



THE WYANDOTTE SCOUT

Sunflower Chapter 1160 K.C., KS

Byron K Nichols, Editor byron666@earthlink.net

May, 2006

(Volume 31, Number 5)



NEXT MEETING: 11:00 A.M., Friday, 05/12/06 at the Pat Hanlon Senior Center, 1101 Ridge Ave., K.C., KS

April Meeting: Instead of the regular potluck lunch and a business meeting, we had a PARTY in honor of a member who performed many services for our chapter, the late Josef A Meditz (4/8/1907 to 10/18/2004). Memories were related by his son, Josef Pat Meditz and others of his family and the chapter.

The senior center was decorated with balloons from Beaucoup Balloons. Entertainment was provided by the 12th Street Revue Band, playing old favorites from early in the century through WW II, swing, polka, etc. We had a spinner game, where the prize was a \$2 bill whenever it landed on '2', and played Bingo for \$2 bills per winner. The lunch was provided by Kansas City Catering, Inc., and consisted of a chicken breast, twice-baked potato, carrots, rolls & butter and a salad. Dessert was a marble cake with thick icing (see the pictures). The smaller cake was left over for the May meeting.

About 50 attended the luncheon out of around 100 who thought they could come if feeling well. We're sorry about those who weren't well enough to attend. We hope you feel better soon. We had a lot of food left over, so some went to known ill members and the rest to the firemen stationed above us. They work hard and deserve it.

We collected a total of \$150 for the baby quilt made by Ada Nichols for Alzheimer's (picture on page 2). The winner was **Helen Verbeck** (a chapter member).

Some pictures of the luncheon are on pages 2, 3 & 4. (I wish I could print these in color for you, they look a lot better that way!)

Kansas Convention: A report from the April 23rd to 25th convention will be in next month's issue.

Future Meetings: May 12th; no special event scheduled; the usual potluck lunch and a business meeting. July 14th will be the Annual Picnic in Wyandotte County Lake Park. Reminder - The November meeting, normally held on the 10th, will be on the 3rd due to Veteran's Day.

Membership Update: Deceased: Geneva D Palmer, 98 (DoD, 11/17/2005), William H Collins, 83 (USPS, 03/10/06), Norma J DeCaire, 78 (IRS, 03/31/06).

Dropped for non-renewal: Richard L Reeves, KCK.

NEW Members: John W Tritle, KCK, Nickie A Perry, Tonganoxie, Thimas P Lewis, KCK. **WELCOME!**

Note to retired members on an annual payment plan still **not** on dues withholding: You won't have to remember to write a check every year, it saves the national organization money and it is **cheaper for you** (\$30.60 per year vs. \$35; national plus chapter dues). Applications

are in the NARFE magazine each month.

Members with birthdays in May are:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Dorothy M Barrett | Albert Jesse |
| Anna L Baska | Larnell Johnson |
| Charles K Bornschein | Robert E Kavanaugh |
| Loretta M Breedlove | Thomas A Ksiazek |
| Donald C Breiby | Lena M O'Malley |
| Phyllistine A Breiby | Mary M Oliver |
| John Paul Caster | Deloris R Raymer |
| Maria Dinges | LaVerne Robinson |
| Charles E Fithian | Valentine J Ruzick |
| Johnnie Marie Fouse | Barbara R Stafford |
| Jessie M Henderson | George L Wilson |
| M Louine Herman | Bold = attends many meetings |

The 23 members above have an age range of 69 to 94 and an average age of 80 1/2. If you were born in May and not on this list, please notify the editor at the return address on the last page (**especially newer members** for the last couple of years or so; the national association doesn't give us any birth date, ex-agency, etc. information anymore).

Continuing Request: Would anyone who doesn't already collect the UPC bar codes from "**Best Choice**" brand products please consider sending them to us? (Collect a bunch before mailing them; it's not worth using 39 cents to mail one or two.) We send these in periodically to get money which goes to the Alzheimer's Fund (We get \$30 per 1000 codes (3 cents per code), plus an additional \$30 bonus once a year). Send them either via a member you know goes to the meetings or to the address on the top of this page. Thank You.

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Thanks to **Mary Relic** for her **48** UPC codes!

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Our Chapter Officers:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| President | E. Regina Barger | 913-342-8256 |
| Vice-President | LaVerne Robinson | 913-371-7720
save900@aol.com |
| Recording Secretary | | 913-371-7720 |
| Public Relations | Theodore J Robinson | save900@aol.com |
| Service Officer | | |
| Treasurer | | 816-763-4729 |
| Newsletter Editor | Byron Nichols | byron666@earthlink.net |
| Membership Roster | | |
| Alzheimer's Chair | Kathy Zunick | 913-281-3335 |

From the Legislative Arena [culled from NARFE Legislative Hotlines and FEDweek bulletins]:

Congress: After hours of debate on April 6th, the House again failed to reach agreement on the fiscal 2007 budget. Consideration is due to continue when the House returns from recess on April 24th. The House, Senate and President are arguing on the fine points of where to cut the budget and where to hold the line. The only good news is the Government Reform Committee, which has jurisdiction over annuities and the FEHBP, did not receive any savings mandates, so retirees are safe for now.

NARFE Lobby Week meetings have prompted eight more Representatives to cosponsor Premium Conversion (H.R.994). The 318 cosponsors is larger than the 314 cosponsoring the GPO/WEP Repeal (H.R.147), but less than were recruited during the 108th Congress (2003-2004). In the Senate two more Senators were recruited as cosponsors of Premium Conversion (S.484), bringing the Senate's level to a record mark of 59.

FEHBP: Health insurance companies haven't been told by OPM to add substantial new benefits for 2007, but have been encouraged to take steps to hold down premium increases, such as alternative plan designs and preventative care benefits. OPM also doesn't expect carriers to add or make changes in their dental and/or vision offerings (if they exist at all) in anticipation of the new separate programs set to launch with this fall's Open Season. OPM is also encouraging plans to offer high-deductible plans with health savings accounts, and is working toward enabling employees to make contributions through payroll deduction. It also wants proposals on enhanced prescription drug management for high-cost specialty pharmaceuticals. There are already plans started toward electronic health records and electronic drug prescriptions to minimize mistakes due to illegible doctor's scribbling.

TSP Funds: The Small & Mid-Cap stock Fund (S) led the TSP's monthly returns in March, gaining 3.84%; followed by the International (I) stock fund at 3.33%. The Large company stock fund (C) was up 1.29%, the government securities fund (G) was up 0.36% and the bond fund (F) suffered a 0.93% loss. The S fund also leads the latest 12-month count; up 25.26%, with the other four funds up 24.53%, 11.71%, 4.44% and 2.31%, respectively.

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Our "Welcome" Banner at the Entrance



SCAM WARNING REMINDER: If someone calls you and asks you to push "90#" to test your phone line, PLEASE DON'T DO IT!! This code will give them total access to your line to make long distance calls and bill them to YOU!! The phone company will NEVER ask a customer to do this themselves, only a technician.

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Membership Rosters are available in an 8.5" x 11" format with larger type. Drop me a note with \$1.00 each to offset printing and postage (My address is on the return address above).

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OPM Annuitant Express To start, stop or change withholdings or get a duplicate 1099-R: Call 1-800-409-6528; or on the web type www.opm.gov/retire (you must apply for a pin # to change your \$ allocations).

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OPM Retirement Information Center:

Write to PO Box 45, Boyers, PA 16017-0045 or phone 1-888-767-6738. Remarriage, divorce, death of spouse, change of address or financial institution or amount of life insurance under FEGLI (among many more services)

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NARFE Headquarters: 1-703-838-7760

(7 am to 3:45 pm Central Time) Call to get official forms at this number. See the NARFE magazine for various web addresses. Also, be sure to notify NARFE for address changes, deaths, etc. at 1-800-456-8410.

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The Raffled Baby Quilt (Blue & White with Cats)



L to R: T.J. & LaVerne Robinson, Josef Pat Meditz



The Memorabilia Table (Left)



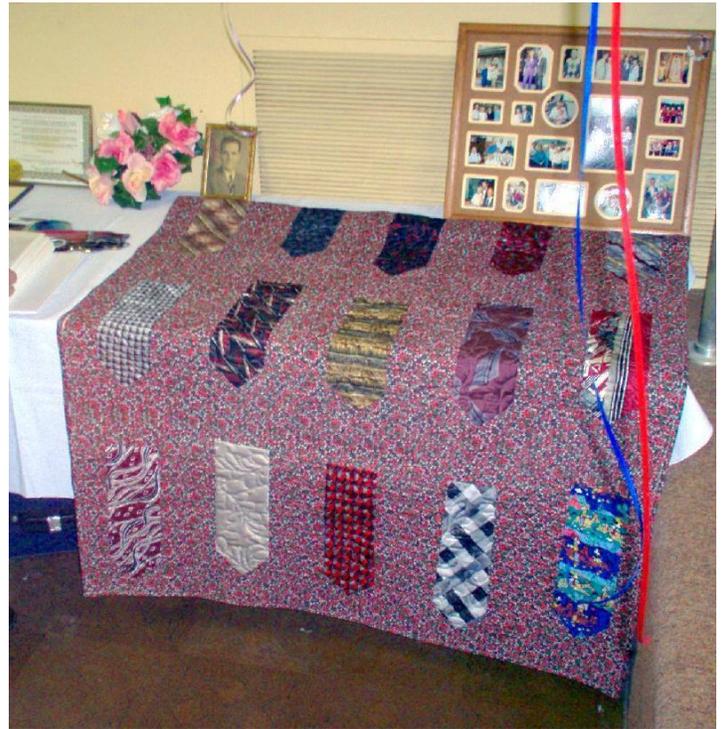
The Large Cake (they misspelled NARFE!)



The 12th Street Revue Band, getting ready



The Memorabilia Table (Right). The quilt was made by Joe's daughter from his tie collection.



The Entire Cakes Table



NARFE (Natl. Active & Retired Fed. Emp. Assn.)
Sunflower Chapter No. 1160 [Editor]
10204 Belmont Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64134-1455

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Serving the Guests (looking from the Lectern Side)



Serving the Guests (looking from the North Side)



The Spinner Game



A Big Bouquet in the Entranceway

