



National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Association
**Northern Prince George's County Maryland
Chapter 1122**

*Beltsville, Berwyn Heights, College Park, Cheverly, Glenarden,
Glenn Dale, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Landover Hills, Lanham,
New Carrollton and Seabrook*

Website: www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

**NARFE Chapter 1122
7021 Mathew Street
Greenbelt, MD 20770-3004**

April 2010

Volume 4, Number 4

NARFE Chapter 1122 JOINS UNITED SENIORS OF MARYLAND (USM)

Dr. Howard Waterworth, 1st Vice President & Legislative Chair

United Seniors of Maryland (USM) is a grassroots lobbying coalition of individuals and organizations whose purpose is to preserve and enhance the mental, physical, and financial well being of Maryland seniors. It is the premier coalition that speaks for all seniors, yet perhaps speaks loudest for those most in need. During these difficult times, it is an organization that is more important than ever.

USM was started over 30 years ago when several senior leaders from across the State met to discuss problems confronting Maryland seniors. Among them were persons from NARFE, AARP, UAW-AFL/CIO, Maryland retired school personnel, and several local Commissions on Aging. Today, hundreds of individuals and 65 different organizations are members of USM. Examples of organizational members are Capital City Nurses, Comfort Keepers LLC., Catonsville Senior Center, Homes Instead Senior Care, Maryland Department of Aging, and Elders Choice. Eight chapters of NARFE are members--- among them are Bethesda/Chevy Chase, Gaithersburg, Frederick and Laurel. Member groups include State and local governments, non-profits, associations, area agencies on aging, unions, provider groups for seniors, and retirement communities. Taken together, USM members and organizations reach out to more than 2.5 million Marylanders.

USM plays an effective role as an advocate on legislation of interest to Maryland seniors. Members also play key roles on State Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces concerned with senior issues.

Among the goals of USM are to:

- Keep members informed about what goes on in Annapolis affecting seniors.
- Maintain contact with the Governor's office, the Department of Budget and with Legislators to influence budgets in favor of seniors.
- Monitor legislation and seek membership consensus on issues.
- Contact legislators and testify before legislative committees.
- Hold a major Legislative Rally in Annapolis every January at which the Governor and leaders of the Senate and House of Delegates usually attend.

During the rally in 2010, for example, Town Hall Meetings were held—one with the Governor, one with the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and another with its Minority Leader. Participants also met in caucuses with their local delegations to lobby on issues USM believes are important to seniors.

Even though the fiscal situation in Maryland is not good, there are several issues of particular interest to USM during 2010 that will not affect the State budget. USM will advocate for level funding for the Dept of Aging, the Office of Health Care Quality and programs in the Dept of Human Resources that protect seniors. USM favors legislation that would create a Uniform Power of Attorney. Currently every institution is able to recognize only their own Power of Attorney form, and seniors who wish to give P of A to someone must have as many forms executed as institutions used. Otherwise the P of A form might be rejected, resulting in confusion, delays, and additional costs. USM opposes the transfer of funding for retirement to the Counties, which are already stressed. And adding to their financial burden as a way to diminish the State's budget woes will just push the problem downstream and lose benefits to some. Many seniors do not know what choices they have as they approach the end of life. USM believes everyone has a right to know choices they have that will ensure them the dignity they deserve and the help they need. USM supports the concept that everyone has a right to know what their options are in end of life situations.

NARFE Chapter 1122 is proud to announce that at the March meeting the membership voted in favor of joining the United Seniors of Maryland as an organization. We now join 15 other NARFE Chapters in Maryland in supporting USM goals. You can also support USM individually by sending your name, email address, phone number and a check for \$10 to Victor Van DeMoortel, 817 Silver Spring Ave, Ste 400, Silver Spring, MD 20910 or go to the USM web site www.unitedseniors.net.

CORRECTION TO ALZHEIMER'S DONATIONS

In the February 2010 Newsletter it states to make your check payable to NARFE ALZ/Lupus Research it should have stated to make your check payable to **ALZ/NARFE Research** and send to:

Creavery Lloyd, Alzheimer's Chair
6725 Lamont Drive, Lanham, MD 20706



Meeting Agenda

WELCOME

NEW MEMBER

Steve Young

New, transferred or reinstated members please come to the NARFE Chapter meetings and get to know your fellow members, get involved, become a committee volunteer or find new ways to help your Chapter become a more active organization.



**April 14, 2010 Meeting
at 1:30 pm**



**Speaker
P/O Kenneth Hibbert
Community Oriented Policing Services (C.O.P.S.)
Prince George's County Police Department
"Senior Safety"**

**Greenbriar Community Building, Terrace Room
7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-441-1096 - Call the Greenbriar Office for directions.**



Our Prayers & Good Wishes go to all Sick and Shut-in Chapter Members

We hope that a little sunshine peeks thru your window each day, to let you know our thoughts are with you in a very special way.

DOES NARFE MATTER?

You betcha it does! The 1st Vice President of the Maryland Federation of NARFE, Evelyn Kirby, was invited to attend a meeting in the East Room of the White House with First Lady Michelle Obama and Nancy Ann DeParle, Director of the White House Office of Health Reform. NARFE, a nonpartisan organization, was also represented by Judy Park, Immediate Past NARFE HQ's Legislative Director, and Sara Holstine, HQ's Legislative Specialist. Discussions centered on issues relating to difficulties faced by women age 55 and older in the current health care market, and the importance of reform measures.

Get in line - BECOME ACTIVE IN NARFE !

March 50/50 Winner Howard Waterworth



Fair Credit Reporting Act

Maryland consumers can order their free credit reports online at www.annualcreditreport.com or by calling (877) 322-8228. You may also request one by mail at:

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John Lydon Newsletter Distributor Via Email

*News-
letters
On-Line*

Our Chapter is encouraging all its members to receive our newsletter on line. The electronic version of the newsletter is posted on the web site in pdf format in full color and is available much sooner than it typically arrives by mail. To receive a monthly notice by e-mail that our Chapter newsletter is available, send a message to lydon.j@verizon.net please include your full name and address with a request to receive the on-line version of the newsletter via <http://www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122/>

Treasurer's Report for February 2010

Balance as of 1/31/10	\$2,049.27
Income:	
NARFE Dues (Jan & Feb)	<u>236.78</u>
Total Income	236.78
Expenses:	
CHI Services, Inc (Dec & Jan Newsletter Printing)	222.32
MD Federation NARFE (2/2/10 Bowie Meeting)	100.00
U.S. Postal Service (Mar Newsletter Mailing)	<u>68.73</u>
Total Expenses	391.05
Balance as of 2/28/10	\$1,895.00
Submitted: Warren C. Wilcox, Treasurer	

Have chapter news or articles to share? Email the editor: bsg.smith@verizon.net



MAJOR VICTORY FOR ALZHEIMER'S ADVOCATES

Creavey Lloyd, Alzheimer's Chair

In early February I received an email from Ian Kremer of the Alzheimer's Association on some very exciting news that will dramatically affect the lives of tens of thousands of Americans living with early-onset Alzheimer's disease. The letter from the Alzheimer's Association is below:

Dear Creavey,

The Social Security Administration (SSA) announced it will streamline the application process and decrease the wait time for benefits for people with early-onset Alzheimer's disease, helping families get the assistance they need.

This is a victory for individuals with early-onset Alzheimer's disease and is a direct result of the hard work done by Alzheimer's Association advocates. Since 2003, the Alzheimer's Association has been working on behalf of individuals with early-onset Alzheimer's disease to improve the Social Security disability process.

Many people with early-onset Alzheimer's or other dementias have faced challenges when applying for Social Security benefits. Individuals are often initially denied but usually win benefits on appeal a process which can take several

years.

Last summer SSA hosted a hearing in Chicago to examine access to social security disability benefits for people with early-onset Alzheimer's disease through its Compassionate Allowance Initiative.

Over 70 advocates with Alzheimer's disease, their families and caregivers attended the hearing to hear testimony from people living with Alzheimer's as well as medical experts. I was honored to be able to testify as well. Since that hearing, over 600 advocates from across the country submitted written testimony and personal stories of their experiences and challenges.

Alzheimer's Association advocates helped SSA understand the impact of early-onset Alzheimer's disease on individuals and their families and helped influence their decision to add early-onset Alzheimer's disease and related dementias to their list of Compassionate Allowances. **Without advocates just like YOU, this wouldn't have been possible.**

Cordially,

Harry Johns, President & CEO, Alzheimer's Association

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR CHAPTER MEMBERS

Have you joined the **Global Email Messaging System (GEMS)**? Any member can sign up free for GEMS at www.narfe.org and click on GEMS. NARFE keeps everyone up to date via weekly reports on what is happening in Congress.

NARFE awards \$1,000 student scholarships to children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and step children of current NARFE members on a competitive basis. Six will be offered again this year in each of NARFE's 10 regions of Maryland. To apply go to www.narfe.org and sign in with your member ID number, then click on Scholarship Program. Deadline for receipt of applications is **April 30, 2010**. The application form is also available in the March NARFE magazine on pages 43-44. Questions? Call 301-598-8882.

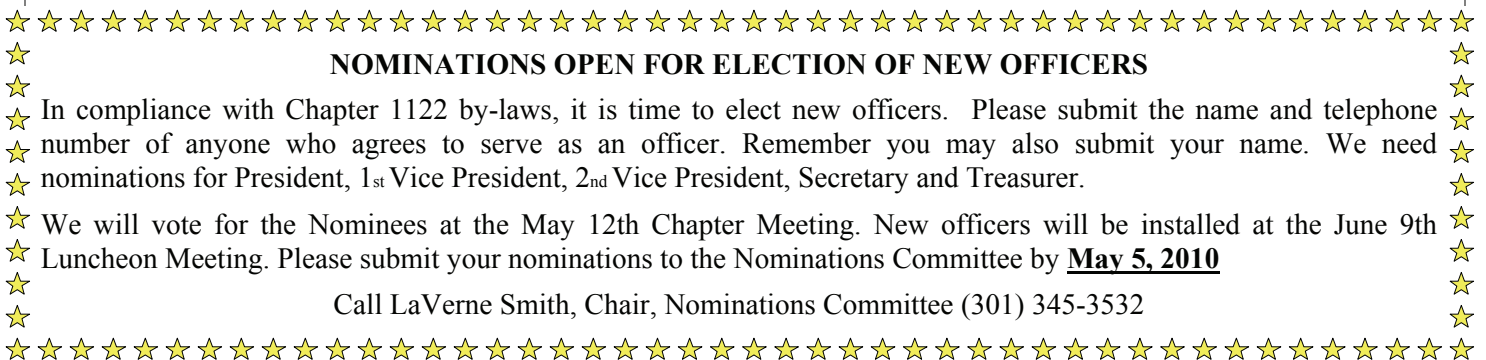
Paying annual membership dues: NARFE is encouraging us to continue our membership by having annual dues withheld from our annuity check \$2.46 per month. You can save the hassle of writing a check and paying postage every year. The chapter will now **pay a rebate** of one year's dues plus an additional \$3 to a member who signs up for dues withholding.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

In compliance with Chapter 1122 by-laws, it is time to elect new officers. Please submit the name and telephone number of anyone who agrees to serve as an officer. Remember you may also submit your name. We need nominations for President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

We will vote for the Nominees at the May 12th Chapter Meeting. New officers will be installed at the June 9th Luncheon Meeting. Please submit your nominations to the Nominations Committee by **May 5, 2010**

Call LaVerne Smith, Chair, Nominations Committee (301) 345-3532





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7021 Mathew Street
Greenbelt, MD 20770-3004

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DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY

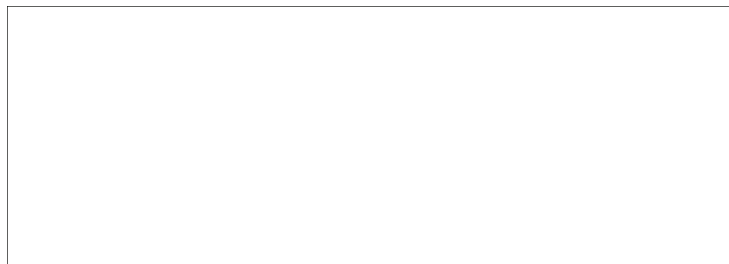
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Chapter 1122 Website
www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

MD Federation Website
www.mdnarfe.org

NARFE National Website
www.narfe.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Next Meeting

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PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Chapter 1122
Robert F. Haas
John Fleming

Chapter 2146
Irwin Neveleff
Marty Eiband
Emma E. Barnett

Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 7, 2010 at 12 Noon
Royal Jade Restaurant
Greenbelt Road and Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD

Important Telephone Numbers

NARFE National Headquarters (Direct Line) 1-703-838-7760
NARFE Sponsored Line to Congress 1-866-220-0044

To contact Maryland Delegates and Representatives
Call 301-858-3000 or visit the NARFE Web Site

www.mdnarfe.org

To reach the Governor call
1-800-811-8336 or visit the Web Site **www.gov.state.md.us/mail**

MARYLAND OFFICIALS & MORE

Martin J. O'Malley, Governor	1-800-811-8336
Anthony G. Brown, Lieutenant Governor	410-767-3125
Thomas Mike Miller, Jr., Pres./Senate	301-858-3700
Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House	301-858-3800
Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD)	202-224-4654
Senator Benjamin L. Cardin (D-MD)	202-224-4524
Congressman Steny Hoyer (D-5th Dist.)	202-225-4131
Congresswoman Donna F. Edwards (D-4th Dist.)	202-225-8699
President Barack H. Obama	202-456-1111
White House Web Site:	http://www.whitehouse.gov/

Inclement Weather Notice! When Prince George's County Schools are closed or opening late, the NARFE Chapter 1122 meeting will not be held.