

**CENTRAL KENTUCKY CHAPTER 97**

5020 Jennie Kate Lane, Lexington, KY 40510-9721

[www.narfe.org/chapter97](http://www.narfe.org/chapter97)

**OCTOBER 2021**

**NEWSLETTER**

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It is hard to believe that fall is just around the corner I look forward to the ensuing beauty it will bring for us to enjoy. As we continue to see escalating cases of Covid-19, as well as hospitalization and deaths, I hope you and your family are all well. Due to Covid-19, we will continue with our monthly Zoom meetings and we will decide later if we will be able to hold some version of a holiday celebration at Crestwood Christian Church (they are currently doing repairs and have restricted any meetings/activities in the fellowship hall at this time). The safety of our chapter members will continue to guide our decisions.

Phill Pittman with Honor Flight Kentucky, spoke at our August Business Zoom meeting and provided a very informative presentation. Debbie Price, Chapter Treasurer, presented Phill Pittman a \$1000.00 check, which was approved in our 2021 budget to sponsor two guardians for future flights.

**NARFE Membership drive will run from September 1-December 31, 2021.** For every new member recruited, the recruiter will receive \$10.00, and the KY Federation will vote on 9/23/21 if to match. Members be sure to list your ID # on the membership application form so the National office knows who recruited the new member and send you the check. Recruiters of new members will be enrolled in the monthly drawing of a \$25.00 Amazon gift card and for the grand prize of a Kindle fire.

Also, I want to remind members when you renew your membership, please be sure to mark chapter if you wish to remain as a chapter member. More chapter members are choosing to renew their memberships for the extended two- or three-year period rather than annually as it saves money and cuts out the annual reminder. The two-year National dues rate is \$92.00 and the three-year is \$126.00 (Chapter dues remain \$10.00/year).

I would also encourage members to consider switching to dues with-holding which eliminates the annual renewal process and saves you \$6.00/year (\$4.33/month from your annuity check). You also receive a one-time \$5.00 rebate from the chapter when you switch to dues withholding.

You can renew your membership or switch to dues withholding online or call the NARFE National office at (800) 456-8410. You can also mail your renewal payment to NARFE Member Records, 606 North Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1914.

If you need membership application forms or a dues withholding form, please call Paula Bayer at (859)226-9663 or email [pgbayer@aol.com](mailto:pgbayer@aol.com).

If you have a change of address, phone number or email, you can change online on the NARFE website, notify National Office at (800) 456-8410 or you can contact Kenneth Overhults at (859) 272-6413 or email [koverhults@juno.com](mailto:koverhults@juno.com).

The next NARFE Webinars at 2:00pm, are September 30, 2021 "Understanding TSP Funds and How to Diversify For Your Life Stage", October 14, 2021 " Understanding Medicare Advantage Options" and October 28, 2021 on "Federal Dental and Vision Insurance: FEPVIP Explained". To register go to [www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org).

Everyone please stay healthy and safe. Please get your Covid 19 shot if you have not yet done so and remember to also get your flu shot! #MASK UP KY.

*Happy Halloween*

**Paula Bayer**

**NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**

The next chapter Zoom meeting will be on Wednesday October 6, 2021, at 2:00 pm.

The program speaker will be Susan Algood with AETNA. Please notify [tonyburgett@gmail.com](mailto:tonyburgett@gmail.com) or call (859) 619-7380 if you wish to attend the meeting. Hope to see you all.

**MEMBER NEWS**

We regret to report the death of chapter member **Howard Scott** of Partridge, Kentucky. Our condolences to his family and friends.

We extend wishes for a speedy recovery to Ethel Hanna who is receiving rehab at The Willows at Fritz Farm, Room 105, 2710 Man O War, Lexington, KY., 40515. If you know of any chapter member who is in the hospital, moved to a rehab or assisted living facility, or at home recovering, please contact Leona Hopkins at (859) 272-7062 or email [happyhoppy123@yahoo.com](mailto:happyhoppy123@yahoo.com).

**OUTREACH AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Ethel Hanna reminds members that the **Chapter 97 Walk to End Alzheimer's** is on 9/25/21 at the Whitaker Bank Ballpark. You can do the walk virtually if you are not comfortable walking in-person. Registration begins at 8:30 am, ceremony at 9:45 am and the walk starts at 10:00 am. You can continue to register for the walk or donate online to Walk to End Alzheimer's NARFE 97, or send a check made out to Alzheimer's Association to Ethel. Our

chapter goal is \$2250.00 and to date we have raised \$2845.00 toward the walk.

We continue to **collect school supplies/back packs**. You can call Paula Bayer if you have supplies and make arrangements to have them picked up.

**Members can continue to contribute to our three charities (Arbor Youth Services, Camp Nelson Honor Guard and Lexington Fisher House). To date members have donated \$1050.00 for our charities.**

Members can continue to contribute to **WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA**, as one of our fundraisers. As stated previously, every December at Camp Nelson National Cemetery, and other National Cemeteries, to honor all veterans and active military members, live wreaths are placed on the headstones of veterans. The cost to sponsor a wreath is \$15.00 and the chapter receives \$5.00 for each wreath we sponsor. To order a wreath(s) online go to Wreaths Across America Camp Nelson Cemetery (code KYCNNN), then scroll down to Local Groups Supporting Us and choose Chapter 97 NARFE group (with code KY0126P). Then choose sponsor to place the order for wreath(s) and follow the prompts after that. Make sure KYCNNN is the site you choose and KY0126P is group you choose for our chapter to get the credit for our fundraiser. If you do not want to order online, you can order by check or cash (include site # and group # on check). We ask that all orders are placed by November 1, 2021. If you have questions, please call Debbie Price (859)576-5384 or email [debbiejp@windstream.net](mailto:debbiejp@windstream.net).

#### **ALZHEIMER'S 2021 RAFFLE**

Phyllis Tackett, Alzheimer's Research Chair, lists the following items for the Chapter 97 raffle:

- 2 Christmas Quilts (1 King and 1 Full/Queen)
- 1 Wine Plush feeling 50" X 60" throw
- 1 Men's Large Duffel bag with Black/Red trim
- 1 Photo cutting center
- 1 Three -piece travel set
- 1 Black purse with gold trim
- 1 Red Hat Figurine-Female Bear Lounging on red couch
- Several Cook Books

Tickets are a \$1.00 apiece or 6 for \$5.00 and you can send cash or check to Phyllis Tackett, 976 Fredericksburg Rd. Lexington, KY. 40504. The drawing will be determined later.

#### **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

NARFE National President Ken Thomas issued the following statement on August 28, 2021, in response to the alternative pay plan submitted to Congress by President Joseph R. Biden:

“ With his proposed 2.7 percent average pay increase for the civil service, Biden is demonstrating respect for the hard-working civil servants and the jobs they do, as well as a commitment to recruitment and retention of talented federal employees.

“The market-value 2.7 pay increase is a welcome change after the nominal 1 percent increase federal employees were provided in 2021, one that fell far short of what they deserved for the essential work many carried out on behalf of the American people throughout a global pandemic. The pay increase will work to narrow the wage gap between federal employees and those in the private sector—who make as much as 23 percent more than public servants in comparable jobs –and strengthen the federal government’s ability to maintain a highly qualified and effective workforce.

“NARFE is gratified, too, that the president answered its call earlier this year to increase locality pay rates by 0.5 percent. On average, ensuring that the average pay increase is on par with the recent private-sector wage growth and the anticipated military pay increase”.

Contact your legislators to support the President’s proposed 2.7% pay increase for the civil service for 2022. Members need to continue to encourage legislators to also SUPPORT other NARFE legislatives priorities including:

**The Social Security Fairness Act, H.R. 82, and S.1302** which would fully repeal both the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO).

**The Fair Cola for Senior’s Act , H.R. 4315**, which would require the use of the Consumer Price Index for the elderly (CPI-E) which more accurately reflects seniors’ spending habits.

**The Equal COLA Act, H.R. 304**, to ensure FERS COLAs match the change in consumer prices (not capped at 2%).

**The Postal Service Reform Act of 2021, H.R. 3076/S.1720**, which will allow postal retirees the option to enroll in Medicare and would also create a new Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) program. Postal worker retirees who opt out of Medicare would remain in the Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) program. NARFE encourage Congress to obtain analysis from OPM and CBO regarding the effect on FEHB premiums prior to any further action this bill .

**USPS Fairness Act H.R. 695/S. 145**, which repeals the U.S. Postal Service’s prefunding requirement.

Members can call the Advocacy Hotline at (800) 456-8410 (option 5) or call legislator’s offices.

**Congressman Barr can be reached M-F at his office, 2709 Old Rosebud Rd, Lexington, KY. 40509, (859) 219-1366.**

**Senator McConnell’s Lexington office is at 771 Corporate Dr., Suite 108, 40503, (859) 224-8286. Senator Paul’s office is at 1029 State St., Bowling Green, KY. 42101, (270) 782- 8303.**

**Paula Bayer, Chapter President**