

Cookeville/Putnam County Chapter 1956
Minutes of Meetings
October 18, 2011

The Cookeville Chapter of NARFE met October 18, at Shoney's Restaurant with 19 members and guests present. Meeting was opened by an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag.

The speaker was Nancy Rich who is a Master Gardener. She spoke on fall gardening.

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived and accepted as recorded.

President Collins stated the Congressional Super committee is meeting to find ways to cut the federal spending. Things they are considering include slashing 10 percent of federal jobs, freeze pay for up to 5 years, and increase income and payroll taxes for the federal workers.

President Collins stated NARFE is urging members to respond on the next call to Congress day which will be November 2nd. Use the toll free number that NARFE provides to tell Congress to not unfairly single out federal workers and retirees as they consider budget cuts.

President Collins stated the final numbers for the Consumer Price Index that our COLA is based on will be reported Wednesday. As of last month the index was standing at a 3.63 percent cost of living adjustment for retirees in January but the final amount will not be known until Wednesday numbers come out. This will be the first increase for us since 2009.

President Collins stated the overall increase in next year's Federal Health Benefit Plans is a modest 3.8 percent. Open Season runs from November 14 thru December 12. Rates are also available for the Federal Dental and Vision Insurance plans.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Myrna Estes stated collections from dues and Alzheimer's collections were \$185.10 and a balance at the end of September \$1548.70.

Membership Report: This month's the Membership Report shows 1 member dropped for non-renewal, that being Jackie Donaldson. Pat Tatum has renewed. From previous month reports these members still need to renew; Brenda Daniels, Virginia Gill, Vic Humeniuk, Henry Laurent, Linda Richardson and Dow Williamson.

Sunshine Report: Laverne Evans is in the hospital.

Alzheimer's Report: A collection was taken for Alzheimer's in the amount of \$30.

Unfinished business: President Collins stated Grade A Catering has been contacted about providing the food for our Christmas Banquet which is on Saturday December 10th. It will be the traditional holiday menu.

The chapter voted to collect donations at the Banquet for a needy family. The chapter also agreed to not exchange gifts.

New Business: President Collins stated next month we will need to elect Chapter Officers for next year. He asked if anyone would be willing to take an office.

The next regular meeting will be November 15.

Meeting was closed.

Reba Collins
Chapter Secretary

