

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/chapter | 122

NARFE Chapter 1122 3142 Gracefield Road #103 Silver Spring MD 20904-5854

October 2011

Volume 5, Number 8

Our State Legislative Committee at Work for Us Dr. Howard Waterworth, 1st Vice President & Legislative Chair

We are fortunate to have a very active State Legislative Committee of some 15 NARFE members who meet regularly throughout the year to plan strategies to convince State lawmakers for economic, social and cultural reasons that Maryland needs to create an environment which will encourage seniors to stay in Maryland. Some of them meet one on one with appropriate Senators and Delegates to convince them about the useful roles that NARFE folks play for the benefit of all in our state. Current Chair of the SLC is Ed Bice, Chapter 1747 Bowie-Crofton area.

This past year the Chair and other SLC members testified during the 2011 session of the General Assembly on a variety of bills including:

- Annual tax credit for purchases of long-term care insurance (HB 562 & SB 618)
- Combine reporting (SB 305 & HB731)
- Increasing Military retirement income exemption (HB 774)
- Public funding for General assembly elections (SB 567)
- US Government employees foreign earned income (HB 775)
- Favorable tax treatment of IRAs (HB 622)

The bills were heard in committee but unfortunately were not allowed to be voted on by committee members, with the exception of HB-622 Fairness in Taxation for Retirees Act. This bill would treat IRAs more favorably under Maryland tax code. The House Ways and Means committee gave an unfavorable report. The conventional thinking is that any bill that cost money would not have a chance for success.

During the summer the SLC reviewed actions taken by the 2011 General Assembly to revise its legislative objectives for next year. Members of the SLC have stressed the need for Maryland to create an environment which will encour-

age seniors to remain in this state. Many states recognize the value of their seniors and openly encourage senior immigration by offering tax incentives to retirees, ranging from total exemption from state and local income taxes, to reduced tax rates.

The SLC will make the above factors the basis for future legislative priorities by refocusing their efforts and strategy. They will brainstorm ways to get their message to other groups, legislators and the public as a means to reduce emigration to other states.

On another subject, NARFE is experimenting with the concept of an eChapter. This is an online chapter using headquarters staff and officers who are NARFE members. This pilot project is designed to allow Headquarters to evaluate what works and what doesn't. It in no way should threaten our regular chapters that continue to be the backbone of our association.

NARFE now has an Information Technology Advisor Committee that will provide expertise and assistance on information technology as it applies to our needs. Duties of the Committee will be to review information technology policies, procedures and organization structure, analyze the Association's operating systems and recommend upgrades. They will also review communications processes and procedures among Headquarters, federations and chapters and recommend a more holistic integrated strategy.

Thank You To

Our September Speaker

Eric Rittmeyer, CRNP, President Fidelis Mortgage

His presentation was on the benefits of reverse mortgages, eligibility requirements, tax free options with a lively question and answer period that followed. For more information you can contact him at 410-669-6501 x13 or www.reversemaryland.com.





WELCOME

SEPTEMBER
NEW MEMBER

Peggy S. Mitchell

REINSTATED MEMBERS

Bernadette Harris Carolyn Rainey

New, Transferred or Reinstated members please come to the meetings. Get involved. Join a committee or suggest new ways the Chapter can become a more active and productive organization.

Membership Total
September 2011

649

587 in Maryland 62 in Other States



IN MEMORIAM

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

Carl H. Boehme



September 50/50 Winner

Margaret Zanin



Next Meeting

Wednesday, October 12, 2011
at 1:30 pm
Speaker
Kacy Paide
Professional Organizer
The Inspired Office
"Getting Organized"

Greenbriar Community Building, Terrace Room 7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt MD Call the Office for directions - 301-441-1096 Dial "0"

Consumer Tidbits Various sources

The Federal Trade Commission has an easy-to-access national registry to stop most of the annoying telemarketer calls. Go to www.donotcall.gov to register on the internet, or call 888-382-1222. Be sure to call from the number that you want to register - this includes both land lines and cell phones. If you have several phone lines, call from each one. Keep in mind that the **Do Not Call Registry** cannot control calls from places you have business with, ones you have given permission to call, from tax-exempt nonprofit organizations, and calls that are not commercial, or do not include unsolicited advertisements. This means that you will still get calls from political parties, and sometimes "marginal" charities that sound similar to one of the well-known ones. Be careful.

If you are occasionally flummoxed by your **computer,** there is new free, innovative **help** at hand. The website, www.TeachParentsTech.org, was created by a young product manager at google for his parents. According to the March 2011 AARP Bulletin, "the site offers more than 50 two-minute videos with step-by-step instructions on everything from how to cut and paste copy to creating a blog." Just select the videos you want and they will be mailed to you.

If you do not know what to give a friend or relative, here are some **gifts** suggested by a 70-year old retired and widowed person to "Dear Abby." Give magazine subscriptions, newspaper fees, computer paper or ink, stamps, self-sealing envelopes, car washes, gas cards, special foods the recipient may no longer afford, or occasional cleaning help.



John Lydon, Newsletter Distributor Via Email Notification

Our Chapter is encouraging all members to receive the electronic version of the newsletter on line in pdf format and full color. It typically arrives earlier than the one delivered by mail. To receive a monthly notice by e-mail that our Chapter

Newsletter is available, send a message to:

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

Our thoughts and prayers are with all Sick and Shut-In Chapter Members. We wish you a speedy recovery.





To all October
Birthday members
a big
Happy Birthday
to You.
From all of us!



NARFE'S SPECIAL TRAINING NOVEMBER I Robert Haas, Public Relations Officer

The Maryland Federation will begin new training on November I. Instead of training for specific positions such as secretary, treasurer, or legislative leader, training will focus on Advocacy, Communication and Chapter Leadership. It will appeal to all who are interested in NARFE. The Federation will pay the \$20 registration for four members from each chapter. With 34 chapters they will pay \$680, which clearly indicates their support for this new training. Our chapter will pay the registration fee for all attendees over the four paid by the Federation. I urge you to attend if you are at all interested in the future of this chapter. You will get a very good lunch. You will be impressed with the talent and dedication of the teachers, and if you have never attended a Federation Meeting you will gain a new perspective on NARFE and what it is all about.

The training will be held at: **Bowie Comfort Inn Conference Center,** 4500 Crain Highway, Bowie, MD 20716. The Center is nestled off the U.S. Route 301 and U.S. Route 50 interchange. Plenty of free parking. If you would like to attend please contact: Robert Doyle, President, Chapter 1122, by phone 301-328-7598 or email lynbob20770@yahoo.com

A Daughter's Perspective - A Mother with Alzheimer's Creavery Lloyd, Alzheimer's Chair (A Message From a Long Time Friend)

When we realized that our mother was suffering from Alzheimer's Disease it had been going on for at least a year. We began to read everything we could find on the Internet about the disease.

In the beginning, we were able to appease her by catering to her every need. We had to make the decision to take her car from her. Next it was selling her house. All of that went very well except she wanted to keep everything and take it to my sister's house with her.

One day while drinking my morning coffee I had thoughts of "what is my mother feeling and thinking these days?" Here is a woman who would travel all around the world, a different location (maybe two) every year. How is she feeling that she is no longer independent? She now has to depend on me or my sister to take her places. The hardest step we took was placing her in an Assisted Living Facility. It seemed to be a very nice place and she seemed to enjoy being there. However, she kept

NARFE Chapter 1122 Treasurer's Report for August 2011

Balance as of 7/31/2011 \$2,623.06

Income:

NARFE Dues (July) 309.21

Total Income 309.21

Expenses:

None

Balance as of 8/31/2011 \$2,932.27

Submitted: Warren C. Wilcox, Treasurer

walking out because even though she has Alzheimer's she was a "negotiator" and could talk anyone into believing that she had an appointment and to please hold the door so she can leave. They began to medicate her to keep her docile; well, she literally became a vegetable and we moved her from there.

She is now in another facility with an Alzheimer's unit. We are very pleased with this location. She seems very happy. They engage her in lots of activities within the facility but she manages to keep her "in charge mode" and decides that she doesn't want to do that no matter what it is. She definitely has a mind of her own. I just wish I were able to get inside to know what she is thinking sometimes. When we (my sister and I) walk into the unit sometimes she will see us and walk to us crying. She can't tell us why she's crying but will say, "I'm so happy to see you. I thought I'd never see you again." But I still continue to wonder several things....what does she really feel about "doing nothing?" How does she feel about not playing cards with her friends? What is she thinking about where she is living (one room, and lots of strange people around her)?

She still recognizes my sister and me and one of my daughters but she does not hold coherent conversations. I love my mother very much and she still makes me laugh with some of her shenanigans, but I have so many questions.

Hopefully this story has touched your heart in some way and encourages you to donate to our NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.

CHAPTER NOTES

A hearty welcome and thank you to our chapter's new Chaplain, Margaret Zanin for volunteering to serve in this position.

Bob Haas volunteered to chair the nominating committee. All officer positions are up for election for 2012-2014. To have a name placed on the ballot for any officer's position please contact: Robert Haas by phone 301-937-7987 or email happyanniverary@netzero.net



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Permit # 3772

Chapter 1122 Website www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

MD Federation Website www.mdnarfe.org

NARFE National Website www.narfe.org





Columbus Day - October 10

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Secretary

Warren Wilcox 301-345-7437 wcwilcox@juno.com

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Chapter 2146
Irwin Neveleff
Emma E. Barnett

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Chaplain

Margaret Zanin 301-474-7427

Next Meeting See Page 2

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at 12 Noon
Royal Jade Restaurant
Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD

Important Telephone Numbers

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

MARYLAND OFFICIALS & MORE

Martin J. O'Malley, Governor	1-800-811-8336
Anthony G. Brown, Lieutenant Governor	410-767-3125
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

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

White House Web Site: http://www.whitehouse.gov/