

BYLAWS AND RULES EAST COAST REGION



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

Amended:

**81st Annual Convention
2025 East Coast Region
Williamsburg, VA**

Ratified:

**97th National Convention
Fleet Reserve Association
Springfield, MO**

CONTENTS

BYLAWS

Article 1	Name	Page 1
Article 2	Purpose	Page 1
Article 3	Membership	Page 1
Article 4	Regional Midyear Meeting & Convention	Page 1
Article 5	Officers	Page 6
Article 6	Duties of Officers & Committees	Page 7
Article 7	Amendments	Page 13
Article 8	Branches	Page 14
Article 9	Finance	Page 15
Article 10	Miscellaneous	Page 16

STANDING RULES

SR-1	Rules Governing East Coast Regional Convention	Page 17
SR-2	Order of Business for The Regional Convention	Page 18
SR-3	Americanism Essay Contest Guidelines	Page 20

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

<u>Chg.#</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Page</u>
98	Article 4, Section 401(j)	Page 3
98	Article 4, Section 401(j), Para (1)	Page 3
98	Article 4, Section 401(j), Para (3)	Page 3
98	Article 6, Section 602(c), Para (3)	Page 9
98	SR-1(a)	Page 17
99	Article 6, Section 611	Page 11
00	Article 6, Section 616(a)	Page 12
00	Article 6, Section 616(b)	Page 12
00	Article 6, Section 616(c)	Page 12
02	Article 4, Section 401(f), Para (2)	Page 2
02	Article 4, Section 402(j)	Page 5
02	Article 6, Section 618(a)	Page 13
02	Article 6, Section 618(b)	Page 13
02	Article 6, Section 618(c)	Page 13
02	Article 6, Section 618(f)	Page 13
02	Article 9, Section 901	Page 15
06	Article 9, Section 902(c)	Page 15

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

<u>Chg.#</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Page</u>
07	Article 6, Section 618(d)	Page 13
17	Article 6, Section 603(a), Para (11)	Page 9
17	Article 6, Section 614	Page 11
17	Article 6, Section 618(d)	Page 13
23	Article 9, Section 901	Page 15
23	Article 9, Section 904	Page 15
24	Article 6, Section 618(d)	Page 13
24	Article 9, Section 902(a)	Page 15
24	Article 9, Section 902(b)	Page 15
24	Article 9, Section 902(c)	Page 15
24	Article 9, Section 903	Page 15
25	Article 9, Section 901	Page 15

BYLAWS OF THE EAST COAST REGION FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1 NAME

Section 101. The name of this organization shall be the East Coast Region, Fleet Reserve Association.

ARTICLE 2 PURPOSE

Section 201. The East Coast Region shall be the coordinating and assisting body for the Fleet Reserve Association organizations located within the states to include the District of Columbia, as listed in Article 11, Section 1101(c) C&BL.

Section 202. The East Coast Region shall conduct business as may properly come before it as it relates to the affairs of the East Coast Region and the Fleet Reserve Association and the welfare of its members.

ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP

Section 301. The membership of the East Coast Region shall be composed of, and restricted to, all branches of the Fleet Reserve Association in the East Coast Region, as designated by Article 11, C&BL.

ARTICLE 4 REGIONAL CONVENTION & REGIONAL MIDYEAR MEETING

Section 401. Regional Convention.

Section 401(a). The governing body of the East Coast Region shall be elected and qualified delegates of the branches of the East Coast Region assembled at a Regional Convention.

Section 401(b). The authority of the Regional Convention shall be restricted to the provisions of the C&BL, and the East Coast Region Bylaws.

Section 401(c). The East Coast Region shall hold an annual convention for the purpose of conducting such business as may come before and to elect new officers for the ensuing year. The convention may be held anytime if the Regional President is elected at least fifteen days prior to the convening of the National Convention.

Section 401(d). The time and place of the Annual Regional Convention is to be decided by the delegates at the convention two years in advance except as provided by Section 401(f).

Section 401(e). A branch, branches, or area coordinating council desiring to sponsor a Regional Convention shall:

- (1) Submit a request in resolution form in accordance with Section 401(r).
- (2) Appoint a member to prepare and make a presentation to the Regional Time and Place Committee.
- (3) When two or more branches are working together, one branch will be designated the host branch and will be indicated in the resolution. Area coordinating councils will host as a group.

Section 401(f). Should the Regional Committee on Time and Place be unable to obtain bids from a branch, branches, or a Coordinating Council within the region to sponsor the Regional Convention and at the Regional Convention following the deadline for bids, a branch, branches, or a coordinating council volunteers to host the Regional Convention, the Regional President may award the Regional Convention to them. Otherwise, the Regional President shall nominate a committee for consideration of the delegates to host the Regional Convention. The committee approved by the delegates shall.

- (1) Elect a chairperson.
- (2) Comply with the same reporting requirements as required of a branch, branches, or coordinating council sponsoring a Regional Convention. Income derived by the committee is governed by Section 902(c). **Chg. 02**

Section 401(g). In the event the sponsoring branch or branches are unable to make suitable arrangements or if it is determined by the Regional President that the arrangements are unsatisfactory, the Regional President shall have the authority to cancel the time and place of the annual convention and proceed to prepare for holding the annual convention at a more suitable place.

Section 401(h). The branch or branches sponsoring the Regional Convention shall appoint convention chairpersons and committee. Their names and addresses shall be reported to the Regional President not later than 1 January of the convention year.

Section 401(i). The branch or branches sponsoring a Regional Convention shall provide a suitable meeting place, notifying the Regional President of the name and address of the meeting place not later than 1 March of the convention year.

Section 401(j). The taped Verbatim Minutes of the East Coast Regional Convention shall be the official record of business for the East Coast Region. **Chg. 98**

- (1) The recording, transcribing, editing, publishing, and distribution of the East Coast Regional Convention shall be the responsibility of the Regional Secretary. **Chg. 98**
- (2) The expense of recording, transcribing, publishing, and distributing the minutes of the East Coast Region will be assumed by the East Coast Region.
- (3) The Regional Secretary shall forward a copy and transcribed minutes to the Junior Past Regional President for review prior to publication. **Chg. 98**
- (4) Prior to the conclusion of the Midyear Meeting following the Regional Convention the Regional Secretary shall mail or deliver copies of the minutes as follows: One copy each; to the National Parliamentarian, (NHQ) National Executive Director ,(NHQ) ,Regional President, Regional Vice President, Regional Treasurer, Junior Past Regional President, Past Regional Officers, and Past National Officers residing in the East Coast Region; one copy to each Branch Secretary, of the East Coast Region and 10 copies to the Regional President who will be responsible for distributing copies to his/her standing and special committee chairmen.

Section 401(k). The branch or branches sponsoring a regional convention shall provide a Chaplain and a Master-at-Arms to assist the Regional Chaplain and Regional Master-at-Arms.

Section 401(l). In addition to other committees which may be appointed, the chairperson of the convention shall appoint a Registration and Credentials Committee whose names will be submitted to the East Coast Regional President no later than 1 February of the Convention Year.

Section 401(m). Each branch shall be entitled to the number of votes equal to the number of delegates to which it is authorized in accordance with Article 6 of the C&BL based on the 31 March report of the National Financial Officer.

Section 401(n). Branches shall inform the Regional President and the Chairman of the Registration and Credentials Committee of the names of their delegates not later than fifteen days prior to the convening of the Regional Convention.

Section 401(o). Delegates shall vote as instructed by their branch. When uninstructed by the branch the vote may be cast under the unit rule or prorated proportionately so that no delegate shall be deprived of his/her one delegate vote. No fractional votes shall be allowed.

Section 401(p). Delegates or proxy delegates to the convention shall be members in good standing of the Fleet Reserve Association. The chairperson of a branch delegation or a proxy will be required to deliver to the Credentials Committee evidence of the authority over the signature of the president and the secretary of the branch which they represent. Delegates or Proxy delegates may not delegate their authority in turn to other delegates unless such

authority is so specified in their instructions from the branch which they represent, as delivered to the Credentials Committee.

Section 401(q). A quorum shall exist at the convention when two-thirds of the authorized voting strength of the East Coast Region, as represented when accredited delegates or proxies are registered.

Section 401(r). All resolutions to be acted upon at the annual convention, except nominating resolutions and those of a personal nature indicating an expression of sympathy, gratitude, thanks, appreciation, etc., which may come from the convention floor, shall be forwarded to the Regional President sixty days prior to the scheduled convening date of the Regional Convention for promulgation to all branches of the East Coast Region in accordance with the provisions of Section 601(k) of the East Coast Region Bylaws and Rules.

Section 401(s). The delegates may by a motion, resolution, or recommendation, instruct the Regional President to present the majority viewpoint of the delegates in attendance at the convention on any matter pertinent to the affairs of the East Coast Region or the Fleet Reserve Association at any National Convention meeting or any National Board of Directors meeting except the supporting of a single candidate for National Office. In the event the matter becomes an issue at the National Convention, this action will not be binding on any branch of the East Coast Region.

Section 401(t). Any National Officer, Past National Officer, or Regional Officer in good standing may be granted the privilege of the floor by the presiding officer but may not vote unless registered as an accredited delegate.

Section 401(u). Members of the Fleet Reserve Association in good standing shall have access to the regular sessions of the convention but shall have no vote nor the privilege of the floor unless they are an accredited delegate. Visiting members may be granted the privilege of the floor under the "Good of the Order."

Section 401(v). During a roll-call vote at a Regional Convention, voting shall be by branches according to alphabetical sequence of the branch name.

Section 402. Midyear Meeting.

Section 402(a). The East Coast Region shall hold an annual Midyear meeting in the month of January, February, or March for the purpose of informing the shipmates on the current activities and affairs of the Region and National Association.

Section 402(b). Meeting Format.

- (1) As provided for in Article 6, Section 601(n), the Regional President may consider a Workshop to be the format for the meeting or he/she can use the format of an

informal meeting, i.e., an agenda consisting of committee reports, or he/she can direct that the typical convention format be used i.e., opening ceremonies, welcome aboard party, sessions based on an agenda dealing with issues and information of interest to the Shipmates, etc.

- (2) The Regional President shall be tasked to furnish the purposed sponsor(s) with the format to be used at the midyear meeting six months in advance of the convening of the meeting.

Section 402(c). Traditionally, no business is conducted at a midyear meeting. To perpetuate this concept, no motion from the floor will be in order except those of a personal nature indicating an expression of sympathy, gratitude, thanks, appreciation, etc.

Section 402(d). A branch, branches, or area coordinating council desiring to sponsor a midyear meeting shall:

- (1) Submit their request in writing to the Time and Place Committee who will make recommendations to the Regional President.
- (2) Prepare and make a presentation to the Regional Time and Place Committee.
- (3) When two or more branches are working together, one branch will be designated the host branch and will be indicated in the resolution. Coordinating councils or others will host as a group.

Section 402(e). The time and place of the East Coast Regional Midyear Meeting shall be decided by the Regional President at the Midyear Meeting two years in advance.

Section 402(f). The branch or branches sponsoring a midyear meeting shall appoint a chairperson and committees, their names and addresses shall be reported to the Regional President no later than 1 July of year preceding the meeting.

Section 402(g). The branch or branches sponsoring a midyear shall provide a suitable meeting place, notifying the Regional President of the name and address of the meeting place not later than 1 September of the year preceding the meeting.

Section 402 (h). The branch or branches sponsoring a midyear shall provide a Chaplain and a Master-at-Arms to assist the Regional Chaplain and Regional Master-at-Arms.

Section 402 (i). It shall be the sponsor's prerogative to select a keynote speaker if one is to be involved. The Regional President shall be made aware of such speaker within thirty days of the meeting, and he/she shall have the authority to cancel said speaker if he/she feels that the speaker inappropriate.

Section 402(j). Should the Regional Committee on Time and Place, be unable to obtain bids from a branch, branches, or a coordinating council within the region to sponsor a midyear

meeting a branch, branches or a coordinating council volunteers to host the midyear meeting, the Regional President may award the midyear meeting to them. Otherwise, the Regional President shall appoint a committee and its chairperson to host the meeting. The Committee shall comply with the same reporting requirements as required of a branch, branches or coordinating council sponsoring a midyear meeting. Income derived by the committee is governed by Section 902(c). **Chg. 02**

ARTICLE 5 OFFICERS

Section 501. The elected officer of the East Coast Region shall be the Regional President, Regional Vice President, Regional Treasurer, and Regional Secretary.

Section 502. Branches may nominate or endorse for Regional Office any member of the East Coast Region who is eligible to hold office. Nominations or endorsements shall be forwarded to the President of the East Coast Region sixty days prior to the scheduled convening of the Regional Convention to promulgation to all branches of the region. Nominations may be made from the floor of the convention by an accredited delegate. If the nominee is not present at the time of nomination, he/she shall not be eligible unless the presiding officer has a written letter of acceptance of the nomination, or an electronically signed email of acceptance from the nominee.

Section 503. The annual convention shall elect a Regional President and a Regional Vice President for a one-year term, a Regional Treasurer, and a Regional Secretary for a three-year the terms shall not coincide.

Section 504(a). The Regional President-elect shall be installed in person or by proxy at the National Convention.

Section 504(b). The Regional Vice President, Regional Treasurer, and the Regional Secretary shall be installed in person or by proxy as Regional Officers at the Regional Convention at which they were elected.

Section 504(c). The Regional President-elect may be installed in a token ceremony at the Regional Convention at which he was elected.

Section 504(d). In the event an elected Regional Officer other than the Regional President, becomes incapacitated, or is unable to complete the term of the office to which he/she was elected The Regional President shall appoint a special committee to recommend a successor. The committee shall be composed of not less than five members, each from a different branch and at least three members shall have served in the office of Regional President, East Coast. The committee shall make recommendations to the Regional President as soon as possible, but not later than thirty days after its appointment. The Regional President shall

appoint a successor to complete the unexpired term of office based on the committee's recommendation.

Section 505. In the event the East Coast Region fails to hold a convention, the Regional President, Regional Vice President, Regional Treasurer, and Regional Secretary shall be elected by the delegates from the East Coast Region attending the National Convention. The Regional Officers shall be installed by a delegate from the East Coast Region at the National Convention.

Section 506. In the event no Regional or National Convention is held, the offices shall be filled in accordance with Article 7, C&BL.

ARTICLE 6 DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 601(a). Duties of the Regional President. The Regional President shall be a National Officer and a member of the National Board of Directors and shall perform the duties as prescribed in these Bylaws and the C&BL.

Section 601(b). The Regional President shall be responsible for the conducting the provisions, regulations, and policies of the East Coast Region as prescribed in these Bylaws.

Section 601(c). With the exceptions of the provisions of Sections 401(h), 401(l), and 402(f), the Regional President shall appoint all standing and special committees including advisors where desired except when chairperson of a committee has been named by action of the Regional Convention and shall publish same to all branches of the East Coast Region.

Section 601(d). The Regional President shall be an ex-officio member of all Regional Committees.

Section 601(e). If the Regional President is unable to visit a branch of the region when such a visit is deemed vitally necessary, the Regional President may designate the Regional Vice President to represent that office. The Regional Vice President shall forward a written report on the conditions of the branch to the Regional President.

Section 601(f). The Regional President shall function as presiding officer at the Midyear Meeting.

Section 601(g). The Regional President shall function as presiding officer of the Convention during the business session and shall notify within five days after adjournment of said convention the National President and the National Headquarters of the Fleet Reserve Association of the duly elected successor, together with the names and addresses of any newly elected Regional Officers.

Section 601(h). The Regional President shall appoint a Regional Parliamentarian from the membership of the East Coast Region to assist in the conduct of meetings and other matters requiring parliamentary guidance.

Section 601(i). The Regional President shall appoint a Regional Chaplain from the membership of the East Coast Region to assist the Regional President; to aid in the training of Branch Chaplains; and to assist the regional functions hosted by a branch when assistance is required by that branch.

Section 601(j). The Regional President shall appoint Regional Master-At-Arms from the membership of the East Coast Region to assist the Regional President, to aid in the training of Branch Master-At-Arms and to assist with regional functions hosted by a branch when assistance is required by the branch.

Section 601(k). The Regional President shall cause to be promulgated to all branches, sixty prior to the scheduled convening of the Regional Convention, all proposed amendments to the Bylaws and Rules of the East Coast Region, nominating resolutions for the office of Regional President, Regional Vice President, Regional Treasurer, and Regional Secretary; resolutions to host the Regional Convention; and all other reports requiring action by the Regional Convention.

Section 601(l). The Regional President shall keep the Regional Vice President fully informed of all matters of importance and shall seek his/ her counsel.

Section 601(m). The Regional President, within fifteen days after being relieved by the duly elected successor, shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, to the successor in office, all records, files, monies, and other property belonging to the Fleet Reserve Association, East Coast Region, in his/her possession or under his/her control, received by him/her in connection with the duties, of his/her term of office.

Section 601(n). The Regional President, when he/she deems it necessary or desirable, may convene a workshop at a site chosen by him/her, for the purpose of instructing and training of branch officers in the performance of their duties.

Section 601(o). The Regional President shall notify all delinquent branches in writing of their failure to comply with Section 901 of the Bylaws and Rules of the East Coast Region and non-compliance after his notification will necessitate reporting the delinquent branches to the National Board of Directors for appropriate action.

Section 601(p). The Junior Past Regional President shall render assistance and provide such information as may be requested by his successor in office.

Section 602(a). The Regional Vice President shall be the Chairman of the Regional Committee of Membership and Retention and ex officio member of all other regional committees.

Section 602(b). The Regional Treasurer shall be an advisory member to the Regional Committee on Budget and Finance.

Section 602(c). The East Coast Regional Secretary shall:

- (1) Be the Steering Committee Chairman at Regional Conventions.
- (2) Receive a copy of all committee reports at the Regional Convention and retain them until the Convention minutes are published.
- (3) Be responsible for the recording, transcribing, editing, publishing, and distributing of Convention minutes. **Chg. 98**
- (4) Be the custodian of the Edited Published Minutes of the East Coast Regional Convention and all Regional files. Files of the Regional Secretary, except for edited published regional minutes shall be kept for three years unless determined to be historical by the Regional Secretary.
- (5) Record and forward a Midyear Meeting report to the Regional President and the Regional Vice President.

Section 603(a). The Standing Committees of the East Coast Regional shall be:

- (1) Regional Committee on Time and Place
- (2) Regional Committee on Bylaws and Rules
- (3) Regional Committee on Membership and Retention
- (4) Regional Committee on Youth Activities
- (5) Regional Committee on Americanism/Patriotism
- (6) Regional Committee on Legislative-Services for each state of the East Coast Region and the District of Columbia
- (7) Regional Committee on Hospital/Welfare and Rehabilitation
- (8) Regional Committee on Budget and Finance
- (9) Regional Committee on Public Relations
- (10) Regional Committee on Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation
- (11) Regional Committee on Veterans Service. **Chg. 17**

Section 603(b). The chair of a Standing Committee shall make an annual report of his/her committee's activities at the Regional Convention with such recommendations as he/ she deems proper. Recommendations requiring action by the Regional Convention shall be submitted in resolution form to the Regional President not later than sixty days prior to the scheduled convening of the Regional Convention for promulgation in accordance with Section 601(k).

Section 604. Duties of the Regional Committee on Time and Place. The committee shall endeavor to obtain bids from a branch, branches, and area coordinating councils of the East Coast Region to host the annual Regional Convention and Midyear Meeting two years in advance. Following the receipt of bids, this committee shall investigate and study the bids received and shall recommend to the delegates a site for the Regional Convention and to the Regional President a site for the Midyear Meeting.

Section 605(a). Duties of the Regional Committee on Bylaws and Rules. This committee shall be composed of at least five members.

Section 605(b). The committee shall make an extensive review of the Regional Bylaws and Rules and shall study all proposed changes to the Regional Bylaws and Rules submitted by branches within the East Coast Region and submit recommendations to the Regional Convention.

Section 606. The duties of the Regional Committee on Membership and Retention are to devise ways and means of increasing membership and retention.

Section 607. Duties of the Regional Committee on Youth Activities. This committee shall study the various methods by which branches, and the members may best serve the youth of their community and make recommendations to the branches as to the ways the young people may be properly guided in their endeavors to become more useful citizens.

Section 608(a). Duties of the Regional Committee on Americanism – Patriotism. The duties of this committee shall be to encourage Branches to honor the flag of the United States: to sell flags at no profit and to advise Branches where they can obtain these flags; and to foster the principles of the founding fathers as expressed in the Constitution of the United States. This committee shall encourage Branches to honor our departed shipmates in the manner expressed so eloquently in the Preamble to the Constitution of the Fleet Reserve Association.

Section 608(b). The Regional Committee on Americanism-Patriotism shall judge the Americanism Essay contest within the East Coast Region in accordance with the provisions of Standing Rule 3.

Section 609(a). Duties of the Regional Committee on Legislative Service. A Chair and committee shall be appointed for each state in the East Coast Region and the District of Columbia. The primary duties of these committees are to study legislation introduced within the State Legislature which may affect the personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, and disseminate this information by the most effective and expedient method.

Section 609(b). These committees shall endeavor, through personal contact, to familiarize the State Legislators with the aim and purpose of the Fleet Reserve Association.

Section 610(a). Duties of the Regional Committee on Hospitals, Welfare, and Rehabilitation
It shall be the duty of this committee to foster and maintain good relations between the Fleet Reserve Association and the hospital; to extend praise and commendation to Units that have rendered outstanding service; and to investigate allegations that shipmates and dependents are not receiving the full benefits of existing laws and regulations.

Section 610(b). It shall solicit the cooperation of the Branch Chairman of this committee and instill in them the importance of this committee at the Branch level.

Section 610(c). When the need for welfare Assistance comes to the attention of the Chair, he/she shall cause the circumstance to be investigated. Upon the completion of such investigation, he/she will make a report to the Regional President with appropriate recommendations.

Section 611. Duties of the Regional Committee on Budget and Finance. The Regional Committee on Budget and Finance shall be composed of three members each from a different Branch, appointed by the Regional President for terms of three years, one member being replaced or reappointed each year by the incoming Regional President. It shall be the duty of this committee to present a Regional Budget for the year following fiscal year to the Delegates at the Regional Convention **Chg. 99**

Section 612. Duties of the Regional Committee on Public Relations shall be to promote and publicize the aims, purpose, and accomplishments of the Fleet Reserve Association.

Section 613. Duties of the Regional Committee on Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation. It shall be the duty of the Chairman, Regional Committee on Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation to investigate each request, including requests from Members-At-Large, for a grant from the Disaster Relief Fund or the Welfare and Rehabilitation Reserve and make an appropriate recommendation to the Regional President.

Section 614. Duties of the Regional Committee on Veterans Service Committee. It shall be the duty to oversee the Regional FRA VSO and VAVS programs, providing education. and outreach of same to the membership of the Region, including the policies and regulations associated with these programs; to report on the number and activities of Branch FRA accredited VSO representatives and representatives in the VAVS programs; to solicit branches and Shipmates to become involved in departments of Veterans Affairs/services on the state, local or national level, including VA regional offices, medical facilities, state or national veteran cemeteries or veteran homes; and to annually recognize outstanding service by a Shipmate in service to veterans. The Chair shall make an annual report to the Regional President at the East Coast Regional Convention. **Chg. 17**

Section 615. The Regional Committees may nominate a Branch within each membership group and the name of an overall Shipmate of the Year for a first-place award for outstanding service within the parameters established by each committee. Selection for awards shall be made for the following Regional Committees:

Membership and Retention; (branch awards only)

Public Relations

Hospitals, Welfare and Rehabilitation

Youth Activities

Americanism/Patriotism

Section 616. If a Regional Committee deems it appropriate, it may nominate up to two additional Branches within each Membership Group and two additional Shipmate of the Year Nominees for second and third place awards. In addition, the Regional Committee on Membership and Retention may select a qualified Nominee from among those submitted for “The Frank J. McPherson Memorial Award” to be forwarded to the Chairman of the National Committee on Membership and Retention.

Section 616(a). The Shipmate selected and approved by the delegates in attendance at the Regional Convention shall receive an appropriate East Coast Region award and the Shipmate’s name and supporting declaration of facts shall be submitted to the Chairman, National Membership and Retention, as the East Coast Region Nominee for the Frank J. McPherson Memorial Award as outlined in SR-7(g)(4), C&BL, FRA. **Chg. 00**

Section 616(b). A membership award shall be competitively awarded to one Shipmate from among the Branches of the East Coast Region who exemplifies the three Cardinal Principles of the FRA, especially in membership endeavors and expended extensive effort toward the growth of the FRA. The nominee need not be a top recruiter, but an individual who has maintained a cheerful outlook as it affects the Fleet Reserve Association. **Chg. 00**

Section 616(c). Names of the qualified nominees for this award may be submitted accompanied by a declaration of facts supporting the nomination. Nominees for the award shall be submitted to the Regional Chairman, Membership and Retention Committee no later than 15 days prior to the Regional Convention. **Chg. 00**

Section 617. The committee, in order to maintain exacting standards, are not required to make all or any authorized nominations if, within their belief, reports submitted are not of the standards established by that committee. However, each Committee Chairman, when rendering his/her report to the Convention, will announce all Nominated first, second and third place winners to the Delegates or announce the fact that not all awards are deemed appropriate as determined by the Committee.

Section 618. Awards.

Section 618(a). All judging for awards shall be conducted after the Opening Ceremonies of the East Coast Regional Convention except the Americanism Essay Contest. **Chg. 02**

Section 618(b). An award of a streamer shall be presented to the first, second and third place branch winners approved by the convention delegates. **Chg. 02**

Section 618(c). The first-place winner shall receive a blue streamer, second place shall receive a red streamer and the third-place winner shall receive a white streamer. **Chg. 02**

Section 618(d). An award of \$100.00 will be presented to the East Coast Region overall American/Patriotism Essay winner. A \$75.00 award will be presented to each first-place winner of each grade level seven thru twelve, a \$50.00 award is authorized to be awarded to the second-place winners of each grade level seven thru twelve, and a \$25.00 award to be presented to the third-place winners of each grade level seven thru twelve. The award shall be in the form of a bank cash card for the actual monetary value. **Chg. 07, Chg. 17, Chg. 24**

Section 618(e). A plaque shall be presented to the Shipmates of the Year. **Chg. 02**

Section 619. Within five days after the conclusion of the Regional Convention, each committee chair shall comply with SR-7(b)(3), C&BL.

ARTICLE 7 AMENDMENTS

Section 701. The Bylaws of the East Coast Region may be amended by the action of the delegates to the Regional Convention in the manner herein after provided.

Section 702. It shall require two-thirds vote of a convention to amend the Bylaws of the East Coast Region.

Section 703. Amendments to the East Coast Regional Bylaws shall be proposed as follows:

Section 703(a). By a Branch in accordance with Article 14, C&BL and forwarded to the Chairman, Regional Committee on Bylaws and Rules 60 days prior to the convening of the East Coast Regional Convention.

Section 703(b). By regional officers, listed in Section 501 of the East Coast Bylaws and Rules and forwarded to the Chairman, Regional Committee on Bylaws and Rules sixty (60) days prior to the convening of the East Coast Regional Convention.

Section 703(c). By the Regional Committee on Bylaws and Rules.

Section 704. Proposed amendments requiring action of the Convention shall be presented in resolution form as prescribed in Article 14, C&BL.

Section 705. Amendments to the East Coast Regional Bylaws and Rules, adopted by the Convention shall become effective upon ratification by the National Board of Directors of the Fleet Reserve Association.

Section 706. Following ratification of the amendments to the Bylaws and Rules by the National Board of Directors and prior to publication of the appropriate changes or revisions to the Bylaws and Rules, a three member committee comprised of the Chairman, Regional Bylaws and Rules Committee, Advisor to the Regional Bylaws and Rules Committee and the Regional Parliamentarian shall: Edit the Bylaws and Rules for the purpose of correcting typographical punctuation and capitalization errors and the rearrangement of sections to provide proper sequence and continuity. Such corrections may be made if they do not in any manner change the intended meaning.

ARTICLE 8 BRANCHES

Section 801. Branches shall maintain constant liaison with the Regional President and Regional Vice President.

Section 802. Branches shall forward to the Regional President a copy of all pertinent correspondence of branch business which is of importance to the East Coast Region and /or the Fleet Reserve Association in order that the Regional President may be informed of the membership's opinions and desires so that he/she may represent the branches of the East Coast Region.

Section 803(a). Branches shall furnish a copy of the "Annual Report of Branch Officers" to the Regional President and Regional Vice President.

Section 803(b). Any changes in the above report, such as name(s) and address(es) of newly elected officers, meeting place, date of meeting(s), etc., shall be reported to the Regional President within ten working days of said change.

Section 804. Non-compliance with Section 803 shall be cause for the Regional President to initiate action in accordance with Article 5, C&BL.

ARTICLE 9

FINANCE

Section 901. Funds to defray the expenses of the East Coast Region shall be derived from a sum of money assessed each branch of the East Coast Region in the amount of \$1.00 per member in good standing as determined on 31 March each year by the National Headquarters Membership Report whenever the Regional Treasury General Fund falls below \$6,000.00 and shall be paid to the Regional Treasurer prior to convening of the Fleet Reserve Association National Convention. Funds shall be budgeted by the fiscal year. The fiscal year of the East Coast Region shall begin on 1 September and terminate on 31 August. **Chg. 02, Chg. 23, Chg. 25**

Section 902(a). All funds received by the Regional Treasurer shall be deposited in a general checking account of the East Coast Region of the Fleet Reserve Association, and all disbursements shall be made by check signed by the Regional Treasurer and counter signed by the Regional President or Regional Vice President. **Chg. 24**

Section 902(b). A savings account, in the name of the East Coast Region of the Fleet Reserve Association shall be opened for the deposit of funds. All withdrawals from this account shall be made by the Regional Treasurer and countersigned by the Regional President or Regional Vice President. Convention seed money shall be disbursed from the regional savings account. **Chg. 24**

Section 902(c). Convention income in excess of expenses derived from a convention hosted by a committee appointed by the Regional President shall be placed in the general fund, convention seed money, shall be returned to the savings account, and made available to the Budget and Finance Committee. When the Regional President must appoint a committee to host the Regional Convention, seed money shall be disbursed from the regional savings account. **Chg. 06, Chg. 24**

Section 903. No monies shall be disbursed by the Regional Treasurer, and countersigned by the Regional President or Regional Vice President, that have not been budgeted and approved by the delegates at the Regional Convention except that extraordinary disbursements may be made on unanimous recommendations of the Committee on Budget and Finance Committee and upon approval of the Regional President and shall be subject to ratification by the delegates at the next Regional Convention. **Chg. 24**

Section 904. The Regional Treasurer shall notify the Regional President 30 Days before the annual Regional Convention of any branch failing to comply with Section 901 of the Bylaws and Rules of the East Coast Region. **Chg. 23**

Section 905. The Regional President, Regional Vice President, Regional Secretary, and the Regional Treasurer shall be bonded under the National Fidelity Bond as provided in Standing rule ten of the Fleet Reserve Association.

Section 906. The Regional President shall appoint a special Audit Committee, comprised of at least three members of the East Coast Region, each from a different branch within the area of the Regional Treasurer. This committee will audit the books of the Regional Treasurer prior to the East Coast Regional Convention. The committee shall provide a copy of their audit to the Regional President, Regional Vice President, Chairman of the Regional Committee on Budget and Finance and the Regional Treasurer.

ARTICLE 10 MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1001. Whenever in the Bylaws and Rules, East Coast Region, Fleet Reserve Association, “Bylaws” is used, it means the Bylaws and Rules of the East Coast Region.

Section 1002. Fleet Reserve Association, “C&BL” is used, it means the Constitution and Bylaws of the Fleet Reserve Association.

STANDING RULES OF THE EAST COAST REGION FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

STANDING RULE 1 RULES GOVERNING EAST COAST REGIONAL CONVENTION

SR-1(a). The Convention shall be governed by the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws, Fleet Reserve Association, the Bylaws and Rules of the East Coast Region, and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless otherwise provided herein. In cases where the situation is not covered, either by the Bylaws, Fleet Reserve Association; Bylaws, East Coast Region; or the said Robert's Rules, the Convention shall decide same. **Chg. 98**

SR-1(b). A Delegate desiring the privilege of the floor shall rise, face the Chair, address the presiding officer as "Shipmate Regional President" and when recognized shall give:

1. His/her name.
2. The name and number of the branch of which the Delegate is a member.

SR-1(c). A delegate granted the privilege of the floor shall address the Chair and confine his/her remarks to the question. In speaking, he/she shall avoid personalities and maintain proper decorum. If called to order, he/she shall wait until permission is given to proceed by the presiding officer.

SR-1(d). A motion to commit, recommit, postpone, lay on the table, take from the table, reconsider, rescind, move the previous question or for a roll call vote shall require three seconds, each from a different branch.

SR-1(e). During a call vote, there shall be no passing. The Chairman or Acting Chairman of the Branch Delegation shall announce the vote of the branch or relinquish the right of the branch to vote when the branch name is called three times.

SR-1(f). During a call vote, a five-minute recess will be declared for the purpose of a branch caucus. No caucus shall be called during a roll call vote.

SR-1(g). Upon being accorded the floor, the delegate shall be limited to three minutes.

SR-1(h). When a resolution has been declared adopted or rejected by the presiding officer, it shall be considered finished business for the convention except when otherwise directed by a majority vote.

SR-1(i). In the event three or more candidates for the same office are on the ballot and no candidate receives a majority of the vote cast, the candidate receiving the lowest number of

votes after the second balled will be eliminated if a gain has not been shown on the second ballot. This method of elimination will be followed by each subsequent ballot.

SR-1(j). The word “Delegate” as used herein shall apply to Delegates, or Proxies and Alternates when substituted for an Accredited Delegate.

SR-1(k). The oath of office for Regional Officers elect shall be as follows:

Regional President Oath

“I _____, DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY PROMISE UPON MY INSTALLATION AT THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN PERSON OR BY PROXY, THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE TO WHICH I HAVE BEEN ELECTED, ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION AND THE BYLAWS OF THE EAST COAST REGION. THIS I FREELY PLEDGE ON MY HONOR AS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SO HELP ME GOD”

Regional Vice President, Regional Treasurer and Regional Secretary

“I _____, DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY PROMISE THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE TO WHICH I HAVE BEEN ELECTED, ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION AND THE BYLAWS OF THE EAST COAST REGION TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY AND THAT I WILL, AT THE CLOSE OF THE TERM TO WHICH I HAVE BEEN ELECTED, OR SOONER IF SO DIRECTED BY PROPER AUTHORITY, DELIVER ALL BOOKS, PAPERS, MONEY AND OTHER PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION, EAST COAST REGION IN MY POSSESSION OR UNDER MY CONTROL, TO THE PROPER PERSON OR PERSONS, OFFICER OR OFFICERS, ENTITLED TO RECEIVE THE SAME, THIS I FREELY PLEDGE AS A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SO HELP ME GOD”

STANDING RULE 2

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE REGIONAL CONVENTION

SR-2(a). Call to order by Convention Chairman

SR-2(b). Escort National Officers, Regional Officers and guests to rostrum as outlined in rituals.

SR-2(c). Parading of the Colors

SR-2(d). Opening prayer

SR-2(e). Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

SR-2(f). Recitation of Preamble

SR-2(g). Introduction of officers and guests

SR-2(h). Address of invited guests

SR-2(i). Two Bell Ceremony

SR-2(j). Relinquish gavel to Regional President

SR-2(k). Welcoming remarks of Regional Officers

SR-2(l). Appointment of Regional Convention Committees and instructions on arrangement

SR-2(m). Recess

SR-2(n). Roll call of Officers and any communications

SR-2(o). Report of Credentials Committee

SR-2(p). Report of Regional Officers **SR-2(q).** Report of Standing Committees

SR-2(r). Unfinished business and action on Committee Reports.

SR-2(s). New business

SR-2(t). Nominations and Election of Regional Officers

(1) Regional officers to be nominated and elected in in the following order:

- a. Regional President
- b. Regional Vice President
- c. Regional Treasurer
- d. Regional Secretary

SR-2(u). Good of the Order

SR-2(v). Closing prayer

SR-2(w). Retirement of colors

SR-2(x). Adjournment

SR-2(y). It shall be necessary for the Regional Convention to Recess from time to time may be appropriate. The motion to adjourn shall be ruled, "Not in order until," the business of the Regional Convention has been completed.

STANDING RULE 3

AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST GUIDELINES

SR-3(a). The Regional Committee on Americanism - Patriotism shall encourage Branches, by whatever means considered appropriate, to participate in the annual Americanism Essay Contest to the fullest extent possible in compliance with the appropriate Standing Rule of the Fleet Reserve Association.

SR-3(b). Each Branch grade winning Essay shall be assigned a number by the Regional Committee on Americanism/Patriotism Chairman and copies of the Essays only shall be sent to each member of the Regional Committee. The original of the Essays and the identity sheets shall be retained by the Committee Chairman.

SR-3(c). Each Committee member shall judge the Essays, considering neatness, originality and sincerity and choose a first, second and third place winner in each grade level and one overall best Essay from the first-place winners.

SR-3(d). The Regional Committee on Americanism – Patriotism Chairman shall submit the results of the Regional Committee Essay judging to the Branches of the East Coast Region not later than 1 March. The Regional Committee on Americanism-Patriotism Chairman will currently forward all appropriate awards to the sponsoring Branches for immediate presentation to the winners.

PAST REGIONAL PRESIDENTS EAST COAST

1996-1997 Robert Reynolds

1997-1998 Philip V. Hanna

2001-2002 Jeffrey A. Gilmartin, PNP

2003-2004 Robert Washington, Sr. PNP

2005-2006 Paul R. Gunther PNC

2012-2013 Donald A. Hoover

2013-2014 James W. Campbell PNP

2015-2016 Pleasala J. Collins

2017-2018 Paul A. Phelps

2018-2019 Randy L. Phillipp

2019-2020 Sha'ron D. Martin

2020-2021 Brian J. Jones

2021-2022 Christopher J. Murray

2022-2023 Grabriel Falu

2023-2024 Robert Oliveira

2024-2025 Robert Oliveira

2025-2026 Valerie Toulotte