



Nashville Chapter 227, Newsletter (January 2012)

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.

Next meeting Monday January 9, 2012 at NHC Place in Cool Springs

December Program: On Monday December 12th the meeting was opened by Tom Duncan, we had 48 attendees at the Luncheon. A great meal was had by all. Then we all learned a new game Christmas Bingo.

Chapter Officers for 2012 were Installed by John Wells, Tennessee Federation 1st Vice President.

No business meeting this time.

Our 2012 Nashville Chapter 227 Elected Officers:

Tom Duncan, President 591-2528, Ext 122;

Norris Alderson,

1st Vice President-Membership 435-3202;

Leo Baghdoian 2nd Vice President-Service 591-2558;

Nancy Wells, Secretary 218-1003;

Pat Hagerty, Treasurer 794-0474;

Check out our Chapter website for a full listing of all Elected and Appointed Chapter Officers

<http://www.narfetn-nashville.org/>



Our January Program: On Monday

January 9th plan on joining our Chapter members at **NHC Place**. This is a new location for the Chapter on a trial basis. Expect that we will be trying several new locations as we look for one that can meet our needs with some expansion possibilities and most of all is available at no cost to us. We will have lunch at noon, with the Chapter business meeting starting at 1:00pm.

The speaker is Hertha Hines. She is Director of Community Relations, NHC Place, and will be speaking on the subject of Nursing Care.

Directions: From the West or North, on I-65 South, take exit 68B, follow signs for West Cool Springs Blvd. Keep straight on Cool Springs Blvd for about 1 mile, **NHC Place** (first right turn after Manor at Steeplechase; first right after you pass McEwen Drive), **211 Cool springs Blvd**. Park in any of the non-reserved spaces all around the building. Enter the front, take the hallway to the left; the Community Room will be on your left.

Status of Current Legislation: for December 12th



Every Month is NARFE PAC Month



No Bills at this time in 112th Congress

Not much activity on anything affecting NARFE Members, Congress trying to keep the Government funded and head home for Christmas.

~~ Submitted by **Carey Frazier** - Legislative Chair

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Treasurer's Report: Current balance as of December 12th; in Checking at SunTrust was **\$1,544.02**, our CD at SunTrust is **\$937.98**, for a Total of **\$2,482.00**.

We had 48 members/guests attend our Christmas luncheon on 12-12, and subsidized the cost @\$5 per person for a total of \$240.

~~ Submitted by **Pat Hagerty** - Treasurer



Sunshine Report: **Lucy Gresham** (keeper of the name tags) has not been able to attend for several months because she had a bad reaction to some medication. She is still weak but is better and hopes to make our next meeting.

Chris Wasson was not strong enough to make the Christmas Luncheon, but she now sounds more chipper. She has to be very careful during the bad weather not to associate with others who may not be well, as she doesn't need another bout of pneumonia. For your ray of sunshine, call her at 227-3064--she will cheer you up!

Please let me know if you are sick or know of others who are - it's important to keep in touch. I always send cards and call if a phone number is available.

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

Sunshine Chairperson Phone: **889-5689**

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Permit No. 844

IMPORTANT DATED MATERIAL
DELIVER BY January 7, 2012
Current Resident or

Membership: As of **October 17th** we have **324** Chapter Members (voting), **368** Total. As of **December 6th**, 1 Member transferred out of chapter. 3 Members (**Wayne R. Brindley, Bradley B. Hoot & Lynda D. Lemay**) transferred from another chapter or LSA. 3 Reinstatements, 7 Members sent Second Renewal Notice, 1 Member passed away (**Alice L. Gies**), 2 Dropped for Non-Renewal.

New Membership Incentive Program: 1 Member (**Henry Atkinson**) Transferred from another Chapter or LSA. 1 Member transferred out of Chapter. Of 368 only 136 have e-mail and have given it to NARFE

\$\$ November Consumer Price News

December 16, 2011

Federal retirees will receive a cost of living adjustment (COLA) to their civil service annuities beginning in January 2012. Retirees in the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) will receive a **3.6** percent increase to their annuities, while retirees in the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) will receive a **2.6** percent increase to their annuities.

The new CPI-W figure for November 2011 was 222.813. The average CPI-W for the third-quarter of 2011 was 223.233. This is the new reference figure for determining the 2013 COLA.

To trigger a COLA for 2012, the average CPI-W for the months of July, August, and September of 2011 needed to rise above the 2008 average for those same months, the last measurement to trigger a COLA (for 2009). It did, by 3.6 percent. While CSRS retirees receive the full amount of the CPI-W increase as a COLA, current law reduces the FERS COLA by 1 percentage point for increases above 3 percent.

COLA Announced: Cont.)

Because the CPI-W showed declining prices from 2008 to 2009, and while it showed prices increasing between 2009 and 2010, it did not show prices increasing back to 2008 levels, there has not been a COLA for the last two years. But finally, we had some good news for 2012!

Under current law, COLAs for federal retirement annuities, as well as for military retiree annuities and social security payments, are determined in reference to the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which is calculated by economists and statisticians with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The CPI-W is the current index used for measuring increases in the prices of consumer goods throughout the economy. It includes prices on all consumer goods, including food and beverages, housing, clothing, transportation, medical care, recreation, education and communication, and more.

NARFE continues to support strong COLAs based on fair assessments of increases in consumer prices to protect the value of federal annuities from inflation.

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 November 2011 CPI-W figure (222.813) is 3.51 percent higher than the December 2010 figure (215.262).

December consumer price indices will be released Thursday, **January 19, 2012.**
