



# SAPA JOURNAL



## The Society of Army Physician Assistants

P O Box 07490, Fort Myers, FL 33919 Phone & Fax (239)482-2162

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## SAPA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS FOR 2005 ANNOUNCED

By Hal Slusher

The SAPA Scholarship/Grant Committee has announced their decision for the 2005 award winners. This year brought out a good number of applications and everyone that applied was outstanding. I would not have liked to have the job of the committee because it was very hard to pick those of this class of applicants who were most deserving. Unfortunately when there are more applications than there are awards, someone will be disappointed. I want to assure everyone who did not receive an award that it was not because of any shortcoming on their part because there were only a few points separating the first place from the last place applicant.

In any case the award winners of \$1,000.00 each for 2005 (in alphabetical order) are:

**Ariel Ferguson**, the daughter of CPT-R Limuel Ferguson has been accepted to Louisiana State University. She plans to major in pre-law and minor in English.

**Stephanie Kay** is the daughter of MAJ-R James Kay. She has been accepted at Andrews University located in Berrien Spring, Michigan. She chose this school because of the strong programs in Nutrition/Dietetics, International Development and French. She wants to get a degree in Nutrition/Dietetics and work in developing countries to help improve world hunger.

**James D. Kielek, Jr.** is the son of LCDR James D. Kielek, Sr. He has been accepted to both Washington College in Chestertown, MD and McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. He plans to major in biology and minor in Spanish. He feels his major in biology will leave many options open for graduate school.

**Ashley N. Langford**, the daughter of CPT-R Deborah L. Hevel is majoring in pre-pharmacy at the University of Kansas. Just prior to press time, notice was received that she was accepted into the Doctorate of Pharmacy program at KU. After graduation and a few years of experience she wants to become a clinical pharmacist with specialization in a particular area of medicine such as diabetes.

**Molly Sawyer** is the daughter of CPT Nelson A. Sawyer. She is presently attending Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, CO where she hopes to receive an AA degree in History. She then hopes to attend one of the colleges in Texas where she will study for a major in History and a minor in music.

Congratulations to all these fine young people. They are the future of this country and SAPA is proud to take part in helping them to achieve their educational goals. It is hoped that they will please keep SAPA informed about how they are doing in school. For those who did not receive a scholarship this year, please feel free to reapply next year

Also much credit and appreciation must be given to the Scholarship Committee for their very hard and conscientious work this year.

## Minutes of the General Membership Meeting

Thursday, 28 April 2005

By Sherry Morrey

Meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

President: Casey Bond

President-Elect: Steve Ward

Executive Director: Hal Slusher

Secretary: Sherry Morrey

## SAPA OFFICERS

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### CO-COORDINATOR: **David M. Paulson, PA-C**

**CO-REGISTRAR: Judy Potter**

**DECORUM AND MORALE: Nicole Potter**

**SALES AND MARKETING: , Steve Ward, PA-C, Bob Egbert, PA-C,  
Tom Matherly, PA-C,**

**MODERATORS/AUDIO-VISUAL: MAJ Irwin Fish, PA-C**

## SAPA JOURNAL STAFF

Editor: **Casey Bond, PA-C**

## COMMITTEES

### SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS

**LTC-R Donald Parsons, PA-C (Chair)**

**MAJ-R Jerald Wells, PA-C**

**MAJ Sherry Womack, SP, PA-C**

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**Steven W. Ward, PA-C**

**Harold Slusher, PA-C**

### ACADEMY LIASON

**COL Sherry Morrey, SP, PA-C**

### COMMUNICATIONS/ELECTRONICS

**Steven Ward, PA-C**

**Irvin Fish, PA-C**

**Bob Potter, PA-C**

The SAPA Journal staff and SAPA Board of Directors encourages membership participation in this publication. Feel free to use this forum to present your views on any topic you desire. The publication of clinical articles on any subject is also solicited, however, to reduce our workload, we do request articles be presented typed, double-spaced format, and on 8 1/2 x 11 inch white bond paper or on CD or floppy", IBM compatible, in Microsoft Word format. The editor reserves the right of final acceptance of articles as well as the right to serialize articles which are too lengthy to be included in a single issue.

The SAPA Journal is the official publication of the Society of Army Physician Assistants. The views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the editors, SAPA, the SAPA Board of Directors or the Department of the Army unless explicitly expressed as such

**This is not an official Army Publication.**

Treasurer: Jim Miller  
Director of Active Duty: Polly Gross  
Director of Reserves: Frank Piper  
Director of National Guard  
Membership Director: Paul Lowe  
DIRECTORS ABSENT: Past-President: Louis Smith  
(Excused)

CONFERENCE STAFF:  
Conference Coordinators: Pat Malone and Dave Paulson  
Conference Registrar: Bob Potter

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:  
Sales Booth: Steve Ward  
Communications: Irvin Fish

GUEST MEMBERS: Don Grimes

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: Sixty-three (63) members were in attendance. A quorum was present.

Casey welcomed the members and thanked them for their attendance. He also introduced Don Grimes, brother of Captain Sean Grimes, as our newest SAPA member. Don greeted the membership and thanked them for the support and caring that SAPA has extended to the Grimes family. Don stated that Captain Grimes loved being a PA and loved the Army and died doing just what he loved the most – taking care of soldiers. Casey informed the membership that Don and his sister Mary would be joining us at the banquet tonight.

#### REPORTS:

1. **Past-President:** No report. Lou was unable to attend this year due to his command responsibilities in Germany.

2. **President:** Casey thanked Pat Malone, Dave Paulson, and the entire SAPA Conference staff for the tremendous work put forth to bring the membership another fine conference. He mentioned that the Holiday Inn staff again provided us nothing but outstanding support and that the staff would be recognized again at the banquet that night. He also thanked the PA students and Sherry Womack, the Phase 2 Clinical Coordinator at Womack Army Medical Center for their hard work. And he also recognized the Sales Booth staff that was always ready to answer our needs for SAPA merchandise.

3. **Secretary:** Sherry directed the membership to the minutes of last year's General Membership meeting which

were published in the most recent newsletter. Additional copies of the newsletter were made available at the registration area during the past few days and on the tables. She asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Stan Shank moved that the minutes be approved as written. Harry Matthews seconded the motion and the motion carried.

4. **Treasurer:** Jim reported that the current financial status of SAPA is sound with \$282,011.80 on deposit (including the money market account, the checking account, and CDs). He addressed the decrease of this year in comparison to this time last year. Jim stated that there was a number of accounts receivable and that there were significantly more credit card transactions this year, resulting in a slightly higher expense in this line item. He estimates that anticipated expenses for 2005, including this conference, would amount to approximately \$65,000. (Enclosure 1). He also announced that an audit of SAPA's financial records was conducted by 3 members yesterday and no errors were found. Stan asked whether the current interest income (1.3% on the money market account) could be increased by transferring some assets to CDs. Jim responded that the interest on CDs is only 1.8% at this time and the transfer would most likely not result in significant interest gains and would result in loss of accessibility. He did say that he will consider such a move if interest rates on CDs increase in the year to come. Marv Cole moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved as written. Dave Paulson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

5. **Executive Director:** Casey first thanked Hal for his many years of work on the SAPA newsletter. Hal remarked that although he enjoyed editing the newsletter, that the success of the newsletter greatly depends on members submitting items of interest on a continuing basis. He stated that SAPA spends about \$30 a month on returned and forwarded mail due to address changes, so he urged members to update any changes in address with both the Membership Director and the editor of the newsletter. Hal informed the membership that SAPA lost one (1) seat in the House of Delegates due to fewer SAPA members joining AAPA and declaring SAPA as their constituent chapter. He urged members to be sure to renew their AAPA membership prior to January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year as that is the date upon which AAPA calculates the number of AAPA members in each constituent chapter.

6. **Conference Coordinator:** Pat and Dave thanked all attendees and the BOD for helping make this another successful conference. He reported 618 registered attendees, which is a very good turn-out considering the number of AD and Reserve Component PAs who are deployed at the time. He also expressed gratitude to the hotel staff for their responsiveness and flexibility.

Pat mentioned that some members had expressed interest in changing the location of the conference. He and Dave have investigated other venues and determined that other hotels that could accommodate a group of our size were determined to be considerably more expensive, which would result in a sizeable increase in registration fees. And, quite frankly, the continued success of 600 or more attendees each year suggests that this present location and the low cost of registration is a winner for SAPA. The 2006 conference will be held April 24-28<sup>th</sup> at this location.

Ron Carden suggested that registration fees paid by government credit cards not be processed until just before the conference in order to prevent personal hardship to the member. Bob and Jim agreed that any member who required this consideration should include a request with their conference registration and that person would be accommodated.

**7. Reserve Director:** Frank announced that of the current manpower of 263 USAR PAs, 166 (or 63%) have been activated in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom in deployments averaging 18-24 months. Of the 77 IRR PAs, 55 (or 71%) have been deployed. Medical Reserve units are being reorganized under ARMEDCOM which should result in better visibility of the high deployment rate of PAs and of the issues common to reserve medical personnel. There is also projected to be a significant change to the historic drill schedule to accommodate the train-up units scheduled for deployment. USAR soldiers could be drilling for several weeks or months at a time. He asked that any USAR members having specific concerns or problems to please contact him.

**8. Active Duty Director:** Polly announced that Lou Smith pinned on the rank of COL on 1 April, making him the 3<sup>rd</sup> AD COL. She announced that due to the recent increase in the Budgeted End Strength of 144 due to the modular reorganization of the divisions into smaller, self-sufficient combat brigades, the Active Duty component is now under strength. The Army will be actively recruiting fully-qualified civilian PAs and will have a recruiting booth at the AAPA conference in Orlando in May. USAR and ARNG PAs can also apply for an AD tour through Recruiting Command. RC PAs must obtain a conditional release from their chain of command in order to apply. There will also be an increase in the number of AD seats in the Interservice Physician Assistant Program (IPAP) and Polly urged members to support their best soldiers in getting the necessary college courses and in making their application to IPAP. CPT Ron Carden, the PA Program Manager at USAREC, has a booth in the exhibit hall and he can answer any questions regarding joining AD or

soldiers applying to IPAP. There is also an opportunity for retirees to return to AD voluntarily. The Retire Recall is available for those who have separated in the past 5 years and that have remained physically fit. Anyone interested should contact MAJ John Balsler at Human Resources Command at: john.balsler@us.army.mil

Polly mentioned that there are several changes being made to military education requirements. The Command and General Staff College (CGSC) is being transformed into Individual Leadership Education (ILE), which will make this educational opportunity more accessible to PAs. And 2 PAs have been selected to attend the distant-learning (non-resident) Senior Service/War College – she being one. Polly said that she foresees this commitment taking up the majority of her spare time, and thus announced that she would not be running again for membership on the BOD next year. Lastly, she announced that the selection rate for PAs considered for promotion to MAJ on the last promotion board was 82%, in comparison to the usual 75% to that rank.

**9. Membership Director:** Paul reported that we presently have 820 members: 232 Fellow; 353 Associate; 40 Life; 7 Honorary; 27 students, and 161 Others/civilians (for information only). There are 417 memberships that expire July 31, 2005 and dues renewal notifications will be mailed out with the ballot for upcoming elections of new officers. Paul reminded the members that they can renew for several years at a time, which would surely help both the Membership Director and SAPA's finances by not having to send out repeated notices. Paul is investigating a way to accommodate renewals on-line and via credit card charges. At present, Jim retains the ability to process credit card charges and because such charges require personal signatures, renewals would have to be processed via regular mail or fax. The members will be informed at a later date if on-line renewal by credit card becomes an option. Paul reinforced the issue of designating SAPA as one's constituent chapter when renewing AAPA dues and updating changes of address. Paul stated that several members had asked about opening up the Lifetime Membership option again. He reminded us that dues income is an important revenue source for SAPA and lifetime membership could result in lost revenue if a member lives a long time – which we all hope we all do!! Further consideration will be given to offering lifetime memberships to retirees only, in order to keep a recurrent inflow of revenue.

**10. National Guard Director:** Don Black informed the membership that he was working on improving the networking between PAs in all states. He stated that he occasionally is informed of opportunities for ARNG PAs to do a tockfill unit for a 6-12 month period and he would like to be able to share that information with others. He encouraged the ARNG PAs

to attend the Tactical Combat Medical Care (TCMC) course offered at Fort Sam Houston – especially if the PA is likely to be deployed and has limited emergency medicine experience. He encouraged everyone to identify their best medics and facilitate them applying to the IPAP since not everyone selected to attend actually accepts the offer and a number wash out of the training. He concluded with asking ARNG PAs to provide to him their email addresses to help improve distribution of information.

11. **Sales Booth:** Steve reported that sales have been brisk this year. With the change to a new vendor, \$5,900 was spent on retooling. Income to the booth was \$6,200 as of closing, so sales covered the cost of expenses. A new item will be offered - a Denim shirt with the SAPA logo. The cost is \$25 for delivery at next year's conference or \$30 for delivery by mail. The new golf towels were in great demand and a larger number will be available next year so every golfer can have one. Steve has been asked to investigate the feasibility of obtaining the SAPA coin in colors. Steve thanked Tom Matherly, Bob Egbert and Lori Lopez, and the students who worked so hard at the booth.

12. **Conference Registrar:** Bob reported 618 registrants, 57 guests, and 36 exhibiting companies with 126 individual exhibitors. Income from registrations, memberships, the golf tournament and guest registrations is \$ 79,245. Income from sale of exhibit space is \$33,300 for a total of \$112,545. Bob reminded members to direct all interested exhibitors his way as he is already beginning to prepare for next year's exhibit hall. Bob will have information for exhibitors available on-line at the SAPA website within a few weeks.

## OLD BUSINESS

The matter of the updates to the job descriptions and ratings for GS PAs has been overcome by the significant changes in the management of civilian personnel by the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) being phased in over the next several years.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. **Scholarship Fund** - Stan suggested that the proceeds to the scholarship fund should be maintained in a separate account rather than incorporated into the general account. Having a clear separation of the scholarship fund could be helpful in the solicitation of donations from other than our own members and promote reinvestment in the fund. Jim remarked that a separate account is not necessary by CPA guidelines and that recently there has been a need to extract from general funds to cover the annual conference expenses. However, Jim stated that this suggestion would be discussed at

the BOD. Stan also suggested that we routinely solicit funds through the newsletter.

2. **Newsletter Editorship** - Hal asked that anyone interested in assisting Casey with publishing the newsletter to please contact Casey or himself. He also reminded the members that what they do on an average day may very well be of interest to the members and to take a few minutes to forward news items to Casey.

3. **Support from the Borden Institute** - Irv Fish asked that a letter of appreciation be written to the person at the Borden Institute for their yearly donations of medical textbooks and CDs. Sherry assured Irv that she would see that this was done.

4. **Presentations of Military Interest** - Don Parsons asked if next year's conference schedule could be adjusted to accommodate a break-out session of topics of military medicine interest. Such a session would facilitate the sharing of lessons-learned by those who have been deployed or to disseminate critical information on military issues. Speakers could be solicited through our newsletter and the Army AMSC's website. The membership seemed to support the idea of such a break-out session and Bob stated that speakers would need to be identified by mid-Oct in order to adjust the conference schedule and to contract for a second lecture hall.

5. **SAPA Treasury** - Jim Oglevie suggested that the BOD shop around for money market accounts offering higher interest revenue. Jim commented that moves to different accounts would also incur charges associated with the transfer and would have to be considered when contemplating any moves.

6. **A-V Equipment** - Dik Brackett suggested that SAPA procure several portable microphones to assist in the members' participation during the general membership meeting (as well as other situations).

7. **Hotel Rates** - Ron Carden informed the AD attendees at the conference who are on official orders that they should be able to renegotiate a hotel rate equal to that of the government per diem rate. He asked that the Conference Committee keep this in mind whenever negotiating hotel rates for next year's conference and that registrants be informed of this possibility in the conference brochure.

8. **Nominations** - Casey opened the floor for nominations for positions on the BOD of SAPA. Casey reminded the members that nominees must be a member of SAPA and a fellow member of AAPA. He initiated the action with the nomination of Frank Piper for President-Elect. Frank accepted the nomination; Paul Lowe seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations, Casey closed the nominations for President-Elect. Sherry rose to self-declare

her interest in serving as Secretary another year. Hearing no other nominations, Casey closed the nominations for Secretary. Jim Miller self-declared his interest in serving another term as Treasurer. Hearing no other nominations, Casey closed the nominations for Treasurer. Bob nominated Sherry Womack for the position of Director of Active Duty. Sherry accept the nomination and as there were no other nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed. Don Black declared his interest in serving in the position as Director for National Guard another year. Hearing no other self-declarations or nominations for this position, the nominations were closed. Frank Piper stated that he would be pleased to serve in the dual roles of President-Elect and as Director of Reserves. Being as there were no other nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed. The official ballot will be mailed immediately following the conclusion of this conference and it will include a space for Write-in votes in each category. The membership was encouraged to participate in this democratic practice by returning their ballots. By default, the President-Elect will serve as the primary delegate to the AAPA House of Delegates. Alternate delegates are to be elected by the membership. The ballot will include the opportunity to vote for these alternates. Hal, Polly, and Bob have self-declared their interest to serve as alternate delegates. A place for a write-in will be included on the ballot.

9. Newsletter Transition to Electronic Distribution - Casey reminded the members that we plan to transition the newsletter from hard copy mailing to distribution by electronic means. The newsletter will be available at the SAPA webpage. An email message will be sent to all members to alert them of the release of the latest newsletter. Members are reminded that they must continually update their email addresses to facilitate this transition. The savings to SAPA on postage and printing averages \$3,000 per issue. A future issue of the newsletter will announce the email address and also provide an opportunity for each member to notify SAPA of their inability to access the newsletter online to ensure these members receive a hard copy of the newsletter.

10. Donation to the Scholarship Fund - Karen Reddy announced that the proceeds from the 50-50 raffles during the week have resulted in a \$750 donation to the scholarship fund.  
**ADJOURNMENT**

Casey solicited any further comments or discussions from the membership. Hearing none, he asked for a motion for the adjournment of the general membership meeting. Tom Matherly so moved; Jim Oglevie seconded and motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1505 hrs. The meeting was followed by the raffling of numerous textbooks and donations from various medical companies, pharmaceutical companies and the SAPA sales booth.

## **ECMO and its Possible Contributions to GWOT**

**CPT George S. Midla**

Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) is a life supporting system used in the treatment of severe respiratory failure and/or cardiac support. Although at first glance it may appear to be a complicated system, it is not. The circuit is made up of a loop of tubing with a small synthetic oxygenator in line and a pump. An oxygen source is needed. Usually a continuous venous saturation monitor with hematocrit is also placed in line. A heater may be incorporated in the treatment of the hypothermic patient if desired. Cannulation in the adult is often done percutaneously in the groin, using both arterial and venous cannulae.<sup>1</sup> The circuit is then primed with a crystalloid. The tubing is connected to the cannulae and ECMO is initiated. Venous blood is passed through the pump and the oxygenator, and then returned through the arterial line higher in oxygen and lower in carbon dioxide concentrations.

ECMO is now the standard of care in the pediatric population for those who are suffering from meconium aspiration, hyaline membrane disease, respiratory distress syndrome or persistent pulmonary hypertension.<sup>1,2</sup> Its use in the adult population has been slow to implement. Although this is changing, stigma can be attributed to poor patient outcomes during initial studies conducted during the 1970's for acute respiratory failure. In addition to the now outdated equipment used,<sup>3,4</sup> the adult populations that were first examined usually had a >90% mortality rate before ECMO was initiated. Also, these patients usually had spent days on mechanical ventilators, which have now been shown to be inversely associated with poor outcomes.

Although mechanical ventilation is often effective in patients suffering from a pulmonary insult it may also contribute to lung and myocardial malfunction. In an attempt to maximize gas transfer, high volume ventilation is sometimes used. This technique could lead to micro-vascular permeability of the lung tissue. Myocardial function could also be affected by decreasing preload caused by high positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) levels. Lastly, increased inspiratory times have been linked to barotrauma. These insults not only injure the lungs but do not enable this tissue to "rest" so that it may recover. Early implementation of ECMO before additional injury by failed extended treatment with a ventilator improves patient outcomes. This improvement is related to being able to conduct low frequency positive-pressure ventilation (LFPPV) while on ECMO.<sup>1,2,5,6,7</sup>

Adult ECMO has been initiated in the adult patient to treat a variety of pulmonary diagnosis. Some of these include:

smoke and heat inhalation, bacterial and viral pneumonia, fat and thrombotic embolus, shock, sepsis, near drowning and thoracic trauma.<sup>8-15</sup> Also, discussions have been conducted on its use for an inhalation anthrax insult.<sup>16</sup>

The patient population that would benefit from a static adult ECMO program is rather small. This has been realized and as a result, some health care facilities are now flying, in both fixed and rotary wing aircraft, to initiate ECMO and then transport the injured back to the supporting hospital. This allows for an increase in patient load for a facility and as a result gives justification for its staffing.

Our recent conflicts abroad have yielded a variety of lung injuries that may have been treated by an ECMO circuit. Because of these insults and continued operations the development of a deployable military ECMO team is worth examining further. Initial studies should be designed to evaluate training and familiarization of Department of Defense (DoD) personnel with the application of ECMO in the adult. These studies should also enable us to develop standard operating procedures (SOP) for cannulation types and techniques, pharmaceutical dosing, transport in wheeled and air assets, mounting the circuit in a variety of platforms, and the effects of temperature and elevation changes on the equipment. Examination of this system would also allow for an increase margin of safety for patients, decreased initiation times, and minimize potential complications, if implemented. Discussion of the location of such teams should include either prepositioning them in both Iraq and Afghanistan or one centrally located at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany.

The existence of a deployable adult ECMO team is not new news. There are teams already in the US that are saving lives by initiating the system early and regularly in support of injuries that are similar to those we are experiencing while fighting the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). As the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) moves forward, a review of possible ECMO support for the war fighter should be considered.

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## TSG Recommends Approval of a Request for a Retention Bonus Specifically for PAs

Subject: TSG Approval for PAs

I want all PAs to know about the following actions that were approved by TSG in a briefing on July 5th. Please disseminate the following information. Details will come later.

TSG approved:

1. A request for a retention bonus specifically for PAs. This request has to go forward to Army G1 and Health Affairs for

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**First Class Mail**

**ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED**

and Health Affairs for approval. No details on the amount and obligation are available for release at this time, but active duty PAs should see this in the next year if approved. This looks very promising.

2. A Health Professions Loan Repayment incentive for use by recruiters to access civilian PAs. Civilian PAs will be able to get up to \$29,000 for each of the three years of their enlistment. This is pre-tax dollars, is only paid to the loan institution, not the PA, and is only up to the amount owed. Recruiting civilian PAs is necessary to make up the inventory. Even if no PAs left AD in the next two years, we would still be short PAs to fill positions.

3. A Requirements Completion Course at AMEDDC&S. Applicants for the IPAP will be selected for this course who 1) are only missing anatomy, physiology, math, and/or chemistry 2) have at least 45 semester hours, 3) have very high GPA and SAT scores (yet to be determined, but higher than the minimum required for admission to the IPAP, and 4) outstanding annual ratings. They will be boarded and then sent to FSH, the AMEDDC&S (not the IPAP) four months prior to start of the IPAP and will take a full 15 semester hours of anatomy, physiology, chemistry, and math. If successfully completed, they will transition right on into the IPAP. We look at starting this in 2006 for the 2007 classes and for about 30-35 students, but many details still need to be worked out.

Finally, there are LOT of people to thank for the hard work on these initiatives to include:

COL DeMars, COL Larry Bolton (Personnel at OTSG), Chris Christopher at OTSG, Craig Buss (a PA and special pays expert) at HRC, COL Sherry Morrey, LTC George Dilly (APPD), Mr. Scott Rickard (APPD), LTC Mike Robertson, LTC Pauline Gross, CPT James Jones, CPT Ron Carden (USAREC) , and others.

There was a tremendous team effort at MEDCOM and OTSG to get this put together.

All PAs need to know that their hard work and sacrifice has been recognized by TSG.

COL William Tozier

Chief, Physician Assistant Section

Allied Health Staff Officer

[From the Line, For the Line](#)

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

Thanks to everyone who has forwarded items for inclusion in the newsletter. I know folks get anxious to see the articles they submit. If you have submitted an article and you do not see it in in this issue, be patient, I'll try to fit it in an upcoming issue.

For the present, I'm trying to limit the size of each issue to eight pages to save on printing and mailing costs. At the rate articles are coming in, I may need to expand the size of the newsletter. I would appreciate any constructive feedback. (CB)