



2026 SPRING RETIREE NEWSLETTER

Retiree Activities Office (RAO)

Travis AFB, California

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DISCLAIMER

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The appearance or mention of commercial products or services is not meant to imply endorsement by the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

Articles appearing in this newsletter are gleaned from Department of Defense, Department of the Air Force, local sources, other installation RAO newsletters, and our retiree population.

No commercial gain is derived for this publication. News items are current as of their use in this newsletter. Please advise of any errors, omissions, or suggestions for improving our newsletter.

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RAO Services

The Travis Retiree Activities Office and David Grant USAF Medical Center's Medical Retiree Activities Office programs would not function without a cadre of active volunteers! Volunteer shortages affect our ability to provide services to the local retiree community.

We are rebuilding volunteer staffing. If you have three to six hours a week you can spare, please consider serving as a volunteer.

We provide services to military retirees, family members, and surviving spouses. Medical Center volunteers work the Pharmacy customer service windows, provide patients with directions to various clinics inside David Grant USAF Medical Center, provide comfort dog services, shuttle medical records from the records section to the clinics, and help the active-duty medical staff.

The Retiree Activities Office in Bldg. 381 assist military retirees, veterans, and their families in making ID Card renewal appointments, reserve, and guard members in applying for retired pay, estate planning, and retiree and annuitant pay issues. We provide referrals and guidance in accessing earned benefits and services.

We look forward to discussing volunteer opportunities with interested candidates.

2025 Tax Season Winds Down



The TY2025 filing deadline is 15 April 2026. If you haven't received your form 1099-R from the Defense Finance and Accounting

Service, now is the time to file for and extension to file.

You may request an extension to file by mailing a complete Form 4868 to the IRS no later than the April 15th filing deadline. This should give you an extension to file until 15 October 2026.

Please note, if you owe taxes for 2025 you still need to pay those by the 15 April deadline. The extension doesn't defer those until October and failure to pay by the deadline can result in the IRS assessing penalties and interest.

This season we had quite a few retirees and surviving spouses come into the office who had not received their 1099-Rs by late March (way too late).

Many tried calling the DFAS customer service number and couldn't get through to an agent, or when they did, they couldn't answer the ID vetting questions correctly and they were denied service and were locked out of their accounts.

Retirees and annuitants that haven't received their 1099-Rs by mid-February in the mail should see us before the middle of March for help.

DFAS is flooded with requests for 1099Rs at this time and this will give them time to respond to your request.

Military retirees and annuitants that possess myPay accounts can avoid these problems by updating their login passwords and logging in often to ensure they remember their credentials.

For those that don't have myPay accounts, we recommend you get one if possible (provided you own a computer, tablet, and have internet service). You will be able to download your tax statements and 1095B's at the end of December and by mid-January.

This will take some of the stress out of the tax filing season off your back. If you need more information, please give us a call.

2026 TRAVIS AFB RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY



The 60th Air Mobility Wing is sponsoring the 2026 Military Retiree Appreciation Day Event on Saturday, 16 May 2026.

The purpose of the event is to keep the retirees and veterans that Travis Air Force Base serves informed about the benefits and services available to them as well as honor their past service.

Another purpose is to keep retirees involved as members of the Air Force Family and keep them educated about the Wing's evolving mission in defense of our country and the pursuit of its national interest.

The event will be held at the Travis Aviation Museum found in Building 80, 461 Burgan Blvd. on Travis Air Force Base.

Event sign in will last from 8 until 8:55 am. While signing in, attendees may help themselves to free coffee, pastries, croissants, and bagels (until exhausted).

Ceremonies and briefings start at 9 am. Information tables will be staffed by Federal and State veteran support agencies, Veterans Service Organizations, and base support sections.

Currently, we have guest speakers lined up from the Military Officers Association

of America, The Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Concord Vet Center, Travis AFB Casualty Assistance, and the Center for Medicare and Medicare Healthcare Service

David Grant Medical Center, TRICARE, and other 60 AMW units that provide services to retirees, their spouses, and veterans will also provide short briefings or information to attendees during the event.

Free giveaway drawings will be conducted before the event closes for the year.

Military retirees, their spouses, self-sponsored widowed spouses, and 70-100 percent disabled veterans with base access are encouraged to attend.

We hope to see you there. It's a wonderful opportunity to get informed and catch up with old friends you may not have seen in a while.

From the RAO Desk



The Travis Retiree Activities Office is closed on Federal Holidays and AMC Pass Days.

AMC Pass Day	22 May 2026
Memorial Day	25 May 2026

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EVENTS

Wings over Solano Airshow, Travis AFB CA – 25-26 April 2026
2026 Travis Military Retiree Appreciation Day – 16 May 2026
2026 53rd Annual Air Force Assistance Fund Drive

The 53rd Annual Air Force Assistance Fund Drive is underway. The drive provides organizations with the funds needed to provide monetary support to officers and enlisted personnel or their widows in need of housing, food, or medical services when they don't have the financial means to pay for those services. Support can be given by loan, subsidized housing, or financial grants based on the ability to pay. Some also support college scholarships for deserving students.

Organizations supported by the drive include:

- The General & Mrs. Curtis LeMay Foundation
- Air Force Villages Charitable Foundation
- Air & Space Forces Aid Society
- Air Force Enlisted Village

Still serving, supporting and never leaving our own behind. Consider donating to these worthwhile charities. You may donate online at <https://www.afassistancefund.org>. If you don't want to donate online, you can always send a check or payroll deduction form to:

AIR FORCE ASSISTANCE FUND
AFPC/DPPPMB
550 C STREET WEST
JBSA RANDOLPH TX 78150

WINGS OVER SOLANO



The 60 Air Mobility Wing is hosting the Wings Over Solano Air Show on Saturday and Sunday the 25th and – 26th of April.

This year's Air Show will feature the US Air Force's Thunderbirds Aerial Demonstration Team.

Planes on static display may include the C5-M Galaxy Airlifter, C-17 Globemaster III, KC-10 Extender (Air Refueler/Tanker), and KC-46A Pegasus (new Air Refueler/Tanker)

To see a full schedule of events we encourage you to see the Wings Over Solano web page at <https://www.wingsoversolano.com/performers>.

As the fence line fills up fast, those of us that like to photograph flying things should get there as soon as it opens.

During the March 2024 event, the weather was sunny and hot for that time of year, so if you are dressed in shorts and short sleeved shirts, bring sun block and stay hydrated.

The aerial demonstrations didn't start until around 11:00 am during the last one. You can develop a serious case of sunburn in that brief period of time.

We recommend photographers come in with a friend or their spouse to watch their gear during portapotty/snack/beverage breaks. People are generally honest, but why take a chance?

You might want to bring a folding chair to take a break. Flight line concrete can take a toll on your legs if you aren't normally walking or standing on it.

For parents with small children: Please keep an eye on them. They tend to get excited up on the fence line. Many of us use tripods with big 600+ mm telephoto lenses mounted on cameras when we shoot.

I came close to scalping a few that ran up as I was tracking jets last time – good thing I was looking out of the corners of my eyes!

These events are a lot of fun. Doesn't matter if you are in it just to shoot pictures of great flying machine or if you just love watching things that go fast and admire the men and women that have the intelligence, skill, and guts to fly them.

We look forward to seeing you there.

RAOs - What do they do?



Periodically, we have retirees or active duty pop in and ask us what we do.

That's a good question!

There's the Ivory Tower answer – we serve as an intermediary between the local Air Force Base's Active Duty, the military retired population, and local community (which is true). But I think the best answer is we are here to help and aid retirees, their spouses, and veterans with their problems.

The Travis Retiree Activities Office serves and shares a potential customer base of about 67,000 military retirees and their spouses in Northern California with Beale AFB (*based on numbers in the DOD Actuary's California report by Congressional District published in 2023)

The top issues we handle are retired pay account profile maintenance, ID Card appointments, and reserve/guard retired pay online applications.

The greatest users of our services are retirees or spouses in their late seventies and older people who don't own computers or internet connected devices. We help them with a lot of telephone calls and fax forms to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service in Indianapolis.

During tax season, we provide retirees with information about free tax

preparation sites using the IRS's VITA Locator Tool.

We make ID card renewal appointments for retirees and their spouses or refer them for walk-in service when available.

We also help retirees and spouses with the following changes to their retired pay and annuity pay account profiles:

- Account and routing number changes.
- Address and Phone number changes.
- Email address changes.
- Password resets
- SBP annuitant suspensions
- Form 1099R requests.

Other areas of support:

- Space A Flight information
- Base Lodging Contact Information
- Base Entry Requirements Information
- Base Legal Office Information
- Agent Letter process

Our office supports and moderates a Facebook page, a Military Retiree/Veterans Group page, and manages a military retiree, veterans and spouses, email group. We use these tools to send out information about changes to benefits and services to the group.

We continue to serve and help the active duty by taking on some of the administrative customer service load.

DFAS UPDATE

The Defense Accounting and Finance Service posted their Spring 2026 Newsletter to the Retiree/Annuitants tab of their official web site.

We recommend retirees and annuitants download copies as they are posted as they have a lot of useful information about changes to military retirement and annuitant pay system.

You don't need to remember a long-complicated internet address to access the page. Type in the Defense Accounting and Finance Service or DFAS in your computer or tablet's web browser search box and click on the resulting link. It's usually the first one.

Next, click on the Retiree/Annuitants tab and click on the download link for the newsletter PDF file.

DFAS retiree and annuitant customers can now bypass the interminable line queue messages on the standard 1-800-421-1080 customer service line.

Retirees and annuitants that want to bypass the round robin first message can now call 1-888-332-7411. If you are reporting the death of a military retiree or checking on the status a claim,

Option 2, covers Retirees, Annuitants and Former Spouses needing help.

Option 1 Retirees

Option 2 Annuitants

Option 3 Former Spouse

Something to keep in mind for the next tax season now that tax year 2025 is behind us. Retirees and annuitants can request DFAS mail hard copy 1099Rs and 1095-Bs to their home addresses.

This works if you haven't moved since you retired and your retired and annuitant pay profile was set up with the Defense Accounting and Finance Service. It's your responsibility to make sure the information in your pay profile is current.

If you've received your statements in the mail in past years and you haven't gotten them by the 2nd week of March, you can normally call DFAS to request a hard copy by mail. Here's How you do it:

- Call 1-800-321-1080
- Select Option 2 for Retiree
- Select Option 1 for Retiree
- Select Option 2 to request copies of your tax documents.
- Select Option 1 1099-R
- Select Option 1 to continue.
- Enter your Social Security Number

The 1099-R should be in the mail in the next 7 to 10 business days.

In summary, requests to receive hard copy tax documents from DFAS by mail work if the address you have on file with them on file is current.

If you moved and never changed your address in the system, please login to myPay. If you have an account, update your profile. If not, call their customer service number and update your profile information..

If you have difficulties, please contact our office for help.