



Tennessee Federation News

NEWS OF INTEREST
TO ACTIVE AND
RETIRED FEDERAL
EMPLOYEES



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Chapters:

Send in pictures of your members participating in special events at your meeting or in the community, officer installations, parties, award ceremonies, etc. to show your fellow chapters what you are doing and what they could possibly do.

The Prez Says ...



Larry Minniear

Well another NARFE national convention has come and gone. Not much excitement. There were roughly 800 in attendance which is down a little from prior events.

National President Richard Thissen and National Secretary-Treasurer Jon Dowie were re-elected with no opposition as was Region Vice President William Schackelford.

There were 16 Bylaw resolutions to be voted upon by electronic ballot. The National Board was pushing three of them; two passed, one failed.

The Board was very excited about the passage of these two measures. I am not sure they will have much impact at the local level. One will make chapter membership optional. There are those in our midst that tend to believe this will be our salvation to membership decline. I am not one of those believers. Most members do not even know or care what the local dues are. They will join if they feel there is benefit for them. The same goes for attending chapter meetings. NARFE is experiencing the same attrition issues as most other organizations. When we lose a member either by death or lapse in dues payment there is not enough attention paid by the local chapter to

either get that member back or replace those who have passed on. I believe FERS implementation in the mid - 1980s had as much to do with membership drop as did chapter obligation. They both happened around the same time.

The other measure that passed dealt with voting procedures at the national convention. NARFE has operated on a representative form of governing for much of its history. This similar to the way our nation operates with Congress, except we actually pass a few legislative measures; not so with Congress. Now we will have one member, one vote meaning every NARFE member will have an opportunity to voice their personal opinion via mail or electronic ballot prior to the national conference. I doubt this will move people to be much more involved than they are now; much the same way our national electorate has a huge uneducated and non-participating voting block each election cycle. Those that are interested will get their information from articles in the magazine or on the website and vote accordingly without the advantage of hearing any debate (with the exception of some blogs).

The thing this measure will do is greatly reduce the size and scope of the biennial convention (to be called conference). There will be virtually no business conducted at these conferences,

(Continued on Page 3)

Tennessee Federation Officers

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Changes We Will See Hopefully Will Be Good Ones And Will Help To Strengthen NARFE



Rhonda Mooney

At this year's National Convention the National Executive Board (NEB) submitted three resolutions and two of those three passed. I believe the two resolutions that passed - the Optional Chapter Membership and One Member One Vote resolutions - will bring about big changes in NARFE. I hope the changes that we see will be good ones and will help to strengthen NARFE. I have not seen any specifics on these changes - only general information. The NEB is meeting November 15 - 18 and these topics will be discussed. Hopefully we will receive something shortly after that with specific information about these changes and what we can expect in the future. And speaking of the National Convention - two of our delegates from Tennessee, Lynn and Carlos Henning from Jackson, are pictured in the November NARFE magazine in the article about the Convention.

Please remember that our Federation recruiting incentive awards that began July 1, 2016 continues through December 31, 2016. The Federation will give any member a \$10 incentive award who recruits a new member who joins between July 1 and December 31, 2016, up to the first 100 new members. Be sure your name and NARFE membership number (which you can find on the label of your NARFE magazine) are shown on the application so that you will receive credit for the recruitment. In addition, there is also a national NARFE membership drive from September 1 - December 31, 2016. Recruiters will receive \$10 from NARFE Headquarters for each member who joins between September 1 and December 31, 2016. Recruiters will also be entered into a monthly drawing for prizes and for a

grand prize. Again - be sure your name and your NARFE membership number are shown on the application to receive credit for recruitment. This means when you recruit a new member who joins between September 1 and December 31, 2016 you will receive \$10 from the Federation and another \$10 from NARFE Headquarters. So get out there and start recruiting!! There is strength in numbers and we need NARFE to be strong in the fight to protect our benefits.

We had approximately 40 people representing five chapters in attendance at our Seventh Annual West Tennessee Joint Chapter Meeting which was held in Jackson on August 11th. There were three candidates (the nominee from the Democrat party and two Independents) for the eighth district Congressional seat who spoke at the meeting and then there was a question and answer session. Our members asked some very good questions. I think the candidates were impressed with the questions asked and the information that our members supplied to them regarding issues affecting federal employees and retirees. The nominee from the Republican party had a scheduling conflict and could not attend the Joint Meeting in August but he spoke at the Jackson Chapter Meeting in September. The incumbent for the eighth district is not running for reelection so this was a great opportunity for our members to meet and talk with these candidates, one of whom will likely be elected as our next Congressman.

— Rhonda Mooney
1st Vice President
rmooney@narfetn.org
731 267 2336

— Rhonda Mooney
Federation 1st Vice President
rmooney@narfetn.org
731-267-2336

2017 Convention to Have Exciting New Information

The Middle Tennessee Chapters of NARFE, led by Donelson Chapter 1576, can't wait to introduce you to the excitement of NARFE Federation Convention 2017 at the new Nashville Airport Hilton.

This new Hilton is located at 2200 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN 37214; for reservations telephone (844) 886-4136.

The Hilton organization has acquired the new Nashville Airport Holiday Inn in the Donelson area, brought in their top manager from the Hilton Double Tree downtown, is in the process of making "Hilton" improvements and is planning a Grand Opening during the months just prior to our Convention 2017.

The excitement of this newly renovated hotel includes rooms for \$119 for the April 16-18, 2017 timeframe (the average price of the seven nearby hotels is \$162.50), 383 well-appointed guest rooms, 8,000-square-feet of meeting space, indoor pool with amenities for the disabled, 10 meeting rooms, a four-star chef and a terrific restaurant, elegant lounge with live entertainment, room service, complimentary high speed Internet, complimentary business center, and complimentary parking. And for those on a fitness kick, it has an on-site fitness center that opens at 6 a.m.

There is also a complimentary shuttle every 20 minutes to and from the Nash-

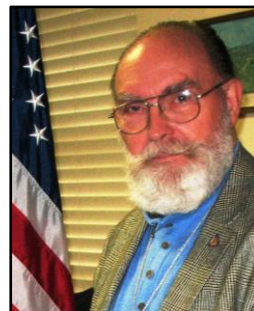
ville International Airport, available four times a day for runs to the Opry Mills Shopping Center and Opryland Resort (only minutes away), and to shopping and dining points of interest all around Nashville.

Now, what do we mean when we say this convention is all for its members? This gathering of NARFE Chapter members and officers will be focused on setting your Chapter meetings on fire! Speakers are being selected for the business sessions and the banquet – evening of April 17th – to inform and entertain you focused upon enlivening chapter meetings and gaining members.

Ideas for activities, offers to volunteer, and questions should go to Ed Evans, 2nd Vice President, 615-429-0342 or narfetime@gmail.com.

This newsletter contains a Convention 2017 registration form, so please fill it out and mail it the Federation Secretary, Marilyn Evans, at 808 Sandburg Place, Nashville, TN 37214-4051.

— Ed Evans
Federation 2nd Vice President
eevans@narfetn.org
615-920-5867



Ed Evans

Tennessee Federation Officers

(Continued from Page 2)

Secretary

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808 Sandburg Pl
Nashville TN 37214-4051
615-872-8978
mevans@narfetn.org

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jglenn@narfetn.org

Membership Chairman

Vacant

Immediate Past President

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(Continued on Page 4)

The Prez Says ... (Continued from Page 1)

so the attendance will suffer greatly. It will still give members an opportunity to get together with long time NARFE friends and have a huge reunion.

Let's go back to membership for a moment. I am still of the mindset that membership is the backbone of any organization. Without strong membership trends it makes no difference what the structure looks like. Also, it is each and every current member's obligation to push membership. We cannot expect the national office to be our sole source for membership recruitment. I am afraid if we continue with the current trend of lack-

adaisical attitude toward membership we will write our destiny as an organization.

One final thought: It is not too early to be thinking of attending the Tennessee Federation Convention. It will be held April 17-18, 2017 at the Nashville Airport Hotel. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

— Larry Minniear
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Tennessee Federation Appointed Officers

(Continued from Page 3)

Alzheimer's Chairwoman

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Newsletter Editor

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(Continued on page 5)

Effect of Convention Changes Not Yet Clear

Since being elected Third Vice President for East Tennessee, I have talked with one or more members of most chapters. Also, I have attended chapter meetings with the John Sevier (my home chapter) and the Cleveland Chapters. Both chapter meetings were well attended and informative. I look forward to visiting with other chapters in the next two or three months.

By now, I am sure all members have received a report on the NARFE National Convention held in Reno, Nevada, August 29 – September 1, 2016. With the passage of the Optional Chapter Membership and the One Member/One Vote Resolutions, it is not clear at this time what effect this will have on our chapters. Perhaps a better understanding will be provided at the upcoming state convention in Nashville, Tennessee, April 17-18, 2017. Each chapter is encouraged to make plans to

send one or more members if possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as Tennessee Third Vice President for East Tennessee. If I can be of any help to your chapter should you have questions, please call me at 423-282-1007.

I hope all of you will have a happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

– George D. Prewitt
3rd Vice President
6 McGregor Place
Johnson City, TN 37604
423-282-1007



George Prewitt

We Need Less Than \$10K to Meet Our Giving Goal Plus Coordinator Warns Against Bogus Christmas Card Scam

Our Alzheimer's National Association has a fiscal year ending on June 30, 2016. Our total NARFE Alzheimer's Research collection is \$11,889,336.18. We need \$9,566.68 to make our goal of \$12 million. The NARFE Alzheimer's Committee will allocate \$479,050.21 in research grants this year.

Our Region X had a total collection of \$110,453.08 of which Tennessee had \$6,470.40. As our fiscal year runs from January to December, our total is only for ½ year. What a great job our chapters are doing with their collection of donations, and the great support of the chapters when it comes to the Silent Auction at the Convention.

I know getting the donations is hard with so many competitions like the Tennessee Alzheimer's, and Pat Summit's Alzheimer's, but we all must remember that all of our donations go to research to end this terrible disease, and none of our

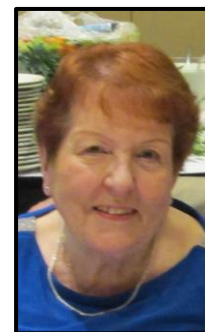
monies go to administration fees.

I am so proud to be your Tennessee NARFE Alzheimer's Coordinator.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS:

I received an envelope of Christmas cards from a place called, "Alzheimer's Research Clinic" and it was from Maine. They were asking for donations. This is NOT the Alzheimer's Research Clinic that we support, I could not find out even if it is legit. Please do not donate to them.

– Joan Gates
Alzheimer's Coordinator
865-986-7526
jgates@narfetn.org



Joan Gates

Not Much Is Happening But We Must Keep Vigilant

There is not much going on in the legislative department because of the election. The major issues though the summer have been: Postal reform, Long term care insurance, Windfall elimination provision, and the upcoming Medicare part B hold harmless provision.

Long term care insurance increases have increases averaging 83% and all I have seen are the steps taken to avoid like increases for the future. NARFE has called for hearings in Congress, but the process is still lacking in any control for future increases.

The WEP proposal is also still on hold after the late minute changes included reducing the WEP penalty applied to Social Security benefit from around fifty per cent to about fifteen per cent. NARFE opposed this change but still supports the bill in its original form.

Medicare part B problem is the same as last year in which Congress amended the law to spread the increase for all of us to avoid the unfair burden of increase on those who did not have Social Security coverage. Hopefully they will do the same thing this year when they come back

after the election.

Postal reform legislation still includes mandatory Medicare coverage for current postal retirees, which NARFE opposes.

A continuing resolution to keep the government funded through December 9th was passed before Congress adjourned for the election recess, so appropriations consideration will resume when they reconvene November 14th, after the election. WE will need to remain vigilant for any future proposals that affect federal employees and retirees. So keep active and on top of what is going on so when our national office requests us to contact our legislator on an issue, we can let them know what we think. They do respond to our letters if we have enough members who take action!



Jim Glenn

— James Glenn
Legislative Chairman
931-473-5074
jaglenn@blomand.net

Tennessee Federation Appointed Officers

(Continued from Page 4)

Network Coordinator

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120 Windrift Court
McMinnville, TN 37110-3716
931-473-5074
jglenn@narfetn.org

Public Relations Officer
Vacant

Special Project Officer
Vacant



From the left are Marty Horn, Carey Frazier, Glenn Turner, Congressman Jim Cooper, Norris Alderson and Mary Lee Fielder. 2nd VP Ed Evans is the photographer at this Legislative meeting with Cong. Cooper to discuss issues that concern NARFE members.

Tennessee Federation of Chapters
National Active and Retired Federal Employees

2017 Convention Registration Form



61st Federation Convention

Nashville Airport Hotel
2200 Elm Hill Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

April 17-18, 2017



Chapter No. _____ Chapter Name _____

Chapter Location _____

Name: _____ ID #: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Select Registration:

(Check all that apply)

Delegate	Alternate	Federation Officer	National Officer	Past Federation President	Member	Guest
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Agency where you work

Or retired from: _____

Spouse or Guest's name: _____

(If not listed on separate registration form)

Convention Options:

	Self	Guest/ Spouse	Cost (per/person)	Total
Full Registration (Convention & Banquet): _____	_____	_____	\$55.00	_____
(Note: If <u>special</u> banquet meal required, circle one. Otherwise, chicken will be served):				
Gluten Free or Vegetarian				
Convention Only _____	_____	_____	\$20.00	_____
Banquet Only (note if special meal required) _____	_____	_____	\$43.00	_____
Late Fee (after March 1 st , 2017, add \$5.00) _____	_____	_____	\$ 5.00	_____

Total Enclosed: _____

Submit registration form by March 1, 2017.

(Late or on-site registration will require the \$5.00 extra fee per/person.)

Make Checks Payable to: NARFE Chapter 1576

Mail to: Marilyn Evans, 808 Sandburg Place, Nashville, TN 37214-4051

For More Information Contact: Ed Evans, 615-920-5867 or 615-872-8978

Hotel Reservations Call: Nashville Airport Hotel, 844-886-4136, reference NARFE.

Cost: \$119 per/night plus about 22% for taxes, etc.

(Airport shuttle available at no extra charge.)

DELEGATE FORM

2017 NARFE State Convention - April 17-18, 2017

Top Portion – mail to:

Merilyn Evans, Federation Secretary, 808 Sandburg Place, Nashville, TN 37214-4051

Please print or type:

Chapter No: _____ Chapter Name: _____ Location: _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Check One) Delegate _____ Alternate _____ Proxy _____ for Chapter # _____

I wish to serve on the following committees:

Membership _____	Legislation _____	Credentials _____	Service Officer _____
Public Relations _____	Rules _____	Nomination _____	Resolutions _____
Constitution & Bylaws _____	Financial Ways & Means and Audit _____	NARFE-PAC _____	
Alzheimer _____	Time & Place _____		

I would you like to attend legislative training at the Convention. _____

Signature of Chapter President or Secretary _____

-----Cut delegate form in two separate pieces-----

DELEGATE FORM

2017 NARFE State Convention - April 17-18, 2017

Bottom Portion – Delegate to bring to the Convention and deliver to Credential Committee.

Please print or type:

Chapter No: _____ Chapter Name: _____ Location: _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Check One) Delegate _____ Alternate _____ Proxy _____ for Chapter # _____

Signature of Chapter President or Secretary _____

Committees I signed up for: _____ Legislative Training: _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

If you plan to attend the Convention as a delegate or alternate, fill out both the top and bottom portions; Chapter President or Secretary must sign. Leave blank the "Proxy for Chapter". Please return top half by USPS to the Federation Secretary, Merilyn Evans, 808 Sandburg Place, Nashville TN 37214-4051 or by email: Merilyn9716@aol.com (You may type in the Signature of e-mailed copy only. The hand-carried Delegate's bottom portion must have a hand-written signature). The Delegate will carry the bottom portion to the Convention and present to Credentials Committee.

If no one from your Chapter will attend, please find someone from another chapter who will serve as your proxy. The name and address of the person serving as proxy should appear above and the "Proxy for Chapter" should have your Chapter number. The Chapter President or Secretary should still sign. The top half should be mailed as outlined above to the Federation Secretary and the bottom half sent to your proxy for them to carry to the Convention and present to the Credentials Committee. If there are any questions, please call Larry Minniear at 423-875-5612 or Merilyn Evans at 615-872-8978.

61st Annual NARFE Tennessee Federation of Chapters



2017 Convention Program Ads

Full Page Ad:	5-1/2" X 8-1/2"	= \$100.00
Half Page Ad:	5-1/2" X 4-1/4"	= \$ 50.00
Quarter Page Ad:	5-1/2" X 2-1/8"	= \$ 25.00
(Business Cards fit nicely in a Quarter Page.)		

All ads must be received by March 1, 2017.

Please send photo ready ads. Specify the size ad desired.

Make your check payable to NARFE Chapter 1576.

Send the ad along with payment to:

**Merilyn Evans
2017 Convention Program Ad
808 Sandburg Place
Nashville, TN 37214-4051**

Ads can also be e-mailed to: Merilyn9716@aol.com, however,
payment must be either made in person or mailed to the USPS address above.
If you have any questions, call me at (615) 872-8978 or (615) 920-5867.

Nashville Airport Hotel

2200 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, TN 37214 ~ (844) 886-4136

Site of the 2017 NARFE Tennessee Convention

Convention Dates Are April 17-18, 2017

Register **Now** by calling (844) 886-4136 and reference NARFE to get the Special Rate of \$119 plus tax & surcharge.

Special NARFE room rates will also be available for the week prior to and the week after the convention.

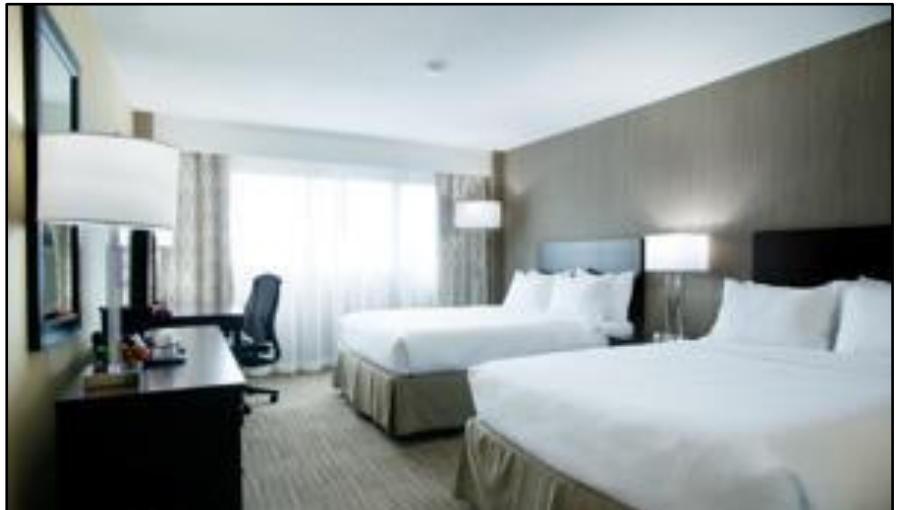


Driving Directions: Exit Hwy. 40 at the Donelson Pike Exit (Hwy. 40 E turn left; Hwy. 40 W turn right). Go two blocks and turn left on Elm Hill Pike. The Nashville Airport Hotel will be on the right just before Briley Parkway.

Airport Directions: The same directions apply if you are flying. The Hotel provides a shuttle from the airport (which is on Donelson Pike) direct to the hotel. Check with the hotel about pick up times when you make your reservations.



Hotel lobby and casual dining area.



Hotel rooms offer wi-fi and either two queen-size beds or one king-size bed.



Hotel Banquet and Meeting area.

The Banquet meal will consist of Lemon-Rosemary Chicken Breast served with a white wine veloute, mixed field green salad with Ranch Dressing or House Vinaigrette, Chef's Choice and Starch, Seasonal Vegetable, freshly baked rolls with butter, Chef's Choice of dessert and freshly brewed coffee and iced tea. Vegan and/or Gluten Free is available but must be noted on the Registration Form. By the way, he is an award-winning chef.

Office Inspirational Posters ...

I MAY NOT BE
THERE YET, BUT
I'M CLOSER
THAN I WAS
YESTERDAY.



"Today you are You,
that is truer than true.
There is no one alive
who is Youer than
You." - Dr. Seuss

DO IT NOW.

SOMETIMES
'LATER'
BECOMES
'NEVER'

LIFE IS
BETTER
WHEN
YOU'RE
LAUGHING.

(Continued on Page 11)

2017 Delegate and Registration Forms Ready



Marilyn Evans

In the center of this newsletter you will find the 2017 Convention Registration form and the Delegate registration form. Now would be a good time to fill those out and mail them to me. Since my chapter is hosting the convention, I now have yet another job. But that is okay, it's my pleasure to help and serve my fellow NARFE members.

This looks like it will be a very interesting convention. We need to know what we can do to help NARFE transition to this new format as well as learn how to retain and grow our membership. In my opinion, we especially need to do this in our Chapters.

I know I really enjoy going to Chapter 1576's meetings. Our officers make an extra effort to provide interesting and/or informative speakers, plus one of our members makes it a regular practice to

bring the most delicious home-made cookies to each meeting. If she can't attend, she sends them with someone else.

This will be the last issue of this year. The next issue will come out in March of 2017. Let me be the first to wish you Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Is that getting ahead of the game, or what? My prayer for each of you is that you will have a blessed holiday season.

One last reminder, remember to vote, send letters to your National Senators and Congressmen, and let them know how you feel about the issues that concern you. Most of them appreciate your input.

Finally, talk to everyone you meet about NARFE. You might be surprised who will be interested in joining with you.

— Marilyn Evans

Secretary/Newsletter Editor
808 Sandburg Place
Nashville, TN 37214-4051
615-872-8978
mevans@narfetn.org

Congresswoman Blackburn Talks With Members



Members of Nashville Unit 227 met with Congresswoman Marcia Blackburn to discuss their legislative concerns. Pictured are (left to right): Leo Baghdoian, Congresswoman Blackburn, Phyllis Branan, Carey Frazier, and Donald Dotson.

Tennessee Federation Financial Report

January 1, 2016 -
September 30, 2016



Norris
Alderson

Beginning Balance -	Checking account 1/1/2016	\$28,186.38
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REVENUES

National Dues Rebate - 10% Fund (2016)	\$5,811.70
National Dues Rebate - 10% Fund (2015)	\$895.79
2016 Convention Profit	\$1,387.14

Total Revenue	\$8,094.63
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LESS EXPENSES:

Vouchers - Officer's expense	Officers Expense	\$7,556.95
Newsletter Expenses		\$3,225.03
Feb. BOD Lodging-Ramada Inn		\$529.65
2015 Expenses Paid in 2016		\$115.40
WebHost		\$45.00
Liability Insurance		\$85.00

Total Disbursed	\$11,557.03
-----------------	-------------

9/30/16 Balance	\$24,723.98
-----------------	-------------

CD's US Bank Account Ending- 5601	\$3,355.92
Account Ending- 4540	\$3,534.60

Total Assets	\$31,614.50
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Office
Inspirational
Posters ...
(Continued from Page 10)

**BELIEVE IN
YOURSELF.**

ALABAMA TOWELS

MISTAKES
are proof that you are
TRYING

www.dallas.com

"A journey of a thousand miles
begins with a single step"

—Confucius

Photo: Getty

Difficult
doesn't
mean
impossible.
It simply
means that you
have to
work hard.

Your Daily Love Emotions On saddandlovepicture.com



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NARFE's WEBINARS

NARFE members
always view FREE!

VIEW ON-DEMAND

At www.NARFE.org/Institute

- *Post Retirement Checkup*
- *5-Year Countdown to Retirement*
- *Exploring TSP Withdrawal Options*
- *Claiming Social Security*
- *Survivor Benefits: Key Decisions for Feds of All Ages*
- *What's YOUR Best Retirement Date?*
- *From Federal Employee to Annuitant: Master the Process!*

Recruiting Contest Offers Extra Ways To Win Big \$s

The Tennessee Federation began a recruiting contest on July 1st to run until December 31st of this year. Up to 100 new members recruited, the Federation will pay \$10 to the recruiter who brings in a new member during this time period.

To your benefit, National Headquarters is also running a recruiting contest that started September 1 and will end December 31, 2016. National will also pay the recruiter \$10 for each new member recruited. The recruiter's name will then be put into a monthly drawing for an additional prize. Ultimately, the recruiter will be in a Grand Prize Drawing at the end of the contest to win an Apple iPad Air 2.

With the guarantee of getting a total of \$20 for the recruitment of one new member and the possibility of winning a monthly prize and/or the Grand Prize, what are we waiting for? Let's recruit!



*The
Tennessee
Federation of
Chapter Officers
wish you all
Happy
Thanksgiving,
Merry Christmas
and
Happy
New Year!*

