

90th FRA/85th LA FRA NATIONAL CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 17 – 23, 2017 - HUNT VALLEY, MD



Newsletter #1 – January 10, 2017

FULL SPEED AHEAD

Happy New Year! May you have good health, happiness and prosperity throughout the year.

The members of the 2017 National Convention Committee, Our National Convention Team, are working enthusiastically, diligently, and energetically to ensure that we will have a successful, enjoyable, and memorable 2017 National Convention.

But, we need your help to make the 2017 National Convention truly one to enjoy and remember for a long time. Soon, you will receive an Advertisement and Booster Roll Solicitation Letter from the Chairman/Co-Chairman of the 2017 National Convention Committee. Please be generous; and send your advertisement and Booster Roll as early as possible. Your support and generosity will definitely contribute to the success of our upcoming National Convention.

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION VENUE

The Convention venue is the Hunt Valley Inn, a Wyndham Grand Hotel, in Cockeysville, Maryland. It is newly renovated and has a rustic atmosphere. The Inn is about 7 miles north of Baltimore, Maryland. For more information visit the Hunt Valley Inn website at:

<http://www.huntvalleywyndhamgrand.com/>

For room reservations, call (866) 764-8359 or (410) 785-7000 or for online direct reservation visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/2017fra-lafra>

reference the “Fleet Reserve Association Room Block” to get the discounted rate, \$99 per night, plus tax.

For directions, visit the aforementioned hotel website or the FRA Branch 4 website and follow the link to “2017 National Convention”: www.frabranch4.org

Plenty of free parking spaces.





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AIRPORT SHUTTLE

The hotel does not provide free shuttle to/from the BWI International Airport. A Light Rail Train runs from the BWI Airport to a Shopping Center a block away from the Hunt Valley Inn. The hotel only provides free shuttle within 3 miles radius. Our National Convention Team is exploring other convenient and inexpensive transportation between the hotel and the BWI Airport. We will keep everyone informed as we get closer to the convention date.

MOBILITY EQUIPMENT

Wheelchair and scooter rentals are available from ScooterPlus Rentals, a division of Lenox Medical Supply. The store will deliver the wheelchair/scooter to the hotel and is giving a 10% discount to active military and veterans. Use Promo Code “MILITARY” to get the discount. To reserve wheelchair/scooter, call [1-866-474-4356](tel:1-866-474-4356) and ask for “Tonna” (this is the Sales Representative’s first name). You may also visit their website: www.lenoxmedicalsupply.com. Follow the link to “Rental” which will take you to the home page of the “ScooterPlus Rentals”.

OXYGEN BOTTLES AND OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Oxygen bottles and other medical supplies are available at the Austin Pharmacy & Medical Supplies. The pharmacy is located at 10757 York Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030. It is 1.8 miles away from Hunt Valley Inn. Their phone number is (410) 773-0300. For more information, you may visit their website at: www.austinpharm.com.

RENTAL TUXEDO

Rental tuxedo will be available from Tuxedo House. The store is located at 2135-37 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, Maryland 21093. The store point of contact is Scott Furman, the owner. Their phone number is (410) 252-6220. For more information, you may visit their website at: www.tuxedohouse.com.

Measurement/fitting/pickup schedule will be published a month before the convention. A store representative will come to the hotel to do the measurements. Tuxedo return will be at the hotel.

BREAKFAST/LUNCHEONS

We request that the chairpersons of the various breakfasts/luncheons to contact our Arrangement Committee Chairperson, Merlyn Eda, to coordinate scheduling of their respective breakfast/luncheon and to select their respective menus (Menu list is attached). Merlyn Eda is also the Co-Chairman of the 2017 National Convention. Her phone number is: (301) 910-2926 and her email address is: merlyned@yahoo.com.



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WELCOME ABOARD PARTY

The “Welcome Aboard Party” will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 1900 at the Valley Ballroom. The theme of the event is the '50s, '60s & '70s. Members of our Entertainment Committee is putting together a show that promises to amuse and entertain you. However, we need your help to ensure that you will have a pleasant and entertaining evening. Admission to the “Welcome Aboard Party” is free. But, we would like you to register for this event when you make your reservations for meals and tours.

BANQUET AND GRAND BALL

Banquet and Grand Ball will be held on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 1930 at the Valley Ballroom. Schedules/activities for this event will be coordinated with the National Presidents. Our Entertainment Committee has planned for a brief entertainment for your evening pleasure.

TOURS AND OTHER EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

***** DISCLAIMER: SCHEDULE AND/OR PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE *****

A. WHITE HOUSE PRIVATE TOUR

Our National Convention Team is exploring the possibility of having a private group tour without the usual individual congressional endorsement required of each visitor in a public tour. Efforts toward this goal is on hold until after the new administration is settled in.

B. MEDIEVAL TIMES DINNER & TOURNAMENT

This is a two-hour tournament show and four-course Medieval Feast. It is a live horse show in an enclosed, air-conditioned arena. The discounted admission price of \$42 includes free Royalty Upgrades. The arena is located at 7000 Arundel Mills Circle, Hanover, MD 21076 in the vicinity of the Maryland Live! Casino and the Arundel Mills Outlet Mall. For more information you may call 1-888-935-6878 or visit www.medievaltimes.com.

C. FORT McHENRY NATIONAL MONUMENT

Fort McHenry in Baltimore, MD is a historical American star-shaped coastal fort best known for its role in the War of 1812, when it successfully defended Baltimore Harbor from an attack by the British navy. It is also known as the Birthplace of the American National Anthem. The Fort McHenry Guard performs drill, musket and artillery demonstrations. General admission fee is \$10. But, we are awaiting response to our request for fee waiver. The Fort is located at 2400 East Fort Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21230. For more information you may call (410) 962-4290 or visit <https://www.nps.gov/fomc/planyourvisit/basicinfo.htm>.



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D. MGM CASINO NATIONAL HARBOR

The newest and the biggest casino in Maryland. It opened on December 8, 2016. The casino/hotel overlooks the Potomac River. It is about 7 miles away from downtown Washington, DC and a block away from Tanger Outlet. The MGM Casino is 70 miles away from Hunt Valley Inn. The address is 7100 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD 20745; the phone number is (844) 346-4664 and the website address is www.mgmnationalharbor.com.

E. HORSESHOE CASINO

Horseshoe casino is one of the six casinos in Maryland. It is located in downtown Baltimore, Maryland in close proximity to the Orioles Park at Camden Yards. The address is 1525 Russell Street, Baltimore, MD 21230; the telephone number is (844) 777-SHOE; and the website is www.caesars.com/horseshoe-baltimore/casino.

F. MARYLAND LIVE! CASINO

This casino is located in close proximity to the Medieval Times and the Arundel Mills Outlet. It is 32 miles away from Hunt Valley Inn. The address is 7002 Arundel Mills Cir #7777, Hanover, MD 21076; the phone number is (855) 5MD LIVE or 443-842-7000; and the website is www.marylandlivecasino.com

G. BALTIMORE ORIOLES GAMES

Following are the Orioles home games during the convention time frame. All games start at 7:05 PM.

Tuesday	Sept. 19	vs	Boston Red Sox
Thursday	Sept. 21	vs	Tampa Bay Rays
Friday	Sept. 22	vs	Tampa Bay Rays



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CONVENTION TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

FRA OFFICE - SALON B

LA FRA OFFICE - PIMLICO ROOM

HOSPITALITY SUITE - GARDEN ROOM

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY/EVENT</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
SUNDAY: 9/17/17	0800-2300	REGISTRATION	MD COATCHECK
MONDAY: 9/18/17	0800-2300	REGISTRATION	MD COATCHECK
	0800-1300	GOLF TOURNEY/OUTING	TBD
TUESDAY: 9/19/17	0745-1245	FINANCE & BUDGET	SALON C
	0745-1245	CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS	SALON D
	0745-0900	BREAKFAST 1: PNC FRA	SALON E
	0745-0900	BREAKFAST 2: PNC LA FRA	SALON F
	0800-2300	REGISTRATION	MD COATCHECK
	0800-1700	MEETING # 1: BREAKOUT	TBD
	0800-1700	MEETING # 2: BREAKOUT	TBD
	1000-1200	MEETING # 3: BREAKOUT	SALON E
	1200-1300	PRE-CONV.: NBOD FRA	TBD
	1200-1300	PRE-CONV.: NBOD LA FRA	VALLEY BALLROOM
	1300-1700	MEETING # 4: PRP, FRA	MARYLAND 4
	1300-1700	MEETING # 5: PRP, LA FRA	MARYLAND 1&2
WEDNESDAY: 9/20/17	0745-1245	FINANCE & BUDGET	SALON C
	0745-1245	CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS	SALON D
	0800-2300	REGISTRATION	MD COATCHECK
	0800-2300	EXHIBIT SETUP	HUNT VALLEY FOYER
	0800-1700	MEETING # 1: BREAKOUT	SALON C
	0800-1700	MEETING # 2: BREAKOUT	SALON D
	0900-1200	OPENING CEREMONY	VALLEY BALLROOM
	1100-1300	LUNCHEON 1: PNP FRA	SALON E
	1100-1300	LUNCHEON 2: PNP LA FRA	SALON F
	1100-1300	LUNCH 3: RP/RPE/RVP FRA	SALON A
	1100-1300	LUNCH 4: RP/RPE/RVP LAFRA	TBD
	1300-1700	FRA BUSINESS MEETING # 1	HUNT BALLROOM
	1300-1700	LA FRA BUS. MEETING # 1	MARYLAND 1/2/3

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CONVENTION TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Continued)

THURSDAY: 9/21/17	1900-2400	WELCOME ABOARD PARTY	VALLEY BALLROOM	
	0745-1245	FINANCE & BUDGET	SALON C	
	0745-1245	CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS	SALON D	
	0800-2300	REGISTRATION	MD COATCHECK	
	0800-2300	EXHIBIT SETUP	HUNT VALLEY FOYER	
	0800-1700	MEETING # 1: BREAKOUT	SALON C	
	0800-1700	MEETING # 2: BREAKOUT	SALON D	
	0900-1200	COMMITTEE MEETINGS	SALON E/F	
	1130-1300	LUNCHEON 1: PRP FRA	MARYLAND 1/2	
	1130-1300	LUNCHEON 2: PRP LA FRA	MARYLAND 3	
	1300-1700	FRA BUSINESS MEETING # 2	HUNT BALLROOM	
	1300-1700	LA FRA BUS. MEETING # 2	VALLEY BALLROOM	
	FRIDAY: 9/22/17	0745-1245	FINANCE & BUDGET	SALON C
		0745-1245	CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS	SALON D
0800-2300		REGISTRATION	MD COATCHECK	
0800-2300		EXHIBIT SETUP	HUNT VALLEY FOYER	
0800-1700		MEETING # 1: BREAKOUT	SALON E	
0800-1700		MEETING # 2: BREAKOUT	SALON F	
0800-1700		FRA BUS. MEETING # 3&4	HUNT BALLROOM	
0800-1700		LA FRA BUS. MEETING # 3&4	VALLEY BALLROOM	
1130-1300		LUNCHEON 1: NP LA FRA	MARYLAND 1/2/3	
SATURDAY: 9/23/17		0745-1245	FINANCE & BUDGET	SALON C
	0745-1245	CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS	SALON D	
	0800-2300	REGISTRATION	MD COATCHECK	
	0800-1700	MEETING # 1: BREAKOUT	SALON E	
	0800-1700	MEETING # 2: BREAKOUT	SALON F	
	0800-1530	FRA BUS. MEETING # 5&6	HUNT BALLROOM	
	0800-1530	LA FRA BUS. MEETING # 5&6	VALLEY BALLROOM	
	1730-1830	INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS	HUNT VALLEY BALLR	
	1830-1930	RECEPTION	TBD	
	1930-2400	BANQUET	TBD	
SUNDAY: 9/24/17	0800-1300	POST CONV.: NBOD FRA	SALON C	
	0800-1300	POST CONV.: NBOD LA FRA	SALON D	



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CONTACT US

2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Branch 4/Unit 4 Website: www.frabranch4.org

Chairman	Arthur L. Caliguiran	(202) 577-6490	artcaliguiran@comcast.net
Co-Chairman	Merlyn Eda	(301) 910-2926	merlyned@yaho.com
Vice Chairman	Rey Regis	(202) 299-4460	rbregis@yaho.com
Co-Vice Chairman	Cristina B. Dixon	(817) 239-6556	cristina.dixon@live.com
Secretary	Grace Villanueva	(703) 209-3295	gev0908@yaho.com
Treasurer	Fred Ramirez	(703) 842-4385	framirez419@gmail.com

