



***ANNUAL MEETING***  
***April 11, 2022, 10:00am***  
***Via Zoom***

**Welcome:**

**President Robert Martin**

President Bob Martin called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He provided guidelines for the administration of the meeting in accordance with VFN Bylaws and Roberts Rules of order. Due to lack of quorum (needed fifty-four members) the actual meeting was delayed as members were still signing into zoom. Note: quorum is needed to elect officers. Reports were given until quorum was met at 10:10 am. Discussion followed.

**Attendance:**

**See attached**

**Rules for the conduct of the Annual Meeting:**

**President Robert Martin**

Discussion held on VFN quorum and election procedures.

**Invocation:**

**Chaplain Marilyn Riddle**

**Approval of Agenda**

**President Robert Martin**

No objections to Agenda sent out.

**President's Report**

**President Robert Martin**

How we got here - Elections held October 2021 Conference, except for First Vice President that was held in December. Board decided not to hold another conference so soon after 2021 Conference. January meeting it was decided that the Annual meeting would be conducted in April 2022 via zoom. (Due to increase in Covid -19 numbers) Election held for the First Vice President where Doris McAdams was elected December 2021.

Membership Numbers – As of March 31, 2022:

Chapter Members -5,089 National Member- 5,978 Chapters - thirty-seven

Bob welcomed Dulles chapter 1241 back into the Virginia Federation. Falls Run Chapter 2343 was closed, membership assigned to Fredericksburg Chapter 0090 with

four members going to National. There are thirty -seven active chapters in the Virginia Federation.

**National Legislation:**

**Gaston Gianni**

Gaston is in the process of reorganizing the CDLs due to the new redistricting lines. Marilyn Riddle will assume the role of CDL for District One.

**State Legislation:**

**Debbie Fisk**

VFN approved the state legislation platform. Debbie is wearing several hats and continues to work with the State PAC as it continues to grow. No recommendations were received from the membership. She is looking for assistance and those who are interested should contact Bob or Debbie.

**Service Officer –**

**Arlene Arthur**

Arlene has been doing an excellent job as VFN Service Officer supporting chapter service officers and substituting for vacant chapter service officers where requested. At the present there are twenty-five service officers for the thirty-seven chapters.

**Membership –**

**Frances E. Boatman**

Frances is wearing several hats and doing an outstanding job. Recognized by NARFE Headquarters for her outstanding work. Updating the VFN on membership numbers. Each chapter must stay on top of their members status and recruiting.

**Public Relations:**

**Doris McAdams**

Doris developed the VFN social media and continues to request assistance from the chapters, program chairs and federation officers to send in videos and articles to be posted. Bob encouraged membership to show support and like the media pages. Especially Facebook. She is presently holding more than one position.

**Alzheimer:**

**Donna Shackelford**

Donna has done an amazing job as the premier fund raiser in the nation for Alzheimer Research. and Donna and the VFN has received Distinguished Recognition from National Headquarters for her outstanding work in the nation as the VFN Alzheimer Chair. Bob stated that a donation \$100,000 was received from a donor who did not want to be recognized. That pushed us over the top as number one.

**Electronic Communication Committee:**

**Debbie Fisk and Stan Palen**

Debbie and Stan did an outstanding job with the development of the new website. Debbie will be posting on the website.

**Training Committee:**

**Ted Pasek and Arlene Arthur**

Ted and Arlene continue to put classes together each month for the VFN membership. April training will be conducted by Chair Arlene Arthur for service officers. Appreciations for ideas of topic would be appreciated. **Debbie Fisk** and **John Bails** are still conducting routine zoom training which enables the chapters to stay in touch.

**Bylaws:**

**James Little**

Jim Little and the committee did a great job on the Bylaws Amendments were passed in December. They have been sent to NARFE Headquarters to Kathryn E. Hensley, Secretary/Treasurer of NARFE for approval.

**Ballots and Tellers:**

**James Little**

Jim and his committee did an outstanding job with the election.

**Newsletter Editor:**

**Kathy Arpa**

Kathy continues to do an outstanding job with the newsletters and annual reports. Her work is greatly appreciated. Requested that the chapters and federation officers turn in articles for publications, Located on website.

**Note:** Bob thanked the Area VP and board members for the work that they do and the board members who are holding more than one position.

**Treasurer’s Report –**

**Thomas Rachelle**

Thomas had an emergency and will be joining the meeting at a later time. Tax return being done by the outside firm. IRS paperwork was turned in prior to deadline, of May 15<sup>th</sup>. Frances E. Boatman stated that the Audit Committee conducted and verified the financial audit for FY 2019 & 2020 and that they and the audit/taxes were done correctly. Corrections should not be made to previously certified audits.

Discussion was held of why board did not receive an advance copy of the finance reports before shared with the membership. Discussion followed including the title names on the accounts as identified on NARFE Headquarter reports. Digital copy of the PAC statements.

**Region X Vice President**

**Bill Shackelford**

Bill commended Ken Thomas for keeping things going and attended, meetings sometime for three days. Federal benefit continues to grow. Proving information for active and retirees. FED COM 22 is forthcoming where grass roots programs are fully engaged. Approximately 3200 letters were sent through NARFE, 2300 phone calls went to congress.

Provided list of names of recipients of NARFE PAC monies. Over \$100,00.00 has been donated. Chapter 2343 closed after the first of the month. Gave praise to Bob, Moe, Leslie for their hard work with maintaining forty-one members being assigned to Chapter 90 and only four going to National. Forty- one members-maintained chapter membership. Concerned with the health of our chapters, that must have leadership.

There is a decrease in membership, numbers not available. He felt FEDHub as the future. He felt that FedHub is going to be helpful to the membership across the country.

Described the working of the on-line community, app is available on cell phone. Bill encouraged everyone to sign up for FedHub. The reorganized of NARFE is being discussed on FedHub, also you can post chapter Newsletter. As he is running for National President, he thanked everyone for their support of his eight years as Region X Vice President. Region 10 is strong and is growing. Bob made the correction and stated that Leslie, Area VIII Vice President and Past VFN President was the one who took the lead relating to Chapter 2343 closing where forty-one members went to Chapter 90 and four went to National.

Individuals interested in NARFE can find out more by going into FedHub. Percentage of members attending meeting is on the decline. Shared issues that are not democratic for the good of the membership. Gaston is the Region X representative, provided clarification - advocacy program committee is a member made up from each of the ten regions. Chairman is one of the members of that committee. The committee is in charge of gathering information and making recommendations with the National President making the final decision. New system will be more inclusive with chapters individuals and Federations. All this would be channeled through FedHub. Discussion followed.

#### **Nominating Committee Report –**

**Joe Murphy**

Joe presented to the membership the slate of officers from the nominating committee:

Robert “Bob” Martin	President
Doris McAdams	First Vice President
Frances E. Boatman	Second Vice President
Esther L. Nash	Secretary
No Candidate	Treasurer

Bob thanked Joe Murray and the committee for their hard work. He then opened the floor for nomination. Fifty-eight members on zoom call, meeting the quorum.

Bob stated that he would call for nominations from the floor, each officer position would be requested three times prior to being closed for nomination. If no nominations were submitted from the floor at the end of the process for all open position, candidates that were un-opposed would be elected by acclamation.

Nominations from the floor – office of President - call would be made three times if there with no response to each call – the nomination for the office of President was closed.

Nominations from the floor – office of First Vice President - call was made three times with no response to each call - Nomination for the office of First Vice President was closed.

Nominations from the floor – office of Second Vice President - call was made three times with no response to each call - Nomination for the office of Second Vice President was closed.

Nominations from the floor – office of Secretary - call was made three times with no response to each call - Nomination for the office of Secretary was closed.

Nominations from the floor – office of Treasurer - call was made three times with no response to each call – Thomas’s term ends June 30, 2022. The Nominating Committee would continue its search for a candidate for the office of Treasurer. Nomination for the office of Treasurer would remain open.

Nominations were closed. If no nominations from the floor, officials would be elected into office by acclamation. Discussion followed. Joe Murray stated that he had asked all Area Vice Presidents to send out request to their chapters requesting candidate for the election. He received negative replies. This was well within the sixty days.

### **COMMENTS -**

Immediate Past President Dr. Bails stated that Dr. Smallwood had been unsuccessful in trying to access the zoom call. But stated that every member must be notified of the election including by mail. Otherwise, election could be challenged. Discussion followed.

Dulles Chapter 1241 -celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. (June 27, 2022) regular meeting place

Roanoke Chapter 111 -celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. President Frances E. Boatman

Dumfries Chapter1270 - celebrates its 49th Anniversary President Bill Liddle April 21<sup>st</sup>

Northern Virginia Caucus meeting April 29<sup>th</sup> in person lace, officer from Fairfax City Police Pat Wolfe

Doris Public Relations Chair requested that the National Officers and Regional X Vice President send in a bio video to her to be posted to Facebook page. She would provide the email address.

NOVA Caucus will hold its meeting April 29<sup>th</sup> in person at the American Legion Hall.

Certificate of Achievements for Alzheimer Donation will be awarded to the Annandale Chapter who achieved First Place Springfield Chapter was awarded Second Place Donna thanked everyone for their donations and for keeping VFN Alzheimer at the top of donation list.

**NARFE HQ Speaker:**

**Erin Carter**

Screen Share - Ms. Carter, Director of Programs FEB Hub and NARFE Federal Benefits Institute. ([ecarter@narfe.org](mailto:ecarter@narfe.org)) Spoke of the FedHub open forum and topic specific

communities; which included libraries with the mobile app and NARFE events that are happening. She shared additional information on FedHub on-line community, another platform for conversation. Membership can request white papers available. New mobile app is now available. Libraries containing information, topic specific community, Chapter community are also allowable.

**Candidate for Region X Vice President**

**Robert Allen**

Introduced himself and requested the membership's vote. Provided a brief bio and provided reasons he should receive everyone's vote. Main concerns: Concentrated on NARFE's mission, retention, communication, governance structure, support of chapters, feels the chapters are the bedrock of the NARFE organization. Look at relationship between the chapters and national members. Another concern is budget, with a balanced budget concerned about membership. Build revenue with within membership. Planned to stay in touch with the membership and Federation Presidents. Directed attendees to visit his website [www.robert4.org](http://www.robert4.org) to see where he stands. Comments followed.

**Candidate for Region X Vice President**

**Charles Talley**

Shared screen – Introduced himself and requested the membership's vote. Provided a detailed bio of his federal government and NARFE's positions. Main concerns WEP and GPO repeal requires support to target and support NARFE mission. Platform for supporting Congressional leaders that will support our mission. Spoke of the 3 RRRs, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic but for to Rethink, Reimagine and Rebuild. Spoke of his inter action within the North Carolina area. We must stand in solidarity. Vote for legislative representatives that will support the NARFE agenda. Comments followed.

**Candidate for NARFE President**

**Bill Shackelford**

Wished both candidates for Region X Vice President well. Bill served Area X Vice President for eight years. If elected he intends to provided continuance of our long history of our legislative advocacy endeavors including members of national and chapters including recruitments and legislative events. Each voice must be heard, right now chapters closing, federations are talking about combining or closing. At the present 50% of the National membership have never been in a chapter. We must be in a combined effect to succeed. He does not intend to lead by reading but lead by listening. NARFE should restructure current Chapter format into Congressional District Chapters by redrawing Chapter boundaries to coincide with Congressional Districts. The position of Chapter President would evolve into a position of Congressional District Leader (CDL) with overall responsibility of CDC activities. Every NARFE member would fall into the boundaries of a CDC. Members would have a choice to actively participate in CDC activities or not. Everyone would receive all communications, considerations, and benefits. The CDL would be the Point of Contact to interface with Congressional

staff as well as Members of Congress. Main concerns setting up a national district structure, restructure might have a problem with gendermandy. He stated that there are many challenges to meet; chapters and federations are talking about of a closing, and federations are talking about closing and the possibilities of combining. This is a major concern. He spoke of reducing the Regional Area Vice Presidents and to look at the entire management structure. Bill shared some issues being experienced around the country. Hard changes need to be made He appreciated the time allowed to him and requested the membership vote. Comments followed.

**Candidate for NARFE President**

**Gary Roundtree**

Appreciated the invite from the President Bob Martin and Virginia Federation. Introduced himself and provided bio and his achievements since being a member of NARFE to being elected Regional II Vice President. Provided his personal commitment to the mission of NARFE. Explained his initiative on increasing the membership and his dedication to the presidency. Spoke of the radical decline of membership since 2016. Membership is the main core of any organization, which he intends to make it one of his main focuses. If elected he promises to serve the membership and make changes if elected. He requested that the membership vote for change and asked for their support. Comments followed.

**Candidate for NARFE President –**

**Bill Austin**

Introduced himself and provided bio which included his service in United States Army. He also served as a Postal Service employee. He has seen little improvement over the years to NARFE. He prides himself on listening to the ideas of the people closest to the work and take actions. There is an opening for improvement of membership going back to the basics. He stated that it was time to reorganize the NARFE and provide more attention to our legislators' offices. We must start where the members start. He asked for the membership support to make change happen. Offered not to accept salary. We have limited our resources and having to have the President relocate to the national office. He would walk from home and travel to headquarters when necessary. Again, he stated he would not accept the President's salary. Comments followed.

**Candidate for NARFE President –**

**Jon Dowie**

**Bob was unable to receive contact information relating to candidate.**

**Benediction –**

**Chaplain Marilyn Riddle**

Jim Little made a motion to adjourn and Esther Nash seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourn

Submitted,

*Esther L. Nash*

Esther L. Nash  
VFN Secretary

Atch; Annual Meeting Attendance



## ***ANNUAL MEETING ATTENDANCE***

***April 11, 2022, 10:00am***

<b>Kathy</b>	<b>Arpa</b>
<b>Arlene</b>	<b>Arthur</b>
<b>Bill</b>	<b>Austin</b>
<b>Constance</b>	<b>Bails</b>
<b>John</b>	<b>Bails</b>
<b>Frances</b>	<b>Boatman</b>
<b>Dennis</b>	<b>Cole</b>
<b>Gary</b>	<b>Drago</b>
<b>Del</b>	<b>Dyer</b>
<b>Eddie</b>	<b>Eitches</b>
<b>Harriett</b>	<b>Epstein</b>
<b>Valerie</b>	<b>Evans</b>
<b>Deborah</b>	<b>Fisk</b>
<b>Jeanne</b>	<b>Garrison</b>
<b>Gaston</b>	<b>Gianni</b>
<b>Missy</b>	<b>Groppel</b>
<b>Ruby</b>	<b>Harney</b>
<b>Thomas</b>	<b>Hart</b>
<b>Joann</b>	<b>Hirsch</b>
<b>Joe</b>	<b>Irwin</b>
<b>Pat</b>	<b>Jack</b>
<b>Mary</b>	<b>Knox</b>
<b>Sharon</b>	<b>Lenius</b>
<b>William</b>	<b>Lidell</b>
<b>Jim</b>	<b>Little</b>
<b>Debbie</b>	<b>Lockett</b>
<b>Bob</b>	<b>Martin</b>



James  
Doris  
Mary

Mays  
McAdams  
McGowan  
Mcilwee

Larry  
Con't pg 2 –

Patricia  
Michael  
Mary Ann  
Joe  
Esther  
Maureen  
Stan  
Nancy  
Ted  
Maria  
Tom  
Leslie  
Kim  
Marilyn  
Jayne  
Mary  
Donna  
Bill  
Marcy  
Mary  
Jill  
Graylin  
Mary Lou  
Maurita  
Pat

Meyers  
Moore  
Munley  
Murray  
Nash  
Nolet  
Palen  
Palmerino  
Pasek  
Patterson  
Rachelle  
Ravenelle  
Rendelson  
Riddle  
Seidman  
Sensi  
Shackelford  
Shackelford  
Stennes  
Swain  
Lewis  
Taylor  
Vroman  
Washington  
Wolfe

Guest

Robert  
Charles  
Gary

Allen     NC  
Talley    NC  
Roundtree