

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)
Brentwood Newsletter March 2022**

Yolanda Hill
Newsletter Editor

June J. Staton, Ph.D.
Co- Editor



Brentwood Chapter #1697
Established March 9, 1978

MEETING LOCATION:

Deep Creek Community Center
2901 Margaret Booker Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23323
Phone (757) 487-8841

TIME:

Executive Committee Meeting: 12:30 – 1 PM
Regular Meeting: 1PM - 2PM

Second Monday of the Month
(Unless that falls on a Federal Holiday
in which case the meeting will be on the
third Monday of the Month)

CHAPTER OFFICERS

June Staton, Ph.D.
President

Deborah Brown
Vice President

Yolanda Hill
Secretary

Ella Anderson
Treasurer

Jeff Rau
Service Officer

Velvet Preuitt
Membership Chair

John Hill
Legislative Officer

Lyle Thoburn
Alzheimer Officer

David Parson
Program Chair

Annette Coleman
Hospitality Chair

Janet Freeman
Chaplain

Dan McGrath
MD Past President

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CHAPTER NEWS

MINUTES – (03/14/2022)

Attendees:

June Staton, Deborah Brown, Yolanda Hill, Ella Anderson, Jeff Rau, John Hill, Lyle Thoburn, David Parson, Annette Coleman, Janet Freeman, Dan McGrath, Vincent Graham, Willie Levenston, Theresa Rodwell, Bryon Collins, and Dwight Ford.

Proceedings:

- The President called the meeting to order.
- The Chaplin began the meeting with an opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
- The President introduced and welcomed new member Dwight Ford.
- The Program Chair introduced guest speaker Karen Christy, Recreation Coordinator from the City of Chesapeake's Parks, Recreation and Tourism. She outlined the many programs and activities available through the City's Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department, particularly via the "55 and Better" program. She provided handouts and answered various questions from the floor. (See "Summary of Chapter Discussions" below.)
- The Vice President noted March was National Women's History Month, established in 1987 to celebrate contributions of women in history, society, and culture. She also noted a local TV affiliate was hosting a series of events aimed at empowering women. This includes airing a segment every Tuesday this month on their WAVY 10 News at 4Pm show, highlighting remarkable women from Hampton Roads
- The Vice President pointed out and summarized the content of an article in the March edition of the NARFE Magazine entitled "Using Music and Art to Engage Those with Alzheimer's". Tips that help patients as well as care givers.
- The Treasurer provided an update on chapter finances. (See Treasurer Report below.)
- The President noted that the IRS requires all NARFE chapters to file a yearly tax return (Form 990-N). She would be accomplishing this task on the chapter's behalf this week.
- The Program Chair reviewed the schedule for upcoming 2022 Chapter 1697 meetings. (See "Upcoming Events" below.)
- The Hospitality Chair recognized Chapter members with March birthdays. [Ages not disclosed.]
- The Hospitality Chair wished everyone to have a happy St. Patrick's Day (3/17) and presented a grab bag of treats from which attendees each drew a small surprise.
- The Legislative Officer stated that the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022, which NARFE supported, finally passed (79-19) in the Senate on March 8 thus sending the bill to the president's desk for signature. NARFE believes the final language in the bill adequately protects federal and postal workers' and retirees' earned benefits.
- There are still multiple bills in Congress addressing the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). NARFE supports all the bills introduced in the 117th Congress to date that attempt to bring relief to federal retirees affected by those provisions. The leading bill, "The Social Security Fairness Act H.R. 82", gained 20 additional cosponsors in the House within the last two weeks (increasing its total to 262).

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- The Legislative Officer noted that Congress breaks for its first extended recess in April from 4/11 through 4/22. Senators and House Representatives will spend most of that time back in their home districts, providing additional opportunities for NARFE members to engage their lawmakers.
- March is also “NARFE-PAC Month”. NARFE’s political action committee is conducting an education and fundraising campaign. Members can make a one-time contribution with a credit card or check, or can sign up at the sustainer level for monthly deductions via credit card or from their federal annuity. Further information can be found in the monthly NARFE Magazine or on the NARFE-PAC web page. [Note: Only members of NARFE may contribute to the PAC. NARFE-PAC contributions are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.]
- The Alzheimer Officer indicated that \$22 were donated to the NARFE-Alzheimer’s research fund at the February Chapter meeting. A receptacle was again provided for anyone wishing to make a donation this month.
- The President reminded everyone that the NARFE-FEEA Fund Scholarship Awards Program is accepting applications for the 2022-23 academic year. Recipients will receive a one-time award of \$1,000. Applicants must be high school senior. Children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of NARFE members are eligible to apply. The application deadline is 3 p.m. ET on Thursday, March 24, 2022.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership report as of 3/14/2022

- 77 Chapter Members
- 171 National Members in the Chapter Area
- 248 Total

PLEASE NOTE: To reinstate your membership, complete the M-1 card that is accessible by clicking: [this link: http://www.vanarfe.org/Membership/Reinstatement%20Form.pdf](http://www.vanarfe.org/Membership/Reinstatement%20Form.pdf).

TREASURER REPORT

Summary of Account for February, 2022:

Beginning Balance	\$ 6826.67
National Payment	\$ 58.02
Interest	\$ 0.06
Ending Balance	\$ 6884.85

SUMMARY of CHAPTER DISCUSSIONS

City of Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism Presentation

- Karen Christy, the Chesapeake “55 and Better” Program Coordinator, led a discussion regarding the various recreational activities available through the city. Items included:
 - A package of handouts (containing booklets, guides, flyers, and schedules with contact information) provided to everyone in attendance at today’s meeting.
 - The discussion emphasized those items available via the “55 and Better” Program, but also addressed the vast array of other offerings from the City of Chesapeake.

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- There are many arts, crafts, music, and game opportunities such as (but not limited to) cribbage and spades, sewing sessions, bridge lessons, Mah Jong, working with stained glass, and painting.
- Health and fitness activities, such as chair yoga, certified instructors leading combined dance and aerobic movement sessions (Zumba Gold/Toning), various dance activities, pickleball, Tai Chi, and others.
- Workshops that address items such as organizing important papers, personal records management, and a multi-week interactive course on personal development and continued growth.
- Social events with a live band and light refreshments.
- 8 special (annual) events such as the “Annual 50+ Chesapeake Games”, and a fish fry picnic.
- Popular day bus trips scheduled to various attractions (eg museums and other tourist sights) around the Hampton Roads area.
- There are also 22 individual senior clubs.
- Besides the “55 and Better” program catering to senior needs, the city has a whole range of other programs and activities available; youth programs, athletic leagues, therapeutic recreation, parades, symphonies, classes, camps and parks etc. The city also provides free guided “behind the scenes” bus tours of many of Chesapeake’s parks and facilities.
- Citizens can request events, that are not currently available, be evaluated and considered for adding to the list of programs offered.
- Participation is not limited to Chesapeake City residents only. Neighboring city residents may also participate in these activities. (However, in some select situations there may be an extra \$5.00 charge for non-Chesapeake residents, or in the event of possible over booking, a preference in admittance may be given to the Chesapeake resident.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

NARFE Brentwood Chapter 1967 Program Schedule (Tentative):

April 2022	City of Chesapeake Fire Department presentation
May 2022	A presentation regarding Assisted Living Arrangements
June 2022	Luncheon at local Restaurant
July 2022	No Meeting
August 2022	No Meeting
September 2022	Welcome-Back – Business Meeting

NARFE

2022 NARFE Election: Elections for NARFE National President, National Secretary/Treasurer and Regional Vice Presidents will be held in August 2022. All candidates are permitted to submit a statement for publication in the May 2022 issue of NARFE Magazine and use NARFE’s email messaging system to send members up to two messages between May 1 and July 14.

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FEDcon22: FEDcon22 is scheduled for August 21-23, 2022 @ the Westin Kierland Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. FEDcon22 is a premier conference for federal employees and retirees to make the most of the benefits and enjoy unparalleled excellence in advocacy training in the fight to protect those benefits. Registration at “Early Bird prices” is now available through May 13, 2022.

NARFE WEBINARS

Preparing Retirement Forms: Costly Errors and How to Avoid Them

Wednesday, April 06 | 2 p.m. EDT

Webinars are free for NARFE members, but you must register at www.new.narfe.org and click Federal Benefits Institute.



I would like to hear what is important to you. Your enthusiasm and contributions to our newsletter is highly valued. Send questions, suggestions, topics, or articles for our newsletter to the Newsletter Editor (hilljpj@cox.net).