

Newsletter Date
May 2008

Society of Medical Consultants
to the Armed Forces
www.smcaf.org

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SMCAF ANNUAL MEETING 2008

*U.S. Air Force Host's 63rd Annual
Meeting
October 24-26, 2008*

The Council will meet on Friday, October 24, 2008 at USUHS in the Board of Regents Room.

The conference will be held all day Saturday and half day on Sunday. We have applied for CME Credit hours for the one and a half days of attendance.

Committees will meet on Saturday afternoon during the scheduled lunch break. Box lunches will be provided for these breakout sessions.

Saturday night there will be a banquet, mess dress or black tie, where spouses and guests are invited.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

More details on the conference, registration, and hotel reservations may be found in this newsletter.

From The President

I've had a busy spring as your President. After meeting the SGs in Salt Lake City as the guest of AMSUS at its Annual Meeting, I was able to meet each of them in their offices and to discuss SMCAF relevance and future roles with them. In this endeavor, I was accompanied by Dr. George Anderson, AMSUS Executive Director, and Dr. Tom Peters, SMCAF President-elect. We also met with Dr. Charles Rice, USUHS President. We had a most productive Spring Council Meeting in late April, which included a morning "Retreat" on SMCAF Relevance Today. We determined the need to "toot our own horn" a bit by producing a bullet list of SMCAF Society and members accomplishments in the past decade. I am expanding this by asking two of our past presidents, Drs. Harold Koenig and Rusty Sloan, to update the historical portion of our website in narrative form. That should be available shortly. We also identified an on-going need at universities and medical schools for knowledge of USU and HPSP information, this despite everyone's efforts in the last five years. We are suggesting to the SGs that we be asked to do an "intentional" study of this problem, in which we seek the root causes or core issues, and then review and rank solution options.

The Annual Meeting Program is taking shape. We plan two publishable seminars, one on the latest tourniquet developments, and one on blood products. Then we'll have several one hour presentations. We hope to have full SG participation at our Round Table Saturday afternoon, and we'll follow that with our Business Meeting, to involve more members in that function. Our Banquet will be in Military Dress again, and it will feature an after-dinner talk by the recently-returned Commander of the Hospital at Guantanamo. Please plan to join us!

The Allgood Memorial to Fallen Military Physicians is coming along nicely. The Society of Military Orthopaedic Surgeons is going to partner with us, since Brian was an Orthopaedist. Recently the two Presidents walked around the USUHS quadrangle and selected a great site for the memorial. Please remember this SMCAF project next time you happen to have your checkbook out! Also developing is the Mike Scotti Fund. To give it more clout, The Jackson Foundation, with Susan Scotti's permission, merged it with The Advancement of Military Family Medicine Fund and was renamed Major General Michael Scotti Endowment Fund for the Advancement of Military Family Medicine. Again, please write that check also! Thank you! We continue to explore partnership with AMSUS. Details on that subject are on a separate insert included in this newsletter.

At its Spring Meeting, our Council determined the need for the SMCAF President to serve a two year rather than a one year term. The thinking was that just as the President learns the job, his/her year is over. If this change is approved by the membership, I am happy to serve a second year, and Tom Peters feels that this would work nicely into his own personal schedule.

I continue to handle the tiller of SMCAF with great respect. We are at a cross-road in 2008. Is our glass half-empty, or is it half-full. Are we in a death spiral, or are we poised to restore SMCAF to the great status which Dr. DeBakey and our other founders accomplished in 1946? As always, I need and welcome your comments and suggestions.

Respectfully,
A. Mason Ahearn, M.D.
President, SMCAF

**MINUTES FROM THE SPRING COUNCIL MEETING OF THE
SOCIETY OF MEDICAL CONSULTANTS TO THE ARMED FORCES**

Friday, April 18, 2008

The Council convened at 0900 for a "Retreat on SMCAF Relevance." Dr. Ahearn presented material on our background, our mission, his experience in meeting with all Surgeons General and President, USUHS. A constructive discussion ensued. Council remains committed to SMCAF and to restoring this great Society to its previous relevance

The Spring Council Business Meeting was opened at 1:00 p.m., President Ahearn along with MG (Ret.) Enrique Mendez presented SMCAF's 2007 Seal Award to Mrs. Michael Scotti, widow of longtime dynamic SMCAF leader, Michael Scotti, M.D. A scholarship has been established in his name. The society's condolences were expressed, and a review of the outstanding accomplishments of Dr. Scotti was presented.

The typed previously disseminated minutes from the prior counselor's meeting were approved.

The reports from the representatives of the three surgeons general followed.

First presenter was Col. Arnyce R. Pock, MD, Medical Director for the AF Medical Corps/Chief of the AF/SG's Medical Force Management Division. Col. Pock outlined the present need for physicians in the Air Force and discussed the Air Force Health Physicians Scholarship Program. She requested the assistance of SMCAF in attracting outstanding candidates to Air Force medical careers. She further discussed computerization of medical records within the Air Force and the possibility of more intra-service consolidation.

The next presenter was Rear Admiral Tom Cullison, Deputy Surgeon General for the United States Navy. Admiral Cullison is an orthopedic surgeon. He discussed the demands of the traumatic brain-injured soldier and the posttraumatic stress disorders, and emphasized their great cost to the government. He mentioned that many of the medical officers in the Navy were coming from the reserves, straight from private practice to the combat zone, and in some cases they lacked sufficient training. He outlined the humanitarian missions being given by the Navy and the positive public relations emanating from them. He emphasized the improved battle casualty survivorship during recent conflicts.

The third presenter was Army Col. Herman "Joe" Barthel, Chief of Medical Corps Bureau for the Human Resources Command. He mentioned that the Army has about 87% of its medical complement filled, and in some cases, private physicians were being contracted and receiving a higher salary than the active duty specialists with whom they work. Approximately 63% of the Army medical staff has been deployed over seas in the past few years. The deployment durations have been 15 months but are being reduced to 12 months for medical doctors, and perhaps deployment will be reduced to six months for specialists. The general medical officers, 62B physicians, were concerned about losing their clinical skills during their long deployments. Col. Barthel, like Admiral Cullison, mentioned the good results being obtained and the decreased death rate of soldiers injured in the present day conflicts.

Minutes Continued

Mr. Bryce Redington presented the Jackson Foundation Report, which emphasized the finances concerning the annual meeting. Approximately \$4300 was lost this year in expenses for the annual meeting. This is a similar amount to the last five years. Mr. Redington discussed ways to improve the annual meeting and to save on expenses. Elimination of bus services would be one major cost reduction. Increased vendor support was also suggested. The coordination of the SMCAF meeting with AMSUS was proposed and discussed.

Dr. Ahearn commented on our position on the TMC, The Medical Coalition, and the fact that our representation was vacant. The counselors felt that the position on the TMC demanded a representative who resides in the D.C. area. The goals of the TMC were discussed. Dr. Fred Sanford was suggested. Dr. Ahearn will contact Dr. Sanford and request he become the new TMC representative of SMCAF.

Our AMA delegate position was further discussed. Dr. Fauver has served as our AMA delegate for many years. He recently returned from the Board of Delegates meeting in Hawaii and he reported on this meeting. Dr. Fauver felt the need to relinquish his post for health reasons. Dr. Kathy Nace was suggested as our new AMA delegate. The society proposed to pay her AMA dues, and we are trying to see if USUHS could put her on TDY for the meeting.

The Senior Visiting Surgeons Program was discussed. This is a program in which senior surgeons visit Landstuhl and exchange ideas with military medical treatment officers. It was proposed that Dr. Kenneth Swan, because of his expertise and extensive experience in trauma, be suggested as a Senior Visiting Surgeon.

Dr. Lichtman also mentioned the Orthopedic Trauma Society and the possibility of having SMCAF representation in it. He will research the situation.

Dr. Ahearn introduced USAF Lt. Col. Patrick Monahan. The Air Force will sponsor the 2009 SMCAF Annual Meeting to be held at USUHS on October 24th – 26th, and Pat is our Meeting Coordinator. Major topics will be tourniquet use and application, blood products use, the Rand study of returning veterans, and the surgeon general's round table. Surgical residents in the D.C. area will be invited to the annual meeting along with USUHS medical students. This year, several of their committee chairs were unable to attend so their reports were tabled. The tabled reports were the archives and medical history committee, electronic media and communications report, the ethical issues in military medicine and legislative & legal reports.

Next, Dr. Joel Labow presented the medical education report. There were no new topics under medical education. The society will continue to monitor the medical school and the Residency Training Programs offered by the military services.

Dr. Kenneth Swan next presented the membership report. Five new members had completed their applications and were discussed and voted into membership by the counselors. Two members were students, Dr. Alex Alvarez and Dr. Carl Coutinho. The other three incoming members were Dr. Paul J. Cutting, orthopedic surgeon, Dr. James B. Garner, neurosurgeon, and Dr. Ismail Jatoi, general surgeon. There were no emeritus members for this year. Dr. Swan was thanked for his effort in the membership arena.

Minutes Continued

Dr. Anderson presented the report on professional services. There were no new topics in this area.

Next, Dr. Ahearn reported on recruitment and retention. He said we presently have approximately 160 non-dues paying members who will need to be contacted in order to encourage them to continue their membership. There are approximately 150 active dues paying members at this time.

Dr. Fauver had previously commented on the AMA meeting in Hawaii, which he said was poorly attended. There were no special topics of concern for SMCAF. He noted that this AMA meeting conflicted with the AMSUS meeting this year and this might have been responsible for the poor attendance at the AMA House of Delegates meeting. Dr. Fauver indicated this will be his last AMA meeting. He was complimented by the councilors on his many years of service.

Next, the typed financial report was passed around by Dr. Clarke, Secretary-Treasurer. It was noted that the bank funds need to be reinvested and that efforts need to be made for the annual meeting to be self-sufficient. The society cannot sustain yearly losses at the annual meeting.

It was proposed by Dr. Swan and others that the terms of the president, vice-president and past president be increased to two years rather than one year. After discussion, all present were in favor of this proposal. If approved by the membership, Dr. Ahearn's term will extend another year. The President Elect, Dr. Tom Peters, was in favor.

A lengthy discussion of an association with the AMSUS ensued. The general consensus was both organizations could benefit from association. It was proposed and passed that, as a trial, the 2009 fall meeting of SMCAF be held in conjunction with AMSUS in St. Louis, Missouri, November 8th through the 13th. Further discussion on this issue occurred and will be summarized elsewhere in this newsletter.

Dr. Fauver proposed that SMCAF endorse the name of Walter Reed National Medical Center for the Bethesda Campus. The name presently being used is National Military Medical Center, NMMC. Dr. David Lichtman commented that this was primarily a turf battle and that the society would be wise not to cause any alienation of either party by entering the dispute. The motion for the Walter Reed name was defeated by vote of 5 to 2 by the counselors.

Finally, a moment of silence was held for our four deceased members. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m. by President Ahearn.

Michael S. Clarke, M.D.



SMCAF AWARD

At the Graduation Awards Ceremony on 15 May for the Class of 2008 at the School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the SMCAF award was granted to the student who had achieved the highest level of academic performance over all four years. This year A. Mason Ahearn, M.D. presented the award to 2 LT Massimo Federico, MS, USA

PROPOSED AMENDMENT CHANGE

Article IV, Section 1

Current Article Reads:

The President will serve for one year. He/she or in his/her absence, the Vice President, will preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Council. He/she will serve automatically as a member of the Council for two years following his /her presidential year. The president will constitute a nominating committee, which is composed of the two immediate past Presidents plus one other.

Proposed Change:

The President will serve for **two** years. He/she or in his/her absence, the Vice President, will preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Council. He/she will serve automatically as a member of the Council for **four** years following his /her presidential year. The president will constitute a nominating committee, which is composed of the two immediate past Presidents plus one other.

This amendment change will be voted upon at the October 2008 annual business meeting to be held on Saturday October 25, 2008.

Dues Notice

If you received a dues notice included in your newsletter, you are, according to SMCAF records an "Active Member".

Active members are physicians who served on active duty in one of the branches of the Uniformed Services of the United States and who have served as Medical Consultants to a component of the Uniformed Services. Physicians in the reserve components who are consultants are also qualified for Active Membership. All active members are required to pay dues in the amount of \$100 on a yearly basis.

If you have any questions in regard to your membership status, contact the Executive Director at smcaf@usuhs.mil

ACTIVE MEMBERS

FROM TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY

The TRICARE Management Activity prides itself on the engaging and informative training courses provided to staff and contract partners. In our continuing efforts to educate the public on the TRICARE program, I am pleased to tell you that we have recently made TRICARE University (TU) available to any interested parties.

TU provides both in-residence and on-line TRICARE education and now includes an on-line public TRICARE Fundamentals Course. This is a non-certificate course that has been developed with beneficiaries in mind. This on-line resource provides up-to-date information on the basics of the TRICARE benefit in easy-to-follow PowerPoint format. Registration for this course is not required and participants can choose to review all or some of the course modules.

The public course can be accessed at www.tricare.mil/tricareu by following these steps:

1. Click on "ONLINE Training" and then click on "TRICARE Public Course Online." You will get a dialog box pop-up that says, "You will now proceed to the TRICARE Public Course online."
2. Click OK and you will be directed to the Public Course module selection page.
3. Click on the title of the module you want to take; each module title page is a hyperlink to the PowerPoint module.
4. After you complete a module, click the browser back button and you will be taken back to the module table of contents page.
5. Select the next module by clicking on the next module title you want to study. Each module is its own presentation, so you can select the modules in any order, or just take the modules you are interested in.

I encourage you to visit the TU Web site and share this information with your staff and colleagues. I hope you find the course beneficial and I welcome any feedback.

Sincerely,



Elder Granger
Major General, MC, USA
Deputy Director

*DRAFT AGENDA: ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 24-26, 2008
SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

"Lessons, Always the Lessons."

Friday: October 24, 2008

0800 Council meeting: USUHS Board of Regents Room

Saturday: October 25, 2008

0700-0800	Breakfast & Registration
0800-0815	Opening Remarks USUHS/SMCAF President/AF SG
0815-0830	Presidential Address Dr. A. Mason Ahearn, President, SMCAF
830-930	Presentation #1: "Step-Rate vs. Beds" – A New Rand Study Maj Gen Charles B. Green, Deputy Surgeon General, USAF
9:30 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 11:30	Seminar #1: The Latest in Tourniquet Use and Application COL John F. Kragh, MC USA, US Army Institute of Surgical Research Reviewer: Dr. Kenneth G. Swan
11:30 -13:00	Lunch/Committee Meetings
13:00 – 13:45	Presentation #2: Basic Training for the Physician LTC. William P. Adelman, MC USA, Dept. of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine WRAMC
13:45 – 14:00	Certificate Presentation
14:00 – 14:30	Break
14:30 – 16:00	Surgeons General Round Table
16:00 – 17:00	Business Meeting
1830 - until	Banquet: (Military Dress or Black Tie) Speaker: Captain Ronald Sollock, MC, USN "Medical Treatment of Prisoners at Guantanamo Hospital and Prison"

Sunday: October 26, 2008

08:00 – 09:30	Seminar #2: "Blood Products/Usage: A View from the Desert, Yesterday" Dr. Jay A. Johannigman, Division of Trauma & Critical Care, Dept of Surgery University Hospital, Cincinnati; Reviewer TBA
09:30 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 10:45	Presentation # 3: "Scenario: Dirty Bomb Explodes in Manhattan" Dr. Norman Ende, SMCAF
10:45 – 11:30	Presentation #4: EPIDARIUS PROJECT Military Navy Project
11:30 – 11:35	Sunday Devotional
11:35	Closing Remarks, Passing of Gavel

63rd ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 24-26, 2008

I wish to pre-register for the 63rd Annual SMCAF Meeting, October 24-26, 2008, at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.
(Please print)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

SMCAF BANQUET:

Saturday October 25, 2008, 7:30 pm at USUHS. Cocktails (cash bar) commencing at 6:45 pm

_____ Grilled Filet Mignon with Béarnaise Sauce

_____ Citrus Sword fish with a Tri-Colored Relish

Reserve # _____ Place(s), at \$ 60.00 per person (all members)

GUEST NAME: _____

*****MEAL CHOICE CANNOT BE GUARANTEED IF YOU DO NOT PRE-REGISTER*****

SMCAF LUNCH/COUNCIL MEETING:

Sunday October 26, 2008, Noon, at the USUHS cafeteria small dining room.

Reserve # _____ Place(s) at \$ 15.00 per person (all members)

CHECK ENCLOSED: Conference Registration Fee: \$ _____ Member \$25.00 / Non-Member \$ 50.00 / Candidate Member \$0.00
Breakfast on Saturday & Sunday and Lunch on Saturday included in Registration

Banquet: \$ _____ for _____ place (s)

Brunch: \$ _____ for _____ place(s)

Total: \$ _____

Total cost for one member attending the conference, banquet and luncheon is \$ 100.00.

USUHS is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians and will sponsor this years SMCAF meeting. There is a \$25.00 registration fee for members; and a registration fee of \$50.00 has been set for non-members.

*****No monies will be returned after 1 September 2008*****

DETACH AND MAIL WITH CHECK TO:
(Make payable to SMCAF)

**SMCAF
C/O MARGO CABRERO
5 SOUTHERN WAY
FREDERICKSBURG, VA 22406**

Make your hotel reservations directly to the hotel. Note cut off date.

Blocks of rooms have been reserved in Bethesda at the following hotel:

Hyatt Regency Bethesda	800-233-1234		cut off Date
Code: SMCAF Annual Meeting	301-657-1234	Single/Double \$201.00	September 25, 2008

In order to plan accordingly for bus transportation, please let us know if you will be using transportation services provided for this event.

Transportation needed yes / no (please circle if applicable).

SMCAF

C/O 5 Southern Way
Fredericksburg, VA
22406

E-MAIL:
smcaf@usuhs.mil

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.smcaf.org

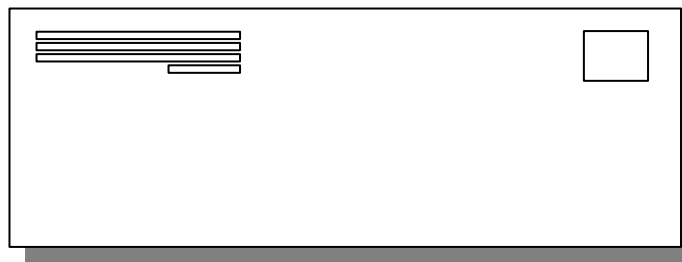
IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CORRECT?

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Is your information
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Too often we have newsletters
returned due to incorrect
addresses.

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notify us of any changes
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