



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

September 7, 2007

Elmer Gillespie, President - 894-1606

Donald V. Geoffrion, Editor - 886-0439

NEXT MEETING - Friday, September 14, 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 - At press time, efforts are being made to arrange for a guest speaker. Should these efforts fail, we will discuss issues of importance to our National Association and our local chapter.

OCTOBER PROGRAM - We will again welcome Linda Holbrook of Blue Cross/Blue Shield as guest speaker for our October meeting (Oct. 12th). She will discuss year 2008 changes in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). Linda always gives an excellent presentation of what to expect in FEHBP coverage in the forthcoming year.

COLA - The Consumer Price Index for Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for July went down **0.1** percent from the June index. The cumulative figure for the next Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) is now **2.3** percent. The August index will appear Sept. 19, 2007.

STATE CONVENTION - The 2008 NARFE Tennessee Federation will be hosted by the Nashville chapter and will take place at Montgomery Bell State Park, Aril 28/29, 2008. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this convention.

ADDRESS CHANGES -

- Change address of **Mrs. Evelyn Roark** to 2425 Charleston Square, Chattanooga TN 37421-1837.
- Change address of **Mr. Carl W. Goodman** to Apt. 26, 1175 Pineville Road, Chattanooga TN 37405-2648.

MEMBERSHIP - Three letters were mailed to prospective members and one letter to a member who had been dropped for non-payment of dues.

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IN MEMORIAM

<i>Dr. F. Bruce Monroe</i>	<i>Aug. 12, 2007</i>
<i>Mrs. Olla O. Mountain</i>	<i>Aug. 30, 2007</i>

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NARFE - One of America's oldest and largest associations, NARFE, was founded in 1921 with the mission of protecting the rights and benefits of America's active and retired federal workers. As the largest federal employee/retiree organization, NARFE represents the retirement interests of nearly 5 million current and future retired federal annuitants, spouses and survivors.

CREDIT CARD SCAM - If someone calls you claiming to be from a credit card company, and asks for any information on your card for verification or other purposes - especially the card number on the back of the card, **DO NOT GIVE ANY INFORMATION FROM YOUR CREDIT CARD.** Instead, get his or her name and number, hang up and call the credit card service number on the back of your card to report it to service's fraud department. Note the similar scams discussed in the article "*Older but (Not Necessarily) Wiser*" on pages 26/27 of the September issue of *NARFE* magazine.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES - Congress came back in session on Tuesday, September 4th. We hope to hear of increased numbers of co-sponsors on the bills of priority interest to federal annuitants. These include the two seeking repeal of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). They are, (with present co-sponsors) **H.R.#82 (324)** & **S.#206 (33)**. The two bills dealing with Premium Conversion (and their co-sponsors) are **H.R.#1110 (240)** and **S.#773 (45)**. NARFE members across the country met with their congressional delegations during the August recess, seeking further co-sponsorship of these bills.

My minister told me that at my age, I should be giving some thought to what he called "The Hereafter". I told him that I think about it many times a day. "That's very wise" he said. I explained that it's not a matter of wisdom. It's when I open a drawer or a closet and ask myself, "What am I here after?"