




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

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Visit of the Regional President Fleet Reserve Association, East Coast

We welcomed the Regional President Claire H. Purdy, Captain United States Navy, Retired. She has been an Active Member of the **FRA** since **1992**- Branch **24** Annapolis, MD. She enlisted in the Navy in Boston, MA in May of **1958** and was trained as a Hospital Corpsman. She Graduated from Boston College and received a Commission in the Navy Nurse Corps in **1959**. Her first duty assignment was at Camp Pendleton, CA. Her career spans **33** years- **14** years Active Duty and **19** years in the Reserves. She has been married to Randolph Purdy, **LCDR**, USN Retired for **40**

years and they have three children (all sons) **2** on Active Duty in the Marine Corps and one Former Marine. One son is currently serving in Iraq. All three are active members of the **FRA**. When they Graduated from Boot Camp they were encouraged to join the **FRA** and to get them started right they were gifted with initial Membership Dues. While here in Virginia Beach, **RPEC** Purdy addressed the Branch, conducted the initiation ceremony for new members, issued Plaques to Branch Members for Outstanding Service and Conducted a Pinning Ceremony for Members with **20** and **25** years of Service. We feel honored to have **RPEC** Purdy present at our Branch and look forward to seeing her again!!

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Americanism/Patriotism**

We are still soliciting inputs for available Scholarships, if you are interested in applying for one of these Scholarships, please contact the Branch Secretary.

- **BINGO Committee**

The **BINGO** Committee is in Dire Need of assistance, if you are able to help out please contact the Branch Secretary. The **BINGO** operation provides a very large amount of money for the Branch and it would be a **DISASTER** if this operation folded due to a lack of manpower. So if you can help out please do so!!

- **Hospital, Welfare and Rehab**

Shipmate Paul Thompson (Official Photographer for the Branch) is currently in the Hospital undergoing a knee replacement surgery. We wish him well and hope for a swift recovery so he can get back to full duty!!

- **Budget and Finance**

The Budget is balanced and the Branch is in Good Financial Shape. The Building Mortgage will be completely paid off in **June of 2008**. This is much earlier than anticipated or planned and attests to the Professionalism of the Branch Officers and all of those dedicated Branch Members who have worked so diligently towards this end. **Well Done** to all concerned!!! With this Line Item retired there will likely be significant funds available for other Special Projects in the future...

More to follow at future meetings.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

A Warm Welcome to all new members of Branch **99**. Come to the next Branch meeting on May **14th** to meet your new Shipmates. Meetings are held at **1900** on the second Wednesday of each month. Please make a note on your calendar. If you come you may even win a **free meal**.

Peter J. Barnum, Linda G. Barron, Dorothy Beclair, Jack R. Bell, Jr., Robert Bowers, Casper Broadus, Robert Brooks, Clarence Canterbury, William D. Carter, Anthony D. Clark, Justin Darnell, Robert Dedominick, Donald A. Farnan, Herman Garrison, Elliot L. Hall, Robert D. Henriques, Eric S. Heuerman, Adrian A. Knight, Charles M. Koons, Charles L. Kronenburg, Jason Lawson, Kenneth Lacy, Joseph Lucy, Noreen Mansfield, Justin Martin, John McCabe, Michael McCall, Charles K. Mcneely, Henry M. Mejia, Stephen Montgomery, William Moreau, Carlos F. Parker, Harold E. Stevens, James Stewart, Nicholas Swann, Thomas Swartz, Edward J. Venavage, Rebecca L. Wentworth, Gilbert Whitten, Kevein Williams, Horace E. Woolard, Jr., Joseph F. Wyhlidko

COMING EVENTS

11 May - Mother's Day

17 May- Armed Forces Day

25 May- Breakfast

26 May- Memorial Day (Observed)

31 May- Flea Market Fund Raiser

08:00-15:00

14 June- Flag Day

14 June- U. S. Army Established (1775)

15 June- Father's Day

22 June- Pledge of Allegiance recognized by Congress (1942)

22 June- Breakfast

Selected excerpts from the Branch Meeting Minutes

NEW BUSINESS: A motion to endorse **NVP Don Muccheck** for National President **2008-2009**. This motion was seconded and passed.

- Endorse **Gary Blackburn** for **National Vice President 2008-2009**, Motion was seconded and Passed

- Acceptance of **Branch Logo**, Presented by Shipmate Win Johnson, seconded and Passed.

- Shipmate **President Baldwin** informed the assembly that the Building Mortgage would be "**Paid Off**" in **June 2008**. A **Mortgage Burning Ceremony** will be held at Annual Picnic- **4th of July**

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Editor: Michael Quinn Tel. (757)376-8698

Internet: mlt_quinn@cox.net

The Branch Home is at 357 Edwin Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23462 next to Lake Trashmore. **Telephones: 757-499-6650 and 499-1155.**

Internet: www.fra99.com Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at **1900** hours.

TAPS

Richard T. CASE	GMGC	USNRET
Edmund DESJARDIN	CSC	USNRET
Thomas JAMES	ET1	USNRET
Anthony SABETTINI	HMC	USNRET
Albert J. SEQUIN	DC1	USNRET
John E. WADE	N/A	N/A
Eugene P. WOODWARD	AVCM	USNRET

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Memorial Day - Monday, May 26, 2008

On a Sunday afternoon, a father took his son to a Military Cemetery, and he said proudly, "See this wall. It has the names of the men and women who died in the Service." The son with a confused look on his face asked, "Which one did they die in, Daddy, **8:30 or 10:30** church service? In **1971**, Memorial Day became a Federal Holiday where the last Monday of May is a time set aside to Commemorate all the U.S. men and women who have died for their Country while serving in the Military. This holiday should not be confused with Veteran's Day when we pay homage to all those affiliated with the Military, living and dead. Decoration Day was first observed after the American Civil War as Decoration Day when it was customary to place flowers on soldiers' graves. It became Memorial Day after **World War II**. Please observe this day with a visit to a cemetery, watching a parade and above all, remember, reflect and honor those who have given their lives to help restore peace and order here and abroad. We owe our military heroes the same respect as the freedoms and Constitutional rights that we hold so dearly and that they defended from the minute they swore in to their last breath. We ask to the Supreme Commander to bless them and their families for the selfless acts they performed for us in our time of need.

Amen.

TOR Evasco!



S/M PRESIDENT CHARLIE BALDWIN

The Prez Sez, May – June 2008

Shipmates,

At the April General Assembly Meeting, we were honored with a visit by **RPEC** Claire Purdy. Shipmate Purdy assisted with administering the **FRA** Obligation to two branch members. In addition to this, she found herself actively engaged with presenting **20, 25, and 30** Year Membership Pins to three of our branch members. Sounds like we were on a roll. Well, we were. Shipmate Purdy also presented "**Branch Letters of Appreciation**" to three Branch members. Having done all this, Shipmate Purdy addressed the assembly with words of inspiration, and information relating to the **FRA**. In attendance were sixty members and guest. You don't suppose she was impressed with that. Shipmates, once again I salute you for making all of this possible. Its official Shipmates, at the Annual **4th** of July Picnic, a brief "Burning of the Mortgage" ceremony will be conducted. You can't miss this one, so when tickets go on sale, be sure to get yours. Remember the old saying, "If you snooze, you lose." Remember Shipmates, May is Branch Elections, and June is Branch Installation.

I applaud you.

Charlie

TWO BELL CEREMONY:

A Two Bell Ceremony was held for Shipmates:

Ralph D. Stevenson, SHCM, USNRET, Thomas James, ET1, USNRET, Richard T. Case, GMGC, USNRET, Albert J. Sequin DC1 USNRET, George W. Wise, William E. Hodges, Edmund Desjardins, JR, John E. Wade, Anthony Sabettini, James W. Ohara and Joseph E. Wade.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Fourteen Restaurant Certificates were passed out.
- A reminder about the Flea Market on **31 May**, still need help setting up
- Shipmate Bob Long asked for volunteers for the breakfast for May.
- The **BINGO** Committee needs help, if you have time please help out.
- **KUDOS** to the following Shipmates who have volunteered to man the Recruiting Information Booth at Naval Air Station Oceana in May :

Jim Crosby, Bob Patna, Richard Dempsey, G Whitney, Francis Lane, Dan Kenny, Norm Gapter, Martin Wood, Walter Kreger and Paul Thompson.

This is the key to an effective **FRA**- Recruiting!!

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

My name is Michael Quinn, I've been a member of the **FRA** for years (Member at Large while on Active Duty, Branch **60** since I Retired (more than **20** Years and recently with Branch **99**). I'm a Retired Master Chief Electronics Technician with more than **33** years Active Duty, I'm also a Retired Engineering Manager with the State of Virginia (Department. of Public Safety and currently operate my own Consulting Engineering Firm in Virginia Beach, I'm a "**Triple Dipper**") My experience with Writing and Editing Newsletters includes the Public Safety Department's Monthly Newsletter, A Quarterly Newsletter for my Church (In Virginia Beach) and now the **FRA** Branch **99**. I look forward to keeping everyone informed as best I can. If you have something that you feel is important enough to be included please don't hesitate to contact me. - Mike Quinn

BRANCH 99 LOGO DESIGN CONTEST

A **proposal** has been made and approved to adopt a unique logo for Branch **99** that would identify and promote the branch. This logo will be used on artifacts,

shirts, jackets, caps, etc. It will not be an official **FRA** logo and therefore cannot display the **FRA** shield nor the "Swoosh" design. Designs were judged by a Committee and were presented to the General Assembly for approval as our official logo.

Local Restaurants continue to provide dinner gift certificates to encourage attendance at Branch General Membership Meetings. Those certificates are presented as prizes in drawings held at Branch Meetings. Their support of our non-profit veterans' association is greatly appreciated. Participating restaurants are:

Aberdeen Barn Steak House
5805 Northampton Blvd. Virginia, Beach, Va. 23455

A ~ J Gator's Sports Bar & Grill
3908 Holland Road, Virginia Beach, Va. 23452

Applebee's (Kempsville)
1426 Kempsville Road, Virginia Beach, Va. 23464

Applebee's (Loehmann's Plaza)
4040 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach, VA

BUBBA'S DELI & BBQ
3600 Dam Neck Rd. Virginia Beach, VA 23453

Carrabba's Italian Grill
1217 Battlefield Blvd. N, Chesapeake, Va 23320

FRANKIE'S
408 Laskin Rd. Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Golden Corral
400 S. Independence Blvd. Virginia Beach, Va.

Holiday Inn (Shirley Coleman)
5655 Greenwhich Rd. Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Kelly's Tavern
4586 Va. Beach Blvd. Virginia. Beach, Va. 23462

Kelly's Backstage Tavern
at The NorVa, Granby St. Norfolk, Va.

Kincaid's Fish, Chop & Steak House
300 Monticello Ave (McArthur Center) Norfolk, VA

Max & Erma's Pembroke
4512 Va. Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, Va. 23464

Olive Garden / Red Lobster
Local Area Restaurants

Smackwater Jack's
3333 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach, VA 23452

Smokey Bones Barbeque & Grill
4590 Va. Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, Va. 23462

Texas Road House
1546 Sam's Circle, Chesapeake, Va. 23320

The Raven Restaurant
1200 Atlantic Ave. Virginia Beach, Va. 23451

TGI FRIDAY
796 Lynnhaven Pkwy, Virginia Beach, VA 23452

TGI FRIDAY
110 Volvo Pkwy, Chesapeake, VA 23320



New members were initiated and took the Oath of Membership. Ceremony was conducted by Branch President Baldwin and the visiting East Coast Regional President Purdy!



Branch Secretary Martin Wood receives a Letter of Appreciation from East Coast Regional President Purdy



S/M Ed Rainey receives a Branch Letter of appreciation from **RPEC Purdy!**



S/M Linda Barron receives **20** year pin from **RPEC Purdy!**



S/M Jim Griffin receives **25** year pin from **RPEC Purdy!**