NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Charles R. Patton Chapter 156
136 Castlerock Drive, Asheville, NC 28806-9517

Newsletter
August 2010

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The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) is the only association dedicated to safeguarding and enhancing the benefits of America's active and retired federal employees, and their survivors.

EVENT: CHARLES R. PATTON CHAPTER 156 MEETING
WHEN: FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2010
WHERE: JACKSON PARK, HENDERSONVILLE, NC
TIME: 11:00 AM

AUGUST PROGRAM

AREA I JOINT PICNIC – FRIDAY, AUGUST 20, 2010
Jackson Park, 801 Glover St., Hendersonville, NC

Plan to arrive by 11:00 am for signing in and getting raffle tickets for the quilt raffle (plus other raffle items) and getting to know each other. There will be picnic tables/benches but feel free to bring a lawn chair if you like. The food will arrive at 11:30am.The menu will include: Fried chicken, baked beans, mac & cheese, coleslaw, fresh fruit, and rolls as well as banana pudding for dessert. Water, tea (sweet & unsweet) and lemonade will also be served. Reservations need to be made by Friday, August 13, 2010 and a check should be made out to NARFE Chapter 214 in the amount of $13.50 and mailed to Treasurer: Joyce Armstrong
915 Toxaway Dr.
Hendersonville, NC 28791-1842
(Phone: 828-808-1170).

Directions: The Hendersonville exit off I-26 is 49B into Four Seasons Boulevard (Traveling from the West or from the East). Follow Four Seasons Blvd. toward Hendersonville to the 7th (seventh) traffic light (approximately 1 & ½ miles). Turn left into Harris Street (NARFE Sign where you turn left). Harris Street is only two blocks and dead ends at E. 4th Ave. where you turn left (NARFE Sign). Enter Jackson Park and continue on until you come to Shelter #1 (NARFE Sign) which will be on your right).

Let's have a good get-together and support Alzheimer's Research through the raffle. **Congressional Candidate Jeff Miller plans to attend. Come meet the candidate!**

Note: This picnic, hosted by the Hendersonville Chapter, will serve as our Chapter's August meeting.

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ELAINE HUGHES CAMPAIGN FUND

Our own **Elaine Hughes** has decided to be a candidate for **NARFE National Secretary**. Elaine served as our Chapter President and Federation Secretary, Executive Vice President and President and now is willing to take on new challenges on our behalf. Elaine asks for our vote and support. If you wish to contribute to Elaine's campaign, make out a check payable to "**Campaign Fund – Elaine Hughes**" and mail it to Bruce Habermann, 136 Castlerock Drive, Asheville, NC 28806-9517. For other support opportunities contact Elaine at 298-1053 or lvangels@charter.net

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Last month's newsletter included an urgent message regarding the need for members to step forward and participate in the leadership of our NARFE Chapter 0156. As has been pointed out several times in the past, folks that have stepped forward in the past should not be expected to continue in leadership roles for extended time periods and in some cases these folks cannot continue for health, family, or other reasons.

CLOSURE is the reality that our chapter will face next year if we do not have folks willing to assume President, 2nd Vice President, and Secretary. Tom Beatty, currently our Public Relations officer, has tentatively volunteered to be nominated for 1st Vice President for next year. Theron Rumsey will not be serving as president beyond this December, Sabine Dieringer will not be serving as 1st Vice President beyond this December, and Martha Hawkins has resigned as secretary for personal and health reasons. We must have officers on record at the National office to be recognized as a NARFE chapter.

To help folks consider stepping forward in a leadership role, I have outlined below the duties that National ascribes to the above noted offices.

<u>President</u>: The president provides leadership by setting the vision and strategic plan needed for a smooth functioning chapter. In our chapter, this is typically accomplished at an annual planning meeting in January (in lieu of a chapter meeting) where the leadership team and interested members establish a plan for the year. The president chairs meetings of the leadership team, presides at chapter meetings, is liaison between Federation, National Office and chapter, represents the chapter, makes appointments identified in by-laws, and promotes chapter growth, Leadership, training, and assistance.

<u>2nd Vice President</u>: The 2nd vice president's primary responsibility is to provide, along with the 1st vice president, support and backup for the chapter president. For our chapter, the 1st vice president serves as membership chairperson and the 2nd vice president serves as program chairperson. Currently, we have a list of potential programs that should provide programs for a whole year.

<u>Secretary</u>: The secretary provides continuity to chapter activities through the recording, distribution, and filing of

minutes, reports of chapter and committee meetings, and exchange of correspondence. The secretary attends meetings, records minutes, maintains a roster of chapter officers, furnishes reports and documents to the Federation and National Office, maintains chapter files, and supports officers as needed.

These officer positions do represent a commitment, but they are not difficult. And remember, speaking for chapter 156, the officers work as a team supporting each other, and speaking for myself, I will support the leadership team as a past officer.

Please, this is your chapter, and your leadership participation is important and urgently needed. Please call Sabine Dieringer (828-236-0080) or Theron Rumsey (828-658-2131) if you are considering the above needs and have questions. **YOUR CHAPTER LITERALLY DEPENDS ON YOU!!!**

BC /BS FEP ANNUITANT BRIEFING

This year's BC/BS Federal Employee Briefing concerning 2011 benefits and rates will be held at only one time and location, October 15, 2010 at 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in Durham, NC. If you are interested in receiving an invitation to this briefing please contact Theron Rumsey.

CHAPTER BUSINESS CARDS

Through the efforts of Tom Beatty, our Public Relations Officer, we have developed a Chapter business card to help promote recognition of Chapter 156 and its monthly meetings in our local area. With permission, these can be placed in business areas, public facilities, and federal offices. These cards can be carried by members for distribution. Get any ideas you may have on the use of these cards to Tom Beatty or myself. Theron Rumsey

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DUES WITHHOLDING

For a few years I waited for and responded to the annual dues notice from the NARFE National office. If I was attentive, National would not have to send a second or third notice and all this time, not realizing there was a less expensive way to belong to NARFE. Dues withholding saves me $2.43 annually on dues, it saves the National office Mailing, paper, and printing costs (no more dues notices needed), and it is safely and securely coordinated with OPM so your annual dues can be deducted from you annuity. Spousal dues can also be deducted from you annuity. National office recognized that the dues withholding option minimizes the number of members that drop membership, so you can assist NARFE in holding our membership by supporting this option. Sabine Dieringer and Theron Rumsey

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PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Our programs in September and October will be presented by Cathie St. John-Ritzen, an attorney whose primary practice area is in elder law. Prior to becoming an attorney, she worked as a registered nurse for 18 years and as a nurse consultant for a law firm in Missouri. She graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law in 1998. She serves on, and has served on, a variety of boards and commissions that deal with elders and their complex needs.

NARFE PICNIC BASKETS

For our picnic this year, which is sponsored by the Hendersonville Chapter at Lake Jackson Park in Hendersonville, we would again like to raffle off several baskets of various themes to raise funds for the Alzheimer Association. The themes could include the following:

1. coffees and/or teas
2. games, such as puzzles, Sudoku, cards, etc.
3. bird feeder items: handbook, suet, seeds, etc.
4. desk items: paper clips, white out, masking tape, stationery, scotch tape, pens, etc.
5. snacks - not too large packages, please
6. gardening: gloves, small spades, books, seeds, etc.
7. gift wrapping items: scotch tape, cards, bows, stamps, stickers, pens, etc.

Sabine Dieringer, Donna Habermann and Sandy Rumsey will coordinate these baskets. Once we get the baskets together, there will be a list of what each basket holds and a bag which will hold the raffle tickets that you will purchase to receive that basket. Now for the fun stuff! We would like to solicit any of the items mentioned above or anything else that you may have in your possession that could be used given the themes or one of your own that is practical and please make sure these items are new and not too big. Please provide these items AS SOON AS FEASIBLE to Sabine (236-0080) or Sandy (658-2131) or Donna (667-5705). Thank you and I know this will be a successful way to raise funds for a very worthwhile cause. Sabine Dieringer

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BENEVOLENCE REPORT THRU JUNE 2010

New members: We welcome the following:

Jack Hughes   Celia Payne

Members Transferred from another chapter:

Janet Rhodes   William Rhodes

Please join us at our monthly chapter meetings announced in each newsletter.

Members that decided to drop their membership:

Arthur Allen   Zina Nichols
Eunice Varner

We ask any member acquainted with these folks to give them a call and encourage them to reinstate their membership. They are as important to us and to NARFE as NARFE is to them.

Members Passed Away

Thomas Duvall

We offer prayers for the family of the deceased. We will miss him in our NARFE community.

COFFEE CLUSTER (NORTH)

The Northside Cluster will meet at Wayne's Restaurant (formerly Home Folks Café) on Thursday, August 19th at 9:00 am. Drop in and stay in touch over a cup of coffee or maybe breakfast.

Theron Rumsey (828-658-2131)

COFFEE CLUSTER (EAST)

The Eastside Cluster will meet Thursday, August 5th at the J&S Cafeteria, River Ridge Shopping Center, 11:00 am. Call Ted Mathis at 298-4400 for information.

DEFINITION

Committee: A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours

Deadline for the next newsletter – August 23, 2010

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GROCE FUNERAL HOME AND ASHEVILLE QUICKPRINT FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO NARFE CHAPTER 156.

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

Bruce Habermann, NARFE
Charles R. Patton Chapter 156
136 Castlerock Drive
Asheville, NC 28806-9517

NARFE CHAPTER NEWS

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