



# Scuttlebutt

## Branch/Unit 269 Goose Creek, South Carolina

You can read all newsletters at [269 Branch/Unit 269 Newsletters](#)

Fleet Reserve National: [FRA National Home](#)  
LA-FRA National Website: [Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association](#)  
Southeast Region: [frasoutheastregion.org](#)  
Branch 269 website: [FRA Low Country Branch & Unit 269](#)  
[FRA Branch and Unit 269 | Facebook](#)



### SUPER BOWL PARTY

FRA branch 269 annual Super Bowl party will be 9 Feb 2025. \$60.00 per person with a limited number of tickets available. Get yours before they are gone. Drinks, food and prizes throughout the night. Begins 1 hour before kickoff. Contact email for more info: [frabranh269@comcast.net](mailto:frabranh269@comcast.net)

### Branch President's Corner

Shipmates

Not much to report we had a great Christmas Party, and have enjoyed a very successful and prosperous year,

Thank You to all our Officers, Committee Chair people, Managers and Board members

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Year.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service  
Ken Hutchison

### Madam President Tidbits

Hello Auxiliary Members:

The Branch/Unit Christmas Party took place of our December meeting. Our annual Ladies Christmas Luncheon took place at Oscar's on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

We continue to work on retention, membership and attendance at our meetings and functions.

On November 24<sup>th</sup> we participated in the Toys for Tots Motorcycle ride at the Harley Davidson Dealership on Dorchester. It was a great success.

December the 7<sup>th</sup> we participated in the Pearl Harbor Memorial at the Yorktown. Branch President and Myself were there to lay Wreath's.

December the 8<sup>th</sup> we went shopping for Toys for Tots at the Walmart in Goose Creek.

December 14<sup>th</sup> Wreath across America took place at Carolina Memorial.

Adult Christmas Party for Branch and Unit took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of December.

The Children's Christmas Party was conducted by Bobbi Sutton and Linda Cox on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

I hope everyone had a Merry Holiday Season.

Trish Chilton, Unit President

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service

### BRANCH TREASURER'S REPORT

October 28 - November 27, 2024

Operations:	\$ 6,033.35
Savings:	\$ 5,182.39
Certificate of Deposit:	\$11,699.19
Total:	\$22,914.93

**THE WEEKLY MENU IS NOW POSTED ON THE HOME PAGE OF THE WEBSITE**

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**WEEKLY DRAWING AT THE HOME**

Names drawn lately: 12/3– Ray Stanfield, signed; 12/10– James Sherrow, signed; 12/17– James Houchin, not signed; 12/26– Ed Young, 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 on the day of the drawing. The drawing is held every Tuesday night at 2000.

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**BRANCH MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

**S/M Ken Wallace**

New or reinstated members: 3  
Transferred into Branch 269: 0  
Transferred from Branch 269: 8  
Ready to renew: 46  
Members past due: 9  
Suspended members: 6  
Transferred to the Staff of the Supreme Commander: 0  
Total Members: 770

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**BRANCH MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION**

**Total active members:** 770  
**New Join/Reinstated:** Paul Brown, John Difrancesco, Roger Little  
**Past Due:** Robert Burnett, Alan Dempster, James Fleming, Christopher Gilbreath, James Graham Sr., Terrell Heath, George Johnson, Robert Pulos, William Sullivan  
**Ready to Renew:** Matthew Aguilera, Mashelle Ames, Randall Bolin, David Button, Felix Cabanting, Shannon Cason, Angela Chapman, Marion Clark, Everette Coates, Rick Collins, Tim Cowan, Judy Duncan, John Flynn, Michael Genalo, James Heath, Kevin Henry, William Hunt, Robert Isaman, Samuel Jenkins Jr., Jahleel Jones-Valentine, Gavin Karelitz, Christopher Kelley, Gary Landry, Grady Langley, Kenneth Lux, Michael Markiewich, David Markiewich, Heather McQuire, Daniel Montgomery, Nathaniel Nelson, Robert Newton, Ray Phillips Jr., Charles Pyatt, Paul Reece, William Riley, Robert Rose, Kevin Sedgley, Jon Simmons, Thomas Skorepa, Jacob Sobeck, Daniel Speight, Jason Tatge, William Teague, David Thomas, Ronnie Vandiver, Gordon Williams.

**Suspended:** Bob Browning, Scott Cook, Glenn Kaelgh, Michael Neff, Harry Nettles, J. Porter  
**Active Unit Members:** 190

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**UNIT MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION**

**30 days past due:** Angela S. Clark, Lori A. Marshall; Ann R. O'Brian  
**60 days past due:** Ryan S. Adams, Tyler W. Adams, Allyson B. McDermott, Cynthia S. Young  
**90 days past due:** Danielle Carroll, Jordan L. Highberger, Donald L. Whitley

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**BRANCH CHAPLAIN**

Prayers for the family of:

- In November we conducted a two-bell ceremony for TMC James Moseley USN Ret.
- There will be a two-bell ceremony for Major Ralph Bates USMC Ret.

Shipmates or Unit members please contact:

**Branch Chaplain S/M Bobbi Sutton @  
843-879-9473**  
**Unit Chaplain Theresa Milligan @  
843-535-2757**

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**Home Committee Report**

Cash Audit by S/M S. Koch and R. Sutton on **13 December 2024** as follows:

Checkbook balance	\$12,820.05
Credit Card account	\$18,099.34
Savings account	\$26,450.17
Pending Check/Cash for deposit:	\$ 276.00
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>\$69,145.56</b>

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**Financial Audit as of 30 November 2024**

reported Net Profit for November of \$29.52 and \$3,288.00 Year to Date (YTD).

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**Building and Grounds/Special Events/and Manager's Report:**

- S/M Pepper said he is recommending we stay with existing company for next year's liability insurance (around \$10K); waiting on formal submission from company.
- S/M Muccheck says we have two taxes (Real Estate and Property) that can be paid now (approximately \$6,300); discussed and approved by the Home Committee.
- The home will close at 1800 on Christmas Eve and remain closed on Christmas Day.
- The Home will close at 1800 on New Year's Eve but will open normal hours on New Year's Day.

- The Branch and Unit Christmas Party is scheduled for 1800 December 19. Children's Christmas Party scheduled for 1200 to 1400 December 21.

**Looking ahead:**

- On Saturday January 4<sup>th</sup> there will be Breakfast at the Home from 0730 to 1000. On Saturday January 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a Fish Fry at the Home from 1700 to 2030. On Saturday January 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a BBQ dinner at the Home from 1700 to 2030. All are welcome at these events.
- A Valentine's Day dinner being planned for February 14<sup>th</sup> 1800 – 2100, \$25.00 per couple at the Home; details being finalized.
- The next Golf tournament will be on March 22<sup>nd</sup> followed by lunch and awards at the Home.
- Also to see if there is any interest in a Kentucky Derby Party May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Home.

**New Business:**

- None

**Membership and Security:** Headquarters reported that we have 770 active Branch members as of 01 December. There are 190 active Unit members.

**Good of the Order:** our next Home Committee meeting will be Monday, January 13 at 1300,

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

Ken Wallace, Home Committee Chairman.

**Americanism/Patriotism - PNC Laurie Bailey**

The Branch 269 Americanism/Patriotism Essay Contest deadline has passed and submitted essays will be read and graded on 13 Jan 2024 at the Low Country Home after the Home Committee meeting around 2:00 pm. All are welcome to attend to help out read and grade these essays.

Shipmates and Unit members attended two patriotic ceremonies in December 2024:

- December 7<sup>th</sup> - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day onboard USS YORKTOWN (???) , Mt. Pleasant, SC
- December 14<sup>th</sup> - Wreaths Across America at Carolina Memorial Gardens, North Charleston, SC.

Dates coming up or in history:

- 1 January - New Year's Day

- 16 January - Operation Desert Storm begins to oust Saddam Hussein's' Iraqi forces from Kuwait. (1991)
- 20 January - Inauguration Day and Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- 28 January - Observance of USCGC Blackthorn Sinking
- 28 January - The U.S. Coast Guard is created by an Act of Congress. (1915)
- 30 January - Tet New Year offensive launched by Viet Cong guerillas in Vietnam. (1968)

**Branch/Unit 269 now has a website:  
[fra269gc.org](http://fra269gc.org) !!!!**

Please look at this site to get your current and past newsletters and see upcoming events.

The number of mailed printed newsletters is being reduced to save money since everything is on the website. Please contact me at the above email if you are currently receiving the printed copy and want to stop it.

There is a Membership Box outside the office with a container for new member applications and renewals applications. If you recruit a new member ensure all of their information is correct on the new member application. Once the new application or renewal is complete place it in an envelope (available at the box) and place inside the "Membership Box". Nothing concerning membership will be placed in the pass down log.

**Life Membership ages and dues**

Active duty: \$400.00	Ages 61-70: \$340.00
Ages 40 & younger: \$450.00	
Ages 71-80: \$260.00	Ages 41-50: \$425.00
Ages 81-99: \$200.00	Ages 51-60: \$390.00
Ages 100 and older: <b>FREE</b>	

**VA's Secure Sign-in Changes**

If you are in the VA system or access any VA websites or apps please read this information and take action very soon.

In 2025, you'll need to start using a Login.gov or ID.me account to sign in for all VA websites and apps. Watch this episode of The BLUF and get the bottom-line up front on these changes.

**LEARN ABOUT THE SECURE SIGN-IN CHANGES**

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**Social Security Changing:** When you setup up a new Login.gov or ID.me account you will be able to use the same one to sign in to your Social Security account. Yep, that's changing also.



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After January 31, 2025, we'll remove the option to sign in with a

My HealtheVet user ID and password. You'll still be able to use your My HealtheVet health portal—you'll just need to sign in to it with a Login.gov or ID.me account.

**CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT AND LOG IN TODAY**

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**DFAS Retired & Annuitant Pay**

The December 2024 issue of the quarterly Retiree Newsletter is now available online. A downloadable PDF of the newsletter is at this link: <https://www.dfas.mil/retireenews>

The newsletter includes important information about making Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) or Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) premiums payments. It also provides information about the askDFAS tools that are now available to you online. It's COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) time again and we have information on the percentage increase and pay dates. There are also tips to help prepare for tax season, and a special spotlight article for Gray Area Retirees about VA Waiver/Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP)/ Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC).

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**DFAS Retired and Annuitant Pay Information**

If you are receiving pay or funds through the DFAS My Pay program, you should read this.

Tax season is quickly approaching and that means you are probably gathering important documents and verifying your information is correct. While you have those important documents handy, it's a good time to make sure your loved ones know about your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) coverage.

You can view your Retiree Account Statement (RAS) on myPay to see the type of SBP coverage you selected. Make sure that your family knows what the Survivor Benefit Plan is and what they will need to do to start payments:

<https://www.dfas.mil/startsbp>

After checking your RAS, if the SBP coverage shown no longer applies to your current life situation, please see our website for what steps to take:

<https://www.dfas.mil/changesbp>

We also have a new checklist to assist when a

military retiree passes away. This is a very useful tool that we suggest adding to your important documents. Download the PDF here:

<https://www.dfas.mil/reportdeath>

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**RECENT NEWSBYTES of interest**

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**Major Richard Star Act Final Push in 118th Congress.**

This legislation addresses a longstanding inequity affecting over 50,000 medically retired veterans, many of whom sustained combat-related injuries. Currently, these veterans face a financial penalty where their military retirement pay is reduced dollar-for-dollar by the amount of VA disability compensation they receive. The Major Richard Star Act seeks to eliminate this offset, ensuring veterans receive the full benefits they earned through their service and sacrifice. Support for the bill has reached historic levels

The Fleet Reserve Association (FRA) has made passing the Major Richard Star Act one of its top legislative priorities. Recognizing the urgent need to address this critical issue, the FRA is calling on its members and supporters to mobilize immediately. The association emphasizes that it will take all hands-on deck to push the bill across the finish line.

**Click here to take action.**

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**Support the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act (H.R. 8371)**

This vital bill will significantly improve home care services for veterans, especially for those who need alternatives to nursing home care. It expands caregiver support and helps address shortages of home health aides. Additionally, it extends home loan fee rates, making homeownership more accessible for veterans. Take action today!

Click the link below to log in and send your message:

<https://bit.ly/49v7vaF>

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**Get Your Calendar & Planner Combo!**

Planning is the key to success. This calendar & planner combo will help you get organized and keep track of your adventures, appointments, and those "remember to do" tasks (like remembering where you put your glasses). Order now and start planning to do absolutely nothing — but organize!

**Click Here to Order!**

**BRANCH 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—JANUARY 2025**

Theodore Martin	54	Duane Henricksen	24	Heather McGuire	15	William Nieschalk	4
Thomas Wunder	52	Paul Reece	24	J.D. Porter	15	Lawrence Willoughby	4
Donald Siron	51	Joe Travis	24	William Galloway	14	Milton Willoughby	4
Thomas Irvine	50	Charles Pyatt	23	Tommy Hellem	14	David Button	3
Oscar Edrada	48	Larry Starland	23	Grady Landley	14	David Lyle III	3
William Teague	45	Ronnie Vandiver	23	Rondal Houde	13	Thomas Brown	2
Nestor Derecho Jr.	43	Marion Clark	21	Gary Williams	13	Paul Burnstein	2
Don Heywood	42	Robert Reilly Sr.	21	Thomas Blizard	12	Michael Patterson	2
Don Clark	41	Steven Koch	20	Otto Kaske	11	Lee Barkley	1
Robert Newton	41	Michael Markiewich	20	Flelix Cabanting	10	Shannon Cason	1
Robert Rose	40	William Riley	18	Bruce Seltzer Jr.	9	Edward Feidt	1
Charles Walton	40	Robert Block	17	John Shaak	9	Matthew King	1
Wayne Swiech	39	Mark Florey	17	Charles Harris	7	Michael Moore	1
David Cornelius	38	Robert Isaman	17	Rick Collins	6	Nathaniel Nelson	1
Daniel Montgomery	38	Ronald Redondo	16	Dennis Green	6	Kevin Sedgley	1
James Fricks	34	Jack Bullis	16	Kevin Patton	6	Jeromy Sherrill	1
John Flynn	26	Jamey Farley	16	Gordon Hobgood	5	Waylon Sexton	1
Bruce Brown	25	Frederick Woodley	16	Stephen Jeffery	5	Daniel Speight	1
Olin Thomas	25	Peter Cosgrove	15	Clint Ferrell	4		

**UNIT 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—JANUARY 2025**

Linda F. Brinson	55	Carmela T. Day	20	Marilyn Tharp	15	Carol M. Mustain	5
Patricia A. Wlazlinski	55	Deloris J. Cox	20	Robin M. McKeown	10	Jessica R. Murphy	5
Beulah M. Wenzel	45	Rosemary A. Clark	20	Jacqueline Verheyen	10	Rebecca G. Moseley	5
Casey M. Anderson	25	Deborah L. Rullmann	20	Benita S. Kinlaw	10	Curtis J. March	5
Marge P. Rothrauff	25	Carolyn J. Rose	20	Allyson B. McDermott	10	Karen Hubert	5
Barbara E. Sullivan	25	Rosamond T. Milligan	15	Therese A. Masterson	5	Janice L. Highberger	5
Katherine R. Sparger	20						

**YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN JANUARY 2025**

Peter Andruchowsky	1	James Lewis	8	William Scheer	17	Robert J. Kirtley Jr.	24
Robert Bryant	1	Donald Rickert	8	Herbert Franklin	18	Chun L. Stanfield	24
Jack Bullis	1	Barbara Aler	9	Harry Kirk	18	Harvey Belcher	25
Kevin Deise	1	Paul McFall	9	Clarence Peifer	18	David Mayeres	25
Larry Fowler	1	Francis Bohannan	10	Perry Friend Sr.	19	Kirk Owen	25
Lori A. Ryan	1	Douglas Craig	10	Norman Jones	19	Lawrence Coates	26
Keith Timmons	1	Lorraine Carver	10	Alan Chambers	20	Kenneth Farrell	26
Ronald Garrand	2	Gary Gardner	11	James Fleming	20	Daniel Lehman	26
Ann G. Griffith	2	Michael Genalo	11	Thomas Woodall	20	Terrence Mummert	26
Rosemary A. Clark	3	Thomas Holcombe	11	Mark Howell	21	Linda G. Walton	26
Karen C. Kopezynski	3	Jeri Larson	11	Arthur Robinson	21	George White	26
Robert Moore	3	Jacqueline Paxton	11	Joseph Chapman III	22	Johnny Aldea	27
Richard Duprey	4	Bobby Beck	12	John Ingram	22	Tommy Wilbanks	27
Robert Isaman	5	James Livingston	12	Martha F. Pyatt	22	Marlene Silva	28
Chris Ludwig	5	Clyde Edington	13	Thomas Scott	22	Willard Barton	29
Lawrence Fletes	6	Michael Struve	14	Bruce Whipple	22	David Farley	29
Ginger Bevis	8	Walter F. Spiller III	14	James Farley Jr.	23	Robert Henry	29
Roy Brosseau	8	Jason Tatge	14	Kenneth Lux	23	Leo Kelly Sr.	29
David Graminski	8	Gordon Williams	14	Edward Stank	23	Michael Welch	30
Judith L. Highberger	8	Charles Day	16	Susan S. Westbury	23	Robert E. Horne	30
Steven Koch	8	Ronald Watson	16	Gordon Hobgood	25	Rebecca R. Bower	31



**SEE MORE PICTURES FROM  
THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**



**SEE MORE PICTURES FROM THE BRANCH 269  
CHRISTMAS PARTY**



## Fleet Reserve Association Branch 91 and Ladies Auxiliary Unit 91

Invites you to the Southeast Regional  
2024 2025 Mid-Year Conference

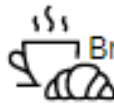


When: February 21st, 2025, Meeting to Start  
at 0900



Where: Branch - 5391 Collins Road Jacksonville  
FL 32244

Unit- 7673 Blanding Blvd., Jacksonville, FL



Breakfast and Lunch will be provided by the Branch  
(donation jar will be out)

Unit 91 will be cooking dinner on Thursday evening the 20th at  
Branch 91. Nominal Fee

Low Country Boil Friday Night (February 21st): \$12.00  
1800 (6pm) until Sold out



Room Reservations can be made via this link:  
<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/LF8228>

**BRANCH 269**

**BRANCH OFFICERS**

President: Kenneth Hutchison  
Vice President: Donald Barton  
Secretary: Sarah Ihme  
Treasurer: Don Mucheck  
Jr. Past President: Harry Nettles

**BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PNC Laurie Bailey      Tim Bailey  
Skip Chilton            Steven Koch  
Ronald Lamon          Tom Lawson  
Glenn Little            Rob Melton  
Bobbie Sutton          Larry Pepper  
Ken Wallace

**APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRS**

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz  
Chaplain: Bobbi Sutton  
Essay Contest: PNC Laurie Bailey  
Legislative Affairs: PRPSE Fred Bolz  
Master-at-Arms: Glenn Little  
Membership: Ken Wallace  
Parliamentarian: PNP Don Mucheck  
Public Relations: Rob Melton  
Ways and Means: Larry Pepper  
Webmaster: Nick Nichols  
Newsletter: Nick Nichols  
Youth Activities: Donald Barton

**LAFRA UNIT 269**

**UNIT OFFICERS**

President: Trish Chilton  
Vice President: Marilyn Tharp  
Secretary: Yvonne Wallace  
Treasurer: PRPSE Gale Nathan  
Jr. Past President: PRPSE Gail Bolz

**UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PRPSE Gail Bolz      Kathy Sorenson  
PNP/NFS Pat Sukow      Sue Peters  
Theresa Milligan          Linda Cox  
Ann Griffith              Anne Barton

**APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRS**

Amer/Patriotism: Vacant  
Chaplain: Theresa Milligan  
Hospital: Theresa Milligan  
Membership: Marilyn Tharp  
Parliamentarian: PRPSE Gail Bolz  
Publicity: Debra Breeze  
Sergeant-at-Arms: Kathy Sorenson  
Ship's Store: Trish Chilton  
Unit Activities: All Members  
VAVS: Theresa Milligan  
Welfare/Rehab: Sue Peters  
Youth Activities: Anne Barton

**LOW COUNTRY HOME, LLC**  
**99 Wisteria Road,**  
**Goose Creek SC 29445**  
**843-569-2692**  
[\*\*Frabranh269@comcast.net\*\*](mailto:Frabranh269@comcast.net)

Home Chairman: Ken Wallace  
Admin Secretary: Bobbie Sutton  
Financial Secretary: Steven Koch  
Director: Sue Peters  
Director: PNC Laurie Bailey  
Director: Tim Bailey  
Director: Dee Wallace  
Director: PRPSE Gail Bolz  
Director: John Tharp  
Director: Rob Melton  
Home Managers: PNP Don Mucheck  
Larry Pepper  
Bob Zauner



**FLEET RESERVE  
ASSOCIATION  
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**2025 Schedule of Tournaments  
4 Person Captain's Choice**

**22 Mar 2025 0900**

**Cut off for entries 16 Mar**

**POC Larry 843 569 2692**

**Cost:**

- \$60 - Non-Redbank Club Member (Does not pay annual dues to Redbank)**
- \$45 - Redbank Club Member (Pays annual dues to Redbank)**
- \$40 - Employee/Volunteer Non-Redbank Club Member (Does not pay annual dues to Redbank)**
- \$30 - Employee/Volunteer Redbank Club Member (Pays annual dues to Redbank)**

**Additional Meals - \$15**

**There will be a dinner and awarding of prizes after golf at the Fleet Reserve Association Home.  
Prizes will be determined by the number of participants.**

**Format:                                      4 Person Captain's Choice**  
**Blue Tees - 0-50      White Tees - 51-65      Gold Tees - 66-74      Green/Red Tees - 75 & Up, All Ladies**

## MORE SECURITY TIPS

### The Security Corner Pt 1

#### Scams and how to identify them

Happy New Year, Shipmates! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. Now we are beginning the new year of 2025, and we must sharpen our security awareness to make sure it is an event free year for us all. This month, a few comments on fraud, as we seniors, sadly, are most often the targets of the scammers.

As fraud grows, so does the language used to describe those scams. To keep you abreast of the terminology, AARP has created a guide to common phrases used when discussing internet and phone swindles. As an AARP member you can follow the links below. If you are not an AARP Member, and the links I provide are not accessible, contact me via e-mail and I will retrieve any articles of interest for you.

#### Glossary of Scam and Fraud Terminology

With the ever-increasing use of AI, scammers can be even more convincing and trick you in more ways that you can imagine. Here are just a few:

- AI Fuels New, Frighteningly Effective Scams
- 6 Ways You Can Thwart Check Washers
- Smishing

AI is changing the scam landscape, and it will be even more difficult to detect going forward. Also note, if you are an iPhone, iPad user that the most recent Apple upgrade to version 18.2 now includes Apple's implementation of AI technology into iOS. So, if an app or an iPhone function you use frequently seems a little off, that iOS update may be the reason.

As always, shipmates, comments and suggestions for future topics are welcomed. Contact me at [subvet\\_ssbm@bellsouth.net](mailto:subvet_ssbm@bellsouth.net) if you have questions about items in the monthly Article. //George

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### The Security Corner Pt 2

**Bank fraud** is out of control. Tech expert Kim Komando wrote about the tricks scammers use and what you can do to protect yourself and your

money. You need to know this important info. I learned about this in The Current newsletter, read by me and 575,000 people every morning. Sign up for free at [www.getthecurrent.com](http://www.getthecurrent.com). You'll love it!

<https://www.komando.com/news/security/bank-fraud-is-rising-how-to-protect-yourself/>

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### The Security Corner Pt 3

#### Beware of Brushing Scam!

A recent scam has been showing up in many states. A "brushing" scam is when someone receives an unexpected gift or item not ordered in the mail from a place like Amazon or other company. Examples of gifts include, rings, bracelets, necklaces, Bluetooth speaker, etc. The gift will have the recipient's address, but not include the sender's information or be from a known retailer. When the recipient opens the package to see what it is and possibly who sent it, there is a QR code to scan to find out who sent the gift.

Once the code is scanned, all the information from that phone will be sent to scammers. They receive all access to the phone. All personal and financial information is accessible to the scammers and often the victim's bank accounts are drained.

The gift can be kept or thrown away, but the QR code should NOT be scanned for any reason. QR code scams are nothing new. These scams show up in all places, including parking meters.


Inform your family members about the scam and avoid scanning any unknown QR codes included in the package.

#### Links that substantiate the issue

- \* Brushing Scam <-- from USPS
- \* What Is a Brushing Scam?
- \* Report Unsolicited Packages or Brushing Scams <-- from Amazon
- \* BBB Tip:"Brushing" scam indicates a serious problem for victims <-- from BBB
- \* Don't scan the QR code: Police warn about brushing scam - Cleveland OH
- \* Consumer Alert: Be Aware of Brushing Scams <-- from North Carolina Department of Justice ( State AG)



Mark your calendar, watch for details, watch for additions  
 Unless noted otherwise all meetings are in the large room  
 Where no time noted group has room for entire day  
 Friday nights – 1930 hrs – Scotch Doubles, 8-Ball Tournament

<b>JANUARY 2025</b>						
<b>SUN</b>	<b>MON</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>SAT</b>
			<b>1</b> <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> 	<b>2</b> <b>1800</b> <b>SUBVETS</b> <b>BOD</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>0730-1000</b> <b>Breakfast @</b> <b>the Fleet</b> <b>\$17 pp</b> <b>SUBVET</b> <b>Fund Raiser</b>  <b>1400-1600</b> <b>D/Shower</b>
<b>5 Free Pool</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  <b>1800</b> <b>Purple Heart</b>	<b>9</b>  <b>1900</b> <b>SUBVETS</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  <b>1000</b> <b>DAV Mtg</b>  <b>1300-1800</b> <b>Shrimp Fest</b> <b>@ After Batt</b> <b>\$20 pp</b> <b>SUBVET</b> <b>Fund Raiser</b>
<b>12 Free Pool</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>1300</b> <b>Home</b> <b>Committee</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>1130</b> <b>Unit Lunch</b>  <b>1800</b> <b>Unit</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  <b>1800</b> <b>Branch BOD</b>  <b>1900</b> <b>Branch Mtg</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>1000-1200</b> <b>MILFRAT</b>  <b>1700-2030</b> <b>Fish Fry @</b> <b>the Fleet</b> <b>SUBVET</b> <b>Fund Raiser</b>
<b>19 Free Pool</b>  <b>1200-1600</b> <b>Bunko</b>	<b>20 MLK Day</b>  <b>Inauguration</b> <b>Day</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  <b>1900</b> <b>MCL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>1700-2030</b> <b>BBQ Dinner</b> <b>@ the Fleet</b> <b>SUBVET</b> <b>Fund Raiser</b>
<b>26 Free Pool</b>	<b>27</b>  <b>1730</b> <b>VVA</b>  <b>1900</b> <b>Carolina</b> <b>Coins</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>1900</b> <b>Sojourners</b>  <b>OBSERVANCE</b> <b>OF USCGC</b> <b>BLACKTHORN</b> <b>SINKING</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

Mark your calendar, watch for details, watch for additions  
 Unless noted otherwise all meetings are in the large room  
 Where no time noted group has room for entire day  
 Friday nights – 1930 hrs – Scotch Doubles, 8-Ball Tournament

<b>FEBRUARY 2025</b>						
<b>SUN</b>	<b>MON</b>	<b>TUE</b>	<b>WED</b>	<b>THU</b>	<b>FRI</b>	<b>SAT</b>
						1 <b>TIME UNK</b> Kari Hill Banquet
2 Free Pool <b>GROUNDHOG DAY</b>  <u>1200-1600</u> Bunko	3	4	5	6  <u>1800</u> SUBVETS BOD	7	8  <u>1000</u> DAV Mtg
9 Free Pool  Super Bowl Party \$60 pp limited tickets available	10	11	12  <u>1800</u> Purple Heart	13  <u>1900</u> SUBVETS Mtg	14 <b>VALENTINE'S DAY</b>  <u>1800-2100</u> Valentine's Day Dinner \$25 per couple	15  <u>1000</u> MILFRAT
16 Free Pool	17 <b>PRESIDENT'S DAY</b>  <u>1300</u> Home Committee	18  <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch  <u>1800</u> Unit Mtg	19	20  <u>1800</u> Branch BOD  <u>1900</u> Branch Mtg	21	22
23 Free Pool  <hr/> <u>30 Free Pool</u>	24  <u>1730</u> VVA Mtg  <u>1900</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	25  <u>1900</u> Sojourners	26	27  <u>1900</u> MCL	28	29