



FRA BRANCH 42 NEWSLETTER APR - JUN 2017

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From Your President

On behalf of the members of Branch 42, we would like to extend our sincere condolences to the families of BTCM Dean R. Kauffman, USN(RET) BMC William R. House, USN (RET) and ADCS George VanAmersfoort, who are now serving on the staff of the Supreme Commander. We would also like to acknowledge CEC William Grimshaw, and EMCMM Don Pick, who are on the binnacle list. Get well soon.

IMPORTANT DATES - Mark your calendar

Saturday, April 15th, 2017 1100 Regular monthly meeting at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, Davisville, RI.

There was an overwhelming agreement to change the meeting time and date to the third Saturday of the month at 11:00 a.m. Hopefully more members will be able to attend the meetings.

Due to the many military activities, (including the annual Air Show) the meeting for May will probably change. A vote will be taken at the April meeting and the local people will be notified.

The annual Regional Mid-Year meeting was conducted in Lakehurst, NJ on March 25th, hosted by Branch 124. Branch 42 had a First Place winner of the Americanism/Patriotism Essay Contest, in the 10th grade. PO2 Zachary Bartlett, USCC and will receive a certificate & \$100.00 check at the Sea Cadet regular meeting on April 1st.

The Regional Convention will be hosted by Branch 115 on 18-20 August 2016 at The Center at Holiday Inn-

Lehigh Valley, Breinigsville, PA. More information will be in the next newsletter, but just wanted you to save the dates.

Branch election of officers is soon coming up and those who would like to take part and become active as an officer of the branch are encouraged to notify the secretary of your intentions. All Offices are open for election. President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. The Chaplain & MAA are appointed by the president. We would like to see some new members step up to the plate and take action. We need new ideas.

Although our membership has dwindled, we must remain a viable veterans organization in Rhode Island and we urge everyone to seek out new members. They are out there, we just have to let them know we exist.

MEMBERS READY TO RENEW:

Joseph Kerwood, Earl Brown, Robert Campbell, Leonard Gassen, Ronald Kotula, Darryl Manning, James Murphy, Paul Murray, Norman Silva and Thomas Willett. Your membership is greatly appreciated.

"APRIL -JUNE BIRTHDAYS"

Fred Allison 05/09/43, Kenneth Almon 05/19/31,
Jose Alves 04/20/45, Charles Angell 05/20/27,
Edward August 04/04/33, John Broderick 05/05/42,
Sylvan Cavitt 04/29/29, James Collins 04/19/35,
Kieran Collins Jr. 06/30/31, Billie Dietz 05/06/30,
John Gould 06/05/52, Harold Greiner 05/20/22,
William Grimshaw 05/09/1913,(our oldest member)
Norman Hankins 05/01/29, Francis Hopton 04/02/35,
Thomas Jones Jr. 06/21/40, Joseph Kerwood
06/27/90,(our youngest member) John Kutger
04/26/37, William Moller 05/30/26, Joseph Moniz
06/14/23, Harry Nill 05/20/30, Donald Pick

04/12/27, Edward Ponte 05/30/30, John Pulver
05/28/41, Joe Quinn 04/09/35, Richard Radei
05/24/51, Kenneth Senker 06/13/43, David Sherlock
05/28/30, Norman Silva 05/19/34, Russell Smith
04/05/40, James Sole 04/10/59, Jack Todd
06/23/36, Algirdas Usalis 04/30/35,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ONE AND ALL

Just a reminder, I would like to have everyone's e-mail address as it will soon be necessary to cancel the hard copy of the newsletter. It is getting too expensive to produce and mail a hard copy to the shipmates and ladies. We have to have a minimum of 200 mailings (in order to send newsletters via Bulk Mail) and our membership has dropped to 179. Please give us a contact e-mail, even if it has to be a relative or friend so we can contact you. Send your address to Secretary Justin at pajusnret@me.com

The Officers of Branch 42.

UNIT 42 NEWS

The members of Unit 42 Quonset/Davisville continue to meet for lunch at Gregg's Restaurant, 4120 Quaker Lane, N. Kingstown on the third Monday of every month at 11:30 AM. Hope more of you will be able to participate. Remember, I am very willing to pick anyone up, just give me a call - (401) 439-5329, or email cindyrothamtuck@gmail.com. We make every attempt to contact everyone if a meeting is cancelled, but when in doubt, feel free to call.

The Regional Midyear meeting was held March 26, 2017 hosted by Branch and Unit 124 at the Branch home in Lakehurst, NJ. RVP Bobbie Seidel discussed the importance of membership particularly in the case of those members who have let their membership drop.

The FRA Northeast/New England Region will hold its 2017 Regional Convention on August 18-20, 2017 at the Holiday Inn Conference Center, 7736 Adrienne Drive, Breinigsville, PA. There will be more information to follow.

National President Helen Courneya's project for this year is "Survival of the LA FRA." The LA FRA has many programs that are supported solely by donations from the various units and individual donors. Over the years, because of the declining membership causing units to fold, some of the funds for our many programs are running dangerously low. With this in mind, NP Helen is requesting everyone to support her national fundraiser. Currently, the membership for the Auxiliary stands at 6353; if each member donated

just \$5.00, we could add \$31,765, but remember every dollar counts. Checks should be made out to LA FRA and reference NP PROJECT in memo line. Mail to: NFS Christina Murray, 512 Hyde Park Rd, Norfolk, VA 23503-5514.

Over the last two years, NP Helen has worked to reestablish the volunteer program with the Veteran's Administration facilities across the country. As a member of Unit 66, Claire Payne worked for over 30 years as a volunteer and was recognized at last year's National Convention for her dedication and service. Claire is now a member of Unit 42 continuing her work as the VAVS deputy, and I have become the VAVS representative at the VA Hospital in Brockton, MA.

Even though the members of Unit 42 will be unable to participate in person because of the distance, I would like to ask the unit to donate items. These could include items such as: diabetic & regular candies; hairbrushes; large print crossword puzzles and word search activity workbooks; bar soap; combs; denture cleaner and adhesive; disposable razors (men and women); shaving cream; Q-tips; AA & AAA batteries; hearing aid batteries and toothpaste and toothbrushes. I have a much longer list that I will distribute at the next meeting. Other suggestions are gift cards for Shaw's, Stop & Shop, CVS, and Walgreens etc. and of course, monetary donations are always welcome. It would be terrific if this could be an ongoing project.

We would like to hear from you and know that you are doing okay, if you need help or just a 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 LPS

Cindy

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