

**Sorry I missed this.**

**SERVICE OFFICER  
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**Greetings from your State Service Officer:**

**The Christmas and New Year's holidays are over. I hope you enjoyed yours as much as we did ours as we had almost all of our family home. We're looking forward to a better year than last and wish as much for you and your families.**

**Important items still on the agenda are for us all to urge Congress to correct the inequities of GPO, WEP and Premium Conversion. We need to keep close track of all and any legislation that will affect us and make sure we let our Congressmen hear from us.**

**The drug program is still causing lots of questions and concern for a number of people. Again, if you have the Federal Employee Group Health Benefits coverage, you do not need to enroll in the Medicare Drug Program, Part D.**

**The latest NARFE magazine included a reminder that if you are eligible for Medicare medical insurance (Medicare Part B) and are not now currently enrolled, you may sign up beginning with January 1, 2006, through March 31, 2006. Anyone signing up during this period will have their Medicare Part B coverage begin July 1, 2006. Some persons reaching age 65 and having an HMO plan did not elect the Part B coverage and changing to a fee-for-service plan need the Medicare Part B. For every 12 months over age 65, there is a penalty of 10% for each 12 month period. For instance the individual reached 65, did not sign up for Part B and now at age 68 needs the coverage, there will be an additional 30 percent penalty. The cost to that individual will be an additional \$26.55 per month over and above the \$88.50 or for a total of \$115.05. Anyone needing to enroll in Medicare because they are now reaching eligibility age of 65 or are now needing the additional Part B will need to contact the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or your local Social Security Office.**

**We are looking forward to the State NARFE Convention being held in Wichita, KS, on April 23-25, 2006, at the Airport Hilton. We will be looking forward to seeing you there!!!**

**Jodine Elwick  
State Service Officer  
John Lancaster  
Past President, KS Federation NARFE**