



81 Constellation Court, #14 Middletown PA 17057

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to 2024 and the first newsletter of the year for the 193rd Special Operations Wing Association.

As we embark on a new year filled with possibilities, we wanted to take this opportunity to connect with you, our valued members, and share some exciting news about upcoming events.

I'm writing to inform you that the Air Force Instruction (AFI) governing private organizations like ours has recently been updated. The updated AFI requires additional reporting and potential increased oversight for our Board of Directors. In addition to reporting to the Air Force, we'll also need to comply with regulations from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Pennsylvania Department of State. While your experience as a member likely won't be significantly impacted, it's important to be aware of these changes. We are currently reviewing the updated AFI and will provide further details about the specific implications for our organization in the coming weeks. Your understanding and continued support are greatly appreciated

Annual Meeting:

Mark your calendars for our annual meeting on Saturday, April 6th at 4:00 PM in the DFAC. This is a great opportunity to learn about the organization's accomplishments over the past year, connect with fellow members, and get involved in shaping our future. We encourage everyone to attend!

Golf Tournament: Calling all golf enthusiasts! Join us for our annual golf tournament on Monday, October 14th at the scenic Manada Golf Course. Tee off is at 12:00 PM! This is a fun-filled event for players of all skill levels, so gather your team and get ready for a day of friendly competition and camaraderie.

Stay Connected:

In addition to these events, we encourage you to stay connected with us throughout the year by visiting our website at <https://www.193sow.org/> for news, updates, and event information.

Amy Snyder,
President

Join us for lunch on the 1st Thursday of each month at 11:30 AM
at J&J Pizzeria and Grill, 288 E Main Street, Middletown.
Or for breakfast at Angie's Diner in Harrisburg May 6th at 8:30 AM.
or at Country Fare in Myerstown on Apr 2nd, July 9th, and Oct 8th at 8:30 AM.

The 193rd Special Operations Wing Association, Inc
is recognized federally by the IRS as a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization,
but is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status.

**193rd SOW Association
Spring Membership Meeting
Agenda**

6 Apr 2024 - at 1600
In the Dining Facility

1. Call to Order - President
2. President's Opening Comments
3. Wing Update
4. Approve the minutes from the previous meeting
5. Review and reaffirm the Associations By-Laws
6. Election
7. Recent Accomplishments and Future Plans
 - Association Assistance Fund
 - SECA / United Way Giving
 - Scholarship Program
 - Airman of the Year Program
8. Recognition of the Airman of the Year
9. 2023 Financial Report
10. 2024 Budget
11. Meeting Adjournment

**193rd SOW Association
2023 Scholarship Winners**

- 1st Place SrA David Thompson COMM/NAV
- 2nd Place SSgt Berty Minnick SOFSS/FDO
- 3rd Place SSgt Erioc Baldwin SOWMXMVC

**Association Presents Fourteenth Annual
Outstanding Airman Awards**

The 193rd SOW Association presented the following 2023 Outstanding Ready Guardsman awards.

- Officer: Capt Ryan Hills, AOG
 Senior NCO: MSgt Brent Hill, RSG
 NCO: TSgt Kyle Kinard, RSG
 Airman: SrA Victoria Kwok, AOG
 First Sergeant: SMSgt Scott Little, SOMDG

This year the Association presented each recipient at our annual meeting, a free years' membership and a \$100 gift card.

**193rd SOW Association
2023 Assistance Fund**

Income		
	United Way Giving	3658.69
	Donations	<u>2200.00</u>
Total Income		\$5,858.69

Requests for Assistance:

In 2023, 16 cases were received for monetary assistance from the Association. A total of \$12,731.14 was awarded to these needy cases.

Case 23- #1	938.46
Case 23- #2	831.85
Case 23- #3	1101.01
Case 23- #4	850.00
Case 23- #5	1000.00
Case 23- #6	859.82
Case 23- #7	1000.00
Case 23- #8	1000.00
Case 23- #9	1000.00
Case 23- #10 Scholarship	750.00
Case 23- #11 Scholarship	1000.00
Case 23- #12 Scholarship	500.00
Case 23- #13	1000.00
Case 23- #14 Warm Heart	300.00
Case 23- #15 Warm Heart	300.00
Case 23- #16 Warm Heart	<u>300.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$12,731.14

Budget 2024

INCOME

Donations	3500.00
Fund Raising (Letters)	2500.00
Fund Raising Activities	10000.00
Scholarship Donations	300.00
Interest Checking Accounts	2.00
Interest, Investments	600.00
Annual Membership Dues	1500.00
Life Memberships Dues	<u>1000.00</u>
Total Income	\$19,402.00

EXPENSES

Outstanding Airman Awards	745.00
Donations,	
Airman MWR Activity	3700.00
Right Start Program	250.00
Scholarship (AF)	1.00
Leadership Develop Prog	50.00
Other	500.00
Death Benefit	150.00
Dues Notices	250.00
Fund Raising	4000.00
Insurance	1100.00
Membership Meeting/Family Day	200.00
Newsletters (Two)	1400.00
Office Supplies	50.00
PayPal Fees	75.00
Postage	70.00
Professional Fees(Audit & Taxes)	800.00
Special Project	250.00
Troop Care Packages	500.00
Website Services	<u>1.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$14,092.00

Financial Summary 2023

INCOME

Donations	1768.00
Fund Raising	1850.00
Fund Raising Activities	12688.00
Scholarship Donations	187.89
Interest, Checking Accounts	.38
Interest, Assistance Account	.16
Interest, Investments	490.92
Annual Memberships Dues	1986.00
Life Memberships Dues	<u>1035.00</u>
Total Income	\$20,006.35

EXPENSES

Outstanding Airman Awards	530.00
Donations	
Airman MWR Activity	3119.75
Death Benefit	292.76
Dues Notices	119.85
Fund Raising	5338.39
Insurance	1059.00
Members Meeting/ Family Day	162.27
Newsletters	1061.48
Office Supplies	30.45
PayPal Fees	84.35
Postage	45.07
Professional Fees (Audit)	775.00
Special, Table Banner	75.25
Troop Care Packages	<u>325.88</u>
Total Expenses	\$13,019.50

Subject to Audit

Demographics of Your Association

As of 31 December 2023 we have:

Total Membership:	393
Associate Members:	4
Life Members:	310
Retirees:	296
Officers:	111
Senior NCO's:	227
Airman:	46
Members with at least;	
20 Years continuous longevity:	112
15 Years continuous longevity:	74
10 Years continuous longevity:	70
5 Years continuous longevity:	83



Visit Us On Our Web Site

We have created a QR code to make it easier for you to get there. Once there, there are many things of interest. We have a list of our Board of Directors, we have our By-Laws there, our newsletters are there, we have a blog there with a place to subscribe to these posts. There is a digital membership application that makes it easier for us to read your data and also a place for you to make credit or debit card payments or donations.

New Main Gate At Fort Indiantown Gap



The first of two planned access-control points at Fort Indiantown Gap was dedicated and began operations on November 1, 2023.

All other entrances and exits to Fort Indiantown Gap are permanently closed to traffic, and Fort Indiantown Gap is now a controlled-access installation.

The Main Gate and visitors center are located on Fisher Avenue near its intersection with Biddle Drive.

Construction on the second ACP, known as the East Gate, is expected to begin in 2024 and will take about a year to complete. The East Gate will be located on Fisher Avenue

near its intersection with Quartermaster Road.

A gate has also been built on Clement Avenue at its intersection with Asher Miner Road. This gate will be used for controlled access by military vehicles, emergency vehicles and installation maintenance only.

In addition to the gates, additional fencing has been and will continue to be installed around the installation, including closing off a section of Asher Miner Road between Boundary Road and Clement Avenue.

The installation's eastern detour route will be from north-bound Fisher Avenue (State Route 934) to Biddle Drive to Quartermaster Road and reconnect with Fisher Avenue on the eastern side of the installation, or reverse.

The installation's western detour route will be west-bound on Asher Miner Road to Boundary Road to Clement Avenue (State Route 443) to north-bound Asher Miner Road (State Route 443), or reverse.

The access-control project has been planned for about 20 years. After Sept. 11, 2001, the Department of Defense mandated tighter security at military installations, including access-control points. Construction of the access-control points at Fort Indiantown Gap has been delayed several times.

Members of the general public can still access Fort Indiantown Gap, but they have to stop at the visitors center and show a valid state- or federally-issued identification card.

The gates do not affect access to the Air National Guard Station, Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Memorial Lake State Park, Marquette Lake, the Keystone Conference Center, Second Mountain Hawk Watch or Fort Indiantown Gap's hunting and fishing areas.

2024 193rd SOW Association Scholarship Program

The 193rd Special Operations Wing Association Scholarship is an annual program that gives at least a \$1,000 award directly to a wing member or members it feels demonstrates outstanding leadership potential. This will be the eighth year for the scholarship program and the Association is looking forward to receiving many qualified submissions. The 2024 Scholarship program will **open March 1, 2024 and close June 31, 2024**. The requirement for the scholarship this year will be a 500-750 word paper double-spaced, grammatically correct and in your own words on one of the following topics: 1) Think of a person or people who have made a significant impact on your decision to join our unit. What advice did they give you that you felt was helpful? How do you apply that advice in your career? ...Or, 2) What would you tell an individual who is considering joining the unit? What advantages and/or disadvantages would you include? All entries can be e-mailed to scholarship@193sow.org by the deadline.

Scholarship Chairman

Gray Area Retiree Spotlight

New to Retired Pay: What to Know for Tax Season

After you retire and begin receiving retired pay, the next tax season will bring a few changes.

Tax Document

First, the retired pay tax document is an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) 1099-R instead of the IRS W-2 you are accustomed to receiving. The IRS 1099-R is the form for Distributions from Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc. The form is similar to an IRS W-2 but has a number of different boxes that won't be relevant to your retired pay.

Your annual 1099-R will be available in myPay to view and download. myPay offers printing or downloading of your tax statements for your retired pay. You can print/download your current year tax statement, as well as prior year 1099-Rs (up to four prior years for retirees). In addition, you'll have earlier access to your 1099-R tax statement in myPay. Statements are generally available in myPay in late December, while paper copies aren't mailed until mid-to-late January.

If you have the preferences in your account set to receive statements via postal mail, those statements are mailed no later than January 31 of each year, along with your December Retiree Account Statement.

Tax Withholding

Federal Income Tax Withholding

DFAS will withhold federal income tax from your retired pay according to the instructions you provide on your DD Form 2656 when you apply for retired pay. You can also change your federal income tax withholding after your retired pay is established by using myPay (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>) or by sending us a completed, signed IRS W-4 Employee's Withholding Certificate.

State Income Tax Withholding

DFAS can also withhold state income tax from your retired pay for one state at a time, but only if the designated state has signed the standard written State Income Tax Withholding agreement with the Department of Defense (DoD). Please see the table on our webpage for the status of specific states/territories: <https://www.dfas.mil/retstatetax>

Military retirees can start, stop, or change state income tax withholding (SITW) by using myPay, by filling out and sending a DD Form 2866 - Retiree Change of Address/State Tax Withholding Request, or by sending a written request that includes all the necessary information. The information includes your full name, daytime phone number, social security number, date, and signature on all written correspondence. DFAS cannot process requests that do not include this information. Because tax obligations vary from state to state, contact your state's department of revenue regarding taxability of your military retired pay.

Local Income Tax Withholding

DFAS is unable to withhold local income tax from retired pay.

Military Retired Pay Taxation Tips

Military retired pay is paid for many different reasons under many different laws. There are differences in the types of pay a military retiree might receive and the tax laws that apply to them. Whether a portion or all of an individual's military retired pay is subject to federal income taxes depends on his/her individual circumstances.

A military retiree can either use myPay or send an IRS Form W-4 to alter the amount DFAS withholds for federal income taxes from their military retired pay. An individual's choice to have no withholding for federal taxes does not impact whether the individual's military retired pay is subject to federal income taxes. Ultimately, the IRS will determine the amount of taxes owed on the military retired pay.

Please note: the IRS requires any individual claiming exemption from federal withholding to provide a new Form W-4 at the beginning of each tax year certifying their exemption from withholding.

Additional Information

DFAS cannot provide tax advice. Please consult a tax professional or the IRS. Please see our webpage for more information regarding taxation of retired pay: <https://www.dfas.mil/retpaytax>

New Quick Tools Webpage Available for SBP Annuitants and Survivors

Here at DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay, we're very busy working on ways to improve our customer service for you. And here's the latest example: [the Quick Tools page](#) on DFAS.mil.

What is the Quick Tools page? Think of it as a one-stop-shop for our most popular and often-requested tools. It's designed specifically for people who have a clear picture of what they need to accomplish and just need one simple place to find it.

One thing you'll immediately notice about the Quick Tools page is its organization. The webpage is neatly organized by customer group. As a valued member of the SBP annuitant/survivor community, there's a section just for you. Whether you're looking for the way to report a death, get a 1099-R tax statement reissued, utilize myPay, or use one of our helpful Form Wizards or convenient askDFAS online upload tools—this webpage will get you where you need quickly!

And just as we always do—we'll keep working on this page to make it most useful and current over time. We have even more great tools planned for you, so we'll make sure Quick Tools is always a quick stop to meet your needs.

You can find the Quick Tools page at <https://www.dfas.mil/raquicktools>.

Patrick M. Devine, CMSgt. (Ret)

Chief Patrick Devine began his career in the military as a 91S, Preventive Medicine Specialist in the United States Army in October of 1987. Chief Devine graduated from Advanced Individual Training as Honor Graduate. Chief Devine served on active duty in the U.S. Army until May of 1991. In June of 1991 Chief Devine enlisted in the 193d Special Operations Wing and from 1991 to present has held various positions in the Mission Support Flight, Medical Group, Wing Headquarters staff. Chief Devine has deployed with the Wing in support of Uphold Democracy 1995, Desert Fox, Kuwait in 1998 and Oman in 2002 and most recently in 2010 in support of OIF. Chief Devine retired militarily in 2022 and now holds a civilian position in the wing safety office.

Suzanne McMurray, MSgt. (Ret)

MSgt McMurray has over 34 years in the military, 4 years on active duty, 29 years with the AF Reserves and the Air National Guard. She enlisted with the 193d Special Operations Wing in December 1994 and served until her retirement in 2019. During her tenure at the 193rd, she had held numerous positions as a traditional guardsman in the Logistics Readiness Squadron until October 2004 when she was selected for an Active Guard Reserve (AGR). She retired in August 2019. MSgt McMurray had deployed numerous times to support Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan. She is the commander of the Highspire VFW Post 8638 and a current member of the Board of Directors or the 193d SOW Association.

Do you want to help your fellow Guardsman?

Join the Associations Board of Directors.

Ask a Board Member to have your name placed on the ballot for the election.

Annual Election of Association Directors

We will be holding our upcoming General Membership meeting on Saturday 6 April 2024 in the 193d Dining Facility at 1600 hours. As our by-laws are written we will elect four (4) members to serve as Board of Directors for a three (3) year term. Any member in good standings is eligible to hold office in the organization. EVERY VOTE IS IMPORTANT. You can nominate an individual on the absentee ballot by printing the name on the blank line of the Absentee Ballot. The floor will be open for nominations at the beginning of the election. In the event you will be unable to attend this election, below is the “2024 Absentee Ballot” for your convenience. Please fill it out and mail it to us with a post mark of not later than 23 March. We will also accept your vote via an e-mail to ballot@193sow.org. Write in nominations from the absentee ballots will also be brought to the floor. **All nominees must be present to accept the position, or be excused by the Association Board of Directors.** Mail your Absentee Ballot to: 193rd SOW Association, Judge of Elections, 81 Constellation Court, #14, Middletown PA 17057.

Dave Hawkins,
Nominating Committee

193rd SOW Association 2024 Absentee Ballot

Patrick M. Devine - Suzanna McMurray

Circle or write in your names

Mail to: “Judge of Elections”
193rd SOW Association,
81 Constellation Court #14
Middletown, PA 17057

Or e-mail your selections to:
ballot@193sow.org
include your name.

Members Name _____

Amy R. Snyder, President
asnider@193sow.org

Peter D. Mireles, Vice President
pmireles@193sow.org

Thomas E. Franklin, Treasurer
thomasfranklin275@yahoo.com

Randy L. Eckert, Financial Secretary
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Kimber L. Connelly, Recording Secretary
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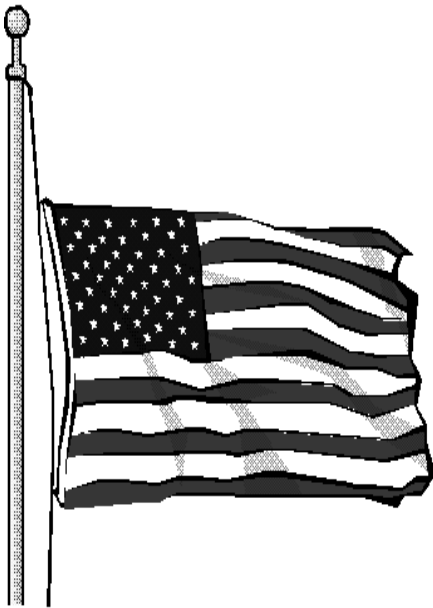
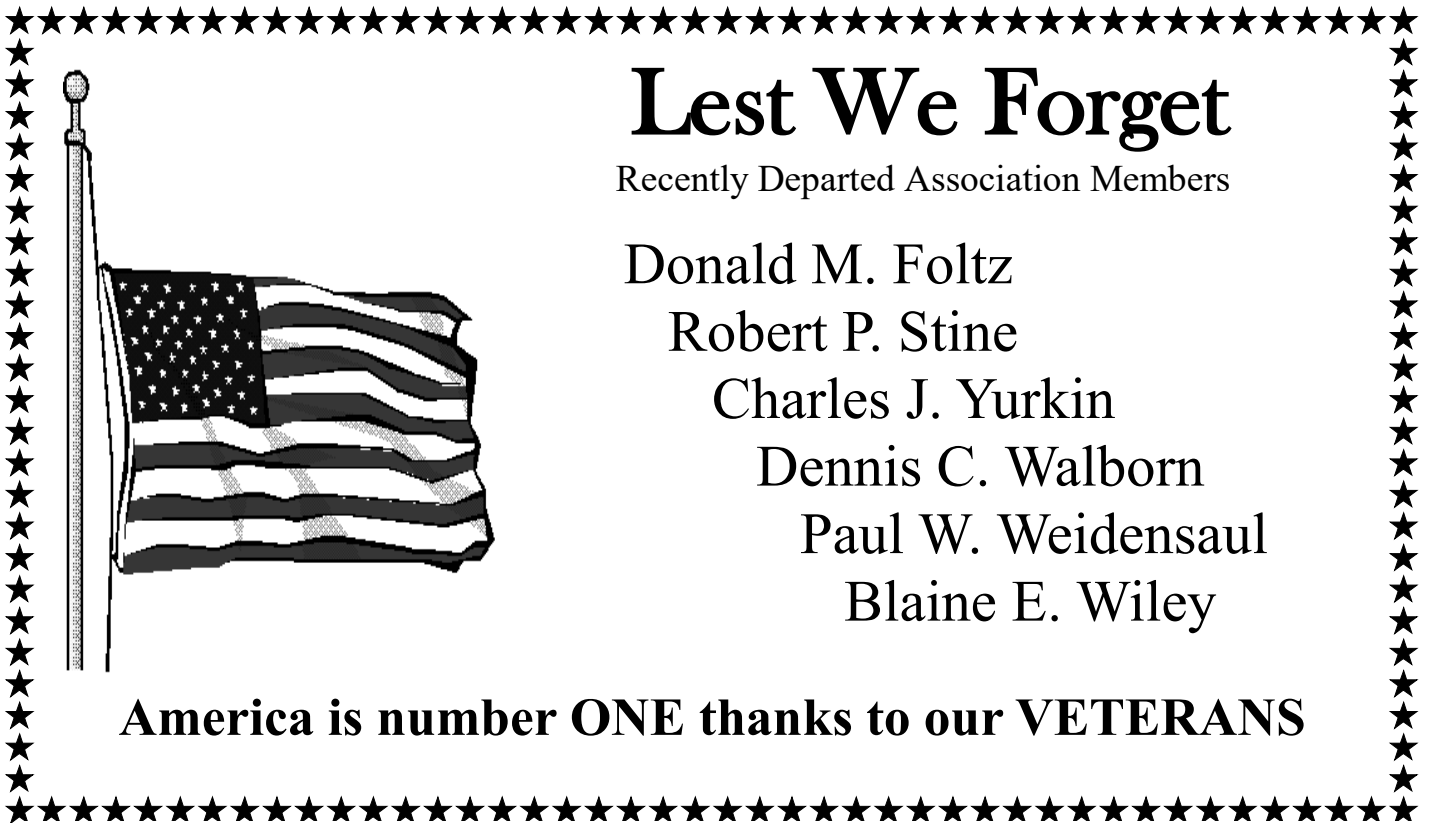
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Blaine E. Wiley

America is number ONE thanks to our VETERANS

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