

NARFE CHAPTER 1927 MEETING MINUTES JUNE 06, 2025

PLEASE LEAVE A TIP FOR OUR MCL SERVERS

Mike Madges, Chapter Vice President, opened the meeting by welcoming all those in attendance to include Officers, board members, NARFE members, and two new NARFE members who are interested in becoming new Chapter members. In all there were a total of 30 attendees.

Mike opened the meeting with a moment of silence for our troops serving around the world and for those who have fallen. On this day in history, a pivotal event occurred that altered the outcome of WWII with the invasion of Normandy, also known as D-Day. The invasion occurred to establish a foothold in Western Europe and began the liberation of France. D-Day was a turning point in WWII because it marked the beginning of the end for Nazi Germany in Western Europe.

The April 4 Chapter Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Mike Madges reported for Treasurer Scott Graham. As of this date, we have received all dues from National that were owed to us during the system upgrade. Dues receipts for May were \$157.80; and our annual disbursement of \$100.00 was paid for our yearly liability insurance. Our final checking account balance on hand is \$2,017.15.

“No Ordinary Time” DDN/Ad Campaign – Mike Madges, Vice Membership Chair, provided attendees with a brief update stating there were 1800 hits on the DDN Banner page, but we don't know how many new members were added to the NARFE Association due to the Ad Campaign itself. The cost of the Ad Campaign was \$11,700.

Budget Bill/Benefit Threats – The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee has adopted a series of proposals detrimental to federal employees. The Committee proposals would require all FERS employees to pay 4.4% of their salary toward retirement benefits. Another proposal would eliminate the FERS special retirement supplement for FERS employees who retire before age 62. Currently, FERS employees hired through 2012 pay .8% of salary and those hired in 2013 pay 3.1% of salary. Retirement benefits would also be based on an employee's High Five instead of the current High Three beginning in calendar year 2027. We are also not “out of the woods” yet concerning our retiree health benefits. As you may have heard, Congress wants to put retirees in a voucher program, rather than continuing our current FEHB health benefit plans. The Senate will be looking at the House version of the Appropriations Bill shortly.

NARFE Ohio Federation Conference Postscript – Mike Madges also provided a brief overview of the NARFE Ohio Federation Conference held on Saturday, May 3, in

Belleville, Ohio. The theme of this year's Conference was "To Survive, NARFE Must Thrive." Interesting and informative presentations were provided both in-person and remotely on topics such as increased membership numbers, ways to attract and retain members, and status on legislative issues affecting both active and retired members. Mike also provided us with additional thoughts on how we could increase our Chapter's number of active federal employees by changing some of our Chapter meeting places and/or times from middle-of-the-day luncheon meetings to after-work dinner meetings. Mike encouraged attendees to please contact him or our Membership Chair, Nick Steiner, with any additional ideas to increase or retain our membership.

He also stated that at the Conference, our Chapter President, Joyce Skinner, accepted a certificate recognizing our Chapter as the second most generous in the state for contributions to NARFE-Alzheimer's Research.

Attendees were asked to please update our current Chapter list of email addresses by adding a new email address, or updating a current email address, before leaving today's meeting. It is important for us to have all current and prospective Chapter members' correct email addresses to ensure they receive meeting notifications for the continued growth of our NARFE Association and Chapter. Also, be assured that we will never sell or provide any personal email information to outside individuals or organizations.

Mike also reminded attendees not to miss our next Chapter meeting, on Friday, October 3. We are taking a summer Chapter meeting "recess." We will provide you with more information concerning our next Chapter meeting in October as meeting details are finalized!

Mike then introduced today's speaker, Dr. Lee Hannah, from Wright State University. Dr. Hannah's presentation will address the subject of our Electoral College: How we elect the President and why it matters. Dr. Hanna does research and teaches courses in American politics and public administration. He has also published several articles on marijuana policy, education policy and political parties.

Please do not forget to leave a tip for our MCL servers!

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Chapter Secretary Sue Garcia