

Monthly Notes

The Autumn equinox occurs Thursday, September 22 and 8:03 pm in the Central Time Zone this year. With that we will be in the fall season with days becoming shorter and leaves beginning to change color. Enjoy the change in seasons.

There is still some talk of having a Tennessee Federation board meeting, but no firm date or agenda has been set. The Annual National meeting has ended now so maybe our Federation president will have a meeting soon.

I received a Membership Report from our Federation Membership Chairman. NARFE is still not doing well in membership numbers, but she reported some improvements and good news.

The Latest Chapter Financial Report .

July beginning balance—\$1593.96

Dues received in May—\$18.00

Disbursements—none

July ending balance—\$1611.96

National Voting Results

Bill Shackelford has been elected the new National President gaining more votes than the other 3 candidates. Kathryn Hensley, running unopposed was elected the National Secretary/Treasurer.

As far as Regional Vice Presidents, for all of us in Tennessee Region X, Robert Allen beat out his opponent for the win. We have one member in Alabama and that is Region III, Lynn Harper won. We have 2 members in Connecticut. There was no candidate running in Region I.

In the various Bylaws Proposals, the results are:

- B-22-01 Electronic Meetings **Adopted**
- B-22-02 RVP Vacancies **Adopted**
- B-22-10 Compensation Committee **Adopted**
- B-22-13 Require Two Federations for Bylaws Proposals **Rejected**
- B-22-15 Dues Discount **Rejected**
- B-22-24 Ballot After National Conference **Adopted**
- BC-22-01 Electronic Voting **Adopted**
- BC 22-02 Amendments to Bylaws **Adopted**
- BC-22-04 Remove Executive Director position from NARFE Bylaws **Adopted**
- BC-22-07 Discussion of Bylaws at National Conference **Adopted**

These all went according to the committee recommendations Full results are on the narfe.org website.

COLA Watch

The July Consumer Price Index report has been released and it shows a slight decrease for the month. It seems that inflation is not under control and most prices for goods and services continue to increase.

There are 2 more monthly reports for this year to determine the 2023 COLA.

Month	Month % Change	% Toward 2023
October 2021	+0.92	+1.17
November 2021	+0.55	+1.72
December 2021	+0.32	+2.05
January 2022	+0.87	+2.93
February 2022	+0.96	+3.92
March 2022	+1.52	+5.50
April 2022	+0.49	+6.02
May 2022	+1.21	+7.30
June 2022	+1.57	+8.99
July 2022	-0.11	+8.87

NARFE Webinars

- **The TSP's New Mutual Fund Window.** September 14th.
- **To B or Not to B: Is Medicare Part B Right for You.** September 29th.
- **Understanding Medicare Advantage** October 13th.
- **Which FEHB Plan is Right for You? Active Employee Edition** October 25th.
- **Which FEHB Plan is Right for You? Retiree Without Medicare Edition** November 3rd.
- **So Many Choices: Which FEHB Plans Work Best with Medicare Parts A & B** November 17th.

Chapter Officers

President & Newsletter Editor	Ronnie Collins
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Reba Collins
Treasurer	Myrna Estes

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

Legislative Report

Current federal employees may get a 4.6% pay raise in 2023 if the president's proposal is approved. That amount will be split between a 4.1% across-the-board raise and an average of 0.5% increase in locality pay rates.

Congress passed what is called the Inflation Reduction Act. But from all reports it is far from that. It may in fact increase the overall inflation that we are experiencing. We will have to wait and see on this.

There are 2 bills before Congress that pertain to protections to federal workers. In one bill referred to as the Bill to Protect Merit-Based Civil Service. This would prevent presidential action from bypassing traditional merit-based rules unless Congress changed the laws to allow it. In an opposing bill, Public Service Reform Act if passed would allow all federal workers to be considered at-will employees. The intent of this bill is to make it easier to dismiss employees for poor job performance or for political reasons, it seems.

There are many other bills in the works and again I would recommend that you read the monthly section in the magazine that covers this topic.

NARFE Annual Membership Drive

NARFE national is once again having a membership drive. This brings in many new members each year nationwide.

From September 1 through December 31 of this year, members will receive \$10 for each NEW member who joins that you recruit. Each month a name will be selected from the pool of recruiters for a \$25 Amazon gift card. Recruiters have 3 months in which they can win: October, November and December. One recruiter will be selected to receive the Grand Prize this year which is a Kindle Fire tablet.

There are 3 ways new members can join; use the Membership Form found in the magazines and on the websites, join online narfe.org and clicking the Join link, or by calling 800-456-8410. Remember that whichever way they join, they must mention the recruiter's name and ID number in order for the recruiter to get credit for the new member. If you do not know your ID number, it can be found on the mailing label of your magazine.

Any federal employee or retiree and their spouses are eligible to join. And you can make copies of the Membership Form if needed.

New members should indicate on the form or on the call they want the FREE one-year chapter membership as indicated on the form. Our chapter number is 1956.

Thank you for your support in helping NARFE to grow and gain more members. The more members that NARFE has, the more effective we are and the stronger voice in Washington DC.

Long Time Member Passed

Tom Pointer passed on August 28th. He was from the Algood area but lived at a senior living facility for a number of years. He was just a few days short of 96 years old.

Tom worked for and retired from the Department of Soil Conservation, later named USDA. He was a Life Member of NARFE and maintained chapter membership and was active in our chapter until his health no longer permitted it.

Monthly Membership Report

The chapter reports of the month of August shows a lot of activity. It shows 6 members renewed on the annual basis and 2 renewed by dues withholding.

And strangely the report shows that 6 members had changes to their address, phone number, or email. But I do not see any changes from what I have in my records.

NARFE's Donations

I recently received a note from one of our chapter members regarding a request that came in the mail from NARFE headquarters asking for a donation. This member sent in a donation in response and the member stated to me that her reason was based partly on the work I do for the chapter. I appreciate her kind remarks. But the work we do for our members has no relation to anything that NARFE headquarters may request.

So while on this subject it is a good time to remind you that NARFE sends out many requests for donations during the year. The reason they do this is it brings in extra funds to go towards the operating budget. Membership due alone do not cover all the expenses and the money sent in as donations help in that regard.

Keep in mind that donations are entirely voluntary and you are under no obligation to donate. I would advise you to do so only if you are able and you believe NARFE is worthy of the donation.

It is very important to keep your membership dues current as that helps in many ways.

On the Light Side

Why did the scarecrow win an award? Because he was outstanding in his field.

Why did the melon jump into the lake? It wanted to be a water-melon.

What did the duck say when it bought lipstick? "Put it on my bill."

What do you call a pig that does karate? A pork chop.

*What has a bed that you can't sleep in? A river.
How does the ocean say hello? It waves.*

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956: www.narfecookevilletn.org

Tennessee Federation: www.narfetn.org

NARFE Headquarters: www.narfe.org