



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

NARFE

CHAPTER 1122 NEWSLETTER

Northern Prince George's County Maryland

www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

March 2014

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EXECUTIVE BOARD

Richard Bennof, President
bennof4skins@aol.com

Dr. Howard Waterworth, 1st Vice
President /Legislative Chair
301-731-3063
waterworth99@comcast.net

Elaine Cameron, 2nd Vice
President/Membership Chair
301-792-7544
elainecameron@aol.com

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301-577-5407
deloresfgreen@verizon.net

Warren Wilcox, Treasurer
301-345-7437
wvwilcox@juno.com

Creavery Lloyd, Alzheimer's Chair
301-552-1219
cylloyd@netzero.net

Margaret Zanin, Chaplain
301-474-7427

Lee Shields, Newsletter Distributor
301-474-5321
swinenet1@verizon.net

Barbara Smith, Newsletter Editor
301-441-1989
bsg.smith@verizon.net

Program Chair
Vacant

Robert F. Haas, Public Relations
301-937-7987
happyanniversary@netzero.net

Melinda Scott, Service Officer
and Photographer
202-407-3484
mjscott11@verizon.net

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Vacant

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Robert Doyle, Immediate Past
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lynbob20770@yahoo.com

BILL TO END FEHBP INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

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

A Bill (H.R. 1780) to remove federal employees from the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program and require them to buy health insurance through the exchanges created by the Affordable Care Act was introduced in the House last April. It has 30 (R) cosponsors. NARFE opposes this Bill. House Ways and Means Committee Chair Dave Camp and 11 other Republicans are cosponsors amid rumors that Congress is seeking to exempt themselves from entering the exchanges, which they are mandated to do in 2014 under the Affordable Care Act. Active duty military and postal employees would be excluded. By removing active employees from the FEHBP and reducing the pool size, rates would skyrocket for retired Feds who would remain in the FEHBP, NARFE said. Furthermore, active Feds would no longer be eligible for FEHBP coverage in retirement because they would not meet the requirement that they be enrolled for their last five years. This Bill would mean that the only health plans available to Fed employees are those created under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or offered through a health insurance exchange. This Bill was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform where it remains. NARFE says it is unlikely that the bill will move through Congress, but encourages employees to contact their legislators via www.narfe.org and clicking on "Legislation."

Another Bill that could affect Feds is H.R. 3319 that was introduced in the House in October and would require the expansion of the FEHBP to all Americans. It has co-sponsors: 1 (D) and 8 (R). The Equal Healthcare Access Act H.R. 3319 is silent on many fronts, including how it would be implemented, how it would work within the Affordable Care Act, and whether non-fed enrollees would be in a

separate risk pool from federal employees and retirees. NARFE also opposes this Bill saying it exposes the coverage to the previously uninsured and would raise premiums for everyone in a single plan. It has also been referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform where it is likely to remain according to NARFE. NARFE will continue to monitor any progress on these Bills.

An update on Bill, H.R. 1367, which I described in the December 2013 newsletter, relates to prescription drugs and has 3 (D) cosponsors. It provides the OPM greater oversight authority over the prescription drugs and pricing methods of the FEHBP by requiring that pharmacy benefit managers return 99% of all rebates, market share incentives and other monies received from manufacturers for FEHBP business and caps prescription drug prices. It has now been referred to the House committee on oversight and government reform.

Another Bill related to Fed's health care is a postal reform S. 1486, which threatens the integrity of the FEHBP by removing postal workers and retirees. It also would eliminate FERS pensions for new hires. Like the other health Bills above, it has been referred to the Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee. It appears not to have enough support to approve it, and attempts to craft a revised Bill have also fallen short. From NARFE's perspective this is good news. Unless substantial changes are made to S. 1486, it means that enough senators are unwilling to sign on to a bad bill.

And finally H.R. 2748 would remove protections for injured postal workers among other changes. It has been approved by the House committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Again NARFE does not support this Bill.

PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Chapter 1122

Robert Doyle
Robert F. Haas
John Fleming

Chapter 2146

Irwin Neveleff
Marty Eiband
Emma E. Barnett

Chapter 264

Tom LoJacono

Total Chapter Membership January 762

Chapter Corner

Chapter 1122 welcomes the following new, prospective members and reinstated members for February:

New Member:

Jo Etta Hubbard

Prospective Members:

*Edna Brewington-Smith
Jacqueline Farmer
Sherrita Irby
Millicent Manning
Denise Patterson
Janette Shell*

Reinstated Members

*Hazel Cameron
Veronica Johnson
Gloria Kirk
Ellen Vandeusen
Ruth York*

New, reinstated, prospective or transferred members: your attendance would be greatly appreciated at the monthly meetings. Come hear interesting speakers, and meet and socialize with fellow chapter members.

We wish all sick and shut-in members a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you soon at the monthly meetings.

To all **March** Birthday Members
"HAPPY BIRTHDAY" from all of us!

Congratulations to **Ed Zipeto** the lucky winner of the 50/50 drawing at the February meeting.

If you have not done so, please mail your Bylaws and Constitution Ballot that was in the Chapter's February newsletter - TODAY. Let's have 100% participation.

Anyone wishing to attend the Region II Training Symposium 3/31 - 4/2 in Gettysburg PA please contact **Richard Bennof** at: **bennof4skins@aol.com**

IN MEMORIAM

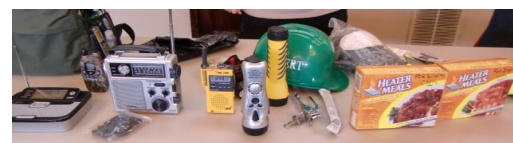
It is with sadness that we extend condolences to the family and friends of:

*John Balla
Thomas Butash
Charles Sloger*

A huge THANK YOU to **Bill Milligan** for his presentation on Emergency Preparedness. He advised us to be ready for any emergency. One item we may not think of is a can opener that works by hand (not electricity), since the power may be out. Also, include a supply of canned food that does not require cooking (like Spam, tuna, etc.) Shown below are some of the items he presented.



Photos By Melinda Scott



NARFE 33rd Biennial National Convention will be held on August 24-28 at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Fla. The convention theme is "NARFE Is In Your Future: Embrace the mission. Share the vision." In addition to electing a new slate of national officers, delegates will have several training opportunities at "Lunch and Learn" and "Breakfast and Learn" sessions, and the Orlando location promises a variety of interesting and fun activities for convention goers and guests. Visit NARFE's online convention site at www.narfe.org or get details in the March issue of the NARFE Magazine.

Remember to bring a neighbor, friend, co-worker, family member, active Fed or retired Fed to the monthly meeting to hear an interesting speaker and learn more about NARFE.

NARFE Chapter 1122 Treasurer's Report for January 2014	
Balance as of 12/30/2013	\$3,333.13
Income:	
Error	1.26
NARFE (Dec Dues)	<u>234.45</u>
Total Income	235.71
Expenses:	
Richard Bennof (Jan Refreshments)	10.79
US Postal Service (Jan & Feb Newsletter Mailing)	<u>137.95</u>
Total Expenses	148.74
Balance as of 1/31/2014	\$3,420.10
Submitted: Warren C. Wilcox, Treasurer	



THANK YOU TO PAST OFFICERS AND CHAPTER VOLUNTEERS

By Jana Over

National Volunteer Week, April 6-12, 2014 is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage in their communities. National Volunteer Week, a program of Points of Light and sponsored by Advil®, was established in 1974. Thousands of volunteer projects and special events are scheduled throughout the week. April 2014 is the 40th anniversary of National Volunteer Week, demonstrating the enduring importance of recognizing our country's volunteers for their vital contributions.

Chapter 1122 would like to take this opportunity to thank all past Chapter 264, 1122, and 2146 officers, committee chairs and member volunteers. Our records are missing many past officer names. For example, Chapter 264's President List begins in 1953, with the chapter's first President, Ernest Farwell. We have a complete record up to 1961-62, when Flora Baker served as President. Then there is a gap, from 1962 to the fall of 1987, when the President was Spurgeon Terry. Recent 264 Presidents you may

know included Evelyn Thrift (1993-95 and 2000), James Keefer, (1995-97), Maxie Phillips (1997-99), Erma Pellant (2000-01), Deborah Jones (2001-2002) and Tom LoJacono (2002-2013).

We are missing the names of Chapter 264 Presidents from the fall of 1962 to August 1987, and have gaps in the records for Chapter 2146. We are also missing nearly all other officer names (Vice President, Treasurer, etc.) for Chapter 264 and to a lesser degree, for Chapter 2146. Do you know someone who served as the Chapter 264 President between the fall of 1962 and August 1987 or served as a President of Chapter 2146 years ago? Or perhaps you know someone who served in another officer capacity for Chapter 264 and 2146. If you can help us fill the gaps in our officer history records, please call Jana Over at 301-779-5120 and provide her with the Chapter Officer's name, Chapter number, officer title, and approximate years in office. Again, thank you to everyone for your volunteer service both to NARFE and other organizations you support!

MARCH IS NARFE-PAC MONTH

March is the month designated to donate to NARFE-PAC, State and Federal.

NARFE-PAC is a separate, segregated fund of the Association comprised only of voluntary contributions from NARFE members specifically for political purposes.

NARFE-PAC remains one of our most effective tools for protecting the earned pay and benefits of our nation's hard-working civil servants, not just for the sake of federal employees and retirees, but to maintain the quality and reliability of government services.

For more information see the March issue of the NARFE Magazine and use the envelope provided to donate to NARFE-PAC. No donation is too small or unimportant.



VOLUNTEER WEBMASTER NEEDED FOR FEDERATION

Are you creative? Interested in learning and using web skills? The NARFE MD Federation is seeking a volunteer webmaster to optimize and maintain the new MD Federation WordPress website. This individual should demonstrate an ability to develop and maintain a website; have knowledge of or interest in learning WordPress; and be willing to perform overall general webmaster duties including additions, changes and/or updates to the website. Time involved: several hours a week to begin with but will gradually taper to a few hours a month. If interested or know someone who might be, please contact Linda Adams at: narfe409@hotmail.com.

New Monthly Alzheimer's e-Newsletter

Joseph Beaudoin, National President

In our partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, we are excited to welcome you to the new NARFE monthly e-newsletter provided by the Alzheimer's Association. This monthly e-newsletter will include articles on Alzheimer's, links to some helpful pages on their website, and an update on how close NARFE is to the \$11 million goal.

Their goal is to keep NARFE members informed, show their appreciation for all NARFE has done and help us see the Alzheimer's Association vision of a world without Alzheimer's.

Please review the first issue and sign up to receive the new NARFE monthly e-newsletter, by clicking the following link <http://www.alz.org/dm/fy14/narfe/jan.html>.

What's Your E-Mail Address?

If you are not currently receiving the newsletter monthly by e-mail and you would like to – we probably don't have your correct e-mail address.

Please update your e-mail address by notifying Membership Chairperson Elaine Cameron: elainecameron@aol.com

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Lanham, MD 20706

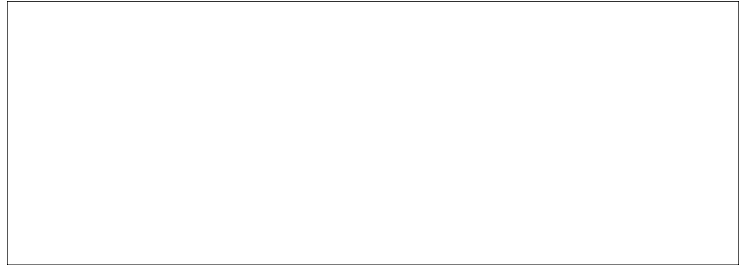
Chapter 1122 Website
www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

MD Federation Website
www.mdnarfe.org

NARFE National Website
www.narfe.org



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Upcoming Events
2014

- **March 12**
Chapter Meeting
- **March 31 - April 1**
Region II Training Symposium
Gettysburg, PA
- **May 5 - 6**
Federation Mini Convention
Bowie, MD
- **August 24 - 28**
NARFE National Convention
Orlando, FL

NARFE National Headquarters
(Direct Line)
1-703-838-7760

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

CHAPTER 1122 MONTHLY MEETING

March 12, 2014 at 1:30 PM

Greenbriar Community Center, Terrace Room
7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD 20770

Call office for directions 301-441-1096 Dial 0

SPEAKER

Jerry Irvine
Public Affairs Manager
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

"Major Programs and Initiatives"

Fats, Oils, Grease (FOG) Program
Can the Grease
Bi-County Water Tunnel
Water Main Breaks
Aging Infrastructure
Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO)
Customer Notification System

*All Are
Welcome*

Refreshments

Executive Committee Next Meeting - Wednesday, March 5 at Noon
Royal Jade Restaurant, 7401 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 (301) 441-8880
In Greenway Shopping Center (Formerly Jasper's)

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