

FRA, LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269

<http://www.fra269.org>

BRANCH OFFICERS

President – Larry Starland
(day)820-8789(eve)863-8474
Treasurer – Laurie Bailey
Vice-President – Larry Cox
553-9025
Secretary – Darlene Hines
824-2589
Jr. Past President – Chuck Hines

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Fred Bolz
Bill Farmer
Perry Friend
Chuck Hines
Mark Hunter
Cori Janney
John Janney
Don Kopczynski
John Lookabill
Larry Pepper
Mike Sparks
Bobbi Sutton
Jon Sutton
John Tharp

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Chaplain – Bobbi Sutton 875-4010
Master-at-Arms – Eric Bourgeois
Amer/Pat – Larry Cox
Membership – Don Kopczynski
By-Laws & Budget – Chuck Hines
Public Relations – Mr. P.R. Starland
VAVS – Fred Bolz
Historian – Laurie Bailey
Legislative Affairs – Fred Bolz
Ways & Means – Larry Pepper
Youth Activities – John Tharp
Audit – John Janney
WEB Masters – Dana & Charlotte Johnson

LAFRA UNIT 269

LAFRA269@aol.com

UNIT OFFICERS

President – Rusty Wenzel
797-2337
Treasurer – Linda Cox
553-9025
Vice-President – Barbara Addington
Secretary – Tina Bohannon
442-3313
Jr. Past President – Pat Suckow

UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Adams
Pat Bischoff
Annmarie Bolz
Nancy Bullis
Erin Giannetto
Joann Ludwig
Wanda Seay
Nancy Vella

APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRWOMEN

Chaplain – Pat Bischoff 764-0927
Membership – Barbara Addington
Sergeant-at-Arms – Karen Adams
Publicity – Tina Bohannon
Welfare – Rusty Wenzel
Merry Widows – Betty Harris
Youth Activities – The Unit
Amer/Pat – Linda Cox
Unit Activities – Gail Nathan
VAVS – Erin Giannetto
Audit – Erin Giannetto

BRANCH PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Ah! February, spring is in the air. It's a short month and soon most of us will be dusting off our golf clubs for the March 14th FRA Golf Tournament. Isn't life GREAT? But before that we have the 2009 Southeast Regional Midyear Meeting in Atlantic Beach Florida February 19-22. If you would like to see the next level of the FRA at work, plan to attend. Information packets are posted on the back bulletin board at the home. A good time by all is usually had. I can still remember Chattanooga TN.

At our last meeting we had a guest speaker, Capt. Horton, from the Charleston Naval Clinic. It was a very informative talk on what will be happening at the new clinic on the Weapons Station, what new services will be available to us and what to look forward to as it comes on line. She also discussed what will be happening with the old Naval Hospital and what will be available there for our use. Our attendance at the meeting was normal but our attendance was also disappointing. This information is vital to all our well being. I e-mailed all Branch and Unit members that have their address on file. I passed the word at the Unit and Sub Vets meetings to ensure the largest percentage of our members would get the word and attend. This information could not be in the news letter due to Capt Horton's ability to commit that far in advance. With over 1000 Branch and Unit members our attendance did not reflect well on our FRA organization.

Our Branch membership as reported in the January News Letter was 966 as of 30NOV08. 963 members are required to be a Group 1 Branch. At our loss rate, we will soon be in Group 2. Many members worked hard to reach Group 1. We are 1 of 3 Branches in the SER that are in this group. Each of us has to work hard during the next few months to recruit and retain our members. It's not just the responsibility of a few, it's all our responsibility. R & R.

2/04/1779, John Paul Jones takes command of the *Bonhomme Richard*. 2/13/1913, Naval Radio Station, Arlington, VA begins operations. 2/15/1898, U.S. Battleship *Maine* blows up in Havana Harbor. 2/17/1864, Confederate submarine *H.L. Hunley* sinks USS *Housatonic*. 2/22/1974, LTJG Barbara Ann Allen becomes first Navy designated female aviator. 2/23/1945, Marines and a Navy hospital corpsman raise flag on Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima. 2/28/1980, Blue crew of USS *Francis Scott Key* (SSBN-657) launches 4 Trident I (C-4) missiles in first C-4 Operational test.

Lots of activities scheduled in the future as listed in the news letter besides our usual pool tournaments. Super Bowl Sunday will be indeed super. We have a home to be proud of. Recently we had a visit from the PRPEC Shipmate Scarboro. He stated that our home was the best he had been in not only on the east coast but the west. DiDaDiDaDit.

In Loyalty, Protection, and Service, Larry M. Starland

AMERICANISM/PATRIOTISM REPORT

A very special thank you to a wonderful group of volunteers who met on the 3rd of January and completed the judging of 148 essay entries. The awards ceremony will be February 19th at 1900hours.

If you do not display the flag every day, remember to display it on February 16th, Presidents Day.

How many hours have you volunteered at the Fleet Home this years?

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

If you are a Branch 269 or Unit 269 member, stop by the FRA, 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.

Larry Cox 2/01	Roy Massey 2/11	Thomas Jones 2/21
Margaret Rothrauff 2/01	George Roberts 2/11	Ralph Brown 2/21
Carol Fulton 2/01	Charles Campbell 2/11	Terri Heath 2/21
Andrea Davis 2/01	William Riley 2/11	Jeffery Miller 2/21
Caynell Charette 2/02	Ongness King 2/11	Edward Potts 2/22
George Thiebaud 2/02	Elender Moore 2/12	Richard Koehler 2/22
Stephen Wimmer 2/02	John Cardno 2/12	Jackie Dayton 2/22
Kelly Rice 2/02	Karla Phillips 2/12	John Dux 2/22
James Kennedy 2/03	James Sherrow 2/13	Brian Sims 2/22
James Palmer 2/03	Julio Solado 2/13	Benjamin Larvie 2/23
Michael Wenzel 2/03	Francis Jones 2/13	Norman Muller 2/23
Douglas Jordan 2/03	Daniel Ryan 2/13	Frank Shoenberger 2/23
Michael Welch 2/03	Donald Parks 2/14	Roger Lebel 2/23
Bobby Lambert 2/03	William Heckmann 2/14	Terry Gilmore 2/24
Betty Harris 2/04	Valerie Kohr 2/14	Elizabeth Adams 2/24
Williams Jennings 2/04	William Korbisich 2/15	Carl Miller 2/25
Richard Nolan 2/04	Jerome White 2/15	Ken Huffingham 2/25
Rodney Musselman 2/04	Bobby Grassman 2/15	Ernest Stewart 2/25
Laura Pike 2/05	David Wegner 2/15	Neal Clark 2/26
Richard Day 2/05	Frances Sease 2/16	Larry Burkhart 2/26
Ronald Baker 2/05	Robert McNeish 2/17	Edith Weaver 2/27
Rodd Rademacher 2/06	Pete Martellini 2/17	David Cox 2/27
Helen Bruening 2/07	Mabel Steveson 2/18	Cecil Rash 2/27
William Patton 2/07	Melvin Harper 2/18	Carol Eustace 2/27
Charlie Calas 2/07	Kenneth White 2/18	Heather Ivey 2/27
Howard Rudd 2/07	Rickie Robinson, Jr 2/18	Philip Gardner 2/28
Tim Bailey 2/07	Carroll Watson 2/19	Charles Kuck 2/28
James Spence 2/08	Peter Cosgrove 2/19	Robert Reilly 2/28
Santos Riduca 2/08	William Neff 2/19	Valerie Bergamo 2/28
Carol Moore 2/09	Robert Fowler 2/19	Grover Fewox 2/29
Donald Bruening 2/09	Gail Nathan 2/19	Merv Wiands 2/29
Loretta Schaffer 2/10	Alexander Martin 2/20	Olin Thomas 2/29
Steven Gearhart 2/10	Frank Blaszak 2/20	
Timothy White, Jr 2/10	David Boggs 2/20	

MADAM PREZ'S TIDBIT

It will truly be a "tidbit", this time of the year there is very little going on in the Unit. I've been without a computer and E-Mail and you know how maddening that can be.

I hope that by the time you read this, you will have enjoyed the pig-roast and Luau and are looking forward to the Valentine's party on the 13th of February at the Home. That will be a pleasant break for these cold days we have been having. We got a dust of snow here where I live on Tuesday night and believe me, that was enough.

Elvis will be in the house on February 14th accompanied by Tom Jones. Gals have your undies ready to toss.

Our luncheon in February will be Tuesday the 17th at 11:30. We will meet at the East Bay Deli on Hwy 78 across from the entrance to the Elms. Please try to join us, we would love to have you.

Just a reminder to jot down all of those hours you volunteer and those cards and telephone calls you make. We need them so we can have good reports.

If it is your birthday, my very best wishes. If you are feeling poorly or you are in the hospital, get well soon. My sincere condolences if you have suffered a loss.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection and Service, Rusty

UNIT CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIPS

Dolores Paul 31yrs	Cheryl Zartman 2yrs	Deborah Smith 2yrs
Sandra White 19yrs	Patrick Wenzel 2yrs	Patricia Hair 2yrs
Della Deatherage 9yrs	Morgan Wenzel 2yrs	Donna Gaither 2yrs
Tina Bohannon 8yrs	Michael Wenzel 2yrs	Esther Ellisor 2yrs
Marsha Crosby 8yrs	Sara Collins 2yrs	Helen Bruening 2yrs
Reba Crooks 6yrs	Lilliam Kurtz 2yrs	Donna Lloyd 2yrs
Vicky Blihar 4yrs	Dianne Carroll 2yrs	Kathy Vandiver 1yr
Tracy Turner 4yrs	Dana Ingram 2yrs	Ellen Kaeser 1yr
Mary Lopez 4yrs	Georgia Cathcart 2yrs	

Merry Widows Support Group

The Merry Widows will meet at the FRA Home on February 10th at 11:30am. Guest Speakers will be Firemen from the Goose Creek Fire Station. They will speak about HOME Safety.

Bring homemade cookies to donate to the Firemen. Book Exchange, too

Please bring a friend and also offer a ride to the meeting for someone.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection, & Service,
Betty Harris - 552-1416 or C# 412-6753

PROUD TO BE.....
VETERAN or AMERICAN

T-SHIRTS

\$10.00 each

\$13.00 for 2X & above

Order forms are at the Home. Complete and return to S/M Darlene Hines or leave with the bartender.

FRA, Low Country Branch 269 will be on the left sleeve. Deadline to order February 10th. Pick up date will be posted at the Home when order arrivals

PIZZA NIGHT

WEDNESDAY AT THE FLEET

The Fleet is now offering pizza on Wednesday nights. Priced from \$5.00 to \$6.50. Check out what Chef Jeff can do. Plenty of toppings to pick from. Come to the Fleet and enjoy.

UP COMING EVENTS at FRA, LOW COUNTRY HOME

Mark your calendar, watch for details, watch for additions

Friday nights, 1900hrs – Scotch Doubles, 8-ball Tournament

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

February 1st - 1800hrs - Super Bowl Party

February 13th – 1800hrs - Valentines Prime Rib Dinner

February 14th – 2000hrs - Elvis Show

March 17th – St. Patrick Day lunch & dinner

April 18th – Country Western Nite

May 10th – Mother's Day

June 21st – Father's Day

Subject to change and additions.

ANNUAL PICNIC SHORT STAY - 2009

The weekend is set, May 15th & 16th. The units are blocked in the name of SINGLETARY. The numbers to call are 761-8353 or 1-800-447-2178.

There will be a planning meeting in the near future. Watch for it so you can help decide and plan next year's picnic.

FEBRUARY 2009

Note: Galley closes at 2200hrs Friday & Saturday

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1 FREE POOL ALL DAY SUPER BOWL SUNDAY Party begins 1800hrs	2 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	3 Lunch is served 1100-1300 WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs	4 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Pizza Night Galley is open 1700- 2100 1800 - Vietnam Vets	5 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	6 Lunch 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2200 2000 – Poweroke	7 Galley is open 1700-2200 2000 – Poweroke
8 FREE POOL ALL DAY	9 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	10 Lunch is served 1100-1300 1130am Merry Widows' luncheon at FRA WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs	11 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Pizza Night Galley is open 1700- 2100	12 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100 1900- Sub Vets Meeting	13 Lunch 1100-1300 1800 hr VALENTINES DINNER Galley is open 1700-2200 2000 – Perdue DJ Service	14 0900 - Field Day 1200 –Home Committee Meeting Galley is open 1700-2200 2000- Elvis Show 2000 – Juke Box Night
15 FREE POOL ALL DAY	16 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	17 Lunch is served 1100-1300 1130- Unit Luncheon @ East Bay Deli on Hwy 78 WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs 6:30 – UNIT BOD 7:00 – UNIT General Assembly	18 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Pizza Night Galley is open 1700- 2100	19 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100 1800– BRANCH BOD 1900- BRANCH General Assembly	20 Lunch 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2200 2000 – Poweroke	21 Galley is open 1700-2200 2000 – Poweroke
22 FREE POOL ALL DAY	23 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	24 Lunch is served 1100-1300 WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs	25 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Pizza Night Galley is open 1700- 2100	26 Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	27 Lunch 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2200 2000 – Croon -A-Tune	28 Galley is open 1700-2200 2000 – Croon -A-Tune

BRANCH & UNIT CHAPLAINS' PEW

Our prayers and best wishes to those who may be in poor health. Anyone knowing of any illness or death among our Shipmates or Auxiliary members please contact **Branch Chaplain Bobbi Sutton @ 875-4010** or **Unit Chaplain Pat Bischoff 764-0927**.

BRANCH CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIPS

Congratulations!!! This is your anniversary month.

HAVE YOU RENEWED??? PLEASE DO, **IF YOU HAVE NOT!!**

Kenneth Adam 44yrs	William Hall 10yrs	Jay Duncan 3yrs
Walter Job 35yrs	William Allen 10yrs	Robert Hudspeth 2yrs
Thomas Davis 32yrs	Robert Melton 10yrs	Richard Davis 2yrs
Nate Nathan 31yrs	Tom Shepard 9yrs	Gerald Yates 2yrs
Paul March 31yrs	James Moseley 9yrs	Tim Zartman 2yrs
David Adams 31yrs	Dennis Pierce 9yrs	Arthur Warren 2yrs
Donald Larsen 30yrs	William Rowlands 9yrs	Larry Sanders 2yrs
John Opocensky 30yrs	William Roup 8yrs	James Lund 2yrs
Francis Evans 30yrs	Paul Viering 8yrs	John Dasch 2yrs
Thomas Britton 30yrs	William Hayes 8yrs	James Willcutt 2yrs
Patrick Sullivan 30yrs	Robert Finch 8yrs	James Willcutt, Jr 2yrs
Charles Campbell 29yrs	James Hicks 8yrs	Robert Isaman 2yrs
Keith Suiter 29yrs	Eugene Morris 8yrs	Antonio Datuin 2yrs
David Rein 29yrs	Gerald Johnson 8yrs	Williams Adams 2yrs
Donald Petersen 28yrs	Timothy Jacobs 8yrs	Robert Bear 2yrs
Marvin Meistrell 27yrs	James Turner 7yrs	Robert Stodola 2yrs
Albert Stoll 27yrs	Brian Brooks 6yrs	George Well 2yrs
Richard Thompson 26yrs	Daniel Shelley 6yrs	Robert Jones 2yrs
Wendall Calloway 25yrs	Ginger Bevis 6yrs	John Kennedy 2yrs
Norris Williams 23 yrs	Elmer Mullins 6yrs	William Heckmann 2yrs
Stanley Richards 22yrs	Eldon Carson 5yrs	Johnny Brown 2yrs
Warren Kratz 19yrs	Catherine Lawrence 5yrs	Lee McClenny 2yrs
Walter Deal 17yrs	Joseph Farrell 5yrs	Vedonna Sutton 2yrs
Loye Bryant 16yrs	John Ford 4yrs	Stephen Wimmer 1yr
Allen Katen 12yrs	Richard Jones 4yrs	Carla Passmore 1yr
Oscar Stephens 12yrs	Larry Turner 4yrs	Carl Miller 1yr
Donald Bruening 12yrs	Duane Clark 3yrs	Arthur Robinson 1yr
Todd Baker 11yrs	Robert Pulos 3yrs	Artemus Johnson 1yr
Richard Brown 11yrs	Tom Lufkin 3yrs	Leroy Peck 1 yr
Thomas Morrison 10yrs	Robert Rogers 3yrs	

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

darlene.hines@comcast.net

BoD Motion: S/M D. Hines, seconded by S/M Sparks made motion to allocate \$41.95 to purchase a US flag that will on flown on inauguration day on the grounds of the Navy Memorial on Pennsylvania Ave. Voice vote, hand count, 9 yeas, 5 nays carried.

Motion: S/M D. Hines seconded by S/M L. Bailey made motion to allocate up to \$1000.00 for the LCD 42" TV. Voice vote, hand count, 7 yeas, 6 nays, carried.

BRANCH TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking	\$13,164.11
Savings	\$4,479.22
Total	\$17,643.33

HOME FINANCIAL REPORT

NOVEMBER '08

NET PROFIT	\$5,098.13
BUILDING FUND	\$19,835.62

FRA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, March 14th, 0900

The course will be the Redbank Golf Course. Entry Fees are Non-Club Member - \$40; Club Members - \$30; Club Member with cart - \$20.00. The first paid 27 teams get in. Payments are due 10 days prior to tournament. Don't wait!!!! The entry includes green fee, cart, prizes & a prime rib dinner. Additional dinners are available at \$11.00.

BRANCH MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New or Reinstated Members	9
Transferred into Low Country Branch 269	2
Transferred to the Staff of the Supreme Commander	0
Suspended members	8
Members past due	33
Transferred from Branch 269	1
TOTAL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AS OF 31DEC08	969

WELCOME ABOARD SHIPMATES

New, Reinstated, & Transferred Members

John Houston	Michelle Lemon	Daniel Muir
Laurie Ipar-Marshall	Dennis Marshall	John Rush
Don Knapp	Keith Marshall	

SUPER BOWL- February 1st

Super Bowl Sunday is February 1st. Your Low Country Home is planning a Super Bowl blast. There will be an open bar with lots of munchies and a surprise for someone every time the score changes.

There's a sign-up sheet at the bar. Check at The Home for further details. S/M Larry Pepper (553-9121 or larry.pepper@comcast.net) is your party coordinator.

The party starts at 1800hrs with kick-off approximately 1820hrs.

VALENTINE DINNER - Friday, February 13th

Prime Rib Dinner \$12.00, Served with baked potato, veggies, salad and rolls. Dinner will be served from 1800hrs until it's gone.

ELVIS WILL BE BACK – February 14th

February 14th: Elvis is back with Tom Jones for Valentine's Day! Tickets are \$15.00 now and \$20.00 at the door. Seating chart is being utilized. Doors open at 7:00pm, show starts at 8:00pm. Bring your sweetheart and enjoy the fun.

ST. PATRICK LUNCH & DINNER - March 17th

The Home will be serving corn beef and cabbage, at the price of \$6.00 for lunch and dinner until it's gone.

So put on your green & remember everyone is Irish on St Patty's Day.

WEEKLY DRAWING at THE HOME

Names drawn lately: 12/30 – Mark Garrison, not signed; 1/6 – James McCoy, not signed; 1/13 – Terance Shanahan, not signed, "special" drawing Toby Hunter, present; 1/20 – Erin Giannetto, signed, not present.

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.

FRA, LOW COUNTRY HOME, Inc.

99 Wisteria Road

(843) 569-2692

Home Chairman – John Janney

Laurie Bailey – Vice Chairman

Darlene Hines – Financial Sec.

Bobbi Sutton – Admin Sec.

Larry Starland – Bldg. & Grounds

Linda Cox – Special Events

Rusty Wenzel – Security & Mbr.

Al Addington – Director

Pat Bischoff – Director

John Tharp – Director

Perry Friend - Director

Trustees: Ed Keohane – Jon Sutton – Larry Pepper

Home Manager – Nancy Bullis

Hours of Operations

Mon-Sat 1000-2400 * Sun 1000-2000

Happy Hour – 1600-1900 Mon-Fri

FROM THE HOME COMMITTEE

All Branch and Unit Members are reminded, it is their responsibility to sign in their guests and be responsible for their conduct while on the premises. It is a state law that since this is private non-profit club, all occupants are members or listed in the guest book.

There will be a Valentines Day Dinner on Friday, Feb. 13th, vice the 14th since Elvis will be here on the 14th.

The members and volunteers for the Luau and pig roast on the 24th deserve a Well Done.

As most of know we have purchased and installed three 42" Flat Panel TV's. We have a 27" Sylvania and a 27" Magnavox TV for sale at \$150.00 ea. Wall Mounts are included in this price. Please contact me on my cell (367-5666).

The Branch President has appointed me as the Chair for the Annual Picnic on May 15th and 16th at Short Stay. S/M's Larry Cox, John Paul Pardo, Lady Linda Cox and I had a brief Meeting a while back and with come up with a few ideas. I'm calling an opening meeting at 6:30 PM on Feb. 2nd and asking not only for ideas but also volunteers to help with this annual gathering of Shipmates and Ladies.

Yours in L/P/S, John Janney