



Commissioned Corps BULLETIN

Division of Commissioned Personnel • Program Support Center, DHHS

Vol. XIV, No. 3

March 2000

Surgeon General's Column

*The present is an egg laid by the past
that has the future in its shell.*

—Zora Neale Hurston

Each Surgeon General has the opportunity to advance the Nation's public health agenda. On January 25, 2000, former Surgeon General, Dr. Julius Richmond, witnessed the next phase of the work he started more than two decades ago. It was on that day that we launched Healthy People 2010, the Nation's health plan for the next decade. Also present for this momentous occasion were Secretary Donna Shalala, former Secretary, Louis Sullivan, and former Assistant Secretaries, Monte Duval, Robert Windom, and Philip Lee. This gathering highlighted well the continuous and bipartisan nature of Healthy People.

We are now two months into Healthy People 2010, and we are looking for enthusiastic support from the members of the Corps. This plan has two main goals: eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in health and increasing the years and quality of healthy life. The first goal, as you well know, is one of our Departmental initiatives and comes in response to disparities in health in the face of the increasing diversity in our Nation. The second goal comes in part in response to the aging of the Nation. It is the first time we have ever addressed quality of life issues, such as pain and suffering and disability.

In addition to the two goals, there are 467 objectives in 28 focus areas. These objectives are comprehensive enough for groups and individuals all across the Nation to select the areas that are most relevant to them.

10 Leading Health Indicators

What I am most excited about are the new 10 Leading Health Indicators. Unlike the objectives, which are designed to vary from community to community, we hope the entire Nation will get onboard and adopt the 10 Leading Health Indicators. Similar to leading economic indicators, we will monitor these Leading Health Indicators each year to see how well we are doing as a Nation. More important, these indicators provide us with a mechanism for meeting our goals.

We have divided the Indicators into two groups: five lifestyle indicators and five health systems indicators. The lifestyle indicators include obesity and overweight, physical activity, tobacco use, responsible sexual behavior, and avoidance of substance abuse. We are working to encourage healthy lifestyles for people of all ages, starting with our children. We know that if we can get children off to a healthy start by getting them to adopt healthy lifestyles, they will be more likely to keep those lifestyles later in life. Coincidentally, these lifestyle indicators are included in the Surgeon General's prescription.

The health systems indicators include immunizations, access, mental health, violence and injury prevention, and environmental health. We believe everyone has a part to play in improving access to quality health care in our communities and in our Nation. Beyond that, we can work together to make sure that our environment is not only stress-free, but also clean and safe, free from violence and injury.

At a later date, we will say more about the Leading Health Indicators and give examples of how they can be applied.

The Communication Challenge

One of our greatest challenges to success is communication—that is, we must spread the word to the American people in such a way that they hear it and in a way that they will be willing to heed it. We know, in this technological age, that brochures and pamphlets are not enough. That is why with this edition of Healthy People, we have developed new strategies for communicating with the American people about how they can become involved. In addition to the big launch in January, we have enlisted the help of Oprah Winfrey—some of you may have seen me on her show in late January, where we talked about health and lifestyles. We also called on Bill Cosby to help spread the message through public service announcements and a special health-related filming of "Kids Say the Darndest Things." And Anne Landers will use the column to help share the Healthy People 2010 message. We have

(Continued on page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Mandatory Use of Government Charge Card for TDY	2
Recruiting Graduates in Public Health	2
Air Transportation to COA Annual Meeting	4
"Blue Book" on DCP Web Site	5
New Address/Phone Number for PHS Officers Device Supply Center	11

Surgeon General's Column

(Continued from page 1)

organized our web site (www.sg.gov) to be user-friendly and have even published the Healthy People documents on CD-ROM for those who are interested in surfing their way to health. So we are doing what we can to get the message out.

When Dr. Richmond launched Healthy People 1990, he did so as the first person to simultaneously hold the positions of Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General. As we gear up to meet the goals and objectives of Healthy People 2010, I am proud to do so as only the second person in history to hold both positions. The Healthy People process is built on a solid past, a vibrant present, and a hopeful future. We have an obligation to keep it moving forward, all the while working to improve it so that we can create a healthier America.

ADM David Satcher
Assistant Secretary for Health
and Surgeon General



2000 National Public Health Week

"Healthy People in Healthy Communities" is the 2000 theme for National Public Health Week, which will be celebrated April 3 through 9, 2000.

This national celebration provides an opportunity to recognize the contributions of public health to the Nation's well-being as well as help focus public attention on major health issues in the communities. National Public Health Week is celebrated in communities in 46 States and by 60 percent of local health departments.



Recruiting Graduates in Public Health

Many students are not aware of the exciting career opportunities in the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) or of the national and international contributions that the commissioned officers of the PHS have made in the prevention of diseases, promotion of healthy lifestyles, and prolonging of life. To communicate more effectively with future public health professionals, the Scientist Professional Advisory Committee has contacted the Nation's 28 accredited schools of public health and solicited their assistance in sharing information with the graduating students on career opportunities in the PHS Commissioned Corps.

CAPT Derek Dunn, the Chief Scientist Officer, is preparing to visit a number of the schools of public health that have expressed an interest in learning more about the career opportunities in the PHS. Please contact CAPT Dunn if you are a graduate of one of the schools of public health listed below and would consider accompanying him on a visit to your alma mater to meet with students interested in a career as a commissioned officer in the PHS. Commissioned officers from all categories are invited to participate in this recruiting activity. Visits to Columbia University and Yale University are being planned at this time with visits to other schools to be scheduled later.

CAPT Dunn may be reached by phone at 513-533-8152 or by e-mail at ded2@cdc.gov

U.S. Schools of Public Health

University of Alabama (Birmingham)
Boston University
University of California (Berkeley)
University of California (Los Angeles)
Columbia University
Emory University
Harvard University
University of Hawaii
University of Illinois (Chicago)
Johns Hopkins University
Loma Linda University
University of Massachusetts
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
State University of New York (Albany)
University of North Carolina
Ohio State University
University of Oklahoma
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puerto Rico
St. Louis University
San Diego State University
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida
University of Texas (Houston)
Tulane University
University of Washington
Yale University



Mandatory Use of Government Charge Card for Temporary Duty Travel Expenses Incurred After February 29, 2000

Public Law 105-264 mandates that all Federal employees, including Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps officers, who perform official government travel must use a government contractor-issued travel charge card to pay for official travel expenses incurred after February 29, 2000.

Consistent with proposed Departmental Travel Regulations, the only officers who will be exempt from mandatory credit card use when performing temporary duty travel (TDY) are the following: infrequent travelers (i.e., those traveling less than twice a year); officers performing short tours of duty; and those officers who lose their credit cards and must travel before a new card has been issued.

All PHS Commissioned Corps officers who are not exempt should consult their Administrative Officers to obtain a government charge card. Employees are advised that the government charge card shall only be used to pay for official travel expenses incurred in connection with the performance of official duties. Personal use of the government charge card is strictly prohibited and any unauthorized use may result in the cancellation of the card and/or appropriate disciplinary action.

All questions concerning mandatory use of the government charge card should be directed to your local administrative office.



Commissioned Corps Readiness Force

Deployments/Activations

The Commissioned Corps Readiness Force (CCRF) was activated on February 1, 2000, in response to the Alaska Airlines crash off Oxnard, California. The CCRF was tasked with augmenting and supporting recovery efforts as needed. No officers were deployed to the scene.

Ready Response Rosters

LCDR Lynn Slepski joined the CCRF Command Staff as the Response Coordinator on February 14. One of her first tasks will be the completion of the Rotational Ready Response Rosters.

Training/Orientations

CDR Kathleen Downs and LCDR Lynn Slepski traveled to Albuquerque, New Mexico, for a very productive field interaction. They participated in the Indian Health Service's Office of Environmental Health and Engineering Orientation Course. CDR Downs presented an overview of the Federal Response Plan, the Office of Emergency Preparedness' action agent role in the Plan, and an update on

the CCRF. Field visits to other regions or meetings are being considered.

The CCRF will be offering cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) classes (initial and recertification) at the upcoming Public Health Professional Conference sponsored by the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service (COA). The classes will be held on Wednesday, June 7, in Scottsdale, Arizona. Advanced registration will be required. Watch for more information in future issues of COA's *Frontline*.

Senior Advisor for Emergency Readiness, Response, and Recovery (CCRF Director)

Applications are being reviewed by the selection committee. Additional news and updates regarding the position will be posted to the CCRF Listserv and web site.

CCRF Web Site

All CCRF members should visit the CCRF web site frequently to check for news and to update any changes to personal information: <http://oep.osophs.dhhs.gov/ccrf> It is particularly important to update any

changes in address or phone number, passport information, and CPR certification.

Additionally, please take a moment to update the "Language Skills" section of your personal information. Nearly 40 percent of the CCRF deployments in 1999 required specialized language skills, and it is anticipated that this need will continue to grow. Please update this information and keep it current.

All members should subscribe to the CCRF Listserv in order to receive the most up-to-date CCRF news messages via e-mail. To do so, click on "Listserv" from the CCRF Home Page. The CCRF Command Staff may be reached by e-mail at: ccrf@osophs.dhhs.gov

□

Call for Nominations for the Jack D. Robertson and Ernest Eugene Buell Awards for PHS Dental Officers

The Dental Professional Advisory Committee is accepting nominations for the *Jack D. Robertson* and the *Ernest Eugene Buell Awards*. The awards are to be presented on June 10 in Scottsdale, Arizona, at the 2000 Public Health Professional Conference sponsored by the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS). The awards will honor dental officers/dentists who are either commissioned officers or civil service employees. Please visit the PHS dental category web site for details on the selection criteria—

<http://www.ihs.gov/NonMedicalPrograms/PHS/PHSDental/newsinfo.htm>

Nominations can originate at any level, but must go through appropriate Operating Division/Program channels prior to submission. Nominations for both awards shall consist of: (1) transmittal memorandum; (2) current curriculum

vitae; (3) brief citation, suitable for use on public occasions; and (4) written justification for the award, based on the past activities of the individual nominated. The justification should be one to three pages in length and must contain sufficient information to enable a judgment to be made about the individual's level of professional contributions, dedication, demonstrated adherence to principles, and pursuit of excellence. All nominations should be submitted by **March 31, 2000** to:

CAPT Raul A. Romaguera
 HRSA Southeast Field Office
 Atlanta Federal Center
 61 Forsyth St., SW – Suite 3M60
 Atlanta, GA 30303
 Phone: 404-562-2999
 Fax: 404-562-7995
 E-mail: RRomaguera@hrsa.gov

□

Recent Deaths

The deaths of the following retired officers were reported to the Division of Commissioned Personnel:

Title/Name	Date
MEDICAL	
CAPT Walter C. Clowers	01/31/00
CAPT Claire F. R. Warhola	10/31/99
NURSE	
CAPT Dorothy Boone	01/14/00
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
CAPT Maurice Georgevich	12/13/99

□

Air Transportation to the 2000 Public Health Professional Conference

The Health Services Professional Advisory Committee is teaming with the Scientist Professional Advisory Committee to determine the level of interest of officers around the country for military air transportation to the 2000 Public Health Professional Conference sponsored by the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service (COA) to be held in Scottsdale, Arizona, from June 7 through 10. If a flight can be arranged, officers may travel at no cost to themselves or their Operating Divisions/Programs. However, the level of interest must be sufficient before our request will be considered. This means that at least 55 officers must be willing to take the flight.

If a sufficient number of officers express an interest, transportation will be requested from Andrews Air Force Base (AFB) in Maryland to Luke AFB in Phoenix. There is the possibility of additional stops en route based upon committed

interest. The final itinerary will depend upon the number of officers who sign-up in each location.

If you are considering attending the meeting and are interested in this offer, please call or e-mail one of the officers listed below and leave the following information: name, rank, social security number, office phone number, Operating Division/Program, and e-mail address. Once signed up you will be kept informed of the flight status.

Priority for available seats will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Officers should understand that accepting transportation on military aircraft entails the following obligations: (1) you must have a valid ID card and the rank on your card must match the rank on your uniform; (2) in adherence to the policy of the Office of the Surgeon General, you must fly in the uniform of the day; (3) there may be limitations on the amount and type of luggage transported; (4) there are

items which may not be transported, e.g., alcohol, firearms, or ammunition; and (5) dependents may not take this flight unless they are eligible in their own right based upon service in the Uniformed Services.

Remember that this solicitation is being used only to determine the level of interest. It is not a guarantee of transportation.

CAPT Linda Morris Brown (brownl@exchange.nih.gov)	301-594-7157
CAPT Ray Clark (clark.ray@epa.gov)	202-564-9198
CAPT Mark Paris (mark.paris@tma.osd.mil)	703-681-1133
CDR Nelson Adekoya (nba7@cdc.gov)	304-285-6094
LT Jannette O'Neill-González (JO'Neill-Gonzalez@hrs.gov)	301-594-4161
CDR Julio Garcia (jgarcia@psc.gov)	301-594-3466

□

Professional Advisory Committee for Nursing

As we begin the 21st Century, much time has been spent in retrospective and prospective analysis of health status and health care. The Professional Advisory Committee for Nursing's (PAC-N) Ninth Annual Nursing Recognition Day will examine the processes by which we have achieved and will continue to achieve healthy outcomes. *Building Bridges – Collaboration, Education, and Innovation* is the theme for the May 5, 2000 event being held at the Women in Military Service for America Amphitheater in Arlington, Virginia. Speakers include Ms. Cynthia Vlasich (*Nursing Spectrum*, Chicago; formerly the Chief Nurse of the American Red Cross), Dr. P. J. Maddox (George Mason University), and Dr. Stephanie Ferguson (Howard University). Additional information and registration forms are available on the Public Health Service (PHS) Nursing web site (www.hhs.gov/progorg/nursing) or by calling the PHS Nursing Office at 301-443-0577.

Part of the May 5 celebration includes the presentation of PHS Publication Awards and the Minnigerode Awards for

Nursing Excellence. The call for papers for the Publication Awards honoring RADM Faye Abdellah (Ret.) *Nursing Research*, RADM O. Marie Henry (Ret.) *Clinical Nursing Practice*, and RADM Julia Plotnick (Ret.) *Health/Nursing Policy* has been published. Award recipients receive a plaque and make a brief presentation at the meeting.

The Minnigerode Awards for Nursing Excellence honor the contributions of Lucy Minnigerode, the first nursing supervisor (1919-1935) of the PHS. Awards are presented for nursing excellence in the following five categories: McLaughlin Award for Clinical Services; Hanzel Award for Administrative Activities; Hasselmeyer Award for Research Initiatives; Petry Leone Award for Health Promotion/Education, and Gregg Group Award for Teamwork. The new Gregg Group Award remembers Elinor D. Gregg who was appointed the Director of Nursing Service for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1924. Her work combined the health goals and educational, industrial, and economic plans for Indian peoples and strengthened each initiative through coordination and collaboration—a true

testament to teamwork. Therefore, this new award recognizes exemplary leadership contributions by nurses who are members of groups or teams.

The PAC-N has worked exceptionally hard to create and maintain a web site with information for all nurses. A total update has just been completed and each month will see the addition of the PAC-N minutes and other relevant materials. The web site can be accessed at www.hhs.gov/progorg/nursing. Also, in order to facilitate communication, a Listserv has been created. The Listserv includes PAC-N minutes and other notices and relevant material. Registered users can be assured of receiving updated material as quickly as possible. All PHS nurses and interested professionals are encouraged to visit and register with the Listserv by accessing <http://list.nih.gov/archives/phsnursing-l.html>. This is our tangible commitment to ensure that nurses have relevant, current information for decision making.

□

Call for Pharmacy PAC Nominations

The Pharmacy Professional Advisory Committee (PharmPAC) is seeking commissioned corps and civil service pharmacists who are interested in serving on this committee. The PharmPAC is comprised of pharmacists who are employed in the Department of Health and Human Services' Operating Divisions (OPDIVs) or in any of the major programs that employ Corps pharmacists. The PharmPAC provides advice and consultation to the Surgeon General and to the Chief Professional Officer on issues related to both the professional practice of pharmacy and the personnel activities of commissioned corps and civil service pharmacists.

Nominations are being solicited from all OPDIV/Program pharmacists who are interested in serving on the PharmPAC. Anticipated openings for the 2000-2003 term are as follows, but all nominations will be kept on file for future consideration: Federal Bureau of Prisons, 1 open-

ing; Food and Drug Administration, 2 openings; National Institutes of Health, 1 opening; Office of the Secretary, 1 opening; and Ad Hoc, 1 opening (represents OPDIVs/Programs with less than 10 pharmacists). The PharmPAC meets bi-monthly in the Rockville area, however, teleconferencing is available.

If you are interested in representing your OPDIV/Program on the PharmPAC, please submit your curriculum vitae with a cover letter describing your interest. Also, please provide a memorandum or letter of endorsement from your immediate supervisor. All materials must be submitted by **April 20, 2000** to:

LCDR Kimberly D. Knutson
USPHS/IHS Health Center
P.O. Box 9210
Arapahoe, WY 82510
Phone: 307-856-9281
Fax: 307-856-1630
E-mail: kknutson@bilb2.billings.ihs.gov

If you would like to participate in PharmPAC activities as a nonmember, please volunteer to serve on one of the following subcommittees: Recruitment, Retention and Compensation, Awards, Pharmaceutical Care, Career Development, Commissioned Corps Readiness Force, Civil Service Issues, Communications, and History. Working with a subcommittee is a great way to contribute while learning more about the PharmPAC and its activities. Descriptions of the responsibilities of each of these subcommittees along with contact information are available on the PharmPAC web site at:

<http://www.hhs.gov/progorg/pharmacy>



Naval War College Available to PHS Commissioned Corps Officers

Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps officers are eligible to attend the nonresident night school program of the Naval War College Command and Staff School. PHS students not only gain broader perspectives and professional education, but also have the opportunity to represent the Corps in a joint Services environment.

Even though this is the War College, the course offerings are at the policy level, not tactical. This means their applicability and content is similar to parts of the curriculum of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. The courses provide the students with a broad base of information and theory that is applicable to program management, interagency relationships, and a better understanding of joint Services operations. There is no cost to the students for tuition or for the use of textbooks.

The exposure for commissioned corps officers to viewpoints and experiences of other Uniformed Services' officers is invaluable. There are also opportunities to educate representatives of other Uniformed Services about the capability, role, mission, and contributions of the PHS Commissioned Corps. These include inter-

national situations of peacekeeping where Corps officers have provided health care and worked alongside military personnel.

To graduate from the Naval War College nonresident program, students must complete three core courses: Strategy and Policy; Joint Maritime Operations; and National Security and Decision Making. The core courses are taken one evening a week from August through May, and the program is completed in 3 years – or 2 years with a concentrated night school summer session. Nonresident classes are only offered in geographical areas where there are Naval bases, for example, Washington, D.C.

Admission is not automatic. Corps officers must compete for remaining class slots after those designated for active-duty Navy personnel are filled. These remaining slots are also open for students from the Army, Coast Guard, Air Force, and Marines.

Contact CAPT Susanne Caviness, who graduated from this Naval War College program in 1997, at 301-443-7614. The request for application for the August 2000 term must be made by the end of April 2000.

Commissioned Officer Roster and Promotion Seniority Pamphlet on DCP Web Site

Commissioned Corps Personnel Manual Pamphlet No. 1, "Commissioned Officer Roster and Promotion Seniority," (also known as the "Blue Book") dated October 1, 1999, has been placed on the Division of Commissioned Personnel's (DCP) operational web site: <http://dcp.psc.gov>. This edition and all future editions of the Blue Book will only be available in electronic form on DCP's web site; DCP will no longer print and distribute on paper media.

This pamphlet contains personal information concerning an officer's career status. As such, it is subject to the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974. The pamphlet itself must be maintained and stored in such a way as to prevent disclosure to unauthorized persons. Therefore, authorized persons are required to use the user ID password DCP provided to them to access the pamphlet on the DCP operational web site. The pamphlet can be found under "Publications/Policies," and officers should download a current version of the Adobe Acrobat reader with a search function. If you do not know your access information, contact the DCP Help Desk at 301-594-0961.

Those requiring a printed copy of the "Blue Book" are advised to print the appropriate sections or pages directly from the web site.



Nominations Sought for HS-PAC's Kissel and Garcia Awards

The Health Services Professional Advisory Committee (HS-PAC) is inviting nominations for the "Stanley J. Kissel, Jr. Award for Outstanding Health Services Professional of the Year." The nominee must have made a significant impact on the Nation's public health, exhibited leadership in the achievement(s) being cited, and served as a role model to others.

The HS-PAC is also inviting nominations for the "Joseph Garcia, Jr. Award for Outstanding Junior Health Services Officer of the Year." This award will go to

a junior health services professional who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the Nation's public health, demonstrated leadership in his or her work, and shown involvement in health-related professional or community organizations or activities.

Commissioned corps officers from the Health Services category and equivalent civil service professionals are eligible for these awards. Nominations must be received by **April 7, 2000**. The awards will be presented at the 2000 Public Health

Professional Conference sponsored by the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service to be held in June in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Nominations that do not follow the correct format will not be reviewed. Award criteria and nomination forms for either of these awards may be obtained by contacting:

CAPT Clifford Evans
Phone: 301-594-2384
E-mail: cde@cdrh.fda.gov



Call for Nominations for Dietitian PAC Membership

The Dietitian/Nutritionist Professional Advisory Committee (D/N PAC) is seeking new members. The D/N PAC is composed of both commissioned corps and civil service dietitians and nutritionists, and serves as an active link between the Office of the Surgeon General and dietitians working in the Department of Health and Human Services' Operating Divisions (OPDIVs) or in other major Programs where commissioned corps dietitians serve. The D/N PAC meets six times annually with teleconferencing available. To be eligible for member-

ship, you must be a dietitian or nutritionist and a full-time OPDIV/Program employee.

All new appointments will be made for a 3-year term and self-nominations are encouraged. Self-nomination forms were included in the January D/N PAC meeting minutes or can be obtained from the address below. The deadline for submission of nominations is **June 1, 2000**. Individuals interested in serving on the D/N PAC should submit a self-nomination form, a curriculum vitae, and a cover letter to:

CDR Marilyn Welschenbach, Chair,
D/N PAC
FDA/CDER/OPS HFD-358
WOCII, Room 3009
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857-0001
Phone: 301-594-5685
E-mail: welschenbach@cder.fda.gov



Call for Nominations for the Environmental Health Officer PAC 2000 Awards

The Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC) is accepting nominations for three awards to honor environmental health specialists who are either civil service employees or commissioned officers of the Public Health Service (PHS).

The *John C. Eason Rising Star Award* was established to recognize the accomplishments of talented newcomers (temporary O-3/GS-11 and below) to the field of environmental health and to acknowledge the promise these individuals hold for the future of PHS.

The *Edward (Ted) Moran Award* recognizes an environmental health officer at the temporary O-4/GS-12 or temporary O-5/GS-13 level who consistently achieves high standards in the practice of environmental health, occupational health and safety, industrial hygiene, or radiological health. The award recognizes outstanding contributions during the previous year in the field of environmental health.

The *John G. Todd Award* recognizes an environmental health officer at the temporary O-6/GS-14 level or above for significant career contributions in

achieving the PHS mission of improving the Nation's health through the practice of environmental health.

Nominations are due no later than **April 30, 2000**. Nomination packages and further information can be obtained by contacting CDR Mike Herring, Chairman of the EHOPAC Awards and Recognition Subcommittee, at phone number 252-335-6356 or through the Environmental Health Officer web site at: <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/SPAC>



Federal Bureau of Prisons Seeking Health Services Administrators and Assistant Health Services Administrators

The Federal Bureau of Prisons (BoP) is actively seeking commissioned officers to fill vacant Health Services Administrator (O-6 billets) and Assistant Health Services Administrator (O-5 billets) positions. Preference will be given to officers who have experience and/or formal training in this area. However, officers of any professional background and of any rank may apply.

Officers who do not have training or experience as administrators will be considered for the Assistant Health Services Administrator positions. This is to provide a period of on-the-job training with the expectation that successful incumbents will move up to the Health Services Administrator positions.

Interested officers should contact Mr. David B. Good in the BOP Central Office

at 202-307-2867 ext.106, or e-mail address dgood@bop.gov. Officers can mail their resumes to:

Mr. David B. Good
Health Services Division
Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 1st Street, N.W., Room 1000
Washington, DC 20534



RADM Michael Blackwell Selected as PHS Commissioned Officer Veterinarian of the Year for 1999

The veterinary category selected RADM Michael Blackwell, Chief of Staff, Office of the Surgeon General, as the Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Officer Veterinarian of the Year for 1999. The award was presented by CAPT Cynthia Pond, Chief Veterinarian, at the Veterinary All Hand's meeting on December 20, 1999, in Wilson Hall at the

National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. Since RADM Blackwell was out of town, RADM Kenneth Moritsugu, Deputy Surgeon General, accepted the award on RADM Blackwell's behalf.

Nominees for this award were evaluated on the impact of their work to advance veterinary medicine and/or public health. RADM Blackwell is to be com-

mended for his outstanding leadership and superlative representation of the veterinary category, as well as for his many contributions to the veterinary profession and the PHS Commissioned Corps.



Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians Annual Conference

An invitation is extended to all Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and registered nurses to attend the 25th Annual Scientific Assembly of the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians (USAFP) in Atlanta, Georgia, April 14 through 19, 2000.

This conference is an excellent opportunity to obtain continuing medical education (up to 49 AAFP/AMA prescribed hours), network with PHS Commissioned Corps and other Uniformed Services professionals, and hear Harry F. Hull, M.D., of the World Health Organization deliver the keynote address. With the proximity to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), several presentations

will be provided by CDC experts. Time is set aside on Monday, April 17, for a breakout session for PHS Commissioned Corps attendees to meet and discuss issues and/or topics of specific relevance to PHS.

For further information or to obtain the conference brochure, please call USAFP Headquarters at phone number 804-968-4436. Online information/registration can be found at the USAFP home page: <http://www.usafp.org/core.sht>



DCP WEB SITE ADDRESS—

<http://dcp.psc.gov>

DCP Toll-Free Phone Number—

1-877-INFO DCP
(1-877-463-6327)

Subscribe to Listserv to Receive

E-mail Messages from DCP—

listserv@list.psc.dhhs.gov



Vacancy Announcements

The following vacancies are provided as representative of opportunities currently available to Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers. If you have questions pertaining to the announcements listed below, please call the contact listed.

Any Operating Division/Program wishing to list a vacancy in this column should send a written request to: Division of Commissioned Personnel, ATTN: Vacancy Announcements Project Officer/ODB, Room 4A-18, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857-0001—or phone: 301-594-3458 or 301-594-3360 (toll-free at 1-877-INFO-DCP—listen to the prompts, select option #1, dial 43360) or Fax: 301-443-7069.

Category/OPDIV

Description of Position

MEDICAL

DC COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

(St. Elizabeths Hospital)—
Washington, DC

Chief Clinical Officer
Contact: CAPT Jeannette Wick 202-373-7208
Grade: O-6

Board certified psychiatrist to provide clinical direction to professional and para-professional staffs including nursing, psychology, psychiatry, social work, and allied therapies. Incumbent is responsible for oversight of all committees of the medical staff and activities related to credentialing.

DC COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

(St. Elizabeths Hospital)—
Washington, DC

Psychiatrists
Contact: CAPT Jeannette Wick 202-373-7208
Grade: O-5/O-6

Psychiatrists (both adult psychiatry and child psychiatry) are needed to provide services in inpatient, outpatient, and forensic locations.

DENTAL

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE— Santa Fe, NM

Chief Dental Officer
Contact: Dr. Sophie Twohawk 505-988-9821
Grades: O-4/O-5/O-6

Clinical responsibility for four operatory clinics. Manages and provides dental program direction for entire Santa Fe Service Unit consisting of five health centers. Provides advice relative to program issues directly to the Service Unit Director and Clinical Director. Serves as a member of the Strategic Advisory Committee.

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE— Shiprock, NM

Chief, Dental Services
Contact: Dr. Chris Percy 505-368-6455
Grade: O-6

Serves as director of the dental program at the Northern Navajo Medical Center. Consists of a hospital-based, 24-chair clinic plus 3 satellite clinics. Responsible for planning a new fourth satellite clinic of 24 chairs. Supervises 14 dentists, 3 specialists, 2 hygienists, and 6 clerks. Strong community-base prevention program.

NURSE

BUREAU OF PRISONS— Fort Worth, TX

Clinical Nurse
Contact: Ms. Princess Jackson 817-413-3411
Grades: O-2/O-3/O-4

Provides medical services to inmate populations at a Federal Medical Center.

Retirements - February

Title/Name

OPDIV/Program

MEDICAL

CAPTAIN

Richard E. Brodsky IHS
Fe Reyes Dela Paz IHS
Timothy G. Fleming IHS
Peter S. Jensen NIH

COMMANDER

Philip G. Jajosky CDC

DENTAL

CAPTAIN

Mark Koday HRSA
Juris M. Svarcbergs HRSA
Edmund L. Trujillo HRSA
Jack Belchinsky IHS

COMMANDER

Catherine A. Phillips IHS

NURSE

COMMANDER

Karen J. Clifford NIH

ENGINEER

CAPTAIN

Joseph S. Arnaudo FDA
George L. Allen, Jr. IHS
John R. Hamilton IHS
William F. Holcomb NIH
Steven M. Bromberg EPA

SCIENTIST

CAPTAIN

Je Anne R. Burg ATSDR
James M. Everts EPA

PHARMACY

CAPTAIN

James W. Bredon IHS
Robert A. McGough IHS
Richard M. Taffet PSC

HEALTH SERVICES

CAPTAIN

Joseph A. Brennan, Jr. OS
Kathleen G. Smith IHS
Roger W. Broseus NIH

□

(Continued on page 9)

Vacancy Announcements

(Continued from page 8)

Category / OPDIV

Description of Position

PHARMACY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS– Chief Pharmacist / Assistant Chief Pharmacist
 Various Sites Contact: CAPT John Babb 202-307-2867 ext.128
 Grades: O-4/O-5/O-6
 Locations for O-6 Chief Pharmacists include the U.S. Penitentiary in Leavenworth, KS, and the Federal Medical Center in Butner, NC. Locations for O-5 Chief Pharmacists include Danbury, CT, and Schuylkill, PA. The location for O-4 Chief Pharmacist is at the Federal Prison Camp in Alderson, WV. One Assistant Chief Pharmacist position is located at the U.S. Medical Center in Springfield, MO.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS– Staff Pharmacist / Senior Pharmacist I
 Various Sites Contact: CAPT John Babb 202-307-2867 ext.128
 Grade: O-4
 Locations include Jesup, GA, Miami, FL, Yazoo City, MS, Atlanta, GA, Terre Haute, IN, Lewisburg, PA, Devens, MA, New York, NY, and Springfield, MO.

THERAPY

DC COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

*(St. Elizabeths Hospital)–
 Washington, DC*

Chief Occupational Therapist
 Contact: CAPT Jeannette Wick 202-373-7208
 Grade: O-6
 Incumbent provides professional leadership to a staff of approximately 12 occupational therapists, with emphasis on establishing measures of ongoing care and provision of care, which promotes consumer independence in community settings.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY

AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

Rockville, MD

Evaluation Officer
 Contact: Ms. Patti Brown 301-594-7175
 Grades: O-5/O-6
 This position is located in the immediate Office of the Director within the Planning, Development and Evaluation Staff. Incumbent is responsible for the development, implementation and management of Agency evaluation and performance measurement activities, including development of the Agency's Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) annual performance plan and report.

DC COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

*(St. Elizabeths Hospital)–
 Washington, DC*

Deputy Chief Clinical Officer
 Contact: CAPT Jeannette Wick 202-373-7208
 Grade: O-6
 Incumbent participates fully in planning, policy, fiscal, personnel, and administrative responsibilities. Establishes appropriate measures of ongoing clinical care in all areas of the Commission.

Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing – All-Class Reunion - May 2000

The Walter Reed Army Institute of Nursing (WRAIN) is planning a reunion of all eleven WRAIN classes (1968-1978). Because of WRAIN's association with the Army Nurse Corps, the WRAIN 2000 reunion will be held in conjunction with the Retired Army Nurse Corps Association's convention to be held May 25 through 29, 2000, in Washington, D.C.

For further information, contact:

Ms. Barbara Tassone
 21 Sugar Tree Place
 Cockeysville, MD 21030
 Phone: 410-666-0944
 E-mail: bltasson@bcpl.net
 WRAIN web site: <http://retie.erols.com>



Tax Withholding for 1999

If you have found, as a result of completing your 1999 tax forms, that you had a significant refund or payment, you should consider changing your withholding on your current income.

Your current number of allowances for tax purposes is shown on your form PHS-6155, "Statement of Earnings and Deductions." You may file an updated Form W-4 for Federal (and State if it applies) tax withholding if you wish to change the amount of your present withholding. The 2000 Form W-4 contains worksheets to assist you in determining the correct amount of allowances. The payroll system automatically adjusts for the new tax rates based on the number of allowances that you presently claim.

If you wish to change the number of allowances you claim, request a Form W-4 from your timekeeper. Complete the form and mail it to:

Division of Commissioned Personnel
 ATTN: Compensation Branch
 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 4-50
 Rockville, MD 20857-0001



BCOAG Presents Awards

The Black Commissioned Officers Advisory Group (BCOAG) presented the Hildrus A. Poindexter Award, George I. Lythcott Award, and BCOAG's Retired Officers Recognition Award on Sunday, December 5 at the Minority Officers Liaison Council Awards Dinner held at the Commissioned Officers Club, National Naval Medical Center, in Bethesda, Maryland.

The *Hildrus A. Poindexter Award* was established in 1990 in memory of CAPT Hildrus A. Poindexter, M.D., Ph.D., M.S.P.H., Sc.D. (1901-1987). This son of a former slave, born into poverty, went on to become an eminent physician, scientist, academician, and exemplary Public Health Service (PHS) Commissioned Corps officer. This award recognizes a PHS officer or civil service employee (with a minimum of 7 years service within PHS) for outstanding service contributing to enhancing access to health care for underserved populations.

CAPT Robert E. Dawson Received the 1999 Hildrus A. Poindexter Award

CAPT Robert E. Dawson was commissioned as an Ensign medical student assigned to the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences F. Edward Herbert School of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland. Upon completing his residency in internal medicine in 1985, he was assigned to the Department of Family Medicine at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center (PIMC) in Phoenix, Arizona. He went on to serve as the Chief Medical Officer with the Indian Health Service, (IHS) at the California Area Office in Sacramento, California. This assignment was followed by a 7-month detail as special assistant to the Secretary where he was charged with the promotion, coordination, and implementation of the Department-wide Minority Male Initiative Grant Program. In 1992, CAPT Dawson was assigned to EXCELth, Inc., a nonprofit health care delivery system in New Orleans, Louisiana, where, as its Medical Director, he is directly responsible for ensuring the quality of care to more than 18,000 patients and in excess of 60,000 patient visits per year.

CAPT Dawson received this award for sustained exemplary contributions. While assigned to IHS, he played a key role in securing the first Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations accreditation for the PIMC and Tribal P.L. 638 program in California; when charged with implementation of the Minority Male Initiative Grant Program, he successfully completed this \$5 million initiative in 6 months thereby meeting the Secretary's priority and program commitment; and at EXCELth, Inc., as the Medical Director for five community health centers, two school-based clinics, and an affiliated homeless clinic, he has been a tireless, proactive advocate in expanding its service capabilities. His dedication and service compliment the PHS mission

The *George I. Lythcott Award* was established in 1996 in memory of RADM George I. Lythcott, M.D. (1918-1995). He was the first black PHS commissioned officer given the responsibility of directing a PHS agency, the Health Services Administration. He was a driving force in the expansion of existing programs and promoting new programs in support of the delivery of quality health services to the Nation's poor and special entitlement groups, and promoting upward-mobility training opportunities for the Department's mid-level management aspirants. This award recognizes an individual who demonstrates a genuine sense of public service, leadership initiative, and whose contributions enhance the health status of medically underserved populations. Any PHS Commissioned Corps officer (O-2, O-3, or O-4) with a minimum of 5 years of service in the Corps is an eligible candidate.

LCDR Jose Hernandez Belardo III Received the 1999 George I. Lythcott Award

LCDR Jose Hernandez Belardo III joined the Corps in 1995 and was assigned to the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) to work with predominately minority communities with disproportionately high

infant mortality rates. He has continuously demonstrated excellence in defining, assessing, and finding acceptable solutions for infant mortality problems, and he successfully serves as a Federal professional consultant to both large urban and isolated rural health department directors, mayors, city managers, and a large Native American population in finding acceptable resolutions to difficult social issues. He currently manages fifteen culturally diverse, multifaceted projects, and this \$30 million initiative includes projects directed at improving the health status of more 7.5 million minority impoverished families.

The continuing racial disparities in health outcomes for mothers, children, and their families in vulnerable communities across the Nation, will require PHS to seek out and rely on the leadership of young health professionals who epitomize the visionary qualities of RADM George I Lythcott. LCDR Belardo unequivocally exemplifies that caliber of leadership. He received this award for his outstanding professional contributions in raising the health status of high risk minority communities and demonstrated commitment to building support systems within his MCHB division and among his fellow Corps officers.

The BCOAG established the *Retired Officers Recognition Award* to gather vital information and acknowledge the significant contributions made by officers of African ancestry in building the legacy of the PHS—'On Their Shoulders We Stand.'

RADM H. McDonald Rimple (Ret.) and CAPT Richard A. Smith (Ret.) Received the 1999 Retired Commissioned Officers Recognition Award

RADM H. McDonald Rimple (Ret.) was commissioned as an Ensign in 1956 while a third year medical student. He retired in 1982 at the rank of Rear Admiral (upper half). During his career, he held numerous high-level positions which involved a variety of medical management and policymaking responsibilities.

(Continued on page 11)

BCOAG Presents Awards

(Continued from page 10)

He served as the director of ambulatory care for the Manhattan- Philadelphia-Buffalo Clinic complex; served as deputy director of the Hill-Burton Hospital Program that was designed to meet the Nation's hospital bed shortage need; developed the operational guidelines for the National Health Service Corps and became its first director; served as deputy director of the Bureau of Medical Services with supervisory responsibility for 9 Federal hospitals and 36 ambulatory care clinics nationwide; and served in Africa as a consultant in rural health. In 1975, he was appointed Regional Health Administrator of all Federal health programs in the six Mid-Atlantic States comprising Region III.

In retirement, RADM Rimple has continued to serve in a number of public health promotion positions. He became the first African American to serve as the director of the Department of Health in Norfolk, Virginia, and under his leadership the city's first prenatal and school-based health clinics in the Commonwealth of Virginia were established. In 1998, he was appointed Eastern Regional Medical Director for the State of Virginia's Department of Health with responsibility for the quality of health services for 10 health districts. He held this position until his civilian retirement in 1991.

Twice retired, RADM Rimple leads a very active professional and community life which traverses public health advocacy, academia, local government, and support for the arts.

CAPT Richard A. Smith (Ret.) was commissioned as an Ensign in 1956 by the PHS while a medical student. He was driven by a vision to expand the national and international opportunities for the Corps. In 1961, he became the second Corps officer assigned to the Peace Corps mission in Nigeria. He returned to Washington, D.C. in 1963 as the Peace Corps' Africa Region's Medical Officer and in 1964 he became Deputy Medical Director of the Peace Corps. In 1965, CAPT

Smith was assigned to the Office of Equal Opportunity where he worked on strategies to use Medicare Certification under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act as a tool for desegregating more than 65,000 hospitals, their training operations, and blood supply programs.

CAPT Smith conceived and wrote *Raider*, a one hour television series, using commercial television as a tool for public health education. He developed the Medex Northwest Physician Assistant Program which demonstrated the feasibility of significantly expanding primary care access by utilizing nonphysician providers. He expanded the Medex model to include other disciplines, and from 1972 to 1981, while detailed to the University of Hawaii Medical School, he took the Medex model to the third world. The Medex Group went on and produced the Medex Primary Health Care Series, a 7,000-page book printed in 33 languages, which is currently in use in 82 countries.

CAPT Smith retired in 1981 and remains active as a global consultant on health care delivery systems. He is a mentor and strong advocate in support of initiatives to increase opportunities for minority practitioners to be active participants in increasing access to critically needed health care for underserved populations throughout the world.



Inactive Reserve Corps

Inactive Reserve Corps officers are reminded that in order to retain their inactive reserve corps commission, they must provide the following to the Division of Commissioned Personnel in a timely manner as it changes: a current curriculum vita; a photocopy of professional license / registration / certification renewal; a current address; and a current phone number.

Information or questions can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the Inactive Reserve Corps Coordinator at:

Division of Commissioned Personnel
 ATTN: Inactive Reserve Corps
 Coordinator, ODB
 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 4A-18
 Rockville, MD 20857-0001
 Fax: 301-443-7069
 E-mail: cc_ircstaff@psc.gov
 Phone: 301-594-3395 (or toll-free at 1-877-INFO-DCP, listen to the prompts, select option #1, dial 43395)

New Address and Phone/Fax Numbers for the PHS Officers Device Supply Center

The Public Health Service (PHS) Officers Device Supply Center announces its new address and phone/fax numbers -

National Hansen's Disease Programs
 PHS Officers Device Supply Center
 1770 Physicians Park Drive
 Baton Rouge, LA 70816-3222
 Phone: 225-756-3793
 Fax: 225-756-3810

Regional Science Fair Judges Needed

The District of Columbia (D.C.) Branch of the Commissioned Officers Association (COA) needs commissioned officers from all categories to serve as judges and award presenters at approximately 14 regional high school science fairs to be held in March and April in Virginia, Maryland, and D.C. This program involves judging and presenting the "Best of Category - Medicine and Health Award" to the best project(s) at each science fair.


The students are honored by the recognition, and the officer judges are rewarded by the refreshing and enthusiastic interaction with students and the experience of judging such high-quality and innovative projects. The presentation of awards and the interaction with students and parents results in positive visibility for the COA and the Corps.

If you are interested in participating this year as a judge or awards presenter in the D.C. area, please call CDR Rebecca Sheets at 301-827-3070 to sign-up.

When this program was launched, it was piloted by the D.C. Branch of COA, but it is ready to be expanded to other regions. To these ends, a report was generated describing the way the D.C. area program is structured. If you are not in the D.C. area, but are interested in starting this program in your region, please contact CDR Sheets at the number listed above for details.



Absentee Ballot Requests



Since this is an election year, you may wish to anticipate your need for an absentee ballot.

Standard Form 76, "Federal Post Card Registration and Absentee Ballot Request," is available through your ID card issuing office. If you are unable to obtain the request form, you should contact the Personnel Services Branch, Division of Commissioned Personnel at 301-594-3108.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Program Support Center
Human Resources Service
Division of Commissioned Personnel, Room 4A-15
Rockville MD 20857-0001

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use \$300

BULK RATE
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
PSC
PERMIT NO. G-280

REDISTRIBUTION
USING PERMIT IMPRINT
IS ILLEGAL

DATED MATERIAL