



NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees

Chapter 372
Norristown, PA

Monthly Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, 1 PM June 5, 2019

Steppy's
2912 Swede Road
East Norriton, PA 19401

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Introduction of Members and Guests**
4. **Program:** Rich Rafferty, Fair District – PA, will discuss progress in trying to end gerrymandering in Pennsylvania and what we can do to assist.
5. **Reading of Minutes from the last meeting:** Al Henryson (absent today)
6. **Officer and Committee Reports**
 - **Treasurer:** Art Issadore
 - **Legislation:** Brian Finn
 - **Membership:** Eileen Fitzgerald
 - **Sunshine:** Stephanie Russell
7. **Old Business**
8. **New Business**
 - Discussion of use of the NARFE portal to communicate with Chapter 372 members (updating email addresses in your NARFE account)
 - NARFE Magazine's June issue includes articles such as raising our concerns with our legislators this Summer; Senate budget resolution treats Federal community as a piggy bank; ten tips for a successful retirement.
 - Discussion about a brief reading of last month's minutes at each monthly meeting.
 - Pennsylvania Federation May Newsletter containing George Shal's article about the need for new officers and members.
 - Upcoming news from NARFE Headquarters: a membership referendum vote is needed to improve the organization's bylaws and election process. More information about these is forthcoming in the August 2019 issue of NARFE magazine. NARFE leaders testified at two hearings in Washington, DC. The first hearing focused on the demand for employees with critical skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and how to attract those with the requisite skills. At the second hearing, Ken Thomas discussed the proposed merger of the Office of Personnel Management and the General Services Administration. For those members interested, the full written testimony can be found on NARFE's website.
9. **Adjourn**

Visit our Website
NARFE372.ORG
For the latest information
on upcoming meetings and
activities and links to
NARFE information.

Next activities:

July 2019 – No meeting

August 7, 2019 - Kimberley Bixby-Robinson, Associate Account Executive, Federal Employee Program, Blue Cross/Blue Shield. She will discuss Blue Cross benefits such as hearing aids; blue health assessments, and financial incentives.

September 4, 2019 – Congresswoman Madeleine Dean, PA-04

The Back-of-the-Agenda News June 5, 2019

NARFE Legislative Hotline 877-217-8234	No July Meeting. See you on August 7, 2019	OPM Retirement Services Call Center - 888-767-6738; Hours: 7:40 am. to 5:00 pm. Eastern Time https://www.servicesonline.opm.gov/
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Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) Hosts An Event for Senior Investors at Montco Community College

The SEC’s Philadelphia Regional Office will host an event for senior investors on Tuesday, June 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Montgomery County Community College. The program will take place in College Hall 144/148/151 on the campus at 340 DeKalb Pike in Blue Bell. This senior outreach event is free to the public and lunch will be provided. Register by email to attend the event (SECSeniorOutreach@sec.gov) or call 215-597-0200 and provide your name, phone number, and whether you require special assistance for a disability.

“An important reason why we come to work every day is to help people understand investing and how to identify potential fraud,” said Jeffrey Boujoukos, regional director of the SEC Philadelphia regional office. “A program like this one helps us talk with senior investors directly, answer their questions in person, and show them our website Investor.gov so they can use it as a resource to learn more about protecting their money in the days and years ahead.”

Boujoukos will kick off the program on Tuesday morning, followed by a two-part panel on “Understanding Financial Products.” Speakers include Peter Chandler, director, investor education at FINRA; Glenn Skreppen, director, bureau of securities compliance and examinations, at the Pennsylvania Department of Banking and Securities; and Mark Zehner, deputy chief, public finance abuse unit, Division of Enforcement at the SEC Philadelphia regional office. The second panel takes place in the afternoon with additional speakers. Additionally, Ronald Costen, professor at Temple University with the college’s Institute on Protective Services, will speak on “Changes in Thought and Memory and How That Affects Decision Making.” After noon, another panel takes place describing “Red Flags of Investment Fraud and FINRA Trusted Contact Rule,” followed by the lunchtime keynote speaker Lori Schock, director, SEC Office of Investor Education and Advocacy.

Upcoming 2019 NARFE Webinars - All Webinars start at 2:00 p.m. ET)

- June 23 Special Category Feds: Retirement Rules and Exceptions
- July 11 Your Best Retirement Date Revealed
- August 15 Retirement Forms: Tips to Avoid Delays
- September 5 FEGLI—Manage Your Options
- September 15 Find a Clear Path to a Smooth Retirement
- October 24 FEHB and Medicare: What’s Your Best Choice?
- November 7 Health Plans—what’s Your Best Option?
- November 21 The Pros and Cons of Consumer Driven Health Plans
- December 12 Protect Your Assets—Estate Planning for Feds

New TSP Withdrawal Options Coming In Fall 2019

Later this year, TSP will offer new withdrawal options, including

- Take more than one in-service, age-based withdrawal;
- If you are a separated or beneficiary participant, take monthly, quarterly, or annual installment payments and make changes to those payments at any time during the year;
- Request partial withdrawals while receiving installment payments; and
- Make withdrawals from your traditional TSP, Roth TSP, or from both proportionally.

Pennsylvania Federation May 2019 Newsletter Excerpt Region 2 Configuration Advisory Board; Region 2 Representative - George Shal

The Elephant in the Room at most chapter meetings is the need for new officers. The recent and pending chapter closings in Pennsylvania and across the country have been rooted in our failure to get new officers for the chapters. Many chapter leaders have felt compelled to serve years longer than they had planned or even wanted. That dedication to the chapter is truly commendable. It has not proven to be sustainable, however.

Too often, and with ever increasing frequency, we are finding those chapters whose leadership rosters appear to have been cast in bronze 10 or more years ago now have no option but to close. Not every member, new or old, is either willing or able to take on the role of becoming a chapter officer. The decrease in chapter membership and lower meeting attendance makes finding those capable of serving in officer roles even more challenging.

Collective ranting and moaning about decreased chapter membership have not solved our problem. So, what else can we do?

1. Increase overall membership: *Each one... get one.* Encourage every member to recruit one new member. If you prefill the membership application with your chapter number, that new member will, for no additional cost, become a member of your chapter for the coming year. There were 21 new chapter members in the first quarter of 2019 - and two of those new members don't live in Pennsylvania! The ***FH-19 Membership Marketing Manual***, is available online at <https://www.narfe.org/pdf/fh-19.pdf>
2. Enhance your regular chapter meetings: *Read some... learn some.* A new NARFE publication, the ***FH-15 Chapter Development Manual*** is available for immediate download at <https://www.narfe.org/pdf/fh-15.pdf> and it offers a number of helpful ideas for each of us.
3. Increase chapter meeting attendance: *Each one... bring one.* Encourage each regular chapter meeting attendee to bring along another NARFE member or potential member to your next meeting. Each attendee adds something to the meeting. With enhanced meetings, attendance will continue to grow.

There is a lot we can do for just peanuts. We certainly just don't want to keep feeding the ***Elephant in the Room!***