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MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The current reports for the Chapter show that there are 325 voting members. Information is limited at this time since NARFE struggles with the new Association Management System (AMS), as of 12/30/2019

National Members in Chapter Area 1624  
Total Chapter plus National Members 483  
Chapter Members with a one-year membership 108  
Chapter Members with a Two-year membership 31  
Chapter Members with a Three-year membership 49  
Chapter Members with Dues Withholding 120  
Chapter Members with a Life Membership 10  
Chapter Members with an Honorary Chapter only 3

CONSUMER PRICES - COLA

Relevant to the cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) to civil service annuities for 2021, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased by 0.36 percent in January 2020.

The new CPI-W figure for January was 251.361, 0.46 percent higher than the average CPI-W for the third quarter of 2019, which was 250.199 (1982-84 = 100).

FECA COLAs

Individuals receiving insurance benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) will receive 2.3 percent COLA in March 2020. Looking ahead to the 2021 COLA for FECA benefits, the January 2020 CPI-W figure (251.361) is 0.36 percent higher than the December 2019 CPI-W figure (250.452).

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March - April 2020 Issue

LEGISLATION- UPDATE

I recently contacted the State Assembly and Senate regarding the **Assembly Bill 221** and Senate **Bill 336**, I was told because the Assembly plans to adjourn in March and the Senate in April for the year. These bills will not be voted on and passed this year. We will have to start over next year.

NARFE-PAC IN MARCH

March is NARFE-PAC month all members have been mailed a contribution letter and form along with an envelope to return your contribution. It is a critical time for the federal community to support those who support NARFE and its members in the political arena. Budget threats are looming, and congressional campaigns are in full swing, and we can’t sit on the sidelines. NARFE-PAC is a key component of how we protect your retirement security.

CHAPTER 94 NEWSLETTER is published six times a year for the members of Chapter 94. Editor: Thomas Kelnhofer, 6524 West Carpenter Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53220-4551, (414) 282-2451. Articles and opinions printed herein are not necessarily those of Chapter 94 or NARFE. Acknowledgment is made that some material may be taken from other publications and revised, rewritten, extrapolated or condensed.

TRUMP’S FY21 BUDGET CUTS

NARFE objects to the following FY21 budget proposals, which account for more that \$179.7 billion in cuts to earned federal benefits:

- Eliminating cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for current and future retirees of the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) and reducing COLAs for retirees of the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) by 0.5 percent each year from what the COLA would have been otherwise. Together, this would cost federal retirees \$53.6 billion over 10 years.
- Increase FERS employees’ contributions to their annuities by one percent each year for the next six years without any corresponding benefit increase. This will cost FERS employees \$87.4 billion over the next 10 years.
- Elimination the FERS annuity supplement for new retirees. This benefit, provided to FERS employees who retire before they are eligible to collect Social Security, this would cost federal retirees \$19.9 billion over the next 10 years.
- Calculating new retiree pensions based on the average of the highest five years of salary instead of the highest three. This would cost federal retirees \$8 billion over the next 10 years.
- Reducing working and retirement-age benefits for federal Workers disabled as a result of their service, costing them \$212 million over 10 years.
- The plan also issues a joint budget request for OPM and GSA, indicating that the administration continues to pursue its proposed reorganization of OPM.

WISCONSIN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

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