



FRA - NORTHWEST REGIONAL SCUTTLEBUTT - ISSUE #1 - 2023-2024

SERVING WASHINGTON, OREGON, IDAHO, MONTANA, ALASKA,
HAWAII, GUAM, JAPAN, AND THE PHILIPPINES



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JrPRPNW Michelle Davis

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Happy New Year to all our Shipmates of the Northwest Region.

The new year brings a few changes to the Fleet Reserve Association. We are a smaller force than we once were and many of the changes are predicated on that fact. The goal or object of the Fleet Reserve Association remains unchanged. Article 2, Section 201 of the Constitution and Bylaws: *“Object of the Association – The object of this Association is that we may take care of such members and their families who may be in urgent need of assistance, financial or otherwise; to assist in recruiting for the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard; to assemble for social intercourse and keep ourselves informed on United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard matters, whereby we may continue to loyally serve the nation and the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.”*

Why do I highlight this? Just to say that none of the changes being made affect the goal or object of the Fleet Reserve Association. Changes are being made to make the association more cost effective and efficient. If you noticed in the latest FRA Today, the staff at national headquarters has been reduced by half. Please make sure you are giving them the appropriate support and patience in responding to questions. Run questions by your Branch Secretary and President before running them up the chain. If you have problems that can't be taken care of at the Branch, please notify RPNW or NW Regional Secretary/Treasurer. A couple of the changes that are most notable: (1) Membership in the Fleet Reserve Association is now open to all sea service veterans, officer and enlisted. For officers, no prior enlisted service is required. (2) Life membership dues increased on 01 January 2024.

December and January are always busy months. With the holidays, parties, family, and friends getting together. **It is also when the yearly essay contest deadline passes and it is time to get the essays judged and into the regional chairman.**

Now is a good time to start thinking about end of year reports. It is never too early. Start compiling data now so your Branch can have a good showing at the Regional Convention. We hope to see more of you in Kennewick in September. Plan now.

Regionally there have been changes in our Branches. When changes are made within the structure of the local Branch, make sure reports are updated and submitted as appropriate. Northwest Region now consists of 20 active Branches with approximately 1750 total members. Branch 310, Silverdale, recently merged with Branch 029 of Bremerton. Branch 342 has advised that they are in the process of surrendering their charter. If your Branch needs assistance in any way, please reach out.

There is no timeline on recruiting, retention, and membership. The Fleet Reserve Association needs a concerted effort to add to our membership rolls. We need to think about it daily if the association is going to survive. I shop at an Army Commissary and Exchange on a regular basis. It is a rare occasion if I don't run into a fellow sea service veteran. Show your colors when you are out and about. Invite them to your meetings. I haven't met one yet that doesn't like to hear the latest scuttlebutt.

Shipmates, Thank You for your continued support. I hope the New Year is prosperous and healthy for each of you and yours.

With Loyalty, Protection, and Service

Rex L. Faubion

Regional President Northwest, 2022-2024

2023 NW Region Convention Recap

The **2023 Northwest Region Convention** was held August 18-19, 2023, at the Holiday Inn, 16345 Merchant Way, Nampa, ID 83687.

One major change was made to the NW Region By-Laws: The PCT dues for each member in good standing of each Northwest Region Branch is increasing to 50 cents next year (an increase of 15 cents). We are awaiting the ratification of this change by the NBOD at the 2023 National Convention.

The 2024 Northwest Regional Convention will be held on September 6-7, 2024, at the Clover Island Inn located in Kennewick, Washington. It is being held later than normal since the 2024 National Convention won't be held until November to coincide with the FRA 100 year Celebration.

Inland Empire Branch 38, Spokane, WA will be coordinating with all the Northwest Branches to contribute their ideas into this convention.

Our idea is to make this a "true" northwest regional convention by having each Branch in the Northwest Region take responsibility for one of the activities that happen during a convention.

We were asked to step up and help since the Branch that was going to host in 2024 withdrew.

2023-2024 Northwest Regional Officers

President – Rex Faubion, Branch 104

Vice President – Robert Bean, Branch 038

Jr Past Regional President – Michelle Davis, Branch 038

Sec/Treas – Margret "Peg" Burke, Branch 038

We need Shipmates from other Northwest Branches to step up and serve as officers.

2023 National Convention Recap

Article 3, Section 301. Eligibility for membership in the FRA shall be for **ALL** personnel who have served or are now serving in the United States Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, including reserve components and regardless of length of services. **Resolved:** That this amendment become effective January 1, 2024

APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

Article 3, Section 311(e)(7). The Fleet Reserve Association will provide the fifty through seventy-five year continuous membership pins to branches and individuals at no cost; and **Resolved:** that the above section be amended to read: “The five through seventy-five year continuous membership pins will be made available for sale to branches and individuals; and be it further **Resolved:** that Article 3, Section 311(8) be deleted.

APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

Article 4, Section 401(a) and 401(b)(1)(2)(3):

Sets dues rate.

RULED NOT IN ORDER

Article 4, Section 401(e), pertains to disabled members being excused from payment of dues when payment would inflict hardship; and Whereas , the definition of disabled has been widely interpreted by branches;

RETURNED TO MEMBERSHIP FOR CLARIFICATION

Article 4, Section 401(m) states “Members in good standing, upon attaining eighty-five years of age and who have at least forty years’ continuous membership, shall not be required to pay dues in the FRA and shall be issue the prestigious Red, White, and Blue Membership Card”; **Resolved,** that Article 4, Section 401(m) be deleted, and those members already classified as 85/40 members will be grandfathered to maintain their current status.

Resolved this amendment become effective January 1, 2024.

APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

Article 4, Section 405(a) pertains to life membership fees will be based on the applicants age at 12/31 in the year of application using the following eight tier fee structure:

OLD RATES

<i>Active Duty</i>	\$400	<i>Age 61-70</i>	\$340
<i>Under age 40</i>	\$450	<i>Age 71-80</i>	\$260
<i>Age 41-50</i>	\$425	<i>Age 81-100</i>	\$200
<i>Age 51-60</i>	\$390	<i>Over 100</i>	<i>Free</i>

NEW RATES

Resolved, that Article 4, Section 405(a-g) be amended to read as follows:

Under age 40	\$600	Age 71-80	\$380
Age 41-50	\$570	Age 81-90	\$260
Age 51-60	\$535	Age 91-100	\$145
Age 61-70	\$475		

Resolved that this amendment become effective January 1, 2024.

APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

Article 7, Section 701 pertains to vetting process of vacancies of National Officers.

NOT IN ORDER

Article 8, Section 802 pertains to Duties of Officers and Committees.

NOT IN ORDER

FRA 2023-2024 National Officers

NP John Handzuk of Branch 126
 NVP Maria Behm, of Branch 32
 NED Phillip Reid

NORTHWEST REGION’S LIST OF AWARDS RECEIVED AT CONVENTION

2022-2023 Membership Recruiting Incentive Awards

John J. Casper, Branch 29, Bremerton, WA
 13 REG Members – 2 Pins + Gift
 Kenneth D. Barrett, Branch 29, Bremerton, WA
 4 REG Members – Pin
 Rex L. Faubion, Branch 104, Puyallup, WA
 4 LIF Members – Pin
 Glenn D. Lacaman, Branch 154, Baguio City, PI
 3 LIF Members – Pin

Gold Lapel Button Award

John Casper, Branch 29, Bremerton, WA

FRA Gold Ribbon Membership Award

Branch 29, Bremerton, WA
 Branch 50, Honolulu, HI
 Branch 74, Olongapo City, PI
 Branch 154, Baguio City, PI
 Branch 247, Dagupan City, PI

Veterans Service Committee Award

Group II – 1st Place – VAVS
 Whidbey Island Branch 97, Oak Harbor, WA
 Group II – 2nd Place – VSO
 Whidbey Island Branch 97, Oak Harbor, WA
 Group IV – 1st Place – VSO & VAVS
 Gem State Branch 382, Nampa, ID
 Group V – 1st Place – VAVS
 Inland Empire Branch 38, Spokane, WA

2024 NW Regional Convention

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held until November to coincide with the FRA 100-year Celebration.

Inland Empire Branch 38, Spokane, WA will be coordinating with all the Northwest Branches to contribute their ideas into this convention. Our idea is to make this a “true” northwest regional convention by having each Branch in the Northwest Region take responsibility for one of the activities that happen during a convention.

Please let one of the Convention Committee members below know what your Branch can assist with in this convention.

George Peck – Convention Chair
georocpeck2@gmail.com

JrPRPNW Michelle Davis – Convention Vice Chair
medavis@q.com

PRPNW Peg Burke – Convention Sec/Treas
FRABranch38@gmail.com

**The 96th FRA/91st LAFRA (2024)
November 10-16, 2024**

The Centennial Committee applied for and was granted by the 2022 National Convention delegates permission to 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.

It is off US-50. They offer a free shuttle within five miles, including to the Westfield Annapolis Mall, restaurants around Annapolis Town Centre, and the US Naval Academy. Enjoy free parking, their Olympic-sized pool, and dining at their on-site restaurant, Ports of Call. They welcome you with a fresh DoubleTree Chocolate Chip Cookie.

In addition to the above pool, on-site restaurant and free parking, other amenities are:

Free WiFi	Room Service	Fitness Center
Digital Key	EV Charging	Non-smoking rooms
Connecting rooms		Pet Friendly rooms

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

From the NWR Secretary/Treasurer’s desk:

The NWR Secretary/Treasurer recently sent out an envelope to each NW Regional President and Secretary that contained the revised NW Region C&BL, 2023 Regional Convention Minutes, 2023-24 NWR Officer List, and Committee Chair Listing with the annual reports due dates on the reverse. Two of these envelopes were returned due to the U.S. Postal and Philippine Postal system’s inability to find the address that was listed on the envelope.

When sending in your Annual Report of Officers, please make sure the following are complete and correct:

1. *Branch Officers and Board of Directors – a total of five (5) contacts.*
2. *Names (spelled correctly)*
3. *Addresses - complete street address, city/town, state/province, postal/zip codes.*
4. *Telephone Numbers*
5. *Email addresses (personal, not branch ones)*

See attached list of NW Region Committee Chairs for their emails for the above reports.

Note to NWR Chairs: If you would like to have something in the next regional Scuttlebutt, send it to me via email and we will include it.

In Loyalty, Protection, and Service

Margret ‘Peg’ Burke
NWR Secretary/Treasurer, PRPNW

2023-2024 Northwest Region Committee Chairs

<p align="center">Parliamentarian:- PRPNW Roger Christopher Gem State Branch #382 840 E. Riverpark Lane Boise, ID 83706-4099 208-794-6637 rwchristopher@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">Chaplain PRPNW William H. Hall Gem State Branch #382 2472 N. Tangent Ave Meridian, ID 83646-7588 208-695-1664 Eaglesnest1048@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">Credentials Cmte Chair: Shipmate Anna Martin Inland Empire Branch #038 2406 S. University Rd Spokane Valley, WA 99206-5658 509-891-6362 ratsaronii@comcast.net</p>
<p>Constitution & By-Laws Cmte Chair: PRPNW M. 'Peg' Burke Inland Empire Branch #038 14707 N. Farragut Ln Mead, WA 99021-9286 509-385-7275 FRA.NWRegion@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">Disaster Relief Cmte Chair: Shipmate Mike Batnick Mt Rainier Branch 104 6441 S. Lawrence St Tacoma, WA 98409-4008 253-405-8849 mbatnick@gmail.com</p>	<p>Membership & Retention Cmte Chair: RVPNW Robert S. Bean Inland Empire Branch #038 2008 W. Grace Ave Spokane, WA 99205-3710 509-290-0730 frilydily@msn.com</p>
<p>Americanism-Patriotism Cmte Chair: RPNW Rex Faubion Mt. Rainier Branch #104 818 23rd St NW Puyallup, WA 98371-3988 253-208-6991 rexfaubion@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Hospital, Welfare-Rehab Cmte Chair: RPNW Michelle Davis Inland Empire Branch #038 4205 S. Helena Spokane, WA 99203-4308 509-448-3163 medavis@g.com</p>	<p align="center">Public Relations Cmte Chair: PRPNW Pete Lazzaretti Seattle Branch #18 PO Box 483 Hansville, WA 98340-0483 253-444-7516 pr@frabranh18.org</p>
<p align="center">Veterans Services Cmte Chair: PRPNW Tom Flanik Gem State Branch #382 15686 Cumulus Way Caldwell, ID 83607-5159 208-455-8100 gunny@sos.net</p>	<p align="center">Youth Activities Cmte Chair: PRPNW Roger Christopher Gem State Branch #382 840 E. Riverpark Lane Boise, ID 83706-4099 208-794-6637 rwchristopher@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">Legislative Services Cmte Chair – S/M Jerry Fugich Mt Rainier Branch #104 360-561-2953 watchmkr@ywave.com</p>
<p align="center">Budget & Finance Cmte Chair: PRPNW Tom Flanik Gem State Branch #382 15686 Cumulus Way Caldwell, ID 83607 208-455-8100 gunny@sos.net</p>	<p align="center">Time & Place Cmte PRPNWs Bill Hall Gem State Branch 382 2472 N. Tangent Ave Meridian, ID 83646-7588 208-695-1664 Eaglesnest1048@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">Webmaster PRPNW Roger Christopher Gem State Branch #382 https://fra-nwregion.org Please bookmark and visit Webmaster@fra-nwregion.org</p>