

NARFE Newsletter
Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116, Vienna, Virginia
June 2010

Next Chapter Meeting
Vienna Community Center
Tuesday, June 8, 2010
12:00 PM



Next Board Meeting
To Be Determined

Chapter Officers

President

Shirley Keyes 703-698-1838

1st Vice President

Kathy Arpa 703-205-9041

2nd Vice President

Bob Carrick 703-938-0670

Secretary

Margaret Murphy 703-560-4025

Treasurer

Bill Naff 703-281-5415

Board Members

Alzheimer's

Shirley Martin 703-938-6580

Culture

Don Wiesnet 703-938-9029

Hostess

Gayle Reed 703-938-2501

Legislative

John Elkins 703-319-0756

Mayor's Advisory

Edward Turkaly 703-281-4568

Membership

Bob Carrick 703-938-0670

Newsletter

Bill Naff 703-281-5415

Bob Carrick 703-938-0670

Gayle Reed 703-938-2501

'Van' Van Huizen 703-281-9263

Program

Kathy Arpa 703-205-9041

Public Relations

Shirley Keyes 703-698-1838

Sergeant at Arms

John Elkins 703-319-0756

Service Officer

Elaine Fitzpatrick 703-938-7791

Sunshine

Fay Morrison 703-938-8180

President's Message

June is busting out all over – does that sound like a song we all remember? Sure is and June is our last meeting and picnic until September. On page 3 is a suggested list of food categories for us to bring to the picnic. Again we will be supplying the fried chicken and some turkey wraps. Of course our big and fun event in June will be our “white elephant”. If you have something that is new or nearly new, and works please bring it to the picnic. Don't forget the event opens up at NOON.

I hope you all have exciting plans for the summer, and I hope there are lots of vacations, cruises etc in your summer future. I will be leaving Vienna the day after our picnic to head back “down under”. I will be in Australia with my daughter, Corinne and, of course, my sweet pea Danielle (who will turn 10 shortly after I arrive). I will be back the end of July – but will never be farther away than the computer. So if you have something you want to tell me, suggest to me just email me at shirleykeyes@aol.com

In late August Kathy and Mark Arpa and I will be attending the National NARFE convention in Michigan. See you back in the fall. Have a happy and safe summer.

Shirley Keyes

May Meeting Summary

Gayle Nelson (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) presented the “Distinguished Senior Award” to a very deserving member, Sybil Carrick. Kathy presented the Dave Smith award to Shirley Martin (one out of 19 nominees) for outstanding work on NARFE's behalf. Kathy also announced that she had received the President's Award for her contributions as Area X Vice President.

Our guest speakers were Senator Chap Petersen and Delegate Mark Keam. Chap spoke of his work concerning financial equity throughout the state, the VA retirement system economic development and investigative drilling off shore which was stopped due to the recent oil leak. Three thousand bills were introduced into the legislature and settled in six days. Mark spoke of juvenile recidivism, bipartisan needed to pass necessary legislation and the deep cuts which are necessary to balance the budget. Q&A followed.

Margaret Murphy

Report on 2010 VFC Convention

The 2010 NARFE Virginia Federation of Chapters (VFC) Convention was held in Virginia Beach on April 25-28, 2010. The following NARFE Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116 members pictured here attended: John Elkins (Lead Delegate); Mary Margaret McGowan (Delegate) Kathy Arpa (Delegate at Large); Shirley Keyes (Delegate at Large) and Elaine Fitzpatrick (Delegate).



The following members were elected to the VFC Officer positions:

President, William Shackelford,
Fairfax Chapter 737
1st Vice President, Luther Santiful,
Shenandoah County Chapter 2358
2nd Vice President, Richard Giangerelli,
Dulles Chapter 1241
Secretary, Virginia Swain,
Woodbridge Chapter 1270
Treasurer, Darlene Myer Rhodes,
Springfield Chapter 0893

Virginia Swain has since resigned as VFC Secretary and Bill Boning of Dulles Chapter 1241 has been appointed to that position. New VFC Area Vice Presidents were elected for Areas I and V. I was re-elected as the Area X Vice President.

The following were appointed as VFC Chairs:

Alzheimer's - Shirley Keyes
Membership - Dennis Martin
National Legislation - Jim Brewer
Public Relations - Carolyn Wilson
Service - Connie & John Bails
State Legislation - Bill Schmidt

At the convention, Shirley was busy with the Silent Auction and 50/50 for Alzheimer's which raised over \$3,000. John was busy promoting the NARFE

License Plate. Elaine and Mary Margaret attended committee meetings and the general sessions.

I hosted the Area X Caucus Meeting with members of six of the seven chapters in Area X attending.

The next NARFE VFC Convention will be held in Richmond (Midlothian), Virginia, April 25-28, 2011.

Kathy Arpa

HAVE YOU SUBMITTED YOUR APPLICATION FOR THE NARFE SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE YET?

Our April Chapter Newsletter contained an article on the NARFE Virginia Special License Plate. As of May 2010, Chapter 1116 had 671 members. As of May 18, 2010 only four (4) of our Chapter members have submitted applications for the Special License Plate. We need at least 350 applications from our 57 Virginia chapters to make the Special License Plate a reality. If each Virginia chapter has seven members sign up, we will surpass the 350 application goal. Now is the time to step up and support this effort.

As mentioned above, the April Chapter Newsletter contains information about the Special License Plate. Additional information may be found on the VFC web site at www.vanarfe.org or you may contact John Elkins at 703 319-0756 or by email at joqibears2@aol.com with your questions or to obtain an application. Also, applications and FAQs are available at our chapter meetings.

John Elkins

Membership

Our chapter membership now stands at **669** members, **2** less than reported last month. In May we added **7** new members, **2** members were reinstated (welcome back), **1** member passed away, and **10** members were dropped for nonpayment of dues (we hope these folks will soon reinstate their memberships). A hearty welcome to our newest members: **Phyllis Allenbach, Frank Odonnell, Gerald Oshaughnessy, Douglas Pollock, Mark Rodekohr, Louis Vandergriff, and William Weiss!** We look forward to meeting these folks at one of our upcoming meetings.

Bob Carrick

Please Note: If there is a red dot on the front of your newsletter, National has sent your second and final dues renewal notice. Please renew your dues promptly so that your membership does not lapse!

Treasurers Report

Our May meeting 50/50 jackpot for Alzheimer's research contained \$40.00. Margaret Murphy was the lucky winner of \$20.00. We also had two personal checks totaling \$45.

Our chapter year-to-date Alzheimer's contribution is now \$166.

Bill Naff

Service Officer Report

Our Chapter will have a booth at the Vienna July 4th celebration to promote membership and a 50/50 raffle for Alzheimer's research. We do need help manning the booth and if you are willing to serve an hour or two please give Elaine Fitzpatrick 703-938-7791 or Shirley Martin 703-938-6580 a call. Meeting and greeting other Vienna/Oakton/Fairfax folks and potential NARFE members is always fun and rewarding.

Shirley Keyes is our Alzheimer's chairman for the Virginia Federation and it would be a boost to her efforts if every member of the Vienna/Oakton chapter would donate at least \$5 dollars to Alzheimer's research. Make your check payable to **Alzheimer's Research--NARFE** and write '**NARFE Chapter 1116**' in the memo section of your check to insure our chapter receives credit for your contribution. Mail your check to Bill Naff our treasurer at 3024 Barden Oaks Ct, Oakton VA 22124. Your check is forwarded directly to Alzheimer's, is tax deductible, you will receive a thank you directly from the Alzheimer's Association and our chapter will receive credit as well.

Members may report the death of a CSRS or FERS annuitant or a survivor annuitant by calling OPM at 888-767-6738 (202-606-0500 for Washington metropolitan calling area). Before calling, the

person making the report should have the annuitant's full identification readily available:

- 1.) Civil Service Annuity number (CSA/CSF)
- 2.) Social Security number
- 3.) Date of birth
- 4.) Date of death.

The notice (with the above information) may be sent to OPM, Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017.

Elaine Fitzpatrick

Chapter Annual Picnic

June 8th – noon - 3pm

Members with last names beginning with:

- A – G - please bring a salad or vegetable;
- H – Q - please bring a dessert;
- R – Z - please bring a casserole.

The chapter will provide *Popeye's* Fried Chicken, Turkey wraps from COSTCO and beverages.

After lunch, we will have our "White Elephant" Sale. Don't forget to bring those new, slightly, or gently used items. Also if the item is electrical, PLEASE make sure it works. See you at the picnic!!!!!!

WIESNET'S WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Sitting in my sunroom, which is on the southeast side of the house, I can see the fence that my neighbor and I jointly financed and the fading azalea plants in front of it. Somebody—probably Will Rodgers—once opined that good fences make good neighbors.

There is some truth in that old saying, but my neighbor and I have been good friends for about forty years now. Long before the fence was built.

I hope you are blessed with good neighbors. They can be a delight, a treasure, a friend, a buddy, a shoulder to cry on, and a source of support in a time of trial. Sadly, in our 21st century hurley burley world, many folks don't even know their neighbors, thus depriving themselves of camaraderie, friendship and fellowship.

Years ago when my neighbor's wife had a heart attack I drove him to the hospital, and we prayed for her soul after she was pronounced dead. Since then my neighbor and his son, Alan, have lived on in the house next door. Alan, a computer whiz, has rescued me often from the perils of cyberspace.

My neighbor and his son were gone recently for six weeks, but they returned home a couple of days ago. They had gone to Denver to assist his sister-in-law, who had suffered a stroke. She was alone and needed help to select an assisted living home and to sell her own home. Alan and Andy simply went to help. Did I mention that Andy, my neighbor, was 92? He and Alan were able to wrap up the entire task in only six weeks.

We are glad to have our neighbors back again. We missed them. We don't expect to see much of them for a week or two; you see he has six weeks of mail to wade through, including a couple of Vienna Chapter NARFE Newsletters. Maybe you know him. His name is Andy Prokop. If you would like to meet a really good neighbor, come to our next picnic lunch. Andy will be getting a Fairfax County award for being a good neighbor.

* * *

When we were young, grass was mowed; coke was something you drank; pot was something you cooked in; and crack was a crevice.

* * *

The "elderly" are always those 15 years older than I am.

Bernard Baruch