

NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
MEUNIER-PERRY CHAPTER 1015
MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA
Minutes of March 13, 2025 Chapter Meeting

The March 13, 2025 Chapter meeting was called to order at Damon's Bar & Grill, Myrtle Beach SC, by President Joseph Arsenault at 11:46 a.m. Officers present were President Arsenault, Vice President Rebecca (Becky) Hyman, Treasurer Mary Brady, and Secretary Cathy Linta-Leader. Also present were Debbie Arsenault, Charlotte Downey, Carol Parker, Earl Eastwood, Marty McKenrick, Ray Forcier, Evanna Kemble-Teller, Cynthia Orr, Gail Seavey, Joseph Quade and guest, and Naomi Bethea. Tentative members Richard Cullerton, Juanita Holder, and Charles Engle, and two guests also attended. A quorum was reached.

Joe Arsenault led members with the Pledge of Allegiance. Earl Eastwood led us in prayer.

Prior to the meeting, Secretary Cathy Linta-Leader distributed via email a draft copy of the February minutes to members who were in attendance during the February meeting. No changes were made. Evanna Kemble-Teller made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Members will be notified when the approved copy is recorded.

President Arsenault welcomed the tentative new members and guests.

Carol Osborne, Senior Adventures in Learning and Travel (SALT), was the guest speaker. SALT offers online and in-person classes, various clubs, and day trips, and aligns with Premier World Discovery for national and international trips. Membership is free (although donations are accepted), and Chapter members can join and obtain additional information via the website, www.wnsalt.com. Ms. Osborne distributed a list of clubs, courses, and events, and brochures on national and international trips throughout the Spring of 2025.

Legislative Report – In the absence of Morris Zupan, Cathy Linta-Leader furnished the report. She reminded members to refer to the March newsletter for Morris' update.

- A government shutdown may occur on March 14 if the Senate does not approve a continuing resolution (CR) approved by the House. Chuck Schumer, Senate Minority Leader, said Republicans drafted the CR without input from Democrats. The Senate needs 60 votes which means some Democrats will have to cross party lines. The bill, if passed, increases defense spending and decreases non-defense spending.
- Democrats in the House and Senate introduced companion bills aimed at reinstating veterans who were laid off by the Trump administration and DOGE. The Senate bill, Protect Veterans Job Act, would require the administration to provide quarterly reports to Congress on the number of veterans removed and justification for the firings. Veterans comprise 30% of the federal workforce. 6,000 veterans are estimated to be fired. Mass layoffs at the Veterans Administration will begin as early as June.
- By today, March 13, 2025, Federal agencies were told to produce organization plans leading to wide scale reductions in force (RIFs). RIFs are expected to start in the May to July timeframe.
- Social Security recipients started receiving their retroactive pay as a result of passage of the Social Security Fairness Act. The Social Security Administration (SSA) requested beneficiaries wait until April 2025 before inquiring of their status. The SSA said it will lay off 7,000 of its 57,000 employees with significant emphasis on functions and employees who do not directly provide mission critical services.
- Visit www.narfe.org for webinars such as "Stay or Go" referring to the deferred resignation offer, "Know Your Rights and Obligations Following Trump's Executive Orders", "Summary of Emerging Threats to Federal Community", estate planning, and Medicare. The Legislative Action Center allows you to contact your Congressional members on protecting retirement and health

benefits, cosponsoring the Equal COLA Act and Saving the Civil Service Act (blocking Schedule F which allows them to bypass rules ensuring civil servants are hired and fired based on merit). Additionally, letters are available for your Congressional members to stand up for public servants, and inquire of them as to how they are defending America's privacy. You can also contact your representatives through their websites.

- Consider donating to the NARFE PAC.

Treasurer's Report dated March 13, 2025, Mary Brady (see attachment)

Beginning Balance	\$5011.88
Receipts	189.36
Disbursements	<u>0</u>
Balance on Hand 2/14/25 (per bank statement)	\$5201.24
Outstanding check	<u>\$16.00</u>
Balance 2/14/25 (per check book)	\$5185.24

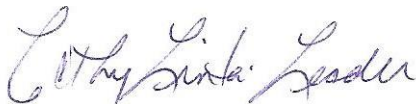
Receipts represent three HQ auto drafts. There were no disbursements. Outstanding check #1121 of \$16 payable to Damon's for guest speaker's lunch. Cathy Linta-Leader made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Joseph Arsenault, President

- Monies collected for Alzheimers, \$280, will be given to Olivia Williams, SC Alzheimers Chair, during the March Federation Conference. The Chapter is required to keep no more than \$50 on hand.
- Members can donate to Team NARFE 1015 for the November Alzheimers Walk at www.alz.org/walk.
- The 2027 Federation Conference will be held in Myrtle Beach.
- Lynn Vos, Sunshine Committee Chair, sent 684 cards to members since she assumed the position.
- Upcoming speakers are: April: Betsy Morgan-Brown, Alzheimers; May: tentatively a banking official discussing fraud; September: Blue Star Mothers; October and November: health insurance representatives; and December: holiday luncheon at the Sons and Daughters of Italy.
- Several vacancies exist for committee chairs. Refer to March newsletter for more details.

Deb Arsenault announced \$77 was collected for the 50/50 drawing. The Chapter received \$37; two members received \$20 each. A 50/50 volunteer is needed.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mary Brady. It was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.



Cathy Linta-Leader, Secretary