



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

May 2, 2008

Elmer Gillespie, President - 894-1606

Donald V. Geoffrion, Editor - 886-0439

NEXT MEETING - Friday, May 9, 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).

PROGRAM - Our chapter delegates who attended the Tennessee Federation Convention at Montgomery Bell State Park, April 28-29, will report on the convention proceedings.

COLA - Halfway through the counting period for determining the next federal retiree and Social Security cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), the cumulative figure is 2.7 percent. At the same period last year, the figure was 0.8 percent. The data for April will be released by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) on Wednesday, May 14, 2008.

NATIONAL CONVENTION - As previously reported, the NARFE's national biennial convention will be held in Louisville, KY, September 7-11, 2008. We need delegates from Chapter #108 to attend. Please give serious consideration to representing us at Louisville. Information on this convention appears on pages 42 and 43 of the May issue of NARFE magazine.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER -

Mrs. Doris M. Walker, 7708 Selcer Road, Hixson, TN 37343-1939, tel: (423) 842-4531.

ADDRESS CHANGES -

- Change address for **Mrs. Jimmy Caines** to 2005 Butch Cassidy Trail, Mimauma, FL 33598-2804.
- Change address for **Mr. Blain McGuffey** to 2105 Haven Crest Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37421-2809.
- Change address for **Mr. Denton Nichols** to 6505 Forest Park Drive, Signal Mountain, TN 37377-2815.

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IN MEMORIAM

Verne D. Steves

Feb. 5, 2008

NOTE - A memorial service for Verne and Betty Steve will be held at Brainerd Memorial Church from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M., Saturday, May 17th. Verne printed and mailed our monthly newsletter for several years and it was an honor to have known him and his wife Betty. An open invitation is extended to all who wish to attend this memorial service.

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MEMBERSHIP - Several members were sent second renewal notices, according to the latest printout from NARFE headquarters. The first notice is mailed about 30 days prior to the annual due date and is followed by a second notice if no response is received. Chapter #108 recently gained four new members but lost two by death and two were dropped for failing to renew.

NARFE MAGAZINE - The April issue of NARFE magazine contains valuable information on tax strategies which should be of interest to everyone. The May issue, which features the pending retirement of long-time well respected Legislative Director **Judy Park**, also contains an excellent briefing on current legislative and political matters of particular interest to retired federal annuitants (see pages 10-18).

LEGISLATIVE NOTES - Priority NARFE bills get added support. Co-sponsors for Premium Conversion bills are now - **HR #1110 - 329, S.#773 - 61**. For repeal of Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), **H.R. #82 - 342, S.#206 - 36**. No word yet on possible passage, however.

A police officer stops a young woman for speeding and politely asks to see her license. She replies, in a huff, "I wish you guys would get your act together. Just yesterday you took away my license and today you expect me to show it to you."