




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:

Here it is again, time to update you on what's going on at the Branch. Well, I am happy to report that all is going well. There is one thing however that I would like to address, and that is membership. Renewing your Membership, when due, or recruiting a new member would be great! This is our livelihood. Remember Shipmates, the **82nd FRA National Convention** will be held in Virginia Beach, **18 – 25 October, 2009.**

MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND.

Charlie

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

A Warm Welcome to all new members of Branch **99**. Come to the next Branch meeting on September **9th** 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**.

Anesha Aird, Denise Anderson, Arthur Bailey, Anthony Calim, Charles Cheeseman, Douglas Davis, Gary Felton, Norma Garcia, Ivan Gonzalez, Dejuan Gore, Wilbert Hartfields, Ashley Havens, Glenn Hill, Victor Howard, Mark Johnson, Jocelyn Kennedy, James Ladafoged, Irene Long, Mark Long, William Macomber, Neil McLean, Charles Molleen, Carlos Page, Lorraine Secord, Michael Wahl, Maryrose Yohn,

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Americanism/Patriotism Committee

Shipmates the Americanism Essay Contest for **2009-2010** has been announced. The theme for this years Contest is:

“What Memorial Day Means To Me”.

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, 2009. 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

- BINGO Committee

Shipmate Gapter reported that **BINGO** is back to Normal, still in need of Volunteers, please see him for more information.

- Budget and Finance

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

A Two Bell Ceremony to Honor our Departed Shipmates was held by S/M Tor Evasco (Acting Chaplain) and S/M MAA John Schweers.

- AWARD CEREMONY

S/M Vice President Ed Rainey – Membership Pin

S/M Richard Bass – Membership Pin

S/M Paul Thompson- Membership Pin

Winners of One Year Free Membership:

- Robert Titus

- Larry Garrels

A Plaque was Presented to the Branch by two Pearl Harbor Survivors:

S/M Frank Chebetar

S/M Eugene Gorman

- GOOD OF THE ORDER.

- The Winner of the First Place East Coast Region Americanism-Patriotism Contest. Represented Branch **99**. The Award will be presented at the next Branch Meeting.

- A reminder that the Veteran's Day Parade will be taking place on **11** November. **S/M's** desiring to participate should sign up in the Branch. Office

- A reminder that the Annual Convention will be held in Virginia Beach this year

- **S/M Jim Griffin** says breakfast is the last Sunday of the month. We are always in need of volunteers to help out.

HUMOR Section:

Anti U.S. Sign ... In THIS Country!! Really??

"We Would Rather do Business with 1,000 AL QAEDA Terrorists than with ONE Single American Soldier!"

This sign was prominently displayed in the window of a business in Whiting, Indiana . You are probably outraged at the thought of such an inflammatory statement. However, we are a society which holds Freedom of Speech as perhaps our greatest liberty. And after all, it is just a sign. You may ask what kind of business would dare post such a sign.

Answer: Owens Funeral Home

Who said **Funeral Directors** have no sense of humor! You gotta love it! God Bless America **AND** God Bless **OUR Soldiers**

Coming Events:

02 Sept VJ Day- Japan Signed Formal Surrender 1945
07 Sept –Labor Day
09 Sept- Branch Meeting
13 Sept- Grandparents Day
14 Sept- Star Spangled Banner written 1814
17 Sept- U.S. Constitution Approved- 1787
18 Sept- U.S.Air Force Established- 1947
18 Sept- POW/MIA Recognition Day
22 Sept- Autumn Begins
26 Sept- Flea Market
27 Sept- Breakfast
12 Oct- Columbus Day
13 Oct- U.S. Navy Established-1775
14 Oct- Branch Meeting
24 Oct- Flea Market
25 Oct- Breakfast
27 Oct- Navy Day
31 Oct- Halloween

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, Va. 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

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, Virginia

TGI Friday

110 Volvo Pkwy. Chesapeake, Virginia

The Raven Restaurant

1200 Atlantic Ave. 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. (He/ She is working hard for a living and is not the one donating the free meal.) Remember to thank the manager when you leave, on behalf of Kempsville Branch 99, FRA.

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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Internet: www.fra99.com Monthly meetings are held on the Second Wednesday of each Month at 1900 hours.