



Scuttlebutt

Branch/Unit 269 Goose Creek, South Carolina
843.569.2692



You can read all newsletters at [269 Branch/Unit 269 Newsletters](https://www.facebook.com/groups/FRABRANCH269/)

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

LABOR DAY INDOOR PICNIC SEPTEMBER 7th At the Home 1130-1400



BUY A BRICK \$100.00 each

Be part of the history of the
FRA, LOW COUNTRY HOME

Contact Larry Pepper **843.569.2692**

Buy a Brick for the Wall form for a brick

John Doe
USN
1975-1995

In Memory of
John Doe
USMC 1942-1949

Jane Doe
Navy Wife
The Hardest Job



Branch President's Corner

The August Branch meeting was well attended. It is always appreciated when more members care to attend and let their voices be heard and have an input in the management of the branch.

Congratulations are in order to our past president Don Barton and his lovely bride Mrs. Anne on their 66th wedding anniversary.

The branch has been invited to attend the 25th Anniversary of the 9/11 attack on our great Nation, to be held at the American Legion Post 166, 10:00 AM, 11 Sep. Hope to see you there.

The Branch will host an indoor picnic Labor day 7 Sep beginning at 11:30 AM.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service
Ken Hutchison

Tidbits from the Unit President:

I hope that all of you are enjoying the summer months and trying to stay cool.

Currently the food collection project for the VA Clinic will be discontinued for now. We are now collecting school supplies: Notebooks, #2 pencils, loose leaf paper, Crayola, pens, lunch boxes, and other items. A box will be set up on the bar side for school donations.

September 11—Patriot Day—The 25th Anniversary of 9/11(sponsored by the American Legion). Starting at 10:00 am, there will be wreath laying ceremony. Both the VFW, FRA and Auxiliary are invited to attend. There

will be a buffet meal for all attendees.

We will be having a Thanksgiving dinner at the Home on Thanksgiving Day. The dinner is FREE for active-duty military and all first responders who are on duty on Thanksgiving Day. The cost for all other attendees is \$5 per person. Flyers and sign-up sheets will be taken to various bases around the greater Charleston area. All members are asked to consider donating a dessert, side dish or cash. At this time, I would like to thank Unit 269 and the shipmates who remain, anonymous for their cash donation toward this function.

The next Unit Luncheon will be on Tuesday, September 15th at 11:30, at the Home. Please contact Debbie Breeze (843-343-5489) so proper seating can be available. Remember all! Shipmate's and Members can attend.

September Unit meeting will be on Tuesday, the 15th, at 5:30 at the Fleet.

I want to send my thoughts and prayers to our members and their families who are facing health challenges or mourning the loss of a loved one. Those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, or any special occasions have a very enjoyable day.

Remember Sept 7th, our indoor picnic!



In Loyalty, Protection & Service

Pat Suckow, NFS/PNP

Unit 269 President

Auxiliary of the FRA

psuckow106@gmail.com

Cell (843) 452-4719

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

Branch Treasurer's Report

June 28 — July 27, 2026

General Checking	\$ 2,775.49
Savings	\$ 5,203.96
Convention Checking	\$ 0.00
Certificate of Deposit	\$12,599.76
TOTAL	\$20,579.21

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 700

Transfer Out [4]: Daniel Wall, Danny Hunt, Norman Carroll, Richard Moore

Term/DEC [8]: David Chapman, Roger Fincher, Jericho Garcia, John Hoyt, John Murphy, Gerald

Ott, Cecil Skipworth, Jack Wrbanich

New Join/Reinstated [5]: Dwight Koehn, Joe O'Saben, Kimberly Timmerman, Gregory Webb, William Wood

Past Due [13]: Harold Clayton, James Crump, William Dunsing, Earl Ham, James Harrison, David Harvey, Harold Herrington, Daniel Johnson, Raymond McKinley III, Daron Myers, John Pontieri, Linsey Rogers, Michael Sparks

Ready to Renew [26]: Charles Clore, William Cox, Robert Crenshaw, Craig Farr, Jonathan France, Rogelio Fulgencio, Michael Fusari, Peter Garrison, Jamaal Goss, Sherman Hostetter, Jeri Larson, Charles Lewis, Mitchell Nappier, Merrell Peterson, Sheri Ragan, Cubit Robinson, Bob Segal, Joseph Shea, Franklin Shoenberger, Michael Sosa Jr., Earl Spurlock, Ryan Stevenson, Craig Wold, Matthew Young, Saralyn Young, Robert Zauner

UNIT MEMBERSHIP/RETENTION

- Active Members: 204
- 30 days past due [1]: Presilla Wilbanks
- 60 days past due: [0]: None
- 90 days past due [0]: None
 - * Reinstated: 3 * New: 9
 - * Non-payment: 6 * Deceased: 2

BRANCH CHAPLAIN

Hospital/Welfare/Rehabilitation:

- **Two Bell** was conducted for: PRPSE Gerald T. Brice, MMCS(SS) Richard Owen Wise; RMCM (SS) Harry Kirk; QMCM William Charles Reed; MM2/CM1(SS) Thomas L. Skorepa
- Larry Pepper is at Trident Hospital.
- Charlie Pyatt is at Encompass following a stroke.
- Ken Farrell has completed his second radiation treatment for cancer.
- Pete Garrison has been diagnosed with throat cancer in the tonsil.

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 **15 August 2026** is:

Checking Account balance \$ 2,044.07

Savings account	\$ 50,504.06
Credit Card account available	\$ 3,185.85
Pending Check/Cash for deposit	\$ 1,996.00
Registers/Cash Funds	\$ 11,500.00
Total funds	\$69,230.58

Net Profit (Loss): July \$10,035.15
YTD (\$781.34)

Building and Grounds/Special Events/and

Manager's Report: (full report in minutes)

- Thanksgiving dinner being planned for 26 Nov. Sign-up book at the bar. More details soon.
- Motion passed to make all Home special events (ie., indoor picnics, etc.) be held from 1130-1400.
- Motion passed to purchase 5 large salad bowls for the kitchen.

Upcoming Events:

- Labor Day indoor picnic will be on 7 Sept 2026. A cooler of cheer will be raffled on Labor Day.
- American Legion Post 166 Goose Creek is having a 25th Anniversary of 911 Remembrance Ceremony on 11 Sept 2026.

Americanism/Patriotism - PNC Laurie Bailey

Dates in History July/August:

- 29 Aug- USMC Reserves Founded (1916)
- 02 Sep- VJ Day - Japan signs Surrender (1945)
- 07 Sep- Labor Day
- 11 Sep- Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sunset
- 11 Sep- United We Stand/Patriot Day
- 13 Sep- Rosh Hashanah Ends at Nightfall
- 13 Sep- Grandparent's Day
- 17 Sep- Citizenship Day

Newsbytes: The Fleet Reserve Bulletin

The Newsbytes are sent to all FRA members from National via email. Archives direct [LINK](#)

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Newsbytes July 31, 2026

- ◇ Senate Blocks Both Veterans Packages
- ◇ Senate Examines VA Research Strain
- ◇ VA Tests GLP-1 for Alcohol Use
- ◇ Suicidal Thoughts Rise Among Veterans
- ◇ First USO Center Aboard a Cutter

Newsbytes August 7, 2026

- ◇ Trump Creates Military Spouse Commission
- ◇ VA Eases Claims for Fire-Damaged Records
- ◇ Senators Target Separation Pay Recoupment
- ◇ VA Restarts EHR Rollout

- ◇ Navy Seeks Temporary Sailor Housing

Newsbytes August 14, 2026

- ◇ Trump Orders Navy Shipbuilding Overhaul
- ◇ IG Flags Decay at Japan Bases
- ◇ Star Act Stalls Over Funding Fight
- ◇ George Washington to Relieve Lincoln
- ◇ VA Secures Record Drug Price Reductions
- ◇ VA Adoption Reimbursement for Infertility

Newsbytes August 21, 2026

- ◇ FRA Opens Fall VSO Course
- ◇ VA Launches Homeless Veteran Fund
- ◇ DHA Elevates Data and AI
- ◇ Navy OPTEMPO Exposes Logistics Failures
- ◇ GAO Faults Navy Blast Screening

Newsbytes August 28, 2026

- ◇ Troops Get Exposure Records
- ◇ Abbey Gate Valor Upgrades
- ◇ VA Health Records Reach Indiana
- ◇ New VA Records Portal
- ◇ Gulf War Recognition Push

BRANCH/UNIT 269 WEBSITE - fra269gc.org !!!!

Get your current and past newsletters and see upcoming events.

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]

Daily SCAM newsletters from Scamicide.com

Greetings Shipmates! As you know from the Security Corner articles, the goal is to share information with you about the ever-changing

scam environment. While it moved slowly in the early days, AI has enabled scammers to create more realistic looking scams delivered via messaging systems, phone calls and e-mails. Where in the past there were tips in the use of poor grammar and odd language that a message was a scam, AI has made significant progress in hiding the prior red flags we depended on.

So how do we keep up with the latest scams to make sure we don't become a victim? There is an excellent newsletter you can subscribe to that sends you a daily "Scam of the Day" e-mail message to keep you informed. You have two ways to get this information. You can visit the website at www.scamicide.com and look at the scam information it offers at the website directly. Another option is to subscribe to the newsletter and have it delivered to your e-mail address daily.

The website is hosted by Steve Weisman. So, who is Steve Weisman? From the website: "Steve is a nationally recognized expert in scams, identity theft and cybersecurity as well as a lawyer, college professor and prolific author. In his informative speeches, articles and books, Steve makes difficult subjects such as cybersecurity, scams and identity theft not only understandable, but enjoyable with the humor he brings to these complex issues. Steve Weisman is a lawyer, admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court He is a college professor at Bentley University where he teaches "White Collar Crime.""

The newsletter is very informative, and keeps up with the current scam activities in play. I highly recommend you visit the site, look at the materials that are there, and then sign up for the newsletter at the bottom of the webpage. It is a personal decision, but it is absolutely worth the effort. I receive a copy every day.

VA News by VAVS Branch Representative PRPSE Fred Bolz

VAVS Minutes and Newsbytes are posted on the bulletin board.

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VA launches psilocybin trial for Veterans with treatment-resistant depression

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs today announced the launch of a new clinical trial to evaluate the effectiveness and

safety of psilocybin to treat major depression in Veterans, including those with concurrent post-traumatic stress disorder.

The new trial comes after President Trump's recent executive order on "**Accelerating Medical Treatments for Serious Mental Illness**," which aims to increase clinical trial participation and accelerate innovative research models and drug approvals for psychedelic drugs.

VA's trial, titled "Psilocybin Intervention for Veterans Overcoming Treatment-Resistant Depression," or PIVOT, reflects VA's commitment to pursuing innovative solutions for Veterans who have not responded to existing treatments.

VA strongly discourages self-medicating or attempting to replace other mental health treatment options with psychedelics or any other unprescribed substances. Proven, evidence-based treatments, are currently available at VA facilities to treat Veterans with mental health conditions. Veterans should always consult their health care providers before making any treatment decisions.

VA launches psilocybin trial for Veterans with treatment-resistant depression

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VA RATED AT 0%, NOW WHAT?

Think a 0% VA disability rating means you get nothing? You could be overlooking valuable benefits and an important advantage if your condition gets worse. Watch the SITREP to learn why your 0% rating may be worth more than you realize.

If VA assigned you a 0% disability rating, don't assume your claim was denied. A denied claim and a 0% (non-compensable) disability rating are two very different outcomes. In this episode of The SITREP, we explain what a 0% rating really means, why service connection matters, the VA health care and prescription benefits that may be available for your service-connected condition, when you can file for an increased evaluation, and how a future increase to 10% or higher could unlock monthly tax-free disability compensation and additional VA benefits. If you've ever wondered whether your 0% rating has any value, this video is for you.

0% VA Rating Doesn't Mean Your Claim Was Denied | VA Service-Connection | VA Benefits | theSITREP

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How to Apply for the VA's Therapeutic Footwear Benefit

It starts with your VA care team. Here's how the actual benefit works, who qualifies, and how to request it.

As reported August 17 by Brandon Wile for *Military Times*, confusion around VA footwear benefits is common, and understandably so, since there isn't just one program. Two separate benefits get lumped together in conversation, plus a broader clinical service coordinates both. Here's how the system works. Any VA-enrolled veteran whose VA clinician determines therapeutic footwear is medically necessary can be referred for it. Diabetes is the most common qualifying condition, but it isn't the only one.

Neuropathy, peripheral arterial disease, foot deformities, pressure points, chronic swelling or edema, and prosthetic needs can all lead to a referral for specialized footwear. The process typically starts with a primary care or podiatry appointment. If footwear is clinically indicated, that provider writes a prescription and refers the veteran to VA's Orthotic, Prosthetic, and Pedorthic Clinical Services team, commonly called OPPCS, for measurement, fitting and issuance.

How to Start the Process

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VA launches trial of GLP-1 treatment for alcohol use disorder

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs today announced a new clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy of semaglutide, a GLP-1 receptor agonist used to treat diabetes, as treatment for alcohol use disorder (AUD).

Currently, more than 400,000 Veterans nationwide are diagnosed with AUD, and some estimates say AUD affects nearly 11% of U.S. adults.

Semaglutide has drawn scientific interest because it may affect parts of the brain related to how the body experiences rewards. An [analysis published in March](#) found that patients receiving GLP-1 medications experience lower rates of AUD and other substance use disorders compared with similar patients taking other diabetes medications.

VA launches trial of GLP-1 treatment for alcohol use disorder - VA News

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Hearing aids and supplies made easy

Order supplies online and get help with adjustments from home

Did you know that VA provides comprehensive hearing health care, including hearing aids, to all Veterans enrolled and eligible for VA care? We provide both in-person and virtual options. You can even order things like batteries and cleaning supplies through VA at no cost.

Untreated hearing loss can have serious impacts on your health, including depression, dementia, and cognitive decline. If you're experiencing hearing loss, don't wait to seek treatment. Find out how you can get started with audiology (hearing health care) at VA. And if hearing aids are right for you, learn how to maintain them from the comfort of your home.

Hearing aids and supplies made easy - My HealtheVet - My HealtheVet

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Healthy Sleep

Many Veterans experience sleep disorders, such as insomnia, obstructive sleep apnea, and service-related nightmares. These issues are often directly connected to military service, stress or conditions like PTSD.

Quality sleep is one of the most important foundations of good health, yet it is often one of the first things we sacrifice when life becomes busy. Getting enough restful sleep is essential, not only for our physical health, but also for our mental well-being, job performance, and overall quality of life.

Healthy sleep plays a vital role in helping our bodies recover and recharge. Consistently getting enough sleep can improve concentration, memory, mood, and decision-making while lowering the risk of chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity, and depression. For many Veterans, healthy sleep is also an important part of managing chronic pain, PTSD, anxiety, and other health conditions.

Small changes, such as maintaining a consistent sleep schedule, limiting screen time before bed, creating a comfortable sleep environment, and avoiding caffeine late in the day, can make a meaningful difference in the quality of your sleep and your overall health.

Pictures of these and other events can be viewed at
[269 Branch/Unit 269 Events/Pictures \[fra267gc.org/events\]](http://fra267gc.org/events)

Members of Unit 269 and Branch 269 traveled to the Veteran's Victory House in Walterboro SC to present lap robes, socks, clothing and books to the residents.



US COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY CAKE CUTTING



SOUTH EAST REGION CONVENTION



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

SEPTEMBER 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 <u>1900-2000</u> Sojourners Mtg	3 <u>1800</u> SUBVETS BOD	4	5
6 Free Pool	7 LABOR DAY <u>1130-1400</u> INDOOR PICNIC	8	9	10 <u>1900-2000</u> SUBVETS Mtg	11 PATRIOT DAY <u>1000-????</u> 25th 911 Remembrance Ceremony American Legion Post 166	12 <u>1000-1200</u> DAV Mtg <u>1500-2000</u> Retirement Party
13 Free Pool	14 <u>1800</u> Home Committee	15 <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch <u>1730</u> Unit Mtg	16 <u>1800-2000</u> Radio Club	17 <u>1800</u> Branch BOD <u>1900</u> Branch Mtg	18	19 <u>1000-1200</u> MilFrat Mtg <u>1800-2200</u> Pet Rescue Bingo
20 Free Pool	21	22 <u>1900</u> Sojourners Mtg	23	24 MCL	25 FRANK CABLE	26 FRANK CABLE
27 Free Pool	28 <u>1730</u> VVA Mtg <u>1900</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	29	30 <u>1800-2000</u> Marine Corps League			

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

OCTOBER 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 <u>1800</u> SUBVETS BOD	2	3
4 Free Pool	5	6	7 <u>1800-2000</u> Sojourners Mtg	8 <u>1900</u> SUBVETS Mtg	9	10 <u>1000</u> DAV Mtg
11 Free Pool	12 <u>1800</u> Home Committee	13 US NAVY BIRTHDAY <u>1130</u> Unit Lunch <u>1730</u> Unit Mtg	14 <u>1800-2000</u> Radio Club	15 <u>1800</u> Branch BOD <u>1900</u> Branch Mtg	16	17 <u>1000-1200</u> MilFrat Mtg
18 Free Pool	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Free Pool	26 <u>1730</u> VVA Mtg <u>1900</u> Carolina Coins Mtg	27	28	29 <u>1800-2000</u> Marine Corps League	30 <u>TBD</u> MOAA	31 HALLOWEEN

BRANCH 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—SEPTEMBER 2026

Life Members in **BOLD**

Benjamin Kluth Jr.	61	Ron Workman	26	Michael Sosa Jr.	14	Jonathan France	2
Donald Hanley	55	James Sherrow	25	William Cox	14	Jamaal Goss	2
Willard Burton Jr.	40	Jack Collier	24	Donald Langdon	11	Steven Harrison	2
Joseph Shea	38	Ronald Litzenberger	21	Jason Anderson	9	James Livingston	2
Larry Born	34	Sam Pennington	21	James Bellemare	7	Robert MacPherson	2
Robert Crenshaw	30	Parke Manuel	20	Vernice Smith Jr.	7	Warren Sparks	2
Michael Clemens	27	Donald Heinle	19	Clarence Peifer	5	Matthew Young	2
Charles Clore	26	Herbert Franklin	18	Earl Spurlock	5	Saralyn Young	2
Merrell Peterson	26	Michael Fusari	18	Kevin Crawford	3	Abigail Hinshelwood	1
Kenneth Seal	26	Rodney McKanna	17	Michelle Goad	3	Mac McCarthy	1
Franklin Shoenberger	26	Michael Hadbavny	15				

UNIT 269 CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP—SEPTEMBER 2026

Barbara Moyer	39	Sandra Medley	15	Linda Lunn	9	Brenda Frye	2
Wanda Seay	34	Charles Schuster	15	James Highberger	8	Jonathan Price	2
Carmela Day	22	Kathy Sorenson	15	Janice Highberger	7	Kathy Sumner	2
Anna Brown	18	Robin McKeown	12	Karen Hubert	7	Jeanette Walker	2

YOUR BIRTHDAY IS IN SEPTEMBER 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*

Edward Fisher	1	Richard Hair	7	Mike Sroka	13	Robert Ingebretson	21
Jeffrey Hamm	1	Kenneth Hutchison	7	<i>Gary Thomas</i>	13	<i>Holly Gordon</i>	22
Robert Richardson	1	Danny Trapp	7	Jason Anderson	14	Clarence Hall	22
Paul King	2	Robert Hedin	8	Michael Cousino	14	John Paul	22
Carla Passmore	2	Roland Kring	8	Thomas Jennings	14	<i>Cynthia Young</i>	22
<i>Carl Roach</i>	2	Robert Stancik	8	<i>Tammy Miller</i>	14	Raymond Clark	23
Shep Rogers Jr.	2	William Hunter	9	<i>Linda Nichols</i>	14	Michael Mercer	23
<i>Deborah Rullman</i>	2	Paul McHugh	9	James Wilcutt Jr.	14	John Tharp	23
Joseph Shea	2	Steven Blaisdell	10	Edward Bowles	16	<i>Annie Bain</i>	24
Robert Windrow	2	John Glass	10	<i>Linda Vinson</i>	17	Michael Fremen	24
James Breen	3	Gary Hinks	10	Thomas Chilton	18	<i>Benita Kinlaw</i>	24
Dennis Lanier	3	Robert Lopez	10	Mike Ciesielko	18	<i>Curtis March</i>	24
Alan Lincoln	3	Daniel Mckiemman	10	<i>Anna Brown</i>	19	Raymond McKinley III	24
Charles Szad	3	<i>Joseph Taschner</i>	10	Patrick Demody	19	<i>Jeanette Walker</i>	24
Jeffrey Kirksey	4	David Greeno	11	<i>Brian Murphy</i>	19	Scott Salisbury	24
<i>Eva Sollo</i>	4	Daron Myers	11	Don Pace	19	Benjamin Becker	26
<i>Kimberly Vandiver</i>	4	Robert Stodola	11	Wayne Suckow Jr.	19	Bruce Tucker	26
<i>Jessica Murphy</i>	5	David Taschner	11	Michael Markiewicz	20	Oscar Diano	27
<i>Wanda Seay</i>	5	William Lindler	12	James Turner Jr.	20	William Dunsing	27
Allen Katen	6	<i>Michael Steele</i>	12	Milton Willoughby	20	Louis Bishop	28
Larry Knutson	6	Randall Bolin	13	Robert Bear	21	Thomas Evans	28
Dennis Cox	7	Don Kopczynski	13	Michael Clemens	21	Louis Goehring	28
Charles Gravley	7	Kevin Scott	13	Michelle Goad	21	<i>Mary Johnson</i>	28
						Earl Goodell	30

BRANCH 269

BRANCH OFFICERS

President: Ken Hutchison
Vice President: Wayne Suckow
Secretary: Sarah Ihme
Treasurer: PNP Don Mucheck
Jr. Past President: Don Barton

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PNC Laurie Bailey	Tim Bailey
PRPSE Fred Bolz	Glenn Little
Ernest Culbreath	LC Mills
Larry Pepper	Ed Peters
Artie Sattler	Bobbie Sutton
John Tharp	Ken Wallace

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz
Chaplain: Bobbi Sutton
Essay Contest: PNC Laurie Bailey
Legislative Affairs: PRPSE Fred Bolz
VAWS: 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: Gale Nathan PNC
Treasurer: Gale Nathan PNC
Recording Secretary: Marilyn Tharp
Jr. Past President: Ann Griffith

UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne Barton	Ann Griffith
Theresa Milligan	Linda Nichols
Sue Peters	JonAnne Sattler
Marilyn Tharp	Kim Vandiver

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE

CHAIRS

Amer/Patriotism: Nellie Kirtley
Chaplain: Theresa Milligan/
Linda Nichols
Hospital: Theresa Milligan
Membership: Debbie Breeze
Publicity: Debbie Breeze
Sergeant-at-Arms: Kathy Sorenson
Ship's Store: Sue Peters
Unit Activities: All Members
VAWS: 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

Frabranh269@comcast.net

Home Chairman: Nate Nathan
Admin Secretary: Sarah Ihme
Financial Sec: PNP Don Mucheck
Director: Sue Peters
Director: Kim Vandiver
Director: Ernest Culbreath
Director: John Tharp
Director: Bobbi Sutton
Director: Linda Nichols
Director: Debbie Breeze
Director: Nick Nichols
Home Managers: Larry Pepper
Bob Zauner
Don Garrard



SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

It's that time of the year again — the back-to-school shopping season.

Let's begin with a head start. On the bar side there is a box, please donate to help community schools.

With the start of the 2026-2027 academic school year just weeks away, before you head out to the store to begin back-to-school shopping, check out this list of recommended school supplies for students of all grade-levels, plus much more.

Notebooks, #2 pencils, loose Leaf paper, Crayola, Pens, lunch boxes, toilet paper, hand sanitize, tissues.



251st Navy Ball

81 Years of Naval Service to the Low Country



17 October 2026
Red Bank Commons
1700-2300

251st Charleston Ball

Click [here](#) or use the QR code

Tickets: Active, Reserve, Retired, Spouse same price

E1-E9 - \$55.20 per person

[includes \$5.20 processing]

01-010 and civilians - \$81.88 per person

[includes \$6.88 processing]

MENU: Catered by Paige's Okra Grill

Hors d'oeuvres: Bacon Wrapped Shrimp

ENTREES: Smoked Brisket Country Fried with White Pepper Gravy; Honey Glazed Salmon

Sides: Baked Mac N Cheese; Red Rice

Desserts: Banana Pudding



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#

Are you a previous FRA member?

EMAIL ADDRESS

☐ 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
AUGUST 20, 2026**

Shipmate President Kenneth Hutchison called the regular Board of Directors meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order at 1800, Thursday, August 20, 2026, in accordance with FRA Rituals.

Board Members present:

PRPSE Fred Bolz	PNC Laurie Bailey	Tim Bailey	Ken Hutchison
Larry Pepper	Ernest Culbreath	John Tharp	Wayne Suckow
Artie Sattler	Glenn Little	Ken Wallace	PNP Don Muckeck
Bobbi Sutton	LC Mills	Ed Peters	Sarah Ihme
			Don Barton

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism: PNC Laurie Bailey

Will discuss Essay Contest award changes at the General Assembly. The next cycle of the Essay Contest is beginning. Schools and past participants will be notified in September.

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz

The annual report of Branch Bylaws review will be voted on at the General Assembly.

Legislative Service: PRPSE Fred Bolz

Will give report at the General Assembly.

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton

Two-Bell at the General Assembly for MMCS Richard Owen Wise, RMCM Harry E. Kirk, QMCM William Charles Reed, MM2/CM1(SS) Thomas L. Skorepa, PRPSE Gerald T. Brice

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Will give report at the General Assembly.

Youth Activities: Ed Peters

Local High School football games begin this week.

Public Relations: John Tharp

Will give report at the General Assembly.

Ways and Means: Bob Zauner (for Larry Pepper)

Will give report at the General Assembly.

Golf: Bob Zauner (for Larry Pepper)

Will give report at the General Assembly.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little
Will give report at the General Assembly.

Home Committee Report: Nate Nathan
Will give report at the General Assembly.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Southeast Region will not host a National Convention. Discussed Branch 269 potentially hosting the 2028 Southeast Regional Convention, with the possibility of holding Branch meetings at the Home and Auxiliary meetings at the American Legion.

NEW BUSINESS

Tallahassee Branch 34 is asking for donations for a Navy Monument/Memorial to be placed at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. After discussion, the Board agreed not to make a Branch donation; however, individual donations will be accepted.

- **MOTION:** PNC Laurie Bailey moved, and S/M Bob Zauner seconded, to not donate to Branch 34 at this time. Motion carried.

A donation toward the purchase of school supplies for the Auxiliary was discussed.

- **MOTION:** PRPSE Fred Bolz moved, and S/M Artie Sattler seconded, to pass the hat at the General Assembly meeting for donations for school supplies. Motion carried.

American Legion Post 166 requested Branch 269's participation in the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony.

- **MOTION:** PRPSE Fred Bolz moved, and PNP Don Muccheck seconded, that Branch 269 participate in the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. After discussion, the Branch decided to place an artificial wreath. Motion carried.

Invoice from IONOS for \$77.73 was received and paid using the FRA Home Corporate Card.

- **MOTION:** PNP Don Muccheck moved, and S/M Artie Sattler seconded, to reimburse the Home \$77.73 for this cost. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

A National Bylaws Resolution recommending the combination of Americanism and Patriotism, Public Relations, and Youth Activities will be voted on at the National Convention.

The minutes for the Board of Directors, the Home Committee, and the General Assembly meetings are always at the end of the newsletter on the website.

S/M Laurie Bailey moved, and PRPSE Fred Bolz seconded, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1847.

**FRA LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2026**

Shipmate President Ken Hutchison called the regular meeting of Low Country Branch 269 to order on Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 1900, in accordance with the FRA Rituals.

Charter Draping: The Branch Charter was draped in memory of PRPSE Gerald T. Brice.

Visitors: Members of the Auxiliary

Shipmates Initiated: None

Minutes: Published in the newsletter. The minutes were approved as published.

Communications:

Letter from American Legion Post 166 regarding a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony
NPSL 8-26 National Convention Appeal for Donations to FRA Funds
NPSL 9-26 Establishment of 5-Year Strategic Plan Ad-Hoc Committee
NPSL 10-26 Membership Change to the 5-Yr Strategic Plan Ad-Hoc Committee
NEDM 31-26 Falu NVP Nominating Resolution
NEDM 32-26 Natl Convention Resolutions - with Attachment
NEDM 20-26 Revised: Rescission of Branch 091 PCT Suspension
NEDM 34-26 Expenditure of HWR Funds - Albin (NBR 66-26)
NEDM 35-26 Expenditure of Funds from Disaster Relief - Parker (NBR 67-26)
NEDM 36-26 Expenditure of Funds from Disaster Relief - Butts (NBR 68-26)
NEDM 37-26 Expenditure of Funds from Disaster Relief - Jones (NBR 69-26)
FRA Q1 2026 Balance Sheet
FRA Q1 2026 Income Statement
FRA Q2 2026 Balance Sheet
FRA Q2 2026 Income Statement

Treasurer's Report:

The report for the period of June 28 – July 27 is as follows:

General Checking: \$2,775.49	Savings Account: \$5,203.96
Certificate of Deposit: \$12,599.76	
Total: \$20,579.21	

The Convention Checking account with Navy Federal has been closed.
All bills received to date have been paid.

Continuous Membership:

August 2026

Dana Johnson – 25 Years

F. Bower – 10 Years

Larry Larkins – 25 Years
Carl Miller – 20 Years
Linwood Murrow – 20 Years

Ray Bryant – 10 Years
John Adams – 5 Years

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism – PNC Laurie Bailey

Dates in History August/September:

29 August – USMC Reserves Founded (1916)
02 September – VJ Day – Japan Signs Surrender 1945
07 September – Labor Day
11 September – Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sunset
11 September – United We Stand/Patriot Day
13 September – Rosh Hashanah Ends at Nightfall
13 September – Grandparents' Day
17 September – Citizenship Day

By-Laws: PRPSE Fred Bolz

The annual report of the Branch Bylaws review was presented under New Business.

A committee consisting of PRPSE Fred Bolz, PNC Laurie Bailey, PNP Don Mucke, S/M Wayne Suckow, and President Ken Hutchison will review National Bylaws resolutions to make recommendations for National. These recommendations will be presented at the September General Assembly meeting.

Legislative Service: PRPSE Fred Bolz

South Carolina Legislation passed 25-26 House Bill 4799 – An act to amend the South Carolina Code of Laws by amending Section 44-7-170, relating to Certificate of Need exemptions, to provide that veterans' homes owned or operated by the Department of Veterans' Affairs do not require a Certificate of Need.

South Carolina Legislation passed Senate Bill 0695 – An act to amend the South Carolina Code of Laws to enact the "South Carolina Safeguarding American Veterans' Benefits Act"; and by adding Article 8 to Chapter 11, Title 25, to provide definitions, set guidelines and limits for compensation, memorialize terms, and state penalties for noncompliance.

Hospital, Welfare, and Rehabilitation: Bobbi Sutton

Two-Bell for MMCS Richard Owen Wise, RMCM Harry E. Kirk, QMCM William Charles Reed, CM1 Thomas L. Skorepa, PRPSE Gerald T. Brice.

Larry Pepper is at Trident Medical Center.

Charlie Pyatt is at Encompass following a stroke.

Ken Farrell has completed his second radiation treatment.

Pete Garrison has been diagnosed with throat cancer.

Membership and Retention: Ken Wallace

Total active members: 700

New Join/Reinstated: Dwight Koehn, Joe O'Saben, Kimberly Timmerman, Gregory Webb, William Wood

Past Due: Harold Clayton, James Crump, William Dunsing, Earl Ham, James Harrison, David Harvey, Harold Herrington, Daniel Johnson, Raymond McKinley III, Daron Myers, John Pontieri, Linsey Rogers, Michael Sparks

Ready to Renew: Charles Clore, William Cox, Robert Crenshaw, Craig Farr, Jonathan France, Rogelio Fulgencio, Michael Fusari, Peter Garrison, Jamaal Goss, Sherman Hostetter, Jeri Larson, Charles Lewis, Mitchell Nappier, Merrell Peterson, Sheri Ragan, Cubit Robinson, Bob Segal, Joseph Shea, Franklin Shoenberger, Michael Sosa Jr., Earl Spurlock, Ryan Stevenson, Craig Wold, Matthew Young, Saralyn Young, Robert Zauner

Term NPD: David Chapman, Roger Fincher, Jericho Garcia, John Murphy, Gerald Ott, Cecil Skipworth, Jack Wrbanich

Term Dec: John Hoyt

Active Unit Members:

Youth Activities: Ed Peters
Local High School football games begin this week.

Public Relations: John Tharp
There are 16 National Resolutions that will be voted on at the upcoming National Convention. These resolutions can be found on the FRA website under Official Communications.

Ways and Means: Bob Zauner (for Larry Pepper)
Get your 50/50 and steak dinner tickets.

Golf: Bob Zauner (for Larry Pepper)
The base continues to have restrictions limiting entry to the golf course. No tournaments planned at this time.

Budget and Finance: Glenn Little
The audit and budget will be prepared for the next meeting.

Home Committee Report: Nate Nathan
Balances as of 15 August 26: Checking \$2,044.07; Savings \$50,504.06; Credit Card \$3,185.85; Pending Deposits \$1,996; Registers/Change Funds \$11,500.00; Total Cash \$69,230.58
The next cash audit will be held about 12 September 2026.
Net Profit (Loss): July \$10,035.15; YTD (\$781.34)

Labor Day indoor picnic will be on 07 September 2026. A cooler of cheer will be raffled.

Thanksgiving dinner is being planned for Thursday, 26 November. There will be a sign-up book behind the bar. More details will be coming soon.

The committee discussed holding all Home special events at the same time and voted to have all Home special events 1130 – 1400.

The committee voted to purchase 5 large salad bowls for the kitchen.

A suggestion was made to publicize the kitchen's weekend operating hours to encourage additional mealtime business when the kitchen is open. The Special Events Committee will develop a plan to promote the hours.

Next meeting: 14 Sept 2026 at 1800

The Home Bylaws were reviewed on 19 August 2026. Recommended changes will be voted on at the September General Assembly meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The Southeast Region Convention was recently held in Warner Robins, GA. No branches came forward to host the 2027 Southeast Region Convention. A special committee was appointed and approved to plan the 2027 convention. Branch 269 has been approached about hosting the 2028 Southeast Region Convention.

The Branch Bylaw Committee met on 01 August 2026. The following six recommendations were presented for membership review and vote.

- **Change 1:** Article 4 Section 408(a) Section 408(a)(2) – Change to Committee on Veterans Service and Legislative Service. Motion by PRPSE Fred Bolz, seconded by PNC Laurie Bailey. Motion carried.
- **Change 2:** Article 7 Committees and their Duties Section 702 – Change to Veterans Service and Legislative Service. Motion by PRPSE Fred Bolz, seconded by PNC Laurie Bailey. Motion carried.
- **Change 3:** Article 7 Section 702(a) and Section 702(b) – Reverse titles and reword to read Section 702(a) Veterans Service (Description of the committee) Section 702(b) Legislative Service (Description of the committee). Motion by PRPSE Fred Bolz, seconded by PNP Don Mucheck. Motion carried.
- **Change 4:** Article 7 Section 706(a) – Delete “The Branch Chaplain shall be the Chairman of said Committee”. Motion by PRPSE Fred Bolz, seconded by PNC Laurie Bailey. Motion carried.
- **Change 5:** Article 9 Section 904(a) – Place a period after Monthly and delete the rest of the sentence. All resale items must go through the Board of Directors. Motion by PRPSE Fred Bolz, seconded by S/M Tim Bailey. Motion carried.
- **Change 6:** Article 10 Section 1006 – Delete all after the word “awards” and insert “on an annual basis, the Chairman of the American Essay Contest shall make a recommendation as to the amounts to be awarded to each winner in each grade”. Motion by PRPSE Fred Bolz, seconded by S/M Glenn Little. Motion carried.

Due to the Bylaws changes, the A&P Chairman will determine essay award amounts annually. For this year, the Chairman recommended \$200 for first-place winners and \$300 for the overall winner. Second and third-place winners will receive certificates.

- **MOTION:** PNC Laurie Bailey moved, and PRPSE Fred Bolz seconded, to approve these recommendations. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

American Legion Post 166 will host a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony honoring military personnel who served and first responders. Branch 269 will participate by placing a wreath. The ceremony will be held on September 11 at 1000.

S/M Ray Stanfield provided an update on Thanksgiving dinner plans. Two \$500 donations have been received toward the event. Flyers will be posted, and a sign-up book will be available at the bar. Sysco will also donate food items for the event.

Unit Report: NFS Pat Suckow, PNP

A member of Unit 22 made and donated a new wreath for the Auxiliary.

Thanks to everyone for support and donations toward the Veterans Victory House.

The Unit will begin supporting Goose Creek Manor. There are 19 women and 25 men, including three veterans.

Thanksgiving dinner is being planned to support veterans, first responders, and their families. Cash donations, desserts, and side dishes will be accepted, and volunteers to help will be appreciated. This event will be free to veterans, spouses, and first responders. Guests will be \$5.

The Auxiliary is accepting donations for school supplies. Donations were taken during the meeting, raising \$205.

Unit 269 took first place in every category at the Southeast Regional Convention.

The next luncheon will be on Tuesday, September 15 at 1130 at the Home. The next meeting will be September 15 at 1730.

The Two-Bell ceremony was conducted.

Meeting adjourned at 1959.

Auxiliary of the FRA, Unit 269
FRA Home, Goose Creek, SC
Minutes, August 18, 2026

President, Pat Suckow NFS/PNP, called the regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

Visitors: (None)

Drape the Charter: (None).

Roll Call of Officers. President Pat Suckow NFS/PNP, Vice President Debbie Breeze, Treasurer/Secretary Gale Nathan PNC, Recording Secretary Marilyn Tharp, Chaplain Theresa Milligan, Co-Chaplain Linda Nichols were present. Parliamentarian Ann Griffith was absent.

Roll Call of Board of Directors., Sue Peters, Linda Nichols, and Theresa Milligan were present. JonAnne Sattler, Kim Vandiver, Ann Griffith and Anne Barton were absent.

Other members attending: Nellie Kirtley, Dee Wallace, Laurie Douty, Eva Sollo, Brenda Frye and Kathy Sorenson.

New Member Initiation. (None).

Minutes for July were presented, with one correction under Unfinished Business/Veterans Victory House/last sentence -- \$400, vice \$200, was allocated for party snacks, etc. Minutes stand approved as revised.

Membership Report. (Debbie Breeze)

Members as of April 1 -- 200; Reinstated - 3; New - 9; Transferred In - 0; Transferred Out -- 0; Resigned -- 0; Non-Payment -- 6; Deceased -- 2; Ineligible -- 0; Other -- 0; Active Members -- 204.

Treasurer's Report. (Gale Nathan)

Balance brought forward: \$16,244.11. Disbursements: \$1,815.38. PCT Auto Deposits: \$262.50. Other Deposits: \$450.00. Checking account balance \$15,141.23. Savings: \$3,165.11. Balance on hand: \$18,306.34.

Bills to be paid: (None)

Chaplain Report: (Theresa Milligan)

12 -- Birthday cards

1 -- Get Well cards to Bonita Martin, Shipmate Charlie Pyatt, Linda Walton, Becky Moseley

2 -- Thinking of you card to Faye Pyatt, wife of Charlie Pyatt

3 -- Sympathy card sent to Patty Martin, sister of Bonita Martin

Hospital Report: (Theresa Milligan)

No hospital visits required

VAVS Report: (Theresa Milligan)

VA Snack Table will be this Friday, Aug 21. Those working it are Theresa Milligan, Dee Wallace, Presilla Willbanks, and Kathy Sorenson. It was suggested to take the remaining supply of donated wheelchair pockets to distribute as needed.

The Clinic is still in need of coffee cups & creamer.

Correspondence: (Marilyn Tharp)

None received.

Activities: (All Members).

No Golf Tournament scheduled.

Americanism/Patriotism: (Nellie Kirkley)

July 21	-- Guam Liberation Day (1944)
July 27	-- Korean War Armistice (1953)
July 30	-- WAVES Established (1942)
August 4	-- USCG Birthday (1790)
August 4	-- Vietnam Conflict Began (1964)
August 7	-- Purple Heart Day
August 10	-- Agent Orange Awareness Day
August 14	-- National Navajo Code Talkers Day
August 14	-- VJ Day (Japanese Surrender) (1945)

Audit: (Sue Peters)

Next audit will be on September 12 at 11:30

Publicity: (Debbie Breeze)

No report.

Welfare / Rehabilitation: (Sue Peters)

The Unit is now collecting school supplies for Berkeley County Elementary School. A flyer of needs can be found on the collection bin in the bar. The school is in need of toilet paper, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, copy paper, etc., as well as the basics of crayons, binders, pens/pencils.

Youth Activities: (Anne Barton, Gale Nathan)

No report.

Ship's Store: (Sue Peters)

She is now taking orders for Unit Shirts. Cost is \$30 each, which is paid when shirt is received.

Unfinished Business:

President Suckow presented the new Unit memorial wreath which was made by a member of Unit 22 (Florida). Our Unit name still needs painted on the streamers.

Debbie Breeze thanked everyone who helped with the Veterans Victory House visit. Unit members attending were Debbie Breeze, Marilyn Tharp, Gale Nathan, Theresa Milligan, DJ Cox, and Ann Griffith. Branch members attending were Bobbi Sutton and Laurie Bailey.

Debbie Breeze suggested the Unit start supporting Goose Creek Manor, located on Maryland Street in Goose Creek. Currently they have 19 women and 25 men including 3 Veterans. Further discussion was tabled to next month's meeting,

New Business:

Pat Suckow gave a briefing on initial Thanksgiving Day plans. She stressed this is not officially a Branch or Unit project. Those invited will be active-duty military who are unable to celebrate with their families, also 911 operators, fire crews, police, and other first responders who are on duty that day. Cost to attendees will be \$5 each. Ray Dean will create flyers and sign-up sheets to be taken to various bases around the greater Charleston area. Unit members are asked to consider donating a dessert, side dish or cash. Gale Nathan made a motion to provide \$500 to help buy foods. Linda Nichols seconded the motion. Motion carried. Debbie Breeze will see that it is posted on Facebook at a time closer to Thanksgiving. Pat Suckow will have donation sheets available at the October meeting.

Debbie Breeze provided information on the 9/11 remembrance ceremony to be hosted by the American Legion starting at 10:00 on Sept 11. The FRA & Unit are invited as well as the VFW, media, first responders, fire, police, etc. All members are encouraged to attend. Pat Suckow and Marilyn Tharp were designated to represent the Unit.

Good of the Order:

The Secretary said she would provide a synopsis of the Southeast Region Convention at next month's meeting. She apologized for not having a report ready for this meeting.

Dates to remember:

Sept 7 -- Labor Day

Sept 11 -- Patriots Day.

Sept 27 -- Gold Star Mother's Day

September 29-October 2 – National Convention, Orleans Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas,
NV

The next Unit Luncheon will be held Tuesday, September 15 at 11:30, at the Fleet Home.

Please RSVP to Debbie Breeze (843-343-5489) so proper seating can be available.

The next Unit meeting will be held Tuesday, September 15 18, at 5:30 at the Fleet.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

After-meeting further business conducted:

Theresa Milligan made a motion, seconded by Gale Nathan to allocate \$200 for VA Snack Table supplies (coffee, creamer, cups, etc.) Since a majority of the Unit Board of Directors were still present, motion carried.

FRA LOW COUNTRY HOME COMMITTEE MEETING

August 17, 2026

S/M Nate Nathan called the FRA Low Country Home Committee meeting to order at 1800 on Monday, August 17, 2026.

Board Members Present: Shipmates Nate Nathan, Sarah Ihme, PNP Don Muckeek, Ernest Culbreath, John Tharp, Bobbi Sutton, and Nick Nichols; Ladies Sue Peters, Linda Nichols, and Debbie Breeze

Other Members Present: Shipmates Home Managers Larry Pepper and Bob Zauner, PRPSE Fred Bolz, President Ken Hutchison, Lady Marilyn Tharp

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

Financial Reports

Auditors: PNP Don Muckeek, Shipmates John Tharp, Ken Hutchison, and Lady Debbie Breeze
Balances as of 15 August 26: Checking \$2,044.07; Savings \$50,504.06; Credit Card \$3,185.85; Pending Deposits \$1,996; Registers/Change Funds \$11,500.00; Total Cash \$69,230.58
The next cash audit will be held about 12 September 2026.

Net Profit (Loss): July \$10,035.15; YTD (\$781.34)

The Financial Reports were accepted.

Building and Grounds / Special Events Manager's Report:

Labor Day indoor picnic will be on 07 September 2026. A cooler of cheer will be raffled on Labor Day.

Old Business

Thanksgiving dinner is being planned for Thursday, 26 November. There will be a sign-up book behind the bar. More details will be coming soon.

A committee will meet this Wednesday, August 19th at 1800 to review the Home bylaws.

New Business

The committee discussed holding all Home special events at the same time.

- **MOTION:** S/M Nick Nichols moved, and Lady Debbie Breeze seconded, that Home special events be held 1100 – 1400. Following discussion, S/M Nick Nichols amended the motion to change the time to 1130 – 1400 for Home special events. The amended motion carried.

The kitchen needs large salad bowls.

- **MOTION:** Lady Linda Nichols moved, and S/M John Tharp seconded, that five salad bowls be purchased. Motion carried.

Good of the Order

A suggestion was made to publicize the kitchen's weekend operating hours to encourage additional mealtime business when the kitchen is open. The Special Events Committee will develop a plan to promote the hours.

Next meeting: 14 Sept 2026 at 1800

MOTION: S/M Sarah Ihme moved, and Lady Linda Nichols seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1847.