



FLEET RESERVE ASSOCIATION
 REPRESENTING ALL ENLISTED PERSONNEL USN - USMC - USCG
AKRON-CANTON BRANCH 324

JULY 2002 EDITOR-GENE BRYAN



PRESIDENT: RICHARD E YALE, 3072 PRIOR DR., CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH 44223 PH# 330-928-2984
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NEXT MEETING: Will be held on Sunday 28 July, 2002 at the Army Reserve Training Center, 3120 Parkway St. NW, Canton, Ohio. Doors will open at 1:30PM meeting starting at 2:30PM. In case of illness or death, please notify one of the above Officers. Our prayers and well wishes go to those who are ill or shut in.

ELECTION: The same slate of Officers were installed at the June meeting by S/M Vice President Vechter. The Board of Directors for the year 2002-2003 are: Ivor Peters, Raymond Taylor, Carl McCalla, Merle Carder and William Bowden. **CONGRATULATIONS SHIPMATES.**

MEMBERSHIP: 201 total members, 5 past due, 196 in good Standing. **PAST DUE:** Art Szoke, William Byers, Joseph Chenevey, Myron Koyle and Richard Squier. **NEED TO RENEW:** Chester J Chapman, Gary T Horsfall, Edward C Long and James Solmen. **WELCOME ABOARD:** ENC Therman Riggs of East Liverpool. **PLEASE COME BACK:** NCCS Craig T. Campfield. **THANKS:** Frederick Moske-3yr discount payment, Rickey Stahura-2yr discount payment and to the other Shipmates who have renewed their dues for another year.

FREE COFFEE BREAK: We close down every night at 10PM and open up at 7AM. Most shifts are only 4hrs. We have two shifts that are 5hrs. There are three shifts that could use some help. This is your Branch and a few can not do it alone. If you care to help, call me at 330-477-5998.

FRA SUPPORTS PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BILLS.
 When the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled this week that the Pledge of Allegiance was unconstitutional because it contained the words "under God" FRA joined most of the nation in calling for a reversal. The Association wrote to House and Senate leaders, strongly endorsing swift congressional action to reaffirm the language in the pledge.

The House adopted a resolution (H. Res. 459) denouncing the decision by a vote of 416 to 3 and the Senate passed legislation (S. 2690) reaffirming the pledge's language by a vote of 99 to 0.

FRA believes the court's decision is "outrageous" and stated in the letter that [FRA's] members represent a proud heritage of men and women who have dedicated themselves to the eloquent words of our Pledge of Allegiance. In a time when we are fighting a war on terrorism, such words not only unify but are appropriate for all Americans to speak aloud and reaffirm their belief in this nation.

FRA SURVEY DEADLINE EXTENDED: FRA asks military retirees to visit www.fra.org/surveys/index.html to complete a web survey related to proposed legislation to allow beneficiaries of military retirees to keep the last month's retired pay after the retiree's death. Responses are being tabulated and used to build support for the initiative. The deadline for responding is extended from 30 June to 8 July. and the Association is particularly interested in responses from E-5 through E-7 retirees.