



Chartered March 16, 1988

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER 58 Trooper

March 2010

First Quarter Publication
of Tampa Bay Chapter 58

Notes From The President

Once again, I have the privilege of taking the helm of our chapter — thank you for the confidence! We did very well this past year; let's continue to do the same in 2010. I hope that in the future we can see new faces in the chapter's board of directors.

This year's MacDill Air Force Base Air Fest, featuring the Blue Angels, will be on the weekend of March 20 and 21. Our chapter will be working at the souvenir booth. I invite all chapter and TREA members at large to participate in this fundraising event. We have a good time and get to see a great show, too. If you are interested, do not hesitate to notify any member of the

board of directors and let us know the day you are available. Chapter members who are working must be there by 7 a.m. on both days. And remember: you can only enter the base through the Bayshore Gate and the traffic will be very bad these two days, so plan accordingly. Parking will also be very limited, so remember to leave early.

We will also be celebrating our chapter's 22nd anniversary and hope all our active chapter members attend so we may give them their deserved recognition. So, come and join us, and help to celebrate on March 13. Details of the meeting will appear in this



Lou Arana, President of TREA
Tampa Bay Chapter 58.

newsletter.

As a remainder, if you have not paid your chapter's dues and would like to start, this is the time to do it. Contact one of our board members to learn how.

Lastly, I ask all chapter members to visit our Web site at The Veterans Post Web page, located at www.veteranspostnews.com/TREA58.htm to get acquainted with our chapter activities.

Still serving,

UNITED WE STAND

Louis A. Arana

PRESIDENT



HAPPY 22 ANNIVERSARY CHAP 58

TREA Chapter 58 is holding its General Membership Meeting at the Coons Creek Pavilion at MacDill AFB on Saturday March 13 starting at 12:00 PM. There will be food and drinks. All members and spouses are welcome. Please call Lou Arana at 813-684-5414 or email: vegasbnd@tampabay.rr.com and let us know if you will be attending by **MARCH 10TH.**





Chapter 58 Elects 2010 Board : TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58

elected its 2010 board of directors during a joint general membership meeting and holiday party at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., Dec. 12, 2009



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 elected its 2010 board of directors during a ceremony at the Coon's Creek Pavilion at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., on Dec. 12, 2009. All the members served on the 2009 board. The new members are, left to right, Geoffrey Parker, Harold Atwood, Harry Johnson (2nd Vice President), Leonard Black (1st Vice), Louis Arana (President), Peter Gathers, Juanita Anspach (Secretary), Allan Adams (Treasurer) and Carlos Barradas. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)

TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 Treasurer Allan Adams, left, and, left to right, Directors Carlos Barradas and Geoffrey Parker, 2nd Vice President Harry Johnson and Director Peter Gathers received certificates of appreciation for their excellent work in support of the chapter in 2009. The men received their accolades during a general membership meeting at the Coon's Creek Pavilion at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., on Dec. 12, 2009. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 President Louis Arana, left, presents 1st Vice President Leonard Black with a plaque for his outstanding service to the chapter during 2009. 1st Vice Black received the award during a general membership meeting at the Coon's Creek Pavilion at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., on Dec. 12, 2009. He served as the chapter veteran's affairs liaison. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 President Louis Arana, left, presented Secretary Juanita Anspach a plaque for her outstanding service to the chapter during 2009. Secretary Anspach received the award during a general membership meeting at the Coon's Creek Pavilion at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., on Dec. 12, 2009. She also served as the chapter's newsletter (The Trooper) editor and managed its award-winning Web page. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



CHAPTER 58 ANNUAL DUES FORM

(Mail: TREA, Chapter 58, P.O. Box 6676, MacDill AFB, FL 33608-0676)

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____



_____ One (1) Year: \$10.00_

*(These dues are due annually on the first day of January each year.)
(Print page and cut here and mail with check)*



Member Birthdays
***Happy Birthday to
all our
Members with
birthdays
In April, May
And June***



Members and guests of TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 enjoyed a holiday meal during the chapter's general membership meeting and holiday party, held at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., on Dec. 12, 2009. More than 40 people attended the event, held at the Coon's Creek Pavilion. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 honored for their support to the chapter, left to right, Luz Arana (auxiliary member at large), Rita Adams, Emilia Atwood (auxiliary member at large), chapter member Dolores Kliva, Reiko Sharpe (auxiliary member at large) and Secretary Juanita Anspach. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)

**CHAPTER 58
2010 MEETINGS
Surf's Edge Club
MacDill AFB, Florida
1300 hours**

- Jan 19 BOD
- Feb 16 BOD
- Mar 13 General Mbrship
- Apr 20 BOD
- May 18 BOD
- Jun 19 General Mbrship
- Jul 20 BOD
- Aug 17 BOD
- Sep 18 General Mbrship
- Oct 19 BOD
- Nov 16 BOD
- Dec 18 GMM- New BOD Installation and Xmas Party



TRICARE Expanding Use of Electronic Media

Modern electronic media like Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Flickr continue to transform how the public receives and consumes information. TRICARE has actively used these forms of media for some time now and is getting ready to launch a new media center Web page in March 2010. The media center will include TRICARE news and links to TRICARE's social media channels and allow beneficiaries to "share" benefit information with their friends and families online

Before launching the new media center Web page, TRICARE wants to hear from the military men and women who use its benefits everyday. In the coming weeks they will ask beneficiaries for feedback on the issues they want to know more about through [TRICARE's Facebook Page](#) or [TRICARE Twitter Account](#). Readers are encouraged to respond to these requests to help TRICARE make the media center the best they can for all concerned.



INFORMATION FOR OUR MEMBERS: Tampa Bay Chapter 58 has access to a booklet called "Need to Know 101" Military Wives Your Guide to Being Prepared. This booklet was prepared by the Society of Military Widows, Tampa Bay Chapter 35. In this booklet is all the information you will need and that can be inserted by you and your spouse before it is needed. If you would like a copy, please call Juanita Anspach, Secretary, 813-837-5065. Don't wait and not have all the information you need when you need it.

Tampa Chamber of Commerce Military Appreciation Banquet February 16, 2010



Mr. Ben Ritter, Mr. Davis, 1st VP of the Gulf Coast PVA, General Steve LeRanch, AF Command San Antonio, Texas and CMSgt Leonard Black, Ret. TREA Chapter 58.



General Norton A. Schwartz, Chief of Staff, USAF, PVA Ben Ritter, President of PVA, Gulf Coast Chapter and CMSgt Leonard Black, Ret. TREA Chapter 58.

WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH YOUR OLD CELL PHONE?



- Recycle it and you'll help Mother Nature and those in need of emergency communication.
- The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) is partnering with CharitableRecycling.com to collect used cell phones on an on-going basis for the benefit of TREA programs. TREA will receive a monetary donation for each phone recycled.
- The phones can be recycled and sent to areas with economic necessity. Some phones are also refurbished and given to those who are in need of 911, emergency only, communications. "Cell phones contain many toxins and are very hazardous to our environment and they should not end up in landfills."
- All cell phones, regardless of age or condition, will be accepted.
- Make certain to deactivate your phone and remove any personal information.
- <http://www.trea.org/PhoneRecycling.htm> to print out a postage-paid shipping label/packing slip, and a donation receipt.
- Go to www.charitablerecycling.com for more information.





VETERAN'S CORNER



Legion Offers Veterans Benefits Calculator

Week of January 25, 2010

The American Legion has launched a new online tool, The American Legion Veterans Benefits Calculator, which gives veterans and their families a simple questionnaire and easy access to service officers who can help them with their claims. Answer a few questions about your military service at the online calculator. Once finished, the module lists possible benefits, including contact information for department service officers (DSOs) who can assist you. You can then contact a DSO for more individualized information. You can also find a department service officer on the [American Legion website](http://www.legion.org/departmentofficers).

<http://www.legion.org/departmentofficers>

PROMISES, PROMISES: WAR WIDOWS' FUTILE FIGHT

The widow's tax is a law that won't allow surviving spouses to receive the retirement pay due them when their spouse died from a cause related to military service, and at the same time collect the fully annuity – essentially an insurance policy most of their spouses opted to buy. They paid an average of 6.5 percent of their retirement pay in premiums, often \$100 or more a month. Because one benefit is subtracted from the other, affected surviving spouses lose about \$1,000 a month on average. There are about 54,000 survivors who are affected by the policy, whose spouses served in conflicts from World War II to Afghanistan, and that number could grow. Last June 4 widows showed up for a House Armed Services Committee session where their issue was on the agenda. Several hours into the hearing, an aide told them the discussion had been pushed back because of its sensitive nature. When the issue finally came up for a vote the Democrats who had co-sponsored the legislation in the past years voted against it and the Republicans who had once opposed it were supporting it. It went down party lines and it shouldn't be a partisan issue.

Governor Names Veteran to Florida Rehabilitation Council

TALLAHASSEE- Gov. Charlie Crist announced January 27th the appointment of John Douglas of Lake City, volunteer service officer with the Military Order of the Purple Heart Veterans Service Office, to the Florida Rehabilitation Council. The term ends June 30, 2012.

VA OPENS NEW CLINIC IN ST. PETERSBURG

Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

ST. PETERSBURG, FL – The Bay Pines VA Healthcare System opened its newest location in St. Petersburg on January 19th. The new 7,000 square foot clinic is located at 840 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street North in St. Petersburg. The clinic includes expanded primary care services and mental health care, laboratory specimen collection and a pharmacist for medication consultation. The clinic provides gender specific care for female veterans, with better layout for privacy and adjacent restrooms.



1st VP Leonard Black



The Trooper



Attention Members:

If you have a friend who is retired military and does not belong to the Retired Enlisted Association, bring him or her to our meeting and let them see what we are all about. We want to get our Chapter back to where we can bring in speakers to keep us up to date on retiree issues. So come and bring a friend.....

PREAMBLE

We, as retired enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the United States of America being ever mindful of the glorious traditions of our military services, our duty to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, our responsibility to support a strong defense establishment, our interest in the welfare of our fellow service members in fortune or distress and with reverence of God, Country and our departed comrades, unite to further the aims and objectives of The Retired Enlisted Association.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TELEPHONE

EMAIL

President.....	Louis Arana	(813) 684-5414	larana3@verizon.net
1st VP.....	Leonard Black	(813) 949-6192	lblack1927@aol.com
2 nd VP.....	Harry Johnson	(863) 655-1669	
Treasurer.....	Allan Adams	(727)289-6787	aadams81@tampabay.rr.com
Secretary/NewsLtr..	Juanita Anspach	(813) 837-5065	vegasbnd@tampabay.rr.com
Director.....	Peter Gathers	(813) 473-3615	snekPete@aol.com
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Director.....	Harold Atwood	(813) 831-2000	hatwood2@tampabay.rr.com
Director.....	Geoffrey Parker	(813) 752-6988	
Past Pres/Chaplain.....	Hermon Sharpe	(813) 839-0780	hsharpejr@verizon.net