



September 2023

Hopefully all of you have had a wonderful summer season and for those of you who have endured some very warm and sometimes troubling weather are ready to embrace the fall and what that means... the holiday season is on its way. Where does the time go??? You will learn later in this newsletter that several of the NCRO board members are planning to attend the NRLN Washington DC fly-in where they will advocate for some very important issues facing our retirees. You will learn more about the results of that trip at our next Tri Annual meeting in October and in a future newsletter.

You may have recently received an email from the NCRO concerning the fact that the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN) has experienced a relatively significant reduction in contributions so far this year and we requested that our NCRO members consider contributing to the NRLN.

One of our members made a comment on a Facebook blog that we feel needs to be commented on and clarified. The comment was as follows...

"Not sure if this is considered political, but I'm just looking for an explanation.

Quick Poll Question for all the dues paying retirees like me, who are members of the NCRO. Are you also a dues paying member of the NRLN organization? If so, can you explain why when both organizations are fighting for the same causes? Why don't they merge? Just asking due to an email I just received requesting I contribute to the NRLN also. Thank you."

To clarify, the NCRO is affiliated with the NRLN and has been since our inception. As we have communicated on many occasions in newsletters, at our triannual meetings, etc., dues paying members of the NCRO are also members of the NRLN. The NCRO contributes monetarily to the NRLN based on a small fee per NCRO member. Once a year usually in the Spring, in a combined letter from Bill Kadereit, President of the NRLN and Jay Kuhnle, President of the NCRO, our members are solicited for contributions to the NRLN. Historically, our members have been very generous in making additional contributions to the NRLN. However, this year our member contributions are also down significantly, hence the email that was sent to our members.

The NCRO's primary mission is to protect Chrysler retirees' pensions and benefits building a positive relationship and working with FCA US LLC. While it is true that the NCRO and NRLN often fight for the same causes, those causes which are important to our members are more national in scope and require that we use a national retiree advocacy organization. Because we have three NCRO Board members in leadership positions with the NRLN, many times the NRLN agenda is centered on issues that are also important to our members as demonstrated by the past work that was done and the results that were made on the pension overpayment issue and the current effort to protect those pensioners whose pensions have been transferred to an insurance company via an annuity.

As for 'why don't they merge'. That is an interesting suggestion given the angst Chrysler employees/retirees felt in the past when Chrysler merged and lost control over the company's direction and the company's funds. To that end, we believe it is important for us to work as an independent organization primarily focusing our efforts with FCA US LLC on issues important to our members' pensions and benefits and secondarily with the NRLN on those more National issues that also affect our members.

Hopefully, this provides clarification to our relationship with the NRLN and the key missions on which the NCRO is focused

If you have issues, you need assistance with, please let us know by contacting us at nchryslerro@ncro.org

UPCOMING NATIONAL RETIREE LEGISLATIVE NETWORK WASHINGTON D.C. FLY-IN

With Congress back in session after Labor Day, it's time for the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN) Washington DC Fly-In to advocate on Capitol Hill issues important to our members. NRLN preparatory meetings and meetings with Senators, Representatives and others will occur on September 25th and 26th. Four NCRO members (Rich Brown, Deb Morrisett, Kathie Neal, and Dana Oliver) plan to participate.

Significant issues to be addressed during this Fly-In are:

- Protecting retirees in pension plan de-risking actions.
- Protecting Social Security.
- Protecting Medicare.
- Prescription drug price reductions.

Important Updates from the NCRO's Insurance Committee

SAVE THE DATE: THURSDAY 11-16, 11:00 AM for the next AGING INFORMATION SUB-COMMITTEE WEBINAR. Details to follow.

NCRO AGING INFORMATION WEBSITE

Do you have family members experiencing a chronic medical condition? As you and/or your partner age, are you wondering how you'll deal with serious health issues?

NCRO's Aging Information Subcommittee (AISC) can help you find trusted resources and answer your questions about the information we post on the NCRO site. The AISC is a small group of dedicated individuals who have researched senior aging. We can suggest vetted organizations that will provide you with valuable information and insights on aging and caregiving that will assist you in aging matters. This sets NCRO apart from most other retiree groups.

In recent years the AISC has gathered resource material and conducted seminars and webinars on numerous aging topics. We seek out and research **what we consider some of the best practices in the country, including information that we use ourselves.** We do this on a volunteer basis and accept no advertising or gifts.

The AISC has posted its curated material and best practices on the NCRO website.

To access this material, go to the [NCRO.ORG](https://ncro.org) website. Next, click on the Aging Information tab. Or simply click on this link: <https://ncro.org/aging-information/>

The website information is organized into 6 sections:

- Recommended Aging Organizations
- Recommended Aging Websites
- NCRO Aging Seminar/Webinar Videos/Handouts
- Aging reading material
- Special Aging Services – Helping caregivers, local Michigan financial help
- An inspirational blog of KC Mehta, a Chrysler retiree caring for his wife with early onset Alzheimer's

The AISC will also answer inquiries and comments by email or phone. Use this link: ncroaging@ncro.org. Or call us at 248-633-2827.

As always, we look forward to being of assistance. Feel free to suggest and comment also on future aging topics and interests.

WHO WANTS TO BE AN INSURANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER ... (no, not a millionaire)

The Insurance Committee invites you to become involved in helping your fellow NCRO members. You will learn how to help your fellow members understand more about their insurance and Medicare benefits and help them with their issues with Via Benefits Accounts and Benefit Connect. You do not need to be an expert already – you will learn to help others at the same time as you yourself learn more about your own very complex benefits and your multiple benefit choices.

Contact the Insurance Committee at inscom@ncro.org to learn more. (No salesperson will call on you, promise!)

SEPTEMBER 13 WEBINAR AND SEMINAR BY THE INSURANCE COMMITTEE “Medicare 101: Information for Pre-65 and 65+”:

On Wednesday, September 13th at 10:30 AM, the Insurance Committee will present our annual seminar/webinar that focuses on this issue of importance to all retirees (and their spouses). It will be held at the Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine Rd. (17 Mile), on the southeast corner of Lone Pine Road and Telegraph Road.

If you will be able to attend in person, please go to this link to register for the SEMINAR.

- <https://ncro.org/medicare-101-information-for-pre-65-and-65/7269/>

If you will be watching/listening on-line, please go to this link to register for the WEBINAR.

- <https://ncro.org/medicare-101-information-for-pre-65-and-65/7269/>

IMPROVED AND MORE HELPFUL NCRO INSURANCE COMMITTEE WEB PAGES AT www.NCRO.org

The Insurance Committee modified its web pages for easier navigation and use of the helpful guides and resources. Important information is quicker and easier to find. For the information that you need, go to:

- HEALTH INSURANCES -- go to <https://ncro.org/on-medicare/6887/> and also to <https://ncro.org/pre-65/6880/>
- REIMBURSEMENTS- go to <https://ncro.org/retirement-health-care-account/6941/> and also to <https://ncro.org/retirement-health-care-account/6941/>
- SOCIAL SECURITY -- go to <https://ncro.org/social-security/6952/>

October 18th NCRO Tri--Annual Meeting.

We are looking forward to our 52nd Tri-Annual Breakfast Meeting on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at the San Merino Club on Big Beaver Road, Troy Michigan. Our speaker will be Alan Amici, President, and CEO of the Center for Automotive Research (CAR), VP at TE Connectivity, and Chrysler Electrical and Electronics Leader. The agenda and subject of Al's presentation will be announced in a future mailing. The Insurance Committee and Health Insurance representatives will be on hand to answer questions on Medicare Enrollment immediately following the regular meeting. Doors open at 9:30 with the meeting beginning at 10:30, Hope you can join us in person or thru the GoToWebinar

2023 CY Membership Dues

Reminder: Calendar Year 2024 Annual Dues (01-01-2024 thru 12-31-2024) invoices will be mailed at the end of October 2023. The \$25 annual dues are to have paid by December 31, 2023. If you have already paid your 2024 Calendar Year Dues you will not receive a dues notice.

We also ask that you enlist your retiree friends who are not NCRO members to join in our efforts by joining NCRO.

REMINDER TO CHECK/UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION FOR THE NCRO

Reason for asking you to do this, to ensure that as a member NCRO can provide you with the latest communications - newsletters, benefits, company ownership, etc.

Regarding membership Information in NCRO Database:

1. There is no linkage between Stellantis and NCRO databases. If you update FCA with any changes, home address/email address/phone numbers, it **does not get** to NCRO. You need to update both Stellantis and NCRO of any changes separately.

2. If you no longer have an email address the only means for NCRO to provide you with any written communications is through your mailing address. If it is not correct in the NCRO database, you will not receive any communications from NCRO. Please keep your address in the database current.
3. Many of you may be snowbirds who travel to a warmer climate for the winter months. We cannot keep two mailing addresses for you in our database. Please provide NCRO with one main mailing address to send NCRO communications.
4. All 2024 Calendar Year payment addresses will be reviewed and compared to what is in the NCRO database. If you are using the NCRO website to make a payment for, breakfast meeting/dues, please take the time to review your information in the database and correct if required.
5. If you are living with a caregiver, please use the caregiver's address in the database.

Please go to the NCRO website (www.ncro.org) under the "NCRO Members" tab and check to see that your correct address and/or email address is on file. It also may be incorrect in FCA's database. So not only update NCRO but Stellantis also with any changes in address and/or phone number. Make that update at <https://fcabenefits.ehr.com>. Click on My Profile and on View/Edit to see your current information and make any needed changes. If you are having a problem updating your information in the NCRO database, please contact Pete Piccinato and he will help to get it done. Pete's email is: ppiccinato@comcast.net

Retiree Friendly Dealer Program

We now have seven (7) Detroit Metro dealers participating and will sell vehicles to retirees using the Retiree Friendly "no hassle" process. You can also go to our website to review the list of retiree friendly dealers and contact information.

If you are in the market for a vehicle, contact one of the Retiree Friendly Dealers listed below to schedule an appointment. Please make sure that you contact the person identified for that dealer listed since they understand the retiree friendly dealer program. Also, please remember the Chrysler Employee and Retiree Advantage Program. Control numbers are available for your use. Those Control numbers are available at <https://www.ea.chrysler.com/EmpAdv/>

Also remember to use the Retiree Friendly Dealers for your service maintenance. If you do go to one of the Retiree Friendly Dealers for maintenance, please let them know that you are a member of NCRO. This will let the dealers know that NCRO members are supporting them since these dealers are supporting NCRO.

The following dealers participate in this program,

Birmingham:

[Golling Alfa Romeo of Birmingham](#)

fiatusaofbloomfieldhills.com.

Contact Person: James Houfley, (248)502-0882- direct

email: james.houfley@golling.com

Bloomfield Hills:

[Golling Chrysler Dodge Jeep](#)

Your Golling Bloomfield Hills RFD Contact: Matthew J. Godfrey 248.409.2332

Lake Orion:

[Milosch's Palace Chrysler Dodge Jeep & RAM](#)

Your Milosch Lake Orion RFD Contact: Ken Van Portfliet 248.393.2222 x1272 C. 248.310.3616

email: Kenv@palacecj.com

Rochester Hills:

[Rochester Hills Chrysler Jeep Dodge](#)

Your Rochester Hills RFD Contacts: Lincoln Phillip at 248.659.3278 or Jerry Dawe at 248.659.3223

Warren:

[Jim Riehl's Friendly Chrysler Jeep](#)

Your Jim Riehl Warren RFD Contact: Brian Ackerman 586.983.4325, email: Backerman@friendlyautogroup.com

Chelsea:

[Golling Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Of Chelsea RFD](#)

RFD Contact Person: Darren Verbouw, email: darren.verbouw@golling.com

Roseville:

[Golling Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram of Roseville](#)

RFD Contacts :Nicolas King (Marketing Manager) 248.760.2608 email: nicolas.king@gmail.com or

Kevin Frabis 586.859.2500 email: kevin.frabis@golling.com