



Commissioned Officers Association  
U.S. Public Health Service

Fort Detrick Branch

**Fort Detrick COA Branch**  
**Meeting May 8, 2007**  
**1900-2030**

**Members Attendance**

LCDR Rick Gussio, President, (NIH/Ft. Detrick)  
LCDR Candido Alicea, Vice President, (NIH/Ft. Detrick)  
LCDR Leigh Ann Bradford and spouse, Treasurer, (FDA)  
CDR Lisa Barnhart, Secretary, (NIH/Bethesda)  
CDR Merrit Lake, Member, (USDA)  
CDR Debbie Lake, Member (PSC)  
LCDR Linda Ellison-Dejewski, Member, (NIH)  
LT Sally Hu, Member, (FDA)  
CDR Vien Vanderhoof and spouse, (NIH, Bethesda)  
LCDR April Kidd, Member (FDA)  
CAPT Richard Potter (ret.) (Space-A Travel Seminar), Guest

- I. Introduction of Members Attending.
  - A. New attending member, CDR Vien Vanderhoof welcomed/introduced.
- II. New Business:
  - A. Acceptance of March Minutes
  - B. Fundraising for Mission of Mercy <http://www.missionofmercy.org/home/index.cfm> (a foundation that provides healthcare to underprivileged children). This goal will be accomplished with the sale of raffle tickets by each member. Fifty percent of the profits will go to the Mission of Mercy. Volunteers are needed to ask businesses for charitable donations for raffle prizes to be held at the branch pool party.
  - C. Fort Detrick Deploys (PLEASE send 2-4 photos (.jpg or .bmp) by characterizing your deployment(s) with explanations to LCDR Gussio for presentation at 11 Sep meeting
  - D. Resolutions/status-unchanged.
  - E. PT testing held on 4/20/07. Two officers scored at fitness level 4.
- III. Administrative and Committee Reports:
  - A. Treasurer's and Fund Raising Activities: LCDR Leigh Ann Bradford
    1. As of last bank statement, the total balance is: \$1095.03
  - B. Social Activities: LT Sally Hu, Chair. Vien Vanderhoof, Vice Chair.



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1. Picnic Subcommittee: Picnic (28 JUL) Subcommittee (need chair) possible change to pool party (3\$ a person, children 3 and under for free).
  2. Xmas Family Bowl & Pizza Subcommittee (8 DEC).
  3. Dining Out Subcommittee: Recognition awards planned during event.
- C. Membership: Chair: CDR Amy Anderson; Vice Chair: LCDR Linda Ellison-Dejewski.
1. Membership numbers: 78 members
- D. Professional Committee: LCDR Cynthia B. Rubio, Chair.
1. No report.
- E. Awards Committee: Vien Vanderhoof, Chair. Vice Chair position vacant.
- F. Resolutions Committee: CDR Thomas L. Doss, Chair. LCDR Gussio reported Continuing resolution of Hazardous Duty Award for BSL3, BSL4 assignments to the National COA.
- G. Fundraising Committee: LCDR Leigh Ann Matheny, Chair.
1. LCDR Gussio reports raffles will be planned for July event.
- H. Community Activities Committee: Chair: CDR Jeff McKinney;
1. Science Fair at Walkersville High School held on 3/24/07: Calculator was awarded to the winner; a pre-engineering student.
- I. Election Committee: Chair: LCDR Rick Gussio; Vice Chair: CDR Amy Anderson.
- IV. Round the Table: Final Comments from Members and Attendees
1. No comments.
- V. Guest Speaker: CAPT Richard Potter (ret.), "Space-A Travel".  
Armed Forces Vacation Club- web site [www.afvclub.com](http://www.afvclub.com)  
This is a web site that offers space available vacation bargains.  
Lodging in resorts all over the world or a flat fee of \$299 per week.
- Dirk Pepperd's web site:  
<http://www.pepperd.com>
- VI. Date and Time for Next Meeting: 11 September 2007 at 1900. Jerry Farrell will be the guest speaker. Summer picnic July 28<sup>th</sup>. Will be either a picnic at Nalin's pond or a pool party at the Fort Detrick outdoor pool.



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Submitted by:

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Ft Detrick Branch COA, Secretary