



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

January 2013

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The year 2013 has begun, the years keep rolling along. I hope this year brings good health and safety to you and all your family.

From Our December Christmas Luncheon

I think we all had a good time this year at our Christmas get together. The location was excellent, the food was plentiful and delicious, and it was great to see many of you there. I got to meet one member for the first time, Geneva Hayes is a long time member, but this was the first time everything worked out so that she could be with us. There were some whom we have not seen for a long time. And some there who cannot attend our regular meetings due to schedule conflicts. We had 28 in attendance.

Many made comments about the location and food, I would like more comments from anyone about the possibility of using this again in the future.

As usual, a collection was taken for a needy family in the area. This year a family was chosen who was known to some of our members. Ozzie and Joan knew of a family of a single mom with 1 biological son, 1 adopted son and 1 foster son; all 3 boys age 15. They all think of themselves as brothers. All the boys are in local scout troop and attend church with their mother.

This woman recently lost her job and Christmas looked dim for her and these boys this year. I want to thank everyone who pitched in to help this family, we raised a total of \$301 which was very good. It will help a lot.

It is not often that we receive any thanks from our gifts, but we did get one this year. The woman wrote in a card these words:

Mr. Collins and NARFE,

Words can not express my appreciation for your generous donation of \$301 to my boys for Christmas. Thanks to each and everyone of you for this surprise to my family. I worked for the State of TN for 18 years and lost my job in October. I was very worried about Christmas for my boys this year. Thanks to you, I have been truly Blessed. I hope all of you have a wonderful Christmas and blessed as much as I have been. God Bless all of you!

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

Looking Forward—2013

As we get going on another year in the life of our chapter, I hope you will be an active participant this year. As with any organization, it is always better when more members take part. Especially for all of you who live in the Cookeville and surrounding area, try to attend as many monthly meetings and other activities as possible this year. It is difficult to schedule speakers for our meetings if only a few show up from month to month. You do make a difference!

If you have suggestions for speakers or topics for our monthly meetings, I would like to hear from you. Many of you are part of other groups or come across interesting speakers from time to time. Those may be of interest to our group as well. So keep that in mind.

I want to thank our elected officers for being willing to continue to serve for another year. Like me, some have done this for several years now. I encourage to express your appreciation to our vice president, secretary and treasurer who all do a good job.

Besides our elected chapter officers, we also have need for several appointed functions and positions within our chapter. Some of our members are holding down multiple positions and some have asked to step down if I could find someone else who would take over. If you would be willing to help with any function in the chapter, or even assist or train for a function, let me know that. Thanks in advance.

One last item, I am always looking for interesting content to use in these newsletters. I want these be both interesting and informing. I have tried to vary the content from time to time. Some items have been suggested by you our members, but I can always use more. Most content needs to be related to NARFE but there is some room for other topics.

Chapter Officers

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer

Ronnie Collins
Betty Robinson
Reba Collins
Myrna Estes

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Coming Up At The Next Meeting

Our next meeting is January 15th, that will be here before you know it. Our speaker this month will be Randall Killman of the Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency (UCHRA). He will be giving an overview of all the programs they have. Be sure to come out and hear him and take part in our meeting.

We normally meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Shoney's Restaurant on S Jefferson Ave. in Cookeville. Our business meeting begins promptly at 6:45pm, but you should arrive by 6:00pm to eat and fellowship with our fellow members. Keep in mind, we do not have a monthly meeting on the months in which we have a state convention, a picnic or a Christmas banquet.

Conventions This Year

It is time to mention the upcoming NARFE convention this year. There will not be a national convention as these are only held every other year, the next one will be in 2014. But we will have a Tennessee Federation Convention. It is a 2 day affair, which will be held this year on April 15-16 in Chattanooga. It will be hosted by the Chattanooga Chapter #108. at the historic Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel. This old train station has been restored and turned into a great place to visit and enjoy a stay.

All NARFE members are encouraged to attend our conventions and guests are also permitted. Each chapter can send voting delegates. For our chapter, we are permitted to send up to 6 delegates based on our paid membership. To attend, you must fill out a Registration Form and pay the fee. To be a delegate, you must be approved by our chapter and fill out a Delegate Form. The chapter will reimburse the delegates for the registration fee.

Attendees need to register by March 1st, but delegates need to be selected as soon as possible, especially if you would like to be placed on a committee at the Convention. The committees discuss a wide range of NARFE issues and report to the convention at large.

If you have questions about how the convention process works, see me. If you have questions about the location and activities, check out the Federation website page, www.narfetn.org/convention_news or call Larry Minnear, 423-875-5612.

Membership News

Not much news to report on membership. We continue to get word that some of our members were sent a Second Dues Notice, if you have received such, please renew today. We also had 1 member to re-instate their membership. We are glad for that..

Thanks to ALL who have recently renewed your NARFE membership

Membership List

There is an updated membership list available on our website. To access it, look on the first page that comes up on the right hand side. Click where it shows the Membership List. Your must be a member of our chapter to see this list. Do not share this info. outside our chapter. For those without internet access who would like a copy of the list, send me a request and I will mail a copy.

Legislative News

The NARFE national office continues to monitor the progress (or lack of progress) over the federal fiscal crisis. They keep us posted on their website, by email and by phone hotline messages. I hope you take advantage of this information and stay informed.

They also encourage all members to call your Congressional delegation to let them know how you feel about any possible cuts to our benefits. Remember, federal employees and retirees have already been affected by previous and ongoing cuts.. Use the NARFE provided telephone number to make your calls— 866-220-0044.

NARFE Magazine

One of the great benefits of membership in NARFE is the monthly magazine. Starting with the January 2013 issue which you should have already received, they have a fresh new look on the front and inside. Some of the content changes is the result of a member survey they made a few months ago. Enjoy!

On The Light Side

Changing Times

A big mouth college student challenged a senior citizen saying it was impossible for their generation to understand his world. "You grew up in a different world," the student said. "Today we have television, jet planes, space travel, nuclear energy, computers, the internet..."

Taking advantage of a pause in the student's litany, the senior said, "You're right Sonny. We didn't have those things when we were young ... so we invented them!"

Read Aloud

Bernie was hit by a truck and ended up in the hospital. His best friend Morris came to visit him.

Bernie struggles to tell Morris, "My wife visits and she is so good to me. Every day, she reads to me at the bedside. Morris ask,, "What does she read?"

"My life insurance policy!"

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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