



# NARFE

## **Chapter 288 Newsletter – October 2010** **Highland County – Sebring, FL**

<http://www.narfe.org/chapter288>

### **YOU NEED NARFE & NARFE needs you!**

#### **CHAPTER OFFICERS**

**President** - Ruth Harrison (863) 402-0696 / Membership  
Chairman  
**Vice President** - Tom Singletary (863) 452-5477  
**2nd Vice President** - Pat Hogan (863) 699-6052 / Legislative  
Officer  
**Secretary** - Mabel England (863) 452-9832  
**Treasurer** - Ray Eckiss (863) 655-6268  
**Service Officer** - vacant  
**Historian** - vacant  
**Master-at-Arms / PAC Chairman** - Corky Dabe (863)  
382-9447  
**Chaplain** - Pete Harrison (863) 402-0696 / Alzheimer Chair  
**Newsletter Editor** - Cindy Wyss (863) 382-1646 / e-mail  
coordinator

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**Meetings are normally on the third Tuesday of each  
month with but a few exceptions that will be duly noted in  
this part of future newsletters.**

We meet at Homer's Buffet in the Sebring Square Shopping  
Center. We meet at 11:00 for lunch followed by the  
business meeting at 12:00. Our October meeting will be on  
the 19th.

The Executive Board will meet at 10:30 a.m.

**SPEAKER:** Liz Peralta from Blue Cross / Blue Shield, will  
be the guest speaker giving the latest information on  
BC/BS.

**BUSINESS:** President Ruth asked for volunteers for the  
nominating committee for the line of officers for 2011. Lily  
Lambert and Mabel England graciously accepted.

**NEW BUSINESS:** A vote was taken and passed to place a  
5"x5" ad in the local newspaper informing of the October  
meeting in the hopes of reaching new members.

Bob Lemley, District 5 Vice President reported on the  
National Convention. The most significant item was the  
passage of the dues increase at the National level beginning  
January 1, 2011.

The annual dues increase will be: \$40 year, \$72 for 2 years  
or \$102 for 3 years.

Members who are dues withholding will receive a 15%  
reduction on the National dues making their dues \$34 + the  
established chapter dues. Chapters will continue to  
establish their own dues & National will continue to collect  
them & remit them to the Chapters.

FYI - from Federal News Radio on 10/02/2010:

**FEHB open season will run Nov. 8 to Dec. 12. A choice of  
207 health plans is available**

FEHB's will increase 7.2% in fiscal year 2011. Be sure to  
look over the plans carefully as OPM has detailed several  
changes to them including 5 plans increasing benefits for  
hearing devices or other assistive devices, 16 offer testing  
for up to 4 transplant donors for bone marrow or stem cell  
and 2 plans will pilot coordination of benefits with  
Medicare.

From Jane Lemley, National Vice President who received  
this from William H. Leatham (secretary at narfe.fl.net):

'The benefits you save may be your own. We all need to  
fight to prevent this from happening.'

There are all 4 legs of our retirement benefits in serious  
danger:

**PENSIONS:** CSRS could be cut by as much as 50% based  
on the belief that Federal employees & retirees are overpaid  
in comparison to the private sector.

**MEDICARE & SOC. SEC.:** Tea Party Leaders Leosch &  
Root pledged to abolish both on the Larry King interview.  
John Boehner is again trying to privatize social security.

**FEHBP:** Even though Congress is mandated to leave  
FEHBP when the state insurance pools are established in  
2014, any guess as to what FEHBP will look like?

How can one survive on a reduced pension, no  
Medicare, Soc. Sec. and FEHB premiums that are out of  
sight?

**ATTENDANCE DRAWING:** was won by David Schwan.  
The drawing is for \$10.00. All you have to do to win is be  
present at the meeting when your name is drawn from the  
attendance list. David was present and collected \$10.00



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### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

*Douglas Bullard, TomCowan, Corky Dabe,  
Stewart Horton, Charles Karian, Mary  
Moseley, David Schwan*

*Hope we did not miss anyone. If we did miss someone, call  
Ruth Harrison at (863) 402-0696 and she will make sure we get  
it right next time.*

**SERVICES:** Vacant

### **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:**

*If you know of a member who is ill please notify one of the  
following committee members:*

**Avon Park:** Mabel England (863) 452-9832  
**Lake Placid:** Gloria Bowen (305) 333-0541  
**Sebring:** Lily Lambert (863) 382-6391

*We are happy to send greeting cards to our members upon  
request.*



***HAVE A SPOOK-TACULAR HALLOWEEN***

Newsletter Editor: Cindy Wyss (email: [dh65sd@strato.net](mailto:dh65sd@strato.net))