



# 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

### MARCH 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   | 3786 W Roxbury St., Springfield, MO 65807-8795 | (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 MAR 2026

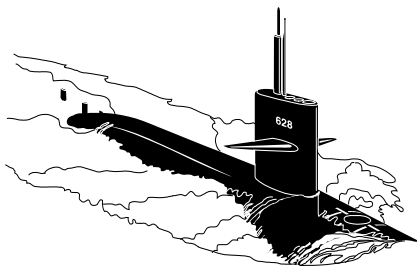
- Mar 3 – US Naval Reserve Est. (1915)
- Mar 4 – US Navy Band Est. (1925)
- Mar 5 – US Navy Seabees B – Day (1942)
- Mar 8 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Mar 13 – Nat K9 Veterans Day
- Mar 17 – St. Patrick’s Day
- Mar 18 – Nat Supreme Sacrifice Day
- Mar 20 – First Day of Spring
- Mar 25 – Nat Medal of Honor Day
- Mar 26 – Branch Meeting  
Nominating Committee
- Mar 29 – Vietnam War Veterans Day

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr 23 – Branch Meeting
- May 28 – Branch Meeting
- Jun 25 – Branch Meeting
- Jul 23 – Branch Meeting



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



#### NEXT MEETING:

4th Thursday Mar 26, 2026  
(1700) Meal  
(1800) Branch Meeting  
American Legion Post 639  
2660 S Scenic Ave.  
Springfield, MO. 65807



## BRANCH 316'S WEB PAGE ([frabr316.org](http://frabr316.org))

**NEXT MEETING:** Our next meeting will be Thursday, MARCH 26, 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: Charles Ewy, Don Brunk, Robert Turner, Nolan Moody, Jim Gallion, Frank Parker, Teri Jeske, Maddie Morris, Joe Newton, Bernie Daum, Jim Grier, Virginia Swayne, and Don Weiss. 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 Terri Jeske to dispense with reading the minutes of last meeting, JANUARY 26, 2022, and approve as they were published verbatim in the FEBRURRY 26 Newsletter. Motion seconded by S/M Don Brunk and passed.

### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### AMERICANISM/PATRIOTISM

- S/M Don Brunk stated they read and graded the HeartLand Regional essay winners, and they have been mailed back to Regional Chair Curt Baker. Secretary stated the packets have been mailed to the Branch winners.

#### HOSPITAL – S/M Don Brunk reported:

- Terri Jeske had a stay in the hospital and Chuck Ewy had a knee manipulation.

#### MEMBERSHIP:

- NOVEMBER REPORT – 0 New members, 0 Transfer-Out, 0 Transfer-In, 0 Reinstated, 0 Deletions, 2 Suspensions, 117 Total active members, 1 Members past due, 116 Members in good standing.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS –

- Jim Gallion stated he is working on the report.

#### VETERANS SERVICE – S/M Belinda Brown reported:

- No Report

#### YOUTH – S/M: Joe Newton Reported:

- He attended the February meeting of the Sea Cadets and made a comment that the Sea Cadets, CO Mittag is very dedicated.

#### COMMUNICATIONS - S/M Charles Ewy reported:

- S/M Secretary made available to all S/M's the information for the 2026 Heartland Regional Mid-Year Conference, hosted by Viking Branch 136 in Blooming, MN, April 13 – 16, 2026.
- S/M Secretary made available to all S/M's the information for the 2026 National Convention in Las Vegas, NV, 29 Sept to 02 Oct, 2026.
- NED Memo 3-26 (Changes to the National C&BL and SR from the FRA 97<sup>th</sup> Nat. Conv. In Springfield, MO).
- NED Memo 4-26 (Annual Premium for Branch Liability Bond 2025-2026).
- NED Memo 5-26 (Branch Bank Changes)
- NP Serial Letter 2-26 (Financial Report of the 2025 Nat. Conv).

#### 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:

- None

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- S/M Secretary presented a Resolution nominating Tabitha Mittag, CO of the Greater Ozarks Division of the Naval Sea Cadets, for Honorary Membership to Ozark Empire Branch 316 FRA. S/M Sec made a motion that Branch approve the resolution. S/M Don Brunk seconded and motion passed.
- S/M Secretary presented a Note Book offer to purchase 75 to use for stuffers for our 2026 HeartLand Regional Convention Goodie Bags. S/M Nolan Moody made a motion that Branch 316 purchase 75 books and S/M Don Brunk seconded the motion and motion passed.
- S/M Don Brunk asked if any one other than he donates blood, to include it in his report. S/M Nolan Moody made a motion that Branch should contact the Mobile Blood Drive. And have it Sponsored by Ozark Empire Branch 316. Motion seconded by Terri Jeske and passed.
- S/M Jim Gallion asked permission from Branch 316 to donate in the Branches name, to the two Officers from Christian County who were killed. The branch said it was okay. Virginia Swayne made a motion that Branch 316 donate \$500.00 to Christian County in the name of the two Officers from Christian County who were killed. Motion was seconded by S/M Terri Jeske and passed.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

- S/M Secretary passed around a sample of the Convention Journal Cover to pick the one we are going to use.
- S/M Virginia Swayne put out info from S/M Belinda Brown that Republic HS Drama department is doing a play on March 1, 1 PM at the HS, 3470 Repmo Dr., called "A Piece of My Heart". It is from the Vietnam era. Retired Vietnam Nurse Ellen Duvall provided help with costume design.
- We discussed if there was going to be a Navy Ball for 2026.
- S/M Nolan Moody made a motion to adjourn, Motion was seconded by S/M Terri Jeske, and motion passed.

Chaplain did the closing Prayer and closed the Bible.

Meeting Adjourned 1843

Next meeting will be MARCH 26, 2026 at 1800

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**SHIPMATES OF BRANCH 316:**

**FRA 2026 HeartLand Regional Convention Springfield, Mo.**

**SAVE THE DATE AUGUST 23 TO 27, 2026**

**WE NEED HELPERS FOR OUR CONVENTION. COME TO OUR NEXT MEETING AND SIGN UP TO HELP SUPPORT YOUR BRANCH.**

**NEW MEMBERS:**

None

TRANSFER-IN: None

MEMBERS WHO HAVE RENEWED THEIR DUES: Carl Jansen, Terry Morgan, Daniel Schillinger, and John Wagghoner

MEMBERS WHO ARE PAST DUE: George King, and Bert Kortum.

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF February 28, 2026: James Hawthorne, and Charles Pence.

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF MARCH 31, 2026: None

MEMBERS WHO ARE READY TO RENEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AS OF APRIL 30, 2026: Tom Newsom, and Jessy Portis

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](mailto: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: Charles Christianson  
THE FOLLOWING MEMBER HAS REPORTED TO THE "STAFF OF THE SURPREME 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).

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

|               |         |               |        |               |         |
|---------------|---------|---------------|--------|---------------|---------|
| Carl Jansen   | 15 Yrs. | Joseph Kramek | 01 Yr. | Robert Turner | 32 Yrs. |
| John Waggoner | 20 Yrs. |               |        |               |         |

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

|                 |         |                  |         |                   |         |
|-----------------|---------|------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| Jennifer Bailey | 29 Yrs. | James Burger     | 80 Yrs. | Craig Chapman     | 61 Yrs. |
| Charles Ewy     | 82 Yrs. | Alan Fear        | 81 Yrs. | Stephen Hagenhoff | 76 Yrs. |
| Raymond Larson  | 83 Yrs. | Charles Pence    | 56 Yrs. | Terrell Staple    | 88 Yrs. |
| Orsure Stokes   | 72 Yrs. | Jonathan Vaughan | 39 Yrs. | Teddy Verfurth    | 91 Yrs. |

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

*Charles B. Ewy*

Charles B. Ewy

Secretary Branch 316

**NEWS FROM THE  
GREATER OZARKS DIVISION SEA CADETS  
FROM CO TABITHA MITTAG**



**In April 2025 cadets and staff volunteered with the maintenance crew to replace hand railing along the wooden boardwalk. These were the two cadets that were able to attend the event.**

**The two cadets and myself attended a volunteer appreciation dinner at George Washington Carver National Monument in Diamond, MO.**

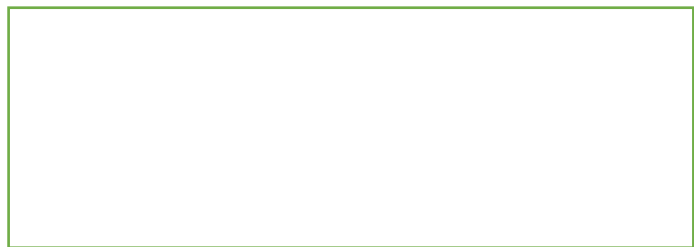
## March 7, 2026 Sea Cadet Meeting



**Shipmate President Robert Turner and Shipmate Youth Chairman Joe Newton attended the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Greater Ozarks Sea Cadets. Sea Cadet Regional Directors, Retired Master Chief Nathan Cann and his wife Shannaa are holding a barracks inspection on the Sea Cadets. Also in the photos is the Sea Cadet Commander Tabitha Mittag**



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



**USS Forrestal (CVA-59, later CV-59, and AVT-59)  
Teddy Verfurth's 1<sup>st</sup> Ship**