

NARFE

Since
1921

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National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees
Virginia Federation of Chapters
Chapter 595
Serving Colonial Beach, Westmoreland, and King George

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December 2024

President's Letter/December 2024

Dear Members of Colonial Beach Chapter 595,

I hope everyone had a happy and safe Thanksgiving. Can you believe it? It is time to start thinking about the December holidays.

So, this year we will have our holiday gathering at Ledo's Pizza and Pasta Restaurant in Colonial Beach at noon on Tuesday, December 10, 2024. Last year I was able to send out a heads up email to all chapter members about our holiday celebration. However, this year due to changes at NARFE HQ I am no longer able to do this. So I need you to spread the word. Here are the party details: Our party will include Christmas dessert, music, decorations and more. Please wear festive apparel, nothing fancy but Christ-masy. Maybe you have an ugly Christmas sweater. Please wear tha. Also we will be playing the game we played last year. So go out and get a gift of \$20.00 or less or find a "white elephant" item to bring as a gift. All gifts need to be wrapped. Everyone will get a number and when your number is called, you will choose one of the wrapped gifts. Then you will open yours. The next person will then come up and either choose a new gift or take yours!! Remember this game? I know we will have a lot of fun!

At the November meeting we held the election of officers for 2025. The Officers are President: Leslie Ravenell, Vice President: Jim Lynch, Secretary: Barbie DePue, and Treasurer: Stan Palen. We are always looking for more members to step up and help the leadership of the chapter. This year Barbie stepped up to be our new secretary. Maybe you would be willing to take an office next year. It is not too early to start thinking about it.

Due to the overwhelming success of our Harvest Supper, our chapter will be sending in a substantial contribution to Alzheimer's. We raised just under \$3,000 thanks to your participation and generosity. But just in case you may want to send in a year end donation, it is not too late to send a check for a donation to Alzheimer's. Please send your check to Stan and he will take it from there. Please make your check out to Colonial Beach Chapter 595. Here is Stan's address again: Stan Palen, 8283 Oak Wood Dr, King George, VA 22485. Questions? Call Stan (540 538 1200) or me. Of course, you can also bring your check to the December meeting, Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your support in 2024, for coming to our meetings, for your help with the Harvest Supper, your support for Alzheimer's just to name a few. I want to say a special thanks to all our officers who help me keep this chapter going, Jim Lynch, Ann Mills, and Stan Palen.

For those of you who I do not see later this month, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. See you on December 10th at noon or next time in 2025. **This month's donation goes to King George Dept of Social Services**

Leslie Ravenell, President, Colonial Beach Chapter 595

MEETING NOTICE

December 10, 2024

12 PM at Ledos

This month is a holiday Celebration. No Speaker

Vp note:

Listed below are the meeting topics for the rest of our NARFE year, to June 2025. I'm starting to work on next year (starting in September). As always if anyone has some ideas for speakers, please let me know.

January, Officer install, speaker will be a VFN Board Member.

February, Cindy Sexton, Native Plant Garden, Cedell Brooks Park in King George.

March, Osprey Festival, Joanie Millward,

April, CB Hist Soc, Jean Conaty and/or Mitzi Saffos

May, Dr. Kelley Fanto Deetz, Stratford Hall

June, John Ashton, long-time King George resident and world traveler.

Jim Lynch

The following is from FEDweek Weekly issue: Wed, Nov, 27, 24

Union Cites Enrollment Problems in New Postal Health Plan

Postal employees and retirees are experiencing “serious problems” in attempting to enroll in the new Postal Service Health Benefits program that is replacing the FEHB for them starting in January, the American Postal Workers Union has said.

“Some of these issues took a week to be partially corrected, while others are still not fixed. The initial issues included incorrect premium rates for at least one postal plan, incomplete carrier and plan option names in the Plan Comparison tool, and problems with the provider search tool. The most pressing problem currently is with Login.gov and the actual enrollment process which does not link employees’ postal and OPM identities and accounts,” it said in a letter to OPM.

“As a result, employees are unable to enroll in any PSHBP plan electronically. The work-around the Postal Service has devised of faxing forms to the Postal Service’s HR department is itself going to add uncertainty and days to the enrollment process which negatively impacts the PSHB carriers being able to complete their work of issuing membership cards and enrolling individuals in their plans before January 1st. It is unclear when or if these problems will be corrected,” it said.

Follow our chapter on FaceBook at www.facebook.com/narfecbkq

NARFE Chapter 595
8283 Oak Wood Dr
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Meeting Date
December 10
At Ledos

Address Correction Requested

We are on the Web
<https://www.vanarfe.org/Chapter-595>