



# KANSAS FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

EDITION 55

APRIL-MAY 2007

**JOHN F. SURRITTE**  
**FEDERATION PRESIDENT**

## PRESIDENT/FEDERAL LEGISLATION

John F. Surritte  
5907 Longleaf Dr. Lawrence, KS 66049-5801  
785 856 0558  
jfsurritte@hotmail.com

## FIRST VICE PRESIDENT/PAC COORDINATOR

Gary E. Townson  
212 E. Brownie St., Rose Hill, KS 67133-9706  
316 776 2684  
gesst@prodigy.net

## SECOND VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP

Thomas E. Raby  
15117 S. Symphony Dr. #1203 Olathe, KS 66062-6126  
913 829 6025  
thomasraby1@comcast.net

## SECRETARY

Carol R. Ek  
907 Sycamore Place, McPherson, KS 67460-5902  
620 241 1131  
crek67460@sbcglobal.net

## TREASURER

Madelyn Brown  
1141 St. Mary's Road Junction City, KS 66441-4138  
785 238 5623  
madelyn11@cox.net

## AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT

Agnes Shellhammer  
6606 Lowell Ave Shawnee Mission KS 66202-3866  
913 432 0091  
agnes.shellhammera@sbcglobal.net

## AREA 1A VICE PRESIDENT

Theodore "T.J." Robinson  
2501 N. 36th St Kansas City, KS 66104-3631  
913 371 7720  
save900@aol.com

## AREA II VICE PRESIDENT

Gale D. Beck  
1012 Meadowbrook Rd. E Iola, KS 66749-2112  
620 365 3469  
beckgjks26@netks.net

## AREA IIA VICE PRESIDENT

L. J. "Jim" Gaskell  
715 S. Wilson Chanute, KS 66720-2766  
620 431 6235  
jlgaskell@cablone.net

## AREA III VICE PRESIDENT

W. Duane Evans  
2319 Wesley Salina, KS 67401-6925  
785 827 0592  
wevans0592@esagelink.com

## AREA IV VICE PRESIDENT

John Lancaster  
651 N. Cedar Downs Circle Wichita, KS 67235-1345  
316 721 0606  
jlancaster2@cox.net

## AREA V VICE PRESIDENT

Ronald Katt  
P.O. Box 232, Grainfield, KS 67737-0232  
785 673 4822  
ronkarol@ruraltel.net

## AREA VI VICE PRESIDENT

Bob Cranmer  
105 S. Grand, P.O. Box 502 Ness City, KS 67560-0502  
785 798 2849  
rcranmer@gbta.net

## STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Jim Miller  
7220 SW Asbury Dr #219 W Topeka KS 66614-4718  
785 478 0651  
[jmiller332@cox.net](mailto:jmiller332@cox.net)

## SERVICE OFFICER

Jodine A. Elwick  
3037 Pepper Ridge Court Wichita, KS 67205-1930  
316 722 9022  
rdjae@aol.com

## KANSAS ALZHEIMER'S CHAIR

Linda A. Surritte  
5907 Longleaf Dr. Lawrence, KS 66049-5801  
785 856 0558  
lapavlov@hotmail.com

## NARFE NETTER / HISTORIAN

Jim Dodd  
1033 West Spruce Street, Junction City, KS 6641-3445  
785 238 8041  
JDodd40955@aol.com

## IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT/ PUBLIC RELATIONS

Donald Cooper  
5846 Tuttle Cove Road Manhattan, KS 66503-8432  
785 537 1676  
cooper@flinthills.com

## EDITOR

Dixie Thomas  
801 Sunshine St Junction City, KS 66441-4183  
785 238 1455  
Bthomas56@cox.net

T  
H  
I  
N  
K  
  
C  
O  
N  
V  
E  
N  
T  
I  
O  
N

## John F. Surritte, President & National Legislative Coordinator:

This is our last newsletter before the State Convention in Junction City. It will be held from April 29 through May 1. I encourage every Chapter to send members. We presently have 119 members attending from throughout the state and have room for many more. We have a very interesting program with speakers from NARFE HQ and Region 5. On the agenda are Dan Adcock, Assistant National Legislative Director, Dick Thissen, Region 5 VP and Barb Pretzer, Region 5 and National Alzheimer's Chairperson. I think you will find these folks very

informative. According to our State Secretary, Carol Ek, 22 Chapters have not returned their forms indicating they will attend the convention. We all need to respond as soon as possible.

On another issue, Linda and I just returned from the NARFE National Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. A special thanks to those Kansans who attended with us. They are Gary Townson, State First Vice-President; Elizabeth Bornman, Shawnee Mission Chapter President; Regina Barger, Kansas City Chapter President and her daughter, Regina Singleton and Forrest Holdeman, National Legislative Chair and NARFE-PAC coordinator, Leavenworth Chapter. Everyone was well prepared and helped make our meetings with our Senators and Representatives very productive. We were able to meet with Senator Brownback and Representative Moore personally and with staff members for Senator Roberts and Representatives Boyda, Moran and Tiahr. I think it is safe to say that all Congressional folks were cooperative and supportive of our issues with the exception of Representative Tiahr's Staff.

Bills have been introduced in both chambers to repeal GPO/WEP and to allow Premium Conversion. They are as follows; HR 82 and S 206 to repeal GPO/WEP and HR 1110 and S 773 to pass Premium Conversion. As of now Representatives Boyda, Moore and Moran support GPO/WEP repeal and Premium Conversion. We need to contact our Senators Brownback and Roberts to support S 206 and S 773. We need a special effort to get Representative Tiahr on board to support HR 82 and HR 1110. We're all depending on you folks in chapters in the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

We also told all Senators and Representatives that it is imperative that our Pension Benefits not be eroded and that we, as an organization, are against the inclusion of Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) in the FEHBP because they would raise our health benefit premiums and reduce our health insurance benefits. We need to be vigilant in watching what the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress does on this issue.

Finally, I want to remind you that the CONK will be held in South Sioux City, NB from August 29 through 31. Remember that your Kansas

Federation Board has voted to pay your registration fee of \$60.00 for the first 38 Kansas attendees to register. This College of NARFE Knowledge is sponsored by our Regional Vice President, Dick Thissen, and passes on much information needed to make our organization stronger in meeting our goals. It will help you achieve retirement security. Dick Thissen will present information on the CONK at our state convention.

In closing, I have enjoyed being your President this past year. If you agree, I will work hard to represent you this next year.

**SEE YOU AT OUR 2007 CONVENTION IN JUNCTION CITY.**

## **Legislative Conference 'On The Hill' March 6, 2007**



KS Fed 1<sup>st</sup> VP Gary Townson, Senator Sam Brownback, KS Fed Pres John Surritte



L to R: Regina Singleton (Ch 1160 guest), Forrest Holdeman (Ch 027), Elizabeth Bomman (Ch 1162), Linda Surritte (KS Fed Alzheimer's Chair), District 3 Representative  
Dennis Moore, John Surritte (KS Fed President), E. Regina Barger (Ch 1160), Gary Townson (KS Fed 1<sup>st</sup> VP)

### **Gary E. Townson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/PAC Coordinator:**

The visit to Washington DC for the Legislative Training Conference was very enjoyable and worthwhile. I was pleased to see members from several Kansas Chapters represented there. There were about 300 members, nationwide, in attendance and over 55% of them were First Timers. This is a very informative conference and I urge every Chapter to consider sending someone. I realize it is an expensive item but it qualifies for use of Chapter Funds to help defray the cost. In addition to very educational training put on by

NARFE Headquarters Staff, you get the privilege of visiting the offices of our Senators and Representatives. Sometimes the Legislators are available to meet with us but always Legislative Assistants are there. These are the people that advise toe Legislators how to vote on specific bills. A word of caution however, the visit entails considerable walking and Capitol Hill is really a rather long hill.

The new NARFE-PAC pins are available along with new paperwork. If you wish some pins to have on hand, contact me and I will get them to you. I will also have them available at the Federation Convention in Junction City April 29-May 1. After many years, Headquarters has 'raised the bar' and now requires a contribution of at least \$20.00 in order to be entitled to receive a pin. PLEASE DO NOT refer to "buying or selling" the pins! They are not for sale. They are awarded to recognize a voluntary contribution to the NARFE-PAC fund. This last election some of the funds went to support Nancy Boyda in her successful effort to unseat incumbent Jim Ryun. She is quite appreciative of our support and has already signed on as a cosponsor of H.R. 82 to repeal the Government Pension Offset & Windfall Elimination Provision (GPO-WEP). We are confident she will soon also cosponsor H.R.1110 Premium Conversions.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Junction City.

-----

**Thomas E. Raby, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice  
President/Membership:**

Well, this is the last newsletter before the Federation Convention and time for all of us to get off the pot. Are you good at procrastinating; do you need practice? I was going to give it up, but I kept putting it off. If you and I don't do it, it won't get done! Do you think embarrassing questions, or platitudes will motivate anyone? We all know that motivation really comes from within. Sometimes a little praise, or criticism, will generate a spurt of energy, but the real motivating factors are self generated. Except for money, greed, hunger, and uncomfortable living conditions, of course.

Right now we are watching politicians accuse each other of unspeakable deeds. This is done regardless of whether or not the deed was indeed; unspeakable. Or regardless of whether, or not, the deed was actually done, or it was nothing more than an everyday occurrence in politics. This will go on for at least two more years, and then it will restart with a vengeance. Aren't you glad that we belong to a civil organization that cares about each other, no matter what our activities and deeds? I'm leading up to something here: Our National President, Margaret Baptiste, has hit the ground running in the environment that I just described. I'm not surprised because I always thought that she had the

energy and talent to do a great job. Her activities described in the April issue of Retirement Life are impressive.

Another thing: our next National Convention will take place before the campaigning and voting are complete in 2008. We need to tune out the rhetoric and concentrate on our members and potential members. I've been working, via E-mail, with a CFE that is trying to get NARFE into the Bannister Road complex in Kansas City. This member of my chapter is impressive. We need a few more of these individuals, and we need to reward them for their efforts in recruiting CFE'S.

**See you in Junction City.**

-----

**Carol R. Ek, Secretary:**

**Corrections Made**

Area 1A Chapter 2164, Brown County, Hiawatha  
Correct the Chapter Meeting Place to:  
Senior Citizens Center, 813 Oregon St, Hiawatha,  
Kansas  
President: Wendell D. Monaghan – correct e-  
mail address to: [edml66434@yahoo.com](mailto:edml66434@yahoo.com)  
Secretary/Treasurer and Service Officer  
Positions: Vacant at this time

Area 2A Chapter 799, Chanute  
Remove L. James Gaskell as Chapter Treasurer  
Change Gracie Studebaker status to  
Secretary/Treasurer

Area 3 Chapter 1933, Tri-County Herington  
(2007) President: Cindy Mowat, 2452 400  
Ave., Herington, KS 67449-8908, Telephone:  
785-258-2117  
1<sup>st</sup> VP: Tom Leckliter, 801 N. Broadway,  
Herington, KS 67449-1607,  
Telephone: 785-258-2545  
Secretary: Paula Fike, 3581 Pawnee,  
Ramona, KS 67475-0055, Telephone: 785-  
965-7161  
Treasurer: Dennis Wendlandt, 507 E.  
Wyatt, Herington, KS 67449-2235,  
Telephone: 785-258-3431  
Legislative Chair: Darrell Gutsch,  
2032 S. 2600 Rd, Burdick, KS 66838-9735,  
Telephone: 785-983-4376, E-Mail:  
[wlanddeg@tctelco.net](mailto:wlanddeg@tctelco.net)  
Membership: Robert Mowat, 2452  
400 Ave., Herington, KS 67449-8908,  
Telephone: 785-258-2117  
Service Officer: Arthur Albrecht, 3154 V.  
Ave., Herington, KS 67449-5048,  
Telephone: 785-258-2035

Alzheimer's: Geneva Will, 301 South C. St.,  
Herington, KS 67449-2805,  
Telephone: 785-258-3421  
NARFE-NET: Darrell Gutsch, 2032 S.  
2600 Rd., Burdick, KS 66838-9735,  
Telephone: 785-983-4376, E-Mail:  
[wlanddeg@tctelco.net](mailto:wlanddeg@tctelco.net)

Area 4 Chapter 537, Salt City, Hutchinson  
(Revised 1-25-07)

Treasurer: Kenneth H. Rose, 802  
Bannock Burn Rd, Hutchinson, KS 67502-2006,  
Telephone: 620-665-7383, E-Mail:  
[rosbol3863@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rosbol3863@sbcglobal.net)

Alzheimer's: Kenneth H. Rose, 802  
Bannock Burn Rd, Hutchinson, KS 67502-2006,  
Telephone: 620-665-7383, E-Mail:  
[rosbol3863@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rosbol3863@sbcglobal.net)

Chapter 757, Cowley County, Arkansas City

President: Phillip R. Miller, correct E-  
Mail to: [pmiller21@cox.net](mailto:pmiller21@cox.net)

State Convention remains uppermost in a lot of minds right now. Several Chapters still have not returned the list for their delegates, committee listings, awards and memorial lists. If all else fails, sign the "Proxy Form", send it to me, for your votes to count. I do hope every one of you who have not returned these will make a concentrated effort to do this today.

As of this writing, we do have 181 persons shown as attending the convention. 200 would be nice, but even if we only have 181 – we will have good times, learn a lot and have a good weekend.

If you have looked at your last NARFE magazine, the last page contains a brainteaser. I haven't had time to tackle that yet but it really looks interesting. Whoever thinks those up is either a genius or sadistic – I've never quite figured out which. Whatever, it does keep you mind busy.

Hope to see all of you at convention. Until then remember – "Life without love would be like the earth without the sun."

-----

**Madelyn Brown, Treasurer:**

We are all enjoying the great spring weather and it will be good to see the green grass and beautiful flowers. Finally, I have received all the Per Capita Taxes. Some were late because of the changes in secretaries and/or treasurers.

As treasurer of Chapter 383, "Old Trooper," I want to thank all who have placed an ad in our convention booklet. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the State Convention on April 29, 30 and May 1.

If you have any expense vouchers, please send them to me so I can pay you before the Convention.

-----

**Agnes Shellhammer, Area I Vice-President:**

At last we are getting some nice weather. I thought winter would never end. This will get us all in the mood for the convention. Area 1 should have quite a number there. Because of health reasons I cannot continue being the Area 1 Vice-President. My husband comes first. I have enjoyed working with all of you. Not much else going on here.

**See you all in Junction City.**

-----

**Theodore "T.J." Robinson, Area IA Vice-President:**

We must all be reminded that the Federation Convention in Junction City is very close at hand. Once again, our hope is for 100% representation throughout the entire state. Anyone or chapter requiring assistance, additional information, please do not wait until the last minute to ask for it.

Time after time I have put this information to individuals and chapters, regarding NARFE Guide for Annuitant & Survivor Benefits booklet, F-100. Sometimes it is very difficult to put into words of great importance for some people to understand the seriousness of the contents. Just recently, there have been calls for me, the Chapter Service Officer, for assistance because they had no knowledge of what was needed and must be completed after the departure of their spouse. When the document is completed, it should be secured and accessible to responsible family member(s) when they may be needed. Chapter Officers are urged to continue promoting this service to the fullest extent.

Membership and recruiting is always at the very top of my agenda. Always carry applications (Active & Retired) wherever you travel. You never know when you may meet someone who would like to be a member, if you just simply ask. When recruiting new members and forwarding the applications, be very careful to include the Recruiter's Identification Number and Chapter Number. As a matter of fact, make certain that any form that requires this information is checked and double checked prior to submitting to NARFE Headquarters.

Everyone is reminded that the Collage of NARFE Knowledge (CONK) is once again, scheduled to be held in South Sioux City, Nebraska at the Marina Inn located on 4<sup>th</sup> & B Street. You may think its too early but then why wait until the last minute and not obtain the reservation location you really desire. Call Toll Free: 1-900-798-7980, and don't forget to ask for the NARFE RATE.

Remember our members, some of very long standing, those who are sick and shut-ins, and those who are aged and not able to attend our meeting. Send them a note or card or even occasional telephone call. It

is guaranteed that they will enjoy being remembered. A "True Friend" is someone who reaches for your hand and "Touches Your Heart."

-----

**Gale D. Beck, Area II Vice-President:**

Based on information I have received to date, it appears that all five chapters in Area 2 will have representation present at the Kansas NARFE Federation convention at Junction City the latter part of April 2007. This is great, since conventions are a learning experience, with a lot of good NARFE information provided to those in attendance. Granted, those who attend can take it home and present it to their chapters, but then it becomes second hand and it is more or less like, well, "chewing someone else's gum." I am sure upcoming conventions after this year will be moved to other areas of Kansas, and so most of us will make comments on distances that must be traveled, that we do not have the time, and it does cost. What is more up lifting than to attend a NARFE Convention and have an opportunity to visit and discuss NARFE issues with fellow NARFE members and friends. Attending a Federation Convention can become like a family reunion, but first you must attend and then work at it, 'just a little'. "Leave those chores, those projects that have piled up at home for a couple of more days." NARFE, the organization that is working to protect "YOUR BENEFITS" deserves your full attention for a few days each year. Leave those excuses and jobs behind, and support NARFE, the organization of individuals who are taking of their time to help protect "YOUR" earned benefits.

During the past two months I have attended chapter meetings at Ottawa, Chapter #785 and Emporia Chapter #384. Both have expressed concerns with membership recruitment and with support in the development of leadership. It is my hope that these two issues can be address in the coming months.

-----

**L.J. "Jim" Gaskell, Area IIA Vice-President:**

We now have proposed legislation in both the House and Senate on Premium Conversion (S. 773 and H.R. 1110) and GPO and WEP (S. 206 and H.R. 82). It is vital that each one of us as Federation Officers contacts our legislators and asks them to co-sponsor and support these two bills.

The latest information I have is that we have three of our four House members co-sponsoring H.R. 1110 on GPO and WEP (Moran, Boyda and Moore). On the Premium Conversion, we have no Representative or Senator as co-sponsors.

The Senate Premium Conversion bill is only a few days old as I prepare this but none of our Kansas Senators are co-sponsor. As I recall, both Senators sponsored an identical bill in our last Congressional Session.

I believe that when we contact them on GPO and WEP we need to tell them more than we need them to co-sponsor and support this bill when it comes to the floor for a vote. We need to include information on how the action of Congress many years ago in passing the GPO and WEP have caused hardships in our life or family. If you are not affected by either, relate the difficulties of some person or persons you know that are living on a reduced annuity or survivors annuity due to these adverse actions Congress passed years ago. On the Premium Conversion issue, address the facts that the costs of health insurance premiums are growing much faster than the COLA allowance. I also believe that we can address the fact that not allowing retirees to pay our health insurance with pre-tax dollars is not fair when Congress has approved current federal employees to have this benefit. We deserve to be treated equally, not like poor relatives.

I look forward to a super Convention in Junction City and renewing old friendships.

-----

**W. Duane Evans, Area III Vice-President:**

-----

**John Lancaster, Area IV Vice-President:**

I am sure that in other articles in this issue of the newsletter, we will have musings concerning the legislative conference. We must thank those who took of their time to go to Washington to represent us at this event. It is tough to get there, attend the meetings and then go the "hill" to meet our representatives. Thanks to the NARFE members who went this year to take our place at the function.

I know that the bills HR 82, S206 to repeal the GPO and WEP would help me, and I am sure many of you and that HR 1110 and S 773 to allow premium conversion will help all of us. Barry Rock, Former Region 1 National Vice President has a very good dissertation on it in the Bronx chapter newsletter. Ask your Chapter President what it says. He may be thinking about the Latin expression "parturient mantes, nascetur ridiculus mus"

As has been stated on many previous occasions by numerous persons who know, the letter is the most positive way to contact our National legislators. Email, phone calls are all recorded, but the letter is an important method of conveyance of our ideas to them. I would like to congratulate Chapter 138 for having sent about 60 letters to Congressman Tiahrht in an attempt to get him to even cosponsor one of our bills.

We all know that numbers mean something. That is why they have the TV sweeps, polling results, and survey watches. What would you think if someone told you that they represent 5000 Federal Retirees in Kansas or someone told you they represent 25,000 retirees in Kansas? Politicians look at voter numbers. The more members, the bigger numbers, thus, it pays to recruit new members. If you don't know a retiree that is not a NARFE member in your city, let me know and I'll bet that I can find a name for you to contact. I hope to see a member from each chapter in Junction City in April. God Bless America!

-----

**Ronald Katt, Area V Vice-President:**

Spring season is near. Plants are starting to grow, trees are showing buds, and migratory birds are flying north. What better time than now for NARFE members to be seen and heard in the fellowship and growth for a fun and successful 2007. Let's get a good start by attending the Federation of Chapters annual Convention, April 29-May 1, 2007. The convention will be in Junction City at the Courtyard by Marriott Convention Center. Old Trooper, Chapter 383 along with Federation officers are working hard for a good convention. Last soap opera stand taken is: "Don't let them down - attend, learn and enjoy from the works of their labor."

-----

**Bob Cranmer, Area VI Vice-President:**

Thank goodness spring is finally here. It is time for a warm up. The time for the Convention has really sneak up on us this year. We should have had the delegate list in. We need to get the rest of the paper work in now. I have contacted all Chapters in Area 6 lately. This is short, so I will see you at the Convention.

-----

**Jim Miller, State Legislative Chair:**

Ron Richey (Topeka Chapter Legislative Chairman) monitored the last minute / hours of the Kansas Legislature, including the final passage of the "Gaming" bill. The debate was contentious / vigorous / heated...any adjective you choose, with proponents and opponents hurling charges and counter charges. The good news from all that is a

pie in the sky forecast of untapped riches for the state of Kansas from Kansans who won't be driving across our borders to lose their money in Missouri and Oklahoma casinos. The bad news is.....Kansas's taxpayers will have to pick up the pieces of Kansas family lives shattered by gambling addictions. The legislature will reconvene, probably while NARFE is occupied with our state convention? We can hope, fervently, that no threats to our status will surface during the wrap up session.

-----

**Jodine A. Elwick, Service Officer:**

Greetings from Your State Service Officer:

Convention Time is growing closer! April 29 through May 1, 2007, are the dates. I've registered! Have you? I hope to see you there. This has been a busy month. We've lost several of our fellow retirees in the last few months as well as several friends. It's always sad to say good-bye. I've been helping several of the spouses and family members complete their paperwork. This is always satisfying when I'm able to do so. Lately I've been helping some folks that have been having trouble getting their Medicare benefits paid. If you are one of those unfortunate persons experiencing problems, make sure your health care provider is properly documenting the paperwork. Should you receive notice that your claim has been denied, go back to your provider and ask them to submit additional documentation. Read your Medicare book carefully so you are aware of to what you are entitled. As a last resort, you can submit an appeal.

I encourage to read your NARFE magazine, especially the question and answer portion, as the whole magazine is full of excellent information including the latest legislation being discussed or enacted.

Remember, if you have a specific question, you can send it to the magazine and you should receive an answer.

I'll close with a bit of laughter: Ed was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really angry. She told him, "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in less than 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!!" The next morning ED got up early and

left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and slippers and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale. ED has been missing since Friday! So fellows don't forget your anniversary!

-----

**Linda A. Surritte, Kansas Alzheimer's Chair:**

The final 2006 numbers are in. The Kansas chapters collected \$19,846.21, which computes to \$3.89 per member. Our goal was \$3.30 per member. You've surpassed that goal! THANK YOU. I will be sending the final 2006 totals to Chapter Alzheimer's Chairs in early April. As of the end of February 2007, you have contributed \$2,005.15. The Alzheimer's Committee will be establishing the 2007 goal at the State Convention April 29-May1st in Junction City.

Hope you are making plans to attend the Convention. We will again have both the live and silent auctions and the success of these fundraisers depends on the quantity and quality of the items donated. This year, we are requesting that donated items be new or 'antique quality' and they have an estimated auction value of at least \$3 or more. Remember that tracking credit for all auction items goes to the donating chapter.

Reminder to Alzheimer's Chairs: All checks submitted to me should be made out to "NARFE/Alzheimer's Research". If you have Internet access, the regular monthly contribution submission form is available on the KS NARFE website ([www.ksnarfe.org](http://www.ksnarfe.org)) as option # 32. If you need an original of this form and do not have Internet access, just contact me and I will send one to you. You can then copy as needed.

-----

**Jim Dodd, NARFE Netter/Historian:**

Again thanks' to those who have sent me their changes in e-mail addresses for the KS NARFE net list.

If you have new or historical information that you would like to have posted on the KS NARFE.org web site, please send it to me as e-mail or by US mail. Unless it is copywriter information we can put it on the web site.

Hope to see everyone at the KS NARFE convention in April.

-----

**Donald Cooper, Immediate Past President/Public Relations:**

One of the great Public Relations efforts for Chapters is to be represented at the Annual Federation Convention. Let the members of your Chapter know that it is important to their Chapter.

Remember the new contest - a drawing of one of the Chapters that is represented this year. Those Chapters who did not have representation last year are the ones who will be eligible for the drawing.

As the Chair of the Nominating Committee, I point out that all members, in good standing is eligible to declare themselves a candidate for any of the elected positions, for which they would earnestly serve, if elected.

Now is not too early to decide upon having members from your Chapter attend the Region V - 8th Biennial CONK. (College of NARFE Knowledge), August 27-29, 2007. It will be held at the Marina Inn, South Sioux City, NE. The Marina Inn reservation deadline is August 2, 2007. The rate: is \$78 (plus tax) per night for single or double room, which includes buffet breakfast for up to 2 persons. The call to make reservations is: 1-800-798-7980 or 402-494-4000. The Registration for the conference is \$60, which includes all fees and the Monday evening meal and the Tuesday noon and evening meals. Margaret Baptise, National NARFE President will be attending. A great opportunity to meet President Baptiste and it will be a great learning experience. There will be more information on CONK. I wanted to ask that you get the word out to all of your Chapter members now.

Remember that the Kansas Federation of NARFE owns two Display Kits. They are available for you to use at your location to let others know about NARFE. I have those display kits at my home. Call, write or e-mail me to reserve the use of those Displays. I can mail them to you, if given enough Lead-time. Let people know about NARFE. We have only about one-fourth of the eligible retirees of Kansas as current members.

We have a HIGH number of current federal employees who are eligible for your recruitment. ASK THEM to Join.

Read your NARFE magazine and share that good information with potential NARFE members. It would make great conversation over coffee too.

-----

**Dixie J. Thomas, Editor:**

As convention chairperson, I have been excited and extremely busy getting ready for the State Convention 29 April – 1 May 2007. The hotel and convention center are beautifully decorated and the staff has bent over backwards to help us have a successful convention. Plans are in place to ensure that all of you have a great time! So, please get your reservations/registrations in as soon as possible. It's almost too late to join in all the fun!!!

SEE YOU **HERE** IN APRIL!!!!!!!

---

---

**RICHARD THISSEN, REGION V VP  
COMMENTS:**

**COLLEGE OF NARFE KNOWLEDGE (CONK)  
SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 27-29, 2007**

Richard Thissen, Region V VP has announced that the Region V CONK will be held August 27-29, 2007 at the Marina Inn in South Sioux City, NE. The emphasis this year will be legislative training and information. The session will begin at approximately 3:30 PM on Monday, August 27 and end at about noon on Wednesday, August 29. This schedule will allow most Region V members to limit their lodging to two nights (Monday and Tuesday). Registration for this year's CONK will be \$60, which includes all fees and the Monday evening meal and the Tuesday noon and evening meals. The Marina Inn has provided a special rate of \$78 for single/double, which includes their great breakfast buffet for up to two persons. There will be three choices for each of the Tuesday meals (the registration form describes the choices) and there will be a New York Deli buffet on Monday evening, which includes assorted meats, cheese, salads, breads as well as chips, lettuce, tomato, and other condiments and coffee or tea. Margaret Baptiste, NARFE National President, has agreed to attend this year's CONK - a great chance for you to meet or renew your acquaintance with this great lady. Everyone in Region V is invited to attend; it will be a great learning experience and you will have fun.

LODGING INFORMATION

REGION V – 8<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL  
COLLEGE OF NARFE KNOWLEDGE  
AUGUST 27 – 29, 2007

LOCATION: MARINA INN  
FOURTH & B ST. BOX 218  
SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NE 68776

COLLEGE OF NARFE KNOWLEDGE Motel reservations must be made directly with the MARINA INN. CALL TOLL FREE: 1-800-798-7980 (toll free) or 402-494-4000. The room rate is: \$78 (plus tax) per night for single or double room, which includes buffet breakfast for up to two persons. Please ask for the NARFE RATE and request any special facility needs.

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS AUGUST 2, 2007

---

---

**SEE  
YOU  
AT  
THE  
CONVENTION!!**

