

**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES - EST. 1921**

**TULSA'S FIRST CHAPTER 278**

**February 2012**

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**JOIN US** If you are a federal employee, active or retired. We want you to join us at the Kaiser Library, 5202 S Hudson, Suite B at 4:30 P.M. first Tuesday of each month. The library is located on the east side of Lafortune Park between 51<sup>st</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> street. Food and birthday cake will be served.

**GUEST SPEAKER THIS MONTH:**

Junkers by Jill - Speaking on upcoming travel trips.

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Thank you Joe, for the important information provided at our January meeting. I have already been asked if you will do it again later on in the year for those who missed the meeting.

Jane Cornell wants to invite people to speak that interest you so please let her know your ideas.

Did you get your letters to the post office authorities, your senators and congressmen yet? Never forget that our elected leaders work for us. If something is about to happen to our region that will drastically affect you it is your responsibility to speak up before it is too late. We can no longer sit back and trust others to do the right thing. It is up to us to defend our livelihood, our towns, our district and protect our way of life.

It is my wish that you will find time to join us this year and get in on this value information.

Keep Well Everyone!

Dorothy Samuels

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Welcome to 2012. I remember when I was a kid, and just like everyone, I never in my wildest dreams thought that I would see this day in the future. I hope that you and your families had a wonderful Christmas and fun/exciting New Years. Now it is time to get back into the groove of daily living and hopefully we will be looking at a bright future.

**If, your future is not what you want your life to be, then you can do something about it, by becoming more active in Local National Association Federal Employee (NARFE).** Together we can have a stronger voice in Washington D. C. concerning our employment rights with the Federal Government, which was guaranteed to us at the time of employment. Today Washington wants to not only cut back on what is rightfully ours, but they want to decrease employment rights of current Federal Employees. A grave concern that I have is current employees are oblivious to what they stand to lose as far as employments rights. When the current Federal employee becomes unable or unwilling to fight for their rights; then who will take up their cause. I was helping to put on an information/recruitment of Federal Employees at a Federal Agency. I explained to an applicant that we

were trying to recruit new members for NARFE and how we were fighting for her rights. Her only response was; "Thank You" (for doing that) and then walked away without a second thought. I believe a lot of current employees do not see the writing on the wall, of how much of their livelihood is in danger.

Please ask all potential NARFE members to keep an open mind, because this is their future. We need all of the support we can muster.

Richard Tilden

**CHAPLAIN**

ISAIAH 40:31

Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.

Bo Frasier

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Finance Report December 2011

Balances Brought Forward September 30, 2011	
Checking	\$1142.65
Savings	\$ 495.94
Cash on Hand	\$ 26.17
Alzheimer's	\$109.85
Total Balances Forward	\$1664.76
Received	
Chapter Dues	\$ 61.33
Total Received	\$ 61.33
Disbursements	
Postmaster	\$ 190.00
Newsletter	\$ 134.99
Total Disbursed	\$ 324.99
Monthly Totals	\$1401.10
Total bank balances October 31, 2011	
Checking	\$ 879.99
Savings	\$ 495.94
Cash on Hand	\$ 26.17
Alzheimer's	\$ 109.85
Grand Total of Funds:	<b><u>\$1401.10</u></b>

Charlene Hunter December 30, 2011

**SERVICE OFFICER NEWS**

No news at this time.

**LEGISLATIVE NEWS**

The Congress has returned to the Capitol following their year end holiday vacation. The most important legislation before them (legislation of interest to our people) will be extending the reduced Social Security deduction from workers pay. This bill, extended until February 29, is in effect a tax reduction according to the thinking in Washington. Failure to extend this legislation would in effect restore the original percentage withheld from pay.

A special Congressional committee, 20 from both parties, is working on this. If past history is any indication of forthcoming results, they will probably kick the can down the road by extending the law for another couple of months in the hope that the "baby" will be passed on to another group, and they can escape any blame for whatever happens.

The President proposes a 0.5% pay raise for all federal employees. With the country on the verge of bankruptcy, and no solutions in sight, could it be that he hopes this gesture, pittance that it is, may garner a few votes from CFE'S in the coming election in November? In Washington you do whatever works and hope that you will profit by such activity.

"In addition this bill would greatly change the federal employees retirement plan. Final annuity would be based on the employee's 5 years of greatest earnings, instead of highest three. In addition it would extend the current freeze on wage increases for CFE's an additional 2 years. That is not all, the employee would be required to increase his contribution to his annuity from about 7% to 9%."

While this bill does not contain such a provision, the chances are that annuitants and CFE'S will be forced to pay a higher percentage toward their FEHB plan, as part of the plan of Congress to place the burden of deficit reduction on us."

Joe Vazzo,

**SUNSHINE REPORT**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO FEBRUARY MEMBERS

5<sup>th</sup> Rosalie Hickman, Paula Naylor

15<sup>th</sup> James Hight 16<sup>th</sup> Joe Vazzo 28<sup>th</sup> Norma Fisher

To get your name on birthday list call Pat Arganbright. Don't forget that you have to be at the meeting to claim the cash birthday gift for that month.

Pat Arganbright

**FIRST DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT**

Our Senator Coburn has on his web site all the wasteful spending by our elected representatives in 2011. Go to his web site and read his report then get angry enough to speak out or start writing. I am thankful that he is speaking, even putting it in print for everyone to read. Somehow we the people need to get in front of all this waste and expose the makers of it before it is a done deal.

Then our 50 states need to join together and let these offenders know that this is not what we want and if it doesn't stop we need to let them know at the polls that their services are no longer needed. NARFE is a great organization for just such a task with members in all 50 states and our territories. Keep NARFE strong by recruiting a member or becoming one.

**Each member can recruit one for the National Active and Retired Federal Employee's Association**

D. Jean Samuels

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**PUBLICITY**

If you aren't attending your chapter meetings you are missing out on chatting with friends and enjoying refreshments. We also have a speaker who shares interesting information. Have you done your duty to write or call your senators and representatives regarding your salary or retirement annuity???

Jane Cornell

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**FRIENDS OF NARFE**

FEHP need donations. See their article in the NARFE magazine. If you are NARFE member caught in a Natural disaster they can help.

The NARFE Premier Federal Credit Union changed its checking rate to 2.02%.

BCBS offers a \$35.00 visa card and ways to earn more; Go to their web site for details.

From **Lynda Ender, AGE Director, *The Senior Source* 214-823-5700 ext. 6113**

**Please pass on to Senior Veterans and their family members. This benefit is called the VA Veteran Pension Program or Aid and Attendance.**

Sadly, there are so **many Senior Veterans** who do **not know** about this benefit. Information about the benefit: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWIsTcxZ4\\_4%20](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWIsTcxZ4_4%20)  
<http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/pension/>

Tulsa Federal Employee's Credit Union has changed the annual meeting place. Call them or go to their web site for more information.

**Stay Informed:**

NARFE National Headquarters <gems@narfe.org  
NARFE News Watch [narfe@multibriefs.com](mailto:narfe@multibriefs.com)

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**SPOTLIGHT**

**This next year I would like to use our remaining space to spot light our members If you would like us to know more about you and what you are doing please submit your article to Paula Naylor.**

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