



The Key Notes

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

May 2014
Newsletter

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

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CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bill Elsen (301-663-4027) bilmarmp@comcast.net
Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462) siggimax@mindspring.com

As we finally say goodbye to old man Winter, we will also be saying goodbye to a very loyal and active NARFE leader. Jurgen George Piper of Frederick died on Friday, April 11, 2014, at the age of 103. Jurgen was a WWII veteran and an honorary member of Chapter 409 where he served in many capacities for more than 20 years; he was also President of the Maryland Federation of NARFE Chapters. He enjoyed attending our luncheons with his lovely wife Dorothy who would say, "he loves to talk!" We will sorely miss his gift of gab and his winning smile.

The first week in May is designated as Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW). It is a time to honor federal, state, county and municipal employees who make our government the best in the world. I want to thank each and every one of you for your many years of dedicated service to our country. The week kicks off with the second annual 5K run/walk to benefit the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA). NARFE members around the Washington, DC area are welcome to join fellow Gaithersburg Chapter 581 to participate or volunteer to help. Information for this event, including how to register, can be found at: <http://publicservicerecognitionweek.org/events/5k.shtml>.

Our speaker this month will be filmmaker Philip J Marshall who will discuss the life and times of Francis Scott Key and share some unusual and interesting facts discovered in his more than two years of research. Mr. Marshall's approach to the subject of Francis Scott Key and history in general can be described as taking a 10,000 foot view. America is what it is today because of the people, events and decisions made by the people before us. History to Mr. Marshall is not just events

and dates; it's correlating everything that was happening at the time so we can more easily understand history, truthfully, and connects it to our lives today. Mr. Marshall will discuss Mr. Key and his research in this manner and also review his developing film project "FSKey and the Song that Built America," now in production. We will have a full schedule with installation of officers and our memorial service. You don't want to miss it and please remember to bring a friend.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)

Budget Resolution Wins House Majority

On April 10, the House approved the fiscal year 2015 budget resolution (H.Con.Res.96) introduced by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul D. Ryan, R-WI, by a vote of 219-205. This resolution serves as the GOP's blueprint to balance the budget in 10 years through massive spending cuts. Twelve Republicans joined all Democrats in opposition. Passage came after the House had debated, and defeated, five alternative budget blueprints. One of these, offered by the Republican Study Committee, included a switch to the Chained CPI for the purpose of determining annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs). The Ryan budget assumes savings of \$125 billion over 10 years by requiring existing federal employees to contribute substantially more toward their retirement. Since funding levels for FY 2015 were set with passage of a two-year budget agreement earlier this year, the Ryan budget is more statement than policy and will not be considered further.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Bill Elsen (301-663-4027)

We did not gain any new members this past month; however five members were reinstated in March. Six

members were dropped for non-renewal of their membership. They are Margie Dexter-Shiflett, Thomas King, Randy Massagee, James Souders, Ronald White, and William Williams (Mr. Williams is listed as living in Florida, which may account for his dropped membership).. If you know any of these members please contact them and encourage them to re-join. One member, Alice Randill, passed away, probably some time ago. In the category of New Prospective Members listed in the Chapter 409 Activity Report (M-112) by the National Office for March, there were four names of people who live in Frederick County. I have written to them, inviting them to join our chapter as 409 members. This gives us a net loss of two members. Hopefully we will get some of the four "New Prospective Members" to join us. Of the many "New Prospective Members" listed in the M-112's by National HQ since last July that I have sent letters to, six have joined Chapter 409. Perhaps my letters have been worthwhile.

NOTICE: If your address, telephone number, or email address changes, please remember to notify me, Bill Elsen, by telephone (301-663-4027) or email (bilmarmp@comcast.net). This will assure you will continue to receive our chapter newsletter and we will be able to contact you if necessary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Margaret Hawker (301-874-8409)

The Chapter Executive Committee met on April 15 at the American Legion. The secretary's minutes and the treasurer's report were approved. Membership, Legislative, Chaplain, Luncheon, Service Officer, and Newsletter reports were given. Ted Jensen gave an overview of the proposed Future of NARFE, more to come. A \$25 gift card was approved for a door prize for the Federation mini-convention to be held on May 5 and 6. The Committee approved a \$200 donation in memory of Jurgen Piper.

ALZHEIMER'S REPORT

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)

Alzheimer's is the most expensive disease in America, with costs set to skyrocket in the years ahead. This was our battle cry as 900 advocates nationwide, stormed Capitol Hill on April 9th. The growing Alzheimer's crisis is helping to bankrupt America. In 2014 the total cost of Alzheimer's will be \$214 billion,

including \$150 billion to Medicare and Medicaid. Only 0.25% (\$566 million) of this total has been committed to Alzheimer's research, the only path to reducing this cost. More information about the impact of Alzheimer's on this nation can be found in the Alzheimer's Association, 2014 Facts and Figures Report.



Senator Benjamin Cardin (D-MD), meets with Alzheimer's advocates on Capitol Hill on April 9, 2014

SERVICE OFFICER

Chuck Caloia (301-938-2000)

Questions About Federal Benefits?

As a member of this chapter -- or a family member or survivor of a chapter member -- if you'd like information or assistance concerning federal benefits and programs, the chapter's service officer and assistant service officer are available to help you. We can assist you in contacting the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) concerning civil service annuities, survivor benefits, health insurance, life insurance, and income tax withholding from annuities. We also can give you information on other important programs, such as Medicare, Social Security, and veterans benefits.

Reminder to Federal Annuitants: Keep Your Records Current

It's the individual annuitant's personal responsibility to ensure his/her records are up-to-date at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). At the time of retirement processing and as federal laws and

personnel regulations change over the years, the individual will be furnished government forms and instructions concerning the applicable annuity and benefit programs.

After OPM has been notified of the death of an annuitant, the survivor is then provided the proper forms and instructions for keeping his or her records current.

If you have questions or need assistance, you may contact the Chapter 409 service officer, Chuck Caloia. If Chuck is unavailable, contact the assistant service officer, Betty Lind. Their phone numbers are listed on the last page of this bulletin.

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

Members

Bernard M. Herrell, 88 years old, died March 28, 2014; widow of 57 years is Betty Jane Herrell of Frederick.

Charles E. Miller, 89 years old, died April 2, 2014; widow of 61 years is Doris Miller of Hagerstown.

Jurgen G. Piper, 103 years old, died April 11, 2014; widow is Dorothy Piper of Crumland Farms. Jurgen retired after 40 years of service from the US Government Printing Office. He was a WWII veteran, a Past President of NARFE Chapter 409 and the NARFE Maryland Federation.

Relatives of Chapter 409 members:

William C. Rice Jr., brother of 409 member Edna Snyder of Frederick.

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

Sisty Vincent, Betty Chase, Don Dupreie, Joyce Gregoire, Irene Owens, Dorothy Piper, Ann Simon

Gil Monck, Chaplain (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 February 28, 2014.....	\$6,935.29
Receipts for February.....	\$1,478.22
Expenditures for February.....	(\$1,011.46)
TOTAL FUNDS available as of 2-28-2014.....	<u>\$7,402.05</u>

CHARITY REPORT

Ruth Davis (301-874-1997)

April 2014	50/50	\$44
April 2014	Alzheimer's Raffle	\$67
Total		\$111

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 with the email address you prefer to use for the newsletter.

Date: May 16, 2014

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: Salisbury steak

- Program: (1) Installation of Officers
 (2) Annual Memorial Service
 (3) MPT on Francis Scott Key

We must receive your mail reservation or cancellation no later than Friday May 9, 2014. Call

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

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

Reservations for May 16, 2014 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, May 9, 2014 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

MAY 2014

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MAY 2014 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 2013 – May 2014

<i>Co-Presidents</i>	Bill Elsen	Kathy Siggins	<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>	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			