

Chapter Meetings

**All Meetings are
Canceled Due to the
Coronavirus
Pandemic
No Meetings**

FOR THE TIME BEING

**All regular chapter meetings
begin at 1:00 pm. On the 1st
Thursday of the month at the
Letter Carriers Union Hall
11716 W Greenfield Av
West Allis, WI 53214**

**Notice! If Milwaukee Public Schools
are closed because of conditions
there will be no meeting that month.**



PRESIDENTS COMMENTARY

While some of the schools are opening some are doing it virtually for the time being. I am looking forward to the day we can do in person meetings again, hopefully before the end of the year.

The election of NARFE National Officers and By-laws ended August 31. In the past only a small number took the time to vote. We are going through difficult times and we need good leaders. The chapter will hold elections this fall, why not take an interest in the chapter, and run for election to an office, we will help anyone who is interested or have questions. Across the nation chapters are finding it is difficult to find officers and as a result many chapters are forced to close.

One reason I have not been attending meetings is the fact that I am on a medication that weakens my immune system, while the doctors try to determine what exactly I have. As a result, I was told to avoid any possibility of getting Covid-19.

The Wisconsin Federation had a successful Annual Meeting in July in which members passed the proposed By-law changes. This has been a long drawn out process since Federations and Chapters needed to follow a standard format which entailed a lot of work, and because the Federation lonely meets once a year at the annual meeting.

The next Annual Conference will be May 3 –5, 2021, at the Best Western in Tomah, WI. Additional information will be given as the date gets closer.

As I mentioned months ago NARFE was paying the Federations and Chapters either too much or too little dues money each month, for almost a year, they now have done an audit and are in the process of making the necessary corrections. As a result, the chapter was under paid a small amount each month, everything is now correct.

In addition after months of complaints by Chapters and Federations that we needed the monthly M-112 which lists all actions of the members in the chapters, such as joined, dropped, transferred out, transferred in, name changes, address changes, passed away, etc. well we now are getting. For almost year I have not sent letters out reminding them of the action.

At the present time, the Chapter membership has been holding steady we lose a few or gain a few. But over time there is a net lost. We need to make a concerted effort to recruit new members and keep our current members by renewing membership.

Frequent asked questions, how much life insurance do I currently have from the government? You can call OPM at 1-800-767-6738, starting at 6:40 am Central Time and wait on hold for hours, or email – retire@opm.gov request that your VOLI be mailed to you. Be sure to include your retirement claim number (CSA/CSF) in the email.

Please stay healthy and take care of yourself, family, and friends. Hopefully, we will see and to this Covid-19.

Let us see if we can have an actual meeting in November, take care.

NARFE RETIREES

Retired NARFE members can save money by as much as 15% by signing up for Dues Withholding. It is a dues payment method that gives NARFE members (retirees) the option of having their annual NARFE membership dues deducted from their monthly annuities.

One twelfth of the total dues, National and Milwaukee Chapter dues which is a monthly withholding of \$3.67; the total amount for the year is \$44.04 compared to \$50.00 if you pay on an annual basis. **The Chapter has 117 Members on Dues Withholding Monthly.**

It takes 60 -90 days to process an application. Once the process is completed you will receive a new membership card. See the NARFE magazine for an application.

Wisconsin Federation of Chapters Web Site
www.narfe.org/site/wi, This site will allow you
view chapter / federation newsletters.

Chapter Officers 2020: Thomas Kelnhofer, President 414-282-2451, tkelnhofer3@wi.rr.com.

Al Jelinek, 1st. Vice President 262-468-4471, George Warner, 2nd Vice President 414-264-9915, 3rd Vice President Vacant, Alfred Jelinek, Secretary 414-541-2286, Robert Borowski, Treasurer 262-783-5376, Pete Yeko, Sgt. At Arms 414-425-0588,

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Dropped for Non-Renewal: Philip Pecham, Nelia Varilla, Paul Woyak

Members Renewed: Thomas LaPinske, Donald Smith, John Reavy, Gerald Feisthammel, Mark Perdue, David Walker, Russell Kitzke, Stanley Milanowski, Rudy Green, Betty Ann Schwenke, Ronald Wojnar, Patricia Jens

Members Reinstated: Dan Stotmeister, Barbara Brooks

Member Passed Away; Patrick McGillis, Colleen Mueller

New Members: Mary Peckham

New Prospective Member: Matthew Jacobs

Above information is from May and June Reports.

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 0.63 percent in July 2020.

The new CPI-W figure for July 2020 was 252.636. 0.97 percent higher than the average CPI-W for the third quarter of 2019, which was 250.200.

FECA COLAs

Looking ahead to the 2021 COLA for FECA benefits, the July 2020 CPI-W figure (252.636) is 0.87 percent higher than the December 2019 CPI-W (250.452).

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6524 West Carpenter Avenue
Milwaukee WI 53220-4551

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September - October 2020 Issue

LEGISLATION- UPDATE

August was NARFE-PAC month did you contribute to NARFE-PAC? You can still do so, with this being presidential election year, a lot of candidates will be looking for financial support for their campaigns.

With only a few months left for legislation this year before adjourning now is the time to contact your members to gain their support for pending legislation that you see in the adjoining column. Remember all legislation dies when Congress adjourns and must be reintroduced.

Will there be funding for the Postal Service to be able to handle the volume of mail-in ballots? Will your ballot count, make sure your ballot gets in early, ask for a mail-in ballot and mail it early or use a ballot drop box to return your ballot?

Remember you are not just voting for a president but there are many offices down the ballot that are particularly important. The President appoints many people for a variety of jobs, make sure the right people hold these jobs, by voting for the right people.

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.

NARFE BILL TRACKER

Government Pension and Windfall Elimination Provision: H.R. 141/S. 521 Repeals both the GPO and the WEP.

H.R. 3934/S.3401 Reforms the Windfall Elimination Provision to provide WEP affective individuals who are eligible for benefits before 2022 a \$100 monthly rebate and \$50 for an affective spouse. Changes the WEP calculation moving forward.

H.R. 4540 Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act; Reforms the Windfall Elimination Provision to provide WEP affected individuals who are eligible for benefits before 2022 a \$150 monthly rebate. Changes the WEP calculation moving forward.

H.R. 1254, The Equal COLA Act. Provides Federal Employees Retirement System retirees with the same annual cost-of-living adjustment COLA as Civil Service Retirement System retirees.

H.R. 1553 fair COLA for Seniors Act of 2019. Requires Social Security and federal retirement programs to use the Consumer Price index for the Elderly (CPI-E) to calculate cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) to retirement benefits.

H.R. 5690/ S.3231 Federal Adjustment of income Rates (Fair) Act. Provides federal employees with a 3.5 percent pay raise in 2020.

WISCONSIN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Senator Tammy Baldwin 633 W Wisconsin Av. STE 1920, Milwaukee WI 53203-1918, 414-297-4451, Washington DC 202-224-5653
Senator Ron Johnson 517 East Wisconsin Av Room 408 Milwaukee WI 53202-4510 414-276-7282 Washington DC 202-224-5323
Bryan Steil, 1st. District 608-752-4050, 20 S Main St., Suite 10, Janesville, WI 53545; Washington 202-225-3031
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