



The Key Notes

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

October 2014
Newsletter

2nd VP-Legislative Kathy Siggins 301-829-2462

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

ACTING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462) siggimax@mindspring.com

Nearly 1,000 delegates and guests attended NARFE's 33rd Biennial National Convention in Orlando, FL. Attendance was lower than in previous conventions perhaps due to the number of deaths reported by the 10 regions at the Memorial Service. NARFE has lost a total of 24,535 members since our last convention two years ago, making recruitment and retention a major topic at this year's convention. Delegates voted (about 80% in favor) to adopt the resolution to reduce the National Resident Officers from four to two, and authorized the National Executive Board (NEB) to continue developing the model of Future of NARFE (FON). The general FON resolution, authorizing the NEB to continue planning for changes with the FON report as the foundation, received 86% of the votes in favor of adoption.

Effective November 1, our National officers will be President, Richard Thissen, and Secretary/Treasurer, Jon Dowie. This will save us about \$500,000 over a two-year term to be used to increase marketing/recruiting efforts. A resolution requiring the NEB to establish a Strategic Planning Committee by February 2015 was also approved. That committee will be responsible for keeping the Future of NARFE moving forward. Evelyn Kirby ran unopposed and continues to be Region II Vice-President.

Our October 24th Candidates' Forum will include candidates for Congressional District 6: John Delaney and Dan Bongino and candidates for Congressional District 8 Dave Wallace and Bill Parson, representing Chris Van Hollen. We are pleased to have Mr. Cliff Cumber, Editorial Page Editor for the Frederick News Post as our moderator. Hope to see everyone there and please remember to bring a friend.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)

Delegates approved the NARFE Legislative Program for the 114th Congress (2015-2016) to be published in the NARFE magazine. Chapter 409 submitted a resolution to the National Convention to include legislation for a semi-postal stamp to support medical research relating to Alzheimer's disease, but was rejected by the Legislative Committee as "Outside of NARFE'S Core Mission." Although withheld for debate, the resolution was defeated and will not be included in the legislative program.

With the fiscal year ending September 30, and without the enactment of any of the 12 regular appropriations bills, congressional leaders are intent on passing an eight-week stopgap funding bill and recessing again to allow members to return home to campaign. A post-election or 'lame-duck' session will likely begin November 12.

ALZHEIMER'S REPORT

Kathy Siggins (301-829-2462)

Expecting to reach our goal of \$11M by September, delegates voted with their applause to set a new goal of \$12 million for Alzheimer's research by convention time 2016. The NARFE-Alzheimer's National Committee under the leadership of Jane Rogers, Chairman, approved \$439,931 to fund an additional three research projects, bringing our total to 63 since NARFE's Alzheimer's program began in 1985. A courtesy resolution was introduced and approved to include a request for additional funding for Alzheimer's research when speaking to our legislators.

**CONGRESSMAN CHRIS VAN HOLLEN'S 2014
FEHB FORUMS**

Congressman Chris Van Hollen will host his 12th annual FEHB forums in cooperation with NARFE on Monday morning, November 17th from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. (Panel: 9:30-10:30 a.m.) at the Holiday Park Senior Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Wheaton, MD 20906; and, Wednesday evening, November 19th from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. (Panel: 7:30-8:30 p.m.) at the Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD 20850. This is the chance to talk with representatives from health insurance companies about their FEHB plans and learn from experts from OPM, NARFE, and Consumer Checkbook.

2014 Federal Benefits Open Season runs from Monday November 10, 2014 until Monday December 8, 2014.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VITA PROGRAM
Elinor Abrell, VITA Coordinator (301-831-8753)**

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program is in need of volunteers and would welcome inquiries from any person interested in participating. An accounting background is not necessary, but it is helpful to have some basic tax knowledge along with at least average computer skills. IRS provides training materials for study, sets the rules and regulations under which volunteers work, and requires each person to pass qualifying tests. The Frederick VITA group last year did approximately 1,100 federal and state returns at five sites. Volunteers who participate find this to be a very rewarding experience. If you think you may be interested and have the time to commit, please contact Elinor Abrell, VITA Site Coordinator, at abrellem@comcast.net or 301-831-8753.

**CHARITY REPORT
Ruth Davis (301-874-1997)**

September 2014	50/50	\$50
September 2014	Alzheimer's Raffle	\$74
	Total	\$124

Please remember to support the 50/50 and the bake sale at the meetings. These fundraisers are the source for our donations to Alzheimer's research and our donations to our yearly charity.

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

The Chapter Executive Committee met on September 16 at the American Legion. Treasurer's report and Secretary's minutes were approved. Legislative, Membership, Chaplain's, and Newsletter reports were given. A brief report of the recent national convention was given. The next Maryland Federation meeting will be held on October 7. Please let Kathy Siggins know as soon as possible if you would like to attend.

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

Members

Mantz Michael, age 90 died August 23, 2014, no widow. Brother-in-law of 409 member Janet Michael.

Relatives of 409 Members

Doris Egge, age 83, died September 9, 2014, sister-in-law of 409 member Dennis Smith and sister of wife Linda Smith of Walkersville.

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

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

Editor's Correction

Brian Mason of 409 is not a relative of Andrew W. Mason as formerly reported.

Gil Monck (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 May 31, 2014.....	\$7,060.01
Receipts for June.....	\$1,389.88
Expenditures for June	(\$1,691.26)
TOTAL FUNDS available as of 6-30-2014.....	<u>\$6,758.63</u>

(Amended)

BALANCE as of June 30, 2014.....	\$6,758.63
Receipts for July.....	\$411.94
Expenditures for July.....	(\$1,100.00)
TOTAL FUNDS available as of 7-31-2014.....	<u>\$6,070.57</u>

BALANCE as of July 31, 2014.....	\$6,070.57
Receipts for August.....	\$1,534.90
Expenditures for August.....	(\$1,570.95)
TOTAL FUNDS available as of 8-31-2014.....	<u>\$6,086.01</u>

Alzheimer's Association
“WALK TO END ALZHEIMER’S”
 Sunday, October 19, 2014
 Maryland School for the Deaf – Frederick
 Registration 1:00 p.m. | Walk 2:00 p.m.



The Walk to End Alzheimer’s continues to be a very special event for me and my family as we come together to participate in our **21st Walk**. Team HOPE will also be walking in honor of the 5.4 million (97,000 in Maryland) individuals who have Alzheimer’s and other dementia. I would like to ask for your support once more, to help me reach my fundraising goal of \$4,000. The funds raised at this event will help the Alzheimer’s Association offer care, education, support and resources for families in our communities. The Association also funds research into prevention, treatments and a possible cure. If you would like to sponsor me in this year’s walk, **please make your check payable to the Alzheimer’s Association and mail to my attention, if possible, by no later than October 11.** Donations for this event are tax deductible as charitable contributions, and please know that your generosity is greatly appreciated. I can’t thank you enough for your continued support through all these years as I continue to be **ON THE MOVE TO END ALZHEIMER’S.** Follow the progress of H.R. 1508 and S. 1091 for the

issuance of an Alzheimer’s Disease Research Semipostal Stamp, by visiting Facebook page HelpStampOutAlzheimer’s. Thank You!

Kathy Siggins, Team HOPE
 13001 Purdum Court
 Mount Airy, MD 21771

siggimax@mindspring.com 301-639-6533 (cell)

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.

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 the NARFE Magazine and we will be able to contact you if necessary.

Date: October 24, 2014 PLEASE NOTE DATE
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: Meat loaf
Program: 6th & 8th Congressional Districts
 Candidates’ Forum
 We must receive your mail reservation or cancellation no later than Friday October 17, 2014.
 Call **Kathy Kusel 1-202-264-0892** with any questions.
MAILING ADDRESS: 4006 Carriage Hill Dr., Frederick, MD 21704

Reservations for October 24, 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, October 17, 2014 so PLEASE MAIL AS EARLY AS YOU CAN.

Name	Member	Guest	New Member	1 st Luncheon	Name	Member	Guest	New Member	1 st Luncheon
_____	<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

OCTOBER 2014

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OCTOBER 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 2014 – May 2015

<i>President, Acting</i>	Kathy Siggins	301-829-2462	<i>Chaplain</i>	Vacant	
<i>Immed Past President</i>	Mary Lou Blessing	301-473-5662	<i>Assistant Chaplain</i>	Kathy Kusel	202-264-0892
<i>1st VP-Membership</i>	Vacant		<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Scott Darby	301-662-7123
<i>2nd 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>	Ruth Davis	301-874-1997
<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i>	Linda Adams	301-253-4740	<i>Exec Comm At-Large</i>	Bill Elsen	301-663-4027
<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			