



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

May 2017

Federation Convention Report

Reba and I attended the Tennessee NARFE Federation Convention in Nashville. This is a brief report on the happenings there. This was the 61st Annual Convention. The location was nice, but costs were somewhat expensive for the rooms and meals, but I guess that was because of the hotel brand.

The Convention got to an early start on Monday with the Federation Board meeting which I am a part of. Other noteworthy events on Monday was: Remarks by Jessica Klement who is the NARFE National Director of Legislation, the Memorial Service for those members who have passed away during the past year, remarks by Regional Vice President-Bill Shackelford and Regional Alzheimer's Coordinator-Donna Shackelford.

Monday also included several educational sessions on "How To Set Your Chapter On Fire", the Banquet and Annual Awards. The Weida White Tolley Memorial Alzheimer's Award was won by the Cleveland Chapter again this year. The Leo Potts Memorial NARFE-PAC Award was won by the Cumberland Chapter again this year. These same chapters have been the winners of these awards for many years now.

The Convention concluded on Tuesday and included a Video presentation from Jennifer Bialek who is the NARFE Deputy Director of Business and Development. Also on Tuesday, the reports of the officers, the reports of the committees and other Convention business. There were no Resolutions or Proposed changes to the Bylaws presented. The time and place of the next Convention was set for Jackson TN April 16-17, 2018. Total Delegates in attendance was 58.

The Federation Officers elected to serve for the coming year are:

- J President—Rhonda Mooney
- J Middle TN Vice President—Ed Evans
- J East TN Vice President—A Wayne Baker
- J West TN Vice President—Billy (BJ) Godwin
- J Secretary—Merilyn Evans
- J Treasurer—Norris Alderson
- J Legislative Chairman—Jim Glenn
- J Membership Chairman—Yvonne Hamilton

I will have more to report at this month's meeting.

Please share these newsletters with your spouse

Next Meeting

We will resume our regular chapter meetings this month after being away for the April meeting. The May meeting date is on the 16th and I hope we have a big turnout. The weather is warmer and the days are longer, that may make a difference for some. So don't forget, place this on your calendar and come.

Everyone should get this newsletter about a week before as a reminder and I also send out automated phone call reminders to some. If you do not currently get those phone reminders and wish to do so, please let me know I can add you to the list.

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.

I have a surprise for everyone who attends the meeting this month. The GEHA Health Insurance Plan has provided something to our chapter to pass out. So everyone in attendance this month will receive a gift item. But you have to come to find out what it is!!!

Legislative News

Congress was in recess part of April during the Easter break but NARFE was still working for us.

NARFE members are encouraged to use the new, easy-to-use [NARFE Legislative Action Center](#) to send letters to members of Congress on a variety of NARFE issues, sign up for action alerts and track NARFE-related bills and votes.

Have you attended a meeting, town hall or telephone town hall with your senator(s) or representative recently? Fill out a simple feedback form in the new Action Center to tell NARFE's legislative staff the details of your legislator's stance on NARFE issues.

Chapter Officers

President	Ronnie Collins
Vice-President	Vacant
Secretary	Reba Collins
Treasurer	Myrna Estes

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When you get your renewal notice, be sure to renew both your National and Chapter Dues.

Webinars

The next in the series of webinar available to you as a NARFE member is titled: **Estate Planning for Feds.** It will be presented on Thursday, May 11th at 1 pm CT. The presenter for this one will be Mark Keen, CFP. He writes a column which appears in the NARFE magazine each month. Some of what will be discussed is: The estate planning documents that everyone needs, Who can benefit from your federal benefits, How property passes on — and how you can make sure it goes where you want it to go and Should you try to avoid probate?

To watch it live, NARFE members need to register and enter the Promo Code of **2017May**. 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 made 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.

It was reported at the recent NARFE Federation Convention that these webinars are bringing lots of new members. As stated, the cost for a non-member to view these is \$39.95 and includes a free 1 year membership to NARFE.

New Executive Director

You may remember that NARFE has been in the process of hiring an Executive Director as a result of work done by the Future of NARFE committee and the approval of the membership at the National Convention a few years ago.

The process took awhile to develop the requirements and do a search. When applicants were sought, there were many candidates. After extensive interviews and evaluations over the past several months, NARFE has selected Barbara Sido (pronounce “Seedo”) to be the Executive Director.

She is a Certified Association Executive and reported to have a wealth of experience serving as an executive director and running her own consulting company. She has also worked in the US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. Barbara Sido begins work on May 15th.

COLA Update

The last report of the CPI-W was the March report which came out in April. It reported a 0.08 percent increase. There seems to be an upward trend in the Consumer Prices as reported. Currently we are at 1.11 percent toward any possible COLA adjustment in 2018. We are half way through the reporting year.

The next report will be the April report which will come out on May 12, too late to get in this issue.

NARFE Alzheimer’s Fund

Since 1985, NARFE members have played a major role in seeking a cure for Alzheimer’s disease. Through its partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association, NARFE supports research into the cause, prevention and treatment of Alzheimer’s disease as well as a cure for Alzheimer’s and related disorders. Public education on the need for research—our only tool for conquering the disease—also is an important focus.

NEW! Walk with us in the fight against Alzheimer’s Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s is the world’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s disease care, support and research. Some local groups will allow half of what you raise in their walk to go to the NARFE Alzheimer’s Fund but you will need to request that.

In collaboration with the Alzheimer’s Association, NARFE members have donated more than \$12 million to the NARFE Alzheimer’s Fund. 100 percent of NARFE donations to the Fund are allocated to research. NARFE is a member of the Alzheimer’s Association’s Zenith Society, a group of about 50 donors representing the highest level of giving. NARFE is one of only four organizations belonging to the Zenith Society; and, of the four organizations, NARFE is the “number one” contributor. Many NARFE members not only contribute their dollars to the NARFE Alzheimer’s Fund but also plan and participate in fundraisers, and volunteer at local day-care centers and other respite-care facilities. At the 2016 National Convention, delegates voted to extend our current goal to \$13 million in 2018.

Donations are accepted at our regular chapter meetings. If you want to make a tax deductible contribution, do it in the form of a check and bring it to a meeting or mail it to Reba Collins. Checks should be made out to NARFE Alzheimer’s Research. To donate by CREDIT CARD go to www.alz.org/narfe and click on the “Make an online donation on behalf of your NARFE chapter” link at the bottom of the page. Then select your “Federation” and “Chapter” from the drop down menu in the donation information section.

Memorial gifts are also accepted, just note that on your check. A donation coupon is printed every month in NARFE magazine, along with the current Fund total and contact information for the NARFE-Alzheimer’s National Committee Chair, Merv Stuckey

To learn more, call 312-335-5828 or by email narfe@alz.org. Be sure to identify yourself as a NARFE member.

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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