



NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

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

Newsletter
March 2012

Theron Rumsey President 828-337-5134 theronrumsey@gmail.com	Tom Beatty 1 st Vice President 298-6161 tkbpop@yahoo.com	Larry Rhodes 2 nd Vice President 505-1273 lrho@charter.net	Neva Carlson Secretary 252-1661 nevacarlson@charter.net	Dan Louderback Logistics 645-9350 danembluebird@webtv.net	Bruce Habermann Treasurer 667-5705 bhab@charter.net
Ted Mathis Legislative Officer 298-4400 ellen1114@charter.net	Carol Rueter Special Projects 697-7269 carol07@bellsouth.net	Bety Downey Benevolence 299-1936 downeybc@bellsouth.net	Mike Grillot Editor 281-4972 grillot@aol.com	Frank Quinlan Service Officer 253-4552 dcftq@charter.net	Lucille Lamy Newsletter Asst. 298-8410

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) is the only association dedicated to safeguarding and enhancing the benefits of America's active and retired federal employees, and their survivors.

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS COFFEE CLUSTER (EAST)

The East Cluster will meet Thursday, March 1, 2012 at the J&S Cafeteria, River Ridge Shopping Center, 11:00 am. Call Ted Mathis (298-4400) for information.

COFFEE CLUSTER (WEST/SOUTH)

The new West/South Cluster will meet Saturday, March 10, 2012 at the J&S Cafeteria, West Ridge Shopping Center, 11:00 am. Call Theron Rumsey (828-337-5134) for info.

COFFEE CLUSTER (NORTH)

The North Cluster will meet at Baba's Kitchen, 1469 Merrimon Ave. on Thursday March 15th at 9:00 am. Drop in and stay in touch over a cup of coffee or maybe breakfast. Call Theron Rumsey (828-337-5134) for information.

ANNUAL APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS. Our new Annual April Membership Meeting will be held on **Saturday April 21, 2012 at 9:30 AM** at the new private dining room at the J&S Cafeteria, River Ridge Shopping Center on Fairview Rd. The meeting will include an informative program, "Living with Bears in Western North Carolina," presented by Mike Carraway, Wildlife Biologist with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, and a focus on new and prospective members.

FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Welcome from Sunny Sebring, FL. Sandy and I have enjoyed excellent sea food and hospitality traveling across the Florida Panhandle with a family reunion in Sebring.

Please note important items below that highlight the Area I Workshop, the 2012 annual NARFE NC Federation Convention, and an idea for a recruitment project.
Theron Rumsey, President

AREA I WORKSHOP

Mark your calendar for March 6, starting at 8:30 AM to attend the annual Area I Workshop at the Clyde United Methodist Church. This meeting typically consists of presentations and discussion concerning current NARFE topics, particularly in the legislative arena. Ted Mathis, our Area I Legislative Officer will be conducting part of the program. Join members from across WNC for a good meeting and delicious homemade soup at lunch time.

2012 NC FEDERATION CONVENTION

Plan to attend this year's NC Federation Convention at Harrah's Hotel and Convention Center in Cherokee, May 9-11 hosted by Area I Smokey Mountain Chapter 1420. Details for registration for the convention and the hotel are in the Federation newspaper. Don't miss a super convention and

great meeting place. You can attend as a chapter delegate or a member. Spouses and guests are welcome. Call Theron Rumsey (828-337-5134) if you have questions.

oo

TAX HELP

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is a national program offered locally in cooperation with the IRS, the N.C. Dept. of Revenue, the Buncombe County Library System, and the Council on Aging of Buncombe County. It offers FREE tax preparation for taxpayers with low- and moderate-incomes, with special attention to those age 60 and older. This service will be available from Wednesday, February 1, 2012 through Tuesday, April 17, 2012. Both Federal and North Carolina State individual tax returns will be electronically filed for safe and accurate preparation and faster refunds. (Note: Bring a voided check so the preparer can obtain bank information for direct deposit of any refund.)

The following sites are available in our area:

Downtown Asheville Site

Pack Library (Next to Civic Center)
67 Haywood St., Asheville, NC 28801
Mondays and Wednesdays 10 am – 4 pm
828-628-3662

West Asheville Site

West Asheville Library
942 Haywood Rd., Asheville, NC 28806
Tuesdays 9 am – 4 pm
828-250-4750

Weaverville Site

Weaverville Public Library
41 N. Main St., Weaverville, NC 28787
Thursdays 10 am – 4 pm
828-250-6482

Black Mountain Site

Black Mountain Library
105 North Dougherty St., Black Mountain, NC 28711
Tuesdays 10 am – 4 pm
828-250-4756

Questions and requests for homebound individuals can be directed to The Council on Aging of Buncombe County at 828-277-8288.

Hendersonville Site

Blue Ridge Mall
1800 Four Seasons Boulevard, Hendersonville, NC 28792
Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 9 am – 5 pm
Tuesdays 9 am – 7:30 pm
Saturdays 9 am – 12:30 pm
828-698-6213

Waynesville Site

Haywood Arts Regional Theatre
250 Pigeon St., Waynesville 28786
Tuesdays 9 am – 1 pm and Wednesdays 1 pm – 5 pm
Email: marjorie@thebogartts.net

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are not trained or authorized to prepare returns which include farm income, business income involving employees and/or inventory, rental property requiring a depreciation schedule, net operating loss, some K-1s, trust returns, bankruptcy, moving expenses or complex equity trades.

For information on what documents to bring and answers to frequently asked questions, go to the following website:

http://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/
Frank Quinlan, Service Officer

MEET OUR NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Mike Grillot was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan and attended the University of Detroit and Northwestern University. In 1978, after a brief academic teaching career at the University of Kansas and Centre College, and a short stop at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, he began an almost 32 year career as an Economist at the U.S. Department of Energy's headquarters in Washington, DC with the Energy Information Administration (EIA). At EIA, Mike worked primarily in the international area including: following developments in the world oil market, forecasting world oil prices, and projecting world energy demand. His last 15 years were spent overseeing the development of EIA's fuel-specific world energy demand and supply data for most countries of the world. After Mike's wife Mary Ann died in 1993, he spent the next 17 years raising his three sons. Mike retired in March, 2010 and four months later moved to Asheville to be near his sister Paula. Besides NARFE activities, Mike keeps busy participating in a number of activities at the College for Seniors at UNC Asheville, volunteering at his condo, and attending local music concerts and sporting events

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

On February 17 NARFE President Joseph Beaudoin said "So far this year, Congress has proposed using federal worker paychecks to offset the costs of the payroll tax holiday, a major highway bill, U.S. Postal Service reform, and to avoid cuts to the Pentagon budget." The easiest way to be ready to take immediate action against legislative issues that could affect your pay, pension or health benefits is to join NARFE's GEMS (Global Electronic Messaging System) at:

https://www.narfe.org/departments/isi/join_gems.asp

The Buncombe County Board of Elections needs poll workers for the upcoming primary and general elections this year. Interested members with some computer savvy should call Mary Harrill at 828-250-4216.

Contact Info for NC Members of Congress:

Senator Richard M. Burr: DC Office 202-224-3154, Asheville Office 350-2437, www.burr.senate.gov
Senator Kay Hagan: 202-224-6342, www.hagan.senate.gov
Congressman Heath Shuler: DC Office 202-225-6401, Asheville Office 252-1651, www.shuler.house.gov
Ted Mathis, Legislative Officer

Separator line of diamond symbols

ALZHEIMER'S DONATIONS

Chapter 156 members have made generous contributions to the Alzheimer's Association in past years. If you wish to make a donation this year, please make out a check to: **NARFE Chapter 0156**, include Alzheimer's Association on the Memo line, and send to Bruce Habermann, NARFE Chapter 156 Treasurer, 136 Castlerock Drive, Asheville, NC 28806-9517.

MEMBERSHIP

Attention All Prospective Bounty Hunters! The Executive Board is reviewing a proposal to pay a cash prize to the top recruiter or recruiters of new members for Chapter 156. Sharpen your recruiting / sales skills.

Tom Beatty, 1st VP

REQUEST FOR EMAIL ADDRESSES

The Chapter would like to have the email address for every member who has one so that we can better communicate with you. If you are not receiving the Newsletter by email, please provide me with your email address at: grillot@aol.com It will only be used for sending out the Newsletter and other Chapter-related information, and it will be kept confidential.

Mike Grillot, Editor

BENEVOLENCE REPORT FOR JAN. 2012

New or Reinstated Chapter Members: We welcome the following folks:

Barbara Hayes Robert Harrell
Please join us at our chapter events announced in our newsletter.

Members that decided to drop their membership:

James Earwood Charles Harkins
Carol Lancaster Vernon Marler
Ruth Palmer Lucille Parish
Charles Powell Alta Southers

We ask any member acquainted with these folks to give them a call and encourage them to reinstate their membership. We want them to be able to keep up with legislative actions that could affect their pay, pensions and health benefits and they are as important to us and to NARFE as NARFE is to them.

Members Passed Away:

Herman Brown Sara Capps
Evelyn Williamson

We offer prayers for the families of the deceased. The memories of them will live on within the NARFE community.

IDLE THOUGHTS OF A RETIREE'S WANDERING MIND

All I ask is a chance to prove that money can't make me happy.

Anonymous

Deadline for the next Newsletter – **March 20, 2012**

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GROCE FUNERAL HOME AND ASHEVILLE QUICKPRINT FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO NARFE CHAPTER 156.

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 243
Asheville, NC 28801

NARFE
CHAPTER NEWS

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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