



Fort Hood Retirement Services Bulletin

September 2008

By Fort Hood Retirement Services

Published by the Retirement Services Office, Installation Adjutant General, Fort Hood, Texas, as a service to military retirees and their dependents or survivors within the jurisdiction of this installation. Articles appearing in this publication do not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the Commander of Fort Hood or the Department of the Army. Inquiries or comments should be directed to the Editor, Mrs. Beth Waller, Retirement Services Officer, Building 18010, Fort Hood, Texas 76544-5056. Telephone: (254) 287-5210 / 3368 or DSN 737-5210 / 3368 or 1-800-403-6640.

A Note From The Commander, III Corps and Fort Hood And Command Sergeant Major, III Corps and Fort Hood

I want to be the first to welcome each and every one of you to Fort Hood for a day of activities designed with your needs in mind. As military retirees you understand both the honor and the sacrifice which comes with service to a Nation at war. Thank you for your decades of honorable service, we are forever in your debt.

This is an extremely busy time for the Soldiers of III Corps and Fort Hood and one need look no further than the weekly flights into and out of Robert Gray Army Airfield to know that Phantom Warriors are daily answering our Nation's call to duty. As the Nation's largest active duty military post over 330,000 Soldiers have deployed from Fort Hood since the Global War on Terror began. With this high OPTEMPO we are blessed to have a committed support network of retirees, volunteers, and community leaders behind our Soldiers both at home and abroad.

As military retirees you clearly understand and respect the hardships our Soldiers currently face and I call on you to continue your service by telling our story in the community. Thanks again for all you have done and will continue to do.

PHANTOM WARRIORS!

Sincerely, LTG Rick Lynch, Commander, III Corps and Fort Hood
CSM Neil Ciotola, Command Sergeant Major, III Corps and Fort Hood

*A Proud Salute to America's Armed Forces
Retired, Still Serving!*

34th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day Agenda

24 OCTOBER 2008

0800 – 1600	LEGAL ASSISTANCE	BLDG 4617, 72D & SANTA FE
0900 - ??	RETIREE GOLF TOURNAMENT	COURSES OF CLEAR CREEK
1000 – 1400	COMBAT RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION (CRSC) APPLICATION ASSISTANCE	BLDG 18010 Bn Ave
1600 – 1700	RETREAT CEREMONY	VAN FLEET HALL (FLAGPOLE)
2030 - ??	“BREAKFAST FOR DINNER” SPONSORED BY CLEAR CREEK COMMISSARY	CLEAR CREEK COMMISSARY

25 OCTOBER 2008

0700 – 0845	OLE TIMERS BREAKFAST SPONSORED BY PIONEER SERVICES, PFCU ASYMCA & EISENHOWER BANK	FORT HOOD CATERING AND CONF CTR (FHCCC) BLDG 5764
0800 – 0845	REGISTRATION AND UPDATES	FHCCC
0900 –	OPENING CEREMONY	FHCCC, MAIN BALLROOM
0915 – 0930	WELCOME ADDRESS	CG / REPRESENTATIVE
0930 – 0935	PRESENTATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS	MR. GREEN, DIR, HUMAN RESOURCES
0935 – 0945	PRESENTATION OF RETIREE COUNCIL & INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER	CSM (RET) MINOSKY, CO-CHAIRMAN, RETIREE COUNCIL
0945 – 1000	GUEST SPEAKER	TO BE ANNOUNCED
1000 – 1030	ADMIN ANNOUNCEMENTS/DOOR PRIZES	MRS. BETH WALLER
1030 – 1330	COUNTY FAIR ACTIVITIES	FHCCC
0900 – 1400	HEALTH FAIR, CRDAMC	Charles T. Moore Clinic, Bldg 2245, 761 st Tank Bn Ave
0900 – 1600	ID CARD ISSUE & DEERS TRANSACTIONS	BLDG 18010, Battalion Ave
0900 – 1600	CRSC APPLICATION ASSISTANCE	BLDG 18010, Battalion Ave
0900 – 1600	PHANTOM EXPRESS	BLDG 18010, Battalion Ave
1100 – 1600	LEGAL ASSISTANCE (WILLS, POA, ETC)	BLDG 4617, 72d & Santa Fe
1130 - 1400	LUNCH (EXTENDED HOURS)	BLDG 21020, Battalion Ave OIF MEMORIAL Dining Facility
1000 – 1600	MUSEUMS (1 ST CAV & 4 TH INF DIV)	1CD & 4ID
1400- 1500	1 ST CAV HORSE DETACHMENT DEMONSTRATION	1CD HORSE STABLES
1700 - ??	***RETIREE ROUND UP DINNER SPONSORED BY THE GREATER KILLEEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	***FHCCC*** Bldg 5764 Fort Hood

Bus Transportation will be provided to planned events on Sat., 25 Oct. 2008, from the FHCCC.

NOTE LOCATION CHANGE OF RETIREE ROUND UP DINNER

A Note From The Garrison Commander & Garrison Command Sergeant Major

As we continue to be a Nation at war, I want to extend my thanks to you for your continued support and service. You and your Families are valued members of your community and add immensely to its uniqueness and strength. Your individual and collective contributions to our Army Family are immeasurable. You are the epitome of "Retired, Still Serving!" This current great generation knows it owes all of you a debt of gratitude and is repaying it by gallant service during this era of persistent conflict. We clearly stand on the shoulders of great Americans, and we salute you today and every day and thank you for forging the path for our military presently fighting to preserve our freedom that you also so fervently defended. This year October 24 & 25, 2008, Fort Hood opens its gates to all Military Retirees and their Families to show our appreciation for your great sacrifices and dedication. We look forward to seeing you at Retiree Appreciation Day. Come out and enjoy all of the activities!

Sincerely, Colonel William V. Hill III, Fort Hood Garrison Commander
Command Sergeant Major Donald Felt, Fort Hood Garrison Command Sergeant Major

A Note From The Director, Human Resources

I would like to take this opportunity to first thank you many veterans, spouses and Family members for your attendance at this year's Annual Retiree Appreciation Day celebration. Your many contributions, sacrifices, heroism and dedication to our Armed Services are without a doubt the reasons for America's freedom. Fort Hood has again opened its doors to you great Americans and we sincerely hope you enjoy your visit to the "Great Place." If you have any suggestions to improve this event, please do not hesitate to inform myself or my staff. Ms. Beth Waller and her team have worked many hours to ensure your needs and services are met to the highest standards. Our intent is to improve this event each year and your input does make a difference. Again, it is our honor and pleasure to welcome you back to the Central Texas area.

Sincerely, Mr. Charles E. Green, Sr., Director, Human Resources

Retirement Services Office Location

The Retirement Services Office is located in Building 18010, Room B118, on T.J. Mills Blvd (formerly Hood Road) and Battalion Avenue. Retirement Services Office provides information and assistance on matters pertaining to retired personnel. You are encouraged to write, call, or visit the Retirement Services Office. For assistance with Combat Related Special Compensation Applications, please call for an appointment prior to coming in so you will have the supporting documentation needed to complete the application. **Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday, 0800-1130 and 1230-1600 hours, Friday, 0800-1130 and 1230-1500 hours. We are closed Training and Federal Holidays.** Telephone (254) 287-5210 / 287-3368 / 287-8761 / 285-5926 or 1-800-403-6640.

Fort Hood Retiree Services Website

You can find additional websites, forms, and information by going to the Fort Hood Homepage (www.hood.army.mil). In the left column under "Retirees and Veterans", click on "Fort Hood Support," then click on "Retirement Services and Info." This takes you to our Fort Hood Retirement Services website.

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information

Retired Military Golf Tournament

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Retired Military Golf Tournament will be held Friday, 24 October 2008, 0900 at The Courses of Clear Creek. It is limited to the first 144 entries. Only retired military personnel, their Family members and survivors are eligible to play in this event. The tournament will be individual by flight, shotgun start. The entry fee is ~~\$35.00~~ per person, includes green fees, cart fees, and \$10.00 towards purchase of prizes. This is a great chance to see old friends! If interested complete the attached entry form and send it to Business Operations Division, The Courses of Clear Creek, P.O. Box K, Fort Hood, Texas 76544. **For additional information call (254) 287-4130.**

Retreat Ceremony

A Retreat Ceremony will be held Friday, 24 October 2008, 1600 hours at the III Corps Headquarters (Flagpole). This ceremony will honor III Corps Soldiers retiring during the month of October. In addition, the Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood (or his designated representative) will recognize the Distinguished Honorary Retiree (to be announced).

“Breakfast For Dinner”

We are happy to add to our events on Friday “Breakfast For Dinner” sponsored by the Clear Creek Commissary! It will be held at the Clear Creek Commissary at 8:30 pm, 24 Oct 08. The meal is free and there will be prizes, too! In order for the Commissary to have enough food for everyone you must RSVP. Please mail your RSVP NLT 8 Oct 08 with the enclosed form at the back of the newsletter or you can call the commissary at 254-287-5943 x232 or x200. You can also e-mail to betty.carey@deca.mil or mary.kight1@deca.mil. Come on out and enjoy “Breakfast for Dinner!”

Opening Ceremony/County Fair

On 25 October 2008, 0900, the Opening Ceremony will be held at the Fort Hood Catering and Conference Center Main Ballroom (formerly the Fort Hood Officers Club). The guest speaker will be announced at a later date. The opening ceremony will be followed by the County Fair also at the Fort Hood Catering and Conference Center from 1030 – 1330 hours. You will be able to renew an ID Card and get a Power of Attorney at the County Fair in addition to locations at the Copeland Soldiers Service Center (ID Cards) and III Corps Legal Assistance (new location: Bldg 4617, (corner of 72nd & Santa Fe) . Wills can only be done at the III Corps Legal Assistance Office. Also, we are currently scheduled to have a representative from Retired Pay (DFAS-CL) attending to answer your pay questions or assist with pay issues and also a representative from the Armed Forces Retirement Home is scheduled to attend.

Don't forget to come early for the Ole Timers Breakfast beginning at 0700!

We are proud that Pioneer Services, Pentagon Federal Credit Union, Eisenhower Bank and Armed Services YMCA have teamed up to sponsor the Ole Timers Breakfast!

In order to attend you must RSVP NLT 15 Oct 08. Please return enclosed registration form at the back of this newsletter if you would like to attend.

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Bacon or Sausage, Hash Browns, Biscuits, Grits, SOS, Butter, Jellies, Coffee or Hot Tea.

Come on out, enjoy breakfast and visit some old friends!

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information (Continued)

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center (CRDAMC) Health Fair

The Health Fair will be at Charles T. Moore Health Clinic, Bldg 2245, 761st Tank Bn Ave, 25 October, 0900-1400 hours. As of date, Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center (CRDAMC) does not expect to have the flu vaccine for the fair. Because an additional strain of the flu virus has been identified it will take longer for the vaccine to be manufactured and may not be available until late November/ December timeframe. The pneumonia shot and tetanus booster will be available for those needing these vaccines. Please bring shot records for verification and update. Self Care Classes and Dietary Supplement Classes will also be held at various times through out the day. This year's Health Fair is based on the US Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommendations for Clinical Preventative Services, and will include a combination of screenings and education.

For updated information on the availability of the flu shot at Fort Hood, CRDAMC will put the information out through local media channels. You can also call the Fort Hood Retirement Services Office for information on availability at 254-285-5926/ 287-5210 or 1-800-403-6640.

Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Application Assistance

Assistance in completing CRSC applications will be available at the Copeland Soldier Service Center, 24 October 2008, 1000 – 1400 hours and Saturday, 25 October, 0900 – 1600 hours. Please bring your DD214, VA Decision Rating Letter (with disability code sheet) and any other supporting documents you would like to file with the application. Eligible applicants include Retirees who served 20 or more years on Active Duty or Reservists who are at least age 60 (in receipt of retired pay) and are entitled to retired pay that is offset by VA payments; and have at least 10% VA disability rating that is combat-related. Due to a recent law change, Medical Retirees who have less than 20 years but meet the other previous criteria are also eligible to apply.

Reservations are not necessary; however, please contact the Fort Hood RSO if you would like to apply on one of these dates so we can have adequate staff members on hand. Please return the enclosed form or call 254-287-5210 / 285-5926 / 287-3368 or 1-800-403-6640 for more information.

ID Card Issue and DEERS Transactions

ID Card Section will be open for ID Card Issue and DEERS Transactions, 25 October 2008, from 0900 – 1600 hours in the Copeland Soldiers Service Center, Bldg 18010. For your convenience two ID Card stations will also be at the County Fair location from 1030 – 1330 hours. See information provided under ID Cards in this newsletter for documents needed or please call 254-287-5670/2518.

Phantom Express (Access Control Point (ACP) Automated Access Control System on Fort Hood

Saturday Only, 25 Oct 08, 0900 – 1600 hrs., Phantom Express Registration will be available at the Copeland Soldiers Service Center, Bldg 18010, First Floor. This automated system to access Fort Hood will facilitate better security and also save money. In order to register, please bring the following:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1) Military (Retired) ID Card | 2) Valid Drivers License |
| 3) Valid & Current Proof of Insurance | 4) Valid & Current State Vehicle Registration |
| 5) DOD Decal Number & Expiration Date | |

Please Note: The Bldg 18010 location is a temporary location for Retiree Appreciation Day, 25 Oct 08 only. For the normal office location and hours, please see below.

Phantom Express Office (Main), Bldg 23023, is located on the corner of 56th street and 761st Tank Battalion Ave. From the main gate traveling North on T.J. Mills Blvd (formerly Hood Road), go to 761st Tank Battalion Ave and turn left. Go past the 1st Cavalry Division Museum to 56th street and turn right, Bldg 23023 will be on your left. Their normal hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 0800 – 1600 hours. For more information, please call (254)553-1104.

Retiree Appreciation Day Event Information (Continued)

Legal Assistance

Legal Assistance will be available on 24 October 2008 from 0800 – 1600 hours and also on 25 October 2008, 1100 – 1600 hours at their new location: Bldg 4617 (corner of 72nd & Santa Fe).

For your convenience there will also be Legal Assistance available at the County Fair Location from 1100 – 1330 hours for Powers of Attorney only. This is a great time to update wills and Powers of Attorney if needed. For more information please call 254-287-7901/3199

1st Cavalry Horse Detachment Demonstration

The 1st Cavalry Horse Detachment will again entertain with their awesome cavalry horse demonstration on 25 October 2008, 1400 hours at the 1st Cavalry Horse Stables. Come on out and enjoy the fun!

1st Cavalry Division and 4th Infantry Division Museums

Both Museums will also be open on Friday and Saturday, 24 & 25 October 2008 from 1000 – 1600 hours. (Special Retiree Appreciation Day Hours) Come by and see their new displays!

1st Cavalry Division Museum:

Hours of Operation: 9 – 4 Monday-Friday; 12 – 4 Sat & Sun.

Sun & Federal Holidays: 12 – 4 Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's

For More information call 254-287-3626

4th Infantry Division Museum:

Hours of Operation: 9 – 4 Monday-Friday; Sat 10 – 4

Sun & Federal Holidays: 12 – 4 Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's

For more information call 254-287-8811

Lunch at Troop Dining Facility

Please note that the Dining Facility this year will again be at OIF Memorial Dining Facility, Bldg 21020, Battalion Avenue. The menu will include steak and shrimp. Please complete the registration at the back of this newsletter if you plan to attend so we will have a count.

Fort Hood Retiree Appreciation Round-Up Dinner

In conjunction with the Fort Hood Retiree Appreciation Day, the Annual Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce Retiree Round-Up Dinner will be held at 5:00 pm, October 25, 2008 at the **Fort Hood Catering and Conference Center (FHCCC)**, Bldg 5764, Fort Hood, Texas. ****Please note the new location.**** The social hour will be from 5:00pm-6:00pm; Dinner will begin at 6:00 pm followed by Door Prize Drawings. The dinner menu is Poulet Cordon Bleu, served with rice pilaf and white wine sauce supreme, rolls & butter, iced tea, coffee, water & dessert.

The cost of the dinner ticket is \$15.00 per person and must be paid in advance (price includes gratuity). There will be a *CASH BAR* also. ATM machines are available at the FHCCC (there may be a bank charge to use ATM machines). Dress is casual. Persons desiring to attend must complete the attached application and mail it with a check or money order made payable to Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce to arrive no later than 20 October 2008. Tickets will NOT be mailed to you, but will be available for pick-up as shown on the return form letter. Your early response will allow us to better plan for the number of persons desiring to attend. Tickets are available first come, first serve, so please mail your application and funds today. (NO Cash Please.) No refunds will be made after 20 October 2008.

For more information you may contact the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce at 254-526-9551.

Hotel Accommodations For Retiree Appreciation Day

Government lodging availability at Fort Hood is limited and subject to change. Retiree Appreciation Day guests requiring overnight lodging will need to personally arrange for hotel or motel accommodations in the civilian communities near Fort Hood. The below list of area motel/hotel information are provided for your convenience. This list was compiled from information in local telephone directories and from lists prepared by the Killeen and Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce. This list does not reflect official endorsements by the United States Army. Fort Hood Guest House Reservation phone number: 254-532-5157.

Copperas Cove (adjacent to Fort Hood)

- Best Western Inn & Suites
321 Constitution Drive
Copperas Cove, Tx 76522
254-518-3363 or 1-800-518-4406
- Howard Johnson Express Inn
302 W. Hwy 190
547-2345
- Relax Inn
1714 W. Hwy 190
542-6615

Killeen (adjacent to Fort Hood)

- Best Western of Killeen
2709 E. Bus. Hwy 190
526-6651
- Plaza Hotel
1721 E. C. Tex Expwy
634-1555
- Comfort Suites
2709 Cunningham Road
Killeen, TX 76542
634-5560

Killeen (adjacent to Fort Hood)

- Shilo Inn Suites Hotel
3701 S. WS young DR
699-0999/1-800-222-2244
- Amerihost Suite
2506 Trimmier
554-3615
- Hallmark Inn and Suites
4500 E. C. Tex Expwy
634-1313
- Executive Inn
1601 E. C. Tex Expwy
699-4081
- Howard Johnson
803 E.C. Tex Expwy
526-4343
- Hampton Inn
2702 O W Curry Drive
554-7110
- Sleep Inn & Suites
8700 C. Tex Expwy
Killeen, TX 76541
616-2345

For additional information on motels in the Killeen and Copperas Cove area, please go to <http://www.gkcc.com> or <http://www.copperascove.com/lodging.htm> for a more complete listing.

GENERAL INFORMATION

ID Cards

Locations

The Fort Hood ID Card Section is located in Building 18010, Room B115, on the corner of T.J Mill Blvd (formerly Hood Road) and Battalion Avenue. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday: 0730 to 1530. These hours are subject to change, so if you are coming from out of town, please call us at (254) 287-5670 or (254) 287-2518.

The Customer Service Unit, 301st Fighter Wing (Reserve), Naval Air Station, Fort Worth, is currently issuing ID Cards and vehicle decals for military retirees and their Family members. Please call (817) 782-5244 for current hours of operation and additional information.

The Customer Service Unit, Texas Air National Guard, Fort Worth is currently issuing ID Cards for military retirees and their Family members. Please call (817) 852-3238 or (817) 852-3239 for hours of operation.

For personnel living in the Austin, Round Rock Georgetown area - You can now obtain your ID Cards/DEERS enrollment at Camp Mabry, Austin. Please call prior at (512) 782-6841.

Now you can update your address information through the Internet at the following website: www.TRICARE.osd.mil/DEERSAddress.

For more locations near you, log on at: www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/uwa/home

ID Cards (Continued)

ID Card & DEERS Document Requirements

PLEASE NOTE: Homeland Security requires all adults to provide two forms of State or Federal Issue Identification to receive a Military ID Card. One must be a photo ID. Without this identification, an ID card cannot be issued.

All retirees and Family members who are in need of a new ID Card because of mutilation, expiration, or loss need to bring the following documents. These documents allow us to verify status in case the ID card computer system shuts down:

a. Retiree: Retirement orders or DD Form 214

b. Family members (Must be accompanied by Sponsor or have a Power of Attorney), documents needed:

(1) Retirement orders or DD Form 214 (first time Retirees)

(2) Birth certificate (containing at least one parents name) and court documents signed by a judge, determining sponsor is parent.

(3) Marriage certificate or copy (with seal).

(4) Letter from college registrar's office stating that the dependent is a full time student and expected date of graduation (for dependents age 21 to 23).

(5) Divorce decree.

(6) Adoption papers.

(7) Unmarried surviving spouse must present DD 214, marriage certificate, death certificate, and birth certificate for surviving children's ID card.

(8) To replace lost ID cards requires two forms of ID (i.e.drivers license, birth certificate, social security card, etc) and a picture ID, plus all above documents.

(9) Former spouses that qualified for ID card must have members DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) for each period of service in addition to above requirements.

(10) The signature of the military sponsor is required before issuance of Family member's ID cards or a valid Power of Attorney from sponsor. If not signed in front of the verifying official, the application must be notarized if sponsor is not with Family members.

Assistance Letters

If ID Card holders are medically incapacitated, a current doctor's signed statement on letterhead is required stating that assistance is needed for someone to shop for them, and if the condition is temporary or permanent. The person that will be doing the shopping must accompany the ID Card holder and have some type of picture ID (i.e. driver's license) when coming in for a letter. Only one person is authorized a shopper's letter. Assistant letters are issued for one year at a time or when that person is no longer medically incapacitated, whichever comes first. A current doctor's letter is needed for renewal.

Update DEERS Information – TRICARE

To ensure eligibility for TRICARE benefits, beneficiaries 65 and older must have their current address on file with the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Update change of addresses on the TRICARE Web site: www.tricare.osd.mil/DEERSAddress/ or update DEERS address by:

- Visiting the nearest military personnel office that has an ID card facility.
- Calling Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office (DSO) telephone center at 1-800-538-9552.
- Mailing the address change to DMDC Support Office, ATTN: Address Updates,400, Giggling Road, Seaside, CA 93955-6771 (Please include the Sponsor's SSN in your correspondence.)
- Faxing your change of address to DSO, Attn: COA at (831) 655-8317.
- Sending an e-mail message to addrinfo@osd.pentagon.mil. Messages sent should be lower case only and include: the sponsor's name, social security number and telephone number, name(s) of Family members affected by the address change, and the start date for the change.
- TRICARE For Life. Once a beneficiary and/or spouse reach age 65, DEERS should be updated to reflect Medicare eligibility with Part A/B on Medicare Card. For issuance of ID Card, Medicare Card must be presented on or after the effective date of Medicare eligibility.

If you need to update other information, contact or visit the nearest military ID card issuing facility to determine the documentation required to make the needed changes. Another option is for beneficiaries to mail or fax the appropriate documentation to the DSO (see above), and include an attention line, Attn: R&A. Requests received without the required documentation are returned unprocessed.

Casualty Information

Report Deaths Promptly

The death of retired Army members should be reported to the nearest Army post as soon as possible. This includes Army Reservist and Army National Guard members who are in a paid status. Please report deaths to the Casualty Assistance Office, Building 126, Battalion Avenue, Fort Hood or call (254) 287-7200.

POV Registration

Good News! All of your vehicle registration needs (decals and temporary passes) can be handled at the Bernie Beck Gate (Main Gate) of Fort Hood. New hours of operation are **0730 am to 1030 pm**. Retirees may obtain DOD decals for their POV's with the proper documents (listed below). For more information and after hours procedures, call 254-287-9909

Vehicle Registration Requirements for DOD Decals and Temporary pass

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) Current Drivers License | 2) Military (Retired) ID Card |
| 3) Proof of current insurance | 4) Current Vehicle Registration |

If vehicle registration is not in your name or spouse, you will need a notarized letter with the following information: Vehicle Information: Make, Model, Year, Vehicle Identification Number, License Plate Number, Color of Vehicle and Time Period (i.e. indefinite, 3years, 30 days).

Texas Veterans Commission Information

The state of Texas has provided assistance for the veterans, their dependents and survivors since 1927. Mr. Gary Ivy is the TVC counselor at Fort Hood, Texas. His office is located in the Copeland Soldier Service Center, Bldg 18010, Room A308, phone number (254) 287-3341. He can assist in filing original disability claims as well as reevaluations and amended claims. The TVC also assists the surviving spouse on any Veteran Benefits upon the retirees' death. Casualty cases are handled by appointment only. For more information, log on at www.tvc.state.tx.us or call 1-800-252-8387.

Killeen Heights Vet Center

The Killeen Heights Vet Center is located at 302 Millers Crossing, Suite 4, Harker Heights, TX 76548. The Vet Center provides many services for Veterans including readjustment counseling for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder for combat veterans and support and understanding about PTSD for Family members; Sexual Trauma and harassment counseling for both sexes, all eras; and Bereavement Counseling for Family members of Armed Forces Personnel who died in service of our country.

Their hours of operation are: Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
For more information, call 254-953-7100.

Army Career And Alumni Program (ACAP)

Are you currently retired and looking for a job?

If you are within two years of retirement or currently retired, the Fort Hood ACAP Center provides extended eligibility timeframes for use of ACAP services! Army retirees and their Family members may now use the system on a space available basis for the rest of their lives. We are located in the Copeland Soldiers Service Center, BLDG 18010, or call the ACAP Center for more information: 254-288-ACAP (2227) or 254-288-JOBS (5627) or visit our web page at www.acap.army.mil for more job opportunities.

Troops to Teachers

Troops to Teachers Still Seeking Military Retirees!

The Troops to Teachers Program continues to seek military retirees who would like to become public school teachers. For retirees with bachelor's degrees, TTT even has financial benefits in the form of either a stipend or a bonus. Under the stipend, TTT may provide up to \$5000 to pay for the costs of a certification program and related expenses. This incurs a three-year commitment to teach in a district where at least 20% of the students are below the poverty level.

The other financial benefit is a bonus, which is paid as an incentive to teach in high-needs schools. If a TTT participant gets hired to teach at a school campus where 50% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunches, the teacher will qualify for a \$10000 bonus instead of the stipend. The bonus is paid out in three payments over a three year period.

For additional information or a registration form for Troops to Teachers, please call the Texas Troops To Teachers Office in Austin at 1-800-810-5484. Meryl Kettler, the TTT coordinator, or her assistant, Dale Reynolds, will be happy to answer questions about becoming a teacher in Texas and funding from TTT.

Army Emergency Relief (AER)

A big "Thank You" goes out to all of the Retirees and Family members who contributed to the AER Campaign this year. The AER Program plays an important role in helping the Army "Take Care of its Own." AER provides financial assistance to Soldiers, active and retired, and their Family Members during valid emergencies. You may contribute to AER at anytime. For more information, please call the Fort Hood Army Community Services AER office at 254-288-5003/6330 or log on at <http://www.hoodmwr.com/acs/frb.html#aer>.

Volunteer Opportunities

Retirees and Family members, the Fort Hood Community Volunteer Program needs you!

We would love to match you with the volunteer position that best serves the needs of the community and you. Stop by the Lane Volunteer Center, Bldg. 16005, located at the corner of T.J. Mills Blvd (formerly Hood Road and Old Ironsides Avenue, or call 287-VOLS (8657) or 286-5913.

USO Fort Hood

Fort Hood is proud to have a USO facility on Fort Hood located at Bldg 1871, 50th Street, Fort Hood, TX.

Hours of operation are: Monday – Wednesday: 0800 – 1900
Thursday – Friday: 0800 – 2000
Saturday – Sunday: 1200 – 1800

If you would like to volunteer or make a donation, please call 254-768-2771. For more information, go to the USO website: www.uso.org.

Stop by and check out the USO Fort Hood!

Robertson Blood Center

Retirees and their Family members are requested and allowed to donate blood for use by deployed units and in military hospitals. As Soldiers deploy, the pool of available donors has shrunk. Donating blood has been called by some as the "closest thing to being in a foxhole with Soldiers." You can read more about the Armed Services Blood Program at www.militaryblood.dod.mil.

On Fort Hood, blood donations are collected by Soldiers at the Robertson Blood Center. The Robertson Blood Center is located in Building 2250, on 761st Tank Battalion Avenue, next to the Thomas Moore Clinic. The center is open from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Other times, mobile drives, questions, and concerns may be answered or arranged by contacting the Blood Donor Recruiter at (254) 287-5938.

Directorate of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (DMWR)

***Retirees can enjoy many activities right in their own backyard at Fort Hood!
DMWR offers many recreational programs for retired and active duty soldiers and their Families.***

The Fort Hood Catering and Conference Center is open to the public, all military ranks welcome. Call 532-5073 for information and reservations.

Check out Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area (BLORA)! Take a guided fishing tour or bring the grandkids to the youth fishing derby. Delight in a moonlight cruise around the lake or just enjoy the sunshine. Rent a cabin or park your RV at BLORA. Also, a favorite Central Texas holiday tradition returns to BLORA. "**Nature in Lights**" runs from November 21, 2008 to January 4, 2009. For more information on Nature in Lights, Park Entry Fees or other BLORA Activities call: BLORA Reservation Office, 254-287-2523

The Courses of Clear Creek are your very own country club, located off of Clear Creek Road. Call 254-287-4130 for tee times and information.

Take a gamble and play BINGO at the Community Events Center. Enjoy the camaraderie of other retirees and current Soldiers. For more information, call 254-532-9253.

Come out and enjoy Retiree Appreciation Days and take advantage of great specials around Fort Hood. There are so many ways to play everyday with Fort Hood MWR!

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center

Pharmacy News

The Pharmacy at the Clear Creek Post Exchange is for patients that have phone in refill prescriptions. Wait times vary, depending on the day of the week. **To refill by telephone 24 hours a day:** (254) 288-8911, 288-8912, 288-8917, 288-8918, 286-7295, 286-7296; Toll-free (Outside local calling area) 1-800-351-3636

Main Outpatient Pharmacy: The Main Outpatient Pharmacy is located in the basement of the hospital. New prescriptions, including those written by civilian providers (for medications that are stocked) are dispensed from this pharmacy.

Main Outpatient Pharmacy Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., Thursday: 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturdays, Holidays, and Training Holidays: 8:30 a.m.– 5:00 p.m., Sunday: Closed

Refill Pharmacy at the Main Exchange:

The Refill Pharmacy is located in the Fort Hood Main Post Exchange on Clear Creek Road inside the Customer Service area. Because of the large number of patients, Darnall requires that patients request refills in advance. Patients may use the 24-hour automated telephone refill system, or mail in their requests using forms provided by the pharmacy.

Refill Pharmacy Hours: Monday – Saturday: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Pharmacy Telephone: 254-288-8801 Questions or comments, call 254-288-8800 or 288-8159

Army Echoes

Army Echoes is available online! Log on at <http://armyg1.army.mil/retire>. This site is full of information for those preparing to retire and those already retired and also their Family members. Would you like to replace your paper *Echoes* with an electronic one? Just register on the secure Web site and the latest issue will be sent right to your inbox.

Retired Pay Information

Retiree changes in address/status: retirees are responsible for updating their pay file at DFAS-CL within one year of the event if they marry, remarry, are widowed or divorced and need to make or update an SBP election or beneficiary information (for unpaid allowances). Additionally, changes of address should be submitted, as they occur to ensure receipt of retiree pay, newsletters, 1099R forms, and retiree account statements. If communicating by fax, include your SSN on all pages and sign your request.

Retiree requests for pay changes: you may also start, stop, change allotments, change direct deposit information by calling the toll free number below. Communication should be made to:

If in receipt or entitled to retired PAY:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service
Cleveland Center
PO Box 7130
London, KY 40742-7130
Telephone#: 1-800-321-1080 or 1-216-522-5955

If in receipt or entitled to SBP:

DFAS-US Military Annuitant Pay
PO Box 7131
London, KY 40742-7131
Telephone #: 1-800-321-1080
Fax#: 1-800-982-8459 (Annuitant Pay)

DFAS-CL (Retired Pay) Toll Free Numbers: 1-800-321-1080 Fax: 1-800-469-6559

MyPay Information

Check out MyPay Today!

In order to make pay changes online, print your Retiree Account Statement or 10099R and do so much more with your retiree pay. Log onto <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>. Click on request pin number and one will be sent you in the mail. Once you receive your temporary PIN number you will be able to log in and choose your own PIN number. MyPay makes it easy for you to view and make changes to your pay without having to wait on hold or mail in your changes. Try it today!

Sources Of Information

Websites That May Interest You

AAFES website – www.aafes.com
AKO – Army Knowledge Online: https://www.us.army.mil/portal/portal_home.jhtml
Arlington Cemetery Website: <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/contents.htm>
Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center web site - www.hood-meddac.army.mil
Central Texas Veterans Healthcare System – <http://www.centraltexas.va.gov>
Commissary website – www.commissaries.com
DEERS-Verify Eligibility- www.tricare.osd.mil/deers
Defense Outplacement Referral System (DORS): <http://dod.jobsearch.org>
Department of the Army Retirement Services: <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/rso/mission.asp>
EVetRecs (Request DD214, Medical Records (Non VA), Awards, Documents, etc):
http://www.archives.gov/research_room/vetrecs/
Federal Employee Health Benefit Plan: <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/fehbp>
Kilauea, HI Recreation Center: <http://www.kmc-volcano.com>
Medicare Benefits – Medicare Part B: www.medicare.gov.
Military Facilities: <http://www.militaryliving.com>
MWR Travel Website: <http://www.armymwr.com/portal/travel>
My Pay website (DFAS Retirement Pay): <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>
Partners Across Texas (Benefits Information): <http://www.partnersacrosstexas.us>
Request Cold War Certificate: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/active/TAGD/coldwar/default.htm>
Senior Pharmacy benefit - 1-877-DoD-MEDS or www.tricare.osd.mil
Space A Travel Information: <http://spacea.info/>

Sources Of Information (Continued)

Social Security Administration: www.ssa.gov
Society for Military Widows: www.militarywidows.org
TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors): www.taps.org
Texas Veterans Commission: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us>
Travis Fund – <http://www.austincommunityfoundation.org/?nd=donation>
TRICARE Information Service - www.tricare.osd.mil
TRICARE For Life - <https://www.tricare4u.com/apps-portal/tricareapps-app/static/beneficiaries/>
TRICARE For Life Fact Sheet: <http://www.tricare.mil/factsheets/viewfactsheet.cfm?id=294>
TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy Program - www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE
TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Program – <http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/Prescriptions>
Update Address – DEERS: <http://www.tricare.mil/mybenefit/home/overview/Eligibility/DEERS>
Veterans Administration (VA) – www.va.gov
VGLI Online Account Access: www.insurance.va.gov

Useful Phone Numbers

AAFES (Fort Hood)	254-532-7200
Army Retired Activities-HQDA	1-800-336-4909
Army Retiree Mobilization	1-800-318-5298
Army Retired Pay Operations	1-800-321-1080
Commissary (Ft Hood I)	254-287-6648
Commissary (Ft Hood II)	254-287-8401
Ft Hood Guest House Reservations	254-532-5157
Fort Hood ID Card Office	254-287-2518/5670
Fort Hood Information	254-287-1110
Fort Hood Legal Service (SJA)	254-287-7901/3199
Ft Hood Retirement Svcs	1-800-403-6640
Legal Services-Dallas/Ft Worth	817-782-6007/6008
Medicare	1-800-633-4227
Patient Appointment, CRDAMC	1-800-305-6421
Patient Appt, CRDAMC (Local)	254-288-8888
Patient Appt – Cancel (CRDAMC)	254-288-7777
Pharmacy, CRDAMC	1-800-351-3636
Reserve Retirement	1-800-318-5298
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213
Society for Military Widows	1-800-842-3451
TAPS	1-800-959-8277 (Tragedy Assistance Program For Survivors)
Texas Work Force Commission	1-512-340-4300
TRICARE For Life Information Line	1-866-773-0404
TRICARE Information Line	1-888-363-2273
TRICARE Information Services	1-877-363-6337
TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy	1-866-363-8667
TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Prog.	1-866-363-8779
TRICARE Retiree Dental Prog.	1-888-838-8737
TRICARE Service Center(South)	1-800-444-5445
VA Hospital (Temple)	1-800-423-2111
Veterans Administration	1-800-827-1000
VGLI Account Access	1-800-419-1473

III Corps & Fort Hood Retiree Council

The III Corps and Fort Hood Retiree Council convenes quarterly to assist Department of the Army and III Corps in identifying and resolving problems and needs of retirees, and also providing recommendations on policies and activities affecting retirees. Listed below are the current Fort Hood Retiree Council Members. If you would like to contact anyone on the council, or become a member, please contact Retirement Services at (254) 287-5210 or 1-800-403-6640.



Fort Hood Retiree Council Members (Pictured From Left to Right)

Row 1: MG(Ret) Stewart C. Meyer, Assoc, Member; CSM(Ret) Darleen K. Kitterman, Member; LTC(Ret) Ronald L. Woodward, Member; Mrs. Shirley J. Greathouse, Member; LTG(Ret) Dave Palmer, Chairman; CSM(Ret) Frank Minosky, Co-Chairman; COL(Ret) Jack Oliver, USAF, Assoc. Member.

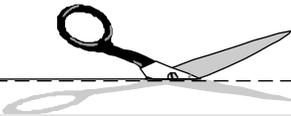
Row 2: Mrs. Beth Waller, Ch, Ret Svcs; CW3(Ret) George A. Hanger, Member; SFC(Ret) Adrienne M. Evans-Quickley, Member; COL(Ret) Ralph Gauer, Member; 1SG(Ret) Thomas R. Fisher, Member; COL(Ret) Joslyn V. Portmann, Member; SGM(Ret) Guadalupe Lopez, Member; SCPO(Ret) Stephen R. Lubasky, USN, Member; COL(Ret) Frank D. Somera. Not Pictured: CSM(Ret) Elijah King, Jr. , Member and Msgt(Ret) John W. Wood, Sr., USAF, Member.

****Update on the Retiree Appreciation Day Health Fair****

Due to the likelihood that the flu shot will not be available, the Carl R. Darnall Medical Center Staff are working hard to ensure that the Zostavax Vaccine (Shingles Vaccine) will be available for the Health Fair for military healthcare beneficiaries who are over the age of 60. There is a high demand nationwide for the Zostavax Vaccine and there has been some difficulties getting the vaccine; however, CRDAMC is reasonably assured that 1000 doses will be available with a possibility that there may be another 1000 doses available for the Health Fair. Because things can change and the manufacturer may not be able to deliver in time for the Health Fair, please call the Retirement Services Office for information. For updated information on the availability of the Zostavax Vaccine (Shingles Vaccine) and flu shot availability at Fort Hood, CRDAMC will also put the information out through local media channels. You can also call the Fort Hood Retirement Services Office for information on availability at 254-285-5926/ 287-5210 or 1-800-403-66.

Below is additional information the Zostavax Vaccine (Shingles Vaccine).

Individuals who should not get the vaccine include those who have had a life-threatening allergic reaction to gelatin, the antibiotic neomycin, or any other component of shingles vaccine. Individuals should not get the vaccine if their immune system is weak because of HIV/Aids or another disease that affects the immune system. This includes anyone being treated with drugs that affect the immune system; those receiving cancer treatments with drugs that affect the immune system; anyone with a history of cancer affecting the bone marrow or lymphatic system; anyone with active tuberculosis; or anyone who is ill. "Shingles starts out as a painful skin rash," said Col. Clifford Friesen, chief of the Allergy and Immunization Clinic, "and the rash can lead to serious complications if not treated quickly." Friesen added that the same virus, varicella zoster that causes chickenpox, also causes shingles "If a person gets the chickenpox, the virus remains in their body and it can come back years later as shingles. This can be devastating for older folks, especially those with weak immune systems," added Friesen. For more information on shingles and the vaccine, visit the CDC Web site, www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-shingles.pdf.



BREAKFAST FOR DINNER (24 OCT 08) RSVP INFO

**'Military Retiree Appreciation'
BREAKFAST FOR DINNER AT THE CLEAR CREEK COMMISSARY**

**That's right!! We are serving "Breakfast for Dinner" at the Clear Creek Commissary on October 24, 2008 at 2030 hours (that's 8:30 pm).
The meal is FREE and we will have prizes too!!**

NAME(s): _____.

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____.

**RSVP is required, by mail or phone 254-287-5943 x232 or x200
not later than 8 October 2008.**

You can also e-mail us at betty.carey@deca.mil or mary.kight1@deca.mil

**Fort Hood I Commissary
Bldg 50001 Clear Creek Rd
Fort Hood, TX 76544-5050**

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Retiree Appreciation Day Registration Form

If you plan to attend the Fort Hood Retiree Appreciation Day, please complete this form and mail to:

**COMMANDER
III CORPS and FORT HOOD
ATTN: RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICER
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000**

Rank, Name (Please Print)

Mailing Address

Number of family members who will attend with you: _____

In compliance with the Privacy Act, my signature authorizes you to release the above information to personnel of the agencies I have checked below in order that they may prepare in advance to assist me on my visit to the Fort Hood Retiree Appreciation Day.

(Signature)

DATE RETIRED: MONTH/YEAR _____ # YEARS SERVED _____

COUNTY FAIR SERVICES - I request counseling or assistance in one or more of the subjects listed below (please check appropriate boxes):

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. _____ Medical & Dental Info
(TRICARE, Dental,
Pharmacy, App.) | 4. _____ Veterans Affairs
_____ Disability Claims
_____ Education & Insurance Program |
| 2. _____ Retirement Services
Installation Officer
(Retiree Pay, CRDP,
SBP, CRSC) | 5. _____ Adjutant General Services
_____ ID Cards (See Special Instruction)
_____ DEERS Enrollment (See Special Instruction) |
| 3. _____ SJA Section
_____ Legal Assistance
_____ Wills | 6. _____ Combat Related Special Compensation Application
Assistance (Please check date you think you will
come) – 24 Oct ____ 25 Oct ____ |

OLE TIMERS BREAKFAST

_____ I desire to attend the “Ole Timers” Breakfast at FHCCC, 25 Oct 08. To attend, you must RSVP by 15 Oct 08 so we have a final count prior to the event.

Number _____ (Total in your party attending). Please provide your name below.

_____ I desire to attend lunch in a Troop Dining Facility, 25 Oct 08.
Number _____ (\$4.20 cash per person, lunch, pay when served) (Price Subject To Change)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM NO LATER THAN 15 OCTOBER 2008



LEGEND: The time-honored seal of the Department of the Army represents the Army and its traditions. The annulet, symbol of completeness, stands for the completion of military service. The color of the annulet is olive drab in reference to the basic color of the Army field uniform and equipment. Stars are a national and military symbol. They are used on the coat of arms and the seal of the United States, as an identification of the United States on military equipment and on flags of Army officials as well as an insignia of rank for general officers.

THE ARMY RETIREMENT SERVICES EMBLEM:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMMANDER
III CORPS AND FORT HOOD
ATTN: AFZF-GC-AG-RS
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5056
OFFICIAL BUSINESS