

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Association (NARFE)

Brentwood Newsletter January 8, 2024

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

Theresa Rodwell
Secretary

Willie Levenston
Treasurer

Jeff Rau
Service Officer

Tina Bracy
Membership Chair

Bryan Collins
Legislative Officer

Annette Coleman
Alzheimer Officer

David Parson
Program Chair

Annette Coleman
Hospitality Chair

David Parson
Public Relations

Janet Freeman
Chaplain

Dan McGrath
MD Past President

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- 2 Chapter News
- 5 Upcoming Events

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CHAPTER NEWS

MINUTES

Attendees:

Tina Bracy, Deborah Brown, Annette Coleman, Alonzo Coleman, Bryan Collins, Robert Cuffee, Janet Freeman, Dwight Graham, Melodie Graham, Willie Levenston, Dan McGrath, David Parson, Marion Robinson, Jeff Rau, Theresa Rodwell, June Staton, Raymond Staton, Lois Vance, and Ronald Vance.

Proceedings:

- The President called the meeting to order. The Chaplain gave the opening prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The President welcomed Robert Cuffee a new member, and our guest speaker.
- The Program Chair introduced the guest speaker, Ms. Tobey Allen, Chesapeake Fire Department, Community Risk Reduction Division. Ms. Allen gave a very lively, highly informative, and interactive presentation on Fire and Safety. She also provided information on various safety devices. David Parson presented a NARFE thank you mug to Ms. Allen following her presentation. For more information: please contact the Chesapeake Fire Department Community Risk Reduction Division at **757-382-6566** or [Email the Fire Department](#) (See "Highlights" below.)
- The business meeting resumed at the end of the Fire and Safety presentation.

Officer Reports/Discussions:

- FBI and BCBS prospect drawings were held for the 2023 Health Open Season NARFE Recruitment events. The winners were: Lucy Hickok, Suffolk, VA, and Benessa Hubbard, Chesapeake, VA.
- The Virginia Federation of National Active and Retired Federal Employees (VFN) Conference will be held, April 7-10, 2024, in Harrisonburg, Virginia. The direct Link to the Conference 2024 Page: <https://vanarfe.org/conference-2024/>.
 - Hotel rates are \$107/night plus tax and include Free Parking.
 - Registration fee includes Conference, Workshops, Welcome Reception, Banquet, and two lunches.
 - "Early Bird Special" of \$75 if you register by February 15, 2024.
 - Final registration deadline is March 15, 2024.
 - An online registration form may be completed and paid for by credit card, or you may print and mail your registration with payment.
- The Vice President/VFN State Legislative Chair distributed the 2024 Virginia State Legislative Plans and briefly discussed its importance. She will meet with State lawmakers in Richmond on Thursday and take the opportunity to distribute NARFE flyers with Bills that benefit us.
- The treasurer gave the "Treasurer Report." (see Report below).
- Hospitality Chair: Birthday cards for December and January birthdays were handed out.
- Program Chair: (See attached schedule of events below).
- Electronics Communication Committee: Willie will update the NARFE calendar with our chapter events.
- Area IV Regional VP will install Officers in February.
- New Chapter Officers: Bryan Collins, Legislative Officer; Annette Coleman, Alzheimer Officer; David Parson, Public Relations Chair; and Deborah Brown, VFN State Legislative Chair.
- The President adjourned the meeting.

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TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Report

01/108/2024

DESCRIPTION OF TRANSACTION

CHK NO	DATE		CHECKING
		Beginning Balance 12/1/2023	3682.67
12/11/2023	CK #1273	Annette Coleman Luncheon/Birthday	-152.97
12/12/2023		Golden Corral Luncheon	-285.52
12/12/2023		Golden Corral Luncheon	-17.27
12/12/2023		Golden Corral Luncheon	-14.65
12/13/2023		Luncheon Deposit	20.00
12/18/2023		ACH Deposit National Act2196 Payment	69.92
12/31/2023		Interest Credit	0.03
		Total Interest Deposit 2023	0.43
		Ending Balance 12/31/2023	3682.67
		Ending Balance 09/13/2023	3486.61
		Checks Posted 12/11/2023 CK # 1273 Annette Coleman	152.97

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership report as of 11/12/2023

- 75 Chapter Members
- 150 National Members in the Chapter Area
- 225 Total Membership

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

DECEMBER

Jeff Rau
David Parson
Penny McGrath

JANUARY

Gerald Bowser
Dan McGrath
Lee Damore
June Staton
Lois Vance



HIGHLIGHTS

“TOGETHER WE WILL SUCCEED”

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

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Ms. Tobey Allen, Chesapeake Fire Department, Fire and Safety Highlights

- Smoke alarms can cut your chances of dying in a fire nearly in half. Install one on every level of the home and in or near sleeping areas; test them once a month; replace batteries once a year or when the unit "chirps" to warn you of low battery power; replace alarms over 10 years old.
- Ten-year sealed battery smoke alarms are powered by sealed lithium batteries that have a life span of ten years with no need to replace the battery. At the end of ten years, the smoke detectors will give an end-of-life warning letting you know to replace the alarm.
- Stovetop Firestops are small unique devices that mount to your vent hood or microwave above your stove. If a fire breaks out on the stove, the flame activates a fuse that releases powder which puts the fire out.



- Bedside Fire Alarm: A powerful *bed* shaker & low-frequency alarm work together to ensure you will never sleep through the fire alarm.
- File-for-life: Your latest medical information – including allergies, medications, contact persons, and more – all in one safe place. Request samples at:



- Residential Knox Box allows firefighters faster access in case of an emergency and prevents expensive damage to your home should an emergency occur by providing entry keys on-site.

<https://www.thefileoflife.org/>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Brentwood Chapter 1697

2024 Calendar of Events

January	Chesapeake Fire Department
February	H& R Block Tax Update Installation of Officers
March	Chesapeake Parks & Recreation
April	TBD
May	TBD
June	Golden Corral Luncheon (Noon) 101 Volvo Pkwy Chesapeake VA
July – August	No Meeting
September	Welcome – Business Meeting
October	BCBS Presentation
November	GEHA Presentation
December	Golden Corral Luncheon (Noon) 101 Volvo Pkwy Chesapeake, VA



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).