



**Fleet Reserve Association
Inland Empire Branch 38, Inc.
Spokane, Washington**
www.frabranch38.org

JULY 8, 2023 - MEETING MINUTES

Introduction of non-member guests and visiting shipmates: Steve Toland was visiting to see if he wanted to join. He submitted an application at the end of the meeting. Zoom attendees were RPNW Rex Faubion, Branch 38 members Pat Thompson and George Peck.

The Blessing of God was given by Chaplain Dennis McCully.

The Meeting was declared convened at 10:03 a.m.

Read Minutes of May 2023 Board of Directors and Branch 38 meetings, and June 2023 meetings, all which were approved as read.

Standing Committee Reports

Americanism-Patriotism – Chair, **Rick Baldwin** stated that there is a Submarine Service Veterans Club in Spokane. He is also waiting for a meeting with former AP Chair Anna Martin to get an idea of what his duties are.

Hospitals, Welfare & Rehabilitation – Chair, **Michelle Davis** thanked everyone for keeping her updated on everything they participated in. It helps her end of year report for everyone to give their numbers to her each month.

Membership & Retention – Chair, **Michelle Davis** introduced Shipmate Steve Toland as a possible member of the Branch.

Public Relations – Chair, **Peg Burke** has put out the Quarterly Branch Bulletin, which everyone should have received by now, and updated the Branch and Regional Websites.

Veterans Service – Chair, **Dave Lord** reported he now has a total of five VSO Claims in process with the VA.

Youth Activities – Chair, **James Grisham** stated turned in his resignation as Chair. He wants to concentrate on the Board of Directors position now.

Communications received since the April 2023 meeting were discussed.

One of the communications was the passing of NED Chris Slawinski. A motion was made to donate \$100 to the FRA VSO Foundation in memory of him. The Branch Treasurer was asked to submit this donation to the FRA VSO Foundation.

Treasurer's Report – 6/30/2023 was given and approved.

Unfinished or Deferred Business

2023 Northwest Regional Convention – will be held August 18-19, 2023, at the Holiday Inn in Nampa, ID. It will be sponsored by Gem State Branch 382. **Room Rates are \$110 per night plus 8% tax.** The rates are good August 15 through August 21, 2023. Phone the hotel directly at **(208) 468-0944** and tell them you are with the **Fleet Reserve Association block**. Deadline for reservations at this rate is July 18, 2023. After that it will be on space availability.

Newsletter #3 (Final newsletter) is on the Branch and NWR Website. Take note of the cut off dates for the Room Rate and the Meal Choice Selections.

Branch 38 delegates for this year's convention will be Shipmates Dave Lord, Rick Baldwin, Michelle Davis, Anna Martin, and Peg Burke. The latter three are NW Regional Officers/Committee Chairs.

NWR Nominating Resolutions

RPNW Rex Faubion running for another term in 2023-2024.

Branch 38 President is running for NW Region Vice President in 2023-2024.

We have nothing from the incumbent RVPNW as yet.

2023 FRA/LAFRA National Convention will be held September 23-30, 2023 at the Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, Nevada. The room rates are \$102 plus 13.5% tax and a \$2.00 Tourism Fee per night for a single or double. There is a fee of \$10 per person for each additional person, with a limit of four per room. The hotel provides a free shuttle service to and from the Reno/Tahoe Airport. The reservation link for the hotel is posted on the FRA Website if you wish to make reservations that way or you may call either of these numbers: 1-800-648-1177 or 775-356-3300. **Be sure to use the code GFAC23.** If you need to make reservations for an ADA (handicap) room you need to call the hotel directly and not use the link. **A standard ADA room has a tub/shower with grab bars, but if you need a roll-in shower this will need to be specified also. The rooms with roll-in shower are in the other tower so additional walking will be needed,** (but if you are using a scooter it shouldn't be any problem). Remember as with any hotel the number of ADA rooms is limited so please make your reservations early. If you want a room other than the standard king/double queen room you will need to call directly to reserve (**do not forget to use the code GFAC23**). **The reservation cutoff date is 31 August.** All rooms have a refrigerator and a Keurig coffee maker. Though Keurig cups are provided, if you drink a lot of coffee or like a special brand it is recommended you bring Keurig coffee cups with you.

Newsletters #3 and #4 are on the NWR and Branch 38 websites. They have the information on all the meals, tuxedos, scooter rentals, etc.

The Branch delegates for this convention are Shipmates Michelle Davis and Peg Burke.

FRA National Officers Nominating Resolutions

JrPRPNC Maria Behm is running for NVP.

She has already sent the Branch her request for support and the Branch has voted to support her.

Branch President Bean signed her response card we received to send back to the FRA NED.

PRPNW Pete Lazzaretti is a candidate for NVP also.

Navy Chief's Organization Rep Report – Branch 38 James Grisham, the Navy Chief's Rep has a couple of issues to bring to the FRA's attention.

- Letter to NOSC Spokane regarding the use of Branch 38 EIN for Navy Ball if the Branch is not included in the planning/activities?

Have we heard back from the NOSC if they are going to have a Navy Ball this year?

We are still unable to find out if they are going to have a Navy Ball in 2023.

Frank J. McPherson Memorial Award – HQ expects a nominee from each Region to be submitted.

“One shipmate who exemplifies the FRA three cardinal principles, Loyalty, Protection, and Service, especially in membership endeavors. The shipmate selected must have expended extensive effort towards the overall growth of

the FRA. The selectee does not have to be a top recruiter, but an individual who has maintained a positive public attitude as it affects the membership and retention of members in the Association.”

Shipmate Burke, the Branch Secretary/Treasurer was nominated and she was asked to type up the nomination form.

New Business

Fair Winds and Following Seas to: FRA NED Chris Slawinski passed away on June 26, 2023, after a long fight with cancer. We have been notified that FRA Branch 170’s Secretary/Treasurer, Rick Alles, passed away on April 14, 2023.

Milestone Awards for July – August - September 2023

None in July 2023

Carla Scott

PRPNW Marian Dent-Hoglund

5 years

50 Years

None in August – 2023

September 2023

September 2023

Membership Report – Branch 38 membership is holding steady at 62. We welcomed Shipmates Nesbitt and Waid into Branch 38 at the June meeting.

Combining Southwest, West Coast, and Northwest Regions

Shipmate Burke, who is also the NW Region Secretary/Treasurer and a PRPNW, spoke about the possibility of combining three regions consisting of the Southwest, West Coast, and Northwest Regions. A straw poll is being conducted of each region to see how many of their branches are in favor of it. If a branch does not reply back to the Regional Presidents from that branch will be considered a YES vote. Think about this until next month’s meeting when we will need to make a decision and report back to RPNW Faubion.

This was brought to Branch 38’s attention under Good of The Order at the June Luncheon. We need to decide if we say YEA or NAY.

This issue was discussed at length and a motion was made for Branch 38 to not combine with the other two regions. RPNW Rex Faubion took note of our Branch’s vote of NAY.

Branch 38’s Invoice for Website Domain

The branch’s website invoice has been received. Do we want to stay with the Lazzaretti Services Group?

Authorization was given to pay it.

Good of the Order

Upcoming Events are as follows:

- August 19th - NWR Convention is 3rd weekend.
- September 8-17th - Spokane County Fair
Branch 38 to join VFW Post 1474 in Building A this year at the Fair.
- September 23-30th - FRA 2023 National Convention in Sparks, NV

Margret “Peg” Burke, Branch Secretary

David L. Lord, Branch President

2023-2024 Branch Officers

President Dave Lord
Vice President Michelle Davis
Sec/Treasurer: Peg Burke
(Sec/Treas NTE 1 year)
Chaplain Dennis McCully
Master-at-Arms James Robertson

Board of Directors

Plus Branch Officers:
Rick Baldwin (2020-2025)
Harold Young (2021-2026)
James Grisham (2023-2028)

2023–2024 Branch Cmte Chairs

Americanism Rick Baldwin
HW&R Michelle Davis
Public Relations Peg Burke
Veterans Services Dave Lord
Youth Activities **Vacant**

Revised Calendar Year 2023 Meeting Locations

1st Quarter FY 2023 VFW Post 1474 and Luncheon Meetings (Changes)

July 8th 2023 Qtrly Meeting at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post 1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA
August 12th 2023 Monthly Mtg at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post_1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA
September 9th 2023 Luncheon Meeting at NOON at *El Charrito – SOUTH*, 4303 S. Regal, Spokane, WA

2nd Quarter FY 2023 VFW Post 1474 and Luncheon Meetings (Changes)

October 14th 2023 Qtrly Meeting at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post 1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA
November 11th 2023 Monthly Mtg at 10:00 AM at the VFW Post_1474, 2902 E. Diamond Ave, Spokane, WA
December 9th 2023 Luncheon Meeting at NOON at the *Longhorn BBQ – WEST / XMAS Party*
7611 W. Hwy 2, Spokane, WA