



# 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

November 2024 – January 2025

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I don't know about any of you, but this election has me concerned greatly. I really get confused when listening to the people running for office. Please pray that people are smart, and that the right person is elected. We have so much that needs fixing, and I don't see it getting done.

Well, enough for that. We have a wonderful get together for November, a fishing trip, and then comes Thanksgiving. Then on to Christmas. I hope that people, even though they are busy Christmas shopping for family and friends, remember the real reason for the season.

Please continue to keep the people affected by the Hurricanes in your prayers. They have a major task to get back to a "Normal" life. We are fortunate that we live in an area where we don't see so many hurricanes. I told my daughter that there are not many berries on the holly tree this year, and I was always told that is a sign of a not so cold winter.

Also, our Christmas gathering is upon us. Frances Boatman, our Federation President, will be our guest this year. Please see the announcement in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you there.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving, and stay healthy.

*Larry McIlwee*

## 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](http://www.vanarfe.org).

– John Hodges

## CHAPTER 1823 EVENTS

### Past Events



**On August 6<sup>th</sup>** 16 Chapter members met at the **Henderson United Methodist Church**, Callao, VA. Guest speaker Deborah Brown, VANARFE State Legislative Chair, shared the 2024 election results, followed with a discussion of her duties and the 2024/2025 Legislative Chair goals.

She also discussed the four priority areas of the 2025 State Legislative Plan: (1) Virginia Tax Law Unfairly Distinguishes Among Federal Retirees and Disadvantaged CSRS Retirees (2) Virginia Age 65 and Older Deduction; (3) Advancing Further Nursing Home Legislation; and (4) Family Caregiver Tax Credits.



**On September 3<sup>rd</sup>** 31 Chapter 1823 members and guests, including Marilyn Riddle, Area 1 Vice President, and Gaston Gianni, VANARFE National Legislation, met on a beautiful sunny day for the annual picnic at Belle Isle State Park, in Lancaster, VA overlooking the Rappahannock River. Congressman Rob Wittman attended and spoke to the group on federal and local issues.

Chefs Bruce McMillan, John Hodges, and Larry Mellwee again volunteered their masterful grilling skills, while members and guests brought in a wonderful



assortment of side dishes and desserts. A special thanks to all for making it another annual success!



**On October 1<sup>st</sup>** 29 chapter members and guests met for lunch at China Inn in Warsaw, VA. Guest speakers Michelle Griffen and Kathy Bass, Blue Cross/Blue Shield representatives, spoke to the group on 2025 insurance changes.



### Upcoming Events

**November 5** – Chapter members will meet at the **Ditchley Cider Works** in Kilmarnock VA. Owner Cathy Calhoun will lead the group on a tour of the historic property and provide a cider tasting. The tasting fee is \$10.

**December 3** – Our annual holiday luncheon will start at noon at the **Wicomico Parish Hall in Wicomico Church, VA (see page 4 for the reservation form)**. Terry Bain of Excellent Eats will be catering the buffet luncheon again this year. Members may bring wine/beer to this event. Frances Boatman, VANARFE President and Membership Chair, will be our guest speaker.

We will again hold a silent auction to raise money for Alzheimer's Research. Each attendee is asked to contribute one or more treasured items. Remember, your white elephant or handmade item may be just what someone else needs.

The second option for contributing to Alzheimer's Research is to make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one. Identify your loved one(s) and we will read the names at the holiday luncheon.

Ted Munns will bundle and mail the checks to Donna Shackelford, the Alzheimer's/NARFE representative for Virginia. You will receive a letter from Alzheimer's that you can use when you itemize deductions on your 2024 Federal & State taxes. Those who use the RMD to donate to Alzheimer's Research need to get their checks to Ted Munns as quickly as they can in order for the Chapter and you to benefit from the donation.

### **NARFE ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE**

The Virginia Federation of National Active and Retired Employees (VNF) will hold its 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference April 6-9, 2025, at the Hotel Madison and Shenandoah Valley Convention Center in Harrisonburg, Virginia. There will be great speakers, vendors, and mini market. Hotel rates will stay the same as 2024 however food prices may increase. For more information visit the VFN website at [www.vanarfe.org](http://www.vanarfe.org). Attendance is highly recommended.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

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](mailto:joseph.mcilwee@verizon.net) or Bruce McMillan at [mcmillan@va.metrocast.net](mailto: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**

August – Ted Munns  
 September – John Harper  
 October – Nellie Landrum

#### **REMINDER!**

If you change your email address, please send your new address to [narfehp1823@yahoo.com](mailto:narfehp1823@yahoo.com).

#### **VA Federation of Chapters**

Check the website at [www.vanarfe.org](http://www.vanarfe.org) to find our Chapter's quarterly newsletter, website, and other additional information.



**Annual Alzheimer's In Memoriam Recognition**

In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

Donation By \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check payable to NARFE Alzheimer's Research, with Chapter 1823 on the memo line, and mail to Ted Munns, 132 Lancaster Drive, #606, Irvington, VA 22480



**2024 NARFE Chapter 1823 Holiday Luncheon (Buffet)**

**Please submit your luncheon reservation and payment before November 18.**

**When:** Noon, Tuesday, December 3

Where: Wicomico Parish Church  
5417 Jesse Dupont Memorial Hwy  
Wicomico Church, Virginia

**Cost:** \$30 per person (BYOB)

**Entrée Choices:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Marinated Baked Chicken Breast

\_\_\_\_\_ Roasted Pork Loin

\_\_\_\_\_ Baked Salmon

\_\_\_\_\_ Risotto Stuffed Portabella Cap

All meals include side salad, vegetable medley, twice baked potatoes, yeast roll, assorted cake slices, and coffee, tea, or lemonade (includes taxes and gratuity)

Name(s)

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your check for lunch, payable to Chapter 1823 NARFE, with this reservation form to: Ted Munns 132 Lancaster Drive, # 606, Irvington, VA 22480



**LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS**

**Richard H. Stuart (VA State Senator - 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.)**  
P.O. Box 1146  
Montross, VA 22520  
Phone 804/493-8892 / Fax: 804/493-8897  
Email: [senatorstuart@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:senatorstuart@senate.virginia.gov)

**Ryan T. McDougle (VA State Senator - 26<sup>th</sup> Dist.)**  
P.O. Box 187  
Mechanicsville, VA 23111  
Phone 804/730-1026 / Fax: 804/730-1051  
Email: [senatormcdougle@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:senatormcdougle@senate.virginia.gov)

**M. Keith Hodges (VA State Delegate - 68<sup>th</sup> Dist.)**  
P.O. Box 928  
Urbanna, VA 23175  
Phone 804/277-9801 / Fax: 804/695-0216  
Email: [DelKHodges@house.virginia.gov](mailto:DelKHodges@house.virginia.gov)

**Hillary Pugh Kent (VA State Delegate - 67<sup>th</sup> Dist.)**  
P.O. Box 785  
Warsaw, VA 22572  
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**Mark Warner (U.S. Senate)**  
919 E. Main St., Suite 630  
Richmond, VA 23219  
Phone: 804/771-2221 / Fax: 804/771-313  
Email: [Chris\\_Monioudis@warner.senate.gov](mailto:Chris_Monioudis@warner.senate.gov)

**Tim Kaine (U.S. Senate)**  
507 East Franklin Street  
Richmond, VA 23219  
Phone: 804/771-2221 / Fax: 804/771-8313  
Email: [Marc\\_Cheatham@Kaine.Senate.gov](mailto:Marc_Cheatham@Kaine.Senate.gov)

**Rob Wittman (U.S. House of Representatives)**  
508 Church Lane  
Tappahannock, VA 22560  
Phone: 804/443-0668 / Fax: 804/443-0671  
Email: [www.wittman.house.gov](http://www.wittman.house.gov)



***LAWS CAN CHANGE – SO CAN YOUR RETIREMENT BENEFITS!!***

- 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 (\$10 tasting fee).
- December 3**    **12:00 pm** – **Annual Christmas Luncheon, Wicomico Parish Church**, 5147 Jessie Dupont Memorial Highway, Wicomico Church, VA. Speaker: Frances Boatman, VANARFE President. (See reservation form on page 4).
- January 7**    **1:00 pm** – **Soup and Sandwich**, Wicomico Parish Church, 5191 Jesse Ball DuPont Hwy, Wicomico, VA. Speaker: TBD. Soup will be provided; members and guests may bring a sandwich.
- February 4**    **1:00 pm** – **Black History Month, Backdraft**, 7415 Oldhams Road, Kinsale, VA. Speaker: TBD. Chapter members will order of the menu.