



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

August 2011

Last Meeting

We missed a lot of you at our last meeting, our attendance was down from the usual number. I am sure that many may have been traveling and I know of some who were recovering from surgeries and some who had family visiting. I am always encouraged when we have a good number there.

We all enjoyed the speaker that was there last month. He was John Allen who is the Coordinator for the Upper Cumberland Quilt Festival that takes place every year in Algood. He explained its history, purpose and all the details. This year marks the 23rd year that the festival has been in existence, this is a fundraising event that directly helps the Algood Senior Citizens Center. This years theme is *Tennessee Treasures*. They will have over 600 quilts on display and some will be for sale. I was not aware of this annual event until now.

The festival gets started on Thursday, September 15th with quilt preview, buffet diner and entertainment. But the main part takes place on Friday and Saturday, September 16-17th. The quilts on display will be within walking distance in the Algood area but they will provide transportation to all who would like to ride and not walk. To find out more, go online at www.quilt-festival.com or call John Allen at 931-252-2755. Please make plans to attend and support this worth-while event.

Important Dates Coming Up

August 16 Chapter Meeting
September 5 Labor Day
September 15-17 U C Quilt Festival

Next Meeting

Betty has lined up as our speaker this month, Ruth Dyal who is the Executive Director of the Upper Cumberland Tourism Association. I am sure she will have much to say about all the counties in and around the Cookeville area. Mark the date on your calendars for the next meeting which will be August 16th. We meet at Shoney's Restaurant beginning at 6pm (or before) with a meal and fellowship. The business part of the meeting begins at 6:45pm.

I encourage everyone of you to attend and take part in our chapter meetings. Please attend all the meetings that you can.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

National Call Congress & President Day

President Beaudoin reported that the National Call Congress & President day was a good success. If you made those calls, many thanks. If not, it is not too late, why not call today?. The numbers to call are: the Capitol switchboard is **866-220-0044** and the White House is **888-225-8418**.

The message needs to be: *"My name is (fill in), and I live in (city, state). I am a federal retiree (or worker). Don't single us out by making more cuts to the retirement and health benefits we earned through years of serving the public. Federal workers and retirees have already sacrificed pay and benefits."*

Be sure to ask for a response in writing, so leave your mailing address. Remember if this is important to you, make your views known. Why not call today and express your views?

Summer Heat—Health Tip

With the hot days of Summer, it is important that you exercise caution when out in the sun. Be careful to not overdue it, take frequent breaks and drink plenty of water. If you start to feel the effects of the heat, be sure to go in a cool off for awhile. Would you like to see more health tips in our Newsletters?

Membership News

The monthly Membership Activity Reports have not been made available as of the date I am preparing this article. Each month as we get these reports, I look to see if we have any new members and if so, send them a welcome letter. And for those who need to renew their membership and those who were dropped for non- payment, both Betty and myself work on these in hopes they will renew and continue to keep us a strong organization. **Remember—NARFE needs you and you need NARFE.**

Chapter Officers

President	Ronnie Collins
Vice-President	Betty Robinson
Secretary	Reba Collins
Treasurer	Myrna Estes

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Legislative News

Well Congress has finally passed and the President has signed legislation to increase the debt ceiling of the U S Government, I am not sure that is a good thing but it most likely will have great impact on all Americans both present and future.

Here is a statement from our NARFE President "On behalf of our nation's more than 4 million federal workers and retirees and the Americans they serve, it is a great relief that a deal has been reached to keep the government moving forward. There is also temporary relief in the news that, so far, no sweeping plans have been enacted that would weaken our federal workers' retirement and health benefits."

"Unfortunately, the nearly \$1 trillion in spending reductions across federal agencies will be a challenge to absorb, and once again federal workers will get the chance to demonstrate their skill at doing more with less. As the debt negotiations continue through the end of the year, I hope our leaders continue to recognize the value of our nation's federal workforce and the sacrifices they are undertaking to get our country back on solid financial ground."

New Feature

I would like to start a new feature as space permits in these newsletters. I will call this **Member Spotlight** and will use it to write a brief article about one of you, our chapter members. So I need your cooperation with this. I ask that you submit some details about yourself such, as but not limited to:

- Names of the agencies that you worked for
- How long and where you were located
- What sort of work was it
- If it was not in this area, then what brought you here
- How did you first learn of NARFE and how long have you been a member
- Have you held any offices or functions with your NARFE chapter(s)
- Do you feel like NARFE is a worth-while organization to belong to, recommend to others
- What other organizations or hobbies are you involved with
- Any other details you would like to submit

This is open to everyone, even spouses of retired federal employees. I will try to include all you send, but I may need to edit somewhat for space. Please mail or email your information to me, or write it up and bring to any chapter meeting. I hope you will respond and send me your information for this feature.

If you have received a renewal notice and not yet renewed, please take care of that today.— Thanks to everyone who has recently renewed your dues.

Our Websites

For those of you who have computers, don't forget to visit the websites that the various NARFE groups have. There is the National website, the State Federation website and our Chapter website. Those web addresses are listed at end of these Newsletters each month. Note; even if you are among the group of people that has not joined the computer world, most of you have family and friends that could help you to look at what is available or you can go the public library and access the webpages there.

On the National website, there is much in the way of urgent information being made available to our members, plus all sorts good articles and help to these groups; Nonmembers, Members and Leaders.

On our Chapter website, you will find things such as minutes of our meetings, upcoming speaker information, past newsletters and links to things in the community. Check it out!

Sunshine List

I have not heard of any new cases of sickness or family deaths among our members, though I am sure there probably are some. We would appreciate knowing about any of these. If you are affected or know of someone else, take time to inform either me or Joan Oswalt. Thanks very much

On The Light Side—Ever Wonder About These

Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?

Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

If con is the opposite of pro, is Congress the opposite of progress?

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the terminal?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush hour?

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?!

Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956: www.narfecookevilletn.org

Tennessee Federation: www.narfetn.org

NARFE Headquarters: www.narfe.org