

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

ALLIE, Naggie	40	BENZ, Michael	01	BENZ, Monty	01	BROWN, Cyril	18
BRUECKMANN, Mike	20	BRYANT, Maxie	24	CESSNA, Gregory	42	CHRISTIAN, David	24
CHRISTY, Mac	34	COVERT, James	46	EINFELDT, Samuel	31	FORD, William	18
HALLEY, Dennis	24	★HILDRETH, Marvin	50	★HOLLOWOOD, John	51	★HOWELL, Richard	53
HOYER, Kurt	22	HURLEY, Patrick	01	JOHANSEN, Roy	21	MATTHEWS, Carl	42
MINNER, William	13	PERCIVAL, Rose M.	31	POTEETE, William	42	RUPPERT, Nathan	31
SWITZER, Mike	01	WHITE, Barry	24				

Your continued membership is what helps the FRA impact the thinking on Capitol Hill.
We could not do it without you!

is still on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Branch still donates funding for one monthly session.

Communications:

S/M Secretary informed the membership that the 2020 National Convention has been cancelled.

He also read a card accompanied by a donation from Lady Ouida Fikes in memory of S/M Dave COMBS.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer was unable to secure the correct amount in the checking account due to logistics, but said balance was around \$5,000.

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

Unfinished Business:

The 2020 North Central Regional Convention could be affected by:

- (1) COVID-19 cases
- (2) Governor's actions
- (3) Camden County, MO Health Department
- (4) Inn at Grand Glaize; safety of the property

New Business:

None

Good-of-the-Order:

S/M N. COMBS thanked all who attended and participated in the memorial service for S/M Dave.

STATUS REPORT

Members 30 days past due:

ALPERS, HARRY W.
BELL, RONALD J.
BROWER, WAYNE H.
CAIN, WILLIAM L.

Members 60 days past due:

TRUSTY, CARL R.

Members 90 days past due:

BUDISELICH, GUY S.
GANN, DALE L.

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

Transfer out:

None

Membership now stands at 308.



UNIT NEWS

Ernestene Combs

It was great to have six members in attendance at the July meeting.

While National continues to experience difficulties with the membership software it has been hard for us to track who has paid their dues or, if paid, if you are receiving your new card. We are doing our best to keep everyone up-to-date because the National Financial Secretary is trying

to do it all manually. We certainly appreciate your patience. Please disregard if your name erroneously appears on a renewal list. Dues will still be sent to the same address:

LAFRA National Financial Secretary
106 Hyrne Drive
Goose Creek, SC 29445-7331

As of this writing the 2020 NCR Convention is still scheduled unless the Camden County Missouri Health Department says otherwise.

For those of you having a birthday in July, have a very *Happy Birthday*. And to those who are ill, get well soon; please stay safe and *coronavirus* free.

A heartfelt thanks to all of you for the cards, thoughts and prayers in the loss of Norm's two brothers and one sister.

If you have recently lost a loved one, our prayers and sympathies are with you.

Past Due 30 Days:

< unknown >

Past Due 60 Days:

< unknown >

Past Due 90 Days:

< unknown >

Dropped for non-payment:

None

Transfers-out:

None

Thank you all for your support. **If your dues have been paid please disregard the *Past Due* notices.**

New Members/Transfers-in:
None

To be renewed:
PRPNC Corinne Fields
Barbara J. Hodson
Alta L. Sharp

🔊 The Bosn's Pipe

NDAА Amendment to Provide Benefits to Vets Exposed to Agent Orange

Sen. Jon Tester (Mont.) has filed a Senate floor amendment for the National Defense Authorization Act (S.4049), which expands the list of service-connected presumptions under the Agent Orange statute to include bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and Parkinsonism. Thousands of Vietnam veterans living with chronic health conditions developed during their service are being denied critical benefits and health care from the VA.

Tester's amendment providing a presumption of service connection for these are based on scientific review by the National Academy of Medicine.

National Service Commission Issues Final Report

The Commission on Military, National, and Public Service has released its final report on the need for a mandatory national service program, including military service. The FRA participated in a round-table discussion with the commission. In January 2019, the FRA surveyed its members about mandatory national service. The online survey asked, "Should Congress enact a mandatory military service/national public service program?" The responses were:

- Yes, for men only - 14.7%
- Yes, for men and women - 67.8%
- No - 10.5%
- Unsure/don't know - 7.4%

The results were shared with the commission, who in turn agreed with

the majority of FRA members and recommended that both men and women be required to register for Selective Service. Currently, only men older than the age of 18 are required to register.

The commission wants to create a common expectation of service among American people, so nobody is surprised by the questions "How have you served?" or "How will you serve?"

— COMING EVENTS —

Sun-Mon-Tues 2-3-4 Aug. 2020. NCR Convention; Inn at Grand Glaize Osage Beach, MO.

Wed. 5 Aug. 2020. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting at 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.

Sun. 30 Aug 2020. Annual Branch & Unit Picnic Armstrong Park Grain Valley, MO Shelter 3; noonish.

Wed. 7 Oct. 2020. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting at 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.



Shipmate Norm COMBS renders a final salute, during taps, at his big brother's graveside service in March.


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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