



**MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS**  
United States Army

**Silver Caduceus Association, Inc.**  
Post Office Box 39514  
San Antonio, Texas 78218

# **SCA E-NEWS**

## **NOVEMBER/DECEMBER**

### **2014**

#### **NEW MSC CORPS CHIEF**

On 7 November 2014, BG Patrick D. Sargent became the 18th MSC Corps Chief. BG Sargent was a DMG of the Florida State ROTC program. He was originally commissioned as an Adjutant General Corp officer but branch transferred to Medical Service Corp to become an aviator. Recent assignments include Commander Darnell Army Medical Center; Special Assistant to Surgeon General; Medcom G 3/5/7. BG Sargent presented the Key Note Address for our recent SCA Reunion in Wash DC.

#### **Notes from the Vice President:**

I was honored to be nominated and subsequently elected to serve as the Vice-President of our great organization. Your President, Linn Danielski, asked me to introduce myself in this edition of the SCA E-News. Perhaps we will introduce all of the officers and board members in future editions of this newsletter. Linn and I, and the entire newly elected officers and board members are working hard behind the scenes to embrace our new positions to ensure the SCA does not miss a beat in going forward. I join Linn in thanking our past president, George Waters, and officers and Board members in the fine job they did and continue to do for our organization.

Now get into your speed-reading mode and I will tell you a little about myself:

I was born in West Palm Beach, Florida in 1952 and spent my early years in Jacksonville, Florida prior to moving to Charlotte, North Carolina with my family, attending high school and college there. I attended North Carolina State University on an Air Force ROTC scholarship and entered the Air Force as a Communications Officer after receiving a bachelors degree in Economics in 1974. I was first stationed at

Keesler AFB, MS where I met and subsequently married my wife, Wendy, in 1975. Our first duty assignment was at Cannon AFB, NM where I earned an MBA from Eastern New Mexico University. I left the Air Force in 1977 to attend Optometry school and was fortunate to receive an Army Health Professions Scholarship and graduated from the Pacific University College of Optometry in 1982, subsequently serving on continuous active duty in the Army from 1982 - 2008.

My initial duty assignment in the Army was as the Chief of Optometry at the 209<sup>th</sup> General Dispensary, Hanau, Germany, and subsequently moved to the 97<sup>th</sup> General Hospital in Frankfurt where I served as a staff optometrist in the Exceptional Family Department. Following the AMEDD Officers Advanced Course, I was assigned as the Division Optometrist, 326<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, KY from 1986 - 1989, and subsequently as the Chief of Optometry, Blanchfield Army Community Hospital, Fort Campbell, KY.

My next assignment was to the Academy of Health Sciences, Fort Sam Houston, TX as the Program Director for the Eye Specialist Course. In August 1993, I was assigned as the Chief of Optometry, Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Aurora, CO and later served as the Acting Inspector General and Base Closure Officer at the US Army Garrison, Fitzsimons. From there it was on to Fort Benning, GA in July 1997 as Chief of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic, Martin Army Community Hospital. In July 2000, I was assigned as the Chief of Optometry and North Atlantic Regional Optometry Consultant at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D.C., with follow-on duties at the Office of The Surgeon General where I served as the Optometry Consultant, Chief of Army Optometry, and Assistant Corps Chief for Optometry, Medical Service Corps from 2001 - 2005. I thought for sure that job would lead to retirement, but BG Sheila Baxter asked me to serve as the Corps Specific Branch Proponent Officer in the Corps Chief's Office at Fort Sam Houston, and I later served as Deputy Chief of the Medical Service Corps. I retired from the Army in 2008.

It was at Fort Sam Houston that I became involved in the Silver Caduceus Association and served on the Board of Directors from about 2006 - 2010. Wendy and I hosted the Association's Reunion in Colorado Springs in 2010.

Life after the Army brought Wendy and me to Colorado Springs where I dabbled in private practice but took a civilian Optometry position at Fort Carson in February 2009. I have made the decision to retire again and will tentatively leave Fort Carson at the end of January 2015, 42 years after first putting on a military uniform. Not to worry, I am putting on a new uniform next month as I have been selected to be an Ambassador for Copper Mountain In Summit County during the ski season. Oh, and I did say 'an Ambassador' not 'the Ambassador'. There are 174 of us. Yes, the job does come with a uniform and a ski pass, and no money, but it should be fun!

Chuck Adams

Vice President

Silver Caduceus Association

### **NEW MEMBERS;**

We are pleased to welcome new members Oct/Nov

1LT(AD) Michael G Schoenen  
BG(Res) Sandra L Alvey

(?rank) Fred McLain  
COL (R) Robert Stieneker

COL(R) Thomas R Hoopes  
COL(R) John D Grabenstein  
CPT (AD) James Carey

(?rank) Michael Pyle  
(?rank) Cynthia Sun

**Note:** We are unable to determine rank, status, and email for new members using PayPal. We need help from our membership with contact information to obtain missing information.

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER:**

As we approach the end of the year, it is time for a reminder that many of your memberships in SCA are about to expire. Over 190 memberships fall in this category. While we want to recruit new members it is more important to keep our current members active. Please consider renewing your membership for multiple years.

### **IN MEMORIAM:**

It is with profound sadness that I inform you of the passing of two Fellow Medical Service Corps Officers. It is always a sad time when one of our loved ones pass on. During this Holiday Season it is especially troubling. Please remember these families with a special prayer.

1. Col (Ret) Robert Thomas      NOK, Carol Thomas 973 Shadwell Drive  
Evans GA 30809
  2. LTC (Ret) Mote                      NOK, Elita Mote 2327 W Kings Highway  
San Antonio TX 78201
- COL (R) Arthur Edward Britt      NOK, Sheridan Britt, Son 112 Arvin Drive  
San Antonio TX 78208-6004

### **SILVER CADUCEUS ASSOCIATION EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP AWARD:**

Congratulations to CPT Carl Vickers for his selection to receive the Silver Caduceus Association Excellence in Leadership Award upon his graduation of the Captain Career Course on 21 Nov. 2014. **Hooah.**

In addition to the award Captain Vickers will receive a free one year membership in the Silver Caduceus Association.



CPT Carl Vickers receiving the Silver Caduceus Association Excellence in Leadership Award

During this Holiday Season it is time to remember each of our members for all that you do for SCA; for the times we've shared together and the many wonderful memories we have. YOU are the key part of SCA and who we are. We are especially grateful for your friendship and hope to see you soon. *"Camaraderie Is A Passion That Makes Friendships Endure"*

Linn Danielski  
President  
Silver Caduceus Association