



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

DOVER, DE
CHAPTER 1174

NARFE National - www.narfe.org
NARFE DE Federation - www.narfe-de.org

OFFICERS

President: Elizabeth Kramarck

Vice President: Vinnie Warr

Secretary: Donna Lamos

Treasurer: Phyllis Meyers

CHAIRPERSONS

Legislation: John Kramarck

Public Relations: Phyllis Meyers

Membership: Nancy Story

Sunshine: Iлона Gechter

Chaplain: Jean Miller

Luncheon/Sunshine: Iлона Gechter

NOTICE: THE APRIL MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO THE CORVID -19 VIRUS.

Minutes for March 5, 2020

Meeting called to order at 11:35 with 21 members and guests in attendance.

Invocation: Chaplain Jean Miller

Pledge of Allegiance was led by the President.

President Elizabeth welcomed everyone to the March 2020 Chapter 1174 meeting.

BIRTHDAYS: Ray McCloskey, Connie Reichardt, Donna Lamos, Margaret Paul and Bob Fry

ANNIVERSARY: Nancy & Ted Story, Alan & Donna Lamos



Report from Federation: Delaware President Vinnie Warr discussed the Region II conference which will be held in York, PA on 1-2 June 2020. The conference will provide lunch and dinner along with entertainment on the first evening. Please contact Vinnie for applications if you would like to attend.

PROGRAM: Vinnie Warr introduced Dee Durham-Plastic Free Delaware representative. Dee provided a very in-depth program about what the organization does for Delaware. She discussed that starting January 1, 2021, that single-use bags will not be used in large stores, so they would like to see more people take reusable bags for grocery shopping or other shopping. Also, the use of single use plastic straws in restaurants. She recommends taking a reusable straw with you so you can enjoy your drink if you like to use straws.

Jean Miller talking with Dee Durham after meeting



COASTAL CLEANUP STATS FOR DELAWARE									
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
TOTAL WASTE COLLECTED OF ALL TYPES (not just the plastics listed below)	9.6 tons	9.5 tons	10.7 tons	7.8 tons	4 tons	3 tons	7.8 tons	6.1 tons	3.8 tons
Plastic Bags	825	1,224	3,056	1,875	2,296	2,777	2,433	1,014	1,066
Straws	2,445	1,130	4,106	1,895	2,385	2,346	1,657	1,845	1,953
Cig butts	15,876	11,093	9,817	14,478	22,779	18,877	20,410	13,569	16,294
Balloons	1,093	270	636	395	451	1,214	458	676	1,071
Plastic bottles	5,384	1,437	7778	2,688	3,267	3,760	3,785	3,089	2,948

Dee stated most people use over 500 plastic bags per year and 90% end up in landfills.

Bio-Plastic is not the solution

- Unregulated
- More expense for retailers
- Poor use of resources
- Cost passed on to consumers



Here are some totals from coastal clean-up, total waste:

	2009	2018	
Plastic bags	825 lbs	1,946 lbs	
Straws	2445 lbs	2738 lbs	
Total waste	9.6 tons	2.7 tons	

She discussed balloons and how they are considered single-use plastic. There is Delaware Senate Bill 208 which is expected to be voted on March 18th in Senate which will list releasing balloons as a form of littering. When a balloon is let go, it blows away and can travel many miles to burst or deflate and return to Earth. They land in the ocean and choke sea turtles, kill dolphins and whales and the ribbons entangle birds. Often, they end up on our beaches or in trees, polluting our communities and environment. Releasing balloons is a form of littering. Littering is illegal for many reasons: not biodegradable, takes

years to breakdown, block intestinal tract of animals, and can cause dangerous power outages and spark fires after getting entangled in power lines. Currently there are 7 states in the US and also UK and Australia that have laws concerning balloon releases. Please email or call your state Senator and Representative to ask them to support SB208.

Check out the Plastic Free Delaware website at www.plasticfreedelaware.org for more information.

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS:

Note: per Roberts Rule of Order reports such as those given by the Secretary and Treasurer do not need a motion.

SECRETARY: The February Newsletter with minutes were mailed & emailed to all members. Any corrections or additions? Hearing none the minutes will be accepted as presented.

TREASURER: Since Phyllis was unable to attend today, due to being in the Centre at Eden Hill; there was no monthly report. So, the current balance is \$4,053.96. Any questions on the report? Hearing none the report will be filed for review. Full report will be placed in minutes.

NARFE Chapter 1174 Treasurer's Report	
1-31 January 2020	
Starting Balance	\$4,053.96
INCOME	
None	
Income Total	\$
EXPENSES	
None	
Total Expenditures	(\$0.00)
TOTAL BALANCE (EOM 29 Feb)	\$4,053.96
Respectfully Submitted,	
<i>Phyllis Meyers</i>	
Treasurer	

VICE PRESIDENT: Upcoming speakers: Apr: **Meeting Cancelled.** May: Doug DeGrays-AMC Museum; June: Rebecca Schuman – Environmental Crime unit of DNREC.

PRESIDENT: The February 10 Chapter Board meeting held. We voted to cover the registration costs for those attending the York training in June as well as the registration for those attending the FedCon in Aug. Please let us know if you plan to attend either of these events. We have the registration forms available if you plan to attend.

2021 State Conference is going within a year and we are still looking at venues and ask our members to keep an eye out for possible vendors for this event. If you see someone or a business you think might be of interest to our members get their business card and pass it onto one of the officers. This is the best way to cover our costs for this event by selling table space to vendors.

National/Regional Highlights

- There will be an \$8-dues increase proposal on the August ballot. It is felt this is needed to fulfill NARFE's mission to protect your benefits and continue providing needed answers and services.
- FEDcon 20 National Conference, Scottsdale AZ Aug 30-Sept 1. More info in magazine.
- Region II Training will be June 1-2 at Wyndham Garden in York PA. \$99 Registration/\$90+tax rm. Includes Mon lunch at noon, Mon Dinner and Tues Breakfast. Mon Welcome at 1pm, followed by speakers on Benefits and Advocacy. Tues Round table discussions of your choice.

NARFE-PAC- In 2019, over 20,853 NARFE members contributed \$1,043,182.13 to NARFE-PAC. The average contribution was \$50.03.

In that same time period, NARFE-PAC disbursed:

- \$616,000 for political purposes, including \$336,000 to candidates,

- \$120,000 to non-candidate committee
- \$160,000 to leadership PACs.
- Distributions for Delaware were \$1,500 for Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester and \$3,000 to Sen. Chris Coons.
- NARFE members and Advocacy Staff attended local and DC fundraisers.

To date we have had 20-chapter members donate \$1,495 and we increased our sustainers by 1 more =4 total. Still need one more sustainer to reach our goal.

We still hoping to reach our challenge of 30 donations \$2000 with 5 sustainers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

LEGISLATION: March is NARFE-PAC month. John is going to speak on that. The money collected is to help protect active working federal employees and to protect the benefits we already have in place. We support our representatives who help to protect our benefits.

President Elizabeth set a challenge for this contribution cycle 2019-2020: to increase our total contributions to \$2000, our contributors to 30 and our sustainers to 5. Everyone has a donation form in their magazine- just fill it in and mail it off. Or go online to pay with a charge card. You can even call them if you want. It couldn't be easier and its money well spent. If you haven't given in the past please consider donating now.

MEMBERSHIP: Nancy Story presented her Membership Report. We currently have 117 members. Two new individuals have joined our chapter and will be added to the roster in the next several weeks. They are Ray Lorah and Sharon Bryson. She would like to remind everyone to renew your Membership and to please remember when renewing to include your \$6 chapter dues with the \$40 National membership. Otherwise you will no longer be listed as a Chapter member. (Then you will not receive updated information about chapter

happenings). If you sponsor a new member, they will receive a \$10 gift card to Grotto after attending first meeting.

SUNSHINE/LUNCHEON: Ilona Gechter sent Get-Well cards to Phyllis Meyers is currently in Centre at Eden Hill for the next month, Jim Shillings and Ursula Thompson who was in hospital for 10 days. Also, on a sad note, Bob Frye passed away.

LUNCHEON: Remember you are able to order off the menu at each meal. Also ensure your bill is correct and you are not over charged for something you did not receive.

WAYS AND MEANS: The No-Bake Bake Sale began in January and will go through June. This fundraiser is one of our projects used to raise money for our charities and other projects that come up. You can send money to Phyllis or any officer to make your donation.

OLD BUSINESS: * Reminder about the June 2021 conference our chapter will oversee organizing for Delaware. We will need as many members as possible to assist with putting the conference together. More information will be provided during the next year. (***This will stay in newsletter to remind everyone about the assistance needed for the conference in 2021**)

NEW BUSINESS: Save the Date: Expo +55 Dover Downs April 23, 9-3pm Look for vendors for our Conference.

Discussion about holding future meetings due to the current Corvid 19 virus hitting the nation. After discussion, we decided to play by ear see how it develops. Also, if you are not feeling well please do not attend meetings. ******UPDATE: WE ARE CANCELLING THE APRIL MEETING.**

BOARD MEETINGS: Luther Village, building 3 (located behind Safeway/Target stores) at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Chapter 1174 – May 10, 2020

State Federation –

50/50 Raffle – The money collected was \$75. Ray McClosky won this month's raffle. It is also his birthday month.

BENEDICTION given by Chaplain Jean Miller.

ADJOURNMENT: President Elizabeth adjourned the meeting at 1:14 p.m.

Hope to see you at our next meeting on May 7th at 11:30 at Grottos Restaurant in Dover.

Remember to contact Ilona if you are planning to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M Lamos

Secretary

Remember-May 7th meeting is at Grottos

<https://www.grottopizza.com/menu/>

