



STILL SERVING

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Summer 2005

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30TH ANNUAL FORT MEADE RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS

NOTES FROM THE RSO STEVE ASHLEY

I hope this finds everyone doing well.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both COL Ives, Installation Commander and LTC Bell, Commander, Headquarters Command Battalion for their support over the years

Both have shown a tremendous interest in the retiree community and their concerns. COL Ives will be a retiree (Still Serving) as of 1 November 2005 and LTC Bell will be moving on to another assignment.

Our office is located at 2234 Huber Road, the corner of Ernie Pyle and Huber. We are in the basement in Rooms 007/009. Please stop by and say hi. If you wish to discuss an issue this is done by appointment only. Please make one by calling (301)677-9603 or by using the e-mail address below.

The e-mail address for the Retirement Services Office is:
mderso@emh1.ftmeade.army.mil.

30TH ANNUAL
RETIREE APPRECIATION
DAY
16/17 September 2005

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NOTICE

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**FROM THE GARRISON
COMMANDER
COL John W. Ives**

This is my sixth and final column for the Retiree Newsletter. After a long and rewarding military career, I will too soon join the ranks of Army retirees. It is a good time to look back and reflect on the many changes and improvements Fort Meade has experienced in the past three years.

Perhaps the most significant development has been the tremendous growth and expansion we've seen here.

Since Picerne Military Housing began construction two years ago under the Residential Communities Initiative, more than 300 homes have been completed for service members and their families. New homes are going up at a rate of 8 to 12 monthly. Two community centers are now open to all on-post residents, each with such amenities as a swimming pool, lounge area, community meeting room, fitness center, kitchen, and business center.

The construction and renovation on Fort Meade is a 10-12 year program. The privatization project is a 50-year partnership. As I've said before this initiative works and it's terrific! The concept provides our service men and women as well as their families with a better quality of life that they have earned and deserve. Eventually a total of 3,170 homes will be built or renovated on this installation.

In August 2003, the Freedom Center barracks complex opened its doors to our single service members. This \$27 million state-of-the-art facility provides 576 rooms for our enlisted personnel, with bedrooms, kitchenettes, walk-in closets and semi-private bathrooms and laundry areas. It's a far cry from the open bay bunk bed arrangement some of us old timers remember.

Last October we opened our new Visitor Control Center. The \$3 million VCC, along the Reece Road entrance, is a very big step in upgrading the security of this post. In the words of U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, we are making Fort Meade a model installation. I share his expression of pride in the work being done here to improve our customer service facilities.

A new 26,400 square foot Morale Welfare Recreation (MWR) facility, the Fort Meade Pavilion, on Llewellyn Ave. will host special community events such as the annual MeadeFest July 4th festivities. Be sure to check it out.

We've also completed work on new facilities for several tenant activities, to include the Criminal Division Command, (CIDC), Baltimore Military Enlistment Processing System (MEPS), and the 55th Signal Detachment (Combat Camera).

Construction continues on a new dining facility for our troops. The new \$9 million restaurant-style facility (scheduled for completion next year) will seat 1200 diners, with food court and fast food, take-out capabilities. Again, it's a long way from the old chipped beef on toast assembly line mess hall many of us remember from the brown shoe Army days.

Also under construction is a new Army Reserve Center along Route 175. The 216,000 square foot modern facility will feature four buildings on a 25-acre site capable of supporting 27 units 1,825 drilling Reservists. With the priority our nation's military places on part time Soldiers, this center will provide first rate training facilities for our Reserve Component personnel.

Beyond construction, we've relocated the Navy's Fleet and Family Services activity from the Old Colony Inn to Snowden Hall on Huber Avenue and opened a new Thrift Shop as well. Future plans call for a public-private business capital venture to build a new lodging and conference center on post. Construction will hopefully start in the next few years. Such a facility is needed on this installation and would greatly enhance its image.

This installation has also experienced other important event and activities during the past three years.

In support of the Global War on Terrorism, this post has sent Active and Reserve Component units for mobilization training and deployment to Southwest Asia as participants in Operation Iraqi Freedom. On a more pleasant note, I have also had the opportunity to join their families in welcoming some of these Warriors home from their successful tours in harm's way.

We've also conducted several force protection and anti-terrorism training exercises to ensure this installation

maintains its readiness posture in response to potential security threats.

Last year we also said goodbye to 100 dedicated civilian employees who retired from federal service as a result of the A-76 initiative, which outsourced many of our Public Works and Logistics functions to contractors. While the work itself will now be performed by the private sector, our customers will notice no change in quality or responsiveness.

Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to our retirees for all their contributions and support in helping to make this truly a community of excellence. Your participation in our installation volunteer program is outstanding! In 2003, our volunteer corps (many of them military retirees) gave 239,000 hours of their own time and energy to such organizations as Army Community Service (ACS), United Serviceman's Organization (USO), and the American Red Cross.

If these hours were to be financially compensated, the cost would be a staggering \$3.8 million for services rendered. Once again, this is truly awesome. What's more, our retiree population donated \$59,930 in contributions to the Army Emergency Relief (AER) campaign in 2004. That was 62 percent of the total contributions for last year's campaign.

In conclusion, as Diana and I prepare to leave Fort Meade and begin our new lives as retirees, we want to say how proud we are of this post, its people, and the progress being made in so many Quality of Life issues. It has been a privilege to serve as installation commander. I bid a fond farewell to all and wish continued success to those who serve this country and the Army in defense of freedom. I encourage everyone to keep up the good work that has made this a federal campus providing world-class service to our customers. God Bless you all and God Bless America!

**FROM THE FORT MEADE
RETIREE
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN
Colonel Bert L. Rice, USA (Ret)**

Greetings Fellow Retirees and Families!

It is time to prepare in earnest for Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) activities scheduled for Friday and Saturday, 16 – 17 September 2005. Once again, I hope that you will join us for the various RAD activities. If so, please respond promptly using the enclosed Reservation Form. Your prompt response will greatly facilitate final planning for this fun, informative event. Activities are planned for your benefit, so please try to attend!

A social event will be held on Friday, 16 September at Club Meade. We will gather at Club Meade at 6:00 p.m. to socialize for a few minutes after which dinner will be served. You can make reservations using the enclosed reservation form. Like past years, this is a fun event with few speeches, a time to visit with fellow retirees, and drawings for a variety of door prizes! We hope the new Installation Commander Colonel Kenneth McCreedy and his wife will join us for the evening.

Saturday morning, 17 September, commencing at 8:00 a.m., at the DPTMS Training Center (formerly McGill Community Center located off Zimborski Avenue), will be devoted to medical screenings, dental checks, and several other activities supported by several State, county and installation agencies as well as veteran organizations. At approximately 11:00 a.m. a panel of experts will assemble to discuss their primary areas of concern and then be prepared to answer your questions. In the past, this type forum has proven interesting and educational. Panel representatives will include professionals from medical, legal, Social Security, Veterans Affairs, AAFES, Commissary, and other installation agencies, as appropriate. I want to thank all agencies and organizations that have supported RAD activities in the past and to thank them in advance for supporting the activities again this September. Thank you, one and all!

Following the program at the DPTMS Training Center, all attendees who make reservations will move to Club Meade for lunch. Again, this will be a fun event affording time to visit, enjoy lunch and drawing for more door prizes. Make your reservations now - thanks!

I do want to take this opportunity to thank Colonel and Mrs. John Ives for their leadership and support during the past three years. As Installation Commander and First Lady, respectively, they led by example and demonstrated their interest in, concern for and support of retirees by including us in the daily life of Fort Meade. They promoted volunteerism and encouraged working together for the good of the Installation and its customers, including retirees. On behalf of the Fort Meade retired community, I personally thank them for their selfless service to the Nation and for all they have done for us while on active duty in the U.S. Army. As they move to Florida after retiring from the Army, we wish them success in future career endeavors and a happy, prosperous retirement whenever that day arrives. God Bless them and their family!

As a follow-up to previous articles, you should know that both Senate Bill 211 and House Bill 245 failed this year. These Bills, if passed, would have exempt all military retired pay from State and local income taxes. While legislators claimed that there was insufficient money to pay the cost, the Governor of Maryland had included funding in his 2006 budget that would have funded the legislation. However, the House and the Senate leadership deleted the funds that killed the Bills. Retirees and veterans of Maryland will try to get similar legislation passed during the 2006 legislative session.

House and Senate in action on SB 211 and HB 245 was disappointing to thousands of retirees; however, failure on the part of retirees to simply contact and urge their elected State officials (State Senators and Delegates) to support the legislation was even more disappointing. Most retirees did absolutely nothing to promote this legislation. It appears that retirees do not agree with nor want this legislation to pass as demonstrated by their failure to take any action whatsoever to promote it. That is strange since most retirees with whom I have spoken seemed supportive. Without grass roots support from all retirees who live in Maryland, I believe similar legislation will fail once again next year. An interesting option might be: to provide a tax exemption to only those retirees who get out and actively support the legislation. That would certainly seem fair to all of us who worked

so hard for passage of the tax-exempt legislation. What do you think?

Many issues of interest to retirees are summarized in Army Echoes. Please take time to read Army Echoes, as that will keep you apprised regarding each major issue!

I look forward to seeing all of you on 17 – 18 September 2005 at Retiree Appreciation Day activities. You will benefit by attending. Again, please make your reservations now. Thanks!

God Bless you and God Bless the United States of America!

**FROM THE CO-CHAIRMAN
SGM Kenneth L. McCall, Sr.,
USA Ret**

I must begin my article by extending an apology to all for our not being able to get our last issue of the newsletter to you in a timely manner. But, as Murphy's Law would have it, gremlins sabotaged our good intentions, which we hope have been corrected by the time this issue reaches you.

The Global War on Terrorism continues and our men and women of the Armed Forces continue to be exposed to the hazards of the war and its resulting casualties. Regardless of our individual take on war, we must remain united in giving the needed support to our troops and their families as we continue to hold them close in our prayers.

In previous articles, we provided you with information relative to the efforts being taken to have all military retirement pay made tax exempt here in the state of Maryland. Its Governor, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., supported this initiative and included funds for it in his 2005 budget. At a press conference that he called on 7 February 2005, in Annapolis, MD, he, along with the Maryland Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, announced their support of the twin bills (Senate Bill 211 and House Bill 245) before a gathering of approximately 150 military retirees and representatives from veterans' service organizations that were in attendance. The Secretary read the Governor's proclamation that proclaimed Year 2005 as the Year of the Veteran. I was invited to speak at the conference. I asked the two deliberating bodies that when the bill come before them, that they really

understand the need for the bills passage. The State would be perceived as being a military retiree friendly state attracting young military retirees and their families that have aero-tech, bio-tech, bio-science, medical and healthcare, computer-tech and other skills that industry within the region are seeking to fill the many positions that are available. What Maryland would receive in turn, would be money from income taxes from the new jobs that would be acquired, more sales and real estate taxes as well as income tax from the family members who may remain in the state after graduating from high school and/or college. The "return on investment" from making military retired pay tax-exempt, would help the state economically and prove to be a win-win situation for all. (We must give thanks to the Task Force members that worked diligently over the past several years putting the bill package together and following through with the needed appearances before the various legislative committees, etc.) We thought the chances for the bills being passed, were good. However, when they were brought before the Committees, they were altered (weaken), the funds set aside in the budget to support the bill were re-allocated to other programs causing, in my opinion, the bills to become a prisoner of a political war. In an attempt to salvage his initiatives, the Governor called for a meeting with military retirees in Annapolis, on 4 April 2005, where he asked us to meet with our respective legislative representatives that evening, to persuade them to support the bills that were in danger of being defeated. There were approximately 50 military retirees and representatives from veterans' service organizations in attendance. To make a long story short, of the 48,000 military retirees living in Maryland, only 200 responded to the call for a "show of support". Many of you wrote to and called your legislators and we thank you and those that made the trek to Annapolis. But do the math. The figures added up to 48,000 less 200 = A P A T H Y which politicians took advantage of (divide and conquer??). The bills FAILED. It is planned to re-introduce them in 2006 and since it will be the beginning of an election season, we should not only make our voices heard, but our presence seen, by gathering in Annapolis, to bring pressure to bear on the politicians

erasing the notion that we are an apathetic group. The politicians must be made to remember that we were an instrument of their future and if they are not interested in representing the cause of veterans, if they are not interested in improving the economic base of Maryland, they we will elect those that will. And, they must remember that our sphere of influence is not limited, especially when we are motivated behind a worthy cause. Do not forget that the best defense is an offense and now is the time to move.

If you have noticed, the AAFES Clothing Sales Store is now authorized to sell military retirees, the Army Physical Training Uniform and the Improved Physical Training Uniform. We owe this change in Army policy to council member SGM James Gilbert who made the suggestion that was processed through the Army Chief of Staffs Retiree Council and was met with approval. A letter of thanks was received from the Chief, Army Retirement Services. THANKS JIM!!

In April 2005, COL Bert Rice (Chairman of our Council), Mr. Stephen Ashley (Retirement Services Officer) and I, had the privilege of being invited to participate in an Installation Management Agency Focus Group that addressed subjects relative to Fort Meade's operation as well as quality of life issues not only for active duty personnel, but their family members, the civilian workforce and the military retired community. The information collected over the five (5) day exercise, would serve as a management tool for future planning and operations at Fort Meade. (Other installations have been selected to participate in similar studies.)

On 5 Mar 2005, your Council met and included in its agenda were presentations made by Ms. Betty J. O'Brien, General Manager, AAFES Fort Meade Consolidated Exchange, who offered her appreciation for the tremendous support provided by the military retired community, and remarked on the construction of a 6 bay car wash here at Fort Meade an inclusion of other restaurants in the PX Food Court and Shoppette and that she is always happy to hear from the community; Mr. Paul Rhodes, Manager Fort Meade Commissary, who also expressed his appreciation for the support of the retirees and their families give the Commissary, which has made it one of the best in the Defense Commissary Agency,

and that there are plans for renovating the building in an effort to continue providing us with the "top notch service" that we warrant, that he is always looking for ways to improve the system and invites our comments; COL John F. Sackett, Division Chief, Army Human Services Command (Combat-Related Special Compensation/CRSC) and their efforts to reach over 700,000 military retirees (across all services) that are eligible to participate in the program and of the 232,000 Army retirees eligible, only 28% have applied, eligibility requires that you be military retiree with over 20 years of active service (Reservist age 60+ with 20+ years of eligible service) and be in receipt of Department of Veterans Affairs disability pay with a 10% or higher disability rating in which the disability was the result of war time action or combat related training. For more information on CRSC which differs from Combat-Related Disability Pay (CRDP), go to www.crsc.army.mil and for email, CRSC.info@us.army.mil, or you can call toll free ARMY (1-866/821-3254), NAVY/MARINES (1-877/366-2772), AIR FORCE (1-866/229-7074), or COAST GUARD (1-866/307-1336). COL Sackett will have a booth at our Retiree Appreciation Day activity on 17 September 2005. Also addressed at the meeting was the need to provide continuous support to the families of our military deployed in harms way and for the wounded that have suffered both physical and mental injuries. The council members that are members of veteran's service organizations were encouraged to have their membership become fully involved in this effort. Too many of our wounded and their families are being "lost in the cracks" and we must insist that more be done to help them.

The Maryland Veteran's Commission held its quarterly meeting Hurlock, MD on 26 April 2005, and I as a Commissioner, attended it. Of interest to the retired military community was the discussion that addressed the military retired pay tax exemption bills that failed to pass the Maryland General Assembly. The need for more visible support by the military retiree at rallies and for them to hold their political representatives more accountable was discussed. A letter from Governor Ehrlich, addressed to veterans and veteran service organizations was distributed and read. It

included the promise he made during his campaign of 2002 that would provided greater tax relief for the retired service men and women who has bravely defended our nations and its causes". His plan sought to have 100% of military retirement income made exempt for qualified veterans who served at least 20 years of active duty and would pertain to both enlisted and warrant/commissioned officers. The letter told of how political maneuvering by the various politicians, stripped his proposal and lessen the amount of tax exemption for certain enlisted retirees that would be below that, which is currently authorized by Maryland law. Mentioned was the fact that one politician intended to kill the bill and re-introduce it next year in an effort to win veteran support during his re-election. Governor Ehrlich indicated that he was trying to make Maryland more "tax-friendly" to military retirees so that it could attract this highly skilled and highly trained segment of the workforce that would contribute to the states economic growth. He quoted: "Maryland should be attracting and retaining military retirees and their families, not driving them away." He intends to re-introduce his plan in next year's legislative season and asked we start contacting our representatives in the General Assembly to secure their support for a full 100% exemption for both enlisted and officers. IF YOU ARE UNSURE OF THE NAME OF YOUR REPRESENTATIVE, VISIT ON THE WEB, www.mlis.state.md.us. The State plans to have numerous activities recognizing the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II (Two) and the men and women that served during that period. Watch for announcements in the local media, which will provide more information on planned events.

In an effort to keep you informed and since our newsletter is only published twice each year, I find that my articles may be too lengthy, and for this, I apologize. So in closing, I want to remind you of our upcoming Retiree Appreciation Day weekend activities planned for Friday, 16 September 2005 (evening social and door prizes) and Saturday, 17 September 2005 (Health Fair, Information Booths, Panel Discussions, Luncheon and more door prizes). So plan to attend.

If you have any questions of me, please write to me at PO Box 177, Fort Meade, MD 20755 (I still like snail-mail, more personal) and I will respond.

And as Max would say in closing, "May God hold you in the hollow of His hand".

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY COL Charles Shadle, USA Ret.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Military Retiree Council will sponsor the Retiree Appreciation Day on Saturday, 22 October 2005 at the Recreation Center, Bldg 3326 on the Proving Ground.

The 2005 Appreciation Day program will follow the very successful programs we have held in past years. The council is most appreciative of the generous support provided by the Commander and Deputy Installation Commander and staff. While security requirements are still in effect retirees and families are able to take advantage of the PX, Commissary and recreational activities, and many of the staff support programs as we have in past years.

We have several offers from the military coalition organizations to provide excellent speakers for this year's program. There are several subjects that are always of concern to the retirees, such as the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Concurrent Receipt Disability Program (CRDP) and Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC). Tricare updates such as the proposed prescription co-pay increase and others will be covered. We will also get an update of the status of the efforts to get retired pay tax relief from the State of Maryland.

There will be a panel of staff agencies to receive your questions and to update you on services offered to retirees. As usual we will have several veterans organizations and local agencies with interests in retirees available to talk with you before and after the program. We have been fortunate to have these groups with us in past years and the information that they bring to pass to you.

We look forward to the very popular support offered by the Kirk Health Clinic, the Credit Union, The 389th Army Band and a

very fine lunch at one of the troop dining facilities.

Please call in your reservations for lunch to CSM (USA RET) Barry Decker at (410) 306-1153 or to COL (USA RET) Charles Shadle at (410) 663-9263.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, 22 October 2005 at the APG Recreation Center. The time will be 0800-0900 for coffee, pastries, visiting and listening to the 389th Army Band. Bring family and friends.

CHANGES TO AR 670-1 WEAR AND APPEARANCE OF ARMY UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA

Recent changes have been made which authorize military retirees, effective 1 October 2004 to wear the physical fitness uniform or the improved physical fitness uniform. This is covered in AR 670-1, Paragraph 30-3g, dated 3 February 2005. Retirees are authorized to wear these physical fitness uniforms under the following provisions:

1. May wear the PFU or the IPFU with civilian attire off the installation.
2. When wearing the PFU or the IPFU as a complete uniform, retirees will:
 - a. Wear only authorized accessories corresponding to those worn by personnel of the Active Army.
 - b. Keep the sleeves down on the sweatshirt or jacket, the legs down on the pants, and the t-shirt tucked inside the trunks.
 - c. Not roll or push up the sleeves of the IPFU sweatshirt or the PFU/IPFU jacket.
 - d. Wear the sleeves of the IPFU sweatshirt cuffed or uncuffed, may not cuff the IPFU jacket sleeves.
 - e. Wear the black knit cap pulled down snugly on the head, with the bottom edge of the cap folded

up: will not roll the edge of the cap.

- f. Pregnant retirees are authorized to wear the t-shirt/sweatshirt outside the trunks/sweatpants.

This new regulation becomes effective on 3 March 2005 and the uniforms may be purchased at the clothing sales store.

You can thank the Fort Meade Retiree Council for this change. It was their suggestion that retirees be able to obtain physical fitness uniforms through the clothing sales store. This suggestion was pushed up through the Army Chief of Staff Retiree Council and was ultimately approved by the Army Chief of Staff. GOOD GOING!

SURVIVOR BENEFIT PLAN OPEN SEASON

Retirees can look forward to a one-year Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Open Season beginning October 1, 2005. At that time, retirees not currently participating in the SBP program will be permitted to elect SBP. Retirees participating in the SBP program at a reduced base amount will be permitted to increase the base amount. Lastly, retirees who currently have child only coverage will be permitted to add spouse or former spouse coverage to the existing child coverage, as well as increase the base amount.

Retirees must live for two years following the election in order for the coverage to become fully effective. Should the retiree pass away before the two-year period expires, this election shall become void, and all costs attributed to this election will be refunded to the named beneficiary of the voided election.

The costs associated with buy-in premiums are not yet available.

SPACE-A TRAVEL FOR FAMILIES EXTENDED

The one-year test to expand space-available travel privileges to family members of retired service members traveling within the Continental United States aboard military flights has been extended until further notice. The extension will allow the

test to continue while Defense officials complete their evaluation of the test. The test does not apply to gray-area retirees, Guard, and Reserve members who are retired but are not yet eligible for retired pay and benefits.

RETIREMENT SERVICES CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

(reprint from Army Echoes)

This year the Army will mark the 50th anniversary of the Army Retirement Services program. On Nov 14, 1955, the Retired Activities Unit was established as part of the Personal Affairs Section, Personnel Services Branch of the Office of The Adjutant General. The direction to create this new unit came from the office of the Army Chief of Staff, then GGEN Maxwell Taylor.

The creation of the new office was announced in Circular 600-7, Dec 15, 1955, which began,

"To further the maintenance of a strong bond between the active Army and its retired members, commanders at all levels are enjoined to encourage a more personal relationship in all dealings with retired personnel.

The Retired Activities Unit in the Office of the Adjutant General, Department of the Army, will render prompt and complete advice and/or assistance on all matters pertaining to retired personnel, excepting the actual retirement, and will furnish information pertaining to rights, privileges and benefits as changes occur."

A letter was sent to all Army headquarters offices, directing them to establish a service similar to the Retired Activities Unit at their level.

In a letter to the Army headquarters adjutants general, the Adjutant General MG John Klein said, "The ultimate benefit to the Army, in this program, could be the spontaneous creation of a group, enthusiastic and well-qualified to inform the public of the Army's mission and its needs."

When the unit was created, there were about 99,000 retired Soldiers. This number had been growing rapidly from about 15,000 before WWII and Korea. Today, there are about 720,000 retired Soldiers. 100,000 "gray-area" Reserve retired Soldiers (not yet

age 60 and receiving retired pay) and 140,000 surviving spouses.

In the early days of the unit, about 22 staff members served all retired Soldiers through letters, phone calls and even visits to the Washington, DC office. Today, the Army Retirement Services office is staffed by only six people, but the network of those serving retiring and retired Soldiers, families and surviving spouses has grown.

Soldiers and families who are about to retire and those who have retired can turn to Retirement Services Officers (RSOs) worldwide. Retiree volunteers surface retiree concerns through installation retiree councils and through the Army Chief of Staff's Retiree Council. The new Army Installation Management Agency (IMA) includes a specialist in retirement issues assigned to work with IMA regions and installations to support RSOs and retired soldiers.

FORT MEADE MORALE, WELFARE, AND RECREATION SCHEDULE

2005 Calendar of Events

June 2 Teen Center Ground Breaking
June 4 BOSS Talent Show
June 10 Volunteer Recognition Ceremony
June 10 Movies in the Park "Racing Stripes"
June 18 "The Platters" at The Fort Meade Pavilion
June 19 Father's Day Brunch at Club Meade
June 21 Commander's Cup Outing
July 4 Independence Day Celebration
July 29 Movies in the Park
July TBD Family Child Care Summer Fun In the community
August 2 National Night Out
August 20 Lanes to Links Tournament
August 26 Movies in the Park
September 30 Movies in the Park
October 1 Youth Fishing Rodeo at Burba Lake
October TBD Family Child Care Fall Festival in the Communities
October TBD Community Symposium
October 7-8 Oktoberfest
October 19 Commander's Cup Outing,

Last of the season
October 28 Movies in the Park
November 1 Tops in Blue
November 24 Thanksgiving Day at Club Meade
December 6 Installation Holiday Concert
December TBD Family Child Care Winter Fest at the Youth Services Building
December 31 New Year's Eve parties

2006

January 28 Super Bowl Party
February TBD Valentine Dinners

These events, dates and times, are subject to change. Please look in the SOUND OFF or go to www.ftmeademwr.com for more information as time draws closer to the event date.

ID CARD SECTION OPERATIONS

The ID Card section is located in Building 2234 at the corner of Ernie Pyle Road and Huber Road. The hours are from 0730 – 1530, Monday – Friday. The section is closed on the first Thursday of each month from 0845 – 1130 for mandatory training. It can get quite crowded so we ask for your patience. The best hours to come are from 0730 – 1000. ID Card section phone number is (301)677-9586 / 9592.

BLOOD DRIVE

Retirees - please support the ongoing blood drives at Fort Meade. Blood drawn goes to support our wounded troops, their dependents and retirees. The team that draws the blood represents the Armed Services Blood Program out Bethesda National Naval Medical Center. When the military has to purchase blood from the Red Cross it can cost an average of \$300 per unit.

Dates of upcoming drives at Fort Meade are:
8 Aug 05
4 Oct 05
6 Dec 05

To learn more call Leonette Cooper 301-677-5406 or Jolynda Hurley at 301-677-7036.

R.A.D.

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY – 16 SEPTEMBER 2005

6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Club Meade, 6600 Mapes Road
Social (Sit-down dinner/cash bar) (\$13.50)

MENU

Roast Turkey/cornbread stuffing/giblet gravy
Whipped potato/Garden tossed salad
New Orleans Vegetable/Cranberry sauce
Rolls/butter, Coffee/tea, Dessert
**For those whose beliefs forbid the eating of meat, the main course will be substituted with a vegetarian meal. Please notate this on your reservation form.*

SATURDAY – 17 SEPTEMBER 2004

8:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

McGill Community Center, 8452 Zimborski Ave
Registration
Medical Screening/Information Booths

8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

ID Card renewals will be available at
2234 Huber Road.

10:55 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Prelude to the Pledge
Pledge of Allegiance
National Anthem
Invocation
Welcome
Subect Expert Panel (Questions & Answers)

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Travel to Club Meade

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Buffet luncheon
(\$12.00)

**RAD Sales by AAFES and the Fort Meade
Commissary – all day.**

LUNCHEON MENU

Tossed salad table, Baked Chicken,
Roast beef w/mushroom sauce
Red Bliss potatoes/Green Bean Almandine
assorted deserts, Rolls, butter, coffee, tea.

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS DIRECTIONS / GATES

From North – Travel south on Rt 295 to the Jessup/Odenton exit (Rte 175). Exit east on Rte 175 towards Odenton. Turn right onto Reece Road (3rd light).

From West – Travel east on Rte 175, turn right on Reece Road.

From the East - Travel Rte 175. Either follow Rte 32 to the Rte 198 entrance or follow Rte 175 and turn left at Reece Road entrance.

From South – Travel North on Rte 295 (B/W Parkway) and then east on Rte 198. Take the circles at Rte 32 and come through Mapes Road entrance or drive North on 95 then east on Rte 32 to Mapes Road entrance.

DIRECTIONS TO MCGILL CENTER

Coming from Rte 175 on to Reece Road, turn left on Ernie Pyle Road and then right on Mapes. Follow Mapes to 6th Armored Cavalry Road on left. Continue on 6th Armored Cavalry Road to top of hill and go straight at 4-way stop. Parking is on the other side of the Chapel in the back of McGill Center. Entrance will be through the ballroom doors (a sign will be posted).

Coming through the Rte 198 entrance follow Mapes to 6th Armored Cavalry Road on right. Directions are the same as above.

Club Meade (social and luncheon) is located off Mapes Road.

Be prepared for delays.

**DON'T FORGET THAT NAME, ADDRESS
AND PHONE NUMBER MUST BE ON YOUR
CHECK FOR THE SOCIAL AND/OR
LUNCHEON.**

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS RESERVATION FORM

Please check the appropriate space below and return along with your check.

Mail to: Retirement Services Office
ATTN: INME-MEA-HRM-X
2234 Huber Road
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland 20755-5076

PLEASE RESPOND NLT 3 SEPTEMBER 2005.
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: CLUB MEADE. HOME PHONE # MUST BE INCLUDED ON CHECKS.
CHECKS CANNOT BE RETURNED AFTER 3 SEPTEMBER 2005

_____ Number planning to attend.

_____ 16 September - Social Event (cost \$13.50 per meal)

**** Sit-down dinner will be Roast Turkey. If your beliefs forbid the eating of meat please notate this on the reservation form and a vegetarian dish will be substituted.**

_____ 17 September – Medical Screening

_____ 17 September – Luncheon (cost \$12.00 per meal)

_____ 17 September – ID Card/s (Replacement)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE.

KIMBROUGH AMBULATORY CARE CTR
COMMISSARY
POST EXCHANGE
ASSOCIATION OF THE US ARMY
ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMUNITY RECREATION DIVISION
PWOC
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DEPT OF AGING
USO
MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
THE RETIRED ENLISTED ASSOCIATION
THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
JOHNS HOPKINS
MILITARY ORDER OF WORLD WARS
ARMED FORCES RETIREMENT HOME
RETIRED OFFICERS WIVES CLUB
AMVETS
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
FORT MEADE GARDEN CLUB
AIR MOBILITY COMMAND (SPACE-A)
DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN AFFIARS
LEGAL ASSISTANCE
COMBAT RELATED SPECIAL COMP.