



Chartered March 16, 1988

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER 58 Trooper

December 2011

Fourth Quarter Publication
of Tampa Bay Chapter 58

Notes From The Chapter President

As this year comes to an end, Chapter 58 is going through some tough times. We still have little or no cooperation from most Chapter 58 members. So it is up to our always-present board of directors to keep the chapter alive. These few people, and their spouses, are always there to represent the chapter at all its activities. Still, we have managed to do well over the past three years. TREA National Headquarters has presented the chapter with 10 awards in the past three years. At this year's national convention in Reno, Nev., Chapter 58 picked up three awards. First Vice President Leonard Black received the Alvino R. Gutirres Americanism Award for the year, Secretary Juanita Anspach the Chapter Secretary of Year Certificate and me the TREA Membership Award. The chapter also presented awards to Treasurer Allan Adams for his unselfish work during the past three years and to 2nd Vice President Harry Johnson for his selfless work trying on the membership committee. My hat goes off to those few people who have helped support

the chapter during my three years as chapter president. Now all we need is for other chapter members to step up and lend a hand. After all, it is only united that we stand. Now is the time when we must stand united. Retirees are facing some tough times ahead. Tricare, the cost of medicine, military retirement pay, cost-of-living allowances and the possibility of a freeze in military pay are all national issues. The good news for retirees — if not the nation — is that the increased inflation rate will most likely result in a 3.7 percent hike in COLA in 2012. However it's official, military, survivor benefit annuitants, disabled and social security recipients will see a 3.6 % cost-of-living adjustment in January, their first since 2009. TREA continues fighting to preserve the benefits and rights of our retirees. But we need to know we can count on you. And that starts at the chapter level. Our chapter membership is down to only those few people who show up, time after time, to support our activities. And I want to thank those few members that still remember



Louis Arana, President of TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58.

to pay their chapter due on time each year. But I'm optimistic that our membership will step up and lend a hand. I urge all chapter members and members-at-large to get involved and help make our chapter grow. Remember, we have only two active chapters in Florida. You can start by volunteering to help us at one of the events we attend during the year. And remember: Our December general membership meeting and Christmas Party will be Dec. 3 at Tampa's Colonnade Restaurant. The event kicks off at 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. During the event, we will present and swear in the 2012 slate of officer — the same board members from 2011. So, I hope to see more of you soon. We really need your help. My sincere thanks go out to our board of directors and those active chapter members for their continued support. I wish you the best of the holiday season.

UNITED WE STAND

Louis A. Arana



BIRTHDAYS

***Happy Birthday
to all our member
Birthdays
in***

***January,
February,
And March
2012***



December 3, 2011 will be the General Membership Meeting/Christmas Party being held at the Colonnade Restaurant in Tampa, Fl. Time will be from 11:00 to 2:00 PM. Order from Lunch Menu. Call Lou Arana-813-684-5414 or Juanita Anspach 813-837-5065 if you will attend.

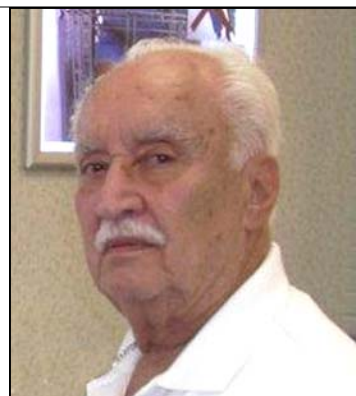


“The Meeting Place”

Attention Members of TREA Chapter 58...We want to know a little something about you, so that other members of the Chapter might learn a few things about who our Chapter consists of. We would like to have you send in a little Bio about your branch of service, years of service, what wars you participated in, where you were stationed, place you were born and date of birth, spouse’s name and city in which you reside. If you could send a little photo that would be even better. We are going to publish a few in each Trooper until we get everyone that sends us bios published. If you send by email:

vegasbnd@tampabay.rr.com and if you send by regular mail: TREA Chapter 58, P.O. Box 6676, MacDill AFB, FL 33608. So come on now, send it in so that we can start *The Meeting Place* and know our members.

Ret. Chief Master Sgt. JAMES A. BRIGHTWELL was born in St. Albans, W.V., on Sept. 25, 1928. He joined the USAF on Dec. 22, 1951, and went to basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas and went on to serve 26 years, with assignments to Godman AFB, Kent., 1953; Clovis AFB, N.M.,1954; Pepperrell AB, Newfoundland,1956; Donaldson AFB, S.C.,1960 (he participated in Operation Deep Freeze for three years); McGuire AFB, N.J.,1962; Scott AFB, Ill., 1967; Bien Ho AFB, Vietnam,1968; Eglin AFB, Fla.,1969; Clark Air Base, Philippines, 1972; Barksdale AFB, La., 1973; Offutt AFB, Neb.,1974; Eielson AFB, Alaska, 1977, and retired at MacDill AFB, Fla. Chief Brightwell and his wife of 64 years reside in Bartow, Fla. He joined TREA and Chapter 58 in 2000.



HERMAN SHARPE, JR., Past President/Chaplain, was born in Greenville, AL on June 26, 1931. He joined the USAF in June 1950. First station was in Johnson AFB, Japan. Their aircraft supported the Korea War. Stateside assignments were Salina, Kansas, Tyndall AFB, Panama City, FL., Spokane, Washington, retired at MacDill AFB, FL in June 1978. Overseas stations were Japan (2nd time), two tours in Guam, and Vietnam. Herman had 28 years active duty and retired as an E8. He and his wife, Reiko, reside in Tampa, FL. He served as President of Chapter 58 for 5 years .

LEONARD BLACK, 1st Vice President, was born on March 12, 1927 in Leesville, South Carolina. He was drafted in April 1945 and he volunteered for Occupation duty in Europe. He was assigned to France in late 1945 and to Belgium where he was assigned to guarding German POW. In early 1946 he was permanently assigned to Ninth Air Force Service Command at Erlanger, Germany about 10 miles from Nuremberg where the War Crimes were held. Special Services gave one day passes to allow one to observed the trials and the day I attended it was General Joachim von Ribbentrop who was Adolf Hitler’s favorite foreign policy adviser. The General indicated that he did nothing wrong for he was a soldier obeying orders. They still hung him in October 1946. The base was turn over to the Army in October 1947 and next assignment was Munich (Oberwienfeld). Assigned Hq Continental Air Command, Mitchell AFB, Long Island, N.Y. Next assignment November 1949 20th FBWg, Shaw AFB, S.C. Jun 50 6 months Manston RAF Station UK. July 1952 20 FBWg Wethersfield RAF; June 1955 21st FBWg Chambley AB, France; Dec 1955 Hqs USAF Washington D.C. Sep 1963 Ramstein AB, Germany; Sep 1966 1st Air Commanders, England AFB, La. Retired from USAF (CMSgt) Jan 31, 1970. Today Leonard does volunteer work managing the Food Bank for his Church, Past President of Hillsborough County Veterans Council and 1st Vice President of Honor Flight, WC. He now resides in the Tampa Bay area.

CARLOS BARRADAS, Director, was born on 13 Feb 1927 in Aguadilla, PR. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps on 2 Feb 1947 in New York City, NY. He retired as a Master Sergeant from USAF on 30 June 1970 at Ramey AFB, PR. Most significant duty assignment: USAF School for Latin America, Albrook AFB, CZ 1954-1958 and MAAG-Spain, Personnel Advisor to the Spanish Air Force 1962-1965. He now resides in Valrico, FL.



CHAPTER 58 ANNUAL DUES FORM

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

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)



director Michael Batchler and Angel

Congratulations to Michael and Angel for their participation in this great event in our community.

TREA CHAPTER 58 DIRECTOR in SUSAN G. KOMEN 3-DAY 2011 CANCER WALK

Director Michael Batchler, of Tampa Bay Chapter 58, participated in the 2011 Susan G. Komen 3-Day Cancer Walk held in St. Petersburg, FL. The Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure® is a 60-mile walk for women and men who want to make a personal difference in the fight against breast cancer. Participants walk 60 miles in three days and help raise millions of dollars for breast cancer research and patient support programs. Each night of the event, walkers experience an incredible mobile city that's more than just sleeping tents and warm showers, where they can eat, relax and renew their spirit with their fellow walkers.

CHAPTER 58

2012 MEETINGS

Seascapes Beach Club

MacDill AFB, Florida

1300 hours

- Jan 17 BOD
- Feb 21 BOD Mar 20 GMM
- Apr 17 BOD
- May 15 BOD Jun 19 GMM
- Jul 17 BOD
- Aug 21 BOD Sep 18 GMM
- Oct 16 BOD
- Nov 20 BOD Dec 18 GMM



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.

TREA National Convention — Reno, Nevada

September 2011



When not taking part in meetings at the TREA National Convention in Reno, Nev., in September, delegates went on sponsored tours. Chapter 58's 2nd Vice President Harry Johnson went souvenir shopping in Virginia City, Nev., during one tour.



Leonard Black
receiving the
"Alvino R. Gutirres
Americanism Award"



Louis Arana
receiving his
"TREA National
Recruiting Award"



Chapter 58 delegates, left to right, 1st Vice President Leonard Black, Past President Hermon Sharpe, Director Harold Atwood and Director Harold Atwood take a break from a meeting at the TREA National Convention in Reno, Nev., in September.

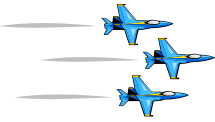
Photo by Director Harry Johnson

Chapter 58 Delegates and Wives "Installation Dinner"





VETERAN'S CORNER



MacDILL AFB

AirFest November 2011

TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 had 14 members, spouses and volunteers show up to run a refreshment stand at the MacDill Air Force Base AirFest on Nov. 5 and 6. The team of familiar faces worked from 6:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. each day. But their efforts paid off. The AirFest concessions sold more than \$436,000 to visitors. Of that, 25 percent was divided among 46 volunteer organizations. The chapter's share: \$1,454.22. "Not bad for two days of work," Chapter President Louis Arana said.



Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas

DFAS To Begin Monthly Retirement Pay Statements Effective 1 November 2011, retired military members who draw a monthly payment will be able to access a retirement pay statement via their online MyPay accounts. Previously, retired military members only received statements when there was a change to their account.

Don't have a MyPay account to access your account online? It is [easy to sign up](#) and it will make your life a lot easier.

Don't have a MyPay account to access your account online? It is [easy to sign up](#) and it will make your life a lot easier.



MacDill AFB, Florida Retiree's Appreciation Day September 24, 2011



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 members, right to left, Director Harold Atwood, President Louis Arana and 1st Vice President Leonard Black, provide TREA information to retirees at the Veteran's Appreciation Day event at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., on Sept. 24. The event, held at the base exchange food court, drew several hundred visitors. The Chapter 58 crew handed out 100+ information packages and signed up 4 potential members.

Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas

TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 set up an information booth at the Veteran's Appreciation Day event at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla., on Sept. 24. Passing out information were, first row, left to right, 1st Vice President Leonard Black, President Louis Arana and Director Harold Atwood. Also helping were, back row, left to right, auxiliary-at-large member Luz Arana, Past President/Chaplain Hermon Sharp, Director Carlos Barradas and auxiliary-at-large member Emilia Atwood.



ATTENTION MEMBERS:



If you have a friend who is retired military and does not belong to the Retired Enlisted Association, tell him or her about our Chapter and let them see what we are all about. We want to keep our Chapter members up to date on retiree issues. So come and bring a friend...or have them check out our website:

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	
Treasurer..... Allan Adams	(727)289-6787	Financial Reports	aadams81@tampabay.rr.com
Secretary/NewsLtr..Juanita Anspach	(813) 837-5065	NewsLtr/Web Site	vegasbnd@tampabay.rr.com
Director..... Peter Gathers	(813) 473-3615	Membership Reports	snepete@aol.com
Director..... Louis Arana-Barradas	(210) 602-9167	NewsLtr/ Web Site	gypsydog22@gmail.com
Director..... Michael Batchler	(727) 364-6212	Sgt-At-Arms	mbatchler913@gmail.com
Director..... Geoffrey Parker	(813) 752-6988	Fund Raising	geoffreyparkersr@hotmail.com
Director..... Harold Atwood	(813) 831-2000	Fund Raising	hatwood2@tampabay.rr.com
Director..... Carlos Barradas	(813) 661-7573	Parliamentarian/By-Laws	carpil@verizon.net
Past Pres/Chaplain Hermon Sharpe	(813) 839-0780	Chaplain	hsharpejr@verizon.net