



ANNANDALE

CHAPTER NEWS

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Chapter 1159 (Annandale)

P.O. Box 1463, Annandale, VA 22003
Serving Current, Former & Retired Federal Employees and Spouses
and Survivor Annuitants

Like us on Facebook at [NARFE-Annandale 1159](#)

Find us on the web at: www.narfe.org/chapter1159

May 2022

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 11:30 A.M.

Join us for lunch on Wednesday, June 1st at PJ Skidoos (9908 Fairfax Blvd, Fairfax City). Social time begins at 11:30 a.m. with lunch served at noon. Musical entertainment by guitarist and singer John Cropp. Reservations are required. For details, see page 4.

PREZ SEZ – Spring has continued to spring itself on us; what strange weather we have had this season – crazy storms, cold and rain. I’ve lived in this area since 1977 and don’t recall a spring like this one. Officially, summer begins June 21st so those of you that like heat can look forward to that. I look forward to going to the beach at some point, BBQs, picnics, etc. After our June 1st luncheon we will take the summer off and reconnect at our September 7th membership meeting. Of course, the Board will meet in August to start work on the newsletter and to update the schedule for fall. We have great programs and activities coming up and hope to see more of you in person as time goes on. With your continued interest in our programs, and by providing us with program suggestions, we hope to keep our topics fresh. Of course, our wonderful program chairperson, **Carol Rubin**, continues to find and arrange these programs with aplomb. We’ll continue providing hybrid meetings in the Fall since we realize not everyone can get to them. I wish members a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you in September.

Kim Rendelson, *President*

Please note: We take the summer off, so our next newsletter will be our August 2022 edition and we will have no Chapter meetings in July and August.

May Program – Our guests, Virginia State Senator **David Marsden** (D-37th



Legislation Chair Mary Ann Munley introducing Del. Vivian Watts and Sen. Dave Marsden at our May Chapter Meeting.

District) and Delegate **Vivian Watts** (D-39th District) discussed various activities they pursued during the 2022 legislative session in Richmond. Senator Marsden talked about current efforts to work out differences between the House and the Senate budgets, an advance in juvenile justice he had worked

on for years, and passing the nation's first data privacy bill that will go into effect January 1, 2023. Senator Marsden put in a lot of effort around economic development this year. He pointed out that while Northern Virginia attracts businesses, the Southwest is still struggling from the loss of such industries as tobacco, coal, textiles, etc. The Senator is the chief co-patron in the Senate on the Virginia Clean Economy Act, which basically says that Virginia will be carbon free by 2045. However, it takes land for solar (and for wind farms). Some areas refuse to take on solar projects because they do not want to change the nature and culture of their communities. The environmental community wants solar, but they don't want to take the trees down since the trees clean carbon dioxide from the air. Agriculture does not want to take up valuable farmland for solar projects. There are obviously some real-world problems to solve as interests collide. Delegate Watts discussed the complexities in producing a balanced but equitable State budget; the Virginia tax code has not been changed in many decades and does not reflect the differences in income. In recent years, Virginia has had an unexpected surplus in personal revenues stemming from the unpredictable stock market growth and continuation of full salaries for people who could still work from home during the Covid period. At the same time, State spending has had serious pressure. Unlike most other states, Virginia continues to provide more mental health services both in large institutions and in community mental health programs, and those **(continued on page 3)**



Sen. Marsden discussing this year's legislative session.

(continued from page 2) institutions are at the point where they are turning people away because they are already over capacity or understaffed. Law enforcement is



Del. Watts waiting to give her presentation.

being trained in Crisis Intervention even with the staffing problems they have. Competitive salaries for teachers compared with other states is an issue, and the current funding model for reimbursement to local schools doesn't necessarily favor Northern Virginia (which affects our County real estate taxes). Tax cuts are being discussed in Richmond along with the ramifications of revenue loss against required spending needs in producing a balanced State budget as required by law. A Q&A session followed. We appreciated the

time Sen. Marsden and Del. Watts spent with us addressing the above issues. Following their presentation, Chapter President **Kim Rendelson** introduced **PFC Evan Dicker**, our new contact with the Mason District Police; he discussed pending activities. Refreshments were provided by **Della Dahl, Mary Ann Munley, John Bankson, Kim Rendelson, Loretta Nester, Sue Hoffman and Sharon Sellers**. There were 32 members and guests in attendance (17 in-person and 15 on Zoom).

Mary Lou Vroman, Secretary

Nominating Committee – Elections for the Chapter's 2023 Executive Board (President, 1st and 2nd VP, Secretary and Treasurer) will be held in November. At our June 1st luncheon, Chapter members will be asked to approve a Nominating Committee that will recommend a slate of candidates. **John Bankson** has volunteered to chair the Committee and **Mara Yachnin** has volunteered to serve on the Committee. We are looking for one more volunteer for the committee. If anyone else is interested in either serving on the Committee or volunteering to serve as an officer or committee chair, or has questions, contact John at **703-256-2295** or johnboy1607@outlook.com.

SAVE-THE-DATE! Mark your calendar now for this year's ACCA Food Drives scheduled on the first Thursday of the month starting September 8th, repeating October 6th and ending November 3rd. Further details will follow in the August newsletter. Contact Sharon Sellers at Sharon.sellers@att.net or 703-915-8765 should you have any questions or wish to volunteer to help with the collections.

Time is Running Out to Get Your Reservations in for our Spring Luncheon --

Our Spring Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 1st. Reservations are required and details are in the reservation form below. Reservations must be received by May 23rd. So please get your reservations in and join us. Hope to see you there!

Our **Spring Luncheon** is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 1st**, at PJ Skidoos at 9908 Fairfax Blvd (Rt 50), Fairfax, in the lower level – enter from the west side of the building. Social time will begin at 11:30 a.m., and lunch will be served at noon. Musical entertainment will be provided. A raffle for a number of special items will be held for the benefit of Alzheimer’s research. Salad will be provided. Menu choices include (1) garden pasta (vegetarian meal), (2) chicken cordon bleu with rice pilaf and green beans, (3) fresh broiled salmon with lemon butter, red potatoes and green beans, and (4) London broil with mushroom wine sauce, mashed potatoes and green beans. Dessert is optional. If desired, select (1) for chocolate mousse or (2) for vanilla ice cream. Ice/hot tea and coffee are included. Drinks, colas & juice will be available at the cash bar. A charge of \$37 per person including dessert or \$33 per person without dessert will cover the meal, taxes, gratuity and bartender.

	Entrée (circle 1)				Dessert (circle 1)			Charge
Attendee _____	1	2	3	4	1	2	None	_____
Attendee _____	1	2	3	4	1	2	None	_____
Attendee _____	1	2	3	4	1	2	None	_____
Please make checks payable to NARFE Chapter 1159 , and mail them to								Total _____

NARFE 1159 Treasurer, Box 1463, Annandale, VA 22003. Please mail reservations as soon as possible, but they must be received by **May 23rd**.

Inclement Weather Policy for the Luncheon Only – If Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) open two hours late on the day of our luncheon due to inclement weather, the luncheon will be held. If the FCPS are closed, we will decide whether to cancel the luncheon based on conditions in our local area. If we have to cancel, we will attempt to contact everyone who made a reservation. In addition, we will post notice of any cancellation on our website and Facebook page. You also can contact Doug Jones at 703-425-3361 to learn if the luncheon will be held.

JUNE 1ST LUNCHEON RAFFLE -- Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets, the proceeds of which benefit Alzheimer's Research. We have 8 lovely baskets available; you'll find pictures on the Chapter's website and the NARFE Annandale 1159 Facebook page. So, take a chance – or many chances – and buy lots of tickets, which remain at the bargain price at \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. The raffle tickets purchase form is below. **Kim Rendelson** will mail as many raffle tickets as you'd like; just complete the Raffle Form and mail it to Kim with your check payable to “*NARFE Alzheimer's Research*”; please include *Chapter 1159* on the memo line.

Annandale NARFE Spring Luncheon - June 1, 2022

\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

I would like to purchase _____ Raffle Tickets. My check is enclosed for \$_____ made out to NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund, including Chapter 1159 on the memo line, and mailed to the address provided at the bottom of this page to be **received** no later than **May 28th**.

Please include:

Your Name:

Address:

E-mail

Address _____

Phone No. _____ (for basket winner delivery purposes if you are not present)

Donation Only: If skipping the raffle but still want to make a donation, please send your check made out to NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund (include Chapter 1159 on the memo line) and mail it to:

Kim Rendelson, 3401 Silver Maple Pl., Falls Church, VA 22042

All checks will be hand delivered to the NARFE 1159 Treasurer

NOTE: Due date for receipt of raffle ticket orders by mail is **May 28th**. For those ticket orders received by **May 18th** raffle ticket stubs will be mailed. For those received after that date, you will receive an email with a picture of your tickets. And don't worry about losing them or the email, Kim tracks the numbers so no matter what, if you can't find your tickets or your email, all is not lost! She will know winner identities. **Last-minute tickets will also be sold at the June 1st Luncheon.**

Legislation Report – *Virginia Primary Reminder* – June 21st is the Virginia



Primary for Congressional seats in the House of Representatives. Within our Chapter area, it appears the only Primary will be for the selection of the Democratic Party's candidate for the 8th Congressional District, the seat now held by **Rep. Don Beyers**. The primary is an OPEN primary, and all registered voters in the 8th District can vote regardless of party affiliation. However, be advised that due to redistricting, YOUR Congressional District may have changed – either in or out of the 8th District. Please check the Virginia Department of Elections website (<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>) to determine your voting status and correct Congressional District. In checking mine, I determined that my Precinct, polling location, and my Virginia State Senatorial District have changed. Several chapter members have advised that they have been moved from the 11th Congressional District (the seat held by Gerry Connolly) to the 8th Congressional District – which has the June 21 Democratic Primary. (For those remaining in the 10th and 11th Congressional Districts, there are no primary challengers, thus no primary will be held for those Districts.) **Mary Ann Munley, *Legislation Chair***

Adopt-a-Road – Please join us for our next litter pick-up on **Thursday, July 21st**.



If you plan on joining us, let **Doug Jones** know (doujones500@verizon.net or **703-425-3361**), so he can contact you if we have to cancel or if there are any other changes. We will meet at the corner of Evergreen Lane and High Place in Annandale at 10:00 a.m. We have permission to park in the lot at High Place and Evergreen (to use the lot, pull in facing High Place). And remember to bring work gloves and wear hard-soled shoes.

Alzheimer's Report – So far this year we have donated \$1,470 to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. If you would like to help find a cure for Alzheimer's, you can send a donation by mail to: **Treasurer, NARFE Chapter 1159, P.O. Box 1463, Annandale, VA 22003**. Please make checks payable to *NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund* and include *Chapter 1159* on the memo line.

Phil Gilliland, *Alzheimer's Chair*

Election of NARFE National Officers and Regional Vice Presidents – Please

take a close look at the Candidate Statements starting on page 44 of the May 2022 *NARFE Magazine*. Elections for NARFE National President, National Secretary/Treasurer, and Regional Vice Presidents, including our Region X Vice President, will be held in August of this year. The statements will tell you about the candidates seeking these offices and their positions, goals and objectives for NARFE. The August issue of NARFE Magazine will include instructions for voting online or by mail. Make a note and be sure to keep track of this edition when it arrives! Note the election of the National President could be, repeat could be, a two-step process. There are four candidates for National President. If no one receives over 50% of the votes on the first ballot, we will go to preferential voting on a second ballot. You will then actually indicate your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices and a decision will come from that. These are all two-year terms. Each of us is involved in determining the kind of leadership NARFE will have at the National level and, therefore, the direction of the organization. The more you can inform yourself about the candidates and what they propose, the more thoughtful your vote will be.

Get to Know Your Board -- In NARFE, we have all worked for different agencies and held a variety of positions. However, in monthly meetings, we don't often have time to learn about each other's backgrounds. This is the second in our series spotlighting our Chapter 1159 Board Members. In this issue, we will introduce **John Bankson**, who is the Chapter's First Vice President and Web Coordinator:

Personal -- I grew up in Arlington, Virginia.

Education – I attended local public schools. After high school I earned a degree from The Pennsylvania State University in Business Administration. I also attended The American University, studying graduate-level courses in Business Administration.

Work -- At Penn State I participated in the ROTC program and, after I graduated, I received a commission as an Officer in the Army. I served in Seoul, Korea and later as an instructor at Fort Gordon, Georgia. I returned to the Washington, DC area and worked for two years as an Internal Auditor for **(continued on page 8)**

(continued from page 7)

a local bank. After starting my federal career with several non-Defense organizations, I joined the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery where I was involved in establishing cost-accounting measures to help obtain costs per patient. Later I joined the Navy Accounting and Finance Service in Crystal City. I was assigned to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) when it was created. At DFAS I wrote and developed accounting policies in the DoD Financial Management Regulation (DoDFMR).

NARFE -- I became a member of the Annandale Chapter before I retired. After retirement I started attending the meetings and I became the chapter's Web Coordinator in January of 2019. In addition, in May of 2019, I became the Chapter's 2nd Vice President and in January of this year I was elected to be the Chapter's 1st Vice President. I also have served on the Chapter's Nominating Committee and have been the Chair of the Chapter's Audit Committee for the last five years.

COMMUNITY CORNER

OPM - SERVICES Online changes -- Starting on May 26, 2022, OPM will implement a new login procedure to access your annuity accounts using Services Online. The new procedure requires a unique email address for each CS Account – so those having a regular annuity and a survivor's annuity will now need to ensure each of those accounts has a separate email address. OPM has told me that you can use Services Online before May 26 to update the account profile with any new email address. After implementation, access to an annuity account will be made using the email address, password and a verification code. The CS number will no longer be part of the login process.

Mary Ann Munley

Friends of George Mason Regional Library Host Book Sale – The George Mason Friends' semi-annual book sale returns on Thursday, May 19 through Sunday, May 22, 2022, from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. each day. The four-day book sale will be held at George Mason Regional Library (7001 Little River Turnpike in Annandale), in the conference and meeting rooms, and the **(continued on page 9)**

(continued from page 8) library lobby. A wide selection of high-quality books, CDs, and DVDs in various categories will be available for purchase. Fairfax County health guidelines will apply. For more information, visit www.georgemasonfriends.blogspot.com.

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Greeter

Mara Yachnin

Mark your calendars and join us for our upcoming Chapter membership meetings on September 7th, when Ann Shields will provide an interesting presentation on local POW camps during WWII; October 5th, when Martin Bailey will provide a presentation on Identity Theft; and on November 2nd, when we are scheduled to have a presentation from BlueCross/BlueShield on changes to the FEHBP for 2023.