

THE 560 REPORTER

MAY 2010

The May meeting of Chapter 560 will be held at Ryan's in Dorman Centre on Tues. May 11 at 11:30 AM. The guest speaker will be Susan Lawson of Comfort Keepers. This organization provides in-home care such as personal care, companion services, or home safety solutions that enable an older person to stay longer in their own home. Also they can give a break to the regular caregiver for a time. Research has found that there is a 63% mortality rate among caregivers compared to their peers. Most of us will need or will be a caregiver sometime in their later years. Come hear some good advice from Susan. Your presence will be needed to elect delegates to the National Convention in Grand Rapids, MI on Aug. 29-Sept. 2. Chapter 560 is allowed 3 delegates and alternates (1/50 members or part of 50). Other members may attend as non-voting participants.

Chapter 560 is pleased to have 3 new members join with us. They are John Morales (Jeanette's son?) of California, MO, Margaret Smith of Moore, SC., and Larry Fowler of Inman, SC. We would be happy to have you attend our meetings.

On a sad note, Mr. James Trout (91) passed away on April 10. He retired from the Postal Service after 35 years. He served as acting postmaster in 1961 and later in Postal Supervisory. Mr. Trout was a valued member of Chapter 560 for many years. Detectives needed! In late March an obituary concerning a Cora Lee Taylor appeared in the paper. Can any of our members confirm if this is the Ms Taylor that was once a member of Chapter 560? We hope that Violet Littlejohn and Ruth Magher have sent in their membership renewal.

A nominating committee must meet during the summer to prepare a slate of officers for the fall. Please think about accepting a position as a chapter officer or appointed committee chair.

Via an e-mail from the National Legislative Dept., we are advised to be aware (maybe beware) that the recently formed National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform is investigating ways the deficit and control long-term growth in the debt can be controlled. Since Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid involve too many people (and votes), they are out-of-bounds to be touched. Therefore, they have turned to easier targets – including the “captive audience” of federal retirees – a much smaller constituency. More about this will appear in the June issue of *NARFE*.

At the March meeting, Edna and Maurice Burgess announced their 62 years of marriage on Mar. 21. Herbert Bruce and Mary Gilliland won door prizes. Virginia Bruce celebrated a birthday on Apr. 17. Jim & Peggy Hatchett observed an anniversary on Apr. 16. Charles Neal and Carmen Sherbert took home the door prizes in April.

I want to thank Peggy Hatchett for being the secretary of Chapter 560 at the April meeting. Her good notes put me right in the picture.

The Greenville annual picnic will be held on July 30 at Lake Robinson. Round up a group of friends and plan to attend. The picnic is usually catered by Mutt's BBQ at a reasonable fee. The site is lovely and fishing is available for those with a license. Extras include great fellowship.

As Chuck is recovering from his recent surgery, I have come to understand what great insurance coverage we have with FEHBP. Also, I have realized how important it is that members in nursing homes or those being cared for at home by their loved ones retain their membership in

NARFE. How else will caregivers know what legislation is being enacted that will affect them until it is too late to circumvent problems? Dues withholding will insure that their membership will not be dropped and that the most informative publication for them - *NARFE* magazine - will continue to be delivered. Often the magazine and membership are discontinued when members become mentally disabled. Caretakers, this is your lifeline to learn how the member's income may be affected – and yours regarding their care.

We are sad that we could not be with you for the convention. We're told on every hand what a great success it was. Each member that contributed to that success should be very proud. A special thanks goes to Bob Muller of Greenville Chapter 121 for his expertise in dealing with the program. Many thanks, too, to DFO Joe McCarty for emcee-ing in some spots. Laura Catto won "Alaska Morning" and Ellen Rollins won "Zelda the Zebra".

The Chapter meeting on May 11 will be the last meeting until Sept. 14. Please mark your calendars and have a great summer.

SEE YOU AT RYAN'S DORMAN CENTRE ON TUES. MAY 11 AT 11:30 AM!