



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

PUTNAM COUNTY—COOKEVILLE TENNESSEE

NARFE Works For You

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

June 2010

Notes From Our Last Meeting

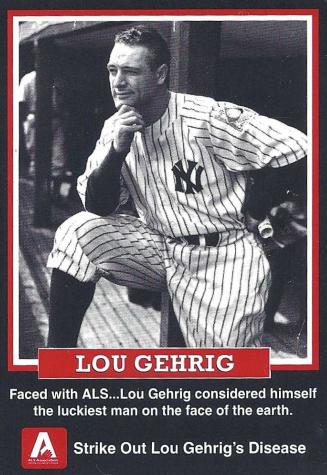
Our speaker for the evening was Joyce Jordon with the local support group for the ALS Association. ALS is more commonly called, Lou Gehrig disease who is the now famous Yankees baseball pitcher of the 1930s who had this disease. Some striking facts are; ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative diseases that causes loss of voluntary muscle control and movement, ALS can strike anyone, there is no known cause, prevention or cure, one person dies from ALS every 90 minutes. This was very good timing to have this speaker as May is ALS Awareness Month.

The support group in Cookeville helps both patients and families of those affected by ALS, providing education and awareness. It is a very hard disease for doctors to diagnose. Sadly those with ALS only live 3-5 years from the time that they are diagnosed. They have hope that someday a cure will be found for ALS. If you learn of someone with this problem, you are asked to put them in contact with this support group. They may contact Joyce Jordon by calling 615-542-3501 or Jackie Maxwell at 931-520-1966.

Normally we take up a collection at our meetings for Alzheimer's research, but this month we chose to give the amount collected to the ALS Association. Thanks to your generous donations, we raised \$47.

In other news from our May meeting, the chapter authorized to send delegates to the NARFE National Convention in Grand Rapids Michigan. I was the only one who expressed an interest in attending. If there are others, I need to know very soon in order to process the forms. The chapter also authorized to pay \$250 towards the travel expenses to attend the convention. Thanks to the members who agreed to that, it was not expected but will be very much appreciated. The convention this year promises to be a good one with very important decisions to be made.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse



June Meeting Will Be Our Picnic

All our members are encouraged to attend our picnic this year on Saturday June 26th. from 11:00 am till about 2:00. Come and enjoy food and conversation. The location will be the same as last year, Cane Creek Park shelter No. 1. This is second shelter you come to as you drive around the loop at the park. Anyone needing directions call me or another member.

The food will be catered and consist of pork barbecue with buns, baked beans, slaw, potato salad and tea. You are asked to bring any **other items** you desire, **ice** for the drinks and **deserts**. I will not know the total cost until I know how many are coming and I make the arrangements with the restaurant but it should be inline with years past.

In order to order the food, I need to know exactly how many are coming. You are welcomed to bring guests with you. For our Telephone committee, begin calling **now** and find out who can come. I need the names of members coming. Members, please realize that our callers sometimes have problems reaching you by phone, so I also ask that you call me and tell me to put you on the list of attendees. Let's make this a great event so come and take part.

Sunshine Report

Dixie Bilyeu is having surgery on one of her eyes. Arlene Bush was injured in a motor scooter wreck. We wish them a speedy recovery. To all the ones who have chronic health problems, we wish you the best.

Please inform us if you know of members with health problems or deaths in their family, or deaths of any of our members.

Chapter Officers

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

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Legislative News

You are reminded to be aware that President Obama has formed a congressional committee to come up with ways to cut the federal spending. I think most everyone agrees that cuts must be made, but some are looking to cut out or reduce the cost of living adjustments for federal retirees and surviving spouses. The report on this can be found on our chapter [website](#). Remember that the federal civilian retirement fund is fully funded by employee and agency contributions and is no way insolvent like the Social Security Fund is. Our lawmakers need to be reminded of this as we have opportunity to speak to them in our districts.

NARFE recommends the passage of bills to cover adult children up to age 26 under the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plans. NARFE also opposes any attempt to freeze the pay of current federal employees. Both of these proposals are being considered in Congress.

Consumer Price News

The latest figures which came out in April shows a slight increase of 0.2 percent in the Consumer Price Index which is used to base the annual cost of living adjustments on. This latest change leaves us running 0.7 percent below the last adjustment that was made. There are 5 more months to go in this cycle.

GEMS List

If you are on the NARFE email list called GEMS, then you most likely were aware of the above mentioned legislative news and consumer price news. If you are not receiving email alerts from the National office, let me know and I can have your email address added. They generally send out 1 or 2 messages a week to keep us informed of important news related to our issues.

National Convention

As your representative, I am planning on attending the NARFE National Convention beginning the end of August. Some may think that these conventions are a waste of time and money. But many important issues come before the conventions and officers are elected to hold the various national and regional offices. These are critical times for NARFE as a whole and it is important for the future of our organization that the best proposals be acted upon and the best leaders get elected.

In the NARFE magazine and in some emails, you will see many candidate statements and issues discussed. I would welcome your comments on any that you are aware of. In a few weeks, we should be receiving a copy of the proposed resolutions and bylaw changes. I will make you aware of those as I become aware of them. Together we can move our organization forward in a way that will make it better.

Membership News

This Newsletter will have to be printed before I get the June Membership Activity Report so I will not know any change in membership since last month. But we have had a rash of members lately who are behind on their membership renewals. Our Membership person and I have been working to contact those who need to renew. If this is you, help us by renewing **now**. When any of you receive renewal information mailed to you by the national office or by the chapter, don't just throw that away but use it to send back in with your renewal.

You can also renew by telephone by calling 1-800-456-8410 and use a credit or debit card. For those of you which have computers, you can renew online at the NARFE website. www.narfe.org. As always, if you have questions call me and I will be glad to help.

Let Me Hear From You

We certainly appreciate each and every member whether you are a new NARFE member or have been with us for many years. Thanks for continuing your membership and helping us to help you.

Many chapters do not send out Newsletters, but we do. Hope that you read them and find them helpful. If it has been awhile since we heard from you, we would appreciate it if you could respond with a short message if you can without a great deal of trouble or expense.

NARFE NEEDS YOU AND YOU NEED NARFE

**Thanks for renewing your membership
and don't forget the picnic.**

The picnic is on a Saturday and during the day-time for the benefit of our members who can't come to our monthly meetings, so I hope you will take advantage of that.

Out of the mouths of politicians

"If we don't succeed, we run the risk of failure"

"I stand by all the misstatements that I've made"

"A low voter turnout is an indication of fewer people going to the polls"

"The vast majority of our imports come from outside the country"

"The future will be better tomorrow"

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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