

THE 740 EXPRESS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, CHAPTER 740

www.crompton.com/NARFE740

October 1, 1999

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Next Chapter Meetings: Our next meeting will be on Thursday **October 21, 1999** at the Warrington Motor Lodge, Route 611 (just North of Street Rd.) at 12:00 Noon. Call Beryl Fogelsanger (343-3467) early in the week. **Please plan to attend and show your support.**

NARFE, one of America's oldest and largest associations, was founded in 1921 with the mission of protecting the earned rights and benefits of America's active and retired federal workers. The largest federal employee/retiree organization, NARFE has a membership of nearly 425,000 men and women and represents the interests of nearly 2.4 million federal retirees, spouses, and survivors

NOTE: ARCHIVED BACK ISSUES OF NARFE CHAPTER 740 EXPRESS IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT: www.crompton.com/NARFE740

UNIFIED Dues: The August/September issues of the "Retirement Life" magazine presented information governing the Single-Dues Referendum to determine whether a Nationwide Association Dues System is to be in effect as of April 1, 2000.

Each NARFE Chapter is required to conduct a vote in order to comply. For members of our Chapter, if the proposed uniform national dues structure is adopted, the total annual dues will rise to \$30: \$18 National; \$2 Federation; \$10 Chapter 740. At present your dues pays \$18 to the National Office NARFE and \$3 to Chapter 740. The Special Project Committee studied the proposed Single Dues Referendum. It reports as follows:

The major Chapter 740 expense is the Chapter Newsletter and Special Alerts to our members, which average six mailings a year. The costs of these mailings are approximately \$3 a year per member. Other incidental expenses come out of Chapter 740 Treasury Funds or are borne personally by Special Projects Committee members. The cost of the Chapter Web-site, which is one of best NARFE chapter web-sites in the country - was created and is maintained by Doug Crompton at no charge to the Chapter. **The Special Project Committee recommends that members vote to DISAPPROVE the Single \$30 Dues Referendum.**

If you wish to participate in the voting, please contact John DeMatteo (215-345-9033) prior to November 1, 1999. The votes will be tabulated to determine the number of Chapter 740 members voting to adopt or reject the proposed new dues structure.

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING: As we age, some experience some loss of hearing, or entire hearing. The Pennsylvania Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing provides information, referral and advocacy to adults and children who are deaf or hard of hearing, their relatives, friends, physicians and counselors. For information, the Office can be reached by calling 1-800-233-3008 or 1-717 783-4912.

VACCINE SHOTS: Members are reminded that the time will shortly come for getting a flu shot. Many facilities besides doctors will be administering the shots. Mark your calendar to remind you to get your shot. **NOTE:** Tetanus booster shots should be received every 12 years.

FILE OF LIFE: In case of emergency, medical personnel arriving on the scene could see the label on the refrigerator and review the medical record to determine what, if any, special assistance should be given to a stricken person. Complete details call 1-800-814-1788

NARFE remains adamant opposition to any legislation to allow Medical Savings Accounts in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

PS - If you're trying to obtain the free brochure "10 Worst Mistakes Federal Retirees Make . . . And How You Can Avoid Them," point your browser to <http://www.narfe.org/tenworst.html>.

NECROLOGY: Please let us know when you hear that one of our honored members has passed on, so we can share it with friends and associates.

We need your help!

Please call John DeMatteo 215-345-9033 (or e-mail JDemat@aol.com) to confirm your address and telephone number as well as your e-mail address.

Holocaust Museum in Wash DC.: Use your CSA card to gain access to the museum without waiting in line, from now to December. You can have up to 4 guests with you.

NEED HELP?: Call the Federal Retiree Assistance Center, (215) 597-0419.

The Center is located at the Federal Building, Rm. 1208, 6th and Arch Sts, Philadelphia, and handles OPM/FEHB problems only (incorrect payments, non-receipt of checks, etc.). Office hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. OPM can be contacted on ANY federal retirement matter by calling 1-888-767-6738. Be sure to have your PIN number handy.

OPM'S ANNUITANT EXPRESS The toll-free automated telephone system that went into operation in January of last year, for its first service permitted retirees to make federal tax withholding changes for the 1998 tax season. The number, in case you've mislaid it, is 1-800-409-6528 -- and don't forget your PIN number.

CONGRESSIONAL CONTACTS

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Rm 530 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510
1-202-224-4254 & 1-215-597-7200

The Honorable Rick Santorum
B-40 Dirksen Senate office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
1-202-224-6324 & 1-215-684-6900

8th DISTRICT

Congressman James Greenwood
Rm 515 Cannon House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
1-202-225-4276 & 1-215-348-7511

13TH DISTRICT

Congressman Joseph M. Hoeffel, III
1229 Longwood Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-6111

FEDERAL RETIREMENT ASSISTANCE CENTER

William Green Federal Building Rm 4300, 600 Arch St. Phila. PA 19106

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10AM to 2PM (1-215-861-3661)

Important numbers: Capitol switchboard 202-224-3121, 1-800-522-6721, 1-800-692-3524, 1-800-972-3524; Bill Status 202-225-1772; White House comment line 202/456-1111 (FAX 2461) ; president@whitehouse.gov; Supreme Court 202-479-3000; OPM 202-606-1000; Federal Election Commission 1-800-424-9530; **OPM 1-88-US-OPM-RET (1-888-767-6738) & 1-202 606-0500**; NARFE Hotline 202-234-0503; If you have access to the Internet NARFE HQ "www.narfe.org"; review our newsletter and links on WEB site: www.crompton.com/NARFE740;

Sign up for Free FEDWEEK at: www.FEDweek.com

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