

NARFE MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER 1927
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A CENTURY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
APRIL-MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER - CHAPTER 1927, MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER

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www.NaaaARFE.ORG/site/chapter1927

CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING

DATE: FRIDAY, 5 April 2024

**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.**

DOWNSIZING FOR SENIORS

After a lifetime of accumulating stuff, seniors often are faced with the dilemma of choosing between what to keep and what to leave behind. Our guest speaker, Allen Nelson, at our April 5th meeting, is the owner of a company, Next Step Transitions, that specializes in helping seniors downsize and move to smaller homes or to assisted living facilities. Mr. Nelson will take you from DIY downsizing through practical tips to full-service solutions.

PROGRESS MIGRATING THE CHAPTER 1927 WEBSITE

By Mike Ryan, Chapter 1927 webmaster

As most of you have heard, NARFE is moving chapter and federation websites away from the legacy software, which is no longer supportable, onto a WordPress platform which has been adapted to fit NARFE security and design standards. A CAB (Configuration Advisory Board chaired by Martha Raup)-hosted Microsites Working Group (MWG) of NARFE volunteers has created templates for the so-called "microsites" and are in the process of building sites for all federations and chapters that wish to have one. The files and images currently stored on NARFE-hosted websites have been downloaded by HQ and sent to the MWG for storage until they can be provided to the chapters and federations to add to their microsites. All of Chapter 1927's legacy files

have been downloaded by webmaster Mike Ryan and those files that we keep are slowly being uploaded to the new microsite. The new microsities have many advantages over the legacy websites, including facilitating easy indexing by search engines. NOTE: In the NARFE Association Management Software (AMS) the role of webmaster is identified by the title "Network Coordinator", and the WordPress platform, on which the microsities are built, allows for multiple officers in that role, defined as an "Administrator". The CAB recommends a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5.

Webmaster Ryan is currently participating in twice-a-week training sessions via Zoom as a member of "Microsite Pilot 02 Group" and hopes to have the new Chapter 1927 website approved for publication by late April. New content will be held in storage until the microsite goes live.

HELPING OUT OUR SURVIVORS

By Brian Normile, Benefits Officer

It is a rather grim subject but one that bears consideration. As an uncle of mine observed, "None of us get out of it alive." However, we can help those closest to us by simplifying our affairs so that in the aftermath of our deaths, they can carry out our last wishes during a difficult period and so that a surviving spouse can readily take advantage of the benefits to which he or she is entitled. These can include retirement benefits, Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Group Life Insurance, Social Security benefits and the Thrift Savings Plan.

NARFE Federal Benefits Institute has a guide "Be Prepared for Life's Events, What Your Survivors Should Know" (F-100). By filling out this worksheet, you have provided your survivors with invaluable information, all in one document, which will be very helpful and time saving for your loved ones. The F-100 has areas to record personal information, family information, retirement assets, financial information, liabilities, insurance, burial instructions and a list and location of documents. It can be found at www.narfe.org/white-papers. There have also been excellent articles in NARFE Magazine on this subject to include "Getting Your Affairs in Order" on page 24 of the May 2023 issue.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 118th Congress continues to be an enigma as far as moving legislation out of committees. With the

primary season in full swing and seven months from the general election, politicians are more concerned with reelection than moving legislation out of committees, especially, if the legislation may cause them negative press. For the above reason, I don't believe any NARFE related legislation will be voted on during this congress. Therefore, it is imperative that we continue to let our congressman and Senators know what legislation we support, and what legislation we do not support!

One bill that we need to make sure our Congressman and Senators know we support and we want them to support is "The Saving the Civil Service Act", H.R. 1002/S.399. This bill would prevent the return of Schedule F, a statutory loophole that would have bypassed the system of rules (merit system) ensuring federal employees are hired and fired based on competence rather than political connections, and that competitive service protections cannot be stripped away by reclassifying a position into the excepted service without express consent of Congress.

OTHER AREA CHAPTERS

Greene County (Beavercreek) Chapter 2217 meetings are held at 1:00 pm on the 2nd Thursday of odd numbered months in the Lofino Plaza Meeting Room, 3868 Dayton Xenia Road. Their May 9th speaker will be Connie Ament, from the Greene County Library Out Reach Office. She will present information on the many services the libraries can provide including courses available and services to shut-ins.

The Huber Heights Chapter 2238 holds chapter meetings at noon on the third Friday of every month except for July and August at the Studebaker's Country Restaurant, 416 N. Main Street, New Carlisle, Ohio in its party room. The June meeting is their chapter's annual picnic at a local park. Contact Huber Heights Chapter President Gordan Quinn at 937-813-2266, or at gordyq@aol.com for more information.

FEB 2ND CHAPTER MEETING

Approximately 30 members and guests attended the Feb 2nd Chapter meeting which featured guest speaker Jim Charters from Dayton History who presented "The Story of Dayton from its Founding to its Inventions." Complete meeting minutes can be found at:

<https://www.narfe.net/site/chapter1927/files/fullName46063.PDF>

Upcoming Meetings – Chapter Meeting 11:00 a.m. Friday, 5 April; Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Thursday, May 16, 2024

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>