



FMA Chapter 3 News Norfolk Naval Shipyard

March/April 2020

The Monthly Meeting: Held March 18th
speaker Trent Andrews Corporate Sponsor GPIS.

NNSY America's Shipyard



Newsletter Editor Past President Andy Anderson

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Visit the Federal
Managers'
Association Web site
www.fedmanagers.org

From the President

I hope you and your family are healthy and safe during the current pandemic. Whether you have continued to report to the shipyard or offsite installations, you are performing telework or had to declare yourself in the “High Risk” category your efforts are appreciated.

NNSY has gone above and beyond during this difficult time by fabricating face masks and making cleaning supplies so that we can keep our people safe so that we can continue to perform our duties working on naval submarines and ships for the security of our country.

At the March meeting our guest speaker was Trent Andrews from our corporate sponsor GPIS. Trent spoke about financial and retirement planning.

We welcomed fourteen new members into chapter 3 and they are;

Jonathan Tilson	C990
Frederick Harding	C902
Michael White	C930
Brandon Whitlow	C930
Creven Powell	C930
Marlon Johnson	C930
Christopher Maffeo	C950
Jeffrey Butler	C900T
Elton Byrum	C920
Benjamin Bagley	C742
Warren Davis	C930
Kevin Barnette	C930
Kendrick Norfleet	C105.2
Rachel Yarasavich	C254

When you see our newest members please welcome them to the oldest, largest and most influential managers association in the federal government.

Although our National Convention was cancelled this year due to the Corona Virus, we still conducted our Region 2 Executive Board elections. Congratulations to Forrest Lilly who will remain as the Vice Director and to Chops Clarke who is now the Treasurer.

Your Region 2 Executive Board for 2020:

Director Linda Lentjes
Vice Director Forrest Lilly
Secretary Sue Thatch
Treasurer Chops Clarke

We also conducted the FMA National Executive Board elections and your EB for 2020:

President Craig Carter
Vice President TBD- will be appointed after our April Executive Board meeting
Treasurer Ron Gryga
Secretary Pauline Sutton-Coleman
Region 1 Director Chris Lombardi
Region 2 Director Linda Lentjes
Region 3 Director Peggy Hatcher
Region 4 Director Vince Stamper

NOTE:

The chapter 3 monthly meetings will be postponed until further notice but we are still accepting applications for the annual scholarships.

Chapter 3 gives five-\$500.00 scholarships to dependents of Chapter 3 members each year for college or trade schools. You can submit your scholarship application to any chapter Executive Board member.

Please stay safe and we can get through this together. Thank you for your continued service and dedication to the men and women of our armed services, our communities, our commands and the citizens of the United States.

Craig Carter
NNSY Chapter 3 President
FMA National President

A Note from Darryl

Comments from The Past

Darryl Perkinson

It has been a while since I have been in contact with you the lifeline of the membership that comprises the Federal Managers Association. A wonderful event has kept me away from the monthly meetings since last May. The arrival of my grandson, Jackson, has been a blessed addition to our family. As one of his daily caretakers it has been amazing to be part of his daily growth and advancement.

Of course, the recent challenges of COVID-19 have impacted all of us as the needed steps to keep ourselves and family safe from an unrelenting virus have adjusted all our schedules. I was pleased when Andy reached out and asked for a contribution to this newsletter as there are two significant items I would like to address for the membership.

The first item is the wonderful news of having Craig Carter elected to serve as the National President of the FMA. His drive, dedication and leadership are significant factors that make him an ideal choice for the esteemed position. As most of you know the membership bestowed the National President position to me in 2006 and 2008.

The four years I spent in serving the members of the Association were some of the best years of my thirty-six years in Federal service. The challenges we faced in those years pale in comparison to the challenges Federal workers face today. These challenges are significant and need someone of Craig's experience and stature to take them on.

A court system that agrees with limitations on the rights of workers also impacts the environment of Civil Service. FMA and under Craig's leadership has a plate full of significant issues to encourage common sense approaches to enhancing the drive of FMA to promote public service as key element in the survival of the United States.

A second issue I wish to address is the investment the shipyard has in developing the workforce. It has been my privilege since 2015 to be an Adjunct Professor for the TCC-NNSY Apprentice Academic Training Program.

For your knowledge COVID-19 has put the program in a freeze now and hopefully will be restarted in August. For me, the experience of dealing with the students coming through the program has been extremely rewarding.

While I have heard the criticism of the quality of these students, I have seen that the main impact for the students seems to be the pace and attention they receive when trying to learn their trade within the yard. A vast majority of those I have had in classes yearn to learn their trade and be an asset for the shipyard.

As an Association I would ask you to examine how FMA could play a role in mentoring those Apprentices seeking to contribute to the shipyard. Each of you know the positive influences that forge a quality mechanic and I urge you to become a part of being an Apprentice's path to success.

Thank you for being a part of an Association that makes a difference. Please give Craig the support he needs to represent your best interest. Hope to see you again soon! Stay healthy and safe!

Darryl Perkinson
Past FMA National President
Past FMA Chapter 3 President

A Note from Maggie

Here is some good information for all of us now that we are in the Coronavirus pandemic.

Not surprisingly, given the recent performance of the stock market, there's been a lot of activity lately in the Thrift Savings Plan.

"We have had a spike in inter-fund transfers," said Kim Weaver, the TSP's director of external affairs, on the TV show Government Matters this week. "But that has been from 5% of our participants. Ninety-five percent of participants have done nothing. But what we would like to urge people is to consider what their plan was ... and stick with their plan."

It is natural to be a little jittery right now with the volatility of the stock market due to the coronavirus pandemic, and to be concerned about retirement in general. Here's an email I received earlier this week:

I am under the Federal Employees Retirement System and submitted my retirement paperwork back in December 2019. I've worked for 22 years in the federal government, and am retiring on March 31, 2020. I decided on that date long before all of this happened and I also applied for Social Security and will be receiving my Social Security starting in May 2020.

However, as you know, the third leg of our FERS retirement is our TSP, which I pulled out last September and placed in the trust of a very reliable financial adviser to manage for me. I also have some remaining funds in the TSP that have accrued since Sept 2019.

I have been aggressively saving in my TSP since I started with the government and even contributed to the catch-up contribution. Now I am watching my life savings for my retirement decline a little more every day, and I don't have the time to make it up, like I did the last time the market dropped drastically.

It is my understanding that all of my paperwork has been reviewed and approved; however, I still haven't received the estimate of my annuity due to the software that our agency uses for computing our retirement being down. So, I don't even know how much I will be receiving monthly.

I am in the middle of the checkout process, which now has to be completed electronically, rather than face to face. Hopefully, that goes as planned. I really think it's too late for me to stop and delay my retirement at this point, so I'm at a loss here as to what to do. It looks like I am going to have to get a part-time job after retirement—which I hadn't planned to do—if I can find one.

My response: If you don't feel financially ready to retire, it's not too late to rescind your retirement application. This is a voluntary action, and you haven't left yet. According to this guidance is from the Office of Personnel Management, "an agency must permit an employee to withdraw an application before the effective date of separation" unless "it has a valid reason and explains that reason in writing to the employee."

You can expect that retirement processing will move more slowly during this period of national and world crisis. If this worries you or if you don't have a three to six-month emergency fund in place, you should consider delaying your retirement until you feel more certain and life returns to normal.

You mentioned that you withdrew most of your money from the TSP and put it in the "trust of a very reliable financial adviser." When a financial professional ask you to move your money from the TSP prior to your retirement (or after your retirement), they should provide a very clear reason for doing so.

I hope your financial adviser recommended that your investments be rebalanced to correspond with your plans to retire this year. That doesn't mean you'd be immune to volatility in the markets, but you should have some of your savings allocated to a more stable investment you can withdraw from for income in retirement without being exposed to changes in the market.

It's common for financial advisers to reach out to their clients and assure them during times of uncertainty like this. I hope yours has done so.

Here are a few more tips and resources for those who are planning to retire this year, or who have recently retired. :

- In an article titled **8 Ways Coronavirus Will Drastically Alter Boomer Retirements**, Janet Novack of Forbes writes that in times like these, a "bucket strategy" of disbursing retirement savings can work well.
- For example, someone nearing or in retirement could keep three to five years' worth of money for necessary expenses (over and above what Social Security and any pensions provide) in cash or cash equivalents—say, laddered CDs, or Treasury bonds.

- According to Josh Scandlen of Heritage Wealth Planning, the bucket strategy enables you to separate your immediate income needs into their own stand-alone account. That way, you don't need to worry about selling a portion of your holdings when the market is getting crushed to put food on the table.
- Mark Keen addressed many TSP issues for employees as well as retirees in a Feb. 27 NARFE Federal Benefits Institute webinar, The archived version is now available for free to NARFE members.
- Micah Shilanski notes that TSP participants who have a long-term plan for their investments are not as worried about the current market volatility. He says employees in it for the long haul should look at this as a buying opportunity, since stock prices are low. He and I will be recording two short videos on March 27 and 31 that will address retirement planning during this current crisis situation.

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Finally, this reminder from the TSP is relevant during this time of uncertainty: By the time you react to the situation, the market may be moving in the opposite direction. If you miss one or two brief upswings in a decade, your investments may underperform the average market return for the entire period.

So stick to your plan.GOV/EXE:3/21/20

Maggie is the present Retiree Rep.

(Maggie was Past Financial Secretary and also the Angel in Shop Personnel that was a God send to any of us working in resources at that time.)

A Note from Steve

Traffic Stops

By Steve Milner:



If stopped by a law enforcement officer, always be courteous and listen!

At some time in our lives police officers might have pulled our vehicles over in a routine traffic stop for a number of reasons: These might include driving through a stop sign, or speeding through an intersection to beat a red light or having a burned-out taillight.

Whatever the reason, if a law-enforcement officer felt he or she had reasonable grounds to stop a motorist, or a pedestrian, there are procedures you **must** follow.

I know it is common sense to obey an officer's directions, but in the heat of the moment even someone who is usually a polite person, might become an abusive one when confronted.

The City of Portsmouth's Police Department has published a handout that lists a number of good tips when someone finds himself or herself in a potentially confrontational situation with a law enforcement officer.

(I also added my own thoughts for this article.) Back to this brochure: For example, even if you feel you're innocent, remain calm and cooperate.

In addition to routine motor vehicle traffic stops, a law enforcement officer might feel you fit a description of an unrelated suspect.

And there's also a possibility you're stopped, to make sure you don't need help due to a medical or another situation.

Always take the high ground and never get angry with an officer. If you overreact, you'll make the situation worse.

And remember, your guilt or innocence is **not** decided when you're stopped. You have rights to contest traffic tickets, or more serious situations, including arrest.

In the event you're arrested, for whatever reason, you have the right to be told of the charge against you, and you have the right to remain silent, and to phone a lawyer or your family. And you have a right to have a lawyer, even if you cannot afford one.

As some of you have might have experienced, I also know that painful feeling you get in your stomach when you see a flashing blue police-car light in your rearview mirror, or hear an accompanying siren signaling you to pull over.

Remember, as an NNSY employee and federal civil servant, you also have a responsibility to be respectful of law enforcement, regardless of the situation or location—including at our shipyard.

You represent a lot more people than just yourself.

Steve Milner Past PAO NNSY.

A Note from Jim

MOTIVATE EVERYONE

During these difficult times here is a little reminder that everyone of us can inspire and motivate others¹.

A gentleman was walking through an elephant camp, and he spotted that the elephants weren't being kept in cages or held by the use of chains. All that was **holding them back** from escaping the camp, was a small piece of rope tied to one of their legs.

As the man gazed upon the elephants, he was completely confused as to why the elephants didn't just use their strength to break easily have done so, but Curious and wanting to why the elephants were just



**ELEPHANT
ROPE**

the rope and escape the camp. They could instead, they didn't try to at all. know the answer, he asked a trainer nearby standing there and never tried to escape.

The trainer replied;

“when they are very young and much smaller, we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it's enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free.”

The only reason that the elephants weren't breaking free and escaping from the camp was that over time they adopted the belief that it just wasn't possible.

Moral of the story:

No matter how much the world tries to hold you back, always continue with the belief that what you want to achieve is possible. Believing you can become successful is the most important step in actually achieving it.

Be that inspiration you wish for other.

Together we will grow "one by one"

James Mahlmann Retiree
(Past FMA National Vice President, Past Chapter 3 President)



**FEDERAL MANAGERS ASSOCIATION
CHAPTER 3
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2020**

Applications for this Scholarship must be received

On or before July 1, 2020

You may turn this application in to any Chapter 3

Executive / Board Member

Name _____

Address _____

Chapter 3 Member's Name _____

Phone Number _____

Member's Code/Shop/Org. _____

Member's Signature _____

Name of Institution _____

Course of Study _____

(i.e., College Degree, Trade
Certificate, etc.) _____

Applicant's Signature _____

Rules for Chapter 3 Scholarships

Applicants must be a dependent of a member in "good standing." Good standing is defined as a member who has been a due paying member of this chapter for at least one year prior to the scholarship drawing.

Documentation (letter of acceptance, receipts for tuition, etc.) is required to be submitted with the application to provide proof of full-time enrollment of the applicant in a school of higher education (college, trade school, etc.).

The drawing will take place during the July regular meeting. It will be conducted as luck of the draw and names will be announced immediately after the drawing. Each winner will receive a check for \$500.00 which will be presented at the August Crab Feast.



Federal Manager's Association Chapter 3
Norfolk Naval Shipyard
Calendar 2020



2020 Executive Officers

Membership Coordinator

President – Craig Carter 646-6076
 Craig.Carter@navy.mil Fm3cra@navy.mil Cell 646-9513
 Vice President – Jari Smith 771-8573
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 Joy.D.Wiggins@navy.mil
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 Debrae.Marley@navy.mil
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 Forrest.Lily@navy.mil
 Trustee (2021) – Tashira Eversette 359-0425
 Tashira.Eversette@navy.mil Cell 252-9595
 Trustee (2022) – Curlee Williams 419-9489
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 National President – Ron Matz 252-461-9034
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 Building 32

Danielle Larnow 374-6703 danielle.larnow@navy.mil

Local Representatives

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 Margaret Magruder Retired 2334 mb.magruder@verizon.net
 Danielle Green C-900 5518 danielle.green@navy.mil
 Michelle Lappin C-300 2582 michelle.lappin@navy.mil
 Shaysha Banks C-090 3740 shaysha.banks@navy.mil

117th Congressional Representatives

Senate:
 Mark Warner – (D-VA) www.senate.gov/Warner
 Tim Kaine – (D-VA) www.senate.gov/Kaine
 Rob Portman – (R-OH) www.senate.gov/Portman
 Richard Burr – (R-NC) www.senate.gov/Burr
House:
 1st Robert Wittman – (R-VA) www.house.gov/Wittman
 Elaine Luria – (D-VA) www.house.gov/Luria
 3rd Robert Scott – (D-VA) www.house.gov/Scott
 4th Donald McEachin – (D-VA) www.house.gov/McEachin
 1st B.K. Butterfield – (R-NC) www.house.gov/Butterfield
 3rd Greg Murphy – (R-NC) www.house.gov/Murphy

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL									
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27	28	29	30	09 – Labor Day			25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	11 – Veteran's Day – Holiday 24 – Thanksgiving Day		27	28	29	30	31	25 – Christmas Day 26 – Christmas Party							

☐ Regular Monthly Meetings \$ Paydays ○ Holidays Saturday, Sundays and (Non-Work)

AUTHORIZATION OF VOLUNTARY ALLOTMENT
FOR PAYMENT OF EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION DUES



Federal Managers Association

Membership Application

UPON COMPLETION, THIS FORM BECOMES SUBJECT TO PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY
*FOR PAYROLL DEDUCTION ONLY

Name of Employee	Badge No.	SSN
Home Address Including 9 Digit Zip Code (found on your driver's license)		
*Agency/Code/Department:		
Name of Employee Organization: Federal Managers Association Chapter 3 Norfolk Naval Shipyard P.O. Box 1232 Portsmouth, VA 23705		
I hereby authorize the above-named agency to deduct from my pay each pay period, \$7.00, the amount certified as the regular dues of the Federal Managers Association, Chapter 3, Norfolk Naval Shipyard and to remit such amounts to that employee organization in accordance with its arrangements with my employing agency. I further authorize any change in the amount to be deducted, which is certified by the above-named employee agency as a uniform change in its dues structure.		
Employee signature:	Date	Recruited By:
E Mail Address (work):	Personal Phone #:	Work Phone#:
E Mail Address (personal):		

- NEW CHAPTER MEMBER
- RETIRED MEMBER
(Annual dues for the Retired Member shall be submitted with this application)
- ADDRESS CHANGE

SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE _____ (Artisha Ballard)

Return completed form to whoever invited you or mail to:
Federal Managers Association Ch. 3
P.O. Box 1232
Portsmouth, VA 23705