



NEWSLETTER

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Chapter 1972 - Waldorf/La Plata, MD
February 2009



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Issue 5 Volume 2



From the President's Desk

by Jo Bond

At our New Year's luncheon in January we had 24 attendees. We all enjoyed great food from Mimi's and companionship with our fellow NARFE members. Our speaker, on tax preparations, was ill, so we missed an income tax update. Thanks to Jane Nagy for working the 50/50 table.

Convention Call – 39th MD Federation State Convention: Sunday, May 3 thru Wednesday May 6, 2009 at the Clarion Resort Fontainebleu Hotel in Ocean City, MD. This is a great time to meet other state NARFE members and enjoy Ocean City activities. Registration is \$35; banquet is \$40 (chapter will pay registration and banquet costs). Hotel rooms are \$114 plus 9 percent tax. Come 2 days early and stay 2 days after at the reduced hotel prices, bring the family and make it a mini-vacation. If interested in attending the convention, please contact any board member or me. Deadline for hotel-discounted prices is April 1, 2009.

Program

by Jo Bond
Our NARFE meeting on

Notice!

Our next meeting will be at Health Partners in Waldorf on Feb. 19th at 1:00 PM.

Feb 19th at 1:00 p.m. will have a presentation on Reverse Mortgage by Countrywide Reverse Mortgages in Glen Burnie, MD. Lots of good information that may enable some members to live more comfortably in their same home without moving.

Sunshine

by Loretta Ralph

Get well wishes were sent to Merle Schauer who had knee surgery in



January. Hope to see her at our next meeting.

If you know of anyone who is under the weather, please give me a call.

Legislative

Andy Johnson

On 9 January NARFE President, Margaret L. Baptiste, called on each and every NARFE member to phone, fax or e-mail their congressional delegation – one Representative and both Senators—to urge them to include Premium Conversion in the economic stimulus package. Since the inauguration of this Urgent ACTION ALERT, and apart from other lobbying devices, 2,476 NARFE activists have generated 7,730 e-mail messages to

their Representatives and Senators using NARFE's Legislative Action Center (www.capwiz.com/narfe).

On 22 January, President Baptiste wrote each Member of Congress urging the Congress to include Premium Conversion in the pending economic stimulus legislation, H.R. 598 and S. 1. Premium Conversion means allowing civilian and military retirees to pay certain health insurance premiums on a pre tax basis. For federal retirees, paying FEHBP monthly premiums on a pre tax basis would mean a tax savings of several hundred dollars that would be injected into the economy.

But to have an impact on the stimulus legislation, President Obama's highest priority, far more NARFE members need to immediately contact their Representative and two

Senators to urge them to include Premium Conversion in the economic stimulus package. A groundswell of NARFE communications sent immediately could provide civilian and military retirees an economic boost that they would inject into the economy when most needed.

Two additional pathways, phone and fax, allow telephone activists to make their views known immediately. The NARFE toll free number for the Capitol Switchboard, 1-866-220-0044, allows callers to ask for any Representative or Senator by name or by ZIP Code. When doing so, tell your Congressional delegation the following: "I ask that you urge the Congressional leadership to include the federal civilian/military Premium

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Membership

by Bill Roman

We welcome new members Duane Donnell, William Harris, and Michael Murphy. Hope to see you at an upcoming meeting at Health Partners building in Waldorf.

The lottery winner at the January luncheon meeting was Jody Nyers, and the 50/50 winner was Bonnie Rose. We hope all attendees enjoyed this luncheon at Mimi's, which had very good food and an extremely accommodating and efficient wait staff. The Chapter hopes to have at least one luncheon meeting during each year.



Although with the current economic climate perhaps not many folks are contemplating a move, if you do relocate please remember to let the Chapter know as well as the National. The Postal Service doesn't forward mail such as the Chapter newsletter.



NARFE Chapter 1972
 Jim Lish, Editor
 15700 Westwood Rd.
 Brandywine, MD 20613-8407

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Fundraiser by Tom McManus

NARFE Chapter 1972 welcomes you to our 1st Wheelbarrow of Cheer. Tickets sell for \$1.00 each or \$10.00 a sheet. As you can see, the contents of the wheelbarrow will make for a very cheerful Easter. Also, the seller of the winning ticket receives **\$100.00.**

Plan on a Day Trip for the First Week of June By Bill Kaval

A day away from Waldorf with your fellow NARFE members and guests. Three choices to choose, with money back coupons and food vouchers, final cost would be very little.

CHOICE ONE: ATLANTIC CITY.
 A day to gamble or shop or just enjoy the boardwalk. Leave around 8:00 AM, enjoy the bus ride, watch a movie, or sleep. Arrive there in time for lunch, enjoy the day, return home around 10:15pm.

CHOICE TWO: MIDWAY SLOTS, Harrington, Delaware.
 Leave around 10:am, return

around 6:30pm.
CHOICE THREE: DOVER DOWNS, Delaware.
 Depart around 10:am, return around 6:30pm.

CLEAN BUS, a rest stop on the way up, bathroom on the bus.

Either way, as close to 42 members and guests to make it cost effective and worthwhile.

Chapter 1972 Website for additional info, Photos and Newsletter archive: <http://narfe1972.110mb.com/index.html>

Chapter Officers and Committee Chairpersons:

President	Jo Bond	301-392-1105	Treasurer	Tom McManus	301-932-4921
1st VP	Nancy Rudy	301-932-7201	Service Officer	Nancy Rudy	301-932-7201
2nd VP	Bill Kaval	301-932-5154	Newsletter Editor	Jim Lish	301-888-2482
Membership	Bill Roman	301-645-2035	Sunshine	Loretta Ralph	301-870-4995
Secretary	Gloria Daughtry	301-893-3656	Legislative Chair	Andy Johnson	301-638-2262
Program Chair	Vacant		Webmaster	Jim Lish	301-888-2482
Chaplain	Carol Bisagni	301-374-6769	Public Relations	Hattie Baker	301-843-3476

US Senator Barbara Mikulski: Phone: 202-224-4654 Email via Web Site: <http://mikulski.senate.gov/>
 US Senator Benjamin L. Cardin: Phone: 202-224-4524 Email via Web Site: <http://cardin.senate.gov/>
 US Representative Steny Hoyer: Phone: 202-225-4131 Email via Web Site: <http://www.house.gov/hoyer>



Legislative (Cont)

Conversion legislation in the stimulus package. In the last Congress, this leg-

islation was introduced as H.R. 1110 and S. 773.” Realistically, unless every NARFE member, employing telephone or e-mail,

gets engaged in this **ACTION ALERT**, this provision has little chance of being included in the stimulus package.



Pick up a phone & Give them a call!