



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]

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

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

Branch Vice President's Corner

Thank you for allowing me to be your Vice President for 2025 - 2026.

We were pleased to see more Shipmates in attendance at the October Branch meeting. Remember that this is YOUR Branch, and the success of it depends on all of the Shipmates. I encourage everyone to attend at least one Branch meeting a year. If you cannot attend a Branch meeting, please let us know what we could do to make your attendance possible.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service
Steve Koch
Branch 269 Vice President

Thoughts from Your Unit President:

Gobble, gobble another great meeting of Unit 269.

First, I had the honor of presenting PNC Gale Nathan with her 45-year pin. Sue Pardo was unable to attend our meeting, but I presented her with a 25-year pin. Thank you both for continuous support and dedication to the Auxiliary. Please welcome our new Auxiliary member which I initiated, Kathleen Brady.

We have made our first delivery to the VA Hospital in North Charleston. I would like to thank all the members, shipmates, SUBVETS, and friends for their support. But as I have said this is an ongoing project, so please keep the donations coming in to help our veterans in need. Keep in mind when your shopping to pick up one or two items. A list is posted around the Home

and on the donation containers.

November and December are busy months. Besides turkey day, we have our annual Toys for Tots motorcycle run at the Harley Davidson on Dorchester Road, which is on November 22, 2025.

We will have our Christmas tree up on the bar side hopefully before Thanksgiving, where we will have Angel ornaments to purchase and placed on the tree. This donation goes toward purchasing toys for which the Auxiliary has made a generous donation. Members will be doing their annual Toys for Tots shopping planned for December 14th.

Well, a few shipmates and auxiliary members attended the Southeast Regional Convention in Warner Robbins GA. We had a great time seeing old friends and making new ones. Our new Regional President will be Ronalee Klase Unit 22, Evelyn Davezan Vice-President Unit 290, Darlene Perez Secretary Unit 183, and Anna Grimes Unit 294 Chaplain. We wish them a successful year.

What is the meaning of the Auxiliary?

Giving help or support. Working within the community. A volunteer. Remember even though you cannot attend the meeting, you can help in other ways. Join us when we have our luncheon, meet other members. You can get involved in different ways, like when we have a cook-off, bake sales or even the yard sales.

1-Nov 4th Election Day

- 2-Nov 11 Veterans Day
- 3-Nov 18th Luncheon 11:30 at the Fleet Home
(ALL ARE WELCOME)
- 4-Nov 18th next Unit Meeting 6:00 pm
- 5-Nov 22 Golf Tee Time 9:00
- 6-Nov 22 Motorcycle Run Toys for Tots
- 7-Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day



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

WEEKLY DRAWING AT THE HOME

- 9/30: Pedro Garcia [Branch], unsigned.
 - 10/7: Barbara Aler [Branch], not signed
 - 10/14: Donald Langdon [Branch], not signed
 - 10/21: Timothy Bailey [Branch], Signed not present
 - 10/28: Kathy Sorenson [Unit], Signed & present
- 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

August 28—September 27, 2025

Cash in Bank – Checking	\$ 6,601.30
Cash in Bank – Convention Checking	\$ 20.03
Cash in Bank – Savings	\$ 5,193.18
Cash in Bank – Certificate of Deposit	<u>\$12,115.81</u>
TOTAL	\$23,930.32

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace
Total active members: 724 end of September
Transfer in [2]: James Breen, Thomas Lawson III
New Join/Reinstated [6]: Rick Collins, Craig Farr, Sherman Hostetter, George Popovich, Thomas Rice, Daniel Speight
Past Due [12]: Mark Archambean, Dillon Brown, Robert Bryant, John Cardno, Kevin Deise, Pacifico Dela Fuente, Mark Erwin, Lewis Leal Jr., Chris Ludwig, Michael Quigley, Cubit Robinson, Bob Segal
Ready to Renew [38]: Johnny Aldea, David Aldrich, Bill Ansel, Gary Arquisola, Michael Cousino, Oscar Diano, James Finney, James Fleming, Clemmis Floyd, Pedro Garcia, George Gilford, Michael Goad, Michelle Goad, Richard Harbold Jr., James Heath, Terrell Heath, Wendy Holman, William Hunter, Dominador Jimenez, Greg Landry, Roger Little, Anthony Mazza, Willie McDonald, Timothy McNally, Leonard Monnig,

Richard Nolan, Don Pace, Joseph Perillo, Ray Phillips Jr., Lyndon Porter, Robert Pulos, Garry Radwick, David Smith, Edward Stank, L.D. Taschner, Jason Tatge, Robert Temple, Guy Travaglio

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

Term DEC [8]: Bobby Beck, Elmer Feeser, Matthew Frazier, Harold Herrington, Charles Hollowood, Douglas Jordan, William Ragan, Brian Sims

- **Active Unit Members:** 195

UNIT MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

- 30 days past due [4]: Georgia Cathcart, Carmela Day, Johnathan Price, Jeannette Walker
 - 60 days past due: [2]: Scott Sara, Ann Tolentino
 - 90 days past due [1]: Anita Wright
- Active Members: 195

BRANCH CHAPLAIN

Hospital/Welfare/Rehabilitation:

- A Two-Bell was conducted for Shipmates MCPO Bobby Barbee & PO1(SS) Brian Steffen.
- **Bill Hayes** received a pacemaker on 4 Oct. He is home and doing well.
- **Tom Lawson** was in the ER the first weekend in October. Home and doing well.
- **Ken Curtis** is having home health care during the week. He is in good spirits.

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	\$ 8,116.88
Savings account	\$35,464.49
Credit Card account available	\$31,107.63
Pending Check/Cash for deposit	\$ 1,688.01
Registers/Cash Funds	\$11,000.00
Total funds	\$87,377.01

Net Profits: August \$9,428.11

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

- Received estimate for new deck in galley and

bar. Project will mean kitchen closure 3-4 days and bar 1 day. Tentatively scheduled for January.

- Golf Tournament Nov. 22nd w/tee time 0900.

Membership and Security:

- FRA HQ reports 724 active including 2 gains and 2 reinstatements.

Old Business:

- Kitchen deck.

New Business

- New Christmas trees will be purchased.
- Quarterly cleanup is Dec. 1st 1800. Outdoor cleanup also continues.
- Some emergency lights will need fixed.
- A member has offered to conduct a CPR class for FRA and SUBVETS. \$10/person.

Good of the Order:

- Indoor Picnic scheduled for Veterans Day
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 October/November

- ♦ Oct 24: United Nations Day
- ♦ Oct 31: Halloween
- ♦ Nov 02: Daylight Savings Time Ends
- ♦ Nov 04: Election Day
- ♦ Nov 10: US Marine Corps Birthday [1775]
- ♦ Nov 11: FRA's Birthday [1924]
- ♦ Nov 11: Veteran's Day

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

=====

Newsbytes October 3, 2025

- ♦ VA Operations Amid Government Shutdown
- ♦ U.S. Military Faces Pay Delays
- ♦ VA Extends Support for Family Caregivers
- ♦ New Fitness and Training Reforms
- ♦ Navy Achieves Historic Recruiting Milestone
- ♦ Pentagon Weighs Privatization of Commissaries

Newsbytes October 10, 2025

- ♦ FRA Attends Navy's 250th Birthday
- ♦ Senate Push for Major Richard Star Act Fails
- ♦ Military Families Turn to Food Pantries

- ♦ FRA Signs Joint Letter on Veteran Disability Compensation
- ♦ Buddy Check Week

Newsbytes October 17, 2025

- ♦ FRA Meets with International SOS During Shutdown
- ♦ FRA Joins Pay Our Troops Act Press Conference
- ♦ NED Reid Speaks at "Advocates in the Arena" Panel
- ♦ Commissary Credit Card Relief During Shutdown
- ♦ USS Arizona Memorial Reopens
- ♦ Bill To Fund the Troops Fails In The Senate
- ♦ Pentagon Tightens Communication with Congress
- ♦ Blumenthal Seeks Audit of VA Workforce Cuts
- ♦ TRICARE Open Season Begins Nov. 10

Newsbytes October 31, 2025

Posted next month

MEAL HOURS FOR THE HOME
Lunch Hours Mon-Fri 1100-1330.
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. To stop your current printed copy contact me webmaster@fra268gc.org

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-
Holland Club Carolina Piedmont Base]*

6 Alarming Signs Your Devices Have Already Been Hacked

Over time, as technology has advanced our digital lifestyles, we have moved from being desk-bound to freely moving around our earthly environment. To enable that mobility, we have readily embraced our mobile devices, like iPhones, Android phones, and Google phones, various tablet devices, and uber-lightweight Wi-Fi/Bluetooth enabled laptops. As we have moved away from home networks, protected by routers and firewalls whose security we manage, we moved on to public networks, like cellular phone networks and hotel wi-fi networks that are sometimes not as properly secured as they should be.

So how do we really know if the favorite apps we use, and the public networks they operate over, have not aided the bad actors around us to tap into our lifestyle in a not so good way. The article linked below discusses some of the tell-tale signs you might notice that says mischief is afoot.

6 Alarming Signs Your Devices Have Already Been Hacked

As the article notes, changing passwords on a more frequent basis, and embracing two-factor authentication for financial sites like on-line banking, and credit card providers will go a long way in protecting you on your mobile devices.

And my personal practice is to never store credit card information on a merchant or service provider website. Yes, it is a royal pain to have to enter that information each time, but far easier than the risk associated with a breach at that vendor and having to get new cards issued and having your credit card account suspended while that happens. I learned my lesson with two merchant breaches that caused two card replacements.

DID YOU KNOW??

+++++

Sign out of Google everywhere: If you've used someone else's computer, make sure to fully log out. Go to Google and tap your profile icon in the top right. Choose Show more accounts > Sign out of all accounts > Continue. Then go back, tap Sign in > Remove an account and delete yours from the list.

3-second tech genius: In Microsoft Word, you don't need to dig through menus to find tools. Click the search bar at the top and type what you need, like "table." Works in Excel, too.

Mirror Android to TV: Sharing your phone screen on a smart TV is easy as long as both are on the same Wi-Fi. On your phone, go to Settings > Connected devices > Smart View, then select your TV name > Full screen > Start now.

Fix a frozen computer screen: If your PC freezes, reset the graphics driver by pressing Windows key + Ctrl + Shift + B. You'll hear a beep, the screen will go black briefly, and the driver will reload. Then press Ctrl + Alt + Delete, open Task Manager and End any unresponsive apps. If all else fails, press the Power button to Restart.

Create a Gmail group email: Tired of adding the same people one by one? Make a contact group instead. In Gmail, click Google apps (top right) > Contacts. Select your people, tap Manage labels (top right) > Create label and name your group. Back in Gmail, compose a message, type the group name in "To," and everyone's added automatically.

Take screenshots on Windows: The Snipping Tool makes grabbing part of your screen easy. Press Windows key + Shift + S to open it. Make sure the camera icon is selected, then pick a snip style like rectangle, freeform or full screen. Click and drag to capture, and your screenshot will pop up in the bottom right or in your Screenshots folder.

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



**VA Snack Table Sue Peters-PNC Gale Nathan-
NFS Pat Suckow-Presilla Wilbanks**



**NFS Pat Sukow presents Continuous
Membership pins to Gale Nathan 45-years
and Sue Pardo 25-years.**



**Branch Members are presented with
Continuous Membership Pins**



**NFS Pat Suckow welcomes and initiates
Lady Kathy Brady into Unit 269.**



BRANCH 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—NOVEMBER 2025

Richard Best	57	Thomas Chilton	30	Timothy McNally	19	Daniel Lehman	7
Thomas Evans	53	Alfred Bauer	27	Kelly Rusboldt	19	Christopher Kelley	5
Robert Jaeger	53	Boyd Davis	27	John Sloane	19	Kenneth Lux	4
Emmette Boone	50	Thomas Krieger	25	Edward Stank	19	Ray Phillips Jr.	3
Hubert Pearce Sr.	50	Pedro Garcia	25	Richard Dougherty	14	Michael Cousino	2
Dominador Jimenez	48	David Smith	25	Michael LeCompte	14	Sarah Harry	2
Arthur Pittman	47	Lawerence Denapoli	22	Joseph Perillo	14	Greg Landry	2
Raymond Montminy	45	Carey Baxley Jr.	22	Larry Walton	14	Willie McDonald	2
Glenn Little	40	James Heath	22	Melissa Curtis	13	Jason Tatge	2
Clemmis Floyd	33	Bill Ansel	20	Russell Hale	10	Gordon Williams	2
Ernest Holt	33	Francis Bohannan	20	Charles Wood	10	Paul Brown	1
Merle Knapp	33	Richard Day	20	David Mayeres Jr.	9	John Difrancesco	1
Jay Rowland II	33	James Hutton	20	Michael Goad	7	Roger Little	1
David Aldrich	31	Carmelo Olmo Jr.	20				

UNIT 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—NOVEMBER 2025

Yvonne Aguilera	24	Nancy Bullis	19	Holly Gordon	6	Justin Highberger	1
Martha Pyatt	24	Ann O'Brien	18	Carol Craig	2	Nellie Kirtley	1
Elfriede Campbell	20	Patricia Martin	14	Tammy Cappadona	1	Nelmarie Potter	1
Elizabeth Mullins	20	George Ellison	9				

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN NOVEMBER 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*

Thomas Blizzard Jr.	1	Lyle Smith	6	Jones Kersey	15	Roger Rader	21
Ronald Henderson	1	Larry Starland	6	Larry Larkins	15	Richard Best	22
Donald Wolfe Jr.	1	<i>Shirley Trosper</i>	6	Gerald Ott	15	Owen Bower	23
<i>Linda Brinson</i>	2	Rodney McKanna	7	Gary Crozier	16	Benjamin Money	23
Paul Burnstein	2	Camelo Olmo	7	Ronald Houde	17	Joseph Ondo Jr.	23
James Finney	2	Matthew Shelton	7	<i>Patricia Martin</i>	17	Thomas Lawson	24
Christian LaForce	2	Robert Beilstein	8	Emmette Boone Jr.	18	Ronald Litzenberger	24
Paul Langan	2	Terry Gomez	8	<i>Linda Cox</i>	18	<i>Elizabeth Norris</i>	24
Richard Miley	2	<i>Linda Harris</i>	9	<i>Amy Osborne</i>	18	Jeannette Gombash	25
Charles Wood	2	Robert Hughes	9	Kenneth Pilcher	18	Jeffrey Elliott	26
<i>Nellie Kirtley</i>	3	Kenneth Gray	10	Fredrick Wolstencroft	18	Christopher Kelley	26
Herbert Anderson	4	Brian Cecil	11	Dillion Brown	19	Charles Moss	26
Suzanne Peters	4	<i>Carol Craig</i>	11	David Johnson	19	Leonard Monnig	26
Richard Lawwell	5	John Shaak	11	Linwood Murrow	19	Kenneth Seal	26
Howard Miles	5	Sarah Soddatke	11	Lawrence Case	20	Lawrence Willoughby	26
John Newby	5	<i>Sandra Medley</i>	11	David Clemmons	20	John Stroman	27
Kevin Patton	5	<i>Nelmarie Potter</i>	13	James Heath	20	Julian Czeiszperger	29
Thomas Seay	5	<i>Carol Bailey</i>	14	Roy Jessup	20	James Houchin	30
Gary Arquisola	6	<i>Nancy Bullis</i>	14	<i>Therese Masterson</i>	20	Ronnie Kerstetter	30
Charles Baylor	6	Gareld Landis	14	Stephen Woodside	20	Bruce Seltzer	30
Pedro Garcia	6	Matthew Young	14	Lee Barkley	21	<i>Ryan Adams</i>	30
Douglas Perkins	6	Cheryl Cecil	15	<i>Georgia Cathcart</i>	21		

VA News

Pre Burial Planning for a VA National Cemetery
<https://www.cem.va.gov/veterans-and-families/>

Do Veterans Benefits Expire?
<https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-benefit-expiration-dates.html>
[ESRC=navy 250916.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20250916](https://www.military.com/benefits/veteran-benefits/veterans-benefit-expiration-dates.html)

These Resorts and Hotels Are Just for Veterans and Military Members
<https://www.military.com/travel/these-resorts-and-hotels-are-just-veterans-and-military-members.html>
[ESRC=navy 250916.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20250916](https://www.military.com/travel/these-resorts-and-hotels-are-just-veterans-and-military-members.html)

Veterans: What's Taxed and What's Not on Your Federal and State Returns
<https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/veterans-whats-taxed-and-whats-not-your-federal-and-state-returns.html>
[ESRC=mr 250915.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20250915](https://www.military.com/money/personal-finance/veterans-whats-taxed-and-whats-not-your-federal-and-state-returns.html)

PTSD VA Ratings: What You Need to Know
<https://www.military.com/benefits/ptsd-va-rating.html>
[ESRC=navy 250909.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=navy&utm_campaign=20250909](https://www.military.com/benefits/ptsd-va-rating.html)

Veterans' Private Residential Treatment Must Match VA's Quality and Cost
<https://www.military.com/daily-news/opinions/2025/09/19/veterans-private-residential-treatment-must-match-vas-quality-and-cost.html>
[ESRC=mr 250922.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=mr&utm_campaign=20250922](https://www.military.com/daily-news/opinions/2025/09/19/veterans-private-residential-treatment-must-match-vas-quality-and-cost.html)

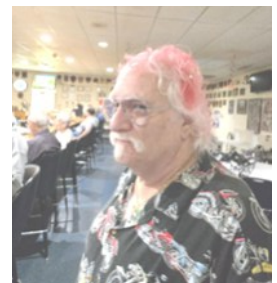
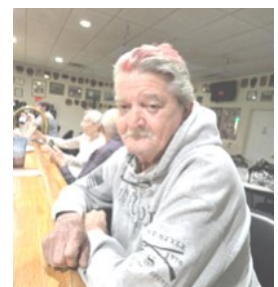
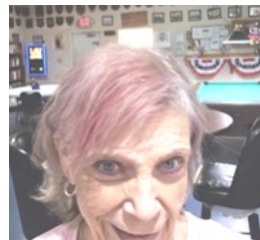
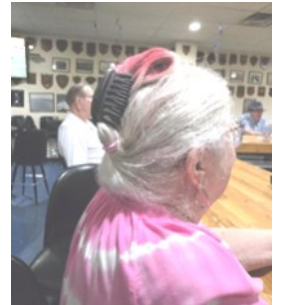
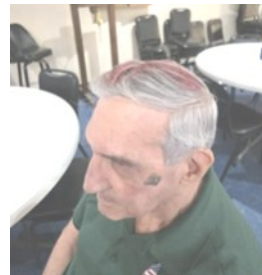
VA Processes Record-Breaking Number of Disability Claims This Year, with 62% Approval Rate
<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2025/08/20/va-processes-record-breaking-number-of-disability-claims-year-62-approval-rate.html>
[ESRC=dod 250829.nl&utm_medium=email&utm_source=dod&utm_campaign=20250829](https://www.military.com/daily-news/2025/08/20/va-processes-record-breaking-number-of-disability-claims-year-62-approval-rate.html)

Issues relating to the Death of a Veteran
<https://app.box.com/s/qjbbvo67yaub993ndj2f1s2i0958ydzk>

President Don Barton presents Recruitment Award Pins to PNP Don Mucheck and S/M Ken Hutchinson

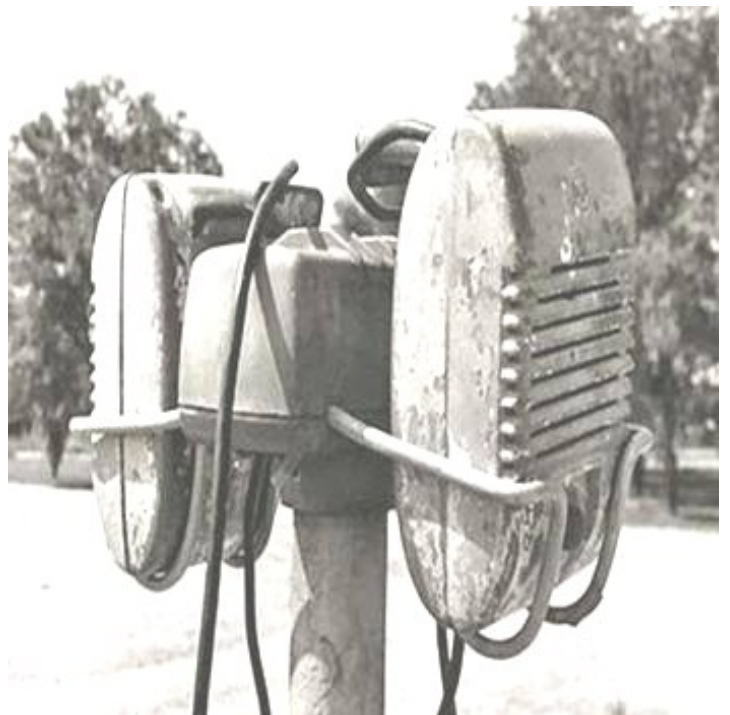


Branch and Unit members go PINK for Breast Cancer Awareness Month





**MY PARENTS
SPANKED
ME AS A CHILD**
AS A RESULT, I NOW SUFFER
FROM A PSYCHOLOGICAL
CONDITION KNOWN AS
"RESPECT FOR OTHERS"



[#VetResources](#) is a weekly newsletter for Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. [Connect with Secretary Collins on X](#)

As you may be aware, funding for some government agencies, including portions of the Department of Veterans Affairs, expired at midnight this morning.

President Trump opposes a lapse in appropriations, and on September 19, the House of Representatives passed, with the Trump Administration's support, a clean continuing resolution to fund the government through November 21. Unfortunately, Democrats are blocking this Continuing Resolution in the U.S. Senate due to unrelated policy demands.

During the current lapse in funding, the vast majority of VA benefits and services will continue uninterrupted, but the government shutdown is not without consequences to VA. Here is what you need to know:

The following critical Veterans care and assistance programs will be impacted by the government shutdown:

- VA will not provide Veteran career counseling or transition assistance program activities.
- The GI Bill Hotline will be closed.
- VA regional benefits offices will be closed.
- VA will cease public affairs and outreach to Veterans.
- VA will not permanently place headstones or maintain the grounds at VA national cemeteries.
- VA will not process applications for pre-need burials.
- VA will not print new presidential memorial certificates.

Thankfully, the government shutdown will not impact the following VA services:

- Veteran health care is not impacted. VA Medical Centers, Outpatient Clinics, and Vet Centers will be open.
- VA benefits will continue to be processed and delivered, including compensation, pension, education, and housing benefits.
- Burials will continue at VA national cemeteries. Applications for headstones, markers, and burial benefits processing will continue.
- The Board of Veterans' Appeals will continue decisions on Veterans' cases.
- VA Contact Centers (1-800-MyVA411) and the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) are open 24/7.

Disclaimer: The sharing of any non-VA information does not constitute an endorsement of products or services on the part of the VA.

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

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
9 Free Pool	10 US MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY 1775 1800 MC League Cake Cutting	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 0900-1500 Golf Tournament 1000-1400 Motorcycle Run Toys for Tots
23 Free Pool	24 1730 VVA Mtg	25	26	27 THANKSGIVING DAY	28	29
30 Free Pool						

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

DECEMBER 2025						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <u>1800</u> Cleaning Day - Bar	2	3 <u>1900</u> Low Country Coin Dinner	4	5 <u>Time UNK</u> MCL Christmas Party	6 <u>1800</u> Mulligan Men
7 Free Pool PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY	8	9	10 <u>1730-1930</u> HOA Meeting	11 <u>Time UNK</u> MCC Christmas Party	12 <u>1700-2200</u> SUBVETS Christmas Party	13 <u>Time UNK</u> Copeland Christmas Party
14 Free Pool	15 <u>1300</u> Home Committee	16	17	18 <u>1700</u> Branch/Unit Christmas Party	19	20
21 Free Pool <u>TBD</u> Kids Christmas Party	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27
28 Free Pool	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE			

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269
MEETING OF OCTOBER 16, 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

Shipmate President Don Barton called the regular meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 1900, in accordance with Article FRA Rituals.

Visitors: Auxiliary members

Shipmates Initiated: None

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

Communications: None

Treasurer's Report:

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

General Checking: \$6,601.30	Savings Account: \$5,193.18
Certificate of Deposit: \$12,115.81	Convention Checking: \$20.03
Total: \$23,930.32	

All bills received to date have been paid.

Continuous Membership:

October 2025

John Parnell – 50 Years	Terrell Heath – 20 Years
Robert Beilstein – 45 Years	Stephen Jackson – 20 Years
Gerald Fraser – 45 Years	Leonard Monnig – 20 Years
Marvin Brigman – 40 Years	Roberta Sutton – 20 Years
Don Pace – 30 Years	Wendy Holman – 15 Years
Betty Hilliard – 25 Years	Richard Herndon – 10 Years
Charles Rein – 25 Years	William Pye – 10 Years
Richard Roebuck – 25 Years	Edward Stover – 10 Years
Tim Bailey – 20 Years	Larry Turner – 10 Years

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism – PNC Laurie Bailey
Dates in History October/November

24 October – United Nations Day
31 October – Halloween
02 November – Daylight Saving Time Ends
04 November – Election Day
10 November – U.S. Marine Corps Birthday (1775)

11 November – FRA’s Birthday (1924)
11 November – Veterans’ Day

The deadline for submissions for the essay contest is 01 December.

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz

PRPSE Fred Bolz read the recommendations from the Resolution Committee and the C&BL Resolutions. These were later voted on under New Business.

Legislative Service & VAVS: PRPSE Fred Bolz

Newsbytes are posted. The VAVS meeting held in September was posted.

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton

A Two-Bell will be conducted for Shipmates MMCS Bobby Barbee and PO1 Brian Steffen. Bill Hayes received a pacemaker and is home doing well. Tom Lawson was in the ER. He is home and doing well. Ken Curtis is having home health care during the week.

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 724

Transfer In: James Breen, Thomas Lawson, III

New Join/Reinstated: Abigail Hinshelwood, Mac McCarthy

Past Due: Mark Archambean, Dillon Brown, Robert Bryant, John Cardno, Kevin Deise, Pacifico Dela Fuente, Mark Erwin, Lewis Leal Jr., Chris Ludwig, Michael Quigley, Cubit Robinson, Bob Segal

Ready to Renew: Johnny Aldea, David Aldrich, Bill Ansel, Gary Arquisola, Michael Cousino, Oscar Diano, James Finney, James Fleming, Clemmis Floyd, Pedro Garcia, George Gilford, Michael Goad, Michelle Goad, Richard Harbold Jr., James Heath, Terrell Heath, Wendy Holman, William Hunter, Dominador Jimenez, Greg Landry, Roger Little, Anthony Mazza, Willie McDonald, Timothy McNally, Leonard Monnig, Richard Nolan, Don Pace, Joseph Perillo, Ray Phillips Jr., Lyndon Porter, Robert Pulos, Garry Radwick, David Smith, Edward Stank, L.D. Taschner, Jason Tatge, Robert Temple, Guy Travaglio

Term NPD: Bobby Beck, Elmer Feeser, Matthew Frazier, Harold Herrington, Charles Hollowood, Douglas Jordan, William Ragan, Brian Sims

Active Unit Members: 195

Youth Activities: Ed Peters

Will request \$1000 for Toys for Tots.

Public Relations: John Tharp

FRA Today has a picture of the Coast Guard cake cutting. The Unit donated a coffee pot to the North Charleston VA clinic which was sent to the FRA Today. Also will be sending in pictures of the Navy birthday cake cutting.

Ways and Means: Larry Pepper

Get your 50/50 and steak dinner tickets.

Golf: Larry Pepper

Next golf tournament will be 22 November, 0900 tee time.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little

Next audit will be in January.

Home Committee Report: PNC Laurie Bailey

Financial Reports

Balances as of 13SEPT25: Checking \$8,116.88; Savings \$35,464.49; Credit Card \$31,107.63; Pending Deposits \$1,688.01; Registers/Cash Funds \$11,000. Total Funds \$87,377.01.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

An estimate was received for a new deck in the galley and behind the bar. This will cost approximately \$6,000 for the galley and bar areas. The galley project will require a kitchen closure of 3–4 days. The bar project will require one day. The work is tentatively scheduled for January.

Golf Tournament: November 22nd, tee time 0900.

Membership and Security:

FRA HQ reports 724 active members, including 2 gains and 2 reinstatements. There are 195 Unit Members.

New Business

Christmas Trees: Discussion was held regarding purchasing new Christmas trees for the banquet and bar area.

Cleanup Days: Quarterly cleanup scheduled for Monday, December 1st at 1800. Monthly cleanup of the outdoor area will also continue.

Emergency Lighting: Indoor emergency lights are not working. S/M Manager Larry Pepper will take corrective action.

CPR/AED Class: A member of SUBVETS has offered to conduct a CPR/AED Class for FRA and SUVETS members at \$10 per person.

Good of the Order

Upcoming Events:

U.S. Marine Corps Birthday (November 10): Cake

Veterans Day (November 11): Patriotic decorations, indoor picnic, and desserts

Christmas Parties – Decorate Home after Thanksgiving. The Adult Christmas Party will be December 18th. Children's Christmas party will be Sunday, December 21st.

The next meeting will be on 17 November at 1800.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Resolution Committee's recommendations for National elections were read under Bylaws.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck moved, and S/M Ken Hutchinson seconded all recommendations from the committee regarding all resolutions to be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

S/M Ed Peters requested \$1,000 for the Toys for Tots initiative.

- **MOTION:** S/M Bobbi Sutton moved, and S/M John Tharp seconded, that \$1,000 be allocated for Toys for Tots. Motion carried unanimously.

The Branch voted to accept the Resolution Committee recommendations and the C&BL Resolutions as presented.

- **MOTION:** S/M Bobbi Sutton moved, and S/M Tim Bailey seconded, that the report be entered into the record. Motion carried unanimously.

S/M Glenn Little proposed purchasing a flag spreader to enhance the display of the U.S. flag behind photos used in publications.

- **MOTION:** S/M Glenn Little moved, and PRPSE Fred Bolz seconded, that a flag spreader be purchased. Motion carried unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The Board of Directors voted to purchase a wreath and take part in the Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony at Patriots Point on December 7th.

Unit Report: Linda Nichols (for NFS Pat Suckow, PNP)

PNC Gale Nathan was presented with her 45-year continuous membership pin, and Sue Pardo was presented with her 25-year pin.

We made our first delivery of donations to the VA Hospital in North Charleston. This is an ongoing project, so keep the donations coming to help our veterans in need.

Toys for Tots motorcycle run will be on November 23rd at Harley-Davidson on Dorchester Road.

We will be putting our Christmas tree up on the bar side, where we will have Angel ornaments to purchase and place on the tree. This donation goes toward purchasing toys.

President Don Barton appointed a Christmas Banquet Committee consisting of Shipmates Larry Pepper as chairman, Nick Nichols, and Johnny Brown. Auxiliary members will be appointed.

Awards were presented to PNP Don Muccheck and S/M Ken Hutchinson for recruitment.

The Two-Bell Ceremony took place.

Meeting adjourned at 2014

Article 7 – Regional Officers

Article 7

Whereas C&BL Article 7, Section 702(i). When the Regional President is absent from the meeting of the National Board of Directors for any reason other than vacancy in the office of Regional President, the National Board of Directors is authorized by two thirds vote to appoint the Regional Vice President to represent the region with the same authority as the Regional President; and

Whereas, this section does not allow for any other member of the region to sit on the national board of directors if the current president and vice president are unable to attend said meeting; and

Therefore, the current definition will not allow representation at said meeting if the two elected officers are unable to attend; and

Whereas, this bylaw would cause a region not to have voting power at said meeting; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that Article 7 Section 702(i) be amended to read;

“Section 702(i). When the Regional President is absent from the meeting of the National Board of Directors for any reason other than vacancy in the office of Regional President, the National Board of Directors is authorized by two thirds vote to appoint the Regional Vice President *to represent the region with the same authority as the Regional President.*

Section 702(j). *If the Regional President and the Regional Vice President are absent from the meeting of the National Board of Directors for any reason, the Regional President may appoint a Past Regional President from their Region to represent the Region at a meeting of the National Board of Directors. The National Board of Directors is authorized by two thirds vote to appoint the Designated Past Regional President to represent the region with the same authority as the Regional President.*”

“This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of Branch 112

Birmingham Alabama held on the 22nd day of March 2025, read, debated, and adopted by a two thirds (or unanimous) vote at a subsequent regular meeting held on the 26th day of April 2025, a

quorum being present.”

President, Jerry Anger Br.112 Birmingham
Birmingham

Secretary, Juan Bowden Br.112

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 2

Branch 112

Article 12

Section 1214: Branch Meetings

Whereas, FRA C&BL Article 12, Section 1214 Branch Meetings – Each branch of the Fleet Reserve

Association shall be required to hold stated meetings not less than once each month; and

Whereas, this section does not allow for missed meetings for any reason; and

Whereas, most branches do not have meetings during the holiday months; and

Whereas, this bylaw as written the FRA branches are breaking the bylaw every time they do not have 1 meeting per month; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that Article 12 Section 1214 be amended to read;

“Section 1214, Branch Meetings – Each branch of the Fleet Reserve Association shall be required to hold stated meetings not less than one time per month but not less than 9 times per year. If a meeting is missed it is required to document the reason why the meeting was not held for future audit purposes.”

“This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of Branch 112 Birmingham Alabama held on the 26th day of April 2025, read, debated, and adopted by a two-thirds (or unanimous) vote at a subsequent regular meeting held on the 24th day of May 2025, a quorum being present.”

Jerry Anger
President, Jerry Anger Branch 112
112
Birmingham Alabama

Juan Bowder
Secretary, Juan Bowden Branch
Birmingham Alabama

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 3

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation
Committee

Article 8 Duties of Officers and Committees

Whereas, Section 820 (b) states Committee members shall be either VA accredited as a veteran service officer representing FRA or **designated as an FRA Representative or Deputy Representative for the VA Voluntary Service program at a VA medical facility; and**

Whereas, Section 820 (d) states Duties of the committee shall be: To oversee VSO and VAVS programs, providing education and outreach of same to the membership of the Association, including the policies and regulations associated with these programs; to report on the number and activities of FRA accredited VSO representative **and representatives of the VAVS program in each region; to solicit Branches and Shipmates to become involved in departments of veterans affairs/services on the state, local, and national level, including VA regional offices, medical facilities state of national veterans cemeteries or veteran homes; and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans; and**

Whereas, the VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) / Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) duties do not align with the duties or mission of the National Committee on Veterans Services, which is Veteran Service Officer training and management; and

Whereas, the VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) / Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) duties do align directly with the duties and mission of the National Committee on Hospital, Welfare and Rehabilitation; and

Whereas, designation as a VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) / Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) FRA Representative or Deputy Representative for the VA Voluntary Service program at a VA medical facility a designation executed by the National Executive Director, or National Service Director as certifying officer of a recognized organization; and be it,

Resolved, Section 816(a) Committee is appointed by the National President. The Committee shall consist of a Chairman and eight members, one from each region. Terms shall be for three years with three members being replaced or reappointed each year by the National President; and be it further,

Resolved, Section 816(b) Duties of the committee shall be: to manage and oversee the FRA VA Volunteer Services (VAVS)/Center for Development and Community Engagement (CDCE), providing education and outreach of the same to the membership of the Association, including VA MHA policy and regulations associated with this program, to report on the number and activities of FRA designated VAVS/CDCE Representatives in each Region and each medical facility. To solicit branches to promote Shipmates to become VAVS/CDCE Representatives or volunteers and become involved in department of veteran affairs/services, medical facilities, state of national veteran cemeteries, or veteran homes, and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans in the area of Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation; and be it further,

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of the National Committee on Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation held on January 14, 2025, read, debated, and adopted by a unanimous vote at a subsequent meeting held on February 11, 2025, a quorum being present.

//s//

William S. Matthews, Committee Chairman

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 4

Committee on Veterans Service

Article 8 Duties of Officers and Committees

BLUF: to move VA Volunteer Services (VAVS)/Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) duties from Section 820 National Committee for Veteran Services Committee to Section 816 National Committee for Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation

Whereas, Section 820 (b) states Committee members shall be either VA accredited as a veteran service officer representing FRA or designated as an FRA Representative or Deputy Representative for the VA Voluntary Service program at a VA medical facility; and

Whereas, Section 820 (d) states Duties of the committee shall be: To oversee VSO and VAVS programs, providing education and outreach of same to the membership of the Association, including the policies and regulations associated with these programs; to report on the number and activities of FRA accredited VSO representative and representatives of the VAVS program in each region; to solicit Branches and Shipmates to become involved in departments of veterans affairs/services on the state, local, and national level, including VA regional offices, medical facilities state of national veterans cemeteries or veteran homes; and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans; and

Whereas, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) is responsible for communicating and working with VA accredited veteran service officers; and

Whereas, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is responsible for communicating with FRA Representative or Deputy Representative for the VA Voluntary Service program; and

Whereas, the Veterans Health Administration has changed the name of VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) to the Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE); and

Whereas, the VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) / Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) duties do not align with the duties or mission of the National Committee on Veterans Services, which is Veteran Service Officer training and management; and

Whereas, the VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) / Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) duties do align directly with the duties and mission of the National Committee on Hospital, Welfare and Rehabilitation; and

Whereas, designation as an FRA sponsored Veteran Service Officer (VSO) is executed by the National Executive Director, or National Service Director as certifying officer of a recognized organization; and

Whereas, designation as a VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) / Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) FRA Representative or Deputy Representative for the VA Voluntary Service program at a VA medical facility a designation executed by the National Executive Director, or National Service Director as certifying officer of a recognized organization; and be it,

Resolved, Section 816(a) Committee is appointed by the National President. The Committee shall consist of a Chair and eight members, one from each region. Terms shall be for three years with three members being replaced or reappointed each year by the National President; and be it further,

Resolved, Section 816(b) Duties of the committee shall be: to manage and oversee the FRA VA Volunteer Services (VAVS)/Center for Development and Community Engagement (CDCE), providing education and outreach of the same to the membership of the Association, including VA MHA policy and regulations associated with this program, to report on the number and activities

of FRA designated VAVS/CDCE Representatives in each Region and each medical facility. To solicit branches to promote Shipmates to become VAVS/CDCE Representatives or volunteers and become involved in department of veteran affairs/services, medical facilities, state of national veteran cemeteries, or veteran homes, and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans in the area of Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation; and be it further,

Resolved, Section 820(a) Committee is appointed by the National President. The Committee shall consist of a Chair and eight members, one from each region, of which all members shall be VA accredited Veteran Service Officers representing the FRA. Terms shall be for three years with three members being replaced or reappointed each year by the National President; and be it further,

Resolved, Section 820(d) Duties of the Committee shall be: to oversee the FRA Veterans Service programs, providing education and outreach of same to the membership of the Association, including the policies and regulations associated with the program; to report on the number and activities of FRA accredited VSO representative program in each region; to solicit branches and Shipmates to become involved in departments of veteran affairs/services on the local, state, or national level, including VA regional offices, and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to Veterans in the area of Veteran Services.

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of the National Committee on Veterans Service held on **January 15, 2025**, read, debated, and adopted by a **unanimous** vote at a subsequent meeting held on **February 19, 2025**, a quorum being present.

Sha'ron D. Martin

Sha'ron D.

Martin,

VSO Chair

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 5 FUTURE
PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Whereas, Article 8, Section 802, C&BL, FRA, pertains to Duties of Officers and Committees; and

Whereas the members of the Fleet Reserve Association deserve the most qualified candidates for National Office; and

Whereas a qualified candidate for any National Office may not be present or nominated from membership for any given election cycle; and

Whereas the National Board of Directors recognizes that a qualified candidate may be drawn from outside membership, and his/her professional experience may be highly desirable; and

Whereas the NBOD recognizes that appointing National Officers following a professional vetting process, supporting by professional assistance from recruiting, validating, and hiring advisors, is preferred over either leaving a position vacant or electing an unqualified individual into the National Office; and

Whereas an incumbent NED or other National Officer should be evaluated for potential conflicts of interest in assessing the candidacy and qualifications of a candidate for that same role, and recuse him/herself from the process in the event such conflict exists; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That Article 8, Section 802 C&BL, FRA, be added to read as follows:

Section 802.

The National Board of Directors is authorized to advertise the position of National Executive Director no more than 1 year prior to the end of the National Executive Directors term, in the event of a vacancy or upon receipt of information that a vacancy in office of National Executive Director will occur. The National Board of Directors shall appoint a designated representative to advertise the position, review résumés, and make a recommendation to the National Board of Directors. The National Board of Directors is empowered to hire the best qualified candidate.

Be it further resolved that this section of 802 be ordered so that this new section precedes section 802 (h) and the remaining section be renumbered accordingly.

Resolved, That this amendment become effective January 1, 2026.

This is to certify this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of the Future Planning Committee and adopted by unanimous consent, a quorum being present.

Bruce Talbot,
PRPSC
Future
Planning
Committee
Chair

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 6 FUTURE PLANNING
COMMITTEE**

Whereas, Article 7, Section 701, C&BL, FRA, pertains to 701. National Officers; and

Whereas, Section 802(a). The National Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the Fleet Reserve Association between conventions; and

Whereas the members of the Fleet Reserve Association deserve the most qualified candidates for National Office; and

Whereas a qualified candidate for any National Office may not be present or nominated from membership for any given election cycle; and

Whereas the National Board of Directors recognizes that a qualified candidate may be drawn from outside membership, and his/her professional experience may be highly desirable; and

Whereas the NBOD recognizes that appointing National Officers following a professional vetting process, supporting by professional assistance from recruiting, validating, and hiring advisors, is preferred over either leaving a position vacant or electing an unqualified individual into the National Office; and

Whereas an incumbent NED or other National Officer should be evaluated for potential conflicts of interest in assessing the candidacy and qualifications of a candidate for that same role, and recuse him/herself from the process in the event such conflict exists; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That Article 7, Section 701(d), C&BL, FRA, be amended to read as follows:

Section 701(d). The Annual National Convention shall elect for a 1-year term the National Vice President and the National President.

Resolved, That Article 7, Section 701(f), Section 701(g), FRA, be added to read as follows:

Section 701(f). Candidates for National Executive Director may include members or non-members of the Fleet Reserve Association. Candidates for NED should have demonstrated relevant professional experience and skills commensurate with performing senior executive administrative and management functions and in maintaining relationships with the National Board of Directors and other National Officers.

Section 701(g). In the event there are two or more equally qualified candidates for NED, and in consultation with external professional advisors retained for the purposes of finding and reviewing candidates for NED, the candidate eligible for, or already maintaining, membership in the Fleet Reserve Association shall be favored.

Resolved, That this amendment become effective January 1, 2026.

This is to certify this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of the Future Planning Committee and adopted by unanimous consent, a quorum being present.

Bruce Talbot, PRPSC Future
Planning Committee Chair

GENERAL RESOLUTION

GENERAL RESOLUTION NO 7

GEM STATE BRANCH 382

Whereas, Article 11, Constitution and Bylaws (C&BL) Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) defines the nine regions of the FRA; and

Whereas, The FRA is experiencing a steady decline in membership; and

Whereas, The Northwest Region has been experiencing a noticeable lack of participation of branches in the Northwest Region activities; and

Whereas, The Northwest Region has not aggressively pushed other branches in participating in regional offices, instead relies on two branches to fill the regional offices; and

Whereas, The Northwest Region has not aggressively pushed all of the branches in the region to host regional conventions, and instead relies on two branches to host the regional convention; and

Whereas, The Northwest Region has had a lack of support for the Ladies Auxiliary Units in the Northwest Region, causing Auxiliary Units to shut down and cause a drop in participation in the shipmates of the affiliated branches; and

Whereas, Merging Gem State Branch 382 into the West Coast Region would reduce cost of travel due to close proximity of the annual location of the West Coast Regional Convention; therefore, be it

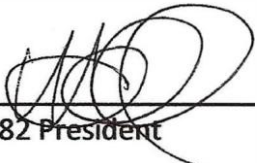
Resolved, That Article 11, Section 1101(f), C&BL, FRA shall be amended to read:

"Section 1101(f) West Coast Region: California north of the east-west line drawn Between Monterey, Kings, Tulare and Inyo Counties to the north, and San Luis Obispo, Kern and San Bernardino Counties to the south; Nevada north of a line running east-west from the Arizona-Utah border, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, and Idaho south of an east-west line running from Adams, Valley, and Lemhi Counties., and

Resolved, That Article 11, Section 1101(g), C&BL, FRA shall be amended to read:

"Section 1101(g) Northwest Region; Washington, Oregon, Montana, Hawaii, Idaho north of an east-west line running from Adams, Valley, and Lemhi counties, and all branches in the Pacific including those in the Republic of the Philippines."

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of Gem State Branch 382, held on May 10, 2025, read, debated, and adopted by a two-thirds (unanimous) vote at the regular meeting held on June 14, 2025, a quorum being present.


Branch 382 President

3/4 / f-lw&2-

l'f Ju.p,Jf;J.02i5:

Date

Branch 382 Secretary

Date

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 8
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No.
DIRECTORS**

NATIONAL BOARD OF

Article 12

National Board Resolution 21-25

Section 1203. Suspension or Revocation of Charter

Section 1203(a).

Whereas Section 1203 relates to The National Board of Directors having the “authority” to suspend or revoke a Branch’s charter for various reasons and

Whereas Section 1203(a) identifies one of those reasons to suspend or revoke is “When a membership of a branch decreases to less than ten members in good standing” and

Whereas the National Board of Directors can choose not to suspend or revoke a Branch’s charter for having less than ten members and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Section 1203(a) be changed to read:

Section 1203(a). When the membership of a branch decreases to less than ten members in good standing, and no prior authorization has been granted by the National Board of Directors allowing the branch to operate with less than ten members in good standing.

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at National Board of Directors meeting held on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, read, debated and adopted by unanimous email vote requiring signatures (NBR 21-25).

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 9
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Article 12

National Board Resolution 22-25

Section 1204. Appeal of Charter Suspension or Revocation

Whereas Section 1204 covers both “Appeals of Charter Suspension or Revocation”, and

Whereas these two actions and accompanying appeals encompass two very different situations with different consequences, and

Whereas Section 1204 identifies the “Branch Board of Directors” as the appealing party which conflicts with Section 1205 – “Branch Activity During Charter Suspension” and

Whereas Section 1206 already outlines the actions required to be carried out by the branch if its charter is revoked and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that Article 12, Section 1204 be changed to read:

Section 1204. Appeal of Charter Suspension – When a branch charter has been suspended as provided for in Section 1203, branch members in good standing prior to the suspension may appeal the decision to the National Board of Directors or the first annual nation convention following such suspension. If appealing to the National Board of Directors branch members will provide their written appeal to the Regional President who will request a vote of the National Board of Directors to reverse the suspension. A branch’s appeal to the annual convention will be in writing and shall be delivered to the National President at least ten days prior to the said national convention.

Maria A. Behm

FRA National President

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No.
DIRECTORS**

Philip Reid

National Executive Director

NATIONAL BOARD OF

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 10
Article 12

National Board Resolution 23-25

Section 1206. Deactivated Charter

Whereas Section 1206 – “Deactivated Charter” incorrectly outlines the exact same steps or actions that a branch can take if it is “declared defunct, its charter revoked or voluntarily surrendered...”and

Whereas it is not clear if the phrase “declared defunct “is a third possible reason for a charter to be deactivated, or if it is the definition of “its charter revoked or voluntarily surrendered” and

Whereas there is a stark difference as to what actions a branch can take based on whether their charter was revoked or whether the branch chose to voluntarily surrender their charter and

Whereas currently written Section 1206 is confusing and ambiguous and

Whereas a group of former branch members sued the FRA for the release of monies held in escrow after the branch’s charter had been revoked, using the wording in Section 1206 that said:

“...the national Board of Directors shall assume control of all books, records, properties and monies, keeping them in trust until a vote of the members in good standing, at the time the charter was relinquished, decides as to the final disposition of the same...”

And

Whereas Section 1206 should only address actions that can be taken by a branch whose charter has been revoked and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that Article 12, Section 1206 be changed to read:

Section 1206. Branch Charter Revoked – When a branch’s charter is revoked, the National Board of Directors shall assume control of all books, records, properties and monies, keeping them in escrow until the branch can successfully reorganize following the procedures outline in Article 12, Sections 1201 and 1202. The foregoing includes all assets and business ventures of the branch, and it must cease operation. Any and all assets of the branch or branch-controlled businesses shall be surrendered to the Fleet Reserve Association National Board of Directors who shall handle them in accordance with FRA directives and policy.

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 11 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article 12

National Board Resolution 24-25

Section 1207. Funds Held in Escrow

Section 1208. Funds Returned to Treasury

Whereas Section 1207 currently requires that “Funds Held in Escrow” remain in trust with the FRA treasury for a period of three years or until a branch can reactivate itself, whichever is shorter and

Whereas there has only been one branch who has met the requirements for reactivating itself during the past seven years doing so within a two-year period and

Whereas branches that have surrendered their charters are doing so because of a lack of members within the branch’s immediate location and members have no intention of attempting to reactivate the branch but instead have chosen to become MAL members of FRA and

NOW BE IT RESOVED that Article 12, Section 1207 be changed to read:

Section 1207. Funds Held in Escrow – If a branch is reactivated within two years of its deactivation date, all assets held in escrow by the national treasury shall be forwarded to that branch within thirty days following the installation of that branch.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if Section 1207 is changed to “two years”, Section 1208 is to read:

Section 1208. Funds Returned to the Treasury – If a branch is not reactivated within two years of its deactivation date, the funds held in escrow and all assets belonging to the deactivated branch shall transfer to the national treasury of the Fleet Reserve Association.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 12 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article 12

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

National Board Resolution 25-25

Section 1211. Surrender of Branch Charter

Whereas Section 1211 Covers the procedures for a branch to follow to voluntarily surrender its charter, a recommended change to Section 1206 removing mention of voluntary surrender of a branch's charter makes it no longer necessary for the branch to reference the provisions of Section 1206 and

Whereas Section 1211 procedures should be self-contained without reference to Section 1206 making it easier to understand and

NOW BE IT RESOVLED that Article 12, Section 1211 be changed to read:

Section 1211. Surrender of Branch Charter – A branch desiring to voluntarily surrender its charter shall give notice to all branch members in good standing, not less than ten days prior to the regular stated meeting, that a vote on voluntarily surrendering the branch charter will be taken at the meeting. If such action receives a two-thirds vote, the branch shall then petition the National Board of Directors, through the Regional President, for authority to voluntarily surrender the branch charter. When such authority has been received a vote of the members in good standing at the time the charter was relinquished, decides as to the final disposition of the assets of the branch, provided at no time shall the assets of the branch be distributed among the individual members thereof, but they may be donated to the national treasury of the Fleet Reserve Association, another branch of the Fleet Reserve Association , or to some other worthy nonprofit.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 13 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Article 12

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

National Board Resolution 26-25

Section 1212. Branch Merger

Whereas Section 1212 Covers the procedures for branches to merge, a recommended change to Section 1206 removing mention of voluntarily surrender of a branch's charter makes it no longer necessary for the branches to apply the provisions of Section 1206 and

NOW BE IT RESOVLED that Article 12, Section 1212 be changed to read:

Section 1212. Branch Merger – When two or more branches desire to effect a merger between said branches, Sections 308(b), 309(d) and 1211 apply.

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No. 14 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Article 12

National Board Resolution 27-25

Section 1215(g) and 1216(a)

Whereas Section 1215 outlines “Branch Officers”, and specifically Section 1215(g) list the number of Directors as “Five Directors” and

Whereas Section 1216 outlines the “Election of Branch Officers (optional)” and Section 1216(a) states, “Branches whose membership is below 300 members may petition the Regional President for permission to elect a Branch President and four directors for the subsequent Association years, as an exception to Section 1215.” and

Whereas presently only 11% of all FRA Group I and II Branches are above 300 members and 89% of all FRA Group III, IV, and V Branches are below 300 members and

Whereas the required numbers of Branch members per Group have gotten smaller over the years, the requirement to elect Branch Officers in Section 1215 and 1216 has not changed and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that Article 12, Section 1215(g) be amended to read:

Section 1215(g). At least five Directors if Groups I and II Branches. Group III Branches shall elect at least three Directors, Group IV Branches shall elect at least two Directors, and Group V Branches shall elect at least two Director”, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Article 12 *Section* 1216(a) should be amended to read:

Section 1216(a). Group Branches I and II may petition the Regional President for permission to elect a branch president and four directors for the subsequent Association years, as an exception to Section 1215(g).

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at National Board of Directors meeting held on Tuesday, August 5, 2025, read, debated and rejected by unanimous email vote requiring signatures (NBR 27-25).

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive
Director

Article 8

National Board Resolution 28-25
Revocation of NBR 18-25

Whereas the National Board of Directors voted unanimously at a National Board of Directors meeting held in Alexandria VA, on May 2, 2025 to affirm the passage of NBR 18-25 presented by the RPNC Talbot and

Whereas the resolution quotes a specific Section of the FRA Constitution and Bylaws – Section 813(a) - as it appears in the 17th Edition of the FRA C&BL with updates from the 96th National Convention and

Whereas the section as presented in the C&BL does not reflect the updated version of the section which was ratified during the 95th Convention after first being approved by the National Board of Directors under NBR 17-23, changing the wording to:

Section 813(a). The committee shall be appointed by the incoming National President and be made up of the incoming National Vice President as the chairman and the Regional Vice President from each region. A member's term shall be for one year.

And

Whereas the National Board of Directors will issue a National Board Authorization (NBA) to correct the wording appearing in the 17th Edition of the FRA C&BL and

Whereas once the NBA is approved, recertify a revised version of the same Constitution and Bylaws resolution using the proper wording in citing Section 813(a)

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that NBR 18-25 be revoked and an NBA be immediately issued updating the wording of Section 813(a) as was ratified by the FRA delegates on September 26, 2023.

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

National Board Resolution 29-25

Article 8

Sections 813(a), 819(a), 820(a)

Whereas, Article 8, Sections 813(a), 819(a) and 820(a) C&BL, FRA specifies the number of members to serve on the respective national committees and references “eight members, one from each region”; and

Whereas, a resolution has been submitted to combine the North Central Region and the South Central Region bringing the number of regions to seven; and

Whereas, adoption of the resolution to combine these two regions would be in conflict with the current FRA C&BL which states “eight members, one from each region”; and

Whereas, this resolution does not state a definite number of committee members associated with the number of regions requiring no future C&BL change if the number of regions changes; and

Whereas, this resolution allows the National President to appoint more committee members if desired; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that Article 8, Section 813(a) C&BL FRA be amended to read:

“**Section 813(a).** The committee shall be appointed by the incoming National President and be made up of the incoming National Vice President as the chairman and the Regional Vice President from each region. A member’s term shall be for one year.”

Resolved, that Article 8, Section 819(a); C&BL FRA be amended to read:

“**Section 819(a).** The committee shall consist of a chairman and one member from each region. The National President may appoint additional members if desired.”

Resolved, that Article 8, Section 820(a) C&BL FRA be amended to read:

“**Section 820(a).** The Committee shall consist of the Director, National Service or designated FRA accredited National Representative as chairman, and one member from each region. The National President may appoint additional members if desired A member’s term shall be for three years with a minimum of two members replaced or reappointed each year by the incoming National President.” and

Resolved, that this proposed change to Article 8, Sections 813(a), 819(a) and 820(a) become effective at the close of the 2025 FRA National Convention.

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a National Board of Directors meeting held on the *Aug 5, 2025*, read, debated, and adopted by unanimous vote, a quorum being present (NBR 29-25)

Maria A. Behm

Philip Reid

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS RESOLUTION No.
FRA National President

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
National Executive Director

National Board Resolution 30-25

Whereas, Article 3, Section 306, C&BL, FRA, pertains to Honorary Membership; and

Whereas the members of the Fleet Reserve Association grant Honorary Membership for distinguished service that the nominee has rendered to the Fleet Reserve Association and that the nominee is not otherwise eligible for membership in the Fleet Reserve Association; and

Whereas there is no specified length of term for Honorary Membership; and

Whereas the Honorary Member may cease affiliation with the nominating Branch; now, therefore be

Resolved, That Article 3, Section 306 C&BL, FRA, be amended to read as follows:

Section 306(a). Persons not eligible for regular membership in the Fleet Reserve Association, but who have rendered distinguished service to the Association may, by two-thirds vote of the delegates attending the National Convention, be elected to Honorary Membership *for an initial term of five years*. Honorary members shall not pay dues, nor will they be eligible to hold any elected office, vote or accept any benefit associated with regular membership including scholarship fund awards.

Section 306(c). Not more than *five* honorary members shall be elected at any national convention.

Resolved, that Article 3. Section 306(d), Section 306(e), Section 306(f), and Section 306(g) C&BL, FRA be added to read as follows:

Section 306(d). Upon expiration of the initial five-year term a Branch may renew the Honorary Membership for terms not to exceed five years by paying the current membership dues rate.

Section 306(e). Honorary Membership will be revoked after the initial five-year term has expired and is not renewed. Section 306(f). Honorary Members are not eligible for Life Membership.

Section 306(g). Honorary Members who become eligible for membership lose their Honorary status, and to remain in the organization, they must become dues paying members.

Section 306(h). Honorary Members must complete a membership application upon initial election and renewal.

Resolved, That this amendment become effective January 1, 2026.

This is to certify this resolution was proposed at a meeting of the National Board of Directors and adopted by unanimous consent, a quorum being present (NBR30-25)

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

National Board Resolution 31-25 Section 1216

Whereas, Section 1215 outlines the Election of Branch Officers with President in 1215(a), Branch Vice-President in 1215(b), Second Vice-President (optional) in 1215(c), Secretary or Executive Secretary in 1215(d), Financial Secretary (optional) in 1215(e), Treasurer in 1215(f) (whose duties can be combined with Secretary duties); and Section 1215(g) Five Directors provides guidance for Branch election of five directors. At a minimum this is a requirement to elect eight (8) Branch Officers regardless of Branch size: and

Whereas, Section 1216 outlines the Election of Branch Officers (optional) where Section 1216(a) states Branches whose membership is below 300 members may petition the Regional President for permission to elect a Branch President and four directors for the subsequent Association years, as an exception to Section 1215. At a minimum this is a requirement to elect a total of five (5) Branch Officers regardless of Branch size; and

Whereas, at present only 11% of all FRA Group I and II Branches are above 300 members and 89% of all FRA Group III, IV, and V Branches are below 300 members; and

Whereas, the required numbers of Branch members per Group have gotten smaller over the years, but the requirement to elect Branch Officers in Section 1215 and 1216 has not changed; now, therefore be it

Resolved, that Section 1216(a) C&BL FRA be amended to read:

"Section 1216(a). Branches whose membership is below 300 members may petition the Regional President for permission to elect a reduced slate of officers as an exception to Section 1215. All membership groups will elect a president. Group II (only if less than 300 members) shall elect at least four directors, Group III shall elect at least three directors, and Group IV and Group V shall elect at least three directors.": and be it further *Resolved*, that this proposed change to Section and 1216 become effective on 1 January 2026.

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a National Board of Directors meeting on the 5th day of August 2025, read, debated, and adopted by a two-thirds (or unanimous) vote, a quorum being present.

Maria A. Behm
FRA National President

Philip Reid
National Executive Director

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2025**

Shipmate President Don Barton called the regular Low Country Branch 269 meeting to order at 1800, Thursday, October 16, 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	Johnny Brown	PNP Don Muccheck	Ken Hutchinson
Larry Pepper	Glenn Little	Sarah Ihme	

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

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
A Two-Bell will be conducted for Shipmates Bobby Barbee and Brian Steffen. Will give the rest of the report at general assembly.

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace
Report at general assembly.

Youth Activities: Ed Peters
Report at general assembly.

Public Relations: John Tharp
Report at general assembly.

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 Report: PNC Laurie Bailey
Report at general assembly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

There is a November 1st deadline to order wreaths for the Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony at \$40 each. The ceremony will take place at Patriots Point (USS Yorktown) on December 7th, 2025 at 1100.

- **MOTION:** PNC Laurie Bailey moved, and PRPSE Fred Bolz seconded that we support the Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony and purchase one wreath for \$40. Motion carried unanimously

Our 2026 Southeast Regional Mid-Year Meeting will be hosted by Branch 269 in February 2026.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck moved, and S/M Tim Bailey seconded that Branch 269 hosts the mid-year meeting to be held in February. Motion carried unanimously
- **MOTION:** S/M Ken Hutchinson moved, and Laurie Bailey seconded that we host the meeting on 07FEB2026. Motion carried unanimously.

PNP Don Muccheck has an invoice to pay the FRA Home \$141.99 for two key cards, four steak dinners, and the Navy birthday cake.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck moved, and S/M Tim Bailey seconded that the FRA Home be reimbursed \$141.99. Motion carried unanimously.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None

Motion to adjourn made by PRPSE Fred Bolz, seconded by S/M Tim Bailey. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1812.

Auxiliary of the FRA, Unit 269
Minutes, October 14, 2025
FRA Home, Goose Creek, SC

President, NFS/PNP Pat Suckow, called the regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Visitors: None

Drape the Charter: No one

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. Sue Peters, Ann Griffith, and Linda Nichols were present, Anne Barton, Dee Wallace, Kathy Sorenson, were absent.

New Member Initiation. New Member Kathy Brady was initiated by NFS/PNP Pat Suckow.

Minutes. September 16, 2025, were approved with the following corrections. The grand total for the checking account is \$18872.31 not \$15710.10. PNC Gale Nathan's and Marilyn Tharp's names were updated to reflect proper spelling.

Membership Report. Debbie Breeze.

Members as of June 1 -- 182; Reinstated - 6; New - 15; Transferred In - 0; Transferred Out -- 0; Resigned -- 0; Non-Payment -- 5; Deceased -- 2; Ineligible -- 1; Other -- 0; Active Members -- 195.

Treasurer's Report. PNC Gale Nathan.

Balance brought forward: \$15,710.10. Disbursements: \$976.60. PCT Auto Deposits: \$50.00. Unit Deposits: \$130.00. Checking account balance \$14,913.50. Savings: \$3,162.47. Balance on hand: \$18,075.97.

Bills to be paid: None

Correspondence: Amy Osborne.

None

Chaplain's Report: Theresa Milligan.

Eight Birthday cards, 1 Condolence card, 2 Get Well cards and 2 Thinking of You cards were sent this month.

Activities: All Members.

50/50 – No Report

Golf Tournament – November 22, at 9:00 a.m.

Bunko – \$0.00

Americanism/Patriotism: Linda Nichols

October 21 – National Pets for Veterans Day (2018)

October 24 – United Nation's Day (1945)

October 25 – National Make a Difference Day (1992)

November 2 – Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 4-FRA 97th and Auxiliary 92nd National Convention begins

November 4 – Election Day

November 10 – US Marine Corps Birthday (1775)

November 11 – FRA's Birthday (1924)

November 11 – Veteran's Day

Audit: Sue Peters, Kim Vandiver

Audit was held on October 11. There were a few errors, but they have been corrected and accepted.

Hospital: Theresa Milligan

Not Present.

VAVS: Theresa Milligan

1. Angel Tree is November 17- December 12.
2. The food given away to veterans has already supported 100,000 veterans.
3. A reminder that the North Charleston clinic needs volunteers. You can call Matt at 843-789-4422.

Publicity: Debbie Breeze

Debbie Breeze updated the easel board with current activities and Facebook with the Rada sale.

Welfare / Rehabilitation: Sue Peters

Sue Peters – First VA food distribution has been completed. The second distribution date is Wednesday, November 22.

Youth Activities: Anne Barton, Gale Nathan

No Report

Ship's Store: Sue Peters

The shirts have arrived and can be paid for tonight.

Unfinished Business:

1. Debbie Breeze stated we would extend the RADA knife sale until November 18.

New Business:

1. NFS/PNP Pat Suckow thanked everyone who donated to the VA hospital food drive. She also reminded everyone that this is an ongoing project so keep the donations coming.
2. November 23 at 10am, should be the date of the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run at Harley Davidson in North Charleston. We need volunteers to support taking the toys and fees from riders.

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)

1. The Angel Tree will be set up in the home for members to make donations. Once these are received, we will shop on December 14, at 8:00am at Walmart. Gale motioned that the Auxiliary donate \$2000.00 to the drive. Linda Nichols seconded. Motion passed. Debbie Breeze will create a toys for tots flyer to be distributed.

2. If you plan on attending the fair please wear Auxiliary attire to the events we attend there.
3. SE Convention Awards. Our unit received first place in every category. Please keep a record of the community service that you do outside of our activities.
4. The children's Christmas party is 12/21. The adult Christmas party is on Thursday December 18. I need to get the time for both events.
5. Please remember that we make update on the FRA Branch and Unit 269 Facebook page.
6. PNC Gale Nathan was awarded her 45 year pin by NFS/PNP Pat Suckow. Congratulations.
7. We need to discuss wreath across America and a wreath for Pearl Harbor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 18, at 6:00 p.m.

Next Luncheon: Tuesday, November 18, at 11:30 a.m. at the home.

FRA LOW COUNTRY HOME COMMITTEE MEETING

OCTOBER 13, 2025

PNC Laurie Bailey called the FRA Low Country Home Committee meeting to order at 1800 on Monday, October 13, 2025.

Board Members Present: PNC Laurie Bailey, 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 Vice President Steve Koch and Home Manager Larry Pepper.

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

- **MOTION:** S/M Tim Bailey motioned, and S/M John Tharp seconded that the 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 \$8,116.88; Savings \$35,464.49; Credit Card \$31,107.63; Pending Deposits \$1,688.01; Registers/Cash Funds \$11,000. Total Funds \$87,377.01.

- **MOTION:** Lady Kim Vandiver motioned, and Lady Amy Osborne seconded to accept the Financial Reports. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

An estimate was received for a new deck in the galley and behind the bar. The project will cost approximately \$3,500 for the galley only and just under \$6,000 for both areas. The galley project will require a kitchen closure of 3–4 days. The bar project will require one day. The work is tentatively scheduled for January.

Golf Tournament: November 22nd, tee time 0900.

Membership and Security:

FRA HQ reports 724 active members, including 2 gains and 2 reinstatements. There are 195 Unit Members.

Old Business

Kitchen Deck: Discussed options of tile or epoxy decking. It was decided to proceed with tile.

- **MOTION:** S/M Ken Hutchinson motioned, and S/M Tim Bailey that the galley and bar decks be replaced. Following discussion regarding the possible need to replace lines and gas fittings, S/M Hutchinson amended his motion to authorize expenditures not to exceed \$7,500 for the full project. Amended motion carried.

Uncle Sam: S/M Darlene Hines took the figure home to freshen it up. Uncertain if it will return.

New Business

Christmas Trees: Discussion was held regarding purchasing new Christmas trees for the banquet and bar area.

- **MOTION:** S/M Ken Hutchinson motioned, and Lady Kim Vandiver seconded to purchase two pre-lit Christmas trees not to exceed \$550. Motion carried.

Cleanup Days: The committee agreed to hold a quarterly cleanup day, with the next scheduled for Monday, December 1, at 1800. Monthly cleanup of the outdoor area will also continue.

Emergency Lighting: Indoor emergency lights are not working. S/M Manager Larry Pepper will take corrective action.

CPR/AED Class: A member of SUBVETS has offered to conduct a CPR/AED Class for FRA and SUVETS members at \$10 per person. This member will attend our general assembly meeting on Thursday to provide additional information.

Upcoming Events:

U.S. Marine Corps Birthday (November 10): Cake

Veterans Day (November 11): Patriotic decorations, indoor picnic, and desserts

Christmas Parties – Decorate Home after Thanksgiving. The Adult Christmas Party will be December 18th. We do not have a date for the kids Christmas party yet. We will have our Home Committee meeting the Monday before.

Good of the Order

None

The next meeting will be on November 17, 2025, at 1800.

- **MOTION:** S/M Tim Bailey motioned, and Lady Dee Wallace seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1837.