



Protecting the Future for
ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter 95 Orlando, Florida - June 2011 - www.narfe.org/chapter95
Host for the 2014 NARFE National Convention

Next Meeting - Monday, July 11, 2011

President's Message

I was asked to write about my first impressions of NARFE. When my spouse told me that the NARFE chapter in Orlando was about to fold, I was amazed. These are federal employees, 450 strong, and they could not find even two or three to keep the Chapter alive? I attended the January 2011 meeting and found that all my spouse of 37 years had said was true. Present were twenty or so members and two suits. I had no idea who they were. Less than one hour later I was the new chapter president and my spouse was the new treasurer. I won't waste words on my qualifications or background for the job, those that need to know, know. What I didn't know was that within my chapter were members with years in NARFE and the product knowledge to hit the ground running. I started with baby steps.

I learned that NARFE was established ninety years ago in 1921. For ninety years, active and retired federal employees have fought to keep the faith with those from the past and those to come. With a past membership of over 500,000 citizens, we were a force for good with few challengers. Not any more. Now we stand with less than 300,000 members and wonder what happened. The world happened. The days of wine and roses are gone and we really are in a fight. Not for cost of living adjustments and the paychecks we enjoyed, we fight now just to keep from sliding backwards into history. Just weeks ago at the Federation convention, I walked the floor and listened to the conversations taking place. I heard way too many people stating that NARFE was a dinosaur, we are circling the drain, and NARFE is a joke with no power to do anything in Washington.

Well, let me ask, whose fault is that? Yes, we are all volunteers donating our time and energy running a national organization. So, what. If you're retired, what are you doing with your time? If you are a member, how about sharing some time to help your chapter administration? If you are a leader in your chapter, how about helping a fellow chapter that may need it? If you are a leader, how about becoming a trainer? We can't find members to fill chair positions because they don't know what to do and they receive no training. Our core membership consists of men and women that made our country the power that we were in the past. The best country on this planet and I should know, I've been to more countries on earth than I have counties in the US. Stop thinking of NARFE as a social club and remember why we were formed 90 years ago. Stop talking about NARFE in the past tense. Show the world you're proud and display a NARFE decal on your car. Speak out when you meet new people and tell them about NARFE. Try sponsoring a bowling team for recruitment, even if you must do so at a time your current members dislike. Speak with your local radio stations and see if they might like to fill air time with a NARFE interview. It doesn't do any good to think outside the box if you are inside that box with the lid folded over you.

I can already hear people talking about the "new guy" shooting off his mouth. Well, I might be new, but I wasn't born yesterday. Thinking outside the box kept me alive in Vietnam, safe working as a Police Officer for 20 plus years, and successful as a US Army Recruiter stationed in Fort Lauderdale where most high school kids were driving cars that cost more than mine. The future of NARFE is in our hands, let us hope that we are up to the task.

JUNE MEETING

Special guest speaker, Jack Hanson, showed a video and gave an interesting presentation on fire safety and smoke detectors.



Mr. Hanson explained about the two types of smoke detectors:

Ionization Detector - Most common, but it does NOT work on smothering fires and the alarm does NOT go off in time to escape!!

Photo Electric Detector - The smoke detector you should have because it gives an earlier warning. The alarm has a photo beam and goes off in 12 seconds.

Smoke alarms only work in 40% of fires - most fires occur during the night and You should have a **fire extinguisher in your BEDROOM!!**

Every 6 months - shake your fire extinguisher

Welcome New & Returning Members



It is a pleasure to welcome the following new and returning members to our chapter:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kathryn Carr | Patricia Reynolds |
| Anita Gantt | James Gantt |
| Sherrie Tomlinson | Virgil Hartsock |

We look forward to seeing you at our chapter meetings and encourage your participation in our mission of protecting our threatened earned benefits.

Chapter 95 needs volunteers for the following positions:

- Service Officer
- Legislative
- NARFE-PAC
- Programs
- Public Relations
- Alzheimers
- FEEA Chair

If you can spend just a few hours a month and are interested in any of the above positions, or if you would like further information on any of these positions, contact President Larry Reeves at 407-267-5852 or email to NARFE95@CFL.RR.COM

	<p>Nationally, in response to a Headquarters issued action alert, with over 300,000 members nationwide, only about 2% of our members took any action!!</p>
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NARFE has made it very easy for us to do just this. If you have a computer, just enter www.capwiz.com/narfe into your internet address bar and click on **"Take action"** to send an email to your Representative and both of your Senators. If you don't have access to a computer, call NARFE's toll free number for the Capitol switchboard, **1-866-220-0044**, to reach any Congressional Representative or Senator.

**PROTECT YOUR BENEFITS
PLEASE TAKE ACTION TODAY!!**

	<p><u>IN MEMORIAM</u> Our deepest sympathy to the families of Victor Melant, Errol Smeltzer and John Wilson.</p>
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PROTECT *America's Heartbeat*

What is NARFE's Campaign to Protect America's Heartbeat?

The last several months have not been easy for federal employees' image. New legislators are calling for cuts to federal employee pay and benefits. Attacks from biased think tanks and media outlets blame federal employees for our nation's dire economic situation and consider us an easy target for significant cuts.

While we understand that all Americans must make sacrifices in these tough economic times, the federal budget must not be balanced on the backs of federal employees and retirees.

The time is now to defend the retirement, pay and health benefits we have earned and rightfully deserve. NARFE's "Campaign to Protect America's Heartbeat" does just that. [What's at Stake?](#)

Cuts in retirement annuities & benefits

Reduction in critical services throughout the country

Increased unemployment

The goals of the Campaign to Protect America's Heartbeat:

- Encourage your Congressman to oppose the reduction or elimination of some or all of the proposed cuts
- Activate NARFE membership & encourage others to join the campaign
- Put a local face on federal workers

How NARFE members can help:

- Educate elected officials and the public about our valuable role to the country
- Write letters to your Congressman and encourage others to do the same.
- Write letters to the editor of your local paper explaining the value of federal employees.

Visit www.ProtectAmericasHeartbeat.org to take action and share your story

Do You Know. . . .

Why Should a Spouse Join NARFE:

If your spouse is a Federal Retiree and belongs to NARFE, then would it not make good sense for the spouse to also belong to NARFE? Your spouse's pension and benefits also need to be protected and the more membership there is, the more clout we have to help preserve what your spouse has worked so hard to earn.

If your spouse passed away and you do not belong to NARFE, now would be a good time to join. You get your spouse's pension and health insurance and by belonging to NARFE, you will be kept informed as to what affects those benefits.

Please join me in joining NARFE and help in preserving theirs and our benefits.

Need Copies of Lost Documents:

There is now a one stop "shop" to go to in order to replace Government Documents, be they federal, state, local or tribal, that have been lost, damaged or stolen...that place is a web site that offers links to get to the proper place. So if you have need to get copies of bank records; birth, marriage, or death certificates; drivers licenses & vehicle registrations; federal civilian personnel records; immigration documents; medical information forms; Medicare & Social Security cards, military records; passports; savings bonds and federal income tax returns...just go to: www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Family_Issues/vital_Docs.shtml

Alzheimer's Benefit Cruise February 2012



BOOK NOW TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM
FOR INFO: Anthony Rudgers
call: 407-896-4038 or send email to: ARudgerspublic@att.net or go online to www.narfeffl.net

CHAPTER 95 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

President	Larry Reeves	407-267-5828	NARFE95@CFL.RR.COM
Vice President	Anthony Rudgers	407-896-4038	ARUDGERSPUBLIC@ATT.NET
Secretary	Lynne Isaacs	407-595-2828	LISAACS@CFL.RR.COM
Treasurer	CJ Reeves	407-592-0964	CJREEVES@CFL.RR.COM

APPOINTEES:

Service Officer	Volunteer needed		
Dues Withholding	Lynne Isaacs	407-595-2828	LISAACS@CFL.RR.COM
Legislative	Volunteer needed		
Public Relations	Volunteer needed		
Membership	Betty Parks	407-277-9410	
NARFE-PAC	Volunteer needed		
Newsletter	CJ Reeves	407-592-0964	CJREEVES@CFL.RR.COM
Sunshine	Mary Rogan	407-295-2833	MMARGK@AOL.COM
Sunshine	Katie Carr		
Programs/Speakers	Volunteer needed		
Alzheimer's	Volunteer needed		
FEEA Chair	Volunteer needed		
Telephone Tree	Mary Rogan	407-295-2833	MMARGK@AOL.COM
Website	CJ Reeves	407-592-0964	CJREEVES@CFL.RR.COM

LEGISLATORS

Senator	Bill Nelson	202-224-5274	WWW.BILLNELSON.SENATE.GOV
Senator	Marco Rubio	202-224-3041	WWW.RUBIO.SENATE.GOV
Rep. 3rd District	Corrine Brown	202-225-0123	WWW.HOUSE.GOV/CORRINEBROWN
Rep. 7th District	John Mica	202-225-4035	WWW.MICA.HOUSE.GOV
Rep. 8th District	Daniel Webster	202-225-2176	WWW.WEBSTER.HOUSE.GOV
Rep. 24th District	Sandy Adams	202-225-2706	WWW.ADAMS.HOUSE.GOV

CHAPTER 95 WEBSITE: www.narfe.org/chapter95

DISTRICT 3 VP – Larry Reeves – 407-267-5828 – email: NARFE95@cfl.rr.com

FLORIDA FEDERATION WEBSITE: www.narfe.org

NARFE HEADQUARTERS WEBSITE: www.narfe.org

OUR MEETINGS

Meetings are generally held on the first Monday of each month, except holidays. Refreshments and snacks will be at 1:00 pm with the meeting immediately following at 1:30 p.m. Location is: Beardall Center, 800 South Delaney Avenue, 2nd floor, Orlando, FL 32801. **Next Meeting changed to Monday, July 11, 2011.**

OUR PURPOSE

NARFE is committed to preserving federal retirement benefits for all federal employees and retirees. NARFE is the sole organization standing for the protection of federal employee retirement benefits by uniting all federal employees, retirees, survivors and spouses around the world.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

Please help us in cutting expenses for our newsletters by **sending us your current email address**. You will receive your newsletter in color directly to your inbox. If you do not have an email address, please send us the email address of a family member or friend. Contact Lynne Isaacs at 407-595-2828 or send email to: Lisaacs@cfl.rr.com. Thank you for your support! We look forward to seeing you next month!



**NARFE Chapter 95
Larry Reeves President
1365 Renee Ave
Orlando, FL 32825-5225**

**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
and RETIREES:**

**Will Your
Benefits
BE ON CONGRESS'
CHOPPING BLOCK?**



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

NARFE Chapter 95, Orlando, Florida

www.narfe.org/chapter95



**Next Meeting - Monday, July 11, 2011
Please come and join us!!!**