

May 2017

The NARFE Connection

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Chapter #83 Newsletter

NARFE Chapter #83
Volume 23, No. 4

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National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Idaho Federation of Chapters
Boise Chapter #83, P.O. Box 8783, Boise, ID 83707

THE NARFE BOISE CHAPTER IS IN SERIOUS DANGER OF CLOSING

As you may already know from reading the last three newsletters, we are facing the closing of NARFE Chapter 83, the Boise Chapter, because we will soon no longer have the officers necessary to keep the Chapter operating.

Effective June 13, 2017, our Secretary and our Treasurer are stepping down due to health reasons. These two officers have faithfully served the Chapter for many years and are no longer able to continue. Arnold Hartigan, our Legislative Chair, died in March 2017, so that position is now vacant. The Membership Chair position has been vacant for over two years and that vital spot also needs to be filled.

NARFE Chapter #83 currently has 315 dues paying members. Our monthly Chapter meetings are typically attended by 15 to 20 members, many of whom are current or past officers. In an effort to increase the monthly Chapter meeting attendance and fill the vacant officer positions, we are requesting your input.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a stamped, addressed postcard that has several questions about your interest in and ability to attend Chapter meetings and whether you would be interested in serving in one of the vacant officer positions. We would like for you to return the postcard to us no later than May 15th so that the results of the survey can be evaluated before the May 23 Chapter meeting.

The continued operation and existence of the Chapter depends upon you, the members. Please consider taking this opportunity to serve as an officer in your chapter of NARFE. The obligation of time and effort is not that great and the reward is helping to keep an organization dedicated to preserving your earned benefits viable.

Please fill out the card, sign and print your name and return it to us.

Thank you.

The members of the NARFE Chapter 83 Board

Congressional Contact Information Communicate Now!!

The addresses of our Senators and Representatives are listed below— call, write, fax or e-mail (at least ONCE a month).

Sen. **Mike Crapo**: U.S.Senate, 251 E. Front St., Suite 205, Boise, ID 83702. Phone: 208-334-1776; fax 208-334-9044.

Sen. **James Risch**: U.S.Senate, 350 N. 9th Street, Suite 302, Boise, ID 83702. Phone: 208-342-7985; fax 1-208-343-2458.

Rep. **Raul Labrador**: U.S.House of Representatives, 33 Broadway Street, Suite 251, Meridian, ID 83648. Phone: 208-888-3188.

Rep. **Mike Simpson**: U.S.House of Representatives, 802 W. Bannock, Suite 600, Boise, ID 83702. Phone: 208-334-1953, fax 208-334-9533

NARFE Chapter 83 Officers

President: — Elvin Ballance, 323-6659

E-mail: elvinb@q.com

Vice President/Program Chair—Gay Massie, 794-9818, E-mail: GEMRM1@yahoo.com

Membership Chair Position vacant

Secretary – Joyce Magee, 473-8134

Email: c.j.magee@hotmail.com

Treasurer — Iris Armstrong, 830-3240

E-mail: imarmstrong45@gmail.com

Legislative Chair—Position vacant

Service Officer — Elvin Ballance, 323-6659

E-mail: elvinb@q.com

Alzheimer's Chair – Karen Johnston, 922-5069

E-mail: Kb21jhnstn@gmail.com

Sunshine Chair – Audrey Peterson, 375-8205

Newsletter Editor – Bob Mallis, 853-2740

Email: bobmallis@gmail.com

The NARFE Connection newsletter is published in January, March, May, September and November by NARFE Chapter #83. Members may submit articles for the newsletter to the editor: Bob Mallis, 5210 N. Navaho Way, Boise, ID 83714 bobmallis@gmail.com.

Treasurer's Report May, 2017

Balance on hand – Mar. 31, 2017 \$ 2721.77

Deposits – Income

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Membership Dues | 298.00 |
| Drawing – Chapter | 14.00 |
| Drawing – Alzheimers | 13.00 |
| Donation – Newsletter | <u>13.00</u> |

Total Income 338.00

Disbursements-Expenses

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Newsletter | 135.73 |
| Permit | 36.64 |
| NARFE Alzheimer's Research | 13.00 |
| Convention Gift | <u>27.88</u> |

Total Disbursements 213.25

Balance on hand – Apr.30, 2017 \$2846.52

Iris Armstrong, Treasurer Chapter #83

Presidents Corner

I encourage everyone receiving this newsletter to read each section. Please respond on the enclosed postcard as to what actions the chapter officers should take to keep Chapter 83 in operation. I have stated in our last two newsletters that our Secretary and Treasurer are having health problems and have asked to be replaced. At this time we have not had any volunteers to assume these positions. With 315 members on our current roster there must be someone that will assume one or both of these positions !!!!

We need to be active in contacting our Congressional Representatives with some of major changes that our current Congress is proposing. These issues are well presented in our NARFE monthly magazine. It is best to send letters to your representatives local office address. Letters sent to the Washington DC address take 2 to 4 weeks for security processing before they are received.

If you telephone me, leave a message –we are receiving SCAM calls from 208-numbers

Elvin Ballance, President Chapter #83

Chapter 83 Membership Meeting March 28, 2017

Elvin Ballance opened the meeting by asking the members to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Gay Massie introduced the speaker, Cory McClymonds, from Zamzows. Mr. McClymonds is the Store Manager at Zamzows on Federal Way. He led an active question and answer program. Lots of questions from our members including how to get rid of dandelions in our yards and what to use to feed our vegetable and flower gardens. He is most knowledgeable and was generous with his answers and suggestions.

Keri Gibbs, Federation President, spoke regarding the possible closing of Chapter 83. She said how very important it is for us to retain our membership in NARFE as NARFE lobbies hard for retired Federal retirees and current Federal employees.

Keri Gibbs suggested we send out a questionnaire asking for members to volunteer to serve as Chapter officers and to get their input regarding closing of Chapter 83. We will not have a Secretary, Treasurer, Mailing Person, Legislative Chair or Membership Chair after June 13.

We have come to you twice asking for volunteers for these needed positions. We cannot continue to operate Chapter 83 without volunteers.

Audrey Peterson won \$13.00 for the raffle and donated the money to the newsletter publication costs.

Norma Ellison provided her delicious date-nut cookies for us. Norma has brought cookies to our meetings numerous times this year. Thank you to Norma.

Elvin closed the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Chapter Meeting Program for May

Christine Bubb, Community Outreach Specialist with Alzheimer's Boise will be the speaker at the May meeting on Tuesday, May 23.

Don't forget to sign up for the Chapter #83 annual picnic to be held at Boise Municipal Park on Tuesday, June 13. A sign up form is on page 5 of this newsletter.

NARFE Salutes America's Civil Servants During Public Service Recognition Week

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) is honored to salute the proud men and women who serve our nation during Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW), May 7-13. Organized by the Public Employees Roundtable, of which NARFE is a member, PSRW is a time to honor federal, state, county and local government employees.

"This week is a celebration of the millions of individuals who proudly serve our nation. Their presence is felt in every community, in ways both small and large, and we cannot thank them enough," said NARFE President Richard G. Thissen. "America's public servants are everywhere: They teach our children, protect our citizens and provide for the common good. Every day, these dedicated men and women work hard to ensure our nation functions efficiently and effectively. This week, we let them know that their work is both commended and appreciated."

For 32 years, the first week in May (beginning on the first Sunday of the month) has been dedicated to recognizing the work of those engaged in public service. Throughout the country, mayors, city and town councils, federal agency leaders, communities and public service organizations participate by issuing proclamations, hosting award ceremonies and special tribute events, and delivering messages about the value of public service. NARFE and the Public Employees Roundtable encourage government employees and retirees alike to take the opportunity to convey the value of the work they do, and their personal pride in serving our nation. Learn how you can take part in Public Service Recognition Week by visiting PSRW's [website](#).

"I thank Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, D-ND, and 20 of her Senate colleagues for supporting a resolution recognizing and commending our nation's public servants for the work they do. This single week is not enough to show our gratitude, but I hope everyone will join in and recognize the positive impact that public service has on our nation," Thissen concluded.

Latest News from NARFE

NARFE Names Sido as Executive Director

Alexandria, VA – The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) has announced the selection of Barbara Sido, CAE, as Executive Director, effective May 15, 2017. Sido has more than 20 years of experience in all aspects of association management and worked as Deputy Executive Director and interim Executive Director of Business and Professional Women (BPW)/USA, as Foundation Director and Chief Knowledge Officer at the American School Food Service Association (now the School Nutrition Association) and as Vice President for Knowledge and Professional Practice at the American Institute of Architects. She has served as an executive director four times previously at national, state and local organizations. Before transitioning to the association management field, Sido worked in the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor. She has a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri; an executive master's in leadership from the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University; and is a candidate for a doctor of education degree from the George Washington University. She has held the Certified Association Executive credential since 2000.

As executive director, working with the president and board, Sido will be responsible for all strategic and operational activities of NARFE, which represents 5 million current and former federal government employees worldwide. NARFE, which is nonpartisan, serves as the voice of the federal community through advocacy and information resources and is headquartered in Alexandria, VA.

NARFE President Richard G. Thissen said, "Today's ever-changing challenges require that organizations strive to employ the best qualified leadership; our extensive search identified Barbara Sido to be just that, and we are thrilled that she will be joining us to lead our association to continued success."

Sido said, "I believe that a best-in-class organization enhances the influence of an association and its members. In partnership with the board and staff, and building on NARFE's nearly 100-year-old foundation of excellence, I am privileged and proud to work toward that goal in my new position."

Postal Reform Bill Would Require Postal Retirees to Have Medicare Part B

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) is deeply disappointed the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform approved the Postal Service Reform Act of 2017, H.R. 756, without addressing the serious concerns of 76,000 postal retirees who would be forced to enroll in Medicare under the bill.

The Postal Service Reform Act of 2017, H.R. 756 would require all postal retirees to sign up for Medicare part B coverage. NARFE believes that postal retirees should not now, after finishing long careers with USPS, be threatened with the loss of their health insurance entirely if they do not buy additional coverage through Medicare. This not only eliminates choice with regard to health insurance for postal retirees living on fixed incomes, but it also sets a dangerous precedent for all federal retirees.

NARFE has offered an alternative that is simple, fair and reasonable: maintain automatic enrollment of current postal retirees into Medicare Part B, but provide them with a short opt-out window of 60 or 90 days. Without this option, the bill breaks a promise regarding postal retiree health benefits and replaces the individual postal retiree's choice of health insurance with a paternalistic requirement, at significant cost to the Medicare program.

Sign Up Now For Chapter #83's Annual Picnic

Our NARFE Chapter #83 Annual Picnic will be held on Tuesday, June 13th, from 12:00 to 4:00 P.M. in Municipal Park. There is no admission charge. Chapter #83 is providing a choice of fried or grilled chicken for members and their guests. Bottled water will be available. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert for everyone to share. Guests are welcome. Take this reservation page out of the newsletter and mail it to:

NARFE Chapter #83
P. O. Box 8783
Boise, ID 83707

Please print.

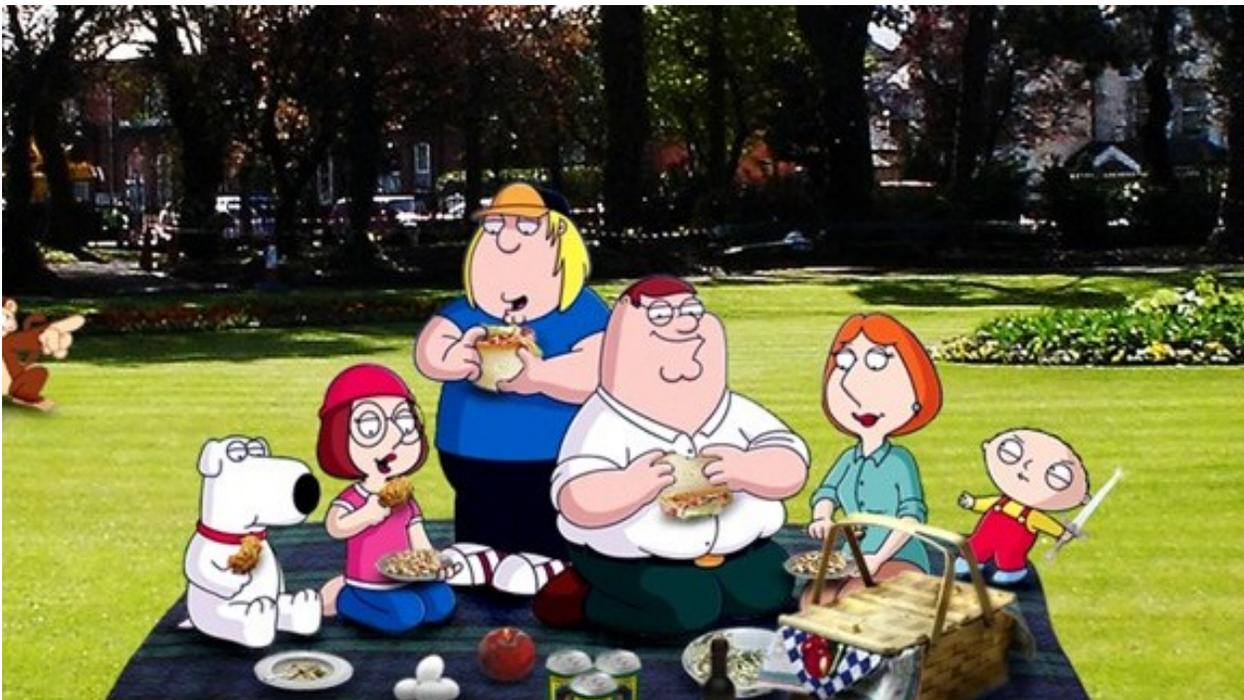
Name _____

Phone Number _____

Dish you are bringing _____

Guests _____

Sign up now and enjoy a wonderful afternoon with all your NARFE friends!!



Idaho Federation of Chapters of
National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association
Boise Chapter #83
PO Box 8783
Boise, ID 83707

Nonprofit Organization
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Return Service Requested



Chapter #83 Membership Meeting
May 23, 2017; 1:30 PM
Boise Senior Center
690 Robbins Road
Boise, Idaho