



2011 OFFICERS and CHAIRS

President	Tom Huntzinger	785-766-6717
1 st Vice President	Roger Lemmons	785-840-9594
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Treasurer	Cheryl Travis	785-841-1616
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Newsletter	Wendy Hambly	913-845-0121
NARFE PAC	Linda Surritte	785-856-0558
NARFE Net Coor		
Alzheimer's Chair	John Scott	785-542-3510
Legislative Chair	John Surritte	785-856-0558
Sunshine	Reba Bryant	785-843-4407

KUDOS & THANK YOU'S TO:

- ☆ **Cheryl Travis, our new Chapter Treasurer.**
- ☆ **Roger Lemmons for arranging interesting meeting programs and his recruiting efforts.**
- ☆ **Gordon Montney for completing and submitting the Chapter's 2010 taxes.**
- ☆ **Betty Scribner for ongoing recruiting efforts.**
- ☆ **Dianne Throop for assisting with recruiting.**

LEGISLATIVE John Surritte

Candidate Fair is mid-morning Saturday, April 2nd, Old Depot in North Lawrence. Candidates will set up information booths and meet the public. Election day is April 5. The League of Women Voters has prepared voters' guides for the School Board and City Commission. View guides at <http://lawrenceleague.com/2011/03/17/voter-guides-april2011/> or check pdf files in email.

Tom Huntzinger accompanied Louise Lloyd, Shawnee Chapter President, and TJ Robinson, Kansas City Chapter President to a meeting with Susan Metsker of Congressman Yoder's staff in Kansas City, KS. The visit focused on congratulating Rep. Yoder for his successful campaign, asking him to support federal employees and retirees, and a set of talking points that reflect NARFE concerns about contemplated and real pay and benefits cuts, animosity toward federal workers, and the perception that federal workers are paid more than private sector workers. We were unable to schedule a meeting with Lynn Jenkins.

jfsurritte@hotmail.com

SERVICE OFFICER Wanda Lyon

February 2011: % toward next COLA is +0.95.
 (785)764-2210 or lyonden@sunflower.com

APRIL 20th MEETING INFORMATION

Meet at Conroy's Pub. Program begins at noon, lunch at 12:30. Choose from 3 menu items. Iced tea and coffee, gratuity and tax are included for \$10.00. A business meeting follows lunch. April's program is Sherry Hamilton of KPR. May's program is John Glassman of the Senior Center.

MARCH 16th MEETING RECAP

John Jewell, of the Spencer Museum, used sketches of Lawrence in the mid-1800's, letters of area residents of that time, and his knowledge of the area's history to weave an interesting overview of the turmoil Kansas experienced in seeking statehood. The Missouri Compromise, which provided that new states north of the southern Missouri border would be free, was replaced by the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, which opened Indian territory to white settlers and allowed voters to determine if the territory would join the Union as a Free State or Slave State. As settlers came into the territory, Missouri thought Kansas was the "Christmas goose," that it would enter the Union as a Slave State. The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 set in motion the border conflict between Missouri and Kansas.

Mr. Jewell emphasized the area's rich history. He covered the colored ballot voting system; that 3000 votes were cast in Lawrence which had a population of 1500; how the New England Emigrant Aid Co. brought settlers to Kansas; the Lecompton Constitution, which was proslavery; that the Free State Hotel and 2 newspapers in Lawrence were declared public nuisances leading to Sheriff Sam Jones and the Missourian's raid; and the "demilitarization" of western Missouri counties by the Army to control violence after Quantrill's Raid on Lawrence. He stated that the settling of Kansas was unique in that it was political rather than economic.

NARFE OFFERS \$1000 SCHOLARSHIPS

Children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and stepchildren of current NARFE members are eligible for NARFE scholarships. Details and applications are in the *MARCH NARFE MAGAZINE* pg 45-46. **Application deadline is April 30, 2011.**

MEMBERSHIP**Betty Scribner**

Welcome to Walt Alcott, Jess McNellis, Marvin Jardon, and wife, Norma, who attended March's meeting.

I mailed letters thanking Chapter 378 members for their consistency in membership and an invitation to attend our meetings. It is important to attract new members to fill positions to sustain an active chapter. I received a few responses, both positive and negative. Every member is appreciated in this chapter and one by one each adds to the number of voices we have in Washington, D.C.

Dianne Throop and I discovered the VA in Leavenworth and Topeka plan retirement seminars in April. We contacted the Leavenworth and Topeka Chapter Presidents, who were unaware of these events. Both said they would like to make a presentation for the seminars. We are still in the process of planning a date to set up a table at the Leavenworth Canteen.

As a result of the visit to NARA (National Records) in Lenexa last month, we have been invited to attend two health fairs, at the Lenexa Facility on May 16th and Lee's Summit facility on May 19th. Both events will involve two other major agencies – American Indian Information Repository and US Citizenship and Immigration Services. I would appreciate any of you who would consider helping with these two health fairs.

With the help of Roger Lemmons, information was distributed to USDA FSA employees throughout Kansas. The 125 mailings included a letter explaining NARFE objectives, a copy of the Chapter's new brochure, and a list of the State NARFE chapters.

Any help with contacts in your agency, would be greatly appreciated. Magazines and information are now being placed at the library and senior services.

A membership application is available online at www.narfe.org or contact me at 785/843-7481 or Email: elisabethscribner@yahoo.com.

NARFE NEWS WATCH Mar 15th

NARFE has launched a website for its "Protect America's Heartbeat" campaign — an aggressive national communications and advocacy campaign to fight back against attacks on federal employees' and retirees' benefits and reputations. NARFE is urging all federal employees and retirees to go to

the site, www.ProtectAmericasHeartbeat.org, to sign a petition to Congress and to tell the story of their own public service.

KANSAS FEDERATION CONVENTION

Chapter 378 Delegates for Kansas Federation Convention, April 10-12, Junction City, KS, are: Tom Huntzinger, Roger Lemmons, John Surritte, Linda Surritte, and Betty Scribner. They will cast 2 proxy votes for a total of 5 Chapter votes. There is still time to get Alzheimer's auction items to Linda Surritte (785-979-2603). Donated items should be new or 'antique quality' with a value of \$5 or more.

SUNSHINE CHAIR**Reba Bryant**

Please continue to let me know about illness, special birthdays, celebrations, or honors our members receive, so I can send an appropriate card. Email: rebabryant@sbcglobal.net

CORRECTION**Wendy Hambly, Editor**

In Chapter 378's March Newsletter, I erroneously reported that the Kansas Federation had hired a public relations organization to develop aggressive strategies for meetings with congressmen. **The Federation has not hired any organization.** Kansas Federation President, Carol Ek, provided the following clarification: *"The Kansas NARFE President did ask representatives from chapters to meet with all four Congressmen during the week of February 21-25 if a meeting could be scheduled. We did have late notice and this request only came to fruition in Congressman Yoder's district. NARFE members from that District scheduled the meeting and spoke for NARFE at the meeting.*

This meeting was a meeting of minds to encourage Congressmen to become acquainted with NARFE with the members congratulating the Congressmen for their election and willingness to represent the constituents of their District. It was also our mission to open communication avenues and make the congressman aware of our commitment to federal active and retired employees.

All of this was done on a voluntary NARFE member commitment and I am very proud of each and every member who was given the privilege of meeting with their Congressman. Their report was very positive!

It is my hope that this privilege will be extended by the other three (3) congressmen as time allows."