



# THE 1127 NEWSLETTER

CHAPTER 1127 ROCKVILLE, CHARTERED SEPTEMBER 26, 1969  
NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2016

### SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES 2016:

- MAR 8 (Tu) Chapter Executive Committee meeting, 10:00 am-noon
- MAR 22 (Tu) Chapter luncheon meeting, 11:30 am-1:45 pm, "Keeping Seniors Safe," Amy S. Kass, Montgomery County Government
- APR 4-5 Region II Training, Wyndham Garden Hotel, York, PA
- APR 12 (Tu) Chapter Executive Committee meeting, 10 am-noon
- APR 26 (Tu) Chapter luncheon meeting, 11:30 am-1:45 pm, "Sustainable Gardening," Maria Rojas, Montgomery County Master Gardener; Presentation BC/BS Distinguished Annuitant Award

**Please note:** Except as otherwise noted above, luncheon meetings are held at *The Village at Rockville, 9701 Veirs Dr., Rockville, MD 20850*. Executive Committee meetings are held at 2195 Stratton Dr., Rockville, MD 20854. Call Jim Zink, 301/424-8448, for directions.

**Directions to The Village:** From Rockville or I-270 Exit 5 take Falls Rd. south and turn right onto Wootton Pkwy. Take a slight left onto Scott Dr. (which becomes Veirs Dr.) and go for about 0.8 miles, passing Robert Frost Middle School. Turn right into the main entrance when you see the "The Village at Rockville" sign, bear left up to the main building, then left or right to park. If coming from the north, take Shady Grove Rd south, a left on Darnestown Rd., a right on Glen Mill Rd., go two blocks and turn right to stay on Glen Mill Rd., left on Veirs Dr., and a left into the entrance.

❄ **Snow Policy:** If Montgomery County schools are cancelled or delayed for two hours or more on the day of a luncheon meeting, the meeting will be cancelled.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Jennifer Ramsey

As many of you figured out, we did not get to hear from Maria Rojas, Montgomery County Master Gardener, about Sustainable Gardening, in January. Unfortunately, the lovely snowstorm caused us to cancel our January luncheon meeting. The irony is that she was originally scheduled to speak in April but was kind enough to change to January when the January speaker, Rosalind Kipping from Compassion & Choices had to reschedule. So, if we were lucky in February [I'm writing this before our February meeting and keeping my fingers crossed!], we learned a great deal about "Ensuring Self-Determination at the End-of-Life". Maria Rojas will speak in April as originally scheduled. Whew!

Now, our speaker this month is Amy S. Kass, from the Montgomery County Government, who will speak to us about "Keeping Seniors Safe." Her focus will be mainly on fraud, identity theft, and scams against seniors, but will also touch on other senior related topics such as physical safety.

Don't forget to purchase your \$50 raffle tickets for the series that begins this month. Remember, you don't have to be present to win!

I'd like to devote a good deal of this column to NARFE's Strategic Plan to "Secure the Future of NARFE". It runs 50 pages but, if you do nothing else, you MUST read the Executive Summary, just three pages. It should frighten you, as it does me, because we have only a very few number of years before NARFE will cease to exist if we don't make serious changes in how we conduct business.

"Continuation of the status quo at NARFE will not return the organization to healthier financial footing, especially if there are no membership increases or a greater percentage of revenue from non-dues sources. Looking ahead, the trends that have brought NARFE to its current situation will lead to more financial distress. Without some sustainable improvement in financial performance, the organization will continue its decline, leading to the eventual erosion of its ability to protect and serve members, a lack of operating viability, the depletion of its reserves, and eventual dissolution."

Here are "the NARFE strategic plan objectives which were created to guide the governance and management of NARFE through the next two challenging years:

1. Transform governance to be more efficient, effective, agile, consistent, and accountable.
2. Bolster NARFE's brand to increase awareness, eliminate confusion, and convey the value of NARFE.
3. Stabilize and grow membership to support effective advocacy and to deliver financial stability."

Unfortunately, "Continuation of the status quo at NARFE will not return the organization to healthier financial footing, especially if there are no membership increases or a greater percentage of revenue from non-dues sources. Looking ahead, the trends that have brought NARFE to its current situation will lead to more financial distress." We "senior" members need to cease to resist changes at the chapter, federation, regional, and national level because, "Without some sustainable improvement in financial performance, the organization will continue its decline, leading to the eventual erosion of its ability to protect and serve members, a lack of operating viability, the depletion of its reserves, and eventual dissolution."

To read the entire plan, or the three page Executive Summary, go to [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), click on "Member Log In", under "Standard Login" fill in your last name and member ID number (from the label on your narfe magazine or membership card), then click "Submit." Then click on the blue block "Strategic Planning." This should be our highest priority. WE CAN FIX NARFE!

*"Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened." - Winston Churchill, former British prime minister.*

### RESERVATION FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2016

Cost for luncheon is \$25.00 per person. Please make check payable to NARFE Chapter 1127 Rockville. Please, NO cash. Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservation(s).

**Buffet Menu:** Minestrone Soup, Cranberry Glazed Turkey, Herb Baked Rainbow Trout, Bread Stuffing, Steamed Vegetable Medley, Chef's Choice Dessert, hot/cold beverages. Vegetarian Meal by request.

Name(s) of member and guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ (please print clearly)

Mail this form and your check to: Nan Donnell, 14709 Chisholm Landing Way, North Potomac, MD 20878-4269. Checks must reach her by **Tuesday, March 15, 2016**. For more information call 301/762-9338.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**President:**

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**Vice President/Membership:**

Jim Zink, 301/424-8448, jimzinkosu51@yahoo.com

**Treasurer:** Jack Waters, 301/977-6444, jack\_waters@comcast.net

**Secretary:** Nan Donnells, 301/762-9338, nan88@verizon.net

**Past Presidents:** Allen Ford, 301/881-7166, allenford@verizon.net;  
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**Alzheimer/Lupus Coordinator:**

Steve Robins, 301/928-7435, slr11628@verizon.net

**Federal Legislative and NARFE-PAC Chair:**

Bruce Fowler, 240/743-8041, drtox@earthlink.net

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**\$50 Raffle,** Jack Waters, 301/977-6444, jack\_waters@comcast.net

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**Luncheon Check-in:**

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**Sunshine:** Willimina Lawrence, 301/795-9653

**APPLICATION FORM**

**\$50 MONTHLY RAFFLE DRAWING**

March 2016 - February 2017

NARFE Chapter 1127 Rockville

1 ticket - \$10; 3 tickets - \$25; 6 tickets - \$50

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Attached is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ tickets.

*Contributions to purchase raffle tickets are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.*

**ANNUAL \$50 RAFFLE SERIES**

This is the **FINAL** announcement of our **annual raffle** which we offer to our members, friends, and neighbors. These funds are vitally needed to meet chapter expenses.

**Drawings** for this series will be held monthly from March 2016 to February 2017, excluding July and August. One \$50 winner will be drawn at each chapter luncheon meeting, but winners do NOT have to be present. Fill out the application form, cut it out and mail it with your check (payable to NARFE Chapter 1127 Rockville) to Jack Waters, 701 King Farm Blvd. #436, Rockville, MD 20850-6179. **PLEASE CHOOSE TO PARTICIPATE** in our chapter's **major fundraiser**.

**MARCH IS NARFE-PAC MONTH** - Jason Freeman, *Political and Legislative Specialist, NARFE Insider, Vol. 4, No. 1, Jan. 2016 (edited)*

March is NARFE-PAC Month, a time for all of us to focus on NARFE's political action committee and its work. NARFE-PAC protects NARFE members' pay and benefits by raising and spending money to elect candidates who support the federal community. It is funded solely through voluntary contributions from NARFE members, not from our dues, which is why fundraising is critical. At our chapter luncheon in March, we will solicit your contributions. Bruce Fowler will happily take your donations. Complete the form wrapped around the March narfe magazine, write your check, and give them to him to forward. If you prefer, you may use the postage-paid envelope to mail directly to NARFE. To receive a lapel pin, just make a qualifying (but non-tax deductible) donation of \$25 or more.

**HEALTH COVERAGE (IRS FORM 1095B) - Irving Shapiro**

This form certifies to the IRS that the tax payer and any dependents claimed on his/her tax returns had the **minimum level of health insurance coverage** for 2015 as required under the Affordable Care Act. The 1095B forms are the responsibility of the health plans which should have sent one to the IRS and one copy to their enrollees. Retirees who received a form 1095B and found a mistake on it need to contact their health plan - not OPM.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** - Jack Waters

Balance, January 15, 2015	\$5,255.57
Receipts	788.80
Total to be Accounted for	6,044.37
Disbursements	332.56
Balance, February 15, 2016	\$5,711.81

**MEMBERSHIP** - Jim Zink

This report covers membership activity processed by NARFE HQ January 11, 2016 to February 10, 2016. Unfortunately we did not gain any **new members** or **reinstated members**, but we did have Honey S. Rosen **transfer in**. James A. Kuny, Catherine McGuire and Muriel Jones were dropped for **non-renewal**, but no members **transferred out**. Sy Frenkel, Linda Gabel, Benjamin Pilson, Steve Robins and Jeanine A. Roesch were sent their **second notices**. If you have received a second notice, please contact NARFE HQ toll free on 1/800-627-3394 to renew your membership. We are saddened to report that **Harold S. Lippmann passed away** and we extend our condolences to his family. Somehow NARFE HQ provided erroneous information last month that **Suzanne Beckner had passed away**. Unfortunately, it was her husband of 50 years, **William D. Beckner, who passed away**. Our apologies and condolences to Mrs. Beckner.

\* GUESTS WELCOME \*

EXECUTIVE MEETING:  
April 12, 2016

LUNCHEON:  
March 22, 2016

NARFE Chapter 1127 Rockville  
11801 Rockville Pike, Unit 309  
North Bethesda, MD 20852-2716

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

**NARFE**



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