
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

Vol. 3, No.53. August 19, 2011

Hello, Everyone:

It's been a really quiet and productive week at central office. We've been busy as bees. I think most of the executive team was here this week – that made the flow of meetings go well. However, they will all be taking turns going on vacation, so we will not have a full house with all hands on deck for a while. I certainly want them to get a break, because they work really hard. But don't think they are getting off easy – they all have to answer their emails and telephones while away. Unfortunately, that is just the nature of what we do.

CSoC is moving forward. We have had lot of meetings about the new facility in Bunkie and we are looking at plans for Jetson. Speaking of Bunkie, that project is also moving along; the mayor is working to get the property transferred to us and we are beginning to work with Facility Planning on selection of an architect. We will soon be asking for suggestions for a name for the new facility. This contest will be for OJJ staff only and we want you to focus on a name other than a person. We will let you know more about this campaign shortly.

Well, football season starts up soon, but it's hard to get in the mood when it's 110 degrees in the shade. Doris and George (my parents) are practically on lockdown because of the heat – it's just not fun to go outside when it's this hot, and it's not healthy for us old folks. But the Saints had a pre-season game against San Francisco (in the air conditioned, renovated Superdome) and that started the year off right. Let's hope that's a good sign for Louisiana.

It's two weeks til college season opens up and Labor Day – wow! In a blink, it will be time to present another budget. OMG! I just do not want to think about that right now.

So, right now I want to focus on the upcoming ACA audits of Jetson and Bridge City. In fact, I am at Jetson right now and will be touring the facility shortly for a drive-by or a pass-through. I was lucky enough to coincidentally speak to a new pre-service class. They appear to be a very capable group, and they are anxious to get to work. I was very impressed with them and I thanked them for choosing to come to work for OJJ. I will be looking forward to their contributions to meeting our mission. Director Daron Brown was also very impressive as he addressed the group. He gave them a very supportive and encouraging message.

I am proud of all of our leaders in OJJ. Remember that everyone who has a job with OJJ is a leader. It is a privilege and a pleasure to work with you all.

Wishing each member of the OJJ team, wherever you serve, a wonderful - and cool - weekend, with my thanks for all you do every day and everywhere, to meet the mission.

Sincerely,

“Doc” *Dr. Mary Livers*

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