

# NEWS for FEDERAL EMPLOYEES & RETIREES

*Protecting your future!*

Mory Lewis Chapter 1085 of NARFE

February, March, & April 2019

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Conferences	1
Membership Updates	2
116th Congress	3
Announcements	4

## 2019 CHAPTER MEETINGS

### ► Tuesday, February 12

Noon - West Rail Tap & Grill  
195 S. Union Blvd.

#### TOPIC:

HistoricCorps - Liz Rice  
Engaging volunteers to save  
historic places in U.S.

### ► Tuesday, April 9

Noon - CFEB Training Rm,  
Bldg. 25, Federal Center

#### TOPIC:

Amy Vanderslice  
Retirement issues

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 11

Tuesday, August 13

Tuesday, October 8

Tuesday, December 10

(Programs TBA)

### Executive Committee

meets at 11:30 am, prior to  
Chapter meetings.

Members are encouraged  
to attend.

#### Contact us:

Greg Kann  
President

GKKPBK@aol.com

303.718.7307

NARFE-Colorado.com



# NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

## MESSAGE FROM NEW CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Greg Kann, Chapter President

I am pleased and excited to be your Chapter President, and to continue as the 1st Vice President for Membership. A special thanks to Nancy Richardson, past Chapter President for her 6 years, and for volunteering to serve as our Programs Chairperson. Also, I want to thank our other chapter officers, Pat Mather, Suzanne Stewart, and Elsie Lunsford, for their past service and for volunteering to continue in their positions for another term. We are fortunate to have such dedicated members as our leaders and officers. Plus, we have a lot of fun and enjoy working together.

Making our **chapter meetings informative, fun, and entertaining** for all attendees is one of my commitments to each of you. We offer opportunities to learn more about NARFE's accomplishments, goals, and activities and about other **topics of interest to current employees and retirees** at the local, state, and national levels.

For anyone looking for ways to help our chapter grow and thrive, there are many opportunities to utilize your skills and talents to help. Start by attending our meetings and getting involved. It's a great way to reconnect with old friends, make new friends, and network with others who have common interests, goals, and concerns.

Future **chapter meetings will be luncheon meetings** held on, or near, the Denver Federal Center at 12:00 noon to allow more current employees the opportunity to attend and participate in our activities. Starting **February 12** we will be meeting every other month - **April 9, June 11, August 13, October 8, and December 10** which is our holiday party. See the newsletter sidebar for locations and topics of these upcoming meetings.

So **bring a coworker or fellow retiree and join us for lunch**, listen to our speaker, meet other members, share your ideas, and learn what NARFE is doing for you and how you can **help our chapter be the best and most fun chapter in Colorado and the entire United States!!**

## “Learn, Help, Meet” - What's in it for me?

Our bi-annual **Colorado Federation Conference** - is **June 27-28, 2019**. It will be at the **Radisson Hotel Denver Southeast in Aurora**. All NARFE members are urged to attend.

Our Chapter will pay the registration fee for members who attend. Call Greg (303.718.7307) for more information, and go to [www.narfe-colorado.com](http://www.narfe-colorado.com) to view the agenda and other details.

Several members have also expressed interest in attending the **NARFE Region VII Conference April 5th-6th in Las Cruces, New Mexico**. It's being held in conjunction with the New Mexico Federation Conference which is on April 4th.

Chapter members are welcome to attend both of these conferences. Expenses for registration, transportation, and hotel will be reimbursed by the Colorado Federation and our Chapter. Contact Greg (303.718.7307) with any questions.

## SUMMARY OF 2018 ACTIVITIES

Suzanne Stewart, Secretary

Our 2019 officers were elected in November and Colorado Federation President, Paula Simmons, swore them in in December. Nancy Richardson was thanked for her 6 years as President. Greg Kann and Pat Mather will be co-Presidents for one year with each serving for a six month stint, beginning with Greg. Greg will continue as 1st VP-Membership, Pat at 2nd VP-Legislation, Suzanne Stewart-Secretary, and Elsie Lunsford-Treasurer. At the close of 2019 a decision about the future of Chapter 1085 will be made.

The Chapter will meet bi-monthly beginning in February. The location will be near or on the Federal Center at noon to hopefully attract more current employees to attend.

Four members attended FEDcon18 and gave positive reports about the change to an educational type conference. Members attending were: Nancy Richardson, Greg Kann, Pat Mather, and Gil Leyba.

We continue to support Alzheimer's Research, our newsletter was published 6 times, we held our 50th Anniversary Party on May 8, and our Holiday Party on December 13. We have 589 members. A special thanks to the work of Barbara Burgert-Sunshine Committee, Ken Miller Alzheimer's Chair, Ruth Anna-Newsletter Editor, David Guzy-District 7 Congressional Leader, and Alex Lunsford-Database.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES & NEWS

Greg Kann, 1st Vice President - Membership

We added 16 new Chapter 1085 members during the Fall membership drive which ended December 31, 2018. Our membership numbers have stopped declining and are stabilizing now with 587 members.

Thanks to everyone who has worked to recruit new members and who helped at all of the health fairs and other recruiting events. Our chapter was the top chapter for recruiting new NARFE members in Colorado for 2018. We already have 10 recruiting events scheduled for 2019 and my goal is for our chapter to be the number one recruiting chapter again.

Please **contact me to help with recruiting new members by attending recruiting events** or to assist with preparing recruiting materials. This is a great way to learn more about all the benefits of NARFE membership, help grow our chapter, and meet other current and retired Federal employees. Be sure that you include your name, membership number, and Chapter 1085 on the membership application so you receive credit for recruiting any current Federal employees and get your \$8 recruiting bonus.

Up-coming Recruiting Events include the following:

FERS Retirement Planning, Bldg . 25, Denver Federal Center CFEB Training Room  
**February 26                      March 27                      May 21                      June 18**

Early FERS Retirement Planning, Bldg. 25, Denver Federal Center CFEB Training Room  
**April 17**

So spread the word about all the great benefits of membership and share your NARFE magazine with coworkers and others so they will get to know NARFE and **join the only organization working to preserve our pay and benefits**, and serving as an information resource for our members. Contact me to sign-up or if you have any questions (303.718.7307). Working together we will have a positive impact.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Carey Ashton	Sandy Bearden
Yvonne Bernal	Pamela Durkee
Charles Fossler	Amy Kamen
Carl Minnaav	Margaret Parker
Amelia Sanchez	Mickey Schmidt
Kimberly Shafer	Tamara Sotelo
Richard Sotelo	Penny Strang
Harvey Wong	Gary Wright

### OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

James Cram	Troy Long
Joyce Michael	Conrad Miller

In the event of a death or illness of any  
Chapter member, please contact

Barbara Burgert  
303.279.1020

# NARFE'S ADVOCACY PROGRAM for the 116TH CONGRESS (2019-2020)

Pat Mather, 2nd V. P. - National Legislation

NARFE Advocacy focuses on protecting federal and postal retirees' existing retirement and health benefits from any reduction; protecting federal and postal employees' pay, retirement and health benefits; and protecting the standard of service of established government functions.

- ◆ **FEDERAL RETIREMENT BENEFITS:** NARFE supports cost-of-living adjustments (COLA's) on a regular annual schedule, computed on the same basis and paid at the same time, regardless of age and/or income level. NARFE supports the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E) as the standard in determining the annual COLA. NARFE supports legislation to repeal increased contributions of new federal employees in February 2012 and December 2013, and opposes any further reductions in federal retirement benefits.
- ◆ **SOCIAL SECURITY:** NARFE supports the repeal or reform of the Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP).
- ◆ **FEDERAL PAY AND WORKFORCE POLICIES:** NARFE supports full implementation of federal employees pay parity as reflected in the Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-509). NARFE supports paid parental leave. NARFE opposes any decrease in Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) benefits. NARFE opposes contracting out jobs that are inherently governmental functions.
- ◆ **HEALTH CARE:** The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB) is the nation's most efficiently administered and cost-effective employer-sponsored health insurance plan. NARFE will continue to advocate to maintain affordability and integrity of the program and to protect the program.
- ◆ **MEDICARE:** NARFE supports Medicare's guarantee of basic health security of older Americans at affordable and predictable prices. NARFE opposes any penalty imposed on those who declined to enroll in Part B at the time they became eligible.
- ◆ **LONG-TERM CARE:** NARFE supports the integrity and affordability of the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP).
- ◆ **U.S. POSTAL SERVICE REFORM:** NARFE supports legislation to maintain the service standards in place as of July 2012, including preserving six delivery days per week by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) nationwide and to-the-door delivery at its 2012 levels. NARFE supports legislation to relieve the USPS of its overly burdensome requirement to prefund its future retiree health care obligations that are estimated to accrue over the next 75 years.

This is only a synopsis. A more detailed report can be found in the reference below.  
(Reference: NARFE's Magazine "NEW YEAR, NEW YOU," January 2019, pages 33-36)

## 2019 Upcoming Webinars (all webinars start at noon MT)

Free to NARFE members are federal benefits training you access on your computer, tablet, or mobile device. Learn the latest tips and tools to help you manage your benefits to ensure a safe and secure retirement. New programs most months and an extensive archive to view at your leisure.

- \* **February 7** (Thursday) **Four Simple Steps to a Smooth Retirement**
- \* **March 7** (Thursday) **TSP: Your Key to a Secure Retirement Income**
- \* **March 21** (Thursday) **Optimizing Your Social Security Benefits**
- \* **April 11** (Thursday) **Federal Benefits and Divorce**

## HOLIDAY PARTY 2018

Mory Lewis Chapter 1085 held their annual Christmas party on Tuesday, December 11th, at their regular meeting site, St Paul's Episcopal Church, in Lakewood. Forty-eight members and guests enjoyed a 'Scratch Catering' lunch and a program on distinguished women of the past by the "Incredible Ladies".



Eva Heller, Denver Chapter 81, sold brownie mixes as a fund raiser for her chapter, and our 2019 officers were installed. Special attendees included Paula Simmons, Colorado Federation President, Frank Impinna, Colorado Federation Vice President-Membership, and members of Arvada Chapter 1040.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The FEEA-NARFE fund is offering **\$100 grants to active, furloughed or working in excepted status, federal employee members** who are not receiving a paycheck during the current shutdown. You must be a NARFE member in good standing.

To apply, please complete the form at <https://fs28.formsite.com/FEEA/narfefurlough/index.html> and attach your furlough notice: <https://bit.ly/2FptX97>. Applications are only being accepted via this form and will NOT be accepted by phone, fax, e-mail, or postal mail.

FEEA will contact you with any questions, or to let you know if your request is approved or denied.

2019 is an election year for Colorado Federation officers. If **you are interested in being nominated for any of the Federation officer positions**, please contact Betty Lucero-Turner (303.663.7455). The deadline is Sunday, March 31.

**Mory Lewis Chapter 1085 will be launching it's Face Book link in February.** Watch your email for details and how to join the conversation.

## OUR ELECTED DELEGATES TO CONGRESS

**Write** your members of Congress - using the member's name and zip code (Senate-20510) (House of Representatives-20515). **Call**, the Capitol switchboard at 1.202.224.3121 and ask for the member by name. Or call your Senators or Representative **using the NARFE toll-free 1.866.220.0044**. **Schedule an in-person visit** when they are in Colorado during recesses by making an appointment. **Send an email** by going to their websites shown below or call their Colorado office phone numbers to reach your Congressman.

**Senator Michael Bennet** (D) 303.455.7600  
Bennet.Senate.gov  
**Rep. Diana DeGette** (D) 303.844.4988  
DeGette.House.gov  
**Rep. Jason Crow** (D) 1.202.225.7882  
Crow.House.gov

**Senator Cory Gardner** (R) 970.352.5546  
Gardner.Senate.gov  
**Rep. Ed Perlmutter** (D) 303.274.7944  
Perlmutter.House.gov  
**Rep. Joe Neguse** (D) 1.970.226.1721  
Neguse.House.gov