



# Eight O'Clock Reports

Published monthly for the members of Triangle Branch 182, Fleet Reserve Association  
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*Triangle Branch 182, F.R.A.*

*Rockville, MD*

*February 2026*

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President  
Randy L. Phillipp

Jr Past President  
D. Keith Kaider

Secretary/Treasurer  
Thomas M. Rauch

Chaplain  
PNC Paul R. Gunther

*Members Only*

### *FRA Auxiliary Unit 182 Officers*

President  
Dolores Manley

Secretary  
Gloria Bastian

Treasurer  
Anne Dobbs

Chaplain  
Susan Kaider

*Members Only*



## BRANCH MEETING February 18, 2026

At 1903 President Randy Phillipp, convened an informal meeting with 7 members present including Jr. Past President Keith Kaider, PNC Paul Gunther (Zoom), RSEC Thomas Rauch, Shipmate Mark Allen (Zoom), Shipmate Michael Tovornik (Zoom), and Shipmate Valerie Mathews (Zoom).

The meeting started with discussion and approval of the January Minutes. Shipmate Gunther made a motion to approve, Shipmate Kaider seconded, and all approved.

Next was the Report of Standing Committees. Membership & Retention, Shipmate Phillipp reported that as of February we have 61 members with two renewals, no past due, two loss, and no gains.

Americanism & Patriotism, Shipmate Gunther reported that we will award our Branch Essays winners at the April meeting. Shipmate Rauch mentioned that he will order the Essay certificates from Headquarters and get the gift cards.

Hospitals, Welfare, & Rehabilitation, Shipmate Phillipp reported that he sent a Sympathy card to the family of Shipmate Carol Olson and will send a Sympathy card to Shipmate Danny Snare's family as well.

Youth Activities, Shipmate Kaider reported that he did not hear anything from the Gaithersburg High School NJROTC Commander CAPT Mitton for participating/presenting medals at their Change of Command ceremony but planning to attend. Shipmate Rauch also reported that he received the eight medals ordered last month for the four Montgomery County High Schools that we present NJROTC medals for.

Next were communications to be read, Shipmate Rauch reported that he downloaded the following documents from the FRA Official Correspondence, received via mail, or received via email: 1) 2026 FRA National Convention Newsletter #1. 2) NEDM 3-26 Changes to the C&BL at 97th National Convention. 3) Constitution and Bylaws 18th Edition 97th National Convention - 2025. 4) NEDM 4-26 Annual Premium for Branch Liability Bond. 5) NEDM 5-26 Branch Bank Information Changes. No other communications were received.

Shipmate Rauch went over the January Financial Statement and supporting reports. Shipmate Tovornik made a motion to accept the report that was audited by the Audit Committee Chairman Shipmate Kaider, Shipmate Gunther seconded and all approved.

No Unfinished or Deferred Business.

New Business, 1) Shipmate Rauch reported on the East Coast Region Mid-Year Meeting that was held on February 7, 2026 and a recap of the meeting is on the back. The MYM Minutes will be emailed once received. 2) East Coast Regional Convention 2026 Bulletin received at the Mid-Year Meeting. 3) Central Liaison Committee April Meeting rescheduled for April 18, 2026. 4) National Board of Directors Mid-Year Meeting is April 21-24, 2026 in Arlington, VA. On April 23, 2026 the NBOD will visit Capitol Hill to present the Pinnacle Award. This is opened to all Shipmates. 4) Auxiliary of the FRA National President's Tea and Pilgrimage is April 24, 2026 in Arlington, VA. This is opened to all Shipmates and Auxiliary Members. (See right under Upcoming/Events for more information of meetings/events.) No other New Business.

Good of the Order was held and then at 1937 Shipmate Kaider made a motion to adjourn, Shipmate Tovornik seconded, and all approved.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 18, 2026 @ 1900 at American Legion Post 86 and via Zoom.



### Important Dates for March 2026

- 03 Mar ~ U.S. Naval Reserve Established (1915)
- 04 Mar ~ U.S. Navy Band Established (1925)
- 05 Mar ~ U.S. Navy Seabees Birthday (1942)
- 08 Mar ~ Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 13 Mar ~ National K9 Veterans Day
- 17 Mar ~ St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Mar ~ Branch Meeting @ 1900, American Legion Post 86, 2013 Veirs Mill Rd., Rockville, MD and via Zoom/Dial-in  
**Zoom:** URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/74199719408>  
Meeting ID: 741 9971 9408  
**Dial-In:** 1-301-715-8592 or 1-253-215-8782  
Meeting ID: 741 9971 9408
- 20 Mar ~ First Day of Spring
- 25 Mar ~ National Medal of Honor Day
- 29 Mar ~ Palm Sunday  
Vietnam War Veterans Day

### Retain, Recruit, and Attend Reminder

**Retention:**

Membership As of February 2026				
Active	For Renewal	Past Due	Lost	Gain
61	2	0	2	0

You can renew at [www.fra.org](http://www.fra.org) or please contact our Branch Secretary for more information.

**Recruitment/Reinstatement:** See [www.fra.org](http://www.fra.org) or Branch Secretary for more details on incentive programs.

**Attendance:** See above for Branch Meeting Date, Time, Location

### Upcoming Meetings/Events

#### Central Liaison Committee

April 18, 2026 2:00 PM Hosted by Branch 181  
Location: TBD

#### FRA NBOD Mid-Year Meeting

April 21-24, 2026  
DoubleTree by Hilton, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202  
Reservations call 703-416-4100 \$229/night Code: FRA Meeting

#### Auxiliary of the FRA Pilgrimage

April 24, 2026 @ 1000  
DoubleTree by Hilton, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202  
Reservations call 703-416-4100 \$229/night Code: FRA Meeting  
Online: <https://book.passkey.com/go/laframeeting26>

#### 2026 East Coast Region Convention

July 23-26, 2026  
Hilton Garden Inn Richmond Innsbrook  
4050 Cox Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060  
Reservations call (804) 521-2900 \$119/night Code: FRA  
Cut-off July 1, 2026

#### Central Liaison Committee

July 25, 2026 2:00 PM Hosted by Branch 212  
Location: VFW Post #160, 2597 Dorsey Rd., Glen Burnie, MD  
Note: Date will need to be changed due to ECRC.

#### 98th FRA/93rd Auxiliary of the FRA National Convention

September 29 - October 2, 2026  
The Orleans Hotel and Casino  
4500 W Tropicana Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89103  
Sunday- Thursday, \$101.69/night Friday- Saturday, \$127.68/night  
Reservations call 1-800-675-3267, Code: FRAI26C  
Cut-off August 27, 2026  
<https://orleanscasino.boyd.pegasbe.com/promo?accessCode=FRAI26C?>

#### Central Liaison Committee

October 24, 2026 2:00 PM Hosted by Branch 4  
Location: 10925 Riverview Road, Fort Washington, MD

*Members Only*



Two Bell Ceremony in remembrance of those Shipmates that have received orders to serve on the Staff of the Supreme Commander.



*Please remember our troops who continue to serve at home and around the world.*

**MEMBERSHIP**

Updates Since January 2026

Renewed Members

New Branch Members

Kirk Young

None

**Thank you and Welcome, Shipmates!**

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

Robert Vitarelli	1st	Bob Mallasch	14th
Joseph Halton	1st	James Crytzer	16th
William Billado	6th	D. Keith Kaider	20th
John Leben		31st	

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SHIPMATES**

**MARCH FRA ANNIVERSARIES**

Jack Ensminger	58yrs	Kirk Young	25yrs
Phillip Case	44yrs	Bob Mallasch	22yrs
Edward Braithwood	43yrs	Kenneth Mutzabaugh	22yrs
Jonathan Whiting	34yrs	John Wood	21yrs
Paul Dziadon		6yrs	

**Thank you for your support, Shipmates**

**FRA AUXILIARY UNIT 182**



FRA Auxiliary-02-19-2026

On February 19, 2026, we held our regular scheduled meeting at President Manley's home. We had 3 members (Dolores, Anne and Susan) in attendance with Gloria and Aida via phone. Thank you once again for hosting the meeting Dolores.

Treasurer Anne gave the Treasurer's report and was approved. Susan gave the Chaplain's report. Susan read "On Monday", a very emotional article about 9/11. The topic of how we could improve our meetings via Zoom or FaceTime to reach more members was put on hold until we investigate more. A motion was made & approved to purchase a raffle ticket for the ECR Convention.

Our next meeting will be March 19, 11:30 A.M. at President Manley's home. Hoping to see you there.

Respectfully,  
*Susan Kaider*

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

Mildred Murphy	11th
Pamela Desensi	24th
Frances DeByl	26th
Crystal Denlinger	27th

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AUXILIARY MEMBERS**

**MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

Connie Waite	50yrs
Brenda Loe	9yrs

**Thank you for your support, Auxiliary Members**

**Central Liaison Committee Meeting  
January 31, 2026**

Just a couple of quick take a ways from this CLC meeting:

- Auxiliary of the FRA Pilgrimage is scheduled for April 24, 2026, DoubleTree by Hilton, 300 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA 22202.
- Memorial Day Picnic hosted by Branch 4, more details to come.
- April meeting rescheduled to April 18, 2026 hosted by Br/Unit 181.
- CLC minutes will be distributed via e-mail, if you do not have an e-mail address and like a copy please notify Shipmate Rauch.

**2026 East Coast Regional Mid-Year Meeting**



The East Coast Regional Mid-Year Meeting was held on Saturday, February 7, 2026 hosted by Branch/Unit 40 at the Holiday Inn Virginia Beach-Norfolk Hotel & Conference Center in Virginia Beach, VA. Branch Shipmates PNC Paul Gunther, and RSEC Thomas Rauch attended.

Valuable and pertinent information for the Region was presented during the meeting that started at 0900 and presided over by East Coast Region President Valerie Toulotte (Br 024).

The meeting started with opening ceremonies and introduction of the East Coast Region Officers. Then Legislative reports were given for Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, North Carolina, National Headquarters. There were no representatives present for District of Columbia or West Virginia.

Shipmate RPEC Valerie Toulotte (Br 024) then gave her report and then called on Shipmate RPEC Philip Stone (Br 040) who had to leave early, and he reminded everyone that the Branch assessments will be \$1.00/member in good standing.

Shipmate RPEC Valerie Toulotte (Br 024) then called for the Branch Reports and gave the Branches present a chance to read their report.

Then Shipmate Jr. RPEC Robert Oliveira (Br 293) spoke about Hospitals, Welfare & Rehabilitation, he noted the HWR committee manual and report has been revised for this year that merges the VAVS report.

Shipmate NVP Sha'ron Martin (Br 166) spoke about Public Relations, he stated that pictures should be included with the submission of the committee report.

Shipmate RPEC Valerie Toulotte (Br 024) stated she needed a volunteer to be the Youth Activities Committee Chair.

Shipmate RVPEC Paula Falu (Br 099) spoke about Membership/Retention.

Shipmate PRPEC Paul Phelps (Br 040) spoke about Veterans Service Officer, Audit, and Budget & Finance.

Shipmate Jr. PRPEC Robert Oliveira (Br 293) spoke about Disaster Relief and the application that is needed to apply for relief.

Shipmate PRPEC Randy Phillipp (Br 182) was not present for By-laws & Rules, but Shipmate RSEC Thomas Rauch (Br 182) noted that the ECR Bylaws resolutions are due 60 Days (May 24, 2026) before the regional convention and for the National C&BL 120 Days (June 1, 2026) before the national convention.

Shipmate RSEC Thomas Rauch (Br 182) reported on the status of Time and Place for the 2026 & 2027 ECRC and 2027 & 2028 MYM. Noted that we will need hosts for the 2027 ECRC, 2028 MYM, and 2028 ECRC.

Shipmate RSEC Thomas Rauch (Br 182) then reported on submitting of the Annual Branch Officer Reports that are due immediately after Branch elections. He also mentioned that the committee reports are due by 30 June and will be able to be downloaded from the FRA and ECR websites. Plus, reports should reflect the March Membership Report for the number of Shipmates in good standing.

Shipmate PNED Phillip Reid (Br 181) then spoke about IRS Tax Employer Identification Numbers EINs that each Branch should have for reporting tax status each year.

Shipmate PRPEC Paul Phelps (Br 040) provided information about the East Coast Region Convention that will be hosted by the ECR Red/Gray Hats ad hoc committee on July 23-26, 2026 in Richmond, VA. The ECRC Newsletter #1 will be sent out to the Branches.

Shipmate RPEC Valerie Toulotte (Br 024) reported that the National Convention will be September 29 - October 2, 2026 in Las Vegas, NV.

Americanism and Patriotism Chairman, Shipmate Kim Biggs (Br 024) then reported the results of the East Coast Region Essay Contest with naming the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners for each grade 7th through 12th. The complete list with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will be distributed to the Branches.

Shipmate RSEC Thomas Rauch (Br 182) reported that he submitted his nominating resolution for RSEC. Shipmate RVPEC Paula Falu (Br 099) will also be submitting her nominating resolution for RPEC.

Good of the order was conducted, then before the meeting adjourned at 1500 a moment of silence was conducted to pay tribute to our Shipmates that received orders to serve on the Staff of the Supreme Commander.