



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

**Chapter 1956 Newsletter**

**February 2017**

**January Meeting Report**

The month of January occurred during Spring like weather for several days. For our meeting night, temps were nice but there was some rain. Attendance was low and disappointing. We missed many of our regular attendees. In fact, we did not have a quorum in order to conduct business. Let's hope that this month is better.

I discussed the current changes in the nations administration and how that could impact NARFE and its goals. With the elections over, we have a new president and some new members of Congress. Our NARFE Legislative Department will continue to work on our behalf and keep us informed of NARFE related bills as they come up during the year.

We are holding our own on membership, recently we have not gained any chapter members, and have not lost any recently. Several new members were recruited throughout the state during the recent Membership Incentives.

We spoke of the upcoming NARFE Tennessee Federation Convention in Nashville. It will be April 17-18 and you are invited. Let me know if you are interested, as registration is required. I have heard some of the details about this convention and it should be a good one to attend. You can read more about it in the February issue of the Federation Newsletter that you should receive soon in the mail They are always looking for members to serve on various committees, there are several to choose from and it is a good way to learn about the Federation.

**Next Meeting**

The February meeting falls on the 21st this year, that is a few days later than usual. Mark that date on your calendar and plan to come out and join us. Why not call a fellow member and ask them to come as well?

The meeting place and time are still 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.

We do have some business items to discuss that we had to pass over last month. Remember that this your chapter, do support it the very best that you can. Hope to see you.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

**Alzheimer's Donations**

Remember that at each meeting, we pass around a container for donations for Alzheimer's Research. Over the years our chapter along with others in NARFE have contributed millions of dollars to this very worthwhile project. Of course, with the lower attendance at the monthly chapter meetings, these donations tend to be lower.

Perhaps you would like to donate to this but have not had the opportunity lately. You can always make a donation directly to Support Alzheimer's Research by using the form located in each NARFE magazine. Remember to write in our Chapter Number, 1956.

NARFE established this fund back in 1985 and since then and now, NARFE members have donated over \$12 million dollars. The goal now is to reach \$13 million by 2018. Let's do our part in finding a cure for this.

**A C Clark .**

We are sad to report the death of long time member, A C Clark. His death was on January 19th. Mr. Clark retired from the USDA, Extension Service in 1986 after a long and distinguished career.



He joined NARFE in 1993. I am sure that many of you worked with and remember A C Clark. I was never privileged to know him and am not aware of any involvement he had in our chapter. His membership will transfer to his wife Katherine who survives, along with 2 daughters and 2 sons. Our sorrows are extended to his family at this time.

<u>Chapter Officers</u>	
President	Ronnie Collins
Vice-President	Vacant
Secretary	Reba Collins
Treasurer	Myrna Estes
Contact Information:	
NARFE Chapter 1956	
118 Ballenger Rd., Carthage TN 37030	
E-mail: <a href="mailto:rwcollins@hydroguy.com">rwcollins@hydroguy.com</a>	
Phone or Text: 931-284-4835	

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

## Legislative News

The new U S President took office on January 20th. This is expected to bring many changes in the way government operates. One of the first actions that the new President did was to sign an executive order calling for a immediate federal employee hiring freeze. This action temporarily prohibits agencies from selecting new hires until the Office of Management and Budget creates a plan within the next 90 days to reduce the size of the federal workforce through attrition, although the size of the reduction was not specified. The order also allows for federal agencies to make exemptions for positions deemed necessary to protect public safety and national security.

Like other federal employee advocacy groups, and based on historical assessments, NARFE opposes the freeze. The executive order relies on inaccurate assumptions and poses future negative consequences to the civil service. Previous federal hiring freezes were proven by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to undermine the efficiency of government operations by creating hiring backlogs and inadequate staffing levels. GAO also determined that previous freezes likely cost taxpayers more money due to the hiring of expensive contractors. Read NARFE's full statement on the federal hiring freeze [here](#).

## NARFE Magazine

You may want to pay particular interest to these articles in the current (February issue) of our magazine.

- J NARFE's Legislative Accomplishment, 114th Congress on pages 10 and 11.
- J What To Expect From the 115th Congress; Feds Face Multiple Threats on pages 6 and 7.
- J Federal Forecast, Severe Threats Ahead!, this is the Cover Article that appears on pages 24-31.

These are some of the information made available to NARFE members, keeping members informed.

## Webinars

The next webinar available to you as a NARFE member is **TSP: Love It or Leave It**. It will be presented on Thursday, February 23th at 1 pm CT. The presenter is Federal Benefits and Retirement Expert, Tammy Flanagan. Some of you still have funds in the Thrift Savings Plan and you may want to watch this particular presentation.

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.

## Chapter Members Featured in Newspaper

I don't normally see the Herald Citizen Newspaper published in Cookeville, but at the last meeting Myrna brought an article cut from a recent issue. It featured the barn of Connie and Tom Banker and the quilt pattern which is part of the Upper Cumberland Quilt Trail.

The article included pictures of the colorful quilt pattern on the front of the old barn and a detailed history of the barn.

As most of you already know, many such quilt patterns are displayed on barns and historic building all across the Upper Cumberland.

## Looking For Content

I am always looking for interesting information to include in these newsletters. If you can think of something that would be of interest to our group, just let me know about it.

## Just For Fun

*A woman caught her husband on the weight scale, sucking in his stomach. "That won't help you, Joe, you know?" "Oh it helps a lot," says the man, "it's the only way I can see the numbers!"*

*Job interview in a psychiatry: ~ So you're interested in working with us. ~ What is your experience with mentally disturbed people? ~ I've been on Facebook for 5 years now. ~ Very good, the job is yours.*

*A man was going to have surgery for the first time and was very nervous. "This is a very simple, non-invasive procedure," the anesthesiologist reassured him. He felt better, until ... "Heck," he continued, "you have a better chance of dying from the anesthesia than the surgery itself."*

*It seems a farm boy accidentally overturned his wagon load of corn. The farmer who lived nearby heard the noise. "Hey Willis!" the farmer yelled. "For get your troubles. Come in and eat with us. Then I'll help you get the wagon up." "That mighty nice of you," Willis answered, "but I don't think Pa would like me to." "Awe, come on," the farmer insisted. "Well okay," the boy finally agreed, and added. "But Pa won't like it." After a hardy dinner, Willis thanked the host. "I feel a lot better now, but I know Pa is going to be real upset." "Don't be foolish" the neighbor said with a smile. "By the way, where is he?" To which, the boy said. "Under the wagon."*

*Police officer: "Can you identify yourself, sir?" Driver pulls out a mirror and says: "Yes, it's me."*

*I would like to buy a new boomerang. Can you tell me how to throw the old one away?*

## 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)