



Chartered March 16, 1988

TAMPA BAY CHAPTER 58 Trooper

June 2012

Second Quarter Publication
of Tampa Bay Chapter 58

BRIEFLY

◆ HAPPY BIRTHDAY

To All Chapter Members whose birthday is in July, August and September.

◆ CHAPTER MEETINGS

Chapter 58 meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Seascapes Beach Club on MacDill AFB, FL. (Page 5)

◆ JUNE PICNIC MEETING

Chapter 58 General Membership Meeting/Picnic will be at the MacDill Coons Creek Pavilion on June 9th. (Details on Page 3.)

◆ WELCOME HOME CEREMONY FOR VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

Chapter 58 members attend ceremony at Hillsborough County Veterans Memorial Park on March 24, 2012. (Page 4)



TREA Chapter 58 Presents Awards to JROTC Cadets in Four Local High Schools



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 President Louis Arana, left, presents Newsome High School Wolf Battalion Army Junior ROTC cadet **Staff Sgt. Jacob Hill** with a TREA JROTC Award of Merit on April 3,

2012. Apart from the award that includes a medal, ribbon and certificate, the cadet also received a \$150 check. (Newsome HS Photo)

. (Newsome HS photo)

The cash award check of \$150 given to each of the cadets shown on this page was donated from Special Applications Group (SAG), a Tampa-based, disabled military, veteran-owned small business. A big "thank you" from TREA Chapter 58.

TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 President Louis Arana, left, and Director Carlos Barradas, right, presented a TREA Award of Merit to Junior ROTC Cadet **Timothy Manning**. The two attended the Zephyrhills High School Junior ROTC Awards Ceremony at the school on May 2. Manning, a junior, is a cadet colonel and commander of the school's Junior ROTC Bulldog Battalion. Chapter 58 presented



the cadet with a medal, ribbon and award, and \$150 check.

(Photo by Louis Arana Jr.)

First Vice President Leonard Black of TREA Chapter 58 presented the TREA JROTC Award of Merit which includes a Certificate and Medal, along with a check for \$150. to Cadet **Petty Officer 1st**

Class Carlos Bustos of Robinson High School JROTC on 2 May 2012. (Robinson HS Photo)



TREA Chapter 58 First Vice President Leonard Black presents the TREA JROTC Award of Merit to Cadet **1st Lt. Nicole Nelson** on May 2, 2012 at Alonzo High School. She received a certificate and medal, along with a check for \$150. (Alonzo HS Photo)



Notes From The Chapter President

I'm very disillusioned as I write this message. Why? Because I'm in my fourth year as the Chapter 58 president and, for the first time, I had to cancel a board of director's meeting, in April. Not enough chapter members could attend. Think about it, if we're going to continue being one of TREA's best chapters, we must look at the meetings schedule and be there. I appeal to the members-at-large to attend and participate in chapter activities. You're always welcome. However, we did have several successful events. On March 24, 2012, chapter members attended the welcome home ceremony for Vietnam War veterans at the Hillsborough County Veterans Memorial Park in Tampa. Representing the chap-

ter were four chapter and two women's auxiliary members: Directors Carlos Barradas, Harold Atwood, Louis Arana-Barradas, auxiliary members Luz Arana and Emilia Atwood and myself. It has become a yearly tradition for the Chapter to present the TREA JROTC Award of Merit with a ribbon and certificate to cadets at local high schools. This year we presented awards at five high schools: Robinson, Alonso, Newsome, Zephyrhills and Inverness. 1st VP Leonard Black made the presentations at Robinson and Alonso. Director Barradas and I made presentations at Newsome and Zephyrhills. We had to pass on making an in-person presentation at Inverness because we had nobody to attend the ceremony. This year we were also able to present each cadet with a



Louis Arana, President of TREA

\$150 check, courtesy of a \$750 donation from SAG (Special Applications Group) a small Tampa disabled and veterans-owned company. So, as you can see, we need people to take part in our activities. And if you have received a membership renewal letter from TREA National, please renew your membership. If you have questions on renewal, let us know. I want to thank all the members who paid their chapter dues and those who donate to keep the chapter alive.

UNITED WE STAND

Louis A. Arana

CHAPTER 58 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING/PICNIC.

TREA Chapter 58 will be holding it's June General Membership meeting/picnic at the Coons Creek Pavilion located on MacDill AFB. The date will be June 9, 2012 starting at 12:00 PM. Menu will consist of hamburgers, salad, chips, deserts and drinks. As the chapter has to purchase the food, we would appreciate you calling and let us know if you are planning on attending and number of people so that we can get the right amount of food needed for the picnic. Contacts will be: Louis Arana 813-684-5414 or Juanita Anspach 813-837-5065.



NATIONAL VETERANS DAY 2012

It is also a good time to remind you that TREA: The Enlisted Association is going to be the host of the National Veterans Day celebration this year. On November 11, 2012 the President of TREA: The Enlisted Association will give a speech at the celebration in the Amphitheater in Arlington National Cemetery with the official Nation's speaker (the President or Vice President along with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and many more distinguished Americans). We will host a National Veterans Day Reception and much more.

The Change from “The Retired Enlisted Association” to “TREA: The Enlisted Association”

There have been some questions/concerns/rumors regarding the change to our name and membership requirements. There are several factors that led to the conclusion to open our ranks to Honorably Discharged Enlisted Veterans. This decision was discussed extensively and approved by the delegates at the National Convention in Reno, Nevada. TREA was founded on the principle of fighting for the retired enlisted military member and their spouse. We have fought for almost 50 years for those benefits and entitlements. This will continue to be a major portion of our legislative efforts. But the men and women who served in WWII/Korea/Vietnam are aging. Our ranks were shrinking dramatically as they are dying off faster than we could recruit new members. We will continue to fight for them until the last one is standing. The modern military has changed, and we felt we had to change and adapt to the issues. All the branches of service are having to make dramatic budget cuts. This includes cutting personnel. They no longer encourage personnel to re-enlist and stay to retirement. We were hearing stories of military personnel that had planned on making the military a career, and being forced out before they were eligible to receive retirement benefits. The men and women who join the military today, most don't join to make it a career. They put in their mandatory time, and get out and use their GI Bill benefits. They can then use their military training and education to get jobs in the private sector making more money. We also saw a need for the returning veterans of the current conflicts. Many were coming home with injuries that they might not have survived 25 years ago. They have special needs for adapting to living with these injuries – i.e., amputees, traumatic brain injuries, and PTSD. Also with the current economic times, these veterans are in need of help of transitioning their military training to the civilian job market. We were founded as “The Retired Enlisted Association” but felt the word Retired was hindering our efforts to recruit the Active Duty component. Our new name is “TREA: The Enlisted Association” – “TREA” because we don't want to forget where we began, and “The Enlisted Association” to reflect where we are going, and how we plan on doing business now and We won't overlook where we came from, but saw a need for our fellow enlisted veterans coming home today. Being able to tell Congress that our membership is larger can help ALL veterans. Remember in Washington DC, big numbers have more influence. The Honorably Discharged Enlisted Veteran still has to earn their membership privileges. They must be a member in good standing for 3 years before they are allowed to run for office. They will be allowed to attend convention, make motions, and to vote. Let's listen to what they have to say – we all might learn something new.

VETERAN'S CORNER



TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 members welcome back home Vietnam War veterans at an emotional ceremony held at the Hillsborough County Veteran's Memorial Park on March 24, 2012. Attending were, left to right, Director Carlos Barradas, Luz Arana (auxiliary member), Yoshi Buck, chapter president Louis Arana and former chapter member Howard Buck. Several hundred veterans and veteran's groups honored Vietnam veterans and Medal of Honor recipients, and paid tribute to the war's POW/MIAs. (Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)

TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58 president Louis Arana, former chapter member Howard Buck, center, and Director Carlos Barradas welcomed home Vietnam War veterans at an emotional ceremony held at the Hillsborough County Veteran's Memorial Park on March 24, 2012.

(Photo by Louis Arana-Barradas)



DFAS Issues Another Scam Warning

Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) recently released a statement warning of email scams targeting military members, military retirees, and civilian employees.

According to the statement, the most recent email scam indicates that individuals who are receiving disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs may be able to obtain additional funds from the Internal Revenue Service, but only if they send copies of their income tax information.

Scammers have even gone so far as to "spoof" DFAS email addresses so that the recipients would think it was actually coming from DFAS personnel. In a spoofing email, the scammer makes it appear that the message is coming from a legitimate source. This is to try to lure the reader into believing it's genuine.

A scam artist may create a server so that the URL is close to that of a legitimate site, for example using .mic instead of .mil at the end of the Web address. People can avoid these scams by closely reading the address from which the email was sent.

Though these scam artists have found ways to spoof the DFAS email address, this does not mean that customer accounts were compromised.

"We have not had an incident that has threatened our security or the accounts of our customers," said Steve Burghardt, a DFAS media relations officer. "We are always on the lookout. And we're taking steps to (educate) folks."

NAUS Note: Always be aware of who is sending you requests and what they are asking for. Always be on guard.

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)

ANNUAL NATIONAL TREA RENEWAL DUES FORM:

If you need to up-date your National TREA membership, please contact **HARRY JOHNSON**, 863-655-1669, **PETER GATHERS**, 813-473-3615, OR **LOUIS ARANA**, 813-684-5414, if you did not receive a notice.

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: veteranspostnews.com/TREA58.htm

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 can be inserted by you and your spouse before it is needed. If you would like a copy, call Juanita Anspach 813-837-5065. Have all the information you need when you need it.

CHAPTER 58

2012 MEETINGS

Seascapes Beach Club

MacDill AFB, Florida

1300 hours

Jun 19 GMM

Jul 17 BOD

Aug 21 BOD Sep 18 GMM

Oct 16 BOD

Nov 20 BOD Dec 18 GMM



The Trooper



World War 11 Monument, Washington, D.C.



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

President..... Louis Arana
 1st VP..... Leonard Black
 2nd VP..... Harry Johnson
 Treasurer..... Allan Adams
 Secretary/NewsLtr.. Juanita Anspach
 Director..... Peter Gathers
 Director..... Louis Arana-Barradas
 Director..... Geoffrey Parker
 Director..... Harold Atwood
 Director..... Carlos Barradas
 Past Pres/Chaplain Hermon Sharpe

TELEPHONE COMMITTEES

(813) 684-5414
 (813) 949-6192 Legislative/Vet Affairs
 (863) 655-1669 Membership Reports
 (727)289-6787 Financial Reports
 (813) 837-5065 Newsltr/Web Site
 (813) 473-3615 Membership Reports
 (210) 602-9167 Newsltr/ Web Site
 (813) 752-6988 Fund Raising
 (813) 831-2000 Fund Raising
 (813) 661-7573 Parliamentarian/By-Laws
 (813) 839-0780 Chaplain

EMAIL

larana3@verizon.net
lblack1927@aol.com
aadams81@tampabay.rr.com
vegasbnd@tampabay.rr.com
snepPete@aol.com
gypsydog22@gmail.com
geoffreykparkersr@hotmail.com
hatwood2@tampabay.rr.com
carpil@verizon.net
hsharpejr@verizon.net