



# "OLD TROOPER" NEWSLETTER



Active and Retired Federal Employees "Old Trooper" Chapter No. 383, Junction City, Kansas

January 2 0 1 1

**Chapter 383, 2010 Officers**  
 President: Jim Mitchell, 238-3423, wildman1@fhrd.net  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Ray Thompson, 762-5249  
 2nd Vice President: Sharon Strain, 238-1361, srs5960jrs@yahoo.com  
 Secretary, Lannie Pender, 238-6503  
[garfieldgal@embarqmail.com](mailto:garfieldgal@embarqmail.com)  
 Treasurer: Madelyn Brown, 238-5623 [madelyn11@cox.net](mailto:madelyn11@cox.net)

**Committee Chairpersons:**  
**Legislative, James Dodd, 238-8041**  
**Membership, Sharon Strain, 238-1361**  
**Public Relations Service Officer, Walt Germann, 209-1938**  
**Parliamentarian, Ray Thompson, 762-5249**  
**Alzheimer's, Opal Dalton, 922-6551 and Virginia Adam, 922-6706**  
**Sunshine, Janet Harrel, 238-7488**  
**NARFE-PAC, Carole Blixt, 922-6413**  
**Decorating, Opal Dalton, 922-6551 and Virginia Adam, 922-6706**  
**Program, Leonetta Chaves-Bibby, 238-6642**  
**Editor**  
**Chaplain, Otis Scroggins, 238-1342**  
**Calling, Vi Martin, 238-8539/Cell 210-6037**

List # 1	Faye Heath , 238-1412
List # 2	Sharon Griffin, 238-5382
List # 3	Verleen Byrn, 238-1659
List # 4	Pat Fisher, 762-5249
List # 5	Leonetta Chaves-Bibby, 238-6642
List # 6	Maxine Kroeplin, 238-2990
List # 7	Dee Campbell, 238-6082
List # 8	Dorothy Lutman, 461-5577
List # 9	Wally Mitchell, 238-3423
List #10	Janet Harrel, 238-7488
List #11	Joan Martin, 210-0211
List #12	Joyce Peoples, 238-3005
List #13	Ramona Norcross, 762-2218
List #14	Dorothy Galloway, 482-3297 (Dwight area)
List #15	Janetta Rector, 922-6605 (Chapman area)

**LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE Toll-free! (24 Hours): 1-877-217-8234**  
**LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)**



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

### Upcoming Events

17 January: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
 18 January: Committee Chairpersons meet with State President, Area VP and other State officials to discuss the convention details. Those working closely with State will be Financial, Credential, Memorial, Sergeant of Arms, Photographer, Chaplain and Timekeeper.  
 11:00, 7 February: Executive Board Meeting, Library  
 11:30, 10 February: NARFE Luncheon / Meeting, Senior Citizens Center, 1025 South Spring Valley Road, Speaker will be Kip Lee, Manhattan, speaking on Reverse Mortgages.  
 14 February: Valentine's Day  
 21 February: President's Day  
 11:00, 7 March: Executive Board Meeting, Library  
 11:30, 10 March: NARFE Luncheon / Meeting, Senior Citizens Center, 1025 South Spring Valley Road, Speaker will be determined.  
 10-12 April: State Convention, Junction City  
 Date for Executive Board Meeting – TBD  
 11:30, 14 April: NARFE Luncheon / Meeting, Senior Citizens Center, 1025 South Spring Valley Road, Speaker will be determined.

**CONVENTION UPDATE!** What's left to be done? Theme: Kansas Sunflower

Partial List – each committee has separate requirements!

- Request \$300.00 from State Treasurer, J. P. Ketter, [ekjer@att.net](mailto:ekjer@att.net)
- Find auctioneer for the "live" Alzheimer auction. (Chapter pays)
- Invite "color guard" for the Sunday opening session – 6:45 p.m.
- Invite the mayor to offer welcome of delegates to the city – 6:45 p.m. Sunday
- Chapter President welcomes everyone at the Sunday opening session.
- Find entertainment for the Monday night banquet. (Chapter pays)
- Chapter buys, wraps a door prize with a limit of \$10 - \$20 per gift. (Chapter pays)
- Chapter needs to establish a bank account for "convention funds only."
- Chapter establishes a record to capture deposits and expenditures.
- Registration Committee needs all forms in sufficient time to prepare registration packets (March timeframe).
- Financial officer pays all expenses except photographer and parliamentarian.

**COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS:**



IF you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please send your request to Dixie Thomas at [bthomas56@cox.net](mailto:bthomas56@cox.net)

Of course, those attending the luncheon will receive a newsletter at the luncheon - no change.

**ALZHEIMER'S FUND:** If any member who doesn't attend meetings wishes to contribute to the Alzheimer's Fund, you can send a check to: Madelyn Brown, Treasurer, 1141 St. Mary's Road, Junction City, KS 66441. Please make checks out to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research" and write "Alzheimer's Fund" on the memo line.

**ALREADY RESERVED YOUR LUNCH AND SOMETHING CAME UP???**  
**– PLEASE CALL AND CANCEL YOUR MEAL RESERVATION – 238-4015 – THANK YOU!!**

Convention Chairperson: Jim Mitchell  
 Convention Co-Chair: Dixie Thomas  
 Banquet & Decorations: Nancy Wiehl and Dixie Thomas  
 Financial: Nancy Wiehl  
 Host and Hostess: Wally Mitchell, Jim & Vi Martin, Don & Marilyn Bielefeld (?),  
 Information Chair: Joan Martin, Donna Schmutz  
 Memorial Service: Dixie Thomas  
 Publicity Chair: Madelyn Brown  
 Printing Chair: Jim Dodd  
 Registration Chair: Barbara Thibodeau with/ Madelyn Brown, June and Carlos Buckles, Joan Martin, Dixie Thomas, Nancy Wiehl, Celina Vincent  
 Hospitality Chair: Maxine Kroeplin, Karen Baldwin, Sharon Griffin  
 Credential Chair: Lanny Pender  
 Sergeants of Arms: Ray Thompson with / Bert Thomas, Jim Nelson, Don Campbell, Bob Norcross, Clarence Lehner  
 Chaplain: Otis Scroggins  
 Convention Time Keeper: Carole Blixt  
 Alzheimer's Committee: Opal Dalton with / Virginia Adam, Dee Campbell, Joyce Peoples (?), Marie Sawyer (Sunday), Billie Jo Rivera (Sunday)

**CHAPTER NEWS**



**HAPPY January BIRTHDAY TO:** Alan Stephen, Barbara Hill, Cameron Davis, Carole Blixt, Celina Vincent, Clarice Longhofer, Corky Briestensky, Edna Patterson, Janet Harrel, Leonetta Chaves-Bibby, Richard Mathes, Robert Norcross, Sharon Strain, Vi Martin, and Walt Germann.



**HAPPY January ANNIVERSARY TO:** Cameron and Bobbi Davis, Llellwyn and Daisy McTavish, Lola and Don Marston, and Otis and Shirley Scroggins.

(Remember – the only way your name(s) get on the list is if you tell the Editor – no where is there any birthday or anniversary in the NARFE files. Dixie Thomas)

**SECRETARY'S REPORT by Lannie Pender:**

President Jim Martin, of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) called the December 9, 2010, Chapter #383 meeting to order at 11:30, 4H/Senior Citizens Center.  
Invocation: Chaplin Otis Scroggins led the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. President Martin extended birthday and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month of December. He extended a warm welcome to guest, Peggy Blevins. President Martin called for the reading of the minutes. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes, a motion was made by Ray Thompson, motion passed. A motion was made by Donna Schmutz to accept the Treasurer's report, motion was passed. The Treasurer's report will be filed for audit.  
 The Chapter received a thank you from Jonetta Rector. Reports, Jim Mitchell gave an update on the upcoming State Convention and spoke about Ads for the Convention Booklet, samples were passed out and he also stated that the Treasurer for the Convention is Nancy Wiehl. He stated there would be a Convention meeting; time and place would be announced at a later date.  
 Legislative Report by Jim Dodd: He reported that the Fiscal Commission Report had not gone to Congress yet, but that does not preclude lots of changes coming. Congress is



## NEW TAXI DRIVER

A passenger in a taxi leaned over to ask the driver a question and gently tapped him on the shoulder to get his attention.

The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb and stopped just inches from a large plate glass window.

For a few moments everything was silent in the cab.

Then, the still shaking driver said, "Are you OK? I'm so sorry, but you scared the daylights out of me."

The badly shaken passenger apologized to the driver and said he didn't realize that a mere tap on the shoulder would startle the driver so badly.

The driver replied, "No, no, I'm the one who is sorry, it's entirely my fault today is my very first day driving a cab.

I've been driving a hearse for 25 years.

1.

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.

He acquired his size from too much pi.

2.

I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian .

3.

She was only a whiskey maker, but he loved her still.

4.

A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class, because it was a weapon of math disruption.

5.

No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.

considering giving \$250.00 to Social Security recipients, but not Federal retirees.

No reports from Service Officer, Walt Germann, or Sunshine Chair Janet Harrell.

Membership Chair Sharon Strain was not at the meeting, there was no report. However, she did send thanks for voting for her as 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.

Vi Martin, Calling Chair, thanked all of her callers for the work they have done for the past year. There were 96 reservations for the December meeting and 91 in attendance. The Alzheimer's fund received \$104.40.

The entertainment was Junction City High School Jazz Band under the direction of Mr. Taylor. They gave a wonderful performance with a mixture of Jazz, Big Band and Christmas music; many toes were tapping to the beat. A hat was passed for voluntary donations for the Junction City Band for their visit to the Fiesta Bowl. NARFE members donated \$388.47 to defray some of the costs of the trip – Mr. Taylor and band were very appreciative.

Door Prizes were won by Virginia Adams (twice), Carlos Buckles and Jan Chartier.

The next meeting will be January 13, 2011.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40.



## TREASURER'S REPORT by Madelyn Brown:

Beginning Balance December 1, 2010 - \$744.19

Receipts - \$548.00

Expenses - \$497.59

Ending Balance December 31, 2010 - \$794.60



## SUNSHINE REPORT by Janet Harrel

Please make sure Janet gets your calls on our house bound members or someone that needs a cheering up.

## NATIONAL NEWS

Dear Federal Workers and Annuitants:

On December 3rd, 11 of the 18 members of President Obama's Fiscal Commission voted "For" the final report which contained proposals to cut federal civilian and military retirement by \$70 billion over 10 years, shift an increasing share of health premium costs to federal workers and retirees, freeze federal pay and reduce the federal workforce by 10 percent.

While not the supermajority of 14 votes that would have required Congress to immediately consider the report, many Commissioners promised that their spending cut and revenue provisions will inform the budget debate when it resumes in January 2011. That is to say, federal employee and retiree benefits will remain near, if not in, the bulls eye for deficit reduction proposals.

As a result, all federal employees and annuitants should continue to contact their own Representatives and Senators about the unfair cuts to federal retirement and health benefits and employee compensation proposed by the Fiscal Commission.

Help protect the security of your earned retirement, health benefits and pay by entering your name and address in the web form found below the following text.

Don't delay -- use the NARFE Legislative Action Center today to save your earned compensation!

Join NARFE <http://www.narfe.org/departments/home/articles.cfm?ID=1569> to be regularly updated on legislative developments in Congress and be part of a grass-root organization with an advocacy culture.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Beaudoin, President



**IN MEMORIAM: THIS COLUMN IS DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY OVER THE YEAR. PLEASE REMEMBER FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF OUR ORGANIZATION.**  
**MAY 2010, JUNE 2010, JULY 2010, AUGUST 2010, SEPTEMBER 2010, OCTOBER 2010, NOVEMBER 2010**  
**Clifford M. Rector**

## NARFE Deplores Assaults on Federal Family in Fiscal Commission Report

Basing federal civilian retirement annuities on an employee's highest five years of salary rather than the highest three years, as under current and longstanding law. According to the Congressional Budget Office, this plan would reduce a Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) annuity by an average of \$1,424 in 2010 and would reduce the average annuitant's retirement benefit by \$7,148 over five years. A Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) annuity would be cut by an average of \$462 in 2010 and by \$2,322 over five years.

- Requiring workers to contribute a much higher share of their salary toward their defined-benefit annuity. This would have the effect of a significant pay cut. The additional contribution would not result in any change in a retirement annuity. While employees currently make contributions from their salary to the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, most medium and large private-sector employers historically have not required their workers to make any contributions toward their defined-benefit pensions.
- Deferring CSRS cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) until age 62. Instead, CSRS annuitants would be offered a one-time, catch-up inflation adjustment at age 62 to increase the benefit to the amount that would have been payable had full COLAs been in effect.

Even more disturbing is the report's plan to require federal employees and annuitants to pay an increasingly higher share of Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premiums by limiting growth of the government/employer share to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) plus 1 percent. "Given that increases in FEHBP premiums are likely to outpace the percentage increase in the GDP plus 1 percent, workers and retirees would be forced to pay a higher percent of the premium each year to the point where many could no longer afford health insurance," said Beaudoin.

In addition, the co-chairs' proposal to use the so-called "Chained" Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (C-CPI-U) to set COLAs for Social Security (and other indexed benefits) has been estimated by the Congressional Budget Office to lower Social Security benefits by 3 percent after a 10-year period and would likely result in a similar reduction to federal civilian and military retirement COLAs. Rather than adjust the COLA to reflect the disproportionately higher health care costs paid by older Americans, the co-chairs' proposal to use the C-CPI-U would further erode federal annuitant inflation protection.



*Divie J. Thomas, Editor*  
 801 Sunshine Street  
 Junction City, KS 66441

6. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
7. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
8. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
9. A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
10. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

TO: