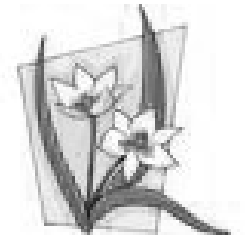




NARFE

**National Active & Retired Federal Employees
Association**

DULLES CHAPTER 1241 NEWS



*Serving Current, Former & Retired Federal Employees,
and Spouses and Survivor Annuitants in the Dulles area of Northern Virginia.*

March 2008

Dulles Chapter 1241 Officers for 2008

President	Bill Boning cwboning@verizon.net	703-435-0031
1 st Vice President	Richard Giangerelli r_giangerelli@verizon.net	703-860-4490
2 nd Vice President	Bill Schmidt Billschmidt39@yahoo.com	703-968-5837
Membership Chair	Richard Giangerelli r_giangerelli@verizon.net	703-860-4490
Secretary	Vacant	
Treasurer	Arthur Brophy brophyaj@cuisp.com	703-860-0817
Legislative Chair	Bill Schmidt Billschmidt39@yahoo.com	703-968-5837
Website Coordinator	Bob Simons Ssimons_667@verizon.net	703-430-9666
Service Officer	Herbert Bryan herbbryan@comcast.net	703-723-4113
Program Chair	Shirley Vaughn Vaughn12830@verizon.net	703-860-3370
Hospitality Chair	Louise Rooney Nana492@aol.com	703-435-3523
Public Relations Chair	Dave Rogers rogersde@aol.com	703-444-3393
Alzheimer Chair	Art Brophy	703-860-0817
Chaplain	Olive Panzera	703-450-5413
Newsletter Editor	Jane Harding hardingtj@comcast.net	703-537-8138

has no money or insurance Hospice still provides assistance.

Capital Hospice provides various services with 6 or 7 doctors certified in pain management, nurses trained in geriatrics, and certified nursing assistants who change the bedding, do laundry, help with showers, and give relief to the care giver. Capital Hospice has social workers who talk to the patient and the family about their illness, and chaplains are available for spiritual counseling. Capital Hospice is beginning to work with Alzheimer's patients to help that person cope and to help the patient's caregivers.

Bettina discussed some misconceptions about Hospice, in particular that the patient has to be within 6 months of death for Capital Hospice to be of assistance. The term of 6 months comes from Medicare and Medicaid criteria. With Capital Hospice a patient can be certified for six months and when that time expires, it is possible to certify them again for another six months. Bettina provided the number 800-869-2136 to call if one needs or possibly needs Hospice services. A doctor's referral is not necessary. Capital Hospice will provide free consultation to determine if they can provide assistance.

If you recently received your property assessment you may be pleased! Come to the March meeting and hear what Michael Frey has to say about how real estate and personal property values are determined.

Bill Boning

PRESIDENT'S GREETING



Last month I noted that the groundhog certainly saw his shadow and until recently I think we could say that winter is still here. But now spring is in the air!

About 38 members attended our February meeting that featured Bettina Lawton from Capital Hospice. Bettina gave the attendees some very valuable information about Hospice. She noted that Hospice is a non-profit organization that makes a difference for people who need care and for the people caring for them. Medicare, Medicaid and various health insurance programs provide payment for their services, but if the person needing care

March 24th Luncheon selections:



- Chicken Marsalla
 - Fresh Tilapia with Creamy Artichokes
 - Corned Beef and Cabbage
- Plus soup or salad
Beverage and Dessert:

We urge you to call in your reservation to make sure you have seating of your choice!
Please call in reservations for the March luncheon by Thursday the 20th: Louise Rooney, 703-435-3523



Please come prepared to pay for your dinner with \$16 in cash,

or have a check made out to:
NARFE Dulles Chapter 1241.

The treasurer does not have change, and the extra time at the door causes a line to form behind you!



Please note: At last month's luncheon those present voted to have a "light" menu every other month. Our lighter menu at \$13 was well-accepted last month. For this month (March) we return to the \$16 menu.

Directions for Reaching the Amphora Diner Deluxe in Herndon:
The Amphora is near Elden St. several blocks north of the Dulles Toll Road, and one block north of the Elden Street Giant. From either of these locations proceed north on Elden St. and turn right on the drive leading directly to the Amphora, immediately after the PNC bank entrance. The address is 294 Elden St. Please note that access from Alabama Ave is temporarily blocked off.

Our luncheon meetings

Are once a month, generally on the 4th Monday at noon (except for April and December), and usually at 11:30, at Amphora Diner Deluxe in Herndon.

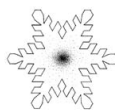
Dates are listed below.
2008 meetings: March 24,
April 28, May 19, June 23.

Executive Committee Meetings

take place at 1:30 p.m.
(usually the 2nd Wed. of the month)—for 2008:
March 12, April 16, May 7, June 11.



Luncheon meetings are cancelled on days that the Fairfax County schools are closed due to inclement weather.



Program for March 24th:

Sully District Supervisor Frey to speak on Fairfax County Taxes

Supervisor Michael Frey, Sully District, will speak on Fairfax County taxes, with emphasis on real estate and personal property taxes, including the assessment process, at the next chapter meeting on March 24th.

This subject will be of interest to all, but in particular to Fairfax County homeowners, since many homeowners are concerned about the recent assessments in which their

land assessment increased and house assessment decreased. The Department of Tax Administration Director has announced that 2008 property assessments would be recalculated but the overall assessment would not change.

Supervisor Frey was elected in 1991 as the first member of the Board of Supervisors to represent the newly created Sully District. He has represented Fairfax County on the Washington Metropolitan Council of Government's Transportation Planning Board, the Environmental Policy Committee, and the Council of Government's Development Policy Committee. Supervisor Frey is a member of the Executive Committee of the Dulles Area Transportation Association and served 3 years on the Inova Health Care Services Board and the Council of Government's Committee on Noise at National and Dulles Airports.

He has lived in Fairfax County more than 29 years, and in 1983 graduated from George Mason University with a Bachelors Degree in Government and Politics.

DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR!!

March 24: Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes—Supervisor Michael Frey, Sully District, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

April 21-23: VFC 2008 Convention in Roanoke—see article below.

April 28: "Mind, Body, and Spirit" --Grand Master Thomas Gooch, a healer and trainer for the Dalai Lama.

May 19: Anticipating the Future—50+ Action Plan 2007, Sharon Lynn, Assistant Director, Fairfax Area Agency on Aging.

June 23: "All About Northern Virginia Regional Parks," Paul McCray, Operations Director, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

Alzheimer's Fundraiser News

Order packets have arrived and are available for those who would like to help out with this very worthwhile activity. Please contact Jane Harding, either at the next luncheon meeting,

or by calling 703-537-8138, to arrange for picking up a packet, and obtain more information.



You can also email her: hardingtj@comcast.net.



Legislative Report

National:

Activities in the U.S. congress are mostly on matters that will not affect our earned benefits. National Headquarters

continues to add more sponsors for repeal of the GPO and WEP issues. The two houses will spend much of March away from Washington on the Easter Break. The stimulus package has been signed and all individuals need to do to qualify is to submit their 2007 tax return. The funds received will be treated as a refund of 2007 taxes and not as income for 2008. Fortunately / unfortunately the rate of inflation still progresses and it is becoming more and more apparent that the resulting cola next January will be near 4.5%. Pressure is needed to convince congress to increase the \$149,000 pay cap for federal workers. With recent pay raises, over 6500 federal workers are capped. Last year the total nationwide was about 800. The Presidents budget has proposed a military pay raise of 3.5% and a civilian raise of 2.9%. Several members of both the House and the Senate have sent letters to the finance committees indicating that this is not acceptable.

State:

The Virginia Legislative session should be history when this newsletter is printed. As everyone expected this was going to be a session dominated by the budget. Things are much worse than predicted, because the actual revenues for the last quarter of 07 and the first two months of 08 are significantly lower than projected. Another complication is the recent decision by the State Supreme Court that held that the regional, appointed Transportation Authorities in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads cannot tax residents. Those of you who have seen extra taxes applied to the purchase, repair and the titling of cars, can expect a refund. Also those of you who have sold homes and paid an extra grantors tax at settlement are due a refund. The decision means that Northern Virginia will have about \$400 million less transportation dollars to spend this year. We have come to this impasse because the original bill passed by the General Assembly that required that the taxes be voted on by the elected local officials was changed to get the local supervisors and mayors off the hook and allow an appointed transportation commission to vote for the taxes in



violation of the State Constitution. The sudden loss of funds for transportation has many discussing a special session. The only areas affected are Hampton Roads and Northern Virginia. The rest of the state is not losing any funding and representatives from those regions may not feel the urgency to get the problem solved, especially since the divide between the various solutions to cover these losses is wide.

In other issues the State Senate has rejected the homestead amendment and it will not be on the November ballot. Two bills to provide for a Credit freeze have passed the General Assembly and await the Governors signature. The rules for becoming eligible for the reduction or elimination of real estate taxes for seniors and disabled persons have been changed to permit the use of the current year's projected income rather than the previous years income level.



NARFE Virginia Federation of Chapters Convention April 21-23, 2008

This year's convention will be held in Roanoke VA. Judy Park, NARFE National Legislative Director, is scheduled to give the keynote address. Although the deadline has past for new registrants to have their names appear in the program book, Dulles Chapter 1241 still has plenty of authorized delegate slots available. Registration forms should be mailed to 2008 NARFE/VFC Convention Committee, P.O. Box 10966, Blacksburg VA 24062. The host hotel is Wyndham Roanoke Airport Hotel, 2801 Hershberger Rd NW, Roanoke VA 24017. The hotel reservation deadline is April 1, 2008. Make reservations directly with the hotel: telephone 1-800-996-3426 and ask for the NARFE room rate (\$99 plus tax). The Convention banquet with entertainment will be Tuesday night April 22; cost is \$35 per person. Banquet reservations can be made on the convention registration form. Contact Bill Boning for registration forms or see the Virginia NARFE website: www.vanarfe.org.

New chapter members – Jan & Feb 2008	
Current Federal Employees	
Anne Menassian	Richard C. Zwierko
Raymond P. Motha	William R. Carlson
Lynn Yeldell	Lynda Chamowitz
Retired Federal Employees	
Janet C. Armour	Eleanor Locke
Linda K Crume	Robert P. Wilson
James A. Rose	James L. Smith
Amy D. Teymourian	

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS: Virginia Federation of Chapters (VFC) Website -- www.vanarfe.org;
 NARFE National Website : www.narfe.org;
 OPM Retirement Information 703-838-7760 -- email: retbenefits@narfe.org;
 NARFE Legislative Hotline 703-838-7780; NARFE Membership Services: 1-800-456-8410 .**

 - - - - - **CLIP THIS SECTION BELOW AND SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE!** - - - - -

**CALL OR WRITE YOUR
LEGISLATORS!
Virginia General Assembly**

- 32 Senator Janet D. Howell (D)
P.O. Box 2608
Reston, VA 20195-0608
703-709-8283;
FAX 703-435-1995
SenHowell@aol.com
- 33 Senator Mark R. Herring (D)
P.O. Box 6246
Leesburg, VA 20178
703-433-0048
Richmond Ofc: (804) 698-7533
senator@markherring.org
- 37 Senator Ken Cuccinelli (R)
10560 Main St.
Suite LL17
Fairfax, VA 22030
(703) 766-0635;
FAX (703) 766-0637
ken@cuccinelli.com
- 32 Delegate David E. Poisson (D)
2 Pigeon Hill Dr. Suite 340
Sterling, VA 20165
703-421-6899; fax: 703-404-3746
DelDPoisson@house.state.va.us

- 36 Delegate Kenneth R. Plum (D)
2073 Cobblestone Lane,
Reston, VA 20191
703-758-9733;
FAX 703-391-0865
DelKPlum@house.state.va.us
- 67 Delegate C. Charles Caputo (D)
P.O. Box 222154
Chantilly, VA 20153
703-476-6944
DelCCaputo@house.state.va.us
- 86 Delegate Thomas Davis Rust (R)
730 Elden Street,
Herndon, VA 20170-4637
703-437-9400
FAX 703-435-6655
DelTRust@house.state.va.us

U. S. Congress
US Senate,
Washington, DC 20510

- VA Senator John Warner (R)
5309 Commonwealth Centre Pkwy
Midlothian, VA 23112
804-739-0247; FAX 804-739-3478
FAX (202) 224-6295
senator@warner.senate.gov
www.senate.gov/~warner

- VA Senator Jim Webb (D)
507 East Franklin St.
Richmond, VA 23219
804-771-2221; FAX 804-771-8313
202-224-4024
www.webb.senate.gov

US House of Representatives,
Washington DC 20515

- 8 Representative James P. Moran (D)
333 N. Fairfax St., Ste, 200
Alexandria, VA 22314-2632
(202) 225-4376, FAX (202) 225-0017
www.house.gov/moran
- 10 Representative Frank R. Wolf (R)
13873 Park Center Rd., #130
Herndon, VA 20171
703-709-5800; FAX 703-709-5802
(202) 225-5136; FAX (202) 225-0437
www.house.gov/wolf
- 11 Representative Tom Davis (R)
4115 Annandale Rd., #103
Annandale, VA
703-916-9610; FAX 703-916-9617
(202) 225-1492; FAX (202) 225-3071
www.tomdavis.house.gov