



# Shipmates' Report

## FRA Branch 99 Newsletter



SERVING ACTIVE DUTY, FORMER ACTIVE DUTY AND RETIRED MEMBERS OF  
THE UNITED STATES NAVY, MARINE CORPS AND COAST GUARD SINCE 1967

DAYTIME OFFICE PHONES: 499-6650/499-1155 BRANCH WEB SITE: [www.fra99.com](http://www.fra99.com)

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January-February 2010

### MEMBERSHIP

#### New Members

A Warm Welcome to all new members of Branch 99. Come to the next Branch meeting on January 13th to meet your new Shipmates. Meetings are held at 1900 on the second Wednesday of each month. Please Check your calendar. If you come you may win a **free meal**.

James L. Bedeaux, Patricia Bermudez, Alicia A. Bowers, Justin M. Brown, John Cutrone, Randal L. Darrah, Shamecka L. Dinkins, Jessica Gallegos, Preston Gaymon, Joanne Grant, George F. Helms, Eva May, Rosa Montgomery, Henry Ocegueda, Kent Roseman, Stephen Shepherd, Sheron Watson,

#### Taps

The following Shipmates have joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander:

Francis L. Paul,	<b>AKCM, USN, Ret</b>
George Dean Piggott	<b>MM2, USN, Ret</b>
Paul D. White	<b>AZCS, USN, Ret</b>

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### - Membership

S/M Vice President Ed Rainey reported that there were 1,317 total members, transferred in 4, transferred out 3, 35 past due, new join 17.



#### The Prez Sez:

Shipmates:

It's hard to believe another year has come to an end. I can say that we, Branch 99, closed it out with one with one of the greatest, if not the greatest, Branch Christmas Party that I can remember. Along with this, Branch 99 has more than maintained the highest respect in the Fleet Reserve Association. Think back, when I told you, when asked who are you, to answer, "**We are Branch 99.**" Shipmates, each of you, in one way, or another, has made Branch 99 what we are today. Take pride in what you have done. I salute you, and extend to one and all, my most hearty "**Bravo Zulu.**" Wishing you a most healthy and prosperous New Year.

*Charlie*

- **BINGO**

S/M Norm Gapter reports that they are always in need of Bingo volunteers, especially in need of a "Caller". S/M Gapter also requested that a new Bingo Manager step forward because he may be unable to carry on.

- **Budget and Finance**

The Budget is balanced and the Branch is in Good Financial Shape.

- **HOSPITAL AND WELFARE**

S/M Jim Griffin reports S/M John Brown is in the rehab center at Riverpoint on Bonney Road Virginia Beach. S/M Jim Griffin states S/M Brown has occurred a lot of bills see S/M Griffin after the meeting for a donation.

A Two Bell Ceremony to Honor our Departed Shipmates was held by S/M Chaplain Adrian Knight and S/M MAA John Schweers.

- **AWARDS CEREMONY**

S/M Fuji Fujimoto –40 yr Cont Membership Pin  
S/M Cathy Chiari – Honorary Membership

**Winners of One Year Free Membership:**

- Shipmate Jim Griffin
- Shipmate Dan Kenney

Plaques were Presented to

- S/M Perambo by S/M President Baldwin for Outstanding Performance in the Branch Home.
- Cathy Chiari by S/M President Baldwin for recognition as an Honorary Member FRA

- **GOOD OF THE ORDER.**

Shipmates, At the Branch Xmas Party, I asked our distinguished guest's, Shipmate NVP Jim Scarbro, and Shipmate RPEC Joe Palmer if they would put together a "Skit," if you will, and make a presentation to Shipmate Chiari, (newly elected Branch 99 Honorary Life Member, FRA.) It was decided that when Shipmate Chiari was escorted to the podium, Shipmate Palmer would ask that He and Shipmate Scarbro approach the podium. Having done so, Shipmate Palmer informed Shipmate Chiari that she was out of uniform, and that She turnover her garrison cap to Him. Most in attendance, was shocked, and wondered what was going on. All their questions were answered, when Shipmate Scarbro and Shipmate Palmer, placed on Her head the proper FRA Honorary Life Member garrison cap. Now you know the "Rest of the story." **Charlie**

**Americanism Essay Contest**

Shipmates the essay contest has been moving along quite well. We received one hundred thirty four essays. The judging of the essays is complete, except for the overall winner.

I would like to give a special thank you to the shipmates who judged the essays, for their quick turnaround and an excellent job.

Cindy Hefty

Americanism/Patriotism

***Americanism Essay Winners***

This year's Theme was: "What Memorial Day Means To Me"

Here are this year's winners:

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Trisian Blair, Star of the Sea Catholic MS, 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Wyatt Lam, Star of the Sea Catholic MS, 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Morgan Pearce, Star of the Sea Catholic MS

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Julianna Leguria, Star of the Sea Catholic MS, 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Mackenzie Jones, Home School, 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Alexis Greer, Star of the Sea Catholic MS

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Hannah White, Home School, 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Kylea Moyer, Princess Anne HS, 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Nicholas Gales, West Johnston HS Clayton NC

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> ~Bria Hill, Churchland HS, 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Bryce Herbert, Churchland HS, 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Sarah E. Sawyer, Regent Academy

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Rachel Seaman, Broadwater Academy, Painter, VA, 2<sup>nd</sup> ~ Zachary Bartlett, Churchland HS, & 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Jeremiah Coffield, Churchland HS

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 1<sup>st</sup> ~ Julie Coursen, Princess Anne HS, 2<sup>nd</sup> ~Danielle Jessie, First Colonial HS, 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Christopher Cronin, Landstown HS

All winners will receive bonds, plaques and certificates. First place bond: \$500, Second place bond: \$200 and Third place bond: \$100. An overall winner will be selected from the First Place winners in each grade and will be announced during the Americanism night ceremonies on 10 February 2010 starting at 1900. The location will be the Roma Lodge on Magic Hollow Road.

### Coming Events:

01 Jan- New Years Day  
13 Jan –Branch Meeting  
17 Jan- Persian Gulf War began-1991  
27 Jan- Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord-1973  
31 Jan- Breakfast

01 Feb- National Freedom Day  
02 Feb- Groundhog Day  
10 Feb- Americanism/Patriotism awards Roma Lodge  
12 Feb- Lincoln’s Birthday  
14 Feb- Valentine’s Day  
15 Feb- President’s Day  
22 Feb- Washington’s Birthday  
28 Feb- Breakfast

### Local Restaurants Support FRA Branch 99

In a program initiated by our Branch President, Charlie Baldwin, local Restaurants are providing donations of dinner meal gift certificates to encourage attendance at monthly Branch General Membership meetings. These certificates are presented as prizes in drawings held at Branch meetings. The restaurants’ support of our non-profit veterans association is greatly appreciated. Those that are currently participating are:

**Aberdeen Barn Steak House**  
5805 Northampton Blvd. Virginia Beach

**ABUELO’S**  
1712 Ring Road, Chesapeake, VA

**Applebee’s (Kempsville)**  
1426 Kempsville Road, Virginia Beach

**Applebee’s ((Loehmann’s Plaza)**  
4040 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach

**Bubba’s Deli & BBQ**  
3600 Dam Neck Road, Virginia Beach

**Bubba’s Crab House & Seafood**  
3323 Shore Drive, Virginia Beach

**Carrabba’s Italian Grill**  
1217 Battlefield Blvd. N. Chesapeake

**Carrabba’s Italian Grill**  
739 Lynnhaven Pkwy. Virginia Beach

**Cheeseburger in Paradise**  
739 Lynnhaven Pkwy. Virginia Beach

**Conklin’s IRISH ROVER**  
3157 Virginia Beach Blvd, Virginia Beach

**Famous Uncle Al’s Hot Dogs**  
3972 Holland Rd. Virginia Beach

**Frankie’s Place for Ribs**  
3333 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach

**Keagan’s (Town Center)**

244 Market St. Virginia Beach

**Lynnhaven Fish House**  
2350 Starfish Rd. Virginia Beach

**Max & Erma’s**  
4512 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach

**Ruby Tuesday**  
4488 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach

**Smackwater Jack’s**  
3333 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach

**Texas Road House**  
1546 Sam’s Circle, Chesapeake, Virginia

**TGI Friday**  
796 Lynnhaven Pkwy. Virginia Beach

**TGI Friday**  
110 Volvo Pkwy. Chesapeake, Virginia

**The Raven Restaurant**  
1200 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach

The support of these participating restaurants is appreciated, so when you are dining out, patronize them. And if you go to one of them with a free meal coupon, remember to tip the waiter for the full value of the check, before the discount. (He/ She is working hard for a living and is not the one donating the free meal.) Remember to thank the manager.

### **EDITORS NOTE:**

**This Editor is soliciting inputs from Branch Members regarding “Know your Shipmate”. If you know someone who has had a Colorful Career (or just a “hard working stiff” who deserves to be recognized. Please contact me at the Branch Home, email or phone number as listed below. I’ll be glad to do all of the “legwork” all that’s needed are some particulars (and of course their permission). I’m sure that we have many worthy candidates**

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**~INSIDE~**

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**SHIPMATES' REPORT**

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**Recruiting new members is a never-ending requirement for a successful Branch.**

Printer - Please insert **NEW FRA** Membership application attached  
And **RETAIN** for future use