



NEWSLETTER

November, 2009

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter No. 214 – Hendersonville, NC 28792

Paul J. Boudreaux President 697-2034	Frank Coperich VP/Membership 692-4566	Frank Coperich VP/Program 692-4566	Joyce Armstrong Treasurer 702-6718	Marlene Jimenez Secretary/Editor 697-2112	George Butler Service Officer 890-5610	Bill Hickling Asst Svc Officer 684-5263
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OUR DECEMBER 18, 2009 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT PAUL BOUDREAUX'S HOME
[Telephone Paul for directions]

November 20, 2009 Program: Hal Price, President, Cornerstone Retirement Planning, LLC and his Associate, Steve England.

December 18 Program: Meeting/Party with Paul & Penney

January 15, 2010 Program: Mrs. Janice Payne, representing Empowering, Inc, which provides supportive recovery programs for women by coordinating community outreach and individual services.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Next month's Message will bring to a close my tenure as your Chapter 214 President. These past three years have been fulfilling and, I hope, productive towards protecting our earned retirement benefits. I have truly enjoyed your support and friendship. I now look forward to playing a different role as one of the Chapter Vice Presidents. Every organization needs to give an opportunity to new leadership so that it can grow and prosper. Our new Chapter Officers will be sworn in at the December 18th meeting at my home in Flat Rock. Once again, Penny and I will be hosting the meeting and serving a complementary lunch for those in attendance. The December NARFE meeting will not be at the Flat Rock Village Hall.

The results are in on the second balloting for the NARFE Dues Referendum. Nearly 43% of you cast your ballot, a remarkable turnout! In a vote of almost 14 to 1 against, you voted "No" to the Referendum. Of the possible 212 members, 92 voted: 86 voted "No", 6 voted "Yes". Thus our four NARFE Chapter 214 votes (1 each for every 50 members) will be cast as "No" against the Referendum.

On September 24th, the House voted overwhelmingly, 406 - 18 for legislation (H.R. 3631) to protect all Medicare Part B beneficiaries from a premium increase in 2010, including federal retirees who are not eligible to receive Social Security benefits. NARFE President Margaret L. Baptiste asks each NARFE member to urge their Senators to quickly pass the Medicare Premium Fairness Act (H.R. 3631) to allow the Medicare agency to prepare for 2010 by preventing the rate hike. Since Social Security recipients and Federal Retirees will not be receiving a 2010 COLA, the existing law only prevents MEDICARE cost from rising for Social Security recipients, not Federal Retirees. This proposed legislation would amend the law to add Federal Retirees who do not receive Social Security from having to pay increased MEDICARE costs

when there is no COLA for that year. However, the Senate has not addressed this legislation. I urge each of you to contact Senator Burr and Senator Hagan to urge them to support Medicare Fairness legislation that the House has already overwhelmingly passed (H.R. 36310).

On November 13th, the Office of Personnel Management announced that the recent Long Term Care Insurance Partners' mailing to certain enrollees with automatic compound inflation protection option contains errors in the "Benefit Amount." Corrected letters are to be sent in December. The toll free number for Long Term Care Insurance Partners is 1-800-582-3337. Additional information is posted on the NARFE web site (at <http://www.narfe.org/departments/guest/articles.cfm?ID=1949>). This only pertains to retirees who have joined the Long Term Care Insurance Program.

As I look back over the past three years that I have had the privilege of serving as your Chapter President, I can not help but reflect on how many times we as a Chapter have been called upon to help defend our earned benefits. This has been especially true in the last eighteen months. We must never feel complacent and think that just because we have rightfully earned our retirement benefits, therefore, they will continue to be paid to us and our dependants. NARFE is the only organized group that has as its sole purpose for existence, the protection of those earned rights and benefits. Our new leadership:

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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National, State Federation and local Chapter must pick up the mantle and move aggressively toward maintaining these protections and seek ways to improve our alertness towards any potential reduction of those earned benefits.

I shall conclude my message to you with a quote from our seventh President of the United States: *"But you must remember, my fellow-citizens, that eternal vigilance by the people is the price of liberty, and that you must pay the price if you wish to secure the blessing. It behooves you, therefore, to be watchful in your States as well as in the Federal Government."* -- Andrew Jackson (1829–1837), Farewell Address, March 4, 1837.

CALLERS: Pls note below info and add to or change your calling list numbers. THANKS

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 Members:
Carolyn Prater, 420 Woodbyne Ave, H'ville 28739 (696-2903)

Transfer Member:
Barbara Bethman, P.O. Box 147, Edneyville 28727-0147 (685-1705)

2 Year Special Members:
Steven L. Gadson, 402 Haven Hill Ln, Flat Rock 28731-8730 (595-3739)
Mary Hughes, 1818 Laurel Park Hwy, H'ville 28739-4602 (692-7786)

PLEASE NOTE THAT JOYCE ARMSTRONG HAS A TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGE: (702-6718)

JOIN NARFE
Contact Frank Coperich
692-4566
Vice President
Membership

**DO
YOU
HAVE
YOUR
RECRUITMENT
PACKAGE
IN
YOUR
CAR?**

A "Maxim" or two by
La Rochefoucauld

"#356 As a rule we only praise unreservedly those who admire us."

"#358 Humility is the real key to the Christian virtues, for without it we keep all our faults which pride merely conceals from others and often from ourselves."

"#375 Commonplace minds usually condemn whatever is beyond their powers."

Chapter 214 slate of nominated officers and committee chairpersons for the year 2010:

President Chapter 214
Ray Carter

1st Vice President, Membership
Paul Boudreaux

2nd Vice President, Programs
Frank Coperich
Assistant: Katie DeKay

Treasurer
Joyce Armstrong

Secretary / Editor
Marlene Jimenez

Minutes / Attendance / Mailing
Lenelle Perry

Chaplain
Earl Smith

Service Officer
George Butler
Assistant: Need a volunteer

Alzheimers
Walter Smith
Lisa Wehrheim

Sunshine
Penny Boudreaux

Telephone
Marty Kuhn (Penny Boudreaux,
Pat Coperich, Carolyn Entwistle, Lyn Massie, Blondell Mease, John Sanders, Virginia Welke)