



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL
EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
CHAPTER 893
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA**

CHAPTER 893 – SERVING OUR MEMBERS

VOLUME 47 - NUMBER 6

VFC AREA IX

SEPTEMBER 2011

PRESIDENT

Jim Delgado
703-313-9387

jkadelg@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Vacant

SECRETARY

Elizabeth Lynch
703-256-0340

emlynchva@verizon.net

TREASURER

Jim Wagner
703-644-5192

wagjames@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Doris M. Lama
703-644-0139

dmlama@yahoo.com

CHAPTER CHAPLAIN

Margaret A. Yowell
703-451-3287

fitzhughlady@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Norma A. Hughes
703-960-6279

nah.home@verizon.net

Charles Delaplane
703-461-9663
cdelaplane@verizon.net

◆ PRESIDENT'S PAGE ◆

I hope that you have had an enjoyable summer respite from our NARFE activities. It is time to turn our attention to new initiatives that will assure the continued success of Chapter 893. We are very grateful for the active support of numerous members who have committed their time, skills and expertise to lead the chapter as we promote NARFE goals and objectives to protect the benefits earned by federal employees and retirees.

Charles Delaplane and Norma Hughes have stepped up as co-editors of our outstanding chapter newsletter. I encourage you to be attentive and responsive to the content of the newsletter as the principal communication tool for the chapter.

Barbara MacDonald, who transferred to us from the Woodbridge Chapter, has agreed to be the Chair for the Alzheimer's Program. We are committed to improve our support to this program and, with Barbara's leadership, we will do a better job of fundraising. I invite you to attend the chapter meeting on September 14 when Donna Shackelford, the Alzheimer's Chair for the Virginia Federation of Chapters, will discuss the Alzheimer's Program and how we can actively participate in supporting it.

Pat Harahan is the new Program Chair and is planning interesting and informative programs for our chapter meetings. We hope that the topics and speakers will provide incentive for you to attend our monthly meetings to learn, to socialize, to network, and to otherwise engage in the chapter's activities.

Doris Lama is the new Chair of the Membership Committee, one of the most important committees for the chapter. Doris will lead the effort to recruit new members and retain existing members with the able assistance of the chapter's Area Directors. But the effective recruitment and retention of members cannot be accomplished solely by the Membership Committee. Each and every one of us can be a recruiter for new members, and then help to retain members by engaging with them in chapter activities. It is only through an effective and ongoing membership campaign that we can sustain the chapter. I hope that you will pledge to help.

(Continued on page 6)



◆ **CHAPTER CALENDAR – 2011** ◆

Wed, Sept 7 Chapter Executive Board Meeting, 1:30 pm, Braddock Hall, Kings Park Library

Fri, Sept 9 Preview Performance of *Rabbit Hole* at The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 8 pm

Wed, Sept 14 Chapter 893 Monthly Meeting, 1:00 pm (Registration and Social); 1:30 pm (Business Meeting); 2:15 pm (Program)

Fri, Sept 23 Fairfax County Senior Citizens Council, Kick-off breakfast meeting at 9:30 am at the American Legion Hall, Fairfax

STAY INFORMED

VISIT THE NARFE WEB SITE

www.narfe.org

&

THE VFC WEB SITE

www.vanarfe.org

&

THE CHAPTER 893 WEB SITE

www.vanarfe.org/893

◆ **FX COUNTY SR CITIZENS COUNCIL** ◆

The Council meets on Friday, September 23, 2011, at 9:30 A.M., at the American Legion, 3939 Oak Street, Fairfax, VA 22030. It is a breakfast meeting and reservations are required. The cost is \$5.00, payable at the door. For questions about the Council, the September 23 breakfast meeting, or to get directions, contact our chairperson Diane Hill at (703) 569-5118.

DIANE HILL



◆ **THE LUNCH BUNCH** ◆

Welcome back! We start our fall Lunch Bunch on September 14 at an old favorite - the El Paso Mexican Restaurant in Springfield, one we can

always count on for good food, reasonably priced and with a varied menu that appeals to all our members. It is located at 6804 Commerce Street (Tel: 703-912-6166), so it is very convenient to our meeting place. **OK, it's a deal - the El Paso at 11:30 am, Wednesday, September 14!** Contact us now at (703) 768-4460 or elea-nore@cox.net to make your reservation.

We considered having the Lunch Bunch at the American Legion Post 176, where we have our chapter meetings, for its convenience. The food is good, the prices reasonable and the service friendly, but there are significant issues such as: difficulty in accommodating a group our size; no vegan items on the menu; credit cards not accepted; and cigarette-smoke atmosphere in the dining area. Nevertheless, we always welcome your suggestions for alternative Lunch Bunch venues. Let us hear from you!

ELEANOR & AL ERICKSON



◆ **LITTLE THEATRE OF ALEXANDRIA** ◆

The LTA enters its autumnal season on Friday, September 9, when it presents David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, ***Rabbit Hole***, a poignant drama. *The New York Times* review of the play on Broadway stated it "holds an honest mirror up to life". The play centers on the accidental death of a child and the resulting sibling jealousy, conjugal estrangement and grief. **Please note the change from Thursday to Friday evening for this play only.** As usual, curtain up at 8 pm. And remember, if you request tickets, you are expected to show up. Tickets are limited in number and quickly snapped up. For tickets, please contact Barbara Kohl at nanab2k@gmail.com or [703-866-9506](tel:703-866-9506).

BARBARA KOHL



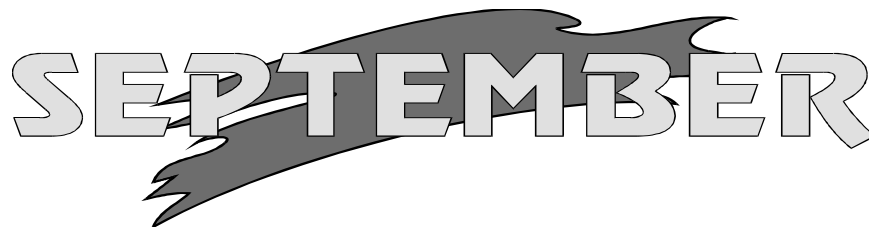
◆ PROGRAM NOTES ◆

SEPTEMBER NARFE established a partnership with the Alzheimer's Association which seeks to support research into the causes, prevention, and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. In the past twenty years, NARFE chapters have donated more than \$9 million to the NARFE Alzheimer's Fund. All of these funds are directed to research.

The Alzheimer's Association's Zenith Society is a group comprised of 50 donors who represent the highest level of donations. NARFE is the largest contributor to the Zenith Society. NARFE members not only contribute their dollars to the fund, but also participate in fundraising events, and volunteer at local day-care centers and other respite care facilities.

Donna Shackelford Chair, Alzheimer's Program, Virginia Federation of NARFE Chapters, will speak to Chapter 893 at our September 14 meeting. She will explain the NARFE-Alzheimer's Association partnership, resources devoted to the program, and answer any questions you may have regarding the disease. Come join us.

PAT HARAHAAN



SEPTEMBER

◆ Thank You Chapter 893 for Food Donations ◆

Chapter 893 received a thank you letter from ECHO, an organization that helps those in need with food and other services, and our neighbor on Old Keene Mill Road, for the 12 bags of food that was collected during our May Chapter meeting in support of the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, sponsored by the National Association of Letter Carriers and supported by NARFE. ECHO received a total of 8,750 pounds of food from this Food Drive. Thanks to the contributing Chapter 893 members for your generosity and concern for others. This was our second year of involvement in this worthy cause and we increased our number of bags donated over last year!

MARGARET YOWELL

SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

Date: Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Time: 1:00 pm - Registration and Social
1:30 pm - Business Meeting
2:15 pm - Program

Place: The American Legion Post 176
6520 Amherst Avenue
Springfield, VA 22150

Program: "Beating Alzheimer's Disease"

Getting There: The American Legion Post 176 is located on Amherst Avenue just north of Kay Jennings Springfield Toyota at the corner of Amherst Avenue and Springfield Boulevard. Parking is available at the rear of the building.

◆ MEMBERSHIP ◆

WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS (51)
MAY, JUNE, JULY

Stephen Altheim
Frederick Anci
Thelma Benyard
Karl Boettcher
Nyda Budig
Kim Caprio
Rosalie Ciccotelli
Carolyn Clark
Mary Collins
Mary Croushorn
Pattier Dooley
Mary Engelmann
Jefferson Evans
Alice Gehl
Cathryn Goedert
Howard Goldman
Edwin Granley

Salvatore Guli
Louann Hall
Mohammad Haque
Jane Hoover
Jeanne Jackson-Corns
Diann Kessler
Francis Leslie
James Manzo
Harriett Matthews
David Mayberry
Donald McLennan
William Meeker
Eddie Nutter
Kathy Oliver
Dennis Pedder
Phillip Riese
Neal Schiff

Norman Schmokel
Brett Scott
Elizabeth Seals
M.A. Shepard
Lawrence Smith
Beatrice Squire
Loring Starnes
Vicki Steele
Lana Stormont
Lacy Strader
Jane Straubinger
David Thomas
Dennis Thompson
Robert Walsh
Maurice Wilson
Richard Woodford
Barbara Wyman

CONDOLENCES. We offer our condolences to the families of:

Mary Cafeo of LaPlata, MD
Doris Coleman of Springfield, VA
Edith Herchig of Springfield, VA
Margaret Jackson of Springfield, VA

Ann Leslie of Alexandria, VA
William McGill of Locust Valley, VA
Francis Shea of Silver Spring, MD

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Ann Collins, Jim Delgado, Al Erickson, Nand Gupta, and Doris Waddick who were cited for their recruiting success in the August 2011 issue of NARFE's *Recruiting & Retention Journal*. Keep up the good work!

The success of NARFE and meeting our initiatives rests with our membership – you! Whatever role you choose to play is vital to our success. While Springfield 893 has a current membership of 1735, we want to return to the old days of 1800 plus members. We can do this with your help!

An easy way to spread the word is to place a NARFE Poster at your office, your condo, your retirement home, your local library, etc. We also have great brochures that speak to our organization. See me at the Welcome Desk at our September 14 chapter meeting and get a poster that reads “**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES: Laws Can Change – So Can Your Retirement – Protect It Now!**” and there’s a place to list a local point of contact. I also have NARFE information brochures for your use in recruiting.

Another way to ensure we retain our members is to participate in dues withholding. It saves you money! Ask me about it! You can get your application form from me at every chapter meeting.

Finally, we have lots of information on NARFE and a web site that features both national and local information. Simply go to www.vanarfe.org/893. We appreciate each of you! Contact me at dmlama@yahoo.com or call me at 703-644-0139 to discuss any membership issue. I want to hear from you!

DORIS LAMA

◆ NATIONAL LEGISLATION ◆

The debt ceiling and budget deficit bill that President Obama signed on August 2 did nothing that immediately affects federal retirees. Everybody should recall that federal retirement is budgeted as an entitlement program, along with Social Security, Medicare, etc. But the newly-signed Budget Control Act of 2011 (S. 627) focuses mainly on setting annual limits on discretionary spending programs for the next 10 years, and establishing a Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction. In other words Congress, to use a favorite phrase of the media, kicked the can down the road. Again.

The law also allows the debt ceiling to be raised in two steps, subject to Congressional disapproval, and provides a process whereby Congress would vote later this year on a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution, although the language seems almost to assume that the Senate won't act in that regard. It establishes the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, increases amounts available for Pell Grants, kills subsidized loans to professional and graduate students, and ends direct loan repayment incentives under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The Joint Select Committee and its work product are key to federal employees and retirees, and the time allowed for that work is short. The committee is composed of 12 members – 3 from each party in each house – with Co-Chairs appointed by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and House Speaker John Boehner. The Committee's goal is to reduce the deficit by \$1.8 trillion over the next 10 years, via a report to be sent to Congress, along with relevant legislative language, not later than December 2, 2011. Committees in the House and Senate which receive the report are to send it to their respective bodies, without amendment, not later than December 9, with a vote on passing the bill to take place not later than December 23, again without amendment. The report will be made public AFTER Congress has voted to approve or disapprove the resulting bill. One assumes Congress wants to avoid being lobbied intensely during the last two months of this year. However, there are bound to be leaks concerning the Committee's work, and we will certainly see lobbyists in full cry.

CHARLES DELAPLANE



◆ ADVOCACY MONTH MEETINGS ◆

Advocacy Month Meetings have been scheduled with the two Members of Congress who serve Springfield Chapter's membership area. Both will be in September. The meeting for the 8th District will be held with Congressman Jim Moran on Monday, September 12, 2011, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road in Alexandria. Chapter members will remember that Beth El hosted our Candidates Forum last October for the combined Districts 8 and 11.

The meeting for the 11th District will be held with Congressman Gerry Connolly on Tuesday, September 27, at 10:00 a.m., in the Mason District Government Center, 6705 Columbia Pike in Annandale. Plan now to be there to represent your interests. If you don't, who will?

Our thanks for arranging these meetings go to the two Congressional District Liaisons, Rita Jensen of Alexandria Chapter 232 for the 8th District, and Mary Lou Vroman of Annandale Chapter 1159 for the 11th District.

(President's Remarks - Continued from page 1)

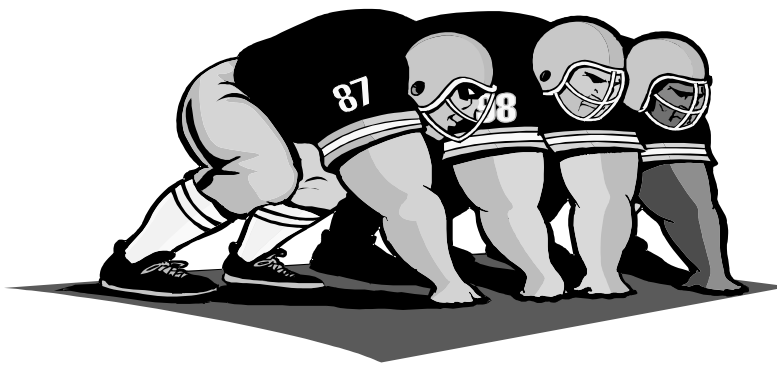
Irene Miels has agreed to serve as Chair for State Legislation. Our thanks to Irene for her willingness to take charge of this important program.

I also would like to thank each of the officers, chapter Directors, Committee Chairs, Social Coordinators, and Community Liaisons. Our chapter is indebted to each of these members for their service. Please see page 7 of this newsletter for a complete listing and contact information for Chapter 893's leadership.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our monthly meetings.

JIM DELGADO

HAIL TO THE REDSKINS



◆ Help Really Wanted – Yes, Really! ◆

Chapter 893 continues to function thanks to the efforts of a very small percentage of its membership. We need to enlarge that percentage of participation. The Chapter's board has a number of vacancies, and even our committees that are generally staffed by only the chairpersons who could use some assistance. At present we have these vacancies: Chapter Vice President; one Area Director; one At-large Director; chairperson for the Public Relations Committee; Hospitality Co-Chairperson to assist Beverly Clemesen, the chairperson; and a Volunteer Coordinator. **If you can serve in one of those positions, we need you now.** And we would also welcome volunteers to serve on these committees that already have leadership, such as – Alzheimer's, Membership, National Legislation, Program, Public Relations, Resolutions, Service, State Legislation, or Sunshine.

If you can help or need additional information about specific duties, please call one of the members of the Nominating Committee: Charlie Delaplane (703-461-9663); Doris Lama (703-644-0139); or Margaret Yowell (703-451-3287). You can make a difference!

NARFE SPRINGFIELD CHAPTER 893
OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD (as of Aug 2011)

Officers (Voting)

Jim W. Delgado, President	703-313-9387	jkadelg@yahoo.com
Vice President (vacant)		
Elizabeth Lynch, Secretary	703-256-0340	emlynchva@verizon.net
Jim Wagner, Treasurer	703-644-5192	wagjames@gmail.com

Chapter Directors (Voting)

Earl Levy (A) (2011)	703-971-6130	earl-l@cox.net
Craig R. Goral (B) (2011)	703-440-1043	hawk107@cox.net
Connie Delaplane (C) (2013)	703-461-9663	cdelaplane@verizon.net
Jesse Hill (D) (2013)	703-569-5118	jdrewh@verizon.net
Lillian Levy (E) (2012)	703-922-9448	lcaroline@cox.net
Charles K. McPherson (F) (2012)	703-451-2478	bear090938@aol.com
Doris Lama (A/L) (2011)	703-644-0139	dmlama@yahoo.com
Vacant (A/L) (2012)		
Bernard F. Hannan (A/L) (2013)	703-451-4682	bfhannan@netscape.com

Immediate Past President (Voting)

Richard Gallagher	703-455-4373	rmgallagher@verizon.net
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Standing Committees (Voting)

Alzheimer's	Barbara MacDonald	703-339-1226	bsmacdon@cox.net
Membership	Doris M. Lama	703-644-0139	dmlama@yahoo.com
Public Relations	(vacant)		
National Legislation	Charles T. Delaplane	703-461-9663	cdelaplane@verizon.net
Service	Thomas Branagan	703-978-8271	thomas_branagan@hotmail.com
State Legislation	Irene Miels	703-370-6298	irenemiels@aol.com

Other Committees and Appointees

Chaplain	Margaret A. Yowell	703-451-3287	fitzhughlady@aol.com
Historian	Robert H. Osborn	703-978-6936	osbornre@verizon.net
Net Coordinator	Tony Welch	703-250-6918	AFWelch@aol.com
Newsletter Editors	Norma A. Hughes	703-960-6279	nah.home@verizon.net
	Charlie Delaplane	703-461-9663	cdelaplane@verizon.net
Program	Pat Harahan	703-569-9694	harahan@verizon.net
Registration	Doris M. Lama	703-644-0139	dmlama@yahoo.com
Resolutions	James R. Wamsley	703-451-3027	jwamsley5@gmail.com
Sunshine	Elizabeth Osborn	703-978-6936	osbornre@verizon.net
Volunteer Coordinator	(vacant)		
Webmaster	Sidney A. Sachs	703-646-5606	chapterwebmaster@vanarfe.org

Special Event Committees

Summer Luncheon – June 8, 2011	Beverly Clemesen	703-924-0152	jiraff2@cox.net
Holiday Luncheon – Dec 14, 2011	Doris and Beverly	703-644-0139	dmlama@yahoo.com

Social Coordinators

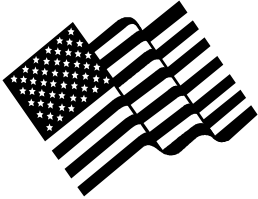
Hospitality	(vacant)		
Co-Chair Hospitality	Beverly Clemesen	703-924-0152	jiraff2@cox.net
Lunch Bunch	Al and Eleanor Erickson	703-768-4460	eleanore@cox.net
Theater	Barbara Kohl	703-866-9506	nana2K@verizon.net

Community Liaisons

Fairfax Cnty Sr Council	Diane M. Hill	703-569-5118	jdrewh@verizon.net
Spgfld Inter-Svc Council	Bernard F. Hannan	703-451-4682	bfhannan@netscape.com

NARFE Springfield Chapter 893
P. O. Box 523118
West Springfield, VA 22152-3118

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Chapter 893 Meeting, September 14, 2011
The American Legion Post 176, Springfield, VA

POSTMASTER
Please deliver by September 7, 2011

◆ **SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING** ◆

"Beating Alzheimer's Disease"

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

(See page 3 for details)

**Donna Shackelford, Chairperson, Alzheimer's Program,
for the Virginia Federation of NARFE Chapters, describes
the relationship between NARFE and the Alzheimer's
Association in the battle to defeat Alzheimer's Disease.**

