

2011 Retired Army Personnel Bulletin

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Thirty Third Annual Retiree Appreciation Days

“Selfless Service Before, During and After”

Fort Sill’s Thirty Third Annual Retiree Appreciation Days are scheduled for September 15-17, 2011. The Retirement Services Office, the Fort Sill Retiree Council, and Reynolds Army Community Hospital (RACH), are working hand in hand to provide you an exceptional event. On September 15th, you will have an opportunity to visit the many service booths that will be set up in the hospital lobby. Reynolds’ pharmacy department encourages you to bring a list of all your medications during this event. A pharmacist will review your list with you for any potential problems. You may include all your prescriptions, and any over-the-counter medication, on a sheet of paper and attach it to your registration form. In addition, RACH will be offering two vaccinations, ZOSTAVAX anti-shingle and PNEUOVAX (prevention of pneumonia).

Be sure to sign up for one of two tours being offered for Friday, September 16th. The Wichita Mountain tour will include a trip to the historic Mattie Beal Home, the Holy City and the Visitors Center. We are offering a new tour this year of both East and West ranges. Lunch will be at Garcia Hall Dining Facility for those participating with the tours. The cost of lunch is \$4.25. Friday morning, the tours will depart from the hospital at the East entrance. Check the Schedule of Events for loading and departure times. For those of you going on the Mattie Beal tour, there will be a charge of \$4.00 per person to tour this historical home.

Our annual banquet will be at the Patriot Club September 16th with MG(R) Larita Aragon, Oklahoma Secretary of Veterans Affairs as our keynote speaker. The banquet includes entertainment and door prizes, and will be an enjoyable evening.



Topics Inside This Issue

<i>Message from the Commanding General and Garrison Commander</i>	2
<i>Message from the Hospital Commander / RSO</i>	3
<i>Message from the Retiree Council / Golf Tournament</i>	4/5
<i>Legal / Space A Travel</i>	6
<i>Schedule of Events</i>	7
<i>Lodging / Banquet</i>	8
<i>Thrift Shop</i>	9
<i>ID Cards/Tags/Honor Flights</i>	10/11
<i>Grave Medallion/ Glasses</i>	12
<i>Vet Center/Troops to Teachers</i>	13
<i>Did You Know?/ AKO</i>	14
<i>TRICARE Extended Coverage</i>	15
<i>ACAP</i>	16
<i>Websites and Phone Numbers</i>	17
<i>Casualty</i>	18
<i>Hospital Registration Form/ Banquet Registration/ ID Tag</i>	19

Key Gate Closure!!



Fort Sill is undergoing a lot of changes and part of that is at the gates. Currently “Bentley” gate on Sheridan Road is under construction. The projected completion date is 31 July 2011, so it will be open during the RAD. However, Key Gate, just off of Interstate 44 will be closed from 12 August – 24 November 2011. You will need to come thru either “Scott” gate located on Fort Sill Blvd or “Bentley” gate on Sheridan Road.

**A Message from the Commanding General and
the Command Sergeant Major**

Dear Retiree and Family:

It is our pleasure to invite you to Fort Sill's 33rd Annual Retiree Appreciation Days September 15th thru September 17th, 2011. You have left a legacy for our current Soldiers to follow, a legacy of honor, commitment, sacrifice, and a willingness to fight to preserve the freedom that we in America cherish so much. We want to extend our thanks to all retired veterans, spouses and Family members. We want to show our gratitude for all of your sacrifices by hosting this event and inviting you to come and join us.

If you haven't been to Fort Sill in a while, now is the time to come and see all of changes that have taken place. Since the arrival of the Air Defense Artillery, formerly located at Fort Bliss, there has been a lot of new construction.

On Thursday, while taking advantage of the many service booths and medical screenings going on at the hospital, be sure to sign up for one of the scheduled tours and let us show you around.

I sincerely urge you to attend this year's Retiree Appreciation Days. The agenda is in this newsletter along with your registration forms. You are a crucial part of not only our Army Family, but also our history. We welcome members of all services.

Sincerely,

MG David D. Halverson, Commander, Fort Sill
CSM Dwight L. Morrissey, Command Sergeant Major, Fort Sill

**A Message from the Garrison Commander and
the Command Sergeant Major**

Dear Retiree and Family:

It is an honor and privilege to welcome you to Fort Sill's 33rd Annual Retiree Appreciation Days held September 15th thru September 17th, 2011. Your lifetime of devoted service to our Nation truly reflects your patriotism for our country. We thank you for forging the path for our current Military serving to preserve our freedom that you so fervently defended. We are proud of your service and urge you to continue to tell your story and encourage young people to consider military service as a career. "Retired – Still Serving!"

We encourage you to attend the Retiree Appreciation Days held in your honor. We urge you to continue to visit Fort Sill when possible, use our facilities, and attend troop homecomings, ceremonies and other events throughout the year.

Again, thank you for your continued service and support. We look forward to seeing you at Fort Sill's Retiree Appreciation Days events.

Sincerely,

COL Paul S. Hossenlopp, Garrison Commander, Fort Sill
CSM Terry A. Hall, Garrison Command Sergeant Major, Fort Sill

A Message from the Hospital Commander

Dear Retiree and Family Members:

It is my pleasure to cordially invite you to Reynolds Army Community Hospital on the 15th of September 2011 for the 33rd Annual Retiree Open House. Once again, we proudly open the doors of the hospital in support of this year's event.

Every year we are excited to support the Retiree Open House and continue with our focus on health education and awareness for the Retirees and Family members. As always, there will be many booths set up around the hospital for organizations to provide information on health-related topics. We hope this information is beneficial and meets your needs and expectations. Representatives from Humana Military Healthcare Services, our contracted partner, will be available to answer all your questions on TRICARE and TRICARE for Life Programs. Both programs provide excellent healthcare benefits to Retirees and their Family members.

The Reynolds staff will provide several different medical services throughout the day. These include a chance for you to identify your cardiovascular goals through the use of the Coronary Heart Disease Risk Factor Calculator, and the offer to participate in a glaucoma screening and dental screenings. The shingles and Pneumovax vaccines will be offered.

Once again the dining facility will offer a special lunch in your honor. During the morning and afternoon hours, our Family Readiness Group will have plenty of snacks (including sugar-free items) and beverages in the lobby area for your convenience.

The Reynolds' staff is delighted to host this year's event. Our Retiree population is extremely special to the hospital. I appreciate the outstanding service given by those who have served our country so well.

Sincerely,

COL Jennifer L. Bedick, Commander, Reynolds Army Community Hospital

A Message from the RSO

Welcome to the Fort Sill Annual Retiree Appreciation Days event. This is our opportunity to say "Thank You" for the sacrifices you have made for this country. As Retirees, you epitomize what is best in America by your dedication and willingness to make sacrifices for others and to preserve our way of life. You truly are "Retired and Still Serving".

The RSO office is here to provide information, advice and professional service. We are located in the Welcome Center, Bldg 4700, Room 123N. Our hours are 0700 – 1700 Monday thru Friday.

Thursday, September 15th, will be the only day to visit the many booths and take advantage of all of the medical screenings. Friday morning, September 16th, the tours will depart from the hospital at the East entrance. Check your Schedule of Events for loading and departure times.

Linda Tunnell, RSO

A Message from the Fort Sill Retiree Council Chairmen

The Fort Sill Retiree Council's area of responsibility is Oklahoma and Arkansas. Our Council members are officer and enlisted Retirees working together to identify and resolve issues that are of concern to all Retirees. The Council makes recommendations on policies affecting Retirees and forwards these issues to the Chief of Staff, Army, Retiree Council. This year our motto is "Selfless Service Before, During and After". This statement is true of so many veterans who continue to serve in their communities to help others. The Retiree Council meets quarterly. If you are interested in becoming a member please contact the Retirement Services Office at (580) 442-2645.

CW5 (R) Joseph Diaz, Co-Chairman
CSM (R) George Ponder, Co-Chairman

Fort Sill Retiree Council's 6th Annual Golf Tournament and Commander's Challenge

The 6th Annual Retiree Golf Tournament was a great success thanks to the support received from local business and individuals who sponsored holes, donated prizes, or came to play. Without your participation and generous support this event would not be possible. The Retiree Council sincerely thanks you. The proceeds from this event are used for Retirees in two ways, one being the Flag Box fund. When Congress directed the Military Services to present an American Flag to each individual retiring after October 1, 1998, no funds were appropriated to purchase the flags, and there was no consideration of a display case.

The Fort Sill Retiree Council and the Fort Sill Commander found a way to present the flags to each new Retiree at the Retirement Ceremony in a handsome display case. The cases were made at the Regional Control Facility until they moved to Fort Leavenworth. Now they are made at GEO Group, the Lawton Correctional Facility. All materials are paid for by the Retiree Council, from contributions received from the annual tournament and our "Retired Still Serving" community. Each flag box has a beautifully engraved name plate on it that is also courtesy of the Retiree Council.

Secondly, the Retiree Council members contribute not only a great deal of time towards the success of the Annual Retiree Appreciation Days, they contribute money. The Council pays for busses, door prizes, gifts and offset the cost of the banquet in order to keep the prices down.

The following individuals and businesses contributed to make the Golf Tournament a successful event.

Harper Construction
IHG Army Hotels
Fort Sill Apache Casino
Pioneer Services
The Lawton Constitution
Becker Funeral Home
The Denham Group
AAFES
Guy's Body Shop
Key Construction
Smith and Sons Insurance
Comanche Home Center
OMNI Financial
Northrup Grumman
Arvest Bank
PSO
Brox Industries
Jones Seed Company
Billingsley Hyundai of Lawton
Comanche National Museum &
Cultural Center
SAM's Club
MWR
Massad's Gift Shop
Home Depot
B & M Collision
OK Barber Shop



The Winning Team
Robert Seals, Tamara Seals, Kolby Seals,
COL Raymond Lacey

Thanks for making a difference!

Blue Canyon Wind Power
The Oaks Development Company
Storage R Us
James Wilson, Attorney at Law
Physical Therapy Solutions
Lawton Chrysler Jeep Dodge
Picerno Management
World Technical Services
Fort Sill National Bank
Stellar Solutions
Disabled American Veterans
Lend Lease
Dr. Jack McKinnis, DDS
Dale Miller Enterprises
American Military University
1st National Bank and Trust Co
Re/MAX
Hibdon Tire Plus
Kerbo's Frame Shop
Lawton Community Theatre
428th FA Bde
Sergeant's Major Association
Fort Sill Federal Credit Union
Hop & Sack
ISG(R) Edward Hedrick
Bowman Storage
Debbie Do Embroidery
SW Society of Military Widows



DHR Team



Commanding General's Team



Ready, Set, Go!



Off to the next hole!



The Members of the Fort Sill Retiree Council Thank You for all of your support.



- CW5 (R) Joseph Diaz, Co-Chairman
- CSM (R) George Ponder, Co-Chairman
- COL (R) Felix Peterson
- LTC (R) Jerry Orr
- LTC (R) Allen Shell
- MAJ (R) Mike Sisley
- CW4 (R) Richard Bornoff
- CW4 (R) Jim Gonzales
- CW4 (R) Thomas Stiger
- CSM (R) William Barwick
- CSM (R) Jeanette Clement
- CSM (R) Dave Kantor
- SGM (R) Larry Evans
- SGM (R) H. E. McClure
- SGM (R) Edward Mounts

- 1SG (R) Thomas Easterly
- 1SG (R) Ed Hedrick
- 1SG (R) David Lukasik Jr.
- MSG (R) Joseph Herbert
- MSG (R) Kimberly Wendel
- SFC (R) Joseph Bayones
- SFC (R) Antony Biagianti
- SFC (R) Christopher Brown
- SFC (R) Julie Hamilton
- SFC (R) Carter Oakes
- SFC (R) Mark Winburn
- SSG (R) Tim Ortner
- Sally Brantley, Widow
- Joan Demastus, Widow



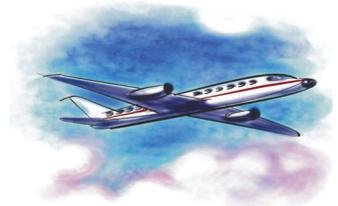
Now is the time to arrange your future legal needs

Retirees attending the Retiree Appreciation Days this year, who live outside the Lawton/Fort Sill area and want to plan for future legal needs, should schedule an appointment for legal services. Attorneys and paralegals at the Legal Assistance Office, Welcome Center, 4700 Mow-Way Road, 4th floor, will prepare estate planning documents, including wills, advance directives, medical and durable Powers of Attorney for retirees who schedule advance appointments. Legal advice on other matters will also be available by appointment.

Take advantage of this opportunity to put your legal affairs in order. Beginning August 22, 2011, individuals wanting a will, medical or durable Power of Attorney or an advance directive prepared should call the Legal Assistance Office at (580) 442-5058/5059 to schedule individual appointments. A will worksheet for completion before the appointments and other helpful information will be mailed out as appointments are made. Each client will be assisted by an individual attorney in the preparation of his or her estate planning documents. No joint appointments are available, and no mutual and conjoint wills will be pre-

Have you thought about taking a trip, but airline prices have you grounded?

You've earned the right to travel "Space A", so if you would like to know more about the availability of flights, schedules, locations and registration it is now easier than ever. The Air Mobility Command (AMC) recently unveiled its first official, command-level AMC Travel Website. Members of the military community planning to travel the AMC travel system can now go to the website www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp for the latest AMC travel information. The site, which officially went live July 2010, offers prospective space available travelers a wealth of information, including an updated AMC passenger terminal contact list. The site also includes more than a dozen travel documents, example letters and brochures. People searching for up-to-the-minute AMC travel information are encouraged to contact their nearest AMC passenger terminal. A current listing is available on the AMC Travel site.



Getting Your Free Credit Report

The three nationwide consumer reporting companies are using one website, one toll-free telephone number and one mailing address for consumers to order a free annual report. To order, click on annualcreditreport.com, call 1-877-322-8228, or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form and mail it to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

The law allows you to order one free copy from each of the nationwide consumer reporting companies every 12 months. Consumer reporting companies sell the information in your report to creditors, insurers, employers, and other business with a legitimate need for it. They use the information to evaluate your applications for credit, insurance, employment, or a lease.

FORT SILL ANNUAL RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

0800-1600 Glaucoma screenings, dental screenings, PNEUOVAX and anti Shingle Vaccinations, service related information booths. Sign up for tours and Retiree Appreciation Banquet.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2011

**Tours
Load & Depart**

0830-0900	Fort Sill Range tour w/lunch at Garcia Hall Dining Facility (DFAC)
1000-1030	Mattie Beal/Wichita Mountains tour w/lunch at Garcia Hall (DFAC)
1800	Banquet – Registration/get acquainted at Patriot Club
1830	Posting of Colors, Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
1845	Buffet
1930	Introduction of Commanding General
1935	Program (TBA)
2000	Introduction of guest speaker, MG (R) Larita Aragon, Oklahoma Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
2030	Awarding of door prizes and gifts

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

1100 All Retirees and Family members are invited as guests of the Lawton/Fort Sill Co-Op to a Buffalo Burger Cookout at the CO-OP Park.

***You can pre-register for the Banquet at the “Buffet Ticket” table at the Hospital on 15 September 2011.**

*** Lunch at Garcia Hall Dining Facility will cost \$4.25**



Need a place to stay during the Retiree Appreciation Days?

The InterContinental Hotel Group (IHG) has joined forces with the Army to bring IHG Army Hotels to US Army's on-post communities. IHG at Fort Sill has blocked off 70 rooms this year for Retirees attending the RAD. The rate is \$65 plus tax (\$3.09) and includes full breakfast and on post shuttle service. For guests arriving on 14 September 2011, there will be a "Wednesday Night Guest Social" from 1730 - 1900 and you are welcome to attend. Reservations must be made NLT 4 September 2011 by calling (580) 442-5000

IHG will provide transportation to the Retirement Ceremony on Friday morning.

Also available for your stay are full RV Hook-ups at the following locations:



- Lake Elmer Thomas Recreation Area (LETRA) - \$16.00 per night. Call (580) 442-5854 for reservations.
- White Wolf Crossing - \$12.00 per night. Call (580) 355-8270 or 1-800-375-8270 for reservations.
- There are now 10 new cabins for rent at LETRA. Call (580) 442-5854 for prices.

Retiree Appreciation Dinner Buffet September 16, 2011



You are invited to join the Commanding General of Fort Sill for a dinner buffet at 1800 on September 16, 2011 at the Fort Sill Patriot Club. The menu will be Pork Tenderloin with Cranberry Glaze, Honey Glazed Pineapple Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables, Tomato and Cucumber Salad, Rolls, Cobbler, Coffee, Tea or Water.

The highlight of the evening will be our guest speaker, MG(R) LaRita Aragon, Oklahoma Secretary of Veterans Affairs. There will be door prizes following the closing ceremonies. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Fill out the form on page 19 and mail to: Fort Sill Retiree Council, PO Box 33688, Fort Sill, OK 73503

Hospital Registration

Reynolds will be offering Retirees a chance to identify their cardiovascular goals through the use of the Coronary Heart Disease Risk Factor Calculator. This risk calculator assesses each participant's 10-year absolute risk for developing heart disease based on Framingham identified risk factors. The results are calculated using an individual's blood pressure and a blood sample.

Reynolds will provide cholesterol and blood sugar testing at the Specimen Collection Clinic. Participating Retirees should not eat or drink anything 12 hours prior to testing. You will find the registration form on page 19. Mail it to: Fort Sill Retiree Council, PO Box 33688, Fort Sill, OK 73503

Fort Sill Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is a non-profit private organization operating on Fort Sill. All profits made by the Shop are given in the form of a donation back to the military community.

The Thrift Shop serves as a facility for the military and Retirees to consign unwanted used personal property. Consignors with a military ID may consign 5 items of seasonal clothing and 10 miscellaneous items each day, Tuesday – Friday, 0900 - 1100.

The Thrift Shop is open for sales Tuesday - Friday 0900 to 1300 and Saturday 0900 to 1400. No military ID is needed to purchase items. The store is filled with great buys from clothing, toys, jewelry, baby items, dishes, appliances, and furniture.

We would like to invite every one to visit our store, located in bldg 1713 (behind the garden shop). The store is operated by four paid staff and 45 volunteers. Donated items will be accepted and always appreciated at any time.

A special “Thank You” for all of the support you have provided to the Retiree Council to help make the Retiree Appreciation Days a great event.

Patricia Nance
Manager



Fort Sill’s Interactive Customer Service Evaluation (ICE)

ICE

We invite you to tell us what you think about the service you receive at Fort Sill. “ICE” is a web based customer feedback system, which allows you to comment on 222 services provided on Fort Sill. Your voice is important to us and it counts. You can reach us at the following Fort Sill ICE page: https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=451

Retiree ID Card Renewal



No more waiting in line
No more sitting for hours in the waiting room
No more endless attempts at calling
No more voice recordings
Make an appointment to renew your ID card or update DEERS

Log on at: <http://appointments.cac.navy.mil/>

ID Card Section

Mission: The Fort Sill ID Card section is responsible for processing identification cards for all Soldiers, dependents, Retirees, and applicable Civilian employees at Fort Sill and its supported regions.

Fort Sill ID Card Section: (580) 442-5010, DSN 639-5010

Mailing address: Military Personnel Division, Attn: IMWE-SIL-P, 4700 NW Mow-Way Road, Fort Sill, OK 73503. Hours of Service: Monday – Friday, 0800 – 1530, closed for lunch from: 1130 - 1230 and closed on all Federal holidays.

What to bring: To receive an ID card, all personnel must bring two forms of approved unexpired ID, one of which must bear a photo (e.g., passport, driver's license).

Appointments: Appointments are available Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday; 0830 - 1130, and 1230 - 1530. Thursday is for walk-ins from 0800 - 1130, and 1230 - 1530. Emergencies are on a case-by-case basis.



Lost Your Identification Tags?

We will make identification tags (dog tags) for any Retiree that wants a set. In order to receive them, you will need to fill out the form located on the bottom of the hospital registration, on page 19 and mail it to us so we can make a set in advance and have it ready for you at Retiree Appreciation Days.

The Secretary of the Army has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business as required by law. Use of funds for printing this publication has been approved by Secretary of the Army, in accordance with AR 25-30, 27 March 2006. Articles appearing in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Department of the Army or the Commander, US Army Fires Center of Excellence and Fort Sill. This bulletin is published and mailed to retired Army personnel receiving retired pay or to their survivors. Inquiries/comments should be directed to the RSO, ATTN: IMWE-SIL-HRM-P, Fort Sill, OK 73503; Telephone (580) 442-2645. Editor: RSO: Ms. Linda Tunnell; Director Human Resources: Mr. James Miller; Commander, USAFCEFS: MG David D. Halverson; Secretary of the U.S. Army: The Honorable Mr. John McHugh.

Removal of Social Security Numbers (SSN) from all ID/CAC Cards

Did you know? DoD is removing Social Security Numbers from ID Cards to protect your privacy and personal identity information. Your Social Security Number is being replaced with a DoD ID number on all ID Cards which will occur in three phases. Phase I removed family members SSNs beginning in 2008 and is fully implemented. Phase II replaces SSNs with the DoD ID number assigned to CAC recipients and adds a DoD benefits number on persons eligible for benefits. Phase III will remove SSNs Embedded Barcodes during calendar year 2012.

ID Changes beginning 1 Jun 2011:

- As of 1 Jun 2011, SSN are no longer printed on any new ID Cards.
- Your new ID Card will have a DoD ID Number in place of your SSN.
- Your DoD ID number will be used as the Geneva Conventions serial number.
- If you are eligible for DoD benefits, there will also a a DoD Benefit Number printed on your new ID card. The benefits number will be an eleven-digit number generated by RAPIDS and will replace the characteristics information (height, weight, hair color, and eye color) and will located on the back of the CAC/Teslin ID Card.
- The change is implemented when your current ID card expires, it will not be replaced if your current card has not expired unless lost, damaged, or stolen. The only exception is those retirees who have indefinite cards as they can request the ID at any time. For online appointments go to the Fort Sill internet website <http://sill-www.army.mil/>, click Services Tab, then ID Cards/DEERS link for FAQ and ID appointment link, or go direct to <http://appointments.cac.navy.mil/> and follow instructions. Call 580-442-5010 for telephonic appointments.



Honor Flights

The Honor Flight Network recognizes American Veterans for their sacrifices and achievements by flying them to Washington, D.C. to see THEIR memorial at no cost. Top priority (for which they are accepting applications) is given to World War II and terminally ill Veterans from all wars. In the future, Honor Flight Network will be expanded to include Korean War Veterans and Vietnam War Veterans. In order for Honor Flight Network to achieve this goal, guardians fly with the Veterans on every flight providing assistance and helping Veterans have a safe, memorable, and rewarding experience.

Interested Oklahoma Veterans may contact the Oklahoma Honor Flights for more information online at <http://oklahomahonorflights.org/> or by calling (405) 259-9000. Interested Arkansas Veterans may contact the Arkansas Honor Flights by calling (479) 290-5039. Veterans from other states may locate their state office at <http://www.honorflight.org/programs/allregionalhubs.cfm> or by calling (937) 521-2400.





Veterans' Grave Medallion Available for Order

The Department of Veterans Affairs is now offering bronze medallions to attach to existing, privately purchased headstones or markers, signifying a deceased's status as a Veteran. The new item can be furnished instead of a traditional government headstone or marker for Veterans whose death occurred on or after November 1, 1990, and whose grave in a private cemetery is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

Under federal law, eligible Veterans buried in a private cemetery are entitled to either a government furnished grave marker or the new medallion, but not both. Veterans buried in a national or state Veteran's cemetery will receive a government headstone or marker of the standard design authorized at the cemetery. Medallions are available in three sizes: 5 inches, 3 inches and 1 ½ inches in width. Each medallion features the image of a folded burial flag adorned with laurels. It is inscribed with the word "Veteran" at the top and the branch of service at the bottom. Next of kin will receive the medallion, along with a kit that will allow the family or the staff of a private cemetery to affix the medallion to a headstone, grave marker, mausoleum, or columbarium niche cover.

The VA is developing an application form for ordering the medallion. Until it is available, applicants may use the form for ordering government headstones and markers (VA Form 40-1330). Additional information on the medallion, headstones, and markers is available at www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm_hm.asp, or by calling 800-827-1000 or contacting your local County Veteran Service Office (CVSO). You can locate your CVSO in your telephone directory under "County Government".

The VA operates 131 national cemeteries in 39 states and Puerto Rico. More than three million Americans, including Veterans of every war and conflict, from the Revolutionary War to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, are buried in VA national cemeteries on more than 19,000 acres. Veterans with a discharge issued under conditions other than dishonorable, their spouses and eligible dependent children can be buried in a VA national cemetery.

Other burial benefits available for all eligible Veterans, regardless of whether they are buried in a national cemetery or a private cemetery, include a burial flag, a Presidential Memorial Certificate, and government headstone or marker. Information on VA burial benefits can be obtained from national cemetery offices, from the VA website online at www.cem.va.gov or by calling the VA regional customer service office at 800-827-1000.

FREE Eye Glasses for Retirees



Every 12 months, retired members of the Uniformed Services are authorized the free issue of one pair, standard military issue, recruit type, brown eyeglasses. No other frames are available, Family members and surviving spouses of Retirees are not entitled to receive the eyeglasses.

The eyeglasses are available from the Naval Ophthalmic Support and Training Activity (NOSTRA). To obtain more information, go to www.med.navy.mil/sites/nostra/order/Pages/Retiree.aspx and select the "How to Order: Retirees" link. You can also contact NOSTRA at 757-887-7611.

Vet Center – Readjustment Counseling Service

The Vet Center program was established by Congress in 1979 out of recognition that a significant number of Vietnam veterans were still experiencing readjustment problems. Today, over 270 Vet Centers across the U.S., Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands and Guam serve ALL combat veterans and their families. If you, or a family member, served in any combat zone and received a military campaign ribbon, your family is eligible for Vet Center services.

The services provided are: individual readjustment counseling; group meetings and counseling; military sexual trauma counseling; bereavement counseling; marital and family counseling; employment counseling and guidance; benefits assistance and referral; substance abuse information and referral; community education; and liaison with community agencies.

Vet Center staff are available toll free 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday – Friday at 1-800-905-4675 (Eastern) and 1-866-496-8838 (Pacific). Other numbers: Fayetteville, AR – 479-582-7152; Little Rock, AR – 501-324-6395; Lawton, OK – 580-585-5880; Oklahoma City, OK – 405-456-5184; and Tulsa, OK – 918-628-2760.



Troops to Teachers



Troops to Teachers (TTT) is a U.S. Department of Education and Department of Defense program that assists eligible military personnel to transition to a new career as teachers in public schools where their skills, knowledge, and experience are most needed. Pending availability of funds, financial assistance may be provided to eligible individuals as stipends up to \$5,000 to help pay for teacher certification costs, or as bonuses up to \$10,000 to teach in schools serving a high percentage of students from low-income families. There is a 3 year teaching obligation at targeted schools.

For additional information, please contact:

Arkansas and Louisiana Troops to Teachers, Executive Assistant (800) 761-3012

Oklahoma Troops to Teachers (800) 286-6513

Troops to Teachers National Office, (800) 232-6242

Did you Know?

Did you know that you can have your military medals replaced free? Military personnel and veterans are authorized to have medals replaced free of charge. Using the same method that you would use to request replacement copies of DD 214's or other military documents, you can ask that your military medals be replaced. The quickest way to submit your request is to log on to the National Personnel Records Center webpage www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html and look on the right side of the page where it says **Launch eVetRecs - Request Military Records**. This will launch a separate window. There are four easy steps to the application.

Step 1: Read the notice and hit the "continue" button.

Step 2: Enter the required information to create your request form.

Step 3: **Record Locator Information**- Enter all of the pertinent information, Name, Rank, etc.

Documents Requested - If you are requesting replacement of medals, go to the **Comments** block and type in what you are looking for. It can be one or more medals you are missing or you can ask for a replacement of all medals.

Step 4: **Verification** - You will need to print, sign, date and FAX the form. The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C 552a) requires that all requests for records and information be submitted in writing.

The FAX number is 301-837-0483. You can also mail the form to:

National Personnel Records Center
Military Personnel Records
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Next of kin of a deceased veteran can also make requests for replacement of documents or medals. This will require proof of death of the veteran such as a death certificate, letter from the funeral home or published obituary.



Did you know that you have an Army AKO account, complete with email? If not, then register so you can access important retiree information on AKO. You can view valuable information concerning Retired Soldier issues and events on the Ft Sill Retirement Services webpage.

The webpage contains addresses, phone numbers and other links to assist Retirees by providing timely information. Links included are to the Army Retirement Services Branch, DFAS-MyPay, CRSC, TRICARE as well links to the VA.

Getting your account is easy. Simply go to <https://www.us.army.mil> and then register as a new user. Follow the instructions and create either an Army Account or a Joint Account, whichever applies. Once you have your AKO account, go to <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/608295> to access the Ft Sill Retirement Services Webpage.

TRICARE Dependent Medical Coverage Extended to Age 26

The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal year 2011 extends dependent medical coverage up to age 26. The legislation authorizes both TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Prime, which will be implemented in a two-phased approach.

Effective April 1, 2011 TRICARE Standard is available.

Prime Plans will follow later in 2011 due to complexity of system and process changes. Enrollment process through the TRICARE Management Activity (TMA), began April 1, 2011. When enrolling, the sponsor may opt to have the date of initial enrollment back dated to January 1, 2011, providing the sponsor pay in the retroactive premium payment. If the eligible dependent incurs health care expenses prior to April 1, all receipts against claims can be submitted once the dependent is enrolled.

Once dependents are enrolled and show eligible in DEERS, they can proceed to the nearest DEERS/RAPIDS site to receive an ID Card. There should be no enrollments to add children in DEERS UNLESS a dependent is not visible to the Managed Care Support Contractor; normally these would consist of children who were never added to the sponsor's DEERS record.

For more information about the program and legislation, please visit www.tricare.mil.

Monthly Premiums and Out-of-Pocket Costs:

To participate, you must pay monthly premiums, TRICARE Young Adult premium rates are established annually on a calendar year basis. The 2011 monthly premium is: \$ 186.00 per month.

Defense Finance and Accounting Service—Cleveland Center



DFAS will once again be here to answer your finance questions and make any changes to your Retired Pay Account. They realize how popular they are with RAD attendees and will again send a representative, who will be at the hospital all day on 15 September. This representative will have plenty of time to answer any of your questions and update accounts.

Keeping Your Address Updated

Not keeping your address updated can keep you from getting important information. The Retired Pay data base is used to mail your annual Newsletter. The same is true for the Army Echoes bulletin, not to mention your 1099-R or anything else that Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) might need to send you. By using *MyPay* at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>, you can update your address, banking information and tax information yourself. If you don't have access to a computer, and you move, be sure to contact either DFAS 1-800-321-1080 or your Retirement Service Officer (RSO) 580 442-2645.

For those in receipt of retired and or annuitant pay contact DFAS- Cleveland, OH

<u>Retirees</u>	<u>SBP or Annuity</u>
Defense Finance and Accounting Service	Defense Finance and Accounting Service
U.S. Military Retired Pay	U.S. Military Annuitant Pay
PO Box 7130	PO Box 7131
London, KY 40742-7130	London, KY 40742-7131

Now is the time to have the changes made that you have been putting off.

Army Career and Alumni Program

The logo for the Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP) features the letters "ACAP" in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a slight 3D effect, set against a grey rectangular background.

Fort Sill ACAP Center
Bldg 4700, 3rd Floor
Fort Sill, OK 73503
Phone: 580-442-2222/2617



FOR ALL RETIREES & PROSPECTIVE RETIREES UP TO 2 YEARS OUT

ACAP Service and Support for life!

As a an Army Retiree you are entitled to use the services of any ACAP Center. Those services include the following:

- Federal and State Veterans Benefits
- Education Benefits
- Job Search Techniques/Networking
- Resume/Cover Letter Drafts
- Interview Skills
- Professional Counselors
- Computer Lab and Resources

Deadline for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay Extended

The deadline for eligible service members, veterans and their beneficiaries to apply for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP) has been extended to Oct. 21, 2011, allowing those eligible more time to apply for the benefits they've earned under the program guidelines.

The deadline extension is included in Continuing Resolution H.R. 1473, signed by President Obama April 15, 2011, providing funding for federal government operations through Oct. 21, 2011.

The RSLSP was established to compensate for the hardships military members encountered when their service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss Authority between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009. Eligible members or their beneficiaries may submit a claim to their respective military service in order to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in a Stop Loss status.

When RSLSP began on Oct. 21, 2009, the services estimated 145,000 service members, veterans and beneficiaries were eligible for this benefit. Because the majority of those eligible had separated from the military, the services have engaged in extensive and persistent outreach efforts over the past 18 months. Outreach efforts including direct mail and engaging military and veteran service organizations, social networks and media outlets, will continue through Oct. 21, 2011.

To apply, or for more information on RSLSP, including submission requirements and service-specific links, go to <http://www.defense.gov/stoploss>.

IMPORTANT WEB SITES AND PHONE NUMBERS

AKO – Army Knowledge Online.....	www.us.army.mil/portal/portal_home.jhtml
Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA).....	www.veterans.arkansas.gov
Arlington National Cemetery.....	www.arlingtoncemetery.org
Burial and Memorial Benefits.....	www.cem.va.gov/
Commissary.....	www.commissaries.com
Department of the Army Retirement Services	www.armyg1.army.mil/rso
DEERS - Update address.....	www.tricare.mil/deers/
EVetRecs (request DD214 and documents).....	www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/
ID Card appointments.....	http://appointments.cac.navy.mil/
Military Facilities.....	www.militaryliving.com
Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs (OKVA).....	www.ok.gov/ODCA
Social Security Administration.....	www.ssa.gov
Society for Military Widows.....	www.militarywidows.org
Space A Travel Information.....	www.amc.af.mil/amctravel/index.asp
TRICARE Information	www.tricare.osd.mil
TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy Program.....	www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE
TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Program.....	www.tricare.mil/mybenefit
US Army Human Resources Cmd.....	https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/coldwar/default.htm
US Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.....	www.vetapp.uscourts.gov/
Veterans Administration (VA).....	www.va.gov

To obtain information regarding: ~ Compensation, pension benefits and rate tables

~ VA health account

~ Order Prescription Medications

~ VGLI Information

~ Other VA Benefits and Programs Information

VA Benefits Online Application <https://vabenefits.vba.gov>

Army Retiree Mobilization.....	1-800-318-5298
CRSC.....	1-866-281-3254
DEERS Eligibility- DMDC Center.....	1-800-538-9552
Fort Sill Casualty.....	580-442-6405
Fort Sill ID Card Office.....	580-442-5010
Legal Assistance.....	580-442-5058
Medicare.....	1-800-633-4227
Patient Appointment, Reynolds Army Hospital.....	580-558-2000
Pharmacy, Reynolds Army Hospital.....	580-558-2442
PTSD Information Line.....	802-296-6300
Reserve Retirements.....	1-800-318-5298
Retired Pay.....	1-800-321-1080
Retirement Services Office.....	580-442-2645
Social Security Administration.....	1-800-772-1213
TRICARE For Life (age 65 or older).....	1-866-773-0404
TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy.....	1-877-363-1303



The Loss of a Retiree

The loss of a loved one can many times be the most difficult experience a Family will go through. In an effort to assist the Family, the following information, along with the “Military Retiree Preparation Checklist,” are provided to help ease some of the worries and hardships a Family could face when planning a funeral, and when completing any related benefits and entitlements paperwork:

One of the first important decisions a Family must make, is to select a trusted funeral home and funeral director. The Family is responsible for contracting with their funeral home of choice. Many times the Retiree and Family can make a pre-arranged selection. The director will orchestrate all arrangements and preparation for the funeral service, burial, and Military Honors. On-Post burials, In-State and National Cemeteries are available to honorably discharged Veterans at no cost to the Family; this also includes a Burial Marker that is provided by the Veteran’s Administration (VA).

Assistance required during the loss of a Retiree is best described as a two-phased process. Phase One is the Funeral Service and Interment. Phase Two is working through the myriad of paperwork involving Benefits and Entitlements.

a. Phase One: Select the Funeral Home, Director, Type of Interment - Burial, or Cremation, and Location of Interment. Because of the emotions and often sudden coordination required to plan a funeral, it is better for the Family to wait until Phase One is completed to start the next Phase (Benefits and Entitlements).

b. Phase Two: This Phase cannot begin until the Family obtains the Death Certificate from the Funeral Director. In this Phase, the Casualty Assistance Center (CAC) will help the Family complete and process their Benefits paperwork. The Fort Sill CAC is located in the basement of Building 4700, in Room G32; however, please call (580) 442-4627/4547 to schedule an appointment with a Casualty Assistance Officer (CAO). The CAO will explain all benefits and entitlements, and provide a benefits information packet. Families who live outside of the immediate Fort Sill area and do not want to come to the CAC in person, can request to have a Benefits Information Packet mailed directly to their residence.

The goal of the CAO is to ensure that the process of completing the benefits and entitlements documents is as easy as possible. Some of the eligible benefits and entitlements could include: Survivor Benefits; Social Security; Dependent Indemnity Compensation, and others. The mailed packet is color-coded and highlighted to assist the Family (e.g., the Orange documents in the Orange postage paid envelope; the Blue in the Blue envelope, etc.). If there are any questions about how to complete the paperwork in the packet, the Family can call the CAO who mailed them their packet.

Finally, if a Veteran was receiving disability benefits through the VA, the Family will also need to visit the nearest VA Service Center. Our primary objective is to ensure the information provided will be helpful during this very trying period.

The Fort Sill Casualty Assistance Center



Banquet Reservations

Number of person(s) attending _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____.
 Make checks or money orders payable to the Fort Sill Retiree Council.
No refund after September 9, 2011

RANK & NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: Street: _____

City, State, and Zip Code: _____

Health Screening Registration Form

SPONSOR NAME: _____ DOB: _____
Last First MI

ADDRESS: _____
Street City / State Zip Code

PHONE NUMBER _____ (_____) _____ BRANCH OF SERVICE: _____
Area Code

STATUS (please circle): Retiree – Retiree Family Member – Widowed Spouse – Male – Female

BRANCH OF SERVICE (please circle): Army – Navy – Marine Corps – Air Force – Coast Guard

SPOUSE NAME: _____ DOB: _____
Last First MI

ID Tag Request Form



In order for us to prepare your ID tags the following information is **MANDATORY**. Please print legibly and mail this form back to: Fort Sill Retiree Council, PO Box 33688, Fort Sill, OK 73503.

 Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

 SSN or Service Number

 Blood Group and Type

 Religious Preference

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
DHR, MPD, Retirement Services
4700 MOW-WAY Road, Suite 120
Fort Sill, OK 73503

OFFICIAL BUSINESS-19

