



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

DOVER, DE

CHAPTER 1174

NARFE DE Federation - [www.narfe-de.org](http://www.narfe-de.org)  
NARFE National - [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

**OFFICERS**

**President: Vinnie Warr**  
(302) 335-4862  
[rodnvinnie@comcast.net](mailto:rodnvinnie@comcast.net)

**Vice President: Vacant**

**Secretary: Donna Lamos**  
(302) 678-5816  
[somaldonn@comcast.net](mailto:somaldonn@comcast.net)

**Treasurer: Rod Warr**  
(302) 335-4862

**Co-Treasurer: Ilona Getchter**  
(302) 335-4885

**CHAIRPERSONS**

**Legislation: John Kramarck**  
378-2088  
[alaidbackmanor@outlook.com](mailto:alaidbackmanor@outlook.com)

**Membership: Nancy Story**  
674-1857  
[nrwolf@aol.com](mailto:nrwolf@aol.com)

**Sunshine: Ilona Gechter**  
335-4885 359-9129 (cell)  
[ilonagechter06@gmail.com](mailto:ilonagechter06@gmail.com)

**Chaplain: Jean Miller**  
398-4660

*NARFE is the only membership organization solely dedicated to protecting and preserving the benefits of all Federal workers and retirees.*

**Important Dates:**

- October Meeting:** 6 Oct 2022  
Green Turtle Restaurant, Dover, DE
- November Meeting:** 3 Nov 2022  
Green Turtle Restaurant, Dover, DE
- December Meeting:** 1 Dec 2022  
Green Turtle Restaurant, Dover, DE

**Ponderings**



Dear Members,

Great first meeting after summer break. Had a few new faces in the audience. Great to see Elizabeth and John again. Dover Mayor, Robin Christianson was our guest speaker. Gave an interesting talk of what's new coming to Dover. The box factory is open bringing lots of new, well-paying jobs and a new plant is being built that will just make kid's meal boxes for McDonalds. That must be a HAPPY place to work. There is also talk about bringing another commercial air terminal located next to Dover AFB. One of Dover's draw backs is lack of air transportation.

Presently our October meeting has no speaker so we are opening this up to each of you. If you have a speaker, you think we would all enjoy, please get the contact information and let me know. Hope to see your face next month.

Rod Warr and Ilona Gechter will be co-treasurers, with Rod taking on the heavy lifting and Ilona keeping things above-board. Phyllis was doing a great job but she expects to be out at least until the end of year when we should be holding new elections.

We are continuing our "No Bake, Bake Sale". No calories and money to donate to Smyrna's Home for the Chronically III.

*Vinnie*

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

**September:** Angela Pizzi, Alice Potter, & Rita Klepner



**October:** Ursula Thomas, Lani Lowe, Elizabeth Kramarck, Jean Hayes, Penelope Pierce, & Marlene Lake

#### **ANNIVERSARY:**



**September:** None

**October:** Al & Anna Pizzi, Elizabeth & John Kramarck

#### **Remarks from Federation President Vinnie**

All Federation meetings are being held by Zoom on the 2nd Wed, every other month. If you would like to attend, please email me at rodnvinnie@comcast.net so Vinnie can send you an "invitation".

#### **Chapter Business**

*The meeting was called to order at 11:35 with 16 members in attendance. Invocation was done by our chaplain Jean Miller.*

President Vinnie welcomed everyone in attendance; along with welcoming back Elizabeth and Jon Kramarck to the meeting. Nancy Story welcomed our guest speaker for this meeting; Dover Mayor Robin Christiansen. Since attendance have been low; it is important for us to meet, which allows us to see how everyone is doing well.

#### **REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS:**



**SECRETARY:** There were 16 members in attendance at the meeting this month; which is a great turnout. Hope the numbers keep going up in future. The June and summer Newsletter was emailed & mailed to all current members.

If you know a member not receiving the monthly newsletter, have them contact me, so I can ensure they receive copy.

If you move, please update information in your NARFE membership at <https://www.NARFE.org>.

We would like to acknowledge everyone's birthday and/or anniversary monthly; so, we can give a shout out to wish you a happy celebration. Please send me your birthday month and anniversary month information so it makes it into the newsletter. Sometimes it is always nice to have someone recognize your special day.

*In the future, when the chapter receives donations from our members, we will not publish their names in the newsletter, so we don't embarrass them able their kind donation.*

**TREASURER:** The bank starting balance for is \$4,942.54. In August there was a \$58.00 deposit from federation and \$2.00 service charge from M&T bank. The new balance at the end of August is \$5002.54.

After a difficult decision by the officers, it was decided to remove Phyllis as treasurer since she is unable to access the account due to medical issues (she is currently in hospital/rehab in Wilmington). Rod Warr and Ilona Gechter are now co-treasurers with Rod as primary. Good luck to both of them. Thank you, Phyllis for doing an outstanding job of controlling the account for the past several years.

---

Our chapter meetings are held the first Thursday of every month except July and August. The meetings are currently held at the Green Turtle restaurant in Dover. We have a private room (near the restrooms) with lots of tables, so everyone will not be crowded together. We are taking all the necessary precautions to ensure all members stay safe.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Our Chapter currently has 94 members. The June, July, and August Reports show the following:

**New Member:** Michael Poisson of Smyrna. Welcome Michael!

Renewals and Reinstatements: 6

**Members dropped for non-renewal:** 1

**New prospective members:** 2

The **2022 NARFE Fall Membership Drive** has begun! From September 1 through December 31, 2022, current members can earn \$10 for each new member they recruit, as well as other prizes. Suggestion: Once you've read your NARFE magazines, hand them out to prospective members & explain the advantages of joining NARFE. In all magazines, there is a NARFE Membership Application. Be sure to write in Chapter #1174 for Dover, DE, and provide your name & Membership ID as the Recruiter.

There are 3 ways to join: The applicant can complete the application & mail to National, join online at [www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org), or call 800-456-8410.

The annual dues are \$48 and they will receive a FREE one-year chapter membership.

Additional information can be found on page 56 of the September magazine.

Contact me for any questions.

NARFE kicks off its annual membership drive. For 100 years, NARFE has been advocating for and defending the earned pay and benefits of America's civil servants. So, enjoy your summer and see you in September!

*Nancy*

**Legislative: News from the Conference:** Arizona: As you might know, I attended the Federation President's meeting and FEDCON22 in Stockton, AZ in August. We had 5 representatives from DE at FEDCON. Two from our chapter, 2 from Wilmington and 1 from the beach. As usual the best information, came from my counterparts all across the US. Our immediate crown consisted

of 3 Larry's. One from MD, one from PA and one from Puerto Rico. We also had Jersey John and Lynn from DC at our table. Guess what, we all had the same problems, and now have some solutions! Co-officers is working for a lot of chapters and saving them from closing.

My favorite part was getting to meet Matt Paxton from the TV show, Hoarders! I always love to watch that show when I'm feeling overwhelmed by

my own house cleaning attempts. He did a talk on "Keep the Memories, Lose the Stuff"; How to downsize, declutter and move forward. There was also a great presentation on Phone APS and how to best take advantage of them. All presentation slides are on:

<https://www.narfe.org/fedcon22-presentations/>.

Enter password FEDcon22view to access the page.

Mark your calendars for FEDcon24. We will be at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, August 18-20, 2024. We'll see you there!

The election results are in, hope you all voted. Of interest to us, William Shackelford will be our new National President and Larry (see above) Walton from MD will be our new Region II VP.

President Vinnie and Rob Warr and Marcia Price will be attending the conference.

**Sunshine:** Per Rita Flynn: Ursula Thomas was in a serious accident in April. She is still in Christiana Hospital but should be going home soon. She has a broken leg.

Illona wants to let everyone know Phyllis Myers is in the hospital and will be moved to rehab. Don't know how long she will be in rehab.

President Vinnie wanted to let everyone know Kathy Adams had a stroke and has difficulty walking and cannot drive along with some hearing loss.

---

Our chapter meetings are held the first Thursday of every month except July and August. The meetings are currently held at the Green Turtle restaurant in Dover. We have a private room (near the restrooms) with lots of tables, so everyone will not be crowded together. We are taking all the necessary precautions to ensure all members stay safe.

James Shilling is in rehab after having severe reaction from a shot. (I don't know what type of shot but it was not good for him)

Iona let everyone know a thinking of you card was sent Louise is not walking and is still waiting for a wheelchair. Along with sending a card to Phyllis.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Our “No Bake, Bake Sale” box has made its’ appearance at our May meeting until Dec. So, stay out of the kitchen and contribute what you saved on those ingredients and not turning on the oven to our fundraiser. The money

raised will be donated in December after the meeting to the Hospital for the Chronically Ill in Smyrna.

### NEW BUISINESS:

If you would like a special guest speaker at one of our meetings; let us know so we can see if they are available. We will have Health Insurance speakers in November.



the fire department which makes this a family affair.

Mayor Christiansen talked about crimes in Dover and how more people are being released per DA. He also talked about an increase in Drug overdoses and the use of Narcan and how the Dover Police are all trained in the use of it. He mentioned the solicitation of big box companies; however, they will not consider Dover a not

**Guest Speaker:** Our guest speaker was Dover Mayor Robin Christiansen. He was elected in a special election in Jun 2014 and previously served on the city council of Dover from 1983-2001. He discussed being a member of the Dover Fire Department for 54 years and there are currently 2 more generations serving in

a good risk since there is not a “big” enough demographic to support their company.

Another topic was a possible partnership agreement with Dover Air Base and the Civil Terminal at Dover AFB, to expand the use of the civilian side for the use of the airfield for more commercial aircraft.

Mayor Christiansen was asked a question about the City of Dover Electric Company to find out when they are going to offer budget billing again for people on limited income. He was not sure when or if it happens.

He was also asked about the building on Lookerman St was going to be removed due to safety issue. They were finally able to receive information about the building and they want to sell lot before removing building. The building is supposed to be taken down within 30 days after notification. He did mention; one person died in fire and was found in unauthorized basement apartment. Also, the fire was so hot, the flames were coming through bricks.

Mayor Christiansen’s number 1 priority is to make the city of Dover safer for all residents and visitors.

### OTHER INFORMAITON:

Nancy Story, our membership chairperson brought a guest Susan Decker who worked at Medicare and possible a new member. Thank you, Nancy for promoting our organization.



I was reading the Delaware State News on September 14<sup>th</sup> and was surprised to see a photo of Charles Spragg. I understand he was very active in the organization before he got sick. He passed away on Sept 4<sup>th</sup> in Chestertown, MD. If you knew him, he worked at Dover AFB in MWR (Services Sq) until his retirement. Our prayers go out to his wife Carol and family.

Hope to *see you in October*.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna M Lamos  
Secretary

Our chapter meetings are held the first Thursday of every month except July and August. The meetings are currently held at the Green Turtle restaurant in Dover. We have a private room (near the restrooms) with lots of tables, so everyone will not be crowded together. We are taking all the necessary precautions to ensure all members stay safe.