

Serving
The Retired
Military
Communities
of Illinois,
Iowa,
Michigan,
Minnesota
& Wisconsin

HONORS

RETIREMENT ★ SERVICES ★ NEWSLETTER



TRICARE

Retiree Dental Program Enhances Self-Service Tools

In direct response to enrollee's requests for a more simplified means of managing their own benefits the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) has implemented several program enhancements over the last six months. Each enhancement involves making use of the latest electronic media technology. The first changes included numerous upgrades to the self-service Consumer Toolkit located at www.trdp.org. Program enrollees who log on to the toolkit can now view their processed claims, check their maximum used to date, see if they have met their deductible, print identification cards, and even make certain changes to their account. TRDP's Customer Service Department receives hundreds of calls each year requesting this information and these changes will allow enrollees the convenience of obtaining their account information and to make changes themselves at a time that is convenient for them.

Another feature added recently to the TRDP's lineup of self-service tools is the ability to sign up for "paperless" Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statements. Enrollees can save valuable time by getting their processed claim information immediately online instead of having to wait for a paper EOB. Signing up for the paperless EOBs is as easy as logging on to the Consumer Toolkit and selecting the "Go Paperless" option. Current enrollees who have not yet registered can visit the

"Current Enrollee" section and select "Manage Your Benefits Online", and then follow the instructions to register as a new member and request paperless EOBs.

Last but not least is the recent launch of TRDP tab on the Delta Dental Insurance Company Facebook page. Enrollees can click on the Facebook logo and get connected with the TRDP to obtain oral health and wellness information and tips on how to get the most from their dental plan. Delta Dental's future plans for the program include expansion into other areas of social media as well.

If you have never visited the trdp.org site you are encouraged to do so. The content and layout have been enhanced, and it is now easier than ever to view and print program materials and forms. Enrollees can sign up to receive monthly and quarterly updates via email, contact Delta Dental electronically through the online Customer Service Inquiry Form, and even locate a TRDP network dentist using the Dentist Directory search function on the website.

Additional information is available at www.trdp.org. And as always, information for those not having computer access is available by calling 866-471-8944.

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Office Of The Commander

Dear Retiree/Survivor:

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Fort McCoy Retired Military Community. I am Colonel Steven W. Nott and I assumed command of the Fort McCoy Garrison from Colonel David E. Chesser on February 29, 2012. Fort McCoy continues to serve a key role in supporting the readiness of the forces by serving as a training center and support site for force generation missions and I feel fortunate to be a part of the "team". Fort McCoy is a world-class installation with a continuing goal to provide excellent service and facilities to enhance the quality of life for all who train, work, or live here.

As Commander, I recognize the important role that Retirees play in today's military. Our great nation is what it is today because of the sacrifices you have made and the dedication you have demonstrated throughout your careers. Retirees deserve recognition, so do their Family members. Without their support, your accomplishments would not have been possible. My sincere thanks go out to the entire military retired community for your commitment and dedication. You are truly great Americans.

Fort McCoy is dedicated to providing you with the finest support possible. Your Retirement Service Officer (RSO), Bill Walters, is himself a Retiree and strives to do his best to ensure the retired community receives quality customer service. He is responsible for Retiree support in the states of Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Northern Illinois. If you have any questions or need assistance with your earned benefits, please contact Bill at 800-452-0923 or via email at william.g.walters4.civ@mail.mil.

Thanks again for your valued service.

FORT MCCOY – TOTAL FORCE TRAINING CENTER

Sincerely,

Steven W. Nott
Colonel, US Army
Commanding



Col. Steven W. Nott

Articles for this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the position of the Department of the Army, or Fort McCoy, WI. We do our best to ensure accuracy. The material in this newsletter was provided by a number of sources.

The Retirement Services Office (RSO) publishes the Retirement Services Newsletter in accordance with AR 600-8-7.

The RSO is located in Building 2187, Fort McCoy, WI. We suggest that you call for an appointment prior to visiting the office.

You can contact us at: 1-800-452-0923 or e-mail: william.g.walters4.civ@mail.mil.

The mailing address is;
Retirement Services Office, 2187 South J Street, Fort McCoy, WI 54656-5150

The purpose is to assist retired military personnel and their Families in their benefits, rights and privileges.

Editor: Bill Walters



Letter From the Editor:



HONORS is intended as a source of noteworthy information concerning military Retiree benefits and information. Being an annual publication, changes often occur from the date of publication to the next year's edition. Every effort is made to ensure that the articles

included in HONORS are both meaningful and accurate as of the publish date. Your comments on the newsletter are valued and encouraged as we are always looking for ways to improve. Please send your comments to, Retirement Service Office, 2187 South J Street, Fort McCoy, WI 54656 or via email to william.g.walters4civ@mail.mil

Thank you for your service. I hope you find this 2012 edition of Honors enjoyable and meaningful.



Bill Walters, Editor
Retirement Services Officer
Ft. McCoy, WI 54656

Newsletter & other information available on the internet

HONORS is an annual publication published each summer. It is distributed to all Army Retirees in receipt of retired pay, gray area Retirees and Army surviving spouses residing in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Iowa and the 32 northern most counties of Illinois. HONORS is also available on the Fort McCoy Retirement Services Office website at, www.mccoy.army.mil, then selecting Retirees, and then Retirement Services Office. This website also offers additional information on many other Retiree issues. It includes links to all services Retiree newsletters and much more. Please utilize this site and share it with Retirees from other services.



www.mccoy.army.mil

Honors Update

How Do I Change My Mailing Address for HONORS?

Mailing addresses for HONORS come from the same sources as those for Army Echoes. Please refer to the following if you need to change your address:

- Retirees entitled to retired pay should mail changes to: DFAS, US Military Retirement Pay, PO Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130, call 1-800-321-1080, or fax to 1-800-469-6559.
- Surviving spouses in receipt of SBP should mail changes to: DFAS, US Military Annuitant Pay, PO Box 7131, London, KY 40742-7131, call 1-800-321-1080, or fax to 1-800-982-8459.
- Retirees entitled to retired pay and Survivor Annuitants can also access and make changes to their accounts

online at: www.dfas.mil and selecting the icon, "My Pay". If you already have a PIN you can access your account and make the appropriate change. If you do not have a PIN you can request one and a temporary PIN will be mailed to you. The temporary PIN is good for your initial access and you will be prompted to establish a permanent one. For those of you that have computer access this is the suggested means.

- Retired Reservists not yet age 60 should mail your change to: U.S. Army Human Resources Command, ATTN: TAG D AHRC PDR RCR, 1600 Spearhead Division Avenue Dept 420, Fort Knox, KY 40122-5402, or call 888-276-9472.

Military Installations in the Midwest★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

There are many recreational activities, services and opportunities available at any of the military installations in the Midwest. Following is a list of contact telephone numbers and internet sites for the Fort McCoy service area.

Fort McCoy, Wisconsin

www.mccoymwr.com

The following extensions begin 608-388

Post Operator	2222
Army Community Service	3505
Auto Skills Center	3013
Recreation Center	3213
Leisure Travel Services	3213
MWR Car Wash	3213
McCOYS Community Club	2065
Pine View Campground	3517
Recreation Equipment	2619
Rumpel Fitness Center	2290
Whitetail Ridge Ski Area	4498
Ski Chalet	2260

Great Lakes Naval Station, Illinois

www.mwrgl.com

The following extensions begin with 847-688

Base Operator	3500
MWR	2110
RV Park	5417
Willow Glen Golf Course	4593
Information/Tickets/Travel	3537
Samuel Adams Brew Club	6946
Marina/Rental Center	5417



Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois

www.rianmwr.com

The following extensions begin 309-782

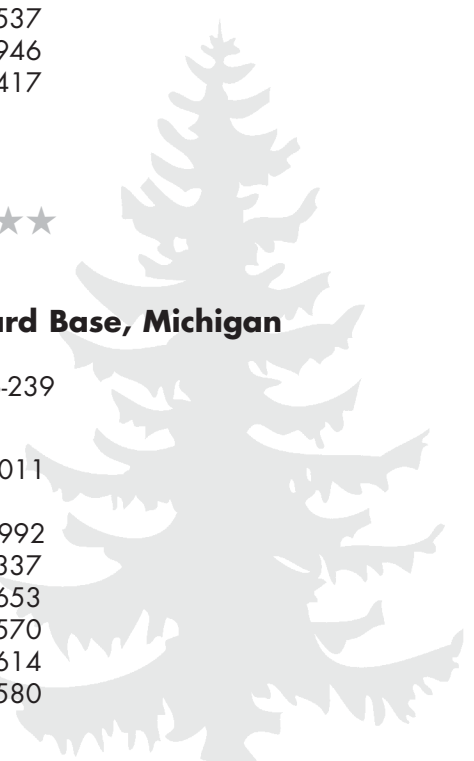
Post Operator	6001
Army Community Service	0829
Leisure Travel Services	5890
Outdoor Recreation	8630
Auto Skills Center	8631
Fitness Center	6787
Arsenal Club Catering	1601
Cannon Falls Driving Range	0090
Youth and School Services	0814

Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan

www.detroitarsenalnmwr.com

The following extensions begin 586-239 unless otherwise indicated

Post Operator	586-307-4011
MWR	586-282-0992
Mulligan's Dining/Catering	2337
Golf Course	4653
Commissary	5570
BX	4614
Retiree Activity Office	5580



Proof of Retirement Income

There are times when you need to provide income information to financial institutions and other businesses or agencies. Your Retiree Account Statement (RAS) contains information on your pay and deductions that many potential creditors require, and your latest RAS is always available on myPay.

If your lender asks for a pay verification letter in addition to your RAS, a generic "Pay Verification Letter" is also available online at www.dfas.mil.

If you cannot access myPay and you need a hard copy RAS and verification letter mailed to you, you can call the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) Customer Care Center at 800-321-1080.



Veteran Update

Know Your VA Health Care Benefits

The Veterans Administration (VA) operates the nation's largest integrated health care system with more than 1400 sites of care ranging from hospitals, to community clinics and everything in between.

A person who has served on Active Duty and discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable may qualify for VA health care services. Reserve component members may qualify if they were called to Active Duty (other than for training) and completed the full period for which ordered.

For most veterans, entry into the VA health care system begins by applying for enrollment. To apply, complete VA Form 10-10EZ, which can be obtained from any VA health care facility or regional benefits office or by calling 877-222-8387. You can also apply through your local County Veteran Service Office (CVSO), or many of the veteran groups. You can normally locate your CVSO in a telephone directory under County Government.

During enrollment, each veteran is assigned to a priority group, 1 through 8. Priority groups are used to balance demand for VA health care resources. A description of priority groups follows:

Group 1: Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 50 percent or more and/or veterans determined by VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions.

Group 2: Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30-40 percent.

Group 3: Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 10-20 percent, former POWs, veterans awarded a Purple Heart or Medal of Honor, and veterans enrolled in a VA Vocational Rehabilitation program.



Group 4: Veterans receiving aid and attendance or housebound benefits and/or veterans determined by VA to be catastrophically disabled.

Group 5: Veterans receiving VA pension benefits or eligible for Medicaid programs, and non-service-connected veterans and non-compensable, zero percent service-connected veterans whose annual household income and/or net worth are below the VA national income threshold.

Group 6: Veterans with zero percent service-connected disabilities who are receiving disability compensation benefits, veterans who served in the republic of Viet Nam between 1962

and 1975, Veterans of the Persian Gulf War that served between August 2, 1990 and November 11, 1998 and for some veterans who served in a theater of combat operations after November 11, 1998 (contact the VA for details).

Group 7: Veterans with gross household income below the geographically adjusted income threshold (GMT) for their resident location and who agree to pay co-pays.

Group 8: Veterans, enrolled as of January 16, 2003, with gross household income and/or net worth above the VA national income threshold and the geographically adjusted threshold for their resident location and who agree to pay co-pays.

Military Retirees eligible for TRICARE and VA health care may use either system but, for continuity of care purposes, it is suggested that all care be obtained using the same source.

Additional information is available on the VA website at www.va.gov, their regional customer service office at 800-827-1000 or by contacting your local County Veteran Service Office.

★★★★ Military Trivia ★★★★★

In 1920 there were 204,000 Active Soldiers and 6,000 Retired Soldiers. In 2011 there were 566,045 Active Soldiers with 835,669 Retired Soldiers.

Midwest Retiree Area Councils★★

Retiree Councils serve as a vital link for the Retiree community. The Councils provide an avenue for suggestions and recommendations to reach the proper level in the chain of command. The Councils also plan and implement programs/ Retiree Appreciation Days (RADs) to provide up to date information on benefits and entitlements to the retired community. Fort McCoy currently supports seven Area Councils in the Midwest. These Area Councils are subordinate to the Fort McCoy Main Council and each has representation on the Main Council.

Councils are located in the Quad Cities, Fort Sheridan, Duluth, Twin Cities, Des Moines, Wisconsin Area and Lower Michigan. Although these councils are sponsored by Fort McCoy, membership is open to Retirees from all services. Council contact numbers are listed in this article. Please feel free to contact any of them if you have issues to discuss or if you are interested in serving as a member.

Main and Area Council membership applications are available by contacting the Fort McCoy Retirement Service Office at 608-388-3716 or via email at william.g.walters4.civ@mail.mil.

Being a member of a council offers Retirees an opportunity to stay involved with Retiree benefits and activities. It provides a valuable link through the chain-of-command and is a means of giving back to the Retiree community. Area Councils rely on Retirees in their local community to be effective and new members are always welcome. Vacancies exist in each of the Fort McCoy sponsored councils so don't be shy. The Duluth Area Council is currently in need of new members and would be glad to hear from you.

Midwest Area Councils sponsored by Fort McCoy are listed below with contact numbers of their chairperson or Retiree Activity Office:

Twin Cities Area Council	507-474-9297
Quad Cities Area Council	563-322-4823
Duluth/Superior Area Council	218-722-0071
Sheridan Area Council	262-639-7327
Lower Michigan Area Council	586-239-5580
Wisconsin Area Council	608-788-1478
Des Moines Area Council	515-277-6113

In addition to these councils, there is also assistance available for Retirees at the following Retiree Activity Offices (RAOs).

Selfridge, MI

Tuesday-Friday, 0900-1500
 Selfridge Air National Guard Base
 Email address: selfrao@greatlakes.net
www.detroitarsenalfmwr.com/community/rso.html
 586-239-5580

Madison, WI

Tuesday & Thursday, 0730-1130
 2400 Wright Street
 Email: widma.Retiree@wisconsin.gov
 800-335-5147, ext 3115

Milwaukee, WI

Tuesday & Wednesday, 1000-1400
 1835 East Grange Avenue
 414-944-8212

Chicago, IL

Monday-Friday, 0900-1200
 Fort Sheridan
 847-266-2475

Chicago, IL

Monday-Friday, 0900-1500
 Arlington Heights Army Reserve Center
 Email: oharearlingtonrao@sbcglobal.net
 800-741-4650, ext 7625 or 847-506-7625

Minneapolis, MN

Monday-Friday, 1000-1400
 Minneapolis Airport, Building 727
 800-231-3517



I.D. Card Facilities/DEERS

Following is a listing of I.D. Card facilities within the Fort McCoy Midwest region. This listing is compiled from information available on the RAPIDS Site Locator website at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa.mil. Please remember that I.D. card support may not be available at all sites due to unit deployment. It is suggested that you call a site prior to travelling to ensure that their office is currently doing I.D. cards and to determine their operating procedures.

Illinois

Site Name	City	Service	Phone
126 ARW	Scott AFB	ANG	618-222-5708
182 MSS	Peoria	ANG	309-633-5181
183 MSS	Springfield	ANG	217-757-1308
308 CA BDE	Homewood	USAR	708-957-2036
416 ENCOM	Darien	USAR	630-910-3213
85th Division	Arlington Hts	USAR	847-506-7616
932nd AW	Scott AFB	USAF	618-229-7531
AG HQ State	Springfield	ARNG	217-761-3443
330th Med Bde	Fort Sheridan	USAR	847-266-3237
Decatur NOSC	Decatur	USNR	217-875-1733
Peoria NOSC	Peoria	USNR	309-697-5755
NTC Great Lakes	Great Lakes	USN	847-688-5550
Rock Island Arsenal	Rock Island	USA	309-782-0596
Scott AFB	Scott AFB	USAF	618-256-8897

Iowa

Site Name	City	Service	Phone
132 FW	Des Moines	ANG	515-261-8530
3d COSCOM	Des Moines	USAR	515-285-4692
AG HQ State	Johnston	ARNG	515-252-4728
649th RSG	Cedar Rapids	USAR	319-297-8688
USAR Center	Dubuque	USAR	563-556-2255

Michigan

Site Name	City	Service	Phone
1/84th Division	Livonia	USAR	734-367-2474
110 FW Battle Creek	Battle Creek	ANG	269-969-3216
127 Wing Selfridge ANGB	Selfridge ANGB	ANG	586-239-4387
334th Med GP	Grand Rapids	USAR	616-735-4050
AG HQ State	Lansing	ARNG	517-481-9879
CRTC Alpena	Alpena	ANG	989-354-6220
Camp Grayling	Grayling	ARNG	989-344-6100
Defense Logistics	Lansing	DLA	269-961-7002
NOSC Grand Rapids	Grand Rapids	USNR	616-363-6889
NOSC Saginaw	Saginaw	USNR	989-754-3091
USA Garrison Detroit	Warren	USA	586-282-5941
USCG Air Station Traverse City	Traverse City	USCG	231-922-8227
USCG Grand Haven	Grand Haven	USCG	616-850-2517
USCG Sector Sault Ste Marie	Sault Ste Marie	USCG	906-635-3401



Minnesota

Site Name	City	Service	Phone
133 AW	St Paul	ANG	612-713-2041
148 FW	Duluth	ANG	218-788-7212
644th RSG	Fort Snelling	USAR	612-713-3202
934 AW	Minneapolis	ARNG	612-713-1507
AG HQ State	St Paul	ARNG	651-282-4579
Camp Ripley	Little Falls	ARNG	320-616-2728
NOSC Minneapolis	Minneapolis	USNR	612-713-4892
367th Engineer Bn	St. Cloud	USAR	320-251-7942
HQ 1-151 FA	Montevideo	USAR	320-269-9284

Wisconsin

Site Name	City	Service	Phone
115 MSS	Madison	ANG	608-245-4468
128th ARW	Milwaukee	ANG	414-944-8245
157th MED BDE	Milwaukee	USAR	414-961-8685
646 RSG	Madison	USAR	608-249-4008
AG HQ State	Madison	ARNG	608-242-3420
AG HQ WIS (deployable)	Chippewa Falls	ARNG	715-720-3400
AG HQ WIS (deployable)	Milwaukee	ARNG	414-961-8685
Appleton NG	Appleton	USNG	920-832-2712
Fort McCoy	Fort McCoy	USA	608-388-4563
NOSC Green Bay	Green Bay	USNR	920-336-2444
NOSC Milwaukee	Milwaukee	USNR	414-744-9764
Wausau National Guard Armory	Wausau	ARNG	715-845-1011

Programs for Homeowners in Iowa

The Iowa Finance Authority helps make homeownership dreams come true. Their mission is to provide Iowans with safe and affordable home loans. To accomplish this they offer a variety of programs for qualified military personnel and veterans, first-time buyers and repeat buyers. As a state-sponsored entity homeowners can be assured of safety, security and stability. Single Family mortgage loans and other affordable homeownership resources are available.

Programs typically offer low-cost fixed rates with 30-year terms, lower mortgage costs and low down payments – sometimes none at all.

First time homeowners may qualify to receive up to \$2,500 that may be used for down payment, closing costs or minor expenses. Eligible military service members and veterans may also qualify for a grant of up to \$5,000 that may be used toward down payment or closing costs on a qualifying home purchase through the Military Homeownership Assistance Program.

Securing a loan is just the first step in owning a home. For more information visit www.iowaFinanceAuthority.gov or call 800-432-7230.

Illinois: State Offers a Number of Special Vehicle License Plates

Are you proud of your military service? Illinois offers a number of special vehicle license plates for its service members and veterans including: Armed Forces Reserves, Armed Forces Retired, Bronze Star, Congressional Medal of Honor, Disabled Veteran, former POW, Gold Star, Illinois National Guard, Korean War Veteran, Marine Corps, Pearl Harbor Survivor, POW/MIA Illinois Remembers, Purple Heart, Silver Star, Universal Veteran, Vietnam Veteran, West Point Bicentennial,

and World War II Veteran. Fees and eligibility may differ depending on the type of license plate. Additional information is available on the Department of Motor Vehicle's website at www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/vehicles/license_plate_guide/specialty_plates/military/home.html. You can also contact your local County Veteran Service Office (CVSO) for information on Special License Plates and all VA benefits, both State and Federal.



UPCOMING RAIDS

Retiree APPRECIATION DAYS

★ **Des Moines/Altoona, Iowa**
August 15, 2012
 Prairie Meadows Race Track
 and Casino
 0800-1515
 515-964-3782
 dadshine@aol.com
*Pre-Registration is required -
 form included*

★ **Twin Cities, Minnesota**
August 24, 2012
 0800-1600
 763-516-2931 or 612-861-6589
 National Guard Armory &
 Community Center
 Rosemount, Minnesota
*Pre-Registration is required -
 form included*

★ **Camp Ripley - Little Falls,
 Minnesota**
August 25, 2012
 763-441-2630
 Training/Community Center
*Pre-registration is required -
 form included*

★ **Fort McCoy, Wisconsin**
September 7, 2012
 0715-1500
 800-452-0923
 William.g.walters4.civ@mail.mil
*Pre-registration is required -
 form included*

★ **Twin Ports/Duluth,
 Minnesota**
September 14, 2012
 Black Bear Carlton Casino
 0800-1300
 715-398-3152
 twinportsrad@gmail.com
*Pre-registration is required -
 form included*

★ **Twin Cities, Minnesota**
September 22, 2012
 Mystic Lake Casino - Hotel
 0730-1700
 800-231-3517 or 612-713-4664
 or 612-713-1516
*Pre-registration is required-Call for
 registration information or visit
www.metrojrads.blogspot.com*

★ **Selfridge, Michigan**
September 22, 2012
 Joint Dining Facility
 0800-1500
 586-239-5580
 selfrao@greatlakes.net
*Pre-registration required -
 form included*

★ **Great Lakes, Illinois**
October 6, 2012
 Great Lakes Naval Museum,
 Bldg 42
 847-688-3603, extension 118
Call for Registration Information

★ **Rock Island, Illinois**
October 27, 2012
 Rock Island Army Arsenal, Bldg 60
 0700-1300
 563-322-4823
*Pre-registration is required -
 form included*



RADS
**Are organized
 for you....**

**Please plan
 to visit one in
 your area.**



Fort McCoy, WI – September 7, 2012, 0745 – 1500. Sign in starts at 0700. Bldg 905 (a.m) & Bldg 90 (p.m), Fort McCoy, WI 54656. I will be having lunch YES NO (Circle One) at MCCOYS for a reasonable price. For additional information please call, 608-388-3716. Submit No Later Than August 30, 2012. You may also submit your registration via email at william.g.walters4.civ@mail.mil

Mail Registration to: Retirement Service Office • 2187 South J. Street • Fort McCoy, WI 54656

Twin Ports/Duluth, MN – September 14, 2012, 0800 – 1300. Black Bear Carlton Casino, Twin Ports, Minnesota. There is no registration fee and coffee and refreshments will be provided. For additional information please call 715-398-3152 or email twinsportrad@gmail.com. Submit no later than September 5, 2012.

Mail Registration to: Retiree Appreciation Day • 4221 East 2nd St • Superior, WI 54880

Selfridge ANGB, MI – September 22, 2012, 0800 – 1500. 127th MI ANG Dining Facility, Bldg 164, Selfridge ANGB, MI 48045. Additional information is available by contacting the Selfridge ANGB Retiree Activity Office at 586-239-5580. Submit no later than September 11, 2012 but please register as early as possible as registration is limited to the first 600 attendees. You may also submit your registration via email to selfrao@greatlakes.net.

Mulligans will serve coffee, bagels and donuts in the morning and a hot buffet style lunch with a choice of two meats and vegi-lasagna for \$12 per person. If interested, please include a check with your registration or send a separate check if you will be registering via email. Make checks payable to FMCLMRAC. Your cancelled check will be your receipt.

Mail Registration to: Retiree Activities Office • 29868 George Avenue, Bldg 168 Selfridge ANGB, MI 48045

Rock Island Arsenal, IL – October 27, 2012, 0700 – 1300. Post Restaurant, Bldg 60, Rock Island Arsenal, IL. A photo I.D. is required for ALL personnel to access the installation. Additional information is available by calling 563-322-4823. Submit no later than October 13, 2012.

A lunch is available for \$11 per person. Make checks payable to "Arsenal Club" and include with your registration.

Mail Registration to: Retiree Appreciation Day • 916 Belmont Avenue • Davenport, IA 52804



Casualty Assistance Checklist

(For your convenience, fill out the form on pages 17 & 18. Detach and keep in a secure safe place.)

It is never too soon to prepare for the inevitable. Lack of knowledge by the Family regarding a deceased Retiree's personal affairs may result in considerable inconvenience and frustration to the loved ones left behind. It is advised that everyone prepare a document including personal and financial information to assist when the time comes. The Army G-1, Retirement Service Office has prepared an excellent checklist to help with this task. The checklist, and much more, is available on the G-1 website at www.armyg1.army.mil/retire. A slightly modified version of the checklist is also included in this issue of HONORS for your convenience. Small changes were made to the original in an effort to reduce it to a two page document easily removable for your use.



To be completed by retired Soldier and/or spouse and kept in your files for your survivors to use.

Casualty Assistance Checklist*****

Name: _____ Social Security #: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

Date of Retirement: _____ Retirement grade/rank: _____

Enrolled in RSFPP, SBP (circle all that apply) Did you disenroll from SBP? YES NO

VA Claim #: _____

Are you eligible to draw VA disability compensation (even if not in receipt now) (circle yes or no) YES NO

Are you currently receiving Social Security? (circle yes or no) YES NO If yes, age at which first received: _____

Is There a Living Will (circle yes or no) YES NO

SPOUSE INFORMATION

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ SSN: _____

MARRIAGE INFORMATION

Date of marriage: _____ Place of Marriage: _____ (City, State, Country)

CHILDREN INFORMATION

Include Name, Birthdate, Address, Phone/E-mail Are they capable of self-support? (circle yes or no) YES NO

INSURANCE POLICIES

Policy #, Company, Amount (includes "as of" date) Beneficiary Agent Phone/E-mail/Web Site

LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE

Policy #, Company, Type of Coverage Agent Phone/E-mail/Web Site

INVESTMENTS

Type (IRA CD, Mutual Fund), Company, Amount (includes "as of" date) Beneficiary Agent Phone/E-mail/Web Site

BANK ACCOUNTS

Bank Name, Account #, Type of Accounts, Amount (includes "as of" date) Beneficiary Agent Phone/E-mail/Web Site

CREDITORS

Name & Address, Account #, Balance Due (includes "as of" date), Life Insurance? YES NO Phone/E-mail

Tear along dotted line and keep in a secure, safe location.

BURIAL INFORMATION Who should be notified of your death:

Name	Relationship	Address	Phone/E-mail
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CIRCLE ONE: Do you want a military honor guard? YES NO Cremated: YES NO Buried: YES NO

Own a burial plot? YES, NO If yes, Cemetery Name, location: _____

Do you want to be buried in uniform? YES NO If yes, where is uniform located: _____

Do you want a memorial service? YES NO If yes, where? _____

Do you have a preference of a funeral home? YES NO If yes, where? _____

LOCATION OF DOCUMENTS

LOCATION

Living Will _____

Current Retired Pay Statement _____

Marriage Certificate(s) _____

Divorce Decree(s)
(from previous marriage(s) of retired Soldier/spouse) _____

Death Certificate(s)
(from previous marriage(s) of retired Soldier/spouse) _____

Birth Certificate(s)/Adoption Papers
(retired Soldier/spouse/children) _____

DD Form(s) 214 (Active Duty Discharge Record (for all periods) _____

Retirement Orders _____

Safe-Deposit Box (List Contents) _____

Last Will & Testament _____

Vehicle Registration & Title _____

Insurance Policies _____

Investment Papers _____

Medical/Dental Records _____

Real Estate Deeds _____

Tax Returns _____

Other _____

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

ARMY CASUALTY OPERATIONS: Contact right after Soldier's death. 1-800-626-3317; or from overseas, call collect 1-703-325-7790; E-Mail: cmaocweb@hoffman.army.mil. Web site: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/CMAOC/cmaoc.htm>. RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICER: (follow-up assistance) numbers are listed in printed *Echoes* and homepage. VA: 1-800-827-1000; VA Insurance: 1-800-669-8477; Web site: <http://www.va.gov>. SOCIAL SECURITY: 1-800-772-1213, Web site: <http://www.ssa.gov>. RETIRED AND ANNUITANT PAY: 1-800-321-1080; Web site: <http://www.dod.mil/dfas>. UPDATE I.D. CARD INFORMATION: 1-800-538-9552; Lawyer: 1-831-583-2500.



Wisconsin: Operates Three State Veteran’s Cemeteries

The Wisconsin Department of Veteran Affairs (WDVA) operates state veteran cemeteries in Spooner, King, and Union Grove. Upon meeting eligibility standards, veterans are provided a burial at no cost, while spouses and dependent children will incur a burial fee.

Eligibility is based on a veteran meeting the following military service and Wisconsin residency criteria:

Veteran Service Eligibility Requirement

- Veteran was discharged from “Active Duty” under other than dishonorable conditions,
- or
- Veteran died while on “Active Duty”
- or
- Veteran served at least 20 years in the National Guard or Reserves and qualified for military retirement pay

Veteran Residency Requirement

- Veteran was a Wisconsin resident at the time of entry into military service
- or
- Veteran was a Wisconsin resident at the time of death

- or
- Veteran was a Wisconsin resident for a least 12 consecutive months after entering service on “Active Duty”
- or
- Veteran dies on “Active Duty”

Veteran Family Members including spouse, surviving spouse, and dependent children are eligible for interment even if the veteran is not buried or memorialized in a state veteran’s cemetery and the veteran would have met both military service and Wisconsin residency requirements.

Pre-registration and additional information is available online at www.dva.state.wi.us/Cem_eligibility_prereg.asp, by contacting your local County Veteran Service Office (CVSO), or any of the following cemeteries.

- Northern Wisconsin/Spooner 715-635-5360
- Central Wisconsin/King 715-258-5586
extn 2203
- Southern Wisconsin/
Union Grove 262-878-5660

Minnesota: Education Benefits Are Available

The Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs was tasked with providing coordination and specialized assistance to all Minnesota campuses. As a result, the Higher Education Veterans Programs Office was created, consisting of a director and regional coordinators located throughout the state.

Education Benefit for Minnesota Veterans –

Educational benefits are provided in the form of a one-time grant to veterans who have exhausted their federal benefits, and to war orphans of veterans who died as a result of a service connected injury or disease.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must have served at least 181 days consecutive days of active military service and have been separated under honorable conditions. The length of service can be waived if service was terminated earlier by reason of disability incurred while serving on active duty.
- The veteran must have been a Minnesota resident at the time of entry into the Armed Forces, and for six months immediately preceding entry.

- The veteran must be a citizen of the United States and current resident of Minnesota.
- The veteran must have completely exhausted his/her federal educational benefits prior to the delimiting date or within the eligibility period which benefits were available. Veterans who have allowed their educational benefits to expire without completely using them do not qualify for this program.

The following is a list of additional educational benefits available to Minnesota veterans. Program and registration information is available in the last paragraph of this article.

- Minnesota National Guard Tuition and Textbook Reimbursement
- War Orphan Education Program
- Minnesota Education and Training Program G.I. Bill
- State Tuition Reimbursement

Information on educational and all Federal and State VA benefits is available on line at www.mdva.state.min.us or by contacting your local County Veteran Service Office (CVSO).

HONORS

Military Personnel Division
ATTN: IMMC-HRM-P
2187 South J. Street
Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin 54656-5150

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