# N A R F E

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Charles R. Patton Chapter 156 — *Newsletter*
136 Castlerock Drive, Asheville, NC 28806-9517 — **February 2011**


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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 FEBRUARY MEETING**
**WHEN: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2011**
**WHERE: J&S CAFETERIA, WESTRIDGE MARKET PLACE, ENKA, NC 28729**
**TIME: BREAKFAST AT 9:30, MEETING AT 10:15 AM**

### *FEBRUARY PROGRAM*

Our February program will be on Taxes – The 2010 Tax Year, what is new or changed for 2010, what is sometimes or often missed, what may be coming up for 2011, and discussion. Our Speaker is Sam Crain, Member of Smokey Mountain NARFE Chapter 1420 (Waynesville), treasurer for NARFE's NC Federation of Chapters and tax return consultant with H&R Block. Sam presented our program last year which was very informative and helpful. Plan to join us for an enlightening and useful program.

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### *FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK*

My hope is that you all had a joyous and meaningful Christmas and in your own way celebrated the start of a New Year. Sandy and I were blessed to travel to Ft. Wayne, IN to celebrate Christmas with her 92-year-old mother and then return home to usher in the New Year with our Son and daughter and their spouses. Now following a very short trip to MD and VA, cancelation of our Chapter planning meeting, and shoveling or otherwise dealing with snow, I am ready to roll up my sleeves for another year for NARFE.

First item of business is rescheduling our Chapter planning meeting. I am in contact with all who were initially planning to attend and hope we can meet before the end of January. If it is not too late when you receive this newsletter and you would like to join us at that meeting, please call me (828-658-2131). An important area of input is Chapter meeting programs. We have a list of potential programs for the year but this can always be updated to reflect the ideas of our membership. Closely related to program ideas is membership input on what you would like included in our chapter meetings. Let's fill our meeting room to capacity in 2011.

We do not start this year with notices and bio's of candidates running for NARFE National office and planning for our National convention. We have already selected a great NARFE leadership team, but they cannot act alone. The support of our Federation, Chapters and you as members is needed for NARFE to be as effective as it can be. This year will be an especially challenging year for NARFE to work toward its goals. The current economic climate, health care, budget deficits, national debt, and the recommendation of our President's Council on Debt Reduction all weigh heavily on the minds of our congresspersons in Washington elected. Although the new leadership in the House of Representatives has vowed to not cut spending for seniors, national defense, and veterans, we need to keep abreast of issues, stay in touch with our elected leaders, and let our views be known. This is also a good reason to retain your membership and to introduce NARFE to other potential members as we promote fairness in the political arena.

Lastly, for those who can, plan to attend this year's Federation of Chapter's State Convention. It will be held in Carolina Beach, a bit far for some to travel, but a great place to interact with NARFE leadership, be involved with the business of your Federation, and enjoy meeting and visiting with fellow active and retired federal employees. See the following article regarding the State Convention.

Theron Rumsey, President

### *NC FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS STATE CONVENTION*

Mark your calendar now to attend our 2011 State Convention at the Courtyard by Marriott at Carolina Beach, on May 4-6. The convention program and facilities are a real bargain at $55 registration (including the reception and banquet) and $89 plus tax room rate which includes a private balconies & ocean views. More details to follow in our Federation Newsletter regarding registration (due by April 10) and participation as a chapter delegate and/or committee member. Plan to be a part of a great informative and entertaining NARFE meeting.

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### *MEET OUR NEW CHAPTER 1ST VICE PRESIDENT*

Tom joined us in Asheville in 2000 after a 40 year career with various elements of the Department of Defense. This included 4 years active duty with the Strategic Air Command as a senior electronics technician followed by service in the Naval Reserve as a Nuclear Weapons Employment Officer. He holds a BS in Math & Physics from MSU in Texas and an MS degree in Computer Science from Texas A&M. In addition an MS degree in Operations Research (ABT) from Texas A&M.

His Civil Service work with DoD included 6 years with the Naval Weapons Laboratory in targeting and damage assessment for Nuclear Weapons, 3 years with European Intelligence community in France and Germany as an Operations Research Analyst, 12 years with the Air Force Manpower & Personnel Center, again as an Operations

Research Analyst. Then a five year break working as a contractor analyst/statistician with the Air Force medical community. Returning to DoD as a direct hire he worked as an analyst-programmer with the Army medical community at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. He capped his career with 5 years at the Army Modeling and Simulation Center for large-scale combat simulations at Fort Leavenworth, KS. Throughout his career commencing with his first job out of Univ., he was an active participant of the Military Operations Research Society, presenting many papers at national conferences and chairing the Manpower & Personnel Modeling Workgroup at the US Naval Academy.

Since retirement he has been involved in volunteer work thru the One Youth At A Time program working both as a mentor and a tutor. Additionally he has been active in the NARFE and the NAWCC (National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors). He has pursued his interest in teaching by offering short courses at the College for Seniors thru the NC Center for Creative Retirement.

Tom & Kate (also a member) have their adult children located in 5 states so they see a lot of travel throughout the year. The children have widely diverse careers from stay-at-home mothers to MD resident, but none has chosen to follow in their parents' footsteps of computer sciences or law.

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### *ACTION ALERT FROM OUR NATIONAL PRESIDENT*

Dear Federal Works and Annuitants:

On December 3rd, 11 of 18 members of President Obama's Fiscal Commission voted "For" the final report which contained proposals to cut federal civilian and military retirement by $70 billion over 10 years, shift an increasing share of health premium costs to federal workers and retirees, freeze federal pay and reduce the federal workforce by 10 percent.

While not the supermajority of 14 votes that would have required Congress to immediately consider the report, many Commissioners promised that their spending cut and revenue provisions will inform the budget debate when it resumes in January 2011. That is to say, federal employee and retiree benefits will remain near, if not in, the bulls eye for deficit reduction proposals.

As a result, all federal employees and annuitants should continue to contact their Representatives and Senators about the unfair cuts to federal retirement and health benefits and employee compensation proposed by the fiscal commission.

Help protect the security of your federal retirement, health benefits and pay by entering your name and address in the web form found below the following text.

Don't delay- use the NARFE Legislative Action Center today to save your earned compensation!

Join NARFE at:
http://www.narfe.org/departments/legislation/LegActionCenter.cfm

to be regularly updated on legislative developments in Congress and be part of a grass-root organization with an advocacy culture.

Sincerely, Joseph A. Beaudoin

**Note: Please provide your email address to Frank Quinlan, your Newsletter Editor, if you wish to receive Actions Alerts through your Chapter.**

**Update: 112th Congress Legislation:** As expected, components of President Obama'a Fiscal Commission's proposal and ideas from other "experts" are being translated into free-standing legislation. Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX) introduced legislation, H.R. 235, to substantially reduce spending in several areas and includes a three year freeze in federal salaries and gradual reduction in the number of federal employees.

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### *BENEVOLENCE REPORT FOR NOV. & DEC 2010*

New chapter members & members transferred from another chapter: We welcome the following folks:

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| Faith Curtis | Irene Hamly |
| Charles Harkins | Stephen Hendricks |
| Ronald Lee | Deborah Leggat |
| Stephen Lund | Ray Montgomery |
| Carol Wilson | |

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

Members that decided to drop their membership:

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| Laura Burrell | Brenda Causey |
| Tommy Ferrier | Bernice Jackson |
| Martha Masters | Louis Rinkus |

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

Members Passed Away:

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| Harvey Golden | Stephen Hanson |
| Harold Woody | |

We offer prayers for the families of the deceased.. The memories of them will live on within the NARFE community.

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### *COFFEE CLUSTER (NORTH)*

The Northside Cluster will meet at Baba's Kitchen (formerly Wayne's Restaurant), 1469 Merrimon Ave. on February 17th 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, February 3, 2011 at the J&S Cafeteria, River Ridge Shopping Center, 11:00 am. Call Ted Mathis at 298-4400 for information.

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### *DISTINGUISHED MEMBER RECOGNIZED*

At our Christmas Party in December 11, 2011, Pauline Brawley was recognized as a Distingquished Member of NARFE. Pauline joins Bill Ward and Lewis Blogett in our recent class of distinguished members. Distinguished members are members who have been a member of NARFE for 20 years and have reached the young age of 85 years. Congratulations Pauline and thanks for your years of service to NARFE and the Chapter. To all members, please let the Chapter President know if you, or any member you know, meet the Distinguished Member criteria.

**Deadline for the next newsletter – February 21, 2011**

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

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

Bruce Habermann, NARFE
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**NARFE**
**CHAPTER NEWS**

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