
February 2009 NEWSLETTER

NOTES FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT:

(Joe McCarty - President NARFE Chapter 121)

Change, Change, Change. That is what makes life interesting. As you should know by now Ryan's on Woodruff Rd. has closed. We have taken that as an opportunity to get off Woodruff Road, get a larger place to meet and upgrade the menu. And we are doing all this at little increase in the price. The February 27th meeting will be at the Olympian on Congaree Road and then starting with our March 27th meeting we will be at our permanent home, Stax Grill in Cross Pointe Plaza across Wood Crossing Road from Haywood Mall. At both places we will be ordering off the regular lunch menu and the gratuity will be automatically added to each bill. While the Olympian is being set up for 40 attendees and can handle more if needed, Stax Grill will provide a private meeting room that can seat 45 or more very comfortable. While not "all you can eat" like at Ryan's, in my experience both provide large portions and the quality of the food and service is much superior.



In the last newsletter I mentioned that our Federation (State) President would be attending our February meeting. See first three words in paragraph above. John Geiger will be attending our March meeting instead. This will give each of us a chance to meet and talk with our State President. Be sure to express to him any concerns that you may have. Our annual picnic will be the last Friday in May. It should be a little cooler on May 29 than the last Friday in June. It will be at Lake Robinson, will be catered by Mutt's Bar-B-Que and advanced reservations will not be required. Just bring \$10 per person. Directions to Lake Robinson will be available at our February, March and April meetings (unless I forget, which seems to be happening more often)

Our Federation convention this year will be April 22,23 and 24 at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Beaufort SC. All the rooms at the Holiday Inn have been booked but there are some other hotels close by that may have a few rooms. If you want to go, let me know. In the past our chapter has donated a basket that has been raffled off at the convention with ALL the proceeds going to Alzheimer's Research. If we want to do the same this year we will be looking for a volunteer to put the basket together using Chapter funds. Our Chapter may also put an add in the Convention Program. If so we will also be looking for a volunteer to put the ad together.

Looking forward to seeing each of you on February 27th at the Olympian and then on March 27th at our new permanent home, Stax Grill.

Joe McCarty

UPCOMING FEBRUARY MEETING:

Our next luncheon, February 27th, 2009, will feature Geoff Handel, an income tax expert and former employee of the IRS who will speak on major changes in tax law for 2009. Taxes may not be the best thing to look forward to, but Mr. Handel being an expert will at least tell us of some of the many changes that are taking place this year.



From the left: Margaret Faile-Secretary, Joe McCarty-President, Julia Teasley-Treasurer; being sworn in as officers by Jeanette Keepers, Federation 1st VP.



At the past meetings:

* January 30 our speaker was Ron Sluder, a Simpsonville resident and WWII veteran who served in the invasion of Europe, fought in the Battle of the Bulge with the 94th Division in WWII and was a personal bodyguard to General Patton. He was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge and received a number of decorations for his service to our country. His talk was humorous, serious, patriotic and entertaining. He had ample pictures and photographs of his experiences in WWII. The NARFE Chapter 121 Directory was given out at this meeting to those members that did not get one at the Annual Christmas Banquet.

* December 12 was the Annual Christmas Banquet at Peter David's. 1st Vice President Jeanette Keepers was there to swear in the officers for 2009. For those of you that don't already know it, our excellent officers for 2008 were retained for 2009. President Joe McCarty, Treasurer Julia Teasley, and Secretary Margaret Faile. It was excellent food and a fine time was had by all. **We do still need a Vice-President for the Chapter!**

SCHEDULE FOR FUTURE NARFE CHAPTER MEETINGS

* Our March 27th meeting will feature Dean Mullinax, speaking on Mission Trips.

* April 24th will feature Robert "Jack" Hanson, consultant to NASA, speaking on "The Next chapter in the story of NASA"

May 29th Will be the Annual Picnic at Lake Robinson, catered by Mutt's Barbeque. No reservation will be needed. Moving it up one month should allow for cooler temperatures for our Lake Luncheon

June 26th will feature Ms. Peggy Brazell, speaking on Dementia and Alzheimer's

July 31st Larry Lee, Science Officer of the Greenville National Weather Service Office, GSP, speaking on Severe Weather in the upstate of SC.

August 28th Our speaker will be our own NARFE Member, Jane Goolsby, Senator Lindsey Graham's Aide and State Information Director for the Senator

UPCOMING National and State NARFE EVENTS- Mark Your Calendar

SC Federation State Convention - Beaufort, SC (Holiday Inn) - April 22-24, 2009

NATIONAL NARFE Convention - Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI in 2010

NATIONAL NARFE Convention - Nugget Hotel, Reno, NV in 2012
