

**Volume XXVIII**

**Issue 03**

**May 2021**

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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!

## MEETING:

Our April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting was well attended by 18 people, all anxious to celebrate being able to get together again. Folks came from Hudson, Mondovi and Weyerhaeuser to Cadott. For those who were unable to attend, Roseanne did us proud with pork loin and cheesy potatoes and an eye-popping dessert. Sorry you folks missed out this time. See you in May. Roseanne treats us very well each month, think of it this way, let her do the cooking, and you come on down to our meetings.

Mark had a short Board Meeting at 11:00 a.m. The discussion centered around the monthly newsletter. Since our membership is dropping and the costs are increasing, do we want to raise our dues, increase Chapter membership, what path do we take! Read the treasurers report this month.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. at the American Legion at 634 Water St. in Eau Claire. Advance reservations can be made NLT 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> by calling Peggy at 715-874-6708 or email: [chipval@wwt.net](mailto:chipval@wwt.net). All Active or Retired Federal Employees, their spouse and/or guests are welcome to join us. NARFE is now 100 yrs old, come and find out what we are about, even join us. Our members come from all federal agencies; we are one big and happy family. I bet you will find someone you know in the crowd. Renew old acquaintances.

Our June Meeting will be held on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and our July meeting will be held on July 28<sup>th</sup>, both at the American Legion, so plan now to attend, OK!

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER: Mark Schmitt

Greetings; It is great to feel the warmth of spring with the lack of rain in the northwest part of the State. So far, we have had 2 meetings the past 2 months and we had very good informative meetings. The American Legion on Water St has been a great meeting place with great food. Our members have a good time and hopefully we will be able to have live speakers in the near future. I hope you are getting info on the COVID vaccine and are taking advantage of this free service. I really hope we can get back to our previous life situation. We will be meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of May and I hope you can join us. I hope you all have a Great Memorial Day!

## TREASURER'S REPORT: Kathy Pospishil

\$ 2242.01 April 2021 Start  
\$ 449.14 April Receipts  
\$ 309.81 April Expenses  
\$ 2381.34 April End

## POSITIVE RESULT OF GOING MOSTLY EMAIL ON OUR NEWSLETTER.

We could have a newsletter with more content. Instead of one 8 ½ 14 sheet, we could go to 8 ½ by 11 with multiple sheets/pages.

Right now, a little over two thirds of you have an email address in your record at NARFE National. It is important that you keep your mailing address and email address current. Our mailing list and email list are generated from the information at NARFE Member Services. If you have an email address that you use on a regular basis, please call NARFE member Services at 1-800-456-8410, Ext 1. If you would rather not contact National, you can send your email address to me ([Kathy.pospishil@pa.net](mailto:Kathy.pospishil@pa.net)) and I can update your record at National. Thank you from the Treasurer, Kathy Pospishil.

## ALZHEIMERS REPORT: Mark Schmitt

Mark stated that even in the pandemic, Chapters donated more monies for Alzheimer's Research, and he will be reviewing the donations for the year, for the Chapter who donated the most, and to the person who donated the most. He will also get someone from Eau Claire who is involved in Research to speak at one of our meetings in the next few months.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE:

Since there were so few meetings last year, we are still required to have an audit of the Treasurers Books. Jim M. and Pauline O. will conduct the audit at our next meeting.

## SERVICE OFFICER: Bill Michels

There have been no reported deaths in the past month that we are aware of. If you know of a member who has passed away, please contact Bill Michels.

Normally, we lose 15 to 20 members per year, we accept this low number as we haven't been allowed out much in over a year! If you know of anyone who has passed way call Bill Michels right away. Thanks.

## SERVICE OFFICER/DEATHS: Bill Michels

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### **BE AWARE OF MEDICARE SCAMERS**

It is important to safeguard both your Medicare Number and Medicare Card. Con artists may try to get your Medicare Number or personal information, so they can steal your identity and commit Medicare Fraud. Protect yourself, guard your Medicare card (number) like your credit card and only give your number to the people who should have it, like your doctor, pharmacy or hospital. The scammers are using the telephone and your computers. Like Social Security or IRS, they will not call and ask for information, **HANG UP!** During the past few months, I get several calls per day, asking for information, I just hang up!

### **MILEPOSTS:**

Gary and Peggy Johnson celebrated 60 years of marriage on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Congratulate them when you see them.

### **PLANT A DIFFERENT TYPE OF GARDEN:**

If you are like me, it is very hard to bend down or bend over to weed a garden. We have just the garden for you! It is a container garden and you can sit on a stool. I have a gardener in our family, a granddaughter who lives in a small condo in CT. She has two small decks, one off the first floor and another off the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. She bought a bunch of large flower pots, dirt, some fertilizer and plants and planted her garden, in pots. Two years now and she has veggie to eat and flowers too. She is next to a wooded area and lots of raccoons around there, but they don't bother her garden. She has a couple of pets, two cats and they like to sit out there in the sunshine. For the past year, she is working from home, like everyone else.

I am gradually adding more big pots around my porch. For Mothers Day, our two daughters came out and worked up my existing flower gardens and put flowers in some of the big pots too. I can't wait to see what comes up. It is a little chilly nights yet, and freezing. They planted bulbs mostly to start with. I will add more plants as it warms up, and some veggies too.

My pots are a good size, and colorful. I grew up on a farm, started weeding plants by the time I started school and have been doing that for many, many years now. I do most sitting on a stool, and you can too. Buy two or three big pots and some veggie plants, lettuce, and tomatoes. See how this helps you out.

If you need additional assistance, talk with Ken Kolbe, he is a master gardener. His yard is full of flowers too. We have been cooped up for too long, time to get out! Enjoy the sunshine.

We wish each of you a good Memorial Day. We hope you can join us at our next meeting too. If you have the vaccine, you are good to go now!

We hope each of you has a wonderful summer.

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS IN MONTHS OF MAY**

Louis C Barber, Raymond H Carpenter, Carol W Cox, Pearl E Ducklow, Jenny M Gruber, Nancy E Hahn, Ruth Kite Hanson, Mark Nelson, George L Olinske, Cheryl K Olson, Catherine A Paine, Katheryn J Pospishil, Richard B Smith, Beverly M Wichart, Jon W Wojciechowski.



#### ***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)***