



# SW HOUSTON 1375

## Quarterly Newsletter

Vol. 12-01

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We welcome 2012 with new chapter officers for Southwest Houston Chapter 1375. As the new president, I will continue to support NARFE's vision statement of serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivors. I am a strong believer in TEAMWORK and solicit your input on any issues of concern and will have ample opportunities for volunteers to assist in our different programs. The chapter will keep you informed on local, state and national issues affecting NARFE members through chapter meetings and newsletters. As members, you can receive direct assistance with questions on annuities, health benefits, Medicare, life insurance, tax withholding, survivor benefits, Social Security, etc. Recruiting and Retention are paramount as NARFE numbers count in political circles. I encourage everyone's assistance and urge all members to participate in the Heartbeat initiatives by going to <http://www.narfe.org/heartbeat>.

Thank you for your support.

Rudy Carr

### CHAPTER OFFICERS

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### NARFE AT WORK

- **Supercommittee Failed.** Under the sequestration process that was created in the event the supercommittee did not succeed, many of the services that Americans depend on will under go devastating cuts. NARFE Protect America's Heartbeat campaign continues with updated messages. Check web site above and continue to send your messages.
- **House approved NARFE SUPPORTED LEGISLATION:** federal Workers' Compensation Modernization and Improvement Act, HR 2456. This bill provides a thoughtful approach to reforming federal workers' compensation laws vs. inflicting further harm to federal workers injured in their service to America.

## Welcome New Members

1st Quarter 2012

Barbara Walker, Jorge Lopez,  
Christopher Govekar,  
Nikita Idlebird,  
Mack Shaw, Mohammed Zaidi,  
Jacqueline Olumoko, James Place

### RENEWALS/REINSTATEMENTS

*Ed Chaika, Benjamin Rosario,  
Charo Barnette, Joan Perry,  
Raul Valdez*

*Monthly meeting for the next Quarter*

*January 18  
February 15  
March 21*

## PROGRAMS

January	Medical Doctor Stroke Prevention
February	Bill Nash Champion Kids Camp
March	Mike Jackson Investing Advice

If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail and have an email address, send your email address to Jeannie Shafer at [lyle\\_jeannie@hotmail.com](mailto:lyle_jeannie@hotmail.com). This will help save money on postage plus you will get a monthly chapter meeting notice.

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**WE MEET AT RYAN'S STEAKHOUSE,  
7211 HWY 6 – BETWEEN  
BEECHNUT AND BELLAIRE BLVD**

## UPDATES OF INTEREST

- A Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Increase. CSRS annuities, military, and Social Security retirements increased by 3.6%.
- Medicare Part B basic monthly premiums will be \$99.90 in 2012. Medicare 2012 premiums will DROP for many federal, state, and local government retirees who were not subject to Social Security taxes while employed. These retirees had to pay the Medicare Part B increases for the past 2 years while Social Security law protected enrollees under Social Security.

## CHAPTER 1375 UPDATES

SW Houston Chapter 1375 thanks Phil Kraus for serving as our chapter president for the past five years. Thanks also to all of last year's staff for a job "well done".

Chapter 1375 was honored to have the SE Area Vice President, Phil Kraus, Federation Treasurer, Wilbur Doehring and the District 7 Representative, Dave Bloomer present for the "installation of officers" ceremony and the annual Christmas party. Two of our new members were also in attendance. Everyone enjoyed the party socializing with fellow NARFE members and partaking of a delicious holiday meal and treats.

Chapter 1375 donated \$475 and purchased 33 toys for "Toys for Tots". The chapter also donated an additional \$590 for Alzheimer's Fund. Thank you for your contributions.