



THE WYANDOTTE SCOUT

Sunflower Chapter 1160, Kansas City, KS

Byron Nichols, Editor

byron666@earthlink.net

January, 2008 (Volume 33, Number 1)



NEXT MEETING: 11:00 A.M., Friday, 1/11/08 at the Pat Hanlon Senior Center, 1101 Ridge Ave., KCK (Weather Permitting! ... In case of bad weather, try calling our President, VP or Service Officer at number on back page.)

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

December Meeting: The December meeting was canceled due to the series of bad weather (ice on the ground and predictions of more ice or snow). We'll try again in January with a regular luncheon. (If you still have what you were bringing for the Xmas lunch, that will be welcomed also.) Happy New Year everybody!!

So far this year the chapter has sent **\$1,019.93** to the Kansas Federation Alzheimer's coordinator (around \$3.11 to \$3.35 per member, depending on which 'official' membership number is used). The KS Federation goal this year is \$4 per member. We won't make it this year.

If any member who doesn't attend meetings wishes to contribute to the Alzheimer's Fund, you can send a check to the Treasurer (see the address on the back cover of the Scout). **Please make checks out to "NARFE Chapter 1160"**. We'll forward the contribution to the state coordinator and mention you with a thanks in the Scout. Thanks to all.

Membership Update: Deceased: David H. Beazell, 98 (12/9/07, USPS), Robert N Shaumeyer, 84 (12/20/07, Army Nat'l Guard).

Members with birthdays in January are:

Milton F Adams	Beatrice McDaniel
Helen J Ambrose	Loretta M McMillan
Johnnie Mae Bailey	Shirley R Paige
Ida Louise Bland	Ruth Passaro
Donald C Castor	Mary J Relic
Daniel F Draper	Harold W Rucker
Louisa A Fletcher	Lawrence A Shannon
Ruby N Hancock	Berniece M Smothers
Alice D Hixson	Dorothy L Weller
Aleta M Johnson	Louis E White
Mabel O Johnson	BOLD = attends most meetings

The 21 members above have an age range of 67 to 96 and an average age of 84. Congratulations! If you were born in January 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.

Note to members: Dues Withholding saves the national organization money and it saves you at least \$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.

Future Meetings: . **At ALL meetings, if anyone would like to come early enough before lunch (say, by 11 A.M.), we plan to play Bingo with prizes for the winners. Please Come!**

Legislative, Financial and Health News (summarized from FEDWeek Bulletins and NARFE Legislative Hotlines):

Congress: The President has signed a catchall budget bill for the rest of the fiscal year. Both parties have still loaded it with pork, especially in the conference committee bill, giving no one a chance to really see what is in it. The raise for active employees totals about 3½%, same as military pay, depending on locality pay. Nothing seems to have been done jeopardizing retirees benefits significantly. A temporary freeze on any detrimental effects of the Alternative Minimum Tax for one year was included; so more middle class taxpayers won't be affected by this yet. The next Congressional session starts in mid-January.

TSP Funds: All three stock-oriented TSP funds had a losing month in November; the small-stock fund (S) dropped 5.65%, the large-company fund (C) down 4.2% and the international fund (I) down 3.72%. The bond (F) fund gained 1.88% and the government securities (G) fund raised 0.33%. The latest 12-month returns are, respectively: 6.03%, 7.76%, 17.54%, 6.25% and 4.80%. November and 12-month returns for the Lifecycle funds are: Income, -0.44 & 6.15; 2010, -1.21 & 7.5; 2020, -2.33 & 8.7; 2030, -2.94 & 9.09; 2040, -3.36 & 9.66.

The TSP's governing board has also acted against the 'market timers'; the minority of investors who are abusing the system by trading in and out of funds, sometimes daily. They have put restrictions on inter fund transfers similar to those of private mutual funds. Starting in the spring, investors will only be allowed two inter fund transfers per month, with a third allowable if a mistake was made. The limitation was made due to rising transaction costs, especially for the international fund.

DATED MEETING NOTICE

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

Membership Rosters

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

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)

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.

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).

Reminder: Please send us your "Best Choice" UPC codes when you get a bunch! (It's not worth using 41 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 who goes to the meetings or to the address in the return address block. **Thanks to Annabelle Bruce for her submission in December of 44 codes! **** Remember, we need only the bar codes, not the whole label. Saves \$\$.

Here's a joke I received a few months ago in an e-mail:

Jacob, age 92, and Rebecca, age 89, living in Florida, are all excited about their decision to get married. They go for a stroll to discuss the wedding, and on the way they pass a drugstore. Jacob suggests they go in. Jacob addresses the man behind the counter: 'Are you the owner?' The pharmacist answers, 'Yes.' Jacob: 'We're about to get married. Do you sell heart medication?' Pharmacist: 'Of course we do.' Jacob: 'How about medicine for circulation?' Pharmacist: 'All kinds.' Jacob: 'Medicine for rheumatism and scoliosis?' Pharmacist: 'Definitely.' Jacob: 'How about Viagra?' Pharmacist: 'Of course.' Jacob: 'Medicine for memory problems, arthritis, jaundice?' Pharmacist: 'Yes, a large variety. The works.' Jacob: 'What about vitamins, sleeping pills, Geritol, antidotes for Parkinson's disease?' Pharmacist: 'Absolutely.' Jacob: 'You sell wheelchairs and walkers?' Pharmacist: 'All speeds and sizes.' Jacob: 'We'd like to use this store as our Bridal Registry.'

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 Service Officer	Theodore J Robinson	save900@aol.com
Treasurer		816-333-5151
Newsletter Editor	Byron Nichols	byron666@earthlink.net
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Membership Chair	Shirley Newman	913-334-2544