



# OLD TROOPER NEWSLETTER



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

**January 2006**

**Volume 1, Number 13**

**Chapter 383, 2005 Officers**

President: James Martin, 238-8539

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Carl Shell, 238-8330

2nd Vice President: June Buckles, 238-6776

Secretary/Treasurer: Madelyn Brown, 238-5623

**• Chapter 383, 2005 Committee Chairpersons**

Legislative, James Dodd, 238-8041

Membership, Carl Shell, 238-8330

Public Relations, June Buckles, 238-6776

Service Officer, Morris Beckman, 238-5917

Alzheimer's, Opal Dalton and Virginia Adam, 922-6551 & 922-6706

Sunshine, Janet Harrel, 238-7488

NARFE-PAC, Larry Young, 238-3047

Calling, Violet (Vi) Martin, 238-8539

Decorating, Lillian Young, 238-3047 and Carlye Gilmore, 238-1897, Opal Dalton, 922-6551 and Virginia Adam, 238-1897

Program – Vacant

Newsletter, Dixie Thomas, 238-1455

Chaplain, Otis Scroggins, 238-1342

Special Projects Appointed as Needed

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!



## State Federation President Donald L. Cooper

Kansas NARFE has a lot for which to be thankful. We give Thanks that a group of people had the foresight eighty-four years ago to create an organization dedicated to the preservation of the federal worker's earned benefits. So many people have benefited from the dedication of many active and retired federal employees. That has taken a lot of giving. It is giving that each of us should pause, from time to time, and offer thanks. Celebrating the holidays is associated with lots of good eats and fellowship. Without the COLA's we have come to expect, buying that food, at today's prices, would be difficult on the annuity received at the time of retirement some 20-30 years ago. Paying medical bills is another area many have had help from the past efforts of the dedicated NARFE members working together. Gift giving is part of observing holidays. Pause to think of the gifts received because NARFE members of the past gave of themselves. We have current opportunities to give a gift of introducing federal workers to NARFE. It's as simple as using a Gift Membership Application to NARFE. Think what would happen if each current NARFE member gave a gift membership during this season of giving!

All 46 Kansas NARFE Chapters have held elections of 2006 chapter leaders. My thanks go out to you who are continuing your chapter leadership and welcome to those who are coming on board as new chapter officers.

**“Tell em about NARFE - ASK em to join.”**

## February 2006 Meeting/Luncheon

The February meeting/luncheon will be February 9, 2006, 11:30 a.m. at the Senior Citizen's Center, Spring Valley Road. Jim Martin, President, stated that the guest speaker for the meeting/luncheon will be Jennifer Wilson, County Research Director, Kansas State University Research and Extension, who will warn us about the latest frauds against senior citizen. This is in addition to the September presentation (not a repeat).



**NARFE STATE CONVENTION WILL BE IN JUNCTION CITY IN APRIL 2007**





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 newsletter at the luncheon - no change.*

**A few of the privileges of being a NARFE member:**

**GET MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS**

Membership in NARFE has privileges of its own. Earn back your membership dues with valuable savings on auto, long-term care, dental and supplemental insurance plans. From car rentals to moving services, hotels and travel offers, get the most for your money through trusted names you'll recognize.

NARFE member discounts mean real savings. Take advantage of the member discounts that will jumpstart your retirement savings.



## January Birthdays

Happy birthday to Paulette Briestensky, Carole Blixt, Celina Vincent, Irene Pendarvis, Edna Patterson, Barbara Hill, Harold Buick, Violet Martin, Sharon Strain, Alan Stephen, Robert Norcross, Richard Mathes, Janet Harrel, Cameron Davis, and Karen Baldwin. ✨

## January Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kosovich, Mr. and Mrs. Llellwyn McTavish, Mr. and Mrs. Don Marston, and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wiehl. Many, Many more happy anniversaries to all of you. ✨

## December Meeting Minutes

Madelyn Brown, Secretary, (Virginia Smith, Assisting)

- Junction City Old Trooper, Chapter 8, NARFE, met at the Senior Citizen's Center, 11:30 a.m., December 8, 2005. Jim Martin, President, presided. Otis Scroggins, Chaplain gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Ruth Asbury is a new member and attended the luncheon. Guests were Lorene Schmutz, Deb Campbell, Susan Parks, and Opal Hauserman.
- The November minutes were reviewed, approved and carried.
- The November Treasurer's Report was reviewed, approved and filed for audit.
- Jim Martin announced that the National NARFE Conference would be September 9-14, 2006, in Albuquerque, NM. Anyone interested in attending should contact Jim.
- Jim Martin announced that KJCK and the Salvation Army were conducting an "Adopt a Kid for Christmas" season. Please contact either organization if you are interested in adopting a child for Christmas.
- Jim Martin read a thank you note from the Food Pantry for the 220 pounds of food collected at the NARFE November meeting.
- Jim Dodd, Legislative Chairman, handed out Hotline news. He stated that when you get offers through the mail or by e-mail, be sure and be careful of what you return or sign.
- Vi Martin, Calling Chairman, reported 84 signed up for the luncheon with 78 in attendance.
- Janet Harrel, Sunshine Chairman, thanked everyone for giving her information so that she could send out cards.
- Opal Dalton, Alzheimer's Chairman, reported that \$79.80 was collected for the Fund.
- Madelyn Brown, Treasurer, announced that a fundraiser was being held at the Eagles Lodge Saturday night starting at 9:30 p.m. The funds will go to Mary Jane Varner who has developed cancer and is going for expensive treatments. Mary Jane and the Eagles Auxiliary have donated funds to the NARFE Alzheimer's fund several times. We wish Mary Jane well. (Update: Mary Jane Varner passed away the end of December)



## TRAVEL SERVICES

NARFE Travel's highly trained sales staff promptly and professionally handles each travel request as if it were their own vacation. While receiving the expertise of the top producers in the travel industry, clients have a fun, stress-free experience. Our travel consultants listen to the clients and turn their vacation dreams into reality.



### 20 ways to maintain a healthy level of insanity:

1. At lunchtime, sit in your parked car with sunglasses on and point a hair dryer at passing cars. See if they slow down.
2. Page yourself over the intercom. Don't disguise your voice.
3. Every time someone asks you to do something, ask if they want fries with that.
4. Put your garbage can on your desk and label it "in."
5. Put decaf in the coffee maker for 3 weeks. Once everyone has gotten over his or her caffeine addictions, switch to espresso.
6. In the memo field of all your checks, write "for smuggling diamonds."
7. Finish all your sentences with "In accordance with the prophecy."
8. Don't use any punctuation.
9. As often as possible, skip rather than walk.
10. Order diet water with a serious face whenever you go out to eat.
11. Specify that your drive-through order is "to go."
12. Sing along at the opera.
13. Go to a poetry recital and ask why the poems don't rhyme.

- The Junction City High School Jazz Band gave a splendid program to entertain the luncheon attendees.
- Lowell May from Concordia is writing a book about German prisoners of war who were held in Kansas. Anyone with information, please contact him.
- Madelyn Brown announced that she would order nametags and if interested, please let her know.
- Madelyn Brown announced that \$251.00 was collected from donations at the meeting for Mary Jane Varner.
- Jim Dodd swore in the 2006 NARFE officers: Jim Martin, President, Carl Shell, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, June Buckles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Madelyn Brown, Secretary/Treasurer.
- Jim Martin gave certificates to Dorothy Luttman for serving as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for the 2005-year and Virginia Smith for service as Secretary for the 2005 year.
- Lorena Schmutz (2), Opal Dalton, Marilyn Bielefield, Marie Sawyer (2), Karen Baldwin, Sharon Kitchens, Carl White, Morris Beckman, Donna Schmutz, Otis Scroggins and Walt Germann won the December door prizes.
- Meeting was adjourned. ☆

## Treasurer's Report

Madelyn Brown, Secretary/Treasurer

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Beginning Balance, December 1, 2005 | \$923.60 |
| Receipts                            | \$736.46 |
| Expenses                            | 798.36   |
| Ending Balance, December 31, 2005   | \$861.70 |



## Sunshine Report

Janet Harrel, Sunshine Chairman

A get well was sent to Marie Sawyer. ☆

## 2006 State Convention

The 2006 Convention will be in Wichita April 23-25, 2006. We will need delegates again this year. The Registration and 3 meals will be \$60.00. The Hotel room rates are \$79.00 + sales & occupancy tax (13.3%) for up to 4 persons per room. There will be a round table session on Sunday afternoon, giving everyone an opportunity to ask questions, also an Alzheimer Auction Sunday evening. Attending the Convention is a lot of fun, meeting old friends and new ones. Give this a lot of thought. After the Convention is over on Tuesday, there will always be time for shopping at the BIG malls.

Madelyn Brown, Secretary/Treasurer





- 14. Put mosquito netting around your work area and play tropical sounds all day.
- 15. Five days in advance, tell your friends you can't attend their party because you're not in the mood.
- 16. Have your co-workers address you by your wrestling name, "Rock Bottom."
- 17. When the money comes out of the ATM, scream, "I won! I won!"
- 18. When leaving the zoo, start running towards the parking lot, yelling, "Run for your lives, they're loose!"
- 19. Tell your children over dinner, "Due to the economy, we are going to have to let one of you go."
- 20. And the final way to keep a healthy level of insanity...  
....send this to someone to make them smile!!

**Growing older is mandatory, growing up is optional, laughing at yourself is therapeutic!**

REMEMBER, CONTACT ANY NARFE MEMBER AND THEY WILL ADVISE/ASSIST YOU IN JOINING OUR GREAT ORGANIZATION!



**JC NARFE members** receiving an annuity from OPM should have received the January 2006 form showing the 4.1 % increase in annuity. FERS annuitants should have a 3.1% increase. The increase in the monthly Medicare premium will also be listed. The increase in your Monthly health benefits, i.e., BCBS, etc., will not show up until your February 2006 statement.

The January NARFE magazine has a listing of Financial Web sites starting on page 26. I will be adding a page to the KSNARFE.org web site listing these sources of information.

With the President supporting reducing the increases in "entitlements," NARFE members should be alert to any bills in congress that would affect CSRS, FERS and Social Security annuities.

JIM DODD, KoMDH ham radio, [www.KSNARFE.org](http://www.KSNARFE.org)



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**TO:**

