

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES



Cleveland, Tennessee 37312

CHAPTER 860

April 2009

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Don Rollens, Service Officer Maxine Eaves, Legislative Ruth Hale, Sunshine
Visit www.narfeclevelandtn.org

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Members

This is till an area of major concern for NARFE. We are holding our own in terms of total members. However, during 2008 three active members did not renew their membership. Those of you that attend the Chapter meetings know who these members are. When you see them or better still, give them a call and encourage them to renew their membership.

Alzheimer's Research

I received an email recently informing us that NARFE has collected \$8 million in giving to Alzheimer's Research. This is a commendable accomplishment. This alone should be a very good reason to be a part of NARFE. This amount was given by NARFE members since 1985. Remember as you prepare to give, all donations go directly to research. Alzheimer's affects millions of people in the U.S. It has struck some of our very own members in the past.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 16, 6:30 PM, St. Therese Catholic Church, Cleveland. (We changed to the 3rd Thursday of the month for this month only due to Easter Celebrations at the church. We will return to meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month in June.) After our Covered Dish Dinner, the speaker for the evening will be Matt Carlson from Habitat for Humanity. He will explain the mission and purpose of that organization. In addition, he will focus on how the community and even members of NARFE can lend a helping hand. We already have chapter members that are very active in Habitat for Humanity and contribute many hours to the organization. Please attend and support this worthy effort.

DUES REFERENDUM

You will hear a lot about this in the next few months. The National Executive Board voted recently to send a proposal to all members for a vote to change the current dues structure. National President Margaret Baptiste has asked that all Chapter Presidents schedule some time at the next Chapter meeting to discuss this proposal. This will be done at our meeting this month and, if necessary, again in June. The proposal, in a nutshell, establishes one amount of \$40.00 per year. Nine dollars of that amount will come back to Chapters and four dollars will be returned to the State Federation.

STATE CONVENTION

No one stepped forward willing to attend the State Convention in Jackson, TN this month. This is regrettable, but understood since the cost to attend would be over \$350 and the Chapter is not in a financial condition to offer very

much help. Next year should be better since it will be in Sevierville, which is much closer. Begin thinking about attending the 2010 Convention.

Since we do not have any attendees, Larry Cunningham, Federal Vice-President, will carry our proxy. There are three or four resolutions that will be acted on at the convention. These will be discussed at our meeting this month. There are a couple that proposes to make a reduction in the \$4.00 amount that goes to the Federation. A decision will be made directing which way our proxy will vote for us.

THANKS TO BANK OF CLEVELAND FOR PRINTING SUPPORT

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BETSY DEACON, EDITOR

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