

OLD TROOPER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume I / January 2018



2018 OFFICERS

President: Mary Reed,

223-6203

1st Vice Pres: Jim Mitchell,

238-3423

2nd Vice Pres: June Buckles,

761-5880

Secretary: Lannie Pender,

238-6503

Treasurer: Wally Mitchell,

238-3423

2018 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Legislative: Jim Dodd,

238-8041

Editor: Dixie Thomas,

238-1455

Alzheimer's: Ruth Linville,

223-1550

Sunshine: Vonnie Bryant,

761-5857

Program: Karen Brough,

210-7420

Chaplain: Dan Rickman,

238-4148

Calling: Mary Zimmerman,

Membership, Public

Relations, Service Officer,

and NARFE PAC: VACANT

BRRrrrrrr! Happy New Year is starting out verrrry cooolllldddd!

Hope you all are staying warm and cozy until this passes.

Happy Birthday to Carole Blixt, Leonetta Chaves-Bibby, Cameron Davis, Barbara Hill, Clarice Longhofer, Richard Mathes, Robert Norcross, Sharon Strain and Celina Vincent.

Happy Anniversary to Cameron and Bobbie Davis, Llellwyn and Daisy McTavish and Otis and Shirley Scroggins.

“The federal community has faced assaults for many years – and continues to be the victim of choice when Congress looks for funding, savings or a scapegoat. Acting as your advocate, NARFE has been in the fight to protect your earned benefits.”

SECRETARY: LANNIE PENDER

As most of you know, Lannie was hospitalized this month so minutes will not be published.

TREASURER: WALLY MITCHELL

Balance ending 30 November 2017	\$2021.15
Receipts	327.64
Disbursements	<u>571.56</u>
Ending Balance	\$1777.23

SUNSHINE: VONNIE BRYANT, 761-5857

Get Well was sent to Dixie Thomas, Jack Loy and Lannie Pender. [Get well soon!](#)

QUESTION: *As an annuitant, if the federal government shuts down will I still receive my retirement pay from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and Social Security?*

ANSWER: Yes. Federal annuitants and survivor annuitants under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) will still receive their scheduled annuity payments on the first business day of the month. Social Security is a mandatory program that continues even if Congress fails to pass a spending bill.

QUESTION: **SSA WEP reduction and survivor benefit**

My SSA benefit is reduced by the WEP/GPO. I earned my 40 quarters prior to FAA employment. My question is; If I die before my wife, she will have the choice between her annuity or mine, whichever is higher. Will my annuity be based on the actual amount (Pre WEP deduction) or the reduced amount?

ANSWER: The Social Security (SSA) benefit that you earned for yourself (based on your 40 quarters/credits) is probably being reduced by the WEP (Windfall Elimination Provision) since you are most likely collecting a CSRS pension from OPM. The SSA benefit that your spouse earned for you is most likely affected by the GPO (Government Pension Offset) which usually doesn't impact CSRS Offset or FERS retirees.

If you die first, your spouse could be eligible for as much as 55% of your CSRS annuity from OPM (based on the spousal survivor benefit you previously elected) ... however, this would never affect any widow benefit that she might qualify for from Social Security. If you die first, the SSA you earned for her would no longer be subject to the WEP... so if your unreduced SSA benefit is larger than the SSA benefit she earned for herself, then her benefit as a widow would be increased. But if your unreduced SSA benefit that you earned is less than the SSA benefit she earned for herself, her benefit from SSA would remain the same.

Quick answer to your question: The SSA widow benefit you earned for your wife will not be affected by the WEP.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1. Where did headlight dimmer switches used to be located when you were young?
2. The bottle top of a Royal Crown Cola bottle has holes in it. For what was it used?
3. What postwar car turned automotive design on its ear when you couldn't tell whether it was coming or going?
4. Which was a popular candy when you were a kid?
5. How was Butch wax used?
6. Before inline skates, how did you keep your roller skates attached to your shoes?
7. Why was having milk delivered a problem in northern winters?