

**National Active & Retired Federal Employees
Chapter #331
York, Pennsylvania
Newsletter March/April 2020**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let me begin by tying up some loose ends from the January/February newsletter. My wife, Joanne, is now back home and feeling much better. In January she spent two weeks at the York Hospital and followed that up with two more weeks at Manor Care Rehabilitation Center. She suffered from a heart-rhythm ailment sometimes referred to as ‘A-fib.’ Initially she did not respond well to medicines designed to bring her heart rate down, so they performed a procedure termed ‘shocking the heart’ which worked, but two days later her heart rate spiked again so a second ‘shock’ was needed. Maybe the hospital should reevaluate their slang name for that procedure. The thought of my wife being ‘shocked’ was enough to send my own heart racing and for me to possibly be admitted to the hospital. But anyway, I’m glad to have her back home again. And a heart-warming thanks to everyone from NARFE who visited and sent her well-wishes and expressed your concern for her.

Another loose end from the last newsletter, US Representative Lloyd Smucker answered my letter concerning the National Park Service (NPS) possibly not honoring the Senior Park Pass during peak-use visits. In his response he said that this was just taken out of context and the NPS does not intend to implement this plan. Again, this is not exactly NARFE business, but I’m sure many newsletter readers have this Pass and are interested as to how this panned out.

There is not much going on the legislative front, with impeachment fallout and coronavirus taking center stage. An article in the February NARFE magazine “Are You Ready for the 2020 Election?” (page 8) caught my attention. The US Census reports that 245.5 million Americans were of voting age in 2016. Of that number 157.6 million registered to vote or 64% of the eligible age group, and 137.5 million voted (56% of total voting age) and 87% of registered voters. “Additionally,” I quote from the article “a 2018 PEW study stated that the 55.7% Voting Age Population turnout in 2016 puts the US behind most of its peers in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, placing it 26th among 32 OECD member countries. In conclusion, a bit more than one-third of Americans chose to not register to vote! What part of our American society or demographics make up this non-voting block? Who does not vote? Maybe, with the present-day US politics situation as it is, these numbers will change.

At the March meeting we will have the annual pie raffle, with apple, blueberry, cherry, and peach varieties available.

Jim Dine, President

CHAPTER MEETING/PROGRAM NEWS

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

- NARFE Chapter 331 meeting will be at the ***Meadow Hill Family Restaurant*** located at **2935 E Prospect Rd., York, PA 17402** the meeting is at **12:00 noon**. Order from the menu. Please leave a tip for your waitress. Our program will be Charles Stambaugh whose presentation will be The Braille Trail at Orewood Nature Center in York County.

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

NARFE Chapter 331 meeting will be at the ***Meadow Hill Family Restaurant*** located at **2935 E Prospect Rd., York, PA 17402** the meeting is at **12:00 noon**. Order from the menu. Please leave a tip for your waitress. Joan Groh with Hospice & Community Care whose topic will be Making Your Wishes Known: A Living Will May Not Be Enough.

Senate and Congressional Contacts

U.S. Senator Bob Casey: (717) 231-7540 (Harrisburg) or (202) 244-6324 (Washington, D.C.)

U.S. Senator Pat Toomey: (717) 782-3951 (Harrisburg) or (202) 224-4254 (Washington, D.C.)

Congressman Scott Perry: (717) 603-4980 (Harrisburg) or (202) 224-6324 (Washington, D.C.)

Congressman Lloyd Smucker: (717) 393-0667 (Lancaster) or 202-225-2411 (Washington, D.C.)

Chapter Officers

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