



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter 860 Cleveland, Tennessee 37312 February 2012

**Jim Burner, President Don Rollens, Vice-President Danny Britt, Secretary and Treasurer
Don Rollens, Service Officer Maxine Eaves, Legislative Ruth Hale, Sunshine Dean McAlister,
Membership Chair Visit <http://www.narfeclevelandtn.org>**

JIM BURNER ELECTED CHAPTER PRESIDENT, ROLLENS IS VP NEXT MEETING

Chapter 860 has a new group of leaders following an Installation of Officers ceremony in December. Long time NARFE member Jim Burner was elected President for the coming year, while Don Rollens assumed the role of Vice-President. Current Secretary/Treasurer Danny Britt was reelected to another term.

Burner, a native of Stillwater, OK, retired from the Forest Service in 1989 with over 30 years of service. After receiving his Civil Engineering degree from Oklahoma State University, Burner began his career in Arkansas on the Ouachita National Forest. In 1967, he moved to Cleveland and served on the Cherokee National Forest until his retirement. Following retirement Burner worked 2 years as a Juvenile Probation Officer before beginning a 12-year stint in law enforcement with the Bradley County Sheriff's Office. His wife, Joan, is a member of NARFE; both have served in various areas in the Chapter.

Rollens, a native of Fredericktown, MO, began his 31-year career with the Forest Service after receiving his degree in Forestry from the University of Missouri in 1959. He served on National Forests in

Michigan, Wisconsin, Missouri, Minnesota and Wyoming before moving to Cleveland in 1982. After serving as Forest Supervisor on three National Forests, he assumed the duties as Forest Supervisor on the Cherokee National Forest retiring in 1989. Since retirement Rollens has volunteered over 20 years with Habitat for Humanity. Don also serves as the Chapter Service Officer. His wife Belinda is a member of NARFE and continues to provide support in many areas within the Chapter.

Britt is from Walnut Grove, Mississippi and began his 36 plus year career with the Forest Service after obtaining a degree in Forestry from Mississippi State. Before moving to Cleveland as Deputy Forest Supervisor Britt served in California and Georgia. In 1987 he moved to Louisiana as Forest Supervisor of Kisatchie National Forest. Shortly after retirement in 1998, he and his wife Claudene moved back to Cleveland. Since then he has been a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity. Britt has served several years as Treasurer and Secretary and is a past president of the Chapter. Claudene is a NARFE member and assists wherever she is needed within the Chapter.

These new Officers will need help this year. Please be responsive when they ask for assistance. Also, help them by attending and participating in chapter meetings.

CHRISTMAS BANQUET HAS RECORD ATTENDANCE

Thirty chapter members and their spouses enjoyed a delicious meal and outstanding fellowship as they celebrated the Christmas season. The annual banquet was held on December 8 at the Mountain View Inn. Many attendees carried away door prizes furnished by outgoing President Don Ledford and his wife Wilby. Larry Cunningham, President of the TN NARFE Federation attended as guest and officiated at the Installation of Officers ceremony. Thanks Larry for attending. The Cleveland Chapter appreciates your support. A BIG THANK YOU goes to Don for his hard work and commitment to Chapter 860 during his 2-year term as President.

UPCOMING FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting will be 12:00 noon February 9 at St Therese Catholic Church. Please note this meeting will begin at noon with a covered dish meal. After the meal Andy Hunt, Librarian of the Cleveland Public Library will be our guest speaker. Mr. Hunt will discuss the many uses that are available at the Library, how the Library uses are changing and recent improvements

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made at the Library. The chapter business meeting will conclude the February meeting.

NARFE MEMBERSHIP CONTINUES TO PLUMMET

Why is this trend continuing at a time when federal benefits are under attack like many have never seen in their careers? One would have to be living in a cave to not realize that without an active and loud voice in Washington, active federal employees and retirees are sure to see major reductions in benefits. Those members that are on the GEMS emailing list know what to do and when. Each chapter member should take advantage of these opportunities to make their opinions known to congressional representatives. The members that are not subscribed to the GEMS network, and have an email address, should consider being added to the mailing list.

Even the Cleveland Chapter is not immune to decreasing membership. Currently chapter membership stands at 47 members. That is down 5 members within the past 2 years. Dean McAlister is Membership Chair this year. He will need everyone's help to actively recruit new members. All members are encouraged to carry membership applications. Use these as contact is made with prospective members.

THANKS TO BANK OF CLEVELAND FOR PRINTING SUPPORT