



Nashville Chapter 227, Newsletter (March 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 6 months March – August

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

February Program: On Monday February 14th our meeting was called to order by President – Nancy Wells at 12:45 PM. Nancy Wells gave the devotional - “Heart prints”, filling in for Phyllis Brannon. Val Brooks led us in the pledge. We had 26 people attend (3 New Chapter Members, **Monte & Jan Hollowell**, and **Gary Fouts**). Marie Anglin gave a reading in honor of Ms. **Elizabeth Pine**, who died on January 14, 2011. She was 94 years young.

A WONDERFUL LIFE, LIVED.

I shall pass through this world but once.

**Any good therefore that I can do
or any kindness that**

**I can show to any human being
let me do it now.**

Installation of New Chapter Officers was followed by a discussion of new meeting locations for the Chapter. After much deliberation it was voted on and passed that we would meet at the [Manor at Steeplechase](#) in Cool Springs for the next 6 months. All members need to be looking for new places for our meetings so we are prepared in August to pick a new location.

Our March Program: On Monday March 14th 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 \$8.50) 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
<i>No Bills at this time in 112th Congress</i>	0
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 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

NARFE HQ has launched an aggressive national campaign: “Protect America’s Heartbeat”. Everyday America’s federal workers protect the heartbeat of this great country – but now we are under attack. The recent report by the Fiscal Commission proposed cutting federal retirement by \$70 billion over ten years and slashing the federal workforce by 10%. It is up to us to respond by contacting our U.S House of Representative and our two U.S. Senators and urge them to oppose recommendations contained in the Fiscal Commission report. Federal workers have sacrificed on pay and benefits already –singling us out for further cuts is going too far. There is much more in this report affecting current and retired federal workers such as requiring us to pay an increasingly higher share of our Federal Health Benefits Premium. Please log on to the NARFE Web site and send an already prepared letter to your representative and both senators objecting to the recommended cuts. [Visit NARFE Legislative Action Center](#)

~~ 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 February 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:** We regret having lost two members recently - **Elizabeth Pine** passed away in January. She had been in ill health from a fall and was not able to attend many meetings, so very few knew her, but she was a pleasant lady who lived a full life. A sympathy card was sent to her son, Greg.

Pam Merrill, who also had a number of physical problems, passed away on February 23. There will be a Celebration of Life at Greater Nashville United Universalist Church, 374 Hicks Road, on Saturday, March 19, 2 PM. Our deepest sympathy to her husband, B. J. Harris.

~~ 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 **February 4th**, **5** New members (Robert L. Foster, Eileen J. Jacobi, Phyllis A. Lewis & James S. Tesar), **3** Members transferred from another Chapter (Monte Hollowell, Jan Hollowell & Barbara Miner), **1** Reinstatement, **12** Members sent Second Renewal Notice, **1** Member Passed Away (H. A. Phillips), **2** Dropped for Non-Renewal.

New Membership Incentive Program

2 Reinstatement (Frederick Tidwell & Lloyd Mueller); 3 members sent Second Renewal Notice.

January 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) was 1.7% higher than the December 2009 index (211.703). Because of this, FECA benefits will increase by 1.7%, beginning March 1, 2011. Looking forward to a potential FECA COLA for March 2012. The January 2011 CPI-W figure (216.400) is 0.5 percent higher than the December 2010 figure (215.262).

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