



NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

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

*Newsletter
July, 2007*

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WHEN: Saturday, July 14, 2007
WHERE: Asiana Grand Buffet, 1968 Hendersonville Rd.
TIME: Gathering: 11:00 am; Meeting: 11:15 am

JULY PROGRAM

Our speaker for the July program is Fred Jaye. Fred is a retired engineer who volunteers at the Nature Center. He will present a program about the WNC Nature Center.

BENEVOLENCE REPORT

New or reinstated chapter members: We welcome the following new members into our Chapter-

-New NARFE members:

Michael Large

-Reinstated members:

Judy Morris

James Purdy

Nancy Reed

As new or renewed members to NARFE or Chapter 156, please join us at our monthly Chapter meetings. Chapter meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of each month, currently at the Asiana Grand Buffet restaurant on Hendersonville Rd.

Members passed away:

Emma Curry

Harold Crutcher

We offer prayers for the families of the deceased. The memories of Emma and Harold will live on within our NARFE community.

Robert 'Bob' Baker - We are saddened by the recent death of Bob Baker. Bob was a long time ardent supporter of NARFE, member of Marion Chapter 0667, and a past Vice President of Area I. Our prayers are with Bob's family.

MEMBER SURVEY

If you haven't done so, we ask that you please fill out and return the member survey that was in the June Newsletter. This survey will provide important guidance to the leadership of your Chapter. Thank you for your important contribution.

AUGUST PICNIC

It is official. Joe Beaudoin, Region X Vice President and his wife Jane and our Federation President Paul Carew and his wife Amelia have accepted our invitation and will be attending the August Picnic.

Hope to see a lot of our members and guests out for the picnic on Sat, Aug. 18th at Lake Julian. The cost is \$11.00 for the meal. Just a reminder to send your checks made payable to NARFE Chapter 156 and mail them to Dan Louderback at 534 Bluebird Ridge, Asheville, NC 28804 no later than August 5th. If you are planning to attend the July 14th chapter meeting at the Asiana Grand Buffet, you may bring your check or cash to the meeting and Dan will collect the funds and your name so we can maintain a list of who is attending the picnic and if they have paid in advance for the meal.

Also, we will not be having an auction this year. Instead there will be several raffle baskets, each with different contents suggesting a theme for each basket. They will be on display for you to look at with a list of their contents in front of each one.

As in the past, all funds collected will be donated to our Alzheimer's Fund.

PICNIC BULLETIN

"For our picnic this year at Julian Park, we would like to raffle off about seven baskets of various themes in order to raise funds for the Alzheimer Association. Depending on how many people will attend, the baskets may be less or more. The themes will 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.

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. Please make sure these items are new and not too big. Once we find out how much we have, we will purchase the rest to fill the baskets using NARFE funds which of course will be replenished after the raffle. Soooo, please check your supplies and bring them to the next meeting OR if you can't make the next meeting, please bring them to me, Sabine Dieringer at 75 Wembley Road, Asheville, NC 28804 or call me at 236-0080.

Thank you and I know this will be a successful way to raise funds for a very worthwhile cause.

Your Raffle Basket Committee:

Sabine Dieringer, Donna Habermann, Elaine Hughes, Pat Kendall and Sandy Rumsey

SENIOR HOMESTEAD TAX RELIEF

Senior Homestead Tax Relief, House Bill 1917, was introduced in the NC General Assembly on May 3, 2007. Representative Annie Mobley, 5th Dist Dem, introduced the bill. The bill provides that the assessed value of the residence would be frozen at the current level when the owner reaches 70 years of age, and has owned the property for at least 5 years, and the owner is a resident of North Carolina. The bill was scheduled and heard before the House Committee on Aging on May 16 and on June 6. On May 16 Committee members had questions on what other states had done in this regard and what other impact the measure might have. There was a suggestion that perhaps the Judiciary Committee should also 'hear' the bill. On June 6, a member of the Legislative Bill Drafting Staff was present to respond to questions from

Committee members. After a brief discussion, a Committee member motioned that the "PCS" (Proposed Committee Substitute) for House Bill-1917 receive a favorable report. The motion was seconded and the motion passed. The bill now goes to be heard by the Committee on Finance. The Committee on Finance meets on Tuesdays at 9:00 AM. A date for hearing the bill has not been set.

We urge that you contact you representative in the General Assembly and ask them to support the bill.

The following are our local representatives in the General Assembly:

Sen. Martin L. Nesbitt, Jr., District 49

Legis. Mail addr.: NC Senate, 300 N. Salisbury St., Rm. 300-B,
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Local Addr.: 29 N. Market St., Asheville, NC 28801

Phones: 919-715-3001, Raleigh; 828-252-0490, Local

Sen. Tom Apodaca, District 48

Legis. Mail Addr.: NC Senate, 16 W. Jones St., Rm. 1127,
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

Local Addr.: 214 N. King St., Hendersonville, NC 28792

Phones: 919-733-5745, Raleigh; 828-696-0574, Local

Rep. Bruce Goforth, District 115

Legis. Mail Addr.: NC House of Repr., 16 W. Jones St., Rm.
1220, Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

Local Addr.: 137 Stonecrest Dr., Asheville, NC 28803

Phones: 919-733-5746, Raleigh; 828-298-6237, Local

Rep. Susan C. Fisher, District 114

Legis. Mail Addr.: NC House of Repr., 300 N. Salisbury St., Rm.
420, Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Local Addr.: 7 Maple Ridge Lane, Asheville, NC 28806

Phones: 919-715-2013, Raleigh; 828-258-5355, Local

Rep. Charles C. Thomas, District 116

Legis. Mail Addr.: NC House of Repr., 300 N. Salisbury St., Rm.
418C, Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Local Addr.: 3 Trotter Circle, Asheville, NC 28803

Phones: 919-715-3012, Raleigh; 828-681-5516, Local

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Climatologist, Teacher, Chemist, Mathematician, Musician, Meteorologist, and Statistician.

Harold Lee Crutcher was born in Cheraw, CO on November 18, 1913. His father was a schoolteacher, school administrator, farmer, and stockman and his mother was a teacher. In 1921 his family moved to South Dakota where both parents worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Harold attended a one-room school with 14 students in 8 grades. In 1926 his father was transferred to the Kiowa Indian Reservation near Anadarko, OK and in 1930 the family moved to Durant, OK where his father was an Indian Agent for the Five Civilized Tribes of Eastern Oklahoma.

Harold began college in 1930 at Oklahoma's Southeastern State University and received a B.A. Degree in 1933 and B.S. Degree in 1934. After a brief stint in the Army Air Corps in 1935 he was hired as a teacher of Latin, mathematics, and instrumental music at Haworth, OK and in 1937 he took a teaching job at Cromwell, OK where he taught general science, geometry, 8th grade mathematics, spelling, agriculture, and band.

He began work on a Ph.D degree in chemistry in 1936 at the University of Oklahoma at Norman and by 1938 he had completed all his course work for a Doctorate in Physical Chemistry.

Harold began his government career in the U.S. Weather Bureau on February 12, 1939 in Little Rock, AR and transferred to Atlanta, GA in 1940. Later in 1940 he was sent to Swan Island, an island east of Honduras, to establish an upper air station in a location that was part of the U.S. hurricane warning system. In 1941 & 1942 he was assigned to the North Atlantic Ocean Weather Patrol and then after a teaching assignment at Washington D.C.'s National Airport he was assigned to establish weather stations in Mexico.

On June 9, 1943 he married Clarice Alsager in Mexico City. Clarice was a former meteorological observer that he met while in Washington. He returned to Washington in 1944 for forecaster training and then worked in the U.S. Weather Bureau's Division of Hydrology and Climatology. In 1947 he was sent to San Juan, Puerto Rico to begin collecting weather records for the Caribbean region and later in 1947 he began a 3 ½ year assignment in Lima, Peru as a member of a U.S. State Department and Civil Aeronautics Board team to promote aviation in South America.

Following a nine-month assignment at New York University to work on a Masters Degree he and his family (wife Clarice, daughters Sharron and Carol) moved to Asheville in 1951 where Harold began a long and distinguished career at the National Weather Records Center (later it became the National Climatic Data Center) where he produced a series of climatic atlases for the U.S. Navy, developed innovative statistical techniques to analyze wind distributions to determine runway orientations at airports, and served as a consultant to NASA on climatological problems. He received his Ph.D. in Meteorology in 1960 from New York University. In the 1960's and 1970's he served as the Science Advisor to the Director of the National Climatic Data Center and retired in 1977. In his "spare" time he taught mathematics, chemistry, and physics at UNCA. During his career he authored and co-authored over 100 publications and in March 2007 NASA published his latest work "An Overview of Climatic Elements". He was a member of the American Chemical Society, American Institute of Chemists (Certified Chemist and Fellow), American Meteorological Society (Certified Consulting Meteorologist), American Society for Quality (Certified Reliability Engineer and Fellow), American Society of Testing, American Statistical Association, American Water Resources Association, and Royal Meteorological Society. Harold was a long time member of NARFE. We are saddened by his recent death on June 11, 2007.

Deadline for the next (August) newsletter – July 25, 2007

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GROCE FUNERAL HOME AND ASHEVILLE QUICKPRINT FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO NARFE CHAPTER 156, and THE ASIANA GRAND BUFFET FOR PROVIDING MEETING ROOM SPACE.

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CHAPTER NEWS

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