

NARFE MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER 1927
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A CENTURY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
December 2022/January 2023 NEWSLETTER - CHAPTER 1927, MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER

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LEGISLATIVE CHAIR: Albert Griggs (719) 432-####
www.NARFE.ORG/site/chapter1927

CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING

DATE: FRIDAY, 2 DECEMBER, 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.**

GUEST SPEAKERS

Your Miami Valley Chapter 1927 has arranged for Blue Cross Account Executive Wava Iker to speak at our December 2nd meeting at the MCL cafeteria. Open season ends on December 12. The Greene County Chapter 2217 will feature Nancy Roberson from Roberson Law in Kettering at their January 12th meeting. Roberson law specializes in estate planning and Ms. Roberson's topic will be "Are You Prepared?" Chapter 2217 meetings are held at the Lofino Plaza meeting Room, next to the Beaver creek Senior Center, 3368 Dayton Xenia Road.

OFFICER ELECTION & FREE PIE

Chapter officer elections for the 2023/2024 term will be held at our December 2nd chapter meeting. All current officers have announced they are running for another term. No

other nominations have been received. Floor nominations from members will be accepted at the meeting. Free slices of MCL pie will be available to all attendees

Legislation Update from the Desk of Al Griggs

(Albert Griggs was recently appointed the Congressional District Leader for the 10th Congressional District by Ohio Federation President Tim Gartner. He is also the Legislative Chair for Chapter 1927.)

I have two things to report in this issue of the newsletter. First, I attended a fundraising brunch hosted by Congressman Turner at the Schuster Center. The Congressman spoke personally with each attendee. He also presented a short talk on things he has accomplished for Congressional District 10 during his time in congress.

He pointed out funding he was able to obtain for Wright Patterson Air Force Base, and Trotwood, as examples.

During my time talking with him, I thanked him for his support of the Social Security Fairness Act. He said it was good legislation and will continue to support it. I also mentioned H.R. 7095 (Creates Schedule F), and H.R. 8550 (Abolishes the Merit System Protection Board). He asked me to establish communications with his staff to ensure he gets a clear picture of the situation going forward. I met with a member of his staff. We agreed to talk later.

Second, I submitted a letter the editor of the Dayton Daily News, concerning two bills that were recently introduced in the United States House of Representatives. I received a favorable reply from the newspaper editorial staff indicating they were planning to print it once a suitable date was picked.

The bottom line of my letter is to raise awareness of Miami Valley federal employees to two bills recently introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives. They are hidden behind the cloak of efficiency and reform, but designed to bust federal unions, replace the current merit-based selection and promotion system, and replace it with a political patronage system. House Resolution (H.R.) 7095, The Accountable Fed Act: Creates a new Schedule F in the Excepted Service Act. Federal employees who find themselves in positions covered by the new Schedule F will find they have been stripped of their Civil Service protection. Further, it calls for cost-reducing approach to federal sector collective bargaining (code for union busting).

House Resolution (H.R.) 8550, The Public Service Reform Act, make all federal employees in the executive branch of federal government "At-Will" employees. It also abolishes the Merit System Protection Board (MSPB). In other words, all federal employees in the executive branch will become pawns of politicians. A situation politicians have been looking for ever since the passage of the Pendleton Act in 1883. The Pendleton Act created the current Merit System. If these bills become law, executive branch employees will have no rights! They will become puppets of their political bosses, not serving the public good, but the party good. Here, civil servants lose merit system protection, and the tax payer loses competent and neutral federal employees. The National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Association has voiced its opposition to these bills in a letter to Congress. If you are an executive branch federal employee in the Miami Valley, please consider joining NARFE's fight for your rights. Contact your congress person, and Senators. Tell them to leave the Merit System alone.

NARFE MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING

Chapter 1927 members were on hand to recruit at an Anthem BC/BS Open Season Event at the Hope Hotel on Wednesday, November 2nd. Many in attendance visited

our NARFE table to learn about the value of NARFE membership. A retired gentleman from Tipp City won our one-year free membership drawing from among several who filled out contact information cards to participate. Many thanks to Mike Ryan, Scott Graham, Brian Normile and Mike Madges for participating in the all-afternoon affair. And continued THANKS to Wava Iker, BC/BS Account Executive for always providing opportunities for us to introduce NARFE to the federal community.

OCT MEETING MINUTES

Membership Chair Mike Madges conducted the meeting. Over 30 members and guests attended. Mr. Madges opened the meeting with the usual moment of silence for the troops and the Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Madges gave the national NARFE election results noting the election of William Shackelford as NARFE President. He also noted that our Chapter election for Chapter officers will be held at the December 2nd chapter meeting. In addition, he announced Open Season chapter meetings featuring Aetna on Nov 17 and Blue Cross on Dec 2 at the MCL

President Webb gave a brief review of NARFE's new online member community FEDhub and encouraged members to login to share advice, solve challenges and develop new approaches. Discover communities to enrich your federal career and retirement experience. Join in discussions with fellow Feds to get the most out of our federal benefits.

Mike Madges encouraged members to watch webinars at NARFE.org especially during Open Season. NARFE has webinars designed to help you pick the best health plan for you.

The August Chapter meeting minutes approved as proposed.

Treasurer, Scott Graham Report reported a balance of \$3,290.47.

Mike Madges asked for volunteers to help recruit at the Blue Cross Open Season Health Fair. (See above article.

Mike Madges briefly reviewed legislation currently pending, e.g., WEP Repeal and the Equal COLA Act for FERS retirees, that will impact federal employees and retirees and encouraged members to review the legislation at the NARFE Legislative Action Center and contact their legislators.

Mike Madges introduced former Congressman and U.N. Ambassador Tony Hall who gave an inspiring talk.

Meeting Adjourned

Upcoming Meetings – Chapter Meeting 11:00 a.m. Friday, 2 December 2022; Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 19 January 2023

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>