



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

**Chapter 1956 Newsletter**

**March 2012**

**Notes From Last Meeting**

We had a good meeting last month with 17 in attendance, if you were not there, do make plans to attend this month.

Our speakers were from the Crest Lawn Funeral Home in Cookeville. Steve Brown who is one of the directors introduced Vinnie Faccinto, the owner which gave a very good talk and answered some important questions from those in attendance. Besides the location in Cookeville, they also operate other locations; Oak Lawn in Sparta, the Jackson County Funeral Home, the Spencer Funeral Home, and the Gardens of Memory in McMinnville.

Vinnie told us that much has changed over the years in the way funeral homes attract business. They have just started a new program called the Civil Servants Program. In this, they give a free burial plot to anyone who are civil servants, which include federal, state workers, retirees and veterans among others. Contact them for full details.

Also, he told us that they try to stay up on the most current technology. For a few years they have been offering picture videos as part of the service, now they have added online webcasting of the service for those family and friends who are unable to attend the service. They offer pre-need arrangements and planning guides to help a family plan for the future need.

In other news from the last meeting, those planning on attending the NARFE Tennessee Federation Convention are Ronnie and Reba Collins. The chapter also authorized a door prize of a \$25 gift card for the Convention.

Thanks to Ozzie who did our yearly audit of the chapter financial records. His audit showed no problems and everything was in order.

**Next Meeting**

Betty has arranged for Nancy Rich to return as our speaker for this month's meeting. Spring is upon us and it is time to prepare our gardens for the new season. In fact the first day of Spring will be out next meeting date. Nancy Rich is a Master Gardener and also operates the Blooming Idiots Day Lily Farm nearby. Come and hear what she has to share with us. Mark your calendars and join us.

**Important Dates Coming Up**

March 20 Next chapter meeting  
March 20 Spring begins  
April 8 Easter

**Resolutions and Bylaws Changes**

There have been 3 submissions to the NARFE Tennessee Federation Convention for proposed Resolutions and Bylaws changes. I don't have room here to type all the details of what have been submitted, I will bring the full text to the meeting for discussion. I will be attending the Convention, so I need to know what how the chapter wants to vote on these, so come to the meeting. For those with internet, you can read them on the Federation website.

- 1) Per Capita Dues: The purpose of this is to remove the current confusion for the chapters when trying to calculate the per capita dues to submit to the Federation. The change reads, "Be it resolved: With the exception of honorary members whose chapter dues have been waved, each chapter shall pay per capita dues of \$3.00 each year on all voting members". This would result is a slight increase for the chapters.
- 2) Parliamentarian: This would make a Bylaws change in the requirement that the parliamentarian at the Convention be a someone who is not part of NARFE. These could result in a cost savings for the host chapter which currently must hire a Parliamentarian for the Convention.
- 3) Congressional Incumbents: Someone has submitted a Resolution which reads in part; "Whereas Congress has not been responsible to the economic future of the United States, our resolution is that the vote in the November elections be against all incumbents".

**Chapter Officers**

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

**Contact Information:**

NARFE Chapter 1956  
118 Ballenger Rd., Carthage TN 37030  
E-mail: [rwcollins@hydroguy.com](mailto:rwcollins@hydroguy.com)  
Phone: 931-284-4835

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

## Legislative Report

A big thank you to everyone who made phone calls on February 15th. National reported a good success by members who took advantage of NARFE's toll free number 866-220-0044 to express concerns about how Congress is making cuts to federal employees to try to solve the financial mess that they have gotten us in. Remember that the best way to contact Congress is by phone or by email. NARFE provides several tools and alerts to assist us in doing so. Keep those calls and emails going.

## NARFE-PAC

March, each year is set aside as NARFE-PAC Month. While you can give anytime of the year, NARFE especially asks for your contributions during this month. Remember that NARFE-PAC is supported by voluntary contributions from NARFE members and does not mix its funds with member dues or any other donations made to NARFE.

NARFE-PAC funds are used to help with Congressional candidate election campaigns. There are certain guidelines which determine which candidates receive funds. Some of that is outlined in the current issue (March 2012) of the NARFE magazine on page 19. Read that article. This is an election year with many candidates running across Tennessee and the nation. Your contributions can make a difference.

You can contribute any amount that you want, this year, they have made some changes in the way members will be recognized for their contributions.

- For \$20 you will receive the Basic Level Pin
- For \$50 you will receive the Silver Level Pin
- For \$100 you will receive the Gold Level Pin
- In addition you can now sign up for a monthly contribution of \$10 or more. With this option, you will receive the Sustainer Pin.

Full details and are in the magazine and you may have also received a letter from our National President about this. You have the opportunity to make contributions at our chapter meeting this month, or mail it with the coupon to NARFE headquarters. Make checks payable to NARFE-PAC and remember to include your Membership ID number so that recognition will be made to our chapter. There is a space on the coupon to donate using a credit card for your convenience.

If you can't be at the chapter meeting, and you want to make a NARFE-PAC contribution, mail it to me or to National headquarters. What I receive at the meeting or in the mail, I will carry to the Federation Convention and give to the PAC Chairman.

**Please call a fellow member and remind them to come to the meeting this month. Help us increase our attendance.**

## Membership News

The latest membership reports were not available as of the date I was completing this Newsletter. I will have this by the meeting date. Please help us by renewing if you have received the renewal information and encouraging others to join.

## Senior Discounts

Those who were at the last meeting received a handout from Roy Byrd which was a list of senior discounts. The list include several that I was not aware of. This list included restaurants, retail and apparel stores, grocery, travel, entertainment, cell phone and more. Many merchants offer discounts and their terms and discount sometimes vary by location, but it is always good to check out what is available. If you want a copy of this list, you can contact Roy or myself. I found this list and others on the internet, to see it [click here](#). See, there are some benefits to getting old! Also, don't forget about discounts listed in the NARFE magazine.

Here are just a few examples of what this list shows: Dunkin' Donuts-10% off or free coffee, Hardee's-\$0.33 beverages everyday, Waffle House-10% off every Monday, Big Lots-10% off, Kmart-20% off, Kohl's-15% off, Food Lion-6% off every Monday, U S National Parks-\$10 lifetime pass.

## Recent Tornadoes

I hope none of you were affected by the recent storms that move through the area. If you were, please let us know what we can do to help.

In 1986, the Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund (FEEA) was established to provide emergency grants and loans to federal employees affected by a natural disaster.

In 1996, NARFE entered into a partnership with FEEA to provide emergency disaster assistance to NARFE members who are victims of a declared natural disaster through the NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund. The Fund is supported by tax-deductible donations from NARFE members and friends of NARFE, and is administered by FEEA. NARFE members have donated some \$375,000 in aid to NARFE members who were affected by Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters. The NARFE magazine contains the contribution form.

We are in a time of the year when many storms come through. STAY SAFE.

## Thanks for you support of NARFE

### NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956: [www.narfecookevilletn.org](http://www.narfecookevilletn.org)  
Tennessee Federation: [www.narfetn.org](http://www.narfetn.org)  
NARFE Headquarters: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)