



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

DECEMBER 2025/JANUARY 2026 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

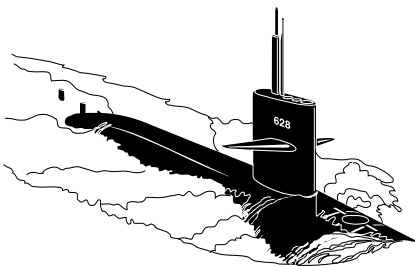
JrPP:	Tom Newsom	3215 W. Wick St., Springfield, MO 65810	(417)569-9871
Bd. Of Dir.	Teri Jeske	RR 4, Box 436, Ava, MO 65608-9370	(417)413-8606
Bd. Of Dir.	Jim Grier	714 S. Stratford Dr., Springfield, MO 65809	(417)350-3888
Bd. Of Dir.	Nolan Moody	4334 W. La Siesta St., Springfield, MO 65802	(417)894-0083
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 DEC 2025/JAN 2026

- Dec – No Meeting
- Dec 1 – Deadline for FRA Essays
- Dec 7 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec 15 – Bill of Rights Day
- Dec 17 – Wright Brothers Day
- Dec 21 – First Day of Winter
- Dec 24 – Christmas Eve.
- Dec 25 – Christmas Day
- Dec 31 – New Year's Eve
- Jan 1 – New Year's Day
- Jan 19 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan 22 – Branch Meeting
- Jan 28 – Observance of USCGC Blackthorn Sinking

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 26 – Branch Meeting
- Mar 26 – Branch Meeting
- Apr 23 – Branch Meeting



NEXT MEETING:

4th Thursday Jan 22, 2025
(1700) Meal
(1800) Branch Meeting
American Legion Post 639
2660 S Scenic Ave.
Springfield, MO. 65807

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



BRANCH 316'S WEB PAGE (frabr316.org)

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be Thursday, JANUARY 22, 2026, and will commence at 1800. We will meet at American Legion Post 639, 2660 S. Scenic, Springfield, MO, 65807. Our meal will be provided by the Branch at 1700.

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: Don Brunk, Charles Ewy, Jim Gallion, Frank Parker, Virginia Swayne, Bernie Daum, Joe Newton, Belinda Brown, Teri Jeske, Richard Seiferd, Maddie Morris, Nolan Moody, and Robert Turner. We had two guest: Carol Daum and Zella Duff. 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". A motion was made by S/M Don Brunk to dispense with reading the minutes of last meeting, OCTOBER 23, 2025, and approve as they were published verbatim in the NOVEMBER Newsletter. Motion seconded by S/M Virginia Swayne and passed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AMERICANISM/PATRIOTISM

- Secretary mentioned that we had 13 essays so far.

HOSPITAL – S/M Don Brunk reported:

- No news of S/M's in the Hospital.

MEMBERSHIP:

- NOVEMBER REPORT – 0 New members, 0 Transfer-Out, 2 Transfer-In, 0 Reinstated, 0 Deletions, 2 Suspensions, 121 Total active members, 7 Members past due, 114 Members in good standing.

PUBLIC RELATIONS –

- Jim Gallion stated he has been working on the PR notebook and if anyone would like to take a look at see him after the meeting..

VETERANS SERVICE – S/M Belinda Brown reported:

- No Report

YOUTH – S/M: Joe Newton Reported:

- Naval Sea Cadet program is looking really good.

COMMUNICATIONS - S/M Charles Ewy reported:

- Went over the Outreach Program from National.
- Went over the Recruiting and Retention Program from National.
- Mentioned the NP's Annual Report.

TREASURERS REPORT –

- S/M Frank Parker gave the report. All bills paid. S/M Robert Turner made a motion to accept the Treasurers report. Seconded by S/M Belinda Brown and passed.

UNFINISHED AND DEFERRED:

- S/M Secretary mentioned it is time to start planning the HeartLand Regional Convention for 2026. At our January meeting I'll have the committees that we will need to fill.

NEW BUSINESS:

- S/M Secretary addressed a question to S/M Teri Jeske. If you are moving into Springfield when will we have to move the items we have in storage in Ava? Teri stated it will be okay for about a year.
- S/M Belinda Brown made a motion that Branch 316 donate \$1000.00 to the VFW 3404 Veterans fund. The motion was seconded by S/M Teri Jeske and motion passed.
- S/M Belinda Brown made a motion that Branch 316 donate \$500.00 to the American Legion Aux. Coat Drive for North Side Schools. S/M Virginia Swayne seconded the motion and motion passed.
- S/M Belinda Brown made a motion that Branch 316 donate \$500.00 to AL Post 639's Christmas Bicycle fund. S/M Virginia Swayne seconded and motion passed.
- S/M Nolan Moody made a motion that branch 316 donate \$250.00 to "Wreaths Across America". S/M Don Brunk seconded the motion and motion passed.
- S/M President made a comment that with all these donation the recipients need to make sure they are made aware the Ozark Empire Branch 316 is the one making the donation.
- S/M President set a Board of Directors meeting for Dec 5th at 1100. The following Shipmates should be there: Robert Turner, Virginia Swayne, Chuck Ewy, Frank Parker, Tom Newsom, Teri Jeske, Jim Grier, Nolan Moody, Norma Wright and Bernie Daum. Additional members are welcome to attend also. If at all possible S/M Norma Wright will have the essays there to grade.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- The American Legion will have a Thanksgiving Dinner on the 27th of November at the Post.
- S/M Nolan Moody mentioned Toys for Tots

Motion by S/M Nolan Moody to adjourn the meeting, seconded by S/M Virginia Swayne and passed. Chaplain did the closing Prayer and closed the Bible.

Meeting Adjourned 1930

Next meeting will be JANUARY 22, 2026 at 1800

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SHIPMATES OF BRANCH 316:

FRA 2026 HeartLand Regional Convention Springfield, Mo.

More information coming

NEW MEMBERS:

Welcome; Charles Andrews, Michael Batz, Benjamin Jantz, and Abram McGull

TRANSFER-IN: None

MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENEWED THEIR DUES: Jennifer Bailey and Craig Chapman

MEMBERS WHO ARE PAST DUE: Craig Baird, Grant Dorrell, Brandon Graff, Thomas Griffith, Richard Seifred, Christina Smith, and Marvin Tulla.

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025: Charles Christianson, Pamela Warner-Dawes, and Donald Weiss.

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF December 31, 2025: Kenneth Spink

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF January 31, 2026: George King, Bert Kortum, Richard Reed, and John Waggoner.

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 ARE TERMINATED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES: Robert Duff, John Loe, and Nathalie Metzler.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBER HAS REPORTED TO THE "STAFF OF THE SUPREME COMMANDER": None
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's 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).

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

Alan Fear	15 Yrs.	Philip Fogle	27 Yrs.	Joe Newton	04 Yrs.
Kenneth Spink	31 Yrs.	Billy Tettenhorst	28 Yrs.		

JANUARY 2026 CONTINUOUS MEMBERS: We want to congratulate the following members of Branch 316 for their continuous membership in the FRA.

Bernie Daum	07 Yrs.	Michael George	32 Yrs.	Everett Kelly	07 Yrs.
George King	29 Yrs.	Bert Kortum	03 Yrs.	Thomas McGuire	40 Yrs.
Richard Reed	32 Yrs.	Harold Singer	20 Yrs.	Orsure Stokes	18 Yrs.
Teddy Verfurth	32 Yrs.	Al Wagner	06 Yrs.		

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

Charles Cline	89 Yrs.	Robert Duff	71 Yrs.	Michael George	63 Yrs.
Christopher Henson	55 Yrs.	Joe Newton	82 Yrs.	Frank Parker	79 Yrs.
Dennis Shanklin	83 Yrs.	Shirley Strantz	78 Yrs.		

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

Bruce Blankenship	72 Yrs.	Bernie Daum	79 Yrs.	James Gallion	75 Yrs.
Everett Kelly	78 Yrs.	Otis Marshall	60 Yrs.	James Moran III	63 Yrs.
Matthew Stewart	54 Yrs.	Don Weiss	88 Yrs.		

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

Charles B. Ewy

Charles B. Ewy

Secretary Branch 316



**Sea Cadet Unit Greater Ozarks Division
Sponsored by Ozark Empire Branch 316 FRA**

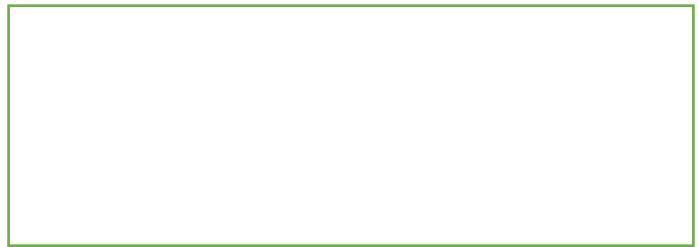


**The Cadets attended the Maple Leaf Parade in Carthage, MO on October 18th.
LPO was instructing the youngest new Cadet on how to wear his white cover.**



S/M Belinda Brown presenting a \$500.00 check to Diane Cooperider, American Legion Post 639 Auxiliary Commander.

OZARK EMPIRE FLEET RESERVE
4028 S. KENTWOOD AVE.
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65804-6517
"RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED"



USS Providence (CLG-6) Don Brunk's 4TH Ship