1	92ND NATIONAL CONVENTION 2019
2	FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION
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6	
7	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019
8	1ST BUSINESS SESSION
9	1300 - 1700 HOURS
10	
11	
12	
13	Crowne Plaza Memphis East Hotel
14	Memphis, Tennessee
15	
16	
17	
18	
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21	
22	
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24	
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1	1ST BUSINESS SESSION
2	1300 - 1700
3	
4	PRESIDENT: (Taps gavel once for assembly
5	attention.) This assembly will now come to
6	order. Shipmate Master-At-Arms, you will invite
7	the shipmates to enter the convention hall and
8	close the doors.
9	
10	MASTER-AT-ARMS: Shipmate National President, the
11	doors are locked closed. We will have a few
12	stragglers, as usual.
13	
14	PRESIDENT: Thank you, Master-At-Arms. Shipmate
15	National Chaplain, please open the Holy Bible.
16	(Taps gavel three times for assembly to stand and
17	remove caps.)
18	
19	CHAPLAIN: (Opens the Bible) Shipmate National
20	President, the Bible is open. (Puts caps back
21	on.)
22	
23	PRESIDENT: Thank you, Shipmate Chaplain.
24	Shipmates, please join me in saluting the Colors.
25	Hand salute!

1 (Attendees salute) 2 3 Two! I now declare the First PRESIDENT: 4 Business Session of the 92nd Convention of the 5 Fleet Reserve Association regularly convened. 6 (Taps gavel once to seat assembly.) 7 8 PRESIDENT: Shipmates, our National Convention 9 Reporter, who is to the right of the rostrum is Ms. Cindy Swords from Alpha. 10 11 12 I want to remind all the delegates PRESIDENT: 13 that when addressing the chair on any matter, 14 including the seconding of motions, you must 15 speak into the microphone, and you must state 16 your last name, branch number. The recording of 17 this convention is by electronic means. If you 18 do not speak into the microphone, your name, 19 branch, your comments will not be recorded. 20 Motions and Seconds will be -- not be recognized 21 and accepted unless you make them into the 22 microphone. Please keep private discussions to 23 yourselves during -- or during the break. 24 I have appointed as my timekeeper PRESIDENT: 25 Past/Future President East Coast Past President,

1	Branch 24. I do want to remind all the delegates
2	that when a matter is under discussion that you
3	are limited to a maximum of three minutes
4	speaking at the microphone, and that you must
5	confine your remarks to the question. In
б	addition, you may not speak a second time on any
7	question until other privileged others are
8	privileged to speak, and whose desire to speak
9	have done so. These rules are addressed in FRA
10	Standing Rule.
11	
12	PRESIDENT: National Executive Director will now
13	call the roll of officers.
14	
15	NED: National President Washington?
16	
17	NPW: Here.
18	
19	NED: National Vice President Jansky?
20	
21	NVPJ: Here.
22	
23	NED: National Executive Officer Snee?
24	NEO: Present.
25	

1	NED: Junior Past National President Starkey?
2	
3	JPNPS: Present.
4	
5	NED: Regional President Northeast/New England
6	Harris?
7	
8	RPNNEH: Present.
9	
10	NED: Regional President East Coast Phillip?
11	
12	RPECP: Present.
13	
14	NED: Regional President Southeast Richmond?
15	
16	RPSR: Present.
17	
18	NED: Regional President North Central White?
19	
20	RPNCW: Here.
21	
22	
23	NED: Regional President South Central Smith?
24	RPSCS: Present.
25	

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1
          Regional President Southwest Quesnel?
    NED:
2
3
    RPSO: Present.
4
          Regional President West Coast Matthews?
5
    NED:
6
7
    RPWCM: Present.
8
9
          Regional President Northwest Hall?
    NED:
10
11
    RPNH: Present.
12
13
          National Parliamentarian PNP Hyland?
    NED:
14
15
    NPH:
          Present.
16
17
          National Chaplain Toulette?
    NED:
18
19
    NCT: Present.
20
21
    PRESIDENT: We will now have hear -- we will now
22
    have the 1st Credential Report.
                                       Shipmate
23
    Chairman Past Regional President Northwest Pete
24
    Lazzaretti, are you ready? I quess he's not.
25
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The 1st Credential Report isn't PRESIDENT: ready, so we'll continue on. Shipmates, we will now have the presentation of the Annual Reports of the National Officers. In accordance with Sections 612(a), C&BL, FRA, all recommendations contained in these reports must have been previously submitted under Section 611, C&BL, Standard Rule 4 refers and applies. All of FRA. these reports have been submitted in writing, typewritten, and are included in delegate kits that each of you should have. To expedite the order of business this afternoon, I ask that all National Officers submit their reports for the record, and confine their remarks to summarizing the highlights of your report and additional remarks necessary to supplement information in your report. You may render your reports from the podium or from the floor microphone, as desired. I will commence with my report.

20

21

22 PRESIDENT: Shipmate at the mike?

JPNP: Starkey, Junior Past National President.

Let it be noted that I am in uniform today.

25

1	PRESIDENT: Thank you, Shipmate.
2	
3	JPNP: Thank you, National President.
4	
5	PRESIDENT: Again, I'll start with my report, and
6	my report is contained in Tab A of the delegate
7	kit, and I would ask that it be received.
8	
9	PRESIDENT: Shipmate at the mike?
10	
11	RPSQ: Shipmate National President, Quesnel,
12	Regional President Southwest. Can you please
13	speak closer to te mike so we can hear you back
14	there.
15	
16	PRESIDENT: Okay. Can you hear me now?
17	
18	(Assembly: Yeah.)
19	
20	PRESIDENT: Again, I will start with my report.
21	And again, this the delegate kit under Tab A, and
22	I would ask that my report be received. I move
23	that my report be received.
24	
25	BRANCH 166: Delegate, Branch 166. So moved.

```
1
    (The motion was seconded by numerous delegates.)
2
    PRESIDENT:
                 Motion has been made and seconded
3
    that the National President Report be received.
4
    Are there any questions or discussions?
5
6
    (No verbal response).
7
8
                 There being none --
    PRESIDENT:
9
10
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: We can't vote on it
11
    (Unintelligible because delegate is not at the
12
    microphone).
13
14
    PRESIDENT: Are there any discussion? If not, do
15
    us a favor, signify by saying "Aye".
16
17
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye")
18
19
20
    PRESIDENT:
                 Opposed?
21
                 (No verbal response)
22
23
          My report is in Tab B, and I move it be
24
    received.
25
```

1	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Who are you?
2	
3	NVP: National Vice President. Oh, I'm sorry.
4	In case you don't know who I am, I'm National
5	Vice President, Donna Jansky. My report is in
6	Tab B, and I move that it be received.
7	
8	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: What branch?
9	
10	NVP: Wait. He didn't say it.
11	
12	DELEGATE CUNNINGHAM: Cunningham, Branch 14. I
13	second the motion.
14	
15	PRESIDENT: The motion has been made, and
16	seconded and received. The annual report for
17	National Vice President. Any discussion?
18	
19	
20	(No verbal response)
21	PRESIDENT: There being none, those in favor,
22	signify by saying "Aye".
23	
24	(Delegates vote, "Aye".)
25	

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1
                 Opposed?
    PRESIDENT:
2
3
                 (No verbal response)
4
          If you think I'm going to get attacked on
5
    NED:
6
    those first two, forget it. I learned my lesson.
7
           National Executive Director Snee, Branch
8
          You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
9
    Okay? My report is in Section Tab Charlie, C,
10
    and I move that it be received.
11
12
    DELEGATE BLIND: Blind, Branch 17. I second the
13
    motion.
14
15
                 Okav. Motion has been made and
    PRESIDENT:
16
    seconded that we receive the annual report for
17
    the National Executive Director. Any questions?
18
    Discussions?
19
20
                 (No verbal response)
21
    PRESIDENT:
                 There being none, all in favor,
22
    signify by saying "Aye".
23
24
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
25
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```
1
                 Opposed?
    PRESIDENT:
2
3
                 (No verbal response)
4
5
    PRESIDENT:
                 Junior Past National President
6
    Starkey.
7
8
    JPNPS: Junior Past National President Starkey.
9
    I move that my received -- be received, located
10
    in Tab E.
11
12
    DELEGATE KELLY: Kelly, Delegate, 289. Second.
13
14
    PRESIDENT: Motion has been made and seconded
15
    that we receive the annual report of Junior Past
16
    National President. Any discussion?
17
18
19
20
                 (No verbal response)
21
                 There being none, all in favor,
    PRESIDENT:
22
    signify by saying "Aye".
23
24
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
25
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1
                 Opposed?
    PRESIDENT:
2
3
                 (No verbal response)
4
                 Regional President Northeast New
5
    PRESIDENT:
6
    England Harris.
7
             Joyce Harris, Regional President
8
    RPNNEH:
9
    Northeast New England. Mine is in Tab f, and I
10
    move that it be approved.
11
12
    DELEGATE SENAL: Senal, Delegate, Branch 23.
                                                     Ι
13
    second it.
14
15
    PRESIDENT: A motion has been made and seconded
16
    that we receive the annual report of the Regional
17
    President Northeast New England. Any discussion?
18
19
20
                 (No verbal response)
21
                 There being none, all in favor,
    PRESIDENT:
22
    signify by saying "Aye".
23
24
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
25
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1
                 Opposed?
    PRESIDENT:
2
3
                 (No verbal response)
4
5
                 Regional President East Coast
    PRESIDENT:
6
    Phillip.
7
8
    RPECP: Regional President East Coast, Phillip,
9
    Branch 182. Mine is in the Tab B. I wish it be
10
    received.
11
12
    DELEGATE JONES: Harvey Pete Jones, East Coast,
13
    Delegate, Branch 93. I second.
14
15
    PRESIDENT: A motion has been made and seconded
16
    that it be received, the annual report, by the
17
    Regional President of East Coast.
                                         Any
18
    discussion?
19
20
                 (No verbal response)
21
                 There being none, all in favor,
    PRESIDENT:
22
    signify by saying, "Aye".
23
24
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
25
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1
                 Opposed?
    PRESIDENT:
2
3
                 (No verbal response)
4
5
                 Regional President Southeast
    PRESIDENT:
6
    Richmond.
7
8
    RPSR:
           Regional President Southeast, Jim
9
    Richmond, Branch 22, Pensacola. My report is
10
    also located at Tab F, and I move at this time
11
    that it be received.
12
13
    RPEC:
           Regional President East Coast Randy
14
    (unintelligible last name), 22. Second.
15
16
                 Okay. Motion has been made and
    PRESIDENT:
17
    seconded that we receive the annual report for
18
    Regional President Southeast. Any discussion?
19
                 (No verbal response)
20
21
                 There being none, all in favor,
    PRESIDENT:
22
    signify by saying "Aye".
23
24
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
25
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```
1
                 Opposed?
    PRESIDENT:
2
3
                 (No verbal response)
4
                 Regional President North Central
5
    PRESIDENT:
6
    White.
7
8
    RPNCW: Regional President North Central, Barry
9
    White, Branch 161. My report is in Section F,
10
    and I move that it be received
11
12
    DELEGATE COMBS: Combs, Delegate, Branch 161.
13
    Second it.
14
15
    PRESIDENT: The motion has been made and seconded
16
    that we receive the annual report for the
17
    Regional President North Central. Any
18
    discussion?
19
                 (No verbal response)
20
21
                 There being none, all in favor,
    PRESIDENT:
22
    signify by saying "Aye".
23
24
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
25
```

1	PRESIDENT: Opposed.
2	
3	(No verbal response)
4	
5	PRESIDENT: Regional President South Central
6	Smith.
7	
8	RPSCS: Regional President South Central Emmett
9	Smith, Delegate from Shreveport Branch 98. My
10	report is in Tab F. I move that it be received.
11	
12	DELEGATE HILL: National President Hill, Branch
13	98, Shreveport. I second.
14	
15	PRESIDENT: Motion has been made and seconded
16	that we receive the Regional President of South
17	
18	Central report, the annual report. Any
19	discussion?
20	
21	(No verbal response)
22	
23	PRESIDENT: Being none, all in favor, signify by
24	saying, "Aye".
25	

```
1
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
2
3
    PRESIDENT: Opposed?
4
5
                 (No verbal response)
6
7
    PRESIDENT: Regional President Southwest Quesnel.
8
9
    RPSO: To the National President, Regional
10
    President Southwest Ouesnel, Branch 289. My
11
    report is also under Tab F, and I move that it be
12
    received.
13
14
    DELEGATE KELLY: Kelly, Branch 289, Delegate.
15
    second that
16
17
    PRESIDENT: Motion and second that it be
18
    received, the Regional President Southwest annual
19
    report. Any discussion?
20
21
                 (No verbal response)
22
23
                 There being none, all in favor,
    PRESIDENT:
24
    signify by saying "Aye".
25
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1
                 (Delegates, except one Delegate,
2
    vote, "Aye".)
3
4
    PRESIDENT: Opposed?
5
6
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Yes.
7
8
    PRESIDENT:
                 Regional President West Coast
9
    Matthews, and he will be serving for Past
10
    Regional President Rick Athenour.
11
12
            Correct, Shipmate National President.
13
    Matthews, Regional President West Coast region.
14
    I submit the report on behalf of Rick Athenour.
15
    I move that the report be received.
16
17
                Shipmate President, Shipmate
    DELEGATE:
18
    (unintelligible name), Branch 230. I second the
19
    motion.
20
21
                        Motion and seconded that we
    PRESIDENT:
                 Okay.
22
    receive the annual report for the Regional
    President of West Coast. Any discussion?
23
24
25
                 (No verbal response)
```

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1
                 There being none, all signify by
    PRESIDENT:
2
    saying "Aye".
3
4
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
5
6
    PRESIDENT:
                 Nay?
7
8
                 (No verbal response)
9
10
    PRESIDENT: Regional President Northwest Hall.
11
12
           Shipmate Hall, Branch 382, Northwest
    RPNH:
13
    Regional President. My report is in Tab F, and I
14
    move that it be received.
15
16
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: (Unintelligible name),
17
    Branch 46.
                 Second.
18
                 The motion has been made and seconded
    PRESIDENT:
19
    that we receive the Regional President Northwest
20
    annual report. Any discussion?
21
22
                 (No verbal response)
23
24
                 There being none, all signify by
    PRESIDENT:
25
    saying "Aye".
```

```
1
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
2
3
    PRESIDENT:
                 Opposed?
4
5
                 (No verbal response).
6
    PRESIDENT:
                 National Chaplain Toulette.
7
8
          National Chaplain Valerie Toulette, like
    NCT:
9
    the Number 2. My report is submitted under Tab
10
        I move that it be accepted as submitted.
11
12
    DELEGATE O'NEILL: O'Neill, delegate, Branch 24.
13
    I second
14
15
16
    PRESIDENT: A motion and seconded that we receive
17
    the National Chaplain annual report. Any
18
    discussion?
19
20
                 (No verbal response)
21
22
    PRESIDENT:
                 There being none, all signify by
23
    saying "Aye".
24
25
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
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1	PRESIDENT: I will now call on the chairman of
2	the standing and special national committees to
3	render their reports. These reports have all
4	been received by the National Headquarters,
5	typewritten, and are included in the delegate
6	kits. I ask that each chairman confine their
7	remarks to summarizing the highlights of the
8	reports and providing the supplemental
9	information, again, in accordance with Section
10	612(a), C&BL, and FRA. All recommendations
11	contained in these reports must have been
12	previously submitted under Section 611, C&BL, and
13	FRA. Standing Rule 4 refers and apply.
14	
15	PRESIDENT: Chairman of the
16	Americanism-Patriotism Committee, Regional
17	President East Coast, Paul Phelps
18	
19	RPECPP: Shipmate National President, Shipmate
20	Past Regional President East Coast Paul Phelps,
21	Chairman of Americanism-Patriotism Committee.
22	My report is in Tab J, as in Juliet, I believe.
23	I would move that it be received.
24	

1	President North Central, delegate, Wolverine
2	Branch 298, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Second.
3	
4	PRESIDENT: All right. For the list of the
5	committees on their report, you don't have to
6	move for it to be accepted. We wont have to vote
7	on it. Budget and Finance, Past National
8	President Virgil Courneya.
9	
10	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Shipmate President, he is
11	next door talking to the ladies.
12	
13	PRESIDENT: Oh, okay. Constitution, Bylaws, and
14	Resolutions, Past Regional President Southeast,
15	Terry Phillips.
16	PRPSTP: Excuse me. National President, my
17	report is listed in Tab L, and I would encourage
18	everyone to read the fourth paragraph, and pay
19	particular attention to that when you're doing
20	your resolutions. Thank you.
21	
22	PRESIDENT: Future Planning Committee, Regional
23	President Elect, Abe Zino.
24	
25	RPE: Shipmate National President, Zino, delegate

Branch 23. First of all, I'm filling in for East Coast Past Regional President Phil Hannah, who actually did a lot of work on this report, and he spent a lot of hours. So I encourage all the members to go ahead and read this report. It's located in Tab M of your delegate kits. There's a lot of good information, he would like to thank everybody on his -- thank everybody on his behalf who that participated through the last 12 months and providing information to make this report possible. Thank you, Shipmate National President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Hospitals, Welfare and Rehabilitation, Past Regional President North Central Posekany.

PRPNC: Posekany, Past Regional President North Central, Wolverine Branch 298, Grand Rapids, Michigan, HWR Chair. My preliminary report is located at Tab November, and I look forward to providing a complete report once the committee meeting is completed.

1 Thank you. Legislative Service, PRESIDENT: 2 National Executive Director. 3 4 NED: Shipmate President, my report is contained 5 in Tab Oscar under the Legislative. It's named 6 Branch 181, as well as the others. Read through 7 it, and tomorrow it will be coming from our 8 meetings that we have. 9 10 Thank you, Shipmate. Membership and PRESIDENT: 11 Retention, Past Regional President East Coast 12 Penny Collins. 13 14 Shipmate National President and other PRPECPC: 15 members of this illustrious group, I am Past 16 Regional President East Coast Penny Collins, 17 member of the all mighty Branch 24. The 18 Membership Retention and National Committee on 19 Membership and Retention Report is Tab Papa, as 20 in "P", and I would encourage you to look at that 21 as well as the report by the national -- the 22 director of Membership Development, Ms. Christina Hitchcock, because we've worked hand in hand. 23 24 Thank you very much.

```
1
                Thank you. Public Relations, Pete
    PRESIDENT:
2
    Lazzaretti. He's still dealing with the
3
    credential.
4
5
    PRESIDENT: Veterans Service, Past National
6
    President East Coast, Chris Slawinski.
7
8
              Slawinski, delegate, Chairman for
    PNPECCS:
9
    Veterans Service, Branch 181. My report can be
10
    found in Tab Romeo. Not only is there
11
    information from what the Committee did
12
    throughout the year, there's also a lot of
13
    valuable information associated with service
14
    officers that we have, claims that we've worked
15
    on, and volunteer services. So please review it,
16
    take a look at it. If you have questions, feel
17
    free to come up and ask me about it. Thank you
18
19
                Budget and Finance, Past National
    PRESIDENT:
    President Virgil Courneya.
20
21
22
    PNPVC: Yes, sir.
23
24
                Annual report.
    PRESIDENT:
25
```

1 Shipmates, my report is in Tab K, Kilo, PNPVC: 2 and I request it be accepted. 3 4 Thank you, sir. PRESIDENT: 5 Courneya, delegate, Branch 274 PNPVC: 6 7 Okay. Oh, I'm sorry. PRESIDENT: Youth 8 Activity. Shipmate Mitchum. I almost forgot 9 you. 10 11 RPSJR: Richmond, Regional President 12 se, delegate, Branch 22, Pensacola, Florida. 13 report -- my initial report is located in Tab 14 Sierra, and I move that it be received. The full 15 report will be coming after we do our grade. 16 Okay. We'll now -- the National PRESIDENT: 17 Executive Director will read, and the delegates 18 will act on the ratification of actions taken by 19 the National Board of Directors since the last 20 convention. And I will ask that it be received 21 on a proceed basis. 22 23 Shipmates, if you go to Tab "Uniform", I 24 will be going through all the NBRs. Okay. 25

for clarification as to what National President

1	confirmed by the National Parliamentarian, we'll
2	just go on a proceed basis. Okay. And again,
3	it's in Section Uniform, "U".
4	
5	NBR 1-19: Let the minutes of the 91st FRA
6	Pre-Convention National Board of Directors
7	meeting be approved.
8	
9	Vote: Affirmative.
10	
11	NBR 2: That the National Executive Director's
12	salary \$110,313.00 be adapted and approved by FRA
13	
14	National Board of Directors.
15	Vote: Affirmative.
16	
17	NBR-3: That the LA FRA National President's
18	Project, The National Military Family Operation
19	Purple Camps and Healing Adventures be approved
20	by the FRA National Board of Directors.
21	
22	Vote: Affirmative.
23	
24	NBR 4-19: That the FRA Regional Vice Presidents
25	be allowed to sit in for the FRA Regional

1	Presidents when not available.
2	
3	Vote: Affirmative.
4	
5	NBR 5-19: That the National Board of Directors
6	ratify/approve the National Committee on Budget
7	and Finance, the National Committee on
8	Constitution, Bylaws and Resolutions, and the
9	National Committee on Future Planning Committee's
10	assignments for the Association year 2018-2019.
11	
12	Vote: Affirmative.
13	
14	NBR 6-19: That Article 7, Sections 702 and 702
15	"hotel", the C&BLs be amended.
16	
17	Vote: Affirmative.
18	
19	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Point of order
20	
21	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: (Unintelligible)
22	
23	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Branch 156. How can you
24	approve something when you have no idea what you
25	are approving?

1

- 2 NED: Shipmates, that statement is incorrect.
- That NBR -- is an answer to my request, as the
- 4 parliamentarian, to write a resolution to amend
- 5 that section, and you're not amending anything.
- 6 It's just that it was a resolution for me to
- write a resolution, and you'll see that later in
- 8 the NBR.

9

- 10 UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Okay. But it should be
- 11 -- Shipmate, that should be so stated.

12

- 13 UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: I agree, and I said that.
- 14 It was misstated
- UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Okay. Thank you

16

17 NED: Do we proceed on NBR 6-19?

18

19 UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: No

20

21 NED:

- NBR 7-19: The Akron/Canton branch 324, in
- 24 accordance with the provisions contained in
- 25 Section 1212, C&BL, FRA be merged with the

1 Clevland Branch 17. 2 Vote: Affirmative. 3 4 5 NBR 8: That the National Board of Directors 6 revoke the Charter of Long Island Branch 71, 7 Riverhead, New York. 8 9 Vote: Affirmative. 10 11 NBR 9-19: That the FRA National Board of 12 Directors approve the LAFRA proposed bylaws and 13 14 standing rules amendments from the 91st/86th 15 FRA/LAFRA convention. 16 17 Vote: Affirmative. 18 19 NBR 10-19: That the National Board of Directors 20 authorize expenditure of an additional \$2,000 for 21 the Welfare and Rehabilitation Reserve, for a 22 total grant of \$2500 to Shipmate Kevin Heine, as 23 contained in the provisions of Article 9, Section 24 909 "(d)elta", C&BL, FRA. 25

1 Vote: Affirmative. 2 3 NBR 11-19: That the National Board of Directors 4 approve the 2018 Post-Convention National Board 5 of Directors meeting minutes at the January 16, 6 19- -- 2019 National Board of Directors 7 teleconference call at FRA National Headquarters. 8 9 Vote: Affirmative. 10 11 NBR 12-19: That the National Board of Directors 12 authorize the expenditure of an additional \$2,000 13 from the Welfare and Rehabilitation Reserve, for 14 the total grant of \$2500 to Shipmate Thomas 15 Pease, as contained in the provisions of Article 16 9, Section 909 "(d)elta", C&BL, FRA. 17 18 Vote: Affirmative. 19 20 NBR 13-19: That the National Board of Directors 21 approve the voluntary surrender of Saint 22 Augustine Branch 25's charter. 23 24 Vote: Affirmative. 25

1 NBR 14-19: That the Paul Bunyan Branch 358, in 2 accordance with the provisions contained in 3 Section 1212, C&BL, FRA be merged with Wolverine 4 Branch 298. 5 6 Vote: Affirmative 7 8 NBR 15-19: That the following new section be 9 added to the C&BL: 10 11 Section 808 "(m)ike". That, "The NED shall 12 review all monthly bank, credit card statements 13 and contract agreements for the continuity. 14 there are any questions, he or she will bring it 15 to the attention of the Finance Officer, and if 16 needed, advise the National President for further 17 review, disposition and/or action." 18 19 Vote: Affirmative. 20 21 That "(a)lpha" conduct a forensic NBR 16-19: 22 audit on the credit card statements since the 23 last audit held in 2018, and "(b)ravo", the

card charges.

24

25

Finance Officer will be -- will repay all credit

```
1
    Vote: Affirmative.
2
3
    NBR 17-19:
                 That the request of J.J. Burke Branch
4
    215, Savannah, Georgia, be voluntary surrender
5
    their Branch Charter be approved.
6
7
    Vote: Affirmative.
8
9
    NBR 18-19: That the request of the Green Valley
10
    Branch 77, Green Valley, Arizona, be voluntary
11
    surrendered, their Branch Charter be approved.
12
13
    Vote: Affirmative.
14
    NBR 19-19: That the voluntary surrender of
    Mid-Hudson Branch 229, Newburgh, New York,
15
16
    Charter be approved.
17
18
    Vote: Affirmative.
19
20
    NBR 20-19: The Article 9, Section 914 "(d)elta"
21
    be interpreted to mean all payments -- quote,
22
    "all payments of life membership dues to
23
    affiliated branches will cease when the branch
24
    has received 50 percent of an individual's life
25
    membership dues", unquote.
```

1	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Shipmate National
2	President, to the Parliamentary, does this mean
3	that that's to be interpreted or is it written
4	that way?
5	
6	PNP HYLAND: It's written that a branch will
7	receive 50 percent of a member's membership dues,
8	but those there are branches that have
9	continued to receive payments, and in order to
10	make sure that that doesn't continue, we asked
11	
12	that the Board interpret that that says exactly
13	what it says there, that when you hit the 50
14	percent level, you're not going to get another
15	penny. That's for it's an interpretation.
16	
17	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: That's for regular
18	one-year dues
19	
20	PNP HYLAND: No. Life membership
21	
22	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: five-year dues? Bu
23	does it specifically say
24	
25	PNP HYLAND: Yes. it does

1	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: It does?
2	
3	PNP HYLAND: Yes
4	
5	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Okay.
6	
7	PNP HYLAND: If you read it, you can see it says
8	life membership on it.
9	
10	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: I know that one year, two
11	years, five years, that's 50 percent of what we
12	receive goes why don't you do it they just
13	send 50 percent of the life membership dues to
14	the branch when they receive it?
15	
16	PNP HYLAND: I agree with you, but that hasn't
17	happened. And that's what this is going to be
18	wiping that out.
19	
20	NED: Hey, Shipmates, next group were the NBRs
21	that were given and presented at yesterday's
22	pre-board, and I yes. I've just got them in
23	rough draft, but I will go as slow as I can.
24	Okay.
25	

```
1
    NBR 21-19:
                That the Blackstone Valley Branch 132
2
    in Pawtucket, Rhode Island request be voluntarily
3
    surrendered.
4
5
    Vote: Affirmative.
6
7
    NBR 22-19: Central New York Branch 285,
8
    Syracuse, New York, request to merge with Buffalo
9
    Branch 23.
10
11
    Vote: Affirmative.
12
                 Portsmouth, Virginia Branch 257 merge
    NBR 23-19:
13
    with Portsmouth Branch 37.
14
15
    Vote: Affirmative.
16
17
    NBR 24-19: Tri-state Mountaineers Branch 369 of
18
    Cumberland, Maryland be suspended.
19
20
    Vote: Affirmative.
21
22
    NBR 25-19:
                 Gasparilla Branch 188 be suspended
    from Tampa, Florida.
23
24
25
    Vote: Affirmative.
```

```
1
    NBR 26-19: Foothills Branch 234 of Anderson,
2
    South Carolina be voluntarily surrendered.
3
    Vote: Affirmative.
4
5
6
    NBR 27-19: The Branch 28 Cincinnati, Ohio
7
    request a surrender.
8
9
10
    Vote: Affirmative.
11
    DELEGATE BOLZ: Shipmate NED, did say 19?
12
13
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Come to the microphone,
14
    please. Who are you?
15
16
    DELEGATE BOLZ: Bolz, Delegate, 269. What NBR
17
    was that?
18
19
    NED: Which one?
20
21
    DELEGATE BOLZ: The last one you read.
22
23
          27-19. You mean the one from Branch 28,
    NED:
24
    Cincinnati, Ohio?
25
```

1	DELEGATE BOLZ: Okay. That's my mistake.
2	
3	NED: Understood
4	
5	Submit it at the mike
6	
7	DELEGATE KILGORE: Kilgore, Delegate, 22. What
8	number did you have for Gasparilla for a branch
9	
10	number?
11	NED: 25-19
12	
13	DELEGATE KILGORE: The branch number.
14	
15	NED: Oh, I'm sorry. 188.
16	
17	DELEGATE KILGORE: Thank you
18	
19	NED: I know those confuse you from yesterday's
20	Pre-Board, and we got it corrected. Thank you
21	very much, Mate or Past National President.
22	Any others? Submit at the mike. I'll proceed.
23	
24	Vote: Affirmative.
25	

```
1
             Orange County Branch 175. Orange County,
    28-19:
2
    California requests to merge with Carson Branch
3
    302 of Carson, California.
4
5
    Vote: Affirmative.
6
7
8
    NBR 29-19: The Miagao Branch 265 (sic) of the
9
10
    Philippines surrender.
11
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE:
                              64
12
13
    NED: 64.
14
15
    Vote: Affirmative.
16
17
          Shipmate National President, that concludes
    NED:
18
    the NBRs.
19
    PRESIDENT: Submit at mike.
20
21
22
    PNP COURNEYA:
                    Shipmate National President, I
23
    believe that should have said "revoke" for that
24
    branch in the Philippines, not surrender.
25
```

1	DELEGATE BLACKBURN: Shipmate National President.
2	
3	PRESIDENT: Shipmate at the mike.
4	
5	DELEGATE BLACKBURN: Blackburn, delegate, Branch
6	8 from Vallejo. Shipmate National President, are
7	we being recorded?
8	
9	
10	PRESIDENT: Yes, we are
11	DELEGATE BLACKBURN: Would you so indicate for
12	the record, and introduce our recorder.
13	
14	PRESIDENT: I did. You must have been in the
15	hallway. I did at the beginning.
16	
17	DELEGATE BLACKBURN: I stand corrected.
18	
19	NED: Excuse me, Shipmate, before I get to you.
20	Yes. During the Pre-Board on the last one,
21	29-19, on the branch in the Philippines, yes, I
22	have "revoked" in my notes, but then I crossed it
23	out, and I was told that they surrendered. If
24	it's anything else, please let me know. Thank
25	you.

1	PRESIDENT: Shipmate at the mike.
2	
3	DELEGATE RICHMOND: Richmond, Delegate, Branch
4	22, Regional President Southeast. Through the
5	chair for the NED, the two resolutions we had, we
6	put NBRs on them. Are they the two
7	resolutions that we had at the Board yesterday,
8	Southeast Regional Resolutions. There was 29 and
9	30, I believe they were.
10	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: 30 and 31.
11	
12	DELEGATE RICHMOND: 30 and 31, the bylaw changes.
13	
14	NED: Oh, on the bylaws?
15	
16	DELEGATE RICHMOND: Yeah. Did they go?
17	
18	NED: Yeah. They (unintelligible - not at the
19	mike).
20	
21	DELEGATE RICHMOND: But they don't have to be
22	right above these guys? We agreed to hear it
23	from what I understand.
24	
25	NED: You just need approval by the Board.

```
1
    DELEGATE RICHMOND: Oh, that's all we need?
2
    Okay. Thank you.
3
4
                 Shipmate Pete, you ready?
    PRESIDENT:
5
6
7
8
                                   I'm ready.
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI:
                           Yeah.
9
    PRESIDENT: We will have our Credentials Report.
10
11
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Hold on.
12
13
                 Shipmate at the mike.
    PRESIDENT:
14
15
                        Shipmate National President,
    DELEGATE JOHNSON:
16
    Johnson, Delegate, Branch 104. On that last
17
    resolution, did you say it's surrendered or
18
    revoked now?
19
20
    PRESIDENT: It's revoked.
21
22
    DELEGATE JOHNSON:
                        Thank you.
23
24
                 Come on up, Shipmate.
    PRESIDENT:
25
```

1	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Good afternoon, Shipmates.
2	This is the first Credentials Report for the 92nd
3	Fleet Reserve Association National Convention:
4	
5	Authorized voting strength: 1174.
6	
7	Number of branches represented by delegates:
8	50.
9	Number of votes represented by delegates:
10	538.
11	
12	Number of branches registered by proxy: 447.
13	
14	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: What?
15	
16	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Number of excuse me.
17	
18	Number of branches registered by proxy: 84
19	
20	Number of votes registered by proxy: 447
21	
22	Number of branches not registered: 28
23	
24	Pardon me. My computer is being kind of picky
25	today. All right.

1	Number of branches not registered: 28
2	
3	All right. The following branches oh. Excuse
4	me.
5	
6	
7	Number of delegates registered: 105
8	Registered voting strength: 985
9	
10	Number of votes not registered: 189
11	
12	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Slow down.
13	
14	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Pardon me.
15	
16	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Number of votes not
17	registered, please.
18	
19	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Number of votes not
20	registered: 189
21	
22	Two-thirds votes: 657
23	
24	Majority vote is 493
25	

```
1
    The following branches are not registered,
2
    starting at the top: 29 -- oh. It's in reverse.
3
    I'm sorry. That's what I get for sleeping last
4
5
    night. Sleep is for the weak, next week. All
6
7
    right. Starting in the reverse: 334.
8
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Where are you at?
9
10
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Page "x-ray", top of the
11
           The following branches are not registered:
    page.
12
    334, 328, 310, 309, 292, 291, 281. The last one
13
    read off is 281, 273, 263, 259, 250, 247, 244,
14
    217, which is on the next page. Repeating my
15
    last: 217, 184, 178.
16
17
    DELEGATE HANZEL: Shipmate Hanzel, Vice President
18
    West Coast Region. Branch 281 is registered.
19
    Branch 244 is registered with proxies.
20
21
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: (Unintelligible)
22
    DELEGATE HANZEL: Pardon?
23
24
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: (Unintelligible)
25
```

```
1
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: According to the book, the
2
    three that I have missing from West Coast is 281,
3
    244 and 178. If you have copies of those, please
4
    send them to me in the outside, and we will
5
    correct for the second report.
6
7
    DELEGATE HANZEL: Okay.
8
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Thank you, Shipmate.
9
10
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: (Unintelligible)
11
12
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: The last number I gave was
13
    184, 178, 171. Turn the page: 154, 141, 103,
14
         Next page: 73, 68, 63, 55, 53, 51, 29.
15
    Bingo. And of course, this should take Posekany
16
    with a bingo. All right. And that concludes my
17
    report. I ask that you receive it.
18
19
    PRESIDENT: All right. Can I get a motion?
20
21
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: (Unintelligible)
22
23
    PRESIDENT: Can we get a second, please.
24
25
    DELEGATE ZINO:
                    Zino, Delegate, Branch 23.
```

1 Seconds. 2 3 PRESIDENT: Okay. Motions have been made and 4 5 seconded that we receive the first Convention 6 7 Credential Report from Credential Chairman. 8 PRESIDENT: Shipmate at the mike. 9 10 DELEGATE ZINO: Shipmate, National President, 11 Zino, Delegate, Branch 23. I got a guestion on 12 Branch 285. They merged, so they wouldn't be 13 registered. Is that correct? 14 15 DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: 285 merged with 23. 16 17 PRESIDENT: Yes, that's correct. 18 19 DELEGATE ZINO: It's not counted. 20 21 DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: It's good to go. It merged 22 in, but it happened after the membership year, so 23 you won't see the numbers reflected until next 24 year's membership year. 25

1	DELEGATE ZINO: Okay. Thank you.
2	
3	PRESIDENT: Okay. Motion has been made and
4	seconded that we receive the First Credential
5	Report from the Credential Chairman. Any
6	
7	discussion?
8	PRESIDENT: Shipmate at the mike.
9	
10	DELEGATE RICHMOND: Richmond, Delegate, Branch
11	22. 188, we the National Board recommendation
12	that we suspend their charter
13	
14	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: That is correct
15	
16	DELEGATE RICHMOND: That's approved. So did
17	their or nothing should count, right?
18	
19	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Shipmates, as a reminder,
20	if a branch was listed off in the NBRs by
21	Shipmate Snee, if it was revoked, suspended or
22	surrendered, those votes go away, and are not
23	reflected in the numbers that I have given today.
24	Does that answer your question?
25	

1	DELEGATE RICHMOND: Well, yeah. We just didn't
2	have it lined out as one of the ones.
3	
4	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: All right. I will actually
5	receive this, and I will list all the branches
6	that are NBR'd for you to go back and vote, Mug
7	Shipmate Kilgore.
8	PRESIDENT: Okay. Motion has been made and
9	seconded. Any discussion?
10	
11	(No verbal response)
12	
13	PRESIDENT: There being no discussion, all in
14	favor of this, signify by saying "Aye".
15	
16	(Delegates vote, "Aye".)
17	
18	PRESIDENT: Opposed?
19	
20	(No verbal response)
21	
22	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: All right. Relisting the
23	NBRs in the reverse order again, starting on Page
24	"(x)ray". Charters suspended: NBR 2419. 365
25	merged with Branch 105 NBR. And we're going to

```
1
    go to 358 merged with Branch 298 per NBR 14-19.
2
    315 --
3
4
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: We got zero.
5
6
7
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Right.
8
                             How about 324?
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE:
9
10
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: 324 merged with Branch 17
11
    per NBR 7-19.
12
13
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE:
                             Zero
14
15
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: So zero votes. Branch 17
16
    merged -- oh, no. 324 merged with Branch 17.
17
    315, charter is zero votes; charter surrendered
18
    per NBR 29-18. 299, charter surrendered per NBR
19
            285 merged with Branch 23 per NBR 22-19.
20
    280 merged with Branch 268. Is that in there?
21
    280?
22
23
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Zero
24
25
    DELEGATE LAZZARETTI:
                           Merged with Branch 268 per
```

- 1 NBR 27-18. 278 merged with Branch 112 per NBR 2 257 merged with Branch 37 per NBR 23-19. 3 234, charter surrendered per NBR 28-19. 4 charter surrendered per NBR 19-19. 215, charter 5 surrendered per NBR 17-19. 204 merged with 6 7 Branch 301 per NBR 24-18. 188, charter suspended 8 per NBR 25-19. 179 -- no -- shouldn't be on 9 there. 175. 175 merged with Branch 302 per NBR 10 28-19. 132. 11 12 UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Hold on. Wait.
- 14 DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: 132, charter surrendered 15 per NBR 21-19. 120 surrendered charter per NBR 16 77, charter surrendered per NBR 18-19. 21-18. 17 071, charter revoked per NBR 8-19. Branch 64, 18 charter revoked per NBR 29-19. 28, charter 19 surrendered per NBR 27-19. Branch 25, charter 20 surrendered per NBR 13-19. And that should be 21 everything. And that, Shipmates, is all of the 22 NBRs that are currently affecting the branch 23 count. Shipmate National President, the mike is 24 yours.

1	PRESIDENT: Thank you. Before you go, you need
2	to receive your handwritten report.
3	
4	DELEGATE LAZZARETTI: Public Relations National
5	Report, as at the time, I did not submit my
6	report because I was planning on presenting it
7	here at the convention. I ask that my nonreport
8	be received.
9	
10	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Moved.
11	
12	PRESIDENT: Thank you. Shipmates, it is moved
13	and seconded that the action taken by the
14	National Board of Directors since the 91st FRA
15	National Convention be ratified.
16	
17	DELEGATE COURNEYA: Shipmate National President,
18	Courneya, Southwest Region President. Can you
19	clarify what you're asking us to do?
20	
21	PRESIDENT: The NBR is read. Rolls.
22	
23	DELEGATE COURNEYA: We're just approving all of
24	the even though it wasn't on a proceed basis,
25	I still want to make it official that we approved

```
1
    the ratification.
2
3
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: The NBRs?
4
                                     So you just need a
5
    DELEGATE COURNEYA: The NBRs.
6
7
    second?
8
    UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: So moved.
9
10
    DELEGATE COURNEYA: Courneya, Southwest Region
11
    President.
                 Second.
12
13
    PRESIDENT:
                 Okay. We have moved and seconded
14
    that the action taken by the National Board of
15
    Directors be ratified. Any discussion?
16
17
                   (No verbal response)
18
19
    PRESIDENT:
                 There being none, those in favor,
20
    signify by saying "Aye".
21
22
                 (Delegates vote, "Aye".)
23
24
                 Opposed?
    PRESIDENT:
25
```

1	(No verbal response)
2	
3	DELEGATE BLACKBURN: Shipmate National President.
4	
5	PRESIDENT: Shipmate at the mike.
6	
7	DELEGATE BLACKBURN: Blackburn, Delegate Branch
8	8, Vallejo. Let me do this again. Shipmate, did
9	we vote to receive the Credentials Report
10	
11	PRESIDENT: Yes, we did
12	
13	DELEGATE BLACKBURN: Did I miss a vote?
14	
15	UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: Yes.
16	
17	PRESIDENT: Shipmate National Convention
18	Chairman, PNP Larry Beaudreaux, do you have any
19	announcements?
20	
21	PNP BEAUDREAUX: What do you want to know?
22	
23	PRESIDENT: Do you have anything to announce at
24	our convention?
25	

```
1
                      Do I have anything to put out?
    PNP BEAUDREAUX:
2
    We need a break. How about a potty 15-minute
3
    break.
4
5
                National Chaplain, will you please
    PRESIDENT:
6
7
    close the Bible.
8
    CHAPLAIN:
                Shipmate National President, the Bible
9
    is closed.
                 Thank you
10
11
    PRESIDENT: We will recess and return at 2:20
12
13
                 (Whereupon, there was a brief break.
14
    Then the Convention continued as follows:)
15
16
                 Shipmate Chaplain, will you please
    PRESIDENT:
17
    open up the Bible. (Taps the gavel three times
18
    for assembly to come to order.)
19
20
               Shipmate National President, the Bible
    CHAPLAIN:
21
    is open.
22
23
                 Okay. Convention committees are to
    PRESIDENT:
24
    commence the meeting at 0900 tomorrow morning.
25
    You are instructed to conducted your
```

1 deliberations in a prompt and effective manner, 2 complete your committee business, and complete 3 the preparation of your convention committee 4 Shipmate Past Regional President East Coast Chris Slawinski, Branch 181, is the 5 6 Steering Committee Chair, and he is assisted by Shipmate John R. Davis, Branch 181. Meeting 7 8 rooms are listed in the convention program. 9 Convention committee chairmen are to pick up 10 their committee forms and rosters from the 11 chairman of the Steering Committee at this time. 12 I think these have already been distributed. 13 When convention committee reports are ready to be 14 delivered to the delegates, the chairman will 15 report to the Steering Committee Chairman, who 16 will coordinate and schedule the presentation of 17 the reports with the National President. In this 18 manner, an orderly flow of convention business 19 will be scheduled. Convention committee reports 20 will be called commencing with the second 21 business session tomorrow afternoon at 1300. 22 23 Resolutions that have been referred PRESIDENT: 24 to national convention committees are noted on 25 the Steering Committee forms being provided to

1 the convention committee chairman. And the list 2 is in your delegate kit, and will be submitted 3 for the record. 4 5 DELEGATE SLAWINSKI: Shipmate National President. 6 7 Shipmate at the mike. PRESIDENT: 8 DELEGATE SLAWINSKI: Slawinski, Steer Committee 9 Chairman. We have -- you have appointed Shipmate 10 Past Regional President South Central, Don 11 Gibson, has the Time and Place Committee 12 13 PRESIDENT: Southeast. 14 15 DELEGATE SLAWINSKI: Southeast. Well, he was 16 South Central. He was recast. He's living in 17 the southeast. We all know that. There is a 18 need for some shipmates to step up be on the Time 19 and Place Committee. Please see either myself or 20 Shipmate Gibson so that we can have the Time and 21 Place Committee have a deliberation. 22 23 PRESIDENT: I have asked Claudio (unintelligible 24 last name) from Branch 4 to be on the committee.

25

1	PRESIDENT: Shipmate at mike.
2	
3	DELEGATE RICHMOND: Shipmate Richmond, Delegate,
4	Branch 22. Would Shipmate Paul Phelps,
5	Americanism/Patriotism and Shipmate Pete
6	
7	Lazzaretti, I have the southeast region First
8	Place reports in my possession. If you get with
9	me afterwards, we can go up to my room; I can get
10	them for you or I'll meet you somewhere, but I
11	just want you to know I have them here.
12	
13	PRESIDENT: Do we have any other volunteers for
14	the committee?
15	
16	(Unintelligible conversations)
17	
18	PRESIDENT: Okay. Shipmate Snee, do you want to
19	talk about the veterans?
20	
21	DELEGATE SLAWINSKI: Shipmate National President.
22	
23	PRESIDENT: Shipmate at mike.
24	
25	DELEGATE SLAWINSKI: Slawinski, National Service

1	Director, headquarters. Shipmates, we've had
2	some individuals that are here from the
3	Department of Veterans Affairs. One is from the
4	Vet Center that's here locally in Memphis.
5	Tomorrow, starting at 8:30, 9 o'clock, they will
6	have their mobile Vet Center here. It will be
7	located on the back entrance. For those who have
8	gone out towards the section of buses where the
9	buses come in and out, where you go and catch the
10	buses, it'll be in that parking lot, and it's
11	going to be there all day. So if you don't have
12	a committee meeting or if you'd like to go take a
13	look at it, they're more than happy to give you a
14	brief tour and show you everything. And also,
15	for those shipmates that served during the
16	Vietnam War era, they will present you with a pin
17	if you did not receive it previously. Thank you.
18	
19	PRESIDENT: Thank you. Our Legislative Committee
20	is going to give a report, so I'm just waiting on
21	them to get their ducks in a row.
22	
23	NED: Shipmates, I don't think I have to, you
24	know, instruct you about what's going on
25	legislatively or the lack of that's going on in

Washington; however, we'll do the best that we've got for what we've got that's been passed. And so between Shipmate Davis and myself, we will run through it in our presentation that we have. If you have any other additional information, keep in mind that the Legislative Committee will be meeting, also. That's in your programs. And then we can -- anything that's going to be further discussed.

So we're just going to, shall we say, just run through it and give you what we've got so far. This has been a very trying year for us only because of what we can do up on Capitol Hill or the lack of. How many have subscribed or looked at online the Bill tracker? A little one-on-one on legislation. If a Bill ends 31 December, everything is turned over into a whole new legislative package from the standpoint of new numbers -- okay -- just so you know.

NED: Yes, Shipmate Ruse?

PRESIDENT: Shipmate Rivera to receive the

Ladies.

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    DELEGATE RIVERA: Shipmate National President,
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    ladies are present (unintelligible - not at the
3
    mike) our past national president.
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    PRESIDENT: (Taps the gavel three times for the
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7
    assembly to stand and receive the Ladies.)
8
    UNIDENTIFIED SHIPMATE: Among the Junior Past
9
    National President. That's my husband over there
10
    acting crazy. Anyway, my running mate -- I was
11
    National President '17 to '18. My running mate
12
    was Bill Starkey, and after the joke I told at
13
    regional I'm not allowed to tell anymore. So I
14
    hope you have a great convention. Our next in
15
    line is -- what's your name? -- Helen Courneya,
    and she was a good person to Bob.
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    LA PNP COURNEYA: Everyone seems to be picking on
19
    short people at his convention.
                                      That's not nice.
    You know? But anyway, I'm Helen Courneya. If
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21
    you don't know by now, I was Past National
22
    President three times over. My first running
23
    mate was Jim Scarbrough. God bless him.
24
    gone to Supreme Commander. Was 2010, 2011.
25
    2015, 2016 I served with Virgil Courneya.
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1 UNIDENTIFED DELEGATES: Who?

LA PNP COURNEYA: Virgil Courneya, Past National President. And then, my third term, I was with Don Larsen, and we looked like Mutt and Jeff so I don't want to hear nothing about it. Okay? He's just a little taller than me. But anyway, I hope you all are having a great convention. Thank you.

LA PNP RODHAM-TUCK: In case you want to know who I am, I am Cindy Rodham-Tuck, National President 2009/'10 with Gary Blackburn. And I have a lot of problems with people who are always picking about me about my accent. So I have a very quick story to tell you. I used to work at the registry in motor vehicles in Rhode Island, and I had a phone call one day from a woman, and I was really -- it was the end of the day. It was Friday. It was a holiday weekend, and we wanted to get out of there. I needed to call the main office to ask a question, and they all turn the phones off at 3:30, and we had the same phone number as everybody else.

Anyway, the woman called. She wanted to

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know how to get a Rhode Island driver's license, how to get -- register her car, how to register their boat, et cetera, et cetera. So my way of answering questions is I ask you questions. said, what year is your car? Who owns it? Is it leased? Da, da, da, da, da. And then I said, okay, you do this, this, and this, and this. You come into the registry of motor vehicles. In the back of the office, there's a long blue and white form. You fill it out, Part A, Part B, Part C, Part D, Part F, and then you wait in line. So I said, did you get all that? And she said, I don't think so. And I said, well, what part didn't you get? And she said, well, that's it; what's a part? Thank you. And I hope you all have a great convention.

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LA PNP MARTIN: Linda Martin, Past National President, 2002/2003. My running mate was Ralph Schmidt, also known as Walking Eagle. I want to thank you -- take this time to thank you for all your cards, letters, concerns when my husband, my hero, Past Regional President, Terry Martin, died in May. It meant a lot to me and our family. I'm wishing you a productive convention.

1 Thank you. 2 3 LA PNP BOUDREAUX: Hello. I'm Pat Boudreaux. Ι 4 was -- no it's not Patricia. It's never been 5 Patricia. We don't answer to Patricia. Patricia 6 is out of the room. Anyway back to -- I was 7 National President in 2005 through 2006, of 8 course, and my running mate was Big Ed's Deer. 9 You can't get any bigger than that. And 10 regional, I was 1996, '97, and Larry was my 11 running mate. I wish y'all the very best on your 12 convention. Thank you. 13 14 LA PNP ROBBINS: Good afternoon, Shipmates. I'm 15 Sandra Robbins. I was National President 2006, 16 2007, following her, and we had a great time. 17 running mate was Jerry Sweeney, and I just 18 visited him prior to him moving into his new 19 place, him and Sandy, and they are doing well. 20 I'm sure they would appreciate some cards and 21 stuff from y'all. They do miss coming to 22 conventions and everything. 23 I have a little funny, and it's called 24 the Navy Chaplain versus the Pilot. A Navy 25 Chaplain dies and is waiting in line at the

Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a guy who is dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket and jeans. Saint Peter addresses this cool guy: Who are you and so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven? The guy replies: I'm Jack. I'm a retired Navy pilot and Southwest Airline pilot from Jacksonville, Florida. Saint Peter consults his list. He smiles and says to take pilot: Take this silken robe and golden staff, and enter in the kingdom. The pilot goes into heaven with his robe and staff.

Next is the Navy Chaplain's turn. He stands erect and booms out: I'm Chaplain Bob, chaplain with the Navy for the last 30 years.

Saint Peter consults his list. He says to the Navy Chaplain: Take this cotton robe and wooden staff, and enter into the kingdom. Just a minute, says the Navy Chaplain. That man was a pilot and he's gets a silken and golden staff, and I only get a cotton and wood. How can this be? Up there we go by results -- up here we go by results, says Saint Peter. When you preached, people slept. When he flew, people prayed. Have a great day.

LA PNP BALDWIN: Good afternoon my name is

Jennifer Gail Baldwin. But I feel exactly like

Pat does. Jennifer is out of the room. I have a

really funny, and related to my name. I've been

seeing the same doctor for the last 20 years. My

official records say "Jennifer". She calls me

"Jen". I've never corrected her. I was giving

her a note to call Express Scripts, and I just

wrote on the top so she would remember, and I

just commonly said, "Gail". So she looks at the

note and she says, who's Gail? And I said,

that's me. And she said, you have allowed me to

call you Jen for 20 years. She's a great doctor.

At any rate, I was National President 2007, 2008. My running mate was Mr. Larry Boudreaux. I wish you all a very successful convention. And come to the southwest next year in August because I'm going to promote -- we're doing the southwest regional convention in fabulous Las Vegas next August.

LA PNP LARSON: Howdy, y'all. I'm Gini Larson.

I was National President 2011, 2012 with Driscoll

1	Martin. I was Regional President of the South
2	Central 2008, 2009, and my running mate was
3	Donald. I am the current Regional President of
4	the South Central this year and the Regional
5	President Elect, and my partner was Emmett Smith.
6	Have a great convention.
7	LA PNP KRUGER: Howdy, y'all. I'm Diane Kruger,
8	Past National President. Served 2012, 2013 with
9	Mark Kilgore, the fabulous Mark that knows
10	everybody. I'll do a little bragging. Donald
11	and I just became great grandparents to a little
12	granddaughter Monday morning, 8 pounds, Olivia.
13	Okay. Here's a little joke. This guy
14	calls and says: Hello. This is the Sheriff's
15	office. Yes. What can I do for you? I'm
16	calling to report about my neighbor, Virgil
17	Smith. He's hiding marijuana inside his wood
18	firewood. Don't quite know how to get you inside
19	those logs, but he's hidden it there. Thank you
20	very much for your call, sir. Next day the
21	sheriff's deputies descend on Virgil's house.
22	They search the shed where the firewood is kept
23	using axes. They busted open every piece of
24	wood. They found no marijuana. They sneered at
25	Virgil and left. Shortly after they left, the

1 phone rings at Virgil's house. Hey, Virgil, this 2 is Floyd. Did those sheriffs come by? Yeah. 3 4 Did they chop your firewood? Yeah. Happy 5 6 Birthday, Bud. 7 LA PNP WHITAKER: My name is Carolyn Whitaker. Ι 8 was National President 2013, 2014. My running 9 partner was Virgil Courneya, my Nevada husband. 10 Y'all will have to hear that story some time. 11 I'm not going to tell a joke because I always 12 forget the punch line, but you all have a great 13 convention. 14 LA PNP FRI: Good afternoon. Shipmates, I'm 15 16 Doris Fri, National President 2014, 2015. I 17 served with that crazy guy that lives in Hawaii, 18 John Eipert, who tells one more joke on me, I'm 19 going to kick him. In case nobody noticed my 20 shirt, I bought that just for John. It said, I 21 may live in Kansas but my story started in 22 Kentucky. I am not from Kansas. I live in 23 Kansas. Have a productive and harmonious 24 convention, and we'll see you tonight at the 25 Welcome Board.

1	LA PNP ADELINE: I'm Ruth Adeline. I was
2	National President '94, '95. My running mate was
3	George Hyland. We got along really well because
4	we both spoke the same English. And, Cindy, I
5	can understand with Pat they didn't understand.
6	LA PNP HOLLYBROOK: Hello, Shipmates. My name is
7	Doreen Hollybrook, and I served 1990, '91 with
8	Shipmate Dale Combs. We had a great year, and he
9	really misses being here with you, but you
10	probably don't miss him so much, but that's okay.
11	Okay. Instead of a joke, I do have a
12	little story to tell you. On December 7th, 1941,
13	29-year-old machinist Mate, First Class Eugene
14	Everhart, from Newark, New Jersey, who was
15	assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which
16	was stationed at Pearl Harbor when the ship was
17	attacked by Japanese aircraft, the USS Oklahoma
18	sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it
19	to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship
20	resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including
21	Everhart. These that could not be identified
22	were buried in two cemeteries until 1947 when
23	they were exhumed oh, I hate that word
24	disinterred and sent to labs to be identified.
25	They only 35 could be identified.

1 And then in 1949, they were instructed to 2 be reburied, and -- in 46 grave sites. But then 3 in 2015, they were ordered to disinter them 4 5 again, and tried to identify them. Shipmate 6 Everhart was identified on July 3rd, 2018, and 7 I'm proud to say I represented the new CNO, 8 Admiral Gilday, and served as the Navy Arlington 9 lady last Tuesday when he was buried with full 10 military honors, and he had over 30 friends and 11 family attend. 12 I also want to thank the people that have 13 called me and I've been able to serve as the Navy 14 Arlington lady for them. 15 Shipmate Everhart would have been 107 16 years old at this time. Thank you. Shipmates, 17 have a great convention. 18 19 UNIDENTIFIED LA PNP: Good afternoon. I feel 20 like I'm a piece of history. I was National 21 President in 1983, '84, and my hat all but fell 22 off. But I served with Dan Spalding and I served with Chuck McIntyre, and I wish you guys a 23

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wonderful convention. God Bless America.

1 (Assembly claps as Auxiliary Ladies 2 exit the conference room.) 3 4 PRESIDENT: We will continue with the Legislative 5 brief. 6 Anyway, Shipmates, what I want to do is 7 just do a quick review. I will say this: One of 8 our highlights of this year, among many Bills 9 that we've gotten through, was HR 299. That was 10 the Blue Order Agent Orange. We got that 11 through. And so I just want to say that is the 12 one thing that we got. We got a lot of kickback 13 on it because we'd been going with the Senate 14 version. We went with the House version. But, 15 you know, as I've always said, if you don't get 16 your foot in the door, you'll never do it. So we 17 are still pushing for it, and it all had to do 18 with the definitions of territorial waters, 19 adverses, et cetera, et cetera. And if you want 20 to either talk to myself or John Davis or Chris 21 Slawinski, we can give you a little bit more 22 information on those definitions. We did get it 23 through. 24 A little update on 299. Shortly after it 25 was passed, the Secretary of VA put a stay on

it -- in other words, he put a hold on it -- for applications. Last week I signed a letter off, and joined with other VSOs, not only to the key

members of Congress, but a letter directly to the White House, saying the stay has got to stop. If you deal with what's going on with the world about suicides, you'll understand why. The majority of the suicides are coming from the individuals that had a lot of the VA -- different situations with Vietnam. So it's not an ending. We're still fighting to make sure everyone gets involved.

As for the active duty issues, I'm going to give you a rundown of what we're fighting for. And I will say this, I am the co-chairman of the CLC -- excuse me; not CLC; that was many years ago -- the Military Coalition.

And despite what you may think about the Military Coalition, we have -- correct me if I'm wrong, Jonathan -- 33 members of that coalition, other veterans groups, and a representation of over 5.5 million. So there is some representation that's going on through all the organizations that we're doing.

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Coalition is we sent over what we call a shopping list, and that shopping list is whatever the House gives, what the Senate gives, and then what the Military Coalition goes (sic), and it doesn't go lightly because the chairs -- as most of us saw, I'm on the Personnel Subcommittee, and the rest of the leg team is on -- dispersed to the other committees themselves.

One of the things about the Military

Tuition assistance for members of the Armed Forces. You've heard Shipmate Joe talk a little bit about the price of education. You take wherever you are in your geographic areas, you're hearing a lot of things about free education, free college, and everything else, it still comes down to, as I've addressed with the Senior Enlisted Academy and other folks, it costs money. That's why we need to keep -- continue to push on.

Information regarding claims on the TAP program: Notice of separating a service or rights under the Servicemen's Civil Relief Act. Active duty people have to be given a out brief, if you will, when they leave active duty, and it's something that we're trying -- we are

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finding out that maybe they're not getting that extra check. We're not criticizing the active duty side, but we want to get the sign-in Board to say: This is what we're hearing.

Continued assistance to schools with significant numbers of military dependent students. A lot of you probably have had your own children go to schools, and those issues are very key from the standpoint of not only classroom sizes, but also the benefits and things they get from their respective education systems. That's very key. And one of the things is they have those things called the different things that -- the free lunch card, and those type of things, and they can ask you to check off if you're a military dependent, if you will, or belong to a military family. We don't recall is "eyes to guys, to the gals" who are dependents. Remember now, we have females in the military, from the standpoint they also have spouses. Okay.

Now, going along with the absences of schools with military dependents. We're also dealing with temporary increases or rates of basic allowances for housing. Let me talk a

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little bit about the housing issue. About a month ago, I sat down with DOD's house- -housing people, and one of the things that's going on right now is that the privatization of base housing. We can say what we want about different things like that, and if we don't get in there -- and DOD is asking that we get our folks on those advisory panels within the bases. Shipmates, get on those advisory councils. Thev want to hear from us. Yes, in some of the large complexes -- I know they have this in Hawaii. I know they have this in Norfolk. It may be through other bases where they're having retirees go in and they're occupying government housing as well.

Another big thing is the modification to authority to reimburse state licensures and certification costs of a spouse member arising from relocation, and we're talking a credit of between \$500 to \$1,000. When you talk about certification, you're talking a number of different things. It could be hairdresser. It could be a teacher. It could be whatever requirement of that respective state or Commonwealth that they want to put on there.

What we're trying to say is: Give them the break because of the fact that they're the cause of being shipped there, if you will, or being transferred there within their own geographic location. Those states, we have pushed for the Senate to reach out and do.

So we want reimbursement from \$500 to up to \$1,000, and all they have to do is just submit it. In some cases, some States are saying: Just make sure that's on your tax forms, and you'll be given the tax credit, as it should be. A hairdresser -- and I can state from my daughter's situation, who lives in Goose Creek -- her transferring from the Commonwealth of Virginia to South Carolina was over \$575. And I don't know about you, but that's a lot of money, and she could be given a credit for that because that in -- her husband is stationed there. He retired and he lives there, but at the same time, a little reimbursement is always appreciated.

Business cases analysis performed as part of the defense resale system. Right now, since we've convened here at this convention, veterans are now going to be allowed to be shopping at our Exchanges and our Commissaries. Guess what they

found out? You can have an ID card. But what about those folks that do not have an ID card?

Now, just a show of hands, those who have majorly concentrated areas, how many of your Commissaries and Exchanges are still located on bases? Now, how are they supposed to get on the base? And for whatever reason, that was never considered. So now, they're looking at using the VA card, which is going to add more responsibility and securities for our base commanders. I will tell you this: I did not bother Captain Ross this morning on that because that's another issue that those type of commanders have to deal with, and the securities of those folks that are getting on bases.

The larger ones that I know of, Hawaii and Norfolk, and some of the others, including, Charleston, I believe, have Commissaries and Exchanges outside the bases. There was a thing about foot traffic that goes into these bases from the Exchange and also the Commissaries.

Once again, get on the advisory boards. DOD has encouraged that. Foot traffic that goes in our Commissaries now ranges in the pay grades of E5 and E6s, and retirees. That's where most of it

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is. If they don't hear from you on these advisory councils, which again, it gets you into the base advisory councils, which DOD is pushing. Please, get on there.

Protection for members in the Armed Forces and their dependents residing in privatized military housing. We're talking about tenants rights. What are the rights when they live in government housing? Some of us that we lived in government housing, you know, we can say we had none. Where are those -- but since it's been privatized, quess what? There's issues of having tenants rights. Some of you flew here. You know, what are your rights when you flew here? Same thing is happening. We're talking about protection against retaliation, if you have a complaint about the housing management. Ability to withhold rent establishes a dispute and resolution processes.

I'm not going to mention where I found one housing that my daughter lived in, but it was brand new housing, and I walked outside one night with my grandkids, and I walked back in. I said, why is the sprinkler watering your house? She said, dad, don't push it. I know where you work.

1 You got a big mouth in Washington. Good. So why 2 are we watering the house? And if you get all 3 this water on the house, it kind of does things 4 to the soil, and then it gets into the concrete. 5 And guess what it does? And I don't have to go 6 any further. She goes, I called housing and I 7 was given a six-month wait to get this little 8 sprinkler thing. I said, your husband is a 9 nuclear submarine -- I got nothing against those; 10 trust me; my son-in-law -- nuclear submarine 11 electrician. And I said, why doesn't he just go 12 out there at midnight and turn the little spigot 13 thing to get the grass a little bit greener, 14 other than the mold that's greener than his grass 15 on his house. Guess what he did? Got up that 16 morning, went out and changed it. Bingo. 17 Problem was solved. Those are some of the issues 18 that we have with housing. 19 Disclose of the home history of hazards.

Disclose of the home history of hazards. Some of the things you've been hearing about is the mold. It's a very big issue right now. They're looking at trying to take care of it with privatized housing. Radon, they're trying to ensure that those type of coverage in housing is covered. A lot of the dependent children that

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are living in housing are coming up with respiratory issues. Part of that respiratory issue leads to pneumonia. And if you have mold, you have imbalanced air quality, and that's a big issue, and so they're trying to tie that in with the medical issues of going into and dealing with the housing issues. So radon testing for privatized military housing is going to be pushed.

Requirements for certain prescription drug labels. That's a big thing right now because of the opoid situation. And unless you really don't have an understanding about those things, that's very dangerous. And I'm not taking anything down from the medical folks that are here, whether they've got nursing experiences or even a hospital foreman. That is a big issue with the prescription drugs that we have and the amount of the MGs -- the total grams that they're getting in those medicines. It's got to be under control, and we're trying to make sure that happens. The Defense Health Agency has recognized that on the total spectrum of all medical facilities, which are now under DHA. Emma Lona just left. She was our greatest Okav.

ally. She was on a couple covers of our FRA

Today. She just retired. She's a physician.

She understands the opoid. If you can get
involved with that, please get involved. And
it's not just going to the clinics. It's dealing
with the situation that's in school that affects
their mental capacity to learn.

Leadership at inter-programs at

Department of Defense of Veteran Affairs. The VA

still has their issues, and I don't think I have

to go any further than that. We've been pushing.

Trust me. We are on their committees, with the

VA. We are also very much involved with the

executive sessions that we have with the

Secretary of VA. They have issues, as always.

And we're trying to take that as -- okay? -
let's work on that a little bit better.

Suicides among active duty. That's high. It's very high because of the fact that we know who's taking care of it. I don't want another pie graph. I don't want more of the little bar graphs. Sit down and talk to them. What is being done, not only from the VA side? And you saw about the getting the card. We've got a Shipmate that called me one night at home and

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said, Tom, I'll see you in the next world. What do you mean you're going to see me in the next world? He goes, I've had it because of trying to get re-employed and everything else through OPM, and I'm not going to get into their ways of doing things. He hung up with me, and he says, next time you hear from me, it'll be at a funeral. I immediately called the VA people on that card.

The VA 1-800 number works. After I called the VA, press 1, they were in contact with the police department in Philadelphia. They went to this Shipmate's house. He called me three hours later. He goes, why did you do that? He says, I told you I didn't want to talk to you again because of this. I said, this is no joke, Some people -- we've got to care about these shipmates if we're going through these things, not only because, again, find somebody to listen, but they do have issues that they have to deal with. So check in wherever you can with a Veteran. You know, I'm not saying you got to get on their Christmas card list or anything like that, but you know, all it takes is, "what's up?", and go from there.

Reports of suicide among members of the

1 Armed Forces. That's a big issue. Saturday, if 2 you're here for the banquet, my sons came also to 3 That's probably one of his biggest issues 4 of getting a phone call in the middle of the night from his Command Master Chief that someone 5 6 tried to commit suicide or spousal abuse. That's 7 worse than probably anything else that you find in the UCMJ, and you can't do that with the UCMJ. 8 9 But what do you do about a situation from an 10 individual who has? If you haven't been aboard a 11 Navy ship lately, let me tell you, it's not a lot 12 of "Dear John" letters. It's all about what 13 these individuals can get on these ships from 14 emails, and emails are received on these ships, 15 which has an effect. And also, not only does it 16 have an affect on readiness, personnel readiness, 17 but it has to do with their situation of 18 operational readiness. 19 Different things of burn pits. That's a 20 big thing because of the current wars that we're 21 having over there. That is the number --

big thing because of the current wars that we're having over there. That is the number -- respiratory issue that we're dealing with.

That's over there and what we have over in the Middle East. That is a big thing. It still has to be evaluated, not only evaluated, but what is

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the cause and effect that it's having on, again, the breathing issues of respiratory.

It's not like those individuals that you're hearing on the news. A good friend of mine, his son, 18 years old, who was just on national TV because he was smoking the viper (sic) -- or the vapor thing on JUUL, J-U-U-L. Eighteen years old. He's around up there in the Great Lakes. He's got the lungs of a 75-year-old man. That's real. But the whole thing is: How is that getting out into our schools? And how is that being accepted? Fortunately, some people are finally saying enough is enough on those type of things. So we have ideas.

Improvements in child care. Not only the fact that we're having situations with people getting into child care, we still have parents out there that don't believe in vaccinations or inoculations. And in some school systems, they say, well, that's my right. That may be your right, but if you get somebody that is right along side of you and comes down with the measles, what else are they going to get? So it does have a situation against the individuals that are in the schools. It's a very tough draw

for school systems to say: Unless you get the required shots, you can't come to school. Well, guess what they do? They run off to their Congressional people. Now, we have one Shipmate that we're looking at right now. He understands the legislative process situation is. That's not the Constitution. If you're going to be infected, why should you infect other people? That's not a part of the Constitution.

Child care issues are very big, and they might have situations with abuse. So it's a total family involvement that we're talking about with these issues.

Shipmates, letters have been sent. When we get back, we're also going to be dealing with going up on the Hill again to try to listen.

It's difficult when you're only dealing with staffers when the Congressional leadership is only dealing with one fire, and I think you know what I'm talking about. I don't care what side of the island you're on, and that's the issue right now. Sixty-three items we have on our Bill tracker, and I think -- correct me, John, if I'm wrong -- but only three or four have been passed, and the big one, of course, is the Agent Orange.

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The same Bills that were on there last year.

Folks, when we send out the "Making Waves", jump on that. Get into the email and get your Shipmates in your branches to say: Click it now, man, and get your voice heard. It's okay to talk to your Congressional leadership. the things that I find out from talking to active duty folks is they're afraid of one group of I got nothing against them. They're part of the Navy, and it's called the JAG Corps. One of the situations is they don't want them talking to their Congressional leadership. Ιf you don't talk to Congressional leaderships about the causes and effects that some of these Bills are having, quess what? The Bills won't get passed.

So the more that you can push on your own delegations, your individuals that are representing you, regardless where you live, from Maine all the way down to San Diego -- I don't care -- talk to them. Tell them. What are you doing about this? The Bill Tracker was assigned for one thing. You can click on it. You click on the Bill, and it gives you the entire thing under congress.gov. And it will tell you who has

voted and who has not on these issues. To me -and I come up with this thing called the soft
Bills and the hard Bills. The soft Bills are
Navy changes or let's make a point out of
somebody. Now, the hard Bills are the ones that
are going to cost money and deal with immediate
action to take care of things, aside from
different committees.

Commissary benefits. Folks, you got to get in there and push it. If there's things that are not on the shelves that you want to do, go, get on those advisory councils. They were crying for that representation from the retired community as well, as to what went on. I'm not saying you got to go in there. This is not about selling an application. This is about involvement, especially with Commissaries and Exchanges. They want to hear about it. Please get on there. Also get on your health benefits. And if you can, you can do it on your bases dealing with the housing issues as well.

And at this time, I'll turn it over to Shipmate John Davis to continue on. Thank you.

SHIPMATE DAVIS: Good afternoon, Shipmates.

(Assembly: Good afternoon)

DLP DAVIS: I'm John Davis, Director of
Legislative Programs, and I am the co-chair of
the Military Coalition Retiree Policy Committee.
So I work on a lot of the retiree issues as part
of the coalition. I've been on -- I've been
co-chairman of that committee since -- well,
about 12 years now.

about, you know, spending Bills. The House cast a lot of their Bills early on. They went over to the Senate. Senate was unable to pass any of their Bills -- any of the spending Bills. But then they came out -- they never did do a budget resolution, which basically gives -- tells the communities how much they can spend. So as we went through the process for the authorization and the appropriations, there was a lot of disagreement as to how much we could even spend.

So for example, with Defense, the Trump people put in a budget for 750 billion. The house Democrats came out and said we're going to spend 716 billion, and -- if we'd agree, and eventually ended up with something like -- I

think it was 738 billion. They finally did come to an agreement, and things are moving forward now until all of a sudden this impeachment thing blew up the last few days.

So we're going to have a continued resolution, which means they're not going to be able to spend more than they did this current year, which is what we were hoping they would do. So it'll be flatline spending until they finally get a real budget passed.

I'm also working on a defense authorization Bill. Both House and Senate have passed their versions. The House has a lot of great things in it we like. For example, it's got the SBP-VSC (sic) offset repeal, and I would call that the widow's tax. That's in there. And they've got the Senate Bill that basically allows a cut of 18,000 medical staff people from the current medical military staff of about 130,000. That's a big cut, and we basically said we're not actually opposed to it, but we want to have an explanation and some verification that it's not going to impact the beneficiaries, and we haven't been able to get that.

So the House Bill has a provision in

1 there saying that they'll study it for a year and 2 come back and give a report by the GAO on whether 3 or not it's going to impact your benefits. Okay. 4 I'm just curious here. How many people 5 here use military treatment facilities for their 6 care? 7 8 (Numerous Delegates raise their 9 hands.) 10 11 DLP DAVIS: Okay. Ouite a bit. Okay. So those 12 cuts will have a definite impact on you, so we're 13 finding that. And as I said, the House Bill 14 prohibits it for a year, and there has to be a 15 study done by the GAO, and they have to give a 16 report to the House Committee so we'll be able to 17 find out how bad that really is. That's a big 18 one. 19 One of the big issues with the Retirement 20 Committee is concurrent receipt. I worked very 21 hard on trying to get that Bill attached to one 22 of the defense authorization Bills. I put an 23 amendment in each House. The Senate floor and 24 the House floor had an amendment to amend the

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defense authorization Bills as they came through,

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in on that.

and they were not called for a vote,
unfortunately. So we're going to just go back to
the drawing board and try it again next year.
But the SBP-DIC offset repeal is in the House
Bill. That's the widow's tax. That's a lot of
money for widows. They get their full benefits
if that passes. That's a big -- and I hope you
would take a look at the action center and chime

Something else that's really nice is that there's no Tricare fee increase this year through either the Senate or the House defense authorization Bill. So they're not shifting anymore cost to you, your benefits -- you know, taking away your benefits. So we're very proud of that. I do want to remind everybody, though, in 2017, they did pass some pharmacy increases, and they got a long tail. And I think January 2020 there's going to be a couple dollars added to your co-pays on some of your prescription drugs, and again in 2022, there'll be a few dollars added. That's part of that increase that occurred in 2017. It's just got a long tail on So we'll make every effort, if we can, to it. try and repeal those before they take effect, but

1 that's going to be a very uphill battle. 2 Comments at the Action Center. It's a 3 very effective, very user-friendly way to use it. 4 I'm just curious. How many people here use the 5 Action Center? 6 7 (Numerous Delegates raise their 8 hands.) 9 10 Okay. Just about everybody. Okay. DLP DAVIS: 11 Great. That's fantastic. That's important. So 12 anyway, that's the big thing right now, to wait 13 and see what's going to happen with the House 14 Bill, the Senate defense authorization Bills. 15 Now they've got to go into what they call a 16 conference committee. They've got to resolve the 17 differences between the two Bills. That's on the 18 Action Center. I'd love it if you would go on 19 there and chime in on that. All you've got to do is hit a couple of buttons. You've got a 20 21 pre-written letter for your Congressman and your 22 Senator, and you can change it if you want to, 23 you know, but by and large, you can just hit a 24 button. It'll go to your elected officials. 25 I already mentioned there's no Tricare

fee increase this year. If you want to talk real quickly, Carrie Sprotszki (phonetic) does our health care, and she's not here, so I'm going to very quickly go over that. Because again, I mentioned the medical staff cuts. That's a biggie. That's in the Senate defense authorization Bill.

The basic whole theme on our lobbying effort on health care is that we believe the health care benefit should reflect the extraneous sacrifices you have made with 20 or more years of military service that in effect you've, in part — at least in part, paid a big part of your premium already with your military service, and we continue to believe that and argue that on Capitol Hill.

A new one that's come up is the Feres doctrine, which was a 1950 Supreme Court decision which said military people could not sue even if there's a medical malpractice accident. And they put that in there, so that would repeal that. So in the case of negligence by an NTF, you would be able to sue for medical malpractice and be made whole again. We think that's a good idea.

The other one is not a big one, but it's

1	a big one on Capitol Hill is that military
2	treatment facilities are being taken over by the
3	Defense Health Agency. They were run by the
4	Navy, the Air Force, the Army. Now they're going
5	to be under one agency, and that's a big much ado
6	about nothing, quite frankly, but it's important,
7	and they think it's going to streamline the
8	bureaucracy. We hope so. Okay.

With that, I will leave it -- switch it over to Chris Slawinski, our Veterans Service Officer.

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UNIDENTIFIED DELEGATE: He had a question.

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DLP DAVIS: Oh, yes.

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RPSR: Shipmate Richmond, Delegate, Branch 22. I just think for the concurrent receipt thing that we need to change our plan of attack when you're talking to Congress. Use a word that maybe will scare them into doing it. It's discriminatory. If you can have 50 percent disability and you get full concurrent receipt, someone has 40 percent disability, they get their VA money, but it's taken out of their Navy check, they get nothing

1 but the tax benefit. It's discriminatory. 2 They're discriminating against a class of 3 individuals, and I think that's the tactic you 4 need to take when you're talking to them instead 5 of just trying to say, well, we should get more 6 money. Just start throwing that word around, 7 "it's discriminatory". 8 9 DLP DAVIS: Yeah, it is. Well, that's basically 10 the item we use is why is it, for example, like 11 you said, if you have 50 percent disability, you 12 get everything --13 14 Right RPSR: 15 16 DLP DAVIS: -- you have 40 percent, you don't get 17 anything. 18 19 RPSR: Yeah. 20 21 DLP DAVIS: And we answer back, because we can't 22 afford it. So when we roll back, say, okay. Can 23 we do this -- phase in -- can we phase it in? 24 And that's always been, you know, sort of the

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last thing we can do is try and phase it in.

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1 remember a few years ago we had, like, six or 2 seven different kinds. You know, it's how are 3 you going to phase it in, you know? And even 4 that, that has not -- just the powers that be 5 don't want to spend the money. But they do want 6 us to deal with the widow's tax, and that's -- if 7 we get that out of the way, then I think we have 8 a better shot, too, with the concurrent receipt. 9 So I appreciate your concern. 11

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RPSR: Yeah

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Thank you. Any other questions? DLP DAVIS:

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(No verbal response).

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DLP DAVIS: All right. Chris.

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I am National Service Director, Chris Slawinski. As John mentioned, he's a co-chair of the Retiree Committee. I serve as a co-chair on the Guard Reserve Committee and also the Veterans Committee. I've been a member of both those committees for 15 years now. They're very active in the Coalition on the issues that we are taking

court.

on. One of the things that we fought very hard
for was, as Tom mentioned, the blue water -- HR

3 299. And once that was passed, we thought we had
a major victory because we also had a litigation
that approved that went through the Federal

It was called Procopio versus Wilkie.

And in that case, a blue water sailor was basically deemed that they should have included him, because the way that they've interpreted — the VA interprets the offshore waters is incorrect, and so they approved — the veterans won, and the VA decided not to pursue it at the Supreme Court level so it became law 18 months — shortly after that, 180 days after that. So once that happened, Congress basically said, okay. This makes HR 299 a little less expensive for us, so we're going to push that through. Ollie pushed it through. There was a provision in there that said that VA would have a stay until January 1st, 2020.

And so we, as a coalition, said that that stay is for 299. Well, VA's interpretation is that it's a stay on anything that's blue water associated. A lot of other service organizations, along with Fleet Reserve

Association had a press conference yesterday, and also sent a letter to the White House, saying -- asking the Administration to lift the stay. And I know that it should be Brian Condon, from our staff, who was there. And FRA was mentioned numerous times during the press conference because we have been a leader in this issue, and they understand that a lot of our members are affected by the outcome of this Bill. So we are continuing to fight to get this resolved, and that's one of the things that my committee, the Veterans Committee, and also us, as members of the Coalition and members of the Veterans Service Organizations, have been fighting for.

The Veteran Service Foundation, again, it's a 501(c)(3) foundation. We are in the process of trying to build up revenue from that foundation. Shipmate -- not Shipmate, but Finance Officer Bryan Proctor will probably give a brief report on the Healthy Wealthy Wise Conference that was postponed until 2020. We initially wanted to have it the same week, and due to some issues of logistics and such, it was deemed it would be more feasible to push it back to either spring or summer of 2020, so we're

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working on trying to get that taken care of.

And as the Standing Committee for the Veterans Service, we have been working very hard on trying to improve the number of Veterans service officers that we have within the branches. And I, in my travels this past year, I've gotten some good recommendations. There's some small branches that have said -- that they're saying that they can't -- they don't have a person that's willing to do it, but they have a good relationship with the County or State service officers that are local. And what we want to do is maybe start a referral process with that, and that's something our committee is going to discuss so that if you don't have -- if you're a smaller branch, but you do have representation from the County or State service officers, maybe get a relationship with them. Say, hey, we want to, you know, basically be able to refer our members to you to get claims done, and also see if you can do some outreach with them and have, like, magazines, and things like that available for them.

And then, finally, within the Veterans
Service Committee, also, is the Voluntary Service

	Program. And in the report that I provided,
	we're still struggling to try to get to that
	member status again. We're still an associate
	member in a nonvoting status. And what we need
	to do is get more branches engaged with the VA
	medical centers and the outpatient clinics to,
	basically, get their volunteer programs become a
	local rep or dep. The great thing about it is we
	meet once a quarter. It gives you an opportunity
	to find out what needs are in that community
	within the VA. And if you volunteer there, you
	can wear an FRA shirt or unique hat, and you'd be
	surprised how many conversations start up with,
	hey, so you served in the Navy? So did I. And
	then you can start talking to them about this
	great organization, Fleet Reserve Association.
	With that, I'm going to turn it back over to the
	National Executive Director, unless there's
	questions.
- 1	

(No verbal response)

NSD: I like it when there's no questions.

NED: Thank you. Just so you know, there is an

1 individual on Norfolk at Fleet Forces, and he 2 keeps me up on what's going on from the 3 standpoint of closures when you start talking 4 about providers at military hospitals, and 5 Norfolk is one of the bigger ones. So those that 6 are on the east coast, let's just stop picking on 7 them, but you've also got the situation that 8 could start to build up even around the San Diego 9 area when we start talking about care. And one 10 of the things is: Where does the family member go for care? You know, you've got that service 11 12 member that goes out and gets deployed, and then 13 all of a sudden somebody in the family gets sick. 14 Where do I go? That's a very real thing. And 15 when they only have certain hours. Okay? 16 Recently, I was down in the Tidewater 17 area doing some other things, and one of the

area doing some other things, and one of the things that I noticed were the hours of operation at a place at the amphibious base, a Joint Expeditionary Base, Little Creek Fort Story, was a place called Boone Clinic. They don't have all the expertise there because they can't afford the hours to provide services.

And then you got the cutbacks that are happening at Portsmouth Naval Hospital. And then

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if you ever -- have ever had the great adventure of trying to go through the tunnel after 1500, and trying to get medical care, and then you got the Langley folks involved, let me tell you, it's very real. I don't even want to -- even suggest to what the situation is -- could be around Balboa in the San Diego area or those type of things. This is a very real thing.

Fleet Force Master Chief O'Rawe is keeping us informed with things, and says, oh, by the way, Tom, here's something to look at, and would you please be our mouthpiece and speak. So we do have that connection, at least from the Fleet Forces, because there's a group down there that's called the Gray Beard Society.

Now, nothing against our female counterparts who belong to this because they don't have gray beards, but at the same time, we do have the retiree community that's involved with that. And one of the things that hes doing is: If I can get you information about at least what's going on in the Atlantic Fleet side, can you push for us, please, to be that conduit so they don't get in trouble? And I asked him, I said, Master Chief, where is the fleet surgeon on

your staff site? That was the question I asked him. And he said, Tom, I can't talk about that for obvious reasons. So he came to us to say:

Can you make it happen? So he's feeding us information so we can get a little bit more -- I don't want to say the after war, but more of a direct hit.

Again, thank you very much. Are there any other questions you might have for us? We're going to be around all week. Yes, we know it's a difficult issue with what's going on in Washington, and all I can say is please stay in touch. And at this time, I give the mike to the National President, Shipmate National President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, FRA Legislative Team, for your update. I just want to announce that I have appointed Past Regional President South Central Don Gibson to chair the Time and Place Committee. So if there's any interested regions or branches out there that's interested in hosting the 2021 Convention, I would encourage you to get with them and they will report out tomorrow afternoon when all the other committee reports are out. So see Shipmate Don Gibson.

1 The first business session of the 92nd 2 National Convention will now be recessed. The 3 second business session will continue promptly at 4 1300 Thursday afternoon in this room. 5 please, again, the committee starts meeting at 9 6 o'clock tomorrow morning, and be ready to report 7 out at 1300. Shipmate National Chaplain, will 8 you close the Bible. 9 10 Shipmate National President, the Bible CHAPLAIN: 11 is closed. 12 13 PRESIDENT: Thank you, Shipmate. (Taps the gavel 14 to signify the closure of the first business 15 session.) 16 (Whereupon, the convention was 17 recessed at 15:33.) 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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