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# TAMPA BAY CHAPTER 58 Trooper

September 2010

Third Quarter Publication  
of Tampa Bay Chapter 58

## Notes From The Chapter President

It is that time of the year again, convention time. Four Chapter 58 board members will travel to Tucson, Arizona, to represent the Tampa Bay chapter as delegates to TREA's 47th National Convention. The gathering will be from Sept. 15 to 18, 2010 at the Doubletree Hotel Tucson at Reid Park. Attending will be Past President Hermon Sharpe and his wife, Reiko, 2nd Vice President Harry Johnson and Director Harold Atwood and his wife, Emilia, an auxiliary at large member and myself and my wife, Luz, also an auxiliary at large member. Rest assured that we will report what we learn there.

Because of the convention, we've resched-

uled our Sept. 18 General Membership Meeting to Sept. 21. The meeting is at the Surf's Edge Club, MacDill Air Force Base starting at 1 pm. This will be an important meeting because the board will be seeking new volunteers to fill board seats for 2011 — all are up for grabs. So mark your calendar for that date and try to be there.

We need your support because we depend on volunteers to fill our chapter roster and help us with events. Our membership has declined from 508 to 304 active members in the past 22 years. Some passed away and others terminated their membership or transferred away. But to stay afloat, we need others to



Louis Arana, President of TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58.

step up and join our ranks.

The Tampa Bay area has more than 1,100 TREA members at large and we sure could use their help. I'm asking those interested in joining our chapter to come forward and let us know. We're always looking for TREA members to attend our meeting and participate in our chapter functions. If we want our organization to succeed, we must stay together; new faces will help continue our chapter's legacy.

Support Chapter 58, because together we can make a difference

UNITED WE STAND

*Louis A. Arana*

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** MacDill AFB will be starting to scan ID Cards at the gates in early 2011. You can go by the Visitor Center at the Dale Mabry Gate or Pass/ID and have your ID Card scanned so that you will be able to enter the base when they start scanning ID cards. If you have questions, call the visitor center 813-828-2737



### MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

*Happy Birthday to  
all our  
Members with  
birthdays  
In October, November  
and December*



## Veterans' Medallion Available for Order

### *New Option for Marking Veterans' Graves in Private Cemeteries*

WASHINGTON – Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki announced that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is offering bronze medallions to attach to existing, privately purchased headstones or markers, signifying a deceased's status as a Veteran.

The new item can be furnished instead of a traditional government headstone or marker for Veterans whose death occurred on or after Nov. 1, 1990, and whose grave in a private cemetery is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

Under federal law, eligible Veterans buried in a private cemetery are entitled to either a government-furnished grave marker or the new medallion, but not both. Veterans buried in a national or state Veterans cemetery will receive a government headstone or marker of the standard design authorized at that cemetery.

The medallion is available in three sizes: 5 inches, 3 inches and 1 ½ inches in width. Each bronze medallion features the image of a folded burial flag adorned with laurels and is inscribed with the word “Veteran” at the top and the branch of service at the bottom.

Next of kin will receive the medallion, along with a kit that will allow the family or the staff of a private cemetery to affix the medallion to a headstone, grave marker, mausoleum or columbarium niche cover.

More information about VA-furnished headstones, markers and Medallions can be found at

<http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm/hmtype.asp>.



**SEPTEMBER 21, 2010** is Chapter 58's General Membership Meeting being held at the Surf's Edge Club (in Top 3 Room) MacDill AFB, starting at 1:00 PM. We are inviting all members to attend because we are looking for new officers for the 2011 Board of Directors. Come early and have lunch at the Club's buffet and then attend the meeting afterwards. We need the support of all our members.

**INFORMATION FOR OUR MEMBERS:** Tampa Bay Chapter 58 has 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, call Juanita Anspach 813-837-5065. Don't wait and not have all the information you need when you need it.



**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)



***MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR***

DECEMBER 18, 2010....TREA Chapter 58 is holding their GM meeting and Christmas Party at the COLONNADE Restaurant on Bayshore Blvd. in Tampa, Florida. This will be a luncheon meeting 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM and you can select your food from the lunch menu. (\$8.99 and up) (Early Bird Specials \$9.99-\$13.99) The Chapter will raffle off some nice items and that information will be on our website in November (veteranspostnews.com/TREA58.htm). Plan to join us for a good

meeting and party. Bring your family and PLEASE CONTACT US and give us the number that will be attending. Contacts **Louis Arana 813-684-5414** or **Juanita Anspach 813-837-5065.**



**CHAPTER 58 2010**

**MEETINGS**

**Surf's Edge Club**

**MacDill AFB, Florida**

**1300 hours**

**Jul 20 BOD**

**Aug 17 BOD**

**Sep 21 General Mbrship**

**Oct 19 BOD**

**Nov 16 BOD**

**Dec 18 GMM- New BOD**

**Installation and Xmas Party**





**THE VETERANS COUNCIL OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

President: Leonard Black

1st VP: Walt Raysick

**Field of Honor Ceremony, April 10 2010**

Every three months, **Walt Raysick** (USN Ret.) and his many volunteers, set up and coordinate the reading of names for those military men and women who have given their lives in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, from April through June 2010.

The Field of Honor Ceremony conducted at Hillsborough County Veterans Park & Museum displays an American Flag placed in the Field of Honor for each service member who has died since September 11 2001.

Walt and his crew also perform maintenance on the Field of Honor replacing worn flags, posts, signs and mulch. We cannot thank them enough for their hard work and dedication to this special piece of real estate.

The following groups participated in this event: Host Veterans Group VFW Post 8108, Marine Corps League and Ladies Auxiliary, Det #1226, Riverview, FL, Durant High School JROTC, Ye Mystic AirKrew (Fly Over), Riders and Members, AMVETS Post 44.

**Memorial Day Ceremonies,  
Veterans Memorial Park & Museum**

Pictured above, top row, L-R, Hillsborough County Veterans Council President **Leonard Black** with the events guest speaker **Col. Donald J. Barnes, USAF**, commander 6th Mission Support Group, MacDill AFB.





# VETERAN'S CORNER



**FLORIDA STATE PARKS—D I S -**  
**COUNTS ON ANNUAL ENTRANCE PASSES FOR**  
**VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES:** Effective  
 July 1, 2010 Florida's state parks will provide dis-  
 counts on or free Annual Entrance Passes to  
 those who currently serve or have served in the  
 United States military branches, veterans with  
 service related disabilities and surviving spouses  
 of members of the US military who have fallen in  
 combat. Honorably discharged veterans, active  
 duty, reserve and national guards are eligible for  
 a 25% discount. Honorably discharged veterans  
 who have service-connected disabilities shall re-  
 ceive free lifetime entrance passes. Surviving  
 spouses of deceased service members who have  
 fallen in combat will qualify for free annual en-  
 trance passes.

**FLORIDA VET LEGISLATION UPDATE:**  
 Three bills recognizing service by U.S. mili-  
 tary veterans are now law with signatures  
 from Gov. Charlie Crist. Crist signed the  
 bills at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post  
 2185 in Panama City after a round-table  
 meeting with members of the Florida Na-  
 tional Guard. One bill (HB 5) memorializes  
 military veterans in highways, bridges and  
 roads throughout the state. The second bill  
 (HB 1145) provides discounts on annual  
 passes for veterans at state parts. The third  
 bill (HB 1455) makes it a felony to misrep-  
 resent military or veterans status while  
 fundraising.

## PANEL CALLS FOR REDUCED PAY AND RETIREE BENEFITS

(Week of August 09, 2010)

In July, two separate advisory groups reached the same general conclusions regarding what needs to be done to maintain the force, in the nearer term, they say, one step that must be taken is to make military retirees pay more out of pocket for their health care benefit. Longer term and for the future force, panelists say, work must begin on designing new retirement, compensation and promotion systems to replace inefficient and rigid systems adopted after World War II. The situation is so critical that the Hadley-Perry Panel asks Congress to establish a new National Commission on Military Personnel to lead the reform effort.



1st VP Leonard Black



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	<a href="mailto:larana3@verizon.net">larana3@verizon.net</a>
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Past Pres/Chaplain.....	Hermon Sharpe	(813) 839-0780	<a href="mailto:hsharpejr@verizon.net">hsharpejr@verizon.net</a>