



# The Key Notes

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

June 2019  
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 Chapter 409 Luncheon**  
**Friday, June 21**  
**Doors open 11:00 a.m.**  
**Bingo and Fried Chicken**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**  
**Elinor Abrell (301-831-8753)**

Take a good look at this Newsletter that you have in your hands. This issue, for June, 2019, is the last Newsletter put together by Editor Scott Darby, who has held this position for the past eight years. Scott informed us last year that he would be retiring after this issue. In spite of diligent efforts by the Executive Committee and the Nominating Committee, no one has been found to step into the position of Editor. *This means that there may be NO Chapter 409 Newsletter next year.* No Newsletter means no information goes out to the membership. If the Chapter still holds together, luncheons would probably go on, with an announcement sent out by email. NARFE is more than a social gathering, and so much is lost without a newsletter to keep us informed. Surely in this chapter there is one person with some computer skills and 4-5 hours per month (according to Scott) to give to putting together a newsletter, perhaps in just the simplest of formats. Scott is willing to mentor and help transition a new editor. Please contact Scott Darby if you think you might be interested and want more information.

The White House has announced the nomination of Dale Cabaniss as director of Office of Personnel Management (OPM). If confirmed, MS Cabaniss would be filling a position that has been vacant since October, 2018 and held in the interim by an acting director. NARFE supports this nomination, as Ms. Cabaniss has an extensive public service career that gives her important insight into the most prominent issues and challenges federal workers and retirees face in the coming years. She is taking leadership of the agency at a tumultuous time as the administration is

looking to dismantle OPM and transfer its functions to Government Services Agency, a move strongly opposed by NARFE. Ken Thomas, NARFE President stated that NARFE “looks forward to a productive working relationship with Canabiss and to ensure that the federal community is understood and respected throughout OPM, the White House, and beyond.” NARFE Chapter 409 at the May 17 meeting held a ceremony of installation for new officers for the 2019-2020 year. Edward Reed from Hagerstown Chapter 306 administered the oath of office. Ed serves as Vice President for Legislation for his local chapter as well as Second Vice President for Membership in the Maryland Federation. Ed and his wife Pandy were welcomed as guests.

**Chapter 409 Officers for 2019-2020**

President	Elinor Abrell
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Legislative	David Carmack
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Membership	Dennis Vernon
Recording Secretary	Margaret Hawker
Treasurer	Jerie O'Connor
Luncheon Reservations	Gale Vernon & Carolyn Francis
Chaplain	Earle Browning
Service Officer	Chuck Caloia
Immediate Past President	Kathy Siggins
Members-at-Large:	
Linda Adams	Scott Darby
Pam Ogasawara	Kathy Siggins
Walter Rabbit	Vicki Yanez

**Chapter Positions remaining vacant**

Newsletter Editor  
Corresponding Secretary  
Assistant Chaplain

**LEGISLATIVE**

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

As reported earlier in *The Key Notes*, the President is pushing to merge the Office of Personal Management (OPM) and the General Services Administration (GSA) and to move some of OPM’s functions to the White House. NARFE is fearful that this will politicize the federal civil service and reduce the resources and attention given to services (e.g., health care and insurance programs and retirement services) that benefit the federal employees and retirees.

A bipartisan group of members of the House of Representatives has recently introduced a bill (USPS Fairness Act (H.R. 2382)) to end the requirement that the United States Postal Service fully prefund the future health benefits of its retirees.

A bill (Federal Retirement Fairness Act (H.R. 2478)) has recently been introduced to allow federal employees who started their careers in temporary positions before transitioning into permanent roles to contribute retroactively toward their retirement for the years they held temporary positions.

**ALZHEIMER’S REPORT**

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

Beginning in 2019, funds raised by NARFE’s National Walk to End Alzheimer’s teams will count towards NARFE’s national goal of \$14 million by the end of 2020 for Alzheimer’s Research. NARFE is listed under Member of the Alzheimer’s Association Zenith Society having donated over \$13 million through the NARFE-Alzheimer’s Research Program. The funds raised through the walks will provide an opportunity for us to support our members now as well as in the future by fully supporting the mission of the Alzheimer’s Association, placing equal importance on helping those already living with the disease and their caregivers.

I will lead Team HOPE (Chapter 409) in our 26<sup>th</sup> Walk to End Alzheimer’s on Sunday, October 13 in the Western Maryland Walk in Frederick. Please visit the Alz.org website and add your ZIP Code to find the nearest walk in your local area. Scroll down to National Teams and click on the NARFE emblem to reach the NARFE website to register your team, join an existing team, or make a donation to sponsor a walker. All donations to the walk are tax-deductible as a charitable contribution and are greatly appreciated. Please make

your checks payable to the Alzheimer’s Association. For your information, the breakdown for funds raised by the walk is: 77% Alzheimer’s care, support, research, awareness and advocacy; 17% fundraising; and 6% administrative charges.

There is no change, or cost, in the process of raising funds outside of the Walk to End Alzheimer’s which will continue to fund U.S.-based research through the NARFE-Alzheimer’s Research Program.

**2019 CHAPTER 409 CHARITY DONATION**



This year the Chapter chose Hospice of Frederick County for our charity donation. Pictured are Jessica Mitko of Hospice, Earle Browning, Charity Committee Chairman, and Elinor Abrell, President of Chapter 409.

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

BALANCE as of March, 31-2019.....	\$4,115.72
Receipts for April.....	\$1,184.66
Expenditures for April.....	(\$1,017.36)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS available as of 4-30-2019...</b>	<b>\$4,283.02</b>

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

One of the derivative benefits of having your NARFE dues (\$40 for national and \$9 for chapter) taken out of your federal annuity is that you won’t be hassled by NARFE Headquarters about any more dues payments. The downside is that if you wish to make any changes, you will need to go through NARFE HQ (1-800-456-8410). As an example, one of our chapter members asked me to make a name change on her membership records as she had remarried. When I attempted to make this change with NARFE HQ, I was informed that

the bride needed to coordinate with them as she needed to submit a copy of the marriage certificate along with her formal written request in order to coordinate the name change with the Office of Personnel Management which processes annuities. In another instance, a member requested me to make the necessary arrangements to have her name dropped from NARFE membership; NARFE HQ advised that the member had to coordinate that request herself as she had elected to have her dues deducted from her annuity. Please don't hesitate to contact NARFE HQ with any membership questions you have as they are there to serve you (they will ask you for your membership number which you can find on the address label of your NARFE magazine).

Please welcome new members: **Joseph Beidle and Dan Grauman**. Sorry to say that the following personnel have been dropped by NARFE HQ for non-renewal: **Janet Ady; Mary Sue Krause; and, Dennis Smith**. If you happen to know any of these people, please encourage them to pay their dues. On a happier note, please welcome the following new prospective chapter members: **Julia Appleton; Brenda Barth; Clyde Colmes; Daniel Cotter; Babette Couser; Steven Finette; Lisa Hazel; Keith Henke; Victoiria Holsey; Billy Jacup; Marlene McCreery; George McGrew; Mansoor Nasir; Harold Pazourek; Deborah Pride; Lina Ruhnaw; Dan Sipe; Adele Stevens; and, Candace Wilson**. If they ask you a question and you are unsure of the answer, please refer them to one of the chapter officers who wear a blue name tag.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Margaret Hawker (301-874-8409)**

The Executive Committee of NARFE Chapter 409 met on Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at the American Legion. There were two guests, Pam Ogasawara and Jerry Miller. The minutes for April were approved. The

Treasurer's report for April was given and approved. Legislative, Alzheimers, Membership, Newsletter, and Luncheon reports were given. Pam Ogasawara was approved for the vacant Member-at-Large position.

**THIS WILL BE THE LAST NEWSLETTER IF NO ONE STEPS UP TO BE THE EDITOR!**

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

**Members**

**None Reported**

**Relatives of 409 Members**

**None Reported**

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

**Ruth Davis, Betty Dean, Howard Lutz, Ann Niemiec, Annis Moran, Jaimie Pugh, Joe Shrader, Donald and Nadia Taylor, Gail Vernon, and Tom Wiley**

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

**Date: June 21, 2019**

**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 w/mashed potatoes & Cole Slaw**

**Program: Bingo**

**We must receive your mail reservation or cancellation no later than Friday June 14, 2019.**

**MAILING ADDRESS: NARFE Chapter 409, P.O. Box 1716, Frederick, MD 21702**

**Luncheon questions, please call:  
Gale Vernon 301-694-8003**

**Reservations for June 21, 2019 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, P.O. Box 1716, Frederick, MD 21702**

We need to reserve the number of meals by Friday, June 14, 2019 so PLEASE MAIL AS EARLY AS YOU CAN.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member  Guest  New Member  1<sup>st</sup> Luncheon

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Member  Guest  New Member  1<sup>st</sup> Luncheon

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

Frederick Chapter 409, Inc. Of NARFE  
2458 Five Shilling Rd.  
Frederick, MD 21701  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**JUNE 2019**

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**JUNE 2019 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  
2019**

- June 18** Chapter 409 Executive Committee Meeting  
10:00 AM at American Legion (Same location as our luncheon)  
All are welcome to come.
- June 21** Chapter 409 Luncheon