Who We Are and What We Do

PURPOSE: Founded in Saranac Lake, New York in 1973, the focus of AMRA is the military retiree family and the protection of earned benefits. The purposes for which the Association was formed are fraternal, patriotic, and educational and include, but are not limited to, protecting and preserving the vested rights, benefits and privileges of Retired Armed Forces personnel; providing a means to sponsor, foster, and encourage legislation affecting the status of retired personnel of the U.S. Armed Forces; keeping members informed of changes to benefits and legislation that may affect their benefits; encouraging active participation in the legislative process; fostering the welfare of survivors and dependent children of Retired Armed Forces personnel; and providing a means of social contact for all members and their families.
ELIGIBILITY: Military Retirees from Active Duty, Guard/Reserve (including "gray area"), Disabled (T & P) veterans, Medically Retired, and Surviving Spouses of all ranks from all branches of the military. AMRA offers annual and life memberships.

PROGRAMS:

- ADVOCACY: Of primary importance are AMRA's advocacy efforts on behalf of all military retirees. To that end, the Association's Legislative Affairs Committee adopts annual legislative goals and encourages AMRA members to contact Members of Congress on legislation specific to retiree issues. The National President, First Vice President, Legislative Director, Executive Director, Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee visit with Members of Congress annually to ensure that AMRA is recognized as a retiree advocate in the legislative arena.
- SCHOLARSHIP: The Sergeant Major Douglas R. Drum Memorial Scholarship and the Bernard E. Dillon Vocational Skills Scholarship programs provide scholarships for current members of AMRA, their spouses, their dependent children, and their grandchildren. Scholarships totaling $40,000 are made possible through the generosity of AMRA's members.
- JROTC: The Robert J. Jock LEAP Award for Outstanding JROTC Cadets, sponsored and presented by AMRA Chapters and Departments.
- PATRIOTISM: The "Proudly We Wave" program encourages patriotism through respect for the American Flag. A special card educates readers on proper flag etiquette and may be given or mailed to those who are flying a flag improperly or in poor condition.
- AMRA CAPWIZ (http://cqrcengage.com/amra/home): Information and prepared webmail messages to Congressmen and Senators for all military retirees to use to voice their concerns on issues pertaining to their earned retirement benefits.

PUBLICATIONS: *AMRA News* (quarterly, online, full color), *eNEWS Monday Morning Digest* (weekly electronic), as well as periodic *Special Legislative Updates* and *News from Your State*.

BENEFITS:

- Informational Fact Sheets, links and important documents found in online Members Only area
- TRICARE and CHAMPVA supplemental insurance
- Chapter membership, where available
- Career Center
- Auto, Home and Renters Insurance Program
- Moving, Real Estate and Mortgage Discounts
- World-wide Hotel and Car Rental Discounts
- Hearing Product discounts

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