

Monthly Notes

Summer is winding down now as we are in the month of September. Labor Day has just passed, I surely miss the holidays and vacations. :-) It seems like this summer has passed quickly, and soon we will move into the fall season and all that it brings.

I have been commenting on the new NARFE member log in procedures and the officer portal. I thought it was getting better, but I am still very disappointed in the progress that they are making moving to the new way of doing things. I cannot see any of the officer reports now, they have not been updated or provided in the past few months. They tell us that they will have the reports for us in a few months from now.

Meeting Update

While we wait ever so patiently for Shoney's to begin to remodel, I am thinking of having a mid-day meeting in the month of November at another location. I appreciate receiving some suggestions from some of you.

Possible locations would be either Nicks Restaurant or Golden Corral. These along with another has been suggested and are these two are available on the 3rd Tuesday of the month.. Both locations have advantages and disadvantages:

Nicks' meeting room may be quieter but their prices are somewhat high and limited to their menu items. Golden Corral's meeting room may not be as quiet, but their food prices are lower and offers a greater selection.

I would like to hear from some of you who would attend a November meeting on your preference.

Recruiting Incentives

For recruiting new members, you can get a \$20 cash from the Tennessee Federation and also \$10 cash from the national office. In addition the national office will enter you in a drawing for a chance to win a monthly prize, a \$25 Amazon.com gift card and a Grand Prize, a Kindle Fire device.

You have now till the end of 2019 to recruit any new member, Use the Membership Form in the magazine, you can make copies if needed. Just remember to put your Name and Member ID on the form before handing it out. Other forms of joining include online at narfe.org and by telephone 800-456-8410. Those joining also need your Name and ID number.

2020 COLA Watch

We now have the July consumer data in and it shows a small increase. We have 2 more reports to go to determine what January will bring.

Month	Month % Change	% Toward 2020
October 2018	0.19	0.28
November 2018	-0.45	-0.17
December 2018	-0.47	-0.64
January 2019	0.14	-0.49
February 2019	0.44	-0.05
March 2019	0.63	0.57
April 2019	0.63	1.21
May 2019	0.22	1.43
June 2019	-0.05	1.38
July 2019	0.20	1.58

NARFE Webinars

The list of webinars through the end of year is out. You will need to log in as a member to see any of these, You can watch them live by pre-registering, or later by recording. All webinars start at 1:00 pm, CT. Some will of interest only to current workers.

Sept. 5—Find a Clear Path to a Smooth Retirement.

Sept. 19—Survivor Benefits: Pain Free Planning.

Oct. 24—FEHB and Medicare: What's Your Best Choice.

Nov. 7—The Pros and Cons of Consumer Driven Health Plans.

Nov. 21—Health Plans—What's your Best Option?

Dec. 12—Estate Planning for Feds - Protect Your Assets.

Chapter Officers

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Secretary
Treasurer

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Reba Collins
Myrna Estes

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When you get your renewal notice, be sure to renew both your National and Chapter Dues.

Chapter Financial Report—Month of July 2019

July 1st balance—\$2,292.74

Dues received—\$0.00

Disbursements:

Stamps for mailing of newsletters—\$110.00

July 30th balance—\$2,182.74

Get Well Wishes

I received an email from our long time member and Treasurer, Myrna, that she suffered a fall a few weeks ago now. She received some cuts and bruises but no broken bones. We certainly wish her a speedy recovery.

Legislative News

Members of Congress returned to Washington D.C. after Labor Day ending their long August break. They still should pass a budget for the coming fiscal year, though in recent years they have failed to do so and just pass resolutions to keep the government funded and eventually pass some sort of omnibus bill. Who knows what they will do this year. The current fiscal year ends September 30 and the 2020 fiscal year begins on October 1.

NARFE is very much in favor of two new bills that have been proposed that I mentioned last month. They are H. R. 3934, the Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act of 2019. This is a new bill dealing with the Windfall Elimination Provision. And the other is H. R. 860 the Social Security 2100 Act,

In other news, I did see reported, 2 new bills that would be good if they could pass and become law. They were reported in a recent NARFE Legislative Hotline message. This bill changes the calculation use to determine cost-of-living adjustments, switching from the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) to the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E). But it currently only applies to those receiving S. S. payments and not to all federal retirees.

There are other bills too that NARFE supports both, including those listed in the magazine.. Be sure to call the members of Congress, 1-866-220-0044 to voice your support. Just follow the prompts to get to the office you want. Or Email them from the NARFE website, Advocacy section and Legislative Action Center.

How Many Read the Newsletter

Thanks to those who took the time to respond to my question last month on how many of you read these newsletters. I received a total of 5 responses, 3 by email, 1 by postal mail and 1 phone call. There were some nice comments included with those 5 responses and I thank you for that too.

Referendum Ballot Vote

Voting is now open for the changes that the national office wants to make in the bylaws and standing rules. It requires a 2/3 approval vote by the membership to make the changes. Members have until September 30, 2019 to cast a vote. A summary of the proposed changes and a ballot is in the September magazine. You can mark the ballot and mail it in, but remember to allow time for the ballot to be received in the mail before the deadline.

The magazine also includes details on how to vote online, and some may have received an email with a link to the voting site.

While I wish they would give us the wording of the proposed resolution, the summaries are helpful as to what is being changed. There are nine items. Read each one and vote to Adopt or Reject.

Marvin Nash

I received a phone call this past month about the death of our member, Marvin Nash. We are saddened to hear of his death. I never did meet him in person, but did have some correspondence with him during the years I have been part of the group. Originally he was from the Monterey community but spent most of his years in Nashville and later in Fairborn Ohio. During his federal service, he worked with the Railroad Retirement Board. He is survived by his wife, Lois and 3 daughters and many grandchildren. He was 98 years old and passed on June 23, 2019.



Alzheimer's Donations

I would ask that as a chapter, that we do more to support Alzheimer's Research. We use to take up a collection at the monthly meetings which brought in some donations, but we have not had many meetings in the last 2 years.

This is certainly a worthwhile cause and 100% of the donations we make goes entirely to research. NARFE has helped much over the years to raise funds from members, the total so far is nearing \$14 million. Let me ask that you consider making a donation and mailing it to me. Just make the check payable to Alzheimer's Research.

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956: www.narfecookevilletn.org

Tennessee Federation: www.narfetn.org

NARFE Headquarters: www.narfe.org