



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

September 2010

Notes From Last Meeting

Most of you missed a really good meeting this past month, but our attendance was the lowest level yet. I am very concerned and at a loss to understand why. According to the surveys that we have done most of you responded that you were satisfied with the time and location; and the speakers. We have asked you which speakers you wanted and have scheduled them. I place in these Newsletters the business that we need to discuss at the upcoming meetings and how important it is that you be there. What else can be done? I know many of you would come if you could, but some are not physically able to do so and I understand that, but there are many of you who could support the chapter by coming to our meetings. I am open to your suggestions.

Our speaker was Paula Smith-Wray who represents Genworth Financial Co. She is the Long Term Care Insurance Specialist in this area. Paula gave us many very important facts about Long Term Care. Saying, long Term care is defined as; care that you need if you can no longer perform everyday tasks such as bathing or dressing by yourself due to a chronic illness, injury, disability or the aging process. Long term care also includes the supervision you might need due to a severe cognitive impairment such as Alzheimer's disease. She stated that *planning* is the key word when it comes to this subject. We all have 4 options when it comes time provide for our care; family, personal assets, government Medicare and Medicaid and long term care insurance.

It is a fact that we are living longer and costs for care continues to increase. Some costs to consider; non-nurse home care runs \$12-\$23 per hour, for a nurse to come to your home runs about \$200 per visit, assisted living facilities run \$2-\$3 thousand per year and a nursing home could be from \$100- \$200 per day. On average 1 out of 3 men and 1 out of 2 women will need some sort of long term care in the future.

I understand that some of our members are already using Genworth Financial for LTC insurance. Paula is available to help any of you with planning long term care insurance. She is in the Byrdstown area. Her contact information is: phone: 931-864-4364 and email: pswray@genworthltc.com.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

In other news from the last meeting, I gave a summary of the remainder of the many proposed resolutions coming before the National Convention and I listed the candidates who are running for the various national and our region offices. These resolutions and the ones we discussed last month along with the officers to be elected will have a great impact of the future of the NARFE organization. It is so very important that we make the right decisions. *Read the separate article for news about the convention.*

I also asked what the chapter wanted to do for our December meeting. It was decided that we have a banquet like we have done in the past. The location will be the Hyder-Burks Pavilion in Cookeville on **December 11th..** Much more on that as we get closer to December. Mark your calendars for that date.

Coming Up At Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be September 21st. at Shoney's Restaurant on S Jefferson Ave. in Cookeville. Our planned speaker will be Marcia Borys - Circuit Court Clerk. She will be speaking about the jury selection process and the functions of the Circuit Court's office. Please attend our meetings.

Remember if anyone in the Cookeville area needs a ride to the meeting, contact Roy Byrd by calling 252-2973.

Membership

Last month I requested those who were eligible to consider and switch to Dues Withholding. I would like to know if any of you took advantage of that method of paying dues. It is the most cost effective and easiest way to keep your dues paid. Do help us and also help yourself at the same time. Thanks

Chapter Officers

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National Convention Report

I just returned from Grand Rapids after attending the 31st NARFE National Convention. This was the 90th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration since NARFE was begun in 1921 and we will officially turn 90 years old in 2011. But the next convention will not be till 2012. There were 1023 members and guests who attended this year. The following is a very brief report of actions taking place each day.

On **Sunday**, we paid respects to the 17,782 members who passed away since the last national convention. We also heard from two Alzheimer's Speakers; Harry Johns who is the CEO of the Alzheimer's Association and Mary Ellen Geist an journalist who recently wrote of her experiences with the life of her father who had Alzheimer's. We also heard from the NARFE National Chairman, Barb Pretzer. In member contributions we have reached as of July 31st, nearly \$8.8 million towards our current goal of \$9 million. Since we will reach that goal by 2011 the delegates approved a new goal of \$10 million by 2012.

On **Monday**, we heard reports from each of the National Officers who outlined the state of NARFE. As you can guess, membership and retention was the greatest concern. With a drop in membership comes a drop in operating funds. The Bylaws Committee reported on their work on the various resolutions submitted which would change the Bylaws. They took all the various resolutions which dealt with dues and recommended a simple resolution to increase the dues to \$34 per year. But in session, an amendment was made to make the dues to be \$40 for 1 year, \$72 for 2 years, and \$102 for 3 years. The dues withholding amount would be \$34 per year. There was much discussion on this, in favor and against, but in the end, delegates approved the sending of the amended resolution to be ballot. There were many other Bylaws resolution discussed but no others were approved.

On **Tuesday**, most of the day was taken up by hearing from the candidates running for National Office. In addition to the previously announced candidates, 2 more announced their intentions to run for office. All of the National offices were contested and most of the Regional offices as well. Each region heard from those running for Regional VP for their region we also heard regional reports from the federations in our region.

On **Wednesday**, the day opened with the delegates going to the voting machines to vote on the one Bylaws resolution, and to elect the national and

regional officers. The results were announced later that day. The winning officers for the next 2 years are: President -**Joseph Beaudoin** of Virginia, Vice President - **Paul Carew** of North Carolina, Secretary - **Elaine Hughes** of North Carolina, and Treasurer - **Charles Saylor** of Maryland. For Region X Vice President, **William Martin** was the winning candidate. The dues resolution also passed by a margin of 72.5% to 27.5%. Later on Wednesday the Legislation Plan for the next 2 years was presented and adopted.

On **Thursday**, the newly elected officers gave their acceptance remarks and they were installed. Also we heard reports from several department directors from headquarters and infinity partners. Noteworthy was the report from the Membership Director and Public Relations Department. The Convention closed with a banquet Thursday night, but I did not stay for that.

I will have more to say about it at our next meeting, and more details are available online on the NARFE website and watch for articles in the magazine.

A Word On Dues

Some of you may be concerned about the increase in member dues. This is the first increase since 2004 and considering the financial state of NARFE there was simply no choice but to increase dues if NARFE is to continue protecting our interests.

I certainly hope that we don't lose any of our members because of this. Even with the increase, NARFE membership is a bargain and remember there is not any other organization to does for us what NARFE does. Anytime a member fails to renew it not only hurts that individual but it also hurts the entire federal employee/retiree community. So do continue to stay as a member. If anyone is entertaining thoughts of dropping out, please contact me first.

As stated the new dues amount for 1 year is \$40 for national dues plus \$11 for our chapter. That is only **14 cents** a day. If you renew for 3 years or use dues withholding you get a **15% savings**.

NARFE has said that it may take till January 2011 to implement the new rates, so I would encourage everyone to renew now at the old rates if possible



NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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