



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

MO-KAN BRANCH & UNIT 161

NOVEMBER 2017

~ BRANCH OFFICERS ~

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Meeting are held at the DAV Chapter 2 Home located at 14605 E. US 40 Hwy. Kansas City, MO located between Noland & Phelps Rds. Meetings start by 1930. Unit 161 will bring desserts. The DAV will cook up something with protein; chicken leg, pork chop, etc., or you can order from the menu.

BINGO for the residents of the Home Care Unit at Eisenhower VA Medical Center will be held the third or fourth THURSDAY of each month. The BINGO crew will meet at TENPENNY in Leavenworth for lunch around noon. Call S/M QUINTERO at 816-260-0435 for definitive information.



Our national symbol and Branch 161 are saddened because the following Shipmates recently joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander



ROBERT E. NASH, EMCS, USN, RET
 WARREN E. CROSS, AMCS, USN, RET



NOVEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism-Essay:
 Essays are due 1 December.

Americanism-Patriotism:
 The next National Holidays will be Veterans Day and Thanksgiving day, 11 and 23 November.

Membership:
 Branch membership stands at 445 members with 440 in-good-standing.

Finance & Audit:
 Next audit is due 7 February 2018.

Legislative Service:
 Next MAVO meeting will be 29-30 January in conjunction with meeting with the General Assembly.

No report for Kansas.

Youth Activities:

Sea Cadets will act as color guard for a DAR event.

Public Relations:
 S/MS QUINTERO, CHAMPAGNE, and LICKTEIG with Auxiliary members Colleen Champagne and Ron Combs handed out 820 goodie bars to kids during "Trail or Treat" at Butterfly Trail Park in Grain Valley on 27 October.

S/MS WHITE, FLIPPIN, G. BROWN, Curry & Gary SANDERS along with Ladies Dottie Sanders and Barbara

The following are recognized by MO-KAN Branch 161 for their continuous years of FRA membership during the month of November:

ADKISSON, Donald	25	★ALLEN, Ernest	55	BOUTZ, Everett	33	BUEHRIE, William	14
CAMPBELL, Everett	33	COOK, L.R.	34	CROSS, Warren	48	CUNNINGHAM, Dave	02
DAGGETT, Richard	13	DAVIS, Albert	36	DICKMAN, Timothy	01	DWIGANS, Dean	05
ELLISON, Robert	01	FITCH, Ralph	25	GILMORE, Washington	25	GOODMAN, Billy	28
GREENLEE, Daniel	26	HALLORAN, John	44	HARDY, James	33	HICKS, Jon	05
HIGGINS, Eugene	41	HOUSDAN, C.D.	25	JONES, George	36	KENNEY, Ben	02
KIDD, William	14	KIRSCHNER, Richard	25	LANDRETH, Fred	25	LONGHI, Michael	21
MACKE, Raymond	28	MCNEILL, Dennis	42	MORGAN, George	36	MORTH, Henry	41
OSTEEN, Leroy	42	PORTER, Robert	41	REICHA, Frank Sr	36	SANDERS, Roger	14
SCHWENT, John	24	SHARP, Charles	43	SHICK, Ray	20	SHIELDS, William	38
STAPLES, Jerry	32	STIEM, Thomas	21	STUART, Frank	30	SULLENGER, Joseph	24
SULLIVAN, Vic	31	TAKACS, Gene	14	THOMPSON, Harold	18	TURNER, Russell	18
WEISER, Charles	29	WELCH, Willie	16	WHEELER, Marlin	41		

Your continued membership keeps the FRA at the table on Capitol Hill instead of a menu item.
We could not do it without you!

White attended the Retiree Open House 28 October at Ft. Leavenworth.

Hospital & Welfare:

Lady Clara Combs is in St. Mary's Care Center in Blue Springs.

Veterans Service:

S/Ms QUINTERO and Norm COMBS, along with Debbie Palmer, attended and delivered seven pounds of sugarless candy for the Leavenworth VA Hospital "Hallowfest" and also worked BINGO 25 and 26 October.

Communications:

Secretary read correspondence.

Treasurer's Report:

S/M GAGE said the checking account balance is \$3,289.27 and reported on bills to be paid.

MOTION: To pay bills; *seconded*; *passed*.

Unfinished Business:

Dates of the 2018 NCR Mid-Year will be Sunday-Wednesday, 8-11 April at Stone Castle Hotel in Branson. Call 417-335-4700 for reservations.

Branch 161 took first place awards in Group II judging for Americanism-Patriotism, Public Relations, Hospital & Welfare, and Youth Activities; our very first quadfecta ever.

New Business:

Gift lists for the homes were passed out.

Following limited discussion, motion was made to allocate \$75 per month for BINGO prizes at the Cameron, MO Veterans Home; motion carried.

Good-of-the-Order:

None.

STATUS REPORT

Members 30 days past due:
MITCHELL, JAMES

Members 60 days past due:
BRANDT, SHAWN
CASEY, DAN
HARRALD, JAMES

Members 90 days past due:
BRADY, GEORGE JR
WRIGHT, WILLIE

REMINDER: Dues renewals sometime come with extraneous information from NHQ and are easily overlooked; also, reports from National run a month late.

New members:

None

Membership now stands at 450.



UNIT NEWS

By *Ernestene Combs*

We welcome our newest member, Lisa Hayes; welcome aboard, Lisa. To those who could not attend the meeting, you were truly missed; we only had five members in attendance.

We hope that many of you can come to the annual gift wrap on the 24th at the meeting hall. For our Thanksgiving project this year we provided a \$50 gift card to the Stacks Youth Project. A huge *Thank You* to everyone for your continued support.

For those of you with October birthdays, a very *Happy Birthday* to you all ... we hope your day was enjoyable.

To those having an illness, get well soon. Those who have lost loved ones, our prayers and sympathies go out to you. Special prayers go out to PRPNC Lisa Barton in the death of her husband, Tony, who is also NES Doris Fri's son-in-law.

Please notify the Secretary of any change of address or phone number. If you have any questions, please notify an officer listed in the heading

of this newsletter.

Past Due 30 Days:

None

Past Due 60 Days:

Ashli C. VanDerlinden

Dropped for non-payment:

Samantha R. Shaw

Transfers-out:

None

If your dues have been paid please disregard.

New Members/Transfers-in:

None

To be renewed:

Rose M. Ayversone
PNP Doris C. Fri
Dolores J. Hopkins
Susan D. Odom
Alline D. Shaw
Gloanne E. Sullivan

 **The Bosn's Pipe**

NDA Conference Committee Bill Passes

The House and Senate passed the final version of the FY2018 National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 2810) that focuses on military readiness. The bill authorizes nearly \$700 billion, which is \$26 billion more than the Administration's request and \$80 billion more than sequestration spending limits currently in effect.

The final bill includes:

- Keeping a grandfather clause to shield current retirees younger than 65 from an additional TRICARE fee increase (Senate NDA repealed grandfather clause)
- Imposing a pharmacy co-pay for retirees younger than 65
- Eliminating the expiration date of May 2018 for the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA) for military widows, and increasing the SSIA based on the annual cost-of-living-allowance

- Increasing pay (larger than requested) for troops by 2.4 percent, the largest pay increase in 8 years
- Eliminating a scheduled one-percent cut in Basic Allowance for Housing and stopping a Senate provision to cut the dependent children rate for dual-military couples
- Boosting military end strength by more than 20,000 service members (4,000 Navy & 1,000 Marines)
- Mandate all Reserve Component members that are mobilized to receive premobilization and transitional health care
- Providing additional measures to protect victims of sexual assault including prosecution of perpetrators of non-consensual sharing of intimate images
- Allowing reimbursement up to \$500 for a spouse's expenses related to obtaining occupational license or certification in another state
- Directing the Correction of Military Records Boards to consider additional medical evidence relating to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or traumatic brain injury (TBI) when reviewing a discharge

The bill will now go to President Trump who is expected to sign it into law. The bill exceeds the budget cap for defense spending and will require additional congressional action to be enacted. The President, along with the leaders of both the House and Senate, must strike a deal to eliminate or raise the sequestration caps for Defense spending in the next few weeks. Members are encouraged to go to the [FRA Action Center](#) to ask their legislators to exclude Defense spending from sequestration.

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Acknowledgement of this years fund raiser for Christmas follows:

GAGE, D.	\$ 20
SCHILLY, D.	25
SHICK, R	30

PIPPIN, J.	20
SINGER, J.	30
HARDY, J.	10
DRAINER, J.	25
LAMPKIN, C.	
CONWELL, F.	20
Carter, K.	20
QUINTERO, A.	150
KIRSCHNER, P.	10

\$1,876 to date.

Military Exchange Online Shopping for Veterans Started 11 November

As first reported in the June 9, 2017 The Veterans Online Shopping Benefit will become available on military exchange websites starting 11 November 2017. The exchanges are stocking up in anticipation of a huge increase in customers. More than 235,000 veterans have already been verified for the benefit, however, as many as 18 million more individuals may be eligible.

COMING EVENTS

Wed. 6 Dec. 2017. Reg. Br. and Unit Meeting 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.

at. 16 Dec. Christmas Membership Luncheon at the DAV 14605 E. US 40 Hwy. See below.

Wed. 3 Jan. 2018. Reg. Br. and Unit Meeting 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.

******* NOTE *******

The Branch & Unit will hold it's Christmas Quarterly Membership Luncheon at 1100 on Saturday 16 December. The cost is \$5 per member of the Branch or Unit, and guest, which must be paid upon making your reservation.

Bring an eligible member and receive your lunch complimentary.

- Choices are: (indicate choice(s) & no.)
1. Bacon wrapped beef filet _____
 2. Chicken breast _____

Clip & mail to either the secretary or newsletter editor for your reservation.

TONY CHAMPAGNE - EDITOR
1008 SW FOXTAIL DR
GRAIN VALLEY, MO 64029

MO-KAN BRANCH & UNIT 161
SERVING ENLISTED SEA SERVICES
Since 1953

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
KANSAS CITY, MO
PERMIT NO. 2942

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



FRA Membership Application

Membership is open to all current or former enlisted members of the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard. My signature below certifies that I fulfill the eligibility requirements and want To join the FRA. Annual dues includes a subscription to *FRA Today* magazine.

RECRUITED BY: (Optional Information)
Name: _____
Member No: _____ Branch No: _____

Name: _____ Rate/Rank: _____ Birth Date: _____
Address: _____
Street Apt/Lot City State Zip
Dates of Service: from _____ to _____ SSN (optional): _____ Phone: () _____
Service: USN; USMC; USCG; Status: Active; Reserve; Retired; Veteran Membership Pref: Branch No. 161

SPECIAL OFFER for NEW MEMBERS \$64 for two years

Previous FRA Member: No Yes If yes; previous Member No. _____
Spouses Name: _____ Your E-mail Address: _____
Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Dues: 1 yr \$40; 2 yrs \$64 (new members); 2 yrs \$75; 5 yrs \$180 Check enclosed

Pmt Options: Visa; MC; AE; Discover; Cr. Card No. _____ Exp Date: _____
Mail to: Address on Newsletter or; 125 N. West St.; Alexandria, VA 22314 Make check payable to: FRA

JOIN THE AUXILIARY FRA; Membership Application (Dues \$20)

Name in Full _____
First Middle Last

Address: _____
Street Apt/Lot City State Zip

Date of Birth: _____ Phone: () _____ Unit Preference: _____

I am the: spouse ; widow(er) ; parent ; grandparent ; sibling ; child ; grandchild (all include "step")
Of _____
Service Member's Name Rate/Rank USN - USMC - USCG

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Proposed By: _____ Member No: _____ Date: _____

VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY
The above named Service Member is a member of or, at time of death, was eligible to be a member of Fleet Reserve Association Branch number _____ Verified by: _____ Date _____
Unit Secretary

