



Kansas NARFE News **From Your Federation Officers**

December 2011 through February 2012

Federation President

Cindy Renee` Blythe
10262 Fairview Rd
Burlingame, KS 66413-8554
Telephone: (785) 589-2266
E-Mail: mrsdocbusyb@yahoo.com



Well by now we all know that the Super Committee failed in its quest to come up with the required \$1.5 trillion in budget cuts. The 12 member committee had to provide their recommendations by November 23rd, then the full House and Senate would force an “up or down” vote by December 23rd. What happens now is the Sequestration cuts will begin in January 2013. But until that time, Congress can change or modify the Sequestration Plan as they see fit. Although this looks good for Federal retirees and Social Security annuitants, experts say that the sequestration cuts will likely prompt Congress to extend the current two-year pay freeze for the active federal employee.

As reported by the Federal Times, “John Palguta, vice president for policy at the Partnership for Public Service, expects that as Congress scrambles to cut the budget next year, lawmakers will once again consider benefit cuts such as increasing the amount feds contribute to their pensions, basing pensions on the average of their five highest annual salaries instead of their three highest salaries, or basing pension cost-of-living adjustments on a lower inflation rate.”

And don’t forget to add the President into the mix. Congress could decide to exempt the Defense Department, scheduled to sacrifice \$600 billion in defense cuts over the next 10 years, beginning January 2, 2012 under the Sequestration Plan. These cuts come on top of the \$465 billion in already approved long-term defense funding cuts. But the President has threatened to veto any attempt to undo the sequestration cuts or exempt the Defense Department.

Sequestration opens up a can of worms that could end up cutting over 236,453 jobs from government agencies. This isn’t close to the 350,000 positions lost during the Clinton administration but it’s still enough to make a severe dent in the services performed by government agencies.

This will continue to be a hot issue, one that you can assist with. When you receive the message to contact your Congressman, please take a few minutes and make that call. Only by standing together can we show a united front to our opposition. Remember the old saying – it’s the squeaky wheel that gets the grease!

H.R. 2112: Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012; or as we know it “the current continuing resolution” expires December 16th. Once again federal employees will be on pins

and needles waiting for the other budget shoe to fall. H.R.2112 was signed November 18, 2011, setting FY 2012 budgets for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Justice, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The original bill had 243 proposed amendments attached as it went along the political highway. I'm sure there will be more on this topic within the next few days.

David Snell, Director Retirement Benefits Service Department, contacted all Chapter Presidents with guidance for submitting nominations for the 2012 Service Officer Award Program. I would like to see an officer, actually more than one, nominated by Kansas. As David explained, nominations have been dropping off and Headquarters is trying to revitalize the program by changing the nominating process and eligibility rules. I would be glad to help any chapter with the written nomination that wants to nominate their Service Officer. All nominations must go through the Federation President and be received in Headquarters by February 3rd. You still have plenty of time to make a nomination for the good of your Chapter.

I recently had the opportunity to man the NARFE membership booth (really it was a table) at the KASCO Annual Convention in Hays. There were over 100 people in attendance, most current federal employees but some very close to that brass ring of retirement. Due to another engagement, I was only able to attend the first day of their convention, but enjoyed meeting a lot of FSA employees. Bob and Carla Cranmer were assisting at the booth and between all three of us we were able to recruit 6 new members (I think!), but we made many more contacts and were able to get the word of NARFE out to over 100 people. The next step is to follow up on all the names that we got from visiting with the potential members and reinforcing the benefits of joining our organization. Just try recruiting one person during the year and you'll know a world of peace.

I left the Hays convention and traveled down the road to Great Bend for the evening. In the morning, Gale Beck, Gary Townson and I met in Kingman and spent the weekend trying to get the chapter back on solid ground. We had some success in that we were able to keep the chapter open by changing a few mindsets regarding how the chapter could continue to exist. The current President consented to continue for at least one more year and we were able to get her two Vice-Presidents in two of the other towns that make up the chapter. The Kingman Chapter will now be meeting on a quarterly basis and will be switching their meeting places to one in each town per quarter. By spreading out the meeting locations and adjusting the meetings to quarterly, the chapter will be able to service all the members from the different towns. Another advantage of splitting the meetings up – only one program is necessary in each town. This affords the members in the different towns the opportunity to attend the meeting in their town site and take part in the running of their chapter where the distance between the towns made attending meetings difficult, if not impossible for most of the members. A simple solution to save a struggling chapter. I'll keep you posted on the continued success of Kingman Chapter.

As you are all aware, our State Convention is scheduled for April in Salina. The Salina Chapter is working diligently to bring an excellent event to our state. We are making plans to have several Congressional representatives and possibly some State representatives for the Sunday afternoon session. Gary Townson has been in contact with Congressional offices and will keep the pressure up for their attendance. But no matter what great things are on the agenda, we need your attendance to make our convention a success. If you have any resolutions to submit, Louise Lloyd needs those no later than December 31st in order to get them vetted out to all the chapters for their review.

Before I close, I want to extend my Best Wishes to each and every NARFE member for the holiday seasons. Enjoy your special time with family and friends and remember those that are not as fortunate

as we are. Often when I think the world has gotten the better of me I just remember that someone somewhere has it worse than me. *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*



1st Vice President / Public Relations

Dixie Thomas
801 Sunshine St
Junction City, KS 66441-4183
Telephone: (785) 238-1455 E-Mail: bthomas56@cox.net

In November, I had the opportunity of attending the Fort Riley Health Benefits open house with Barb Pretzer, Don Cooper, Jim Mitchell and several members of Chapter 383, Old Trooper. We had such a fun rainy day. The Membership Chair, Sharon Strain, brought copies of the NARFE membership application and between all of us; we gave out over a hundred applications. Along with the applications, the current active employee received a "Have you ever heard of NARFE" speech, Alzheimer's updates and brochures, pens and candy. The Chapter membership goal is "one member at a time." The goal was met and exceeded by 100% (hopefully – waiting for new stats to come out).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all!

2nd Vice President / Membership Committee Chair

Ann Murphy
1923 Indiana Lane
Manhattan, KS 66502-2356
Telephone: (785) 539-2056 E-Mail: murphyAP66@yahoo.com

The Region V Vice President has congratulated members for their efforts in recruiting new members this fall. The Kansas new member numbers are up. Some members are getting the information out. This time of year is very busy and part of that being busy is going to events where we see people who we do not see on a regular basis. There may be opportunities to come in contact with people who may appreciate the invitation to NARFE. Remember to get the information out to the active federal workers in your area also. We do have a good number of people who have received second notices to renew. We may have to increase our effort to retain current members.

Go to the **2011-2012 Kansas Federation of NARFE Membership Development Plan** to review ideas about a membership development plan. The document was written by Cindy Renee' Blythe. There are lots of good ideas in that document.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Secretary

Louise Lloyd

11433 Rene

Lenexa, KS 66215-4843

Telephone: (913) 661-1720E-Mail: llnarfe@yahoo.com

During the past quarter, a letter dated October 1st was transmitted to all Chapter Secretaries, Chapter Presidents and Executive board members that included copies of the F-7 Form that needs to be completed for new elected officers. This mailing also transmitted forms that chapters can utilize to submit requests for amendments to Kansas Federation bylaws, or a Convention Resolution (Forms 3A and 3C). If you have misplaced the October 1st letter with the enclosed forms, please do not hesitate to contact me at 913-661-1720, or e-mail at llnarfe@yahoo.com. A completed F-7 Form should be sent to NARFE HQ, or the form can be completed online via the NARFE website. A copy of the form should also be transmitted to our President, Cindy Renee` Blythe, your Area Vice-President, and a copy to me as Secretary, no later than December 31st. If the form is completed online, you only need to transmit a copy separately to your Area Vice-President, as an automatic e-mail should be generated for both the Federation President and Federation Secretary. I just learned that the dialogue for online-submissions of the F-7 form have changed from last year, and I just recently e-mailed revised instructions for submitting the F-7 form online to those secretaries who I have e-mail addresses. If your chapter didn't receive those instructions and would like to submit your report online, please do not hesitate to contact me.

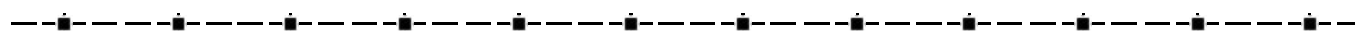
In November, the minutes of the October 14th Federation Board meeting were transmitted to all chapter Presidents and Secretaries with copies of the reports from all the Federation Officers and board members. Hopefully you will share some of the valuable information included with your chapter members.

In the near future, each chapter secretary will be receiving from Lorene Mumm, the "Federation Convention" packet that will include the Convention registration information, the Credential forms, as well as the following forms: Delegate Listing; Committee Assignment Form, Members Qualifying for Awards and Memorial Listing. A separate mailing will also be sent to all Chapter Presidents and Federation Board members.

As to other activities, in October I attended the monthly meeting of the Lawrence Freestate Chapter, along with five other members from my chapter, to hear their guest speaker, Riley Scott, from Senator Moran's office. I enjoyed meeting members from this chapter. It was a great opportunity to observe the meeting of another chapter, and the other members of my chapter appreciated being able to attend as well.

On Tuesday, November 8th, I attended the 25th Anniversary Dinner Meeting of the Tri-River Chapter held in Paola, Kansas. I enjoyed having the opportunity to meet some of the members of this chapter as well, and was impressed with the number of members who attend the monthly meetings.

I remain quite active in my own chapter, the Shawnee Mission Chapter, as President and newsletter editor, and hope to share with my own chapter many of the good ideas that I have seen or have heard about during my term as Federation Secretary. Happy Holidays to all Federation Members!





Treasurer

G. P. (Jerry) Ketter
2958 US HWY 75
Sabetha, KS 66534-9618
Telephone: (785) 284-2808 E-Mail: ekjer@att.net

Edith and I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We are looking forward to a great Happy Holiday season and a new year of hopes and dreams.

After Christmas I will be mailing out the Per Capita Statement to each chapter. If your Chapter President, Secretary and Treasurer have reviewed your chapter's semi-annual M114 report and it is current, the November 30 report we get from National should be accurate. I will be billing from that information. Prompt attention to this billing will be appreciated by all the Federation Officers in preparation for the Federation Convention.

At present our Federation Finances are staying close to plan. This is the time of year that our bank balance gets to the lowest point and we have a balance in the checking account of \$1,862.35. Some chapters may have elected new treasurers and some might change accounts where it is more convenient for the new treasurer. I want to remind treasurers to check that they have the correct EIN number when they open a bank account for the chapter. A law beginning in 2007 required each chapter to file a report on a 990-N in May of each year. All Kansas chapters have filed for all those years and it is important that all chapters use the same number with the bank that they have been using to file. If you have any question please call me.

Area 1 Vice President

Florence (Flo) Biehl
12819 W. 78 Terrace
Lenexa, KS 66216-3313
Telephone: (913) 631-5559 Email: flobiehl@aol.com



It seems like I'm always asking someone for money. First and foremost is NARFE/PAC. Then I am reminding chapter members to contribute to the NARFE Scholarship fund. Then don't forget the disaster fund. If you can--contribute to the Circle Fund. And right now we need to Protect America's Heartbeat. Our own special charity is NARFE/Alzheimer's Research. Give, give, give. It takes money to run an organization and to fund the various endeavors that we NARFE people are interested in.

Okay, we have given our money in the hopes that we are doing good and that we are protecting our earned benefits. What next? Well, there are the phone calls and messages we are to send to our legislators. We are not through yet. Write a letter to the editor. Tell of the good that federal workers are doing and have done. Not through yet. Remember to stand tall yourself. Tell of the good you did when you were in federal service. Let the people know.



Area 1A Vice President

Judy Etter
24166 Logan Road
Atchison, KS 66002-4511
Telephone: (913) 773-8565 E-Mail: jetter@bbwi.net

I have been to all chapters, beginning in August. Buffalo Bill—Leavenworth has been the most active (they say I am going to owe them dues). In August they celebrated summer with their annual catered “picnic” (inside with air conditioning, thank goodness). September saw Walt Germann, who talked about his job as service officer and the importance of filling out the F-100, *Be Prepared for Life’s Events*. In October Gary Townson reminded the members to get to know their Congressional representatives. Leavenworth invited all members of Area 1A to this meeting. The November meeting was FallFest, a catered party to avoid the snows of December. This month I was the guest speaker and I told them about the disaster relief and scholarship programs. Santa also attended the meeting.

The September meeting at the Wathena—Doniphan County chapter was very short as it was harvest season.

Janice Neuschafer was the guest speaker at the October meeting of the Amelia Earhart—Atchison chapter, which also invited all members of Area 1A. Blue Cross/Blue Shield came to the November meeting and brought good news—premiums would either go down or be close to last year’s.

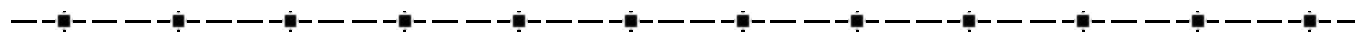
Hiawatha—Brown County hosted Blue Cross/Blue Shield at its October meeting and elected and installed officers at its November meeting but had no candidate for vice president. They also have a new member who is still employed and had taken 1 hour of annual leave to come to the meeting. She volunteered to be the VP if President Daryl would send her the agenda for meetings he could not attend. It is nice to get those still employed involved. Hiawatha also has a member who is approaching the young age of 102. She attends most of the meetings with lots of energy and big smiles.

Sunflower—Kansas City elected officers in November. I discussed the disaster relief and scholarship programs there and we discussed their convention plans for 2014 and their meeting place.

On October 29, Fran Gast (Buffalo Bill chapter—Leavenworth first vice-president) and I “manned” a booth at Fort Leavenworth’s Retiree Appreciation Day. While Retiree Day is for retired military, many of those retired military are now Civil Service employees. We talked to retirees from Leavenworth, Kansas City, western Missouri, and as far west as Abilene. There was more interest in NARFE this year than last, probably because of the uncertainty surrounding current employees’ benefits and salaries and retirees’ annuities. Hopefully, NARFE chapters in this part of Region V will benefit.

I attended a town hall meeting Lynn Jenkins held in Troy in October. She assured me that she would not cast a vote that would harm Federal retirees’ annuities and benefits. Her main goal in Congress, as a CPA, is to reform the tax codes.

I wish you a joyous holiday—Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza—full of fellowship with family and friends.



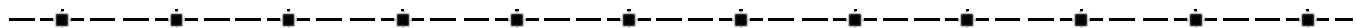


Area 2 Vice President / Kansas Federation Training Officer

Gale D. Beck
1012 Meadowbrook Rd. E
Iola, KS 66749-2112
Telephone: (620) 365-3469 E-Mail: beckgjks26@cox.net

Chapter 2098, Tri River Chapter has celebrated its 25th anniversary with a great turn out and a large attendance. They are to be congratulated for their success. If you ask them they will tell you it has been work, and being on the sidelines I am sure it has. Having a NARFE chapter for 25 years has not always been easy for them. At one time they kinda had to stop and re-prime their pump and start over. Key members and their members working as a team succeeded. There was a time they had only a few members. Now they have over 100 members. A side note, I was on the sidelines with David Golenbaum, past Federation President, when they had to take that breather and start again, but they did. They also have established their own "Life Membership Plan", a plan that works well with the Life Membership Plan that NARFE has. Chapters who succeed, it does not just happen, will tell you it has taken work and continues to take leadership and work. Webster defines leadership as to Direct and to Guide. If you visit with Tri-River Key Chapter members it also takes "hands on and some elbow grease". It does not just happen and not all of us have the same talents, to guide and lead a chapter. Here are some sayings that might interest you. President Truman said, "The Buck Stops Here". Secretary of Agriculture Butz said, "I must hurry up and catch up with them for I am there leader".

Chapters in many cases have problems securing chapter leaders, because no one wants to lead, after all they are retired. A Definition for Leadership is, "Leadership is something a person does, not something he or she has" NARFE is an organization of Seniors, and it is important that we all step up to the plate and help. NARFE has many younger Federal Employees coming aboard who are interested in protecting their benefits and we are glad to have them.

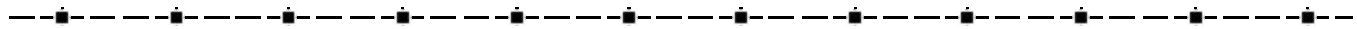


Area 2A Vice President

Gary L. Kilgore
5365 170th Rd.
Chanute, KS (66720-5422
Telephone: 620-496-7609E-Mail: gkilgore@ksu.edu



It is Christmas Season again. I wish each individual and family a Merry Christmas and Happy NEW Year. I guess our COLA was a good Christmas present. It did put a smile on many faces. It has been a slow Fall in Area 2A. Most Chapters are working on membership---as always, and it s a real struggle not to lose members and drop numbers. Those that are not members of NARFE sure appreciate what we do for them, I GUESS. Chapters have donated to local food banks and Angel Tree children, this month. For the most part, officers remain the same in most Chapters and getting new officers is very difficult. If everyone would take their turn, it wouldn't be so difficult. WHY do we do that?



Area 3 Vice President / PAC (Political Action Committee)



Donald L. Cooper
5846 Tuttle Cove Rd
Manhattan, KS 66503-8432
Telephone: (785) 537-1676 E-mail: cooper@flintheills.com

We have a couple of Chapter Presidents experiencing health issues. Jim Mitchell, Chapter 0383 Junction City President, had a fall that left him with a broken hip. Betty McVicker, Abilene, Chapter 2137 President suffered a stroke.

I attended the Black Squirrel Chapter 1847 meeting at Home City. I attended the Cross Roads Chapter 0739 meeting at Concordia. I attended the Abilene Chapter 2137 picnic. It turned out cold and wet so it was moved inside. I attended the Salina Chapter annual picnic. It was cool, but they had a good turnout and good eats.

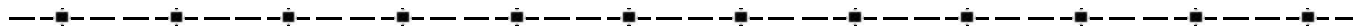
The Kansas Board Meeting was held October 14 at the site of the Kansas NARFE Annual Meeting in Salina. They have done a lot of work to be ready for the Annual Meeting.

The Junction City Old Trooper Chapter 0388 provided an excellent booth at the Health Fair on Fort Riley November 8. They provided NARFE information to all of the personnel that went through the area. They handed out material and provided individual talks to all who would take a few moments to listen. The atmosphere was good. The people listened and asked questions. Membership applications were given to all who attended. I expect they will get a nice number of new members as a result of the chapter efforts. (Chapter president, Jim Mitchell was there-was the excitement of all the grand success at recruiting the cause of your fall!)

NARFE-PAC

NARFE-PAC is your opportunity to provide funding to call attention to our **Political** Representation of NARFE. So, once again, I call your attention to the NARFE-PAC Creed “of the donors, by the members, for the good of all members and survivors”.

Keeping in mind the old adage, “it doesn’t-cost-it pays” to be a member of NARFE. No other organization can do for the Federal Worker and Retiree what NARFE can do. There’s power in numbers! Here’s your opportunity to aid in bolstering those numbers. Urge all of our members to contribute to NARFE-PAC. \$20 or more qualifies you to a NARFE-PAC pin. Wear it proudly. Make a point to bring NARFE-PAC up at your next meeting. Now is the time. Do it!





Area 4 Vice President / National Legislative Chair

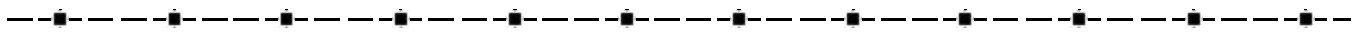
Gary E. Townson
212 E. Brownie
Rose Hill, KS 67133-9706
Telephone: (316) 776-2684 E-Mail: gesst@prodigy.net

There are times I feel about Congress like I used to feel about my children when they were growing up. “It’s NOT MY FAULT!” or “I didn’t start it!” You would almost think the pay of Senators and members of the House of Representatives was based on the number of times they could blame someone. They seem to have lost sight of the reason they were elected. Now, don’t get me wrong. I don’t think all of them are knuckleheads but 99% give the rest a bad name. Now we are facing the threat of yet another Government Shutdown.

On a slightly better note, a group of Senators met with Postmaster General Donahoe and the U. S. Postal Service Board of Governors Chairman Thurgood Marshall. The following day the U. S. Postal Service announced a five-month moratorium on closing postal facilities. While this is good news, better news would be for Congress to craft a long term fix to allow the USPS to prosper into the 21st Century. Those that think the USPS no longer is relevant might find the following statement interesting. *“The collapse of the Postal Service would devastate our economy. It operates at the center of a mailing industry that employs more than 8.5 million people and generates almost \$1 trillion in economic activity every year. Everyone — from big retailers to small businesses to online shops — relies on the Postal Service to deliver packages, advertise services and send out bills. Take that away, and businesses and consumers would suffer.”* This opinion was released by four members of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Interestingly enough, the statement was a bi-partisan one released by members from the Democratic, Republican and Independents. Now, if the rest of the Senate and members of the House of Representatives could stop posturing long enough to actually accomplish something, the USPS could get on with delivering the mail.

We have already started the political campaign season. Next November all four Kansas Districts will vote for a member of the House of Representatives. We will not have a Senate term coming up for a vote. One third of the Senators terms expire at a time. Senator Moran was just elected in 2010 and Senator Roberts’ term is up in 2014. In addition to the National elections, there will be State, County, and city elections. It is the duty of each of us to pay attention to who is running that we will have the ability to elect. Get out and meet the candidates. Let them know you will be voting for the candidates that will help protect our earned benefits. I hope you are on the NARFE GEMS (Global Email Messaging System) list. That way, when something important to us comes up in Washington, you will be able to find out about it and can contact your legislators concerning it. Phone calls and letters do have an impact on how the lawmakers look at a bill.

I wish you and all your Loved Ones a Blessed Merry Christmas.



Area 5 Vice President

Ronald Katt

P.O. Box 294

Victoria, KS 67671

Telephone: (785) 735-2585 E-mail: ronkarol@ruraltel.net



Chapter 2053, Oberlin, hosted an Area Membership Meeting in Atwood September 11, 2011. The meeting resulted in a new NARFE/Chapter member with several potential members. Congratulations, to Chapter 2053 for their continued growth in strength by one member at a time.

Congratulations to elected and re-elected chapter officers and appointed committee chairs for your agreement and dedication to serve your chapter for 2012. For those members serving as officers or chairs in 2011 but not in 2012, a big thank-you for your service. NARFE is grateful for willing members who step forward and serve in whatever capacity members can to keep the organization strong. NARFE members participating in “Protect America’s Heartbeat” campaign are commended in reminding our legislators of the promises made to Federal employees. Your e-mails, letters and donations have made for a successful campaign.

Area V wishes NARFE members a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year!



Area 6 Vice President

Robert E. Cranmer

P.O.Box 502

Ness City, Ks 67560-0502

Tel. 785 798 -2849 E-mail: rcranmer@gbta.net

As the Area 6 VP, I have attended 3 chapter meeting, a Federation Executive Board meeting, and a 2 day recruiting session at the KASCOE convention.

Every chapter is hard-pressed to find members to accept an office in their chapters. Most of our officers have “served” their fair share of time in office. Also, keep working on your own replacement. But having dedicated, resourceful NARFE members fill these positions, is what makes successful and vibrant Chapters.

The election of officers for the Kansas Federation Executive Board (President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) is coming up at the convention in April. The Kansas Federation Nomination Committee will accept your name for any of the positions on the KFB, through April 1, 2012. If you do not submit your name to the Nomination Committee, or miss the deadline, you can still be nominated from the floor of the Convention. Remember, April 1, is the deadline for placing your name with the nominating committee to be a new officer for next year.

Nominations Committee—All candidates for office will submit a resume that will be reviewed by the nominating committee and appointment for interview made as deemed necessary by the nominating committee chairman.



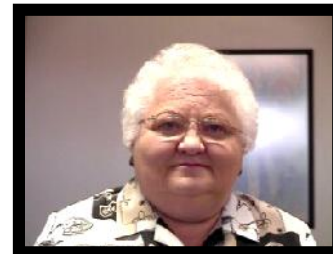
Alzheimer's Chairperson

Janice A. Neuschafer

908 Countryside Dr

McPherson, KS 67460-2104

Telephone: (620) 241-4232 E-mail: janicen3@cox.net



As of November 30, 2011, Kansas chapters have collected \$20,798.35 which averages to \$4.64 per member. The 2011 goal is \$5.50 per member.

As of October 31, 2011, NARFE contributions to Alzheimer's Research reached \$9,399,712.78. Chapter 3098, Tri-River, Paola, held their chapter Alzheimer's auction in September which amounted to \$1,083.00. In September Barb Pretzer offered her Chapter 366, Kaw-Blue, Manhattan, a challenge. If they raised \$600 in excess of regular donations by the end of December, she would donate \$200.00 to Alzheimer's Research. Her chapter members came up with \$600.13 in November, so Barb has paid up. Chapter Alzheimer's Co-Chairperson Michael Cardella made a K-State mailbox as an incentive toward this challenge.

For the fourth year, Linda and John Surritte of Chapter 378, Lawrence, challenged their chapter members to matching funds for the months of August, September, and October. The Surritte's sent a check for \$381.12 this year.

Chapter 1162, Shawnee Mission, and Chapter 2077, Iola, have recently sent checks for \$60.00 each for the collection of "Best Choice" labels which were sent to Associated Grocers. Memorial checks continue to come in with several being received from Chapter 2231, Jefferson County. As always, all checks for Alzheimer's Research no matter how large or small are welcomed. They all add up for an important cause.

It is not too early to begin thinking about the "Live" and "Silent" Auctions at the Kansas Federation Convention being held April 22-24, 2012, in Salina. Please start gathering your **"new"** and **"antique quality"** items. The convention committee has requested that all items contributed have an auction **value of \$5.00 or more.**

All personal and chapter checks submitted should be made out to "NARFE/Alzheimer's Research". **KEEP IN MIND**--when you come to convention, we **DO NOT** have capabilities to accept credit cards. Barb Pretzer, Region V Alzheimer's Coordinator/National Alzheimer's Coordinator says "I continue to get inquiries about NARFE members receiving a solicitation mailing from 'Alzheimer's Disease Research, 22512 Gateway Center Drive, P. O. Box 950, Clarkburg, Maryland 20871.' It could very easily be misunderstood that it is part of our effort with the Alzheimer's Association because of the similar name, but it is not. It does not contain the Alzheimer's Association logo or any reference to the Alzheimer's Association (though it does quote a lot of the statistics from the Association's 2011 *Facts and Figures* publication). I feel our members have contributed to this foundation thinking it was our fund. We can remind our members that, when identified as NARFE members, they will *not* get solicitations from the Alzheimer's Association. I hope to again put something about this in my next magazine article."



State Legislative



James Miller
7220 SW Asbury Dr
Apt 219W, Topeka, KS 66614-4718
Telephone: (785) 478-0651 E-mail: snyderfan89@sbcglobal.net

The off season legislative meetings and hearings have concentrated on solving the fund shortages in the KPERS (Kansas Public Employees Retirement System.) The sad news and bad news is there probably wouldn't be a unfunded liability and legislative hand wringing, IF the Kansas Legislature had been as faithful depositing their share into the Fund, as have been the working employees. Finger pointing won't accomplish much, but good solid legislative networking can help. Ron Richey has faithfully tracked the progress or lack of progress for most of the off session meetings and has noted the scary similarities between what the lawmakers propose to do with KPERS funding....and what the U.S. Congress may have in mind for OUR benefits. We will continue to apply what we learn from KPERS leaders....to represent NARFE members when threats to our Kansas State Income Tax benefit arise.

On a somewhat lighter note, possibly to lull us to sleep ? Governor Brownback has decreed the KS Legislre won't have time to discuss casino gambling and new rules governing establishment of casinos. He stated they will be far too busy with important, critical to KS issues. If we do our homework in our districts, and become familiar to our elected representatives, we have much better chances of telling our stories. We have Big Money lined up against us and our benefits, so meet your legislator BEFORE January 12, 2012, be friendly and not antagonistic, and let them know how you feel. There are hints in abundance in the stories of Protecting Americas Heartbeat. Use them ! Have a Merry CHRISTMAS and with concentrated efforts, we can have a happier new year ! Look on the bright side ! So far we have a COLA for the first time in three years !

Retirement Benefits (Service Officer)

Walter (Walt) R. Germann
409 W. Elm Street
Junction City, KS 66441-3609
Telephone: (785) 209-1938 E-mail: jgermann1@cox.net



[No article provided for this issue of Kansas NARFE News].



NARFE Net / Historian

James E. Dodd
1033 W. Spruce St.
Junction City, KS 66441-8041
Telephone: (785) 238-8041 E-mail: JDodd40955@aol.com

NARFE HQ has revised the home page and some of the other pages of their web site to provide access to more items from the home pages. Several NARFE members have stated they were having problems finding some of the pages they previously used. The following is a “quick guide” to the “update records” page and the “NARFE reports” page.

To go to the update your record page: At the NARFE.org home page, on the “Are you a NARFE member”? Line, click on “LOG IN HERE”.

On the PLEASE LOG IN AS A MEMBER” page, enter your Last Name and Membership ID number then click on the “SIGN IN” frame.

At the left side of the page click on UPDATE YOUR RECORDS.

This will take you to the Add Your Email and Change Your Address opening page. Enter your Member ID number. Then click on the Date of Birth drop down links. When done click on the “ENTER” frame. The Keep your records updated page will open. After making any changes, be sure to click on the “SUBMIT” page to save your changes on the NARFE HQ computer system.

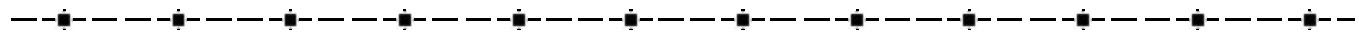
To go to the NARFE REPORTS pages:

At the NARFE.org home page sign in as a member the same as item #1 & 2 above.

At the NARFE Officers Home Page line, click on the CLICK HERE frame.

This will take you to the NEWS FOR NARFE OFFICERS page.

To go to the online reports: click on the NARFE ONLINE REPORTS line on the left side of the page. This will take you to the NARFE reports page where you select Chapter, State or Region reports as previously done. When you select your section of reports, you will need to enter the name and password as done before. I hope this helps with getting to the HQ pages you wish to view.



Mentor to Secretary

Lorene R. Mumm
16593 Ft. Riley Rd.
Leavenworth, KS 66048-8414
Telephone: 913-682-1197 E-Mail: roglormum@aol.com

