

THE 740 EXPRESS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES, CHAPTER 740

www.crompton.com/NARFE740

February 9, 2002

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Next Chapter Meeting: 1 PM Thursday FEBRUARY 21, 2002

**WHERE: Giuseppe's Pizza & Restaurant in Warminster
(215-674-5550)**

PLEASE CALL TEENY AT 215-345-9098 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND.

We welcome all Federal Retirees. Encourage your fellow retiree to attend. Bring your spouse!

Please plan to attend and show your support. We want you to be involved and participate in NARFE 740 efforts for our retirement support activities. We need new members to take actions and participate in activities.

Although we see that the economy and Home Front security seems to be dominant in our attention, we also need to make sure that we preserve our retirement benefits by keeping informed and take action on legislative matters that affect our retirement. The issue of fairness and responsibility are included in proposed changes to laws in the House and Senate. See your "Retirement Life" magazine for details.

We need volunteers from our Chapter 740 to help make up presentation material, such as; Power Point and analytical graphics, to present to Congressman Jim Greenwood. He indicated that he is available to be convinced that the proposed laws are not "windfalls" that unfairly benefit Federal retirees. The presentations must be clear, concise and accurately represent the actual comparative information to influence him to support this proposed legislation. He is open to meet with us, but we must correctly powerfully present the need to undo the destructive laws that especially hurt those on the lowest income ladder, such as those widows of low income retirees hurt by these laws. Fairness also means pre-tax health benefit coverage cost for retirees. Please let us know how you can help.

If you have access to the e-mail please send a message to John DeMatteo. It will help us cut down on the expenses to distribute the newsletters; as well as provide alerts and action notices. We plan to send you the Newsletter directly as an e-mail attachment, or as a link to our web site, to read or download and print the Newsletter. Send address and comments to: JDeMatteo4@home.com

REMEMBERENCE: Alvin C. Stallsmith

Don't forget to keep your spouse informed about your annuity!

LTC Choices Will Be Limited in Early Enrollment Federal employees, retirees and eligible family members wishing to take advantage of the early enrollment opportunity running March 25-May 15 for federal long-term care insurance will not have the full range of choices available to them as will those who wait until the formal open season running July 1-December 31, the Office of Personnel Management has announced. For example, those signing up during the early enrollment period will not have the option of choosing lifetime coverage; instead, they will have to choose coverage only for a given period of time (probably either three or five years) that will have the effect of creating a pool of money available for benefits rather than lifetime coverage. Other restrictions may apply to early enrollments, as well. Those electing early enrollment will be able to change their coverage during the open season should they wish to select benefits not available during the early enrollment period.

CONGRESSIONAL CONTACTS

The **Honorable Arlen Specter**: Rm. 530 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Wash, DC 20510(215-597-7200 & 202 224-4254)

The **Honorable Rick Santorum**: B-40 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg. Wash. DC 20510(215-684-6900 & 202-224-6324)

8th District, **Congressman Jim Greenwood**: Rm. 515 Cannon House Office Bldg. Wash. DC 20515 (215-348-7511 & 202-225-4276)

13th District, **Congressman Joe Hoffel**: Rm. 1229 Longworth House Office Bldg. Wash. DC 20515 (610-272-8400 & 202-225-6111)

Office of Personnel Management, Wash DC 20415 (1-88-US-OPM-RET=1-888-767-6738, or 202-606-0500)

OPM Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA. (714-794-5216)

OPM Specifies Eligibility for LTC

With the initial enrollment opportunity just ahead, OPM has issued guidance regarding exactly who will be-and won't be-eligible for coverage under the long-term care insurance program. To see whether you're in or out, go to <http://www.fedweek.com/HotFreeNews/default.asp> for the full story in the hot free info section of our website.

Doylestown Chapter 740, NARFE

Max Schwartz, President

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