



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK by Steven Shoub, Pres.

Come to the September 21, 2017 Regular Chapter Meeting and learn about what's happening with the new Venice Library! Ann Hall, Venice Library Manager will present library plans and news!

This chapter has been going along very well for a number of years due to the dedicated cadre of volunteers operating it. There has always been turnover among the volunteers. Now we are in the unusual situation of having a greater need for new volunteers than we have been in many years. You must help the chapter, and now is the time to come forward.

As you can see, this is an abbreviated Newsletter. Our long time Editor Carolyn Bach retired in June and so far nobody from the chapter has come forward to take over the job. We want you! Contact me if you are interested in discussing this position. If not now, then when?

Sheila Nichols has volunteered for the position of Chapter Service Officer. After a discussion with Terry Zitek, Florida Federation President, Sheila volunteered to be the Florida State Benefits Service Officer, replacing the retiring John Ledman. She is looking for people to work with her, if you are interested please give her a call. Way to go, Sheila!

We still have a vacancy for the Chapter Legislative Officer. NARFE Florida is moving forward with the plan to create District Legislative Officers, one for each Congressional District. If you are interested in working as the Chapter or District Legislative Officer or committeeperson, please give me a call.

Our chapter Telephone Committee Chair, Pat Flanagan, is on the injured list and needs to take time out from those duties. Additionally, we have several open positions for monthly telephone callers. Callers call several names on a list to determine who will be attending meetings and reserving their meal choices. Without callers, we will have a lower meeting attendance and that will effect the chapter. Would you volunteer to be a chapter Caller? Call me! It only takes a few hours a month at most.

New Chapter Bylaws Were Approved on May 18. Prior to them being in effect, they must be approved by NARFE National. Until recently, we were instructed to not forward them for approval until approval guidelines were finalized at National HQ. We are now able to submit our chapter Bylaws to HQ and will be doing so this month. We anticipate no problems with the approval process, as I believe our new Bylaws are in compliance with NARFE HQ guidance and requirements.

Address Corrections Cost Money. The U.S. Postal Service charges the chapter \$0.59 for every misaddressed Newsletter it cannot deliver. Please make sure you have your current and correct address in the NARFE HQ data base. You may notify our 1<sup>st</sup> VP and Membership Chair Nancy Cornell if a change or correction needs to be made, or you can go on the NARFE HQ website to review and make any necessary update yourself. Snowbirds must do this!

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President, Steve Shoub	473-7395	Email: SLSHOUB@verizon.net
1st Vice-President, Nancy Cornell	703-989-1099	Email: narfe0717@gmail.com
2nd Vice-President, Linda Braswell	473-7395	Email: whentheangelsask@gmail.com
Secretary		
Treasurer, Joan Leonard	497-1017	Email: jlbsktcase@msn.com
Alzheimer's, Elizabeth Banta	493-0854	Email: lizbanta@aol.com
Chaplain, Linda Braswell	473-7395	Email: whentheangelsask@gmail.com
Legislative Officer, Steve Shoub	473-7395	Email: slshoub@verizon.net
Membership, Nancy Cornell	703-989-1099	Email: <a href="mailto:narfe0717@gmail.com">narfe0717@gmail.com</a>
Service Officer, Sheila Nichols	301-788-3464	Email: hr4u2@comcast.net
Sunshine, Jean Marie Burton	412-8543	Email: johnburton140@gmail.com
Meal Coordinator		
Newsletter Editor		
Public Relations, Jean Marie Burton	412-8543	Email: johnburton140@gmail.com
Recruitment and Retention, Barry Bye	412-9181	Email: barryvbye@gmail.com
<b>Senior Advisors:</b>		
Roy Reichelt	408-8822	Email: reichelt348@aol.com
Terry Greenwood	492-6916	Email: tmg@gte.net
John Burton	412-8543	Email: johnburton140@gmail.com
Nancy Marik		Email: nancymarik@comcast.net
Jon Cantor	497-7972	Email: jon.cantor@comcast.net
Donald Gray	918-1516	Email: dandcgray@live.com
Webmaster, John Burton	412-8543	Email: johnburton140@gmail.com
Facebook Manager, Will Lopez		Email: wlopez5193@aol.com

WEB Addresses: Chapter: [www.narfe717.org](http://www.narfe717.org) Florida Federation: [www.narfefl.net](http://www.narfefl.net) National: [narfe.org](http://narfe.org)



Ann Hall, Venice Library  
Manager speaks Sept. 21st

**Local Contacts for Your  
Senators and Representatives**

<p><b>Senator Bill Nelson</b> Landmark Two 225 East Robinson Street, Suite 410 Orlando, FL 32801 407-872-7161 1-888-671-4091 <a href="http://bilnelson.senate.gov">http://bilnelson.senate.gov</a></p> <p><b>Alternative Contact for Bill Nelson</b> 2000 Main Street, Suite 801 Fort Myers, FL 33901 239-334-7760</p>	<p><b>Senator Marco Rubio</b> 5201 W. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 530 Tampa, FL 33609-1852 813-977-6450 <a href="http://Rubio.senate.gov">http://Rubio.senate.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Honorable Thomas Rooney</b> U.S. House of Representatives 17th Congressional District 226 Taylor Street, Suite 230 Punta Gorda, FL 33950 941-575-9101 <a href="http://rooney.house.gov/contact/email-me">http://rooney.house.gov/contact/email-me</a></p>	<p><b>Honorable Vern Buchanan</b> U.S. House of Representatives 16th Congressional District 111 South Orange Ave., Suite 202W Sarasota, FL 34236-5806 941-951-6643 Fax: 941-951-2972 <a href="http://buchanan.house.gov">http://buchanan.house.gov</a></p>

**WHAT’S NEXT FOR THE VENICE LIBRARY?**

**by Linda L. Braswell, 2nd Vice President and Program Chair**

The 50 year old Venice Public Library on Nokomis Avenue was closed in January 2016 due to mold. Citizen reaction was swift, vocal and pointed—“We love our Library and don’t intend to lose it. “

The Library has become a community meeting place and a center for so much more than checking out books. Area residents found it a trusted place where they could connect, engage, improve and enrich their lives. Many groups which have traditionally used the meeting rooms at the Venice Public Library, including our Chapter 717 Executive Committee, have had to scramble to find another meeting place.

Library staff never missed a beat. A kiosk center operated in the Venice Community Center until the temporary library opened April 2016 in the Hamilton Building behind the Venice Theatre. The Library has been serving the community fulltime Monday through Saturday opening at 10AM.

Citizen input from focus groups was used to design a new permanent building and library services. What is being done to replace this beloved Venice institution that was honored as the Florida Library of the Year in 2012?

There is progress! There is news! Ann Hall, the dedicated, customer-service oriented Venice Library Manager since 2006, will bring us information, pictures, artist renderings and news of upcoming plans for the permanent library at our September 21’st Luncheon Meeting.



***Service Officer’s Corner***

***by Sheila Nichols, Chapter 717 and Florida State Federation Service Officer***

Greetings! As Federal retirees and active employees, our Federal benefits are very important to us. As you know, NARFE is very active legislatively in helping to retain these benefits for us. The Service (Benefits) Officer is an important role in our chapters. These positions help to answer questions NARFE members might have about benefit-related matters. We are very grateful to those that volunteer to serve in these positions.

We are currently looking for 8 volunteers to serve in newly created District Service Officer positions, one position for each district. If you are currently a Service Officer in your local chapter or someone who has a desire to help serve others in this capacity, please contact me, Sheila Nichols, at [hr4u2@comcast.net](mailto:hr4u2@comcast.net) or 301-788-3464. Although knowledge of Federal benefits is helpful, it is not a mandatory requirement. We have resources to help train and assist you in learning more about benefits. A desire and willingness to help others in their hour of need is really all that you need. Won't you consider helping in this capacity? I look forward to hearing from you!

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

NARFE Chapter 717 Englewood-Venice  
PO Box 2203  
Venice, FL 34223

**NON PROFIT ORG.**  
**US POSTAGE PAID**  
**MANASOTA, FL**  
**PERMIT # 865**

ADDRESS LABEL

**NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2017**

The meeting of the Englewood-Venice Chapter 717 will be held on **Thursday, September 21, 2017** at the Pelican Pointe Golf & Country Club. *Our speaker will be Ann Hall, Manager, Venice Library.* See page 3 for program details. Social Hour begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by a sit-down luncheon. **Reservations are required.** Contact President Steve for reservations at 941 473-7395 if you have not been called. A cash bar is available. All current and retired Federal employees and spouses and guests are welcome.

**Cost, including tax and tip is \$18.00.  
Make checks payable to:  
NARFE Chapter 717**

**MENU**

House Salad with Field Greens  
and Choice of Dressings\*\*

Warm Rolls & Butter

**Choice of Entrée:**

Sliced London Broil with Mushroom Sauce

or

Salmon with Dill Buerre Blanc Sauce

or

Normandy Salad with Grilled Chicken Breast and a  
cup of the Soup of the Day

Apple Pie, Coffee, and Tea included

**Pelican Pointe Golf & Country Club  
499 Derbyshire Dr., Venice, FL**

**MEETING  
LOCATION**

**Directions:**

**From I-75:** Take exit 193. At the traffic light off exit, turn South on to Jacaranda Blvd. Continue to 3rd traffic light and turn right on to Center Road. Go approximately 1 1/2 miles and turn right into the entrance to Pelican Pointe (Horse and Chaise Blvd.)

**Alt1:** From Highway 41 (Tamiami Trail), turn east on Center Road. Proceed approximately 1 1/2 miles and turn left into the entrance to Pelican Pointe (Horse and Chaise Blvd)

If using GPS or a map service, use 625 Center Rd, Venice, Florida

Tell the guard at the gate that you are attending the NARFE luncheon. Park in the lot to the right.