



SCA eNews



To Promote the history and traditions of the Medical Service Corps, to enhance the continuing education, support social and recreational activities and reinforce camaraderie among its members

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President's Message MG (Ret) David Rubenstein

Howdy, all. I trust you and yours are well.

Well, what is there to say? The pandemic has hit all of us in different ways. Some of us have lost loved ones or friends to the disease; others have lost income or jobs. To each of you please accept my personal and heartfelt condolences. At a minimum, we've all been affected by our state and local community stay safe at home orders. For those of you in essential services, working at your work site, thank you for all you do.

Our reunion, of course, has also been impacted. Your Board had an extensive discussion on the pros and cons of holding it as scheduled, postponing it until a later date, or cancelling it outright. With full consideration of the pros and cons we chose to reschedule our biennial reunion to the fall of 2021. Our reunion will be Wednesday, 29 September 2021 - Saturday, 2 October 2021. All hotel reservations made for the 2020 reunion have been cancelled by the hotel. If you did not get an email from them, please check with them. For 2021 we will remain at the Crystal Gateway Marriott located at 1700 Richmond Highway in Arlington, Virginia.

Our activities remain the same.
 Wednesday . . . AOC dinners
 Thursday Tours and evening reception
 Friday General sessions, evening reception
 Saturday Memorial service, general sessions, dinner-dance

We will keep you informed of our plans through direct email, posting to our SCA webpage and LinkedIn page, and postings to other MSC social media platforms.

Several of our volunteers will be leaving their positions. Doug Brandel will leave his position as our Chaplain. Ken Lingle and Jim Van Straten will leave their position as our Audit Committee. We are looking for volunteers to take their place.

Please contact me at silvercaduceusassociation@gmail.com if you are willing and able (Volens et Potens – 7th Infantry Regiment) to volunteer.

Chief's Message
MG Dennis LeMaster

Fellow Medical Service Corps Officers,

As the 19th Corps Chief, I thank you. The bench is built, and your mentorship remains invaluable. We are standing on the shoulders of giants. You, our Medical Service Corps Officer Fore-runners have leader-developed the Corps for this moment.

Our Nation is faced with a pandemic, unlike anything we have seen since 1918. DoD and our Army have been asked to support national efforts to combat COVID-19. In response to the call, the Army has transitioned to a wartime footing to fight COVID-19. We made the necessary adjustments to support this effort, and the Total Force response has been phenomenal! The members of Army Medicine are the true heroes in this fight.

For the past 120+ days, our Corps readily supported our commands and communities. Nearly 50 Medical Service Corps Retirees raised their hands and are now serving on active duty again.

Collectively, this historic time calls for Leadership and Professionalism. Others look to us to provide solutions, project calm, and instill hope.

The gauntlet has been thrown, and we have ridden towards the sound of the guns. And I know we all will continue doing so – undoubtedly, the Medical Service Corps is leading at the forefront of Army Medicine's COVID-19 Response.

Steady in the saddle.

MG Dennis P. LeMaster

19th Chief, Medical Service Corps

★★★ TSG SENDS: COVID-19 and Army Medicine 18 ★★★

LTG R. Scott Dingle, The Surgeon General

19 May 2020

Army Medicine Family,

Over the last two months, we significantly increased our force health protection as a result of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The increased protection has required many of you to work remotely, care for sick loved ones, and homeschool your children. For others, you have been called to coordinate the ongoing response efforts, deploy to the front lines, and even develop and analyze scientific solutions for COVID-19. I extend my gratitude to each of you for your contributions. The overall whole-of-government response has been phenomenal. The synergy we are experiencing throughout the staff, with our Army leaders, and with our partners in the federal government is monumental.

During these uncertain times, I want you to know we will continue to navigate the change and support the nation's efforts together. We remain postured to serve and respond. Army medical personnel, in particular, will continue to be available and provide support as long as the need exists.

We are stewards of the future and during these historic times we must capture our lessons learned and best practices. Our lessons learned and best practices will strengthen the strategic, operational, and tactical response by Army Medicine during emergency operations in the future. [For CAC users] Your observations can be entered at the COVID-19 SharePoint Lessons Learned/Best Practices site at <https://go.usa.gov/xvNwY>. The user guide, located on the site, provides detailed instructions.

This week we celebrated National Transportation Week and National Defense Transportation Day. The ability to move people, supplies, and equipment around cannot be understated. The personnel making movement happen are among our most unsung heroes. We often underestimate the work involved in ensuring equipment, supplies, and people are at the point of need. I send sincere gratitude to all of you involved in getting us where we need to go and ensuring supplies and equipment are in place.

I'd like to send a "shout out" to our research folks. The U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory (USAARL) tested two portable patient isolation units to possibly transport COVID-19 patients on U.S. Army and Army National Guard medical evacuation aircraft. USAARL was able to expedite all testing and approvals needed to obtain airworthiness certification to offer potential material solutions for transporting patients requiring isolation onboard U.S. Army rotary-wing aircraft. This is the kind of work going on in the transportation world that we do not see. Be sure to say thank you to people you know in the transportation world.

I'm also grateful for the technology we have available to us during this pandemic. Specifically, within the DHA there are a number of resiliency apps that can be helpful for us as we endure this collective experience.

Here are some of the available apps:

- Provider Resilience App
- Virtual Hope Box App
- Breathe2Relax App
- Military Meditation Coach Podcast

These two links have additional information:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/365824/covid-19-world-pace-yourself-stay-resilient-and-avoid-burnout>

and

<https://health.mil/connectedhealth>.

Stay safe out there. Wear your personal protective equipment (PPE) and remember the best protection for the general public is to maintain social distancing. It is a discipline.

Thank you for all you tirelessly do for our Army and our Nation.

Army Medicine is Army Strong! Hooah!

Chaplain Activities
COL (Ret) Doug Braendel

Since our Colorado Springs reunion I have been serving as Chaplain for the Silver Caduceus Association. It's time for me to pass these duties to another member. Will you volunteer?

As Chaplain I have two major responsibilities. Upon notification of the death of a Medical Service Corps officer I send a sympathy card to the decedent's next of kin. For our biennial reunions I plan and organize the Memorial Service during which we remember those of us who have departed this life since the previous reunion.

For the sympathy card I rely on assistance in identifying the name and address of the next of kin. Published obituaries generally include survivors, but do not include their addresses. Most of the time notification of deaths come from members of the Silver Caduceus Association. When that message includes the name and address of the surviving spouse or children it is extremely helpful for me. Without that information I try to use Google and whitepages.com to find the information I need.

For the development of the Memorial Service program I depend upon the reunion committee to produce the program. For the past four reunions I have asked the committee to provide enough programs for attendees and for the families of those whom we are remembering. I mail these extra programs to every family for whom I have an address. Although I include an invitation to the memorial Service in each of the sympathy cards that I send, it is not possible for most of the next of kin to be able to physically attend the service. The program provides them with a reminder that we remembered them.

Audit Committee
COL (Ret) Ken Lingle and COL (Ret) Jim Van Straten

It's time for us to pass these duties to two other members. Will you volunteer?

Upon the conclusion of each calendar year, the SCA's Financial Secretary will have delivered to the chairperson of the appointed SCA Audit Committee the financial records of the Association that have accrued since the previous audit. Those records will include a copy of the financial ledger, all bank statements, all receipts for goods and services purchased, and a listing of all monies received for membership renewals, new memberships, and donations to the scholarship fund.

Upon receipt of these documents, the Audit Committee will review each document to ensure that all monies received have been properly recorded in the financial ledger and deposited into the Association's bank account. The Audit Committee will also review all receipts for the purchase of goods and services by the Association to ensure that they are in compliance with the bylaws, properly recorded in the ledger and that they reconcile with the monthly bank statements. All credits and debits will be reviewed during the annual audit. At the conclusion of the audit, a report outlining the results of the audit will be prepared and sent to the SCA's Financial Secretary for presentation and discussion at the next meeting of the SCA's Board of Directors. Any discrepancies found during the audit will be addressed in the audit report.

COVID-19 and Basic Officers Leadership & Captains Career Courses COL (Ret) Dave Bitterman

Howdy from sunny Fort Sam Houston! It has been an eventful two months here at the home of Army Medical training, and especially from the perspective of Officer professional military education.

As this health crisis developed in mid-March, the Army directed almost all functional training to cease, but Initial Military Training really *has* to continue in order to preserve readiness and to protect our nation. Our Basic Officer Leader Course and Captains Career Courses that were in session continued, but they became much different courses as time went on. We met the same training objectives, but what changed was the way we delivered the training.

Initially, our main concern was the safety of our students and staff, so we immediately put measures in place to that end. Students and staff were directed to “social distance” when they could, and eventually were directed to wear masks for times when they *couldn't*. “Social distance” eventually became known as “tactical dispersion”, and training continued. We enforced maximum space between students both in Garrison and in the field environment, PT formations were spread out, and Soldiers slept head-to-toe in sparsely populated tents in the field. We delivered much of the didactic training virtually over the computer when possible; and when it wasn't, masks and “tactical dispersion” were mandatory. You simply cannot evaluate a student's leadership ability over a computer!

Many of the civilian employees who are not instructors have been teleworking from home since mid-March. I think most of us here at work miss the human interaction with our peers, and it seems like every day is “groundhog” day, with *fast* commutes and *outstanding* ability to find a parking spot! Training continues, and we are all very grateful that we remain healthy and have a clearly defined mission and purpose. #CalmisContagious

COL (Ret) Ken Canestrini



AMSUS and *Military Medicine* Offer Free Collection of COVID-19 Relevant Journal Articles
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, AMSUS—The Society of Federal Health Professionals and its international journal, *Military Medicine*, has created a complimentary collection of relevant publications previously published in the journal between July 1940 and February 2020. These selected articles examine various aspects of infectious diseases, epidemics, and pandemics as analyzed through the lens of military medical experts. The collection of pertinent articles is organized in six categories 1) experience with influenza epidemics and pandemics, 2) encounters with other infectious diseases outbreaks in a deployed environment, 3) policy and position papers, 4) potential high risk military groups and environments, 5) differential: biological warfare or natural outbreak, and 6) pandemic strategies. AMSUS has made the collection free to the public at <https://academic.oup.com/milmed/pages/covid-19-pandemic>.

Military Medicine has published peer-reviewed military and federal health-related papers for close to 130 years. Each month, the journal is produced in print and digital formats, with the latest issue available on its website, www.academic.oup.com/milmed. AMSUS members receive a subscription to the journal and waived submission fees for articles they wish to publish.

AMSUS membership is open to everyone with an interest in federal health, including military health and public health. First-time members are offered a 2-year membership at a special rate of \$100. More information about benefits is available at <https://www.amsus.org/special-offer-for-first-time-members/>. First-time students/residents are offered a free 2-year membership, followed by a \$25 annual fee for their remaining years as students/residents. Students/residents may register at <https://www.amsus.org/first-time-student-resident-members/>.

Please share information about *Military Medicine*'s free collection, as well as membership information with any you believe would benefit from the information.

Primary AOC or MOS information COL (Ret) Roger Williams

In our last e-newsletter I outlined the procedure for members to add their Primary AOC/MOS to their SCA online web profile after noting that only 27% of our active membership had this information recorded. While we have made progress (increased to 33%), this is still well below what we would like to see.

All regular members renewing their memberships online via credit card provide a Primary AOC/MOS during the renewal process. However, we still receive a number of renewals by check through the mail and for the most part the member does not include information to update their online profile. Also, 84% of our lifetime members have yet indicated a Primary AOC/MOS on their profile. Since lifetime members never need to renew their membership, updated profile information does not get inputted unless they enter it themselves or provide me with the information

The fastest way to get your AOC/MOS entered on your online profile is to log into our web page and click on "View Your Profile". Otherwise you can send an email message to me at rogerwill@aol.com with your name and the Primary AOC or MOS you want added and I will be happy to enter the information. Below is a listing of the current AOCs/MOS assigned to MSC Officers.

- 67E Pharmacy
- 67F Optometry
- 67G Podiatry
- 67J Aero-medical Evacuation
- 70A Health Care Administration
- 70B Health Services Administration
- 70C Health Services Comptroller
- 70D Health Service System Management
- 70E Patient Administration
- 70F Health Services Human Resources
- 70H Health Services Plans, Ops, Intel, Sec and Tng..
- 70K Health Services Materiel
- 71A Microbiology

71B Biochemistry
71E Clinical Laboratory
71F Research Psychology
72A Nuclear Medical Science
72B Entomology
72C Audiology
72D Environmental Science
73A Social Work
73B Clinical Psychology
670A Health Services Maintenance Technician

As a reminder, SCA members cannot see your full online profile. If they click on “View Details” next to your name in the Member List all they are able to see are the pieces of information you have checked on the “Viewing Preferences” line in the Additional Information section shown at the bottom of your profile. I strongly encourage members to review their profile and to check as many pieces of information they feel comfortable for viewing as only SCA members have access to the Member List and can view this information. At the very least, I recommend showing your email address. As always, if you have any questions, comments or need my assistance feel free to contact me via email.

**COL (Ret) Roger Williams
SCA Scholarship Program**

I would like to let everyone know that the 2020 scholarship application deadline is the 30th of June 2020. The eligibility criteria for submitting an application and the application form are posted on our website and can be reached using the link below.

<https://www.silvercaduceusassociation.org/about/scholarships>

Also, **as a reminder, our scholarship program is funded entirely by donations and it** has been successful over the years due to the generous contributions of our SCA members and other individuals who support the SCA goal of enhancing continued education. Your tax-deductible donations to the program will make it possible for us to continue to award scholarships to deserving SCA family members. To make a donation you simply write a check payable to the SCA and note on the “For” line that it is for the SCA scholarship program. Then mail your check to SCA, Inc., P.O. Box 39514, San Antonio, TX 78218.

DUSTOFF

Dedicated Unhesitating Service To Our Fighting Forces

While serving at the 71st Evacuation Hospital in Pleiku, Vietnam in 1967 I quickly came to admire the brave Dustoff pilots bringing wounded to our hospital. Each Dustoff pilot was a hero but a few stood above the rest. One of those was Major Patrick H. Brady. He retired in 1993 with the rank of Major General.

Ed

Major Patrick H. Brady

AMEDD Medal of Honor Awardee

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty the Medal of Honor was awarded to MAJOR PATRICK H. BRADY United States Army.



For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty, Major Brady, Medical Service Corps, distinguished himself while serving with the 54th Medical Detachment, 67th Medical Group, 44th Medical Brigade, in the Republic of Vietnam. On 6 January 1968, Major Brady, commanding a UH-1H ambulance helicopter in the vicinity of Chu Lai, volunteered to rescue wounded men from a site in enemy-held territory which was reported to be heavily defended and to be blanketed by fog. To reach the site he descended through heavy fog and smoke and hovered slowly along a valley trail, turning his ship sideward to blow away the fog with the backwash from his rotor blades. Despite the unchallenged, close-range enemy fire, he found the dangerously small site, where he successfully landed and evacuated two badly wounded South-Vietnamese soldiers. He was then called to another area completely covered by dense fog where American casualties lay only 50 meters from the enemy. Two aircraft had previously been shot down and others had made unsuccessful attempts to reach this site earlier in the day. With unmatched skill and extraordinary courage, Major Brady made four flights to this embattled landing zone and successfully rescued all the wounded. On his third mission of the day Major Brady once again landed at a site surrounded by the enemy. The friendly ground force, pinned down by enemy fire, had been unable to reach and secure the landing zone. Although his aircraft had been badly damaged and his controls partially shot away during his initial entry into this area, he returned minutes later and rescued the remaining injured. Shortly thereafter, obtaining a replacement aircraft, Major Brady was requested to land in an enemy minefield where a platoon of American soldiers was trapped. A mine detonated near his helicopter, wounding two crew members and damaging his ship. In spite of this, he managed to fly six severely injured patients to medical aid. Throughout that day, Major Brady utilized three helicopters to evacuate a total of fifty-one seriously wounded men, many of whom would have perished without prompt medical treatment. MAJ Brady's bravery was in the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself and the U.S. Army.

Patrick Henry Brady, is a retired United States Army major general. While serving as a helicopter pilot in the Vietnam War, he received the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration for valor.

Additional information available at, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Henry_Brady .

SCA Chaplain

After ten years Doug Braendel is leaving his post as our SCA chaplain .During those years he has sent cards of sympathy and condolence to the next of kin of MSC officers who have passed away. He includes a note informing the NOK of the memorial service at the biennial SCA reunion with an invitation for them to attend. Additionally, he maintains a record of each death since the last reunion. This record is provided to the reunion committee for use at the reunion memorial ceremony.

Each of us owe Doug a Thank You for his dedicated service as our chaplain.

We are actively searching for a replacement for Doug. As you know, this is a necessary and important position.

If you have an interest or would like to suggest a replacement please contact Ed Hollingsworth at cwohollingsworth@live.com.