

BRANCH 24 Ceremonial Initiations: Kenneth Liedy

**MINUTES OF BRANCH 024
GENERAL MEETING
14 APRIL 2015**

Shipmate President, Pat Fedorowicz called the meeting to order at 1908. After appropriate opening ceremonies, the meeting was declared convened. Guest Mike Topping, and distinguished officers Past Regional President East Coast (PRPEC) Paul Dix, PRPEC Claire Purdy, PRPEC Don Hoover, and Regional Vice President East Coast Penny Collins were introduced to the membership.

The minutes of the 10 March 2015 meeting were provided for review and were approved as published. The minutes of the 7 April 2015 BOD meeting were provided and were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: Account balances were read; No bills need to be paid.

Communications: FRA 71st East Coast Regional Convention to be held 23-26 July, at the Holiday Inn, 1944 Cedar Creek Rd., Fayetteville, N.C. 28312. FRA block room rates are \$94 per night plus taxes; cut-off for this rate is 15 July; Reservations 910-323-1600. This is a fun event for all FRA members.

Plan now to attend FRA's 88th and LA FRA's 83rd National Conventions in Spokane, Washington. Join your fellow shipmates and ladies to renew friendships and make new ones!

The hotel is City Center Double Tree Hotel, 322 North Spokane Falls Court, Spokane, WA 99201. Call 509-455-9600 group code FLE to reserve your room at the special convention rate of \$88 night (plus state and local taxes). The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle service to and from the Airport and Amtrak station.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Americanism/Patriotism: Massing of the Colors: 2:30 p.m., Sunday, 17 May at Meade Pavilion, Ft. Meade. Flag bearers: President Pat Fedorowicz, Claire Purdy, and Kirk Towner. One more volunteer is needed.

The Annapolis Memorial Day Parade is Monday May 25th. Branch 24 is a major part of this event and your presence is requested. Branch/Unit members will gather at the FRC at 8:45 a.m. to board a trolley bus and be shuttled to the start of the parade. Members have the option of riding or walking in the parade to Annapolis, City Dock. At the conclusion of the parade there will be some remarks by our distinguished V.I.P.s All are invited for light refreshments at the FRC after the conclusion of all ceremonies.

There is also wreath laying ceremony in D.C. at the Navy Memorial at 10 a.m. on Memorial Day; other Branch members and the Auxiliary will be hosting that event as well.

Audit, Budget and Finance: Shipmate Jack O'Neill presented the audit report. A **Motion** was made to use line 27 and the contingency line to cover overspending of line items 35 (CLC) & 44 (40 year member dues) **2nd/ Approved.**

Bylaws: NTR.

Hospital, Welfare, & Rehabilitation: Shipmates Valerie Reed, Paul Dix, Richard Bonnett, Dan McGrath, Chris Erickson, Don Hoover, Claire Purdy, Chuck Castellaw and Rob Schiller attended the funeral and performed a ritual for S/M Anthony Zuccaro. He was a dedicated officer of Branch 24 – serving multiple terms of Secretary/Treasurer. If any of our shipmates are in distress, we want to know about it. Branch 24 wishes all our shipmates the best and hoping you are doing well.

Membership & Retention: 1878. Membership has risen.

Contributions: A **Motion** was made to donate \$150 to the Navy Chief's team who annually participate in Dick Gelfman's Breast Cancer Motorbike ride to the Eastern Shore. **2nd/Tabled** due to the budget needing to be adjusted.

Adopt-A-Highway: Shipmate Fred Grady is scheduling the next clean up on St. Margaret's Road in Cape St. Claire.

Youth Activities: S/M Hoover announced that participants age 7-17 are needed for the Soap Box Derby. A **Motion** was made to donate \$350 to sponsor the SBD. **2nd/Approved**

Public Relations: Chair needed.

FRC Liaison: No office hours for membership renewal; must be mailed in. The deck opens on May 24th. The Blue Angels return Wednesday, May 20th and tickets will be on sale for viewing from the FRC. Mother's Day Brunch, May 10th –reservations a must. Steak Dinners are back. The Lottery Raffle will be renewed.

TWO BELL CEREMONY: The Two Bell Ceremony was conducted in memory of Shipmates now serving on the staff of the Supreme Commander.

Unfinished Business: The Las Vegas Night final report was given by Vice President Bocchicchio. Thank you to all who helped, especially the Auxiliary.

There is a CLC meeting on April 25th, 11 a.m. hosted by Branch 4, 7500 Livingston Rd., Oxon Hill, MD 20745. The Squalus Ceremony will be in May. Committee Reports are due to FRA for HW&R, Public Relations, Americanism/Patriotism, and Youth Activities. Please submit these to your ECR Chairmen before the end of June.

See Communications above for FRA ECR Convention information.

NEW BUSINESS: Nominations for 2015-16 Officers are: President – Pat Fedorowicz; 1st V.P.- John Bocchicchio; 2nd V.P. – Curtis Jones; Secretary/Treasurer - Valerie Reed. Nominated B.O.D: Jack Thibodeau, Dan McGrath, Gary VanNess, John Gough, Jack O'Neill, Chris Erickson, Don Hoover, Lew Bearden, Richard Bonnett. Nominations will be open until the May Meeting whereas elections will also take place. Installation Dinner for the Auxiliary and Branch will be Tuesday, June 9th.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

June 6th is a 2K Diabetes Walk at Greenbury Point; If you would like to join the FRA team, Penny Collins is putting it together – a goal of 40 participants is desired

Next Branch Meeting: Will be the Squalus Ceremony, May 12th. Please come to honor those who gave their life with this historical memorial service.

ADJOURNMENT: After appropriate closing ceremonies, the meeting adjourned at 2037.

Submitted:

Approved:

Valerie Reed
Secretary/Treasurer

Pat Fedorowicz
President