



Chartered March 16, 1988

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER 58 Trooper

March 2011

First Quarter Publication of Tampa Bay Chapter 58

Notes From The Chapter President

Once again I want to express my thanks the TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 board of directors and chapter members for the confidence they have vested in me to continue as chapter president. But I ask you to remember that I cannot do this job alone — I need your help. I am proud to report that during this past year the chapter board of directors worked hard to increase the membership. We must remember that as TREA grows, our voice in Washington also grows, and can be heard louder in safeguarding our earned benefits. This year, the chapter's main objective is to continuing recruiting new members. We will focus on recruiting the members at large in the local area and hope to encourage them to transfer their membership to our chapter. We had a very successful

December meeting and Christmas Party at Tampa's Colonnade Restaurant thanks to our secretary, Juanita Anspach. She was instrumental in organizing the event. I am hoping to see more participation in chapter events this year. The good news is that we have new blood on the board of directors. Louis A. Arana-Barradas and Michael Batchler joined the board in December and we expect them to provide us with some new perspectives. I am sure they will have many new ideas on how to better serve our chapter. The rest of the board remains the same as in 2010—and I want to thank each one for their dedicated service. I am happy to report that the chapter finished all of its first-of-the-year reports and turned them into TREA national headquarters. We also



Louis Arana, President of TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58.

have mailed our 2010 fourth quarter reports to headquarters. We have already filed the private organization forms with the 6th Mission Support Squadron at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., so the chapter can once again participate in the base's annual Air Fest, which this year will be in November. That is a big fundraising event for the chapter and we hope to get plenty of volunteers to help us at the Air Fest this year. So, we are pretty much caught up on our paperwork — all we have left to do is submit our annual report to the Internal Revenue Service in May 2011. As we look forward to another year, I want to reaffirm that the board of directors will continue working hard to ensure maintaining the chapter's legacy.

UNITED WE STAND

Louis A. Arana



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

2010 – 2011 Scholarship applications are now available from the chapter president. Completed applications cannot be received at TREA National Headquarters before Jan 2, 2011.

For more information or applications e-mail (larana3@verizon.net) or call President Louis A. Arana at 813-684-5414. The postmark deadline for submitting a Scholarship Application is April 30, 2011.

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all our member Birthdays in April, May, June 2011

HAPPY 23rd ANNIVERSARY TREA Chapter 58



CHAPTER 58 DECEMBER MEETING AND CHRISTMAS PARTY



TREA member at large James Williams, right, and new TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 member Michael Batchler, center, talk with Gene and JoAnna Idziak, during the chapter's December general membership meeting and Christmas luncheon. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



Director Geoffrey Parker, Director Carlos Barradas, 2nd VP Harry Johnson, 1st VP Leonard Black and President Louis Arana enjoying their lunch at the December Meeting and Christmas Party (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 member Orville Desjarlais, left, and his mother Cookie, father, Orville, and wife, Toy, enjoy their Christmas lunch at Tampa's Colonnades Restaurant on Dec. 18, 2010. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



Director Harold Atwood, Treasurer Allan Adams and Past President Hermon Sharpe at the December Meeting and Christmas Party. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



Miriam Sanchez and, left to right, Emilia Atwood, a TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 auxiliary at large member, Reiko Sharpe and Mary Parker eat lunch during the chapter's December general membership meeting and Christmas luncheon (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



More than 30 TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 members and guests attended the December general membership meeting and Christmas Luncheon. Director Peter Gathers and wife, Henrietta talking with Agatha Johnson. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



CHAPTER 58 ANNUAL DUES FORM

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

Happy 
St. Patrick's Day

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)

Florida Veterans Foundation Offers Discount Drug Card

Courtesy of the Florida Veterans Foundation

TALLAHASSEE -- The Florida Veterans Foundation is introducing a new Prescription Drug Card that is accepted at more than 50,000 pharmacies nationwide.

The free card is available to both veterans and non-veterans, and can be used to provide prescription discounts averaging about 30 percent. To download and activate a card or for more information, visit www.FloridaVeteransFoundation.org

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

2011 MEETINGS

Surf's Edge Club

MacDill AFB, Florida

1300 hours

JAN 18	BOD
FEB 15	BOD
MAR 15	GMM
APR 19	BOD
MAY 17	BOD
JUN 21	GMM
JUL 19	BOD
AUG 16	BOD
SEP 20	GMM
OCT 18	BOD
NOV 15	BOD
DEC 20	GMM



TREA Chapter 58 Board of Directors Meeting
January 18, 2011



Chapter 58
2011 Board of Directors

Tampa Bay TREA Chapter 58 2011 Board of Directors: L to R top row, Dir. Louis Arana-Barradas, Dir. Geoffrey Parker, Past Pres. Hermon Sharpe, Dir. Peter Gathers, Dir. Michael Batchler, bottom row: Dir. Harold Atwood, 1st VP Leonard Black, Pres. Louis Arana, 2nd VP Harry Johnson, Dir. Carlos Barradas and Treasurer Allen Adams, Secretary Juanita Anspach.



Col. Lenny Richoux, the 6th Air Mobility Wing commander at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., posed for photo with TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 First Vice Leonard Black, left, and President Louis Arana after the chapter's board of directors meeting Jan. 18, 2011, at the base Officer's Club. (Photo Dee Kleva)

News from the VA: VA Online Application Form Improvements-

The VA has announced that its online health benefits application, Form 10-10EZ now includes a "chat" function. The application can be found at: www.1010ez.med.va.gov/sec/vha/1010ez.

The chat function allows a veteran to receive live assistance when filling out the form. The VA is working to improve all of its online forms. It has plans to include a 10-10 EZR Health Benefits Renewal Form for veterans to update their personal information and a special 10-10EZ designed specifically for demobilizing military service members.



Col. Lenny Richoux, the 6th Air Mobility Wing commander at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., (in flight suit) discusses how he wants to get more involved with community groups and retirees with members of TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 on Jan. 18, 2011. TREA members, left to right, are Director Carlos Barradas, Secretary Juanita Anspach, 1st Vice President Leonard Black, President Louis Arana, Second Vice Harry Johnson, Director Geoffrey Parker and Treasure Allen Adams. (Photo by Dee Kleva)



VETERAN'S CORNER



Download Your Health VA Record

"Blue Button" capability allows veterans to download their personal health information from their My-HealthVet account. Having control of this information enables vets to share the data with health care providers, caregivers, or people they trust.

Download yours now at

<http://www.myhealth.va.gov/>.

With the January 2011 release of the VA Blue Button, registered users of My-HealthVet can now download a single file that includes these new features:

- VA Appointments (past and future)
- Self-entered health care providers, treatment facilities and health insurance information
- Ability to customize the Blue Button download based on topics and dates

These are part of a longer set of features that include information from the patient's Veterans Health Administration Electronic Health Records, Vista, enabling Veteran patients to see their:

- VA prescription history
- VA Wellness Reminders
- VA Appointments



VA Blue Button files can be printed or saved on computers and portable storage devices. On October 7, 2010, VA and CMS officially announced the VA Blue Button download feature.

NEW VA PROGRAM FOR FAMILIES

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA's) new "Families At Ease" Program attempts to reach new veterans through their concerned family members and provides information and support to help them access VA facilities for services and benefits. A multi-site call center has been developed to answer calls from family members and friends, as well as veterans. Callers can get information on how to enroll in VA care. They can also get free telephone-based coaching by a mental health consultant to help when a veterans is reluctant to admit having difficulties. Family members or veterans can reach "Families At Ease" at 888-823-7458 (8a.m.– 5:30p.m. ET)

Treasury Department Says No Paper Checks for VA Benefits After 2013

Courtesy of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
WASHINGTON -- The Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefits by March 1, 2013.

On that date, VA will stop issuing paper checks. People who do not have electronic payments for their federal benefits by that time will receive their funds via a pre-paid debit card.

Another deadline affects people receiving VA's compensation or pensions for the first time after May 1, 2011. Those people will automatically receive the benefits electronically.

For more information or to change VA benefits to direct deposit, visit www.GoDirect.org or call 1-800-827-1000.



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 keep our Chapter members up to date on retiree issues. So come

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 COMMITTEES

EMAIL

President..... Louis Arana	(813) 684-5414		larana3@verizon.net
1st VP..... Leonard Black	(813) 949-6192	Legislative/Vet Affairs	lblack1927@aol.com
2 nd VP.....Harry Johnson	(863) 655-1669	Membership Reports	
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Secretary/NewsLtr..Juanita Anspach	(813) 837-5065	NewsLtr/Web Site	vegasbnd@tampabay.rr.com
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Director.....Michael Batchler	(727) 364-6212	Sgt-At-Arms	mbatchler912@gmail.com
Director.....Geoffrey Parker	(813) 752-6988	Fund Raising	
Director.....Harold Atwood	(813) 831-2000	Fund Raising	hatwood2@tampabay.rr.com
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