



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS
CHAPTER 1956 COOKEVILLE TENNESSEE**

September 2007

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Presidents Corner

Our next meeting is September 18th at Shoneys, 6:00 pm. Our speaker will be Amanda Barlow from the local Alzheimer's Office.

Twenty nine attended our last meeting. Unfortunately the speaker had erred in the date and was not present. However we did have a time of good fellowship and went home early. Dr Kane sent his apologies and he will be our speaker for the October meeting.

We welcomed some of our far flung members; Evelyn Cummings living in Jamestown, also Nick Chronis who lives in Sparta.

Treasurer's Report:

As of Aug 31 there was \$781.51 in the checking account, including \$46.00 in escrow for Alzheimer's. Jim is away until October.

Alzheimer's: We collected \$21 at the meeting.

Sunshine: A sympathy card was sent to Mary Sue Wood on the death of her husband John.

Legislative:

I must admit that I am disappointed in Senator Corker, having received no response to my request for cosponsorship of our priority legislation. We need to continue to contact our Senators for support of our priority legislation.

The house has passed 12 of 13 appropriation bills, the Senate only two. It looks like another year of continuing resolutions to keep the government funded.

Lobby month added one Senator and 18 Representatives to the cosponsors of the Premium Conversion Bills.

The COLA now stands at 2.3%, last month having a decline of .1%.

Membership:

Our prayers and sympathy go to Mary Sue Wood on the loss of her husband John. He was a long time member, (seven digits membership number, most of us are eight digits).

We had one reinstatement, welcome back Virginia Gill. Five members renewed their membership, many thanks!!!!. Five other members received second notices. We continue to preach that Dues Withholding would eliminate the need for first and second notices.

Editorializing

Have you stopped to think on what your membership in NARFE means? It is an investment in our future that helps retain the benefits that we were promised and that we earned. It means that we have our own organization in Washington D.C. working directly with elected officials to promote and secure our benefits. However they can not answer the question, do you vote for me? "with a yes". Only we can answer "yes" by our grass roots efforts contacting our Representatives and Senators asking for support of our legislation. That is why it is important to periodically contact them and express our wishes. It is also very important to retain our membership in NARFE as numbers mean votes and votes mean elections. It has been said that every person (member) affects four people in how they vote. So when your membership renewal comes due, do not hesitate to send it in, say "yes" I will support those working to support me.

Remember NARFE was recognized by the White House as the leading organization in promoting The Long Term Security Act of 2000. NARFE led the successful campaign to repeal the Medicare Catastrophic Act and its accompanying surtax that would have affected millions of older Americans. NARFE helped support the legislation that changed from "High five" to "High three" the years used in computing annuities. NARFE protected our COLAS against proposals and delays that would have reduced the annuity of a federal worker who retired twenty years ago by 70%. These and many other benefits come from your membership. Renew when the time comes.