



NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Chapter 860 Cleveland, Tennessee 37312 June 2018

**Jim Polier, President Bobbie Templeton, Vice-President Danny Britt, Secretary and Treasurer
Belinda Rollens, Sunshine Dean McAlister, Membership Chair**

STATE CONVENTION

UPDATE Dean McAlister

ALZHEIMER'S

Probably the most anticipated event of the Convention, at least for our Chapter, was the awarding of the "Weida White Tolley Memorial Annual Alzheimer's Award" awarded by the TN Federation of NARFE Chapter and the National Alzheimer's Association. This award recognizes a Chapter within the State for outstanding contributions that achieved the highest per capita giving in 2017.

However, when Joan Gates, Federation Alzheimer's Chairperson, cautiously made the announcement at the awards banquet on Monday evening that Dickson Chapter had the highest per capita giving in 2017 with a total of \$2,759.00, a gasp could be heard from convention attendees. Many expressed surprise that Cleveland did not receive the award, as well as some disappointment from our chapter attendees when it was reported that our chapter total contributions for 2017 was 2,756.00. Yes, that is right, only a \$3.00

difference. To quote Joan Gates, "this is the first time this has happened and I didn't know what to do." However, knowing we had worked so hard to achieve our contributions, she graciously presented a second-place plaque to our Chapter that reads, "OH SO CLOSE - CLEVELAND CHAPTER – 2017. In addition, we were recognized with a Certificate of Distinguished Service for our second highest contribution in the State. Dean accepted both awards on behalf of Chapter 860.

Thank you, Joan, for this recognition. What is the silver lining of this cloud-- two Chapters (Cleveland and Dickson) contributed a total of \$5,515.00 to support Alzheimer's Research. Thank you, Chapter members, for your work and contributions that made this happen. The Convention delegates know Cleveland is the Chapter that knows how to raise funds for Alzheimer's.

We received the Weida White Tolley Memorial Award in 2009, 2014, 2015 and 2016. I will tell you at the June meeting how we can win the award for 2018.

Here are some interesting numbers regarding Chapter giving to Alzheimer's in TN last year. There are 31 Chapters in the TN Federation, 17 gave to Alzheimer's and 14 did not. The total for the 17 giving Chapters was \$9,540.50. As mentioned earlier the combined giving of our Chapter and Dickson was \$5,515.00, almost 58% of all 17 giving Chapters. Our percentage of the State total was almost 28%.

REMARKS FROM NARFE EXECUTIVE

DIRECTOR

Barbara Sido attended the entire Convention. She spoke strongly about her efforts to build in our fight to overcome declining membership, increasing NARFE's perks (review them on pages 52, 63 and 64 of the April 2018 edition of the *NARFE Magazine*), and streamlining staffing and administrative functions in the National Office. She also stressed the importance of the FEDcon18 event (NARFE National Convention) in Jacksonville, FL, August 26-28. She stated it is important for NARFE members to attend. If that is not possible, she reiterated the need to monitor the meeting and keep informed of the decisions that will be made. She described this meeting as a premier event preparing us to enter into our 100th anniversary year in 2021.

MEMBERSHIP

NARFE Service-wide is beginning to reverse the downward trend of losses. This is the first sign of healthy growth of an organization. Our Federation leadership and the National Executive Board

encourages all members to strengthen their recruitment efforts. Based on informal discussions with other Chapters, we are in a much better position regarding member losses and member recruitment than many of our Federation Chapters. Don't be shy when talking to your federal retiree friends that aren't members. Be bold when telling them why they should join the "fight" with us to protect our earned benefits.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Jim Polier, Chapter President

The big headline this month is balloting. And you thought elections were about over! You will find your personal ballot located between pages 6 and 7 of the June issue of the *NARFE Magazine*. See page 6 for general instructions for voting. Please note, the deadline for returning your ballot is 11:59 pm, June 30, 2018. Refer to pages 7 and 8 for an explanation of the three Ballot questions.

Further instructions regarding the Bylaws and Resolutions are located on pages 9-11. Carefully read the instructions for these two portions of the ballot before finalizing your vote. This is the first time you have the opportunity to cast an individual vote. In the past, each Chapter voted on a particular candidate and/or bylaws change. That vote, either for or against, was carried to the National Convention by a Chapter(s) member or carried by a proxy representing the Chapter. We have 41 members and I would like to see 100% of

our membership vote in this One Member One Vote option.

How about the good news Dean brought back from the Convention regarding Alzheimer's fund-raising? I'm sorry we lost the award but two chapters raising over \$5,500.00 is great news. Thanks members, especially Elbert and Danny for your leadership that helped us reach this unprecedented amount of \$2,756.00. As we begin to gear up for 2018 you may give your contributions to our Treasurer, Danny Britt, at any chapter meeting or mail them to him at 126 McIntosh Lane, NE, Cleveland, TN 37323-4424.

Dean tells me the Federation Convention is coming to Chattanooga next year. The 2019 63rd Annual Convention will meet at the Marriott Residence Inn/ Town Place Suites on Lee Highway and Shallowford Road. The Chattanooga Chapter is hosting this Convention. They are asking us to assist with planning and implementing the Convention. We will discuss how we can help later, probably at the August picnic meeting.

Here are a couple articles that appeared in recent issues of the *NARFE* Magazine. You may want to refer back to them. I found them to be quite informative:

The April edition contains three articles that focus on taxes. They are on pages 24-25, pages 38-47 and pages 48-49. Page 46 in the May issue has a very interesting article on our new voting process. Page 56 of the June issue describes the redesigned

NARFE Website. If you are interested in how our Civil Service System compares with other countries, pages 32-38 makes for a good read.

I would be remiss if I didn't remind you to reach out to our members in situations affecting their daily life. Let's continue to support these special people.

PROGRAM FOR JUNE MEETING

David Walkup, one of our newest members, will be our speaker. David is a retired Diversion Investigator with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). He will explain how present "opiate addiction crisis" is nothing new from a historical perspective, define the terms "narcotic", "opiate", "synthetic narcotic", "diversion", "legitimate medical purpose" "normal chain of distribution" among others, sources of illegal drugs, focusing on legitimate pharmaceutical substances and other items about this interesting subject. Please do not miss David's presentation.

CHAPTER MEETS JUNE 14

Plan to attend the June 14 meeting. The time is 6:00 pm. As usual, the first item on the agenda, after the Pledge of Allegiance to our American Flag and a prayer of thanksgiving, is a covered dish meal. So, see you at 6:00 or even a few minutes early if you want to fellowship a little. The meeting location is the Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, corner of Peerless Road and Norman Chapel Road. For first time guests, use the parking lot in the rear of the church, proceed thru the double doors to the end of the long hallway and to the left into the meeting area. All visitors and

non-members, please attend as our guest and enjoy the meal and fellowship.

CHAPTER MEMBERS

“SET AT EASE” DURING THE APRIL MEETING

Lana Devaney, who serves as the Area Manager for Encompass Home Health, presented a program designed to assist individuals cope with physical and mental difficulties. These services consist of, but not limited to, nursing assistance, physical and occupational and speech therapy. Encompass is a company that offers in-home skilled clinicians. More information concerning their services is available by calling Lana Devaney at 464-4381 or email ldevaney@ehhi.com.

CONTINUE TO REACH OUT TO THESE SPECIAL MEMBERS WITH NEEDS

Members recovering from surgery: Alma Ruth Schrader, Bobbie Templeton and Lila Switzer.

Wilby Ledford continues to recover from injuries received in a freak accident last summer.

Dan Herron – we are so sorry to report that Dan passed away Sunday morning, 6/3/18. At press time for this newsletter we have no information for his service.

Charlie & Billie Aulds - Charlie is a resident at Brookdale, 1775 Mount Vernon Drive,

Cleveland. Charlie needs visits from members that worked with him at the Forest Service. Billie is a resident at Life Care.

Kathy Blocker - living with limited eyesight.

Don & Belinda Rollens – Their daughter that lives in Knoxville is doing well and is back to work. Regarding their granddaughter, Lexie, they are still waiting on the medical examiner’s report.

Anson Christian and Dean McAlister - recently lost special aunts.

Our former members - Helen Evans and Elizabeth Carlson

“HAPPY ITEMS” COLUMN GETS A BOAST

For the past several editions of the newsletter the editor (336-2330) has asked for “happy items” members are experiencing in their lives. That request has fallen on deaf ears, so the editor is tossing some items into the newsletter that have made this summer very special for two of our families. The purpose of this column is not intended to brag, except for comments concerning grandchildren. As far as the editor is concerned comments about grandchildren/great grandchildren are open season where all bragging rights are accepted. 😊

May and June have been exciting months for Ron & Celeste McCall. In May, their grandson Philip Teeuwen, graduated from Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA, with a degree in Nursing. He is now working as an RN in the ER at Roanoke Hospital, Roanoke, VA. Alecia and Andrew Teeuwen are the parents of Philip. Ron & Celeste’s daughter and son-in-law, Alecia and

Andrew Teeuwen, are returning this month to the mission field in Greece. They are finishing a 12-month furlough in the States. They will be accompanied back to Greece with Ron and Celeste's granddaughter, Alei Harvey. Alei lives in West Virginia and will be spending some time in Greece with Alecia and Andrew.

If that isn't enough, Ron and Celeste celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on May 30th, plus Ron celebrated his birthday on June 5th. The number of birthdays was not available at press time!

Bertha McAlister celebrated a birthday on May 6th and she and Dean celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary May 28th. Jenna Hosea, 13-year old granddaughter of Dean & Bertha was inducted into the National Youth Honor Society on May 16th.

See what wonderful events these families have experienced this summer?!

Your editor is still in need of Spotlight candidates. Please volunteer - your editor loves to write them.

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NARFE Chapter 860
192 Doe Run NE
Charleston, TN 37310