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**NARFE Wisconsin Federation of Chapters at:** [www.narfe.org/site/wi](http://www.narfe.org/site/wi) —Protecting the Future for Active And Retired Federal Employees!

## MEETINGS:

We are back after a long break as the result of the Covid-19 virus. We had a much smaller group than usual attend the August meeting but look forward to seeing all of you next month. It was great seeing some folks that we hadn't seen at meetings for a year or more. The Legion served us well utilizing distance seating and using food service guidelines in accordance with new health and safety standards. Topics discussed were the 2020 NARFE Election Ballot which must be submitted electronically or by mail in ballot by midnight August 31, and the "Walk to End Alzheimer's", held in September.

## NEXT MEETING:

Mark your calendars now for our meetings to be held on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> and October 28<sup>th</sup>, both to be held at the American Legion, 634 Water St., Eau Claire. Registration starts at approximately 11:45 a.m. Active and retired federal employees, NARFE members and a guest are invited to attend. We are hoping to have a guest speaker at each these meetings, someone from Medicare in September and someone from the Federal Employee Health Insurance Program in October.

**Advanced registration is required for meal planning and set-up purposes. Please call Peggy at 715-874-6708, or email: [chipval@wwt.net](mailto:chipval@wwt.net), with the number planning to attend the Sept meeting NLT NOON Sept 20<sup>th</sup>; for the Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> meeting NLT Noon, Oct 25<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.**

**We look forward to seeing each of you, and a big welcome to all new comers.**

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER: Mark Schmitt

Welcome to September! Fall is here and some leaves are beginning to change. We were able to have an in-person membership meeting at the American Legion in Eau Claire on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August. We had 11 members in attendance at the Legion and again, and they did an excellent job with the meal. Due to the Covid-19, the dining room was reconfigured with smaller tables and more space in between tables. Hopefully in the future members will begin to feel more comfortable with meeting in person again. Also, rather than a buffet we were served by the Legion Staff in compliance with the Health Dept rules. Scott Bolstad, from Senator Johnson's Office gave us an update on what's happening in Washington D.C. and what will be happening this fall.

Next month on September 26<sup>th</sup>, we will be participating in the Walk to End Alzheimer's. We do have a team and if you want to join it let me know and I will add your name to our team list. Due to the COVID this year will be a virtual walk with the Kickoff on line and teams walking on their own. We did pass the "Old Shoebox" at the meeting and we raised \$189.00 from the members at the meeting. We will do it again at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting as well. If you would like to donate but cannot attend the meeting you can send a check to me with your

donation. Just make out to Alzheimer's Association or The Walk to End Alzheimer's and mail it to me or our Treasurer, Kathy Pospishil. Thank you.

The virus has had an impact on our donations to Alzheimer's research. In the past 6 months as a Federation we have had only 6 donations from all our Chapters so we are behind other years but no Chapters have been meeting so no donations from the meetings. Hopefully, we will get back to more normal meeting schedule.

If you feel comfortable attending our next lunch meeting, please join us on the 23<sup>rd</sup> at the American Legion on Water St.

## TREASURER'S REPORT: Kathy Pospishil

\$1,833.70 Balance End of June  
\$ 446.25 Receipts in July\*  
\$ 0.00 Disbursements in July  
\$ 205.80 Receipts in August.  
\$ 134.20 Disbursements in August  
\$2,351.55 Balance End of August

\* Includes back payments of dues from 2019

## SERVICE OFFICER/DEATHS: Bill Michels

Janet Zais, of Eau Claire passed away on July 14, 2020. She was a Distinguished Member of our Chapter, joining NARFE in June 1995. Janet retired in 2002 after 22 years of service in the Federal Court System. She is survived by her children, Michael, Jeffrey, and Amy. Chapter 371 extends their sincere sympathy to the family.

## MAJOR OCCASION: Bill Michels

Congratulation to Keith & Carol Sommerfeldt of Eau Claire who celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 12<sup>th</sup>. Keith is a Distinguished and long-time Member of our Chapter. We wish you continued happiness and many more lovely years together. Keep on dancing kids!

## WI FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS ANNUAL MEETING: —Peggy Johnson

The Federation of Chapters Annual Meeting was held at the Winter Green Resort, Wisconsin Dells on July 13, 2020. There were 20 people physically in attendance and 11 people via ZOOM. A quorum was present to conduct business. Gary and Margaret Johnson were present from Chapter 371.

The meeting was called to order t 1:30p.m., the minutes from the May 2019 Convention were reviewed, motion made to accept the minutes, a second was made, the motion passed,

An Audit committee consisting of Robert Borowski, Linda Kustka and Tamie Koop reviewed the Treasurers Records and found them in excellent order. A suggestion was made that a note be attached to the check that checks must be cashed within

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6 months or less. Motion made to accept the audit report, seconded, motion carried.

There was no Alzheimer's Report.

Mary Pat Willis provided an update on the 2021 Conference planning.

The Conference to be held 3 – 5 May 2021, in Tomah, WI at the Best Western Motel. 2021 is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of NARFE and will be the focal point in the Conference.

Robert Helfrich, Regional VP did not join the meeting via Skype.

Old Business: The new by-laws were discussed; there will be a change in the quorum number from 25 to 15 members present to meet the quorum. The number of federation offices remains at 4. Motion made, seconded, motion carried.

The slightly revised Standing rules, which were attached to the by-laws were reviewed, motion made, seconded, motion passed.

The Secretary will forward the proposed by-laws to the National Office for Approval.

New Business: There will be no Democratic Convention involvement, the convention will be held virtually.

Tom Miller provided a Legislative update. The bill that would have decreased state taxes for CSRS annuitants did make it out of committee, but not brought before the House. The bill would need to be reintroduced after the swearing in of the new legislators in January, 2021. He asks that NARFE members to be more proactive and contact our Federal Representatives about several bills – Fair COLA for Seniors Act, WEP which has 3 bills in the House, Postal Reform and Federal Pay Compensation. Meeting adjourned.

Notes taken from Sue Guthrie, Federation Secretary

**PLAN AHEAD NOW TO ATTEND THE FEDERATION CONFERENCE IN TOMAH, MAY 3–5, 2021.**

**WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS!**

**How many of you have asked this serious question? Why are there no biohazard bins for used masks and gloves if this virus is so contagious and deadly? Why are Seniors being treated as if they have no purpose in life, and they are the reason why everyone is out of work, businesses closed and/or out of business, schools/colleges/universities closed including medical schools, hospital staff taking in emergency patients, other put on waiting lists for months, sports cut off, TV is running out of things to put on (i.e.) old Charlie Chaplin or silent movies)? This goes on and on!**

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS  
IN MONTH OF SEPTEMBER**

Doris J. Bautch, Sherri L. Collins, Loren J. Dascher, Jeannine E. Durner, Duane H. Erickson, Marlynn M. Krause, Ronald F. Lahn, Eileen A. Michalski, Pauline A. Olinske, James F. Olson, Clinton A. Paulsen, Robert W. Steinmetz, Jacqueline T. Westberg, Robert A. Wilson.

*To contact our elected officials:*

*Senator Ron Johnson, 328 Hart Senate Office, WDC 20510, phone 202-224-5323, FAX 202-228-6965, email: [ron\\_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov](mailto:ron_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov);*

*Senator Tammy Baldwin, 709 Hart Senate Office Building, WDC 20510 phone 202-224-5653, email: [Tammy\\_baldwin@Baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:Tammy_baldwin@Baldwin.senate.gov);*

*Congressman Ron Kind, 1502 Longworth HOB, WDC 20515, phone 202-225-5506 Fax 202-225-5739; email: [ronkind@mail.house.gov](mailto:ronkind@mail.house.gov);*

*Congressman Thomas Tiffany, 1714 Longworth HOB, WDC 20515, phone 202-225-3365; email: [tomtiffany@mail.house.gov](mailto:tomtiffany@mail.house.gov)*

