

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

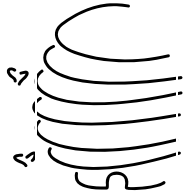


BEEHIVE CHIMES

Newsletter of

UTAH FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS

MARCH 2014



Isabel Sullivan, Editor

www.narfeUtah.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The March issue of the NARFE Magazine has arrived. The article outlining the accomplishments of our grass-roots efforts, plus those of our National Legislative officers in cooperation with other like-minded government employee organizations, is well worth reading. This is good to use in conversations with our own senators and representatives, as well as a good reference when trying to explain what NARFE is all about if you're recruiting a new member. This issue is full of good information, so PLEASE READ IT and keep it handy!

The plans for our State Convention are shaping up nicely; we will welcome the Chief Financial Officer for Rio Tinto/Kennecott Copper as our speaker for Friday morning (May 16) along with speakers from our Nat'l office via Skype. The Layton and Bountiful chapters have been working together to provide an interesting program, including the above mentioned speakers, other presentations, the used book sale and raffle to benefit Alzheimer's Research, and of course, the very important (and fun) opportunity to get together with friends and meet new members.

Attendance to our State Convention has been less than great the last few years, which is discouraging for those who work hard to provide a meaningful and enjoyable experience; every effort is made to keep the expenses as low as possible, but if every chapter is willing to help defray the expenses of at least one or two of their delegates, assuring their presence at the convention, perhaps our attendance numbers can be increased. Attendees can sign in from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM on Thursday, May 15, with the convention opening at 1:00 PM. The General Session will close about 4:30 PM that day, with the banquet that evening. We will reconvene at 9:00 AM on Friday, May 16, planning to adjourn at 1:00 PM. Further information, including directions to the Holiday Inn Express in Layton will be included in the next issue of the Chimes.

****ATTENTION:** The next Federation Executive Board meeting will be held at Denny's Restaurant, located on West 500 South (just East of the freeway) beginning with lunch at 12:00 noon, the business meeting beginning at 1:00 PM, on Friday, March 7, 2014. Guests (and suggestions/ideas) are welcome.

The convention planning committee will meet there at 11:00 AM to finalize plans & present them to the board members.

Marla Ramey, Federation President, 435-882-3876

LEGISLATION

Amid reports that the White House will not include the Chained CPI in its FY15 budget, Joseph A. Beaudoin, President of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), released the following statement:

“NARFE is pleased to learn that the President will not, in his Fiscal Year 2015 Budget to Congress, include a proposal to use the Chained CPI to calculate annual COLAs. This flawed proposal should be taken off the table

once and for all, and it is heartening to see the President has changed course on the Chained CPI. Our nation's seniors, veterans and federal retirees should never be pawns in the budget game.

"Any reform to the way annual COLAs are calculated should take into account how seniors, those who rely most on the calculation to live, spend their money. A true measure of inflation for beneficiaries of Social Security and other federal retirement programs would take into account the rising health care costs experienced by seniors. Measures that do this, such as the CPI-E, which monitors average consumer prices for Americans age 62 years and older, would result in higher COLAs. This is a clear sign that moving to the Chained CPI is a move in the wrong direction."

In the NARFE magazine, pages 12-14, is a summary of the bills that NARFE is tracking. Please call your Congressman if you see something that is of concern to you, let them know your concerns.

Also: follow on Facebook: **NARFE National Headquarter.**

Nancy Carlson-Gotts, 2nd Vice President, Legislative Chair

NEWS FROM CHAPTERS

SALT LAKE #0155: February's meeting was a great summary of the ACA and 2014 changes to our income taxes. Karen Moore, Tax Associate for H&R Block, in her third year of presenting to our Chapter, always does an outstanding job of giving updates that affect our members. The overview of the ACA was also most informative. For our **March 18th meeting**, we are planning to have a presentation from a Salt Lake County Library representative to tell us about all the services the library provides: it isn't just books anymore!

As usual, we meet at **1:00 pm, at the Mount Olympus Senior Center .**

Nancy Carlson-Gotts, President, 801- 582- 9373.

OGDEN #0320: Circumstances will prevent our meeting as previously scheduled for March. Our next meeting will be **Friday, April 11, 2014, 1:00 PM, at the Sizzler Café.**

LuDean Burton, President

LAYTON #829: February 12, 2014 the chapter met at the Layton Library with 11 members present. We were led in prayer by Chaplain Mortensen and President Abacherli led us in the pledge of allegiance of America. We enjoyed a presentation from Mr. Dean Hunt, Fire Marshal of Layton. He discussed the prevention of burn accidents and falls in the home.

Our next regular meeting will be at the **Layton Library at 1:00 PM on March 12, 2014.** J and J Nursery will present tips of spring planting, yard clean-up and water conservation.

Joan L. Turner, Secretary

BOUNTIFUL #0830: At our February meeting held February 12, two representatives from Midtown Community Health Center provided information about health care.

Colleen Busenbark reported that there will be a used book sale at the State Convention to be held May 15-16, 2014. Colleen needs to have the books by May 1st. If you aren't able to bring the books to Colleen, please call her: 801-295-8613. She and Blaine will gladly pick them up.

The next meeting will be held **on March 12 at 1:00 PM at the Golden Years Center**. A speaker from the Red Cross will speak on Home Fire Safety.

Joan Bohn, Secretary

DIXIE-ST. GEORGE #973: A band of hearty NARFE stalwarts from Chapter 973 braved the lovely spring weather in St. George to meet on Feb. 20, 2014. Our discussion focused on our opposition to the chained CPI proposal which potentially could reduce future federal annuities by \$48,000 over 25 years. The chained CPI is a continuation of the attack on the welfare of the US middle class.

It was duly noted that 100 House Democrats have signed a letter expressing their opposition to the chained CPI proposal, and unsurprisingly not a single GOP house member signed the letter to President Obama. Chapter members were encouraged to use NARFE Internet tools and personal letters to Utah's GOP member of the US congress to protest this attack on federal retirees. Thank you President Obama for dropping "chained CPI" Social Security cuts from the budget. This is great news for America's seniors!

A social networking type gathering is under consideration for a future chapter meeting.

“Lefty” Don Miller, President/Secretary 435-627-2145.

CEDAR CITY #1205: The guest speaker at our February meeting was Dave Miller, Iron County Commissioner. He is active in the Health and Welfare of the community as well as adamant on upholding the State and U.S. Constitution. Dave discussed road conditions, upcoming maintenance issues and the new truck route soon to be completed from HWY 56 to Hamilton Fort. He stated the “low effect habitat” for prairie dogs has been completed. Dave is campaigning to protect private property rights.

He also mentioned that as far as Economic Development in Iron County: Metal Craft will not only make jet parts, but will soon begin the assembly of the SJ30 jet. This will bring jobs to the area. Also under development is Solar Power. The current wind energy fields send power to California. Eventually it will be available to use locally. A plan to enhance Tourism is a current issue of discussion on the Iron County Commissioners agenda. The new Shakespeare Theatre building will be completed in two months. Iron County Commissioners are discussing a way to acquire funds to offset the budget and not require tax increases. A lively question and answer session followed Dave’s discourse.

Our next meeting will be **Monday, March 3, 2014, 12:00 Noon, at the Sizzler Café**.

Mitchell Gitz, President

In Memoriam: Utah NARFE has lost a long-time member with the death of Julia Bobb Wilcox. Anyone who has attended one of our State Conventions in the last few years will remember our delightful Julia pushing her way with her walker, her red hair and big smile. She was a faithful member of Chapter 155, Salt Lake, from 1981 until her demise, January 31, 2014, at the age of 97. Julia became an Honorary Member in 2003. When chapter meetings were held at the Tenth East Senior Center, she was the one we could always rely on to bring a cake for our refreshment times. Julia retired from the United States Postal Service, and was widowed from Roy Elmer Bobb, her husband of 47 years in 1986. She married Cleon Wilcox in 1990. At the Utah NARFE Convention in 1991, Cleon won a prize as the oldest member attending, and then he and Julia won a prize as the newest newlyweds. She will be sorely missed.

ALZHEIMER'S DONATIONS from Utah Federation Chapters should be sent by check payable to “NARFE Alzheimer's Research.” Be sure your chapter number is on the check where it says “For” or “Remarks.” Mail to: John Light, Utah Federation Alzheimer’s Chair, 3769 South 3325 West, West Valley City, UT 84119-3509

**UTAH FEDERATION 54th ANNUAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION
MAY 15 – 16, 2014**

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS – 1695 WOODLAND PARK LANE, LAYTON, UT 84041

Reservations: Phone 801-773-3773 Room rate \$89.00 per night, includes Continental Breakfast. (One form per person, please -- May be duplicated, or spouse name may be submitted on separate, attached sheet. Please indicate by checkmark status of each attendee.)

Name _____ Chapter Name & Number _____

Address _____ Federation/Chapter Officer ____ Delegate ____

City, State, ZIP _____ Del. Alternate __ Guest __ Non-delegate Member ____

Registration fee \$ 15.00 Banquet (Provided by Marie Callendar's Restaurant) \$25.00

Registration must be received before May 10, 2014. Make check payable to Layton NARFE, and send to: Joan L.Turner, 7366 South 1950 East, South Weber, UT 84405. Phone 801-475-7143, e-mail: joanlturner@q.com. Please indicate below the total amount enclosed.

Registration \$ _____ Banquet \$ _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

PHONE NUMBERS FOR UTAH'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Sen. Orrin Hatch

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 224-5251

Salt Lake City Office: (801) 524-4380

Sen. Mike Lee

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 224-5444

Salt Lake City Office: (801) 524-5933

Rep. Rob Bishop (District 1)

Washington D.C. Office: (202) 225-0453

Ogden Office: (801) 625-0107

Brigham City Office: (435)734-2270

Rep. Chris Stewart (District 2)-

Washington, D.C. Office: 202-225-9730

Salt Lake City Office: 801-364-5550

St. George Office: 435-627-1500

Rep. Jason Chaffetz (District 3)

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 225-7751

Provo Office: (801) 851-2500

Rep. Jim Matheson (District 4)

Washington, D.C. Office: (202) 225-3011

West Valley Office: (801)486-1236

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