



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

**Chapter 1956 Newsletter**

**May 2012**

**Notes From The Convention**

As I type this, Reba and I just got back from the NARFE Tennessee Federation Convention a few days ago where we were privileged to represent our chapter. The 4 co-host chapters in the Memphis area did a great job with putting on the Convention. The location was good and spacious and the meeting was good. It is always encouraging to meet other NARFE members from across the state and hear about what they are doing in their respective chapters to protect our earned benefits.

The 2 changes in the Federation Bylaws were approved. The first one modifies the per-capita dues that the chapters must pay to the Federation for each member. The second change had to do with who can serve as a Parliamentarian for the Convention. There was 1 resolution submitted,, which had to do with voting in the November election against all incumbents. That resolution was rejected.

The Keynote speaker was Julie Tagen, the National Legislative Director from NARFE headquarters. She spoke about all the latest information regarding all that NARFE is doing in light of the many pieces of legislation that is before Congress and what the future outlook is, which affects current and retired federal employees and spouses.

Officers who are to serve for the next year are

- ◇ Federation President-John Wells
- ◇ 1st Vice President-James Larry Henderson
- ◇ 2nd Vice President-Larry Minniear
- ◇ 3rd Vice President-Thomas Duncan
- ◇ Secretary-Merilyn Evans
- ◇ Treasure-Marie Anglin
- ◇ Legislative Director-James Glenn
- ◇ Membership Chairman-Rhonda Mooney

The location of the state convention moves each year between the east, middle and west regions of Tennessee. Next year it will be in Chattanooga. The year following it will be in the middle TN area, the location has not be set as of yet.

If you have not ever attended any of these state convention or national conventions, I would encourage you to take part in them. The NARFE National Convention is coming up this year and it will be in the Reno NV area. That will be a exciting location.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

**Coming Up This Month**

This month's meeting will be May 15th. I hope you will plan on coming. Our speaker this month will be Brenda Davis-Bryant of the Cookeville Regional Medical Center. She works with the Society of Chest Pain Centers and will be speaking on "Did You Know Heart Attacks Have Beginnings".

**Legislative Report**

I mentioned last month about how to access the NARFE Legislative weekly hotline messages. Even if you do not have a computer, you can still get these online by using a family member's or friend's computer or even a public computer like those at the local library. I am sure that someone at the library would help you get to the correct location. All you need is to go to the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org) and log in with your last name and member ID number and look for the Current Hotline Message. By the way, you will find much more that you can do and read on the NARFE website. Try it today!

Our National Legislative Director, Julie Tagen who was at the Federation Convention shared much information on what national is doing in regards to staying abreast with the current legislative items in Washington DC. Some of you may be interested in the PowerPoint presentation that she presented. That is available online on the Federation website, [click here](#) to find it. I can also furnish printed handout of it as well. Just let me know if you would like to have it.

For those who contributed to NARFE-PAC at our March meeting, I have a PAC pin to give to you. Be sure to be at the meeting this month so that I can deliver it to you. If you mailed in a contribution, headquarters should send your pin in the mail.

**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

## Membership News

New members and member retention continues to be top priorities for our organization. This topic is always discussed whenever NARFE leaders get together such as at the recent state convention. Keep in mind that you play a huge roll in this as well. A story was told about a chapter at one of its monthly meetings. A new member came to the meeting for the first time. No one spoke to him or introduced themselves to him during the whole meeting. And as a consequence, upon leaving the meeting, he said to the chapter president, that he was a new member and this was his first time to come. But he said that he would never be back and explained why. We many times have new people at our meetings, so let us all make them feel welcomed.

We continue to struggle at the chapter level and at the national level on retaining our members. We are all busy with so much going on in our lives that we sometimes forget the huge benefits of our NARFE membership. Don't let that be the case for you, re-new your membership as soon as you get the notice from headquarters. I would certainly appreciate that.

I have just ordered some recruitment materials from headquarters. I will gladly share with any of you so that you can use to give out to those who may be inclined to join. Pick up the various forms and pamphlets at the next meeting or contact me for them. Let's give them out to those we come in contact with who are potential members.

## Updated Membership List

I have just updated the list of our chapter members. For those who have internet access, you can go to our Chapter website and get the list there. Anyone else desiring a copy can request one from me.

## Save Money On YOUR NARFE Membership

Did you know that you can save money when renewing your NARFE membership? There are 2 ways to do so.

One is to renew for multiple years, if you renew for 2 years, you save \$8 and if you renew for 3 years you save \$18 over the single year memberships.

A second way is to sign up for Dues Withholding. With this you get the lowest rate possible, a savings of \$18 over the single year rates and you don't have to write and mail in checks every time you renew. The funds are conveniently deducted from your annuity payment. If both you and your spouse are members, both memberships can be deducted.

"A penny saved is a penny earned" as Benjamin Franklin would say.

**Thanks to all of you who have recently renewed.**

## Late Breaking Legislative News

The U.S. Senate has passed the U.S. Postal Service overhaul bill. This would delay the closing of any post offices or sorting centers and would delay the ending of Saturday mail delivery. But it would seek to trim about 100,000 employees through attrition.

There was a provision in the bill to change the health insurance program for postal workers creating a separate FEHBP for Medicare-enrolled postal employees and retirees. But after the Office of Personnel Management analyzed the provision, it was taken out. The U. S. House is yet to take up this bill.

## A Member We Will Miss

Sad to report the death of Victor Humeniuk of Monterey. Our condolences to his wife, Mary and his children. He retired from the Post Office.

## Generation America

I recently came across a member organization for mature Americans, age 50 and older called Generation America. This organization based in Austin TX is an alternative to AARP. According to their statement, they are "The leading organization for benefits, insight, and advocacy dedicated to serving conservative Americans over 50". They offer many member benefits as well as news of interest.

As with nearly all groups these days, they have a website [www.generationamerica.org](http://www.generationamerica.org) where you can read all about who they are and what they can offer you. You can also reach them by calling 877-687-4362. I would invite you to check them out.

## On the Light Side

*A man went to a brain store to some brain to complete a study. He sees a sign remarking on the quality of professional brain offered at this particular brain store. He begins to question the butcher about the cost of these brains.*

*The man asks, how much does it cost for engineer brain?, To which the butcher replied, three dollars an ounce.*

*The man asks how much does it cost for programmer brain? The butcher replies, four dollars an ounce.*

*The man asks, how much does it cost for lawyer brain? The butcher replies \$1000 an ounce.*

*Shocked the man asks why is lawyer brain so much more? The butcher says do you know how many lawyers we had to kill to get one ounce of brain?*

## 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)