



# NARFE

## Coastal Sussex Chapter 1690



Volume 5 Issue 7

PO Box 390, Ocean View, DE 19970

September 2014



### Upcoming Dates

**September 1**

Labor Day

**September 3**

Executive Board

1-2:30pm

Meeting Room B

South Coastal Library

Bethany Beach

**September 7**

National Grandparents

Day

**September 11**

Patriot Day

**September 11**

Monthly Chapter

Luncheon Meeting

12 Noon

(hors d'oeuvres @ 11:30)

**1776 Restaurant**

**Midway Shopping Center**

Rehoboth Beach

**September 23**

1st Day of Fall

### State Senate District 6 Candidates at September 11 Chapter Luncheon



*Sen. Ernie Lopez*



*Claire Snyder-Hall*

Two candidates for Delaware State Senate District 6 in the November 4, 2014 election – **Republican incumbent Ernie Lopez** and **Democrat challenger Claire Snyder-Hall** – will be making a Joint Appearance at our September luncheon meeting, Thursday, September 11, at 1776 Restaurant in Rehoboth Beach.

Each candidate will speak for 10 minutes, followed by a Question and Answer period from chapter members. Questions can be asked to one or both candidates, but each candidate will have the opportunity to address each question. Chapter 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Dick Oliver will be the Moderator for the session.

There are a number of active issues in the Delaware legislature that are of particular interest to federal employees and retirees specifically, and to seniors in general that could be addressed. These include taxation and treatment of pension income, the need for expanded medical care for seniors, transportation facilities for the growing population of seniors, and other matters involving services for seniors. Please come prepared with your own questions and concerns for the two candidates.

For more information about the biographies and positions of the two candidates, their campaign websites are as follows:

*Sen. Ernie Lopez*: <http://www.lopezforde.net/meet-ernie/>

*Claire Snyder-Hall*: <http://clairefordelaware.com/>

This will be an interesting and informative session for all chapter members whether or not you live in the 6<sup>th</sup> District. We hope you will attend.

### Congressman John Carney to Speak to Dover NARFE Chapter Sept 4

NARFE Dover Chapter 1174 has graciously invited any interested Chapter 1690 members to attend its Thursday, September 4, luncheon meeting to hear guest speaker Congressman John Carney. The luncheon will be at noon at Roma Italian Restaurant, 3 President's Drive, off Route 113, near Dover AFB, and costs \$15.00.

It would be important for Rep. Carney to hear from two active NARFE chapters, so we hope Chapter 1690 members can attend. If you have any particular topics or questions you would like the Congressman to address, email them in advance to Bob Spragg at [bobpsu65@comcast.net](mailto:bobpsu65@comcast.net).

To make a reservation and to pick your luncheon selection call Liona Gechter at [302-335-4885](tel:302-335-4885).

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## President's Message

Larry Trombello

Summer vacation took Kathy and me to Downeast Maine and into New Brunswick, Canada. On Mount Desert Island we visited quaint fishing villages, toured the scenic roads of Acadia National Park and shopped and ate in bustling Bar Harbor. Acadia is our first national park east of the Mississippi River. Our National Park Service is doing a great job preserving, protecting and interpreting the rocky coast, granite mountains and lush forest of Acadia.



After this we motored up U.S. Rt. 1 to Lubec, Maine, the eastern most town in the United States. With passport in hand, we crossed over Lubec Narrows on Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial Bridge and proceeded through customs onto Campobello Island, New Brunswick. We spent a day visiting Roosevelt Campobello International Park, Franklin D. Roosevelt's summer home and "beloved island". Franklin came here as a child with his parents and loved the island so much he later brought his own family for summer stays. Roosevelt's summer "cottage" consisting of thirty-four rooms is preserved with original furnishings. It is heartwarming to see two countries working together and actually producing an excellent result. The park buildings and grounds are meticulously maintained by the joint effort of the United States and Canada. Park staff is made up of American and Canadian citizens. Unbelievably our park admission and activities were free.

We again entered New Brunswick at Calais/St. Stephen, driving on to Moncton to see Hopewell Rocks (also known as Flower Pot Rocks) and the highest tides in the world (44 ft.) on the Bay of Fundy. Three hours before and after low tide visitors may walk on the bay floor to experience the bottom of the rocks which is a pedestal due to erosion of the tides. The top part of the rocks flare out and have trees and bushes growing on them thus called Flower Pot Rocks. High tide comes in rapidly requiring you to leave the bay floor and view the rocks from the cliffs above. On our return to Bangor International Airport we spent a day touring Saint John, the largest city in New Brunswick.

From the Federal Aviation Administration and Transportation Security Administration, to the Federal Highway Administration, National Park Rangers and U.S. Customs Agents, we saw evidence of the good work our federal employees are performing every day. They certainly deserve fair pay and public recognition for all their efforts.



*Acadia National Park*



*FDR Summer Cottage*

## Chapter 1690 Donates \$7,547 to Alzheimer's Research



At the end of June, chapter officials presented a check for Alzheimer's Research in the amount of \$7,547 to Ms. Jamie Magee, Sussex County Coordinator of the Alzheimer's Association. The money was raised this spring primarily through our annual charity golf tournament, and the luncheon and auction held at the Cottage Cage in Bethany Beach on May 16.

Making the check presentation were (from left): Ron Weber, golf tournament chair; Dick Oliver, Alzheimer's Committee chair; Jamie Magee, Sussex County Coordinator for the Alzheimer's Association; and Larry Trombello, chapter president.

## Chapter Fundraiser – BOSCOV's October 21 Discount Pass

Pat Rice

On Labor Day this year, there are only 115 days till Christmas!

I like to do my shopping all year long and avoid the rush of last-minute shoppers. If you are like me, then do I have a deal for you -- a way for you to discount shop in October and help NARFE at the same time.

NARFE has an arrangement with BOSCOV's to sell \$5.00 discount passes for the store's fabulous one-day-a-year "Friends Helping Friends" discount sales day – this year Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> - where use of the pass can result all day in 10%, 15% or 25% savings, depending on the items purchased. (It's kind of like a Black Friday at Halloween.) The savings from use of the pass for just one \$20 item at 25% off pays for the card!

The stores will also have light fare, entertainment, and fabulous door prizes. The pass will be good that day at any BOSCOV'S Store in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. The closest stores to Sussex County are Dover and Salisbury.

*How does our NARFE chapter benefit?* All the proceeds from the sale of the passes are kept by the participating non-profit group such as our NARFE chapter! The

more passes we sell, the more we raise for our chapter. This fundraiser will help us build up our chapter Treasury fund, which is used to provide funding assistance to members attending NARFE seminars and training sessions, to help pay costs for our chapter delegates going to the NARFE national convention, and for other similar kinds of member activities.

We will be selling the passes at our September and October luncheon meetings. You can also purchase them by contacting Pat or Vinny Rice at 215-805-7782 or 215-805-7783 or by email to Patnvin@gmail.com.

In addition, BOSCOV's is allowing NARFE to sell advance discount passes for the October 21 event to customers at their Dover Store. We already have volunteers for September, but if anyone can help us out for a few hours selling these passes in Dover in early October, please contact Pat or Vinny.

This can be a wonderful fundraiser for NARFE and a great way for you to get discounts on gifts for your family and friends, and we hope we'll have your support.



2014 Officers	
<b>President</b> Larry Trombello	430-7689
<b>1st Vice President</b> Carol Weber	829-8906
<b>2nd Vice President</b> Dick Oliver	539-3771
<b>Secretary</b> Mary Price	663-0212
<b>Treasurer</b> John Pitman	539-5280
<b>Federation President</b> Walt Berwick	436-4261
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## Legislative Report

Robert Wardwell



### *Let the Games Begin*

Congress returns after their long August Recess and it's safe to predict that its collective mind will be focused on only one thing. Hint: it's not economic recovery, preventing the spread of radical Islamic terrorism or assuring a minimum standard of health care, education or income for all Americans. No, its collective mind will be focused on getting re-elected, trying to achieve or maintain majority status in the respective houses of congress and positioning each party for the 2016 Presidential Elections. Given that there will inevitably be intensive political posturing and partisan rhetoric employed to rally the key constituencies of the respective parties, perhaps it's just as well that the parties are locked into this cycle of mutual frustration.

However the outcome of this election is important to us. While it may be tempting to take a cynical attitude and sit on our hands declaring “a pox on both parties,” the reality is that if we do so, we will have nobody to blame but ourselves for any unpleasant outcomes. Federal workers and retirees are particularly tempting targets for continued cost savings and cutbacks. If we do nothing we may as well hold up a big sign saying “Please Kick Me.”

The reality is we are living in an increasingly polarized and competitive political environment in which anyone who does not ask for their fair share could have it snatched away, often to merely fund some special interest tax break or program promoted by deep pocketed lobbyists.

So whether by letter, phone call or personal contact, this is the opportune time to let our elected representatives know that you will support candidates who support Federal employees and retirees. We deserve fair pay and the promised pensions and benefits earned by a talented and dedicated work force that brought this country safely through many domestic and international crises of the last 50 years. Let them know with your political activity and your vote that you support candidates that support you.

*Current Issues.* Negotiations over the Postal Reform legislation are ongoing but it is unclear as to when or if a vote will be scheduled. NARFE opposes the legislation because of ill-advised changes to workers compensation and is working to make changes before it reaches the Senate floor. NARFE members can send an e-mail to their Senators through NARFE's Legislative Action Center asking them to oppose the Senate postal legislation. Also remind them that it is unfair to reduce promised cost of living adjustments to Social Security and Federal Pensions via the chained CPI or other devices.

*Congressional Schedule:* The House and Senate are both scheduled to be on recess August 4 – September 5. In addition, the House has announced that they will be on recess September 22- 26.

## Social Committee Report

Linda Berwick and Kathy Trombello

We hosted a good crowd of 68 people at our final luncheon in June before our summer break. We had to do a bit of adapting at our June meeting because the speaker had a medical emergency and couldn't appear. Her talk on elder law matters will be rescheduled for another meeting.

Fortunately, three Sussex County Council members – George Cole, Joan Deaver and Vance Phillips - were on hand to present a Council's check to the Chapter for Alzheimer's Research. They then each spoke to the group and answered questions, so the program worked out well.

Our next luncheon will be on Thursday Sept. 11, 2014. Please have your reservations in to Linda by Tuesday Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there!



## Sunshine Report

Ceci Niemi

On 6/25 a Thank You card was sent to Tony & June Mileo in appreciation for their efforts every month with the monthly luncheon 50/50 tickets. On 8/4 a Get Well card was sent to Lou Geibel.




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### LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

*Mail to:* Linda Berwick, 37818 Cedar Road, Selbyville, DE 19975  
or call (302) 436-4261; or email [linda-berwick@comcast.net](mailto:linda-berwick@comcast.net)

Please note, I will respond to each email reservation. If you don't receive an email response from me, please contact me again.

Please make reservations for \_\_\_\_\_ Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Guest(s) for **Thursday, September 11, 2014, at 12 Noon at 1776 Restaurant in Midway Mall**, near the theaters. **Price = \$17.00 per person, which includes gratuities.**

#### Luncheon Selections:

- \_\_\_ (1) Fried oyster sandwich with chips  
\_\_\_ (2) Cup of seafood bisque and half shrimp salad sandwich  
\_\_\_ (3) Caesar salad with chicken breast

**Dessert: Chocolate Cake**

My check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to "NARFE Chapter 1690" is enclosed.

**NOTICE: PERSONS MAKING RESERVATIONS, BUT NOT ATTENDING MUST PAY FOR MEAL(S)**

Member(s) Names: \_\_\_\_\_ **Please Print** \_\_\_\_\_ Guest(s) Names: \_\_\_\_\_ **Please Print** \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations would be appreciated by Tuesday night. Walk-ins are welcome, however, all menu choices may no longer be available.

## September is NARFE Membership Drive Month

September 2014 has been declared Membership Drive Month by NARFE National Headquarters. Special recruitment incentives are being offered to chapter members during the month.

Anyone who recruits a new NARFE member (active employee or retired) who joins in September will receive \$10 for each new member.

In addition, the names of all September recruiters will be entered into a drawing, once for each new member recruited. A Kindle Fire Tablet will be awarded to a recruiter whose name is randomly selected from this pool.

Please note that credit for recruitment can be given only if the NARFE ID number of the recruiter - (it's on the NARFE monthly magazine mailing label if you don't remember it) - is provided upon the new member(s) joining.



**September 2014**

**LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM**

## Sussex County Council Members Speak at June Luncheon; Support Chapter's Alzheimer's Research Fund With \$700 Donation



*Councilman George Cole*



*Councilwoman Joan Deaver*



*Councilman Vance Phillips*

Three Sussex County Council Members, George Cole, Joan Deaver, and Vance Phillips attended the chapter June lunch and donated a total of \$700 from Council Member discretionary funds to our Alzheimer's Research fundraising effort. Each Council member has discretionary funds they can use for charitable donations and grants. Phillips donated \$500 and Cole and Deaver each donated \$100.

In addition to making the charitable donations, each Council Member spoke.

Councilman Cole and Councilwoman Deaver asked what our members liked about living in Sussex County, and what we would like to see improved. Chapter members responded in favor of existing low taxes, and commented that they would like to see better transportation, increased efforts to save farms, and better efforts to attract more medical professionals to the area.

Councilman Phillips briefed us on this year's Council budget of \$52 Million dollars. Revenues are up, he said, adding that if there is money left over at the end of the year, that money would go into a Capital Fund with the intention that future capital improvements, such as the Para-Medic Station and libraries, could be paid for in cash.



*Sussex County Council Members present to our chapter a check for \$700 for Alzheimer's Research. From left: Councilman Vance Phillips; NARFE Delaware Federation President Walt Berwick; Councilwoman Joan Deaver; Ron Weber; and Councilman George Cole.*



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## September 2014 Newsletter

### Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance September 11, 2014

**Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance** occurs on September 11 of each year, as mandated by Congress in 2001, in memory of the 2,977 persons who died in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The following are excerpts from the text of the Presidential Proclamation from 2013. (*This year's proclamation had not been issued at our newsletter deadline*).

“On September 11, 2001, amid shattered glass, twisted steel, and clouds of dust, the spirit of America shone through. We remember the sacrifice of strangers and first responders who rushed into darkness to carry others from danger. We remember the unbreakable bonds of unity we felt in the long days that followed -- how we held each other, how we came to our neighbors' aid, how we prayed for one another. We recall how Americans of every station joined together to support the survivors in their hour of need and to heal our Nation in the years that followed.

“Today, we can honor those we lost by building a Nation worthy of their memories. Let us also live up to the selfless example of the heroes who gave of themselves in the face of such great evil. As we mark the anniversary of September 11, I invite all Americans to observe a National Day of Service and Remembrance by uniting in the same extraordinary way we came together after the attacks. Like the Americans who chose compassion when confronted with cruelty, we can show our love for one another by devoting our time and talents to those in need. I encourage all Americans to visit [www.Serve.gov](http://www.Serve.gov), or [www.Servir.gov](http://www.Servir.gov) for Spanish speakers, to find ways to get involved in their communities.”