



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Northern Neck Chapter 1823



*Serving Active & Retired Federal Employees,
Spouses, and Survivor Annuitants*

Virginia Federation of Chapters – Area 1

August 2024 – October 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, the weather is hot, hot, hot. Here we are in an election year. Of the Presidential Candidates, we have uncertainties on each side. The Democrats with their incumbent, Mr. Trump having a very close call, and Robert Kennedy Jr. has also had death threats. What is this country coming to?

I want to thank each one who voted for me to repeat another term as the First Vice President, but I was defeated by Deborah Fisk. The fact is that one person, one vote does not work. Out of 10,356 Federation members, there were only 328 actual votes. I missed the opportunity for this FEDCON, but I am going to petition the National Federation to go back to Conventions versus conferences, and Delegates and Proxies, instead of one person one vote. It is just not working. This has been proven in the last two years of votes.

I have accepted the position of Federation Service Officer. Hopefully, I can help members and not disappoint. It is a challenging position. I contacted Arlene Arthur, who was the Federation Service Officer when Chris passed, and she was a big help. When you lose your best friend and family member, your brain turns to mush, and you just can't think of what needs to be done.

On the other hand, with NARFE, we are already working in the Federation on the next conference, which will be held in Harrisonburg again. The First Vice President gave a goal of 200 in attendance for this upcoming conference, and we are talking about adding a mini market of vendors, or which I hope I can find someone to man a table for my wood working.

President

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I want to request that we continue recruiting new members. We still need a membership chair. The Federation Membership Chair will help in any way needed by our chapter membership chair. Area 1 continues to be number 1 in the Federation.

I constantly share how we do meetings with other chapters to try and keep them actively meeting and growing. We are an example for the federation in that members like hearing of how we schedule and do our meetings. I am proud of Chapter 1823, and all of you make us successful. We have one of the most active chapters in the federation.

Thank you for all you do to make us successful. We are a team.

Larry McNeese

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

No new national legislation to report.

– Bruce McMillan

STATE LEGISLATION

No state legislation to report. For any new information and updates, please visit www.vanarfe.org.

– John Hodges

CHAPTER 1823 EVENTS

Past Events

On May 7 Chapter 1823 members met at the Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury (RWC) in Irvington, VA for the annual memorial luncheon, honoring the chapter members who passed during the last year.



Guest speaker Henry Lane Hull, writer for the Rappahannock Record, spoke to the group on the history of the Northern Neck. Chapter member Tom Schroeder was remembered at the event.



On June 4 the Chapter met at Wind Vineyards at Laurel Grove for lunch from the Vineyard's Deadrise Kitchen and a wine tasting. Owner Tyler Wind talked about all of the events going on at the winery, from Monster Truck

Races, to concerts, to Hot Air Balloon rides. They are also in the process of opening a new winery at Smith Mountain Lake. Currently the winery is open 7 days a week – 12 to 6 on weekdays, 11 to 9 on Saturdays and 12:30 to 7 on Sundays.



On July 2 the Chapter met at the Reedville Fishermen's Museum in Reedville for a tour of the facility. Afterwards the group gathered for the annual ice cream social.

Upcoming Events

August 6 – Chapter members will meet at the **Henderson United Methodist Church**, Callao, VA. Frances Boatman, VANARFE President and membership Chair will be the guest speaker. Light refreshments will be provided.

September 3 – **Annual Picnic, Belle Isle State Park**, Humphrey's Shelter #1. Burgers, hotdogs & sausages will be furnished. Last names starting with A-L bring a salad/side dish, M-Z bring a dessert. Congressman Rob Wittman will be the guest speaker. The Democratic candidate will be invited once confirmed.

October 1 - Michelle Griffin of Blue Cross/Blue Shield will speak on 2025 health insurance changes. Meeting location will be at the China Inn in Warsaw. Attendees will order off the menu or buffet.

Annual Chapter 1823 Fishing – 2024

Mark your calendars for the next Annual NARFE fishing trip with Captain David Rowe. He is looking forward to us joining him on November 7, 2024 (back up date November 8).

The price range, including tip, will be between \$145.00 and \$111.00. These prices are for 6 to 10 people. Signup sheets will be available at the Monthly meetings.

Please contact me at (804) 580-8666 or e-mail at mcmillan@va.metrocast.net if you have any questions.

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!!

Bob Woods

We are still looking for a Membership Chairman. Please give it some consideration and let the board know if you are interested, or know someone who would be interested. The Membership Chairman will have the support of our board, the State Membership Chair, as well as the National Membership Chair. In this time, we need all the members we can get to help support and protect our retirement benefits.

If interested please contact Larry McIlwee at joseph.mcilwee@verizon.net or Bruce McMillan at mcmillan@va.metrocast.net.

SERVICE OFFICER INFORMATION

I am available to provide assistance to members on procedures and forms governing delivery of annuity payments, federal life and health insurance, survivor benefits, change of beneficiary, or federal income tax withholding. I can also assist in resolving problems involving claims submitted to OPM by chapter members. Please contact me at (804) 453-4466, if you need assistance.

– Bud Bolger

CHAPTER 1823 CONTACTS

- Alzheimer’s – John Yonce (438-8011)
- Chaplain – Mike Ramming
- Membership – Vacant
- Nat’l Legislation – Bruce McMillan (580-8666)
- State Legislation – John Hodges (804-450-1302)
- Programs – Vacant
- Publicity – Nellie Landrum (529-6415)
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Stan Brown (453-7502)
- Service Officer – Bud Bolger (453-4466)
- Network Coordinator – Linda Steele (472-8982)

Winner of the 50/50 Cash Drawing

May – John Yonce
July – Gloria Selaskos

REMINDER!

If you change your email address, please send your new address to narfehp1823@yahoo.com.

LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

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VA Federation of Chapters

Check the website at www.vanarfe.org to find our Chapter's quarterly newsletter, website, and other additional information.



NARFE

LAWS CAN CHANGE – SO CAN YOUR RETIREMENT BENEFITS!!

- August 6** **1:00 pm** – Henderson United Methodist Church, 72 Henderson Drive, Callao, VA. Speaker: Frances Boatman, President, VANARFE. Light refreshments will be served.
- September 3** **12:00 pm** – Annual Picnic at Belle Isle Humphrey's Shelter #1. (Burgers, hotdogs & sausages will be furnished). Last names starting with A-L bring a salad/side dish, M-Z a dessert). Speaker: Congressman Rob Wittman. The Democratic candidate will be invited.
- October 1** **1:00 pm** – China Inn, 5059 Richmond Road, Warsaw, VA. Speaker: Michele Griffin, Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Members and guests will order off the buffet or menu.
- November 5** **1:00 pm** – Ditchley Cider Works, 1571 Ditchley Road, Kilmarnock, VA. Speaker: Cathy Calhoon, Owner. Tour of the historic property and cider tasting.
- December 3** **12:00 pm** – Annual Christmas Luncheon, Wicomico Parish Church, 5147 Jessie Dupont Memorial Highway, Wicomico Church, VA. Speaker: Frances Boatman, VANARFE President.