



# EAGLE NEWS

The official Newsletter of The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA)  
Central Minnesota Chapter 115

July thru September 2012

---

Anica Pless Kaiser, coordinator of Boston VA's SHARP, is asking older combat veterans and former WACS, WAVES, WASPS, SPARS and women Marines to participate in a 20-minute telephone interview and fill out written questionnaires by mail. She and her colleagues are

## VA SEEKS OLDER VET'S INPUT

seeking information about older veterans' military and civilian life experiences, retirement concerns, health and well-being, support received from friends and loved ones, and everyday happenings. The written portion of the survey should take between an hour and 90

minutes to complete. Participants will be paid \$20. To volunteer for the SHARP survey of older combat and women veterans, call Anica Pless Kaiser at **(800) 865-3384**, ext. 45309.

---

A newly upgraded feature on TRICARE Online at [www.tricareonline.com](http://www.tricareonline.com) now allows users to access expanded personal health data, including lab results, patient histories and diagnoses, and

## TRICARE ONLINE EXPANDS CAPABILITY

provider visits. These features expand the current Blue Button capability, which already allowed beneficiaries to, safely and securely, access and print or save their demographic information, and

allergy or medication profiles. TRICARE Online provides more than 9.6 million TRICARE beneficiaries with access to available health care services and information.

---

A Texas man who helped lead the charge for Congress to pass a law against so-called military "fakers" was disappointed last week by the Supreme Court's decision to strike down the Stolen Valor Act. The ruling written by Justice Anthony Kennedy stated that the act was too

## COURT SHOTS DOWN STOLEN VALOR ACT

broad for seeking to "control and suppress all false statements on this one subject in almost limitless times and settings without regard to whether the lie was made for the purpose of material gain." For the court to decide, that lying about military service and decorations was

a criminal offense would essentially endorse the government compiling "a list of subjects about which false statements are punishable. That governmental power has no clear limiting principle," he wrote.

---

## WIDOW(ER) MILITARY BENEFITS

There are four different age and marital status scenarios affecting benefits for military widows/widowers. They are:

1. TRICARE eligibility permanently stops if you remarry. Unlike other benefits that may restart if your new marriage ends, TRICARE eligibility is gone for good if you remarry. Of course, that would not be the case if you married another service member in the future.
  2. General military benefits (exchange/commissary privileges, MWR, etc.) and eligibility for Survivor Benefit Plan payments are not affected as long as you remarry after age 55. Prior to age 55 if you remarry you must turn in your military ID card, which will prevent you from using general military benefits. However, if you subsequently divorce you can reapply for a card, which will reinstate your general benefits.
  3. Dependency and Indemnity Compensation from the VA is lost if you remarry before 57. If a spouse remarries before age 57, eligibility for benefits may be restored if the marriage is terminated later by death, annulment, or divorce.
  4. The widow or widower of a deceased veteran who remarried a non-veteran and whose death took place after Jan. 1, 2000, is entitled to burial in a national veterans cemetery.
  - 5.
- 

## NOTES OF INTEREST

TREA Chapter 115 is on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/TREA115](http://www.facebook.com/TREA115). Come "like" us and get the latest information on military / veteran events plus information when the flag is lowered to half-mast and why.

On Saturday July 28th there will be a Twin Cities Hero Parade on Nicollet Mall in Minneapolis to honor post-9/11 veterans. Read more about it at [www.tcheroesparade.org](http://www.tcheroesparade.org)

## TREA CENTRAL MINNESOTA CHAPTER 115 MEETING MINUTES – 12 May 2012

Call to Order  
Invocation – Dell  
Pledge of Allegiance – Ralph  
Treasurer's Report - \$920 in checking, \$2,900 in savings. Some bills are still pending.  
Legislative Report – There were 54 veteran / military related bills in the Senate and 69 in the House. Only 4 or 5 passed. Bonding bill for Veterans Homes did not get as much as needed. MN Dot Veteran Bill to have them do bids for Veteran owned businesses passed. Vets can now bid on all phases of the project. This Bill was worked on for 6 years. The Governor vetoed an omnibus bill that included military retirement pay.  
Membership report (Mark) – 256 members, mailed nine brochures.  
Attended a retirement seminar in Oak Park Heights.  
Health Benefits Advisor Report – Apathy seems to affect concern about benefits. It is expected that benefits might erode before veterans get concerned about level of care.

Presidents Message – MN UVLC is working strong. 88<sup>th</sup> Commander (WI) is interested why there is so much going on in MN but not in WI. Might form similar group there. The MAG group is doing a wrap up in June. More information at the August TREA meeting.

OLD BUSINESS - JROTC – Looking for people interested in doing presentations. Contact Ralph.  
Fundraisers (plaques) – have in stock: 10 AF, 10 USN, 2 USA and 4 USMC. If interested, contact Ralph.  
AFRAD (25 Aug 2012) – Need names of volunteers by mid-June. Will be doing one session this year starting at about 0900 and running to 1600. Sessions will be longer. Lunch will run from about noon to 1330.  
TREA Convention (19/22 Sept) – Ralph will be attending. It is being held in Jacksonville, FL.

NEW BUSINESS - New Board members – Need recruits for

President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Treasurer, Secretary. If interested, contact Ralph.  
MALS – Get MALS list and contact people to see if they want to convert to being in the Chapter. If you find someone, contact Ralph by e-mail and he will switch him or her.  
Motion by Mark to spend \$600 to publish ad in a portion of Minnesota publications. Second by David.  
Motion withdrawn.  
Motion by Mark to spend up to \$400 for ads in State of Minnesota Veterans Organization Convention brochures. Second by David. Motion passed.

Dell earned National Recruiter of the Year Runner-up for 2011.

Benediction – Dell

Meeting adjourned (motion by Mark, second by Dell)

Next Meeting: 25 August 2012 at Camp Ripley.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hammer

---

### **President & Legislative**

Ralph Donais  
906 Lookout Place  
Elk River, MN 55330  
Home: 763-441-2630  
[r.l.donais@izoom.net](mailto:r.l.donais@izoom.net)

### **First Vice President**

Mark Davidson  
10007 Harriet Ave. S  
Bloomington MN 55420  
Home: 952-884-6077  
[ldavidson77@msn.com](mailto:ldavidson77@msn.com)

### **Secretary & Webmaster**

David Hammer  
4712 Wind Trail W.  
Eagan, MN 55122  
[dhammer@att.net](mailto:dhammer@att.net)

### **Treasurer & Newsletter**

Dennis Rock  
2404 Hillsboro Ave N  
Mpls, MN 55427  
Home: 763-541-9396  
[dennisvictoria@usfamily.net](mailto:dennisvictoria@usfamily.net)

### **Past President**

Dick Habeck  
2459 155<sup>th</sup> St NW  
Monticello, MN 55362  
Home: 763-878-2934  
Cell: 612-801-3488  
[habeckrh@aol.com](mailto:habeckrh@aol.com)

### **Historian**

Stan Paulson  
2222 75<sup>th</sup> St  
Luck, WI 56032  
Home: 715-857-5544

### **Membership**

Lynne Davidson  
9741 Grand Ave S. #116  
Bloomington, MN 55420  
Home: 952-884-6077  
[ldavidson77@msn.com](mailto:ldavidson77@msn.com)

### **Chaplain & Parliamentarian**

Del Fuller  
1850 Garden Street  
Ogilvie, MN 56358  
Home: 320-272-4495

### **Web sites**

Chapter 115:  
[www.trea115.org](http://www.trea115.org)

National HQ:  
[www.trea.org](http://www.trea.org)

---

**Eagle News** is an unofficial publication of The Retired Enlisted Association (TREA), Central Minnesota Chapter 115, located at 906 Lookout Place, Elk River, MN 55330. The Eagle News is distributed quarterly to Chapter 115 members and is supported by donations that are deductible from Federal and state income tax to the extent permitted by law Section 501c19. Articles may be reprinted wholly providing the intent is to promote the well-being of military retirees and/or the community in general; credit must be given to TREA, Chapter 115. TREA Chapter 115 is a nonprofit organization, nonunion, nonpartisan and nonsectarian. Views expressed in this publication are not the official views of TREA, Chapter 115, or any governmental agency. The editor reserves the right to revise or reject any article due to length or opinion, and no articles discriminating based on race, sex, political stance, religion or age will be accepted for publication. The absolute deadline for articles is the 5th of January, April, July & October to [dennisvictoria@usfamily.net](mailto:dennisvictoria@usfamily.net)

**WELCOME TO AFRAD 2012**

Training & Community Center (TACC)  
Camp Ripley – Little Falls, MN

TENTATIVE AGENDA

(subject to change)

SATURDAY, 25 August 2012

- 0800 Registration Lobby
- 0800 Exhibitors Cafeteria
- 0900 Briefings Theater
- 1015 Break
- 1045 Briefings Theater
- 1130 Lunch "On Your Own"

On base:

Snack Bar, 0700-1900 Bldg #8-22  
Dining Hall, 1130-1300 Bldg #7-131

Off base:

Main Gate Bar & Grill, open at 1030  
Canteen, open at 1000

- 1330 Briefings Theater
- 1415 Break
- 1445 Briefings Theater
- 1600 Adjournment
- 1630 TREA 115 meeting Cafeteria

The registration fee for each attendee includes mailings, break refreshments and supplies. Advance registration deadline is Monday, 13 August 2012

CONCURRENT ACTIVITIES

**ID CARD PROCESSING (in TACC)**

Based on first come – first served.  
Friday & Saturday, 0830 to 1530

Military Museum, Bldg #10-71

Friday, 1000 to 1700  
Saturday, 1000 to 1600

Post Exchange & Class 6 Store

Friday, 1000 to 2000  
Saturday, 1000 to 1600

LODGING

On-Post housing may be available by calling 320-632-7378 for reservations.

Check in at Building #6-76 Ed Center  
Friday, 0600 to 2400  
Saturday, 0700 to 2300

AmericInn of Little Falls, MN

306 LeMieur St SE 320-632-1964  
Reservations: 888-205-0958

Country Suites By Carlson Little Falls

209 16th Street, NE 320-632-1000  
Reservations: 800-596-2375  
E-mail: [cx\\_lfal@countryinns.com](mailto:cx_lfal@countryinns.com)

AFRAD Point of Contact:

Ralph Donais, TREA Chapter 115  
Phone: 763-441-2630  
E-mail: [r.l.donais@izoom.net](mailto:r.l.donais@izoom.net)

REGISTRATION FORM

11th Annual Camp Ripley AFRAD  
Training & Community Center (TACC)  
Saturday, 25 August 2012

First & Last Name ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone with area code ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

Retired Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

(Circle one): USA USAF USCG USMC USN

E-mail address ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

Guest (first & last name) ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

Guest (first & last name) ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

Guest (first & last name) ↑ \_\_\_\_\_

# of attendees @ \$7.50 per person = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_ payable to "TREA Chapter 115"

Mail registration form & check to: TREA Chapter 115  
2404 Isboro Ave N., Mpls, MN 55427

----- CUT ALONG LINE AND MAIL -----

**FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULE**

Saturday, May 12, 2012  
August 25, 2012 Camp Ripley after the Saturday AFRAD  
Saturday, October 29, 2012

All meetings begin at 11:00 am at the VFW Sports Complex 7350 Quaday, Otsego, MN 55330. Phone 763-241-5225. Spouses and guests are always welcome to attend.

From I-94 in Rogers: Go north on highway 101 towards Elk River to CR 42/River Road. Turn Left at the light. Second road on the Left is Quaday Ave NE. Turn Left. Follow Quaday until you see several brown buildings, which is the VFW Sport Complex on your Left.

From Highway 10 in Elk River: From Elk River, take Hwy 101 South towards Rogers, exit on CR 42/River Road, turn right at the light onto River Road. The next road on the left will be Quaday Ave NE. Turn Left. Follow Quaday until you see several brown buildings, which is the VFW Sport complex on your Left.

Central Minnesota Chapter 115  
The Retired Enlisted Association  
906 Lookout Place  
Elk River, MN 55330

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ST. CLOUD, MN  
PERMIT #2777

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

>>

Annual Armed Forces Retiree Appreciation Day (AFRAD)  
Camp Ripley --- Little Falls, Minnesota  
Saturday, 25 August 2012

On behalf of the members of The Retired Enlisted Association, Central Minnesota Chapter 115, you are invited to the 11th Annual Armed Forces Retiree Appreciation Day at Camp Ripley, Little Falls, Minnesota.

This Day is an opportunity for all armed forces retirees, spouses, widows and/or guests to receive updated verbal and written information about services and benefits.

We are grateful to the specialists from government and veteran affairs who have taken the time and made arrangements to be with us on Saturday. These professionals work with their entitlement programs everyday and have all the current information you need.

Some will be speakers in the Theater and all will be in the Cafeteria to meet one on one with the attendees.

A member of the Camp Ripley staff will be available, from 0830 to 1530 on Friday and Saturday in the Training and Community Center building. to renew or update retiree or dependent identification cards.

Ralph Donais, President  
TREA Chapter 115

Contact information:  
Telephone: 763-441-2630  
E-mail: [r.l.donais@izoom.net](mailto:r.l.donais@izoom.net)

IF your mailing label contains incorrect information, or if you are not receiving the Chapter e-mail announcements, notify Mark Davidson at [ldavidson77@msn.com](mailto:ldavidson77@msn.com)