



Nashville Chapter 227. Newsletter (June 2011)

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

Officers: Tom Duncan, President 591-2528, Ext 122; 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.

Meeting Location until – August Manor at Steeplechase, 314 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, TN 37067

May Program: On Monday May 9th our meeting was called to order by President Tom Duncan, President. He welcomed new member, Carol Allen and first time attendee, Rubin Hernandez. Phyllis Brannon gave the devotional – “Our Sense of Values” and read a letter that she sent to her senators and representative. Val Brooks led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. We had 27 people in attendance.

Tom Duncan spoke about Glenn Turner’s week in Washington DC as the winner of the GEICO retired volunteer of the year. Glen Turner talked about the activities that he and his wife enjoyed while they were being honored. Glenn Turner gave the legislative report and encouraged everyone to log into NARFE.ORG and then go to the Heartbeat of America Campaign in order to send letters to their senators and representatives. Our goal is protect our benefits and keep our health care insurance affordable.

Leo Baghdoian reminded everyone that he is the Service Officer and that his job is to help survivors of NARFE members.

Our June Program: On Monday June 13th 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. Two items for discussion as New Business; Change from a 2nd Monday to 2nd Tuesday for our meetings, and Do we continue to have our meetings at **Manor at Steeplechase** or go to a new location.

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 May 9th



Every Month is NARFE PAC Month



No Bills at this time in 112th Congress

Take action to protect your benefits by sending your message to Capitol Hill! For access to your legislators’ bios, their positions on NARFE-supported bills and suggested text for you to send to your members of Congress, [CLICK HERE](#). (Note: By clicking on this link, you will be redirected to a different Web site.)

Legislative Report for May 2011

We do not have any hard legislation to report at this time; however we have numerous threats facing current and retired federal employees. To quote NARFE President Beaudoin, the Senate is about to vote on a disastrous budget proposal that would slash federal pay and retirements by \$375 billion over 10 years. The House of Representatives has already passed a budget proposal to cut 10 percent of the federal work force, reduce pay, and jeopardize benefits for those who have already retired. President Beaudoin is urging each of us to correspond with our representatives asking them to vote NO on penalizing current and retired federal employees. NARFE has prepared letters on the NARFE Web site. Please log on and send these letters. <http://www.narfe.org/heartbeat/index.cfm>

May 1st thru May 7th was recognized as public service week. The First Lady, Michel Obama released a statement praising all public servants. President Obama released a statement praising federal employees when he said it is our federal workers who help make America all it is by responding to the needs of our people and keeping our country safe and secure.

~~ Submitted by **Glenn Turner** - Legislative Chair

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NARFE Member Honored by GEICO.

Glenn Turner, a member of NARFE Chapter 227 in Nashville, TN, has been named the winner in the retiree category of the GEICO Public Service Award. Each year, GEICO publicly recognizes government employees and one federal retiree for their “special achievements and contributions to the public good.”

Turner, a Korean War veteran, was honored for his volunteer work with veterans, including Team River Runner, an organization that introduces wounded service members to whitewater and adventure kayaking. He also volunteers at the VA Healthcare and Benefits Information Fair and motivates veterans to participate in the Nashville-Davidson County Veterans Day Parade.

Pat M. Hagerty
National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Chapter 227
Treasurer
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Non-Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Nashville, TN
Permit No. 844

IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BY June 10, 2011
Current Resident or



Treasurer's Report: Current balance as of May 9th in Checking at SunTrust is \$1,544.61 our CD at SunTrust is \$937.98, for a Total of \$2,482.59.

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



Sunshine Report: Nancy Wells had the misfortune of a fall on May 11, requiring surgery to place 3 screws in her hip, with strict orders for no weight-bearing for 6 weeks. It is possible hip replacement could be necessary in the future, but she's being a good girl to try to avoid that. She was in the hospital 4 days and must have blood checked 3 times a week because of the blood-thinner. Send her a card at P. O. Box 593, Brentwood, TN 37024-0593, or call at 377-9011.

Chris Wasson reports she is feeling a little stronger, and the lilt was back in her voice. Send her a card at 927 Potter Lane, Nashville, TN 37206-1117, or phone at 227-3064.

~~ Submitted by **Mary Lee Fielder** ~~

Sunshine Chairperson Phone: 889-5689

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Membership: As of **April 18th** we have **343** Chapter Members (voting), **387** Total. As of **May 6th**, **1** Reinstatement, **1** Member passed Away (Allen W. Collins), **3** Members sent Second Renewal Notice, **9** Dropped for Non-Renewal.

April Consumer Price News

The CPI-W (Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers) increased by 0.78 percent for the month of April 2011. The new CPI-W index figure is now 221.743, which is 2.9 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.

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) was 1.7% higher than the December 2009 index (211.703). Because of this, FECA benefits increased by 1.7%, beginning March 1, 2011. Looking forward to a potential FECA COLA for March 2012, the April 2011 CPI-W figure (221.743) is 3.01 percent higher than the December 2010 figure (215.262).

May CPI-W will be released **Wednesday, June 15, 2011.**