



## **NARFE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES (What does it really cost?)**

August 8, 2013

To fairly gauge the cost of anything, one must consider the age-old question, "Compared to what?" So let's examine the monthly cost of NARFE membership with the discount you receive for using automated dues withholding.

This cost is \$3.54 a month or 12 cents a day. I will not bore you with what you can/cannot buy for 12 cents because the answer is basically nothing or one dime and 2 pennies.

However \$3.54 a month is about enough to buy one gallon of gasoline! On the other hand, it will pay for ½ the cost of small popcorn at the local theater and you will have to add a bit more than \$3.00 to equal the \$7.00 Senior admission to the theater. It will not quite pay for a box of "Good & Plenty Licorice Candy" at your theater; that will cost you \$4.00.

Another way of looking at this is to compare it to the costs of other clubs or associations. The annual dues at Boy Scouts of America to be a Webelo or recruit is \$50 (plus uniforms); it costs \$60 to join the Elks, \$40 to \$250 for the Shriners; \$80 a year for the Toastmasters, and a small fortune to join the Teamsters. And there must be at least one latte that you can buy for around \$4!

Bottom line: \$3.54 a month is a BARGAIN for which you receive the monthly NARFE magazine, your local monthly newsletter, and last, but not least, constant representation before the Congress and continuous surveillance over legislation that may reduce your earned retirement benefits or the salary of active employees.

The NARFE magazine provides valuable information and is a conduit to NARFE Headquarters who have the power and tools to represent you in the varied personnel benefits matters. Perhaps the most popular/useful column in the national magazine is the "question and answer" sections; one column for active employees & one for retirees.

NARFE is the only organization whose sole interest is to protect your earned retirement benefits and works closely with other groups representing active employees protecting their salary and benefits.

NEW INFORMATION: In the Christmas catalog from LL Bean, one can buy 1/20th of an ounce of maple syrup; that is 1.3 grams or about a half a drop for one days cost of NARFE membership.

BOTTOM LINE: NARFE is a bargain at only \$.12 a day!

██████████ Membership Chair, Chapter ██████████