



# NARFE NEWSLETTER

GREATER BOWIE-CROFTON AREA CHAPTER 1747

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association**

Volume 35 No. 8

facebook.com/narfe1747 or narfe1747.org

April 2017

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS** are held at the Bowie Senior Center, 14900 Health Center Drive, Bowie, 20716 in Room 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 or our website 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, April 20. Nomination of Officers; and AETNA Insurance on Medicare that breaks down Medicare and updates offerings for the coming year.

❖ **General Meeting:** Thursday, May 18. Election of Officers; and Legislative Action Yearly Summary. Meeting held at **Kenhill Center, 2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie, MD.**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*JERRY KURSBAN*

**ALERT: CRUNCH TIME HAS ARRIVED.** On February 1, 2017, I informed officers of the NARFE Maryland Federation regarding my concern that no one has volunteered to serve as President or for other offices for Chapter 1747, despite requests and pleas in our newsletters and at our chapter meetings. Also, we do not have anyone who serves as Committee Chair for Membership. Federation President Dan McGrath and 1st Vice President and Membership Director Gary Roundtree attended our March 2 Chapter 1747 Executive Board meeting. After vigorous discussion of alternative actions that might be taken, the Executive Board approved a resolution that would permit members who serve as Chapter Officers or Committee Chairs to be paid a stipend for their services. The amount has not yet been determined. If you are interested in serving, please contact either Ed Bice at [de3637@verizon.net](mailto:de3637@verizon.net) (301-464-3748) or Bob Cullen at [ba3537@aol.com](mailto:ba3537@aol.com) (301)262-4783. In the event no one volunteers to serve, the probable outcome will be a merger with another Maryland chapter. In light of the current attacks on federal employee jobs and benefits, who among our approximately 1100 members, will step up and volunteer at this critical time?

## HELP WANTED

**PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES (NARFE) CHAPTER 1747**

NARFE CHAPTER 1747 would like to offer an excellent Leadership Opportunity to a NARFE member who can be available a minimum of 5 hours (10:00AM–12:00PM) 2 days (first and third Thursday) a month for a duration of two (2) years. This position includes a stipend and advantages such as meeting individuals from diversified professions, optional travel with allowances, and on-the-job training.

Please contact: Bob Cullen at (301) 262-4783 /[ba3537@aol.com](mailto:ba3537@aol.com) or Ed Bice at (301) 464-3748 /[de3637@verizon.net](mailto:de3637@verizon.net) if interested.

*Other positions are available.*

## FEDERAL LEGISLATION

DR. HOWARD WATERWORTH

### Scholarship and Disaster Assistance Funds Available to NARFE Members

Many of the advantages of NARFE membership are well-known, which primarily involve protecting and, indeed, enhancing the benefits we earned as federal employees. However, two benefits not as well-known are the NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund and the NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Program. NARFE works cooperatively with the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA) to administer these two programs as a benefit to NARFE members.

FEEA was established in 1986 to provide emergency grants and loans to federal employees affected by the bombing of the Alfred Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. NARFE chapters, federations and individual members donated \$100,000 to FEEA's Oklahoma City Fund, which helped fund full college scholarships for all 200 children who lost a federal employee parent in the bombing. NARFE became a member of FEEA's board of directors in 1997. Find out more about FEEA programs at its website, [www.feea.org](http://www.feea.org).

In 1996, NARFE entered into partnership with FEEA to provide financial assistance to NARFE members who are victims of a declared natural disaster through the NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund. The NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund is supported by tax-deductible donations from NARFE members and friends and is administered by FEEA. NARFE members donated some \$458,000 in aid to fellow NARFE members who were affected by hurricane Katrina, Superstorm Sandy and other natural disasters. To make a tax-deductible contribution, make your check payable to NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund and mail to FEEA, 1641 Prince St., Alexandria, VA 22314. You can find information on this program on the NARFE website at [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org). Log in first, then click on "Special Programs" at the left side of the screen.

Another perk of NARFE membership is the Scholarship Awards program in which 60 awards of \$1,000 each are given to high school seniors who are the children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren (including step children) of NARFE members, and who plan to attend an accredited college or university in a two- or four-year degree program in the fall/winter of the award year. Applications must be submitted no later than April 28 for the 2017 program.

Eligibility requirements and instructions on how to apply are found in publication F-105, "A Guide to the NARFE-FEEA Steve Bauer Scholarship Awards Program." This, as well as the application, can be found on the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), by clicking on the Scholarship Program graphic in the rotating display on the home page. You can also request a print copy of the F-105 by emailing [scholarship@narfe.org](mailto:scholarship@narfe.org), or by calling NARFE Headquarters. The names of the 2016 award winners were published in the December 2016 issue of narfe magazine on p.67

-- three live in Maryland. To make a tax-deductible contribution, make your check payable to NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Awards and mail to: NARFE Scholarships, c/o FEEA, 1641 Prince St., Alexandria, VA 22314.

## ACT NOW

### NARFE's 2017 Training Conference

The NARFE 2017 Legislative Training Conference met at the Hilton Mark Center Hotel in Arlington VA March 12-15. The first two days were devoted to training, and on March 15 we boarded buses that transported us to the Senate and House Office buildings where we met with our respective delegates. Melinda Scott and I represented Chapter 1747. Our District 4 Representative, Anthony Brown, addressed the more than 200 attendees, who had gathered from almost every state in the nation. He emphasized our need to **RESIST and PERSUADE**. Both our Senators, Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen, as well as seven of our eight Representatives, are strong supporters of our NARFE issues, including both Anthony Brown and Steny Hoyer, who serve our Chapter 1747 area.

As the designated NARFE point of contact for Anthony Brown, I spoke with his Legislative Correspondent, Michael Matthews, and reviewed our NARFE issues with him. Suffice it to say that his office was familiar with our issues. He requested that we send him a copy of our monthly Chapter newsletter.

I hope that you will read carefully Page 10 of your April NARFE Magazine which provides instructions regarding how to contact your legislator. Read carefully the article entitled "**NEW LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER PUTS CONGRESS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS.**" With proposals for huge reductions in the number of federal jobs and retiree benefits, now is the time to take action. As our District 4 Representative, Anthony Brown instructed us, don't just sit there. **TAKE ACTION NOW TO RESIST AND PERSUADE.**

## DAYS TO REMEMBER

April 9	Palm Sunday
April 10	First Day of Passover (begins at sundown)
April 14	Good Friday
April 16	Easter Sunday
April 18	Last Day of Passover (ends at sundown)
April 20	General Meeting
April 30–May 2	Md Federation 43rd Biennial Convention Holiday Inn Oceanfront, Ocean City MD
May 7	Public Service Charity 5K Run/Walk
May 18	General Meeting: <b>KENHILL CENTER</b> Officer Elections & Meet Your Legislator

## Minutes of NARFE Meeting March 16, 2017

Meeting called to order at 10:08 am with 21 members present.

President Jerry Kursban discussed the need for a new President and Treasurer for Chapter 1747. This was also discussed with Federation Officers, Dan McGrath and Gary Roundtree at the Chapter Board Meeting on March 2, 2017. A "Help Wanted" ad for NARFE President will be in the April 2017 newsletter.

*State Legislation.* Ed Bice mentioned Long Term Care insurance and the need for an annual Tax Credit discussed at the Legislative meeting. The various committees in the Senate and House voiced displeasure in not having the Governor's bill.

*April 30 to May 2, 2017 State Convention in Ocean City, Maryland.* The \$45.00 deposit due covers two lunches for Monday and Tuesday. Room rate is \$69.00 or Ocean Front at \$83.00.

Diane Polangin of Total Tax Service, Bowie, Maryland was our guest speaker. She provided each member present with a handout called Tax News that discussed tax deductions for 2016. Questions and answers followed for about 30 minutes.

Jackie Adler won the 50/50 raffle.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 am

Jacqueline Wilson  
Secretary

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on: January 31	\$9,533.28
Receipts:	475.23
Disbursements:	450.89
Balance on: February 28	\$9,557.62
Reserve for Alzheimer's Fund	\$242.00

*Balance is for 2017.*

### Are YOU the one?



**Are you the one in 1,100 members  
who will step up and be president?**

#### 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

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

## CHAPTER BOARD

### Officers

President	Jerry Kursban	301-261-3329	jkursban@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Frances Steburg	301-352-0297	feks@msn.com
2nd Vice President	Lillie Watson	301-383-1597	lwatson16@hotmail.com
Secretary	Jacqueline Wilson		missJackieV@aol.com
Treasurer	Howard (Flash) Gordon	301-464-2745	flash@acm.org
Assistant Treasurer	Louise Cole	410-672-6528	col9135@aol.com

### Committee Chairs

Federal Legislation	Howard Waterworth	301-731-3063	hwaterworth11@gmail.com
Membership	Vacant		
Newsletter Production	Jessica Forman	843-347-9287	jessicafforman@gmail.com
Programs	Vacant		
Service Officer	Bob Cullen	301-262-4783	ba3537@aol.com
State Legislation	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	de3637@verizon.net
Alzheimers Fund	Ed Bice	301-464-3748	de3637@verizon.net
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
Social Media Coordinator	Howard (Flash) Gordon	301-464-2745	flash@acm.org
Sunshine	Jacqueline Wilson		missJackieV@aol.com



# NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES (NARFE) CHAPTER 1747 ANNUAL SOCIAL EVENT AND OFFICER INSTALLATION

Date: 06/15/2017 Time: 6:35pm

\$26.00 includes: Game Ticket, Private Room,

Buffet: Salad, BBQ Chicken, Beef Hot Dogs, Baked Beans, Chips,  
Popcorn, Cookies, Strawberries, Tea/Lemonade

*Alcoholic Beverages not included in price*

Place: Bowie Baysox Stadium 4101 NE Crain Hwy  
Bowie, MD 20716



## TICKET ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed (\$26.00 x # tickets) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with your check to: NARFE Chapter 1747, P O Box 504, Bowie, MD 20718

\*\*Receipt Upon Request      Contacts: 301 367-8989 or 410 353-1283