
what's up doc?



by Dr. Mary Livers

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Hello, Everybody:

Well, it's a beautiful day in Baton Rouge and I trust that it is the same all over the state. These are the days we love – low humidity, cool temperatures and beautiful blue sky. And – it's football season.

We'll see what LSU does against Texas A&M in their stadium. I'm hoping it will be good, but afraid it's going to be ugly, just like the Florida game. Not to mention that the game starts at 11:00 in the morning. I don't think the Tigers' biorhythms function that well in the morning, and it just doesn't seem right to be drinking coffee while watching the Tigers. Which is what I'll be doing - I will be on my third cup of coffee at that time. The SU Jags will be at home in Mumford Stadium, meeting the Golden Lions of Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Here's hoping our Jaguars make mincemeat out of the Lions.

As ever, it's been another busy week. I started off the week on Sunday, attending an ACA Executive Board meeting. We had a full two and a half days of going through the ACA constitution and bylaws. Very important work, and very hard work, but very dry. But, like anything else, hard work usually produces good outcomes, so you don't mind doing it. These changes will be sent to the Board of Governors and the Delegate Assembly in January for their consideration. Voting for the ACA election has closed, and I will probably know the outcome one way or another in the next couple of weeks. I will let you know the results when I know – and thanks for your support, for all of you who may have voted for me.

We had a couple of meetings on the Acadiana facility this week, and we are trying to get the project budget down a bit. Thank goodness we have our **mechanical engineer, Curtis Badon**, on staff. He is very detailed and provides expertise in his area that we all depend on. He is also busy preparing our capital outlay request, and that is always a big job every year. We are already starting to look at budgets for this year and next year, so I also spent some time this week in that area. We also just finished our quarterly CSoC Governance Board meeting today, and of course, I serve as chair this year.

I guess everybody has been watching the debates and I hope everyone is planning to vote on November 6 (or before). There are a number of constitutional amendments on the ballot, as well as candidates, and I would suggest that in order to make voting easier, you can get your local sample ballot from the Secretary of State's website at the link here: <http://www.sos.la.gov/tabid/1160/Default.aspx> Below is another link for a summary of the amendments – you might want to figure out how you want to vote on them before getting into the voting booth, because they are long and complicated. <http://www.sos.la.gov/Portals/0/elections/pdf/c%20amendments%20summaries%20november%206%202012.pdf> (you may have to copy the link and paste it into your browser.)

We had a nice celebration of Bosses' Week today at central office. The **Morale Committee** and **Food Service Director Zelma Jones** went all out with a luncheon of gorgeous and unique salads, a great way to end the week. My staff gave me a gift of greens fees/cart fees for my next golf outing. That is a really cool gift, and I appreciated it. I heard that other bosses had luncheons, and I saw flowers around the office. We have such a generous staff here.

Well, I'll close now, with my hope that each of you in every office and facility throughout OJJ will enjoy the gorgeous fall weather and have a wonderful weekend, with my thanks, as always, for all you do every day, to meet the mission.

Sincerely, "Doc" *Dr. Mary Livers*

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