



WATSONIAN NEWSLETTER- AUGUST 8, 2005

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
SICK BAY
CDC IS CHANGING
NEW ADDRESSES
MEMBER NEWS
CDC CONNECTS
JOB OPPORTUNITY**

**COMMITTEE NEWS
CONDOLENCES
HAVE YOU HEARD
MEMBER IN THE NEWS
TRANSFERS, PROMOTIONS & TDYs
RETIREMENTS**

WELCOME to our NEW MEMBERS:

**Cindy Getty- DHAP/IRS - new full
Deborah Wexler- NIP new associate**

COMMITTEE NEWS:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - all are invited to call in and participate.

August 16 2:30-4:00 pm

Where: CORPORATE SQUARE, building 11, Room 2105 (Phil's office)

Call In: Toll free #: 866-732-9603, Passcode 873632

Election of the **Watsonian Society Executive Committee** for 2006-2008.

(term starts in January 2006)

Nominations were requested for the following positions:

President-Elect - Treasurer - Recorder

Field Staff Representative (must be a field assignee)

Retiree Representative (must be a retiree)

A Ballot will be sent out in a separate email – YOUR VOTE counts!

EVENTS COMMITTEE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Attention:

The Events Committee needs volunteers to help with banquet ticket sales....

Here is your chance to help out the WATSONIAN SOCIETY!

Volunteers should call or e-mail Cindi Knighton.

Save the Date:

The 20th Annual Watsonian Society Banquet

Date: **Thursday, October 27, 2005**
Time: **4:30-6:00 Social Time/Cocktails,**
6:00-7:30 Dinner, 7:30-9:00 Program

Key Note Speaker: Dr. Jim Curran

Place: Petite Auberge Restaurant
2935 North Druid Hills Road (Toco Hills Shopping Center)
(404) 634-6268

Future information as the date gets closer! We will be posting information on ticket sellers, price, and menu choices. Hope to see you there this year!

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**OUR ADOPT-A-PLATOON IS HOME!**

Hi all,

Here's the website with pictures of our platoon (and others in the Brigade) returning home.

<http://www.b-co.1-503rd.org/>

If you page down, our welcome home message appears just after one other message.

Very Truly,

Stacy L. Harper, President-Elect

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RECRUITMENT BROWN BAG PLANNED

"Learn about the Watsonian Society", the CDC sponsored employee organization has grown to its largest enrollment in its 18-year history. There are now over 600 current and former members across the U.S. and in international assignments who are currently engaged in the process of renewing and strengthening the Society. The society welcomes all public health partners who support the mission and goals of the Watsonian Society

WATSONIAN SOCIETY brownbag is scheduled for August 31 in conference **1A Bldg. 8 (Corp. Sq.) 8/31/2005 12:00 noon - 1:00 PM** We plan to have several speakers give a short presentation on their activities e. g. reports from the

committees and specials projects. We would like to recruit new members so everyone is asked to bring a potential new member!

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**CONDOLENCES:**

**Correction: Memorial Donations**

On June 24, 2005, CDC announced the death of CDC retiree Joe Miller. In the announcement the family requested that contributions be made to the Joseph Miller Memorial Fund via Bank of America. Unfortunately, the family was unable to establish this fund in Joe's honor.

The family has established memorial funds at BAAB (Brookwood Athletic Association for Baseball and Softball) and SGAA (South Gwinnett Athletic Association). These two associations are where Joe's four grandchildren play baseball or softball every year. Joe went to every game to see his grandchildren play.

If you'd like to make a memorial contribution in Joe's name, please send a check written to either BAAB or SGAA. The money will be sent to the association that you request for their use to support the fields and the teams where Joe's grandchildren play ball.

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DEATH OF A CDC RETIREE

Saturday, July 9, 2005 AJC
OBITUARIES: ATLANTA:- Derrick Henry - Staff

Albert Turner, 69, Microbiologist, Avid Fisherman And Host

Parasites, barbecue, big fish and bartending played major roles in Al Turner's life.

The Atlanta native started his career in public health modestly as a janitor at the U.S. Public Health Service in Chamblee in the late 1950s.

After graduating from Morris Brown College in the early 1960s on the GI Bill, the Air Force veteran landed a job with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in its parasitic disease division. Mr. Turner started as a lab technician, then became a microbiologist. In a career that lasted until 1990, he specialized in the preparation of reagents for malaria research and treatment and for toxoplasmosis serology, said Dr. Irving Kagan, former head of the CDC's parasitology division.

"You could call him one of the backbones of the old CDC who helped establish the CDC's reputation and further the work we do for the public health of the nation," said Marianna Wilson of Atlanta, a CDC microbiologist since 1966.

"He was very helpful, very friendly and very well liked," Dr. Kagan said.

Albert Turner, 69, of Atlanta died of complications from a June 26, automobile accident on Saturday at Atlanta Medical Center.

When he wasn't working, Mr. Turner reveled in fishing, especially deep sea fishing. His catch included flounder, amberjack, red snapper, grouper, a couple of sharks and an octopus. "He'd cut it up, bring it home and fry it," said his daughter, Renata Turner of Atlanta. "He was known for that and his barbecued ribs. I thought he cooked the best ribs I ever tasted, but he would never tell his secret."

Mr. Turner loved to entertain and made sure his guests had plenty of food and drink. Name the drink, and he knew how to mix it. "He could remember all the ingredients for everything from a Singapore sling to a vodka collins," said his cousin, the Rev. Marvin E. Bell of Decatur. He was so good a mixologist, he used the skill to earn extra money to finance his fishing expeditions. In retirement, he started bartending at private parties for the Buckhead elite. By the 1996 Olympics, he was working as a bartender at the Atlanta Stadium Club. For the last nine years, he tended bar at the Piedmont Driving Club.

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**SICK BAY:**

**Jerry Hershovitz's** wife, Lynn, recently underwent surgery for a serious medical condition and is doing very well now.

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Patricia Keitchen, daughter of **Bill Hamlin**, let us know that her father is scheduled for knee replacement surgery on August 5.

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**Bill Boyd** reports:

Diane and I spent the afternoon of July 14 with **Jayson Trussel** in West Palm Beach. It was great being back in So. Florida, where I spend '85-'88 and super seeing my old buddy. Although fatigued, Jayson's only discomfort was from the back pain he's been suffering from for years. In addition to eating at a waterfront restaurant in Riviera Beach, we took a tour of Jayson's backyard jungle, which his horde of WPB friends have helped maintain during the past couple of months. Before departing, we howdied him for all his friends in the WS (special howdy to Jayson from Jerry Naehr) and also were sure to see the Excellence in Mentoring award Jayson had recently received from the Florida Bureau of STD. Jayson was justifiably proud. Check out the WATSONIAN WEB page for a photo of the award <http://www.cdc.gov/watsonian>

If you have worked with Jayson, you know he'd truly appreciate your words and thoughts.

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UPDATE: Attn: Former CDC Assignees to Alabama STD Program."

Sent in by **Jim Novotny**

I recently discovered that Dot Cleghorn, who was, I believe, the Executive Secretary in the Alabama State Office STD Program and also handled ICCRs, has become ill. She has had numerous problems, many of them seem to have been brought about by the recent medical care.

It seems that Dot has made it through the broken bones and illnesses she's had but now developed bladder cancer. And the Docs don't think that she has that much longer to live.

I hope lots of folks sent her greetings and get well cards when I first learned of her dilemma. She is such a wonderful person!

There's not much we can do, but I thought I'd let you know.
Hope you and yours are well; all's well in TN.
Jim

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**CDC is changing.** Learn about the new Office of the Chief Science Officer today  
CDC Now: OCSO Organizational Profile 7/20/2005

**Name: Office of the Chief Science Officer (OCSO)**

**Mission:** OCSO provides the agency with scientific vision and leadership in science innovation, research, ethics, and science administration. It ensures continuity and commitment to long-term scientific investments to ensure the achievement of CDC's two overarching health protection and preparedness goals, both nationally and globally. The office upholds scientific ideals, establishes an environment thriving with scientific excellence, innovation and integrity, learning and discovery, and upholds the timely dissemination and translation into practice of scientific information, innovations, and technology.

**Executive Team:**

Check out the OCSO organization

**Dixie Snider, Jr., MD, MPH, Chief Science Officer**

- Tanja Popovic, MD, PhD, FAAM, Acting Associate Director for Science
- Robert Spengler, ScD, Director, Office of Public Health Research (OHPR)
- Deborah Holzman, PhD, Acting Director, Office of Scientific Regulatory Services (OSRS)
- Andrew Watkins, JD, PhD, Director, Technology Transfer Office (TTO)
- Frank Destefano, MD, Acting Director, Immunization Safety Office (ISO)
- Janice Devier, MPA, DrPH, Acting Team Lead, Science Vision and Alliances Team (SVAT)

**Location(s):**

- All OCSO offices are in Atlanta:
- Roybal Campus Building 16 – OD
- Decatur, West Court Square – OHPR, OSRS
- Koger Center, Williams Building – TTO, SVAT
- Corporate Square, Building 12 – ISO

Number of staff: 100

**Why was this organization formed?**

As CDC is reorganizing to meet the challenges of the 21st century, one of the key strategic imperatives is nourishing excellence in science and ensuring a strong science base for all public health actions. Discussions within CDC and with external partners emphasized the need to create an expanded OCSO with a larger portfolio of scientific, regulatory and support activities, as well as the key responsibility for agency-wide scientific leadership. Tanja Popovic, MD, PhD, FAAM, Acting Associate Director for

Science, says “Science is the cornerstone of the agency – it is the building block by which the whole agency stands – our most critical and valuable asset.”

In the works: Seven primary functions of OCSO are to be conducted in collaboration with CIOs:

1. Agency-wide science vision and leadership in support of the health protection goals.
2. Synergy with national and global partners in identifying scientific priorities.
3. Performance measures for support of the culture of scientific innovations and trans-disciplinary problem-solving.
4. Leadership and coordination for the overall CDC research enterprise and expansion of extramural research.
5. Support and service in science policy and administration.
6. Leadership and expertise in the promotion and timely transfer of knowledge and technology that improve public health.
7. Robust immunization safety activity.

The office is engaged in establishing CIO and external relationships and identifying needs and opportunities. Some current activities include:

- leadership to the CDC/ATSDR Excellence in Science Committee;
- agency point of contact for the OMB “Final Information Quality Bulletin for Peer Review”;
- the FY05 Public Health Protection Research Initiative and its key importance to the expanded extramural research program;
- playing a critical role in the updating the interagency plan for vaccine safety;
- opening access to CDC-sponsored publications;
- promoting quality of evidence in public health guidelines;
- promoting CDC’s scientific infrastructure; and
- facilitating communication and collaboration that enhance scientific areas and activities needed for state-of-the-art conduct of science.

Said Chief Science Officer Dixie Snider, MD, MPH, “We are excited about this opportunity to strengthen science at CDC/ATSDR so that our programs and policies have the evidence-base they need for us to achieve our new goals.”

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HAVE YOU HEARD?

Dear NCHSTP Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce the selection of Dr. Deborah Birx as the next GAP Director. Dr. Birx currently is Director of the U.S. Military HIV Research Program (USMHRP), where she has been instrumental in advancing research in the treatment and prevention of HIV. She is board certified in internal medicine, allergy and immunology, and diagnostic and clinical immunology. She has a distinguished 26-year career in the U.S. Military and the field of HIV/AIDS as a clinician, researcher, prevention specialist, and program director. As Director of the USMHRP she oversees work in 40 countries throughout Latin American, South America, Eastern Europe, Central and SE Asia, and Africa accomplished in direct collaboration with local Ministries of Health and Defense, U.S. Embassies, and HIV/AIDS prevention professionals at the local and national levels.

She describes her commitment to the GAP mission as being the "culmination of my life ambition."

It is with the deepest gratitude and respect that I thank Dr. Tim Mastro for his leadership as Acting Director, GAP. He has proven himself to be an outstanding leader in every way. Dr. Mastro's commitment to GAP staff and to sustaining GAP's progress and achievements through this transition reflects his unflagging professionalism and his deep commitment to HIV/AIDS prevention and control around the world.

Sincerely,
Janet Collins, Ph.D., Acting Director, NCHSTP

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The Coordinating Center for Health Information and Service (CoCHIS) is delighted to announce that **Matthew Sones** has joined us as our Acting Enterprise Communications Officer.

Matt has been a part of CDC since 2000. He has served as the acting enterprise communications officer for CoCHP since February, 2005. Prior to that, he was the health communications team leader in the Division of Adolescent and School Health in the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. He has also worked as a health communications specialist with the Office on Smoking and Health as well as the CDC Office of Health and Safety. Prior to CDC, Matt worked in the private sector with the K-Mart Corporation and Circuit City Stores, Inc. and served four years in the U.S. Army. He has a BS from Purdue University in Agricultural Economics, an MS in Management from Florida Institute of Technology, and an MPH from Emory University.

Join us in welcoming Matt to CoCHIS!

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MEMBER in the NEWS

Steve Bice Honored for Contribution to the Nation

At a breakfast with government leaders on Capitol Hill recently, 30 federal employees from across the country were honored as finalists for the 2005 Service to America Medals, including Steve Bice, Director of Emergency Operations for his work at CDC in developing effective emergency preparedness organizations including the [Strategic National Stockpile](#).

Bice was nominated for the Homeland Security Medal, an award that recognizes a federal employee for a significant contribution to the nation in activities related to homeland security (including border and transportation security, emergency preparedness and response, intelligence, and law enforcement). This medal is accompanied by a \$3,000 award.

During his career at CDC, Bice developed and matured the CDC Director's Emergency Operations Center (DEOC) and the Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS). Bice's visionary approach to emergency response and unique leadership style guided the success of both organizations. Since its inception in 1999, DSNS has evolved into a sophisticated acquisition, storage and response network with over \$1 billion of medical materiel designed and proven to be delivered anywhere in the United States and its

territories within 12 hours. The DEOC is the newest response organization within CDC that provides the CDC Director the ability to manage the critical disease detection, surveillance and response efforts of its domestic and international staff of over 8,000.

Says Bice, "This year's nomination for the Service to America Medals, is truly an honor. It recognizes not only my accomplishments, but also those of the people who ensure we meet our goals on a daily basis – the emergency response staff both within the DEOC and DSNS; they are the real Heroes."

The Service to America Medals, or Sammies, are national awards to honor the notable accomplishments of America's federal employees. From the 30 finalists honored, nine Service to America Medals awardees will be selected, and the winners will be announced at a September 28th gala in Washington, DC. The Service to America Medal recipients will also receive a significant monetary award (from \$3,000 to \$10,000).

The Sammies were created in 2002 by the Partnership for Public Service, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization committed to inspiring people to federal government service and promoting excellence in government performance, and Atlantic Media Company, publisher of The Atlantic, National Journal and Government Executive magazines.

"The Sammies recognize the finest achievements of America's public servants," said Max Stier, president and CEO of the Partnership for Public Service. "These are the exceptional men and women who often do their jobs behind the scenes, and their stories teach a valuable lesson about why government matters."

"We hope that the stories of the Sammies finalists – people who have done great things and made a real difference in service to our country – will inspire other Americans to consider working for the federal government," said Timothy B. Clark, editor and president of Government Executive magazine.

The Service to America Medals recipients will be selected by the following panel of national leaders: U.S. Senator Richard Durbin (D-Ill.); U.S. Representative Tom Davis (R-Va.); U.S. Representative Danny Davis (D-Ill.); the Honorable Tom Ridge; the Honorable Dan Glickman; Jonathan Bush, Chair, J. Bush & Co.; Judy Woodruff, Journalist, CNN; Anderson Cooper, Host of Anderson Cooper 360°, CNN; Margo Lion, Executive Producer, Hairspray; Susan Berresford, President, Ford Foundation; Ruth Simmons, President, Brown University; Colleen Kelley, National President, National Treasury Employees Union; Chuck Cramb, Senior Vice President of Finance, The Gillette Company; Timothy B. Clark, Editor and President, Government Executive; and Max Stier, President and CEO, Partnership for Public Service.

For more information about the Service to America Medals, visit www.servicetoamericamedals.org

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**MEMBER NEWS:**

Stephanie Coleman-Smith, daughter of **Theresa Coleman**, plays an indecisive woman in Otis Revue. A short film created and produced by Fresh Films -Nashville. Fresh Films is a teen film contest presented by Doritos. The winning film will have a premiere party in Hollywood hosted by Doritos and other major corporate sponsors.

Stephanie has a degree in Biomedical and Electrical Engineering from Vanderbilt University and loves modeling and the arts. To view the 2005 film contest, go to <http://www.fresh-films.com/>

Theresa, former PHA, is the deputy state director for land resources at the Bureau of Land Management in Springfield, Virginia. She manages public lands for the 31 states east of and bordering the Mississippi River, a largest land title company in the world and repository of land records dating back to Thomas Jefferson. Theresa recently returned to BLM after spending a year as a Congressional Fellow with the Western Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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TRANSFERS/ PROMOTIONS and TDYs

Brian Wheeler, transferring from **NIP** (New Delhi, India) to **NCHSTP** as of June 9th to begin Deputy Director position at the CDC GAP Nigeria Office in Abuja.

Tim Peterson of **NIP**, transferring from Atlanta to New Delhi, India on July 12th, as a secondee to the World Health Organization as Deputy Program Manager for the National Polio Surveillance Program working on polio eradication.

Andronicus Linzy, DSTD has accepted a transfer to New York, NY, effective June 12, 2005.

Gayreon Cowan, DSTD has accepted a transfer to Jacksonville, FL, effective July 10, 2005.

Tamara Cox, DSTD has accepted a position with promotion potential in Chicago, IL, effective July 10, 2005.

Gloria De la Garza, DSTD has accepted a transfer to San Antonio, TX, effective July 10, 2005.

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### **CDC Leadership Profile: Meet Katie Shebesh 7/12/2005**

As part of our series of leadership profiles, we continue with a profile of **Katie Shebesh**, Chief Management Officer, Coordinating Center for Health Information and Service.

**Name:** Katie Shebesh

**Title:** Chief Management Officer (CMO), Coordinating Center for Health Information and Service (February 2005)

**Responsibilities:** As CMO for the Coordinating Center for Health Information and Service, Shebesh is responsible for improving business services, practices, and systems for three national centers – the National Center for Health Marketing, the National Center for Health Statistics, and the National Center for Public Health Informatics.

“We are operationally focused on ensuring that the management of the organization is attuned to the needs of the science – enabling that work to take place.”

## **First Job at CDC:** Current position

**Path to Public Health:** “I joined CDC in February with more than a decade of experience as a management consultant. Formerly with Ernst & Young and PricewaterhouseCoopers strategy consulting practices, I worked with many clients on strategic planning, business-process design, IT management and business development. My specialty was large transformations and strategic change – always through improving or redefining the organization’s processes, people and strategies.

“Along the way I consulted with Kaiser Permanente and eventually became COO within Kaiser’s Information Technology Division. Kaiser employees are fanatical about their mission to deliver high-quality, cost-effective care and improve member health outcomes. This extreme passion was energizing – and their focus on key technology infrastructures to support their growth and mission was intoxicating. From there, I decided to focus my career on health management.

“I was drawn to CDC initially because of the culture and organizational changes that were underway. As I spoke with CDC employees, I was impressed with the strong scientific tradition and their great compassion and dedication to the agency’s work. I also felt that I could make a difference. I am a people person so the service aspect of our business – and the fact that we’re servicing people – resonated deeply with me.”

Last Book(s) Read: *The Discipline of Getting Things Done*, a business book by Larry Bossidy. “The last work of fiction I re-read was my favorite book, Ayn Rand’s *The Fountainhead*. I am an avid reader of mysteries and science fiction, but these days I have been reading books oriented toward my new job.” Shebesh eventually hopes to begin an MBA program that will help her mesh her interests in public and private sector collaborations.

**Family:** A Hoosier at heart, Shebesh currently divides her time between Atlanta and South Bend, Indiana, home to her significant other, John Albers. The two met while they were in college and were reunited five years ago.

“My hobbies include jewelry-making and knitting. When I moved here from Indiana I didn’t bring any of my jewelry-making supplies, so I am missing that hobby. Because I have a high level of finger dexterity, somebody early on told me that it was a good thing to pick up a hobby that used my hands. Now, I am finding that the hobby that I am doing with my hands is my Blackberry replies!”

What are the top priorities you are working on? “Employee involvement and communications is one of our organization’s top priorities. Any time you consolidate or integrate an organization, employee communications becomes a vital factor in making people feel a part of the change as well as engaging them in the change itself. Now that we have gotten through the preliminary design phase, we must engage our staff in helping them understand what the processes need to be and our roles so that we can operationalize the design.

“A key priority is staffing key positions so we can put in place the permanent structure that will enable us to be effective.

“Another priority for me is what I call ‘connecting the dots’ between ourselves and the way that CoCHIS will operate with the rest of the centers across CDC. We are striving hard to fine-tune how we will work with the other coordinating centers, how we will

escalate and resolve issues, and how we will ensure that the lines of accountability, communication and collaboration are understood and working effectively.

“In CDC’s current transition, we are modeling much of our activities after proven business models. Making the change happen in the organization is not an easy thing. And, changing the hearts and minds of people is also not an easy thing. But I believe in my heart – and the reason I am here – that we are doing the right thing.”

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RETIREMENTS

After 25 years, **Alan B. Bloch, M.D., M.P.H.**, Captain, US Public Health Service, will retire from CDC and the Commissioned Corps on August 1.

Dr. Bloch started at CDC in 1980 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer in the Immunization Division in the Bureau of State Services. For three years, he worked on measles elimination. He conducted measles outbreak investigations on the US-Mexico Border in San Diego and the Lower Rio Grande Valley. With the helpful advice of the late Alexander D. Langmuir, founder of the Epidemic Intelligence Service, he published an investigation of an outbreak of airborne measles transmission, demonstrating that the virus remains infectious at least two hours after aerosolization. In 1983 he served as a consultant for the World Health Organization to evaluate the public health impact of measles in Sri Lanka. The findings from this investigation resulted in Sri Lanka becoming the first country in Southeast Asia to implement a comprehensive measles vaccination program.

Captain Bloch was a Preventive Medicine Resident from 1981 to 1983. While assigned to Georgia Division of Public Health, he conducted an outbreak investigation of water-borne hepatitis A, resulting in one of the first environmental isolations of the hepatitis A virus from a water source linked to an outbreak.

In 1983, Alan joined the Division of Tuberculosis Control, Center for Prevention Services. From 1983 to 1985, he served as Chief of the Statistics and Analysis Section in the Program Services Branch. In the Spring of 1985, using the weekly TB notifications to CDC, he identified an abrupt halt in the decades-long decline of TB morbidity, accompanied by increased TB morbidity in states with AIDS epidemics. From 1985 to 1990, Alan served as the first Chief of Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigation Branch, Division of Tuberculosis Elimination, National Center for Prevention Services. During that time, Alan helped develop the initial surveillance, epidemiologic, programmatic, and research agenda related to HIV/AIDS and TB, including the matching of TB and AIDS registries, HIV serologic surveys of TB patients, HIV counseling and testing of TB patients, offering chemoprophylaxis to HIV-infected patients with TB infection and other high-risk persons with TB infection, expanding the AIDS case definition to include TB patients, and investigating nosocomial outbreaks among HIV-infected TB patients. He also participated in the first reported outbreak of airborne TB transmission from a patient with extrapulmonary TB. From 1990 to 1996, Alan served as a medical epidemiologist and conducted the first nationwide studies of drug-resistant TB and completion of TB therapy, using individual case reports. He also designed the expanded TB surveillance system to collect information on drug resistance, HIV status, drug regimen, and completion of therapy, as well as substance abuse and residence in high-risk facilities.

From 1997 to 2000, Alan served as Deputy Chief of the Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch, Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects, National Center for Environmental Health. He was instrumental in reorganizing the Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and developing policy statements. From 2001 to 2002, he worked in the Data Management Division, National Immunization Program and served as Acting Chief of the Assessment Branch and as Acting Chief of the Immunization Registry Support Branch. From 2002 to 2005, he has worked in the Epidemiology Branch, Office on Smoking and Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion and has served as the first CDC Project Officer for the National Youth Tobacco Survey.

Dr. Bloch did his undergraduate work at the University of Connecticut, received M.D. and M.P.H. degrees from Yale, and did his Pediatrics training at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Alan sent the following note to Jerry Naehr- following his retirement CELEBRATION
Jerry--

Thanks for your well wishes. There were a number of PHAs present, including John Seggerson, Chris Hayden, Walt Page, Dick Moyer, Joe Scavotto, Greg Andrews, Paul Tribble and Andy Heetderds.

In my closing remarks, I paid special tribute to PHAs: "Many people think it's the scientists that make CDC great. Equal credit needs to go to the Public Health Advisors. Without PHAs, there would be no Smallpox Eradication, Measles Elimination or TB Elimination. Without PHAs, I would have had no success in HIV-related TB, drug-resistant TB, or completion of TB therapy. There have been hundreds of PHAs who helped me along the way in Immunization, TB, and Childhood Lead Poisoning...Moreover, PHAs tell the best jokes." Jerry, I had you in mind with this last sentence.

I am spending the month of August as a contractor finishing up some tasks related to the National Youth Tobacco Survey. After that, I plan to take several months off before coming back as a part-time contractor.

I have value your friendship and encouragement through the years. I look forward to seeing you at Watsonian events which I shall now have more time to attend.

Best wishes,
Alan

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**Melvin Mixon, DSTD** retired July 1,2005.

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Mark Federer will be retiring September 3, 2005, after 32 years of government service. Mark's service includes four years in the U.S. Navy, two Viet Nam tours (16 months combat duty) as Assistant Supply Officer aboard the U.S.S. Fox (DLG-33); three years

at the Warner Robins Air Force Logistics Command, as Contract Negotiator on the F-15 Aircraft and Specialized Vehicles program teams; and, three years with the Department of Health and Human Services (Atlanta Region), as Lead Contract Specialist and Regional Contracting Officer. As DHHS liaison to the State Department, Mark negotiated service contracts necessary to establish and maintain refugee camps for Haitian children in Miami, Florida.

Mark has been with the CDC Procurement and Grants Office since March, 1983. During this timeframe, he has worked with virtually every CDC operating component; collaborating with program sponsors to develop, award and administer a number of the agency's highest profile research and service type contracts, including the National Immunization Program (NIP) Hotline Contract, the National Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) Hotline Contract, the consolidated National HIV/AIDS, NIP and STD Hotlines Contract, and the Preschool Immunization National Public Information Campaign (a Whitehouse/HHS Headquarters initiative - delegated to CDC for implementation). Mark served as Contracting Officer for the National HIV/AIDS Hotline Contract; and, the National HIV/AIDS Media Campaign for over 10 years.

Mark also worked with CDC sponsors, to develop, award and administer a significant number of first generation as-needed, agency-wide, quick-turnaround contract mechanisms to acquire contractor services in various critical areas, such as ADP Support Services (which was the very first CDC-wide support service contract), Statistical and Epidemiologic Support Services, Comprehensive Analytical Biochemistry Support Services, Comprehensive Data Collection Support Services, Comprehensive Data Management and Support Services, Comprehensive Laboratory Support Services, Health Studies Support Services, Program Assessments, Policy Assessments, Economic Assessments, Statistical Modeling, and Accounting Services Support Services.

While serving as Contracting Officer for NCCDPHP and NCEH Conference Support Contracts, Mark was recognized as a court expert in protracted litigation.

Most recently, Mark has served as Contracting Officer for a number of capital construction projects at the Chamblee Campus, including NCID Laboratory Building 109, NCEH Laboratory Building 110, and the Chamblee Campus Central Utility Plant (CUP). Significant recent accomplishments include negotiated settlement of generator issues at the Chamblee Campus Central Utility Plant, which provided for installation of an additional generator at the site, valued in excess of \$1,000,000, at no additional cost to the government.

Mark has been a valuable asset to CDC and PGO. His expertise and experience will be sorely missed.

Mark's hobbies include good food, fine wine, loud motorcycles and fast cars. In retirement, Mark plans to relax, travel and enjoy life. If time permits, he also hopes to complete restoration of his Buckhead bungalow, which is now in its 20th year.

Please join us for a retirement luncheon in Mark's honor on August 25, 2005, 11:30 a.m., at Violette Restaurant, 2948 Clairmont Road, Atlanta, Georgia.

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Our friend and colleague, **Herman A. (Al) May**, will be retiring on August 31, 2005, after 23 years of distinguished government service.

Al began his federal career and served our country in the US Army for two years, and then worked for the Department of Agriculture as a temporary employee. He worked for the US Marine Corps beginning in 1984 as a budget analyst and later as an accountant. In 1992, he transferred to the Public Health Practice Program Office, CDC, as a budget analyst, and moved into the Financial Management Office (FMO) as part of the CDC budget execution consolidation in 2004.

Al is currently the Lead Budget Analyst for the National Center for Health Marketing. As a member of FMO, he has had a major impact in the development of the financial structure of the new Center. His contributions and influence will long be remembered and appreciated for many years to come in the National Center for Health Marketing, CDC, and by the Budget Execution Branch of FMO.

Al plans to fully enjoy his retirement. His future plans involve doing some volunteer work, hunting and fishing, traveling, and spending time with his family.

A celebration will be held in his honor on Tuesday, August 30, from 2:30-4:30 p.m., at the Koger Center, Williams Building, Room 1802/1805

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After 20 years of distinguished service, **Katy Irwin, MD, MPH**, plans to retire from CDC. Please join us for a retirement celebration with light refreshments on Monday, August 15, from 1-3 p.m. at Corporate Square, Building 8, Rooms 1B/1C.

In 1984, Katy joined CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer, in the Division of Reproductive Health. There she conducted research on contraceptive safety and reproductive tract cancer for which she was awarded the Alexander Langmuir prize. Applying her research on heterosexual HIV transmission in Kinshasa, Zaire, she helped to launch one of Africa's first HIV counseling and testing programs. While assigned to the state of Washington as a Preventive Medicine Resident, she evaluated the state's restaurant inspection program, finding that low inspection scores were linked with food-borne outbreaks. From 1988-1989, she continued her cancer research as a Fellow with the National Cancer Institute and received her MPH degree from University of Washington.

From 1990-1997, she served as a medical epidemiologist in the Epidemiology Branch, Division of HIV/AIDS, where she conducted research on sexual and parenteral HIV transmission and HIV disease in women. Her studies of the interaction of bacterial STD and HIV led to revisions of CDC's STD Treatment Guidelines and CDC's AIDS case definition, as well as new HIV and STD prevention approaches. Her research on rapid HIV tests, the acceptability of HIV testing, and unusual HIV subtypes supported CDC's revised HIV counseling and testing guidelines. As CDC's Microbicide Coordinator, she secured funding for CDC's first microbicide research, now a multi-Center program. In 1997, she joined the Health Services Research and Evaluation Branch, Division of STD Prevention, as Associate Chief for Science and became Branch Chief in 1999. With her leadership, the Division expanded prevention efforts in the private sector and community health centers, tested STD interventions in health plans, evaluated STD program costs, and enhanced evaluation skills in state STD programs.

Katy has been a strong advocate for women's and adolescent health, cancer and infectious disease prevention, research translation, health systems research, health economics, and program evaluation. She has served on expert panels at CDC, the Public Health Service, and the World Health Organization and published nearly 100 scientific articles and book chapters. As a dedicated mentor, she has supervised dozens of staff in clinical epidemiology, health services research, health economics, and evaluation. Her contributions have been honored by numerous PHS and CDC awards.

In August, Katy will take leave until she retires in December. She will move to France to join her husband, Richard Steketee, MD, who recently retired as Chief of CDC's Malaria Branch and is leading an international malaria project near Geneva. She will pursue health consulting, enjoy her children, and brush up her French.

If you would like to wish Katy farewell, make a contribution to a gift, or have any questions about the event please contact Janelle Dixon at JDixon@cdc.gov or 404-639-8344.

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In recognition of his outstanding career at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), you are invited to attend a celebration honoring **Charles A. Schable, M.S.**, Director, Coordinating Office for Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response (CoTPER). Mr. Schable is being appointed as a Senior Advisor to the CoTPER Director and will continue to work in emergency preparedness activities with the U.S./Mexico Border Health Commission in Phoenix, Arizona.

Mr. Schable began his career at CDC in 1967 as a microbiologist in the Hepatitis Division within the National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID). Over the years, he moved up through the ranks among different branches and divisions to become the Deputy Director of the Division of AIDS, STD and TB Laboratory Research. In 2002, he became Director for the Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program (BPRP) in NCID. In 2003, he became the Director of CoTPER. During his distinguished career Mr. Schable has received many honorary awards for his work in public health and emergency preparedness.

In 2004, he received the Williams C. Watson Jr. Medal of Excellence Award for his exceptional career and leadership in laboratory and public health involving hepatitis, HIV/AIDS and bioterrorism preparedness and response. Most recently, he received an award for his exceptional work in terrorism preparedness activities at the Annual Association of Public Health Laboratories conference held in Salt Lake City this past June. He has also authored and coauthored 85 research and review articles in his various fields of expertise and service.

Please join us in celebrating Mr. Schable's CDC career and his new appointment at a reception to be held on Friday, August 12th, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., Roybal Campus, Building 2, Auditorium B.

Julie Louise Gerberding, M.D., M.P.H.

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JOBS

Please share notices with those you feel could fill the vacancy.

Position Title: Epidemiologist - Immunization and Chronic Disease

Organizations: The University of New Hampshire (UNH) & the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)

Date of Posting: Reposting July 29th

Start Date: Immediately

Closing Date: Position Open Until Filled

Provide analytical, statistical and epidemiological expertise to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), specifically the Immunization, Oral Health, Diabetes Education, Asthma and Tobacco Control Programs.

This is a new position created within the University of New Hampshire's (UNH) Department of Health Management and Policy, which offers an MPH Program. The individual would also be affiliated with the Institute for Health Policy and Practice, a UNH institution that facilitates technical support to and maintains strong working relationships with the DHHS. The position is seated within DHHS facilities located in Concord. Ninety percent of the position's time will be devoted to the above named Programs, with one half-day per week dedicated to UNH duties, namely teaching in the MPH Program and providing assistance on grants.

The epidemiologist position will support all Programs to do the following: analyze program data from external surveys; design and implement State-led surveys; conduct trend analysis of performance measures and contribute to annual performance management reports; provide input to Programs' reports, grants and cooperative agreement applications; represent the Programs at the CDC Chronic Disease and CSTE conferences; collaborate with program epidemiologists on publication of surveillance data, monographs and peer-reviewed articles; provide technical supervision and professional support to the Asthma and Tobacco Program epidemiologists; with the objective build overall capacity within DHHS to perform essential chronic disease epidemiological functions, review the adequacy of the state's current chronic disease capacity and make recommendations to fill identified gaps.

The epidemiologist will initially be tasked with conducting a comprehensive assessment of the Immunization program's data management needs, capabilities and current practices, make recommendations, and develop a data management plan that specifies program objectives, sets priorities and outlines a detailed work plan and timeline. The epidemiologist will then play a lead role in implementing the plan.

Candidates must hold a masters degree in epidemiology and five years of experience or a doctoral degree in epidemiology and five years of experience. Demonstrated expertise in health data collection, statistical analysis, data management and systems technology is preferred. Experience in relevant programmatic areas is a plus.

Interested persons should contact:

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Chair and Program Director
Department of Management and Policy
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