



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

December 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

November 13 Meeting - Met at the First Lutheran Church in Paola with 34 attending. Gale Beck, our Area Vice President, talked to group. He reported the College of NARFE Knowledge had 230 in attendance including Jean Nickell, Darline Laws, and Elizabeth Smith. Chapter training has been held at Iola, Clay Center and Kansas City and will be done in the Wichita area and Western Kansas in March. The 2008 Convention will be held in Hutchinson, April 27-29. The State Executive Board is running out of money and needs to come up with a way to finance this. It was hoped that chapters would consider paying an additional 50 cents. Per Capita tax is \$1 a year. The April and May NARFE Magazines will contain information regarding scholarships. Grandchildren and great grandchildren may be eligible. Calendar and card money goes into the Disaster Fund and any member can apply and get \$500. Reached the 7 million dollar mark in Alzheimer's and 8 million will be new goal. None of this money goes for expenses. The national conference will be September 7-11, 2008, in Louisville, KY. Blue Cross and Blue Shield insurance increased 8 1/2 %. Medicare also increased. Have little control in these costs. OPM won't release the money that would keep premiums down. Current employees should join NARFE and add to our numbers to try to get this changed. The dues structure is changing. Effective January 1 the \$26 will not longer be in effect to join. Most federal employees think these laws and benefits cannot be taken from them. A bill was introduced that if you worked less than 30 years and retire they can reduce your health insurance from the Government payment 72% down to 50%. Income will decrease upon retirement. Next year Treasurers will have to file an IRS report. If not filed tax exempt status will be lost. If a member has been a member for 20 years and is 85 years of age and honorary membership can be obtained. Have 10,000 now and project 20,000 in a few years. South Dakota is only state that increased members this year. Kansas dues withholding is 31.5%. Working employees cannot go on dues withholding. Dues for retirees or spouse at \$33 per year are 9 cents per day; federal employees - 7 cents per day. A single dues structure is under consideration. Kansas currently has 25 different rates. Voting delegates - one member one vote would be nearly 340,000 ballots. One delegate for 50 members is being promoted by regions back east. Have 5,000 members

with a potential of 25,000. OPM has alerted us that there is a copycat website - www.fedvp.com which confuses retirees who think it is part of the government's Federal Dental and Vision Program (FEDVIP) website. The site owner has been requested to add a disclaimer. Correct website is www.fedvip@opm.gov. A wish list for Bib Brothers Big Sisters was distributed. If you have any ideas for programs please let John McCoy know.

Next Meeting - December 11, 2007, 6:00 p.m., at the Cadmus Grange Hall, 21981 Highway 7 (northwest of LaCygne). Callers should turn in the names of those they are making reservations for to John McCoy, 913-755-4020, by December 8. 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 - Jean Nickell reminded us to send a card to those who are ill.

Legislation - Robert Hodge reported the Senate subcommittee under the Senate Finance Committee is in charge of the legislation on GPO/WEP. We have until December 10 to make changes in our health coverage.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 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 |
| or | or |
| 109 Harte Sen. Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-1605
(202) 224-4774 | 303 Harte Sen. Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510-1604
(202) 224-6521 |
| Rep. Nancy Boyda
510 SW 10 th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66612
(785) 234-8111 | |
| or | |
| 1711 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515-1602
(202) 225-6601 | |

Membership - We have a another new member, Mark Peters, who resides in Paola. Welcome to our chapter Mark. We now have 101 members.

Alzheimer's - Helen thanked everyone for a terrific auction. We averaged \$214.99 per member last year but it is over that for this year.

Upcoming Events

January 8 - NARFE Chapter 2098 Meeting



MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR