



# NAVAL ENLISTED RESERVE ASSOCIATION

REPRESENTING RESERVISTS IN THE COAST GUARD, MARINE CORPS AND NAVY SINCE 1957

JOHN D. WOOD CHAPTER 201.066 (NERA)

[Dwood\\_Pile@yahoo.com](mailto:Dwood_Pile@yahoo.com)

PO Box 16932 Mobile, Alabama 36616

**President:** CMI Neely Clinton (ret), **Vice-President:** AOC John Wilson (ret), **Secretary:** ITC Beth Day, **Treasurer:** BU2 Fred Conklin

**Board of Directors:** ITCS Vincent M Diemert, BTCM Bill Norris (ret), YNC Bob Farrell (ret), RM1 Lonny Heinrichs (ret)

## "Dwood\_Pile"

Newsletter

July – September 2005

### John D. Wood Chapter, NERA Mission

To support our local reservists and their families' which are mobilized. Create community awareness and to support regional and national events with in NERA. Chapter meetings are held on the Tuesday before Drill Weekend of each month unless otherwise noted in our quarterly newsletter "DWOOD\_PILE". Our monthly meetings are held at the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center, 4851 Museum Dr. Mobile, Alabama 36608, just across the street from the Art Museum. Meeting time is 1900 hours. The primary purpose of our meetings are to share the information received from a variety of sources pertaining to Capitol Hill legislation, retirement benefits, medical plan coverage, Coalition initiatives and other chapter business. Our membership is widely spread out geographically, thus communicating with the chapter is done largely through this newsletter. We participate in letter writing campaigns, invite local speakers, participate in parades and conduct annual awards banquets. Those anticipating retirement and have been a member of the chapter for a minimum of three years are entitled to receive one of our luxurious plaques. While most of the 86 chapters located throughout the United States are declining in membership, our chapter continues to increase with a diligent effort to recruit and retain our members. Our dedicated officers and members continue to succeed

through our visionary and creative methods. An example of our forward progress is the web page currently being offered. Recommendations for improvement or additional items are solicited. We hope you will find being a member of the John D Wood Chapter NERA, will provide you with personal pride and satisfaction. Welcome Aboard!

### Upcoming Meetings

Our next few meetings which are held at the NMCRC Mobile at 1900, dates are as follows:

Tuesday, July 19, 2005

Tuesday, August 16, 2005

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

### Memorializing Our Fallen Service Members

Chris Landry, Founder and National Director of The SOS Fund and NERA John D Wood Chapter are proud to announce a partnership/alliance, to resell the "Wear Camo" desert camouflage wristbands. The SOS Fund "Wear Camo" wristbands are one of the most popular wristbands on the market and helps fund the SOS Fund's "Statues of Servicemen" campaign to build bronze bust statues of the fallen heroes in the War on Terror. Of the \$2.00 retail price of the wristbands one dollar goes to NERA, the



other dollar goes to the SOS Fund making the "Wear Camo" desert camouflage a great fundraising effort. Any volunteers to resell the wristbands contact John Wilson (251) 510-8362 ([johnwilson38@comcast.net](mailto:johnwilson38@comcast.net)) or Fred Conklin (251) 599-7655 ([fred.conklin@gmail.com](mailto:fred.conklin@gmail.com))

## Congratulations Chief Selects on your advancement

On behalf of the John D Wood Chapter of NERA, Congratulation on you being selected as Chief Petty Officers. The next few months will be a memorable and educational occasion. You are now entering a new era of you career that will change, not only your life, but the lives of others as well.

## Change Of Command/CDR Pete Riehm's Retirement Ceremony

Navy & Marine Corps Reserve Center Mobile will have its Change of Command ceremony here at the center (4851 Museum Dr) 1430 Saturday 23 July 2005. Volunteers Of America is also hosting a charity dinner at Mobile Marriott that evening, 1830, to benefit OPERATION HOMEFRONT. All are cordially invited to attend both events. Invitations are going out and we hope to reach all, but just in case, please pass this information on to all interested parties and assure them that all are welcome.

For the Change Of Command, Please RSVP with YN1 Brown at 251-344-5395.

For the OPERATION HOMEFRONT Benefit Dinner, Please RSVP with VOA at 251-666-4421.

## NERA Membership Renewals

Please if you know you are coming up on renewal for your membership dues please send a \$25.00 Check to NERA, John D Wood Chapter, PO Box 16932, Mobile, Alabama 36616.

## NERA New Members Incentive Program

We all need to have an incentive to do just about anything. Well getting new members to join is a task and if you recruit five new members into our Chapter you will receive a \$25.00 gift card for Dinner at Olive Garden. Also, we want to have a Pot Luck get together once per quarter to welcome new members.



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# What is NERA?

Established in 1957, the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association (NERA) represents enlisted Sea Service Reservists to the Congress, the White House and the Departments of Defense and Transportation. The only military association comprised exclusively of enlisted Sea Service Reservists. NERA's mission is to promote and maintain national security by ensuring a strong and well-trained Naval, Coast Guard and Marine Corps Reserve. NERA has been instrumental in gaining Congressional support for every improvement in Reserve personnel strength and equipment, as well as the promotion, pay and retirement benefits Reservists now enjoy.



NERA works hard in Washington in the interest of national security. But NERA's success ultimately depends on your willingness to join us. As a service member, you have already demonstrated your willingness to "get involved." Reinforce your commitment to service by becoming a member of NERA, where thousands of other Sea Service Reservists are already mobilized in the battle to win today's -- and tomorrow's -- legislative and policy battles. Your membership is vital to NERA's success.

**Pay parity, re-employment rights, improvements in retirement, and establishment of the Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan.**

**Increased Retirement Point Credit** for earned Inactive Duty points - now 90.

**Unlimited exchange and MWR use** for Reservists, incl. IRR and gray area retirees.

**Year-round commissary benefits** for all Reservists.

**Improved Montgomery GI Bill benefits.**

**Continuous Portal-to-Portal medical coverage** and death benefits for drilling Reservists.

# What Has NERA Done for You?



- Serviceman's Group Life Insurance** coverage up to \$250,000 for all Reservists.
- Burial rights in National Cemeteries** for non-veteran retired Reservists.
- Space "A" Travel** both in and out of US for Reservists to AT and other training sites.
- TRICARE for Life** second-payer to Medicare for retirees and spouses over 65.
- Funding** for dedicated equipment procurement for Reserve Forces.
- Laws** protecting Reservists against employment discrimination.
- VA home loan** eligibility for Selected Reservists.
- TRICARE Dental Benefits for Family Members.**

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



(PLEASE PRINT):

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rate \_\_\_\_\_  
 SSN \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Recruiter or Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

**BRANCH OF SERVICE:**  N-Navy  M-Marine Corps  C-Coast Guard  O-Other

**MEMBERSHIP TYPE:**  R-Active  A-Associate

**DUES PAYMENT AMOUNT:**  \$25-1 year  \$47-2 years  \$69-3 years  \$250-Life  \$62.50-Life Partial\*  \$50.00-Life Partial\*

**DUTY STATUS:**  A-Active Duty  I-Inactive Duty  R-Retired

\* Represents installment options, to total \$250 within 18 mos of application for Life Membership

**Payment By:**  Check (enclosed)  VISA  MasterCard

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Expiration Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Required: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed application and payment to:

**Naval Enlisted Reserve Association**  
 6703 Farrant Avenue  
 Falls Church, VA 22042-2189  
 (800) 776-9020 (TEL)  
 (800) 316-6243 (FAX)  
[www.nera.org](http://www.nera.org)

**Eligibility: Active Members** are Enlisted Reservists of the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. **Associate Members** are others, without restriction, and regardless of military status, who may be interested in learning about, or promoting the aims and ideals of, the Naval Enlisted Reserve Association.

# What are NERA's Goals?

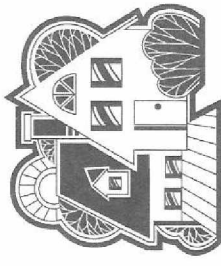
**Authorize Tax Credits for Employers of Reservist** who are activated.

**Request Congress to establish a commission** to review the impact of active duty changes and how they will affect the Reserve Components.

**Resolve pay and health care problems** to review the impact of active duty changes and how they will affect the Reserve Components.

**Amend the Goldwater Nichols Act** to allow members of the other four Armed Forces of the United States to receive joint service credit for each tour of active duty performed with the U.S. Coast Guard in validated joint billets.

**Exclude Certain Reservists from Being Counted against Active Duty End Strengths** when they exceed 180 days.



**Extend TRICARE coverage** as an option for all Guard and Reserve members during all phases of their service.

**Reduce retirement age** when a Reserve component is eligible for pay to age 55 and make retirement below age 60 optional.

**Review and Upgrade the Reserve Compensation System** To Match the New Reserve "Contract."

**Promote Adequate Funding for a Core Set of Family Support Programs** and Benefits that Meet the Unique Needs of Reserve Component Families with Uniform Access for All Service Members and Families.

**Reduce radius to 50 miles** for non-reimbursable expenses related to military training.

**Update the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act (SSCRA)** for those who lose tuition expenses.