



Nashville Chapter 227, Newsletter (January 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.

December 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 January, 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.

New Chapter Officers:

President: Tom Duncan
1st Vice President: Norris Alderson
2nd Vice President: Leo Baghdoian
Secretary: Nancy Wells
Treasurer: Pat Hagerty

Our January Program: On Monday January 10th 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, Discussion of new location for Chapter meetings.

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 December 13th



Every Month is NARFE PAC Month




Bill Name	Number of Sponsors
S. 491 - 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.	48 (19 R, 2 I, 27 D)
S. 484 - Repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision	31 (4 R, 1 I, 26 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.	213 (69 R, 144 D)
H.R. 235 - Repeal the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision	326 (107 R, 219 D)

Legislative Report for January 2011

NARFE members, Active, Retired, Spouses and Survivors are being targeted at this time by the budget cutters in Washington. It is up to us to let our representatives know that we were not the ones who caused the deficits and therefore should not be the ones held accountable to make up for the deficits and the budget shortfall. **The proposed reductions being considered by the Congress and the President are:** Freeze federal civilian pay for two or more years, Reduce or eliminate COLAs, Increase health care costs to federal active employees, retirees, spouses and survivors, Replace the GS pay system, Freeze or reduce step increases, annual and sick leave benefits, Cut federal civilian and military retirements by \$70 billion over 10 years, Increase employee retirement contributions, Not allow retirement until age 62 under any circumstances, Base civilian retirement annuity on the highest 5 years salary versus 3 years, and finally Reduce the federal workforce by 10%. If we remain silent, then some or all of these cuts will take place. Please log on to the NARFE Web site and send our two Senators and your Congressman a letter to help prevent this from occurring. It is very simple as the prepared letters are already in place. It only takes a couple of clicks to send the letters. If ever there was a need or reason to be a member of NARFE, it is now.

~~ Submitted by Glenn Turner - *Legislative Chair*
Phone: 615-352-1907
E-Mail: Glennturner01@comcast.net

 **Treasurer's Report:** Current balance as of July 12th in Checking at SunTrust is **\$2,309.83** our CD at SunTrust is **\$937.98**, for a Total of **\$3,247.81**.

~~ Submitted by Pat Hagerty – Treasurer

Pat M. Hagerty
National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Chapter 227
Treasurer
102 Poteat Place
Franklin, TN 37064

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US Postage Paid
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IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BY January 8, 2011

Current Resident or



Sunshine Report:

We received word of the death of **Agnes Evelyn Gottfried** and sent a card to her family, even though her passing was last spring. Sorry we didn't know sooner.

Laurine Kroutter is about the same, had a quiet Christmas, hopes to return home in the near future. Give her a call at 871-8644 - she is still at McKendree.

Chris Wasson is feeling some better, also had a quiet but good Christmas with family.

John Wells, our tireless editor, has had a long series of health problems this year, and if you heard them, you'd wonder how on earth he has been well enough to continue preparing our newsletter. When he is absent from the meetings, it's not for lack of desire to be with us.

Mary Lee Fielder has had a blood clot in the right leg but is improving.

For all these and all our members, we hope for a better New Year ahead and ability to attend our meetings--we really miss you when you're not there!

~~ Submitted by Mary Lee Fielder~~

Sunshine Chairperson Phone: 889-5689

E-Mail: maryleef@bellsouth.net

Membership: As of **October 18th** we have **337** Chapter Members (voting), **382** Total. As of **December 7th**, **2** New members (Julia Collins, & Betty J. Hogg), **1** Reinstatement, **4** Members sent Second Renewal Notice, **9** Changes to address, Phone # or E-Mail.

New Membership Incentive Program

2 members sent Second Renewal Notice.

November 2010 Consumer Price News

Based on price index figures from July, August, and September, 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 slightly, by 0.06 percent, for the month of November. The new CPI-W index figure is now 214.750, which is **0.35** 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 social security and federal government pension 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 in the third quarter average). The November 2010 CPI-W figure (214.750) is 1.4% higher than the December 2009 index (211.703).

December consumer price indices will be released Friday, January 14, 2011.

HELP NARFE STOP PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE REDUCTIONS BEFORE THEY BECOME LAW

- If you are a NARFE member: sign up your spouse as a member (spouse does not have to be a federal employee or retiree) & recruit others to join.
- If you are not a member: call 800-627-3394 and join with a credit card, or join online at www.NARFE.org
- and sign up your spouse.
- Use the NARFE Legislative Action Center at www.capwiz.com/narfe to respond to your Senators and Representative on legislative proposals identified by NARFE. NARFE also identifies your Senators and Representative, prepares a suggested response, and will either send a letter or an e-mail to them under your name. It takes only a few minutes to push a few computer buttons.
- Go to www.NARFE.org, go to home page, click on “Membership,” then click on “Join GEMS” to provide your e-mail address & ID# so that you receive NARFE’s weekly “Hotline legislative alerts.” (GEMS is NARFE’s e-mail system referred to as Global Electronic Messaging System. If you have forgotten your member ID#, it’s on the mailing label of your NARFE Magazine.) The weekly alert keep you apprised of legislative proposals, and provides a direct link so that you can respond to your Senators and Representative on specific legislative issues of concern.
- If you do not have/use a computer, call 1-877-217-8234 to hear the alerts. Call 1-866-220-0044, Capitol operator, to ask for and respond to your Representative and Senators.
- Make a direct contribution to NARFE-PAC via coupons in NARFE magazine to help NARFE lobbyists work on your behalf to oppose reductions in federal pay, retirement, health and other benefits.
- Sign up for dues withholding; it’s a win-win, you save money and so does NARFE.

“Ask not what NARFE can do for you, but what you can do for NARFE (see bulleted list above).”

“We can all hang together and support NARFE, or most assuredly the Congress and the President will hang us all separately.”