



have volunteers for offices and committee chairs. We cannot be effective and grow unless we have more involvement from members in Leavenworth. We need to have a NARFE-PAC chair, parliamentarian, social chair to help Ursula with refreshments at the meetings, historian, legislative chair to work with Donna to learn from her and help with this committee. Please call me and volunteer to be involved with one of these areas.

I appreciate the support of the Chapter and look forward to seeing you at a meeting.

*Diane Hall*  
Home phone: 913-651-1331  
Cell phone: 913-704-8118

#### **Second Quarter 2011 Recruitment Results**

In the past six months, 8,297 new members have joined NARFE. Kansas has 94 new members.

#### **From the 1st VP—Membership:**

*Would you like to help our Chapter save some money? If you provide your e-mail to Fran Gast at [fgast@kc.rr.com](mailto:fgast@kc.rr.com), you can get your Bison via e-mail. Right now there are 18 people that get their Bison via e-mail. Give it a chance and save paper, money and time!*

Have you talked to anyone lately about NARFE and what it can do for them? That's how we get new members is for current members to talk to their eligible friends and neighbors about NARFE. It doesn't always mean they will join, but you can keep talking to them and let them know what they are missing out on. Keep in touch with your former co-workers and let them know what you are doing with NARFE. Remember, you don't have to be retired to join NARFE. I presented a briefing on NARFE to an organization for the American Society of Military Comptrollers. This gave me an opportunity to share information about NARFE as well as to visit with some of my previous co-workers who are still active federal employees. If you know of an opportunity to present information about NARFE to a group eligible to join, let me know and I'll share my PowerPoint slides or accompany you if you would like.

*Fran Gast*

Currently there are 4.6 million federal retirees and only 7.9% are NARFE members.

#### **From the 2nd VP—Programs:**

**Oct. 6**—Gary Townsend, Federation Legislative Officer for Congress/Senate in Washington, D.C.

**Nov. 3**—Fall Festival at 11:30 a.m.

**Dec. 1**—Judy Etter, Area 1A Vice President, speaking on membership and chapter issues.

**January**—No Meeting.

**Feb. 2**—Memorial Service.

*Billie Oertel*

#### **From the 3rd VP—Service Officer**

What do a service officer and a doctor have in common? A doctor reads text books about medicine but to be a good doctor, one must practice medicine. Service officers do the same thing. You read about how and what to do in filing for assistance with federal annuities but one actually needs to go through the process of helping our members do this. You can help me be a good service officer by contacting me about your needs and concerns.

I attended the College of NARFE Knowledge (CONK) in South Sioux City, NE. This was my first experience with this instructional program. The sessions were good and I learned a lot from the guest speakers.

*Dick Hall*  
913-651-1331

#### **From the Sunshine Officer:**

If you know of members who are hospitalized or ill at home let me know and I will send cards. We would also like to recognize wedding anniversaries and need your help by furnishing us with that information. Please call me at 351-3386.

If you have any extra sick or sympathy cards, we could use them. Bring them to the next meeting. Thank you.

Sick cards were sent to Ross Perkins, Eileen Sturgis, Jean Cooney, Clara Darrow, Hank McEvoy, Bonny Lages.

*Marilyn Murray*

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

##### **Members**

Margaret Arring

Clara Lee

Carl Wilk, Sr.

##### **Family Members**

Berta Hoffman, sister of John and Pat Leavitt

Leo Kennedy, brother of Howard Kennedy

**First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution**

The Constitution was written by the Constitutional Convention in 1787 and was thereupon transmitted to the Continental Congress. In 1789 the proposed amendments were sent to the states because a number of states wanted further declaratory and restrictive clauses added in order to prevent misconstruction or abuse of powers by the government. Ten of the 12 were adopted and they became the Bill of Rights upon ratification in 1791.

The First Amendment is known as the freedom of religion and freedom of speech amendment: *“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”*

It was natural to have this amendment first because of the Christian faith-based principles upon which America was founded such as:

The first act of the Continental Congress in 1774 was to pass a motion to pause for prayer; and the prayer was based on Psalm 35;

General George Washington set days of prayer and fasting for his soldiers and directed the Continental Army commanding officers to procure Chaplains for their regiments;

The 1776 Declaration of Independence recognizes that God is the Creator and source of liberty; and

In 1783 the Treaty of Paris that ended the Revolutionary War began with these words: “In the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity ....”

This prime spot on the Bill of Rights indicates that the founders believed that freedom of religion and freedom of speech were of utmost importance when the Bill of Rights was ratified.

**Rae for the U.S.A.**

**From the Legislative Chair:**

On August 2 the federal government increased our \$14.3 trillion debt by \$2.4 trillion dollars. A “Congressional Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction,” also known as the “Super Committee” of 12 Senate and House members was created to try to agree on where to cut spending \$1.5 trillion over 10 years. It also took the responsibility off the Senate and House to deal with the out-of-control federal government spending!

Some of those 12 members will want to raise taxes to keep growing government while others will want to start cutting government back and stop increasing the debt.

By November 23rd we will learn what this Super Committee accomplished. The Senate and House are supposed to vote on it by December 23rd. Even if Committee members come to an agreement the President can veto it if it is not to his liking.

The government will stop taxing our children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren to pay off the debt when we get House and Senate members and a President to stop borrowing money. We borrow 40 to 45 cents of every dollar the federal government now spends. We cannot continue down this path.

The NARFE Legislative Director says that “NARFE supports efforts to balance the budget and reduce the national debt....”

*Donna Gillett*

The new e-narfe (computer chapter) has 1,100 members. A percentage of their dues will return to the chapter closest to their zip code.

**From the Alzheimer’s Chair:**

Our Chapter met the \$2200 challenge for this year. Our picnic was so much fun. Members and guests were handing me \$5 and \$1 dollar bills plus coins. Great books were sold at the picnic for \$1 apiece with paperbacks going for 25 cents. We were over \$286.84 so that will be added to our new challenge. Forrest Holdeman, our challenger, presented a check for \$350.00.

Our challenge for next year is \$3000 by picnic time 2012. If anyone has any ideas on how to do this please call me.

A great big THANK YOU goes out to those members who donated \$100 for the challenge: Wayne Stalnaker, Fran Gast, Warren Reed III, Mary Clary, Betty Heintzleman, Bonnie and Bill Lages, Mary Sue Winneke, Diane and Dick Hall, and Eileen and Vernon Quinley. Thank You to David Knorr for the \$50 check and of course all of you who purchased our books, gave anything from coins to that light paper stuff. Special thanks to Ross Perkins for bringing all the coins each month.

Another Special Thank You goes to Helen Stewart for making that delightful children’s basket for the raffle. The basket had so many wonderful items. Also, my thanks to the Executive Board for approving 50% of the take on the picnic raffle.



I want to thank Patricia Judson, Connie Lord, and Billie Oertel for donating books to our chapter. We really have some good ones. The large books are \$1 and the paperbacks are 25 cents. Patricia let us come into her home and take bag after bag of books. We plan to set up a table on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at Heritage Center during

Buffalo Bill days to sell books for NARFE Alzheimer's. Come on down.

Perhaps one of these days this dreadful disease will leave this earth. We need to find that cure!

*Helen Gallagher*



*Thanks for your sacrifice that has procured our freedom.*

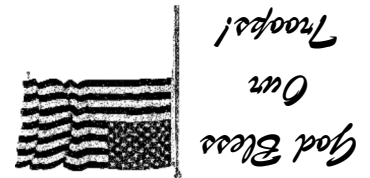
***You Are Invited***

Atchison Chapter is now officially the Amelia Earhart Chapter 621. Our chapter has been invited to a meeting on Tuesday, October 18 with guest speaker Janice Neuschafer, Federation Alzheimer's chair. The meeting is at the KFC/Taco Bell, 1400 Skyway (US 59 Highway), Atchison, and begins with lunch on your own at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will begin at 12:00 noon. If you plan to attend, please call Diane Hall at 913-651-1331 so we can let Amelia Earhart Chapter 621 know the approximate numbers attending.

**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

Sept. 29	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting.	Dec. 1	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: Judy Etter, Area 1A Vice President.
Oct. 6	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: Gary Townsend	<b>January</b>	<b>No Meeting.</b>	
Oct. 27	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting.	Jan. 26	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting.
Nov. 3	11:30 a.m.	Fall Festival. See details on page 1.	Feb. 2	1:30 p.m.	Memorial Service.
Nov. TBA	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting.			

**NOTE:** Chapter meetings are held in the **Heritage Center, 109 Delaware** at 1:30 p.m.  
Executive Committee Meetings are held at the Leavenworth Public Library the last Thursday of each month at 9:15 a.m.



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