

ATWC

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Community Leader Information Forum (CLIF), 1 APR 2015

1. Meeting Attendance:

Membership

Commandant, USAWC
Senior Spouse Advisor
Diplomatic Advisor to CMDT
Deputy Commandant
Senior Spouse Representative
Chief of Staff, USAWC
Senior Spouse Representative
Dir., SLDR, USAWC
Senior Spouse Representative
MFP/SLDR, USAWC
G3
G6
Dir., USAHEC
Inspector General, USAWC
Commander, DAHC
Commander, USAG
CSM, USAG
Senior Spouse Representatives
Seminar Spouse Representatives
Seminar 21 Representatives

Present/Represented

MG William E. Rapp
Mrs. Debbie Rapp
AMB Daniel Shields
COL Dave Funk
Mrs. Nellie Funk
COL Robert Balcavage
Mrs. Kim Balcavage
Dr. Thomas Williams
Mrs. Vera Williams
Ms. Laurel Cioppa
COL Robert Wade
LTC Jason Hester
COL Robert Harney
COL William Draper
COL Rebecca Porter
LTC Kimberly Peebles
CSM Charles Rosado
USAWC Directorates/Centers/Institutes
Seminars 1-20, 22-25
Mrs. Gina Botters and Mrs. Andrea Aitken

2. Opening Remarks: Meeting commenced at 1100. MG William E. Rapp, Commandant, United States Army War College, welcomed all in attendance and reminded everyone that the 29 APR CLIF meeting will be our last CLIF for AY15. The Seminar Spouse Representatives (SSR) will also be invited to SSR Working Luncheon AAR on 12 MAY (more details in the AY15 Spouse Survey paragraph below). MG Rapp also informed the group that today's CLIF Meeting will be the last one for Mrs. Laurel Cioppa as she has accepted a position in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area with Freddie Mac. MG Rapp thanked Mrs. Cioppa for her many contributions to the Army and our Army Families by recounting some of her career highlights that include working with the Warrior Transition Battalion in Europe, serving as the US Army War College's Family Readiness Support Assistant (FRSA), and as the Executive Administration Officer for our International Fellows program prior to joining SLDR as the Military Family Program Coordinator. MG Rapp thanked Mrs. Cioppa for her many contributions and wished her well on behalf of the USAWC. MG Rapp then addressed issues raised through 3x5 card comments from the March 2015 CLIF.

3. 3x5 Card Feedback from the February CLIF (see attached slides):

- a. Question/Comment #1: *“Is it possible for the Chapel to also do a dinner for Seminar 21 Spouses each month or maybe alternate with Geo-bachelors?”*

Response: LTC Peebles, CBks Garrison Commander, stated that the Geo-bachelor dinner serves a different purpose for the community than the mission of Seminar 21. The Garrison has reached out to Seminar 21 and will meet with co-leaders, Gina Botters and Andrea Aitken this month to discuss additional Waiting Families and ACS support for Seminar 21. The Geo-bachelor dinner will remain a specific ministry event.

- b. Question/Comment #2: *“What is the reason that IF Families cannot live on post?”*

Response: MG Rapp briefly reviewed several factors related to how IFs are funded by their countries, the important role of an IF’s community involvement, and IF student desires. He then asked COL John Burbank, USAWC G9 and International Fellows Program Director, to provide additional information. COL Burbank reported that there is no restriction for IF officers and their Families to live on post, noting we do have two International Faculty members who are permanent party faculty and they live in quarters on Carlisle Barracks. While there is no particular mandate that IFs live off post, an important factor in their housing decision is that the IFs PCS here without their household goods. This necessitates that they find fully furnished housing that includes furniture, linens, dishes and major household items (resources not available with Balfour Beatty and on-post housing). In addition, off post rental properties often provide a “bundling of all amenities and utilities” that also offers a great convenience to our IFs. Another important and helpful reason for the IFs to live off post is so that they can experience our communities to better understand our culture during their year here in the United States. COL Funk added that sponsors in the downtown area are extremely supportive of our International Fellows Program and they look forward to being a part of the International Fellows’ inculcation into our American culture. COL Burbank encouraged those in attendance who are staying an additional year at Carlisle, or who are permanent party, to contact Ashlea Cordell-Lowe at 717-245-3937 if they are interested in sponsoring an International Fellow for AY16.

4. Special Topic Briefs:

a. *USAWC Joint Ball (slide #5)*. COL Carol Howitz, from the USAWC Joint Ball Committee, briefed the upcoming 9 May 2015 event. The USAWC Joint Ball will be held at the Hershey Lodge from 1800 - 2400. COL Howitz encouraged all to R.S.V.P. within the week if they were interested in attending. The menu choices include steak, pork, and vegetarian. Special meals for dietary needs or restrictions (e.g., gluten free, kosher, etc) are also available and but need to be requested ahead of time. The student ticket is covered as part of the AY15 Student dues but additional tickets (e.g., for Spouses, partners, guests, etc.) are \$75.00 each. These tickets are available through your Seminar Joint Ball Representative. Bus transportation is being provided

for the event at no cost and will depart from Anne Ely Hall parking lot on 9 May at 1715. The first bus will depart the Hershey Lodge after the official part of the program at 2030. The final bus will depart at 0030. Reservations for hotel rooms at the Hershey Lodge are also available and are the responsibility of the student. A limited number of "block rooms" have been reserved with the Hershey Lodge at \$196.47 each and can be reserved by calling 717-508-1957 with the Group Number 2455391. Child Care is available through the Youth Center. Please coordinate directly with the Youth Services to reserve a space. In past years some students brought their children and along with their sitter or older siblings to then watch their children in the room at the Hershey Lodge. This allowed the Family to be pre-positioned to then attend the Mother's Day brunch on Sunday morning (reservations are required and this books up early). This also allows Families to take advantage of the discount coupons for other Hershey Park related-offerings that you receive by staying at the Hershey Lodge. Again, if you are interested, you are encouraged to please make your reservations early since the Lodge, Mother Day's Brunch, and other activities tend to book up quickly.

b. Departing from the U.S. Army War College (slides #6 and 7). MAJ Nicole Brooks, G3, briefed the group on what to expect when departing from the US Army War College. She encouraged all in attendance to book hotel rooms early since graduation weekend coincides with a Carlisle Car Show weekend and therefore hotel/lodging reservations will become increasingly difficult to find. The date of the Spring Yard Sale is 16 MAY. Out-processing for students begins in early MAY. Student iPads are to be turned in 18 – 29 MAY. Please note that household goods pickup during National Security Strategy (NSS) week (1-5 June) is by exception only. You will need to make a special request through your academic chain for consideration by the approval authority, COL Funk, the Deputy Commandant. COL Balcavage emphasized that NSS Week is a great week and that students will be focused throughout the NSS week on our 160 guests from around the nation (and world) who will be in attendance. For security and traffic flow considerations, no moves are permitted on Graduation Day. Teresa Steele from BBC stated that there will be a Community Huddle on the move out process on 16 1615 APR at the Delaney Field Clubhouse. You may remain in on-post quarters until 26 JUNE 2015. Balfour Beatty Communities (BBC) is aware that many students have not received orders yet but she is willing to work with you; please let BBC know your specific requirements. If you know your Spouse is deploying after graduation and you will become a member of Seminar 21 or have other circumstances, please ensure that you are requesting your extension to stay in quarters through BBC who will then work closely with Army Housing and the USAWC to grant extensions under special circumstances. All necessary information in reference departing BBC quarters can be found on the Balfour Beatty Communities' website under RESIDENT RESOURCES. MG Rapp, the USAWC Commandant, emphasized that if you are PCS'ing, we ask that students depart from quarters in a timely manner to allow BBC the time necessary to make all necessary repairs and prepare the quarters for the new students. In anticipation of moving and for your convenience, additional Waste Removal Containers (i.e., dumpsters) have been requested through Balfour Beatty for resident's use. The

specific locations for the additional dumpsters will be briefed at the 29 APR CLIF meeting.

c. *AY15 Spouse Survey (slide #8)*. Mrs. Laurel Cioppa, Director, Military Family Program (MFP) highlighted the upcoming AY15 Student Spouse Survey. An electronic survey will be sent to all AY2015 Spouses whose email contact information was provided to the MFP email distribution lists. The survey is on-line and completely anonymous. Please note that the survey is dynamic. For example, it will ask if the respondent served as a Seminar Spouse Representative (SSR), and if the answer is yes, you are asked a few "SSR specific" questions. Mrs. Cioppa emphasized how we value your feedback; it allows us to improve opportunities and offerings for future USAWC classes. The primary SSR for your seminar will be invited to a Seminar Spouse Representative Working Luncheon AAR that is scheduled for 12 MAY from 1130 – 1230 at the LVCC. Invitations will be sent to the Seminar Spouse Representatives (SSRs) and the Command Group. During that AAR luncheon, we will discuss the results of the survey. We ask for the assistance of the SSRs to help encourage survey participation and to solicit other direct input from the other Seminar Spouses they represent.

5. G3 Calendar Review:

a. MAJ Nicole Brooks, on behalf of COL Bob Wade, the USAWC G3, reviewed highlights from the upcoming APR, MAY and JUNE Integrated Master Calendars (see slides #9-17).

April 2015 highlights included:

- 02 APR Mechanicsburg Area School District Snow Make Up Day
- 02-06 APR USAWC Spring Recess
- 05 APR LVCC Easter Buffet
- 14-16 APR Senior Spouse Leadership Seminar
- 17 APR MST Guys Night In
- 22 APR Army Reserve Birthday
- 23-24 APR CYSS Jim Thorpe Sports Days
- 23-25 APR Jim Thorpe Sports Days
- 29 APR CLIF (date of MAY CLIF – AHEC)
- 30 APR ACS Volunteer Recognition Ceremony

May 2015 highlights included:

- 05-07 MAY NSSR #3 Washington, D.C. (students only)
- 09 Joint Ball
- 14 MAY Community Farewell for Sharon Parrish
- 16 Spring Yard Sale
- 16 – 17 MAY Army Heritage Days
- 20 MAY Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Observance
- 22 MAY Training Holiday/RWR Day

June 2015 highlights included:

- 01-04 JUN National Security Seminar
- 05 JUN Graduation Resident Class of 2015

See calendar slides for other events not highlighted above.

6. Command and Staff Updates:

a. *Garrison*. LTC Peeples reminded everyone that APR is the *Month of the Military Child*. Activities focused on children have been planned for the entire month. LTC Peeples stated that the Tax Center is open and ready to provide assistance. She also noted that the *Family Fun Fair* date was changed to 24 APR in order to link it with the events and festivities associated with the *Jim Thorpe Sports Days*. A question was raised from the group in reference to whether Carlisle Barracks would be getting a new veterinarian. LTC Peeples acknowledged the concerns regarding limited vet availability, and indicated that the Garrison is currently working this issue. Becky Myers from Army Community Services (ACS) reminded everyone that we have a lending closet here on Carlisle Barracks if anyone needs to borrow anything for guests coming in for a visit during graduation or anytime. Items can be checked out from the Lending Closet for up to thirty days. ACS also has six carpet cleaners that can be checked out to assist in cleaning the carpets while clearing post housing.

b. *Housing*. Teresa Steele from Balfour Beatty (BBC) stated that a Town Hall meeting has been scheduled for 9 APR at 1615 in Bliss Hall to address the issues that have impacted Heritage Heights Phase II this year. Representation from Balfour Beatty corporate leadership, USAWC leadership representatives, and the Garrison will all be in attendance. Ms. Steele encouraged the SSRs to help get the word out since this will allow residents to hear what is proposed and to provide them an opportunity to voice their concerns so that all issues can be addressed. MG Rapp emphasized that he is encouraging Balfour Beatty Communities Construction to identify and fix all the issues prior to new students taking possession of the quarters. He wants to ensure that the plan is resourced and ready for execution. Teresa Steele also encouraged those in attendance to help promote living in Young Hall. As an incentive, if a student refers a family to the Young Hall housing experience and the referee signs a lease for Young Hall quarter, the referring student receives a \$500.00 bonus for that referral and placement. A question was raised regarding cleaning of quarters for clearing and Ms. Steele assured everyone present that it is easier than rumored to be and that they have a three-page guideline for what is required. She noted that the standards are easily achievable (most tenants do so) but there is still a myth out there about some "white glove standard." Ms. Steele assured those present that it is just that: a myth. If you prefer, BBC does provide a cleaning service for out-processing. The cost of the service is \$200.00 for a 3 bedroom home and \$250.00 for a 4 bedroom home with an additional charge of \$50.00 per bedroom for carpet cleaning.

c. Dunham Army Health Care. COL Porter reminded all in attendance that now is the time to schedule EFMP (Exceptional Family Member Program) screening for Family members prior to overseas assignments. Dunham has expanded the number of these appointments. Appointments can be made by calling the 245-3400 appointment line. COL Porter also thanked everyone for all of the positive comments and compliments that have been given to the staff of DAHC recently. She personally recognizes each staff member who receives a compliment or comment. COL Porter also reminded the group that these positive compliments and comments increase the number of dollars allocated to the clinic for equipment and training.

d. U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center (USAHEC). COL Robert Harney, Director, USAHEC, reminded the group that Army Heritage Days are scheduled for 16 and 17 MAY from 0900 to 1700 (see enclosed announcement). The event includes lectures, tactics and weapons demonstrations, *Veterans Meet and Greet*, and Re-enactors. COL Harney also invited all in attendance to view the new exhibits, to include some of the “treasures” at USAHEC.

e. G Staff (1-9). COL Balcavage stated that CDR Bill Dwyer is the contact for the *Jim Thorpe Sports Days*. Students have been briefed on all of the activities. He emphasized that this is a family event and one of the most exciting events of the Academic Year.

f. Senior Leader Development and Resiliency (SLDR). Dr. Williams expressed great appreciation to Ms. Laurel Cioppa for not only all that she did in providing leadership to the Military Family Program but also for her very high quality performance. He thanked her once again on behalf of SLDR and all those whose lives she has influenced in such a positive way.

f. Carlisle Barracks Spouse Club (CBSC). Kathy French reminded the group that the deadline for the CBSC Scholarship is 15 APR. All applications must be postmarked by 15 APR. The CBSC has only received three applications as of today's date (1 APR) and this provides a great opportunity to recognize our students.

g. Military Family Program. Mrs. Laurel Cioppa highlighted the upcoming *Senior Spouse Leadership Seminar* scheduled for 14 – 16 APR at CSLD. The workshop will be held daily from 0900 – 1530. Please make your reservation with the Military Family Program at 717-245-4787 or SLDR at 717-245-4511. The event is open to the entire Carlisle Barracks community. Mrs. Cioppa thanked all in attendance for the time and friendships built over the last four years at the US Army War College. Mrs. Cioppa shared how she truly believes in the USAWC Mission and will miss everyone at the USAWC. It has been her honor to serve the Community in the capacity of Military Family Program Coordinator.

7. Closing Comments from the Commandant and the Command Group. MG Rapp asked if there were any other comments and Ms. Lu Anderson added that Carlisle Barracks is truly the friendliest post that she and her spouse has been assigned to in

their military career. Ms. Carmen Segalla joined in to add her praise and thanks to the US Army War College for making her and her spouse feel “special” after 26 years of service. Jessica Evans noted that the Gate Guards at Carlisle Barracks are extremely friendly and kind. Other comments were provided by LTC Peebles who informed the group that there was additional space for child care at the CDC on Tuesdays and Thursdays and to call for reservations. Mrs. Nellie Funk encouraged those in attendance to take advantage of the Summer Camp offered by the Child Youth Services (CYS). Registration is currently open for CYS Summer Camp. The Class President’s Spouse, Ms. Carol Baxter, added that the *Student Spouse End of the Year Party* is scheduled for 1 MAY from 1730 – 2300 at the LVCC (date added to calendar slides). Cost of tickets is \$20.00 each and the deadline to purchase tickets is 25 APR. Theme of the party is “Martinis and Makeovers.” COL Funk reminded the group that diplomas would be awarded in a few weeks and that now is the time to take advantage of opportunities in Central Pennsylvania. MG Rapp echoed COL Funk’s advice, offering his encouragement to see Central Pennsylvania before the Academic Year is over. He noted that SRPs are turned in, and Oral Comps, are completed so now is the time for everyone take advantage of some of the great offerings in our surrounding area since the pace and intensity of their next assignments are likely to be much different. He also reminded the group to try and encourage their Spouses to take care of any needed medical and dental appointments now, since we are only eight weeks from graduation. The Commandant thanked all in attendance, officially closing the meeting at 1150. Next CLIF Meeting: 29 APR 2015 (AHEC).

Approved by: Chief of Staff

WILLIAM E. RAPP
Major General, U.S. Army