



NARFE NEWSLETTER

GREATER BOWIE-CROFTON AREA CHAPTER 1747

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Volume 33 No.5

www.NARFE1747.org

January 2013

www.facebook.com/narfe1747

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are held at the Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive, Bowie, 20716 in Rooms #2-4. Meeting dates are the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 AM except in July and August. There is never a charge to attend and all meetings are open to the public. Please check your current newsletter for any changes.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS are held the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 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, January 17, at the Bowie Senior Center. Diane Polangin, Tax Tips for your 2012 Returns.

❖ **General Meeting:** Thursday, February 21, Bowie Senior Center. Diana Varela, Social Security and Medicare.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DOROTHY CAMPBELL

Resolve to Be a Better Member!

Happy New Year! May you have a most happy and healthy 2013.

I don't know about you, but I feel like it wasn't that long ago I was wishing you a happy new year – and now I'm doing it again. No complaints, of course, but the years just fly by so quickly as I get older. Guess it's because I'm having so much fun!

Seriously, it's again time for me to repeat my oft-published NARFE January message: it's the one that urges all Chapter 1747 NARFE members to make—and to keep—resolutions pertaining to our organization. These resolutions are easier to keep than many others you'll make, and they'll make you a better NARFE chapter member and make your chapter better and stronger too.

These are some good resolutions to make for 2013 and beyond:

- I will become a more active chapter 1747 member.
- I will regularly attend chapter membership meetings and participate in other chapter activities and events.
- I will bring others (especially prospective members) to our meetings and events.
- I will volunteer to work with our chapter, and serve on either a standing committee or one formed for a special event or purpose.
- I will give serious thought to running for office (elections take place in May 2013).

- I will become a NARFE recruiter, and actively help to increase our chapter's membership.

- I will carry NARFE membership applications with me at all times (in my purse or car).

- I will read my NARFE national and chapter publications faithfully, and/or our on-line ones.

- I will not let my dues lapse; to make paying my dues easy and convenient, I will sign up for dues withholding (for retirees only) or pay via a multi-year dues plan (and I'll save money paying either way).

In return, NARFE, and particularly Chapter 1747, resolves to continue to be the best organization for retired and active federal workers—especially since it's our nation's only organization that exclusively devotes its attention to our special interests and concerns.

Coming Up: Six Months of Activities

In December, our regular newsletter schedule had to be changed, and this afforded us the opportunity to include in this issue photos and information from our December holiday luncheon. If you weren't there, see page 2 to find out what you missed. If you were there, tell other members what they missed. It was a wonderful event, and a perfect way to celebrate the end of 2012 with other NARFE members and friends.

Naturally, that brings me to what every NARFE member has come to expect from me: another request for active participation at some level in the chapter. Once again, we will have a busy year. From the time the Maryland Legislature begins its session on January 9 to the day the session ends in April—we will be asking members to contact their legislators and to attend hearings in Annapolis. We will be looking for someone to participate in the national NARFE Legislative Training Conference on March 8-12 to be held nearby, and even more members to take part in the March 19 United Seniors of Maryland Legislative Forum in Annapolis. On May 16, our chapter will hold its election

Continued on Page 3

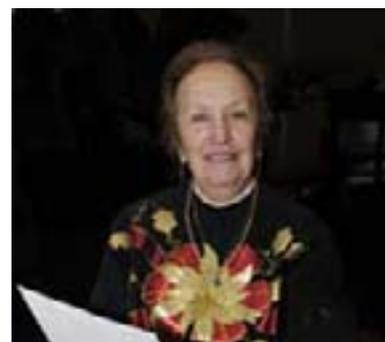
Conversation, Good Food, Good Speakers, and Door Prizes Equal Our Holiday Lunch!



Left: Chapter 1747 National Legislative Chair Joe Young spoke on the “fiscal cliff” and warned of the effects of sequestration if agreement is not reached on a budget deal. While we lunched, a deal still appeared a possibility; however, as this was written, no vote had been taken and the House had adjourned for the holiday. Joe also called for a moment of silence for the victims in the Newtown, CT massacre. *Right:* Region II VP Evelyn Kirby shared some insight on her role on NARFE’s national executive board, announced the appointment of Jessica Klement as the new national legislative director, and noted the Chapter members who are active in the MD Federation. After the luncheon, she sent a note of appreciation for the opportunity to spend time with chapter members, whom she called “a good bunch.”



Left: Dorothy Bice, left, and Donna Minner not only welcomed luncheon attendees, but handled the 50-50 drawing that raised \$43 for the Alzheimer’s Association and netted the same amount for the lucky winner, Tom Page. They also conducted the drawings for many donated door prizes. *Center:* Louise Cole with Winston Hill, a member of NARFE Chapter 1260, in Southern Prince Georges County. Two other 1260 members, Janice Washington and Phyllis Ashton, also attended. *Right:* Peter Hill, left, and Tom Lee enjoy the festive atmosphere, the delicious food, the informative speakers and the congenial company.



Left: A highly surprised and pleased Ellen Lee holds up the door prize she won, one of several beautiful scarves knitted and donated by Anne Cullen. *Center:* Dale Grant, left, and Tom Page are all smiles for photographer Frank Lee, who took all the photos shown here. Tom smiled even more later, when he found he held the winning ticket for the 50-50 drawing—and took home \$43. *Right:* Rosalie Chorbajian, clad in colorful holiday fashion, as were numerous others, checks out the special luncheon menu before selecting the Blue Dolphin’s famous crab cake. Unfortunately, our need to print in black & white precludes seeing the colorful table decorations and the colorful outfits worn by our attendees/speakers—but you can see them (and more photos) in living color on our website, NARFE1747.org.

Mark Your Calendars for February—June 2013

As always, we've lined up great guests and programs through June. They are:

- February 21: Diana Varela, of the SSA, will speak on Social Security and Medicare
- March 21: Gene Sumi, Homestead Gardens education director, his topic: Spring Gardening
- April 18: Gloria Gaddy, of the Bowie Senior Center, will provide info on Homeowners' Insurance & Disasters
- May 16: Maryland Legislators will give first-hand accounts on the MD General Assembly Legislative Session
- June 20: Installation of Chapter 1747 Officers' Luncheon

Continued from Page 1

of officers for 2013–2015, and candidates are needed to run for all positions. On April 29–May 1, the Maryland Federation of Chapters will hold its biennial convention in Ocean City—and our chapter, one of the largest in the state—should be represented by a good-sized delegation.

Finally, if you missed our holiday luncheon in December, you can make up for it by coming to our June 20 luncheon at which our new officers will be installed. No matter who those officers are—the luncheon will be, as always, a wonderful event, with memorable food, company, door prizes and more. Since we've not yet chosen the location, please let us know if you have any recommendations.

Starting 2013 With Thanks

Last month, I thanked Denis Kelly for volunteering for the Newsletter Crew, and now can add two more members: Ruth Kluth and Faye Miner. Ruth worked on the December issue, and if everything went well, all three were the ones who prepared the issue you're now reading. By the way, if you'd like to help too, contact me. It's an easy job, and the more the merrier!

And, of course, remember there are still other job openings. We still need a back-up person to deliver the newsletter to the Largo P.O.; and we still need an Alzheimer's Committee (a chair or co-chairs, and members).

Alzheimer's Fund: News & Needs

First some exciting news: The NARFE National Office in December announced that NARFE members have contributed \$10 million to the Alzheimer's Association over the past approximately 25 years! This is an accomplishment of which every NARFE member should be proud.

Currently, our chapter at every meeting holds a 50–50 raffle that benefits the Association, but we could and should do much more than we do now. For us to do more, I need to hear from a few members who are willing to work on an Alzheimer's Fund-raising Committee. Working with the Alzheimer's Association, this committee would develop additional ways for us to raise money to find a cure for this terrible disease and assist caregivers for those who suffer from it. Anyone interested should contact me.

More Help Still Needed

Last, but not at all least, we still have an opening for a Service Officer—preferably someone who retired under FERS or has a good working knowledge of that retirement system. If you're interested, contact a service officer listed on page 4 for more information.

Finally, I want to stress that all these requests for help are for YOUR organization. It's not mine, nor the other officers'—it's yours! That's why you're being called upon to help keep it functioning. Many of today's chapter activists—officers and committee and activity chairs—have been working for and with NARFE for years, but we didn't take on our responsibilities for life. So please come forward and do your share for your organization. Thanks.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Gregory W. Barker
Renee Coles
S. L. Gay

Karen L. Leftridge
Lynn M. Parks
Patricia A. Rabbitt

As usual, the majority of these members are "active" (still working) employees, which generally means that they will be unable to attend our weekday meetings until they retire.

To them we say: We are pleased that you have chosen to join NARFE, and hope to provide information in our newsletter that specifically applies to you and other "actives."

If you are a Chapter 1747 "active" member and wish to contribute information for publication, or you'd like to suggest topics we should publicize, please contact President Dorothy Campbell (see page 4). Even if space limitations prevent us from printing information in the newsletter, we are able to post it on our website www.NARFE1747.org.

CONDOLENCES

The following chapter member passed away recently. Our prayers and sympathy go out to her family and friends.

Maxine Dean

CHAPTER 1747 BUDGET REPORT

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Balance on: November 1, 2012 | \$2834.19 |
| Receipts: | 1148.33 |
| Disbursements: | 223.37 |
| Balance on: November 30, 2012 | \$3759.15 |

DAYS TO REMEMBER

- January 1 New Years Day
- January 16 Martin Luther King Day
- January 20 Inauguration Day

Greater Bowie-Crofton Area NARFE News

NARFE News is published ten times a year (monthly from September through June) by Greater Bowie-Crofton Area Chapter 1747, National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, P.O. Box 504, Bowie, MD 20718-0504.

Vol. 33, No. 5

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

CHAPTER BOARD

Officers

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| President | Dorothy Campbell | 301-464-6372 | Dcbowie@aol.com |
| 1st Vice President | Lillie Watson | 301-383-1597 | lwatson16@hotmail.com |
| 2nd Vice President | Vacant | | |
| Secretary | Chiquitta Thomas | 301-805-4108 | c_thomas106@verizon.net |
| Assistant Secretary | Jacqueline Wilson | | miss.JackieV@aol.com |
| Treasurer | Bob Cullen | 301-262-4783 | ba3537@aol.com |
| Assistant Treasurer | Louise Cole | 410-672-6528 | col9135@aol.com |

Committee Chairs

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Federal Legislation | Joseph Young | 301-218-5187 | JosephYoung48@yahoo.com |
| Membership | Lillie Watson | 301-383-1597 | lwatson16@hotmail.com |
| Newsletter | Jessica Forman | 843-347-9287 | jessicafforman@gmail.com |
| Programs | Executive Board | | |
| 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 |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | Peter Hill | 301-249-9143 | pmkthill1@msn.com |
| State Legislation | Ed Bice | 301-464-3748 | DE3637@verizon.net |
| Ways & Means | Dorothy Bice | 301-464-3748 | DE3637@verizon.net |

Activity Coordinators

| | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Alzheimer's Fund | Vacant | | |
| Community Events | Ed Bice (Bowie) | 301-464-3748 | DE3637@verizon.net |
| | Louise Cole (Odenton) | 410-672-6528 | col9135@aol.com |
| | Donna Minner (Crofton) | 410-721-9799 | |
| Meeting Sign-In/Greeter | F. Miner and D. Evans | | |
| NARFE-Net Coordinator | Howard (Flash) Gordon | 301-464-2745 | flash@acm.org |
| NARFE-PAC | Ed Bice | 301-464-3748 | DE3637@verizon.net |
| Photographer | Frank Lee | 410-672-5065 | fllee0716@verizon.net |
| Refreshments | Jack Calloway | 301-262-3457 | |
| | Dave Galliant | 301-262-7261 | |
| | Tom Page | 301-262-3418 | |
| Sunshine | Marjorie Laios | 301-262-1566 | |

Thursday, January 17

Diane Polangin

Tax Tips for the 2012 Returns

Greater Bowie-Crofton Area
 NARFE Chapter 1747
 P.O. Box 504
 Bowie, MD 20718-0504
 www.NARFE1747.org
 www.facebook.com/narfe1747



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you're confused by all the "tax talk" you hear, come to our general meeting January 17 to hear Diane Polangin's answers and her tips for your 2012 return.

LABEL ABOUT HERE

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