



Kansas NARFE News From Your Federation Officers

December, 2009 – January, 2010



*It's that beautiful season once again—
Time for wishing you happiness in your home,
Sweet memories in your hearts,
And the kind of love that keeps you warm all winter long.
Have a Happy Holiday Season!*



President

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!

This is the season to spend time with your family. We never know what tomorrow will bring.

FEHBP open season is here. Even with the raise in health premiums we have the best health care in the world. Who among us would trade our health care for any other in the world? We must stay aware of Congress and the work on a new health insurance plan so they don't put our plan in the Public Option.

The dues referendum results will be in soon. It would be nicer and easier to have only one dues rate instead of the many we now have in NARFE.

The Kansas Federation members are doing a good job state wide in recruiting at health fairs; retirement parties at military installations; and, state conventions of federal workers. We have gained many new members, but we are still losing more members than we are gaining. We must keep on recruiting new members.

I have had the privilege of attending chapter meetings in all parts of the Federation lately. It was very gratifying to receive a telephone call from a chapter, to which I had been invited, wanting to cancel a meeting because there weren't very many members able to attend. I suggested that we go ahead with the meeting. This was the first meeting in six years for the chapter and they had a very nice turnout and signed up two new members. All Federation Executive Board members are available to visit chapters when invited. I really enjoy all of the chapter visits I make.

Now is the time for all of you and your chapter members to think and volunteer for Federation Offices.

The 2010 Kansas convention is drawing near. Topeka Chapter 0002 is planning a gala event at the Ramada Inn, April 25-27, 2010. The hotel is large, the rooms are nice, and the food is good. I have stayed there. This is a time for fun and to learn about NARFE. So plan on attending:

Kansas State Convention
April 25-27, 2010
420 SE 6th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66607
1-800-432-2424

*"Do give books – religious or otherwise – for Christmas.
They're never fattening, seldom sinful, and permanently personal.*

---Lenore Hershey



1st Vice President / Membership Chair

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We still need to stop the Non Renewals. One would think things are going well. However, the monthly reports continue to reflect a downward trend as follows: the months of September and October reflected the following: federation had 18 Deaths; 42 New Members; 30 Reinstatements; and 67 Non Renewals for a total loss of 13 for the period. The overall numbers were a lot better than the two previous months. We need to continue to get in a positive direction. The following chapters' gained members during this period due to the Incentive Program – Chapter 0002, Topeka, gained five (5) new members; Chapter 0138, Wichita, gained seven (7); the following gained two (2) – Chapters 0757, Cowley County, Winfield – 0550, Pittsburg – and 2085, Solomon Valley, Stockton; and the following each gained one (1) – Chapters 0280, Salina – 0799, Chanute – 1939, Ninnescah Valley, Kingman – 2099, Osage County, Osage City – 2215, Jackson County, Holton – and 2231, Jefferson County, Valley Falls.

We have to make an assertive effort to keep chapters alive and active. We need to continue to push Dues Withholding with all memberships.

I with Louis Bornman and Eugene Harter, Area 1A Vice President, attended the Retiree Day at Fort Leavenworth. We visited with about 100 potential members. However, no sign ups.

The large number of Non Renewals is hurting our organization. Please continue to contact those members and get them to continue. If individuals are ill or in a nursing home, try to contact the family and encourage continued membership. Please encourage at least renewing for multiple years, by doing so, they save money.

All Presidents, please continue to share the great information in the Recruiter's Journal with your membership. Someone must have a story to share too so we can get an article published in the Recruiter's Journal. Do any of you have ideas we could get published that are great ideas for recruitment and retention? Remember, the recruitment contest continues through June 30, 2010. There is still time to be in the running for that great money if you win. Kansas currently has two (2) chapters in the small category in the running toward those big dollars. Share your program ideas with me so I can share with other chapters. Good programs attract new and current members to meetings. Be flexible with your scheduling of meetings. Please consider the opportunity to run for a state position this coming April. Please continue the open communication with your membership and to our federation. Let us know the good and the bad on what is happening with your chapter. I hope you all were able to elect new officers for 2010 and have wonderful holiday celebrations in your chapters. Best wishes to you all.

*“Friendship is a precious gift to give at Christmas time.
A cherished gift, a treasured gift that lasts through all time”*

Unknown



2nd Vice President / Public Relations

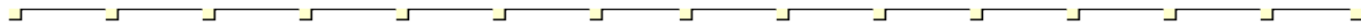
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Congratulations to Logan County Chapter 2032 and Custer 7th Calvary Chapter 2050 for celebrating 25 years of service to NARFE members. I was able to attend the celebration for the Custer 7th Calvary Chapter in Hays on October 23rd. I very much enjoyed the luncheon and the meeting that followed. Richard Thissen, Region 5 Vice President, was on hand to present the chapter members with their certificates.

Health Care Reform, or lack there of, is a big concern for everyone. As members, we need to try to stay informed on what Congress is trying to enact as law. My local chapter recently had the Blue Cross and Blue Shield representative as the speaker at our November meeting. I know that everyone was concerned that our health plan premiums were increasing, but I'm sure not everyone was informed that the increases were the results of Congress enacted laws. It is my understanding that Congress put into place certain laws that have already expanded our risk group for 2010 and these had nothing to do with the health care reform portion. When members are asked to write or call their representatives, please take a minute and follow through. You know the old saying – "It's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease".

The holiday season is fast approaching and keeping your identity safe is a larger concern during this period. Everyone wants money – from the Kansas Sheriff's Association to the credit card companies. Be cautious when you are shopping; don't leave your identification lying open on the counter for all to see. Before you head out to shop remove all unnecessary items from your purse and pay close attention to people in the parking lots when you are exiting or entering your vehicle. Take a few extra minutes to stay safe.

It's not too early to make your plans to attend the State Convention being held in Topeka in April, 2010. Mark your calendar for April 25 thru 27, 2010, and we look forward to seeing you there.



Secretary / Newsletter Editor

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All chapter presidents and secretaries have just received a mailing which included forms where an amendment may be requested in the way NARFE does business. (Bylaws <F-3C> or Convention Resolutions <F-3A>) If you, or your chapter, wish to submit a request for amendment, that form must be completed and returned to me by January 1, 2010. The reason for the deadline is to assure I will have time to mail the amendment request to all chapters at least sixty (60) days before convention.

All chapter secretaries need to submit Form F-7 “Chapter Officer Roster” by January 1, 2010, as instructed in the same letter. This is the only way your chapter will be assured of correct mailings from both Headquarters and me.

If you are having trouble getting officers for your chapter, contact your Area Vice President for help. If they need assistance, they can call other officers of the Federation for their assistance. We know we have many chapters who are struggling and we will make ourselves available as soon as possible. We have been working with several chapters over the last several months and are optimistic about the future of these chapters.

With the “gathering storm” in Washington, D. C. we must keep NARFE strong to influence our representatives to help us maintain the benefits we earned and were promised. We are not asking for anything “new” – we just need to maintain what we “have”. Grass root chapters and members is where our elected representatives look to. Ask your elected representative, or his assistant, to visit your chapter for a program.

I have really enjoyed visiting the many chapters over the past two months for anniversary parties, meetings with representatives, and chapter meetings. I always learn from those meetings and am glad to share any information that might help them in carrying out programs for a stronger and more enlightened chapter meeting. I will be attending several more Christmas parties in December. Two will be particularly “special” as Chapter 0002, Topeka, and Chapter 0027, Buffalo Bill, Leavenworth, will receive “Certificates of Award” for their 60th Anniversary. What a record!

I just completed an updated records of all chapters in Kansas with their date of charter and what “Certificates” have been awarded to each. Two (2) chapters will be eligible for 50 year awards in 2010, and three (3) will be eligible in 2011. Ten chapters have already received their 50 year “Certificate of Award”. These are: Chapters 0002, Topeka; 0027, Buffalo Bill, Leavenworth; 0138, Wichita; 0366, Kaw-Blue, Manhattan; 0383, Old Trooper, Junction City; 0384, Emporia; 0537, Hutchinson; and, 0621, Atchison.

Those receiving 25 year “Certificate of Awards” are: Chapters 1794, Heart of America, McPherson; 1991, Goodland; 1995, Garden City; 2032, Logan County, Oakley; 2050, Custer 7th Cavalry, Hays; and 2053, Oberlin.

These are just the ones I could find in the records. If you have received an award, please let me know so I can update my records.

I bring these to your attention because having an Anniversary party to recognize your Charter members and celebrate the years of your organization is a great way to revitalize your chapter members and gain recognition for potential members letting them know who you are and what you do. You don't have to have a 25 or 50 or 60 year anniversary. You may ask for recognition for any year you believe is important to your chapter. Just determine when you wish to celebrate, give us about 60 days to request the certificate of award from Headquarters; ask for help to design an invitation or design your own; and determine who you wish to invite. You will find it fun and a great learning experience.

If you have any questions you are not sure about, please call your Area Vice President. Ask them to attend your chapter meetings. If they cannot answer your questions, they all know someone who can get the answer for them.



Treasurer

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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 accomplishments of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

After Christmas, I will be mailing out the Per Capita statement to each chapter. If your' Chapter President, Secretary, or Treasurer has reviewed your chapter' semi-annual M-114 report; and, it is current the November 30 report we get from National should be accurate. I will be billing from that information. To be determined in "good standing" with the Federation, Chapter per-capita dues shall be paid within 30 days from the date the notice is issued. This payment, or lack thereof, will determine the Chapter delegates voting privileges during the Kansas State Convention.

At present, our Federation finances are staying close to budget or plan.

When you get that new 2010 calendar put a big bold mark on April 25th and Edith and I will plan to see you at the Federation Convention in Topeka.



Immediate Past President / Federal Legislative Chair

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There is a lot breaking on the Federal Legislative front. As I sit here writing this article, this evening, November 21, 2009, the Senate will meet and try to begin debate on Health Care Reform. No matter what your feelings are on this issue, fiscally for both the Country and to each of us individually, we can not allow costs for health care to keep increasing like they have for the past 10 years. I would encourage you all to contact Senators Brownback and Roberts and your Congressman and let them know what you think and want regarding Health Care Reform. The train is beginning to leave the station and it's important that your concerns and wishes be known.

On another issue, believe it or not, the next State Convention is only five (5) months away. As past State President, one of my responsibilities is to make sure we have candidates for each one of our State Officer positions for 2010/2011. The positions which we need to fill state-wide are President; 1st Vice President; 2nd Vice President; Secretary; and, Treasurer. I would encourage Chapter Officers and members to consider running for any office they feel they are qualified for. Serving on the Federation Board is both rewarding and helpful to advocate for those issues affecting Federal retirees and active employees. We are only as affective as our membership is active. We need to serve and you need to

serve to ensure retirees and active employees are fully represented in the Congress and the Administration.

In closing, Linda and I wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous Holiday Season. May you have a much fun and enjoyment as we do.



Area 1 Vice President

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When I was away from my home for a few days I was reminded of the need for a telephone tree and a contingency plan if you need to change meeting plans. I came home to feed the cat and while there, the phone rang. It was a representative from the church where we usually meet saying that we could not meet there on our usual day because of the death of a prominent member of their church. All of the facilities would be in use so there was no room for us. I gathered up all the NARFE things I could and headed back to my temporary abode. Thank goodness for a cell phone. It was put to good use. In calling a few members, I found one that said we could use her church. Okay, we now had a place to meet, now how to notify our members. We have a large membership but unfortunately all do not attend. With the help of a few people, we notified most of the usual attendees.

From this, I noticed the need for a telephone tree. Our National President stresses that all chapters should have one. She says that from time to time there is information to be shared quickly. A telephone tree would help in doing that. Of course, I could have used one this time for our chapter's problem.

I also noticed that not everyone has kept National Headquarters up to date with address and telephone changes. Have you?

I have made some visits to Chapters. I would like to visit more. I hope you invite me soon. Be specific as to when – don't just say "You are always welcome". I'm looking forward to seeing you soon.



Area 1A Vice President

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Fall is nearly gone and ready or not winter is coming. Just as we must make preparations for winter we (each chapter) need to make preparations for our next year. One of our top priorities needs to be retention of members and recruiting new members. The current NARFE Recruiting Contest is showing some very good results. I'm sorry to say however that most of us are not taking advantage of

the incentive. We can still get in the game and produce some good results for our Chapter, the State Federation, and NARFE in general, because the contest doesn't end until July 2010. Maybe during some of the dreary winter days would be a good time to call or call on some prospective members. **Let's all give it a try!**

On October 31, Elizabeth and Louis Bornman and I represented the Federation at the Fort Leavenworth Retiree Appreciation day with the Federation's display, banner and various NARFE publications. We handed out a lot of material and visited with a good number of prospects. Hopefully somewhere down the line this will lead to a new member or two. I personally thank Elizabeth and Louis for their good preparations and work for this event.

Since our State Convention, I have visited all chapters in Area 1A and some have visited twice. I have recently met with and installed officers for Chapter 1948, Pony Express-Nemaha County; and, Chapter 2164, Brown County, Hiawatha. There have been several officers' changes in some of the chapters in Area 1A and I am very pleased to see members ready to step up and be officers. I have been, and continue to be, impressed with the friendly and cooperative spirit of the chapters in my area. I do hope all members will always feel free to ask questions and/or make suggestions to any State or Federal officers.

Congratulations to Chapter 0027 Buffalo Bill, Leavenworth. They will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary at their annual Christmas Dinner on December 8, 2010. Wow! Sixty years ago Harry S. Truman was president and we didn't have any interstate highways. That-A-Way to go Leavenworth. We are proud of you!

I wish to all a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Area 2 Vice President / Kansas Federation Training Officer

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I had thought I would attempt to include an article for the current Federation newsletter, but am so far behind that I will not attempt it for this publication.

I entered the Kansas Heart Hospital, at Wichita, Saturday morning November 24th and was dismissed Saturday afternoon November 28th. I am trying to adjust to new medications, and several other factors such as a case of Cellulitius, etc. Also, a backlog of other issues so will not attempt an article for this issue as I am sure that the current Executive Board can make sure all bases are covered.

I do want to thank Don Cooper for stepping in at the last minute and meeting my obligation with the Ottawa chapter, Tuesday the 17th of November.

Looking forward to another newsletter with lot of information.



Area 2A Vice President

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With Thanksgiving close at hand as I prepare this message and Christmas coming in about a month, it is a time to be joyful and thankful! Sometimes we just forget to appreciate all our blessings. Our country is still the best place in the world to live and we still have much of the freedom our founding fathers worked, fought and died for. Since our Nation was founded we have had millions of men and women put their lives at risk fighting to protect our country and the freedom we love so much. Many of those gave their very lives to protect our freedom!

Think about the body you were given at birth. Even the birth of a baby is a marvelous event. As we work through each day we breathe the air that is provided to us. What other planet could we go to and have oxygen to breath. Scientists' have scoured the universe and have not found one place that could sustain life as we know it.

Have you considered gravity? Without it we would float right off this earth into outer space and if it were much stronger, our body weight would be more than we could carry around.

Have you thought about water? When our earth was created water was one of the gifts we received. We have found that you can make water dirty but you cannot destroy even one drop of it. Without water our life would not last very long.

I am thankful for a creator and for his creation. I hope that you will also be thankful and enjoy your life!



Area 3 Vice President / PAC (Political Action Committee)

*Donald L. Cooper
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The Kansas NARFE fall meeting held at Topeka, we were shown the facilities where we will have our next KANSAS NARFE Convention. The Topeka NARFE Chapter displayed the results of the planning that has gone into making our next convention one to be remembered.

I had the privilege of accompanying Gale and Joan Beck to Salina where “what NARFE can mean to you” was presented to the Farm Service Agency people.

I attended the November 9th chapter meeting of Black Squirrel Chapter 1947, Marysville, at Home, Kansas. This is a struggling chapter, but they have the willingness to survive. Several people were brought to mind as potential NARFE members.

I traveled to Ottawa on February 17th to attend the Chapter 0785, Ottawa, meeting. The chapter members discussed possible new members in the area and to seek these persons out.

Barb Pretzer provided a very meaningful and informative program on NARFE's part in the very real and ongoing fight against Alzheimer's disease to the Manhattan chapter at the January meeting. NARFE has a very meaningful program going to better inform people just how serious Alzheimer's is today. Contributions made to the NARFE Alzheimer's program all go to research.

We must keep in mind that potential NARFE members must be sought and means of informing them of their need to be members of NARFE. From time to time, I hear of persons who are eligible to be members but were not fully aware that there is an organization that is designed to be of great benefit to them – both retired persons and currently employed affiliates of the civilian government workforce. It is up to us get that message across and follow it up with reminders. **WE NEED THEM AND THEY NEED US!**

NARFE- PAC

NARFE-PAC contributions must be from persons who are NARFE members. It must be accounted for, as to the source, to be certain that it is a qualified donation. Therefore, the contributor must provide their NARFE membership number.

Remember, NARFE-PAC is a separate, segregated fund of the Association comprised only of voluntary contributions from NARFE members specifically for political purposes. There can be no comingling of monies contributed to NARFE-PAC and other monies of the Association.

Your voluntary contribution to NARFE-PAC helps fund the political arm of our organization in Washington whose sole purpose is to protect the benefits of individuals with a vested interest in the civilian retirement systems of the federal government. Today's climate lends need for all of us to be alert to attacks upon those retirement funds many previously thought were immune to any attacks on it's future.

NARFE – PAC contributions continue to be sent. I will forward them on to National. For each contribution of \$20 or more we have an attractive pin to show your pride in your efforts. Keep those contributions coming in.



Area 4 Vice President

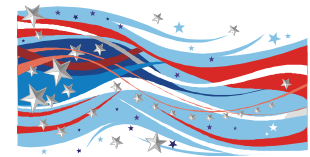
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“Peggy did not submit an article for this newsletter. All information entered here is written by the editor.”

Congressman Jerry Moran Visits Chapter 0138, Wichita



Gary Townson, Legislative Chair, Chapter 0138, Wichita, provided his chapter members the opportunity to meet with Congressman Jerry Moran who represents the First District for Kansas. The discussion covered Jerry's view on questions important to all federal civilian employees' benefits.



Area 5 Vice President



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Congratulations to Chapter 2032, Logan County, Oakley; Chapter 2050, Custer 7th Cavalry, Hays; and Chapter 2053, Oberlin, for celebrating their 25th Anniversaries by honoring their charter members. Chapter 2032 celebrated October 22 with two Charter members in attendance: Thelbert and Marian Boyd. Chapter 2050 celebrated October 23 with three Charter members in attendance: Edwin Pfannenstiel, Dorothy Sauer and Homer Schwarz. Chapter 2053, Oberlin, celebrated November 19 with two charter members in attendance: Lee D. Waldo and Crystal Johnson Moore.

Attending the Chapters 2032 and 2050 meetings were Region V Vice President Richard Thissen; Federation President Robert Cranmer and his wife Carla; and, Federation Secretary Carol R. Ek. Cindy Renee' Blythe joined the group for the meeting of Chapter 2050. Richard Thissen was not in attendance at the meeting for Chapter 2053.

Chapter 2032, Logan County, Oakley 25th Anniversary



L to R: Richard Thissen, Region V Vice President; Thelbert Boyd, Charter Member and Chapter President; Marian Boyd, Charter Member and original Chapter Secretary; Ron Katt, Area V Vice President and Robert Cranmer, Federation President.

Chapter 2032 Members In Attendance



L to R: Thelbert Boyd, Dave Moore, Marian Boyd, Deloris Steinke, Herb Steinke, Joyce Beougher, Catherine Moore, Gary Beougher, Karol Katt, Ron Katt and Emma Kaiser. Richard Thissen, Region V Vice President left on back row.

Host and Hostesses for Chapter 2032 Meeting



The Ladies American Legion Auxiliary hosted the Chapter 2032 meeting led by Karol Katt, President. The cake was just as delicious as it was pretty.



Chapter 2085 Solomon Valley, Stockton In Attendance

President Mike Gawith and wife Bernita Gawith



Chapter 2053, Oberlin In Attendance

Secretary Annette Miller and husband Gary Miller



Chapter 2050 Custer 7th Cavalry, Hays, 25th Anniversary

Presentation of 25 Year Certificate

*Richard Thissen, Region V Vice President
And Helen Shubert, Chapter President*



Sylvia Riepen, Secretary from Chapter 2099 Osage City attended this meeting with her daughter Cindy Renee Blythe, Federation 2nd Vice President.

Chelsey Gillogly, representative for Congressman Jerry Moran was also in attendance.



L to R: Ron Katt, Area V Vice President; Dorothy Sauer, Charter Member; Ed Pfannestial, Charter Member; Richard Thissen, Region V Vice President; Helen Shubert, Chapter President; and Homer Schwartz, Charter Member

Chapter 2053, Oberlin 25th Anniversary

Presentation of Certificate

L t o R: Lee Waldo, Charter Member; Gary Zodrow, Chapter President; Robert Cranmer, Federation President, Ron Katt, Area V Vice President

Crystal Moore, Charter Member

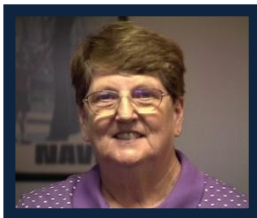




Attendance At Chapter 2053 Meeting

L to R: Beverly Kinder, Member; Lee Waldo, Charter Member; Estelle Waldo, Member; Gary Zodrow, Chapter President; Gary Zodrow, Member; Rob McFee, Potential Member; Carla Cranmer, Wife of Robert Cranmer, President; Eugene Wurm, Potential Member; Annette Miller, Chapter Secretary; Ron Katt, Area V Vice President; Robert Cranmer, Federation President

Eugene Wurm was the winner of the Federation drawing for one-year membership. After not holding meetings for several years this chapter looks like it will have a real turn-a-round. The members and potential members in attendance were talking very effectively about plans for future meetings and what can be done to bring in new members to make the chapter stronger. The Federation officers were very impressed and “thanked the members” for their renewed interest.



Area 6 Vice President

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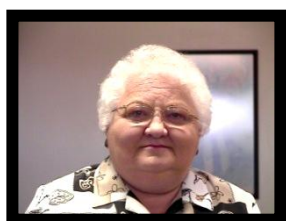
Happy Holidays to all!

Not much going on that I have heard of recently. As Area VI Vice President I’m continuing to send out letters to second notice members or members dropped in all chapters to encourage them to remain with NARFE. I include a reinstatement card and dues withholding card so they can send in to Member Services the appropriate one with their check or desire.

After visiting with Chapter Presidents, it seemed these people were not being contacted. I think it’s more personal to hear from someone within Kansas than from the National Headquarters. I know of one that reinstated. I have one problem to solve with a check that hasn’t been cashed so will be getting in touch with Member Services on behalf of that member.

Looking forward to 2010 and hope that things go more smoothly. Garden City will probably find a new meeting place as the current one has become too noisy. Scott City meets now in the new part of the library, entrance on the West side.

By the time this reaches you it will be past time to send in your new officer report. You can enter this on-line but Carol likes to receive the Chapter Officer Roster, F-7 snail mail so her records will be accurate.



Alzheimer's Chairperson

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As of October 31, Kansas chapters have collected \$26,224.12 which averages \$5.53 per member. The 2009 goal is \$5.25 per member. Of this total Memorial contributions amount to \$1,224.00.

Chapter 2098, Tri-River, Paola, held their annual Alzheimer's Auction in September which amounted to \$1,012.00. Chapter 0366, Kaw-Blue, Manhattan, held a garage sale in October. Several members donated fifty-nine (59) hours in preparation and working the garage sale with the proceeds of \$300.10.

For the second year Linda and John Surritte, Chapter 0378, Lawrence, have challenged their chapter members to matching funds for the months of July, August, and September. Forrest Holdeman, Chapter 0027, Buffalo Bill, Leavenworth, for the fourth year has challenged his chapter members to donate a certain amount to Alzheimer's Research. If the challenge is met, Forrest will donate a specific amount toward Alzheimer's.

In November, I was invited to speak at chapter meetings in Leavenworth and Abilene. This is a great way to get out and meet more of our NARFE members.

It is not too early to begin thinking about the "live" and "silent" auctions at the Kansas Federation Convention being held April 25-27, 2010, in Topeka. 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. I understand that another handmade quilt may be donated.

All personal and chapter checks submitted should be made out to "NARFE/Alzheimer's Research". **Keep in Mind** – when you come to the auction, we **DO NOT** have capabilities to accept credit cards.



*"Christmas waves a magic wand over this world,
and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful."*

Norman Vincent Peale



State Legislative

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Simply put, your guess is as good as mine. Governor Parkinson has stated he will have a balanced budget to present to the Kansas Legislature when they convene on January 12, 2010. He and his staff are also working on the 2011 budget. In the 2010 election year, almost every elected official is saying “**NO NEW TAXES!**” School boards are lining up their attorneys in case another case has to be filed, to ensure that public schools receive the monies promised. Stay tuned because the 2010 legislative follies should be ... “*lively*”.

On a personal note, the right **AND** left arm of the Topeka Chapter legislative presence at the State House will be missing when the 2010 Legislature convenes. Ron Richey has resigned, due to personal and family problems. Ron has done an awesome job these past four years attending virtually every committee meeting that could affect our benefit and making sure legislators knew who he was, and who NARFE is. To say he will be missed is not sufficient and trying to replace him could require **TWO** people, if I can find and recruit them.

I will attend meetings of the Kansas House Appropriations Committee on November 25 for two reasons. One: any threats forthcoming; and, Two: any adverse actions being proposed.



Retirement Benefits (Service Officer)

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My wife and I have just returned from an overseas trip to Hong Kong, Mainland China, and Tokyo. We were gone twenty-one days and it was long enough. The trip was nice and we saw a lot of good sights, but it was good to be back in the good old USA.

This month I would like to touch on checking out your current life insurance coverage. Many times as I call on the next of kin, especially widows and widowers after the death of a loved on, I find that many have no idea of the coverage the deceased had. I recommend that everyone of us take a look at our individual coverage and let our next of kin know what those of us who have FEGLI insurance and make sure that the information on file in OPM Retirement Operations Center in Boyers, PA, is current. After the review, be sure to notify OPM of any updates or changes. You can use a SF-2823 (Designation of Beneficiary). Your chapter service officer should have these forms.

If you can't find the forms, please let me know by e-mail (jgermann1@cox.net) giving me your address and I will see that you get a copy along with instructions on how to fill it out and the mailing

address to send it to. I will send you an original and a duplicate, send both, and OPM will return the duplicate to you after posting for your records. Now is the time to insure that your loved ones understand what they are entitled to upon your death and not leave them in the dark. If I can be of assistance to anyone, please contact me.



NARFE Net / Historian

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The KSNARFE.org web site home page “hit counter” has been moved to the bottom of the page to speed up loading of the page.

I am in progress of making a NARFE Federation Calendar page for the web site at the suggestion of Federation Secretary Carol Ek. I will send a net message out when the page is operational.

The latest Federation Executive board minutes have been added to item #6B.

A link has been added at item #47 to use to update your NARFE HQ records. (e-mail address, telephone number, address, etc.)

At item #54, six (6) versions of the NARFE HQ F-100 “Life Events Booklet” have been added. Five of the versions let you “**type in**” the information and print out the completed forms.

“Enjoy the Holiday Season”