



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

**Chapter 1956 Newsletter**

**May 2018**

**Notes on Federation Convention**

We are back from the 62nd Annual NARFE Tennessee Federation Convention that was held in Jackson TN. It was good seeing NARFE members from across the state and hearing about things going on in their chapters. The host chapter was the Jackson Chapter and they worked hard to make it a great experience. The location was good and meeting rooms were good.

Attendance was about the same as previous meetings, with 72 delegates, and many more members and guests present. Most chapters from across the state were represented.

The meeting got underway on Monday morning with the usual welcoming addresses and proclamations. Representatives from the Tennessee General Assembly were there and a staff member from U.S. Congressman David Kustoff's office was there.

Our Federation President, Rhonda Mooney addressed the members and also the Region 10 Vice President Bill Shackelford. In his talk, Bill addressed several items of interest which included; the challenges and changes going forward. Bill who is part of the National Executive Board said that the decision to hire an Executive Director was a good decision. He also talked about membership, and the fact that he is running again to be the Region 10 Vice President. The Keynote speaker on Monday was the NARFE Executive Director Barbara Sido. Ms Sido is the first NARFE Executive Director and has been on the job now for about a year. She has made many changes to the structure of the national office and she spoke on these issues; advocacy, communications, public relations, the future of NARFE and branding. She also mentioned that NARFE has a Centennial coming up in the year 2021. Both her presentation and Bill's are available upon request.

Other activities that took place on Monday were the various committee meetings, an officer training session and the banquet. At the banquet the two annual awards were announced. The Weida White Tolley Alzheimer's Award was presented to the Dickson Chapter for raising the most per capita donations during 2017 for Alzheimer's. Also the Leo Potts

Meeting Location: Shoney's Restaurant  
880 S Jefferson Ave., Cookeville TN  
6:00pm to eat, 6:45pm for the business meeting

NARFE-PAC award was presented again to the Cumberland County Chapter on a similar basis for donations to NARFE-PAC.

Highlights on Tuesday included an informative Town Hall type event with Barbara Sido where members were able to ask questions about NARFE, then began the business session with reports and a vote on the 1 and only resolution submitted this year. That was a resolution to adopt a new Bylaws document to replace the existing one. The main purpose was to include the provisions of the One Member One Vote and the Optional Chapter Membership, along with some other minor changes. The resolution passed by voice vote. It will become effective when approved by the National Office.

The Convention ended with the election and installation of Federation Officers for the coming year. Most are the same as the previous year. The elected officers are:

- President—Rhonda Mooney
- 1st Vice President, Middle TN—Ed Evans
- 2nd Vice President, East TN—A. Wayne Baker
- 3rd Vice President, West TN—Billy (BJ) Godwin
- Secretary—Merilyn Evans
- Treasurer—Norris Alderson
- Legislative Chair—Larry Minniear
- Membership Chair—Yvonne Hamilton

Next year the meeting format will change to an Annual Meeting and will be held in Chattanooga. The local chapter there is already planning for that.

**Next Meeting**

We are looking forward to having our next meeting this month. So mark on your calendars for May 15th. Hope to see you all there. We will have many items to go over and discuss. Call other members and encourage them to join you at this meeting.

**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.**

### Caution

I continue to see that some of our chapter members are being transferred out of our chapter to the National Division. I know that the renewal letters that come in the mail are confusing and some are doing this inadvertently. But it is a big concern. Look carefully and select the option to remain as a chapter member.

### NARFE Webinars

Below are the upcoming webinars offered by NARFE. You are encouraged to watch these each month. The dates shown is when they are presented LIVE but they are recorded and can be watched later. To watch live, register before hand and go online by 1 p.m. Central Time on the date shown.

You can also go back and watch the past webinars held by the Federal Benefits Institute section on the NARFE website. Upcoming webinars include:

**How Much Do YOU Need for a Secure Retirement, May 24.**

**Steps to a Speedy Federal Retirement, June 21.**

**Survivor Benefits: Ensure Your Peace of Mind, July 26.**

### National Resolutions and Officer Voting

Beginning this year, changes take effect for how national voting is to be done when it comes to voting on proposed resolutions and bylaws changes as well as for the national officers. Now each member has the opportunity to vote themselves directly.

Voting will be done by ballot and the ballot will be included in the June issue of the NARFE magazine. The ballot will also be made available on the narfe website beginning May 10, 2018. Members may cast their ballot either by filling out the postcard form from the magazine and mailing it in, or vote online. The voting period ends on June 30, 2018.

In cases where both the husband and wife are members, each one will receive the June issue of the magazine and a ballot even if you have previously opted out of receiving 2 magazines.

Current members who have a valid email address as part of their member records will receive an email message about the online voting process. That email message will include your member ID and your unique voting PIN and a link to the voting site.

You are encouraged to become familiar with the proposed resolutions and bylaws changes and the candidates running for national office. We will discuss some of this at the May chapter meeting and I will write more in the June issue of this newsletter. You can get a printed copy of the resolutions book by calling 703-838-7760, ext. 270.

### More News on Voting

Members with current email addresses on your NARFE member records should have received the news of a voting instructions step by step guide now available on the NARFE website. The message was sent out by the Tennessee Federation President Rhonda Mooney. To get a copy of this guide, click on the following location: [www.narfe.org/2018Balloting](http://www.narfe.org/2018Balloting). It is listed with other information. For those without internet access, let me know if you want a copy.

### Legislative News

The only new legislative information that I have seen is The Federal Retirement Fairness Act, H.R. 5389 which would allow federal employees to 'buy back' the time they spent in temporary positions. Also Congress is trying to fix an issue resulting from the recent tax law bill that affects the taxation of moving expense reimbursements.

To stay alert to legislative news, visit the Legislative section of the NARFE website. You can send emails from there and you can call your member of Congress using the Toll-free number 866-220-0044.

### Consumer Price Index Watch

In this section of the newsletter, I will be posting the monthly adjustments for the year relating to the CPI-W so that you can see the changes month by month.

J	October 2017	Decrease of 0.15%
J	November 2017	Increase of 0.04%
J	December 2017	Decrease of 0.06%
J	January 2018	Increase of 0.58%
J	February 2018	Increase of 0.44%
J	March 2018	Increase of 0.20%

### NARFE Blog

This is another reminder that if you want to read discussions on various topics including the new voting process and proposed changes to the national bylaws then you can do so on the NARFE Blog.

To access this, just go to the NARFE website, log in as a member and look for the NARFE Blog button near the top of the home page.

### One Liners—Just for Fun

*Why did the coffee file a police report? It got mugged.*

*How many apples grow on a tree? All of them.*

*Why couldn't the bicycle stand up by itself? It was two tired.*

*Want to hear a joke about construction? I'm working on it.*

### NARFE IS ON THE WEB

Chapter 1956:	<a href="http://www.narfecookevilletn.org">www.narfecookevilletn.org</a>
Tennessee Federation:	<a href="http://www.narfetn.org">www.narfetn.org</a>
NARFE Headquarters:	<a href="http://www.narfe.org">www.narfe.org</a>