

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Chapter 1130**

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Joe Antal

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**Chapter 1130 Meetings**

May 20, 2020 - Cancelled

June 17, 2020 - Cancelled

July 15, 2020 – Board Meeting at Hoss's

**PA Federation and Region II Events Postponed:**

PA General Membership Meeting June 1, 2020,  
Region II Training Academy June 1-2, 2020,  
Both events postponed until September 2020. Dates  
TBD

**Special Request from the Bylaws Committee**

The committee sent out a copy of the Johnstown Chapter 1130 Revised Bylaws in late February. The vote was to be taken at the cancelled April 15, 2020, meeting, and coupled with the cancellation of the May and June meetings, it would not be until the fall that we would hold a vote.

**In lieu of a meeting vote, we are requesting that any changes to the proposed bylaws be forwarded to the Bylaws Committee by May 20, 2020.**

If no changes are received, we will accept this as chapter approval and submit the revised bylaws to NARFE National headquarters for approval. Changes can be made any time in the future and resubmitted for approval. Please review them and if something is questionable please contact Larry at (814) 472-9065 or [Larrypal1130@comcast.net](mailto:Larrypal1130@comcast.net).

To receive this newsletter electronically (as well as in hardcopy), please email Judy: [jinboden@atlanticbb.net](mailto:jinboden@atlanticbb.net) or Sue: [snew15956@comcast.net](mailto:snew15956@comcast.net).

## From Larry Palecek, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Civil Servant Appreciation:** “While nearly three million federal employees provide vital services that benefit the people of the United States every day, much of this important work goes unnoticed. May 3-9, 2020 is Public Service Recognition Week - the annual nationwide event to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of civil servants. It’s especially timely as federal civil servants have been working tirelessly on the front lines and behind the scenes to protect and treat Americans from the deadly COVID-10 pandemic. Even though we remain shuttered indoors to fight this invisible enemy, we can still express our appreciation.” (From the NARFE Exec. Director) Even though the week may be ending or over we can still thank the Federal employees we know, especially the postal worker who is out there every day.

**Membership and National Voting.:** As of February, the membership in NARFE has declined to 185,766, a drop of approximately 13,000 members since the previous February. The National Bylaws vote asks for an increase in membership dues of \$8.00 per year. Now that we see the membership numbers, we can understand the proposal. In the upcoming combined June/July issue of the NARFE magazine, there will be the Bylaw proposals. Some you might not be in favor of and in August you will have the opportunity to vote yea or nay.

I realize it is hard to recruit members in these pandemic times. If you know of a federal employee who decided to retire now, give them a call and tell them about NARFE. Also keep abreast of the NARFE advocacy and possible upcoming events by visiting narfe.org, reading your email newsletters from Headquarters, and reading the NARFE magazine.

Stay safe and healthy, we will get together soon.

## From Joe Antal, Legislative Advisor

Due to the coronavirus response, the Postal Service will lose about 50% of its revenue for the year, but has not been included in any stimulus relief package. If the Senate will go along with the House of Representatives and support repealing the prefunding issue of Health Care, S-2965, it would help remedy the threat of service cuts, job losses and the threat of private delivery.

## From Douglas Dettling, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

I hope this finds everyone healthy and safe at home. As you know, the primary elections will be held June 2 in Pennsylvania. Regarding the congressional primaries in Districts 13 and 15, you could say that they are really non-elections because the candidates of both parties are running unopposed.

**Todd Rowley** is the only Democratic candidate on the ballot in the 13th district. It looks like he will be running against **Congressman John Joyce**, in November. Mr. Rowley is a retired FBI agent He spent his career in law enforcement at the local, state and federal levels. He opposes tariffs and is in favor of free trade. He is pro-labor and pro-union. He believes strongly in investing in public education, protecting and supporting our veterans and military. He is pro women’s rights, civil rights, and LGBTQ rights. He is also in favor of immigration reform on a bipartisan basis. He feels very strongly about protecting elections, campaign finance reform, and term limits.

**Robert Williams** is the only Democratic candidate on the ballot in the 15th district. It looks like he will be running against **Congressman Glenn Thompson** in November. Mr. Williams is a minister, an adult educator, and an EMT. His main campaign issues are healthcare, infrastructure, veterans and military service, and human trafficking. He believes every American has a right to affordable accessible and quality healthcare and that healthcare is a human right. If elected he will fight to protect and expand Social Security and Medicare for all Americans. He is pro-choice and feels that every female has the right to choose.

I will address the Republican candidates in a future newsletter.

I hope everyone who wants to vote by mail has requested their mail-in ballot. I thought I had received mine, but when I opened it, it was an application for a mail-in ballot. So, if you received an application as well, complete and return it ASAP. Don’t wait for the deadline.

Stay safe, stay home (if you can) and appreciate the people risking exposure to keep us safe, healthy, and provisioned.

## Contacting Our Legislators by Phone

### **Rep Glenn Thompson (R) PA15**

#### Washington D.C.

Phone: (202) 225-5121

#### Ebensburg Office

Phone: (814) 419-8583

### **Rep John Joyce (R) PA13**

#### Washington, DC Office

Phone: (202) 225-2431

#### Altoona Office

Phone: (814) 656-6081

#### Somerset Office

Phone: (814) 485-6020

### **Senator Bob Casey (D) PA**

#### Washington, D.C.

Toll Free: (866) 802-2833

#### Central PA Office

Phone: (814) 357-0314

### **Senator Pat Toomey (R) PA**

#### Washington, D.C.

Phone: (202) 224-4254

#### Johnstown

Phone: (814) 266-5970

## **From Judy Inboden, President**

Happy Spring! I hope this finds you and your families doing well. Since the Southwest Region of Pennsylvania is not yet permitted to open, as of the date of this newsletter, we have no choice but to cancel our next two planned meetings, in May and June. We do plan on having a board meeting in July and will discuss whether we have enough interest in holding our summer picnic in August. I will keep you posted.

As you know, the Pennsylvania primary election has been moved to June 2<sup>nd</sup>. I hope that polling locations near you will be open by then, so you can exercise your right to vote in person. However, if they are not or if you are not comfortable going out, there is an option to request a mail-in ballot. Certainly things should be open again in time for the National Election in November.

#### **You can apply online at**

<http://VotesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot>

OR you can request an application for Mail-In Ballot by mail or in person at your County Election Office.

Cambria County: 814-472-1464

Indiana County: 724-465-3805

Somerset County: 814-445-1549

## **Johnstown Chapter NARFE Help Line**

If you need any assistance or just need someone to talk to during this time, your NARFE family is here for you. You can leave a detailed message at this number and someone will get back to you ASAP.

**814-532-0124**

If you would like to help, please call and let us know that as well. Leave a detailed message including your name, location and what you need or can do.

## **Happy Birthday to You**



### **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

|               |      |                     |      |
|---------------|------|---------------------|------|
| Galen Miller  | 5/5  | Margaret Woloschuk  | 5/16 |
| Jack Marshall | 5/9  | Nancy Gindlesperger | 5/23 |
| Larry Palecek | 5/10 | Patricia Valentine  | 5/26 |
| Judy Inboden  | 5/10 |                     |      |

**If your birthday is missing, please contact Linda Kapustka, so she can add you to the list!**



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

JOHNSTOWN PENNSYLVANIA

CHAPTER 1130

NARFE Chapter 1130 – P.O. Box 45.  
Enon Valley, PA 16120-0045

**DATED MATERIAL • TIME VALUE**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**2020 Chapter Activities**

| MEETING DATE | PROGRAM   | NEWSLETTER    |
|--------------|---|---------------|
| May 20       | Meeting Cancelled                                 | Publish       |
| June 17      | Meeting Cancelled                                 | Publish       |
| July 15      | Board Meeting at Hoss’s                           | No Newsletter |
| August 19    | Summer Picnic – Lichtenfels Nursery (Pending)     | Publish       |
| September 16 | Luncheon Meeting – Program                        | Publish       |
| October 21   | Luncheon Meeting – Aetna Insurance Speaker        | Publish       |
| November 18  | Luncheon Meeting – Open Season, Chapter Elections | Publish       |
| December 16  | Christmas Luncheon Meeting – Place TBD            | Publish       |

**Once you’re done reading this newsletter, please pass it along to a new potential member!**

**We are NARFE Johnstown Chapter 1130. Your Close- to- Home Membership - \$40\*.**

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association is the **only** membership organization solely dedicated to **protecting and preserving the benefits of all federal workers and retirees**. NARFE is your legislative voice and your information resource. Receive *narfe* magazine each month; attend meetings, often with invited speakers; network and get involved in grass-roots lobbying efforts.

*\* First-year dues. Subsequent years \$40 plus local chapter dues. Contact the Membership Chairperson, Larry Palecek, at larry1130@verizon.net or (814) 472-9065 for more information or to obtain a membership application. We hope to see you at the next meeting!*