



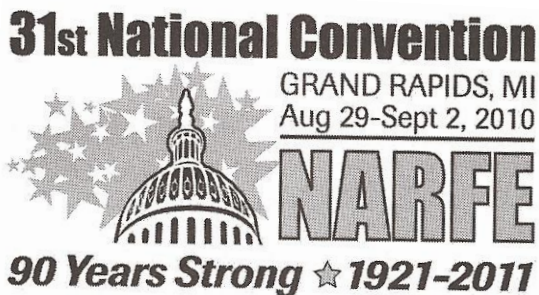
Kansas NARFE News From Your Federation Officers

September – November, 2010

Kansas Federation Delegates National Convention - 2010



Left to Right: (Back Row) – Elizabeth Bornman, Chapter 1162, Shawnee Mission; Louis Bornman, Chapter 1162, Shawnee Mission; Lorna Larson, Chapter 1162, Shawnee Mission; Barb Pretzer, Chapter 366, Manhattan; William Kastens, Chapter 0002, Topeka (Second Row) Madelyn Brown, Chapter 383, Junction City; Agnes Shellhammer, Chapter 1162, Shawnee Mission; Janice Neuschafer, Chapter 1794, McPherson; Mary Janet Collins, Chapter 537, Hutchinson; Bill Collins, Chapter 537, Hutchinson; Monica Kastens, Chapter 0002, Topeka; Jane Lancaster, Chapter 138, Wichita; John Lancaster, Chapter 138, Wichita (Front Row) Flo Biehl, Chapter 1162, Shawnee Mission; Joan Beck, Chapter 2077, Iola; Gale Beck, Chapter 2077, Iola; Sylvia Riepen, Chapter 2099, Osage City; Cindy Renee` Blythe, Chapter 2099, Osage City; Carol Ek, Chapter 1794, McPherson.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS



The above “logo” was the one designed specifically for the 31st National Convention. Remove the 31st National Convention, Grand Rapid, MI, and Aug 29-Sept 2, 2010, and you have the “logo” being worn on very nice shirts worn at the convention. Hopefully these shirts will be available for your purchase on NARFE MART soon.

The convention opened on Sunday evening with a very beautiful Memorial Service for all deceased members since the 2008 National Convention. Regional Vice President’s lit candles reading

numbers of members from their Regions who had passed away; and, Mrs. Baptist lit a candle honoring all those who had passed away on September 11, 2001; all those serving in Iraq; all those serving in Afghanistan; and other troubled spots defending our country. A beautiful arrangement musical tribute with solos of: “If You Could Only See Me Now”; “In the Arms of the Angels; and O’ Beautiful for Heroes True” was sung.

Barb Pretzer, National Alzheimer’s Chair, introduced Mary Ellen Geist who has written a book titled “Measure of the Heart” which is the story of her heart rendering journey through the past five years after coming home to help her Mother care for her father who had just been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s. This is a must read book for anyone trying to be a caretaker for anyone who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s. Anything you ever wondered about Alzheimer’s is revealed here as Geist seeks to relate to her father’s changing world. Barb also gave a report on the current Alzheimer’s committee’s action to set a new goal of \$10,000,000 by 2012. Barb is such a gracious representative for NARFE and is a truly superb representative of Kansas. She never fails to mention that she is a Kansas native and how proud she is of our home state and Federation.

Region V was 2nd in the Nation for donations to Alzheimer’s for the 6th year; Kansas was 2nd in the Nation for per capita; and 3rd in the Nation for total donations. The highest total for the year was awarded to Virginia with \$66,270. This highest per capita was awarded to Mississippi with \$6.49 per member.

The following tables shows number of persons at the convention representing 90% of the current chapters. Of total authorized votes of 6,326: 3,171 were carried by Chapter representatives; 2,910 were covered by proxies carried by delegates; for a total of 6,081 total votes available to be cast. Kansas was represented 100% with eighteen (18) delegates from nine (9) Chapters carrying fifty-five votes for their own chapters; and, sixty-one (61) votes from thirty-six (36) Chapters.

Daily Registration Statistics	Total Registration As of 08/31/2010
Representation Chapters (Out of 1,412)	Representation (Including Proxies) 1,273 90%
Delegates	883
Delegates At Large (National Officers, Regional Officers)	65
Alternates	27
Members & Guests	48
Total in Attendance	1,023

President

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Madelyn Brown, Chapter 383, Junction City; Janice Neuschafer, Chapter 1794, McPherson; and myself traveled by automobile from McPherson to Grand Rapids, Michigan to attend the National Convention. The travel companions were fun; the scenery was beautiful; the food was excellent; and Grand Rapids went all out to welcome NARFE members. “Welcome NARFE” was displayed on the

street banners, in businesses; and even at a town square “polka” food and dance party. We went to the square on Saturday evening – ate but didn’t dance. We enjoyed watching and the music was local and great. We enjoyed the company of Region V Vice President Richard Thissen.

National Treasurer, Richard Ostergren, announced that as of January 1, 2011, NARFE is going paperless. All reports (e.g. M-112, M-114) will be accessed only on-line. They will no longer be mailed. *****I have just received notice that if requested, forms will be mailed however the cost of printing and postage must be paid by the chapter.***** It is the hope of the National Executive Board that the Federations can make a plan to see that all chapters have access to their chapter reports. We will be discussing this at our Federation Board Meeting in Junction City on October 19, 2010.

Mr. Ostergren also announced that all chapter deposit checks must be changed to “Direct Deposit” by January 1, 2011. To get forms for direct deposit go to www.narfe.org website. On the banner across the top, click on Leadership. A drop down banner will appear, click on forms. You will then need to sign in with your last name and membership ID number; a listing of forms format will appear. Click on the option “fillable forms in PDF format”; then look for the Direct Deposit Forms on that list. Click on it and you will get a “pdf” file that contains not only an instruction page but also the form that is needed to be filled out and mailed to Richard Ostergren, Treasurer, at headquarters. ***Remember*** to attach a “voided” check” which will verify all of the information contained on the form. *****I have just received notice that the cost of receiving your check if the direct deposit has not been requested will be \$1.00 plus postage.***** If you do not have capabilities to pick this form up from the internet, please let me know and I will send one to you for completion. **“THERE IS ABSOLUTELY ‘NO’ REASON YOUR CHECK SHOULD NOT BE RECEIVED BY DIRECT DEPOSIT.”**

Membership – In July and August, Kansas lost 263 members. Many of these members could have been retained if the chapter had just contacted them and ask them to renew that membership. When ask why members have not renewed, many times the reply is “I’ve never been contacted for meetings or to renew my membership.” This is sad! We are a member “grassroots” organization but chapters do not “welcome” new members and ask them to attend their meetings. We cannot keep members if we don’t offer anything in return.

The membership dues increase was passed at the Convention. It was necessary because Headquarters has suffered the same losses we have due to the downshift in the economy. I believe the National Executive Board has attempted to make cuts where they can to keep the office and legislative efforts effective for the members. They suffer from the loss of members and from the failing economy the same as all of us do. Let’s recruit new members and keep old members on the roles. Until January 1 new members will be recruited at \$33.00 with \$11.00 being returned to the Chapter – after January 1 recruitment will be \$45.00 with \$15.00 being returned to the chapter. Members renewing their memberships will remain the same until January 1 and will increase to \$40.00, plus chapter dues, after January 1. Your Area Vice President has additional information relating to the dues increase.

Dues Withholding – Those recruitments (retired employees) who are recruited on dues withholding will pay \$24.60 plus chapter dues before January 1; and, \$34.00 plus chapter dues after January 1.

“Thank you” to all chapters who have invited members of the Executive Board to attend your local meetings. We all appreciate meeting your members and maybe helping them feel closer to helping add their knowledge to the larger picture. The next Federation Executive Board meeting will be held on October 19th. If you or your members have anything you would like to ask the Executive Board to look into and give you an answer, please let your Area Vice President know.



1st Vice President / Public Relations

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As 1st Vice President, I attended the Old Trooper, Chapter 383, Junction City, annual pot-luck at the June meeting; the Chapter then went on hiatus over the summer. We enjoyed lots of food and chatter.

In August, I emailed an information letter to the chapter newsletter editors in an attempt to find out how they get the word out about their chapter meetings. I received one response and seven undeliverable addresses. If your chapter does not have a public relations “web master” or “newsletter writer”; appoint one today. Then please send that members name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address to the Federation Secretary and to me! Secretary’s who have sent the information to the Federation Secretary and National NARFE headquarters with the e-mail address, please check that e-mail address and send the accurate one to both the Federation Secretary and myself.

Other than working, my husband and I went on two trips, one to New Mexico and one through twelve Northwest states by RV coach. Lots of fun....

2nd Vice President / Membership Chair

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I attended the NARFE National Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and boy was that a new experience. The convention workings, at least for my part, worked very smooth. I didn’t have to stand in line too long to get my registration packet and then off to the races I went!

Of course, the main issue on all the attendees minds was whether NARFE needed a dues increase. For several months prior to the convention, candidates running for National office were hard at work telling members that NARFE needed more money to operate and that expenses were beginning to eat away at our investments then on the other hand there were the candidates that said all that was bogus. So of course, we took it all to the ballot box and made the decision ourselves. By now you have already discovered that we voted for a dues increase. Yes, an increase – that amounts to \$12.00 a year or one Diet Coke a month. I have just one word for everyone, well two.....life membership. For active federal employees, the way to go is consider purchasing the Life Membership before the dues increase becomes effective January 1, 2011.

Dues were not the only major issue on the discussion tables; membership, or lack thereof, was spoken to by every attendee. We all know that in order for an organization to stay vital there has to be members that are willing to play an active part in the operation of the organization. The worry is that

with the increase in dues membership will drop. What we need to do is think back to why you joined NARFE and use that same logic on a potential member.

I'm working hard on creating a membership Plan that will be used at both the Federation and Chapter levels. But we all know that a membership plan is not what causes members to join an organization. It's the people that already belong. We are the only and BEST salesmen for our organization. So with this newsletter, I challenge you to bring at least one potential member to your next Chapter meeting. If that person doesn't join at that meeting then keep in touch with them and invite them again. Keep inviting them until they get so tired of you that they complete the membership form just to keep you away!!! Then you can consider your mission complete...until you find that next potential member.

Life Membership Dues

<i>Ages</i>	<i>(\$33.00) If Taken Before January 1, 2010</i>	<i>(\$40.00) If Taken After January 1, 2011</i>
30-39	\$ 1,320	\$ 1,796
40-50	1,015	1,408
51-55	783	1,127
56-60	664	960
61-65	557	801
66-70	452	653
71-75	373	514
76-80	292	392
81-90	197	251
91-100	107	127



Secretary

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Now that I have served in the office of Secretary for approximately four (4) months, I am starting to get a little more familiar with all the various chapters throughout our State, having worked through the NARFE Convention Delegate form and Proxy process. I appreciate all the efforts of the Area Vice-Presidents, our Federation President, and all the chapters for cooperating so that we were able to get 100% of our chapters represented at the NARFE National Convention.

In reviewing the duties of the position of Secretary, I wanted to advise all the chapters that as secretary, I will be mailing a packet to all Chapter Secretaries around October 1st that will provide a copy of the F-7, Chapter Officer Roster forms.

October is officer nomination month for chapters who meet each month, and election month for those chapters who hold only quarterly meetings. New officers, and appointed chairs, must be sent to National Headquarters, the Federation President, the Area Vice President, and me before January 1,

2011. To help me with my efforts of updating Federation Directories, I would greatly appreciate the completed F-7 forms being sent to me by no later than December 15th.

You may submit the form F-7 on-line by following these instructions:

- 1) The form must be submitted using the Chapter President's identification – so either ask the president for concurrence that you send the F-7 or have them send it. Get the information needed: last name, membership identification number and chapter from the M-114.
- 2) Go to website www.narfe.org
- 3) On the banner across the top, click on "leadership"
- 4) Sign in with your last name and membership identification number
- 5) Take the option "list of interactive forms"
- 6) Take the option "chapter area roster – form F-7"
- 7) Log on with chapter President's last name, membership number, and chapter number
- 8) View only on secure website "yes"
- 9) Be certain you fill in every block on the form by either marking change, no change or vacant.
- 10) Be certain you hit the submit block. This will automatically send a copy back to you, to the Federation President, Federation Secretary, and Headquarters. You do need to make a copy to send to the Area Vice President. This can be completed by forwarding a copy to them by e-mail or sending a copy by regular mail.

This will preclude me from having to do follow up correspondence to chapters who have not submitted their forms. I know this will be a busy time of year for all of you, and this will save you from having to receive follow up telephone calls or e-mails during the holiday season.



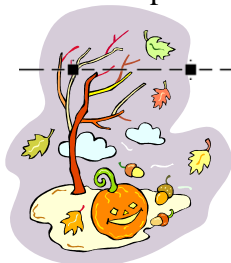
Treasurer

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Another summer is almost over. As I write this our area celebrates the harvest season with Old Albany Day at the Albany Museum just north of Sabetha. This area is looking forward to a good harvest.

The Federation finances are running close to plan. I had predicted a seven thousand balance for the first of October and it will be close to eight thousand, however, I only have received expense vouchers from twelve of the expected eighteen board members. Now I am beginning to get vouchers for expenses to the National Convention.

Hope everyone can enjoy the harvest season and great weather.



"May joy fill your heart when you receive warm hugs from friends"



Immediate Past President

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My, what a hot summer we have had. All of those 100+ days are getting to be too much for this old man!

On August 14, 2010, Ness City received 1 ½ inches of rain along with 3 to 4 inches of hail. It completely covered the grass in the lawn. Some were larger than golf balls. I am in the process of getting three (3) roofs repaired along with the rest of the damages. My 1998 Ford 150 pickup was totaled in the storm. Thank goodness the storm only last for thirty (30) minutes.

I am so glad that the dues increase passed. Now we need to get all members signed up for dues withholding or to become a life member.

Scott City, Chapter 1996, has invited Walt Germann, Federation Service Officer, to be their guest and program on October 12, 2010. This is an evening meeting. +++See Brenda Myers Article++++ Please attend if you are available.

Area 1 Vice President

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I have visited all five of my chapters at least once since our Federation Convention.

Shawnee Mission, Chapter 1162, celebrated forty years with an anniversary party. The immediate past president of the Federation attended along with his wife, Carla. He presented a certificate that was placed in an album with other mementos of the occasion.

Chapter 0378, Freestate, Lawrence, had a program on home safety which was presented by the police department. **Chapter 2231, Jefferson County, Valley Falls**, gave an interesting program on flat rate postage boxes. **Chapter 2215, Jackson County, Holton**, had a local chiropractor talk on Health for the older adult. **Chapter 002, Topeka**, held a wonderful indoor picnic. I was the program. I mentioned these programs because it might give a program chairman somewhere some ideas that they can use.

I attended the National Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan. I gained a lot from it as I always learn. Officers were elected. The dues amendment passed. You can get a nice price break if you go to dues withholding. You might even consider life membership before the dues change. Other resolutions were passed. I enjoyed birthday cake. NARFE will be ninety years old next year so we were starting the celebration early. The band was great too. It played my kind of music. You might give a thought to attending the next one in two years at Reno, Nevada.



Area 1A Vice President

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Greetings from northeast Kansas. The temperature is finally beginning to cool down after a scorching summer and am I ever glad – my favorite season is autumn.

Our thoughts and prayers to go to Richard and Diane Hall on the loss of their son, Chris Williams. Diane is president of the Buffalo Bill, Chapter 0027, in Leavenworth, Kansas and Richard is third Vice President.

It has been great to visit some of the chapters in Area 1A. I've been to the Doniphan County, Wathena, Chapter 2136, meeting in Troy where we discussed trying to find new members and dues withholding. I also passed out literature that could be given to prospective members telling what NARFE has done for them lately and the newest copies of NARFE publications for respective offices.

When I met with the Pony-Express-Nemaha County, Chapter 1948, Sabetha chapter in Wetmore, we again talked about recruiting new members and dues withholding. After their meeting, we toured a local antique car museum (and I now realize I am also an antique, as I remembered lots of those cars).

The Buffalo Bill, Chapter 0027, Leavenworth had its annual picnic where I also saw other executive board members. My husband won a movie themed door prize and it was good to visit with members that I hadn't seen in many years (we lived in Leavenworth for 25 years and I retired from the fort).

Lynn Jenkins has been holding her "Office Hours" tours across this part of the state, and I attended the meeting she held in Atchison. She was very gracious in answering questions: (1) she is not in favor of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform cutting the fully funded annuities of Federal employees; (2) she did not know that retirees premium of Social Security beneficiaries did not raise; and, (3) she favors leaving the health benefits of Federal workers and retirees alone.

Buffalo Bill, Leavenworth Chapter 0027, held a candidate forum on September 3 for NARFE members and anyone else who wanted to attend. All candidates for National, State, and local offices were invited. None of the National candidates attended, although Lynn Jenkins did send a representative (she had held an "Office Hour" in Leavenworth the week before). The only State candidates present were Chris Biggs, who is running for Secretary of State; and, Janet Waugh, incumbent from the 1st District for the State Board of Education. None of the State Senate candidates running for National Office attended; but all of the State representatives introduced themselves and answered questions. Melanie Meiers, who is the democratic incumbent for the 40th District said she was in favor of retirees continuing to not pay state income tax on their annuities. The last candidate to speak was for county commissioner.

I want to encourage all NARFE members to pay their dues using dues withholding. The following is a cut and paste from an e-mail from NARFE National Headquarters and signed by Margaret Baptiste.

- “• One year National Dues - \$40.00
- “• Two years National Dues - \$72.00
- “• Three years National Dues - \$102.00

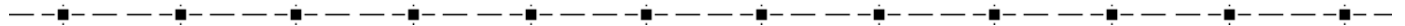
“The above is for National Dues only. Chapters will continue to establish their dues and National will continue to collect those dues and remit them to the chapters.

“Those members who are on dues withholding will receive a 15% reduction on National Dues. Their annual dues will be \$34.00 plus chapter dues of record. Again, Chapters will continue to establish their dues and National will collect them and remit them to the chapters.

“Finally, the National Executive Board (NEB) established a new First Year Membership Fee of \$45.00. Under our bylaws, “One-third (1/3) of the Membership Fee ... shall be returned to the Chapters in lieu of the first year’s Chapter dues.”

“Implementation target date for these increases is 1 January, 2011.”

A later e-mail suggests using the current first year membership fee of \$33.00 (with 1/3 (\$11.00) going to the local chapter) as a recruiting tool to get new members before the increase. Notice that dues withdrawal saves you \$6 a year. You will find a form to enroll in dues withholding in every issue of the NARFE magazine. *If you use this form make certain you include your recruiter’s ID number and chapter.*



Area 2 Vice President / Kansas Federation Training Officer

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The National NARFE bi-annual convention has come and gone. Chapter officers and members will be receiving information on the actions taken by the delegates at the convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in your monthly NARFE magazine and through other sources. Please take time to read all reports that are released on the convention and the actions taken. I will not address the issues or topics that you can and should (must) read elsewhere, but will address NARFE, NARFE membership and NARFE members.

Many NARFE members say they cannot attend meetings because of health problems, age, or other causes. Yet there were NARFE members at the convention in wheel chairs, walking with crutches/canes. I am sure some were there who have celebrated their 90th birthday. Some I have known for years have had strokes and other health problems, yet they came in spite of health problems. By attending, learning more about NARFE, meeting old friends, making new friends, all helps NARFE and it helps these members to recharge their batteries so to speak.

Have you ever heard the term “*Attitudes are Contagious*”? Is yours worth catching? It is my hope that NARFE members take this quote “*TO HEART*”. That is in supporting NARFE and the recruitment of members. Each member is a “key” to the recruitment of members. Is your key turned on or have you turned it off? No excuses please.

General comments from my position as a NARFE member, Joan and I both carried Proxies for other chapters who did not have members in attendance. Travel by car was over 900 miles one way, which I drove. Cost? Hotel room was around \$100 per night, plus \$12 per day parking for five days, plus registration fees for each of us. (Thanks to the Iola chapter for their contribution. Appreciated.)

I requested a room a month before the convention, yet we stayed in a hotel some five plus blocks away, which we had to walk at least twice a day. When we arrived at the host hotel, the convention center was another block distant within the hotel. So we did it! Have you ever attended a NARFE National Convention or better yet a Kansas NARFE Federation Convention? If no, why not? “You realize some have waited too long to attend, but please support those who do attend in your place.”



Again! Attitudes are Contagious – Is yours worth catching?

A final question? How many new members have you recruited in the past year? How many has your chapter recruited? Kansas has some 22,000 plus retirees; plus working Federal employees. It takes persistence, ask and when you do, provide the potential member with a membership application. Contact them, again and again, it takes persistence, and determination on your part. Always have a membership application with you. “Remember” they can also pay by Credit Card, if they do not have cash or a check book handy.

A final note. Joan and I attended the USDA/FSA National convention in Little Rock, Arkansas, in early August. The Arkansas NARFE Federation provided a NARFE booth. They were not aware until I contacted them that this group of over 500 Federal USDA employees were eligible to be NARFE members and that they employ around 9,000 employees nation wide. Question once again? What have you done for NARFE lately?

By the way, “Have You Checked Your Attitude Lately”?

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Area 2A Vice President

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Congratulations to the Chanute Chapter for being one of two Chapters in Kansas recognized for recruitment of new members in the Small Chapter category in the NARFE contest. Chanute and Hutchinson tied with 12 new members. That takes lots of work and makes Kansas look “good”. Summer has been a slow time for NARFE in extreme Southeast Kansas. I have been in contact with all Chapters and have attended Independence, Chanute and Ft. Scott chapter meetings. Pittsburg is on my list later. The Coffeyville Chapter still has difficulties and we are working there to see if a plan can be developed. As always, getting people to step up to a leadership position is hard. But the bottom line is if someone does not, then NARFE becomes weaker.

I have visited with several candidates for office both at the State and National level. Most incumbents know about our desires but other candidates DO NOT. Most State Candidates are elected this fall as well as the rest of those in Topeka. It appears to me that the Medicare Part B premium increase for those except Social Security is not an important issue to our Kansas Congress representatives. Kansas NARFE has a job to inform them. I do not understand “what about “FAIR do they not understand”. I hope each NARFE Chapter and members will visit with their representatives.

Now that the National convention is over and dues changes are in order, we have more work to do at the local level. Maybe dues withholding will now be the norm.

I want to remind Chapters that there is a large number of publications to order or download at the NARFE website: www.narfe.org. They can be excellent recruitment literature.



Area 3 Vice President / PAC (Political Action Committee)

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Do you know the NARFE-PAC Creed? **“Of the donors, by the members, for the good of all members and survivors!”**

- 1) Before a candidate for office can be considered for a contribution for NARFE-PAC funds, a written campaign request must be received at the National NARFE office.
- 2) The National NARFE office then sends a request to the Federation NARFE-PAC coordinator to respond with a consensus of the candidate. While this is the first official step, coordinators are encouraged to keep a poll with members on their respective members of Congress and congressional candidates so as to be prepared when a request for a particular candidate is received.
- 3) Once the National Legislative Assistant receives the response from the PAC Federation coordinator, that response is provided to the National Officers for consideration in making a final determination on whether that NARFE-PAC donation will be made to that candidate’s campaign.
- 4) NARFE-PAC will not contribute to two different candidates running for the same seat.
- 5) The National NARFE-PAC will sometimes make a contribution decision contrary to what the local chapters or federation recommends. While the recommendations of local NARFE members are always given full consideration and great weight when reviewing PAC requests, it is the responsibility of the NARFE-PAC Committee to take into consideration the overall national political landscape --- in addition to the recommendations of local members. NARFE-PAC is national in scope and it is important for our National Officers and Legislative Department staff to take into consideration the national political climate in addition to any personal relationships or feelings about the candidates.

With the changing landscape in our National representative campaigns, NARFE-PAC has become a very important to tool to assist those elections where candidates express views favorable to our primary mission of protecting and enhancing members’ earned benefits. Following is a list of contributions by chapter for the period from January 01, 2009 through June 30, 2010:

Location	Chapter	# of Contributors	Amount
Topeka	0002	111	\$ 2,965
Buffalo Bill, Leavenworth	0027	76	1,666
Wichita	0138	268	3,149
Salina	0280	19	525
Kaw Blue, Manhattan	0366	62	1,370
Freestate, Lawrence	0378	18	450
Old Trooper, Junction City	0383	44	1,091
Emporia	0384	10	225
Salt City, Hutchinson	0537	35	702
Pittsburg	0550	12	270
Atchison	0621	6	135
Crossroads, Belleville	0739	22	480
Cowley County, Winfield	0757	5	100
Ottawa	0785	5	100
Bourbon County, Ft. Scott	0792	8	200
Chanute	0799	15	335
Sunflower, Kansas City	1160	26	475
Shawnee Mission	1162	119	3,140
Golden Plains	1709	10	200
Independence	1763	10	200
Heart of America, McPherson	1794	22	590
High Plains, Dodge City	1873	4	140
Tri-County, Herington	1933	6	155
Ninnescah Valley, Kingman	1939	3	75
Black Squirrel, Marysville	1947	7	190
Pony Express, Sabetha	1948	6	98
Goodland	1991	4	100
Garden City	1995	12	230
Scott City	1996	9	200
Clay Center	1998	6	135
Logan County, Oakley	2032	5	115
Hays	2050	9	145
Oberlin	2053	3	65
Iola	2077	27	585
Solomon Valley, Stockton	2085	10	260
Ulysses	2086	4	90
Tri River, Osawatomie	2098	22	430
Osage County, Osage City	2099	4	80
Doniphan County, Wathena	2136	13	175
Chisholm Trail, Abilene	2137	13	80
Jackson County, Holton	2215	11	270
Jefferson County, Valley Falls	2231	6	135
Colby	2291	2	30
Total State of Kansas		1093	\$ 22,466

Discuss PAC contributions at each Chapter meeting and ask members to contribute when they can. These funds are necessary to help protect our earned benefits!

I have made two visits to Chapter 1947, Black Squirrel, Marysville held in Home City. I have attended my home chapter meeting Chapter 0366, Kaw Blue, Manhattan. I am making contacts to other chapters to attend meetings hopefully before the next Federation Executive Board meeting.

Chapter 0383, Old Trooper, Junction City, members are gearing up to host the 2011 State Convention in Junction City.



Area 4 Vice President

Gary E. Townson
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This has been quite a Summer! As Area IV Vice President, I have visited Chapter meetings of Chapter 537, Salt City twice; and Chapter 1794, Heart of America, McPherson once; as well as taking part in my home Chapter 138, Wichita, activities. At the July, Wichita, meeting both Democratic Party and three of the five Republican Party candidates running for the 4th District Congressional seat in the U. S. House of Representatives attended our meeting. I served as the moderator for a mini forum. This allowed chapter members to see who the candidates were and hopefully helped them decide who to vote for during the August primary. I have attended numerous political debates and open houses during the Primary season. Although I attend these activities as a private citizen and not in any official NARFE capacity, I make sure the candidates are aware of NARFE and the need to represent Federal employees, both active and retired, if elected. The Primary elections are over and in November we will be electing several new individuals to both local and National positions. They will have the power to reduce our earned benefits or protect us from financial attack. Unless you have unlimited financial resources you **MUST** check out the candidates in your area, make an informed decision and then **VOTE!** NARFE works to protect us but we must also participate.

“I’m just one old person! What difference can my vote make?”

Gee! I’m glad you asked. I served as the Campaign Treasurer for a Candidate running for Butler County Commissioner. His name is Stephen Scholtz and you might have heard about this little race on the news. He is 22 years old and this was his first run for an office. His opponent, the incumbent, is 54 and has been in elected politics since 1984 (including 14 years as Mayor of Rose Hill). Some people got together and financed a TV commercial for Steve because the incumbent was so unpopular. The election ended in a statistical tie with Steve ahead 895 votes to 891 for the incumbent. The Monday after the election, the provisional ballots were counted. The result then was 902 – 902! The election came down to a game of chance. They decided on a coin toss and the incumbent won. Steve lost with dignity and maturity far beyond his years. He ran a clean, hard working campaign and even though the incumbent resorted to ‘dirty tricks’, Steve maintained his integrity. If just one more person had taken the time to vote in the election, Steve could now be the Commissioner-elect. The right to vote was earned, for you, with the loss of blood, many lives, limbs and countless other sacrifices.
YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

“The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.”

Area 5 Vice President

*Ronald Katt
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Telephone: (785) 673-4822 E-mail: ronkarol@ruraltel.net*



Fall season is in the air, schools are back in session, spring crops of corn, grain sorghum, soybeans and sunflowers are maturing for harvest and leaves are changing colors and starting to drop from trees. Seasonal changes remind us as NARFE members that things do not remain constant and we do need to be dedicated members to assure change does not adversely affect our well being.

Chapter 2085, Stockton will be hosting and Area 5 get-together in celebration of their Chapter's 25th Anniversary, October 20, 2010. Region V Field Vice President, Richard Thissen; and Federation President, Carol Ek are invited participating attendees. This should be an informative and fun Area V celebration for the Stockton chapter.

One of our NARFE association's purposes is the protection of earned benefits. The many contributions that we as members can do for ourselves, and state and national leaders, is to vote in the general election. We encourage members to study political candidates and vote for that candidate who will best serve your interests.

Area 6 Vice President



*Brenda A. Myers
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“If we are ever to enjoy life, now is the time, not tomorrow or next year. Today should always be our most wonderful day.”

Thomas Drier

This quote could become your theme for the rest of this year if you substitute NARFE for life.

It's been a long summer with all the heat, weeds and pollen in the air! I've determined that I'm allergic to Southwest Kansas as I am still blowing and coughing after six weeks.

Reports from Carol Ek when at convention were greatly appreciated. The new dues structure needs to be explained to members thoroughly so they will understand the differences in 2011. Now is the time to encourage dues withholding and or life membership. Chapter dues will be added to the forty dollars for National dues and returned to the chapter. Dues withholding will be \$34 dollars plus chapter

dues so the saving is yours to grab. Reading your NARFE magazine is more important now than ever before to keep informed about the issues facing Active and Retired Federal Employees. Four new officers were elected at National Convention.

Scott City, Chapter 1996, will host Walt Germann, Kansas Federation Service Officer, at their October meeting on Tuesday, October 12th. They have invited Area V and Area VI Service Officers and any other members to come and learn more about filing for death benefits. They will meet at the Pizza Hut, "Dutch treat", at 5:45 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Library, 110 W. 8th Street, West Entrance, Scott City.

Remember to continue the Grassroots campaign and talk to candidates as they tour your area to gather votes.

Alzheimer's Chairperson

Janice A. Neuschafer
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McPherson, KS 67460-2104
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As of August 31, Kansas Chapters have collected \$21,576.62 which averages \$4.63 per member. The 2010 goal per member is \$5.50.

So far in 2010, memorials in the amount of \$2,324.40 have been received for "NARFE/Alzheimer's Research". No matter the amount of the memorial, the contributions add up for a very important cause. Acknowledgments are sent for all memorial donations, and to the family of the person the memorial is made in memory of.

I attended the 2010 National Convention in Grand Rapid, MI. The Alzheimer's Association FY 2010 contributions as of June 30, 2010, were announced as \$525,540. Of the 54 Federations, Virginia was #1 with \$66,270 in total dollars contributed. North Carolina was #2 with \$29,783. Kansas ranked #3 with \$29,194. Region V with \$98,149 was the #2 Region in total contributions behind Region X which was #1.

Mississippi ranked #1 with \$6.49 per capita. Kansas was #2 with \$6.02 per member. Delaware came in at #3 with \$5.41 per member. Thanks for all you do, and for bringing this recognition to our state of Kansas and to Region V.

All chapters Alzheimer's chairpersons have been sent the Alzheimer's Association order form. Pens, pencils, post-it-notes, bookmarks, brochures, etc., can be ordered from the Alzheimer's Association at no cost to your chapter.

The Alzheimer's Association has created this list of warning signs for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. Individuals may experience one or more of these in different degrees:

- 1) Memory changes that disrupt daily life.
- 2) Challenges in planning or solving problems.
- 3) Difficulty completing familiar tasks.

- 4) Confusion with time or place.
- 5) Trouble understanding visual images and special relationships.
- 6) New problems with words in speaking or writing.
- 7) Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps.
- 8) Decreased or poor judgment.
- 9) Withdrawal from work or social activities.
- 10) Changes in mood and personality.

If you or someone you care about is experiencing any of the ten warning signs, please see a doctor to find the cause. Early diagnosis gives you a chance to seek treatment and plan for your future. Alzheimer's is a progressive, fatal disease and with no known cause or cure. Further scientific research is the greatest weapon we have to conquer this disease.



State Legislative

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Recently while speaking at a Kansas chapter, a member asked a question that led me to give a State Legislative 101 explanation. For decades, the mission and purpose for members of Chapter 0002, Topeka, have been to attend committee meetings, hearings and sessions of the Kansas Legislature. Ron Richey, Ron Neis and I currently represent NARFE members at the State House and **TRY** to insure federal retirees receive fair treatment on the state income tax exemption. Efforts through the years since the benefit was passed have been made to “lift” federal retirees **ONLY** out of the organizations with the state income tax benefit.

To date, our efforts and those of Oscar Albrecht and Ron Musser before us have been successful. Other retired employee groups with the benefit are KS Public Employees Retirement System (KPERs); KS Police & Firemen's Retirement System; KS Teachers Retirement; KS Highway Patrol; KS Justices & Judges Retirement; Railroad Retirement; retired employees of Washburn University and sever additional categories. With pressure mounting on the KS Legislature to CUT taxes, I believe the **ENTIRE** benefit could be under fire for **ALL** organizations.

Adverse editorials and “news” stories decrying lavish pensions and benefits for public and especially federal retirees abound. The same criticism is leveled at current employees, public and federal. Representative Eric Canton (R-PA) said “Americans are fed up with public employee pay scales far exceeding that in the private sector”. That's easy to understand, because the business practice in vogue now is to **CUT** wages, hours and benefits for employees. Recession? Why expand? Hiring is easy because so many people are desperately seeking jobs. We've got 'em down, let's keep 'em down! 2010 Topeka Capital Journal, **“THEN THERE'S THIS ISSUE OF PENSIONS. USA TODAY REPORTED THAT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RECEIVED AN AVERAGE OF \$41,791.00 IN BENEFITS LAST YEAR, AND MOST OF THAT FIGURE WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO PENSIONS”.**

“That should be all the incentive we need to work for a stronger NARFE in Kansas and in Washington, D.C.”

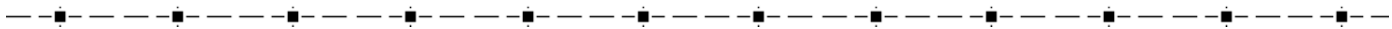
Retirement Benefits (Service Officer)

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



“Hope everyone had a very nice summer”.

I am in the process of visiting a couple of chapters and am presenting a program on duties of the Chapter Service Officer in hopes of getting some more members to volunteer to serve their Chapters as the Service Officer. Any assistance that I may be able to provide to any Chapter or it’s members, please call on me at any time.

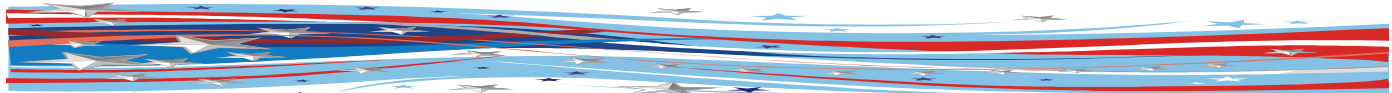


NARFE Net / Historian

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NARFE Headquarters has added a new mailing in addition to the hotline messages. They are called “NARFE News Watch”. These bulletins are being sent to everyone on the HQ e-mail list. The bulletins have a lot of good information for NARFE members. The bulletins are sent from the e-mail address: narfe@multibriefs.com. Some of the internet servers may consider this address as a “spam” address and send the message to your spam file. The files ***are not spam***, so if the above happens to you, just click that the file is not spam so it will show up in your regular e-mail list. When the file opens there is a link on the top of the page that takes you to the regular NARFE.org Headquarters pages.

Again, all NARFE members are urged to check the e-mail address you have listed on the Headquarters Web site to be sure it is the correct current address so you will receive all of the NARFE HQ’s mailings.



*Distinguished Service Awards – Chapter 1704
Heart of America, McPherson
(l to r) Lester Griffiths; Donald Henry; Arnold
Serviss; Clara Mae Parr; Robert Cranmer,
Federation President*

*Buffalo Bill, Leavenworth Chapter 0027
August Officer Installation (Top Row)
(l to r) Richard Hall, 3rd VP-Service Officer;
Helen Gallagher – Alzheimer's Chair;
Diane Hall, President; Carol Ek, Federation
President; (Front Row) Eileen Sturgis,
Secretary; Fran Gast, 1st VP – Membership;
Ross Perkins, Treasurer; Billie Oertel, 2nd
VP - Programs*



*Chisholm Trail, Abilene Chapter 2137
Foerschler Annual Picnic*



*Carol Ek, Federation President; Donald
Cooper, Area 3 VP – PAC Coordinator;
Janice Neuschafer, Federation Alzheimer's
Chair; Betty McVickers, Chapter President*

*Salt City, Chapter 0537
Hutchinson
"Annual Picnic"*



*Gary Townson, Area 4 VP; Erma Hill;
Chapter Secretary; Bill Collins, Chapter
President*



*Gene Algrim, Chapter 1st VP
Carol Ek, Federation President;
Mike Zamrzla, Jerry's Moran's Aide*

NARFE Friends Gathering Over The Summer