

Scuttlebutt

May, 2024

Branch/Unit 269

Goose Creek
South Carolina



National website: [Fleet Reserve association.org](http://fleetreserveassociation.org)

<http://facebook.com/groups/frabrandandunit269>

Southeast region: frasoutheastregion.org

Branch 269 website: fra269gc.org

Branch President's Corner

We had the honor of having our National Vice President Maria Behm at our April meeting ,She presented continuous membership pins to shipmates Bob McNish 60yrs and Art Hance 10 yrs, Congratulations shipmates, She also addressed the assembly, discussing the 100th anniversary of the FRA National convention and some of the work being done at National.

The 1st round of nominations for branch and home officers and board members were held, guess what they are the same as the last two years the 2nd round of nominations and elections will be held at the May meeting please consider attending.

We will conduct the annual USS Hobson memorial here at the home Sunday ,28 April guest speaker will be SKC Don Pace.

VFW Post 10256 has invited the Branch and Unit for their Memorial Day Service at 15:00, May 25 at McCalister Smith funeral home.

Monday May 27th at 0800 the Branch and Unit will place flags on Veterans graves at Plantation Memorial Gardens, The Branch/Unit Memorial service will be held at 1000 , Guest speaker will be PNP Don Muccheck with a indoor picnic to follow at 1200.

Don't forget the Low Country Boil and drawing for the Charbroil grill. 1130,18 May,

Yours in Loyalty Protection and Service

BRANCH OFFICERS

President – Kenneth Hutchison Vice-President - Donald Barton
Treasurer - PNP Don Muccheck Secretary - John Tharp
Jr. Past President – Harry Nettles

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PNC Laurie Bailey PRPSE Fred Bolz Tim Bailey
Cindy Bryan Skip Chilton Ron Lamon
Tom Lawson Glenn Little William Maloon
Larry Pepper Bobbi Sutton Ken Wallace

Chaplain- Bobbi Sutton

Legislative Affairs – PRPSE Fred Bolz

Parliamentarian – PNP Don Muccheck Historian - Mike Sparks

By-Laws – PRPSE Fred Bolz Youth Activities –Donald Barton

Master-at-Arms-Glenn Little Ways and Means – Larry Pepper

PRelations – John Tharp Essay Contest – PNC Laurie Bailey

Membership – Cindy Bryan Amer/Pat –PNC Laurie Bailey

WEB Master - PNC Laurie Bailey

LOW COUNTRY HOME, INC.

99 Wisteria Road - (843) 569-2692

Home Chairman – Ken Wallace

Admin Secretary-Bobbi Sutton Financial Sec- Cindy Bryan

Director – Sue Peters

Director –PNC Laurie Bailey

Director - Linda Cox

Director – Tim Bailey

Director – John Tharp

Director – Trish Chilton

Director – Marilyn Tharp

Director – Yvonne Wallace

Home Manager – PNP Don Muccheck, Larry Pepper and Don Garrand

Hours of Operation

Mon-Thur 1000-2200

Fri 1000-2400

Sat 1000- 2400

Sun 1000 – 2000

LAFRA UNIT 269

UNIT OFFICERS

President – PRPSE Gail Bolz Treasurer PRPSE Gale Nathan

Secretary Yvonne Wallace Vice President – Trish Chilton

Jr Past President Anne Barton

Board of Directors

NFS, PNP Pat Suckow Theresa Milligan

Kathy Sorenson Linda Cox

Ann Griffith Debbie Breeze

Marilyn Tharp

LAFRA UNIT 269

Appointees & Committee Chairs

Chaplain – Theresa Milligan

Amer/Pat – Ann Griffith

Sergeant-at-Arms

VAVS – Theresa Milligan

Kathy Sorenson

Anne Barton

Welfare/Rehab –Trish Chilton

Ship's Store -Trish Chilton

Publicity – Anne Barton

Hospital – Theresa Milligan

Parliamentarian – Linda Cox

Membership – Trish Chilton

Youth Activities—Anne Barton

Unit Activities -- All Members

WEEKLY DRAWING AT THE HOME

Names drawn lately: 4/2- Harold Crawford, not signed; 4/9 - Dorothy Grooms, not signed; 4/16 Michael Steele, not signed; 4/23 – William Bryant, Not signed.

You must be a member of the Branch or Unit in good standing and you must be signed in the log. You can sign up until 1800 hours, on the day of the drawing. The drawing is held every Tuesday night at 2030 hours.

Madam President Tidbits

Hi Auxiliary Members,
Our meeting in April was successful. The Unit has several things going on. We had an indoor yard sale on April 20, which was successful. The Unit will be participating in the USS Hobson memorial at the fleet on April 28 at 1330. We had the first round of nominations for officers. Next month will be the second round and voting to select officers.

Trish Chilton
Unit Vice President
Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service

For:
President Gail Bolz
Phone number is
843-696-5789
Email Address:
60grandma@live.com
Gail Boltz Unit President

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New or Reinstated Members – 6
Transferred into Low Country Branch 269 – 0
Transferred from Branch 269 – 0
Ready to renew – 1
Members past due – 16
Suspended members - 6
Transferred to the Staff of the Supreme Commander - 1
Total members: 788

Membership/Retention: Ken Wallace

Total members: 788

New Join: William Baranek, Lionel MacVey, Donald Moseng, Edward Peters, Lyle Smith, Jody Sutton

Ready to Renew: Darrell Boggs, Ronald Chambers, Mike Ciesielko, Robert Clark, Terry Corley, Solomon Eagles, Jerry Espiritu, Richard Glass, Charles Hughes Jr., Timothy Kuehhas, Paul Langan, Fred Lentz, Derrick Mihanovich, Russell Nichols Jr., Kirk Owen, John Pontieri, Robert Ramsey, Santos Riduca, Michael Sschlievert, Michael Sparks, Mark Tracy.

Past Due: Rick Collins, Peter Cosgrove, Anthony Dye, Edward Feidt, Clint Ferrell, Dennis Green, Charles Harris, Matthew King, Raymond Lassen, Earl Milligan Jr., Kevin Patton, Arthur Robinson, William Roup, Waylon Sexton, Jeromy Sherrill, Stephen Woodside.

Suspended: Millard Driscoll, Early Griffin, William Hall, Johnny Joyce, Jon McCain, Phillip Obie, Stephen Schultz

Unit Membership and Retention

To be Renewed by May 31: None

Past Due 60 Days: Dylan Adams, Margaret Benjamin, Arilla Cotton, Tiffany Dubose, Nichole Nettles, Allan Patton.

Past Due 90 Days: None

Prayers for the family of: SKCM Jack Schafter

Family of Dwayne Ashline losing his wife Rita

Fred Woodley – Bladder problems

Rick Wise – Surgery to remove modules from the left lung

Branch Chaplain Bobbi Sutton @ 843-879-9473**Unit Chaplain Theresa Milligan @ 843-535-2757****BRANCH TREASURER'S REPORT**

Operations	\$ 2,085.51
Savings	\$ 4,674.25
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 11,437.99
Total	\$ 18,967.75

Branch 269 Continuous Membership**May 2024**

John Casner Jr. (69)	Darlene Hines (28)	Brian Cecil (18)	Edward Whiteley (3)
Byron Couch (54)	Jones Kersey (28)	Cheryl Cecil (18)	William Besco (2)
Phillip Smith (54)	Robert Weber Sr (28)	Michael Sparks (18)	Donald Garrand (2)
Roy Massey Sr. (53)	Ronald Chambers (26)	David Stevens (18)	Albert Horne (2)
Clarence Hall (52)	Kirk Owen (26)	Solomon Eagles (17)	Fred Lentz (2)
James Giordino (50)	David Cox (25)	Scott Benson (16)	Timothy Kuehhas (2)
Donald Snead (49)	David Greeno (25)	Mark Hunter (14)	Darrell Boggs (1)
Gerald Starr (48)	Gary Hinks (25)	Richard Lawwell (13)	Joseph Chapman III (1)
Robert Shober (44)	Lonnie Kenney (25)	Richard Glass (10)	Terry Corley (1)
John Ingram (43)	Richard Mabe (25)	Paul Misuraca (10)	Dennis Essenmacher (1)
James Stover (38)	Timothy Reed (25)	Marc West (8)	Charles Hughes Jr.. (1)
Merle Melling (34)	Jerry Espiritu (24)	Robert Curtis (7)	Derrick Mihanovich (1)
Roland Kring (32)	James Harrison (24)	Charles Murray (7)	Robert Ramsey (1)
Russell Nichols Jr (31)	Paul Langan (24)	Jeffrey Hamm (6)	Joseph Schepisi (1)
Raymond Pease (31)	Keith Laster (24)	Michael Fremen (5)	Mark Tracy (1)
John Popa (31)	T. H. Tollison (22)	John Pontieri (3)	Brad Wonderling (1)
Douglass Potter (31)	Kenneth Hutchison (21)	Robert Richardson (3)	
Santos Riduca (29)			
Cynthia Hannah (28)			

Unit 269 Continuous Membership**May, 2024**

Linda Brinson (55)	Lori Ryan (4)	Walter Spiller III (3)	SHIRLEY TROSPER (2)
Patricia Wlazlinski (55)	Joseph Holman (4)	Nicole Nettles (3)	TYLER ADAMS (2)
Cacey Anderson (25)	Sandra Peebles (4)	Allan Patton (3)	WILLIAM ADAMS (2)
Barbara Sullivan (25)	Francis Perillo (4)	Jacqueline Paxton (3)	LORRAINE CARVER (2)
Margie Rothrauff (25)	Christopher Gillespie (4)	Tammy Miller (3)	JAYNE CAMPBELL (2)
Cynthia Young (20)	Arilla Cotton (4)	Ann Griffith (3)	JOAN HIGHBERGER (2)
Deborah Rullman (20)	Gina Horne (4)	Presilla Wilbanks (3)	TERESA HAGAN (2)
Jacqueline Verheyen (10)	Charlotte Johnson (4)	Beverly Shaffer (3)	SUZANNE PETERS (2)
Curtis March (5)	Robert Kirkley Jr (4)	Joan Wilson (2)	BRIAN ADAMS (2)
Rebecca Moseley (5)	Tine Marie Willis (4)	Marjorie Gottsch (2)	AROL CRAIG (1)
Therese Masterson (5)	Lawrence Fowler (3)	Alvin Cales (2)	LORENA CLAXTON (1)
Jessica Murphy (5)	Georgia Cathcart (3)	Krystal Shaffer (2)	REMEDIOS CRAWFORD (1)
Karen Hubert (5)	Dawna LaTourelle (3)	Virginia Stamey (2)	TIFFANY DUBOISE (1)
Carol Mustain (5)	Colleen McCain (3)	Ryan Adams (2)	JACOB BECKER (1)
Daniel March (4)	Rosie Soderlund (3)	Sandra Houle (2)	JOSEPH TASCHNER (1)

Unit 269 Continuous Membership (Continued)

May, 2024

Gary Thomas (1)	Faye Graham (1)	Melissa Molina-Mattix (1)	Patty Russell (1)
Dylan Adams (1)	Robert Horne (1)	Beatrice Murphy (1)	Scott Sarah (1)
Lynette Gonzalez (1)	Lori Msrshall (1)	Wendell Rourk (1)	

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN MAY- 2024

If you are a Branch 269 or Unit 269 member, come on in to the Low Country Home **on your birthday** for a

FREE BIRTHDAY LUNCH

John Byrd (1)	David Dux (12)	Michael Patterson (19)	Rebecca Moseley (25)
Daniel Wall (1)	Howard Luper (12)	Beverly Shaffer (19)	Delores Rucker (25)
Dee Wallace (2)	Crystal Koch (13)	Krystal Shaffer (20)	Kathlene Sparger (25)
Michael Hanna (3)	Rhonda McNally (13)	Vernice Smith Jr. (20)	Barbara Sullivan (25)
Brian Steffen (3)	Thomas Wunder (13)	William Sullivan (20)	Robert Zauner (25)
Richard Glass (4)	Stephen Jackson (14)	Hugh Graham (21)	John Autrey (26)
Gary Landry (4)	John Johnson Jr. (14)	Mark Tracy (21)	Ronald Brunner (26)
Bill Ansel (4)	John Pontieri (14)	Matthew Frazier (22)	Edward Fretschel (26)
Robert Warder (4)	Douglas Potter (14)	Ralph Mummey (22)	Robert Ladue (26)
Frederick Kiley (5)	Frederick Sorenson (14)	Keith Suiter Sr (22)	Lorena Claxton (26)
Michael Sparks (5)	Bryan Wright (14)	Joe Travis (22)	Edward Stover (26)
David Emerson (6)	Christopher Gillespie (15)	Jack Wirick (22)	John Nichols (27)
Russell Hale (6)	Sammy Jackson (15)	Oscar Edrada (23)	Wallace Williams (27)
Charles Riggs (7)	Elmer Mullins (15)	Craig Vanderbilt (23)	Laurie Bailey (29)
Marc West (7)	Donald Barton (16)	Tyler Adams (24)	Jack Collier (29)
Charles Clore (8)	Paul Close (16)	William Galloway (24)	Richard Davies (30)
Rocco Losito (9)	Michael LeCompte (16)	Raymond Jackle (24)	Albert Godwin (30)
Tonia Miller (9)	Linda Vella (16)	Roy Knight (24)	Tom Lufkin (30)
Sandra Beilstein (10)	William Woodsmall (17)	James Moseley (24)	Scott Sarah (30)
Charlotte Johnson (10)	Elmer Feeser (18)	Charles Wright (24)	Jerry Walton (30)
Frank Carroll Jr (11)	Edwqard Astle (19)	Lawrence Fowler (25)	John Lambert (31)
John Parnall (11)	David McCann (19)	Raymond Lassen (25)	Don Ort (31)

From: Branch Secretary (843-709-8520) tharpj@sc.rr.com

May will be the last printed copy to members that have emails. This will reduce the printed copies by 65. Currently we are sending 200+ printed newsletters via bulk mail.. If you do not have a computer and wish to keep receiving the newsletter, please contact me at the above phone or email.

We now have a website (fra269gc.org), If you have access to a computer, ipad or telephone this will get you all the current information as soon as it is published.



National Vice President Maria Behm (center) presented Robert McNeish (right) with his 60 year continuous membership pin.

She also presented Arthur Hance (left) with his 10 year continuous membership pin.

President Ken Hutchison pins a FRA new member pin on Ed Peters after he was installed as a member of Branch 269



Branch and Unit 269 have been invited to the VFW 10256 Memorial Day Service which will be at McAlister – Smith Funeral Home (869 St. James Ave, Goose Creek) at 1500 (3 pm) on Saturday, May 25, 2024. A number of organizations will be laying wreaths during this ceremony

On Memorial Day, May 27 at 0800 all volunteers are encouraged to come out to the Plantation Memorial Gardens to place flags on Veterans graves.

At 1000 on May 27 there will be a Memorial Day ceremony at the Fleet. Indoor picnic to follow



Unit 269 had an indoor yard sale on Saturday, April 20.

This was a great success getting the Unit approximately \$1,000



Home Committee Input

Cash Audit as of 12 April 2024 as follows: Checkbook balance \$20,920.01; Credit Card account \$25,767.87; Savings account \$11,434.14; there is \$1,683.50 in pending deposits. Total cash on-hand \$70,305.52.

Financial Audit for the month of March 2024 unavailable.

Building and Grounds/Special Events Manager's report:

Golf tournament occurred 06 April 2024 vice Saturday, March 23, due to inclement weather, followed by meal and awards at the Branch Home. Next Golf tournament will be 29 June 2024.

S/M Pepper will be ordering bricks on later this month (waiting on submission of recipients information).

Scope and cost was accepted to replace the outside Lattice panels for Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Fleet Reserve Association Branch 269 on the building façade (\$1,800,00 Materials and labor) but waiting on costs proposal from contractor for back of building unfortunately not included.

The company providing our liquor liability insurance audited our 2020/2021 policy and reported we owed an additional \$8,000.00; S/M Muccheck appealed their findings and now we owe \$4,758.00.

Work on indoor sprucing effort to paint the banquet room, bathrooms, and entrance foyer in preparation for FRA Convention this September are being delayed until after final resolution and payment of additional costs levied on us for Liquor Liability insurance received recently.

A fire suppression test was conducted on the grill hood, and we "passed".

Membership and Security: S/M John Tharp reported six new members, seven losses. Six pills for new Branch members were added to the barrel.

Looking ahead: The Auxiliary will have a Yard Sale on April 20; anyone having any donations, please contact the ladies.

SubVets are hosting a Low Country Boil at the Home 1200-1400, 18 May 2024; \$12.00 per plate. Drawing for BBQ Grill will occur during the meal.


S/M Muccheck has found a company that makes the outdoor FRA flags and has ordered 2 flags costing \$187.00 plus shipping per flag.

Our next Home Committee meeting will be at 1300 on 13 May 2024.

One final reminder, if you bring a Non-Member to Home, please remember to sign them into the Guest Log.

Mark your calendar, watch for
 details, watch for additions
 hts – 1930 hrs – Scotch Doubles, 8-ball Tourna

May, 2024
Asian Pacific American Heritage Mon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 SubVet Eboard meeting	3	4
5 Free Pool Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8 VE Day WWII ends in Europe	9 Subvet mtg 	10 Military Spouse Appreciation Day	11 DAV Meeting 1000
12 Free Pool Happy Mothers Day	13 Home Committee 1300 Navy Nurse Corps Established (190*)	14 Unit lunch 11:30 Unit Meeting 1800	15 Purple Heart Meeting 1900 Peace Officers Memorial Day	16 Branch Mtg 	17	18 Low Country Boil 11:30
19 Free Pool	20	21	22 National Maritime Day	23 MCL mtg 	24 MOAA 1100	25 VFW 10256 Memorial Day Event McAlister/Smith Funeral Home, GC 1500
26	27 Memorial Day 1000 	28 Sojourners 1900	29	30	31	

Low Country Scuttlebutt
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Branch 269, Fleet Reserve Association
99 Wisteria Road
Goose Creek, SC 29445-3472

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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With this website you can get the newsletter by the end of the month
instead of waiting for the printed copy which is sent after the first of
the month.

fra269gc.org

The Branch now has a website:::

WE'VE GONE GREEN!!!

TRICARE FOR LIFE LEGISLATION

Credible threats to TRICARE FOR LIFE loom on the horizon. And while the recently released FY 2025 DOD budget request makes no mention of new TFL fees, FRA is concerned that it's only a matter of time before DOD once again looks to TFL as the answer to addressing increased military health care spending.

That's why FRA as well as many other veterans organizations will make protecting TFL a key part of their work in the coming weeks. Preserving this benefit remains a top priority for FRA; that's why FRA needs grassroots support from across its membership, and beyond, to send this clear message to lawmakers.

I strongly use all members to contact their lawmakers to protect TRICARE FOR LIFE.

Aside from military retired pay, TFL is the most valued part of the military retirement package. It not only ensures access to affordable preventive and routine medical care, but it protects uniformed services retirees and their dependents and survivors from financial risk associated with unexpected costs for serious and unexpected illness or injury.

Nearly a decade has passed since DOD proposed – and FRA defeated – TFL enrollment fees in five consecutive administration budget requests (FY 2013-2017). But those victories aren't permanent.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has included TFL fees consistently in its options for reducing the deficit report released at the beginning of each new Congress.

The most recent version included a concept for a new annual TFL enrollment fee -- \$575 per individual or \$1,150 per family. Another concept outlined cost sharing, including an unprecedented annual deductible – TFL would pay no Medicare cost shares until the beneficiary paid \$850 out-of-pocket for medical encounters.

Rising health costs, together with ongoing pressure to minimize Defense Health Program spending, also pose threats to the benefit.

HISTORY OF TFL. Before 2001, the only military health care benefit for Medicare-eligible military retirees was space-available care at military treatment facilities (MTFs). Base realignment and closure (BRAC) decisions, together with military medical downsizing, resulted in shuttered MTFs, leaving many Medicare-eligible retirees with no military health care benefit in their senior years.

Congress fixed this injustice with TFL creation in the FY 2001 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Congressional intent was clearly spelled out in the conference report accompanying the legislation: “While extending TRICARE/CHAMPUS eligibility to Medicare eligible beneficiaries, the conferees direct the Secretary of Defense to refrain from using deductibles and copayments, in recognition of their participation in Medicare Part B as a condition of participation.”

Congress has maintained this stance over the years, repeatedly denying DOD budget request proposals for TFL enrollment fees and solidifying expectations for TFL amount career servicemembers and retirees.

Composed by:

PNP F. Donald Muccheck
FRA Low Country Branch #269
April 17, 2024