

**NEWS FROM
NARFE CHAPTER 860 CLEVELAND, TN
OCTOBER 2021**

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**

***NARFE Est. 1921 CELEBRATING 100 YEARS SERVING ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL
EMPLOYEES***

Danny Britt, President; Bobbie Templeton, Vice-President; Annabel Webb, Secretary /Treasurer; Belinda Rollens, Sunshine; Don Rollens, Service Officer, Dean McAlister, Membership Chair/Newsletter Editor

Dreaded Virus Cancels October Meeting

Well, the virus did it again. The Chapter Leadership Team regretfully made the decision to cancel the October meeting. The fun and food are always good at the meeting but the risk was too high. Now let's hope for a December Christmas party and not invite the virus.

Walk Reaches Milestone This Year

Nine walkers participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's celebration at Greenway Park on Saturday, October 2. Overall, walkers for the Cleveland Walk were down from past years, but I think our team made a good showing. I brought back \$1,300.00. That amount was totally unexpected but much appreciated. It shows the willingness of our members to donate generously and to work to raise funds from a wide variety of friends/acquaintances. One team member collected donations from 19 different people.

Our Chapter is doing great this year with our Alzheimer's campaign. The grand total received from the walk is approximately \$4,300.00. These contributions count toward NARFE's goal of \$22 million by 2022 for research. Also, it is available for local programs of the Alzheimer's Association such as education, support groups, training and fundraising. In addition to the \$4,300.00, another \$600.00 was contributed earlier this year for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Program.

And we are not through yet! We are expecting a great Christmas program this year and hoping for additional Alzheimer's funds from our auction. Start now collecting nice items for the auction. Also, I am excited about meeting again and enjoying the fellowship with each of you and a great Christmas meal and good entertainment. Let's hope that Covid numbers will continue to decline making that meeting possible.

Finally, I am thankful for the nice article in the Cleveland Daily Banner on September 29th. Not only did the article recognize our Chapter achievements in Alzheimer's last year, but the article also promoted the October 2 Walk. The article gave our Chapter some local recognition. If you subscribe to the Banner and missed the article it may be viewed online. If you do not subscribe, we will have a copy at the December meeting. The article included a photo of two Chapter members. You may want an autographed copy.

Thanks for all of the support you have given me this year.

DANNY BRITT Chapter President

Chapter Gains Another New Member

Welcome new Chapter Member Daniel Koob a recent retiree of the Cleveland Post Office. He was introduced to the Chapter via the newsletter that is mailed to the Post Office. Daniel has been reading the newsletter after he found it on the employee breakroom bulletin board. After reading the newsletter for some time he said, "I have got to join that organization." We are happy the newsletter did what it is intended to do. Daniel lives just across the Hiwassee River in McMinn County. Welcome aboard, Daniel.

Special Members With Special Needs

Elbert Schrader following the loss of his dear wife and our longtime friend Alma Ruth. Elbert is living at home now and receiving excellent care from his family and outside health care groups. **Don Rollens** is continuing physical therapy following hip surgery in July. **Sylvia and Charles Dupree**, Sylva continues to recover from a fall. Also, continue to remember **Bobbie Templeton, Kathy Blocker and Charlie Aulds**. The Editor is happy to report that our faithful and dedicated Chapter President has fully recovered from the vehicle accident he was involved in back in May.

Remembering Our Special Friend ALMA RUTH Schrader

On September 3, 2021, our Chapter lost not just a friend but the company of a devoted, loving, happy, hardworking and caring person. Did I say faithful? How many times have you seen Alma Ruth and Elbert at a Chapter meeting? Before declining health, I would say every time the doors were open. Devotion? Yes, to our Chapter, to her Church and to her husband. The many times I have seen her out and about I always saw Elbert. Let's not forget 70+ years of marriage. Now we can add inseparable. I believe each of us has learned from this special couple. **Elbert, our prayer is "may God strengthen and comfort you."**

Would you like to know more about this couple? Review our first Chapter Member Spotlight column in the June 2015 edition of this newsletter.

Newsletter Editor Dean McAlister

UNITED STATES MILITARY SERVICE, VETERANS AND CURRENT SERVICE MEMBERS

This column recognizes all Chapter members, their spouses, children, grandchildren, including their sons-in-law and daughters-in-law that are serving or have served in the military service of our country. When a military service member or veteran is recognized, their name will be added to this permanent list.

Military Service Members and Veterans Recognized in Previous Editions of This Newsletter:

1. **Captain Lonnie S. Hosea**, active duty, US Navy, Commanding Officer, Naval Health Clinic, Quantico Marine Corps Base, Quantico, Virginia, and son-in-law of Dean and Bertha McAlister.
2. **Seaman First Class Don Rollens**, US Navy, served 3 yrs. 3 mos. and 5 days. Served as a Gunner's Mate on the USS Baltimore. His last assignment as a Seaman First Class was in personnel management on the Argentia Naval Air Base in Newfoundland, Canada. Don is a faithful long-time Chapter member.

3. **Captain Paul Barrow, US Marine Corps.** Captain Barrow served during the period 2009 – 2013, Military Occupational Specialty and Combat Engineering. While stationed on Okinawa, he traveled to Bahrain, the Philippines, Thailand, Taiwan, and Japan. Captain Barrow is the son of Nina and Jerry Barrow.

4. **Airman 2nd Class Jim Polier, US Marines Corps Reserves,** served in Oregon and California, 1957-1958, discharged in November 1958. Enlisted and served **US Air Force**, 1958-1962. Duty stations in Mississippi, Oregon, Japan and Okinawa. Served as a medical specialist and member of Base football team playing for the Base Tachikawa Marauders. Discharged in 1962.

Chapter Newsletter Recognizes Another Military Veteran

William Don Ledford served six years in the 117th Mechanized Infantry of the TN National Guard Cleveland TN. In 1966, following an attempt by the US Army to draft Don, he enlisted in the Cleveland TN Guard Unit. Don later said “instead of serving two years on active duty with the US Army, I opted to serve six years in the National Guard.” After attending drills in Cleveland, for a period of time, he completed basic training at Fort Ord, California. Following basic training he remained at Ft. Ord another couple of months. During that time, he narrowly missed an assignment to Vietnam.

When Don returned to the Cleveland Guard Unit in 1968, his unit was deployed to Memphis for several weeks after the assassination of Martin Luther King.

Don rose to the rank of Sergeant E-5. After being promoted to Sergeant E-5, Don was assigned as the leader of a 30-caliber machine gun unit. In this position he had full responsibility for firing the 30-caliber gun as well as the unit Bazookas. He was discharged in 1972.

NOTE: The veteran’s column featuring another chapter member or family member will continue in the next edition of the newsletter. Let the editor know if you were in the military and not yet been recognized in the newsletter.

Alzheimer’s Semi Postal Fundraising Stamp Helps Defeat Alzheimer’s

The U.S. Postal Service resumed the sale of the Alzheimer’s Semi postal fundraising stamp a couple years ago. The stamp, initially issued in the fall of 2017, was removed from sale in September 2019 due to existing Postal Service regulations at that time. Those regulations have since changed.

A sheet of 20 stamps sells for \$15.00. The current postage rate is \$11.60, (.58 per stamp). By law, the balance of \$3.40 per sheet is distributed to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, in its effort to find a cure for this degenerative brain disease, after reimbursement of reasonable costs incurred by the Postal Service.

When the first Alzheimer’s stamp was withdrawn from sale after being on sale for two years, 8.2 million stamps had been sold, **raising more than \$1.06 million** that was distributed to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for its fight to find a cure for this dreaded disease.

This is just another way we can contribute to the fight to cure Alzheimer’s. The next time you purchase stamps ask for the “Alzheimer’s stamp”.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Chapter Members: 38 and 6 National Members living in Chapter area

While we are on membership let's discuss dues withholding. We have 20 Chapter members that enroll in 1-year increments; 4 enrolled in 2-year increments; and 2 enrolled in 3-year increments. Only 12 members or just a little over 50% are utilizing the dues withholding program. Have you considered dues withholding lately?

Dues withholding saves you money. Paying periodically costs you money and time. If you pay on line that takes time, if you pay by check that takes time plus writing the check and paying the mailing cost. I cannot think of any advantage for using periodic renewals.

So, you may want to reconsider your method of dues payment. **Regardless of your decision, we are happy to have each of you as truly faithful members.**

Federal Employees Health Benefits Open Season – November 9 to December 13 (Midnight)

We will pay an average of 4% more for our health benefits in 2022. Do you review your current plan each year? I'm sure you look at the new premiums, but do you review any benefit changes? You should. Also, it is a good idea to review other plans. Review both the premiums and benefits and compare them with your plan. Most Plans make changes each year.

See the next edition of the NARFE Magazine for all of your Open Season Answers.

ONLY ONE MEETING REMAINING THIS YEAR

The Christmas Banquet and Alzheimer's Auction will highlight the December meeting. You will be notified as soon as the date and time is finalized.

Editor's Notes: Your editor depends on you to submit information to him for the Remembering Members with Needs; Birthdays/Anniversaries; Happy Items and Veterans/Military columns. His phone number is: 336-2330; dmcalister41@hotmail.com; 693 McAlister Road NE, Charleston, TN 37310.