



NEWSLETTER

September, 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 808-1727	Marlene Jimenez Secretary/Editor 697-2112	George Butler Service Officer 890-5610	Bill Hickling Asst Svc Officer 864-5263
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OUR OCTOBER 16, 2009 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE VILLAGE CENTER OF FLAT ROCK
[Meeting/Program 10:00 AM - Coffee]

September 18, 2009 Program: Hal Price, President, Cornerstone Retirement Planning, LLC and his Associate, Steve England. {Note: Mr. Price's scheduling was changed, unavoidably. He has asked to be rescheduled for NARFE at another date. Hal Price & his Assoc Steve England extend their apologies.}

October 16, 2009 Program:
Chapter discussions re future plans.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

September begins the Fall Season and the beautiful colors of the season will soon be here in WNC. Much has occurred since the beginning of summer. Premium Conversion is still in limbo and is currently being considered for inclusion in the Health Care Reform bills in congress. With the economy still in the doldrums, the Consumers Price Index (CPI) for 2009 will probably not trigger a COLA for 2010. However, there is talk in Congress, and at NARFE Headquarters, to support an additional tax credit for CSRS retirees (in addition to the \$250.00 tax credit already authorized) should social security recipients receive an additional economic stimulus to help offset the loss of a 2010 COLA. Since CSRS retirees do not typically receive social security payments, if

congress grants additional help to offset the absence of a COLA in 2010, NARFE wants CSRS retirees to also receive the same benefit. As yet, none of this is final, but it is actively being discussed.

The Area I Annual Picnic hosted by the Ashville Chapter 156 was a great success. The beautiful day was topped off by a profitable theme basket raffle to raise funds for Alzheimer research.

Our local Chapter 214 in Hendersonville has received ballots from NARFE Headquarters for the referendum on NARFE dues. Later this fall we will be given the opportunity to vote on a referendum to chapters for a National Bylaws amendment to provide for a single dues structure for NARFE membership. This was a decision made by the National Executive Board in a meeting on March 4, 2009. The voting will be by chapter as it is at National Conventions with each chapter allowed 1 vote per 50 members. However, input into each chapter's decision is needed and desired from all members. To that end, NARFE will dedicate an issue of the NARFE magazine this fall that

will provide information and answer questions to help understand the referendum as we seek your input. Reasons for the change in dues structure as *outlined by our National Executive Board* is as follows:

- a. The adoption of the referendum would put to rest the constant arguments of the chapter requirement. There would be no National dues or Chapter dues - there would be **ONE** dues, the NARFE dues.
- b. The referendum would certainly help our retention efforts. Members could choose to participate in chapter activities our not and both ways they would have one simple and easy dues.
- c. The referendum would enhance our recruiting efforts. We will have one dues for new members. No longer would we have to answer what happens after the first year membership fee expires - we presently have to tell potential members that dues depend on the chapter of assignment. Special member categories, such as Life members etc., would maintain their current payment status. Also, Chapters and Federations would be allotted a portion for the NARFE dues to continue their local and state activities. Watch for a special **REFERENDUM** newsletter issue this fall.

Since attendance at monthly meetings is sometimes sparse, a possible issue for

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Cont'd

discussion at our next monthly meeting should be: "Should we continue with monthly meetings?" Other WNC chapters hold quarterly meetings. Perhaps, Chapter 214 should also consider this meeting schedule. Let me hear from the membership on this issue. Since only 1 in 10 Chapter members actually attend monthly meetings, and our attempts to recruit new officers for the Chapter has failed to produce volunteer candidates for the 2010 year, a quarterly schedule may serve as an enticement to serve as an officer in the chapter. This is especially true since I will be leaving office at the end of my third term in December 2009. Please let me, or any other officer of the chapter, know your feelings on these issues – or better still – come and express your opinion at the October meeting at the Flat Rock Village Hall on October 16th.

My thought for this month comes from Joseph Addison (1672-1719), an English essayist, poet and politician: *"True happiness ... arises, in the first place, from the enjoyment of one's self."*

JOIN NARFE
Contact Frank Coperich
692-4566
Vice President
Membership

In Memoriam

We mourn the passing of

Donald W. Hughes
March 7, 2009

Julia L. Pace (101 yrs)
July 30, 2009

Ernest Stahlberg
September 2, 2009

Our love and sympathy goes
out to their families.

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).

Member Transferred to 214: Judith Tuthill, 334 Crab Creek Rd, H'ville 28739-8431 (693-7745)

Voluntary Cancellation of Membership: : Margaret D. Wein

Address Change: Mark P. Carstens, 119 Wakefield Dr, H'ville 28792-3041 (329-9234)

PLEASE NOTE THAT JOYCE ARMSTRONG HAS A TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGE: (808-1727)

Editor's Note to Chapter 214

Your vote is needed ~ either YES or NO on the 2009 NARFE Due Referendum. In that regard included with this issue is a **SPECIAL VOTER'S COUPON**. **Please vote and both print & sign your name and send to our Chapter 214 President by November 1st**

Paul J. Boudreaux
312 Silent Rise Ln
Flat Rock, NC 28731

In order to make the best decision, please read page 43 of the August, 2009 NARFE Magazine (copy of page 43 also included)

This referendum basically means that all dues will now be about \$40.00 each. \$9 is returned to the chapter; \$4 goes to Federation and the rest to National. There will some differences in the dues for National Only / Honorary / Life Members – see page 43.

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Please make an effort to attend Chapter 214 discussion on this and other issues on October 16.

Marlene B. Jimenez, Editor (697-2112) marbj@juno.com