IN THIS ISSUE:

PRESIDENT ARTICLE
PG 4

CHAPLAIN CORNER
PG 6

VOTE IN YOUR NEW BOARD
PG 16-17

SCHOLARSHIP
PG 22-23

2022 VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
PG 26
2022 Election - Official Ballot

To read a description of each proposed change, please visit our website – www.trea.org.

For instructions, please see page 16 & 17

SECTION I - Bylaws & Standing Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bylaw</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Approve</th>
<th>Disapprove</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bylaw III, Section 3</td>
<td>- Chapter courtesy members can receive the VOICE magazine electronically</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bylaw V, Section 4</td>
<td>- The National President may run for, and be elected for a second 2-year term</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bylaw IX, Section 2</td>
<td>- Anyone running for the position of National President must be a current member on the National Board. This is for continuity, consistency, experience and knowledge.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bylaw IX, Section 2f</td>
<td>- New. Adds the statement that anyone running for a National position has not been convicted of a felony within the past 2 years.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bylaw XVII, Section 4</td>
<td>- Aligns the chapter bylaws with those of National to present a unified picture of the organization.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Rule 7, Paragraph 11</td>
<td>- Any member who allows their membership to lapse for 60 days or more will have to join as a new member, and be given a new membership number. Takes out the option of paying back membership dues.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Rule 8, Appendix 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>- Awards are based on overall chapter performance, not the size of the chapter.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standing Rule 9, Paragraph 9</td>
<td>- New. Adds the requirement of submitted confirmation of IRS 990 filing (for chapters required to file a IRS form 990).</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION II – TREA National Board Positions (click on the individual name to see details)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Deborah Oelschig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Vice</td>
<td>Walt Coley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Vice</td>
<td>Justin Jump</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Vice</td>
<td>Garry Turks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Kyle Carpenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Butch Liebaert, Harry Blackwell, Mary Clavoe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION III – FY2021 Audit

I have reviewed and accept the FY2021 audit as presented. Please choose one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>○ Yes</th>
<th>○ No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNIQUE VOTING CODE

Please print your Unique Voting Code found on your mailing label on the front of this magazine

*Your Unique Voting Code must be on the ballot in order for your vote to be counted
SUMMER 2022 - 3

TREA FOUNDERS
George Skonce, 1915 – 2000
Dean Sorell, 1921 – 2004

2020-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Justin Jump
president@trea.org

1st Vice President
Deborah Oelschig
1stvice@trea.org

2nd Vice President
Walt Coley
2ndvice@trea.org

3rd Vice President
Clarence ‘CJ’ Johnson
3rdvice@trea.org

Treasurer
Kyle Carpenter
treasurer@trea.org

Two-Year Directors
Garry Turks
directorturks@trea.org

Butch Liebaert
directorliebaert@trea.org

Parliamentarian
Charlie Flowers (PNP)
parliamentarian@trea.org

TREA Senior Citizens League
Rick Delaney, Chairman
tsclchair@trea.org

TREA STAFF & SUPPORT

National Executive Staff
Debbie Osborne, Executive Director -
dosborne@trea.org - 12200 E. Briarwood Ave, Suite 250,
Centennial, CO 80112 - Phone: 800-338-9337, 303-752-0660;
Fax: 303-752-0835 - www.trea.org; treahq@trea.org

Washington Executive Staff
Phone: 703-684-1981, 800-554-8732;
Fax: 703-548-4876, 866-548-4876
legislativeinfo@trea.org

The Senior Citizens League
Shannon Benton, TSCL Executive Director
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 600, Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone:
800-333-8725, 703-548-5568; Fax: 703-740-4017
www.seniorsleague.org; comments@seniorsleague.org

TREA National Auxiliary
Barb Coley, President
auxpresident@trea.org

The VOICE is the flagship publication of TREA: The Enlisted Association, located at 12200 E. Briarwood Ave, Suite 250 Centennial, CO 80112

Views expressed in the magazine, and the appearance of advertisements, do not necessarily reflect the opinions of TREA or its Board of Directors, and do not imply endorsement. The magazine (ISSN 1927-0467) is published quarterly by TREA, a nonprofit organization.

Magazine Staff
The magazine staff can be reached by email at editor@trea.org. Editor-in-Chief, Debbie Osborne Creative Director/Graphic Designer, Gabriela Schechter.

Editorial Office
Please send all written communication to TREA Headquarters at 12200 E Briarwood Ave, Suite 250 Centennial, CO 80112

Submissions
The VOICE accepts articles and photographs on a continual basis, but does not pay for submissions. Please send all articles and photos via email to editor@trea.org or by mail to 12200 E Briarwood Ave., Ste 250, Centennial, CO 80112. There is no guarantee that any submission will be published. Photos must be high quality in order to be printed in the magazine. Low quality photos will not be printed.

Deadlines
For copy and photos (with captions, please) the deadline is the 15th day, two months prior to magazine release. Next deadline is September 15th, 2022.

Advertising
By their appearance, ads must not imply or infer any kind of TREA representation, warranty, or endorsement. For ad rates and a media kit, please email us at editor@trea.org or call 303-752-0660. Postmaster (address change) Please send address changes to The VOICE, 12200 E. Briarwood Ave, Suite 250 Centennial, CO 80112 or by email to treahq@trea.org. Periodicals postage paid at Englewood, CO and other mailing offices.
A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Justin G. Jump, National President

This will be my last message to you as TREA National President. It has been an honor and a privilege to represent this outstanding organization, its members, and its mission for these past two years. At this time, I would like to take a minute to reflect on previous actions taken during the period of this presidency and what lasting affects it has on the TREA entity for years to come.

Two years ago, September, I started my term as National President during a global pandemic. Together with our team of the National Board Members and Headquarter Staff, we ran headfirst into the unknown, prepared and determined to do what it took to ensure that TREA remains a strong, unyielding support for military retirees, veterans, active duty, Guard & Reserve, and their families. We did not skip a beat continuing to meet with elected officials, both locally and at the national levels, to push our mission. Though the meetings themselves were virtual this was not a restriction to our passion for progress. We were present and accounted for, being seen, and heard. We did not let COVID, and its restrictions stop us from our promise to fight for your earned benefits. Our unceasing efforts were successful in achieving several milestones:

- The creation of and the IRS approval of TREA GIVES, TREA's charitable 501(C)(3) program. This entity will launch TREA into the corporate giving world and allow for TREA's legacy and mission to continue for many years to come.
- The passing of the PAWS Act. This bill requires the VA to implement a grant program for the purpose of pairing service dogs with eligible veterans. TREA was front and center on the passing of this bill.
- The advancement of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our PACT Act of 2022. Providing legislation that guarantees exposed veterans permanent access to VA care and establishes a list of conditions that are presumed to be linked to exposures so that impacted veterans receive their full benefits.
- The steady progress of the Richard Starr Act, allowing disabled veterans to receive both their full disability and retirement pay, regardless of how many years they served.

You may read more about all these accomplishments in articles throughout this issue of The VOICE.

I strongly encourage each of you to look back on the achievements and the progress made by this board as we prepare for this year's board elections, ensuring to vote in a way that will allow these successes and legislative gains to continue. As the world shifts, being able to respond to and control our internal changes is the key to future mission success. It is paramount to the continuation of our forward momentum to ensure TREA's achievement of success.

I promised, as your President, to hold TREA first, to fight for all members, regardless of where you live, or what chapter (if any) that you belong to all the while being true to our core values. My promise has been kept and we as a veteran service organization were true to our principles. We work hard to ensure that our politicians kept the promises that were made to all who proudly served as enlisted members in the United States Armed Forces, including their families.

TREA still has a lot of work to do. Having success will not stop our efforts. We will always have a lot to accomplish for enlisted members and their families. Washington will always look at military spending as an easy target for cost cutting. That is why it is important for you to vote onto the board, individuals that you believe are the best capable to lead us through these tumultuous times and bring TREA out successful on the other side. Candidates with in-depth TREA knowledge, solid and consistent TREA experience, passion for those who have served, who are serving and who will serve; and lastly, unparalleled enthusiasm for TREA's future.

We are not the TREA of yesterday, we are better!

United We Stand
A CENTURY OF TRAILBLAZING

One hundred years ago, a group of soldiers couldn’t get auto insurance, so they insured each other, creating USAA.

Thousands of patents, inventions and solutions later, that spirit of innovation still drives us to find new ways to support the military community.

As long as there are those who serve, USAA will be there to serve them.
CHAPLAIN’S CORNER
Garry Turks, National Director & Chaplain

Hebrews 10:24, 25 - “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another....”

It is God’s directive to us to encourage, lift up and ‘spur’ each other on towards love and good deeds. This is something that we should do everyday. Before COVID many of us met regularly, whether it was at church, at a TREA Chapter or elsewhere in our community. We were there, physically, to support, encourage and lift each other up. Since COVID, it may feel like that ‘life-line’ of support has faded, or in some cases, disappeared altogether. We may not be able to meet together as we once did, for many reasons, but our ability to help others, and lift them up towards love and good deeds is not confined by the walls of a church or building – it is inside each of us. We all have the ability, in ourselves, to make a difference in the lives of others, by giving. This does not mean that you must go without - it simply means that you share. Share your happiness, your positive attitude, your hope, your smile, and if you are able; you share your financial blessings with those in need. Everything that you have has been blessed by and/or provided by God – he has allowed these blessings to be delivered to you, and he has directed us to use them properly, wisely and to provide for others. Being able to share love, hope, encouragement and purpose is a true blessing.

“We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give” – Winston Churchill

Times are tough for many people right now. The military community, including veterans, retirees and active duty have been hit especially hard. A recent USDA analysis found that 11.1 percent of working-age veterans lived in food-insecure households. In an article from Military.com, 1 out of every 5 military families are experiencing food insecurity - this is up from 1 in every 8 from two years ago.

How can this be? How can someone who has served our country, fought for our freedom, be without food? They served us --- who is serving them?

We might not be able to answer that question, or fix the situation, but TREA GIVES certainly can; and with your help, will make a difference. With your support, TREA GIVES will provide food cards to veterans in need, across the country. Each food card will enable a veteran or active duty member to put food on the table.
IN GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO SERVE

LAND OF THE FREE
MEN’S HOODIE

An Easy-care, Cotton Blend with Thermal Knit-lined Hood
Available in 5 Men’s Sizes M-XXXL

They put themselves on the line with their fearless acts of duty, risking their lives so we at home can enjoy our country’s great freedoms. Show your respect and admiration for these dedicated members of the Armed Services with the “Land of the Free” Men’s Hoodie from The Bradford Exchange. Crafted in a black easy-care cotton blend knit, the hoodie showcases a bold appliqué on the back featuring a proud soldier kneeling beside an American flag and the sentiment: “Land of the Free Because of the Brave” in full embroidery. Adding to the patriotic look is an American flag patch on the left sleeve and a bronze-toned metal plaque on the front that features a soaring eagle and the American flag. Custom details include a comfortable brushed fleece interior, a gray thermal knit lined hood, kangaroo front pockets, knit cuffs and hem, a full front zipper, and bronze-toned metal tippets on the hood drawstrings. Imported.

An Outstanding Value with Satisfaction Guaranteed

With its custom design and hand-crafted quality, the “Land of the Free” Men’s Hoodie is a remarkable value at $99.95* (sizes XXL & XXXL, add $10), payable in 3 easy installments of $33.32 and backed by our 30-day money-back guarantee. To order, send no money now; just fill out and send in your Priority Reservation. This hoodie is not available in stores. So don’t miss out… order today!

*Plus $14.99 shipping and service, (see bradfordexchange.com). Please allow 2–4 weeks for shipment. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

Order today at bradfordexchange.com/kneelingsoldier

PRIORITY RESERVATION  SEND NO MONEY NOW
The Bradford Exchange
9345 Milwaukee Avenue · Niles, IL 60714-1393

YES. Please reserve the “Land of the Free” Men’s Hoodie for me as described in this announcement in the size indicated below. Please Respond Promptly

Medium (38–40) 01-28586-011
Large (42–44) 01-28586-012
XL (46–48) 01-28586-013
XXL (50–52) 01-28586-014
XXXL (54–56) 01-28586-015

Signature

Mrs. Mr. Ms.

Address

City State Zip

Email

©2023 The Bradford Exchange 01-28386-001-BIBR6D
We are preparing for our annual Holiday Program. If you are interested in being a part of this wonderful program, it makes a real difference. ‘was such a blessing to find someone who actually cared about me and wanted to help me fix it’. That is what this program does – it makes a real difference.

So far this year, we have provided over $8,000 in direct assistance to veterans in need. We have joined forces with several VA HUD/VASH programs across the country to provide funds to allow homeless veterans to secure permanent housing. We provide grocery food cards to help alleviate the high cost of groceries – no one should go hungry, especially not those who have served our country! We are creating relationships across the country with financial counselors who specialize in military/veteran specific financial issues. We have been able to secure this service to two veteran families – one, saying that it ‘was such a blessing to find someone who actually cared about me and wanted to help me fix it’. That is what this program does – it makes a real difference.

We are preparing for our annual Holiday Program. If you are interested in being a part of this wonderful program that provides a ‘thank you’ to the veterans and family members of wounded and deployed soldiers, send us an e-mail at treahq@trea.org or call us at 303-752-0660. We have so many opportunities for you to participate: donating, sponsoring, calling, shopping, wrapping, stuffing, writing, shipping – the options are endless and we would certainly welcome your assistance. You do not need to be local to National Headquarters to participate in this program.

As we move forward, with big goals and aspirations, we ask for and need your support. This program is essential to keeping TREA’s legacy alive for years to come and with that in mind; we are reaching out to you – those who believe in TREA’s mission – all of it – from legislative advocacy, to fraternal opportunities through chapters and social events, to assisting our brothers and sisters in times of need. It all goes together.

We have different levels of support, which provide special acknowledgements and thank yous. They are:

**Guardian** – for donations of $500 - $999. You will receive a certificate, a TREA pen and notepad and recognition in the Fall issue of The VOICE magazine.

**Sentinel** – for donations of $1,000 - $1,499. You will receive a certificate, a TREA pen, notepad and mouse pad plus recognition in the Fall issue of the VOICE magazine.

**Flagship** – for donation of $1,500 or more. You will receive a certificate, a TREA pen, notepad, mouse pad and phone charger, as well as recognition in every Fall issue of The VOICE magazine.

To date, we have received over $22K in donations. All donations are 100% tax-deductible.

Of course donations of any amount are accepted and appreciated, most of all, they are put to good use in providing support to an enlisted service member (past and present) and their family in need.

Together, we can keep TREA’s legacy and mission alive. Together, we can make a difference.
Illuminating our PRIDE and GRATITUDE

This fully dimensional, 11-inch high sculpture is a moving tribute to every Vietnam vet. It is hand-cast, sculpted and hand-painted by master artisans as a salute to heroism, from the bronzed eagle’s intricate feathers to the flag’s fabric-like texture. The marbleized base is modeled after the granite wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. A gold-plated medallion inspired by the Vietnam Service Medal reads: ALL GAVE SOME — SOME GAVE ALL. When you flip the switch, four shafts of pure white light beam upward from the base.

A Bradford Exchange Exclusive—Order Now!

Strong demand is expected — make it yours for just $99.99*, payable in three installments of $33.33, the first due before shipment, backed by our unconditional, 365-day money-back guarantee. Send no money now; return the Reservation Application today.

*Plus a total of $15.99 shipping and service; see bradfordexchange.com. Limited-edition presentation restricted to 295 casting days. Please allow 4-6 weeks after initial payment for shipment. Subject to product availability and order acceptance.

RESERVATION APPLICATION          SEND NO MONEY NOW

The Bradford Exchange
9345 Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, IL 60714-1393

YES. Please reserve the Pride of America Veterans Tribute Sculpture for me as described in this announcement. Please Respond Promptly

Mrs. Mr. Ms.  Name (please print clearly)

Address

City State Zip

Email (optional)

_OBJ_26165_001_BIR.indd   1
2/26/21   9:31 AM
GOVERNANCE - CERTAIN REQUISITE POINTS
Walt Coley, National 2nd Vice and Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee Chair

Requisite is defined by Webster’s as – needed for a particular purpose; Essential, Necessary. I like the statement in Article 18 (National Auxiliary) section 1, which discusses certain requisite (specific) points. Some things are essential and necessary to continue the organization. I am writing this because I’ve noticed that some Bylaw and Standing Rule changes coming from Chapters show confusion that National and Chapters have a role to play – as a team. National focuses on National issues, and Chapters address state and local issues. Through no one’s fault, the Chapter bylaw and standing rule changes I’m seeing don’t reflect the team in chapter Objectives (Object), who can hold office, and fairness – otherwise known as due process. TREA, all of us, through approval of changes, have cleaned up most of the ambiguity, duplication, and confusion with our rules over the last two years; here is your guide for changes. So we all need this guidance as we move ahead.

Our Bylaws and Standing Rules format and content are based on Robert’s Rules of Order, newly revised 12th addition. The founders chose this path to ensure governance was consistent across our organization. According to Article 17, section 4, National and Chapter Bylaws must conform to the “Model” listed in Chapter 18, section 56 for Bylaws. For Standing Rules, Roberts Rules Chapter 2, section 23-24 is the reference.

Our National Bylaws and Standing Rules are written to convey the culture of TREA. Honor, Integrity, Fairness, and improving conditions for Veterans and their families are part of our DNA and are clearly stated in TREA Bylaws in Article 2 (Object), Article 3 (Membership), and Article 17 (Chapters). In our Standing Rules (SR), it’s SR 1 (Code of Conduct for National Officers and associates), SR 7 (Membership), SR 9 (TREA/Chapter Relationship and Financial Assistance), and SR 19 (Chapter Guidance). Your local Bylaws and Standing Rules must clearly meet the intent of TREA National Bylaw Article 2 (Object). It’s formatted the way it is to make it easier to read and understand.

You must comply with National Bylaw Article 3 (Membership). Your Chapter Officers must be Regular TREA members. Courtesy and Honorary members can serve on committees but can’t be elected or appointed to a chapter office or be counted in chapter elections.

According to National Article 3, Section 5-8 and 10, your rules must provide standardized due process, with reference to Article 2 and SR 1.

This is the benchmark that the Bylaws and Standing Rules committee will use to evaluate your chapter level and National changes. Those changes will be moved to your national Board of Directors for approval and returned to you for implementation or modification in the case of your chapter changes. National changes approved by the Board will be included on our national ballot for membership approval.

Your Board of Directors doesn’t want to be in the position to dictate how chapters are run, but they must mandate that to identify as a TREA chapter, they must meet certain requisite standards. To assure United We Stand.
A Milestone in Freedom!

1:18-scale vintage metal replica honors the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day!

On September 2, 1945, Japan’s surrender documents were signed aboard the U.S.S. Missouri, officially marking the end of World War II. Now honor the 75th anniversary of Victory of Japan (VJ) Day with the “1:18-Scale 1941 Tactical Jeep” — a superior die cast tribute to rough, rugged and reliable military vehicles that were the driving force behind the Allied’s historic victory.

Loaded with authentic features and functioning parts, this military-inspired replica is precision-engineered to 1:18 scale — ideal for display, yet large enough to show off each exacting detail, including an opening front hood ... adjustable windshield ... and steerable front rubber wheels.

**Limited quantities available. Order yours now!**

Reserve the “1:18-Scale 1941 Tactical Jeep” today for just two payments of $44.99*. Send no money now; we’ll bill only your first payment prior to shipment. Money-back guarantee! Extremely limited supply! Order risk-free today!

**SEND NO MONEY NOW!**

☑ YES! Please accept my order for the “1:18-Scale 1941 Tactical Jeep” die-cast replica as described in this announcement.

Presented by The Hamilton Collection. Distributed by OK Toys. Manufactured by Golden Wheel.

**Authentic green finish is accented with hand-applied, period-specific logos.**

Presented by The Hamilton Collection. Distributed by OK Toys. Manufactured by Golden Wheel.

*Plus a total of $14.00 for shipping and service, and sales tax; see HamiltonCollection.com.

All orders are subject to product availability and credit approval. Allow 6 to 8 weeks after initial payment for shipment.
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Deborah Oelschig, National 1st Vice & Legislative Affairs Chair

As the end of the 117th Congress draws near, we wanted to share with you some of our recent legislative accomplishments on behalf of all enlisted servicemembers, veterans, caregivers, and their families. TREA leadership has also attended several in-person events in Washington, including at the White House and Arlington National Cemetery.

TREA in Washington

On May 30th, TREA’s National President, Justin Jump represented TREA at the White House with President Joe Biden. Immediately proceeding the event, President Jump joined the President, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, VA Secretary Dennis McDonough, and members of the Veteran and Military Service Organization community at Arlington National Cemetery in honor of Memorial Day, 2022.

Toxic Exposures

On Tuesday, June 7th, TREA stood side by side with Senate Veterans Affairs Committee leadership, celebrity Jon Stewart, John Feal, and fellow Veteran Service Organizations at a press conference in support of the “Honoring our PACT Act.” Subsequently, the historic legislation passed the U.S. Senate! As we move forward in the legislative process, TREA is proud to report that our advocacy has ensured that the “The PACT Act” will be signed by President Joe Biden in the coming weeks.

We are grateful for the leadership in both the House and Senate to get this consequential healthcare legislation passed. Especially that of Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee Chairman Senator Jon Tester, Ranking Member Senator Jerry Moran, House Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Mark Takano, and Ranking Member Mike Bost for their continued support.

Mental Health and Suicide Prevention

TREA has been monitoring TRICARE copayments for mental health visits, which have risen dramatically in recent years. A retiree on TRICARE Prime now faces a $33 copay for each mental or behavioral health visit, nearly triple the $12 copay from 2017. TRICARE Select copays are even higher - $38 for most active-duty families and $50 for most retirees. For these reasons, TREA has been working to secure cosponsors for “The Stop Copay Overpay Act” which would limit copays for mental and behavioral health treatments to help mitigate the financial burdens our veterans
are facing. We are proud to report that as of July 1st, the bill has 23 cosponsors and adding more each week.

**Concurrent Receipt and Retirement Pay**

TREA is proud to report that “The Major Richard Star Act” has continually made strides in both the U.S. House and Senate. Over the last several months, TREA has helped secure 58 cosponsors in the Senate and over 250 cosponsors in the House, which is an addition of nearly 50 Members of Congress this quarter!

The bipartisan legislation would finally provide full benefits to combat-injured veterans who were forced to medically retire with less than 20 years of military service. This means they would receive both their earned DoD Retirement Pay and their earned VA Disability Pay, with no offset. We need your help to get it across the finish line!

**FY23 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)**

With the annual defense bill passing through markup sessions in the House and Senate, we wanted to give you the highlights that TREA has been advocating for since introduction:

- Provide funding to support a 4.6% pay raise for both military servicemembers and the DOD civilian workforce.

- Broadening the reach and impact of the Basic Needs Allowance by increasing the eligibility threshold and allowance size from 130% of the Federal poverty line to 150% of the Federal poverty line.

- Authorizing additional funding to address inflation and meet additional needs in recruiting and retention.

- Authorizing an increase of $20 million in funding for the Defense Health Program to address the threat characterization and treatment of certain uniformed members, Federal civilian employees, and their family members affected by certain anomalous health incidents.

- Authorizing a servicemember whose sole dependent dies to continue to receive basic allowance for housing at the “with dependents” rate for a period up to 365 days after the death of the dependent.

- Authorizing transitional health care benefits to members of the National Guard who are separated from full-time duty, called or ordered by the President or the Secretary of Defense for a period of active service greater than 30 days, in response to a national emergency declaration and supported by Federal funds.

As the NDAA process continues, we will continue to provide you with updates.
TO OUR AUXILIARY FAMILIES, GREETINGS TO EACH OF YOU!

Barb Coley, National Auxiliary President

Wherever you may reside, I sure hope to find you all are safe and well. The year 2022 has really flown by so fast, where has the time gone? Since TREA National made the decision not to go to San Antonio, TX, the TREA National Auxiliary elected to hold our Annual Membership Meeting in-person and via Zoom Teleconferencing at The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) Chapter 3, 1599 Dayton Street, Aurora, CO, 80010 on Wednesday, September 7, 2022. Hoping that we can complete our meeting in one day. Also, The TREA National Auxiliary will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary (1972-2022).

By the time you are reading this article, you should have received the information about the 50th Anniversary event. Included in the dissemination of that information will be the registration package for those attending the meeting, attending the dinner banquet, voting on proposed Bylaws and Standing Rules changes, and election of officers for the next two-year term. All members that attend will be responsible (for their own arrangements (travel and hotel to include any additional days you plan to stay). The Auxiliary encourages all members to please come out and support your Auxiliary. The Auxiliary will provide a free continental breakfast and lunch. In the evening there a Installation Dinner in the Banquet Hall of Chapter 3 consisting of a Pasta Buffet. The cost is $25.00 per person. You are welcomed and encouraged to reserve attendance of your spouse or significant other to join us for dinner.

As I had stated earlier in this article, this is an election year for our Auxiliary BOD. This is a time for us to make a difference in the future of the Auxiliary. A Call for Resumes and Letters was sent out to all our Chapter Presidents, and PNP’s, to share with their members and to pass along to all friends who may be MAL's (Members at Large) of the vacancies for President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Director (3). You do not have to be a member of a chapter; we would love to have members at large serve on the BOD. I encourage everyone to please consider running for an office.

With great sadness, I would also like to acknowledge that Past National Auxiliary President (PNP) Marie Smith's dear husband, George Allen Smith, Jr, who was a Past National TREA President (PNP) recently passed away. On behalf of our TREA National Auxiliary, we extend our sincere prayers to Marie and her family.

This is my final article for THE VOICE as your National Auxiliary President. I must say serving on the Board of Directors as National President has certainly been one of my most valuable experiences ever. Over the last two years, a lot of achievements have been accomplished. I surely believe that working together for the betterment of our organization has been well worth the time. I am hopeful that I am leaving the Auxiliary advanced in a more secured operational standing and a positive place throughout the organization than when I started this journey. I would like to say thank you to all who helped and supported me as President and may God continue to bless each one of you.

Sincerely,
Barbara Coley
TREA National Auxiliary President

UNITED WE STAND
AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN’S PRAYER

Annette Harris

Is prayer an integral part of your daily life, or is it a hit-and-miss occasional activity? Do you “pray without ceasing,” or is your prayer life an afterthought? As you consider the role prayer currently plays in your life—and the role you think it is inevitably related to the quality of your prayer life.

Prayer changes things, and it changes you. So today, instead of turning things over in your mind, turn them over to God in prayer. Instead of worrying about your next decision, pray about it. Don’t limit your prayers to meals or to bedtime. Pray often about things great and small. God is listening, and He wants to hear from you. Now.

Annette S. Harris
Chaplain

SPECIAL TRAVEL DISCOUNTS FOR TREA MEMBERS

TREA is excited to announce the launch of its new TREA Travel Center. From this one site, members can now book all their travel and enjoy discounts at over 900,000 lodging destinations worldwide and at rates up to 77% off retail. In addition, TREA members can save up to 40% on rental cars. Members can also receive unmatched rates on group lodging for events, family reunions, weddings, and more.

The travel center delivers members the industry’s best rates as it sources rates from dozens of distinct supply channels to bring you the best proprietary member rates around the world. So, if you are looking for a 4-star hotel in London, a beachfront resort in Florida, or just a comfortable place to stay along the way, you can now save big at the TREA Travel Center. You can book travel via your laptop, tablet, or mobile device, or call and still enjoy the same great user experience. So, pick your favorite destination, your favorite brand, and your best traveling companion and book your next trip with us.

https://trea.hotelplanner.com/
YOUR RIGHT, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY: VOTE!

Walt Coley, National 2nd Vice

Members of TREA, it’s time to vote! According to our rules, YOU determine the direction of our organization and who leads it. Make no mistake, the direction the Board of Directors YOU elect and the changes to Bylaws and Standing Rules YOU approve determine the direction TREA takes going forward. The direction your executives (Headquarters Staff and Board of Directors) have taken over the last 4 years is laser-focused on giving you a voice and concentrating on supporting the enlisted and their families. We have made it easy to vote and in a way that is honest and above board. We have created a new charity – TREA GIVES – focused on meeting the needs of those most in need. This is a challenging time when we must be nimble enough to change to meet future challenges. We want you to share your voice and your opinion with your votes.

United We Stand!

YOUR ORGANIZATION, YOUR BOARD, YOUR CHOICE

Important Instructions for Voting

Continuing our promise of equality, transparency and unity, you will have the opportunity to cast your vote for the new National Board of Directors, who lead our organization as well as the proposed changes to the Bylaws & Standing Rules that govern our organization.

Voting is easy – we made it that way – for you! There are no travel requirements, no events to attend – all you have to do is be a TREA member in good standing (make sure that your membership is current through September 14th, 2022) and use the ballot on page 2 to cast your vote – OR, you can vote securely online by going to https://vote.yeselections.com/TREA. Sorry, Auxiliary Members are not eligible to vote for TREA National offices (unless you are also a member of TREA). Please see the Auxiliary section of this magazine for information on your voting process.

As we have done previously, we are working with an independent, third-party entity with no ties to TREA, its board or its staff. This was done to ensure absolute integrity and fairness. We have worked diligently to make it as simple and quick as possible. We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish, and we think you will be pleased with the results.

For this year’s election, all 7 positions on the National Board, are all up for voting. Only one position is running with competition and that is the position of Director. We have two openings and three very qualified candidates running for this position: Butch Liebaert, Harry Blackwell and Mary Clarvoe. It is your responsibility to decide for yourself which two candidates you think would make the best choices as National Directors. As with all of our candidates, you can read their full resumes and additional information by going to our website (www.trea.org) and clicking on ‘Nominees for National Office’. There you will find detailed information (resumes, speeches, letters of recommendation, etc.). Once you have made your decision, it’s time to actually vote – keep in mind that even though the other 6 positions have candidates that are running unopposed, you can still show your support and encouragement by voting ‘YES’ on their name.

Bylaws and Standing Rule proposed changes – there are 5 Bylaw changes and 3 Standing Rule changes. You can view the detailed information on our website (www.trea.org) and clicking on ‘Proposed Bylaw & Standing Rule Changes for 2022’. If you have any questions or would like further information on any of the proposed changes, please contact the Chairman of the Bylaws & Standing Rule Committee, Walt Coley at: 2ndvice@trea.org.

Important information that pertains to both mail-in votes and on-line votes: your vote is recorded and registered...
using the 8-digit code that is shown on your address label. Your name alone cannot be used to cast your vote. All votes are confidential, and the individual results will not be shared. You must be a member in good standing, which means that your membership needs to be paid up through September 14, 2022. If your membership expires before September 14th, you will need to renew your membership in order to vote. In these cases, where the mailing of the magazine has already occurred, we will provide you with your unique 8-digit code that will enable you to vote. Call us at 303-752-0660 to get your Unique Voting Code.

For Mail-In voting:
Step 1 – Use the ballot form on the inside cover (page 2) Remember – even though someone is running unopposed, you can still show your support for them by marking ‘YES’.
Step 2 – Copy the 8 digit ‘Unique Voting Code’ from the mailing label on the cover, (it will appear above your name) onto the ballot sheet. Your vote will not be processed without this one-time use, unique voting code. You must use the original ballot sheet. Reproductions of any kind (fax, scans, photos) will not be accepted. The original ballot, on the backside of the magazine cover, showing the original mailing label will be cross-referenced for authenticity and single code use. This prevents multiple votes from the same user.
Steps 3, 4, 5 & 6 - Answer each question, tear/cut the sheet out of the magazine, fold in up and put it in an envelope. Mail it to: TREA 2022 - PO Box 151 - Mineola NY, 11501-015.

It really is that simple. The only thing that you need to be aware of is that you must mail your response in time for it to be received in Mineola, NY by September 14th. Since USPS can sometimes be a little slow, we are recommending that you mail early. It is OK for your ballot to be received early, it’s not OK for it to be received late. Late votes will not be counted.

For On-line voting:
Step 1 - Go to your favorite web browser – it doesn’t matter which one, they all work the same.
Step 2 - Enter this link https://vote.yeselections.com/TREA. This will take you directly to a TREA log in page.
Step 3 – Enter the 8-digit Unique Voting Code that is on your mailing label, above your name.
Step 4 – Enter your zip code. Each Unique Voting Code is linked to its members’ individual zip code. If the two don’t match, the system will not allow you to continue.
Step 5 - Click ‘continue’, this will take you to the actual ballot page. There, you can click on an individual candidate’s name to read their full resume, speech and seconds. The same thing is true for the Bylaws and Standing Rules. Clicking on an individual name or Bylaw does not count as a vote – this simply takes you to detailed information. You have to actually click on the YES to vote for a Board of Director candidate and you must select ‘Approved’ or ‘Disapproved’ for each Bylaw and Standing Rule.
Step 6 - Once you complete your votes, click ‘SUBMIT’. This is not voting – this is a review. You will be given the opportunity to review and verify your vote. You can click ‘RETURN’ to change a vote or to fill in a missed vote, or you can continue to submit your vote by clicking ‘VOTE’. If you return to make changes, you will once again be given the opportunity to review your decision before making it final by clicking on the ‘VOTE’ button. Once you click the ‘VOTE’ button, your vote is final, and changes cannot be made. You will receive a confirmation of your vote with the date and time that your vote was submitted.

That’s it – it truly is that simple – and quick!
As always, we encourage every member to visit our national website often as updates and changes are posted regularly (www.trea.org).

If you want to participate in the online voting process, but are unsure of the process, or just want someone close by ‘just in case’ – give us a call. (303-752-0660). Each Headquarter staff member has been thoroughly trained in the process and can easily walk you through each step.

All ballots are received by and processed by Elections America/YES Elections. Ballots are not handled by the National Board or Headquarter staff.
TREASURER’S NOTE
Kyle Carpenter, Treasurer

As I present the FY2021 audit (see next page), I want to point out some things that I think are noteworthy.

1. Total income for 2021 was $212,558 more than the previous year. This income included the forgiveness of the government backed Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan
2. Total expenses were down more than $50K from the previous year.

This was possible due to the hard work and dedication of your National Board and Headquarter staff. Granted the increased income was because our investment portfolio performed so well, but keep in mind that it is managed by the board. Their actions allowed for the positive performance.

The National Board Members have taken their roles as fiduciaries seriously, as they must answer to every TREA member, as well as every donor for the justification and use of every dollar. The National Board understands its responsibility of being good stewards of the money that is entrusted to us --- for membership, for veteran support and for legislative advocacy.

Times have changed, not just for TREA, but also for all membership organizations. Membership in fraternal organizations is waning – across the country. We need to be aware and act accordingly – we need to be fiscally responsible and prepared for what may be coming. We need to understand that membership dues alone do not support our organization. We rely on donations from TREA members and non-members alike. There are many people out there that for one reason or another cannot hold membership in TREA, but who choose to support us financially. They believe in us, in our mission and in our actions. That is why we created the TREA GIVES program. Read more about this great program in other articles in this issue of The VOICE.

We seem to have survived the effects of COVID only to come face-to-face with a pending recession. While this is not good news, it does not mean certain doom. It means that we have to be vigilant in our operational spending. We will need to tighten our financial belt one more notch and ride out the storm. We are tough, we are resilient, we are the Enlisted Force and this is what we do – we turn adversity into success.

Please take a moment to review the FY2021 audit (on the next page) and follow up with a vote of acceptance on the ballot sheet. You can also vote to accept the audit report on the online ballot.

A Bylaw change that went into effect last year will save the organization approximately $30K and that is the electronic distribution of The VOICE magazine. This was a necessary change and in my opinion a step up for the organization. The electronic version contains live links – simply click on a link and you are taken directly to an article, a post or a page. But, like all things, there is an alternative if you do not want to take advantage of this modern technology. If you want to continue to receive the printed magazine, all you have to do is contact National Headquarters and they will change your preference in the system and you will continue to receive the printed magazine. The option is yours, but keep in mind, the more members that go digital, the more TREA can save. To reach someone at Headquarters, call 303-752-0660.

One more thing to note:
This was the first year that we did not do a consolidated audit that included our affiliate, The Senior Citizens League (TSCL). Since this is something new, I wanted to include their basic numbers for those of you who have been following their financials in previous years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Net Profit/(Loss)</th>
<th>Assets at beginning of year</th>
<th>Assets at end of year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$3,667,103</td>
<td>$3,883,299</td>
<td>$(216,196)</td>
<td>$736,412</td>
<td>$520,216</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# THE RETIRED ENLISTED ASSOCIATION, INC.
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
### FOR FISCAL YEAR, ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 Without Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>2021 With Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>2020 Total</th>
<th>2020 Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue and Other Support</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>140,479</td>
<td>58,940</td>
<td>199,419</td>
<td>214,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Gains</td>
<td>339,460</td>
<td>339,460</td>
<td>284,022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>110,366</td>
<td>110,366</td>
<td>129,217</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalty Income</td>
<td>80,101</td>
<td>80,101</td>
<td>84,671</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Insurance Settlements</td>
<td>130,207</td>
<td>130,207</td>
<td>42,703</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store Sales</td>
<td>4,566</td>
<td>4,566</td>
<td>7,601</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising Revenue</td>
<td>13,428</td>
<td>13,428</td>
<td>15,129</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trademark</td>
<td>94,052</td>
<td>94,052</td>
<td>84,330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPP Loan Forgiveness</td>
<td>106,567</td>
<td>106,567</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other - incl In-Kind Donations</td>
<td>2,825</td>
<td>2,825</td>
<td>1,135</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</td>
<td>89,097</td>
<td>(89,097)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue and Other Support</strong></td>
<td>1,111,148</td>
<td>(30,157)</td>
<td>1,080,991</td>
<td>863,433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Education</td>
<td>40,195</td>
<td>40,195</td>
<td>54,606</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Affairs</td>
<td>119,829</td>
<td>119,829</td>
<td>172,644</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Services &amp; Retention</td>
<td>250,328</td>
<td>250,328</td>
<td>220,233</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Education and Training</td>
<td>35,322</td>
<td>35,322</td>
<td>44,326</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VOICE Magazine</td>
<td>89,924</td>
<td>89,924</td>
<td>38,917</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td>535,598</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>535,598</td>
<td>530,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>146,754</td>
<td>146,754</td>
<td>171,422</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Recruitment</td>
<td>17,901</td>
<td>17,901</td>
<td>18,227</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>82,818</td>
<td>82,818</td>
<td>119,770</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td>247,473</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>247,473</td>
<td>309,419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>783,071</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>783,071</td>
<td>840,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Profit / (Loss)</strong></td>
<td>328,077</td>
<td>(30,157)</td>
<td>297,920</td>
<td>23,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, beginning of year</strong></td>
<td>3,142,200</td>
<td>311,436</td>
<td>3,453,636</td>
<td>3,430,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets, end of year</strong></td>
<td>3,470,277</td>
<td>281,279</td>
<td>3,751,556</td>
<td>3,453,636</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATTENTION ALL TREA: The Enlisted Association
MEMBERS
We Want You as part of TEAM TSCL!

By: Richard “Rick” Delaney, Chairman

TREA Senior Citizens League (TSCL) was created in 1992 as a special project of The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA).

In September 1994, TSCL was incorporated in Colorado as an independent citizens’ action and education non-profit organization. It received recognition from the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt section 501(c)(4) organization in June 1995.

TSCL is registered to conduct grassroots fundraising, public education, and lobbying activities in nearly every state. Unlike many other organizations, no government or grant money is accepted or used by TSCL. This keeps the organization completely out of the hands of special interests.

TSCL consists of hundreds of thousands of active senior citizens concerned about the protection of their Social Security and Medicare benefits. These senior citizens have participated in thousands of grassroots advocacy efforts led by TSCL.

Although long time influential on Capitol Hill, TSCL has recently grown into an information powerhouse whose analysis and input are sought out by hundreds of media sources each year. The results of its annual surveys - The Seniors Survey and The Loss of Buying Power Survey, are widely reported in the press.

TSCL is governed by TREA Members and will have two openings on TSCL’s Board this September. Would you be interested in working with a highly efficient and effective Board of Trustees and staff? Would you like to make a difference in the lives of millions of senior citizens? If so, please submit your resume on TREA Form 100-3 to Chairman@seniorsleague.org!

Requirements: Candidates must have been a member of TREA for at least three years and be at least 18 years of age. No elected member of TREA or TREA National Auxiliary Board of Directors may serve concurrently as a Trustee except TREA’s Treasurer, who shall be exempt from all other qualifications. Term Length: 3 Years

Interested TREA members should submit resumes on TREA Form 100-3. Resumes will be accepted until the day prior to TSCL’s annual meeting in September.

If you have any questions, call 703-682-5836 or email –

Executive Director Shannon Benton Shannon.benton@seniorsleague.org
Chairman Richard “Rick” Delaney Chairman@seniorsleague.org
IN MEMORY - TREA PNP GEORGE ALLEN SMITH, JR. 1930 - 2022

Born on October 28, 1930 in Jackson, Louisiana, George Allen Smith, Jr. was a naturally gifted child who grew into an extraordinary man. When offered a free college education by two educators at McKinley High School, George chose the United States Army instead and enlisted in 1948. He served for 21 years and retired as an MSgt, E8.

George became involved in The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA) in Colorado and became president of Chapter 3 in Aurora. He quickly moved up to the National President position in 1987 to 1989. George was instrumental in securing Tricare for Life. He was also responsible for the action that lead to the purchase of TREA’s National Headquarter building in Aurora, Colorado and was called upon as an advisor on various projects and committees.

George served as Chairman of TREA’s The Senior Citizens League (TSCL) Board of Trustees in 1997 and again from 2001 – 2005 and as an advisor from 2005 – 2007. His involvement with TSCL earned him the Congressional Achievement Award.

George was an amazing man and he will be missed by many.

TREA CHAPTERS ARE STAYING BUSY

With so many chapter activities going on all the time, it’s hard for us to showcase everything in our magazine, so we encourage you to check our website frequently to see everything that is happening at your local TREA chapter and in your community.

We know that our chapters are staying busy and we ask that you send us your photos, flyers, activities and events. We will post them to your chapter page on the TREA website for everyone to see.

Some examples of recent activity:

Chapter 3 (Colorado): https://www.trea.org/TREA/Chapters/Chapter_3.aspx
Chapter 76 (Wisconsin): https://www.trea.org/TREA/Chapters/Chapter_76.aspx
Chapter 94 (Georgia): https://www.trea.org/TREA/Chapters/Chapter_94.aspx

“Most people don’t want to be part of the process; they just want to be part of the outcome. But the process is where you figure out who’s worthy of being part of the outcome.”
CONGRATULATIONS 2022-2023 TREA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

SPECIAL AWARD
In Memory of TREA Co-Founders
Haven Lysell-Steward
Attending: University of Wyoming

SPECIAL AWARD
In Memory of TREA Co-Founders
Jeremy Buss
Attending: Black Hills State University

SPECIAL AWARD
In Memory of all TREA & Auxiliary Past National Presidents
Marissa Danauskas
Attending: University of Nebraska - Omaha

SPECIAL AWARD
In Memory of Dorothy ‘Dottie’ Holmes
Ethan Fleming
Attending: University of Florida

SPECIAL AWARD
In Memory of Frank Cusimano
Arden McCoy
Attending: Misericordia University

SPECIAL AWARD
In Memory of all TREA & Auxiliary Past National Presidents
Marissa Danauskas
Attending: University of Nebraska - Omaha

Matthew Wong
Attending: University of Texas at Tyler

Donovan Castillo
Attending: Texas A&M – Corpus Christi

Celina Henn
Attending: Wheaton College

Kaitlyn Greene
Attending: Black Hills State University

Myla Castillo
Attending: St. Edward’s University

Samantha Visciotti
Attending: Louisiana State University

Kayla McDonald
Attending: Southern West Virginia University

Ethan Fleming
Attending: University of Florida

Samantha Visciotti
Attending: Louisiana State University
CONGRATULATIONS 2022-2023 TREA SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

We received 26 applications this year, and awarded 14. All applications were reviewed and scored by the Scholarship Committee. The Committee was made up of five TREA members and chaired by Director Liebaert. Applications were scored on the following: Grade Point Averages, Scholastic Achievement/Involvement (Valedictorian, Honor Roll, etc.), School Sponsored Extra-Curricular Activities (debate team, sports, clubs, JROTC, etc.), Non-School Sponsored Extra-Curricular Activities, to include community volunteer activities, (4-H state champion, Boy/Eagle scouts, Girl Scouts, volunteering at a local senior citizen's home, hospital or volunteering at a food bank, etc.), Work Experience and Written Essay. All applicants must be the child or grandchild of a TREA member. The child or grandchild of a TREA member who has passed is still eligible, provided that member was active at the time of his/her passing.

The Scholarship recipients received a total of $17,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year.

The 2023-2024 Scholarship Application will be posted on our website (www.trea.org) on January 1, 2023.

TREA’S SERVICE DOG IS GRADUATING!

It is great when a plan comes together. It is even more special when that plan serves and makes a positive difference in the life of a veteran. This is the case with Wiley – TREA’s sponsored service dog.

After a yearlong extensive training program, Wiley is scheduled to meet his ‘veteran partner’ and graduate from the Semper K9 Service Dog program this month.

TREA plans to be there to meet and congratulate the new ‘team’ in person. Make sure to read the next issue of The VOICE magazine to see the photos and all the details from this life-changing event.
LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM COMING JANUARY 2023 FOR VETERANS WITH SERVICE CONNECTION DISABILITY

Coming January 2023, VA will launch a new life insurance program called Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife), which provides guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance coverage to Veterans age 80 and under, with any level of service-connected disability. Some Veterans age 81 and older may also be eligible.

What is Guaranteed Acceptance Whole Life Insurance?
Guaranteed acceptance is a whole life policy that does not require a medical exam or ask health questions. It also does not have a limited two year window to sign up. Whole life insurance provides coverage for the entire life of the individual policyholder, provided that premiums are always paid. Premium rates are locked in for the life of the policy, and unlike term policies will not increase as the policy holder ages.

What benefits does it offer?
The new program meets the needs of service-connected Veterans who may not have previously qualified for life insurance with VA. VALife offers guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance coverage that lasts for an individual’s entire life and provides the following benefits:

• All service-connected Veterans age 80 and under with 0-100% VA disability ratings are eligible.
• Fully automated online enrollment with instant approvals.
• Coverage comes in increments of $10,000, up to a maximum of $40,000, and premiums are competitive – or better – than what’s available in the private sector. There is a two-year waiting period for full face value coverage to take effect.
• No medical requirements for enrollment.
• Cash value that builds over the life of the policy after the first two years of enrollment.
• Rates are best the earlier you sign up. Once locked in, premiums will never increase.

Who is eligible?
All Veterans age 80 or younger with a VA disability rating of 0-100% are eligible for VALife, with no time limit to apply.

Veterans who are 81 or older may apply for VALife within two years of receiving a new service-connected disability rating if:

• They applied for VA disability compensation before age 81, and;
• They received a new service-connected disability rating after turning 81.

Where can I learn more?
To learn more about VALife and whether it’s the right choice for you and your family, please visit the webpage here: https://www.benefits.va.gov/insurance/valife.asp.
ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE SHOPPERS GENERATE $205 MILLION FOR MILITARY COMMUNITIES IN 2021

DALLAS – Army & Air Force Exchange Service shoppers make life better for military communities around the world and, in 2021, they did their part to generate $205 million for critical Quality-of-Life programs.

100% of Exchange earnings are re-invested in military communities, with about 60% historically going to support on-installation Quality-of-Life programs and remaining earnings used to further enhance the shopping experience at PXs, BXs, Expresses and online at ShopMyExchange.com.

“Thank you to Airmen, Soldiers, Guardians, Marines, Sailors and military families around the world for shopping their Exchange and making our military communities great places to live and work,” said Exchange Director/CEO Tom Shull. “When you shop the PX or BX, fill up at an Express, pick up a meal at the Exchange food court or place an order at ShopMyExchange.com, you help bolster vital support to Warfighters and their families.”

In the last 10 years, the Exchange has provided $3.5 billion in earnings for critical military Quality-of-Life programs.

“It matters where you shop,” Shull said. “Choosing the Exchange makes a difference for our Nation’s military communities.”

Make a real difference to a deserving military family this Holiday!

TREA GIVES HOLIDAY PROGRAM

It’s not too early to start thinking about how you can make a difference to the family of a wounded or deployed servicemember and their family this holiday season. Although it may be hard to think about the holidays in the middle of August, they will be upon us before you know it. TREA Headquarters is already preparing for the task at hand and we need your support.

Times are tough for a lot of people right now - imagine how tough they are to the family of a deployed or wounded service member.

You can make a difference, TREA is making a difference. Our Holiday Program, coming up on it’s 7th year is a ‘thank you’ to the deployed or wounded servicemember and his/her family. It’s a very small way to let them know that they are appreciated and that we thank them for their service and their sacrifice.

You can sponsor a family (many levels available), make a donation (all amounts matter) or, if local to headquarters, volunteer your time to help us organize, contact, wrap and ship packages.

It’s a wonderful and hands-on way to make a real difference for a soldier and his/her family.
MEMBERSHIP SURVEY FOR 2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
September 2023 – Las Vegas

We really want to hear from you. All TREA members are encouraged to participate in the linked survey to tell us your thoughts on a 60th Anniversary event in 2023.

Sixty years is a great milestone and one that deserves recognition; however, taking into account the current economic situation: inflation, cost of food, gas and other goods, the extraordinary high cost of travel and lodging and COVID still lingering in the background, not to mention the continued decline of membership participation, the TREA National Board is concerned about the effects of trying to plan a large-scale social event for next year. With so many details unknown at this time, is it the right thing to do?

TREA is a membership organization. You are our members, and as such, you control the course of action, understanding that the Board members have the legal responsibility to do what is in the best interest of the organization as a whole and to always act fiscally responsible.

With reduced revenue from memberships and donations on the decline, the question remains, should we be planning a celebratory event? Is it the best way to spend TREA’s funds?

To this end, we are reaching out to you for your input, suggestions and feedback. Please take a minute and go to: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TREA60-2023 to answer 5 simple questions. They will help us in determining what course of action we should take in regards to an in-person Anniversary event in September 2023.

Your time and participation is greatly appreciated.
The TREA National Board
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- **Membership:** Any honorably discharged enlisted person – retired, active duty, National Guard or Reserve, or the spouse/widow/widower of an honorably discharged enlisted person - retired, active duty, National Guard or Reserve shall be eligible for membership. Membership entitles the person to all privileges of membership including attending business meetings, making motions and holding office.

  - [ ] New Member  [ ] Renewal  Membership Number: __________________________

  Name: ___________________________  Birthdate: __________________________
  Address: ___________________________  City: __________________________  State: __________  Zip Code: __________
  Phone Number: ___________________________  E-Mail: ___________________________
  Spouse: ___________________________  Your Grade/Rank: ___________________________  Years Served: from _______ to _______
  Recruiter Information: Name: ___________________________  Membership Number: ___________________________
  Chapter Affiliation: I wish to be assigned to Chapter #__________,  I wish to be a Member-at Large (MAL)

  Service:  [ ] Air Force  [ ] Army  [ ] Navy  [ ] Marines  [ ] Space Force  [ ] Coast Guard  [ ] Guard/Reserve
  I am:  [ ] Retired  [ ] Veteran  [ ] Active Duty  [ ] Spouse/widow/widower of a veteran

By submitting payment, I acknowledge that I am an Enlisted U.S. Armed Forces Veteran and as such qualify to be a member of TREA: The Enlisted Association (if joining as a veteran spouse/widow/widower, your payment acknowledges the veteran status of your spouse).

Proof of eligibility falls on the applicant and not TREA

Membership Dues (Does not include Chapter dues, if applicable)

  - [ ] One Year - $30
  - [ ] Two Years - $55
  - [ ] Three Years - $75

  Payment:  Credit Card Number: ___________________________

  - Visa
  - Master Card
  - Discover
  - American Express

  Expiration Date: ____________  CCV: __________

Make checks payable to: TREA

Please return your completed application to:
TREA: The Enlisted Association - 12200 E. Briarwood Ave, Suite 250 - Centennial, CO  80112
E-mail: treahq@trea.org
303-752-0660  800-338-9337
www.trea.org
TREA CELEBRATES ALL OF THE BRAVE MEN & WOMEN WHO SERVED THE UNITED STATES

WE EARNED OUR STRIPES