



NARFE

National Active and Retired
Federal Employees Association

NC Federation of Chapters, Raleigh Chapter 192

Chapter Officers

April 2007



Left to right: Peter Leonard, Justine Rozier, Ann Beam, George Lemons, Doris Dominic, Kathleen Townsend, and Faye Ostrom.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Faye N. Ostrom, President

Thanks not only to all officers, committee chairs, and committee members, but also to each of you for continued loyalty and service to the NARFE organization.

The new year has arrived with both opportunities and challenges that require continued diligence on the part of everyone. Through the years NARFE has accomplished many worthwhile goals on behalf of all members and continues strong efforts to protect benefits which

at times seem to be threatened. NARFE chapters provide an avenue not only for frequent contact with legislators, but also for a pleasant environment of social interaction including opportunities to contribute to Alzheimer's research and to mission projects.

Even though membership enlistment is fairly strong, member retention remains very weak. One effective way all of us can help turn around the retention concern is by dues withholding. I, as president, challenge each of you to take steps in this direction, as I have done, and never again run the risk of being dropped for non-payment of dues.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

At every opportunity let us welcome and become acquainted with new members. Let them know that we need each other. Recently-joined members include:

Kenneth Brown; Hedy Cramer (P5); Pamela Garcia; Stephen Grantham; Walter G. Moon; Allys-Jo Anselmi; Joyce K. Beatty (Trans-FHWA); Mary B. Brown; Alva L. Finkner (AGR-SRS); Wilmer D. Hughes (COM-NWS); Duane L. Ischer; Phyllis M. Joyner (INT_GEO-SUR); Gary Kent (PS); Frances B. Legg (EPA); John J. O'Connor; Joe A Pittman (INT F&WS); Lawrence B. Powell (DOD*); Rosa B. Privott (PS); Clark L. Smith; Gail D. Summers, John Wall; Russell R. Bouch (VA); Lloyd R. Cayes; Mildred T Drum (DOD); John M. Hefner (INT_F&WS); Bobbie M. Artis; William S. Beacham (HHS-PHS); Steven Howe; Elaine W. Shoaf (AGR-SCS); Betty J. Smith (DOD); Alexander Tuszynski (VA); Bill Umsheid (AGR-EXT); Ying Wong (DOD)*

*As of March, total chapter membership was 525
plus social members.*

MONTHLY MEETING DATA

Chaptet 192 meets at the North Carolina State University Club (828-0308) located at 4200 Hillsborough Street just west of the Raleigh Beltline (US 440, Exit 173) on the first Tuesday of every month, with the exception of July. which is held on the second Tuesday, with lunch beginning at 11:00a.m.

Please make RESERVATIONS with your telephone caller and plan to arrive by 10:45 a.m. to allow time to sign in, get a name tag, and pay for lunch. If you have had no contact by a telephone caller and you plan to attend, please call Jane Stuart (785-1345) or Susanne Stephenson (847-4221) no later than Thursday prior to the meeting.

*Members, new members, and guests
are always welcome!*

State Federation Convention

The 2007 State Federation Convention is to be held

May 1-3

In Greenville co-hosted by Pitt County Chapter 1530 and Washington Chapter 804. Both convention and hotel reservation forms are printed in the Jan/Feb issue of The NC Federal Retiree and Employee newspaper. Lt. Governor Evelyn Perdue is receiving an invitation to attend. Members are urged to attend and help make the convention another success

Be sure to get reservations in by April 1.

2007 Legislative Training Conference

Representing Raleigh Chapter at the 2007 Legislative Training Conference in Bethesda, MD March 3-6 was our able treasurer, George Lemons.

Thanks, George, for accepting this responsibility.

Leader Training Session

The annual area IV Leader Training Session, January 11, 2007 held at the NC State University Club was both effective and well attended. Those present included State Federation President Tom Hobgood, Federation VP Paul Carew, Area V VP Paul Sims, and Area IV VP Bennie Saunders.

2007 NARFE Programs
From Kathleen Townsend

January

No Meeting, Club Closed; Holiday

February

Estate Planning and Elder Law

William G. Alexander, Attorney at Law

March

Pulmonary Rehabilitation

*Bernadette Allington, Respiratory Therapist
w/ Rex Health Care*

April

Dix Property

To Be Announced

May

Singing on the Rails:

History of Trains with singing of railroad ballads.

William N. McElrath

June

Alzheimer's Disease

To be Announced

Service Officer Assistance Continues

Assisting members and their families in time of need is one of the important objectives of NARFE. Justine Rozier continues to be readily available to assist personally with various problems including annuity checks, federal life insurance, health and survivor benefits, social security, income tax and state inheritance (death) issues. She urges families to keep an up-to-date record, safely stored for immediate use, of all personal information that might be needed by OPM. Should you need help in any of these areas, don't hesitate to call Justine at 832-1103.

Thanks Justine!

NARFE-PAC Efforts Continue

Sponsoring Congressmen who support legislation favoring active and retired federal employees is the purpose of the NARFE Political Action Committee. In this area in the past have been Congressmen David Price, Bob Etheridge, and Brad Miller. During the two years, 2005 and 2006, Chapter 192 contributed a total of \$3,254.44, the highest of the 54 Chapters in the State Federation. Contributions by the federation totaled \$30,333.75. Credit and congratulations are heartily extended to the chapter 192 chair, Merrill Jackson, a hardworking, enthusiastic member, for all his work in bringing this success to the Raleigh chapter. Thanks also to all the contributors. Donations may be made at the monthly meetings, at the State Federation convention in May, or may be mailed to the 2007 PAC chair, **John Allis, 2905 Glen Burnie Drive, Raleigh, NC 27607-3010**. Thanks to John for accepting this responsibility.

**Questions or comments about the newsletter? Contact Faye Ostrom at 919-319-1104*

Address Change.....

To provide address, e-mail address, or telephone changes or any additions, etc., please call the chapter editor, Bruce

Cheatham at 876-1850 or e-mail at lcheat36OS@aol.com.

Thanks, Bruce, for your many years of faithful, dedicated service.

Chapter Financial Status

George Lemons, treasurer, states that chapter 192 continues to be on sound financial footing.

From December 2006 a balance of **\$3,903.00** was brought forward into the new year.

In addition, a CD totals **\$3,903.00**.

Thanks to George for his continuous dependable service!

Mission Project

Each month our local NARFE chapter sends a few volunteers to help prepare and serve food to the 250-300 needy persons daily M-F free of charge to the Shepherd's Table mission project of the Church of the Good Shepherd, 125 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh. If you would like to volunteer for this service, please call **Rudy Hillman** at 772-3134. *Rudy is a most loyal, conscientious worker. His efforts on behalf of this worthy cause are greatly appreciated.*

Alzheimer's Research

For many years chapter 192 has been contributing through the NC State Federation to the NARFE national goal of \$7 million by 2007 for Alzheimer's research. For the year 2005 the Raleigh chapter contributed \$1,973 with the State Federation, 527,768.00. For 2006 Raleigh contributions were \$1,740.00 while the State Federation contributions were \$30,147.92.

As of December 31, 2006 NARFE members have contributed \$6,691.10 to the \$7 million in 2007 fund. Of all contributed funds 100% goes to the fund. Much of the Raleigh contribution came from an apple raffle held at each monthly meeting. Anyone unable to attend chapter meetings but would like to donate to this worthwhile cause may send checks payable to

NARFE/Alzheimer's to Lorene Phillips, 126 Springmoor Drive, Raleigh, NC 27615.

Lorene's faithful work in this direction is certainly appreciated.

Durham Chapter 566 Hosts Cluster Meeting

The first of 3 area IV cluster meetings planned by Area IV VP Bennie Saunders was held in Durham, January 22. Chapter representatives included were from Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill, and Alamance county. Also attending were Federation President Tom Hobgood and Federation VP Paul Carew, who spoke briefly on efforts in progress ultimately to extend benefits of the so-called "Bailey Settlement" to certain retirees and future retirees (some federal, state, local, and military) who had been excluded from paying North Carolina state income tax on their annuities. Current NARFE members along with members of 51 additional organizations are encouraged to support a proposed study of the economic impact such legislation might produce.

In addition, Mr. Carew conducted an extensive idea-exchange from all present as to ways to improve member recruitment and retention. These suggestions will be screened and appropriate results will be shared throughout the Federation.

★ Service Award Surprise ★

During the November 2006 monthly meeting, the president surprised the following twenty members with a certificate of appreciation and a blue and gold NARFE mug for long and valuable service to the chapter:

Isabelie Buckley, Bruce Cheathan, Ada Dalla-Pozza, Rudy Hillman, Tom Hobgood, Merrill Jackson, Edwin Jenkins, Lottie Rowe, Jane Stuart, Beverly Loseke, Peter Leonard, Kathleen Townsend, Ron Townsend, D. G. Harwood Jr., Jan Christensen, Joe Padgett, Lorene Phillips, Justine Rozier, Ernestine Sailer, and Susanne Stephenson.

Sugar and Spice



*Sugar and Spice Singer with Larita Keeison, Pianist
December 2006*

Vice President Kathleen Townsend always provides interesting monthly programs. They include not only serious and informative speakers, but also humorous and interesting presentations. For instance, the July program usually consists of musical renditions particularly of patriotic songs. The Christmas program is usually either an individual singer or a group of singers who charm those present with both Christmas carols and secular songs. Often everyone is urged to join in group singing. All members and guests are cordially invited to attend and enjoy these monthly meetings.

Sincere appreciation...

*...is extended to D. G. Hardwood, Jr. for
recently designing and building a handsome
stand for the new Chapter 192 NARFE banner.*

**Credit and sincere appreciation are extended to the
following sources of assistance in the preparation and
publishing of this newsletter:**
*.lennijer Goner. Carv - computer work, typing, and arranging
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Fave N. Ostrom, President*

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**NATIONAL ACTIVE
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Chapter 192 Raleigh, NC

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