

TO ALL BRANCH, UNIT AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Board of Governors: Tuesday Apr. 3rd @ 9 AM Board of Directors: Monday Apr. 9th @ 4 PM Branch Meeting: Wednesday Apr. 11th @ 5 PM FRA National website: <u>http://www.fra.org/</u> Club/Branch info website: <u>http://www.club170.org</u>

-Hey all, Shipmates, Unit and Club Members, I hope that this newsletter finds you all in the best of health and enjoyment of your lives!! April is here and time stands still for no one...

-We have our Regional Convention coming up Aug 17-18th at the Riverside Hotel in Boise, ID. Our National Convention (91st FRA/86th LAFRA National Convention), is in San Antonio. The dates are September 23-30, 2018. It is located in northwest San Antonio at I-10 and Wurzbach Road in the Colonnade Complex; 3 minutes (1 mile) to the Medical Center; 15 minutes (8 miles) to the San Antonio International Airport' 15 minutes (12 miles) to the San Antonio Riverwalk Area; and Convention to I-10 and Loop 410.

-There is on-site self-parking which is complimentary and on-site valet parking at the discount rate of \$10 per day. Complimentary airport transportation to and from the hotel and within a five-mile radius of the hotel.

-Room Rates are \$105 plus 16.75% tax. Room rates apply for up to three days prior and three days following the convention dates. The cut-off date for the block of rooms will be held until Monday, September 3, 2018. Reservations requests received after 5:00 pm local time at the hotel on the cut-off date will be accepted based on guest room availability at the group rate. -Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-THE-OMNI (1-800-843-6664) or by going online to the Customized Group Web Page.

Starting this past November, the military exchanges started allowing ALL veterans access to buy from online. I encourage all veterans to log onto the military exchanges website, verify eligibility and start using that benefit.

I am hearing that Shipmate Ron Vukasin is doing better and I can't tell you how glad that makes me feel. He is and continues to be a valued asset, Officer and gentlemen. We all can learn much from him as I have since he encouraged me to seek officer ship in Branch 170.

Sad news, we no longer have a Veterans Service Officer in Branch 170. We had to say goodbye to Jeanne, we wish her well in her endeavors.

I am keeping the suggestion box as a note on the bulletin. Not sure if you all are aware, but we have a suggestion box in the Club. That is used to make any suggestions, criticisms or praises, all alike. Please feel free to use it to let us know how we are doing and what changes you would like to see. The Club take all of them to heart. **ALL** suggestions are handled by the Board of Governors. I explained in my last newsletter all the boards and how we are operated. Understand that all the members, Unit, Club and Branch alike handle ALL concerns and deal with them as a team, not one individual, so please give your thoughts, concerns and praises alike. Branch/Club 170 likes and needs to hear from you!!

Leadership is not something that comes easy to many people and for many it is a trait that is learned and honed over many years. I am very proud of our leaders of our Branch, Directors, Auxiliary, and Governors. I want to personally thank ALL the people that step up and make our club/unit and branch the best it can be.

As I wrap up this letter I want to thank you all for reading it, coming to the Branch, Auxiliary, and Club 170 and participating and enjoying spending your time with us. Be kind to each other and let's continue to make this year special. May God Bless all of you, our wonderful city of Everett, our Armed Forces, and the United States of America...

> In Loyalty, Protection and Service Irving Salsbury President, Branch 170