



Newsletter (May 2007)

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association Nashville Chapter 227

Officers: **Bruce Thomas**, President 781-6083; **Chris Wasson**, Sunshine Chairperson 227-3064; **Edna Smith**, Secretary –Treasurer 298-4757; **John Wells** - Newsletter Chairperson 331-0705.

Chapter Web Site: <http://www.narfetn-nashville.org/>

April Meeting: Meeting was called to order by President- Bruce Thomas at 1PM. New members and guests were welcomed. The invocation was given by Marie Anglin, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Vallie Brooks. There were 26 members in attendance.

The Jackpot drawing of \$22 was won by Jack Chidester (\$11 to Jack and \$11 to the chapter treasury. The \$3 was won by Vernia Stewart and the \$2 by Helen Tyson.

April Program: A Presentation by Dr. Allen B. Reeves on **Speculation on the future of civilization, The U.S., all enterprises, and the Individual**

This presentation provided a speculative perspective on the development of civilization relative to the so-called "Information Age" which the author thinks is erroneously named. It provided a historical perspective over the last 6000-10000 years on the evolution of civilized industrial societies as they now approach the more properly named new age, the "Telecomputerization" age. This descriptive name was coined by the author in 1979. The presentation also provided an intriguing theory of the economic, industrial, and social development within the United States over the last 200 years, and it extended this modified Kondratiev theory to the future of the United States, other countries, groups, etc. of similar capitalistic economies. The presentation provided for an extrapolation of the theory into the next 30-40 years into the future. It also showed how to predict future major conflicts for the U.S. and possibly globally.

Predictions were made by the explanation of new trends for old ones, what the implications were to

be expected, and how these trends are already being manifested globally today. The presentation defined what the author means by the term "Telecomputerization Age", and it daringly extended trends from its historical analysis to a prediction of the future for the whole of civilization, the major workforces of the U.S., and finally it provided a few insights about what this may imply for the future of history! The intent of Dr. Reeves' presentation was to introduce the audience to a much broader perspective when considering and making decisions about the future and the prediction of future technologies and global leaders.

Dr. Allen B. Reeves, retired DoD physicist and adjunct physics instructor at Lipscomb University, Nashville, TN.

Sunshine Report: Chris Wasson sent sympathy cards to Ray Bankston following the death of his wife. The death of Arleen Baghdoian, life member and wife of Leo, was announced, both life members and regular attendees prior to Arleen's illness.

May Program: The program will be the Nashville Vice –Mayor Howard Gentry.

NARFE-PAC: Glenn Turner received \$277 for NARFE-PAC Month observed at our March Meeting

Treasurer Report: Current balance in Checking is \$1,122.09. Credit Union account is \$998.10. Total of \$1,899.60.

Legislative Report: Glenn Turner reported that that a group from the Chapter met with Congressmen Jim Cooper and they have a meeting with Senator Lamar Alexander on April 10th.

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Status of Current Legislation:

1. Repeal of Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)/Government Pension Offset (GPO)

H.R.82 now has 277 up 28 from last month (Tennessee co-sponsors, Lincoln Davis, David Davis, Bart Gordon and Zack Wamp)

S206 now has 2 cosponsors, up two from last month (none of the Senators from Tennessee are cosponsors)

We now have another version of WEP, H.R. 726, which is a modification of WEP repeal

2. Premium Conversion

H.R.1110 now has 98 cosponsors, up 70 from last month, Tennessee cosponsors are Zack Wamp and Marsha Blackburn and as of 4/16 Jim Cooper.

S.773 now has 17 cosponsors, up 11 from last month (none of the Senators from Tennessee are cosponsors)

NARFE's new Congressional Directory for the 110th Congress is now available. The May issue of *NARFE* magazine devotes page 25 to an announcement of the new Directory and an order form NARFE members must use to purchase the Directory.

COLA Update – MARCH CPI-W INCREASES ONE PERCENT

On **April 17th**, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/cpi) reported that the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, the CPI-W, for **March 2007 is 200.6**, up **1.0 percent** from the February index of 198.5. The CPI-W for March is 0.8 percent higher than the 2006 third quarter average base index of 199.1. For purposes of calculating the next COLA (cost-of-living adjustment) the index has increased 0.8 percent.

Former federal employees now receiving monthly benefits under provisions of the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) receive a COLA based on the change in the CPI-W during each calendar year. During the first quarter of 2007, the index is **1.7 percent higher** than the December 2006 base of 197.2.