

# NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOC

## Chapter 0002, Topeka, Kansas

### Executive Committee:

President	Jim Miller	478-0651
1st Vice President	Gale Devore	273-0526
2nd Vice President	Richard Wike	783-8122
Secretary	Gwendolyn Ketter	272-2658
Treasurer	Sherry Potter	272-4564
Member-at-Large	Maynard Cox	478-0015
Member-at-Large	Paul Manning	272-6208

### Other Contacts:

Good Cheer	Helen Price	478-9602
Membership Chair	Gale Devore	273-0526
Service Officer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Editor	Maynard Cox	478-0015

**Where:** Aldersgate Village, 7220 SW Asbury Drive

**When:** Friday, July 23, 2010; 12:00 Noon **\$9.00**

**Menu:** Cottage Cheese with Peaches, Roast Pork Loin with Natural Sauce, Cabbage Rolls, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable Medley, Rolls & Butter, Beverages, Coconut Pie

**Reminder: The corner of 29<sup>th</sup> St and Urish Rd may again be closed. Two ways - 21<sup>st</sup> Street to Indian Hills, then South to 29<sup>th</sup> Street or 37<sup>th</sup> St to Urish Rd to 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, West to Albright.**

### Jim Miller - President

How about some Good News for a welcome change? First, Maynard Cox and I met with the Dining Manager and our luncheon will have **TWO** entrees for the same price of \$ 9.00 ! ( My offer of any member who knows of a better place with better prices and better food still stands. ) Second, our summer drought is over, or at least until mid-July. Third might be the 29th and Urish Roundabout was opened, but for only three weeks. Best guess is, we'll be detouring to the meeting place for a while longer.

On the legislative front, try to attend any Town meetings of political candidates. Wear your NARFE shirt, although you will receive some hard stares and remember, your benefits were earned ! Negative ads have been flying in the race to replace Sam Brownback as US Senator, but " the fur will really fly " when the primaries ( August 3rd ! Be sure to vote and take a friend with you !! ) are settled. Ron Neis and I will try to have candidates, meeting locations, dates and times on the tables for the July meeting. Tell us if you like the information...if we can obtain it !

Our program will be Jodi Termine, Kansas Pork Association, Manhattan, KS. Of course we'll have pork one entree ! If you haven't made your reservation, please call 478-0651 by July 20th, to make, or cancel ! Leave a message as that will be " Doctor's Day " for the Millers. I'll see you then ! Last thought, a few NARFE golf type shirts are available for \$ 10.00 each. I can take special orders, but unless there are ten or more shirts ordered, singles are \$ 12.00 plus tax.

### Gale DeVore - First Vice President

Let us all be thankful for this great country that we live in. It has many faults but is still the best country in the world. In this month that we celebrate our 234th anniversary of our Independence let us be truly thankful.

I am presently reading a book, that certainly wasn't taught while we were in school. This country has been through so many difficulties and we are still charging forth.

Keep the faith; this recession will also one day be history

1.

### Gwendolyn Ketter - Secretary

NARFE Chapter 02

June 25, 2010

Aldersgate Village

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Miller at 12:00 P.M.

The invocation was given by Ann Look followed by the flag salute.

A one entrée buffet meal was served for \$9.00.

Richard Wike 2<sup>nd</sup> VP - introduced Program Speaker Jo Ann Long, Director of Development with American Red Cross who gave an overview of programs and services available. Ms Long gave away 2 door prizes, won by Jo Burenheide and Leah Hefner.

Paul Manning reported forty-seven members and two guests (Jim and Vicki Sturgeon) in attendance, along with the speaker.

Gwen Ketter, Secretary – Was not in attendance - No Correction to the minutes reported in the Newsletter – approved as written.

Sherry Potter, Treasurer May 28<sup>th</sup> – June 24<sup>th</sup> - \$619.94 in Regular Account, \$1,086.53 in Life Account and \$ 68.33 in Alzheimer Account.

General Fund -

Income received – Dues \$ 270.07, Lunch \$ 495.00, Core First Int \$ .10, Ways and Means Tickets \$ 26.50 – Total Income \$ 791.67

Expenses paid – USPS Bulk Mail Unit \$ 200.00, Newsletter printing \$ 30.00, 50/50 prizes \$ 26.50, Aldersgate food service \$ 495.00 – Total \$751.50

Alzheimer Account –

Income – 50/50 \$ 26.50 Balance \$ 68.33

Gale DeVore, First Vice-President – Has contacted several people regarding NARFE membership and is always ready to accept NARFE-PAC donations.

Richard Wike, Second Vice-President – July speaker will be Jody Tremaine with the National Pork Producers Assoc. August meeting will be the annual "picnic" with homemade ice-cream and no speakers.

National Convention Delegates – Bill and Monica Kastens will be our delegates at the National NARFE convention.

Ron Neis, Legislative Chair– Not in attendance. Jim Miller gave a brief report on the legislative activities and will attend the legislative committee meeting in July.

Bill Kastens, Service Officer – No Report.

Helen Louise Price, Good Cheer – Sent a sympathy card to the families of Eva May Peterson and Earl L Walker and to Arthur Hoover on the death of his brother. She sent get well cards to Kathleen Smith and Judy Shetter. She also wanted to request that anyone who knows of illnesses in our membership to please let her know. Her number is 785-478-9602.

Earlene Jirik, Publicity – thanked those who volunteered to answer the phone at KTWU. She also distributed name tags.

Jim – Since there continues to be a problem with low attendance at the meetings (particularly members who make reservations and then don't show up causing the chapter to

pay for those reservations), Jim asked for a show of hands of those in favor of not meeting during the summer months next year. Other ideas will be discussed at the next executive meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup> and the chapter meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. George Spotts, Alzheimer chairperson, has a book available on Alzheimer's Disease, which he will loan to anyone wanting to read it.

The 50/50 drawing awarded \$10.19 to John Classen; \$6.11 to Vicki Sturgeon and \$4.08 to Sherry Potter.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Jo Burenheide, Acting Secretary

### Ron Neis - Legislative Chair

On June 30th NARFE President Baptiste testified before the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, urging the 18 member bipartisan commission to protect benefits for federal workers and retirees/survivors.

Baptiste noted that while entitlements will be one of the issues examined, the one significant difference is that the federal retirement and health benefit programs are earned and contributed to by the retiree.

Our battle will continue to be correcting and disputing false information that all of our retirement and health plan costs are paid in full and completely funded while we were active employees.

As a retired postal employee the battle that never ended in the media was that tax payer funds were part of the yearly operating budget. In fact there were no longer any tax payer funds subsidizing any mail classes after 1982.

President Baptiste also pointed out that in the past federal retirement and health benefits have received reductions during budget cutting, in particular the COLA's that were canceled in the 1980's without similar action to other federal programs.

We as NARFE members need to correct and inform when we hear false information concerning our benefits. Any effort we can muster during this critical period before the November mid-term elections

will contribute a small part in retaining our earned retirement and benefits.

We all know the drill; letters, emails, phone calls and appearances at congressional meetings during their recess. We are in a period when public displeasure of elected officials is at historic highs.

If there is large tide of change coming we need to try and be in a boat and float through it and survive.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and stay alert.

### Helen Price - Good Cheer

Sympathy cards were sent to the family of Eugene Francis following his death and to the family of Dorothy O'Hare following her death.

A photographer for CNN was assigned to cover southern California's Wildfires. He wanted pictures of the heroic work the Firefighters were doing as they battled the blazes.

When the photographer arrived on the scene, he realized that the smoke was so thick it would seriously impede, or even make impossible, his getting good photographs from the ground level. He requested permission from his boss to rent a plane and take photos from the air.

His request was approved and he used his cell phone to call the local County airport to charter a flight. He was told a single engine plane would be waiting for him at the airport.

Arriving at the airfield, he spotted a plane warming up outside the hangar. He jumped in with his bag, slammed the door shut, and shouted, "Let's go".

The pilot taxied out, swung the plane into the wind and roared down the runway.

Once in the air, the photographer instructed the pilot, "Fly over the valley and make two or three low passes so I can take some pictures of the fires on the hillsides."

"Why?" asked the pilot.

"Because I'm a photographer for CNN" he responded. "And I need to get some close-up shots." The pilot was strangely silent for a moment, finally he stammered, "So, what you're telling me is.... You're **NOT** my flight instructor?"