

FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



GARY ROUNDTREE SR., PH.D.

Greetings, My fellow NARFE Members and Family. I would like to begin with a big thank you to each one of you who voted in this year's election of our new federation officers, and those who attended our 46th Maryland Federation Biennial Conference at the Aloft Hotel, Ocean City, Maryland, April 30 thru May 2, 2023.

During the May 1 swearing-in ceremony at our dinner, I made remarks after receiving the gavel once again to lead the federation. My brief remarks were on the **Theme: Catch the Wave, Engage each other**. "Can you feel it."

Embrace Your Destiny. All of us who are NARFE members have a divine role to play in one of the greatest known organizations of federal active and retired employees on the planet. Greatness lies within each one of us. We are the voices of millions of federal employees from every lifestyle, race, creed, or ethnicity who work for the U.S. government in agencies, departments and units that serve the American public, and their interests around the world, and throughout the halls of Congress, and the White House.

We are the engine that makes the country run, the eye of the Tiger, and the symbolic Bald Eagles, which is our nation's divine symbol of Freedom, Liberty, and Justice for all Americans.

During this year's conference in Ocean City, Maryland, I presented an Organizational Leadership presentation/workshop, which solely focused on two personal qualities a leader needs to possess: Approachability, and Passion for what one does.

- Two skills or competences What are you good at doing? Such as knowledge of the organization and your ability to listen to others.
- Two Behavioral Practices (routine behaviors that you engage in) Accountability, Connecting with other people.

Now think of NARFE and the future role you can play as a leader at the federation level, chapter level, as a member, or community leader, or even in your church.

As the newly elected Maryland Federation President, I am its core guiding officer with the sole responsibility to formulate the direction, consider membership-geography-location, or segment - separate from the current one - and find one or two significant differences in how the leadership team approaches the organization compared to our current one, to fit the different demographics of the various generations of federal active and retired employees. This will allow the federation to better find its members categories, and mail renewal or send through technological software at our disposal.

As Maryland is a state on the east coast, here are three things each of us should consider when leading at scale and scope of an organization of our size and nature.

- Membership- Geography- Location: How is the East Coast Region different from the West Coast Region?
- Territories, Economics, Culture, Politics, Environment. Understanding the customers in each region will help align the vision with our Purpose/Mission.
- Finally, Communicating Direction Audience: Who is our target audience and how do we plan to tailor the message to them?

In closing, our team of leaders needs to improve very much with the activity of innovation. I believe that to help achieve my three-year value creating plan for the NARFE Maryland Federation, it is essential that we invest in innovative technology.



Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D.

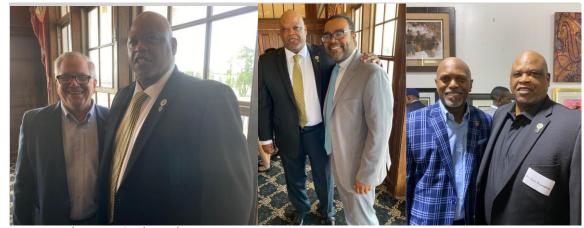
Vice President Kamala Harris speaks July 14, 2023, at Coppin State University in Baltimore to announce the \$20 billion to help finance clean energy projects in disadvantaged communities across the country. She stated, "This is the largest investment in financing for community-based climate projects in our nation." Maryland Federation President Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D., was invited and attended this event.

Maryland Federation President Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D., is pictured below with federal and state elected officials.



US Senator Tom Carper, Delaware MD Governor Wes Moore

MD Senate President Bill Ferguson



MD Delegate Eric Ebersole

MD State Senator Charles E. Syndor III

MD State Senator Ron Watson



Maryland Delegate Kevin Harris

Maryland Delegates
Tiffany Alston & Jennifer White

Scott D. Shellenberger State's Attorney, Baltimore County



MD House Speaker Adrienne Jones

MD Senator Benjamin Brooks MD Senate Pro Tem President Melony Griffith



Baltimore City Comptroller
Bill Henry

State Senator Former State Senator MD Attorney General William C. Smith James N. Mathias Jr. Anthony Brown

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### FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR REPORT



Edward Holland
First Vice President / Legislative Director

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As I mentioned via FEDHub, thank you for returning me to the high office of NARFE MD 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. I look forward to continuing working with: NARFE MD President Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D.; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Edward Reed; Secretary Melody Kebe; and Treasurer Stuart Sklamm.

As I have mentioned to many of you, we need to push membership and cohesion. Now is not the time for us to go into silos and form factions. Like a "U.S Marine" of a forgotten era, I stand on top of the hill ready to ensure that we're more than ready to become a fighting unit.

# **Legislative Director**

As the Legislative Director, I look forward to continuing to work with SLC Chair Paul Schwartz and the SLC Committee. In going forward, I plan to have a similar collaborative relationship with newly appointed FLC Chair Frank Lee and FLC Vice Chair Teresa Baker. In the meantime, I look forward to our future meetings with the FLC leadership.

May 9 – Edward Holland participated in a virtual SLC meeting.

June 20 - 21 – Edward Holland participated in a virtual LEGCon23 training.

June 22 – Edward Holland led interaction with Congressional staffers as part of NARFE National Advocacy Day

July 11 – **Edward Holland** participated in a virtual SLC meeting.

July 20 – **Edward Holland** represented the organization at a Maryland Senator Michael Jackson (MD 27B) event held at the Mamma Lucia Restaurant in Dunkirk. This was a MDNARFE-PAC sanctioned event. The good Senator is a Member, Budget and Taxation Committee and Senate Chair, Calvert County Delegation. He said that he'd take our concerns under advisement: 1) Senior migration to tax friendly states (how best to keep them/us in Maryland); 2) Decoupling federal and state tax returns; and 3) Tax incentive for the purchase of long-term care insurance. Nothing like good company and good chow!

September 8 – **Edward Holland** participated in the Annual U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer Bull Roast in Prince George's County.



Maryland Senator Michael Jackson (L) and NARFE/MD First Vice President Edward Holland at political event held July 20, 2023, at the Mamma Lucia Restaurant in Dunkirk.

### Representative to Fraternal Order of Police

June 14 – **Edward Holland** participated in an FOP meeting in the District of Columbia. As legislative chair, he briefed on the Lodge's legislative efforts.

June 12 – **Edward Holland** participated in an FOP meeting in the District of Columbia. As veterans chair, he briefed on upcoming veteran events. Also, as the elected Commerce Trustee, he discussed an ongoing grievance with management.

August 13 - August 17 – **Edward Holland** participated in a National FOP Biennial Conference in Las Vegas. As a member of the National Election Committee, he assisted with certifying the results of the election of national officers. Moreover, as the DC FOP Legislative Chair, he attended strategy sessions as it pertained to the repeal of WEP/GPO.

## **Veterans Affairs**

May 31 – **Edward Holland, Dir,** participated in a virtual Charles County Military Alliance Council Executive Committee meeting.

June 1 – Dr. Tiffany Daniel, Dep Dir, participated in a state-level veteran conference in Ocean City.

June 7 – **Edward Holland, Dir,** participated in a Charles County Military Alliance Council Board of Directors meeting in Charles County

June 10 – Edward Holland, Dir, participated in a Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting in Charles County.

June 10 – Dr. Tiffany Daniel, Dep Dir, led a virtual legacy African American veteran group meeting.

June 19 – Edward Holland, Dir, participated in a virtual AARP Veterans Group meeting.

July 3 – Dr. Tiffany Daniel, Dep Dir, participated in a Veteran Day of Celebration in Cecil County.

July 22 – **Edward Holland, Dir,** – NARFE MD membership effort at the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Banquet at the Newburg Volunteer Rescue Squad & Fire Department and Auxiliary in Charles County.

July 26 – **Edward Holland, Dir,** participated in a virtual Charles County Military Alliance Council Executive Committee meeting.

July 29 – **Edward Holland, Dir**, represented NARFE MD at Women Veterans United Inc. "Women Veterans Meet & Greet" at the College of Southern Maryland in Charles County.

August 2 – **Edward Holland, Dir,** participated in a Charles County Military Alliance Council Board of Directors meeting in Charles County.

August 6 – James Wade, Member, participated in a Veterans of Foreign Wars Council of Administration meeting in Talbot County.

August 12 – Edward Holland, Dir, participated in a Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting in Charles County.

August 21 – **Edward Holland. Dir**, participated in a meeting of the South Potomac Civilian-Military Community (COMREL) Council in Indian Head, Md.

September 9 – Edward Holland, Dir, participated in a Veterans of Foreign Wars meeting in Charles County.

September 9 – James Wade, Member, participated in a Veterans of Foreign Wars Family Freedom Festival in Howard County.

September 16 – Edward Holland, Dir, was presented a guilt by the Quilts of Valor Foundation – St. Mary's County.

August 21- Edward Holland, Dir, participated in a meeting of the South Potomac Military Community Relations (COMREL) Council in Indian Head, Md.

**Dr. Tiffany Daniel** – Deputy Director, NARFE MD Veterans / Chaplain, VFW Department of Maryland / County Representative for the Blue Star Families Baltimore Regional Chapter / Chair, Women Veterans United Committee Inc. / Junior Vice Commander, VFW Post 7461 / President, CTL DomGroup Inc, nonprofit in SOMD helping Veterans and their families transition into the community.

James Wade – Member, NARFE MD Veterans / Chief of Staff supporting the newly elected 2023-2024 Maryland VFW Department Commander, James L. Holland (**transparency** ...VFW Maryland State Commander James Holland is a relative of NARFE MD 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Edward Holland).

#### FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT



FRANK LEE, FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

#### INTRODUCTION OF NEW FLC CHAIR

Hi Everyone,

I wish to thank President Gary Roundtree for appointing me as the new chair of the Federal Legislative Committee (FLC). This is a vital function in NARFE and the MD NARFE Federation, as we need to develop support from members of Congress to promote issues important to NARFE and the Federal community. I look forward to working with the FLC Vice Chair, Teresa Baker, to develop and maintain good working relationships with members of Congress to support important NARFE initiatives and issues. I am coming into this position with more than 10 years of experience with NARFE including five years of experience as a chapter president.

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#### **MD Federation Members Lead LEGcon23 Outreach**

In June, NARFE held LEGcon23, a three-day virtual grassroots training and legislative conference. The Maryland Federation was represented by several members who met over Zoom to deliver NARFE's message directly to Congress. The LEGcon23 program featured presentations on strategies for effective communication with federal legislators and their staff. Overall, the LEGcon23 virtual advocacy effort connected with over 200 congressional offices. Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) joined the Zoom, led by Ed Holland who also led meetings with senior staff to Sen. Ben Cardin (D-MD) and Reps. Steny Hoyer (D-MD-5) and Andy Harris (R-MD-1). Paul Schwartz led the meetings with the legislative staff to Reps. David Trone (D-MD-6) and Jamie Raskin (D-MD-8). Teresa Baker led meetings with senior staff to Reps. John Sarbanes (D-MD-3) and Glenn Ivey (D-MD-4).

Teresa Baker, FLC Vice Chair and President NARFE Chapter 1734 Howard County



### STATE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (SLC) REPORT

Paul K. Schwartz

State Legislative Committee Chair pksyanks@aol.com

While we all waited with bated breath on the decisions regarding federation committee membership, the political campaign season for state legislators has been in full swing. Campaign fundraisers wait for no one. With that in mind, I want to remind everyone that MDNARFE-PAC funds to attend these campaign fundraisers for candidates for the state legislature is not limited to members of the State Legislation Committee. This funding is available to all Maryland NARFE members, specially and most importantly, constituents of a particular candidate for the state legislature.

However, there is a process in place that must be followed to ensure that attendance at a particular fundraiser is both productive and meets any legal requirements set by the Maryland Board of Elections.

I direct you to Bob Doyle's column in this newsletter to see the full and detailed process. However, I will highlight a few points at this time. First and foremost, it is important to remember that the point of attending any fundraiser is to discuss NARFE's priorities with the candidate as well as other legislators in attendance. I and the other members of the State Legislation Committee are happy to go over these priorities with you prior to your attendance. NOTE: You will not be graded.

I also want to emphasize that the candidates with whom we are particularly interested in making a connection are those legislators currently members of key House of Delegates or Senate committees. This is not as straightforward as you may think. There are committees such as the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee and the House Ways & Means Committee, both of which deal with our tax fairness issues and which, accordingly, are of particular importance to us. Members of those committees, therefore, should be targeted. However, at the State Legislation Committee we have expanded our focus as evidenced by last year's success regarding our support of legislation on such issues as pharmaceutical pricing, assisted living facilities and several other issues dealing with the senior population, which served to expand the number of committees with which we directly dealt.

Moreover, our focus is not just on committee members, although they are clearly a priority, but, as well, legislators in general who may be willing to sponsor or cosponsor legislation on our priority issues.

Our efforts on behalf of the senior population of Maryland will continue but will be strengthened the more participation we have by NARFE members across the state. Remember, "leave no one behind" must include seniors.

#### MDNARFE-PAC REPORT





Bob Doyle
MDNARFE-PAC
Treasurer and Coordinator
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bdoyle47@verizon.net

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.

We have recently circulated to the SLC members instructions for submitting requests to attend a candidate fundraiser. Because all of you reading this Newsletter are eligible to attend these fundraisers -- as are all the Members of your Chapters – we are publishing these instructions in this issue for your reference. Please feel free to publish these in your Chapter newsletters. I will send you the Word version of the instructions upon request.

#### **MDNARFE-PAC**

**Process:** Submit your request by email to the MDNARFE-PAC Committee, consisting of the MDNARFE-PAC Chair, MDNARFE-PAC Treasurer, and State Legislative Committee (SLC) Chair - respectively, Ed Bice, Bob Doyle, and Paul Schwartz, at these email addresses:

Ed Bice – <u>de3637@verizon.net</u> / Bob Doyle – <u>bdoyle47@verizon.net</u> / Paul Schwartz - <u>pksyanks@aol.com</u> You must attach either the flyer you received about the fundraiser or provide information about the fundraiser (date/time/place, cost and where to mail the check). Please submit your request as soon as possible to allow for adequate time for review.

The MDNARFE-PAC Committee will review the request under the criteria discussed below, so we ask that your request discuss why we should pay for a NARFE member to attend the fundraiser, referencing these criteria (as applicable):

First preference is for Legislators who are members of Committees who have jurisdiction over our issues of tax relief, long-term care tax credits, and itemized deductions, namely the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee and the House Ways & Means Committee.

Because we are now also actively supporting other bills affecting seniors in other areas (e.g., prescription drug pricing, nursing home abuse, and affordable wills and estate planning for seniors), we will now look to support

members of the Committees with jurisdiction over health and legal affairs.

For legislators not on those Committees, we will give preference to legislators who have been sponsors or cosponsors of our favored bills in prior sessions. The Committee will consider the legislator's record as found on the Maryland General Assembly website. If the legislator has no record of support for our issues, the MDNARFE-PAC Committee – if time allows -- will contact the President of the Chapter (or Chapters) that the legislator represents to ask for his or her views on the legislator's record with respect to senior related legislation, and how accessible they have been to the local NARFE Chapter.

Because members of the SLC keep on top of our legislative agenda efforts through their SLC work, attending candidate fundraisers is considered part of their SLC duty. Notwithstanding that, we believe it is always a good idea for as many NARFE Chapters and members as possible to reach out to their state Senators and Delegates to establish good working relationships. This happens most often by inviting your representatives to address your Chapter meeting annually. Besides these meetings, we believe NARFE members (especially Chapter officers) should try to attend fundraisers to maintain good relationships with their legislators. For this reason, we urge any interested members of NARFE to request to attend fundraisers, which we will consider under the criteria outlined above. Please feel free to contact me or the other members of the MDNARFE-PAC Committee directly if you have any questions.

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#### REPORT FROM PAT FARMER, NARFE/MD REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MARYLAND GERONTOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

I have stepped down as MGA's Administrative Vice President for Membership, after many years in that position, to make room for a younger member to take a leadership role. I will remain as a Board Member and will continue to represent the Maryland Federation of NARFE. My liaison between NARFE and MGA has afforded me an invaluable education on aging and the issues of aging since Past President Ted Jensen named me to replace Frank Chase on the MGA Board.

The MGA 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, "Is it More Than the Blues? Mental Health and Aging," held May 23 at the Meeting House in Columbia was a great, in-person success! Many thanks to our NARFE/MD colleague **Rhonda Hackley** for attending the MGA Annual Conference. At the October Board Meeting, ask Rhonda how she liked the conference. You might decide to attend in 2024.

A pre-conference lecture - Overview of Depression and Anxiety by MGA president Marina Nellius, Social Work Manager, Landmark Health, set the tone and provided the background for the conference. Maryland Department of Aging Secretary Carmel Roques gave the Welcome. A member of MGA, Secretary Roques has an extensive background and experience in the field of aging, which has been much needed in this position for years.

Secretary Roques has announced that Maryland was chosen by the Centers for Health Care Strategies as one of ten states to participate in the Multisector Plan for Aging Learning Collaborative. A Multisector Plan for Aging creates a valuable blueprint to help states design a coordinated system of high-quality care and support services that promotes healthy aging, independent living, and social engagement, while also addressing issues related to healthcare, housing, transportation, and other social determinants of health. The plan will include critical partnerships with public and private sector stakeholders, as well as input from older people across the state.

Mark your calendars for the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual MGA Conference on May 21, 2024, in Columbia. But in the meantime, MGA has several virtual educational sessions coming up in the fall at which CEU credits are offered: Sept. 12, 1-2 p.m., Maryland Multisector Plan for Aging; October date TBD, Alzheimer's Update; Sept. 21, 4:30-8 p.m., Ethics, Empathy and Compassion: A Complicated Relationship; and November 8, noon-1 p.m., The State of Elder Economic Insecurity in Maryland. Contact me if you are interested in attending.



# SECOND VICE PRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT EDWARD REED edr3eagle@gmail.com 301-739-1641

As your newly appointed Membership Development Maryland Federation - 2nd Vice President, I would like to encompass some ideas of our Federation President Dr. Gary Roundtree into a Sound Recruitment Plan or Strategy for our Maryland Federation's future efforts.

Our Plan's Theme would be: "Membership, Recruitment and Retention" - through a greater use of digital marketing efforts to reach potential members and increased focus on recruiting active federal employees. These objectives mesh well, as most employees currently in the federal workforce are accessible via multiple online platforms, including email, websites, and social media. Per NARFE HQS, NARFE's digital marketing efforts are expanding rapidly, and the number of prospective members seeing NARFE's message is increasing faster than ever. If you have questions about digital marketing or any of NARFE's ongoing membership development efforts, or if you need assistance or resources for your local recruiting efforts, please don't hesitate to contact NARFE HQS at membership@narfe.org.

We, your Federation's Officers, and all our Federation Members (National in Maryland and Chapter) need to work positively towards a possible Federation Goal of a 15% increase In Membership! In the words of our Federation President, "All members must seek out those Active-Duty and Retired-Feds (USPS Especially) by stroking their curiosity on NARFE."

We, as members, should always survey the landscape, environment and study our competitors till we know everything about them, to stay ahead of the curve, and make wise decisions. We must invest in innovation by seeking out a prospective member's curiosity on retirement, that would attract her/him. It is our profound job and duty to know and understand the members/customer needs and wants to create value for them as an organization solely dedicated to protecting their federal retirement benefits.

In speaking with a prospective new NARFE member, Here's What You Need to Say About NARFE: "Do you belong to NARFE, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association? If you don't, you should. 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. In grassroots advocacy efforts, about 175K+ NARFE members represent the interests of about five million employees and retirees. Founded in 1921, NARFE's legacy spans 100+ years. NARFE is your 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 of any changes."

"Members have access to NARFE's Federal Benefits Institute, an online learning center, with live and recorded presentations and valuable resources to help you become experts at managing and understanding your federal benefits. One-on-one help is also available from federal benefits specialists from this institute."

**GET FIRED UP FOR THE NARFE 2023 FALL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:** This is a critical time of year when we truly need ALL NARFE/MD members (National and Chapter) to "Step Up and Help Us Grow!" This is the time when we really need to get ALL our Maryland Federation members motivated to take every opportunity to talk up NARFE - we're asking ALL of you to please show your fellow members that you're energized about all that NARFE does for Feds and all we offer to members.

Members are often hesitant to approach others about NARFE Membership because they're not sure what to talk about, or how to introduce the topic. In the last few months, however, several high-profile situations have arisen that affect active and retired Feds, and NARFE has been directly involved on ALL Feds' behalf. Please share these points with your fellow NARFE members (Active and Retired) to help them highlight the value of NARFE membership!

In the words of a past NARFE President, "One issue we must prioritize is reversing membership decline by attracting new members and retaining existing members. We need to make sure everyone involved with NARFE is aware of and committed to the recruitment and retention processes, is prepared to answer questions, and feels comfortable talking about the organization to prospective members. It is everyone's responsibility to find new members, help keep existing members and work as a team to accomplish recruitment and retention goals. NARFE needs to get involved in image development opportunities such as recruiting at health fairs, cosponsoring, or collaborating on a program with another organization, or participating in a community service project with nonmembers. Use those opportunities to educate people about NARFE and its value."

So, how do we ALL empower leaders and ALL NARFE/MD members to: Recruitment, Retention and Reinvigorating? Use The NARFE-Elevator Speech! An elevator speech is simply a quick overview that you can tailor to your audience. It's the best way to present NARFE and the value of membership within a limited amount of time. Key points to share with potential members focus on answering four key questions: \* What is NARFE? \* What does NARFE do? \* What benefits do I receive as a NARFE member? \* What is the value of NARFE membership? Another benefit: NARFE Sample Open Season Benefits Analysis: Each fall, NARFE reviews the OPM Open Season data, organizes it into easy-to-follow charts, and provides advice and guidance that can help federal employees and retirees make sound decisions about their health care benefits - decisions that could save them thousands of dollars over time. Now you can share a sample of this information with prospective members and show them the concrete value of NARFE membership. Who can join NARFE? As our Federation's 1st V.P. once noted, "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, a former spouse who is legally entitled to a federal survivor annuity."

In closing, a few personal notes: "Thank You for helping NARFE grow! NARFE is a leading voice in Washington speaking on behalf of the federal community, fighting for our benefits and well-being every day. Every new member you recruit strengthens every message we send to Congress and fortifies our national outreach. The more members we have, the louder our voice! REMEMBER: Make sure to provide your recruits with your NARFE member ID number so you get the credit when they join. Full Autumn Recruitment details will be in the September issue of NARFE Magazine. I believe there will be a Financial Incentive for all new Memberships received at NARFE HQS on/before Dec. 31, 2023. In completing this year's Recruitment Campaign, let us continue our Federation President's New Theme for ALL In 2023-2025: "CATCH THE WAVE, ENGAGE TODAY." President Roundtree asks us to "Support and Embrace this theme." While we're ALL out and about during the summer (and throughout the Autumn Recruitment Campaign), please support the Team (Your fellow Federation Members) by ENGAGING with those that you meet and telling them about NARFE. Help us to communicate the benefits of becoming a member of an organization that is solely focused on protecting the hard-earned benefits of active and retired federal employees. "EACH MEMBER HAS A ROLE IN THE TEAM'S SUCCESS - Collectively, we can sustain the future of NARFE by engaging with one another and increasing our membership." As our former-Federation-Secretary has said: "Ask All possible NARFE Members you see: JOIN NOW at <a href="http://www.narfe.org">http://www.narfe.org</a> and preserve your earned rights and benefits and activate your member privileges."

# REGION II VICE PRESIDENT REPORT







Larry Walton
Region II Vice President
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443-831-1791

Sure was one of the hottest summers ever. The air conditioners were working overtime. Hope all are well. Hope you all had a good summer in spite of the heat. Fall is fast approaching, and the weather should be more suitable.

The next joint NARFE NEB and the Federation Presidents meeting will be held at the Sheraton Suites, Old Town, Alexandria, Virginia. The dates are August 28 and 29. Details are still being worked out.

This morning I checked our total membership, and it is currently 10,097. We have lost about 300 since the first of the year. So, we must continue to work on the three Rs: Reconnect, Re-energize and Recruit. Let's continue to work the three Rs and grow our membership. Without members we have no organization. I ask everyone to please recruit one new member, so we can grow, grow and grow.

#### Chapters: Please spend some money to Recruit!

| I attended the Celebration | of Life | for NARFE/MD | past 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP Barr | y Grier in Prince Free | derick, | Md. |
|----------------------------|---------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----|
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Stay Well!

All the best, Larry

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT



Melody Kebe Federation Secretary melodykebe@gmail.com

Greetings Fellow Federation Members,

I trust each of you had a safe and wonderful summer. Fall is fast approaching, and winter will be knocking on the door before we realize it. Okay, enough talk about the days coming and going. (smile)

Day one in this position was an eye opener into what really goes on behind the scenes at the Executive Committee level. Commitment and dedication are at the top of the list of the Federation Officers, Chairs, and Committee Members to stay the course in executing the overall NARFE mission. Kudos to all who work diligently on behalf of all their federation members!

To ensure you have enough time to prepare here are a few things to put on your radar for the coming months:

- <u>September 10</u>: The Official Call Letter to the October Maryland Federation Board Meeting and Training will be sent by this date. The letter will include the list of speakers, training topics, lunch menu, and other pertinent information to prepare attendees for the meeting. The meeting/training will be held at the Comfort Inn and Conference Center in Bowie, Maryland.
- October 4: The October Federation Board Meeting and Training Attendee Registration Form must be received by this date.
- October 23: Federation Executive Committee Meeting (3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.)
- October 24: Federation Board Meeting & Training (8:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m.)

**Heads-up to all Chapter Secretaries!** At the May 2024 Federation Mini-Conference, I will be leading a Secretaries Roundtable. The purpose of this is to have an open dialog on challenges, share best practices, provide how to tips for taking meeting minutes, and discuss any other-related topics that are important to you. If the chapter does not have a secretary a representative can attend the roundtable.

Lastly, I will be accompanying the Federation President to several chapter meetings/events. My goal is to meet fellow members across the Federation and be another resource to reach out to.

I look forward to seeing you in October. Stay safe and well! *Melody Kebe* 



Stuart Sklamm, Treasurer, <a href="mailto:srsklamm@msn.com">srsklamm@msn.com</a>

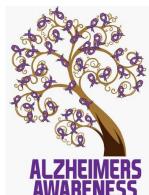
# NARFE MARYLAND FEDERATION FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF JUNE 30, 2023

The Bank of America savings account balance as of 6/30/23 was \$103,121.34 and the Bank of America checking account balance as of 1/31/23 was \$7,733.61. We also have a \$10,000 certificate of deposit with Sandy Spring Bank.

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| DESCRIPTION                              |           | AMOUNT BUDGETED      | ACTUAL AMOUNT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | DIFFERENCE (+OR- |
| INCOME                                   |           |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                  |
| Chapter Per <u>Capita</u> Tax            |           | 2500                 | \$3,810                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | (\$1,310         |
| February Board Meeting                   |           | 2000                 | \$1,750                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | \$250            |
| Federation Biennial Conference           |           | 3000                 | 7,160                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | (\$4,160         |
| Interest Savings and C of D              |           | 50                   | \$72.00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | (\$22.00         |
| NARFE National 10% Remittance            |           | 40000                | \$20,746.00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | \$19,254.00      |
| October Board Meeting                    |           | 2000                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$2,000.00       |
|                                          | TOTAL     | 49550                | \$33,538.00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | \$16,012.00      |
| EXPENSES                                 |           |                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                  |
| Presidents Budget                        |           | 2000                 | \$266.00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | \$1,734.00       |
| President's Administrtion                |           | 4000                 | \$4,344.00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | (\$344)          |
| Federarion President's Meeting           |           | 4400                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$4,400          |
| President's Chapter Assistance           |           | 1000                 | -25.00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | \$1,025          |
| Federation Executive Committee           |           | 1000                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$1,000          |
| Region II Training Academy               |           | 3000                 | -100                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | \$3,100          |
| Biennia Conference Planning              |           | 2000                 | 552                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | \$1,448          |
| Biennial Conference                      |           | 17000                | 33335                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | (\$16,335)       |
| 1st Vice President                       |           | 1000                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$1,000          |
| 2nd Vice President                       |           | 1000                 | 1660                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | (\$660)          |
| Secretary Stipend                        |           | 1200                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$1,200          |
| Production Mgr. Editor&Distribution Mgr. |           | 4600                 | 1371                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | \$3,229          |
| Newsletter Editor Stipend                |           | 2000                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$2,000          |
| October Board Meeting                    |           | 2000                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$2,000          |
| Treasurer                                |           | 1000                 | 199                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | \$801            |
| February Board Meeting                   |           | 5000                 | 5167                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | (\$167)          |
| FLC Chair                                |           | 3000                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$3,000          |
| FLC LEGCON                               |           | 3000                 | \$945.00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | \$2,055.00       |
| Membership Chair                         |           | 2000                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$2,000.00       |
| October Board Meeting                    |           | 5000                 | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | \$5,000          |
| SLC Chair                                |           | 2000                 | 469                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | \$1,531          |
| Program Director                         |           | 2000                 | 1459                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | \$541            |
|                                          |           | AMOUNT BUDGETED      | ACTUAL AMOUNT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | DIFFERENCE(+OR-) |
| Public Relations Director                |           | 1500                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | \$1,500          |
| Website and ZOOM                         |           | 500                  | 357                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | \$143            |
|                                          | TOTAL     | 71200                | 49999                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 21201            |
| SURPLUS (DEFICIT)                        |           | 21650                | -16461                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 5189             |

#### FEDERATION ALZHEIMER'S REPORT





Virginia Bender
MD Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator
Vbender21804@gmail.com 860-823-9312
854 Tern Ln. Apt. 204, Salisbury, MD 21804

#### **Newest Drug in Clinical Trials**

#### Alzheimer's drug donanemab shows promising clinical trial results.

Results of the drug donanemab showed the treatment slowed progression of early symptomatic Alzheimer's disease. These results, the strongest Alzheimer's Phase 3 data released to date, underscore the call from the Alzheimer's Association for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to stop blocking access to Food and Drug Administration-approved treatments.

#### Without clinical trials, there can be no better treatments, no prevention, and no cure for Alzheimer's disease.

Recruiting and retaining diverse trial participants is now the greatest obstacle, other than funding, to developing the next generation of Alzheimer's treatments. Individuals with dementia, caregivers and healthy volunteers are all needed to participate in clinical studies focused on Alzheimer's and other dementias.

#### **Questions for the Doctor**

Ask the doctor the following questions when you discuss treatments. These questions will not address all treatment needs, but the answers will help you understand the options and make informed decisions.

- What treatment options are available?
- Am I eligible for one of the medications that changes disease progression?
- Will my treatment be covered by insurance? If not, what are my options?
- What is the benefit I might receive from this drug? How would that change my daily life?
- Which symptoms are being targeted by each medication? How will the effectiveness of each treatment be measured?
- How much time will pass before you will be able to assess the treatment's effectiveness?
- How likely are side effects? How will you monitor for them? What side effects should we watch for at home?
- If I do experience side effects, will I need to stop taking the drug? When should we call you?
- Is one treatment option more likely than another to interfere with medications for other conditions?
- What are the concerns with stopping one drug treatment and beginning another?
- At what stage of the disease would you consider it appropriate to stop using the drug?

For information www.alz.org 800-272-3900

#### FEDERAL EMPLOYEE AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE (FEEA) REPORT



EleanorKaul eekaul@comcast.net 410-896-4354 Coordinator, Federal Employee and Education Assistance – Scholarships and Disaster Fund NARFE Scholarship Awards orDisasterFund c/o FEEA 1641 Prince Street Alexandria, VA 22314

The NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Fund annually awards \$1,000 per region only to high school seniors. The 2022 Region II winner was Eve Rosenblum of Lewes, Del. 2023 winners will be announced in August.

For 2024 scholarship application, go to <u>scholarship@narfe.org</u>. NOW IS THE TIME TO START THE APPLICATION PROCESS.

To date the Federation has donated \$3,165. Half of raffle total goes to FEEA and the other half is divided equally between two members. Yes, the winning members really receive the money at the end of the conference.

There are two separate FEEA funds. The <u>Emergency Fund</u> is to help prevent debit 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 <u>Disaster Relief Fund</u> 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.

Since FEEA is a 501c3 nonprofit organization donations are tax deductible. Donations by concerned individuals and institutions support FEEA Funds. In the August *narfe* magazine, page 49 has forms for donating to these funds. Indicate on your check to which fund you are donating.

I have been FEEA chair since 2015 and it is time for someone to volunteer. The duties are handling the raffle at board meetings and conferences and providing FEEA articles three times a year for the Federation newsletter. Each article can be used again, requiring only changing dates, etc. I will provide you all the materials for the raffle and copies of newsletter article.

MD Federation FEEA Chair Eleanor Kaul

# Summary of the Maryland Federation of NARFE 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

The conference was held at the Aloft Hotel in Ocean City May 1 - May 2, 2023. We had seventy-two members and guests attend from Maryland, Delaware, Washington, D.C., and Virginia.

Five speakers and two workshops provided us with varied topics of interest from the Maryland state Legislature, NARFE, Human Trafficking, the Maryland Military Coalition, Elder Care and Organizational Leadership. There were eight vendors giving us information and handouts.

Monday evening was our banquet with the installation of new Maryland Federation officers. Dinner was served. and a D.J. played music to listen to and for dancing.

The results of the evaluation forms submitted by our members showed that overall, almost everything about the conference was rated a 4 or 5. The many comments were also very favorable. The hotel staff got very high scores. Every member of the staff was friendly, helpful and did their job and more to help make our conference a success.

Submitted by Virginia Bender, 46th Biennial Conference Chair

# PHOTOS OF 46<sup>th</sup> BIENNIAL CONFERENCE, OCEAN CITY, MD By Melinda Scott, NARFE/MD Photographer



Installation of 2023-2025 NARFE/MD Officers
L-R: Installing Officer Larry Walton, Region II Vice President; Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D.,
President; Edward Holland, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Melody Kebe, Secretary; Stuart Sklamm,
Treasurer; and William Shackelford, NARFE President



A standing ovation for our awesome, dedicated vendors!

Many thanks to Doug Fischer for securing them for the Ocean City conference.



L-R: Sam Raines, Parliamentarian & President Chapter 422; outgoing Secretary Pat Farmer; Larry Walton, Region II VP; & Ed Holland, Interim Federation President. Larry & Ed had surprised Pat with a plaque recognizing her 10 years of service as Federation Secretary.



Standing: Bill Shackelford, NARFE President Seated: Esther Nash, Virginia Federation Secretary and Pat Farmer, Maryland Federation Secretary



L: Carla Duls, President Chapter 251 Annapolis, received an Alzheimer's Award from Virginia Bender, Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator.



L: Joe Moffatt, President Chapter 969 St. Mary's County, received an Alzheimer's Award from Virginia Bender, Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator.

NOTE: Kathy Siggins, Chapter 409 Fredrick, also received an Alzheimer's Award for the chapter. No photo was available. Chapters 969, 251 and 409 were the three highest contributors to Alzheimer's in the Maryland Federation.

# Maryland Federation 46<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference SPEAKERS & WORKSHOP PRESENTERS Photos by Melinda Scott, Maryland Federation Photographer



MD State Senator Mary Beth Carozza (R-Dist. 38)



**NARFE President Bill Shackelford** 



John Hatton, Staff VP, NARFE Policy & Programs (L) with Ed Holland, Interim Federation President



Bradley Fallon, Deputy Legislative Officer, Gov. Wes Moore's Office



Workshop presenter Gina Shaffer (L), Elder Law with Larry Walton, Region II VP



Jayson Spiegel, President, Maryland Military Coalition



Thomas Stack, Anti-Human Trafficking & SART Manager, Mayor's Office, City of Baltimore



Workshop Presenter Dr. Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D., Leading at Scale and Scope (Organizational Leadership)

COLLAGE OF CONFERENCE BANQUET PHOTOS taken by NARFE/MD Photographer Melinda Scott NARFE Members and Guests from Maryland, the District of Columbia, Delaware and Virginia Federations Attended.



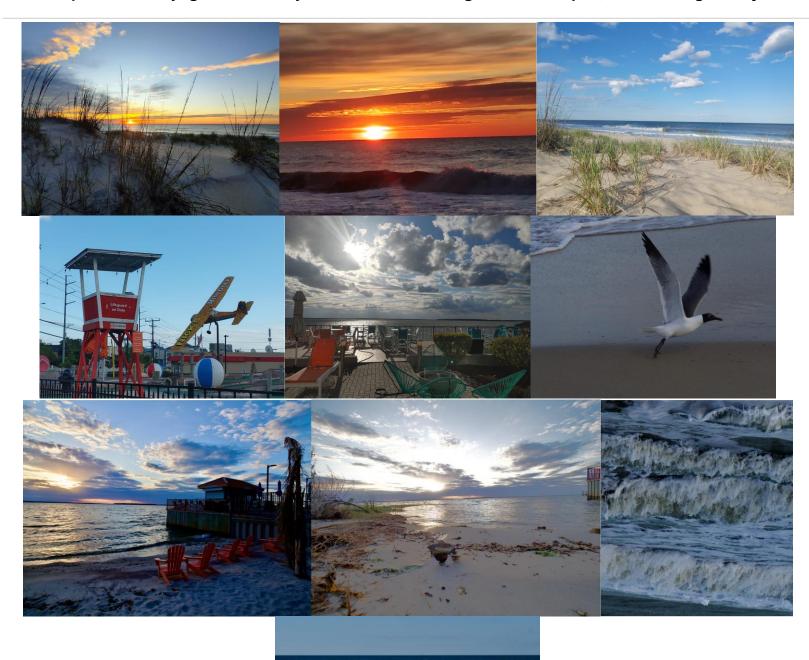


# **BILL WALLER'S VIEW OF OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND**

Bill Waller, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Chapter 1887, Wheaton-Glenmont, took these beautiful photos of Ocean City during his stay for the Biennial Conference. Many thanks, Bill, for sharing theses photos. Don't these inviting photos spark your interest in attending the 2025 Biennial Conference in Ocean City?

Bill included with his email of the photos a quote from Marcel Proust, which is very apropos.

"Perhaps the real voyage of discovery consists not in having new landscapes, but in having new eyes."



# AROUND THE FEDERATION

#### **CHAPTER 1747 Greater Bowie-Crofton Area Installation of Officers**



Maryland Federation President Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D. (upper left) installed the following new Chapter 1747 Officers (L-R): Louise Cole, Assistant Treasurer; Frank Lee, Immediate Past President; Angela Hyman, President; Gerald Williams, Vice President; and Vanessa Washington, Treasurer

#### **CHAPTER 306 Hagerstown**

Photographs taken by John Hess.



Carol Miller-Schultz was the guest speaker at Hagerstown the Chapter 306 June Membership Meeting speaking on genealogy.



Chapter Member Bob Harshman was presented with Distinguished Member Certificate by Chapter President Patricia Nix. Bob has been a NARFE members for over 20 years.



Chapter Member Joyce Chestnut was presented with the Distinguished Member Certificate by Chapter President Patricia Nix. Joyce has been a NARFE members for over 20 years.



Chapter Member Bob Snyder displays his
Distinguished Member Certificate President
Patricia Nix presented him at the May Meeting.
Bob has been a NARFE member for over 20 years.

#### IN MEMORIAM



In Remembrance of Burdelle Dowdell April 23, 1939 – December 11, 2022

Members of Chapter 1734 Howard County were saddened by the passing of Burdelle Dowdell. She was born on April 23, 1939, in Fort Valley, Georgia, and passed on December 11, 2022. Burdelle earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Fort Valley State College and joined Civil Service through the US Postal Service in Washington, D.C. She was also very active in her Columbia community, volunteering in the Homeowners Association and the Democratic Party. She had many hobbies, including gardening, watching sports, travel, and cooking, especially desserts. She is survived by children, grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Burdelle held many positions in our Chapter (1734): newsletter committee, Luncheon Chair, Sunshine Chair, VP Membership, and President for six years. When we had vacant positions, chapter members would fill the position after Burdelle talked to them with her warm personality. We remember and miss her.



In Remembrance of Barry Grier February 3. 1943 – July 1, 2023

Barry Phillip Grier was born February 3, 1943, in Columbus, Ohio. Barry attended Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, where he became a member of Kappa Alpha Psi. He left college early and volunteered for the U. S. Army, serving three years. Honorably discharged on April 22, 1963, Barry then spent 16 years as a journalist in the mid-west and west coast, specifically Los Angeles, California. He was awarded the National Newspaper Publishers Association Award for a series of articles he wrote in 1974. With the award money, he travelled across most of Europe. On returning, he became a mortgage banker in Seattle, Washington, for seven years. In 1986, he joined the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a Multi-family Housing Specialist in the HUD Seattle Regional Office. Barry met Lauretta Williams-Oliver at a conference in Evanston, Illinois. Their courtship lasted for five years, commuting across the country. Barry transferred to the Baltimore HUD Field Office in 1990, where they could finally stop traveling. Barry and Lauretta were married in 1991 in Prince George's County, Md. While at the Baltimore HUD Field Office, Barry served as local union president for the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) for seven years. He retired from HUD after 20 years of service, which included his military service.

Barry and Lauretta moved to Calvert County, Md., in 2000 and have lived in the county for 23 years. They joined Mt. Olive United Methodist Church in 2005. Barry was past master and a member of Victoria Lodge #71 of the Free and Accepted Masons, PHA. In being a mason, Barry commented many times that his work with new, upcoming masons was his most rewarding endeavor. He loved instructing and teaching the history of Prince Hall masons. He was also the recent past president and member of Chapter 1466 Calvert County of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) for 15 years. He also served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Membership Director for the Maryland Federation of NARFE. He was a member of the Calvert County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners for 12 years. Calvert County Commissioners awarded him in March 2019 for his service on the Housing Authority.

Barry leaves his devoted wife Lauretta after 32 years of marriage, five daughters and two daughters by marriage, nine grandchildren and three grandchildren by marriage. He also leaves his brother Steven Grier, two nephews and one niece, and many more relatives and friends. Barry said many times his love for family and friends, his work in the community, and travelling the world were his greatest accomplishments and he enjoyed all of it.

Barry died July 1, 2023. Funeral services were July 14, at Mt. Olive United Methodist Church in Prince Frederick.

# FEDERATION DIRECTORY (abbreviated)

| EVECT  | TTIME | COM | TTTEE      |
|--------|-------|-----|------------|
| PARA.I | JIIVH |     | 11111,6,6, |

| President Gary Roundtree Sr., Ph.D.             | 240-749-0014 | groundtreesr@hotmail.com   |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> VP / Legislation Edward Holland | 301-848-3476 | hollandnmd@aol.com         |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP / Membership Edward Reed     | 301-739-1641 | edr3eagle@gmail.com        |
| Secretary Melody Kebe                           | 240-472-5798 | melodykebe@gmail.com       |
| Assistant Secretary Virginia Bender             | 860-823-9312 | vbender21804@gmail.com     |
| Treasurer Stuart Sklamm                         | 301-384-0784 | srsklamm@msn.com           |
| Assistant Treasurer Patricia Bell               |              | patricia.bell8@verizon.net |
| Immediate Past President Sudha Haley, Ph.D.     | 410-535-4998 | sudhabhagwat2002@yahoo.com |
| Past President Dan McGrath                      | 757-436-1095 | mcgrathsop@aol.com         |
| Past President Ted Jensen                       | 301-667-3165 | grandpated1@gmail.com      |
| Past President Ron Bowers                       | 410-308-0420 | narfebowers@msn.com        |
|                                                 |              |                            |

#### COMMITTEE CHAIR CONTACTS

| COMMITTEE CHAIR COMMICTO                                    |                  |                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Alzheimer's Coordinator Virginia Bender                     | 860-823-9312     | vbender21804@gmail.com |
| Chapter Development Edward Reed                             | 301-739-1641     | edr3eagle@gmail.com    |
| FEEA Coordinator Eleanor Kaul                               | 410-896-4354     | eekaul@comcast.net     |
| Federal Legislative Committee Chair Frank Lee               | 410-672-5065     | fllee0716@verizon.net  |
| NARFE-PAC Coordinator Frank Lee                             | 410-672-5065     | fllee0716@verizon.net  |
| <b>Budget Officer</b> Maria Ray                             | 410-279-4333     | msray0505@gmail.com    |
| MDNARFE-PAC Treasurer Bob Doyle                             | 410-798-0079     | bdoyle47@verizon.net   |
| Program Director/PR Director Edward Holland                 | 301-848-3476     | hollandnmd@aol.com     |
| Resolutions Chair Bessie Johnson                            |                  | bessevents@hotmail.com |
| Chaplain Larry Lange                                        | 301-644-1875     | llange3751@aol.com     |
| State Legislative Committee Chair Paul Schwart              | pksyanks@aol.com |                        |
| Webmaster Morse Solomon                                     |                  | narfemdfed@gmail.com   |
| Social Media (Facebook/LinkedIn) Howard Gordon 301-464-2745 |                  | flash@acm.org          |

#### REGION II (DC/DE/MD/NJ/PA)

| REGION II (BC/BE/MB/110/11)                  |                  |                         |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Region II Vice President Larry Walton        | 443-831-1791     | lrwalto@yahoo.com       |
| Region II CAB Appointee Howard Gordon        | 301-464-2745     | flash@acm.org           |
| Region II Alzheimer's Coordinator Kathy Sigg | ins 301-829-2462 | siggimax@mindspring.com |

#### CHAPTERS AND PRESIDENTS

- 126 Western Charles/Indian Head Ron Bush
- **251** Annapolis Carla Duls
- 258 Western Montgomery County Lois Ann Beaver
- 306 Hagerstown Patricia Nix
- **409 Frederick** Elinor Abrell
- 410 West-Mar/Cumberland Daniel Moore
- 422 Laurel Samuel Raines
- 969 St. Mary's County Joe Moffatt
- 1143 Leisure World Vacant
- 1260 Southern Prince George's County Co-Presidents Brenda Hill Johnson and Tiffany Daniel
- 1466 Calvert County Vacant
- 1522 Susquehanna Barry Decker, Interim
- 1734 Howard County Teresa Baker
- 1747 Greater Bowie/Crofton Angela Hyman
- 1770 Bel Air James Wood
- 1887 Wheaton/Glenmont Ron Shansby
- 1888 White Oak Marcia Swanson
- **1892 Aspen Hill** Sarah Richards
- 1936 NW Baltimore Metro Co-Presidents Barbara Cuffie and Bessie Johnson
- 1972 Waldorf/La Plata Edward Holland
- 2262 Upper Marlboro P.A. Jeffries
- 2274 Ocean Area Virginia Bender
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NOTE: See Federation Directory for complete information on all officers, committee chairs and chapter presidents.



#### National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Maryland Federation - Chartered April 5, 1956

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### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

#### 2023 CALENDAR

September 10 Send EC and Board Call Letters for October Board
October 4 Registration deadline for October Board Meeting
October 23 Executive Committee Meeting. 4-6 p.m., Bowie
October 24 October Board Meeting, Bowie Comfort Inn
Neurophysika 24

November 24 Winter Newsletter deadline – articles due to Editor Par Farmer