



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Northern Neck Chapter 1823



*Serving Active & Retired Federal Employees,
Spouses, and Survivor Annuitants*

Virginia Federation of Chapters – Area 1

May 2021 – July 2021

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a rough year for all the NARFE Chapters. Hopefully, more and more people will be able to get vaccinated and things will get better. Many of us had to travel to locations way outside our area to get the shots – e.g., Richmond, Arlington. Several of us managed to “win” the CVS, Kroger or Walgreen lotteries for appointments in Norfolk, Hampton and Mechanicsville.

If you need a Covid vaccine, do sign up at the vaccinate.virginia.gov official website. But don't wait for them to call. Instead, get on the lists for local pharmacies, and keep trying to get on the appointment lists operated by national pharmacies. These now include Costco in Newport News and Fredericksburg, CVS (none close to us) (www.cvs.com/immunizations/covid-19-vaccine), and Kroger (closest are Williamsburg, Hayes and Mechanicsville). **It appears that Walmart in Kilmarnock and Walgreen in Callao may now be giving vaccines.** Be aware that you may have to create an online account to gain access to an online appointment scheduler (Walgreen and Walmart).

During all this, we have tried to hold a virtual meeting via Zoom. However, in both cases, the planned speaker was not able to participate. In April, the speaker's work place was shorthanded due to Covid infections. We will again try to use Zoom for our May 4th meeting. (See Upcoming Events for meeting details.) Watch your email for the Zoom link. An in-person option is also available for 9 people.

For June, July, August and September, we plan to hold in-person meetings. Even though most people – hopefully – will be vaccinated by that time, we will be meeting outdoors for three of them and still wearing masks and social distancing for all of them. Until then, BE SAFE.

BJ McMillan

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Possible Partial Relief From WEP Reduction - current Federal and other retirees affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) that reduces earned Social Security benefits may get partial relief from recently proposed Congressional legislation (Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act of 2021). If enacted, current retirees would receive up to \$150.00 more in Social Security benefits. This cannot exceed the current WEP reduction. Benefits would begin nine months after enactment.

– Bruce McMillan

STATE LEGISLATION

No State Legislation to report. For any new state information and updates, please visit www.vanarfe.org.

CHAPTER 1823 EVENTS

Upcoming Events

May 4th - Detective Caleb Smith, of the Northumberland County Sheriff's Department, will talk via Zoom about the newly formed Law Enforcement Explorer Post. Detective Smith is the Post Advisor. The program, which is open to youth ages 14 to 21 from Northumberland and Lancaster Counties, is designed to enable them to explore law enforcement as a possible career choice. Please watch your email for the Zoom link.

We will be conducting the Zoom session from the Northumberland Library. Up to 9 people may be present in person. Let Jim Landrum or BJ McMillan know if you would like to be present at the library.

June 1st - Wine tasting at Triple V Winery, just south of Burgess on Route 200 (the old Athena winery). We will be wearing masks and social distancing.

July 6th - Page Henley will share the history of St Mary's White Chapel with us. The church is located on River Road, at the junction of 201 and 354. This is also our Ice Cream Social.

August 3rd - Tentative depending on the Covid situation – Tour of O'Gara Group, Montross. O'Gara trains government employees and civilians in security, risk and threat responses. You must sign up in advance for this meeting by emailing Linda Steele, steelelk59@gmail.com. MEETING STARTS AT NOON!

MEMBERSHIP

Remembering John Krainock - As many of you know, John Krainock, longtime member and leader of chapter 1823, died recently after an extended illness. During his years as a NARFE member, John served in a number of officer positions and was a good friend to many. Until recently, most of us did not know that each year John paid the Belle Isle State Park shelter rental fee for our annual September picnic and he regularly supported Belle Isle.

The 1823 Board has decided to invite Chapter members to remember John by contributing to the Park in his name. If you would like to be a part of that remembrance, please send a check made out to Chapter 1823 NARFE, with Belle Isle State Park in the memo line. Mail your check to Ted Munns, 132 Lancaster Drive, #606, Irvington, VA 22480 by May 15.

Condolences also go out to the family of Tony Rabalais on his death.

– BJ McMillan

SERVICE OFFICER INFORMATION

I am available to provide assistance to members on procedures and forms governing delivery of annuity payments, federal life and health insurance, survivor benefits, change of beneficiary, or federal income tax withholding.

I can also assist in resolving problems involving claims submitted to OPM by chapter members. Please contact me at (804) 453-4466, if you need assistance.

– Bud Bolger

CHAPTER 1823 CONTACTS

Alzheimer's – John Yonce (438-8011)
 Chaplain – Mike Ramming
 Membership – BJ Thomas McMillan (580-8666)
 Nat'l Legislation – Bruce McMillan (580-8666)
 State Legislation – Vacant
 Programs – Vacant
 Publicity – Nellie Landrum (529-6415)
 Sergeant-at-Arms – Stan Brown (453-7502)
 Service Officer – Bud Bolger (453-4466)
 Network Coordinator – Linda Steele (472-8982)

CHAPTER 1823 Website

Visit us at www.narfe.org/site/chapter1823 or Google "NARFE Chapter 1823" to view upcoming and past events, newsletters, and important links.

You can also get to the website by going onto www.vanarfe.org and clicking on "List of Chapters" on the left column and then clicking on "1823".

LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS

Richard H. Stuart (VA State Senator - 28th Dist.)
 P.O. Box 1146
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 Email: district28@senate.virginia.gov

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 Phone 804/730-1026 / Fax: 804/730-1051
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 Email: www.wittman.house.gov



LAWS CAN CHANGE – SO CAN YOUR RETIREMENT BENEFITS!!
CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

- May 4** **1:00 PM** – **Northumberland Library**, 7204 Northumberland Highway, Heathsville, VA. Speaker: Detective Caleb Smith, “Law Enforcement Explorer Post.” Zoom session will be conducted. Please contact Jim Landrum or BJ McMillan if you would like to be present at the Library.
- June 1** **1:00 PM** – **Triple V Winery**, 3138 Jessie DuPont Memorial Highway, Heathsville, VA. Members will be wearing masks and social distancing.
- July 6** **1:00 PM** – **St. Mary’s White Chapel**, 5940 White Chapel Road, Lancaster, VA. Speaker: Page Henley, “History of St. Mary’s White Chapel.”. Ice Cream Social will be held outside.
- August 3** **12:00 Noon** – **O’Gara Group**, 220 Industrial Park Drive, Montross, VA. Speaker: Jeremy Stifler, “Tour of Tactical Training Facility.” Coffee and water will be provided; attendees may bring their lunch. **This is a closed facility, so please contact Linda Steele at 804-472-8982 or by email at steelek59@gmail.com by July 31 if you plan on attending.**
- September 7** **12:00 Noon** – **Annual Picnic, Belle Isle State Park**, Humphrey’s Shelter #1. (Burgers, hotdogs & sausages will be furnished). Last names starting with A-M bring a dessert, N-Z salad/side dish). Speaker: Congressman Rob Wittman.

REMINDER!

If you change your email address, please send your new address to narfehp1823@yahoo.com.

VA Federation of Chapters

Check the website at www.vanarfe.org to find our Chapter’s quarterly newsletter, website, and other additional information