



San Antonio CHAPTER 1594

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

As Chapter President, I want to thank all members who have made Chapter 1594 one of the best chapters in NARFE. Thanks to everyone who recruited new members and those who attend our monthly meetings. We have a great slate of 2018 elected/appointed officers and volunteers. 2018 is going to be an exciting year as we celebrate our Chapter's 40th Anniversary in June. I ask everyone to pray for our members who are ill and

those who passed away this year. I'm honored and happy to serve as Chapter 1594's President for the upcoming year.



Joyce Zerr
Chapter President

CHAPTER PREVIOUS MONTHS' ACTIVITIES

September: Twenty-four members and two guests were present. First guest was Edwina L. King, R.N., Community Resource Specialist with Passionate Health Care Services. She briefed members about the importance of "Fall Prevention". At end of her briefing, Guadalupe Flores presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation. Second guest speaker was Yoshia M. Hence, Registered Representative from Foresters Financial Services, Inc. She advised the members about financial planning for Senior Citizens and the help that is available through her company.

Membership Chairman Connie Bedock reported that we have 141 voting members. She reminded members that if you recruit new members by December 9th, your name will be entered in a drawing for a



Pictured left to right, Chapter Member Guadalupe Flores presenting Ms. Edwina L. King with a Certificate of Appreciation

Upcoming Events

December 13, 2017:

Monthly meeting/luncheon from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Brookhill Baptist Church, 631 Utopia Ave., San Antonio, TX 78223.

January 17, 2018:

Monthly meeting from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m., Brookhill Baptist Church, 631 Utopia Ave., San Antonio, TX 78223.

February 21, 2018:

Monthly meeting from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m., Brookhill Baptist Church, 631 Utopia Ave., San Antonio, TX 78223.

March 21, 2018:

Monthly meeting from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m., Brookhill Baptist Church, 631 Utopia Ave., San Antonio, TX 78223.

April 18, 2018:

Monthly meeting from 12:30 – 2:30 p.m., Brookhill Baptist Church, 631 Utopia Ave., San Antonio, TX 78223.





Renee Eschmann Harris (standing) and Shirley Click at the Brookhill Baptist Church Ministry Fair

\$25.00 gift card to be presented at the December 13th meeting/luncheon. 2nd Vice President Shirley Swift gave the National Legislative Report from Capitol Hill. Chapter Secretary Shirley Click and Renee Eschmann Harris were recognized for attending the Brookhill Baptist Church Ministry Fair. A collection was taken for the NARFE –FEEA Disaster Fund.

October: Twenty-two members were in attendance. An update on the health of member Georgia Pilgrim was presented and October birthdays and anniversaries were acknowledged. Members spoke about their experiences with Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence since

October is awareness month on both subjects. Sandy Vogel spoke about her participation in the Alzheimer's walk coordinated by Chapter 672 and reported on the NARFE 2017 Region VI Seminar she attended as representative of the Chapter. Gerry Rendon was thanked for his Alzheimer's donation of \$100 in honor of his Mother. An additional total of \$125 was collected at the meeting for Alzheimer's.

The 2018 Chapter Bylaws have been approved by NARFE National Headquarters with our Chapter being the first to complete bylaws in District 12. This earned a compliment from District 12 Representative Dorothy Creswell. Treasurer's report was given by Margarita Hernandez and was approved by members.

Henrietta "Rita" Horton was presented a framed copy of her autobiography. Presentation was made by Vice President Shirley Swift with a copy to be added to the Chapter History book.

Members were reminded to continue recruiting new members to be eligible to earn incentives being given by NARFE and the Texas Federation. David Cuellar reminded members that now is the time to continue donating to NARFE-PAC when our benefits are in jeopardy.

Upcoming events were noted. They are the November 15 meeting which will honor Chapter Veterans and deceased members and a Mini Health Fair which will also be held at the meeting. All Health Insurance Companies have not yet responded. Blue/Cross & Blue Shield, Humana and Aetna were contacted. Aetna has not confirmed their attendance.

December 13 Lunch meeting was discussed and will be held at Pecan Grill Restaurant. Menu is left open until we have a discussion with Mr. Chapa on items and price.

Officers for 2018 were voted on and they are: Joyce Zerr, President; Gerry Rendon, 1st Vice President; Shirley Swift 2nd Vice President; Christine Cuellar, Secretary; Margarita Hernandez, Treasurer. Appointed Positions are: Sandy Vogel, Public Relations and Service Officer; Euvia Gant, Chaplain; David Cuellar, Parliamentarian; Gerry Rendon, Newsletter Editor; Abel Hernandez, Margarita Hernandez, Ricardo Salomon and Delores Rutledge will serve as the Social Committee at meetings. Johnnie Davis is the Chapter's Official Greeter. Effective date for new assignment is January 1, 2018.



Pictured left to right, 2nd Vice President Shirley Swift presenting member Henrietta "Rita" Horton copy of her Autobiograph



Pictured left to right, David Cuellar, Jesse Gorden, Abel Hernandez, Earl Harris, Guadalupe Flores, Al Dreumont, Margarita Hernandez and Rita Horton

November: Thirty members were in attendance. Joyce announced the passing of member Georgia Pilgrim. Chapter Veterans were honored and presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their service to our country. They were also presented with a pin and pen. Representatives from Aetna and Blue Cross Blue Shield briefed on upcoming changes for 2018 and at the break, passed out brochures/literature and answered more questions from members. Joyce reminded members planning to attend the December 13th luncheon/meeting



Joyce Zerr presented Certificates of Appreciation to Aetna and BC/BS Reps

at Pecan Grill Restaurant to sign up by no later than December 6th. Cost to members and guests is \$10 and there are 4 plates to select from: Pecan Grill Chicken, Chili Relleno, Mexican Plate and Carne Guisada. Additional information to include who to contact if interested in attending provided on attachment to this newsletter.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITY

Chapter welcomes new members Carolyn Polk and Pam Dotson. Our condolences go out to the families of deceased Chapter members Elmer "Smiley" Williams, Joseph Uhlig and Georgia Prilgrim. Please remember in your prayers our ill members including: Anna White, Carl Rabe, Amy Thompson, Ray Gilliland, Georgia Lindinger, Frances Burd, Frances Marthiljohni and Jesse Garcia.

CHAPTER MEMBER(S) BIO

Henrietta Horton, known as "Rita", became a member of Chapter 1594 in June of 2015. Previously she had been a NARFE member of Chapter 273 while living in San Angelo, Texas. She was an active member and served as Membership Chairman and Finance Officer for two years.

Rita was born in Bessemer, Alabama on the 23rd of July 1941. She moved at a very early age to Chicago, Illinois and after graduating from high school she joined the Air Force with plans of being sent to the nursing program after basic training. This plan did



not come to fruition for her and she was sent to a Finance assignment in Massachusetts. After her Air Force duty ended she began to pursue her goal of a nursing career. Rita was accepted into the Nursing Program at Loyola University of Chicago, Lakeshore campus and graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing in June 1970. All during her education she worked part-time every Friday and Saturday evenings as Emergency Room staff nurse at Billings Hospital with extra days worked as requested to accommodate staffing.

In March 1973 Rita reached her nursing career goal by graduating with a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Illinois.

Rita met her husband James Horton while attending Loyola University, however they delayed marriage until February 16, 1974. In January 1975 Rita joined the U.S. Army Reserves and was commissioned with the rank of Captain. She was the first nurse assigned to the 374th Convalescent Center in Chicago which was attached to the 452nd General Hospital Unit. After 22 years in the military she retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Rita's nursing career spans the United States. From Pennsylvania to Missouri, Kansas, New Mexico, Arizona and Texas. She served as a staff nurse, Nurse Coordinator of Ambulatory Care, Coordinator of Community Health Nursing,

Assistant Hospital Administrator/Nursing Director and Executive Officer of Nursing Service VA Waco. She retired from the VA Health Care Systems with 25 years of service.

Rita and James retired in June 1999 to a small town in Michigan named Covert. They bought 10 acres of land from an Aunt and built a home. When they both had health problems they moved to San Angelo, Texas in May 2006. In July 2013 they moved to San Antonio so that James could be close to large hospitals and the VA Healthcare System. His service connected disability unfortunately took his life on March 18, 2017. Rita and James had 43 years of wonderful times, traveling and fishing, bowling and just having fun! Rita continues her active life with church activities, gardening and now being an active member of Chapter 1594.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Dues Renewal: Like Your Chapter? How to Stay!

Chapter membership is optional now. We understand not everyone likes to network with other active and retired federal workers; or that work, family commitments, health or other issues may prevent you from participating at the local level.

You may choose at renewal time to continue with our chapter paying NARFE dues and chapter dues, or you may opt out of chapter membership and pay only NARFE dues.

To continue in your chapter, please be alert when completing the renewal form.

On the renewal form is a block "Choose your Membership Option," with pricing for 1-, 2-, and 3-year rates in two columns. One column is headed "NARFE" and lists \$40, \$72, and \$102 respectively. The other column, headed "NARFE and Chapter 1594," is the one to select to continue in your chapter. The combined NARFE and Chapter dues have added the chapter amount multiplied by

the number of years. In the example shown, the annual chapter dues are \$7, so \$7, \$14, and \$21 are added to yield \$47, \$86 and \$123 respectively.

Simply select from the "NARFE and Chapter 1594" column the dues for the number of years you want, and you'll remain in the chapter.

If you accidentally opt out of chapter membership, just contact your chapter officers, and they'll help you get transferred back.

Please renew my NARFE membership as indicated below:

Choose your Membership Option	
NARFE OR	NARFE & Chapter 1594
1 Year <input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ 47
2 Years <input type="checkbox"/> \$72	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 86
3 Years <input type="checkbox"/> \$102	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 123

Want to save money on your NARFE Association dues? If you or your spouse are receiving a civilian federal annuity, consider dues withholding. With dues withholding, you get a 15% discount annually when renewing your membership, or \$34. Monthly, 1/12th of your

combined NARFE and chapter dues are deducted from your annuity (for the example chapter with \$7 dues, the monthly amount is only \$3.42). If you complete the Texas Federation dues withholding form and mail to our Texas Federation Treasurer, you'll also receive a \$20 sign-up reward.

The form is available on the Federation webpage in the Library and includes a chart showing the monthly amount for various chapter dues amounts. Withholding forms are also available at Chapter meetings or call Connie Bedock at 210-673-2290 to receive one in the mail.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBPAGE AND LOOK US UP ON FACEBOOK



Now that the webpage is available for reading the newsletters, members may opt out of receiving the paper copy. If you no longer want to receive a paper copy of the chapter newsletter, please let us know by sending an email to Connie Bedock at conniebee@satx.rr.com and she will take you off the mailing list.



Link to the webpage is <http://www.narfe.org/site/chapter1594/> and Facebook at NARFE Chapter 1594. If you would like an article or link added to the webpage you believe will be of benefit to members, email information to Gerry Rendon at gerardorendon@att.net or Annette Ivy at adivy@att.net.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Membership Recruitment Drive: Our membership drive is in full swing. During this period, we welcomed new members Carolyn Polk and Pam Dotson. The drawing for June's \$25.00 gift card was held at the June Lunch meeting and was awarded to Keith Click. Another drawing will be held at the December Lunch meeting and awarded to recruiter for the July through December timeframe. NARFE memberships are dropping and we can't let that happen. Remember there is "Strength in Numbers" and we need the strength to help get our views to Congress to preserve our benefits. NARFE is our voice in Washington. Spouses can also be members. The more members we have the more we can influence our Congressional representatives in Washington.

Southside Reporter Article: The newspaper continues to print a picture and article every month that our Chapter President submits about NARFE and our Chapter activities. This is good free publicity and has resulted in the recruitment of several new members for the chapter.



CALL CONGRESS

Call Congress toll free at 1-866-220-0044

The White House toll free at 1-888-225-8418

Additional phone numbers listed on last page of this newsletter

Internet users can go to NARFE website at www.narfe.org and voice your comments via email or letter format

OPM Retiree/Annuitant toll free at 1-888-767-6738 from 7:40 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST



MEETING INFORMATION

Next Meeting: 13 December 17 January 21 February

Place: Brookhill Baptist Church, 631 Utopia Ave., San Antonio, Texas 78223 (CURRENT LOCATION)

Date: Every third Wednesday of the month (unless rescheduled)

Time: 12:30 p.m. regular meetings, 11:00 a.m. lunch meetings in June and December (restaurant selected month prior to meeting)

**If you need a ride to the meeting or are interested in giving a member a ride,
please let one of the officers know.**

CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: JOYCE ZERR, 210-523-0770

1st VICE PRESIDENT: GERARDO (GERRY) RENDON, 210-213-4169

2nd VICE PRESIDENT: SHIRLEY SWIFT, 210-540-8890

SECRETARY: SHIRLEY M. CLICK, 210-680-1294

TREASURER: MARGARITA HERNANDEZ, 210-679-5381

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR: SHIRLEY A. SWIFT, 210-540-8890

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: CONSTANCE (CONNIE) BEDOCK, 210-673-2290

SERVICE OFFICER: SANDRA L. VOGEL, 210-218-5743

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: GERARDO (GERRY) RENDON, 210-213-4169

NARFE-PAC CHAIR: DAVID N. CUELLAR, 210-333-0002

NARFE NET COORDINATOR: ANNETTE IVY, 210-464-4497