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**78<sup>th</sup> FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION (FRA)  
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONVENTION  
76<sup>th</sup> AUXILLARY OF THE FLEET RESERVE  
ASSOCIATION (LAFRA) SOUTHEAST REGIONAL  
CONVENTION  
September 24-26, 2024**

**Newsletter #2  
June 2024**

**HOSTED BY:  
FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269 AND  
LAFRA LOW COUNTRY UNIT 269  
GOOSE CREEK, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**(Please read about changes in hotel reservation group code and clarification in journal ad formatting and color choice)**

FRA Chairperson: Branch President Ken Hutchinson, (843) 670-0047, email [kenhutch@yahoo.com](mailto:kenhutch@yahoo.com)

FRA Co-Chairperson: PNP Don Muccheck, (843) 437-0747, email [dmuccheck@aol.com](mailto:dmuccheck@aol.com)

LAFRA Chairperson: NFS (PNP) Pat Suckow, (843) 452-4719, email [psuckow49@homesc.com](mailto:psuckow49@homesc.com)

LAFRA Co-Chairperson: PRPSE Gale Nathan, (843) 870-7850, email [galenathan55@gmail.com](mailto:galenathan55@gmail.com)

Convention Secretary and Journal Ads: PNC Laurie Bailey, (843) 813-3430, email [lauriebailey21@gmail.com](mailto:lauriebailey21@gmail.com)

Convention Treasurer: Shipmate Cindy Bryan, (843) 754-9443, email [cindybryan950@gmail.com](mailto:cindybryan950@gmail.com)

## WELCOME BACK TO CHARLESTON

In Celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the FRA, the Shipmates & Auxiliary members of Branch and Unit 269 are excited to send out Newsletter #2 to update you on what to prepare for when you come to visit us at the 2024 FRA Southeast Regional Convention. We are excited to greet all our shipmates from the region and welcome any new convention attendees.

## CHALLENGE TO ALL BRANCHES

Those of us who have attended the Southeast Regional Convention know how important it is to get new attendees who haven't been to a convention to attend. For these conventions to continue, we must encourage shipmates and auxiliary members to attend and participate for them to learn and carry on. We challenge all branches to send at least one person to attend the convention and if the shipmate or auxiliary member can't afford the cost, maybe your branch can cover the cost of room and meals. If your branch decides to send someone especially new to a convention, please send their contact information to Laurie Bailey by text or email so they can be recognized.

## WE'RE GROOVIN TO THE LATE 60'S AND EARLY 70'S



The theme of this year's Welcome Aboard Party will be Hippies Style late 60's and early 70's with music, food, costumes and even a disco ball!! So, we hope that we can get a lot of participation in the theme especially costumes which will be presented with a prize for Best Costume. Also, we have a challenge for you to send us a photo of you from this time period to post on a sticky board to display at the party.

## BARBEQUE DINNER AT THE FRA LOWCOUNTRY HOME



FRA LOWCOUNTRY Home is known for our outstanding volunteer cooks that work tirelessly to ensure that the meal will knock your socks off. Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, at 1800 (6:00 pm), all convention attendees are invited to a Southern Barbeque with all the trimmings so make sure you sign up with the meal selections included in this newsletter for some great food and drink at FRA LOWCOUNTRY Home. Please sign up on your meal selection form included in this newsletter. Meet in the hotel lobby for a ride to the Fleet Home if you need one. A member of Branch or Unit 269 will be offering rides there and back.

## SCOOTER RENTALS

Mobility Rentals of Mt Pleasant, SC (843-344-5500) has scooters to rent for \$50.00/day with a minimum of 2 days required. You must call (ask for Paul) and rent the scooter under the FRA and they will deliver and pick them up after the convention. The more rentals under FRA, the bigger the discount per day. Please let Laurie Bailey know if you have rented a scooter for accountability purposes.

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

**Where:** Double Tree by Hilton, 7401 Northwoods Blvd, North Charleston, SC 29406

**When:** Actual Convention Dates: Tuesday, 24 September 2024 – Thursday, 26 September 2024. Members can arrive on Monday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> or Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of September and depart on Friday, 27 September 2024 unless staying over to see some sights.

**Room Rate, etc:** \$114.00 plus 14% room tax = \$129.96. Reservations must be made by **August 15, 2024**, to receive preferred group rate. Group rates are available for those arriving three days early or staying three days past the group dates.

**RESERVATIONS:** (CHANGE IN GROUP CODE) Reservations can be made by calling 1-843-518-6200. Specify that you are making a reservation under the **Group Code FRA “Fleet Reserve Association Convention”**. **If you have made your reservation under CHSNCDT or no code, please let me know by email so we can get you into the FRA block for accountability.**

**Direct Link to the hotel is:** This is posted on our website ([fra269gc.org](http://fra269gc.org)) and the info on the convention will be on National Headquarters website ([fra.org](http://fra.org) under events Tab) also. **Let us know if you have any problems with the link.**

### **HOTEL BOOKING LINK**

**Rates include:** FREE parking. All rooms have a refrigerator, microwave, coffee pot, iron & ironing board and hair dryer.

**Check-in/Check-out:** Check-in time is at 3:00PM and check-out time is at 11:00AM.

**Meals selections:** Meals for Welcome Aboard party, LAFRA RP’s luncheon and the banquet are listed in the form below so please make your selections and send payment by check or money order to Laurie Bailey at contact info above. Deadline is **2 September 2024** so make sure you get them to us well in advance.

Continental Breakfast is not served at this hotel but there are numerous eating establishments within 5 to 10 minutes from hotel. Dinner is offered at the Double Tree each day for a cost. There are several eateries within walking distance or a short drive.

**Convention Meals and Order Form**  
**Meals are Available to all Attendees with meal ticket**  
**Must have ticket to enter**

**Tuesday, September 24, 2024**

**Welcome Aboard Party (7:00 pm- 10:00 pm) - \$15.00/person or \$25.00/couple**

Meatballs w/Marinara Sauce, Pigs in a Blanket, Vegetable Crudités, Artisan Cheese Boards, Petit Desserts, Iced Tea

**Wednesday, September 25, 2024**

**LAFRA Regional President's Luncheon (Available to all attendees) (11:30 – 13:00) - \$30.00.**

**Market Deli Lunch Buffet**

Deli Sandwiches -Turkey Club on Wheat Berry Bread or Chicken Salad Croissant, Pasta Salad, Mixed Green Salad, Ranch & Balsamic Vinaigrette Dressings, Gourmet Cookie, Iced Tea

**Barbeque Dinner (6:00-10:00 pm) at FRA Lowcountry Home - \$ 15.00**

Pulled Pork Barbeque, Cole Slaw, Hash and Rice, Cornbread, Green Beans, Dessert

**Thursday, September 26, 2024**

**Banquet (6:00 pm – 10:00 pm), \$45.00**

Pesto Penne Pasta Grilled Chicken, Sautéed Peppers, Mushrooms and Onions in a Creamy Basil Pesto with Grilled Ciabatta, House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Iced Tea, Coffee, New York Style Cheesecake

Or

Marinated Pork Loin, Green Beans, Mashed Sweet Potatoes, House Salad, Dinner Rolls, Iced Tea, Coffee, New York Style Cheesecake

- Any dietary restrictions can be accommodated. Please make a note on this form in order to inform the hotel kitchen staff of what restrictions.

## EVENT AND MEALS ORDER FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH/UNIT \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH/UNIT \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Welcome Aboard Party \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00/person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ X \$25/couple \$ \_\_\_\_\_

LAFRA RP's Luncheon (Available to all) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$30.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Barbeque at Lowcountry Home \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet (Pick one)

Pesto Penne Pasta Grilled Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ X \$45.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Marinated Pork Loin \_\_\_\_\_ X \$45.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send Meals Order Form with payment (made out to 2024 FRA Convention) no later than **2 September 2024** to:

PNC Laurie Bailey  
101 Pine Court  
Summerville, SC 29486

**LOCATIONS**

The **Double Tree by Hilton** is conveniently located just off I-26 (exit 209) in North Charleston. The hotel is less than eight miles from Charleston International Airport with complimentary transportation to and from.

The **FRA Low Country Home** is located at 99 Wisteria Rd in Goose Creek, approximately five miles from the Double Tree Hotel. The phone number is (843) 569-2692.

**JOURNAL ADS**

Journal Advertisement (Ads) must be submitted by August 15, 2024. Please send hard copy ads with check or money order payable to FRA Convention with an emailed copy to [lauriebailey21@gmail.com](mailto:lauriebailey21@gmail.com) in either Word Doc or PDF. Regular Mail to FRA Convention, C/O Laurie Bailey, 101 Pine Court, Summerville, SC 29486 with a cover letter identifying the branch and POC who made the ad in case of any questions.

**Front inside and back inside cover (color) (8x10) \$250.00**

**Full page (8"x10")**

**\$150.00 (black and white)**

**Half page (8"x5") \$75.00**

**(black and white)**

**1/4 page (4"x5") (black and white) \$40.00**

**Business card size (black and white) \$15.00**

**BOOSTER ROLLS**

Booster rolls must be submitted by August 15, 2024. A donation of \$.50 per name is requested. Mail booster rolls with check or money order payable to FRA SER Convention. Mail to FRA SER 2024 Convention, C/O Laurie Bailey, 101 Pine Court, Summerville, SC 29486

Name: Br./Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Br./Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DOOR PRIZES**

In order to have a door prize for all shipmates and auxiliary members at our banquet, we ask all the branches that attend to bring 2 small door prizes in bags so we have enough. It will be greatly appreciated. You can bring more than 2 if you want too, also.

### **CREDENTIALS AND REGISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Branch Secretaries and Shipmates, as a reminder there are NO assessment fees this year. I would expect that ALL branches would submit a Delegate sheet with Delegate Chairman, Delegates names and Proxy Delegates I. A. W. SER Article 6 Section 606(b), 607, and Section 608 C&BL. Any questions, please contact the Delegate Chairman, PRPSE Fred Bolz, 113 Corla Reef Dr., Goose Creek, SC 29445-4641, Cell (843-270-0345), [htcmret@aol.com](mailto:htcmret@aol.com)