



NARFE NEWSLETTER

GREATER BOWIE-CROFTON AREA

CHAPTER 1747

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Volume 28, No. 3

www.NARFE1747.org

November 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, November 15, 10:00 AM: Program: Maryland Budget Deficit. Speakers from the Legislature
- ❖ *Holiday Luncheon.* Thursday, December 13, 11:15 AM: See menu page 3.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ed Bice

Our chapter participated in Odenton Day, Saturday, October 6 for the first time. Special thanks to assistant Treasurer, Louise Cole, who provided information to our chapter board so that we could be a part of the day by staffing an information table.

The response was good as a number of people stopped at our table, asked questions and picked up information. Thanks to Dorothy Campbell and Barbara Wheatley for assisting at our table.

Congressman John Sarbanes (3rd Cong. Dist.) and State Senator Jim Rosapepe (Dist. 21) stopped by our table. Congressman Sarbanes expressed interest in our chapter newsletter. I thanked him for his support on our federal legislative priorities.

I hope everyone has logged on to our new website. Please give your feedback to any officer so that improvements can be made.

STATE LEGISLATION

Ed Bice

At the Maryland Federation board meeting on October 2, the members voted to join an organization called Alliance for Tax Fairness. In early September some members of the State Legislative Committee went to a meeting of the Alliance in Columbia. At that time twelve organizations belonged to the Alliance. Since that time many other organizations have joined their efforts.

The Alliance for Tax Fairness supports solutions to the state fiscal crisis that accomplish two goals:

- ❖ Generate enough new revenue to go beyond just plugging the \$1.7 billion budget hole so we can make long-delayed investments in education, health care, Chesapeake Bay clean-up, and other areas that are critical to Maryland's future.
- ❖ Generate new revenues in ways that are fair. Low- and middle-income working families should not bear the brunt of tax increases when upper-income households and large, out of state corporations pay some of the lowest effective tax rates in the nation.

Maryland Federation Legislative Priorities

Following are the four priorities for NARFE and the Maryland Federation for this legislative session.

- ★ We support full exemption from Maryland state and local income taxes of pensions resulting from employment in federal, Maryland state and

SAVE THE DATE!

The **HOLIDAY LUNCHEON** is December 13 .

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local public service organizations. The term "federal" encompasses both civilian and military retirees.

- ★ As a solution to Maryland's "1.5 billion dollar structural deficit" we support comprehensive reform of Maryland's tax structure to include resolving the disparity between personal and corporate taxation in part by requiring the business community to pay its fair share of taxes.
- ★ We support income tax relief, property tax relief, long term care insurance annual credits, and other measures that would increase the incomes of elderly taxpayers facing steadily increasing costs of necessary goods and services.
- ★ We support public campaign financing for state senatorial and delegate campaigns.

Please support our platform by calling, e-mailing, or writing your state senators and representatives.

PROGRAMS

Barbara Wheatley / Ed Bice

From Barbara Wheatley

The Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 13th at The Nautilus in Crofton. We meet at 11:30 for "happy hour" with lunch at 12:00. We will order when we arrive at the restaurant from the menu in this Newsletter. (See page 3.) Sign up at the November 15 meeting or call either Mary Catloth or Barbara Wheatley. Reservations must be made by December 6th. Come and enjoy the holiday season with us!

From Ed Bice

The November meeting features a discussion on Maryland's Budget deficit. The legislators scheduled to be our guests are:

District 21	Senator Jim Rosapepe
District 23	Senator Douglas Peters
	Delegate Marvin Holmes
	Delegate Gerron Levi
District 33	Senator Janet Greenip
	Delegate Tony McConkey

We will assemble in the multi-purpose room for this meeting. I plan to invite other NARFE chapters to this meeting. I hope for a record attendance on November 15. This is an important event.

MEMBERSHIP

Dorothy Campbell

It Pays to Give the Gift of NARFE

If you have a relative, friend or neighbor to whom you give a holiday gift -- and they're a federal retiree or a current federal employee -- how about giving them a year's membership in NARFE this holiday season? And how about your spouse? Your spouse can be a member if you're a member. And if you know someone receiving a federal retiree survivor's annuity -- they're eligible too.

It's the perfect gift: one size fits all and the person will remember you throughout the year, especially every time they get the national NARFE magazine and a chapter newsletter. They also can join NARFE's credit union and get discounts on travel, moving, insurance and more. And it doesn't matter where your gift recipient lives; NARFE has chapters all over the country. NARFE membership makes a perfect gift for those who reputedly "have everything" and makes life easier for those who hate to shop but want to give a unique gift.

And YOU get a gift too: National NARFE will send you \$8.00 for every new member to whom you give a gift membership or who you sign up on a regular membership form! Just be sure to include your membership and chapter numbers on the form.

CFE Special Dues Rate Expires December 31!

As you know, NARFE dues -- national and chapter -- for retirees is \$33 a year. However, for a limited time (through Dec. 31, 2007) dues for current federal employees (CFEs) is \$25; starting in January 2008, the rate will be the same (\$33) for CFEs as for retirees.

All membership forms are available at the "Info Table" at membership meetings, or call or e-mail me (see page 4) for a form or more information. Remember: A NARFE membership not only is the gift that keeps on giving, but it ensures the future of our organization.

CONDOLENCES

The following Chapter members passed away recently. Our prayers and sympathy go to their families and friends.

James F. McGarvey	James J. Ryan
Martin L. Rize	James Young

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Electronics Recycling

The City of Bowie and Prince Georges County sponsor an electronics recycle event (old computers, monitors and similar items.). It will be held on Sunday, November 4, at the Bowie Baysox Stadium, from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

NARFE Disaster Fund

Did you know that NARFE has a national disaster fund, available to current members in federally designated natural disaster areas? The NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund, supported by NARFE members, and administered by FEEA (Federal Employee Education and Assistance), can pay out grants up to \$500.00 per NARFE household to reimburse NARFE members for losses stemming from federally declared natural disasters. NARFE expects many requests from members affected by the California forest fires. To make a tax-deductible donation by check, send your check directly to FEEA, 8441 W. Bowles Ave., Suite 200, Littleton, CO 80123. Make checks payable to NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund. Credit card donations can be made online. Go to the FEEA homepage at www.feea.org and click on the "Give Online" button at the tip of the page. Select "NARFE-FEEA Disaster Relief" from the Program Area drop-down menu on the donation screen. Or call FEEA directly at their toll-free number, 1-800-323-4140.

DAYS TO REMEMBER

November 4	Daylight Saving Time ends
November 6	Election Day
November 12	Veterans Day (observed)
November 22	Thanksgiving Day

CHAPTER 1747 TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on: September 1, 2007	\$4305.20
Income:	356.03
Expenses:	576.60
Assets:	4093.63
Obligations:	1718.06
Balance on: September 30, 2007	\$2375.57

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 13, 2007

Nautilus Diner Restaurant

Corner of Rte. 3 and 424, Crofton, MD

Social: 11:30 - cash bar

Lunch: 12:00

Choice of: Roast beef
Chicken
Fish (broiled)
Meatloaf

Or Today's Special: Corned Beef & Cabbage

With: Baked or
Mashed Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables

Split Pea Soup

Dessert: Strawberry Shortcake
or Chocolate Cake

Coffee, Tea, or Soda

Cost: \$19

(make check out to "NARFE Chapter 1747")

To sign up, call:

Barbara Wheatley 301-352-6241

Mary Catloth 301-390-2206

No later than December 6, 2007

Cut and save

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	Lillie Watson	301-262-5926	lwatson16@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Bob Cullen	301-262-4783	ba3537@aol.com
Assistant Treasurer	Louise Cole	410-672-6894	col9135.aol.com

Committee Chairs

Federal Legislation	Paul Schuette	301-262-0975	paulschuette@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	paulschuette@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 Galliat	301-262-7261	
	Tom Page	301-262-3418	
Events Coordinator	VACANT		
Sunshine	Marjorie Laios	301-262-1556	

The Holiday Luncheon is December 13 at 11:30 at the Nautilus Diner on Route 3 Southbound. From Bowie or Upper Marlboro head north on Rte. 3 to the intersection with Rte. 424. Make a U-turn at that intersection, and take the 1st right turn to the restaurant. From Odenton, head southward until the Rte. 424 intersection. The Nautilus is the 1st right after the light.

Next Meeting

November 15, 2007

Maryland Budget Deficit