

# NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOC. CHAPTER #108 - CHATTANOOGA, TN



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January 5, 2007

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NEXT MEETING - Friday, January 12, 2007, at Wally's Restaurant, Ringgold Road at 1-75, East Ridge. This will be a luncheon meeting starting at 12:00 noon. All members, prospective members and visitors are invited. Order from the menu or enjoy the buffet. (Eat at 11:30.)

PROGRAM - Our long-standing custom has been to dedicate our January meeting to a memorial service for members who have died during the previous year. The **Rev. Ray Walker**, a retired Baptist minister, has again graciously agreed to conduct this service.

COLA - The January checks for Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) retirees and Social Security recipients reflected an increase of **3.3** percent (Federal Employees Retirement System {FERS} annuitants age 62 and over, as well as FERS survivors and disability retirees received the full Social Security COLA, but their FERS annuity adjustment was **2.3** percent). The new accounting period starting October 1, 2006 reflected a drop of 0.1 percent, with a further drop of 2.1 percent in November. The December consumer price indices will be released January 18, 2007.

ALZHEIMER'S FUND - **Mr. Dan Lorden** has asked that he be relieved from handling this fund after over five years. We need someone to take over this worthy project and so advise **Elmer Gillespie** at 894-1606. The November meeting produced \$138, of which \$113 went to the National fund and \$25 to the local Alzheimer's Chapter. The year's total for 2006 shows \$681 was sent to the National research effort and \$275 for local care giving, a grand total of \$956.

DEFENDING EXISTING BENEFITS - Pages 10 thru 12 of the January *NARFE* magazine discuss the budgetary woes facing the new Congress. While federal retirement is not part of the problem, our earned annuities could be affected by efforts to cut spending in general and in entitlement programs.

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## IN MEMORIAM

<i>Wallace D. Allison</i>	<i>June 10, 2006</i>
<i>Henry John Coy</i>	<i>Dec. 17, 2006</i>
<i>Willa Maxine Craig</i>	<i>Aug. 22, 2006</i>
<i>Dorsie R. Guthrie</i>	<i>Aug. 25, 2006</i>
<i>Lloyd S. Ledbetter</i>	<i>Mar. 16, 2006</i>
<i>Dorothy R. Lingerfelt</i>	<i>Sep.. 02, 2006</i>
<i>Mary L. O'Kelley</i>	<i>Dec. 04, 2006</i>

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MEMBERSHIP - Eight letters were mailed to members who had received second dues notices. We need to maintain our membership in NARFE, the only organization which represents us in Congress. Please keep your dues current.

### ADDRESS CHANGES

**Robert A. Bailey**, 1611 Glowmont Dr., Apt. B, East Ridge TN 37412-3505.

**Julia Barry**, 1417 N. Mack Smith Rd., Apt. 235, East Ridge, TN 37412-4401.

**Sylvia D. Brumlow**, P.O. Box #240, Sale Creek, TN 37373-0240.

**Barbara A. Davis**, 4438 Forsythia Way, Ooltewah, TN 37363-4879.

**Robert T. Gorman**, 6705 Ballard Dr., Chattanooga, TN 37421-2746

CONVENTION - The Tennessee Federation Convention will be held April 16-17, 2007 at Days Inn, Knoxville (at Exit #108, IS #75). We should have registration forms at our January meeting.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES - At press time, the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress is about to open. Bills which will ease or abolish the government pension offset (GPO) and windfall elimination provision (WEP) and to allow retirees to pay FEHBP premiums with pre-tax money, as is allowed for active employees, are sure to be introduced in the early days of this session.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!!