

## **Retiree Corner:**

### **Extending the Life of Service Retiree Newsletters**

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In September, the Air Force printed, published and mailed its retiree newsletter, the *Afterburner*, after three years without a hard-copy version being produced. Budget problems left the Air Force retirees with only an electronic version of the newsletter.

As explained in the *Afterburner*, “Special funding was granted to provide news and information to our retirees and surviving spouses, and also to urge those with computer access to forego a hard-copy version to save money.” It’s important for retirees to understand that budget problems could affect the ability of all services to provide hundreds of thousands of hard-copies of their newsletters to all retirees and survivors.

One of the distinguishing characteristics of military service is the development of teamwork. It’s time to apply the teamwork principle to saving the newsletter. There are a number of retirees and surviving spouses who lack a computer and who may not have the ability or desire to learn how to use one. To these members of our community, a hard-copy newsletter may be the only way they get the news that’s important to all of us.

If you use a computer, you can help to extend the life of your service’s newsletter by cancelling the paper version and opting for the e-mail version if that’s available. That will save the limited funds to continue producing a reasonable number of hard-copy newsletters for those who really need them.

Locally, the e-mail newsletter *Still Serving in Korea* is produced monthly and comes in a printable version available via the ‘Archives: HTML/Txt’ at <http://www.rao-osan.com>. If you know a non-computer retiree or widow(er), why not print a newsletter for him/her.