

**FORT KNOX CHAPTER, AUSA**  
**Executive Council Meeting**  
**Ft. Knox Leaders Club**  
**4 November 2009**

**Attendance**

See attached roster. Chapter First Vice President Gene Gudenkauf called the meeting to order at 12:00pm. Gudenkauf thanked everyone for attending and called for introductions.

**Minutes and Activity Reports**

Motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting by Dick Ardisson. Second by Carolyn Reed. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

Gudenkauf commented on the success of the hospitality suite at the Annual Meeting in DC. The cost of the event was approximately \$15,000, which is an increase from last year. Gudenkauf extended special thanks to SFC Johnson and SGT "Ski" who transported the display items and set up the suite for us. MG Milano added that the reception was very well-done and very classy. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Kendra Stewart. Second by Connie Shaffery. Motion carried.

**Awards**

A host of awards and streamers will be presented at the General Membership/Annual Meeting on 14 November. Ron Johnson, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Region President of AUSA, will be on hand that evening to assist. Gudenkauf encouraged everyone to attend the event.

**Membership**

- Gudenkauf stated that membership is currently about 1300, which is 50 short of our average. However, there are numerous transfers coming in with the 3<sup>rd</sup> ESC.
- Gudenkauf explained the Shepherd Program, which is working well in other chapters. The concept is that each EC member is assigned 8-10 AUSA members to take care of, similar to a shepherd and his sheep. He asked the Executive Council to think on this concept and decide if we'd like to try it.
- The membership drive yielded no new members. Gudenkauf said he'd like to look at other ways to build membership and conduct a membership drive.

**Legislative Affairs**

Daniel London submitted a report that was in the packet for review.

- ***Secretary of the Army:*** The Senate confirmed Rep. McHugh on 16 September by voice vote. Secretary McHugh is the 21<sup>st</sup> Secretary of the Army.
- ***Continuing Resolution:*** On 24 September, Congress began work on continuing resolution legislation which will provide funding for federal government operations into FY10 given the FY10 budget process is not yet complete.
- ***National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA):*** The FY10 NDAA conference with both Senate and House members will formally begin this week. Informal negotiations between members of Congress and staff members have been occurring for weeks. It's believed a final bill will be completed soon.
- ***Kentucky Income Tax Exemption:*** Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear signed the state's military tax exemption bill on 9 September in a ceremony at the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Headquarters. Effective 1 January 2010, soldiers will be relieved of their yearly state income tax responsibilities if they are residents of Kentucky.
- Senator Robert Byrd: Sen. Byrd has been admitted to the hospital and is expected to remain there "for a few days" following a fall at his northern Virginia home. The Senator had no broken bones or bruises, but during

an exam, doctors found an elevated white blood cell count, indicating a possible early sign of infection, according to Byrd spokesman Jesse Jacobs. As a precaution, he is being kept for observation and is being treated with antibiotics. Sen. Byrd is 91 years old.

Contractor Affairs---No report  
Family Programs---No report  
Resolutions---No report

### Retiree/Veterans Affairs

The Appreciation Days was well-attended. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Gene Gudenkauf and SGM (R) Leroy Bussels, AUSA Assistant Director Retiree and Veterans Affairs manned a table at the 2009 Fort Knox Retiree Appreciation Days to represent the Association of the United States Army and Fort Knox Chapter. The chapter also donated \$500 to partially sponsor the banquet and was recognized on the banquet program. Additionally, AUSA sponsored a drawing for a beautiful AUSA watch which was won by Mr. Vernon Duff of Vine Grove, KY.

### Special Presentation

Anna Hoop, a representative from ACS, spoke to the group about the Constructing Cans for Helping Hands project. The goal is to build camaraderie among the FRGs, build morale and of course, fill the cupboards of Helping Hand. The date of the CANstruction is 21 November from 8am-1pm. The competition is open to FRGs, units, businesses, clubs, civic groups, etc. For more information, contact Victoria Carver at 624-2635.

Gene suggested our chapter make a donation to an FRG team versus putting a team together. The CG stated that we shouldn't target a specific FRG, but a donation needs to go through the installation. The CG wants to figure out to best manage that. COL Toner suggested donating funds to the American Red Cross or Helping Hands. The CG stated that the hiring process has begun for an FRSA to coordinate FRG activities and that person could serve on the AUSA Executive Council. Some units on Post have staff FRSA and those folks will serve under the Installation FRSA.

On a side note, it was mentioned that three of Ft. Knox's FRG ladies attended the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

### Funding/Donations

Our Chapter donated \$400 for food for the NCO's returning from a training mission (Mangudi) on Friday. Gene will also be on hand to give each of them a Year of the NCO coin.

### Programs/Marketing

- Kendra reported on the breakfast with Mrs. Hollister Petraeus, director of the Military Line of the Better Business Bureau. It was a very informative event. Several members of the EC were on hand to meet and talk with Mrs. Petraeus and she shared the BBB's mission of assisting military families. Thanks to Cathy Williamson of the local BBB for coordinating the visit.
- Gene reported on the Annual Meeting to DC. Refer to the Treasurer's report above.
- If anyone has items for the newsletter, please submit those to Rick Lewis as soon as possible.
- Gene shared information about the General Membership Meeting set for 14 November. It will be held at the American Legion Post 113 in Elizabethtown. Tickets are \$18 and can be obtained through Kendra, Gene or other locations around town. The evening will include awards presentations and pinning of our streamers.

### SUBCHAPTER REPORTS

**194<sup>th</sup>**---COL Thompson thanked the chapter for support of the Drill SGT Barbeque. The 194<sup>th</sup> is in the midst of lots of training and preparing for the transition.

**16<sup>th</sup> CAV**---They are assisting in the Vine Grove Veterans Day Parade. There will also be a Santa Claus photo shoot Nov. 6-7 to raise funds for the Spouses Club.

**Accessions Command**---The Command is very large and diverse including the HQ at Ft. Knox and the Golden Knights at Ft. Bragg. COL Johnson said he is gone a lot, but he appreciates the support of AUSA.

**3<sup>rd</sup> ESC**---COL Reeves reported that they returned to Knox on 10 August from deployment, so they are currently in a state of transition. A lot of personnel are moving out (re-set) but he expects the numbers to increase in February. They are providing support to the VFW in Vine Grove for a flag ceremony on Veterans Day.

**3<sup>rd</sup> BDE 1<sup>st</sup> ID**---COL Toner reported that over 2,000 folks are expected to be here by Christmas. Approximately 400 families are living on post and 400 families are living off post. They are settling from Cecilia to southern Indiana, to all points in between. 3<sup>rd</sup> BDE 1<sup>st</sup> ID is going through re-set also.

They are already heavily involved off post, participating in activities supporting the VFW, Helping Hand and Habitat for Humanity. The soldiers and families are getting involved and feeling more than welcome here.

**MEDDAC**---COL Place reported that about 1100 people attended the Retiree Appreciation Days. 20% of MEDDAC personnel worked the event. Growth of their facilities continues and an Emergency Room expansion is being designed. In addition, 125 parking spots will be added to IACH after Christmas.

**Command Group**---MG Milano reported that the Retiree Appreciation Days was a big success. He extended his thanks to all who coordinated it and worked it.

- He reported that the HR Center of Excellence Board of Directors meeting was held last week. The bottom line is that a huge wave of people will be arriving next summer. This is known as "The Big Inhale." Everything is on track for the transition. The move of the Armor Center is on track.
- MG Milano asked about our Chapter membership drive and how it worked. Gene gave an explanation. The CG said he would do all he could to support the Chapter and increase membership within his limits.
- He expressed his thanks for the support and coordination of the trip to the Annual Meeting and said it was a big success overall. Gene added that we had 25+ soldiers who went to the meeting in DC.

### Events

- ◆ There will NOT be a post retirement ceremony on 31 December.
- ◆ Carolyn Reed reported that the Louisville Armed forces Annual Dinner will be 14 May 2010 at the Galt House. Hopes are that General Petraeus will be the keynote speaker. She reminded the group that the National Medal of Honor Convention will be in KY in 2011 and volunteers will be needed.
- ◆ Gene announced the Chapter Bowling Tournament will be held from May through June (6 weeks) and he hopes to have more details at our December meeting.
- ◆ Gene passed out flyers about Wreaths Across America and shared information about this initiative. Motion by Ardisson to donate \$150 to WAA. Second by Acton. Motion carried.
- ◆ Conversation returned to the financial requests in the packet. Motion by Ardisson to donate \$500 to American Red Cross/Santa's Workshop. Second by Action and CSM Poppert. Motion carried.

With no further business, Gudenkauf adjourned the meeting at 12:46pm.

**NEXT MEETING: December 9, 11:30am  
FORT KNOX LEADERS CLUB**

Respectfully submitted,

*Hendra Stewart*

**Leader's Club, Fort Knox, KY  
11/4/2009**

**ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>PHONE</b>
1	Acton Randy	Semonin Commercial Properties	300-0099
2	Alston, CPT	2-46 IN BN	
3	Ardisson, Dick	Alion Science and Tech	624-7261
4	Asher, Tim	Pres. Etown Chamber of Commerce	765-4334
5	Gudenkauf, Gene	1st VP / ReMax	351-2230
6	Hoop, Anna	ACS	624-5155
7	Johnson, COL Fred	Cdr ASB	626-1751
8	Milano, MG Mike	CG	624-1101
9	Place, COL Ron Poppert, CSM	MEDDAC	624-9070
10	Andrew	16th CAV	624-2355
11	Reed, Carolyn	Innovative Productivity	638-4451
12	Reeves, COL Jarrold	3rd ESC	624-8832
13	Scott, Sheila	2-46 IN BN	
14	Shaffrey, Connie	PAO	624-7451
15	Stewart, Kendra	VP Mktg / Lincoln Trail Behavioral Health System	351-9444
16	Stock, CPT Mike	Aide to CG	624-2121
17	Teeples, COL David Thompson, COL	DCO	624-7555
18	Dave	CDR, 194th	
19	Toner, COL Chris	3-1 BCT	
20	Williamson, Cathy	BBB Hardin County	982-1288
	Civilian: 10		
	Military: 10		