

# RETIREE OFFICE NEWS – 171<sup>st</sup> ARW



Retiree Office  
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**“It’s spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you’ve got it, you want – oh, you don’t quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!” ~ Mark Twain**

**Email Addresses:** If you would like to hear about upcoming retiree news and events, please provide your email address to Bonnie Kriberney at <mailto:bjkriberney@msn.com>. *There are approximately a dozen non-deliverable emails that are being returned. Don’t forget to keep me informed, if you change your email address/provider.*

**Retiree Lunch:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in January, April, July, and October

**When:** CY 2014 - January 20<sup>th</sup>, **April 21<sup>st</sup>**, July 21<sup>st</sup>, and October 20<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Golden Corral, 900 Park Manor Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15205  
(Near Mall at Robinson) (412) 788-1776

***“Don’t forget to ask for your military or senior discount!!!”***

**Time:** 1100 hours

It is wonderful to see so many retirees at the luncheons. Everyone enjoys the good food, but most of all seeing and talking with good friends.

*Hope to see you all at the next Retiree Luncheon on April 21th!*

**PaANG Golf League:** The PaANG Golf League is looking for men and women golfers of all skills. If you like to golf and are interested in joining or have any questions, please contact Jeff Stern at 412-491-6364 or by email at [jstern200@hotmail.com](mailto:jstern200@hotmail.com). The league golfs 9 holes on Wednesday afternoon starting at 3:45 pm at the Ponderosa Golf Course, located 4 miles north of the Burgettstown Exit off Route 22. In addition to a good time, we enjoy liquid refreshments, hot dogs and snacks each week.

**112<sup>th</sup> Reunion:** The 112<sup>th</sup> Reunion is held on the 112<sup>th</sup> day of the year and is now scheduled for 2014. Hope to see you there!

**When:** Tuesday, April 22, 2014  
**Time:** 1600 – 2300 hours  
**Where:** 911<sup>th</sup> AFRES Open Mess  
**Details:** Cash Buffet, Cash Bar, and a fun filled evening with good friends  
**Billeting:** (412) 474-8230 (for those of you who would like to stay over)  
**POC:** Brad L. Gilles

**Retirements:** Congratulations to our recent retirees who retired from October 2013 through March 2014. Please do not hesitate to contact the Retiree Office, if you need assistance.

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Retired
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**OCT 2013**

TSG CROSBY LANCE 26-OCT-13

**NOV 2013**

MSG PRASKO DAVID 29-NOV-13

**DEC 2013**

COL VANKOOTEN MARK 31-DEC-13

LTC BOYLE SEAN 31-DEC-13

**JAN 2014**

MSG PETERSEN MICHAEL 31-JAN-14

MSG YOUNG ROSS 28-JAN-14

MSG ZACHERL CYNTHIA 11-JAN-14

**FEB 2014**

MAJ CORNETTA DAVID 28-FEB-14

MSG WAGNER DONALD 03-FEB-14

TSG STEVIC LORI 28-FEB-14

TSG VASEY GLEN 01-FEB-14

SSG CAMPBELL MAURICE 25-FEB-14

**MAR 2014**

COL PAINTER STEVEN 31-MAR-14

MSG DUNN MARK 04-MAR-14

MSG STIEFEL DARRELL 20-MAR-14

MSG TROWBRIDGE SCOTT 15-MAR-14

TSG STEADMAN TERRY 17-MAR-14

SSG TAVERNIA RICHARD 01-MAR-14

**Sympathies:** We extend 'Our Deepest Sympathy' to the families and relatives of the following retirees who passed away. Please inform our office if you hear of the passing of one of our fellow 171<sup>st</sup>, 112<sup>th</sup>, or 258<sup>TH</sup> members. Click on each name to view the obituary.

MSgt Barbara J. Morris - 10 Dec 2013 - Age 64 – 171ARW Commander Secretary  
<http://www.leohenneyfuneralhome.com/obits/obituary.php?id=415298>

LTC John T. "Jack" Harris - 05 Jan 2014 - Age 96 – 112TFG Admin Officer  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/butlereagle/obituary.aspx?pid=168955904>

LTC Ozro N. Barclay - 05 Jan 2014 - Age 87 – 171ARW Director of Admin/Personnel  
<http://www.rollerfuneralhomes.com/services.asp?page=odetail&id=33270&locid=6>

Col John P. Lednak, Sr. - 13 Jan 2014 - Age 92 – 112TFG & Director of ANG Readiness Center  
[http://www.copelandfuneralhomes.com/obituaries\\_view.php](http://www.copelandfuneralhomes.com/obituaries_view.php)

MSgt Anthony M. DeSensi - 18 Jan 2014 - Age 64 – 112TFG Graphic Artist  
<http://brusco-napierfuneralhome.tributes.com/show/Anthony-M.-DeSensi-98329135>

MSgt Virgil E. Wyke - 16 Feb 2014 - Age 83 – 171ARW Aircraft Mechanic  
<http://www.darrochfuneralhome.com/Obituaries>

MSgt Andrew R. Regrut, Jr - 22 Feb 2014 - Age 74 – 171ARW  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=169808340>

TSgt John M. Phythian, Jr - 27 Feb 2014 - Age 72 – 171ARW Maintenance  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?n=john-mcclure-phythian&pid=169907954>

CMSgt Carl M. Baldigowski - 10 Mar 2014 - Age 74 – 171ARW Maintenance  
<http://www.nationfuneralhome.com/obits/obituary.php?id=457333>

MSgt Elmer "Bill" Mallasee Jr - 30 Mar 2014 - Age 60 – 171ARW Communications  
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=170447174>

## **Retired/Veterans authorized to serve on Honor Guard Team:**

Honor Guard Teams are now authorized to have retirees or veterans serve on them. When serving on an Honor Guard Team you are authorized to wear the official Honor Guard USAF Uniform. In times of fiscal restraint and limited volunteers due to need for training, this change was made an option for units. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact:

Capt Christopher Preffer, 171<sup>st</sup> Base Honor Guard OIC  
Work Phone: 412-776-7673 or Cell Phone: 412-818-7922

## **Veteran Designation now available on PA Driver's License & I.D. Cards:**

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is now offering a veteran's designation on driver's licenses and identification cards indicating that the bearer is a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. The designation is an American Flag with the word "Veteran" under it.

Qualified applicants for a Veteran Designation include those who have received a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty/DD214 or equivalent for service in the US Armed Forces, including a reserve component or the National Guard, who were discharged or released from such service under conditions other than dishonorable.

Once the Veterans Designation has been added to your license or ID, it will automatically appear each time your license or ID is renewed.

Veterans holding a non-commercial driver's license or identification card can immediately apply for the designation by visiting <http://www.dot3.state.pa.us/militaryCenter/> and clicking on the American Flag at the lower center page, title "VETERANS DESIGNATION". There is no fee for the Veteran's Designation; however, qualified applicants must pay any initial issuance, renewal or duplicate driver's license or ID fees.

## **Attention TRICARE For Life (TFL) beneficiaries :**

### **"TRICARE For Life Begins Notifications for Pharmacy Pilot Program"**

TRICARE For Life beneficiaries recently received letters guiding them to TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery or a military pharmacy for some prescriptions as part of a congressionally mandated pilot program.

TRICARE For Life is secondary coverage for TRICARE beneficiaries who have both Medicare Parts A and B in the United States and U.S. territories.

The pilot program started March 15, and requires beneficiaries who use TRICARE For Life to get certain medications through Home Delivery or at a military pharmacy. The program applies to refills of maintenance medications taken regularly for chronic conditions.

TRICARE will stop paying for these medications from a retail pharmacy. But they noted that the program does not apply to medications for acute conditions taken for a limited time, such as antibiotics or pain medications or any generic medications. At this time, they said, it also does not apply to generic drugs.

Congress mandated the pilot program in the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. It will last for five years, but beneficiaries may choose to opt out after filling an affected prescription under the pilot program through Home Delivery for one year.

Beneficiaries will be notified if they are taking a medication covered under the program. They will have two "courtesy fills" available through a retail pharmacy before they are responsible for the entire cost of their medication.

Beneficiaries may call the TRICARE pharmacy contractor, Express Scripts, at 1-877-363-1303 or visit the Express Scripts website to switch to Home Delivery or with questions about

their medications. To switch a prescription to a military pharmacy, beneficiaries may need to get a new prescription from their doctor.

Some people are exempt, including people with another prescription drug plan or people living overseas. People living in a nursing home may contact Express Scripts to request a waiver from the pilot program.

TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery offers beneficiaries a 90-day supply of their medication with no copays for generic drugs, \$13 for brand-name **formulary** drugs and \$43 for brand-name **non-formulary** drugs. Switching from a retail pharmacy to Home Delivery can save TRICARE beneficiaries up to \$152 every year for each prescription, officials said. Beneficiaries also can save by asking their doctor to write them a prescription for a generic version of their medication.

## **Moon Military Commissary & Post Exchange Update as of 31 Mar 2014:**

The New Commissary and Post Exchange facility is currently planning on a “Grand Opening” shooting for June 24, 2014. The firm date will be set as the June time-frame approaches and it becomes more apparent how the construction and supply of these facilities progress. Both entities indicate that they may be open for business a few days prior to any "Grand Opening" ceremony.

The new location of the Military Commissary and PX is located at the corner of University Boulevard and the Interstate 376 Business Route in Moon.

### **“NEW COMMISSARY”**

Ground Breaking – 17 Aug 2012

Contract, \$15 Million

43,000 square feet

### **“NEW POST EXCHANGE (PX)”**

Ground Breaking – 29 Aug 2013

Contract, \$6 Million

11,000 square feet

Retail Store

Military Clothing Sales

Barbershop

Class Six

Snack Bar



*“Commissary Main Entrance”*



*“PX Construction to right of Commissary”*



*“Produce & Bakery”*



*“Dairy & Frozen Foods”*



*“Commissary & PX Parking Lot”*

**CAN YOU HELP?**

**Civil Air Patrol needs serviceable military clothing and equipment:**

The Civil Air Patrol Squadron 603, (located on the 911<sup>th</sup> Air Force Reserve Base), would gladly accept all serviceable Air Force military clothing and equipment you have that is no longer needed for both males and females. The Cadets wear the older Air Force blues as well as the woodland camouflage BDU. They can use just about anything you may have to include items such as the BDU Uniforms (field jackets/shirts/pants/belts/hats/boots), Blues Uniform (jackets/shirts/pants/belts/hats/low quarters), canteens, ribbon racks, web belts, etc.

If you have any military clothing or equipment that you can donate, you can either:

1. Drop them off at the 171ARW Retiree Office on any Thursday
2. Bring them to the next Retiree Luncheon on Monday, April 21st
3. Call Brian Finnegan in Moon Township at (412) 915-0352 to arrange a pick-up

Thank you!

## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND LINKS:**

**171<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Wing:** <http://www.171arw.ang.af.mil/>

**911<sup>th</sup> AW Casualty Assistance Office:** (412) 474-8558, Fax: (412) 474-8987

**Address:** 911<sup>th</sup> FSS/FSMPS, 2475 Defense Ave, Bldg 316, Rm 112, Coraopolis, PA 15108

**Email contact:** Martin W. Patterson, <mailto:martin.patterson.1@us.af.mil>

Provides assistance to a retiree/spouse/dependent upon the passing of a retired military member or dependent in processing the required documentation and survivor benefits.

**Air Force Retiree Services:** <http://www.retirees.af.mil/>

**AMC Space-A Travel:** <http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp>

**Department of Veteran Affairs (VA):** <http://www.va.gov/> or 1-800-827-1000

**Express Scripts – TRICARE Pharmacy:** <http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/>  
Toll-Free within the U.S.: 1-877-363-1303

### ***Retired and Annuitant Pay:***

For news updates, general information, and forms: visit the Retired Pay Site, **Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) – Retired Military & Annuitants**  
<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>

- Questions about your retired or annuity pay account: 1-800-321-1080, Press 1 then 4, Press 0 (zero) for operator.
- Reporting a Death or Following-Up on a Claim: 1-800-321-1080, Press 1, then Press 1 again, Enter social security number.

For specific questions: AskDFAS <https://corpweb1.dfas.mil/askDFAS/askRA.jsp>

For discussion on retired pay issues: Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/DefenseFinanceandAccountingService?ref=ts>

**Military.com/Benefits:** <http://www.military.com/benefits>

**Military.com free membership sign-up:**

[http://www.military.com/Registration/Universal\\_Registration\\_Page?ESRC=TAF.bb](http://www.military.com/Registration/Universal_Registration_Page?ESRC=TAF.bb)

**myPay:** <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx> or 1-888-332-7411 Option 5

**TRICARE Health Insurance Coverage & Benefits Plans:** <http://www.tricare.mil>

Tricare North Region – Health Net Federal Services: 1-877-874-2273

TRICARE For Life: 1-866-773-0404

**Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Retiree Assistance:** 1-877-968-3778