

COMMANDER'S RETIREE COUNCIL  
Fort Rucker, Alabama

The Commander's Retiree Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on 5 January 2006. It was the 209<sup>th</sup> 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 Bob Bunting, Co-Chair	CSM James W. Harris
COL Charles A. Block (USMC)	SGM Lloyd M. Rogers, Assoc. Sec
COL Herman S. Heath	1SG John J. McCracken, Jr. (URAF)
COL James E. Hyers	
COL William E. Crouch	
LTC Clarence R. Collins	
LTC James R. Mellish	
CDR James E. Cobb (USN)	

MEMBERS ABSENT

CSM Charles E. Frye, Co Ch	CSM William Jolly
SGM Samuel V. MacMaster	1SG Jackie Ray

ADVISORS PRESENT

COL William S. Larese, Garrison CDR  
COL Susan Denny, CDR LAHC  
Ms. Deborah Seimer, AG  
Mr. Mike O'Meara, Commissary  
Mr. Tim Laster, DMWR  
Mr. Chris Moore, RSO  
Ms. Heather Gloeckner, PAO

2. COL Bunting called the meeting to order at 1135 and welcomed Ms. Gloeckner from the Public Affairs Office to the meeting.
3. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as written.
4. Old Business – None

5. Committee Reports

a. Public Affairs – Each member was given a copy of the post calendar for the month of January. Ms. Gloeckner added a Town Hall Meeting to the calendar for 16 January at 0730.

b. Legislative Affairs - COL Hyers reported the FY2006 Defense Authorization Act was finally completed and signed just before Christmas but did not give much help to retirees and widows. The following items were not approved: paid up SBP, widows SBP/VA offset, and concurrent receipt for those less than 50% disabled. It was noted that Senator Jeff Sessions voted against these bills. On a more positive note, those 100% disabled by reason of unemployability will get full VA and retirement by 1 October 2009 instead of 1 October 2013. For 2006, the Army end strength was increased by 10,000 and the Marine Corps by 1,000. There will be no more privatization studies on commissaries for the next three years.

c. Health Care – COL Denny reported the Clinic has an audiologist on staff and she is holding four appointments per week for retirees. She is also establishing a waiting list for retirees to fill vacant appointments due to cancellations. With Dr. Searcy leaving internal medicine, there are now two openings for internal medicine doctors. Ms. Olson, the new dietician, is working on diabetic and low cholesterol diets.

d. Volunteer Program – No report.

e. Consolidated Club System – COL Block reported the Club System showed an increase of \$27,000.00 over last year. The menu for the lunch line is being revised and the Prime Rib Night will still be the last Saturday of each month.

f. Commissary - Mr. O'Meara reported plenty of holiday merchandise on hand at 50 to 75% off. Special Olympics case sale promotion sponsored by Procter and Gamble is scheduled for the month of January with 10 to 25 cents for each case sold remaining here for local use. The commissary administrator has retired; the new one has not arrived yet.

g. PX – CDR Cobb reported the PX manager is out with the flu.

h. Golf Course – Mr. Laster reported that any golf course member renewing their membership prior to 28 February would receive 2005 rates. If a current member signs up a new member during the same period the new member would only pay the 2005 rates too. A new course supervisor is on board.

i. Equestrian Center - COL Heath reported the next show will be in March 2006.

j. Outdoor Recreation – Mr. Laster reported that 28 January is the date for the Youth

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and Disabled Deer Rutting Hunt, advanced registration is required.

k. Bowling Alley – Mr. Laster stated that a new state-of-the-art scoring system has been installed and the flooring has been replaced so all lanes are handicap accessible.

i. RAD – Nothing to report.

6. Advisors Comments – Mr. Laster reported an Alaska Cruise Tour is scheduled for 30 May–10 June and the deadline for signing up 17 March at the ITR office.

7. Co-Chairman’s Comments – COL Bunting reported that Congressman Terry Everett will be the speaker at the next AUSA breakfast on 18 January in Dothan.

8. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1215. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the Aviators Landing on 2 February 2006 at 1130.

Approved via email 1/06/06

BOB BUNTING

COL, Retired

Co-Chairman

Approved via email 1/06/06

CHARLES E. FRYE

CSM, Retired

Co-Chairman

Approved via email 1/06/06

LLOYD M. ROGERS

SGM, Retired

Association Secretary



WILLIAM S. LARESE

Colonel, Aviation

Garrison Commander