

NARFE

FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

Reaching Out

March 2025

Arlington, VA Chapter 7

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

Meetings: 2nd Wed of Month Sept through May (except December) Beech Rm, Lubber Run Community Ctr, 300 N. Park Dr., Arlington - 12:15 p.m.

President's Message

Pat Meyers

Greetings to all Chapter 7 Members. I'm looking forward to re-connecting after the holidays and our last two cancelled meetings due to weather. Hopefully, by March, spring will be in the air and Daylight-Saving Time as well. March is a very busy month as you'll note below.

Our March 12 program will begin with a PIZZA LUNCH at Noon, followed by a timely presentation on taxes and tax tips by Wes Gewehr, Virginia State Training Specialist at Arlington Central Library, and a member of our chapter. Wes is a Washinton area native and has lived in Arlington, VA for over 50 years. After retirement in 2011 from both federal and private sector positions, Wes began volunteer service in tax preparation. See more information about Wes below.

Also, please contact Nancy Palmerino at nancyolive0110@yahoo.com or the phone # on your newsletter if you would like pizza for lunch so we know how much to order. The pizza is being provided at no cost to attendees. Available choices are cheese, pepperoni and vegetarian. Treats will also be available for any who don't want pizza.

Two other events make March a busy month: March is National PAC Month and also Women's History Month.

NARFE gained a victory when President Biden signed the bipartisan, Social Security Fairness Act thanks to support from members. Contributions to NARFE's National PAC are more essential than ever, given what is happening to the federal workforce today. See later in this newsletter for more information about NARFE-PAC and how you can donate.

On March 13th, The Arlington Historical Society (AHS) will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of receiving the John Ball House from its last owner, Marian Sellers, who donated the house to AHS for \$10 back in 1975. AHS is highlighting Women's History Month by sharing stories of some of the women who lived there. They'll spotlight women who have a special place in the history of the house, in the county and in our nation's history. These women will include Elizabeth Payne Ball, the builder's wife who took a man to court to sue for her inheritance: Irene Young, a suffragist and divorcee when society viewed divorce was a "dirty word" and always the woman's fault, and Julia Powell, one of the first enlisted US Navy yeomen in the First World War.

March 2025

Join AHS for a look at special women in Arlington's history., either in-person at Marymount University, Main Campus OR by Zoom. It takes place on Thursday, March 13th from 700 - 8:30p.m. For more information or to pre-register for Zoom, please go to: <https://arhist.org/event/women-of-the-ball-sellers-house/>

VFN CONFERENCE: The early bird \$95 registration rate for the VFN Conference was extended to February 28, after which it will revert to \$120. Members with e-mail access should have received a notice from President Boatman via FEDHub communications. At least 3 Chapter 7 members plan to attend. We'd love to have more join us. Please let me know if you're interested. Reservation forms will be available at the March meeting and online at the vanarfe.org website.

March Program - Tax Tips and Filing Assistance from AARP Tax-Aide

Please join us for a presentation on tax tips for filing federal and Virginia tax returns to be presented by Wes Gewehr, a tax aide specialist and member of Chapter 7. Wes began volunteer tax preparation service with the IRS AARP VITA program in 2010 and then began his volunteer work with IRS AARP Foundation Tax-Aide in 2012. He was the site manager for the Tax-Aide tax preparation team at Arlington Central Library for eight years. He is an AARP Fellow and currently serves as the Virginia state training specialist. In addition, he has worked for George N. Woglom, CPA, as a Registered Tax Preparer since 2016. Wes is a member of the National Association of Tax Professionals.

Legislative Corner

Ed Weiler

The Legislative Corner is not available for this edition because of an extended absence by the Legislative Chair due to family matters. He will, however, have some remarks to make at our March meeting to catch us up on the latest happenings.

Social Security Fairness Act (WEP/GPO) Benefits to Begin

Starting the week of February 24, 2025, SSA is beginning to pay retroactive benefits and will increase monthly benefit payments to people whose benefits have been affected by the WEP and GPO. If a beneficiary is due retroactive benefits as a result of the Act, they will receive a one-time retroactive payment, deposited into the bank account SSA has on file, by the end of March. This retroactive payment will cover the increase in their benefit amount back to January 2024, the month when WEP and GPO no longer apply.

Social Security benefits are paid one month behind. Most affected beneficiaries will begin receiving their new monthly benefit amount in April 2025 (for their March 2025 benefit).

Anyone whose monthly benefit is adjusted, or who will get a retroactive payment, will receive a mailed notice from Social Security explaining the benefit change or retroactive payment.

More information about the Social Security Fairness Act: Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) update will be included as an attachment to those receiving this newsletter electronically. Copies will also be available at our March meeting.

March is NARFE – PAC Month

“The Federal Service is Under Attack, and NARFE-PAC Is Our Best Defense”. That is the title of the article that begins on page 22 of the March issue of the NARFE magazine. NARFE is at the forefront of challenging issues that are harmful to federal employees and retirees. NARFE-PAC (Political Action Committee) is the best way for you to support Fed-friendly candidates running for Congress. These funds provided support to several Virginia lawmakers including Senator Tim Kaine and Rep. Gerry Connolly.

We hope you will consider making a contribution this month. A strong NARFE-PAC better positions NARFE and increases the opportunities for NARFE to raise awareness of our most pressing concerns. To donate online, login to narfe.org, click on Support NARFE and click on the Donate Now box. To mail a check, fill out the form on page 27 of the March issue. Contribution forms will also be available at the March meeting.

Membership Report

Nancy Palmerino

We are happy to welcome several new members: Kimberly Ashworth, Barbara Brenman, Stephen Chovanec, Dorothy Kelly, Wayne McKenna and Anthony Matarazzi. Welcome home to member, Gail Dennis, who spent several months at Woodbine Rehab Center after a couple spills last fall. Gail returned to her apartment at Sunrise Assisted Living just before Christmas. We hope you're progressing well, Gail.

We are saddened to report the passing of Gloria Ayers, Martha Brown, Conrad Hoska, Mary McCullough and Martin Yerg. We currently have 249 Chapter members and an additional 446 National members in our chapter area for a total of 746 Chapter and National members. Our chapter memberships include 62 1-year members, 34 2-year members, 86 3-year members, 58 dues withholding members and 11 Life members.

VFN Conference Silent Auction

Nancy Palmerino

One of the features of the VFN Conference is the Silent Auction for Alzheimer's research. The committee is looking for donations with a minimum value of \$50. Items that have been popular in the past are jewelry, wine, original paintings, collectibles, timeshares, gift cards and baskets. Call Nancy Palmerino at 703-243-6546 if you have any questions or to arrange a pick up. Donations may also be brought to the March meeting. All donations must be received by April 1 and are tax deductible.

Become a Conference Supporter

Even if you are not able to attend the conference, you can become a Conference Supporter. The names of all Supporters will be listed in the Program Book which will be distributed to each attendee. Chapter members can show their support in one of the following categories: Platinum (\$100), Gold (\$75), Silver (\$50), Super Angel (\$25), Angel (\$20), Cheerleader (\$15), Booster (\$10) and Supporter (\$5).

If you wish to donate, please complete the form below, with a check payable to 2025 VFN Conference and mail to the address on the bottom of the form. Donations will also be accepted at our March meeting. Mailed contributions must be received by March 14 to guarantee publication of your name in the program book.

March 2025

2025 NARFE VFN Conference Supporter

Print your name as you would like it to appear in the program booklet.

Name: _____

Check applicable category: ___ Platinum (\$100) ___ Gold (\$75) ___ Silver (\$50) ___ Super Angel (\$25)
___ Angel (\$20) ___ Cheerleader(\$15) ___ Booster (\$10) ___ Supporter (\$5)

Include check, payable to "2025 VFN Conference" for total amount indicated. On the Memo line write "2025 VFN Conference Supporter". (Do not mail cash.) Mail to: Nancy Palmerino, Chapter Supporter Coordinator, 4503 4th Road North, Arlington, VA 22203

Contact Information

President

Pat Meyers
703-578-3372

Legislative Chair

Edward Weiler
703-241-8798

Secretary

Nancy Palmerino
703-243-6546

Treasurer

Jim Hall
703-841-0360

Program Chair

Vacant

Social Chair

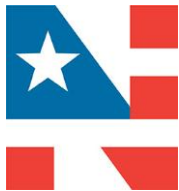
Pat Meyers
703-578-3372

USPS Mail

P.O. Box 100971
Arlington, VA 22210

eMail

chapter7narfe@gmail.com



NARFE
Arlington Chapter 7
P.O. Box 100971
Arlington, VA 22210