

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Northern Prince George's County Maryland Chapter 1122

*Beltsville, Berwyn Heights, College Park, Cheverly, Glenarden, Glenn Dale,
Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Landover Hills, Lanham, New Carrollton and Seabrook*

Website: www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122



NARFE is the only association solely dedicated to safeguarding and improving the earned rights and benefits of America's active and retired federal employees. A team of government relations professionals in Washington tracks congressional action and agency proposals that affect your federal retirement benefits. NARFE's Legislative Department works simultaneously to preserve and enhance civil service annuity and health care benefits.

National Federation of Federal Employees: Goals Similar to those of NARFE

Dr. Howard Waterworth, 1st Vice President and Legislative Chair

NARFE is not the only national organization representing the welfare of Federal employees and retirees. Another, known as the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), is a national union with some 110,000 blue and white-collar government workers across the USA. It has fought for the rights of federal employees both home and abroad for the past 95 years. Their goals and objectives as well as lobbying methods with Congress are very similar to those of NARFE. So even though we assume NARFE has been the primary organization speaking on our behalf, we will never know how much of our success in terms of pay and benefits should be attributed to the influence NFFE has had over the years. Begun in 1917, NFFE is the oldest union representing federal employees. Throughout its history NFFE has played a role in many of the most sweeping federal workforce reform efforts including the passage of the national labor policy legislation such as the Equal Pay Act of 1963. NFFE's mission is to advance the social and economic welfare and education of federal workers through continued work in organizing units of federal em-

ployees, representing their interests through collective bargaining, lobbying for legislative action, fighting for better working conditions, and promoting labor-management partnerships in agency decision-making.

NFFE began as a chartered organization under the American Federation of Labor and was unique in that it included women in some major leadership positions. Early on NFFE was a strong supporter of the equal pay act which mandated equal pay for men and women.

NFFE represents unionized employees in some 36 Federal civilian and military departments and agencies such as Department of Interior, Indian Health Service, NPS, SSA, CCC, Fish and Wildlife, FAA, NOAA, Naval Sea Systems Command, Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Geological survey and many more. The wide variety of issues affecting this broad array of agencies has broadened the scope and power of NFFE's legislative agenda. As a result it has made gains in enhancing the life of its members, improving support systems, increasing benefits and expanding insurance coverage, establishing a national system of unemployment insurance, group life insurance, and health bene-

Volume 6, Number 6

June 2012

2012 Upcoming
Events

June 14
Flag Day

July 4
Independence Day

- August 26-30
National Convention
Reno, NV

- September (TBD)
Alzheimer's Walk
Bowie

- October 2
Federation Board
Meeting

- October 26
Federation Fall
Training

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Newsletters on Line

John Lydon, Newsletter Distributor via Email

Join your fellow members by receiving your newsletter on line. It typically arrives earlier than the one delivered by mail. This helps our chapter save on postage when you elect to receive the electronic version in pdf format and full color. To receive a monthly notice by e-mail that our

Chapter Newsletter is available, send an email to: lydon.j@verizon.net.

Please include your full name and address with a request to receive notification that the newsletter is on the web site at: www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122.

June Luncheon Meeting

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

At 12 Noon

Sir Walter Raleigh Inn, 6323 Greenbelt Road
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740, (301) 474-6500

Guest Speaker

Dick Strombotne, Treasurer
NARFE Maryland Federation

Newly Elected Officers Will Be
Sworn In By Guest Speaker!
Door Prizes!

\$25 per person includes tax & gratuity
Choice of Entree, Open Soup & Salad Bar,
Sandwich Wraps, Chocolate Mousse Dessert,
Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks
(Alcoholic beverages not included)

Entree (Select One)

Prime Rib, Hawaiian Chicken Breast,
Crab Cake or Beer Battered Shrimp

Please make reservations by June 6. Make check payable to NARFE Chapter 1122 and mail to:

Lee Shields
8C Plateau Place
Greenbelt, MD 20770
Phone: 301-474-5321
Email: lee.shields@verizon.net



NARFE
Chapter 1122
Total
Membership
As of
May
2012

639

2012 Bull Roast & Birthday Party to salute

Congressman Steny H. Hoyer

On **June 8, 2011** from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

(Rain or Shine)

Will be held at

Newton White Mansion

2708 Enterprise Road

Mitchellville, MD 20721

Email RSVP or purchase tickets on line:

bullroast@hoyerforcongress.com

Chapter Corner

The May meeting was well attended with an interesting guest speaker **Dr. Gene Lester** of USD's Agricultural Research Service. His presentation of "Food and Medicine: What Melons Offer" was informative and an eye opener for many in attendance. We thank Dr. Lester for all the information and look forward to another visit from him soon.

We welcomed two members to their first chapter meeting, **Waymon & Barbara Blassengale**, and look forward to them attending many more meetings to come.

The 50/50 drawing was won by a guest at the meeting - **Jeanette Gordy**, President of the Greenbriar Community Association.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all sick and shut-in members. We wish you a speedy recovery.

To all June Birthday Members, Happy Birthday from all of us.

A big, big thank you to **Robert Doyle** and **Robert Haas** for recruiting new members to the chapter. Let's all do our part and recruit a member today.

The following New Officers were elected by majority at the meeting and will be sworn in at the June Luncheon:

President

Richard Bannof

1st VP & Legislative Chair

Howard Waterworth

2nd VP & Membership Chair

Elaine Cameron

Secretary

Delores Green

Treasurer

Warren Wilcox



IN MEMORIAM

Have chapter news or articles to share? Email the editor: bsg.smith@verizon.net

NFFE from page 1

fits for federal employees and dependents. NFFE has also contributed to the formation of the Federal employee education and assistance fund, which helps families with emergency funds and scholarships.

NFFE operates by lobbying elected officials on Capitol Hill and in the White House. Members, officers, and staff meet regularly with members of Congress, and are often asked to give testimony at Congressional hearings. In 2009 NFFE successfully lobbied for a sick leave benefit for FERS employees, secured funding for the VA, locality pay for workers outside mainland U.S. and repeal of the anti-worker National Security Personnel System.

NFFE also opposes bill (H.R.270) that would furlough federal employees for two weeks without pay as a means to save money. Sponsors say it would save up to \$5.5 billion. However, NFFE supports bills (H.R.3485) & (S.1910) that would allow domestic partners

to be eligible to receive insurance, family leave, survivor annuities, and other benefits for which spouses are eligible. It also supports a Parental Leave Act (H.R.616) that would grant Feds four weeks of paid leave when caring for a newly born or adopted child. Many others are listed on the NFFE website.

NFFE is headquartered in Washington, DC and consists of some 200 locals nation-wide especially from DOD, the Forest Service, Department of Veterans Affairs, GSA, Passport Service, National Park Service, and HUD. NFFE keeps its members informed through its newsletter "the Federal Employee" and website www.nffe.org with daily updates on Facebook page.

Our National NARFE office, over the years, has continued to work cooperatively with NFFE on issues of mutual interest.

ACTIVE EMPLOYEES - Bipartisan Agreement Reached on the Need for Hatch Act Reform

The Hatch Act, the piece of legislation which forbids active federal employees from engaging in political activity while on duty, contains a lesser-known provision which prevents state and local government employees from running in a partisan election if their current position is tied to federal funds. The extent of those ties, and the penalties for Hatch Act violations, were the main subject of a House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce hearing May 16.

Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, as well as all the witnesses present, agreed that the law, which hasn't been modified in nearly 20 years, is in need of reform in order to allow qualified individuals to seek higher office. A bill introduced by Rep. Elijah E. Cummings, D-MD, H.R. 4152, also garnered support among those present and may see movement in the future; Senator Daniel K. Akaka, D-HI, has introduced a similar bill, S. 2170. There is nothing in the current law preventing federal retirees from engaging in partisan politics, and neither piece of legislation seeks to change that. The Office of Special Counsel provides detailed information on the Hatch Act on its website: <http://www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm>.

Presidential Quote In Honor Of Flag Day

"I want the people of all the earth to see in the American flag the symbol of a Government which intends no oppression at home and no aggression abroad, which in the spirit of a common brotherhood provides assistance in time of distress."

Calvin Coolidge
30th U. S. President
1923 - 1929



NARFE Chapter 1122 Treasurer's Report for April 2012	
Balance as of 3/31/2012	\$3,522.85
Income:	
None	
Expenses:	
NARFE National Convention	60.00
B Smith (April Refreshments)	21.18
R Bannof (4/20 Bowie NARFE Meeting)	20.00
U.S. Postal Service (Annual Mailing Permit)	190.00
U.S. Postal Service (Mailing May Newsletter)	<u>53.83</u>
Total Expenses	345.01
Balance as of 4/30/2012	\$3,177.84
Submitted: Warren C. Wilcox, Treasurer	

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Chapter 1122 Website
www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

MD Federation Website
www.mdnarfe.org

NARFE National Website
www.narfe.org



Flag Day - June 14

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Emma E. Barnett

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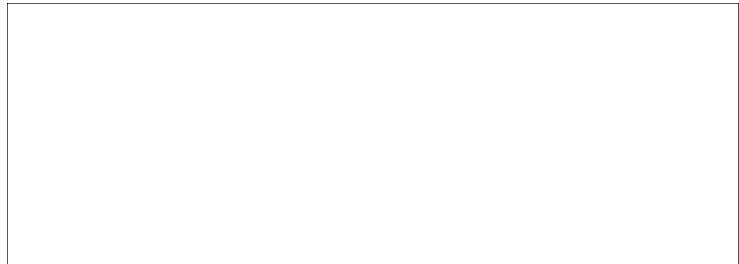
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NARFE Sponsored Line to Congress
1-866-220-0044

To contact Maryland Delegates and Representatives
Call 301-858-3000 or visit the NARFE Web Site
www.mdnarfe.org

To reach the Governor call
1-800-811-8336 or visit the Web Site
www.gov.state.md.us/mail

MARYLAND OFFICIALS & MORE

Martin J. O'Malley, Governor 1-800-811-8336
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Thomas Mike Miller, Jr., Pres./Senate 301-858-3700
Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House 301-858-3800
Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) 202-224-4654
Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD) 202-224-4524
Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-5th Dist.) 202-225-4131
Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (D-4th Dist.)
202-225-8699
President Barack H. Obama 202-456-1111
White House Web Site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/>

Inclment Weather Notice! When Prince George's County Schools are closed or opening late, the NARFE Chapter 1122 meeting will not be held.