



## FRA BRANCH 42 NEWSLETTER JUL - SEP 2015

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

Treasurer: Robert Campbell 294-4865

### From Your President

On behalf of the members of Branch 42, we would like to extend our sincere condolences to families of SKCS Ralph G. Allen, USN (RET), RMC Gerald E. Connors, USN(RET), AKCS Donald R. Dale, USN(RET) and 1STSGT John J. Timoney, USMC (RET) who are now serving on the staff of the Supreme Commander.

### **IMPORTANT DATES - Mark your calendar**

#### **Tuesday, JUL 21st, 2015- 7:00 p.m.**

Regular monthly meeting at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI.

#### **Tuesday, AUG 18th, 2015 - 7:00 p.m..**

Regular monthly meeting at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI.

#### **Tuesday, SEP 15th, 2015 - 7:00p.m.**

Regular monthly meeting at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI.

### Friday & Sat, Sept 18th & 19th 2015

**NE/NENG Regional Convention, Branch 20, Groton, CT. Schedule in the Unit 42 News.**

**Members are encouraged to attend the meetings. Your voice is important and the camaraderie is enjoyable.**

### **ANNUAL CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following Shipmates who have completed many years of continuous membership in the FRA during this quarter.

**Walter E. Baker**, 35 years on August 1st., **Joseph M. Cormier**, 40 years on August 1st, **John DeFrancesco**, 15 years on September 1st. **John J. Giro**, 45 years on July 1st, **William W. Kirtlink**, 40 years on August 1st, **David R. Lizotte**, 40 years on July 1st, **Harry J. Nill**, 45 years on September 1st, **Arthur L. Skaggs**, 40 years on

September 1st. **Henry J. Zakrajsek**, 45 years on September 1st,

The following members are due for renewal of their dues. Please continue your membership: Blair Barrows, John J. Broderick, Edward M. Ponte, Kenneth A. Senker, James Sole and Ralph Turnbull.

### **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2015**

**Robert E. Adams**, 8/1/42, **Frank Allen**, 8/30/37, **Blair Barrows**, 8/1/32, **Edward L. Belbin**, 9/25/31, **John J. Blair** 9/11/43, **Robert A. Campbell**, 9/26/36, **Walter C. Corley**, 8/21/28, **James W. Cross Jr.**, 7/5/46, **David F. Dallas**, 9/30/28, **Carrie P. Daniel**, 8/21/36, **John W. Dever Jr.**, 8/3/36, **Gerald E. Dubois**, 7/19/34, **John B. Etchingham**, 7/23/32, **James A. Fague**, 9/14/38, **Joseph E. Farias**, 9/13/36, **Troy N. Fincher**, 9/16/26, **Michael J. Finn**, 8/31/46, **Leonard S. Gassen**, 7/22/28, **Raymond E. Gauvin**, 7/14/35, **James B. Genesky**, 7/8/44, **Willis A. Goodale**, 9/22/29, **Walter L. Jackson**, 8/26/32, **Ralph D. Jarvis**, 9/21/49, **George E. Krauss**, 9/10/41, **John M. Lanko**, 8/1/49, **Peter J. Lorenzo**, 7/1/38, **Stephen A. Lema**, 9/11/56, **Edwin A. Leonard Jr.**, 7/6/38, **Raymond T. Lisi**, 8/21/39, **Raymond Macfarlane**, 7/31/36, **Thomas H. Magnette**, 7/13/33, **Rebecca J. Manning**, 9/29/50, **Mark A. Marino**, 9/8/60, **Issac Martinez**, 7/21/35, **Joseph A. O'Brien**, 8/10/32,

**John T. Perchman**, 9/1/30, **Robert P. Plouffe**, 9/23/31, **Winton W. Pouncey**, 8/15/27, **Donald G. Reingardt**, 7/3/30, **Lee R. Rider**, 7/15/37, **Sam G. Rollings**, 8/22/26, **Fortunato J. Serafini**, 9/3/29, **John R. Shanahan**, 9/15/34, **Arthur L. Skaggs**, 7/21/29, **Albert E. Soper**, 7/14/26, **Edward J. Swaney**, 9/13/63, **Lester D. Taylor**, 7/29/31, **Oscar Thomas Jr.**, 8/20/36, **Ralph E. Turnbull**, 8/27/38, **Sammy C. Vaughn** 8/29/30, **James H. Wadsworth**, 8/20/43, **Howard K. Weekley**, 8/2/28, **Edward R. Weikman Jr.**, 7/2/45, **Thomas Willett**, 9/25/26.

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

You are reminded of the power of the internet regarding legislative affairs. Please subscribe to [newsbytes@fra.org](mailto:newsbytes@fra.org). The FRA website is a wonderful way to let you contact your senators and representatives and let your voice be heard regarding our rights and benefits. If you have an e-mail address, please let the secretary know @pajusnret@me.com. Members are encouraged to keep us informed of your mailing address & e-mail address so that we can keep you up-to-date on what's happening.

The Sea Cadets need your support. If you have grandchildren or friends and neighbors who have children in grades 7-12 looking for some adventure, please contact Shipmate Dave Kerwood at [kerwooddr@riseacadets.org](mailto:kerwooddr@riseacadets.org). Don't forget to check out our website [www.fra42.org](http://www.fra42.org) for information.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection & Service,

Officers of Branch 42

## **UNIT 42 NEWS**

**Finally, spring seems to have arrived although today is raw, windy and rainy. Apparently, New England set record snowfalls this year and based on the rain we have had in the last 3 days, we may set that record too. Well, as far as I am concerned, if the sun is shining and the temperature is hovering in the 70s and 80s and not humid, it suits me just fine.**

At any rate, the Northeast/New England Midyear meeting was held on May 2, 2015 in Groton, CT hosted by Branch and Unit 20. On Friday, several of the Shipmates and Auxiliary members had an informal get together at the Branch home. On Saturday, the Branch prepared a wonderful barbeque on the patio.

At the meeting, we held a workshop on filling out forms. In preparation for the upcoming conventions, the delegate sheet should be completed with only the names of the unit members attending. Remember that the unit is entitled to one delegate for each vote. If there are more members attending than votes, list those members as alternate delegates. Even if there are members attending, be sure that the unit elects a proxy as well as an alternate proxy and be sure that those proxy/alternate proxy will be in attending the convention. It is advisable to send the proxy/alternate proxy instructed as to how the unit wants the vote cast. The delegate sheet for both National and Regional Conventions should be mailed regardless if any of the unit members are attending to insure that the unit is represented. Refer to "WHO, WHAT, WHERE" sheet enclosed.

Anyone that is having problems with filing the 990N with the Internal Revenue Service, please let me know. We discussed some options that are available to us, but it is frustrating trying to be sure that we do the right thing.

The only committee report that is judged at National is the Unit report (formerly called the President's report) which is a compilation of all the other reports. On the regional level, if the unit wishes to send the other committee reports (Publicity, Unit Activities, and Americanism etc.), they will be judged on the Regional level. Please send all reports to me as we do not have any committee chairmen. The unit chaplain's report which is not judged should be sent to PRP NE Sara Piacentino.

This year the delegates at the National Convention will be electing a new treasurer for the association years 2015-2018. At the present moment, I believe there are 2 candidates for the office. Please read the nominating resolutions carefully. Again, I will reiterate, if the unit elects me to be the proxy for the unit, please send me instructed. I am aware that I am probably more familiar with the candidates and/or resolutions than most of the unit's members, but I'd rather the decision NOT be left up to me. If you would like to ask my opinion, please feel free to call and I will be happy to discuss this with you.

The Northeast/New England Regional Convention will be hosted by Branch and Unit 20 on September 18-19, 2015 at the branch home 242 Thames St, Groton, CT. It is imperative that luncheon reservations be made no later than 12 September. Please make check payable to Branch 20, FRA and mail to PNP George Hyland, 6 Bradford Circle, Groton, CT.

Rooms have been blocked at the Best Western Olympic, 360 RT 12, Groton, CT 06340. Rates are \$98.00 plus tax per night (includes breakfast) and reservations can be made by calling (800) 622-7766. Be sure and mention that you are with the FRA and the cutoff date is 4 September 2015. This hotel has an elevator, bar, restaurant and FREE SHUTTLE TO THE CASINO (not that I would be interested in that. HELLO?)

Lunch on Saturday is \$15.00 per person: Salad, Baked Ziti, Bread & Butter, Stuffed Mushrooms, Garlic pepper wings. DON'T FORGET - DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 12.

#### SCHEDULE/PLAN OF THE DAY:

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

Welcome Aboard get together at Club 20, 242 Thames St, Groton, CT

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2015 0830  
Registration. Coffee & Donuts

Breakfast will also be served but not included

1000 Joint opening ceremonies  
1200 Lunch on patio  
1330 Business Meeting (FRA 2<sup>ND</sup> Floor of Branch 20

Auxiliary at Union Hall)1800 (approx)  
Installation of officers followed by cash bar and dinner on your own.

The Pilgrimage to the Tomb of the Unknowns was held on April 18, 2015. NP Doris Fri laid the wreath at the Tomb and then we proceeded to the Amphitheater. The Shipmates held a Two Bell ceremony. FRA NVP Virgil Courneya representing FRA NP John Ippert made a few comments. The weather was incredibly beautiful (and thankfully not too hot). As many times as I have attended Pilgrimage, it never ceases to move me.

The National Convention for 2015 will be at the Spokane City Center Doubletree Hotel in Spokane. WA. Room rates for single/double is \$100.56 per night which includes 12% tax and a \$2.00 per night surcharge. There are 12 handicap accessible rooms available so call early. The phone number is (509) 455-9600 and be sure and mention the FRA. The newsletters and information can be accessed at [www.la-fra.org](http://www.la-fra.org), [www.fra.org](http://www.fra.org), and [www.fra2015.org](http://www.fra2015.org). They will also be mailed to the Branches and Units as the information becomes available.

National NP Doris Fri's project is BUILDING HOMES FOR HEROES. Information is available at their website: [www.buildinghomesforheroes.org](http://www.buildinghomesforheroes.org). I have also enclosed a flyer which explains their goal. Make sure checks are to be made to LA FRA and notate NP Project in memo line. Send donations to: NFS Christina Murray, 512 Hyde Park Road, Norfolk, VA 23521.

During the 2013 Convention, the delegates voted to have a "Bakeless Bake Sale" as a fundraiser. This was not meant to interfere with any of the Units efforts to raise money on their own behalf, however, as we all know the cost of doing business is rising. There are 6900 members in the Auxiliary and if each of us donated just \$5.00, we could raise \$34,500.00. This would certainly help with the National Treasury. Please do your best and let's see what we can do. Those donations should also be sent to NFS Christina Murray. Again make checks payable to LA FRA and notate "Bakeless Bake Sale"

Speaking of money, the regional assessments are now due. This is per Standing Rule 2 "Annual unit assessment shall be a sum of \$5.00 per delegate vote". Even though each secretary should have received the groupings and the voting strength from the NFS, I am listing the information below. Please make checks payable to NE/NEng Region of the LA FRA and mail to Regional Treasurer Ellen Kotheimer.

UNIT	UNIT NAME	GROUP	VOTES	GAIN	LOSS	ASSESSMENT
20	Groton	2	5	7.93%		\$25.00
42	Quonset / Davisville	2	5		10%	\$25.00
66	South Shore	4	4		11.76%	\$20.00
124	Lakehurst	2	5		10.25%	\$25.00
156	Pinetree	5	2		5.00%	\$10.00
226	Staten Island	4	3		3.22%	\$15.00

September 18-19 Regional Convention  
2015 Groton, CT

October 13-19 National Convention  
2015 Spokane WA

By this time the units will have had election of officers. As usual, please send the new officers' report (even if they are staying the same) to the appropriate people and you do not have to wait until installation. I have enclosed a sheet "Who, What and Where" that lists who gets what and when as well as their addresses. Please send National Treasurer Karen Snee to the list too.

I am not going to give the speech about how important membership is. We have all heard it a thousand times and are well aware of the significance. Everyone does what we can to recruit and/or retain members. CONGRATULATIONS TO UNIT 20 GROTON WHO HAD A 7.93% GAIN!!! Whatever you are doing keep it up. If a member has a change of address, name, phone number, or email address, be sure and contact the MSA immediately. The Unit Chaplain should notify the Regional Chaplain and the MSA if a member has died. Please check the unit alpha roster that is sent by the MSA to be sure that it is accurate. If you have life members on your roster especially if they are unable to come to meetings, try and give them a call periodically or send them a card.

When you receive your dues notice in the mail, the membership card area will be marked "VOID". In the past, the membership card was attached but the membership was not valid until the MSA received payment and it was posted. This created some confusion as some members assumed that because they had the membership card, the dues had been paid. To solve that problem, the card will be mailed in the next mailing cycle once the dues are paid.

With the warmer weather approaching (Oh I so hope that is true), I would like to have the opportunity to come and visit. Yes, it is a hike to get to Staten Island or Lakehurst, but Brunswick, Maine isn't right around the corner either. And I really would like to come. It doesn't necessarily have to be for anything special, but then again if you want me to do the Installation, just let me know so I can make plans.

These are the dates that are already scheduled:



Please keep in mind when the Unit donates to LA FRA scholarships that there are two different bank accounts: National Presidents Scholarship and the Scholarship Fund which consists of the Allie Mae Oden, the Sam Rose and the LA FRA scholarships. It is necessary that the Unit designate which account they are donating to. Please consider donating to both but particularly to the Scholarship Fund which is often overlooked.

If you have internet access, the website ([www.la-fra.org](http://www.la-fra.org)) has been updated to include most of the forms that are needed during the year: order forms, new officers' reports, etc. The TRIANGLE is posted each month as well as back issues. I STRONGLY urge you to go to [www.fra.org](http://www.fra.org) especially the ACTION CENTER. Here you can keep up on all the legislative activities. You also have the opportunity to express your opinion to your local elective officials about what is going on at Capitol Hill.

Well, I am going to sign off for now. I think I have covered all the necessary information. Remember, I am only a phone call or an email away. I would love to hear from you and know that you are doing okay, if you need help or just to say hello. Please give your family members the Unit information so they can contact us if necessary. To all those who are sick, get well soon; if you are celebrating a happy occasion, all the best; and if you have experienced a loss, our prayers are with you always.

In Loyalty Protection and Service,

Cindy