



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Gaithersburg Chapter 581

Supporting most of the Montgomery Upcounty Communities since December 1956

SEPTEMBER 2014

Our Next Membership Meeting
Tuesday, September 23rd
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Rosborough Center, Rooms A & B
Asbury Methodist Village

Other Upcoming Events

September 18th (Thursday)

- Chapter 581 Board Meeting
Conley Hall, Trott Building
Asbury Methodist Village
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

September 22nd (Monday)

- Deadline for submitting articles
for the October newsletter

October 2nd (Thursday)

- Newsletter Assembly
Edwards-Fisher Building
Asbury Methodist Village
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

October 7th (Tuesday)

- MD Federation Board Meeting
Comfort Inn, Bowie, MD
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

October 23rd (Thursday)

- Chapter 581 Board Meeting
Conley Hall, Trott Building
Asbury Methodist Village
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

October 27th (Monday)

- Deadline for submitting articles
for the November newsletter

October 28th (Tuesday)

- Gubernatorial Debate
Rosborough Theater
Asbury Methodist Village
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Brief Chapter Meeting to follow;
see pg. 4 for details

October 30th (Tuesday)

- MD Federation Training
Comfort Inn, Bowie, MD
9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please put these dates on your calendar

THREE IMPORTANT WEBSITES:

**www.narfe.org • www.mdnarfe.org
[www.mdnarfe.org/chapter 0581](http://www.mdnarfe.org/chapter0581)**

AT OUR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD MEMBERSHIP MEETING TWO OF OUR CHAPTER'S DELEGATES TO THE 33RD NARFE NATIONAL CONVENTION, DICK AND MARTY STOMBOTNE, WILL DISCUSS THE CONVENTION'S PROCEEDINGS

Plan to attend our Chapter membership meeting on September 23rd to learn what went on at this summer's NARFE National Convention, which was held August 24th through August 28th at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, FL. We're looking forward to hearing our delegates' experiences and impressions of this very important convention. As always, guests are welcome.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joe Martin

Hopefully, everyone is having or had a wonderful summer. First I would like to take this time to update everyone that Cheryl and I have moved to Florida, but I will "officially" remain as Chapter 581 president until we find someone to take over the position. It has been a pleasure working with each and everyone and hopefully to continue until we find a replacement. By the time you receive this newsletter, Cheryl and I will have attended the NARFE National Convention in Orlando, Fl. I will update you in a future message.

The following offers a progress report on Chapter consolidation as of July 12, 2014:

Of the total ballots received (210), there was 199 "yes" votes, 6 "no" votes and 5 "no preference". At our July Chapter 581 planning meeting, it was decided that a committee from our chapter would meet with members of the Bethesda/Chevy Chase chapter to explore the possibility of our two chapters combining. At present, it appears that only Chapter 581 and Chapter 258 will pursue this idea in the immediate future. Chapter 581 Board members have

selected a committee which will consist of Dick Strombotne, Charlie Garfinkel, Gene Oliver, and, if scheduling permits them to attend such consolidation meetings, George Donovan, John Padan, and Larry Lange to coordinate and work with Chapter 258 to ensure a smooth transition. This process will probably take several meetings since there are certain factors that must be addressed if these two chapters combine, such as - new chapter dues; day of the month, time and location for the consolidated chapter meetings; newsletter publication and frequency; the name and number of the chapter; new chapter officers; as well as other factors to be considered and decided. I will keep you updated as we pursue the endeavor.

As always, the success of the chapter is based upon our volunteers. We need members to step up and volunteer to assist with such duties as membership, public relations, helping with the newsletter, and our Federal Legislative Committee. If you think you would like to take part in making this a **greater** organization, please contact me or one of the board members.

In closing, I would like to reiterate previous communications on the need for continued focus to increase membership and to contact your state and national representatives to voice your concerns regarding the protection of active and retired Federal employees' benefits.

50/50 Winners at the May 27th Chapter 581 Membership Meeting

To the Chapter 581 Treasury	\$16.00
First place Thelma Fletcher	\$ 7.00
Second place Joe Martin	\$ 5.00
Third place Guido Garosi*	\$ 3.00
Total	\$31.00

*Guido contributed his 3rd place winnings to the Chapter 581 Treasury – Thank you very much!

AUDIT REPORT

Dick Strombotne, Chair

On July 17, 2014, the Audit Committee (R. Strombotne, Chair, and Joe Martin, member), examined Gaithersburg Chapter 581's financial records maintained by Treasurer Larry Lange. (Many thanks to Marty Piper for hosting the audit at her home, and for providing coffee and doughnuts!). The Audit Committee used the F-131 "Checklist for the Audit of NARFE Chapter Funds" as a guide.

The financial records of revenues and disbursements were found to be in excellent condition. The checking account is kept in a federally insured bank. Two persons have signature authority. A random sample of disbursement records included signed approval sheets. The chapter's finances are reported to the Executive Committee at each meeting, are posted at each membership meeting, and are summarized in each newsletter. In summary, the Audit Committee thanks the Treasurer for his conduct of the Chapter's financial transactions and for his thorough record keeping.

NARFE'S MARYLAND FEDERATION WILL HAVE ITS FALL MEETING ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH IN BOWIE

Members who wish to attend the October 7th Board meeting should contact either Larry Lange or John Padan as soon as possible; our Chapter will cover the \$20.00 registration fee. Items on the proposed agenda include a report by a panel on the 2014 National Convention and an update on planning for the 2015 State Convention. This is an excellent opportunity to see how the MD Federation operates, to get overviews of NARFE activities in Maryland, and to meet fellow NARFE members from around the state. The MD Federation newsletter, including the most recent Fall 2014 issue, is available on its website: go to mdnarf.org, hold the mouse on "The MD Federation" on the top toolbar, and click on "Federation Newsletters" on the drop-down menu.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

For the months of May, June, and July, 2014 we gained 3 new members; 2 members transferred into our Chapter, and 3 transferred out of Chapter 581; 10 members passed away; 11 members were reinstated, and 35 members were dropped for non-renewal of their dues, for a net loss of 32 members:

Please welcome the following new members:

Brenda Hausman • Catherine Jameson-Hardy • Gary Palmer.

Please welcome back the following reinstated members:

Abdoulaye Bah • Louis Butler • Thomas Gleim • Edwin Hollins • Walter Pancik • Virginia Phillips • Kenneth Roberts • William Robinson • Irving Schmetterling • Jeremy Schwartz • Bruce Smith.

The following transferees should be made most welcome:

Julian Biggers • Guido Garosi.

We were sorry to learn of the death of the following members:

Mary Baker • Lillian Belew • Ellis Berne • William Denning • Joan Harris • Emil Hymowitz • William Mohr • James Pierce • Thomas Schneider • Sam Schwartz.

Often we are not notified of a member having passed away by their spouse or family, and may be so informed many months after that member's death. We are very appreciative when other Chapter members and friends provide us this information.

All of us should speak to both currently working and retired federal employees we know to get them to join NARFE, and any members we know whose memberships have lapsed should be urged to renew their memberships. Dues withholding is an excellent way for current or reinstated members to pay for their memberships. And, a membership in NARFE makes an excellent gift for a currently working or retired federal employee friend or relative.

THANKS TO THE JUNE NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY GROUP

Thanks very much to the following eight members who helped apply address labels and wafer seals to our June newsletter on Thursday, June the 5th (this was a short, four-page newsletter, so – no inserting a center page or folding!) We couldn't have done it without you!

John Padan	Joe Martin
Dick Strombotne	Marty Strombotne
Larry Lange	Charlie Garfinkel
Marty Piper	John Del Vecchio

Please think about joining us the first Thursday of most months to help fold, and apply address labels and wafer seals to our monthly Chapter 581 newsletter. The more persons we have helping us, the quicker this task goes – not only is this a big help to your Chapter, but you get to chat with several fellow 581 members, and – it's a lot of fun. We do our newsletter assembly in the ground floor library of the Edwards-Fisher Building on the Asbury Methodist Village campus beginning at 9:30 a.m.

And *many thanks* to our great diligent *proof-readers!*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Larry Lange, Treasurer

All Funds Summary, July 29, 2014

Checking Account	\$ 7,434.17
Certificate of Deposit (Restricted Chapter Life Membership funds)	\$ 2,551.64
TOTAL CHAPTER ASSETS	\$ 9,985.81
WORKING CAPITAL	\$ 7,434.17

GUBERNATORIAL DEBATE AT ASBURY ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 28

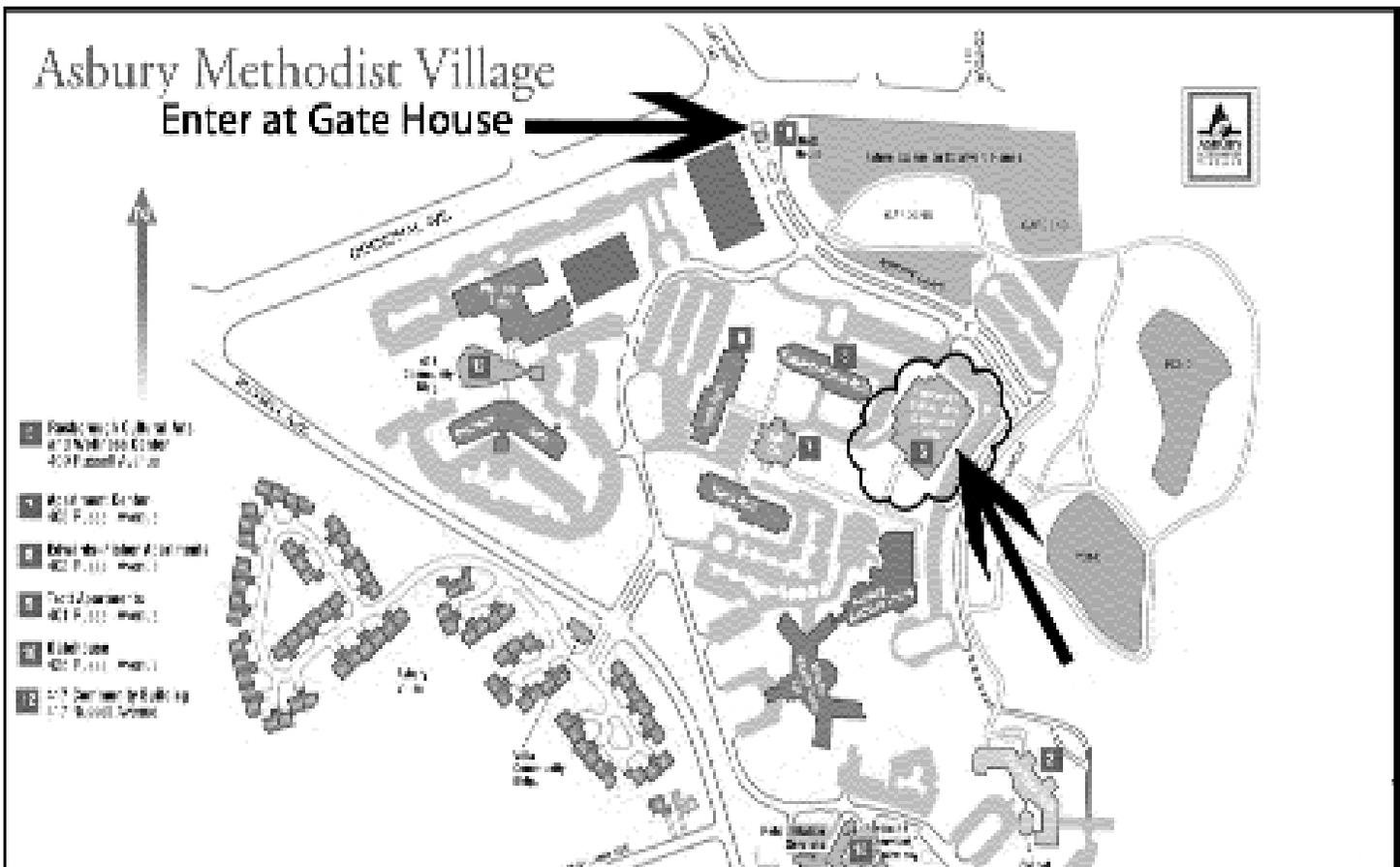
The Democratic and Republican Clubs at Asbury are sponsoring a debate between their parties' candidates for Maryland Governor. NARFE's Gaithersburg Chapter 581, which meets at Asbury, is serving as a non-partisan manager of the event.

The event will take place in Asbury's Rosborough Theater. It is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. and last one hour. As in previous debates, NARFE will distribute index cards to the audience so that written questions can be prepared. Cards will be collected and turned over to a screening panel to ensure that a variety of people have an opportunity to address a variety of topics. Moderator Dick Strombotne (Past President of both the Gaithersburg Chapter and the Maryland Federation of NARFE Chapters) will determine the order of use of the cards.

The event is open to all residents of Asbury as well as members of Gaithersburg 581 and other nearby chapters of NARFE. Coming just one week before the election, this exciting event should help all of us decide for whom to cast our votes for the next governor of Maryland. Be sure to come and participate!

Republican candidate Larry Hogan has accepted, but as of this newsletter's August 25th press time, Democratic candidate Anthony Brown has not committed. In the unlikely event that the debate has to be cancelled, we will notify you via email. For that purpose, please make sure that NARFE HQ has your address!

A brief meeting of Chapter 581 will follow the debate.



**CHAPTER 581 PROPOSED BUDGET
7/1/14 TO 6/30/15 AND 7/1/15 TO 6/30/16**

		Budget '13-'14	Actual '13-'14	Budget '14-'15	Budget '15-'16
<i>Receipts</i>	Dues	7,700.00	8,098.43	9,000.00	9,000.00
	Recruiting Awards	0	6.00	0	0
	Life Membership Dues	105.00	105.00	75.00	75.00
	50/50	200.00	159.00	150.00	150.00
	Donations/Miscellaneous	50.00	85.06	50.00	50.00
	Federation Assistance	150.00	0	160.00	0
	Ways and Means	0	0	0	0
	Total	8,205.00	8,453.49	9,435.00	9,275.00
<i>Expenses</i>	Banking Charges	20.00	0	20.00	20.00
	Newsletter	6,000.00	6,534.20	6,500.00	6,500.00
	Administrative Costs	300.00	675.13	300.00	300.00
	Recruiting/Retention	300.00	0	200.00	200.00
	MD Federation Dues	550.00	544.00	500.00	500.00
	Asbury Donation	800.00	800.00	700.00	700.00
	Programs & Picnic Rental	450.00	250.00	500.00	500.00
	Sunshine	75.00	0	75.00	75.00
	Miscellaneous	100.00	0	100.00	100.00
	United Seniors of MD Dues	50.00	0	50.00	50.00
	Convention Ads	200.00	250.00	0	250.00
	Convention/Training	300.00	285.00	1,000.00	300.00
	Mileage	250.00	94.45	150.00	150.00
	President's Discretionary	100.00	0	0	0.00
	Total	9,495.00	9,432.78	10,095.00	9,645.00

Sub Balance (Receipts less Expenses):

- 1,290.00 - 979.29 - 660.00 - 370.00

Pass Through Activity - 7/1/13 to 6/30/14

<i>Receipts</i>	Holiday Party	780.00
	Legislative Luncheon	240.00
	Picnic	0
	Other	0
		<u>1,020.00</u>

<i>Expenses</i>	Holiday Party	752.53
	Legislative Luncheon	226.60
	Picnic	0
	Other	0
		<u>979.13</u>

Sub Balance (Receipts less Expenses): + 40.87**Chapter Life Membership Fund - 7/1/13 to 6/30/14**

<i>Receipts</i>	New Sales	0
	Bank Interest	.25

<i>Expenses</i>	Dues Transferred	105.00
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**Gaithersburg
Chapter 581**

20837 Scottsbury Drive
Germantown, MD
20876-4187

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Chapter 581 Gaithersburg - Chartered December, 1956

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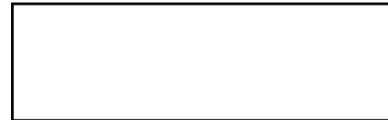
**Every Member Get A Member!
PROTECT YOUR RETIREMENT!**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**TIME VALUE MAIL!
PLEASE DO NOT HOLD.**

Three important Websites

www.narfe.org
www.mdnarfe.org
www.mdnarfe.org/chapter0581



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(Vacant)

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"Protect America's Heartbeat"

Captain, Chapter 581
(Vacant)

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(Vacant)

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