



A PUBLICATION  
OF THE  
TENNESSEE  
FEDERATION OF  
CHAPTERS

# TENNESSEE FEDERATION NEWS

News of Interest to Active and Retired Federal Employees

October 2008

## Federation President Frazier summarizes recent convention

My wife Barbara and I attended the 30th NARFE National Convention in Louisville, Ky. For me as a Federation President, it began on Saturday, September 6 and ended on Thursday, September 11. It was a busy week.

NARFE has 1,464 chapters and 54 federations nationwide. There were 1,245 chapters represented or 85 percent. I am happy to report that all 37 voting chapters in Tennessee were represented. We had delegates from Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Jackson, Greenville, Donelson, Cookeville and Winchester. We had proxies representing the remaining chapters.

At the convention, there are two methods of voting. One method is to raise a voting card indicating whether you are for or against. The second method is "electronic voting" using a voting machine. If possible, at future conventions, it would be good to vote on the machines to the extent possible as op-

posed to voting cards. There can be no question as to the accuracy of the vote.

I was disappointed a decision was made to do away with Honorary Membership. However, the issue can always be revisited at the National Convention in 2010. There was a proposal for NARFE to adopt single dues. The proposal was a single dues of \$40 with ten percent going to the federation and \$9 to the chapter. This required a 2/3 vote for adoption. A total of 6,164 votes were cast, but the proposal failed by some 80 votes of the 2/3 required for adoption. This issue will definitely be raised again at the convention in 2010. The delegates voted to equalize the salary of our National Treasurer and National Secretary to be \$90,979.

At the memorial part of the convention, some 16,760 were counted as deceased this past year. This is always a somber moment and the number

represents approximately 5% of our total membership.

The rest of my article will be old news when you read as the November NARFE magazine will cover the convention in great detail. Margaret Baptiste was elected as our National President; Joe Beaudoin as our National Vice President; Nat Brown as our National Secretary and Richard Ostergren as our National Treasurer. Paul Carew is our new Regional X Vice President. Paul has an extensive resume, and we look forward to working with Paul.

It is not possible to cover everything that happened in Louisville in this one article. From meeting people from all across the country, one thing is for sure: we have a lot of people dedicated to NARFE and keeping it as a viable ongoing organization.

- Carey Frazier  
Tennessee Federation President  
(615) 373-4817  
[ctfraz@comcast.net](mailto:ctfraz@comcast.net)

## Why NARFE-PAC?

Our voluntary contributions to NARFE-PAC (Political Action Committee) helps elect senators and representatives who are sympathetic to the concerns of active and retired federal employees. These funds are held in a separate account and disbursed on a bipartisan basis. Our NARFE-PAC's sole purpose is to preserve and pro-

tect the earned benefits of federal retirees as well as the benefits of active federal employees. It is therefore in our self-interest to support our NARFE-PAC. Every NARFE member is therefore encouraged to make a small contribution. This confers a greater legitimacy to our efforts. For the current 110th Session of the Congress, we

have disbursed \$5,000 to our Tennessee Representatives (Congressmen Zach Wamp, Bart Gordon, John Tanner and Lincoln Davis).

- Glenn Turner  
PAC Coordinator

### Inside this issue:

Leo Potts Award	2
Working Together	2
About NARFE	3
Membership	4
GEMS Info	5
Convention Form	6
Alzheimer's	7

## Leo Potts Award goes to Cumberland County for second year in a row

I have made visits to Crossville (Cumberland County Chapter), Cookeville (Putnam County Chapter), Donelson Area Chapter and the Clarksville Chapter for a meeting with 7th Congressional District Democratic Candidate Randy Morris. The Cumberland County Chapter in Crossville for



*President Robert Martin receives the Leo Potts Award from Tennessee Federation 3rd Vice President John Wells.*

the second year in a row is the winner of this year's Leo Potts Award, which recognizes the Tennessee chapter with the highest per capita donations to NARFE-PAC. At Cookeville I participated with Federation President Carey Frazier in the chapter meeting answering questions and offering to provide any assistance that I could. At the Donelson chapter, I participated with Federation Membership Chairman J.C Whitney in the chapter meeting, and then after the meeting worked with the chapter to get a webpage of chapter information on the federation website so members and prospective members can have access to meeting information and a point of contact with the chapter for questions.

Next spring the federation will sponsor one or more training sessions for chapter officers in need of training. The exact times and location of the training will be determined by the federation vice presidents for East, Middle and West Tennessee. Just want to alert the chapters that training will be available and more information will be forthcoming.

*-John F. Wells  
3rd Vice-President  
104 Newton Nook  
Brentwood, TN 37027-8247  
Phone: 615-331-0705  
Cell: 615-957-5585*

## We can make a difference when we work together

This will be the last report that I will make to your federation as the Region X Vice President. During the past two years, Jane and I have enjoyed attending your meetings and conventions. We have made many 'new' friends during the past two years that we will remember for years to come. Thanks so much for your hospitality and support, and I look forward to working with you when I report to headquarters on November 3.

Since I am sure that others will be reporting what happened at the national convention in Louisville, I will not make any comments about the convention in order to avoid redundancy.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all of you that the elections will be upon us before we know it, and we will end up with a new President and a new Congress. In an article that I wrote about the "Value of your NARFE membership," I cited our huge national debt and obligations.

Today, the debt is even larger due to the bailouts from failing companies. By the time that you receive this newsletter, the national debt will probably have risen from \$9,671,805,586,348 (as of 9/22/08) to over \$11 trillion. What does this number represent? If we divided the national debt by the number of citizens in this country, the average citizen would owe a little over \$26,000. Another scary thought, according to "usdeficit.com," is that the national debt has continued to increase an average of \$1.63 billion per day since September 30, 2004. The reason that I mention this (again) is that we need to make sure that our mem-

bers are aware of the increasing national debt/obligations and that the new 111th Congress (including the new President) will, undoubtedly, attempt to find ways that they can reduce the national debt/obligations.

We (federal retirees and even federal employees) will probably be in their "gun sight." We will all have to be vigilant next year (2009) to keep what we have. This is the time for members to renew their membership. We need to increase our membership so that our 'voice' on Capitol Hill will be heard. Chapters need to cultivate better relationships with their congressmen and the congressmen's staff. You have heard this before, but with our huge deficit due to Iraq, Afghanistan, Katrina, Ike, Wall Street failures, etc., our country has not been in this type of situation for many years, and it might get worst before it gets better.

We need to be strong and work together to protect our annuities and/or benefits. This is not the time to aggressively push for the repeal of GPO/WEP (although we need to keep these items on the burner so that Congress will know that we are still pushing for them). Premium Conversion will probably also go on the 'back burner' for the time being until our economy recovers. I hate being the bearer of bad news; however, I do believe that our members need to face this reality and to maintain their membership, recruit new members, persuade members thinking of dropping their membership to stay the course, and keep their membership current. Meet with your congressmen as often as possible to be ready to respond immediately to any call from our legislative staff about adverse potential legislation. Remember that: "Working together, we can make a difference." God bless all of you!

*- Joseph A Beaudoin  
Region X Vice President*

## Bauer describes recent meetings with politicians

This past August was "Meet Your Candidates" month. This is the time Congress is out of session and the candidates are in their home states and districts. A meeting was held with Jim Cooper of the 5th Congressional District. We had NARFE members present from Nashville, Donelson, Murfreesboro, Dickson and Clarksville chapters. We want to thank Valie Brooks for organizing the meeting. Another meeting was held with Randy Morris who is running against Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn of the 7th Congressional District. We had NARFE members present from the Nashville and Clarksville chapters. We wish to thank Bob Grau of the Clarksville chapter for organizing this event.

The 30th NARFE Biennial National Convention was held September 7-12, 2008, in Louisville, Ky. Delegates approved NARFE's Legislative Program for the 111th Congress (2009-2010), which reaffirms the association's commitment to pre-

serving the earned economic and health security of federal annuitants and workers and support for legislation, which would allow federal civilian and military retirees to pay for their share of health insurance premiums with pre-tax dollars and legislation which would repeal or reform the unfair and arbitrary Social Security Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP).

The Legislative Program includes two new planks: (1) NARFE formally supports legislation allowing federal retirement system employees to credit their unused sick leave towards retirement, and (2) NARFE supports legislation to provide that dependents of federal employees and retirees remain covered by the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHP) until age 25.

- Matt Bauer  
Federation Legislative Chairperson

## No dues increase at national level

Prior to the National Convention, there were several bylaws submitted to change the current dues structure to a one-dues system. The intent was to have a one-dues system that would include national as well as chapter dues and would be the same for all members. The majority of our members now pay \$29 national and \$10 chapter dues, but some are \$5 or less to \$15 or more. Chapters set their own dues based on their needs and wishes of their members.

The thought of a one-dues system is a great idea, and probably needed for simplicity, but there has to be a happy medium that will not harm our current chapter status. The bylaws that were submitted were pretty much in agreement in the amount of \$39, which included \$10 for the chapter. The bylaws committee bundled these bylaws together and came up with a single bylaws change and recommended it for adoption.

The new resolution was for NARFE dues of \$40 with \$9 of that going to the chapter. Members now paying \$39 would see an increase of \$1, the national would receive an additional \$2 and the chapter would receive \$1 less. Although the bylaws change did receive a majority vote, it did not receive the required two-thirds majority to pass. Therefore, there will be no dues increase, at the national level, for the next two years. As one can see, it is very important to have someone carry your chapter votes to all conventions.

Remember, as seniors, we must enjoy our retirement. Exercise to the extent possible and get out and go as much as you can. Get off the couch. Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas!

- Larry Cunningham  
Federation 2nd Vice President  
10117 Arnold Ln.  
Mascot, TN 37806-1525  
larrycunningham@narfetn.org  
(865) 933-0229



## About NARFE

NARFE's mission has remained the same since 1921, to protect and improve the retirement benefits of federal retirees, employees and their families.

Our current legislative agenda focuses on enacting bills to:

- Extend the Premium Conversion rights that federal and postal employees have to federal annuitants, so that retirees too can pay their Federal Employee Health Benefits premiums with pre-tax dollars and save an average \$400 each year; and,
- Repeal the Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), two provisions which can substantially reduce the expected retirement income of retired federal workers.

People who join NARFE know the most effective means of change starts from within. Each NARFE member's voice and support carries twice its strength in making a difference on Capitol Hill.

People who join NARFE know the only way to make change is to pursue what is right and just so that the only result is the outcome they seek. People who join NARFE know legitimate legislative change involves time, money, dedication and the constant pursuit of what is right and just. It is with this in mind that NARFE has helped change the future for the federal community.

## Member Discounts

Membership in NARFE is not without privileges of its own. Earn back your membership dues with valuable savings on auto, long-term care, dental, life, FEHBP and Medicare Supplemental Insurance, and more! From car rentals, to moving services, hotels, and travel offers, get the most for your money through trusted names you'll recognize. For more information on the advantages of NARFE membership, log on to [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).

## Chapters are making great effort to bring back former members

Greetings from Clarksville, Tenn. I have just recently been appointed Tennessee Federation Membership Chair, and I already must pass on some bad news. We are losing a TON of folks from our NARFE Membership! In April 2006 we had approximately 5,376 members throughout the state. As of August 2008, we have a total of 4,503 members! Folks, this is not good. We are losing way more members than we are gaining, and it will take everyone within their respective chapters to try and stop this decline of members. We have to put emphasis on retention; let's try, at least, to keep the members currently assigned.

All of us should be thinking Membership, Membership, Membership and Retention. I realize that some folks will drop out because of death, sickness, nursing home, etc., but what we DO NOT want to happen is for members to drop out because of lack of interest, boring meetings, no activities, bad place to meet, etc. Some things we cannot control, but the latter things we can control by listening to the members that are dropping out. Why are they dropping out? It's up to the membership chairs and all other members to find this out and try to bring them back into NARFE.

NARFE Headquarters has provided us with two files of names from April 2006 thru April 2007 and from April 2007 thru April 2008 of the members that have been dropped from the roles for the entire state of Tennessee totaling 728 members. We also have the totals from the M-112's for May, June, July, and August of the dropped members and these total 145 dropped members. So you see folks, we are attempting to bring back a total of 873 dropped members here in Tennessee. If we could accomplish just a portion of this, we would be making progress.

On 1 July, letters were sent to the chapter presidents and membership chairs of all 39 chapters asking them to try and contact the lapsed members to see if they would reconsider and re-join NARFE (we supplied a listing of their respective dropped members). We realized this would be an enormous undertaking, but the chapters really stepped up and contacts were made to the various lapsed members if they were in fact still available.

Carey Frazier, Tennessee Federation President, and I have been following up on this endeavor by visiting the largest chapters to see how they have been doing on contacting these members. I would like to mention at this point that we were very warmly received and all the chapters we visited welcomed us, and we were really impressed as to how much work they had already done. So far we have visited 11 chapters and will be visiting more very shortly.

I would like to take just a moment to thank each and every one of them for all the work that they put into this effort. The folks we visited were:

(1) Chapter 227, Nashville: Bruce Thomas and Nancy Wells. They had a bunch of folks that had been dropped and letters had been sent out to the majority of the dropped members.

(2) Chapter 108, Chattanooga: Elmer Gillespie. Elmer actually invited us to meet him at his home, and he and his lovely wife served us lunch while we discussed NARFE business. It doesn't get much better than that! Elmer has sent out

letters to most of the lapsed members.

(3) Chapter 324, Johnson City: Max Coats and Sally Hughes. We all met at Shoney's and Max and Sally are doing a terrific job. They had contacted most of their lapsed members and about all we could add was a little moral support. They really had a handle on what it takes to retain and recruit members (i.e., following up on the second notices).

(4) Chapter 1576, Donelson: Oscar Krosnes, Steve Dobbs, and John Cushenberry. I attended their regular monthly meeting and later we discussed the dropped members. New Membership Chair John Cushenberry seemed very eager to get involved in membership activities. He and Secretary Steve Dobbs are both computer literate so this is a very valuable asset to that chapter.

(5) Chapter 1845, Elizabethton: Abe Hart has sent out letters to everyone that had been dropped from his chapter. This chapter didn't have that many lapsed members and maybe some of them will come back into NARFE.

(6) Chapter 727, Dickson: Charlie Hooper, Judith Perez, Emma Hall, and Gail Jones. Gail Jones is the newly appointed membership chair, and I was really impressed with her enthusiasm and eagerness to delve into the membership effort. Gail is doing a terrific job and this can only lead to good results for the chapter.

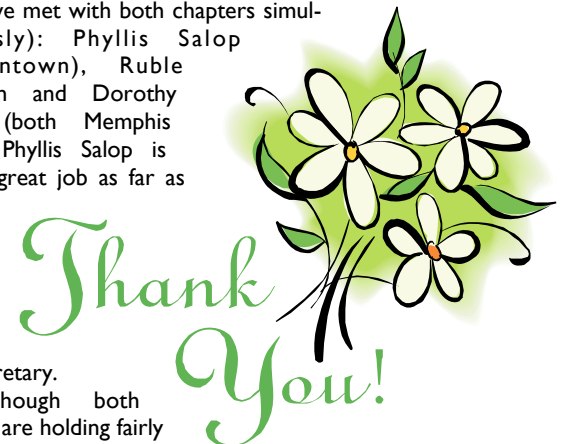
(7) Chapter 519, Jackson: Joyce Knott, Mildred Beard, and John and Jane Shannon. Joyce has a good handle on tracking membership and most of the discussion was about the up and coming Convention for 2009 in Jackson.

(8) Chapter 78, Memphis: Vera McClain, Cora Bell, Georgia Oliver, Raymond Hooks, and Bonnie Bridgeforth. We all met at the home of Georgia Oliver and this was set up by Vera McClain. We had a very productive meeting, and I believe we will see some good changes coming up in this Memphis chapter. I will be assisting them on having access to the NARFE reports via the internet and this should solve some of their problems. Just prior to departing Georgia's home, Bonnie Bridgeforth blessed us all with a prayer wishing me and Carey safe travels and returning home safely. We were both quite touched and pleased by this to say the least.

(9) Chapter 1968 and 1733, Germantown and Memphis Postal (we met with both chapters simultaneously): Phyllis Salop

(Germantown), Ruble Anderson and Dorothy Rollins (both Memphis Postal). Phyllis Salop is doing a great job as far as

membership goes, even though she is the Secretary. Even though both chapters are holding fairly



(Continued Page 5)

## Great effort (continued)

constant on total membership, they are having low turnout for meetings. They are fairly close in proximity to each other, so Carey suggested they try a joint meeting to attempt to increase the number of members attending the meetings.

(10) Chapter 1382, Millington: Julia Metcalfe, Juanita Beckett, Donald E Smith and Donald K Smith with his lovely wife Evelyn. Juanita Beckett is the membership chair and she is doing an excellent job. She has contacted all the folks on the listing of lapsed members and follows up on each and every second notice that comes out on the M-112. She and Julia are doing an outstanding job of keeping that chapter "up and running." We swapped quite a few ideas, and I picked up a few pointers from them as to membership.

(11) Chapter 57, Ripley (Three Rivers): Walter Wheatley, Tom Callery, and Robert Lewis Hughes. These folks are having a very hard time getting anyone to attend meetings. Carey and I will be working with them in the days to come to see what can be done about this situation.

As I said, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but we've got to get a grip on this declining membership. With everyone's effort, maybe we can turn it around and increase our numbers. Keep in mind, larger numbers of NARFE members mean more CLOUT in Congress.

- J.C. Whitney  
Tennessee Federation Membership Chair

---

## Financial secretary news

All expense vouchers should be mailed to Glenda Huff, 415 Mtn. View Drive, Seymour TN 37786. However, legislative should be mailed to Matt Bauer for approval first, then he submits to Glenda Huff.

After all math is verified (and we all make mistakes), vouchers are then sent to President Carey Frazier, who authorizes the expense, and then he sends to Marie Anglin, Treasurer, who will then mail you a check. This way our audit committee never has a doubt that your federation funds are spend appropriately to advance the issues of NARFE.

All secretary/treasurers and treasurers will be receiving the per capital dues form in November. Your membership will based on information obtained from the October M-114. You may make any adjustments you need to by filling in the appropriate blanks on the form. It is very important that if you are no longer the officer, you should give this form to the new secretary/treasurer or treasurer. As our officer roster changes sometimes, the appropriate forms are not submitted to national and the old officer will receive the form.

When I do not get the per capital dues back in by the deadline, it is a lot of work to track down the current officer, so please cooperate by updating your officer list with national. Your help is appreciated.

- Glenda Huff  
Federation Financial Secretary

## Important information about GEMS

NARFE members are just like the general population when it comes to the use of computers and email. If you are one of the growing number of individuals who are now using email, then by all means, be sure to sign up to receive important news through the NARFE Global Electronic Messaging System (GEMS). By doing so



you will receive timely and valuable news in your email box on current legislative actions, cost-of-living adjustments, insurance benefits and much more that you as a NARFE member need. It is also important to note that your Tennessee federation is using the same list of email addresses to send out news and important information from your federation board so it is imperative that your email address be listed on your member records at the national website.

There are over 4,000 NARFE members in Tennessee. Of course not everyone uses email, but we feel there are more than 700 who have included email addresses as part of their member records. Also some of these addresses are outdated and as a result of these two facts, we are not reaching as many of our members as we could. Help us by keeping your email address listed correctly. So here is what we are urging you to do: if you have an email address and it is not listed as part of your member records, or if you have changed your address lately or if you are not sure one way or another, follow the steps outlined below to check, add or update your email address.

The NARFE national website is currently being redesigned with a new look and with changes to make it easier to find what you are looking for. The updated website is scheduled to be available in November. With that in mind, the new steps to follow in order to update your member record are:

1. Go to NARFE headquarters website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org). From the home page, navigate to the members home page (tab under web banner).
2. Next, go to *What You Can Do Online*, in the left panel.
3. Click on *Update Your Record* or *Join GEMS*.
4. On the next page, enter your member ID number and select your date of birth using the drop down lists.
5. This will take you to a page where you can enter or change your email address. Note, you can also update your mailing address and/or phone number as well.
6. Next click UPDATE and you are done.

If you need help with this or any other related issue, just send me a message or call me, and I will be glad to assist.

- Ronnie Collins  
Network Coordinator  
615-735-2486  
[ronniecollins@narfetn.org](mailto:ronniecollins@narfetn.org)

Tennessee Federation of Chapters  
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

2009 Convention Registration Form  
53rd Federation Convention  
Hosted by Jackson Chapter 519  
Jackson, Tennessee  
April 20-21, 2009

Please Print or type all information

Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Name \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID# \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ONE: [Delegate] [Alternate] [Federation Off.] [Nat. Off.] [Past Federation President] [Guest] [Member]  
Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ ID# if NARFE Member \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ONE: [Delegate] [Alternate] [Federation Off.] [Nat. Off.] [Past Federation President] [Guest] [Member]

CONVENTION FEE OPTIONS [Select for yourself and spouse]:

- FULL REGISTRATION FEE: \$45.00 (Incl. Registration and Banquet)  
 CONFERENCE ONLY \$20.00  
 BANQUET ONLY \$25.00  
 LATE FEE \$5.00 (After March 20, 2009) TOTAL enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Registration forms must be submitted by March 20, 2009 (Late or on-site registration extra \$5)

Make checks payable to: NARFE  
 Mail to: Ruth Atnipp, 65 Siesta Dr., Jackson, TN 38305  
 For additional information, contact Joyce Knott, Con-  
 vention Chair at 731-427-2485 or Margaret Ballard, President  
 at 731-422-3744

Holiday Inn  
 541 Carriage House Dr.  
 Jackson, TN 38305  
 Phone: 731-668-6000

Your reservation is to be made by phone or online, no  
 reservations by mail. Online at [www.holiday-inn.com/  
 jacksontn](http://www.holiday-inn.com/jacksontn)  
 \$103.00 per night tax included.  
 Hotel Reservations Must Be Made By April 1, 2009 –  
 Late Reservations Subject To Availability

Contact the Hotel directly by phone for reservations,  
 you may call 731-668-6000 and Indicate that you're  
 with, "NARFE State Convention". For Online reserva-  
 tions go to [www.holiday-inn.com/jacksontn](http://www.holiday-inn.com/jacksontn) Be sure to  
 advise that you are with NARFE State Convention.

#### Directions

I-40 West from Nashville, Exit 80A (Hwy 45 Bypass).  
 Immediately get in far left lane and turn left at light  
 onto Carriage House Drive to Holiday Inn.

I-40 East from Memphis, Exit 80A (Hwy 45 Bypass).  
 Immediately get in far left lane and turn left at light  
 onto Carriage House Drive to Holiday Inn.

## 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's

**1. Memory loss.** Forgetting recently learned information is one of the most common early signs of dementia. A person begins to forget more often and is unable to recall the information later.

What's normal? Forgetting names or appointments occasionally.

**2. Difficulty performing familiar tasks.** People with dementia often find it hard to plan or complete everyday tasks. Individuals may lose track of the steps involved in preparing a meal, placing a telephone call or playing a game.

What's normal? Occasionally forgetting why you came into a room or what you planned to say.

**3. Problems with language.** People with Alzheimer's disease often forget simple words or substitute unusual words, making their speech or writing hard to understand. They may be unable to find the toothbrush, for example, and instead ask for "that thing for my mouth."

What's normal? Sometimes having trouble finding the right word.

**4. Disorientation to time and place.** People with Alzheimer's disease can become lost in their own neighborhood, forget where they are and how they got there, and not know how to get back home.

What's normal? Forgetting the day of the week or where you were going.

**5. Poor or decreased judgment.** Those with Alzheimer's may dress inappropriately, wearing several layers on a warm day or little clothing in the cold. They may show poor

judgment, like giving away large sums of money to telemarketers.

What's normal? Making a questionable or debatable decision from time to time.

**6. Problems with abstract thinking.** Someone with Alzheimer's disease may have unusual difficulty performing complex mental tasks, like forgetting what numbers are for and how they should be used.

What's normal? Finding it challenging to balance a checkbook.

**7. Misplacing things.** A person with Alzheimer's disease may put things in unusual places: an iron in the freezer or a wristwatch in the sugar bowl.

What's normal? Misplacing keys or a wallet temporarily.

**8. Changes in mood or behavior.** Someone with Alzheimer's disease may show rapid mood swings – from calm to tears to anger – for no apparent reason.

What's normal? Occasionally feeling sad or moody.

**9. Changes in personality.** The personalities of people with dementia can change dramatically. They may become extremely confused, suspicious, fearful or dependent on a family member.

What's normal? People's personalities do change somewhat with age.

**10. Loss of initiative.** A person with Alzheimer's disease may become very passive, sitting in front of the TV for hours, sleeping more than usual or not wanting to do usual activities.

What's normal? Sometimes feeling weary of work or social obligations.

## Fivecoat continues to work for all NARFE members

NARFE membership continues to be at the center of all issues regarding your federation and as officers we are committed to doing just that. NARFE is among the few organizations that is committed to and run from the membership up versus those other organizations that we have or belong to that are run from the top down. Your Tennessee Federation Board is committed to doing just that. Each and every one of us was elected and installed to be your representative, your voice on the board, and I as your Federation secretary will continue to work with each of you as the need arises. I have been and will be your voice where circumstances do not allow for individual participation.

NARFE has just completed its bi-annual national convention in Kentucky. There were many resolutions presented and several were passed that will not only affect each of us members but also how our chapters and state federations will function in the future. Each member will receive information via the NARFE magazine in future issues.

Now is the time to begin thinking about our own annual state convention. I will shortly begin mailing out alert letters to chapter presidents so that discussions can begin at the chapter level about participation in this event. I would like to urge each member to participate. This year's convention will be held in Jackson, Tenn., and the Jackson chapter, along with Chairman Joyce Knott and Chapter 519 President Margaret Ballard, have been working on making this the best conven-

tion to date. This activity started with the end of our last convention. Jackson chapter and your state federation need your support to make this a memorable event for all but more importantly this is the one time where you as individual members and collective chapter units can have a voice.

Chapters need to begin discussions on resolutions to be presented at the convention. Chapters also need to be aware of deadlines for submitting resolutions which is why discussions should begin now at the chapter level. Items to be considered range from the amount of per capita dues paid to the federation to continuance of annual conventions. Any item that a member via chapter channels views as important to bring before the federation for a vote. When a chapter finalizes its resolutions please forward them via postal mail to my home address.

The last issue chapters need to be working on from this point forward is delegate designations. I will mail delegate forms by the end of the year but discussions can and should begin now on attending and what committee delegates and members would like to participate in. This is your chance to be an active, loud, positive contributor to your organization and to the federation. Plan to attend now.

- Vivian Fivecoat  
Tennessee Federation Secretary

We're on the web!  
www.narfetn.org

Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees

## Tolley memorialized with Alzheimer's trophy name

Fall of the year is the time to enjoy the beauty of nature and prepare for the future.

The 2009 Federation Convention is rapidly approaching. Convention Chair Joyce Knott and her crew are working to have the best convention ever in Jackson on April 20-21, 2009. Please plan to attend. Those living within the area may consider taking part of the Monday meetings and banquet and return Tuesday for the business meeting.

The Alzheimer's Association has announced as of August 31, 2008, the NARFE total is \$7,611,207.03. NARFE has raised \$20,928.06 for the month of August. Our goal is \$9 million by 2010.

At the upcoming Federation Convention in April, a newly established trophy to honor Weida White Tolley's many years of dedicated service, will be awarded. The Weida White Tolley Alzheimer's Trophy will be awarded the Tennessee chapter with the largest per-capita donation to the Alzheimer's Association.

At the National Convention in Louisville, Ky., the West Virginia Federation was awarded the honor of the highest per-capita donation, with only \$12 per-capita donation.

If we all work together by 2010, the Tennessee Federation may win the award.

- John P. Shannon  
1st Vice-President  
Tennessee Federation of Chapters  
430 Corinth Rd  
Darden, TN 38328-8648  
731-845-5565

### Alzheimer's Facts & Figures

- As many as 5.2 million people in the United States are living with Alzheimer's.
- 10 million baby boomers will develop Alzheimer's in their lifetime.
- Every 71 seconds, someone develops Alzheimer's.
- Alzheimer's is the sixth-leading cause of death.
- The direct and indirect costs of Alzheimer's and other dementias to Medicare, Medicaid and businesses amount to more than \$148 billion each year.

### TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS, NARFE

Max Coats, Editor  
1419 Enterprise Road  
Piney Flats, TN 37686  
(423) 538-9220

