

**FORT DETRICK
ALL SERVICES
RETIREE COUNCIL
1520 FREEDMAN DRIVE, SUITE 300 (301) 619-3340**

REPORT TO RETIREES

NUMBER 1-04 TWENTY-EIGHTH EDITION THIRD QUARTER 2004

On 25 April 1995, the Garrison Commander appointed a Fort Detrick All Services Retiree Council. The purpose of the Council is to provide retirees with a means of communicating with the active and reserve military; to analyze and influence decisions, policies, and laws; to take part in programs concerning their well being; and to develop public support of military programs through retirees.

The Council meets on the second Monday of each month at 1900 and we need to hear from the retiree community. Come to our meetings in Bldg. 1520 Community Support Center on Freedman Drive (*beyond the Education and Training Center at the Commissary*. *NOTE: There is no entry through the Education and Training Center.*) or call one of the council members with your ideas, concerns, comments, or questions at (301) 619-3340. A list of the Council members follows:

LTC John P. Hess (USA-Ret)
Council Chairman (301) 371-6905
FAX: (301) 619-3597

Mrs. Betty Bennett
(301) 663-6431

MSG James Brammah (USA)
(301) 619-6272

CMS Harry Biller (USAF-Ret)
(304) 725-8560
boyhwb@aol.com

Mr. Eddie Coleman
Chairman, Publicity Committee and Garrison Liason
(301) 619-3381
FAX: (301) 619-3597
eddie.coleman@det.amedd.army.mil

SFC Carol A. Garrand (USA-Ret)
(301) 695-1014

CPT Robert E. Glausier (USMC-Ret)
(301) 432-5289

SFC Alexander Hardy, Jr. (USA-Ret)
(301) 668-1391

COL Richard Hauer, Jr. (USA-Ret)
(301) 663-0844

MSG Scott McKnight (USA-Ret)
(301) 695-8958

RADM William G. Prescott
(USPHS-Ret) (301) 829-2064

SFC Margaret Sayer (USA-Ret)
(301) 846-0741

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW: FORT DETRICK 'S TENTH
ANNUAL RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY, OCTOBER 6, 2004**

Published quarterly by the Fort Detrick All Services Retiree Council (301) 619-3340

Post It!

FREQUENTLY CALLED TELEPHONE NUMBERS AT FORT DETRICK:

ALL SERVICES RETIREE COUNCIL OFFICE.....	VOICE: (301) 619-3340
.....	FAX: (301) 619-3597
BARBER SHOP.....	(301) 619-2345
CHAPEL.....	(301) 619-7371
CLEANERS.....	(301) 694-3237
COMMISSARY.....	(301) 619-2989
FITNESS CENTER.....	(301) 619-2498
FORT DETRICK (When calling from outside the local dialing area).....	1-800-256-7621
FORT DETRICK OPERATOR ASSISTANCE.....	(301) 619-8000
GAS STATION.....	(301) 662-7777
HEALTH CLINIC/TRICARE.....	(301) 619-7175
HOTLINE	(301) 619-CARE (2273)
ID CARDS.....	(301) 619-7311
JUDGE ADVOCATE/ LEGAL ASSISTANCE.....	(301) 619-2221
POST EXCHANGE.....	(301) 619-2262
PROVOST MARSHAL.....	(301) 619-7114
THRIFT SHOP.....	(301) 619-2289
WEB PAGE.....	http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/detrick/

OTHER FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS:

BWI SPACE "A" TRAVEL.....	1-877-429-4262
DEERS.....	1-800-538-9552
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS	1-800-827-1000
RETIRED PAY (DFAS-CLEVELAND).....	VOICE: 1-800-321-1080
.....	FAX: 1-800-469-6559

Fort Detrick and the All Services Retiree Council announce the 10th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day, October 6, 2004

The Fort Detrick Garrison and its All Services Retiree Council cordially invite all military retirees, families and friends to the 10th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day, Wednesday, October 6, 2004 from 0900 to 1500 at Fort Detrick, Maryland. The celebration kicks off with opening ceremonies in Strough Auditorium (Bldg 611) with the Pledge of Allegiance, an invocation, greeting by Retiree Council Chairman, LTC John P. Hess, (USA-Ret), and introductions of council members.

MG Lester Martinez-Lopez, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command and Fort Detrick, and Garrison commander, COL John E. Ball will offer welcoming remarks. An update on new construction on the post to include a new Commissary and PX will be provided.

Lunch will be served in the Post Dining Facility (Bldg 1430) – see page 7 for a luncheon reservation form. Following lunch you will be invited to the CPT Jennifer Shafer-Odom Fitness Center to view a variety of displays provided by numerous organizations at Fort Detrick. In addition you will have the opportunity to renew your ID card, make an appointment with legal assistance personnel, and have your blood pressure screened.

Guest Speakers!**Ms. Betty Moseley-Brown**

Betty Moseley Brown serves with the Department of Veterans Affairs as the operational assistant and advisor to the Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Policy and Program Management, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), on outreach policy, procedures, and administrative operations. In this capacity, Ms. Moseley

Brown coordinates the outreach activities of five major programs to ensure that VBA's outreach efforts meet legislative requirements while providing veterans and dependents with information on benefits and services administered by VA. Her outreach responsibilities also include educating other agencies and/or organizations involved in helping the veteran community.

Ms. Moseley Brown's dedication to veterans began while she served in the United States Marine Corps. Following 14 years of active duty, her career with the Department of Veterans Affairs began at the San Diego Regional Office.

SGM Leroy A. Bussells (USA-Ret)

SGM Leroy A. Bussells (USA-Ret) is the Assistant Director of Retiree Affairs, Association of the United States Army. He will provide an update of legislation of interest to military retirees.

Ms. Diane Fearon:

Diane Fearon years as a volunteer have defined her life and led her to take on the challenge of leading the Frederick County Veterans History Project, in partnership with the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress. She believes that saving the stories of our veterans is important as it will allow future generations to share their legacy and understand the sacrifices of those who served. She will brief retirees on services and benefits available to them.

2004 Army Emergency Relief (AER) Contribution

Special thanks to the retired community for contributing \$5384 to the Fort Detrick AER Campaign this year. This is the highest amount contributed by Retirees so far. \$21,227 is the total amount contributed this year at Fort Detrick. Thanks again for your support.



Case Lot Sale

The next semi-annual case lot sale will be held at the Fort Detrick Commissary on Thursday and Friday, September 16 and 17. Favorite products will be available by the case and at rock bottom prices.



8th Annual Fall Fest

The 8th Annual Fall Fest will be held on Saturday, 25 September 2004, from 1100-1500. Location to be announced. Rides, Food, Fall Crafts, and more.

Deadline nears for certain widows to have Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) Restored

Widows or widowers of any age who lost benefits under VA's DIC program because of remarriage are eligible for reinstatement

of monthly DIC payments if their subsequent marriage ends. Surviving spouses who were receiving DIC and remarried before Dec. 16, 2003 and after their 57th birthdays have until Dec. 15, 2004 in which to apply to have the DIC restored.

Call the VA at 1-800-827-1000 or go to <http://www.va.gov> for information.

New Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) application available

Certain disabled military retirees may be eligible for Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) enacted by Congress in the Fiscal Year 2003 Defense Authorization Act and modified in the FY 2004 Defense Authorization Act. The new application is available at <http://www.dod.mil/prhome/docs/DD2860T.pdf>

To be eligible, the military retiree must have at least 20 years of qualifying service (Reserve retirees must be age 60 or older and eligible to receive retired pay) and a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability rating of 10 percent or higher for illnesses or injuries attributed to combat situations, combat-oriented training, hazardous duty, or instrumentality of war.

CRSC is not granted automatically. Retirees who believe they are eligible must apply for the benefit. CRSC payments will equal the amount of VA compensation received for combat-related disabilities described previously minus any additional compensation received for dependents.

The Army has created a new homepage to give you all the details about CRSC. Visit it at <http://www.crsc.army.mil>

Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payments (CRDP)

Military retirees rated at least 50 percent disabled by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be receiving both retired pay and VA disability compensation as the VA disability offset of retired pay is phased out over the next 10 years. The offset, which reduces retired pay by the VA disability payment amount, will continue for those whose VA disability rating is less than 50 percent.

The Fiscal Year 04 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 108-136, Sections 641-2) authorized this change, referred to as Concurrent Retirement and Disability Payments (CRDP).

The 10-year phase-in of CRDP will be implemented as follows:

- In 2004, first-year additional retired pay amounts will be paid, ranging from \$100-\$750 a month, based on the retiree's VA disability rating of 50-100%. (Note: CRDP cannot be greater than the retiree's gross retired pay.)
- In each year from 2005-2013 ("transition years"), an additional percentage of retired pay will be restored.
- Eligible retirees reach full concurrent receipt in January 2014.

(Note: The Senate and the House are each working on their own versions of the National Defense Authorization Act. The Senate version does away with the phase-in period for CRDP for certain retirees; however, the House version does not. A joint Senate/House conference will discuss this and any other points on which the Senate and House versions disagree to create one National Defense Authorization Act which will be sent to the President for signature later this year. We will provide updates as they become available)

CRDP or CRSC?

While some retirees may be eligible for both CRDP and CRSC, they may not receive both CRDP and CRSC at the same time. If you're eligible for both (and have been approved for CRSC), the Defense Finance and Accounting Service's (DFAS) Cleveland Center is currently paying whichever benefit has the higher dollar entitlement. If DFAS (<http://www.dfas.mil>) announces any other options for retirees in this situation, we will announce it at this site and in Army Echoes.

TRICARE Retail Pharmacy Takes Effect

Starting June 1, the new TRICARE Retail Pharmacy (TRRx) contract is in effect for TRICARE beneficiaries in the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam. The contract, awarded last year to Express Scripts Inc. of Maryland Heights, MO, has about 53,000 civilian pharmacies in the nationwide network. The new contract integrates previous regional contracts. Beneficiaries should not notice any change in service.

To locate a network pharmacy, use the TRICARE pharmacy locator service on the Express Scripts Web site at <http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE>, or call (866) 363-8779 {(866) "DoD-TRRx.}. For more information on the TRICARE pharmacy programs, go to <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy>.

You can Request Retiree/Veterans Records Online

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) now offers an online option for those requesting military records at <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>. Retirees, veterans and their next of kin can use this site to request records instead of the Standard Form 180. All others must still use the Standard Form 180. NPRC anticipates that they will offer better service online by eliminating mailroom processing time and,

through the use of online prompts, avoiding delays caused by incomplete applications.

Shades of Green Reopens

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FL – More military members and their families can exclaim “I’m going to Disney World,” thanks to the recent expansion of Shades of Green (<http://www.armymwr.com/shades/index.html>) Armed Forces Recreation Center on Walt Disney World Resort. Click on this link to get more details on the expanded facility and information on making reservations.

Edelweiss Lodge and Resort and is taking reservations for September opening

Long revered as one of the most desirable vacation towns in the Bavarian Alps and Germany’s premier winter and summer sports center, Garmisch is an idyllic location nestled at the foot of sweeping Alpine vistas and home to the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort. AFRC Europe is accepting reservations for the brand new resort hotel that will open on 15 September 2004. To make your reservations or to find out more about the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort, go to www.afrcurope.com or call the AFRC Europe Vacation Planning Center at 011-49-08821-72981.

If you have a question and you can not find the answer within this Frequently Asked Questions section, contact Mr. Eddie Coleman at 301-619-3381.

How do I change federal or state income tax withholding from my retired pay?

To change the federal tax withholding, you must submit a Form W4 to DFAS, US Military Retirement Pay, PO Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130.

To change your state tax withholding, you must send DFAS a letter indicating the state and the dollar amount you want withheld.

Amounts of retired pay to be deducted for state income tax must be in multiples of \$10.00.

You can also change your tax withholding by accessing your account via myPay - <http://www.dfas.mil/mypay> (customer support - 1-800-390-2348).

How do I change federal or state income tax withholding from my Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuity?

To change the federal tax withholding, you must submit a W4P to DFAS, US Military Annuitant Pay, PO Box 7131, London, KY 40742-7131.

State income tax cannot be withheld from SBP.

You can also change your tax withholding by accessing your account via myPay - <http://www.dfas.mil/mypay> (customer support - 1-800-390-2348).

Why is military retired pay reduced when I start to receive Social Security?

Military retired pay is NOT reduced because of the receipt of Social Security.

After I retired I discovered that my DD Form 214 does not contain all my awards and decorations and that my total service time is incorrect. How do I go about correcting my DD Form 214?

Send a copy (NEVER an original) of your DD Form 214 along with proof of what error needs to be corrected to Commander AR-PERSCOM, ATTN: ARPC-PSV-V, 1 Reserve Way, St Louis MO 63132-5100. They will issue a DD Form 215 correcting the 214. It generally takes a considerable

How do I change one of the allotments from my retired pay?

Send allotment change requests to DFAS, US Military Retirement Pay, PO Box 7130, London, KY 40742-7130.

FORT DETRICK 10TH ANNUAL RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY LUNCHEON

1200 Noon, Wednesday, October, 6, 2004
Post Dining Facility (Bldg 1430)

MENU

2 Meats, Gravy, 2 Starches, Vegetables, Salad Bar, Soup, Desserts, Coffee, Tea, Sodas, Juices, and Milk. All items are a la carte and will be paid for in cash as you exit the line.

Reservation Request

-----CLIP AND MAIL-----

Yes, I will attend the 10th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day Luncheon at the Fort Detrick Dining Facility on October 6, 2004. Please make _____ reservation(s) in my name.

Reservations must be received No Later Than Wednesday, September 29, 2004

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (in case of cancellation) _____

Mail reservations to:

DCS
ATTN: MCHD-CSM (Retiree Council)
1520 Freedman Dr., Suite 300
Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5016

-----CLIP AND MAIL-----

Mailing List: For FREE home delivery of *Report to Retirees*, print this page, complete the forms below and mail to: **DCS, ATTN: MCHD-CSM, 1520 FREEDMAN DRIVE, SUITE 300, FORT DETRICK, MARYLAND 21702-5016**

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974-

Auth. Sec. 3012, Title 10, United States Code. **PURPOSE OF THIS FORM:** To maintain current mailing address which will be used when mailing newsletters and other notices to military retiree or widow(er).

LAST NAME: _____ **FIRST NAME:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Check block, which shows your status

Retiree Widow(er) Reserve retiree not yet 60

From:

DCS

ATTN: MCHD-CSM (Retiree Council)

1520 Freedman Drive, Suite 300

Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5016