



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES



Volume 11, Issue 3

Hagerstown MD

March 2019

From the Desk of the President

Fellow NARFE Members – The Maryland Federation of NARFE will conduct its 44th Biennial Conference May 5-7, 2019 at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City, MD. The purpose of the Biennial Conference is to announce the results of the One Member-One Vote voting process of the Federation Officers and the proposals for Bylaws, amendments, and resolutions, to install the elected officers for the next two years, to present speakers on educational topics appropriate to our organization and to exchange views with senior Federal and Maryland State official on issues related to the protection of current and retired Federal employees’ earned benefits.

The hotel offers a lot of amenities including Afternoon Tea and a bus to Ocean Downs casino. Crafts are available at the Dunes, Trivia, Jewelry Store and Zippy Bar. Reservations must be made by April 4, 2019 if you want to attend. Please contact me for more information.

Please don’t forget to vote in the MD Federation election. Information regarding the timeline for 2019 “One Member One Vote” process was distributed at last month’s meeting.

Patricia Nix, President, NARFE Hagerstown Chapter 306

The monthly membership meeting of NARFE Chapter 306 will be at noon **March 8, 2019**, The Western Sizzlin’, 17567 York Rd, Hagerstown MD.

Our featured speaker will be Eric Morrow, after high school, Eric received his Bachelor’s Degree in Finance from Towson University in 1991. Mr. Morrow has been an Investment Advisor Representative (“IAR”) with SFG since July 2018, and a Registered Representative with Summit Brokerage Services, Inc. (SFG’s affiliated broker-dealer) since July 2018. Prior to that, our speaker was a Financial Consultant with M&T Securities, Inc., from January 2007 – July 2018. Eric currently resides in Hagerstown, MD, with his wife and two children

Treasurer’s Report

Jan. 16, 2019	Balance		\$1,060.03
		Credits	\$ 188.00
		Expenses	<u>\$ 409.60</u>
Feb. 23, 2019	Balance		\$ 838.43

Pandi Reed, Treasurer

Secretary's Report: Minutes of NARFE Chapter 306 Membership Meeting – February 8, 2019

President Pat Nix welcomed 28 members and guests to today's meeting. Guests included J.T. Smith (Dorothy's son), Steve Burns (Randy's brother). Pat reminded us of: the 50/50 and free lunch drawings, the Alzheimer's collection can, the chapter Special Raffle, and canned goods donations. She reminded us to remember our waitresses. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation, all enjoyed lunch.

President Pat Nix introduced our guest speaker, Chapter 306-member Mike Barnhart, who spoke about his experiences during his 33-year career with the National Park Service including extensive travel, a few challenges, and many rewards along the way. Mike's positions along the way included: Land Manager at the C&O Canal NHP; Law Enforcement Ranger at Antietam and later Chief Ranger at Antietam; U.S. Park Ranger at the Regional Office in DC Investigating Environmental Crimes & Boundary Encroachment for 14 National Parks in region. Mike finished his career as a Law Enforcement Ranger at Catocin Mountain Park providing security for "Camp David". He became a U. S. Deputy Marshall for the 2002 Winter Olympics.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- a) March 10-13, 2019 – National NARFE Legislative Training and Report to Congress (now known as LEGCon 19) will be held in Alexandria, VA.; details to follow.
- b) May 5-7, 2019 – 2019 Maryland Federation Biennial Conference at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City, MD; room rate is \$98.35 (good for entire week); details will follow.
- c) Totem Pole 2019 – Wednesday, July 17, 2019; group ticket rate is \$35. The contract for 20 seats for the 2:00 p.m. performance of SOUVENIR has been signed and returned. Contact Barb Ware to reserve your ticket(s): barbware44@myactv.net or 301-331-2605.

OLD BUSINESS

- Chapter 306 is still in need of a NARFE PAC Coordinator. Training will be provided. Talk with President Pat or Vice President Ed about this.
- Don't forget to vote in the Maryland Federation election.

REPORTS

- Vice President/Legislative Chairperson Ed Reed attended the Maryland Federation's Board Meeting on February 5 and distributed the following from that event: (a) 2019 Maryland State Legislative Program; (b) Information about House Bill 327: Income Tax – Itemized Deductions; (c) Top Five Reasons to Give to NARFE/PAC; (d) Maryland Federation 1st Biennial Conference, May 4-7, 2019. He also (a) provided the Chapter 30 Advertising Agreement and (b) reminded us that March is NARFE/PAC month. Checks are to be payable to NARFE/PAC and given to Treasurer Pandi Reed.
- Secretary Barb Ware reminded all that the minutes of our January Membership Meeting appeared in the February 2019 newsletter and asked for acceptance by consensus.
- Treasurer Pandi Reed reported the following: (a) \$650.43 in checking account; (b) collected \$60.00 for the 50/50; (c) put \$200 in newsletter postage account;
- The Maryland Federal Board Meeting Alternate Voting Member Pandi Reed attended the February 5 meeting and (a) distributed and talked about the following Maryland Federation-related information: Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget for 2019 were passed; Proposal to Amend Bylaws; Chapters' NARFE/PAC Contributions; Profiles in Civil Service Golden Edition; list of area State Senators and Representatives; (b) gave Membership information to Dorothy Smith; (c) shared that the Federation hopes to give a \$700 scholarship (talk with Pandi for details).
- Membership Chairperson Dorothy Smith gave a report that can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.
- Special Raffle Coordinator Dorothy Smith's report: We now have 5 more drawings for our special Raffle of \$25 each month, ending with our June meeting. It is not too late to get your name in; you have to play to win. In June we will start the sale of September 2019 to June 2020 drawings. Thank you!
- Alzheimer's Co-Coordinator Charley Ware talked about Alzheimer's Association's *Advocacy Day*, February 21, 2019.
- Service Officer Tom Brudenell reminded all about getting Free Credit Reports from the two following OFFICIAL sources: annualcreditreport.com or 1-877-322-8288.

NARFE Chapter 306

Page 3

- Newsletter Editor Dot Buhrman was not with us; she had announced at the Leadership Team Meeting that **NOON ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2019**, is the deadline for the March newsletter.
- Public Relations Coordinator Joyce Chestnut continues to submit monthly meeting articles to the *Herald Mail*.
- Guest Speaker Coordinator Russ Wingerd's report: March – Eric Morrow, Financial Advisor; April – Buck Browning, Executive Director, Fort Ritchie Community Center; May – Kim Torsiello, Health- Related Issues. Talk to Russ about additional 2019 speakers.

DRAWINGS

- (a) J.T. Smith won the Free Lunch; (b) Pat Nix won the 50/50 drawing and donated her \$30 winnings back to the chapter; (c) Tom Brudenell won the Special Raffle of \$25.

NEW BUSINESS

- Attached to the agenda were: (a) Mike Barnhart Bio; (b) NARFE/PAC information; (c) CALL TO ACTION! POSSIBLE IMPACT ON YOUR BUDGET; (d) NARFE MEMBER DISTINGUISHED ANNUITANT AWARD and EMPLOYEES DISTINGUISHED ANNUITANT AWARD.
- Remember March is NARFE/PAC month!

OTHER

- Special birthdays were announced for tomorrow, February 9: Diane Hooper's 80th and Dorothy Smith's 85. Dorothy's son J.T. (a guest today) will celebrate his 58th on February 14.
- President Pat told us a Stepping On class will begin in March at the Senior Activities Center.

UPCOMING CHAPTER 306, MARYLAND FEDERATION, and NATIONAL NARFE MEETINGS

- a) Friday, February 22, 2019 – Leadership Team meets at the Commission on Aging, 10:00 a.m.
- b) Sunday-Wednesday, March 10-13, 2019 – National NARFE Legislative Training and Report to Congress (now known as LEGCon 19) will be held in Alexandria, VA.; details to follow
- c) Sunday-Tuesday, May 5-7, 2019 – 2019 Maryland Federation Biennial Conference at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City, MD

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Ware, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Some important information about "NARFE"; The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) was founded in 1921 with the mission of protecting the earned rights and benefits of America's active and retired federal workers. One of the largest federal employee/retiree organizations, NARFE represents the interests of 5 million current and future federal and postal annuitants, spouses and survivors.

With a mission statement like this, we need to keep NARFE strong especially in this time when our earned rights and benefits are being scrutinized to see how they can be cut. KEEP RECRUITING!

Dorothy C Smith, Membership Chair.

Special Raffle: Our raffle drawings are moving along with only 4 months left until summer break when we will begin the 2019-2020 drawings. This raffle is very important to keep our group informed about issues that are important to each one of us. Let's keep on selling. Watch for the new entry forms in the May or June newsletter.

Dorothy Smith, Raffle Chair.

FROM: Chapter-306's V.P. for Legislation -&- 2019-NARFE-PAC - Coord.

((By-default .. Our Chapter "Still-Needs-A-NARFE-PAC-Coordinator" -- Won't-You-Think-About-It ? - "It Only Requires About (2) Hrs./Monthly To-Write-A-Couple-Of-Lines - For-Our-Newsletter -&- A Word-Or-Two- At Our Monthly-Membership-Meetings" - We-Will-Train-Any-Volunteer !! ***

*** The Maryland Federation, National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association has thrown its support behind House Bill 327 (In Annapolis): Income Tax - Itemized Deductions. In reviewing HB 327 on the General Assembly's website - "Allowing an individual to itemize deductions to compute Maryland taxable income whether or not the individual itemizes deductions on the individual's federal income tax return; providing that, for an individual who does not itemize deductions on the individual's federal income tax return, Maryland itemized deductions shall be determined as if an individual itemized deductions on the federal income tax return; applying the Act to taxable years after 2018; etc." .. Should you have questions regarding HB 327's overall strategy, please contact Maryland Federation's State Legislative Committee Chair Paul Schwartz at pskyanks@aol.com. You can also show your support by calling the General Assembly at the toll free number 1-800-492-7122, Tell the operator who you are and what organization you are from, that you support HB 327 and why. ***

*** MARCH-IS-NARFE-PAC-MONTH, a time to spread the word of the critical role that NARFE-PAC plays in the fight to protect the earned pay and benefits of the federal "RETIREE" Community. As recent events have demonstrated, the need for a strong NARFE-PAC has never been stronger. The federal community has long suffered collateral damage from partisan battles, but we can help change the narrative through NARFE-PAC. ENSURE NARFE-PAC HAS THE STRENGTH TO FIGHT FOR FEDS/RETIREES .. BE A "SUSTAINER" - At: \$10.00/Month; you receive The Gold-"SUSTAINER-PIN" + The New: Stainless Steel-Drinking-Mug as A Thank-You ! NARFE-PAC - "SUSTAINERS" are crucial to strengthening NARFE's Political Influence. They reduce fundraising costs and continually grow NARFE-PAC each month allowing NARFE-PAC to contribute more money to candidates. NARFE-PAC "SUSTAINERS" are continually charged via credit card until they (Pledgers) ask headquarters to be removed from the program. ** Won't-You-Join: NARFE-PAC-AS-A-"SUSTAINER" ? Our Chapter-306, now has (2) "SUSTAINERS" !! ***

*** "IMPORTANT-CHAPTER-MEMBER-REMINDERS": ((A.)) ANY//ALL - NARFE-PAC: Donations ((All-Checks-To: "NARFE-PAC")) --Or-- "SUSTAINER"-Pledges ((W/Name, Credit-Card/Name/#)) - "ARE-NOW-DUE-TO: Chapter-306-Treasurer: Mrs. P.M. Reed, = On//By: 09 MAR (At our Membership-Meeting). Mr. Reed (Chapter.-V.P.) = Will Deliver: All-Chapter-306's-Donation - Checks + Any/All-"SUSTAINER-Pledges = To: HQS. NARFE's-Coord./Mr. Ross Apter, at The LEGcon-19-Mtg. in VA. on: 10 March, for "All-Proper-Donation-Recording". ((B.)) To: "BUILD- STRENGTHEN-ADVOCATE-LEAD" .. @ .. The Maryland NARFE Federation's 1ST Biennial Conference ((MAY 5-7, 2019)) in: Ocean City, Md. = CALL: The Dunes Manor Hotel -&- Suites, 2800 Baltimore Ave. (O.C., Md. 21842) = "MUST-CALL: BY-APR.-4TH ((For: The SPECIAL ROOM Rate: \$98.35--ALL-WEEK)) -- "ALL: Ocean-View-Rooms W/Porch -&- Rocking-Chairs" !! ((C.)) -- The Ocean-City-Biennial-Conference-Registration-Fee: \$50.00 ((Includes: Breakfasts/Lunches - Mon/6TH -&- Tue/7TH)) ..+.. \$45.00-Mon/6TH-Banquet-Fee ((Includes: Music -&- Installation-Of-New-Federation-Officers)) .."PLEASE":-Send-A-Personal-Check ((To: NARFE-Chapter-306)) - "ON-OR-BEFORE: 29 MARCH, 2019, ..To:..Chapter-Treasurer-Mrs. P.M. Reed; she will deposit-All-Monies ..And.. Send-A-Combined-Chapter-306-Check ((For-Each-Event))-To: MD. Federation's-Treasurer, = On/Before-02 Apr, 2019 - For-Our-Chapter's-Proper-On-Time-Conference-Registration(s)! ((D.)) All-Ocean-City-Conference-Attendees -Are: "Encouraged-To-Register-For-(3)-Extra-Nights ((Before//After-The-Conference)) = At - The - "Special-NARFE-Conference-Rate" !! ((E.)) "Anytime-For-NARFE-Legislation-Advocacy"--You May: OBTAIN - The Hotline: This weekly advocacy message is emailed to NARFE members, posted on the NARFE website ((NARFE.ORG ..or.. MdFederationNARFE.org)) and available to NARFE members via telephone by calling 1-800-456-8410 and selecting option 4. If any questions: Call: 1-800-456-8410 and Select option 3. *** Thank-You;

Ed Reed, Chptr.-306's 1ST Vice President.

Chapter Weather Policy

The policy of NARFE Chapter 306 is, if; bad road conditions cause The Washington County Public Schools to cancel its classes NARFE 306 will not hold its planned meeting. But, if the schools announce a delayed start, Chapter 306 will hold its planned meeting. The Board of Education announces weather related closings and delays on local TV and radio stations, hand held devices as well as a post on their web site.

Our next Business Meeting will be Friday, March 22 2019. (New Schedule) 10:00 am at the Senior Activities Center & Offices of The Washington County Commission On Aging, 535 East Franklin St. Hagerstown MD. We plan to have Lunch following our meeting, *location to be determined*. You are welcome to join us for the meeting as well as lunch, Dutch treat.

PAID AD SECTION

We encourage you to check out our sponsors!

Commented [DB1]:

Tuell's Painting

- Interior & Exterior Custom Painting
- Drywall Repairs & Finishing
- Pressure Washing
- Licensed & Insured
- Lead-Safe Certified

Jim Tuell
MHIC# 100204

240-520-6765

WESTERN SIZZLIN
RESTAURANT

- USDA Choice Steaks
- Succulent Chicken
- Delicious Seafood
- Country Style Buffet
- Farm Fresh Salad

17567 York Road, Hagerstown, MD. 21740

Sharpsburg PHARMACY

Brian M. Hose, PharmD
Owner / CEO

17316 Shepherdstown Pike
Sharpsburg, MD 21782
p: 301.432.7223 or 800.354.0478
f: 301.432.4423
e: sharpsburgrx@comcast.net www.sharpsburgpharmacy.com

EPIC
Rx

Miss Mobile Massage, LLC

Residential, Corporate Office & Event
Massage Services

www.missmobilemassage.net

1-240-310-3693

