

RETIREE ACTIVITIES OFFICE



ON THE RADAR

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DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Retiree Activities Office will be closed for the holidays beginning Monday, December 22, & returning on Monday, January 5, 2026.

NOTE: Please call 801.777.5735 to register for classes and activities:

Build a Binder Class - December 12, Friday, 1030

Held 2nd Friday/month. Make things easier for your loved ones by keeping all your important info in one place. Join us at the Retiree Activities Office, Bldg. 430, room 134. Please CALL to register for class.

Social Security 101 - December 19, Friday, 1100

Held 3rd Friday/month - limited space available. Call above number to reserve a seat or request a Zoom link to attend virtually.



Follow 75th Marketing on Facebook for more base events: <https://www.facebook.com/HillFSS> (page name: Hill FSS)

Ask to be added to their distribution list at 75FSS.FSK.Marketing@us.af.mil

Legal News from the 75th Air Base Wing

If you die intestate (without a will) your state's laws of descent and distribution will determine who receives your property by default. A will provides for the distribution of certain property owned by you at the time of your death, and generally you may dispose of such property in any manner you choose.

Trusts are legal arrangements that can provide flexibility for the ownership of certain assets, thereby enabling you and your heirs to achieve a number of significant personal goals that can't be achieved otherwise. The Base Legal Office has more info on their website at <https://www.hill.af.mil/About-Us/Legal-Office/Legal-Assistance/>.



VA.GOV

Do you have a VA.GOV account? If you don't, you should. All the information that was on eBenefits is moving to VA.GOV which gives you one-stop shopping.

Please open an account today by visiting <https://www.va.gov>. VA.GOV provides easy access to a LOT of information. Here are just 11 things you can access on VA.GOV:

1. **Veteran discounts** available year-round. A list of discounts shared with veterans, military members, their families, caregivers, and survivors.
2. **Physical fitness resources** to ignite a healthier future.
3. Everything you need to know about **VA urgent care services**.
4. **Veteran Travel 101:** applying for travel reimbursement.
5. Veterans and eligible caregivers now have easier access to Department of Defense (DOD) installations.
6. Improved access to **VA claims information**.
7. **Veterans exposed to toxins and other hazards during service** now eligible for VA health care.
8. **Disaster assistance and resources** for veterans.
9. **Long-term care benefits**
10. **Caregiver support program**
11. And links to **ALL VA benefits and ways to contact the experts**.

BENEFITS BRIEFING



A Sampling of Veteran Federal, State, and Non-Profit Resources

Please note: some organizations only offer free services to specific groups of veterans/families, i.e., Purple Heart recipients, post 9/11 veterans, combat veterans, disabled veterans, female veterans, etc. Check with each agency for more information:

National and State Park Passes: visit their websites for details on free access passes.

National Abilities Center (Park City & national): offers a wide variety of adaptive sports programs and lessons. Complete the registration form online or call for assistance. Ask about scholarships for veterans. (<https://discovernac.org>)

Continue Mission (UT): for veterans, this non-profit offers a variety of weekly activities & excursions. (<https://www.continuemission.org>)

Warrior Revival (Sandy): Non-profit offering a variety of activities, events, and mentorship programs. (<https://warrior-revival.org>)

Higher Ground (national + ID): adaptive sports including fishing, skiing, climbing, golf, etc. (<https://highergroundusa.org>)

USA Stars of SLC Judo Club (SLC): veteran judo classes including classes for the vision-impaired. (<https://oyerzun.com/blog>)

Project Healing Waters Fly-Fishing (national + UT chapters): learn fly-tying, build a fly rod, fly fish. (<https://projecthealingwaters.org>)

PGA Hope (national + ID): therapeutic benefits of golf. Multiple chapters in Idaho. (<https://www.pgareach.org/pgahope>)

Team Red, White and Blue (national + UT): focus on building healthy lifestyles through events and activities. (<https://teamrwb.org>)

Travis Manion Foundation (national + UT): unites communities to strengthen America's national character by empowering veterans and families of fallen heroes to develop and lead future generations. (<https://www.travismanion.org/>)

Team Rubicon (national): an international non-government organization specializing in disaster response/humanitarian aid. (<https://teamrubiconusa.org>)

HISTORICAL CORNER



The Dreaded Douglas AC-47 "Spooky" by Sam Stubbs

How did a 1930s-era transport become one of the most feared weapons over Vietnam? Although the concept of a side-firing gunship had been floated since the 1920s, it wasn't until August 1964 that the Air Force finally approved serious testing under Project Tail Chaser. Led by Lt. Col. MacDonald, 1st Lt. Sasaki, and test pilot Capt. Terry, engineers outfitted a C-131B with a side-mounted SUU-11 minigun and MK-20 gunsight. The tests were so convincing that Gen. Curtis LeMay directed the team to modify two C-47 Skytrains for combat evaluation in Vietnam.

Each converted C-47 carried a crew of seven, and three SUU-11 miniguns, 20,000 rounds of 7.62 ammunition, and 45 MK-24 flares. On its first mission on Dec. 21, 1964, the AC-47 struck enemy sampans, structures, and trails—recording 21 confirmed kills. From there, "Spooky" proved invaluable in defending remote outposts, protecting hamlets, and interdicting enemy supply routes. In 1966 alone, AC-47s flew 5,584 sorties, fired 13.6 million rounds, and dropped more than 81,000 flares.

The remarkable success of the AC-47 paved the way for the more powerful and legendary AC-119 and AC-130 gunships.

FROM RAO HQ



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Office hours: Monday - Friday, 1000 - 1400

In addition to this newsletter, we offer outreach briefings in the community. Stop by the office or give us a call. We have lots of info and can help you locate service providers in several arenas.

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