



# 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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### The Prez Sez:

Shipmates:

One of the more important events that has taken place since my last report, was the Branch Installation, that was held on 9 June, 2010, at the Roma Lodge. (See column on inside page.) I am happy to report that construction of the new storage barn has been completed, and the site plans for the renovation of the Parking lot will soon be going to the City of Virginia Beach for approval. Shipmates, this is a most exciting and productive era for our Branch. I encourage You to come aboard, and spend some time with your Shipmates.

The word is **CAMARADERIE**.

# Charlie

### Kempsville Branch 99, FRA General Assembly Meeting and Installation/Dinner

Social hour started at **1800** hours followed by dinner at **1900** hours. A good turn out and an excellent meal was provided (as usual) resulting in a very enjoyable evening for all.

The monthly meeting and installation of Branch **99** convened at **2000** hours on **9 June, 2010** at the **Roma Lodge**, 3097 Magic Hollow Boulevard, Virginia Beach, Virginia, with Shipmate President Charles Baldwin presiding. The proper opening ceremony was observed.

The following Shipmates were introduced: **NVP** James W Scarbro and **RPEC** Joseph H. Palmer.

Installation of Officers and Board Members was held. Shipmate **NVP** James Scarboro, and **RPEC** Joe Palmer were the installing officers. Newly installed Officers were:

- Shipmate Charles Baldwin, **President**
- Shipmate Edward Rainey, **Vice President**
- Shipmate Martin G Wood, **Secretary**
- Shipmate Gerald Jeffers, **Treasurer**.
- **The Board of Directors** were
  - Shipmate Richard Dempsey
  - Shipmate Edward Filipowski
  - Shipmate Alvin M. Morean
  - Shipmate Peter Koehler-Pfotenhauer
  - Shipmate John H Thumma
  - Shipmate Robert Long
  - Shipmate Dave Moser
  - Shipmate Ronald J Sybers

## Installation of Officers



In an unprecedented, unheard of, un-rehearsed, "First time ever, in the **FRA**." two Installing Officers shared the position of installing **Branch 99 Officers**. They being: **NVP James Scarborough**, and **RPEC Joe Palmer** shown above with Shipmate President **Charlie Baldwin**.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### - Membership

#### **New Members**

A Warm Welcome to all new members of Branch **99**. Come to the next Branch meeting on July **14th** 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**.

Cleopatra Bell, Jill Cosat, Latoya Hopson, George Wigfall

**S/M Vice President Ed Rainey** reported that there were **1,271** total members, transferred in **0**, transferred out **1**, **37** past due, **14** terminated, new join **4**.

### - 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. The treasurer reported funds as follows:

Branch Checking Account	\$ 10,794.35
Branch Savings Account:	\$ 37.33
Branch Money Market;	\$ 9,679.22
Branch (CD) Certificate:	\$ 20,898.40
Total Branch Assets:	\$ 41,409.30

The Branch Budget was presented by **S/M Jim Griffin** on a proceed basis. The budget was seconded and passed.

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

### - GOOD OF THE ORDER.

- **4<sup>th</sup>** of July Picnic chaired by **S/M Vice President Ed Rainey** and **S/M Richard Dempsey** tickets are **\$5** a person only for people residing in your house. Tickets are on sale thru **30 June** please remember your parking pass. Parking passes are a courtesy and if the police tell you to move, you must move. They are in need of volunteers contact Ed Rainey if interested. **FYI** time is **1400-2100 on Sunday 04 July**.

### - Awards:

**S/M President Baldwin** presented **S/M Francis Lang** a membership pin for recruiting one active duty member from **FRA National Headquarters**.

**S/M President Baldwin** presented an appreciation plaque from the Branch to **S/M James E Wilshire** and **S/M Cosme D. Ranay**.

**19** Dinner certificates were presented.

### **Drawings Held for**

Lifetime membership: **S/M Dave Schaffer**  
1 year membership: Shipmate **Mark Johnson**  
1 year membership: Shipmate **Harry Mullett**

### - Communications

**S/M Secretary Wood** read the following communications.

**Hunter safety courses are being held at the Branch 40 home on 11 September 2010 from 0700-1700.**

**Boater safety class are being held at the Branch 40 home 24 July, 2010 0700-1700.**

- **Coming Events:**

**04 July- Independence Day Picnic**

**14 July- Branch Meeting**

**25 July- Breakfast**

**31 July- Flea Market**

**11 Aug- Branch Meeting**

**28 Aug- Flea Market**

**29 Aug- Breakfast**

**04 Jul- Picnic (1400-2100) Y'all Come!!!**

**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. Va. Beach

**ABUELO'S**

1712 Ring Road, Chesapeake, VA 23320

**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

**Finn McCools Fish House & Tavern**

3388 Princess Anne Rd. Virginia Beach

**Jobi's' Pizza**

4740 Baxter Road ~ Suite 109, 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

**Texas Road House**

4309 Silver Leaf Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia

**TGI Friday**

796 Lynnhaven Pkwy. Virginia Beach, Virginia

**TGI Friday**

110 Volvo Pkwy. Chesapeake, Virginia

**The Raven Restaurant**

1200 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach

**Village Inn**

313 Independence Blvd. Virginia Beach

We appreciate the support of these participating restaurants, 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. They are working hard for a living and are not the one donating the free meal.) Remember to thank the manager on your way out, on behalf of Kempsville Branch 99, FRA.

**Other Merchants supporting this program are:**

**R K Chevrolet**

2661 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach

**Freedom Automotive**

North Military Hwy. Norfolk, Va.

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**Internet:** [www.fra99.com](http://www.fra99.com) Monthly meetings are held on the Second Wednesday of each Month at **1900** hours.

## **The Meaning of the Flag Draped Coffin**

All Americans should be given this Lesson. Those who think that America is an arrogant Nation should really reconsider that thought. Our founding fathers used **GOD's** word and teachings to establish our Great Nation and it's time that we all get re-educated about this Nation's History.

Did you know that at Military funerals, the **21** gun salute stands for the sum of the numbers in the year **1776**?

Have you ever noticed that the Honor Guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the United States of America Flag **13** times? You probably thought it was to symbolize the original **13** colonies, but we learn something new every day!!

The **1<sup>st</sup>** fold of the Flag is a symbol of life.

The **2<sup>nd</sup>** fold is a symbol of the belief in eternal life

The **3<sup>rd</sup>** fold is made in honor and remembrance of the Veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country to attain peace throughout the world.

The **4<sup>th</sup>** fold represents the weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.

The **5<sup>th</sup>** fold is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Steven Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong"

The **6<sup>th</sup>** fold is for where people's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The **7<sup>th</sup>** fold is a tribute to it's Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that they protect their country and their flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of their republic.

The **8<sup>th</sup>** fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The **9<sup>th</sup>** fold is a tribute to womanhood and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The **10<sup>th</sup>** fold is a tribute to the Father, for he too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.

The **11<sup>th</sup>** fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrew's eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The **12<sup>th</sup>** fold represents and emblem of eternity and glorifies in the Christian's eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The **13<sup>th</sup>** fold, or when the flag is completely folded are uppermost reminding them of their nations motto, "**In God We Trust**"

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the rights, privileges and freedoms they enjoy today.

There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning.

In the future, you'll see flags folded and now you know **WHY**.

**May God Protect us Always.**

**This article was provided by Shipmate Vice President Ed. Rainey to reiterate the "Real Meaning" behind the presentation of the U.S. Flag to Survivors of our Fallen Comrades.**

**Well Done!!**



A beautiful cake commemorating the Installation of Officers of the Branch 99 FRA



Newly Installed Officers taking the oath of Office



Shipmates enjoying themselves during the cocktail hour just prior to the Installation



Presentation of awards to Sailors of the Quarter. FRA Branch 99 always takes great pleasure in these events.

These outstanding young people are the Future Leaders of our Navy.