

Cookeville/Putnam County Chapter 1956  
Minutes of Meetings  
October 20, 2015

The Cookeville Chapter of NARFE met October 20 at Shoney's Restaurant with 13 members and guests present. Meeting was opened by an invocation and pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Speaker was Clare Farless Family Caregiver Coordinator with the Upper Cumberland Development District.

President Collins again stressed the need for new members and asked if anyone had any the cards to turn in filled out with names of potential members. No cards were received.

President Collins talked about the news about the COLA. The results of the Consumer Price Index for the year show a decrease in the cost of living by .67 percent. There will not be a COLA increase this coming year.

He also reported the Medicare Part B premiums are set to go up in January, but because of the Social Security laws, those whose Medicare is paid out of the S S benefits, they will not have to pay the increase when there is no COLA increase. He explained this and mentioned how this does not protect those whose Medicare is not paid out of the S S benefits like most federal retirees. He urged all there to use the NARFE provided phone number or email message center to contact Congress to ask their Senators and Representative to pass a provision to use protect all who pay Medicare from the rate increase.

President Collins reminded members that the insurance plans Open Season starts November 9<sup>th</sup>. New rates are available. OPM has not yet published health plan information but some providers have. This is for the dental and vision insurance as well and for those still working it includes the health savings accounts.

President Collins discussed the Strategic Planning Committee of NARFE and their goals.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Myrna Estes stated for the month of September dues received were \$43.92, disbursements \$84 and a balance of \$2300.26

Membership Report: Larry Harkleroad reported there were no second dues notices this month. Rebecca Officer was dropped for non-renewal.

Sunshine Report: Kathy Hilton's father passed away.

Alzheimer's Report: A collection was taken for Alzheimer's in the amount of \$21.

Unfinished business: The chapter agreed to have the December meeting at Golden Corral.

New business: President Collins discussed the growing balance in our bank account and recommended that we lower our chapter dues. Sharon Martin made a motion that we change the annual chapter dues from \$11 to 10. Ellis McCowan seconded the motion. Members approved.

The next meeting will be November 17, 2015. Program has not been confirmed.

Submitted by:  
Reba Collins  
Chapter Secretary