

COMMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL  
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 3 December 2009. It was the 253rd 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	SMS Jean A. Woodruff, USAF
COL James E. Hyers	SFC Bernett Jergenson
LTC Clarence Collins	TSGT Bill Bieber, USAF
LTC Carolyn Bost-Pittman	Mrs Marie Wilkins
CW4 Bob Cooper	

MEMBERS ABSENT

COL Emil Zimmermann	CSM James Harris
	1SG Ken Prier
	1SG Frank Ellerkamp
	SFC Ralph Reed
	EOC Fred Griffin, USN

ADVISORS PRESENT

COL Yvette Kelly, Garrison Cdr	Ms. Sheryl Lowell, PAO
Mr. Tim Laster, DMWR	Ms. Yon Kim, AAFES
Mr. Mike O'Meara, Commissary	Mr. Chris Moore, RSO
Mrs. Martha Frausto, LAHC	

2. COL Bunting called the meeting to order at 1130.
3. SGM McMaster was presented a certificate of achievement for his service to Retirees, families and surviving spouses while serving on the Retiree Council.
4. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.
5. Old Business - None
6. New Business - The Council will not meet in January. The next meeting will be 4 Feb 2010.
7. Committee Reports:

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a. Public Affairs - Ms Lowell discussed the upcoming December events, including the need of volunteers at the Christmas tree lighting and Enterprise parade. The Army band will conduct a concert on 14 December in Panama City, FL and admission is free.

b. Legislative Affairs - COL Hyers reported health premiums for Guard and Reserve members and their Families, in addition to dental premiums for Active Duty Families and Reserve components will rise between 4.4% and 9.7% as of 1 Jan 2010. The defense budget future looks bleak. The House Armed Services Committee hearing painted a dreary picture for future defense funding.

c. Health Care - Mrs Frausto reported Lyster Army Health Clinic will have reduced staffing on 18 December 2009 from 1130-1300. The MRI machine will be operational in April.

d. Community Activity - LTC Collins reported COL Crow was absent from the meeting in June 2009 and more information about the Activity will follow.

e. Commissary - Mr. O'Meara discussed the Commissary's operating hours. The Commissary is open on 21 December, 0900-1900. The best time to shop is Christmas Eve, 0900-1600. The Commissary will close on 25 December, resume regular hours on 26 December, open 31 December and will be closed New Year's Day. Advanced notice is required when ordering of deli trays.

f. Retiree Voluntary Support - Open

g. PX - Ms. Kim discussed Early Bird Specials. On 21 December is grand opening for gun and ammunition sales at the Four Seasons and Kid's Night will be held on 4 December for children, ages 5-7.

h. Golf Course - Mr. Cooper reported the Silver Wings golf council met on 2 December and membership is up to 287, which is 25-30 more than last year. The course will be open during the holiday except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Pro-Am tournament had 115 players and the Nike representative would like to expand their program. The course hired Ronnie Mobley as its new contract golf teacher. He is available by appointment on Tues/Wed at the PRO shop. The golf course has shown a fiscal year profit of over \$49,000. COL Kelly stated she was disappointed in the lack of attendees from the major organizations on post. COL Kelly and COL Jones offered their thanks to Ms. Doggett and staff for their hard work during the year. Ms. Doggett commented, she and the staff will continue to improve services and can be contacted at 598-2449 for any questions or suggestions. Upcoming events: Ham Shoot on 12 December and holiday sale in the pro shop, 17-24 December, with up to 50% discount prices offered during the sale. COL Kelly stated, without representation from the Council and other representatives' suggestions, we could not make improvements on the installation and appreciates the support.

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i. Equestrian Center - 1SG Prier was appointed the new representative.

j. Outdoor Recreation - SFC Jergenson reported the hunting season is going well and there has been more wild hogs killed than deer. Deer hunting is slow.

k. Bowling Alley - SMS Woodruff was appointed the new representative.

l. RAD - The next RAD is 29 Oct 2010. Mr. Moore will coordinate with Mr. Cooper for next year's speaker for the RAD. Mr. Bob Bridgewater commented on the 200 ICE comments and 230 customer service assessments that were turned in after the RAD. Results forthcoming.

8. Advisors' Comments.

a. Mr. Laster stated 460 attendees enjoyed the Thanksgiving feast at The Landing. The traditional brunch with Santa is scheduled for 9-12 December, at The Zone. Additionally, the New Year's Eve party will be held at The Zone, with cost of \$35.00 a couple, \$120.00 for a table of eight, including a live band. The library is moving back to the previous location after a million dollar inside renovation and will open for services on 21 December. The grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for 22 January 2010. The Landing is renovating the lunch line and will move to The Zone beginning 18 December, with a limited self serve buffet.

b. COL Kelly discussed the Secretary of Defense projects and construction of a new chapel at Guthrie Field, with a seating capacity of 650 people. The projected opening of the new chapel is 2011. Base operation's budget has been cut \$25 mil (janitorial services, etc. may be cut).

9. The meeting adjourned at 1230. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the Aviators' Landing on 4 February 2010 at 1130.

Approved via-email

BOB BUNTING

COL, Retired

Co-Chairman

Approved via-email

Gene Nelson

CSM, Retired

Co-Chairman

Prepared By:

Carolyn Bost-Pittman

LTC, Retired

Secretary

  
YVETTE J. KELLEY  
Colonel, Aviation  
Garrison Commander