

NARFE MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER 1927
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NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
DECEMBER-JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER - CHAPTER 1927, MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER

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www.NARFE.ORG/site/chapter1927

CHAPTER LUNCHEON MEETING

DATE: FRIDAY, 1 December 2023

**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.**

OPEN SEASON BC/BS MEETING

Federal Employee Health Benefit Program Open Season runs from November 13th through December 11th, 2023.

Blue Cross/Blue Shield's representative Wava Iker will speak at NARFE's Miami Valley Chapter 1927 meeting on Friday, December 1st. The luncheon will begin at 11:00, with Wava's presentation starting at 12:00 noon. Wava will cover all Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plans available in our area including information on the new FEP Medicare Prescription Drug Program (MPDP). As always, Wava will distribute plan materials and free gifts.

All current and retired federal employees are welcome and encouraged to attend Chapter 1927 meetings, so

invite a fellow federal retiree or coworker to attend. Miami Valley Chapter 1927 will provide free slices of a variety of MCL's delicious pies freshly baked on-site

GREENE COUNTY CHAPTER

Greene County Chapter 2217 invites all NARFE members, federal employees and retirees to its Chapter meetings held at the Lofino Plaza meeting Room at 1:00 pm, next to the Beaver Creek Senior Center, 3868 Dayton Xenia Road, the 2nd Thursday of odd numbered months beginning in January. Their January 11th meeting will feature Jim Charters, a spokesperson for Dayton History and interpretive guide at Carillon Park.

HUBER HEIGHTS CHAPTER

This newsletter is mailed to all Huber Heights Chapter 2238 members to keep them informed about area chapter meetings. The Huber Heights Chapter 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-####, or at gordyq@aol.com for more information.

NEW MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM

By Brian Normile, Benefit's officer

The Federal Employee Program (FEP) Medicare Prescription Drug Program (MPDP) is a new prescription drug benefit exclusively for Blue Cross/Blue Shield FEP members who have Medicare Part A and/or Part B. It's part of Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan coverage – there's no separate premium for the prescription drug coverage.

The same FEP benefits continue to be received. Additional prescription drugs in some of the four MPDP drug tiers will now be approved in 2024 which are not approved under the current 2023 benefit. Blue Cross and Blue Shield literature states that participants get lower out-of-pocket costs for higher cost drugs through this new program which also has a cap on the amount paid out-of-pocket on prescriptions annually. The amount of the cap depends upon the plan enrolled in. FEP will automatically enroll eligible members in MPDP. Individuals not covered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield can enroll during open season. Current enrollees can opt out of the new MPDP if they choose.

Additional information can be found at <https://www.fepblue.org/medicarerx>. This site includes a Prescription Drug Cost Tool which advises whether your drug is covered under MPDP and compares costs of covered drugs for all three Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans.

The information in this article is from Blue Cross and Blue Shield sources and does not constitute NARFE endorsement of their plans over those of their competitors.

AL GRIGGS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Al Griggs, Legislative Chair

I received a letter from Senator Sherrod Brown's Office. In the letter, the Senator thanked us (Chapter 1927) for attending his fundraiser held at the Montgomery Democratic Headquarters on July 30, 2023.

I have been in contact with staffers for both Senator Sherrod Brown and Senator J.D. Vance. I'm working to setup face-to-face meetings with them.

The U.S. House of Representatives has elected a Speaker. Congressman Mike Johnson (R) Louisiana was recently elected to the Speakership. Congressman Johnson's 117th Congress voting record shows he voted 33% in favor of NARFE supported legislation. His career voting record in support of NARFE supported legislation is 27%. The 118th Congress continues to be a challenge

Please stay updated on NARFE supported legislation by reviewing the NARFE Bill Tracker in your NARFE Magazine. Contact your Congressman/Woman, and Senator, via the NARFE Website, let them know you are a NARFE member and what legislation you want them to support/not support.

GETTING A NEW GATE PASS AT WPAFB

By Mike Ryan, Webmaster

If you are retired and want to get into the security system that permits gate entry at Wright-Patt it's pretty easy if you have the right documents. I did it the other day and it only took 5 minutes.

First thing is you will have to go to the PASS & ID building (4185 Logistics Ave) located outside the gate in the parking lot adjacent to gate 12 next to AFMC. They have normal operating hours.

You will need:

- 1)) A valid REAL ID driver's license that is returned to you after processing
- 2) The Standard Form 50 (Notice of Personal Action showing you are retired)
- 3) Your current retiree base id that you will have to relinquish to PASS & ID personnel.

That's it ... Your updated valid REAL ID driver's license will serve as your new gate pass. I was told that the ID is valid at any base and expires when your Ohio or other REAL ID driver's license expires. I have tested gate entry and the license works!

Any questions, give me a call at (937) 294-####.

OCT 6 MEETING

Over 30 members and guests attended the October 6th chapter meeting. Meeting minutes are available online on our chapter website at <https://www.narfe.net/site/chapter1927/>

Upcoming Meetings – Chapter Meeting 11:00 a.m. Friday, 1 December 2023; Board Meeting 11:00 a.m. Thursday, 18 January 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>