



Shipmate National Officers, Regional Officers, Past Regional Officers, Shipmates and guests:

The East Coast Mid-Year is here! This meeting is a chance to meet your region officers and ask questions before the East Coast Region Convention this summer.

Packets for the East Coast Convention will be mailed or handed out to the Regional Branches and Past Regional Officers. Besides hotel information, these packets includes ways for your Branch and Shipmates to support the region's convention.

**Before the Convention:**

Raffle Tickets - please return the stubs with a \$ donation.

Buy an Advertisement - we want to see photos of you and your Branch! You can purchase sizes between business card, 1/2 page or full page - color or black/white. Have fun with it!

Luncheons & Banquet Dinner - the cost of these meals also offsets the price of the room rentals throughout the week. The Welcome Aboard and Banquet includes a fabulous DJ!

**During the Convention:**

Daily 50/50 - there are usually multiple - \$1, \$5, \$20

Hospitality Room - hang out and socialize; there are usually drinks, snacks and games.

As Regional President, I have attended all Branch meetings in the state of Maryland (4, 24, 67, 93, 181, 182, 212), they are all in fine working order!

Scheduled Regional President's visits to Branches:

February 12, Branch 309.

February 15, Branch 37.

March 9, Branch 301.

March 17, Branch 123.

February 16, Branch 166.

March 10, Branch 208.

March 18, Branch 41.

February 17, Branch 40.

March 11, Branch 99.

March 19, Branch 219.

In January, I had the opportunity to attend a House Committee Veteran Affairs round table discussion about scams. Evil scammers target our young active military, elder veterans and everyone in-between. Now with A.I., there is more manipulation that can be used to gain trust from potential victims. Some of these professional criminals will befriend you for months before implementing their schemes, convincing some to invest in crypto-currency where there is a 300% gain; the investor is encouraged to pull out their money to verify it's a real thing. Now that trust is established, the

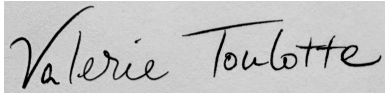
investor transfers their life savings with the expectation to triple their money; Sadly this is not the case.

Closer to home, many Shipmates have received an urgent e-mail from “ECRP, Valerie Toulotte” asking for a transfer of funds or photos of gift cards purchased from a local store. These scammers are able to access your names, titles, contact information, and relationships from our websites. Due to the urgency that these requests demand, please call or start a new e-mail to [RPEC@FRA.org](mailto:RPEC@FRA.org) if you are uncertain. **DO NOT SEND MONEY OR GIFT CARDS - THE FRA IS NOT ASKING!**

Via Zoom, on the last Monday of each month, all the Regional Presidents attend a meeting led by National President Rick Fetro. On **March 3rd**, National President Fetro will testify at on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. We will be asking shipmates to attend and wear their covers in support of this event. The location and time will be announced closer to March 3rd.

The National Board of Director’s meeting is to be held on **April 22nd**. On **April 23rd**, we will “Storm the Capitol”. If any Shipmates would like to join us, we’d love to have you! On **April 24th**, the Auxiliary will lay wreaths at The Tomb of the Unknown, and Mast of the Maine, both at Arlington National Cemetery. The time for the wreath laying will be announced.

This concludes my report. I move that it be received.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Valerie Toulotte". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

In Loyalty, Protection, & Service,  
Valerie Toulotte  
Regional Vice President, East Coast  
Past National Chaplain