



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
PUTNAM COUNTY—COOKEVILLE TENNESSEE
NARFE Works For You**

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

February 2010

Notes From the Last Meeting

With the January meeting, we got started with a new year of meetings. We are still running much lower in attendance than what we should have. We are thankful for those faithful members who attend month after month, but we desire that many others would join us. We try to keep our meetings interesting and as short as possible, so take a few minutes each month and attend our meetings. Visit with your fellow chapter members and support **your** chapter.

Joining us was a new member, Charlie Kosa and his wife Jane. His membership became effective in January, but I did not learn of it in time to include in last month's news.

We were please to have 2 speakers with us for this meeting, Melahn Finley and Jill Bolling, both with the Marketing Department at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. They updated us on the improvements in the local hospital with the new tower and new services. Just a few things that they mentioned include, all patient rooms now are private and are more spacious and comfortable for family members,, they have a new cancer center, the lobby area is much improved and there is even the smell of fresh baked cookies to make a stay more enjoyable. The hospital has won many new awards, added advanced medical equipment and has added new expert doctors to it's staff. They left with us much information about the hospital services and answered questions from the group.

The Next Meeting

The February meeting will be Feb. 16th. at Shoney's on Jefferson Ave. in Cookeville. You will need to arrive by 6:00 pm. if you desire to eat. The business session will begin promptly at 6:45 pm.

The scheduled speaker will be one of our own members, Russell Robinson. He is a tax preparer and will be talking about and answering questions about the federal income tax process. I know this will be of interest to lots of you. Please join us.

Do make it a point to attend as many chapter meetings as possible this year. If anyone in the Cookeville area needs transportation to any of the meetings, contact Roy Byrd at 526-1895 or 252-2973.

Sunshine Report

We have learned that Larry Duewer recently had knee surgery. Our Treasure, Myrna Estes is improving from a case of pneumonia but is to enter the hospital sometime this month for a heart valve repair. Dick Armstrong is doing better after a recent problem with his heart and a stay in the hospital. We wish them and any others we don't know about better health.

Coming Up In April

It will soon be time for the annual NARFE Tennessee Federation Convention. It will be on Monday and Tuesday, April 19-20 this year. All NARFE members are welcome and encouraged to attend and will be located in the Sevierville area at the Oak Tree Lodge which is at the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. The host chapter is the Sevierville Chapter. Keep in mind that those dates fall on our normal chapter meeting night, so we will not have an April meeting.

Our chapter can send up to 6 delegates to the Convention, so if anyone is interested in going, let me know by our February meeting, so that we can process the forms. As a delegate you can serve on one of the many committees and vote on any issues that come before the Convention as well as the state officers. There will also be training available for chapter officers, so if you are interested in that I would ask you to attend. You will find more information about it in the January issue of *Tennessee Federation News*, the newsletter from the Tennessee Federation of Chapters and on the Federation website www.narfetn.org. Any questions can also be addressed to me. Be an active member of you chapter and our federation.

Chapter Officers

President	Ronnie Collins
Vice-President	Vacant
Secretary	Reba Collins
Treasurer	Myra Estes

Contact Information:

118 Ballenger Rd., Carthage TN 37030

E-mail: rwcollins@hydroguy.com

Home phone: 615-735-2486

Cell phone: 615-489-7796

From the Cookeville area, phone: 284-4835

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

Legislation Report

I would encourage you to read the article in the February issue of the NARFE magazine on page 16 for a list of the many legislative accomplishments during the 1st Session of the 111th. Congress (2009). Even though we have not been able to accomplish everything that we would wish for, there have been many items that help not only retired federal employees, but those currently employed also.

President Obama has submitted his 2011 budget proposals to Congress. This is for the fiscal year that begins in October this year. As you know this is a very lengthy process with many changes along the way, but a preliminary examination of it shows no major changes or programs which would adversely impact federal retirees. Our association president Margaret Baptiste has praised the Administration's re-embrace of the pay parity between federal civilians and members of the uniformed services. Down through the years NARFE in working with Congress has been able to prevent negative impacts for our members which is a tremendous reason to belong to and support NARFE. Our NARFE staff will continue to monitor this in the months to come.

Member Updates Still Needed

Last month you should have received in the mail along with the newsletter, a listing of your contact information. Would you look over that list and send me any needed corrections to your mailing address, phone number, etc. I did get a few responses but there may be more. Also there are a few members that we do have telephone numbers for and that is greatly needed.

If anyone has added or changed an email address lately, send that to me so that we can add you to our email delivery of the newsletter. That will be very much appreciated. I would also encourage each of you that are not already signed up for the NARFE headquarters Global Electronic Message System (GEMS) to do so. Headquarters sends out much in the way of news content by email that I do not have the space to include in my newsletters. If you need help in joining GEMS, contact me.

Membership Report

I did not receive the January information in time to report on last month, but it showed Charles Kosa as a new member. The February information which I just received shows one reinstatement, Bobby Lee, and a new member Jackie Maxwell. We welcome each of these members. Sadly, we also had 1 member to cancel their membership.

I know of at least 1 other new membership in the works, but as of now, it has not been reported to me by headquarters. Do help us find new members and when you get your dues notice, renew promptly.

Government Retiree Tax Credit

When filing your federal income tax form for 2009, don't forget about the special \$250 credit for those retired from the U S Government. This is part of the economic recovery bill passed by Congress last year. Each retiree can claim this credit on their 2009 tax form if they did not receive a similar payment because of Social Security benefits.

Be Prepared For Life's Events

It has been awhile since this useful publication was mentioned. NARFE has put together a guide that greatly helps us list all the important information that is always needed at a time of death. This publication is called *Be Prepared For Life's Events*, Form F-100. This is a handy place to record all your personal information, civil service records, military service records, Social Security information, insurance and investments records. We all would be wise to fill out or update this as needed. If you would like to have a copy of this form, you can get one online from the NARFE headquarters website or let me know and I will be glad to bring you one to any of our chapter meetings.

On The Light Side - Some Famous Quotes

The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible. --from George Burns

Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint --from Mark Twain

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury --from Groucho Marx

I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon, Then it's time for my nap. --from Bob Hope

We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress. --from Will Rogers

Maybe it's true that life begins at fifty.. But everything else starts to wear out, fall out or spread out. --from Phyllis Diller

And lastly, the cardiologist's said "if it tastes good, spit it out"

Thanks to everyone who has renewed recently!

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956:	www.narfecookevilletn.org
Tennessee Federation:	www.narfetn.org
NARFE Headquarters:	www.narfe.org