

## WHERE AND WHEN

The April 28th members meeting will be a combined pizza party and NARFE update held at Mama Lucia Restaurant (18224 Village Center Dr., Olney, MD 20832) at 1 PM. For more information on the pizza party meeting, see page 4; there is ample free parking. Upcoming meeting dates are listed below. Any meeting dates that differ from our guidelines are marked with an asterisk (\*) below. Most meetings are also Zoomed, recorded and placed on our website.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES - (Open to all)

### Chapter:

- **Members Meetings** (usually on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays) Apr 28, May 19\*, Jun 9\*
- **Newsletter Input Due** (usually 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month prior to publication date) Apr 13\*, May 11\*
- **Board Meetings** (usually 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays) Apr 8\*, May 6, Jun 3

### Outside Events:

- **NARFE MD Federation Mini-Conference**, May 5 & 6
- **NARFE National Conference**, August 23-25, in Indianapolis, Indiana
- **Monthly meetings of the Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Boards (CAB) - Upcounty CAB, Mid-County CAB, Western Montgomery CAB, Silver Spring CAB, and East County CAB:** Check internet for meeting dates and locations.

### Our Facebook Page:

NARFE Chapter 1892, Greater Montgomery County.

**Chapter Webpage:** [NARFEchapter1892.org](http://NARFEchapter1892.org)

## President's Message

It's the first day of Spring, sunny and warm, as I write this. Did you go for a walk and enjoy the sunshine? Nothing like it to give you hope for the future. It's been a tough year and NARFE Headquarters has been working overtime to fight the changes federal employees are being hit with. Our members also have been writing letters and joining peaceful protests. We work toward a better future and have hope.

Our members have also been active at the State legislative level writing letters and giving testimony on all the bills that affect our goals. You can see the titles of some of the bills in this newsletter under the State Legislative Committee (SLC) report on page 3. We have the best members and Federation SLC ever!

By the way, we have a MD Federation mini-conference on May 5 and 6. Contact me if you want to attend.

Let's celebrate Spring and our successes this year. Don't forget to rsvp to our April Pizza Party to help celebrate and hear about the NARFE activities this year. Regional II VP, Paul Schwartz will be there to give you that update.

Best wishes, Sarah

## Membership Report

Welcome new members, Kathryn Hollister, Amy Miller, Richard McKay, Richard Powers, Gabriele Marchler, Evelyn Kappeler, and Richard Jaaffe! We are so glad you decided to be part of Chapter 1892! We have 3 new prospective members – Kevin Camphausen, Elaine Soffer, and Steven Aitken. If you know them, please tell them that we are the fun chapter and ask them to join us!

## In Memoriam

Sadly, we lost the following long-time members: John B. Johnston, Michael F. Audet, Edward B. Ellis, John H. Peake, and Cynthia M. Cohen. Our thoughts are with their families. They will be missed.

## 250 Years Ago – American Independence April Reflection

The **Battles of Lexington and Concord** on April 19, 1775, were the first major military actions between the British Army and Patriot militias from the Thirteen Colonies during the American Revolutionary War. On the night before the battles, several riders, including Paul Revere, William Dawes and Samuel Prescott, warned area militias of the British plans and approaching British Army. The opposing forces fought day-long running battles with heavy casualties, till the British retreated, eventually arriving in Charlestown.

## Greeting fellow NARFE members,

Spring and its freaky weather have arrived, soon to be followed by cherry blossoms, swallows to Capistrano, and annual NARFE officer elections for the coming year.

2026 is momentous for our Chapter as we have consolidated many chapters into one, E Pluribus Unum as it were. We have an existing slate of Chapter 1892 officers who have agreed to continue which is of a great benefit. However, there is now a much larger pool of us who should really step up to help our Chapter.

An area of greatest need is to add one or two vice presidents to assist the President in running the Chapter. Below I have listed the vice president duties.

- Presides at chapter, board, and executive committee meetings in the absence of the president.
- May be appointed or elected to oversee specific areas of responsibility, such as legislation or membership recruitment and retention
- Performs other duties specified in the bylaws or as assigned by the president
- Assists the president in promoting NARFE's mission

By stepping forward to help share the workload, we can ensure that folks don't burn out. Thank you for sharing the burden of our very important volunteer organization.

*Bill Waller, Pauline Johnson, Cathy Hobbs and  
Nina Chace*  
Chapter 1892 Nominations Committee

### Current Slate for May 19<sup>th</sup> Elections

At the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting the following incumbent people will run for office: Sarah Richards, President; Myron Chace, Secretary; and Jim Bachmaier, Treasurer.

Please send your additional nominations, (note we have no candidates for Vice President) to: Pauline Johnson (301-661-7858 or [gemini88551@gmail.com](mailto:gemini88551@gmail.com)), Cathy Hobbs ([cathy\\_hobbs@yahoo.com](mailto:cathy_hobbs@yahoo.com) or 301-785-6782) or Nina Chace (301-330-4713 or [ninaGC@comcast.net](mailto:ninaGC@comcast.net)).

## Live Longer and Happier

A 2025 study found in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society said that there was a strong association between engaging in social activities and a low risk of dying in 4 years. High social engagement provides a lower risk of dying in 4 years (a 42% lower risk of dying!)

Other studies have shown that **people who volunteer tend to live longer lives.** Volunteering often involves problem-solving and learning new skills which **reduces the risk of cognitive decline and dementia.**

**So, volunteering with our NARFE Chapter will help you live longer and decrease your risk of dementia!**

We will train you for short-term projects or other activities, like PAC work or PR, or working behind the scenes, like helping us fix the membership lists.

Help yourself: join the ranks of Chapter members who work together and have fun doing it!

Contact Myron Chace at [mchace301@gmail.com](mailto:mchace301@gmail.com), Jim Bachmaier at [bachjchauf@verizon.net](mailto:bachjchauf@verizon.net), or Sarah Richards at [NARFEsrichards@aol.com](mailto:NARFEsrichards@aol.com), or call 301-589-7465, to say **you want to work with us to live longer and keep dementia at bay!**

## Chapter 1892 Leadership

**President**..... Sarah Richards  
301-589-7465.....[NARFEsrichards@aol.com](mailto:NARFEsrichards@aol.com)  
**Secretary**..... Myron Chace  
301-330-4713  
**Treasurer**..... Jim Bachmaier  
**Alzheimer's**.....Cathy Hobbs  
**Membership**.....Nina Chace  
301-330-4713  
**Newsletter Editor**..... Filomena Chau  
301-642-6741  
**Nomination Comm. Chair**.....Bill Waller  
**Sergeant at Arms**.....Leland Cheskis  
**Service Officer**..... Nat Cunningham  
301-309-2472  
**Special Projects**..... Diane Boehr, Linda Jacks  
and Martha O'Connor  
**Sunshine**.....Minnedore Green  
240-839-7043  
**USPS Mail Manager**..... Merle Biggin  
**Photographers** .....Bill Waller and Ron Shansby

## MD Federation State Legislative Committee

(Edited from Bob Doyle, SLC Chair's Spring Report)

The State Legislative Committee (SLC) monitors the bills introduced in the Maryland General Assembly related to our legislative program goals. Some bills on which the SLC has testified and/or provided a written statement of March 15, 2026 include:

**HB 124** – Income Tax – Subtraction/Modification – Losses from Fraud or Theft (Sponsor – Delegate Joe Vogel, Dist. 17, Montgomery County)

**HB 323** – Income Tax – Credit for Income Tax and Penalties Due for Financial Exploitation (Sponsor – Delegate Vaughn Stewart, Dist. 19, Montgomery County)

**HB 152** – Consumer Protection – Regulations (Elder Fraud Prevention Act of 2026) (Sponsor – Delegate Vaughn Stewart – Dist. 19, Montgomery County)

**HB 278** – Human Services – Department of Aging and Commission on Aging – Longevity Ready Maryland Act (Sponsor – Chair, Health Committee at request of Department of Aging)

Requires the Secretary of Aging to lead implementation of the Longevity Ready Maryland Plan.

**HB 484** – Corporate Income Tax – Addition Modification – Direct-To-Consumer Pharmaceutical Advertising (Sponsor – Delegate Natalie Zeigler – Dist. 9A, Howard and Montgomery Counties)

Eliminates a state corporate tax deduction for direct-to-consumer pharmaceutical advertising and redirects extra revenue to health care coverage for Marylanders.

**HB 707** – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Retirement Income (Sponsor – Delegate Robin Grammer - Dist. 6, Baltimore County)

Would phase-in a state income tax pension exclusion on retirement.

**HB 745** – Income Tax – Senior Tax Credit – Refundability – (Sponsor – Delegate Bernice Mireku North – Dist. 14, Montgomery County)

**HB 757** – Consumer Protection – Disclosure of Tariffs and Local Sourcing Sponsor – Senator James Rosapepe – Dist. 21, Prince George's County

**HB 1008** – Fiduciary Institutions – Exploitation of Seniors and Vulnerable Adults – Protections and Required Referral (Vulnerable Adults Banking Protection Act) (Sponsor – Delegate Pam Queen – Dist. 14, Montgomery County)

**HB 1437** – Income Tax – Credit for Long Term Care Premiums (Sponsor – Delegate Seth Howard – Dist. 30B, Anne Arundel County)

Allows LTC insurance holders to take an **annual** tax credit of \$250.

**SB 73** - Election Law - Polling Place Procedures - Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities (Accessible and Expedited Voting Act of Maryland) (Sponsor - Senator Arthur Ellis, D – District 28 - Charles County)

**SB 382** – Retire In Maryland Tax Relief Act (Sponsor – Senator Ron Watson – Dist 23, Prince George's County)

Establishes a tax credit for seniors with higher income caps: \$175,000 for an individual and \$250,000 for joint, etc.

**SB 555** – Health – Dementia Services – Brain Health Program and Clinical Tool Kit (Sponsor – Senator Antonio Hayes - Dist. 40, Baltimore City)

NARFE  
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 County Chapter 1892  
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**April 2026 Edition**

### Can You Believe it?

We've gotten so big that we now have to pay for rental space large enough to hold our meetings and for producing many more newsletters. The \$12 per year dues payment (yes, just \$1.00 a month) isn't enough to pay for our current expenses.

**Please donate \$10, if you can.** This is a **once-a-year donation** to keep our basic functions working.

Please send a check made out to "NARFE Chapter 1892" with the word, "Donation" in the memo line to: James Bachmaier, Treasurer, Greater Montgomery County Chapter 1892, 3514 Everton St., Silver Spring, MD 20906-4119.

Thanks for being a vital member, keeping our Chapter open and thriving!

### WELCOME SPRING PIZZA PARTY

Where: Mama Lucia of Olney Restaurant, 18224 Village Center Dr., Olney, MD 20832 (301-570-9500)

When: Tuesday, April 28, 2025; lunch starts at 1:00 pm. Speaker starts at 2:00 PM (Paul Schwartz, NARFE Region II Vice President, providing an update on NARFE activities).

Meet to catch up, eat pizza (or your preferred food), and hear how NARFE has been fighting for federal employees and retirees. Pay only for what you eat. Join us! Spouses and friends are welcome.

**RSVP at [bachjchauf@gmail.com](mailto:bachjchauf@gmail.com) or 301-589-7465 by April 23** so the restaurant staff has space for us.

There will be no Zoom attendance for this meeting, though we will try to record the presentation and place it on the website.