



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

May 2025 – July 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring is well on the way. March kept its reputation as a windy month. April is starting off warming up and with the time change, more daylight to enjoy the beautiful outdoors.

I am trying very hard to avoid politics, but it is very hard. Also, NARFE has a challenge because some of the employees that have been laid off or fired, were members of NARFE, and we only have active and retired. There would have to be another “branch” as you will, to try to help these people.

We are generally gaining a new member in our chapter each meeting. Virginia Federation of NARFE had dropped to almost 10,400 members, and in the last year, we have gained back up to 10,630 Federation members.

The conference attendance this year reached 127 people, with 25 being first time attenders. There will be a ballot election for President. I am one of the candidates, and would appreciate your votes.

We still have a great lineup of programs ahead for the rest of this year. We have the Memorial Service in May, and a winery visit to Generals Ridge winery in June.

As always, keep talking to your friends and co-workers and get them to join our chapter. I don't think they will be disappointed.

May God continue to bless each and every one of you.

President

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NATIONAL LEGISLATION

The United States Senate and House approved identical Budget resolutions that outline measures that may affect Federal employee benefits. A key proposal would reduce the government share of Federal Employee Health Benefits premiums from the current 72 percent to 50 percent over a ten year period by implementing a “voucher” flat payment approach. This would increase premium payments for employees. News reports indicate that this voucher amount would increase at a lower rate than the increase in medical costs. Congress will have to enact specific legislation to implement this proposal.

– 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 February 4 Chapter members and several guests met at the Backdraft in Kinsale, VA to celebrate Black History Month. Guest speaker PJ Haynie, a long-time 5th generation farmer spoke to the group about his lifetime experiences farming in the Northern Neck. His family farming began with the purchase of 60 acres in Heathsville and has progressed from the Northern Neck to rice agriculture in Arkansas. He is also the Chairman of the National Black Grow Crop Farmers.



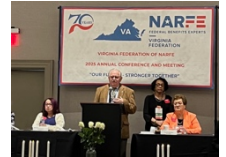
On March 4 Chapter members and guests met at Bella's Pizza & Italian Restaurant in Tappahannock, VA. Guest speaker Valerie Barton, leader of the Northumberland County Mid-County Rescue Squad, spoke to the group about public safety.

On April 1 Chapter members met at Henderson United Methodist Church in Callao, VA. Guest speaker Diane Smith from Northern Neck Master Gardeners spoke to the group.



The annual VANARFE Conference, held from **April 6 – 9** in Harrisonburg, VA at the Hotel Madison was again a success. Chapter Chair Larry

McIlwee, along with members Jim and Nellie Landrum, John Hodges, Bruce McMillan (absent for picture), and Linda Steele all attended.



Larry singing at the Memorial service.

Upcoming Events

May 6 - The 2025 spring anniversary memorial luncheon begins at noon and will be held again at the Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury, 132 Lancaster Drive, Irvington, VA. Our guest speaker will be RWC Chaplain Tom Topkins. See reservation form/menu options on page 3.

June 3 – Our annual wine and beer tasting event will be held at Generals Ridge Vineyard in Hague, VA. There will be a wine tasting cost.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome new Members

**Bob Sowers, Heathsville, VA
Christine Gibson, Reedville, VA**

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



**SPRING ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL
LUNCHEON**

**Please submit your luncheon reservation and
payment before April 29.**

WHEN: Tuesday, May 6, Noon

WHERE: Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury
132 Lancaster Drive, Irvington, VA 22480

COST: \$30 (includes tax and tip)

The price below includes: Spinach salad (with mandarin oranges, candied pecans, feta cheese, & raspberry vinaigrette dressing), asparagus, wild rice, honey wheat rolls and butter, cheesecake with strawberry sauce, and coffee and iced tea.

Entrees – Select one per person:

_____ Salmon with ginger sauce

_____ Chicken breast stuffed w/spinach & cream
cheese

_____ Portobello mushrooms (vegetarian option)

Names(s):

Phone: _____

Address:

Please send your check, payable to Chapter 1823 NARFE with Memorial Luncheon in the memo line, to:

Ted Munns
132 Lancaster Drive #606
Irvington, VA 22480

NOTE: Lancaster Drive is located just off Old Salem Road between Kilmarnock and Irvington. RWC's front desk can help guide attendees. Call 804-438-4000.



Winner of the 50/50 Cash Drawing

February – PJ Haynie
March – Harriet Verburg
April – Bruce McMillan

CHAPTER 1823 CONTACTS

Alzheimer's – John Yonce (438-8011)
Chaplain – Mike Ramming
Membership – Carol Brown (453-7502)
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)

LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

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Ryan T. McDougale (VA State Senator - 26th Dist.)
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M. Keith Hodges (VA State Delegate - 68th Dist.)
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Mark Warner (U.S. Senate)

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Phone: 804/771-2221 / Fax: 804/771-313

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Phone: 804/771-2221 / Fax: 804/771-8313

Email: Marc_Cheatham@Kaine.Senate.gov**Rob Wittman (U.S. House of Representatives)**

4201 Dominion Blvd., Suite 110

Glen Allen, VA 23060

Phone: 804/401-4120 / Fax: 804/270-4643

Email: www.wittman.house.gov**REMINDER!**

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

VA Federation of Chapters

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



LAWS CAN CHANGE – SO CAN YOUR RETIREMENT BENEFITS!!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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|--------------------|---|
| May 6 | 12:00 pm – Spring Memorial Luncheon. Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury, 132 Lancaster Drive, Irvington VA. Speaker: RWC Chaplain Ted Tompkins. See reservation form on page 3. |
| June 3 | 1:00 pm – General Ridge Winery, 1618 Weldons Drive, Hague, VA. Speaker: Rick Phillips, Owner. There will also be a wine tasting charge. |
| July 1 | 1:00 pm – Historic/Ice Cream Social. Location/Speaker: TBD. |
| August 5 | 1:00 pm – Annas Italian Restaurant, 150 Old Fair Grounds Way, Kilmarnock, VA. Speaker: TBD |
| September 2 | 12:00 Noon – Annual Picnic. Belle Isle State Park, Humphrey's Shelter #1. (Burgers, hotdogs & sausages will be furnished). Last names starting with A-L bring a dessert, M-Z a salad/side dish. Speaker: Congressman Rob Wittman has been invited. |