



NARFE NEWSLETTER

GREATER BOWIE-CROFTON AREA CHAPTER 1747

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Volume 27, No. 10

June 2007

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are held at Bowie City Hall (2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie) on the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM in Conference Room 204. There is never a charge to attend and all meetings are open to the public.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS are held the first Thursday of the month at 9:00 AM in Conference Room 125, Bowie Senior Center. All chapter members are welcome.

NOTE: Chapter meetings are cancelled when Prince George's County schools are closed due to inclement weather. Otherwise, meetings are held as scheduled.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

- ❖ *General Meeting.* Thursday, June 21, 11:30 AM
Program: Installation Luncheon; Speaker: Dick Strombotne of the Maryland Federation.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ed Bice

Chapter elections were held at the May 17th General Meeting. The following members were elected for two year terms starting July 1st, 2007-June 30th, 2009. Ed Bice, President; Dorothy Campbell, 1st Vice President; Barbara Wheatley, 2nd Vice President; Bob Cullen, Treasurer; Lillie Watson, Secretary; Louise Cole, Assistant Treasurer. Bob, Lillie, and Louise are first time elected officers. Congratulations to all!

By way of introduction to the newly elected officers is some information about their federal careers. Dorothy Campbell started as a Postal Clerk and for the twenty years before retirement was on approved leave without pay working for the American Postal Workers Union. Barbara Wheatley was an Administrative officer with the Naval Oceanographic Office in Suitland, MD for seventeen years. Bob Cullen spent most of his thirty-two-year career with the National Security Agency as a linguist. Lillie Watson worked at HUD for thirty two years and was branch chief, Insurance operations before retirement. Louise Cole worked for the government for almost forty years and for the last seventeen years worked at IRS as an IT specialist. Ed Bice worked for the Department of the Navy as a management analyst and security manager/officer.



Officers for 2007 through 2009: from left, Bob Cullen, Barbara Wheatley, Lillie Watson, Ed Bice, seated: Dorothy Campbell, and Louise Cole.

Please join me in thanking our retiring officers; Paul Schuette, Treasurer; Roger Leonard, Secretary; and Mayer Weinblatt, Assistant Treasurer. They served our chapter with distinction for many years.

I hope everyone has a good and healthy summer. Your chapter board will be working over the summer on your behalf to make this chapter the very best it can be.

Be Healthy! Be Happy! Be NARFE!

FEDERATION CONVENTION REPORT

Ed Bice

The 38th Biennial Convention of the Maryland Federation of Chapters was held in Ocean City, May 20 to 23. Ed Bice, Dorothy Bice, Dorothy Campbell and Jerry Kursban represented chapter 1747. Total atten-

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AAA Antiques Mall owners visit Bowie and discuss treasures owned by chapter members.

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dance was 177 voting delegates, 8 chapter members and 4 guests.

Members elected for two-year terms were: President, Dick Strombotne; First Vice President (Membership), Ron Bowers; Second Vice President (Legislation) Chuck Thomas; Secretary, Jeanette Green; and Treasurer, Tom Diehl.

Keynote Speaker John Sarbanes, newly elected Democrat for Maryland's Third District, opened the convention by speaking of his respect for the responsibilities and efforts of the federal workforce. Federal workers, he said, must be given adequate resources to perform their wide-ranging responsibilities. Without these resources, he continued, criticism of federal workers was not warranted.

The Convention continued with two very effective workshops. The Legislative workshop involved a panel discussion with a representative from the National office. In the Membership workshop, various chapter representatives spoke about how their chapters recruited and retained members.

Other business included twelve resolutions, which the Resolution Committed reported for consideration. All were adopted. Many of these resolutions were required by bylaw changes at the 2006 National Convention. One resolution concerned the need for federation bylaws to reflect modern technology. It allowed the President to use e-mail, fax or regular mail to act on decisions delegated to the Board or Executive Committees. Another allowed the Federation President, with the consent of the Executive Committee, and by request of three chapter presidents to establish and appoint an Area Council to foster coordination between chapters.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

Paul Schuette

Maryland Sen. Barbara Mikulski and Sen. George Voinovich of Ohio have introduced legislation that would ease the burden of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) on retired federal employees and other public sector retirees.

Their bipartisan bill (S. 1254) would amend the Social Security Act to modify the provision that bars government retirees from collecting both a government annuity and social security benefits based on a spouse's work.

NARFE has advocated full repeal of both the GPO and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) but National President Margaret L. Baptiste said Mikulski and Voinovich "deserve praise for demonstrating their commitment to assuring equity in the earned retirement benefits of our nation's public servants."

Maryland's Sen. Ben Cardin in mid-May became the 29th co-sponsor of S. 206, the GPO/WEP repeal legislation. He previously signed on as a co-sponsor of NARFE-supported premium conversion legislation, which would exclude from the income taxes health insurance premiums paid by federal retirees.

STATE LEGISLATION

Ed Bice

On April 18 Frank Chase, First Vice President, Legislation, Maryland Federation, Barbara Iba, a member of the state legislative committee, and I went to a meeting of the Maryland DC Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA). Through the ARA, union retirees and mem-

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INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

**KAUFMANN'S RESTAURANT
THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2007
11:30 AM-2:00 PM**

Cost: (Includes tax and tip) \$22.50

For reservations, call either
Barbara Wheatley 301-352-6241 or
Mary Catloth 301-390-2206

Includes beverage, vegetable,
dessert, and choice of entree.

Directions to Kaufmann's Restaurant

Head North on Route 3 to Route 175. Make a left on 175 (West) and go 1 mile. Turn right onto Gambrills Road. Kaufmann's is 4/10 mile on your right. There are signs on Route 175 and at the restaurant. Parking and the Garden Room entrance are on the right side, at the back of the building. There are no stairs at this entrance.

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bers of committee groups are involved in standing up for seniors rights by shaping public policy.

We gave a short presentation on the top three NARFE priority issues for the last Maryland legislation session. A motion was made, seconded and passed whereby ARA and NARFE will work together on issues of mutual interest in the future.

PROGRAMS

Barbara Wheatley

Our program for June will include lunch, installation of officers and a lot of visiting among members. Dick and Marty Strombotne will be our guests and Dick, our Federation president, will install the officers. We will gather at Kaufmann's at 11:30 for happy hour and lunch served at 12:00 followed by the installation. Be sure and get your menu and reservation in. Contact either Barbara Wheatley at 301-352-6241 or Mary Catloth at 301-390-2206 to sign up for the luncheon.

Mayer Weinblatt is the 2007 recipient of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Distinguished Annuitant Award. Jennifer Malavé presented the award, which is given for service to the chapter and community. to Mayer at the May meeting.



DAYS TO REMEMBER

June 14	Flag Day
June 17	Fathers' Day
June 21	First day of Summer

CHAPTER 1747 TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on: April 1, 2007	\$4,306.50
Income:	761.40
Expenses:	270.00
Reserves:	4,881.87
Balance on: April 31, 2007	\$2,774.45

IMPORTANT FEDERAL CONTACTS

All are addressed as "The Honorable"

President George W. Bush <i>president@whitehouse.gov</i>	202-456-1111	
Senator Barbara A. Mikulski <i>www.mikulski@senate.gov</i>	202-224-4654	fax: 202-224-8858
Senator Ben Cardin <i>www.cardin@senate.gov</i>	202-224-4524	fax: 202-224-1651
Representative John Sarbanes District 3 <i>www.sarbanes.house.gov</i>	202-225-4016	fax: 202-225-9219
Representative Steny Hoyer District 5 <i>www.hoyer.house.gov</i>	202-225-4131	fax: 202-225-4300
Representative Albert Wynn District 4 <i>www.wynn.house.gov</i>	202-225-8699	fax: 202-225-8714

Greater Bowie-Crofton Area NARFE News

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Dues payments, gifts, and contributions to NARFE are not deductible as Charitable Contributions for income tax purposes.

CHAPTER BOARD

Elected Officers

President	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	DEBice@netzero.net
1st Vice President	Dorothy Campbell	301-464-6372	Dcbowie@aol.com
2nd Vice President	Barbara Wheatley	301-352-6241	wheatley0@aol.com
Secretary	Roger Leonard	301-262-3405	dinopop@aol.com
Treasurer	Paul Schuette	301-262-0975	pschuette@verizon.net
Assistant Treasurer	Mayer Weinblatt	301-262-3264	

Committee Chairs

Federal Legislation	Paul Schuette	301-262-0975	pschuette@verizon.net
Membership	Dorothy Campbell	301-464-6372	Dcbowie@aol.com
Newsletter	Frances Steburg	301-352-0297	feks@msn.com
	Jessica Forman	301-262-3222	jeci4man@verizon.net
Programs	Barbara Wheatley	301-352-6241	wheatley0@aol.com
Public Relations	Dorothy Campbell	301-464-6372	Dcbowie@aol.com
Service Officers	Bob Cullen	301-262-4783	ba3537@aol.com
	Paul Schuette	301-262-0975	pschuette@verizon.net
	Lee Tuveson	301-262-3164	
State Legislation	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	DEBice@netzero.net

Activity Coordinators

Alzheimer's Fund	Maria Francer	240-245-4328	
Community Service	VACANT		
Meeting Sign-In/Greeter	Mary Catloth	301-390-2206	mcatloth@aol.com
NARFE-Net Coordinator	VACANT		
NARFE-PAC	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	DEBice@netzero.net
Photographer	Frank Lee	410-672-5065	fllee0716@verizon.net
Refreshments	Jack Calloway	301-262-3457	
	Dave Galliard	301-262-7261	
	Tom Page	301-262-3418	

Next Meeting

June 21, 2007

Installation Luncheon