



NEWSLETTER

December, 2008

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter No. 214 – Hendersonville, NC 28792

Paul J. Boudreaux
President
697-2034

Frank Coperich
VP/Membership
692-4566

VP/Program

Joyce Armstrong
Treasurer
691-3244

Marlene Jimenez
Secretary/Editor
697-2112

George Butler
Service Officer
890-5610

Bill Hickling
Asst Svc Officer
864-5263

OUR January 16, 2009 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE VILLAGE CENTER OF FLAT ROCK
[Meeting/Program 10:00 AM - Coffee]

{REMINDER: No school, due to snow, no meeting}

December 19, 2008 Program

Paul and Penny have invited us to their home. We will also have officer installation.

January 16, 3009 Program: Dr. George A. Jones, representing the Henderson County Genealogical & Historical Society.

(We are privileged to have him join us – he has extensive background concerning Henderson County and is very familiar with genealogical research techniques. You will benefit from attending the January '09 meeting. Bring a friend.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season! I look forward to continuing to serve as your President in 2009. On behalf of all the Officers of NARFE Chapter 214, we wish you and yours the most bountiful blessings during this wonderful season!

Due to the extraordinary negative response to Blue Cross/Blue Shield's unilateral action to exclude **non-preferred providers** in surgical and anesthesia cost reimbursement until the catastrophic cost limit is exceeded (\$7,500.00), the Office of Personnel Management has decided to extend the FEHBP Open Season until January 31, 2009. You will have this extra time to evaluate whether you should change plans from the popular BC/BS program to another FEHBP plan. In addition to the exclusion of surgical and anesthesia costs by non-preferred providers, BC/BS has raised the cost of the **non-generic** prescription mail-in drug costs from \$35.00 to \$65.00 for a 90 day prescription drug. BC/BS has agreed to give members the first four generic drug mail-in prescriptions at no cost. After the first four mail-in prescriptions, the cost reverts back to \$10 per prescription. BC/BS has also raised its copayment for Preferred

Provider office visits from \$15 to \$20. The extended Open Season also applies to the Dental and Vision coverage plans. If you are now in a BC/BS plan and wish to change to a new plan because of these costs, any medical services rendered after January 1, 2009 should be billed to the new plan. Each of you who have the BC/BS plan your circumstances before you decide to take any action. It may be that you can be certain that all your providers are **preferred providers** and thus there will be a minimal cost impact to your health care expense.

As a reminder, the open season for the FEHBP selection of health care insurance has been extended until January 31, 2009. Be sure to contact OPM toll free at 1-800-332-9798 if you have not received information about the selections for next year's health care plans. You will need your annuity claim number (CSA or CSF) and your social security number.

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(President's Message continued from Page 1)

In this Christmas Season, I would like to leave with you a wonderful thought from the sacred Hindu scripture, Bhagavad Gita, "A gift is pure when it is given from the heart to the right person at the right time and at the right place, and when we are expecting nothing in return."



2009 Officers

CHAPTER 214 OFFICERS

President: Paul J. Boudreaux
VP Membership: Frank Coperich
VP Program: Frank Coperich
Treasurer – Joyce L. Armstrong
Secretary(s): Lenelle Perry
Marlene Jimenez

Our 2009 officers will be installed by Past President, Walter Smith, on Friday, December 19, 2008.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS.

Attendance: Lenelle Perry
Alzheimers: Walter Smith
Co-Chair Lisa Wehrheim
Bulletin: Marlene Jimenez
Chaplain: Earl Smith
Mailing: Lenelle Perry
Service Officer: George Butler
Asst Svc Officer: William Hickling
Sunshine: Penny Boudreaux
Telephone: Marty Kuhn

FYI: Anyone with change of address or telephone, please call 1-800-456-8410 and let NARFE/Hqs know. Also please inform Lenelle Perry (696-9490).

NEW MEMBER:

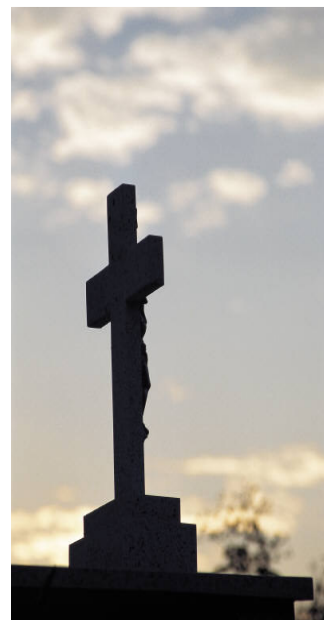
Joan P. Gillespie, 165 Ewbank Gardens Dr, Apt B, H'ville 28791-2290 (693-4430)

In Memoriam

*Lois Morgan
Died Monday,
November 24, 2008*

[Former long-time and active member of Chapter 214]

We mourn her passing and extend our love and sympathy to Olin Morgan.



**VILLAGE CENTER OF FLAT ROCK OFFICIAL VILLAGE HALL
110 VILLAGE CENTER DR – January 16, 2009**

Marlene B. Jimenez, Editor
(697-2112)

marbj@juno.com