



# KANSAS STATE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

“CHAMPION OF THE FEDERAL RETIREE”

Volume XIX

NARFE Tri-River Chapter No. 2098

June 2007

Winona Hornbuckle, Editor, 1201 N. Broadway, Louisburg, KS 66053-3540, 913-837-4434, e-mail - sphwmh49@mokancomm.net

**NARFE Tri-River Chapter No. 2098** meets the second Tuesday each month at rotating sites with a luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. in January and February and dinner meetings at 6:00 p.m. the remaining months. The newsletter is published monthly.

### Chapter Officers:

- John McCoy, President, (913) 731-4175
- Sterling Hornbuckle, First Vice President, (913) 837-4434
- Jean Nickell, Second Vice President, (913) 755-4309
- Winona Hornbuckle, Secretary, (913) 837-4434
- Darrell Williams, Treasurer, (913) 755-4026
- Robert Hodge, Legislative Chair., (913) 557-5581
- Elizabeth Smith, Membership Chair., (913) 294-2249
- Norman Minden, Service Officer, (913) 294-3139
- Helen Morrison, Alzheimer's Chair., (913) 755-4020
- Darrell Williams, NARFE-PAC Coord., (913) 755-4026

**May 8 Meeting** - Met at 6:00 p.m. at the Fontana United Methodist Church with 27 attending. The minutes were read and approved and the Treasurer reported \$394.93 in checking and \$805.42 in savings. Darrell reported there is a group coming to Paola to teach, promote and support the advancement of all forms of American music. This chapter was represented at the convention by Elizabeth Smith - registration desk; Jean Nickell - photographer; Elsa Hale - membership; Norman and Carol Minden - benefits; Helen Morrison - Alzheimer's, and John McCoy - legislation and PAC. Total attendance was 212 and 45 chapters were represented. All the state officers remain the same except Thomas Raby who went to an Area Vice President position. Elizabeth Bowman replaced him as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Premium Conversion and GPO/WEP are getting more and more cosponsors. Premium Conversion, if passed would be a possible savings of between \$700 and \$800 yearly. There is talk of reforming GPO/WEP like a 2/3 offset with 1/3 to begin with. So far no benefits have been cut. Kansas ranked 22<sup>nd</sup> on PAC contributions and our region is 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state. They are pushing membership and want us to support whatever initiatives they come out with. We should target current federal employees. Region V was second in the state in Alzheimer's donations with contributions of \$6,831,486 so far this year with the goal being \$3.35 per member. Voted to raise the 2007 amount to \$4.00 per member. The auctions went well and our chapter had about \$450. September is the month for our Alzheimer's Auction and because of a conflict we voted to change the meeting to September 4 at Cadmus.

**Next Meeting** - June 12, 6:00 p.m., at the Plum Creek United Methodist Church, 31910 Plum Creek Road, Osawatomie. Our guest speaker will be Erin Lyons. Callers should turn in the names of those they are making reservations for to Darrell Williams, 913-755-4026, by Saturday, June 9. Be sure to make a reservation if you plan to attend. If you make a reservation and do not attend, you will be expected to pay for the meal.

**Sunshine** - Marge Anderson had shoulder surgery on May 2. Rachel Miller is home and a therapist is coming to her home. Claude Taylor has had more tests. Let's keep these members and others in our thoughts and prayers.

**Legislation** - The CPI-W increased 0.8% in April to 202.13 which is 1.5% higher than the 2006 third quarter average. Premium Conversion, Social Security Government Pension

Offset and Windfall Elimination continue to gain cosponsors but there are still many in the lapsed category. Go to pages 19-21 of the June NARFE Magazine and the Legislative Action Center on the NARFE website and find out what the status of your delegation is on these issues and take action. There is a sample letter in the NARFE Magazine you can use to remind lapsed cosponsors of premium conversion. Also, the week-long recess over Independence Day - June 30-July 9 - might be an opportune time to make contact with your congressmen.

NARFE testified on May 18 at a hearing before the Senate Federal Workforce Subcommittee and stressed the importance of the December 2006 GAO report that found FEHBP premiums were higher than needed because of the decision by the Administration to forego a payment provided by the 2003 Medicare Premium Drug Act.

Sen. Pat Roberts 11900 College Blvd., Ste. 203 Overland Park, KS 61210 (913) 451-9343	Sen. Sam Brownback 612 S. Kansas Ave. Topeka, KS 66603 (785) 233-2503
--	--

<u>or</u> 109 Harte Sen. Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510-1605 (202) 224-4774	<u>or</u> 303 Harte Sen. Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510-1604 (202) 224-6521
---	---

Rep. Nancy Boyda  
510 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Topeka, KS 66612  
(785) 234-8111

or  
1711 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515-1602  
(202) 225-6601

**Membership** - We need to recruit more current federal employees. Retirement laws can be changed by any Congress and that is why more of them should join NARFE. There is no change to income or health security of current or future retirees in this year's budget resolution but who knows what might happen next year.

### Upcoming Events

- July 10, 2007 - NARFE Monthly Meeting
- August 27-29, 2007 - College of NARFE Knowledge, Mariana Inn, South Sioux City, NB. Room rate is \$78 which includes a buffet breakfast for up to two people. Registration fee is \$60. Reservation deadline is August 2, 2007.
- September 11, 2007 - Chapter 2098 Alzheimer's Auction, Cadmus Grange Hall.

### OLD GLORY

I'm just a bit of bunting dyed in stripes of red and white. My corner holds a field of blue with stars to give it light. Though winds may pull and tear at me and sunny colors fade, my spirit will remain as strong as when I first was made. My hist'ry is the hist'ry of the land o'er which I fly. Its freedom, pride, and power are the things I signify. I've been to all the battles that my country's men have fought. I've dwelt in all the school rooms where youngsters have been taught. I watch as you go by with hat upon my heart. You see in me a nation great of which you are a part. Unfurled and floating on the breeze in red and white and blue, your faith in home and fellow men is passing in review.