

Subject: With All Respect for General Douglas MacArthur

March 16, 2015

Ken Kutscher, MD, FACC (kenaustinjr@yahoo.com)

Tonight I will remove my Governor's pin from my lapel for the last time. It will sit in my drawer next to my unused ACC business cards, along with a myriad of memories.

It seems just yesterday that I opened the email congratulating me on becoming incoming governor elect from New Jersey. I had been re-elected three times as Mayor of my hometown, but my wife Mary Ellen was never more proud and supportive of me than that day.

The BOG is a remarkable, although heterogeneous, group of physicians and ACC staff. In this era of competitiveness and adversarial relationships, what is remarkable is the mutual respect we feel for each other.

From the moment I arrived at my first meeting, when I was greeted as a colleague by Thad and Dipti along with words of encouragement from Bill Zoghbi to the goodbyes this weekend to my class and Dave and Michael and to the unbelievable staff of ACC - it has been the pinnacle of my career.

I have been blessed to work with Mike Valentine to bring a mini-Summit to New Jersey. I was honored that Ralph Brindus and Greg Dehmer came to speak at our symposium with our Department of Health regarding CPORTE. And I (as can any of my partners) can call leading cardiologists around the country to ask for advice for my patients - without "running up the meter."

I say "Thank You" for the ride. I know the BOG will be in good hands with Bob's leadership and the new governors such as Joel, my successor from NJ.

I am not John Wayne riding off into the sunset. I will continue to work on the state level and be active with the PAC and the legislative conference.

General Douglas MacArthur said, "Old soldiers never die...they just fade away." And certainly, when I come back to Chicago next April, I will feel "naked" without my red "Governor" badge.

But I will be back - and I won't be lonely as I greet my lifelong friends I have made over the past four years.

Best to all.

Austin "ken" Kutscher, MD'

March 16, 2015

Richard Kovacs, MD, FACC (rikovacs@iu.edu)

All I can say is "wow".

What a great tribute to what many have contributed to: the BOG.

Dick

March 16, 2015

John Erwin, MD, FACC (jperwin@sw.org)

Ken-

As Governor-Elect from Texas, your words regarding your experiences on the BOG have confirmed my initial impressions as I am getting to know more and more fine people from this August body.

Dick Chazal and I were speaking just last night about his time on the BOG and the special place that it has had in his heart. Simultaneously we used the phrase "kindred spirits" as we described our individual experiences within the College. In my short association with you folks from the BOG, it really does seem that this feeling is amplified even further within our ranks.

Thank you for your ongoing service. I think that I can speak on behalf of the other Governors-Elect that we are very reassured that we will have solid and trusted counsel from you and the many others who have come before us as we begin our journey. That brings both great peace and great excitement.

With very warm regards- John

March 16, 2015

KellyAnn Light-McGroary, MD, FACC (kellyann-light-mcgroary@uiowa.edu)

Dear Ken,

Your words are touching and poignant. Serving the BOG is an honor and privilege. Any work we do is more than compensated by the company we get to keep for these three years and then relationships that will be indelible in our lives. Thank you for your service to the BOG and your continuing service to the ACC. I hope to get the privilege to work with you again.

Best wishes,
KellyAnn Light

March 16, 2015

Thomas Lewandowski, MD, FACC (lewcrew@me.com)

Ken,

We ex-governors have had a great privilege few ever have. However, we may still inspire, encourage, and advance younger members, strengthening our College and refreshing the energies of the BOG.

General MacArthur would be proud, like all of us, to say to you all; Job Well Done!

Tom Lewandowski
Past President, WI Chapter

March 17, 2015

Arthur Eberly, MD, FACC (aleiii@aol.com)

Friends,

I too, want to echo all the praises given to this great body, its leaders and the ACC staff. I especially want to add my thanks to those mentors that "showed me the way".

I want to close by congratulating the new Governors and wish them much success! I can say with confidence that I leave knowing you have the leadership of Jerry Watson, MD FACC who will serve the BOG and the State of SC well.

Fondly, with sincere thanks and appreciation!

P.S. Looking forward to seeing you again at other ACC meetings

Arthur Eberly III MD, FACC
Immediate past governor of SC-ACC
Carolina Cardiology
Greenville Health System
Univ of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville

March 17, 2015

Hadley Wilson, MD, FACC (Hadley.wilson@carolinashhealthcare.org)

Art,

Kind words from a great Governor who has been a good role model for his North Carolina neighbor Governor. Among Art's many accomplishments have been bringing the Carolinas closer together to plan our yearly combined state ACC meetings which I am told is one of the largest and most successful in the US. Great work Art! You will be missed but I know we will still stay in touch. I look forward to working with Jerry.

Best,
Hadley Wilson

March 25, 2015

Robert Shor, MD, FACC (rshor@tcg.md)

Ken,

What an amazing letter. I share your feelings and appreciate your comments-It has been a heck of a ride. You are forever a BOG member and a leader in your community and in the College. I remember meeting you at our first BOG meeting when I came in sandals and a golf shirt as we began our new roles and began our "ride" together.

I also wanted to let you know how much I appreciate your desire to continue participating in the BOG/ACC and specifically your interest in our BOG Mentorship program. I know you will be a great mentor! I believe we have an amazing group of talented folks whose energy, experience and insight we should continue to harness-Never should we let folks ride off in to the sunset!

Amy has your contact info and we will let you know as soon as we have a mentee.

Warmly,
Bob