



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 \[https://www.fra.org\]](https://www.fra.org)

LA-FRA National: [Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association \[https://la-fra.org\]](https://la-fra.org)

Southeast Region: [frasoutheastregion.org \[https://frasoutheastregion.org\]](https://frasoutheastregion.org)

Branch 269 website: [FRA Low Country Branch & Unit 269 \[www.fra269gc.org\]](http://www.fra269gc.org)

FRA Branch and Unit 269 | Facebook [\[https://www.facebook.com/groups/FRABRANCH269/\]](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FRABRANCH269/)



WE WISH EACH OF OUR MEMBERS
AND FAMILIES
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026 !!!!
FRA Lowcountry Home Managers,
Staff & Committee



Branch President's Corner

Greeting shipmates. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas season and had all your presents purchased and wrapped in time. In December, instead of our regular meeting, we had our Fleet Christmas party on the normal meeting date. I was very happy to see so many of you there.

The Christmas season is also a very religious period of time so I hope that all of you remembered the Lord in your holidays while understanding it is not only a commercial season.

Be safe if you're traveling, have a Happy New Year's celebration and enjoy the rest of the holidays. We'll see you in January at our monthly meeting.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service
Don Barton
Branch 269 President

Thoughts from Your Unit President:

Happy 2026 to all!

The New Year is like a blank book, and the pen is in your hands. It is your chance to draft a

beautiful story for yourself. A chance to start the new year off with new beginnings.

By the time you read this I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends.

December is the most wonderful time of the year. It started off with the angel tree which helped with the purchase of toys for the children. The decoration of the home and trees. We had many volunteers that went Christmas shopping for toys for tots, where we collected over 300 toys, thank you to everyone who donated to make this wonderful holiday special for the kids.

But now as the New Year starts off hopefully, in the future months we can all get together and work to help the Unit build our membership.

Recruitment of members actively takes place at events, and community affairs. Often the veteran and spouse attend such affairs, and it is customary that if one of them wishes to join their spouse will also join. Everyone will benefit from this. Auxiliary members are encouraged to carry both FRA and Auxiliary applications with them.

Congratulations and best wishes to all who have a birthday, anniversary or membership

milestone and may those in need of prayers feel the strength of those around you and the entire Auxiliary family. I wish each of you a Healthy and Happy 2026.



*In Loyalty, Protection & Service
NFS Pat Suckow, PNP
Unit 269 President*

WEEKLY DRAWING AT THE HOME

12/2: David Dux [Branch], NOT signed
12/9: Michael Roth [Branch], NOT signed
12/16: Willie McDonald [Branch], NOT signed
12/23: Thomas Shepard [Branch], NOT signed
12/30: Will be posted next month

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.

Branch Treasurer's Report

October 27—November 27, 2005

Cash in Bank – Checking	\$ 4,513.20
Cash in Bank – Convention Checking	\$ 0.00
Cash in Bank – Savings	\$ 5,195.35
Cash in Bank – Certificate of Deposit	\$12,236.11
TOTAL	\$21,944.66

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 720

Transfer Out [4]: Shawn L. Angelo, Chris Jones, Oscar Rodriguez, Douglas Willard

New Join/Reinstated [3]: Mark Feathers, Tony Jones, Matthew Perry

Past Due [14]: Johnny Aldea, Gary Arquisola, Oscar Diano, James Finney, James Fleming, George Gilford, Richard Harbold Jr., Wendy Holman, Anthony Mazza, Richard Nolan, Lyndon Porter, Garry Radwick, Robert Temple, Guy Travaglio

Ready to Renew [36]: Matthew Aguilera, David Aldich, Elizabeth Baker, Robert Block, Thomas Brown, Elijah Cales, Marion Clark, Raymond Cotton, Pedro Garcia, Tommy Hellems, Ronald Houde, Dominador Jimenez, Gavin Karelitz, Grady Langley, Larry Larkins, Roger Little, Michael Markiewich, Willie McDonald, Timothy McNally, Daniel Montgomery, Jaiden Moore, Robert Newton, William Nieschalk, Kevin Patton, Ray Phillips Jr., Charles Pyatt, Paul Reece, William Riley, Edward Stank, David Taschner, Jason Tatge, William Teague, Joe Travis,

William Trotman, Gary Williams, Kent Wolcott
Term [4]: Kevin Deise, Pacifico Dela Fuente, Chris Ludwig, Cubit Robinson

• **Active Unit Members:** 198

UNIT MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

- 30 days past due [4]: Elriede Campbell, Tammy Cappadona, Justin Highberger, M. Elizabeth Mullins
- 60 days past due: [2]: Tyler Adams, Rhonda McNally
- 90 days past due [4]: Georgia Cathcart, Carmela Day, Johnathan Price, Jeannette Walker
- Active Members: 198

BRANCH CHAPLAIN

Hospital/Welfare/Rehabilitation:

Shipmates or Unit members please contact:

Branch Chaplain S/M Bobbi Sutton @

843.541.2823 or 843.879.9473

Unit Chaplain Theresa Milligan @

843-535-2757

Home Committee Report

Cash Audit as of **15 Nov 2025** is as follows:

Checking Account balance	\$ 9,440.14
Savings account	\$50,471.05
Credit Card account available	\$15,279.27
Pending Check/Cash for deposit	\$ 2,184.50
Registers/Cash Funds	\$11,500.00
Total funds	\$88,874.96
Net Profit (Loss): Nov (258.45) YTD	\$58,439.81

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

- The property tax paid: \$2,600.00
- The Christmas party is 18 Dec at 1830
- The Children's Christmas party is 21 Dec
- The banquet room is rented for New Years Eve
- Home committee will inventory tables, chairs, equipment on 3 Jan
- The kitchen will be closed 4-8 Jan for flooring
- The new prep table is operational, cost ~\$5,500
- Trivia will be one more week and then resume after the holidays

Membership and Security:

- HQ reports 720 active members

Old Business:

- Prep table donations totaled \$2,000 received

- There is a Home Committee Vacancy
- Next cleanup day is Tues, 27 January 1000
- Art Sattler is providing CPR/AED training; Home is paying for bartenders/cooks to attend

New Business:

- Branch/Unit 269 will host the 2026 Mid-Year meeting 7 Feb at the Home.

Upcoming Events:

- Branch Christmas Party 18 Dec
- Children’s Christmas Party 21 Dec
- New Year’s Day 1 Jan
- Mid-Year Meeting 7 Feb
- Super Bowl 8 Feb
- Valentine’s Day 14 Feb

Americanism/Patriotism - PNC Laurie Bailey

Branch Essay Contest for the 2025 A/P contest deadline is 1 December. Rules on the website at [2026 FRA Member Scholarship.pdf](#)

Newsbytes: The Fleet Reserve Bulletin

The Newsbytes are sent during the month from National to all FRA members via email. A direct link to Newsbytes is on the FRA269 Home Page

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Newsbytes November 28, 2025

- ◇ Additional Guardsmen Deployed After D.C. Shooting
- ◇ Marine Corps Hits Retention Goal
- ◇ VA for Eliminating CHAMPVA Backlog

Newsbytes December 5, 2025

- ◇ Medal of Honor Recipients Stipends Increase
- ◇ SVAC Medication Management Hearing
- ◇ IBM Training for Veterans and Military Families
- ◇ HVAC Hearing: Pathways to Skilled Trades
- ◇ VA Improves Access To Gynecology Care

Newsbytes December 12, 2025

- ◇ FY26 NDAA PASSES HOUSE
- ◇ Veteran Provisions in FY26 NDAA
- ◇ HVAC: CHAMPVA Reforms
- ◇ VA Expands Access to ABO
- ◇ FRA Attends Coast Guard Holiday Reception

Newsbytes December 19, 2025

- ◇ Take the 2026 FRA Survey
- ◇ President Trump Announces Warrior Dividends
- ◇ Coast Guard ‘Devotion to Duty’ Payments
- ◇ HVAC Oversight of VA EHRM
- ◇ Major Reorganization of VHA
- ◇ Navy Improves Barracks
- ◇ FRA NHQ Holiday Closures

Branch/Unit 269 website: fra269gc.org !!!!

Get your current and past newsletters and see upcoming events. To stop your current printed copy contact webmaster@fra268gc.org

Use the Branch and Unit Membership Boxes outside the office for new member and renewal applications. When you recruit a new member ensure all of their information is correct on the application. Place the new application/renewal 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 40 & younger: \$450.00
 Ages 41-50: \$425.00 Ages 51-60: \$390.00
 Ages 61-70: \$340.00 Ages 71-80: \$260.00
 Ages 81-99: \$200.00

Ages 100 and older: **FREE**

MEAL HOURS FOR THE HOME
Lunch Hours Mon-Fri 1100-1330.
Dinner Hours Mon-Fri 1700-2000

The Security Corner

Provided by: George Birmingham [ET1(SS) USS H.L. Stimson SSBN655—G/SY1/G 69-74, USSVI-Holland Club Carolina Piedmont Base]

The AI Adventure – AI: Safe or not?

Happy New Year, Shipmates! This month marks the beginning of our AI adventure in 2026. Each of us will have our own opinion and perspective on the emergence of AI in our digital lifestyle. A range of products including AI-enabled PCs, AI in our Apple products, several popular web browsers, and even our newer appliances now have AI embedded in their hardware and software. AI is already being tested on commercial trucks and 5 automobile models already embrace AI in some form.

If you watched the 1968 movie 2001: A Space Odyssey – well, it seems that HAL has now arrived, And in many forms. In the 1990 movie Total Recall, self-driving AI taxis were in use. Science fiction has now become reality in many ways.

By now the names Copilot+, ChatGPT, and Google Gemini might be familiar items that you have read about, or heard of. And your browsers – like Chrome and Firefox, are now AI-enabled.

The term, “Agentic AI” may be a new one you have not heard of – yet. This link from Wikipedia will provide some insight to the form of AI Microsoft

and others are about to unleash in our digital world.

Agentic AI

And finally for this month's discussion comes this article from Microsoft, dated November 17th, 2025, that give us a glimpse of what may be in a future Windows Update in new features Agent

2025-2026 AUXILIARY PROJECT

PLACE DONATED ITEMS ON TABLE AS YOU ENTER THE MEETING ROOM

Items needed for Curbside Delivery For Our Veterans at the VA Hospital

Proteins:

- Tuna Cans
- Chicken Can
- SPAM Can or other potted meat
- Bean Cans: pork & beans, black beans, kidney beans, navy beans, beanie weenies
- Bag Dry Beans
- Jar Peanut Butter

➤ Soup/ or Stew:

- Cans

➤ Sauce

- Jar or Can Red Marinara Sauce or Alfredo Sauce

➤ Pasta:

- Package or Box of Pasta noodles

➤ Rice:

- Package or Box of Rice

➤ Vegetables:

- Mixed Cans: corn, green beans, mixed, greens

➤ Fruits:

Mixed Cans: peaches, fruit cocktail, pineapple, apple sauce

➤ Ready Meals:

- Mac & Cheese
- Hormel Microwave Meals
- Top Ramen
- Box/Bag Instant Potatoes

➤ Cereal:

Box/Bag of Cereal----May substitute 4-5 small cereal boxes----May substitute 5-6 oatmeal, cream of wheat, or grits packets

➤ GIFT CARD \$5.00 OR \$10.00 NOT MORE—PLACE IN Auxiliary box

Workspace and Copilot Actions:

Experimental Agentic Features

As I noted at the beginning of this article, we each have our own opinion of AI and what it's impact will be on our digital lifestyles. My goal here is to bring information to you so that you make the best decision possible.



FRA SOUTHEAST REGION MID YEAR MEETING

7 FEBRUARY 2026

FRA LOW COUNTRY HOME, 99 WISTERIA ROAD

GOOSE CREEK, SC 29445

HOSTED BY FRA LOWCOUNTRY BRANCH AND UNIT 269

NEWSLETTER # 1

Shipmates and Auxiliary Members of the FRA Southeast Region, you are cordially invited to the FRA and LAFRA Southeast Region's Mid-Year Meeting on 7 February 2026. There are numerous hotels within driving distance of the branch home but if you want to stay close, the Quality Inn of Goose Creek is right next door and has rooms for \$70.00+fees/night. Arrival - 6 February 2025, Meeting Saturday - 0900, 7 February 2025, Departure - 8 February 2025.

If you choose to stay at the Quality Inn of Goose Creek, the address is 103 Red Bank Road, Goose Creek, SC 29445, Phone # - (843) 203-8426. Please make reservations by 1 February 2026 and mention FRA Mid Year.

Any questions can be directed to Point of Contact PNC Laurie Bailey (843) at 843-813-3430 or email at lauriebailey21@gmail.com.

DID YOU KNOW??

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3-second tech genius: If an app, service or your internet seems down, check [Downdetector](#). Search the name to see current outages along with problems reported in the past few hours. And if there are none, reboot your device.

3-second tech genius: Having internet issues? Restart it the right way. Unplug your **modem** and **router**, wait **30 seconds**, then plug in the **modem first**. When the lights are back, plug in the **router** and wait **two minutes**.

3-second tech genius: Stepping away from your desk? On **Windows**, press the **Windows key + L** to lock your screen without closing apps. On **Mac**, press **Control + Command + Q** to do the same.

3-second tech genius: Want a clock on your **Kindle**? In a book, tap the **Aa icon > More >** and turn on **Show Clock While Reading**. The time will appear at the top of the screen.

3-second tech genius: Save money on printer ink. **Arial** looks clean but burns through cartridges. Try **Times New Roman** instead. Tests show it can use up to 27% less ink over time.

Find anything on your phone: Stop scrolling through menus like it's 2010. On **Android**, swipe up on your home screen and use the search bar at the bottom to find apps, files, settings or contacts in seconds. On **iPhone**, same deal. Tap the search icon at the bottom and type away.

Organize Kindle books: Your Kindle doesn't have to be chaos. Create **Collections** (mini folders) to keep your favorite reads together. In your **Library**, select the **three-dot icon** on a book, choose **Add to/remove from Collection**, hit **(+)**, name it, tap **Create** and **Save**. Then repeat with other books to add them.

Send emails later: Gmail lets you schedule messages, so you can write them now and send them later. On **desktop**, open the **Compose** box, click the arrow next to the blue **Send** button, and select **Schedule send** to pick a date. On **mobile**, open the Gmail app, tap **Compose**, then the

three dots in the top right to do the same. Easy.

Find your typing spot: On Windows 11, it's easy to lose that little blinking line when writing long documents. To make it stand out, go to **Settings > Accessibility > Text cursor** and toggle on **Text cursor indicator**. You can pick the size (3 is good) and color. And yes, it works in most apps and browsers.

The 3-2-1 backup rule: Got important files you'd cry over losing? Follow this. Keep **3 copies** of your data (one main, two backups), stored on **2 different types** of media like an **external drive** and the cloud, with **1 copy off-site**, somewhere physically separate.

DFAS QUARTERLY RETIREE NEWSLETTER

The December 2025 issue of our quarterly Retiree Newsletter is now available online.

The newsletter includes important updates for retirees who pay their Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) premiums to DFAS. It also provides information about our newly improved Forms Library and helpful information to share with your loved ones on how to report the death of a military retiree or SBP annuitant.

It's Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) time again and we have information on the percentage increase and pay dates, in addition to tips for preparing for tax season.

If you are a Gray Area Retiree, please check out our Spotlight article to learn more about our innovative DD2656 Smart Wizard.

Finally, we have news from our Pay Partners, including information about Uniformed Services ID Cards, myAuth, and news from the Air Force Assistance Fund.

To access the newsletter, please copy and paste the link below to your internet browser. You will find a list of topics in the newsletter with a brief description of each article. After copying and pasting the link to your internet browser, click on the link for the article you want to read, and the full text will appear.

We also have a downloadable PDF of the newsletter you can share with others in the military retiree community.

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

**VA News by VAVS Branch Representative
PRPSE Fred Bolz**

**Appointments on the new My HealtheVet
Get answers to common questions**

If you have questions about using the new appointments tool, we have answers. Learn about online scheduling, how VA keeps your personal information safe, and how to get support.

[Learn more](#)

Secure messages on the new My HealtheVet

The new My HealtheVet experience allows you to communicate with your health care team in the same place that you manage your other VA benefits.

Get answers to common questions about secure messages

Get tips about key VA services and benefits

Do you track personal health information—like your heart rate, blood sugar, or weight? Now there’s an easy way to review this all in one place—and share it with your VA health care team.

[Learn more about Annie for Veterans](#)

**Manage travel reimbursements with VA:
Health and Benefits app**

With the VA: Health and Benefits mobile app, you can submit mileage-only travel claims directly from your smartphone or mobile device. Find out if you’re eligible for travel reimbursement and how to get started

[Learn more](#)

**UNIT 269 LADIES SHOPPING
TOYS FOR TOTS
251206 Toys 4 Tots Shopping**



**Kathy Sorenson Bobbi Sutton
Kathy Brady**

**Pat Suckow Theresa Milligan
Linda Nichols**

**PEARL HARBOR DAY WREATH SERVICE
251207 Pearl Harbor Day**



Pat Suckow, Gale Nathan



Sarah Ihme, Steve Koch



Woody Woodsmall, Jerry Stout



**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA
251213 Wreaths Across America**



Nick Nichols - Sarah Ihme - Linda Nichols - Steve Koch

**269 BRANCH & UNIT CHRISTMAS PARTY
251218 FRA Christmas Party**



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– Scotch Doubles, 8-Ball Tournament

JANUARY 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR'S DAY 	2	3 1030 Unit Audit
4 Free Pool KITCHEN CLOSED	5 KITCHEN CLOSED <u>1800-2000</u> SUBVETS BOD	6 KITCHEN CLOSED	7 KITCHEN CLOSED <u>1300-1500</u> Purple Heart <u>1800-2000</u> Sojourners	8 KITCHEN CLOSED <u>1900-2100</u> SUBVETS Mtg	9	10 <u>1000-1200</u> DAV Mtg
11 Free Pool	12 <u>1800-2000</u> Home Com- mittee	13 <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch <u>1800-2000</u> Unit Mtg <u>1900-2100</u> Trivia Night	14	15 <u>1800-1900</u> Branch BOD <u>1900-2100</u> Branch Mtg	16	17 <u>1000-1200</u> MilFrat <u>1700</u> Affluent Cap Group
18 Free Pool	19 MLK DAY	20 <u>1900-2100</u> Trivia Night	21	22	23	24
25 Free Pool	26 <u>1730-1900</u> VVA Mtg <u>1900-2100</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	27 <u>1900-2100</u> Trivia Night	28 Observance of USCGC Blackthorn Sinking	29 <u>1800-2000</u> Marine Corps League	30	31 0900 AED/CPR Training

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 – Scotch Doubles, 8-Ball Tournament

FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Free Pool	2 GROUNDHOG DAY	3 <u>1900-2100</u> Trivia Night	4 USO BIRTHDAY <u>1800-2000</u> Sojourners	5 <u>1800-2000</u> SUBVETS BOD	6	7 <u>ALL DAY</u> FRA SOUTH EAST RE- GION MID YEAR MEETING
8 Free Pool <u>1500-2300</u> Superbowl Party	9	10 <u>1900-2100</u> Trivia Night	11 <u>1200-1400</u> Purple Heart	12 LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY <u>1900-2030</u> SUBVETS Mtg	13 WOMEN MARINE'S BIRTHDAY	14 VALENTINES DAY <u>1000-1200</u> DAV Mtg
15 Free Pool	16 WASHINGTON BIRTHDAY PRESIDENT'S DAY <u>1800-2000</u> Home Com- mittee	17 <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch <u>1800-2000</u> Unit Mtg <u>1900-2100</u> Trivia Night	18 ASH WEDNES- DAY <u>1800-2000</u> Radio Club Mtg	19 USCG RESERVES BIRTHDAY <u>1800-1900</u> Branch BOD <u>1900-2100</u> Branch GA Mtg	20	21 <u>1000-1200</u> MilFrat Mtg
22 Free Pool	23 <u>1730-1900</u> VVA Mtg <u>1900-2100</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	24 <u>1900-2100</u> Trivia Night	25	26 <u>1800-2000</u> Marine Corps League	27	28

BRANCH 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—JANUARY 2026

Theodore Martin	55	Bruce Brown	26	Mark Florey	18	William Nieschalk	5
Donald Siron	52	Olin Thomas	26	Ronald Redondo	18	Lawrence Willoughby	5
Thomas Irvine	51	Duane Henricksen	25	Jack Bullis	17	Milton Willoughby	5
Oscar Edrada	49	Paul Reece	25	Jamey Farley Jr.	17	David Lyle III	4
William Teague	46	Joe Travis	25	Frederick Woodley	17	Thomas Brown	3
Nestor Derecho Jr.	44	Charles Pyatt	24	William Galloway	15	Paul Burnstein	3
Don Heywood	43	Larry Starland	24	Tommy Hellems	15	Lee Barkley	2
Don Clark	42	Ronnie Vandiver	24	Ronald Houde	14	Michael Moore	2
Robert Newton	42	Marion Clark	22	Gary Williams	14	Jaiden Moore	1
Charles Walton	41	Robert Reilly Sr.	22	Thomas Blizzard Jr.	13	Richard Mucheck	1
Wayne Swiech	40	Steven Koch	21	Otto Kaske	12	Douglas Potter	1
David Cornelius	39	Michael Markiewich	21	Bruce Seltzer Jr.	10	Lent Wolcott	1
Daniel Montgomery	39	Grady Langley	20	John Shaak	10	Roy Jessup	0
David Button	32	William Riley	19	Kevin Patton	7	Thomas Shephard	0
John Flynn	27	Robert Block	18	Gordon Hobgood	6		

UNIT 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—JANUARY 2026

Neta Fewox	58	Carol Traynor	14	Robert Horne	3	Cassette Arnold	1
Dorothy Nephew	33	Sandra Peeples	6	Linda M. Nichols	2	Tony Osterman	1
Michael Perillo	14						

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN JANUARY 2026

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!!!**
Auxiliary members in *ITALICS*

Peter Andruchowsky	1	Donald Rickert	8	Clarence Peifer	18	David Mayeres Jr.	25
Robert Bryant	1	Barbara Aler	9	Perry Friend Sr.	19	Kirk Owen	25
Jack Bullis	1	Paul McFall	9	Norman Jones	19	Lawrence Coates	26
Larry Fowler	1	Francis Bohannan	10	Alan Chambers	20	Kenneth Farrell	26
Lori A. Ryan	1	Douglas Craig	10	James Fleming	20	Daniel Lehman	26
Keith Timmons	1	<i>Lorraine Carver</i>	10	Thomas Woodall	20	David McNeely	26
Donald Garrand	2	Rogelio Fulgencio	11	<i>Mark Howell</i>	21	Terrence Mummert	26
<i>Ann G. Griffith</i>	2	Gary Gardner	11	Joseph Chapman III	22	<i>Linda G. Walton</i>	26
<i>Richard Banner</i>	3	Thomas Holcombe	11	John Ingram	22	George White	26
<i>Rosemary A. Clark</i>	3	Jeri Larson	11	<i>Martha F. Pyatt</i>	22	Johnny Aldea	27
<i>Karen C. Kopezynski</i>	3	<i>Jacqueline Paxton</i>	11	Thomas Scott	22	Tommy Wilbanks	27
Robert Moore	3	James Livingston	12	Bruce Whipple	22	Marlene Silva	28
<i>Charles Covell</i>	4	<i>Walter Spiller III</i>	14	James Farley Jr.	23	Willard Burton Jr.	29
Richard Duprey	4	Michael Struve	14	<i>Kelley Hall</i>	23	David Farley	29
<i>Paul Girard</i>	4	Jason Tatge	14	Kenneth Lux	23	Robert Henry	28
Lawrence Fletes	6	Gordon Williams	14	Edward Stank	23	Leo Kelley Sr.	29
Ginger Bevis	8	Charles Day	16	Gordon Hobgood	24	<i>Charles P. Smith Jr.</i>	30
Roy Brosseau	6	Ronald Watson	16	David Mattingly	24	<i>Robert Home</i>	30
<i>Judith L. Highberger</i>	8	William Scheer	17	<i>Robert Kirkley Sr.</i>	24	Michael Welch	30
Steven Koch	8	Herbert Franklin	18	<i>Chun L. Stanfield</i>	24	<i>Rebecca R. Bower</i>	31
James Lewis	8	Harry Kirk	18	Harvey Belcher	25		

FRA LOW COUNTRY HOME COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 15, 2025

PNC Laurie Bailey called the FRA Low Country Home Committee meeting to order at 1801 on Monday, December 15, 2025.

Board Members Present: PNC Laurie Bailey, Sarah Ihme, PNP Don Muccheck, Tim Bailey, Ken Hutchinson, Ken Wallace, and John Tharp; Ladies Sue Peters, Kim Vandiver and Dee Wallace.

Other Members Present: Vice President Steve Koch, Home Managers Larry Pepper and Bob Zauner, and S/M Malik Pratt

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were approved as posted, with no corrections or objections.

- **MOTION:** S/M Tim Bailey motioned, and PNP Don Muccheck seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

S/M Steve Koch assisted PNP Don Muccheck with the cash audit.

Balances as of 15 NOV 25: Checking \$9,440.14; Savings \$50,471.05; Credit Card \$15,279.27; Pending Deposits \$2,184.50; Registers/Change Funds \$11,500.00; Total Funds \$88,874.96

Net Profit (Loss): November (\$258.45); YTD \$58,439.81

- **MOTION:** S/M Ken Hutchinson motioned, and S/M Tim Bailey seconded to accept the Financial Reports. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

The property tax has been paid in the amount of approximately \$2,600.00.

The Christmas party will be held on 18 December at 1830; 81 tickets have been sold, and 9 tickets remain available.

The children's Christmas party will be held on 21 December.

The banquet room has been rented for New Year's Eve; Larry Pepper and Bob Zauner will conduct the beer and liquor inventory during this time.

The Home Committee will conduct an inventory of tables, chairs, and equipment on 03 January at 1000.

The kitchen will be closed from 04–08 January for flooring replacement and possible painting.

The new prep table has been received and is operational; the cost was approximately \$5,500.

Trivia began last Tuesday and will be held for one more week, then paused until after the holidays.

Membership and Security

FRA HQ reports 720 active members.

Old Business

Donations totalling \$2,000.00 were received for the prep table.

We have a vacancy on the Home Committee, and recommendations are being sought to fill the position.

Clean-up day was held on 01 December. The next clean-up day will be on Tuesday, 27 January 2026 at 1000.

Art Sattler from SUBVETS is providing CPR/AED training. The Home will pay for bartenders and cooks to attend this class.

New Business

Branch and Unit 269 will host the 2026 Mid-Year meeting on 07 February 2026 at the Home. It is recommended that the Branch hold a special board meeting to plan the event.

Upcoming Events

Branch Christmas Party – 18 December 2025

Children's Christmas Party – 21 December 2025

New Year's Day – 01 January 2026

Mid-Year Meeting – 07 February 2026

Super Bowl – 08 February 2026

Valentine's Day – 14 February 2026

Good of the Order

None

Next clean-up day: 27 January 2026, 1000

Next meeting will be held: 12 January 2026 at 1800

- **MOTION:** S/M Tim Bailey motioned, and Lady Kim Vandiver seconded, that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1840.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership is open to all current and former enlisted sea service (USN, USMC, USCG) personnel.

Member benefits include:

- A legislative team fighting for your pay and benefits on Capitol Hill
- Use of the Action Center at www.fra.org to share your opinions directly with Congress
- Eligibility for you and your family to apply for the FRA education scholarships
- Access to expert staff to answer your legislative questions
- Representation on disability or other VA claims
- Discounts on products and services
- Camaraderie with other service members

Your dues include a subscription to the association magazine. *FRAtoday* is your most reliable source of association information. Topics covered are: military pay, health care, and benefits. Some great association information and items of interest to you and your family are included.

In addition to the magazine, please choose to receive any or all of the following member benefits:

- NewsBytes:** the weekly email newsletter update of legislative and association activities
- Personal Affairs:** a booklet to assist in organizing your most important documents

I certify that I took the Oath of Enlistment and meet the FRA eligibility requirements of being a current or former enlisted member of the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard.

Service: USN USMC USCG

Status: Active Reserve Retired Veteran

NAME _____

PHONE _____

RATE / RANK _____

DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YY) _____ SSN (optional) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

SUITE / SPACE / LOT _____

Closest Branch Member-at-Large

CITY _____

Branch # _____ Centennial Branch

STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____

SPONSOR'S NAME & MEMBER ID# _____

Are you a previous FRA member?

No Yes, previous member# _____

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- 1 Year / \$40.00
- 2 Years / \$64.00 Centennial Special Offer**
(for New Members to FRA - \$24 first year + \$40 annual dues)
- 2 Years / \$75.00 (for renewing or reinstating FRA members)
- 5 Years / \$150.00 (\$20 Savings)
- Life Membership \$ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Master Card Visa Discover
- American Express Check-enclosed
- Life Membership Installment (1st payment is \$50 + 11 equal monthly payments automatically debited from a credit/debit card.)

CREDIT CARD NO. _____

EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE (REQUIRED) _____

DATE _____

Age	Amount
Active Duty.....	\$400
Ages 40 and younger...	\$450
Ages 41 to 50.....	\$425
Ages 51 to 60.....	\$390
Ages 61 to 70	\$340
Ages 71 to 80.....	\$260
Ages 81 to 99.....	\$200
Ages 100 and older.....	FREE
<i>Your Mission • Your Voice</i>	



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