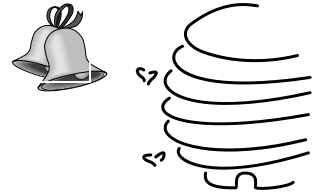




BEEHIVE CHIMES



NEWSLETTER OF

UTAH FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS

AUGUST 2014

Isabel Sullivan, Editor

www.narfeUtah.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May I extend the hope that everyone has had a very safe and enjoyable week of parades, fireworks, rodeos, and picnics, celebrating Pioneer Days in spite of the hot weather. While we remember those hardy folks who walked and otherwise made the long trip from the lands east of Utah, may we remember the folks who began the organization we now know as NARFE, in 1921.

They began with the goal of ensuring the well earned retirement and other benefits of Federal Employees was protected from Congressional efforts to reduce or eliminate those benefits in other ways, and, sad to say, that is still the goal and is still a hard political battle. Thanks to the commitment of many of the older generation, who have long since passed on, and the devotion and further commitment of those who are still with us, we still enjoy a relatively safe retirement. The younger generation, who are still working have some "perks," such as our Federal Health Benefit Plans, good sick leave and vacation leave plans, and can also transfer from one state to another without losing any of those benefits.

How much longer are the current Federal Employees going to have those benefits? We are losing, due to age, health problems, and death, those older retirees who have guided NARFE over many years. Without the participation of folks willing to continue the efforts of the NARFE "pioneers", our voices in Congress will be silenced. Without those voices, our Senators and Representatives will assume they can go ahead with their efforts to undermine our retirement funds, our Social Security funds, and our HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS, in order to cut the deficit, (which we didn't create) and to "balance the budget." So the next time you're talking to a prospective new member, those items are wisely mentioned, and the attitude "let someone else do it" may lead to the question "Who is 'Some one else' and where can I find this person?"

Thanks to Dianne Gitz in the Cedar City Chapter, we have a tentative program and date for our 2015 State Convention, to be hosted by the Cedar City chapter, and held at the Crystal Inn, May 14 and 15, 2015. Dianne has spent many hours getting the details worked out, and this is first time in some years to have the Convention so well planned so far in advance of the actual date! This gives everyone plenty of time to plan on attending!

The National Convention in Orlando, Florida, promises to be an exciting, also (possibly) a frustrating experience, with several resolutions and by-law amendments to be discussed and voted upon. These reflect the efforts of a committee tasked with the directives to address the

Future of NARFE. With the realization that many of our NARFE members are still working, or live too far from chapters, so can't attend chapter meetings, other methods of keeping in touch with our National organization, as well as Federation and Chapter officers, electronically have been offered: e-mail, face book, Twitter, etc. Members who have suggestions, opinions, or other thoughts regarding the Future of NARFE, are encouraged to communicate with your Federation/Chapter officers, either by submitting a comment on the Federation Website or to me directly

The next **Federation Board meeting will be held on August 8th**, lunch at noon, with business meeting at 1:00 pm, at Denny's Restaurant, 250 West 500 South, (5th South just east of the I-15 on-ramp) in Salt Lake City. Guests and spouses are welcome. **Officers, if you can't attend, please submit a written report to either me or Nancy Carlson-Gotts, before August 6th.**

Marla Ramey, Federation President
PH: 435-882-3876
marlaramey54@gmail.com

LEGISLATION

I am making appointments with our Congressmen for their August - September break. If you are interested in attending with President Ramey, Isabel Sullivan and myself and your Congressmen, please call (801-582-9373) or email me (nancycgotts@yahoo.com) for additional information.

Please review the August ***NARFE*** magazine. Check out the NARFE Bill Tracker on page 10, there are many bills that NARFE is tracking that are of importance to us retired and working employees; e.g., Health Care, Postal Reform. NARFE displays their position of supporting or opposing the bills - please voice your positions/concerns to your Congressmen. August is "NARFE Grass-Roots Advocacy Month", pages 8 and 9 of the NARFE magazine contain some Advocacy suggestions; please review and use some of those suggestions. The last page of the CHIMES contains the phone numbers of our Congressmen, please call them.

Message from NARFE President Joseph A. Beaudoin

"Uncertainty creates opportunity. While it is clear the final week of July will be the last week before the five-week congressional summer recess, most everything else on Capitol Hill is uncertain. I urge each NARFE member to harness this opportunity by seeking out incumbent lawmakers and their challengers during the recess, August 1 through Labor Day. Use your August *narfe* magazine, page 33, to show incumbents that the federal family votes in every state and district. Share NARFE issue priorities with all candidates."

And, "LIKE" on Facebook: **NARFE National Headquarters**

Nancy Carlson-Gotts, Vice President, Legislative Chair

CHAPTER REPORTS

SALT LAKE # 155 : Our August 19th meeting is our annual summer luncheon at Anna's Restaurant, 9th E and 4700 S. at NOON, baked chicken or roast pork loin, baked potatoes, salad and dessert for \$12. Send checks for \$12 payable to NARFE #155, with meal choice, by August 13 to JaNean Ellis, 11723 Anthem Ct, South Jordan, UT 84095-8003.

There will be door prizes! This will also be a good chance to learn more about the upcoming National Convention considerations, and to let your concerns be known to our delegates to the convention.

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

OGDEN #0320: Next meeting will be on September 10, 2014. Decisions need to be made on the future of our Chapter at this time, so mark your calendars and plan to attend!

LuDean Burton, President

LAYTON #829: Hope everyone had a great summer! Sorry about the confusion. There will *not be* a luncheon meeting in August. I hope everyone can make the meeting in September.

Our next regular meeting will be at the September 10, 2014, 1:00 PM at the Layton Library.

Mr. Boyd Casselman will present "Ten Things Every Retiree Should Know".

Joan L. Turner, Secretary

BOUNTIFUL #0830: There will be no meeting in August. A meeting will be held in September on the future of the chapter.

Blaine Busenbark, President, 801-295-8613

DIXIE-ST. GEORGE #973: No meeting in August.

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

CEDAR CITY #1205: August 7 will be our picnic in the park at noon.

Don Holloway, Acting President

Editor Contact: Chimes Editor may be contacted by phone at 801-685-8822, e-mail: isull@comcast.net, or US Postal Service at return address on this newsletter.

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

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 Jordan Office: (801) 486-1236

UTAH FEDERATION OF NARFE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

President: Marla Ramey - mramey54@tribolyte.net

Vice President/Legislative Chair: Nancy Carlson-Gotts –
nancycgotts@yahoo.com

Membership Chair/Editor - Isabel Sullivan – isull@comcast.net

Secretary/Service Officer: Carol Elkins – brentelk@comcast.net

Treasurer: JaNean Ellis – ellis5353@gmail.com

Sergeant-at-Arms: Colleen Busenbark – bbusen1031@aol.com

Alzheimer's Chair: E. John Light – johnlight22@gmail.com

Chapter Presidents are also members of the Executive Board