

RETIREE OFFICE NEWS – 171st ARW



Retiree Office
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“And Spring arose on the garden fair, Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere; And each flower and herb on Earth’s dark breast rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.” ~ Percy Bysshe Shelley

Email Addresses: If you would like to hear about upcoming retiree news and events, please provide your email address to Bonnie Kriberney at bjkriberney@msn.com. *Don’t forget to keep me informed, if you change your email address/provider.*

Retiree Lunch: **3rd Tuesday** in April

Please note, beginning in 2016, the Retiree Luncheons are held on **Tuesdays!** This change was made because the Commissary and PX are closed on Mondays and the 171ARW off-days fall on every other Monday

When: CY 2016 - January 19th, **April 19th**, July 19th, and October 18th

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

Guest Speaker: Melinda J. Arbogast, USAF, Regional Casualty Assistance Representative and Survivor Benefits Counselor, 911th AFRES

Come join the fun and catch up with old friends over a delicious lunch.

Hope to see you all at the next Retiree Luncheon on April 19th!

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

When: Thursday, April 21, 2016

Time: 1600 – 2300 hours

Where: 911th Airlift Wing, Recreation Center

Cash Bar: Includes draft beer, wine, full selection of liqueurs and craft beers

Buffet: \$16 - \$17, opens approx. 6pm until all has eaten (approx. 7:30pm)

Menu: Roast Beef, Penne Pasta or Veggie Lasagna, Green Beans, Red Skin Potatoes, Rice Pilaf, Salad, and Rolls

Billeting: (412) 474-8230 (for those of you who would like to stay over)

POC: Brad L. Gilles

Please Note:

- To get on base, you must have a current Military ID. Those who do not have a military ID must have some form of a picture ID, i.e. Driver's License, U.S. Passport.
- The 911th Club has closed, but the 911th Recreation Center has opened in its place. It is located to the left of the parking lot in front of the Credit Union and old BX building.

Retirements:

Congratulations to our recent retirees who retired from November 2015 through March 2016. Please do not hesitate to contact the Retiree Office, if you need assistance.

Rank	Last Name	First Name	Retired
<u>NOV 2015</u>			
MSG	HOLLUS	JAMES	18-NOV-15
<u>DEC 2015</u>			
CMS	JOHNSON	ROBERT	01-DEC-15
TSG	PALFREYMAN	JASON	15-DEC-15
SSG	DENNISON	PATRICK	31-DEC-15
<u>JAN 2016</u>			
COL	HESS	THOMAS	01-JAN-16
SMS	SCHIEFER	CHRISTINE	31-JAN-16
MSG	HEYL	MONICA	01-JAN-16
TSG	GARDNER	LORIN	31-JAN-16
<u>FEB 2016</u>			
MAJ	STIVERS	LISA	07-FEB-16
<u>MAR 2016</u>			
SSG	TODD	MARK	01-MAR-16

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 171st, 112th, or 258TH members. Click on each name to view the obituary.

SMSgt Joseph John Kuchera – 15 Jan 16 – Age 76 – 171ARW/Personnel
[http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/observer-reporter/obituary.aspx?pid=177325789 - sthash.qNKzoCGf.dpufFriends](http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/observer-reporter/obituary.aspx?pid=177325789-sthash.qNKzoCGf.dpufFriends)

SMSgt Gilbert Neil Nesbitt – 16 Jan 2016 – Age 85 – 171ARW/Vehicle Maintenance
http://www.timesonline.com/community/obituaries/gilbert-neil-nesbitt/article_3283cf10-bd57-11e5-8aa4-578574e0aa7a.html

SMSgt Richard Douglas – 22 Jan 16 – Age 67 – 171ARW/POL
<http://www.tributes.com/obituary/show/Richard-Douglass-103226373>

SSgt John S. Feiertag, Jr. – 02 Feb 16 – Age 63 – 171ARW/ Vehicle Maintenance
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?pid=177630602>

Lt Col Van L. Vierbicky – 02 Feb 16 – Age 83 – 112TFG/FIS Pilot
<http://www.grecohertnick.com/obituary/Van-L.-Vierbicky/Weirton-WV/1590565>

SSgt Robert J. Boncella – 24 Feb 16 – Age 71 – 171ARW/Vehicle Maintenance
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/triblive-valley-news-dispatch/obituary.aspx?pid=177879104>

TSgt Raymond A. Kadlecik – 16 Mar 16 – Age 70 – 171ARW/Vehicle Maintenance
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?n=raymond-a-kadlecik&pid=178081742&fhid=9808-.Vurld5k1qHQ.facebook>

Older Obituaries recently informed:

MSgt James E. Slawson – 19 Nov 2015 – Age 65– 171ARW/Maintenance Crew Chief
<https://www.indianagazette.com/news/obituaries/james-slawson,23183682/>

MSgt Robert C. Hammond – 14 Dec 15 – Age 70 – 171ARW/Personnel
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?pid=176907458>

MSgt Thomas R. Lloyd – 20 Dec 14 – Age 82 – 112TFG/Law Enforcement
<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/postgazette/obituary.aspx?pid=173544609>

The Nurse Advice Line (your Tricare benefit): Providing Safe, High Quality Health Advice and Assessments

<http://www.tricare.mil/NALSafeAdvice010816?p=1>

The Nurse Advice Line (NAL) is a great evaluation tool for those seeking care or who have medical questions. The telephone hotline provides instant access to a team of registered nurses who can answer urgent and acute healthcare questions. The NAL provides TRICARE beneficiaries an assessment of their symptoms and what next steps they should take.

In order to give beneficiaries the highest level of care, the NAL needs to speak to the patient directly, or have the patient present during the call. Legally, the NAL cannot provide advice to a third party without the patient being in the room with the caller. If the patient is underage, this does not mean the nurse has to speak to the child, the nurse may need to hear the child's cough or ask a question that the parent may not know offhand. If the patient is over age 13, the nurse may ask to speak to the child directly. Feel free to stay on another line or use a speakerphone option if that makes you more comfortable.

You wouldn't go to a doctor's office, [emergency room](#) [The hospital department that provides emergency services to patients who need immediate medical attention.](#) or urgent care center without the patient. The NAL is in the same category. Without speaking to, or having the patient present, our RN's cannot give an accurate assessment or advice on the patient's condition. In order to provide you and your family the best quality care please ensure that the patient is present.

Sometimes it's hard to know when to seek medical help for urgent health problems. Having access to a trusted medical professional at a moment's notice is invaluable. Call the NAL, toll-free and 24/7 for your urgent medical needs at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273) Option# (1). Beneficiaries can still call their PCM or clinic for medical advice and [appointments](#). To learn more about the NAL visit us [online](#).

[TRICARE:](#)

For a complete list of Tricare plans visit <http://www.military.com/benefits/tricare>

TRICARE Standard – Retirees under age 65

TRICARE Standard is the option that provides the most flexibility to eligible beneficiaries. It is the fee-for-service option that gives beneficiaries the opportunities to see any TRICARE-authorized provider, TRICARE Standard is not available to active duty service members. TRICARE Standard is available worldwide, see our [TRICARE Standard Overseas page](#) for more details on OCONUS use.

Beneficiaries who are happy with the treatment they currently receive from a specific civilian provider that may not be in the TRICARE provider network often choose to use TRICARE Standard. Some beneficiaries, especially retirees under age 65 and their families, may live in areas where the TRICARE Prime network is not available, and TRICARE Standard may be their only option.

TRICARE Standard meets the [minimum essential coverage requirement of the Affordable Care Act](#).

Who is Eligible

- Active duty family members
- Retired service members and their families
- Family members of activated Guard/Reserve members

- Non-activated Guard/Reserve members and their families who qualify for care under the Transitional Assistance Management Program
- Retired Guard/Reserve members (age 60 and receiving retired pay) and their families
- Survivors
- Medal of Honor recipients and their families
- Qualified former spouses

How it Works

You don't have to apply for TRICARE Standard, as long as you are listed in DEERS you are eligible. You can schedule an appointment with any TRICARE-authorized provider, network or non-network.

- If you visit a non-network provider, you're using the Standard option.
- If you visit a network provider, you're using the [Extra option](#).

Referrals not required, but you may need prior authorization from your regional contractor for some services.

With TRICARE Standard you must pay your Doctor when you receive service and file your own claim with TRICARE to get reimbursed.

For More Information

See our [TRICARE Standard coverage page](#) for more information, including coverage and costs.

TRICARE for Life – Retirees Age 65 and older

TRICARE For Life (TFL) is a Medicare wraparound coverage for TRICARE beneficiaries who have Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B, regardless of age or place of residence. With TFL, you have the freedom to seek care from any Medicare-participating or nonparticipating provider, or at a military hospital or clinic on a space-available basis. Enrollment is not required, but you must pay Medicare Part B premiums.

TFL is available worldwide, in the U.S. and its territories TFL pays after Medicare, in all other OCONUS areas TFL is the first payer.

For more information see out [TRICARE For Life page](#).

TRICARE Retired Reserve – Retirees under age 60

The TRICARE Retired Reserve program is a health insurance program for retired Reservists and Guard members and their families. The program is a premium-based insurance policy with deductibles and coverage limits. Retirees are eligible for the program until they reach age 60, when they will be disenrolled and will be eligible for other premium-free TRICARE programs as a retiree.

Eligible persons include:

- Retired Reserve members who are:

- Members of the retired Reserve of a Reserve Component who are qualified for non-regular retirement under 10 U.S.C., Chapter 1223
- Under age 60
- Not eligible for, or enrolled in, the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program
- Family members of qualified Retired Reserve members
- Survivors of retired Reserve members if:
 - The sponsor was covered by TRICARE Retired Reserve when he or she died.
 - They are immediate family members of the deceased sponsor (spouses cannot have remarried).
 - TRICARE Retired Reserve coverage would begin before the date the deceased sponsor would have turned 60 years old.

For more information see our [TRICARE Retired Reserve page](#).

TRICARE Retiree Dental

The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) was authorized by Congress to provide a basic dental program for Uniformed Services retirees and their family members. Further legislation has allowed the program to be enhanced to include more comprehensive coverage.

Under contract with the U.S. Department of Defense, the Federal Services division of Delta Dental Plan administers the TRDP.

The TRDP is a voluntary dental benefits program with enrollee-paid premiums. It is available worldwide, for more information see our [TRICARE Retiree Dental page](#).

Donate Serviceable Military Clothing and Equipment:

Contact Brian Finnegan at (412) 915-0352 if you have outdated serviceable uniforms and equipment to donate to the Civil Air Patrol Squadron 603, located on the 911th AFRES base.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND LINKS:

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

911th AW Casualty Assistance Office: (412) 474-8558, Fax: (412) 474-8987
Address: 911th FSS/FSMPS, 2475 Defense Ave, Bldg 316, Rm 112, Coraopolis, PA 15108
Email contact: Melinda J. Arbogast, Melinda.arbogast.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: Ask DFAS <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

National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records: NPRC Customer Service Line 314-801-0800

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

PA Veteran Affairs: <http://www.dmva.pa.gov/veteransaffairs/Pages/default.aspx> - [.Vw-6qj81BJM](http://www.dmva.pa.gov/veteransaffairs/Pages/default.aspx)

Social Security: <http://www.ssa.gov/agency/contact/> or Call the toll-free number, 800-772-1213. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, call the toll-free "TTY" number, 711

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

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs: <http://www.va.gov/>