

Retiree Bulletin



VOLUME 1 * 2018

From the Chairman

Greetings from your Retiree Council. Our Fort Jackson Retiree Appreciation Days (RAD) events this year will extend from Thursday, 17 May, through Saturday, 19 May. As always, it will be a chance to spend time at Fort Jackson, gain appreciation for what your Installation does to support you and your Families, and share time with fellow Retirees and Veterans. Like every year, there will be several opportunities to get together, renew old friendships, create new ones, and gain valuable information regarding the network of support available to you and your Families.

We will honor our Retiree constituency during the Basic Combat Training Graduation on Thursday, 17 May, at 0900 on Hilton Field. The guest speaker will be COL Kevin A. Shwedo, U.S. Army, Retired; Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army and Executive Director of the SC DMV. There will be a free breakfast at the NCO Club beginning at 0730. To avoid the traffic associated with the graduation, Retirees will be given transportation at approximately 0830 to Hilton Field and returned back to the NCO Club after the graduation. We will have the option to march in the "Pass in Review" and we will also have reserved VIP seating. It is a great opportunity to participate, be recognized and put on display for the parents and loved ones of our newest Soldiers the full military lifecycle and lifelong commitment that sustains our Armed Forces and helps make our Nation great. The annual Retiree Appreciation Days Golf Tournament will be Friday morning, 18 May, 0900, at the Fort Jackson Golf Club. The Retiree Health and Benefits Expo will take place Saturday morning, 19 May, at the Solomon Center 0900-1300. Bingo will be held Saturday, 19 May, at Victory Bingo at 1330 with doors opening at 1300. Silver Dollar Days at Century Bowling Lanes (\$1/Shoes/Games/Snack Bar Specials) will occur 18-20 May, and a No-Tap Bowling Tournament will be conducted at Century Lanes on 19 May at 1900 with registration

beginning at 1800. Also on Saturday, AAFES will have an in-store sale at the Main PX and the Commissary Case Lot sale will be conducted on 18 and 19 May.

Enclosed in the bulletin is the Retiree Appreciation Days Flyer and a sign up form. It provides specific times and locations for the events and where to get additional information. Please take the time to read it thoroughly. The staff asks that we provide our RSVPs and payment, where applicable, as soon as possible. RSVPs are particularly important for the Thursday continental breakfast, graduation ceremony and participation in the Pass in Review. This will allow Fort Jackson to better anticipate requirements and support the events. We anticipate space being limited for all events; therefore, those interested in the graduation ceremony events and playing golf Friday should get their RSVPs in as soon as possible.

For those who have not attended the RAD in the past, this year is a great opportunity to start. I strongly encourage all to attend. I think you will be very pleased with your experience. Hope to see you there.

There is no greater responsibility for a Retiree than to help ensure the continued support of the men, women, and Families who have so selflessly served their Nation. Whether you retired many years ago or last week, the Retiree Council is here for you and interested in doing its best to represent your interests. We can't promise action or change on each individual issue, but we can assure you that your input will be heard and considered, and you will receive a response from us. Please seek us out when you need help or have questions.

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From the Chairman (Continued from page 1)

Our names and numbers are on the back of the bulletin and we'll be visible and available at the RAD as well.

Another way to provide feedback to the Installation on the RAD or other Retiree issues you deem appropriate is the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) which you can access online through the Fort Jackson website homepage or through use of the ICE cards that are located at all key points of service on Fort Jackson. I encourage you to use whatever means you are most comfortable with to ensure you are heard.

Many thanks to MG Johnson, COL Elder, CSM Christian, CSM Drawbond and the entire Fort Jackson and Garrison staff, COL Edwards, CSM Jones and their Moncrief Army Health Clinic staff and the many other agencies across Fort Jackson for their continuing support of our community. We greatly appreciate your friendship, support, and efforts on our behalf.

Please read the bulletin cover to cover. You will find information of interest that may answer a question you have or provide you something you can use day to day. Should you have questions, please seek someone out at RAD, or if you need immediate assistance call the Soldier For Life - Retirement Services Office at 803-751-6715/5523.

All of us have a story to tell. A great way to continue our service is to find opportunities to tell that story to young men and women, their parents, and the community at large about the positive affects it has had on our lives, Families and Nation. Let's do all we can to continue encouraging America's youth to serve.

Finally, my sincere appreciation goes out to each of you for your service to our Nation and your continued support of its interests. You and your Families can be very proud of the legacy of excellence and service you left behind.

That legacy is embodied today in the outstanding service our current Leaders and other Service Members are providing. They protect us, our Nation, and its interests all around the world, most visibly, in the Middle East. Don't forget to say a prayer for all those great Americans who are in harm's way and the Families that await their safe return. Thanks again to every Retiree and your Families for all you have done and continue to do to support our Armed Forces, our Community, and our Nation. It is a privilege to serve you.

Have a great Spring and Summer. I look forward to seeing you at our Retiree Appreciation Days events in May. God Bless you, your Families, and the United States of America.

Very Respectfully,

Mike Molosso, Colonel, USA, Retired
Chairman, Fort Jackson Retiree Council
"Once a Soldier, Always a Soldier, A Soldier for Life!"

SPECIAL NOTICE

Retiree Services Special Notice

Due to budget constraints, future correspondence may be provided electronically, via email and website. Therefore, we request you provide your email address to our Retirement Services Office at:
usarmy.jackson.imcom-hq.mbx.dhr-rso@mail.mil

FORT JACKSON LEADER

Stay informed on Fort Jackson events and issues by visiting www.jackson.army.mil or access The Leader Online at www.fortjacksonleader.com



ID Services

Uniformed Services DOD Beneficiaries (Former Spouses)

Verification Procedures for Death Benefits (DB) (Unremarried Former Spouses) (20-20-20, 20-20-15 and Abused Unremarried Former Spouse/10-20-10)

The following information applies to initial DB verification procedures. The date of divorce determines the expiration date for those former spouses with a 15-year overlap of marriage and sponsor's creditable service, but not 20 years. The DB (former spouse) must not have remarried or is not eligible for TRICARE if he or she is enrolled in an employer-sponsored health plan; however, RAPIDS reflects shopping privileges, if qualifying as a 20/20/20. If the former spouse disenrolls from the employer-sponsored health plan, medical benefits can be restored in DEERS, effective the date of disenrollment.

The DB (former spouse) is not eligible for TRICARE when eligible for Medicare, Part A, unless he or she is a dependent of an Active Duty service member or is under age 65, entitled to Medicare, Part A, as a result of a disability or end-stage renal (kidney) disease and is enrolled in Medicare, Part B.

A DB (former spouse) whose marriage resulted in a divorce, and subsequently remarries the same uniformed member, and then divorces (same uniformed member), the separate time periods of marriages are combined. In this instance, the total time of marriage is used for determining eligibility to former spouse benefits.

A DB (unremarried former spouse) of a member who retired under the Early Retirement Program with less than 20 years' service which is creditable in determining eligibility to retired pay is not entitled to an ID card.

A DB (unremarried former spouse) of a member who was placed on the disability retired list with less than 20 years which is creditable in determining eligibility to retired pay is not entitled to an ID card.

A DB cannot convey, qualify, or extend eligibility of benefits or privileges for the purposes of DEERS sponsorship to family members, e.g. grandchildren or legal custody ward. The former spouse initial eligibility to DEERS benefits and privileges are originally based on their former marital relationship to the service member.

The ID card section will take the following steps to verify initial eligibility for unremarried former spouses upon receipt of the following documentation: A marriage certificate, divorce decree, statement of service or a complete set of DD Forms 214 should be provided or forwarded to the nearest ID card facility. Please see the below listed category:

1. A DB (unremarried former spouse/20-20-20) who at the time of divorce was married to the service member for 20 years during which time the service member performed 20 years creditable service in determining eligibility to retired or retainer pay and the marriage and uniform service overlapped at least 20 years. The expiration date of the ID card is 4 years from date of verification, and the ID card may be renewed every 4 years if all the eligibility requirements are still met for qualifying as a 20/20/20 (i.e. DB has not remarried). The former spouse is entitled to the following benefits and privileges: TRICARE, Commissary, Exchange and Family and Moral, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR).

NOTE: Medical benefits are not authorized if DB (former spouse) is covered by an employer sponsored health plan; however, eligibility to shopping privileges remains.

2. A DB (unremarried former spouse/20-20-15) Divorced Prior to 1 April 1985. A DB who at the time of divorce was married to the service member for 20 years, during which time the service member performed 20 years creditable service in determining eligibility to retired or retainer pay and the marriage and uniform service overlapped at least 15 years but less than 20. The expiration date of the ID card is 4 years from date of verification, and the ID card may be renewed every 4 years if all the eligibility requirements are still met for qualifying as a 20/20/15 (i.e. DB has not remarried). The former spouse is entitled to the following benefits and privileges: TRICARE only.

NOTE: Medical benefits are not authorized if DB (former spouse) is covered by an employer sponsored health plan.



ID Services (Continued from page 3)

3. A DB (unremarried former spouse/20-20-15) Divorced on or after 29 September 1988. An unremarried former spouse who at the time of divorce was married to the service member for 20 years during which time the service member performed 20 years creditable service in determining eligibility to retired or retainer pay and the marriage and service overlapped at least 15 years but less than 20. The expiration date of the ID card is 1 year from date of divorce only. The ID card is not renewable after the 1 year period. The former spouse is entitled to the following benefits and privileges: TRICARE only.

NOTE: Former spouses qualifying under the 20-20-15 provision whose divorce occurred on or after 1 April 1985 but before 29 September 1988 were entitled to an ID card for two years from the date of divorce. This time period has expired and with no subsequent ID card renewal.

NOTE: Medical benefits are not authorized if DB (former spouse) is covered by an employer sponsored health plan.

4. A DB (abused unremarried former spouse/10-20-10) Retirement Eligible Member. This former spouse category is the result of sponsor's discharge for family member abuse. An unremarried former spouse of a retirement eligible member who was married to the member for a period of at least 10 years; the member performed at least 20 years of service that is creditable in determining the member's eligibility for retired or retainer pay; and the period of overlap of marriage and the member's creditable service was at least 10 years; and the former spouse is in receipt of an annuity as a result of the member being separated from the Service due to misconduct involving dependent abuse. The expiration date of the ID card is 4 years from date of verification, and the ID card may be renewed every 4 years provided all the eligibility requirements are still met for qualifying as a 10/20/10 (i.e. DB has not remarried). The former spouse is entitled to the following benefits and privileges: TRICARE, Commissary, Exchange and Family and Moral, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR).

RSO News

Blended Retirement System (BRS)

One of the most wide-reaching and significant changes to military pay and benefits of the last 70 years went into effect on 1 January 2018, with the implementation of the Uniformed Services Blended Retirement System (BRS). The new system blends aspects of the traditional defined benefit retirement pension system with a defined contribution system of automatic and matching government contributions through the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). All new service members who enter into the Uniformed Services on or after 1 January 2018 will be enrolled in this new retirement system.

Nearly 1.6 million current service members will have the option to remain in the current legacy high-3 retirement system or choose the BRS when the opt-in period for eligible service members opened on 1 January 2018. Opt-in eligible service members will have an entire year to make their retirement system election. The open period for the majority of service members is from 1 January 2018 through 31 December 2018. Service members will need to visit MyPay at <https://mypay.dfas.mil> to opt into BRS:

Service members who believe they are eligible to opt-in, but do not see the opt-in option available online, should contact their local personnel/human resources office to verify eligibility. The decision to opt-in is irrevocable even if a service member changes his/her mind before the deadline on 31 December 2018. If an eligible service member takes no action, he/she will remain in the legacy retirement system.

Prior to opting in, service members should take advantage of all available resources to assist in making an informed decision on the financial implications specific to their retirement situation. The DOD endorses several training and informational tools to support a service member's decision, to include the BRS Opt-In Course, the BRS Comparison Calculator and numerous online BRS resource materials. Service members can receive no-cost, personal support from an accredited personal financial manager or counselor available at their installation's Military and Family Support Center or by calling Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647.

The change to the retirement system is a key step in modernizing the Uniformed Service's ability to recruit, retain and maintain an all-volunteer force in the 21st century. For more information about BRS, visit <http://militarypay.defense.gov/BlendedRetirement>.



Army Wellness Center

4512 Stuart Street

The Army Wellness Center will soon begin taking appointments for Health Assessment Reviews with BodPod®

Take a look at all the remarkable services that will be available soon:



Stress Management
Healthy Sleep Habits
Nutrition Tips
Fitness Tests
and more . . .

- Track your body fat percentage, fat-mass, and fat-free mass
- Fast, comfortable and immediate results
- 30 minute appointment with recommended monthly follow-ups
- Call 751-CARE (2273) to schedule

AWC
ARMY WELLNESS CENTER



Family and MWR

Why Golf . . . Why NOT!!!

Have you ever thought about playing golf? Played in the past, but wondering how to start again? Here's a little secret. If you're brand new to the game of golf or wanting to start playing again, there's a perfect way for you to get comfortably started, get out on the course and have FUN! It's called Get Golf Ready. And it really works!

Get Golf Ready offers expert instruction designed for the new golfer, with five easy, fun and affordable lessons from a PGA professional. You'll learn the basics of golf -- rules, etiquette, fundamentals and navigating the course. By the time you "graduate," you'll have the tools necessary to get out and play with confidence! Real on-course playing opportunities are the best way to increase your comfort level, and that's what makes Get Golf Ready so much fun. If you can join family, friends and colleagues that you already know, you'll love it even more!

Once you're on the course, you'll quickly see that people are enjoying the experience. Just wait until the feeling you have of watching the ball fly up in the air off your club. Now's the time to get off the couch and out of the house! The game of golf provides you a great opportunity to make new friends while getting some exercise. Recruit a friend or family member to join you for Get Golf Ready!

Best of all, monthly Get Golf Ready classes are available by the staff of PGA professionals at Fort Jackson Golf Club! The five-lesson Get Golf Ready classes are only \$99! For more information call Fort Jackson Golf Club (803-787-4437) or go to <http://www.pga.com/play-golf-america/get-golf-ready> today!

Family and MWR is Online!

To find information on everything Family and MWR has to offer, please visit...



www.fortjacksonmwr.com

FORT JACKSON 2018 RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS

ONCE A SOLDIER, ALWAYS A SOLDIER...A SOLDIER FOR LIFE!

THURSDAY, MAY 17

» **Breakfast:**

Starting at 7:30 a.m. at the Fort Jackson NCO Club. Enjoy free refreshments and board the buses at 8:30 a.m. for transportation to the Ceremony at Hilton Field. (Please RSVP)

» **Vietnam Veterans Pinning Ceremony:**

Starting at 8:45 a.m. at Hilton Field. All Vietnam Veterans will be recognized prior to the graduation ceremony.

» **Basic Training Graduation Ceremony and Salute to Retirees:**

9:00 a.m. at Hilton Field. Speaker: Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army Kevin Shwedo. Seating reserved in VIP area. Please RSVP on next page and indicate if you would like to participate in the "Pass in Review." Call EOC at 751-5166 after 6:30 a.m. on May 17th in case of inclement weather.

» **Victory Bingo May Madness Buddy Session:**

At Victory Bingo. Doors open at 3:30 p.m. Fun Games begin at 4:00 p.m. Free Buffet. Buddy Night - when you purchase a regular pack or computer pack, your friend gets one too. Early Birds begin at 6:30 p.m. Regular Bingo Session begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 751-3411.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

» **Golf Tournament:**

At Fort Jackson Golf Club, starting at 9:00 a.m. Captain's Choice. Member price is \$45 per person. Non-Member & Guest prices are \$55 per person. Price includes: cart and user fees, snacks, prize fund, BBQ lunch, range and green fees for non-members. Plus door prizes! Call FJGC 787-4437 for details. Please pre-register on next page or at the Fort Jackson Golf Club.

» **Silver Dollar Days at Century Lanes Bowling Center:**

May 18th - 20th. Featuring \$1.00 Shoes, \$1.00 Bowling, \$1.00 Snack Bar Specials.

» **AAFES In-Store Sale at the Main PX 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

» **Commissary Case Lot Sale 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

SATURDAY, MAY 19

» **Retiree Health and Benefits Expo:**

At the Solomon Center, Strom Thurmond Blvd, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Moncrief Army Health Clinic will provide health screening and counseling booths to include blood pressure screening and men's and women's health counseling. Also featuring displays, information booths, discounts, refreshments, and door prizes! Agencies represented include: Combat Related Special Compensation, Tricare, Family and MWR, AAFES, Delta Dental, SC Dept of Veterans Affairs, Dorn VA Hospital, DENTAC, TREA, Defense Finance & Accounting, Armed Forces Retirement Home, AER, SJA, AUSA, Fort Jackson National Cemetery, ID Card Services (call 751-6024 for ID Card Information).

» **AAFES In Store Sale at the Main PX 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

» **Commissary Case Lot Sale 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

» **No-Tap Bowling Tournament:**

At Century Lanes Bowling Center at 7:00 p.m. Registration from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Only \$25. Price includes shoe rental and prizes. Note: No-Tap simply means that the first ball thrown will count as a strike if 8 pins fall (for women) and 9 pins fall (for men). Plus door prizes! Call 751-6138 for details. Register on next page or at Century Lanes Bowling Center.

» **NEED A HOTEL? CALL VICTORY TRAVEL FOR SPECIAL NEGOTIATED RATES. 1-800-221-3503 OR (803)751-5812.**



FORT JACKSON 2018 RETIREE APPRECIATION DAYS REGISTRATION FORM



If you plan to participate in the golf tournament, ceremony and/or bowling tournament, please return this form by May 10, 2018, to: Family and MWR Operations Division, 3392 Magruder Ave., Fort Jackson, SC 29207. Payment will be collected at the door (where appropriate). You can also register at the Golf Club and Century Lanes.

FULL NAME: _____	RANK: _____
ADDRESS: _____	CITY: _____
STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____	PHONE: _____
SPOUSE/GUEST NAME: _____	EMAIL: _____
BREAKFAST: YES _____ NO _____	SPOUSE/GUEST: YES _____ NO _____
GRADUATION CEREMONY: YES _____ NO _____	PASS IN REVIEW: YES _____ NO _____
SPOUSE/GUEST: YES _____ NO _____	
GOLF TOURNAMENT:	HANDICAP/AVG. 18 HOLE SCORE:
PLAYER 1: _____	_____
PLAYER 2: _____	_____
PLAYER 3: _____	_____
PLAYER 4: _____	_____
BOWLING TOURNAMENT: YES _____ NO _____	SPOUSE/GUEST: YES _____ NO _____



Fort Jackson Retiree Council Members

COL	Mike Molosso (Chair)	9 Whithorn Way	Blythewood, SC 29216	260-8291	USA
COL	Carl W. Horn	201 Tom Savage Road	Prosperity, SC 29217	364-9200	USA
COL	William A. Whatley	126 Peach Grove Circle	Elgin, SC 29045	661-8667	USA
COL	Steve Vitali	9813 Windsor Lake Blvd	Columbia, SC 29223	556-2088	USMC
COL	Thomas A. Robillard	208 Lake Carolina Blvd	Columbia, SC 29229	730-6109	USAF
LTC	John R. Marcucci*(V/Ch)	404 White Birch Circle	Columbia, SC 29223	736-5041	USMC
LTC	Tom McAndrews	7217 Mountain Brook Drive	Columbia, SC 29209	776-1756	USA
LTC	James Ross Snell	3056 Lawrence Road	West Columbia, SC 29170	603-4234	SCNG
LTC	Ward D. Ward	1065 Amick Dr.	Irmo, SC 29063	767-6545	USA
CW5	David A. Ratliff (Sec)	229 Steeple Drive	Columbia, SC 29229	865-0120	USA
CW4	Constantine S. Green	15 Walden Place Court	Columbia, SC 29229	402-2945	USA
CSM	Russel Anderson*	108 Healing Springs Road	Hopkins, SC 29061	776-0878	USA
CSM	Michael L. Armstead	221 Worthington Parkway	Columbia, SC 29229	419-4261	USA
CSM	Jesse J. DeBerry	21 Feather Run Court	Blythewood, SC 29016	786-4418	USA
CSM	Carl M. Lopez	8 Windy Knoll Court	Columbia, SC 29229	699-2512	USA
MSGT	Edward Lundeen	213 Sampson Road	Gilbert, SC 29054	894-6379	USA
MSGT	Robert W. Barkalow, Jr.	324 Teague Park Court	Columbia, SC 29209	936-0680	ANG
MCPO	Jim Null	108 South Branch Road	Columbia, SC 29223	243-9050	USN
SGM	Robert B. Price*	1648 Goldfinch Lane	West Columbia, SC 29169	794-8702	USA
SGM	Joyce S. Roberts	377 Bloomsbury Circle	Camden, SC 29020	432-1088	USA
MSGT	James W. Rodgers*	636 Park Place	Elgin, SC 29045	740-2319	USAF

*Indefinite Term of Svc

Soldier for Life-Retirement Services Office: Gregory Fountain, (803) 751-6715

Directorate of Human Resources
Retirement Services
5450 Strom Thurmond Blvd Room 216
Fort Jackson, SC 29207-5208

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