



Nashville Chapter 227, Newsletter (October 2009)

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

Officers: Nancy Wells, *President* 377-9011; Tom Duncan, *1st Vice President-Membership* 373-1665; Vernia Stewart *2nd Vice President-Service* 794-4161; Mary Lee Fielder, *Sunshine Chairperson* 889-5689; Jack Chidester, *Secretary* 662-0106; Pat Hagerty, *Treasurer* 794-0474; John Wells - *Newsletter Chairperson* 331-0705.

Chapter Web Site: <http://www.narfetn-nashville.org/>

NARFE's mission has remained the same since 1921, to protect and improve the retirement benefits of federal retirees, employees and their families.

September Program: On Monday September 14th our meeting was called to order by President – Nancy Wells at 1:00 PM. The invocation was given by Marie Anglin. The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Val Brooks. There were 28 members present.

Our Program: Our Program was a discussion of the Referendum on NARFE Dues. Jack Chidester provided desert, which was fantastic and greatly appreciated by one and all.

October Program: On Monday October 12th we will meet at **Park Manor** for a full lunch (Meat & 3, salad & drink including tax & tip for only **\$11.00**). Plan to be there at the **Park Manor, 115 Woodmont Blvd, Nashville, TN 37205**. Lunch at 12:00 PM with Chapter Meeting to follow at 1:00 PM. **Our Program** will be a final discussion of the Referendum on NARFE Dues, followed with a vote by the Chapter.

The **November 9th** Speaker will be Jeremy Bisgalia from Edward Jones. His speech is called "**16 Rules for Investment Success**". Also election of Chapter Officers.

December 14th, Christmas Luncheon - TIME: 11:15 AM.; PLACE: Latitude Restaurant - second floor in the Marriot Hotel at corner of Natchez Trace and West End Avenues. Free valet parking. **Plan to be there, mark you calendar now.**

Directions: From the West or North get on 440 (Knoxville) and turn right off on Exit 1A and Bear right onto US-70S go 1.6 miles and turn left onto SR-155 (Woodmont Blvd.) then turn right to 115 Woodmont at Park Manor.

Directions: From South and East get on 440 (Memphis) and turn right off on Exit 1 and take ramp (left) onto US-70S go 1.6 miles and turn left onto SR-155 (Woodmont Blvd.) then turn right to 115 Woodmont at Park Manor.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance as of August 11th in Checking at SunTrust is **\$1,832.44** our CD at SunTrust is **\$925.76**, for a Total of **\$2,758.20**.

~~ Submitted by Pat Hagerty - Treasurer

Status of Current Legislation: for September 14th



Every Month is NARFE PAC Month



Bill Name	Number of Sponsors
S. 491 - A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.'	40 (14 R, 2 I, 24 D)
S. 484 - Repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision	29 (4 R, 1 I, 24 D)
H.R. 1203 - Premium Conversion - To allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.	177 (58 R, 119 D)
H.R. 235 - Repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision	300 (98 R, 1 I, 201 D)

On July 26th, a group of our members (12) which included three members from other chapters met with Congressman Cooper in his office. President Frazier took the lead and covered all of our concerns. Congressman Cooper listened attentively but did not make any commitments. He then responded concerning Health Care Reform. He talked about the proposal that he is supporting, The Healthy Americans Act, H.R. 1321) which has 14 co-sponsors. A similar bill has been introduced into the Senate (S. 391 which also has 14 co-sponsors, including Tennessee Senator Lamar Alexander.

Then on September 1st four members of our chapter met with Michael Schultz, Senator Alexander's Field Representative. Again President Frazier took the lead covering our concerns. Mr. Schultz listened very attentively and made a few notes. Upon leaving Mr. Schultz stated that we are welcome to meet with him at any time.

NARFE has not taken a position on the overall health care reform legislation as this is extremely fluid at this time.

~~ Submitted by Glenn Turner - Legislative Chair

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IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BY **October 10, 2009**

FROM THE NARFE HOTLINE SEPTEMBER 11.

Due to the greatest deflationary period in generations, economic forecasters continue to foresee no cost-of-living adjustment for Social Security recipients, federal civilian and military retirement for 2010.

Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY) has introduced H.R. 3536 legislation to compensate for the lack of a COLA. This bill would result in a onetime payment of \$150.00 and has 14 co-sponsors.

Premium Conversion in the House (H.R. 1203) now has 189 co-sponsors and 42 in the Senate (S.491) .

Repeal of WEP/GPO in the House (H.R.235) now has 306 co-sponsors in the House and 28 in the Senate (S.484).

On September 24, the House passed (406-18 <http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2009/roll737.xml>) legislation, H.R. 3631, to protect all Medicare beneficiaries from an increase in their Part B premium in 2010 when it is almost certain there will be NO cost of living adjustment (COLA) for Social Security beneficiaries and federal civilian and military retirees. NARFE worked tirelessly behind the scenes on this legislation for the past three months. (NARFE press release at

<http://www.narfe.org/departments/home/articles.cfm?ID=1897>)

Now to see what the Senate does.

August Inflation Increases 0.3 Percent

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased **0.3 percent** in August 2009 according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS). Released on September 16th, the CPI-W for August is **211.2**. For purposes of calculating the next COLA (cost-of-living adjustment) the July-August average index is **2.2 percent below** the 2008 third quarter average base index of 215.5. *September consumer prices indices will be released on October 15, 2009.*

Benefits awarded under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) to individuals who left the workforce due to work-related injuries or illnesses are adjusted according to each calendar year's percentage change in the CPI-W and payable in the following year's month of April. August's index is **3.1 percent** higher than the December 2008 base of 204.8.

Membership: As of **July 13th** we have **363** Chapter Members (voting). As of **September 4th**, **1** Reinstatement, **11** members sent second renewal notice, **1** Passed away, **6** Members Dropped for Non-Renewal, **1** Voluntary Cancellation, **1** New prospective member (Lorinda Kay Purman).

New Membership Incentive Program: **2** Members sent Second Renewal Notice.

Sunshine Report: Barry Wyatt is back in intensive care because of colon issues. They need to assess his condition before they can put him in a regular room.

No news of others than our regular shut-ins. If you know of illness or bereavement, please let me know so that we can assure the families involved of our care and concern.

~~ Submitted by *Mary Lee Fielder*~~

Sunshine Chairperson Phone: 889-5689

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