

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



West Shore

Chapter 1465

www.narfe.org/site/chapter1465/

April 2020

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April 8, 2020 Meeting - Cancelled

President's Message – Bill Krouse

In accordance with the recommendations of the CDC and for everyone's health and safety, the Board has decided to temporarily discontinue chapter meetings until further notice. We believe it is the best way to impede the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure the well-being of our members. We will post updates on our website and we will send out a notice to all of our members advising when we will begin holding meetings again. *It is our sincere hope that all of you remain well.*

That said, we may be trying to set up virtual electronic meetings. Yes, I understand that it isn't the same and that many of you do not have the technology to do it, but these are different times. We will get through it. At the present, the VFW is closed, we are under a stay at home order, and frankly it isn't safe for us to go out in the public.

On another scheduling note, as previously mentioned, we will not have a November 11 meeting at the VFW. If they are open, they will have Veteran's Day events going on. If they are open, we will schedule our meeting for Nov 18. Stay tuned.

Just as our Nation is in the 2020 election season, the PA State NARFE Federation is as well. Luckily, because of the One Member One Vote (OMOV) initiative, we planned on having on-line and mail-in ballots instead of in-person voting at the General Meeting in June. It is a good thing because the General Membership meeting & Regional Training session scheduled for June 1-2 has been postponed (until Sep 14-15 in York). I haven't seen the official ballot yet, but from what I have heard, there will be at least one contested election on the ballot. Ray Hain and I are both running for the District 10 VP position. Not everyone in this chapter will be able to vote for this office. Only NARFE members living in the PA 10th Congressional District or members of this chapter that live out of state will be able to vote for this office election. I humbly solicit your vote. In May you will receive a survey on-line ballot (if you have an email address listed in NARFE). There will also be information on the NARFE PA website <https://www.narfe.org/site/PA/> and our chapter website <https://www.narfe.org/site/chapter1465/> on how to request a mail-in ballot. As in any election - *Please vote*. There will also be several statewide officer elections, but if they are not contested elections, there won't be ballots sent out.

Also, as was noted in our previous newsletter, the April 8th memorial service that was planned at Camp Hill's Fredricksen Library by relatives of long time member Wanda Metzger (who passed away on December 21, 2019) has been postponed. A future date has not yet been determined.

If you have any questions, my phone, e-mail and address are listed in the **Officers** contact information.

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**Alzheimer's
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Vice President, Legislation – Mary Howse

New Pennsylvania Primary Date is June 2 and New Mail-In Ballot Process

Governor Wolf signed Senate Bill 422, which reschedules the 2020 primary election from April 28 to June 2, and makes other election process changes, including some due to the COVID-19 emergency. The bill provides process improvements to Act 77 of 2019, to allow counties to begin processing and tabulating mail ballots beginning at 7 a.m. on election day, rather than after the polls close at 8 p.m. Additionally, the measure allows counties to temporarily consolidate polling places without court approval and eases other rules regarding location and staffing of polling places for the primary to respond to county concerns about a potential shortage of poll workers and appropriate polling place locations.

The Governor reminded voters of the new option to vote by mail-in ballot rather than going to a polling place on an election day. No excuse is required for a mail-in ballot and the applicant must possess a valid PA driver's license or photo I.D. from the PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT). Already more than 215,000 registered voters have signed up for either a mail-in or absentee ballot, with nearly 78 percent using the commonwealth's new online application at <https://www.votespa.com/Voting-in-PA/Pages/Mail-and-Absentee-Ballot.aspx>. Those voters who signed up previously for mail-in or absentee ballots do not need to file new applications despite the change in primary date.

Is there an option to mail my mail-in ballot application? Yes!

- Download and print a mail-in ballot application:
 - Mail-in Ballot Application (English) https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Documents/PADOS_MailInApplication.pdf
 - Mail-in Ballot Application (Spanish) https://www.votespa.com/Register-to-Vote/Documents/PADOS_MailInApplication_Spanish.pdf
 - Fill in the paper mail-in ballot application.
- Mail your application
 - Send your mail-in ballot application to the county election office. The deadline to apply for a mail-in ballot is one week before the election.
 - Military and overseas voters should visit the information for military and overseas voter's web page for information on how they can obtain an absentee ballot.

Alternatives to online and mail-in applications

- Apply in person at your county election office. Once your county's ballot is finalized and available, you may request and promptly receive your mail-in ballot.
- Send a signed letter to your county election office. You must include the same information as that on the application form.
- Contact your county election office for more information

The latest COVID-19 impacts on voting is found at the official Pennsylvania site: votespa.com

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Chaplain - Tom Gross

Being confined to our homes is not the way we planned to spend our Spring days. We all are confined to our homes, not by our choice.

We are seeing dedicated people serving our citizens under difficult and trying situations. All of our prayers should go to those dedicated people. The doctors, nurses, all other hospital staff, police, ambulance attendants, military personnel, grocery workers and any other people involved in serving during this difficult time our country and the world are going through.

Please follow the directions our Governor has asked us to follow. Stay inside and only go out if you have to. With God watching and protecting us, we will be getting together as soon as possible.

I hope all of you will do okay during this unusual time in our lives. All of you are in my daily thoughts and prayers.

Travel – Linda Berkowitz

While we are all urged to stay at home until the threat of the coronavirus passes, you may be ready to hit the road some months from now. There are open seats on the following trips. Please make checks payable to NARFE Chapter 1465. Payment is due at least 30 days prior to travel unless indicated otherwise. Please arrive 15 min. before departure time. Wolf's Camp Hill departure point is @ Capital City Mall between the back of JC Penney's & Sportsmen Warehouse. Please contact me if you are interested; my address, phone & email are listed in the **Officers** contact info in the newsletter. The sponsoring organizations are in parentheses.

Jul 15 - \$96 - "Beehive" @ Totem Pole Playhouse, dinner @ Gibbles Restaurant, departs Camp Hill BJ's @ 10:15 am, payment due 6/15. (NARFE Chapter 1816)

Aug 9 - \$118 Adult, \$106 Child – 9/11 Museum/New York City, departs Carlisle Point Mall @ 6:30 am & Capital City Mall @ 7:00 am, payment due 7/9. (Wolf's)

Sep 24 -- \$101 -- "Britain's Best Music" @ American Music Theater, lunch @ Hershey Farm restaurant, departs Camp Hill BJ's @ 11:00 am, payment due 8/24. (NARFE Chapter 1816)

OCT 8 – \$110 - -Flight 93 Memorial Plaza & Visitor Center & Quecreek Mine Rescue Site, Lunch @ Coal Miners' Café, departs Capital City Mall @ 7:00 am, payment due 9/8. (Wolf's)

Nov 19 -- \$97 – "ELF" @ Dutch Apple Dinner Theater, includes buffet, departs Camp Hill BJ's @ 10:30 am, payment due 10/19. (NARFE Chapter 1816)

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Travel *continued*

Nov 24 -- \$85 – “The Christmas Experience,” Hagerstown/Antietam, MD, departs Mechanicsburg Giant on Simpson Ferry Road @ 9:30 am & Carlisle Walmart behind movie theater @ 10:00 am, payment due 10/24. (L&L Travel)

Dec 10 -- \$144 – Fairmont Park, tour Cedar Grove & Strawberry Mansions, lunch aboard the Moshulu, shopping @ Philadelphia Christmas Village, departs Carlisle Point Mall @ 6:45am & Capital City Mall @ 7:15 am, payment due 10/10. (Wolf’s)

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Stay Calm - Stay Home - Stay Safe