



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS  
CHAPTER 1956 COOKEVILLE TENNESSEE**

March 13, 2007

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Presidents Corner

Our next meeting will be on March 20, 6:00 pm at Shoney's. The program will be by John Wells, Federation Legislative Chair, speaking on NARFE-PAC. March is traditionally NARFE-PAC month and I ask all of you to carefully read the article on NARFE-PAC in the February issue of NARFE page 18. This is why we exist as an organization and our support is vital to its success and our benefit. Contributions can be made direct to HQ using the form on page 19. They also can be made at our meeting, by check only, and I will forward them to HQ. Last year 35 of our members donated a total of \$800.00.

We give thanks to Kent Fletcher and Sharon Martin for providing a speaker, when our intended speaker cancelled at the last minute. The twenty-six people present heard a good presentation by Keith Kail, from Woodman of the World, speaking on "Preserving Your Assets". We learned that Woodman's was established in 1890 to benefit members and once a policy holder, you receive benefits exclusive to Woodmen, such as senior and youth camps. Woodman's also care for its member's communities in several ways such as presenting American Flags to civic and community organizations. They also feature insurance and annuity programs, the latter can compete with traditional bank CD's. All profits are distributed to the members.

A reminder that the state convention in Knoxville is an open convention and anyone may attend. Registration forms are available from the Chapter Secretary.

We have received a Federal Long Term Care DVD that explains the program. It is available for loan; let us know if you would like to borrow it.

The June 23<sup>rd</sup> picnic date is confirmed for Standing Stone State Park. We will be in shelter #3, just up the rise from where we were last year and at a better site.

As noted in the treasurer's yearly report we are solvent, but just. Our biggest cost is our newsletter. This can be reduced by E-mail delivery of the newsletter; if you haven't signed up please do so. This saves us \$5.00 a year per member. I expect that, at the national convention in 2008, chapter dues reduced, which may give us some problems. We will cross that bridge when we get there.

Speaking of E-mail and internet capability, [www.fedweek.com](http://www.fedweek.com) provides information on activities of congress related to Federal Employees, particularly but not limited to current employees. It is free and I strongly suggest you avail yourself of the opportunity to be on their distribution list.

Alzheimer's: we collected \$20.00

Treasurers Report: Balance as of 28 Feb is \$617.50 (a small portion of which is escrow for Alzheimer's)

Legislative

A bill for our Premium Conversion (PC) effort has been introduced into the house HR-1110 with twenty eight co-sponsors. Bart Gordon is not among them, but he has co-sponsored the bill in previous congressional sessions. Since the president is pushing tax credits for medical insurance costs, we may have a good chance of getting it passed in this congress. The PC bill for the senate, S773, was introduced last week with five Senators co-sponsoring.

**The legislation to repeal both GPO and WEP continues to attract co-sponsors; HR 82 as of now has 250 co-sponsors, Bart Gordon is among them. In the Senate, S 206 as of now has 20 co-sponsors. We need to continue to contact our Senators asking for their support.**

**The Congressional Budget Office is up to its old tricks, recommending cost cutting measures in government benefit programs. I have a copy of the latest proposals, too long for incorporation for this letter, it is available on request. Avoidance of these recommendations are why you are a member of NARFE and need to support NARFE by remaining a member.**

**The address for our new Senator is: (Please add it to the bottom of your membership list)  
Senator Bob Corker  
B40A Dirksen Bldg  
Washington D.C. 20510  
Phone 202-224-3344**

**Sunshine Cards were sent to Jan MacKenzie and Brenda Anderson**

### **Membership**

**We welcome four new members, Milton Ashburn of Baxter, Charles Paris and William Prophet of Cookeville, Phillip Brown of Gainesboro. Five members renewed, thank you. Three members switched to dues withholding, double thank you. Five members were send second notices, dues withholding can eliminate that problem. Three members were dropped for no-renewal of dues; in the future, please don't be one of them.**

**Membership statistics; we have 143 members distributed as follows**  
82 renewing annually, or bi, tri, annually  
33 on dues withholding (not enough, join at dues renewal time)  
14 Life Members  
15 Current Federal Employee members  
1 honorary member

**There are eight national only members living in our area.**