



Nashville Chapter 227. Newsletter (September 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.

August Program: On Monday August 11th 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 32 members present.

Our Program: Our Program was a presentation by Tom Duncan, about how his business was started and what they are doing now.

September Program: On Monday September 14th we will meet at **Park Manor** for a full lunch (Meat & 3 with salad & drink including tax & tip for only \$11.00) at noon, Jack Chidester will provide desert. 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 by **Conrad Pierce** from AAA. He will speak about the benefits of AAA membership and the membership options available, it should be a good one of interest to all members.

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 **\$1,629.22** our CD at SunTrust is **\$925.76**, for a Total of **\$2,554.98**.

~~ Submitted by **Pat Hagerty - Treasurer**

Status of Current Legislation: for August 11th



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)

The month of **August** is "**NARFE Grass-Roots Advocacy Month**". This is the time when our Representatives and Senators are back in there hometowns. This gives us an opportunity to schedule our meeting to promote our NARFE issues. Chapter members are scheduled to talk with Congressman Cooper on Wednesday- August 26th at 3 PM.

We continue to receive a few more co-sponsors for both Premium Conversion and the Repeal of WEP/GPO. However there is very little chance of either becoming law in the 111th Congress due to all of the efforts being spent on Health Care Reform.

Attached to the Defense Authorization bill is a provision to allow federal agencies to re-employ federal retirees on a limited, part-time basis without offset of annuity from salary. This remains unresolved.

Also attached is a provision to allow FERS employees to credit their unused sick leave towards retirement which is also unresolved.

~~ Submitted by **Glenn Turner - Legislative Chair**
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IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BY September 12, 2009

NARFE's updated and detailed Health Care Position Paper is posted on the NARFE web site, (the URL for the print version is <http://www.narfe.org/departments/legislation/print.cfm?ID=1804>)

Working Together Fighting Apathy
Coasting toward apathy can be costly to our organization

We build our lives, a day at a time, often putting less than our best into the construction. Are you cutting corners and squandering time, commitment and effort?

We encourage our members to be active members, both in supporting our legislative agenda and in recruitment/retention. I think that many members have forgotten the reason for our existence, namely [from our 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.

Let's all work together to:

- Actively support our legislative agenda by:
 - (1) Contacting your Congressmen on a regular basis and
 - (2) Joining the **Rapid Response Team** by sending NARFE Headquarters your email address (only about 15% of our members have shared their email address with us).
- Recruit your spouse, friends, neighbors, AFE's, etc. so that our membership will grow in order for us to have more 'clout' on Capitol Hill, and
- Persuade members who are contemplating not to renew their membership, to renew their membership so that, collectively, from a position of strength, we can continue to protect our earned benefits.

Remember, "**Working together we can make a difference**".

Excerpt for a Article by **Joseph A Beaudoin**
National V. P. of NARFE

July Inflation Declines 0.2 Percent

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) decreased **0.2 percent** in July 2009 according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS). Released on August 14th, the CPI-W for July is **210.526**. For purposes of calculating the next COLA (cost-of-living adjustment) the index is currently **2.3 percent below** the 2008 third quarter average base index of 215.5. *August consumer prices indices will be released on September 16, 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. July's index is **2.8 percent** higher than the December 2008 base of 204.8.

Membership: As of **April 20th** we have **365** Chapter Members (voting). As of **August 6th**, **1** New Members (*Helen M. Burton*), **1** Member transferred from another Chapter or LSA, **5** members sent second renewal notice, **2** Passed away, **3** Members Dropped for Non-Renewal. **4** New prospective members (*Dechelle Chivon, Richard Compton, Bobby Frazier, Julie Maycroft*).

New Membership Incentive Program: **1** Member transferred of Chapter, **1** Members sent Second Renewal Notice.

Sunshine Report: Jack Chidester's sister, **Mary Louise Chidester Gray**, passed away August 22 in Belleville, IL. Our heartfelt sympathy to Jack and his family. **Barry Wyatt** underwent a heart transplant Aug. 16 and was in intensive care last we heard. **Marie Ramsey** has passed away on Sept 3rd. **Evelyen Hiland** called and is doing fairly well but restricted in where she goes. **Mary Lee Fielder** spent 2 days in the hospital with a bad kidney infection but is at home and better, though on medication and careful monitoring by the doctor. **Chris Wasson** has good days and bad but keeps a positive outlook and is refreshing to talk with.

Let's remember those who are not able to be with us, and if you know of others, please let us know!

~~ Submitted by *Mary Lee Fielder*~~

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