



OZARK EMPIRE, BRANCH – 316, INC.



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION

*Representing Enlisted Personnel of the
U.S. NAVY * U.S. MARINE CORPS * U.S. COAST GUARD*

4028 S. Kentwood Ave.
Springfield, MO 65804 * (417) 861-9926

FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

IN CASE OF ILLNESS OR DEATH OF ANY SHIPMATE
PLEASE NOTIFY THE BRANCH CHAPLAIN OR
SECRETARY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

BRANCH OFFICERS

President:	Robert Turner	307 Southview St., Willard, MO 65781	(417)838-4991
Vice Pres	Virginia Swayne	3660 S. Cox Ave. Apt 3202, Springfield, MO 65807	(417)880-7872
Secretary:	Chuck Ewy	4028 S. Kentwood Ave., Springfield, MO 65804	(417)861-9926
Treasurer	Frank Parker	847 S Jonathan Ave. Springfield, MO 65802	(417)838-7698
Chaplain:	Don Brunk	2478 W. Nottingham St., Springfield, MO 65810	(417)840-4717

BRANCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

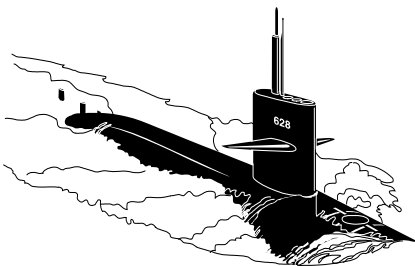
JrPP:	Tom Newsom	3215 W. Wick St., Springfield, MO 65810	(417)569-9871
Bd. Of Dir.	Teri Jeske	RR 4, Box 436, Ava, MO 65608-9370	(417)413-8606
Bd. Of Dir.	Jim Grier	714 S. Stratford Dr., Springfield, MO 65809	(417)350-3888
Bd. Of Dir.	Nolan Moody	4334 W. La Siesta St., Springfield, MO 65802	(417)894-0083
Bd. Of Dir.	Norma Wright	2975 W. Village Terr., Springfield, MO 65810	(417)830-0682
Bd. Of Dir	Bernie Daum	264 Meadowview Rd., Galena, MO 65656	(757)620-2113

EVENTS FEB 2025

- Feb 1 – National Freedom Day
- Feb 2 – Ground Hog Day
- Feb 4 – Hug a GI Day
- Philippine/American War Memorial
- USO B-Day (1941)
- Feb – 12 Lincoln’s B-Day
- Feb – 13 Women Marines B-Day (1943)
- Feb – 14 Valentine’s Day
- Feb – 17 President’s Day
- Feb – 19 USCG B-Day (1941)
- Feb 20 – Washington’s B-Day
- Feb 2 – Mardi Gras
- Feb 27 – Branch Meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mar 27 – Branch Meeting
- Apr 24 – Branch Meeting
- May 22 – Branch Meeting (Elections
Branch Officers)
- June 26 – Branch Meeting (Installations
Branch Officers)



**“SHIPMATES”
YOU ARE WANTED
AND WELCOME
AT BRANCH 316’S
MEETINGS**

NEXT MEETING:

4th Thursday February 27,
2025 (1700) Branch Meeting
American Legion Post 639
2660 S Scenic Ave.
Springfield, MO. 65807



BRANCH 316'S WEB PAGE (frabr316.org)

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be Thursday, FEBRUARY 27, 2025, and will commence at 1800. We will meet at American Legion Post 639, 2660 S. Scenic, Springfield, MO, 65807. The meal will be provided by S/M Virginia Swayne at 1700. She will provide Chili, Teri Jeske will provide sheared cheese, and Jim Gallion will bring crackers and fritos.

LAST MEETING: S/M President Robert Turner called Branch 316's meeting to order at 1800 IAW Article 12 Sec 1214 National C&BL. Members in attendance were: Chuck Ewy, Jim Gallion, Teri Jeske, Robert Turner, Frank Parker, Mell Johnson, Don Weiss, Don Brunk, Jim Grier, Belinda Brown, Virginia Swayne, Nathalie Metzler, and Nolan Moody. We had two guests Lon Jeske and Brandi Brown. S/M Chaplain opened the Bible and gave the opening prayer. All Shipmates repeated the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag and the "Preamble to the Constitution of the FRA". We had one new member initiated S/M Nathalie Metzler. A motion was made by S/M Belinda Brown to dispense with reading the minutes of last meeting, November 21, 2024, and approve as they were published verbatim in the DEC 24/JAN 25 Newsletter. Motion seconded by S/M Teri Jeske and passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AMERICANISM/PATRIOTISM – It was reported:

- That Branch 316 had a total of 72 essays. They were graded on January 7 with the following results: Bloomsdale had 6 winners, Mansfield had 3 winners, Butler had 1 winner, Carl Junction had 1 winner, and Dayspring had 2 winners. The first place winners have been sent to NCR Essay Committee Chairman.

HOSPITAL – S/M Don Brunk reported:

- We had one death Shipmate Larry Hogue January 8, 2025.

MEMBERSHIP:

- DECEMBER REPORT – 1 New members, 0 Transfer-Out, 0 Transfer-In, 0 Reinstated, 0 Deletions, 1 Suspensions, 1 Members past due, 115 Total active members, 6 Members past due, 109 Members in good standing.

PUBLIC RELATIONS –

- No Report

VETERANS SERVICE – S/M Belinda Brown reported:

- 109 people has been referred to other organizations.

YOUTH – S/M Sheldon Pryke reported:

- No Report

COMMUNICATIONS - S/M Secretary Chuck Ewy reported:

- Read the 96th National Public Relations Report
- NP's Serial Letter 1-25 (2024-2025 Officers and Committees) dated Dec 9, 2024.
- Memo Nat Board Resolution No. 9-25 (Executive Director prepares a check for Shipmate Joyce Harris in the amount of \$2500.00)
- NED note to inform the FRA membership of the passing of PNP Thomas L. Leisher.
- Director of Membership Development (Third Qtr 2024-2025 Membership Report).
- NP's Serial Letter 1-25 (2024-2025 Officers and Committees) dated Jan 21, 2025.
- Letter from Office Dept. (Closure of all Business Credit Account as of Jan 31 2025
- Letter from Southern Bank informing Customers from the old Peoples Bank of Ozarks dthat the Routing Number will be retired Jan 31, 2025.
- Letter from Southern Bank offering Overdraft Protection. (Not something we require).
- Went over the 2024 National Convention Resolution Results. Out of the 15 Resolutions, only No. 6, 7, 13, 14, 15 were adopted. All other Resolutions were rejected by voice vote or ruled not in order.

TREASURERS REPORT –

- S/M Frank Parker gave the report. All bills paid. S/M Jim Grier made a motion to accept the Treasurers report. Seconded by S/M Don Brunk and passed. Meal was provided by S/M Don Brunk and S/M Chuck Ewy.

UNFINISHED AND DEFERRED:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discuss S/M Julia Vetter's situation. S/M Teri Jeske made a motion that Ozark Empire Branch 316 pay the dues for S/M Vetter for two Years and then re-valuate. Seconded by S/M Nolan Moody and passed.
- S/M Secretary showed the assembly the new Vehicle placards for parades.
- S/M Secretary stated there will be a planning meeting of the 2025 National Convention committee on February 1st at 1:00 p.m.
- We discussed several donation for this year by Branch 316. Don Brunk made a motion that Ozark Empire Branch 316 purchase 10 (60 Ride w/Transfer books @ \$51.00 per book for a total of \$510.00). S/M Virginia Swayne seconded the motion and it passed.

- We discussed making a yearly donation to The American Legion Post 639. S/M Terry Jeske made a motion that Ozark Empire Branch 316 make a yearly donation of \$1000.00 to American Legion Post 639. Motion was seconded by S/M Virginia Swayne and motion passed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- S/M Nathalie Metzler addressed the assembly and gave a brief background of her service and how she come to be stationed in Springfield.
- Jim Grier talked about the quilt he was presented.

Motion by S/M Belinda Brown to adjourn the meeting, seconded by S/M Virginia Swayne and passed.

S/M Chaplain did the closing Prayer and closed the Bible.

Meeting Adjourned 1910.

Next meeting will be FEBRUARY 27, 2025 at 1800.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SHIPMATES OF BRANCH 316: The 2025 “Mid-Year Conference”, will be in Bloomington, Minnesota, and hosted by Viking Branch 136, on April 22 – 25 2025. It will be at the Holiday Inn, 5120 American Blvd. West. More information will be forth coming.

SHIPMATES OF BRANCH 316: The 2025 NCR Convention will be in Osage Beach, MO and hosted by the Gray Hats on 18 August – 21 August 2025. It will be at “The Inn at Grand Glaze”.

FRA 2025 National Constitutional Convention, hosted by the four Missouri Branches: Branch/Unit 161 and Branch/Unit 032, Branch 316 and Branch 364. Additional information to be forth coming.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome S/M’s – Jim Gallion

MEMBERS WHO ARE PAST DUE:

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF OCT 31, 2024: Michael Kimball and Christina Smith.

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF NOV 30, 2024: Holly Anthony, Terri Budzyna, and Joseph Hopkins.

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF DEC 31, 2024: Michael Baker, Joe Newton, and Kenneth Spink.

Shipmates we need you to renew your membership. If you need any assistance. Please notify Secretary Ewy at 417-861- 9926. (If no answer please leave a message) or e-mail me at cmewy@sbcglobal.net Please contact me if you have sent in your dues and are still in arrears, so I can get it corrected. -

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE BEEN TERMINATED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES: Michael Kimball and Christina Smith.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBER HAS REPORTED TO THE “STAFF OF THE SURPREME COMMANDER:” Larry Hogue and Henry Malachowski.

SHIPMATES IN GOOD STANDING, WITH 50 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP NO LONGER HAVE TO PAY DUES:

VISITATION: Shipmates, if you are sick or confined to bed, please let us know so one of the following S/M can come and visit you. Contact: S/M Chaplain – Don Brunk (417-840-4717), S/M Secretary – Chuck Ewy (417-861-9926) or S/M President – Robert Turner (417-838-4991).

JANUARY 2025 CONTINUOUS MEMBERS: We want to congratulate the following members of Branch 316 for their continuous membership in the FRA.

Robert Brauch	40 Yrs.	Bernie Daum	06 Yrs.	Michael George	31 Yrs.
Everett Kelly	06 Yrs.	George King	28 Yrs.	Bert Kortum	02 Yrs.
Thomas McGuire	39 Yrs.	Richard Reed	31 Yrs.	Harold Singer	19 Yrs.
Orsure Stokes	17 Yrs.	Teddy Verfurth	31 Yrs.	Al Wagner	05 Yrs.

FEBRUARY 2025 CONTINUOUS MEMBERS: We want to congratulate the following members of Branch 316 for their continuous membership in the FRA.

Patrick Bryan	04 Yrs.	Charles Ewy	47 Yrs.	Billy Harris	51 Yrs.
James Hawthorne	11 Yrs.	Terry Morgan	26 Yrs.	Gary O’Dell	28 Yrs.

WE WISH EACH SHIPMATE, WHO HAS A BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY, A HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Bruce Blankenship	71 Yrs.	Patrick Cashin	70 Yrs.	Bernie Daum	78 Yrs.
Everett Kelly	77 Yrs.	James Moran III	62 Yrs.	Matthew Stewart	53 Yrs.
Julia Vetter	75 Yrs.	Don Weiss	87 Yrs.		

WE WISH EACH SHIPMATE, WHO HAS A BIRTHDAY IN FEBRUARY, A HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Robert Adams	93 Yrs.	Grant Dorrell	57 Yrs.	Dale Duke	69 Yrs.
Jonathan Ewbank	76 Yrs.	Philip Fogle	85 Yrs.	Bert Kortum	65 Yrs.
Barry Ralls	71 Yrs.	Virginia Swayne	64 Yrs.	Robert Turner	72 Yrs.
Pamela War-Dawes	74 Yrs.				

If any of these are incorrect, please notify Branch Secretary.

GIVE VETS HOPE: This is to inform you that the “Give Vets Hope” group will not be meeting anymore. I have some health issues, that are not life threatening, just life – altering. Sorry, will keep you informed. Thank you for your hard work.



Initiation Ceremony for New Member S/M Nathalie Metzler



S/M Vice President Virginia Swayne Instructing S/M in Loyalty, Protection, and Service.



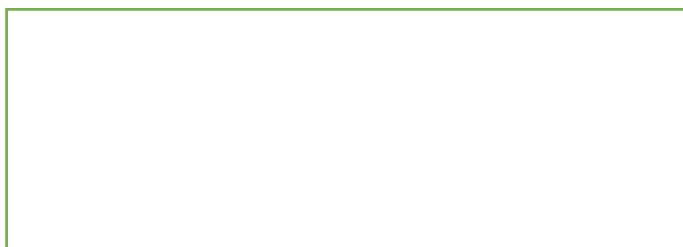
S/M Secretary Chuck Ewy Presenting S/M Metzler With the Emblem of the Fleet Reserve Association



Ozark Empire Branch 316 FRA President Robert Turner, Secretary Chuck Ewy, Chaplain Don Brunk and S/M Nolan Moody is presenting to Commander Mike Goforth, of American Legion Post 639, a check for \$1000.00 for our use of their building for the past year. S/M Nolan Moody is taking the picture.

OZARK EMPIRE FLEET RESERVE
4028 S. KENTWOOD AVE.
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65804-6517

"RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED"



USS Robert A Owens (DD827)
Secretary Ewy's Third Ship he served on.