



Scuttlebutt

Branch/Unit 269 Goose Creek, South Carolina
843.569.2692



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]

Auxiliary 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/]

MEAL HOURS FOR THE HOME: Lunch Hours Mon-Fri 1100-1330. Dinner Hours Mon-Fri 1700-2000

Branch President's Corner

As Old man winter approach's our schedule gets busier. We enjoyed a well-attended 251st Navy birthday cake cutting ceremony with around 30 shipmates attending.

At the Oct meeting we draped the charter and held a two-bell ceremony for past National Executive Director Tom Snee. Congratulations to Bryan Masterson and Phil Nunnally for 20 years consecutive membership and welcome aboard new member Randy Stoemer.

Plans for the future include:
Marine Corps birthday cake cutting 10 Nov at 1800
Veterans day indoor picnic 11 Nov at 1130
Thanksgiving Dinner 26 Nov at 1330. If you plan to attend sign book at bar.
The Branch will participate in the annual Pearl Harbor ceremony on board the USS Yorktown 7 Dec at 11:00
The annual Christmas party will be on 17 Dec at 6 pm

Branch 269 placed 1st in American/Patriotism, congratulations PNC Laurie Bailey. Also, congratulations are in order for Nick Nichols in receiving his recruiting award.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service
Ken Hutchison

Thoughts from the Unit President:

The holidays are all about being grateful for

what you have-even if the turkey is burnt and the tablecloth is full of stains. Enjoy your time with family and friends. Inviting a veteran or first responder to Thanksgiving is a meaningful way to honor their service and strengthen community ties.

First, I would like to announce the newly elected National Officers of the Auxiliary for the year 2026-2027.

- Laura Starkey, National President
- Steve Toulotte, National Vice President
- Dorothy Smiley, National Executive Secretary
- Cindy Rodham Tuck, National Financial Secretary
- Sharon Lippitt, National Treasurer

We wish them a successful year.

Also, I am happy to announce that Unit 269 received first place for the President's Report and received a check for membership.

We had our second discussion about the changes to the Unit's Bylaws and Standing Rules. Changes to the Bylaws involve the organization's name change to "Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association." Most changes to the Standing Rules involved the increased cost allotted for various commitments to reflect inflation. Updated Bylaws & Standing Rules will now be forwarded to the Branch for review.

The Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run will be on Saturday, November 21, starting at the Harley Davidson dealership. The Unit will be helping with registration.

The Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony will be held on December 7 at 11:00 on the USS

Yorktown. Those attending are urged to carpool to save parking fees. They should plan to arrive by 9:00... Please plan to arrive by 10:00 at the latest.

The Unit's Christmas Lunch will be on December 15 at 11:30. Location was discussed. Debbie Breeze was tasked to reach out to locations for availability and menu options.

New National Auxiliary website is up. Soon you will be able to pay online, read newsletters from the National President, print membership cards, and many other items. Address is: "Auxiliary-FRA.org"

Nov 3 Election Day; Nov 10 US Marine Corps Birthday (1775); Nov 11 Veterans Day; Nov 11 FRA Birthday (1924); Nov 21 Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run; Nov 26 Thanksgiving Day; 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day; Dec 20 Children's Christmas Party; Dec 17 Adult Christmas Party; Dec 19 National Wreaths Across America Day

The next unit luncheon will be on November 17 at 11:30, at Fleet Home

The next Unit meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, at 5:30 at the Fleet.

I want to send my thoughts and prayers to our members and their families who are facing health challenges or mourning the loss of a loved one. Those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, or any special occasions have a very enjoyable day.

In Loyalty, Protection & Service



Pat Suckow, PNP
Unit 269 President
Auxiliary of the FRA
psuckow106@gmail.com
Cell (843) 452-4719

"Thanksgiving Dinner"

With the holiday season fast approaching we are preparing for our Thanksgiving dinner. This event serves to bring us together for a festive celebration filled with joy, companionship, and fun. The committee kindly seeks support through donations: casseroles baked, goods, or monetary support. Please sign in on the signup sheet that is at the bar, sign up by letting us know if you are attending or what you can donate.

We are thankful for any assistance you can provide, and we believe that your generosity will play a crucial role in spreading holiday cheer for those who may otherwise feel isolated during this time.

Branch Treasurer's Report

August 28 — September 27, 2026

General Checking	\$ 4,146.46
Savings	\$ 5,206.17
Certificate of Deposit	\$ <u>12,599.76</u>
TOTAL	\$21,952.39

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 694

Term NPD [4]: James Crump, William Dunsing, Harold Herrington, Raymond McKinley III

Term/DEC [3]: Charles Pyatt, Thomas Skorepa, Charles Walton

New Join/Reinstated [4]: Scott Bullington, Shawn Rodriguez, Randy Stoermer, L. Wesley

Past Due [10]: Craig Farr, Rogelio Fulgencio, Peter Garrison, Sherman Hostetter, Mitchell Nappier, Sheri Ragan, Cubit Robinson, Ryan Stevenson, Craig Wold, Robert Zauner

Ready to Renew [29]: John Allen Jr., Cody Amason, Paul Brown, Charles Clore, William Cox, Boyd Davis, John Difrancesco Jr., Mark Feathers, James Finney, James Fleming, Jonathan France, Jamaal Goss, James Heath, Terrell Heath, William Hunter, James Hutton, Christopher Kelley, Greg Landry, Raymond Montminy, Don Pace, Robert Pulos, Marie Sehl, David Smith, Michael Sosa Jr., Roberta Sutton, Jason Tatge, Larry Turner, Matthew Young, Saralyn Young

UNIT MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

- **Active Members:** 208
- **To Be Renewed [10]:** Dylan Adams, Sandra Berstein, Patricia Chilton, Karen Hightower, Norma Jean Houck, Brenda Kraus, Joy Lambert, Bonnie Laseter, Amanda Reid, Linda Walton
- **30 days past due [5]:** Janice Highberger, James Highberger Jr., Robin McKeown, Sandra Medley, Jeanette Walker
- **60 days past due [7]:** Jacob Becker, Julie Becker, Loretta Dailey, Gina Horne, Heather Kennedy, Kenton McCarron, Jacqueline Verheyen
- **90 days past due [1]:** Pricilla Wilbanks
 - * Reinstated: 1 * New: 12
 - * Non-payment: 6 * Deceased: 4

BRANCH CHAPLAIN

Hospital/Welfare/Rehabilitation:

Two Bell was conducted for PNED Tom Snee

- * S/M Ken Wallace had a defibrillator implanted and is doing well.
- * Minnie Mucheck, PNP Don's wife, has kidney stones and is at home with a lot of pain.
- * Keep these and all others in our prayers.

Shipmates or Unit members please contact:

**Branch Chaplain S/M Bobbi Sutton @
843.514.2823 or 843.879.9473
Unit Chaplain Theresa Milligan @
843-535-2757**

(Home Minutes at the end of the newsletter)

Home Committee Report

Cash Audit as of **12 September 2026** is:

Checking Account balance	\$ 2,609.20
Savings account	\$ 50,513.10
Credit Card account available	\$ 634.67
Pending Check/Cash for deposit	\$ 826.50
Registers/Cash Funds	\$ 11,500.00
Total funds	\$ 66,083.47

Building and Grounds/Special Events/and

Manager's Report: (full report in minutes)

- Thanksgiving dinner is scheduled for Thurs, 26 Nov. Signup book is behind the bar.
- The updated food menu has taken effect.
- The tree hanging over the parking lot has been removed.
- An indoor picnic will be held on Veterans Day.

Americanism/Patriotism - PNC Laurie Bailey

Dates in History October/November

25 Oct - United Nations Day
31 Oct - Halloween
01 Nov - Daylight Savings Time Ends
03 Nov - Election Day
10 Nov - US Marine Corps Birthday (1775)
11 Nov - FRA's Birthday (1924)
11 Nov - Veterans' Day

Newsbytes: The Fleet Reserve Bulletin

The Newsbytes are sent to all FRA members from National via email. Archives direct [LINK](#)

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Newsbytes October 2, 2026

- ◇ Lawmakers Open FRA Convention
- ◇ Hegseth Hears From Troops
- ◇ VA Awards Suicide Prevention Grants

- ◇ Robotic Gloves Restore Grip
- ◇ Record Homelessness Grants Awarded
- ◇ VA Suicide Report Released

Newsbytes October 9, 2026

- ◇ FRA Mourns Tom Snee
- ◇ FRA Mourns Michael Sulsona
- ◇ RAND Exposes Veteran Hiring Gaps
- ◇ VA Pilots Faster Account Setup
- ◇ Coast Guard Reopens Six Stations

Newsbytes October 16, 2026

- ◇ COLA Set at 3.6 Percent
- ◇ VA Closes Record 3.11 Million Claims
- ◇ VA Expands Written Consent Rules
- ◇ TRICARE Open Season Starts Nov. 9
- ◇ Lincoln Home After 321 Days

Newsbytes October 23, 2026

- ◇ Total Disability Ratings Surge
- ◇ EHR Gets 15 Fall Upgrades
- ◇ VA Enrollment Tops 300,000
- ◇ SEAC Says Employers Overlook Enlisted
- ◇ Navy Leaders Take Questions Live
- ◇ Headquarters Cheers On Maria Osby

Newsbytes October 30, 2026

Published next month

BRANCH/UNIT 269 WEBSITE - fra269gc.org !!!!

Get your current and past newsletters
and see upcoming events.

BRANCH/UNIT 269 MEMBERSHIP INFO REMINDER: ALL MEMBERSHIP FORMS / DUES ARE TO BE PLACED IN THE RESPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP BOXES BY THE HOME OFFICE DOOR. THIS APPLIES TO BRANCH AND UNIT

The Branch and Unit Membership Boxes outside the office are the only place to leave 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". **The pass down log will not be used for anything concerning membership.**

Branch Life Membership ages and dues

Ages up to 40: \$600.00	Ages 41-50: \$570.00
Ages 51-60: \$535.00	Ages 61-70: \$475.00
Ages 71-80: \$380.00	Ages 81-90: \$260.00
Ages 91-99: \$145.00	Ages 100 and older: FREE

The Security Corner

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

How To Spot A Credit Card Skimmer

Greetings shipmates! This month we will look at the many ways the credit card readers we routinely insert our credit cards into, or tap to provide our card information, can be abused and steal our information.

Payment card skimmer fraud remains a common, evolving threat where criminals secretly modify point-of-sale terminals, ATMs, and gas pumps to capture sensitive financial data. These malicious devices typically function by reading the information stored on your card's magnetic stripe as you complete a transaction, which fraudsters then use to create counterfeit cards, drain bank accounts, or sell stolen details online.

Contactless payment technology and EMV chip insertion are both highly secure methods for in-person transactions, as they rely on dynamic encryption rather than static data transmission.

While "tap-to-pay" is often considered more convenient for daily purchases, both options essentially utilize the same underlying cryptographic security models to generate unique, one-time transaction codes.

How To Spot A Credit Card Skimmer:

Before You Swipe or Dip

How to spot and avoid credit card skimmers

And from our FBI, comes this information about skimming fraud:

Skimming and Skimming Scams

I'm always glad to help out if I can. //George



VAVS Branch Representative PRPSE Fred Bolz

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Here Is the 2027 Pay Raise for Disabled Veterans and Military Retirees

The COLA increase, tied to inflation, is 3.6% for 2027. This is what it's worth.

Military retirees and disabled veterans will receive a 3.6% increase to their monthly paychecks for 2027, thanks to the annual cost-of-living adjustment, or COLA, tied to inflation.

The 3.6% raise for 2027 is up from 2.8% in

2026 and 2.5% in 2025, following a string of raises as high as 8.7% in 2023. Department of Veterans Affairs disability and survivor payments, along with military retirement checks, go up each year by the same amount as the COLA to account for the rate of inflation.

Disabled veterans will receive a 3.6% increase to their benefit payments in the upcoming year. VA disability checks will go up by about \$6.50 per month for those with a 10% rating and by about \$147.08 for those rated at 100% who don't have dependents.

For 2027, retired military members will also receive a \$36 increase for each \$1,000 of military retirement pension they receive each month.

Read More...

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VA BENEFITS GUIDE ONLINE

You've earned support through your service—now find out what's available to you and your family. **The latest VA Federal Benefits Guide is now available online and makes it easier to explore benefits you may qualify for**, from healthcare and mental health support to education, housing, employment, and financial assistance.

Learn more

The 2026 Veterans Benefits Guide is Now Available Online

As it is always important to stay up to date with the healthcare available to you as veterans, the 2026 Veterans Benefits Guide is a must have to keep bookmarked and available for reference.

A complete listing of phone numbers and websites of VA services, starts on the third page of the Federal Benefits booklet.

Download the Benefits Book

(PDF, 116 pages, 1.4 MB)

Read More...

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SIGN IN & TRACK YOUR CLAIM

Top of Form

Check the status of your VA claim, decision review, or appeal in one secure place.

Sign in to va.gov to see where it stands, review requested or submitted evidence, and access available decision letters—so you can stay informed about what's next. Covers many disability, pension, survivor, burial, and housing benefits, plus certain dependent-related requests.

Learn more

Survey finds overwhelming opposition to TCAVA bill

A new DAV survey of more than 4,200 veterans, their family members, caregivers and survivors shows overwhelming support (93%) for protecting veterans earned benefits and overwhelming opposition (71%) to the omnibus Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA) unless a provision (Section 108) containing historic cuts to veterans' benefits is removed.

[Read more](#)

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Fraud Alert: Watch Out for Phishing Scams

Phishing attacks might sound silly, and some of their variants including smishing attacks, vishing attacks, and quishing attacks might sound like the sort of prank your buddies would play on you. But they are deadly serious strategies that malicious actors are using to defraud many, including veterans. Knowing the warning signs for these attacks, including what you will be asked for from emails, texts, or even QR codes, and what information is out of bounds to be given in these scenarios can help veterans avoid fraud.

[Read More...](#)

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Don't miss a message from VA

My HealtheVet on VA.gov is our new health portal for managing your health care online. We now use the email address listed in your VA.gov profile to send you any health care notifications.

We want to make sure you get all your notifications about updates like prescription refills, secure messages, and test results. We encourage you to review the email address listed in your profile.

How to review and update the email in your VA.gov profile

To be sure you don't miss any notifications, you can check which email you have saved in your VA.gov profile. Just follow these steps:

Sign in to VA.gov with your Login.gov or your [Login.gov](#) or [ID.me](#) account. [Learn more about signing in to VA.gov](#)

1. Once you're signed in to VA.gov, your name will be at the top of any VA.gov webpage. Click or tap on your name and select **Profile** from the drop-down menu.

2. Under **Contact information**, select **Manage your contact information**.

3. Scroll down to review your **Contact email**.

If you need to update your email, select **Edit** and then save your update.

We'll send any health care notifications to the new email address you have saved in your VA.gov profile. You can update your email address or other contact information at any time.

[Manage your profile](#)

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RECORD VA CEMETERY FUNDING

VA has awarded a record \$106.5 million to expand, build and maintain Veterans cemeteries across the country. Find out where the FY26 funding is going—and how it will bring dignified burial options closer to more Veterans and their families.

[Learn more](#)

Did You Know?

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3-second tech genius: Want to remove the background from any photo on your iPhone? Open the photo, long-press on the subject and watch it lift right off the background. Tap **Copy** and paste it into a text, email or note. You just did in two seconds what used to require Photoshop. Android users, open the photo in **Google Photos**, tap the subject and hit **Copy Image**. True genius right there.

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3-second tech genius: Forgot to lock your car and you're already halfway across the parking lot? Don't walk back like a sucker. Hold your key fob under your chin, press lock and listen for the beep. Your skull acts like an antenna and amplifies the signal. I know it sounds ridiculous. I know you'll feel silly doing it. Try it anyway, it works.

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Spam texts have passed spam calls. Stop replying "STOP." Responding confirms your number is active and lands you on more lists. Don't do it.

• **iPhone:** **Settings > Apps > Messages > Screen Unknown Senders, on.**

Android: **Messages app > Settings > Spam Protection > Filter Spam Calls, on.** Then call your carrier. AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile all have free spam-blocking tools that most customers never activate. One phone call and it's done.

Pictures of these and other events can be viewed at
269 Branch/Unit 269 Events/Pictures [fra267gc.org/events]

Happy 251st Birthday US Navy



[L to R] Branch 269 President Ken Hutchison welcomed new member S/M Randy Stoermer, presented S/M Brian Masterson with his 20 year membership pin, and presented S/M Nick Nichols with a Membership Retention Award.



SER Convention Awards were presented and ribbons were placed on the FRA flag. Youth Activities - Don Pace - First Place; American/Patriotism - First Place - Sara Ihme stood in for PNC Laurie Bailey who wasn't present; Public Relations - First Place - John Tharp; Hospital/Welfare, Rehabilitation - First Place - Bobbi Sutton.



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 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Free Pool	2	3	4 <u>1800-2000</u> Sojourners Mtg	5 <u>1800</u> SUBVETS BOD	6	7
8 Free Pool	9 <u>1800</u> K of C	10 MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY <u>1800</u> USMC Cake Cutting	11 VETERANS DAY <u>1130-1400</u> INDOOR PICNIC	12 <u>1900</u> SUBVETS Mtg	13	14 <u>1000-1200</u> DAV Mtg
15 Free Pool	16 <u>1800</u> Home Committee	17 <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch <u>1730</u> Unit Mtg	18 <u>1800-2000</u> Radio Club	19 <u>1800</u> Branch BOD <u>1900</u> Branch Mtg CUTOFF TO SIGN UP FOR THE DINNER	20	21 <u>1000-1200</u> MilFrat Mtg
22 Free Pool	23 <u>1900</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	24	25	26 THANKSGIVING DAY <u>1300-1530</u> Thanksgiving Dinner Veterans & Spouses; Active Duty & 1st Responders eat free. Guests \$5/pp	27	28
29 Free Pool	30					

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 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 1800 SUBVETS BOD	4	5 1800 Mulligan Men
6 Free Pool	7 1100 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Service USS Yorktown	8	9	10 1700-2200 SUBETS Christmas Party	11	12
13 Free Pool 1000-1200 Toys for Tots	14 1800 Home Committee	15 1800-2100 Persimon Hill HOA	16 1800-2000 Radio Club	17 1800-2200 Fleet Christmas Party	18 TBD Copeland Party	19 1000-1200 MilFrat Mtg TBD Wreaths Across America
20 Free Pool 1200-1400 Kids Christmas Party	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 1800 Home Closing	25 CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED	26
27 Free Pool	28 1900 Carolina Coins Mtg	29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE 1800 Home Closing		

BRANCH 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—NOVEMBER 2026

Life Members in **BOLD**

Richard Best	58	Boyd Davis	28	John Sloane	20	Michael Cousino	3
Thomas Evans	54	Thomas Krieger	26	Richard Dougherty	15	Sarah Harry	3
Robert Jaeger	54	Pedro Garcia	26	Michael LeCompte	15	Greg Landry	3
Emmette Boone Jr.	51	David Smith	26	Larry Walton	15	Jason Tatge	3
Hubert Pearce Sr.	51	Lawrence Denapoli	23	Melissa Curtis	13	Gordon Williams	3
Arthur Pittman	48	James Heath	23	Russell Hale	11	Paul Brown	2
Raymond Montminy	46	Bill Ansel	21	David Mayeres Jr.	10	John Difrancesco Jr.	2
Glenn Little	41	Francis Bohannon	21	Michael Goad	8	John Allen Jr.	1
Clemmis Floyd	34	Richard Day	21	Daniel Lehman	8	Mark Feathers	1
Merle Knapp	34	James Hutton	21	Christopher Kelley	6	Tony Jones	1
Thomas Chilton	31	Carmelo Olmo Jr.	21	Kenneth Lux	5	Matthew Perry	1
Alfred Bauer	28	Kelly Rusboldt	20				

UNIT 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—NOVEMBER 2026

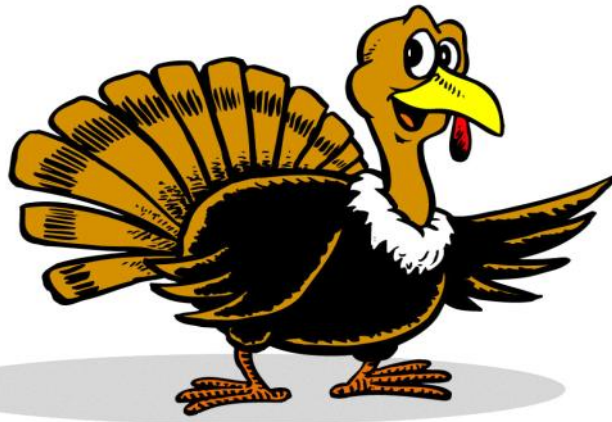
Martha Pyatt	25	George Ellison	10	Carol Craig	3	James Brown	1
Nancy Bullis	20	Holly Gordon	8	Nellie Kirtley	2	JonAnne Sattler	1
Patricia Martin	15	Yvonne Aguilera	5	Nelmarie Potter	2	Linda Summey	1
						Sylvia Zakrzewski	1

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN NOVEMBER 2026

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	<i>Shirley Trosper</i>	6	Cheryl Cecil	15	Owen Bower	23
Ronald Henderson	1	Rodney McKanna	7	Jones Kersey	15	Benjamin Money	23
Donald Wolfe Jr.	1	Carmelo Olmo Jr.	7	Larry Larkins	15	Joseph Ondo Jr.	23
<i>Linda Brinson</i>	2	Matthew Shelton	7	Gary Crozier	16	Ronald Litzenberger	24
Paul Burnstein	2	Robert Beilstein	8	Michael Leclair	16	<i>Elizabeth Norris</i>	24
James Finney	2	Terry Gomez	8	Ronald Houde	17	<i>James Steger</i>	24
Paul Langan	2	<i>Linda Harris</i>	9	<i>Patricia Martin</i>	17	Jeannette Gombash	25
Richard Miley	2	Robert Hughes	9	Emmette Boone Jr.	18	Jeffrey Elliott	26
<i>Nellie Kirtley</i>	3	Kenneth Gray	10	<i>Linda Cox</i>	18	Christopher Kelley	26
<i>JonAnne Sattler</i>	3	Brian Cecil	11	<i>Amy Osborne</i>	18	Charles Moss	26
<i>Betty Wirick</i>	3	<i>Carol Craig</i>	11	Kenneth Pilcher	18	Leonard Monnig	26
Herbert Anderson	4	John Shaak	11	Fredrick Wolstencroft	18	Kenneth Seal	26
<i>Suzanne Peters</i>	4	Sarah Soddatke	11	David Johnson	19	Lawrence Willoughby	26
Richard Lawwell	5	<i>Sandra Medley</i>	11	Linwood Murrow	19	John Stroman	27
Howard Miles	5	<i>Phillip Mummey</i>	12	Lawrence Case	20	Julian Czeiszperger	29
Kevin Patton	5	<i>Nelmarie Potter</i>	13	David Clemmons	20	Shawn Rodriguez	29
Thomas Seay	5	<i>Carol Bailey</i>	14	James Heath	20	<i>Wendell Rourk</i>	29
Charles Baylor	6	<i>Nancy Bullis</i>	14	Roy Jessup	20	Pete Wizes	29
Pedro Garcia	6	Gareld Landis	14	<i>Therese Masterson</i>	20	<i>Lawrence Brodie Jr.</i>	30
Douglas Perkins	6	<i>Donna Miller</i>	14	Stephen Woodside	20	James Houchin	30
Lyle Smith	6	<i>Heidi Rader</i>	14	Roger Rader	21	Ronnie Kerstetter	30
Larry Starland	6	Matthew Young	14	Richard Best	22	Bruce Seltzer Jr.	30

FRA Branch
269



99 Wisteria
Road, Goose
Creek, SC



"THANKSGIVING"

Turkey and Ham
with all the fixin's

Cutoff to sign up for
Dinner 19Nov

Sign up book avail at
bar

DINNER

When: Thursday
26 November 2026

Where: FRA Home

Time: 1300-1530

Veterans/Spouses,
Active Duty and 1ST
responders are Free

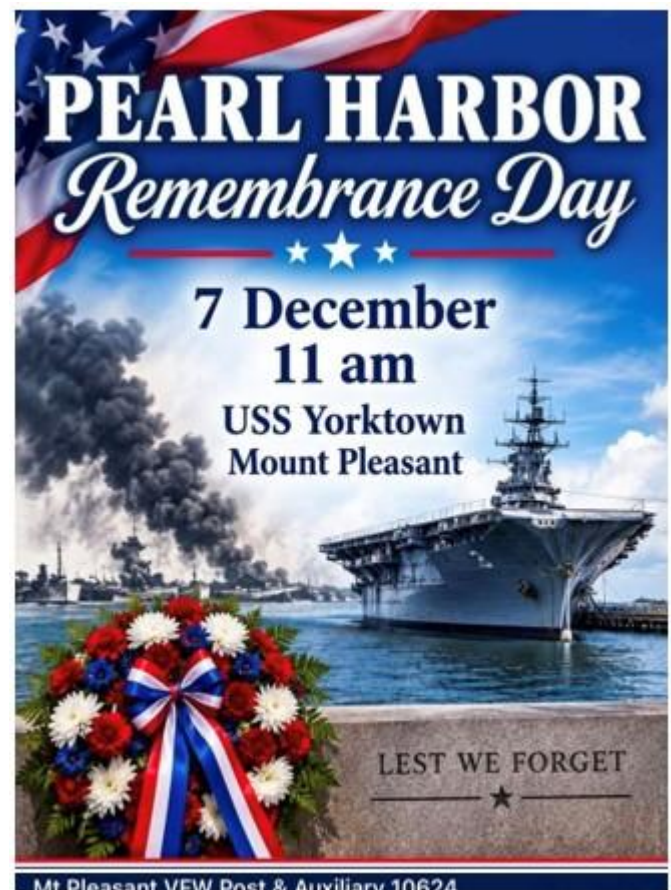
Guests are \$5 Each

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

DEC 19, 2026

CAROLINA MEMORIAL CEMETERY

More information to come



LEST WE FORGET

By-Law committee met at the Home at 1800 on 19 August 2026.

Changes recommended for the Home By-Laws are as follows;

Article I, Section 101. The purpose of this organization shall be for the benefit and convenience of the members of Low Country Branch 269, Fleet Reserve Association and Unit 269, Ladies Auxiliary, Fleet Reserve Association. **Remove word Ladies and add 'of the' between Auxiliary and Fleet.**

Article I Section 104. 2. All regular monthly meetings of Unit 269, LADIES AUXILIARY, FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION, hereafter referred to as UNIT 269. **Strike Ladies and Add of the' between Auxiliary and Fleet.**

Article II Section 201. 1 To be a member in good standing, annual dues must be paid to the Fleet Reserve Association or the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association at the amount set within the Constitution and By-Laws of the FRA and LAFRA. **Strike the word Ladies and LA FRA and add 'Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve'.**

Article III Section 301.1. eight Directors who are members in good standing of Branch and Unit 269. The eight Directors will consist of members of Branch 269 and up to four (4) members of Unit 269. **Change the number of Directors from eight to six, and three members of Unit 269.**

Article III Section 301.2. Nominations for eight (8) Directors will be taken collectively. **Change the number of Directors from eight (8) to six (6).**

Article IV Section 403.1. Should the Home Committee Chairman, members become derelict. **Change ten (10) to eight (8).**

Article V Section 501. A quorum consisting of five (5) members of the Home Committee. **Change 'A quorum consisting of five (5) members' to 'A quorum consisting of four (4) members'**

Article VI Section 606.12. **Fix typo, replace 'executive with execute'**

HOME RULES – Rule II 203. Private Parties. **Delete 'only when a member of Branch 269 or Unit 269, in good standing, is present and assumes full responsibility for the cost and the conduct of the party.'**

Judy Highberger has authored many great poems and she has graciously agreed to share them with us. One will be placed in the newsletter each month.

DEAR DADDY,

I KNOW YOU'R UP IN HEAVEN,
YOU HEAR ME WHEN I PRAY,
I HAVE A SPECIAL FAVOR ,
TO ASK OF YOU TODAY.

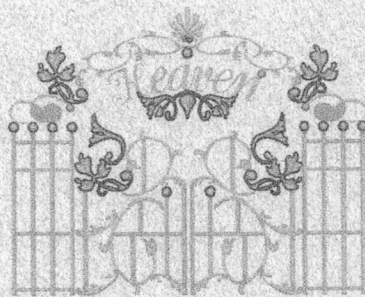
GOD CALLED ANOTHER ANGEL HOME,
PLEASE HELP HIM FIND HIS WAY,
AND EASE THE PAIN AND SADNESS,
WE ALL FEEL TODAY.

I KNOW WE SHOULDN'T ASK,
OR EVER QUESTION HIM,
WHY HE GIVES UP PRECIOUS ANGELS,
AND TAKES THEM BACK AGAIN.

WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR THE TIME WE HAD,
TO LOVE AND HOLD THEM TIGHT,
AND PRAY FOR THEIR HEAVENLY JOURNEY,
WHEN WE SAY OUR PRAYERS TONIGHT.

ONE DAY WE'LL KNOW THE ANSWER,
BUT UNTIL HE CALLS US HOME,
OUR PRECIOUS ANGELS GUIDE US,
SO WE'LL NEVER BE ALONE.

WRITTEN BY JUDITH L. HIGHBERGER





CSU Wind Ensemble

CSU Symphony Orchestra

??America 250!??

One Celebration! Two Concerts!

Celebrate America 250 with the CSU Wind Ensemble and the CSU Symphony Orchestra. On November 8 at 6:00 p.m. at Crowfield Baptist in Goose Creek, the Wind Ensemble presents a Veteran's Day Spectacular! complete with patriotic band music, tributes to our armed forces, and sing-a-long Americana favorites.

On November 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Lightsey Chapel on the CSU campus, the Symphony Orchestra performs Antonin Dvorak's *American Suite* and Aaron Copland's quintessentially American *Appalachian Spring*.

Admission to both concerts is free, but seating is limited. RSVP now to reserve your space for one or both of these concerts celebrating America 250!

★ AMERICA 250 ★

DOUBLE-HEADER

Charleston Southern University Wind Ensemble
VETERAN'S DAY SPECTACULAR!
 November 8, 6:00 p.m. • Crowfield Baptist Church, Goose Creek

Charleston Southern University Symphony Orchestra
COPLAND: APPALACHIAN SPRING
 November 13, 7:00 p.m. • Lightsey Chapel Auditorium, CSU

Sunday, November 8, 2026 6:00 PM - Friday, November 13, 2026 8:00 PM

America 250: CSU Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra

RSVP

TICKETS FREE BUT REQUIRED. RSVP AT LINK

[America 250: CSU Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra Tickets, Multiple dates | Eventbrite](#)

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2026**

Shipmate President Kenneth Hutchison called the regular Board of Directors meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order at 1807, Thursday, October 15, 2026, in accordance with FRA Rituals.

Board Members present:

PRPSE Fred Bolz	LC Mills	Ed Peters	Wayne Suckow
Larry Pepper	Ernest Culbreath	John Tharp	PNP Don Muckeck
Artie Sattler	Glenn Little	Ken Hutchison	Sarah Ihme
Bobbi Sutton			

Minutes: The minutes were published in the newsletter. Motion to accept carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism: Sarah Ihme (for PNC Laurie Bailey)
Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

Legislative Service: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton
We will drape the charter at the General Assembly for PNED Tom Snee. The remainder of the report will be presented at the General Assembly meeting.

Membership and Retention: Ken Hutchison (for Ken Wallace)
Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

Youth Activities: Ed Peters
Will be participating in an Eagle Scout ceremony in Walterboro on November 1.
Updates on football teams will be provided at the General Assembly meeting.

Public Relations: John Tharp
Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

Ways and Means: Larry Pepper
Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

Golf: Larry Pepper

Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little

An updated 2026 FRA Branch 269 budget was presented.

Home Committee Report: Nate Nathan

Will give a report at the General Assembly meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The committee discussed Branch 269 budget items.

- **MOTION:** S/M Bobbi Sutton moved, and S/M Sarah Ihme seconded, to allow an expenditure not to exceed \$200 for the Children's Christmas party. Motion carried
- **MOTION:** S/M Artie Sattler moved, and S/M Sarah Ihme seconded, to allocate \$500 towards Toys for Tots. After discussion, a S/M offered to donate an additional \$500, and a donation jar will be made available for additional donations. Motion carried.
- **MOTION:** S/M Artie Sattler moved, and PRPSE Fred Bolz seconded, to approve the budget as amended. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

An invoice was received for reimbursement to the FRA Home for six key cards, two steak dinners, and the U.S. Navy Birthday cake totaling \$138.33.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muckeck moved, and S/M Artie Sattler seconded, to reimburse the Home \$138.33. Motion carried.

The FRA Home Corporate card was used to pay the Branch's charity fund fee of \$51.85 to the Secretary of State.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muckeck moved, and PRPSE Fred Bolz seconded, to reimburse the Home \$51.85. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The Branch Christmas party will be on December 17 at 1800.

Veterans Day indoor picnic will be held on November 11 at 1130.

The Pearl Harbor Ceremony, sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10624, will be held December 7 at 1100 aboard the USS Yorktown. FRA Branch 269 will present a wreath.

It was recommended that the room rental contract be revised to address cleaning costs. Home Manager S/M Larry Pepper will follow up on this matter.

The FRA Branch now has a corporate debit card to use to cover expenses rather than using the Home's card.

Newsletter submissions are welcome from all members and must be submitted to the newsletter editor no later than the Monday following Branch meetings.

S/M Artie Sattler moved, and S/M Bobbi Sutton seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1836.

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2026**

Shipmate President Ken Hutchison called the regular meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order on Thursday, October 15, 2026, at 1900, in accordance with Article FRA Rituals.

Charter Draping: The Charter was draped in memory of PNED Tom Snee.

Visitors: Members of the Auxiliary were present.

Shipmates Initiated: Randy Stoermer

Minutes: The minutes were published in the newsletter and stand approved.

Communications:

NEDM 40-26 RPHL Resignation

2026 FRA-AFRA National Convention Schedule of Events

FRA 98th National Convention Delegate Kit

Email regarding Spam Originating from a NWR Shipmate

Treasurer's Report:

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

General Checking: \$4,146.46

Savings Account: \$5,206.17

Certificate of Deposit: \$12,599.76

Total: \$21,952.39

All bills received to date have been paid.

Continuous Membership:

October 2026

Jeffrey Muniz – 25 Years

James Finney – 20 Years

James Gregory – 20 Years

William Hunter – 20 Years

Brian Masterson – 20 Years

Robert Mastrion – 20 Years

Phillip Nunnally – 20 Years

Ken Anderson – 15 Years

Bruce Bailey – 15 Years

David Clemmons – 15 Years

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism – Sarah Ihme (for PNC Laurie Bailey)

Dates in History October/November:

24 October – United Nations Day
31 October – Halloween
01 November – Daylight Savings Time Ends
03 November – Election Day
10 November – U.S. Marine Corps Birthday (1775)
11 November – FRA's Birthday (1924)
11 November – Veterans' Day

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz

The Auxiliary's bylaws were received for review and voted on under New Business.

Legislative Service & VAVS: PRPSE Fred Bolz

The VA awarded \$1.7 billion in grants to support programs addressing Veteran homelessness.

The VA awarded \$111.9 million in suicide prevention grants to community organizations for FY 2027.

The VA is piloting CLEAR, a program at six VA facilities designed to help Veterans establish VA.gov accounts more efficiently using government-issued photo identification.

A 3.6% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for military retirement and VA disability benefits is expected for 2027.

Information on tracking VA disability claims will be included in the newsletter.

The Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center remains a leading facility. The proposed Summerville Nexton facility is on hold pending funding.

VA Volunteer Services is conducting a winter coat drive and is accepting coats of all sizes.

Eligible Veterans may receive flu vaccinations from October 8 through November 30.

An overview of Volunteer Services statistics was presented.

A report was presented on the 98th FRA National Convention, held September 29–October 2, 2026.

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton

A Two-Bell will be held for PNED Tom Snee.

S/M Ken Wallace had a defibrillator implanted and is doing well.

PNP Don Muccheck's wife, Minnie, has kidney stones and is at home with a lot of pain.

Keep these and all others in our prayers.

Membership and Retention: Ken Hutchison (for Ken Wallace)

Total active members: 694

New Join/Reinstated: Scott Bullington, Shawn Rodriguez, Randy Stoermer, L. Wesley

Past Due: Craig Farr, Rogelio Fulgencio, Peter Garrison, Sherman Hostetter, Mitchell Nappier, Sheri Ragan, Cubit Robinson, Ryan Stevenson, Craig Wold, Robert Zauner

Ready to Renew: John Allen Jr., Cody Amason, Paul Brown, Charles Clore, William Cox, Boyd Davis, John DiFrancesco Jr., Mark Feathers, James Finney, James Fleming, Jonathan France, Jamaal Goss, James Heath, Terrell Heath, William Hunter, James Hutton, Christopher

Kelley, Greg Landry, Raymond Montminy, Don Pace, Robert Pulos, Marie Sehl, David Smith, Michael Sosa Jr., Roberta Sutton, Jason Tatge, Larry Turner, Matthew Young, Saralyn Young

Term NPD: James Crump, William Dunsing, Harold Herrington, Raymond McKinley III

Term Dec: Charles Pyatt, Thomas Skorepa, Charles Walton

Active Unit Members:

Youth Activities: Ed Peters

The Board recommended donating \$500 to Toys for Tots, with an additional \$500 donation offered by a shipmate, for a total of \$1000.

S/M Ed Peters will be participating in an Eagle Scout ceremony in Walterboro on 1 November. An update on local football teams was presented.

Public Relations: John Tharp

Information about the General Assembly meeting was sent to the Summerville Journal and Berkeley Independent.

Registration for Toys for Tots is open.

Ways and Means: Larry Pepper

Get your 50/50 tickets.

Golf: Larry Pepper

Golf tournaments remain on hold due to base restrictions.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little

The revised budget was approved by the Board of Directors.

Home Committee Report: Nate Nathan

Balances as of 10 October 2026: Checking \$2,609.20; Savings \$50,513.10; Credit Card \$634.67; Pending Deposits \$826.50; Registers/Change Funds \$11,500.00; Total Cash \$66,083.47

Net Profit (Loss): August (\$3,181.24); YTD \$3,019.46

Net Profit (Loss): September (\$3,336.22); YTD (\$316.76)

Thanksgiving dinner is scheduled for Thursday, 26 November. A sign-up book is available behind the bar.

Bills totaling approximately \$7,000 were paid. The checking account balance was approximately \$5,000. Additional bills remain outstanding, and we may need funds from the savings account by the beginning of the year to cover expenses.

The proposed amendments to the Home Bylaws will be presented for a vote at the November General Assembly meeting.

The updated food menu has taken effect.

FRA members are encouraged to greet new members and others they may not know.

US Navy birthday cake cutting was on 13 October.

The US Marine Corps birthday is 10 November. Cake cutting will be at 1800.

An indoor picnic will be held on Veterans' Day, 11 November at 1130.

Tentative date for the Branch Christmas party is 17 December.
Next meeting: 16 November 2026 at 1800

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The Auxiliary bylaws were reviewed by PNP Don Mucheck and PRPSE Fred Bolz.

- **MOTION:** PRPSE Fred Bolz moved, and S/M Artie Sattler seconded, to approve the Auxiliary bylaws. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Unit Report: Pat Suckow

The 2026-2027 National Officers for the Auxiliary of the FRA were announced. Unit 269 received first place for the President's Report and received a check from membership. Thanksgiving plans are underway. Donations of casseroles, baked goods, and money are welcome.

The Toys for Tots motorcycle run will be Saturday, November 21, at the Harley-Davidson dealership. The Unit will assist with registration.

Pearl Harbor ceremony will be December 7 at 1100 aboard the USS Yorktown. Those attending are urged to carpool.

The Unit's Christmas lunch will be December 15 at 1130. The location is being discussed.

In about 2-3 months, the Auxiliary will have a website where members can pay their dues.

Next Unit luncheon will be Tuesday, November 17 at 1130 at the Home.

The next Unit meeting will be Tuesday, November 17 at 1730.

The Pearl Harbor Ceremony, sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10624, will be held December 7 at 1100 aboard the USS Yorktown. FRA Branch 269 will present a wreath.

Membership retention award was presented.

Committee awards from the Southeast Regional Convention were presented.

A Two-Bell Ceremony was conducted in honor of departed Shipmates.

Meeting adjourned at 1950.

Auxiliary of the FRA, Unit 269
FRA Home, Goose Creek, SC
Minutes, October 13, 2026

President Pat Suckow PNP called the regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

Visitors: (None)

Drape the Charter: Moment of Silence rendered in honor of Thomas Snee, National Executive Director of Headquarters, and also Sylvia Wainio PNC.

Roll Call of Officers. President Pat Suckow PNP, Vice President Debbie Breeze, Treasurer/Financial Secretary Gale Nathan PNC, Recording Secretary Marilyn Tharp were all present.

Roll Call of Board of Directors. Linda Nichols, Ann Griffith, and Sue Peters were present. Theresa Milligan, and Kim Vandiver were absent.

Other members attending: Laurie Douty, Eva Solo, JonAnn Sattler, Nellie Kirtley, Brenda Frye, Cathy Brady, and Kathy Sorenson.

New Member Initiation. (None).

Minutes for September were presented and approved.

Membership Report. (Debbie Breeze)

Members as of April 1 -- 200; Reinstated - 6; New - 12; Transferred In - 0; Transferred Out -- 0; Resigned -- 0; Non-Payment -- 6; Deceased -- 4; Ineligible -- 0; Other -- 0; Active Members -- 208.

Treasurer's Report. (Gale Nathan)

Balance brought forward: \$15,540.67. Disbursements: \$196.54. PCT Auto Deposits: \$200.00. Other Deposits: \$395.00. Checking account balance \$15,939.13. Savings: \$3,165.64. Balance on hand: \$19,104.77.

Bills to be paid:

\$15.00 -- Gale Nathan for member death remembrance plates

Chaplain Report: (Linda Nichols)

13 -- Birthday cards

1 -- Thinking of you to Anne Barton due to her cancer treatment

Hospital Report: (Linda Nichols)

No hospital visits required

VAVS Report: (Linda Nichols for Theresa Milligan)

The VA will be conducting an Angel Tree again this year for children of Veterans.

We were again thanked for our donations.

Correspondence: (Marilyn Tharp)

None received.

Activities: (All Members).

Tuesday night 50/50 (September	\$ 65.00
Friday nights 50/50 (Sept/Oct)	\$407.00
Labor Day Cake Auction	\$280.00

Americanism/Patriotism: (Nellie Kirkley)

- October 12 -- Columbus Day
- October 13 -- US Navy Birthday (1775)
- October 25 -- Honoring Deployed Troops and Their Families
- November 1-5 -- Celebrates Veterans & Their Contributions to American Small Businesses
- November 10 -- US Marine Corps Birthday (1775)
- November 11 -- Veterans Day
- November 11 -- Fleet Reserve Association Birthday
- November 26 -- Thanksgiving Day

Audit: (Sue Peters)

Next audit will be on January 9.

Publicity: (Debbie Breeze)

No report.

Welfare / Rehabilitation: (Sue Peters)

No report.

Youth Activities: (Anne Barton, Gale Nathan)

No report.

Ship's Store: (Sue Peters)

Unit Shirts should arrive in next two weeks.

Unfinished Business:

Thanksgiving dinner details continue to be formed. This event serves to bring together a festive celebration filled with joy, companionship, and fun. The committee kindly seeks support through donations of baked goods or monetary support.

Marilyn Tharp led discussion on second reading of changes to the Unit's Bylaws and Standing Rules. Changes to the Bylaws involve the organization's name change to "Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association." Most changes to the Standing Rules involved the increased cost allotted for various commitments to reflect inflation. After further review it was decided to further modify item 13 of the Standing Rules to now read "In the event of a Unit member's death the Unit may make a donation of up to \$100 through the primary next-of-kin, or being none, the point-of-contact for the family, at the Presidents discretion. The President will ask family if an Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association service would be wanted." JonAnn Sattler made a motion to approve the changes. Nellie Kirtley seconded it, and the motion passed. Updated Bylaws & Standing Rules will now be forwarded to the Branch for review.

An electronic vote was conducted on Sept 23. Motion made by Theresa Milligan to allocate \$300 for the purchase of a baby car seat for a Veteran in need and also to purchase creamer for the VA Snack Table. Motion was seconded by Gale Nathan. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Kim Vandiver and Brenda Frye will be assisting Branch member Bobbi Sutton with the Children's Christmas Party. Discussion was tabled till the November meeting when more procedural information is available.

The Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony will be held on December 7 at 10:00 on the USS Yorktown. Those attending are urged to carpool to save parking fees. They should plan to arrive by 9:00.

The Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run will be on Saturday, November 21, starting at the Harley Davidson dealership. The Unit will again be helping with registration. Those planning to participate are Gale Nathan, Pat Suckow, Linda Nichols, Brenda Frye, Marilyn Tharp, Sue Peters, Laurie Douty, Ann Griffith, Kathy Sorenson, and JonAnn Sattler. Please plan to arrive by 10:00 at the latest.

The Unit's Christmas Lunch will be on December 15 at 11:30. Location was discussed. Debbie Breeze was tasked to reach out to possible locations for availability and menu options. An email vote will be held when details are known. It was also decided to not have a gift exchange.

Pat Suckow announced the new Auxiliary website is up. Soon you will be able to pay online, read newsletters from the National President, print membership cards, and many other things. Address is: "Auxiliary-FRA.org"

President Suckow reported on happenings at the National Convention. Unit 269 placed first in the Unit Report competition, and also the Unit received a \$25 check for Membership increases in 2025/2026. Congratulations to all members for the hard work all year! Also she announced names of the new National Officers elected during the convention:

National President – Laurie Starkey

National Vice-President – Steve Toulottle

National Executive Secretary – Dorothy Smiley PNC

National Financial Secretary – Cindy Rodham-Tuck PNP

National Treasurer – Sharon Lippett

JonAnn Sattler made a motion to allocate \$500 for the VA Angel Tree. Discretion on how many children to support and the dollar amount per child will be left to Theresa Milligan. Motion was seconded by Ann Griffith. Motion passed.

Good of the Order:

Ann Griffith said she was so excited when she won the monthly drawing. The funds helped so much after her home was struck by lightning.

Dates to remember:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| November 3 | -- Election Day |
| November 10 | -- US Marine Corps Birthday (1775) |
| November 11 | -- Veterans Day |
| November 11 | -- FRA Birthday (1924) |
| November 21 | -- Toys for Tots Motorcycle Run |
| November 26 | -- Thanksgiving Day |
| December 7 | -- Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day |
| December 13 | -- Childrens' Christmas Party |
| December 17 | -- Adult Christmas Party |

December 19 -- National Wreaths Across America Day

The next Unit Lunch will be on November 17 at 11:30, at the Fleet Home. Please RSVP to Debbie Breeze (843-343-5489) so proper seating can be available.

The next Unit meeting will be held Tuesday, November 17, at 5:30 at the Fleet.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

FRA LOW COUNTRY HOME COMMITTEE MEETING

October 12, 2026

S/M Nate Nathan called the FRA Low Country Home Committee meeting to order at 1800 on Monday, October 12, 2026.

Board Members Present: Shipmates Nate Nathan, Sarah Ihme, PNP Don Muckeek, Ernest Culbreath, John Tharp, Bobbi Sutton, and Nick Nichols; Ladies Sue Peters, Kim Vandiver, and Linda Nichols

Other Members Present: Shipmates Home Managers Larry Pepper and Bob Zauner, PRPSE Fred Bolz, and President Ken Hutchison

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

- **MOTION:** S/M John Tharp moved, and S/M Ernest Culbreath seconded, that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

Auditors: PNP Don Muckeek, Shipmate John Tharp, and Madam Debbie Breeze

Balances as of 10 October 2026: Checking \$2,609.20; Savings \$50,513.10; Credit Card \$634.67; Pending Deposits \$826.50; Registers/Change Funds \$11,500.00; Total Cash \$66,083.47

Net Profit (Loss): August (\$3,181.24); YTD \$3,019.46

Net Profit (Loss): September (\$3,336.22); YTD (\$316.76)

- **MOTION:** S/M Bobbi Sutton moved, and Lady Sue Peters seconded, to accept the Financial Reports. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

Thanksgiving dinner is scheduled for Thursday, 26 November. A sign-up book is available behind the bar.

Bills totaling approximately \$7,000 were paid. The checking account balance was approximately \$5,000. Additional bills remain outstanding, and we may need funds from the savings account by the beginning of the year to cover expenses.

Employee bonuses will be discussed next month.

Old Business

The proposed amendments to the Home Bylaws will be presented for a vote at Thursday's General Assembly meeting.

New Business

None

Good of the Order

The updated food menu has taken effect.

The tree hanging over the parking lot has been removed.

FRA members are encouraged to greet new members and others they may not know.

US Navy birthday cake cutting will be at 1900 on 13 October.

The US Marine Corps birthday is 10 November. Cake cutting will be at 1800.

An indoor picnic will be held on Veterans' Day, 11 November at 1130.

Tentative date for the Branch Christmas party is 17 December.

Next meeting: 16 November 2026 at 1800

MOTION: S/M Bobbi Sutton moved, and Lady Kim Vandiver seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1824.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is open to all current and former sea service (USN, USMC, USCG) personnel.

Member benefits include:

- A legislative team fighting for your pay and benefits on Capitol Hill
- Use the Action Center at www.fra.org to share your opinions directly with Congress
- Eligibility for you and your family to apply for the FRA education scholarships
- Access to expert staff to answer your legislative questions
- Representation on disability or other VA claims
- Discounts on products and services
- Camaraderie with fellow service members

Your dues include a subscription to the association magazine. **FRA**today is your most reliable source of association information. Topics covered are: military pay, health care, and benefits. Some great association information and items of interest to you and your family are included.

In addition to the magazine, please choose to receive any or all of the following member benefits:

- ☐ **NewsBytes:** the weekly email newsletter update of legislative and association activities
- ☐ **Personal Affairs:** a booklet to assist in organizing your most important documents

☐ I certify that I meet the FRA eligibility requirements of being a current or former member of the US Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard.

Service: ☐ USN ☐ USMC ☐ USCG

Status: ☐ Active ☐ Reserve ☐ Retired ☐ Veteran

NAME

PHONE

RATE / RANK

DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YY) SSN (optional)

STREET ADDRESS

SPOUSE'S NAME

SUITE / SPACE / LOT

☐ Closest Branch ☐ Member-at-Large

CITY

☐ Branch # _____

STATE

ZIP CODE

SPONSOR'S NAME & MEMBER ID#

Are you a previous FRA member?

EMAIL ADDRESS

☐ No ☐ Yes, previous member# _____

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

☐ 1 Year / \$40.00

☐ **2 Years / \$64.00 Centennial Special Offer**
(for New Members to FRA)

☐ 2 Years / \$75.00 (for renewing or reinstating FRA members)

☐ 5 Years / \$180.00 (\$20 Savings)

☐ Life Membership \$ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

☐ Master Card ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

☐ American Express ☐ Check-enclosed

☐ Life Membership Installment (1st payment is \$50 + 11 equal monthly payments automatically debited from a credit/debit card.)

CREDIT CARD NO.

EXP. DATE

SIGNATURE (REQUIRED)

DATE

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Age Amount

Ages 40 and younger... \$600
Ages 41 to 50..... \$570
Ages 51 to 60..... \$535
Ages 61 to 70 \$475
Ages 71 to 80..... \$380
Ages 81 to 90..... \$260
Ages 91 to 99..... \$145
Ages 100 and older..... FREE

Your Mission • Your Voice



1600 Duke Street, Suite 300
Alexandria, VA 22314-2754

Phone: 703-683-1400 Toll-Free: 1-800-FRA-1924

www.fra.org



BENEFITS OF FRA MEMBERSHIP

The Fleet Reserve Association represents and serves all current and prior U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard service members and their families. Here are just a few of the benefits our members enjoy.

Advocacy

The FRA's highly respected legislative team ensures that your voice is heard and understood on Capitol Hill. We fight for the pay and benefits of active duty, reserve, veteran and retired members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Check out www.fra.org/ActionCenter to review the current issues and lend your voice to our shared mission. The FRA also has veteran service officers who assist veterans with filing their claims and appeals to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Branch Affiliation

Almost every state in the U.S. has at least one FRA branch, and several branches are located overseas. The FRA branches foster camaraderie among fellow sea service members and strive to keep Shipmates informed about changes in local policy as well as to support local veteran and youth activities.

FRA Publications

The FRA produces a bimonthly magazine, FRAtoday; a weekly email newsletter, NewsBytes; call-to-action emails, Making Waves; and quarterly e-newsletters for active-duty members, OnWatch.

Education Scholarships

The FRA Education Foundation provides more than \$90,000 in scholarship funds each year to sea service personnel, FRA members and their dependents. The funds are applicable toward tuition at trade schools, community colleges and four-year universities.

Disaster Relief

The FRA facilitates relief to fellow Shipmates during times of need. Shipmates who have suffered losses due to natural disasters, have received more than \$100,000 in aid.

FRA Life and Health Insurance Programs

As an FRA member, you are eligible for excellent coverage at affordable group rates by participating in the FRA-endorsed insurance programs. You can request information by calling 800-424-1120, or by following the links on the Membership Benefits page online at www.fra.org/benefits.

Savings Marketplace

The FRA Marketplace offers unique discounts on things like travel, restaurants, electronics, movie and event tickets, shopping, and more! Discounts are accessible through your myFRA membership profile on www.fra.org or by calling 1-800-683-2886 and providing your FRA member ID number.

VA Volunteer Service

FRA members volunteer thousands of hours at Veterans Affairs hospitals through the VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement, bringing assistance and companionship to veterans and service members who are in VA medical centers. For more information, call 800-FRA-1924, extension 113.

USAA Visa Rewards Program

Members can apply for the only credit card that supports the FRA. With a low APR, no annual fees and some great rewards programs, you will see why a credit card from a bank built on military values is better. Apply today at www.usaa.com/fra or call 877-372-8722.

USAA Financial Services

The United Services Automobile Association (USAA) provides competitive products, award-winning service and the convenience of banking and investments to active-duty military, veterans and their families. The FRA endorses USAA and its preferred financial services. Best of all, joining USAA is free and you can pass the benefits along to your children. Find out more information at www.usaa.com/fra or call 877-372-8722.

Take advantage of some of these benefits and your membership will pay for itself!