

Retiree Activities Office September 2026 Newsletter

Serving military retirees from all Services

YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS

Note: We are continuing to make changes to our monthly newsletter. Appreciate the comments we have received. Some folks would like to have the Newsletter on our web site. It will be posted so if you desire you can read and download it from there. Another did not like the red. The red (for the most part) has changed. If you would like to provide us additional comments, please provide your input using the following link: [Click here](#)

Visit or contact us

RAO Contact

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Buckley SFB, CO 80011
Building 606, Room 104

[720-847-6693](tel:720-847-6693)

raobuckley@gmail.com

[Buckley RAO website](#)

Director – Steve Young, Lt Col, USAF, Ret

Normal hours

Office Hours

Monday: 0900–1500

Tuesday: 0900–1500

Wednesday: 0900–1300

Thursday: 0900–1200

Friday: 0900–1200

Hours depend on volunteer availability.

Find Us on Buckley SFB

We are in Room 104 of Building 606, close to the main building entrance. Enter through the main entrance, turn left, take the first hallway on your right, and Room 104 is the first room on your left. We assist military retirees from all Services.

Casualty Assistance Support from the Retiree Activities Office (RAO)

The RAO is dedicated to supporting the families of deceased military personnel. As part of this commitment, our team actively monitors online obituaries for military retirees in Colorado so we can proactively reach out to offer our condolences and assistance.

[Click here to see how we can help.](#)

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This Month at a Glance

9 Sep PARKER 5 TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR FOR OLDER ADULTS

This event will be held on Wed, 9 Sep, from 0830-1300 at the Parker Fieldhouse, 18700 Plaza Drive in Parker. Older adults, families, and care givers, will be able to explore services, programs, products, and opportunities that support vibrant aging and community connection.

12 Sep NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE AND REMEMBRANCE

There is a volunteer opportunity at Ft Logan National Cemetery on Sat, 12 Sep, from 1000-1300 in Honor of September 11th. Volunteers will help clean headstones and beautify the grounds in tribute to military members, veterans, first responder and their families. Registration is free but required. A similar event will be held at Pikes Peak National Cemetery on the same day. You can register at www.carrytheload.org

15 Sep Monthly TRICARE Briefing 1100-1230

Monthly TRICARE These briefings are done on the third Tuesday of each month, from 1100 - 1230, in the Bldg 606 Military & Family Readiness Center (M&FRC) auditorium; call 720-847-6681 to register.

15 Sep PARKER SENIOR CENTER BINGO

Held on the third Tuesday of each month. Doors open at 1730 and it starts at 1830 and it's open to the public.

17 Sep Walk-in VA Disability Benefits Claims Assistance with VSOs 1300-1600

Veteran Service Officers (VSOs) are available for monthly walk-in sessions to assist service

members and military retirees with VA disability claims. No prior registration is required.

- **Schedule & Location:** Held on the third Thursday of every month (next session: **October 15, 2026**) in Building 606, Room 140.
- **Services Provided During Walk-Ins:**
 - **Claims Guidance:** Answer questions regarding VA disability claims and filing procedures.
 - **Quick Updates:** Process simple requests, such as filing an Intent to File to establish an effective date or updating contact information.
 - **Appointment Preparation:** Evaluate initial paperwork and schedule dedicated, full-length VSO office appointments to finalize and submit claims.
- **Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD):** Service members separating within 90–180 days should bring medical records, marriage certificates, and children's birth certificates. *Note: Full BDD record reviews average two hours or more and generally require prep work prior to formal submission.*
- **Contact Information:** For additional details, contact Ms. Stephanie Rozmarich at 720-847-6681 or email 460MSS.DPF@us.af.mil.

**17-18
Sep**

POW/MIA Run at Buckley Space Force Base

Space Base Delta 2 is honored to host this year's POW/MIA Run at Buckley Space Force Base. They are currently looking for runners, walkers, and volunteers to help make this event a success. [See below for more details.](#)

19 Sep

Buckley SFB Military Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) 0800-1230

Leadership Development Center (Bldg 1032), featuring vendors, free food, door prizes, and musical entertainment by the band She Bop. **More info below**

**19
Sep**

Castle Rock Oktoberfest at Wilcox Square 1300 – 2100

Castle Rock Oktoberfest at Wilcox Square (300 Second Street). There will be entertainment, vendors, food trucks, etc. Since this event doesn't start until 1300 you have plenty of time to attend the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) on Buckley SFB and then visit the Oktoberfest. For more info see [Calendar • Oktoberfest](#)

**19
Sep**

VETERAN BENEFITS SEMINARS (also 26 Sep and 24 Oct)

DAV (Disabled American Veterans) hosts free local information seminars and benefits claims events across Colorado led by trained National Service Officers (NSOs). Seminars cover VA disability claims, appeals, ancillary benefits and state benefits. After each seminar NSOs provide one-on-one help to start claims or increase ratings on a first-come, first-served basis. Veterans should bring DD214s and supporting documentation. Some upcoming seminars are:

- Saturday, 19 Sep, 1000-1400, 307 Linda St, Ft Morgan, CO 80701
- Saturday, 26 Sep, 1000-1400, 318 3rd St, Las Animas, CO 81054
- Saturday, 24 Oct, 1500-2000, Launchpad Brewery, 884 S Buckley Rd, Aurora, CO 80017

If you can't attend a seminar, you can e-mail DAV.VBADEN@va.gov to start a claim with a DAV NSO.

24 Sep WEST METRO VETERANS FAIR

This event takes place on Thursday, 24 Sep, from 1100-1400 at the Elks Lakewood Lodge #1777 (1455 Newland St, Lakewood). For more info see [West Metro Veterans Fair - City of Lakewood, CO](#)

17 Oct Ft Carson Military Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) 0800-1300

Elkhorn Conference Center (Bldg 7300, 1725 Woodfill Rd on Ft. Carson). There will be a complimentary breakfast, health and wellness checks, information and support. For additional information you can contact the Ft. Carson RSO, Carolyn Hill, at carolyn.d.hill9.civ@army.mil

7 Nov 34th ANNUAL CASTLE ROCK CRAFT SHOW

This event will be held on Sat, 7 Nov, from 0900-1600 at the Douglas County Events Center. There will be an Apple Watch Raffle, Silent Auction, Free Door Prizes, a Quilt Raffle, Book Sale, Wreath Auction, Concessions and more.

Recurring Events

WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES AIR & SPACE MUSEUM & WINGS OF EXPLORATION

For the latest information on museum events, visit the museum events page.

[Wings Museum Events](#)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HONOR FLIGHT

Flight #56 (3–5 September) Flight #57 (8–10 October) are in the pre-planning stages. For information on signing up for a flight or serving as a volunteer:

[Rocky Mountain Honor Flight](#)

Recurring Items

September Military & Patriotic Observances

- **September 2 – Victory over Japan Day (V-J Day):** Marks the formal surrender of Japan aboard the USS *Missouri*, effectively ending World War II.
- **September 11 – Patriot Day:** A National Day of Service and Remembrance honoring the individuals lost and the emergency responders who answered the call on September 11, 2001.
- **September 18 – Air Force & Air National Guard Birthday:** Commemorates the founding of the United States Air Force as an independent military service under the National Security Act of 1947.
- **September 18 – POW/MIA Recognition Day:** Observance held on the third Friday of September to honor former prisoners of war and those who remain missing in action.
- **September 27 – Gold Star Mother's & Family's Day:** Observed on the last Sunday of September to recognize and honor the surviving parents and immediate families of fallen U.S. service members.

Family Days & Holidays in September

Friday, September 4 – AETC / Command Family Day: Base operations will run on a holiday/limited staffing schedule.

- **Pharmacy:** Main Pharmacy and Satellite Pharmacy services may have reduced hours or be closed.
- **MPF (Military Personnel Flight / ID Cards):** Customer service and ID card section will be closed or operating on emergency-only status.
- **Gate Access:** Visitor Control Center (VCC) hours and main gate operations (including 6th Ave Gate) may experience modified access hours or lane closures.

Monday, September 7 – Labor Day (Federal Holiday): All non-essential base facilities, clinics, customer service offices, and standard gate entry points will follow standard federal holiday closures.

Service and DFAS Retiree Newsletters (use the links below);

Air Force Afterburner: [2026 Issue 1 AFTERBURNER \(26 Jan 2026\).pdf](#) (Issue 1, 2026)

Army Echoes: [202605 Army Echoes.pdf](#) (May - Jul 2026) New!

Navy Sailor for Life (previously Shift Colors) - [Sailor for Life](#) (Spring-Summer 2026)

Marine Corps - [Semper Fi Magazine – Marine Corps League](#) (Spring 2026)

Coast Guard Long Blue Line - [LONG BLUE LINE](#) (Spring 2026)

DFAS -[Retiree Newsletter](#) (Mar 2026)

Base Services

Retiree & Dependent ID Cards (Appts Only) - Buckley SFB Military Personnel Flight (MPF)

Building 606 ID Card Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The office is closed on federal holidays and family days.

Questions? – Appointments, renew online, etc. Go to [ID FAQs](#)

Pharmacy Operations

Contact Information and Resources

Refill Line: 720-615-2857. For patients interested in text notifications of when their prescriptions are ready, please speak to a pharmacy team member to enroll - have your cell phone number and carrier/company available. You can call 720-847-7450 if you need to speak to someone in the pharmacy.

- o 5 Duty Day turnaround after 1400
- o Call 21 days prior for 90-day supply
- o Call 7 Days prior for 30-day supply

Pharmacy Staff: 720-847-7450

Patient Advocate Phone: 720-847-6603

Patient Advocate Email: usaf.buckley.460sw-mdg.mbx.pharmacy-patient-advocate@mail.mil

Text Notifications: Speak to a pharmacy team member with your cell phone number and carrier available to enroll.

Pharmacy Website: [460th Medical Group - Buckley Space Force Base > Health Services > Pharmacy \(tricare.mil\)](#)

New Prescriptions

- Electronic prescriptions will automatically be activated
- Hardcopy prescription activation is via the Pharmacy DROP BOX
- Urgent prescriptions will be ready the same day
- Routine prescriptions ready after 1400 on the 2nd duty day

Hours of Operation

Lobby Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 0730 - 1630

Lobby Wednesday 0930 - 1630

Drive-Thru Monday – Friday 1300 – 1600

Closures

4 Sep	Pass Day
7 Sep	Down Day/Holiday
25 Sep	Closes at 1500

More Questions - [Pharmacy](#)

Reminder: the pharmacy is closed every Wednesday from 0730 to 0930 for Training & closes at 1500 on the last Friday.

Further information on prescription and refills, GENESIS Portal, after-hour care, transferring prescriptions, etc Goto [Pharmacy Questions](#)

Legal Office

The Legal Office provides limited legal assistance services for military retirees and their dependents. Retirees may choose to conduct their legal assistance appointments either in person or by telephone (720-847-6444).

Walk-In Services

Services Provided: Notary services and Powers of Attorney.

Availability: Monday through Thursday, from 0800 to 1200.

Appointment-Only Services (Wills)

Availability: Thursdays only, from 1300 to 1500.

Scheduling Note: Will appointments are expected to fill up very quickly, and the office does not maintain a waitlist. If appointments are booked out for several weeks, you may be asked to call back in two to three weeks to check for new openings.

For further information and details go to [Legal Office Questions](#)

Buckley Retiree Appreciation Day

Mark your calendars for the annual Buckley SFB Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) on Saturday, September 19! This fun and highly informative event is free to attend, and no prior registration is required.

- **Event Details: Saturday, 19 Sep, from 0800 to 1230**

- **Location: Leadership Development Center (LDC - Bldg. 1032)**

- **Special Hours:** The Military Personnel Flight (MPF) ID card section will be open from 0800 to 1200 in Bldg 606 (Mission Support Bldg) to support attendees.

Participating Organizations & Vendors We expect a wide variety of helpful organizations to be on-site, including:

- TRICARE, Delta Dental, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and GEHA
- Fort Logan National Cemetery
- HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC)
- Base Pharmacy, Legal, Commissary, and BX representatives
- Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- VA Eastern CO Health Care System & Denver VA Regional Office
- Local Funeral Homes and Hospice Facilities

· ...and many others!

Food, Prizes, & Entertainment. As in years past, we will provide complimentary food and beverages, including donuts, pizza, hamburgers, hot dogs, and snacks. We will also be giving away excellent door prizes, featuring gift cards to popular local restaurants and breweries such as J. Alexander's, Olive Garden, Lazy Dog, Waldo's Chicken and Beer, Alpha Charlies, and Launch Pad Brewery. Live musical entertainment is expected to be provided by the band *She Bop*.

Stay Updated For additional details as we get closer to the date, please visit the [RAO Website](#). We encourage you to check the site regularly or call the RAO directly if you have any questions!

POW/MIA Run at Buckley Space Force Base

Space Base Delta 2 is honored to host this year's POW/MIA Run at Buckley Space Force Base. They are currently looking for runners, walkers, and volunteers to help make this event a success.

- **Who:** Anybody is welcome to sign up if they have base access.
- **What:** We are currently looking for runners/walkers to hold the flag throughout the 24-hour period and volunteers for setup, tear down, or to sit at stations as needed.
- **When:** Thursday, September 17, 2026 at 8:45 a.m. through Friday, September 18, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- **Where:** Opening remarks and the run will be conducted at the Buckley Space Force Base track. The closing ceremony will be held at Building 1030.

You can scan the applicable QR code on the flyer (posted on our website) or use the links below to register:

- [General Volunteers](#)
- [Run / Walk / Ruck Participants](#)

Volunteers will receive separate emails with additional information. If you have any questions, you can reach out to TSgt Katherine Tindugan (katherine.m.tindugan.mil@health.mil). Thank you for your support!"

2027 Open Season Newsletter Announcements

Medicare Open Season

Dates: October 15 – December 7, 2026

Overview: Medicare Open Season (Annual Enrollment Period) is your yearly opportunity to enroll in, switch, or drop a Medicare Advantage or Part D prescription plan. All coverage changes selected during this window will take effect on January 1, 2027. Additional timing details are outlined in the [Medicare Open Enrollment Guide](#).

TRICARE Open Season

Dates: November 9 – December 8, 2026

Overview: TRICARE Open Season is the annual window for eligible beneficiaries to enroll in or change their TRICARE health plan (such as switching between TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Select). Changes take effect January 1, 2027. Outside of open season, plan updates are restricted to Qualifying Life Events (QLEs). For plan comparisons and rules, see [Military.com TRICARE Coverage](#) and the [FedTools 2027 TRICARE Guide](#).

Federal Employee Dental & Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)

Dates: November 9 – December 14, 2026

Overview: Federal Benefits Open Season allows military retirees and eligible family members to enroll in, adjust, or cancel a FEDVIP dental and/or vision plan. Open season runs annually from the second Monday in November through the second Monday in December. New plan choices become effective January 1, 2027. Further schedule details can be verified on the [FEHB & FEDVIP Schedule](#).

Dual-Eligible Coordination Tip For retirees coordinating both FEHB/FEDVIP and TRICARE benefits, note that the FEHB window closes on December 7, while TRICARE closes on December 8. To ensure seamless coverage across all programs, finalize all plan elections by **December 7, 2026**.

Veterans Legacy Memorial: Living Veterans Profile Feature

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) now allows living Veterans to privately prepare their official digital legacy. Through the Veterans Legacy Memorial (VLM), you can upload photos, autobiographies, military and life timelines, and historical documents in advance. Upon your passing, if you are interred in a VA national, state, tribal, or territory Veterans cemetery—or receive a VA headstone or memorial benefit—your submitted content will automatically publish on your public VLM memorial page as content authored by you.

Eligibility Requirement: This upload feature is currently open to Veterans who have received an approved pre-need burial eligibility determination from the VA.

Pre-Need Determination: Applying for pre-need eligibility confirms in advance whether you qualify for burial in a VA national cemetery, significantly simplifying the planning process for your family members in their time of need. You can apply online through the [VA Pre-Need Eligibility Application](#).

Submit Your Profile: Manage your biography, timelines, and documents on the official [VLM Living Veteran Portal](#).

Search Memorials: Search and view profile pages for interred Veterans across national and affiliated cemeteries at the [Veterans Legacy Memorial Search Portal](#).

Free Transportation for Colorado Veterans to VA Facilities

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Colorado, in partnership with VA medical centers across Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico, provides free transportation for Colorado Veterans to and from VA health care appointments, including authorized community care visits. Volunteer drivers operate these vans to ensure Veterans without reliable transportation can access essential medical services.

Eligibility & Guidelines: Free to eligible Veterans. Passengers must be ambulatory (capable of entering and exiting the vehicle independently).

Scheduling Requirement: Rides must be coordinated in advance through your regional Hospital Service Coordinator or local Veteran Service Officer (typically 48 hours to 1 week notice required depending on location).

Regional Ride Directories:

Eastern Colorado: Review coordinator phone numbers and scheduling rules on [DAV Vans - VA Eastern Colorado Health Care](#).

Western Colorado: Find county-by-county contacts and guidelines on [DAV Vans - VA Western Colorado Health Care](#).

Statewide & General Search: Locate your nearest Hospital Service Coordinator using the [DAV National Medical Transportation Directory](#).

Colorado Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center (COLERC)

The [Colorado Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center](#) collects, cleans, and repurposes used eyewear across Colorado and Wyoming to provide vision care to individuals in need. Operating under the Lions Clubs International "Recycle for Sight" program, COLERC redistributes processed prescription glasses

to humanitarian group missions in developing countries and conducts local school vision screening missions.

Donation & Collection: Drop off used prescription glasses, non-prescription sunglasses, readers, and hearing aids in collection boxes at participating vision centers across Colorado and Wyoming. Find nearby donation sites on the [COLERC Drop-Off Locations Map](#).

Global & Local Impact: Donated eyewear is sanitized, measured for lens strength, and sorted to support international vision clinics as well as school-age children in regional communities.

Get Involved: Learn about volunteer processing opportunities or request recycled eyeglasses for humanitarian missions through the [Colorado Lions Recycle for Sight Program](#).

General Topics & FAQs

Choose a topic below:

[Overseas Travel & TRICARE For Life](#)

[Online ID Card Switches from DS Logon to MyAuth](#)

[GLP-1 Medications & TRICARE For Life](#)

[Disabled Veterans & Free TSA PreCheck](#)

[New DFAS Smart Wizard for Arrears of Pay](#)

[VA Pre-Need Eligibility for Burial in a Veterans Cemetery](#)

[Free TSA PreCheck for Certain Disabled Veterans](#)

[ID Cards](#)

[Pharmacy](#)

[Legal Office](#)

[TRICARE](#)

[DFAS / myPay](#)

[Income Taxes](#)

[Reporting Death of Retiree](#)

Keep DFAS Informed: Report Life-Changing Events

Reserve Retirement Counseling

We encourage everyone who has contacted the RAO for support to provide some feedback, and constructive criticism, by filling out a customer survey at: [RAO Survey](#). We want to hear from you, and we welcome your suggestions on how we can improve our support! If your survey requires a response from the RAO, you need to include your name/contact info in Question 10.

If you know military retirees who are not receiving our newsletter e-mail please feel free to forward it to them. If they are not getting RAO e-mails, but would like to, they can contact us at raobuckley@gmail.com to be added to our distribution list.

Appreciate you reading the entire Newsletter! Do you have any input for us?
[Click here](#)

Disclaimer: This newsletter is a RAO publication for retirees, annuitants, and surviving spouses. Content is not to be construed as the official view of, or endorsement by, the RAO, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Space Force, or the Air Force.

Buckley SFB Retiree Activities Office

Serving those who served — from every branch.