



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

MADISON
WISCONSIN

CHAPTER 120

NEWS

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 5
OCTOBER 1, 2020



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Linda Kustka

Fall always seems like the start of a new year for me! When I worked in Brown County as 4-H Youth

Agent, I quickly learned that the start of a new school year meant family schedule reorganization time. Our attendance at September youth program meetings was very low because of the life changes happening. By October, we all had settled into new routines and participation in community activities resumed more fully.

Since then, I've viewed September as my "life reorganization" month. In previous years that meant scheduling paid and volunteer work, starting new fun classes, getting out the warmer clothes, doing seasonal household chores and more. The pandemic hasn't changed my feeling about this time of year. It's just happening differently in 2020.

Our NARFE activities may have slowed down, but important things are moving forward. We're adapting to doing business differently. We enjoyed our first Zoom meeting in August which included music from the Vietnam War period. We learned that Leaving on a Jet Plane was a significant song for some of us. We'll be doing more Zoom meetings in the future. We learned

that you can successfully participate via phone, computer, and other connected devices.

Enjoy the wonders of Fall! Stay safe!

ANNUAL CHAPTER 120 BUSINESS MEETING ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

Join us for the annual business meeting for election of officers, 2021 budget presentation, and reports of what's been happening.

We'll meet by Zoom. **Register by contacting Kathy Losby by Friday, October 16.** You will then be sent connection information to participate via phone, computer/tablet. Enjoy your favorite lunch and beverage from the comfort of home while attending the meeting which starts with online registration at 11:50 am on Friday, October 23.

THANK YOU, DOBBIN!

We greatly appreciate the outstanding programs that Dobbin McNatt has provided our chapter. Thank you for entertaining, thoughtful, and interesting programs featuring a wide variety of local people!

Dobbin has decided to retire from this role. Fortunately for Chapter 120, he'll continue as Service Officer and work with his wife Myrna on Membership.

MADISON CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Myrna & Dobbin McNatt

For the two months between July 20 and Sep. 20, 2020, the Madison Chapter Activity Report at the NARFE website shows one new member to welcome, **Rosalia Hammes** of Madison. Three members were dropped for nonrenewal. They have been contacted. One new prospective member has also been contacted. These members passed away: **Selma Bates** of Marshall, and **A.O. Thornburgh** of Sun Prairie.

SUNSHINE REPORT

Veronica Guski

Well it is official. Autumn is here. I believe we will have some beautiful Fall weather yet to enjoy.

Two deaths to report:

Frederick G. Zingsheim passed away on 8/26/20 at the age of 84. Fred was active in his church, Elks Lodge, Knights of Columbus and served his country in the Wisconsin Air National Guard.

Lorayne Smythe passed away on 8/31/20. She worked at USAFI and FDIC before retiring. She died at the age of 98.

I hope everybody is holding up and taking one day at a time during this most unusual time in our lives. Guess the masks have to stay on little longer. All the best to everyone.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMS NEEDED

We need someone to provide leadership for chapter programs in the role of Vice President. The official description of this one-year role from our By-Laws is "The 1st Vice President shall preside in the absence and/or vacancy of the President and perform all Presidential

duties and serve as program chairperson for all regular meetings."

Currently, programs are suspended. There are 6 programs each year when we meet face to face. Members suggest program topics and/or speakers.

Please contact Linda Kustka by Oct. 20 if you are willing to serve in this important role.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Our Legislative Liaison Tom Miller is currently at work in a State Forest where cell service and other connections are very unreliable. He will bring us back up to date on all things legislative when he is "out of the woods".

REVIEW OF CHAPTER 120 BY-LAWS

Each year, we review our Chapter By-Laws to see if changes are needed. Our By-Law authors did a great job of giving us a concise operating framework that hasn't restricted our past operations. Our current By-Laws were written in 2005 before the pandemic made virtual and email business even more widely used. Many organizations are expanding their use of social media to conduct business, programs, and communications.

Chapter 120 By-Laws need review to determine if modifications are needed to operate in the virtual and email world. Roberta Herschleb, Melanie Miller, and Tamie Koop have agreed to review our By-Laws.

Chapter members will be provided proposed changes before we discuss and vote on any revisions. Contact Linda Kustka for a copy of current By-Laws.

CANDIDATES FOR CHAPTER 120 OFFICES FOR 2021

The following people have agreed to serve our chapter for one-year terms as elected officers. Additional nominations for each office will be taken from the floor at our annual business meeting (online) on October 23.

President: Linda Kustka
1st Vice President: Open
2nd Vice President: Myrna McNatt
Secretary: Andy Halada
Treasurer: Kathy Losby

Non-elected leaders include: Service Officer Dobbin McNatt, Newsletter Editor Roberta Herschleb, Legislative Liaison Tom Miller, and Sunshine Veronica Guski, Diane Maertz and Liz Eddy.

2020 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Like so many events in our area, the annual fundraising walk for Alzheimer's is going virtual this year. In Madison, the event date will be Sunday, October 4th. An online "mainstage event" with a virtual opening ceremony begins at 9:30. Participants can then walk a route of their own choosing and at their own pace. A mobile app can be downloaded so walkers can send fundraising messages and can allow others (with walker's permission) to track their virtual path.

Perhaps you have missed giving your usual cash donations at our luncheon meetings and would like to consider walking or sponsoring another walker this year. Chapter 120 plans to send a donation to the Alzheimer's Association to bridge this period of suspended in-person cash collections. Nationally, NARFE has been a top contributor to the Alzheimer's Association, giving more than twelve million dollars. For more information, point your search engine to the event website at <https://act.alz.org>

CURRENT CHAPTER 120 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Linda Kustka linda.kustka@wisc.edu
VP Programs & Service Officer	Dobbin McNatt mydomcnatt@tds.net (608)831-5759
VP Membership	Myrna McNatt mydomcnatt@tds.net (608)831-5759
Secretary	Andy Halada
Treasurer	Kathy Losby tkmlosby@sbcglobal.net
Legislative Chair	Tom Miller tfmillerphoto@sbcglobal.net
Sunshine	Veronica Guski ronni@tds.net Diane Maertz mumslady@frontier.com Liz Eddy yarite@charter.net
Website	Tom Parslow Thomas@parslowfamily.com
Newsletter	Roberta Herschleb herschleb@att.net
Member Retention	Jim Honer hon2434@gmail.com

A NOTORIOUS FORMER FEDERAL EMPLOYEE

Did you know that Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg worked in her early career as a federal employee of the Social Security Administration? While employed with SSA, she was demoted because she became pregnant. This was one of several early life experiences which inspired her "notorious" lifetime of work. With an understanding of Social Security benefits, she developed her strategy to ultimately advocate for full gender equality. By arguing first on behalf of men who had been denied federal benefits because of their gender, she opened minds to the broader issues. The rest is history.

EXCELLENT NEW TSP WEBINAR

RECORDED FOR
YOU TO VIEW
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ONLINE AT ANY
TIME. EXPERT
ADVICE, AND
FREE FOR NARFE
MEMBERS!

NEW WEBINAR!

One Year Later: TSP Withdrawal Options


A NARFE FEDERAL BENEFITS
INSTITUTE WEBINAR

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24,
2 P.M. ET**

An update on the impact of last year's
changes to your TSP withdrawal
options, and how Feds have adjusted.

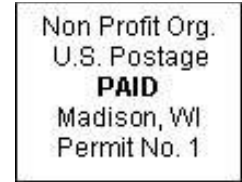
REGISTER HERE

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Kathy Losby, Treasurer
NARFE Chapter 120, Madison Wisconsin
542 Charles Lane, Madison WI 53711

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

To register and get your Zoom connection link contact Treasurer Kathy Losby by **Friday, October 16.** (Contact information is on page 3.)



SEASON FOR CHANGES

Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) and Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) premium rates for 2021 will be announced in early October. Beginning the first week of November the OPM website will have the tools and information you can use to compare plans. Open season for enrollment and other changes will run from November 9 through December 14 in 2020. You can enroll, change plans, change plan options, change enrollment type, or cancel coverage during the open season. If you want to stay with the coverage you currently have, it will continue automatically.

Do you need to change your address, telephone or e-mail listing? There are several ways you can do this. We recommend you do one of these in addition to completing the USPS change of address to save the cost of "Address Service Requested". Go to www.narfe.org, log in and click on "Update My Record" or Call (toll free) 1-800-456-8410 or E-mail memberrecords@narfe.org