



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

MO-KAN BRANCH & UNIT 161

NOVEMBER 2018

~ 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. The DAV kitchen staff offers daily specials 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.



NOVEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism-Essay:

Essay judging will take place by 1100 on 27 December at the DAV.

Americanism-Patriotism:

The next National Holiday observances will be Veterans Day, 11 November and Thanksgiving, 22 November.

Membership:

The Branch had 376 members with 372 in-good-standing as of 31 October.

Finance & Audit:

Mid-year report is due February 2019.

Youth Activities:

HST Squadron Sea Cadets completed night training 19-20-21 October.

Public Relations:

Ft. Leavenworth Retiree Appreciation

Day had a good turnout.

Shipmate QUINTERO presented KC Chiefs quarterback, Patrick Mahomes with a "Kansas City Chief" ball cap for humanitarian acts at the "Tiny Houses" site.

Hospital & Welfare:

No report, for a change.

Veterans Service:

S/Ms QUINTERO and Norm COMBS With Debbie Palmer worked BINGO 24 October and Hallowfest 30 October; next BINGO will be 15 November at Leavenworth VA HCU.

S/M Pres. Schilly presented a \$5,000 check from the Branch to the Veterans Community Project to sponsor a Tiny House bringing the total this year to \$5,300.

Communications:

None requiring action.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer gave a report and identified bills to be paid; checking account balance was \$3,783.95.

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

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

MOTION: To change Branch Standing Rules to comply with 2018 NCR actions; *seconded; passed.*

MOTION: To change Branch Standing Rules to reflect the correct time & place of meetings; *seconded; passed.*

Good-of-the-Order:

S/M Pres. Schilly presented S/M LICKTEIG with his Past Branch Secretary's pin.

Open season is for FEDVIP dental and vision plans run 12 November thru 12 December. Go to: tricare.benefeds.com for more info.

STATUS REPORT

Members 30 days past due:

FLACHS, LOWELL
PATTERSON, KEVIN L.
POWERS, GEORGE T.

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

ADKISSON, Donald	26	ALLEN, Ernest	56	BOUTZ, Everett	34	BUEHRIE, William	15
CAMPBELL, Everett	34	COOK, L.R.	35	CUNNINGHAM, Dave	03	DAGGETT, Richard	14
DAVIS, Albert	37	DICKMAN, Timothy	02	DWIGANS, Dean	06	FITCH, Ralph	26
GILMORE, Washington	26	GREENLEE, Daniel	27	HALLORAN, John	45	HARDY, James	34
HICKS, Jon	06	HOUSDAN, C.D.	26	JONES, George	37	KIDD, William	15
KIRSCHNER, Richard	26	LANDRETH, Fred	26	LONGHI, Michael	22	MACKE, Raymond	29
MCNEILL, Dennis	43	MORGAN, George	37	PORTER, Robert	42	RERICHA, Frank Sr	37
SANDERS, Roger	15	SCHWENT, John	25	SHICK, Ray	21	SHIELDS, William	39
STAPLES, Jerry	33	STIEM, Thomas	22	SULLENGER, Joseph	25	SULLIVAN, Vic	32
TAKACS, Gene	15	THOMPSON, Harold	19	TURNER, Russell	19	VEHEC, Dr Ken	01
WEISER, Charles	30	WHEELER, Marlin	42				

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

Members 60 days past due:

NEVIN, CHRISTOPHER

Members 90 days past due:

BENTER, GEORGE

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

New members:

LAKINS, TANYA
SGT, USMC, VET

Transfer out:

None

Membership now stands at 377.



UNIT NEWS

By *Ernestene Combs*

Our Thanksgiving project was collecting non-perishables for the food pantry. Our thanks go out to all who donated. We will do the same for Christmas. So bring these items to the December meeting. We appreciate all of your support.

Although the Christmas wrapping and quarterly luncheon will be over by the time you receive this newsletter, we simply want to remind everyone they took place.

The Christmas parties will be held December 15th for Good Shepherd and TNC.

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the families of Helen Dodd and Laura Harrison who recently passed away.

Happy Birthday to those of you with November birthdays ... we hope your day was enjoyable.

To those suffering an illness, get well soon. And to those who have lost loved ones, our prayers and sympathies go out to you.

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:

Wanda A. Strohkirch

Past Due 60 Days:

Brenda L. Bryant

Past Due 90 Days:

Mary M. Goodman
Barbara J. Hodson

Dropped for non-payment:

None

Transfers-out:

None

If your dues have been paid please disregard.

New Members/Transfers-in:

Debra E. Wentworth

To be renewed:

Rose M. Ayversone
Doris Fri
D.J. Hopkins
Susan D. Odom
Aline D. Shaw
Gloanne Sullivan

The Bosn's Pipe

House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee Reviews VA Electronic Health Records Modernization Implementation

The House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Technology Modernization held an oversight hearing on the Electronic Health Record Modernization program's accomplishments throughout its first 180 days. They also reviewed the activities planned for the upcoming year. The subcommittee experienced "sticker shock" regarding estimated cost overruns. Mr. John Windom, Executive Director, Office of Electronic Health Record Modernization at the VA assured the subcommittee that the VA would continue to look for efficiencies and savings as EHRM is implemented. Mr. Windom stated that the VA was

meeting its implementation goals and is working with DoD in the implementation of their new records system. The two systems should be interoperable when completed.

Time is Running Out to Pass Agent Orange Reform Bill

Congress is in session two weeks in November and the first two weeks of December. Time is running out for the Senate to vote on the "Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act" (H.R. 299). The bill is now in the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee awaiting a vote. The House sponsor Rep. David Valadao (Calif.) sent a letter to Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Senator Johnny Isakson, co-signed by more than 100 Representatives, urging the Chairman to move the bill before the end of the 115th Congress. The original proposal clarifies that service members serving off the coast of the Republic of Vietnam during the Vietnam conflict have a presumption for filing disability claims with the VA for ailments associated with exposure to the Agent Orange herbicide. The bill has been amended to extend the presumption of herbicide exposure for veterans who served on or near the Korean DMZ between 1 September 1967 and 31 August 1971. This legislation will extend health care, vocational training & rehabilitation and monetary allowance to a child who was born with spina bifida if at least one of the

child's parents served in Thailand between 9 January 1962 and 7 May 1975 and the VA determines that at least one of the parents had been exposed to a herbicide agent during that period. The bill also includes changes to the VA's home loan program. FRA believes Congress should recognize these veterans were exposed to Agent Orange herbicide and authorize presumptive status for disability claims. Contact your Senators to ask them to support this bill, and push for a Senate vote.

TRICARE Open Season and FEDVIP Sign Up is Now Available

TRICARE Open Season has begun and the Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) enrollment is also now available online. If a beneficiary is using a TRICARE health plan and they do not want to make any changes, they do not have to do anything during TRICARE Open Season. If a beneficiary wants to make changes to their health plan, they must do it during TRICARE Open Season 12 November-10 December 2018. Also starting 10 November is open enrollment in the FEDVIP through the BENEFEDS enrollment portal. The FEDVIP open enrollment ends on 12 December 2018. On 31 December 2018, the Defense Health Agency's TRICARE Retiree Dental Program will expire. The FY2017 National Defense Authorization Act allows military

retirees and their families the opportunity to enroll in FEDVIP. If a beneficiary is currently enrolled in a TRDP plan, they will *not* be automatically enrolled in a FEDVIP plan for 2019 and you must enroll during the open season. If you know a retiree that does not have access to a computer, they can call 877-888-3337.

The Branch acknowledges the following for participating in this years Christmas fundraiser:

DAVENPORT, D.	\$ 10
QUINTERO, A.	100
SONDAG, L.	10
SCHILLY, R.	10
CARTER, K.	15
FOLEY, J.	50
DREW, C.	10
HAYES, L.	10
FIELDS, C.	30
CONWELL, F.	20
FITCH, R.	15

Total to date: **\$1,686.**

COMING EVENTS

- Wed. 5 Dec. 2018. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.
- Sat. 15 Dec. 2018. Christmas parties for TNC and CGS at CGS facility on 102nd Street.
- Wed. 5 Jan. 2019. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.

BRANCH MEMBER ☆ OWNED & VETERAN FRIENDLY BUSINESSES

PRINT GRAPHICS
945 NW VESPER
BLUE SPRINGS, MO
816-228-1053

SINGER AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE ☆
311 W. 74th ST
KANSAS CITY, MO
816-379-3490

TONY C's PC SMITHERY ☆
SET UP/CLEAN UP/REPAIR
816-786-2355

NORMA J. BALDRIDGE ☆
FAMILY WELLNESS & MORE
19110 S. HICKORY GRV RD
PLEASANT HILL, MO
816-916-2666

KANSAS CITY PHANTOMS ☆
ARENA FOOTBALL
SILVERSTEIN EVENTS CENTER
Mil discount

CUNNINGHAM CONSTR ☆
"DIRTY DAVE"
816-695-4951
davidjohn525@aol.com

Send or email information about your business if you would like it listed in this directory

The Branch will occasionally list member-owned and other businesses in this newsletter

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
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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