



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**

**CHAPTER 2065 NEWSLETTER**

POST OFFICE BOX 1811

LOUISA, VIRGINIA 23093-1811

Contact: [NARFE2065news@vanarfe.org](mailto:NARFE2065news@vanarfe.org)

**VOLUME XXXLI, NUMBER 01 – FEBRUARY 2022**

**ELECTED OFFICERS**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Karen Cheatwood</b>	<b>703-606-6513</b>	<b><a href="mailto:karenlaurasara@gmail.com">karenlaurasara@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> V.P. /PROGRAM</b>	<b>Dick Shrum</b>	<b>540-872-5409</b>	<b><a href="mailto:dickshrum@hughes.net">dickshrum@hughes.net</a></b>
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> V.P.</b>	<b>Lee Miller</b>	<b>540-872-4696</b>	<b><a href="mailto:leeandjulie7@gmail.com">leeandjulie7@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Marilyn Root</b>	<b>540-632-0241</b>	<b><a href="mailto:rootger34@gmail.com">rootger34@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Charles Alvarez</b>	<b>540-894-4804</b>	<b><a href="mailto:alv10214@aol.com">alv10214@aol.com</a></b>
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Bill Martin</b>	<b>540-872-3345</b>	<b><a href="mailto:bill@retireduSPs.net">bill@retireduSPs.net</a></b>

**CALENDAR**

**FEBRUARY**                    **17**        **Chapter Meeting - 11:30 a.m., Roma's Restaurant**, program: Supervisor Willy Gentry on County Commission on Aging and JABA.

**MARCH**                      **17**        **Chapter Meeting - 11:30 a.m., Roma's Restaurant**, program: TBD

**NOTE: If Louisa County schools are closed because of weather, Louisa County Chapter 2065's meeting is cancelled.**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year, a little late.

I hope that everyone is getting through the winter weather and taking care of themselves. Since we didn't have a January newsletter, this may be a little longer than normal.

The Christmas Luncheon was a nice celebration Roma's served a nice buffet and even added a couple of bottles of wine for us. There also was a raffle for a couple bottles of wine donated by Bill Martin. It was a fun filled luncheon.

I assume that everyone received the notice from the Virginia Federation regarding the results of voting. Congratulations to our new and returning federation officers, we'll see what 2022 brings for our members.

I'm sorry that we ended up cancelling the January meeting, but the chapter policy is to cancel if the Louisa County Public Schools are closed. The January topic has been moved to this month's meeting.

There may be more info in the Program section of this newsletter of any meeting changes due to the covid-19 Omicron variance as we want everyone to be safe.

Have a safe and prosperous New Year. Take care of yourselves and stay healthy.

KAREN CHEATWOOD, PRESIDENT

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

No meeting last month --Editor

MARILYN ROOT, SECRETARY

## PROGRAM

Please believe me, our January weather was NOT part of my program for the month! And I had no plans to buy an emergency generator, but it turned out to be a timely investment – second day of the outage -- and kept a lot of cats warm. I am noticing there have been quite a few days at or below freezing, and as I write this, Florida is mostly freezing with even Miami getting freeze warnings. It almost makes you wonder if the White House will announce that "Global Warming" has ended!

As we continue into 2022, I want to repeat my request for help in the "programs" area. While we have had some good programs over the past several years, I am just running out of ideas. What would YOU like to have as a program in the coming months? One person at the Christmas luncheon suggested another event related to our local history. Is there any topic or location for a program that you have thought about, and would you be willing to coordinate and lead that event? Would it be OK to just have programs every other month or so? Please, let us know!

Our February program will be the one planned for January and a continuation of one of our favorite subjects – AGING! The focus is the many activities and benefits available to us in our area; specifically, the scope of the Louisa County Commission on Aging (CoA) and the Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA). Our speaker will be Supervisor Willie Gentry who is very involved in the topic, being a formal board member of both organizations and instrumental in funding and improving their many activities and benefits over time. He plans to cover the full range of their activities and will have a variety of booklets and information materials to distribute. In addition, I will invite our Chapter Past President Bill Martin to join in the discussion, since he was an official member of the organizations for some time. If desired in the coming months, we may have a more detailed presentation, or even a visit to, one or more of the organizations covered by Mr. Gentry. And since I was not able to do so in January, a second topic will be to celebrate my "program efforts" in bringing you the sizeable 5.9% COLA we see in our retirement and Social Security paychecks for 2022! Beyond that, I will always welcome your suggestions.

DICK SHRUM, PROGRAM CHAIR

## MEMBERSHIP

No report

BILL MARTIN, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

## NATIONAL LEGISLATION REPORT

The continuing resolution (CR) that was passed on Dec 2, 2021, that goes through Feb 18, 2022. There hasn't been much information about the 2022 appropriations but there has been some discussion on a full year CR.

Relevant federal government bills:

*National Debt -*

- Related to the national debt, Senate leaders brokered a deal that would allow a one-time sidestep to raise the debt limit and require approval of a simple majority in the Senate. Giving Senate Democrats the ability to raise the debt limit on their own, without the need for bipartisan support.
- The house did the same thing.
- Both the senate and the house passed an increase of \$2.5 trillion to the debt ceiling which should cover federal government borrowing through the end of 2022, at least.

*National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) – signed by the President Dec 27,2021*

- Authorizes \$768.2 billion in military spending, including a 2.7% pay raise for service members, for 2022.

- The bill also contains a new paid parental bereavement leave benefit for federal employees, providing up to two weeks of paid time off within a year if an employee experiences the death of a child.

H.R. 5723, *Social Security 2100*

- On December 7, the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on this bill which would repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO).
- WEP and GPO unfairly reduce the Social Security benefits of nearly 2 million Americans, including many federal retirees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS).
- H.R. 5723 also includes terms to adopt the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E) as the basis for the annual Social Security cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). This change would more accurately reflect the spending habits of seniors, putting a greater emphasis on health care cost increases.
- The bill would also increase Social Security payments for all beneficiaries by an amount equal to 2 percent of the average benefit.
- It would end the standard five-month waiting period for disability benefits
- and establish a benefit minimum at 125 percent of the poverty line.
- NARFE President Ken Thomas asked the committee to work with the House Committee on Oversight and Reform to extend using the CPI-E as the basis for the annual COLA to CSRS.

Other Congressional actions regarding pay and benefits:

- OPM issued guidance to implement a \$15 minimum wage across the federal government; about 67,000 federal employees should receive a pay raise next month.
- The Federal Adjustment of Income Rates Act, introduced in the House and the Senate on Jan 13, 2022, would increase federal workers' basic pay by 4.1% across the board in 2023, and provide an average 1% increase in locality pay.

*One of the benefits of being a NARFE member is the ability to send emails direct to your senators and representatives through the legislative advocacy center of the website, see URL below. There are a few already prepared letters or you can write your own. NARFE will forward the email to your congressional representatives for you and will let you know that it was sent. I did take advantage of this benefit to send a letter on Social Security 2100. Please join me at*

<https://new.narfe.org/advocacy/legislative-action-center/>

**Karen Cheatwood in coordination with;  
RAY SIEWERT, ACTING LEGISLATIVE OFFICER**

### **ALZHEIMER'S REPORT**

Note, an item titled: Consumption of olive oil linked to lower Alzheimer's risk is in the 19 January alz.org. enews just sent out. Editor/for

MARILYN ROOT, ALZHEIMER'S CHAIR

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

No income or expenses in January 2022. Editor/for  
CHARLES ALVAREZ, TREASURER

### **LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS**

**Mark R. Warner;** United States Senate,  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-2023

fax 202-224-6295

Email-Go to:

<http://warner.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=contact> and fill out the screen information requested.

**Tim Kaine;** United States Senate,  
Washington, DC 20510

202-224-4024

fax 202-224-6363

Email-Go to: <http://kaine.senate.gov/contact/> and fill out the screen information requested.

**Abigail Spanberger;** U.S. House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC 20515

202-225-2815

fax 202-225-0011

Email: <http://www.spanberger.house.gov> and search the site

**Bryce E. Reeves;** State Senator, 17<sup>th</sup> District  
PO Box 7021, Fredericksburg, VA 22407  
540-645-8440

E-mail [district17@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:district17@senate.virginia.gov)

**Mark J. Peake.** State Senator, 22<sup>nd</sup> District

E-mail [district22@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:district22@senate.virginia.gov)

**John J. McGuire III;** State Delegate-56<sup>th</sup> District  
PO Box 87, Richmond, VA 23218  
804 389-8601

E-mail [DelJMcGuire@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelJMcGuire@house.virginia.gov)

**Robert D. Orrock, Sr.;** State Delegate-54<sup>th</sup> District  
P.O. Box 458, Thornburg, VA 22565  
540-891-1322

E-mail [DelBORock@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelBORock@house.virginia.gov)

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS & APPOINTED POSITIONS**

Service Officer -- Vacant

Chaplain– Marilyn Root

540-634-0241

Newsletter Editor – Lee Miller	540-872-4696
Alzheimer’s Fund – Marilyn Root	540-634-0241
National Legislation – Ray Siewert, <i>Actg.</i>	540-967-1544
State Legislation – <i>Vacant</i>	
Membership – Bill Martin	540-872-3345
Sunshine – Cathy Mills-Mann	540-872-4697
Public Relations – Dick Shrum	540-872-5409
Program – Dick Shrum	540-872-5409
Holiday lunch – Marilyn Root	540-634-0241
Commission on Aging – <i>Vacant</i>	