



Greetings Shipmates,

Shipmates I would like say again, Thank you, for giving this opportunity to serve you as Regional President. It has been just over two months since I was sworn in at National Convention. I have been busy between the NBOD responsibilities, Meetings, Zoom Meetings with Branches and Committees. We have a Branch that will be instituted soon. We, your Regional Officers, have been busy doing some housekeeping. You should have seen the newest ECR C&BLs and SRs sent recently. I am still adjusting the ECR Directory. By the way, I am still looking for Shipmates to be on some of the Committees. They are still accepting volunteers for the Centennial Convention. This is the Centennial Year for the Fleet Reserve Association, and it will be celebrated in Our Region. This allows our Branches to be involved in a Historical event for the FRA. If you or someone wants to get involved, please contact me. Change is the one constant you can count on. This coming year we have some changes for the organization. If you have not heard yet, membership will be open to Officers on January 1st 2024. FRA NHQ will be in a new location before the end of 2024. If you have any issues, concerns, or questions please contact NHQ staff, the National Officers, or me. We are available for support and just an email/phone call away. I just want to say thanks and hope you know how much I appreciate everyone's

time and effort with your continued support of our organization. I look forward to visiting with you at Branch or regional/national events

The Centennial of the FRA is November 11, 2024 to November 11, 2025.

2024 ECR Mid-Year Meeting:

The 2024 ECR MYM will be hosted by Branch 293. MYM will be held February 10, 2024. Flyer to follow. Don't forget to submit your MYM Branch Reports. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Mid-Year Symposium February 9 - 11, 2024

Holiday Inn Virginia Beach-Norfolk Hotel & Conference Center
5655 Greenwich Road,
Virginia Beach, VA 23462•
Tel: (757) 499-4400•Fax: (757) 226-9155
Website: www.hivabeachnorfolk.com

2024 ECR Convention:

Hosted by Special Committee:
September 10, 11, and 12, 2024
Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center
6945 Pocahontas Trail
Williamsburg, VA 23185
Phone: (757) 220-2250.
More to come later

Reminder; Regional Delegate forms from the Branches are due By June 30, 2024 or sooner. Please appoint a proxy if your Branch will not be sending a delegate.

96th FRA National Convention and Centennial:

As a member of The Military Coalition (TMC), we are the host organization for the Veterans Day Arlington Cemetery activities. The National President will be the Master of Ceremony at the Memorial Amphitheater. It also gives shipmates and auxiliary members an opportunity to attend.

The 96th FRA/91st LAFRA Convention will be held on November 10-16, 2024.

The Centennial Committee is host the 96th FRA/91st LAFRA Convention in conjunction with the FRA Centennial Celebration. The convention itself will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, Maryland.

The theme for the convention will be "A Legacy of Loyalty, Protection, and Service".

More information to come. As soon as the first Newsletter is available, I will provide it to you.

Reminder; National Delegate forms from the Branches are **due by July 31, 2024 or sooner**. Please appoint a **proxy** if your Branch will not be sending a delegate.

Regional President's 2024 Travel Schedule:

I have already been on some Zoom meeting with Branches. Please note that if you would like to utilize Zoom for your Branch Meetings please contact me. I can help you with the set-up at no cost to the Branch. This will help with the participation especially during the cold weather months.

Future planning: I will contact Branches to confirm they are holding meetings prior to scheduling. If Branches are holding Zoom/teleconference meetings, please add me to your email distribution. RPEC@fra.org

Americanism/Patriotism Committee:

Essays were to be postmarked no later than 1 December to the Branch. After the Branch grades the First Place winners' Essay, they are to be sent, and postmarked no later than 1 February to the Regional Chair. The judging of the regional level essays will be accomplished at MYM on February 10, 2024.

Veteran's Service Committee:

For any Shipmate desiring to become a Veteran's Service Officer (VSO) for the FRA contact PRPEC Martin at sdmartin@cox.net for required forms. This is a virtual course. I would like to publicly thank PRPEC Martin and Shipmate Ashton for doing this training.

I would like to also thank Shipmate PRPEC Paul Phelps for personally helping me with my claim. I also have talked to and received high praises from Shipmates that he has helped this past year.

Yours in Loyalty, Protection, and Service,
RPEC Robert Oliveira, Branch 293
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