

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

ABEL, Ralph	31	BROWN, Glenn	20	BURCHI, Albert	43	BUSH, John	31
BUSH, Kenneth	47	COBB, John	24	DAVIES, Albert	23	DIZON, Antonio	48
FELT, Richard	43	FERGUSON, Andrew	40	GAGE, Frederick II	34	GALLAGHER, Edward	41
★GILLELAND, Don	51	HARTLEY, Dwight	23	HENNEQUIN, Harry	32	HUBERT, Gary	06
HUGHES, James	41	★KEIGHLEY, Raymond	53	LAFORTE, Wilfred	28	MCVAY, Walter	31
MEINHARDT, Michael	25	MONAGHAN, Carey	01	NUGENT, William	17	PAGE, Frank	31
PAGE, Leslie	24	QUINTERO, Tony	31	REINHOLD, William	39	SANDERS, Curry	24
SISSON, James	18	WILLIAMS, William	27				

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

Veterans Service:

BINGO at the Leavenworth VA HCU is still on hold during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Branch still donates funding for one monthly session.

Communications:

S/M Secretary read a “thank you” card from TNC for our turkeys and gifts.

Treasurer’s Report:

No report presented due to absence of the Treasurer.

MOTION: To defer payment of bills; *seconded; passed.*

Unfinished Business:

Shipmates were reminded of the Quarterly Membership Luncheon on 20 February.

Nothing to report on the July 2021 Air Show.

New Business:

MOTION: To elect Frank SPEVAK of Independence, MO to the Honorary Board of MO-KAN Branch 161 for his continued support of our charity programs; *seconded; passed.*

Good-of-the-Order:

RVPNC Maria and S/M Bob BEHM addressed the membership.

STATUS REPORT

Members 30 days past due:
GREENLEE, DANIEL
RERICHA, FRANK SR

WISE, CLETUS F.

Members 60 days past due:
None

Members 90 days past due:
LAKINS, TANYA

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 299.



UNIT NEWS

Ernestene Combs

Welcome to our newest members — Allison Collins, Sookyong (Sue) Fox, Anne Marie Lickteig, and Sarah Jenkins.

The Unit and Branch are still able to meet in person once a month at the DAV, instead of a virtual conference. Meeting information is listed at the top of this newsletter.

We certainly do appreciate when members write us a note or send us cards; that let’s us know how you are doing. To those members who are

unable to attend meetings you are not forgotten.

Wishing those of you with a birthday in January a very *Happy Birthday*. We hope you were able to enjoy your special day.

If any of you have been affected by the COVID virus we certainly hope you are either over it or are healing. And to those who may have another illness, get well soon; please stay safe and healthy, especially during this widespread pandemic.

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

Past Due 30 Days:
None

Past Due 60 Days:
PRPNC Jessie E. Hale
Gerald W. Shaw

Past Due 90 Days:
None

Dropped for non-payment:
Elizabeth A. Durham

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 Virginia L. Bowers
Beverly J. Dempsey
Marie Fulmer
Edna M. Lampkin
Lorna M. Schneider



THE BOSUN'S PIPE

FRA Staff Met with President-Elect Biden's DoD Transition Team . . .

NED Chris SLAWENSKI and DLP John DAVIS participated in a Zoom conference with key members of President-elect's Department of Defense Transition Team to discuss issues of concern. The FRA staff stressed that the DoD must sufficiently investigate and implement all options to make TRICARE more cost-efficient vice alternatives to shifting costs to beneficiaries.

Furthermore, the FRA asked for immediate payment of concurrent receipt of full, military retired pay and veterans' disability compensation for all disabled retirees. Interest was expressed about the recent increase in active-duty suicides. The Association expressed concern over the delay in processing Reserve retired pay. Backlogs in the services' retirement administration office are leading to Reserve Components waiting as much as one year after qualifying to receive their retirement pay.

Veterans in the 117th Congress . . .

There are 91 members of the 117th congress with prior military service, making up 17% of the 117th Congress. This number has steadily declined from its peak in the 1970's when veterans' membership in congress was around 75 percent.

Veterans in the 117th Congress by the numbers:

- 17 will serve in the Senate, 74 in the House;
- 28 are Democrats, 63 are Republicans;
- More than half (49) had overseas combat deployments;
- 15 are first-time lawmakers;
- 6 are female;
- 44 served in the Army, Army Reserve or Army National Guard;
- 15 served in the Air Force, Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard;
- 15 served in the Marine Corps or Marine Corps Reserve;
- 17 served in the Navy or Naval Reserve;
- None served in the Coast Guard.

Because of the all-volunteer-armed-forces, it is a wonder we have as many as 17% of Congress made up with veterans since only two or three percent of the population actually serve.



Holy crap! Who gets the "bouncy house?"

COMING EVENTS

- Wed. 3 Feb. 2021. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting at 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.
- Sat. 20 Feb. 2021. Qtrly Membership Luncheon at 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.
- Wed. 3 Mar. 2021. Reg. Br. & Unit Meeting at 14605 E. US 40 Hwy.



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MO-KAN BRANCH & UNIT 161
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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

