

National Active and Retired Federal Employee Association  
Chapter 834, Murfreesboro, TN  
August 3, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Wayne Lanier, President. He welcomed the members and guests. The meeting was held at Jim and Nick's Restaurant, Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro. The prayer and pledge were led by Dan Mallette. A list of attendees is attached.

1. Program: Mr. Ethan Borrás, Sales Consultant, Chevrolet, Buick, GMC Murfreesboro, gave an interesting program on car buying. He explained how the internet had changed the way we buy and sell cars. Buyers can arm themselves with information from several different websites such as truecar.com and carfax.com. Some of the other topics covered were lease vs purchase; trade-in value; pricing including rebates; best time of the year to buy; how car payments are determined; warranties; importance of knowing your sales person (have an idea of what you want to buy, contact the manager and ask for a salesman that is knowledgeable about that particular brand and set up appointment); difference between used and certified used cars, and common mistakes made by car buyers. Mr. Borrás can be reached at 960 John R. Rice Blvd, Murfreesboro, 615-893-5525, (cell) 615-396-7517.
2. June Meeting Minutes: Connie Gaessler read the June 1 minutes and they were approved as published.
3. Treasurer's Report: Dan Mallette provided the treasurer's report for June thru August. May 1 opening balance \$472.02 and ending balance May 31 \$647.99. June 1 opening balance \$647.99 and closing balance \$586.83 and July 1 opening balance \$586.83 and closing balance \$596.79.
4. Legislative Report: Dan Mallette gave the legislative report in the absence of Matt Bauer. Proposed FY 2018 budget takes aim at federal workers and retirees. President Trump's fiscal year 2018 budget proposal was released on May 23 and contains unprecedented threats to the earned pay and benefits to federal workers and retirees. Cost of living adjustments (COLA) for current and future retirees under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) would be reduced by 0.5 percent each year, and for current and future retirees under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS), COLA would be eliminated. This amounts to hundreds of thousands of dollars lost from the pocket of retirees. Visit [www.narfe.org/legislation](http://www.narfe.org/legislation) to write our legislators and urge them to reject this proposal.
5. Thank You Letter: Nancy Huwer, Assistant Director, Rutherford County Emergency Food Bank, 211 Bridge Avenue, Murfreesboro, 615-895-1148, expressed appreciation for the soft drinks and other food items donated on June 28. These were food items left over from the TN Federation Convention.

6. New Business:

- a. Christmas Luncheon: Dan Mallette will contact the Carriage Inn to reserve Thursday, December 7 for the Christmas Luncheon. Menu items will be discussed at future meeting.
- b. Community Outreach: Steve Schroeder, Membership Chairman, advised that St. Clair Senior Center is having a community outreach program on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. till 11:00 a.m. Chapter 834 has been selected to participate in this program. John Bowen and Connie Gaessler volunteered to assist with staffing NARFE's table.
- c. NARFE Business Cards: Steve Schroeder prepared NARFE business cards for the board. If any member would like cards made, send Steve name, phone number, and e-mail address and he will prepare cards for you. Thank you Steve.
- d. Century Club of Rutherford County: Juanelle Eddleman provided a Daily News Journal Article dated July 27, 2017, that included Mabel Roberson, our oldest NARFE member's picture. The Century Club of Rutherford County was first established five years ago to celebrate and honor of wonderful centenarians. The news paper article states that their lives and stories are from a time of so much history such as the Great Depression and World Wars. Many served our country during those wars or labored in factories to support it and their families. They have seen 18 US Presidents, a vast amount of inventions, living in a time of world and life changes. Family and church were most important for them. A century of life, 100 years of living, sharing their lives with all of us is truly a celebration! The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Centenarian Appreciation Day was hosted by Family Staffing Solutions, Inc.

7. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m. The next meeting will be held at Jim and Nick's Restaurant on September 7. The speaker will be Terri Deal from The Villages of Murfreesboro.

Connie R. Gaessler  
Secretary

Attachment

Cc: Board Members

## List of participants August 2017 Meeting

Connie Gaessler  
John Gaessler  
Carl Fritts  
Donna Fritts  
Dan Mallette  
Kathleen Schroder  
Steve Schroeder  
Wayne Lanier  
Juanelle Eddleman  
John Bowan

National Active and Retired Federal Employee Association  
Chapter 834, Murfreesboro, TN  
Meeting Minutes  
June 1, 2017

The June meeting was the summer picnic held at Oakland's Picnic Grounds, Murfreesboro. Wayne Lanier welcomed the members and guests. The prayer and pledge were led by Dan Mallette. There were 17 members in attendance to enjoy music by Wayne Lanier, BBQ, sides and treats.

Wayne expressed appreciation to the Donelson Chapter for a successful Federation Convention. Also, to our Chairman, Hospitality Committee, Matt and Beth Bauer for their efforts assisted by John Bowen, Steve and Kathleen Schroeder and Connie Gaessler. Many compliments were received from convention members who used the room.

The next meeting will be held August 3, 2017 at Jim and Nick's BBQ Restaurant on Thompson Lane, Murfreesboro.

Connie R. Gaessler  
Secretary

Cc: Board Members

National Active and Retired Federal Employee Association  
Chapter 834, Murfreesboro, TN  
Meeting Minutes  
April 6, 2017

The meeting was called to order by John Bowen, Acting President. He welcomed the members and guest. The meeting was held at Mimi's Café, 2625 Medical Center Parkway. The prayer and pledge were led by Dan Mallette. A list of Attendees is attached.

1. Program: Carl Fritts introduced our speaker, Mr. Tony Stevens, Assistant Chief, Voluntary Service, Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Mr. Stevens gave an interesting presentation on the Voluntary Service's needs on behalf of the veterans. He talked about three categories of need which are volunteers, monetary donations and nonmonetary donations. He passed out copies of Voluntary Service Needs List. All donations are tax deductible and you will receive a letter and receipt (monetary donations) thanking you and certifying receipt for all donations. One hundred percent of donations go directly to the veterans and their families receiving care. Items listed as "critical needs" are volunteer drivers for Nashville area and Chattanooga; bus passes for Nashville and Murfreesboro areas and monetary support for Tennessee Women Veterans Summit. Other noncritical items are clothing; comfort items. A detailed listing is attached. Additionally, an adult volunteer application is attached to the hard copy of these minutes. For additional information please contact Chief, Voluntary Service at 615-225-6517.
2. March Meeting Minutes: Connie Gaessler read the March 2 minutes and they were approved as published.
3. Treasurer's Report: Dan Mallette provided the treasurer's report for March 2017. Opening balance \$600.46 and closing balance end of March \$601.40. Speakers' lunch (3), \$39.06; Walmart gift card for State Convention, \$25.00; deposit from NARFE, \$40.00, and donation from Dan Mallette, \$25.00.
4. Legislative Report: Legislative Action Center, the NARFE Legislative Action Center allows members to urge their congressional representatives to support NARFE's stand on legislation. You can use the NARFE legislation webpage. Just click on the "Legislative Action Center" photo. You can communicate with your legislators immediately. It is suggested that you add a paragraph explaining how a bill may affect you.
5. State Convention: John Bowen stated that our chapter had been asked to host the hospitality room. Matt Bauer said the hotel is under construction and we don't know whether the hospitality room will be on the first or second floor. A letter has been sent to all the chapters asking for food donations but no response has been received. Room coverage is required for Monday, 7:30 a.m. till 5:00

p.m. and Tuesday 7:30 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. John Bowen will cover Monday a.m., Connie Gaessler Monday afternoon. Kathleen Schroeder and Wayne Lanier also volunteered to serve. After the convention is over, Matt Bauer will pick up excess food and nonperishable items. Nonperishable items can be used for the summer picnic. Other items may be donated.

6. Federation Secretary: Matt Bauer advised that the Federation Office is recruiting a secretary. Pay is \$50.00 plus mileage and the meetings are usually held in Lebanon. Anyone interested should contact Carey Frazier.
7. Meeting Location: John Bowen talked about the necessity of finding another meeting location. Mary Harris said she visited CJ Restaurant and they have an area that might be suitable for us. Dan Mallette checked out Jim and Nick's Restaurant and they do have a room with doors. John asked that we visit these restaurants before next meeting and we will vote on the room at the May meeting. The new located will be posted in the May Newsletter. June is our summer picnic and no meeting will be held in July due to low attendance in the past.
8. The next meeting is May 4 and the host will be Matt Bauer. Nancy Huwe from Rutherford County Food Bank will be the May speaker.
9. A motion was made by Carl Fritts to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 p.m. and second by Dan Mallette.

Connie R. Gaessler  
Secretary

Attachments:  
List of participants  
Voluntary Service Needs list  
Adult Volunteer Application

List of participants at the April 6, 2017 meeting.

Dan Mallette

Matt Bauer

Mary Harris

Donna Fritts

Carl Fritts

Tony Stevens, Speaker

John Bowen

Jerry Paschal

Connie Gaessler

Cc: Board Members other e-mail addresses, as available

National Active and Retired Federal Employee Association  
Chapter 834, Murfreesboro, TN  
Meeting Minutes  
March 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Lanier. He welcomed the members and guest. The meeting was held at Mimi's Café 2625 Medical Center Parkway. The prayer and pledge were led by Dan Mallette. A list of attendees is attached.

1. Program: Dan Mallette introduced our speakers, Sandy Barrett, FNP-BC, Shelly Parnell and Diana Wells-English, representatives from Weight Loss and Wellness Program located at Murfreesboro Medical Clinic & SurgiCenter, 1272 Garrison Drive, Murfreesboro. The team explained that over 54,000 obese adults live in Rutherford County. Obesity is associated with a host of medical conditions such as hypertension, heart disease, certain cancers, sleep apnea, acid reflux, strokes and diabetes. Our member, Dan Mallette is a participant in the program and he spoke about the benefits of the program and highly recommends it. The program consists of three phases. Phase I: Weight Loss, which includes medical history, exam, EKG and lab work and nutritional counseling and weekly visits. Phase 2: Transition which means your goal has been achieved and it is time to transition into weight management. Phase 3: Long-Term Relapse Prevention for ongoing support and motivation. The Clinic also has a program for children age 5 and up. For free initial evaluation call 615-867-8100 or loseweight@mmclinic.com .
2. Meeting Minutes: Connie Gaessler read the February 2 minutes and they were approved as published. Minute attachments includes constitution, bylaws, standing rules, membership action plan, proposed communication plan and questionnaire results. A motion was made to approve the communication plan as published. The motion to approve was made by John Bowen and second by Steve Schroeder.
3. Treasurer's Report: Dan Mallette provided the treasurer's report for February. Opening balance February 1 was \$633.70 with ending balance February 28 of \$600.46. John Bowen and Matt Bauer perform the required audit of the financial records. All transactions were satisfactory.
4. IRS Filing: IRS confirmed receipt of our request to continue as a nonprofit.
5. Legislative Report: In Matt Bauer's absence, Dan Mallette provided the legislative report. March is NARFE-PAC month. By its very name it is a Political Action Committee, and provides a vehicle for NARFE members to pool resources to contribute to campaigns of our supporters in Congress, as well as to the



Democratic and Republican Committees. There are currently major threats looming in the next Congress. The latest issue of the NARFE magazine lists them. Among the threats are requiring federal employees and retirees to pay a larger portion of health benefit premiums through the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHP). Some others, but not all, are eliminating retiree health benefits for new hires, implementing a voucher plan for the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plan and lower the Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) rate of return for the G Fund to near zero. The list goes on. Contributions to NARFE-PAC will help in the fight against erosion of our benefits.

6. New Business:

- a. Wayne Lanier discussed the State Convention to be held April 17-18. As you know, our chapter was assigned the hospitality room. Matt and Beth Bauer our Chairman, Hospitality Committee, needs volunteers to assist them in bringing baked goods and staffing the room. The room requires staffing on Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. till noon. Please contact Matt or Beth at 615-890-2956 as to when you will be available to assist. Wayne encouraged the members to attend and support the Federation. The program contains great speakers and we are looking forward to the convention.
- b. Communication Plan: Methods and kinds of communication with potential members were discussed. Steve, Kathleen, John, and Juanelle have been leaving NARFE magazines at various offices. Connie will check on NARFE flyers that might be available for advertising purposes. John Bowen suggested containing financial planners as possible source for membership referrals.

7. The next meeting is scheduled for April 6. Carl Fritts is scheduled to host the program. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Steve Schroeder and second by John Bowen.

Connie Gaessler  
Secretary

Attachment: List of attendees

Cc: Board members  
Other members e-mails as available

NARFE March Meeting Member and Guest Sign In Sheet

Randy Ozburn  
Gail Norton  
Mary Harris  
Wayne Lanier  
Steve Schroeder  
Kathleen Schroeder  
John Bowen  
Dan Mallette  
Shelly Purnell  
Sandra Barrett  
Diana Wells-English  
Juanelle Eddleman  
Connie Gaessler

National Active and Retired Federal Employee Association  
Chapter 834, Murfreesboro, TN  
Meeting Minutes  
February 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Wayne Lanier. He welcomed the members and guest. The meeting was held at Mimi's Café, 2625 Medical Center Parkway. A list of attendees is attached.

1. Program: John Bowen introduced our speaker, Mr. Scott Walker, WGNS Radio Station. Mr. Walker presented an interesting program on his efforts to provide pictures of unique and unusual buildings both in the States and foreign countries. Additionally, his photographs provide a glimpse of people in all walks of life including our most vulnerable citizens living in poverty, homelessness, illnesses, addictions, and some in shelters, safe houses, under bridges with lack of needed medication and medical care. He shared his experiences of providing coats, sleeping bags, food and funds for motel costs. He talked about the challenges encountered by these citizens in trying to rent apartments since often time they have poor credit ratings, criminal records and some do not know their age or even their full name. There are school age children living in hotels and the community does a good job by providing backpacks and meals. In some circumstances, the food bank representative will take the food to the hotel if they do not have transportation to pick it up. He stated that nonprofit agencies in town work well together. Mr. Walker is an awesome, caring individual and our community is better off because of his good works.
2. Meeting Minutes: Connie Gaessler read the minutes and they were approved as published except the State Convention will be held April 17-18, 2017 rather than the 27<sup>th</sup> as stated in the minutes dated December 1, 2016.
3. College Scholarships: NARFE (Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund) is accepting applications for scholarships from children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren (step-relationships included) of all current NARFE members. To qualify, the applicant must be a high school senior planning to attend an accredited college full time by fall/winter 2017 and must have a cumulative G.P.A. of at least 3.0. Applications for the competition must be postmarked no later than April 29, 2017.
4. Financial Report: Dan Mallette provided the ending financial report for 2016 and projected report for 2017. Beginning balance January 1, 2016, \$739.37 and ending balance \$543.78. Total expenditures for 2016 were \$1,297.93. Balance

brought forward from 2016, \$543.78. Estimated deposits for 2017, \$745.00 and estimated ending balance \$545.00.

5. Treasurer's Report: Dan Mallette provided the treasurer's report for December 2016. Beginning balance \$761.12 and ending balance December 31 was \$543.78. He also provided January's report since there was no meeting in January. Beginning balance \$543.78 and ending balance \$633.70.
6. Thank You: Dan Mallette received a thank you letter from Emma Espy, Director, Rutherford County Emergency Food Bank in appreciation of 68 cans of food and \$50.00 cash donated by our Chapter on December 1, 2016. Our donation of food items and cash will be used in a manner that will be beneficial to our community. The food bank is located at 211 Bridge Avenue, Murfreesboro, and can be reached at 615-895-1148.
7. Legislative Report: NARFE National President, Richard G. Thissen, stated in response to the current federal hiring freeze, that the freeze would seem to indicate that the federal workforce is growing when in fact it has shrunk ten percent since 1967. The Government Accounting Office found that that hiring freezes provided only an illusion of control over federal workforce levels and they are not an effective means of controlling federal employment. Additionally, the policy has a negative impact on the recruitment and retention of a highly qualified workforce.
8. Questionnaire Results: The results were reviewed and discussed. As a result of the survey, we will be looking for a new meeting location due to noise of the other diners while we are trying to do business. A copy of the results are attached.
9. New Business:
  - a. Wayne Lanier discussed the State Convention to be held April 17-18, 2017. A committee is working on the agenda and several other elements of the conference. Our chapter has been assigned the hospitality room. Matt and Beth Bauer is the Chairman, Hospitality Committee, and will need volunteers to assist them in bringing baked goods and staffing the room. Wayne will get the hours needing coverage and the name of the person(s) handling the room last convention. We have a tax exemption certificate and a budget of \$200 to buy supplies. Coffee is not allowed to be served in the hospitality room but tea and soft drinks are permissible.
  - b. These documents have been reviewed and amended as needed.
    - (1). Constitution
    - (2). Bylaws
    - (3). Standing Rules

- c. These documents have been developed, reviewed and discussed to assist in membership retention and recruitment efforts. We are working on canned speeches and news articles to better inform our community about NARFE.
  - a. Membership Action Plan
  - b. Communication Plan

Connie R. Gaessler  
Secretary

Attachments:

Constitution

Bylaws

Standing Rules

Membership Action Plan

Communication Plan

Questionnaire Results

Cc: Board Members

Other members e-mail addresses as available