



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**

**CHAPTER 2065 NEWSLETTER**

**POST OFFICE BOX 1811**

**LOUISA, VIRGINIA 23093-1811**

*Contact: NARFE2065news@vanarfe.org*

**VOLUME XXXLI, NUMBER 09 – NOVEMBER 2022**

**ELECTED OFFICERS**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Karen Cheatwood</b>	<b>703-606-6513</b>	<b>karenlaurasara@gmail.com</b>
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> V.P. /PROGRAM</b>	<b>Dick Shrum</b>	<b>540-872-5409</b>	<b>dickshrum@hughes.net</b>
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> V.P.</b>	<b>Leland Miller</b>	<b>540-872-4696</b>	<b>leeandjulie7@gmail.com</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Marilyn Root</b>	<b>540-632-0241</b>	<b>rootger34@gmail.com</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Charles Alvarez</b>	<b>540-894-4804</b>	<b>alv10214@aol.com</b>

**CALENDAR**

<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Chapter Meeting - 11:30 a.m., Roma's Restaurant, program: Chapter Annual Meeting</b>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Chapter Meeting - 11:30 a.m., Roma's Restaurant, program: Christmas Luncheon</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>Chapter Meeting - 11:30 a.m., Roma's Restaurant, program: TBA</b>

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There continues to be a lot to discuss this month so here goes.

### ***Survey status:***

First, I want to thank those that took the time and effort to respond. We even had a hard copy response mailed to me by a long-time member who doesn't have e-mail but certainly indicated their interest in the chapter newsletter and issues that prevented attending meetings. However, we received 5 responses (counting one that indicated they were moving out of the area and didn't feel it appropriate to fill out the form) which is only 10% of our chapter membership so I'd like to ***encourage anyone to respond to the survey ASAP.***

Question 1 about what being a chapter member meant highlighted the opportunity to meet other federal retirees, the newsletter and legislation information and the support that NARFE provides to Alzheimer.

Question 2 overall was that there are benefits to attending chapter meetings.

Question 3 indicated that the meeting schedule is ok except that current employees can't attend.

Question 4 was a mixed response to attending more meetings if they were held every 2-3 months but monthly was the biggest response.

Question 5 regarding programs brought about the spectrum of responses from sticking to topics regarding federal retirement to a broad spectrum like we've been having over time.

Question 6 about taking on chapter planning got one positive response if we'd only meet every 3 months or less often

Question 7 about the Christmas Luncheon was overall a yes to attend if spouses were invited. (Of course, spouses are invited and always have been.)

### ***Chapter Annual Mtg – November 17<sup>th</sup>.***

We will be in person at Roma's at 11:30 am but we are also in the process of setting up a zoom mtg for those that can't attend in person. Zoom and call-in details of that will be sent out as soon as they are available.

The agenda is:

1. Vote to dissolve chapter - This is the elephant in the room at every meeting and executive board discussion. Additionally, only 10% responding to the survey doesn't leave much faith that the efforts put forth by our chapter officers are of interest to you.
2. Depending on the vote above, the agenda can be split to follow; if the vote is to continue for another year and see if attendance or responses

from our members improves, the next steps are:

- a. Officers and vacant positions; According to Chapter Bylaws, we must have a President and a Secretary. However, that is a minimum in that we also rely on both of our Vice Presidents and our Treasurer. But we can't continue to do it alone, every one of us continues to take on other positions for the benefit of our chapter members. We are missing a Service Chair, a Membership Chair and Legislative Chair.
  - b. Nominations and voting for Chapter officers; President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Secretary and Treasurer.
  - c. Meeting schedule: The chapter proposes a motion to adjust the Chapter 2065 meeting schedule for 2023 to continue the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. Times for the meeting will be adjusted so that we have a dinner meeting for March and September starting at 5:30 pm, July and August continue to be summer break, meetings in January, February, April, May, June, October, and November (Annual Meeting) will be lunch meetings at 11:30 while December is the Christmas Meeting which we can determine holding it Thursday or possibly Saturday as we get closer to that time.
3. If the vote is to start disbanding procedures, I will have information as to the process plus a list of chapters within Central Virginia so that members can start to look into the possibility of moving to another chapter.

### ***Christmas Luncheon***

The Christmas Luncheon will be held at Roma's on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Our luncheon was there last year. We had plenty of good food, good wine, a nice dessert selection and a great time. The chapter will supplement the cost of the luncheon so that your cost remains \$25 per person.

### ***Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)***

I hope that each of you received information on the CFC. I donate that way and will continue to do so as a retiree since they opened it up to us. There are many worthwhile organizations to donate to through CFC.

## **FUTURE 2022 MEETING DATES.**

Dec 15<sup>th</sup> for our Christmas Luncheon. Possible 2023 meeting dates. Jan 19<sup>th</sup>, Feb 16<sup>th</sup>, Mar 16<sup>th</sup>, Apr 20<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Jun 15<sup>th</sup>, Sep 21<sup>st</sup>, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>, Nov 16<sup>th</sup> and Dec 21<sup>st</sup>.

If I can be of service to anyone, please contact me. Take care of yourselves and have a happy tasteful Thanksgiving,

**KAREN CHEATWOOD, PRESIDENT**

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Five members were present at the meeting which opened with prayer and pledge.

Karen is checking on a plaque for the LARI gazebo in memory of Bill and Gail Martin. Members suggested a three by four-inch plaque by NARFE 2065. A Chinese dogwood was planted near the picnic shelter at St. Jude Church in memory of Paul Brown.

Only 3 responded to the email survey and 1 hard copy.

No 50/50 was held since the treasurer was not present.

National will be contacted for national only members in our area. NARFE is publishing a weekly News Line.

The Christmas luncheon will be held at Roma's with the chapter providing any cost over \$25. A free Christmas luncheon will be held at the Betty Queen Center on December 8 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Dick Shrum stated that future programs will concern NARFE, aging and local issues. Dinner meetings may be held in spring and fall.

The November annual meeting will include voting if the chapter should continue. Present officers are willing to serve another year.

**MARILYN ROOT, SECRETARY**

## **PROGRAM**

Recalling that the last meeting was again about the future of the chapter, we took a few minutes to look at important aging issues facing some retired Feds. Some questions we might suggest to the U.S. Forest Service were noted. Escalators would help on steep uphill sections. If trails need to be reconstructed, avoid ones that go uphill. Chair lifts in some places would help in reaching the wonderful views!

Once again, November's Annual Meeting will be looking at the chapter's future, as covered in the President's section. And in relation to that, it may be helpful to consider changes to the monthly programs, to bring out more members to meetings and increase interest within the chapter. Hence, I would plan to shift the focus some, to regularly cover 3 areas in the newsletter and meeting, as follows: (1) NARFE issues/all aspects, e.g., benefits, changes, VFN, legislation, webinars, Perks, FEHB, NewsLine, etc.; (2) Aging & Seniors Stuff, e.g., JABA, Louisa County, Parks & Rec, freebies, area info, etc.; and

(3) Area Stuff, e.g., Virginia, Louisa, local elections, events, Central Virginian, Historic Society, and such. I would also plan to have 3-4 guest speakers/year, including local candidates in Sept and various VFN officers, for example. Finally, and related to our discussions at the upcoming meeting, we should consider the option of when and how many Zoom meetings we may want each year, which would of course make it easier for some guest speakers or topics to be covered. In any event, your thoughts on any aspect of "Programs" are important to the future of the chapter, and very welcome.

To begin the newsletter portion, I want to highlight a few of the current or upcoming items in these 3 categories. Re NARFE, our President has already sent out an email notice on upcoming FEHB webinars: Nov 3 if no Medicare B and Nov 17 with (details on the NARFE website and you should pre-register). Also note another webinar on Estate Planning Strategies Dec 14, an important topic for retirees and their families. For Seniors, JABA will conduct their annual Christmas Luncheon and Resource Fair on Dec 8, 11am-2pm, at the Betty Queen Center. It's a great free lunch, with 10-12 tables and handouts on "aging information" – call 540-967-4420 to register. And finally, Area Stuff: the current topic is the election, with early voting 8:30am-4:30pm thru Saturday, Nov 5, at the LouCo Offices and 6am-7pm on election day, Nov 8, at your local precinct. And remember to change your clocks on Sunday, Nov 6!

**DICK SHRUM, PROGRAM CHAIR**

## **MEMBERSHIP**

No report

## **NATIONAL LEGISLATION REPORT**

### ***Fiscal Year 2023 Budget process update:***

As you probably already know, FY2023 is under a Continuing Resolution (CR) that funds the government through Dec. 16. If you haven't already done so, please vote.

### ***Other items of interest:***

*In case you haven't heard, the COLA for 2023 will be 8.7% for CSRS annuities and 7.7% for FERS annuities.*

- Social Security Fairness Act of 2021 – H.R. 82. The latest status is that this bill will probably only be scheduled for a vote in the House if enough of the representatives sign a discharge petition. The discharge petition requires the house member to sign in person; since congress is in recess through the election in November, we can't say what may happen.

- Trust in Government Act of 2022 - H. R. 9233 - To improve the service delivery of agencies and public perception of agency interactions. Thought that we might be interested in this in that it directs agencies to make improving service deliveries and public perception, a priority which would apply to OPM.

Consider going to the **advocacy page of the NARFE.org** website where there are prepared letters on topics that NARFE, with member input, had determined to be important to us, or you can write your own and they will ensure that it is emailed to your representative and senators.

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

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

**ALZHEIMER’S REPORT**

No 50/50 to report this month.

MARILYN ROOT, ALZHEIMER’S CHAIR

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**General Treasury Fund**

**Balance – May. 16, 2022** \$ 1171.20

**Alzheimer’s Fund**

*Receipts – 50/50* \$ 12.00

**Balance – May. 16, 2022** \$ 64.00

**Chapter Charity Fund**

*Receipts – 50/50* \$ 12.00

**Balance – May. 16, 2022** \$ 78.00

CHARLES ALVAREZ, TREASURER

**LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS**

**Mark R. Warner;** United States Senate,

Washington, DC 20510

202-224-2023

fax 202-224-6295

Email-Go to:

<http://warner.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=contact> and

fill out the screen information requested.

**Tim Kaine;** United States Senate,

Washington, DC 20510

202-224-4024

fax 202-224-6363

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

the screen information requested.

**Abigail Spanberger;** U.S. House of Representatives,

Washington, DC 20515

202-225-2815

fax 202-225-0011

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

site

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

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

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

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

**John J. McGuire III;** State Delegate-56<sup>th</sup> District

PO Box 87, Richmond, VA 23218

804 389-8601

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

**Robert D. Orrock, Sr.;** State Delegate-54<sup>th</sup> District

P.O. Box 458, Thornburg, VA 22565

540-891-1322

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

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS & APPOINTED POSITIONS**

Service Officer -- *Vacant*

Chaplain– Marilyn Root 540-634-0241

Newsletter Editor – Leland Miller 540-872-4696

Alzheimer’s Fund – Marilyn Root 540-634-0241

National Legislation – Ray Siewert, *Actg.* 540-967-1544

State Legislation – *Vacant*

Membership – *Vacant*

Sunshine – Cathy Mills-Mann 540-872-4697

Public Relations – Dick Shrum 540-872-5409

Program – Dick Shrum 540-872-5409

Holiday lunch – Marilyn Root 540-634-0241

Commission on Aging – *Vacant*