



# NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Official Quarterly Newsletter of the  
Houston Association of Chapters

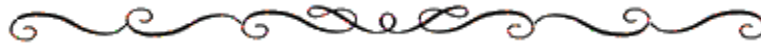
October 2007

<http://www.narfehouston.org>



President: Dave Bloomer VP: Al Luna Secretary: Hazel Hicks Treasurer: Wilbur Doehring

## NARFE Exceeds Alzheimer's Goal of \$7 Million



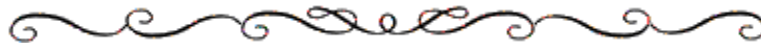
Congratulations NARFE members! As of July 31<sup>st</sup> NARFE members had raised \$7,016,167.00 for Alzheimer's research. Read more about this achievement and NARFE's partnership with the Alzheimer's Association in the November issue of NARFE magazine.

## October is Chapter Meeting Month



Chapters are encouraged to make a special effort to have members attend a meeting or Chapter event during October which has been designated Chapter Meeting Month. Some Chapters have a special event on a day other than their usual meeting day to make it possible for members who can't make the usual meeting day to attend the event. Has your Chapter planned to invite members to your meeting or planned a special event for Chapter Meeting Month?

## Medical Premiums Increase



Although OPM is publicizing that the overall average Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premium increase for 2008 is 2.1 percent, NARFE members should be aware that employees and retirees in the program's most popular plan (Blue Cross/Blue Shield (BC/BS) standard option) will see an enrollee increase of 8.5 percent (\$10.51 for self only and \$23.49 for family per month). Members should inform their legislators that they are aware of OPM actions which are causing the premiums to be increased unnecessarily. The chief reasons being OPM refusal to apply for the Medicare subsidy specifically allowed under the law, promotion of high deductible insurance plans with Health Savings Accounts to younger employees, and premature cancellation of the Postmasters Benefit Plan. For more information about FEHBP premiums there are at least three sources 1) the NARFE press release found from the top of the NARFE web site, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org); 2) the November NARFE magazine, the second of three issues with major coverage of Federal Benefits Open Season; and 3) and the OPM web site, [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov) The FEHBP gateway is <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/08rates/index.asp>

### NARFE Websites:

<http://www.narfe.org> <http://www.txnarfe.org> <http://www.narfehouston.org>

## October Meeting Place Changed



The next Houston Association of Chapters meeting will be on Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM. A new location has been arranged following Norma Levy reporting that Chapter 1321 would not host the meeting as planned. Chapter 941 will now host the meeting which will be held at the Dinner Bell Cafeteria 6525 Lawndale, Houston, Texas. A map is available on the Association website at: <http://www.narfehouston.org/meetinfo.html>

Agenda items for the October meeting will include:

Houston Association Banner

District 22 NARFE members invited to meet Nick Lampson at Chapter 2030 Meeting Nov 14<sup>th</sup>

Future recruiting events

Houston Association of Chapters Newsletter

Resolution for recognition of Associations and Chapters

Nomination of Officers for 2008



## NARFE Lobby Month



Officers of Chapter 2030 Rosenberg met with Congressman Nick Lampson during NARFE Lobby Month in August. From left are Legislative Chair Phil Miller, Secretary Hazel Hicks, President Dave Bloomer, and Congressman Nick Lampson. Congressman Lampson has also agreed to attend the Chapter 2030 meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Fort Bend Country Club in Richmond. **Any NARFE member in District 22 is invited to call Dave Bloomer at 281-438-2272 for a reservation to attend the meeting.**

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## Duties of Representatives

Beyond attending the quarterly meeting of the Association, Representatives should routinely report to their Chapter President and Chapter members at Chapter meetings, and in Chapter newsletters what transpired at the Quarterly meeting and seek the participation of the members in any events or volunteer needs. Volunteers are scarce - take every opportunity to recruit new volunteers to help.

## Chapter News

**Each Chapter President has been asked to have their Publicity Chair or Newsletter Editor contribute information on their Chapter two weeks before the beginning of each quarter. Each Chapter has also been advised to update their meeting and event information for the website quarterly. If information was submitted for your chapter it appears below.**

### **Greater North Houston Chapter 828**

September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting: Officer Rhonda Segovia from the Houston Police Department.

October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting: Lee Newman speaking about Home Fire Safety

November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting: Speaker will be a representative from Health Care Provider (N. A. L. C) National Association of Letter Carriers.

### **Houston NASA Chapter 1321**

September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting: "Sky Lab Repair" presented by Astronauts Joe Kerwin and Jack Kinzler.

October 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting: "Stars 'N Stripes" Ukulele Band.

November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting: Travel Log "South Korea" presented by Margaret & Bob Mitchell.

### **Rosenberg Chapter 2030**

The September 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter 2030 meeting will feature a speaker from Fort Bend County on Emergency Management.

At the October 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter 2030 meeting the Nominating Committee will report nominations for 2008 Officers.

October 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter Event – Members will meet at Another Time Soda Fountain & Restaurant 800 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Rosenberg at 11:30 AM for lunch and will then tour the Rosenberg Railroad Museum at 1:00PM.

November 14<sup>th</sup> Congressman Nick Lampson will be the speaker at the Chapter 2030 meeting at 11:30 AM at the Fort Bend Country Club in Richmond Texas. **All NARFE members who live in Congressional District 22 are invited to attend the meeting. Members from other chapters that plan to join us are asked to please make a reservation with Chapter President Dave Bloomer at 281-438-2272 so that sufficient space and lunches will be available.** The Election of Officers for 2008 will also be conducted at this meeting.

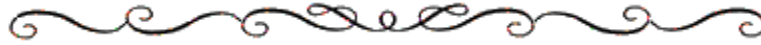
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## Designation of Representatives & Alternates



Representatives, Alternates and Chapter Presidents are reminded that a letter designating the representatives of the Chapter should be submitted to Secretary Hazel Hicks at the beginning of each year. A new list of Representatives and Alternates cannot be assembled until the information is submitted. Each Chapter should designate two representatives, and at least two alternates. Alternates are to insure that a chapter will be able to exercise its vote should a representative be unable to attend a particular meeting. For example, Chapters are encouraged to appoint their Chapter President and Vice President as representatives and their Membership Chair and Legislative Chair as Alternates. Of course where appropriate others can be appointed. **Although only two representatives and or alternates can vote at meetings, ALL representatives and Alternates are encouraged to attend ALL meetings. This practice will help insure a Chapter is represented at all meetings and help keep more members informed of Association activities.**



**NARFE Houston Association of Chapters  
C/O Dave Bloomer, President  
1934 Mustang Springs Drive  
Missouri City, Texas 77459**

**To:**

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