

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



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NEXT MEETING - Friday, May 11, 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.)

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*IN MEMORIAM*

Mrs. Livonia Tipps

April 3, 2007

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PROGRAM - Our chapter delegates who attended the Tennessee Federation Convention at Knoxville will give a report on the convention proceedings.

ADDRESS CHANGE

- Mrs. Helen W. Madron, 9691 Collier Place, Ooltewah, TN 37363-4877.

COLA - Halfway through the counting period for determining the next federal retiree and Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA), the cumulative figure is 0.8 percent. This reflects March's 1.0 percent increase over the February figure which had indicated a negative amount. The data for April will be released by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

MEMBERSHIP - The semi-annual membership roster for chapter #108, just received, lists 261 members. Several are in surrounding towns and a few in other States. However, the greater majority reside in the Chattanooga area. Attendance at our last two monthly meetings was very low. A lot of effort is made to print and mail a newsletter announcing each meeting. When only a handful of members show up, it is very discouraging, particularly embarrassing when we have invited a guest speaker. It would be most appreciated if more would make a special effort to come and have lunch with us at Wally's in East Ridge on the second Friday of each month.

STATE CONVENTION - Three delegates from chapter #108 attended the State Federation Convention at Knoxville on April 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. There were approximately 100 members present. Honored guests were Mrs. Margaret L. Baptiste, National President, NARFE and Mr. Joseph Beaudoin, Region X Field Vice President.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES - NARFE-supported legislation for Premium Conversion, H.R.#1110 and S.#773 have recently garnered more co-sponsors thanks largely to efforts of NARFE activists. The latest count for H.R.#1110 is 133, including 3 from Tennessee (one of which is 3<sup>rd</sup> District's Zach Wamp). S.#773 now has 22. The bills for repealing the Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), H.R.#82 and S.#206, also have new co-sponsors. The new total for H.R.#82 is 289 with 5 from Tennessee (including Cong. Wamp). The Senate bill, S.#206, now has 26 co-sponsors. However, Senator Alexander and Senator Corker have not as yet shown support for either of the Senate bills cited.

ALZHEIMER'S FUND - Even though we no longer take up a collection at each chapter meeting, please continue making donations whenever possible. See page 47 in the May issue of NARFE magazine for a coupon. Help NARFE reach its Alzheimer's research goal of \$7 million in 2007.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS -

- Mrs. Catherine F. Allshouse, 9212 Fuller Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421-4410. Tel. 894-9755. (Mrs. Allshouse transferred from a chapter in Elgin, IL)
- Ms. Cheri Hubbard, 842 Fairmount Avenue, Signal Mountain, TN 37377-2448.