

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Association (NARFE)
Brentwood Newsletter October 2023

Editor: June J. Staton, Ph.D.



Brentwood Chapter #1697
Established March 9, 1978
Charter Date: September 1, 1980

MEETING LOCATION:

Deep Creek Community Center
2901 Margaret Booker Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23323
Phone (757) 487-8841

TIME:

Executive Committee Meeting: 12:30 – 1 PM
Regular Meeting: 1PM - 2PM

Second Monday of the Month

(Unless that falls on a Federal Holiday
in which case the meeting will be on the
third Monday of the Month)

CHAPTER OFFICERS

June Staton, Ph.D.
President

Deborah Brown
Vice President

Theressa Rodwell
Secretary

Willie Levenston
Treasurer

Jeff Rau
Service Officer

Tina Bracy
Membership Chair

Deborah Brown
Legislative Officer

Lyle Thoburn
Alzheimer Officer

David Parson
Program Chair

Annette Coleman
Hospitality Chair

Janet Freeman
Chaplain

Dan McGrath
MD Past President

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CHAPTER NEWS

MINUTES – (10/10/23)

Attendees:

E'Allen, Barbara Brooks, Carolyn Collins, Linda Fletcher, Janet Freeman, Willie Levenston, Dan McGrath, David Parson, Marion Robinson, Theresa Rodwell, June Staton, Graylin Taylor (Area IV VP), Ronald Vance.

Proceedings:

- The President called the meeting to order. David Parson gave the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The President welcomed all members and new member, Marion Robinson, and applauded Ronald Vance for attending his first chapter meeting and welcomed our guest speakers. She introduced the Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) Account Consultant, Michelle Griffin, and her supporting contractors (Linda Fletcher, Barabra Brooks, and Pat Dickerson). The BCBS representatives delivered their presentation (See "Highlights" below.)
- The business meeting resumed at the end of the BCBS presentation.

Officer Reports/Discussions:

- The President discussed the two upcoming NARFE membership recruitment events: BCBS Health Fair on November 3rd and FBI Health Fair on November 14th.
 - Linda Fletcher registered each member in attendance for the November 3rd Health Fair.
 - The President will send out a flyer from BCBS regarding registration for the event for anyone else that may be interested in attending.
 - Betty Warren, Chapter 974 President will co-sponsor both events. NARFE Membership and Chapter 974 will provide supplies for the events.
- The treasurer gave the "Treasurer Report." (see Report below).
- Hospitality Chair: Our December Luncheon will take place on **December 11, 2023 at 12 noon**, Golden Coral 101 Volvo Pkwy, (see Upcoming Events below). You may pay at the next meeting or at the luncheon. Annette mailed speedy recovery cards to Tina Bracy and Raymond Staton (both had surgery last month).
- Program Chair: We are developing our 2023-2024 Calendar of Events (see calendar below). The Virginia Department of Health will present at our next meeting.
- Service Officer: Jeff passed out articles on the termination of the DOD Civilian Retiree Identification Card as of August 31, 2023. We discussed the article and how to obtain a REAL ID required for enrollment for installation access.
- Associate Member: Dan shared his letter from Congresswoman Jen Kiggans in response to his email to her regarding the government shutdown.
- The President adjourned the meeting.

TREASURER REPORT

CHK NO	DESCRIPTION OF TRANSACTION DATE	CHECKING
	Beginning Balance 8/31/2023	3348.76
	9/16/2023 ACH Deposit National Act2196 Payment	47.88
	9/31/2023 Interest Credit	0.03
	Ending Balance 9/11/2023	3446.59 (Awaiting Bank Statement)

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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership report as of 10/11/2023

- 75 Chapter Members
- 151 National Members in the Chapter Area
- 226 Total

Five new members this year: Barbara Brooks, David Schaeffer, Ricardo Perez, George Mott III, and Marion Robinson - Congratulations and Welcome to Chapter 1697!

HIGHLIGHTS

BCBS Federal Employee Program (FEP)

The new **FEP Medicare Prescription Drug Program (MDPD)** – is a prescription drug benefit exclusively for BCBS FEP members with Medicare and is part of the BCBS Benefit Plan coverage. Ms. Fletcher distributed the MDPD brochure to all members and discussed the plan features and the four drug tiers. Ms. Dickerson elaborated on the pharmacy benefits of the MDPD compared to the benefits with Medicare today for each BCBS plan (Basic, Standard and FEP Blue Focus). Both representatives answered questions and concerns from the group.

Ms. Griffin provided each member with information on the 2024 BCBS benefit plan. She discussed the medical benefits, plan rates, pharmacy benefits, annual deductibles, and the Medicare Reimbursement Account. She provided information on the Wellness Incentive Program to earn \$50 with the Blue Health Assessment. For information regarding the wellness program:

1. Call 1-800-411-2583 or
2. Click onto the link below:

<https://www.fepblue.org/manage-your-health/incentives-discounts/wellness-incentive-program>

In case anyone needs further assistance, below is Ms. Griffin's contact information.

Michelle S. Griffin, Account Consultant
Federal Health Products and Services
5800 Northampton Blvd, Norfolk, Virginia 23502
M: (757) 406-5321
michelle.griffin@anthem.com

• UPCOMING EVENTS

December 11

Holiday Luncheon

Time: (12 Noon)
Location: Golden Corral Buffet & Grill
Golden Corral #721
101 Volvo Parkway
Chesapeake, VA 23320
Price: \$5 for each member & guest.

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Brentwood Chapter 1697 – 2023-2024 Calendar of Events

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| October 10 | 2023 Blue Cross Blue Shield Presentation |
| November 03 | BC & BS Health Fair - Chapter Recruitment Booth 0730 |
| November 13 | Virginia Department of Health – Epidemiologist on CO=VID |
| November 14 | FBI Open Season Chapter Recruitment Booth 0900-1400 |
| December 11 | Golden Corral Luncheon (12 noon) |
| January 08 | Installation of New Officers – Chesapeake Fire Department |
| February 12 | H & R Block |
| March 11 | City of Chesapeake Parks, Recreation & Tourism |
| April 7-10 | VFN Annual Meeting/Convention |
| April 08 | TBD |
| May 12 | TBD |
| June 9 | Golden Corral Luncheon (12 noon) |



I would like to hear what is important to you. Your enthusiasm and contributions to our newsletter are highly valued. Send questions, suggestions, topics, or articles for our newsletter to the Newsletter Editor (j.staton@cox.net).