

**VIRGINIA FEDERATION  
OF  
NATIONAL ACTIVE &  
RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
(NARFE)**

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Annual Report  
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

*President  
Robert Martin*

*1st Vice  
Doris McAdams*

*2nd Vice  
President  
Frances Boatman*

*Secretary  
Esther Nash*

*Treasurer  
Thomas Rachele*

*Immediate  
Past  
President  
Constance  
Bails, Ph. D*

# “Zooming into the Future”

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Introduction	3
2022 VFN Board	4
VFN President’s Report	5
Report on VFN 2021 Conference	6
Save the Dates!	8
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President’s Report	9
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	9
Secretary’s Report	10
Treasurer’s Report	12
<b>FIELD OPERATIONS</b>	
Area I Vice President’s Report	16
Area III Vice President’s Report	16
Area VII Vice President’s Report	17
Area VIII Vice President’s Report	18
Area IX Vice President’s Report	19
Area X Vice President’s Report	21
<b>PROGRAM AREAS</b>	
Alzheimer’s Chair Report	25
Membership Chair’s Report	26
National Legislation Chair’s Report	29
Public Relations Chair’s Report	32
Service Co-Chair’s Report	33
State Legislation Chair’s Report	34
<b>AD-HOC REPORT</b>	
Electronic Communications Committee	36
2022 Chapters	37

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# Introduction

Our world, our country, and even NARFE have undergone warp-speed change in the past two years. Close your eyes and think how NARFE has changed in its 100+ years of existence. It started on February 19, 1921, when 14 federal retirees met in Washington, DC to persuade public policy makers that federal workers should have retirement security in retirement as compensation for devoting their career to public service.

More than 100 years later, there are 10 NARFE Regions across the nation. Our Virginia Federation is in Region X, which also includes Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia. The Virginia Federation of NARFE (VFN) (originally known as the Virginia Federation of Chapters) was established on April 9, 1955, by NARFE members living in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Virginia Federation shows its strength in on-going training, state and national legislation, and the congressional advocacy area. In our National Legislation Program, we have 11 Congressional District Liaisons (CDL's), one for each of Virginia's 11 Congressional Districts and two Senator Legislative Leaders (SLL), one for Senator Tim Kaine and one for Senator Mark Warner.



Because of the pandemic, the annual VFN Conference scheduled for April 2021 was postponed until October 2021. In this report you will read about the October VFN Conference and other activities our members are engaged in as they attempt to get things back to normal after two unprecedented years.

In a few weeks we will learn who our new Region X Vice President is as well as the name of our new National President.



Kathy Arpa  
2021-2022 Annual Report Editor  
Past President, VFN

## 2022 VFN EXECUTIVE Board



**President**  
Robert "Bob" Martin  
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**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
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**Secretary**  
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**Treasurer**  
Thomas "Tom" Rachele  
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(703) 801 – 5615

**Immediate Past President**  
Constance Bails, Ph.D.  
[ctbails2@aol.com](mailto:ctbails2@aol.com)  
(703) 303 - 1341



# VFN President's Report

Since the VFN Conference in April 2021 was cancelled, the VFN Conference was held from October 10-13, 2021, at the Doubletree by Hilton in Richmond, Virginia with the election of new officers. Coming off a successful Conference in October, the Virginia Federation of NARFE continues to move forward. All officers serving on the VFN Board were reappointed and continue to work hard to move the organization forward.

The VFN Board Winter meeting was a "blended" meeting with the in-person portion held in Williamsburg and via Zoom. At that meeting, the Board determined to hold a virtual Annual Meeting rather than an in-person meeting, especially considering we had just had an in-person Conference.

The Annual Meeting in April 2022 was held via Zoom with a limited agenda and remarks by most of the NARFE National President candidates. The VFN Nominating Committee put forward the names of the incumbent officers for re-election as the Executive Board, except for the office of treasurer. A search continues for a new treasurer. There were no other nominations from the floor and all nominees were elected by acclamation. Treasurer Thomas Rachele has agreed to serve as acting Treasurer until a new Treasurer is appointed.

Work has begun on the 2023 Federation Conference with the appointment of a Conference Location Committee. It was led by Leslie Ravenell, committee members 1<sup>st</sup> VP Doris McAdams, who will serve as the Conference Committee Chair, Second VP Frances Boatman, Immediate Past President Dr. Constance Bails and Larry McIlwee of the Northern Neck Chapter 1823. The Committee visited sites in Virginia Beach, Charlottesville and Hampton, Virginia.

In June we were saddened to learn of the passing of Bill Martin. Bill served as Louisa Chapter President, VFN President, Region X Vice President and most recently as VFN Treasurer. His wisdom, knowledge and friendship will be missed by all of us.

The clock is ticking! It is time to vote in the NARFE 2022 Election. In this election, members will be voting on candidates for National President, National Secretary-Treasurer, and the Region X Vice President. The ballot contains the proposed bylaws and standing rules amendments to be voted upon also. Online voting began about July 15, 2022, which coincided with the receipt of the August NARFE Magazine. A hard-copy ballot was in the August edition. The candidates for National Officers are as follows: National President: Bill R. Austin, Jon William Dowie, Gary Roundtree Sr. and William (Bill) Shackelford. For National Secretary/Treasurer: Kathryn (Kathy) Hensley (Incumbent). For Region X Vice President: Robert Allen and Charles Talley, both from North Carolina.

The Virginia Federation will have a good representation at FEDCON 22 in Scottsdale, Arizona in August.

Bob Martin  
President  
Virginia Federation of NARFE

## REPORT ON VFN CONFERENCE



The 2021 Virginia Federation Conference was a success as our first venture back into in-person gatherings in two years. The Conference was held on October 10-13, 2021, at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel in Midlothian/Richmond, Virginia with Dr Constance Bails presiding. The theme was “Zooming into the Future.” New Federation Officers were elected. President Robert Martin (Fredericksburg Chapter 90), 2nd Vice President Frances Boatman (Roanoke Valley – Chapter 111), Secretary Esther Nash (Fredericksburg - Chapter 90) and Treasurer Thomas Rachele (Woodbridge - Chapter 1270) were unopposed and elected by acclamation. Since there were two candidates for 1st Vice President, Joseph “Larry” McIlwee (Northern Neck Chapter - 1823) and Doris McAdams (Woodbridge Chapter - 1270),

the election was held in December with Doris McAdams being elected and sworn in as VFN 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President in January. All officers serving on the VFN Board were reappointed and continue to work hard to move the organization forward.

The attendance was not as many as anticipated, but there were many interesting sessions about changes in NARFE as well as presentations by Barbara Sido, NARFE’s Former Executive Director (video), Marsha Padilla-Goad, NARFE Grassroots Program Manager (video), Laura Young, Virginia Department of Health (virtual), Thomas Jamerson on Wills and Trusts and Terri Robinson on Downsizing. Despite a smaller crowd than usual, the members enjoyed the social atmosphere and seeing old friends and making new ones. President Bails and other board members presented several awards throughout the Conference.

A memorial service was held remembering NARFE members who passed away in 2019 and 2020 with special recognition of three past area vice presidents: Alex Adkins, Steve Dansker and Patricia Taylor.

A welcome reception was held on Monday evening.



Six past VFN presidents were in attendance at the Conference.  
Back row – left to right – Dick Giangerelli, Ann Collins, Luther Santiful  
Front row – left to right – Kathy Arpa, Bill Shackelford, and Leslie Ravenell



On Tuesday evening, Region X Vice President Bill Shackelford installed the new officers at the banquet. Deborah Fisk (pictured here) was presented with the VFN Leadership Award at the banquet by Dr. Bails.

Robert Martin, the newly elected VFN President, closed the conference on October 13.



Dr. Constance and John Bails enjoying the banquet.



New VFN Board with Bill Shackelford, Region X Vice President

**SAVE THE DATES: APRIL 2-5, 2023**

**HOTEL/CONFERENCE INFORMATION**  
**Embassy Suites by Hilton Convention Center**  
**1700 Coliseum Drive**  
**Hampton, VA 23666**



Embassy Suites & Conference Center





# 1st Vice President's Report

My term as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President began in January 2022. I attended several meetings of the Northern Virginia Caucus and the Area X's Caucus Meeting in Fairfax. I have been in contact with most of the Area Vice Presidents via e-mail. We have one new Area Vice President, Area 1, Marilyn Riddle. Area IV remains vacant. The other Area Vice Presidents remain in office.

The Area Vice Presidents continue to meet with and assist their chapters as needed. I have visited the Arlington, Annandale and Dulles chapters and attended the Fairfax Chapter picnic. As 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, I serve as the conference coordinator for the 2023 conference. I participated in the search for a location for our 2023 VFN Conference.

I am sending notes to the new members welcoming them to the VFN and inviting them to attend chapter meetings. I am sending notes to prospective members inviting them to attend a meeting of the chapter in their area. The more touches a prospective member has the more likely he or she will attend a meeting and join NARFE. Let us roll out the "Welcome carpet".

Doris McAdams  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report

**Attended:** All VFN Board Meetings and VFN 2021 Conference in Richmond  
Monthly Training Committee Meetings as well as zoom training, service office training, Federation and Records Management training, National Legislation training and FEDHUB training  
Monthly Conference Committee Meetings and Alzheimer's Chairs Meeting  
Monthly Electronic Communications Committee Meetings  
Chapter 737 Fairfax Meeting via zoom and Chapter 1757 Middle Peninsula-Gloucester meeting  
VFN State Legislation Meetings and VFN Special Board Meeting on State Legislative 2023 Plan in June  
2023 Conference Site Committee Review of Charlottesville, Hampton, and Virginia Beach hotels

Program Chairs Meetings were conducted via Zoom on the first Tuesday of each month to coordinate and discuss Program highlights, needs, and future plans. Each Program Chair established goals and objectives, including training and outreach to their Chapter counterparts. Communications, reports, meetings and training with the Chapter counterparts are ongoing. Quarterly reports were submitted, as well as articles for the VFN Fall and Spring Newsletters and Annual Reports. Each Program Chair submitted Budget Proposals for 2023. The accomplishments of each Program Chair are highlighted in their individual reports on pages 7-14. I am immensely proud to serve with these dedicated and hardworking individuals.

Future plans are to continue with the monthly Program Chairs Meetings, become more interactive with the individual Chapter leaders, and to plan further training for their Chapter counterparts.

Working Together, we will succeed.

Frances E. Boatman  
VFN Second Vice-President

# Secretary's Report

Virginia Federation of NARFE is happy to announce anniversaries of the following chapters:



***Arlington Chapter 7 – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Patricia Meyers  
Area Vice President X Theodore “Ted” Pasek

***Charlottesville Chapter 135 – 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Joann Hirsch  
Area Vice President VII Luther Santiful

***Colonial Beach Chapter 595 - 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Leslie Ravenell  
Area Vice President VIII Leslie Ravenell

***Dulles Chapter 1241 - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Jeffery D. Sargent  
Area Vice President X Theodore “Ted” Pasek

***Fauquier Chapter 1549 – 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Patricia Madaris  
Area Vice President VIII Leslie Ravenell

***Fredericksburg Chapter 90 – 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Maureen: Moe” Nolet  
Area Vice President VIII Leslie Ravenell

***Richmond Chapter 60 – 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Judith G Brantner  
Area Vice President III Winfred “Wynn” Hasty

***Tidewater Norfolk Chapter 66 – 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
President Margie Mitchell  
Area Vice President III Winfred “Wynn” Hasty

As secretary of the VFN I attended executive, board of directors and special meetings. I also continue to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Chair Meeting for the Program Chairs, which allows me to get a better understanding how the programs are developed and the interaction between the Federation and Chapter Chairs.

I attended the free zoom training classes, which is offered to membership at no cost by the VFN Chairs Deborah Fisk and John Bails Electronic Communications Committee (ECC). I also attend a variety of training classes hosted by Training Co-Chairs Ted Pasek and Arlene Arthur. These training classes are at no cost to the membership.

For this period, I established and attended the initial nomination committee meeting which requires two members from each area.

It has been a pleasure to visit several chapters and their Presidents while collecting funds in support of the Conference. For the 2021 VFN Conference I served as Registration Assistant and Chaired the Supporters Committee. I completed submission of the Federation Convention/Conference Report for the October 2021, NARFE Federation Officer Roster and the after the Annual Meeting Report (F7A) to NARFE Headquarters. We are waiting for a final approval of the VFN Bylaws.

The winter session of the Virginia Federation of NARFE was held January 9-11, 2022, in person and virtually by Zoom at Hampton Inn and Suites, 718 Bypass Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185. Meeting was called to order by President Robert Martin. VFN 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Doris McAdams, was sworn in during the January meeting. The following members were nominated and presented to the membership by the Nominating Committee for the period of 2022 – 2023. Robert “Bob” Martin, VFN President, Doris McAdams, VFN 1st Vice President, Frances Boatman, VFN 2nd Vice President, Esther Nash, VFN Secretary, NO CANDIDATE, for Treasurer.

On April 11, VFN members participated in the Virginia Federation of NARFE (VFN) Annual Meeting by Zoom. We heard from the two candidates running for Region X Vice President Robert Allen and Charles Talley. Candidates for the National Office of President participating were National Bill Austin, Gary Roundtree and Bill Shackelford. Erin Carter, Director of Programs, at NARFE provided a presentation about FEDHUB and information about FEDCON 22 which will be in August in Scottsdale, Arizona. You can find more information on these topics on the NARFE website at [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

During the annual meeting, VFN President Robert Martin acknowledged Donna Shackelford, VFN Alzheimer’s Chair, for receiving a Certificate for Distinguished Service identifying the VFN as 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Alzheimer’s contributions, the highest amount raised during the period of July 1, 2020 to November 30, 2021. Donna continues to be a wonderful resource for the VFN Alzheimer’s Fund.

In June I attended a special States Legislative meeting being held on the VFN 2023 proposed legislation plan.

As an active NARFE member and officer, I urge you to get involved in your chapter. If you are interested in what is going on in the VFN and YOU want to get involved, ask your Chapter President or Area Vice President for the contact information of the various committee chairs. We are here to serve the membership. It is a rewarding experience.

*Esther L. Nash*  
*VFN Secretary*

# Treasurer's Report

## Cash Flow Y-T-D VFN Only - 2022

7/1/2021 through 6/30/2022

7/8/2022 Page 17/1/2021-

Category 6/30/2022

### INFLOWS

#### 1 Revenue

1 NARFE HQ 10% Funds 46,424.28

2 Chapter Dues 6,726.34

#### 3 Conference Revenue

ADS - Commercial 2,320.00

ADS NARFE 375.00

Interest 5.35

Registration Fees 1,977.67

Supporters 810.00

TOTAL 3 Conference Revenue 5,488.02

5 Other Revenue 50.59

6 Interest Revenue 69.47

TOTAL 1 Revenue 58,758.70

**TOTAL INFLOWS 58,758.70**

### OUTFLOWS

#### 1.0 Exp

##### 1 A Executive

1 Travel 3,280.50

2 M&IE 1,254.69

3 Lodging 4,499.33

4 Postage 185.00

6 Supplies 381.27

##### 7 Other Exp

a Conference Fees 235.00

TOTAL 7 Other Exp 235.00

8 BOD Incidentals 658.60

##### 9 Administrative

a Technology 1,599.70

b Communications 157.40

g Audit 500.00

h Insurance 240.00

TOTAL 9 Administrative 2,497.10

TOTAL 1 A Executive 12,991.49

1 B Legis

- 1 Travel 433.15
- 2 M&IE 87.58
- 3 Lodging 338.58
- 5 Copying & Printing 305.78
- a Annual Ballot Expenses 2,101.18
- TOTAL 5 Copying & Printing 2,406.96
- 6 Supplies 18.01

7 Other Exp

- a Conference Fees 195.00
- TOTAL 7 Other Exp 195.00
- TOTAL 1 B Legis 3,479.28

**Cash Flow Y-T-D VFN Only - 2022**

7/1/2021 through 6/30/2022

7/8/2022 Page 27/1/2021-

Category 6/30/2022

- 1 C Program Oper 100.65
- 1 Travel 1,344.72
- 2 M&IE 879.65
- 3 Lodging 1,724.83
- 4 Postage 123.30
- 5 Copying & Printing 427.30
- 6 Supplies 11.25

7 Other Exp

- a Conference Fees 210.00
- TOTAL 7 Other Exp 210.00
- TOTAL 1 C Program Oper 4,821.70

1 D Field Oper

- 1 Travel 1,614.10
- 2 M&IE 590.35
- 3 Lodging 1,300.60
- 4 Postage 63.04
- 5 Copying & Printing 121.84
- 6 Supplies 2.00

7 Other Exp

- a Conference Fees 175.00
- TOTAL 7 Other Exp 175.00
- TOTAL 1 D Field Oper 3,866.93

1 F Appointees

1 Travel 779.70  
2 M&IE 710.82  
3 Lodging 1,611.67  
5 Copying & Printing 428.34  
6 Supplies 5.34  
7 Other Exp 28.60  
a Conference Fees 170.00  
TOTAL 7 Other Exp 198.60  
TOTAL 1 F Appointees 3,734.47

1 H Conference Expenses

1 Signage 678.04  
2 Entertainment 500.00  
3 Hotel Expenses 14,710.90  
5 Copying & Printing 1,972.83  
6 Supplies 1,043.75  
TOTAL 1 H Conference Expen... 18,905.52  
TOTAL 1.0 Exp 47,799.39  
**TOTAL OUTFLOWS 47,799.39**

**UNEXPENDED FUNDS \$10,959.31**

**VA Federation of NARFE Account Balances - As of 6/30/2022**

7/8/2022 Page 16/30/2022

Account Balance

**Bank Accounts**

1 InFirst Checking #5783 162,613.32  
1 InFirst Savings #5783 5.00  
**TOTAL Bank Accounts 162,618.32**

**OVERALL TOTAL \$162,618.32**

**VFN PAC Balance Sheet - As of 6/30/2022**

(Cash Basis)

7/7/2022 Page 16/30/2022

Account Balance

**ASSETS**

**Cash and Bank Accounts**

3 InFirst PAC CK #5785 6,889.97

3 InFirst PAC Sav #5785 5.00

**TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts 6,894.97**

**TOTAL ASSET \$6,894.97**

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**LIABILITIES 0.00**

**EQUITY \$6,894.97**

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 6,894.97**

**Cash Flow - Last year**

7/1/2021 through 6/30/2022

7/7/2022 Page 17/1/2021-

Category 6/30/2022

**INFLOWS**

3 PAC

1 REVENUE

1 Donations 760.00

3 Interest Income 3.31

Square FEES -8.40

**TOTAL 1 REVENUE 754.91**

**TOTAL 3 PAC 754.91**

**TOTAL INFLOWS 754.91**

**OVERALL TOTAL \$754.91**

**Thomas Rachele  
Treasurer**

# **FIELD OPERATIONS**

## **Area I Vice President's Report**

**Newport News Chapter 682** presented programs on health care fraud, a visit from local delegate to the state legislature, Shelly Simonds and a luncheon provided by a local retirement community. There was also a presentation from the Peninsula Agency on Aging. The chapter continued to support Alzheimer's Research through their unique "Miles of Pennies" program.

**Williamsburg Chapter 685** presented a program on elder law and one from the state police department on scams. Deborah Fisk presented information on the state legislature and also did a program on how to take photographs with a smart phone. The December Christmas meeting included music by a young harpist. Nonperishable goods were collected and given to the House of Mercy, a local organization that provides food to those in need. The chapter membership chair is also collaborating with a person at the College of William and Mary on a project to preserve the chapter history. Some items of historical importance will be held at the college.

**Middle Peninsula Chapter 1757** held several meetings and the annual holiday meeting, which included games and prizes and was enjoyed by all. Earlier this year VFN Membership Chair Frances Boatman gave a presentation. Service Officer, Arlene Arthur was there and talked about the VFN monthly training.

**Northern Neck Chapter 1823** held a December luncheon with a silent auction of white elephant items to raise money for Alzheimer's research. The Chapter celebrated Black History month with a presentation from the co-author of a book on several Black Women of Philadelphia who were leaders. Another meeting included a Zoom presentation by representatives from the FTC on scams aimed at seniors.

Jeanne Garrison  
Area I Vice President

## **Area III Vice President's Report**

**Petersburg Chapter 28** held meetings were in various locations, including outside in beautiful fall weather, because of lack of meeting space. The chapter held a holiday party and programs this year included a presentation by Blue Cross/Blue Shield, FEP presentation, Debbie Fisk, President of the Midlothian Chapter, who provided training on Smart Phone Photography, a representative of GEN CARE, a primary care physicians practice and a nutritionist spoke on Nutrition for Seniors. They closed out the year with their summer luncheon and made plans to meet again in September 2022.

**Richmond Chapter 60** and **Farmville Chapter 2080** have been inactive since 2020.



**Tuckahoe Chapter 727** had a presentation on Famous Women of Richmond by a representative from the Valentine Museum. This was Part 2 of a previous program and underwritten by a member of the Chapter since there was a cost for the program. For November, they had an excellent program presented by Mr. Bennie Wall of the law firm of Carrell, Blanton and Ferris. They deal in Estate Planning, Wills, and Trusts. This program was greatly received and geared to the retired Federal population. Many compliments were received from attendees.

**Chapter 2265 Midlothian** held an auction and various other activities to enhance their Alzheimer's Research collection. The members who made the meeting enjoyed the fellowship and we were able to send a few dollars to support the VFN Alzheimer's Research fund. They had a holiday celebration at the American Legion Hall. The Chapter had an interesting program on Smart Water presented by three Chesterfield County Police Officers. They held a "think tank" type meeting giving their members an opportunity to talk about their vision as they move forward. Other programs included Delegate Roxanne Robinson and her assistant, Martha Crosby talking about state legislation, Kathy Bass from Blue Cross discussing nutrition and the important part it plays in our continued health and welfare.

**Louisa Chapter 2065** had a variety of programs including an update on the Louisa commission on Aging, a discussion on how the chapter wants to plan meetings and programs moving forward. They are trying to plan a way forward as a small chapter. They have adjusted their focus to utilize the VFN and NARFE as programs for many of their meetings.

The passing of Bill Martin (pictured here) saddens and affects us all in the Virginia Federation. Bill took on everything at one time or another and was the leading NARFE cheerleader. He will be missed very much.



**Wynn Hasty**  
**Area III Vice President**

## Area VII Vice President's Report



All Area VII Chapters: Roanoke 111, Charlottesville 135, Harrisonburg 164, Winchester 180, Luray 1793 and Shenandoah County 2358 are functioning, albeit not at full speed. All are meeting in-person except Luray.

Left to right: Luther Santiful, VFN Area VII Vice President, swearing in officer for Chapter 111: Frances Boatman, President; Wanda Ware, 1st Vice President; Mark Fisher, Treasurer; and Ellie Long, Secretary.

We held an Area Zoom meeting on March 17; however, Winchester 180 and Harrisonburg did not participate. VFN Board members Doris McAdams, Frances Boatman and Debbie Fisk made presentations and participated during the meeting. It was a chance for chapter representatives to meet and interact with VFN Board members who have assumed new roles.

Luther Santiful visited their flagship Winchester Chapter 180 at their regular meeting on March 25 and presented a HQ NARFE Award Certificate for Outstanding Support of Alzheimer's Research.



**Luther Santiful**  
**Area VII Vice President**

## Area VIII Vice President's Report

At the beginning of the reporting period there were five chapters in Area VIII and as of April 1, 2022 there are four (see below for closing of chapter 2343). All four chapters are meeting in person.

**Fredericksburg Chapter 90:** This chapter began meeting in person in the fall of 2021. The meeting place for Chapter 90 is the Salem Church Library. For several months of the year the library was closed due to the pandemic, so no meetings were held. In January 2022 an Executive Board meeting and the January chapter meeting were held and the discussion focused on how to get members back to chapter to in person meetings. The President of Louisa Chapter 2265 also attended the meeting. The Chapter has been busy welcoming all the new members who were transferred from Chapter 2343 (see below).

**Colonial Beach Chapter 595** met in person all year except for the January meeting which was cancelled due to a high positivity rate for COVID. The annual Harvest Supper to support Alzheimer's was held in November 2021. In addition to the chapter and community members, four members of the VFN Board, including the VFN President, were in attendance. This charity event raised \$1,500 for Alzheimer's. A holiday party was held in December. (See photo). A highlight of the year was at the May meeting when the chapter recognized Asian Pacific American month and had two speakers who now work at Dahlgren and who both escaped their native countries (Cambodia and Bhutan) under dangerous conditions. These two active federal employees expressed interest in joining NARFE.



**Fauquier Chapter 1549:** This chapter meets every other month and resumed in person meetings in the fall. The chapter meets at Northside 29 restaurant. All officers from the previous year returned to serve the chapter.

**Caroline Chapter 2112** met in person for the first time since the pandemic in November. They continue to meet at the Timbers in Ladysmith. Even though the Chapter President does not have email, the Chapter Vice President and the Secretary/Treasurer do have email. So, between the two of them, they keep the chapter up to date with all things NARFE.

**Falls Run Chapter 2343:** In July 2021 the President of Falls Run Chapter reached out to the VFN Board for assistance with keeping the chapter open. Ideas were presented and a luncheon was planned. Just as plans for the luncheon were about to reach fruition, the COVID numbers went up and the Executive Board of the chapter voted to close. All members were notified. This chapter was chartered in 2004 and at the time of its inception, it was the only chapter to have all its members in one zip code. The official closing date was April 1, 2022. At closing there were 51 members. Six members chose National only and the remaining 45 members were transferred to Fredericksburg Chapter 90. Chapter 90 meets at a location just a few miles from Falls Run.

Leslie Ravenell,  
Area VIII Vice President

## Area IX Vice President’s Report

Area IX is in Northern Virginia and represents nearly 25 percent of the total VFN membership. All chapters remained active during the Pandemic and most recently have returned to some normalcy on a chapter-by-chapter basis. Currently, we have a total of 2,756 National and Chapter members, with chapter members as follows: Manassas, 139; Springfield, 547; Annandale, 298; and Woodbridge, 225. While overall chapter membership has seen a net decrease due to non-renewals, transfers, and deaths, Area IX recruited 15 new members during the reporting period. All chapters have active Executive Boards which meet monthly, and, to date, Woodbridge has resumed monthly in-person meetings; Annandale has instituted a combination of Zoom and in-person meetings; Springfield continues Zoom only; and Manassas has postponed meeting in-person until further notice. During the period, I attended at least one of each chapter’s meetings and have sworn in each chapter’s slate of officers, except for Manassas, which has postponed elections until they resume monthly chapter meetings.



Chapter members participated in the annual Open Season Workshop sponsored by Congressman Gerry Connolly. Mary Lou Vroman (pictured here) continues to be a NARFE advocate at these events.

All chapters continue to publish informative monthly newsletters, and those chapters holding monthly meetings have provided informative speakers covering timely topics, including local and state elected officials covering important issues impacting our communities; VANRFE officials providing updates on the Federation’s priorities and technology advances in the Federation; police officers explaining how the latest drone technologies are used in Fairfax County to improve public safety and emergency response; a CPA presenting tips on 2021 tax preparation

and new tax law changes; a retired public safety official providing driving safety tips for seniors; a local TV meteorologist/personality providing a down-to-earth perspective on weather forecasting; a Master Gardener explaining how to attract wildlife with the introduction of native plantings; two Alzheimer’s Association officials discussing the disease and the advent of new medications; a local resident providing tips for caregivers on how to cope with the stress of caregiving.

All chapters continue to excel in Alzheimer’s fundraising; they support the Northern Virginia Caucus which holds a quarterly meeting that follows each quarterly VFN Board meeting; they support social interactions within their membership with planned spring/summer/fall activities, including theater engagements by Springfield and Woodbridge Chapters; an Adopt-A-Road cleanup by Springfield Chapter; and spring luncheons by Springfield and Annandale Chapters.



<<<<< Annandale Chapter participates with Fairfax County Police in its Food Bank collection



Springfield Chapter enjoys its Annual Summer Luncheon >>

<< Woodbridge Chapter thanks County Supervisor Andrea Bailey for her presentation



An up-coming sophomore poses at the Annandale Information Table during a July 4<sup>th</sup> event. Maybe a future NARFE member. >>>>



Area IX Vice President  
Jim Little (Acting)

# Area X Vice President's Report

Area X in Northern Virginia is made up of six chapters. The Dulles Chapter celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in June. Three chapters, Dulles, Fairfax and Vienna-Oakton, have been active and meeting mostly in-person with zoom or hybrid meetings when pandemic situation was threatening. One chapter, Arlington, has met and elected new a new President and plans a full schedule in the Fall. Fairfax also elected a new President as did Dulles. McLean-Great Falls and Metro NOVA have more senior members and are having difficulty having members turn out for meetings.

Area X members joined chapters from Area IX for a Caucus Meeting in October with the newly elected VFN President Robert Martin (pictured here) as guest speaker. In May of 2022 we had an Area X caucus Meeting which was held at the VFN Conferences in the past. At the meeting we discussed issues with declining membership, attendance at meetings and the use of technology and both the HQ and Federation web sites.



**Arlington Chapter 7** did not meet during most of 2021 and 2022. Their local meeting site, Walter Reed Community Center was closed for Covid testing and vaccinations. During the summer of 2021, the Executive Board designed and implemented a survey of our membership, using Survey Monkey to determine Chapter 7's future direction. The survey was sent electronically to those with e-mail addresses and via U.S. mail to those without e-mail addresses. Newsletters to members in September and December announced their first and only meeting of 2021 – a holiday luncheon on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Italian Café and requested nominations for officers for 2022. At the luncheon, survey results were discussed, officers were elected and then installed by Area X VP Ted



Pasek who also gave a brief presentation about happenings in the VFN. The Board decided to launch 2022 with their annual June luncheon and are preparing for fall monthly meetings. They are awaiting confirmation of space at a new location. The June luncheon was held in June at the Italian Café. The keynote speaker was Delegate Patrick Hope (pictured here with VFN 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Doris McAdams, Ed Weiler, Chapter 7 Legislation Chair and Chapter President Pat Myers.) Delegate Hope gave a lively presentation on the 2022 General Assembly session. The Chapter also conducted the 50-50 raffle for the Alzheimer's Association.

During this year, various officers have participated in VFN events, including online VFN training sessions, the VFN annual meeting and other chapter meetings. They were also represented at the NOVA caucus and Area X meetings. Chapter 7 will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November and plans a big celebration in early December.

**McLean-Great Falls Chapter 489** has not met since the Pandemic began. A chapter of more senior members are not prone to using Zoom and are not ready to resume in-person meetings. The Chapter keeps abreast with what is

happening in the area. Several chapter members joined other NARFE members at a meeting hosted by Chapter 1116 (Vienna-Oakton) this year.

**Fairfax Chapter 737** was active but attendance at two Zoom meetings and other in-person meetings has not returned to the number before the pandemic. The chapter membership has also continued to decline but as of the end of June 2022 there are about 288 Chapter members and 344 National members for a total of 632 members. Elections were held in November 2021 for chapter officers. Newsletter Editor, Bill Shackelford, is running for National President of NARFE.

Non-perishable food is collected at most meeting to be delivered to “Food for Others” for the less fortunate in Fairfax County. Collections were not every meeting but our average collection was just over 200 pounds.

During the 2021-2022 program season several program meetings were held via Zoom due to concerns with the coronavirus. Programs included retired Ambassador George Ward speaking on “Africa Today;” Dan Cronin spoke on Alzheimer’s and on “Healthy Living” at two separate meetings. Blue Cross updated us on upcoming changes to the health plans. The VFN State Legislative Chair speak on the Virginia State Legislative Plan; the Region 10 VP spoke on the status of membership and attrition issues. We were entertained with a talk about the Regional Parks in Northern Virginia with some historical background. Virginia Delegate David Bulova updated us on the results of the General Assembly. The Chapter celebrated with a Holiday Party in December and the now popular picnic as indicated in these pictures.



Pictured Donna and Bill Shackelford >>

<<1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Doris McAdams with Area X Vice President Ted Pasek



**Vienna-Oakton Chapter 1116** continued to have in-person meetings during this reporting period. Programs includes talks by a retiree from Homeland Security and a retiree from Partnership for Public Service, programs on downsizing and decluttering, representatives from the Shepherd Center, local Congressional office, Blue Cross and Blue Shield and the local Vienna Mayor Linda Colbert (pictured here).



Other events included an ice cream social, and a chapter picnic (a few members pictured here).



At the holiday party in December, officers were installed by Ted Pasek, Area 10 Vice President. Kay Dellinger and Shirley Martin received certificates signed by National President Ken Thomas, in recognition of the services they had provided to the Chapter and/or to NARFE over the years.

Left to right – Shirley Martin, Kathy Arpa and Kay Dellinger



**Dulles Chapter 1241** chapter began in-person meetings in September 2021 with the new Chapter President Jeff Sargent introducing himself and giving a few safety hints based on his experience as a firefighter. In April, the chapter welcomed Pamela Montesinos, Western Fairfax Christian Ministries, who provided information on the food bank. Members donated non-perishable food items. Members enjoyed the Capitol Carolers, door prizes, tasty food and lots of fellowship at the holiday party in December.

Erin Carter, Fairfax Solid Waste Management, spoke to the group about recycling in March and this proved to be an interesting presentation. Virginia Delegate Irene Shin (D-86) gave a summary of Virginia Assembly’s chaotic session and the need for a special session on the budget. JoAnn Kuo of AAA provided up-to-date travel tips in May.

Dulles Chapter celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on June 27 with special guests to include several attendees from other Area 10 chapters, Area 10 VP Ted Pasek, VFN President Bob Martin, VFN 1VP Doris McAdams, VFN State Legislative Chair/Photographer Deborah Fisk, Region 10 and VFN Alzheimer’s Chair Donna Shackelford, Region 10 VP Bill Shackelford, National Secretary-Treasurer Kathryn Hensley, Jacki Garry, Chief of Staff to VA Delegate Karrie Delaney who presented a resolution from the General Assembly, District Director Marlon Dubuois for U.S. Representative Gerry Connolly (D-11), and U.S. Representative Jennifer Wexton (D-10). Past Presidents, Chapter Leaders, and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee were recognized.

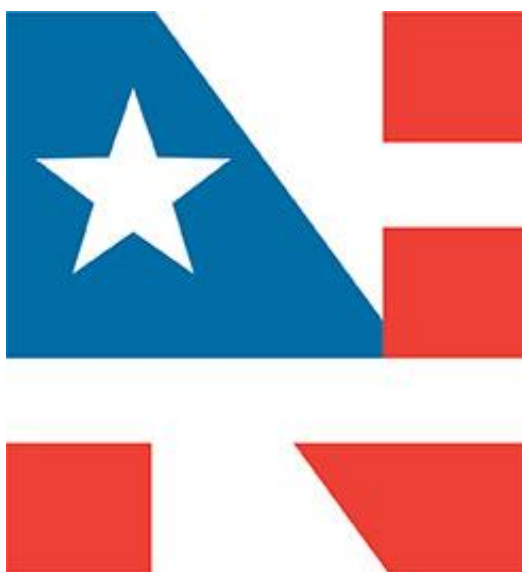


A certificate was presented to the Amphora Diner Deluxe as the chapter has been meeting there for 25 years. Treasurer Joe Irwin was recognized for ten years’ service as Treasurer. Attendees were given 50 cent pieces, an anniversary napkin and slices of anniversary cake to take home.

<<<<Pictured NARFE National Secretary-Treasurer Katherine Hensley and Patricia Wolfe

**Metro Northern Virginia Chapter 1665** has not been meeting since 2020. The Chapter President continued to attend local Caucus Meetings during the time the chapter was not meeting. They have now located a new meeting location and will begin the fall with their meetings at the Athena Palace in Crystal City.

**Theodore Pasek**  
**Area X Vice President**





# PROGRAM AREAS

## Alzheimer's Chair's Report

**NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund**  
"Our goal is \$15 million by December 31, 2024."

**DONATIONS ARE USED TO FUND RESEARCH VITAL TO FINDING A CURE FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

Statistics are as follows: Total donations for Fiscal Year 2022 for VFN: \$146,060.85

Donations toward the National Goal of \$15 Million: **\$14,589,385.76**  
through May 2022  
(Includes \$3960 for Longest Day, and \$79,778.98 for Walk, both 2021 totals)

National donations for month of May: \$130,610.52  
Up \$113,439.71 from May, 2021

The Silent Auction was featured at the VFN Conference in October raising a large amount of money toward our Alzheimer's goals.



Chapters continue to collect money individually and at chapter meetings in the popular Alzheimer's piggy banks.

We now have 6.5 million people diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. The rate of increase is markedly higher than we have been seeing. That punctuates the need for a treatment and ultimately a cure for the disease. Of course, that means further research and your donations are hugely beneficial. Many exciting advances are being made in the field of research. Many studies are under way, more than we have seen in the history of the Alzheimer's Association.

Please remember that *Donation Checks* should be made out to NARFE Alzheimer's Research, should be either sent directly to VFN Donna Shackelford, VFN Alzheimer's Chair or submitted to a VFN Chapter Alzheimer's Chairperson in your area. This enables the Virginia Federation and/or your chapter to receive credit for your donation. Donations sent directly to Alzheimer on behalf of VFN cannot be verified by Donna nor will the Virginia Federation receive credit.

**Donna Shackelford**  
**Alzheimer's Program Chair**

# Membership Chair's Report

**Fiscal Year 2022** ended with 11,315 Virginia Federation members consisting of 4,964 Chapter members and 6,351 National members. Membership decreased by 408 (3.48%) - Chapter members decreased by 587 (10.57%) and National members increased by 179 (2.90%).

The VFN is incredibly happy to welcome back Dulles Chapter 1241 to the Federation, however we are saddened to close Falls Run Chapter 2343. Happily, many of the Falls Run chapter members elected to transfer to Fredericksburg Chapter 90 and remain chapter members.

**Monthly Membership Gain/Loss Reports** are prepared, posted on VFN Membership web page, and sent to AVPs and Membership Chairs with recommendation to contact prospective new members and non-renewals.

**Membership page on VFN website** continues to be updated with Recruitment & Retention materials, as well as sample correspondence. We welcome feedback on additions or changes you deem will be helpful in your Membership recruitment or retention.

**Membership Goals and Sharing of Ideas** – Hosted virtual Chapter Membership Chairs Meeting in July.

**VFN 2021 Conference – October 10-13, 2021- Conducted Membership Workshop** for Membership Chairs and interested members. Folders containing NARFE brochures, applications, and membership supplies, along with pages on Membership Chair Responsibilities, Navigating the NARFE Member Portal, Resources, and Instructions on Accessing NARFE Chapter Reports were given each attendee.

**Membership Certificates of Appreciation were presented at the VFN Conference:**

- Member recruiting highest number of new members from July 1 – September 30. (4-way Tie)
  - Wayne Webb, 0180 Winchester recruited Richard Hoover
  - Marilyn Riddle, 0685 Williamsburg recruited Vanessa Trent
  - Kathy Arpa, 1116 Vienna recruited L. D. Wilson.
  - Mary Sinisi, 1757 Middle Peninsula-Gloucester recruited Wendy Hoppe
- Membership Chair whose chapter recruited largest percentage of Prospects as New Members
  - Gary Robison, 1549 Fauquier - 2 Prospects and 3 New Members.
- Membership Chair whose chapter reinstated largest percentage of members
  - Roy Beasley, 28 Petersburg - 2 Reinstated

**Presentation at Seminar** – In October, I was given the opportunity to make a presentation on NARFE and its benefits at a seminar with Human Resource officers representing over 3,000 federal employees. Hopefully, they recognize the importance of being a member of NARFE and will join.

2021 Membership Drive ended with 17 new members signed by Recruiters. Thank you to:

0028 Petersburg – Roy Beasley signed John W. Wells

0007 Arlington – Gail Howell signed Lisa Wenger

0180 Winchester Lorraine Candell signed Kay T. Wassam

0685 Williamsburg Janice Hill signed Tina Lockhart and Paulette Grady

0685 Williamsburg – Marilyn Riddle signed Patricia E. Wolz and Scott C. Wolz

0737 Ted Pasek signed Nancy Robinson

0737 Ruby Harney signed Patricia Jack, Andrew Blow, Geraldine J. Marshall, and William McCoy

1116 Vienna-Oakton David Graf signed Christine Schaefer

1270 Woodbridge Frances Piper signed Donna Boye, Dale Stoutenburgh, and Linda Stoutenburgh

1697 Brentwood June J. Staton signed Velvet Preuitt

**Membership Training** – Conducted Training in January via Zoom for Chapter Membership Chairs, Area Vice Presidents and any interested members, with 20 attendees.



**Chapter 1757 Membership Presentation** – Gave Membership presentation in March at Chapter 1757 Middle Peninsula – Gloucester meeting, with 20 attendees. VFN was well represented, with Service Officer Arlene Arthur, Chaplain Marilyn Riddle, Area I VP Jeanne Garrison, and Wanda Ware in attendance. We were very well received. They submitted a write-up and photograph to the

“Gloucester – Matthews Gazette – Journal”, which was submitted and is also now on our VFN Facebook page. Each member was given a VFN bag with NARFE magazine, brochures, and membership application to distribute to active or retired Federal employees in their community. Membership Chair Jim Bradbury received several packets for recruiting.

**Area VII meeting** – Gave brief Membership presentation in March at the Area VII Meeting via Zoom.

**Membership Recruitment** – June 17 – 18, I set up a Recruiting table at the Virginia United Postmasters and Managers of America State Convention in Charlottesville. Drawing for free membership was won by Debbie Crawford of Union Hall, Va. 24176. Plans are to set up recruiting tables whenever the opportunity arises. Please let me know any opportunities in your area, and I will be happy to assist with Membership Recruitment.

Frances Boatman >>>



Quarterly reports to the Board, and articles for the Fall and Spring Newsletters were submitted on a timely basis. I updated the Membership Chair's list from Chapter Officers listed on NARFE website.

**Membership Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2023 was prepared and submitted with explanations for Expenditures.**

**Chapter Membership Chairs Requests** regarding access to the M-112, updating Chapter Officer Roster via the F-7, transfer of members, reinstatement of Life members, dues, listings of deceased members, errors in transfers, Membership Gain/Loss Reports, etc. were all answered. Reached out to Headquarters when needed to resolve an issue. Contacted Dave Bowman, Senior Director, Membership Development re AMS discrepancies regarding Membership totals.

Membership Plans and Goals:

1. Membership Gain/Loss Report – **Continue preparing and distributing monthly Membership Gain/Loss Report to Membership Chairs, VFN Executive Board, and Area Vice Presidents and post on VFN Membership webpage.**
2. Liaison – **Work with National to assist Chapters in resolving Membership and AMS issues.**
3. Membership Chairs Meetings – **Conduct via Zoom to establish needs, goals, and share ideas.**
4. Membership Chairs Day of Training/Planning – **Conduct two sessions as follows:**
  - **Areas I – IV – Meet in Williamsburg area**
  - **Areas VII – X – Meet in Richmond area**
5. Membership Retention – **Actively work with Chapters to retain and reinstate members dropped for nonpayment of dues, and promote Dues Withholding and Life Membership programs.**
6. **Membership Recruiting – Participate and assist in seminars, health fairs, conventions, etc. whenever the opportunity arises to recruit new members.**
7. Incentives and awards – **Establish incentives to encourage recruiting and maintaining members in Chapters and the Virginia Federation and recognize Recruiters and Chapters for membership achievements at the April 2023 VFN Annual Conference.**

We still have too many members getting transferred to National Only. Some may be a conscious decision, but I have found numerous cases where that was not the case. It may be the member did not check the chapter box on the renewal. If the Chapter officers cannot find what happened to a member, please contact me and I can tell you whether the member is listed in National Only. Remember - Membership is Everyone's Responsibility – To make certain Congress hears our voice to protect the pay and earned benefits of all current and retired federal employees, we need to strive to increase membership and retention. Please get involved and participate in this important NARFE effort. If you have suggestions, questions, or would like help with membership, please contact me at feboatman@live.com.

**Together we will succeed!**

Frances E. Boatman  
VFN Membership Chair

# National Legislation Chair's Report

The Virginia Federation is one of NARFE's leaders in the congressional advocacy area. This is accomplished through the Federation's National Legislative Team consisting of a Chair, 11 Congressional District Leaders (CDL), one for each of Virginia's 11 Congressional Districts, and 2 Senator Legislative Leaders (SLL), one for each of our Senators. The Team leads the Federation's efforts to build relationships with the Virginia Federal Congressional delegation and to advance NARFE's position on important legislative matters affecting active and retired federal employees. The Team also informs and interacts with the Federation's Area Vice Presidents, Chapters and VA National members about issues affecting the pay and benefits of Federal employees and retirees. The Committee is also responsible for coordinating Virginia NARFE's participation in NARFE's Political Action Committee (PAC). This includes encouraging NARFE members to contribute to NARFE PAC, reporting on VA NARFE PAC statistics (Collections and Disbursements within in Virginia), and coordinating the process for seeking Chapters and Area VPs inputs to the NARFE PAC's decision-making process for allocating funds to VA's congressional delegation.

**The VFN National Legislation Team** As we come to the end of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress (Dec. 2022), I want to acknowledge our TEAM and thank them for their efforts during the past year!

**National Legislative Committee Chair:** Gaston Gianni, Woodbridge 1270, [gastongianni@aol.com](mailto:gastongianni@aol.com) (This position is a voting member of the VFN Board)

## **Senatorial Legislative Leaders:**

Sen. Mark Warner-- SLL Bill Briscoe, Manassas 356, Email: ([whbriscoe@comcast.net](mailto:whbriscoe@comcast.net))

Sen. Tim Kaine --SLL Eddie Eitches, McLean Great Falls 489, Email: ([eitches@verizon.net](mailto:eitches@verizon.net))

## **Congressional District Leaders**

1<sup>st</sup> CDL Gaston Gianni, Woodbridge 1270, Email: ([gastongianni@aol.com](mailto:gastongianni@aol.com)) —Rep. Rob Wittman

2<sup>nd</sup> CDL Marilyn Riddle, Williamsburg 685 Email: ([mriddle@cox.net](mailto:mriddle@cox.net)) —Rep. Elaine Luria

3<sup>rd</sup> CDL Ray Orland, Suffolk 1743, Email: ([raymondngail@aol.com](mailto:raymondngail@aol.com)) --- Rep. Bobby Scott

4<sup>th</sup> CDL Deborah Fisk, Midlothian 2265, Email: ([narfe2265df@gmail.com](mailto:narfe2265df@gmail.com))—Rep. Donald McEachin

5<sup>th</sup> CDL, Joanne Hirsch, Charlottesville 135 Email: ([cprinstr@verizon.net](mailto:cprinstr@verizon.net))--Rep. Bob Good

6<sup>th</sup> CDL Frances Boatman, Roanoke 111, Email: ([FEBoatman@live.com](mailto:FEBoatman@live.com)) -- Rep. Ben Cline

7<sup>th</sup> CDL Bob Zombron, Midlothian 2265, Email: ([boobjudyz@verizon.net](mailto:boobjudyz@verizon.net)) —Rep. Abigail Spanberger

8<sup>th</sup> CDL Tom Hart, Fairfax 737, Email: ([thart7@cox.net](mailto:thart7@cox.net)) Rep. Don Beyer

9<sup>th</sup> CDL, Del Dyer, Roanoke Valley 111, Email: ([ddyer@vt.edu](mailto:ddyer@vt.edu))—Rep. Morgan Griffith

10<sup>th</sup> CDL, Dennis Freeman, Fairfax 737 Email: ([deepfreeze2548@me.com](mailto:deepfreeze2548@me.com)) —Rep. Jenifer Wexton

11<sup>th</sup> CDL Judy Thorne, Dulles 124, Email: ([thornemusick@aol.com](mailto:thornemusick@aol.com)) —Rep. Gerald Connolly

In the coming months we will be making some adjustments to the Team to recognize the recent changes in the VA Congressional Districts. As the changes unfold, we will make announcements to our Chapters and VA National members.

**Team Activities:**

During the year we focused on three areas.

**First**, as a follow on to NARFE’s Advocacy Month, we pursued contacting the members of the VA Congressional Delegation and asked them to sign on as Cosponsors to NARFE’s legislative priorities. We made satisfactory progress, but MORE work needs to be done by the Team AND the NARFE Members to contact members who have yet to sign as cosponsors. See summary below.

**Second**, the Legislative team attended seven fund raisers with the support on NARFE Political Action Committee (PAC) funds. In addition, members attended Chapter events where Congressional Representatives were the main speakers.

**Third**, we provided the VFN Board with quarterly summaries of Virginia’s NARFE members participation in contributing to NARFE PAC. Follow are the VA PAC contributions and distributions from Jan 2021 through March 2022.

**Collections**

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**TOTAL-- \$63,573**

- CHAPTERS--\$36,684
- VA NATIONAL Members--\$26,888
- NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTORS--1066
  - CHAPTERS—538
  - VA NATIONAL—528
  - Number of Sustainers—38
    - Chapters—32
    - VA National—6



**Distributions as of March 30, 2022**

- A total of \$20,000 was distributed to individual members of the VA Congressional Delegation
- In addition, a total of \$20,000 (\$5,000 each) was distributed to the Leadership PACs

**Other Activities**

**VFN 2021 Conference “ZOOM TO THE FUTURE”**

We had eight members of the VFN National Legislative Team in attendance—one SLL & seven CDLs. The National Legislative Team was recognized in the conference program book (Outstanding Book—well done Mary Heck and team!) In addition, the Team was acknowledged from the stage before the conference attendees.

We had a NARFE PAC table set up at the conference and accepted PAC contributions. Thirteen people contributed, of which two were new sustainers. In total we collected \$821. Thank you to all who have contributed to this year’s NARFE PAC Fund! Additionally, I prepared and gave a training briefing on NARFE-VFN PAC via ZOOM to VFN members.

**NARFE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE:** The committee is made up of representatives from each of the 10 NARFE Regions. I represent NARFE Region 10 on the committee. The committee is charged with developing issues which NARFE can support during the upcoming 118<sup>th</sup> Congress (2023-2024). Federations, Chapters and NARFE members will be invited to offer suggestions for the committee's consideration in developing a list of items for the NARFE Executive Board to consider and approve. The new FED-HUB will play an important part in collecting information. There should be specific information on the process in the June/July NARFE Magazines (See page 51). If you want to raise an issue for the Committee's consideration, go to [www.narfe.org/advocacy-positions](http://www.narfe.org/advocacy-positions)

**STATUS NARFE's Advocacy Day Legislative Priorities--- Total & VA CO Sponsors as of 6-30-22**

These are the NARFE Priorities we carried to the Hill and the members of the VA congressional delegation who had signed on as cosponsors before the conference.

**1) Repeal of WEP &GPO HR 82- Social Security Fairness Act, Introduced by Rep Rodney Davis (R) MA.**

**VA cosponsors: 8-- REPs Spanberger; Luria, Wittman, Connolly, McEachin, Scott, Beyer & Wexton** (281-cosponsors)

48,700 Federal annuitants in Virginia are impacted by WEP!!

**S-1302-Social Security Fairness Act Introduced by Senator Sherrod Brown (D) No VA Cosponsors** (40 Cosponsors)



**2) Reform WEP & GPO HR 2337-Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act, Introduced by Richard Neal (D) MA, VA Cosponsors: 6—REPs Beyer; Spanberger; Luria; Connolly; Wexton, McEachin (189 cosponsors)**

**3) HR-5834-The Public Service Act, introduced by Kevin Brady (R) Texas, VA Cosponsors: 1—Rep Wittman (53 Cosponsors)**

**4) Postal Service Reform Act of 2021 PASSED THE HOUSE AND SENATE (House VA Delegation 9 yes and two no-- Good and Cline)**

**HR 3076 Issue: Need to determine what impact the bill would have on Federal Employees Health Benefits BEFORE considering to passing this bill.** Introduced by Rep Carolyn Maloney (D) NY; **VA cosponsor one; Rep Gerry Connolly** (102 Cosponsors)

**S 1720- Introduced by Senator Gary Peters (D) MI; VA Cosponsors: 1-- Kaine (27 Cosponsors)**

**Issue: Need to determine what impact the bill would have on Federal Employees Health Benefits BEFORE considering to passing this bill.**

**5) Fair COLA for Seniors Act (HR 4315) Issue: Use CPI-E (Which better represents cost of the elderly)**

**NEW Just Introduced by Rep Garamendi (D) CA; Virginia Cosponsors 1 – Beyer (52 cosponsors)**

**6) HR 304 Equal COLA Act (Treat FERS fairly and equally with other COLA recipients)**

Introduced by Gerry Connolly (D) VA; **Virginia Cosponsors: 3--Wexton, Luria & Spanberger** (32 cosponsors)

**7) House Resolution 131- To recognize NARFE's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Introduced by Rep Gerry Connolly (D) VA; Virginia cosponsors 5: Reps Wexton, Wittman, Luria, Beyer & Cline (19 cosponsors)**

**PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS AND ASK THEM TO COSPONSOR THESE BILLS**

**CLOSING QUOTE:** “We shall never know all the good that a simple smile can do” Mother Teresa

**Gaston Gianni**  
**VFN National Legislative Chair**

## Public Relations Chair’s Report

I have started sending notes to all chapter prospective members inviting them to attend a meeting of the chapter in their area. The more touches a prospective member receives, the more likely he or she will join your chapter.

I send cards to new members welcoming them to the Virginia Federation of NARFE. I also post short videos welcoming them as well. Please share these on your social media.

I posted a picture and write up of a visit our membership chair, Area 1 VP, service officer and Chaplin made to Chapter 1757 Middle Peninsula, Gloucester.

I attended Annandale’s luncheon before summer break and have poster pictures and commentary to our social media.

I attended Arlington’s Spring luncheon and have posted the pictures of that event.

I attended Dulles Chapter’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary luncheon. I have posted the pictures from that event.

I shipped promotional material to the Membership Chair for distribution at meetings she was attending.

I provided Annandale Chapter and Area X Vice President promotional materials to use at Congressman Connolly’s November 2021 Health Fair. Pictures of this event can be found on social media.

I provided Annandale Chapter promotional material to use at the Broyhill Crest Community Association’s 70th Anniversary Celebration on July 4. Pictures of this event have been posted.

I continue to update social media with items of interest to the federation. This includes statements from candidates running for National and Regional Office.

As Chapter 1270 Woodbridge’s public relations chair, I live stream our meetings on Face Book. I also updated Chapter 1270’s Face Book page.

I have attended all training committee meetings and training sections. I have attended all program chair meetings. I attended the VFN spring board of directors meeting.



I attended several Stafford County Economic Development Authority networking events and some of King George County’s networking events. At one of King George’s networking events, I met the Technical Director of Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD). I am working with his office for an opportunity to tell them about NARFE. I met several active and retired federal employees at these events. Hopefully, we will get some new members from these events.

We did not have any note cards branded to us, so I designed one. These are the cards I am using to send notes. They are available to the chapters and have been distributed to some of the areas and chapters.

Several members of the Virginia Federation will be attending FEDCON 22.

**Doris McAdams**  
**VFN Public Relations Chair**



## Service Officer's Report

The last year has been taxing in so many ways. We have worked hard to overcome the restrictions imposed in response to the Covid 19 Pandemic in 2020. Slowly we have started seeing one another in person. We have learned just how important communicating is. We have relied more on electronic means of communications but now, in summer 2022, we are getting back to more in person meetings.

As of September 2021, the Virginia Federation had 24 chapter Service Officers. As of June 30, 2022, we had the same number of Service Officers plus one acting Service Officer. I am pleased to report that our numbers are consistent but there is still room for growth. The good news is that some Areas share Service Officer resources so that the Virginia Federation is well covered.

In September I was invited to be guest speaker at Chapter 685 Williamsburg's monthly meeting. That was my first in-person chapter visit in almost two years. I must thank Chapter President Hazel Braxton, Program Chair Ginny Taylor and Service Officer Frances Mcelroy for the invite and the entire chapter for their hospitality.

In October I worked as Registration Chair during our 2021 Conference. Working in that position gave me an opportunity to meet more Chapter members. I also conducted an abbreviated Meet and Greet with attending Service Officers and other Chapter representatives who were there to get more information about the Service Officer position. The timing did not lend itself to doing actual training, but official training had been scheduled for later in October via Zoom.

The October Service Officer training was well attended but because of my technology issues the training did not go as smoothly as I would have liked. Following that training session, I rescheduled training for April. I called it a "do-over".

In April 2022, I attended the monthly meeting of Chapter 1757 Middle Peninsula-Gloucester to support 2nd VP and VFN Membership Chair Frances Boatman who was the guest speaker. Living in Norfolk, the drive gave me a wonderful change of scenery. Gloucester is lovely and the hospitality from Robert Howe (President) and Jennie Howe and the other chapter members was outstanding. It did not take much persuasion for me to do a little shopping while there.

My second attempt at Service Officer training via Zoom was conducted later in April and this time I felt that I overcame my technological obstacles. Again, the session was well attended.

During the course of the year, I received many Service Officer referrals from chapter leaders. In each case, once I received the referral, I conducted a one-on-one with the party who was requesting assistance. In each case I was either able to provide the necessary information or make a referral to the appropriate resource for assistance. I always encourage referrals from Service Officers and our membership in general. As NARFE members we have a lot of resources at our disposal so please reach out if you have a question or are in need of benefits information. Chapter Service Officers and NARFE are here to assist YOU.

I am always amazed at how much knowledge I have acquired over my five years as VFN Service Officer. When I became my chapter's Service Officer in 2016, like many of you, I had no idea of what a Service Officer was or did. In 2017 when I, as a chapter Service Officer was approached by, our now Immediate Past President, Dr. Constance Bails about taking over the position that she was giving up to become VFN's 2nd VP, I had so many reservations, but I decided to try it. I appreciate how you have helped me grow in this position. I came into this position with zero knowledge of federal benefits aside from Dr. Bails' Service Officers training. I was not in Human resources; in fact, I wasn't a federal employee.

So going from zero to being the person that people call when they need help with benefits questions has been humbling for me. I want to thank each one of you who has helped me along the way. It has been a great journey and I look forward to working with you more in the future. Contact me at [arlenebw@gmail.com](mailto:arlenebw@gmail.com) if I can be of assistance. I am always willing to help.

**Arlene Arthur**  
**VFN Service Officer**

## State Legislation Chair's Report



1. The 2022 Legislative Plan was developed and presented to the Board of Directors in July. The final brochure was approved and printed. It was printed at Smartpress in a quantity of 1,000. The total was \$305.78 (\$276.37 plus \$29.41 shipping).
2. Early distribution of the brochures with a cover letter was sent to our Representatives home office addresses by U.S. Mail on Monday, 10/4/2021. Distribution for Chapters, via our Area VP's as well as copies added to every registration bag at our Annual Conference (10/10 – 10/13).
3. The VA State Legislation PowerPoint presentation was updated, and a copy resides on the website on the State Legislation page.

4. The VFN PAC Form was updated with the current VFN Treasurer's information, and the form is available on the website.
5. Members were encouraged to reach out to their local representatives and share the brochure and talk about the legislative agenda.
6. An email distribution list was created including all Chapter Presidents and Legislation Officers and a request was sent out to find volunteers who want to help with lobby efforts.
7. I gave State Legislation presentations to Chapter' across the Federation as requested by Area Program Chairs.
8. The Legislative Plan is on the website and members have been notified as to how to access it, download it, and share it.
9. The legislative team continues to study and research the best ways to collaborate with members, legislators, and staff.
10. The Virginia Legislative Plan was not as successful as we would have liked, but there were some great lessons learned. We were able to go through the Session and the Budget process. We accumulated interested parties in our Exempting a segment of CSRS Pensions, a decent Nursing Home Standard bill was carried over to 2023, and the Family Care Giver Tax Credit got as far as a referral to the Committee on Finance and Appropriations in the House.
11. With the partial progress we made in 2022, we began a more vigorous action plan for 2023 and we look to actively pursue the contacts we made last year and put together a more aggressive plan in 2023.

The State Legislation Team is being developed into a robust marketing tool for the Federation. If you are interested in joining the team, contact Debbie Fisk at [valeg@vanarfe.org](mailto:valeg@vanarfe.org) or call her at (804) 748-8722.

**Debbie Fisk**  
**State Legislation Chair**



# AD HOC REPORT

## Electronics Communications Committee (ECC)

The Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) remains partially staffed. We are attempting to find interested members who would like to join our team. An amendment to the Virginia Federation of NARFE Bylaws was approved by the Federation in December but they have not been approved by National as of this date. We anticipate approval, but until such time we remain an important asset; however, organized as a committee.

In anticipation of the change, we have begun to develop the goals, guidelines, and job description for the anticipated new Program Chair office. An Executive Summary, a detail of goals, and a job description with justification has been submitted to the board of directors. Because technology will become particularly important in the future and also because our current board structure has been in place for some time, it is hopeful that some changes will take place to make the communication group effective.

We try to be helpful to the Federation as well as Chapters with all their electronic communications. We stay as current as possible on applications, software and hardware, and general communications technology advancements.

Our team recently became involved with the National rollout of FEDHub which is NARFE's online community for active and retired federal employees. Members can connect to share advice, solve challenges and develop new approaches to gain insight into all things NARFE. You can explore, stay informed, and engage with like-minded federal retirees and active employees. We have our very own community in FEDHub, Virginia Federation. I hope you will try it out.



**FEDHub**

We are listening to you, your success stories and your challenges. We know there is some frustration with NES and AMS. We are developing strategies to help you maneuver the obstacles that you sometimes encounter. Stay in touch, as we discover changes,

improvements, and work arounds, they will be shared with you right away.

We will re-instate our Wednesday training sessions in September, possibly twice a month. We have not developed our schedule but as often as there are members interested in technology and how it can make your tasks more efficient and less labor intensive, we are here to help. Please reach out and let us know how we can help.

"It's a social media world, and we're just livin' in it!"

Respectfully,

*Deborah O. Fisk*

# 2022 CHAPTERS

## Area I

Peninsula –Newport News 682  
Colonial Williamsburg 685  
Middle Peninsula-Gloucester 1757  
Northern Neck-Warsaw 1823

## Area II

Metro Virginia Beach 5  
Tidewater Norfolk 66  
Virginia Beach 974  
Seaside-Virginia Beach 1827

## Area III

Petersburg 28  
Richmond 60  
Tuckahoe-Richmond 1727  
Louisa 2065  
Piedmont 2080  
Midlothian 2265

## Area IV

Churchland-Portsmouth 1293  
Brentwood 1697  
Suffolk 1743

## Area VII

Roanoke Valley 111  
Charlottesville-Albermerle 135  
Harrisonburg 164  
Winchester 180  
Page Valley-Luray 1793  
Shenandoah County 2358

## Area VIII

Fredericksburg 90  
Colonial Beach 595  
Warrenton/Fauquier 1549  
Caroline 2112  
Falls Run- 2343 (closed 4/22)

## Area IX

Manassas 356  
Springfield 893  
Annandale 1159  
Woodbridge 1270

## Area X

Arlington 7  
McLean-Great Falls 489  
Fairfax 737  
Vienna-Oakton 1116  
Dulles 1241  
Metro Northern VA 1665

