



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

Chapter 1956 Newsletter

September 2018

Monthly Notes

Folks, we have nearly reached the end of summer for this year, fall begins on September 22nd and we all know that winter cannot be far behind. We had our summer quarterly meeting in August. Attendance was low for this meeting, I was somewhat surprised at that. We depend on you being there to make the meetings worthwhile. Support them if you can and ask other member and even potential members to join you.

Some of the things we discussed at the August meeting included; the latest news pertaining to the Consumer Price data and a possible COLA for next year, the NARFE National Conference that was to be held just a few days after our meeting, and the second round of member voting for the NARFE national president. We also discussed the legislative topics of the fact that August was the Grassroots Advocacy Month, the time to meet our members of Congress and lobby them to support our causes. And also the important issues that our national office wants us to know about.

We heard about some encouraging news regarding Alzheimer's research and the normal monthly reports on membership and the Treasurer's report. In regards to that, I brought up the fact that our bank balance continues to maintain a large balance despite we lowered our chapter dues 2 years ago. We discussed the further of lowering the dues or trying to find ways to use our funds to increase awareness of NARFE in our area. I am open to your suggestions and thoughts on this over the next few months.

Next Meeting

On our new meeting calendar, we will meet next in November. That will be our fall meeting and will occur on November 20nd. We always try to bring important information to discuss and to keep you informed about at each meeting. As you interact with other members of our chapter throughout the time between now and then, encourage them to be part of our discussion and meetings. And if anyone is interested in being an officer or committee member, do not hesitate to let me know about that.

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

Second Round of Voting

I encourage each of you to exercise your privilege to vote for the next NARFE president in the second round of voting. Since no candidate received a majority of votes in the June election, this second ballot is required. The details are in the September NARFE magazine and the remaining 3 candidates are Theodore Van Hintum, Steve Lenkart and Ken Thomas. The preferential method of voting will be used which means you will need to vote for your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice of president on the ballot. Be sure that you mark the ballot with all 3 choices in order for your ballot to be counted in the voting process.

By the time that this newsletter gets to you, some of may have already voted. If you have not done so yet, you have until the last day of September. You can vote by mailing in the paper ballot included in the September magazine or online at [THIS WEBSITE](#). You will need your member ID and the PIN which is printed on the paper ballot or sent to you by email. The voting process is simple and does not take a lot of time.

NARFE Webinars

Here are the upcoming webinars offered by NARFE You are encourage to watch these each month. 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:

Retirement Forms: The Devil's in the Details, September 13.

FEHB & Medicare: Understanding Your Choices, October 11.

Health Plans: What's New and How to Choose. November 8.

Chapter Officers

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: rwcollins@hydroguy.com
Phone or Text: 931-284-4835

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

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.

- October 2017 **Decrease of 0.15%**
- November 2017 **Increase of 0.04%**
- December 2017 **Decrease of 0.06%**
- January 2018 **Increase of 0.58%**
- February 2018 **Increase of 0.44%**
- March 2018 **Increase of 0.20%**
- April 2018 **Increase of 0.47%**
- May 2018 **Increase of 0.48%**
- June 2018 **Increase of 0.17%**
- July 2018 **Decrease of 0.02%**

The August report will be released on September 13th and the finale report for this year will be the September report which will come out in October. Even though there are still 2 months to go in the reporting year it is certain that there will be a COLA next January.

Legislative News

Congress has returned to Washington DC after being out for a shortened August break. They have a lot of work to do before the end of the fiscal year. We will have to wait and see what they will do. Included in the appropriations bills that would provide a pay raise for federal employees . NARFE is supporting that bill which is H.R. 6147.

If you don't already receive the NARFE Legislative Hotline email messages, you can sign up to get them, or you can call 1-800-456-8410 option 4 to hear them. To send an email to your member of Congress, use the Legislative Action Center section of the NARFE website to do that. To call either of your U S Senators or your U S Representative, call 1-866-220-0044. and just follow the prompts to get to the office you want.

Membership Drive

The NARFE national office is once again offering incentives for current members to recruit new members by offering cash and other prizes as they have done before. The time period is now through the December 31st. New members can be current federal workers or those already retired.

For each new member you recruit, you will receive \$10 and a chance in a drawing for each new member. There will be 3 monthly drawings of a \$25 Amazon gift card and a Grand Prize of Bose SoundLink Revolve+Portable Bluetooth 360 Speaker.

Recruiters will need to supply their member ID on the Membership Form or by telephone, or online if the new member signs up by either of those ways.

Chapter Dues

As has already been mentioned, we discussed this at the August chapter meeting. Please consider your thoughts on this in the coming months on whether it would be beneficial or not to lower our chapter dues or whether we could better use our funds to promote NARFE in our area.

Alzheimer's Walks

Many groups form walks to raise donations for Alzheimer's in various communities. I hope if there is one in your area, that you will join in and help with that cause. I know some NARFE chapters do this and there are other groups as well. This is a worthy cause and provides help to many people. You can also buy the Alzheimer's stamps from the Post Office for 65 cents each.

On a related note, there is article (page 46) in the September magazine from the NARFE Alzheimer's National Committee Chair on an update regarding Alzheimer's and some of the recent news about research and the possible prevention.

I would encourage you to donate to Alzheimer's any way that you can, including donating as we pass the jar at our meetings, or by using the form in the magazine. The form is near the back and with it you can use a credit card or include a check. There is a space to indicate our chapter number, so include that. We do not collect as much in our donations jar with quarterly meetings, so please consider making a donation in one of these other ways. Thanks.

On the Light Side

After shopping for most of the day, a couple returns to find their car has been stolen. They go to the police station to make a full report. Then, a detective drives them back to the parking lot to see if any evidence can be found at the scene of the crime. To their amazement, the car has been returned.

There is an envelope on the windshield with a note of apology and two tickets to a music concert. The note reads, "I apologize for taking your car, but my wife was having a baby and I had to hot-wire your ignition to rush her to the hospital. Please forgive the inconvenience. Enjoy the concert ."

Their faith in humanity restored, the couple attend the concert and returned home late. They find their house has been robbed. Valuable goods have been taken from through out the house, from basement to attic. And, there is a note on the door reading, "Well, you still have your car. I have to put my newly born kid through college somehow, don't I?"

NARFE IS ON THE WEB

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