

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

FIRST FLIGHT QUARTERLY

If we each do a little bit, together we can do a lot.

Volume 12 Issue 1

Membership 128

January 2008



**Br-r-r-r—it's cold.
Don't let that keep you
from attending the
next chapter meeting
Tuesday, February 12.**

The guest speaker will be Mr. Mike Murphy, Superintendent, Cape Hatteras National Park. He will give an update on programs, policies and issues that will be facing the National Park in the 2008 season.

On **March 11**, Caroline Farmer, NC Consumer Protection Office of the Attorney General's Office in Raleigh will visit the chapter. Her talk will include issues and concerns that elderly and retired citizens need to know in order to protect themselves from scam artists, internet hazards, identify theft, etc.

At the **April 8** meeting, Dorothy Toolan, Dare County Public Information Officer, will explain all Dare County services as well as agencies which are available to residents. She will emphasize those agencies that are helpful for elderly, retired, and senior citizens. The latest publication "Guide to Services, Dare County" will be distributed.

First Flight Chapter 2206 meets the second Tuesday of the month at Western Sizzlin' Restaurant in Kill Devil Hills. Fun and fellowship begin with dinner at 6:00 p.m. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. followed by the business session. If you unable to be there for dinner, please come for the meeting. You are encouraged to bring your spouse, a prospective member or a friend.



**THE KEY TO SUCCESS
AT THE
ANNUAL TRAINING SESSION**

Opportunity knocks! Time to take a leisurely day trip to Williamston on February 20. The drive is peaceful, the scenery lovely and carpooling with members is always fun. Lunch is very reasonable, always prompt and delicious (the banana fritters are highly recommended!) This training session is for **everyone!** The latest issue of the Federation newspaper explains in detail a new and more participative way to conduct the training session. Briefly, rather than the Federation Officers leading the session, all attendees will participate. Members will be divided into groups to discuss leadership, membership or retention and legislative issues. Guidelines will be provided to keep discussion groups on target. After lunch, each group will report its findings and provide suggested next step actions. This is your chance to "have a say" in resolving these problem areas. Contact President Tom Rogers, 441-2857 if you would like to attend.

WANTED

If you are interested in a job that is very rewarding but doesn't require a large investment of time, please consider volunteering for the position of Alzheimer's Leader. This is important for the chapter and for all of us! Call Tom @ 441-2857.

FIRST FLIGHT OFFICERS

President	Tom Rogers	441-2857
Vice President	Edie Baker	441-4239
Secretary	Wanda Baker	441-2924
Treasurer	Flora Kennedy	480-2726

COMMITTEE LEADERS

Membership	James Ebert	473-6375
Public Relations	Tom Rogers	441-2857
Legislative	Howard Kimble	441-0542
Newsletter	Glenda McRary	441-8607
Service	Howard Kimble	441-0542
Alzheimer's PAC	Tom Rogers	441-2857

MEET THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Secretary Wanda Baker is beginning her second year as the chapter secretary. She is a native North Carolinian, born in Smithfield, but grew up in Tidewater; her father was a career Navy man. Her civil service career included working for the Treasury Department, Washington, DC; Department of the Air Force at Bolling Air Force Base and NOAH in the DC area. Wanda also was employed by the Department of the Air Force and DCMA in Pennsylvania in Northern Virginia. She spent several years in contract administration in Pennsylvania and then engineering service contracts in Manassas. She and her husband Gary (also a NARFE member) have two children.

Wanda may be retired from civil service but she is still quite active in the community; she's involved in Hotline, Outer Banks Women's Club, Food for Thought, Monday Night Alive, and Linus Quilting (now her passion). The retirement goal of this active couple was to see every state in the U.S. They only have 10 states to see. Go Wanda and Gary!

Flora "Flo" Kennedy graciously accepted the position of treasurer this year. She grew up in Cumberland, Maryland and joined the 4-H Club when she was ten years old. Her civil service career began with Naval Personnel services after high school and during the Korean War. She started out as a clerk-typist and rose to the position of budget analyst—great job! Flo began her career in Washington, DC but moved to work in Madrid and then Saragosa, Spain. She moved to Louisville, Kentucky where she work for NAVORD. As a single mom, Flo and her four children moved back to Washington; there she worked for HEW and began her accounting career at the National Credit Union Administration.

Flo decided that DC was just too cold so she spent 5 years job as a Budget Analyst for the Public Works Department at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Upon her return to the U.S. she worked at Subase Georgia, then on to Cecil Field in Florida. After several years of retirement in Palm Beach Gardens, she moved to the

Outer Banks. She spends time with her granddaughter, attends Holy Redeemer by the Sea, and can be found at the Baum Senior Center, her Christian Women's group and "Curves." We hope she will be with our chapter for many years. Did I mention that she is a certified diver??? Wow, Flo!

FEDERATION CONVENTION

It's not too early to start registering for the Federation Convention. The convention will be held April 29—May 1 at the Sheraton Chapel Hill Hotel. Three chapters are hosting the convention so it should be great! The convention registration form is in the latest issue of the Federation newspaper and on line at ncnarfe.info. Hotel reservations must be made by April 1. Call 1-800-325-3535. The way time flies that will be here before we know it! Let's break the chapter attendance record!

GPO & WEP

For those who are not on NARFE's GEMS—The Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security met January 16. The Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision were among the subjects discussed. Witnesses for postal and public employees told the panel of the onerous impacts of the GPO and WEP. Rep. Michael McNulty testified for the National Association of Postmasters. Ms. Rosenfield, a NARFE member and retired Postmaster, spoke as her spousal survivor benefit is offset by her postal annuity. Teacher and school employee groups also testified. Full coverage will be in the March magazine.

Some times we get discouraged because the political process moves so slowly but at least it is moving. That's why it's important to keep letters and phone calls going to our members of Congress.

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES**US Senators**

The Honorable Elizabeth Dole
55 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

Tel 202-224-3121 or <http://dole.senate.gov>

The Honorable Richard Burr
217 Russell Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
Tel 202-224-3154 or <http://burr.senate.gov>

US Representative

The Honorable Walter Jones, Jr.
422 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Tel 202-225-3415 or <http://jones.house.gov>

State Legislators

NC Senator Marc Basnight
PO Box 1025, Manteo 27954
473-2223; 919-733-6854 (Raleigh)
marcb@ncleg.net

NC Representative Tim Spear
NC House of Representatives
300 N Salisbury St—Rm 402
Raleigh NC 27603-5925
tims@ncleg.net



DID YOU KNOW?

In 1921, The Association of Retired Federal Employees was organized by 14 civil service employees. Efforts to protect the benefits of civil service retirees become a basic element in the NARFE program.

At the 1922 meeting, the secretary and treasurer were voted salaries of \$30 per month; increased to \$50 per month the following September. No salary was established for the president, but the members occasionally voted him a "gift" of \$100.

In 1947 -NARFE's name is changed to National Association of Retired Civil Employees (NARCE). The Association constitution was amended to permit establishment of local chapters.

The first National Convention was held in Washington, DC in 1950.

State federations of chapters were authorized in 1954 and *Retirement Life* began monthly publication.

In 1955 Federal civil service became a worldwide personnel program as coverage is extended to DoD positions of U.S. citizens overseas.

Congress authorizes an automatic system for cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) in 1961; also the retirement law was amended to allow retirement at age 55 with 30 years service without reduction of accrued benefits.

A regional organization under field vice presidents was set up in 1968.

In 1970—The Association's name is changed back to National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

The first three applications for chapter charters were from Los Angeles, California; Topeka, Kansas and Washington, DC in the spring of 1947.

The first edition of *The Annuitant* (the forerunner of *Retirement Life*) was distributed September 16, 1922. This was a "year book" with advertising and sold for 25 cents per copy.

California became the first state federation in 1950 and held its first federation convention in February 1951.

By 1960, there were 750 chapters, 26 federations and 100,000 members.

NARFE had more than 200,000 members by 1974.

In 1985, NARFE formed a partnership with the Alzheimer's Association.

Did You Know information was taken from *Looking Back on 80 Years at NARFE 1921-2001*.