



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

March 2014

Notes From The Chapter President

We have made it to the month of March which means that Spring will be here very soon. I think most would welcome some warmer weather. Good to get back in the swing of things with last month's meeting after missing January. We had a good number of members and guests at the last meeting, but we could use more.

The speaker was Pam Ealey, Executive Director for the Putnam Co. Habitat for Humanity. She gave us a brief history of the local organization and what their mission and purpose is, in trying to help families in the area. They are planning another house which will be the 66th house built in the county. The houses they build now are of the energy efficient type. Not only do they build houses, but they now do repair work on existing houses. While this group serves only Putnam Co. many of the surrounding counties also have Habitat for Humanity groups.

Work is done mostly by volunteer labor and those receiving the houses must put in much of the work on a house. There are over 4000 households in Putnam Co with housing issues that need to be helped. They can always use volunteers and donations to their ReStore, which takes building materials, appliances furniture, home décor and much more to sell for the purpose of raising money to carry on their mission.

Contact them at the store, located at 728 E 15th. St. or call them at 528-1709. Their website address is www.pcrestore.org. Check it out.

In other news from the last meeting, we elected officers for this year. We approved several measures in connection with the upcoming NARFE Tennessee Federation Convention; 3 delegates will be attending, our chapter will furnish a door prize and a quilt to be raffled off to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association. Donations were received from those in attendance to pay the cost of materials for the donated quilt. If you would like to have a part in that, come to the next meeting or mail in a check to the chapter.

Also I explained a situation pertaining to the Federation Constitution and Bylaws that I felt like needed to be addressed. Several years ago, there were some revisions made without approval by NARFE members. I explained how this can be corrected.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

2014 Chapter Officers



Myrna Estes, Reba and Ronnie Collins, Larry Harkleroad

Coming Up This Month

Mark your calendar for March 18th. that will be our next chapter meeting. Our speaker this month will be Susan Dalton, Executive Director, Heritage Pointe Senior Living Community. We ask that you will help us with suggestions for interesting speakers for our future meetings. At the meeting, we will ask you to write down those speakers or organizations that you think others would enjoy hearing from. So put your thinking caps on and bring your thoughts with you to this month's meeting.

As always we meet at Shoney's Restaurant on South Jefferson Ave. We ask that you get there no later than 6pm if you plan to eat. The restaurant is usually short handed and its take awhile to get served. The business session of our meeting begins promptly at 6:45. Come and invite other members to attend. Enjoy the meeting.

Chapter Officers

President	Ronnie Collins
Vice-President	Larry Harkleroad
Secretary	Reba Collins
Treasurer	Myrna Estes

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NARFE-PAC

I am sure that you are aware that 2014 is an election year and that in March every year, we place an emphasis on the NARFE-PAC. While our PAC is not as large as many others, it raises a sizable amount of money to help elect members of Congress which favor NARFE and our legislative goals. While you can contribute at any time, now is a good time to do so.

I would encourage you to read the article in the March issue of the magazine which begins on page 32. That should explain all about it and answer any questions that you might have. Also notice the wrapper in this month's magazine, it contains a handy envelope that is pre-addressed and postage-paid that you can use to send your contribution. Even if you can't send something now, save this envelope for when you can use it. That is the easiest way to make a contribution. Always remember to include your member ID number so that our chapter gets credit for any amount that you send.

You can contribute any amount that you wish, the suggested amounts are: \$20 Basic Level, \$50 Silver Level, and \$100 Gold Level. You will receive a special 2013-2014 pin in response. There is also a place to donate a monthly amount if you wish. If you would rather, you can bring a check to our meeting this month and I will see that it gets sent in. So think about what you are able to do in this worthwhile program. Help NARFE to help you.

Legislative News

The Postal Reform Act of 2014 was recently approved by the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. S. 1486 now awaits consideration by the full Senate. The bill would severely diminish or authorize the elimination of long-standing employee benefits, including changes to workers' compensation for federal and postal employees disabled by work-related injuries and illnesses. It also eliminates the promise of retirement income security for the next generation of postal employees, and includes changes to the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program for postal employees and retirees. President Beaudoin urges each NARFE member to use our Legislative Action Center to send a message to both your senators opposing S. 1486.

The Chained CPI will not be included in President Obama's budget submission for the 2015 budget. That does not mean however that the Chained CPI would not be brought up by legislative action. You are urged to say alert to this.

**Protecting the Future for
Active and Retired Federal Employees**

Membership News

Don't forget, the Tennessee Federation of NARFE chapters is sponsoring a Member Recruiting Contest all this year. Pick up some membership forms at the meetings and pass out to those who are eligible to join.

Future Of NARFE Committee

There is a committee which was appointed by our National President and has been busy working on NARFE's future. They are focused on issues relating to membership, structure, governance and funding. Many think that the current path that NARFE is on is unsustainable and that some sort of change is needed. You can see lots of proposed information on the national website by [clicking here](#).

The National Executive Board has already begun implementing some of the recommendations. They will be proposing a resolution to reduce the National Officers to just 2, National President and National Treasurer. Also they will reduce the number of NARFE regions from 10 to 5 when the new board is seated.

The Co-Chairman of that committee, Bill Shackelford will be our main speaker at the state convention this year and I am sure he will have much to say on the work they are doing. Anyone desiring more information on the work of the committee that does not access to what has been made available, just let me know what you need. Stay tuned for much more on this.

New Appointed Chairpersons

I am thankful to have Dan Hilton as our new Legislative Chairman helping me keep up with all the latest news in regards to legislation. He will be reporting to us month by month. Connie Banker is now our Sunshine Committee Chair. She requests that you let her know of any members who are facing health issues, hospitalizations or deaths in the family. And lastly, Larry Harkleroad, in addition to being Vice President, I have made him the Membership Chair to help with recruitment and member retention.

Membership List

There is an updated membership list available for any chapter member who would like to have it. If you have access to the chapter website, go there and you will see on the Home page on the right side, a link to the Membership List. Click it and you will be prompted to enter your last name and member ID number. Printed copies are available if requested.

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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