



Nashville Chapter 227, Newsletter (February 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.

January Program: No meeting was held due to inclement weather. Park Manor has made it impossible for us to continue to have our meetings there. They want a \$90 room rental fee, the \$11 plus 18% gratuity with an exact number of guests attending seven days in advance. We will meet at Park Manor in February 2011, but will leave there after that. A committee comprised of Val Brooks, Carey Frazier and Bruce Thomas will investigate new places and will report to those attending January's meeting.

Our February Program: On Monday February 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. 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.

No Speaker for this meeting only Chapter Business, Swearing in of Officers for 2011; We will discuss locations for new Chapter Meeting place and Voting on a new meeting place for March 14, 2011; Discussing NARFE State Convention of April 18 & 19, 2011 in Nashville and requesting Chapter member attendance. This is a very important meeting for all Chapter member and you are encouraged to attend if at all possible. *We are hoping for good weather for this meeting without snow.*

Nancy Wells will bring delegate forms for those who want to attend the Tennessee meeting in April, 2011.

The Convention is April 17th but our Federation President, Larry Cunningham, needs to know ASAP who all will be attending. He needs to appoint people to various committees but he cannot do that until he knows who is coming.

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.

Status of Current Legislation: for January 10th



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 February 2011

The Congressional Budget Office continues to raise the estimated federal deficit. The deficit is the difference between government expenditures and revenues. This is expected to reach \$1.480 trillion by the end of his fiscal year, September 30th. A deficit of this size will make our task of protecting the earned benefits of federal employees and retirees more difficult.

We are now in the 112th session of the U.S. Congress. NARFE Headquarters is asking us to contact our representatives, especially our new members and educate them on NARFE's priorities. Most of them have had little exposure to the federal civil service. There are numerous ways to make contact, personal visits, telephone calls, emails, Web sites, and invitations to speak. The next best time to make visits is during the period February 21-25, which is Presidents' Day recess. Talking points can be found by logging on to the NARFE Web site.

~~ Submitted by Glenn Turner - *Legislative Chair*

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Have you seen a Federal Ostrich? *The Federal Ostrich is an endangered species. It spends most of the time with its head in the sand and its butt in the air. They assume that the avoidance of participation in their own survival will not be a problem in the protection and retention of their earned benefits. Are you a Federal Ostrich?*

Pat M. Hagerty
National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Chapter 227
Treasurer
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US Postage Paid
Nashville, TN
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IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BY February 12, 2011

Current Resident or



Treasurer's Report: Current balance as of July 12th in Checking at SunTrust is **\$2,395.01** our CD at SunTrust is **\$937.98**, for a Total of **\$3,332.99**.

~~ Submitted by **Pat Hagerty – Treasurer**



Sunshine Report:

We have no new reports of illness or change in circumstances for our regular shut-ins. With the flu and other winter-time illnesses making the rounds, there surely are some sick about whom we have no news.

If you are ill or bereaved or know another member who is, please let me know so that we don't overlook anyone.

Meanwhile, take precautions and stay well if possible!

~~ 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 **January 7th**, **2** New members (Gary Fouts & James C. Rader), **13** Members sent Second Renewal Notice, **2** Members Passed Away (Agnes E. Gottfried & Lois B. Hoge), **2** Changes to address, Phone # or E-Mail.

New Membership Incentive Program

2 members sent Second Renewal Notice.

January 2010 Consumer Price News

Based on price index figures from July, August, and September of 2010, there will be no automatic cost of living adjustment (COLA) to federal pension annuities for 2011. 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 0.2 percent for the month of December 2010. The new CPI-W index figure is now 215.262, which is 0.11 percent below the 2008 third-quarter average of 215.495, which is the base figure for determining the next 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.

Determined by a different statutorily-set methodology, benefits awarded under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) to individuals suffering work-related injuries or illnesses, are adjusted according to each calendar year's percentage change in the CPI-W (rather than as measured by the change from the highest previous third quarter average). The December 2010 CPI-W figure (215.262) is 1.7% higher than the December 2009 index (211.703). Because of this, FECA benefits will increase by 1.7%, beginning March 1, 2011.

January consumer price indices will be released Thursday February 17, 2011.