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National VP for Retired Personnel

Local Chapter Hosts A Retirement Seminar

By LCDR Joe Golding, USNR (Ret)

Under the guidance of RADM Richard E. Young, USNR (Ret), the first retirement seminar produced by the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Naval Reserve Association was held at the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center in Aurora, CO, on 6 December 2003. Presented were four major topics of concern: TRICARE, pay and allowances, space availability military travel, and Navy lodging.

The idea of hosting a retirement seminar was first introduced at our local chapter meeting in May 2003. LCDR Joe Golding, USNR (Ret), volunteered to undertake the project. He is also the Chapter's vice president for retirement issues. He served as the moderator for the December event attended by some 62 drilling Reservists, retirees, and many spouses.

Invitations were extended to drilling Reservists, "gray area" retirees, and those personnel who are currently receiving a

retirement annuity. Included on the invitation was a solicitation of interesting and relevant topics. Of highest concern were TRICARE health insurance, pay issues, and "Space A" travel.

Ms. Linda Hood, the marketing field service representative for the states of Colorado and Wyoming at TRIWEST Healthcare Alliance, began the seminar. Ms. Hood briefly touched on the three plans (Prime, Extra, and Standard) and explained their features as it related to retirees under the age of 65 and their families. Ms. Hood continued by discussing the TRICARE for Life features for those who are age 65 and older and who are enrolled in Medicare Part B. She took ample time to answer questions before departing for her home in Colorado Springs. In typical western hospitality, CAPT Peter Van Souest, USNR (Ret), presented her a Stetson cowboy hat, in appreciation of her efforts, at the conclusion of the question and answer period.

CAPT Ron Servis, USNR (Ret), presented a handout describing how to ensure your points for service history are up-to-date, calculation of retirement pay, and reporting

pay problems. He advised to contact the Naval Personnel Center in New Orleans for questions concerning points at <www.nrpcweb.nola.navy.mil> or toll free 866-250-4778. For pay problems or changes of address, contact the Defense Financing and Accounting System (DFAS) at <www.dfas.mil> or 800-321-1080.

LCDR Golding presented the third part of the seminar by talking about military space availability air opportunities and Navy lodging by describing the eligibility and procedures for sponsors and their dependents to travel. He continued by talking about making reservations at the numerous Navy lodges. Information on recreational lodging can be obtained by calling 1-800-NAVYINN, 1-888-AFLODGE or 1-800-GOARMY1. For Space A travel, only terminals have flight information; there is no central flight information point of contact.

During the two-hour seminar, RADM Young served as timekeeper and provided quarterly updates on the Army-Navy football game. Those in attendance gave us high marks on our presentation. ⚓

Project Identify and Recognize

The goal of this project is to locate, identify, and recognize those who have served or are presently serving in the United States military and have a degree(s) in home economics, family and consumer sciences, dietetics, or other related fields of study.

Current Chairperson and recipient, CDR Sherry Kleinschmidt, USNR (Ret), invites anyone who is serving, has served, or knows of someone with active, reserve or retired service to complete the personal data form found on three Web sites:

www.ifhe-us.org
www.aafcs.org
www.womensmemorial.org

The second recognition ceremony for participants of Project Identify and Recognize will be held in San Diego, CA, on Friday, 25 June 2004.

The project is co-sponsored by the International Division of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences and the International Federation for Home Economics-United States. Participation in Project Identify will enable the home economics profession to honor qualifying professionals in an appropriate manner.