



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED  
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION  
PUTNAM COUNTY—COOKEVILLE TENNESSEE**  
\*\*Protecting Our Future\*\*

**Chapter 1956 Newsletter**

**June 2015**

**Notes from last meeting**

We got back into the monthly meetings after taking a month off for the convention. The days are getting longer and that helps with some of those who attend. But attendance was still on the low side for this meeting. We have a few more meetings with longer days, so make the most of it.

I thought the speaker for this meeting, District Attorney—Bryant Dunaway was very interesting. He was elected to this office this past year and began work in September. He serves the 13th Judicial District which includes Putnam and 6 nearby counties. This is the largest district in the state.

The District Attorney office deals mostly with criminal cases and child custody cases. His office has 14 Assistant DAs which are divided up throughout the 3 branch offices in the 13th District.

Dunaway mentioned that he works with all the law enforcement agencies in the 7 counties and this results in hundreds of cases that his office deals with monthly. Not all of these go to trial, as some are settled by plea actions. He said that about 90 percent of the cases that he sees are some way or another related to the use of drugs.

He went on to explain all the various types of courts that make up the Tennessee legal system, besides the criminal courts, there are the Chancery Courts, General Sessions Courts, Appellate Court and others.

Bryant Dunaway seems to be very sincere in the way he does his job and devoted to making sure that his office runs the way that it should. He takes his work very seriously.

In other news from last month's meeting, I gave a few more details about the recent Federation Convention and we talked about legislation, membership and the other usual reports.

I mentioned in the last newsletter and meeting that the main speaker at the federation convention was National President Richard Thissen. I now have a copy of the talk that he gave as well as the questions and answers that took place. There is lots of good information in this and I would recommend that you take the time to read over it. Those with computers can [CLICK HERE](#). Those without computer can request a copy on paper from me.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

**Next meeting**

Our next chapter meeting will be on June 16th. Keep in mind that it falls on the 3rd Tuesday of the month and the location is Shoney's Restaurant in Cookeville. Start time is 6:00pm. Our speaker this month will be Randy Porter, Putnam County Executive. I would think that he will talk about the duties of his office and about things of interest in the county.

It is always encouraging to have good attendance for our speakers. I would ask that you make plans to come. We will have lots more information to share.

**Legislative news**

The latest headlines that I have seen are these:

**House Committee Discusses FECA Reform.**

This has to do with Federal Employees Compensation Act which provides federal employees compensation for medical expenses and wages due to job-related injuries or illnesses. NARFE supports the proposed modernizations and program integrity measures, but strongly opposes the proposals to reduce FECA benefits at retirement age.

**Civil Service Reform Hearing Held in Senate.**

Subcommittee Chairman James Lankford, R-OK, led the May 20 hearing, joined by Ranking Member Heidi Heitkamp, D-ND. Recognizing the need for civil service reform, the senators solicited ideas on a variety of topics, including rewarding high performers, making it easier to remove poor performers and providing better managerial training. NARFE has sent a letter to the subcommittee with its recommendations for modernizing the federal civil service.

**Consumer Prices Increase in April.**

There was an increase in cost of .20 percent for April. Overall since last year, the index shows a 1.16 percent decrease. There are 5 more months of reports to come out before we know what the end change will be.

**Chapter Officers**

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

**Contact Information:**

NARFE Chapter 1956  
118 Ballenger Rd., Carthage TN 37030  
E-mail: [rwcollins@hydroguy.com](mailto:rwcollins@hydroguy.com)  
Phone or Text: 931-284-4835

## NARFE-PAC update

Our national office is reporting that the recent federation conventions around the nation was extremely successful in regards to donations the NARFE-PAC.

Just four months into the cycle, NARFE-PAC has already reached its goal to increase the number of monthly sustainers by 25 percent by the end of the 2015-2016 cycle. We then set a new goal of 50 percent and, again, have already met that goal. Now they would like to increase the number of sustainers by 100 percent.

If you have not made a donation or signed up to be a monthly sustainer, you can do that at any time. See the form provided in the magazine on go to the NARFE national website. Thanks for your support.

## Membership news

We are still urging those who have received renewal notices to send in your payment for renewal. Remember if you renew for multiple years, you will save some money and not have to deal with it each year.

Renewing is easy, just send in the renewal form that you get, or call 1-800-456-8410. While you can mail in a check, I would encourage you to pay by credit card. There have been times when checks were lost in the process.

One way that we reach new potential members is to send their name and address to the national office. When they get these names, they will send to them information about NARFE and an invitation to join. This helps us who know potential members, but don't have the opportunity to talk to them about NARFE.

Most likely we all know potential members that we can invite to join. **So here is what I am asking you to do, let's create a list of names with addresses of those we know. These can be current or retired federal employees of any federal agency.**

**When you have your list made, you can call in that information using phone number: 800-627-3394, email the list to rr@narfe.org, or give me that information and I will send in for you. CAN WE DO THIS?**

Here is why spouses should join NARFE. Several years ago, a bill was introduced in Congress to make cuts in survivor benefits. NARFE fought this bill and, after a hard debate, defeated it! Still we have many survivor annuitants eligible for NARFE membership who choose not to join. This group stands to win or lose the same way as retirees. Many survivors who never worked for the federal government mistakenly believe that one membership is sufficient and fail to understand that survivor benefits are affected the same way as federal retiree benefits.

**We Ask That Spouses Join Us Today**

## Some benefits of NARFE membership

You get advance notice and dependable advice when benefits change Retirement annuities, health insurance, life insurance and other benefits are subject to change. As a NARFE member, you will know what to expect and get and answers to questions.

NARFE members have access to acclaimed reporting on federal news. With so much misinformation about federal pay and benefits in the general media, *narfe magazine* is a reliable source for news, data and advice for federal workers and retirees. Monthly columns sort out complex and common benefit issues, translate proposed legislation, answers you questions, report on progress and results of NARFE legislative initiatives and more.

As a NARFE member, you get to speak your mind through the NARFE Legislative Action Center. Access quick links to reach your members of Congress. NARFE's online database of current legislation, key votes and how to's on communicating with Capitol Hill give you the power to speak your mind to the people making the decisions.

Using the purchasing power of hundreds of thousands of members, NARFE offers excellent deals to help you save money on travel, hotel stays, mortgage discounts, and additional financial, insurance, and health services are also available to NARFE members. College scholarship and disaster relief grants are more ways that NARFE is looking out for you and your family when you remain a member.

So you can see it pays to be a member.

## Join us! Stay with us!

### On the light side—Little Johnny

*Little Johnny was attending his first day of school.*

*The teacher advised the class to start the day with the pledge of allegiance, and instructed them to put their right hands over their hearts and repeat after her She looked around the room as she started the recitation, "I pledge allegiance to the flag...*

*When her eyes fell upon Little Johnny, she noticed his hand over the right cheek of his buttocks. "Little Johnny, I will not continue until you put your hand over your heart.*

*Little Johnny replied, "It is over my heart." After several attempts to get Little Johnny to put his hand over his heart, the teacher asked, "Why do you think that is your heart?" "Because every time my Grandma comes to visit, she picks me up, pats me here, and says, 'bless your little heart,' and my Grandma can't be wrong!"*

### NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956: [www.narfecookevilletn.org](http://www.narfecookevilletn.org)

Tennessee Federation: [www.narfetn.org](http://www.narfetn.org)

NARFE Headquarters: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)