N A R F E

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

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

Newsletter
July 2011

Theron Rumsey President 658-2131 theron_r@ charter.net	Tom Beatty 1st Vice President 298-6161 tkbpop@yahoo.com	VACANT 2nd Vice President	Neva Carlson Secretary 252-1661 nevacarlson@ charter.net	VACANT Parliamentarian	Bruce Habermann Treasurer 667-5705 bhab@charter.net
Ted Mathis Legislative Officer 298-4400 Mathis2471@ bellsouth.net	Sabine Dieringer Public Relations Officer 236-0080 sabdier@charter.net	Bety Downey Benevolence 299-1936 downeybc@ bellsouth.net	Frank Quinlan Editor 253-4552 dcftq@charter.net	Bob Thatcher Service Officer 684-6627	Frank Quinlan Past President 253-4552 dcftq@charter.net

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

JULY PROGRAM

Our speaker is Larry Reeves with the Alzheimer's Association. Larry is the Program Associate for the Mountain Area of the Alzheimer's Association, Western Carolina Chapter. With an undergraduate degree from Berea College of Berea, Kentucky this Haywood County native has two Masters degrees and has completed graduate studies in gerontology form Western Carolina University. He has worked with the Alzheimer's Association, Western Carolina Chapter since 2007. Previously he worked for several years in long-term healthcare.

Mr. Reeves will also receive a facsimile check for $1,000 collected by our chapter members for the Alzheimer's Association this past year. You may recall that both last year and this year, two members challenged the chapter to match their $500 donation and indeed we did. You may also be aware that NARFE in general is one of the largest contributors to Alzheimer's. Thank you (Chapter members) for your contributions!

Alzheimer's is a very timely and important subject, and a disease process that has touched many families either directly or indirectly and could be in the future of many of us. Plan to attend a very informative meeting. Hope to see you there!
Theron Rumsey & Sabine Dieringer

Note: The J&S Cafeteria no longer serves breakfast on Saturday. However, the management will provide a Breakfast buffet in our meeting room ($4.25+tax/person) so that we can continue to meet at our scheduled time. As usual, we will meet in the back room.

◊◊◊

BENEVOLENCE REPORT FOR MAY 2011

New or Reinstated Chapter Members: We welcome the following folks:

Dorothy Sellers

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

Members that decided to drop their membership:

Mildred Wesley   Rose White

We ask any member acquainted with these follks 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:

None

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I hope this newsletter finds everyone coping well with the early Mid-Summer heat and the continual thunderstorms. Each year seems to provide a unique and often challenging display of weather and thus far this year has been no exception. Growing up on a farm, I can relate well to the uncertainties each year surrounding crop production, calving season, etc., but on the whole the family farm flourished as food production seemed to be understood by the majority of society and farming was supported. Now, 50 to 60 years later, the farmer's challenges have grown greatly as most of society is generations removed from the farm and sees food production in many different ways, not necessarily favorable to the food producer.

Similarly, a half century ago, society looked on Public employees in a more positive light than it appears they are looked on now. We have elected officials that are generations removed from the philosophies of earlier years and there is a more complex set of factors that influence our current officials. That is why we have some that say federal employees and retirees are enjoying a lifestyle much better than most in society. That is why congressmen/women and senators are more willing to consider increasing the proportion of our healthcare that we pay, changing the way retirement annuities are calculated, utilizing our retirement fund for other purposes, and other things that negatively impact our benefits and income.

My urgent request to you is fourfold: 1) Do not give up your NARFE membership. NARFE needs you and your support. 2) Stay abreast of what the people we send to Washington are proposing and let your individual voice be heard. 3) If you utilize the Internet and email, make sure your email address is on file with the National NARFE office. This is one way our National office lets us know of current issues. 4) Contact the National office and ask to receive the Global Email Messaging System (GEMS) reports for legislative updates and the NARFE NEWSWATCH for current articles on legislative and other issues.

Thank you for your support of our current "Silent Auction" fundraising activity . There is still opportunity to participate.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT CHAPTER MEETING.
Theron Rumsey, Chapter President

NARFE AREA I AUGUST PICNIC

Our Chapter will be hosting the annual Area I picnic this year at Lake Julian.

When: Saturday, August 20, 2011. Gather at 12 noon, eat at 12:30.

Location: Shelter #6 at Lake Julian Park (Note: This is on the other side of the lake from where we have met in the past. From I-26, exit onto Long Shoals Rd. (Exit 37) and drive east on Long Shoals Rd. approximately 2 miles to Hendersonville Rd. (Rte. 25). Turn right onto Hendersonville Rd. and travel approximately .4 miles (you will pass the Black Forest restaurant [on the right] and go under a railroad. Turn at the first right after the railroad (gravel drive) into the park. Follow the park drive about .2 mile to the shelter. There is ample parking.

Menu:
Pork Barbeque, Chicken, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Macaroni & Cheese, Hush Puppies & Rolls, Tea (sweetened & unsweetened), Dessert : Banana Pudding.

Cost: $12.00 per person. Caterer will serve at no extra charge.

Details: Call Dan Louderback at 828-645-9350 for reservations and send a check payable to NARFE Chapter 156 to Dan Louderback at 534 Bluebird Ridge, Asheville, NC 28804 not later than August 10th.

Note: In addition to our annual time of fun and fellowship around a delicious BBQ meal we hope to have lots of support for our Alzheimer fundraiser project. In support of Alzheimer's research, we will hold a theme basket raffle as we did two years ago. You can purchase tickets for the baskets of your choice and a drawing will be held for each basket. Plan to attend and have a good time. Hope to see you there!

◊◊

SILENT AUCTION

The first phase was concluded at our monthly meeting on 11 June, with the following results:

	Current High Bid
1. Professionally framed and signed pastoral prints: Street value estimated to be $95.00 – Reserve bid is $25.00 each.	
Pheasants	$ 30.00
Ducks	$ 32.00
Turkeys	---
Geese	---
2. Sterling Silver Compote, Prelude pattern: Street value estimated to be $129.00 (Silver value alone is $144.00)	$ 49.00
3. Sterling Silver Compote, Prelude pattern: . Street value estimated to be $89.00	$ 36.00
4. Bottle of Danish liquor (Akavita): Street value is $22.00	$ 26.00
5. Jefferson Golden Hour Mystery Clock circa 1954 Street value is $110.00 based on EBAY sales	$ 41.00

Now all NARFE members can bid on these items by calling Theron Rumsey (828-658-2131) from now until June 27, 2011, Bruce Habermann (828-667-5705) from June 27 to July 5, 2011, and then call Theron after July 5. Bids should be at least $3.00 more than the current bid shown above. The previous high bidder will be notified by phone to give them an opportunity to rebid their position.

The highest bidder as of 12:00 noon on Friday, July 8, 2011 will be the winner of each item and items can be obtained at the July Chapter meeting.

Tom Beatty, 1st VP

◊◊

PROTECT AMERICA'S HEARTBEAT

If you have a computer, do you have one minute to send a message to President Obama, your senators and representatives? You can do this by clicking on: http://www.narfe.org/heartbeat/

The letter begins: "I am writing you to express strong opposition to any plan to impose an additional tax on federal workers by increasing the amount required to contribute to their annuities." and goes on to express opposition to any attacks on federal workers or retirees. The last sentence states that federal workers and retirees "should not be made scapegoats and singled out unfairly".

As stated in our July 2011 NARFE Magazine, "It is essential that NARFE members get involved in defending the earned retirement, pay and health benefits of federal workers and annuitants.

If you do not have a computer, ask one of your chapter officers to print out copies of the letter so that you can mail them to your president, senators, and congressman.

◊◊

SILENT AUCTION – JULY MEETING

For your consideration (bidding) there will be :

1. Signed collectible prints
2. Crystal Candy (Trifle) Dish believed to be Italian crystal by Salviati Veneria
3. Mirror Image NARFE front tag
4. Limited numbered print of early Beatles (#14-100) by Spies when there were 5 Beatles, not 4.

Any questions to Tom Beatty, at 828.298.6161 or tkbpop@yahoo.com.

◊◊

COFFEE CLUSTER (NORTH)

The Northside Cluster will meet at Baba's Kitchen (formerly Wayne's Restaurant), 1469 Merrimon Ave. on July 21st 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, July 7, 2011 at the J&S Cafeteria, River Ridge Shopping Center, 11:00 am. Call Ted Mathis at 298-4400 for information.

QUOTE

"The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese". Anonymous

Deadline for the next newsletter – July 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
Charles R. Patton Chapter 156
136 Castlerock Drive
Asheville, NC 28806-9517

NARFE
CHAPTER NEWS

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 243
Asheville, NC 28801