




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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The Prez Sez:

Shipmates:

As with most of us, a lot of time has been spent watching the Olympic Games. When the USA places 1st place, and is presented the Gold medal, all stand for the playing of Our National Anthem. Does your adrenalin start flowing with pride in Our Country, and the accomplishments of USA's Athletes? So then, let me share this with you. At our August membership meeting, in attendance were **51** members, and **5** guests.

Presentations made included: **Two \$1,000** dollar Scholarship certificates, a Life Membership Card, a **50 Year** Life Membership & pin, a Membership Drive **08-09** certificate, **three** continuous

membership pins- **30yr**, **25yr** and **5yr**. The East Coast Region Shipmate of the Year (American/Patriotism) Plaque presented to Shipmate **Cindy Hefty**. Let me not forget the two complementary **1** year membership awards given as door prizes, along with **17** complementary local restaurant dinner certificates. All of this followed by a smorgasbord you have to see to believe.

Shipmates, "Were you there?"

"Will I see you at the September meeting?"

Charlie

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Memberships Committee

33 past due members, **23** new members, **1** transferred in and **3** transferred out for a total of **1,445** members in good standing

- Americanism/Patriotism

A new Americanism Essay Contest has been announced, more to follow. please contact **S/M Hefty** or the Branch Secretary for info.

- BINGO Committee

The **BINGO** Operations is growing and doing well. They still need assistance, if you are able to help out please contact the Branch Secretary.

- **Branch Home Committee**

The Annual 4th of July Picnic was a resounding success. There was a good turnout of **250** members and guests. They enjoyed good food and music and of course those who stayed, a very nice though short Fireworks Display. A special Thank you to the Volunteers, S/M's T. Washington, R. Dempsey, J. Griffin,, T. Hefty, C. Hefty, D. Moser, D. Kenney, Henry, R. Bass, J. Westman, D. Cunningham, J. Conner, B. Meeker, H Millet, P. White, W. Johnson, J. Palumbo, W. Gaptor, and C. Baldwin. A good time was had by all and the weatherman cooperated. I hope I didn't miss any of the Volunteers. If so, Thanks again!!!

- **Budget and Finance**

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

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

A Warm Welcome to all new members of Branch **99**. Come to the next Branch meeting on September **10th** 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 Blount, Romeo Dismaya, Terrance Evans, Robert Fauls, Dixon Garland, Gregory Getchell, Jeremy Goolsby, Christopher Hixson, Ingrid Knight, Billy Lambert, Kenneth Lara, Erik Lawrence, Kenneth Layre, Joe Littles, Raymond Merkh, Evan Mitzel, Nathaniel Niefer, Eric Thompson, Brian Valhuerdi, Phill Ventura, Stanley Ward, Jason White, Lorrie Wilkins,

Past Due Members

If you see any of these Shipmates, kindly remind them since they may have forgotten their dues

Premm Badhwa, Brenda Barba, Timothy Burgess, Lawrence Channel, Romeo Cruz, Jimmie Folsom, Wayne Girardeau, Richard Hansen, Jimmy Hargrove, Edwin Hart, Buck Heffernan, Nigeria Johnson-Key, Stacey Jordan, James Kennedy, Diana Kochis, L. Lewis, Richard Linsowe, Gerd Marker, Carlos Medina, Jimmy Moreno, James Morrison, Juan Nunuez, James Pearson, Lara Ray, Kelvin Sealy, Richard Smith, George Spence, Donald Stottlemyer, David Tayamen,

Tobin Traxler, Kenneth Williams, Norman Wood, Evangelista Zeppieri

TAPS

Charles D. Miller	RMC(SW)	USNRET
Wendell M. Oliver	PO1	USNRET
Robert L. Souder	MMCM	USNRET
Jimmy R. Sturgill	IC1	USNRET
William G. Williams	MN1	USNRET

COMING EVENTS

01 September –	Labor Day
27 September-	Flea Market
28 September-	Breakfast
25 October-	Flea Market
26 October-	Breakfast

Selected excerpts from the Branch Meeting Minutes 13 August 2008

This was a very busy meeting with a lot action including: Presentation of Awards

- \$5000 FRA** Scholarship- Crystal J. Bialias
- \$2300 GEICO** Scholarship- Amber R. Bialas
- \$2000** Col Hazel Bonn Award- Dayna L. Garland
- A **Life** Membership and **50** Year Continuous Membership Pin- Paul Darrah
- **30** year pin- Larry Garret
- **25** year pin- George Piggot
- **5** year pin- Dan Kenney
- **Shipmate of the Year** to Cindy Hefty
- Two New Members were inducted.
- Start of Planning for Veterans Day Parade

Next years National Conference will be held in Virginia Beach

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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.

KNOW YOUR SHIPMATE

By Edward O. Rainey, Jr.



Francis J. Lang

Shipmate Francis J. Lang was born in Franklin, Missouri on **5 Mar, 1931**. He first enlisted in the Navy, in St Louis, MO. in November **1950**. He underwent Recruit Training, (Boot Camp), at the Naval Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, IL. Upon completion of recruit training, Shipmate Lang commenced on a very impressive Naval career:

- Jan. '51; class 'A' Engineman school.
- reported to his first duty station in
- Jul. '51; U.S. Naval Station, Trinidad, **BWI**. While in Trinidad, Francis met his future wife, Leucadia (he calls her **Kathy**). They fell in love and were married on **20 June, 1953**, in Port of Spain, Trinidad, **BWI**.
- Aug. '53; USS H.W. Gilmore (**AS16**) While aboard the Gilmore, his rate was converted from Engineman to Instrument Man (**IM**), 2nd Class.
- Jun '59; Naval Air Station, Memphis, TN where he worked as a prison guard, Assigned to the Base Master of Arms.
- Spring of **1960** Francis was promoted to (**IM**), 1st Class.
- Spring of **1961** USS Vulcan (**AR-5**).
- Feb. '65; General Dynamics Corps Pomona, CA for **16** weeks of training at the Mechanical Optical Calibration School.

- Jun. '65; U.S. Naval Station, Dam Neck, VA for **3** yrs Instructor Duty, teaching calibration to the Submarine crews.
- Jul. '68; Francis was transferred for the last time to USS Huntley where he continued to work in the Cal. Lab.
- 1 Jun.'70; Francis retired after completing **20** Years Service in the Navy.

Francis and Kathy have **five** children. Mary, Ronald, Julian and Lisa, **8** grandchildren and **1** great grandchild.

When Francis retired from the Navy he drove **18** Wheelers for the next **21** years. He retired from that job on **1 Apr, 91**.

Not having enough driving time, Francis continued driving cars for Roughton Pontiac for the next **14** years.

Francis and his wife (of **55** yrs) Kathy, and all his children live in Virginia Beach. We wish Francis and his family well.

2008 – 2009 Americanism Essay Contest

Shipmates the Americanism Essay Contest for 2008-2009 has been announced. The theme for this years Contest is:

“What the United States Flag Stands For”.

Eligibility:

- Students, Grades **7** thru **12**
- Entrants must be sponsored by a branch of the **FRA** or a unit of the Ladies Auxiliary
- **350** words or less on theme designated
- Essay shall be legibly written or typed on one side of paper
- One entry per student each year
- Each entry must be accompanied by a cover sheet stating: the entrant's name, address, zip code, telephone number, school grade, name of school or the words “home schooled”, number of words in essay and sponsoring branch/unit or sponsor's name.

Deadline:

- All entries shall be postmarked not later than **December 1, 2008**. Our branch

- mailing address is: 357 Edwin Dr., Virginia Beach, VA 23462.

Prizes: Branch Prizes in each grade level along with a Plaque, and Participation Certificate are:

- **First Place \$500 Savings Bond**
- **Second Place \$200 Savings Bond**
- **Third Place \$100 Savings Bond**
- An **Overall Winner** is selected from the first place winners and will be awarded an additional **\$1000 Savings Bond**

Additional contest information, cover sheet and rules can be found on our website www.fra99.com or contact Cindy Hefty at (757) 427-7097, e-mail cahefty@cox.net

Cindy Hefty
Chairman Americanism/Patriotism

TWO BELL CEREMONY:

A Two Bell Ceremony was held for Shipmates:

S/M	Hutler	S/M	Miller
S/M	Kauffman	S/M	Ochs
S/M	Keefer	S/M	Oliver
S/M	Koons	S/M	Rogers
S/M	Eugene	S/M	Souder
S/M	Williams		

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

-S/M **President Baldwin** presented Awards and Continuous membership pins to the following Shipmates:

- Paul Darrah **50 Years**
- Larry Garrett **30 Years**
- George Piggot **25 Years**
- Dan Kenney **5 Years**
- Frances Lang Life Membership for Recruiting
- Cindy Hefty- Shipmate of the Year
- John Thuma – Certificate of Appreciation
- Seventeen Restaurant Certificates were passed out.
- Membership drawings
- **Lifetime Membership- N/A**
- **One Year Membership- S/M Michael Quinn**

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**
3333 Virginia Beach Blvd 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

Members are encouraged to visit these establishments frequently to show our appreciation for their efforts and to say Thank You!!

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Labor Day 1	VJ Day 2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	Branch Mtg 10	Patriots day 11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	POW/MIA Day 19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	FleaMarket 28
Breakfast 29	30					

September 2008

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		Ford Model T goes on sale 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	Columbus Day 12
Navy's Birthday 13	14	Branch Mtg 15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	The United Nations founded 24	The Battle of Leyte Gulf 25	Flea Market 26
Breakfast 27	Statue of Liberty Dedicated in 1886 28	29	30	Halloween 31		

October 2008