



Kansas Federation NEWSLETTER

National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees

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ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL College of NARFE Knowledge (CONK)



Richard Thissen, Region V VP - Margaret Baptiste, NARFE National President - John Surritte, KS Federation President

John Surritte, President and National Legislative Coordinator: In opening this article, I want to give a lot of THANKS to Ms. Jodine Elwick who had to resign last month for personal reasons from the position of Service Officer for your Federation Board. Jodine has been a real asset on the Board during my 4 years of serving and will be missed by me and, indeed, all of you.

Based on Jodine's recommendation and seconded by many other Board members, I have appointed Ms. Mary Fritzson, Manhattan Chapter, to replace her. Many of you who attended the State Convention in Junction City will remember Mary as the lady who replaced Jodine on the agenda. Mary, thanks for accepting this important position. If needed, you can reach Mary at 785-494-2389 or write her at 11755 School Creek Rd., St. George, KS 66535-9601.

On the Legislative front, not much as changed. Representatives Boyda, Moore, Moran and Senator Roberts continue to support us in passing our priority legislation. Senator Brownback is still in Iowa running for President and Representative Tiaht is still not supportive. My sincere thanks to those Chapters that contacted Mr. Tiaht during National Lobby Month, in August, to try and get him to be more supportive. On another note, Gary Townson, State 1st VP, tells me that NARFE HQ is going to support Representatives Moore, Moran and Senator Roberts with PAC funds in the near future. I personally have asked Representative Boyda to also apply for PAC support. We need to give our support to those which support our Active and retired federal employees.



2008 NARFE STATE CONVENTION IN HUTCHINSON, KANSAS



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To continue, I'm very distressed at the proposed increase to our Health Insurance,

FEHBP, proposed by the Bush Administration for 2008. Once again, these proposed increases would absorb a large part of any cost of living increase our Retirees will receive for next calendar year. I am asking our Board members to contact their chapters and ask you to send emails and phone calls to our elected representatives voicing our displeasure. It seems these increases are for two reasons, the Administration's support of Health Savings Accounts for younger and wealthier workers/retirees and their refusal to accept the \$1 Billion payment available to OPM, just like other public and private employers, based on the 2003 Medicare Law. These two actions cost our retirees over 2% in 2006 based on a GAO report. The largest plan, BC/BS, increased almost 4% in 2006. Remember, one of our goals is to protect our current benefits. You and I need to speak out.

I have been busy this summer. We held our bi-annual Board meeting in Emporia this past June. I also attended the National State Presidents Meeting listed in the September NARFE magazine in July and the CONK in Nebraska in August. At the National State Presidents meeting we endorsed several resolutions that would make NARFE stronger. Some, but not all, included a single dues structure to make it easier to recruit and keep new members; support the concept of a virtual computer chapter to attract members who want to join but do not want to attend monthly meetings; more advertising to attract new members; and a proposal to make sure NARFE is organized properly to support current and retired federal employees in the future. The other issues were forwarded to the Federation Board and will be shared with you as the Area VPs make their visits. The CONK was well attended throughout Region 5. There were over 200 attendees, which included 39 Kansans. I am very proud of our representation at this meeting. An added benefit was that we were able to personally meet our National President, Margaret Baptiste. She is an impressive person and has our best interests at heart. If you run in to her the rest of this year, be sure and remind her of our invitation to attend our State Convention next year in Hutchinson. I'll continue to ask and ask, but the more of us welcoming her, the better.

Along this same topic, several members of you Federation Board, led by Area VP, Gale Beck, have prepared and scheduled Area training sessions for October. The schedule is as follow: Areas 2 and 2A in Iola on October 3; Area 3 in Clay Center on October 12; and Areas 1 and 1A in Kansas City, KS on October 15. Please contact your Area VP for training locations. Training for the remaining areas 4, 5 and 6 will be scheduled next March. This training will help your chapters very much.

Finally, we had our first pre-convention meeting for the Hutchinson State Convention last month with Area VP, John Lancaster and Hutchinson Chapter President, Harold Gottsch. They are well on the way to having a great Convention next year. Please put the dates of April 27-29, 2008, on your calendar and plan to attend.

Gary Townson, 1st Vice President: Those of you that didn't attend CONK missed quite an experience. There was a record setting 221 attendees shattering the previous record of 193. Of those in attendance, 95 were First Timers. I was one of those. Two years ago I was scheduled to attend but had to cancel at the last minute when my dad passed away. The Kansas Federation had 39 members present. We had the honor of National NARFE President Margaret Baptiste in attendance. Region Vice President Richard Thissen did his usual magnificent job. I sincerely believe the only way he could do better is if he were a twin! It is also always a joy to see and visit with his wife Ruth. Those of you that weren't able to attend CONK can still get some advantage of the training that was provided. There will be a one-day training workshop coming to a location near you in the



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not too distant future.

Generally people are not comfortable doing something because they don't know enough about it. I was very nervous when calling on Congressional officials or their staff. I was sure I would 'make a fool' out of myself because I didn't understand the bills I was asking them to support. The only way I overcame that fear was to read about the bills, discuss them with my peers and listen to the explanations provided in briefings (training.) We always need volunteers to serve as leaders and support staff in all areas of NARFE. When attempting to recruit someone, the most frequent refusal is explained by "I can't do it because I don't know enough about it." We are very fortunate to have a former National NARFE Officer heading up the Kansas Federation Training. Gale Beck has a wealth of knowledge about NARFE and he has spent countless hours preparing a workshop agenda to provide you with the tools to assist your Chapter, Federation and the National organization. Just like a great meal, however, the training will not be of any value to you unless you partake of it.

Once again, I urge all of you to talk about NARFE-PAC at every Chapter Meeting. The only ones permitted to contribute to NARFE-PAC are NARFE members. Inform your members of the value of NARFE having PAC funds to assist our friends in Congress when they seek reelection or to help a challenger defeat those who ignore our needs. Have PAC pins available at every meeting to recognize our members that contribute \$20.00 or more. If you need pins, forms or guidance, let me know.

Elizabeth Bornman, 2nd Vice President: It's been a busy few months. I completed a booklet on Membership and Recruitment. I e-mailed every chapter a copy. It was sent to the membership chairpersons. If no membership chair in the chapter, a copy was forwarded to at least the president of the chapter or an officer with an e-mail address. I was hoping for feedback but didn't get any, so I guess it was well received and useful to the chapters. I have been preparing for the Back to Basic training for this fall and spring. I hope all chapters will at least get one person to attend from their chapter when we come to your neighbor. Please encourage new members to attend.

Carol Ek, Secretary: Donald Cooper, Immediate Past Federation President and Public Relations Chair; Robert Cranmer, Area V Vice President; myself; and, hopefully members from the Great Bend Chapter 1709 will be holding a membership drive at the Convention of the Farm Service Agency Offices in Great Bend on September 28 and 29th. We are very honored to be asked to attend their convention and hope to gain some new members. Gale Beck usually attends this convention, however, this year a conflict arose which he could not ignore. Knowing I was a retiree from the FSA, he asked me to represent him. That's a big job, but with the help of the others, I think we can make up the difference.

2007-2008 Training Is Beginning October 3, 2008, at the Allen Community College, Iola, Kansas. This time the Seminar is titled, "Back to Basics and You." Gale Beck is leading the seminar as Federation Training Officer. Others included as trainers for the seminar are: President John F. Surritte; Immediate Past President and Public Relations Donald Cooper; 2nd Vice President and Membership Elizabeth Bornman; Federation 1st Vice President and NARFE PAC Gary E. Townson; National Region V Vice President Richard Thissen; Federation Service Officer Mary E. Fritzson; Federation Alzheimer's Chair Linda Surritte; and Federation Secretary Carol R. Ek.

As I have been preparing the trainer's packets for each member who attends; I find the material very relative to "What Can Help You in Your Chapter" for an on-going relationship with NARFE and NARFE members. I believe all who attend will go home feeling better about how they can go forth to encourage





Carol's

Changes:

(Carol Ek, Federation Secretary, Changes Made)

Area 2, Chapter 2077:



Spencer Ambler,
President – correction of
e-mail address to
sambler@cox.net

Area 2A, Chapter 2100:



We have lost another chapter (2100) that has been closed and the members merged with Chapter 799, Chanute. I do hope these members will continue to be active and attend the new chapter meetings. We must use all selling power at our disposition to maintain our chapters because from experience, I have learned that when members are transferred to another chapter, the members become inactive.

Dixie Thomas, Editor:

I will see some of you at the October 12 Training in Clay Center. Have a great fall and **Happy Thanksgiving** to you all!

growth.

Other training sessions are scheduled for October 12th at the United Methodist Church in Clay Center, Kansas; and October 15th at the Pat Hanlon Center, Kansas City, Kansas.

Election of 2008 Chapter Officers – All of those who meet quarterly remember that your new officers must be elected at the October meeting with the new F-7 submitted by January 1, 2008. Those of you, who have monthly meetings, just be certain that the election is held timely enough for your Secretary to submit the F-7 before January 1, 2008.

Remember to check all information on that F-7 including addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses. Whether we approved or not much of the required correspondence is being transmitted by e-mail because of high cost of postage. Please include your e-mail address.

College of NARFE Knowledge (CONK) which was held in August was outstanding this year. President Margaret Baptiste attended the full conference and was available to all who wished to visit with her. She expressed her "Thank You" for the very gracious hospitality and learning experience. Two hundred twenty-one (221) members from Region V attended the conference. Thirty-nine (39) attended from Kansas.

Richard Thissen, Region V Vice President, puts on this conference every two years (opposite year from the National Convention) and this year he really outdid himself. The conference material was excellent and the Mariana Inn could not have been better prepared for our visit. The entire experience was well worthwhile and enjoyable to attend. I would definitely recommend that you plan to attend a future conference.

Madelyn Brown, Federation Treasurer: I thought fall was on the way and like everyone else I will be glad when it gets cooler. We need to get rid of ragweed. Well, as Federation Treasurer, not much happening. I did attend CONK in South Sioux City, Nebraska. There was a lot of useful information presented. All Presenters did a great job. Chapter members that have not attended CONK missed A good training session. There was information available to Chapters that will be Very useful. The Marina Inn was such a lovely place to hold this training. I had a nice room overlooking the Missouri River, which I absolutely loved. Of course, good food and meeting new friends was also a plus. My thought is why had I missed CONK before. In 2009 it should be bigger and better. Let's encourage our members to attend, I know I will. See you all in October at the Board meeting.

Donald Cooper, Immediate Past President: Public Relations: Take a look at your September issue of NARFE, page 8.

Our National President Margaret Baptiste, said it nicely - "Public Relations and how we can contribute to public awareness of our great Association are things that should concern every member of NARFE. ..." "Opportunities for public relations and NARFE awareness are all around us. More importantly, it is something every single one of us is capable of doing." "Tell people about NARFE and what we do."

Public Relation's are essential. Have you examined your effort to provide your share of Public Relations for YOUR NARFE?

The 45 Kansas NARFE Chapters (it started out the year with 46 Chapters!) do



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not all have a person assigned to their Public Relations Committee Chair ship. It may come as a surprise to know that only half of the Chapters have a person

committed to their Public Relations Committee.

The calendar year is coming to a close all too soon. Each Chapter should have had their Nominating Committee working on the candidates for the 2008 slate of Chapter Officers. The Federation Secretary will be expecting the F-7's to be submitted, before the end of the calendar year, giving the names of the 2008 Chapter Officers and the Committee Chairs. It is my hope that all 45 Chapter Secretaries can have the Public Relations Committee Chairperson listed.

Kansas has over 50,000 potential members of Kansas NARFE. You have a lot of people to be using your public Relations.

May you have great success, with your awareness of your PR.

Gale D. Beck, Advisory Officer and AREA 2 Vice-President: Gale D. Beck, Training Officer and Area 2 Vice-President visited NARFE Chapter #384, Emporia Chapter September 10th. The chapter will participate in the Annual Veteran's Day Parade in November at Emporia. Plans were made for the parade since the chapter meets every other month.

The first week of September Iola Chapter #2077 was visited. The chapter hosted its annual evening chapter picnic. No program was scheduled and the evening was enjoyed with each member providing a covered dish. A minimum of business was discussed with Spencer Ambler, President leading the discussion at which Iola will host training for Area 2 and 2A, on Wednesday October 3rd at the Allen County Community College.

The Ottawa Chapter #785 will be visited, Tuesday, October 16th and Osage City Chapter, #2099, Friday, October 26th.

Training plans have been developed during the past month, with the first Seminar to be held October 3rd, Wednesday, at Iola, Ks. for Area 2 and 2A. Jim Gaskell, Area 2A VP will coordinate the plans for 2A to attend the Area 2 Seminar. The following seminar will be at Clay Center, Ks. Friday October 12th. with Duane Evans Area 3 VP coordinating the plans for this training. T. J. Robinson Area 1A VP and Thomas Raby, Area 1 VP will coordinate the plans for Area 1 and 1A seminar to be held in Kansas City, Monday, October 15th.

The Executive Board will meet, Tuesday, October 30th for their Annual Fall Board Meeting at which training plans will be finalized for the remainder of the state of Kansas which includes Area 4, South-central Kansas, Area VP John Lancaster; Area 5 Northwest Kansas, Area VP Ronald Katt and Area 6 Southwest Kansas, Area VP Robert Cranmer.

All Chapter members and Officers are encouraged to attend the Training seminars in their Area. If there is a conflict, members should feel free to attend training at another location. This training is provided for the benefit of Chapter Officers and Chapter Members. Those who provide the presentations take of their own personal time and some expense to provide this benefit to Kansas NARFE Members. See you all at the upcoming Seminars.

Thomas E. Raby, Area 1 Vice-President: By the time you read this I will have visited all chapters in area 1. It's been a great summer, so far. Jane and I are staying active. We believe that if we stay busy, and exercise our shrinking brains, we might stay off the Alzheimer's rolls a little longer. I occasionally use



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this forum as a soapbox, so here goes: Look at the active officers and participants in your chapter, and in the federation. These people are not only active in NARFE, but in their churches and communities. I'd be willing to bet that NARFE members that takes an active roll live longer and healthier lives than those who don't. I'm the oldest person on an organization managing board in my community. One of the youngest members stated recently that we shouldn't worry that our website is not maintained timely because older people won't use it. This raised a flag with me. I was able to reference Jim Dodd and Bob Steinert; two "older" people that are web-masters. In addition to them, I cited several other NARFER's that re more than proficient in computer use. Use this argument to get some of your members off the dime. Chapter Presidents can espouse the Federation Website as a place to read this newsletter, as well as dozens of other items worthy of note. Remind those who don't have a computer to visit their library. The library staff will get you started in simple computer use, at no cost. Also, many senior centers have computers and computer training specifically for senior folks. The Olathe senior center has three computers available at no cost. Don't let apathy, or inertia, control your life. My wife and I have mailed our CONK (College of NARFE Knowledge) registrations and are looking forward to this years session(s). T. J. Robinson, Area 1A VP and I are making arrangements to re-visit the Bannister Road Complex in early August. We're also planning to participate in the 44th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day at Fort Leavenworth in October. Keep looking for the Current Federal Employees out there; we need them, and they need us.

T.J. Robinson, Area 1A Vice-President: When becoming a member of NARFE, we were close to 500,000 members strong. As of the month of September 2007, our strength has fallen to much less than 400,000. The reductions, as you all are aware of, are due to non-renewals, deaths and a myriad of other causes. The point to make here is, only a diligent few of us are recruiting or attempting to recruit new members. Nation wide, there are over one million (1,000,000) Active & Retired Federal Employees. What I often hear is, "I don't know how to recruit," or "I don't know how to talk to people" and "I just don't have the time." What ever the case you're wrestling with I was once told, "Excuses are the signs of weakness." Retirees know many people who are retired and persons still employed. Active employees know multitudes of persons they come into contact with, many times on a daily basis. All you need is an application to present to any prospect and ask them to join. By the way, the Recruiter's National Journal & Quarterly indicates Kansas has the second lowest numbers recruited during the second quarter. "I must do something, rather than, something must be done."

A serious issue has come to light concerning Email addresses. Chapter members and all NARFE-Netters are you sure your address is accurate or has changed? Please contact and forward any changes to Secretary Carol Ek, your Area Vice-President and YOUR Chapter Secretary. In the effort to contact members to provide important, we are experiencing a large number of "Daemons." The information being sent often contains attachments that can be provided much faster than land mail and much more cost effective.

Attending the College Of NARFE Knowledge (CONK) in South Sioux City, Nebraska was most exiting. For one, the National President, Margaret Baptiste was present for the entire session. I believe all of Region V was represented, numerous for the first time, and was the largest number ever with over 200 members present. It was enjoyable to meet new members and greet known associates and friends. To my knowledge, there were never heard any grumbles or cross words.

On September 18th, Atchison Chapter 621 celebrated their chapter's 50th Anniversary. Several Federation Officers and Region V National Field Vice-President were present to help celebrate. Your Area 1A VP Robinson read the letter from National President Margaret Baptiste and NFVP Thissen presented the National



Headquarters certificate to Chapter President Harter. Leavenworth "Buffalo Bill" Chapter 27 President Delores Vossmer and contingent were also in attendance and

they brought with them a load of delicious cookies, which the chapter is well known for throughout the Federation. Ms. Vossmer announced an open invitation to their Christmas Party (time and place to be announced and forwarded at a later date). My personal note is, if you miss going, you surely will miss a treat and a wonderful celebration.

*** NFVP Thissen announced that he is a candidate for returning as Region V, National Field Vice-President. Can't speak for anyone else but he has my vote. And now, let us not forget about the Federation Fall Training during the month of October Area 1 & 1A training is scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2007 at The Pat Hanlon Senior Center, 1101 Ridge Ave, Kansas City, Kansas, located directly behind and adjacent to Fire Station #9. Due to what may be considered a short fuse, I am taking the task of sending the schedule, menu and if necessary, a map of the location to anyone who may need it. Just call or Email to get the information.

"In a successful marriage, there is no such thing as one's way. There is only the way of both, only the bumpy, dusty, difficult, but always mutual path."

My wife, LaVerne and I will celebrate our 50th Anniversary on 6 October 07. (Congratulations to TJ and LaVerne!!)

Jim Gaskell, Area 2A Vice-President: Maintaining a healthy NARFE chapter should be the goal of every member of NARFE. Sometimes the health of our chapter slips up on us and before we realize it, we have reached the point that no one is willing or able to take on the responsibilities of officers.

How does a chapter recognize this somewhat sneaky condition? We become comfortable with the other members who attend our chapter meetings we elect the same persons each year to continue in their positions. Another situation develops where we fail to recruit new and sometimes younger members who may have time, strength and a desire to lead in the chapter work. Another situation is that we fail to get training in what officers are supposed to do when elected to an office. Because of this, some of our members feel they are not qualified for an officer's job and will refuse to serve when asked.

The above situation developed over time with the Fredonia NARFE Chapter, 2100. Federation officers had been working with the chapter for over a year to help solve their problems but were not successful. On September 1, 2007, I met with the chapter officers and helped them merge with the Chanute Chapter, 0799. Not a good sign but I believe better than just closing the chapter.

I hope each chapter president will take the pulse of your chapter and see how healthy it is. If any of the above signs are present, take what actions you can to fix the problems. If you need help, call your Area v. p. or other Federation Officers who will be willing to assist in helping you strengthen your chapter. Please do this soon!

Duane Evans, Area 3 Vice President: M This has been a very busy summer. In June Karen and I went with my son Robert and his wife Mary and their 2-year-old Daughter Emily to Alaska in a 1976 motor home. We were gone 21 days with 14 of Those days spent driving to Alaska and return. Mt. McKinley was all its reported To be. It is huge and makes its own weather pattern. We were told afterward, that Only 25 percent of visitors get to see it. Since I am home to Kansas, I was unprepared for all the mountains enroute to Alaska and in the State. The Aleutian Islands were



snow capped. I thought that they would have tropical vegetation on them but it was all mountain vegetation as far as we could see from Homer, Alaska. We saw people

fishing on the Russian River side by side. We did not try fishing. There were too many people for me.

I appreciated very much the opportunity to participate in the CONK training in August. The training sessions provided good information for all our chapters. I would like to see more of our chapter represented when Richard offers the training again in a couple of years.

We have our Area 3 training scheduled October 12th at Clay Center. At our State Convention, 22 chapter members indicated that they wanted this training. I would like the names of those attending. I will be getting touch with each president to get the names. We have a wonderful group of members to serve. I enjoy your organization.

John Lancaster, Area 4 Vice-President: For those who did not take the occasion to go To South Sioux City the last of August, I hate to tell them that they missed an opportunity that was unexcelled at the College of NARFE Knowledge. With in excess of 210 NARFE members from across Region V gathering to learn more about our benefits and the organization that helps us retain them, those who attended will prosper.

The Kansas Federation is holding training meetings this fall and next spring for those who could not, or would not, attend CONK. As the old Roman philosopher said, "Occasionem Cognosce" or Recognize Opportunity and attend one of the sessions in your area or one of the adjacent areas. The Federation Board members go out of their way to provide the latest information for those who attend. It is for everybody, not just those who might want to be or are a Chapter or Federation Officer. (Cost of your meal and time is the only requirement.)

I guess it is not too early to continue to plug the next Federation Convention. Remember, Hutchinson, Kansas on April 27-29, 2008. Spend the last day after the sessions ends and visit the Salt Mine Museum or the Cosmosphere. For that matter, come on Saturday and visit both of them. Chapter 537 and its officers are working hard to provide a good convention.

It appears that we will have some officer elections again this year. At this time, it appears that we will have an election for at least 3 voting members of the board and possibly need replacements for at least two appointed members.

Ron Katt, Area 5 Vice-President: Thank you is extended to members participating in "NARFE Lobby Month" August 4 – September 4, 2007. Communicating NARFE legislative interest is a political process we must remain proactive in to receive and protect our earned benefits.

Federation trainers are planning a " 'Back to Basics' and You #2" training seminar for chapter officers and members in Northwest Kansas for March 2008. Chapter 2050 Custer 7th Cavalry will serve as host Chapter for the seminar to be held in Hays, Kansas. More information regarding the training seminar will be forthcoming in future newsletter writing.

Robert Cranmer, Area 6 Vice-President: Summer recess is over and time for Area 6 Chapters to meet again. I have visited Scott City Chapter 1996 and Garden City Chapter 1995 this month. I plan on visiting the other chapters in the near future.



TIME TO SMILE:

The Humor of Grandchildren

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was and I told him "62." He was quiet for a moment and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

After putting her grandchildren to bed for a sleepover, a grandmother washed off her makeup, changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and began to color her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience grew thin. At last she stormed

I am sorry to have missed CONK this year. More health problems. Besides having a tooth pulled, I also had to have my pacemaker replaced. Low battery.

It is good news that our Alzheimer's goal of \$7 million has been reached.

It is time for NARFE to put more emphasis on Membership. The number one concern in Area 6 is Membership. With more members will come more money for Alzheimer's and also more letters to the Legislature. Along with new members come new ideas.

I am planning on helping Carol Ek, September 28 & 29, in Great Bend for the FSA State Convention to recruit more members.

Lastly, we need to make Chapter meetings more FUN to attend.

Betty Born, Legislative (State): Does it seem to you, as it does to me, that mid-September has arrived very soon this year? Well, rest assured that it HAS, and the way I know is that Kansas's legislators are back in action, as interim committees began work on September 17.

As of September 18, all committee agendas were not available; however, from those that were, it appears they will cover much territory; e.g., a status report and overview of the Statehouse restoration and renovation project; disaster relief and recovery; Math and Science education; challenges for children with autism spectrum disorders; energy and national resources and environment; etc.

Of special interest to NARFE, I have seen nothing so far that will affect us as members. However, there is still much time ahead, and Topeka's chapter Legislative Chair Ron Richey, his wife Navella and I will be following developments, and I will report to you future events.

Mary Fritzson Service Officer: I understand Jodine Elwick has vacated the Federation Service Officer position and I am your replacement. Some of you know me; others do not. My government service with the State ASCS Office, U.S. Department of Agriculture in Manhattan, Kansas from 1952 until early 1986 provided me with many experiences. The ASCS agency is now known by the symbol FSA that stands for Farm Service Agency.

At the time I retired in early 1986, I was an Administrative Assistant with personnel management duties including retirement, life insurance and health insurance as well as EEO counselor for my agency. I like people and hopefully will not disappoint my fellow ARFE members as I attempt to work with them and serve my State Federation as Service Officer.

I am a NARFE life member of Kaw Blue Chapter 0366 in Manhattan, Kansas, and am currently Vice President for Programs for my chapter. Since 1994, I've attended all but three state conventions. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at area training meetings. I solicit our ideas and suggestions at any time.

Linda Surritte, Alzheimer's (State): WE DID IT! WE MADE THE \$7 MILLION BY 2007 GOAL! And we are off to a good start on our next national goal of \$8 Million.

In an unofficial report compiled by Barb Pretzer (NARFE Region V and National Alzheimer's Chair) covering the period July 1, 2006 thru June 30, 2007, the Kansas Federation is the top contributor in Region V and the fifth highest contributing



into their room,
putting them back
to bed with stern
warnings. As she
left the room, she
heard the three-
year-old say in a
trembling voice,
"Who was THAT?"

Federation in the Nation. Be sure to thank your members for their generosity and hard work.

Through the end of August, Kansas's chapters have collected \$18,886.36, which is \$3.79 per member for calendar year 2007. The Alzheimer's Committee at the KS Convention set our 2007 Federation contribution goal at \$4.00 per member.

To Chapter Alzheimer's Chairs and Treasurers:

--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) 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.

--The Alzheimer's Association is required to send acknowledgement letters for all donations. Chapter donations are also acknowledged. If your preprinted chapter checks do not have a return address printed on them, please write the name and address of the person that should be receiving the acknowledgement letter on the chapter check. This will help the Alzheimer's Association comply with their requirements and also ensure that the appropriate person in your chapter receives the acknowledgment.

Jim Dodd, NARFE NETTER/Historian: Have a Great Fall and see you at the Executive Board Meeting in October.



Most of the KS attendees at CONK

