



# The Key Notes

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

January 2018  
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, January 19th. Doors open at 11:00 a.m.**

**Frederick Municipal Airport**

**Representative of the**  
**Frederick Municipal Airport**

Anyone wishing to come only for the program should arrive by 12:40 p.m. Seating will be available.

## **CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE**

**Elinor Abrell (301-831-8753)**

This year saw unprecedented threats to the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees. NARFE was persistent in connecting with legislators, building relationships and promoting recognition of NARFE's positions. In addition, NARFE members across the nation made calls, sent messages, and attended meetings to make their voices heard as budget hearings were targeting federal retirement and health benefits.

The House and Senate were able to finally come to agreement on a joint budget resolution that ended the tax reform threat to the federal community. This joint resolution does NOT include cuts to federal pay and benefits, which makes it a big win for federal employees and retirees. The original House budget called for cuts of \$32 Billion in federal pay and benefits. The joint resolution, instead of including cuts, now allows the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees to add \$1.5 Trillion to the deficit over the next ten years as a means to achieve tax changes.

NARFE will continue to closely monitor coming tax bills for potential effects on the federal community. As always, NARFE members are urged to stay informed and to know that the Legislative Action Center on [narfe.org](http://narfe.org) can be used to quickly and easily send letters to members of Congress at times when action is needed.

## **ALZHEIMER'S REPORT**

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



The First Day of Issue Dedication Ceremony for the Alzheimer's Semipostal Stamp was held on November 30, 2017 at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore, MD. On hand for the ceremony were: from left to right, Kathy Siggins; Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer, United States Postal Service; Congressman Elijah E. Cummings; Maryland's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, U.S. House of Representatives; Dr. Marie A. Bernard, Deputy Director, National Institute on Aging; Dr. Constantine G. Lyketsos, Director, Memory and Alzheimer's Treatment Center, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center; Dr. Richard Bennett, President, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

## **LEGISLATIVE**

**David Carmack (240-578-4965)**

The Thrift Saving Plan Modernization Act of 2017 has now been signed by the President. As reported in the last THE KEY NOTES, this law allows TSP participants, who are retired or over 59 ½ and still working, more flexibility over withdrawals from the

TSP, and will become effective upon issuance of regulations by the Federal Retirement Thrift Board. Congress has again passed a two-week continuing resolution that keeps the government funded at fiscal year 2017 levels through December 22. During this period the lawmakers will try to come to an agreement to fund the balance of fiscal year 2017. According to the NARFE Legislative Hotline, the federal community must be ever vigilant because past bipartisan budget agreements have used federal pay and benefits to offset increases to budget caps. You should follow very closely these negotiations because any changes may affect you. NARFE will do its part to protect benefits for federal employees and retirees, but it needs you to contact your legislators not to cut earned pay and benefits of the federal community.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**  
**Dennis Vernon (301-694-8003)**

As previously mentioned in past newsletters, please pay your annual chapter dues of \$9 or NARFE Headquarters will categorize you as a “Member Transferred Out of the Chapter” and subsequently remove you from our chapter membership list. Your annual membership payment of \$40 **DOES NOT** include your chapter dues so please remit a check for \$49 to include the chapter dues of \$9. If you have a lifetime NARFE membership, it only covers national and does **NOT** include chapter dues which must also be paid. Since last March, if you paid only \$40 for your NARFE membership, NARFE Headquarters changed your status from a Chapter Member to a National Member. This month, NARFE listed the following chapter persons under the category of “Transferred Out of the Chapter”: Cecilia Anchor; Frank Baker; Katherine Bradshaw; George Bragaw; George Brubaker; William Butler; Evelyn Carlin; Louis Cole; Paul Donnelly; David Dunn; John Ford; Loretta Germann; Patricia Goodrich; Frances Halford; Lawrence Hatch; Luther Holland; Grant Howard; Lee Jacobs; John Jeffery; Marjorie Kincaid; Ralph Knisely; William Kramer; Robert Lauer; Roy Lind; Gilbert Monck; Joy Monck; Walter Poffenberger; Carmen Puglia; Faine Rodgers; Carroll Schildt; Nancy Seiler; Louis Traini; Roland Tremblay; Robert Wark; Harry Winpiger; and, James Young. The following named had their membership dropped for non-renewal:

Claudia Benack; Mary Clifford; Virginia Moser; and, Richard Terrell. You can contact NARFE Member Records at 1800-456-8410 (ask for Terri) to make financial arrangements to pay your dues. Alternatively, you can avoid making annual dues payments and save 15% by choosing to pay your NARFE membership from your annuity. If you wish to pay your dues from your annuity, you can submit a completed NARFE form <http://www.narfe.org/pdf/dw-2.pdf> which can also be used to pay your annual chapter dues, as well as, your spouse’s dues.

Please welcome Carolyn Francis who has transferred in to our chapter, as well as, the following prospective members: Robert Cruz; Tom Hanley; Kim Loll; and, Sharon Newmann. The following personnel have been reinstated as Chapter Members: Steven Hoke; Ruth Linholm; James Marsh; Florence Rice; and, Stan Smith. Second renewal notices have been sent to: Kathleen Breeze; William Campbell; Margaret Clark; Ruth Davis; Judy Durick; John Fry; Elizabeth Hanes; Kazimierz Kasprzak; Susan Klecka; Joseph Mangiafico; Mary Owens; Anna Poole; Anne Smallwood; and, Vivian Votipka. If you see someone in this section who owes national and/or chapter dues, please kindly inform them as they may not even know.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT**  
**Margaret Hawker (301-874-8409)**

The Executive Committee of NARFE Chapter 409 met on Tuesday, December 12, at the American Legion. The minutes were approved. The Treasurer’s report was given and approved. Legislative, Alzheimers, Newsletter, Membership, Public Relations, and Luncheon reports were given. The Alzheimers Semi-postal stamp is now available.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**  
**Jerie O’Connor (301-845-7964)**

BALANCE as of October 31, 2017.....	\$4,306.78
Receipts for November.....	\$2,369.00
Expenditures for November .....	(\$2,059.80)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS available as of 11-30-2017..</b>	<b>\$4,615.98</b>

**DECEMBER MEETING**



Mr. Earle Browning, a 35 year NARFE member, cuts Chapter 409's birthday cake. We celebrated 50 years as a NARFE Chapter this December.



Mr. Jake Wynn, from Frederick's National Museum of Civil War Medicine, told stories about Christmas during the Civil War. He talked about the changes in Christmas celebrations from 1860 to 1865 for the country and for soldiers. He followed his fascinating talk by answering questions from the audience.

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

**Relatives of 409 Members**

**Dorothy Piper**, age 95, died December 15, 2017. She was the widow of member **Jurgen Piper**.

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

**Bill Davis, Ruth Davis, Joyce Gregoire, Howard Lutz, Lynn Mc Knight, Mary B. Miller, Anne Niemiec, Jaimie Pugh, Ann Simon, Donald and Nadia Taylor**

**Please contact Gil Monck (1-717-762-7484) with any information for this section of the newsletter.**

**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: January 19, 2018**  
**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: Fried chicken with mashed potatoes  
Cole slaw**  
**Program: Frederick Municipal Airport**  
 We must receive your mail reservation or cancellation no later than Friday **January 12, 2018**.  
 Call with any questions.  
**MAILING ADDRESS: NARFE Chapter #409, 4006 Carriage Hill Dr., Frederick, MD 21704**

**Reservations for, January 19, 2018 luncheon meeting:** Please complete this form and send it with a check payable to NARFE Chapter 409 in the amount of **\$16.00** 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, January 12, 2018 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**

JANUARY 2018

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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.

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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 2018

<b>January 16</b>	<b>Chapter 409 Executive Committee Meeting</b> <b>9:30 AM at American Legion (Same location as our luncheon)</b> <b>All are welcome to come.</b>
<b>January 19</b>	<b>Chapter 409 Luncheon</b>
<b>February 5</b>	<b>Federation Executive Committee Meeting</b>
<b>February 6</b>	<b>Federation Board Meeting</b>
<b>June 11-12</b>	<b>Region II Training Academy</b>
<b>August 26-28</b>	<b>FEDcon18, NARFE's National Conference</b>