



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
 Chapter No. 409 • Frederick, Maryland • [www.narfechapter409.org](http://www.narfechapter409.org)

<< Next luncheon / meeting is on Tuesday, May 9 at 11:00 AM >>

**President:** Elinor Abrell • 301-831-8753 • [abrellem@comcast.net](mailto:abrellem@comcast.net)

**Editor:** Dan Grauman • 301-806-5999 • [dangrauman@gmail.com](mailto:dangrauman@gmail.com)

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

Paul Schwartz, Chair of the [State Legislative Committee](#) (SLC) for NARFE Maryland Federation, was the speaker at our April meeting. The SLC was active during the last session of the Maryland State Legislature, testifying in support of several bills that support the senior population as well as Marylanders in general. Primary focus was on bills for tax relief, long term care incentives, and pharmaceutical pricing. Paul has long been an advocate



Paul Schwartz with Elinor Abrell, Chapter 409 President (right) and Kathy Siggins, Region II Alzheimer's Coordinator



for tax relief for Maryland seniors, including legislation that would reduce or eliminate tax on retirement income and decoupling federal tax returns from state tax returns. Paul states that the SLC is committed to ensuring that "no senior is left behind", especially not left behind in tax friendly states such as

Delaware and Pennsylvania. Information on state legislation and activities of the SLC can easily be found by going to the MD Federation website <https://mdnarfe.org>. About halfway down the right-hand column is the link [Legislative-State Page](#).

May is the month that ends the Chapter 409 year. At the May meeting the new Executive Committee members will take the oath of office and begin official duties on June 1. We acknowledge and thank Margaret Hawker for her many years of service as Recording Secretary and are glad to have her still on the Executive Committee as a Member-at-Large. New this year and welcome additions to the Executive Committee are Joe Fitzgerald, now Recording Secretary, and Beverly Rynex as a Member-at-Large. Thanks to all Executive Committee members who graciously give of their time and efforts to advance the interests of the Chapter.

May is also the month when Chapter 409 makes its annual charity donation to a local organization that serves the needs of senior citizens in some way. This year the Charity Committee Chair, Kathy Siggins, announced that the committee's choice is [SOAR](#), Supporting Older Adults through Resources. SOAR is dedicated to serving Frederick County seniors with either direct financial assistance for an essential need or by accessing other resources on their behalf, such as assistance for aging in place transportation needs, and access to medical providers. Proceeds from the 50-50 raffle held at each monthly Chapter meeting help to fund this donation.

Lastly, in May we take a moment to shine a light of remembrance on those members whom we have lost during the past year: **Earle Lynwood Browning, Beryl E. Jackson, Glenn Jones, Richard H. McKnight, Dorothy "Dottie" Stevens, and Joan Wilson.** May they rest in eternal peace.

While there are no Chapter meetings during the months of July and August, the Executive Committee will still meet, mainly to focus on programs for the coming year. We welcome any ideas and suggestions for a program speaker or topic. Perhaps you may have heard a presentation at some gathering that would be of interest to our members. Please contact me or any Executive Committee member with your thoughts and comments about the kinds of programs you would like to have.

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

<b>Balance available to Chapter 409 as of March 21, 2023 . . . .</b>	<b>\$6,170.72</b>
• Income . . . . .	\$511.00
• Expenses . . . . .	\$317.64
<b>Balance available to Chapter 409 as of April 21, 2023 . . . .</b>	<b>\$6,364.08</b>

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

There is nothing new to report for this month.

**Chaplain's Report** (Margaret Clark • 240-405-4018)

The following NARFE members passed away: Clarence Lee Taylor at age 93 on April 2 and Ruth Brickhouse at age 101 on April 10.

We keep in touch with the shut-ins who are: Betty Brewer and Mary Miller.

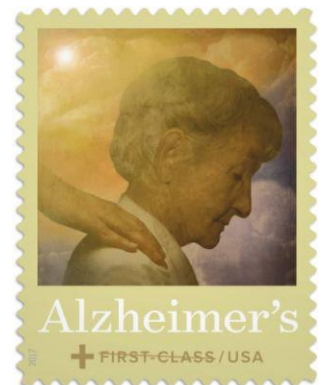
In case of illness or death, please notify me at the phone number above, or by email ([mclark615@verizon.net](mailto:mclark615@verizon.net)). Thank you!

**The NARFE Chapter 409 Nominating Committee**

At our April luncheon meeting, the slate of candidates previously announced by the Nominating Committee (see the February **Key Notes**) was elected to office for the 2023-24 term. Also elected as a Member-at-Large was Beverly Rynex, who was nominated at the March meeting. The new Executive Committee will be sworn in at the May luncheon.

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

The U.S. Postal Service has announced that First-Class postage will be going up from 63 cents to **66 cents** in the summer. By law, a percentage of the cost of Semipostal stamps is required to go to the cause. Since the cost of the Alzheimer's stamp remained at 75 cents per stamp through the last two postage increases, we will most likely see an increase in the cost of the Alzheimer's stamp in the summer. I will keep you posted, meanwhile please stock up now. Click [here](#) to purchase. Thank you!



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

**Help Save A Life!** No matter the season, there's always a need for blood donations. Please donate if you can. Click [here](#) to find a donation site near you or call **1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767)**.



Frederick Chapter 409, Inc. of NARFE  
2471 Five Shillings Road  
Frederick, MD 21701

May 2023

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Frederick, MD  
Permit No. 81

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

ADDRESS LABEL

May 2023 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. See 2023 luncheon schedule below • buffet starts at 11:00 AM, program starts at 12:30 PM.**

**If you are not feeling well on the day of the luncheon, please do not attend.**

**SNOW POLICY:** If Frederick County Schools are closed for weather, the luncheon meeting is canceled. If County Schools are delayed but open at meeting time, the luncheon meeting will be held as scheduled.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Program</b>
May 9	Leslie Schultz, Executive Director & Founder of <b>SOAR</b> (Supporting Older Adults through Resources, Inc.)	Annual donation, remembering Chapter members who have passed, installation of new NARFE Chapter 409 Officers
Jun 13	<b>BINGO</b>	<b>BINGO</b>

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