



THE SILVER CADUCEUS

Vol. 1, No. 2

Summer 2008



Salutations. Welcome to **THE SILVER CADUCEUS**, the newsletter of the Silver Caduceus Association of Medical Service Corps Officers and Warrant Officers, Inc.

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EDITOR'S DESK

There is a new Chief of the Medical Service Corps. In June, **MG David A. Rubenstein** was sworn in as the 16th Chief of the Medical Service Corps during the Army Medical Symposium of the Association of the United States Army in San Antonio. He replaced **BG Sheila Baxter**, Commander, Western Regional Medical Command and Madigan Army Medical Center, and Chief of the Medical Service Corps, who retired in June, and is a seminary student in Atlanta, Georgia. General Rubenstein was promoted to his current rank in May 2008. He is the first two-star MSC, and is the first MSC assigned as the Deputy Surgeon General. In addition, he is Chairman of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Other serving MSC general officers are **BG David L. Smalley**, Deputy Commander, Army Reserve Medical Command, and **BG Keith Gallagher**, Commander, Europe Regional Medical Command and Command Surgeon, USAREUR, Heidelberg, Germany.

Death of Former MSC Chief. With sadness we note the passing of BG Manley G. Morrison, the 6th Chief of the MSC, who passed away recently at the age of 92. He had been living in a Lifecare home in Peoria, Arizona. You can read his bio in the Historian's section.

In other news...The MSC Reunion is around the corner. **Register now for this great event that will be held at the Double Tree Hotel in San Antonio from September 25-27. See details later in this newsletter.**

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We now have a crackerjack website. As reported in the last newsletter we now have a website, <http://silvercaduceusassociation.com/> courtesy of **Joe McClain assisted by Mary Ann Svetlik**. Please pass this on to your friends and associates. The website has rapidly established itself as a dynamic communication mechanism for our MSC community.

As we discussed in our last *Newsletter*, the **Silver Caduceus Association of MSC Officers and Warrant Officers, Inc.** is officially registered with the State of Texas. The Mailing Address for membership applications and renewals, dues, scholarship donations, changes of address, and correspondence is Silver Caduceus Association, P.O. Box 39514, San Antonio, TX 78218.

OUR OFFICERS

Board of Directors: George Adams, Melinda Deffer, George Hammond, Wendy Martinson, Carroll Ockert, Ernie Sylvester, and George Waters.

Elected Officers:

President, George Krueger:	georgek1952@yahoo.com
Vice President, Earl McSwain	emcswain@satx.rr.com
Secretary, Ed Hollingsworth	ed2rie@cox.net
Treasurer, Jim Martin	Ma7422@sbcglobal.net

Appointed Officers:

Audit, Ken Lingle and Jim Van Straten; Chaplain, Bob Bories; Newsletter Editor and Historian, Dick Ginn; Membership, Jim Whitmire; Reunion 2008, Mike McGinley; Silver Caduceus Scholarship, George Hammond, with Ernie Sylvester and Jim Hayes; Webmaster, Joe McClain

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear SCA Member:

The reunion is in its final development stage and you are urged to attend this special event. Join us as we renew our friendships and share memories from years past. You will also have the opportunity to meet some of our newly promoted MSC general officers; hear our informative guest speakers and most importantly participate in the formation and continuation of our organization.

Traditionally the reunion is held in various locations throughout the USA. Many of the reunions have been held in San Antonio, mainly because of the large number of MSCs in this area. The time is now at hand; there are no volunteers to continue in this area. Out of the nine reunions (1992 to 2008), six have been held in San Antonio.

We are in need of volunteers for our 2010 Reunion, especially a Chairman. Mike McGinley, who has served as chair of the 2006 and 2008 reunions, has agreed to function as a consultant for the

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next reunion. Suggestions and volunteers are needed on a location, who is to chair the reunion committee, arrange for lodging, transportation, food, guest speakers, sound events and cost. We have exhausted our pool of the special group in San Antonio that has so willingly in the past volunteered in this capacity.

We now have over 300 members, including 76 Lifetime members. We are financially sound and well managed, incorporated, enjoy IRS tax exemption; have a scholarship program and financially support our reunions.

Please voice your suggestions NOW to the President via email Georgek1952@yahoo.com.

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR REUNION APPLICATION. Applications are available on line at www.silvercaduceusassociation.com or request by mail at Silver Caduceus Association, P.O. Box 39514, San Antonio, TX 78218.

George R. Krueger, COL, MSC, Ret.
President

PS: Those traveling from New York, Wash DC, Philadelphia, Tampa check with US Airways for special fares to San Antonio until 5 November 08.

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Going back to the reunion of 2004, we set a goal of increasing our membership to 500. We have made little progress and have not achieved our goal; consequently, I would ask each of you to volunteer to work and collaborate at the membership level to help us increase our number. Contact any officer or committee member for information about dues and receiving an application. An application (and other information) can be found on our website (address above).

We encourage members to continue to donate to the scholarship fund. If each one of you would contribute \$25 it would put a whopping \$7,500 into this worthy cause. Here's another challenge: a \$50 pledge would be \$15,000. Just think of how many of our young people we could assist in their education. Remember that these donations are tax deductible.

Occasionally we are asked to furnish information about members. It is the policy of this association to respect your privacy and the membership roster, and its information is not provided to anyone or any business.

There are several things that will help to achieve success:

- **Recruit a new member**
- **Renew membership on a timely basis**
- **Support the scholarship fund**
- **Send news worthy items to the Newsletter Editor/Historian**

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To pay dues, send donations, or to ask questions, here is our official address: Silver Caduceus Association, P. O. Box 39514, San Antonio, TX 78218

A brief history of our association follows, titled "MSC Founders". The data has been compiled through discussion with many members and we feel that the data is reasonably accurate. Should you have a disagreement with any dates please let us know so that we can achieve the accuracy this document deserves.

Regards, Earl C. McSwain, Vice President

THE SILVER CADUCEUS ASSOCIATION FOUNDERS AND CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY by Earl and Betty McSwain

This is a chronological history of our beginnings, to include our founders who are in no small part responsible for what we are today. The title of Founder is given to these individuals: Retired Colonels Bob Fields, Dick Ginn, Mike Girone, Dan Gower, Gil Jacox, and Ernie Rezendes, George Hammond, Earl McSwain, Jim Vinci, Ellis Hall, Gordon Moore, Carroll Ockert, Ernie Sylvester, and George Waters.

The early reunions were primarily social in nature, a time for the retired officers and warrant officers, along with their spouses and guests, to get together in a social atmosphere. There were tours of San Antonio for the ladies, a golf tournament for those who golfed, but there was no program per se. The following is a list of the reunions, locations and principal coordinators:

1992 San Antonio, TX, COL (Ret) Marvin Nation

1994 San Antonio, TX, COL (Ret) Marvin Nation

1996 Las Vegas, NV, COL (Ret) Marvin Nation

1998 Columbus, GA, COL (Ret) Roy Brooks

This was the beginning of a new format. Although only about sixty persons attended, there was a formal program of events. There were several entertaining and informative speakers, and despite the relatively sparse turnout, the reunion was well received.

2000 San Antonio, TX, COL (Ret) Jim Van Straten

It was decided to carry on with the format started by Roy Brooks and his committee at Fort Benning. With the help of Thomas Kistler, Ken Lingle, and John Conner they decided to go for the top. The reunion was well attended and the attendees were welcomed by the Mayor of San Antonio. Speakers included the Surgeon General of the Army, the MSC Corps Chief's

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representative, as well as other presenters. This reunion hosted the largest gathering to date, with 317 enjoying the concluding banquet.

During the business meeting it was proposed to explore the feasibility of forming some type of an association. An exploratory committee was formed to draft a constitution and bylaws to be presented at the 2002 MSC Reunion.

2002 Clearwater Beach, FL, COL (Ret) George Hammond & COL (Ret) Ernest Sylvester. From this time on, an announced program has been part of the reunion agenda. This reunion will be remembered as the beginning of the United States Army MSC Association, thereafter known as the MSC Network, Inc. At the general membership meeting, bylaws and constitution that were written by the Founders were accepted by the members present. The original Articles of Incorporation of the MSC Network, Inc. listed the first directors of the organization as COL (Ret) Ernest Rezendes, COL (Ret) Earl McSwain, and COL (Ret) James Vinci, and they served in that capacity until the first general meeting was held and directors elected.

The following officers were appointed as the first officers of this new organization: President, Ernie Rezendes; Vice President, George Hammond; Secretary, Earl McSwain (appointed at a later date); and Treasurer, Jim Vinci. Subsequently, the first Board of Directors was elected: Ellis Hall, George Hammond, Gordon Moore, Carroll Ockert, Ernie Sylvester, and George Waters. Earl McSwain was asked to serve as Secretary and Betty McSwain as Co-Secretary. They assumed those duties as well as Membership and other responsibilities over time.

President Ernie Rezendes directed that the process of obtaining a name and corporate status would be started by the Secretary, Earl McSwain. The process of obtaining a name and corporate status was followed by a lengthy application to the IRS for an exempt status under the provisions of 501(c)(19). Both applications were successful in the first submission. The official name of the organization, approved by the Secretary of the State of Texas was the MSC Network, Inc.

2004 San Antonio, TX, LTC (Ret) Joel Batalski, assisted by Phil Swinney and Mike McGinley

At this membership meeting the following officers were elected:

- President: Phil Swinney
- Vice President: Gordon Hennessy
- Secretary: Earl and Betty McSwain
- Treasurer: Jim Vinci

This reunion, while successful and well attended, had trouble in its lack of acceptable accounting and management principals, with the end result being the refusal by the Chairman to relinquish the residual funds to the organization on a timely basis. Unfortunately, legal intervention by the organization had to be taken against the Chairman to recover those funds. Phil Swinney resigned as president and George Krueger was appointed by the Board of Governors to fill the vacancy.

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2006 San Antonio, Texas, COL (Ret) Mike McGinley.

The program agenda was in the formal tradition. The Reunion Committee added barbershop and choral music at the final banquet, as well as a great dance band.

The following officers were elected:

President:	George Krueger
Vice President:	Earl McSwain
Secretary:	Ed Hollingsworth
Treasurer:	Jim Vinci

Board of Directors: George Adams, Melinda Deffer, George Hammond, Wendy Martinson, Carroll Ockert, Ernie Sylvester, and George Waters

An extensive review of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and Constitution was conducted by George Waters, a member of the BOD, and his recommendations were presented at the general membership meeting and accepted on 30 September 2006.

- It was at this meeting that the membership authorized a study of a merger between the MSC Network, Inc. and the Silver Caduceus Society (SCS).
- The awarding of five one-thousand dollar scholarships was made to applicants nominated by active MSC Network members. The Chairman of this Committee is George Hammond, assisted by Ernie Sylvester and Jim Hayes. This worthy program needs continuous membership support. Contributions to this program are tax deductible.
- LTG (Ret) Quinn Becker was appointed an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Medical Service Corps, and Betty McSwain was awarded an honorary membership in the SCA.
- An audit was conducted during 2005 and 2006 by our Audit Committee chaired by Ken Lingle, assisted by Ellis Hall and Jim Van Straten, that resulted in favorable findings.
- Jim Vinci, Treasurer and Founder, reluctantly resigned for personal reasons effective 1 July 2007, and Jim Martin was appointed by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy.

Post-2006 Reunion:

After many meetings, the study on the merger of the SCA and the SCS was concluded by a message from the SCS stating that they no longer sought merger possibilities.

Some special thanks to:

- Joe McClain for his professionalism and knowledge in establishing a first class website for the SCA. He is assisted by Mary Ann Svetlik. The website is www.silvercaduceusassociation.com and you are encouraged to visit it often.
- Art Irish who helped us for many years in keeping members notified of important happenings and sending out bulletins to all of our members.
- Ernie Rezendes, our first President, for his guidance in the establishment of an organization with great reunions, a sound financial posture, a scholarship program, and the fellowship of our past and present members.

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- Tom Hill for his assistance in the development of the application for corporate status and tax exemption from the IRS. It was Tom's son, a practicing attorney, who developed our Articles of Incorporation, and revised our Constitution and Bylaws to meet state and federal requirements.
- Jim Vinci, for sound financial management of monies earned or dues collected that made it possible to support some of the needs for reunion enjoyment.
- Edward Hollowell, our legal advisor for a number of years. When Ed retired we shifted our legal needs to a civilian attorney, Richard Klitch, Jr., the son of one of our association members.
- Let us not forget the FOUNDERS of this great organization. We owe them a great deal for their vision and hard work to bring us to this point.
- Finally, and most important, without the membership support all would have been for naught – and a special thank you to our spouses for their support.

Regards,
Earl McSwain, Vice President
Email emcswain@satx.rr.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial status of the Association as of 1 June 2008:

Checking Account	\$24,333.75
Checking Account (CD)	10,000.00
Petty Cash	20.00
Scholarship Fund	6,968.26
Scholarship Fund (CD)	<u>5,000.00</u>
Total	\$46,322.01

Jim Martin, Treasurer
Email ma7422@sbcglobal.net

MSC WARRANT OFFICERS

My fellow MSC Warrant Officers:

At long last I have completed the summer 2008 newsletter, and it is attached to this SCA newsletter. It is also posted at the MSC Warrant Officer website, <http://www.mscwarrants.com/> You will note the Deceased page has expanded. I am sad to report that we have lost more Warrants from our ranks this past year. Additionally, I have nothing from the active duty Warrants. I am out of the loop and do not know who to contact. Many of you remain in contact with active duty members and can help by sharing this message with them. Sadly, when we are

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out of touch with the active duty Warrants they are also out of touch with us. A significant result is that we are not able to add them to the roster when they retire.

Please, take time to look over carefully the roster I mailed to you. I need feedback regarding errors/omissions/additions. I think there may be members who have passed and are not on the deceased page. I genuinely need your help. Keep in mind, this is OUR roster and WE must strive to keep it accurate. For privacy reasons we will not post the roster on the website.

The 2008 MSC reunion is rapidly approaching. I urge you to make a special effort to join the Silver Caduceus Association of Officers and Warrant Officers, Inc. and to participate in this major event. The reunion will be at the Doubletree Hotel in San Antonio. Additional information is contained in the WO newsletter.

Hopefully I'll see you in San Antonio.

Respectfully:

Ed Hollingsworth, CW3, USA, Ret., Secretary, SCA

FROM THE HISTORIAN

Remember Our History, Preserve Our History

BG Manley G. Morrison, Chief of the Medical Service Corps, 1969-1973

BG Morrison was serving as the Executive Officer for the Surgeon General's Comptroller when appointed Chief of the Medical Service Corps in 1973. He was born in Weston, West Virginia, in July 1915, and when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor he was executive chief steward for the Union Pacific Railroad at Sun Valley, Idaho. The railroad had promoted him to that rank at the age of twenty-seven. His promotion to division superintendent (a position normally reached after the age of sixty) exempted him from the draft. He never ceased being very proud of a promotion that he believed was "higher than I ever attained in the military service as far as status was concerned--including Chief of the Corps."

Volunteering for military service, Morrison was assigned to Army hospital food service due to his experience in hotel and food service management. In 1942 he was commissioned as a 2LT in the Medical Administrative Corps OCS at Camp Barkeley, Texas, for duty in hospital food service, but he had no connection with that field after his initial assignment in a medical battalion. LT Morrison found that the Army's food service system precluded the possibility of preparing food tastefully. Its sanitation rules required keeping meat absolutely frozen until served, and one of his vivid memories was watching the cooks chopping beef carcasses apart with fire axes so they could get the meat into the oven.

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General Morrison's career covered assignments in a wide range of administrative specialties, including logistics, plans and training, registrar, and comptroller. His World War II duty included Medical Supply Officer, 636th Clearing Company, and S-3, 430th Medical Battalion, Ninth Army. His postwar assignments included Registrar, Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco, California; Chief of Medical Statistics, Office of the Surgeon, U.S. Army, Europe; Comptroller, Walter Reed Army Medical Center; Army Staff duty in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics; Chief of the Special Projects Office of the Surgeon General's Office; and Executive Officer for the Surgeon, U.S. Army, Europe. He completed a BS in military science at the University of Maryland in 1958 and an MA in public administration at American University in 1960. He was a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College Regular (resident) Course and the Army War College.

The History of the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps The ordering information is Ginn, Richard V.N., *The History of the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps*, Washington D.C., Office of the Surgeon General and Center of Military History, U.S. Army, 1997, 536 pages, tables, charts, illustrations, appendices, bibliographical note, and index. ISBN 0-16-045353-4

Sale to the Public: The book is available for public sale by the Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents. Price: \$36 (softbound) GPO Stock Number 008-029-00308
Internet: [HTTP://bookstore.gpo.gov](http://bookstore.gpo.gov)
Phone: (toll free) 866-512-1800 (D.C. area) 202-512-1800
Mail: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954

Members of Active, Reserve and National Guard Units: The book is available for issue free of charge to any member of a military unit. Submit unit requisitions for CMH Pub 30-19 (hardbound) or CMH Pub 30-19-1 (softbound) to the U.S. Army Publications Distribution Center, 1655 Woodson Road, St. Louis, MO 63114-6181.

MSC History Program: Your Role in Preserving MSC History MSC officers and friends of the MSC can support our history program by contributing:

- Documents
- Interviews
- Photos
- Artifacts
- Written and Audiovisual Products

For details go to the MSC homepage <http://medicalservicecorps.amedd.army.mil/> which will link you to Army Knowledge Online (AKO). You will be required to register with AKO to use that service.

Dick Ginn, Historian
Email dickginn@aol.com

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MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Membership: Encourage fellow MSCs to join the Silver Caduceus Association. Ask them to contact Jim Whitmire, Membership Chair, at jimcwhit@earthlink.net

Dues: First year dues for new members is \$25. Renewal fee is \$15 per year. Lifetime is \$200. Please send your dues to the Silver Caduceus Association, P.O. Box 39514, San Antonio, TX 78218.

2008 REUNION

The 2008 MSC Reunion will be held from September 25-27, 2008 at the Double Tree Hotel in San Antonio.

I am pleased to report that Jim Van Straten and Jim Martin have put together a great program, which includes talks by LTG (Ret) Ricardo Sanchez former ground commander in Iraq; MG George Weightman, former WRAMC Commander; MG David Rubenstein, the new Chief, Medical Service Corps; updates from senior officers on Iraq, Afghanistan and the AMEDD; discussions with soldiers, sailors and marines recuperating at the new "Center for the Intrepid"; and an update on the history of our illustrious corps .

Please register now at **2008 MSC Reunion Information - which may be found at:**
<http://silvercaduceusassociation.com/Upcoming%20Events.htm>

Mike McGinley
Chairman, 2008 MSC Reunion Committee
Email Mikemcginley7@aol.com

SILVER CADUCEUS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Donations: Our cause is worthy, and it's fully tax deductible. Send your donation to: Silver Caduceus Association, P.O. Box 39514, San Antonio, TX 78218

George Hammond
Chairman, Scholarship Committee
Email GHAMMOND@suncoast-CHC.org

IN MEMORIAM

We have received notification of the deaths of the following MSCs since our last newsletter. We offer our condolences to their families and friends.

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Please notify our Chaplain, Bob Bories, of the death of any active, retired or former MSCs. You can contact Bob by email at rbories@aol.com or by letter to COL Bob Bories, 50 Vienna, San Antonio, Texas 78252.

CWO Floyd Bubb

COL Lynn R. Cheezum

LTC Dennis L. Clement

COL Poe R. Corn

LTC Robert Daine

COL Samuel Gottrey

CW3 John W. "Jack" Gouty

COL Chester Holloman

CWO Robert W. Jamison

COL Irving Jenkins

CW4 W.B. "Foxie" King

LTC Richard H. Klitch, Sr.

COL Joseph A. Lapiana

LTC Vance A. Loy

COL Seymour (Sy) Meadows

BG Manley G. Morrison

COL Donald R. O'Haver

MAJ Kris Pettigrew

CW4 Jim Sellers

COL John Temperilli

LTC Robert Templers*

* Medical Administrative Corps

SILVER CADUCEUS ASSOCIATION LEADERS

In each issue we highlight the background of our SCA leaders. This time we turn the spotlight on CW3 (Ret) Joe McClain and LTC (Ret) Jim Whitmire.

CW3 (Ret) Joseph P. McClain, SCA Webmaster, was born and grew up in New York City. His military and government service spanned forty-nine years from 1953-2002, as Airman, Soldier, and Department of the Army Civilian. Army assignments included Commander, 630th Medical Detachment (Maintenance) and Chief, Biomedical Equipment and Repair Section, Kimbrough Army Hospital, Fort Meade, Maryland from 1971 to 1973. Overseas tours were in France (as an Airman) at Chambley Air Force Base 1954-1957, Vietnam with the 32d Medical Depot, 1967-68, and in Germany as Chief of the Biomedical Equipment Branch, U.S. Army Hospital, Berlin, from 1976 to 1979. When he retired from the Army in 1981 he was Chief of the Maintenance Branch and Deputy Chief, Clinical Engineering Division, Walter Reed Army Medical Center. As a DA civilian he was appointed Director of the Clinical Engineering Division, retiring from that position in 2002.

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Joe's educational attainments include a BGS in engineering and clinical administration, University of Nebraska; an MS in human development counseling and organizational behavior, George Peabody College, and a PhD in business administration and management, Columbia University. His teaching experience includes the Berlin extension of the City Colleges of Chicago, and the Off-Campus Programs of the Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. He has published a number of articles in professional journals and textbooks, and his professional affiliations include fellow status with the American Society of Healthcare Engineering and the American College for Clinical Engineering.

Joe and his wife, Barbara, reside in *SUNNY* Gilbert, Arizona. He has five children: Jason, an international businessman; Joseph, a U.S. Navy captain and Navy Liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives; Mary Pegg-McClain, a Washington Post executive; John, a mechanical engineer; and Michael, a building maintenance engineer. And he keeps up with twelve grandchildren (number thirteen is on the way). Joe loves to sing. He appeared on the Ted Mack Amateur Hour in 1961, and traveled with Army and Air Force talent shows, receiving thirty-seven first place trophies. He now sings with Saint Mary Magdalene Catholic Church in Gilbert, Arizona. And last, but not least, he's a diehard fan of the Washington Redskins!

LTC (Ret) James C. Whitmire, Membership Chairman, was born in Corpus Christi, Texas, where he grew up on a farm. He earned his high school diploma at the Corpus Christi Academy, and went on to earn a BA in 1970 at the University of Notre Dame. His other degrees include an MA in Human Resources Management from Pepperdine University and an MHA from Baylor University. His military schools included the AMEDD officer basic and advanced courses, the Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army-Baylor Program in Health Care Administration.

Commissioned from ROTC as an MSC lieutenant in 1970, Jim's initial assignment was at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, with the U.S. Army Training Center, followed by a tour in Korea as a ground ambulance company commander. He returned to the states as the hospital adjutant at Fort Meade, Maryland, and later as the hospital company commander. His other overseas tour was in Germany from 1989-1994, initially as chief of the 7th MEDCOM enlisted personnel division, and then as Deputy Commander for Administration, U.S. Army Hospital, Berlin. Other key assignments included AMEDD recruiter in Pennsylvania; Chief of the Personnel Division for the U.S. Army Hospital, Fort Carson, Colorado; Administrative Assistant to the Chief, Army Nurse Corps, OTSG; and Chief, Clinical Support Division, U.S. Army Hospital, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. At the time of his retirement in 1995 he was Chief of the Inspections Branch, Office of the MEDCOM Inspector General. His awards included the Legion of Merit and five awards of the meritorious Service Medal.

Jim served as the administrator of the East Texas Medical Center in Trinity, Texas following his retirement from the Army, and his civic activities included President of the Trinity Lion's Club and First Vice President of the Trinity Chamber of Commerce. Now fully retired, he pursues his

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hobby of hunting (especially deer, hogs and doves) along with a tad of fishing. He is no stranger to the fitness center, and is an ardent sports fan, (especially Notre Dame (no surprise there) and the San Antonio Spurs (no surprise there, either).

FROM THE MAILBAG

From: Natharri@aol.com

I would like to plan on attending the September reunion. By this time I might very well be one of the oldest MSCs around. For the record I was a Regular Army MSC and was originally given a Pharmacy Corps RA, as they were the only ones available. I also served in the Philippines in WW II, and have the distinction of having served during the Korean War longer than anyone I know of any branch of service, having earned seven battle stars, being there from July 1950 to 1952. Finally, I headed the Logistics Division of the Department of Administration in the Medical Field Service School. I have an MHA from Baylor, and served as Professor on the Baylor Staff for four years. COL Nat Wisser, MSC, USA, Ret.

NEWSLETTER ITEMS AND FEEDBACK

Please forward items for the newsletter and any feedback to COL (Ret) Dick Ginn, 6825 Spring Beauty Court, Springfield, VA 22152, email dickginn@aol.com or phone 703-912-4326.

MSC WARRANT OFFICER NEWSLETTER

Ed Hollingsworth's MSC Warrant Officer Newsletter, Summer 2008, follows.

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The MSC Warrant Officer



Editor: Ed Hollingsworth
ed2rie@cox.net



MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS
United States Army

Volume 4 Issue 1

Summer 2008

www.mscwarrants.com/

www.silvercaduceusassociation.com

Time rolls on, and hopefully we gain wisdom with its passage. It is hard to believe we are well into the summer of 2008. Perhaps time is relative and unique to each of us. Recently, one of our Warrants told me that when he realized he retired from the Army 10 years ago, he felt old. Well now, if that applies across the board, many of us have been old for a very long time. Hopefully that proposition does not apply to me. Yes, I did retire from the Army almost 30 years ago and from the private sector almost 5 years ago, but I'm still enjoying each day and am anxious for tomorrow to come. So many times I have heard retired people comment that there is so much to do that they do not understand how they had time to work before retirement. I always thought that was so much "hot air". Well at least from my perspective, it is accurate. I returned from my sojourn to Tanzania more than two months ago, and I'm just now current with my household to-do's.

The Tanzania project was challenging, informative, and worth while. You may recall, I mentioned in the Winter 2007/2008 newsletter that I was about to depart the US to participate in a project in Tanzania titled, Consultancy Services for District Hospitals Medical/Technical Needs Assessment Study: Tanzania. The purpose of the study was to evaluate 95 district hospitals, approximately 250 beds each, to determine their needs as related to the physical plant, utilities, equipment, and personnel. After significant turmoil caused by the US contractor, their in-country partner, and the Tanzania government, we arrived in country in early March with no team leader and only two team members. My counterpart was a public health doctor. Fortunately, our in-country partner had completed detailed surveys of the hospitals so we had source data from which to work. It was the rainy season, so travel to many hospitals was not possible. Only 5 percent of the roads in Tanzania are paved, and rain makes travel treacherous. Shortly after my arrival the Tanzania Prime Minister's office asked me to assume the duties as Team Leader. I wisely declined the proposal, and we continued without benefit of a leader.

My first action was to visit as many hospitals and workshops as possible given time and travel constraints. I have visited hospitals in the remote areas of Vietnam, Thailand, and Burma. I

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considered them to be primitive and in poor condition. Tanzania refocused my reference point. I will not bore you with details, but I will say conditions in each hospital I visited were much worse than I could have imagined. It was so sad to learn that 70 percent of all hospital beds are occupied by patients who are HIV positive, whose life expectancy is such that they are not admitted to the hospital. They are given no treatment, no medication, and no food. They occupy a bed until they die, then someone else takes the bed. While this is bad, I was surprised to learn that the primary cause of death is malaria. This is especially unfortunate in that malaria is very preventable. Much (perhaps most) of the equipment does not work, has not worked for a very long time, and will never be repaired. There are only 11 people in the country classified as BMETs. The capability of these people is very much in doubt. I visited one area where there are no doctors for 5 hospitals. With the exception of a 3 day weekend to visit Zanzibar, we worked every day we were there.

I developed a comprehensive maintenance and training program. Each of you would readily recognize much of what I wrote. I recalled the Army Medical Maintenance Program worked well, so I borrowed heavily from it. Of course it was necessary for me to customize it to local conditions. I did not develop a 2407, but you would certainly recognize my work order request. Computers are not readily available there, and few people are proficient in their use so the program I presented was completely manual, pen and paper.

My part of the study was complete in May, and I returned to the "Land of the Big PX." I am happy to be home, and even happier that I was able to participate in the project.

Since returning, I have declined offers to participate in similar studies in Vietnam and on a small island near Indonesia. I'll do it again, but not just now.

MSC 2008 REUNION

The MSC reunion is rapidly approaching, and I noticed few of you have submitted your registration forms. I have attached the registration package to this newsletter and hope you will seriously consider joining us. We had an excellent Warrant Officer representation in 2006 and hope that will continue and improve in 2008. We will once again be at the San Antonio Doubletree Hotel and have negotiated a very attractive room rate of \$93.00 per day. The hotel is very near the San Antonio airport, and local transportation is available. A complimentary shuttle service is provided by the Doubletree hotel from and to the airport. Free parking is available at the hotel for those who drive. As an added benefit, the hotel shuttle will take guests to restaurants, shopping, etc. (anywhere within a two mile radius of the hotel). There is a shopping center and several restaurants within walking distance. There will be no need to rent a car unless you want to go into the city to shop and sightsee. I will complete 2 years as the Association Secretary in September and have been nominated to become President for the 2008/2010 term. It would be great to have you there to share this special time with me.

The program will be as follows.

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MSC 2008 REUNION PROGRAM

Doubletree Hotel
37 NE Loop 410
Intersection of McCullough and Loop 410

September 25 to September 27, 2008

Thursday, September 25, 2008

- 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. SCA Board of Directors Business Meeting - Doubletree Hotel
- 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. Check-In and Registration – Lobby, Doubletree Hotel
- 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Opening Mexican Buffet Reception – Cash bar, Doubletree Hotel

Friday, September 26, 2008

Plenary Session **Doubletree Hotel**

- 8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Welcome to the MSC 2008 Reunion and update by COL (RET) George Krueger, President, Silver Caduceus Association
- 8:45 – 9:30 a.m. Intro of Chief, MSC, by Col Wendy Martinson, MSC, Commander, Ft. Sam Houston “State of the MSC and Its Future”, by C, MSC
- 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Wounded Warrior Panel: Mrs. Judy Markelz and four or five wounded soldiers, sailors, marines, or airmen
- 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Ladies Coffee - Doubletree Hotel (Tentative)
- 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. Break
- 10:45 – 11:15 a.m. MG George Weightman: “Leadership Challenges in Today’s AMEDD”
- 11: 15 to 11:45 COL (Ret.) Dick Ginn, “Launching of a new MSC History Project”
- 11:45 a.m. Golfers travel to Ft Sam Houston Golf Club (on your own)
- 1:00 – 5:30 p.m. Golf Tournament
- 5:30 p.m. Transportation leaves Doubletree Hotel for “Mulligan’s”

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- 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Buffet at the “Mulligan’s” - Ft Sam Golf Club House
- 7:30 p.m. Transportation leaves “Mulligan’s” for Doubletree Hotel

Saturday Morning, September 27

- 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. Memorial Service conducted by COL (Ret.) George Krueger and Chaplain Robert Bories.
- 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. LTG (Ret.) Ricardo Sanchez, “The Iraq War: Lessons Learned”
- 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. “Medical Support of Two Wars—Afghanistan and Iraq—Similarities and Differences”, COL Casper Jones and COL Jeff Hahn.
- 10:30 to 10:45 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:45 to 11:30 a.m. “What’s Going on in the AMEDD”, Panel Discussion, COL (Ret.) Bill Thrasher, COL (Ret.) Gregg Stevens and COL Wendy Martinson.
- 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. SCA General Membership Business Meeting/Election, COL George Krueger (SCA Members Only)
- 12:15 p.m. Meeting Adjourned / Free Time
- 6:15 – 6:50 p.m. Cocktail hour
- 6:50 – 7:00 p.m. Call to dinner
- 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. Banquet, entertainment and dancing
- 10:00 p.m. Reunion Adjourn**

Web Sites

I want to recognize the significant and quality work Joe McClain has done in the development and recurring maintenance of two MSC related websites. Joe first developed the Warrant Officer web page and then agreed to assist in developing the Silver Caduceus Association of Officers and Warrant Officers, Inc. website. When it became apparent he was the only knowledgeable person working on the project, he assumed its leadership and has done an outstanding job. I know you will be proud of the final product.

Please visit....

www.mscwarrants.com

and

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www.silvercaduceusassociation.com

You will find several links on each website. I'm confident you will find these beneficial. If you have problems opening the registration packet attached to this newsletter, you will find a link to it on either website as well.

Thank you Joe!

We are extremely fortunate to count you among our ranks and happy that you are doing so much to advance the common interest of the MSC community.

I look forward to seeing each of you in San Antonio. I will host a Warrant Officer gathering after the golf tournament. You will have time to play in the golf tournament but must decide to be with your fellow Warrants or attend the buffet at the "Mulligan's"

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