
Department of Nursing Science Newsletter

U.S. AMEDD Center & School, Fort Sam Houston, TX

Volume 5 Issue 2

Nov 98

We publish this newsletter quarterly to provide education information to the field. Our next newsletter will be out in Feb 99. Suggestions for input and change are always welcome.

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Thought for the Day

"Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortunes, but great minds rise above them."

Washington Irving

From the Chief, DNS



It is hard to believe that another year is shortly coming to a close. I think the end of the year is a good time to look at our accomplishments; the programs we have improved, the students we have developed and mentored, the lesson plans we have written and so many other truly outstanding achievements.

Often we get caught up in the problems and issues of the day and feel that we are treading water. Stop and really reflect on everything you do to keep our programs alive and healthy. Every person from secretary to instructor to program director contributes a great deal to the mission. We have all grown smaller in personnel over the past few years. Each person, therefore, becomes more precious to us in trying to get our work done. So take the time to not only honestly take stock of where we can improve our programs but also to take time to pat each other on the back for a job well done! I deeply appreciate what you do every day and remember "it's not bragging if it's true!!".

Colonel Lynne Connelly

The Department NCOIC

If you have specific questions about 91C or 91D issues feel free to call me (SGM Allan Brown) at DSN 471-6172 or Com 210-221-6172.

ENLISTED COURSES

Practical Nurse Course (91C):

LTC McMinn will be giving up the post of Chief, 91C Branch to become the Deputy Chief of the Department of Nursing Science. We welcome LTC Devlin, current Program Director of the 91C Phase II site at William Beaumont, as the new 91C Branch Chief. Her reporting date is 18 December, and we are really looking forward to her enthusiastic and energetic leadership. Until her arrival and orientation, CPT(P) Steven Smith will be the interim branch chief.

There are currently 156 students with reservations for Class 1-99, with a reporting date of 8 January. All applicants must meet the prerequisites according to the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS), to include an ST score of 105 and GT score of 110. Submit all request for waivers to: CTR, AMEDD Center & School, AMEDD Personnel Proponent Directorate, ATTN: MCCS-DE, 1400 E. Grayson Street, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6175.

One of the most significant challenges for students in the 91C program appears to be basic math. Phase I begins the training in pharmacology math calculations, with a focus on basic addition, multiplication, subtraction, and division. The training continues at the Phase II sites, with more a focus on the pharmacology aspect of

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math calculations. All applicants are strongly encouraged to strengthen their basic math skills prior to attending the 91C program. The 91C Practical Nurse Preparatory Correspondence Course and the BSEP math course are suggested train-up materials.

St. Philip's College

Because of seat availability at the 91C program at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, U.S. Army students (all components) will not be accepted in the January 1999 class for the LPN program at St. Philip's College. All qualified students who apply for 91C training will be eligible to attend the 52-week 300-91C10 Course, with Phase I at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Phase II, which is 46 weeks in length, is taught at one of six U.S. Army Medical Centers. Class's 1-99 and 3-99 (reporting date of 8 January and 25 June, respectively) offer Eisenhower, Madigan, and William Beaumont as Phase II site options. Class's 2-99 and 4-99 (reporting date of 19 March and 20 August, respectively) offer Brooke, Walter Reed, and Womack as Phase II site options.

The decision is pending regarding attendance at the August 1999 class at St. Philip's College for U.S. Army LPN students.

Check out our 91C Branch

Homepage at:

http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/dns/91C/New_b_1.htm

Branch Phone Numbers (DNS prefix is 471)

CPT(P) Steven Smith, Interim Chief, 91C Branch: (210) 221-6307

SFC Mumford, NCOIC: (210) 221-8454

SSG Peters, St. Philip's NCO Liaison: (210) 221-8095

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Joe McNaul, Instructional Systems Specialist: (210) 221-6346

Mental Health Specialist Course (91X):

There are many exciting things happening at the Mental Health Specialist Branch.

We have had several personnel changes. SFC Lebertha Newbery, who pcs'd from Germany in October, is our new NCOIC. Other who have recently joined our team are SSG Ronald Hannon, SFC Timothy Parker, and CPT Steve Lewis.

We have made significant additions to the clinical practicum for our 91X students.

The students will have experiences in psychiatric/mental health at inpatient, day-treatment, and outpatient settings beginning with the first class of FY99. Besides the clinical practicum, this course now has a 3-day Field Training Exercise where students practice their roles/skills at a Combat Stress Component setting.

Our goal is to prepare our students with maximal knowledge and skills so they can provide the best care to soldiers and families wherever they are assigned.

91X Branch Phone Numbers: (DSN: 471)

COL Crandell, Chief, (210) 221-8097

LTC D. Smith, Deputy Chief, (210) 221-6139

SFC Newbery, NCOIC, (210) 221-6983

Operating Room Specialist Course (91D):



Greetings from the Operating Room (OR) Branch! We are proud to announce the arrival of our new Chief, LTC Lu Ann Peralta. LTC Peralta was formerly the Head Nurse of the OR at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso. She joined the OR Branch in October. Other recent arrivals: SSG Jeffrey Walker and SSG Anthony Richardson joined the branch as instructors. Welcome all!

The new NCOIC of the OR Branch is SFC Twanda Looney. SFC Looney joined the branch in May and is replacing SFC Espinales as NCOIC. SFC Espinales will retire in December after dedicating over 21 years to the service of his country. Our thanks to SFC Espinales for all that he did for the OR branch. We wish him good luck in his retirement!

It has been an exciting summer for members of the OR Branch. In September we moved, temporarily, into a warehouse so that our building could be renovated. The renovation of our building is almost complete, and we have moved back in. What a difference new paint and plaster make! Our building looks great.

Class 01-99 started on 2 November with 51 students. The class will complete Phase 1 on 16 December, and will report to Phase 2 at the start of the new year.

Look for changes to the 91D course in the future! In October, MG

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Peake approved deleting the 91B course as a prerequisite for the 91D course, and approved lengthening the 91D course from 12 weeks to 19 weeks (9 weeks Phase 1 and 10 weeks Phase 2). Target date for implementation: 1 October 1999. We will keep you updated.

One final note: Our best wishes are extended to the Bald family, who announced the arrival of Patrick Steven Bald 19 October. Mother and baby are both well. LTC Bald's contributions to the Operating Room Branch were enormous, and she will be greatly missed. She will assume duties as Chief, Perioperative Nursing Services at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in February 1999.

We would love to hear from you! If you have questions or comments about the course, please call. POCs at the OR Branch are (commercial prefix for all numbers is 210-221-XXXX):
Chief, LTC Peralta - DSN 471-0847/1582

NCOIC, SFC Espinales/SFC Looney - DSN 471-0702/1582
Assistant Chief, CPT Whelen - DSN 471-0660/1582

Anesthesia Nursing Branch



Points of contact for the 6F-66F Course at the AMEDDC&S are SFC William Godak, Com: 210-221-6905, DSN 471-6905 or MAJ John Woodward, Com: 210-221-6329, DSN 471-6329 or via CCMail.

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AOC/SI PRODUCING COURSES

The AOC/SI producing courses offer outstanding training opportunities for AN officers. Please encourage officers with an interest in psychiatric/mental health nursing, OB/GYN nursing, perioperative nursing, emergency nursing, or critical care nursing to apply for these courses. The prerequisites for these five courses are standardized and include a requirement for one-year experience as a Registered Nurse. Selected prerequisites may be waived on an individual basis by OTSG.

For questions about these courses contact MAJ Stewart at AN Branch at DSN 221-2398, Jerry Woodall at ANPDB at DSN 471-6293 or LTC Babb at DSN 471-6073.

FY99 Course Dates:

Psychiatric/Mental Health (6F-66C)
Eisenhower AMC, Ft Gordon

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
4 Jan 99	04 Jun 99
6 Jul 99	10 Dec 99

Emergency Nurse, (6F-F6),
BAMC, Fort Sam Houston, TX

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
4 Jan 99	23 Apr 99
10 May 99	27 Aug 99
13 Sep 99	21 Jan 00

Perioperative Nursing (6F-66E),
MAMC, Tacoma, WA

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
8 Feb 99	28 May 99
21 Jun 99	8 Oct 99
Perioperative Nursing (6F-66E), WBAMC, El Paso, TX	

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
23 Nov 98	2 Apr 99
19 Apr 99	6 Aug 99
23 Aug 99	17 Dec 99

Perioperative Nursing (6F-66E),
BAMC, Fort Sam Houston, TX

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
4 Jan 99	23 Apr 99
10 May 99	27 Aug 99
13 Sep 99	21 Jan 00

Critical Care Course (6F-F5),
BAMC, Fort Sam Houston, TX

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
4 Jan 99	23 Apr 99
10 May 99	27 Aug 99
13 Sep 99	21 Jan 00

Critical Care Course, (6F-F5),
MAMC, Tacoma, WA

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
4 Jan 99	23 Apr 99
17 May 99	3 Sep 99
27 Sep 99	4 Feb 00

Critical Care Course (6F-F5),
WRAMC, Washington, DC

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
13 Oct 98	5 Feb 99
8 Mar 99	25 Jun 99
23 Aug 99	17 Dec 99

OB/GYN Nursing (6F-66G),
TAMC, TAMC, HI.

<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>
4 Jan 99	23 Apr 99
17 May 99	3 Sep 99
2 Sep 99	4 Feb 00

Note: Report date is **one** day prior to start date for all courses.

Army Nurse Professional

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Development Branch, DNS

Currently, if an AMEDD officer fails to attend CAS3 Phase II within two years of graduation from OAC he/she is required to enroll and complete Phase I by correspondence before the officer can attend Phase II. This guidance will probably change due to the recent announcement by the Chief of Non-Resident Materiel Services, Directorate of Non-Resident Studies, Command and General Staff College, that CAS3 Phase I will be eliminated effective 1 October 98.

CAS3 Phase II

Once the revision of DA Pam 600-4 AMEDD Officer Development and Career Management are published, all AMEDD Corps will require CAS3. However, currently there are not enough CAS3 seats allotted to the AMEDD to accommodate all eligible officers. Therefore, until seat availability equals seat demand, CAS3 Phase II attendance will not be a discriminator for promotion to Major. When there are enough class seats, eligible AN officers will be expected to attend CAS3 Phase II. *Please watch this newsletter for future news on this subject.* Attendance at CAS3 Phase II is highly encouraged, however, AN officers who cannot attend Phase II due to limited seat availability may enroll in non-resident Command and General Staff College once they hold the rank of Captain (P) or Major.

These military education courses place a great deal of responsibility on the officer and the supervisory chain to carefully program career milestones. Because CAS3 Phase II seats are limited, it is recommended that, when offered, officers accept CAS3 course dates rather than request attendance at a later date. For questions regarding

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this information, the POC is MAJ Petra Goodman, DNS, AMEDDC&S, at DSN 471-6302.

For questions regarding enrollment in CAS3 Phase II, the POC is LTC Thomas Kowell at PERSCOM, DSN 221-2396.

LEADER DEVELOPMENT

Officer Basic Course (OBC):

Officer Basic Course (OBC) 001-99 reported on 13 October 98. Forty-five Army Nurse Corps officers are in attendance; four are Reserve Component ANs. The eight-week OBC Common Core closure and graduation is scheduled for 4 December 98. The ten-day Nurse Track ends on 18 December 98. Officers have a report date of 5 January 1999, but depart Fort Sam Houston on 18 December 98.

Nurse Track learning components continue to be Field Nursing, Deployment Readiness, and Leader Development. All ANs attending OBC participate in joint Combat Health Support Exercises with the Medical Service Corps, the Medical Specialist Corps, Medical Corps, and NCOs, and enlisted soldiers from Clinical Lab Services.

Pharmacy and Radiology services provide invaluable support to the Level III component of this exercise. Operation Distant Flash, a 9-hour exercise, introduces the officer to tasks critical to the establishment of Level 1 and Level II Combat Health Support. Operation Urgent Thunder, a 4-day exercise, introduces the officer to Combat Health Support Activities/Battle Focused Functions in the theater of operation. During this exercise ANs will provide Level III Combat Health Support.

Preparation for the exercise includes Readiness Skills Training and Testing, DEPMEDS training, Doctrine Tactics and Training, and scenario-based application of clinical nursing skills. These training opportunities offer new Army Nurse Corps officers exposure to, and familiarization with, the mission and functions of the AMEDD team. Plans to issue readiness training certificates are in the works; this should assist MTFs with the scheduling of required Readiness Training.

Thanks to the dedicated ANs who devote countless hours to sponsoring new officers. The staff of the Department of Nursing Science, and the OBC students appreciate your efforts. You serve as a valuable link between the academic environment and the gaining MTF. Transitioning is definitely simplified by your efforts! Please note that officers will be "deployed" from 9 through 17 December. Optimum opportunity for direct contact with your sponsoree is prior to this time. Sponsor letters arriving prior to 28 November would be appreciated. I welcome any suggestions for improving the OBC sponsorship program. To ensure that welcome packets reach officers without delay please send them to the following address:

Department of Nursing Science
ATTN MCCS HNI (MAJ NICKIE-
GREEN / YOUR SPONSOREE'S
NAME)
2250 STANLEY ROAD STE 214
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TX
78234-6140

Point of contact for information concerning the Officer Basic Course is:
MAJ Nickie-Green, AN
Professional Development Branch

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DNS, AMEDDC&S at Com: (210) 221-6295, DSN 471-6295, or Email: MAJ.Janice.Nickie-Green@cs.amedd.army.mil

Officer Advanced Course (OAC):

There are currently 24 officers at the OAC. They will graduate on 9 Dec 98. The purpose of the nurse track has been recently updated. It is as follows: The AMEDD Officer Advanced Course nurse track is designed to provide requisite knowledge common to all mid-level ANC officers. The intent is preparation for leadership, staff, and command/management positions of greater responsibility throughout the Army Nurse Corps during periods of peace and/or hostilities. The track is not designed to address specific issues related to individuals or MTFs, but rather to serve as a long-term framework for professional development. The track addresses standards of clinical practice, administration, and education to prepare ANC officers to manage patient care in a TDA/TOE environment. Furthermore, the track integrates the principles of critical thinking and team building in the small group leadership instruction exercises. Overall, the track is a forum for idea sharing, networking, teambuilding, and dissemination of pertinent corps level information.

The nurse track continues to be condensed due to the inclusion of the Medical Management of Chemical Casualties Course (MMCC) which complements the readiness training. We continue to incorporate small group leadership instruction in the track with the staff development scenario exercise and the strategic issue dialogue (formerly referred to as the issue

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briefings). For the upcoming track, the issues are:

1. "Are Clinical Staff Nurse's Participating in Health Promotion and Wellness?" facilitated by COL Gustke.
2. "Is There a Place for the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in the ANC?" facilitated by COL Marshall.
3. "How Do We Retain Our ANC Officers?" facilitated by COL Wright.
4. "Capturing Ambulatory Nursing Workload" facilitated by COL Dickinson.

The students will receive 18.7 contact hours for the track.

An additional opportunity provided to the OAC students is the Trauma Nursing Care Course (TNCC) certification. Due to a joint agreement between our department and the Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute (DMRTI), eight slots for this course are allocated per each C4 class by DMRTI. For the current class, three different dates were available to attend TNCC. The books are provided by DMRTI and no additional costs are incurred. TNCC is an excellent course providing direct readiness training. It is highly recommended for certification not only due to its readiness focus but also due to the limited availability of this course at the various medical treatment facilities. The certification is valid for four years and the student receives 22.2 contact hours.

Attention to completion of the OAC within a timely period continues to be imperative. Class 001-99 which reports January 1999 is already filled. Seats for Class 002-99 are filling rapidly and only a few seats are still open. PERSCOM is already slotting officers for classes in FY 2000. Therefore, careful planning is critical. The chain of

supervision should project Phase II dates in concert with AN Branch at the time the officer enrolls in Phase I. With the rapid filling of classes, enrollment as soon as it is feasible is highly recommended.

For questions regarding this information, the POC is MAJ Petra Goodman, DNS, AMEDDC&S, at DSN 471-6302, Comm (210) 221-6302.

Head Nurse Leader Development Course (HNLDC) & Advanced Nurse Leadership Course (ANLC):

These courses are held at the Doubletree Hotel near the airport on Loop 410. You must call to **CONFIRM** your hotel reservations. Double billeting is required for both courses. Identify the course you are with and any roommate preference you may have at the time you call.

The dates for the FY98 and 99 are:

AMEDD Head Nurse Leader Development Course

24 Jan - 5 Feb 99

21 Mar - 2 Apr 99

6 Jun - 18 Jun 99

15 Aug - 27 Aug 99

AMEDD Advanced Nurse Leadership Course

21 Feb - 5 Mar 99

2 May - 14 May 99

12 Sep - 24 Sep 99

Fund citations for active component officers will be forwarded to the education department of your parent facility not more than **two weeks** prior to the course start date. If you have **not** received your fund cite within **one week** of the course

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start date, contact MAJ Jolitz by cemail or at the phone number below.

The Head Nurse Leader Development Course will have two separate one day seminars requiring appropriate civilian attire with the remaining course in Class B uniform.

The Advanced Nurse Leadership Course content is quite full and varied. We are privileged to be able to offer you a seminar through the Center for Army Leadership at Command and General Staff College as part of your upcoming training. **The seminar training days will be long, running late into the evenings for three consecutive days.** (If you need to know specific dates for planning purposes, please call MAJ Jolitz). The attire for the three day seminar is casual wear, the remainder of the course is class B. Please pack accordingly.

Welcome letters can now be found on DNS homepage.

Point of contact for these two courses is MAJ Carolyn Jolitz at DSN 471-6080 or Com 210-221-6080.

INFORMATION FROM AMEDDC&S STAFF ELEMENTS

Corps Specific Branch Proponent Office (CSBPO):

POC is COL Stephanie Marshall at DSN: 471-6822, Com: (210) 221-6822.

Department of Preventive Health Services

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POCs are either MAJ Rae Hartmann, AN at 210-221-7904/8750 or Ms Mittlestedt at 210-221-6245/8750.

AMEDD Personnel Proponent Directorate

The point of contact is COL Deborah Gustke at 210-221-9945, FAX 210-221-9949/9437.

Dept of Health Education & Trng:

Point of contact is LTC Doris Johnson at DSN 295-0274.

232nd Medical Battalion

Questions on 91B10 and 91B20 training can be directed towards Ms Sewell or MAJ Garr at 210-221-5119.

Personnel Changes

Hails

LTC Lou Ann Peralta, Incoming Chief, Operating Room Br, DNS

SGM Allan Brown is our new NCOIC DNS.

SSG Anthony Richardson, 91D instructor.

SSG Jeffrey Walker, 91D Instructor.

Ms Cecilia Johnson joined the DNS team as a branch secretary. Cecilia was formerly employed by Kelly Air Force Base.

Farewells ☹️

LTC(P) Ellen Bald, outgoing Chief, Operating Room Br, DNS.

SSG Lemuel Mayberry, outgoing 91D instructor.

Retirements 😊

LTC Margo Everett, Deputy Chief, DNS will retire on 28 Feb 99.

MSG Franklyn Gittens, NCOIC, DNS will also retire on 28 Feb 99.

SFC Javier Espinales, NCOIC, 91D Br will retire Dec 98.