

## FRA, LOW COUNTRY BRANCH 269

<http://www.fra269.org>

### BRANCH OFFICERS

President – Chuck Hines 824-2589	Vice-President – Fred Bolz 797-3515
Treasurer – Laurie Bailey	Secretary – Darlene Hines 824-2589

### BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Bourgeois	Len Monnig	Bill Roup
Doug Cattell	Nate Nathan	Larry Starland
Carl Chinn	Pete Pearson	Bobbi Sutton
Larry Cox	Larry Pepper	John Tharp
Bill Farmer	Dave Rein	

### APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Chaplain – Bobbi Sutton 875-4010	Historian – Laurie Bailey
Master-at-Arms – Eric Bourgeois	Legislative Affairs – Ed Odonoghue
Amer/Pat – Larry Cox	Ways & Means – Larry Pepper
Membership – Pete Pearson	Youth Activities – John Tharp
By-Laws – Nate Nathan	Audit – Nate Nathan
Public Relations – Larry Starland	WEB Masters – Dana & Charlotte Johnson
VAVS – Doug Cattell	

## LAFRA UNIT 269

LAFRA269@aol.com

### UNIT OFFICERS

President – Pat Suckow 764-0145	Vice-President – Barbara Addington
Treasurer - Gail Nathan 744-3958	Secretary – Sue Cattell 797-0248

### UNIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Adams	Nancy Bullis	Tracy Turner
Tina Bohannon	Linda Cox	Rusty Wenzel
Pat Bischoff	Donna Lloyd	

### APPOINTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRWOMEN

Chaplain – Nancy Bullis 278-2736	Youth Activities – Donna Lloyd
Membership – Barbara Addington	Amer/Pat – Linda Cox
Sergeant-at-Arms – Karen Adams	Unit Activities – Gail & Pat
Historian – Tina Bohannon	VAVS – Sue Cattell
Welfare – Rusty Wenzel	Merry Widows – Betty Harris

## BRANCH PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year 2008, Shipmates! Boy, the years sure are passing fast! As a matter of fact, our Branch celebrates its tenth birthday this year! It's hard to believe that a band of new and old FRA Shipmates endeavoured to establish a FRA branch in Goose Creek, South Carolina almost ten years ago! Please, mark March 28<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. Branch 269 will hold a 10 year birthday gala at our FRA Low Country Home. Please plan on attending. It will be a memorable event!

In reviewing the year 2007, FRA Branch 269 passed a number of significant thresholds. Already being the largest FRA branch in South Carolina, we surpassed the 963 members necessary to attain Group I status, then blew by the 1000 mark of total branch membership. We attained the 100% award for Membership for the eighth time in our nine years of existence. Despite being the newest branch in Group I, we took first place awards for Membership & Retention and Public Relations; second place awards for Hospital, Welfare & Rehabilitation and Americanism & Patriotism; and a third place award for Youth Activities.

In 2007, we expended thousand of dollars supporting youth athletic and scholastic activities, supporting our active duty and veteran shipmates, and supporting veteran activities across the low country.

All of the above was accomplished with only about 10% of our members participating! We're a great organization and will become greater with more participation from our members. Our January meeting will be on Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup>. The BoD meets at 1800 hours. The General Assembly meets at 1900 hours. The Galley is open for dinner and your spouse is welcome to attend the General Assembly meeting. Get the spouse out of the house! Bring him/her to The Fleet for dinner and a meeting! Hope to see you there!

Oh yeah! Recruit! Recruit! Recruit! Remember, most potential members merely need to be asked! Just ask!!

In Loyalty, Protection & Service  
Chuck

## BRANCH TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking	\$11,173.20
Savings	\$4,437.96
Total	\$15,611.16

**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 Nancy Bullis @ 278-2736**.

**ESSAY CONTEST JUDGING**  
**HELP NEEDED**

This year over 200 essays were received. Grades 9 – 12 have been judged and winners selected.

Now there's grades 7 and 8 and we have 150 essays. Please assist in this effort on January 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> and meet S/M Larry Cox at 1200hrs at the Home.

**STINGRAY HOCKEY GAME TICKETS**  
**“Pack the House Night” – Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>**

S/M Larry Starland has the tickets. \$5.00 each, for seats in section 104. Parking for the game will be free.

**BRANCH MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

New or Reinstated Members	9
Transferred into Low Country Branch 269	5
Transferred to the Staff of the Supreme Commander	0
Suspended members	13
Members past due	20
Transferred from Branch 269	1
TOTAL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING AS OF 30NOV07	1020

**WELCOME ABOARD SHIPMATES**

**New, Reinstated, & Transferred Members**

William Akin	Valerie Kohr	John Taylor
Lee Barkley	James Lyda	Baron Thomas
Carl Baybo	Larry Pickett	Rick Vela
Girard Coutu	James Sauls	Clyde Wilson
Melvin Harper	Michael Sparkman	

**SHORT STAY 2008**

The dates are set for May 16 & 17, 2008. Villas are blocked in the name of **Shannon**, as in CMDCM Bob Shannon. The numbers to call are 761-8353 or 1-800-447-2178.

Thank you Master Chief!

**MADAM PREZ's CORNER**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Let us try and make this a time for new beginnings. I pray the New Year will bring good changes for our organization.

To end the year 2007 some unit members visited the nursing home. We brought Christmas present and of course Santa. Santa had his picture taken with everyone, and Lady Karen Adams printed them up delivered the pictures. Lady Gail Nathan did the Christmas shopping (along with myself). And a special thank you to Shipmate Larry Pepper for playing Santa, and his helpers. Also thank you to Lady Linda V. for donating over 60 beanie baby for the nursing home.

Shopping was done by Lady Rusty and helpers, for the shelters. They brought warm blankets, sheets, pillows, which was most needed.

I have learned a lot about what a member of the Auxiliary should be. Our unit is only as strong as our membership and we need each of you. Several of your names are showing up on our delinquent list. Your membership is very important so if you have not renewed your dues, please do so. Most people want to know as much as possible about our organization before and after they join. Unit 269 understands this, so attend one of our meetings or stop by and talk to our members. I assure you that you will not be disappointed.

My heartfelt sympathies go out to those who have lost a loved one recently. For those of us who are sick or recovering from an illness, I wish a speedy recovery. Those of us celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary, many happy returns and hope you have many more.

I remain in L/P/S/  
Pat Suckow-President

**UNIT CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIPS**

Neta Fewox 40 yrs	Taffy Clark 5yrs	Bonnie Marion 1yr
Rusty Wenzel 29 yrs	Linda Jacobs 5 yrs	Patricia Keeler 1 yr
Dorothy Nephew 15 yrs	Myranda Stone 5 yrs	Marguerite Descoeaux 1yr
Dorothy Brace 9 yrs	Nancy Parker 2 yrs	

## 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.

Joy McGuinness 1/01	Steve Koch 1/08	Dennis Rash 1/19
Carol Fitzwater 1/01	Andrian Velez 1/08	Patsy Santos 1/19
Frank Bohannon 1/01	Ginger Bevis 1/08	Perry Friend 1/19
Lawrence Marsh 1/01	Thomas Huffcut 1/08	Frank Davis 1/20
Lori Ryan 1/01	Wade Reid 1/09	Alan Chambers 1/20
John Schafer 1/02	Paul McFall 1/09	Melanie Branham 1/21
Karen Kopczynski 1/03	Paul Stuckey 1/09	Thomas Scott 1/22
Nathaniel Mizzell 1/03	Thomas Beach 1/10	Gary Theriault 1/22
Martin Riley 1/03	Gary Gardner 1/11	Jennifer Buell 1/22
Yoshino Cataoe 1/03	Bobby Beck 1/12	Martha Pyatt 1/22
Rosemary Clark 1/03	William Taft 1/13	William Bevis 1/23
Robert Moore 1/03	William Clark 1/13	William Lindler 1/23
Joey Camley 1/04	Robert Qualls 1/13	Edward Stank 1/23
Vicky Blihar 1/04	Robert Finch 1/13	Wayen Hensarling 1/25
Richard Duprey 1/04	Girard Coutu 1/13	L. Sue Snodgrass 1/25
Phyllis Henry 1/04	Tina Campbell 1/13	Kirk Owen 1/25
Laneta Gardner 1/04	Rolland Fitch 1/13	F. Michael Smith 1/25
Robert Isaman 1/05	Kimberly Martin 1/14	George Gruber 1/25
Chris Ludwig 1/05	Claudia Shenton 1/14	Jamie Johnson 1/25
David Hartkemeyer 1/05	Yoshie Kelly 1/14	Michael Kay 1/25
Billy Fowler 1/05	Karen McDaniel 1/14	Donald Lozen 1/25
Robert Lambert 1/05	William Kelley 1/14	Antonio Datuin 1/25
Ashley Gossett 1/06	Michael Struve 1/14	Lawrence Coates 1/26
Doug Cattell, III 1/06	J.T. McNeill 1/15	Kenneth Farrell 1/26
Kelley Haselden 1/06	Dean Dupont 1/15	Thomas Shannon 1/27
Phillip Euper 1/06	Clarence Lammers 1/15	Everett Summers 1/27
Corinne Janney 1/06	Alan Laberge 1/15	Sherri Budde 1/27
James Fortier 1/06	Dianna Ogle 1/15	Dianne Woodward 1/27
John McKeever 1/06	Charles Day 1/16	Robert Shoecraft 1/28
Albert Buck 1/07	Maria Lewis 1/16	Edward Feidt 1/28
Robert Stadler 1/07	Val Coggins 1/17	Willard Burton 1/29
Ben Woellert 1/07	Jackie Moore 1/17	Rusty Wenzel 1/30
Gerald Farr 1/08	Marty Gavin 1/18	Michael Welch 1/30
David Graminski 1/08	James Lyda 1/18	Stanley Richards 1/31
Arlie Cunningham 1/08	Harry Kirk 1/18	
James Lewis 1/08	Edward Simokat 1/18	

## JANUARY 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		<b>January 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
		Lunch is open Home is open Galley is Closed Drawing 2030hrs	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100 <b>Vietnam Vets Meeting</b>	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Poweroke</b>	Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Poweroke</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
FREE POOL ALL DAY	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch is served 1100-1300 <b>WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs</b> <b>1130 - Merry Widows' Luncheon @ FRA Home</b> <b>1900 - FRA, SER Convention Meeting</b>	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100 <b>1900- Sub Vets Meeting</b>	Lunch 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Croon -A-Tune</b>	<b>0900 - Field Day 1200 - Home Committee Meeting</b> Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Croon -A-Tune</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
FREE POOL ALL DAY	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch is served 1100-1300 <b>WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs</b> <b>1130- Unit Luncheon @ Olive Garden</b> <b>6:30 - UNIT BOD</b> <b>7:00 - UNIT General Assembly</b>	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100 <b>1800- BRANCH BOD</b> <b>1900- BRANCH General Assembly</b>	Lunch 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Poweroke</b>	Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Poweroke</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
FREE POOL ALL DAY	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch is served 1100-1300 <b>WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs</b>	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Croon -A-Tune</b>	Galley is open 1700-2300 <b>2000 - Croon -A-Tune</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		
FREE POOL ALL DAY	Lunch is served 1100-1300	Lunch is served 1100-1300 <b>WINGS NIGHT 1700-2100hrs</b>	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100	Lunch is served 1100-1300 Galley is open 1700-2100		

## STINGRAY HOCKEY GAME TICKETS

### “Pack the House Night” – Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>

S/M Larry Starland has the tickets. \$5.00 each, for seats in section 104. Parking for the game will be free.

## FRA, SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONVENTION

August 27-31, 2008

### Committee Meeting January 8<sup>th</sup>, 1900hrs

Yep, we are. Branch and Unit 269 will be hosting the Southeast Regional Convention in 2008. Once again Shipmates and Unit members are being asked to help any way you can.

Your time: be a host in the hospitality room.

Your donation: that bottle of liquor or wine that's been sitting around. We can use it either in the hospitality room or in a cooler of cheer to be raffled. Brown bag it, and leave it at The Home.

Your salesmanship: journal ad forms are on the bulletin board. Help sell an ad! It helps fund the convention!

Contact S/M Darlene Hines 824-2589 or Lady Pat Suckow 764-0145

## BRANCH CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIPS

Congratulations!!! This is your anniversary month.

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

D. B. Lane 51 yrs	Ronnie Vandiver 7 yrs	William Hopta 2 yrs
Arthur Miller 39 yrs	Jeffrey Peternel 7 yrs	Stan Rhorer 2 yrs
Theodore Martin 38 yrs	Larry Starland 7 yrs	Thomas Dabbs 2 yrs
Karl Humbertson 36 yrs	Charles Pyatt 7 yrs	Timothy Hibbs 2 yrs
Tom Wunder 36 yrs	Robert Mueller 6 yrs	William Ahner 2 yrs
Salvatore Leonit 32 yrs	Scott Bell 5 yrs	Kenneth Boggs 2 yrs
Jimmie Allen 31 yrs	Robert Reilly 5 yrs	Guerry Lloyd 2 yrs
Murrell Wilson 29 yrs	Jerome Ferneding 5 yrs	Kenneth Huffingham 2 yrs
Nestor Derecho 27 yrs	Marion Clark 5 yrs	Rich Horton 1 yr
Thomas Seymour 26 yrs	Rodney Carter 5 yrs	Ronald Redondo 1 yr
Robert Rose 24 yrs	Crystal Koch 5 yrs	Bobby Grassman 1 yr
Wayne Swiech 23 yrs	Jerry Morgan 5 yrs	Robert Collins 1 yr
Alex Gordon 22 yrs	Olin Thomas 5 yrs	Mike Donovan 1 yr
David Cornelius 22 yrs	Michael Markiewich 4 yrs	Jeff Winans 1 yr
Robert Stadler 15 yrs	Jamie Johnson 4 yrs	George Williams 1 yr
Alvin Addington 15 yrs	Steve Koch 4 yrs	Theodore Nesbitt 1 yr
Grady Jones 13 yrs	James Lyon 4 yrs	Robert Block 1 yr
Danny Mills 13 yrs	Keith Schnebel 4 yrs	Stephen Kellar 1 yr
Bruce Brown 9 yrs	Ed Odonoghue 3 yrs	Rodney Kossen 1 yr
Paul Reece 8 yrs	Joseph Larose 3 yrs	Carlin Drake 1 yr
Joe Travis 8 yrs	Grady Langley 3 yrs	Robert Duke 1 yr
Richard Sparger 8 yrs	Walter Sumruld 2 yrs	Mark Fiorey 1 yr
Daniel Sease 8 yrs	William Riley 2 yrs	
Carol Fulton 8 yrs	Elmer Avenel 2 yrs	

## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

[darlene.hines@comcast.net](mailto:darlene.hines@comcast.net)

**BoD Motion** – S/M Starland, seconded by S/M B. Sutton made motion to allocate \$125.00 for Sedgefield Intermediate School holiday reading program. Voice vote, 1 nay, carried.

**Motion** – S/M Cox, seconded by S/M Bolz made motion to accept proposed home bylaw changes as written. Voice vote, carried.

**Motion** – S/M J. Sutton, seconded by S/M Bourgeois made motion to submitted resolution to FRA National Convention to nominated Edward Young as an honorary member in the FRA. Voice vote, carried-unanimously.

## NEWSLETTER IS NOW ON OUR WEBSITE

[www.fra269.org](http://www.fra269.org)

Help save on printing and postage, you can retrieve the newsletter from the website. Previous months' copies are there as well.

Anyone and everyone who would like to just go to [www.fra269.org](http://www.fra269.org) and read the newsletter **PLEASE** contact S/M Darlene Hines at 824-2589, [darlene.hines@comcast.net](mailto:darlene.hines@comcast.net), or leave a note in the Pass Down Log (PDL) at The Home to be removed from the snail mail list.

## FRA Branch 269 Spring Golf Tournament

Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at the NWS Redbank Golf Course, FRA Branch 269 will hold their Spring Golf Tournament. It's a **0900** shot gun start. Registration forms are available at The Home. Tournament fee is \$40.00, which includes a prime rib dinner and prizes after the tournament at the FRA Low Country Home. The field is limited to the first 27 PAID teams. Register NOW!

## FRA Branch 269 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Gala

Mark you calendar! Friday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of March, FRA Branch 269 celebrates its 10 year birthday. Want to help “put the bash together”? Contact S/M Chuck Hines. He's looking for help and ideas!

## FRA Southeast Regional Mid-year Meeting

The FRA Southeast Regional Mid-year Meeting will be held on 22-23 February in Sanford, FL. Meeting and hotel information is available on the Branch bulletin board at The Home.

## **FROM THE HOME COMMITTEE**

Welcome to the NEW YEAR, 2008. We hope everyone had an enjoyable New Years Celebration and wish for a prosperous and safe year for all our members and their families. We had a great celebration at the Home, if you missed it, don't worry we will have a greater time next December 31<sup>st</sup>. (Tickets on sale soon.) Upcoming events are, Jan 26<sup>th</sup>, Mardi Gras Party (Pending finding a chairperson), and Feb 3rd, Super Bowl Blast. The Super Bowl Blast will be a private party open only to members and their guests that have purchased tickets. See the newsletter for further details. We have a lot of activities planned for the forth coming year, if you have suggestions, please come to a Home Committee meeting to express you views. Home Committee meetings are held at noon the Saturday before the Branch General Assembly meeting. Check the monthly calendar for specific dates and time.

We would like to express a Special Thank You to new member William (Bill) Akin who saw a need and took charge and remedied that need. Thank you for the new POW/MIA Flag. The day you donated the flag to the Home it was flying from the Yard-Arm. Welcome aboard Shipmate.

Speaking of New Year Resolutions, as Building and Grounds Director and in charge of the monthly field day operations, our regular attendees could use your help. We have a really nice new home and would like to maintain it that way for all our members and their families to enjoy. Three hours on the scheduled Saturday of your time is all we ask. Were not asking every month, but consider once a quarter, or twice a year. If you scheduled golf that day and its raining, (and don't tell me it never rains on a golf course), put down those clubs and help us out. It will not affect your handicap one bit, I promise. So make your New Year Resolutions and include the Home in your plans.

I admit I'm not a maintenance expert. The Home is over a year old and warranties are over. If you are experienced in any of the fields required to maintain our Home please let me know. I can always use good advice and occasionally I can follow simple directions. But most times I need a guiding hand, so please donate yours. It's a money saving thing.

Enjoy the New Year, and come see us at the Home; to eat, drink, and be merry, or shoot some pool, or sing a song, or dance a step or two, or just make fun of Chucky Cheese, (he's from oHlo).

Yours in LPS,  
Larry M. Starland

## **FRA, LOW COUNTRY HOME, Inc.**

**99 Wisteria Road**

**(843) 569-2692**

Home Chairman – Dave Rein

Laurie Bailey – Director

Nate Nathan – Vice Chairman

Kathy Bourgeois – Director

Larry Starland – Bldg. & Grounds

Darlene Hines – Financial Sec.

Bobbi Sutton – Admin Sec.

Lynda Monnig – Special Events

Rusty Wenzel – Director

Trustees: Larry Pepper – Ed Keohane – Jon Sutton

Home Manager – Elfie Campbell

### **Hours of Operations**

Mon-Sat 1000-2400 \* Sun 1000-2000

Happy Hour – 1600-1900 Mon-Fri

### **SUPER BOWL- February 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Super Bowl Sunday is February 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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.

### **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

Jan 26<sup>th</sup> – Mardi Gras ?????

Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> – Super Bowl Sunday

Feb 15<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Dinner

Mar 8<sup>th</sup> – FRA Branch 269 Spring Golf Tournament

Mar 28<sup>th</sup> – FRA Branch 269 10<sup>th</sup> Year Birthday Gala

**Subject to change and additions.**

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

Names drawn lately: 11/27 – Edmund Collins, not signed, 12/4 – Wayne Sporman, not signed; 12/11 – William Ambler, not signed; 12/18 – Robert Duke, not signed; and 12/26 – Robert Jonason, 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.

### **HOME FINANCIAL REPORT**

**31 OCTOBER 2007**

NET PROFIT	-\$2,699.94
BUILDING FUND	\$32,228.65