

FRA BRANCH 367 San Miguel, San Antonio, Zambales

**MINUTES: General Membership** Meeting March 3rd, 2021 was called to order by President Vatter at 10:00 am. In attendance were 15 members and John Stanton from the “Garage”. PRESENT: Lee Vatter, Tom Wickes, Pat Winston, David Johnson, Bill Bay, John Moore, Gary Smith, Dan Wilson, Hayden Spalding, Gary Campisi, Gary Smith, Rick Waite, Carl Schuelke, Robert Taylor, Bill Castle.

**CONDUCTED OPENING CEREMONIES:**

The Secretary read the minutes from 03 March GMM. Hayden Spalding motioned to accept, Bill Castle 2nd the motion. The 31 March BOD was read. Lee Vatter motioned to accept, Dan Wilson 2nd the motion. The GMM and BOD were approved unanimously.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Current membership total remains at 128.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

* Lee Vatter briefly discussed email from Military Retiree Support Office. The Support Office will schedule a meeting at the US Embassy with the Manila VA OPC to discuss the implementation of the “Saved Lives Act”. We hope to get specific questions answered regarding Covid Vaccinations. When, Where, Spouses, Caregivers, Shot Cards and More. All Veteran Service Organizations in the Philippines will share the information that comes from this meeting. We will email our Members this information as we receive it.
* **7 April 2021 UPDATE: Virtual Town Hall Meeting for U.S. Citizens with** **the Philippine Bureau of Immigration .** See the complete email below the GMM (minutes)
* [**H.R.2214**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2214?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22hr2214%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=1) — 117th Congress (2021-2022) to direct the forgiveness or offset of an overpayment of retired pay paid to a joint account for a period after the death of the retired member of the Armed Forces. See more information below the Minutes.
* **Options for Notary Services** during the Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic: Specific for the Philippines https://ph.usembassy.gov/message-for-u-s-citizens-options-for-notary-services-during-the-ongoing-covid-19-pandemic/
* **ANZAC Remembrance Day** at Palm Tree Resort, 25 April 11Am. The Ceremoby starts at 10:30AM. Please show up before 10:30AM. **Anzac Day** is significant in Australia and New Zealand because it commemorates the sacrifice of Australian and New Zealand military personnel who died during World WW1 and WW2.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **Secretary**: The Secretary will submit Election of Officers Report for Branch 367 and the LAFRA Unit. The Secretary will submit names of attendees for the 2021 Regional NW (Tacoma) and National (Spokane) Conventions.
* **Treasurer**: The Treasurer Report was read by David Johnson. Rent is paid to date. We are grateful for the following donations to FRAlics/School Projects: Thomas Lord $200 check and Mike McEnery $1000 check. Hayden Spalding motioned to accept the Treasurers report, 2nd by Dan Wilson. Approved unanimously.
* **Wall adds:**  Wall Adds are presently on hold until 2022. Wall Adds can be for business or for personal notices.
* **Building Maintenance**: Back lot grass cutting is on hold.
* **Canteen:** John Stanton from the “Garage Grill” stated that the social distancing policy are still in effect. An Electrician is needed to repair one Canteen outlet.

**UNFINISHED AND DEFERRED BUSINESS:**

* The East Dirita Elementary School RAIN/SHADE areas are extremely degraded. Pat Winston motioned to get an estimate for Labor and Materials for each RAIN/SHADE section. David Johnson will work on two estimates. Dan Wilson 2nd the motion. Approved unanimously. David Johnson will also obtain an estimate for FRA building security bars.
* All remaining FRAlic Raffle tickets were sold during the 7 April GMM. The Raffle will be held at the FRA, 12 noon Sunday, 11 April.
* The FRAlic Golf Tournament is officially on hold due to player restrictions on the course.

**NEW BUSSINESS**

* Bill Bay volunteered to replace Tom Wickes as Brach 367 Vice President. Lee Vatter, Pat Winston, David Johnson agreed to continue with their current Officer positions. Hayden Spalding motioned to accept, 2nd by Bill Castle, and the VOTE was approved unanimously.
* The FRAlic Golf Tournament is officially on hold due to player restrictions on the San Antonio course.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

* Branch 367 Members are encouraged to support other Service Organizations. VFW 11447 meets 2nd Wednesday of the Month. MOC meets 1st Thursday of the month.
* Members do at least one good deed each year to represent our group in San Miguel.
* Next FRA 367 BOD meeting will be 28 April at 10:00am.
* Next FRA 367 GMM will be 5 May at 10:00am.

**CONDUCTED CLOSING CEREMONIES:**

Meeting adjourned at 1109am.

Submitted by: Approved by: //S// //S//

Patrick Winston William “Lee” Vatter

Secretary President

FRA Branch 367 FRA Branch 367

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| **Seal with white background****United States Embassy Manila, Philippines** **United States Consular Agency Cebu, Philippines** **April 7, 2021**   **UPDATE: Virtual Town Hall Meeting for U.S. Citizens** **with** **the Philippine Bureau of Immigration**  Due to overwhelming interest, the American Citizen Services Unit will host two sessions with representatives from the [Philippine Bureau of Immigration](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fimmigration.gov.ph%2F&data=04%7C01%7COGradyKM2%40state.gov%7C57bba345333d43f80dce08d8f9616f55%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637533544168319391%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=hOviv1SJ6woGGa7FwzhRCCdTlPUjPW6381VLdOqP%2FBc%3D&reserved=0) (BI) on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, and Thursday, April 15, 2021, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Manila time.  BI will answer questions submitted in advance about Philippine entry and exit procedures and to address other concerns.   Registration has been closed, and respondents will be assigned to a date based on the order in which their RSVP was received.  We will email log-in details to confirmed attendees no later than April 13, 2021.  For more information about consular services provided at the Embassy and Consular Agency in the Philippines, which will not be addressed during this town hall, please visit our [website](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fph.usembassy.gov%2F&data=04%7C01%7COGradyKM2%40state.gov%7C57bba345333d43f80dce08d8f9616f55%7C66cf50745afe48d1a691a12b2121f44b%7C0%7C0%7C637533544168329352%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=IXnHBOT8XBy1jMLYpfFyukcqzizNIPEXORd8qVW140k%3D&reserved=0).     We look forward to seeing you on April 14 and April 15!  **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** **For further information:**     See the State Department’s [travel website](http://travel.state.gov/) for the Worldwide Caution, Travel Advisories, Alerts, and the [Philippines Country Specific Information](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Philippines.html).     Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)](http://step.state.gov/) to receive Alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.     Contact the U.S. Embassy in Manila, Philippines, located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, at +(63) (2) 5301-2000, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. After-hours emergency number for U.S. citizens is +(63) (2) 5301-2000.     Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).   **Support the Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act**

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|  | * Rep. John Garamendi (Calif.) introduced the "Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act" (H.R. 2214) that would authorize the retention of the full final month's retired pay by the surviving spouse (or other designated survivor) for the month in which the member was alive for at least 24 hours.
* Surviving spouses who are unaware that the Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) should be notified immediately on the death of the military retiree are surprised to learn of this requirement. Those who had joint bank accounts, in which retirement payments were made electronically, gave little if any thought that DFAS could swoop down and recoup any overpayments of retirement pay from such accounts. This action could easily clear the account of any funds remaining whether they were retirement payments or money from other sources. Instead of withdrawing the payment all at once, the bill would allow a gradual repayment over 12 months and gives the Secretary of Defense the option to forgive the over payment.
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