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FRA *today*

Special Insert: Branch Listing for 2011



USMC in Black & White

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The nearly 20,000 African Americans who trained and served at Montford Point, N.C., laid the foundation for racial equality in the Marine Corps and the nation.

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LOYALTY, PROTECTION AND SERVICE

FRA IS A CONGRESSIONALLY CHARTERED, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION ADVOCATING FOR CURRENT AND FORMER ENLISTED MEMBERS OF THE U.S. NAVY, MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD ON CAPITOL HILL. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE VISIT WWW.FRA.ORG OR CALL 800-FRA-1924.

ON THE COVER

The Montford Point Marines were the first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps since 1798. They made significant contributions during World War II, Korea, Vietnam and beyond.

Employing Retail Strategies to Increase Retention



Eileen Murphy

A COMMON RETAIL STRATEGY focuses on increasing shopper loyalty by giving a discount for a future visit or holding a special event for long-time customers. Retail businesses understand that it is less expensive to do extra things for current customers than it is to advertise to get new ones. Of course, businesses have to increase the new customer pool as well, but having a loyal base makes that even easier as word of mouth is the best referral generator.

Member-based associations are faced with the same issues. Member recruiting is far easier in an organization that has a loyal member base. Why? Momentum has a lot to do with it. When members are excited about their organization, they are more likely to pay dues on time and recruit others. As a non-profit membership organization, FRA can not implement typical retail strategies, but some of the same concepts are certainly employed.

For example, FRA membership not only includes representation on Capitol Hill to make sure Congress hears the voice of the enlisted sea service personnel, but also includes:

- Access to subject experts for veterans issues and DoD and VA health care concerns
- A complimentary subscription to *FRA Today*, so you can keep up with the latest news and events
- *NewsBytes* — a free, weekly legislative e-mail update to let shipmates and families know about important issues (also available by phone at 1-800-372-1924, ext 112)
- Free guides like “*Your Personal Affairs*” to help organize personal finances and “*Communicate With Your Elected Officials*,” a guide to contacting members of Congress — available to members on request
- Scholarships offered through the FRA Education Foundation
- GEICO insurance discounts
- Life and health insurance programs at affordable group rates

That is certainly a lot of benefit for a mere \$30 per year. That rate is discounted as well for multiple-year memberships, increasing members’ return on investment even more!

The biggest jump in value of membership comes as the Association grows — the bigger we are, the louder your voice is heard on Capitol Hill. If you are interested in getting even more value from your FRA membership, please A) Continue to pay your dues; and B) Recruit your friends to join the Association. In this issue you’ll read about branches who are doing their best to retain 100 percent of their members. You will learn of branches doubling in size. There are many opportunities for growth — let’s make 2011 the best retention year yet and the growth will follow!

Eileen Murphy is the Director of Marketing and Communications and serves as the Managing Editor of *FRA Today*. Please contact her at eileen@fra.org.

FRA today

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VOLUME 89 NUMBER 12



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Jim Scarbro

IT IS MY HONOR to serve in the office of National President of the Fleet Reserve Association for 2010/2011 Association year. I thank the shipmates for the confidence they have placed in me. This inspires me to do all I can to improve our declining membership and to initiate actions that will curb the loss of dues income. With the National Board of Directors, National Headquarters Staff and all shipmates working together to address our issues, we can ensure that the FRA is a viable and strong Association into the future.

The recently completed 83rd National Convention of the Fleet Reserve Association was a huge success and attended by a large number of shipmates from all regions. These dedicated members have worked tirelessly for many years to improve military and retiree compensation, health care benefits and quality-of-life programs for active duty and Reserve personnel, retirees and veterans. Now we must recruit younger members who will provide new ideas, set additional goals and continue the vital mission of FRA. The members we recruit today must become our leaders of tomorrow and protect the rights and benefits of future sea service personnel.

The convention workshops arranged and presented by our National Headquarters Staff were very informative, well attended, and received many favorable comments by the attendees. In addition to providing valuable information, the topics inspired additional recruiting actions.

My goal is to promote and market the FRA in order for our mission and objectives to be known and understood by non-members. Focusing on non-members by being more involved with the commands, and expand recruiting programs service-wide will

increase our visibility. As National Headquarters markets new FRA membership programs, it will be the responsibility of the respective regional presidents and vice presidents to promote these programs throughout their regions.

Each regional president will share their successful recruiting and retention programs with all other regional presidents and vice presidents. They will assist branches within their region with recruiting and retention. Regional presidents will become involved in award presentations with the assistance of the national president and national vice president, when possible. Other past national officers that reside in specific areas should be invited to attend and participate. Working together, we can efficiently utilize FRA resources.

I am currently assisting shipmates in the East Coast Region, Southeast Region, and South Central Region in establishing and instituting new FRA Branches. I invite all FRA shipmates to assist in these endeavors.

I will also promote the recruiting of eligible members of the Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association. This organization involves family members

in community projects, patriotic programs, youth activities and provides a place to learn and share the values of the military community. I will assist in increasing our overall membership numbers, which is vital to those we want to hear our voice and listen to our input.

Working with the National Committee on Budget and Finance and our National Headquarters Staff, it is my goal to reduce spending and continue to improve the financial stability of the FRA. We will strive to use FRA funds more wisely and reduce expenses in some areas.

To improve communications to the membership, I encourage branch leadership to use electronic transmission of FRA news and send notices and other information by this method to keep all of the members informed of branch activities and information made available by FRA Headquarters.

I have listened to the members and heard their concerns. I am willing to initiate changes and address your concerns.

Again, I thank you for electing me as your national president and know, with your assistance, we will have a productive year.



NP Scarbro and NVP Gilmartin at a recent meeting at Headquarters with NED Barnes and FO Rigby

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Why would we do this? Our real goal is to build a long term client relationship with you. We are sure that most of you will become loyal Stauer clients in the years to come, but for now, in this lousy economy, we will give you these pearls to help with your future gift giving ideas.

We did find a magnificent cache of cultured pearls at the best price that I have ever seen. Our pearl dealer was stuck. A large luxury department store in

financial trouble cancelled a large order at the last minute so we grabbed all of them. He sold us an enormous cache of his roundest, whitest, most iridescent cultured 5 1/2-6mm pearls for only pennies on the dollar.

But let me get to the point: his loss is your gain. Many of you may be wondering about your next gift for someone special. In the past, Stauer has made gift giving easier with the absolute lowest prices on fine jewelry and luxury goods. This year, we've really come to the rescue.

For the next few days, I'm not offering this cultured pearl necklace at \$1,200. I'm not selling it for \$300. That's because I don't want to **SELL** you these pearls at all... I want to **GIVE** them to you. This cultured freshwater pearl necklace is yours **FREE**. You pay nothing except basic shipping and processing costs of \$24.²⁵, the normal shipping fee for a \$200-\$300 necklace.

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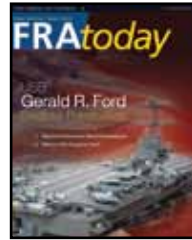
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CVN-78

The article on CVN-78 [FRA Today, October 2010] was very well written. Having spent considerable time under the vents in the firerooms of the USS *Interpid* and *Tarawa* (CV-11 & CV-40), it is good that the new class makes accommodation toward people's comfort.

I spent a recent weekend at NAS Corpus Christi to see my grandson receive his wings. While there, I went aboard the USS *Lexington* (CV-16, of the Essex class) and your article brought home how much has changed with current technology. The contrast between the new and old is amazing.

Grady Field



Help Locate POWs, MIAs

The Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office's (DPMO) mission is to resolve cases of personnel who are still unaccounted for from past wars and to help find and recover remains, if possible. Rod Millner, an intelligence research analyst for DPMO, is asking veterans to contact him if they have any information on the whereabouts of missing service members from World War II.

Sometimes veterans kept journals which have this information about friends who were killed in action (KIA), but they don't think it's useful to anyone. When shown a list of missing men, one veteran said it jogged his memory about seeing their landing craft taking enemy fire on Omaha Beach. While his recollection didn't pinpoint their location, it gave us an idea where to look, even after all this time.

Veterans who have such knowledge are encouraged to contact DPMO with information that could lead to the recovery of that Soldier or Sailor's remains. Also, relatives or friends who may have such information (from conversations with veterans, personal records, diaries or other sources) are also asked to call Mr. Millner at 703-699-1268 or e-mail him at Rodney.Millner@osd.mil. To learn more, visit the DPMO web page at www.dtic.mil/dpmo.

Bob Huscher

Concurrent Receipt Concern

After receiving a disability benefit from VA for diabetes due to boots-down service in Vietnam, I find they now remove that amount from my retired pay. If I had not retired, I would simply get the reward and gain access to VA medical services. [Is this] a fitting reward to those who sacrificed their best years and their families?

Stephan Kelson

FRA Response: It appears you are receiving VA disability compensation for a service-connected condition. If that's the case, you may well be eligible for Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC). Military retirees with 20 or more years of service who have a combat-related VA-rated disability are eligible for the CRSC payments, which are based on the combined disability rating of combat-related disabilities as determined by your branch of service. To receive CRSC payments, you must submit your application (DD form 2860), through your parent military service branch. Downloadable forms and additional information about the application process is available at www.military.com/benefits/military-pay/special-pay/combat-related-special-compensation

Additionally, disabled military retirees who served 20 years or more and have a 50-percent (or higher) VA disability rating are eligible to receive Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP). This benefit is being incrementally phased in over the next several years and qualified beneficiaries will see their retired pay increase by approximately 10 percent per year through 2014, when the phase-in will be complete. This initiative is an FRA victory and will provide qualified disabled retirees "concurrent receipt" of their full military retirement pay and their VA disability compensation.

If you have specific questions, contact Chris Slawinski, FRA's national veterans service officer, at vafra@fra.org or 1-800-FRA-1924, ext. 115.

Submissions: Send *Shipmate Forum* letters to: Editor, *FRA Today*, 125 N. West St. Alexandria, VA 22314. E-mail submissions may be sent to fratoday@fra.org. Please include "Shipmate Forum" in the subject line. FRA reserves the right to select and edit letters for publication. Letters published in *Shipmate Forum* reflect the opinions and views of FRA members. They do not necessarily reflect the official position of FRA as a whole. FRA is not responsible for the accuracy of letter content.

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Your Mission - Your Voice



John Davis

Big Challenges Await the 112th Congress

AS YOU READ THIS issue of *FRA Today*, FRA's Legislative Team is looking over the horizon toward the First Session of the 112th Congress that convenes in December.

As pressure grows to reduce the huge budget deficit and Defense spending continues to shrink in relation to the overall Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Congress will face tough decisions about pay and benefits for military personnel, retirees, veterans, survivors, and their families. In anticipation of the December 1st release of the President's Debt Commission recommendations on reducing federal debt, Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, the Sustainable Defense Task Force and others are recommending increasing TRICARE fees for retirees under the age of 65.

This mirrors past proposals and FRA continues to believe DoD has not sufficiently investigated other options to make TRICARE more cost-efficient as alternatives to shifting costs to TRICARE beneficiaries under age 65. These men and women were promised lifetime health care and earned their TRICARE benefits through decades of arduous military service.

There is also talk on Capitol Hill of reduced funding for other benefits along with "adjusting" military retired pay formulas. FRA is committed to fight these efforts, including proposals to civilianize the military retirement system.

When resources are limited, there's always a struggle to strike a balance between paying for personnel programs and weapon systems. This is not the first threat to military pay and benefits and it won't be the last, proving again that "what Congress gives, Congress can take away." Lawmakers respond to their constituents and during the coming months, it is critical for FRA members to be especially vigilant and engaged in the legislative process as the new 112th Congress organizes and convenes in December. It's important for shipmates to subscribe to NewsBytes, FRA's weekly email update on pay, health care and benefits issues, and use FRA's Action Center at www.fra.org to easily share their views with their elected officials.

2010 House Election Results and the Lame Duck Session

The November elections will result in significant changes in the House when the 112th Congress convenes in January. Republicans will be the majority and leadership changes will occur in all committees, subcommittees and caucuses. Several congressional leaders who've been champions for FRA's legislative agenda were defeated, including Representatives Ike Skelton (Mo.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee; John Spratt (S.C.), chairman of the House Budget Committee; Chet Edwards (Texas), chairman of the House Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee; James Oberstar (Minn.), chairman of the House Transportation Committee; and Gene Taylor (Miss.), co-chairman of the Guard and Reserve Caucus and the Coast Guard Caucus, and key member of the House Armed Services Committee.

The current (111th) Congress reconvene for a lame duck session on November 15th and will hopefully complete work on spending bills for the current fiscal year, address the pending Medicare physician reimbursement rate cuts and complete work on the FY 2011 Defense Authorization legislation (S. 3454). Shipmates are urged to use the FRA Action Center at www.fra.org to ask their senators to finish their work on these initiatives and approve FRA-supported amendments to the Defense bill, including the concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability benefits, a higher active-duty annual pay increase (1.9 versus 1.4 percent), retroactive early retirement (since 9/11/01) credit for frequently mobilized Reservists, and repeal of the Survivor Benefit Plan and Dependency Indemnity Compensation (SBP/DIC) offset.

Commissary Shoppers Give DeCA High Rating

Helpful employees, quality meat and convenient hours topped the list of what commissary customers enjoy about their stores, according to the 2010 Commissary Customer Service Survey. Nearly 21,000 shoppers gave the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) an overall 4.68 score on a scale of 1 to 5, a slight increase from last year's all-time high of 4.67. Survey questions focused on savings and prices; product quality, selection and availability; store hours; employee customer service; décor and appearance; and the checkout process.

Additional information on this and other commissary initiatives is available at commissaries.com.

FRA's 2011 Legislative Agenda

FRA's legislative agenda for 2011 was approved by delegates to the Association's 83rd national convention.

EXPAND HEALTH CARE OPTIONS

Health Care Reform: Monitor health care reform and ensure that TRICARE and VA health care programs are not adversely impacted by unanticipated consequences during implementation.

Oppose Excessive TRICARE Enrollment Fee Increases: The Defense Department must sufficiently investigate and implement other options to make TRICARE more cost-efficient as alternatives to shifting costs to TRICARE beneficiaries.

Support Adequate Funding for Defense Health Program: Ensure adequate funding for the Defense Health Program in order to meet readiness needs, fully fund TRICARE, and improve access and awareness of benefits for all beneficiaries regardless of age, status or location, including Reservists participating in TRICARE Reserve Select.

DoD/VA Health Care Resource Sharing: Ensure adequate funding for Department of Defense (DoD) and Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) health care resource sharing in delivering seamless, cost effective, quality services to personnel wounded while participating in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, and other veterans, and their families.

Expand Health Care Options for Retirees Under Age 65: Expand health care alternatives including TRICARE Standard, TRICARE Prime Remote and the Federal Employee Health Benefit Program (FEHBP) as options for military retirees under age 65 who do not have access to military treatment facilities.

Expand Military Retiree Access to the VA Health Care System: Support legislation expanding access to VA hospitals and clinics and to adopt VA Medicare subvention. Also support opportunities to expand DoD/VA joint facilities demonstration projects and ensure that military retirees are not forced to pay for VA care or choose between the DoD and VA for care.

Pharmaceutical Drug Benefit: Monitor the pharmacy benefit and ensure that the pharmacies maintain a broad uniform formulary. FRA supports efforts to reduce prescription costs through "federal pricing" and other discount programs, and will encourage increased utilization of mail-order prescriptions to limit co-pays for beneficiaries and reduce costs as alternatives to higher fees and co-payments.

Allow Military Retirees to Pay for Healthcare with Pretax Dollars: Secure authorization for military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and allow for a tax deduction for TRICARE supplemental insurance premiums.

PROTECT PERSONNEL PROGRAMS

Active Duty Pay: Secure additional annual active duty pay increases that are at least one-half percent (0.5 %) above the Employment Cost Index (ECI) along with targeted increases for mid-career and senior enlisted personnel to help close the pay gap between active duty and private sector pay.

Defense Budget: Advocate for a Defense (DoD) Budget that is at least five (5) percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to ensure adequate funding for both personnel and weapons programs.



Dislocation Allowance: Work to authorize payment of a dislocation allowance to members of the Armed Forces, with at least 20 years of service, as part of their final compensation package upon retirement.

Commissaries: Oppose privatization and ensure adequate funding for the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) to preserve the value of the current benefit and access for all patrons.

End Strengths: Track end strength levels to ensure there are adequate personnel available to meet the demands of OIF, OEF and other operational requirements.

BAH: Reform enlisted housing standards by allowing E-7s and above to reside in separate homes, track the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to ensure it is commensurate with actual housing costs, and ensure housing privatization programs are beneficial to service members and their families.



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2011 FRA Legislative Agenda (continued)

PCS Reform: Track the Permanent Change of Station (PCS) process, ensure adequate funding of the Transition and Relocation Assistance Programs, and authorization of increased PCS mileage rates and higher household goods weight limits for senior enlisted personnel. Also advocate for shipment of a second privately-owned vehicle (POV) for accompanied overseas assignments.

Predatory Lending: Monitor protections against predatory lenders who target military personnel and their families.

Coast Guard Parity: Ensure parity with DoD of pay and benefits for Coast Guard personnel plus adequate funding for same within the U.S. Coast Guard budget.

Impact Aid Program: Ensure that the Department of Education has adequate funding to reimburse local school districts for educating military children and that the DoD budget includes sufficient supplemental funds to provide support for highly impacted school districts.

Reservists Out-of-Pocket Expenses: Allow full tax-deductibility of non-reimbursable expenses related to military training and weekend drill.

Sea Services Recruiters: Work to ensure that recruiters have unrestricted access to secondary schools, colleges and universities on the same basis as private sector employers.

Voting Reform: Monitor recently enacted absentee voting regulations and work toward improved voter participation in Federal elections and to expedite military mail processing of overseas ballots.

VETERANS' ISSUES

Improve Department of Veterans' Affairs Funding: Support initiatives to help ensure timely and full funding for the VA, with special attention for

VA health care to ensure access and care for all beneficiaries.

Agent Orange Disability Claims: Seek to reverse the VA's policy that prevents "blue water" military retirees and veterans from claiming disability benefits for diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange.

Oppose Access Fees: Oppose establishing a tiered enrollment fee structure for veterans in Priority Groups 7 and 8 within the VA Health Care System.

Improve VA Claim Processing: Work to eliminate backlog of claims at the Department of Veterans' Affairs and support reform of the antiquated Veterans' Benefits Administration (VBA) paper claims system.

Education Enhancements: Ensure full and timely implementation of the Post-9/11 GI Bill and work to improve other education benefit programs for veterans, and survivors of disabled or deceased veterans who died of a service-connected disability, were killed on active duty or while on drill status.

Reserve Retirees Veterans' Status: Seek full veteran status for Reservists with 20 years or more of service, who do not otherwise qualify for full veterans' benefits under current law.

SAFEGUARD RETIREE BENEFITS

Protect Military Retired or Retainer Pay: Fight efforts to reduce military retired or retainer pay and ensure equitable cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for all military retirees commensurate with their service and sacrifices, and oppose efforts to civilianize the military retirement system.

Concurrent Receipt: Support legislation authorizing the immediate concurrent receipt of full military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation for all disabled retirees.

Reserve Retirement Age: Support extension of authority for early retirement (90 days active duty = three months reduction) for all Reservists who have served since 9/11/01, and the elimination of fiscal year specific rule associated with same.

USFSPA: Encourage the introduction and enactment of legislation to eliminate inequities in the Uniformed Services Former Spouses Protection Act (USFSPA).

Retention of Final Month's Retired Pay: Support legislation authorizing the retention of the full final month's retired pay by the surviving spouse (or other designated survivor) for the month in which the member was alive for at least 24 hours.

SBP/DIC Offset: Support legislation to repeal the Survivors Benefit Plan/Dependency Indemnity Compensation (SBP/DIC) offset for surviving spouses of personnel who die of service-connected causes.

Paid-up SBP at Age 67: Work to change the minimum age for paid-up SBP from age 70 to age 67 which will allow those who joined the military at age 17, 18 or 19 and serve 20 years to only be required to pay SBP premiums for 30 years.

Recoupment Relief: Ensure that former service members voluntarily and involuntarily separated due to budget cuts in the 1990s that either return to active duty or join the Guard or Reserve are not required to pay back their separation pay.

Retirees' TSP Contributions: Work to authorize military retirees the option of continuing to contribute to their Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) as they did when they were on active duty.

Base Closures: Support retention of military treatment and other facilities at BRAC sites that are patronized by sizeable retiree and Reserve populations and closely monitor the impact of closures and realignments.

ACTIVE DUTY ISSUES

FRA Speaks Out on Absentee Voting Delays

Prior to the November elections, FRA sent a letter to Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr. asking the Department of Justice to take decisive action against states and counties that are violating provisions of the Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act. The law requires absentee ballots be sent to uniformed service members and other overseas voters at least 45 days prior to a general election for federal offices, but media reports indicated that some jurisdictions did not send the ballots out before September 18, 2010, which was the deadline for the November 2nd election. The Department of Defense (DoD) authorized extensions for some states, but some of those were also violated. States requesting waivers and DoD's responses are listed on the Federal Voting Assistance Program website (www.fvap.gov).

FRA continues to support legal action by the Department of Justice to remedy the unacceptable delays in sending absentee ballots to service members, expedite the processing of cast ballots and ensure all votes are counted.

FRA Hosts Forum on Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy

John Campbell, deputy under secretary of defense for wounded warrior care and transition policy, spoke to FRA staff and representatives from The Military Coalition at FRA NHQ as part of efforts to engage and establish partnerships with military and veteran organizations. The Office of Wounded Warrior Care and Transition Policy was established in 2008 and works to ensure wounded, ill, injured and transitioning service members receive high quality services, including the tools needed to seamlessly transition to civilian life. Issues discussed during the meeting included the Disability Evaluation System, Guard and Reserve support, Transition Assistance Program, Recovery Care Coordinators, and other resources essential to supporting wounded warriors and their families.

VETERANS ISSUES

New Medical Forms Streamline Veterans Claims Process

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has released three new disability benefits questionnaires for physicians examining veterans who are applying for VA disability compensation benefits. This initiative marks the beginning of a major reform to streamline the claims process for injured or ill veterans. These new questionnaires are the first of 79 disability benefits questionnaires that will guide veterans' personal and VA physicians in the evaluation of the most frequent medical conditions affecting veterans.

The VA is also directly involving veterans' physicians to provide specific information needed to evaluate their claims. The goal is to accurately process all claims in fewer than 125 days, a mark VA Secretary Shinseki has mandated by 2015. The project is one of more than three dozen initiatives actively underway at VA, including a major technology modernization that will lead to paperless claims processing. For veterans who receive their care from private physicians, VA has placed the disability benefits questionnaires online at <http://www.vba.va.gov/disabilityexams> with instructions for physicians to submit examination results on veterans' behalf.

VA Begins Paying for New Agent Orange Presumptions

In early November, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) began distributing disability benefits to Vietnam veterans who qualify for compensation under a recent ruling related to Agent Orange exposure. Up to 200,000 Vietnam veterans are potentially eligible to receive benefits for B-cell (or hairy-cell) leukemia, Parkinson's disease and ischemic heart disease thanks to the ruling. Approximately 1,300 claims have been paid, but it may be some time before all eligible beneficiaries receive payment.

For more information, read Tom Philpott's syndicated Military Update column (11-4-10)

VA Promotes Hotline to Help Vets, Loved Ones

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has started an advertising campaign that includes more than 1,200 flyers, posters and other announcements promoting the VA's suicide hotline. According to VA sources, the VA Suicide Prevention Hotline, 1-800-273-8255 (TALK), has saved more than 10,000 veterans and provided counseling for more than 180,000 veterans and their loved ones since its inception in July 2007. The hotline is staffed 24/7 by trained mental health professionals and offers an anonymous online chat feature at www.suicidepreventionhotline.org



RETIREES ISSUES

No COLA in 2011

For the second consecutive year, there will be no cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for Americans who receive Social Security benefits, military and railroad retirement or veterans' disability benefits. The Department of Labor released data indicating that consumer prices for the third quarter of 2010 rose by 1.5 percent over last year, but dropped by 0.6 percent when compared to the same period in 2008. Although there has been a slight increase in prices over the past year, the government formula for COLAs requires that prices must have risen higher than when the last increase was awarded.

This is the first time in 35 years that there has been no adjustment in back-to-back years. Congress approved a one-time payment of \$250 for Social Security annuitants last year and the White House proposed a similar payment in its 2011 budget, but it's unclear if Congress will authorize a similar payment for 2011.

TRICARE Coverage for Older Children

In late September, Senators Susan Collins (Maine) and Daniel Akaka (Hawaii) introduced "The Extended TRICARE Coverage for Military Families Now Act" (S. 3846) that would extend healthcare coverage for military children until they reach age 26. Representatives Gus Bilirakis (Fla.) and Jeff Miller (Fla.) introduced similar legislation (H.R. 6227) in the House. If enacted, the measures would be retroactive to June 1, 2010, the date most large civilian insurers and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan extended coverage to older children under their parents' plan at no additional charge. The provision was part of the national health care reform measure and is available provided the child has no access to employer coverage.

Military families with TRICARE coverage don't have similar access for their sons and daughters who leave college or otherwise age out of eligibility. Provisions in the House and Senate versions of the FY 2011 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) would extend TRICARE to military children, but delays in the legislative process make it uncertain when the measure will be approved. The NDAA provisions would require families to pay a premium for each older child covered. Members are urged to use the Action Center (www.fra.org) to ask their Senators to support this important legislation.

House Approves Vet Status for Gray-Area Retirees

The House approved legislation (H.R. 3787) that would authorize veteran status for Reserve retirees who are not yet old enough to receive military retired pay and TRICARE benefits for which they become eligible at age 60. These so-called "gray area retirees" are not considered veterans under the law unless they were activated under federal orders at some time during their careers.

FRA believes that all who served 20 or more years in the Reserve Component should be granted veterans status. The Association strongly supports this bill and its Senate companion (S. 1780) that authorize veterans' benefits for those Reservists who were not activated during their military service. Shipmates are encouraged to use the Action Center at www.fra.org to ask their senators to support this legislation.

FRA Urges Senate to Finish Work on NDAA

FRA sent a letter to Senate leadership in late October, urging them to move forward on the FY 2011 Defense Authorization bill (S. 3454) during the lame duck session of Congress following the November elections. Failure to enact this important legislation during a time of war will not only send the wrong message to troops serving in harm's way, but also negatively impact numerous defense programs including benefits for active, Reserve and retired personnel and their families and survivors. These include the 2011 active duty pay increase, a number of special pays and bonuses that will sunset at the end of this calendar year, expanded care and support for wounded warriors and their caregivers, supplemental Impact Aid for schools educating military children and expanded TRICARE coverage for dependent children. The legislation also addresses other critical policies and programs, including active and Reserve service end strengths. FRA also co-signed a Military Coalition letter that urges Congress to act on the legislation.

Prior to the pre-election recess, the Senate was expected to consider floor amendments addressing the concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability benefits, a higher active-duty annual pay increase (1.9 versus 1.4 percent), retroactive early retirement (since 9/11/01) credit for frequently mobilized Reservists, and repeal of the Survivor Benefit Plan and Dependency Indemnity Compensation (SBP/DIC) offset.

The FRA Legislative team is Joe Barnes, National Executive Director; John Davis, Director of Legislative Programs and Branch 181 President; Bob Washington, Health Care Advisor and Outreach Manager; Chris Slawinski, National Veterans Service Officer and Ed Dockery, Assistant Director of Legislative Programs.

USMC in Black



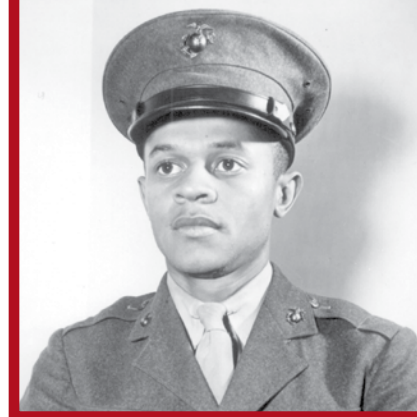
When the United States Marine Corps began enlisting African Americans in 1942, it marked the beginning of an important chapter in U.S. history. The nearly 20,000 Marines who trained and served at Montford Point, N.C., changed how the Corps and the country viewed racial equality.

The other services were less restrictive at the time, but still had very definite ideas about the ways blacks could serve. A few African Americans were admitted in the Navy, but only as messmen or stewards, and the Army maintained four segregated regiments, where black soldiers could serve in combat. Although a few blacks — slaves and freemen — served in the Continental Marines during the American Revolution, the Corps had not allowed African Americans in its ranks since its reestablishment in 1798.

That all changed in June of 1942...

Story by Lauren Armstrong

& White



The story of the Montford Point Marines

...when President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Presidential Executive Order 8802 that gave African Americans the opportunity to join the Marine Corps. The plan was to train black volunteers at a segregated boot camp at Montford Point, a facility at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and eventually create a composite defense battalion that would be racially segregated and commanded by white officers.

Recruiting was slow at first, but by October, about half of the 1,200 recruits needed to man a battalion and handle the required administrative and support functions had enlisted. Some joined to take advantage of an opportunity that had been denied to them for 150 years. Some had seen movies of WWI Marines, were impressed by their courage and wanted to be like them. Some saw it as a personal challenge and felt they had something to prove. Others simply liked the uniform. But all joined to fight and defend the country they loved. The expansion of the draft in December 1942 allowed quotas to be established by the services and ensured that 1,000 African Americans would enter the Marine Corps each month.

Making Marines

The first Montford Pointers, as they came to be called, arrived in late August, 1942, and immediately began experiencing the rigors of recruit training, not unlike those experienced by Marines at Parris Island or San Diego.

“It was a completely different world all together,” reminisces Reuben McNair, who arrived at Montford Point in 1944 and would advance to the rank of gunnery

sergeant. “I most certainly didn’t expect to be yelled at and screamed at or given a rough time. When I left home, I vowed church would be one of the last places I’d go. But after one week at Montford Point – the yelling, screaming, running, saluting every person you saw with an emblem on his cap — I almost knocked the door down [to get to church].”

The recruits were trained by an initial cadre of approximately 25 white officers and 90 white enlisted men, who formed the Special Enlisted Staff and initially handled duties that ranged from administrative tasks to serving as drill instructors. They would hold these positions until black replacements could be trained and promoted for such responsibilities. Each member of the Special Enlisted Staff was screened to ensure that none opposed the presence of blacks in the Corps.

It was imperative that the most qualified recruits be identified and cultivated for positions of enlisted leadership as quickly as possible. Using written and oral exams and their own experience, the drill instructors determined which recruits had leadership potential and the first Montford Point promotions took place in November 1942, a month

before the recruits had completed boot camp. Among those early leaders was Gilbert “Hashmark” Johnson, who earned his nickname because his previous Army and Navy service earned him three diagonal stripes, called hashmarks, on his Marine uniform. Because of his infantry experience as a company clerk, mortar gunner and squad leader, he quickly earned a position as a drill instructor and eventually became the Battalion Sergeant Major of the Montford Point Recruit Depot Battalion. Following his death in 1972, the Marine Corps paid tribute to him by renaming Montford Point as Camp Gilbert H. Johnson.

By the time Joseph Carpenter arrived at Montford Point in mid-1943, most of the drill instructors (DIs) were black. “There were still a few whites around, but basically the black DIs were taking over. We thought that would be good, but we found that was worse. They were determined to make us succeed and be real Marines. That was their main goal, to be sure we were going to be better than everyone else.”

“We were fortunate because if you were an African American and you enlisted in the Marine Corps, regardless of what your education, your training or occupation, you ended up [at Montford Point.] As a result, we had professors, lawyers, people who had studied medicine,” adds Carpenter. “We had excellent leadership. Those were the people that really kept us together, because they were old enough and wise enough to guide us.”

Segregated Marines

Although these trailblazing Marines were prepared for the challenges of training and combat, some were not ready for the racial discrimination they experienced in the South. Those traveling from northern cities, where racial lines weren't so distinctly drawn, were particularly surprised to find themselves in a part of the country where segregation and Jim Crow laws prevailed. They were not allowed to set foot on the neighboring Camp Lejeune unless they were accompanied by a white Marine. Porters ousted black passengers from sleeping cars when they passed the "black line" in Washington, D.C., south of which rail travel was segregated. Joseph Carpenter and his fellow recruits, who traveled to Montford Point in May of 1943, were denied food service on their journey from the nation's capital.

"We left D.C. around 7:00 in the morning ... and traveled by train. All the blacks rode in the car behind the coal car," recalls Carpenter. "Because of segregation, we weren't allowed to eat in the dining car. When we pulled into Rocky Mount, [N.C.], we followed the crowd into the train station, until this big cop comes up to us and says, 'Where the hell do you niggers think you're going?' He told us we had to go around the side [to eat]. We weren't about to argue with him."

When Carpenter and his fellow recruits went to the food service window at the side of the station, the white waitress ignored them. When they moved on to the bus station in town, they ran into the same problem. They felt confident they'd find food at the base, but by the time they arrived at Montford Point, the mess hall was closed.

"The next morning, we had to get our uniforms, package stuff up to send home and we had to wait till lunchtime for food," explains Carpenter.

This was indicative of the challenges the Montford Pointers



By late 1943, white drill instructors had been replaced by African Americans. Here Sgt. Gilbert "Hashmark" Johnson, one of the first and most respected black drill instructors, reviews troops on Montford Point.

would continue to face. By the time McNair arrived at boot camp in February of 1944, all the drill instructors were black. "You couldn't say you were discriminated against by your own. The only discrimination I really observed was once I left the base," he recalls.

Liberty calls were intimidating remembers Carpenter. "This was my first time in the Deep South. We'd heard of all the lynching and read about the Ku Klux Klan and all that, so I wasn't too anxious to go out on the town on liberty."

Instead, he'd try to get back home to D.C. when he had the chance, but there was only one bus station in Jacksonville. "There were two lines — one for whites and one for African Americans. The whites got on first and, if there were any seats left over, we were allowed to get on. If there were enough whites to fill the bus, we couldn't get on."

The Montford Pointers faced similar problems at the train station in Rocky Mount. There was only one coach for blacks and troops from Fort Bragg would often fill it up before it even got to Rocky Mount.

And if they managed to get off the base for a little R&R, they often had similar difficulties getting back to their quarters before curfew. By law, bus drivers gave white passengers priority and restricted black riders to the rear of the bus, unless the space was needed for white

passengers. This often resulted in black Marines being left standing at the bus stop "as the deadline for returning to Montford Point drew nearer," according to Bernard C. Nalty's commentary on *The Right to Fight: African-American Marines in World War II*. "When this happened, angry black Marines, at the risk of violence from the local police, might commandeer a bus, remove the driver and take it to the gate nearest Jacksonville, where the transit company could retrieve it on the next morning." Colonel Samuel Woods, sometimes called the Great White Father of the Montford Point Camp he commanded, helped remedy this problem by sending battalion trucks into town to pick up the Marines and return them to the post.

Carpenter also recalls some Montford Pointers getting arrested for impersonating Marines. "I guess some folks had never seen an African American in a Marine uniform before. They had to send white officers to get them out of jail, sometimes to lock-ups as far away as Texas."

The Corps, like the country, grappled with the social and structural issues of integration. In March of 1943, General Thomas Holcomb, Commandant of the Marine Corps, issued a classified directive that made it clear "in no case shall there be colored noncommissioned officers senior to white men in the



BRANCH LISTING FOR 2011



FRA and Marsh Affinity Group Services are proud to provide a listing of all FRA branches for the coming year. Arranged by region, the directory also includes branch meeting times and locations as well as contact information for each regional president and vice president. Branches are the heart of FRA — and we encourage involvement from every shipmate!

Keeping in touch with other branches in your region and beyond can be very beneficial. Whether planning a new community service project, supporting an outreach event, or just looking for ideas to strengthen your branch, your shipmates can be a great source of support and assistance. Regional and national conventions are a great way to connect with shipmates outside your branch, but there are numerous other ways to connect with your fellow shipmates without ever leaving home.

Want to be more involved in your branch? Call your secretary today and express your interest in supporting the branch by volunteering to help with:

- Public speaking
- Becoming a mentor to other shipmates
- Community service opportunities
- Assisting with the branch Web site
- Recruiting members
- Calling new members to welcome them
- Hosting an online discussion community
- Working on branch newsletter

Interested in starting a new branch? Call Penny Collins, Director of Membership Development at 1-800-FRA-1924 ext. 123.

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¹U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Clearinghouse for Long Term Care Information, http://www.longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main_Site/Paying_LTC/Cost_Of_Care/Cost_Of_Care.aspx, viewed 9/24/10

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 Regional Vice President: Darrell F McKinley, Jr., 1716 Providence Rd, Elizabeth Cty, NC 27909-4539, H: (252) 338-3061, darrellmckinley@gmail.com

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
004	DC, WASHINGTON	Alejandro S Bravo, Jr.	Claudio B Pedrey	(301) 292-4203	cpedey@verizon.net	305 Mecca Ct, Ft Washington, MD 20744-5135	Ceremonial Honor Guard Bldg 47, NAVSTA Anacostia, DC	1300, 2nd Sat.
005	VA, NORFOLK	Jacob R Schwartz	Thomas L Leisher	(757) 853-1586	sechrbc@cox.net	4912 Cape Henry Ave, Norfolk, VA 23513-2717	VFW Post 4809, 5728 Barteet Street, Norfolk, VA	1000, 4th Tues.
006	MD, BALTIMORE	Honace Smith	Bryant McCray	(410) 294-2979	mccrayb@comcast.net	7700 Johnnycake Rd, Baltimore, MD 21244-1218	War Memorial Building, Gay & Fayette Streets, Baltimore, MD	1930, 1st Fri.
024	MD, ANNAPOLIS	Donald A Hoover	Valerie Reed	(410) 267-0621	FRAbranch24@gmail.com	100 Compromise St, Annapolis, MD 21401-1808	100 Compromise Street, Annapolis, MD	1900, 2nd Tues.
037	VA, PORTSMOUTH	William D Hansen	Joseph E Cobb	(757) 397-2354	cobbj66@yahoo.com	PO Box 7215, Portsmouth, VA 23707-0215	101 Alabama Extension, Portsmouth, VA	1400, 3rd Sun.
040	VA, CHESAPEAKE	Michael Lee Campbell	Carol L Custer	(757) 202-5149	clcuster@hotmail.com	1404 Chesapeake Ave, Chesapeake, VA 23324-2204	Four O Club, 4060 S. Military Highway, Chesapeake, VA	1900, 3rd Tues.
041	VA, ROANOKE	Dwayne Owens	Joe Black	(540) 892-5757	blacksja@aol.com	1526 Virginia Ridge Dr, Hardy, VA 24101-3777	St. Citizen's Chr, WMM, 804 E. Wash. Ave, Vinton, VA	1830, 3rd Tues.
060	VA, NORFOLK	Laura R Ferguson	William Paul Knight	(757) 531-7158	williamknight1@cox.net	8475 Pythian Ave # B, Norfolk, VA 23518-2663	Branch Home, 9611 1st View Street, Norfolk, VA	1900, 2nd Thurs.
067	MD, SUITLAND	Willie Johnson, Jr.	Cardell E Campbell	(301) 868-6354	cardellec@yahoo.com	5006 Suitland Rd, Suitland, MD 20746-1263	Branch Home, 5006 Suitland Road, Suitland, MD	1930, 2nd Thurs.
093	MD, PATUXENT RIVER	Anthony W Smith	Kelly A. Fosen	(301) 863-6414	sailorette94@aol.com	PO Box 93, Patuxent River, MD 20670	21707 Three Notch Road, Lexington, Park, MD	1800, 2nd Mon.
099	VA, VIRGINIA BEACH	Charles A Baldwin	Martin G Wood	(757) 479-1812	mgw1812@verizon.net	357 Edwin Dr, Virginia Beach, VA 23462-4522	Branch Home, 601 Webb Boulevard, Havelock, NC	1900, 2nd Wed.
123	NC, MORGANTON	Timothy B Propst	Timothy B Propst	(828) 438-5021	jreb@bellsouth.net	3651 Pea Ridge Rd, Morganton, NC 28655-7537	A.J. Restaurant, Morganton, NC	1800, 3rd Thurs.
141	NC, HAWELOCK	Dwight E. Bowman	W. G. Butler	(252) 514-9827	cjburtler@suddenlink.net	902 Swallow Ct, New Bern, NC 28560-7238	Branch Home, 2408 Bowland Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA	1900, 2nd Tues.
166	VA, VIRGINIA BEACH	Thomas A Cecil	Ray E Santee	(757) 431-0262	rsantee@cox.net	3212 Lakecrest Rd, Virginia Bch, VA 23462-4910	VFW Post 392, 2408 Bowland Parkway, Virginia Beach, VA	1900, 2nd Mon.
168	MD, BAINBRIDGE	Robert W McMahon	Kenneth Miller	(410) 658-4858	suehank07@yahoo.com	11 Nottingham Rd, Nottingham, PA 19362-9123	AnLeg Post 194, 338 E. Main Street, Rising Sun, MD	1930, 1st Wed.
172	VA, YORKTOWN	Gilbert D Clapper	Henry J Mahaney	(757) 877-8332	suehank07@yahoo.com	954 Red Oak Cir, Newport News, VA 23608-1350	400 Old York-Hampton Highway, Grafton, VA	1900, 2nd Mon.
181	VA, ARLINGTON	John Richard Davis	Robert Washington, Sr.	(301) 839-3212	bobw@tra.org	1910 Fenwood Ave, Oxon Hill, MD 20745-3221	AnLeg Post 139, 3445 N. Washington Blvd, Arlington, VA	1800, 1st Thurs.
182	MD, BETHESDA	Randy L Philipp	Wilho J Tommila	(301) 340-6782	izavadi@embarqmail.com	1400 Broadwood Dr, Rockville, MD 20851-1735	AnLeg Post 86, 2013 Viers Mill Road, Rockville, MD	1930, 3rd Wed.
204	NC, ROCKY MOUNT	Gerry N Phelps	John L Zavadi	(252) 446-7816	jzavadi@embarqmail.com	224 Foxhall Dr, Rocky Mount, NC 27804-8817	Contact Secretary	1930, 4th Tues.
207	VA, DALE CITY	William Watson	Juliana Conyer Brangers	(703) 441-3223	jew12956@gmail.com	3210 Riverview Dr, Triangle, VA 22172-1420	VFW Post 1503, 14631 Minnieville Road, Dale City, VA	1000, 2nd Sat.
208	NC, JACKSONVILLE	Gerard D Healy	Joseph R. Reichler	(910) 455-8386	randyreichler@usmc.mil	708 Gardenview Dr, Jacksonville, NC 28540-3816	6 E. Thompson St., Jacksonville, NC	1930, 2nd Mon.
212	MD, MEADE	James Guy Hall	Lowell P Throngard	(410) 672-3172	LThrongard@hotmail.com	1862 Hawk Ct, Severn, MD 21144-3115	VFW Post 160, 2597 Dorsey Road, Glen Burnie, MD	1900, 2nd Wed.
217	NC, WINSTON-SALEM	Clarence E. West, Jr.	Marvin C Yew	(336) 766-6420	mcyow1@bellsouth.net	PO Box 69, Lewisville, NC 27023-0069	AnLeg Post 35, 111 Miller Street, Winston Salem, NC	1900, 3rd Tues.
219	VA, RICHMOND	John D Herber	Charles E Wilson	(804) 794-3611	charliew695@aol.com	5166 Croft Crossing Dr, Richmond, VA 23237-3193	First Unitarian Church, 1000 Blanton Avenue, Richmond, VA	1400, 3rd Wed.
228	NC, CHARLOTTE	Marvin M White, Jr.	Vicente T Guzman	(704) 399-2186	mjakiesade@aol.com	7311 Pawtucket Rd, Charlotte, NC 28214-2115	Piedmont Chhormator, 7424 Orr Rd, Charlotte, NC	1200, 2nd Sat.
257	VA, PORTSMOUTH	Lorenzo T Harvey	Arthur L Manley	(757) 588-0692	mjakiesade@aol.com	908 Sir Lancelot Dr, Chesapeake, VA 23323-2528	DNV Chapter 27, 3019 Portsmouth Blvd, Portsmouth, VA	1400, 4th Sat.
259	NC, FAYETTEVILLE	Leonard R Galloway	Jimmie R. Wright	(910) 904-0884	178 Canter Dr, Raeford, NC 28376-8020	178 Canter Dr, Raeford, NC 28376-8020	RMA Building, 120 Elizabethtown Road, Fayetteville, NC	1900, 4th Tues.
293	NC, ELIZABETH CITY	James A Grumbles	Darrell F McKinley, Jr.	(252) 338-3061	darrellmckinley@gmail.com	PO Box 1753, Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1753	CPQA Bldg., 514 Cardwell St., Elizabeth City, NC	1900, 1st Thurs.
299	NC, WILMINGTON	Harry E Whitted	Joy Walker	(252) 425-3121	walkerske@gmail.com	729 Silver Lake Rd, Wilmington, NC 28412-7713	VFW Post 2573, 2722 Carolina Bch Rd, Wilmington, NC	0900, 2nd Sat.
301	NC, GREENVILLE	Donald G. McWhorter	Jerry Robert Leatherwood	(252) 524-2021	jerrywood@embarqmail.com	PO Box 30922, Greenville, NC 27834	VFW Post 7032, 1108 Mumford Rd., Greenville, NC	1900, 1st Mon.
309	DE, NEWARK	James M Jackson	Ronald B Littlejohn	(302) 798-8481	Rbl197@aol.com	200 Commonwealth Ave, Claymont, DE 19703-2016	Del. Military Academy, 112 Middleboro Rd., Wilmington, DE	1400, 2nd Thurs.
347	MD, SALISBURY	David P Suter	Richard A. Robinson	(410) 546-2383	robin4765@aol.com	408 Viewfield Dr, Salisbury, MD 21804-8619	AnLeg Post 64, 1109 Leggon Rd., Salisbury, MD	1400, 3rd Mon.
361	NC, ASHEVILLE	Lawrence Garofalo	John W Peltier	(828) 553-3692	johnpeltier7@aol.com	51 Whitener Rd, Penrose, NC 28766-9736	Fire & Rescue Station, 49 E. Fanning Bridge Rd., Fletcher, NC	1430, 3rd Sat.
369	MD, CUMBERLAND	Charles J Pennington	Richard V Cittes	(301) 463-3180	fra_branch369@yahoo.com	PO Box 124, Lonaconing, MD 21639-0124	6 Commander Ct., Cumberland, MD	1900, 3rd Tues.

FRA offers a Short Term Recovery Insurance plan as a special member benefit. The FRA-endorsed RecoveryCare Plan pays daily cash benefits, in addition to the insurance you already have. Also, NEW higher benefit amounts at the same affordable rates. Call 1-800-424-1120 for more details, including costs, exclusions, limitations, and terms of coverage.

North Central Region

Regional President: Leon J. Zalewski, 4726 S 22nd St, Milwaukee, WI 53221-2908, H: (414) 281-5438, lzalewski@wi.rr.com

Regional Vice President: Charles Neureuther, 3510 Wyoming Ave SW, Wyoming, MI 49519-3248, H: (616) 538-2685, neureuther@sbcglobal.net

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
012	IL, CHICAGO	Demis J Kotarba	Eugene L Gillette	(708) 343-3366	marcia853@hotmail.com	101 N 23rd Ave, Melrose Park, IL 60160-3655	JC George's Rest., 181 Countyside Plaza, Countryside, IL	1400, 3rd Sat.
014	WI, MILWAUKEE	Leon J Zalewski	Marcia L Cunningham	(414) 426-8124	dottie_burnison@sbcglobal.net	PO Box 370575, Milwaukee, WI 53237-1675	4952 W Forest Home Ave., Milwaukee, WI	1000, Last Sat.
017	OH, CLEVELAND	Edward Michael Blind	Dorothy W Burnison	(440) 845-4194	stanleymacag@att.net	7407 Arden Ave, Parma, OH 44129-2501	St. Stephens Church, 1930 W. 54th St, Cleveland, OH	1930, 4th Mon.
027	MI, DETROIT	Dale P Kaiser	Stanley J Maciej	(586) 569-9136	john_45011@yahoo.com	45185 Fox Ln Apt 101, Shelby Twp, MI 48317-5040	USCG Base, 110 Mt Elliott Avenue, Detroit, MI	1930, 4th Sun.
028	OH, CINCINNATI	James H Kern	John J Bekemeier	(513) 868-1509	nawj20@socsket.net	1965 Cathedral Ln, Hamilton, OH 45013-5169	VFW Post 4369, 3318 E. Sharon Road, Cincinnati, OH	1930, 2nd Tues.
032	MO, SEDALIA	Carlton J King	Estil D Turner	(660) 831-6237	srisley@comcast.net	1683 S Lincoln Ave, Marshall, MO 65340-3425	VFW Post 2591, 121 S. Ohio, Sedalia, MO	1830, 4th Tues.
053	IL, GREAT LAKES	Robert E Campbell	Stephen L Risley	(224) 795-7377	salliw@dishmail.net	PO Box 7859, Gumee, IL 60031-7005	AnLeg Post 771, Grand & Milwaukee Avenues, Gumee, IL	1900, 3rd Tues.
054	OK, MCALLESTER	Brenda K Pool	William R Sallis	(918) 389-4638	ldrawdy@roadrunner.com	RR 6 Box 93A, McAlester, OK 74501-9210	VFW Post 1098, 17th & Morris, McAlester, OK	1300, 1st Sun.
105	KY, OWENSBORO	Harold T Phillips	Louis F Drawdy	(270) 684-7501	FRAL36@q.com	4100 Kipling Rd, Owensboro, KY 42303-7220	AnLeg Post 494, 5222 Bass Lake Rd., Crystal, MN	1800, 2nd Wed.
130	IN, INDIANAPOLIS	William Edwin Legan	James Vernon Church	(317) 547-4350	billieandjanet@hotmail.com	PO Box 26593, Indianapolis, IN 46228-0693	VFW Post 5864, 333 S. Washington Street, Greenwood, IN	1800, 1st Mon.
136	MN, MINNEAPOLIS	Thomas J Dooley	Gary P Miller	(651) 436-5915	frabran180@yahoo.com	15077 8th St N, Stillwater, MN 55082-1801	VFW Post 494, 5222 Bass Lake Rd., Crystal, MN	1000, 2nd Thurs.
145	NE, LINCOLN	William T Workman	Billie W Maier	(402) 475-2979	j.lickteig@sbcglobal.net	5600 Pioneers Blvd Apt 374, Lincoln, NE 68506-5377	DAV Club, 3901 N. 70th Street, Lincoln, NE	2000, 3rd Thurs.
160	OK, MUSKOGEE	Craig Osburn	Truck Earl Morning	(918) 681-4959	rick380@insightbb.com	4600 Oklahoma St, Muskogee, OK 74401-1563	USS Batfish Memorial Park, Muskogee, OK	1000, 2nd Sat.
161	KS, KANSAS CITY	Curry Sanders	Jerome P Lickteig	(816) 353-4665	wsccraig@aol.com	6604 Sterling Ave, Raytown, MO 64133-5451	13137 Womall Road, Kansas City, MO	1930, 1st Wed.
177	KY, LOUISVILLE	Rayburn Jarred, Jr.	Richard W Olier	(502) 937-3329	dipooles@brtc.net	3804 Sedalia Trl, Louisville, KY 40272-2938	Navy Operational Sup. Ctr., 5401 Southside Dr, Louisville, KY	1030, 2nd Sat.
206	KY, BOWLING GREEN	Dawayne Capps	William L Wagoner	(270) 792-1221	bonjter@solarus.net	2123 Robin Rd, Bowling Green, KY 42101-3654	Contact Secretary	1830, 2nd Tues.
216	IA, CEDAR RAPIDS	Marvin Schlichte	Shirley Niedermann	(319) 899-9131	fra241@cox.net	601 Maplewood Dr, Center Point, IA 52213-9439	AnLeg Post 5, 4719 J St, SW, Cedar Rapids, IA	1900, 4th Thurs.
221	IL, PEORIA	Lawrence H Zillion	Jerry L Peterson	(309) 359-9460	wtsecraig@aol.com	606 Golden Ct, Mackinaw, IL 61755-7645	Navy Club of Peoria #34, 1310 Seiberling, Peoria Heights, IL	1400, 3rd Sat.
223	KY, BENTON	Timothy A King	Danny G Poole	(270) 876-7259	shaylorjames@sbcglobal.net	2129 Hinkleville Rd, La Center, KY 42056-9744	AnLeg Post 31, Legion Drive, Paducah, KY	1900, 3rd Tues.
238	WI, PLOVER	Wayne Gary Johnson	Gerald M Place, Sr.	(715) 423-3689	fluke4@msn.com	511 Ruby Ave, Wisc Rapids, WI 54494-7810	Naval Operation Support Ctr., C Road 20, Fargo ND	1930, 1st Thurs.
241	KS, WICHITA	Mason F Braman	Robert G Hall	(316) 788-4549	usntra@cox.net	1620 E 84th St S, Haysville, KS 67060-9254	40 & 8 Club, 70th & Spring Street, Omaha, NE	1930, 1st Thurs.
242	IA, DAVENPORT	Rodney C Mooney	William T Craig, Jr.	(563) 322-7808	frab280@hotmail.com	2317 E Pleasant St, Davenport, IA 52803-2325	AnLeg Post 308., 11321 E. Admiral Place, Tulsa, OK	1100, 3rd Sat.
267	MO, ST LOUIS	John J Hollowood	James B Taylor	(618) 931-4504	jimhypo@aol.com	1007 Stevenson Rd, Erlanger, KY 41018-2522	VFW Post 6423, 4435 Palumbo Dr., Lexington, KY	1900, 3rd Tues.
268	OK, OKLAHOMA CITY	Jesse L Whitney	Susan Hammond	(405) 210-1405	bobmeade@windstream.net	2056 Huckleberry Cir, Lexington, KY 40514-1318	IHOP Restaurant, 2306 Palumbo Dr., Lexington, KY	1900, 4th Thurs.
273	ND, FARGO	Rick L Wangen	Wallace Roy Lueck	(701) 280-7089	posekany@chartermi.net	2309 2nd St N, Fargo ND 58102-2006	Grand Valley NCO Club, 1200 44th St, SW, Wyoming, MI	1900, 4th Fri.
276	NE, OMAHA	Carl P Burnham	Charles H Goodman, II	402-455-7478	calemcom@gmail.com	5027 Arcadia Ave, Omaha, NE 68104-1333	Ottumwa AmLeg Home, 550 W. Main St, Ottumwa, IA	1330, 2nd Wed.
280	OK, TULSA	Joe D Cantrell	Jack A Rice	(918) 836-3239	janmill1957@sbcglobal.net	5766 E 27th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74114-5112	Ryans Family Steakhouse, 510 Rangeline, Joplin, MO	1300, 3rd Thurs.
283	KY, ELSMERE	Charles E. Clark	James Hammond	(859) 341-1934	cmew@sbcglobal.net	1077 Stevenson Rd, Erlanger, KY 41018-2522	VFW Post 3404, 1136 E. Atlantic, Springfield, MO	1800, 4th Thurs.
284	KY, LEXINGTON	Ambrosio Sanchez	Robert E Meade, Jr.	(859) 296-8130	posekany@windstream.net	2056 Huckleberry Cir, Lexington, KY 40514-1318	Veterans Building, 34 Park Ave, W. Mansfield, OH	1900, 2nd Wed.
298	MI, GRAND RAPIDS	Janice A Roy	Marty J Posekany	(616) 225-9264	jinaash@hotmail.com	10930 Wildlife Dr, Greenville, MI 48838-8182	VFW Post 3747, 1935 Avalon Ave NE, Canton, OH	1500, 3rd Tues.
300	IA, OTTUMWA	William L Shankster, Jr.	Charles A Linebeck	(641) 895-0893	fra_br22@att.net	PO Box 27, Udeli, IA 52593-0027	VFW Post 8312, 2389 Dayton-Xenia Rd, Beavercreek, OH	1530, 3rd Mon.
315	MO, JOPLIN	Jimmie P Ridenour	Charles M Head	(479) 636-0456	sdbilly420@hotmail.com	904 E New Hope Rd, Rogers, AR 72758-0525	VFW Post 857, 2202 W. Main Street, Ft. Wayne, IN	1915, 3rd Wed.
316	MO, SPRINGFIELD	Virginia Swayne	Charles B Ewy	(417) 887-3115	nockel@grtrain.org	1428 S Wentworth Ave, Springfield, MO 65804-6517	AnLeg Post 470, 805 E. Greenwood Road, Skidway Lake, MI	1430, 3rd Sat.
319	OH, MANSFIELD	Richard D Bland	William K Reed	449-756-6147	Jack007@tds.net	4702 Devonshire Ln, Mansfield, OH 44907-2904	Leisure Living Apt Club House, 2518 Leisure Ln, Evansville, IN	1800, 2nd Thurs.
324	OH, AKRON	Joseph A Prusaick	James J. Nash	(330) 588-9071	931 Maple Ave, Terre Haute, IN 47804-2836	2203 Baldwin Ave NE, Canton, OH 44705-4023	Contact Secretary	1400, 3rd Sat.
327	OH, DAYTON	James D Stope	Ronald C Gray	(937) 294-4255	2128 S 11th St, Saint Joseph, MO 64503-2720	3101 Delaney St, Dayton, OH 45420-1105	AnLeg Post 6760, 306 Cherokee Street, St. Joseph, MO	1900, 2nd Tues.
348	IN, FT WAYNE	Robert A Tillman	William N. Smith	(574) 371-7833		1116 Madison St # B, Rochester, IN 46975-1832		
358	MI, OSCODA	William B Kubik	John H Bradford	(989) 686-7086		3415 Golfview Dr, Bay City, MI 48706-2413		
364	MO, HOUSTON	David E Herndon	Robert E Simpson	(417) 967-3535		5000 Warren Dr, Evansville, IN 47710-3906		
365	IN, EVANSVILLE	Donald L Harris	Gerald A Davis	(812) 491-6874		2805 Century Harbor Rd, Middleton, WI 53562-1807		
376	WI, MADISON	William C Rose	John J Bond	(608) 831-2348		931 Maple Ave, Terre Haute, IN 47804-2836		
377	IN, TERRE HAUTE	Leonard J Rostek	Donald C Smock	(812) 232-4971				
379	MO, ST JOSEPH	Kevin D Flippin	Barry M White	(816) 984-4304				

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North East Region

Regional President: David Munday, III, 43A Molly Pitcher Blvd, Whiting, NJ 08759-1561, H: (732) 350-6403, davenavner@comcast.net
 Regional Vice President: James E. Brown, 925 Carlton Blvd, Staten Island, NY 10312-3338, H: (718) 356-5997, isorisjim@msn.com

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
001	PA, PHILADELPHIA	Charles E Rainey, Sr.	Raymond Suarez	(267) 872-2960		66 Sewell St Apt C, Glassboro, NJ 08028-2469	USCC Sector Delaware Bay, 1 Washington Ave., Philadelphia, PA	1300, 1st Mon.
013	NJ, ATLANTIC CITY	Henderson C. Hemphill	Robert M Burruss	(609) 646-8650		208 Ridgewood Dr, Northfield, NJ 08225-1721	AnLeg Post 295, 232 Mill Rd., Northfield, NJ	1000, 3rd Tues.
023	NY, BUFFALO	David R LaGraves	Richard K Hadley	(716) 634-9723	rock372@juno.com	1298 Cleveland Dr, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-1808	AnLeg Post 735, 35 Legion Drive, West Seneca, NY	1930, 3rd Wed.
027	NJ, SOUTH JERSEY	Donald F Burkhard	Mary W Rauch	(856) 468-6569	mrauch@comcast.net	842 Saint Regis Ct, West Deptford, NJ 08051-2049	Marine Corps League, 334 Harvey Ave., Wenonah, NJ	1900, 3rd Wed.
071	NY, RIVERHEAD	Anthony E Merolle	Richard G. Sprague	(631) 924-4526	klondykeson@aol.com	17 Cathedral Ct, Middle Island, NY 11953-1953	Contact Secretary	Contact Secretary
087	PA, BEDFORD	Harry A Smith	Gary W Simmons	(814) 224-5571	gasimmons@state.pa.us	2009 Frosty Hollow Rd, Roaring Sog, PA 16673-9318	Contact Secretary	1930, 3rd Thurs.
106	PA, HARRISBURG	Albert K Engle	George J McDonnell	(717) 728-5460	gmcdone1@comcast.net	3926 Brookridge Dr, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-2103	Blg 14, NAVICP, 5450 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA	1900, 2nd Mon.
115	PA, ALLENTOWN	George E Folk	Larry J Roth	(610) 866-1737	l.roth@kearftt.com	706 Pembroke Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18018-3006	City View Diner, 1831 MacArthur Rd., Whitehall, PA	0800, 2nd Tues.
124	NJ, LAKEHURST	William R Anthony	Sharon A Munday	732-350-6403	sammj124@comcast.net	43A Molly Pitcher Blvd, Whiting, NJ 08759-1561	Branch Home, 204 Union Avenue, Lakehurst, NJ	1900, 2nd Wed.
146	PA, JOHNSVILLE	David E Carver	Thomas Concannon	(215) 536-3914		1611 Park Ave Apt 426, Quakertown, PA 18951-1049	VFW 6493, 645 Louis Dr., Warmminster, PA	1900, 2nd Tues.
214	NY, SCHEENECTADY	Daniel Patton Miller	John Edson Labrie	(518) 399-2039	labriejohn@earthlink.net	1 Glendale Rd, Glenville, NY 12302-5203	Bernard St. Ext. (81 Rotterdam Industrial Park), Rotterdam, NY	1900, 2nd Tues.
226	NY, STATEN ISLAND	James E Brown	Louis M Bunch	(718) 273-2342	runch@aol.com	50 Sharpe Ave, Staten Island, NY 10302-1234	46 Ontario Ave., Staten Island, NY	1930, 2nd Thurs.
229	NY, NEWBURGH	Robert M. Ibe	Norman M Sivertsen, Jr.	(845) 778-5181	usnmfira@hvc.rr.com	6 Johnson Rd, Montgomery, NY 12549-2200	USMC Globe & Anchor Club, 291 Raz Ave., New Windsor, NY	1830, 2nd Wed.
253	PA, PITTSBURGH	Eugene M Camarata	Michael J Walsh	(412) 884-4906		4643 Meadowngreen Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15236-1846	Brentwood VFW 1810, 3801 Clairton Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA	1400, 3rd Sat.
258	PA, ERIE	Raymond Barber	John E Harriger	(814) 825-9336	jusnet@verizon.net	1225 Bellevue Dr, Erie, PA 16504-2713	Chrch & Murdock, Conf. Rm, 5709 Wattersburg Rd, Erie, PA	1900, 2nd Tues.
285	NY, SYRACUSE	Lynn E Swetland	Michael F Merlo	(315) 463-0023	mmerlo@twynr.com	1012 Kime St, East Syracuse, NY 13057-1733	Pastimes Athletic Club, 1314 N. Salina Street, Syracuse, NY	1900, 3rd Thurs.
288	PA, WILKES BARRE	Francis D Tyson	Joseph Tully	(570) 342-7962	jully2@comcast.net	810 S Webster Ave, Scranton, PA 18505-4206	VFW Post 1227, 492 Stephenson Street, Duryea, PA	1900, 3rd Tues.
306	NY, UTICA	Leonard Dain Bragg	Leonard Dain Bragg	(315) 865-5974	lbragg@aol.com	8855 State Route 365, Stittville, NY 13469-1017	AMVETS Post 384, 2147 Whitesboro St., Utica, NY	1800, Last Thurs.
308	NY, COLTS NECK	John F Testa	John Regan	(732) 495-0655		319 Edgemoor Rd, Belford, NJ 07718-1302	335 Broad Street, Apt. 35, Red Bank, NJ	1900, 3rd Mon.
320	PA, DUBOIS	James D Welker	Edward L Poole	(814) 371-6760		59 Pacific Ave, Du Bois, PA 15801-1321	AnLeg Post 17, Liberty Boulevard, Dubois, PA	1400, 3rd Sun.

New England Region

Regional President: Philip A Justin, 4 Preserved Arnold Ct, Lincoln, RI 02865-2505, H: (401) 475-6028, pajustinret@verizon.net
 Regional Vice President: Paul F Loveless, Jr., 36 Williams Dr, Topsham, ME 04086-1708, H: (207) 725-0946, Paul.Loveless@comcast.net

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
003	MA, BOSTON	Robert J Gallagher	Robert E King	(781) 435-0070	Rking995@aol.com	200 Mountainview Dr Apt 107, Stoneham, MA 02180-2325	USS Constitution Inn, Navy Shipyards, Charlestown, MA	1300, 3rd Sun.
007	NH, PORTSMOUTH	Richard E Hamilton	Robert A Pomella	(207) 439-0996	pomcar@aol.com	4 Sea Oaks Ln, Kittery Point, ME 03905-5225	Contact President: (207) 748-0080	1300, 3rd Thurs.
020	CT, GROTON	Richard W Alken	Bilylee A. Serabian	(860) 448-0063	Br20FRASecretary@tvcconnect.net	61 Corey Rd, Groton, CT 06340-4303	Branch Home, 242 Thames Street, Groton, CT	1900, 3rd Thurs.
031	MA, PEABODY	Alfred R Prudhomme	Donna M Jansky	(978) 531-9286	janskyd@comcast.net	9 Basford Ct, Peabody, MA 01960-5301	VFW Post 1011, 20 Stevens Street, Peabody, MA	1930, 3rd Wed.
042	RI, QUONSET POINT	Kenneth A Senker	Philip A Justin	(401) 475-6028	pajustin@verizon.net	4 Preserved Arnold Ct, Lincoln, RI 02865-2505	Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI	1900, 3rd Tues.
066	MA, S WEYMOUTH	Leo J Doherty, Jr.	Phillip C Mann	(508) 888-4164	phillee3@verizon.net	1 Thumpertown Ln, East Sandwich, MA 02537-1610	VFW Post 1788, 22 Church Street, Rockland, MA	1300, 2nd Fri.
072	MA, FALL RIVER	Roger O. Gagnon	Allen R Given	(508) 646-7130	argiven39@aol.com	128 McGowan St, Fall River, MA 02723-2928	755 Pine Street, Fall River, MA	1400, 1st Wed.
132	RI, PAWTUCKET	Robert L Bathazard	James F Hollis	(401) 333-2928	jhollis@cox.net	18 Lemieux Ave, Cumberland, RI 02864-5514	VFW Post 306, 171 Fountain Street, Pawtucket, RI	1900, 1st Mon.
156	ME, BRUNSWICK	Read E Rich, Jr.	Paul F Loveless, Jr.	(207) 725-0946	Paul.Loveless@comcast.net	P0 Box 591, Brunswick, ME 04011-0591	AnLeg Post 202, Frieside Road, Topsham, ME	1330, 2nd Thurs.
235	VT, RUTLAND	Gerard R. Granger	Lydia A. Cost	(802) 234-6587	lydiannne0312@comcast.net	P0 Box 55, Gaysville, VT 05746-0055	VFW Post 648, 15 Wales Street, Rutland, VT	1400, 3rd Sat.
237	CT, NANTIC	Bonnie L DeMaria	George P Hyland	(860) 445-7361	hylandstunhouse@aol.com	6 Bradford Cir, Groton, CT 06340-4103	Kari Hill VFW Post, Columbus Avenue, Niantic, CT	1400, 2nd Sun.
246	MA, SPRINGFIELD	Daniel F Bonyeau	John W Gannon	(413) 568-8174	jgan42@comcast.net	9 Darwin Dr, Westfield, MA 01085-3401	Holyoke Soldiers Home, 110 Cherry St., Holyoke, MA	1300, 3rd Sat.
338	NH, NASHUA	Earl A Dwire	John C Kotheimer	(603) 434-3213	kotheimer1@myfairpoint.net	66 N Shore Rd, Derry, NH 03038-5115	VFW Post 5791, 15 Bockes Road, Hudson, NH	1900, 3rd Thurs.
344	ME, PORTLAND	Raymond B Morin	William Glen Maners	(207) 799-3595	GleSan@aol.com	551 Sawyer St, S Portland, ME 04106-4646	Contact Secretary	Contact Secretary

FRA Membership has its benefits! Take advantage of valuable insurance plans that are an easy way to supplement medical and life insurance you already have at affordable group rates. Coverage available for members and dependents.

North West Region

Regional President: Hazel C. Bettencourt, 11901 W Trinity Ave, Nampa, ID 83651-8728, H: (208) 463-4682, hbettenccourt1123@hotmail.com

Regional Vice President: Pete Lazzaretti, 33819 36th Ave SW, Federal Way, WA 98023-2956, H: (253) 444-7516, v-president@fra-nwregion.org

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
018	WA, SEATTLE	Marion E Bardsley	Stephen R Malroy	(206) 364-4656	seattle.fra.branch.unit18@frontier.com	1803 NE 171st St, Shoreline, WA 98155-6024	Br Home, 23003 56th Ave., W., Mountlake Terrace, WA	1300, 2nd Sat.
029	WA, BREWERTON	Kenneth C. Mail	Michelle Erline Hodges	(360) 373-0267	frabran29@comcast.net	521 S National Ave, Bremerton, WA 98312-3682	521 National Avenue S, Bremerton, WA	1800, 2nd Tues.
036	PI, CAVITE CITY	Jose M Pangantiban	Edilberto B Santos, Jr.	(509) 315-8818	peg_burke@comcast.net	962 Interior 3, Sampaguita St., Dalahtican, Cavite City, 4100	Bahay Kubo, 688 A Del Rosario St., San Roque, Cavite City, PI	0930, 2nd Sat.
038	WA, SPOKANE	Robert S Bean, Sr.	Margret A Burle	(509) 758-3959	mcpojdi@hawaii.rr.com	14707 N Farragut Ln, Mead, WA 99021-9286	Contact Secretary	1900, 4th Sat.
046	HI, HONOLULU	Julian J. Wynn	John Ippert	(808) 623-3521	bick@teleport.com	891 Valkenburgh St, Honolulu, HI 96818-4400	Branch Home, 891 Valkenburgh Street, Honolulu, HI	1900, 2nd Wed.
055	OR, PORTLAND	Roger R Harr	George H Bickford, Sr.	(503) 656-6643	pljw69@yahoo.com	10701 SE Highway 212 Unit 18, Clackamas, OR 97015-9130	AnLeg Post 150, 8329 SE 89th Avenue, Portland, OR	1900, 2nd Fri.
059	WY, CHEYENNE	Lawrence Hastings	Porter J. Brown	(307) 421-4821	nickbell@charter.net	2501 Pattison Ave Apt B, Cheyenne, WY 82009-5143	VFW Post 1881, 2816 E. 7th St., Cheyenne, WY	1830, 1st Thurs.
063	ID, LEWISTON	John C. Currin	Charles E Whitman	(509) 758-3959	mayorduenas@yahoo.com	P0 Box 634, Lewiston, ID 83501-0634	VFW Hall, 1104 Warner Avenue, Lewiston, ID	1900, 1st Mon.
064	PI, ILOILO CITY	Angelco Nacanaway	Antonio M Batocao	(541) 474-1535	beardog422@yahoo.com	PSC 517 Box RS-IL, FPO, AP 96517-1000	RAO, Iloilo, Philippines	1100, 2nd Fri.
068	OR, GRANTS PASS	Francis Rowan	Nicholas E Peters	(602) 672-2384	jdntomlba@yahoo.com	2210 SW Webster Rd, Grants Pass, OR 97526-5946	Redwood Grange Hall, 1830 Reelwood Ave., Grants Pass, OR	1800, 3rd Wed.
073	GUAM, AGANA	Harold Dean Kirk, Jr.	Scott D Duenas	(671) 637-5103	majorduenas@yahoo.com	176 W Santa Barbara Ave, Dededo, GU 96929-5309	Vietnam Era Vets Mtg Hall, Mangilao, Guam	1500, 4th Sun.
074	PI, OLONGAPO CITY	Azrie J Potat	Francisco L Escudero	(047) 913-4287	jpook@kamakuranet.ne.jp	PSC 517 Box R, FPO, AP 96517-1000	TBR Hall, 21 Arthur Street, Olongapo, Philippines	1500, 2nd Sat.
083	PI, SAN MARCISO	Modesto M Fullecido	Romeo F. Rosete	(602) 652-3075	gracevalmorida@yahoo.com	#7 Natl Hwy San Jose, San Narciso, Zambales, 2205	Branch Home, San Narciso, Zambales, Philippines	0930, 3rd Sat.
097	WA, WHIDBEY ISLAND	Louis M Bellavance	Brian Adams	(360) 672-2384	ajib19621942@yahoo.com	715 SE Fidalgo Ave Ste 203, Oak Harbor, WA 98277-4007	331 SE 8th Avenue, Oak Harbor, WA	1900, 1st Wed.
103	JAPAN, YOKOSUKA	Jon E. Oliver	Jonathan P Hook	(046) 872-3199	manluprt@comcast.net	186 Psc 473, FPO, AP 96349-0002	FRA Honcho-1 Chome, Yokosuka, Japan	1800, 1st Wed.
104	WA, TACOMA	Marvin W Johnson	Nahum Doskow	(253) 537-4771	ndoskow@t.com	823 Brookdale Rd E, Tacoma, WA 98445-2821	VFW Post 2224, 120 2nd St. N.E., Puyallup, WA	1900, 2nd Mon.
111	PI, BATANGAS	Fausimo A Ortega	Leonardo A. Valmorida, Jr.	(043) 772-0526	gracevalmorida@yahoo.com	95 Pina@kurusuan Alitagtag, Batangas, 4205	A&M Restaurant, Batangas City, Philippines	1000, 2nd Tues.
127	PI, BICOL MABUA	Marciano P Blanco	Ely P Barachina	054-475-0260	ajib19621942@yahoo.com	P0 Box 9276, Naga City, AP 4400	Br Home, San Francisco, Mabua, Camarines Sur, PI	0930, Last Sat.
151	OR, EUGENE	Donald A Cook	Robert B Potter	(541) 461-0572	manluprt@comcast.net	209 E Rosewood Ave, Eugene, OR 97404-2668	Veterans Memorial Bldg., 1626 Willamette Street, Eugene, OR	1900, 3rd Tues.
154	PI, BAGUIO CITY	Arthur J Gongon	Florencio R. Aguilar	(074) 444-2219	mdent9590@aol.com	#262 Upper Q.M., Baguio City,	Golden Pine Hotel & Restaurant, Baguio City, Philippines	1100, 2nd Thurs.
170	WA, EVERETT	Michael C. Johnson	Marian G Dent-Hoglund	(360) 652-3075	dantbanayo@yahoo.com	122 178th Pl NE, Arlington, WA 98223-8007	6802 Beverly Boulevard, Everett, WA	1700, 2nd Wed.
171	PI, SOUTHERN LUZON	Viviano M Cruz	Daniel Mendoza Banayo	(049) 562-6498	kc7equ@arri.net	25 San Gabriel, San Pablo City, Laguna, 4000	Ding Hao Restaurant, Calamba, Laguna, PI	1000, 3rd Wed.
174	WA, SEQUIM	Thomas W Flamik	Martin Arnold	(360) 457-4683	barney_b@comcast.net	P0 Box 3631, Sequim, WA 98382-5044	Marriners Cafe, 707 E. Washington St., Sequim, WA	1100, 1st Sat.
245	WA, BELLINGHAM	Robert L Batsfen	Bernard W Barrick	(360) 332-7833	rudlombao@yahoo.com	426 10th St, Blaine, WA 98230-8111	Contact Secretary	1130, 3rd Wed.
247	PI, DAGUPAN CITY	Roberto G Macaraeg	Rudolf P. Lomibao	63-075-653-2063	subman96@q.com	Maramba Bankers Village Bonuan Gueset, Dagupan City, 2400	Br Home, Blue Bell Sub, Bonuan Gueset, Dagupan City, PI	1000, 2nd Sun.
310	WA, SILVERDALE	Bruce F Graham	Thomas R. Boren	(360) 692-6895	seaweed@frontier.net	11633 Old Frontier Rd NW, Silverdale, WA 98383-8884	Branch Home, 11281 Old Frontier Rd. NW, Silverdale, WA	1700, 1st Tues.
328	OR, ROSEBURG	Joseph H Whipple	Dale Nelson	(541) 673-3294	peerfran@hotmail.com	1201 N Old Pacific Hwy, Myrtle Creek, OR 97457	AnLeg, 406 S.E. Oak St., Roseburg, OR	1900, 2nd Thurs.
342	AK, ANCHORAGE	Joseph R Wright	Frances Lopinsky	(907) 277-3188	kd_dj@msn.com	245 W 22nd Ave, Anchorage, AK 99503-2007	Contact Secretary	1930, 3rd Tues.
363	WA, LONGVIEW	Robert M Otteraen	Ross K Davis	(360) 414-3268	subtipingockey@yahoo.com	4377 Columbia Heights Rd, Longview, WA 98632-9579	VFW Post 1045, 4311 Ocean Beach Hwy, Longview, WA	1830, 2nd Fri.
367	PI, SAN MIGUEL	Donald A Randolph	Scott A Reid	+63 916 341 5788	johnston@wvi.com	PSC 517 Box RS, FPO, AP 96517-1000	Branch Home, E. Dirrita, San Antonio, Zambales, PI	1000, 1st Fri.
374	OR, SALEM	Kerry A Wymetalek	Robert B Johnston, Jr.	(503) 897-4926	kwcttrell@cableone.net	P0 Box 884, Mill City, OR 97360-0884	VFW Post 661, 630 Hood St. NE, Salem, OR	1600, 3rd Sat.
382	ID, BOISE	Hazel C. Bettencourt	Keith W Cottrell	(208) 322-5553		2513 S Gatewood Ln, Boise, ID 83709-8575	Branch Home, 1012 Eleventh Ave. N., Nampa, ID	1000, 2nd Sat.

The FRA-endorsed Group Dental Insurance Plan can help pay the bills whenever your family needs dental care including routine cleanings, preventive checkups, X-rays to uncover cavities, benefits for fillings, crowns, bridges, and more. Visit www.frainsurance.com to learn more, including costs, exclusions, limitations, and terms of coverage.

South Central Region

Regional President: Russell N. Miller, 116 Stetson Trl, Georgetown, TX 78633-4769, H: 512-863-9692, milinicon@suddenlink.net
 Regional Vice President: Arthur R. McAvoy, 5404 Thomas Ln, River Oaks, TX 76114-3331, H: (817) 732-2303, a_mcavoy@sbcglobal.net

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
011	TX, FORT WORTH	Arthur R McAvoy	Michael H Bevil	(817) 483-8562	E-9Retired@charter.net	PO Box 515, Kennedale, TX 76060-0515	VFW Post 8235, 5533 White Settlement Rd., Ft. Worth, TX	1000, 3rd Sat.
092	LA, NEW ORLEANS	James L Fuentes	Bernard R Cleary	(504) 835-6347	raonola@hotmail.com	2030 N Turnbull Dr, Metairie, LA 70001-2653	St. Benilde School Cafeteria, 1901 Division St, Metairie, LA	1900, 3rd Thurs.
094	TX, CORPUS CHRISTI	Edward J Nutrick	Jerry Oprisko	(361) 937-2107	grf699@yahoo.com	3825 Jamaica Dr, Crp Christi, TX 78418-3019	1651 Flour Bluff Dr., Corpus Christi, TX	1300, 4th Sat.
098	LA, SHREVEPORT	John C Durst	Charles Frank Burkhardt, Jr.	(318) 742-9847	cburkust@suddenlink.net	5405 Shasta Dr, Bossier City, LA 71112-4932	VFW Post 5951, 1315 Northgate Rd, Bossier City, LA	1900, 1st Thurs.
119	LA, WEST MONROE	Leon Rachell	John H Scott	(318) 323-5691	jscott6@comcast.net	PO Box 4628, Monroe, LA 71211-4628	AnLeg Post 13, 401 Forsythe Avenue, Monroe, LA	1400, 3rd Thurs.
159	TX, HOUSTON	William C Smith, Jr.	Ralph A Schmidt	(281) 257-0982	RSchmidtPWP@aol.com	10719 Gifford Crest Dr, Spring, TX 77379-3072	4810 Pine Avenue, Pasadena, TX	1400, 2nd Sun.
162	LA, NEW ORLEANS	Coy L Gillenwater	David A Field	(504) 362-1278	dfield23x@yahoo.com	2711 Gehring Dr, Gretna, LA 70053-6707	Branch Home, 703 Kepler Street, Gretna, LA	2000, 3rd Fri.
201	TX, AUSTIN	Russell N. Miller	Charley Randall, II	(361) 865-2832	charleyrandall@yahoo.com	PO Box 723, Austin, TX 78767-0723	IHOP, 14310 North Interstate 35, Pflugerville, TX	1900, 2nd Sat.
203	TX, SAN ANTONIO	Sebastian Martinez	Dewey D Scarborough	(830) 257-6926	dewey@atc.com	328 Loma Vista Dr, Kerrville, TX 78028-6141	2002 W. Ridgewood Court, San Antonio, TX	1430, 4th Sun.
222	LA, SLIDELL	Larry L Cole	Francis T Farr	(985) 649-7974	prpscranfarr@netzero.com	3061 Meadow Lake Dr E, Slidell, LA 70461-5550	AnLeg Post 374, 2233 Carey St., Slidell, LA	1900, 3rd Wed.
227	AR, SPRINGDALE	John M Baker	Odie J Tresner	479-631-5575	cgrant@meowmail.com	4 Beckfoot Ln, Bella Vista, AR 72714-4024	Westem Sizzin, 3492 West Sunset Ave., Springdale, AR	1500, 3rd Sun.
251	AR, MT HOME	Joycelyn A Larimore	Curtis Grant	(870) 492-6149	michellespangler@bellsouth.net	99 Doreen Dr, Mountain Home, AR 72653-6759	AnLeg Post 52, 717 Market Street, Mountain Home, AR	1300, 3rd Sun.
264	MS, MERIDIAN	Richard L Nelson	Michelle E Spangler	601-479-8440	feharrrell@yahoo.com	10415 Rabbit Rd Lot 69, Lauderdale, MS 39335-9613	Branch Home, 8874 Highway 39, N. Meridian, MS	1500, Last Sun.
282	AR, LITTLE ROCK	Allan D Wagner	Forest E Harrell	(501) 796-8270	trmc99@suddenlink.net	9 Nannie Goat Ln, Vilonia, AR 72173-9420	American Legion Post # 1, 315 East Capital, Little Rock, AR	1400, 3rd Thurs.
295	TX, SAN ANGELO	Norm Fountain	Terry D Cook	(325) 942-8036	tmcc99@suddenlink.net	3002 Canyon Creek Dr, San Angelo, TX 76904-6912	Elks Lodge, 2121 S. Chardbourne St., San Angelo, TX	1900, 2nd Mon.
303	TX, SHERMAN	Fred E Stith	Arthur D Ellison, Jr.	(903) 813-4924	BOBFRA376@YAHOO.COM	PO Box 2714, Sherman, TX 75091-2714	VFW, Frisco Rd. & Baker St., Sherman, TX	1900, 4th Mon.
307	MS, GULFPORT	Charles L Jenkins	Robert C Rutherford	(608) 359-9614	JJJBZ@aol.com	AFRH-G Unit 198 1800 Beach Dr, Gulfport, MS 39507-1555	AFRH-Gulfport, 1800 Beach Dr., Gulfport, MS	1400, 2nd Thurs.
311	MS, GULFPORT	James D Zugg	Judith A Zugg	(228) 865-9908		220 Clover Ave, Long Beach, MS 39560-3304	VFW Post 3397, 213 Klondyke Ave, Long Beach, MS	1900, 2nd Tues.
334	AR, OSAGE	James E Putman	Allen Ellis	(870) 437-2440	leperkins@cox.net	PO Box 177, Alpena, AR 72611	Osage Museum, US Hwy 412 at CR 912, Carrollton, AR	1000, 1st Sat.
371	LA, BATON ROUGE	James J Johnson	Leon R Perkins	(225) 273-3654		17582 Martin Lake Dr, Baton Rouge, LA 70816-3621	Elks Lodge 390, 2854 Fellsview Dr., Baton Rouge, LA	1300, 3rd Sat.

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South East Region

Regional President: Bobby L. Smith, 2326 Shawn Dr. Maryville, TN 37803-1913, H: (865) 982-3306, 119@bellsouth.net

Regional Vice President: Frederick Bolz, 113 Coral Reef Dr, Goose Creek, SC 29445-4641, H: 843-797-3515, Htcmret@aol.com

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
015	SC, WALHALLA	Collin T Jurkovich	Thomas E Smith	(864) 868-9397	frabl15@att.net	118 Hidden Cv, Six Mile, SC 29682-9452	103 N. Church Street, Walhalla, SC	0900, 3rd Sat.
022	FL, PENSACOLA	Robert F Hall, Jr.	Mark A Kilgore	(850) 458-3959	bingwidower@cox.net	117 Ruberia Ave., Pensacola, FL 32507-2458	AWFETS Post 292, 955 Dog Track Rd., Pensacola, FL	1900, 2nd Mon.
025	FL, ST AUGUSTINE	Charles R. Hobbs, Sr.	Donald R Gray	(904) 797-2715	donaigray@bellsouth.net	102 Jupiter Rd, St Augustine, FL 32086-6720	VFW 2391, 6184 U.S. St. Augustine, FL	1900, 3rd Mon.
030	GA, BRUNSWICK	Leonard J Vsetecka	Edward Ligay	(912) 265-1006	edlgray@comcast.net	109 Fairman Ave, Brunswick, GA 31525-1929	Elk's Lodge, 1509 Union Street, Brunswick, GA	1930, 3rd Thurs.
034	FL, TALLAHASSEE	Robert T Weichert	Robert A Langley	(850) 562-6985	langley@metallally.com	3632 Westmoreland Dr, Tallahassee, FL 32303-2028	N&MC Res. Ctr, 2910 Roberts Ave, Tallahassee, FL	1930, 2nd Thurs.
044	TN, COLUMBIA	Allen Hayes	John W Davis	(931) 363-0852	jwdavis@usit.net	116 Richland Dr, Pulaski, TN 38478-2616	Sen Citizen, 1020 Maury Cnty Pk Dr, Columbia, TN	1300, 1st Thurs.
050	SC, CHARLESTON	Jesse J. Cumber, Jr.	Lawrence David Coates	same as work	frabran15@aol.com	PO Box 70266, North Charleston, SC 29415-0266	Branch Home, 2815 Spruill Avenue, N. Charleston, SC	1400, 2nd Sun.
051	FL, MIAMI	Samuel G Owens	William J O'Boyle	(954) 748-7596	billob29587@bellsouth.net	8601 NW 34th Pl Apt A205, Sunrise, FL 33351-6698	657 Fishermen Street, Opa Locka, FL	1200, 3rd Sun.
086	TN, MILLINGTON	Kenneth E O'Connor	James A. Simpson, Sr.	(901) 837-4903	jimbeaus2@aol.com	PO Box 181, Millington, TN 38083-0181	VFW Post 7175, 4681 Cuba Millington Road, Millington, TN	1830, 3rd Mon.
089	GA, ATLANTA	Wayne E Barron	Sleven A Fritton	(770) 445-3105	rfeenergy@bellsouth.net	347 Dandy Rd, Dallas, GA 30132-7485	AnLeg Post 160, 160 Legion Dr., Smyrna, GA	1100, 2nd Sat.
091	FL, JACKSONVILLE	James E Robbins, Jr.	Todd Richter	(904) 778-1565	fof@bellsouth.net	5391 Collins Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32244-5305	5391 Collins Road, Jacksonville, FL	1930, 2nd Wed.
102	FL, ST PETERSBURG	Dale Baldwin	Charles Curtice	(727) 344-1217	charles_curtice_7@msn.com	3222 60th St N, St Petersburg, FL 33710-1726	Woodlawn Presbyterian Church, 2612 12th St. N., St. Petersburg, FL	1400, 3rd Sun.
109	FL, CLEARWATER	David V Soderland	Ronald C Shane	(727) 392-0420	kc4usn@aol.com	8671 Rose Way, Seminole, FL 33772-3622	Police & Military Museum, 500 Douglas Ave, Duneedin, FL	1400, 2nd Thurs.
110	TN, NASHVILLE	Edward J Burns	Robert J Dentici, Sr.	(615) 292-0838	fra110@comcast.net	PO Box 160355, Nashville, TN 37216-0355	VFW Post 1291, 1907 Lebanon Pike, Nashville, TN	1400, 3rd Sun.
112	AL, BRIMMINGHAM	Bobby J Findley	Juan A Bowden	(256) 245-2232	jabbow@bellsouth.net	335 Plumwood Ct, Kissimmee, FL 34743-8815	Parkway East Rec. Ctr., 8520 Roebuck Blvd., Birmingham, AL	1630, Last Sat.
117	FL, ORLANDO	Richard C Phillips	Stephen J Miglionico, Sr.	(407) 348-8466	FRA117BR@aol.com	2721 El Dorado Pkwy W, Cape Coral, FL 33914-6681	VFW Post 4287, 3500 South Goldenrod Road, Orlando, FL	1300, 2nd Sat.
126	FL, JACKSONVILLE	James J Thomas	Donald F Walsh	(904) 282-4650	donwalsh@bellsouth.net	644 Branscomb Rd, Green Cv Spgs, FL 32043-5202	Branch Home, 7673 Blanding Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL	2000, 3rd Thurs.
147	FL, SAFFORD	Dennis D Nickerson	Thomas A Whitaker, Jr.	(386) 447-5420	tommail60@bellsouth.net	114 Panorama Dr, Palm Coast, FL 32164-7575	Branch Home, 3040 W. State Road 46, Saftford, FL	1630, 2nd Mon.
179	FL, GAINESVILLE	Anthony Gene Lockard	Salma E. Carrow	(352) 372-6372	s_carrow@yahoo.com	2001 NE 15th St, Gainesville, FL 32609-3832	Branch Home, 19700 N.E. 22nd Lane, Campville, FL	1330, 1st Sun.
184	GA, WARNER ROBINS	William W McKnight	James R White	(386) 328-6407	rhettab4@cox.net	2865 Allen Rd, Macon, GA 31216-6309	Branch Home, 207 Commonwealth Ave., Interlachen, FL	1730, 3rd Wed.
186	FL, HERNANDO	Robert E Woods, Jr.	Robert W Huischer	(352) 344-0727	boj10@tampabayrr.com	310 Vassar St, Inverness, FL 34452-6830	Lanford Library, 6504 Houston Rd., Macon, GA	1300, 2nd Wed.
187	TN, CHATTANOOGA	Joseph W McCarvey	Kent Walker	(423) 886-4516	jinwalker@bellsouth.net	901 Kentucky Ave, Signal Mtn, TN 37377-2413	DAV Bldg., 1039 N. Paul, Inverness, FL	1500, 3rd Thurs.
188	FL, TAMPA	Roger F Mitchell	Victor C Lamontagne	(352) 567-9208	mavycw4@aol.com	134455 10th St, Dade City, FL 33525-5305	Contact Secretary	
194	TN, KNOXVILLE	Bobby L Smith	Faye Wilder	(865) 255-1071	wilderfaye1@yahoo.com	PO Box 7025, Maryville, TN 37802-7025	Golden Corral Rest., 815 Providence Rd., Brandon, FL	1130, 3rd Wed.
202	SC, COLUMBIA	Theodore I Mauldin	Ronald E Headley, Jr.	(803) 482-4456	rontraf75@aol.com	59 Inlet Harbour Ct, Wimsboro, SC 29180-9122	Cokesbury UMC, 9908 Kingston Pkwy, Knoxville, TN	1400, 1st Sun.
210	FL, MILTON	Arthur F Sobilo	Terry Jerome Ellis	(941) 727-3381	secretary@tra234.com	6237 Glendale Dr, Milton, FL 32570-5420	Navy Operational Support Ctr, 2620 Lee Rd, Ft. Jackson, SC	1300, 3rd Tues.
215	GA, SAVANNAH	Robert F Waterman, Jr.	William A. McGiegor	(864) 369-7041	tielis51@comcast.net	2127 McLeod St, Savannah, GA 31405-2873	6409 Fleet Avenue, Milton, FL	1830, 1st Wed.
234	SC, ANDERSON	Joseph T Brown	Russell John Bonchert	(912) 283-9847	rborchert@psitel.net	2952 Johnny Minchew Rd, Waycross, GA 31503-4207	FOP Bldg., 1537 Grove Point Road, Savannah, GA	1900, 1st Thurs.
248	GA, CAMDEN COUNTY	Ernest C Robinson	Wayne D. Witham	(941) 727-3381	wwitham@tampabayrr.com	4611 26th Ave W, Bradenton, FL 34209-6207	4605 Belton Hwy., Anderson, SC	1900, 2nd Mon.
250	FL, SARASOTA	Randy L Stephenson	George R Koye	(910) 200-3330	gkoye@scoast.net	1913 Heritage Loop, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577-1586	Meadowoods HOA Bldg., Murrells Inlet, SC	1700, 3rd Thurs.
254	SC, MYRTLE BEACH	Lawrence H. Williams	Terry Shumway	(954) 571-7958	hbptm@aol.com	1324 SE 1st Ave, Deerfield Bch, FL 33441-6764	AnLeg Post 142, 171 SW 2nd Street, Pompano Beach, FL	1900, 4th Fri.
263	FL, COCOA	Robert Anderson	Dean O Schaeff	(321) 452-0365	dean.o.schaeff@nasa.gov	PO Box 966, Cocoa, FL 32923-0966	AnLeg Post 22, 241 Peachtree St., Cocoa, FL	1800, 1st Wed.
269	SC, GOOSE CREEK	Larry Cox	Darlene Kay Hines	(843) 824-2589	darlhines@comcast.net	137 Thousand Oaks Cir, Goose Creek, SC 29445-7094	Branch Home, 99 Wisteria Road, Goose Creek, SC	1900, 3rd Thurs.
278	AL, HUNTSVILLE	James E. Sutton	James E. Sutton	(256) 650-5748	ishandyam@att.net	9719 Wallwood Rd SE, Huntsville, AL 35803-1763	Greenbrier BBO, 15050 Hwy 20 W, Madison, AL	2000, 4th Sat.
290	FL, WAMPYVILLE	Richard B. Kiger, II	Louis A. Trundy, Jr.	(904) 716-8192	latrundy@clearwire.net	PO Box 330373, Atlantic Beach, FL 32233-0373	Branch Home, 390 Mayport Road, Atlantic Beach, FL	1200, 4th Sat.
291	FL, NEW PORT RICHEY	Philip A Smerezniak	Edward R White	(727) 376-4126	ball79@verizon.net	3345 Van Nuys Loop, New Prt Rchy, FL 34655-3118	DAV, 6711 Jefferson, New Port Richey, FL	2000, 1st Thurs.
292	FL, LEEHIGH ACRES	William D Beeler	Edgar F Lantham, II	(239) 529-3339	edlanham@netzero.net	16920 Windcrest Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33908-3728	AnLeg Post 323, 1124 Ashlar Ave., Lehigh Acres, FL	1900, 3rd Wed.
294	TN, CROSSVILLE	Douglas R Spangler	Joseph C Lentini	(931) 428-6502	lentini.joseph@gmail.com	6502 Pleasant Ridge Rd, Sparta, TN 38583-7418	Contact President: (931) 788-1109	1400, 4th Sun.
335	FL, PORT ORANGE	Robert G Beese	John D Heaphy	(386) 788-5382	johnheaphy@aol.com	916 Tall Pine Dr, Port Orange, FL 32127-4828	Whistle Stop Jct., 1854 W. Ridgewood Ave., S. Daytona, FL	1900, 3rd Thurs.
339	GA, ALBANY	Ron Lee Delaney	Frank Owen Richardson	(229) 888-5628	Frichra339@aol.com	1815 Philema Rd S, Albany, GA 31701-4711	VFW Post 2785, 315 Philema Road, Albany, GA	1800, 2nd Tues.
346	FL, PANAMA CITY BEACH	Edward L. Lawson	Dennis A Stocumb, Jr.	(850) 276-4979	Dennis.Stocumb@AuburnAlum.org	2117 Wilkenson Ave, Panama City, FL 32408	Br. Home, 2117 Wilkenson Avenue, Panama City Beach, FL	1830, 1st Wed.
366	FL, S BREVARD COUNTY	Robert J Bradley	Danal C Wiese	(321) 984-0701	sonfaze@mindspring.com	2190 Wilson Ln, Malabar, FL 32950-3123	1455 Main Street, Palm Bay, FL	1900, 4th Wed.
386	AL, DOTHAN	Edmond Cortez Baker	Alex C McMahan	(334) 671-1881	alexchristine@graceba.net	304 Kirkwood Dr, Dothan, AL 36603-6802	VFW, 1426 Taylor Road, Dothan, AL	0930, 2nd Sat.

FRA Shipmates can obtain up to \$150,000 in economical Term Life coverage and an additional \$1,000 critical-illness benefit thanks to the FRA-endorsed Easy Acceptance Term Life Insurance Plan. For more information, including costs, exclusions, limitations, and terms of coverage, visit www.frainsure.com.

South West Region

Regional President: Glenn E. Holz, 84 H St, Chula Vista, CA 91910-4920, H: (619) 422-8164, gholz@cox.net

Regional Vice President: Stanley J. Lewandowski, 1488 Pequera St, San Diego, CA 92154-3642, H: (619) 690-0421, cookied16@cox.net

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
009	CA, SAN DIEGO	Robert H Owens	Walter De Felice, Jr. (619) 460-7184	waria@att.net	6302 Lake Athabaska Pl, San Diego, CA 92119-3527	The Brothers Restaurant, 3150 Waring Rd., San Diego, CA 0945, 4th Wed.		
026	CA, BAKERSFIELD	Walter Stabenow	Paul E. Jones (661) 412-4791	cmospaule@att.net	3600 Robinwood St., Bakersfield, CA 93309-6476	Columbus Estates, 3201 Columbus St., Bakersfield, CA 1900, 4th Tues.		
043	CA, LONG BEACH	Brady S. Jensen	Betty F. Barnham (562) 436-6182		PO Box 205000, Long Beach, CA 90801-3900	540 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, CA 1900, 3rd Tues.		
047	CA, EL CAJON	Michael K Frontz	Jimmy D Freedle (619) 447-5774	jfree455@aol.com	455 Sandovalwood Dr., El Cajon, CA 92021-5454	136 N. Chambers Street, El Cajon, CA 1900, 1st Wed.		
061	CA, CHULA VISTA	Robert L Bailey	Stanley J Jasek (619) 691-1423	frabr61@yahoo.com	288 3rd Ave, Chula Vista, CA 91910-2701	288 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 1900, 2nd Wed.		
062	CA, SAN DIEGO	John E. Jones	McCall Smith, Jr. (619) 201-0238	california1.state.com and council@ymail.com	3245 College Pl Apt 9, Lemon Grove, CA 91945-1448	3638 Ocean View Boulevard, San Diego, CA 1500, 3rd Sat.		
070	CA, POWAY	Darvin F. Dalrymple	Raymond J. Caston (858) 842-1818	me-n-rc@cox.net	13053 Acton Ave, Poway, CA 92064-5901	14231 Garden Road, Poway, CA 1900, 1st Wed.		
077	AZ, GREEN VALLEY	Joel M Greenberg	Thomas A Heaney (520) 648-0868	heaneygrnv@cox.net	567 W Via Rosalido, Green Valley, AZ 85614-3974	The Cow Palace Restaurant, Amado, AZ 1100, 2nd Tues.		
084	CA, SAN DIEGO	Emmanuel O Cabildo	Epfanio T Leano (619) 421-2964	etleano@cox.net	5942 Lazy Trail Ct, Bonita, CA 91902-3034	FVA Bldg, 2926 Market Street, San Diego, CA 1300, 2nd Sat.		
085	CA, SAN GABRIEL VLY	John W Stewart, Jr.	Rogelio A Bacud (909) 598-3736	Bregor4559@sbcglobal.net	867 Pinetfalls Ave, Walnut, CA 91789-3182	209-211 E. Garvey Avenue, Monterey Park, CA 1300, 3rd Sun.		
090	NV, CLARK COUNTY	Harry L Keneman, Jr.	Kevin J Doyle (775) 751-1057	gatorman1ant@yahoo.com	3481 Ramona Ln, Pahrump, NV 89048-5240	YMCA Bldg, 3521 N. Durango Dr, Las Vegas, NV 1400, 1st Sun.		
108	CA, MORCO	James R Valdez, Jr.	Francis R Rumi, Sr. (951) 685-6771	fransther@aol.com	4080 Pedley Rd Spc 116, Riverside, CA 92509-2857	Salvation Army, 3695 First Street, Riverside, CA 1300, 2nd Mon.		
120	CA, OXWARD	Willis H Wolfe	Deanna R. Kulise (805) 981-0330	kuhsedarrel@verizon.net	2204 Cedar Ridge Ct, Oxnard, CA 93036-7705	Branch Home, 154 E. 6th Street, Oxnard, CA 1400, 3rd Sun.		
163	AZ, PHOENIX	James H Katzenberger	Dwight G Hall (480) 963-2634	frat63@cox.net	526 N Meadows Dr, Chandler, AZ 85224-4339	Shrine Auditorium, 552 N. 40th St., Phoenix, AZ 1030, 2nd Sat.		
175	CA, ORANGE COUNTY	Gerald L Bayless	Jeanette L Hayden (714) 895-8423	jhayden991@yahoo.com	7661 Garden Grove Blvd, Garden Grove, CA 92741-4206	7661 Garden Grove Boulevard, Garden Grove, CA 1400, 3rd Sun.		
260	AZ, GOLDEN VALLEY	Don Johnson	Michael A Reed (928) 565-5811	mreedss@frontier.net	916 S Emery Park Rd, Golden Valley, AZ 86413-6840	VFW 2555, Highway 68, Golden Valley, AZ 1300, 2nd Sat.		
272	CA, SAN LUIS OBISPO	James Weldon Clem	Marilyn G Teeple (805) 466-7184	missmamagail@yahoo.com	14102 San Antonio Rd, Atascadero, CA 93422-6326	Rec Bldg, 3395 S. Higuera St, San Luis Obispo, CA 1300, 2nd Sat.		
279	NV, LAS VEGAS	Charles B Floyd	John E Hamey, Jr. (702) 870-3042	jjrhamey@gmail.com	1815 Westwind Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89146-0304	AmLeg Post 8, 733 N. Veterans Mem. Dr, Las Vegas, NV 1500, 4th Tues.		
289	CA, IMPERIAL BEACH	Michael F Fulton	Ralph E Huskey (619) 429-5745	ralphhu@hotmail.com	PO Box 97, Imperial Beach, CA 91933-0097	659 Silver Strand Boulevard, Imperial Beach, CA 1900, 1st & 2nd Wed.		
302	CA, CARSON	Eduardo M Labao	Romeo Galeon (310) 549-8482	romeogaleon@yahoo.com	23028 Archibald Ave, Carson, CA 90745-4717	Carson Yets Park, 22400 Moneta Ave., Carson, CA 1300, 1st Sun.		
312	CA, SAN DIEGO	Richard R Spies	Emmett T Bolger (858) 560-8701	emetbolger@yahoo.com	3927 Mount Blackburn Ave, San Diego, CA 92111-3816	4421 Bannock Ave., San Diego, CA 1000, 1st Sat.		
313	CA, CAMP PENDLETON	William E Way	Daniel L Spalding, PNP (760) 439-7817	danspral@cox.net	1450 Machado St, Oceanside, CA 92054-5442	Masonic Lodge, 511 Eucalyptus Avenue, Oceanside, CA 1200, 3rd Sat.		

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Regional President: Patrick H. LeClaire, 620 W B St, Fallon, NV 89406-2717, H: (775) 423-4168, patplus@phonewave.net

Regional Vice President: Alfred M. Braden, 3304 Shasta Dam Blvd Spc 172, Shasta Lake, CA 96019-9594, H: (530) 275-5137, ambraden@sbcglobal.net

No.	Location	President	Secretary	Telephone #	E-mail Address	Mailing Address	Meeting Place	Time & Date
008	CA, VALLEJO	Eric D. Ball	Robert S Mattson	(707) 644-6295	ismattson@att.net	271 Redwing St, Vallejo, CA 94589-1760	AnLeg Post 550, 420 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo, CA	1900, 2nd Wed.
010	CA, SAN LEANDRO	Tonia Maria Cantrell	Paul Alan Steelhammer	(925) 348-2985	psteeha@hotmail.com	216 Wellington Ave, Concord, CA 94520-1115	Veterans Memorial Bldg, 1106 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro, CA	1900, 1st Wed.
021	CO, FORT COLLINS	Floyd E Taladay	Harry Campbell	(970) 482-5520	harry.campbell@colostate.edu	416 Baylor St, Fort Collins, CO 80525-1757	VFW Post 1781, 603 Lesser Drive, Ft. Collins, CO	1900, 2nd Tues.
048	CA, SAN FRANCISCO	Robert E Landy	Lindell C Clymer	(415) 935-6081	lindell334@yahoo.com	585 Monterey Blvd Apt 6, San Francisco, CA 94127-2419	401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA	1100, 2nd Sat.
049	CO, DENVER	Robert N Weeks	Julian R Dracon	(303) 795-5350	jiffy@q.com	6671 S Race Cir W, Centennial, CO 80121-2730	TREA #39, 15821 E. Centreach Circle, Aurora, CO	1200, 2nd Sat.
101	CA, SANTA CLARA	Richard J Fetso	Dale E Thompson	(408) 749-0468	thompsondale@sbcglobal.net	106 Lawrence Station Rd, Sunnyvale, CA 94086-5309	AnLeg Post 564, 2120 Walsh Ave, Santa Clara, CA	1900, 2nd Tues.
113	CA, STOCKTON	Zeb D Motley	Frank M Reyes	(209) 465-5839	freyes972@sbcglobal.net	2351 Christina Ave, Stockton, CA 95204-1503	AnLeg Post 16, 2020 Plymouth Rd., Stockton, CA	1900, 3rd Wed.
137	NV, WINDEN	James A Laird	William Gerow	(775) 883-3262	wgerow@charter.net	2220 Damon Rd, Carson City, NV 89701-6809	NV Veterans Hall Hero's, 2nd & Curry Sts., Carson City, NV	1830, 4th Fri.
178	CA, MONTEREY	Abel M Quinones	Michael N LeVine	(831) 375-4356	mlevine@redshift.com	675 Dennett St, Pacific Grove, CA 93950-3802	AnLeg Post 591, 1000 Playa Ave., Seaside, CA	1900, 3rd Tues.
185	UT, SALT LAKE CITY	Jerald D Whiteman	Judy Chenoa E. Botello-Landrum	(435) 764-9574	ira185pres@yahoo.com	PO Box 12825, Ogden, UT 84412	VFW Post 1481, 907 W. 12th St., Ogden, UT	1900, 3rd Wed.
192	NV, FALLON	Larry S Briggs, Jr.	Patrick Allen Erickson	(775) 423-2048	gm1ericksomet@yahoo.com	PO Box 689, Fallon, NV 89407-0689	AnLeg Post, 90 N. Ada Street, Fallon, NV	1900, 4th Thurs.
197	CA, MODESTO	William E. Schoonover	Henry L Fricken	(209) 529-8192	hanfricken@att.net	1608 Wolverine Way, Modesto, CA 95355-4308	AnLeg Post, 1001 S. Santa Cruz Avenue, Modesto, CA	1300, 2nd Sun.
230	CA, ROSEVILLE	Patty Butler	Robert L Lightfield	(916) 749-3823	robertlightfield@comcast.net	317 Earl Ave, Roseville, CA 95678-3277	Veterans Memorial Hall, 110 Park Drive, Roseville, CA	2000, 1st Mon.
244	CO, GRAND JUNCTION	Heinz G Park	Charles W Watkins	(970) 434-0868	cwatkins@aacsol.net	3010 Vin Rose Way, Grand Jct, CO 81504-5532	VFW Post 3981, 503 Florence Road, Grand Junction, CO	1900, 2nd Wed.
249	CA, FRESNO	Milton Gilbert	Richard L Morrison	(559) 276-3443	rindogman@yahoo.com	5433 W Robinson Ave, Fresno, CA 93722-7128	AnLeg Post 147, 508 4th Street, Clovis, CA	1400, 2nd Sun.
261	CA, LEMOORE	Craig Gonzales	Arthur C Acher	559-904-0530	arthur.acher@sbcglobal.net	1195 Laurel Ct, Lemoore, CA 93245-3430	Branch Home, 788 East D Street, Lemoore, CA	1900, 2nd Wed.
274	NV, RENO	Joseph L Maaz	Peter J. McNameara	(775) 331-2432	frabranct274@att.net	PO Box 7313, Reno, NV 89510-7313	Girl Scouts Bldg, 605 Washington Street, Reno, NV	1900, Last Thurs.
275	CA, PLACERVILLE	Lawrence J. Boudreaux	Bill Mueller	(530) 622-0674	jennifercreekmore@navymil	PO Box 1509, El Dorado, CA 95623-1509	Veterans Memorial Bldg, 130 Placerville Dr., Placerville, CA	1930, 4th Wed.
281	CA, REDDING	Lee M Hollowell, Jr.	Jennifer Creekmore	(530) 515-1042	rwarnr323@yahoo.com	6683 Creekside St, Redding, CA 96001-5490	1605 Yuba Street, Redding, CA	1300, 3rd Sun.
287	CA, LIVERMORE	Floyd L Richards, Jr.	Roy D Warner	(925) 449-6048	billron@wildblue.net	10620 Flynn Rd S, Livermore, CA 94550-	Veterans Memorial Bldg, 522 South L St., Livermore, CA	1900, 1st Fri.
296	CA, AUBURN	Howard L Arnold	William K. Burgess	(530) 885-9056		5135 Meadow View Ln, Auburn, CA 95602-9129	Veterans Memorial Bldg, 100 East Street, Auburn, CA	1300, 3rd Sun.

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Coast Guard (Customer Service) 1-866-772-8724

VA main number 1-800-827-1000

TRI CARE for Life 1-866-773-0404

National Personnel Records Center in Missouri

For requests for D-214, lost military records, etc. (serves all branches of service) 1-314-801-0800

Using FRA Communities

FRA offers Communities on www.fra.org to help shipmates keep in touch with their branch, communicate with HQ, and to get information. Use the Communities and be involved!

What terms do I need to know?

COMMUNITY: *A group of people who have something in common*

FRA's online "Communities" offer an opportunity to get together online and find people with similar interests. Which community do you belong to? Are you a branch member? Check out the community for your branch. Interested in health care? We have a community for that too. Perhaps you are an avid FRA Today reader. You are then in the "FRA Today Readers" community.

FORUM: *An area inside the community for shipmates to share ideas, thoughts, suggestions and requests.*

Inside the "FRA Today Readers" community for instance, there are several forums. If History and Heritage is your interest, please click that link and check out the discussion topics available to you.

TOPIC: *A specific item of interest.*

What would you like to talk about? Under the History and Heritage forum, there is a popular item called "What does the U.S. flag mean to YOU?" This topic relates to the feature article from the June issue of *FRA Today*.

So how do I get started?

Login to www.fra.org

If you don't know how to login, please call 1-800-FRA-1924 for assistance or click the link on the home page for Login Help.

Communities FAQs

WHY DO I HAVE TO LOGIN?

Even though some of the topics are open to the public, logging in lets the site show you the Communities you should see that aren't public — like the Community for your branch or for Members At Large. It also will put your name next to anything you post so people can respond and know to whom they are writing. Most importantly, perhaps, when you login you get the opportunity to choose if and how often you would like to receive e-mail updates about postings from others.

O.K., I'M LOGGED IN. NOW WHAT?

Click the word "Communities" on the horizontal navigation bar. (It's between News and Publications). Look for the option that says "Global Preferences" and click that. On that page you will see the communities available to you and you can choose to subscribe to any or all. Once you subscribe, you will be able to click "preferences" and decide how often (or if at all) you would like to receive e-mail updates when people post.



I'VE SUBSCRIBED TO THE COMMUNITIES THAT INTEREST ME, CAN I STILL VIEW THE OTHERS?

Yes, you can view and post to any community you are able to see — even if you aren't subscribed. To get updates about a community, however, you must be subscribed to it.

CAN YOU GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO USE A COMMUNITY?

Glad you asked!

1. Click on the community name that is of interest to you. For this example, let's use the "FRA Today Readers" community. Once you do that, you will see a list of Forums to the right. There will be a notification of how many posts are new since you last visited.
2. Now find a forum that is of interest to you — like "History and Heritage." Click the title to enter that page.
3. Take a look at the topics listed on that page. If you would like to join the discussion about the U.S. flag, please click that link. You will be directed to a page that shows what other people have written.
4. See something you want to comment on? Please click "reply" next to that post and share your thoughts.
5. Don't see a topic you're looking for? Start a new topic by clicking the link "Create New Topic." You'll have the opportunity to start a new discussion and everyone who is subscribed to the FRA Today Readers community will be notified according to their preferences of when (instantly, daily, weekly, monthly or never).

That's really all there is to it.

CAN BRANCHES UPLOAD MINUTES, NEWSLETTERS OR OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST?

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CAN I BE AN ADMINISTRATOR FOR MY BRANCH COMMUNITY?

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same unit, and desirable that few, if any, be of the same rank.” As a result, qualified African-American Marines were often overlooked when a promotion would put him in a higher pay grade than a white Marine in his unit.

These instances made the recruits even more aware that they’d have to overcome racism in order to prove they were qualified to serve as Marines. This created a bond of solidarity among them and inspired them to work even harder throughout their military service to show they were worthy to wear the Eagle, Globe and Anchor.

Well Prepared for Combat

The Corps’ general policy was to assign African-American Marines to combat support roles. This was frustrating to Marines like Rueben McNair, who was an excellent marksman.

“I was an expert rifle shooter when I came out of boot camp,” he recalls with pride. “I could stand 50 yards away and strike a match with a .22. I made PFC [private first class] the day I left the rifle range and sort of anticipated that I would be among those who would fight. But [black] rifle companies were [non-existent; we were] ammunition companies.”

The first Montford Point Marines were trained to form the 51st Composite Defense Battalion, which was activated on August 18, 1942. It was the first black combat



A dress uniform wasn't a part of the standard uniform issue in 1943, yet most of the Montford Point Marines spent \$54 out of their pay for what was generally considered the sharpest uniform by most of them.

unit and briefly remained the sole organization of its kind until the 52nd Defense Battalion was fully manned a short time later. Marine defense battalions trained independently and operated in isolated areas, making them the perfect vehicle for integrating African Americans into Marine Corps.

As black noncommissioned officers became more familiar with handling weapons and other combat skills, they began to take over the leadership responsibilities from the white NCOs who’d trained them and, by January of 1944, the 51st Defense Battalion (the designator “Composite” was dropped) was on its way to the Pacific.

Despite their combat support role, McNair and many of his fellow Montford Pointers saw plenty of action in the Pacific and were heroes at Peleliu. “We were taking ammunition up to the front line and bringing the wounded back. At one point, we were in a tight position there. We

began to pull out the rifles and were taking charge and secured the area.”

The white Marines they’d assisted began referring the Montford Pointers as “the Black Angels” who’d saved them. At the time, McNair was uncomfortable about being called black, but later came to accept the label with pride.

“We brought those people back and this is something that’s in history. Later, when we heard James Brown say he was black and proud, I felt proud for that, too.”

Paving the Way

The Montford Point Marines paved the way for racial integration in the Marine Corps and also in the nation. “We opened the door for those who followed after us,” says Carpenter. “We withstood a lot of harassment — even from our fellow Marines — and that continued through the war and after, until Truman [ordered racial integration of the military in 1948]. But today’s Marines are standing on our shoulders, just as each new generation benefits from the previous one.”

“It’s a sad commentary, but I prayed there would be another war,” admits McNair. “I thought that if there was another war, I could do things to prove we were equal and could do the same things as everyone else. I saw how much progress we’d made toward racial equality during World War II and I thought that if we could have another war, we’d advance even further.”

Peleliu Island...Marines move through the trenches on the beach during the battle.



McNair got his wish and was eager to be a part of the Korean Conflict. He participated in the Chosin Reservoir campaign and, by that point, was serving side-by-side with whites. Even so, he felt deserved promotions were sometimes withheld from black Marines and it would be the late 1950s before he'd see a black officer. And he would

still experience slights from whites.

"When I returned to Camp Lejeune [after duty in Korea], my first sergeant introduced me to my new platoon leader," recalls McNair. "I reached out to shake hands and he just looked at me like I was a piece of dirt. He refused to shake my hand."

By the early 1960s, McNair felt that things were changing for the

better. "I realized I no longer had anything to prove," he says. "I have three sons; two are doctors. I tell them that I paid for the opportunities they have. I tell them they don't have to go out like I did in the Marine Corps, wishing for war to prove that they can make a change."

Among the many Marines who continue to be motivated by the

The Montford Point Marine Association — Preserving the Legacy

The Montford Point Marine Association (MPMA) is a non-profit organization whose primary mission is to preserve the legacy of the Montford Point Marines and ensure their important contributions to American history aren't forgotten.

Established in 1965, the MPMA now has 36 chapters across the U.S. and about 2,200 members, explains James Averhart, MPMA's national president. "The only requirement for membership is 90 days of military service and an honorable discharge. You don't have to be black or a Marine to be a member of MPMA."

"The MPMA offers scholarships and does community service projects, but our mission is really to preserve the legacy," adds General J. Gary Cooper, USMC (Ret.), who is a lifetime member of the organization. "I didn't know about the Montford Point Marines until I got to be a captain. Young officers need to learn and understand what these men did before today's leaders were even born."

Averhart learned about the MPMA 14 years ago and immediately related to the Montford Pointers' story. He started the MPMA chapter at Quantico, Va., in 2005 and had no idea it would lead to his election as the organization's national president in 2009. In addition to educating both Marines and non-Marines about these American heroes, Averhart wants to ensure they receive the recognition they deserve.

"The Montford Point Marines are heroes and many Americans don't know about them. I want people to know they existed and the strides they made. I'd like the Montford Point Marines to reach the same level of national prominence as the Tuskegee Airmen, the Buffalo Soldiers, the Triple Nickel and the Golden 13," said Averhart, referencing the African-Americans who made history in the Army and Navy.

To that end, the MPMA is working to see that the original Montford Point Marines receive a Congressional Gold Medal, similar to the honor bestowed upon the Tuskegee Airmen and Navajo Code Talkers. Legislation (S. 1695) to recognize the Montford Pointers was introduced in the 111th Congress and was endorsed by former Commandant of the Marine Corps James Conway and the FRA. If the measure isn't passed before Congress adjourns this month, a new bill is expected to be introduced in the 112th Congress.

There is also an effort to construct a fitting memorial to honor the Montford Point Marines, educate and inspire youngsters and Marines, and instill the value of perseverance. A capital campaign is underway to erect the monument at Camp Johnson in Jacksonville, N.C., with hopes to unveil it in 2012. To learn more about the monument or contribute to its construction, visit <http://mpmamemorial.com>. Visit www.montfordpointmarines.com to learn about this and other initiatives of the MPMA.

"Our efforts are relevant because the Montford Point Marines' story isn't just U.S. history or black history," says Averhart. "It's Marine Corps history."



Montford Pointers' legacy is Major General J. Gary Cooper, USMCR (Ret.), and retired U.S. Ambassador to Jamaica. "The Montford Point Marines have been an inspiration to me," says Cooper. "Their challenges made me understand and helped me get through the challenges I faced. I wanted to be the best; to run faster and farther. If someone looked better than I did, I'd change my uniform. When you're the only [black member] in the unit, you can't have a bad day. [I told myself that] if they could do it then, I can do it now."

Though Cooper joined the Marine Corps 16 years after the opening of Montford Point, he still faced ... and overcame ... significant racial barriers. He wanted an assignment to 8th and I, the Marine Corps Barracks in Washington, D.C., but no Negroes were permitted. He was thrilled to later receive orders to serve as the commanding officer of the Marine Detachment aboard the USS Chicago. "I knew that only the sharpest Marines got those assignments," Cooper recalls. "When I reported, I was told the assignment had been delayed for a week. Twenty years later I learned they hadn't seen 'Negro' in my file until after the assignment had been made. I was the first and they weren't sure how to handle it."

During the Vietnam War, Cooper became the first African American in Marine Corps history to lead an infantry company into combat. "Blacks usually went to supply, but not to command positions. About 15 to 20 percent of the enlisted fighting unit was black and when they saw me show up as their leader, they had a different look in their eyes. I believe they worked harder to make me successful. I'm convinced that no other organization has done more to promote equal rights than the armed forces. I learned invaluable leadership skills that served me well during my military career and in my civilian life," says Cooper, who returned to his native Alabama and won a seat in the



Aboard a Coast Guard-manned transport, a black Marine, Robert Stockman, goes over his carbine with Coast Guardsmen.

state legislature when many parts of the state were still segregated.

A Legacy of Commitment and Dedication

The Montford Point Marines' legacy continues to inspire today. Today's Marines, particularly those of color, identify with the Montford Pointers when they face challenges or adversity.

"There were times, earlier in my career, when I was the only African American out of 21 corrections officers," explains CWO4 James Averhart, a 23-year career Marine who is currently the commanding officer of the brig at Quantico Marine Base in Virginia. "Being in the minority caused me concerns, but it also made me work harder."

"I'm proud of what's happening in today's Marine Corps. In 1943, the highest ranking black man I saw was a corporal or a buck sergeant," says Carpenter, who earned a degree and returned to the Corps to retire as a lieutenant colonel. "I had no idea that I'd live to see a black general, but I knew that whatever legacy we left would certainly affect others who might want to come [after us]."

"The Marine Corps has come a long way," echoes Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent. "The Marine Corps should look like America and the Montford Point Marines are proud of what the Corps is doing to make that happen.

Like today's Marines, they love the title of being a Marine and have the Eagle, Globe and Anchor branded in their hearts."

"It was only 68 years ago that the Montford Pointers attended the Corps' segregated boot camp, which really isn't that long ago. We've made significant strides in diversity and equal rights since then and things have improved tremendously since the Montford Point days. Promotion and education opportunities are better," says Averhart, who holds two masters degrees and is working on his doctorate in theology.

"The Montford Point Marines seized the opportunity to lead the way, they laid the foundation and left a legacy of commitment and dedication that allowed me and other African Americans to be where we are today," continues Averhart, who is also the national president of the Montford Point Marine Association. "We have an African American Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and we have 16 African-American general officers today. The Corps is all about being the best and most qualified. The Montford Point Marines allowed minorities to prove they could contribute in significant ways."



Lauren Armstrong is the Contributing Editor and an LA FRA Member at Large. She can be reached at lauren@fra.org.



Penny Collins

Setting Goals to Increase Retention

A STRONG RETENTION PROGRAM isn't just about maintaining branch and Association membership; it's also critical to increasing our membership numbers. Establishing a solid membership base within the branch promotes active involvement and can be a powerful springboard for branch recruiting efforts. Setting a membership goal that's relevant to all shipmates can boost both retention and recruiting efforts.

Members of Branch 299 (Wilmington, N.C.) have demonstrated their commitment to the Association and a beloved shipmate by setting such a goal. PRPEC and Past Branch President Del Herrmann was a strong advocate of recruiting and retention programs and worked hard to expand branch membership. When he passed away in July of this year, his shipmates made a commitment to Del's widow to double the branch membership. Thanks to their outreach and fundraising efforts, they are well on their way to accomplishing their goal. They've increased their membership from 54 to 92 shipmates (more than a 70-percent increase) since April 1st and are on track to accomplish their objective by the end of the Association year (March 31, 2011). The branch is also in the process of changing its name to Del Herrmann Branch 299. Shipmates' resolve has been strengthened because the branch goal is meaningful to each member.

Another great example is Branch 307's persistence in retaining members. When shipmates residing in the Gulfport, Miss., Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) had to be evacuated in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the branch had to be temporarily deactivated. Although the branch members were scattered to the

four winds, they stayed in touch and vowed to reactivate the branch as soon as possible after the Gulfport facility reopened. As shipmates returned to Gulfport in early November, they are working hard to reinvigorate the branch and recruit new members. Congratulations, Branch 307, on your recent reactivation.

A strong retention program is the backbone to membership growth.

The beginning of a new calendar year is a great time to set goals for your branch. Instead of a general goal to improve retention or increase membership, try setting more specific and measurable goals. For example, set a goal to contact each member of the branch whose membership is about to expire and remind them how much their membership and involvement



FRA Branch 299 President Harry Whitted (far right) presented a memorial plaque to family members following Shipmate Del Herrmann's death. Del's many years of service and leadership are the motivation for the branch's efforts to increase membership. Pictured (l to r) are Rose (granddaughter), Roy (son) and Betty (Del's widow).

are valued. Commit to honor every shipmate who reaches a membership milestone. Develop a plan to ensure each new member receives a welcome call, an escort to their first branch meeting and a mentor to answer questions about the FRA. Devise a plan to increase attendance at meetings or events by calling or e-mailing shipmates with reminders about upcoming opportunities to participate. There are a variety of achievable goals that will improve retention and membership growth.

A strong retention program is the backbone to membership growth. Congratulations to the branches listed on page 38 that held steady or realized growth in the past year. There are a variety of tools available to assist branches in their recruiting and retention efforts. Visit www.fra.org or call the Member Services Department for assistance.

Penny Collins is FRA's Director of Membership Development and a member of FRA Branch 24 in Annapolis, Md. She can be reached at penny@fra.org.



Shipmate Pete Lisko of Branch 24 is the embodiment of retention. Shown here, accepting congratulations from PRPEC Paul Dix for his 65 years of continuous FRA membership. Lisko enlisted in the Navy in 1939, joined the association in 1945, and is 91 years young. He is a WWII Pearl Harbor Survivor and plans to attend the Pearl Harbor Day ceremonies at Branch 24.

Convention Awards

Many branches and shipmates received well-deserved recognition at FRA's 83rd National Convention in Spartanburg, S.C. Here are award winners selected by the Membership and Retention; Americanism-Patriotism; Hospitals, Welfare and Rehabilitation; Public Relations and Youth Activities Committees.



Membership and Retention Committee

Chairman: Penny Collins, Branch 24

Congratulations to the following branches that gained members or had 100-percent member retention.

Group	Branch	Name	Rate of Growth	Region	
I	269	Goose Creek (South Carolina)	1.43% gain	Southeast	
II	20	Groton (Connecticut)	1.92% gain	New England	
	40	Chesapeake (Virginia)	0.37% gain	East Coast	
III	None				
IV	281	Lake Shasta (Redding, CA)	21.88% gain	West Coast	
	130	Indianapolis Memorial (Indiana)	4.03% gain	North Central	
	371	Baton Rouge (Louisiana)	3.01% gain	South Central	
	268	USS Oklahoma (Oklahoma City, OK)	2.61% gain	North Central	
	367	San Miguel (Philippine Islands)	2.52% gain	Northwest	
	59	Cheyenne (Wyoming)	2.42% gain	Northwest	
	104	Mt. Rainer (Tacoma, WA)	1.45% gain	Northwest	
	298	Wolverine (Grand Rapids, MI)	0.67% gain	North Central	
	V	294	Crossville (Tennessee)	92% gain	Southeast
		118	Cape Coral (Florida)	31.25% gain	Southeast
		259	Cape Fear (Fayetteville, NC)	9.62% gain	East Coast
		369	Tri State Mountaineers (Cumberland, MD)	7.69% gain	East Coast
		145	Lincoln (Nebraska)	6.76% gain	North Central

Group	Branch	Name	Rate of Growth	Region
	64	Miagao (Philippine Islands)	5.88% gain	Northwest
	328	WJ Bessey (Roseburg, OR)	5.88% gain	Northwest
	319	Richland (Mansfield, OH)	5.13% gain	North Central
	113	PW Bill Groom (Stockton, CA)	4.84% gain	West Coast
	98	Shreveport Bossier (Louisiana)	4.08% gain	South Central
	74	Olongapo City (Philippine Islands)	2.44% gain	Northwest
	197	Modesto (California)	1.85% gain	West Coast
	132	Blackstone Valley (Pautucket, RI)	1.72% gain	New England
	185	Salt Lake City (Utah)	1.32% gain	West Coast
	127	Bicol Region (Philippine Islands)	1.15% gain	Northwest
	302	Carson (California)	1% gain	Southwest
	288	Anthracite (Wilkes Barre, PA)	100% retention	Northeast
	87	Bedford Springs (Bedford, PA)	100% retention	Northeast
	63	Lewis-Clark (Lewiston, ID)	100% retention	Northwest
	44	Tennessee Valley (Columbia, TN)	100% retention	Southeast
	154	Baguio City (Philippine Islands)	100% retention	Northwest
	215	JJ Burke (Savannah, GA)	100% retention	Southeast
	21	COLO WYO Border (Ft. Collins, CO)	100% retention	West Coast

Americanism-Patriotism Committee

Chairman: Virgil P. Courneya, Branch 274

First Place

Group I - Branch 46 (Honolulu, Hawaii)
Group II - Branch 11 (Fort Worth, Texas)
Group III - Branch 101 (Santa Clara, Calif.)
Group IV - Branch 192 (Fallon, Nev.)
Group V - Branch 15 (Walhalla, S.C.)

Second Place

Group I - Branch 269 (Goose Creek, S.C.)
Group II - Branch 261 (Lemoore, Calif.)
Group III - Branch 162 (New Orleans, La.)
Group IV - Branch 186 (Hernando, Fla.)
Group V - Branch 98 (Shreveport, La.)

Third Place

Group I - Branch 99 (Virginia Beach, Va.)
Group II - Branch 126 (Jacksonville, Fla.)
Group III - Branch 117 (Orlando, Fla.)
Group IV - Branch 201 (Austin, Texas)
Group V - Branch 293 (Elizabeth City, N.C.)

The Walter "Step" Rowell Award for the 1st place overall report was presented to Branch 11 (Fort Worth, Texas).

Michael H. Beville, Branch 11 (Fort Worth, Texas), was the recipient of the **Leonard "Swede" Nelson Award for Shipmate of the Year.**

The Robert Doherty Award for special recognition was presented to Shipmate Tom Smith of Branch 15 (Walhalla, S.C.).

Hospitals, Welfare and Rehabilitation Committee

Chairman: Dave W. Davis, Branch 290

First Place

Group I - Branch 269 (Goose Creek, S.C.)
Group II - Branch 290 (Mayport, Fla.)
Group III - Branch 5 (Norfolk, Va.)
Group IV - Branch 59 (Cheyenne, Wyo.)
Group V - Branch 364 (Houston, Texas)

Second Place

Group I - Branch 46 (Honolulu, Hawaii)
Group II - Branch 136 (Minneapolis, Minn.)
Group III - Branch 161 (Kansas City, Kans.)
Group IV - Branch 298 (Grand Rapids, Mich.)
Group V - Branch 37 (Portsmouth, Va.)

Third Place

Group I - Branch 99 (Virginia Beach, Va.)
Group II - Branch 40 (Chesapeake, Va.)

Group III - Branch 156 (Brunswick, Maine)
Group IV - Branch 371 (Baton Rouge, La.)
Group V - Branch 72 (Fall River, Mass.)

The committee selected Shipmate Howard M. Dellert of Branch 5 (Norfolk, Va.) as **Shipmate of the Year.**

Public Relations Committee

Chairman: Donald L. Gage, Branch 161

First Place

Group I - Branch 269 (Goose Creek, S.C.)
Group II - Branch 290 (Mayport, Fla.)
Group III - Branch 162 (New Orleans, La.)
Group IV - Branch 186 (Hernando, Fla.)
Group V - Branch 15 (Walhalla, S.C.)

Second Place

Group I - Branch 46 (Honolulu, Hawaii)
Group II - Branch 11 (Fort Worth, Texas)
Group III - Branch 5 (Norfolk, Va.)
Group IV - Branch 192 (Fallon, Nev.)
Group V - Branch 258 (Erie, Pa.)

Third Place

Group I - None
Group II - Branch 20 (Groton, Conn.)
Group III - Branch 316 (Springfield, Mo.)
Group IV - Branch 77 (Green Valley, Ariz.)
Group V - Branch 37 (Portsmouth, Va.)

Shipmate Cynthia J. Norcross of Branch 11 (Fort Worth, Texas) was named **Shipmate of the Year.**

Youth Activities Committee

Chairman: John "Les" Zavadil, Branch 204

First Place

Group I - Branch 289 (Imperial Beach, Calif.)
Group II - Branch 11 (Fort Worth, Texas)
Group III - Branch 163 (Phoenix, Ariz.)
Group IV - Branch 77 (Green Valley, Ariz.)
Group V - Branch 37 (Portsmouth, Va.)

Second Place

Group I - Branch 269 (Goose Creek, S.C.)
Group II - Branch 126 (Jacksonville, Fla.)
Group III - Branch 161 (Kansas City, Kans.)
Group IV - Branch 17 (Cleveland, Ohio)
Group V - Branch 63 (Lewiston, Idaho)

Third Place

Group I - Branch 46 (Honolulu, Hawaii)
Group II - Branch 175 (Orange County, Calif.)
Group III - Branch 42 (Quonset Point, R.I.)
Group IV - Branch 230 (Roseville, Calif.)
Group V - Branch 364 (Houston, Texas)

The committee named Shipmate John Tharp of Branch 269 (Goose Creek, S.C.) as **Shipmate of the Year.**

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USS *Arizona* Memorial Visitor Center Opens 69 Years After Attack

DECEMBER 7TH MARKS THE 69th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and will be marked with a variety of programs and ceremonies to commemorate the “day that will live in infamy.” One of the most exciting events of the day will be the grand opening of the new USS *Arizona* Memorial Visitor Center in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The new facility will replace the memorial’s current museum and visitor center that is deteriorating and inadequate to serve the more than 1.6 million guests who visit the site each year.

FRA was instrumental in the capital campaign to build the original visitor center nearly 30 years ago, contributing substantially from the Association’s national treasury, partnering with Revell Model Company to sell plastic models of the *Arizona*, and encouraging individual shipmates to donate as they were able. The center was well received and well used, so much so that a second fundraising campaign was initiated to expand and renovate the visitor center.

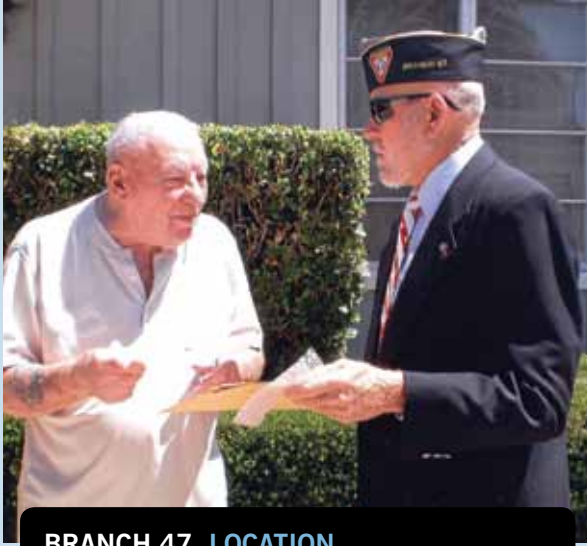
Unfortunately, what began as an \$8 million renovation project became a \$56 million construction program when it was discovered that the foundation of the original center was sinking into the harbor. FRA has again played a key role in this effort to preserve the artifacts and legacy of this important milestone in American history. FRA again contributed as a national entity (and is the largest donor among contributing veterans’ groups) and many branches, units and individual shipmates have also added to the millions of dollars raised to construct the buildings, fabricate and install the exhibits, landscape the site and create an endowment for the future.

The new facility, which is part of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, will provide an expanded state-of-the-art museum, education and research center and improved amenities that will allow visitors to access digitized documents, photographs and oral histories. The movie theater has undergone significant renovations and the famous USS *Arizona* anchor will be relocated to a new site near the water’s edge.

FRA National President Jim Scarbro, Past National Presidents George Kaye and Jerry Sweeney, and numerous members from Honolulu Branch 46 will be on hand for the center’s grand opening and dedication on December 7th. A variety of events to mark the occasion are slated from December 4th through the 8th and will include an internment ceremony for USS *Utah* survivor David Smith at the USS *Utah* Memorial on Ford Island, tours and presentations by historians and survivors, and musical concerts by Hawaiian and Navy performers.

The memories of those lost at Pearl Harbor will also be remembered by other shipmates at ceremonies across the nation, including events at the University of Arizona in Tucson, a wreathlaying ceremony at the U.S. Navy Memorial in Washington, D.C., and a commemorative service at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.





BRANCH 47 LOCATION

PRPSW Mike Frontz (right) had the pleasure of presenting a 50-year continuous membership pin to Shipmate Howard Cohen, who's been a member of Branch 47 since 1960. Cohen joined the Navy in 1943 and retired after 23 years of distinguished service.



BRANCH 250 SARASOTA, FLA.

Branch President Ernest Robinson (center) presents keys for a new door at VFW Post 3233 to Post Commander Gary Williams (left) while 1st Vice-Commander Matt Erny looks on.



BRANCH 5 & 60 NORFOLK, VA.

Admiral Alton Stocks, commander of the Portsmouth Naval Medical Center, congratulates Shipmate Ed Maring (left) of Branch 60 on completing 500 hours of volunteer service. Ralph Holcombe (right) of Branch 5 is the director of the Retired Volunteers in Medical Service, which has contributed more than 475,000 hours since the program's inception in 1988.



BRANCH 43 LONG BEACH, CALIF.

Shipmate Al Shannon is recognized for his 40 years of continuous FRA membership.



BRANCH 319 MANSFIELD, OHIO

Branch President Dick Bland congratulates Shipmate Boyd Long (right) on his 50 years of continuous FRA membership. Long joined FRA while on active duty and is a charter member of Branch 319.

BRANCH 127 NAGA CITY, P.I.

Shipmates celebrated the 100th birthday of Juan "Johnny" Tabalza (seated, second from the left). Shown are (seated, l to r) Branch president Marciano Blanco, Tabalanza, Nena Tabalanza, Matias Valasco, (standing, l to r) Williams Solevin, 1st Vice President Nicolas Lastrella, Secretary Ely Barachina, Sofronia Baldoza, Amancio Delos Santos, Herminio Ballester and Treasurer Pio Almazan.



BRANCH 288 SCRANTON, PA.

Shipmates traditionally lay a wreath honoring George Washington on Purple Heart Day. PRPNE Francis Tyson (December 24, 1964), Joseph Long, Jr. (April 19 and September 24, 1966) and John A. Brogna (October 6, 1968) are Purple Heart recipients for wounds received in Vietnam.



BRANCH 99 VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.

Shipmate Frank Chebetar (left) poses with Admiral Gary Roughead, chief of Naval Operations, at the Battle of Midway Commemoration Ceremony in Washington, D.C. Chebetar served aboard the USS Phelps (DD-360) during this historic battle and is also a Pearl Harbor survivor.



BRANCH 13 ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.

Shipmate Ross Gardner (left) accepts his 40-year continuous membership certificate from Branch President Henderson Hemphill.



BRANCH 92 NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Five shipmates serve on the Ancillary Committee of the Southeast Louisiana War Veterans Home in Reserve, La. Posing in front of the committee are (seated, l to r) Jim Fuentes, Chairman Colleen Scott, Bernard Cleary, (standing, l to r) Fleming Troclair and Emile Hotard. The committee meets quarterly to discuss upcoming activities and members take this news to their organization or civil parish.

To submit a photo for *News From the Branches*, please E-mail a photo as an attachment in jpeg format to FRAToday@fra.org or mail a high-quality photograph to *FRA Today*, 125 N. West Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Please include a brief description of the photograph and include the names of those pictured. Laser prints and scanned copies of photographs cannot be accepted.

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NAME	BRANCH	NAME	BRANCH
Gehrlich, Richard, E, LCDR, USN	024	Pence, Perry, J, CTC, USN	MAL
Gerhart, Andrew, J, AO1, USN	093	Petrella, Anthony, J, PO1, USN	124
Gilbert, Thomas, E, ENCS, USN	MAL	Pettey, Clyde, A, 1STSGT, USMC	264
Glidden, Earle, H, PT1, USN	007	Pointer, Sydney, D, ADRC, USN	120
Goodwin, Leroy, D, CS2, USN	175	Porter, Melody, A., LCDR, USN	MAL
Granum, Arthur, R, LT, USN	230	Purdy, Corydon, P.t., HMCM, USN	022
Grego, James, T, AGCS, USN	094	Purvis, Henry, G, AMSC, USN	MAL
Hahn, Elwood, F, HMC, USN	124	Quimiro, Arthur, J, ENC, USN	055
Harper, Eugene, E, BMC, USN	163	Rasmussen, George, T, RDC, USCG	MAL
Harvey, Billy, D, LCDR, USN	053	Reichert, Bud, J, CPO, USN	147
Hatch, Herbert, H, GMCS, USN	MAL	Revi, James, E, CSCM, USN	061
Heberlein, Alexander, P, CWO3, USN	MAL	Richling, Joseph, A, RM2, USN	276
Hensley, Douglas, P, MMC, USN	MAL	Rickey, James, E, AOC, USN	MAL
Hicks, Robert, W, AGCS, USN	MAL	Riley, Herman, POCM, USN	MAL
Himle, John, LI1, USN	281	Roberson, Jewell, P, RM1, USN	163
Hoffman, Christian, FTCS, USN	MAL	Robinson, Donald, F, SKC, USN	MAL
Hooker, Raymond, T, MM1, USN	117	Rollins, Ray, GMG1, USN	MAL
Humerick, Thomas, W, GMG, USN	MAL	Rothwell, James, H, BUC, USN	MAL
Hungerford, Donald, L, AMH2, USN	MAL	Rotondo, Ralph, UTCM, USN	MAL
Hunter, Charles, C, GMG1, USN	104	Samuelson, Bruce, C, FTCS, USN	010
Ingram, Milton, L, ADC, USN	066	Sanders, Dale, O, AMHC, USN	MAL
Jewett, Willis, E, SFC, USN	338	Sandors, George, S, BU1, USN	175
Johnson, Robert, BTC, USN	MAL	Sapp, John, H, ENC(SS), USN	022
Johnson, Roxy, G, AK1, USN	MAL	Scarpignato, Domenic, T, GMGC2, USN	MAL
Kelly, Tom, J, FTCM, USN	MAL	Schneider, Karl, R, CSC, USN	159
Kennison, Martin, L, DTCS, USN	230	Schools, Ronald, F, BM1, USN	290
Kenyon, Willis, M, HMC, USN	161	Shafer, Ted, H, BM1, USN	163
Kidd, John, F, YNCM, USN	MAL	Sharp, Robert, E, EMCS, USN	MAL
Kilpatrick, John, F, 1STLT, USMC	MAL	Sheppard, James, L, PNC, USN	186
Klem, Eugene, N, ATC, USN	136	Simonetta, Joseph, A, USN	108
Korpi, Wesley, E, YNC(SS), USN	020	Skarzenski, Charles, SH2, USN	369
Kostic, John, L, ET1, USN	020	Smith, Dewey, B, HM1, USN	363
Lafreniere, Aurel, E, MAJ(GYSGT), USMC	MAL	Smolak, Richard, G, PO1, USN	011
Lamoureux, George, J, CDR, USN	123	Snapko, Robert, P, PO1, USN	136
Lampe, Larry, D, SHCS, USN	MAL	Snead, Earl, T, ADR2, USN	MAL
Lewis, Edward, H, ENC, USN	060	Soulerin, John, J, ADCS, USN	166
Linsten, John, V, ADR1, USN	273	Spargur, William, L, CE1, USN	046
Loughran, Jack, C, ADR1, USN	MAL	Strand, Alexander, C, EN3, USN	256
Lund, Larry, G, ACC(AW), USN	276	Taylor, Ralph, S, CWO4, USN	MAL
Martin, William, R, PO1, USN	050	Thompson, Cerdic, F, HTC, USN	290
Mattfeldt, Russell, H, SGT, USMC	274	Thorpe, James, H, BMC, USN	055
Mauk, Herbert, R, SMC(SS), USN	090	Townsend, Paul, F., SKC, USN	163
McGuigan, Warren, E, HT1, USN	067	Tyler, John, M, MR1, USN	067
McLaren, Donald, L, E-9, USN	MAL	Vold, Stanley, M, SGT, USMC	136
McLaughlin, Thomas, J, USN	MAL	Vulpi, Nicholas, X, RM1, USN	010
McNeill, John, A, YNC, USN	MAL	Waldburger, Max, R, ADR1, USN	097
Mechling, Charles, E, TMC, USN	113	Walsh, Daniel, LCDR, USN	MAL
Metz, Walter, G, RMCS, USN	230	Wasilewski, Joseph, S, YN1, USN	042
Michael, Cyrus, T, BTC, USN	101	Wasson, Gary, OSC, USN	MAL
Miller, Charles, A, EM2, USN	238	Watkins, Howard, K, DKC, USN	MAL
Moats, Charles, E, RMCS, USN	MAL	Weber, James, R, PHCS, USN	MAL
Morris, Elmer, G, PO1, USN	067	Weiler, Fred, W, CTIC, USN	MAL
Murray, Harold, E, ABF3, USN	338	Wheeler, James, W, AFMC, USN	MAL
Myers, Jimmie, L, TDC, USN	MAL	Whiteside, Allen, R, EMC(SS), USN	MAL
Myers, William, M, CECS, USN	120	Willett, Albert, J, ENC, USN	MAL
Naert, Albert, P, ENC, USN	MAL	Willson, William, G, CAPT, USN	MAL
Napolillo, Francis, J, CSC, USN	230	Woleslagle, John, W, SKCS, USN	290
Nicholls, Morris, E., AMH1, USN	MAL	Worman, Richard, C, PNC, USN	146
Nicholson, Darrell, G, STCS, USN	070	Young, Joseph, CSC, USN	061
O'Flarity, Gloria, PH1, USN	307	Zeutschel, Richard, E, GMCS, USN	092
Oliver, Charles, E, RDC, USN	MAL		
Parsons, Warren, A, AVCM, USN	086		
Pawlowski, Thomas, J, CAPT, USN	MAL		
Pearson, Hans, B, MCPO, USN	046		
Peek, John, A, PO1, USN	013		

Names in red indicate 50 year continuous members.

NAME	BRANCH
Arnold, Birley, F, GMG1, USN	047
Babitsky, Walter, R, HMCS, USN	219
Baird, Jack, L, CS1(SS), USN	237
Banal, Jose, B., PO1, USN	127
Barrera, Roberto, CM2, USNR	094
Beecham, Dale, P, ADR2, USN	358
Bish, Stuart, A, SHCM, USN	289
Bleil, Richard, Elliott, STSC (SS)	293
Bleyhl, Milton, E, GMC, USN	MAL
Bohn, Frederick, W, GMC, USN	009
Boutwell, Merlin, E, ACCS, USN	MAL
Brannon, John, Pete	162
Brinkman, Robert, C, SGTMAJ, USMC	091
Brown, Denney, CTCS, USN	364
Brown, Kenneth, ENC(SS), USN	MAL
Buchanan, John, A, CWO2, USN	MAL
Burghard, Joseph, W, SCPO, USN	251
Burnham, William, E, MMCM, USN	061
Carlson, Robert, B, MM1, USN	175
Cason, Herbert, BMC, USN	371
Cederstrom, Oliver, N, RMC, USN	MAL
Clark, Adwon, H, SCPO, USN	339
Clem, Willis, R, CMCS, USN	316
Collins, Robert, J, YNC, USN	290
Cooper, Sherwood, M, BTC, USN	071
Cox, Wilbur, O, HM1, USN	377
Cramer, Dean, E, CAPT, USN	126
Crouse, John, Raymond, MMCM(SS), USN	248
Cummings, Robert, W, LT, USN	MAL
Davis, Charles, W, MTC(SS), USN	MAL
Davis, Edward, J, EN, USN	307
Davis, Wayne, O, BM1, USN	339
Descove, Tyrone, J, SKCS, USCG	057
Desy, Michael, SM1, USN	MAL
Dondero, Robert, L, LTJG, USN	027
Egan, Edward, B, 1STSG, USMC	061
Eldridge, Roscoe, S, ALC, USN	MAL
Elek, Robert, M, ABF3, USN	120
Ericson, Andrew, J, BMC, USN	MAL
Errico, Mario, J, ADRC, USN	146
Fairhurst, Franklin, E, CAPT, USN	MAL
Falda, Richard, M., BM, USN	070
Felty, James, M, BTC, USN	009
Field, Marion, B, MMC, USN	230
Foreman, Julius, E, QMC, USN	047
Freeman, Harold, S, MCPO, USN	024
French, Kenneth, R, ADC, USN	156
Fynan, Albert, CWO, USN	057
Gardner, Buddy, J, CSC, USN	217
Gatten, Preston, L, YNCS, USN	136

USS Carpenter (DD-825)

April 28–May 2, 2011, Warwick, RI. Contact Joel Weinbaum, 256-351-8552, smokycolors@yahoo.com.

USS Donner (LSD-20)

April 28–May 1, 2011, Nashville, TN. Contact Dennis Heimbach, 610-775-7539, dheimb@1usa.com.

USS Galveston (CLG-3)

September 21–25, 2011, Buffalo, NY. Contact Tom “Soupy” Campbell, Jr., 310 Monroe Avenue, Edgewater Park, NJ 08010-1822, 866-398-2655, galveston@comcast.net.

USS Gen H. W. Butner (AP/TAP-113)

May 12–16, 2011, Norfolk, VA. Contact James M. Jack, 757-488-2858.

USS General W. A. Mann Reunion Assn

April 28–30, 2011, Mobile, AL. Contact Walter Baker, 2960 Ranchette Square, Gulf Breeze, FL 32563-2614, 850-934-1671.

USS Jallao (SS-368)

May 5–8, 2011, Manitowoc, WI. Contact Jerry Pilger, 3519 Schroeder Dr., Manitowoc, WI 54220, FAX 813-949 0176, jollyj@lsol.net.

USS Mauna Kea (AE-22)

September 8–11, 2011, Windsor, CT. Contact Rich Letarte, 260 Lancaster Avenue, Lunenburg, MA 01462-1510, 978-582-4224, lewlet@verizon.net.

USS Razorback (SS-394), USS Redfish (SS-395), and USS Ronquil (SS-396)

September 12–16, 2011, N. Little Rock, AR. Contact Rick Pressly, 1971 Secession St. Ext., Abbeville, SC 29620, 864-446-8561, rjpressly@wctel.net.

USS Robert H. McCard (DD-822)

May 11–15, 2011, Nashville, TN. Contact Ben Plante, 186 Brennan St., Manchester, NH 03109, 603-622-0244, blplante@comcast.net.

USS Sam Rayburn (SS-BN-635)

June 12–16, 2011, Reno, NV. Contact Darrell (Doc) Rushing, 16269 My Road Miles, TX 76861, 325-468-2213, Boatdock635@aol.com.

USS TRUMPETFISH (SS-425)

August 23–29, 2011, Branson, MO. Contact Terry Trump, 404 Pinehurst Ave Summerville, SC 29483, 843-873-9563, ss425@hotmail.com.

USS Von Steuben (SSBN-632)

March 17–20, 2011, N. Charleston, SC. Contact Rick Wise, 111 Pinewood Drive Summerville, SC 29483, 843-875-5559, ssbn632reunion@sc.rr.com.

USS Yellowstone (AD-27) Assoc. Reunion #10

May 18–22, 2011, South Portland, ME. Contact Paul W. Bowen, 9394 SW 101 Lane, Ocala, FL 34481, 352-854-1387, bowp@att.net.



VX-6/VXE-6

May 19–22, 2011, Fort Mitchell, Ky. Contact Joe Hollern, 556 Liberty Ln. Westerville, Ohio 43081, 614-906-6289, jhollern@wowway.com.

Members can post reunions online at www.fra.org, submit to reunions@fra.org or mail to: FRA Reunions, 125 N. West St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

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Mine Squadron 11 or MINEDIV 111

Anyone serving at Mine Squadron 11 or MINEDIV 111, Naval Station Long Beach, Calif., between September 1969 and September 1971, please contact Bill Greguras at bill.greguras@gmail.com or 402-733-5917.

Members of Company No. 12, (Electrical) Naval Training School (Hadley), St Louis. Mo.

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Co. 100 USNTS, Norfolk, Virginia, January 1942

Chief Bos'n Mate C. E. Burton was the company commander for a class of 78 Sailors. We graduated on February 28, 1942. Please contact EM1 William F. Geer, USNR (Ret.), 609 Sycamore Drive, Anderson, S.C. 29621



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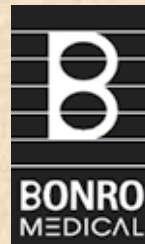
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Message from the Southwest Regional President

THANK YOU TO ALL members of the Southwest Region for electing me as your Regional President and for your support. It is an honor to serve. I am looking forward to visiting the units in the Southwest Region and will do my utmost to fulfill this trust and obligation.

Let us try to make a difference by calling all the members of our individual units this year, just to let them know we care and are thinking of them. Even members who regularly attend meetings appreciate a warm “Hello” or “How are you doing?” This may help retain and motivate active and inactive members and keep them interested in unit activities. By working together, we can accomplish our goals.

Auxiliary members are dedicated to the three cardinal principles of this organization: Loyalty, Protection and Service. Units keep busy volunteering at veterans’ hospitals and donating to veteran organizations. They assist the elderly and disabled by volunteering at hospital facilities. By saving box top and soup labels, they assist in activities that benefit young people and schools. They help support our troops and their families by clipping coupons for commissary patrons here and overseas. Many units are sending boxes of personal items and goodies to the troops overseas. We appreciate the members who have been contributing to the many charities that support our troops and communities.

Keep up the good work and continue to enjoy the wonderful camaraderie of belonging to this great organization.



BEATRICE DEMMEL
Regional President Southwest



Fran Hoadley is the editor of *Auxiliary of FRA News* and the *FRA Today* Liaison.



Unit 382, Boise, Idaho

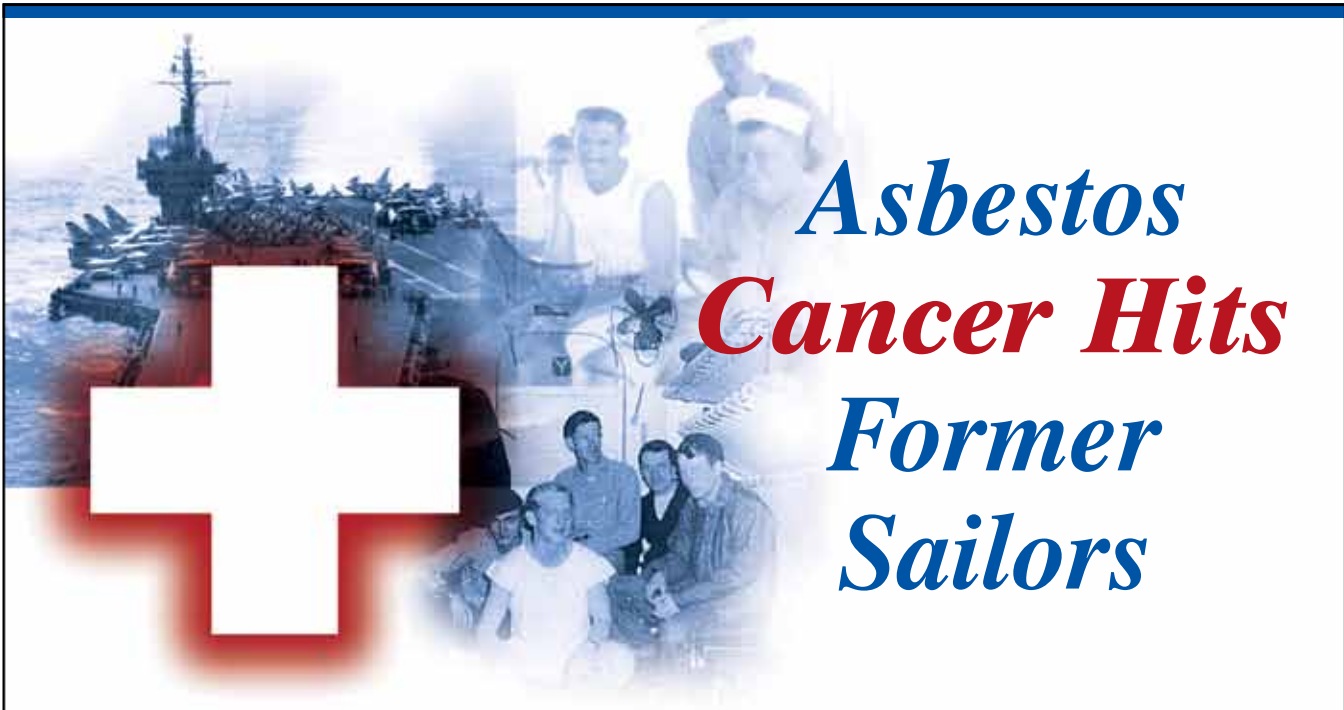
The Idaho Division of Veterans Services presented Catherine (Fern) Lynskey the “Young at Heart” award for young and faithful service. Catherine will be 93 years young in November and has contributed more than 30 years of volunteer service. Picture submitted by PRPNW Sharon Holloway



78th LA FRA 2010 National Convention
Left to Right; PRPEC Aida Littlejohn (Unit 208) is recognized for 10 years of continuous Auxiliary membership by 2010 NP Cindy Rodham-Tuck.
Picture submitted by Fran Hoadley



78th LA FRA 2010 National Convention
Left to Right: PNP Dot Maurath Unit 296 presenting 45 year pin to PNP Gail Dolloway Unit 90.
Picture submitted by Fran Hoadley



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