

ISSUE

74

February 2024



NEWS FOR
ACTIVE & RETIRED
FEDERAL CIVILIAN
EMPLOYEES

Mission: To improve and protect the benefits of federal retirees, employees, and their families.

Tennessee Federation Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

President Pages 1 & 2

Secretary Page 3

Treasurer Report . . . Page 4

Membership Page 5

Annual Mtg. Input . . .Page 5

Region X Pages 6 & 7

Alzheimer's Update
Pages 8 & 9

Memory Activity . . . Page 9

NARFE-PAC Page 10

Calendar Page 10

Chapter NewsPages 11
& 12

HELP NEEDED. . . . Page 13

Annual Mtg Announce.
Page 14

Registration Form
Page 15

Articles and photos for
July 2024 newsletter
DUE: June 3 to
Newsletter Editor.

President's Message



B. J. Godwin

Greetings, we are in 2024!

Best wishes to you in this New Year 2024 and Beyond!

IN MEMORIAM

We give thanks for those who made the transition, the contributions they made, and we are grateful that their legacy and lineage continue.

I challenge you to be leaders who will be able to be a positive force in the decisions made from the issues we will have to address, the voices we will have to lift, and the battles we will have to fight internally and externally.

During major floods, only the topmost branches of submerged trees may be visible above the water. If you were asked to imagine what the branches looked like below the surface of the water, based solely on the positions of the exposed tips, you would be attempting a reconstruction somewhat like the "family tree" by which taxonomists link various organisms according to their common ancestors (analogous to branching points). What sources of error do both exercises share?

"The farther back you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see" ...Winston Churchill. That might have had some merit back in that day, but not today. In today's world perception one might see Alice in Wonderland submerged or the Wizard of Oz.

You can give the same speech at the same time to a group of ten and they would all come away with a different message interpretation. That is because each person had a preconceived opinion.

NARFE has been through a lot in the last few years. This includes the loss of members due to attrition as well as the movement to the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), which has replaced Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS). With this trend NARFE will be irrelevant in less than fifteen years unless we work together.

... (Continued Page 2.) **President's Message**

Tennessee Federation
Board & Officers

President

Billy J. (BJ) Godwin
111 Cherokee Drive
Jackson, TN 38301-3558
731-425-9348
bjgodwin2001@yahoo.com

Vice Presidents

(West, Middle, East)
Vacant

Treasurer

Norris Alderson
1444 Bernard Way
Franklin, TN 37067
nalderson@narfetn.org

Secretary

Karen Kopp-Voshel
11630 Gracey Herndon Road
Herndon, KY 42236
270-305-2348 (cell)
kykopp@apex.net

Past President

A. Wayne Baker
(resigned)

Membership Chair

Rhonda Mooney
351 US Hwy 45 W
Humboldt, TN 38343-8506
rhondamooney39@gmail.com

Network Coordinator

Vacant

Newsletter Editor

Linda Heaton
11526 Fincastle Lane
Knoxville, TN 37934-3961
859-221-8057 cell
Lmheaton83@gmail.com

... (Continued from Page 1.) **President's Message**

Many Federation chapters want to contact the National-only members in their area to invite them to participate in various chapter activities. The National Executive Board (NEB) has been involved recently in trying to clarify policies and make some changes to the current situation which has been a "hands-off/no contact" policy.

The NARFE membership statistics according to the November 2023 Membership report: Total 135,632. The breakdown by category: National-only members 73,557; Chapter members 62,075.

The National-only membership has continued to grow since its inception. I believe it is because the Zoom technology caught Chapter members off guard, especially during the pandemic.

While recently shopping in the diary produce area, there was a section dedicated to "cage free" eggs. I remembered way back in the day when the chickens in our yard roamed free. Can you imagine being cooped up in a cage with a monthly **NARFE Magazine** as your source of information?

LEADERSHIP

The National Executive Board (NEB) is comprised of twelve (12) elected members, including the National President, National Secretary/Treasurer, and one Regional Vice President (RVP) representing each of NARFE's 10 regions. In addition is the NARFE Executive Team who manages staff and departments at NARFE National Headquarters. This includes Chief-of-Staff Johann De Castro and Staff Vice President of Policy and Programs John Hatton. All, to the best of my knowledge, was hired to reverse NARFE's downward trend.

Effective November 6, 2023, Maria Nicole Blackstone (goes by Nicole) was installed as the new NARFE Federal Benefits Institute Program Manager. Before you start thinking about gathering, for movie night out or group trip things that you deserve for your years of service both active and retirement, you need share your idea concerning the need for such activities. But get ready to catch up on webinars. Webinars about Grassroots Advocacy and Estate Planning.

To the best of my knowledge the purpose of a CEO is to reduce the size of a company and increase the profit of the shareholders.

NARFE chapters are where we should engage beginning at the local level all the way to the White House. We have the votes while lobbyists have the purse. If we don't know which legislators they are lobbying, how will we know who to consider voting for.

The American Democracy is in jeopardy and if we don't hold our legislators accountable for their action we are failing our future generation.

Be sure to read about and see pictures of the Promotional Banners installed at Headquarters in the January/February issue of the **NARFE Magazine**, page 44.

~ ~ B. J. Godwin
President

Timely Words

From Federation Secretary

The start of a new year, another opportunity for great things in NARFE! As a reminder, please update your officers in the NARFE national database. We have many chapters who have vacancies in key leadership positions (President, Secretary, Treasurer). If an officer leaves for some reason, the others should step up to fill the void and help find a replacement. **Chapter Members**, this is your chance to step up your involvement! If you have any questions or need help, please contact me.



Karen Kopp-Voshel

Alas, we have had many chapter closings in the last few years. Some with many members. It is very sad to see these chapters disband as they go back to the early 1950s. So over 70 years of legacy lost. While our membership is often retired federal employees, many are still capable of a great deal of service. If you as a member are not willing to serve, you are letting NARFE continue to decline.

The only Federation officer nomination received by the January 2 deadline was Linda Heaton who is willing to relieve B. J. Godwin as Federation President. Since no other nominations were received, all other current Federation Board members are willing to continue to serve. However, some of these individuals have expressed the desire to step away to pursue other activities and for new leaders to come forward. Plus, **there are many appointed Board positions that have been vacant for years. Please consider stepping up. Serving allows you to meet new people, learn new skills, and contribute to the success of NARFE. And we also try to have fun!!**

Currently, the offices of President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Chair, and Newsletter Editor (Linda is serving but would gladly give this position to someone else) are all filled. Vacant positions are all three area (East, Middle, West TN) **Vice Presidents, Legislative Chair, Network Coordinator, Alzheimer's Chair, NARFE-PAC Chair, Service Officer, State Legislative Officer, and Public Relations Officer.** Many members have held these positions in the past and can help you, not to mention there are great resources on the TN website and from National Headquarters. Please contact any Federation officer or Board member if you are interested in serving.

National has advised us our Federation By-Laws are not in conformance with the National requirements. If you are interested in helping with this endeavor, please contact any Federation Board member.

Planning for the **TN Federation Annual Meeting** in April is in high gear. In the absence of any Federation chapter willing to host, your Federation Board is picking up the reins again this year! **DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED** due to extenuating circumstances. The new date is: **April 28 – May 1, 2024.** The **Announcement** and **Registration Form** can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please consider joining us in Lebanon, TN again this year! Look for more information and details as they are confirmed on the Tennessee (TN) Federation Community of NARFE's **FEDHub**, and our TN website (<http://www.narfetn.org>).

As always, please check out **FEDHub** at fedhub.narfe.org. This is a great discussion platform for NARFE members. We even have our own "TN Federation" Community and ALL members (chapter and National-only members) are on this Community (if you are a NARFE member and live in the state of Tennessee; persons living outside the state must JOIN the Community to be a part of it). Messages on the Communities you follow are "pushed" out as e-mails if you select those settings (versus you having to periodically log in to catch up). You can explore existing or create new Communities (subject to National's approval) or discussion threads (on the TN Federation section). **FEDHub** is a great way for active and retired federal employees to connect to share advice, solve challenges, and develop new approaches.

~~ Karen Kopp-Voshel
Secretary

Tennessee Federation NARFE 2023 Annual Report

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023



Norris Alderson

BEGINNING BALANCE	Checking Account	1/1/2023	\$ 24,094.83
REVENUES:	National Dues Rebate (10% fund)		\$ 7,121.61
	Chapter 2133 Closing		561.48
	Annual Meeting Registration		190.00
	Annual Meeting Sponsors		700.00
	Chapter 2009 Closing		2,357.52
	Chapter 152 Closing		1,337.59
	Total Revenue		\$ 12,268.20
LESS EXPENSES:	Vouchers—Officers Expenses		\$ 6,200.03
	Newsletter		1,460.67
	Liability Insurance		100.00
	Closing Chapter 2133		36.09
	Annual Meeting		1,893.42
	Region X Conference		50.00
	Chapter 2009 Closing		2,357.52
	Total Disbursed		\$ 12,097.73
12/31/2023	BALANCE		\$ 24,265.30
	Truist Bank Balance 12/31/2023		\$ 24,265.30
	Truist Bank Money Market		\$ 10,043.28
	Truist Bank CDs		15,751.06
	TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 50,059.64

~~ Norris Alderson
Treasurer

Membership Report



Rhonda Mooney

I hope everyone is having a good 2024! I have some good news to share regarding our NARFE membership numbers. For the first time in a long time, we saw months where our total membership numbers increased. At the end of September our total membership was 135,201; by the end of October that number had increased to 135,504.

In November the increase continued and as of the end of November we had 135,632 total members. I have been tracking membership numbers for many years, and this is the first time I can remember seeing net gains in consecutive months! I realize those are not huge gains, but they are gains none the less. We had been seeing our numbers decrease month-after-month, so this is a welcome change, and I am encouraged by it.

Unfortunately, our numbers dipped in December 2023 as we closed out the year with a total membership of 135,140. Folks usually have a lot going on in December so hopefully some of those who might have tossed their membership application aside, or those who forgot to send in their renewal will get it done in January! As we all know, the larger our number of members, the louder our voice will be heard on Capitol Hill -- so I am hopeful we will see our numbers climb and our voice get louder!

We can, and should, all play a part in helping NARFE grow and become stronger by recruiting new members. If you know someone who is a current or retired federal employee or spouse of a current or retired federal employee, please introduce them to NARFE. Tell them what you find the most valuable in your NARFE membership, invite them to a meeting, give them a NARFE application brochure--the application brochure provides information about what NARFE is and what NARFE does.

Please make plans to attend our 2024 **Tennessee Federation Annual Meeting**. It will be held **April 29th through May 1st** at the Ramada Inn in Lebanon TN. The meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. CT on Monday and conclude by noon on Wednesday. We had a good meeting last year and are hoping this year will be even bigger and better. You will find additional information, including the **Registration Form** and an **Announcement Flyer**, at the end of this newsletter. It's always fun to visit with our NARFE friends and receive a lot of good information from speakers and from each other. I look forward to seeing a lot of you at the meeting!

~ ~ Rhonda Mooney
Membership Chairperson

Last Minute Annual Meeting Input

If you would like to have input to the 2024 Federation Annual Meeting, now is your chance! However, we must have it immediately!

Under consideration is expanding the meeting to a full day and two half days. This allows time to add a Memorial Service, Alzheimer's Silent Auction fundraiser, and more speakers of interest to ALL members.

Another change to be considered is meals--a sponsored catered lunch (No extra charge to you!). We hope to have another evening meal (pay-on-your-own) at a local restaurant. We also hope to have a sponsor for the drinks and snacks once again. Other thoughts or ideas?

PLEASE provide feedback to any Federation Board member as our goal is to make the meeting enjoyable and beneficial for TN Federation chapters and ALL members. Our e-mail addresses and phone numbers are on Page 2 in this newsletter and on the TN NARFE website (<http://www.narfetn.org>).



Robert Allen

Region X Update

My fellow NARFE members in the great state of Tennessee, I trust you all had a happy and safe 2023 holiday season! It's now time to turn our attention to 2024 and the opportunities and challenges we face. We have a lot going on in Region X and NARFE in general that I want you to know about.

It might be a good idea before we launch into 2024 to look back at 2023. We successfully got over 300 members of the House of Representatives to sign on as co-sponsors of HR 82, which would eliminate/repeal the dreaded WEP/GPO. We have about 50 co-sponsors in the Senate.

Another accomplishment (small as it is), we saw a slowdown in our downward membership numbers. In the last quarter of the year, we actually increased our membership by a few hundred. Of course, we're still on pace to lose about 9-10k for the whole year, but the trend seems to be slowing. We also set new policies for Federation and Chapter relations with our National-only members. Federations are responsible for the support to our National-only members. Chapters are urged to notify National-only members through their Federations to announce special Chapter events, such as hosting congressional speakers at Chapter meetings or having a holiday event to which National-only members in that area might be invited to attend.

The National Executive Board (NEB) is also developing a communications/database access policy. This new policy will identify who in the Federation and Chapters can have access to and communicate with their members. For Federations we'll be looking to have the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Legislative Chair, and Membership Chair gain access to both Chapter and National-only members. For chapters, the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Legislative Chair, Membership Chair, and Newsletter Editor will have access to their Chapter members.

The NEB is also looking to create a national database of member skills and activities. This is an outgrowth of the activities database we set up for Region X at our regional conference in September. I'll keep you posted on how this all pans out.

We've approved a process to close/merge Federations. We've had a process in place for years on how to close Chapters, but never had any such policy for Federations. It has come to the point that some Federations have had to think about closing or merging with another Federation and therefore the NEB had to establish a policy. It's sad that we must even be thinking about this. Fortunately, our five Federations in Region X are strong, but we can't be complacent. I urge you all in Tennessee to think about stepping up to a leadership position in the Federation if and when such openings come up. **We need you!**

These are just some of the things we've done in 2023, so now let's look at the opportunities we have for 2024. I mentioned challenges at the beginning, but challenges really are just opportunities by another name.

Let's push the WEP/GPO repeal across the finish line! Contact your Congressional Representatives and Senators to sign on as co-sponsors if they haven't already and urge the House and Senate Leadership to get WEP/GPO up for a full vote. Let's not waste the great opportunity we have this year!

Let's keep working on our membership. We saw a modest slowdown in 2023, so let's get to work in 2024! Keep recruiting new members, wherever you go and whatever you do. If every one of us recruited just one member, we'd double our membership! There's a push by the Federation Presidents to have us recruit 20,000 new members each year for five years. This is a daunting task, but if we recruit just one member, we can achieve that goal and more!

. . . (Continued on Page 7.) **Region X Update**

Also, let's work on retention. Work hard to keep your Chapter members as members. **Strongly** encourage them go on "dues withholding"; that's the best way for folks--especially retirees--not to let their membership lapse!

And, speaking of lapsed members, for those who have let their membership lapse, reach out to them to see what you (we) can do to get them to rejoin! Membership dues at \$48.00 a year, is really pretty cheap when you consider getting the **NARFE Magazine** 10 times a year and having a full staff at Headquarters fighting to protect our earned pay and benefits. We (NARFE) have a balanced budget for 2024, (AND have had one for the last four years) but the dues we pay balance the budget. As we lose members, our revenues obviously go down as well. So, **membership and finances go hand-in-hand.**

I also urge you to keep up with the new health benefits situation with the Medicare Part D plan the various insurers introduced for 2024. I think the rollout was haphazard, if not ill-informed. So, let's keep an eye on how it all works out. NARFE is in a strong position to recommend changes to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) if we see this new program isn't beneficial for all federal employees and retirees. It's always important for us to remember we're working for all feds, not just members of NARFE.

Each month I meet via Zoom with the five Federation Presidents in Region X and will continue to do so in 2024. This allows us to stay informed about what's going on across the region. Let your Federation President know what your concerns are so we can discuss them. **Communication is key to our success.**

I've been working on the Region X website for a long time now along with a hardworking Peter Eckhoff. [Peter is the North Carolina NARFE (NCNARFE) webmaster as well as the Region X member representative to NARFE's Configuration Advisory Board (CAB)]. I think the Region X website will be up and running very soon. It has a new look from the previous Region X website, and I think you'll find it user-friendly and informative. However, we're using Region X as a testbed for NARFE-sponsored regional websites (also called microsites). We'll be exploring that in 2024.

As you may know, NARFE has a Facebook-like entity called **FEDHub**. Members can join it and discuss all manner of things. If you haven't checked it out, please go to the NARFE website and log into **FEDHub**.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Tennessee Annual Meeting in the spring. Also keep in mind that our biennial national conference, **FEDCon 2024**, will take place in August in St. Louis, Missouri. More details will follow about both events, so keep a lookout.

In closing, it has been my distinct honor to represent you on the National Executive Board and I'm excited about the things we can accomplish in 2024 and beyond. Keep up the great work, Tennessee!!

~ ~ Robert Allen
Regional X VP
Email: retiredrobertallen@gmail.com

Did you know: . . .

- Since June 2023, NARFE has reinstated 1,300 members through the efforts of Membership Renewal by Nora MacDonald.
- **FEDCon 2024** (National NARFE Convention) is scheduled for **August 18 -24, 2024 in St. Louis, MO**. More information online at www.narfe.org.
- Webinars are FREE to NARFE members! If you miss one, go to www.narfe.org/webinar-archive to get the information.

Alzheimer's Research Update

Look forward to an updated report in future issues. Chapters and individual members, please continue to send your donations to our Region X Coordinator listed below UNTIL such time as we fill the Federation Alzheimer's Chairperson position. The form at the bottom of the page provides the information she needs to give Chapters credit for the donation. THANKS!

~ ~ Donna Shackelford
Region X Coordinator
14429 Round Lick Ln
Centreville, VA 20120-1680

Editor's Note:

The TN Federation continues to rely heavily on Donna to collect, tally and forward our state Alzheimer's Research donations on to the Alzheimer's Association as we have not had a Federation Alzheimer's Chairperson for several years. THANK YOU so much Donna!

If you are reading this article, please seriously consider volunteering to serve as the Federation Chairperson for the 2024 term. You will not regret your efforts! LMH

NARFE Alzheimer's Research Form (Send checks only)

Support NARFE Alzheimer's Research

Enclosed is my NARFE-Alzheimer's Contribution: \$ _____

Name: _____ Chapter Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZipCode: _____

Make checks payable to: NARFE Alzheimer's Research (**Write Chapter number in MEMO line**)

Signature: _____

MAIL to Donna Shackelford; 14429 Round Lick Ln; Centreville, VA 20120-1680

Alzheimer's: A Chapter's Perspective & Approach

The Alzheimer's Association is trying to make as many people as possible aware of the new drug Leqembi®, that will be available for patients in early stages of Alzheimer's disease. This is a real significant breakthrough in the fight against this disease. And it is the first time that we can use this very positive news in our fundraising efforts. Our message (NARFE) can be that your donations have really paid off and there is a lot more to be done. Dr Joanna Pike, president of the Alzheimer's Association, is very optimistic that other treatments will be coming down the line.

Our Chapter 0860 (Cleveland) is trying to assist the Association in getting an audience with groups that we know of that might be interested in having a presentation about this new treatment. We have been able to arrange a meeting with a Rotary Club and at our Chapter meeting. We have a meeting scheduled at one of the federal agencies and are working to get one at one of the local church's senior meetings. We know there are other places where this information would be welcome. The presentations cover a lot more than just the new drug. The Program Manager for education for the Alzheimer's Associations (Southeast) SE Tennessee area gives an excellent explanation about the disease and answers a lot of questions.

Our Chapter has a good working relationship with Alzheimer's Association staff in Chattanooga. We have participated in the Cleveland **Walk to End Alzheimer's** for many years, and this year I was on the Cleveland Walk committee for the event held in September.

According to the Alzheimer's Association there are 120,000 people 65 and older with Alzheimer's disease in Tennessee. That number is expected to grow to 140,000 by 2025. The impact on the ones providing care for Alzheimer's patients is tremendous. It is estimated that two thirds of the caregivers have chronic health conditions themselves. Most caregivers are unpaid. Family members often have to give up their jobs or cut back on employment to provide care. The majority of the caregivers are women.

Editor's Note: A HUGE thanks to you and your Chapter for all the work you do in spreading the word and for sharing this article with us! LMH

*~ ~ Danny Britt
President, Cleveland Chapter 0860*

Memory (Alzheimer's) Activities

With a pencil, connect the letters within the box to make a 4-letter word.

L	A
P	Y

R	Y
O	U

D	T
E	A

E	L
I	N

L	B
I	L

W	I
T	H

A	Y
S	T

L	S
E	O

R	A
E	Y

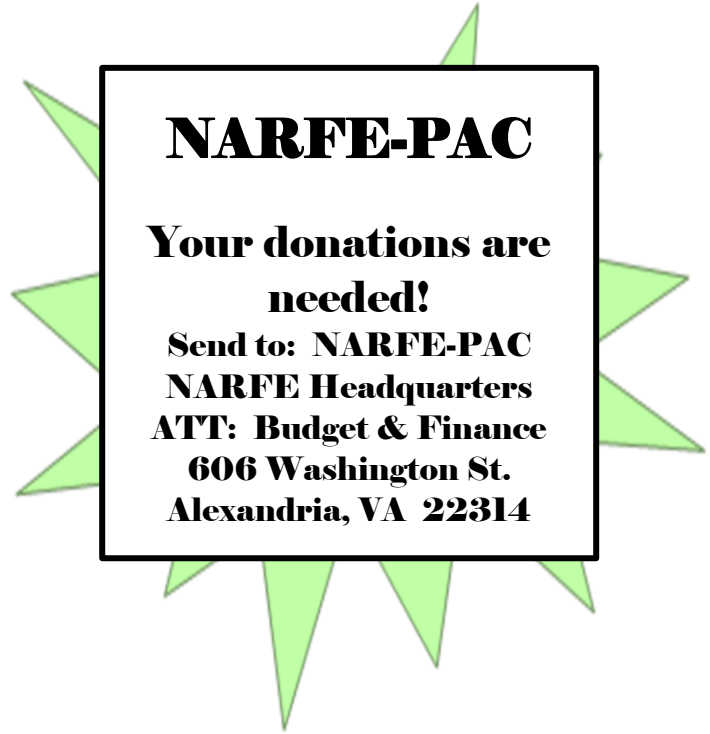
N	E
W	S

NARFE-PAC...

MARCH is NARFE-PAC MONTH

And, now is the time for federations and chapters to start preparing! The advocacy department is already hard at work on 2024's NARFE-PAC Month campaign. Throughout January and February, the department will provide NARFE-PAC leaders with items they need—including fundraising materials, emails, etc. to help you promote the PAC. PLEASE send an email to kgarner@narfe.org if you would like information or NARFE-PAC materials. Our goal is \$1.2 million this election cycle.

Taken from NARFE-PAC Newsletter,
December 27, 2023

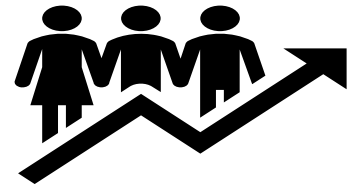


Calendar of Events

February 2024 to July 2024

- February** First issue of the 2024 TN Federation Newsletter is out and on the website (www.narfetn.org),
- February 14** **Valentine's Day**
- March** **NARFE-PAC Month** [Monies given support the NARFE 2024 legislative agenda.] For more information on PAC and how this money is used, go to the NARFE Headquarters website (see above).
- April 15** **TN Federation Annual Meeting** Early Bird registration DEADLINE.
- April 22** Postmark DEADLINE for **TN Federation Annual Meeting** registration.
- April 29 – May 1** **TN Federation Annual Meeting, Ramada Inn; Lebanon** We had a good meeting last year; COME and make this year a GREAT time!
- June 3** Newsletter articles (Word format attached to email preferred) and photos (jpeg format preferred) DUE to newsletter editor.

Chapter News & Views



Each quarterly issue of the newsletter will feature news and events of various Chapters across the state. Help make this a success by participating at least once a year.

Chapter 1968 - Germantown (closed October 2023)

Warren Zimmer, President

It is with deep regret we tell you of the closing of Chapter 1968 last fall! It, like several other Chapters, has struggled to maintain leadership. The picture at the left is the last meeting October 11, 2023, of the group.

From left to right: Warren Zimmer, former President; Andrew Dandridge, former Secretary/Treasurer; Dorothy Bolden, former President of the Millington Chapter that closed a few years ago; Mary Boaz, former Assistant Treasurer; and Kathryn "Kit" Decker.



Chapter 0227 - Nashville

Mike Mellish, President



Chapter 227 Officers for 2024 (L-R): Norris Alderson (Immediate Past President), Betty Waters (Secretary), Nancy Wells (Treasurer), Mike Mellish (President), Carol Allen (Sunshine Chair). Missing from the picture is Leo Baghdoian (Vice President).

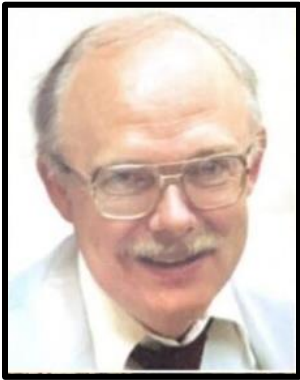


Chapter 0227 Holiday Luncheon at Mere Buttes Restaurant, December 4, 2023

The primary order of business at this holiday gathering was the swearing in of officers for 2024. Norris Alderson, Immediate Past President (current Federation Treasurer) conducted the ceremony. Many thanks and appreciation to our current officers for graciously agreeing to serve the Chapter 227 membership for another year. The luncheon group generously contributed \$58 for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.

... (Continued on Page 12.) Chapter ... News

IN MEMORY OF CLARENCE BENNETT



It is with great sadness and a heavy heart to report the loss of Clarence Bennett, who passed away on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at the age of 87.

Clarence was a long-time member of NARFE, having joined in September 1999. He was a member of both NARFE Chapter 1576 (Donelson), where he served as President from 2005-2006, and Chapter 227 (Nashville), where he served as NARFE-PAC Chair from 2018-2023. Clarence was honored as a Distinguished Member of NARFE in August 2021.

In his professional career, Clarence worked as an engineer for the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) designing bridges and tunnels. His 30-year career with the FHA began in Northern Virginia in 1961, included a transfer to New Jersey, and culminated with a final relocation to Nashville in 1967, where he worked until his retirement from federal service in 1991.

From a personal perspective, Clarence was an amazing resource to me as Chapter President, providing a considerable amount of assistance, feedback, and advice over the past four years. His warm personality, sense of humor, friendship, and presence are greatly missed.

~ ~ Mike Mellish
President, Chapter 0227



Answers to the Memory Activity:

Row 1 Left to Right: PLAY YOUR DATE LINE BILL WITH

Row 2 Left to Right: STAY LOSE EASY NEWS



Help Needed !

The Tennessee Federation has--and continues to--struggle to fill some very critical positions on the Board. We MUST find persons willing to donate a little time and expertise to the organization if we want to continue to operate in a manner to meet YOUR (the membership's) needs. PLEASE step up and volunteer or HELP us find someone to fill these and the other vacant positions!

Network Coordinator: [person(s) with computer knowledge and skill. Pays \$50 monthly]

- Willingness to distribute email messages as directed by Federation President.
- Maintain the layout of the TN website. Coordinate with web hosting service to ensure the Federation domain name and website remain active on the Worldwide web.
- Periodically add and update the content of the website to keep it applicable to the Federation and its Chapters.

Alzheimer's Coordinator: (liaison person with Region & National Alzheimer's)

- Help communicate information between National, Federation, and Chapters relating to Alzheimer's.
- Be the collection point and consolidate Alzheimer's funds submitted by Chapters and forward to National Alzheimer's office with a copy of the report submitted to Region X coordinator in a timely manner. Keep monthly, yearly record of donations.
- Provide a yearly report to Federation and Chapters on Alzheimer's contributions.

NARFE-PAC Coordinator: (liaison person with Headquarters, Federation & Chapters)

- Be collection point for voluntary contributions from members and Chapters (for political action purposes that benefit NARFE members and their families).
- Funds collected at meetings and Annual Meeting; record separately and forward separately to NARFE Headquarters no later than 30-days following collection.
- Provide yearly report to Federation and Chapters on PAC contributions.

Please help. . .

Call, email or contact any member of the TN Board. . . THANKS!



Tennessee Federation News

Important Announcement. . .

Tennessee Federation Annual Meeting April 29 – May 1, 2024

**Ramada Inn Lebanon
704 S. Cumberland Ave
Lebanon, TN 37087**

(615) 444-7400

\$74.99 plus taxes

Registration: \$ 10 Deadlines: Early Bird April 15 Final postmark April 22

The Federation Board is hard at work putting together a streamlined, but insightful program featuring interesting speakers/topics, training, sharing time, a Memorial Service, door prizes, etc. We want this to be a time to support, help, and inform **ALL** members (Chapter and National-only!).

Chapters are encouraged to help finance/fund their president and/or other officers/Chapter representatives who are interested in attending the meeting. Program updates and changes will be posted on the **TN FEDHub** Community website at www.fedhub.narfe.org then look for the "TN Community". **Registration Form** and meeting updates will also be posted on TN website at www.narfetn.org.

A block of rooms has been reserved for Monday and Tuesday nights, April 29 -30; however, the price will be the same for a couple of days before or after the date listed. Call to make room reservations early. **NOTE:** There will NOT be a banquet, but a group (pay-your-own) meal again at a local restaurant if you want to join us. A sponsored catered lunch on Tuesday is being planned, but other meals will be on your own. . .a great time to network and share!

To assist with planning, please respond via email or telephone to one of the persons below with an estimate of persons attending and any ideas or suggestions for training or HELP needed to assist you or your Chapter.

Karen Voshel, Secretary: (270) 305-2348 Email: kykopp@apex.net

B.J. Godwin, President: (731) 425-9348 Email: bjgodwin2001@yahoo.com

Tennessee Federation
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

2024 Registration Form

68th Annual Tennessee Federation Meeting
Monday - Wednesday April 29 - May 1, 2024

Chapter Name and Number (if applicable): _____

Name: _____ NARFE ID # _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone Number: _____

Select Registration:

(Check all that apply)

_____ Federation Officer

_____ Chapter President

_____ National Officer

_____ Chapter Officer: Specify below:

_____ Past Federation President

_____ Member

_____ Spouse/Guest

REGISTRATION: \$ 10 Make checks payable to: NARFE TN Federation

Submit *Registration Form & Fee* to: Karen Kopp-Voshel
11630 Gracey Herndon Road
Herndon, KY 42236

Deadlines: April 15 Early Bird

April 22 Final postmark

One (1) **Early Bird** drawing for \$100. Two (2) \$50 door prizes given during the meeting.

All winners must be in attendance to win.



Linda M. Heaton
Federation Newsletter Editor
11526 Fincastle Lane
Knoxville, TN 37934-3961
859-221-8057
Lmheaton83@gmail.com

DISCLAIMER: The information herein is the responsibility of the author/person who submitted the material for print and does not necessarily reflect the views or thoughts of the Tennessee Federation Board, the Tennessee Newsletter Editor, or the Tennessee Federation membership.

2024