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THE WYANDOTTE SCOUT

Vol. 43, #3; May & June, 2018
 Byron Nichols, Editor

Sunflower Chapter 1160 @ Eisenhower Rec. Center 2901 N 72 nd St., KCK 66109 (driveway south of school)	11am Bingo; Noon Lunch; 12:45pm Program (if any); Business Meeting 1pm (after program). Times are approximate and subject to change	2nd FRIDAY in MAY 05/11/2018	2nd FRIDAY in JUNE 06/08/2018
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President: Byron K. Nichols	816-333-5151 byron666@earthlink.net	Vice-President: Kay Frey	913-299-2842
Sec'y/Treasurer: Jane Lenderman-Kruse	913-441-3484 quill@planetkc.com	Sunshine: Ernestine Smith	913-287-8529
Alzheimer's Chair: Kathy Zunick	913-281-3335	Membership: Ernestine Smith	913-287-8529

**As usual, this newsletter may be viewed online on the Kansas NARFE site: www.ksNARFE.org.
 If bad weather occurs and driving becomes hazardous (i.e. if the KCK school district cancels classes), we will cancel a meeting. Usual attendees will be notified by phone as soon as possible**

March Meeting: Three members played Bingo before lunch, contributing \$3.65 to Alzheimer's. Five attended lunch.

The business meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm with five voting members present. The pledge was recited in unison. The minutes for the February meeting were read by Secretary Kruse and accepted. Jane Kruse then read the February treasurer's report, which was also accepted. There was one attendee's birthday in February: Carolyn Taylor. Bills were authorized to be paid (\$20.00 for the March/April Scout postage, \$9.10 for Kitchen Supplies and \$17.15 for the March Alzheimer's contribution). As of this meeting we are down to 78 members. There were no guests or program.

The attendance drawing (\$5) was won by #1, Byron Nichols, and the half-and-half drawing (\$4.25) was won by #858642, Jane Lenderman-Kruse (both contributed to Alzheimer's). The meeting was adjourned at 2:16pm.

April Meeting: Five members played Bingo before lunch, contributing \$2.55 to Alzheimer's. Eight attended lunch.

In the Memorial Service, four names of members who passed during the last year were read: Naomi Bowen, Louisa Fletcher, Shirley Newman and Doris Priest. We also noted the death of Henrietta Horseman, a long-time member, who had dropped some years ago and no longer a member.

The business meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm with seven voting members and one other present. The pledge was recited in unison. The minutes for the March meeting were read by Secretary Jane Lenderman-Kruse and accepted. Jane Lenderman-Kruse then read the March treasurer's report, which was also accepted. There was one attendee's birthday in April: Jane Lenderman-Kruse. Bills were authorized to be paid (\$30.00 for a half-

page ad in the convention program, \$46.00 for the Convention Registration and one meal for Byron Nichols and \$24.55 for the April Alzheimer's donation). As of this meeting we are down to 77 members.

The attendance drawing (\$5) was won by #4, Kathy Zunick, and the half-and-half drawing (\$8.50) was won by #858667, Kay Frey (both contributed to Alzheimer's). The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 pm.

2018 Wichita Convention:

NARFE Legislative Hotline – gets into the Capitol switchboard to contact your Representative or Senators – give your zip code: 1-800-456-8410, option 5.

Chapters: Kansas has had 3 chapters close in the western part of the state, mostly due to lack of volunteers to be officers. The chapters which would be new hosts to the combined chapter are too far away from members to retain attendance. There are still 34 active chapters in Kansas.

Memorial: There were 139 deaths in the last year: Area 1, 55; A1A, 22; A2, 9; A2A, 5; A3, 32, A4, 21; A5, 1; A6, 4.

National Officers & Issues Elections: All candidates' statements for national offices were in the March issue of the NARFE magazine. The April issue had the report from the Bylaws committee with recommendations on what it thinks should be accepted or rejected (a comprehensive list of all bylaw changes may be downloaded from the website – it is huge). The June issue will be the first printing of the ballot for those not wishing to or unable to vote online. May 10 starts the online option for elections for bylaws changes & national officers. June 30 is the deadline for the election counting contractor to receive votes (both online and hard ballots from the NARFE magazine form). Any runoff election will be in September. Winners of national offices must get a

majority of votes, not just a plurality, so a separate question will be asked about using 'preferential voting' system for the runoff (where you rank your preference for all nominees). An option will also be given to either approve ALL or reject ALL bylaws changes (neither is recommended; please try to vote on all bylaws changes separately, some are confusing). To prevent multiple voting there will be an individual pin number on ballots in the magazine and something similar for online ballots. Also mailing a ballot will require the voter to pay postage. Members will vote according to their zip code (especially online voters). For national issues, they vote in their representative's district. For Federation issues (where their chapter resides) they will still vote in their membership federation (I'll have to get clarification on this).

Kansas Federation officer elections: Current KS Fed Secretary Gwen Ketter and A-3 VP John Ourada vied for the KS Fed. President; Ourada won. The other two offices elected for this year were uncontested: Rita Dawson for 2nd VP and Peggy Coder as Treasurer. We reelected Judy Etter as the Area 1A VP.

The Federation is looking for somewhere to host training sessions later this year. The site should hold about 50 attendees. Our site may be investigated for size and parking.

Alzheimer's Auctions: Silent: Jane Kruse's contribution of necklaces for the Alzheimer's auction were split into four lots: three small-bead items, two large-bead items, the red fan-shaped one, and the shell in a metal hoop one. I wasn't able to see the final bids before closing on Monday, but all had either \$15 or \$16 on them (so, around \$60 to \$64 total). A report is usually issued later for the totals for each chapter in each auction. I couldn't figure out how to work the clasp on one necklace, so it stayed on the stand (in my trunk), and we only had 7 items to sell, not 8. There were about 59 items total for about \$1,360. Live: There were 23 items, netting \$2,165. One item, a beautiful quilt, had been made by a woman with one arm years ago who now has Alzheimer's. It garnered the largest bid in the auction, \$400. Many of the live auction items were tubs or baskets of items, many with wine, many purchased for over \$100 each.

Committees: I was on the Bylaws committee for the KS Federation's proposed bylaws change review. We only did minor wording changes and reinstating one section about amending bylaws which had been inadvertently dropped.

Kansas Legislation: There is no direct threats so far to our benefits (such as the tax exemption), but, due to the push to find additional school funding, another attempt to change the exemption will probably happen. But there are court precedents that make this a low probability, because all governmental retirements must be treated the same at the state level, such as military, judicial, state legislators, etc.

Federal Legislation: Important to find out who running for any office is for or against the NARFE agenda.

Drawings: I won nothing. 50/50 was won by Cheryl Golie, \$270. Our \$10 door prize was won by Jim Miller (Topeka).

Time & Place: The 2019 Conference will be held in Manhattan at the 4 Points by Sheraton on April 29-30. Looking at Salina for 2020, no hotel or date yet.

Remember - for ALL meetings, if you wish to play Bingo, bring your nickels & dimes. We usually play from just after 11 AM until lunch. Cost is 5¢ per card per game, 10¢ per card for the last game (Blackout); which funds the winners' prizes. Please Come! (We **can** make some change!)

Membership Update (3/1/18 - 4/30/18):
New: One, Ruby Lee Watson-Evans. Reinstated: One. Dropped for non-renewal: One. Transfer into chapter: None. Transfer out of chapter (includes

optional membership): Two. Deaths: None. Voluntary cancellation: None. Membership transfer from deceased member to spouse: None. We now have 77 members.

Note to families of members: When a member passes on, please be sure to contact NARFE headquarters to either stop dues billing or withholding or to transfer membership to a widow or widower. Thank You.

Members with birthdays in May:

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| Charles K Bornschein | Larnell Johnson |
| Donald C Breiby | Barbara R Stafford |
| Phyllistine A Breiby | |

Members with birthdays in June:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Janet Dillman | Georgia C Story |
| Thomas P Lewis | Evelyn J Tucker |

Bolded = attends meetings regularly

If you were born in May or June and not in the above list, please notify the editor at the newsletter return address or the e-mail address in the officer list above.

Legislative, Financial and Health News (summarized from GEMS Bulletins, FEDWeek & NARFE Legislative Hotlines): None this time due to space limitations.

Don't forget to read your NARFE magazine each month. It has more complete news and information than can be summarized here.

If any member who doesn't attend meetings wishes to contribute to the Alzheimer's Fund **please write "Chapter 1160" in the memo line and make your check out to "NARFE/Alzheimer Research"**. Send your check to the **Alzheimer's Chair** (see the officers' block above). We will forward the contribution to the state coordinator and mention you with thanks in the Scout. **Thanks to all.**

Note to members: Dues Withholding saves the national organization money (no bills or reminders to mail out) and it saves those who renew annually \$6 each year (the equivalent of Chapter dues) [\$40 national plus \$6 chapter vs. \$40 total under dues withholding (effective as of August, 2011)]. You don't have to remember to write that check or risk being dropped. ~65% of our members required to pay dues are already using withholding, why not you? Applications are on the NARFE website at: www.NARFE.org or in the NARFE mag.

Reminder: Please send us your "Best Choice" UPC codes when you get a bunch! (It's not worth the postage to mail one or two!) We get \$30 per 1000 codes (3¢ per code), plus an additional \$30 bonus once a year. The money will go to NARFE/Alzheimer's Research. Send them either via a member you know who goes to the meetings or to the Alzheimer's Chair in the officers' block above. Remember, we need only the bar codes, not the whole label (saves postage).

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OPM Retirement Information Center:
Write to: PO Box 45, Boyers, PA 16017-0045.
Phone: 1-888-767-6738 (1-88USOPMRET)
M-F, 6:30 AM to 6:45 PM Central Standard Time.
Hearing impaired TDD# is 1-800-878-5707.
On the Web: www.opm.gov/retire. E-mail: retire@opm.gov.
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 (hq@NARFE.org)
606 N. Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314
(phone # open from 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 about address changes, deaths, etc. at 1-800-456-8410 or E-mail memberrecords@NARFE.org.

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Other numbers/websites/e-mails of Interest:
V.A.: www.va.gov; **800-827-1000**
TSP: www.tsp.gov; **877-968-3778**
Social Security: www.ssa.gov; **800-772-1213**
FEDVIP: fedvip@opm.gov
FEGLI: fegli@opm.gov
FEHBP: fehbp@opm.gov

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Membership Rosters are in an 8.5" x 11" format.
Write me a note to the return address block on page 1 and I will send you one (members only).

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