



# **NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**

**Chapter 860 Cleveland, Tennessee 37312 December 2010**

**Don Ledford, President Jim Burner, Vice-President Danny Britt, Secretary and Treasurer  
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Visit [www.narfeclevelandtn.org](http://www.narfeclevelandtn.org)**

## **ATTENTION ACTIVE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**

*If you are not a member of NARFE, please consider joining our organization so you can have*

- *A voice on Capitol Hill*
- *Advanced information on changes to your federal benefits and guidance to help you make the best choices pre- and post-retirement*
- *An award winning monthly magazine and exclusive Web site access*
- *Member perks and*
- *Eligibility for college scholarships and disaster relief grants*

*NARFE is an advocate for both active and retired federal employees before Congress and the White House. Our mission is to safeguard and enhance federal employee benefits, retirement benefits, and pay issues for active federal employees and annuitants.*

**Visit the website NARFE.org for more information**

## **PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**

**As we begin to wind down this year and start a new year in a few weeks, the Washington rhetoric has begun regarding the possible reduction in benefits to Americans. Included in this scenario are the benefits of NARFE and active federal employee benefits. Apparently, the first trial balloon is up regarding proposals to our federal civil service retirement and health benefits, freeze federal pay and reduce the workforce by 10 percent. For those of you on NARFE's email mailing list you have been asked to contact your congressional representative. The email provides instructions for making the contact quick and easy. If you are not on this**

**mailing list, you probably received an automated call from the NARFE President, Joe Beaudoin, asking you to contact your Representative and Senators toll free at 1-866-220-0044. If you haven't made one of these contacts, and plan to do so, I encourage you to take the appropriate action today.**

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

**The theme of our president's remarks underscores our need to become involved in recruitment of NARFE members. The following article that appeared in the August 2010 edition of the "Recruiting & Retention Journal" asked this question: Why do**

**you think recruitment is necessary in NARFE? The reply is: As baby boomers retire, federal spending for entitlements will grow dramatically. In addition, with the private sector being hit so hard, there will be little sympathy for government employees who may be affected by entitlement reform. Our annuities, health benefits, life insurance and cost-of-living adjustments are constantly under the eyes of the budget cutters. As retirees, we must stand united to protect the benefits we earned and rightfully deserve in our retirement years. Many active federal, including postal, employees have never heard of NARFE and what our mission and priorities are. We have to actively work to get the word out to them through recruitment.”**

### **DUES INCREASE**

**Beginning January 1, 2011, dues for Chapter will increase to \$50.00 per year. If you have dues coming due in Jan, Feb, Mar, or Apr, you may renew at the old rate. This is a way to save a few dollars, but you must renew before Jan 1, 2011.**

### **HEALTH PLAN OPEN SEASON**

**Don't forget, if you plan to make changes to your health plan, i.e., change from one plan to another or from one option to another within your current plan, the deadline is December 13.**

**NARFE Chapter 860  
Betsy Deacon, Editor  
192 Doe Run NE  
Charleston, TN 37310**

### **CHRISTMAS BANQUET**

**Our annual Christmas banquet will be Thursday, December 9, 6:30 pm, at The Mountain View Inn (formerly the Holiday Inn). This is the same place we have met for the past three years. This year we will meet in the Garden Room and entry will be through the restaurant. The restaurant buffet will be available to us. In the past, we have had our private buffet, but by using the restaurant buffet line we will have more items available to us. The total cost including tax and gratuity will be \$18.00 per person. Bring cash or a personal check payable to Dean McAlister. By the time you receive this newsletter you probably have received a call inviting you to attend the banquet. Since we are guaranteeing a certain number, we are responsible for “no shows”. Don't forget to bring canned food items for the Caring Place and your contribution to the Alzheimer's Foundation. Checks may be made to the NARFE Alzheimer's. Last year we won the State Federation trophy for the largest donation based on pro-rate giving of our members.**

### **THANKS TO BANK OF CLEVELAND FOR PRINTING SUPPORT**