



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
PUTNAM COUNTY—COOKEVILLE TENNESSEE
NARFE Works For You**

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

July 2014

Notes From The Chapter President

The June meeting was much better attended than the recent meetings, thanks to all who responded this past month. We saw some members who had not been in attendance for quite some time. But we are still missing some who used to be there at most meetings. If that is you, try to come this month.

We did not have the usual speaker for June, but we had 3 speakers. They were all from the Upper Cumberland Development District, Office on Aging and Disability. They were Patty Ray, Director and 2 of her assistants, Holly Williams and Lanelle Godsey. Each spoke on different programs that they have there. Patty explained that their mission is to help with planning, coordinating and advocating for services to improve the quality of life of older persons and other adults with disabilities. While they do not provide the services directly, they do help arrange for these services.

Just to list some of what they can assist with; all aspects of Medicare, homecare, personal needs, legal assistance, ombudsman services, family caregiver, senior centers, transportation, nutrition and more. You may or may not have a need for these services, but there may be some that you know who does.

Each of these speakers were very interesting in all they talked about and I don't have space to list all of it, but I can provide a copy of their brochure or better still just call or go by the office, located in Cookeville at 1225 S. Willow Ave. Phone number 931-432-4111 or 866-836-6678. This office serves all 14 counties of the Upper Cumberland which includes all our chapter members except those who live out of state. I am sure there are similar programs in other states.

In other news from the last meeting, I gave reports of activity of the national office including the back and forth decisions of the executive board in regards to the Future of NARFE changes.

We had the treasurer's report, membership report, legislative report and the sunshine report. Thanks to all who help me the chapter.

No one stepped forward willing to attend the national convention on our behalf. There was a discussion on the chapter authorizing a portion of the funds needed to send me. I would like to attend, but do not want to cover the remaining expenses of going.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

Coming Up This Month

Our next monthly meeting will be July 15th. Our program this month will be Tammy Depperschmidt from Mustard Seed Ranch, in Cookeville. They are a ministry serving children who have been neglected, abused, or orphaned. This program was one of several that was suggested by someone a few months ago when we asked for suggestions. If you would like us to invite someone interesting to speak, share that with me or Larry Harkleroad.

If you live anywhere in the Upper Cumberland area, make a special effort to come this month and take advantage of the longer days with more daylight.

As always we meet at Shoney's Restaurant on South Jefferson Ave. We ask that you get there no later than 6pm if you plan to eat. The restaurant is usually short handed and its takes awhile to get served. The business session of our meeting begins promptly at 6:45. Come and remind other members to attend. I am looking for YOU!

National Convention

Since no one is going from our chapter to the NARFE National Convention this year, I have contacted someone from another chapter who is going and willing to serve as a proxy for us. There will be several items that will be voted on by ballot and this will allow us to have a voice in the vote.

We just received the book that lists all the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules as well as the general resolutions that have been submitted by various groups this year. There are a total of 43 and they can be read online in the section of the national website for the Convention. I will read through these and discuss them at chapter meetings and in next month's newsletter. —continued

Chapter Officers

President	Ronnie Collins
Vice-President	Larry Harkleroad
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Now that the National Executive Board has delayed its decision to reduce the number of regions from 10 to 5, that has changed the list of candidates who will be running for these positions as well as some other positions. As I see it now, there are 3 candidates running for National President— Elaine Hughes, Richard Thissen and Ken Thomas. There is only 1 candidate for National Treasurer—Jon Dowie. Tennessee will continue to be in Region 10 and there is 1 candidate running for Region 10 Vice President—William Shackelford. I would encourage each of you to read their candidate statements and consider their qualifications for the respective offices.

Legislative News

We were not able to secure our 6th District Representative, Diane Black to hold a special meeting with us in August during the recess. She declined our invitation. We had hoped to make this a joint meeting with other NARFE chapters in her district. Instead she has directed that her Field Rep. in the Cookeville office to meet with us. So what Dan and I have agreed to do, is to have him come on our regular meeting night in August. More on this in the August newsletter.

To update you on a Postal Reform item that is being considered in the US House. A proposal to end 6 day delivery and transfer the savings to the Highway Trust Fund to pay for highway construction. NARFE President Beaudoin has written a letter to all Representatives in opposition to this. At this point, this proposal does not seem to be going anywhere.

NARFE provides a full list of current bills relating to federal employees and retirees on its website under the Legislative Action Center. There you can read all about the various bills, see who are the Co-sponsors and send a letter or email directly to your Senators and Representative.

Don't forget you can always call your members of Congress by dialing 1-866-220-0044. They want to hear from you on concerns that you have relating to issues being considered.

Membership News

Glad to have 1 member recently switch to Dues Withholding for payment of the membership dues. We would like to see others do this as well. Like I have said before, this is a Win, Win situation for you and NARFE. It is easy to make this change, and you can do it at any time. I can send you a form for this or you can call 1-800-456-8410 have them update your payment records.

NARFE IS IN YOUR FUTURE
Embrace the mission, Share the vision

Other News—this and that!

The Consumer Price Index is reported each month and it now seems to be reflecting some of what we have known for a very long time. That the cost of living is getting more expensive. The last 5 months have reflected increases. The latest numbers for the CPI-W that was reported in June for the month of May showed an increase of .33 percent. With 4 more reporting months to go, we are on track for a 1.69 percent cost of living adjustment for next year.

There are several very good articles in the July NARFE Magazine. Take the time to look through it, especially note the article on Postal Reform which begins on page 22. and the Questions and Answers section which is in every issue.

Thanks of you who responded to my request last month on the subject "Do you take time to read these newsletters". I would like to hear from a few more.

I try to make these newsletters both interesting and informative. If there is some subject that you would like to see included, drop me a note and maybe I can print something on that.

Check out our chapter website, we have our programs listed for this month and also for the months of August and September.

On The Light Side—Doctor Trouble

A friend of mine went to see his doctor. He said to the doctor, "I want you to give me a thorough examination and then tell me in plain words what's the matter with me. I don't want any of those fancy medical terms. Just tell me in plain language."

The doctor gave him a complete physical and then told him his trouble. "There's nothing wrong with you." the doctor said. "You're just lazy—plain lazy."

My friend looked at the doctor and said, "now if you don't mind, please give me the fancy terms for it so I can tell my wife."

Another friend went to the doctor for relief from a cold he just could not seem to shake off.

He begged the doctor to cure him quickly, but the doctor who was as baffled as all others are by the common cold, had only one suggestion. "I want you to go out into this cold winter rain," he told the patient, "and let yourself get chilled and soaked through and through."

"But," exclaimed the puzzled patient, "that would cause pneumonia, wouldn't it?"

"Certainly." said the doctor. "We can't help your cold, but we can cure pneumonia!"

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956:	www.narfecookevilletn.org
Tennessee Federation:	www.narfetn.org
NARFE Headquarters:	www.narfe.org