National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Northern Prince George's County Maryland Chapter 1122

Beltsville, Berwyn Heights, College Park, Cheverly, Glenarden, Glenn Dale, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Landover Hills, Lanham, New Carrollton and Seabrook



Phased Retirement Option Signed into Law

Dr. Howard Waterworth, 1st Vice President and Legislative Chair

dederal employees who are eligible to retire now have the option to phase gradually into retirement (P. L. 112-141) with their agency's approval. It allows employees to work part time while mentoring and training their replacements, which will create a mutually beneficial arrangement for both employee and the government. Active employees will be able to take advantage of this newly authorized flexibility as soon as implementing regulations are issued by the Office of Personnel Management in the months ahead. Qualified employees can reduce their hours to 20% to 80% of their full time schedule. The phased retirees will receive part time pay and a partial annuity proportional to his or her work hours. For example, a full time 40 hours per week person phased down to 20 hours per week will receive 50% of his previous salary and 50% of the annuity he or she had earned up to that point. Upon full retirement, the phased retirees will receive their full annuities with prorated increase for the time they worked as a phased retiree.

The phased retiree will be required to spend at least 20% of his or her time mentoring other employees. This is expected to maintain a continuous high level of service and expertise in the federal government. Participation in phased retirement will be voluntary on the part of the employee and the agency. To qualify, the employee must be eligible for an immediate annuity and have worked full time for the three years immediately preceding phased retirement. Initially the only part-time schedule that will be offered to phased retirees will be 50%.

And there will be other conditions in the program. For example, the phased retiree cannot be employed in more than one position but may transfer to another. The Federal

Employees Retirement System Annuity Supplement will not be paid during the phased retirement period. No unused sick leave will be used in the computation of the phased retirement annuity. Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance and Federal Employees Health Benefits Program will stay with the agency and the FEHBP government contribution will be the same for the phased retiree as for a full-time emplovee. Phased retirement annuities will not be reduced to provide a survivor benefit. If a phased retirement person dies during the period of phased retirement, benefits will be paid in the same way as they are for an employee who dies in service. And a phased retiree can return to a full time position if the agency agrees, at which time the phased annuity would terminate.

In addition to gaining phased retirement, Federal employees did not have their pay and benefits reduced to pay for expenditures for other programs such as for transportation projects, an extension of lower student loan interest rates and national flood insurance, which had been threatened as the Bill made its way though Congress.

Employees subject to mandatory retirement, such as law enforcement, fire-fighters, air traffic controllers and all disability retirees, are excluded from eligibility for the phased retirement option.

NARFE supported the bills in the House (H.R.4363) and Senate (S.1819) that led to this new option for federal employees.

Volume 6, Number 9

November 2012

Upcoming Events 2012

November 6 Election Day

November 11 Veterans Day

• Nov 12 - Dec 10 FEHBP Open Season

2013

- Jan 29
 United Seniors
 Legislative Forum
 Annapolis, MD
- March 9 -12 Legislative Training Conference

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Newsletters on Line John Lydon, Newsletter Distributor via Email

Join your fellow members by receiving your newsletter on line. It typically arrives earlier than the one delivered by mail. This helps our chapter save on postage when you elect to receive the electronic version in pdf format and full color. To receive a month- www.mdnarfe.org/

ly notice by e-mail that our Chapter Newsletter is available, send an email to: lydon.j@verizon.net. Please include your full name and address with a request to be notified that the newsletter is on the web site at: http:// chapter1122/

November Meeting

Wednesday, November 14, 2012 At 1:30 PM

All Are Welcome **Guest Speaker**

Refreshments Served

Robert Luddy

He will give a Powerpoint presentation On the Civil War in Prince George's County

Greenbriar Community Center, Terrace Room 7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD 20770 Call office for directions 301-441-1096 Dial 0

Executive Board Meeting immediately follows



SAVE THESE DATES FOR VAN HOLLEN FEHB FORUM

Congressman Chris Van Hollen will hold his 10th Annual Federal Employees Health Benefits forums in cooperation with NARFE. Experts on federal health insurance plans and representatives of health insurance carriers will be present at two sessions to discuss various health plan options, the impact of new health care reforms and answer individual questions.

> Thursday, 15 November 2012 9 AM - 11 AM (Panel begins at 9:30 AM) Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Wheaton, MD 20906

Wednesday, 28 November 2012 7 PM - 9 PM (Panel begins at 7:30 PM) **Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD 20850**

Chapter Corner

Five members attended the Federation Training Workshop in Bowie, MD on October 26th. Thanks to Richard Bennof, Robert Haas, Lee Shields, Barbara Smith and Howard Waterworth for attending and keeping our chapter updated on the latest NARFE information and changes. The session focused on membership and communications.

We thank our speaker at last month's meeting, Jacqueline Williams and her two associates, for her presentation on Hospice Care and its broader meaning. Also thank you to Julia Wright, Representative from BlueCross/BlueShield who was in attendance and updated us on the new services and fees for the coming year.

The 50/50 winner at the October meeting was Warren Wilcox. Warren donated his winnings to the Chapter general fund.

Open season for FEHBP is November 12 - December 10. For more information the OPM website for health insurance premiums is http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/rates/index.asp. For rates for national fee-for-service plans, please visit http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/rates/ nonpostalffs2013.pdf.

Are you a "Snow Bird?" Lee Shields has requested you give him a holler and let him know where to direct your newsletter when you are away. You can reach him at 301-474-5321 or by email: swinenet1@verizon.net. It helps the Chapter save on postage cost.

To all sick and shut-in members we wish you a speedy recovery. To All November Birthday members "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" from all of us!

Last month's newsletter had an error in President Benjamin Harrison's term in office: it should have been 1889 - 1893.



Have chapter news or articles to share? Email the editor: bsg.smith@verizon.net

ALZHEIMER'S REPORT - Creavery Lloyd, Alzheimer's Chair

Most chapters take time off during the summer for 2012. They say, "every little bit helps," but I and do not hold business meetings. Unfortunate- sincerely believe that this Chapter can do much ly Alzheimer's does not take time off. Each day better. If you agree, please send your generous people are diagnosed as having Alzheimer's dis-donation today. Remember, more than likely ease. To date Chapter 1122 has collected \$130. each of us will be touched in some way by this Is this amount really indicative of our Chapter's disease - in losing a loved one or dear friend. concern for ALZ disease? Or can we do better? I Make check payable to NARFE Alzheimer's Reask everyone to consider sending in a donation search and mail your tax deductible donation to: for Alzheimer's Research today. If every member Creavery Lloyd, ALZ Chair, 6725 Lamont Drive, (approximately 600) sent in \$10, we could report Lanham, MD 20706. that Chapter 1122 has donated at least \$6,000

Presidential Ouote In Honor of **Veterans Day**

"As we express

our gratitude,

we must never

forget that the

highest appreci-

ation is not to

utter words, but

to live by them."

John F. Kennedy 35th U.S. President 1961 - 1963

December Holiday Luncheon

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Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 12 Noon

Sir Walter Raleigh Inn, 6323 Greenbelt Road Berwyn Heights, MD 20740, (301) 474-6500



Guest Speaker

Ron Bowers Region II Vice President NARFE Maryland Federation

\$25 per person includes tax & gratuity

Choice of Entrée Prime Rib Au Jus

Menu

Jumbo Crab Cake

Beer Battered Shrimp

Hawaiian Chicken Breast

Served with Baked Potato or Rice

Choice of Entrée, Open Soup & Salad Bar, Sandwich Wraps, Chocolate Mousse Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Soft Drinks (Alcoholic beverages not included)

Please make reservations by December 7. Make check payable to NARFE /Chapter 1122 and mail to: Lee Shields, 8C Plateau Place, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-5321 - swinenet1@verizon.net

NARFE Chapter 1122 Treasurer's Report for September 2012

Balance as of 8/31/2012

Income:

NARFE (Aug & Sep Dues) 284.38 **Total Income** 284.38

Expenses:

CHI Centers Inc (Printing Sep Newsletter) 80.49 29.70 B. Smith (Sep Refreshments) P. Terry (9/1 Speaker's Lunch) 11.33 **51.28** US Postal Service (Mailing Oct Newsletter)

Total Expenses

Balance as of 9/30/2012

\$3.862.46

172.80

\$3,750.88

Submitted: Warren C. Wilcox, Treasurer

Need Part-time work?

Administrative Assistant/Service Coordinator 8am - 12pm, M-F in Greenbelt, MD \$13.00/hr.

Duties include processing homeowner requests, dispatching maintenance staff, preparing notices/correspondence, taking minutes at Board Meetings. Proficient in Word and email. Must be selfmotivated - I person office.

Fax resume to 301-596-2082 or email mmericle@cviinc.com

TIME SENSITIVE MAIL DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY



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> **MD Federation Website** www.mdnarfe.org

NARFE National Website www.narfe.org



November 11

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www.mdnarfe.org

To reach the Governor call

1-800-811-8336 or visit the Web Site www.gov.state.md.us/mail

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