



WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



DR. SUDHA HALEY

Maryland has made History, again!

When you elected me, an Indian American immigrant as your NARFE Maryland Federation President, you were recorded in NARFE's 100+ year history. Now, we in Maryland are chronicled in history, after electing our dear friend and Champion, **Honorable Aruna Miller**, as our first Indian American immigrant Lieutenant Governor.

I had noted during my President's Report, at our October 3 Board meeting and Candidates' Forum, that our available Legislative officers, under the outstanding leadership of Chairman **Paul Schwartz**, met with **Lt. Governor-elect Aruna Miller**, to share NARFE's State Legislative Priorities. During this meeting, and since then, she has pledged, with **Governor-elect Wes Moore**, to fully support and forward our NARFE Maryland State Legislative agenda

Our October 3 Forum had brought to us two winners of the Federal and State offices. They were District 4 Congressman-elect **Glenn Ivey** and Maryland's first woman Comptroller-elect **Brooke Lierman**. Both unequivocally assured us of their support for NARFE's Federal and State Legislative issues and priorities, as they responded to the outstanding Moderators Dr. Gybrilla Ballard-Blakes, Ed Holland, and Paul Schwartz. Congressman-elect Ivey spoke of his ties to NARFE, as he eloquently indicated that his father had been a Federal Employee at the U.S. Department of Labor.

I continue to endorse paying registration for any Chapter and Federation Officer who requests to participate in NARFE National and Federation Board meetings and Conferences. You all so selflessly and generously volunteer your valuable time, talents, and energy, to serve our Federation. I was gratified to know, through the reimbursements made by our esteemed Treasurer **Stu Sklamm**, that so many of you took advantage of my policy initiative and attended FEDCon22 and the Regional Training.

Dr. Gybrilla Ballard-Blakes and I are continually making presentations and interacting with Chapter officers and members. During our visits to your Chapters, we are thrilled to know of all the activities you are pursuing in Membership Recruitment and Retention, and in “Grassroots and Grasstops” Advocacy to our Lawmakers, at the Federal and State levels. We conclude our Chapter visits bursting with pride at all you are accomplishing in saving and enhancing our interests on behalf of our employed and retired members and spouses. With nationwide Chapters having problems in succession, and losing members, we are so pleased to celebrate with you the Anniversary of Chapters chartered 40 years ago. To name a few who deserve a standing applause are Chapter 1887 Wheaton-Glenmont, President **Ron Shansby** and Alternate **Bill Waller**; Chapter 1888 White Oak President **Marcia Swanson** and Alternate **Paul Hudes**; and Chapter 1892 Aspen Hill President **Sarah Richards** and Alternate **Paul Schwartz**.

For years we have followed our strategy to expand our influence with our Lawmakers, by building coalitions with other like-minded organizations. As I am serving on the Executive Council of MD AARP, we have been able to bond a close working relationship on mutual issues, especially in Annapolis. Our Vice President **Ed Holland** has been working tirelessly to bring in more coalition partners, especially Veterans’ organizations. And we can happily report that our initiative, Maryland Federation’s NARFE Corps of Volunteers, is getting back on track after the Pandemic lockdown. Our Active member, and Co-President of Chapter 1260, **Tiffany Daniel**, will lead and coordinate this effort.

Our Federation is forever grateful to our Secretary **Patricia Farmer** who through her stellar and diligent leadership keeps our Federation’s communications moving. In addition, she counsels and provides valuable insights and important perspectives to our Federation officers, necessary when we make policy. We also salute our Zoom and other platforms’ Guru **Howard “Flash” Gordon** for his distinguished work for our Federation

We Americans have much to appreciate. Following our Thanksgiving with family and friends, let us also be thankful to our Active-Duty Military who everyday risk their lives for our freedom, democracy, justice, equality, and peace. Have joyous Holidays and the New Year, and let us continue our Service with Kindness, Empathy and Respect.



L-R: 1st row: Dr. Bruce Fowler, Dr. Raj Mahajan, Dr. Sudha Haley, Lt. Gov.-elect Aruna Miller, Dr. Shakuntla Mahajan, Melinda Scott.
2nd row: Kathy Schwab, Paul Schwartz and Dr. Gybrilla Ballard-Blakes



Dr. Sudha Haley and Lt. Gov.-elect Aruna Miller



L-R: John Hatton, Dr. Shakuntla Mahajan, Dr. Raj Mahajan, Senator Chris Van Hollen, Dr. Sudha Haley, Dr. Gabriella Ballard-Blakes, Kathy Schwab, Melinda Scott, Dr. Ray Oman, and Dr. Bruce Fowler

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LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR REPORT



Larry Walton
First Vice President / Legislative
Director / NARFE-PAC Coordinator
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My fellow colleagues, it has been an honor to serve on the Executive Committee of the Maryland Federation. As you may know, the position of Region II Vice President became open, and I ran for the position and won. I am

grateful for the time that I served as your 1st Vice President. Thanks to all who voted for me.

As your 1st Vice President, I enjoyed my time on the Maryland Federation Board. We are the second largest Federation. We need to continue to work together to grow our Federation, so we can become number one. I plead with every one of you to recruit one new member. Working together we can become the number one Federation. Please help us become number one. I am looking forward to working with you in my new position as Regional Vice President for Region II.

I wish all of you and your families Joyous Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!

Sincerely, Larry Walton, soon to be RVP of Region II.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (FLC) REPORT



Edward Holland

Chair, NARFE/MD Federal Legislative Committee

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As the Federal Legislative Chair, I will work with Senatorial Leaders, Congressional District Leaders, and chapter legislative chairs to make sure they have the resources necessary to be successful. The goal will be to develop a strong connection between the FLC Chair and the two (2) Senate Leaders and the eight (8) Congressional District Leaders. Unlike some of our positions, the FLC Chair's responsibilities can be found in a NARFE National guide. In addition, I have been made a NARFE PAC 'fundraiser event' approval official. You will be pleased to know that we have a robust budget.

Having said the above-mentioned, the NARFE MD Federation updated its reimbursement policy to include **SLs, the FLC Vice Chair, and the SLC Vice Chair**. The Federation encourages members of the FLC and other interested Chapter Legislative Officers to attend this important and informative National Legislative Training Conference (LEGcon) held each year. The Federation Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer shall ensure that the Chapter Legislative Officers interested in attending LEGcon have obtained the Federation President and the FLC Chair's approval. The Federation will reimburse the Registration fee and lesser of (1) mileage at the rate of 58.5 cents per mile plus parking or (2) the cost of a one-night stay at a hotel. The Federation Treasurer and/or Assistant Treasurer shall ensure that the FLC members interested in attending LEGcon, have obtained the Federation President and the FLC Chair's approval.

The next LEGcon will be held from June 18 – 21, 2023, in Washington, D.C.

On November 18, 2022, I sent legislative guidance on H.R. 82 to the NARFE MD Board consisting of the state elected officers and chapter presidents. To that point, here is what I sent the Board:

“Hello Ed,

I hope this email finds you well. As Marsha has previously mentioned, NARFE is currently targeting House leadership through a series of action letters aimed at [Chairman Neal and Kevin Brady](#), as well as [Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Hoyer](#). However, if none of these leaders is your representative, you can still help press for action. We created an [action letter](#) for you to push your representatives. All letters detail the importance of H.R. 82 being brought to the floor prior to 2023. Members of these targeted districts are also encouraged to call their representatives using NARFE's toll-free advocacy line at 1-800-456-8410, option 5. Should you have any additional questions, please let me know and I'll be more than happy to assist. Have a great weekend!

Regards, **Hannah McLain, Grassroots and Programs Assistant** / hmclain@narfe.org”

On November 15, 2022, SLC Chair Paul Schwartz and I attended the 2022 Maryland Military Coalition’s Legislator of the Year Awards Luncheon. An award recipient, Maryland Senator Michael Jackson, stated his willingness to work with us on tax decoupling (see photos in this issue).

As a follow-up to a NARFE MD Executive Committee meeting, on November 8, 2022, as it pertains to 1st Vice President, I sent amendments to the bylaws to the NARFE MD Bylaws and Resolution Committee.

On September 13, 2022, Dr. Sudha Haley and I met with senior members of U.S. Senator Ben Cardin’s staff. Most of our discussion centered around WEP/GPO.

I am available to assist you in interacting with Congressional leaders and their staff. Feel free to contact me at hollandnmd@aol.com.



NARFE/MD Federal Legislative Chair Edward Holland (left) with Maryland State Senator Michael Jackson, (right) D – Calvert, Charles, Prince George’s counties, at the Maryland Military Coalition 2022 Legislator of the Year Awards Luncheon Nov. 15 at the Naval Academy Club in Annapolis. The MMC is a group of 19 military, veterans, uniformed services, and survivor organizations in the State of Maryland. Holland is a voting member of the MMC.

STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (SLC) REPORT



Paul Schwartz

State Legislative Committee Chair

pksyanks@aol.com

If you want to keep track of our efforts at the state legislature on behalf of YOU, the best way is to Google MD NARFE, go to the MD NARFE website and then go to the State Legislation Page found at the upper right corner of the page. Once you reach the State Legislation Page, you will be able to view our 2023 state legislation priorities document, the link to the recently conducted candidate forum hosted by NARFE on October 3 in Bowie, AND the responses we received from candidates for the state legislature for our candidate survey. It should be of interest to you HOW and IF your state legislator responded to our survey.

On that note, the most troubling result of that survey is the fact that, of the 280 candidates receiving our survey, only 46 responded. Yes, 46 out of 280.

As a direct result of that pitiful percentage of responses, we, at the State Legislation Committee, or SLC, have initiated an effort to make MD NARFE more meaningful and relevant to our state legislators. We have adopted the process established at NARFE HQs for providing formal MDNARFE-PAC candidate endorsements in the same manner in which we determine MDNARFE-PAC campaign contributions.

The process for issuing MDNARFE-PAC candidate endorsements will include a formal review by the MDNARFE-PAC Board, which is currently comprised of myself as SLC Chair, Bob Doyle, SLC Vice Chair and MDNARFE-PAC Treasurer, and Ed Bice, MDNARFE-PAC Chair. The criteria for consideration of a MDNARFE-PAC candidate endorsement by the Board will include legislative history in support of our MD NARFE priorities as well as a clearly expressed commitment to achieving those priorities as evidenced by the responses to such tools as our candidate survey.

We recently selected two worthy individuals as the inaugural recipients of the MDNARFE-PAC candidate endorsements. To maintain our nonpartisan standing, we selected one Democrat and one Republican. They are Democrat Paul Konka, currently running for Delegate in District 42A in Baltimore County and who also happens to be a NARFE member and reached out to us and is running against an incumbent who did NOT return a survey to us AND Republican Delegate William Wivell who has been a driving force and the primary sponsor of decoupling legislation for the last several years.

As a former candidate for office. I can tell you firsthand the importance to candidates of receiving endorsements. I can also tell you the value to NARFE in terms of exposure of having the MDNARFE-PAC endorsement placed alongside the other candidate endorsements such as those from MCEA, the teachers' union,

the Sierra Club and so on.

Our primary goal in taking this effort forward is to increase the relevancy of NARFE to our state legislators as well as reward those legislators who have already recognized the importance of NARFE and the issues we fight for. I am waiting for the day that a legislator comes up to me and asks, "How can I get a MDNARFE-PAC candidate endorsement?"



NARFE/MD State Legislative Chair Paul Schwartz (right) attended the Maryland Military Coalition 2022 Legislator of the Year Awards Luncheon Nov. 15 in Annapolis. Paul discussed issues with state legislators including award honoree Senator Mike Jackson (center) who serves on Budget & Taxation. Annie Brock, President and CEO, Leader Transition Institute, is on the left.

WISHING YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND ALL THE BEST IN 2023!



MDNARFE-PAC REPORT



Bob Doyle

MDNARFE-PAC Coordinator

MDNARFE-PAC Treasurer

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As you all know, the MDNARFE-PAC, through the Federation's State Legislative Committee (SLC), works for legislation beneficial to seniors by raising and spending money to elect members of the Maryland General Assembly who support our legislative program. Contributions to MDNARFE-PAC also help our SLC build strong relationships with Maryland lawmakers, a key component to winning legislative fights.

Your MDNARFE-PAC contributions allow members of the SLC and other NARFE Chapter members to attend fundraisers for MD candidates. For these fundraisers, our first aim is to engage with members who serve on the Committees that handle the tax credit and tax relief bills we work for, which are the Senate Budget and Tax Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee. We do, however, reach out to other Members not on these Committees to garner support as widespread as possible for our goals.

The elections are now over, and the winners known. Maryland now has a Democratic Executive, Governor-Elect Wes Moore, and continues to have Democratic majorities in both the Senate and the House of Delegates. The SLC is actively engaged in looking for all the Maryland legislators who will work towards passing legislation beneficial to seniors, such as senior income tax reductions, Long Term Care Tax Credits, and other issues. We will send our 2023 Legislative Program document to all Maryland legislators in December. I invite you to review our document, if you haven't done so already, at <https://mdnarfe.org/the-maryland-federation/committees/legislative-state/>.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will read in the report from Paul Schwartz, our SLC Chair, that we have adopted the process established at NARFE HQs for providing formal MDNARFE-PAC candidate endorsements in the same manner in which we determine MD NARFE-PAC campaign contributions. We will also continue our work to meet with legislators, at fundraisers and in requested meetings, to get their support to advance our legislative goals. I appreciate the contributions from many members who donated to the MD NARFE-PAC during this election year, including great results at our two in-person Board meetings in Bowie. As always, please communicate to your Chapter membership that they can make an investment in advancing progressive senior legislation in Maryland by supporting MDNARFE-PAC today! (Note – MDNARFE-PAC contributions are **not** tax-deductible for Federal or state tax purposes. Further, contributions to MDNARFE-PAC must be made only by individual members, and **not** by Chapters using Chapter funds.) Members should make checks payable to: MD NARFE-PAC, and mail to: Robert Doyle, Treasurer, MDNARFE-PAC, 4226 Carvel Lane, Edgewater, MD 21037.

Please accept my sincere best wishes that you and yours have a great holiday season! Bob Doyle

MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Edward Holland / Membership Director

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In querying NARFE's Association Management System, we have 5,150 members in chapters and 5,527 national members in Maryland. The total NARFE MD membership is 10,677.

Who can join NARFE? Membership is open to civilians who are or will be eligible to receive an annuity or survivor annuity from the federal retirement programs of any agency of the United States government including: retirees; active employees; spouses and surviving spouses of those eligible to join NARFE; former employees; and a former spouse who is legally entitled to a federal survivor annuity. Why should they join NARFE? No other organization is solely dedicated to continually protect and preserve the earned pay, retirement and health care benefits of all federal employees, retirees, and their survivors. Members have access to NARFE's Federal Benefits Institute, an online learning center. One-on-one help is also available from federal benefits specialists from this institute. Members have powerful representation and advocacy before Congress, the Office of Personnel Management and the White House.

A new platform to assist with recruiting is FEDHub. Here is the writeup that I have sent out to members: "The Maryland Federation of NARFE is excited to announce that NARFE members in Maryland now have access to a dedicated community on FEDHub. Through this community, we'll keep you up to date on everything happening with our federation, and you can join the conversation and connect with your fellow NARFE members in the state.

If you're new to this, the community is an online discussion forum where you can talk about various topics, ask questions, and share helpful information like interesting articles, events happening in your area, and so much more. To learn more about getting started, [click here](#) to visit the FEDHub Quick Start Guide. "

To get the most out of FEDHub, you'll want to start by completing a few easy tasks:

- Log in using the same credentials you would use for NARFE.org
- **Be sure to update your profile to include a picture and bio**, if you like.
You'll automatically be subscribed to a Daily Digest email, which will advise you when new messages are posted in the community the previous day.
- Visit the Community Notifications page on your profile to adjust your settings or deactivate this feature.
- Post a hello in the community.

NARFE created FEDHub to support your success by bringing you the knowledge and value of our entire community, so we encourage you to participate actively in this amazing resource. Click here to go directly to the Maryland Federation community and start making real connections today and thank you for being part of the NARFE community. Welcome to the Maryland Federation on FEDHub!"

As a follow-up to a NARFE MD Executive Committee meeting, on November 8, 2022, as it pertains to 2nd Vice President, I sent amendments to the bylaws to the NARFE MD Bylaws and Resolution Committee.

The Membership Directorate has a template for merging or closing a chapter. If your chapter is interested in merging with another chapter, feel free to contact me at hollandnmd@aol.com.

My Wish for You in the New Year from Secretary/Newsletter Editor Pat Farmer

A WISH FOR LEADERS...Anonymous

I sincerely wish you will have the experience of thinking up a new idea, planning it, organizing it, and following it to completion and having it be magnificently successful. I also hope you'll go through the same process and have something "bomb out".

I wish you could know how it feels "to run" with all your heart and lose – horribly.

I wish that you could achieve some great good for mankind but have nobody know about it except you.

I wish you could find something so worthwhile that you deem it worthy of investing your life.

I hope you become frustrated and challenged enough to begin to push back the very barriers of your own personal limitations.

I hope you make a stupid, unethical mistake and get caught red-handed and are big enough to say those magic words "I was wrong!"

I hope you give so much of yourself that some days you wonder if it's worth it all.

I wish for you a magnificent obsession that will give you reason for living and purpose and direction in life.

I wish for you the worst kind of criticism for everything you do, because that makes you fight to achieve beyond what you actually would.

I wish for you the experience of leadership.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Stuart Sklamm, Treasurer, srsklamm@msn.com

NARFE MARYLAND FEDERATION FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2022

The Bank of America savings account balance as of 11/30/22 was \$102,378.75 and the Bank of America checking account balance as of 11/30/22 was \$11,613.59. We also have a \$10,000 certificate of deposit with Sandy Spring Bank.

NARFE MARYLAND FEDERATION					
TREASURERS REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1/1/22 – 11/30/22					
DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT BUDGETED		ACTUAL AMOUNT	DIFFERENCE(+or-)
INCOME					
Chapter Per Capita Tax		3,000		2910	90
February Board Meeting		500		350	150
Interest on Savings Account and CD		50		44	6
Mini-Conference		500		3130	-2630
NARFE National 10% Remittance		40000		37423	2577
October Board Meeting		500		450	50
	TOTAL	44550		44307	243
EXPENSES					
Administration		12500		4243	8257
Biennial Conference		4500		4500	0
Chapter Assistance		1000		89	911
February Board Meeting		5000		500	4500
Federation Executive Committee		1000		0	1000
Federal Legislative Committee		3000		0	3000
Federation President's Meeting - FEDCON		4500		5170	-670
Legislative - 1 st VP		2500		418	2082
Membership - Program Director 2ndVP		7000		2254	4746
Mini-Conference		5000		13972	-8972
Newsletter		4500		2351	2149
October Board Meeting		5000		4586	414
State Legislative Committee		2500		145	2355
United Seniors of Maryland		500		0	500
Website and ZOOM		500		205	295
	TOTAL	59000		38433	20567
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		-14450		5874	-20324

REGION II VICE PRESIDENT REPORT



GARY ROUNDTREE SR., PH.D.

VICE PRESIDENT REGION II

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Greetings my fellow NARFE Maryland Federation Members. As we approach this holiday season of Christmas and the New Year, let us reflect upon the many blessings, we all share as Americans in the greatest country on the earth.

To all those who have served in the United States Armed Forces, I hope you had a Happy Veterans Day, and thank you personally for your service to our beloved country, the United States of America.

Thomas Jefferson once said, "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal...." It is the great parent of science & of virtue: and that a nation will be great in both, always in proportion as it is free." "Our liberty depends on the freedom of the press and cannot be limited without being lost."

On November 8, 2022, Americans from all over the country and the Virgin Islands, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico went to the polls for mid-term elections, exercising their right to vote and standing up for democracy, which is the fabric of this country's foundation.

Thank you all for exercising your precious right to cast your vote in this important mid-term elections. One of America's founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin, put forward this phrase, "When you're good to others, you're best to yourself." No matter what your party affiliation is, remember that we are all Americans first and live in the greatest country in the world.

The Region II Training Academy event was held in York, Pa., on October 10-11, 2022. It was phenomenal, a one-of-a-kind training event for all five federations' members in Region II. Attendees heard outstanding speakers, presenters, and educators on advocacy, volunteerism, federal benefits, healthcare specialists, re-tooling and learning new technological advancements of the 21st century, which are paving the way to the future on emerging markets and changing the way NARFE exercises and conducts business in the future.

Monday night featured live entertainment at the banquet and the National Secretary/Treasurer Kathryn Hensley as our keynote speaker. Our theme for the event was "Getting Things Done For NARFE."

Our Region II Strategic Planning Committee developed a plan called Operation Recruit, which went into effect earlier this year. Recruitment events included: Sponsor and vendor at the Department of Veterans Affairs,

76th Annual National Advisory Board and Conference held in Denver, Colorado; and Sponsor and Vendor at the Disabled American Veterans 100th National Convention, held in Orlando, Florida. The Region II leadership and I coordinated with NARFE HQ Director Dave Bowman, NARFE HQ Membership Department, and Maryland Federation President Dr. Sudha Haley before Florida Federation President Evelyn Seabrook and I worked the recruitment tables for NARFE, every day of the event. Finally, during the end of October, I was able to secure a sponsorship and vendor recruitment table for NARFE to participate in a Retirees Appreciation Day event, on October 28, 2022, at Fort George G. Meade, a U.S. Army installation, which is the home of the Defense Information School, the Defense Media Activity, the U.S. Army Field Band, the Headquarters of United States Cyber Command, the National Security Agency, the Defense Courier Service, Defense Information Systems Agency headquarters, and the U.S. Navy's Cryptologic Warfare Group Six. A lot of National Security civil servants work on base, and many came by our recruitment table, which I set up on October 27 and manned on October 28, due to my access as retired military.

In closing, thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your 2021-2022 Region II Vice President. I am totally confident that your new incoming RVP Larry Walton will continue to provide you with outstanding representation, after my tenure ends on December 31. Thank you once again.

PHOTOS FROM REGION II TRAINING ACADEMY IN YORK, PA



Region II VP Dr. Gary Roundtree (L) with Kathryn Hensley, NARFE National Secretary-Treasurer (C) and Larry Walton, Region II Treasurer and NARFE/MD 1st Vice President



Maryland attendees at Region II Training with Kathryn Hensley (C) Seated: Bessie Johnson (L) and Stu Sklamm (R). Standing (L-R): Dr. Gary Roundtree, Steve Groom, Charles Harrison, Larry Walton, Carla Duls, Jim Duls, Joan Sklamm, Ed Reed and Pandi Reed.



Patricia Farmer, Secretary

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

I am using my column space to provide information on important dates in 2023 dealing with nominations, ballots, and election of officers for 2023-2025.

NARFE/MD TIMELINE FOR NOMINATIONS, BALLOTS, AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2023-2025

- January 5, 2023:** Call for Nominations for State Officers to Maryland Chapter members and separate Call for Nominations for Board Member at Large to National Only Members (Secretary)
- February 5, 2023:** Nominations for State Officers due to Nominations Committee Chair; P. A. Jeffries;
Nominations for Board Member at Large due to Secretary
- March 1, 2023:** Proposals for amendments to NARFE/MD Bylaws due (Bylaws Chair Larry Lange)
- March 5, 2023:** Final Ballot to Ballot and Teller Committee (Officers and Bylaws Proposals changes) (Secretary)
- March 25, 2023:** State Candidate statements / Ballot with nominated officers and Bylaws changes sent via NES (Secretary);
Board Member at Large candidate statements and ballot sent to National members in Maryland via NES (Secretary)
- April 30, 2023:** Announce results of Election (President with input from Ballot and Teller Committee)

DESCRIPTION OF NARFE/MD VOTING PROCESS

One Member One Vote (OMOV) Elections: The Nominating Committee Chair Antoinette Jeffries and her committee members will provide a slate of candidates for the Maryland Federation officers for 2023-2025 by March 5, 2021. The OMOV ballot will **not** include the opportunity for the voter to write in a candidate for any of Maryland Federation offices. This ballot for voting on NARFE/MD officers will go to Maryland Chapter members and to National members living in Maryland.

The National members in Maryland will nominate candidates from among their ranks for Board Member at Large and will have a separate ballot for voting on the Board Member at Large. The Maryland Federation Secretary will oversee this voting process.

The OMOV ballots will be prepared by the Maryland Federation Secretary Pat Farmer and will be completed by **March 5**, with a copy provided to the Ballot and Teller Committee. Ballots will be sent out by **March 25** to Maryland Federation of NARFE members (Chapter members and National members living in Maryland) by the NARFE Email System (NES) and paper ballots by postal mail to those members who do not have email addresses. Voting begins **March 26**. Voting ends / ballots must be postmarked by **April 15**. Ballot and Teller Committee members count the votes. Final votes count due on **April 29**. President Dr. Sudha Haley will announce the results of the election on **April 30**.

FEDERATION ALZHEIMER'S REPORT



Virginia Bender

MD Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator

vbender21804@gmail.com 443-210-2920 854

Tern Ln. Apt. 204, Salisbury, MD 21804

Congratulations to our amazing NARFE partners — you surpassed \$15 million in fundraising in the fight against Alzheimer's! This incredible milestone is a testament to your commitment to ending Alzheimer's, and we celebrate you. Because of your unwavering support, the Alzheimer's Association® can advance vital research toward methods of treatment, prevention and, ultimately, a cure. We couldn't do this important work without you — thank you. We're so grateful to **NARFE's** dedicated members and your passion for our vision of a world without Alzheimer's. Together, we will end this disease.

Our Maryland Federation chapters have been successful at fundraising this year. Some of the projects have included Alzheimer's canisters at meetings, bowling tournaments, 50/50 raffles and bake sales. Total contributions to date total almost \$7,000. Thank you for the great work you are doing to fight Alzheimer's.

More than 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. By 2050, this number is projected to rise to nearly **13 million**.

Study is 'the ultimate test' of beta-amyloid hypothesis

Researchers are launching the DIAN-TU Primary Prevention Trial, a study designed to test whether stopping the buildup of a sticky substance in the brain called beta-amyloid will prevent Alzheimer's disease. The trial will give a treatment to people as young as 18 who have a rare gene mutation that causes Alzheimer's.

New Alzheimer's drug shows promise in clinical trial

The experimental drug Lecanemab helped slow cognitive decline by 27% among people living with early Alzheimer's disease, according to topline Phase 3 clinical trial results reported by Eisai and Biogen. The Alzheimer's Association believes these are [the most encouraging results in clinical trials](#) treating the underlying causes of Alzheimer's to date.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KATHY SIGGINS

Check out this wonderful story on Kathy's journey with Alzheimer's that appeared in the Alzheimer's Association Winter issue of ALZ Magazine. Below is a preview of the magazine cover and the two-page article titled STAMPING OUT ALZHEIMER'S - Advocate helps create USPS stamp for dementia research. Kathy Siggins, a member of Chapter 409 Frederick, is currently serving as NARFE Region II Alzheimer's Coordinator.



FEDERAL EMPLOYEE AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE (FEEA)REPORT



Eleanor Kaul eekaul@comcast.net 410-896-4354
Coordinator, Federal Employee and
Education Assistance – Scholarships and
Disaster Fund

NARFE Scholarship
Awards or Disaster Fund
c/o FEEA
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The 2021 NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Fund awarded \$1,000 per region. Region II winner was Camille Young, Washington, D.C.

The NARFE-FEEA Scholarship for 2022 /2023 school year is open only for high school seniors. For 2022 scholarship application, go to www.feea.org/our-programs/scholarships/. NOW IS THE TIME TO START YOUR APPLICATION.

FEEA is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and donations are tax-deductible. To donate to this fund, go to page 47 in the August issue of *narfe* magazine. There are other scholarships available on this site.

AROUND THE FEDERATION

CHAPTER 1734 HOWARD COUNTY

HOLIDAY PARTY CHARITY

Howard County Chapter 1734 has supported FISH for 14 years. Some speculate that FISH is an acronym for Friends in Service to Humanity, but in truth the name has the origins in the fish symbol used by people offering aid to those escaping persecution. For nearly forty-five years, FISH of Howard County, Inc (Maryland) has provided food, financial assistance, referral information, and other aid to county residents with legitimate emergency needs. At our holiday luncheon, we collected over \$200 and several bags of food and supplies for FISH of Howard County. Chapter member Wendel Thompson coordinates our collection at the holiday luncheon and delivers the donations to FISH. Susie Bell-Jones collects the funds and donated food and cleaning supplies. Teresa Baker, our Chapter president presided over the presentation.



L-R: Wendel Thompson, Susie Bell-Jones, and Teresa Baker

OCTOBER LUNCHEON MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN JOHN SARBANES

US Representative John Sarbanes, D-MD3, spoke about his efforts to protect American Democracy with the House-passed omnibus bill, H.R. 1, the For the People Act of 2021. He said that they fell two votes short of changing the Senate rules to allow for the bill's consideration. He talked about his hope that the new law to lower prescription drug prices under Medicare is expanded to cover all Americans' costly medications. He noted that the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision have been a problem since he assumed office in 2007 when he was first briefed on them and pledged to continue to press for passage of the Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 82).

Questions/answers centered around the changing of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday to Election Day; USPS Postmaster General Louis DeJoy still in office; President Biden firing the head of the SSA; CHIPS Act and science education; prescription drugs; gun control; US monetary policy; FEHB premiums wiping out retirees' COLAs; and a National Service obligation.

As a final thought, Congressman Sarbanes urged that we step up or encourage our friends to be elections judges. The coming election will be another pressure point on our democracy.



L-R: Teresa Baker, Joan Cwertniewicz, outgoing Co-President Mel Robinson, State Legislative Chair Paul Schwartz, Rep. John Sarbanes and outgoing Co-President Mark Wong.

Great attendance at Chapter 1734 Howard County's luncheon meeting with Rep. John Sarbanes on October 12 at the East Columbia 50+ Center.

THREE CHAPTERS CELEBRATE 40TH ANNIVERSARIES TOGETHER

Officers and members of Chapter 1887 Wheaton-Glenmont, Chapter 1888 White Oak and Chapter 1892 Aspen Hill and guests celebrated their 40th anniversaries on December 6, 2022, at a holiday luncheon meeting at the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department. Highlights of the event included a delicious buffet, door prizes, table trivia quiz, presentations, and good conversation.

John Hatton, NARFE Staff Vice President for Policy and Programs, was the featured speaker. Paul Schwartz, Chair of the Maryland Federation State Legislative Committee also spoke. Representing the Maryland Federation of NARFE President, Federation Secretary Patricia Farmer presented the three anniversary chapters with framed certificates, recognizing their 40 years of service to their members and to the NARFE mission.

Congratulations to Chapter Presidents Ron Shansby, 1887 Wheaton-Glenmont, Marcia Swanson, 1888 White Oak, and Sarah Richards, 1892 Aspen Hill, and all members of those chapters. Paul Hudes accepted the 1888 award.





**Collage of Anniversary Party Photos
Photos by Ron Shansby**

HIGHLIGHTS OF MARYLAND FEDERATION BOARD MEETING & CANDIDATES FORUM OCTOBER 3, 2022

*Photos by NARFE Maryland Federation Photographer
Melinda Scott*



Brooke Lierman, Candidate for Maryland Comptroller



Barry Glassman, Candidate for Maryland Comptroller



Glenn Ivey, Candidate for US Representative District 4



Dan Cox, Candidate for Maryland Governor



Candidate Forum Moderators pose with President Dr. Sudha Haley.

L-R: Karen Kinter (Timekeeper), Paul Schwartz, Dr. Haley, Dr. Gybrilla Ballard-Blakes and Edward Holland.



L-R: Virginia Bender, NARFE/MD Alzheimer's Coordinator, Walton, 1st Vice President, and Kathy Siggins, Region II Alzheimer's Coordinator.



Joe Moffatt, new President of Chapter 969 St. Mary's County, and President Dr. Sudha Haley, after Joe's swearing in.

FEDERATION DIRECTORY (abbreviated)

Executive Committee

President	Dr. Sudha Haley	410-535-4998	sudhabhagwat2002@yahoo.com
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2 nd Vice President	Edward Holland	301-848-3476	hollandnmd@aol.com
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Immediate Past President	Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr.	443-929-7045	groundtreesr@hotmail.com
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Past President	Ron Bowers	410-308-0420	narfebowers@msn.com

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Region II Configuration Advisory Board Rep	Howard Gordon	301-464-2745	flash@acm.org

Chapters and Presidents

126 Western Charles/Indian Head	Ed Rice	1522 Susquehanna (Acting)	Barry Decker, Acting
126 Co-Presidents	Ron Bush	1734 Howard County	Teresa Baker
251 Annapolis	Carla Duls		
258 WesternMontgomery County	Lois Ann Beaver	1747 Greater Bowie/Crofton	Frank Lee
306 Hagerstown	Patricia Nix	1770 Bel Air	James Wood
409 Frederick	Elinor Abrell	1887 Wheaton/Glenmont	Ron Shansby
410 West-Mar	Daniel Moore	1888 White Oak	Marcia Swanson
422 Laurel	Samuel Raines	1892 Aspen Hill	Sarah Richards
969 St. Mary's County	Joe Moffatt	1936 N.W. Baltimore Metro	Barbara Cuffie
		1936 Co-Presidents	Bessie Johnson
1143 Leisure World		1972 Waldorf/La Plata	Edward Holland
1260 Southern Prince George's County	Brenda Hill-Johnson	2262 Upper Marlboro	P.A. Jeffries
1260 Co-Presidents	Tiffany Daniel	2274 Ocean Area	Larry Walton
		2306 Carroll County	Charles Harrison
1466 Calvert County	Barry Grier		

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

The Maryland Federation Newsletter is published three times a year: Spring, Fall, Winter by the Maryland Federation of NARFE, P.O. Box 3527, Laurel, MD 20709 **Editor/Production Manager/Distribution:** Patricia Farmer, 240-762-3895, buttonspaf@aol.com.



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Maryland Federation – Chartered April 5, 1956

Maryland Federation Newsletter

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2023 CALENDAR

January 24
February 5
February 6
February 7
March 1

Deadline for February Board Meeting
Nominations for State Officers due to Chair
Executive Committee Mtg, Bowie Comfort Inn
Federation Board Meeting, Bowie Comfort Inn
Article Deadline for Spring Federation Newsletter