

CHAPTER 242 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE FOR APRIL 2021

Hello Everyone!

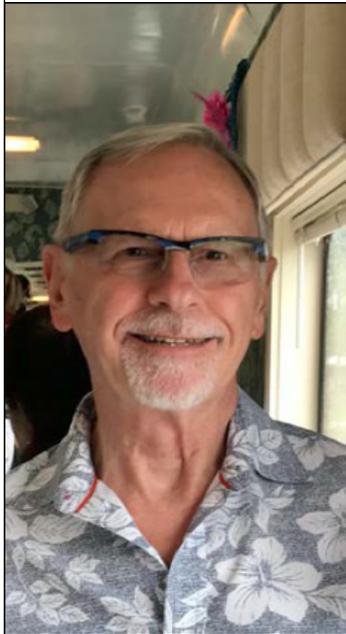
The promise/arrival of stimulus checks and the hope that vaccinations offer are helping to reduce fear in us to venture out, albeit with precautions we are growing used to. As NARFE242, we are still a-ways from holding any in-person luncheons with speakers, much as we might long for some in-person presence. Your Board has continued its Zoom meetings, and we have planned our next Zoom Chapter meeting. Before I tell you about it, I want you to know that I cannot praise our Board high enough: throughout these long months, they have demonstrated the grit and knowledge and service that makes federal employees the backbone of our government!

Our next Zoom Chapter Meeting will be April 15 at 1:00 pm. Our presenter will be from the Sarasota Sheriffs Department, Deputy Cathy Duff, a 26-year veteran of the department, whose topic will be "Scamming." Just as we have grown accustomed to using our technology more, so have the scammers and hackers! Remember, any emails from me or anyone associated with NARFE asking for money for veterans is a scam! DO NOT OPEN,

Beforehand, you will receive the invitation to join the meeting in a link in your e-mail. Simply click on that link and wait a few seconds for the host to allow you into the meeting. It is a good idea to sign in 10 minutes before 1:00 pm to make sure your audio is working, etc. Yes, there will be opportunities to ask Deputy Duff questions. For those without internet access, the Newsletter will also list a phone number to call so you can hear what she has to say. Dial the number for Washington, DC.

As I also serve as your Chaplain, I want to wish each of you the blessings associated with this time of year: Easter, Passover, Spring! If you have lost loved ones during this time, or if you yourself are a "long-hauler" from the virus, may comfort and healing be yours. And as always, may God bless and protect our troops!

Peace Out,
Bill Vander Heyden, NARFE 242 President



EMAIL SCAM ALERT

BEWARE: Webmaster Bill Leatham reports that he has received 2 phishing text messages via email, both citing that urgent action was needed to restore access to critical information and to press “1” immediately for help. He was able to trace one of the emails to a Chinese source. Be wary of this type of email, investigate first.

Emails are being sent to NARFE Chapter 242 members asking for money or Ebay cards for veterans. Some are purported to be from our Chapter President Bill Vander Heyden and some from Federation President Terry Zitek. **THEY ARE NOT! DO NOT RESPOND TO THESE EMAILS IN ANYWAY.**

Our NARFE officers will never send you email requesting money or cards. Delete these emails immediately.



For 100 years, NARFE has been fighting to preserve and enhance the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and annuitants.

In addition to engaging with and educating lawmakers and the White House on behalf of Feds, NARFE also serves as a source of unparalleled advice and unbiased information that can help you make the most of your benefits.

To make sure NARFE can continue its mission for the next 100 years, please consider supporting NARFE's Centennial Fundraising Campaign.

Please visit www.NARFE.org for more information on the NARFE Centennial.

CHAPTER 242 SUNSHINE INFORMATION

If you know of a Chapter 242 member who is not doing well due to illness or you know of the death of a member please contact our Sunshine Committee Chair: Darrell Cascio by phone at 941-587-7534 or by email at cascio1939@gmail.com so that we can send out a card.

CHAPTER 242 CHAPTER MEETING APRIL 15

Chapter Meeting - April 15, 2021 at 1:00 PM. Via Zoom a link will be sent via email prior to meeting.

Speaker: Deputy Cathy Duff, Sarasota County Sheriffs Office

Speaker Bio: Deputy Duff has been with the sheriff's office for over 26 years. She grew up in Venice. She is currently assigned to the Crime Prevention Unit. During her time with the sheriff's office, she has worked in the Patrol Bureau, Community Policing and Criminal Investigations Bureau. While assigned to the Criminal Investigation Bureau, Deputy Duff worked in white collar crimes, then in the Special Victims Unit specializing in crimes against children.

Topics: Latest Scams and Frauds to Watch Out For

If you do not wish to join the next chapter meeting via Zoom here are instructions to access AUDIO only (no computer access) for those of you who want to join the Zoom Chapter meeting April 15, 2021 @ 1:00 pm. Dial 1-312-715-8592. When it asks for Meeting ID, punch in 9311024 2989. When it asks for Passcode, punch in 789319. With audio only, you will still receive the benefit of Deputy Duff's presentation. Thanks!

CHAPTER 242 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S TEAM

Hello Everyone,

Hope this newsletter finds you and your families well and happy. Our Friends & Family NARFE242 Team has been registered for the November, 20, 2021 Walk to End Alzheimer's.

This year's walk is scheduled for Ed Smith Stadium. However, depending on circumstances the walk could be everywhere for individual participants — on every sidewalk, track and trail. In 2020 Friends and Family NARFE242 simply walked trails in the Meadows.

Since we are not meeting in person and our chapter is not raising money by selling raffle tickets at the luncheons we are asking that you please consider supporting your local NARFE Chapter 242 in the fight to end Alzheimer's by becoming a team member or making a donation on the fundraising page for the walk.

Every dollar you donate will help the Alzheimer's Association provide care and support to all those facing Alzheimer's and all other dementia.

Donations can be made as follows:

1. On the Internet enter in your browser: act.alz.org/Sarasota-Manatee

Scroll down to find a team and enter: Friend's & Family NARFE242. Click on search and follow the prompts to donate to the team or an individual (team will get credit).

2. Mail in a check. Checks should be made out to the Alzheimer's Association along with the form available on the fundraising page. If you cannot access a form, contact me or Bill Vander Heyden and we will send you one.

I can be reached at: cshaker20@gmail.com or Bill can be reached at: billvan2062@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support and stay well,
Clara Schaefer
Chairperson, Alzheimer's Committee.

MONTHLY LEGISLATIVE AND NARFE NEWSLETTER UPDATE FOR NARFE CHAPTER 242 - March/April 2021

A Message From NARFE President Ken Thomas

Last week, NARFE celebrated its centennial anniversary. I am humbled and honored that some of our trusted partners in Congress chose the occasion to recognize NARFE and the historic progress our members have made regarding how our government compensates and cares for its workforce and retirees.

I am excited to share new content about our association from the past 100 years. The Centennial section of our website is an excellent resource — I encourage you to return to it throughout the year and share it with your federal friends and colleagues. I look forward to shepherding NARFE into its second century, as strong and as dedicated as ever.

March is NARFE-PAC month, a time to highlight the importance of NARFE's political action committee. Please join me in kicking off the month by supporting the PAC today. A strong NARFE-PAC provides more opportunities to take NARFE's message directly to Congress, helping NARFE raise awareness of your most pressing concerns and ensuring that lawmakers hear the voice of the federal community.

Ask Your Representative to Become an Original Cosponsor of WEP Reform Bill

Visit NARFE's Legislative Action Center to urge your Representative to become an original cosponsor of the Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act, which would reform the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and provide much-needed relief to those affected by it. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard E. Neal, D-MA, is preparing to introduce the bill, and strong congressional support upon its introduction will help move the bill through Congress.

MONTHLY LEGISLATIVE AND NARFE NEWSLETTER UPDATE FOR NARFE CHAPTER 242 - March/April 2021

Resolution Honoring NARFE's 100th Anniversary Passes Unanimously in Senate

On February 25, the Senate unanimously passed S.Res. 76, a resolution introduced by Sens. Ben Cardin, D-MD, and James Lankford, R-OK, congratulating NARFE on its centennial and acknowledging the vital contributions its members have made to the United States since 1921.

NARFE Centennial Gala

NARFE is celebrating its 100th birthday in 2021 and while we had grand plans for a celebratory gala the evening of June 21, we're still working on how to celebrate safely together.

Visit the NARFE website for more information at: <https://www.narfe.org>

MEMBERSHIP

Total membership: 114 voting members. Note: non-voting members no longer appear on chapter rolls.

Want to join the free lunch club - Sign up a new member and you get a free lunch at one of our future Chapter meetings!

Don't you know a retired federal employee that you could recruit to help NARFE grow in numbers and continue as our federal benefits experts?

WE NEED YOU!

Please get involved by coming to our meetings, lobbying Congress about our bills and volunteering. We guarantee that everyone who volunteers will find something to do, have a chance to meet some great people and assist in trying to protect our earned benefits. NARFE is the only organization looking out for us. If your email or mailing address changes please let Rosanne Roble know by calling 757-630-0346 or email rosanneroble@gmail.com and notify NARFE at 1-800-456-8410.

NARFE members can use the Legislative Action Center (LAC) as a way to send letters to members of Congress and track NARFE-related bills and votes. To access the NARFE Legislative Action Center (LAC), visit www.narfe.org and sign up for an on-line account.

OUR FLORIDA REPRESENTATIVES

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