



NARFE NEWS

A Publication of Chapter 0720
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Salisbury, NC
"Celebrating Over 50 Years of Service"

Volume 1, Number 1

March 2010

Welcome

Thanks for taking a look at our chapter's first newsletter. We will be producing this document on a regular basis as a new means of communicating with all members of Chapter 0720. It will be distributed both by paper and by email.

You can also visit us on the internet as we're now a member of Yahoo Groups. Chapter 0720's group page can be found at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/narfe0720>. For those who can't attend our meetings, but want to know what's going on, we now post each month's minutes on our group page.

If you received this newsletter by mail but would prefer to receive it through our chapter email list, or want to join our list to receive this and other chapter information, please send your name, phone number and email address to ronbuffaloe@gmail.com.

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President's Message

By Ron Buffaloe

This year's chapter elections resulted in the placement of new people in each of our four elected positions and the naming of new members to our chapter's appointed positions. These were previously announced by email and are shown on the next page. I know that all the new officers and committee chairs are committed to engaging all our members in chapter activities. We hope that you will join us in our monthly chapter meetings and participate with us over the coming year. We can't be successful without you.

I can tell you that the new officers and committee chairs are already involved in several activities. Five of us participated in a one-day leadership training seminar in Gastonia led by the NC NARFE Federation officers. We are reviving the idea of an active Executive Committee, comprised of the four elected officers, starting with a short work session held in March to organize and plan for the coming year. We will be taking a delegation to the NC Federation Convention in Greensboro in May and two of the officers will be serving on committees involved with putting on the convention.

We recognize that getting most of our 130 members involved in our monthly chapter meetings requires that we make the day and time of the meetings convenient, the business sessions useful and informative,

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and the speakers interesting. We have already discussed those things at our January and February meetings and are trying to ensure our meetings meet the needs of our members. I would appreciate your feedback on how we can better serve you this year.

I can be reached at (704) 633-7599 or by email at ronbuffaloe@gmail.com.

2010 Chapter Officers

President	Ron Buffaloe
Vice President	Gladys Earnhardt
Secretary	Robbie Davis
Treasurer	Anne Boone-Carroll
Membership Chair	Bob Holzmann
Service Officer	Clarence Bailey
Legislative Chair	Ron Buffaloe
Public Relations	Gladys Earnhardt
Alzheimer's Chair	Kenneth Carroll

NARFE Needs You!

*By Bob Holzmann
Membership Chair*

We all know how important it is to remain on top of what is going on in Washington and Raleigh and to act to protect our interests, but we also need to be mindful of the importance we all share in recruiting new members. The more active and retired federal employees we have on the membership rolls the better chance we have to protect what we have earned over the many years of federal service we have provided. We have discussed plans to reach out to the federal community at retirement seminars and community events but we need every one's help.

To facilitate getting our message out, I contacted national headquarters in Washington DC. They were kind enough

to send me application packets containing a recent magazine, fact sheets, an application and a postage paid return envelope. I will be bringing these to our chapter meetings and encourage everyone to pick up a couple to share with potential members. Membership recruiting is everyone's responsibility.

Remember active and retired federal employees are everywhere. Just this week I was discussing NARFE and the benefits with a few individuals. One I talked with Wednesday evening at church, another during a recent visit to see my uncle at a rehabilitation center in town. Both individuals were aware of NARFE but hadn't joined. I'm hoping the membership packets I gave them will help them in making the decision to join. If anyone has any questions about membership or know of any potential members, please share these packets with them. I'm also available to assist you in talking with individuals or groups where NARFE would benefit - just let me know. Contact me at (704) 636-2736 or by email at bkholzmann@yahoo.com.

Chapter Financial Report February

*By Anne Boone-Carroll
Treasurer*

Opening Balance	\$1,998.25
Receipts	78.63
Disbursements	599.25
Closing Balance	\$1,477.63

Kudos Due

Kudos to all North Carolina NARFE members for the support given in 2009 to NARFE's number one charity – Alzheimer's Research! A record amount of \$32,259.40 was given in donations from all the chapters in the state.

Chapter Meetings

NARFE Chapter 0720 meets the third Monday of each month at 1:00 pm at the Ruffy-Holmes Senior Center, with two exceptions. The Center is located at 1120 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. S, Salisbury, NC. Meeting locations for January and December will be announced.

Apr. 19	Speaker will be State Rep. Lorene Coates (legislative schedule permitting)
May 17	Speaker will be Attorney Andrew Porter
Jun. 21	Speaker will be from the Fire Marshall's Office

Why I Became Involved in NARFE

*By Gladys Earnhardt
Vice President*

One of the first things I did after retiring from the Salisbury VA Medical Center in 1998 was to join NARFE. I became interested after reading about the meetings in the Salisbury Post and recognizing the names of several of the members. My husband was already a member, having retired from the US Postal Service, and I, too, wanted to become a part of what I felt was a viable organization for preserving the benefits for federal retirees.

The first time I attended a meeting, I felt a sense of belonging and a desire to be an active participant. My first opportunity came shortly thereafter when I was elected chapter secretary. Since then, I have been vice president, sunshine chairman, program chairman and chaplain. I have enjoyed my association with NARFE and look forward to years of continued service with the organization. I encourage you to get involved in our chapter too if you're looking for a fulfilling outside activity.

March is NARFE-PAC Month

NARFE-PAC, instituted in 1982, is celebrated on the cover of the March NARFE magazine for the seventh consecutive year because NARFE-PAC, the federal employee and retiree defense fund, complements members' voting power, grassroots activism and professional advocacy. Our national Political Action Committee (PAC) gathers small, voluntary member donations and then contributes substantial sums to congressional candidates with evidence based records supportive of federal employees and retirees. The entire process is done in complete compliance with both the letter and the spirit of federal laws and regulations.

NARFE-PAC relies on our chapters and federations nationwide to promote NARFE-PAC. Our NARFE President Margaret L. Baptiste has urged every chapter and federation leader to ensure our members are aware of the importance of our PAC! The March issue of the NARFE magazine has a NARFE-PAC coupon (see page 22) that can be completed and sent, along with a check, money order, or credit card information, to NARFE headquarters. NARFE-PAC materials are also available on our national web site's Legislative section at www.narfe.org.

Welcome to Our New Members

Doris W. Lewis	Rockwell
Robert H. Millikin	Davidson
Jean Woody	Rockwell
Paul C. Quimby	Salisbury
Ruth Quimby	Salisbury
Alice H. Stokes	Salisbury
David B. Zilkoski	Salisbury
Nedra Chapman	Salisbury
Robbin S. Cope	Linwood
Dennis Redfern	Salisbury
Vera Wiggins	Salisbury



Why You Should Recruit Friends and Co-Workers to Join NARFE

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association is the *only* association dedicated to safeguarding and enhancing the benefits of America's active and retired federal employees, and their survivors. It has over 310,000 members nationwide. For only \$33.00 a year you get:

- A voice on Capitol Hill,
 - Advance information on changes to your federal retirement, health and other benefits,
 - An award-winning monthly magazine and exclusive Web site access,
 - Information on local, state and national issues affecting NARFE members through chapter meetings and newsletters,
 - The ability to influence town, county and state issues affecting all seniors,
 - Direct assistance with questions on annuities, health benefits, Medicare, life insurance, tax withholding, survivor benefits, Social Security, etc.,
 - Many occasions to broaden contributions to, and benefits from, increased social, political, economic and civic activities, and
 - Fellowship and social interchange with other federal retirees, survivor annuitants and current employees, the renewal of friendships with former associates, and the making of many new friendships.
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Address Correction Requested

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