



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

October 2014

Notes From The Chapter President

We had a fairly good turnout for the last meeting. I know that some had other obligations and could not be there, but most of our 'regulars' were there and a few others. It is always an encouragement when we have good attendance. There was a touch of Fall weather in the air and I suppose by the time this goes out there will be much more.

Our speaker for the last meeting was non other myself. I presented a program about the 4 TN Constitutional amendments that will be on the November election ballot in Tennessee. I encourage all of you to exercise your right to vote on the candidates, these state amendments and local issues which will appear on the ballots.

I had handouts sheets which listed the 4 amendments with comments about each of them. I want go into great detail here, but anyone who missed the last meeting can pick up these sheets at the next meeting or you can get them from the internet by [clicking here](#).

These 4 amendments, all of which, if passed will amend the Tennessee State Constitution. You will be asked to vote Yes or No on each of these:

- Amendment No 1 is a Pro-Life issue, it restores the constitution to neutral on the subject of abortion after a TN Supreme Court ruling in the year 2000 declared there it was a constitutional right.
- Amendment No 2 changes the way that Supreme Court justices are selected in Tennessee.
- Amendment No. 3 places a ban on state income taxes in the constitution.
- Amendment No. 4 makes a change to the state run lottery.

I would encourage each of you to be informed about each of these issues and vote. As some of you know, I support a Yes vote on Amendment 1.

Other news from the last meeting includes: Vice President Larry Harkleroad gave a brief report on the just completed NARFE National Convention as well as a Membership Report. Legislative Chairman Dan Hilton passed out information sheets on the 3 candidates running in the US Congressional race for District 6. Besides the incumbent Diane Black-**R** Amos Powers-**D** and Mike Winton-**I** are also running. Don't forget to exercise your right to vote.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

Coming Up This Month

Our next monthly meeting will be October 21st. The program this month will be Brenda Davis-Bryant of the Cookeville Regional Medical Center speaking about the Cardiac Unit. I am sure this will be a very informative program and I urge you to attend.

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 6:45pm.

We inform everyone by this means and the media, but some of our members fail to hear about upcoming meetings, so would you call someone to remind and encourage them to attend this month?

Chapter Officers

It is time that we consider who will lead our chapter in the coming year. The 4 elected offices are; President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. As well, there are several appointed positions that are important too.

I have served as the president for many years now and so has our current secretary and treasurer. The only new officer is our vice president. It would be great if any of you who live in Putnam County or any surrounding county would accept one of these position. New leadership is a good thing and will be welcomed. With the changes taking place on the national level, these are important times for chapters.

We will bring this up for nominations at this month's meeting. Officers should be elected at the November meeting. Training help is provided. Think on this and bring your suggestions to the meeting. The current elected officers are listed just below on this page.

Chapter Officers

President	Ronnie Collins
Vice-President	Larry Harkleroad
Secretary	Reba Collins
Treasurer	Myrna Estes

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Telephone Calls

As some of you know, I have used an automated calling service on occasion to call your phone with a recorded reminder about the upcoming chapter meeting. This past month, I expanded those calls and more of you received it. I received lots of positive comments about the calls this past month.

Many of you may remember that we used to have a Calling Committee set up which called members each month with a meeting reminder. I think that is a better way to do this, but it became increasingly difficult to keep going. That is why it was discontinued.

This automated way is easy to do and the cost is not too expensive, so I would like to continue doing that. Currently I have it set up so that the calls go out to the home number that I have for you and to those of you who live in the area and are most likely to attend. I ask for your assistance in this. If you would like either of these changes, let me know.

- To be included from the calls
- To be excluded from the calls
- To have the calls sent to another phone number

Sunshine Reports

We would like to know when our members have health issues or deaths in the family. As best as we try, we know that we miss a lot of you. We apologize if you did not receive a card or call during some event such as this. Some of you help us with this and we welcome more help. If you know of one in our chapter who has sickness or family deaths, call or email me or Connie Banker or mention it at a meeting. I have also placed a **form** on our website that you can use to let us know. Look near the bottom of our home page, www.narfecookevilletn.org.

Membership News

Special thanks to those of you who have recently renewed your membership. We simply could not continue to exist without your support

The special recruitment incentives have been extended to the end of December. This is an effort to increase our membership numbers.

Everyone who recruits a new member will receive \$10 for each new member, this includes a current federal employee or someone retired from federal service. Don't forget spouses are also eligible to join as well. Recruiters will also be entered in a drawing for a Kindle Fire tablet. This incentive applies to all you sign up during the months of September through December. Don't forget to place your Member ID number on the membership form

I have the membership forms with me at meetings, you can get them online and print out; or you or the new member can call this number to join: 800-627-3394. Have the new member mention your ID #.

Vote Yes on Amendment 1

2014 Election Dates

This year's General Election date is November 4th. But for those who take advantage of early voting, it will be from October 15th to October 30. Check with your local election office for the locations and times that you can vote.

In addition to the 4 Amendments which I have already written about, on the ballot this year will be these races; Governor, State Senator, State Representative, US Senator, US Representative and in some areas there may be City candidates and issues. We have a few chapter members who live in other states where your details may be different.

Holiday Season

Now that Fall is here, it will not be long until it is time for all the holidays, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years. We have in the past meet in December for a Christmas social. It is time that we start planning that for this year if you want to have it.

I have contacted the location where we had it last year, Sweet T's Restaurant and checked on 2 possible dates, December 6th and 13th for a noon time meal. The only date available was the first date. Please bring your thoughts, suggestions, etc. to this months meeting so that we can plan this event.

Health Insurance Open Season

This year the dates for making changes to your health insurance plans are November 10-December 8. This applies to these programs; the Federal Health Benefit Program (FEHBP), the Federal Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) and the Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA).

You will find information in the October, November and December issues of the NARFE magazine, from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) website and the agency that you work with. I will post more details and have information at the meetings as soon as it is made available.

From Life's Unanswered Questions

- Why doesn't McDonald's sell hotdogs?
- At the movie theater which arm rest is yours?
- If man evolved from monkeys, how come we still have monkeys?
- When does it stop being partly cloudy and start being partly sunny?
- Can you daydream at night?
- Why does quicksand work slowly?
- Why do they call the little candy bars "fun size". Wouldn't it be more fun to eat a big one?

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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