



Commissioned Officers Association
U.S. Public Health Service

Fort Detrick Branch

Fort Detrick COA Branch
Meeting September 11, 2007

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 Amy Anderson, Member, (FDA)
CDR Jeff McKinney, Member, (NIH)
LCDR Cynthia Rubio, Member, (FDA)
Capt. Jerry Farrell (ret); COA Executive Director (Guest)

- I. Introduction of Members Attending.
 - A. Jerry Farrell and members introduced.

- II. President's Report/Announcements: LCDR Gussio:
 - A. Upcoming Events:
 1. Executive Elections to be held at the November 6th meeting-those interested in running are encouraged to submit their position statements to be posted on the website by early October. Winners will be announced at the Dining Out.
 2. MSC Esprit de Corps/Fall PFT at Headquarters/Fitness Center on October 26, 2007.
 3. Annual Dinner/Dining Out scheduled for 1 December 2007 (1800 to 2100) at Old South Mountain Inn. See website for directions and menu choices.
 4. The X-mas Bowl and Pizza will be at the Ft. Detrick Bowling Alley on 8 December 2007 at 1300.

- III. Administrative and Committee Reports:
 - A. Treasurer's and Fund Raising Activities: LCDR Leigh Ann Matheny
 1. Account balance as of 15 Aug 07 was \$918.26.

 - B. Professional Committee: LCDR Cynthia B. Rubio, Chair.
 1. LCDR Rubio announced that Barquist clinic is open to having PHS officers volunteer for clinical time in the Ft. Detrick facility, and especially needs PT, OT, and RNs. Officers should follow-up with LCDR Rubio if interested.



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- C. No Other Committee reports available.

- IV. Guest Speaker Presentation: CAPT Jerry Farrell (USN ret).
 - A. Summary highlights:
 - 1. Updated Transformation progress and recruitment focus on MDs, RNs, Dentists, and Pharmacists.
 - 2. Concerns:
 - a. There is currently no real plan to develop a Force Management System and the OSG is currently disorganized.
 - b. Continuing Resolution Funding/Budget issues-will there be a Health and Human Services appropriation bill at all?
 - c. The Corps has begun a transition within the transformation in that we currently have a leadership vacuum.
 - 3. PHS will create a panel to recommend 5 to 6 officers for SG. At least ½ the candidates will be commissioned officers. The Acting leaders will need much officer support and other officers will need to step up to other vacant leadership positions.
 - 4. Legislation affecting the PHS CC: The Kennedy and Waxman Bills. We are encouraged to support the Waxman Bill and NOT the Kennedy Bill, in the interest of the PHS CC.
 - 5. The Tucson 2008 COA Conference: Scientific planning is underway. Anyone interested in joining the planning committee is welcome and should send an email to Jerry Farrell.

- V. Date and Time for Next Meeting:
 - A. The next Fort Detrick COA Branch Meeting will be Nov 6, 2007 from 1900-2000.

If you have questions or comments, please contact:

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