



111 th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office Horsham AGS,Pa.



Newsletter Vol. 2 Issue #1 2018 Summer/Fall

A publication of the 111th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office (RAO) who's mission is in support of the base commander in providing information and assistance to military retirees their families and surviving spouses residing in the Pa., N.J. and N.Y. Information has been edited and does not reflect the official policy of any U.S. Government agency.

111th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office/RAO/ CVR
Building 203, Room 168
Horsham, Pa. 19044-5203 Telephone 215-323-7135

The 111th Attack Wing Retiree Activities Office is an official activity organized in accordance with AFI 36-3106. The office is here to assist military retirees, their spouses, military veterans, guard and reserve personnel from all U.S. military services. We can provide information and contacts for pay (DFAS), benefits and entitlements, personnel and casualty affairs and interface with these organizations to help personnel. We have nine volunteers in our office including our director, retired Chief Master Sgt. Jenny Pappas. We are seeking more military retirees that have the time to volunteer (three hours per shift).

The 111th Retirees Activities Office (RAO) is open Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3p.m. and also Saturday mornings of 111th Drill/UTA 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Telephone 215-323-7135. Please leave a message if no answer.

If you need to contact Casualty Assistance Representative at Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst, their phone number is 609-754-3814/3154 or cell 609-668-5385.

If you need to replace or get a new ID card, please call 111th Customer Service Office at 215-323-7419. Contact for the Airman and Family Readiness Programs Office is: 215-323-7132

The 111th Attack Wing's external websites are at <http://www.111attackwing.af.mil> or <http://www.facebook.com/111thATKW>

You will find all events and up to date info there including the Retirees Office, ID card, JAG information and current news and programs offered by the wing.

A Retiree Survivor's Guide to Benefits is available on the Library page of the Air Force Retiree Services website. <http://www.retirees.af.mil>

This guide provides general information about most federal benefits and entitlements available to eligible family members of deceased retired Airmen and it explains various application processes. People can direct specific questions to the government agency administering the benefits or discuss these matters with an Air Force casualty assistance representative.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Next 111th Retirees Appreciation Day planned date: **Saturday 6 April 2019**

Planned Times, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED:

Representatives from the VA, Casualty Assistance, Family Programs, Space A, ID Cards Section, Retiree Activities Office, Veterans Associations will be giving briefings during program.

EVENT LOCATIONS:

111th Attack Wing Headquarters, Building 203, Auditorium

Horsham Air Guard Station, Horsham Pa. 19044-5203 (formerly known as the Willow Grove Air Station)

SPECIAL DETAILS AND AGENDA: Briefings on Military and Veteran benefits and entitlements and their spouses. Also info about what is available for Military Retirees at the facility.

Contact Number for more information 111th Attack Wing RAO Office, 215-323-7135 or DSN 358-7135 CONTACT E-MAIL FOR INFORMATION

jenny.pappas.ctr@mail.mil

vincent.acquaviva.ctr@mail.mil

Lists of Retiree Publications on Websites on line:

Army(Echoes): <http://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement>

Navy(Shift Colors): <http://www.shiftcolors.navy.mil>

Air Force (Afterburner): <http://www.retirees.af.mil/afterburner>

Marine Corps(Semper Fidelis) <http://www.usmc-mccs.org>

Coast Guard (Evening Colors) <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgl/psc/ras>

Mil Retiree Space A lodging <http://www.dodlodging.net>
All Services (Gov./Mil.) information

DFAS/My Pay <http://www.dfas.mil> Tricare <http://www.tricare.mil>

Tricare Dental <http://trdp.org>

Military Records <http://www.archives.gov/veterans>

Casualty Assistance <http://militaryonesource.mil/casualty>

General News and Info <http://www.militaryonesource.mil>

AMC Travel Space A <http://www.amc.af.mil/amctravel>

AMC Space A Travel Page <http://www.spacea.net>

Space A travel Documents <http://www.amc.af.mil/shared/media/document/afd-140423-118.pdf>

Military Burial Honors Eligibility:

DOD Policy is mandated by law to provide a minimum of a two-person uniformed detail to present the core elements of the funeral honors ceremony, and one service member must represent the veteran's branch of service.

Core Elements include playing of TAPS, Folding the American Flag, and presenting the American Flag to the family.

DOD is required to provide a (two-service member) detail, policy encourages each service to provide elements as firing team and pallbearers. They can be provided by Veteran Service Organizations.

Source: <http://www.military.com/benefits/2016/07/11/official-urges-families-to-learn-about-burial-eligibility.html>

DFAS Arrears of Pay Information: in cases of Military Retiree or spouse death.

<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/provide/aop/aop-order.html>

<http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary/survivors/retiree-death.html>

Source: DFAS <http://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary.html>

Military Records on-line Available DD-214's and records

<http://www.vetrecs.archives.gov>

<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

2019 TRDP transition to FEDVIP

Beginning on January 1, 2019, the TRDP will be replaced by the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) which offers dental benefits comparable to the TRDP and a choice of ten dental carriers including Delta Dental. Enrollment in the FEDVIP will begin November 12, 2018 and run through December 10, 2018. You must select a FEDVIP dental plan to continue your dental care benefits.

Under the FEDVIP program, there are no waiting periods (except for orthodontics in most plans), and you will receive your full FEDVIP benefits beginning on January 1, 2019 with whichever FEDVIP plan you select during the November/December 2018 open season.

Source :Tricare Spring 2018

Notify DFAS When Life-Changing Events Happen:

As you move through your retirement years, be sure to keep DFAS informed whenever changes happen that could affect your retiree pay. Keep your contact information and check payment information in My Pay current, and if you experience a life-changing event, contact DFAS direct at Retired and Annuitant Pay to let them know.

The following are life-changing events and how they could impact your account. Marriage, Survivor Benefits Plan (SBP), Arrears of Pay (AOP) beneficiary, federal income tax. Divorce: SBP, AP Federal Income Tax, Death of Spouse: SPB, AOP, federal income tax. Birth of Child: SPB, AOP, Moving to a new place of residence 1099-R and retiree account statement mailing. Opening, changing or closing a bank account: net pay and allotment direct deposit. Changing your e-mail address stored in My PAY: My Pay notifications for 1099-R and retiree account statement availability, retiree newsletters, and various DFAS notifications.

Paying off and/or closing an insurance policy: net pay and allotment direct deposit. If you keep your information current in My Pay and submit the appropriate paperwork when a life-changing event occurs, you will help DFAS improve the service they provide to you and your loved ones. By reporting these events when they happen, your beneficiaries will have fewer issues and concerns to resolve later. Remember to report changes to the new mailing address (Source DFAS Spring 2018):

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Retired Pay

8899 E 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200

COLD WAR RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

If you served honorably on active duty, the Guard, Reserve, or as a DoD federal employee from Sep. 2, 1945 to Dec. 26, 1991, you are authorized the Cold War Recognition Certificate. Here's how to obtain your copy free:

1. You will need proof of your service, such as a DD Form 214 (Record of Military Service).
2. Prepare, date, and sign a letter, requesting the award of the Cold War Recognition Certificate.
3. Send the letter and a copy of your service proof to:
US. Army Human Resources Command
Cold War Recognition
4035 Ridge Top Rd.
Suite 400
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
FAX: 703-275-6749
4. You may also FAX the letter and proof to 1-800-723-9262.

Tips!

1. Your letter must contain the phrase "I certify that my service was honorable and faithful" whether as a member of the U.S. Armed Forces or as a federal civilian employee during the Cold War era, or it will be rejected.
2. Do not send the original of your proof of service. Send a copy. Original documents will not be returned.
3. Individuals normally will receive a response within 30 days, however, the turnaround time will depend upon the amount of requests received.

Source: USAF Retirees Services Website.