



VOLUME 38 | NUMBER 3 | SUMMER 2019

THE VOICE

O f T h e E n l i s t e d

Washington Update
pg.11-16

**TREA's 56th Anniversary
& National Convention**
pg.24-30



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The VOICE
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Views expressed in the magazine, and the appearance of advertisement, do not necessarily reflect the opinions of TREA or its board of directors, and do not imply endorsement. The magazine (ISSN 1527-0467) is published quarterly by TREA, a nonprofit organization.



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FROM THE EDITOR

By Kim DeCoste

Dear TREA Members,

Welcome to the Summer issue of The VOICE. Once again, we have an issue packed with updates and information essential for TREA members. We continue to try to streamline the magazine and have worked hard to assure we are getting you all the updates you need. As always, the Legislative update is full of information vital to you all. There are also details here regarding the budget which are important to review and understand. Everyone is excited about the Convention this year in Denver. Details and registration information are here and online. We hope you will join us in the Mile-High City for a fun, informative, essential meeting of the organization and its leadership. Best wishes to you all for a safe and happy summer! God bless you all and God bless America!

The Editorial Staff



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Philip Hilinski, TREA National President



The TREA Board had a huge task working on an agreement for a contract with The Senior Citizens League (TSCL) in the past months. An agreement will help both of us work together at the same time making us stronger. In addition, new contracts are being negotiated for acquiring new members and future conventions.

The Board has been busy as well. One area of work is with the Marketing Firm search, the Committee is close to wrapping up its selection of a new firm TREA can utilize for outreach and other marketing opportunities. On finance, the auditor completed his report on TREA and reports that we are doing well cutting expenses, but we must be ever vigilant of unnecessary or improper spending. A special thanks to Treasurer Oelschig, Director Greenberg and DfO Osborne for cutbacks on unnecessary spending such as cancelling a large membership fee in a club only attended a couple times a year, lower HQ expenses without sacrificing customer service, and by keeping the costs low for the convention actually reducing the convention fee for this year.

The LAO will be growing so pay attention to even more updates from this office; ensure you add or update an email to TREA HQ. If you don't have an email, have a trusted family member who does have their own email and ask for their permission to use it so they can give you these important updates. (Our data is secure.) TREA's home page is packed with great information on what is going on Capitol Hill, at VA and DOD. Some of you have asked about the Online Voice and when will it be operational again. Well, your requests have been fulfilled. We are working on creating the eVOICE that will be emailed to TREA members that will provide real-time updates for Conventions, Board Actions and any other information you need NOW. The HQ Phone System will be re-done soon to serve you better.

Well, speaking of the Convention there are some updates on pages 26 and 27. Be sure to read through everything and come prepared to get some TREA work done and to have a good time.

Thank you for your support

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A NOTE FROM 1ST VICE, GREG BARNETT

Greetings to all, hope everyone survived the spring weather and has prepared for summer fun. First and foremost let me encourage all our membership, especially the ones in the Colorado vicinity to attend this year's convention being held this September 2019, in Denver, Colorado. You can submit your registration and payment on line or by mailing in the registration and payment into TREA Headquarters by the deadline. I hope to see you there.

Public Relations is an ongoing process which requires active participation from all our members if capable. Currently we have a listing of this years published Retiree's Appreciation Day posted on our website under the Resources Tab.

If you can, please attend these important RADs, they are our life source, spread the word of TREA: The Enlisted Association, please provide feedback after RADs, (Attn: 1stvice @trea.org); If you are attending RAD's which may not be listed please let us know when, where, how many, point of contact w/telephone or email address if applicable and if it's an annual event. Please submit all RADs supply requests on proper (website) forms and please request sparingly do not ask for 100% of what you think will attend, please return all unused items back to TREA Headquarters.

We have new Membership Application pamphlets. If you need the new pamphlets check our website; if you need hard copies notify TREA Headquarters and they shall be provided.

Scholarship Committee reports that we have 42 applications which were submitted for this year's scholarship program, our committee has its work cut out for us this year; applications looks pretty competitive so we should have some good results.

Please have a safe summer and remember when attending upcoming holidays / veteran's events, wear TREA apparel, dress your best, let them know who we are, UNITED WE STAND.

OPEN POSITIONS OF THE BOARD

There are two Director positions open this year. The positions are for a term of two years.

The following TREA members have submitted resumes for these openings:

Clarence Johnson, Chapter 39 in Aurora, Colorado and Daisy Brown,
Chapter 9 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Make sure that you go to our website (www.trea.org) to view their full resumes.

ARE YOU READY TO VOTE

Everyone needs to be verified through headquarters, so don't forget to fill out your Delegate forms – everyone needs one.

Chapter members will need to fill out form 100-1 and MAL's will need to fill out form 100-1M

Anyone giving or receiving a proxy vote will need to fill out form 100-2 or 100-2M.

All forms are available on our website under RESOURCES.

We have both PDF's and Word formats of all forms.

If you need help, or need a form sent to you, please call headquarters and we will be happy to help.

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*The Back Reads
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IT STARTS WITH A WHY

Walt Coley, 3rd Vice President & Chairman of the 5-Year Plan Committee



I survived my first mid-term! I can honestly share with you that the last six months have been a challenging learning experience. If I hadn't been prepared by a life in government and business at understanding how systems work, how to ask questions, how to analyze processes, and patience, I would have pulled my hair out, I still almost did the last thing, then I stopped and remembered one word: WHY.

Why did TREA exist?

TREA exists as the Voice of the Enlisted, formed by retired senior NCOs to work for the well-being of the enlisted force and their families; that's the WHY. So, with that and what was presented in the 5-year plan, we determined there were several things that needed doing, but 2 things that needed doing most of all.

- We need to align TREA with who we are today and prepare it for the future. All levels of What We Do must agree with Who We Are. That means we must go through our Standing Rules and Bylaws, taking a hard look at every line and concept – assuring they reflect our legacy as well as the present; while leaving room for the future. Public Relations and Marketing must reflect this, and we all need to get on board and sell it! Asking people ready to retire what they are concerned about gives them a WHY for joining us!
- Improve TREA's member interaction and communication. Modify TREA Bylaws and Standing Rules to recognize the vast majority of TREA members are Members at Large, don't attend convention, and have no voice in the organization's structure. Convention attendance is down and fewer members make decisions for all – even as membership continues to decline. Voting by mail for now will help. Providing Washington Updates from LAO lets members know what we fight for in D.C. will help too.

These two things, as well as publicizing things we are doing better, like providing information out through the Washington Update, with an eye toward adding state and local activity from our members conveys unity of purpose. It shows we have a Vision and a purpose, and our intention to keep the promise made by our founders, that United We Stand is more than words... it's Who We Are.

TREA MEMBERS YOU CAN ATTEND - CAMP LEJEUNE, COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PANEL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2019

On Friday and Saturday, Sept. 13–14, 2019, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) will host a Camp Lejeune Community Assistance Panel (CAP) meeting at the Hilton Crystal City at Washington Reagan National Airport.

The two-day event features a CAP business meeting on Friday from 5:00–8:00 pm., and a public forum on Saturday from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. The Saturday public forum is an opportunity for TREA members to participate in the discussion directly with ATSDR staff and CAP members. You can attend this part of the meeting in person or online. You must register at <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune/capregistration.asp> to attend in person. Online participation does not require registration.

ATSDR is involved in research regarding water-contamination issues discovered in 1982 at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. ATSDR created the CAP to represent the affected community of Marines (and other military service members) and their families stationed between 1953 and 1987 at Camp Lejeune and to provide input on ATSDR's public health activities.

WASHINGTON UPDATE

Ken Greenberg, Director of Veterans and Military Policy



TREA is pleased to provide an update on legislative actions in the 116th Congress. One significant milestone, H.R. 299, the Navy Blue Water Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 was signed into law on June 25, 2019. Other proposals have passed the House and are awaiting action by the Senate. Some bills are being modified after being the subject of Congressional hearings.

TREA continues to work hard to see that the benefit earned by veterans, service members, as well as Guard and Reserve are protected. We cannot do it alone. Members should contact House and Senate members and ask them to support the bills highlighted in this article.

TREA's website www.trea.org contains additional details on legislation and policies related to DOD and VA. Members are directed to use the links on the TREA home page to access this important information. Examples include MISSION Act effective June 6, 2019, and Education Press Conference on June 13, 2019.

Navy Blue Water Bill, H.R. 299, signed as Public Law 116-23 on June 25, 2019. The wait is finally over!! The Senate cleared the bill on June 12, after the House passed the bill on May 14, to expand disability compensation for Vietnam-era veterans who have been denied benefits for illnesses linked to Agent Orange exposure for decades. The bill extends disability compensation benefits to Navy veterans who served on ships off the coast of southeast Asia. **VA announced that claims will begin to be processed on January 1, 2020. TREA continues to push VA to begin processing claims ASAP.** Go to www.trea.org and click on legislative for the 5/16/19 full report.

TREA Supported Retired Pay Issues

Concurrent Receipt H.R. 333 and H.R. 303: TREA has long believed that retired pay and VA service-connected disability compensation are different benefits and earned for different reasons. Military retired pay is earned by 20 or more years of service while service-connected disability compensation is a benefit used to supplant a veteran's lost earnings. Military retirees who are less than 50% service-connected are required to offset their retired pay with the amount of VA disability received. TREA continues to work with Members to eliminate the offset and permit concurrent receipt of retired military benefits and VA disability benefits.

Reserve Retired Pay Sense of Congress: TREA has heard from members concerning delays in receiving reserve retired pay. TREA is urging Congress to call on the service branches to address the delays and provide retired pay to reservists in a timely manner.

H.R. 2952 Montgomery GI Bill Parity Act of 2019: The bill permits Reservists to supplement Tuition Assistance with their Montgomery-GI Bill benefits. While permitted for active-duty service members, this strengthens education benefits for Reservists and provides greater flexibility to use their benefits.

H.R. 2953 Aviation Incentive Pay Parity Act: The bill permits the military branches to pay aviators in the Guard and Reserves the same Aviation Incentive Pay received by active duty pilots. It responds to a widespread and critical shortage of pilots in the armed services.



WASHINGTON UPDATE (CONT.)

Ken Greenberg, Director of Veterans and Military Policy

H.R. 2954 National Guard and Reserves Retirement Pay Parity Act: This bill provides retirement benefit parity for Reservists deployed on 12304b orders. They will receive a reduction in the age at which retirement pay can eventually be received, as already exists for Reservists mobilized on other types of orders.

SBP/DIC Offset Update - More Members Cosponsor bills than ever before

TREA continues to support efforts and urges Congress to pass legislation to allow military retiree survivors to receive full Survivor Benefit Plan benefits. H.R. 553 (352 cosponsors) in the House and S. 622 (75 cosponsors) in the Senate would end the deduction of Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities from Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) paid to survivors of fallen service members, also known as the “widows tax.” (now included in House version of NDAA)

The SBP law includes a dollar-for-dollar offset of DIC from SBP, called the SBP/DIC offset, for surviving spouses of retired service members who voluntarily participated in the insurance annuity program, paid premiums, and then died of a service-connected issue. Post-9/11 active duty surviving spouses also are impacted. The offset affects more than 60,000 military surviving spouses.

TREA Members we need your help - Contact your Congressman/Senators - urge them to support these important retired pay and SBP/DIC proposals.

The House of Representatives on May 21, 2019 passed nine pieces of legislation concerning the Department of Veterans Affairs, five of which focus specifically on suicide prevention.

- **H.R. 2359, Whole Veteran Act:** VA to report to Congress on advancing the Whole Health model of providing care.
- **H.R. 1812, Vet Center Eligibility Expansion Act:** expand eligibility for Vet Center services to veterans of the reserve components who were called up in response to disaster or humanitarian missions or drug interdiction.
- **H.R. 1947,** To amend title 38, United States Code, to exempt transfers of funds from Federal agencies to the Department of Veterans Affairs for nonprofit corporations established under subchapter IV of chapter 73 of such title from certain provisions of the Economy Act.
- **H.R. 2326, Navy Seal Chief Petty Officer William Bill Mulder (Ret.) Transition Improvement Act of 2019:** improve the transition services provided to service members as they prepare to leave the military.
- **H.R. 2333, Support for Suicide Prevention Coordinators Act:** assess the responsibilities, workload and vacancy rates of the VA's suicide prevention coordinators.
- **H.R. 2340, FIGHT Veteran Suicide Act:** VA to notify Congress of any suicide or attempted suicide in a VA facility.
- **H.R. 1200, Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2019:** increase COLA rates, as of Dec. 1, 2019.
- **H.R. 2372, Veterans' Care Quality Transparency Act:** conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between the VA and non-VA entities concerning suicide prevention and mental health services.
- **H.R. 2045, Veterans' Education, Transition and Opportunity Prioritization Plan Act of 2019:** create the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration and Under Secretary for Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition in the VA.

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WASHINGTON UPDATE (CONT.)

Ken Greenberg, Director of Veterans and Military Policy

All nine bills were referred to the Senate and TREA will continue to monitor their progress and provide updates as actions take place. For additional details on each bill go to www.trea.org and click on legislative for 5/20/19 full report.

TREA Education Priorities - Reauthorization of 2019 Higher Education Act (HEA) visit www.trea.org to view the press conference on June 13, 2019.

Close the 90/10 Loophole: This rule prohibits for-profit schools from receiving more than 90 percent of their revenues from federal financial aid. The loophole is that VA/DoD education funds do not count as federal funds, instead counting as private dollars. By leaving this loophole open, for-profit schools and low-quality institutions see veterans as nothing more than “dollar signs in uniform.”

Enhance Borrower’s Defense Regulations: Protect students from being defrauded by colleges and left with nothing to show for it - no degree, piles of student loans, and no GI Bill. Defrauded students deserve the loan protection they are entitled to under Borrower Defense. 78 percent of Americans support loan forgiveness for defrauded students.

H.R. 3369, Defending All Veterans in Education (DAVIE) Act accomplishes the above and is supported by TREA.

TREA joins Toxic Exposure in the American Military (TEAM) Working Group

In June, TREA joined a new coalition of 13 VSOs/MSOs to address the issue of toxic exposure. The Toxic Exposures in the American Military (TEAM) coalition will research currently available data to develop resources and advocate for additional exposure treatment for veterans and active duty service members. There are more than 165,000 veterans enrolled in the VA’s Burn Pit Registry – all of whom served on or after 9/11 and were deployed to a base or station where open burn pits were used. The goal of TEAM is to gather and share information, develop legislation, and combine resources to encourage Congress to pass meaningful toxic exposure legislation.

TREA supports H.R. 633/S. 191 - Burn Pits Accountability Act.

Toxic Exposure: Recognition of Illnesses Caused by Hazardous Warfare Agents. DOD and the services are to evaluate whether each member of the Armed Forces has been (1) based or stationed where an open air burn pit was used to dispose of waste, or (2) exposed to toxic airborne chemicals. Members located where an open burn pit was used or exposed to toxic airborne chemicals must be enrolled in the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry, unless the member opts for, not to enroll. The evaluations must be included in periodic health assessments, physical exams conducted immediately prior to separation from active duty, and deployment assessments. DOD must share the results of the evaluations with VA, (included in Senate version of NDAA).

TREA Supports H.R. 2617 – Occupational and Environmental Transparency Health (OATH) Act

To amend title 10, U.S.C., to enhance recordkeeping with respect to exposure by members of the Armed Forces to certain occupational and environmental hazards while deployed. (included in Senate version of NDAA)

National Defense Authorization Act and Appropriations Status for VA and DOD.

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CUSTOM DESIGNS THAT COMMAND ATTENTION

Our exclusive fleece jackets bring meaningful military artistry to the casual look of a fashionable hooded jacket. Boldly displayed on the back of the woven hood is an American flag graphic, along with the name of the branch of service and the year it was established. A round patch with an image of the branch of service's motto, embroidered with the name, stands out on the front of the jacket. Tailored with off-white side panels applied with the branch of service in a hip-length cut, the jacket provides comfortable, everyday wear. The front-zip jacket has a U.S. flag patch on the sleeve, two vertical zip front pockets, and metal toggles on the hood's cords.

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E27961

YES. Please reserve the following jacket(s) for me as described in this announcement, in the size(s) checked below.

M (38-40) **Large** (42-44) **XL** (46-48) **XXL** (50-52)

☐ "U.S. Air Force™" Hooded Fleece Jacket 01-22377-001 **Jacket Size** _____

☐ "U.S. Navy®" Hooded Fleece Jacket 01-21312-001 **Jacket Size** _____

☐ "U.S. Army®" Hooded Fleece Jacket 01-21576-001 **Jacket Size** _____

☐ "U.S. Marines" Hooded Fleece Jacket 01-19239-001 **Jacket Size** _____

☐ "U.S. Coast Guard" Hooded Fleece Jacket 01-24466-001 **Jacket Size** _____



WASHINGTON UPDATE (CONT.)

Ken Greenberg, Director of Veterans and Military Policy

The House passed H.R. 2500 on a vote of 220-197 on July 12th. TREA looks forward to resolving the differences by working with House and Senate Conferences.

Appropriations for DOD are included in H.R. 2740, that was passed by the House by a vote of 226-203 on June 19, 2019. The bill contains \$690.2 billion for Defense, a \$15.8 billion increase from 2019. Senate action is expected in July.

Appropriations for Military Construction and VA are included in H.R. 3055, that was passed by the House by a vote of 227-194 on June 25, 2019. The bill contains \$108.4 billion for Military Construction-VA, a \$10.4 billion increase from 2019. Senate action is expected in July.

MISSION Act effective June 6, 2019 -- What the changes mean to you.

VA health care options are expanding and TREA is sharing important information to keep you informed! These changes may provide you with the option to see private sector care providers, if you meet the eligibility criteria described below.

VA Health Care Eligibility

Veterans who have enrolled are eligible for care from VA hospitals based on a tier system or Priority group that looks at their service-connected injuries, income and other criteria. The Priority system was not changed by the Mission Act. Veterans do not need to take any action to remain enrolled. The MISSION Act provides additional options for care if you meet community care eligibility requirements.

VA Community Care Eligibility

VA Choice was the previous option and established rules around who could receive care outside the VA hospital. Choice expired on June 6, 2019. The MISSION Act is the new community care program and is updated to include new eligibility standards. You can see a community-based doctor if:

- Care is not available within the new access standards, which cap wait times at 20 days for primary care and 28 days for specialty care and drive times for 30 minutes for primary care and 60 minutes for specialists;
- Necessary care is not provided by the VA at a nearby facility;
- You live in a designated state or territory where VA is not full service like Hawaii, Alaska, New Hampshire, Guam, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands;
- You are grandfathered into the old Choice rules, and paid for by VA which allowed for community-based care if you lived 40 miles or more from the nearest VA hospital;
- VA doctors believe community-based care is best for you. (the best interest of the veteran);
- VA has designated the type of care you need as not meeting standards;

VA Urgent and Walk-In Care

Starting June 6, veterans who have received care from the VA in the last 24 months can get care at some community-based urgent care facilities. **Very important fact - urgent care facilities MUST be within VA's Network or contract to be covered.**

TREA wants to hear from you - especially if you have questions - or need assistance. Please use legislativeinfo@trea.org and title the email MISSION Act to feedback.

Visit www.trea.org. Go to Main Page and find MISSION Act for 6-links of detailed information.



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TREA'S FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Deb Oelschig, Treasurer



As a seasoned member of the TREA National Board of Directors, I have continued to make it my priority to have clear understanding and insight to not only the TREA finances, but the Memorial Foundation and The Senior Citizens League (TSCL) as well. I can confirm that the financial struggle is real and that it continues to be a primary focus. This concern is not isolated to TREA. All VSO's throughout the country are facing the same dilemma. It is not my intent to always bring out the negative, but the facts are the facts and real change cannot happen unless real information is shared and understood.

Membership Numbers: Our membership is our lifeline and we should all be aware of the trending decline in numbers. As of this writing, our active membership is currently at 26,796 a decrease in 1,956 members since the same time last year. While this may seem bad at first glance, it is much better than the 2017 to 2018 loss of 4,648. Out of the 26,796 current members that we have, 16,567 are lifetime members.

We have 6,492 members whose membership with us will expire within the next 12 months. We have had 964 members renew with us since June of 2018. While it is important to reach out and bring in new members, it is just as important to keep our current members. This is something that we have committed our efforts to by bringing the renewal program in-house. This allows for a more personal approach that members can expect and want. It will also give us the ability to use e-mail as a source of communications, saving the cost of paper, envelopes printing, stamps and time. In addition to renewing current members, we have to look at life....and death. Unfortunately, in the last 12 months, we have lost 791 members due to their passing. This is a very real issue and one that we cannot change. It means that we have to work harder to bring in new members just to stay even. Since January 2019, we have signed up 89 new members.

Acquisition Program: The Acquisition Program went into effect in late June. The purpose of this program is to bring in new members to the organization. It's that simple – or it should be. The problem, as we know and appreciate, is the fact that obtaining personal information on active duty or retired military personnel is not an easy task. That information is kept confidential and private by government agencies. This creates a road block before we even get started. That said, we are not giving up, TREA's mission is real and vital because we ARE THE VOICE OF THE ENLISTED. Our efforts to bring in new members can be greatly increased if each and every one of you participates in the recruitment of at least one new member. Imagine how amazing that would be? (More about this new program on page 28)

TSCL Royalty Revenue: The royalty that TREA receives from TSCL continues to decline as they experience the same downward trend in fundraising as all other donor based organizations. Working together with the TSCL Board of Trustees, the TREA board agreed to reduce the trademark fee from 25% down to 18%. This should provide much needed financial relief for TSCL; however, it does come at a cost to TREA. The Trademark fee for the first Quarter of 2019 was \$23,750 – this is a \$8,402 increase from the 2018 1st quarter fee but an overall decrease of \$38,743 from just two years ago.

Convention: There has been much discussion surrounding this topic – views from all angles have been shared, dissected and pondered. The question remains: As a non-profit organization, are we utilizing our finances properly by continuing to host an annual convention for such a small invested group of attendees? My answer today would have to be – no – BUT, I think it is possible to find a way to hold an annual meeting that would continue to allow members to come together to discuss and make important decisions for TREA without obligating TREA to a large expense. Simply put, we must find a way to conduct proper business

Leading Acid Reflux Pill Becomes an Anti-Aging Phenomenon

Clinical studies show breakthrough acid reflux treatment also helps maintain vital health and helps protect users from the serious conditions that accompany aging such as fatigue and poor cardiovascular health

by David Waxman
Seattle Washington:

A clinical study on a leading acid reflux pill shows that its key ingredient relieves digestive symptoms while suppressing the inflammation that contributes to premature aging in men and women.

And, if consumer sales are any indication of a product's effectiveness, this 'acid reflux pill turned anti-aging phenomenon' is nothing short of a miracle.

Sold under the brand name AloeCure, it was already backed by clinical data documenting its ability to provide all day and night relief from heartburn, acid reflux, constipation, irritable bowel, gas, bloating, and more.

But soon doctors started reporting some incredible results...

"With AloeCure, my patients started reporting less joint pain, more energy, better sleep, stronger immune systems... even less stress and better skin, hair, and nails" explains Dr. Liza Leal; a leading integrative health specialist and company spokesperson.

AloeCure contains an active ingredient that helps improve digestion by acting as a natural acid-buffer that improves the pH balance of your stomach.

Scientists now believe that this acid imbalance is what contributes to painful inflammation throughout the rest of the body.

The daily allowance of AloeCure has shown to calm this inflammation which is why AloeCure is so effective.

Relieving other stressful symptoms related to GI health like pain, bloating, fatigue, cramping, constipation, diarrhea, heartburn, and nausea.

Now, backed with new clinical studies, AloeCure is being recommended by doctors everywhere to help improve digestion, calm painful inflammation, soothe joint pain, and even reduce the appearance of wrinkles – helping patients to look and feel decades younger.

FIX YOUR GUT & FIGHT INFLAMMATION

Since hitting the market, sales for AloeCure have taken off and there are some very good reasons why.

To start, the clinical studies have been impressive. Participants taking the active ingredient in AloeCure saw a stunning 100% improvement in digestive symptoms, which includes fast and lasting relief from reflux.

Users also experienced higher energy levels and endurance, relief from chronic discomfort and better sleep. Some even reported healthier looking skin, hair, and nails.

A healthy gut is the key to a reducing swelling and inflammation that can wreak havoc on the human body. Doctors say this is why AloeCure works on so many aspects of your health.

AloeCure's active ingredient is made from the healing compound found in Aloe vera. It is both safe and healthy. There are also no known side effects.

Scientists believe that it helps improve digestive and immune health by acting as a natural acid-buffer that improves the pH balance of your stomach.

Research has shown that this acid imbalance contributes to painful inflammation throughout your entire body and is why AloeCure seems to be so effective.

EXCITING RESULTS FROM PATIENTS

To date over 5 million bottles of AloeCure have been sold, and the community seeking non-pharma therapy for their GI health continues to grow.

According to Dr. Leal, her patients are absolutely thrilled with their results and are often shocked by how fast it works.

"For the first time in years, they are free from concerns about their digestion and almost every other aspect of their health," says Dr. Leal, "and I recommend it to everyone who wants to improve GI health without resorting to drugs, surgery, or OTC medications."

"I was always in 'indigestion hell.' Doctors put me on all sorts of antacid remedies. Nothing worked. Dr. Leal recommended I try AloeCure. And something remarkable happened... Not only were all the issues I had with my stomach gone - completely gone - but I felt less joint pain and I was able to actually sleep through the night."

With so much positive feedback, it's easy to see why the community of believers is growing and sales for the new pill are soaring.

THE SCIENCE BEHIND ALOECURE

AloeCure is a pill that's taken just once daily. The pill is small. Easy to swallow. There are no harmful side effects and it does not require a prescription.

The active ingredient is a rare Aloe Vera component known as acemannan.

Made from 100% organic Aloe Vera, AloeCure uses a proprietary process that results in the highest quality, most bio-available levels of acemannan known to exist.

According to Dr. Leal and several of her colleagues, improving the pH balance of your stomach and restoring gut health is the key to revitalizing your entire body.



When your digestive system isn't healthy, it causes unwanted stress on your immune system, which results in inflammation in the rest of the body.

The recommended daily allowance of acemannan in AloeCure has been proven to support digestive health, and calm painful inflammation without side effects or drugs.

This would explain why so many users are experiencing impressive results so quickly.

REVITALIZE YOUR ENTIRE BODY

With daily use, AloeCure helps users look and feel decades younger and defend against some of the painful inflammation that accompanies aging and can make life hard.

By buffering stomach acid and restoring gut health, AloeCure calms painful inflammation and will help improve digestion... soothe aching joints... reduce the appearance of wrinkles and help restore hair and nails ... manage cholesterol and oxidative stress... and improve sleep and brain function... without side effects or expense.

Readers can now reclaim their energy, vitality, and youth regardless of age or current level of health.

One AloeCure Capsule Daily

- Helps End Digestion Nightmares
- Helps Calm Painful Inflammation
- Soothes Stiff & Aching Joints
- Reduces appearance of Wrinkles & Increases Elasticity
- Manages Cholesterol & Oxidative Stress
- Supports Healthy Immune System
- Improves Sleep & Brain Function

HOW TO GET ALOECURE

Due to the enormous interest consumers have shown in AloeCure, the company has decided to extend their nationwide savings event for a little while longer. Here's how it works...

Call the AloeCure number and speak to a live person in the US. Callers will be greeted by a knowledgeable and friendly person approved to offer up to 3 FREE bottles of AloeCure with your order. AloeCure's Toll-Free number is **1-800-808-6379**. Only a limited discounted supply of AloeCure is currently available.

Consumers who miss out on the current product inventory will have to wait until more becomes available and that could take weeks. They will also not be guaranteed any additional savings. The company advises not to wait. Call **1-800-808-6379** today.



TREA'S FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Deb Oelschig, Treasurer

while minimizing TREA's financial liability. TREA is; after all, a membership organization and we need to continue to respect and value that. The voices of ALL of our members are important. Are you engaged in TREA? If not, why? What can we do to change that? TREA has always been YOUR organization and as such, it requires your involvement. Please take a moment to help us help TREA, which in turn helps you by allowing us to continue our support and advocacy efforts into the future. We encourage you to reach out to us to tell us what you think and what we can do to help make this happen. (treahq@trea.org or 800-338-9337)

For now, we need to be financially smart in all decisions that we make. This includes, but is not limited to convention. I will do my best, as your Treasurer to stand strong in my conviction that our funds belong to the members and it is them that we are here to serve, and it is our responsibility to ensure that TREA is able to continue its mission "to enhance the quality of life for uniformed services enlisted personnel, their families and survivors – including veterans, active components, reserve components, and all retirees; to stop the erosion of earned benefits through our legislative efforts; maintain our esprit de corps, dedications and patriotism; and to continue our devotion and allegiance to God and country". (TREA's Mission Statement – quoted)

The FY 2018 audit follows this report. It is extremely important for you to understand that the income TREA received in 2018 was derived from isolated events. These unique opportunities will not happen again. The income included the sale of the Headquarter building, the final disposition of NAUS and a onetime grant from the Memorial Foundation for Scholarships. This made up the 2018 income that is reported in the audit. Although it appears that TREA made a large net profit for FY 18, the financial fact is that, we actually had a rather large operational deficit. Let me explain – TREA's operations (Membership, fundraising, convention, The VOICE magazine – basically everything that TREA has control over) resulted in a \$280K loss for the year. Fortunately, we had the abovementioned exclusive financial windfalls that allowed us to show a net profit...on paper. We must be forever vigilant as this perceived profit can lead one to believe that TREA is financially stable and this is just not the fact. We do not have another building to sell and as far as we know, there is not another organization coming our way. We must find a way to be self-sufficient.

The proposed 2020 budget follows the audit report. The Finance Committee and the TREA BOD put a lot of time and effort into the FY20 budget, but as you can see, we have been forced to use the investment funds to balance the budget. Investment funds should never be considered a source of income. This practice of using investment funds to balance the budget is not solid business practice.

For many years we have talked about 'change'. TREA is making changes and I hope that you can see them. One of the biggest efforts can be seen in the Legislative Office. The modification in the title of Director (and Deputy Director) of Legislative Affairs, to Director (and Deputy Director) of Veterans and Military Policy. This change updates the positions and their responsibilities to be more on par with those of other VSO organizations. When in DC, it is important to be seen as equal to your counterparts, it all starts with the title – it needs to demand recognition. With this new title comes a new face - Ken Greenberg, the new Director of Veterans and Military Policy brings a world of experience and knowledge to the position and has made tremendous progress in the short time he has been with us. This is just the beginning, more progress and innovative developments will be coming. It is in the proper understanding behind these transitions that lies our successful future.

The current TREA BOD is dedicated to this effort and we are relying on you, the TREA member for your continued support.

Wow! A Simple to Use Computer Designed Especially for Seniors!

Easy to read. Easy to see. Easy to use. Just plug it in!



"I love this computer! It is easy to read and to use! I get photo updates from my children and grandchildren all the time."

– Janet F.

Have you ever said to yourself "I'd love to get a computer, if only I could figure out how to use it." Well, you're not alone. Computers were supposed to make our lives simpler, but they've gotten so complicated that they are not worth the trouble. With all of the "pointing and clicking" and "dragging and dropping" you're lucky if you can figure out where you are. Plus, you are constantly worrying about viruses and freeze-ups. If this sounds familiar, we have great news for you. There is finally a computer that's designed for simplicity and ease of use. It's the WOW Computer, and it was designed with you in mind. This computer is easy-to-use, worry-free and literally puts the world at

your fingertips. From the moment you open the box, you'll realize how different the WOW Computer is. The components are all connected; all you do is plug it into an outlet and your high-speed Internet connection. Then you'll see the screen – it's now 22 inches. This is a completely new touch screen system, without the cluttered look of the normal computer screen. The "buttons" on the screen are easy to see and easy to understand. All you do is touch one of them, from the Web, Email, Calendar to Games– you name it... and a new screen opens up. It's so easy to use you won't have to ask your children or grandchildren for help. Until now, the very people who could benefit most from E-mail and the Internet are the ones that have had the hardest time accessing it. Now, thanks to the WOW Computer, countless older Americans are discovering the wonderful world of the Internet every day. Isn't it time

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16% more viewing area
Simple navigation – so you never get lost
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THE RETIRED ENLISTED ASSOCIATION, INC.

SUPPLEMENTAL CONSOLIDATING SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

for the Year Ended, December 31, 2018

Consolidated Audit for year ending December 31st, 2018

	TREA	TSCL	Foundation	Eliminations	Restricted	TOTAL
REVENUE						
Contributions	264,771	4,524,929	24,287		222,337	4,813,987
Gain on sale of Building	874,514					874,514
Membership Dues	250,995					250,995
Mailing List Income		84,551	48,317			132,868
Life Insurance	122,592					122,592
Expense Reimbursement	117,189					117,189
Royalty Income	87,507					87,507
Convention	30,671					30,671
Advertising	19,246					19,246
Store Sales	10,286					10,286
Trademark	115,076			(115,076)		-
Management Fee	56,850			(56,850)		-
Investment Loss	(232,797)	(56,577)	(17,213)			(306,587)
Other	4,467					4,467
Net Assets released from restriction	8,500				(8,500)	8,500
TOTAL REVENUE	1,729,867	4,552,903	55,391	(171,926)	213,837	6,166,235

EXPENSE

Public Education	69,562	2,066,134		(28,769)		2,106,927
Government Affairs	193,272	1,287,387		(49,483)		1,431,176
Membership Service/Retention	221,971					221,971
VOICE Magazine	125,572					125,572
Scholarship & Grants			382,798	(222,337)		160,461
Membership Education/Training	59,300					59,300
Outreach & Education			2,953			2,953
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	669,677	3,353,521	385,751	(300,589)		4,108,360

Supporting Services

Management & General	318,653	226,418	123,013	(92,523)		575,561
Membership Recruitment	23,354					23,354
Fundraising	149,133	1,092,602	11,380	(1,151)		1,251,964
TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	491,140	1,319,020	134,393	(93,674)		1,850,879
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,160,817	4,672,541	520,144	(394,263)		5,959,239

Reduction of Accounts Payable		255,555				255,555
Change in net assets	569,050	135,917	(464,753)		213,837	454,051

Net Assets, beginning of Year	2,257,266	319,261	939,386			3,515,913
Net Asset, End of Year	2,826,316	455,208	474,633		213,837	3,969,994

PROPOSED 2020 BUDGET

Revenue Budget Worksheet	
	Proposed 2020
Voice Advertising	12,000
TREA Accessories (includes JROTC)	12,000
Shipping Rcvd from customers for orders	4,000
Royalties	77,500
Fundraising	193,000
Interest/Gain on Investments	70,000
Convention - Registration	20,500
TSCL Trademark	106,500
Membership (includes Renewals)	265,000
Acquisition	39,000
Life Claims from NEBCO	122,592
TOTAL REVENUE	922,092

TOTAL EXPENSE 1,022,034

Transfer from Investment to balance 99,942

NET Budget Surplus/(Deficit) -

Expense Summary Worksheet	
	Proposed 2020
Five Year Plan	25
Ad Hoc Committee	1,000
Bylaws & Standing Rules	50
Convention	48,931
Pre-Convention Committee	1,200
Finance Committee	125
Information Technology	25
Legislative Affairs Committee	1,200
Membership Committee	10,000
Parliamentarian	200
Past National President/Awards	2,575
President	5,550
Public Relations	3,600
Scholarships	18,000
VOICE	95,000
VSO	300
Washington Legislative Office	207,110
Company Expenses (next pg)	70,755
Death Certificate Request	9,516
Membership Database	17,788
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	492,950
Headquarters	350,000
Board of Directors	6,584
NEBCO (Life Insurance premiums)	10,500
Renewals - in house	12,000
Fundraising	100,000
Acquisition	50,000
TOTAL PROGRAMS	529,084
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,022,034

Scholarships are not calculated in these totals. The funds for that are separate from the TREA Operating Fund.

Doctors Shocked by New Nasal & Sinus Pill That Works in Amazing Way

New discovery targets *infected throat mucus* - to stop post nasal drip, congestion, runny noses, coughing, sneezing, ringing ears, and sore throats

By Wayne B. Roberts

Associated Health Press

Researchers at Johns Hopkins Hospital have recently discovered that stuffed up noses and other nasal problems are often totally unrelated to colds or flu!

Instead, these doctors found that in many cases, the real cause of nasal problems is ... fungus! Specifically, it's the 38 different harmful fungi which you inhale in the air you breathe. For instance, in one study of 210 people with sinus infections, 96% of them had fungus in their mucus.

Did you know you take roughly 24,000 breaths daily, inhaling 90 percent of the infection-causing fungi in your body through your nose? Or that insulation with poor ventilation, plus indoor mold and air pollutants, have triggered a plague of sinus and nasal problems affecting millions?

How? These harmful fungi hide in your throat, where they infect your mucus, causing your nasal passages to swell up.

Result: Congestion, dripping mucus, runny nose, endless sneezing, constant coughing, ringing in your ears, sore throat, and tenderness of the face. *No wonder millions of sinus sufferers are now rejoicing about this new solution!*

The only way to get rid of infected mucus

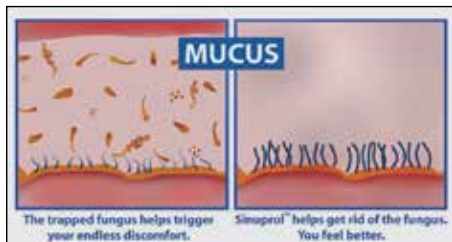
Antibiotics, antihistamines, and steroid-containing nasal sprays are no help in fighting sinus infection. In fact, over-the-counter decongestant sprays can actually harm the small hairs lining your nose, causing mucus to build up even more.

But now, a breakthrough 100% natural formula, **SinuProl**, is the first nasal treatment that can actually help *remove infected mucus from your nose*. No other solutions do that!

By flushing infected mucus out of your system, SinuProl can dry up runny noses, end constant coughing, and unclog your swollen nasal channels. And do it better and faster than any medication you can buy at a drug store!

The natural alternative to nasal sprays

SinuProl is a unique all-natural, drug-free formulation. It includes the plant pigment querce-



tin, pine bark extract, butterbur leaf, feverfew, stinging nettle, and other infection-fighting herbs.

A clinical study recently published in the Journal Phytotherapy Research found that *pine bark extract* reduced nasal symptoms by almost 21% more than a placebo.

The pine bark works synergistically with 9 additional nutrients to remove fungi-infected mucus from stuffed nasal passageways. Nothing else even comes close!

Only SinuProl lessens inflammation and boosts your immune system to help fight fungi, germs, and bacteria lurking in your mucus. The pill also supports your upper respiratory system, so that you breathe more freely.

Runny nose - should you be worried?

A stuffed-up nose may be just a cold. Or, it may be something far worse: a sinus infection, otherwise known as "sinusitis." According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), about 37 million Americans suffer from sinusitis.

Serious cases of sinusitis can lead to blood clots and brain infection, causing abscesses, meningitis, and even death!

The sinus infection can also spread to your facial bones, triggering headaches, fever, and swelling in the eye socket -- which in some cases can cause loss of vision.

Don't let sinus infections fester

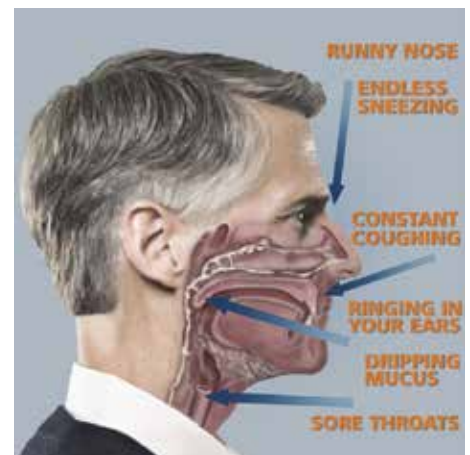
"When you have nasal and sinus problems for longer than 7 to 12 days, that means it's almost certainly sinusitis," says Dr. Ryan Shelton, a medical doctor from Seattle. "I advise patients to take SinuProl right away to quickly get rid of fungus-ridden mucus, before the infection gets worse and causes them more problems."

Dr. Eric Wood, a naturopathic doctor from Florida with multiple TV appearances observes: "Fungi-infected mucus clumps and adheres to nasal airways, making breathing difficult. SinuProl dissolves that sticky mucus -- and the fungi within it -- so it flushes right out of your system when you blow your nose."

"Once SinuProl removes all the fungus from your nose mucus, it eliminates the only reason your immune system has attacked," says Dr. Wood. "By doing so, SinuProl clears your nasal passages, making it easy to breathe again while stopping your nose from running."

Helps with allergies, too.

"Allergic rhinitis" is a chronic nose cold sparked by an allergy attack. SinuProl can help end the sneezing, watery eyes, and congestion caused by allergic rhinitis. How? By blocking and sweeping out dust, mold, pollen, fungus, and animal hair



STUNNING RESEARCH SHOWS that 38 different kinds of harmful fungus may be hidden in your mucus, causing sinus nightmares. Now a new doctor approved treatment dissolves infected mucus to help you breathe easier.

before they cause bigger problems.

In a study appearing in *Advances in Therapy*, 580 patients took 16 mg of butterbur leaf extract, an active ingredient in SinuProl, daily for 2 weeks. The symptoms of allergic rhinitis, which included sneezing and congestion, improved in 90% of the participants.

Keeps your nose fungus-free

Having sinus infection is not the norm: The National Institutes of Health reports that "healthy sinuses contain no bacteria or other germs. Mucus is able to drain out and air is able to circulate."

Whether your sinus discomfort is the result of an allergy, a fungus, viral in nature, or from a bacterial infection, SinuProl can help you feel a whole lot better. SinuProl is manufactured in an FDA-registered facility. And comes in an easy to swallow pill.

Could this be the end...of pesky nasal drip?

SinuProl is GUARANTEED to work great for you -- or you PAY NOTHING with a 90-day unconditional money-back guarantee. No prescription or doctor visit is required.

If SinuProl does not rapidly clear up your sinus and nasal symptoms ... or you are dissatisfied for any other reason (or for no reason at all) ... just returned the unused portion or even the empty bottles for a prompt product refund. That way, you risk nothing.

Special Offer For Readers

This is the official nationwide release of SinuProl in the United States. And so, the company is offering a special discount supply.

A Regional Order Hotline has been set up for local readers to call. This gives everyone an equal chance to try SinuProl. Starting at 7:00am today, the order hotline will be open.

All you have to do is call **TOLL-FREE 1-888-366-1150** and provide the operator with the special discount approval code: SNP142. The company will do the rest.

Important: Due to SinuProl's recent media exposure phone lines are often busy. If you call, and do not immediately get through, please be patient and call back.

These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. All doctors mentioned are remunerated for their services. All clinical studies on SinuProl's active ingredient were independently conducted and were not sponsored by the makers of SinuProl. All product and company names are registered trademarks of their respective holders. Use of them does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement by them.

TREA's 56th Anniversary & National Convention is coming to Denver, CO



Date: Thursday, September 18th – Friday, September 20th, 2019

Place: Double Tree, by Hilton - 3203 Quebec Street, Denver CO 80207

Room Rates: \$119 (plus sales tax and room tax)

Reservations: call 303-321-3333 or go to our website, www.trea.org and click on the red convention box to the right for a link to the hotel.

Deadline for Registration: August 15th, 2019

Closest Airport: Denver International (DEN)

There is no hotel shuttle to/from the airport. Uber and Lyft will cost you approx. \$27 for a car load (this is cost effective when sharing the ride with other convention attendees). Super Shuttle is also available for a cost of \$27.00/ per person/each way.

Registration Fee: \$175 - this includes: Registration Packet, Invitation to the Welcome Reception (light appetizers, cash bar), Opening Ceremony (Mayor remarks, Guest Speaker), 2 Business Meetings, Award Luncheon (Grilled Chicken, plated lunch), Presidential Hospitality (light appetizer, 2 drink tickets, cash bar), President's Dinner (BBQ Buffet, cash bar, Guest Speaker, DJ, dancing and a little extra 'fun' thrown in for good measure).

If you cannot attend this convention but wish to support TREA and its mission by making a donation, you can do that by going to our website (www.trea.org) and clicking on the 'DONATE NOW' button, or by sending it to TREA. We are doing some great things in Washington and we can only continue these efforts with your support. Thank you.

Good News for Americans, Bad News for Pain Drugs.

Millions are expected to benefit from a new technology that's proven to relieve severe joint discomfort in a matter of days.

US- Several drug companies are expected to lose millions in sales as consumers have a new alternative to popular joint health products.

The alternative, a pill, was developed earlier this year by a private company in Seattle.

Using a new 8-million dollar technology, studies show it can relieve severe joint discomfort in just days.

And when compared to a leading prescription, this relief was stronger and longer lasting at the 30 day mark.

So what's the secret behind this new pill called VeraFlex? It's called immune modulation and it may be the biggest breakthrough we've had in years.

The Science Behind Relief

Research shows that the joint stiffness, soreness and discomfort associated with arthritis is caused by inflammation which attacks healthy cartilage and protective tissue.

And according to top medical professionals, this inflammation is caused by two inflammatory enzymes released by the body's immune system.

The active ingredients in *VeraFlex* help to block the production of these enzymes, resulting in a dramatic decreasing in swelling, inflammation, and discomfort.

Right now, the leading over-the-counter pills are only able to block one of these enzymes!

"*VeraFlex* users can generally expect more flexibility in three days...their joint pain alleviated in five days...and in just seven days, a tremendous improvement in overall joint function that may help them move like they did years prior" explains Dr. Liza Leal, developer and spokesperson for *VeraFlex*.

Piling on the Clinical Research

Remarkably, the key ingredient in *VeraFlex* is protected by 8 patents and is backed by over 8-million dollar in research. It's also been studied in two clinical trials.

In the first, 60 participants with rheumatoid arthritis and/or osteoarthritis were randomly placed into four groups.

Two groups were given the

patented ingredient in *VeraFlex*, one was given the drug Celecoxib, and the last group a placebo. The results were monitored at 30, 60, and 90 days.

The data collected by researchers was stunning.

The groups taking the *VeraFlex* ingredient saw staggering improvements in arthritis symptoms such as flexibility, discomfort and function.

And even more astonishing they experienced a dramatic reduction in pain by the 30-day mark that was even better than Celecoxib, a powerful drug!

A second study was conducted to ensure the data was accurate and again the results participants experienced taking the *VeraFlex* compound blew away researchers.

This time it beat out the drug Naproxen. Shockingly, both men and women experienced a reduction in joint stiffness two days faster than when using Naproxen.

"I have to admit I was surprised when I read the initial findings" explains Leal. "But when you look at the science it just makes sense. It's going to change everything."

Faster Delivery, Maximum Absorption

VeraFlex is comprised of two patented ingredients: Unvestin, a powerful immune modulator which blocks the enzymes which cause your joints to hurt and an absorption enhancer (accelerator) that ensures maximum potency.

Research shows that severe joint discomfort arises when the immune system goes haywire and releases COX and LOX into your blood stream, two enzymes that causes tremendous swelling and inflammation around cartilage and protective tissue.

Over time, this inflammation overwhelms the joint and it begins to deteriorate resulting in a daily battle with chronic pain.

Unfortunately, modern day pain pills are only able block only one of these enzymes, resulting in marginal relief and continued suffering.

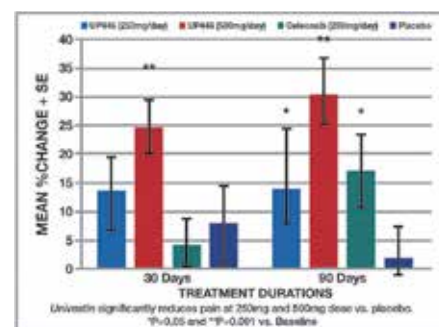


This new technology is now encapsulated in this pill. It reprograms the body to block painful inflammation instead of creating it.

The Unvestin in *VeraFlex* is one of the only known substances which has been proven successful in blocking both enzymes, resulting in phenomenal relief from the worst kinds of discomfort.

The accelerator, a unique extract of aloe vera, maximizes the delivery of the plant based Unvestin extract to every joint in the body because it is proven to improve nutrient absorption for maximum results.

Aloe Vera also is proven to support the body's immune system which manages inflammation, further supporting relief.



How to Claim a Free 3-Month Supply Of VeraFlex

Due to the enormous interest consumers have shown in *VeraFlex*, the company has decided to extend their nationwide savings event for a little while longer. Here's how it works...

Call the *VeraFlex* number and speak to a live person in the US. Callers will be greeted by a knowledgeable and friendly person approved to offer up to 3 FREE bottles of *VeraFlex* with your order. *VeraFlex's* Toll-Free number is 1-800-235-5446. Only a limited discounted supply of *Veraflex* is currently available.

Consumers who miss out on the current product inventory will have to wait until more becomes available and that could take weeks. They will also not be guaranteed any additional savings. The company advises not to wait. Call 1-800-235-5446 today.

CONVENTION UPDATES

Phil Hilinski, President



Here are some updates. First, the Business Meetings will only be a day and a half. There will be a breakout session for Chapter Reps and MALs. We will pay a special tribute to a great person, PNP Dottie Holmes prepared by the TREA Chaplain; we hope some of Dottie's family can attend. We need a few more recipes for the joint TREA and TREA Aux Cookbook Program which may include a visit from a special PNC, Past National Chef. I will be hosting a fun event Friday night called the 'Wild West' so wear your western gear and be prepared to taste my special recipe 'Cavalry Punch'. It will knock your spurs off. Be sure

you do not get arrested or you may have to provide a donation to Membership Incentives to get out of jail. There will be prizes like first-time attendees and other special activities. Free time on Saturday will be Reunion Time and not a part of the official convention so you can do what you like; however, TREA will give you some options especially for out-of-townners. We are waiting for your opinion for places to go either by choosing ones on the TREA Website or someplace you would recommend. Chapters and even groups may want to plan their own get-together during the reunion time—this may be a once a year opportunity to reconnect with friends so it's up to you.

To re-cap,

- Monday we will invite the local Veteran Community and Military Installations for a social mixer. Anyone who has an interest in TREA is invited to attend. This event will be hosted by TREA 3rd Vice Coley.
- Tuesday TSCL Pre-Con Meetings during the day. TREA Chapter 39 will have a Social Mixer at their club for a small fee—all are invited. See page 41, or go to the TREA website for details and contact information. RSVP's are required to ensure enough food and drinks.
- Wednesday is TREA Board Pre-Con Meetings during the day. Chapters may want to have their own get-together or spend extra time with our vendors. Evening will be a Welcome Hospitality and TREA Opening Ceremony as the Official Start of the TREA Convention.
- Thursday is the first Business meeting during the day. In the evening, a Social Mixer hosted by TREA Chapter 3 is planned for a small fee. See page 27 & 28 , or go to the TREA website for details and contact information. RSVP's are required to ensure enough food and drinks.
- Friday is half-day Business Meeting in the Morning. Afternoon is Q&A, Breakout Sessions and TREA Board Post-Con. Friday Evening is President's Dinner/Swearing-in of (of new officers), at the end of the event I will 'Bang the Gavel' to end the official TREA Convention.
- Saturday is for reunion time, use TREA's suggested events or come up with your own.

Finally, during convention take a few minutes to talk with Board and Staff Members.

Hope to see you, Phil

TREA's 56th Anniversary & National Convention is coming to Denver, CO



While the convention is officially over, Denver and the surrounding areas still have much to offer - A few suggestions, they were:

1. Blackhawk/Central City Casino Trip
2. Denver Botanical Gardens
3. Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum
4. High Tea at the infamous Brown Palace

Please refer back the Spring issue of The VOICE or the TREA website for details on these trips. All trips will need a minimum – so let us know today if you are interested.

Remember, the hotel offers an on-site car rental kiosk, so you can plan what you want for Saturday and make your own special tour of Denver.

CONVENTION 'BEFORE & AFTER HOUR' EVENTS

Don't forget – we have two great events planned that are in addition to the official convention events. The two local chapters are offering events for all attendees. These events are not part of the convention registration fee and advanced reservations and payments are required.

On Tuesday, September 17th, Chapter 39 will be offering a dinner of hamburgers, hot dogs, grilled chicken assorted salads & cake. Trivia entertainment will be provided. Social hour will begin at 5 with a cash bar, dinner will be served at 6 and trivia entertainment will take place after dinner. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Chapter 39 is located at 15821 E Centretch Circle in Aurora and is less than 10 miles from the hotel. It will take approximately 25 minutes leaving the hotel at 4:30 pm. Please reach out to Chapter 39 President, Chuck Baum at president@trea39.org or 303-888-9669 for more information or to make reservations.



TREA's 56th Anniversary & National Convention is coming to Denver, CO



On Thursday, September 19th, Chapter 3 will be offering Catfish, Brisket, Fruits, Antipasto Salad, Potato Salad, French Fries & Dinner Rolls. The price has not yet been determined, but will include transportation to/from the hotel. Karaoke and DJ with Dancing will follow dinner for a fun and festive evening. Chapter 3 is located at 1599 Dayton Street in Aurora and is about 3 miles from the hotel. It will take you approximately 15 minutes when leaving the hotel starting at 4:00pm.

Please contact Chapter 3 President, Glenn Blassingame Sr, at 303-902-3078 or Auxiliary President Audrey McCray at 303-921-2548 for more information or to secure your reservation.

CONVENTION INFORMATION Member Bash in Colorado!

Before we begin this convention, there will be a TREA event the evening of Monday 16 September at the Double Tree, by Hilton – 3203 Quebec Street, Denver CO 80207. Expect an evening of fun, fellowship and serious talk. This event promotes interaction between local chapters, MAL's, potential members and the community. National officers and headquarters staff will be available to discuss our organization and what we are doing together. This event is sponsored by Colorado Chapters 1, 3, 20, 39, and 113. You can contact any of them for more details



TREAT YOURSELF BY HELPING TREA - Here how this works.

For each new member that you bring into TREA, you will receive one raffle ticket for a \$50 gift card to a restaurant (of your choice). There is no limit to how many tickets you can receive – just keep bringing in new members. This event runs from August 1st through the end of the year and everyone is invited to participate.

The winning ticket will be drawn on January 10th, 2020. The winner will be announced in the February issue of The VOICE magazine along with all the names of everyone who helped bring new members into TREA.

Everyone is a winner in this friendly competition because even if you don't win the gift card, you win by helping TREA grow and become stronger, which in turn helps our lobbying efforts in Washington. Numbers matter in that arena, so let's have a little fun while helping TREA grow.

A special thank you to Treasurer Oelschig and DFO Osborne for sponsoring this event.

INDEX OF PROPOSED BYLAWS & STANDING RULE CHANGES

NUMBER / TITLE

Article II / Object

This is basically a reformatting of the same words. It says the same things but in a clearer and more concise manner.

Committee Recommendation: N/A

National Board Recommendation: Approval

Article III, Section 1 / Regular

This change defines how a spouse membership will be handled in the case of a divorce from the military member.

Committee Recommendation: Approval

National Board Recommendation: Approval

Article III, Section 1 / Membership

This change will undo the change approved in 2018, in allowing spouses to become members of TREA.

Committee Recommendation: N/A

National Board Recommendation: Disapproval

Article V, Section 1 / Elected Officers

This change would eliminate 2 of the Director positions

Committee Recommendation: Approval

National Board Recommendation: Approval

Article X, Section 1a / Frequency

This change simply eliminates the word (convention) and leaves everything else the same.

Committee Recommendations: N/A

National Board Recommendation: Approval

Article X, Section(s) 3-5 / Membership Sessions

This submitted change incorporates several changes:

Basically it allows every TREA member the ability to vote in person, by mail or by internet-based voting system. This change eliminates the Chapter Delegate system that is currently based on Chapter numbers. Because of the ability to vote in person, by mail or by internet-based voting system, the need for proxy voting is eliminated.

Committee Recommendation: N/A

National Board Recommendation: Approval

Article XVI / Colors, Seal and Logo

This change takes out the specific definition of what the logo is, allowing it to be defined by the current trademark and copyright documents.

Committee Recommendation: Approval

National Board Recommendation: Approval

Standing Rule 1, Par 7c / Other Possible Conflicts of Interest

This change protects the organization from any perception of self-giving by not allowing the family of any board member/trustee or staff to be eligible to apply for any scholarship program.

Committee Recommendation: Approval

National Board Recommendation: Approval



INDEX OF PROPOSED BYLAWS & STANDING RULE CHANGES

Standing Rule 4, Par 5b / Compensation

This change is simple – it states that no PNP can incur any expenses in which reimbursement may be sought without the advanced approval of the sitting President

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 8, Appendix 1, Par 2 / Group II – National Chapter Awards

This is a new section – and it adds an award for social media.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 8, Appendix 1, Par. 1 / TREA Member of the Year

This change mandates that this award be given to the TREA member based on actions/activity they have performed on behalf of TREA at a national level versus a local level.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 8, Appendix 1 / Chapter President of the Year Award

This changes the award presented to Chapter Presidents of the Year to a Certificate of Appreciation and \$50.00.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 8, Group 2 / Chapter President of the Year

This change prohibits chapter presidents from nominating themselves for this award. The nomination must come from a chapter member.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 8, Group IV / Community Service Award

This change reflects the need for this award to be presented based on community service, not service to TREA or its chapter or members.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 8, Para. 5a / Recommendation for Existing Awards

This change adds the requirement of providing verification to substantiate the service provided and for which the award is given.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 18, Para.2b / Past National Board Members

This change is to remove the direction to contact Headquarters to purchase this product. It is no longer being produced, so is therefore no longer available for purchase.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Standing Rule 18, Para. 6 / Logo Patch Description and Wear

This change reflects the new circle logo – it is simply an update.

Committee Recommendation: Approval **National Board Recommendation:** Approval

Please visit our website (www.trea.org) for all the details and full paperwork on all of these submissions.



2019 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

September 18th - 20th, 2019

DOUBLE TREE, by Hilton Denver

3203 Quebec Street, Denver CO 80207

Rooms: Standard - \$119+ (free on-site parking)

For hotel reservations, call 800-774-1500 and give code "TRA"

Send completed form and payment to:

TREA: Convention

12200 E. Briarwood Ave, Ste 250

Centennial, CO 80112

Fax: 303-752-0835 or

888-882-0835

Discounted rates are available until August 17th, 2019

Register online at www.TREA.ORG

Registering as: ☐ TREA ☐ AUXILIARY

☐ Chapter # _____ Delegate ☐ MAL Delegate ☐ National Board ☐ Past National President ☐ Guest
(Delegate status will be verified through HQ)

Member #: _____ Name (First, Last) _____

Name as it should appear on Name Badge - including position: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Tel #: _____ E-Mail: _____

In an effort to cut costs and keep the registration fee low, we are encouraging attendees to opt for the PDF or thumb drive format of the convention binder. PDF's will be sent via email no later than 9/15, thumb drives will be handed out at registration. There will only be enough physical binders for those who select it here. There will not be any extras. Thank you for supporting our efforts to be fiscally responsible.

Please circle **ONE** choice

a Physical Binder

a thumb drive (to be used on my
own electronic device)

an electronic PDF
(e-mail required)

REGISTRATION FEE: \$175.00 per person -

\$ 175.00

Registration fee includes: Registration Bag, Welcome Reception, Opening Ceremony, 2 days of business Meetings, Award Luncheon, President's Hospitality & President's Dinner / Entertainment

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS Joint Award Luncheon (9/19)
(For guests - and non-registrants) President's Dinner (9/20)

No. _____ \$45.00/each Total: \$ _____

No. _____ \$65.00/each Total: \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL: \$ _____

* Please note any dietary restrictions here _____

☐ I am paying by Check # _____

☐ Visa

☐ Master Card

☐ Discover

#: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Print Name as it appears on Card: _____

Refunds subject to a 25% Processing Fee - NO REFUNDS AFTER 8/17/2019



HELLO AND GREETINGS

National Auxiliary President, Pat Winds

The National Auxiliary Mid-Term meeting was held on May 1st and 2nd at the Rocky Mountain Lodge located on Buckley Air Force Base. We were honored with our guests who included TREA National President Phil Hilinski, PNP Marie Smith, PNP Sandy Ott and PNP Renee Keener. All Auxiliary Board Members were present, including our current APNP Irmgard Cates and our Past National Secretary Pat Weaver. We welcomed National President Hilinski, as he spoke to us about common interest and concerns related to TREA and TREA Auxiliary. This was a dialogue for open discussion, questions, and answers related to both sides. The PNP's that attended were able to ask questions and provide valuable information that give us insight leading us towards a more successful organization. Thank you again ladies for supporting us. Amendments submissions were addressed and suggested amendments changes have been forwarded to each chapter's president, please review prior to the convention.

My message will be short this time because I want to stay focus on the upcoming convention. I am so excited about the Annual Convention for TREA and TREA Auxiliary and this year my home town of Denver will be hosting this event. Colorado is represented by five chapters, Chapter 1, Colorado Springs, CO., Chapter 3 Aurora, CO., Chapter 39 Aurora, CO, Chapter 113 Fountain, CO. and Chapter 20, Pueblo, CO. All of us are looking forward to seeing you and welcoming you to our beautiful City of Denver and State of Colorado.

Along with other activities planned by the Convention Planning Committee, both local chapters 3 and 39 are looking forward to sharing and hosting their events that they have planned for us. On Tuesday September 17th, Chapter 39 will host a Bar-B-Que with other activities at their chapter located at 15821 E. Centretch Pkwy, Aurora, CO. 80011. On Thursday September 19th, Chapter 3 will host dinner and Karaoke Night. They are located at 1599 Dayton Street, Aurora, Co 80010. Each chapter will be supporting each other and look forward to entertaining with food, music and sprits. Both activities will give us plenty of time to socialize and visit with old and new friends. Please check your registration form for cost and RSVP information.

The auxiliary will hold our regular scheduled meetings on Wednesday and Thursday. However, in addition to our meetings we will have two special guests speaking to us in the afternoon. Their topics are not TREA related, but topics that could be informative and beneficial to us. The first topic will be on Nutrition and Diabetes; the second topic will be on Legal Assistance and information directed to retirees.

We are also planning a hospitality room with games and activities following our meeting. This will be an opportunity to get to know each other and enjoying our time together.

Remember this is not an election year, but we welcome anyone to become part of our committees at any time. You don't have to wait to sign up. Just talk to us and let us know what area you would like to be a part of with your service.

The National Auxiliary Board and I look forward to spending time with you, and we know you will have an enjoyable time, along with taking care of our business at hand. Thanking for your support and the best to you.

Texas Grandmother with Leg and Feet Problems Goes from Near Cripple to Walking Her Dog Daily

You don't have to suffer anymore. Doctors never tell you about these 7 natural herbs, yet millions of people in China have used them for relief of leg and feet problems for 3,000 years. In fact, they are guaranteed to relieve your problems and provide soothing comfort - or you pay nothing.

By Michael Plane —
National Health Press

Mary Lentz of Plano, Texas suffered for over twenty years from leg and feet problems. Doctors prescribed one prescription drug after another. Then electrical stimulation. Then surgery. But after all these treatments – her legs and feet actually felt worse.

Mary was fed up with suffering. She took matters into her own hands. At wit's end, she discovered the best herbs for natural relief. She took them, and within just days, her leg and feet problems began to disappear. Now she walks her Golden Retriever Max every day (which she couldn't do before), works in her garden and regularly plays tennis with friends.

"If I kept listening to my doctors, I'd be a cripple today. I'd be in a wheelchair or in a nursing home. I am so thankful for these remarkable herbs."

Leg and feet problems could have been almost like a death sentence for Mary – and a shame for her suffering family. It is a terrible way to live out what should be the best year of your life.

Neuropathy is like a wildfire. It starts with a small flame, but then quickly turns into a raging fire in your feet that never stops. Left alone or treated in a way that doesn't work, it can lead to constant suffering – or even one of the 86,000 Americans who need a limb amputated each year according to the National Institutes of Health.



"I had so much pain from burning nerves in my feet I could barely move...but this makes it calm down so I can walk and sleep. I really love this stuff. Other pills didn't work. It stops the nerves from hurting so bad. It is amazing. NeuroFlo lets me move and sleep pain-free. It is wonderful."

- Katerina King-McCausland, Murrieta, CA

At Last – You Don't Have To Suffer Anymore

Here's why you have these problems: Your arteries have weakened. Your arteries can't carry enough blood, nutrients and oxygen down to your legs and feet. This damages your nerves and causes your burning, tingling and numbness.

The 7 herbs in the pill NeuroFlo strengthen your arteries that carry blood, nutrients and oxygen to your feet and legs. It improves your circulation so oxygenated blood goes to the nerves and repairs them. This makes your nerves grow stronger so your pain fades away and your legs and feet feel much younger again.

Until now, scientists could not combine all these herbs into one pill without losing their full potency, but finally, they have succeeded.

Dr. Ryan Shelton, M.D. says "This is new and different. It works for people who've tried many other things before. It is natural with no side effects. Don't give up hope for your leg and feet pain, burning, tingling and numbing. This pill is working for countless people after other treatments have failed them." From word-of-mouth, over 30,000 doses of this Chinese miracle have already been sold in America.

Instead of letting their doctors control their health with no real relief, people are taking this natural approach. They are staying active and independent as they age – and creating a bright future they are excited about, instead of fearing. Now you too can enjoy your best years yet.

Conventional Treatments All Wrong

In America, drugs and other OTC formulas try to superficially suppress the symptoms. This may be going after the problem completely wrong. Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) believes nerve problems are largely caused by stagnant blood circulation. This causes your legs and feet NOT to get enough oxygen-rich, nutrient-rich blood they need to heal. The ingredients in NeuroFlo get this crucial blood flowing to your legs and feet like a fast-running river stream so they can feel better fast.

Want proof? To show how important oxygenated blood flow is, hold your breath. Hold it too long and you'll pass out. This is what's happening to your feet and legs now -- they are not getting the oxygenated



Chinese herbs provide fast relief of leg and feet tingling, burning and numbness. They do this by improving the flow of blood, nutrients and oxygen to your legs and feet to repair damaged nerves.

blood flow they need to feel healthy.

Now you can get a good night's sleep – peaceful, restful sleep – with no pain, tingling, zinging, itching or zapping. Improve your balance and coordination. No side effects – safe to take with other medications. Enjoy your favorite activities and hobbies again. Be more active, have more fun, enjoy life more. Don't risk irreversible damage to your feet and hands. Don't get worse and wind up in the hospital or a nursing home.

Neuroflo is GUARANTEED to work great for you – or you PAY NOTHING with a 90-day unconditional money-back guarantee. It is NOT sold in stores or online. No prescription or doctor visit is required.

Special Offer For Our Readers

This is the official nationwide release of NeuroFlo in the United States. And so, the company is offering a special discount supply.

A Regional Order Hotline has been set up for local readers to call. This gives everyone an equal chance to try NeuroFlo. Starting at 7:00am today, the order hotline will be open.

All you have to do is call **TOLL-FREE 1-888-376-4059** and provide the operator with the special discount approval code: **NEF158**. The company will do the rest.

Important: Due to NeuroFlo's recent media exposure phone lines are often busy. If you call, and do not immediately get through, please be patient and call back.



Proven Fast Natural Relief For:

- ☒ Blood Sugar Problems
- ☒ Varicose Veins
- ☒ Swollen Legs
- ☒ Spider Veins
- ☒ Aches & Weakness
- ☒ Many other leg & feet problems



CHAPLAIN CORNER

Most of us have far more blessings than we can count, but sometimes, instead of trying to count them, we lose sight of them altogether. We're not intentionally ungrateful, we're simply overworked, overstressed, and over-obligated. Nonetheless, we should pause at short intervals throughout each day to offer prayers of thanks for our blessings.

May we always give thanks to God for His blessings and may we always demonstrate our gratitude by sharing our gifts with others. Let's celebrate this day and the One who created it. May we invite our family and friends to join in the celebration?

Annette Harris
Auxiliary Chaplain

CHAPTER 80 AUXILIARY RECEIVES SPECIAL AWARD AND RECOGNITION FROM ALPHA PI ZETA CHAPTER

Chapter 80 Auxiliary members President Elaine Moreland and Vice President Juanita Higginbotham were special guests at the 80th Anniversary of Alpha Pi Zeta Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, where the auxiliary was recognized and received an award for chapter contributions to the Storks Nest, a program designed to promote healthy babies, safe deliveries and to prevent premature births and birth defects. The sorority is partnered with the March of Dimes. The event was held at the Airport Hilton in San Antonio.

The Director of the Storks Nest Program is Ginger Pope, Zeta Phi Beta Life Member. The classes are taught by the professionals in the sorority with disciplines in healthcare. There are two locations throughout the city, opened two days per week. Marie Smith, past national auxiliary president and sorority member, introduced the program to the auxiliary as a sponsor in 2013. The president of Alpha Pi Zeta Chapter is Charlene Richardson.



L-R: Sorority President Charlene Richardson with two other members of the Awards Committee present the award to Chapter 80 Auxiliary President Elaine Moreland and Vice President Juanita Higginbotham.



L-R: Auxiliary 80 Chapter member Geraldine Davis, Marguerite Sapp, Zeta Phi Beta and Chapter 80 Auxiliary member, Auxiliary President Elaine Moreland, Auxiliary Vice President Juanita Higginbotham and Past National Auxiliary President and Zeta Phi Beta member, Marie Smith



NEED a Helping Hand? TREA is here for you?



The Widows Emergency and Benevolent Fund of TREA National Auxiliary assists members who are experiencing financial difficulty in getting their basic and health related needs met.

**Vision Care *Dental Care *Hearing Aids
*Medical Supplies/Equipment *Hardship*

To apply for assistance, please call 1-800-808-4517 Ext. 1010. Leave your name and number and a program representative will call you back.

You are part of our TREA family and we want to help.

**Must be a member in good standing. One-time basis only. Some restrictions apply*



CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE ON SOCIAL SECURITY REFORM CONTINUES TO EVOLVE - By Jessie Gibbons, Legislative Director



In recent years, the Social Security reform debate has shifted from one centered around benefit cuts to one focused on benefit enhancements. I have witnessed this evolution first-hand while working for The Senior Citizens League (TSCL) over the past nine years. This summer I will be leaving The Senior Citizens League's legislative team and moving back to my home state of Wisconsin. While planning ahead for my move, I couldn't help but reflect on the past to the first congressional briefing I attended back in 2010.

It was a meeting of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform – an eighteen-member Presidential Commission that was tasked with reducing the federal deficit. In their final report, members of the commission recommended several Social Security benefit cuts to accomplish that goal, including increasing the eligibility age and cutting the annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs).

Due to the efforts of TSCL and other advocacy organizations, the plan released by the commission in 2010 failed to win the votes it needed to advance in Congress, and the Social Security reform debate has been evolving ever since. Fast forward nine years: I was recently excited to attend one last congressional hearing on the topic of Social Security reform before leaving Washington, D.C.

The final hearing I attended was titled "Protecting and Improving Social Security: Comprehensive Legislative Proposals to Enhance Social Security," and it was a far cry from the commission meeting I attended back in 2010. At the hearing, lawmakers on both sides of the aisle agreed that Congress must prioritize three Social Security reforms in particular: improving benefits for widows and widowers following the death of a spouse, creating a new special minimum benefit for those who worked long careers in low-paying jobs, and addressing the inequities created by the Windfall Elimination Provision that impacts millions of teachers, police officers, and other public employees.

Lawmakers at the hearing also discussed the Social Security 2100 Act (H.R. 860), which was introduced by Social Security Subcommittee Chairman John Larson (CT-1) earlier this year with the support of more than 200 cosponsors. That's more than any other Social Security reform bill in recent history. The bill, which has been endorsed by The Senior Citizens League, would strengthen Social Security benefits while improving the program's solvency through the remainder of this century.

If adopted, the Social Security 2100 Act would base COLAs on the more adequate Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E), boost Social Security benefits by 2 percent, create a new minimum benefit set at 125 percent of the poverty line, and cut taxes for millions of seniors with modest incomes who currently pay taxes on their benefits. It would cover the cost of these reforms and improve the solvency of the program for decades to come by applying the payroll tax to income over \$400,000 and by gradually increasing the payroll tax rate from 6.2 percent to 7.4 percent.

Following the Social Security reform hearing, The Senior Citizens League submitted a statement to the subcommittee expressing our support for the Social Security 2100 Act, and thanking Chairman John Larson (CT-1) and Ranking Member Tom Reed (NY-23) for their bipartisan commitment to strengthening the Social Security program. The full statement submitted by TSCL to the House Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee can be found on our website at www.SeniorsLeague.org.

In the months ahead, The Senior Citizens League will monitor the Social Security reform debate as it continues to evolve on Capitol Hill, and will advocate tirelessly for policies that would strengthen and improve the program for current and future beneficiaries. For progress updates, visit our website or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

TREA IMPORTANT DATES

So many great things are happening that it's hard to keep track of everything.

We will start publishing important dates in every issue of The VOICE so that you can stay on track of important TREA events. We don't want you to miss anything!



August 2019:

Gearing up for Convention – have you registered yet? Call 800-338-9337 today.

September 2019:

16th – Member Bash at the Double Tree Hotel (3203 Quebec Street, Denver, CO) – come out to meet TREA Board members and staff, mingle with fellow TREA members and get learn more about TREA. Contact 3rd Vice Coley at 3rdvice@trea.org for more information.

18th - 20th – 2019 Convention in Denver, CO. More information on this elsewhere in this issue of The VOICE.

21st - Colorado exploration day! Those who stay in town after the convention can visit the many wonderful offering of the 'Mile High City'.

October 2019:

15th – TREA's Holiday Assistance Program Kickoff. Want to adopt a deployed or wounded family for the holiday? Want to make a donation to the program? Call TREA Headquarters at 800-338-9337 to get more information, to adopt a family or to make a donation – every little bit counts and every family is grateful. Make YOUR holiday special by helping THEM.

November 2019:

11th - Veteran's Day Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. Are you interested in representing TREA at the wreath laying ceremony? Make sure that you check our website (www.trea.org) regularly to stay on top of how YOU can WIN a trip to DC and have the honor of presenting the Veteran's Day Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The first winner will be drawn and announced at the 2019 convention. (convention attendance required)

December 2019:

9th – Pearl Harbor Day. We will never forget!

February 2020:

3rd - Four Chaplains Day (go to https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Chaplains for more information)

12th - TREA's 57th Anniversary and the Kick off of the TREA Appreciation Day Celebration. There will be much more on this special day in the Fall issue of The VOICE – mark the date now – fun things will be happening.

- TEAM TSCL - SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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 Boards of Directors may serve concurrently as a Trustee (except The Treasurer, who shall be exempt from all other qualifications).

Interested TREA members should submit resumes on TREA Form 100-3MT, located on TREAs website under Resources/Forms & Documents. Resumes will be accepted until the day prior to TSCL's business meeting at TREAs National Convention in September 2019 in Denver, Colorado. Term Length: 3 Years.

Since 1993 TSCL has faithfully contributed to, and worked with, TREA to promote TREA's mission alongside its own in the belief that TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

ATTENTION TREA MEMBERS

Candidates do not have to be present to be considered or selected.

Questions? Contact ...
Shannon Benton
TSCL Executive Director
sbenton@tsclhq.org
800-333-8725

Rick Delaney
TSCL Chairman
rjdtrea@gmail.com
800-333-8725

TREA – BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER



'It was her smile' Greg stated, referring to his initial meeting of Michelle Martin on September 13th, 2014. Greg, a TREA member and Chapter 92 President (at the time), and Michelle, an active member of TREA Chapter 3 (at the time), were both attending the 51st Anniversary and TREA National Convention in Norfolk, Virginia.

Greg is now the 1st Vice on TREA's National Board of Directors and he and Michelle continue to support TREA as Members-as-Large (MAL).

Fast forward almost 5 years to Denver, Colorado when on Saturday, May 17th, 2019, Greg and Michelle made it official by tying the knot in front of family and friends – many of which were TREA members.

TREA wishes these two newlyweds much love and happiness for many years to come.



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CHAPTER 16 – KANSAS

The chapter held their Membership Meeting on February 8th, 2019 and presented chapter member Nelson Newel with a certificate of Appreciation for Recruiter of the Year and a TREA overseas cap (photo left). Nelson Newell joined the chapter in 2018, when the group recruiting program was at an all-time low, without being asked, he took the lead, exhibited superb salesmanship and signed-up



six new members. His untiring and record-setting efforts enhanced the chapter and TREA: The Enlisted Association recruiting program in moving forward.

The chapter also welcomed two special guest speakers from the Salina Regional Health Care Center, Hospice of Salina Clinic. They addressed the following subjects about the Hospice: services and programs provided by the Salina Clinic, patient home care, medical decision, at the end of

life preparation, advance health planning, Medicare and VA coverage and Chaplain support. Their presentation was well received.



Chapter Chaplain Moses Stewart presents Certificates of Appreciation to Crystal Nashwick - Admissions Nurse at the clinic (photo above left) and Rebecca Hansen - Registered Nurse and Clinic Manager (photo above center)

L-R: Chapter member Fred Fanning, guest speakers Rebecca Hansen and Crystal Nashwick from the Hospice of Salina Clinic, chapter members Rachel Fikes, Wardene Stewart and Shirley Wagner



June 14th Membership Meeting - Left to right seated Rachel Holt Fikes, Treasurer Shirley Wagner, standing Secretary William Vinyard presents Guest Speaker Jeffrey Tanuis (a proud seven-year USAF Veteran and a USPS worker Salina Post Office) with a chapter Certificate of Appreciation, a free two-year TREA membership, and a TREA patch, seated is Janet Tanuis. Jeff Tanuis talked about his years in the Air Force, working for the Postal Service, and graciously completed a TREA membership application.

CHAPTER 29 – SOUTH DAKOTA

Chapter 29 President Chet Westman and Chapter Treasurer John Martinez present the TREA JROTC award to the Douglas High School's 48th Annual Awards Night on May 9th.

Cadets are (L-R): Logan Kennelly, Nevaeh Kirkland, Peyton Campbell and Brenden Lindgren



CHAPTER 39 – AURORA, CO

Chapter 39 members participate in the Commerce City Memorial Day Parade Remembering America's Unsung Heroes.



CHAPTER 64 – PUERTO RICO

In May 2019 Chapter 64 donated a coffee maker to the Puerto Rico VA Hospital for the use in the voluntary program services to our veterans. Presenters in this event are: our President Benjamin Reyes and his wife VA Hospital Officials and some members of DAV Chapter #1 of San Juan.



CHAPTER 72 – PITTSBURGH, PA

2019 - TREA JROTC High School Service Awards Presented By Chapter 72, Pittsburgh, Pa.



Albert Gallatin High School Army JROTC
Harry Blackwell, John Durbiano,
Cadet Shawn Lee, and Barbara Harmon



North Allegheny High School AF JROTC
Harry Blackwell, Cadet Kaijie Adam Chen,
and John Durbiano



Norwin Hughton High School AF JROTC
Harry Blackwell, Cadet Tyler Thornton,
and John Durbiano



Perry High School Army JROTC
Harry Blackwell, Cadet Aliyah Holland,
and John Durbiano



Pine - Richland High School AF JROTC
Harry Blackwell, Cadet Caitlin Howard,
and John Durbiano



West Mifflin High School AF JROTC
Harry Blackwell, Cadet SMSgt Ashley Krupiter,
and John Durbiano

CHAPTER 74 – WASHINGTON



On May 11, 2019, TREA's Award of Merit was awarded to Cadet Monique Samson and presented by Chapter President CC Cameron. Cadet Samson is a student at Bethel High School located in Spanaway, WA. (photo left)

On May 17th, Chapter 74 took part in the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) what was held at Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) North.

CHAPTER 74 – WASHINGTON (CONT.)

On May 21, 2019, TREA's Award of Merit was awarded to Cadet Kate-lynn Skinner and presented by Chapter President CC Cameron. Cadet Skinner is a student at Federal High School located in Federal Way, WA. (photo right).

On May 27th, the chapter took part in the Joint Service Memorial Day Ceremony held at Mountain View Funeral Home and Memorial Park in Lakewood, WA.



CHAPTER 76 – WISCONSIN



CHAPTER 76 2019 FLAGS FOR VETERANS GRAVES



CHAPTER 76 2019 FUND RAISER BAKERY LADIES GET THE COOKIES READY



CHAPTER 76 2019 FUND RAISER FRYERS GET THE GRILLS READY



CHAPTER 76 2019 FUND RAISER
EAT THE TREATS



CHAPTER 76 2019 SUMMER GET TOGETHER

CHAPTER 80 – TEXAS

Every year the Converse, Texas Fire Department has received fans from Chapter 80 to help at least eighteen to twenty seniors during the hot weather that is so common to Texas.



(photo left): Elaine and Harold Moreland; Auxiliary President and Chapter Vice President, along with Don and Juanita Higginbotham; Chapter President and Auxiliary Vice President, made this delivery as soon as the weather began to change. The Chapter has received numerous appreciations and salutations from the City for its services to seniors. (article and photo submitted by Marie Smith, PR for Chapter 80)

CHAPTER 80 – TEXAS (CONT.)



(Photo left): Chapter 80 President Don Higginbotham and Chapter 80 Auxiliary Vice President Juanita Higginbotham with US House Representative member Will Hurd at the Memorial Day Ceremony at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

(Photo Right): Chapter 80 President and Auxiliary Vice President Don and Juanita Higginbotham present San Antonio Food Bank manager Jessie Fasol with a check that will provide 3,500 meals to families. Chapter members (L) Larry Foster, James Scott, and Phil Lucero also participated.



CHAPTER 111 – OHIO



Chapter member and TREA National President Phil Hilinski presents Cadet Joe Harsh with the TREA JROTC Award of Merit and a TREA coin.

The coin will be displayed in the school's award trophy case.

CHAPTER 119 – WISCONSIN

This spring was a busy one for Chapter 119. On April 23rd, the Chapter participated in the University of Wisconsin (Superior) Veteran's Expo. Thank you to members Chuck Tenlen, Terry Maki, Gerry Stark, Jim Korkolo, Jim Potthier and Butch Liebaert for their support and participation in this event.



The Chapter was asked to present the American and Wisconsin Flags at the University of Wisconsin (Superior) Graduation Ceremonies on May 18th. Chapter members Larry Lockett, Jim Potthier and Butch Liebaert present the flags.



May 23rd was another busy day as Chapter members placed flags on grave sites at several local cemeteries. Troy Magnuson, Jim Potthier, Dave Carlson, Brian Erickson and Butch Liebaert placed close to 3,500 flags on grave sites.

Butch & Cheryl Liebaert performed the POW Ceremony on May 25th at Wisconsin's Northern Veteran's Cemetery in Spooner, WI.



TREA NATIONAL PRESIDENT, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT VISIT - WASHINGTON, DC

Director of Veterans and Military Policy Ken Greenberg hosted TREA National President Philip Hilinski and 2nd Vice President Justin Jump for a two-day visit July 10-11, 2019. President Hilinski participated in a VSO Breakfast with Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie and received updates on several issues.

In addition, the three TREA officials actively participated in a working group meeting on Toxic Exposures on July 10, and The Military Coalition meeting on July 11. Highlights and summaries of each event is listed below.

Secretary's VSO Breakfast

President Hilinski received updates and briefings on several topics at the Secretary's breakfast with VSO representatives including the following:

State of VA – Interview with Secretary Wilkie on transformation efforts of VA, captured in the link -- <https://video.foxnews.com/v/6057629208001/#sp=show-clips> Seven-minute video: Wilkie tells 'Special Report' anchor Bret Baier that he is overseeing the 'largest transformative program' in the history of VA.

MISSION Act -- including Community Care Network and Urgent Care. See links for details.

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/what-the-dept-of-veterans-affairs-is-doing-to-expand-care-and-reduce-veteran-suicides> The Department of Veterans Affairs recently launched a major expansion aimed to improve veteran health care by opening up access to private doctors. But critics say the program offloads government responsibility to the private sector. Judy Woodruff sits down with the department's head, Sec. Robert Wilkie, to discuss that issue as well as mental health, homelessness and supporting female veterans.

https://www.ktbs.com/news/military-vets-now-have-urgent-care-access-through-va/article_bd8c1202-a3fe-11e9-b893-d7fab3c25df3.html Military veterans now have urgent care benefits through the VA. Under the recently implemented Mission Act, the US Department of Veterans Affairs says eligible veterans can go to any urgent or walk-in care provider in the VA's network without prior authorization. This is for treatment of minor injuries or illnesses, such as ear, nose and throat ailments.

Suicide Prevention and Mental Health. See link for details.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/07/10/defense-department-va-gear-host-suicide-prevention-conference.html> The Defense and Veterans Affairs Departments will team up in August to hold a conference on suicide prevention in Nashville. The meeting, the first in two years, will bring together the suicide prevention offices of both departments and the military services, as well as subject-matter experts from academia, nonprofit groups and veterans and military support organizations, to address the ongoing battle against active-duty and veteran suicides.

Toxic Exposure Meeting (update from page 14)

President Hilinski, 2nd VP Jump, and Director Greenberg engaged with representatives of 13 other VSOs/MSOs to review H.R. 663 – Burn Pit Accountability Act and HR. 2617 – OATH Act. The brainstorming session led to a listing of ideas to include in an Omnibus Toxic Exposure bill being developed by the TEAM. TREA is pleased that the 2019 NDAA includes several provisions addressing burn pits, and numerous provisions related to toxic exposure. TREA will provide updates on toxic exposure as Congress takes action to address issues. Please email legislativeinfo@trea.org if you have questions or want more information on toxic exposure.



TREA NATIONAL PRESIDENT, 2ND VICE PRESIDENT VISIT WASHINGTON, DC

The Military Coalition (TMC) Meeting

Director Greenberg introduced President Hilinski and 2nd VP Jump to The Military Coalition (TMC). TMC is a 32-member group representing military, veteran and uniformed services organizations. By working together on issues of mutual agreement, the participating organizations can harness the grassroots support of more than 5.5 million members plus their families and accomplish far more than by working on initiatives separately.

The meeting featured reports and updates on Congressional actions related to both retired and active duty service members. Issues included: (TRICARE, concurrent receipt, pay raise), Survivor Benefits, (SBP/DIC offset), Taxes, (Work Opportunity Tax Credit), Veterans, (Navy Blue Water signed into law, MISSION Act, toxic exposure, mental health) Health Care (Defense Health Agency and Military Treatment Facilities, Elimination of Medical Billets, TRICARE – new contracts T-5).

Updates on some issues are already included this issue of the VOICE. If you have questions or seek additional information on VA or DOD related legislation, please email legislativeinfo@trea.org.

TREA supports Student Loan Education Debt Relief -- Contact your Congressional Members in the House and Senate and ask them to support H.R. 3598 and S. 2049.

Legislation in the House (H.R.3598) and Senate (S. 2049) would provide disabled veterans with student loan relief. Entitled the Federally Requiring Earned Education-Debt Discharges for Veterans Act (FREED Vets Act) the bill requires the U.S. Department of Education to automatically discharge federal student loan debt for eligible permanently disabled veterans. House Veterans Affairs Committee Vice Chair Connor Lamb (PA-17) and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Johnny Isakson (GA) and Senate Armed Services Committee Ranking Member Jack Reed (RI) are leading the effort in Congress.

The U.S. Department of Education established a program with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in October 2018 to identify veterans who are disabled or unable to work. Under the current program, the Department of Education would notify veterans who are eligible for debt forgiveness of the opportunity to apply. This places the burden on the veteran to apply. The FREED Vets Act would automatically forgive these loans and eliminate the paperwork barrier that prevents eligible veterans from attaining student loan debt relief. According to the Department of Education more than 42,000 eligible veterans have been identified, yet only 20 percent of those eligible have applied for the program.

DOD extends deadline to January 12, 2020 to transfer GI Bill Benefits to Family Members

Military personnel with more than 16 years of service will have an additional six months to transfer their Post-9/11 GI Bill education benefits to family members, while Congress decides whether to remove the restriction on transfers. A new Defense Department rule originally proposed in July 2018 was set to take effect on July 12, 2019, limiting the benefit transfers to troops with at least six years of service but no more than 16 years.

The Pentagon extended the deadline until Jan. 12, 2020 for troops who have more than 16 years of service to give Congress time to discuss the House Armed Services Committee's proposal to change the rule. Troops still must have served at least six years and be able to reenlist for four more years.

Prior to the July 2018 announcement, there were no restrictions on when servicemembers could transfer education benefits to family members after they'd served six years. Servicemembers who have received Purple Heart medals are exempted from the rule.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

☐ New Member

☐ Renewal

Membership Number: # _____

Recruiter: _____ Recruiter Number: _____ Chapter Number: _____

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Spouse: _____ Your Grade/Rank: _____ Years in Service: _____

Service: ☐ Air Force ☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Marines ☐ Coast Guard ☐ Guard/Reserve

I am : ☐ Retired ☐ Veteran ☐ Active Duty ☐ Spouse of a veteran

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, your signature acknowledges the veteran status of your veteran spouse)

(Applicant, please sign here)

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

☐ One Year - \$30

☐ Two Years - \$55

☐ Three Years - \$75

☐ Life Membership (under 70) - \$400

☐ Life Membership (over 70) - \$350

☐ paid in 10, \$42 quarterly payments: \$420 total

☐ paid in 10, \$37 quarterly payments: \$370 total

Payment:

Visa

Master Card

Discover

American Express

Check (Make checks payable to: TREA)

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Please return your completed application to:

TREA: The Enlisted Association - 12200 E. Briarwood Ave, Suite 250 - Centennial, CO 80112

303-752-0660 800-338-9337

www.trea.org



WE EARNED OUR STRIPES

**TREA CELEBRATES ALL OF THE BRAVE MEN & WOMEN
WHO SERVE THE UNITED STATES**