

Volume XXVII	Issue 07	October 2020
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Welcome to fall everyone. We hope you have the opportunity to get out and enjoy the fall colors and cooler temperatures. Colorful pumpkins decorate yards and kids are playing in piles of leaves.

**MEETINGS:**

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at NOON at the American Legion located at 634 Water St. in Eau Claire. All members and guests are welcome. **Advanced registration is required for meal planning and setup purposes. Please call Peggy at 715-874-6708 or email [Chipval@wwt.net](mailto:Chipval@wwt.net) by 6 P.M. Friday, Oct. 23rd. Thank you. On the Menu – Swiss Steak.**

We will have information on our Federal Employee Health Insurance, hopefully the rates and changes in coverage, since at this time OPM has not released that information. You can call the Customer Service number on the back of your insurance card and request information or ask questions. If you have BCBS, they have telephones set-up on each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at several times each day, during October, see the Presidents Corner for times and phone numbers, etc. We will have copies of the BCBS telephone call-in information available at the meeting.

Mark your calendar for the balance of the year, November 18<sup>th</sup> and our Christmas gala on December 16<sup>th</sup>, both at the American Legion.

**PRESIDENT’S CORNER: Mark Schmitt**

Welcome to the Fall season! Hopefully you are all well and staying safe. We had a good meeting in September at the American legion in Eau Claire. Our next meeting is Wednesday October 28<sup>th</sup>. This would normally be our meeting to have information about our health insurance but with the Covid-19, all presentations will be virtual. I did receive a schedule from member Jim Murphy listing all of the presentations. *In October these meeting/phone calls will be Monday Wednesday and Friday each one no more than an hour. Time is 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.; Phone number is 866 692 3580; The access code is different each day so the Monday code is 171 641 4973#; Wednesday Access code is 171 702 3932#; Friday Access code 171 469 9327#. They will be available to answer your questions.*

Hopefully we will have printed materials before our meeting in October.

The Walk to End Alzheimer’s was held virtually on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Our Chapter to date has donated \$1069.00 to this walk surpassing our past years Congratulations! A job well done. If you would still like to donate it is not too late,

just send a check to either myself or Kathy Pospishil and we will get it to the right place. Make the check payable to Alzheimer’s Association Walk to end Alzheimer’s. Thank you.

Hope to see you all at our next meeting October 28<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion at noon. Remember to vote on November 3rd 2020.

**TREASURER’S REPORT: Kathy Pospishil**

\$2,351.55 Balance end of Aug.  
\$ 238.80 Receipts end of Sept.  
\$ 337.04 Disbursements in Sept.  
\$2,253.31 Balance end of Sept.

**SERVICE OFFICER/DEATHS: Bill Michels**

Our Chapter has recently lost three members who passed away recently, Viola Davey and Janet Zais, both from Eau Claire, and Mildred Carter from Osseo. Our Chapter extends our sincere sympathies to their families.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS  
IN MONTH OF OCTOBER**

Mark D Aumann, Frances M Birkmose, Ronald V Bossany, Karen S Crandall, Gary T Goetsch, Norman E Hahn, Wayne C Hanson, Anna M Helmer, Lu Ann H Hintz, Mark W Hysell, Linda S Jacobs, Kathy A Lee, Robert N Pederson, Daniel C Peterson, Michael C Schendel, Lael T Schneider, Evelyn L Silvernale, Donna M Smith.

**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH INSURANCE: –Peggy**

- 1. The 2020 Open Season dates are November 9<sup>th</sup> thru December 14<sup>th</sup>.**
- 2. The prices for the different plans have not yet been released by OPM  
Office of Personnel Management.**
- 3. An article in the Greater Milwaukee Chapter 94 newsletter about your 2021 FEHBP premiums, they will be RECORD HIGH-DOUBLE DEGIT HEALTH PREMIUM INCREASES TO BE ANNOUNCED THIS FALL AND EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2021.**
- 4. Some experts in health insurance have projected that premiums overall for all Americans could rise 40%, if not more.**
- 5. Many people may save money by shopping around during Open Season.**

On a positive note, I signed up for the dental insurance two years ago. One of our members contacted all the dentists in the area and none of them accepted the Insurance. I believe

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that may have changed this summer. I went to the Dentist and had some work done. I paid them and he took my insurance information and two months later received 3 checks back-reimbursement. This was at Maple Ridge in Eau Claire. Check with your dentist next time in.

If the Chapter receives any further insurance information before our meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>, we will have it at that meeting.

### Medicare & You 2021

Since most of us have Medicare as a first payer, it is advisable that you read and note any changes that would affect our costs next year.

### **OPM – FEGLI LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE: –Peggy**

If you have been wondering how much FEGLI coverage you have, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Retirement Service Office is the only office with access to your FEGLI records. There are three ways to access your FEGLI coverage information.

- Log onto Retirement Services online: <http://www.servicesonline.com.gov/> to view and print your Verification of Life Insurance (VOLI). Your VOLI will show which types of coverage you have, your amount of coverage you have, your amount of coverage before reduction, your post-65 reductions and your amount of coverage after reductions are complete.
- Email: [retire@opm.gov](mailto:retire@opm.gov) to request that your' VOLI be mailed to you. Be sure to include your retirement claim number (CSA/CSF) in the email.
- Call: [1-888-767-6738](tel:1-888-767-6738), to request that your VOLI be mailed to you. The phone lines are open Monday through Friday, 7:40 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. They recommended calling early in the morning or late in the evening. Have your CSA/CSF or Social Security number handy.

### **Humor:**

I hate it when I see some old person and then realize we went to high school together!

It can take days, weeks, even years to decide you love someone, but it takes 2 minutes to love a puppy.

### ***To contact our elected officials:***

**Senator Ron Johnson, 328 Hart Senate Office, WDC 20510, phone 202-224-5323, FAX 202-228-6965, email: [ron\\_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov](mailto:ron_johnson@ronjohnson.senate.gov);**

**Senator Tammy Baldwin, 709 Hart Senate Office Building, WDC 20510 phone 202-224-5653 , email: [Tammy\\_baldwin@Baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:Tammy_baldwin@Baldwin.senate.gov);**

**Congressman Ron Kind, 1502 Longworth HOB, WDC 20515, phone 202-225-5506 Fax 202-225-5739; email: [ronkind@mail.house.gov](mailto:ronkind@mail.house.gov);**

**Congressman Thomas Tiffany, 1714 Longworth HOB, WDC 20515, phone 202-225-3365; email: [tomtiffany@mail.house.gov](mailto:tomtiffany@mail.house.gov)**



### **General Election is November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

