

# THE BISON



*Buffalo Bill Chapter 27*

October-November 2012

Issue 4

## **From the President:**

The SKYPE Presentation went well with information provided by Julie Tagen from NARFE HQ. She was able to clarify some issues that previously had false information. Carol Ek, Region V Vice President provided the technology and Wayne Stalnaker, Chapter 27 Legislative Chair, helped with questions/answers. Guests were welcomed from Atchison and KC Chapters.

The Fall Festival is coming and we are hoping to have a large turnout. The nominating committee report will be received at the October meeting with officers elected at the Fall Festival and installed in December. A report was received from the National NARFE Convention.

This will be my last *Bison* report as I will be moving to St. Louis after the Fall Festival and the election of officers. I will try to make sure to complete requirements until my term ends. Thanks to all the officers and all the members for a most enjoyable 2 years as president and keep up the good work!

*Diane Hall*

*lm4\_mizzou@hotmail.com*

*Home phone: 913-651-1331*

*Cell phone: 913-704-8118*

## **From the 1st VP—Membership**

Recruiting new members to NARFE is important, but retaining the existing membership is just as important.

Do you know of someone that is a member who is moving? Ask them to notify me of their new address, or get the address from them and give it to me. I can send the change in to

NARFE Headquarters. Without a current address it is hard to keep members up-to-date on what is going on. They may not get their *NARFE Magazine*, or their *NARFE BISON*, both of which provide good information regarding what is going on with our benefits and our local chapter.

We need your help to encourage our current members to continue with their NARFE

## **ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL**

**When:** Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 11:30 a.m.  
Doors open at 11:00 a.m.

**Where:** Heritage Center, 109 Delaware

**Cost:** \$12.00 for Members & Guests

### **MENU**

Brisket & Fried Chicken

Assorted Salads

Desserts

Hot Rolls and Butter

Coffee and Iced Tea

**Entertainment:** Power & Life Singers from Leavenworth High School

### **Great Baskets up for Auction!**

**Note:** There is a ramp that makes the Heritage Center handicapped-accessible. Also, plenty of free parking.

Chances for door prizes will be sold for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. One prize per person.

**NO ONE WILL BE ADMITTED WITHOUT A RESERVATION!!! SIGN UP NOW!!!**

**Reservations:** Eileen Sturgis  
538 McDonald Rd.,  
Leavenworth, KS 66048

For more information, phone: 682-5847.

**Cut-off Date: November 5, 2012**

**Reservations** are made when check or cash is submitted. If check is made out to NARFE, it will be cashed AFTER the dinner; if made out to Eileen Sturgis, it will be cashed right away, so you will receive your cancelled check faster.

**Please include, on a separate piece of paper, the name(s) of member(s) and guest(s). Also indicate that check is for Annual Picnic.**

**Thank You!!! See you there!! Eileen Sturgis**



membership. Let them know about the option to have dues withheld from their annuity. Once set up, this makes life easy, because you will no longer have to pay each year.

I talked to a previous member of NARFE last week who expressed concern regarding the possible change of Presidents and how that could affect our Benefits. I encouraged this individual to rejoin and let NARFE work for them to help us to keep what we have. It also gives them the opportunity to express their position to their legislators, by using the NARFE web site.

Let's continue to encourage members to stay with NARFE, as well as recruit new ones!

*Fran Gast*

**From the 2nd VP—Programs**

**Oct. 4**—GEICO Insurance Speaker.

**Nov. 8**—Fall Festival (see pg. 1) & Election of Officers

**Dec. 6**—Pam Maxwell from BCBS will share information with us. Also, Installation of Officers.

**Jan.—No Meeting.**

**Feb. 7**—Memorial for Deceased Members.

*Billie Oertel*

**From the 3rd VP—Service Officer:**

I have appreciated the opportunity to work with many of you in regard to benefits through the Service Officer position. I will be moving to St. Louis in November. The following is a reminder of the information and phone number to reach OPM for Federal Group Life Insurance and other information regarding your retirement benefits:

- 1) Your name and date of birth
- 2) Date you retired
- 3) Current address with ZIP code
- 4) Civil service ID number (CSA—Civil Service Annuitant) or (CSF—Civil Service FERS)
- 5) Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

Call 1-888-767-6738 to reach OPM. The best time is during the middle of the week early in the morning.

*Dick Hall*  
913-651-1331

**From Sunshine Chair:**

If you know of members who are hospitalized or ill at home let me know and I will send cards. We would also like to recognize wedding anniversaries and need your help by furnishing us with that information. Please call me at 351-3386. Thank you.

*Marilyn Murray*

**IN MEMORIUM**

**Members**

Virginia Chaar                      Alice Hutchison  
Gaylord Schultz

**Family Member**

Howard Bohanon, father of Ross & Doris Perkins  
Rose Girard, mother of Michael Hall  
Patty Greenhager, sister of Alvan Floray  
Bonnie Jefferies, sister of Faye Hlasney  
Delores Lurker, sister of Jack & Mary Angelo  
Louise Reed Lyons, sister of Warren & Betty Reed  
Shirley Pierce, wife of Jack Pierce  
Ronda Wagner, daughter of Lynne Wagner

**From Alzheimer's Chair:**

Alzheimer's is not just memory loss—

- Alzheimer's disease is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States and the 5th leading cause of death for those aged 65 and older.
- Alzheimer's is the only cause of death among the top 10 in America without a way to prevent, cure or even slow its progression.
- Deaths from Alzheimer's increased 66 percent between 2000 and 2008, while deaths from other major diseases, including the number one cause of death (heart disease), decreased.



**Seventh and Eighth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution**  
**(Jury Trial & Bail, Fines, Punishment)**

**Amendment VII**—In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

*A key part of Amendment VII is the right to trial by jury. Throughout the writing of the Constitution there was discussion about which gives the most satisfaction: the judgment of a court or the verdict of a jury. The founders decided that they did not want to abolish the right to a jury trial. People going to court today still question which method best serves them.*

**Amendment VIII**—Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

*Columnist George Will wrote that the U.S. government acting as pirates and looters are violating Amendment VIII "which has been construed to forbid 'excessive fines' that deprive individuals of their livelihoods." For one instance he cited the case against Russ Caswell, 68 years old, who owns a motel in Massachusetts built in 1955 by his father. The Tewksbury Police Department connived with the federal government who said they could seize the motel (an inanimate object) because a few rooms were used to 'facilitate a crime'. After seizing the property the U.S. Department of Justice intends to give up to 80% of the proceeds to the police department.*

*In Federalist 48 James Madison warns us that it is unfair for citizens to share in other people's property when he said that government power "is of an encroaching nature." When citizens know the Constitution they will know the law and their rights.*

*Rae for the U.S.A.*

Thanks to all who contributed to NARFE Alzheimer's Research.

*Helen Stewart*

***From the Legislative Chair:***

If you don't like the way things are going with your government in Topeka or Washington, now is the time to be thinking change. November 6th is the final day to speak up—Election Day.

Those who attended the September Chapter #27 meeting got to hear a legislative update from NARFE Headquarters via SKYPE Internet. It was good to see modern technology operating. In addition, our national staff provided

answers to or clarification of several member's questions.

I encourage all members to exercise your right to vote in this election. There truly is a difference between the major political parties as to issues affecting active and retired federal employees. Attend a candidate forum, familiarize yourself with the issues, candidate positions, and then vote.

*Wayne Stalaker*



**LEGISLATORS' Topeka Address / Phone:** **Federal:** Sen Jerry Moran, 612 Kansas Ave, 66603 (785) 233-2503, [www.moran.senate.gov](http://www.moran.senate.gov). Sen Pat Roberts, 444 SE Quincy, Rm 392, 66683, (785) 295-2745, [www.roberts.senate.gov](http://www.roberts.senate.gov); Rep. Lynn Jenkins, R-2nd Dist., 3550 SW Fifth St., 66601, (785) 234-5966. **NARFE member toll free line** to Congress members: 1-866-220-0044. **Kansas State (by Dist. at Statehouse, Topeka 66612, telephone (785) 296 + ext.):** Sen Tom Holland, D-3rd, 181 East, ext. 7372, [tom.holland@senate.state.ks.gov](mailto:tom.holland@senate.state.ks.gov); Sen Kelly Kultala, D-5th, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 7357, [kelly.kultala@senate.state.ks.gov](mailto:kelly.kultala@senate.state.ks.gov); Rep Owen Donohoe, R-39th, L27 Docking Building, ext. 7682, [owen.donohoe@house.state.ks.gov](mailto:owen.donohoe@house.state.ks.gov); Rep Melanie Meier, D-40th, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 7630, [melanie.meier@house.state.ks.us](mailto:melanie.meier@house.state.ks.us). Rep. Jana Goodman, R-41st, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 6014, [jana.goodman@house.ks.gov](mailto:jana.goodman@house.ks.gov); Rep Connie O'Brien, R-42nd, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 7656, [connie.obrien@house.ks.gov](mailto:connie.obrien@house.ks.gov). **State legislators hot line:** 1-800-432-3924.



## Message from NARFE President Joseph A. Beaudoin

“NARFE mourns the murder of four American personnel, including Ambassador Chris Stevens and Foreign Service information management officer Sean Smith, in the assault on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. This is a tragedy for all Americans, but it hits particularly close to home for those of us in the federal family, who count these brave citizens as our friends and colleagues. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the victims.”  
(Sept. 14, 2012)



## Anniversary Congratulations

65 years

Bill & Jerry Elcock

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

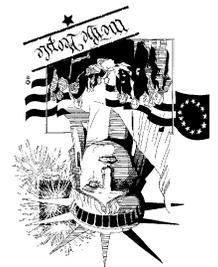
Oct. 4	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: GEICO Insurance Speaker.	Dec.	<b>No Executive Committee meeting.</b>	
Oct. 25	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting.	Jan. 2013	<b>No Meeting.</b>	
Nov. 8	11:30 a.m.	Fall Festival. See page 1 for details. Also Election of Officers.	Jan. 31	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee Meeting
Nov. 29	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting.	Feb. 7	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: Memorial for Deceased Members.
Dec. 6	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: Pam Maxwell, Kansas Blue Cross Blue Shield. Installation of Officers.	Feb. 28.	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting.

**Mark Your Calendars!**



**NOTE:** Chapter meetings are held in the **Heritage Center, 109 Delaware** at 1:30 p.m.

Executive Committee Meetings are held at the Leavenworth Public Library the last Thursday of each month at 9:15 a.m.



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