

NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
Chapter 566 Durham, NC

Vol. 2007-4

July-Aug 2007

Chapter Calendar

NARFE Chapter 566 meets on
the 4th Tuesday of the month at
11:00AM at
**The Golden Corral, South Square,
Durham**

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Chapter Meeting
Place: The Golden Corral
Speaker: Camille Berry,
Executive Director
Durham Central Park, Inc.

Tuesday, August 28, 2007

Chapter Meeting
Place: The Golden Corral
Speaker: Gary Schrum,
Senior Tax Advisor

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Chapter Meeting
Place: The Golden Corral
Speaker: TBA

April 30- May 2, 2008

52nd Federation Convention
Sheraton Inn
Chapel Hill, NC

Never too late to donate to
Alzheimer's/ NARFE

Send check for donation or memorial to
Helen Hilderman
23 Sparger Springs Ln., Durham 27705



August is Legislative Wrap-UP Lobby Month

August is the best time to lobby your
representatives, to pressure them to move
along with entitlement bills such as Health
Premium Conversion and repeal of GPO and WEP

President's Message

By Carolyn London
fc london@verizon.net



The Congressional Summer Recess is
scheduled for August 4 until September 4.
Nearly all representatives and many
senators (especially the third facing re-
election) will be in their home districts.

August is not a good time to lobby the legislators in
Washington – no one is in town! Better to lobby in their home district. I
expect to have the Membership Action Plan and talking points available
at the next meeting. Can't come to the meeting? Give me a call and I
may be able to provide suggestions.

See Judy Park's page 16 article in the July issue of NARFE
magazine for details on Lobby Month.

Membership Chairman needed

Frank Sargent has resigned as Membership chair because of health
problems, so we will be looking for someone to take his place. More
ideally, I would like to see three members on the committee. That way
each one would need to spend only a few hours a month to keep up
this most important committee. So please say "yes" when I call you!



Vice President's Program Notes
by Fred Hawkins
F_Hawk@att.net

24 July: Our speaker for July is Camille Berry, Executive Director of

Durham Central Park, Inc., a non-profit organization committed to creating a unique, five-acre city park for Durham citizens. The park will provide a variety of activities, placing special emphasis on the arts as well as rejuvenating the surrounding neighborhood.

Camille is an alumna of Wellesley College in Massachusetts. She is also a board member of the South Durham Little League and Renaissance Downtown Durham. Camille is married and has three children. She enjoys reading and umpiring baseball games.

28 August: Gary Schrum, a Senior Tax Advisor, is our speaker for August. Since retiring, Gary worked for nine of his ten years as a tax preparer with H & R Block. He is an enrolled agent.

While in the Air Force he met his wife, Hazel, and worked as an electronics technician during his Air Force and civil service careers then retired in 1993 after 31 years of Federal service.

Welcome New Members

Frank A Brada
Ruby J Dement (Transfer in)
Leola Hall-Jenkins
Margaret C Reed (Transfer in)

New under CFE Incentive Program

Susan Derrenbacher

Members transferred out

James A King
Larry C. Poole

Members who did not renew

Kirt Cox

Current Chapter Membership -- 254

News Note

Gary Schrum underwent emergency bypass heart surgery in June, but is now reportedly doing well. We wish him a quick and speedy recovery.

Planning to move? Notify NARFE

1-800-456-8410 or memsrv@narfe.org
(Also please notify this chapter at mezang@aol.com)

Chapter 566 Officers

President	Carolyn London fc london@verizon.net	919-489-4228
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2nd Vice Pres.	Marie Kinney	919-286-1580
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Calling	Mary Ellen Rogers	919-471-9556
Editor	Marian Zang	919-309-0377
Programs	Fred Hawkins	919-471-9305
Sunshine	Kay Murray	919-382-0682
Calling Tree	Mary Ellen Rogers	471-9556



Helen Stopinski, Secretary, Fred Hawkins, 1st Vice President, Carolyn London, President, Arnetta Wicker, Treasurer. Missing: Marie Kinney, 2nd Vice President

Some Other Useful Numbers

Hon. Elizabeth Dole
120 Senate Russell Bldg. Washington, DC 20510
202-224-6343 (DC); FAX 202-224-1100
Web: <http://dole.senate.gov/>

Hon. Richard Burr
US Senate, Washington, DC 20510
202-224-3154
Web: <http://burr.senate.gov/>

Hon. David Price
411 W Chapel Hill Blvd., Durham, NC 27701
919-688-3004 (Durham) 202-225-1784 (DC)
Web: <http://price.house.gov/>

This newsletter is published bimonthly by Chapter 566 Durham and mailed to all chapter members. It is sent out about one week before the chapter meeting in the months of January, march, May, July, September and November.

The Silver Circle

The "Silver Circle" has become a reality. (See page 27 in the July issue of NARFE magazine.) Instead of raising dues, which could strain about 50 percent of the membership, National has come up with a plan for honoring those who are able to voluntarily support the financial health of NARFE.

Those who contribute \$25 or more will be recognized in the pages of NARFE magazine and will receive a Silver Circle pin. Those who contribute \$1,000 or more will have their brass nameplate placed on the "Wall of Fame" at NARFE National Headquarters.

A donation form and envelope is included as an insert in the July issue of NARFE magazine.

The Fourth Branch

Paul Sams, former Area V VP, has been named National Legislative Officer and has also been asked to work with the Fourth Branch, a watchdog committee dedicated to looking out for retiree interests in the state legislature. As so many of us remember, the Federal Retiree Task Force worked with the Fourth Branch, a unit of state government employee and retiree groups, to effect legislation that ended state taxing of annuities for many government retirees.

The Fourth Branch is now supporting two bills that materially affect federal retirees, 1) HB-1917 would freeze the property tax assessments for individuals aged 70 or more and 2) HB 126 would exclude pensions from State income Tax for retirees who are not covered by the "Bailey Settlement.

This dedicated group cannot operate without funding. Many of you were sent a funding request some time ago. Paul has asked that you support this very worthy service. If you have lost the form, you can send your contribution to him: PAUL E SAMS, 86 PINE LAKE DR, WHISPERING PINES, NC 28327-9373,

For further information about the work of the Fourth Branch, you can call Paul Sams at phone: 910-949-3357 or e-mail him at: paulsams@mindspring.com

Blue Cross/Blue Shield Message

The annual Blue Cross/Blue Shield briefing is scheduled for Tuesday, October 23, 2007. Stay tuned for further information, and plan to sign up for the luncheon as well as the briefing.

Legislative Watch

HR-1110 Health Premium Conversion bill to allow our premiums to be deducted from pre-tax dollars has been introduced again in this session by Tom Davis (R-VA).

S-773 is the Senate version, newly introduced.

HR-82, the bill, sponsored by Howard Berman (D-CA), to repeal the infamous WEP and GPO bill that denies Social Security benefits to many federal retirees. That and companion bill, **S-206** does not appear likely to pass. There is more hope for GPO and WPO reform as proposed in the newly introduced Mulaski bill.

NARFE-FEEA Natural Disaster Fund

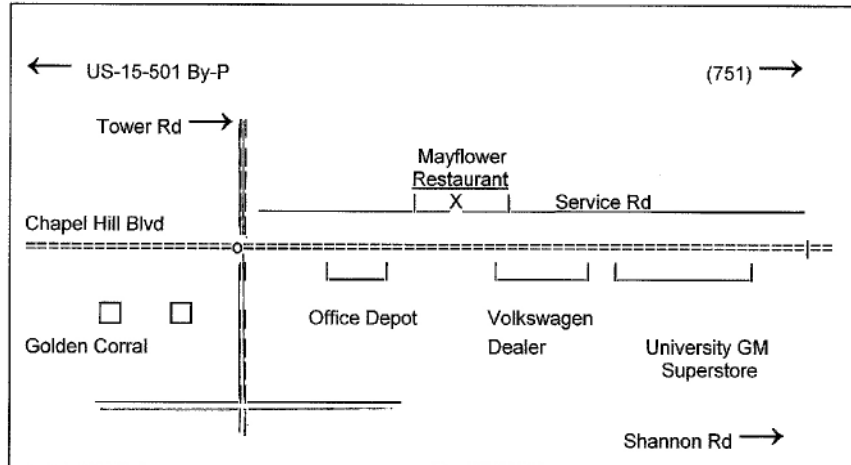
The NARFE-FEEA Natural Disaster Fund, administered by the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund, is supported by NARFE members and can pay up to \$500 per NARFE household to reimburse NARFE members for losses stemming from declared natural disasters.

Tax deductible donations can be sent to the NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund by sending a check to FEEA, 8441 W. Bowles Ave., Suite 200, Littleton, CO 80123. To donate by credit card, call 800-323-4140 or go online to www.feea.org and click on the "Give Online" link and select "NARFE-FEEA Disaster Relief" from the drop-down menu.

Website Update

--- A new and improved website is open, according to Charlie Pratt, federation webmaster. It features an attractive opening page and will be easier to navigate – in short, more user friendly. Check it out at www.ncnarfe.info.

Meeting Place and Date– as of January 23, 2007
11:00 AM – Fourth Tuesday of the month (except December)
The Golden Corral at South Square



NARFE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACTIVE
AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter 566 Durham

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