



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES



Volume 11, Issue 6

Hagerstown MD

June 2019

From the Desk of the President

Fellow NARFE Members, I hope all our Moms had a wonderful Mother’s Day and I’m wishing our Dads a Happy Father’s Day.

The following are a few items worth repeating: REAL ID and MD DRIVERS LICENSE

Post 9/11, Congress passed legislation that requires enhanced security standards for all state issued drivers licenses and identification cards. REAL ID requires that each state and their ID cards be compliant prior to October 1, 2020 in order for individuals to travel by commercial aircraft or to have access to federal facilities.

One time only, REAL ID requires all ID/license holders to submit proof of identity documents to the state DMV. This includes proof of any name changes, proof of age and state residency. Typically, U.S. birth certificates, or passports, social security cards and two examples of MD residential address will suffice. There may be a \$20 charge. For more details, a handy check list or to make an appointment you can visit www.mva.maryland.gov/realid.

NARFE Members who have e-mail may have received the following message.

Dear NARFE Members,
An upcoming article in *NARFE Magazine* will examine how an increasing number of federal employees and retirees are addressing the challenges of providing or arranging care for aging older parents, family members, and other adult dependents *other than* spouses. We know this is an issue for many of our members, and we’d like to hear more about useful resources with regard to the care giving needs of adult family members that you can offer other NARFE members who face similar challenges .If you would like to share your experience with this topic, we’d greatly appreciate responses to this survey: www.narfe.org/caregiver. It’s ok to skip some questions, as long as you answer questions 7&8. You can also send a response to us about your care giving experience at communications@narfe.org.

New Association Management System Launches 1 June. NARFE is changing the way they interact with you over the web! In the coming weeks, NARFE will launch its new Member Experience site. It will replace the current OAM system, which is used by NARFE federation and chapter leadership. Featuring improved navigation and more streamlined access to the NARFE resources you need, the website also allows members to easily and securely update their personal information. Federation and chapter leaders will generate and download reports via "My Portal."More details will follow.

My first year as Chapter President is coming to an end and I am looking forward to the next year. You welcomed me as President and I enjoyed working with our Leadership team, our support team, and our wonderful members. Thank you for being there with me and for your support and suggestions.

Patricia Nix, President, NARFE Hagerstown Chapter 306

Treasurer's Report

April 19, 2019	Balance		\$1,358.86
		Credits	\$ 246.00
		Expenses	<u>\$ 255.47</u>
May 23, 2019	Balance		\$1,349.39

Pandi Reed, Treasurer

Secretary's Report: Notes from the NARFE Chapter 306 Membership meeting on May 10, 2019.

Meeting was called to order at noon and the pledge to the flag was led by President Pat Nix. Invocation by Randy Burns and lunch followed.

Pat introduced our speaker, Kim Torsiello, the Clinical Educator at the Washington County Commission on Aging.

Kim's presentation was very informative and included many programs, training and information offered by the Center that included: CPR/First Aid, Prevention, Walking with Ease, Community Safety, Balance and Strength, Diabetic Prevention, Handling Stress & Stress Eating, Active Living Every Day, Healthy Eating, Vision and Pharmacy. Membership and services are not limited to Washington County Residents so the membership and services are available to Residents in neighboring counties and states that are age 55 and up. Currently there are 1750 members at the Senior Center.

Ed Reed offered the information that "The Center "graciously provides a meeting room for the NARFE Leadership Team monthly without charge. The Commission web site is www.wccoaging.org.

Reports:

VP/Legislation - Ed Reed

Provided handouts on current issues and reminded the group of Open Season coming in the fall.

Treasurer – Pandi Reed

Balance: \$1215.49

Financial Books are in the Audit stage.

Membership - Dorothy Smith

Reminded the group to keep their personal information up to date and the location of the resources to do so.

Special Raffle - Dorothy Smith

The 2019-2020 Raffle has gotten off to a great start and with everyone's participation will continue to be a great help with the Chapter's financial stability.

Newsletter Editor – Dot Buhrman

Request ALL reports and information be submitted to her by or before noon on June 1, 2019.

NARFE PAC – Ed Reed

Referred to information in the NARFE Magazine and reiterated the fact that we still need a PAC Coordinator for the Chapter.

Guest/visitors at the meeting were Bob and Martha Harshman, Bob is a member of the Frederick Chapter.

Special Raffle Drawing winner was Barb Ware.

Free Lunch Drawing winner was John Hess.

50/50 Drawing winner was Bob Harshman.

John Hess offered information concerning the reconstruction of destroyed WW 2 Records in the St. Louis fire. He is available for further information; please contact Pat Nix for John's contact information.

Notes taken by Dorothy Buhrman in the absents of Secretary Barb Ware

Membership Report

I have been asking for members to keep their names, addresses, phone numbers and chapter information up to date. In the front of the NARFE magazine near the bottom of the 2nd and 3rd columns on page 2 there are ample instructions for contacting NARFE to join, renew your membership or find a local chapter with a toll free number. You can also change your address, phone number or email listing. Once again I would encourage you to look over and read your magazine to find the quickest way to answers for any of your questions about your NARFE organization.

Dorothy C Smith, Membership Chair.

Special Raffle

We have gotten off to a good start with our raffle for September 2019 through June 2010. Twelve (12) members have participated so far but I am sure you realize that this is a team effort and we can do better yet. Keep up the good work and keep me busy getting the new entries trimmed and folded after the June meeting when this year's (current) entries will be shredded and replaced with the new ones. Thank you to all who have participated.

Have a safe and happy summer, see you in September.

Dorothy Smith, Raffle Chair.

Legislative Report

NARFE Testifies:

(1.) On May 15, NARFE Staff Vice President for Advocacy Jessica Klement testified before the National commission on Military, National and Public Service at a hearing focused on the need for hiring employees with critical skills in up-and-coming fields - such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) - and how to attract individuals with these talents to civil service.

(a.) Klement's opening remarks highlighted the important role benefits play in attracting top talent to the federal service and in staying competitive with the private sector.

(b.) Klement noted: We All, good NARFE Members and Retirees, should Contact our members of Congress today and urge them to support the Federal Employees Paid Leave Act of 2019, H.R. 1534 and S. 1174, which would provide twelve weeks of paid parental leave for federal employees.

(c.) Klement urged the Commission to abide by three key principles when considering changes to federal benefits: maintaining overall compensation at an equivalent or greater value; only applying prospective benefit changes to future hires; and preserving Retirement Security for public servants (NARFE's Mission)!

(2.) NARFE Additionally Testified:

(a.) NARFE President Ken Thomas testified before the House Committee on Oversight and Reform Subcommittee on Government Operations regarding: Further exploring the proposed merger of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and General Services Administration (GSA) as part of the administration's reorganization plan.

(b.) Margaret Weichert, the acting director of OPM, announced that she plans to propose legislation that would begin merging the two agencies. The proposed legislation would transfer OPM's legal authorities to an unnamed office within the GSA and create an expanded policy-focused personnel office at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

(c.) NARFE has serious concerns with the proposal and will continue advocating for full congressional oversight before any merger is implemented. Take action now and urge your members of Congress to ensure that the reorganization plan undergoes thorough congressional oversight.

(3.) The above "Legislative Information" is taken from NARFE's (Electronically-Sent) E-mail of Mid-May, 2019 - "Legislative Hotline". If you have any questions regarding the information in NARFE's Hotline, and wish to: Advocate your opinion on any Congressional Items, personally, Please email NARFE's Advocacy Department at advocacy@narfe.org or Call: 1-800-456-8410 and select option 3. - To: Contact your Members of Congress; they can Help ALL!

Ed Reed, NARFE Chapter 0306, Vice President for Legislation.

Service Officer Report

Text from article in FedSmith June NEWSLETTER

Postmaster General Megan Brennan told reporters last Friday things are getting worse for the U.S. Postal Service and she sees no end in sight to the red ink. When asked how long it would take for the Postal Service to return to profitability if Congress passed legislation that included her proposals for stabilizing its financing, Brennan responded, "Well, it's a sizable gap – a \$125 billion net loss over 10 years. We can aggressively manage it and try to control costs where we can, but we cannot return to financial stability absent regulatory reform." Brennan said the Postal Service is working to finalize by July a 10-year plan to "identify initiatives necessary to operate long-term financially sustainable models" for the Postal Service. So far, she is long on urgency but short on actionable ideas. Full article is available at: <https://townhall.com/columnists/brianmcnicoll/2019/05/16/its-time-finally-for-the-postal-service-to-figure-out-what-its-products-cost-to-deliver-n2546433>

Tom Brudenell, Service Officer

POSTAL SERVICE WARNS OF FAKE DELIVERY NOTICES: (Taken from Brandi Vincent's May 20, 2019 Article in: "Nextgov") - Be cautious of attempted or intercepted package notices with links and attachments, the U.S. Postal Service's inspector general said. The U.S. Postal Service's Office of Inspector General published a warning regarding "bogus emails" from bad actors posing as USPS. The spam emails entice readers to click a link or attachment, which installs a computer virus that steals personal information. "in today's world of package tracking and interconnectivity, an email from the U.S. Postal Service or even our Inspector General regarding mail delivery might seem legitimate," a blog post on the IG's site said. "That's what the scammers want you to think." According to the post, the emails are usually regarding an attempted or intercepted package delivery or online postage charges. They contain links or attachments that, when opened, install the virus. Customers who receive any suspicious-looking emails should not click on any links or open the attachments. "Like most viruses sent by email, doing so will activate a virus that can steal information--such as your user name, password, and financial account information," the post said. "Simply delete the message without taking any further action." In a separate but similar post release4d earlier this month, USPS said the Postal Inspection Service is working diligently to stop these emails and protect users' information. **Contributed by Edward D. Reed**

Membership meeting at the Western Sizzlin'

Noon on Friday, June 14, 2019. Our scheduled Guest Speaker will be Eddie Peters.

Eddie joined our community after he and his wife, Melissa, moved from El Paso Texas to Hagerstown in June of 2017. Mr. Peters has served families and small business owners with **LegalShield** for 20 years, providing affordable access to the quality legal services that we all deserve.

He and Melissa are thrilled to call Hagerstown their home, and consider it a privilege to share information with you today that has benefited many households, and he's hopeful it will benefit you as well.

Our next Business Meeting will be **Friday, September 6, 2019**, 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.

***** **Ed Reed** is our Birthday person who will celebrate his Birthday in July. Happy Birthday Ed *****


PAID AD SECTION

We encourage you to check out our sponsors!

Tuell's Painting

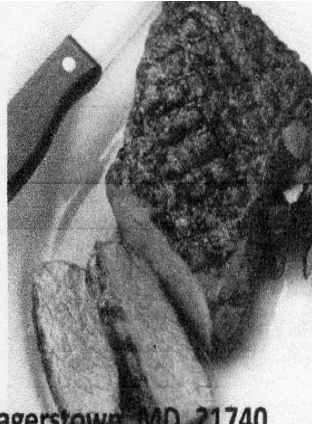
- Interior & Exterior Custom Painting
- Drywall Repairs & Finishing
- Pressure Washing
- Licensed & Insured
- Lead-Safe Certified

Jim Tuell
240-520-6765



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

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