



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

April 2026

Volume 28 Number 04

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 April 15, 2026

At 1901 President Randy Phillipp convened a formal meeting with 6 members present including Jr. Past President Keith Kaider, PNC Paul Gunther, RSEC Thomas Rauch, S/M Mark Allen (Zoom), and S/M Michael Tovornik (Zoom). We also had the Sanchez-Flores, Watt, Chopra, Gowda and Catterton families and friends in attendance.

Opening ceremonies were conducted and then Shipmate Phillipp made a motion to suspend the meeting to award our Americanism & Patriotism Essay winners, Shipmate Kaider seconded and all approved. We then awarded our Branch "America at 250 Years: What Does it Mean to Me" 7th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade essay winners, Barbara Catterton (7th), Aarav Gowda (9th), Mitaali Chopra (10th), Lawson Watt (11th) and Alejandra Sanchez-Flores (12th) were awarded their certificates and gift cards.

We then proceeded with the approval of the March Minutes. Shipmate Kaider made a motion to approve, Shipmate Tovornik seconded and all approved.

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

Americanism & Patriotism, Shipmate Gunther reported that our 9th and 11th grade Branch Essay winners also placed 3rd at the East Coast Region (ECR) level but did not receive their awards and gift certificates. He stated that he will follow up with the ECR Americanism & Patriotism Chair, Shipmate Kim Biggs for status.

Hospitals, Welfare, & Rehabilitation, Shipmate Phillipp had nothing to report, and no one knew of anyone in the hospital.

Youth Activities, Shipmate Kaider reported that he created the NJROTC certificates for the upcoming ceremonies at Gaithersburg, John F. Kennedy, Seneca Valley, and Paint Branch High Schools, which he distributed to the respective Shipmates that will be presenting the awards. Shipmate Rauch also distributed the FRA medals. The ceremonies will be as follows: Gaithersburg (April 21, 2026@0815), JFK (April 22, 2026@1800), Seneca Valley (May 4, 2026@1700), & Paint Branch (May 15, 2026@1800).

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) McPherson Nomination Memo 2025-2026. 2) NPSL 4-26 Grant Committee. 3) NBA 01-26 Distro Change to National Credential Form and Annual Branch Officer Report (ABOR) Form for 2026. 4) NEDM 14-26 Annual Committee Reports. 5) NEDM 15-26 ABOR. 6) NEDM 16-26 National Credential Form. 7) President East Coast Region Newsletter #3. 8) 4th Quarter 2025-2026 Membership Report. 9) 2026 EC Regional Convention Newsletter #1 (March-2026). No other communications were received.

Shipmate Rauch went over the March Financial Statement and supporting reports. Shipmate Gunther made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report that was audited by Audit Committee Chairman, Shipmate Kaider. Shipmate Tovornik seconded and all approved. Shipmate Rauch also presented the proposed 2026-2027 Budget, Shipmate Gunther made a motion to accept the Budget, Shipmate Tovornik seconded and all approved.

Shipmate Rauch reported a couple of other items that included East Coast Region Assessment of \$61 is due by May 9, 2026; Annual Premium for the Branch Liability Bond is \$49, but Headquarters only took out \$29 from our past three monthly PCT, which was reported to Headquarters; and we will need to change our bank because Wells Fargo raised the checking daily balance to \$2,000 and also raised the fee to \$15 if that is not met. (Continued on back page)

Important Dates for May 2026

- 05 May ~ Cinco de Mayo
- 10 May ~ Happy Mother's Day!
- 16 May ~ Armed Forces Day
- 19 May ~ Triangle Branch 182 71st Anniversary!
- 20 May ~ 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
- 25 May ~ Memorial Day

Retain, Recruit, and Attend Reminder

Retention:

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

You can renew at www.fra.org or please contact our Branch Secretary for more information.

Recruitment/Reinstatement: See www.fra.org or Branch Secretary for more details on incentive programs.

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

CONGRATULATIONS ESSAY WINNERS!!

"America at 250 Years: What Does it Mean to Me"



Left-to-Right: Americanism/Patriotism Chairman PNC Paul Gunther, Alejandra Sanchez-Flores (12th), Lawson Watt (11th), Mitaali Chopra (10th), Aarav Gowda (9th), Barbara Catterton (7th), and Branch President PRPEC Randy Phillipp.



Barbara Catterton (7th)

Aarav Gowda (9th)

Mitaali Chopra (10th)



Lawson Watt (11th)

Alejandra Sanchez-Flores (12th)

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.



(Branch Meeting Continued)

No Unfinished or Deferred Business.

New Business. 1) The 82nd East Coast Regional Convention will be July 23-26, 2026 at the Hilton Garden Inn Richmond Innsbrook, 4050 Cox Rd, Glen Allen, VA 23060. Journal Ads, Patron, Booster, Life/Memorial Rolls and Meal Order Forms are due by July 1, 2026. Shipmate Rauch will collect money for any Shipmates that like to purchase Journal Ads, Patron, Booster, Life/Memorial Rolls at the May meeting and then send in with the Branch half page Journal Ad. 2) Committee Reports due to Secretary prior to Branch Meeting, June 17, 2026. 3) Association Year 2026-2027 Branch Officer Nominees. The following members have been nominated:

- President - Shipmate PRPEC Randy Phillip
- Director (1) - Shipmate RSEC Thomas Rauch
- Director (2) - Shipmate PNC Paul Gunther
- Director (3) - Shipmate Mark Allen

Final nominations and election will be held in May with Installation in June. 4) The next CLC Meeting will be on April 18, 2026. 5) Shipmates Gunther and Phillip were presented their 30 Year Continuous Membership certificate and pin (Picture to right).



Congratulations!

No other New Business.

Good of the Order was held and then at 2058 Shipmate Phillip adjourned the meeting. Next Branch Meeting will be May 20, 2026 @ 1900 at American Legion Post 86 & Zoom.

MEMBERSHIP

Updates Since March 2026

<u>Renewed Members</u>	<u>New Branch Members</u>
Michael Tovornik	None

Thank you and Welcome, Shipmates!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

George Malusky	4th
Ken Wray	8th
Harold Deweese	11th
Edward Potts	12th
Helene Delizo	21st
Lenus Barnes	25th
Robert Gubbels	25th

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SHIPMATES

MAY FRA ANNIVERSARIES

Elton Ball	71yrs
Robert Gubbels	38yrs
John Burns	34yrs
Robert Vitarelli	34yrs
Thomas Lovett	32yrs
Paul Gunther	30yrs
Randy Phillip	30yrs
Wendy Fischer	19yrs
Michael Tovornik	3yrs

Thank you for your support, Shipmates

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Central Liaison Committee

July 18, 2026 2:00 PM
Hosted by Branch 212

Location: VFW Post #160, 2597 Dorsey Rd., Glen Burnie, MD

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

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.pegsbe.com/promo?accessCode=FRAI26C?](https://orleanscasino.boyd.pegsbe.com/promo?accessCode=FRAI26C)

Central Liaison Committee

October 24, 2026 2:00 PM

Hosted by Branch 4

Location: 10925 Riverview Road, Fort Washington, MD

Rockville Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade

Please join Triangle Branch 182 in the wreath laying presentation at the Rockville Memorial Day Ceremony to honor and pay tribute to those who served and sacrificed for our freedom.



Date: Monday, May 25, 2026

Time: 9:00AM - 1:00PM

Location: Rockville Town Square

Address: 131 Gibbs Street, Rockville, MD 20850

About:

Founded in 1944 by William (Bill) Wood, the Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade is a long-standing tradition in the City of Rockville. The day starts off with a ceremony remembering those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms and concludes with the annual parade. The parade features more than 50 units, including military and community groups, marching units, dance troupes, and more.

Parking:

Free parking is available at the Rockville Metro lots, Rockville City Hall lots, and Jury lot.

Paid parking, including accessible parking, is available for \$5 in the Rockville Town Square garage, accessible from Route 355 or North Washington Street, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Memorial Day.

More Details:

<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/services/memorial-day-ceremony-and-parade/>

FRA AUXILIARY UNIT 182



Auxiliary of the FRA-04-23-2026

On April 23, 2026, we held our regularly scheduled meeting at President Manley's home. Dolores, Anne and Susan were in attendance. Helen attended on the phone; Secretary Gloria, Dee and Aida joined us via Zoom. Thank you again Dolores for hosting our meeting. After the meeting we enjoyed lunch at the Shake Shack.

Currently we have 26 active members. Secretary Gloria read last month's minutes, there were no corrections. Anne gave the Treasurer's report and Susan the Chaplain's report. For Americanism Susan read the explanation of "The Chief's Fouled Anchor". We then discussed the Navy's decision to suspend the wearing of uniforms by NJROTC Cadets due to recent world events at their Award Ceremony and Change of Command. We were all very disappointed by this decision.

Our prayers are going to all our service members. 🙏

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 11:30 at President Manley's home.

Respectfully,
Susan Raider



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Rosie Hopkins	49yrs
Demetra Swarr	27yrs

Thank you for your support, Auxiliary Members