



# 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

March 2020

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President  
Thomas M. Rauch

Junior Past President  
D. Keith Kaider

Sec/Treasurer & Chaplain  
PRPEC Paul R. Gunther

Members Only

### FRA Auxiliary Unit 182 Officers

President  
Helen Trimmer

Vice President  
Dolores Manley

Secretary  
Gloria Bastian

Treasurer  
Anne Dobbs

Members Only



### Important Dates for April 2020

- 01 Apr ~ Chief Petty Officer Grade Established (1893)
- 05 Apr ~ Palm Sunday
- 08 Apr ~ Passover Begins
- 10 Apr ~ Good Friday
- 12 Apr ~ Happy Easter!
- 15 Apr ~ Patriot's Day / Income Tax Deadline (Changed to July 15)
- 15 Apr ~ Branch Meeting @ 1930 following BoD Meeting  
2013 Veirs Mill Rd., Rockville, MD  
Teleconference: 1-605-313-4448 Access Code: 864972#
- 16 Apr ~ Passover Ends
- 18 Apr ~ Central Liaison Committee (See details on back)



### Retain, Recruit, and Attend Reminder



#### Retention:

Membership As of March 2020				
Active	For Renewal	Past Due	Lost	Gain
86	4	0	0	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

### Veterans Health Administration Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) VSO Fact Sheet

Shipmates,

I hope all is well and you and your families are staying safe through this pandemic. I wanted to pass this information from the VHA:

The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other Federal agencies to monitor and respond to the current outbreak of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States. VHA is operating in accordance with CDC guidance and actively participating in response efforts in local communities to address the outbreak.

#### Please help VHA share the following messages with Veterans:

“Stay home and phone” – contact your local VA facility remotely before visiting, and consider using VA’s telehealth and virtual care options. (<https://telehealth.va.gov/type/home>)

Be prepared for some changes in your visit to our facility. We are screening everyone for fever, cough, and flu-like symptoms before they can enter. Call ahead if you have these symptoms or need to cancel or reschedule your appointment. Plan to leave home earlier than usual to allow time for screening.

#### VHA Actions:

VHA has a comprehensive plan in place to protect the health of everyone who visits or works at one of our facilities. The Emergency Management Coordination Cell (EMCC) has been activated and is working diligently to respond to this rapidly changing situation. Supply chain measures are in place, negative airflow beds are available across VHA facilities, and COVID-19 testing kits have been made available.

VHA is reinforcing adherence to the Standard, Contact, and Airborne Precautions, which include the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Healthcare personnel evaluating or treating a patient suspected or confirmed to have a COVID-19 infection have been directed to use these precautions.

VHA is conducting frequent, repeated communications with employees on the importance of common sense behaviors for reducing the spread of illness, including washing hands for at least 20 seconds, avoiding touching their faces, covering coughs and sneezes, getting vaccinated against the flu, avoiding other people who are sick, and encouraging employees to stay home if they are sick.

In addition, VHA is heavily encouraging Veterans to call their local medical center before visiting the facility and telling them to consider using VA’s telehealth and virtual care options like VA Video Connect. VA’s telehealth providers can evaluate their symptoms and provide a diagnosis and comprehensive care.

Reference: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/index.asp>

Please stay safe and take the CDC health and safety recommendations to protect yourself and others. The main things to remember is to ensure you continue to wash your hands, don’t touch your face and cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze. Stay home if you do not feel well, if you are having breathing problems seek medical attention!

### BRANCH MEETING March 18, 2020



At 1900 President Rauch convened an informal meeting with 6 members present including NC Paul Gunther, Jr. PRPEC Randy Phillipp, PRSEC Keith Kaider, Shipmate Ralph Freibert and Shipmate Mark Allen. We held our meeting via teleconference because of COVID-19.

The meeting started with the Report of Committees. Shipmate Gunther stated that he received the FRA medals for the NJROTC ceremonies. At this time, the Seneca Valley High School NJROTC ceremony will be held on May 13, 2020 at 1630. Gaithersburg High School ceremony is to be determined.

Shipmate Gunther received the 2nd place award from the Region for our 12th grade Branch winner. It was originally planned to award the Branch essay winners next month, but may be postponed depending on whether if we have a physical meeting because of COVID-19.

Shipmate Rauch reported that as of March we have 86 members. There was no FRA Membership Newsletter received from Headquarters for this month.

The February Financial Statement was submitted by the Treasurer, but President Rauch asked if an Audit can be conducted by the Audit Committee at the next meeting that we meet in person. Treasurer is to bring in all statements and cash books for review.

Shipmate Rauch downloaded NED Chris Slawinski’s letter addressing the Coronavirus/COVID-19 from the FRA website. Will distribute with this newsletter via e-mail.

Shipmate Gunther reported that he sent out the Branch letters endorsing NVP Michael Fulton for National President and PRPEC James Campbell for National Vice President.

Under Old Business, Shipmate Kaider reported that he had received the raffle tickets. The raffle tickets will be sent out by Shipmate Kaider, but we understand that during this current pandemic you may not be able to participate.

Under New Business, Shipmate Gunther reported that the Yearly Budget will be ready for review and submitted for approval at next meeting.

Reminder that nominees for the Branch Officer Positions will be accepted for consideration and confirmed at the April Branch meeting. Those nominees will be voted upon in May and installation will be held in June.

The Board of Directors Mid-Year and LAFRA Arlington National Cemetery Pilgrimage has been postponed to June. To view other cancelled or postponed FRA events go to <https://www.fra.org>.

Good of the Order was conducted and then at 1940 a motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded and approved.



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 overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan.*

**MEMBERSHIP**  
Updates Since February 2020

<u>Renewed Members</u>	<u>New Branch Members</u>
James Carnahan	None
Michael Rowsey	
Jonathan Whiting	

**Thank you and Welcome, Shipmates!**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

John Wooditch	3rd	Danny Snare	14th
Arthur Ippolito	8th	William Busico	16th
John Sasso	13th	Robert Shanley	24th

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SHIPMATES**

**APRIL FRA ANNIVERSARIES**

Danny Snare	48yrs	David Murphy	34yrs
Clem Beck	46yrs	K Wray	32yrs
John Sasso	45yrs	William Kaczor, Jr	9yrs
James Carnahan	43yrs	Samuel Tom	3yrs

**Thank you for your support, Shipmates**

**2020 Redskins Raffle Fundraiser**



**3 CHANCES TO WIN!**

**Grand Prize:**  
Winner may choose Season Tickets or \$1000 Cash  
**SEASON TICKET SEATS**  
FEDEX FIELD, SECTION 135, ROW 1, SEATS 6&7

**2nd & 3rd Prizes: \$500 Cash each**

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20 (only 2000 tickets printed)

Drawing to be held on July 25, 2020 at CLC Meeting  
Winner need not to present and will be notified by phone.

**Raffle Ticket Status**

Raffle tickets will be sent out by Shipmate Keith Kaider. If you did not receive a letter with raffle tickets, but would like to participate in our fundraiser, purchase more tickets or help in selling tickets please contact Shipmate Kaider. Your help in selling and purchasing tickets is greatly appreciated!

Please note we understand that during this current pandemic you may not be able to participate and we support your decision. You need to take care of yourself and family first.

*Thank you, Shipmates for your support.*

**Upcoming Meetings/Events**

**Central Liaison Committee**  
April 18, 2020 2:00 PM at Branch 4  
7500 Livingston Rd., Oxon Hill, MD

**Annual LAFRA Arlington National Cemetery Pilgrimage**  
(Postponed until June) Date: TBD  
Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel  
900 South Orme Street, Arlington, VA 22204  
Reservations: (703) 521-1900 Code: LAFRA  
Room Rates: \$139 + 12% tax per night

**Central Liaison Committee/NDW Memorial Day Service**  
May 25, 2020 1:00 PM  
Navy Memorial, Washington, DC

**Central Liaison Committee Memorial Day Picnic**  
May 25, 2020 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Hosted by Branch/Unit 4  
Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Pavilion 7  
20 MacDill Blvd SE #207, Washington, DC 20032

**2020 East Coast Region Convention**  
July 16-July 18, 2020  
Annapolis DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, MD 21401  
Reservations: 1-410-224-3150 Room Rate: \$144/night + tax

**Central Liaison Committee**  
July 25, 2020 2:00 PM at Branch 93  
21707 Three Notch Rd, Lexington Park, MD

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Websites/Links of Interest**

The following websites are good references that lists symptoms, who's at higher risk and how to protect yourself. Plus, updates from the local governments of Maryland, Virginia and Washington, DC:

**Centers of Disease Control (CDC):** <https://www.cdc.gov/>

**White House:** <https://www.coronavirus.gov/>

**Maryland.gov:** <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>

**Virginia.gov:** <https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus-updates/>

**DC.gov:** <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/node>

**ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER**


VS


As of this printing, 60 of 86 Branch members and 12 of 34 Unit members have agreed to receive their newsletter by email.

If you are receiving this newsletter by snail mail and could get it by email, PLEASE send President Rauch your email address.

Getting the newsletter by email is faster delivery and gives you the **COLOR** version!


THANK YOU, Shipmates and Ladies.

**FRA AUXILIARY UNIT 182**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Patricia Trimmer 29th

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LADIES**



LAFRA-03-19-2020

Due to the COVID-19, we had no meeting this month.

As the next few weeks pass, we will decide on whether to hold our next meeting in April. We will telephone our members with the decision.

Take care everyone!

Respectfully,  
*Susan Kaider*

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

Delorice Kessinger	52yrs
Lois Custead	23yrs
Susan Kaider	10yrs
Allison Gosnell	10yrs
Mildred Murphy	10yrs
Carmen Serfes	9yrs
Nesha Stone	4yrs

**Thank you for your support, Ladies**

