



Scuttlebutt

Branch/Unit 269 Goose Creek, South Carolina

You can read all newsletters at [269 Branch/Unit 269 Newsletters](#)

Fleet Reserve National: [FRA National Home \[https://www.fra.org\]](https://www.fra.org)

LA-FRA National: [Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association \[https://la-fra.org\]](https://la-fra.org)

Southeast Region: [frasoutheastregion.org \[https://frasoutheastregion.org\]](https://frasoutheastregion.org)

Branch 269 website: [FRA Low Country Branch & Unit 269 \[www.fra269gc.org\]](http://www.fra269gc.org)

FRA Branch and Unit 269 | Facebook [\[https://www.facebook.com/groups/FRABRANCH269/\]](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FRABRANCH269/)

Branch President's Corner

This month has been rather quiet. We have several members going to the Southeastern Convention. Branch 269 will be hosting the refreshment room.

A special Thanks to the Sessler family for donating the USN Atomic clock to the SUBVETS. The clock is now hanging on the wall in the banquet room.

We will be celebrating Navy birthday on Friday, October 10th. The cake cutting will be held in the banquet room at 1800. I hope we have a large turnout for this special event

The ships store has been changed to allow for more desired items. If anyone has a suggestion for a new item to be added to the store, contact Keith Laster or any manager.

Have a pleasant month, looking forward to have more shipmates at the next meeting.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service
Don Barton
Branch 269 President

Thoughts from Your Unit President:

Fall is in the air: The autumn season is approaching, such as cooler temperatures, shorter days, and the changing colors of leaves.

Our charter was draped for our departed member Gail Bolz PRPSE—the purpose is to honor the memory of our member who provide devoted service to this organization.

Happy to say that we had an initiation with two

new members. Welcome Brenda Frye and Lorraine Carver.

The Auxiliary had approved the purchase of a 100 cup Coffee pot, for the VA Hospital in North Charleston. It was delivered and they were so happy since they love their coffee. While there we noticed that they could use our help and support. They have a program called the VSCD (**Voluntary Service Curbside Delivery**) This program draws on resources from the community to deliver needed goods. They collect canned goods boxes of pasta cans of fruits, vegetables, and boxes of cereal. I have received a list of items that are needed, and I will place a bin for donations. [The list is on the website at [Checklist for Curbside Veterans Delivery](#).] This will be an ongoing project for the Auxiliary. We would also like the help from our Shipmates and members.

Remember every time you go shopping, pick up an item or two for this cause. Please support our Veterans in need—Remember this works at zero cost by employing volunteers like us.

A discussion came up about having a yard sale on March 21, 2026, was tabled until next meeting.

We had many resolutions to discuss for National. Currently, we have 2 running for National President, 1 for National Vice President, 2 for the National Executive Secretary plus many Bylaw Changes.

Our 77th Regional Conventions was on Sept 22-26 in Warner Robins, Georgia. We had a very

successful convention time to bond with other Auxiliary and Shipmates.

I would like to bring to everyone's attention that we are **LA FRA or Auxiliary of the FRA not AFRA**. Maybe it has been approved but not by the General Assembly which will happen at the National Convention. Also, we will not be addressed as the AFRA, we will be addressed as the **Auxiliary of the FRA**. (Auxiliary will be spelled out).

Oct 12 Bunko 12:30 Come one come all

Oct 14 11:30 Auxiliary luncheon will be at Carolina Ale House in Summerville (All are Welcome)

Oct 14 6:00 Auxiliary Meeting

(BOO) HAPPY HALLOWEEN



In Loyalty, Protection and Service
NFS Pat Suckow, PNP
Unit 269 President



Unit 269 Low County, Goose Creek donated a 100-cup coffee cup to the VA Clinic. Pictured: Gale Nathan PNC, Samuel Mattews Voluntary Specialist for the VA Clinic, and Pat Suckow NFS/PNP

WEEKLY DRAWING AT THE HOME

- 9/2: Roy Massey Sr [Branch], not signed
- 9/9: Dwayne Ashline [Branch], not signed
- 9/16: Lorena M Claxton [Unit], not signed
- 9/23: Robert Warder [Branch], not signed.
- 9/30: will be posted next month

Must be a member of the Branch or Unit in good standing and you must be signed in the log. You can sign up until 1800 on the day of the drawing. The drawing is held every Tuesday night at 2000.

Branch Treasurer's Report

July 28, 2025 - August 27, 2025

Cash in Bank – Checking	\$ 6,883.10
Cash in Bank – Convention Checking	\$ 20.03
Cash in Bank – Savings	\$ 5,192.08
Cash in Bank – Certificate of Deposit	\$12,115.81
TOTAL	\$24,211.02

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 729 end of August

New Join/Reinstated [6]: Rick Collins, Craig Farr, Sherman Hostetter, George Popovich, Thomas Rice, Daniel Speight

Past Due [15]: Mark Archambean, Bobby Barbee, Bobby Beck, Dillon Brown, John Cardno, Elmer Feeser, Matthew Frazier, Harold Herrington, Charles Hollowood, Douglas Jordan, Lewis Leal, Jr., Michael Quigley, William Ragan, Brian Sims, Jerry Young

Ready to Renew [37]: Johnny Aldea, Gary Arquisola, Robert Beilstein, Robert Bryant, Kevin Deise, Pacifico Dela Fuente, Oscar Diano, Mark Erwin, James Finney, James Fleming, Michael Fusari, George Gilford, Joseph Glavan, Michelle Goad, Jamaal Goss, Richard Harbold, Jr., Terrell Heath, Wendy Holman, William Hunter, Chris Ludwig, Robert MacPherson, Robert Mastrion, Anthony Mazza, Leonard Monnig, Richard Nolan, Don Pace, Lyndon Porter, Robert Pulos, William Pye, Jr., Garry Radwick, Cubit Robinson, Bob Segal, Roberta Sutton, L.D. Taschner, Robert Temple, Guy Travaglio, Daniel Wall

Term NPD [7]: Richard Glass, Stephen Jeffery, Lonnie Kenney, Arthur Robinson, Joseph Schepisi, Timothy Thrower, Brad Wonderliing

Term DEC [2]: Paul March, Jr., Elmer Mullins

- **Active Unit Members:** 194

UNIT MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

- 30 days past due [3]: Jessica Murphy, Sara Scott, Ann Tolentino
 - 60 days past due: [1]: Anita Wright
 - 90 days past due [0]: none
- Active Members: 194

BRANCH CHAPLAIN

Hospital/Welfare/Rehabilitation:

- No Two-Bell
- Tom Lawson recovering from hospitalization.
- Jerry Stout is clear of cancer and in rehab.
- Fred Woodley's thyroid issue due to weight loss.
- Ken Curtis at home with palliative care.
- Mike & Deborah Knaub moved to Daniel Island assisted living.
- Bill Roberts relocated to D409 in the Villages.

Shipmates or Unit members please contact:
Branch Chaplain S/M Bobbi Sutton @

843.541.2823 or 843.879.9473
Unit Chaplain Theresa Milligan @
843-535-2757

Home Committee Report

Cash Audit as of **13 Sept. 2025** is as follows:

Checking Account balance	\$15,600.30
Savings account	\$35,461.62
Credit Card account available	\$11,749.53
Pending Check/Cash for deposit	\$ 2,489.75
Registers/Cash Funds	\$11,500.00
Total funds	\$76,801.20
Net Profits: August	\$9,428.11

**Building and Grounds/Special Events/and
Manager's Report:**

- Golf Tournament: Sept 27, tee time 0800
- Kitchen Floor: S/M Young recommended Tony Scruggs. S/M Pepper will meet to discuss scope and cost.
- An additional \$10,000 deposited in savings

Membership and Security:

- HQ reports 729 Active members; 194 Unit members

Old Business:

- Several Items covered in minutes at the end of the newsletter: Kitchen Floor; parking lot drainage; Cleaning day; Calendar updates; **No Vaping**

New Business

- Several Items covered in minutes at the end of the newsletter: Table reservations; Entertainment; Bar side back wall tables; Employee treatment; Upcoming Events.

Good of the Order:

- Indoor Picnic scheduled for Veterans Day Tuesday November 11.
 - Next Home Meeting is 13 Oct at 1800
Laura Bailey, Home Committee Chairman
-

Americanism/Patriotism - PNC Laurie Bailey
Updates on Branch Essay Contest for the 2025
A/P contest on the website at

2026 FRA Member Scholarship.pdf

Dates in History September/October

- 19 Sept—National POW/MIA Remembrance Day
- 21 Sept—First Day of Autumn
- 01 Oct—Yom Kippur Begins at sunset
- 02 Oct—Yom Kippur Ends at Nightfall
- 05 Oct—Start of Fire Prevention Week
- 13 Oct—US Navy Birthday (1775)

13 Oct—Columbus Day (observed)

Newsbytes: The Fleet Reserve Bulletin

The Newsbytes are sent throughout the month from National to all FRA members via email. A direct link to Newsbytes is on the FRA269 Website Home Page to gain access to the Newsbytes

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Newsbytes September 5, 2025

- ◇ MHS Expands Mental Health Resources
- ◇ Navy Unveils "Total Sailor" Initiative
- ◇ VA to Discontinue DS Logon
- ◇ Coast Guard Updates PFT
- ◇ Commissary: Operation Baby Sale

Newsbytes September 12, 2025

- ◇ Free Course Helps Veterans Turn Ideas Into Businesses
- ◇ President Trump Honor 9/11 Victims
- ◇ MCPON Honea Announces Retirement
- ◇ New MCPON Puts Sailors and Training First
- ◇ Mobile Unit Brings Health Care to Homeless Veterans

Newsbytes September 19, 2025

- ◇ FY26 NDAA Passes House
- ◇ FRA Support Veterans Benefits Live in Cary NC
- ◇ Harnessing AI to Transform Veterans' Care
- ◇ Tricare West Region Beneficiaries Face Sept. 30 Deadline

Newsbytes September 26, 2025

- ◇ FRA Supports Bill to Protect Military Pay
 - ◇ VA Awards \$84 Million in Grants for Homelessness
 - ◇ Pentagon Adds Flu Shot Exemptions
 - ◇ Navy Families Face Delays in Child Care Fee Assistance
-

MEAL HOURS FOR THE HOME
Lunch Hours Mon-Fri 1100-1300.
Dinner Hours Mon-Fri 1700-1900
FRA Low Country Branch & Unit 269

FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION
97/92 NATIONAL CONVENTIONS
3-8 NOVEMBER 2025

will be held at
Oasis Hotel and Conference Center
2546 N. Glenstone Ave.
Springfield, Missouri
Ph# 417-866-5253.
Room rates are \$119 per night; more for suites.

[Newsletter #1](#)

[Newsletter #2](#)

[Newsletter #3](#)

[Newsletter #4](#)

RESOLUTIONS: FRA 97th FRA Annual Convention Proposed Changes to the C&BL

Branch/Unit 269 website: fra269gc.org !!!!

Get your current and past newsletters and see upcoming events. The website has allowed a drastic decrease in the number of printed and mailed newsletters resulting in saving money. Contact me webmaster@fra268gc.org if you want to stop your current printed copy.

Use the Branch and Unit Membership Boxes outside the office for new member and renewal applications. When you recruit a new member ensure all of their information is correct on the application. Place the new application/renewal in an envelope (available at the box) and place inside the "Membership Box". **Nothing concerning membership will be placed in the pass down log.**

Life Membership ages and dues

Active duty: \$400.00 Ages 40 & younger: \$450.00
Ages 41-50: \$425.00 Ages 51-60: \$390.00
Ages 61-70: \$340.00 Ages 71-80: \$260.00
Ages 81-99: \$200.00
Ages 100 and older: **FREE**

The Security Corner

Provided by: George Birmingham ET1(SS) USS H.L. Stimson SSBN655—G/SY1/G 69-74, USSVI Carolina Piedmont Base, Holland Club

After seeing an article today about the resurgence of Check Washing, I thought perhaps a Security Corner Article on the subject might be handy. I encourage you to watch the videos as I think they are very informative (just skip the ads, which I cannot remove).

Check Washing makes a return from the past

Check washing is a fraud scheme where criminals steal checks from mailboxes, use chemicals or digital tools to erase the original payee and amount, then alter the check to themselves for a larger sum before depositing or cashing it. Victims often don't know until they see a drastically different amount withdrawn from their account or a bounced check.

Well, it seems according to the article link

below that it is seeing a resurgence in popularity: **'Check washing' costs Americans over \$1 billion each year, says USPIS — how to spot it and protect your money**

Many years ago, I had the opportunity to hear Frank Abignale, Jr. speak about check washing while I was an IT Security Specialist at Wachovia Bank (now part of Wells Fargo). You may recall that Frank was the prime character of the movie "Catch Me if You Can". I found a YouTube video of a talk that Frank did about check washing and how to protect yourself by using a very inexpensive, but very effective Uniball Gel 207 pen. I have used nothing else since! Here is a link to that video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhR-koBU4zM>

And this is also a very informative video by Frank as well:

Every scam has one of these red flags:

I hope you find this information useful, and that Uniball Gel 207 he mentioned can be found at Walmart, Target, Staples and other places where pens are sold.

- **Follow the 3-2-1 backup rule:** Keep three copies of your important files — two in different types of storage and one stored off-site. For example, save the originals on your computer, another copy on an **external hard drive** or **USB stick**, and the last one in cloud storage online. Overkill? Maybe. Covered? Always.
- **3-second tech genius:** Type "Play solitaire" into Google to start a quick game. No downloads or payments. Bonus: Underneath, you'll find other classics like Snake and PAC-MAN. Fun times.
- **3-second tech genius:** Printer acting weird? Unplug it, hold the **power button for 15 seconds**, then plug it back in. This clears its memory and often fixes common errors. In-credible.
- **3-second tech genius:** On **Android**, **double press** the **power button** to instantly launch the **Camera**. On **iPhone** (15/16), set the Action button to open the Camera in **Settings > Action Button**.
- **3-second gadget genius:** Tired of your phone autocorrecting a name? When your spelling pops up above the keyboard, tap it. Your phone learns it and stops "fixing" it.

BRANCH 269

BRANCH OFFICERS

President: Don Barton
Vice President: Steve Koch
Secretary: Sarah Ihme
Treasurer: PNP Don MucHECK
Jr. Past President: Ken Hutchinson

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PNC Laurie Bailey Tim Bailey
PRPSE Fred Bolz Larry Pepper
Ron Lamon Tom Lawson
Glenn Little Ken Wallace
Bobbie Sutton Johnny Brown
David Mattingly John Tharp

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Chaplain: Bobbi Sutton
Essay Contest: PNC Laurie Bailey
Legislative Affairs / VAVS:
 PRPSE Fred Bolz
Master-at-Arms: Glenn Little
Membership: Ken Wallace
Parliamentarian: PNP Don MucHECK
Public Relations: John Tharp
Ways and Means: Larry Pepper
Webmaster: Nick Nichols
Newsletter: Nick Nichols
Youth Activities: Ed Peters

AFRA UNIT 269

UNIT OFFICERS

President: NFS Pat Suckow, PNP
Vice President: Debbie Breeze
Secretary: Amy Osborne
Treasurer: Gale Nathan, PNC

UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Sorenson Sue Peters
Dee Wallace Ann Griffith
Linda Nichols

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

Amer/Patriotism: Linda Nichols
Chaplain: Theresa Milligan
Hospital: Theresa Milligan
Membership: Debbie Breeze
Publicity: Debbie Breeze
Sergeant-at-Arms: Kim Vandiver
Ship's Store: Sue Peters
Unit Activities: All Members
VAVS: Theresa Milligan
Welfare/Rehab: Sue Peters
Youth Activities: Anne Barton/
 Gale Nathan

LOW COUNTRY HOME, LLC

99 Wisteria Road,
Goose Creek SC 29445
843-569-2692

Frbranch269@comcast.net

Home Chairman: PNC Laurie Bailey
Admin Secretary: Sarah Ihme
Financial Sec: PNP Don MucHECK
Director: Sue Peters
Director: John Tharp
Director: Tim Bailey
Director: Dee Wallace
Director: Ken Wallace
Director: Kim Vandiver
Director: Ken Hutchinson
Home Managers: Larry Pepper
 Bob Zauner
 Don Garrand



Auxiliary of the FRA Unit 269 Meeting 16 September 2025

Draping the Charter for PRPSE Gail N. Bolz



**Initiation for New Members
Brenda Frye and Lorainne Carver**



BRANCH 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—OCTOBER 2025

John Lemieux	58	Timothy Bailey	20	Ed Young	17	William Pye Jr	10
Earnest Hall	51	Terrell Heath	20	Roger Gibson	16	Garry Radwick	9
Rocco Losito	51	Stephen Jackson	20	Kim Hamilton	16	Lowell Mills	8
Kenneth Wallace	51	Leonard Monnig	20	Robert Jett	16	David Karrick	7
John Parnell	50	Roberta Sutton	20	James Nelson	16	Julian Czeiszperger	6
Joseph Glavan	47	James Finney	19	Daniel Wall	16	Frank Hixenbaugh	6
Robert Beilstein	45	James Gregory	19	Darryl Watson	16	Jonathan Starry	3
Gerald Fraser	45	William Hunter	19	Wendy Holman	15	Robert Warder	3
Marvin Brigman	40	Brian Masterson	19	Ken Anderson	14	Gary Arquiola	2
John Paul	32	Robert Mastrion	19	David Clemmons	14	Robert Pulos	2
Don Pace	30	Phillip Nunnally	19	Bruce Bailey	14	David Taschner	2
Oscar Diano	26	Melvin Harper	18	Ronnie Kerstetter	13	Benjamin Becker	1
Betty Hilliard	25	John Newby	18	Jeffrey Elliott	12	Mike Ciesielko	1
Charles Rein	25	Richard Nolan	18	John Lambert	12	Justin Mingie	1
Richard Roebuck	25	Brandon Pruett	18	Mark Tompkins	12	Marlene Silva	1
Jeffrey Muniz	24	Guy Traveglia	18	Edward Stover	10	Dennis Ward	1
Carey Baxley	22	William Campbell	17	Larry Turner	10	Jodi Wright	1
Mitchell McCain	21	James Fleming	17	Richard Herndon	10		

UNIT 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—OCTOBER 2025

Gale Nathan	45	Rhonda McNally	13	David Emerson	9	Brian Adams	3
Dee Wallace	22	Chun Stanfield	12	Daniel March	5	Tyler Adams	3
Cynthia Young	18	James Siroky	10	Rosie Soderlund	4	William Adams	3
Carolyn J. Rose	18						

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN OCTOBER 2025

If you are a Branch 269 or Unit 269 member, come on in to the
Low Country Home on your birthday for a **FREE BIRTHDAY LUNCH!!!**
Auxiliary members in *ITALICS*

Brendan Goff	1	William Baranek	7	Earnest Hall	13	Lee Barkley	21
Mark Heck	1	Sherman Hostetter	8	Fred Lentz	13	James Belemare	23
<i>Sandra Rader</i>	1	Arthur Pittman	8	<i>Brian Marrale</i>	13	<i>Loretta Dailey</i>	23
Robert Jett	2	Charles Walker	8	James McCutcheon	14	John Difrancesco	23
Robert Traynor	2	Richard Dougherty	9	Lindsay Nelson	14	Orlando Maninging	24
Shannon Cason	3	Ernest Holt	9	Dwayne Ashline	15	Gary Gander	26
Verne Merrill	3	<i>Joseph VonBrincken</i>	9	Hilton Hooks	15	<i>Heather Kennedy</i>	26
Joseph Dick	4	Ken Anderson	10	Thomas Skorepa	16	Ralph Rohrssen	26
Betty Sue Henderson	4	Dennis Lambries	10	Craig Wold	16	<i>Denise McCready</i>	27
<i>Remedia Crawford</i>	5	Mark Chapman	11	John Aguilera	19	Llewellyn Brennen	28
David Markyvech	5	William Cole	11	John Casner Jr.	19	Peter Garrison	28
William Butler	6	Charles Hines	11	Norris Nathan	19	Robert Kowsecianski	28
Brian Koller	6	David Chapman	12	Dennis Turner	10	Dennis Hazel	29
Brian Masterson	6	Lonnie Kenney	12	Skip Chilton	20	George Miller	29
<i>Amanda Reid</i>	6	<i>Bryan Kopezynski</i>	12	Ronnie Jones	20	Winfield Meadows Jr.	29
<i>Kathy Sumner</i>	6	John Lookabill	12	<i>Robin McKeown</i>	20	Cubit Robinson	31



My HealtheVet

Get answers to common questions

The new My HealtheVet experience allows you to refill and track your VA prescriptions in the same place that you manage your other VA benefits and services. If you have questions about using the new medications tool, we have answers.

[Learn more](#)

Login.gov begins accepting passports

Login.gov has begun accepting U.S. passports for identity verification. This is a new option for anyone creating their Login.gov account for the first time.

[Learn more about using a passport for identity verification](#)

Get back to sleep with VA's Insomnia Coach

If you struggle with sleep, you're not alone. The Insomnia Coach app can give you the tools to get your sleep back on track.

[Learn more about Insomnia Coach](#)



When you need CPAP supplies

If you use a CPAP or BPAP machine, it's important to regularly replace certain parts of the machine to keep it working properly. VA makes it easy to order supplies online.

[Learn when and how to order CPAP supplies](#)

VA health & benefits on your phone

Get the VA: Health and Benefits app

Did you know that there's a mobile app that lets you easily manage your VA health and benefits all in one place? Find out what you can do with the VA: Health and Benefits app.

[Learn more](#)

Make the most of your secure messages

It's easy to stay in touch with your health care team through a secure message. But unclear messages can cause confusion.

[Try these tips to get the most out of your messages](#)

Items needed for Curbside Delivery For Our Veterans at the VA Hospital

Proteins:

- Tuna Cans
- Chicken Can
- SPAM Can or other potted meat
- Bean Cans: pork & beans, black beans, kidney beans, navy beans, beanie weenies
- Bag Dry Beans
- Jar Peanut Butter
- Soup/ or Stew:
 - Cans
- Sauce
 - Jar or Can Red Marinara Sauce or Alfredo Sauce
- Pasta:
 - Package or Box of Pasta noodles
- Rice:
 - Package or Box of Rice
- Vegetables:
 - Mixed Cans: corn, green beans, mixed, greens
- Fruits:
 - Mixed Cans: peaches, fruit cocktail, pineapple, apple sauce
- Ready Meals:
 - Mac & Cheese
 - Hormel Microwave Meals
 - Top Ramen
 - Box/Bag Instant Potatoes
- Cereal:

Box/Bag of Cereal----May substitute 4-5 small cereal boxes----May substitute 5-6 oatmeal, cream of wheat, or grits packets
- GIFT CARD \$5.00 OR \$10.00 NOT MORE—PLACE IN Auxiliary box

Mark your calendar, watch for details, watch for additions
 Unless noted otherwise all meetings are in the large room
 Where no time noted group has room for entire day
 Friday nights – 1930– Scotch Doubles, 8-Ball Tournament

OCTOBER 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 <u>1800</u> SUBVETS BOD	3 <u>1200-?</u> Curtis Wedding Setup	4 <u>1500-?</u> Curtis Wedding
5 Free Pool	6	7	8	9 <u>1900</u> SUBVETS Mtg	10 <u>1800</u> US NAVY 250 TH BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING	11 <u>1000</u> DAV Mtg ===== <u>Time UNK</u> Unit 269 Audit
12 Free Pool <u>1200-1600</u> Bunko	13 US NAVY BIRTHDAY 1775 <u>1800</u> Home Committee	14 <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch <u>1800</u> Unit Mtg	15 <u>1900-2030</u> Metal Detectors Club	16 <u>1800</u> Branch BOD <u>1900</u> Branch Mtg	17	18 <u>1000-1200</u> MilFrat <u>1300-????</u> Domestic Violence Meeting
19 Free Pool	20 <u>1800-2000</u> HOA Meeting	21	22	23 <u>1900</u> MCL	24	25 <u>Time UKN</u> Baby Shower
26 Free Pool	27 <u>1730-1900</u> VVA Mtg	28	29	30	31	

Mark your calendar, watch for details, watch for additions
 Unless noted otherwise all meetings are in the large room
 Where no time noted group has room for entire day
 Friday nights – 1930 hrs – Scotch Doubles, 8-Ball Tournament

NOVEMBER 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Time UNK GC8 Pool Party
2 Free Pool DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	3	4 ELECTION DAY	5	6 1800 SUBVETS BOD	7	8 1000-1200 DAV Mtg 1700-???? Baby Shower
9 Free Pool	10 US MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY 1775 Time UNK MC League	11 FRA'S BIRTHDAY 1924 VETERAN'S DAY 1100-1400 Indoor Picnic	12	13 1900 SUBVETS Mtg	14	15 0900-1200 MILFRAT
16 Free Pool	17 1800 Home Committee	18 1130 Unit Lunch 1800 Unit Mtg	19	20 1800 Branch BOD 1900 Branch Mtg	21	22
23 Free Pool	24 1730 VVA Mtg 1900 Carolina Coins Mtg	25	26	27 THANKSGIVING DAY	28	29
30 Free Pool						

FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269 HOME COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2025

PNC Laurie Bailey called the Low Country Branch 269 Home Committee meeting to order at 1800 on Monday, September 15, 2025.

Board members present: PNC Laurie Bailey, PNP Don Muccheck, Shipmates Sarah Ihme, Tim Bailey, Ken Hutchinson, Ken Wallace, and John Tharp; Ladies Sue Peters, Amy Osborne, Dee Wallace, and Kim Vandiver.

Other members present: Shipmate President Don Barton, Shipmate Vice President Steve Koch, PRPSE Fred Bolz, and Home Managers Larry Pepper and Bob Zauner.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were approved as posted, with no corrections or objections.

- **MOTION:** Lady Dee Wallace motioned, and S/M John Tharp seconded that these minutes be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

S/M Steve Koch and S/M Ken Hutchinson assisted PNP Don Muccheck with the cash audit.

Balances as of 13SEPT25: Checking \$15,600.30; Savings \$35,461.62; Credit Card \$11,749.53; Pending Deposits \$2,489.75; Registers/Cash Funds \$11,500. Total Funds \$76,801.20.

Net Profits: August \$9,428.11.

- **MOTION:** Lady Dee Wallace motioned, and S/M Ken Hutchinson seconded to accept the Financial Reports. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

Golf Tournament: September 27, tee time 0800.

Kitchen floor: S/M Ed Young recommended Tony Scruggs. S/M Larry Pepper will meet with him to discuss scope and cost.

An additional \$10,000 was deposited into savings.

- **MOTION:** Lady Kim Vandiver motioned, and Lady Amy Osborne seconded to accept the Building and Grounds / Special Event Manager's Report. Motion carried.

Membership and Security:

FRA HQ reports 729 Active Members. There are 194 Unit Members.

Old Business

Kitchen floor: Replace flooring or add mats in worn areas. Tabled pending further information from S/M Larry Pepper.

Drainage: Parking lot drains and retention pond need cleaning; tree removal will require separate contractors. Tabled until addressed.

Volunteer cleaning day: The first clean-up day was held on September 8th, with 10 out of 11 committee members volunteering. The banquet room and grounds were cleaned. The next cleanup will focus on the bar side.

Storage room instructions: Plastic frames purchased for posting and updating notices.

Gear storage sink: Repaired by S/M Tim Bailey with new piping.

Parking spot raffle: We will not be doing this raffle.

Calendar updates: Managers will continue to coordinate with Branch/Unit secretaries and veteran organizations.

No vaping or smoking: Signs posted on marquee and foyer.

New Business

Table reservations (Friday nights): Staff will advise patrons that tables cannot be saved; overflow seating available in banquet room.

Entertainment: Discussion on bringing in another DJ/Karaoke option for variety. S/M Larry Pepper will contact other entertainers.

Uncle Sam figure: Retired from the bar.

Back wall tables: Discussed possibility for pool player use, but they are not needed.

Employee treatment: Discussed concerns with daytime lunch crowds, which will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Any problems with staff need to be reported to S/M Larry Pepper.

Upcoming events:

POW/MIA Remembrance Day – September 19 (marquee posting)

U.S. Navy Birthday – October 13; cake cutting on Friday October 10th at 1800

Halloween – October 31 event tabled until next year due to National Convention.

Good of the Order

Indoor picnic scheduled for Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11.

The next meeting will be on 13 October at 1800.

- **MOTION:** Lady Amy Osborne motioned, and Lady Dee Wallace seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1845.

Auxiliary of the FRA, Unit 269
Minutes, September 16, 2025
FRA Home, Goose Creek, SC

President, NFS/PNP Pat Suckow, called the regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting to order at 5:57 pm.

Visitors: Ann Krotzer, Maria Farrell, Nick Nichols, Fred Bolz PRPSE

Drape the Charter: Gail Bolz 8/29/25

Roll Call of Officers. President, NFS/PNP Pat Suckow; Vice President Debbie Breeze; Treasurer PNC Gale Nathan and Secretary Amy Osborne were present.

Roll Call of Board of Directors. Kathy Sorenson, Sue Peters, Ann Griffith, Dee Wallace, Linda Nichols were present, and Anne Barton was absent.

New Member Initiation. New Members Brenda Frye and Lorainne Carver were initiated by NFS/PNP Pat Suckow.

Minutes. August 19, 2025, were approved.

Membership Report. Debbie Breeze.

Members as of June 1 -- 182; Reinstated - 5; New - 14; Transferred In - 0; Transferred Out -- 0; Resigned -- 0; Non-Payment -- 5; Deceased -- 1; Ineligible -- 1; Other -- 0; Active Members -- 194.

Treasurer's Report. PNC Gale Nathan.

Balance brought forward: \$15,297.42. Disbursements: \$666.32. PCT Auto Deposits: \$275.00. Unit Deposits: \$804.00. Checking account balance \$16,710.10. Savings: \$3,162.21. Balance on hand: \$19,872.31.

Bills to be paid: \$1500.00 for animal shelters. Motion by Gail Nathan to reimburse Gail Nathan for coffee pot & \$170.03, VA hospital \$117.27, and Gail Bolz flowers \$52.32 for a

total of \$339.62. Marilyn Tharpe seconded. Motion carried. Motion from Gail Nathan to reimburse Amy Osborne for \$11.98 for printing supplies. DJ Cox seconded. Motion carried.

Chaplain's Report: Theresa Milligan.

Fifteen birthday cards and 3 condolences/get well cards were sent this month.

Correspondence: Amy Osborne.

None

Activities: All Members.

50/50 – August \$102.00, Friday's \$572.00

Golf Tournament – September 27 at 8:00 a.m.

Bunko – \$80.00

Americanism/Patriotism: Linda Nichols

September/October 2025

September 16 – National Voters Registration Day (2012).

September 21 – POW/MIA Remembrance Day (1979).

September 27 – National Family and Fitness Day.

September 28 – Gold Star Mother's Day (1936).

Month of September World Alzheimer's Awareness.

October 1 – Yom Kippur begins at sunset.

October 2 – Yom Kippur ends at sunset.

October 5 -Fire Prevention Week (1925).

October 13 – US Navy 250th Birthday (1775).

October 13 – Columbus Day Observed (1937).

October 18 – Sweetest Day (1921).

Audit: Sue Peters, Kim Vandiver

Audit was held on September 13 at 11:30 a.m.

Hospital: Theresa Milligan

Not Present.

VAVS: Theresa Milligan

Not Present.

Publicity: Debbie Breeze

Debbie Breeze distributed the catalog for the Rada sale. We will take orders for 6 weeks. Debbie Breeze updated the easel board with current activities. We will table the discussion of a yard sale to be held March 21st.

Welfare / Rehabilitation: Sue Peters

Sue Peters – We gave school supplies to Berkeley Elementary School. Principal Ruth Butka stated they were starting a pantry that we could donate to. We still need to deliver tissues and paper towels. We still need to deliver pet supplies to the animal shelters.

Youth Activities: Anne Barton, Gale Nathan

No Report

Ship's Store: Sue Peters

Sue Peters is waiting on 19 shirts to mail.

Unfinished Business:.

Kim Vandiver announced that the Halloween Party has been cancelled due to other conflicts such as the National Convention.

The next Pill Party is on October 11th at 10:00 a.m.

New Business:

1. National Convention - Pat Suckow informed us that there have been 47 resolutions. There is also a new resolution for National President. Linda Nichols motioned that we allow our delegates to the National Convention to make these decisions to the unit. Bebbie Breeze seconded. Motion carried. Amy Osborne made a motion to allow our delegates to the Regional Conventions to make the decisions for the unit. Linda Nichols seconded. Motion carried.
2. The National President's Project is "Paws for Purple Hearts". Marilyn Tharpe made a motion that we donate \$500.00 for the project. Dee Wallace seconded. Motion carried.
3. On August 25th an email was sent out to the board regarding the VA Hospital in North Charleston needing a 100 cup Coffee pot. It was approved by the board to purchase the coffee pot. The Treasurer Gale Nathan purchased it, and it was delivered to the VA who really appreciated it.

4. While there we noticed that they could use our help and support. They have a program called the VSCD (Voluntary Service Curbside Delivery) This program draws on resources from the community to deliver needed goods. It also eases financial burden. They collect canned goods boxes of pasta cans of fruits, vegetables, and boxes of cereal. I have received a list of items that are needed, and I would like to place a bin for donations with. This will be an ongoing course for the Auxiliary. Remember every time you go shopping, pick up an item for this course. Please support our Veterans in need. Remember this operates at zero cost by employing volunteers like us. Gift cards can be purchased at Navy Federal. Limit this to amounts of \$10.00. Linda Nichols will mention the initiative at the Sub Vets meeting.

Good of the Order:

Pat Suckow brought to our attention that we are LA FRA not AFRA. Maybe it has been approved but not by the General Assembly which will happen at the National Convention. Also, we will not be addressed as the AFRA, we will be addressed as the Auxiliary of the FRA. (Auxiliary will be spelled out)

Sept. 22-26 - SE Convention in Warner Robbins, GA

Sept. 27 - Golf tournament Kim Vandiver and Dee Wallace will cover the morning at the golf course. Sue Peters, Gail Nathan and Pat Suckow will cover the afternoon at the home.

Oct. 11 - Pill Party 10:00 a.m. the home.

Oct. 14 - Luncheon 11:30 a.m. All are welcome

We will discuss a cake sale at the next meeting.

Please remember that we make update on the FRA Branch and Unit 269 Facebook page.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 14, at 6:00 p.m.

Next Luncheon: Tuesday, October 14, at 11:30 a.m. at Carolina Ale House in Summerville.

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269 BOD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2025**

Shipmate President Don Barton called the regular Low Country Branch 269 meeting to order at 1800, Thursday, September 18, 2025, in accordance with FRA Rituals.

Board Members present were:

PRPSE Fred Bolz	Ron Lamon	Ken Wallace	Don Barton
PNC Laurie Bailey	John Tharp	Bobbi Sutton	Steve Koch
Tim Bailey	David Mattingly	Johnny Brown	PNP Don Muccheck
Larry Pepper	Glenn Little	Sarah Ihme	

Other members present were Shipmates Ken Hutchinson, Nick Nichols, and Bob Zauner.

Minutes: Posted on the entrance table. Motion to accept carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism: PNC Laurie Bailey
Report at general assembly.

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Report at general assembly.

Legislative Service and VAVS: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Report at general assembly.

Hospital, Welfare and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton
No Two Bell; other items at general assembly.

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace
Report at general assembly.

Youth Activities: Ed Peters
Report at general assembly.

Public Relations: John Tharp
Nothing to report.

Ways and Means: Larry Pepper
Report at general assembly.

Golf: Larry Pepper
Report at general assembly.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little
Report at general assembly.

Home Committee: Laurie Bailey
Report at general assembly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Committee needed to review National Convention resolutions.

- **MOTION:** PRPSE Fred Bolz motioned, S/M Vice President Steve Koch seconded to appoint a committee to review resolutions and officer submissions before the October meeting and provide recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Awards purchased in March by S/M John Tharp.

- **MOTION:** PNC Laurie Bailey motioned, S/M Tim Bailey seconded to reimburse \$326.35. Motion carried unanimously.

PNC Laurie Bailey ordered 500 cards to be placed in the foyer and distributed to potential members.

- **MOTION:** S/M Larry Pepper motioned, S/M Glenn Little seconded to reimburse \$49.03. Motion carried unanimously.

Reimbursement requested by S/M Nick Nichols for toner, a drum kit, and stamps.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck motioned, S/M Ken Hutchinson seconded to reimburse \$113.89. Motion carried unanimously.

Invoice from FRA Home for key card and four steak dinners.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck motioned, PNC Laurie Bailey seconded to pay \$89.00. Motion carried unanimously.

There are items in the ship's store that are not moving.

- **MOTION:** S/M Ken Hutchinson motioned, S/M Glenn Little seconded to use items as Christmas party door prizes. Motion carried unanimously

GOOD OF THE ORDER

S/M President Don Barton appointed PNP Don Muccheck, PRPSE Fred Bolz, S/M VP Steve Koch, and PNC Laurie Bailey as the review committee for National Convention resolutions and officer submissions.

S/M Nick Nichols recommended an embroidery contact. Interested members may obtain details from Woody Woodsmall, SUBVETs storekeeper.

An atomic clock, donated to the SUBVETs by S/M Marty Sessler's family, has been placed in the banquet room. If the clock shows incorrect time, see S/M Nick Nichols for reset.

PNC Laurie Bailey motioned, S/M Bobbi Sutton seconded to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1824.

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269
MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Shipmate President Don Barton called the regular meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 1900, in accordance with Article FRA Rituals.

Visitors: The Auxiliary

Shipmates Initiated: None

Minutes: Published in the newsletter. The minutes stand as approved.

Communications:

Resolutions for nominations for National and Regional officers are on our website under the newsletter/convention page.

Received C&BL changes for the National Convention. These will be sent to the membership.

Low Country Branch 269 bylaw amendments will be distributed to membership.

The VA is accepting food donations for curbside delivery to support veterans; information will be sent to membership.

Treasurer's Report:

The report for the period of July 28 – August 27 is as follows:

General Checking: \$6,883.10	Savings Account: \$5,192.08
Certificate of Deposit: \$12,115.81	Convention Checking: \$20.03
Total: \$24,211.02	

All bills received to date have been paid.

Continuous Membership:

September 2025

Benjamin Kluth – 60 Years
Charles Clore – 25 Years
Merrell Peterson – 25 Years
Kenneth Seal – 25 Years
Franklin Shoenberger – 25 Years

Ron Workman – 25 Years
Ronald Litzenberger – 20 Years
Sam Pennington – 20 Years
Michael Hadbavny – 15 Years
Donald Langdon – 10 Years

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism – PNC Laurie Bailey

Dates in History September/October

19 September – National POW/MIA Remembrance Day
21 September – First Day of Autumn

01 October – Yom Kippur Begins at Sunset
02 October – Yom Kippur Ends at Nightfall
05 October – Start of Fire Prevention Week
13 October – US Navy Birthday (1775)
13 October – Columbus Day Observed

Information on the essay contest has been sent to schools. The theme this year is “America at 250, What Does It Mean to Me”.

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz

No new bylaws. National bylaws will be presented in October.

Legislative Service & VAVS: PRPSE Fred Bolz

Newsbytes are posted.

Hospital, Welfare and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton

No Two Bell.

Tom Lawson has been hospitalized and is recovering at home.

Jerry Stout is clear of prostate cancer and going through rehab.

Fred Woodley’s thyroid issue was due to his weight loss.

Ken Curtis is at home with Palliative Hospice Care.

Mike and Deborah Knaub have moved to assisted living in Daniel Island.

Bill Roberts relocated to D409 in the Villages.

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 729

New Join/Reinstated: Rick Collins, Craig Farr, Sherman Hostetter, George Popovich, Thomas Rice, Daniel Speight

Past Due: Mark Archambean, Bobby Barbee, Bobby Beck, Dillon Brown, John Cardno, Elmer Feeser, Matthew Frazier, Harold Herrington, Charles Hollowood, Douglas Jordan, Lewis Leal, Jr., Michael Quigley, William Ragan, Brian Sims, Jerry Young

Ready to Renew: Johnny Aldea, Gary Arquisola, Robert Beilstein, Robert Bryant, Kevin Deise, Pacifico Dela Fuente, Oscar Diano, Mark Erwin, James Finney, James Fleming, Michael Fusari, George Gilford, Joseph Glavan, Michelle Goad, Jamaal Goss, Richard Harbold, Jr., Terrell Heath, Wendy Holman, William Hunter, Chris Ludwig, Robert MacPherson, Robert Mastrion, Anthony Mazza, Leonard Monnig, Richard Nolan, Don Pace, Lyndon Porter, Robert Pulos, William Pye, Jr., Garry Radwick, Cubit Robinson, Bob Segal, Roberta Sutton, L.D. Taschner, Robert Temple, Guy Travaglio, Daniel Wall

Term NPD: Richard Glass, Stephen Jeffery, Lonnie Kenney, Arthur Robinson, Joseph Schepisi, Timothy Thrower, Brad Wonderliing

Term DEC: Paul March, Jr., Elmer Mullins

Active Unit Members: 194

Youth Activities: Ed Peters

Will request \$500 donation for Berkeley HS Future Leaders of America.

Public Relations: John Tharp

Nothing to report.

Ways and Means: Larry Pepper

Get your 50/50 and steak dinner tickets.

Golf: Larry Pepper

Next golf tournament will be 27 September, 0800 tee time; 18 teams currently registered.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little

Quarterly audit conducted; no discrepancies. Inventory and cash balances accounted for; total net worth of \$29,616.15. Next audit tentatively scheduled for the second week of January.

Home Committee Report: PNC Laurie Bailey

Financial Reports

Balances as of 13SEPT25: Checking \$15,600.30; Savings \$35,461.62; Credit Card \$11,749.53;

Pending Deposits \$2,489.75; Registers/Cash Funds \$11,500. Total Funds \$76,801.20.

Net Profits: August \$9,428.11.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

Kitchen floor: S/M Ed Young recommended Tony Scruggs. S/M Larry Pepper will meet with him to discuss scope and cost.

An additional \$10,000 was deposited into savings.

Membership and Security:

FRA HQ reports 729 Active Branch Members. There are 194 Unit Members.

Old Business

Kitchen floor replacement or mats; tabled pending further information.

Drainage: Parking lot drains and retention pond cleaning, tree removal; tabled.

September 8th the banquet room and grounds were cleaned. Next cleanup will focus on the bar side.

Storage room instructions: Plastic frames purchased for posting notices.

Gear storage sink: Repaired by S/M Tim Bailey.

Parking spot raffle: We will not be doing this raffle.

Managers will continue to coordinate with Branch/Unit secretaries and veteran organizations.

No vaping or smoking: Signs posted on marquee and foyer.

New Business

Table reservations (Friday nights): Staff will advise patrons that tables cannot be saved; overflow seating available in banquet room.

Discussion on bringing in another DJ/Karaoke options. S/M Larry Pepper will contact entertainers.

Uncle Sam figure retired from the bar.

Back wall tables: Discussed possibility for pool player use, but they are not needed.

Employee treatment: Discussed concerns with daytime lunch crowds, which will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Any problems with staff need to be reported to S/M Larry Pepper.

Pill party scheduled for Saturday, October 11th at 1000.

We will not be hosting a Halloween party this year due to the National Convention.

Good of the Order

Indoor picnic scheduled for Veterans Day, Tuesday, November 11.
The next meeting will be on 13 October at 1800.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Last month, the discussion of resolutions for National elections was tabled.

- PRPSE Fred Bolz motioned, PNC Laurie Bailey seconded to continue to table until the review committee provides recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

S/M Ed Peters requests a donation of \$500 for Berkeley High School Future Leaders of America

- **Motion:** PNC Laurie Bailey motioned, S/M Larry Pepper seconded to donate \$500. Motion carried unanimously.

S/M President Don Barton appointed PNP Don Mucheck, PRPSE Fred Bolz, S/M VP Steve Koch, and PNC Laurie Bailey as the review committee for National Convention resolutions and officer submissions.

Reimbursements were approved by the BOD for FRA cards at \$49.03, awards at \$326.36, stamps/toner for \$113.89, and key cards and steak dinners for \$89.00.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Newsletter input deadline is the Monday following each meeting.

An atomic clock, donated to the SUBVETs by S/M Marty Sessler's family, has been placed in the banquet room. If the clock shows incorrect time, see S/M Nick Nichols for reset.

Unit Report: NFS Pat Suckow, PNP

Charter draped in memory of PRPSE Gail Bolz.

Two new members initiated: Brenda Frye and Lorraine Carver.

Approved purchase and delivery of 100-cup coffee pot to VA Hospital, North Charleston.

Auxiliary also supporting VSCD (Voluntary Service Curbside Delivery) with ongoing food donations. A collection bin is in the bar area; Everyone is encouraged to contribute.

Resolutions for National Convention reviewed: candidates for National President (2), National Vice President (1), and National Executive Secretary (2), plus multiple bylaw changes.

77th Regional Convention will be held Sept 22–26 in Warner Robins, GA.

Clarification: The LAFRA is dropping the word "Ladies" and will be known as the Auxiliary of the FRA, not "AFRA".

There being no further business, the President called for adjournment. All shipmates stood and observed a moment of silence in tribute to departed shipmates.

The meeting adjourned at 1941.