for the area and will attend Retiree committee meetings in Ozark, Dothan, and Enterprise.
6. Committee Reports:
 - a. Public Affairs – CSM Nelson that a Retiree Fair will be held 12 August at the Enterprise Civic Center. CSM Nelson is excited about the PAO job and will take a look at advertising thru Ann Varnum and Charlie Platt. Change of Command is 19 Aug at 0830, at Howze Field between MG Barclay (outgoing) and BG Crutchfield (incoming).
 - b. Legislative Affairs - No report

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c. Health Care- CSM Harris attended the quarterly Healthcare Consumer Committee meeting at LAHC on 15 July. He reported that COL Denman commented that he did not want any beneficiary to leave LAHC unhappy! The front entrance of the clinic will be renovated and TRICARE services will be moved there for more “user friendly” service. Flu shots administered this fall will be a single type and include the H1N1. Prescriptions for narcotics must include the issuing doctor’s original signature and must be dated for LAHC pharmacy acceptance. Reported wait times for pharmacy prescriptions for AD is 4.5 minutes, Lyster prescribed is 12 minutes, outside prescriptions is 12.5 minutes, and 73% of all patients served had a wait time under 15 minutes. LAHC has a person dedicated to ensuring the success of the Retiree Health Fair in October 2010. Mr. Donnely, the VA representative, reported that the VA currently has four doctors and they are now able to conduct Compensation and Pension (C&P) physicals Monday - Friday, eight hours a day. The CT/MRI is operational, and an ophthalmologist, dentist, and audiologist are expected to arrive early next year. The grand opening of the VA clinic is scheduled for 1000, 3 Sep upstairs in Building 301, LAHC. Congressman Bright may attend.

d. Community Activity – LTC Collins had no report. Mr. Laster commented that the decorations for the old lunch room will be completed today with colorful and interesting designs.

e. Commissary – Mr. O’Meara reported that customers wanting double bags must request them. Reusable bags should be washed and dried to reduce/limit contamination. Commissary pricing is conducted monthly on the 1st and the 15th. A donated pallet of Kool-Aid will be shipped to Iraq. Mr. O’Meara will work on obtaining a special truckload sale for the RAD. The next case lot sale will be 10-12 September.

f. Retiree Voluntary Support - Open

g. PX – Mr. Moore, RSO, reported that the Main PX will have an end of summer bash 29 August, 1200-1400 hours that will include sales events, DFMWR and Picerne “Family Covenant” collaborations, snow cones, ice cream, hot dog, egg roll stands, etc. Hispanic Heritage Month celebration begins on 17 September with food sampling, local vendors, etc. in the main store area. A warehouse beer tasting “Slurp and Burp Sale” will be held on 13 August. Popeyes will offer Cajun turkeys for holiday meals starting in October. The price will be available soon.

h. Golf Course – CW4 Cooper had no report, however, he commented that the next VA steering committee meeting is 23 August. LTC Bost-Pittman commented on the Veterans’ Day parade in Enterprise that will include a female veterans float to represent all female veterans for all services.

i. Equestrian Center –No report.

j. Outdoor Recreation – SFC Jergenson sent in his report that it is hot at Lake Tholocco, and everyone is having a hot time.

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k. Bowling Alley – SMS Jean A. Woodruff reported that she is continuing to work on interests that would benefit Fort Rucker.

l. RAD – Mr. Moore requested that council members ask for donations from local businesses for the RAD. The buffet dinner served this year will cost \$16.50. CW5 Charlie Wigglesworth has expressed a desire to serve on the council after his pending retirement.

7. Advisors' Comments.

a. Mr. Laster, DFMWR, reported that there is no greens superintendent at the SWGC and new work is at a standstill because Mr. Roger Harmon has been ill a long time. Construction on six new cabins and two new cottages has been started on at East beach (Lake Tholocco) and work on the West Beach restroom is in progress. The sewer system is complete on Engineer Beach. The campground facility will be completed this fall with washers and dryers and a place to gather. The Lake Party Luau will be on 1730-2200, 21 August at the, West Beach Gazebo. The Luau will feature hula dancers, fire/knife dancers, a live DJ, island style buffet, etc. Ticket prices include a Polynesian buffet. Advanced tickets are \$15.00

b. COL Patrick N. Denman, LAHC Commander, discussed the patient centered Medical Home Service (partner with patient) for entire health. This model tracks the maintenance of diseases (i.e. diabetes, etc.) and serves as a readiness tool. Also, this model brings money back to LAHC to better serve the beneficiary. COL Denman is partnering with the VA representative, Mr. Donnelly and has already included attendance at the Dothan Chamber of Commerce civilian-military affairs committee. COL Denman has established a parking process action team to reinforce the VA parking area for veterans visiting the VA clinic. The results are evident-more parking is available for VA beneficiaries. The \$700,000 renovation project in front of LAHC will move the patient administration and TRICARE offices to the front of the facility to include a welcome and greeting service center. COL Denman also discussed the importance of completing the surveys beneficiaries receive. LAHC receives \$100 for each one completed. This money is used for better customer service projects (i.e. renovations) for the beneficiary. LAHC has a 90.7% customer satisfaction rating.

c. Mr. Bridgewater, ICE, reported that the contract for customer assessment was extended to the end of November so the next customer service assessment will be conducted the last week of August and continue into September. He commented that Retiree are the largest group that responds to the assessment.

8. New Business – None.

9. COL Bunting discussed the 5th Honor Flight that will leave Dothan, AL on 25 September. A golf tournament will be held on 13 August in Ozark for the Boys 'and Girls' Club. This club is not supported by public funds. The annual rodeo in Ozark will be held on 20-21 August. On 10 September there will be a concert at the Dothan Civic Center to support ALS featuring

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songwriter Terry Collins, among others. Balcony seats are \$25.00. CW4 Cooper commented that the next meeting for the Vietnam Veterans Association will be 14 August in Clayhatchee.

10. The meeting adjourned at 1300. The next scheduled meeting will be held at The Landing on 2 September, 2010 at 1130.

Approved via-email

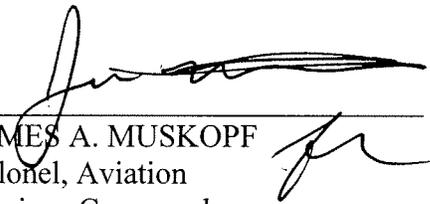
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