

NARFE MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER 1927  
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A CENTURY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**  
**Jan/Feb 2022 NEWSLETTER - CHAPTER 1927, MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER**

PRESIDENT: Michael Webb (937) 435-####  
VICE PRESIDENT: Barbara Early (937) 433-####  
SECRETARY: Jean Lynch (513) 932-####  
TREASURER: Scott Graham (937) 657-####  
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Michael Madges (937) 433-####  
NET COORDINATOR: Mike Ryan (937) 435-####  
SERVICE OFFICER: Mary Robertson (937) 885-####  
LEADER, SPECIAL OPS TEAM: Fred Hoppel (937) 321-####  
[www.NARFE.ORG/site/chapter1927](http://www.NARFE.ORG/site/chapter1927)

**CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING**

**DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022**  
**PLACE: MCL CAFETERIA**  
**4485 FAR HILLS AVE**  
**KETTERING, OHIO**  
**TIME: SOCIAL LUNCHEON STARTS AT 11:00**

MCL provides the private dining room for free since most members buy lunch. After paying for lunch, proceed to the private dining room. Cafeteria personnel will help those needing assistance. **The business meeting will start at 11:30.**

**SINCLAIR LIFELONG LEARNING**

Sinclair Community College's new Coordinator of the College for Lifelong Learning (CLL) Christopher Reeves is our guest speaker at the February 4th Chapter meeting. He will review the many courses, workshops, and seminars Sinclair's CLL offers the community. Most workshops and seminars are free, and seniors 60 and over can audit almost all college credit classes without paying tuition, only paying for lab fees and books. Sinclair also offers 6000-level non-credit 10-week courses in art, history, music, and physical education. The fee for 6000 level classes is \$20, which covers all classes for the term. CLL classes, workshops and seminars are offered at 56 locations in the region. A Q&A session will follow Chris's presentation.

**CHAPTER 2217 TAX MEETING**

Chapter 2217, formerly the Beavercreek Chapter, is now the Greene County Chapter. All NARFE members, including Chapter 1927 members, are invited to its March 10th, 2022 meeting at the Lofino Plaza (adjacent to the Beavercreek Senior Center) Meeting Room at 1:00 PM, 3868 Dayton Xenia Road. The speaker at about 1:30 PM will be James K Klein, a member of the Volunteer Tax Assistance (VITA) organization. Mr. Kline will present 2021 Income Tax information helpful in filing federal and state Income tax returns. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

**SILENCE IS ACCEPTANCE**

The NARFE Legislative Action Center lists several bills that, if passed, would benefit federal employees and retirees. Our legislators in Congress need to hear from members in sufficient numbers if any of those bills have a chance of passage. Silence is acceptance of the status quo. Let your

legislators know your support of the bills listed below by sending letters through the NARFE Legislative Action Center at <https://www.narfe.org/advocacy/legislative-action-center/>. Those bills include repeal or reform of the WEP/GPO, adoption of a fairer COLA formula for retirees, giving FERS retirees the same COLAs CSRS retirees receive, crediting time served in temporary or intermittent positions toward retirement calculations, granting statehood for the District of Columbia, and ending the USPS requirement pre-funding future health benefits of its retirees. One bill, if passed, could risk increasing premiums for your Federal Employee Health Benefit Plans. That bill is the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021. NARFE is urging legislators to withhold support of the Postal Reform Act until changes are made to protect FEHB participants. Bill numbers and full descriptions are listed in the NARFE Legislative Action Center. From the [NARFE.org](http://www.narfe.org) home page, click on the advocacy tab and click on Take Action from the drop-down menu. Show your legislators that you will NOT be silent by sending your legislators letters through the NARFE Legislative Action Center.

### **OPM ONLINE**

As many can attest, it is increasingly difficult to manage your annuity account by telephone. The pandemic has exacerbated the difficulty of connecting with OPM via phone. Fortunately, there is a better way for those who have a computer, tablet, or smart phone. First, just create an online account with OPM. If you have already created an account but your password has expired you can email OPM through their online support center. Just go to [OPM.gov](http://OPM.gov) and click on retirement services and follow the prompts. If you've never established an account, you'll, unfortunately, need to contact OPM by phone at 1-888-767-6738 Monday thru Friday, 7:40 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Their busiest time is between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. ET. Among other things, you can get your monthly annuity statement, annual annuity statement, and your 1099-R tax form. You can also change your withholding, start or change direct deposit, start or change allotment to an organization, update your profile and contact information and change your mailing address. Without an account, you can access the customer support center at <https://www.opm.gov/support/retirement/> to report a missing annuity payment, report an annuitant or federal employee death and self-certify student enrollment for a surviving child receiving an annuity benefit. Those enhancements eliminate the need to call OPM in most cases. Passwords are good for two years. Remember to change your password before it expires.

### **ICUMI**

The 2022 retiree COLA was in your January annuity payments - 5.9% for CSRS and 4.9% for FERS.

Medicare Part B premiums increased by \$21.69 to \$170.10 for most annuitants, higher for incomes above \$91,000 single or \$182,000 joint returns.

President Biden signed an executive order on December 22, implementing his proposed 2.7 percent pay raise for federal civilian employees in 2022.

OPM announced that the mailing of the Annual Notice of Annuity Adjustment will be delayed until the end of January 2022. However, the statement is available through online services.

If you haven't visited the NARFE National website recently, [www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org), you're in for a treat. The website has been totally redesigned and is easier to navigate. NARFE also introduced its new online member community, FEBHub, where members can connect to share advice, solve challenges, and otherwise network with federal employees and retirees throughout the Nation.

### **DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

- Board Members Present: Michael Webb, Barb Early, Scott Graham, Mike Ryan and Fred Hoppel.
- Over 30 members and guests attended the December meeting. President Webb opened the meeting with a moment of silence for the troops and the Pledge of Allegiance.
- President Webb announced the 2022 COLA and the increase of Medicare premiums.
- The chapter collected \$169 at the meeting for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.
- The minutes from the August and October meetings were approved by unanimous consent
- Treasurer Scott Graham submitted his Treasurer's Report for Audit. Scott reported a closing balance of \$3,329.25 as of November 30, 2021.
- President Webb reviewed legislation which included four WEP/GPO Reform and Repeal bills currently being debated in Congress. NARFE prefers full repeal but concedes that the Public Servants Act, H.R. 2337, providing rebates up to \$150.00 has the best chance of passage. He also reviewed the Equal COLA for FERS retirees, and the Fair COLA Act for Seniors adopting the CPI-E giving seniors higher COLAs. Full descriptions of all pending legislation are in the NARFE Magazine and online in the NARFE Legislative Action Center. President Webb urged members to contact their legislators through the NARFE Legislative Action Center at [www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org) by sending customizable pre-written letters supporting NARFE legislative priorities.
- President Webb adjourned the meeting and introduced Wava Iker, Field Service Representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

**Upcoming Meetings – Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 20 January; Chapter Meeting 11:00 a.m. Friday, 4 February 2022**

**Chapter meetings are open to everyone. Board meetings are open to all Chapter members.**

**SUPPORT CHAPTER 1927 - RENEW YOUR CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP!**

**VISIT OUR CHAPTER WEB SITE AT <http://www.narfe.org/site/chapter1927>**