



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
FAIRFAX CHAPTER 737



<https://vanarfe.org/Chapter-737/>

JANUARY 2023

Serving Current and Retired Federal Civilian Employees, Spouses and Survivor Annuitants

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WHERE: American Legion Post 177 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax
TIME: Social Hour – 11:30 AM, Lunch – 12:00PM, Speaker/Program - 12:30
COST: \$15.00
MEETING SCHEDULE: Monthly on First Tuesday – Except July & August
 January 3, 2023
 February 7, 2023
 March 7, 2023

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I am pleased to say that the December 6th membership meeting with a sing-along was fun. The fidelity of the audio for the Zoom broadcast was good. For those who wish to attend the January 3rd membership meeting by means of Zoom, use the address given here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84233003770?pwd=SVo2bjBuL1p6OFIvc3B5bGVKUjc5dz09>

For many years, the Chapter had the good service of Bill Shackelford for the newsletter editor. The current newsletter editor as of January is Jim Mays. Please inquire with Jim if you would like to receive the chapter newsletter via the Internet or to inform him of your change of address.

I want to begin the 2023 year by saying that the Chapter 737 finances are solid and well managed and all officer and committee positions are filled. Chapter membership meetings will continue to be held at the Fairfax American Legion Post 177 beginning at 12:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month except in July and August. National members of NARFE are welcome to attend the monthly membership meetings. The Board will continue to invite speakers like elected officials or members of their staffs to the meetings who will talk about topics which will appeal to the membership such as congressional or legislative programs of interest to government retirees.

The chapter can attract the attention of elected officials to speak at our luncheons, because of the advocacy which the NARFE president advances before Congress. The local chapters around the country help to keep the national organization active with a pool of talented volunteers. Our own Bill Shackelford, for example, has risen through the ranks starting in Chapter 737 to become the next president of NARFE. I invite members of Chapter 737 to attend the monthly membership meetings not only to socialize with other retired Federal employees but to assist NARFE in fulfilling its mission.

Sincerely yours,
Charles "Mike" Fleming – Chapter President

MEETING PROGRAM

Our regular meetings have resume at the American Legion Post 177. Social is at 11:30, Call to order 12:00 noon and the program starts at 12:30 PM. Our speaker, in-person, is Ms Peri Weinfeldt from Goodwin Living who will speak on "Stronger Memory: Improve Your Brain Health." Peri's talk at another chapter was well-received and suggested as an excellent program. The speaker will be in-person and on Zoom at 12:30.

Join with the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84233003770?pwd=SVo2bjBuL1p6OFIvc3B5bGVKUjc5dz09>

Meeting ID: 842 3300 3770 Passcode: 008571

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Connie Bails will swear in your chapter officers for 2023 during the January meeting.

President	Mike Fleming
Vice-President	Ted Pasek
Secretary	Jim Mays
Treasurer	Donna Shackelford

If you have program requests or if you have any comments on the programs, please feel free to contact me or our Program Coo-Chair Sharon Lenius. Contact information is in the newsletter heading.

Ted Pasek – Co-Program Chair

TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Finances

Balance 11/1/2022	\$8,426.90
Income	232.18
Expenses	<u>187.50</u>
Balance 11/30/2022	\$8,471.58

Membership:

Chapter members	269
National Only members	<u>332</u>
Total membership	601
1 dropped – Non Renewal	
9 renewed	

Donna Shackelford – Treasurer/Membership

FOOD FOR OTHERS

We will again collect food to contribute to "Food for Others" who support those in need in Fairfax County. We continue to collect food to donate to Food for Others (FFO) who supports the less fortunate in Fairfax County. At our December meeting our chapter's contribution was 213 pounds! That is an excellent donation total. Continue the good work throughout the winter when times are even harder. From the www.FoodforOthers.org/give-food web site, here is more information. Most needed items include:

- Fresh fruits (oranges, apples, bananas, tomatoes, avocados, grapes, berries)
- Fresh vegetables (cucumbers, celery, peppers, lettuce, eggplant)
- Cooking Oil
- Cereal
- Canned tomato products (crushed, peeled, diced, etc.), 4oz – 1 lb
- Canned meat (chicken, turkey, or seafood), 2oz – 15oz
- Rice, 16oz packages
- Spaghetti sauce, 14oz – 1 lb (ideally in cans or plastic instead of glass)
- Canned fruit (packed in fruit juice instead of syrup) 11oz – 20oz
- Dried or canned beans (black, kidney, pinto, etc.)
- Pasta
- Fruit juice (100% juice) 32oz – 64oz

Non Food Items:

- New or Clean Reusable Grocery Bags 8 ½ x 14 x 15
- Can openers

We are also happy to accept perishable items including meat and dairy products that are sealed, in their original packaging, and **UNEXPIRED**. We are unable to accept donations of items that are more than 3 years expired, opened items, food that is not labeled, homemade items, or cooked food.

Ted Pasek – Vice President

MEETING LUCKY NUMBERS WINNERS

Free lunch: Dianne Rhoades

40-40-20 drawing: \$14 by Donna Shackelford

40-40-20 drawing: \$7 by Ralph Thompson

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

(As of Dec 14, 2022)

NATIONAL LEGISLATION- Lawmakers leading the negotiations on a bill to fund the federal government for the current fiscal year announced on December 13 that they had reached agreement on a “framework” that should allow them to complete work on the bill over the next week to avoid a government shutdown.

Congress faced a midnight December 16 deadline, the ending date of a stopgap funding measure, to pass a spending bill to prevent a partial government shutdown. Another short-term measure before then to keep the government running through December 23, allowing negotiators time to complete work on a full-year bill, was expected. (WTOP News)

Negotiators needed to agree on top-line spending numbers for an “omnibus” package. Senator Richard Shelby, R-Ala., vice chair of the Appropriations Committee, said the two parties were about \$26 billion apart on domestic spending. Democrats wanted parity between domestic and defense spending, but Shelby and other Republicans were pushing to pare back the domestic number because of billions in new spending Democrats passed in Covid relief and inflation reduction packages.

The government funding bill was likely to be the last train leaving that session of Congress, with a number of other provisions possibly riding along. Chief among them was a major overhaul of election laws, designed to prevent another Jan. 6 by making it harder for losing presidential candidates to claim victory. Asked if the election bill will get a vote on the Senate floor this year, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D.-N.Y., said: “First job is to get an omnibus.” (NBC NEWS)

The final version of the annual DoD authorization measure provides a 4.6 percent pay raise for military personnel and assumes that civilian employees of DoD will receive the same amount. While that effectively is an endorsement of that figure for federal employees, the raise formally is determined through an administrative process. Congress was on track to allow an average 4.6 raise, with some variations by locality, to take effect by default since it had remained silent on the issue throughout the year. Dropped from the DoD authorization measure was House-passed language that would have changed the law so that a future administration could not issue an order similar to one issued by the Trump administration creating a new exceptive service known as “Schedule F,” turning thousands of competitive service jobs involved with making or carrying out policy into political appointive positions. That development was a disappointment for federal employee organizations and Democratic sponsors of the language, since the House is considered unlikely to approve such a ban in the new Congress with Republicans in control. (FEDweek)

VIRGINIA LEGISLATION- The 2023 Virginia General Assembly session begins on January 11, 2023, and is scheduled to adjourn in late February. It is the 45-day “short session.” The General Assembly will consider a myriad of issues, including amendments to the budget signed last year. Gov. Glenn Youngkin is proposing an additional \$350 million to prepare business-ready sites as Virginia vies with other states to lure industry. (Richmond Times-Dispatch)

Tom Hart – Legislation Program

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

1. Drive Super Smoothly - The key to safe driving in snow is being smooth with the steering wheel, accelerator, and brakes. Why? Jerky movements with the controls easily unstick tires that have a tenuous grip.

2. Look Far Ahead - Anticipate what you'll need to do next. Slow way down for turns. Allow double the stopping distance when the road is wet, triple on snow, and even more on ice. Driving carefully and safely takes extra concentration. Is there a uniform coating of powder, or bare spots interspersed with snow in the shade? Is the temperature cold enough to ensure crunchy, light, snow, or is it warm enough to create a slushy mess? In general, shiny is bad, since it means ice or water.

3. Heed the Flashing Lights - Understand what one small amber flashing light in the instrument cluster means. (It's an outline of a car with squiggly lines behind it.) If you're accelerating in a straight line and this light is blinking, this is the stability-control system warning you that the wheels that drive the car are slipping so slow down.

4. Use Your Anti-Lock Brakes - If all else fails and you need to stop as quickly as possible in snow or on ice, push the brake pedal down hard, and don't let up. The Anti-Lock Brakes System will do the rest, keeping each wheel braking as aggressively as possible based on the available traction and the computer will adjust the braking force at each wheel to allow you to maneuver so keep steering.

5. Plan Ahead - Check your route and the weather. For a long trip, plan your route around bad weather.

6. Carry the Right Supplies - A snow shovel, kitty litter, salt and a tow strap can help get you unstuck. Many cars have a tow eye that screws into a threaded socket (usually behind a square plastic cover that pops out of the bumper) and can be used to attach a tow strap to vehicles that don't have a hitch or bumper-mounted tow hooks. The tow eye is usually under the rear cargo floor, with the spare tire. Warm clothes, flashlight, water and snacks can help during a prolonged problem.

Return Service Requested
NARFE - Fairfax Chapter 737
5340 Gainsborough Dr.
Fairfax, VA 22032-2741



Postal Service (Time Value) Please Deliver By December 26, 2022

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Please consider receiving your newsletter electronically. Contact your Newsletter Editor at mays.jl@verizon.net to make the change. By receiving the E-Newsletter, **the chapter saves money** & you enjoy pictures of chapter activities in color. The newsletter is also on the Virginia Federation website at www.vanarfe.org as well as the FEDHub platform at www.narfe.org . This issue of the Fairfax Chapter 737 newsletter is being sent to 346 members with 211 being sent by USPS & 135 sent via e-mail.

James Mays – Newsletter Editor

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Articles for the February 2023 issue of Fairfax Chapter 737 newsletter are due to the editor by e-mail at mays.jl@verizon.net by January 15, 2023.