



Lake Mead District

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
A Joint Newsletter for Las Vegas Chapter 423, Henderson Chapter 2031,
Las Vegas East Chapter 2275 and Pahrump Chapter 2276

NARFE's Mission Statement

To support legislation beneficial to current and potential federal annuitants and to oppose legislation contrary to their interests. To promote the general welfare of current and potential federal annuitants by advising them with respect to their rights under retirement laws and regulations. To cooperate with other organizations and associations in furtherance of these general objectives.

Editor: Heidi Fanning 702-468-1069 or bhfanning@gmail.com

April 2016

When and Where We Meet

Las Vegas 423 & Las Vegas East 2275 hold joint meetings at 1 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month (except Jul, Aug and Dec) at the Howard Lieburn Senior Center, 6230 Garwood Ave. Speaker at every meeting. There will be no meeting in April. Meetings will resume on May 12th and June 9th. Luncheons are on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Henderson Chapter 2031 meets at 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month (except the 2nd Monday in Sep, and none Jul or Aug) in the American Legion Post #40, 425 Van Wagenen St in Henderson. Our next meeting is on April 4th. Our luncheons are on the third Friday of the month.

Pahrump Chapter 2276 meets four times a year. The next meeting to be announced. Contact any of their officers for more information.

Remember: All members are welcomed to any of our chapter meetings and luncheons. We look forward to seeing you!

Lake Mead District Chapter Officers

Las Vegas Chapter 423

Actg President – Tom Nicholson 702-396-1974
Secretary – Charlotte Allen 702-636-1744
Treasurer – Alice Berly 702-452-5733

Las Vegas East Chapter 2275

President – Jane Vaughn Meisel 702-217-6029
Treasurer – Alice Berly 702-452-5733

Henderson Chapter 2031

President – Vikki Rennekar 702-617-8898
1st VP – Steve Hern 702-458-1522
2ndVP – Verena Briley-Hudson 702-998-6757
Secretary – Robert Ruskamp 703-628-3234
Treasurer – Carole Turner 202-210-7075

Pahrump Chapter 2276

President – Pam Raneri 775-727-8361
1st VP – Phil Raneri 775-727-8361
2nd VP – Judie Johnson 775-751-5870
Secretary – Deborah Reneau 775-727-2513
Treasurer – Ralph Johnson 775-751-5870

April Luncheons

Las Vegas Chapters 423 and 2275 will meet Thursday April 22nd, 12:30 PM at Santa Fe Station, 4949 N. Rancho Dr., Las Vegas. **Henderson Chapter 2031** will meet Friday April 15th at the Omelet House, 316. N. Boulder Hwy, Henderson, near the St. Rose de Lima Hospital. Contact Mary Elms 702-568-5398 for more information.

Guest Speakers for April

Henderson Chapter April 4th. Ms. Nicole Anderson, Program Coordinator, Alzheimer's Association - Desert Southwest Chapter. www.alz.org/dsw

Our Service Office Can Help

Service Officers are available any Tuesday morning between 9:30 and 11:30 at the Lieburn Senior Center. Our new Service Officer is Ken Tuttle, who can be reached at 702-528-8039.

Federation President's Notes

Federal Employees Government Life Insurance Program - FEGLI

Virtually all retired federal employees have a policy with FEGLI, but very few know how much they have and when or how they get the money. Attend the May meeting of the Las Vegas and Las Vegas East chapter meeting to find the answers. **Bill Dwyer**

Legislation Notes

Committee approves FY17 budget NARFE

On March 16, the House Budget Committee, chaired by Rep. Tom Price, R-Ga., approved the House's fiscal year (FY) 2017 budget resolution by a 20 to 16 vote. The budget includes a directive to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to reduce spending under its jurisdiction, which includes federal retirement and health benefits. Although the budget does not include specific policy proposals such as the \$318 billion in proposed cuts included in last year's House budget, it does assume \$1.46 trillion in "other

mandatory" spending cuts, which include federal and military retirement and health benefits

*NOTE: A budget passed by a committee is a long way from being a law. But it shows how some legislators want to cut spending to reduce the national debt. **Bill Dwyer, Legislation Chairman***

Message from NARFE President

"This week, I submitted a written statement to the House Ways and Means Committee expressing NARFE's support for various pieces of legislation to repeal or reform the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset. More information on the hearing is below. NARFE is pleased to see these unfair provisions receiving renewed attention after years of inaction by Congress."

Richard G. Thissen, Pres. NARFE National

*NOTE: A full text of President's statement to Congress will be available at the May 12th meeting of Las Vegas and Las Vegas East chapters. **Bill Dwyer, Legislation Chairman***

Legislative Hotline, March 25, 2015

House Committee Holds WEP/GPO Hearing

The House Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee held a hearing on March 22 titled "Social Security and Public Employees: Ensuring Equal Treatment," which focused on the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), and reform proposals for each. In particular, committee members discussed the Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act, H.R. 711, introduced by Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady, R-TX, who also attended the hearing.

For background, H.R. 711 would not repeal the WEP, but it would reduce the WEP penalty applied to future Social Security benefit payments, beginning in 2017, for those who turn age 62 before 2017. The amount of the reduction will be determined by the Social Security Administration (SSA) actuary, but is

estimated to be 50 percent of an individual's current WEP penalty. The amount would be based on how much SSA expects to recover through increased enforcement of the WEP, as directed by the bill, on state and local government retirees who had underreported their government employment earnings. For individuals who turn 62 during or after 2017, the bill would replace the current WEP formula with a fairer one, saving most WEP-affected individuals about \$77 per month. A summary of H.R. 711 can be found [here](#).

The hearing focused more on the WEP, and committee members from both parties generally agreed that the WEP unfairly penalizes retirees and that reform is needed. No decisions were made during the hearing, but Chairman Brady hinted that the committee may move to advance H.R. 711 soon. A timeline for action, however, is unclear at this point.

Chapter Notes

Las Vegas Chapter 423 and Las Vegas East

Chapter 2275: In May we will continue planning for the National NARFE Convention to be held this August in Reno, at the Grand Sierra Hotel. This will be an important meeting and all members are encouraged to attend.

At our June meeting we'll be doing some planning for a July picnic. We haven't set the date yet, but the chapters will pick up the tab, so come to the meetings and find out more details. **Alice Berly**

This newsletter is a good source of news but the knowledge reaped from our meetings helps everyone. Please attend our meetings on the second Thursday of the month and also our fourth Thursday luncheons. We would like to see new and old faces alike! **Charlotte Allen**

Henderson Chapter 2031

Check out Henderson Chapter's website: www.narfe.org/chapter2031 .Also check out our FACEBOOK group!

Registration for 2016 NARFE National Convention Now Open

Online registration for the 34th Biennial NARFE National Convention is now open! The convention, hosted in partnership with the California and Nevada NARFE Federations, will be held in Reno, NV, August 28-September 1. NARFE members from across the country will meet to set the Association's legislative agenda for the next Congress, elect new officers and make major decisions that will determine the future course of NARFE. This year's theme is "Progress. Protect. Persevere."

In Memoriam



Tom Berly passed away in the early morning hours of March 23rd. He was a long time president of the Las Vegas East chapter and in 2012 he was president of the Las Vegas chapter, as well as serving terms as VP for both of the local chapters. Tom served terms as Lake Mead District Vice President and Federation Executive Vice President. Tom was also a local Service Officer. He is survived by Alice Berly, his wife of over 36 years. He will be missed by family and friends.



Would you like to see what goes on "behind the scenes" with our monthly newsletter? Come join us to help assemble the monthly newsletter on the last Tuesday of the month from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM at the Lieburn Center.



NARFE

**National Active and Retired
Federal Employees**
P.O. Box 777452
Henderson NV 89077

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Senator Harry Reid (D-NV)
333 Las Vegas Blvd. South #8016
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Tel: 702-388-5020
D.C. Tel: 202-224-3542
Website: <http://reid.senate.gov>

Representative Joe Heck (R-NV)
8872 S Eastern Ave #220
Las Vegas, NV 89123
Tel: 702-387-4941
D.C. Tel: 202-225-3252
Website: <http://heck.house.gov>

Representative Dina Titus (D-NV)
550 E Charleston #B
Las Vegas, NV 89104
Tel: 702-220-9823
D.C. Tel: 202-225-5965
Website: <http://titus.house.gov>

Senator Dean Heller (R-NV)
400S Virginia St #738
Reno, NV 89501
Tel: 702-686-5770
D.C. Tel: 202-224-6244
Website: <http://heller.senate.gov>

Representative Cresent Hardy (R-NV)
2250 Las Vegas Blvd North #500
North Las Vegas, NV 89030
Tel: 702-912-1634
D. C. Tel: 202-225-9894
Website: <http://hardy.house.gov>