



The Key Notes

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

February 2017
Newsletter

Co-President Elinor Abrell 301-831-8753 abrellem@comcast.net

Editor: Scott Darby 14 S. Pendleton Ct.
Frederick, MD 21703 301-662-7123 (sdarby1601@gmail.com)

NARFE 409 LUNCHEON MEETING

Friday, February 17th. Doors open at 11:00 a.m.
The program will be a presentation by Sharon Keller, Frederick County Register of Wills.

Ms. Keller will speak on the importance of creating and maintaining a will.

CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Elinor Abrell (301-831-8753)

With the 45th President now in office and Congress now in session, this unified front poses a very serious threat to the earned compensation of current federal employees and the benefits of retirees. The next two to four years look to be very challenging as this Congress is expected to strongly put forth legislation viewed as detrimental to the federal workforce and retirees.

NARFE will continue to advocate before Congress on behalf of member constituency, pledging to serve as a trusted, unbiased source of information for the President and his administration. NARFE President Richard Thissen stated in a recent message that "NARFE will remain vigilant of any attacks on the federal community and continue its aggressive lobbying in defense of its members. "

Take time to read the cover story in the February issue of narfe magazine: Federal Forecast, Post-Election Prediction: Severe Threats Ahead. More than ever it falls upon each retiree to closely watch and stay abreast of what is happening in Congress, and to make your voice heard by the legislators whom we have voted into office. Updated contact information follows.

The Honorable Benjamin Cardin 202-224-4524
www.cardin.senate.gov
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen 202-224-4654
www.vanhollen.senate.gov
B40C Dirksen Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C 20510

MARYLAND DISTRICT 6 REPRESENTATIVE
The Honorable John Delaney 202-225-2721
www.delaney.house.gov
1632 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C 20515

MARYLAND DISTRICT 8 REPRESENTATIVE
The Honorable Jamie Raskin 202-225-5341
www.raskin.house.gov
431 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

*NOTE: Emails can be sent by first going to the web site and then clicking on "Contact"

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)

The 115th Congressional Session for 2017-2018 began with the election of 241 Republicans and 194 Democrats in the House of Representatives, and Republicans winning the majority in the Senate with 52 seats. This, along with the election of Donald J. Trump to the Presidency, has created a perfect storm for the federal community. In his contract with the American voters, Mr. Trump vowed to implement within his first 100-day action including a hiring freeze on all federal employees to reduce the federal workforce. On January 9, 2017, **NARFE joined lawmakers urging President-elect Trump to reconsider the federal hiring freeze in a letter signed by 106 lawmakers, all Democrats.** NARFE will remain valiant of any attacks on the federal community and continue its aggressive lobbying in defense of its members

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

Louis Cole III, age 83, died December 17, 2016.
Widow is **Irene Cole**.

Edna Elizabeth "Libby" Myers, age 94, died
December 18, 2016. No widower.

Sisty Vincent, age 94, died Dec 22, 2016. He was the
husband 409 member **Joyce Vincent**.

Donald Hunt Sr., age 86, died January 2, 2017.
Widow is **Alyce Hunt**.

Paul Friedmann, age 89, died January 9, 2017.
Widow is **Jean Friedmann**.

Relatives of 409 Members

Eileen Green, age 86, died January 5, 2017. She was
the widow of 409 member **Sterling Green**, who died
July 24, 2016 at the age of 88 years old.

Virginia Brittingham, age 82, died January 5, 2017.
Her widower is 409 member **Robert Brittingham**.

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

Bill Davis, Joyce Gregoire, Howard Lutz,
Mary B. Miller, Anne Niemiec, Dorothy Piper,
Jaimie Pugh, Ann Simon, Donald and Nadia Taylor,
Doris Walter

Gil Monck (1-717-762-7484)

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Margaret Hawker (301-874-8409)

The Executive Committee of NARFE Chapter 409 met
on January 17, 2017, at the American Legion. The
minutes were approved. Legislative, Alzheimer's,
Newsletter, Membership, Chaplain, and Luncheon
reports were given.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jerie O'Connor (301-845-7964)

No report this month, it will be included in next month's
issue.

ALZHEIMER'S REPORT

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)

Funding for Alzheimer's research at the National
Institutes of Health (NIH) reached nearly \$1 billion in
recent years with the help of advocates nationwide.
However, an additional \$350-\$400 million that was
approved in the FY-17 budget is now in jeopardy due
to Congress passing continuing resolutions. As an
advocate my concern is the uncertainty for legislation
that recently passed creating innovations in care,
support and quality of life for individuals living with
Alzheimer's and their families and could be lost by the
repeal or replacement of the Affordable Care Act. One
such loss would be the progress in detecting and
diagnosing memory loss and other dementia symptoms
in a timely manner through the annual wellness visit's
cognitive assessment benefit under Medicare.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Dennis Vernon (301-694-8003)

Most of us enjoy being surprised with a thoughtful gift
at Christmas, our birthday and perhaps at other special
occasions. To the contrary, we do not like to be
surprised with a decrease in our annuity, Long Term
Care Insurance and/or other retirement benefit that we
depend upon for survival. **IF** you maintain your
NARFE membership, you'll continue to get current
benefit information from our chapter Newsletter and
the monthly NARFE magazine. Moreover, you will be
able to avoid an unpleasant and unexpected surprise by
the new administration and congress which both have
a shared ambition to cut the federal debt (hopefully,
not at our expense). Please don't let your NARFE
membership lapse as you will then be subsequently
dropped from the magazine and newsletter
subscription rooster.

Congratulations to Olin and Janet Nave on their
membership renewal. Please welcome Sandra
Bogarde who transferred in to our chapter from which
chapter – I don't know – but we are happy to have you.
Second renewal notices have been dispatched to the

following chapter members: Pamela Beale, Thomas Fisher, Susan Klecka, John Kline, John Norris; Rebecca Stout; and, Vivian Votipka. The following personnel were dropped by NARFE Headquarters for non-renewal: Raymon Fischer, Claudia Hennigan, and, Betty Tucker Younkins. If you know any of the folks who have received their second renewal notice or have been dropped, please encourage them to renew and continue their membership to stay informed about upcoming or proposed changes to their benefits.

FEBRUARY'S SPEAKER



Kara Norman, Executive Director, Downtown Frederick Partnership spoke to Chapter 409 members at our January meeting. She explained how the Downtown Frederick Partnership works to implement the national Main Street Program for the benefit of Frederick businesses, residents, and visitors. She also talked about plans for the future of downtown Frederick, answered questions about various projects

and buildings, and helped us all get a better understanding of how the Partnership is working to strengthening the vitality of downtown Frederick. Shown with Ms. Norman (left) is Ms. Elinor Abrell, Co-President of the Chapter 409.

NOTICE: If your address, telephone number, email address changes, or to receive the E-version of the newsletter and booklet please remember to notify me, Dennis Vernon, by telephone at 301-694-8003 or email knight21702@yahoo.com. 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.

SNOW POLICY: If Frederick County Schools are closed for weather, then the luncheon meeting is canceled and checks will be shredded. A new reservation will be required at your next luncheon. If County Schools are delayed but open at meeting time the luncheon meeting will be held as scheduled.

Date: **February 17, 2017**
Location: American Legion, 1450 Taney Ave., Frederick, MD 21702
Time: Doors will open at 11 AM. Lunch served at 12 noon. Program starts promptly at 1 PM.
Menu: Spaghetti with meat balls and salad
Program: Sharon Keller, Frederick County Register of Wills
 We must receive your mail reservation or cancellation no later than Friday **February 10, 2017**. Call **Susan Janssen** at **301-695-1785** with any questions.
MAILING ADDRESS: NARFE CHAPTER #409
P. O. Box 1642 Frederick, MD 21702

Reservations for February 17, 2017 luncheon meeting: Please complete this form and send it with a check payable to NARFE Chapter 409 in the amount of **\$14.00** per person. Mail both to **NARFE CHAPTER #409, P.O. Box 1642, Frederick, MD 21702**

We need to reserve the number of meals by Friday, February 10, 2017 so PLEASE MAIL AS EARLY AS YOU CAN.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Guest</i>	<i>New Member</i>	<i>1st Luncheon</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Guest</i>	<i>New Member</i>	<i>1st 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

FEBRUARY 2017

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Frederick, MD
Permit No. 81



Some of you will find a (P) following your name on the mailing label. This means you are a "prospective" member.
Please consider joining NARFE by contacting Dennis Vernon at 301-694-8003 for membership information.

JANUARY 2017 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

CALENDAR 2017 Chapter Events

- February 14** Chapter 409 Executive Committee Meeting
9:30 AM at American Legion (Same location as our luncheon)
All are welcome to come.
- February 17** Chapter 409 Luncheon

2017 Other Events

- February 7** Federation Board Meeting, Bowie, Md.
March 12-15 National Legislative Training
March 15 NARFE Day on Capitol Hill
April 30-May 2 MD Federation 43rd Biennial Convention, Ocean City, MD
October 3 MD Federation Board Training, Bowie, MD
October 23 MD Federation Training Day, Bowie, MD