

Branch 269  
Goose Creek  
South Carolina



April 2016

Scuttlebutt

**Fleet Reserve Association, Low Country Branch 269**

<http://www.fra269.org> (Branch)

<http://www.fra.org> (National)

**Branch President's Corner**

Why is it when spring comes that everything gets so busy and there is so much more to do? We humans are like bears that are hibernating in winter and then awake when the sun warms the ground and the flowers start to bloom. April is such a cheerful month and everyone is out and about enjoying the weather. So while you are out and about, stop by the Fleet Home and have a lunch and cold drink.

April is our first round of nominations for branch and unit officers for next FRA year with May being the month for the second round of nominations and the election. Serving as an officer of the branch, unit or home is a commitment but very fulfilling as you are serving your fellow shipmates and your voice is important for the success of the FRA and our branch. If you want to serve as an officer of the branch, please come to the branch meeting on 21 April 2016 at 1900 and let someone know and we will get you nominated. If you can't make the meeting in April, just send me an e-mail letting me know what position you wish to fulfill and I will add your name to the nominations. You must be at the meeting in May for the elections or submit a letter of intent to be elected as an officer. All offices are available from Branch President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Branch Board of Directors and Home Committee.

Also going on in April, the USS HOBSON memorial will be held in downtown Charleston on 24 April 2016 at 1330. All shipmates are encouraged to attend to remember this fallen ship and its crew. The branch is sponsoring an Appreciation Dinner for some of the residents of the Veteran's Victory House Nursing Home on 23 April from 1900 – 2200 with a band and all shipmates and auxiliary members are invited to attend. Our branch membership special went very well with the addition of 12 new members, 6 life members, and 30 one year, 13 two year, 1 five year and 1 three year. Good job to everyone who signed someone up for a membership! Have a good month!

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service,  
Laurie Bailey  
Branch President

**LAFRA UNIT 269**

**UNIT OFFICERS**

President – Roz Mathis                      Vice President – Linda Cox  
Secretary – Marilyn Tharp                  Treasurer – Mary Lopez  
Jr. Past President – Gail Bolz

**UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

RPSE Pat Suckow                      Kathy Sorenson                      Maggie Morrin  
Annie Bain                              Gail Bolz                              Trish Chilton  
Tyler Malmgren

**APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Chaplain – Kathy Sorenson                      Amer/Pat – Linda Cox  
Membership – Linda Cox                      VAVS – Gail Bolz  
Sergeant-at-Arms – Tyler Malmgren                      Parliamentarian – Gail Bolz  
Welfare – Tyler Malmgren                      Merry Widows – Esther Ellis  
Youth Activities – RPSE Pat Suckow                      Unit Activities – Linda Cox and  
and Mary Lopez    Mary Lopez  
Audit – RPSE Pat Suckow and                      Hospital – Gail Bolz and  
Gale Nathan    Kathy Sorenson  
Publicity – Amanda Reid and  
Jackie Verheyen

**BRANCH OFFICERS**

President – Laurie Bailey                      Vice-President - Randy Riley  
Treasurer - Gerald Korinek                      Secretary - John Tharp  
Jr. Past President – PRPSE Fred Bolz

**BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PNP Don Muccheck                      JrPRPSE Larry Cox                      PRPSE Fred Bolz  
RVPSE Chuck Hines                      Tim Bailey                      Cindy Bryan  
Patricia Gallagher                      Bill Farmer                      Elmer Feeser  
John Lookabill                      Bob Lopez                      Melody Phillips  
Mike Sparks                      Bobbi Sutton

Chaplain - Bobbi Sutton                      Ways & Means - Cindy Bryan  
Master-at-Arms - Bruce Seltzer                      Historian - Mike Sparks  
Amer/Pat - Randy Riley                      Youth Activities - Patricia Gallagher  
Membership - Laurie Bailey                      Essay Contest – JrPRPSE Larry Cox  
By-Laws – RVPSE Chuck Hines                      Parliamentarian – RVPSE Chuck Hines  
PRelations – Melody Phillips                      Legislative Affairs - PRPSE Fred Bolz  
VAVS-PRPSE - Fred Bolz                      WEB Master - James Sparks

**LOW COUNTRY HOME, INC.**

99 Wisteria Road  
(843) 569-2692

Home Chairman – Nate Nathan

Bobbi Sutton - Admin Secretary                      Gerald Korinek - Financial Sec.  
JrPRPSE Larry Cox – Vice Chairman                      Linda Cox – Special Events  
John Tharp – Membership/Sec                      Jim Williams – Director  
Vacant – Director                      Rick Sparger – Director  
Mary Lopez and Kathy Sorenson – Cash Audit

Trustees: Darlene Hines - 1st Year

RVPSE Chuck Hines - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

PNP Don Muccheck - 3rd Year

Home Manager – PNP Don Muccheck and S/M Larry Pepper

Hours of Operation

Mon-Thur 1000-2200                      Fri 1000-2400

Sat 1000- 2000                      Sun 1000 – 2000

Happy Hour – 1600 – 1900 Monday - Friday

**BRANCH & UNIT CHAPLAINS' PEW**

No Reports of illness or death in Branch or Unit 269 this month

Anyone knowing of any illness or death among our Shipmates or Unit members please contact:

**Branch Chaplain Bobbi Sutton @ 879-9473 or  
Unit Chaplain Kathy Sorenson @ 568-7668.**

### ARE YOU ON FACEBOOK

If you are on Facebook and want to be in contact with us and see what is going on with our home and branch, then LIKE us on Facebook. Go to the search bar and type in: FRA Branch 269. When the list comes up with FRA Branch 269 name, click on it and our page will come up. Press "LIKE" and your request to join will be approved by our administrator in a few days.

### WELCOME ABOARD SHIPMATES

John Bullock            Michael Cole            Steven Morawiec  
Jeromy Sherrill        George White

### BRANCH MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New or Reinstated Members	5
Transferred into Low County Branch 269	0
Transferred to the Staff of the Supreme Commander	0
Suspended members	5
Members past due	13
Transferred from Branch 269	0
TOTAL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AS OF 3 MARCH, 2016	933

### BRANCH 269's DINK LIST

**Past due:** Lee Roy Coats, Peter Cosgrove, Val Daschle, Rodney Gattie, Earl Gross, Carl Hollis, Robert Isaman, Richard Kaminsky, Gavin Karelitz, Jon McCain, James Rebar, Joseph Schmitt, John Steele, Olin Thomas, Tony Williams

**Suspended:** Brian Cruz, Dave Geene, Mario Lingat, Robert Simmang, Bradley Wedycki

### BRANCH 269 MENTORING PROGRAM

The FRA Low Country Branch 269 Mentoring Program desperately needs volunteers to be mentors for new shipmates and who would need to be available for the new member throughout the first year to provide answers to any questions that they might have about the FRA and Branch 269. This program does not take up a lot of time so if you want to find something to start with to get involved with the Branch, this is it! To sign up for this program, please contact Laurie Bailey at [lbailey009@sc.rr.com](mailto:lbailey009@sc.rr.com) or leave a message in the pass down log with name, e-mail and phone number if you want to provide it.

### BRANCH TREASURER'S REPORT

Operations	\$ 4,538.46
Savings	\$ 4,881.53
Certificate of Deposit	\$10,119.49
Total	\$19, 539.48

### FRA HOME TREASURER'S REPORT

Building Fund	\$21,850.09
Savings	\$ 19.58
Checking	\$ 8,266.96
Credit Card Receipts	\$ 1,952.66

### MERRY WIDOWS LUNCHEON

The Merry Widows will meet April 12,  
at 11:30 a.m. at the FRA Home.

### UNIT 269 LUNCHEON

The next Unit lunch will be held Tuesday, April 19,  
at 11:30, at the FRA Home.

### MADAM PREZ'S TIDBIT

The gardens and flowering trees have begun their glorious seasonal show, so it must be officially Spring. I know I'm not alone when I say I will be so glad when the pollen finally settles down. If it's spring, then it must be yard sale/car wash time. The Yard/Craft/Bake Sale -Car Wash will be held at the Home on Saturday, April 23 from 8:00am-1:00pm. Spaces will be rented for \$10 per space, and an additional \$10 per table. Gale Nathan (843-870-7850) and Erin Giannetto (843-821-0526) will take space/table reservations. Reservation deadline is April 16. Items may be stored in the shed. The event will be advertised in the Branch/Unit newsletter and the local newspapers. Visit to Quality Care Residential Home will be in May where Tyler and his ladies will help the residents make decorated sun hats using scarves and flowers. Of course he'll also include sweet treats and fellowship. Please consider coming along for a really enjoyable afternoon. More info next month. Motion passed to contribute \$100 to Goose Creek Recreation for the Relay for Life, to be held April 30, to purchase a track sign with our Unit name. We have received a gift certificate as thanks for our support of G. C. youth sports. It was decided to make a Spring Basket for a raffle. The gift certificate will be part of the basket. Unit 269 will sponsor a softball team of 9-12 year old players. Team name is the Rockie Dixie Angels. Game schedule will be distributed. The rocking chair raffle is off to a good start. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Drawing will be held at the Ma/Pa breakfast, on June 12. Collections for Women Veterans personal items continues - a list of items is attached to the box just inside the door to the bar in the Home. Marilyn Tharp reported that the Branch plans on frequent visits and/or events to the Victory House Veteran's Home in Waltherboro. It was suggested we could help by purchasing tomato plants or flower pots for their gardening efforts. Nominations for 2016-17 Unit 269 officers and board of directors will be held at the April meeting. Elections will be held at the May meeting. The Vegas Show scheduled for April 1, 2 has been cancelled due to lack of ticket sales. USS Hobson Memorial will be on April 24 at 1:00, in White Point Gardens. Please wear white.

The next Merry Widows' Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 12, at 11:30, at the FRA Low Country Home.

The next Unit lunch will be held Tuesday, April 19, at 11:30, at the FRA Low Country Home.

The next regularly scheduled General Assembly meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 19, at 6:30 p.m.

We hope to see you at any or all of these events. If you would like to attend, but do not have transportation, please let us know and we will ensure you get a ride.

Happy Birthday and Anniversary to all members having one in March.

In Loyalty, Protection and Service  
Roz Mathis – President – Unit 269

### FRA BRANCH BY-LAWS REVIEW

#### SECTION 4, ARTICLE 411(a)-(e)

#### DUTIES OF THE BRANCH TREASURER

**Section 411(a)** - Duties of the Treasurer: The Branch Treasurer shall keep accurate accounts of all monies received and expended for five (5) years.

**Section 411(b)** - The Branch Treasurer shall pay all authorized bills by check within thirty days of receipt.

**Section 411(c)** - Checks drawn from the Branch checking account shall bear two signatures, normally the Branch Treasurer and the President. In the absence of the President and/or Treasurer, the Branch Vice President and/or Secretary shall sign.

**Section 411(d)** - The Branch Treasurer shall display a written and make an oral report at the monthly meeting, a listing of all receipts, expenditures, and balances of Branch funds.

**Section 411(e)** - The Branch Treasurer shall maintain the financial reports of the Branch in the form of income statements and balance sheets and prepare necessary reports to appropriate government agencies.

**VA CENTER HONORS VIETNAM VETS**

In May 2012, on Memorial Day, President Obama called for the federal government to partner with organizations and communities across America to participate in the Commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War. To mirror the length of this harsh conflict, a long commemoration period is planned to continue through Veterans Day 2025.

The Ralph H. Johnson, VA Medical Center is a proud Commemorative Partner, and the employees here are committed to honoring the service and sacrifice of the Vietnam-era veterans we are privileged to serve each and every day.

At Charleston VA, we gratefully accept the task of providing high-quality health care and support to veterans of all wars and eras. During this commemorative period, however, we are honored to pay tribute to those service members who faced unseen enemies in a challenging environment halfway around the world during the Vietnam War.

We open our arms to embrace those who did not receive a hero's welcome. We remember the more than 58,000 military members who paid the ultimate price for freedom by laying down their lives in Vietnam, including our namesake PFC. Ralph H. Johnson. And we hold a torch for those who have yet to return home.

We will continue our recognition of local Vietnam Veterans on May 7 with our "Welcome Home Salute: A Night with The Miracles". This concert is free to veterans and will feature Motown performing group The Miracles, with a special appearance by comedian Tommy Chun. Attendees will enjoy a motorcycle ride-in to start the festivities, which will also include a veteran health and resource fair, and a special Vietnam remembrance ceremony prior to the concert.

In November, Charleston VA and our partners at Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum, will host a special Vietnam War symposium aboard the USS Yorktown devoted not only to honoring the Vietnam heroes living among us, but also teaching our next generation of informed citizens – our school children – about the storied history of this war and the brave men and women who defended our nation during its course.

**From the Secretary's Desk**

**John Tharp - [tharpi@sc.rr.com](mailto:tharpi@sc.rr.com)**

- Motion:** S/M RVPSE Chuck Hines, seconded by S/M PNP Muccheck on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Amendment to Article 13. Voice vote and carried
- Motion:** PNP Muccheck, seconded by S/M Lopez to allocate NTE \$500 for the USS Hobson wreath and reception. Voice vote and carried.
- Motion:** S/M Sutton, seconded by S/M Phillips to allocate \$500 to pay for food at the Veteran's Victory House Appreciation Dinner. Voice vote and carried.
- Motion:** PNP Muccheck, seconded by S/M Lookabill for \$150 for a full page ad in the Southeast Convention Journal. Voice vote and carried.
- Motion:** PNP Muccheck, seconded by S/M Lookabill for \$180 for a full page ad in the National Convention Journal. Voice vote and carried.
- Motion:** S/M John Lookabill, seconded by S/M Phillips to allocate \$300 for FRA/SubVet Picnic on May 7. Voice vote and carried.
- Motion:** BOD approved \$100 for a Branch 269 track sign for the Relay for Life on April 30. Voice vote and carried.
- Motion:** BOD approved \$100 to the Galilee PH Church in Cross for their monthly food bank. Voice vote and carried.

**VA CENTER HONORS VIETNAM VETS (Continued)**

These events are our humble way of expressing our appreciation to a generation of service members who answered their country's call to duty and endured more than a decade of combat to uphold the freedoms and ideals we as Americans so enjoy.

**Branch Continuous Memberships – April, 2016**

Robert Stancik	54 yrs	Alan Lincoln	20 yrs	Edward Fretschel III	16 yrs	Louis Goehring	7 yrs
Robert McNeish	52 yrs	Dale Shepperd	19 yrs	Ralph Lange	16 yrs	Robert Massey	7 yrs
Herbert Hammer	48 yrs	Charles Calas	18 yrs	Phil Smith Jr.	16 yrs	Charles Snyder	7 yrs
Herbert Hiatt	41 yrs	Robert Clements	18 yrs	Lawrence Becker	15 yrs	Danny Hunt	6 yrs
William Peterson	41 yrs	Harold Crawford Jr.	18 yrs	Donald Cady	15 yrs	Roy Kingdom	6 yrs
Bill Dempsey	39 yrs	David Graminski	18 yrs	Marty Gavin	15 yrs	Jaqueline Brooks	5 yrs
Richard Koehler	36 yrs	Lynnette Jordan	18 yrs	Terry Trump	15 yrs	John Keile	5 yrs
Thomas Seay	34 yrs	Thomas Jordan	18 yrs	Michael Welch	15 yrs	Michael Sparkman	5 yrs
Ronald Brunner	32 yrs	Peter Pugliese	18 yrs	Larry Cox	14 yrs	Robert Laird	4 yrs
Eugene Lernieux	32 yrs	Edward Smith Jr.	18 yrs	David Horton	13 yrs	John Blanchard	3 yrs
Charles Gravley	31 yrs	Robert Benjamin	17 yrs	Paul McFall	12 yrs	Howard Luper	3 yrs
Gary Crozier	29 yrs	Richard Bishop	17 yrs	Gerald Ott	10 yrs	John Autrey	2 yrs
Ralph Deeter	28 yrs	Michael Dellenbach	17 yrs	Edward Bowles	9 yrs	Thomas Boyd	2 yrs
William Freligh	27 yrs	Rick Jones	17 yrs	George Dale	9 yrs	William Guptill	2 yrs
Bob Karth	26 yrs	James Mastin	17 yrs	Fredrick Daughtery	9 yrs	Ray Marshall	2 yrs
Lewis Flader	25 yrs	Richard Moore	17 yrs	Benjamin Larvie	9 yrs	Shannon Nault	2 yrs
Gerald Monnat	23 yrs	Steve Obermann	17 yrs	Jimmy Legg	9 yrs	Randall Riley	2 yrs
Walter D. Scott Jr	23 yrs	Cecil Skipworth	17 yrs	Richard Wise	9 yrs	Michael Roth	2 yrs
Frederick Bolz	20 yrs	Jack Wrbanich	17 yrs	Roy Brosseau	8 yrs	Richard Cox	1 yr
Marvin Chandler	20 yrs	James Delaney	16 yrs	Robert Crag	8 yrs	Walter C. Scott	1 yr
Allen Downs	20 yrs	Gerald Farr	16 yrs				

**Unit Continuous Memberships – April, 2016**

Nancy W. Sandefer	26 yrs	Deloris J. Cox	12 yrs	Christine M. Guarino	5 yrs	Louse Wells	4 yrs
Linda A. Harris	25 yrs	Erin L. Giannetto	12 yrs	Mary E. Horton	5 yrs	Martha L. Fulmer	3 yrs
Karen F. Keohane	17 yrs	Kathleen J. Mactier	12 yrs	Brandon T. Bailey	4 yrs	Maryln L. Muccheck	3 yrs
Cynthia M. Clark	16 yrs	Nancy E. Rosen	8 yrs	Barbara J. Hathaway	4 yrs	Holly J. Bishop	2 yrs
Margaret J. Campbell	14 yrs	Linda F. Newey	7 yrs	Mary S. Johnson	4 yrs	Kathy S. Watts	1 yr
Patricia Suckow RPSE	14 yrs	Holly B. Gordon	5 yrs				

## **SUBVET/FRA JOINT PICNIC**

Please join us for the joint SUBVET/FRA picnic to be held on Saturday, 7 May 2016 at the Cooper River Partner's Picnic Grounds on Bushy Park Road. Picnic is 1000 – 1600 with Dead Chicken, Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Beans, Potato Salad and Cole Slaw. Soft drinks and water will be provided. All members are asked to bring your own other drinks and a side dish. All the meats and paper goods are provided. We also need volunteers to help cook and the set up.

### **FIELD DAY AT THE HOME**

#### **3rd SATURDAY of April**

Our FRA home is a beautiful building and is used by many organizations such as the Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veteran's Association, Submarine Veteran's and we host many other activities in our banquet room and bar area. We want to keep our building nice and clean to continue bragging about our home and offer it to our members and others. We hold a field day (I know you all remember field day with the white glove test?) on the 3rd Saturday of this month starting at 0900 until we finish. It doesn't require the cleaning of a white glove test but it does need light cleaning inside and landscaping work done on the outside. So won't you join us if you can. Remember the saying, "Many hands make light work!" That is true in this case.

Special Note: If you are a smoker, can you please throw your cigarette butts in the cans designated for this use? It's not much fun to pick up trash in our parking lot and see so many cigarette butts on the sides and back of the building where the butts were just thrown down on the ground.

### **THANK YOU!!!**

#### **WEEKLY DRAWING at THE HOME**

Names drawn lately: 2/23 – Bob Karth, not signed; 3-1 – Bill Ansel, signed, not present; 3-22 – William Mullins, not signed. You must be a member of the Branch or Unit in good standing and you must be signed in the log. You can sign up until 1800 hours, the day of the drawing. The drawing is held every Tuesday night at 2030 hours.

#### **NATIONAL MAILING LIST**

Shipmates, if you do not want any mailings from our National Office either by regular mail or electronic mail, you can call National Headquarters and they will check the block on your profile to stop these mailings.

#### **NOTIFYING THE BRANCH WHEN A SHIPMATE PASSES AWAY**

Our Chaplain, Bobbi Sutton is very good about searching for the passing of shipmates on the internet and arranging for our Two Bell Ceremony with the family. We want to honor our departed shipmates but sometimes we don't get the notification from the family until there isn't enough time to arrange the ceremony and get the word out to all our members. We are requesting our branch members as they make their final arrangements to advise their wives or husbands to make a note in their wishes to notify our branch Chaplain as soon as possible of their passing so we can arrange for this honor to be performed at the church or funeral home. You can leave a note for her at the Home or call her at (843) 879-9473.

#### **YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY IN APRIL!**

If you are a Branch 269 or Unit 269 member, come on in to the Low Country Home **on your birthday** for a **FREE BIRTHDAY LUNCH**. It's your choice from the lunch specials of the day. If your birthday falls on a weekend, stop by Friday or Monday.

Donald Cady	04/01	Gordon Gingras	04/11	Daniel Montgomery	04/16	Michael Roth	04/23
Dianne R. Carroll	04/01	Penni G. McDaniel	04/11	Kenneth R. Sorenson	04/16	Connie R. Singletary	04/23
Linda R. Jones	04/01	Edward Mulrey	04/11	Kevin A. Sorenson	04/16	Robert Block	04/24
Roger Gibson	04/02	Johnny Pearce	04/11	Jimmy Kimbrell	04/17	George Bradstreet	04/24
Mathilda E. Greeawalt	04/02	Penny Randall	04/11	Barbara A. Rogers	04/17	Karen D. Hightower	04/24
Maureen J. Williams	04/02	Richard Sparger	04/11	Gordon Stevenson, Sr.	04/17	Susan E. Lee	04/25
Joseph R. Schaffer	04/03	Marvin Smith Jr.	04/11	Edward Westlake	04/17	William Peterson	04/25
Linda R. Zauner	04/03	Marion Hall	04/12	Paul Misuraca	04/18	Elsie E. Sexton	04/25
Toby N. Hunter	04/04	Theodore Martin	04/12	John Priest	04/18	Richard Thompson	04/25
Charles Ivey	04/04	Marlene Ray	04/12	Roanld Redondo	04/18	Duane Henricksen	04/26
Larry Pepper	04/04	Dennis Darling	04/13	Terry Sahlborn	04/18	Patricia D. Scott	04/26
Jimmy Sauls	04/04	Charles Davidson	04/13	Tereance Blankenship	04/19	Robert Thomson	04/26
Richard Brown	04/05	Lisa H. Berezny	04/14	Kelly Price	04/19	Jay Duncan	04/27
Lillian P. Kurtz	04/05	Lee Heitner	04/14	Ron Workman	04/19	Richard Jones	04/27
Kimberly E. Bailey	04/06	Carol L. Traynor	04/14	Phillip Nunnally	04/20	James Mastin	04/27
Joseph Giannetto	04/06	Margarita Beneventano	04/15	Tammy L. Robinson	04/20	Raymond Montminy	04/27
Richard Granat	04/07	Richard Carlson	04/15	Ken Ealy	04/21	Joseph Brace	04/28
Donnie Robinson	04/07	Kelley P. Hines	04/15	Randy Reed	04/21	Marilyn Tharp	04/28
Donald Detwiler	04/08	James Dewitt	04/16	Margaret A. Benjamin	04/22	Catherine E. Wiands	04/28
Brenda L. Kraus	04/08	Joseph Gimenez	04/16	Mary Anna Chinnners	04/22	Benny Samson	04/29
John Steele	04/09	Hazel N. Hacker	04/16	Bette A. Garrand	04/23	William Martin	04/29
Frank Potts	04/10	Tim Herold	04/16	Anna M. Moulden	04/23	Larry Walton	04/30



Darlene Hines receiving a standing plaque and Letter of Appreciation from the Home Committee Chairman Nate Nathan for outstanding service on assisting with Home finances and key cards.



President Laurie Bailey receives a recruitment pin and Jotzone FRA Portfolio with ink pen for recruiting 5 new members from Vice President Southeast Chuck Hines.



New member initiated during March meeting: (Left to Right) John Bullock, Howard Hogue, and Joe Lunn



Two members received their 10 year continuous membership pins: (right to left) Jesse Cumbee, Jr and Bryan Wright.



Marine Corps League participated in the Massing of the Colors at the Citadel's Summerall Chapel (Left to right) Trish Gallagher, Ed Gallagher, Thomas Boyd and Cherri Sterling. Trish and Thomas are Branch members.



Trimming the crepe myrtles at the Home: President Laurie Bailey, S/M Rick Sparger and S/M Tim Bailey.

## VISIT SCHEDULE TO THE VETERAN'S VICTORY HOME

The Veteran's Victory Home in Walterboro, SC is in need of volunteers to visit veteran's rooms to read, talk, and play cards. The residents need to be pushed in the main dining hall to attend church services on Sunday and Wednesday mornings at 1000. They also need groups to sponsor game events or volunteering to interact with the residents. Our branch is going to start visiting the Victory Home three times a month (the first Thursday of the month, the second Monday of the Month and the last Saturday of the month) from 1400 to 1700. We will have carpooling available if you wish to come. The Thursday and Monday visits will be in home visits as a group and the Saturday visit will be a game day where we will be overseeing a board game with the residents. The Saturday visits are scheduled so our working members can participate. POC is Laurie and Tim Bailey at (843) 813-3430.

### UP COMING EVENTS

Mark your calendar, watch for details, watch for additions.

**Friday nights** – 1930 hrs – Scotch Doubles, 8-ball Tournament

**Saturday nights** – 2000 hrs – In House 8-ball Tournament

#### **CANCELLED**

**April 16**

**April 19**

**April 21**

**April 23**

**April 23**

**April 24**

**April 28**

**May 7**

**May 30**

**August 25-27**

**October 9-16**

Vegas Show -- Has been cancelled due to limited ticket sales.

Field Day at the Home – 0900

Unit 269 General Assembly Meeting

Branch 269 General Assembly Meeting – Guest Speaker

Rick Turner from Veteran's Upward Bound Program (Trident College)

Unit Yard Sale and Branch Car Wash

Dixie Boys Band and Victory Home Veteran's Appreciation Dinner

USS Hobson Memorial Service – 1330 – White Point Garden (Charleston)

Marine Corps League Meeting

SUB Vet/FRA Joint picnic (1000-1600) (Lunch at 1200 Noon)

Memorial Day – Plantation Memorial Gardens

Southeast Region Convention, Gatlinburg, TN

2016 FRA/Auxiliary National Convention, Jacksonville, FL

### **ALL EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

### **VETERAN'S VICTORY HOUSE APPRECIATION DINNER**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, 23 April 2016 to honor 15 veterans from the Veteran's Victory House in Walterboro, SC. Some of these veterans are from World War II, Korea War and Vietnam War and they all have a story to share. Let show our appreciation for their service by packing the house. The dinner will start at 1900 with a buffet and the band "Dixie Playboys" for your listening enjoyment. Branch and Unit Members wishing to attend will need a ticket to attend and the charge will be \$5.00. The tickets will be behind the bar at the Home. You can also buy one of the 15 veterans their meal by buying two tickets (one for yourself and one for the veteran) and mark it "MEAL FOR VETERAN" and leave in envelope marked for veteran's meal in the meals envelope. POC is Laurie Bailey at [lauriebailey21@gmail.com](mailto:lauriebailey21@gmail.com) or (843) 813-3430.

### **DO YOU HAVE A SEA STORY OR FIELD STORY TO TELL?**

Every Sailor, Marine or Coastie has a memorable event or two that they love to tell to another shipmate at the bar or dinner table and we would love to hear those stories if you wish to tell them. Please send us a story or two of your best memories and we will print them in our newsletter and read one at a monthly meeting. Write a short paragraph or two and e-mail them to [lbailey009@sc.rr.com](mailto:lbailey009@sc.rr.com) with the subject line SEA/FIELD STORY FROM (NAME). You can also mail the stories to our home address (FRA Low Country Branch 269, Attn: Laurie Bailey, 99 Wisteria Road, Goose Creek, SC 29445) or leave in the pass down log at the FRA Home in an envelope marked Attn: Laurie Bailey. These stories are history and we want to honor your memories by preserving them.

### **SEA STORY BY SHIPMATE KEN ADAM, NCC, US NAVY (RET)**

It was September 1957 when I reported aboard my 1st Ship USS Otterstetter (DER-244) in Newport, RI and surprise assigned to the 0800 - 1200 Messenger watch the next day (1st Shipboard watch). 10 minutes later the OOD panics and tells me to "Get up there and ring the bell". I said, "Sir, what do I do?" He told me that when he signals me, then ring 8 bells in two's. So up the ladders I go and grab the lanyard on the bell and watch for his signal. Unsure about what I was to do, my mind was racing...can't screw this up. The signal causes my hand to shake and I hear whistles and bells starting to ring from the approximately two dozen other ships moored around us and I immediately start to ring that bell while counting in my mind. Ding Ding - 1, Ding Ding - 2, Ding Ding - 3.....Ding Ding - 8. Then headed back down to the Quarter Deck, proud as hell. There on the Quarterdeck was the Captain, XO & about 4 other Officers to greet me. The Captain was the 1st to speak very calmly and inquired of me if I had ever rung the bell before and who told me to ring that bell in the manner I did? I told him that I had not and it was the OOD who told me to ring 8 bells in two's. All eyes immediately sped to the OOD and the Captain relieved him on the spot. The Captain then told me it was not my fault and recommended that I get some immediate training from the Petty Officer of the watch. I never forgot how to ring the bell after that and to this day I can only laugh about it and after my watch I resumed looking for that Golden Rivet!!!

April 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Pizza Night		1 <b>CANCELLED</b> <u>Vegas Show</u>	2 <b>CANCELLED</b> <u>Vegas Show</u>
3 Free Pool	4	5 Sons of the Confederate Veterans 1900 WING Night	6 Pizza Night	7 1800 Sub-Vets Board Meeting	8 2000 Karaoke with Red Fraley	9
10 Free Pool	11	12 Merry Widows Luncheon 11:30 FRA Home	13 Pizza Night	14 1900 Sub Vets Meeting	15	16 Field Day 0900
17 Free Pool	18 Vietnam Veterans Chapter 780 Meeting 1800 Home Committee 1900	19 Unit Lunch 11:30 at the Home 1800 UNIT BOD 1830 UNIT Gen. Assembly Mtg Wing Night	20 Pizza Night	21 BRANCH BOD 1800 BRANCH Gen. Assembly Mtg. 1900	22 2000 Karaoke with Red Fraley	23 Unit Yard Sale Branch Car Wash 0800 – 1300 <b>Dixie Boys &amp; Victory House Veteran's Appreciation Dinner 1900</b>
24 USS Hobson Memorial White Point Garden, Charleston 1330	25	26 Sojourners 1830	27	28 Marine Corps League Meeting 1900	29	30

**UNIT YARD SALE/BRANCH CAR WASH  
0800 - 1300, 23 April 2016**

Starting at 0800 on 23 April 2016, the unit members are having a yard sale in the parking lot of the Home while the branch members are going to wash cars with the help of some JROTC students. Come to the Home to check out the yard sale items and get your car washed at the same time. What a deal! Spaces will be rented for \$10 per space, and an additional \$10 per table. Gale Nathan (843-870-7850) and Erin Giannetto (843-821-0526) will take space/table reservations.

**Rocking Chair Raffle**

Unit 269 currently has a raffle for a rocking chair. Winning this great chair you can have a cold drink and sit on your front porch and observe all the neighbors.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5.

Will be drawn at the Navy Breakfast on June 12.



Low Country Scuttlebutt  
Vol. 19, No. 4, April, 2016  
202 Towhee Drive  
Summerville, SC 29485

**WE'VE GONE GREEN!!!!**

**NEWSLETTERS ARE ONLY MAILED IN APRIL & OCTOBER UNLESS YOU REQUEST YEAR ROUND MAILING**

Shipmates AND auxiliary members, If you **WISH** or **MUST** have the monthly newsletter by "pony express" you **MUST** request it. The Branch has voted to cut printing and mailing expenses. Our monthly newsletter is available online at [www.fra269.org](http://www.fra269.org). If you don't own a computer, you obviously cannot see the newsletter online. To receive it via "pony express", you **MUST** submit **IN WRITING** your request to have it mailed.

What is **IN WRITING?** Put your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at The Home or mail your request to the Branch Secretary.