



THE TRIANGLE

Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association

May 2020 Edition

2019-2020

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**Contact NES Vera
if you need addresses.**

From the Desk of the National President

We are experiencing unprecedented time being confined to our homes for our own wellbeing, not just in the United States but the world due to COVID-19. Following government guidelines for our safety, social distancing is a major setback for the public, impacting employment, entertainment, and the freedom to do what is needed to balance our life as we knew it. Our life style and habits are being challenge, and part of it is out of our control. As individuals, we should choose common sense to seek out alternative life balances, in this “temporary” way of life; to pay attention to our own emotions to stay calm; and to support others to do the same. At the time of writing this article, lockdown has been moved up to April 30th, but there is an uncertainty, even lifted, is it still safe?



Amid the uncertainty of this rapidly evolving situation, in March and April our branches and units are unable to have physical meetings to conduct business. Travel plans, fund raising and patriotic events had to be canceled. Trying to follow by-laws to meet the physical protocol for monthly meetings and elections is a challenge. We just need to use good judgement for the well-being of our members of how and when physical meetings can occur. Some branches are using voice and internet video conferencing. FRA and LA FRA are addressing meeting issues by temporary waving certain criteria's, please check with your region of what could be done. Hopefully Regionals conventions will occur, but again the future is uncertain.

Probably units are using this as an opportunity to touch base via phone with members that are unable to attend meetings; an opportunity to update by-laws, update forms and records; preparing Unit Reports to be taken to a regional convention; or have members to work at home projects for future events; or work on items to be taken to a veterans or senior facilities for the holidays; or sewing up face mask to distribute. For those members who are leaving their homes to assist others, thank you for your service, but please be safe. We all can still be of service, by thinking outside the box to be creative to support members and surrounding communities.

Sending prayers of support to our shipmates and members who are challenge with health issues and those who work in industries that provide necessary goods and services for the public. On a good note, two of our southwest members had plan a major wedding event on April 4th, they were not going to let the pandemic stop them to exchanging vows because this calendar date was important to the both of them. They had to cancel the reception and opted to have a small wedding at a home. For the rest of us that were supposed to go, the couple setup a viral internet video so their planned guest was still able to witness this beautiful ceremony on line and to exchange messages of congratulations to the couple. This is a good example of “if there is a will, there will be way”. God bless you all, stay home and be safe.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection & Service
Bea Parco, National President

Due to coronavirus lockdown, audit teams were not able to travel and meet for their 2nd quarter audits. The 2nd quarter audits for will be postponed. The 3rd quarter audit will be done during the 1st period of July.

Social Security Administration (subscription.service@subscriptions.ssa.gov)

“I want to provide an update to people who receive benefits from the Social Security Administration.

The Department of the Treasury (Treasury) announced on April 1 that Social Security beneficiaries who are not typically required to file tax returns will not need to file an abbreviated tax return to receive an economic impact payment. The IRS will use the information on the Form SSA-1099 to generate \$1,200 economic impact payments to Social Security beneficiaries who did not file tax returns in 2018 or 2019.”

For more information, please visit <https://www.ssa.gov/news/press/releases/>.

If this has been ‘over taken by events’ when you receive the Triangle, then you will know that the ‘scammer’ that just called and tells you the Social Security Administration or the Department of the Treasury need you to give them your banking account numbers is lying and your next step is to hang up. Hang up and block the number!

Thank you to everyone that changed from the printed Triangle form to the e-mail version, it is a cost saving to the Auxiliary.

Congratulations to Eileen Beno, Unit 42, on her 50th year of membership.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED MEMBERS












National Presidents



Other National/Regional Officers



Members

 Cathy Blank, Unit 201	 Doris Brown, MAL	 Ila Oliver, Unit 182
 Jewel True, Unit 120	 Mary Weigel, Unit 81	 Dorothy L Williams MAL
 Mary McElroy, Unit 291	 Sue Hershberger PRPNE, Unit 124	

Note about supplies, membership information

Please remember that membership dues and orders for supplies and/or donations must not be included together on one check. All membership dues payments are deposited into one account and monies for supplies and donations are deposited to a different account. Also, elections are coming up and that the unit may need to order membership, service, and officer pins, remember to consider processing and mailing time, please order early – before July 30th

There is nothing friendlier than a wet dog.

Donations

National President Project

Unit 124
Unit 185 (2 checks)
Unit 230

LA FRA Scholarship

Unit 230 - in memory of May Lang
Unit 230

Welfare Fund

Unit 40
Unit 230

National Pilgrimage

Unit 8, Unit 61, Unit 124, Unit 230, 269, and Unit 289

Do not send cash. Checks and money orders must be made out to LA FRA. Please remember that membership dues and orders for supplies and/or donations must not be included together in one check. Units may need to order membership, service, and officer pins, remember to consider processing and mailing time, please order early before July 30.

When you move please remember to notify the NFS/NES and your Units of a change of address. It is important so that when your membership is due you can be notified. This month alone I received back 35 membership applications, due to a change of address. That is double work and double postage.



Note from the National Financial Secretary Pat Suckow

At the time of the monthly and year-end closing for March 31, another MSA application glitch has occurred causing a data base reporting malfunction.

There is nothing that can be done until a fix is found to be workable and has been installed.

Due to the malfunction, **voting strength, grouping lists and statistics are not available.** This will impact my ability to **send the month end unit and regional reports.**

We are working on a solution manually but this will take time. I will appreciate your patience and understanding. This hardware or software unknown ‘bug’ is one that I cannot work around. This will also cause a delay in processing mail and depositing checks.

I would appreciate it, if Regional Presidents would communicate with the Units in your Region and/or any Unit Presidents and Unit Secretaries that receive the Triangle would advise their members of this situation.

I realize this problem, at this time of the Auxiliary year, is both very inconvenient and stressful to everyone involved.

LA FRA National Dates to Remember

- 29 Sep – LA FRA Pre Board Meeting
- 30 Sep – LA FRA 87th National Convention Opening Ceremonies [convening date], Portland, OR
- 03 Oct – LA FRA 87th National Convention Installation of Officers
- 04 Oct – LA FRA Post Board Meeting

May Dates To Remember

- 08 May - Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- 10 May - Mother's Day
- 16 May - Armed Forces Day
- 25 May - Memorial Day

You can trust your dog to guard your house, but you cannot trust your dog to guard your sandwich.

Regional Dates to Remember - Regional Conventions

16-18 Jul – East Coast, Annapolis MD - Double Tree Hotel

02-05 Aug – North Central, Osage Beach MO - The Inn at Grand Glaize

07-08 Aug – NE/NEng – Albany NY, Sure Stay by Best Western

17-18 Aug – Southwest, Las Vegas NV – Plaza hotel

21-22 Aug – West Coast, Carson City, NV – Gold Dust West Hotel Casino

27-29 Aug – Northwest, Tacoma, WA

10-13 Sep – Southeast, Sea Mist Oceanfront Resort & Conference Center, Myrtle Beach, SC

MESSAGE FROM NORTHWEST REGIONAL PRESIDENT TERRI JOHNSON

Spring is here. It is beautiful outside right now. Everybody, unfortunately, is pretty much home in isolation. I know many of the Units in the NW Region are foregoing meetings until such a time, we are able to have group meetings again and canceling many activities. My plan was to start visiting NW Regional Units in March and now that is looking like I will not be able to. Please continue to do the best you can under these extreme circumstances. Stay safe and stay healthy.

The NW Regional Convention is being hosted by Mount Rainier Branch 104. It will be held August 27 – 29, 2020 at the La Quinta Hotel in Tacoma, Washington located at 1425 East 27th St., Tacoma, WA 98421. Call the Hotel directly for reservations at 253-383-0146. Group name is FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION. Room cost is \$119.00 plus tax per night and rate will be in effect four days before and two days after. This includes a free Continental Breakfast. For additional information, please contact PNP MW John Johnson at 253-770-5935. There is a menu sign-up sheet also for lunch and dinner on Saturday, August 28th.

We have great Units in the NW Region, which includes the Republic of the Philippines, they are all working to support the Auxiliary. Please continue to support the veterans and their families in your communities during this difficult time. Also, at such a time when you can, please continue increasing membership enrollment.

In Loyalty, Protection & Service,
Terri Johnson RPNW

PROUD
to be a
military spouse
it doesn't get
EASIER
you just get
STRONGER

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan recognized the profound importance of spousal commitment to the readiness and well-being of military members with Proclamation 5184, dated April 17, 1984. Congress officially made Military Spouse Appreciation Day part of National Military Appreciation Month in 1999.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day is to honor the contributions and sacrifices made by military spouses. Their commitment and support help to keep our country safe. America's military spouses are the backbone of the families who support our troops during mission, deployment, reintegration and reset. Military spouses are silent heroes who are essential to the strength of the nation, and they serve our country just like their loved ones.



“A mother is the truest friend we have, when trials heavy and fall upon us; when adversity takes the place of prosperity; when friends desert us; when trouble thickens around us, still will she cling to us, and endeavor by her kind precepts and counsels to dissipate the clouds of darkness, and cause peace to return to our hearts.”
Washington Irving

A dog can express more with his tail in minutes than his owner can express with his tongue in hours.

A message from the Regional President North Central Peggy Watkins

Greetings from the Heartland!

FRA RPNC Don Watkins and I were able to visit a few Branches and one Unit in between winter storms and then the epidemic. We enjoyed visiting with Branch and Unit 161 in February; we were treated to a lovely meal and productive meetings. I found Unit 161 to be in good working order! The meal was terrific, and the company even better!

We then traveled to Springfield, MO to visit with Branch 316, and Houston, MO Branch 377. Later in February we visited Branch 268 in Oklahoma City. At each of these Branches I took the opportunity to engage with the Shipmates and explain that family members are also eligible for LA FRA membership! I distributed membership applications and my business cards and encouraged the Shipmates to discuss the benefits of having an Auxiliary with their spouses and eligible relatives.

Branch and Unit 276 were honored to present two Essay trophies, checks and certificates on March 5, 2020. Mia Kawamitsu is the 12th Grade 1st place winner, and Keira Bledsoe the 8th grade 3rd place winner. Mia also won overall FIRST PLACE for the North Central Region; her essay will be judged at National!

North Central Units keep in touch with their members by telephone, email, birthday, sympathy and thinking of you cards, and Facebook – especially since the advent of “social distancing” because of the coronavirus outbreak. Follow Branch and Unit 276 on Facebook!

Upcoming Conventions: **North Central Regional**, will be hosted by the Gray Hats, Aug 2-4, 2020 at the Inn at Grand Glaize, 5142 Osage Beach Pkwy, Osage Beach, MO, (573) 348-4731, \$69 +tax – ask for FRA rate; POC: Norm Combs, (816) 847-6568. **National Convention** is scheduled for Sept 27 through Oct 4 at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel, 8235 NE Airport Way, Portland, OR 97220; reservations - 503-281-2500
In Loyalty, Protection and Service,



RPNC Peggy Watkins, Mia Kawamitsu, FRA RPNC Don Watkins

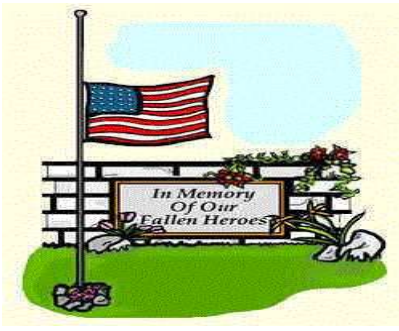
“The Nation which forgets its Defenders will itself be forgotten.”



On Aug. 31, 1949, Defense Secretary Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the armed forces under one agency -- the Department of Defense. In a speech announcing the creation of the day, President Truman "praised the work of the military services at home and across the seas." He said, "It is vital to the security of the nation and to the establishment of a desirable peace."

In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation of Feb. 27, 1950, Truman stated: Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 1950, marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress, under the National Security Act, toward the goal of readiness for any eventuality. It is the first parade of preparedness by the unified forces of our land, sea, and air defense."

I feel sorry for people who don't have dogs. I hear they have to pick up food they drop on the floor.



Memorial Day 2020

All should remember and give thanks to all those servicemen – Sailors, Marines, Coast Guard, Soldiers, and Airmen – to all who have given their lives to make victory possible in wars and conflicts from the beginnings of our Republic. Their lasting gift to us is an enduring, thriving United States of America. As we honor those who have given their lives in service to the nation.

Resolution to Amend SR31
Proposed by Unit 99 Kempsville

Standing Rule SR-31 (a) 5 change

Resolution

SR-31. Uniform Caps

SR-31 (a) 5 For Honorary Members, the same as for general membership except the words "Honorary Member" shall be embroidered in gold on the left side above the name Ladies Auxiliary Fleet Reserve Association. A former member of the LA FRA, now an Honorary Member, may wear the cap that was earned in the highest office held gray for Past National Officers and red for Past National Presidents.

WHEREAS the membership voted to acknowledge the doing business as the Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association and

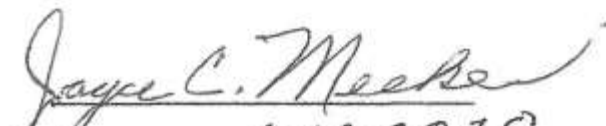
WHEREAS the membership needs to overcome the lack of perception of being less than inclusive of our male members and

WHEREAS the membership should embrace the Doing Business As ...with all **new** caps bearing Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association be it

RESOLVED that SR 31 (a) 5 be changed to read: For Honorary Members, the same as for general membership except the words "Honorary Member" shall be embroidered in gold on the left side above the name Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association. A former member of the Auxiliary, now an Honorary Member, may wear the cap that was earned in the highest office held gray for Past National Officers and red for Past National Presidents.

Be it **Further Resolved** that all prior caps bearing the name Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association are grandfathered requiring no one to change their current cap.

This is to certify that this resolution was proposed at a regular meeting of Unit 99 held on 12th day of February 2020 and read, debated and adopted by a unanimous vote at a regular meeting of Unit 99 held on the 12th day of February 2020 there being a quorum present.


Unit President 2-12-2020


Unit Secretary



**Congratulations to Unit 70 members
RVPSW Aaron Jensen and Rachelle Caston
on their wedding day, April 4 2020**

Unit 181 - Navy Dept.
It is a small world, at least for military families.
Patricia Grey a member of Unit 181 lives in Clarksville, TN and volunteers at the VA outpatient clinic. Chuck Webster, LT USN Ret is a fellow volunteer, but he also served at Andrews AFB at Doc 1 C1/18, at the same time and location as Patricia's father.



Another incident of how small this world can be.



Unit 93 - Tom Vallee, Patuxent River, MD

Unit member Tammy Cannon made masks for Charlotte Hall Veterans Home staff.

“Still here stitching away! Look at all the lovely donations of elastic and bias tape that keeps surfacing from the bottom of folks' sewing boxes. *Almost 4 dozen masks made* so far for Charlotte Hall Veterans Home staff.”

If you want the best seat in the house, you'll have to move the dog.