



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

MO-KAN BRANCH & UNIT 161

MARCH 2019

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Meetings are held at the DAV Chapter 2 Home located at 14605 E. US 40 Hwy. Kansas City, MO located between Noland & Phelps Roads. 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.

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 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ *IN MEMORIAM* ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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



DAVID J. O'BRIEN, ACC, USN, RET – Olathe, KS
 THOMAS J. GRAVES, ADR1, USN, RET – Gardner, KS

★ ★



MARCH MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

S/M President SCHILLY appointed S/M N. COMBS to act as Treasurer in the absence of S/M GAGE.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism-Essay:

The 9th grade winner from Branch 161 took 2nd place in the North

Central Region Essay Contest. We are hoping to have the student and parent(s) at the next meeting for award presentations.

Americanism-Patriotism:

Next National Holiday observance will be Memorial Day, 27 May.

Membership:

The Branch had 359 members with 353 in-good-standing as of 28 February.

Finance & Audit:

The Mid-year finance report was given at the February meeting. Annual audit will be conducted between the May and June meetings.

Youth Activities:

Ron SCHUMAKER is leaving his position with the Sea Cadets; a new CO is needed.

Public Relations:

None.

Hospital & Welfare:

Reported that S/MS David O'BRIEN

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

BOGERT, Richard	35	CABY, David	46	CARTER, Ken	28	COMBS, Don	04
CRANE, Don	33	★CUTT, Stephen	53	DAVIS, James III	01	DECOURLEY, Charles	37
DOUD, Dale	34	ELLIOTT, Steve	27	FARWIG, George	36	FERRINGTON, David	43
GANN, Dale	37	GARRIGUES, Ned	23	GEORGE, William	30	HALL, Robert	40
HARDEN, Louis	38	HENDRICKSON, Jas	42	★KISPERT, Ernest	52	KORTUM, Joseph	40
LEHART, Walt	41	LILLIG, Bernie	03	O'BRIEN, George	28	PULLIAM, Darrell	28
★RODGERS, William	59	ROSE, Elmer	33	SANDERS, Gary	12	SCHERMAN, Ernest	20
SCHUMAKER, Ron	02	SHELTON, Robert	21	SIEG, John	42	STUTTS, Wesley	42
TAYLOR, Levon	04	WISE, Cletus	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!

and Thomas GRAVES had recently joined the Staff of the Supreme Commander.

MOTION: To donate \$50 to the NCR Essay Fund in the memory of S/M O,BRIEN – since he joined the FRA March 1952 and \$25 for S/M GRAVES; *seconded; passed.*

Report made that S/M MURAWSKI had experienced a stroke.

Veterans Service:

S/Ms QUINTERO, LICKTEIG and Norm COMBS worked BINGO at the Leavenworth VA HCU 23 February; next BINGO will be 23 March.

Communications:

None for action.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer gave a report and identified bills to be paid; checking account balance was \$3,285.91.

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

Unfinished Business:

MOTION: To donate \$50 to host of the 2019 NCR Mid-Year Conference; *seconded; passed.*

The 2019 National Convention will be held in Memphis, TN, 23-29 September.

New Business:

Members were reminded that the next quarterly luncheon will be 11 May at

the DAV; the cost is \$5. Bring a potential member – FRA or Auxiliary – lunch for you and your guest will be paid by the Branch.

Good-of-the-Order:

S/M Lavon TAYLOR is under hospice care at the Cameron Veterans Home.

STATUS REPORT

Members 30 days past due:

COLE, JAMES H.
HOLZMEISTER, ABRAHAM
SCOTT, CHESTER
SWAIM, JOSH

Members 60 days past due:

BLAKE, JOHNNIE R.
PRATT JAMES L.

Members 90 days past due:

DICKMAN, TIM
HARDY, JAMES H.
MACKIE, RAYMOND L.
MCNEILL, DENNIS R.

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

New members:

None

Transfer out:

None

Membership now stands at 359.



UNIT NEWS

Ernestene Combs

Nominations for new officers for 2019 meeting with elections to be held in May; installation of new officers will take place at the June meeting. We hope many of you can take part in the election process.

We are looking forward to attending the Mid-Year March 24-26 and hope to see many of you there.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the Branch and Unit. Your volunteer efforts are always greatly appreciated.

To those of you who had a birthday, we hope it was enjoyable. To those who were ill, we hope you're on the road to recovery and to those of you who have lost loved ones, our prayers and sympathies are with you.

Past Due 30 Days:

Jeremy D. Davenport
Matthew G. Davenport
Daniel A. Fri
Myra Milleson

Past Due 60 Days:

Agnes V. Taff

Past Due 90 Days:

Deborah K. Davenport
Gina M. Stephenson

Charlene H. Twitchell

Dropped for non-payment:

None

Transfers-out:

None

If your dues have been paid please disregard.

New Members/Transfers-in:

None

To be renewed:

Rhea B. Davidson
Ruth A. Gindling
Michel Lambert
Joann D. Pommerer

📣 **The Bosn's Pipe**

NP Washington Speaks to Joint House and Senate Hearing

FRA National President Robert Washington testified this week before a joint hearing of the House and

Senate Veterans Affairs Committees. NP Washington asked Congress to pass legislation (S.422/H.R.299), which expands presumption for Blue Water Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange herbicide while serving off the coast of Vietnam. He thanked HVAC past Chairman Phil Roe (TN) and current Chairman Rep. Mark Takano (CA) for passing the bill last year and their rapid re-introduction of the same legislation (H.R.299) this year.

Washington also discussed the importance of the VA Choice program and thanked the committees for expanding the VA Caregiver program to include all catastrophically disabled veterans. He expressed the association's deep concern about the high rate of veteran suicides and thanked President Trump for creating the veterans suicide task force. Washington thanked HVAC Chairman Takano for creating a task

force to address barriers that women face when trying to obtain benefits and health care from the VA.

FRA Honors Rep. Phil Roe

Shipmate National President Bob Washington and National Vice President Donna Jansky presented the FRA Pinnacle Award Representative Phil Roe and thanked for his hard work on behalf of all veterans. The Pinnacle award, FRA's most prestigious award, is given to one representative or senator each year. During the 115th Congress, Congressman Dr. Phil Roe (TN), a veteran himself, served as the chairman for the House Veterans Affairs Committee, and now is the ranking member in this current Congress. He has served six years on that committee and has worked continuously to improve the lives and benefits for military retirees, veterans and active duty service members. He spearheaded the effort to pass the Agent Orange Blue Water legislation (H.R.299) last year that achieved a unanimous (382-0) passage in the House of Representatives. Though the bill ultimately failed in the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, Roe successfully pushed for other FRA-supported bills such as the Quicker Veterans Benefits Delivery (H.R.1725), the Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act (H.R.2288) and the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act (H.R.3218) to become law.

COMING EVENTS

Wed. 3 Apr. 2019. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting 14605 E. US 40 Hwy. Nominations for Branch & Unit Officers for 2019-20 open.

Wed. 1 May 2019. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting 14605 E. US 40 Hwy. Election of Branch & Unit Officers for 2019-20 take place.

Sat. 11 May 2019. Quarterly membership luncheon - 1100 at DAV.



Andrew Quintero, S/M Tony Quintero, S/M Jerry and Lady Donna Lickteig, Lady Dottie and S/M Curry Sanders at a "Tiny House" event.

TONY CHAMPAGNE - EDITOR
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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

