



## FRA BRANCH 42 NEWSLETTER

APR – JUN 2013

President: Ken Senker 884-5874, Vice President: Jim Pace 885-6441, Secretary: Phil Justin 475-6028 Treasurer: Paul Beno 884-8625

### From Your President

#### **IMPORTANT DATES – Mark your calendar**

**Tuesday, APR 16TH, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.** Regular monthly meeting at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI.

**SATURDAY, MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2013 – 12:00p.m.** Clam Cakes & Chowder at Davisville.

**Tuesday, MAY 21ST, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.** Regular monthly meeting at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI.

**Tuesday, JUN 18TH, 2013 – 7:00p.m.** Regular monthly meeting at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI.

It's that time of year again when we are looking for members to step up and become active as Branch Officers and Committee Chairman. Nominations are requested at the April meeting with elections in May and installation in June. All Branch Officer Positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) are open and anyone interested in filling one of these slots are encouraged to let us know as soon as possible. Paul Beno, who has been our Treasurer since Buda was a houseboy, is stepping down and must be replaced. These positions are not that difficult and previous office holders are always there to assist if needed. Please do your part and help us retain Branch 42 as a viable organization. We also need members to chair the following committees; Membership, Americanism/Patriotism, Public Relations, Youth Activities, Health & Welfare, Legislation, and the position of Chaplain and MAA.

Progress is being made on writing the by-laws and standing rules of our soon to be merged Northeast/New England Region. A draft has been provided to each Branch for review and ratification should be able to take place during the annual convention in Groton. Northeast and New England Regions will merge effective at the close of the FRA National Convention in Chattanooga, TN in October.

### **CLAM CAKES & CHOWDER**

On Saturday, May 11, 2013, from noon until 3:00 p.m. at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, 21 Iafrate Way, North Kingstown, RI, Island X-1, Navy Seabee Veterans of America are sponsoring a Clam cake & chowder dinner to raise funds for the upcoming Navy SVA National Convention which will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Warwick, August 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Your support is appreciated. The price is \$16.00 per person. Dinner includes clam cakes, red or white chowder, corn on the cob, corn bread, red potatoes, watermelon & dessert. Make checks payable to NSVA Island X-1. Mail payment to Commander Lasso by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Robert Lasso, P.O Box 127, Sterling, CT 06377-0127. For more information contact 860-564-1644 or e-mail [lassan@ct.metrocast.net](mailto:lassan@ct.metrocast.net).

You are reminded that if you change your address, phone number, e-mail address etc., please let us know so that we may keep you informed. Please ensure that we can contact you through e-mail – don't reject mail from the secretary. We are trying to utilize e-mail as much as possible, however many of our newsletters are returned because of address rejection. If you have not yet given us your e-mail address, please forward it to the secretary, [pajusnret@verizon.net](mailto:pajusnret@verizon.net).

## UNIT 42 NEWS

The New England Region has certainly had its share of snow this year. Last year we were often able to run around in shirt sleeves, but it certainly ain't the case this winter. Bad enough we were neck deep in snow, but it was windy and cold. During the "Blizzard of 2013", the trees in my backyard (and I have several of them) were a-swaying and a-moaning – at one point, I thought we would have one in our kitchen!!!! Where I live in Massachusetts, we were very fortunate not to lose power. But I know several of our members were not so lucky. Poor Vivian Flade stayed dressed and wrapped in a blanket!!!! Oh well, it is middle of March. HOPEFULLY, spring is not far away. Darn that Punxsutawney Phil – He was sooo wrong AGAIN.

Even though we are only meeting for lunch at Gregg's once a month instead of holding a regular meeting, we still collect cell phones, eyeglasses, box tops and Campbell soup labels. We also collect flags that need to be disposed of in the proper fashion. Contact me, Dot Crouch, or Eileen Beno. We continue to donate to the North Kingstown food pantry at Christmas and Easter.

The members have thoroughly enjoyed meeting for lunch. We sit and chat about the things that "girls" talk about.... Watch out guys!!! If there is anything new on the Regional or National level, I try and fill them in. It would be great if more members would be able to come even if it is once in a while. We paid our respects to PNP Betty Stepp who passed away in February even though the Unit Charter wasn't available. Please ask someone in your family to call us if you are sick or just need someone to chat with. When a Unit member passes, the Unit performs a ritual as our way of saying good-bye. At the National Convention, the Auxiliary performs a Memorial Service for all those who died during the year (Branch and Unit Members). This year the

National Chaplain will present a slideshow of pictures accompanied by music of all deceased members. The East Coast Region has done this for several years and it is a very moving ceremony. If you would please send me a picture of yourself so that I can keep it on file.

Cindy Rodham Tuck  
38 Shannonmarie Way  
N Easton, MA 02356-2692

At the end of this Association Year, the New England Region will be no more. We will be joining forces with the Northeast Region. There are four Units in New England and three in Northeast. It will be a challenge but both Regions are looking forward to it. The Northeast Region in days gone by had a lot of territory to cover, but here in New England, it was conceivable to visit a Unit for a meeting and return in the same day. We were like one big family. To say the least, we were spoiled. BUT, tomorrow is a new day and new experiences.

I will be attending the New England Mid-Year meeting on 30 March 2013 in Hudson NH hosted by Branch 338. The Northeast Mid-Year will be held 19-20 April 2013 in Lakehurst, NJ. Then I will be participate in the Pilgrimage to the Tombs of the Unknown and the Mast of the Maine from 24-28 April 2013.

To all who are celebrating a happy occasion, have fun; to those who are sick, speedy recovery; and to those who have lost someone close, you are in our prayers.

In Loyalty, Protection and Service,

**Cindy**