



# MARYLAND FEDERATION

## NEWSLETTER

FALL 2017



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Dr. Gary Roundtree

NARFE is dedicated to protecting the earned rights and benefits of America's active and retired federal workers. On this premise, we shall begin by gathering bold and visionary ideas, from our Chapter Presidents, Chapter Officers and Federation members, which we shall plan to implement in the next two years. We shall seek collaboration with all Federation members across Chapters, to develop actions for our common goals. Our joint actions will produce bolder results.

When we took the solemn oath in Ocean City, to humbly become your leaders, we swore to serve each one of you, our Federation members. This is my vision, mission and goal, for all our Federation members for the next two years. We shall create a member-centric approach to delivering our services. We shall attempt to be more accountable and more efficient.

During the next year, Vice President Dr. Sudha Haley and I together shall plan to visit every Chapter in our Federation, during one of your Chapter meetings. Our aim is to report, in person to our members, our defined vision, mission and targets, and receive from members your ideas, recommendations and level of satisfaction with our leadership.

Your Federation's Executive Committee will develop your ideas and recommendations and take actions to bring them to fruition. We shall translate your ideas into initiatives, prioritize them, and focus on having them serve as guiding principles for our efforts, especially for the training of our current and future Federation's Chapter leaders and members. We shall oversee implementation and send you quarterly progress reviews and reports. We shall spur momentum and continue the process linking and sharing with greater collaboration among each other across Chapters.

To prepare our calendar, we request Chapter Presidents to send us your available dates for our meeting with your members. We plan to begin our Grassroots Advocacy starting in September.

**DR. GARY ROUNDTREE SR.**

## Federation Directory

### Executive Committee

President	Dr. Gary Roundtree	443-929-7045	<a href="mailto:groundtreesr@hotmail.com">groundtreesr@hotmail.com</a>
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Past President	Ted Jensen	301-845-2088	<a href="mailto:tjensen.narfe@gmail.com">tjensen.narfe@gmail.com</a>
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### Contacts

(See additional Contacts/Committees on [Federation Website](#))

Alzheimer's/Lupus Coordinator	Barbara Jacobs	410-969-5980	<a href="mailto:gb1519@verizon.net">gb1519@verizon.net</a>
Chapter Development	Bernie Goldsborough	301-737-1315	
Fed. Employees Edu. & Asst. Fund Coordinator	Eleanor Kaul	410-896-4354	<a href="mailto:eekaul@comcast.net">eekaul@comcast.net</a>
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Service Officer	Vacant		
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NARFE National Headquarters		703-838-7760	<a href="http://www.NARFE.org">www.NARFE.org</a>

### Chapters and Presidents

126	Western Charles/Indian Head,	Ed Rice	1522	Susquehanna .....	Harold Forst
126	Co-Presidents .....	Ron Bush	1734	Howard County .....	Stephen Huza
251	Annapolis .....	Carla Duls	1747	Greater Bowie/Crofton .....	Jerry Kursban
258	Western Montgomery County	Charles Garfinkel	1770	Bel Air .....	James Wood
306	Hagerstown .....	Ed Reed	1887	Wheaton/Glenmont .....	Ron Shansby
409	Frederick .....	Elinor Abrell	1888	White Oak .....	Stuart Sklamm
410	West-Mar .....	Donnie Gibson	1892	Aspen Hill .....	Linda Cohen
422	Laurel .....	Barbara Hemming	1936	N.W. Baltimore Metro,	Barbara Cuffie
969	St. Mary's County .....	Joe Luskus	1936	Co-Presidents.....	Bessie Johnson
1127	Rockville .....	Jennifer Ramsey	1972	Waldorf/La Plata .....	Neil McGrath
1143	Leisure World .....	John Moens	2166	Eastern Baltimore Area .....	Jerry Kerner
1260	Southern P.G. County .....	Bettie J. Hill	2262	Upper Marlboro .....	P.A. Jeffries
1363	Bay Area .....	Jo Anne Groves	2274	Ocean Area .....	Eleanor Kaul
1372	Tidewater .....	Gerry Phillips	2306	Carroll County .....	David Pyatt
1466	Calvert County .....	Greg Stottlemeyer			
1519	Glen Burnie, Co-Presidents	Don Bender			
1519	.....	Bob Minghini, Sr.			

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## LEGISLATIVE

*Dr. Sudha Haley*  
*First Vice President / Legislative Director*

### LEGISLATIVE REPORT



After having served our Federation as your Legislative Committee Chair, I was genuinely motivated when our Federation leaders inspired and encouraged me to serve you as our Maryland Federation's 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. And, when you unanimously selected me at the Convention, I felt truly humbled. My pledge to each of you is that I will work tirelessly to be responsive and accountable to you, and serve you for the next two years to the best of my ability.

I will continue meeting with you, facilitate and support your ideas, and engage you more fully in our Federation's legislative dialogue and activities. I pledge to deliver innovation, inclusiveness and diversity among our ranks and leadership.

We know our Maryland lawmakers are passionate defenders of the federal workforce, and support our mission. However, we must continue to stay vigilant and in close contact with them and their staffs. We have to actively remain engaged in the 2018 budget negotiations process as federal employee retirement programs are targeted with proposed cuts and changes. We have to continue communicating through our letters and calls to our lawmakers and their staffs.

Our leadership vision is to improve our effective advocacy, and enhance public trust and confidence in us. Thus we are endeavoring to positively shape all lawmakers' views of our Federation and federal workers and retiree members. To reach our objective, we have embarked on our first 2017 Federation publication of ***"Profiles in Civil Service."*** At the Convention in May, I addressed your Chapter leaders to request our members to write a paragraph detailing our significant impact during our Federal service. These paragraphs would describe our work experience, showcasing our commitment as federal employees and retirees.

These "Profile" paragraphs would help lawmakers better understand how we as civil servants have accomplished our government's mission; How we managed taxpayers' money in serving their needs, and using our nation's resources efficiently and effectively; How, in our civil service life, we have sacrificed our private interests to permit the nation's good to progress; and How we have protected and kept America safe and secure and improved Americans' living standards.

We asked our member-authors, in their paragraphs, to illustrate how and why normal government workers (not necessarily superstars) have developed innovative solutions to our nation's biggest problems; and, how our acts of amazing courage, dedication, contributions, patriotism and hard work ethics have

improved the quality of life for Americans.

To develop our current “Profiles,” we convened a Profiles Editorial Board and received training from NARFE Headquarters National Magazine Editor **Susan Boswell**. We are preparing to produce and publish our first edition of our Federation’s “**Profiles in Civil Service**” in September 2017. Your Senate Leaders (SLs) and Congressional District Leaders (CDLs) are encouraging you to join us in September as we return to Capitol Hill to present our “Profiles” to our lawmakers. We will announce the exact date and times when meetings are scheduled.

Our NARFE Legislator Champion, Democratic Whip, Maryland’s own Congressman **Steny Hoyer** (District 5) has written the Foreword for our “Profiles.” Our NARFE National President **Richard Thissen** and National Executive Director **Barbara Sido** have written an Introduction for our “Profiles.” If you have not yet submitted your paragraph, please enrich our understanding of your federal service by sending your paragraph to your Chapter President for our next publication of “**Profiles in Civil Service**,” 2018. \*\*

#### MARYLAND FEDERATION PROFILES EDITORIAL BOARD



L-R: Ted Page (Graphics Designer), Patricia Farmer (Secretary), Dr. Bruce Fowler (Federation Legislative Committee Chair), Susan Boswell (NARFE National Magazine Editor), Dr. Sudha Haley (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President) and Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr. (President)

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*Bruce A. Fowler, Ph.D., A.T.S.  
Chair, Federal Legislative Committee*

#### FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (FLC) REPORT

As we enter the fall of 2017, the earned compensation and retirement benefits of the NARFE Family of Current and Retired Federal Employees are under attack by some members of Congress and the current administration in the name of saving taxpayer monies and shrinking government. It should first be noted that Federal employees and retirees have already given up billions of dollars in compensation over the past

decades to offset the Federal Deficit. This approach has placed an unfair financial burden on the Federal Employees and their families by forcing them to shoulder a disproportionate share of the costs of operating the government. In addition, it has also acted as a discouragement in attracting able young persons into the Federal workforce at early career stages. These practices are hence jeopardizing the future safety and well-being of our country, since all of us depend on the skills of the Federal employees, to watch over a host of essential national infrastructure issues such as the safety of drinking water, food and drugs, the air we breathe, roads, airline travel, national defense, infectious diseases, food production, and forests, just to name a few. Federal employees usually handle these important issues in a quiet and efficient professional manner such that we rarely hear about them. Success in these matters is measured by what did not happen. There is hence a great deal of success across a wide range of essential societal functions occurring every day due to the dedication and professionalism of Federal employees. A sampling of the contributions of Federal employees in Maryland is presented in the first edition of the Federation's "Profiles in Civil Service," which is now being printed.

As the incoming Chair of the Maryland NARFE Federal Legislative Committee and member of the NARFE/MD State Legislative Committee, I plan to make every effort to highlight the many contributions of Federal employees in Maryland, and make sure that both our elected officials and the public at large appreciate these contributions. BUT- I cannot accomplish these goals by myself and will ask for the help and assistance of all NARFE members in Maryland going forward, since we are all in this evolving situation together.

In closing, I would note that we are very fortunate in Maryland to have a very progressive and supportive Congressional delegation who will appreciate the contributions of Maryland Federal employees and retirees if we give them the stories of our contributions. My hope is that if we are successful in this endeavor, Maryland NARFE can act as a model for NARFE Federations in other states since the issues we are addressing here are generic for all Federal employees and retirees. \*\*



*Paul Schwartz*

*State Legislative Committee Chair*

## **STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (SLC) REPORT**

Imagine, if you will, that you are a female high school senior waiting to be asked for a date to the prom. Imagine that you continue to wait with no invites coming. What to do? Now, fast-forward some fifty some years. Imagine, if you will, that you are still a senior, but this time a senior citizen, and instead of a prom date, you are waiting for your state government to give you a long-awaited tax break. Imagine that you continue to wait with no tax break coming. What to do?

Not ever being a female high school student, I don't have much advice for that situation. I do have some advice for the senior citizens of Maryland: STOP BEING TAKEN FOR GRANTED BY YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS!

As most of you know, during the 2016 legislative session in Annapolis, there was a bill introduced to offer some tax relief for seniors. That bill never made it out of committee. In 2017, the situation grew worse since not one of our elected officials, from the governor to every state delegate, thought it important enough to sponsor a bill to provide tax relief for seniors.

As we enter summer recess with the legislative session in Annapolis having concluded, now begins the season for political fundraising and seniors are a prime target. Now begins our opportunity to hold their feet to the fire and hold them accountable for taking us for granted and our votes.

If you find yourself in the position of attending a fundraiser, please remember to ask your legislators seeking your contribution: "Why did you NOT support tax relief for seniors during the 2017 legislative session?"

It is no longer enough for them to take your money and your vote for granted. It is not enough for them to tell you how much they love seniors and how much they do for seniors. Put them on the hot seat and do not let them off the hook when it comes to senior tax relief.

When they respond to your question, and they will, with the response that they most certainly DO support tax relief for seniors and have always supported tax relief for seniors, but that there was no tax relief bill to support, hit them with this follow up: "If you support tax relief so strongly, why did you not introduce your own senior tax relief bill?"

When they tell you they support tax relief but the BUDGET does not support it, hit them with this: "If there was enough money for tax relief for first responders, hometown heroes and the military, then there was enough money for tax relief for the constituency that needs tax relief most, seniors!"

If you aren't seeing your health care costs rising and your incomes remaining stagnant, then maybe you don't need tax relief. If, however, you are like most of us and do see costs rising and incomes remaining stagnant, then now is the time to voice your concerns.

Keep in mind that any tax relief for seniors is also mitigated somewhat by the increased spending that benefits small businesses specifically, and the state economy in general, and generates increased sales tax revenue for the state as well.

AND, most importantly, remember this: If we do not speak up for ourselves, NO ONE ELSE WILL! To access the State Legislative Committee homepage and access sample letters and other relative information, please use the link provided below:

[www.mdnarfe.org/the-maryland-federation/committees/legislative-state/](http://www.mdnarfe.org/the-maryland-federation/committees/legislative-state/)

The link will provide you direct access to all of the many documents that serve as the basis of our state legislative program.

**Contacting Your Maryland Legislators:** To find out who represents you in the Maryland State Legislature, go to [www.mlis.state.md.us](http://www.mlis.state.md.us). Under **Contact Your Legislators**, click on "**Finding your legislators using a street address or zip code.**" Fill in the form with your address and ZIP+4 ZIP Code. You will learn your legislative election district, your Congressional district, and the names of elected officials. Click on each name for a picture and background information. Election District maps may be accessed at the same site.

## MEMBERSHIP



*Edward Reed*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Membership Director*



***Recruit Prospective Members!***

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As your newly elected Maryland Federation 2nd Vice President, it is my honor to publish this, my very first Membership article.

Since "Recruitment" is one of our primary missions as active NARFE members, I open this article with our newly approved (15 May 2017) Maryland Federation/NARFE BYLAWS, Article III - Membership:

Section 1. All NARFE members residing within the state of Maryland are members of the Federation and retain all membership rights upon payment of dues as prescribed in the NARFE Bylaws. Additionally, NARFE members residing outside the state of Maryland who elect to join chapters within Maryland shall be members of the Federation with all membership rights.

Section 2. Those members who choose to belong to Chapters within Maryland shall be referred to as Chapter Members.

Section 3. Those members unaffiliated with Chapters shall be referred to as National Members.

N.B.: I will have more information on NARFE memberships, types of membership renewals, NARFE Forms' revisions/updates in future MD Federation News. There are a lot of questions, only now being addressed, by NARFE National.

Now For The Good News: From Monica Williams, Deputy Director of Membership Marketing at NARFE National:

"For every NEW member recruited from September 1 through December 31, 2017, the recruiter will receive \$10 AND be eligible for monthly prizes throughout the contest as well as the GRAND Prize, an Apple Watch." (Hopefully, our MD Federation will also reward each Recruiter, as it has in past years.) "As we are all working toward the common goals of increasing NARFE membership and engaging members in our mission, we encourage members at all levels to spread the word and get involved in this important effort. Please publicize the 2017 Membership Drive in your newsletters, on your websites and at meetings. Frequent reminders can help keep members focused and excited about the program." More information on the Contest will be printed in the October issue of *narfe magazine* and on the NARFE website at [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).

With all the above in mind, we should all know about and use NARFE's new F-135/Membership Brochure with Application, as well as the F-85/Gift Membership Application, the F-123/Federal Employees Pop Quiz, the F-126/10 Worst Mistakes Federal Employees Can Make and the M-2 Prospect Information Cards (Use giveaways to collect names and addresses). These are just a few key membership forms available from NARFE National, using Form F-18/04-17, Requisition for Printed Supplies. Go to: NARFE.org; obtain the F-18/Requisition; mail it to NARFE Supply Section, 606 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-1914 or FAX to 703-838-7781. Allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery.

NOW: My new "2-Year Membership Theme" - It's Time To Recruit Your U.S. Postal Service Delivery Person, Soonest!

In conclusion, a couple of important reminders for all MD Federation NARFE Recruiters:

1. M-2 Cards are preprinted cards with designated areas for the name, address and email of potential members. Even if you have given a new prospect an F-135/application, quickly return the M-2 Cards to NARFE Headquarters.
2. All MD Federation Recruiters are encouraged to visit: "Tips, Tools, and Templates," resources found in The Officer's Resources Section of the Online Activates Module (OAM).
3. Contact NARFE National Membership at 800-627-3394 for any recruitment and retention needs/challenges.

That's it for this edition. THANKS for your membership support. Get busy with recruitment of your mail delivery person or Post Office personnel. Remember the Sept. 1 - Dec. 31, 2017 Recruitment Contest!

## REPORTS, NEWS, EVENTS AND INFORMATION



*Evelyn Kirby  
Region II Vice President*

### REGION II UPDATE

Let me assure you that there is considerable NARFE activity underway. Please go to [narfe.org](http://narfe.org) for several important updates. First, check out the Strategic Planning banner for postings on activities of the Strategic Planning Committee (10 dedicated members, one from each of NARFE's ten regions). Under Resource Library, Headquarters, you can read minutes of National Executive Board (NEB) meetings. Be sure to remind other members that this and all other items on [narfe.org](http://narfe.org) keep them current on relevant matters. Also under Resource Library, 2017 Federation President's Meeting, find all presentations from Jacksonville, Florida, July 11-13.

You should not miss these:

- National President Annual Report of 2016 (Richard Thissen)
- National Secretary/Treasurer Annual Report of 2016 (Jon Dowie)
- NARFE Situation Analysis, June 2017 (Strategic Planning Committee (SPC))
- Strategic Planning Update (Jon Dowie, Chair, SPC and SP Team)

- NARFE Strategic Federation Framing (SPC)
- Sido Keynote Presentation (Barbara Sido, Executive Director)
- Membership Marketing – 2017 (Bridget Boel, Dir. Marketing)
- Marketing – 2017 (Monica Williams, Dep. Dir., Membership Marketing)
- Business Development (Jennifer Bialek, Dep. Dir., Business Development)
- Legislative Update (Jessie Klement, Dir. Legislation)

The Federation Presidents Meeting was held at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront. Information will be out soon about the 2018 National Conference (formerly called National Convention) to take place there August 26-29, 2018. Details will be in *narfe magazine*, online and shared in meetings. For a draft content preview, see Ms. Bialek's Jacksonville presentation mentioned above. The July *Insider* emailed to leaders has key dates for 2018 balloting, e.g. December 15 for resolutions and candidate intentions.

Also hold the dates of June 11-12, 2018 for the next Region II Training Symposium—possibly to be renamed the Region II Academy. This will be at the Wyndham Hotel, York, Pa. Plan to go and encourage others to attend.

Budget for such @ \$99.90/night including fees/taxes, for up to four (4) persons per room. Registration will be in the \$80-95 range, which will cover all group meals and agenda discussions. The one 'official' overnight is the evening of June 11, but the group guest room rate will be in effect for three days before and after June 11. Learning sessions on NARFE's mission and functions will form the agenda. Speakers will be leaders in these subjects and include HQS presenters.

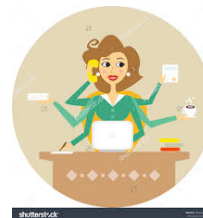
Several key HQS staff changes were highlighted recently in *narfe magazine*. Also, NARFE has just contracted with Colette Trohan, AGreatMeeting, Inc. to be the Association's National Parliamentarian.

I am delighted to note that the 2018 NARFE Calendar will feature the fine work of Maryland photographers: Carol Moyer, Chapter 251 Annapolis; David Harrah, Bel Air; and Carol Driver, Chapter 1734 Howard County. Congratulations!

~~~~~



*Pat Farmer, Secretary*



## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Thanks to all the Chapters that have updated their officer rosters (F-7). Keeping this information up-to-date is critical to my being able to provide you with the most current information in the Federation Directory for the October Board Meeting.

Summer wasn't much of a hiatus. I have been very busy with NARFE/MD activities; among them, serving on the Profiles Editorial Board and editing/reviewing different iterations of "Profiles in Civil Service;" following up on Chapter audits and bank account compliance statements; preparing the Call Letters to NARFE/MD's 2017 Fall Board Meeting; working on the Federation's Fall Newsletter; and responding to requests from our Federation President Dr. Gary Roundtree.

I continue to serve as the NARFE/MD representative to the Maryland Gerontological Association (MGA) Board of Directors, and was recently elected Vice President for Administration. I mentioned in a previous column that as MGA Membership Chair, I had drafted a survey for members to obtain feedback on the annual conference, networking breakfasts, forums, social media, website and their likes and dislikes about the organization. We ended up including the survey in each attendee's 2017 Spring Conference package, meaning we received responses from both members and non-members. We had 96 respondents out of 123 people who attended the conference. Results provided us a good understanding of people's interest in various forms of social media; received information on future speakers and topics of interest to attendees; received good marks on strengths of MGA and learned of some areas that need improvement. We were very pleased that many attendees volunteered to help with conferences and other forums. Needless to say, I was very happy with the results of the survey!

See you at the October 3 Federation Board Meeting in Bowie. ●●

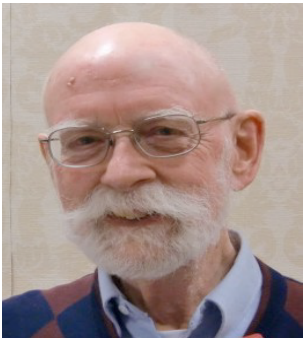
**Fall 2017 Federation Newsletter:**

In order to free Linda Adams from her newsletter duties as Editor over the last seven plus years, and to give her more time to spend with her mother who is ill, I took on putting this issue together. It doesn't have the professional look Linda gives it, but at least it has the important information our members need to know.

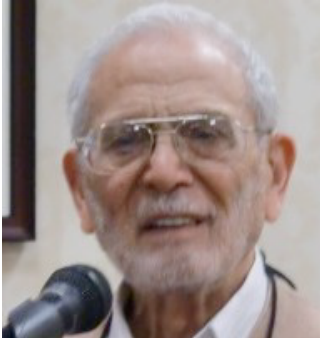
Pat Farmer

**WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR** to replace Linda Adams. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**  
~~~~~

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE**



John Stackpole



Sajjad Durrani

Co-chairs John Stackpole and Saj Durrani

New Federation Bylaws

In December 2016, we got word from NARFE Headquarters that the Federation's Bylaws had to be amended in order to accommodate the One Member One Vote (OMOV) decision at the 2016 National Convention. Unfortunately, the information was lacking in specific details. However John, as Resolutions Committee Co-chair and Parliamentarian, went ahead and made a start, guessing at their intent.

The rest of this report is by Saj, as Co-chair. And, summarizes all the work done by John to come up with the final version of our Federation Bylaws. John thought it was unnecessary to update two separate 2009 documents – a Constitution and a set of Bylaws – so he started by combining them, and correcting a few inconsistencies and other problems. Being also a Parliamentarian, he aimed to follow the standard format for bylaws found in Robert’s Rules (RONR), and tossed in some “improvements” to the way Maryland NARFE operated. During this process, the Draft Bylaws were circulated to the full Resolutions Committee by email, and their suggestions were included as appropriate.

We thought we were done when John had produced what we called the Early Spring Draft Bylaws. However, around that time NARFE HQ produced a specific set of guidelines, which required substantial changes to the Draft. Region II Vice President Evelyn Kirby provided us a lot of guidance in revising the Draft, and through her, Jon Dowie, NARFE National Secretary/Treasurer, also helped us in this effort. The end product was fully in compliance with NARFE’s OMOV requirements.

Since the rules from 2009 were still in effect, approval of the final product required a three-step process at the 2017 Maryland Federation Convention. Thus, as the first step, the “Early Spring” draft of the combined constitution and bylaws was moved as a “General Revision” for adoption as a single set of Bylaws. As the second step, the specific OMOV Amendments were moved and adopted; and finally the “Main Motion” as amended – the Final version of the (single document) Bylaws – was adopted.

NARFE HQS has approved the Final Bylaws and they are now posted on the Maryland NARFE website ([www.mdnarfe.org](http://www.mdnarfe.org)). Our Federation is probably the first to have accomplished this goal. Additional changes may be needed as we enter the OMOV era, but they will have to be set aside till the run-up to the 2019 Maryland Federation Biennial Meeting.

In conclusion, I, Saj, invite all of you to join me in a toast to “John the Scribe” for compiling our New Bylaws, and to Evelyn and Jon for “Scrubbing” the Draft. And, perhaps we should call this report an Ode to the Scribe and the Scrubbers!

~~~~~



*Eleanor Kaul*  
*Chair, Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund*

NARFE Scholarship Awards  
c/o FEEA  
3333 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 300  
Lakewood, CO 80227

**FEEA UPDATE**

The Federal Employees Education and Assistance (FEEA) Fund administers the NARFE scholarship program. A \$1,000 scholarship is awarded to a high school senior. Each Region receives six (6) scholarships.

The 2017 Maryland scholarship winner is Andrew Kowalewski, University of Maryland Baltimore County, sponsored by John Schanberger, Chapter 1770 Bel Air.

In 2016 Maryland had three winners:

- Courtney Broadnax, of Silver Spring, Indiana University Bloomington, daughter of Carole Broadnax, Silver Spring, Chapter 1888
- Andrew Brown, of Rockville, University of Maryland College Park, grandson of Richard Meyers, Silver Spring, Chapter 1888
- Tae Vaughn Buie, of Edgewood, Widener University, grandson of Emery Thompson Sr., Abingdon, Chapter 1770

2018 scholarship information will be in the February 2018 *narfe* magazine and online at the NARFE website. NOW is time to start the application process. For additional information, obtain a copy of the updated “Guide to NARFE Annual Scholarship Award Program” (F-105). For a copy send an email to [scholarship@narfe.org](mailto:scholarship@narfe.org) or download it from or call Headquarters. The deadline for submission is in April 2018.

FEEA also manages a disaster fund for NARFE members. An award can be up to \$500 and the money does not have to be repaid. Donation information is in the magazine or at the NARFE website. \*\*

**2017 FEHB FORUMS**

**SPONSORED BY CONGRESSMAN JAMIE RASKIN**

Congressman Jamie Raskin is continuing the FEHB Forums previously held by Congressman/now Senator Chris Van Hollen. Here are details on the forums:

- Friday, Nov. 17 – 9 a.m., Holiday Park Senior Center, Wheaton, Md.
- Monday, Nov. 20 – 7 p.m., Executive Office Building, Rockville, Md.



***PR***

***PR***

*Barry Grier*  
*Public Relations Chair*

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT**

This fall there will be a series of Health Benefit Fairs throughout the federal community, which will give NARFE chapters an opportunity to meet and greet a number of active federal employees and those nearing their retirement date. This makes for an ideal situation, not only recruitment of new members but also to enlighten members of the federal community on NARFE and our mission to protect their retirement rights and benefits.

These benefits fairs are an excellent public relations opportunity as well to spread the word about what we are all about and gives each chapter located where the event is being held a chance to address those in attendance and distribute our magazines and other materials as an introduction to our organization. These events represent fertile ground for NARFE public relations. Never more has there been such attacks on the federal community and

uncertainty among active and retired federal employees.

The health benefits fairs are held all across the Maryland /DC area and most within our local chapter territories. When alerted to an upcoming benefits fair each chapter will be given public relations materials as well as recruitment brochures to assist you in your efforts. And, if you're lucky, I may even join you at your booth!

For instance, one of the first of these events will be launched on October 27 at Fort Meade, during its Retirement Appreciation Day celebration and health fair. NARFE has always been welcomed at this event and if you plan to attend, please contact me at 410-586-9828 or Ed Reed, Membership Director, at 301-739-1641. \*\*

## FINANCIAL



*Dick Strombotne*  
*Treasurer*

### **Maryland Federation Financial Summary – Jan. 1 to July 31, 2017**

INCOME	
Income – State convention – Sales, Registration, Banquet	\$12,220.00
Interest income	15.63
Ten (10) % funds – National Dues	31,087.41
Other income	440.00
CD Interest	23.46
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>43,786.50</b>
EXPENSES	
Administration, General Routine Expenses	\$1,490.94
Chapter Assistance	844.16
Convention, Maryland State	26,344.34
Executive Committee	3,766.92
Federation Board Meeting	3,602.35
Legislation – Federal	1,919.77
Legislation – State	1,895.32
Membership Recruitment	725.00
Newsletter	510.23
United Seniors MD (USM)	127.80
Web Site	83.40
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$41,310.23</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME – EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,476.27</b>

Net assets consist of \$84,172.22 in Bank of America Savings checking, and CD accounts and \$\$8,161.96 In InFirst FCU savings account: total is \$\$92,334.18

# AROUND THE FEDERATION

## FEDERATION FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ADMINISTERS OATH OF OFFICE TO ROCKVILLE CHAPTER 1127 EXECUTIVE BOARD



PHOTO BY: Tony Mead, Chapter 1127

Far left: Sudha Haley, Maryland Federation 1<sup>st</sup> VP / Legislative Director

Front row: Jennifer Ramsey (President), Guy Beltz (Alzheimer's Coordinator), Nan Donnells (Secretary), Jim Zink (Vice President/Membership/Newsletter Distribution)

Back row: Linda Silversmith (Luncheon Reservations), Jane Pisano and Elizabeth Debelius (50/50 Coordinators), Irv Shapiro (Past President/Past Service Officer), Jack Waters (Treasurer), Henry Mulzac (Assistant Treasurer), Bruce Fowler (Federal/State Legislative Chairs), Al Ford (Past President/History Committee Chair/Photographer)

## SERVICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR - 2017



Maryland Federation President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr. presents Howard Dew of Bay Area Chapter with his award for Service Officer of the Year (2017). This is the second year in a row that Howard Dew has been named the Maryland Federation Service Officer of the Year. Congratulations, Howard!



Randy Burns, NARFE Hagerstown Chapter 306

NARFE Hagerstown Chapter 306's Summer Picnic /Luncheon on June 9, 2017 was at Skycroft Conference Center near Boonsboro, Md. Our speaker for this event was chapter member Randy Burns. We enjoyed his informative presentation on the history of his collection of Revolutionary Flags including the Serapis/John Paul Jones Flag pictured.

This is a flag like the one used on-board the captured British ship, "Serapis," in 1779, Captain John Paul Jones. This ship was captured following the famous sea battle between the "Serapis" and the "Bonhomme Richard" on which the latter's flag staff was blown away; the British Captain asked if Jones had struck his colors; "Struck, Sir? I have not yet begun to fight!" replied Jones.

Besides the unconventional use of blue stripes as well as white and red, if you examine the picture closely you will see there are 12 eight pointed stars and one seven pointed star on the flag. It is also nearly square. Although it was flown as a U.S. Ensign and was recognized as such by a foreign nation, it did not meet the Congressional description of U.S. flags under the Flag Resolution of 1777, which specified "alternate red and white" stripes.

Randy has the total of 47 years of active Federal Employment, which includes his Military Service and years with U.S. Postal Service. Since retirement in 2006, Mr. Burns stays active and involved volunteering at his church, Reeders Memorial Home in Boonsboro, and his community of Keedysville, Md. \*\*

## AROUND THE REGION

Join NARFE Region II for the NARFE Association's **ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH FUND CRUISE**. Family and friends welcome.

**CARNIVAL PRIDE**, Oct. 28- Nov. 4, 2018, 7-Night Exotic Caribbean Cruise from **Baltimore**

**Port of Call: Baltimore**; two sea days; Grand Turk; Half Moon Cay; Freeport; sea day

**Rates include:** Cruise, government fees and taxes, gratuities and donation to Region 2 NARFE Federations' Alzheimer's Research Fundraising Cruise.

**Rates Starting at:** 8E-Balcony, \$1,170 pp; 8D-Balcony, \$1,160 pp\*; 8C-Balcony, \$1,150 pp\*; 4K-Inside, \$950; 4E-Inside, \$940 pp\*; 4D-Inside, \$935 pp\*; 4C-Inside, \$930 pp\*. Oceanview; Jr. Suites and Ocean Suite rates are available upon request. Single, Triple, and Quad staterooms rates are available upon request.

**Travel and Cruise World**, 71 Lake Link Circle, S.E., Winter Haven, FL 33884; 1-800-330-7461;

Email: [info@travelandcruiseworld.com](mailto:info@travelandcruiseworld.com); Website: [www.travelandcruiseworld.com](http://www.travelandcruiseworld.com).

**For a cruise informational flyer:** Contact Lou Katz, Region II Alzheimer's Chair, [loukatz@optonline.net](mailto:loukatz@optonline.net).





**National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association**  
**Maryland Federation of Chapters – Chartered April 5, 1956**  
**Maryland Federation Newsletter**



Protect Your Retirement

Maryland Federation of Chapters  
Dick Strombotne  
310 High Gables Drive, Apt. 205  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878-7424

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***CALENDAR OF EVENTS***

**2017**

October 2	Federation Executive Committee Meeting, Bowie, Md.
October 3	Federation Board Meeting, Bowie, Md.
October 27	Federation Training Day, Bowie, Md.
November 17	Representative Raskin's FEHB Forum, 9 a.m., Holiday Park Senior Center, Wheaton, Md.
November 20	Representative Raskin's FEHB Forum, 7 p.m., Executive Office Building, Rockville, Md.
November 25	Newsletter Deadline - Winter Edition