



Nashville Chapter 227, Newsletter (April 2011)

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

Officers: Tom Duncan, *President* 373-1665; Norris Alderson, *1st Vice President-Membership* 435-3202; Leo Baghdoian *2nd Vice President-Service* 591-2558; Mary Lee Fielder, *Sunshine Chairperson* 889-5689; Nancy Wells, *Secretary* 218-1003; 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.

New Meeting Location for the next 5 months April – August

Manor at Steeplechase, 314 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, TN 37067 (877) 692-1990.

March Program: On Monday March 14th our meeting was called to order by President – Tom Duncan at 12:45 PM. He welcomed new member, William “Sandy” Sander, guest, Mary Louise Stansell and members who have not attended our meetings recently: Bernice Bates, Donald Dotson, Julia Collins and Allan Means. We had 29 people in attendance. Phyllis Brannon gave the devotional “Pickle Jar Theory” on time management. Val Brooks led us in the pledge. We had 29 people attend.

Tom Duncan and Carey Frazier nominated Glenn Turner for the GEICO award for public service. He was selected and will receive a trip for two to Washington DC and a \$2500 payment.

Nancy Wells made a motion that we collect \$9 from each member for lunch and give the extra \$0.50 to Alzheimer’s. Val Brooks seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously

Our April Program: On Monday April 11th we will meet at [Manor at Steeplechase 314 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, TN](#) for a full lunch (Meat & 3 with salad & drink including tax & tip for only **\$9.00**) at noon. Plan to be there at the [Manor at Steeplechase, Lunch at 12:00 PM with Chapter Meeting to follow at 1:00 PM.](#)

Directions: From the West or North, On I-65 South take exit 68B West, follow signs for West Cool Springs Blvd. Keep straight on Cool Springs Blvd for about 1 mile, **Manor at Steeplechase, 314 Cool Springs Blvd.**, will be on your left, there is a break in the median allowing access to their entrance, take the first right as you start up the hill. This will take you to the entrance of **Manor at Steeplechase**. *If you reach McEwen Drive, you've gone too far.*

Directions: From South and East On I-65 take exit 68A West, follow signs for West Cool Springs Blvd. *See directions above, once on Cool Springs Blvd West they are the same.*

Status of Current Legislation: for February 14th



Every Month is NARFE PAC Month



Bill Name (112 th Congress)	Number of Sponsors
<u>No Bills at this time in 112th Congress</u>	
S. ??? - 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.	0 (0 R, 0 I, 0 D)
S. ??? - Repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision	0 (0 R, 0 I, 0 D)
H.R. ??? - 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.	0 (0 R, 0 D)
H.R. ??? - Repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision	0 (0 R, 0 D)

Legislative Report for March 2011

Our Legislative Report once again focuses on protecting our earned benefits including attacks on current federal employees. NARFE President Joseph Beaudoin released the following statement in response to House Speaker John A. Boehner’s comments that “so be it” if federal employees lose their jobs in the upcoming budget battle.

“I’m surprised by Speaker Boehner’s indifference to the future of federal employees, who go to work every day in every state to keep America safe and moving forward. These are the Americans who protect us from infectious diseases, warn us if a bad winter storm is coming and care for our veterans. Can we afford to not fully support these critical efforts? Even in the harshest fiscal climate, these hard-working Americans, who are already doing their part by undergoing a two-year pay freeze, deserve our respect for the jobs they do.”

“Speaker Boehner specifically criticized growth in the number of federal workers since the president took office. However, over the last 10 years, the federal work force has significantly shrunk compared to the overall U.S. population,” said Beaudoin.

~~ Submitted by Glenn Turner - Legislative Chair

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Non-Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Nashville, TN
Permit No. 844

IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BY March 12, 2011
Current Resident or

\$\$ Treasurer's Report: Current balance as of March 14th in Checking at SunTrust is \$2,375.01 our CD at SunTrust is \$937.98, for a Total of \$3,312.99.

~~ Submitted by Pat Hagerty – Treasurer

 **Sunshine Report:** Deepest sympathy to **Ed Fulcher** and family in the death of his daughter, who passed away March 13. As Ed expressed it, the daughter was 65, and he is 90 and still going, though not as strong or as fast as he once did. His wife is pretty well shut-in, also. Their address is 1000 Horseshoe Drive, Nashville, TN 37216.

Lucy Gresham has been experiencing several health problems, with many tests being run, but is feeling some better and hopes to be at our next meeting. If she can't make it, she will send the name tags, which help us all get better acquainted with one another.

~~ Submitted by Mary Lee Fielder~~

Sunshine Chairperson Phone: 889-5689

E-Mail: maryleef@bellsouth.net

Membership: As of **January 17th** we have **347** Chapter Members (voting), **391** Total. As of **March 6th**, **1** New member (Mary L Stansell), **1** Member transferred out of Chapter, **1** Reinstatement (Louise V Frierson), **8** Members sent Second Renewal Notice, **8** Dropped for Non-Renewal.

New Membership Incentive Program

1 member sent Second Renewal Notice.

February Consumer Price News

Based on price index figures from July, August, and September of 2010, there has not been any automatic cost of living adjustment (COLA) to federal pension annuities for 2011, and there will not be one this year. New CPI-W figures are now relevant to the 2012 COLA.

The CPI-W (Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers) increased by 0.5 percent for the month of February 2011. The new CPI-W index figure is now 217.535, which is 0.95 percent above the 2008 third-quarter average of 215.495, which is the base figure for determining the next COLA. **Thus, the CPI-W has surpassed the level needed to trigger COLA payments for 2012.** But because the relevant months for measurement are July, August, and September of this year (as explained below), we will not know until then whether the CPI-W remains at a level high enough to trigger a COLA, and we will not know until then the magnitude of any COLA.

The CPI-W figure impacts federal civil service annuities, military retiree annuities, and social security payments because the CPI-W figure is used by the government to measure increases in prices for purposes of automatic cost of living adjustments (COLAs) to those fixed retirement payments. The last COLA occurred at the beginning of 2009. There was no automatic COLA for 2010, and there will be no automatic COLA for 2011.

Whether there will be an automatic COLA for 2012 depends on whether the average CPI-W for the third quarter (July, August, and September) of 2011 is higher than the highest previous third quarter average, which is the third quarter average from 2008. (Prices declined from 2008 to 2009, and while they rose from 2009 to 2010, they did not return to the 2008 level). If the CPI-W for 2011 is higher than the CPI-W for 2008, that would indicate an increase in the cost of living from what it was in 2008, which determined the previous COLA increase to fixed retirement payments.

March consumer price indices will be released Friday, April 15, 2011.