



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

February 11, 2011
Elmer Gillespie, President - 894-1606
Elmergill@

NEXT MEETING - Friday, February 11, 2011 at Wally's Restaurant, Ringgold Road at I-75, East Ridge. This will be a luncheon meeting starting at 12 noon. All members, prospective members and visitors are invited. Order from the menu or enjoy the buffet. (Eat at 11:30). **SOME LUCKY PERSON WILL GET A FREE LUNCH.**

CANCELLATION OF JANUARY MEETING - Due to the lingering effects of the snowstorm it was decided to cancel the January meeting. It is hoped no one was inconvenient by the cancellation.

SOCIAL SECURITY FUND - Business Week magazine has reported the Social Security fund is on track to run out of money by 2037. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office calculates that this year alone Social Security will collect \$45 billion less in payroll taxes than it pays out in benefits.

The CBO says the fund will continue to operate in deficit each year until it's drained. The struggling economy for the past few years has made Social Security's finances worse just when baby boomers stand ready to retire. More than 54 million people receive retirement, disability or survivor benefits from Social Security. Monthly payments average \$1,076.

NARFE'S 90th ANNIVERSARY - NARFE celebrates its 90th Anniversary in 2011 (Feb. 19 to be exact.) To help members mark the occasion, the Association has three products for sale at nominal prices: a NARFE history book, a NARFE history PowerPoint presentation for chapters and federations to use at meetings and conventions, and a commemorative anniversary pin. See Page 45 of NARFE magazine for order form. Show your pride and purchase these anniversary items today. NARFE is "90 Years Strong in 2011."

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* WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS *
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* Mr. William D. Chance, 619 Holly Ave.*
* South Pittsburg, TN. 37380 *
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* Mr. Jean E. Wilson, P. O. Box 24292 *
* Chattanooga, TN. 37422 *
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DIRECT DEPOSIT OF ANNUITANT CHECK - Some NARFE members may receive a letter from the U. S. Treasury urging them to sign up for either Direct Deposit or Direct Express. A provision of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 required the Treasury Department to stop issuing paper checks to federal beneficiaries. The Direct Deposit method has been available for many years, but more recently the Treasury Department launched the Direct Express program. This program, originally available only to individuals receiving Social Security and SSI benefits who did not have bank accounts, is now available to federal annuitants. The handwriting is on the wall- soon, all recipients of federal benefits will be required to either have their benefits sent by Direct Deposit or use the Direct Express card.

NARFE-PAC MONTH - As it has since 2003, the cover story for the March issue of NARFE magazine will be devoted to our Political Action Committee. The 2011-2012 NARFE-PAC lapel pin will be featured on the cover. The qualifying donation will remain \$20 or more. Please forward your donation to MR. LARRY MINNIEAR, 909 Brynewood Park Drive, Chattanooga, TN. 37415-2303. Larry is also the Tennessee state NARFE-PAC leader.

Note: More information is available at the Hq. NARFE Website; www.narfe.org and that of the Tennessee Federation www.narfetn.org. Copies of this newsletter and others may be found at the Tennessee Federation website (see 'Library').