



Scuttlebutt

Branch/Unit 269 Goose Creek, South Carolin

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)
Auxiliary 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/)

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

Branch President's Corner

I had my final meeting as Branch President with the FRA on May 21, 2026. We were privileged to present a continuous membership award to Gerald Starr for 50 years of continuous membership. The rest of the meeting was routine except for the final nominations and election.

The officers elected for the 2026-2027 Year were President Ken Hutchinson, Vice President Wayne Suckow, Secretary Sarah Ihme, and Treasurer Past National President Don Muccheck. The new Home committee chairman is Nate Nathan. I want to congratulate these folks and wish them a successful elected year. Meeting was closed with a two-bell ceremony for David Cox.

I wish everyone at the Fleet a successful year going forth and we'll see some of you soon.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service

Don Barton

Branch 269 President

Tidbits from the Unit President:

At our May meeting we had our Second round of nominations for the officers of 2026-2027. Results of the first round of Nominations were:

President – NFS Pat Suckow PNP
 Vice President -- Debbie Breeze
 Secretary/Treasurer Gale Nathan
 Chaplain- Theresa Milligan

Board of Directors

Kim Vandiver, Marilyn Tharp, Anne Barton, Sue Peters, Ann Griffin, and Linda Nichols

The Unit is scheduled to visit Veterans Victory House on Monday, August 10, at 1:30. If we choose to bring snacks, they should be prepackaged...nothing homemade. August is Coast Guard month, and there are currently 3-4 Coasties in residence. Overall, the facility has a capacity of 194 residents. Right now, there are six women residents. Suggestions for the women would be Home & Garden or House Beautiful magazines; nail polish would be welcome also. Other suggested items for all residents) are t-shirts, pajama bottoms, gripper socks, word search books. It is nice if some items have branches of service noted either by color or wording, so they can play one-upmanship with each other. Donations are appreciated.

Dates to Remember

- ◇ June 7 – Sunday Installation of Officers @ 3:00pm with dinner to follow
- ◇ June 16 - Luncheon @ 11:30am at Sunrise Bistro 216 St James Ave Goose Creek—RSVP to Debbie Breeze (843) 343-5489
- ◇ June 16 - No Unit Meeting Unit Meeting this month
- ◇ July 4 - Indoor Picnic and a red, white, and blue basket to raffle
- ◇ July 14 - Unit Luncheon @ 11:30am
- ◇ July 14 – Next Unit Meeting @ 5:30pm
- ◇ July 27-31 - SE Warner Robins, GA

PLEASE NOTE NO UNIT MEETING IN JUNE - INSTALLATIONS OF OFFICERS JUNE 7 @ 3:00PM with dinner to follow – Tickets for

sale at the bar area. I am suggesting Unit members to wear **blue and white.**

A letter was received from the Charleston Ralph Johnson VAMC thanking Unit 269 for the food pantry donation of groceries and for the snack table. (This thank you note is also for the Shipmates and SubVets)

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.



In Loyalty, Protection & Service
Pat Suckow, NFS/PNP
Unit 269 President Elect
Auxiliary of the FRA
lafranfsnat@gmail.com
Cell (843) 452-4719

Your challenging work and success will clear a path for those who follow you.

From NFS Pat Suckow, PNP
An interesting article was given to me, and I would like to share a brief part of it:

Margaret Brewer is one of the few surviving females of World War II veterans in the US. It is a story of a woman who answered the call to serve her country then spent the decades that followed serving the people she loved. As she stated that she is proud to be American and the US Navy. She never regretted her service. Now living in Fort Mill she still finds joy in life's quieter gifts. Among her favorites are flowers. There is something poetic about a woman who has lived through war, loss, and nearly 102 years of change, still finding beauty in what blooms. When she was asked what she is most proud of she did not hesitate. "I am proud that I served my country during the time of War. When asked what wisdom she would leave for the younger generations, "I think it is good for the young people to serve even if it is only for a few years. Now 102 it looks like a young woman leaving the farm to wear the uniform of her country."

Branch Treasurer's Report
March 28 — April 27, 2026

General Checking	\$ 2,748.56
Savings	\$ 5,200.72
Convention Checking	\$ 0.00
Certificate of Deposit	\$12,477.62
TOTAL	\$20,426.90

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 711

Transfer Out NPD [5]: Jaiden Moore, Robert Newton, William Teague, Joe Travis, Gary Williams

Term DEC [2]: John Newby, Dustin Darnell

New Join/Reinstated [9]: James Bargmann, William Castleberry, Darryl Greene, Adam Jensen, Anthony Kniffin, Howard Luper, Brian Sims, Christopher Wingate, Peter Wizes

Past Due [14]: John Aguilera Jr., Bryan Alfaro, Darryl Barrickman, Jennifer Beilstein, Richard Davies, James Evans, Larry Fowler, Robert Koscianski, Larry Mole, Donald Moseng, Stephen Nogle, Savannah Sellers, Ernest Sweat Jr., Robert Temple

Ready to Renew [45]: William Ambler, Herbert Anderson, Dwight Bain, Edward Bowles, Carson Burgess, Ludwig Burkle, Lester Callahan, Ronald Chambers, David Chapman, Harold Clayton, James Crump, James Delaney, Patrick Dermody, William Dunsing, Roger Fincher, Jericho Garcia, Joseph Giannetto, Terry Gomez, Earl Ham, James Harrison, David Harvey, Harold Herrington, David Horton, John Ingram, Daniel Johnson, Larry Knutson, Julian Lemley, Raymond McKinley III, Michael Mercer, John Murphy, Daron Myers, Gerald Ott, John Pontieri, Santos Riduca, Linsey Rogers, Daniel Ryan, Arthur H. Sattler, Grady Scott, Thomas Scott, Cecil Skipworth, Robert Sowards, Michael Sparks, James Stover, Jeffrey Wilmoth, Jack Wrbanich

Active Unit Members: 200

UNIT MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

- 30 days past due [4]: Barbara Berger; Cynthia Clark; Linda Harris; Charlotte Johnson
- 60 days past due: [3]: Joseph Holman; Katherine Sparger; Nancy Vella
- 90 days past due [3]: Robert J. Kirkley Sr.; Francis Perillo; Patty A. Russell
- Active Members: 200

BRANCH CHAPLAIN

Hospital/Welfare/Rehabilitation:

- **Two-Bell for BMCS David L. Cox**
- **Jerry Stout** is still being treated for cancer.
- **Bob MacPherson** is on the mend after breaking 3 ribs in a fall.

- **Rick Wise** will have a vocal cord injection.
 - **Harold Herrington** is battling cancer.
 - **Nate Nathan** lost his sister-in-law and their dog.
 - **Tim Bailey** is back with us this evening.
- Let Bobbi know of any shipmates who are ill.

Shipmates or Unit members please contact:

**Branch Chaplain S/M Bobbi Sutton @
843.514.2823 or 843.879.9473**

**Unit Chaplain Theresa Milligan @
843-535-2757**

(Home Minutes at the end of the newsletter)

Home Committee Report

Cash Audit as of **16 May 2026** is:

Checking Account balance	\$ 6,118.04
Savings account	\$ 50,491.93
Credit Card account available	\$ 7,959.57
Pending Check/Cash for deposit	\$ 744.50
Registers/Cash Funds	\$ 1,500.00
Cash Reserve Fund	\$ 6,000.00
Total funds	\$ 72,814.04

Net Profit (Loss): April (\$3,277.37)
YTD \$ 5,492.07

**Building and Grounds/Special Events/and
Manager's Report:** (full report in minutes)

- The weekly Tuesday night event has resumed.
- The Nation's 250th Anniversary will be celebrated this year. For the indoor picnic, a Lowcountry boil will be served for donations. See Home report for details.
- Installation of Branch/Unit officers will be held Sunday June 7th at 1500.

Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, 7 June at 1500 Installation of officers
- Next meeting 15 June at 1800

Americanism/Patriotism - PNC Laurie Bailey

Dates in History May/June:

- 25 May – Memorial Day
- 06 June – D-Day (1944)
- 08 June – USS Liberty Incident (1967)
- 14 June – Flag Day
- 14 June – U.S. Army Birthday (1775)
- 17 June – U.S. Navy Hospital Corps Estab: (1898)

Newsbytes: The Fleet Reserve Bulletin

The Newsbytes are sent to all FRA members from National via email. Here is a direct **LINK**

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Newsbytes May 1, 2026

- ◇ VA Home Loan Transferability
- ◇ DHS Funding Crisis Ends
- ◇ Hegseth Appropriations Testimony
- ◇ Claims Backlog Drops
- ◇ VA Fiduciary and Insurance Programs
- ◇ VA Transition Benefits Workbook

Newsbytes May 8, 2026

- ◇ MISSION Rx Act
- ◇ Military Medical Prescreening
- ◇ Radon at NSA Naples
- ◇ VA Suicide Prevention Records
- ◇ Written Informed Consent

Newsbytes May 15, 2026

- ◇ Hegseth Backs Maj. Richard Star Act
- ◇ COLA Bill Introduced
- ◇ Senate Demands Reform
- ◇ Pentagon Seeks \$26.8B For Barracks

Newsbytes May 22, 2026

- ◇ FRA On The Hill
- ◇ Briley-Edmundson Act Passes
- ◇ Veterans' COLA Act Clears Committee
- ◇ Bost Launches VA Authority Reauthorization
- ◇ 28-Condition Recruit Prescreening Filter
- ◇ NSA Naples Confirms Elevated
- ◇ Radon Memorial Day Observances

Newsbytes May 29, 2026

Will be printed next month

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

**BRANCH/UNIT 269 MEMBERSHIP INFO
REMINDER: ALL MEMBERSHIP FORMS / DUES ARE
TO BE PLACED IN THE RESPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP
BOXES BY THE HOME OFFICE DOOR. THIS
APPLIES TO BRANCH AND UNIT**

The Branch and Unit Membership Boxes outside the office are the only place to leave 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". **The pass down log will not be used for anything concerning membership.**

Branch Life Membership ages and dues
 Ages up to 40: \$600.00 Ages 41-50: \$570.00
 Ages 51-60: \$535.00 Ages 61-70: \$475.00
 Ages 71-80: \$380.00 Ages 81-90: \$260.00
 Ages 91-99: \$145.00 Ages 100 and older: FREE

The Security Corner

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

Credit Cards and Debit Cards – How to protect yourself

Greetings Shipmates! Summer has arrived! This month we will take a look at credit and debit cards and how to protect these cards we use most every day. These cards provide us with the means to shop on-line, and locally at our favorite retailers. When was the last time you saw someone write a check in the checkout line?

Credit cards offer superior protection compared to debit cards because they are governed by the Fair Credit Billing Act (FCBA), limiting liability for fraudulent charges to \$50. Conversely, debit cards can leave you liable for the full amount if not reported quickly, while also immediately removing money from your bank account. However, many banks and credit unions offer limited or zero liability for debit card fraud, often voluntarily exceeding federal requirements. While the Electronic Funds Transfer Act limits liability to \$50 if reported within two days, major card networks like Mastercard and Visa provide "Zero Liability" policies, meaning you may not be held responsible for unauthorized transactions. If you are a debit card user, check with your financial institution to see which policy they follow. Many banks (e.g., Chase, Capital One, Bank of America) offer zero liability policies, ensuring you are not held responsible for unauthorized transactions.

Note that using a credit card creates a "firewall" between criminals and your actual cash. It is highly recommended to use a credit card for online purchases, travel, and high-dollar transactions to ensure stronger security and easier dispute resolution. And try not to save that credit card number on retailer websites, because if they get breached the bad guys will have your card information immediately.

This article below provides some very good information you may find helpful:

How to Protect Your Credit Card

Information from AskLeo.com

Credit cards, and Debit cards certainly make our shopping and bill payment lives easier, and getting those credit card perks, like frequent flyer miles, restaurant gift cards and more, encourage their use. But we need to use them wisely and protect ourselves from the constant threats in our society.

DID YOU KNOW??

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3-second tech genius: Take a pic of the back of your TV before unplugging anything. Routers, consoles, soundbars, printers, all of it. The second you start moving cables around, everything becomes black spaghetti with trust issues. One photo gives you a map. While you're at it, label your chargers. Laptop, fast phone, watch, data cable. They all look identical eventually. A piece of tape saves more time than you'd think.

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3-second tech genius: You can silence an incoming call without sending it to voicemail. On iPhone, press the side button once. On Android, press either volume button. The call keeps ringing on their end, your screen goes dark, and you look like you didn't notice. Nobody has to know.

+++++

3-second tech genius: Printer acting weird? Unplug it, hold the power button for 15 seconds, then plug it back in. This clears its memory and often fixes common errors. Ink-credible.



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

VAVS Minutes and Newsbytes are posted on the bulletin board.

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Connect with VA's Caregiver Support

Call VA's Caregiver Support Line (CSL) at 1-855-260-3274 to learn more about the support that is available to you, and for assistance connecting with the Caregiver Support Team/Coordinator, at your local VA Medical Center.

Your local Caregiver Support Coordinator is a licensed professional who can support you by matching you with services for which you are eligible, and providing you with valuable information about resources that can help you stay smart, strong, and organized as you care for the veteran you love.

Find VA Caregiver Resources...

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Did you know that Veterans are eligible for VA burial benefits?

Whether choosing a VA National Cemetery, VA grant-funded cemetery, or a private cemetery, VA burial and memorial benefits ensure you and your family receive the ceremony and remembrance you deserve.

Complete your pre-need burial application today

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Manage your medications on VA.gov Part of the new My HealtheVet experience

Did you know that now you can manage your health care needs in the same place as your other VA benefits and services? My HealtheVet is now on VA.gov, including a new medications tool. Refill and track your VA prescriptions and review all medications in your VA medical records—all on in one convenient place.

Learn more

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Veterans Secure Toxic Exposure Provision in House Bill

“Vietnam Veterans of America commends the House Appropriations Committee for establishing individual Toxic Exposure offices within every Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN). This is a vital step toward improving the delivery of care to those living with the effects of toxic exposure,” said Tom Burke, VVA National President.

Read More...

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VA MOVES TO SPEED UP COMMUNITY CARE APPOINTMENT SCHEDULING

Technology that will help VA schedule community care appointments faster is up and running at all VA facilities. In 2026, VA is expanding its use so Veterans can more easily choose the health care they’ve earned.

Learn more

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7 Ways Veterans Can Protect Themselves From Scams

Veterans have served our country with honor and deserve to be protected from threats to their benefits and personal information.

Unfortunately, scammers often pose as employees of the Department of Veterans Administration (VA) and contact veterans by mail, phone, email, and social media offering to help them access or file for benefits, for a fee.

How to identify and avoid scams

If you’re a veteran, here are 7 ways you can protect yourself:

1. **Be cautious of companies that advertise that you can only get VA benefits with their help.**
2. **If a company pressures you to sign a contract right away or take some other immediate action, that’s a red flag.** If they insist “You must act now,” ignore them.
3. **Disregard advertisements that promise an immediate or overly generous payout.** If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.
4. **Be alert to “phishing” and requests for personal information about you, your benefits, medical records, and finances.** The VA, like Social Security, will generally not call.
5. **Limit the personal details you share on social media.**
6. **Be careful about the websites you visit.** Before doing business online, check for “https://” at the start of the website address. The “s” stands for “secure”.
7. **Watch out for common red flags in emails, texts, and on social media.**

Where to get help and more information

Report and learn more about Social Security-related scams at ssa.gov/scam.

Sign up for free consumer alerts from the Federal Trade Commission and, if necessary, file a complaint at [Reportfraud.ftc.gov](https://reportfraud.ftc.gov).

Report suspected fraud to the VSAFE Fraud Hotline at 833-38V-SAFE and find resources at VSAFE.gov.

Subscribe to MilitaryConsumer.gov/blog for the latest news on scams.

Visit [Operation Protect Veterans](https://OperationProtectVeterans.gov), a joint program of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and AARP.

Celebrating a total of 100 years of FRA Membership, Branch 269 President Don Barton presents Continuous Membership Pins and Certificates to Shipmates Michael Sparks for 20 years, Cynthia Hannah for 30 Years and Gerry Starr for 50 years.



On Memorial Day, FRA Shipmates along with several family members placed flags on the graves of servicemen at a local cemetery.



Shipmates represented the FRA at the VFW Memorial Service by placing wreaths during their service.



Shipmate RADM Tom Ishee was the guest speaker for the FRA Memorial Day Service which was followed by an indoor picnic.



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

JUNE						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 <u>1730</u> Unit Audit <u>1830-2030</u> Son's of Confederacy	3 <u>1900</u> Sojourners	4 <u>1800</u> SUBVET BOD	5	6 D-Day <u>TBD</u> Graduation Party
7 Free Pool <u>1000</u> Cox Memorial Service <u>1500</u> Branch/Unit Installation & Dinner	8	9	10	11 <u>1900</u> SUBVETS Mtg	12	13 <u>1000-1300</u> DAV Mtg <u>1400</u> Private Party
14 Free Pool Flag Day	15 <u>1800-2000</u> Home Committee	16 <u>11:30</u> Unit Lunch @ Sunrise Bistro in Goose Creek NO UNIT MEETING	17 <u>1800-2000</u> Radio Club	18 <u>1800</u> Branch BOD <u>1900</u> Branch Mtg	19	20 <u>1000-1200</u> MILFRAT Mtg
21 Free Pool Father's Day	22 <u>1730</u> VVA Mtg <u>1900</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	23	24	25 <u>1800-2000</u> Marine Corps League	26	27 <u>1100-1800</u> Fish Fry sponsored by SUBVETS \$17/meal
28 Free Pool	29	30				

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

JULY 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 <u>1900-2100</u> Sojourners	2 <u>1800</u> SUBVETS BOD	3	4 Independence Day <u>1130-1500</u> Celebrate 250 Years of America Indoor Picnic
5 Free Pool	6	7 <u>1800-2000</u> Sons of Confederacy	8	9 <u>1900</u> SUBVETS Mtg	10	11 NO DAV Mtg
12 Free Pool	13 <u>1800</u> Home Committee	14 <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch <u>1730</u> Unit Mtg	15 <u>1900</u> Radio Club	16 <u>1800</u> Branch BOD <u>1900</u> Branch Mtg	17	18 <u>1000-1200</u> MILFRAT Meeting <u>1600-</u> Birthday Party
19 Free Pool	20	21	22	23 <u>1800-2000</u> Marine Corps League	24	25
26 Free Pool	27 <u>1730</u> VVA Mtg <u>1900</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	28	29	30	31	

BRANCH 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—JUNE 2026

Life Members in **BOLD**

Richard Hair	60	Dwight Bain	27	Don Kopczynski	24	Eddie Beasley	9
John Pardo	59	Randy Bognar	27	Robert Ladue	24	John Thiry	9
James Giordano	52	Gary Gander	27	Patrick Dermody	23	Robert Brinson	8
Roy Knight	51	Steven Gearhart	27	Terry Gomez	23	William Reed	8
Perry Riley	51	Grady Scott	27	Paul King	22	Lee Lepretre	7
Ronald Henderson	43	Robert Sowards	27	Keith Timmons	22	Charles Walker	6
Joseph Dick	41	Roger Adams	26	William Dunsing	21	Debra Bortell	4
Carson Burgess	38	Dwayne Ashline	26	Mike Sroka	21	William Hayes	4
Lester Callahan	37	Ludwig Burkle	26	James Baker	20	James McCutcheon	3
Lonnie Donahue	37	Joseph Giannetto	26	Steven Edmund Sr	19	Benjamin Money	3
Maureen	37	Dennis Hazel	26	Larry Knutson	19	Scott Salisbury	3
Michael Hanna	37	Howard Miles	26	Julian Lemley	17	Todd Walker	3
James Kint	37	William Roberts	26	William Maloon	15	James Crump	2
Edward Mulrey	37	George Roberts	26	Gregg Schneider	14	Dave Harvey	2
Harold Herrington	36	Daniel Ryan	26	Kevin Scott	14	Lionel Mackey	2
Gareld Landis	36	Robert Windrow	26	Raymond McKinley III	12	Arthur Sattler	2
David Menefee	33	Dennis Cox	25	Jeffrey Wilmoth	12	Stephen Woodside	2
Harold Clayton	30	Ken Ealy	25	Michael Mercer	10	Donald Warren	1
Edward Astle	30	Lee Heitner	25				

UNIT 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—JUNE 2026

Linda Brinson	57	Susan M. Pardo	26	Shelagh M. Lammers	13	Denise Hunt	1
Denise J. McCready	31	Rosemary A. Clark	22	Mark Howell	10	Austin Pimental	1
Carol Bailey	28	Linda Cox	20	Brian T. Murphy	2	Ernest Seabolt	1
Brenda M. Hiers	28	Brian Kopczynski	19	Chelcie Arnold	1	Joseph Taschner	1
Mona Lozen	26	Lori R. Beier	14	Richard Barner	1	Brenda Woodsmall	1
Hazel N. Hacker	26	Tammy L. Robinson	13	Paul Girard	1		

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN JUNE 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*

Roger Fincher	1	<i>Shelagh M. Lammers</i>	5	Edward Peters	14	<i>Linda Summey</i>	25
James Gregory	1	James Crump	6	Alfred Bauer	15	Roy Kingdom	26
<i>Carolyn J. Rose</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Jacqueline Rohrsen</i>	6	Cynthia Hannah	15	<i>Presilla L. Wilbanks</i>	26
David DeChant Jr.	2	William Teague	6	Donald Heinle	15	Thomas Rice	26
<i>Kerton McCarron</i>	2	<i>Cacey M. Anderson</i>	7	James Hutton	15	Charles Humbard	27
Sam Pennington	2	R. Scott Freligh	8	<i>Maryln L. Mucheck</i>	15	Robert Vehorn	27
Lee Rudbart	2	Donald Langdon	8	Albert Horne Jr	16	Lowell Mills	28
Ronald Vanco	2	<i>Troy R. Pepruner</i>	9	Phillip M. Smith	16	James Nelson	28
Richard Herndon	3	Ronald Chambers	11	Jodi Wright	17	Dennis Ward	28
George Popovich	3	Steven Harrison	11	David Stevens	18	<i>Angela S. Clark</i>	29
Willie Thompson Jr.	3	Otto Kaske	11	Robert Kirtley	19	John Flynn	29
<i>Jacob S. Becker</i>	4	<i>Cassity M. Arnold</i>	12	<i>Robert D. Reynolds</i>	19	Arthur Hance III	29
<i>Nancy Vella</i>	4	Tommy Hellems	12	Dana Disinger	22	Charles Rein	29
Marvin Brigman	5	<i>Joni M Mikkelsen</i>	12	<i>Sandra M. Houle</i>	22	<i>Gloria I. Boly</i>	30
Gary Clinefelter	5	Donald Moseng	12	Michael Andrews	23	Arthur Brown	30
Matthew Douty	5	Don Mucheck	12	Michael Goad	23	John Sloane	30
Judy Duncan	5						

BRANCH 269

BRANCH OFFICERS

President: Don Barton
Vice President: Steve Koch
Secretary: Sarah Ihme
Treasurer: PNP Don MucHECK
Jr. Past President: Ken Hutchison

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PNC Laurie Bailey Tim Bailey
PRPSE Fred Bolz John Tharp
Larry Pepper Ron Lamon
Glenn Little Ken Wallace
David Mattingly Johnny Brown
Bobbie Sutton

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Chaplain: Bobbi Sutton
Essay Contest: PNC Laurie Bailey
Legislative Affairs / VAVS:
PRPSE Fred Bolz
Master-at-Arms: Glenn Little
Membership: Ken Wallace
Parliamentarian: PNP Don MucHECK
Public Relations: John Tharp
Ways and Means: Larry Pepper
Webmaster: Nick Nichols
Newsletter: Nick Nichols
Youth Activities: Ed Peters

Auxiliary of the FRA UNIT 269

UNIT OFFICERS

President: NFS Pat Suckow, PNP
Vice-President: Debbie Breeze
Secretary/Treasurer: Gale Nathan,
PNC

UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Sorenson Sue Peters
Theresa Milligan Ann Griffith
Linda Nichols Dee Wallace

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Amer/Patriotism: Linda Nichols
Chaplain: Theresa Milligan
Hospital: Theresa Milligan
Membership: Debbie Breeze
Publicity: Debbie Breeze
Sergeant-at-Arms: Kim Vandiver
Ship's Store: Sue Peters
Unit Activities: All Members
VAVS: Theresa Milligan
Welfare/Rehab: Sue Peters
Youth Activities: Anne Barton/
Gale Nathan PNC

LOW COUNTRY HOME, LLC

99 Wisteria Road,
Goose Creek SC 29445
843-569-2692

Frbranch269@comcast.net

Home Chairman: PNC Laurie Bailey
Admin Secretary: Sarah Ihme
Financial Sec: PNP Don MucHECK
Director: Tim Bailey
Director: Kim Vandiver
Director: Sue Peters
Director: John Tharp
Director: Dee Wallace
Director: Ken Wallace
Director: Ken Hutchison
Director: Ryan Stevenson
Home Managers: Larry Pepper
Bob Zauner
Don Garrand



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

Auxiliary of the FRA Unit269 is now collecting for the Victory House in Walterboro

In addition to lap robes, they need



1-Gripper-type socks



2-T-shirts

3 Pajama Bottoms



4-Word Search books

EVERYONE WELCOME

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS



**AWESOME FISH FRY @
THE FRA HOME**

**99 Wisteria Road Goose
Creek, SC 29445**

843.569.2692

**SATURDAY – June 27th – 1100-1800
\$17 / PER PERSON**

ARKANSAS BLUE FISH (ALL WHITE MEAT)
HUSH PUPPIES; COLESLAW; FRENCH FRIES; SALAD; ROLLS
FUND RAISER EVENT TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF
TRANSPORTING THE FLOAT TO THE
MANITOWOC WISCONSIN SUB FEST TO
ATTEND THE CELEBRATION OF WWII
SUBMARINE HISTORY & 4TH OF JULY
PARADE



CASH BAR AT THE FRA
SPONSORED BY CHARLESTON BASE SUBVETS



"ATTENTION ALL HANDS"

FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION BRANCH 269
AND AUXILIARY OF THE FLEET RESERVE
ASSOCIATION UNIT 269, GOOSE CREEK, SC

PROUDLY ANNOUNCES

"CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF AMERICA"

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026
11:30 AM – 3:00 PM
AT FRA LOWCOUNTRY HOME, 99 WISTERIA ROAD,
GOOSE CREEK, SC

COME JOIN US FOR INDOOR PICNIC OF
LOW COUNTRY BOIL, SALADS, TEA AND DESSERTS
WEAR PATRIOTIC CLOTHES AND A DESSERT CONTEST WILL
BE HELD AFTER THE PICNIC



This Memorial Weekend I will pause for the fallen.

For those that lost their lives in battle....

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| WWI 116,516 | Persian Gulf 258 |
| WWII 405,399 | Operation Provide Comfort 19 |
| Korean War 36,516 | Somalia Intervention 43 |
| Vietnam War 58,209 | Bosnia 12 |
| El Salvador War 37 | NATO Air Campaign 20 |
| Beirut 266 | Operation Iraqi Freedom 4,489 |
| Grenada 19 | Operation Enduring Freedom 2,356 |
| Panama 40 | Operation Inherent Resolve 115 |
| | Operation Freedom's Sentinel 111 |

**...and for those who returned home
only to lose the battle within.**

There is a difference!

Armed Forces Day

The third Saturday of each May – Honors those serving.

Memorial Day

The last Monday of each May – Remembers those who died while serving.

Veterans Day

The 11th day of each November – Honors those who served.



"Our flag does not fly because
the wind moves it. It flies with
the last breath of each soldier
who died protecting it."
– Unknown

**FRA SOUTHEAST REGION BYLAWS RESOLUTION NO. 1 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL
COMMITTEE ON BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES**

Whereas, Article V, Section 513 states:

“SECTION 513. The Regional Committee on Hospitals, Welfare, and Rehabilitation shall foster and maintain good relations between the Fleet Reserve Association and the Southeast Region hospitals, extend praise and recommendation to those members and Branches that have rendered outstanding service and ensure that Shipmates and dependents are receiving the full benefits of existing laws and regulations”; and

Whereas, at the 97th FRA National Convention held in Springfield, Missouri, FRA C&BL Article VIII, Section 816(b) was changed designating additional duties of the Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation Committee; and

Whereas, Southeast Region Bylaws Article V, Section 513 does not adequately address the changes made at the FRA National Convention; now therefor be it

Resolved, that FRA Southeast Region Bylaws, Article V, Section 513 be deleted and a new Section 513 be added to read as follows:

‘SECTION 513(a). The Hospitals, Welfare, and Rehabilitation Committee shall manage and oversee the FRA Southeast Region VA Volunteer Services (VAVS) Center for Development and Community Engagement (CDCE), providing education and outreach of the same to th membership of the FRA Southeast Region, including VA MHA policy and regulations associated with this program, to report on the number and activities of FRA designated VAVS/SDCE representatives in the Southeast Region and medical facility; to solicit Branches to promote Shipmates to become VAVS/CDCE representatives or volunteers and become involved in department of veterans affairs/services, medical facilities, national veteran cemeteries, or veteran homes, and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans in the area of hospital, welfare, and rehabilitation.

SECTION 513(b). The Committee shall foster and maintain good relations with the Fleet Reserve Association and the Southeast Region hospitals, extend praise and commendation to those members and Branches that have rendered outstanding service and ensure that Shipmates and dependents are receiving the full benefits of existing laws and regulations,

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a meeting of the Regional Committee on Bylaws and Standing Rules on April 16, 2026, distributed, read, debated, and adopted by unanimous vote through e-mail on April 23, 2026.

F. Donald Muccheck
F. Donald Muccheck
FRA Past National President
Chairman, FRA SER BL&SR Committee

Whereas, FRA Southeast Region Bylaws, Article V, Section 517 states:

“SECTION 517(a). The Regional Committee on Veterans Services.

SECTION 517(b). Committee members shall be either VA accredited as Veterans Service Officer (VSO) representing FRA or designated as an FRA Representative or Deputy Representative for the VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) program at a VA medical facility.

SECTION 517(c). To oversee the FRA VSO and VAVS programs, providing education and outreach of same to the membership of the Association, including the policies and regulations associated with these programs; to report on the number and activities of FRA accredited VSO representatives and representatives in the VAVS program in each region; to solicit branches and Shipmates to become involved in departments of veterans affairs/services on the state, local or national level, including VA regional offices, medical facilities, state of national veteran cemeteries or veteran homes, and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans. When the need for assistance is beyond the capacity of the local branch, the Branch President shall make a report to the Regional Chairman and Regional President with appropriate recommendations.

SECTION 517(d). It shall solicit the cooperation of branch chairman of this committee and instill the importance of this committee at the branch level,

SECTION 517(e). The Chairman shall make an annual report to the delegates at the Regional Convention”;

Whereas, at the 97th FRA National Convention held in Springfield, Missouri, FRA C&BL Article VIII, Section 820 was re-written; and

Whereas, FRA Southeast Region Bylaws, Article V, Section 517 does not adequately define the Committee’s duties; now therefor be it

Resolved, that FRA Southeast Region Bylaws, Article V, Section 517, be deleted in its entirety and a new Section 517 be substituted as follows:

“SECTION 517(a). The Regional Committee on Veterans Service,

SECTION 517(b). Committee members shall be VA accredited Veteran Service Officers representing the FRA in the Southeast Region. Duties of the Committee shall be: to oversee the FRA Veterans Service programs, providing education and outreach of same to the membership of the Association, including the policies and regulations associated with the program; to report on the number and activities of FRA accredited VSO representatives and programs in the Southeast Region; to solicit branches and Shipmate in the Southeast Region to become involved in departments of veterans affairs/services on the local, state, or national level, including VA regional offices, and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans in the area of Veteran services.

SECTION 517(c). It shall solicit the cooperation of Branch chairman of this committee and instill the importance of this committee at the branch level.

SECTION 517(d). The Chairman shall make an annual report to the delegates at the Southeast Regional Convention.”

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a meeting of the Regional Committee on Bylaws and Standing Rules on April 16, 2026, distributed, read, debated, and adopted by unanimous vote through e-mail on April 23, 2026.

F. Donald Muecheck
F. Donald Muecheck
FRA Past National President
Chairman, FRA SER BL&SR Committee



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Member benefits include:

- A legislative team fighting for your pay and benefits on Capitol Hill
- Use 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 fellow service members

Your dues include a subscription to the association magazine. *FRA*today 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 meet the FRA eligibility requirements of being a current or former member of the US 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 # _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

SPONSOR'S NAME & MEMBER ID# _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

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)
- 2 Years / \$75.00 (for renewing or reinstating FRA members)
- 5 Years / \$180.00 (\$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 _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP	
Age	Amount
Ages 40 and younger...	\$600
Ages 41 to 50.....	\$570
Ages 51 to 60.....	\$535
Ages 61 to 70	\$475
Ages 71 to 80.....	\$380
Ages 81 to 90.....	\$260
Ages 91 to 99.....	\$145
Ages 100 and older.....	FREE
Your Mission • Your Voice	



1600 Duke Street, Suite 300
 Alexandria, VA 22314-2754

Phone: 703-683-1400 Toll-Free: 1-800-FRA-1924

www.fra.org





BENEFITS OF FRA MEMBERSHIP

The Fleet Reserve Association represents and serves all current and prior U.S. Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard service members and their families. Here are just a few of the benefits our members enjoy.

Advocacy

The FRA's highly respected legislative team ensures that your voice is heard and understood on Capitol Hill. We fight for the pay and benefits of active duty, reserve, veteran and retired members of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard. Check out www.fra.org/ActionCenter to review the current issues and lend your voice to our shared mission. The FRA also has veteran service officers who assist veterans with filing their claims and appeals to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Branch Affiliation

Almost every state in the U.S. has at least one FRA branch, and several branches are located overseas. The FRA branches foster camaraderie among fellow sea service members and strive to keep Shipmates informed about changes in local policy as well as to support local veteran and youth activities.

FRA Publications

The FRA produces a bimonthly magazine, FRAtoday; a weekly email newsletter, NewsBytes; call-to-action emails, Making Waves; and quarterly e-newsletters for active-duty members, OnWatch.

Education Scholarships

The FRA Education Foundation provides more than \$90,000 in scholarship funds each year to sea service personnel, FRA members and their dependents. The funds are applicable toward tuition at trade schools, community colleges and four-year universities.

Disaster Relief

The FRA facilitates relief to fellow Shipmates during times of need. Shipmates who have suffered losses due to natural disasters, have received more than \$100,000 in aid.

FRA Life and Health Insurance Programs

As an FRA member, you are eligible for excellent coverage at affordable group rates by participating in the FRA-endorsed insurance programs. You can request information by calling 800-424-1120, or by following the links on the Membership Benefits page online at www.fra.org/benefits.

Savings Marketplace

The FRA Marketplace offers unique discounts on things like travel, restaurants, electronics, movie and event tickets, shopping, and more! Discounts are accessible through your myFRA membership profile on www.fra.org or by calling 1-800-683-2886 and providing your FRA member ID number.

VA Volunteer Service

FRA members volunteer thousands of hours at Veterans Affairs hospitals through the VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement, bringing assistance and companionship to veterans and service members who are in VA medical centers. For more information, call 800-FRA-1924, extension 113.

USAA Visa Rewards Program

Members can apply for the only credit card that supports the FRA. With a low APR, no annual fees and some great rewards programs, you will see why a credit card from a bank built on military values is better. Apply today at www.usaa.com/fra or call 877-372-8722.

USAA Financial Services

The United Services Automobile Association (USAA) provides competitive products, award-winning service and the convenience of banking and investments to active-duty military, veterans and their families. The FRA endorses USAA and its preferred financial services. Best of all, joining USAA is free and you can pass the benefits along to your children. Find out more information at www.usaa.com/fra or call 877-372-8722.

Take advantage of some of these benefits and your membership will pay for itself!

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MAY 21, 2026**

Shipmate President Don Barton called the regular Board of Directors meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order at 1800 on Thursday, May 21, 2026, in accordance with FRA Rituals.

Board Members present:

PRPSE Fred Bolz	John Tharp	Ken Wallace	Don Barton
PNC Laurie Bailey	Glenn Little	Ken Hutchison	Steve Koch
Tim Bailey	Larry Pepper	Sarah Ihme	PNP Don Muccheck
Bobbi Sutton			

Minutes: Published in the newsletter. The minutes stand as approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism: PNC Laurie Bailey
Report at General Assembly.

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Report at General Assembly.

Legislative Service and VAVS: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Report at General Assembly.

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton
Two-Bell at the general assembly for BMCS David Cox. Remainder of reports will be at the General Assembly.

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace
Report at General Assembly.

Youth Activities: Ed Peters
Report at General Assembly.

Public Relations: John Tharp
Report at General Assembly.

Ways and Means: Larry Pepper
Report at General Assembly.

Golf: Larry Pepper
Report at General Assembly.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little
Report at General Assembly.

Home Committee Report: PNC Laurie Bailey
Report at General Assembly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Committee reports are due by the end of June.

NEW BUSINESS

Second round nominations and elections will be held this month.

Installation will be held on Sunday, June 7th, 2026, at 1500, followed by a meal. Meal tickets will be \$5, and the Branch and Unit will pay the difference.

Invoice received to reimburse S/M Ken Wallace for VA snacks totaling \$110.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck moved, and PNC Laurie Bailey seconded to reimburse S/M Ken Wallace \$110. Motion carried.

Invoice received to reimburse the FRA Home for two steak dinners and five key cards totaling \$67.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck moved, and S/M Bobbi Sutton seconded to reimburse the home \$67. Motion carried.

Receipt received to reimburse S/M Bobbi Sutton for stamps totaling \$78.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck moved, and S/M Sarah Ihme seconded to reimburse S/M Bobbi Sutton \$78. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

VFW Post 10256 will host their Memorial Day Service on Saturday, May 23rd at 1500 at McAllister-Smith Funeral Home. There will be a wreath placing during the service.

Memorial Day Services will be held at the home on May 25th at 1030 followed by an indoor picnic. We will meet at Memorial Plantation Gardens at 0800 before the service to place flags.

The order form for meals for the Southeast Regional Conference needs to be submitted by July 1st.

PRPSE Fred Bolz moved, and PNC Laurie Bailey seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1817.

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
MAY 21, 2026**

Shipmate President Don Barton called the regular meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order on Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 1900, in accordance with FRA Rituals.

Visitors: Auxiliary members and Brian Scoville, USCG

Shipmates Initiated: None

Minutes: Published in the newsletter. The minutes stand as approved.

Communications: Received appreciation from the Ralph H. Johnson VAMC for a donation of a car seat and baby items.

Treasurer's Report:

The report for the period of March 28 – April 27 is as follows:

General Checking: \$2,748.56	Savings Account: \$5,200.72
Convention Checking: \$0.00	Certificate of Deposit: \$12,477.62
Total: \$20,426.90	

All bills received to date have been paid.

Continuous Membership:

May 2026

Roy Massey, Sr. – 55 Years

Gerald Starr – 50 Years

John Ingram – 45 Years

James Stover – 40 Years

Cynthia Hannah – 30 Years

Darlene Hines – 30 Years

Jones Kersey – 30 Years

Robert Weber, Sr. – 30 Years

Brian Cecil – 20 Years

Cheryl Cecil – 20 Years

Michael Sparks – 20 Years

David Stevens – 20 Years

Richard Lawwell – 15 Years

Ralph Utermark – 15 Years

Marc West – 10 Years

John Pontieri – 5 Years

Robert Richardson – 5 Years

Edward Whiteley – 5 Years

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism – PNC Laurie Bailey

Dates in History May/June:

25 May – Memorial Day

06 June – D-Day (1944)

08 June – USS Liberty Incident (1967)
14 June – Flag Day
14 June – U.S. Army Birthday (1775)
17 June – U.S. Navy Hospital Corps Established (1898)

We will have a Fourth of July picnic. More details will be coming out.

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz

There will be two bylaw resolutions in the Branch newsletter that will be voted on at the Southeast Regional Conference.

Legislative Service & VAVS: PRPSE Fred Bolz
NewsBytes have been posted.

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton

Two-Bell for BMCS David L. Cox.

Jerry Stout is still being treated for cancer.

Bob MacPherson is on the mend after breaking three ribs in a fall.

Rick Wise will be having a vocal cord injection.

Harold Herrington is battling cancer.

Nate Nathan lost his sister-in-law and their dog.

Tim Bailey is back with us this evening.

Please let Bobbi know of any shipmates who are ill.

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 711

New Join/Reinstated: James Bargmann, William Castleberry, Darryl Greene, Adam Jensen, Anthony Kniffin, Howard Luper, Brian Sims, Christopher Wingate, Peter Wizes

Past Due: John Aguilera Jr., Bryan Alfaro, Darryl Barrickman, Jennifer Beilstein, Richard Davies, James Evans, Larry Fowler, Robert Koscianski, Larry Mole, Donald Moseng, Stephen Nogle, Savannah Sellers, Ernest Sweat Jr., Robert Temple

Ready to Renew: William Ambler, Herbert Anderson, Dwight Bain, Edward Bowles, Carson Burgess, Ludwig Burkle, Lester Callahan, Ronald Chambers, David Chapman, Harold Clayton, James Crump, James Delaney, Patrick Dermody, William Dunsing, Roger Fincher, Jericho Garcia, Joseph Giannetto, Terry Gomez, Earl Ham, James Harrison, David Harvey, Harold Herrington, David Horton, John Ingram, Daniel Johnson, Larry Knutson, Julian Lemley, Ray Marshall, Raymond McKinley III, Michael Mercer, John Murphy, Daron Myers, Gerald Ott, John Pontieri, Santos Riduca, Linsey Rogers, Daniel Ryan, Arthur Sattler, Grady Scott, Thomas Scott, Cecil Skipworth, Robert Sowards, Michael Sparks, James Stover, Jeffrey Wilmoth, Jack Wrbanich

Term NPD: Jaiden Moore, Robert Newton, William Teague, Joe Travis, Gary Williams

Term Dec: Dustin Darnell, John Newby

Active Unit Members: Report unavailable.

Youth Activities: Ed Peters

Nothing to report.

Public Relations: John Tharp

A ceremony will be held Monday at 1300 recognizing seven additional Vietnam veterans whose remains have been identified and whose names will be added to the memorial wall.

Ways and Means: Larry Pepper

Get your 50/50 and steak dinner tickets.

Golf: Larry Pepper

No golf tournament until the base loosens restrictions for entry.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little

We will have an audit before officer installation.

Home Committee Report: PNC Laurie Bailey

Financial Reports

Balances as of 16 May 26: Checking \$6,118.04; Savings \$50,491.93; Credit Card \$7,959.57; Pending Deposits \$744.50; Registers/Change Funds \$1,500.00; Cash Reserve Fund \$6,000.00; Total Funds \$72,814.04

Net Profit (Loss): April (\$3,277.37); YTD \$2,479.82

The Memorial Day picnic will be held on Monday, May 25, at the Home. The ceremony will begin at 1030 followed by lunch.

The weekly Tuesday night event has resumed. Additional promotion is needed to increase attendance. Discussion was also held regarding additional activities to help increase participation and business.

The nation's 250th anniversary will be celebrated this year. A Lowcountry boil will be served for donations. S/M Fred Bolz will donate patriotic banners for this event. There will also be a patriotic dessert contest with monetary prizes donated by S/M Fred Bolz and trophy plaques donated by S/M Ryan Stevenson. A patriotic attire/outfit contest will also be held.

The newly elected Home Committee Chairperson will establish the meeting date and time for the next board meeting.

Upcoming events from the Home Events Calendar:

Thursday, 21 May 2026 – General Assembly Meeting – New Home Committee selected

Monday, 25 May 2026 – Memorial Day Service at 1030

Sunday, 7 June 2026 – Installation of Officers at 1500

Next meeting: 15 June 2026 at 1800

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Committee reports are due at the end of June.

NEW BUSINESS

Final nominations and elections for officers, Board of Directors, and Home Committee positions were conducted. The results are as follows:

President – Ken Hutchison
Vice President – Wayne Suckow
Secretary – Sarah Ihme
Treasurer – PNP Don Muccheck

Board of Directors: Ernie Culbreath, PRPSE Fred Bolz, PNC Laurie Bailey, Tim Bailey, Larry Pepper, Artie Sattler, LC Mills, Glenn Little, John Tharp, Ed Peters, Ken Wallace, Bobbi Sutton

Recess between elections.

Home Committee
Chairman – Nate Nathan
Admin Secretary – Sarah Ihme
Financial Secretary – PNP Don Muccheck
Directors: Sue Peters, Kim Vandiver, Ernie Culbreath, John Tharp, Bobbi Sutton, Nick Nichols, Debbie Breeze, Linda Nichols

The Board of Directors approved \$255 for VA snacks, two steak dinners, five keycards, and stamps.

Installation will be held on Sunday, June 7, at 1500, followed by dinner. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the bar.

The Southeast Region Convention will be at Warner Robins, GA, on July 27 – 31. The National Delegates need to be named for the convention. Information is posted on our Branch website. Let S/M Sarah Ihme know if you are planning to attend.

- **MOTION:** PRPSE Fred Bolz moved, and PNC Laurie Bailey seconded that the chairman of the delegate committee be able to add members who attend the convention who are not signed up. Motion carried

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Unit Report:

Charter was draped for Beverly Shaffer.
We will be going to the Veterans Victory house on Monday, August 10 at 1300 to deliver donations.

Final nominations and voting for next year's officers were completed with the following results:

President NFS Pat Suckow
Vice President Debbie Breeze
Secretary/Treasurer PNC Gale Nathan

Board of Directors: Kim Vandiver, Marilyn Tharp, Anne Barton, Sue Peters, Ann Griffin, Linda Nichols, Theresa Milligan, JonAnne Sattler

The VFW post will host a ceremony at McAllister-Smith Funeral Home, where a wreath will be placed.

The Auxiliary will wear white to the FRA Memorial Day service.

The Auxiliary will wear blue and white to the June 7 installation.

Unit luncheon will be June 16 at 1130 Sunrise Bistro.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 14 at 1730

The Southeast Region Convention will be at Warner Robins, GA on July 27 – 31. We need to know who will be attending the convention. Information is posted on our Branch website.

If you want something in the newsletter, please submit to Nick no later than the Monday following the general assembly meeting.

Two-Bell Ceremony took place.

Meeting adjourned at 2045.

FRA LOW COUNTRY HOME COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 18, 2026

S/M Ken Hutchison called the FRA Low Country Home Committee meeting to order at 1800 on Monday, May 18, 2026.

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

Other Members Present: Shipmates Larry Pepper and PRPSE Fred Bolz, Lady MaryIn Tharp

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

- **MOTION:** S/M Tim Bailey moved, and Lady Dee Wallace seconded, that the minutes be approved. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

S/M Ken Hutchison assisted PNP Don Muccheck with the cash audit.

Balances as of 16 May 26: Checking \$6,118.04; Savings \$50,491.93; Credit Card \$7,959.57; Pending Deposits \$744.50; Registers/Change Funds \$1,500.00; Cash Reserve Fund \$6,000.00; Total Funds \$72,814.04

Net Profit (Loss): April (\$3,277.37); YTD \$2,479.82

- **MOTION:** S/M Sarah Ihme moved, and S/M John Tharp seconded, that the Financial Reports be approved. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

The Memorial Day picnic will be held on Monday, May 25th, at the Home.

At this time, there has been no need to utilize funds from the savings account.

The liquor liability insurance carrier has assigned legal representation regarding the pending motor vehicle accident claim.

A discussion was held regarding potential future equipment options. Further discussion will be tabled until after the new Home Committee is elected.

The ServSafe Certification was due by May 1st. All bartenders are currently certified.

Membership and Security:

FRA HQ reports 711 active Branch members.

Old Business

Discussion was held regarding the reinstatement of certain member activities and fundraising items.

- **MOTION:** S/M Ken Hutchison moved, and Lady Kim Vandiver seconded, to reinstate previously suspended activities. Motion carried.

Installation of Branch and Unit Officers will be held on Sunday, June 7th, 2026, at 1500. The banquet room will be decorated following the memorial service and before the installation.

The weekly Tuesday night event has resumed. Additional promotion is needed to increase attendance. Discussion was also held regarding additional activities to help increase participation and business.

New Business

The nation's 250th anniversary will be celebrated this year. A Lowcountry boil will be served for donations. S/M Fred Bolz will donate patriotic banners for this event. There will also be a patriotic dessert contest with monetary prizes donated by S/M Fred Bolz and trophy plaques donated by S/M Ryan Stevenson. A patriotic attire/outfit contest will also be held.

- **MOTION:** Lady Kim Vandiver moved, and S/M Ken Wallace seconded to approve these events. Motion carried.

Elections for the Home Committee will be held at the next General Assembly Meeting on Thursday, May 21. Members wishing to serve on the committee must be present at the meeting. Members unable to attend must submit a Letter of Intent to the Branch President and Secretary before the meeting to be accepted for nomination.

The newly elected Home Committee Chairperson will establish the meeting date and time for the next board meeting.

Upcoming events from the Home Events Calendar:

Thursday, 21 May 2026 – General Assembly Meeting – New Home Committee selected

Monday, 25 May 2026 – Memorial Day Service at 1030

Sunday, 7 June 2026 – Installation of Officers at 1500

Good of the Order

Next meeting: 15 June 2026 at 1800

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

The meeting adjourned at 1837.