



The Key Notes

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

June 2013
Newsletter

VP-Membership Bill Elsen 301-663-4027
VP-Legislative Kathy Siggins 301-829-2462

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

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

During May our chapter received a couple of acknowledgments. One was a Thank You note from the Montevue Auxiliary for our generous donation of \$1000 in April. This photo, which was in the Frederick News Post, shows our Charity Committee chair Ruth Davis (right) presenting the check to Doris Smith from the Auxiliary. Our donation will enable the Montevue residents to make their much beloved trip to Mountain Gate Restaurant.



Later in the month our chapter was represented at the Convention of the Maryland Federation of Chapters by Linda Adams, Gerry and Mary Lou Blessing, J.D. Brooks and Kathy Siggins, and Ted and Bette Jensen. During the Convention our chapter was recognized for its 60th anniversary, along with several other chapters. In the photo below you will see, on the back row second from the left, Ted Jensen, retiring Federation President and past 409 President, and next to him Mary Lou Blessing, retiring President of 409. We can hope that NARFE and 409 will survive for another 60 years.



That brings up the various attacks in Congress on Federal Employee Benefits- from freezing salaries to breaking up the FEHB. Pay attention to these threats, let your representatives know how you feel, watch how they vote and respond to their vote. I have found these folks do appreciate hearing when we agree with their votes, not just when we disagree. It doesn't have to be a long letter – a simple sentence or two will suffice. Keeping in mind the security procedures currently in place at the Capital, letters to their local offices, phone calls or email will probably be received more quickly.

Our June 16th luncheon will be the end of year picnic (inside) with fried chicken and Bingo. So, please join us.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)

The NARFE Hotline is 1-877-217-8234. This number provides the latest information and advice for advocacy. The number is available 24/7.

The Hotline often urges phone calls to members of Congress. Calls to members' Capitol Hill offices can be made toll-free by calling the Capitol switchboard at 866-220-0044. Callers can ask for a representative or

senator by name, or provide a ZIP code to learn whom to ask for. It is important that everyone take a more active role in contacting their elected officials as threats to our hard earned benefits are proposed. Our job is to increase awareness of the contributions of federal employees to our nation, refute inaccurate perceptions about federal pay and benefits, and voice our opposition to proposals to cut the benefits of active and retired federal employees.

Such as (H.R. 1780), introduced by Rep. Dave Camp, R-Mich., on April 26, would "provide that the only health plans that the federal government may make available to the president, vice president, members of Congress and federal employees are those created under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act or offered through a health insurance exchange." The Camp bill would dismantle the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program by forcing employees into the state exchanges created under the ACA. The legislation does not mention retirees at this time. NARFE is strongly opposed to this and any effort to denigrate the services provided under the FEHBP.

Sequester forced the Office of Personal Management (OPM) to reduce its call center hours by nearly three hours each weekday, to save money. Sequester has thrown a wrench into OPM's recent successful effort to speed up its processing of new retirees' pensions and whittle down its backlog of unresolved cases. OPM has cut its backlog of unprocessed claims by 40 percent, from 61,108 in January 2012 to 36,603 in March 2013.

The Resolution submitted by Chapter 409, to support legislation that would establish a fundraising stamp called "semipostal" for Alzheimer's disease, was adopted by the Maryland Federation NARFE Convention in Ocean City, MD. The Resolution will be referred to NARFE National. On April 11, 2013, Representative Edward Markey (D-MA) introduced H.R. 1508, that provides for the issuance of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Semipostal Stamp. Please contact Representatives John Delaney at 202-225-2721 and Chris Van Hollen at 202-225-5341 and ask them to cosponsor H.R. 1508. We need cosponsors to move this legislation out of committee and bring it to a vote.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Bill Elsen, Membership (301-663-4027)

One new member joined our chapter in April, annuitant H. Syed Zaidi. Seven members who were mistakenly transferred out of our chapter to the electronic chapter, #2363, have been transferred back into 409. The following 8 members were reinstated: Marjorie Hefren, Woodland Hurtt, Clayton Magee, Dorothy Makel, Rachel Moler, George Patterson, Kathleen Smith, and Donald Taylor. Norma Tollman transferred out of our chapter because she moved to Washington State. Two other members (Marjorie Fortman and Lawrence Summers) transferred out of 409 to the electronic chapter #2363. National informed us of four members that passed away: Jack Kincaid, Ella Lewis, Robert Lowery, and Hilda Poole. Ten members were dropped because they did not renew their membership. They are Caren Babst, Bessie Brown, Phyllis Covahey, Thelma Davis, Robert Lawrence, Harold Powell, Madelon Quinn, Dorothy Van Steinburg, Harry Walters, and Bill Wobbleton. If you know any of these members please ask them to re-join. This results in a net loss of one member.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Margaret Hawker (301-874-8409)

The Chapter Executive Committee met on May 14 at the American Legion. The secretary's minutes were approved. Legislative, Membership and Chaplain's reports were given. Chapter 409 received a certificate at the Federation Convention for 60 years of service. Beginning in June, Chapter 409 will have acting co-presidents. Kathy Siggins and Bill Elsen will share the duties of President until a candidate for President can be found.

NARFE Chapter 409 Memorial
May 18, 2012 thru May 17, 2013

- Charles W. Lyons Sr.** 89 years old Died May 23, 2012, Widow is **Ethel Mae Lyons.**
- Eleanor A. Orndorff** 84 years old, Died Dec. 3, 2012, no widower
- Drucilla B. Lake** 82 years old, Died Dec.15, 2012, no widower
- Rebekah J. Mc Laren** 89 years old, Died Jan.4, 2013, no widower

George E. Russell Jr. 85 years old, Died Jan.9, 2013, Widow is **Donna V. Russell.**
Mary Grace Mullinix 88 years old, Died March 7, 2013, no widower
James E. Forbus 80 years old, Died March 7, 2013, Widow is **Elin Forbus.**
Anna Mary Jackson 94 years old, Died March 7, 2013, no widower
Bernard L. Long 81 years old Died March 18, 2013. Widow Maisel Long
Abram C. Goldsworthy 62 years old Died March 24, 2013 Widow is **Rosemarie Goldsworthy.**
Geraldine R. Fagin Died April 3, 2013, no widower
Irvin F. Stride 97 years old Died April 4, 2013 widow is **Eva Stride.**
Frances V. Skinner 89 years old Died April 12, 2013, no widower
Eva Catherine Johnson, 95 years old Died April 20, 2013, no widower
Marjorie M Dowling 84 years old Died May 2 2013, no widower
Ray C Smith 95 years old Died May 4, 2013, no widow
Phyllis L Covahey 83 years old Died May 8, 2013, no widower

Chapter 409 is now sending the Newsletter electronically to members who have provided their email addresses. We would like to have more participants in our E-Newsletter as this saves us the costs of printing and postage. We ask that everyone consider trying the electronic version of our Newsletter. We will only use your email address for the Newsletter and the Booklet. Please email Walt Rabbitt at wraab@comcast.net with the email address you prefer to use for the newsletter.

Editor's Note: I would like to thank the board for appointing me as editor of the newsletter. This is new to me and I will do the best of my ability. Many thanks go to Lou Popowsky for his service as the past editor and for the help given to me on this edition. Please feel free to email me at sdarby1601@gmail.com or call me at 301-662-7123. Thank you.

Scott Darby

Relatives of Chapter 409 members:
John Shrader, 57 year old Died May 2, 2013 son of #409 Past President Joe Shrader.

Chapter 409 members, relatives sick and or shut-ins needing our prayers and concerns : Don Dupreie, Joyce Gregoire, Emily Moler, Gil Monck, Betty Chase, Irene Owens, Dorothy and Jurgan Piper, Ann Simon
 Gil Monck, Chaplain (1-717-762-7484)

Luncheon:
Date: June 21, 2013
Location: American Legion, 1450 Taney Ave., Frederick, MD.
Time: Doors will open at 11 AM. Lunch served at 12 noon. Program starts promptly at 1 PM.
Menu: Fried chicken
Program: **Annual Indoor picnic & Bingo**
 We must receive your mail reservation or cancellation no later than Friday June 14th. Call **Liz Popowsky 301-371-6648** with any questions. MAILING ADDRESS: **P.O. BOX 609, JEFFERSON, MD 21755-0609**

Reservations for June 21, 2013 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 #409 Luncheon, P.O. Box 609, Jefferson, MD 21755-0609.** We need to reserve the number of meals by Friday, June 14, 2013 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

JUNE 2013

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JUNE 2013 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/>

CHAPTER 409 OFFICERS
May 2013 – May 2014

<i>President</i>			<i>Chaplain</i>	Gil Monck	1-717-762-7484
<i>Immed Past President</i>	Mary Lou Blessing	301-473-5662	<i>Assistant Chaplain</i>	Kathy Kusel	202-264-0892
<i>VP-Membership</i>	Bill Elsen	301-663-4027	<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Scott Darby	301-662-7123
<i>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>	Margaret Clark	301-834-7519
<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i>	Linda Adams	301-253-4740	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Ruth Davis	301-874-1997
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jerie O'Connor	301-845-7964	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Walter Rabbitt	301-865-5255
<i>Luncheon Coordinator</i>	Liz Popowsky	301-371-6648	<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			