



GATE CITY NEWS
NARFE Chapter 211
March 2010

NARFE State Convention Meets in Greensboro

The Greensboro, High Point, and Winston-Salem chapters will join in hosting the 54th Annual Convention of the North Carolina State NARFE Federation May 5-7 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro. Some 200 members from across the state will meet to conduct the business of the Federation.

The convention opens with a special session to provide information on the benefits of NARFE membership to new or eligible non-members, followed by a number of workshops and a business session. Day one of the convention closes with a reception sponsored jointly by Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance and the three host chapters.

On May 6th, there will be more business sessions and the election of officers for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. In the evening, the banquet keynote speaker will be Joseph Beaudoin, NARFE National Vice-President. Vice-President Beaudoin will also take the opportunity at the banquet to install newly-elected officers for the new fiscal year. Entertainment at the banquet will be provided by Windfall, a trio of contemporary musicians providing classic hits.

On Friday morning, May 7th, there will be a final business session which will include a memorial service for members who have passed away since the 2009 convention. The final gavel of the convention will sound at approximately noon on Friday May 7.

New this year is the option of attending just the first day of the convention, May 5th. This "Commuters Special" registration is only \$15 and is intended to introduce current, new, and prospective members to the Convention experience. This option will allow participants to attend the newcomer's session, several informative workshops, Convention Business I, and the evening reception.

Registration forms for the full Convention and the hotel are found on page 3 of the February-April Federation Newsletter. The form for the "Commuters Special: first day only registration is on page 6 of the publication.

Feel free to call Jerry Pifer 273-8861 with any questions you might have regarding this year's NARFE State Convention.



President's Corner

Herb Lieberman, Chapter 211 President

COME ONE, COME ALL !

Wouldn't it be nice if all or most of our 275+ Chapter members could attend our monthly luncheon/meeting at the Golden Corral? Well, if they all decided to attend at once, we wouldn't have enough room to seat them all but we'd find an appropriate place to hold them all next time.

Unfortunately, we only see about 30-35 each month and some of those are first-time members or guests. We even have some currently employed federal workers who have joined NARFE and we really welcome them with open arms.

For those of you who might not know, our organization in recent years changed its name to National **ACTIVE** and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) Association. We fully realize that current Federal employees are the future of our organization.

For those of you who come on a regular basis, you know about and appreciate the excellent programs your 1st Vice President, Jerry Pifer, has arranged over these past five years. Our new 2nd Vice President, Chris Huber, takes over the mantle and I'm sure she will follow in Jerry's footsteps in offering many interesting, educational and entertaining programs.

In this Chapter Newsletter, you will find information on the NARFE NC State Federation Convention to be jointly co-hosted by our Chapter and the High Point and Winston Salem Chapters. It will be held from May 5-7, 2010 at the Embassy Suites in Greensboro. A mere \$55 entitles you to be a significant part of this convention and its banquet. If you can't spend 3 days there, we are offering a SPECIAL, FIRST TIME one-day at the convention that includes interesting topics and even a luscious reception on the first evening co-hosted by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Look in this Newsletter for more information.

Whatever your inclination, why not try to attend our next meeting on March 11th at the Golden Corral at 11AM for lunch and an entertaining talk about our own Greensboro Historical Museum. Get up to date on all the happenings across the NARFE spectrum. Hope to see you there and incidentally, if you have transportation problems we'll be happy to give you a ride. Just call Jerry Pifer (273-8861) or me, Herb Lieberman (545-7923).

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Contacting Congress

Senator Kay Hagan

Greensboro Phone: (336) 333-5311
Washington Phone: (202) 224-6342
Web site: hagan.senate.gov

Senator Richard Burr

Winston-Salem Phone: (336) 631-5125
Washington Phone: (202) 224-3154
Web site: burr.senate.gov

Representative Brad Miller

(District 13)
Greensboro Phone: (336) 574-2909
Washington Phone: (202) 225-3032
Web site: bradmiller.house.gov

Representative Mel Watt

(District 12)
Greensboro Phone: (336) 275-9950
Washington Phone: (202) 225-1510
Web site: watt.house.gov

Representative Howard Coble

(District 6)
Greensboro Phone: (336) 333-5005
High Point Phone: (336) 886-5106
Washington Phone: (202) 225-3065
Web site: coble.house.gov

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Dear Abby,
I joined the Navy to see the world. I've seen it.
Now how do I get out?

Dear Abby,
My forty year old son has been paying a psychiatrist \$50.00 an hour every week for two and a half years. He must be crazy.

Dear Abby,
I was married to Bill for three months and I didn't know he drank until one night he came home sober.

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Food Drive

Thank you to Chapter members and their families for supporting the September 19th food drive for the Urban Ministry Food Bank. A total of 1,272 pounds of food was collected by these dedicated volunteers: Anne Vaughan, David Clapp, Anna Swaim, Sylvia Clapp, Doug Clapp, Geneva Barnes, Doris Stafford, Wayne Stafford, Margaret Harris, Pat Baugh, Joyce Kent, Erma Marshall, Cindy Belton, Deborah Pifer, and Jerry Pifer. A special thanks to the newcomers- Anne, David, Sylvia, Doug, Geneva, Pat, Cindy, and Joyce!

The next Food Drive will be Saturday, March 20th at Lowe's Food on New Garden Road.



Erma Marshall & Joyce Kent share a laugh.



A Mini-Reunion of HUD Retirees!
Jerry, Cindy, Joyce, and Pat

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Wayne Stafford & Margaret Harris hard at work.



Doris Stafford manning the front door.



Margaret Harris loading up the boxes.

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Welcome, New Members!

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Joyce Fender | Maxine Bennerman |
| Howard Richardson | John Jeffries |
| Joseph Zahran | James Basnight |
| Richard Scarponi | James Mahoney |
| Frances Winston | |

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The NARFE Hotline

As a service of the NARFE, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, a weekly legislative message is available to telephone callers (703/838-7780 and toll free at 1-877-217-8234), and is posted for members on NARFE's Internet site, www.narfe.org.

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Please Help the Food Bank:

Please bring cans of food with you to our monthly meetings. We'll make sure that your donations get to the Urban Ministry to help restock their severely undersupplied food bank this winter.

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Recent Programs

- July 2009
Annual Picnic
- August 2009
Congressman Howard Coble
- September 2009
Retirement Planning: Hal Price
- October 2010
Lanie Pope, WXII Meteorologist
- November 2009
Congressman Brad Miller
- December 2009
Greensboro in World War II
Alex Stoesen, Historian
- January 2010
Glenn Dobrogosz, Greensboro
Natural Science Center
- February 2010 High Point University
A Cappella Choir

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our new Program Chair, Chris Huber, has scheduled some excellent presentations for our next three meetings:

March 11, 2010 - Linda Evans, Community Historian from the Greensboro Historical Museum. For several years she has been researching a new exhibit entitled "Voices of the City: Greensboro, North Carolina". The exhibit will open later this year and celebrates a diverse group of men and women who shaped our community from its founding in 1808 to the 21st century. Linda recently edited Greensboro's bicentennial calendar, accumulating facts and photos to celebrate the city's 200th year.

April 8, 2010 - Keith Francies, certified arborist and co-chair of the Urban Forestry Commission of the Greensboro Beautiful Board of Directors. Keith was a member of Greensboro's Tree Preservation Ordinance Committee and will discuss Greensboro's tree ordinance: its inception, its purpose, its team, its development, and its ability to assure that the natural growth in our community continues to thrive, beautifying our lives and benefiting all.

May 13, 2010 - Richard von Stamwitz, an author, motivational speaker and licensed professional counselor who will discuss attitude and role adjustment for the retiree. During the past 26 years of his "retirement" Richard has developed programs and addressed many groups on the psychological and emotional aspects of successful retirement. A former New Jersey Department of Labor Employability Development Specialist, and former NYU teacher, he now develops and promotes innovative programs in adult education and faith communities for aging well and life planning.

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**Frustration is trying to find your glasses
without your glasses.**

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**Blessed are those who can give without  
remembering  
And take without forgetting.**

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**The irony of life is that, by the time
You're old enough to know your way
Around, you're not going anywhere.**

~~~~~  
**God made man before woman so as to give  
him time to think  
Of an answer for her first question.**

~~~~~  
**I was always taught to respect my elders,
But it keeps getting harder to find one.**



Bob Hope

ON TURNING 70

'You still chase women, but only downhill.'

ON TURNING 80

**'That's the time of your life when even your
birthday suit needs pressing.'**

ON TURNING 90

**'You know you're getting old when the
candles cost more than the cake.'**

ON TURNING 100

**'I don't feel old. In fact, I don't feel anything
until noon. Then it's time for my nap.'**

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ON GIVING UP HIS EARLY CAREER, BOXING

**'I ruined my hands in the ring. The referee
kept stepping on them.'**

ON NEVER WINNING AN OSCAR

**'Welcome to the Academy Awards or, as it's
called at my home, 'Passover'.'**

ON GOLF

**'Golf is my profession. Show business is just
to pay the green fees.'**

ON PRESIDENTS

**'I have performed for 12 presidents and
entertained only six.'**

ON WHY HE CHOSE SHOWBIZ FOR HIS CAREER

'When I was born, the doctor said to my mother, ?Congratulations, you have an eight pound ham..?'

ON RECEIVING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

'I feel very humble, but I think I have the strength of character to fight it.'

ON HIS FAMILY'S EARLY POVERTY

'Four of us slept in the one bed. When it got cold, mother threw on another brother.'

ON HIS SIX BROTHERS

'That's how I learned to dance. Waiting for the bathroom.'

ON HIS EARLY FAILURES

'I would not have had anything to eat if it wasn't for the stuff the audience threw at me.'

WW II veterans needed during the month of March

Students at Our Lady of Grace School will be participating in a "One School-One Author" event. During this time, every student will be reading a book by the same author, Laura M. Elliott. One of the books they will be using is about World War II. They would like to have veterans of WWII talk with the middle school students about their first-hand experiences. If you have any memories of this time, or know of someone who does, and would be interested in sharing these memories, please contact Ms. Melson or Mr. Gelo at 275-1522 extension 101 or 109.

March is NARFE-PAC Month

NARFE-PAC, instituted in 1982, is celebrated on the cover of the March magazine for the seventh consecutive year because NARFE-PAC, the federal employee and retiree defense fund, complements members' voting power, grass root activism and professional advocacy. Our Political Action Committee (PAC) gathers small, voluntary member donations and contributes fewer but 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 chapter meetings and federation conventions to promote NARFE-PAC.

NARFE President Margaret L. Baptiste urges chapter and federation leaders to make every NARFE gathering an occasion to stress the importance of our PAC! Like every issue of NARFE magazine, the March issue has a NARFE-PAC coupon (see page 22 in March, page 14 in February). NARFE-PAC materials are available on our web site's Legislative section.

Area III NARFE Meeting

The Area III meeting is at the High Point Woman's Club on March 16. Registration begins at 8:30 and the program starts at 9:00. The following Federation officials are on the program: Elaine Hughes, President, Charlie Pratt, Web Page Coordinator, Paul Sams, Executive Vice President, Ron Miller, National Legislative Officer, Sam Crain, Treasurer.

This is an excellent opportunity for Chapter 211 members to meet our state leadership and to find out more about NARFE at the national, state, and local levels.

Lunch is catered and will offer baked chicken and baked spaghetti. There will be pastries in the morning and plenty of coffee throughout the day. The cost is \$15. If you are interested ,contact Larry Standley by March 12. Larry's number is 336-855-7095.

Be Prepared for Life's Events

This free NARFE Guide is an excellent tool for use by Federal Employees and Annuitants and their families. Topics include :

- Benefits Payable after Death of an Annuitant
- Death of an Annuitant's Spouse
- Death of a Survivor Annuitant
- Sample Notification Letter

NARFE Service Officers and Service Center Volunteers.

The 12-page document also provides ample space for organizing and recording pertinent information regarding your civil service benefits, military service, financial arrangements, insurance, investments, health benefits, and Medicare information and locations of critical records.

Stop by the Chapter Meeting March 11th to pick up your free copy and meet Led Austin, our Chapter Service Officer.

GATE CIY NEWS
NARFE Chapter 211
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Greensboro, NC 274303-1549

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NARFE Chapter 211 Elected Officers

President	Herb Lieberman	336-545-7923
1 st Vice-President	Jerry Pifer	336-273-8861
2 nd Vice-President	Chris Huber	336-337-2824
Secretary	Margaret Harris	336-674-3029
Treasurer	Anna Swaim	336-697-8867

NARFE Chapter 211 Appointed Officers

Legislative Officer	Ed Roberts	336-854-1413
Service Officer	Led Austin	336-292-0812
Membership Chairman	Maxine Pruett	336-273-7189

Chapter 211 Meetings, Second Thursday of each month, 11:45 am

Golden Corral Buffet & Grill 2419 Lawndale Drive, Greensboro

<u>Date</u>	<u>Upcoming Programs</u>
March 11, 2010	Linda Evans, Community Historian, Greensboro Historical Museum.
April 15, 2010	Keith Francies, certified arborist, Greensboro Beautiful Board of Directors.
May 13, 2010	Richard von Stamwitz, an author, motivational speaker and licensed professional counselor who will discuss attitude and role adjustment for the retiree.