



Next luncheon / meeting is on Tuesday, October 11 at 11:00 AM

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President’s Message (Elinor Abrell • 301-831-8753)

It’s official: we are now in the autumnal season, goodbye to summer. In our part of the world, we are blessed that we can enjoy all four seasons and minimal weather extremes. Soon we will be able to take pleasure watching the changes in the beautiful fall colors that nature gives us.

At the September luncheon we were fortunate to have as speaker former Frederick Mayor and State Senator Ron Young. Mr. Young was available when the scheduled speaker, William Bugg, had to cancel. We will try to reschedule Mr. Bugg at a future date. Mr. Young spoke of growing up in Frederick and some defining moments of his long political career, all of which he writes about in his recently published book, “My Story – Who Are We But Our Stories.”



Ron Young with Chapter 409 President, Elinor Abrell.
(Photo by Dan Grauman)

Midterm elections are coming up in about six weeks. Our country has become a divided nation of tribal loyalty with issues that will impact the outcomes of these elections. Take time to make yourself an educated voter: look at all candidates, keep an open mind and listen to what they intend to support, attend public forums, read and watch independent news sources. We in Maryland have options that make voting as easy as possible, so there is no excuse for not voting!

NARFE’s annual Fall 2022 membership drive is on. Every NARFE member can be a recruiter. Perhaps you have a friend, acquaintance, neighbor, or former colleague who was/is a Federal employee and not at all aware of NARFE and the benefits membership offers. Do a little promoting. NARFE is offering \$10 as a recruitment incentive for each new member brought in during the campaign from now through December 31.

Chapter 409 members – although from many different walks of life – we come together here sharing a common bond, which is our past Federal employment and belief that NARFE membership is important. Remember that this is *your* chapter and you have chosen to be a member. In order to ensure the vitality and endurance of Chapter 409, please let us know your thoughts on what you like, or don’t like, about the chapter. All suggestions, ideas, and opinions are welcome, with the goal of betterment of the chapter. Please see or contact the President or any officer.

Financial Report (Kathy O’Connor • 301-845-7964)

Balance available to Chapter 409 as of Aug 18, 2022	\$6,119.38
• Income	\$355.00
• Expenses	\$132.50
Balance available to Chapter 409 as of Sept 18, 2022	\$6,341.88

Legislative Report (David Carmack • 240-578-4965)

On September 14, 2022, the House of Representatives passed, in an essentially 225-204 party line vote, the Preventing a Patronage System Act of 2022, H.R. 302, a bill that would protect the merit-based Civil Service from being overridden by new excepted service schedules such as “Schedule F” created by the previous administration’s Executive Order 13957. This bill tries to protect the merit-based Civil Service from returning

to the spoils system of the 19th century. NARFE supported this bill.

On August 31, 2022, the President took formal steps for a 4.6% Federal employee pay increase for calendar year 2023 (4.1% across-the-board increase along with an average of 0.5% increase to locality pay rates).

On August 30, 2022, Reps. Michael Cloud (R-TX) and Jared Golden (D-ME) introduced the Dismantling Investment in Violation of Ethical Standards Through Trusts Act, H.R. 8754, a bill that would prevent senior Federal employees, their spouses, or dependent children from engaging in stock trades.

Alzheimer’s Report (Kathy Siggins • 301-829-2462)

I’m looking forward to our Walk to End Alzheimer’s on Sunday, October 9th in Frederick. Thank you to all who have donated so far – donations will continue to be accepted through the end of the year. As the Region II Alzheimer’s Coordinator, I will be attending the virtual NARFE National Alzheimer’s Committee Meeting on October 20 & 21, as we close out FY22 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). Attending will be the National President, the Chair of the Alzheimer’s National Committee, all 10 Regional Alzheimer’s Coordinators and the Alzheimer’s Association. Members of the Committee will summarize fundraising activities from their respective Federations for FY22. The Alzheimer’s Association will present grant requests to the Committee for us to consider funding for FY22.

Members raised an amazing total of \$600,982.04 for FY22. I’m proud to announce that Region II raised the highest amount of \$228,787.73 of which \$213,158.63 was raised by the Maryland Federation placing **First** in Highest Amount Raised and **First** in Highest Amounts Per Capita Dues at \$39.35. Pennsylvania placed Fifth in the Highest Amount Raised with \$12,665.10. Congratulations everyone!

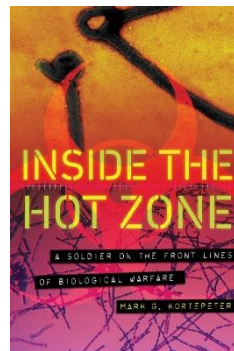
Chaplain’s Report (Earle Browning • 301-831-5355)

The following NARFE members have passed away: Richard H. McKnight on September 4, 2022, and Beryl E. Jackson on September 25, 2022.

We keep in touch with the shut-ins who are: Betty Brewer; Earle Browning*; Glen & Nannie Jones; Kathy Kussel; Lynn McKnight; and Mary Miller. Please let the Chaplain know if there are deaths or other shut-ins. God bless everyone!

Editor’s Note: Shortly after submitting the Chaplain’s Report, Earle Browning suffered a heart attack and is currently in the hospital. We are keeping Earle in our prayers and are hoping for a quick and full recovery.

Service Officer’s Report (Chuck Caloia • 301-938-2000)



A limited number of hardcover copies of the book, “*Inside The Hot Zone*”, will be available for purchase and signing by the author, Dr. Mark Kortepeter, the featured speaker at our October luncheon meeting. The discounted price is \$33.34, including sales tax. Payment will be accepted by check only.

Frederick Chapter 409, Inc. of NARFE
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October 2022

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October 2022 Newsletter

NARFE Chapter No. 409 • Frederick, Maryland

NARFE Chapter 409 luncheons take place at the **Golden Corral Buffet & Grill, 5621 Spectrum Drive, Frederick, MD 21703**
Phone: 301-662-5922

2022-23 LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

Buffet starts at 11:00 AM, program starts at 12:30 PM.

If you have not been fully vaccinated, or if you are not feeling well on the day of the luncheon, please do not attend.

Date	Speaker	Presentation Title
Oct 11	Dr. Mark Kortepeter, author of the book "Inside the Hot Zone"	Dr. Kortepeter oversaw the Fort Detrick lab, where they worked with bacteria like anthrax and viruses like Ebola. Learn more about the book on YouTube .
Nov 8	David Hurka, BlueCross/BlueShield	Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program
Dec 13	Musician(s) TBA	Holiday music
Jan 10	Chip Jewell	Frederick County Firefighters history
Feb 14	TBA	Downsizing and decluttering
Mar 14	Jeannine Robinson, Consumer Protection Division of the Office of Attorney General of MD	The latest scams and frauds
Apr 11	TBA	News from the Maryland General Assembly
May 9	TBA – Recipient of annual Chapter 409 donation	Annual donation, remembering Chapter members who have passed, installation of new NARFE Chapter 409 Officers
Jun 13	BINGO	BINGO

Dues payments and gifts or contributions to NARFE are NOT deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.