

Cookeville/Putnam County Chapter 1956
Minutes of Meetings
July 20, 2010

The Cookeville Chapter of NARFE met July 20 at Shoney's Restaurant with 20 members and guests present. Members were welcomed and guests recognized. Meeting was opened by an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Speakers were Nancy Rich and Jan Tollett with the Master Gardeners program.

President's Report: President Collins discussed the National Convention Resolutions. He stated there are a total of 22 proposed resolutions and 12 of these have to do with dues. He stated that many of these will be combined into one or two resolutions. He stated that the resolutions which may be changed at the convention call for an increase of \$9 per year in National dues to as much as \$11 per year. There is still a push to change to a single dues structure rather than having separate national dues and chapter dues. Another resolution calls for adding a 5 year discount rate to the current 1, 2 and 3 year rates. Another resolution is calling for a husband and wife membership at a discount rate. The spouse could join for a discounted amount of about \$8 per year.

President Collins stated that our membership totals have dropped from a total of 491,000 in 1980 to a current level of about 206,000 members. It is because of this drop in membership that NARFE is not collecting in dues sufficient revenues to operate the organization and an increase in dues has been proposed. The last time dues were increased was in 2004 when dues went from \$20 to \$29. If passed it will probably be 2011 before dues would increase.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Myrna Estes stated collections were \$259.19, Disbursements \$127.25 and a balance of \$1052.84.

Membership Report: Rebecca Maxwell is a new member. Patsy Tatum and Milton Ashburn were reinstated. Second dues notices were sent to Frank Britnell and Cloyd Stratton.

Sunshine Report: Dixie Bilyeu fell and is in rehab at Livingston. She is now blind.

Alzheimer's Report: A collection was taken for Alzheimer's in the amount of \$74.

Reba Collins
Chapter Secretary