



# NATIONAL ACTIVE & RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOC. CHAPTER #108 - CHATTANOOGA, TN

March 7, 2008

Elmer Gillespie, President - 894-1606

Donald V. Geoffrion, Editor - 886-0439

NEXT MEETING - Friday, March 14, 2008, at Wally's Restaurant, Ringgold Road at 1-75, East Ridge. This will be a luncheon meeting starting at 12:00 noon. All members, prospective members and visitors are invited. Order from the menu or enjoy the buffet. (Eat at 11:30).

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## IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Louise A. Westbrook

Feb, 25, 2008

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PROGRAM - **Mr. Gary Paul**, Development Director of the Chattanooga Food Bank, will be our guest speaker. Please bring an item or two of peanut butter or other canned goods for donation to the Food Bank.

ECONOMIC STIMULUS - On February 13, 2008, **President Bush** signed the economic stimulus legislation (HR.#5140) which will provide an economic stimulus payment to most taxpayers (federal retirees will be entitled to these rebates on the same basis as other Americans). These payments will be separate from and in addition to any tax refunds due from 2007 income tax returns. Full details on the effect of this economic stimulus payment will appear in the forthcoming *NARFE* magazine for April, 2008.

COLA - The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) increased **0.5** percent in January, 2008. This brings the projected amount for the next annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for federal retirees and Social Security recipients to **1.5** percent. The next CPI-W release will be issued March 14, 2008.

JANUARY DUES NOTICES - NARFE Hqs. Reports that, due to a technical problem, the company that prints the regular dues notices may not have printed your "first renewal notice". Consequently, you may have received a "second notice" in error. The problem has since been resolved. In any case, it is hoped that all members concerned have, by now, paid their current annual dues.

NARFE-PAC - This federal retiree defense fund is one of our most potent tools to help elect men and women committed to defending the earned retirement benefits of active and retired federal employees. Beyond the hoopla of the presidential campaigns, an election year involves every seat in the House and 1/3rd of those in the Senate. As is pointed out in the article in this month's *NARFE* magazine (pages 19-21), our NARFE-PAC funds are used **only** for campaigns of congressional candidates. Contributions are limited to those most likely to understand and support our legislative goals. Every NARFE member is urged to support this fund. There is a mail-in coupon in each *NARFE* magazine for this purpose (page 20 in the March issue). Also, our Chapter NARFE-PAC Coordinator, Legislative Office **Don Geoffrion**, will have forms available for your contributions at our March chapter meeting. NARFE-PAC lapel pins are available for members who contribute \$20 or more, either by mail or at the chapter meeting.

NATIONAL NARFE CONVENTION - This year's National Biennial Convention will be held at Louisville, KY, September 7-11, 2008. Detailed information and requisite registration forms appear on pages 43/45 in the March issue of *NARFE* magazine. A major source of funding for the National Convention is its program book, which highlights the various chapters. It has been customary for our chapter to participate and we plan to insert in this year's program a quarter page ad in bold print, costing \$55.00, reading "*Greetings from Chapter #108, Chattanooga TN, The Scenic City*".

ADDRESS CHANGE -  
-- Change address for **Mrs. Eva Joe Smith** to 2318 Gale Lane, Chattanooga, TN 37421-1634.

**SPECIAL NOTE** - We need delegates from Chapter 108 to attend the 52<sup>nd</sup> State Federation Convention at Montgomery Bell State Park, April 28/29, 2008. If you need a registration form, please contact Elmer Gillespie at 894-1606.