



National Active and Retired Federal Employees APPLETON-FOX VALLEY CHAPTER 437 NEWSLETTER

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JUNE 2020

FROM PRESIDENT MERLIN SANDERFOOT

Just a few notes I want to get out to our membership.

First, As of the second of June, NARFE Headquarters is still closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Second, the officers of our Chapter still felt it was to early to have a meeting at the Golden Corral. Let's hope for July! We will try to contact some of our members and see if we can get enough in attendance to having an in person meeting.

Third, NARFE National President Ken Thomas, sent a letter to Congress, to amend current law, to require the Federal Employees Health Benefits program to cover telehealth services for all participants. FEDcon20, scheduled for August 30 through September 1, has been cancelled. Next one, FEDcon22 will be held August 19 through August 24th, 2022.

Fourth, as we have mentioned before, Wisconsin Federation meeting has been rescheduled for the afternoon of July 13th. They would like to have three of our members to attend. I am going to assume Jerry and myself will attend. If anyone else is interested, please call me, and remember this still might not happen.

And Fifth, as of October of this year, I will have been the President of NARFE Chapter 437, for eight years. When I took over for President Al, I sure never anticipated I would be in this position for this long, which gets me to the point, I will be giving up this position at the end of the year. This will give the membership six months for someone to step forward. I am not sure what the future holds for NARFE and myself, time will tell.

FROM TOM BUSS, LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMAN

Social Security benefits have lost 30 percent of buying power since 2000, according to the latest Social Security Loss of Buying Power study released this month by The

Senior Citizens League (TSCL). TSCL also estimates the 2021 cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Social Security benefits could be zero, based on consumer price index (CPI) data through April of this year. The estimate for the 2021 COLA might change, however, since there are still five months of consumer price index data to be collected before the Social Security Administration announces the COLA in October. The 2020 COLA was 1.6 percent for Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) annuities, Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) annuities Social Security benefits. That was a lower COLA than 2019 when CSRS annuitants received 2.8 percent and FERS annuitants received 2 percent. (Source: My Federal Retirement Website).

BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES GO OUT TO:

LEE ADAMSKI MARCH 27TH
GEORGE ROSENOW APRIL 7TH
HAROLD MICKE APRIL 9TH
CHARLIES ZIEGLER APRIL 12TH
JUDY PETERS MAY 23RD
JERRY HILDEMAN MAY 28TH
JOAN SCHMOLICH JUNE 1ST

BELATED HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

CHARLIE AND RUTH ZIEGLER APRIL 8TH
ALAN AND MARGARET KRUEGER MAY 9TH
ALAN & MARGARET KRUEGER MAY 9TH
VAUGN AND RUSS BURTON MAY 30TH
DONNA & DON BENSON JUNE 1ST

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

PAM SANDERFOOT JUNE 11TH
RUSS BURTON JUNE 13TH
JERRY SANDERFOOT JUNE 17TH
MERLIN SANDERFOOT JUNE 19TH
MRS. JUNE HANSEN JUNE 22ND
MARIA BUSS JUNE 28TH
ROY ROGERS JUNE 30TH
DAVE MUENCH JULY 4TH
MARV SCHIMMELPFENNING JULY 8TH
RONA KIETZMANN JULY 8TH
ALAN KRUEGER JULY 9TH
DICK HOFFMAN JULY 16TH
ROBERT WILSON JULY 18TH
BONI MOERICKE AUGUST 9TH
DARLENE ROGERS AUGUST 12TH

DENNIS MOERICKE AUGUST 12TH
ANDREW VANDER HEIDEN AUGUST 26TH
ROGER DOBBE AUGUST 29TH
ROBERT LEMKE SEPTEMBER 2ND
BOBBIE TOLLIEVER SEPTEMBER 4TH
LEE BENNER SEPTEMBER 22ND
BARB DANKE SEPTEMBER 26TH
TOM STILP SEPTEMBER 27TH
DONNA BENSON OCTOBER 6TH
DUKE KRABBE OCTOBER 8TH

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY GOES OUT TO:

ART AND JANE HANSEN JUNE 22ND
JERRY & PAM SANDERFOOT JULY 4TH
ROY AND DARLENE ROGERS AUGUST 10TH
BONI AND DENNIS MOERICKE AUGUST 11TH
ED AND KAREN JOHANEK AUGUST 27TH
ROGER AND LUCILLE DOBBE SEPTEMBER 1ST
TOM AND MARIE BUSS OCTOBER 4TH

I hope I haven't missed any birthdays and anniversaries. This is the largest number of belated anniversaries and belated birthdays I have ever published and those that are still to come. That is what happens when our world, as we know it, gets turned upside down.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL OF OUR DAD'S



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY



TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS

FROM THE DESK OF LEE BENNER

Well folks, don't say we are boring, at least I am not sure if I am on foot or horseback anymore. Sorry we are postponing our meeting again for another month, but as of right now, the Golden Corral is not open for in house dining. According to a message I received from them today, they will be opening again, sometime in the near future, but things will be handled very differently. You will still have many choices, but their staff will be serving all food. To me that does sound like a good idea, as that way not everybody will be handling the serving utensils, so much less chance of contamination. Right now, that was your officers fear, that if we did hold a meeting, how many people would come. I know we are all tired of being cooped up, but it is for our own good. I went shopping last Monday, June 1st for the first time since March 9th. I have not been off my property since then except to go to the doctor's office, or pick up drugs, and for all except the last two blood tests, they were done in my car and the pharmacy came to my car with my meds. I would leave home, have

my blood work drawn and get my prescriptions without ever leaving my car. Pretty awesome I say. The few groceries I needed, like milk, bread or buns, yogurt, one of my daughters would pick up and bring to me. I am a very, at risk person because of my greatly suppressed immune system, because of my meds, the kids didn't want me out in public, and they made it happen. Thank God for great kids.

Don't forget, if you didn't yet file your 2019 income taxes, they must be filed by July 15th. Hopefully everyone got their stimulus check and have taken care of it. Also, please be very aware of scam phone calls as there are many of them around again or yet. If you should get a phone call and you are asked, **"Can you hear me now?" Do not answer yes**, if you do, you will be in for a horrible surprise because your answering yes to that question, gives the caller your permission to use your phone number to call anywhere in the world on your dime and even though you did not know what you did, you are liable for the cost of those calls. Please be alert because these scammers are really foxy. Also your bank, the Social Security Office, your police department will never call you to tell you your need to send money for some reason or other. If it sounds fishy, hang up and if you can block the number that called you. Never give out your personal information on the phone to anyone unless you initiated the phone call. I know I may sound like a broken record, but I just don't want anyone taken advantage of by these crooks. Please be careful, and stay safe.

As Merlin mentioned in his article, National Headquarters is still not open. I have been able to report deaths and changes of address etc. but that was only because I have

been at this so long, I have special information
to accomplish these things. I guess I'd have to say, I am not afraid to speak up when things
need to be handled and they are aware of this at headquarters. Please everyone stay alert, stay
safe and above all else, stay well. If we all work together, I am sure we will win the battle
against COVID 19, which has turned our world as we know it upside down. God Bless each and
everyone of you.

For now, we still don't know whether we will have a meeting in July or not. Stay tuned. I am
at this time planning on holding the annual picnic in August and this will probably be the last
one for me.

NARFE FOX VALLEY CHAPTER 437
1137 East Nawada St
Appleton WI 54911-5217
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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**OUR NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE ON ?????? ,
AND WILL AT THE GOLDEN CORRAL ON WESTHILL
BOULEVARD OFF OF WISCONSIN AVENUE IN
APPLETON.
MEETING BEGINS AT 12:30 PM**

**IF YOU PLAN TO EAT PLEASE PLAN TO BE THERE IN
TIME TO FINISH BY THE TIME THE MEETING STARTS.
THE GOLDEN CORRAL OPENS AT 10:30 am
THANK YOU!**