

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
December 2017
CHAPTER 1040 NEWSLETTER
Serving Arvada, Colorado and the surrounding areas

December Holiday Luncheon Invitation

Party On December 20th, the Arvada Chapter invites all members including a spouse/guest to our Holiday Party. Up to \$10 per person to cover the cost of the meal will be paid by the Chapter. We will be at Corona's Mexican Grill as usual beginning at 11:30am. The program will be members telling a holiday story and or showing items that reflect the spirit of the season. This activity lets members get to know each other better and we have lots of laughs.

Speakers/ Programs

I have been working on getting speakers for 2018. Among the groups with whom I have been scheduling are the Jefferson County Library Adult Outreach. They spoke to us several years ago when there was a ballot issue to help the Libraries maintain their hours and among other things to buy 3-D printers. I have visited the Golden Library and was in awe to watch a cup that was being "printed." Another service they offer are free tickets to local destinations.

I also have spoken to the Denver Alzheimer's organization and asked them to update us on the latest research and opportunities to get their monthly email, care consultation, 24hour

help line (phone service) and community resources. Unfortunately, there are no Match Trials currently for the Denver area.

If you would like to recommend a potential speaker for 2018 Chapter meetings, please let me know. I especially want to include areas of interest in the Adams County.

My phone number is 720 242-8081 and email is paulazretired@yahoo.com.

November 2017 Program

For those unable to attend, I have extra material from the Rocky Flats Downwinders (RFD) website. The Downwinders are a group which was founded in 2016 in partnership with Metropolitan State University of Denver. They are currently looking for persons to complete a health survey if they lived within the loosely defined boundaries of Hwy 7/168th/Arapahoe Ave on the north, I-25 on the east, Colfax on the south and Hwy 93 on the west. These boundaries are the areas identified with downwind contamination in the form of radiation and fires. The Downwinders researchers already conducted an initial survey which asked persons who had lived in above area if they or a family member had cancer. The result was over 50% had cancer and many cancers were rare, some family members had multiple cancers or rare illnesses. The second stage survey hopes to have 10,000 participants. They are looking for cancer, birth defects, and other series of unrelated illnesses. If you want to report health information for yourself, a family member, or someone else,

such as a neighbor, you can complete the health survey online. If you don't have computer access, you may contact the research team at MSU Denver, Department of Health Professions, WC 290, 303 556-3130, Bobbie Kite.

YEAR- END REVIEW ARVADA Chapter 1040

By Paula Hutson Simmons, Arvada Chapter President

I am sending out a warm welcome to all our chapter members. Our up-coming Holiday Party is scheduled for December 20th at 11:30. This month will be the first Christmas or Holiday meeting since the merger of Chapters 1076 and 1040. We call this our Holiday Memento and/or Memory fun event. As usual we will meet on the third Wednesday at Corona's Mexican Grill just off Wadsworth and 90th -in the southwest corner of the intersection.

We suggest members tell a story or bring an item(s) of a tradition or family holiday experience. To give you an idea, I have brought White House Historical Association ornaments which are issued yearly. I started collecting the ornaments when I moved to Washington, DC. These ornaments bring memories of Christmases up north- a big change as I had lived in Florida from 1959 to 2000. In addition to the beauty of the ornaments, each container has a history of a President's era or holiday celebration. My earliest ornament is from 2001 and focuses on the era of President Andrew Johnson. This ornament depicts the President, his children and grandchildren on a carriage ride. The latest is the 2017 ornament commemorating President Franklin Roosevelt. It is a motif of an American bald eagle with flags

which were the design on the podium at Roosevelt's first inauguration. An interesting item from this history is that White House cooks prepared hot dogs for the crowds who packed the building after the inauguration instead of having a formal reception. (Where else could you find such a historical tidbit?)

I have served six years as Arvada Chapter President and mid-year 2017 I was elected Federation President. My federal career started during a year with many government employment freezes. Luckily, I joined a cooperative education program at Florida Atlantic University through which I got my first federal job: with the IRS, starting in West Palm Beach and later in Ft. Lauderdale. I became a CPA and later taught at Florida Atlantic between my IRS and SEC careers. I spent eight years in the SEC's Miami Regional Office before moving to DC. In DC, one of my duties was as Liaison to the New York Regional Office (this included the 9/11 losses and its aftermath.) I traveled across the US and to England, Scotland, and the American Virgin Islands. In 2005, I retired from the SEC after being a Branch Chief in the Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations.

Now a little bit about me, I would like you to know your chapter better. We try to mix fun "getting to know you" events in addition to keeping up to date on what is happening in Washington and with NARFE's national office. I encourage your participation in our monthly get together. In January, we held our first 1040/1076 meeting having members sit with persons having the same birth month. Each group had a questionnaire that was intended to find common ground (we already knew they had the same birth month)- same agencies, same hobbies or same neighborhoods. In October we asked members as they arrived to sit with members in the same voting district or city. I had prepared the election issues for the different

communities so that they could learn from each other whether anyone had met the candidates and who might be worthy of our votes. Some of our other speakers and programs this past year were **Paula Moore** Colorado Alzheimer's Chair, **Steve Bauer** recently retired head of FEEA and NARFE-FEEA, **John Lowe** of the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Boulder, **Larry Schluntz** speaking for the Kiwanis of Longmont's wooden toy carving project, and we visited Charter Financials Museum with their catered picnic.

Several volunteers for Open Season Health Fairs got to know each other better as we worked to recruit new members. Our results were 12 completed Applications and over 20 cards requesting more information. This year, recruiters were awarded \$10 by the National office and \$10 by the Federation for each new Application/recruit. At the Health Fairs where we worked, we offered new recruits \$10 (out of our \$20) with a signed Application. They were also eligible for a prize drawing.

If you recruited new members outside the Health Fairs, they also count for the membership awards. I still have 30 copies of the November NARFE Magazine and extra applications. The recruitment drive lasts until the end of December.

We have several programs in our lineup including possible joint meetings with the Mory Lewis Chapter. Next year, we hope to have you with us.

SERVICE OFFICER NEWS

If you or someone you know needs assistance related to their retirement annuity or to a death of a Federal retiree please call Paula Simmons at 720-242-8081.

OPEN CHAPTER POSITIONS

Since it is the beginning of the new year election of officers will be held in the near future.

Please step forward and volunteer to help run **YOUR** chapter. Please contact President, Paula Simmons at 720-242-8081 or via email at paulazretired@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP

As of December 8, 2017, Chapter 1040 had 304 voting members. Please report change of address, telephone number or email address to the national office as well as to the chapter.

2018 MEETING DATES

Just as a reminder, our meetings are held the ***third Wednesday of each month (except AUGUST)*** at Corona's Mexican Grill located at 7617 W 88th (the northeast corner of the shopping center that is between 88th and 92nd on Wadsworth. We gather at 11:30 if you want to join us for lunch. They have a wide menu selection. Our meeting starts at 12:30. We have a large room in the rear of the restaurant with plenty of seating.

Why not mark your 2018 with the meeting date each month, enter the meeting dates in your smart phone and your computer calendar.

We usually have a guest speaker and there are always timely topics to share. And, of course, it is a great time for

visiting fellow NARFE members. Other activities and plans are also discussed. The newsletter is sent out to keep you as informed as possible. But the best way of all is to be there in person if you can.

Any changes to the meeting location such as our annual picnic are announced in the newsletter so you have time to make plans. In emergency situations changes in meetings are sent out via email.

**NARFE CHAPTER 1040
OFFICERS and CHAIRS
FOR 2018**

President:

Paula Simmons
720-242-8081
paulazretired@yahoo.com

1st Vice-Pres Membership:

Open

2nd Vice-Pres Legislative
Affairs:

Bob Carr
Cell: (970)-290-0262
rtcarrjr@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Linda Phillips
303-325-1657
linda1phillips@Q.COM

Sunshine Committee:

Open

Alzheimer Committee:

Ann Humphrey
303-818-9047
movinon411@hotmail.com

Program and Recruitment
Committee:

Darlene

Newsletter:

Open

Service Officer:

Paula Simmons
720-242-8081
paulazretired@yahoo.com

**PLEASE DONATE TO THE
FOLLOWING NARFE
PROGRAMS**

1. NARFE-PAC
2. Alzheimer's Research
3. Silver Circle
4. NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund
5. NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Fund

**A MESSAGE FROM THE
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Monte Commons

At the June 2017 chapter meeting I announced that I would be relinquishing my duties as Membership Chair and Newsletter Editor at the end of 2017. Well, that time has finally arrived so this is the last newsletter that I will be producing.

I joined NARFE and the Arvada Chapter in September 1995 when I retired from federal service. My entire career was with the General Accounting Office (GAO) now called the General Accountability Office. GAO is the auditing arm of Congress and was established in 1921. My career was spent in the

Denver Regional Office of GAO.

I joined NARFE shortly after retiring and became interested in the newsletter a few months after joining. I have been involved in it's production ever since. I have been assisted by a great number of people who have helped by contributing articles and assisting in the production and mailing. I particularly want to thank Theresa, my lovely wife, for proofreading, putting on labels, stamps and sealers.

Because the newsletter requires current mailing and email addresses I took on the membership chair role for the chapter.

I also served as Chapter 1040 President for two years.

It has been an honor to serve the Arvada chapter for over 20 years but it is time to pass the torch.

I plan to stay active in the Chapter and to attend as many functions as I am able. I look forward to meeting and visiting with the members who are able to attend the monthly meetings.

The Voice

by Shel Silverstein

**“There is a voice inside of you
That whispers all day long,
‘I feel that this is right for me,
I know that this is wrong.’
No teacher, preacher, parent,
friend**

**Or wise man can decide
What's right for you – just
listen to
The voice that speaks inside.”**

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Address Correction Requested
NARFE
C/O 11980 w Pleasant Ave
Lakewood, CO 80401-4428

NARFE CHAPTER 1040 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 20, 2017 - Christmas Party and donations to the Food Bank of the Rockies

JANUARY 17, 2018 - No speaker announced.

FEBRUARY 21, 2018 - No speaker announced.

MARCH 21, 2018 - No speaker announced.

APRIL 18, 2018 - No speaker announced.

NARFE Chapter 1040 meetings with the exception of the August picnic, are held the third Wednesday of the month at Corona's Mexican Grill, 7617 West 88th Avenue, Arvada, CO. We congregate around 11:30 a.m. for lunch. The meetings start at 12:30 p.m.. Spouses and guests are always welcome.