



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



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A publication of the 111th Attack Wing Retirees Activities Office (RAO) whose 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.

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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 thirteen 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. – 3 p.m. and also Saturday mornings of 111th ATKW Drill/RDO 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Telephone 215-323-7135. Please leave a message if there is 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.ang.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

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 “AA 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>

There were 2 major subjects that were covered plus additional information provided at the 2019 Air Force Retiree Council held in May 2019.

1st Major Subject – DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY (DHA)

- Established several years ago, in attempt to reduce DOD medical expenses.
- Effective in 2019, the Air Force Medical System will cut 4,684 positions.
 - It may take a couple of years to delete the positions.
 - Where and how many positions at each base has not been determined.
- Many bases have already stopped enrolling new retirees using TRICARE Prime/Select.
- RAO staff should get with base medical officials to find out how this new change will effect retirees in their local area.

2nd Major Subject – EXTENSION OF CERTAIN MWR PRIVILEGES TO VETERANS & THEIR CAREGIVERS.

- The law was passed in 2018.
- Veterans in 4 different categories will have access to the Base Commissary and MWR activities:
 - Medal Honor recipients.
 - Those awarded the Purple Heart.
 - Former Prisoners of War.
 - Veterans with Service-Connected Disabilities.
- Veterans in these categories would use their VA Card to enter the base.
- DOD has to brief the Senate and the House by 1 October 2019 on how they are going to implement this law which goes into effect 1 January 2020.

Source: Air Force Retirees Services Retiree Council Minutes May 2019

DHA (Defense Health Agency)

-DOD has directed DHA to realign 17,000 medical positions in the Air Force, Army and Navy in FY20.

-Delivers medical care to 9.4M active duty/retirees and families.

-Manages the operation of 54 hospitals and 377 clinics worldwide.

-10.2% of the FY16 DOD budget.

-TRICARE regions reduced from 3 to 2 in January 2018 (no real change in medical support). Air Force portion of the cuts is 4,684. ---The positions have not been determined

-TRICARE Select replaced Standard/Extra on 1 January 2018.

-TRICARE pharmacy co-payments changed - 1 February 2018.

--New Copay Increases (0-\$7) for generics and (0-\$24) for brand name (expect future copays will continue to go up).

-Medicare B monthly payments are based on yearly gross income (\$134/\$187.50/\$267.90/\$328).

-56.1K prescriptions per day. TRICARE Information Pamphlets can be ordered quarterly using

WWW.TRICARE.MIL/Publications

Source: Air Force Retirees Services Retiree Council Minutes May 2019

Tri-Care Legislated Co-Pay changes for 2020-2027

Years	/	Retail Generic	/	Retail	/	By Mail Generic	/	Mail Brand Name	/	by Mail
		/ 30 days		/Brand 30days /		30 Days		Formulary/90 Days		/ Non-Formular
2020-2021	/	\$13	/	\$33	/	\$10	/	\$29	/	\$60
2022-2023	/	\$14	/	\$38	/	\$12	/	\$34	/	\$68
2024-2025	/	\$16	/	\$43	/	\$13	/	\$38	/	\$76
2026-2027	/	\$16	/	\$48	/	\$14	/	\$44	/	\$86

Military Billet Realignment: More than 17,000 uniformed personnel billets will be moved to the line effective Oct. 1 2019, but the individuals in those billets would slowly attrite over the next three years. These changes could significantly affect medical access to physicians, dentists and nurses. Technicians in pharmacy, laboratory, X-ray, and immunizations are among those being shifted away from medical facilities .Source: Retired CMSgt John”Doc”McCauslin AF Retiree Council Member at Large (extracted from the USAF Retired Personnel Vol61 No1 “Afterburner Newsletter” Spring/Summer 2019

Specific guidance regarding travel eligibility can be located on the Air Mobility Command (AMC) webpage: <https://www.amc.af.mil/Home/AMC-Travel-Site/>



111th Attack Retirees Activities Office Volunteer of the Year for 2019 Award presented to retired Master Sgt. Hal "Skip" Krebs (center) from HQ Air Force AFPC Retiree Services Texas. His volunteer service in RAO Office is from June 2006 to present.

The award was presented to Krebs during the 5th Annual Military Retirees Appreciation Day Event on 13 July, 2019. Next to Krebs is 111th Vice Wing Commander, Lt. Col. Daryl Newhart on left and 111th RAO Director, retired CMSgt Jenny Pappas who presented MSgt Krebs the award at the event.

