



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

July 2012

Summer Has Come

The heat is on, Summertime has already brought us too many days where the temps exceeded 100 degrees. I believe it has been a few years since we have had it this hot. Remember to take caution when it is this hot. Drink plenty of water and avoid being out in the hottest part of the day.

Notes From Our Last Meeting

Thanks to all who attended our last meeting in June. We had a new member to attend for the first time, Larry Harkleroad. It is always a pleasure to meet our new members. If you have never attended or if it has been a long time, come out to one of our upcoming meetings. Remember our meetings take place on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, except when we have something special going on (as we do this month). More on that is in this newsletter.

Our speaker for the last meeting was Mary Daniels of the Putnam County Family YMCA. She is the Membership & Youth Sports Coordinator with the local Y. Mary spoke of all the local YMCA offers to people of all ages and passed out packets of information to all that were in attendance.

Several in our chapter are members of the Y, so you may already be familiar with the programs and benefits. But for those not familiar with the YMCA, they offer individual and group fitness classes, swim classes of all sorts. They have lots of fitness equipment and a large indoor pool. Group classes are scheduled throughout the day and week. You are sure to find something of interest at a time convenient to you.

Some people go there to swim, exercise, take part in a class, or just to socialize with other members and individuals. In looking over the materials, I see that they have several group programs that are designed for people of our age group. Check them out.

The Putnam County YMCA is part of the Middle Tennessee region. Hours are; Monday-Friday 5am – 9pm, Saturday 7am—6pm, and Sunday 1—5pm. They have an income based rate schedule that you can ask about. The local Y is located just off E Spring Street on Raider Drive. For more information, call them at 931-528-1133 or go to their website which is ymcamidtn.org.

Calendar Of Events

July 21 **Our Picnic**
September 3 Labor Day
September 22 Autumn begins

Happy Birthday America

These United States were founded July 4th 1776 so this year marks the 236th year for us. With all the various problems facing our nation, America is still the best country in the world to live. Hope you agree!

Hope you had a great holiday on July 4th.

Legislative Report

Our thanks to Roy Byrd for his Letter to the Editor that appeared in the July 1st issue of the Herald-Citizen newspaper in Cookeville. In his letter, Roy made mention of the significant role, in light of our nation's birthday that federal employees have had in serving the nation. In part he wrote, "Proud to be a federal worker"... the Fourth of July is an important day for me. Since the dawn of our nation, federal workers have played a significant role in America's achievements". He went on to name some of the many ways that federal employees have worked to protect and provide for the people of America. NARFE is asking that we write letters to the editors.

With all the current news, you are fully aware that this is an election year and there are many that are running for the U S Senate and U S House of Representatives. NARFE-PAC needs your help in providing funds to help elect those who are supportive to the federal workers and retirees. Some of you have already made contributions to NARFE-PAC this year, but for those who have not, consider doing so. You can mail checks directly to them using the coupon in each magazine or bring donations to any gathering that we have.

Chapter Officers

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

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Please share these newsletters with your spouse

When An Annuitant Dies

Some have asked what to do or who does my family notify when a federal annuitant dies. This may not be something to you like to think about, but it will happen to us all someday.

First of all, we have Service Officers who will help as much as possible to answer questions and guide you through the steps. For our chapter, that person is Roy Byrd. Most likely he will contact your survivors soon after a death. In any case, listed below are some steps that your family will need to do. Make note of these.

Step 1: Return any un-cashed annuity checks to the return address shown on the envelope in which the check was delivered. If annuity payments have been sent directly to the bank or other financial institution, promptly notify that institution of the annuitant's death. Any payment deposited after the date of death should be left untouched. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) will request the Treasury Department to recover the payments.

Step 2: Notify OPM of the death of the annuitant so the center can send an application for survivor benefits. By telephone at 888-767-6738. Use option 4 when requested on your touch-tone phone to report a death. The mailing address is: U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, PO Box 45, Boyers, PA 16017, . The following information will be needed when you call or write to file a claim: name of annuitant, CSA or CSF claim number, annuitant's Social Security Number, and the date of death. The death of a retiree can also be reported on the OPM Website at www.opm.gov/retire/contact. Click on "Report the Death of Someone Who Gets Benefits from OPM" and enter the appropriate information.

Step 3: Obtain a certified copy (several copies) of the annuitant's death certificate to enclose with the applications that OPM will send you. OPM will notify the eligible survivor of what other documents, such as marriage certificates, birth certificates, etc., or other information that may be required.

The OPM Retirement Operations Center will stop payments and send an application to the person who is found entitled to apply for benefits. It will also provide the eligible survivor with an application for benefits under the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program (FEGLI) if the deceased annuitant was covered by FEGLI in retirement. An application for survivor benefits must be completed before the Retirement Operations Center can complete review of all possible benefits to the eligible survivor.

PROTECT *America's Heartbeat*
Call or Email Congress in support of Federal Employees

*****You Are Invited*****

Our Annual Chapter Picnic

Saturday—July 21st.

10:30am—1:30pm

At Cane Creek Park
Cookeville

Menu:

BBQ pork with buns
Baked beans
Slaw
Potato salad
Iced tea

We hope all of you can come to our annual picnic this year. The above is what those at the last meeting chose to have. This is a great time to get together and enjoy good food and the company of fellow members. Family members are welcome too! It will be at the same location as last year, The Courtside Shelter which is the last one as you drive through the park. Hopefully, the weather will cool down a bit.

This year we would like to encourage potential members to attend. If you know of any current federal workers or retired federal workers who are not members of NARFE, then tell them about this picnic and invite them to come.

In addition to the menu listed above, members are asked to bring a favorite dessert. I think someone is bringing a watermelon. You can also bring other side dishes and drinks if you like. Hopefully, also we will have a game or two as well.

Food will be purchased and the cost has not been worked out yet, but I expect it to be close to what it has been in years past, somewhere around \$7—\$8 per person. Members can pay when they get there. We would like any non-members to pay in advance. We must have the names of those attending by **July 18th.**

RSVP to Sharon Martin (931-284-9088) or myself (931-284-4835).

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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