

FALL 2020 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.

Dear Maryland Federation of NARFE Members,

This unsettling time of the COVID-19 pandemic we are living in has made it a challenge to carry on our Maryland Federation business. We did cancel our May Mini-Conference and Chapters have suspended meetings. However, since then, we have pulled together, pooled our expertise, and adapted to the situation by using available technology, working together to further our mission.

In an effort to keep in touch with our Chapter Presidents, the Executive Committee and I hosted two conference call meetings, dividing the Chapter Presidents so we wouldn't have too many attendees on one call. Topics discussed were: State of the Federation; Federation reimbursement policy for State and National meetings; Impact of the quarantine on sustaining membership; Important 2020/2021 dates to note; and questions and answers.

Chapter 1972 Waldorf-LaPlata, **Ed Holland** continues to meet, and Chapter 1466 Calvert County, **Greg Stottlemeyer** plans to meet in September, both chapters meeting via the virtual platform Zoom. There is an article in this newsletter in the Around the Federation section, which invites you to join the Chapter 1466 Zoom meeting on the topic of Fraud and Identity Theft, presented by a speaker from the AARP Speakers Bureau, on Sept. 17 at 1 p.m.

The Maryland Federation has also used its conference call account to hold Executive Committee meetings and special meetings on the NARFE/MD Bylaws changes, the NARFE Bylaws proposals and planning for our August Legislative Grassroots Advocacy campaign, during which we will host a Zoom meeting with our Legislative Committee, Senate Leaders, Congressional District Leaders and our Lawmakers in the House and Congress.

Through the initiative of Congressional District Leader 4, **Edward Holland**, a Congressional District 4 Virtual Town Hall, themed “COVID-19 Resources and the 2020 November Election,” was held on July 21 via Zoom. **Representative Anthony Brown** (District 4) was the featured speaker and other panelists included: **Nikki Charlson**, Maryland Board of Elections Deputy State Administrator; **Dr. Howard Haft**, Executive Director, Maryland Primary Care Program; **Alisha Alexander**, Elections Administrator, Prince George’s County; and **Dr. Ernest Carter**, Health Officer, Prince George’s County. The town hall was virtually well attended and provided valuable information to the audience on COVID-19 resources and the November 2020 voting process.

I am excited to be hosting our next Board Meeting on Oct. 5 virtually by Zoom. I look forward to “seeing” all of you on that Zoom session. We will have speakers, and our usual agenda format but without lunch. We want to concentrate all our efforts in October on that Oct. 5 Board Meeting, so we have cancelled the Training Day, which had been scheduled for Oct. 30.

With the cancellation of the May Mini-Conference and Training Day, and the move of the Region II Training Academy to March 2021, the Maryland Federation projects a surplus of \$10,000 to \$12,000 by the end of this year. The Federation will be in good financial standing when **Dr. Sudha Haley** steps up to Federation President on Nov. 1.

I am also pleased to announce the establishment of the Equity Committee, with my appointment of **Edward Holland** as Chair and **Larry Walton** as Vice Chair. I also recently appointed **Kathy Schwab** as Acting President of Chapter 1127 Rockville, since **Jennifer Ramsey** stepped down from President. The Federation thanks Jennifer for her many years of service and dedication as Chapter President, and in other committee capacities for the Federation, and we wish her well.

This will be my last President’s Message for the Federation Newsletter. I will be assuming the Region II Vice President position as of Nov. 1. I ran unopposed, so members who voted for NARFE officers didn’t see me on the ballot because no one ran against me. I will be providing articles to future Federation Newsletters in that role, as well as attending Federation meetings to bring information from Region II. You will be in good hands with Dr. Sudha. The next election of Federation Officers will be in the spring of 2021.

I am grateful for and proud of all the Federation’s accomplishments during my tenure as President. I thank each of you for your support and your role in that success. I wish you all the best individually and the Federation continued success with its mission into the future.

DR. GARY ROUNDTREE SR.

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Photos to Remember from President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.



Congressman Kweisi Mfume (D-07) (L) with President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.



Baltimore County Councilman Julian Jones (L) with President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.



Senator Ben Cardin (L) with President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.



Immediate Past State President Dan McGrath (L) with President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.



VOTE!

VOTE TUESDAY, NOV. 3, 2020

VOTE!

August 26, 2020 marks the 100th Anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, granting American women the right to vote and enshrining that right in the U.S. Constitution. To the women and men in the Maryland Federation of NARFE, I ask you to please exercise your constitutional right to vote in the November 2020 election, in memory of the suffragists who fought long and hard for 70 years for the passage of the 19th Amendment. – Pat Farmer



Dr. Sudha Haley

*First Vice President / Legislative Director/
NARFE-PAC Coordinator*



FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT

We stand in solidarity with all Americans who are fighting for social justice, to confront deep-rooted discrimination and inequalities in our country. Acknowledging these challenges and painful moments in the history of our nation, we can, together, prepare for a brighter future. As the quote says: "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness." In our Maryland Federation, we are so fortunate that we have built a culture of trust with our members, strengthened through our diversity, inclusion, transparency, and the decency of our values. Through healing, together, I do believe we will attain sustainable and meaningful results.

It is my great privilege and honor to serve you, the officers and members of our Federation. Our esteemed **Federation President, Bishop, Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.** will soon be named the RVP for Region II. His term as our Federation President ends in May, 2021, when we will announce our new President. [*Sharing photo of our current officers.*] Meanwhile, according to our May 1, 2017, Maryland Federation Bylaws (provided through the courtesy of our remarkable Bylaws guru **Sarah Richards**), "...The vacancy in the office of the President shall be filled by the First Vice-President..." Therefore, when Dr. Gary becomes RVP, I will proudly raise our banner as the new President of our Federation. As I have all these years, joining NARFE as an Active member, I am dedicating myself to the service and leadership ideals of our Federation Presidents, **Dr. Gary, Dan McGrath, Ted Jensen** and others, who have led by example. I pledge to serve with integrity. Nothing is more important than the success of our core Mission. I can assure you, that we will continue to always link our policies, practices, programs and budget, to our Mission.

For the past two years, you have provided to Dr. Gary and to me the opportunity to engage with each of our members, as we visited your Federation Chapter meetings. I will continue to value and use our members' experiences and expertise as our treasured resources. Our effective teamwork will deliver results as we nurture and energize all our members. We have, and will continue to encourage all your contributions, and incorporate your talents, passions, perspectives and aspirations.

Additionally, key to our Federation's success is our collaboration with partners that are equally passionate about our issues, relentlessly pursuing mitigation of the attacks on our federal community. With these coalition partners with whom we share our vision, which is bold, creative and hopeful, we have been able to reach an even wider audience, and generate more influence during our Crusades to Capitol Hill. **Dr. Bruce Fowler**, our Federal Legislative Committee Chair, is leading the charge to: Repeal or reform GPO and WEP; COLAs equity; Change COLA calculation to CPI-E; Maintain service standards of USPS; Affordable Long- Term Care; and increase in pay, among others. Several of our Senate Leaders (SLs) and Congressional District Leaders (CDLs) are initiating contacts with our Lawmakers. Together, we are mobilizing our members to maximize our advocacy efforts and become the "Face of NARFE." Our SLs and CDLs will be meeting virtually in July and sharing with you our strategy to reach out to our Lawmakers during the August Congressional recess. [*Sharing a couple of past photos of our members meeting our Senators.*]

Our ***“Profiles in Civil Service”*** have spread stories of our members’ achievements nationally. Our *Profiles* initiative is being replicated in several Federations across our nation. Our stories recognize the significant contributions federal employees make, which we hope will, as our National NARFE President **Ken Thomas** said: “...inspire future generations to serve at all levels of Government.” After the pandemic, some of our Federation members plan to attain **Dr. Fauci’s Profile** to be featured in our next digital *Profiles*.

Please make the effort to reach out to everyone in your community and beyond, to be counted for the **Census 2020**. Our statewide Census 2020 Complete Count Committees are particularly focusing on the low count areas. We need to bring our fair share of the \$1.5 trillion in Federal funding to our beloved Maryland communities, especially for services to our Seniors, Veterans, Disabled, and others.



Current NARFE/MD Officers with Region II Vice President
L-R: Kathy Adams, Region II Vice President; Ed Reed, 2nd VP;
Stuart Sklamm, Treasurer; Dr. Sudha Haley, 1st VP; and
Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr., President. Seated: Pat Farmer, Secretary



NARFE/MD Officers, Senate Leaders, Congressional District Leaders and Members with U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen, of Maryland (center)



NARFE/MD Officers, Senate Leaders, Congressional District Leaders and Members with U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, of Maryland (center)



Paul Schwartz
State Legislative Committee Chair

STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (SLC) REPORT

Tax unfairness, as an important issue that affects the taxpayers of Maryland, is not an issue that has disappeared. What has disappeared is any interest on the part of the Maryland State legislature to do anything about it. Remember that, when your state representatives come to solicit your vote. Remember to hold them accountable for not fighting for tax fairness. Remember to ask them why they didn't fight to "decouple" your state return from your federal return so that you could continue to itemize on your state return even if you wanted to take the standard deduction on your federal return.

Tax fairness, however, is not the only issue that affects YOU. Pharmaceutical pricing is also an issue that affects us all and addressing the high price of pharmaceuticals is an issue that calls out for our support at both the federal and state levels.

As was the case with the federal tax plan needing the state legislature to mitigate the negative impact on Maryland taxpayers, a need that the legislature failed to address, the issue of high-priced pharmaceuticals is likewise an issue that needs the state to mitigate the failure of the federal government to pass meaningful legislation regarding pharmaceuticals. H.R. 3, designed to address pharmaceutical pricing, was passed by the House of Representatives in March of 2019 but has sat on Mitch McConnell's desk along with a whole host of other critical and much needed legislation. McConnell doesn't refer to himself as the "grim reaper" for nothing. It is a title he has earned.

However, there is hope at the state level. Health Care for All/Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative has worked closely with the state legislature and has played a key role in the creation of the Maryland Prescription Drug Affordability Board (PDAB). The board has seen bipartisan support but legislation to provide a funding source has been recently vetoed by Governor Hogan. The board has temporary funding and it is expected that the state legislature has enough votes to override the governor's veto. At this point, the Board is continuing its work to identify exactly how the high cost of drugs is hurting average Marylanders just like you.

That is where you come in. It is our intention to join forces with the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative and AARP to support legislation that makes an impact on reducing the high price of pharmaceuticals. To achieve that end, we are asking you to share your stories on how the high price of pharmaceuticals directly impacted you. You can share your stories on healthcareforall.com/hearmystories. You can also receive more information on this initiative at the PDAB.Maryland.gov website. (PDAB is the Maryland Prescription Drug Affordability Board.)

This is an issue that is also worthy of soliciting support from your state legislators when they show up to seek your vote. It is also of note that Montgomery County Senator Brian Feldman is the Co-Chair of the Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission. You may remember that Senator Feldman was a strong supporter of the tax fairness legislation that we have been fighting for the last several years.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Stuart Sklamm, Treasurer srsklamm@msn.com

My first year as your treasurer has been different and challenging. As indicated in the 2020 budget below, as of June 30, we are operating at a slight surplus. However, this is mainly due to the fact that the Federation May Board Meeting, NARFE FEDcon 20 and the NARFE Region II Academy were cancelled or rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As indicated in the income portion, 80% of our revenues are derived by the NARFE headquarters 10% remittance, which has not been timely. Coupled with the closing of NARFE headquarters until June 22 and again until July 16, we will not know what our monthly 10% remittance for the remainder of 2020 will be until the end of July.

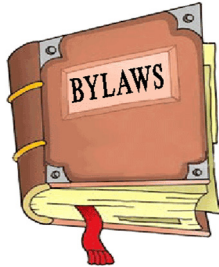
The balances in our checking and savings accounts as of June 30 are \$5,746.84 and \$77,800.19 respectively. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you.

<u>NARFE Maryland Federation 2020 Budget</u>			
<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT BUDGETED</u>	<u>ACTUAL AMOUNT</u> 1/01-6/30/2020	<u>DIFFERENCE(+OR-)</u>
<u>INCOME</u>			
Interest	\$ 50.00	\$ 13.46	\$ 36.54
Chapter Per Capita Dues	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 1,490.00	\$ 2,010.00
Federation February Board Meeting	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,635.00	\$ 2,365.00
Federation October Board Meeting	\$ 3,000.00		\$ 3,000.00
NARFE National Ten Percent Fund	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 22,279.74	\$ 17,720.26
TOTAL	\$ 51,550.00	\$ 26,418.20	\$ 25,131.80
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Administration	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 3,420.09	\$ 3,579.91
Alzheimer's Fund			-
Chapter Assistance	\$ 500.00	\$ 62.64	\$ 437.36
February Board Meeting	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 5,843.14	\$ 156.86
Federation Bylaws Ballot Printing/Postage	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,790.89	\$ 2,209.11
Federation Training Conference	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00
Federation EXCOM	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
Federation FLC	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00
Federation SLC	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 804.38	\$ 1,695.62
Laptop and Software	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,215.98	\$ 1,284.02
Membership Recruitment	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 404.98	\$ 595.02
Newsletter	\$ 3,120.00	\$ 1,040.00	\$ 2,080.00
Program Director	\$ 800.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 760.00
October Board Meeting	\$ 6,000.00		\$ 6,000.00
United Seniors of Maryland	\$ 500.00	\$ 226.04	\$ 273.96
Vendor Signs	\$ 900.00		\$ 900.00
Website	\$ 135.00	\$ 135.00	
TOTAL	\$ 43,455.00	\$ 14,983.24	\$ 28,471.76
Gain (Loss)	\$ 8,095.00	\$ 11,435.06	(3,340.06)

BYLAWS AND RESOLUTIONS REPORT



Sarah Richards



Larry Lange

Bylaws & Resolutions Committee Co-Chairs

The MD Federation members who voted in June overwhelmingly supported the proposed changes to the Bylaws.

A big thank you to Louise Cole and Lillie Watson of the Ballot and Teller Committee who counted all those votes!

The Federation Bylaws will be revised per the proposals and the revision will be announced at the October 2020 Board meeting. The new Bylaws will be made available electronically. While most of the changes were corrections and clarifications, we note that Proposal #1 allowed the Federation to announce the election of a new officer rather than having that person appear on a ballot when there was no opposing candidate. This will save time and money. Additionally, several of the proposals changed the Bylaws language making it clear that voting may be completed electronically as well as by paper. The former language was ambiguous. It costs thousands of dollars to send out ballots via postal mail to all our members. Being able to send ballots electronically and only send postal mail ballots to those who have no email address is a huge savings.

Changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules start with you. You, your chapter, or the Federation Executive Board can submit proposals for change to the Resolutions Committee, but must do so by the deadline. A copy of your proposal must also be sent to the Federation Secretary. The next deadline for MD Federation Bylaws and Standing Rules changes is March 1, 2021.

Changes at the National level are different. If you want to make changes to the National NARFE Bylaws or Standing Rules AND you want the Federation support of that proposal, your group of 20 members or your chapter will need to submit your proposal to the Federation Resolutions Committee by at least October 1, 2021, in order for it to be processed in time for the National submission.

Want to know more? Contact us at NARFEsrichards@aol.com or LLange3751@aol.com.

MEMBERSHIP



Edward Reed

2nd Vice President, Membership



Recruit Prospective Members!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

This autumn, my "Words of NARFE Membership Recruitment" vary somewhat from past seasonal entries due to a lack of any financial incentives for Autumn NARFE Membership Recruitment. Note: We currently have 6,930/Chapter and 5,771/National-Only Members in our Maryland Federation (Total: 12,701/Members effective: 7-20-2020). Membership Recruitment (If I may use our NARFE President's words) is still "A Time *for* NARFE To Change and Create Growth Opportunities; specifically, we Must Prioritize the Reversing Membership Decline by Attracting New Members ... AND ... Retaining Existing Members."

In previous Federation Newsletters, I have "keyed in on" features of NARFE's "Membership Marketing Manual" (FH-19 – 10-18). Every MD Chapter's Membership Chair should "have a copy" and regularly use its contents and guidelines with their Chapter's leaders and members!

Reminders: The new (08/19) one-sided NARFE Application, found in the back section of *NARFE Magazines*), gives comprehensive information on joining NARFE/becoming a member, to include a choice to join the nearest Chapter; to enroll a spouse; Financial Options (Bill to/Check/Credit-Card/Money Order) for payment; the address to mail it to; and most importantly, your recruiter name and ID number affixed!

Notes: The June/July 2020 *NARFE Magazine* (Page 19) also included the DW-2 06/19, "Dues Withholding Program Sheet." This is a Dues Payment Method for retired NARFE members, their spouses, and annuitant survivors, which allows NARFE dues deductions from their monthly annuities! NARFE's new Senior Director for Membership Development, Dave Bowman, has noted: "New Initiatives on Membership Development (For Chapters) in "THE NARFE INSIDER" - to Ensure that NARFE Thrives Today and Grows in the Future." ((See: NARFE INSIDER, Vol 8, Number 3, Page 6)) for his details and his Challenge, which is: "To Tell NARFE @ Email: dbowman@narfe.org of any effective recruitment tactics you've used or a successful campaign you ran."

Concluding, as your elected MD Federation Membership Chair, I will be mailing each Maryland NARFE Chapter President copies (15) of our Maryland Federation's "WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT NARFE" trifold; this "easy-to-read" trifold, inserted into an F-135/NARFE Application or with any one-sided-application (from any *NARFE Magazine*), signed with your recruiter name and ID Number, will: "Ensure any potential NARFE Member that NARFE is "THEIR GO TO RESOURCE" for information on Federal Retirement, Health Care, Life Insurance, Compensation and other benefits, which are complex and often changed! NARFE KEEPS MEMBERS INFORMED!

I will close with my usual "Challenge to ALL": You should always have a complete F135/NARFE Application and MD Federation trifold with you. Have you given these materials to your Postman/Postwoman yet?



Patricia Farmer, Secretary



SECRETARY'S REPORT

As the NARFE/MD representative to the Maryland Gerontological Association (MGA) Board, I am happy to report that the MGA Board did not postpone its Annual Conference again and held a virtual conference via Zoom on June 17, 2020. The session featured sessions with speakers, networking with colleagues, and interactive time with sponsors and exhibitors.

The conference focused on gaining a better understanding of Medicare benefits and how to address some of the gaps in Medicare coverage, such as hearing and dental care for older adults living in the community in the age of COVID-19.

Speakers included **Rebecca Kinney** of the Administration for Community Living; **Dr. Carrie Nieman** with Johns Hopkins; information about Mission of Mercy; and the National Council on Aging Center for Benefits Access.

Among the sponsors were: **Positive Aging Sourcebook; Charlotte Hall Veterans Home; Caption Call; The Options Group;** and **Brooke Grove Retirement Village.** Exhibitors were: **Maryland Relay; Mobile Medical Imaging/Diamond Medical Labs; Town Square;** and **Mission of Mercy.**

Since our NARFE/MD Board meeting on Oct. 5 will be a virtual session, I will still update the Maryland Federation Directory for October 2020 and email the file to the Executive Committee members, Region II VP, Committee Chairs and Chapter Presidents. This will allow us to have the most up to date information to keep in touch with each other by e-mail and phone. Please make any changes in your Chapter F-7 as soon as possible.

My prayers continue for all of our members for safety and good health during this Coronavirus pandemic. Stay connected to each other.

NOTE: Chapter audit reports are due to Secretary Pat Farmer on October 1, 2020.

REGION II VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

KATHY ADAMS

REGION II
VICE PRESIDENT



Region II York Training Academy postponed until March 15 and 16, 2021

Due to the COVID-19, once again, our Training Academy scheduled for September 2020 is cancelled and the new date is March 15-16, 2021. We hope to be able to gather by then. Refunds are being done by Mr. Carl Fascio.

Our National Headquarters is closed once again due to an employee testing positive for COVID-19. They will reopen on July 17, 2020. The building will be professionally disinfected.

NARFE has secured the date of June 21, 2021 for the Centennial Gala, which takes place prior to LEGcon21 at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. The timing and location are strategic, so as to benefit from access to and potential involvement from policymakers, public officials and other key stakeholders. We now have a new NARFE employee on our Centennial Committee, Ms. Anita Nelson, Director of Business Development. We now have a wonderful Centennial Logo and will probably be able to order items from "Shop NARFE" in the latter part of this year with this logo. Look for items of the last 100 years in the magazine next year.

TSP COVID-19 Hardship Loans Now Available. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB) announced the availability of Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) loans, which passed into law by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security. For those who qualify, the new loans have a maximum of \$100,000. Application deadline is September 22, 2020.

Please don't forget to vote on the upcoming proposed changes to the NARFE Bylaws. The Bylaws information will be published in the July 2020 edition of the *NARFE* Magazine and the ballot will appear in the August 2020 edition of the *NARFE* Magazine. The deadline for voting is August 31, 2020.

Be safe and stay healthy!

SCAM ALERT!

SCAM ALERT!

SCAM ALERT!

I received an email from Order Summary amazonorder72942@vomoto.com on July 24. I was suspicious of it from the start because it listed the purchase of a TV for \$5,840.00 and an Xbox One for \$280. It had a line in the email repeated several times in several different places, which indicated if I hadn't placed this order to call Amazon's Fraud Protection at +1 909-281-7200. I immediately Googled that phone number and found that there is, indeed, an Amazon Scam. I found the correct number for Amazon Customer Service and the person who answered said that Amazon had not sent me an email in the last three days. She sent me an email, which provided an email address for Amazon's stop fraud group and I sent the scam email to them to follow up on. So, look closely at any email you think is suspicious, do some research, and don't respond. -- Pat Farmer



Eleanor Kaul

Coordinator, Federal Employee and Education Assistance – Scholarships and Disaster Fund
Coordinator, Alzheimer's Research Fund
eekaul@comcast.net 410-896-4354

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

NARFE-FEEA UPDATE

The Federal Employees Education & Assistance (FEEA) Fund is composed of three parts: Scholarship Fund, Emergency Fund and Disaster Relief Fund.

The Scholarship Fund is for high school seniors only. One \$1,000 scholarship per Region is awarded annually. Email Scholarship@narfe.org for details and application process. The 2019 winners are not available yet.

Full or part-time permanent federal civilian or postal employees, employed by the Federal Government for more than one year, are eligible for the Emergency Fund or the Disaster Relief Fund.

The Emergency Fund is to help prevent debt spiral for federal employees. The loan ceiling is \$1,500; the exact amount will be decided by FEEA. These are no-interest loans. Loans are generally repaid within ten months of receipt via equal payments per pay period. Go to feea.org/emergency for loan application instructions.

The Disaster Relief Fund is to aid federal employees returning to their homes after a major natural disaster. The upper limit is \$500; FEEA determines the exact amount. These funds do not need to be repaid. Go to feea.org/disaster-relief for grant application instructions.

Donations by concerned individuals and institutions support FEEA Funds. The *NARFE* magazine has forms for donating to these funds. Indicate on your check to which fund you are donating.

ALZHEIMER'S REPORT

Correction: St. Mary's Chapter number to 969 – highest donations in Maryland Federation for 2019. Chapter number was incorrect in the Spring issue of the Maryland Federation newsletter.

This information is from a 06/29/20 email from Kathy Siggins, Chapter 409 Frederick. She was instrumental in working for the Alzheimer's stamp.

Status of approval to resume sale of Alzheimer's stamp:

"The legislation for the Alzheimer' stamp is pending in Committee. USPS issued a notice in the Federal Register asking for Comments, which are due before or no later than July 10. The proposed rule is to revise provisions governing the Postal Service's discretionary semi-postal stamp program. If approved, it would remove the two-year restriction on sales and allow more than one semi-postal stamp to be sold at any one time, allowing the stamp back on the market. Send your comments to Amity C. Kirby, Manager, Stamp Products & Exhibitions, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Room 3300, Washington, DC 20260."

Per Kathy's email regarding virtual walks:

"It looks like our six walks are going to be virtual and we are figuring it out now. Howard County Walk Sat., Sept. 26; Hartford/Cecil Walk, Sat., Oct. 3; Western MD Walk Sun., Oct 11; Anne Arundel Count Walk, Sun., Oct. 18; Greater Baltimore Walk, Sat., Oct.24; and Eastern Shore Walk, Sat., Oct.31."

Thank you for your continued support of Alzheimer's fundraising.



Edward Holland

Program Director / Public Relations Director / Chair Equity Committee /
Liaison to MD/DC Alliance for Retired Americans / Liaison to Fraternal Order of Police
301-848-3476 (cell) / 301-632-2826 (home) / hollandnmd@aol.com

Program Director:

As the Program Director, I am responsible for securing speakers/guest participants for all Federation meetings and events, to include the three Board meetings per year (February, May and October); the Mini-Conference; the Biennial Conference; Training Day; and any other ad-hoc event such as candidate forums. Please know that you are part of the Program Committee. Meaning that you should feel free to provide me with a name and contact information for an engaging speaker. The speaker should be someone that you would want to hear from.

For the October 5 Board Meeting, Deputy Program Director Tom Hill and I secured: Mr. Eric Hirschhorn, Former-Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce (Obama) and Mr. Walter F. (Pete) Landon, Director, Maryland Office of Homeland Security (Hogan).

Equity Committee (temporary):

Recently, NARFE MD Federation President Dr. Gary Roundtree asked me to chair the Federation's Equity Committee. The members are: Edward Holland, Chair; Lawrence Walton, Vice Chair; Barbara Cuffie; Lawrence Lange; Franklin Lee; Boyd Loflin; and Samuel Raines. The committee met on June 26, 2020. Among the many action items, the committee voted that its purpose, goals and objectives are: "To celebrate and promote diversity, inclusion, and multiculturalism through a variety of mechanisms including conferences, board meetings, and training sessions." More importantly, the committee voted that it is not seeking a mission. The mission should come to us.

Public Relations Director:

As the Public Relations Director, I will strive to publicize national and state legislative programs supported by NARFE; provide the local press, television and radio with factual information concerning NARFE positions on current issues; ensure that chapter officers are up to date on issues affecting members; and coordinate with the

chapter president visits by elected officials and candidates for public office, and other public relations programs scheduled for chapter meetings. As it stands, this office is now on NARFE MD Press Release 009-2019. If your president has not forwarded a press release to you, please contact me at hollandnmd@aol.com. This directorate will be supporting the Congressional District Leader #4 to inform members and the public of a July 21, 2020 virtual town hall. The town hall will be on COVID-19 and the 2020 November election.

Fraternal Order of Police:

The President of DC FOP Lodge #1, consisting of nearly 11,000 members, has tasked me with initiating discussions to hold the 2021 Police Week at Howard University. Police Week brings in thousands of law enforcement officers from around the Nation and other countries. How does this impact NARFE? The FOP definitely knows that I'm the NARFE guy.

Stay safe.



CHAPTER MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

Greg Stottlemeyer, Chapter 1466 2nd VP-Programs, 410-610-8069

Although Maryland has made progress in combating the spread of COVID-19, there doesn't appear to be any relief in the foreseeable future of the prohibition of gatherings of more than 10 people. Chapter 1466 had scheduled a speaker from AARP's Speaker Bureau on "Fraud and Identity Theft" for our cancelled April Meeting.

In May, Phyllis Meyerson of the AARP's Speaker's Bureau informed us that they would have speakers available via the Zoom platform. Our 1466 Board had a dry run meeting with AARP on May 26 using their Zoom account. All went smoothly and we decided to have our first fall chapter meeting via Zoom.

The meeting invitation is:

You are invited to a Zoom meeting on Fraud and Identity Theft which will be presented by a speaker from AARP's Speaker's Bureau.

When: Sep 17, 2020, 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEsfuysrTgsHt1maOhRI6I_ym9LEI5CdmD_

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

After their speaker has concluded, AARP will graciously extend their Zoom connection to allow our chapter to take care of monthly business matters. Our AARP Speaker's Bureau contact is Phyllis Meyerson, phyllismeyerson@verizon.net. She has a list of topics that would be of interest to NARFE members.

Having online speakers opens up possibilities even if the 'large gatherings' prohibition is lifted. Speakers will not have to drive long distances at inconvenient times of the day and chapter members can access presentations from their home. Of course, Zoom meetings will not replace the social contact that traditional meetings provide.

FEDERATION DIRECTORY (abbreviated)

Executive Committee

President	Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.	443-929-7045	groundtreesr@yahoo.c0m
1 st VP, Legislative Director	Dr. Sudha Haley	410-535-4998	sudhabhagwat2002@yahoo.com
2 nd VP, Membership Director	Edward Reed	301-739-1641	edr3vigil@yahoo.com
Secretary	Patricia Farmer	301-776-4645	buttonspaf@aol.com
Treasurer	Stuart Sklamm	301-384-0784	srsklamm@msn.com
Assistant Treasurer	Dave Roseman	240-401-6628	dave.roseman@comcast.net
Immediate Past President	Dan McGrath	757-436-1095	mcgrathsop@aol.com
Past President	Ted Jensen	301-845-2088	grandpated1@gmail.com
Past President	Ron Bowers	410-308-0420	narfebowers@msn.com

Contacts

(See Additional Contacts/Committees on Federation Website)

Alzheimer's Coordinator	Eleanor Kaul	410-896-4354	eekaul@comcast.net
Chapter Development	Bernie Goldsborough	301-737-1315	
FEEA Coordinator	Eleanor Kaul	410-896-4354	eekaul@comcast.net
Federal Legislative Committee Chair	Dr. Bruce Fowler	240-479-0886	bafowler777@gmail.com
NARFE-PAC Coordinator	Dr. Sudha Haley	410-535-4998	sudhabhagwat2002@yahoo.com
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MD-PAC Treasurer	Bob Doyle	410-798-0079	bdoyle47@verizon.net
Program Director	Edward Holland	301-848-3476	hollandnmd@aol.com
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Resolutions Committee Co-Chairs	Sarah Richards	301-589-7465	narfesrichards@aol.com
	Larry Lange	301-972-6775	llange3751@aol.com
Service Officer	Vacant		
State Legislation Committee Chair	Paul Schwartz	240-838-2200	pksyanks@aol.com
Webmaster	Morse Solomon		narfemdfed@gmail.com
Social Media Coordinator (Facebook)	Howard Gordon		flash@acm.org
Region II Vice President (DE/DC/MD/NJ/PA)	Kathy Adams	302-697-6650	adamskhawaii@aol.com
NARFE National Headquarters		703-838-7760	

Chapters and Presidents

126 Western Charles/Indian Head	Ed Rice	1522 Susquehanna (Acting)	Barry Decker
126 Co-Presidents	Ron Bush	1734 Howard County	Stephen Huza
251 Annapolis	Carla Duls	1747 Greater Bowie/Crofton	Frank Lee
258 Western Montgomery County	Lois Ann Beaver	1770 Bel Air	James Wood
306 Hagerstown	Patricia Nix	1887 Wheaton/Glenmont	Ron Shansby
409 Frederick	Elinor Abrell	1888 White Oak	Marcia Swanson
410 West-Mar	Daniel Moore	1892 Aspen Hill	Sarah Richards
422 Laurel	Samuel Raines	1936 N.W. Baltimore Metro	Barbara Cuffie
969 St. Mary's County	Boyd Loflin	1936 Co-Presidents	Bessie Johnson
1127 Rockville	Kathy Schwab (Acting)	1972 Waldorf/La Plata	Edward Holland
1143 Leisure World	John Moens	2166 Eastern Baltimore Area	Jerry Kerner
1260 Southern Prince George's County	William Guthrie	2262 Upper Marlboro	P.A. Jeffries
1372 Tidewater	Gerry Phillips	2274 Ocean Area	Larry Walton
1466 Calvert County	Barry Grier	2306 Carroll County	Charles Harrison
1519 Glen Burnie, Co-Presidents	Don Bender		
1519	Bob Minghini Sr.		

***NOTE:** See Federation Directory for complete information on all officers, committee chairs and chapter presidents.

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Editorial Review: NARFE/MD President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr. and Robert Kammer, Chapter 1892 Aspen Hill

*****NOTE BELOW ON NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION*****

It is very important that all chapter officers are listed on the HQ roster because it is the basis for the NL mailing.



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Maryland Federation – Chartered April 5, 1956 Maryland Federation Newsletter

Protect Your Retirement

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2020

Oct. 1, 2020	Chapter Audit Reports due to Secretary Pat Farmer
Oct. 4, 2020	Executive Committee Meeting – Conference Call
Oct. 5, 2020	NARFE/MD Virtual Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
Oct. 30, 2020	NARFE/MD Training Day CANCELLED
Nov. 3, 2020	Election Day in the United States
Nov. 19, 2020	Winter Newsletter Articles due to Editor Pat Farmer

2021

March 15/16	Region II Training Academy, York, Pa.
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