

Commissioned Officers Association  
Of the U.S. Public Health Service  
Ft. Detrick Branch

Minutes of the January 7 , 2004 Meeting

Date: January 7, 2004

Location: Ft. Detrick, NCI Bldg # 426, Frederick, Maryland

Call to Order: CDR M. Rossi-Coajou, President, called the meeting to order at 1910 hours.

**Members Present:** CDR M. Rossi-Coajou, LTJG B. Welcher, LT P. Karikari-Martin, LCDR C. Stephens, LCDR A. Anderson, LCDR L. Marunycz, LT D. Sullivan, LCDR L. Matheny, LCDR R. Leland, LT S. Byrd, CDR K. Berkhausen, LCDR R. Gussio, CDR M. Kriete

**Reading of Minutes:** Minutes approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** LCDR Leland reported \$496.48 in total funds. The executive committee determined that LCDR Leland and CDR Rossi-Coajou will have privileges to the account.

**Other Reports:**

**Webmaster:**

- LCDR Gussio announced that the branch yearly picnic is scheduled for 10July04.
- Reminder that LCDR Gussio updates the website and if anyone has any postings to let him know. He encourages members to check the database on the website at <http://www.comilstd.org> . Please verify your contact information. If you find an error, please email the corrections to LCDR Gussio at [gussio@nciferf.gov](mailto:gussio@nciferf.gov) .

**National COA:**

- National COA conference will be held in Alaska this year.
- CDR Kriete mentioned that during category day during the conference to please stop by the veterinary branch as the speakers will be interesting.
- It was mentioned that the national conference is an ideal time and place for our branch to team up and possibly have a booth (Fundraising). The SG run during this conference also serves as an ideal chance to experience officer camaraderie.

**Military Standards Cadre (MSC)/Physical Fitness:** LCDR Gussio

LCDR Gussio announced that there was a problem entering marine physical fitness test results into the CCRF website.

Please review the new CCPM instructions and manual circular concerning promotions and readiness standards: <http://dcp.psc.gov>

Branch members are encouraged to join the fun and challenge of the MSC Physical Fitness Testing. See the following website for more information:  
<http://comilstd.org/fdcoa> .

### **Reports of Standing Committees:**

**Membership:** LT Byrd will remain head of this committee.

**Community Activities:** LCDR Celissa Stephens will be taking over this committee for 2004. LTJG Welcher will continue to assist with community activities.

**Professional Relations:** LCDR Matheny will remain in charge of this committee.

**Fund Raising:** LCDR Marunycz will chair this new committee.

**Social Committee:** LT Karikari-Martin and LCDR Matheny

Please contact the committee chairs if you would like to participate on a committee.

### **Unfinished Business:**

None

### **New Business:**

#### **Meeting Dates/Times:**

Meetings will remain to be held every other month, but meeting time for the next two meetings will be at 1845 instead of 1900. Meetings for 2004 will be held on:

7Jan04, 3Mar04, 5May04, 10July04 (branch picnic),  
1Sep04, 3Nov04 (Elections)

#### **Guest Speakers:**

- Tim Custer will be speaking next meeting (3Mar04) on Survivor Benefits.
- Other possible guest speaker topics this year include C4/Mass Casualty Training, Medical Reserve Corps, and long term care insurance.
- CDR Berkhausen mentioned that a good topic for a future speaker would be on long term health care insurance. Tim Custer might be able to touch on this topic or those officers from FDA may be aware of an email that was recently circulated.

## **Member Announcements:**

- LCDR Marunycz confirmed that the AMSUS meeting last year was a huge success. During this conference, Admiral Carmona spoke about the transformation and the expectations of officers during this change.
- CDR Berkousen advised officers to try and attend an AMSUS conference and possible alternate between this conference and national COA. The AMSUS conference is a great opportunity for PHS to become recognized by other services and obtain parity among different branches. This is also an excellent time to recruit. Next years AMSUS conference will be held in Denver, CO.
- CDR Kriete requested that any questions/interests of PHS from present veterinarians should be sent directly to him as positions are available. Approximately 50 slots need to be filled.
- CDR Rossi-Coajou stated that nurse numbers in the corps have an applicant committee to assist new applicants in the application and job placement process.
- LCDR Leland stated that the medical affairs branch will no longer be giving authorization for medical care as of 1Jan04. The branch is still able to give dental authorization. This is being done in conjunction with the transformation of the corps.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hours. The next scheduled Branch meeting will be March 3, 2004.

LTJG Brent C. Welcher  
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