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94th FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONVENTION

THIRD BUSINESS SESSION

Thursday, 20 October 2022

HYATT REGENCY WYNFREY HOTEL

1000 Galleria Circle

Birmingham, Alabama 35244

1 NP CAMPBELL: National Chaplain,
2 would you open the Bible?

3 NCHAP LYMON: Shipmate National
4 President, the Bible is open.

5 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.

6 Would you join me in saluting
7 the Colors. Hand salute. Two.

8 I now declare the Third Business
9 Session of the 94th National Convention.

10 Shipmate at the mic.

11 JPNP FULTON: Shipmate National
12 President, let the record reflect the
13 Junior Past is in the appropriate uniform
14 of the day.

15 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 NP CAMPBELL: I now declare the
18 Third Business Session of the 94th
19 National Convention regularly convened.

20 At this time, I would like to
21 call up the Credentials Chairman for his
22 report.

23 PRPNW LAZZARETTI: Good morning,

1 shipmates. I am trusting that everybody
2 is sufficiently caffeinated this morning.

3 SHIPMATE: No. They ran out of
4 coffee.

5 PRPNW LAZZARETTI: Not my problem.

6 Good morning, shipmates. This
7 is the Third Credentials Report
8 effective today, October 20, 2022, at
9 0857 hours.

10 SHIPMATE: We can hear you, Pete.

11 SHIPMATE: We can hear you.

12 PRPNW LAZZARETTI: I understand
13 that. However, I had to speak loudly and
14 slowly for the shipmates in the back.

15 All right. Authorized voting
16 strength for this convention remains at
17 891. Number of branches represented by
18 delegates, 52. Number of votes
19 represented by delegates, 485. Number
20 of branches registered by proxy, 86.
21 Number of votes registered by proxy,
22 364. Number of branches not registered
23 remains at 17 out of 149 branches.

1 Number of delegates remain at
2 103. Registered voting strength, 849.
3 Number of votes not registered, 42.
4 Two-thirds majority vote is 566.
5 Majority vote is 425.

6 I move that this report be
7 received.

8 JPNP FULTON: Fulton, Junior Past
9 President, second.

10 NP CAMPBELL: We have a motion and
11 a second. All in favor?

12 (Chorus of ayes.)

13 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.

16 At this time, I would like to
17 call up the NED.

18 NED SLAWINSKI: Thank you,
19 Shipmate National President.

20 The first item I would like to
21 present is that we do have memorial
22 information for Past National President
23 Bill Combs. I have a copy of the

1 obituary that I am going to place up
2 here. Please do not take it. Just
3 write down the information if you need
4 to. I am just going to read the
5 information on it.

6 (As read): "Memorial service
7 with military honors will be held at
8 11:00 a.m., Thursday, October 27th,
9 2022, at the Hollomon-Brown Funeral
10 Home, Princess Anne Chapel. Interment
11 will be held at the Albert G. Horton,
12 Jr. Memorial Veteran Cemetery at a later
13 date. In lieu of flowers, memorial
14 donations may be made to St. Jude
15 Children's Hospital, Shriner's Hospital
16 for Children, or the FRA Disaster Relief
17 Fund. Condolences may be offered to the
18 family at www.hollomon-brown.com."

19 Again, this will be sitting up
20 here if you want to write the
21 information down later. I just wanted
22 to present it to the delegates so that
23 you are aware of the information that I

1 have.

2 Secondly --

3 SHIPMATE: Shipmate NED?

4 NED SLAWINSKI: Yes.

5 SHIPMATE: Will that be put out on
6 email?

7 NED SLAWINSKI: I am going to try
8 to do that also. Yeah. Again, I just
9 received that this morning. So, I am
10 going to take care of that this afternoon.
11 I've got my laptop up here, and I am going
12 to work on that.

13 The National Board of Directors
14 met this morning in executive session
15 and have taken the following action and
16 requests the delegates for ratification.

17 National Board Resolution 45-22.
18 The National Board of Directors direct
19 the National Ladies Auxiliary of the
20 Fleet Reserve Association to remove
21 Regional President, Northwest, Teresa
22 Addison and Regional Treasurer,
23 Northwest, Aaron Taggart from the Unit

1 97 membership roles and transfer them to
2 the member-at-large status. These
3 individuals may transfer to another
4 LAFRA unit or remain in the MAL status.
5 The auxiliary members may request
6 reinstatement after 21 October, 2025.
7 Vote was 11, affirmative.

8 Shipmate National President.

9 NP CAMPBELL: All right. You have
10 heard the resolution. Is there any
11 discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 NP CAMPBELL: All right. At this
14 time, I would like to call on the vote.
15 All in favor of this resolution, aye?

16 (Chorus of "ayes").

17 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

18 (No response.)

19 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you, NED.

20 NED SLAWINSKI: Thank you. This
21 action will be passed to the Auxiliary and
22 it will be effective immediately just so
23 that you are aware.

1 The last thing is incoming
2 national officers. I have a clipboard
3 up here that has basically your position
4 of where you are going to be coming into
5 office. I need who is going to be your
6 cap presenters so we can place it into
7 the script.

8 So, during the break, please
9 come up here and print for me so that I
10 can read it so that we can put it into
11 the script who your cover presenter is
12 going to be so that we can have that.
13 So, I appreciate that.

14 Other than that, Shipmate
15 National President, the floor is yours.

16 NP CAMPBELL: All right. At this
17 time, we will continue with the reports,
18 and I would like to ask Regional President
19 West Coast -- no, excuse me. Let me back
20 up.

21 Yes. Regional President West
22 Coast Elect Joe Nash to come up and
23 present his report.

1 RPWC-E NASH: Shipmates, I am Joe
2 Nash, Past Regional President, West Coast,
3 Branch 192, Chairman of the National
4 Future Planning Committee.

5 The Planning Committee met in
6 the Berkshire Room, Hyatt Regency,
7 Wednesday, October 19th, at 8:15.
8 Members present were myself as the
9 Chair; members Junior Past Regional
10 President Northeast/New England Abe
11 Zino, Buffalo Branch 23; Regional
12 President, West Coast, William Hanzel,
13 Sunrise Branch 230; Past Regional
14 President, East Coast, Paul Phelps,
15 Chesapeake Branch 40. Past Regional
16 President, North Central, Don Watkins
17 was absent. Past Regional President,
18 Southwest, John Quesnel, Jr., Imperial
19 Beach Branch 289 was present. And
20 Shipmate Richard DeHaven, Chesapeake
21 Branch 40 was absent.

22 Advisors in attendance were Past
23 National President, Donald Larson.

1 Visitors were Regional President, South
2 Central, Ursula Gruetzner, Capitol Area
3 Branch 201; Regional President,
4 Southwest, Roger Bacud, Carson Branch
5 302; Regional President, Southwest,
6 Bruce Talbot, Space City Branch 159;
7 Regional President, North Central,
8 Marcia Cunningham, Milwaukee Branch 14.

9 During the Committee meeting,
10 the Committee discussed actions of the
11 Committee over the past few years
12 including the annual report submitted
13 this year and last year, which is in
14 your book under Tab M, which contain
15 recommendations that we have forwarded
16 this year and years past to the National
17 Headquarters.

18 Further recommendations coming
19 from this meeting were the NP and/or NVP
20 should hold meetings monthly or
21 quarterly at their discretion for --
22 with all community chairmen so they can
23 discuss areas that overlap and where the

1 Committees are going.

2 Number two was, monthly
3 Committee meetings should be coordinated
4 and scheduled utilizing the meeting
5 calendar on the FRA Board website to
6 de-conflict meeting days and times.
7 This would further open meetings to the
8 general membership.

9 It's been published a couple of
10 times. I don't know how many shipmates
11 went to the FRA.org website. And if you
12 get them on the pull-down from the top,
13 the one you pull down, it is Committees
14 and Meetings. If you go onto that,
15 headquarters actually puts the link for
16 Committees that are holding Zoom
17 meetings.

18 Membership and retention, I
19 believe, is the third Friday of every
20 month. Legislation does some, and I
21 have done some throughout the year.
22 This way we can get more participation
23 from the members as the word gets out,

1 and we can de-conflict.

2 I move that this report be
3 received.

4 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you, Shipmate
5 Nash.

6 Next, I would like to invite up
7 -- oh, I'm sorry. Hold tight. My
8 peripheral vision doesn't look over
9 there. It's too much red. Go ahead.
10 Shipmate at the mic.

11 S/M GILMARTIN: Gillmartin, 207
12 Delegate. Second.

13 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you. All in
14 favor?

15 (Chorus of "ayes").

16 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

17 (No response.)

18 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.

19 At this time, I would like to
20 call up Shipmate Theo Lawson from the
21 VSO Committee.

22 ADLP LAWSON: National President,
23 Shipmates, good morning.

1 The National Convention

2 Committee on Veterans Service met in the
3 Norfolk Room of the Hyatt Regency
4 Wynfrey Hotel, Birmingham, Alabama, on
5 Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 0900.

6 Members present includes myself,
7 Theo Lawson, Navy Department Branch 181;
8 Past Regional President William S.
9 Matthews, Modesto Branch; Past Regional
10 President Paul Phelps, Chesapeake
11 Branch; Past Regional President Abe
12 Zino, Branch 23. And visitors present
13 were Kurt Baker, Branch 14; Branch
14 Secretary Joanne Boyll, Branch 364;
15 Regional President, Southwest, Roger
16 Bacud, Branch 302; Richard Lane, Branch
17 President, Branch 181. And the advisors
18 present were Past National President
19 Robert Washington, Branch 181.

20 During the meeting, we discussed
21 Committee issues and also issue grading.
22 So, for grading for group one and two
23 there were no reports. Obviously that's

1 a problem. And for group three, first
2 place was Branch 161; second place,
3 Branch 117; and third place was Branch
4 8. And I do have the ribbons available
5 for those branches.

6 On group four and group five,
7 two reports got lost in the mail, and we
8 figured we will do the right thing and
9 wait until we receive them to give the
10 overall grading.

11 During the discussion, we
12 brought up some key points which
13 includes original representation. So,
14 majority of the reports didn't come in
15 because there was no original
16 representation of the Committee to send
17 those reports out to. So, we are going
18 to restructure the old Committee and
19 make sure that there is representation
20 from every region.

21 And also we are moving to
22 electronic submission which will make
23 things a lot easier. That way we don't

1 have the issue of something getting lost
2 in the mail. And basically we do
3 understand that some people are still
4 using, you know, paper and pen. So, the
5 structure is for them to send it to the
6 original president who can then
7 electronically send it to me.

8 One of the other things that we
9 are lacking as an organization is TRIP
10 certification. TRIP certification
11 allows you to enter into the VA system
12 and see current claims -- current claim
13 status. So, instead of somebody calling
14 me and I have to call the VA liaison,
15 and it takes time because most of these
16 claims are time sensitive. So, if we
17 have access to see exactly what is
18 happening, we can help out the veteran
19 quicker.

20 And one of the biggest things we
21 are talking about is increasing
22 membership, you know. And I've always
23 believed somebody is more likely to join

1 something if they are getting value out
2 of it. And one of the easiest ways to
3 provide that kind of value is helping
4 someone with their VA claim because at
5 the end of the day there is money
6 involved.

7 So, you know, if we can get more
8 people into that program -- if somebody
9 is interested at all in becoming VSO,
10 just come see me, and we will get the
11 process started.

12 One of the biggest things that
13 we did vote on is authorizing classes
14 being taught by our Shipmate SD Martin
15 and Tom Flanik as part of the VSO
16 program. Before that, we would have to
17 -- somebody would have to take a class
18 online, and the Association would have
19 to reimburse them. And that was at
20 \$180. We are trying to cut back on, you
21 know, spending and all of that.

22 So, that is a really good
23 program to go through to take the

1 courses. It is graded. At the end,
2 they give them the certification, and
3 then we send the accreditation to the
4 VA.

5 And with that, we can also keep
6 account of, you know, people holding
7 their certification. Because we just
8 don't want to give somebody
9 certification and just say, okay, you
10 are done. There is no way of verifying
11 if they have current information. This
12 allows us to keep track of, you know,
13 retraining and all of that.

14 So, like I said, if somebody
15 wants to be a VSO and help out in the
16 Committee, please come see me.

17 And so, for grading for Shipmate
18 Of The Year, I am going to go ahead and
19 read that. We only have one submission,
20 so that's an automatic win. And that is
21 from Branch 112. So, I am going to go
22 ahead and read the letter that was
23 submitted.

1 (As read) "Fleet Reserve
2 Association, Branch 112, Birmingham,
3 Alabama, proudly submits VSO Officer
4 Frank Cannon as VSO Officer Of The Year.
5 His certification is through the State
6 of Alabama DAV, and he updates it each
7 and every year generally attending
8 classes at Auburn."

9 "Mr. Cannon served nine years in
10 the U.S. Marine Corps" -- image that --
11 "and he received an Honorable Discharge
12 as a Sergeant. He joined the DAV
13 Chapter 28 Lowndes County, Alabama, and
14 decided to attend VSO training and
15 become a certified State and County VSO
16 Officer. His goal is to get ratings and
17 benefits for veterans that the veterans
18 deserve, and he will go wherever
19 necessary to accomplish this."

20 "Frank has served six years as
21 VSO officer. He has helped over 4,000
22 veterans and 184 of those received 100%
23 ratings. He has opened three VSO

1 offices in Blount County, Alabama, and
2 has recruited others to serve as VSO
3 officers. Frank joined FRA Branch 112
4 and became a VSO officer and was eager
5 to get started helping us. He is now
6 VSO Officer Chairman of Branch 112 and
7 appointed to our Board of Directors. He
8 services all branches of service, and he
9 is proud to be of service to our
10 veterans."

11 "On a personal note, I have
12 known Frank for over five years.
13 Because of him, I became a VSO officer,
14 and I have been with him to visit vets
15 in their homes. I know him to be a man
16 of his word. At this time, he is
17 working with two of our members to get
18 benefits for their husbands. We, the
19 Fleet Reserve Association Branch 112,
20 proudly submits Frank Cannon as VSO
21 Officer Of The Year 2021 and 2022."

22 And at this time, I move for my
23 report to be accepted. Thank you, Frank

1 Cannon.

2 NP CAMPBELL: Shipmate at the mic.

3 RP HANZEL: Hanzel, Delegate 126.

4 Second.

5 NP CAMPBELL: Motion and second.

6 All in favor to receive the report?

7 (Chorus of "ayes").

8 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

9 (No response).

10 NP CAMPBELL: So be it. Thank
11 you.

12 At this time, I am going to call
13 up the NED for the Legislative Committee
14 Report.

15 NED SLAWINSKI: Thank you,
16 National President.

17 The National Committee on
18 Legislative Services met in the Wynfrey
19 D Room of the Hyatt Regency Wynfrey
20 Hotel here in Birmingham, Alabama, on
21 Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 0815.

22 Chairman is myself. Members
23 included: Past Regional President,

1 Northeast/New England, James Brown,
2 Staten Island Branch 226. Other members
3 were not present. We had a lot of
4 visitors which was again very, very
5 appreciative. The advisors, the
6 Director of Legislative Program,
7 Shipmate John Davis from Navy Department
8 Branch 181, and Shipmate Theo Lawson
9 from Navy Department 181.

10 Visitors included William Hanson
11 from Branch 37; Kurt Baker from Branch
12 14; David Herndon from Branch 369; John
13 Davis from Branch 44; Regional
14 President, Northeast/New England, Neil
15 Ross from Branch 23; Regional
16 President-Elect, Northwest, Rex Fabian
17 from Branch 104; and Shipmate Charles
18 Smith from Branch 98.

19 The National Legislative Service
20 Committee meeting reviewed the FRA staff
21 provided legislative update to you. The
22 Committee recommends that the following
23 issues be pursued during the following

1 year, 2023 FRA Legislative Agenda.

2 FRA will fight to preserve and
3 enhance benefits and quality of life
4 programs for active, reserve, retired
5 and veterans of the Navy, Marine Corps
6 and Coast Guard, plus their families and
7 survivors.

8 The FRA's 2023 Legislative
9 Agenda is as follows: Expand healthcare
10 options, oppose excessive TRICARE fee
11 increases. I am not going to -- This is
12 also available within your delegate kit.
13 I don't remember the letter, but it's in
14 your delegate --

15 SHIPMATE: "O."

16 NED SLAWINSKI: "O," Oscar. Thank
17 you.

18 So, I am just going to read the
19 titles. And if we have a question later
20 on, we can pursue that afterwards.

21 Oppose excessive TRICARE fees
22 increases, repeal scheduled pharmacy and
23 therapy copay increases, support

1 adequate funding for defense health
2 agency, DOD/VA healthcare resource
3 sharing, pharmaceutical drug benefits,
4 military health systems -- for those who
5 don't know what MHS means -- reliance on
6 overseas drug manufacturing.

7 Protect Personnel Programs:

8 Active duty pay, basic allowance for
9 housing, support active-duty and safe
10 housing, financial literacy training,
11 extend and increase government match for
12 TSP, eliminate sexual assault and sexual
13 harassment, ensure early retirement
14 benefits for involuntary separated
15 personnel, military retail system.

16 There is a lot to do with that. So,
17 again, that's kind of generalized.

18 End strengths: As you know, the
19 Department of Defense is having issues
20 right now with recruitment and retaining
21 service members. PCS reform, SCRA --
22 Service member -- again, SCRA
23 enforcement and predatory lending

1 protections, restart military lending
2 act, supervisory compliance exams,
3 USERRA enforcement, Coast Guard parity,
4 Impact Aid Program, school choice for
5 military families, reserve component
6 readiness, sea service recruiters,
7 childcare affordability and
8 accessibility.

9 Under the category of "Veteran's
10 Issues": Monitor implementation of the
11 VA MISSION Act Program. That also
12 includes the PACT Act. No VA claim
13 pending for over 125 days. We still
14 have claims that are sitting out there
15 that are exceeding that, and we want the
16 VA held accountable for that. The
17 48-hour review period, this provides
18 veteran service organizations an
19 opportunity to review before a decision
20 is finalized within the VA benefits
21 system. Care for veterans with toxic
22 exposure. That includes the PACT Act
23 also. VA healthcare -- VA dental care,

1 I'm sorry.

2 Improve Department of Veterans
3 Affairs funding. We are very fortunate
4 that they do get advanced appropriations
5 for the Department of Veterans Affairs
6 now. We fought very hard to get that,
7 and we want to ensure that they have the
8 appropriate funding so that if there is
9 a government shutdown, veterans don't
10 lose their benefits during that period
11 of shutdown.

12 Improve the Department of
13 Veterans Affairs Suicide Prevention
14 Program, oppose access fees, education
15 enhancements, CHAMPVA. We want to
16 extend that to those who are under --
17 still under age 26 similar to what is
18 provided within the Department of
19 Defense.

20 Strengthen veterans hiring
21 preferences, women veterans healthcare,
22 veterans homelessness. As you heard in
23 the letter, the VA still diligently

1 trying to work on this issue, and we
2 want to make sure that we keep their
3 feet to the fire on that. POW/MIA
4 accountability.

5 Safeguard Retiree Benefits:
6 Protect military retired and/or retainer
7 pay, ensure that we get the COLAs that
8 are approved within the -- within the
9 Congress for our retirees also.

10 Concurrent receipt: We will
11 continue to fight for concurrent receipt
12 until we have it completely done so that
13 everyone who has a VA disability doesn't
14 have to worry about having their money
15 offset by their retire pay.

16 Reserve retirement age: This
17 authority changes -- changed with the
18 reduction with 911 attacks and such, and
19 we want to make sure that those who
20 started serving early also have the
21 opportunity to receive that benefit.

22 Require inspection of the armed
23 forces retirement home. You can live

1 there. We want to make sure you are
2 living there safe.

3 Eliminate DFAS backlog on
4 Reserve component retired pay. As a
5 retired reservice, it took me about six
6 months before I could get my -- start
7 receiving my benefits, and that is still
8 unsat.

9 USFPA, this is basically
10 legislation for the Uniform Services
11 Former Spouse Protection Act. It still
12 needs to be fixed.

13 Retention of final month's
14 retired pay, repeal 180-day delay for
15 retirees, base closures. They are still
16 talking about realignment and such, and
17 we want to ensure that not only are they
18 doing things efficiently but make sure
19 that retirees who have access to those
20 facilities have opportunities to know
21 where they can go get healthcare, go
22 get, you know, commissary benefits and
23 such.

1 And then, finally, the FRA
2 Commemorative Coin. We are working with
3 Congress to get a commemorative coin
4 passed -- Act passed. This would
5 basically authorize the Department of
6 Treasury to mint commemorative coins for
7 sale, and we would receive a portion of
8 the excise tax that is associated with
9 it. They get the face value plus a
10 small premium for the coin, and then we
11 would receive basically the additional
12 benefit from it.

13 If you haven't gone to the
14 action center to basically contact your
15 elected official, please do so. We have
16 a feeling we are going to have to get
17 this reintroduced in the next Congress.
18 They do two per -- is it -- John, is it
19 per session or is it per year?

20 DLP DAVIS: For what?

21 NED SLAWINSKI: For the
22 commemorative coin.

23 DLP DAVIS: It's per year.

1 NED SLAWINSKI: Yeah, two per
2 year. So, we want to get this Bill
3 reintroduced early next year and try to
4 get as many congressmen, especially in the
5 House, to get it passed, basically to
6 cosponsor it, so we can get it on the
7 Floor and get it passed before our 100th
8 anniversary.

9 The National Convention
10 Committee in Legislative Services also
11 recommends the following: The Committee
12 recommends that Senator Jerry Moran from
13 Kansas be the recipient of the 2023 FRA
14 Pinnacle Award. '23, correct?

15 DLP DAVIS: '22.

16 NED SLAWINSKI: '22, I'm sorry.
17 The Committee also recommends the approval
18 of the 2023 legislative agenda. I wish to
19 personally thank the members of the
20 National Convention Committee on
21 Legislative Services for their efforts,
22 advice and assistance with this report and
23 for their contributions during this past

1 year.

2 This concludes my report to the
3 94th National Convention on Legislative
4 Services, and I move that it be accepted
5 and the recommendations be approved.

6 PRPNC COMBS: Combs, Delegate
7 Branch 161. Second.

8 NP CAMPBELL: We have a motion and
9 a second on the floor. All in favor?

10 (Chorus of "ayes").

11 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

12 (No response).

13 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you. At this
14 time, I would like to call up the Hospital
15 Welfare Rehabilitation Chairman.

16 PNC GUNTHER: Good morning,
17 Shipmate National President, National
18 Officers, Past National Officers, Past
19 Regional Officers, Regional Officers,
20 Shipmates.

21 I am Past National Chaplain Paul
22 Gunther, Branch 182, Chairman of the
23 Hospital Welfare and Rehabilitation

1 Committee.

2 We met yesterday morning at 0900
3 in the DeV Vaughn Room of the Hyatt
4 Regency Wynfrey Hotel.

5 Members present, we had Past
6 Regional President, Southwest, Don
7 Kelley who was replaced by Past Regional
8 President, Southwest, Bruce Davis;
9 Second Past Regional President,
10 Southeast, James Richmond; Virginia
11 Beach Branch -- excuse me, Pensacola,
12 Mark Kilgore Branch 22. Bear with me.
13 I don't have my glasses, so I can't read
14 very well. I will just squint.

15 Advisor was Past Regional
16 President SD Martin from Virginia Beach
17 166. We had a visitor, Shipmate Sonny
18 Sales, Carson Branch 302; and had
19 Regional Vice President-Elect -- I mean
20 Regional Vice-President Paul Vera from
21 Elizabeth City, North Carolina Branch.

22 We read multiple reports from
23 all regions, all regions and all groups.

1 If you turn to your last page there, I
2 will start reading the recipients of the
3 awards.

4 In group one, first place group
5 one was Annapolis Branch 24. Group two
6 was Kempsville Branch 99. Group three
7 was Whidbey Island Branch 97. Group
8 four, Elizabeth City, Branch 293. And
9 group five, first place, Crossville,
10 Tennessee Branch 294.

11 Second place, group one, First
12 Coast Branch 190 -- excuse me, First
13 Coast Branch 91. Second place -- excuse
14 me. Second place, group two, Poway
15 Valley Branch 070. Group three, second
16 place, West Jacksonville Branch 126.
17 Second place, group four, Mt. Rainier
18 Branch 104. Group five, second place,
19 Branch 258 -- I can't read the --
20 Commodore Perry; is that correct? I
21 believe.

22 Third place, group one, Imperial
23 Beach Branch 289. Group two, Groton

1 Branch 20. Group three, third place,
2 Viking Branch 136. Group four, Branch
3 -- Buffalo Branch 23. Group five,
4 Shereveport, Bossier Branch 98.

5 One of the problems that we had
6 with grading the reports was this report
7 itself right here. I want everybody to
8 look at this report. Please do not send
9 your reports on a reduced size. We
10 needed a microscope to read it. Okay?
11 It's not funny. It's ridiculous. It's
12 hard. You know, you have to have it on
13 a full size paper to read it and to
14 grade it. Really, it was tough. And --
15 well, anyway, that was one issue.

16 I am going to go through the
17 hours and whatnot extended by total, if
18 I can read it. Hours spent to visiting
19 and assisting shipmates, ill or
20 incapacitated members, 1,548 hours.
21 Miles driven visiting shipmates and
22 assisting ill or incapacitated members,
23 2,902 hours. Hours spent assisting

1 needy families of shipmates, 162 hours.
2 Miles driven assisting needy families,
3 120 hours -- 120 miles, excuse me. It
4 seems a little less.

5 Hours of volunteer work
6 performed at hospitals by shipmates,
7 5,060. Widows assisted, 30 for a total
8 of 204 hours. Number of shipmates
9 donating blood, 102 with 97.5 pints
10 given.

11 Number of rituals performed by
12 shipmates. We've got a problem with
13 this. Okay? And this is one of the
14 issues that we talked about in the
15 Committee, the rituals. When you do a
16 -- When you open your branch meeting,
17 that is a ritual. You do an opening
18 prayer; that is a ritual. You do a
19 closing prayer; that is a ritual.
20 That's two right there alone. Each
21 branch -- every meeting that a branch
22 has, you should be doing a two-bell
23 ceremony. That's a ritual. That's

1 three rituals per meeting. And if you
2 are having a meeting every month, that
3 is times 12, that's 36 just for one
4 branch. Okay?

5 Number of rituals performed by
6 shipmates, 58 is what was reported to
7 me. All right? 58. We are doing a lot
8 more, shipmates. We are doing a lot
9 more. You need to report all of this to
10 the Hospital Welfare and Rehabilitation
11 Committee and run it through your --
12 send your reports in to your regional
13 chairman and the regional chairman sends
14 the report to the national chairman for
15 it to be included on this report.

16 Contributions made to the FRA
17 Disaster Relief Fund: Branches, \$650;
18 members, \$1,000. I am sure there was a
19 lot more given. It just wasn't
20 reported.

21 Shipmate National President,
22 that concludes my report, and I move
23 that it be received -- accepted.

1 SHIPMATE: Shipmate Of The Year?

2 PNC GUNTHER: Oh, yes. I'm sorry.

3 Thank you. Shipmate Of The Year was

4 Shipmate Lucille Vogel, V-O-G-E-L, Branch

5 293 of Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

6 Now that concludes my report.

7 (Applause).

8 NP CAMPBELL: You have to move for

9 acceptance, please.

10 PNC GUNTHER: Move for acceptance,

11 please.

12 PRPNC COMBS: Combs, Delegate

13 Branch 161. Second.

14 NP CAMPBELL: I have a motion and

15 second. All in favor to receive the

16 report?

17 (Chorus of ayes.)

18 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

19 (No response.)

20 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you. At this

21 time, I would like to call up the Past

22 Regional President, East Coast, Don Hoover

23 to give the Youth Activities Report.

1 PRPEC HOOVER: Shipmate National
2 President, Shipmate National Officers,
3 Regional Officers, shipmates, my name is
4 Don Hoover.

5 I am doing the National
6 Committee of Youth Activities. We met
7 in Berkshire Room of the Hyatt Regency
8 Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham, Alabama, on
9 Wednesday, the 19th of October at 1000.
10 We were in session until 1245. Those
11 present were myself, Past Regional
12 President Don Hoover, Annapolis Branch
13 24; Regional President, Southeast,
14 Ursula Gruetzner, Capital Area Branch
15 201; Regional President, Southeast, Jack
16 Fogel, Crossville, Tennessee Branch 294;
17 and Shipmate William Hansen, Portsmouth
18 Branch 037.

19 The only one of those people
20 that was assigned on the Committee was
21 myself. The others were visitors.
22 Paula Fula was unable to be here because
23 of an emergency at home, so I chaired

1 the meeting.

2 The Committee reviewed the
3 reports submitted by each region and
4 each group to receive national
5 recognition and have recommended the
6 following: Group one, first place,
7 none; group two, first place, none;
8 group three, first place, Chesapeake
9 Branch 040; group five -- or group four,
10 Cleveland Branch 017; and group five,
11 third place, none.

12 SHIPMATE: First place.

13 PRPEC HOOVER: I'm sorry. First
14 place. Those are all first place.

15 Second place: Group one,
16 Annapolis Branch 24; group two, none.
17 Group three, Nola Branch 162; group
18 four, Modesto Branch 197; group five,
19 Shreveport Bossier Branch 098.

20 Third place: Group one, none;
21 group two, Groton Branch 020; group
22 three, Mark Kilgore Branch 022; group
23 four, Triangle Branch 182; group five,

1 Roanoke Valley 041.

2 Shipmate Of The Year: We had
3 two applications for Shipmate Of The
4 Year. One of them was totally
5 incomplete. The other one was Margaret
6 Spath, S-P-A-T-H, of Cleveland Branch
7 017 in North Central Region.

8 Recommendations of those present
9 on the Committee recommends that the
10 scoring sheet that was provided be
11 revised to make it more appropriate and
12 easier to follow.

13 I would like to thank the
14 National President for the opportunity
15 to fill in for Shipmate Paula Falu,
16 Kempsville Branch 099. And I especially
17 would like to thank all of the shipmates
18 that attended and who filled in for and
19 reviewed -- and reviewed these reports
20 and their due diligence and patience in
21 doing so. It was quite an event. We
22 had a total of 15 reports, several of
23 which were incomplete and subsequently

1 not in order.

2 I move that my report be
3 accepted.

4 PRPNC COMBS: Combs, Delegate
5 Branch 161. Second.

6 PRPEC HOOVER: Thank you.

7 PRPNC COMBS: And I have a
8 question.

9 PRPEC HOOVER: Yes, sir.

10 PRPNC COMBS: Your placing here,
11 you have no winners for first place in
12 group one, two or five. Now, I read the
13 funnies every day to keep life in
14 perspective, but this blows it out of the
15 water.

16 PRPEC HOOVER: Well --

17 PRPNC COMBS: Because you have a
18 second place in group one and a third
19 place in group two and a second and third
20 place in group five, but no first place.

21 PRPEC HOOVER: The shipmates that
22 were available were myself and I had three
23 shipmates that were doing the reviews. I

1 did not participate in the reviews. I
2 kept track of the motions. Behind you is
3 Shipmate Ursula, and she said she would
4 like to address that question if it came
5 up.

6 RP GRUETZNER: Regional President
7 South Central, soon to be retired, Branch
8 201, Cathleen Ursula Gruetzner.

9 We spent time on these reports.
10 We feel that this Committee is extremely
11 important to us. We took so long was
12 because we went through each line. We
13 went through every single page, and we
14 wanted to make a fair judgment.

15 The reasons that some of these
16 came in third or second was they didn't
17 meet all of the requirements necessary
18 to be placed as first. We went by the
19 rule book. It's in black and white. It
20 exists. It's a marine mentality.

21 So, we did exactly as the rules
22 stated us to do. We would be more than
23 happy to explain and enhance your

1 ability to make the books next year so
2 that you can give better competition.
3 Of the 15 that we had, it was tight.
4 So, we had to go piece by piece, and we
5 did by the regulations as so stated.

6 (Applause).

7 PRPEC HOOVER: Shipmate at the
8 left mic.

9 SHIPMATE COLLINS: Thank you.
10 This is Penny Collins, Branch 24 Delegate
11 and co-chair of the delegation.

12 On the report that you just
13 submitted, my question is: Under youth
14 activities, group one, first place,
15 nada; second place, Branch 24; third
16 place, nada.

17 So, how did Branch 24 become
18 second place when there is no branch for
19 first place and there is no branch for
20 third place? We got second place?
21 Please, explain that.

22 SHIPMATE: She just did.

23 SHIPMATE: She just did.

1 SHIPMATE COLLINS: But she didn't
2 explain how there's no --

3 PRPEC HOOVER: Shipmates --

4 SHIPMATE COLLINS: No, no, no. I
5 don't understand that. How did you
6 compare us with no branch from group one
7 and no branch from group three?

8 RP GRUETZNER: Gruetzner. We went
9 by the rules as stated on how to grade. I
10 would be more than happy to show you where
11 the two mistakes were so those will not be
12 taken again from that branch. We could
13 talk offline.

14 SHIPMATE COLLINS: Great. Okay.
15 I just wanted to make that known that I
16 just don't understand that grading. Thank
17 you very much.

18 PRPEC HOOVER: All right. For
19 those shipmates that received awards, the
20 ribbons are back with Shipmate Cathleen
21 Ursula. And she has an announcement to
22 make on that also obviously.

23 RP GRUETZNER: All right. Because

1 we were limited on time and we had to be
2 in for the meeting -- Gruetzner, Branch
3 201, South Central -- we went with the
4 ribbons that were --

5 NP CAMPBELL: Excuse me, Ursula.

6 RP GRUETZNER: Sir?

7 NP CAMPBELL: I've got a motion on
8 the floor and a second. You can talk
9 after the meeting about your ribbons.

10 RP GRUETZNER: Okay.

11 NP CAMPBELL: I have a motion and
12 a second on the floor to accept the
13 report, all in favor?

14 (Chorus of ayes).

15 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

16 (Chorus of nos).

17 SHIPMATE: No.

18 NP CAMPBELL: All right. All in
19 favor of the motion, raise your right
20 hand.

21 (Members vote in favor of the
22 pending motion by show of
23 hands.)

1 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you. Opposed?
2 (Members vote in opposition
3 of the pending motion by show
4 of hands.)

5 NP CAMPBELL: Motion passed.

6 Thank you.

7 At this time, we are going to
8 take a 15-minute break -- actually a
9 12-minute break. Keep it down, guys and
10 shipmates.

11 Uncover. National Chaplain,
12 would you close the Bible?

13 NCHAP LYMON: National President,
14 the Bible is closed.

15 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you, National
16 Chaplain.

17 (At which time, a recess was
18 taken.)

19 NP CAMPBELL: Uncover. National
20 Chaplain, would you open the Bible,
21 please.

22 NCHAP LYMON: Shipmate National
23 President, the Bible is open.

1 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you. Shipmate
2 at the mic.

3 JPNP FULTON: Shipmate National
4 President, let the record reflect the
5 Junior Past is in the uniform of the day.

6 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 NP CAMPBELL: All right. At this
9 time I would like to introduce -- At this
10 time, I would like to call up Junior Past
11 National President with his pretty hat on
12 for the Budget Finance Committee.

13 JPNP FULTON: Shipmate National
14 President, Shipmate National Officers,
15 Past National Officers, Shipmates, the
16 National Convention Committee on Budget
17 Finance and Audit met in the Riverchase
18 Room of the Hyatt Regency Wynfrey Hotel,
19 Birmingham, Alabama, on Wednesday,
20 October 19, 2022, at 0909.

21 Present: Myself, chair.

22 Members: Past Regional President,
23 Southeast, John Handzuk, West

1 Jacksonville Branch 126; Past National
2 President Don Mucheck, Low Country
3 Branch 269; Shipmate Nicole Talbot,
4 Space City Branch 159; PNP Gary
5 Blackburn, Vallejo Branch 008.

6 Advisors present: NED
7 Christopher Slawinski, Navy Department
8 Branch 181; and Finance Officer Phillip
9 Reid, member at large.

10 Visitors: Shipmate Frank
11 Andrews, First Coast Branch 91; Past
12 Regional President, West Coast, Rick
13 Fetro, Santa Clara Valley Branch 101;
14 PNP Bob Beese, Volusia County Branch
15 335; PNP Don Larson, Corpus Christi
16 Branch 094; and Regional Vice-President,
17 South Central, Bruce Talbot, Space City
18 Branch 159.

19 The chairman commenced the
20 meeting addressing the Committee that he
21 was not going to stand up in front of
22 the Delegates assembled and attempt to
23 push through a 2023 budget that was a

1 deficit budget. The Committee agreed.

2 The Committee then proceeded to

3 make additional line item adjustments

4 based on the following recommendations:

5 Recommend decreasing the FRA Today

6 expenses by publishing and mailing six

7 printed editions and publishing six

8 online editions, basically cutting that

9 overall line item by 50%. FRA C&BLs

10 require to publish and mail 12 editions.

11 It doesn't say how to mail them.

12 Recommend issue RFPs to

13 Alexandria Realtors, at least two, to

14 sell headquarters and find suitable

15 office space for staff to operate. All

16 requirements to be included in the RFP

17 will be in consultation with the NHQ

18 Relocation Committee established by

19 National Board of Directors NBR 35-22.

20 Present a six-month proposed

21 budget. Finance officer will cover line

22 item pen-and-ink changes to proposed

23 budget in the delegate kit.

1 Authorize a loan not to exceed
2 \$400,000 from Disaster Relief to cover
3 operating expenses to be paid back to
4 the general fund upon proceeds being
5 received from the sale of the property.

6 Propose a resolution to change
7 FRA C&BL Section 1206 through 1208 to
8 change the escrow account period for
9 branches that surrender their financial
10 proceeds, change that period from three
11 years to one year to free up funding to
12 the finance officer for operating
13 expenses.

14 The FO will, in accordance with
15 Section 913 FRA C&BL, advise Budget,
16 Finance & Audit to establish revised
17 life membership dues table to be in line
18 with other veteran service
19 organizations.

20 Shipmates, this organization is
21 in extremist. The days of being able to
22 spend money is just not there. I am
23 going to turn it over to the Finance

1 Officer so that he can summarize the
2 six-month proposed budget that the
3 Budget Finance & Audit Committee is
4 proposing.

5 SHIPMATE: Is it in the kit?

6 JPNP FULTON: It's in the kit, but
7 he's going to make some changes to it.
8 So...

9 FO REID: Shipmates, Finance
10 Officer Phillip Reid, MAL.

11 The way I started out our
12 meeting yesterday was to say -- I
13 reminded people of that old Christmas
14 story called "The Christmas Carol" by
15 Charles Dickens. And I represented
16 myself as being the Spirit of Christmas
17 Future. And if you have seen that
18 movie, you know that of all the three
19 spirits that were visited by Ebenezer
20 Scrooge that night, the ghost -- the
21 Spirit of Christmas Future was the
22 scariest one. And unfortunately that's
23 what I told the Budget & Finance

1 Committee, that this is the situation
2 that we have.

3 There are some proposals that
4 the Budget & Finance Committee made that
5 really -- that you really have to think
6 about. You really have to ponder
7 because, if we don't make these changes,
8 one of the things that I -- my final
9 words to this Committee yesterday were:
10 In six months, we are going to go dark,
11 and we will go into hiatus. We will
12 have a skeleton crew. We will stay
13 alive in order to keep our 501(c)(19)
14 available, but a lot of the services are
15 going to go by the wayside.

16 So, these changes are necessary.
17 I'm not sure if some of the numbers that
18 we are going to present have ever really
19 been presented to you in a way -- in a
20 manner that are realistic. Some of this
21 is because -- no one sees the future,
22 but the problem is the future always
23 kind of catches up with us. And we can

1 get out of this. I -- I was not happy
2 about being the agent of gloom and doom.

3 And I think there are some
4 positive things coming out of this. One
5 of the things we are going to do is we
6 are going to try our damndest to
7 fundraise. And we are going to use the
8 premise of our 100th anniversary to make
9 that happen.

10 What I have here is an
11 eight-page document that shows a
12 six-month budget. Because one of the
13 things I want to do is I want to make
14 sure we get through the next six months.
15 And one of the ways of doing that is to
16 take into consideration the items that
17 were just simply presented, and this is
18 a way of change.

19 This is a change in the way we
20 do business. But I see it all around
21 us. There are very few organizations
22 remaining that are doing monthly
23 magazines. And at the caliber that ours

1 is, it's an outstanding magazine. The
2 problem is that it's -- it has always
3 been a loss leader item. It has never
4 made money. It wasn't looked at to make
5 money. But the reality is that it's one
6 of these things -- if you think about
7 how long we have been publishing FRA
8 Today or Navy Affairs, it has always not
9 made money.

10 The big change that's happened
11 is our income and where it's coming
12 from. Before TRICARE For Life, which
13 again we -- we are the ones who
14 championed that, and we are the ones who
15 said, yeah, we think this is great for
16 veterans. The problem is that the
17 royalties that we used to get prior to
18 TRICARE For Life have dramatically
19 dropped.

20 Then we have mortality rates.
21 If you look at FRA Today, you will see
22 every month the list of members that we
23 are losing at a rapid pace.

1 So, those things considered --
2 there are other things. The stock
3 market is down by 22%. So, any monies
4 that we do have in reserves we have
5 actually lost some of those funds.

6 What -- instead of -- I don't
7 want to take the whole thing. What I am
8 going to do is, I am going to present
9 this six-month budget right in the
10 national mailing list ASAP so that
11 everyone here will have an opportunity
12 to look at it.

13 But it's contingent on what you
14 approve today. So, some of those items
15 -- some of those cuts that we have
16 talked about, either you are going to
17 say yea or nay and that is going to be
18 kind of what finalizes the six-month.
19 And what we have agreed upon is meeting
20 late March and coming up with part two
21 of the budget.

22 I want to talk a little bit
23 about the sale of the building. That's

1 our largest asset. And one of the
2 things that has happened is we are in a
3 very desirable location. Alexandria,
4 Virginia, has two new neighbors, one of
5 them being Amazon Two. And the other
6 one being all of the people who are
7 following Amazon Two. And we have had
8 probably 13 to 15 unsolicited offers for
9 that building.

10 Where we are now is particularly
11 what is happening with the mortgage
12 rates and those kinds of things. We
13 have maxed out what we are going to get
14 for that building. I believe that the
15 NED told me that we paid something like
16 \$2 million.

17 NED SLAWINSKI: \$2.5.

18 FO REID: \$2.5 million. That
19 building is worth approximately \$5 million
20 today.

21 Now, the sale of that building
22 doesn't get us out of trouble. Because
23 as long as we continue to present a

1 deficit budget, the money is going to go
2 away. So, we have to start thinking
3 differently, more uniquely, outside the
4 box. I will fundraise as much as
5 possible. My first priority is, of
6 course, the financials, but my other hat
7 is to go out with the NED and to look
8 for new sponsors. I think the 2024 is
9 one of the things that provides us with
10 that opportunity.

11 So, there are some large numbers
12 that I would like the Junior Past to go
13 through, and I think we need to make
14 some -- put those up for a vote. And
15 that will determine what the final
16 six-month budget looks like. Right now
17 the six-month budget with the loan, with
18 the sale of the building, we will be in
19 the black. But if this organization
20 votes some of those things down, then,
21 as I said, I will truly be the Spirit of
22 Christmas Future, and we will not have
23 an opportunity to change it.

1 JPNP FULTON: Thanks, FO.

2 Okay. First on the income side
3 of the house, if you go to your tab in
4 your delegate kit, it should be the
5 first -- first sheet with that, tab
6 Echo, I believe, right? Tab Delta.

7 Okay. The sources of revenue is
8 on the back, projected operating
9 revenue. It's a single page, the fiscal
10 year 2023 proposed six-month budget.
11 Everything is the same as the -- what's
12 delineated in your delegate kit with the
13 exception of the line item 11,
14 miscellaneous income. It will include a
15 loan from the Disaster Relief not to
16 exceed \$400K for a total of \$510,000.
17 And sale of the headquarter partial
18 receipt in the amount of \$1 million.
19 The goal is to have the headquarters
20 sold by the six-month mark of the budget
21 for a projected income of \$2,000,181
22 even. That's projected.

23 Okay. Now we go to the expense

1 side. The first number to be --
2 basically what is occurring on the
3 expense side is you are cutting all of
4 those numbers in half with the exception
5 of some actions that the Board is
6 recommending for specific line items.
7 So, the member expenses will drop down
8 to \$98,320 for six months. Legislative
9 programs expenses --

10 SHIPMATE: Slow down.

11 JPNP FULTON: I'm just covering
12 the major line items.

13 FO REID: And I will post this on
14 the national mailing list immediately
15 after this is approved.

16 JPNP FULTON: \$19,850. Total
17 VAVAVS expenses, \$4,150.

18 FRA Today expenses, based on the
19 six mailed issues and the six online
20 issues will decrease that to \$130,510.

21 Convention expenses, \$12,500.

22 Remember the convention doesn't take
23 place in the first six months of the

1 budget year.

2 Total affiliation expenses,
3 \$1,550. Total audit expenses, \$34,000.
4 Building expenses, \$60,005.

5 Salaries and benefit expenses:
6 This is with an agreed \$100,000 decrease
7 in overall salaries for the national
8 headquarters staff put forth by the NED
9 and the Finance Officer. That goes down
10 to \$558,137.

11 That's the total budget for
12 salary and benefits. Right. Yes. With
13 the benefits, it's \$655,036.

14 The rest of the budget is total
15 office expenses which includes your
16 taxes, equipment maintenance contracts,
17 insurance, et cetera. Total office
18 expenses down on line 5572 is \$274,308,
19 with a reduction -- proposed reduction
20 by the Budget Finance & Audit Committee
21 of the National President's T&E being
22 reduced from \$40,000 to \$30,000, and the
23 National Vice-President's T&E being

1 reduced from \$20,000 to \$15,000.

2 The National Board of Director's
3 expenses for six months will be
4 \$130,400. The Standing and Special
5 National Committees, total expenses
6 \$18,515. The total awards and
7 recognition expenses dropped down to
8 \$8,795.

9 Fundraising program expenses,
10 these are the expenses for the mailing,
11 it drops down to -- this will be the
12 calendar mailing in the spring. It
13 drops down to \$45,000 for a total
14 expenditure -- or a six-month expense
15 budget of \$1,492,939.

16 And I so move.

17 NP CAMPBELL: Shipmate at the mic.

18 PRPSE HANDZUK: Handzuk, Delegate
19 126, Member of Budget Finance & Audit.
20 Second.

21 MR. CAMPBELL: We have a motion
22 and a second on the floor. Any questions?

23 SHIPMATE ANDREWS: Good morning.

1 Frank Andrews, Delegate Branch 91. I
2 would like to amend the proposed budget
3 being submitted for the FRA printed
4 versions to be eliminated and that all
5 versions of the FRA Today be digital.

6 NP CAMPBELL: No second.

7 JPNP FULTON: No second. It
8 fails. Shipmate at the rear mic.

9 RPWC-E NASH: Nash, Delegate
10 Chairman, Silver Dollar Branch 192,
11 Fallon.

12 This is all contingent -- my
13 understanding this is contingent on the
14 selling of the headquarters building.
15 Have you budgeted a line item that I
16 missed on the expenditure of funds to
17 acquire an operating facility upon the
18 sale of that building?

19 We are going to get the money.
20 We are going to have our building sold
21 in six months. We are going to have to
22 have someplace to move the computers,
23 the servers, and everything else during

1 that six months. I didn't see a line
2 item for what that expense was going to
3 be.

4 JPNP FULTON: I will let the FO
5 address that.

6 FO REID: Finance Officer, Phillip
7 Reid, MAL.

8 So, one of the things that the
9 proposal will have, the RFP, is that it
10 is going to include at least one year of
11 rent relief wherever we go.

12 What we have got to identify is
13 how much space do we need? Right now we
14 are using -- of the three floors we
15 have, we are almost using one floor,
16 almost. I'm not sure we even need that
17 much. One of the things that --
18 Shipmate Nash, one of the things that I
19 believe is that we should be all in the
20 cloud for everything. And I believe
21 that I already have enough funds
22 identified that we currently use for
23 hard IT. I think that those funds can

1 then be used or converted for cloud.

2 I also think that it means that
3 we would go with an organization that
4 could provide not -- we are not capable
5 of doing -- from a staff point of view,
6 I think we need to be actually virtual,
7 and I think we need to get someone, an
8 expert from a cloud point of view, to do
9 that.

10 So, one of the things I have
11 made into the proposal is to make sure
12 that we are taken care of from the rent
13 point of view and from closing down the
14 building itself.

15 Another question you have?

16 SHIPMATE PERRY: Sir, Claudio
17 Perry (phonetic) from -- MAL. I used to
18 be with Branch 4 but now it's remote.

19 Shipmates, our assistance is --

20 NP CAMPBELL: Excuse me, Claudio.
21 You are MAL, so you don't have privilege
22 of the floor.

23 SHIPMATE PERRY: I'm the Board.

1 I'm the Board, sir. I can speak.

2 NED SLAWINSKI: No. You are not a
3 registered delegate.

4 NP CAMPBELL: No. You are not a
5 registered delegate. You can't have the
6 floor.

7 SHIPMATE PERRY: Okay. I'm sorry.
8 I am offering a good thing. You don't
9 have to sell the building with my
10 proposal.

11 NP CAMPBELL: You can talk with
12 the financial officer after --

13 SHIPMATE PERRY: Okay. I will do
14 that.

15 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.

16 SHIPMATE PERRY: But you should
17 change this. You have to be sensitive to
18 our problem.

19 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you. Shipmate
20 at the mic.

21 JPRPNE/NE ZINO: Shipmate National
22 President, Zino, Delegate Branch 23.

23 It's my understanding that we

1 are projecting to get \$5 million for the
2 building. What's our estimated cost in
3 our net after everything is sold? How
4 much money are we going to -- in real
5 dollars are we expected to get,
6 projection wise?

7 FO REID: So, we are paying 4.5%
8 to the realtor. But the other piece of
9 this is, remember, that we are also going
10 -- the other piece of this is that we are
11 going to no longer have -- we are also
12 going to reduce the building cost of
13 having that building which runs at about
14 \$180,000 a year.

15 So, the \$5 million, one of the
16 things that we need to do is I need to
17 get two people voting -- going against
18 each other. And I don't know how high
19 this could go. If we get the right
20 people, it may be more than the
21 \$5 million.

22 What we are going to net, I
23 would say that it's going to be a 4.5%.

1 That's why we are going to get two
2 realtors doing the FFP. I want to know
3 what it is going to cost us, what can
4 they give us for rent abatement and
5 whether -- one of them has already said
6 we could actually stay in the building
7 rent free because it's going to take
8 them that long to get a license to do
9 anything with that building.

10 And by the way, what they are
11 looking at doing with that building is
12 turning it into luxury condos.

13 JPRPNE/NE ZINO: Shipmate National
14 President, Zino Branch 23 Delegate. I
15 support the idea of virtual cloud work
16 space. A lot of companies are doing that.
17 And I am sure that the finance officer
18 would agree that we could save hundreds of
19 thousands of dollars every year by doing
20 something like that.

21 So, thank you.

22 FO REID: Again, Finance Officer
23 Phillip Reid.

1 One of the things I want to talk
2 about is the fundraising side. As many
3 of you know, we have done business with
4 Mercer. Mercer has been acquired by the
5 organization called "AMBA". And AMBA is
6 an association member organization that
7 helps member organizations like us.
8 They have a database close to over a
9 million people where they have already
10 said to us they will help us with the
11 marketing side of this.

12 One of the things that I want to
13 do is to go after corporate sponsors
14 that have people working for them that
15 are sea-served individuals. A lot of
16 the organizations that we can look for
17 have sea-served individuals who are
18 members. And we have to go and get an
19 audience with that top person to see how
20 we can make sure that those individuals
21 who are sea-served can be members of
22 this organization.

23 The other piece I just want to

1 say is this budget is only for the first
2 six months. So, when we start to look
3 at -- what I have put in here is that we
4 would request a million dollars
5 immediately, and then we would get some
6 additional monies, and we would figure
7 out what the net was at that time.

8 NP CAMPBELL: I call for a
9 question on the floor.

10 SHIPMATE GILMARTIN: Shipmate
11 National President, Gilmartin, 207
12 Delegate.

13 Three points: One, correct me
14 if I'm wrong, but haven't you appointed
15 two special committees that are to
16 provide the data needed before we
17 address selling the building, such as
18 how-tos, wherefores, things like that?
19 But until those committees have given
20 the National President data, can we
21 really proceed any further?

22 Second, and this is because of
23 what I did before I retired. I was

1 doing my best to keep the Pentagon out
2 of the cloud because there is very
3 little protection about -- from PII
4 being taken, especially since the big
5 players that run the cloud, like Google,
6 aren't exactly known for being USA
7 friendly, just an aside there.

8 And I lost my third point, but
9 thanks.

10 JPNP FULTON: In explanation to
11 your first point, part of the consultation
12 in the negotiation for the RFPs to go out
13 to the realtors will be in conjunction
14 with that special committee that was
15 established by National Board Resolution
16 35:22.

17 SHIPMATE: That's just one of the
18 committees.

19 SHIPMATE: That's the only one.

20 SHIPMATE: That's the only one.

21 JPNP FULTON: That's the only one
22 that was associated with the headquarters.
23 The other one was Veteran Service

1 Foundation Committee.

2 SHIPMATE: You appointed a second
3 one. We will talk afterward.

4 PRPNW LAZZARETTI: Shipmate
5 National President?

6 NP CAMPBELL: Shipmate at the mic.

7 PRPNW LAZZARETTI: Lazzaretti,
8 Delegate Chair, Seattle Branch 18.

9 A quick question for the Finance
10 Officer. How much does the Association
11 still owe on the building note that was
12 taken out for the remodel, and how much
13 will that actually affect the sale of
14 the building's net?

15 JPNP FULTON: National
16 Headquarters owes zero on the note. We
17 have no outstanding notes against the
18 National Headquarters' property.

19 NP CAMPBELL: All right. We have
20 a motion and a second. Let's take the
21 vote. All in favor of adopting the
22 six-month --

23 SHIPMATE CUNNINGHAM: I have a

1 question. Cunningham, Branch 14.

2 We are taking into account that,
3 okay, we are going to sell the building.
4 But then another building -- Are you
5 going to buy another building, or are
6 you going to rent?

7 NP CAMPBELL: That is what the
8 Committee will find and decide and bring
9 back to the National Board, and they will
10 make that decision.

11 SHIPMATE CUNNINGHAM: Okay.

12 SHIPMATE: Shipmate President, I
13 think we have discussed this enough.
14 Would you please call for a vote?

15 SHIPMATE: Whoa --

16 SHIPMATE RANDALL: Charley
17 Randall, 201 Delegate. I understand the
18 Financial Officer's desire to go to the
19 cloud. Have you addressed how you are
20 going to back up the data, regardless of
21 the cloud, because the cloud is not safe?
22 Been there, done that. Been hacked all to
23 hell and gone. The cloud is not safe.

1 NP CAMPBELL: All right. Again,
2 we have a motion and a second. All in
3 favor of adopting the six-month proposed
4 budget, say "aye."

5 (Chorus of "ayes").

6 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed.

7 (Chorus of "no").

8 NP CAMPBELL: The ayes have it.
9 It's passed.

10 JPNP FULTON: Shipmate National
11 President and shipmates, that concludes my
12 report, and I move that it be received.

13 (Applause.)

14 PRPNC COMBS: Combs, Delegate
15 Branch 161. Second.

16 NP CAMPBELL: Motion and second.
17 All in favor to accept the report? All in
18 favor?

19 (Chorus of "ayes").

20 NP CAMPBELL: Opposed?

21 (No response).

22 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.

23 May I have your attention,

1 please. We are going to break for
2 lunch. And we will be back at 1300.

3 Master Chaplain, will you close
4 the Bible? Uncover.

5 NCHAP LYMON: Shipmate National
6 President, the Bible is closed.

7 NP CAMPBELL: Thank you.
8 Reconvene 1300.

9 (Whereupon, the Third
10 Business Session adjourned.)
11
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* * *

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF ALABAMA

CHILTON COUNTY

I, Wendy Kendrick, Certified Court
Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of
Alabama at Large, do hereby certify on Thursday,
October 20, 2022, that I reported the meetings in
the matter of:

94TH FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONVENTION

THIRD BUSINESS SESSION

on Thursday, October 20, 2022, that the foregoing
73 computer-printed pages contain a true and
correct transcript of the meeting out herein.

I further certify that I am neither of
relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of
the parties, nor am I a relative or employee of such
attorney or counsel, nor am I financially interested
in the results thereof. All rates charged are usual
and customary.

I further certify that I am duly licensed
by the Alabama Board of Court Reporting as a

1 Certified Court Reporter as evidenced by the ACCR
2 number following my name found below.

3 This 11th day of November, in the year of
4 our Lord, 2022.

5
6
7
8 IS/Wendy Kendrick
9 Wendy Kendrick, CCR
10 ACCR NO. 444 Exp. 9/30/23
11 Certified Court Reporter and
12 Notary Public
13 Commission expires: 2/20/24
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