



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
PUTNAM COUNTY—COOKEVILLE TENNESSEE**
Protecting Our Future

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

April 2017

March Meeting Report

We had warm temps for the March meeting but there was rain and thunder storms in the area. That kept some away from last month's meeting. We did have 1 more than the previous month, but still below the number needed to be able to conduct official business. I know of at least 3 who would have been there except for recent injuries. Keep our chapter in mind and help out with your attendance as much as you can in the remaining meetings this year.

I reported on the February Consumer Price Index Report. Again, there was a notable increase of 0.26 percent. We currently stand at 1.03 percent towards a possible annuity increase, but it is too early to count on anything yet.

I mentioned about donations to NARFE-PAC, even though it is now past the month of March, you can still send in any donations to NARFE, if you saved the March magazine, use that form and envelope, if you don't have that anymore, you should be able to find something in later magazines to help. I can get your donations to right place too.

I was glad to see several members at the last meeting pick up some of the new revised Membership Brochures which contains the Form to become a member. These revised forms now take into account the change made to membership approved at the last National Convention. I have plenty of forms with me at each meeting for you, or I can mail you some. We discussed ways to obtain new members which was productive.

I gave the following reports: Treasurer's Report, Membership Report, Legislative Report, and Sunshine Report. These are important and a way to keep you informed.

Some of the other items will be updated elsewhere in this newsletter. Thanks for reading and keeping up with all that's needed.

Reba and myself will be attending the 2017 Tennessee NARFE Federation Convention in April and I will have a report on that next month. If anyone of you would still consider going, you can get a registration form and attend up to the date of the convention which is April 17 and 18. The location is the Nashville Airport Hilton Hotel, 2200 Elm Hill Pike in Nashville. It will be on Monday and Tuesday.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

Next Meeting

Remember that will not be a chapter meeting in April, that is due to the Federation Convention that is on the same date. Hope to see everyone the following month of May. The next meeting date will be May 16th. Put it on your calendar now and don't forget.

But until then, keep in mind the meeting place and time will still be the same; Shoney's Restaurant on S Jefferson Ave. in Cookeville. Try to be there by 6:00pm if you plan to eat. We will start the business session at 6:45pm.

Legislative News

The NARFE Legislative Department continues to keep an eye on several bills that are currently in the Congress. Remember that it is important that you stay informed about any Congressional action that could impact you, your survivors, or other federal workers and retirees.

The best way to stay informed is by signing up for the Legislative Hotline emails that are sent out weekly when Congress is in session. In those emails, it lists the current bills that are important to NARFE and what if any action has taken place. If you by chance do not have access to email, you can call each week to a special phone number, 877-217-8234 and hear a recorded message of the Legislative Hotline.

If you want to start receiving these Legislative messages, go to NARFE's website, narfe.org, log in as a member, on the left side of the page you will see; **Add Email & Join NES**. Click there and follow the instructions.

On issues that NARFE is following, you can go to the NARFE Legislative Action Center to send a message to your members of Congress. You can use the pre-written message and edit as you wish. Call 866-220-0044 to speak to Congressional Offices.

Chapter Officers

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Please renew now if you have received a reminder about your membership, thanks.

Webinars

The next webinar available to you as a NARFE member is: **Social Security Simplified**. It will be presented on Thursday, April 20th at 1 pm CT. The presenter is Federal Benefits and Retirement Expert, Tammy Flanagan. I think most could learn more about Social Security by watching this. To watch it live, NARFE members need to register and enter the Promo Code of **April 17**. Even those who are not NARFE members can watch it, with a fee of \$39.95. But it is free to NARFE members.

If you are not able to watch it live, it like all webinars are recorded and available after the live date on the NARFE website. All the previous webinars in this series are available now if you would like to view any of them.

Updated Life Membership Forms Available

Some may be interested in paying for a Life Membership to NARFE. That is something that is available to new and existing members. The life-time rate varies by your current age as shown below. One thing to keep in mind is that the Life Membership rate only applies to National Dues and not to Chapter Dues. Life Time members will still need to pay the Chapter Dues as they come due. For anyone interested, I will have the required form at the meetings.

Ages	Single Payment	Quarterly Installments
30-39	\$1,796.00	\$450.25
40-50	\$4,408.00	\$353.25
51-55	\$1,127.00	\$283.00
56-60	\$960.00	\$241.25
61-65	\$801.00	\$201.50
66-70	\$653.00	\$164.50
71-75	\$514.00	\$129.75
76-80	\$392.00	\$99..25
81-90	\$251.00	\$64.00
91-100	\$127.00	\$33.00

New Membership Brochures

For those who were not at the last meeting, the updated Membership Brochures have come in. I have several of these and I hope you will get some from me at upcoming meetings. Or, if you have a need for one or more, I can mail them to you upon request. These brochures tell some of the benefits of joining NARFE, list who can join and are informative. Included is a Membership Form and a postage paid envelope for mailing in the form.

Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund

From time to time, I repeat some items of interest in these newsletters. And for that reason, I remind you of this NARFE supported fund. This is a fund set up whereby NARFE members help other NARFE members. Known as the Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund (FEEA), it is one whose mission states it is the only independent, nonprofit 501c3 organization devoted solely to providing emergency assistance and scholarships to our dedicated civilian federal and postal public servants and their families.

It is primarily funded through volunteer donations of NARFE members and it has helped very many NARFE members who have experienced emergencies and also provided scholarships to many children. I would encourage you to use the form near the back of each Magazine to make a donation or do it online on the NARFE website.

COLA Update

As noted earlier in this newsletter, I shared the February COLA report. That is 2 months in a roll of larger than normal increases. There are several months to go before we will know what if any next years Adjustment will be. The next report is due to be release on April 14th, too late to get in this newsletter. More news to follow.

Just For Fun

One day a florist went to a barber for a haircut. After the cut, he asked about his bill, and the barber replied, "I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week" The florist was pleased to hear that. When the barber went to open his shop the next morning, there was thank you card and a dozen roses waiting for him at the door.

Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replied the same way as the day before. The cop was happy and left the shop. The next morning when he opened up, there was a thank you card and a dozen donuts waiting for him.

Then a Congressman came in for a haircut, and when he went to pay his bill, the barber again replied again as before that he could not accept any money.. The Congressman was very happy and left the shop.

The next morning as the barber went to open up, there was a dozen Congressmen lined up for a free haircut. And that illustrates the difference between us citizens and the politicians who run it.

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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