

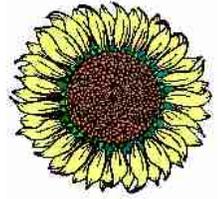


THE WYANDOTTE SCOUT

Sunflower Chapter 1160, Kansas City, KS

Byron Nichols, Editor byron666@earthlink.net

October, 2006 (Volume 31, Number 10)



NEXT MEETING: 11:00 A.M., Friday, 10/13/06 at the Pat Hanlon Senior Center, 1101 Ridge Ave., K.C., KS

For those of you with computers: Look for the newsletter on www.KSNARFE.org in Item #14, in COLOR.

September Meeting: We played Bingo again before lunch; 10 people played with 4 winning \$12 between them, plus a small cork message board as the 'blackout' prize. The usual pot-luck luncheon was held from noon to 1:00 PM with 14 members attending.

The business meeting lasted from 1:05 to 1:50 PM. Thirteen members stayed for the meeting. Of the members present we recognized two birthdays for September: Ernestine Smith and Wanda Collins. The bills and other assorted expenses were paid. The last meeting's minutes, correspondence and treasury report were read.

Secretary Robinson answered some questions about some issues to be taken up by the upcoming national convention. Among these are a possible dues restructuring, 'one member, one vote' proposal, mandatory or optional chapter membership and another name change proposal.

T.J. Robinson won the \$5 Attendance Drawing. Bob Horseman won the \$4.25 Ticket drawing. Both prizes were contributed to the Alzheimer's fund. We sent a check for \$13.50 to the fund, for a total so far this year of \$382.95. **If any member who doesn't attend meetings wishes to contribute to the Alzheimer's Fund, you can send a check to the Treasurer/Editor at the return address on the cover of the Scout. Make checks out to "NARFE/Alzheimer's Research".** We'll mention you with a thanks in the Scout.

Future Meetings: No specific program is planned for October. At ALL meetings, if anyone would like to come early enough before lunch (say, at the 11 AM time above), we plan to play Bingo, with PRIZES for the winners. Please Come!

Reminder -- The **November** meeting, normally held on the 10th, will be a **week early**, on the 3rd, due to Veteran's Day.

Membership Update: Former member Florence M Major, 96 (6/27/06, DoJ/INS); Albert Jesse, 88 (8/26/06, GSA); Laurence W Breedlove, 88 (9/2/06, USDA) and William R Walinow, 79 (9/15/06, GSA-KC Fed. Rec. Cntr) - see right. Dropped for non-renewal: Thomas J Borengasser and Juanita B Brooks, both of KCK. Second no-

tices sent to Wanda J Collins and Janeria M Phillips. If these two intend to stay members, please send dues to the NARFE national office ASAP (see NARFE magazine for the address).

Note to members: Dues Withholding saves the national organization money and it saves you almost \$5 over annual dues. You don't have to remember to write that check or risk being dropped. Applications are in the NARFE magazine each month.



In Memoriam to a Special Member.

William Robert "Bill" Walinow, 79, of Kansas City, KS, died Friday, September 15, 2006 at the Medicalodge Post Acute Care Center. Bill was born October 27, 1926, in Kansas City, KS. During the depression, Bill was a newsboy selling papers all over downtown Kansas City. After his graduation from Wyandotte High School, Bill was eager to enlist in the Army. He served in WWII in Germany. It was here that he met the love of his life, Margarete Meyer. They married in Stuttgart, Germany and came home to Kansas City, KS. Bill was called back into service during the Korean Conflict. He was well known and well liked in the Kansas City, KS area and was always proud of his hometown roots. Bill was well known as a competitive bowler in the Wy-Jon League, winning several state championships during the fifties. Bill was an archivist at the Federal Records Center for over 30 years, retiring in 1981. Bill was past Vice President and Greeter of the NARFE (Chapter 1160, KCK). He is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Margarete Walinow of the home; son, William R. Walinow, Jr., Athens, GA; daughter, Virginia W. Waller and husband, James, Overland Park, KS; and daughter Karen E. Walinow and husband Mark Loveland, Gladstone, MO; two sisters, Sarah E. Richardson and husband Joe, Liberty, MO, and Dorothy McGrath, Shawnee, KS; three grandchildren, Joshua Waller, Overland Park, KS, Rachael Walinow and William R. "Rob" Walinow III, Athens, GA; and nephew Mike Richardson of Liberty, MO. Bill never met a stranger and will be greatly missed by family and friends. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. Monday, September 18, 2006 at the Porter Funeral Home, 1835 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS. Entombment in the Highland Park Cemetery Mausoleum. Friends may call from 4 to 6 p.m. Sunday, September 17, 2006, at the funeral home. (Arrangements: Porter Funeral Home & Crematory, 1835 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS, 913-621-6400). (Printed in the KC Star, 9/17/2006)

Members with birthdays in October are:

Lillian H Black	Byron K Nichols
Beatrice Cannon	Thelma J Poole
Mildred M Clark	Walter C Raynes
Floyd F Culp	Mary L Reynolds
Michael T Denk	Joseph P Rozich
Virgie L Edwards	Mabel L Ruby
Buford Erwin	Anne R Rundle
John V Hitchcock	Ruth Saragusa
William C Kalich	Sylvia C Terbovich
Daisy M Lester	Leonard H Wesson
Mozella Marie Mabon	Gloria A Willis
Mary B Mann	Esther E Woodard

Bold = Attends many meetings

The 24 members above have an age range of 55 to 97 and an average age of 81 ½. Congratulations! If you were born in September and not in the above list, please notify the editor at the return address on the last page or e-mail address in the masthead above.

Legislative, Financial and Health News

(summarized from FEDWeek Bulletins and NARFE Legislative Hotlines):

COLAs, CPI: The Bureau of Labor statistics reported the CPI-W for August raised 0.2% from the July index. This makes the cumulative raise for calculating COLAs as 3.5%. The increase for those receiving FECA benefits (based on calendar year statistics) is 3.7% so far.

Congress: A late-stage discharge petition on HR 147 (repeal of the GPO/WEP has been filed. With Congress scheduled for recess on September 29 or 30 until after the elections, chances for discharging HR 147 from the Ways and Means Committee are slim at best. A nearly identical discharge languished in 2004, never getting the required 218 signatures. Both Premium Conversion (HR 994 & S 484) and repeal of GPO/WEP (HR 147 & S 619) are still attracting cosponsors due to NARFE actions, but lapsed cosponsors are hurting efforts. NARFE continues to make a toll-free number available to reach the Capitol switchboard. Ask for your Representative or Senator by name. The number is 1-866-220-0044.

Health: NARFE president Charles Fallis is pleased that the overall average raise in FEHBP premiums is only 1.8%, as compared with the overall inflation rate of well over 3%. But he says either premiums could have been lower or coverage enhanced had OPM applied for the subsidy available to all employers under the law creating the Medicare prescription drug program. OPM has forgone this payment for the last two years.

OPM will mail annuitants information about costs and benefits the new Dental and Vision programs (FEDVIP), along with the usual FEHBP plans

during Open Season (November 13 through December 11). Enrollment does not depend on membership in FEHBP, and enrollees will pay the full cost of the new programs. The initial contracts awarded so far went to: Aetna, GEHA, MetLife, United Concordia, Group Health, CompBenefits and Triple-S for dental benefits; Blue Cross, Spectra and Vision Service Plan will offer vision benefits. Agencies have been urged to invite FEDVIP carriers to their Open Season health fairs for active employees to get information. The NARFE Web Home Page will provide links to Open Season information soon.

Medicare part B premiums will rise 5.6% (\$5) to \$93.60 per month for 2007 for most enrollees. Part B premiums will now also be income dependent, requiring wealthier enrollees to pay more. The part A and B deductibles will raise as well, among other rate increases. The November issue of NARFE magazine will have more information.

TSP Funds: All three stock funds posted gains above 2% in August; the international (I) fund up 2.76%, the large company (C) fund up 2.36% and the small company (S) fund up 2.15%. Those funds posted, respectively, 12-month gains of 23.44%, 8.89% and 8.72%. The bond (F) fund gained 1.58% and the Government securities (G) fund was up 0.44% for 12-month returns of 1.77 and 4.91% respectively. The lifecycle (L) fund returns were: Income, 0.9; 2010, 1.39; 2020, 1.81; 2030, 1.96 and 2040, 2.22% for 12-month gains, respectively, of 6.28, 8.65, 9.95, 10.55 and 11.47%. The TSP governing board is nearing a decision to require new hires to be automatically enrolled in the TSP, since they are put under the FERS system, which needs additional savings anyway. Also under consideration is setting the lifecycle (L) fund which most closely matches the person's retirement eligibility date as the default fund for investors who do not choose allocations. The current default is the government securities (G) fund.

The National Convention: The Convention in Albuquerque had contested races for three of the four resident officers. The current treasurer, Richard Ostergen, was unopposed and reelected by voice vote. Former National VP (and current South Carolina Federation President) Margaret Baptiste was elected National President. Region 10 Field VP Bill Austin won the National VP. Arizona Federation President Nat Brown, in the closest contest, was elected National Secretary. Dick Thissen was unopposed for reelection as our Region 5 Field VP. Full coverage in the November issue of NARFE magazine. The 2008 convention will be held in Louisville, KY and the 2010 convention will be in Grand Rapids, MI.

Humorous but useless trivia:

(author unknown - forwarded via email)

For all of you people going on the game shows...good luck.....

Subject: 33 Things you should know but probably don't

1. Money isn't made out of paper, it's made out of cotton.
2. The Declaration of Independence was written on hemp paper.
3. The dot over the letter 'i' is called a "tittle".
4. A raisin dropped in a glass of fresh champagne will bounce up and down continuously from the bottom of the glass to the top.
5. Susan Lucci is the daughter of Phyllis Diller.
6. 40% of McDonald's profits come from the sales of Happy Meals.
7. 315 entries in Webster's 1996 Dictionary were misspelled.
8. The 'spot' on 7UP comes from its inventor, who had red eyes. He was albino.
9. On average, 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents, daily.
10. Warren Beatty and Shirley MacLaine are brother and sister.
11. Chocolate affects a dog's heart and nervous system; a few ounces will kill a small sized dog.
12. Orcas (killer whales) kill sharks by torpedoing up into the shark's stomach from underneath, causing the shark to explode.
13. Most lipstick contains fish scales (eww).
14. Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn't wear pants.
15. Ketchup was sold in the 1830's as medicine.
16. Upper and lower case letters are named 'upper' and 'lower' because in the time when all original print had to be set in individual letters, the 'upper case' letters were stored in a case on top of the case that stored the smaller, 'lower case' letters.
17. Leonardo DaVinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time, hence, multi-tasking was invented.
18. Because metal was scarce, the Oscars given out during World War II were made of wood.
19. There are no clocks in Las Vegas gambling casinos.
20. The name Wendy was made up for the book Peter Pan; there was never a recorded Wendy before!
21. There are no words in the dictionary that rhyme with: orange, purple and silver!
22. Leonardo DaVinci invented scissors. Also, it took him 10 years to paint Mona Lisa's lips.
23. A tiny amount of liquor on a scorpion will make it instantly go mad and sting itself to death.
24. The mask used by Michael Myers in the original "Halloween" was a Captain Kirk's mask painted white.
25. If you have three quarters, four dimes, and four pennies, you have \$1.19. You also have the largest amount of money in coins without being able to make change for a dollar (good to know).
26. By raising your legs slowly and lying on your back, you can't sink in quicksand (and you thought this list was completely useless!).
27. The phrase "rule of thumb" is derived from an old English law, which stated that you couldn't beat your wife with anything wider than your thumb.
28. The first product Motorola started to develop was a record player for automobiles. At that time, the most known player on the market was the Victrola, so they called themselves Motorola.
29. Celery has negative calories! It takes more calories to eat a piece of celery than the celery has in it to begin with. It's the same with apples!
30. Chewing gum while peeling onions will keep you from crying!
31. The glue on Israeli postage stamps is certified kosher.
32. The Guinness Book of Records holds the record for being the book most often stolen from public libraries.
33. Astronauts are not allowed to eat beans before they go into space because passing wind in a space suit damages it.

DATED MEETING NOTICE

<ID#> 1160 <ExpDt>
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 <Addr1> <Addr2>
 <City>, <State> <Zip9>

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

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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).

Reminder: Please send us your **"Best Choice"** UPC codes when you get a bunch! (It's not worth using 39 cents to mail one or two!) We get \$30 per 1000 codes (3 cents per code), plus an additional \$30 bonus once a year. The money goes to Alzheimer's Research. Send them either via a member you know goes to the meetings or to the address in the return address block. Thanks.

* * * * *

Thanks to Ruth Saragusa for forwarding her Best Choice UPCs. Remember, we need only the bar codes, not the whole label. Saves postage.

Our Chapter Officers:

President	E. Regina Barger	913-342-8256
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Service Officer		
Treasurer		816-763-4729
Newsletter Editor	Byron Nichols	byron666@earthlink.net
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