

NARFE

Coastal Sussex Chapter 1690

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-May-June-July 2021

MASKLESS

We are into our second year of quarantine it looks like some things are opening on May 21st. Capacity limits have been lifted. Masks are what bother me the most with breathing difficulties and glasses fogging up and medical offices still require them. We are attending church via online and it will be hard to return to regular Sunday meetings. But we are planning to try to meet in person on September 9th. For that to happen we will start working on that meeting in August and hope we are on schedule, if not it will be October 14 before we can see each other.

I just hope our health, especially mine, holds out until the end of our terms so we do not have to shuffle positions. My cancer has returned with a vengeance and is not very kind at times making it difficult to fulfill my duties as well as I would like to fulfill them. So my schedule has to remain flexible. So, if you do not receive a newsletter in July, you will know why. Otherwise please look forward to receiving the meeting announcement from Larry in August announcing the September meeting.

A recent NARFE magazine issue includes an article on the best places to retire. Among them is Milford and discusses Southeast Delaware and why it's preferred. Guess that is why we chose it. It references the Kiplinger article and here is the location of the article.

<https://www.kiplinger.com/slideshow/retirement/t047-s001-great-small-towns-for-retirement-2019/index.html>.

Inflation is creeping up which is bad but projections are that the next COLA will be around 4.7 percent which will be the largest since 2008.

Advocacy by Ken Sosne:

The Chapter Team is Continuing to monitor the legislative activity in Washington DC and Dover for 2021 on items impacting our members. Being 2021 is the NARFE Centennial the Chapter is working with NARFE National on publicizing the on-going activities in support of recognizing the Civil Service. Continuing to publicize the PAC's important activities and this will become more important at mid-term elections in 2022. OPM is backed up over 90 days on survivor & retirement applications. OPM retirement services is working to reduce the backlog. The USDA payroll center has had issues getting final retirement paperwork to OPM delaying the retirement payouts of retiring employees at USDA and other agencies that use USDA-NFC. The delay time is unknown but a minimum of 30 and possibly 60 days. Congress is working through many bills impacting active and retiree issues. In Congress Richard Neal and Rodney Davis have introduced two bills one WEP related and one of the GPO related. The budget impact is large and costly. Delaware is considering SB-3 and SB-6 on handguns and their purchase and looking at the Property Tax Offset for Seniors. The legislature will be returning to legislative hall. NARFE has set a goal of raising \$14 million for the Alzheimer's Association. At this time the COLA looks to be favorable due to inflation. Congressman Gerry Connolly has introduced the Equal COLA Act. May 2 to May 8, 2021 is Public Service Recognition week. The Partnership for Public Service will be sponsoring events in Washington DC. We can tweet out support for the federal workforce. LEGcon21, NARFE's Legislative Training

Conference, June 21-23, 2021, and separate Gala Celebration. You can register on-line if interested. Chapter 1690 stands ready to assist with benefit issues as needed.

March was PAC Month - Greg Neuner

Mark Oliver, Delaware Federation PAC Chair reports Region 2 (DC, DE, MD, NJ, PA) continued to lead all other regions in contributions with \$40,021 which is 11% of the total of this quarter's donations. Delaware's 41 contributors gave \$1533. This is an increase in the number of donors by 8, but contributions decreased 19% when compared to the first quarter of the 2019-2020 cycle. [Greg hopes you will make a quick contribution to NARFE-PAC by clicking here](#) or by responding to the special mailed out by HQ.

Alzheimer's Report - John Pitman

The 2021 Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM) Advocacy Forum is now open. Held virtually this year, the Advocacy Forum is the nation's premier Alzheimer's advocacy event. We invite all NARFE members to join us on May 19 at 7 p.m. ET to hear from policymakers, Celebrity Champions, Association leadership and more. During the program, we'll honor this year's AIM Humanitarian of the Year congressional awardees, share the latest information on our federal policy priorities, and discuss how our policy victories are making a difference in the lives of people facing Alzheimer's.

Federation Report

The Delaware Federation was held via Zoom on Wednesday May 12. Like us, the other chapters have not been very active either and are anxious to restore full activities. Phyllis Meyers is stepping down from her office as Federation Secretary. If anyone in the chapter who is in this position, please let me know. That office becomes effective in June. The Federation has checking account balance of nearly \$14,000. If anyone is interested in attending the LEGCON 21 conference and will reimburse the Chapter for any members planning to attend for up to \$200. Chapter 85 reported an increase of 3 members while the rest of the Chapters reported a decrease. We had a decrease of 2 members and 4 National members. The net for the Federation was a decrease of 11 members.

Treasurer's Report –JoAnn Teiken

Our treasury is solvent with an April ending balance of \$7293.83.

Elections - Pat and Vinnie Rice

We are still looking for volunteers to fill the various vacant slots we have. In particular we need a newsletter editor. We know no one can replace Dave who was one of the best in the country but we need someone who is willing to take a stab at it. We will have another election come November, so please let me know if any of you are interested to serve a term or two. Vacancies will exist for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 2 Delegates at Large.

Scams

Ken Sosne reports that Authorities are working to crack down on an impostor phone scam in which the caller pretends to be a DEA agent and then tries to steal the victim's money -- often by having them purchase gift cards.

The other scam is people posing as the Social Security Administration are also calling. This one is slick in that the voice seems to be a real person but is an automated voice. Anyone that knows of someone getting close to age 65, beware. There is also a Medicare Scam too.

There is also a mysterious one coming from someone posing to be a Federation member or one of our Chapter members saying they are out of town and to wire them some money and they will be repaid when they get back in town. Don't fall for this one.

Carl Bouchard, President Chapter 1690 for the Executive Board

NARFE Chapter 1690, Coastal Sussex

2021 Officers

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|-------------------------------------|------|--|------------------------------|
| President: Carl Bouchard | 2021 | ceb1548@gmail.com Cell | 302-424-4425 703-850-2670 |
| 1 st VP: Larry Trombello | 2021 | trombello@comcast.net | 302-430-7669 |
| Secretary: Martha Justice | 2021 | jjandmj.46@gmail.com | 302-664-1231 |
| Treasurer: JoAnn Teiken | 2021 | JOTEIKEN@msn.com | 240-481-4623 |

Members at large:

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|---------------|------|--|------------------------------|
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| Linda Berwick | 2021 | linda-berwick@comcast.net | 302-436-4261 |
| Pat Rice | 2022 | patnvin@gmail.com | 215-805-7782 |
| Bill Jenkins | 2022 | bill.jenkins1@verizon.net Cell | 302-945-6969 410-980-8836 |

Nominating Committee:

| | | | |
|------------|------|--|--------------|
| Vinny Rice | 2021 | patnvin@gmail.com | 215-805-7783 |
| Pat Rice | 2021 | patnvin@gmail.com | 215-805-7782 |
| Maria Ryan | 2021 | MLRYAN1@msn.com | 302-537-1117 |

Committee Chairs

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|----------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
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