



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter 860 Cleveland, Tennessee 37312 June 2011

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

NOTE TO ALL NON MEMBERS OF NARFE

If you are receiving this complimentary copy of our newsletter and you are not already a member of NARFE, a friend or neighbor has asked that you receive a copy. Please visit www.narfe.org and our local Chapter site www.narfetn.org for more information about NARFE. We welcome all retired and active federal employees. Please consider being a part of NARFE during these times that our earned benefits are being threatened.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BATTLE OF THE FEDERAL DEFICIT

The big news in NARFE continues to be how Congress and the President will agree to make major reductions in federal spending. Federal employees and retirees continue to be in the crosshairs of the budget crunchers. Even in the battle to raise or not raise the debt ceiling, federal employee/retiree benefits are being affected. In an effort to delay a default on the federal debt, the US Treasury will take action this month to make some unusual steps to prevent the default. Some of these actions will involve the "borrowing" from the Civil Service Retirement and Disability fund and the Thrift Savings Plan G fund. In the long run, these actions will not affect federal benefits, but it goes to show that the spotlight is still on federal employee/retiree benefits. Review some of the articles in the "NARFE Magazine" that relates to bills that are

now being prepared in Congress to make changes in federal benefits.

NARFE's website

www.ProtectAmericasHeartbeat.org is a major tool that gives each member an opportunity to participate in the effort to halt action that may negatively affect federal benefits. Please visit this site often and take action that you deem necessary to protect your benefits.

JUNE MEETING

The next chapter meeting will be June 9, 6:00 PM at St. Therese Catholic Church in Cleveland. As usual, our excellent cooks will be cooking up some delicious dishes for our pleasure. If you haven't attended a Chapter meeting before, set aside this night and come spend some time with other federal retirees. After the food and fellowship, Mr. Dennis Brice, representative from Goodwill Industries, will be our guest speaker. Mr. Brice will explain the mission of Good will Industries and how each of

us can be a part of this worthy community program.

TN FEDERATION CONVENTION

Well, the 2011 Convention is now history. National Secretary Elaine Hughes spoke to the nearly one hundred registered delegates. Her remarks focused on the fight NARFE is waging to protect our earned benefits. One major effort being forged by NARFE is the negativity in the media concerning federal employees, i.e., overpaid and underworked. The following comment rang true from all of the Convention speakers: WE HAVE A HUGE BATTLE ON OUR HANDS AND NEED EVERY NARFE MEMBER TO TELL THEIR FORMER AND CURRENT CO-WORKERS WHO ARE NOT PART OF NARFE TO SIGN UP AND JOIN US IN THIS FIGHT.

One proposed change to the bylaws was presented that would have made calculations of the TN Federal per capita dues by Chapter Secretaries much easier. That resolution was defeated, largely due to the failure of the delegates to understand the usefulness of the proposal. Another motion from the floor to make a change in the selection procedure for Convention Parliamentarian was also defeated.

**NARFE Chapter 860
Betsy Deacon, Editor
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The 2012 Convention will be held at the Hilton Memphis hosted by the Memphis Chapters. The 2013 site has not been selected but will be in east TN.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Our current membership stands at 48 members. Since the last report we gained two members, two failed to renew their memberships, and one was lost thru death

**THANKS TO BANK OF
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