



# The Key Notes

National Active and Retired  
Federal Employees Association  
Chapter No. 409 Frederick, Maryland

April 2015  
Newsletter

2nd VP-Legislative Kathy Siggins 301-829-2462

Editor: Scott Darby 14 S. Pendleton Ct  
Frederick, MD 21703 301-662-7123

## **ACTING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)**

**[siggimax@mindspring.com](mailto:siggimax@mindspring.com)**

First, I'd like to thank Peter Alvestad for doing a wonderful job of photographing and having several pictures and notices published in the Frederick News Post recently. This is a wonderful way to keep NARFE'S name in the public's eye and draw attention to what our organization is all about. What has NARFE done for you lately or in the past? Please consider telling us why you joined NARFE and, if possible, take a few minutes to write a short paragraph that we can consider publishing in our newsletter or submit to the local newspaper. If anyone is interested in writing a press release or an article concerning issues that affect the federal community, retirees or our senior population, we can help with that too. On another note, I'm hoping that by now we have finally seen the last of the white stuff on the ground. I'm really enjoying the warmer weather even though we now have pools of water everywhere, and the ground much too soggy to take a walking tour thru the back yard. I have seen robins which are a sign of spring, and my husband is already having thoughts of planting our garden. I am so ready! Our speaker on April 17, is Matt Borders who will be telling us about Spies in Frederick County during the Civil War. I've made a special request for great weather so that you can enjoy the flowers as you drive in for the luncheon. See you soon and please remember to bring a friend.

## **ALZHEIMER'S REPORT**

**Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)**

Over 1,000 advocates are scheduled to attend the Alzheimer's Advocacy Forum in Washington, DC on

March 23-25, 2015. Our hope is to turn Capitol Hill purple as we advocate for an additional \$300 million for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health, and support the passage of the Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education (HOPE) for Alzheimer's Act.

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

**Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)**

Nearly half of the 250 attendees were first-time participants at the Legislative Training Conference in Arlington, VA. Representatives Barbara Comstock (R-VA), Don Beyer(D-VA), John Delaney (D-MD) Gerry Connolly (D-VA) and Derek Kilmer (D-WA), each having a 100% voting record in favor of NARFE issues, were among the numerous speakers providing tips on how to be more effective on Capitol Hill. Also, a panel of congressional staffers from the offices of Representatives Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), David N. Ciciline (D-MI) and Senator Gary C. Peters (D-MI), were on hand to answer questions. We attended breakout sessions on grass-roots advocacy and policy issues, and learned more about NARFE's legislative agenda for the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress, all in preparation for Capitol Hill Day on March 17. Maryland has a total of 305,909 Active and Retired Federal and Postal Employees. However, only 14,854 are members of the Federation of NARFE Chapters. We must find ways to recruit more members if we want our 32 chapters to survive. Meanwhile, Senator Barbara Mikulski's announcement that she will not seek re-election in Congress has set off a whirlwind of candidates vying to run for her Senate seat in 2016. She said she would prefer to spend the two years remaining in her term campaigning for Maryland residents rather than campaigning for herself. The two issues I would like to

see her succeed in are; that funding at the National Institutes of Health for Alzheimer's research be increased to \$2 billion annually, and that we finally bring the Alzheimer's disease Research Semipostal stamp to fruition.



Congressman John Delaney, Dan McGrath, Maryland Federation President, Kathy Siggins, Acting President, Chapter 409



Paul Hudes, Chapter 1888, Bruce Fowler, Chapter 1127, Congressman Van Hollen, Kathy Siggins, Chapter 409 and John Dix, E-NARFE Chapter

### SECRETARY'S REPORT Margaret Hawker (301-874-8409)

Due to a rescheduled board meeting and the snow, the Committee meeting was postponed, again.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE Georgia Wells (301-865-9693)

The following is the group nominated to run for officers in 2015 – 2016 for Chapter 409. Please note there are still vacancies to be filled.

President – Vacant  
 1st VP Membership - Vacant  
 2nd VP Legislation - Kathy Siggins  
 Newsletter Editor - Scott Darby  
 Treasurer - Jerie O'Connor  
 Luncheon Coordinator - Kathy Kusel  
 Chaplain - Vacant  
 Assistant Chaplain - Kathy Kusel  
 Service Officer - Charles Caloia  
 Assistant Service Officer - Betty Lind  
 Recording Secretary - Margaret Hawker  
 Corresponding Secretary – Lynn McKight  
 Immediate Past President - Kathy Siggins  
 Member-at-Large (Vote for Six)  
 Elinor Abrell                      Ruth M. Davis  
 Walter Rabbitt                      Joseph N. Shrader

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT Walt Rabbit (301-865-5255)

In February Paul Bridge joined NARFE 409. Welcome Paul! One member, William Geisbert passed away, rest in peace William. Unfortunately seven (7) people did not renew their membership; Dorothy Blank, Lonnie Dalrymple, Robert Ellis, Alamedia Moxley, Richard Terrell, George Walton & Emilline Zimmerman. If you know one or more of these former members PLEASE ask them to rejoin NARFE.

Eleven (11) of you will find a large red "P" on your newsletter mailing label. This means you are a "prospective" member. Please consider joining NARFE Chapter 409 to help in the fight to retain our benefits. For more information feel free to contact me at "[wrabb@comcast.net](mailto:wrabb@comcast.net)" or the above telephone number.

**Members count. Can we count on you?**

*We are saddened to report the following Chapter 409 related deaths.*

**Members**

**Donald G. Weddle** died on February 23, 2015 at the age of 88 years old. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, **Pat Weddle**, (also a NARFE 409 Member) of Thurmont.

**James Haller** died on March 13, 2015 at the age of 71 years old. No widow.

**Edgar W. "Bud" Larson**, age 89, died on March 13, 2015. No widow.

**Delores Thompson**, age 83, died on March 17, 2015. No widower.

**Relatives of 409 Members**

**Altha "Virginia" B. Compher** died February 8, 2015 at age 95. She was the widow of **Atlee Compher**, who died in 2012.

**Chapter 409 members and relatives sick and or shut-ins needing our prayers and concerns:**

Peg Bourland, Cindy Castellucci, Joyce Gregoire, Anne Niemiec, Irene Owens, Dorothy Piper, Jaimie Pugh, Ann Simon, Donald and Nadia Taylor, Sisty Vincent, Tom Wiley

**Gil Monck (1-717-762-7484)**

**Please contact Gil with any information for this section of the newsletter.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

***Jerie O'Connor (301-845-7964)***

BALANCE as of January 31, 2015.....\$5,138.08  
 Receipts for February .....\$1,303.52  
 Expenditures for February .....(\$1,088.88)  
 TOTAL FUNDS available as of 1-31-2015.....\$5,352.72

**LUNCHEON ATTENDEES PLEASE READ**

Due to the cancelation of the March luncheon, all checks are shredded. Everyone coming to April's luncheon will need a new reservation.

**Chapter 409 is now sending the Newsletter electronically.** We would like to have more participants in our E-Newsletter as this saves us the costs of printing and postage. We will only use your email address for the Newsletter and the Booklet. Please email Walt Rabbitt at [wrabb@comcast.net](mailto:wrabb@comcast.net) with the email address you prefer to use for the newsletter.

**NOTICE:** If your address, telephone number, or email address changes, please remember to notify me, Walt Rabbit, by telephone (301-865-5255) or email ([wrabb@comcast.net](mailto:wrabb@comcast.net)). This will assure you will continue to receive our chapter newsletter and the NARFE Magazine and we will be able to contact you if necessary.

**Date: April 17, 2015**

**Location:** American Legion, 1450 Taney Ave., Frederick, MD

**Time:** Doors will open at 11 AM. Lunch served at 12 PM. Program starts promptly at 1 PM.

**Menu:** Roast beef w/ mashed potatoes and gravy

**Program:** (1) Matt Borders - *Spies in Frederick County during the Civil War*  
 (2) Election of Officers

We must receive your mail reservation or cancellation no later than Friday April 10, 2015.

Call **Kathy Kusel 1-202-264-0892** with any questions.

**MAILING ADDRESS: 4006 Carriage Hill Dr., Frederick, MD 21704**

**Reservations for April 17, 2015 luncheon meeting:** Please complete this form and send it with a check payable to NARFE Chapter 409 in the amount of **\$12.00** per person. Mail both to **NARFE CHAPTER #409, 4006 Carriage Hill Dr., Frederick, MD 21704**

We need to reserve the number of meals by Friday, April 10, 2015 so PLEASE MAIL AS EARLY AS YOU CAN.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Guest</i>	<i>New Member</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Luncheon</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Guest</i>	<i>New Member</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Luncheon</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Frederick Chapter 409, Inc. Of NARFE  
 12280 Rosswood Dr.  
 Monrovia, MD 21770-9400  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

APRIL 2015

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**APRIL 2015 NEWSLETTER**

**Chapter 409 NARFE**

Dues payments and gifts or contributions to NARFE are NOT deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.

Visit us at our website: <https://sites.google.com/site/narfe409/>  
 Linda Adams-Webmaster 301-253-4740

**CHAPTER 409 OFFICERS  
 May 2014 – May 2015**

<i>President, Acting</i>	Kathy Siggins	301-829-2462	<i>Chaplain</i>	Vacant	
<i>Immed Past President</i>	Mary Lou Blessing	301-473-5662	<i>Assistant Chaplain</i>	Kathy Kusel	202-264-0892
<i>1st VP-Membership</i>	Vacant		<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Scott Darby	301-662-7123
<i>2nd VP-Legislative</i>	Kathy Siggins	301-829-2462	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Elinor Abrell	301-831-8753
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Margaret Hawker	301-874-8409	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Ruth Davis	301-874-1997
<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i>	Linda Adams	301-253-4740	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Bill Elsen	301-663-4027
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jerie O'Connor	301-845-7964	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Walter Rabbitt	301-865-5255
<i>Luncheon Coordinator</i>	Kathy Kusel	1-202-264-0892	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Joseph Shrader	301-845-7184
<i>Service Officer</i>	Chuck Caloia	301-938-2000	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Tom Wiley	301-534-4247
<i>Assistant Service Officer</i>	Betty Lind	301-898-7419			