

NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOC

Chapter 0002, Topeka, Kansas

August Newsletter

Executive Committee:

President	Jim Miller	478-0651
1st Vice President	Gale Devore	273-0526
2nd Vice President	Richard Wike	783-8122
Secretary	Gwendolyn Ketter	272-2658
Treasurer	Sherry Potter	272-4564
Member-at-Large	Maynard Cox	478-0015
Member-at-Large	Paul Manning	272-6208

Other Contacts:

Good Cheer	Helen Price	478-9602
Membership Chair	Gale Devore	273-0526
Service Officer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Editor	Maynard Cox	478-0015

Where: Aldersgate Village, 7220 SW Asbury Drive

When: Friday, August 24, 2010; 12:00 Noon **\$9.00**

Menu: Picnic

Program: Informal Question & Answer. Flo Biehl, Federation Area I Vice President is scheduled to be in attendance.

Reminder: See Jim Miller's information on the continuing Road Problems on 29th Street.

Jim Miller - President

Good news ! The round-a-bout at 29th and Urish Road is open, as is W-29th St. west to Aldersgate ! Bad news ? SW -29th St. is CLOSED from Wanamaker Road to Urish Road, so we still have to detour . SW 21st to Urish Road, then South to SW-29th as noted.

The Indoor Picnic menu PLUS the Home Made Ice Cream provided by Paul and Shirley Manning and Chapter Secretary Gewn Ketter ! If you didn't make your reservation at the July meeting, please call 478-0651 or e-mail snyderfan89@sbcglobal.net

When speaking at the Leavenworth chapter last week, a member had a question that led to me giving a State Legislative 101 explanation. Ron Richey, Ron Neis and I have ONE primary purpose when attending committee meetings, hearings and sessions of the Legislature. That purpose is to represent NARFE members and TRY to ensure federal retirees receive fair treatment on the state income tax benefit. There have been efforts over the years since that benefit was granted to " lift " federal retirees out of the exemptions. To date, our efforts and those of Oscar Albrecht before us have been successful.

Other retired employee groups under that umbrella are - KS Public Employees' Retirement (KPERs) (2) KS Police & Firemen's Retirement System (3) KS Teachers' Retirement (4) KS Highway Patrol (5) Justices and Judges Retirement (6) Railroad Retirement Benefits (7) retired employees of Washburn University (8) and (9) two lengthy additional categories.

The Study Commission to examine the KS income tax structure is charged with bringing forth (after hearings in 2010 and 2011) a FAIR,

EQUITABLE, SIMPLIFIED tax system. A FLAT tax has been mentioned. The recommendations are to be presented to the full Legislature for the 2012 session. If we don't attend the 2010-2011 committee meetings and provide our input and views, 2012 will be too late.

We hope to have a few candidates for state and federal office with us for the October chapter meeting. With the myriad of financial and deficit problems confronting state and federal elected officials, we can remind them ...retired federal employees have already given up more than 50 billion dollars to help reduce the deficit. Too, our Civil Service Retirement Fund is solvent. We are NOT part of the deficit problem, but experience has taught us leaning on federal retirees has been an easy way for politicians to show they are serious about cutting costs.

Be sure to have read the August 11 Topeka Capital-Journal Editorial on Government Pay and titled "Doubling up" The average compensations cited in that editorial are far from correct and should be responded to. @

that cheery note, I'll see you on August 27th !

Gale DeVore - First Vice President

Please consider contributing to NARFE PAC. They are supporting our best interests. They sift out the names of representatives who are favorable to our interests and also, on the other hand they determine which representatives are not favorable to our best interests. Those that are favorable receive PAC support and those not favorable do not. Remember 2010 will be an important election year. Support NARFE PAC.

Gwendolyn Ketter - Secretary

NARFE Chapter 02

July 23, 2010

Aldersgate Village

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Miller at 12:00 P.M.

The invocation was given by Barb McClain followed by the flag salute.

A one entrée buffet meal was served for \$9.00

Richard Wike, 2nd VP – not present so Jim Miller introduced Program Speaker Jodi Termine, Director of Industry Relations of the Kansas Pork Association. She spoke on the Pork Industry, 'More than just another white meat'. To learn more about Modern Pork Production go to: <http://www.youtube.com/PorkCheckoff>.

Paul Manning reported forty-nine members and one guest for a total of 50 in attendance, along with the speaker.

Gwen Ketter, Secretary – No Correction to the minutes reported in the Newsletter – approved as written.

Sherry Potter, Treasurer June 5th – July 22nd - \$714.34 in Regular Account, \$1,087.18 in Life Account and \$127.63 in Alzheimer Account.

General Fund -

Income received – Dues \$195.74, Lunch \$ 423.00, Core First Int \$.05, Ways and Means Tickets \$ 20.38 – Total Income \$639.17

Expenses paid – Newsletter printing \$ 92.39 (June/July), 50/50 prizes \$ 20.38, Aldersgate food service \$ 432.00 – Total \$544.77

Alzheimer Account –

Income – 50/50 \$ 20.38 Balance \$127.63

Sherry reported the income from State convention will be \$2,361.22.

Gale DeVore, First Vice-President – Gave out some NARFE PAC pins

Richard Wike, Second Vice-President – Not in attendance.

National Convention Delegates – Bill and Monica Kastens will be our delegates at the National NARFE

convention.

Maynard Cox, Newsletter – There have been some problems with people not getting their emailed copies of the newsletter. Please make sure you let us know of any email address changes, so we can make sure you receive your information.

Ron Neis, Legislative – Sent out a thank you to Ron Richey for the following information: There will be no Cola increase next year if things go the way they have been for the next three months. Make sure you vote August 3rd. Look into mail in voting, which is available to anyone who signs up for it. (you can get the application on line at:

———<http://www.snco.us/election/document/av1-2007-advanceapplication.pdf>.)

Legislative Coordinating Council approved topics that will be addressed in off season: Assessment Taxation is main issue – review Kansas tax structure ways it can be improved and simplified, review ways that will simplify tax structure, broaden the tax base, flat tax and find ways to decrease taxes by broadening the tax base. Obama has appointed Jack Lou as head of OMB. Joseph Minarke (Clinton chief economist) said addressing entitlement is at heart of fixing deficit. President Obama has appointed Jack Lou as head of OMB. Joseph Minarke (Clinton chief economist) said addressing entitlement is at heart of fixing deficit.

You probably already know about former Alaska Sen Ted Stevens being killed in the recent plane crash. Sen Stevens was a good friend and ally to federal, and particularly Postal Service, employees.

Bill Kastens, Service Officer – Addressed the publication “Be prepared for life’s events”. If you don’t have one of these yet, make sure you get one from us. This will assist your family in case of your passing and gives them valuable information. The publication was given to NARFE from the NARFE Credit Union.

Helen Louise Price, Good Cheer – Sent a sympathy card to the families of Eugene Francis and Dorothy O’Hara.

Sent a get well card to Wilma Carrick.

Anyone who knows of illnesses in our

membership, please let me know. My telephone number is 785-478-9602 **Earlene Jirik, Publicity** – not in attendance.

Social Committee – August - Ice Cream Social and Picnic

Jim – This is an Election year; there is information on page 16 of the NARFE magazine that speaks about ‘bogus emails circulating on taxing the value of Health Insurance . Make sure you separate the facts from the downright lies that circulate during elections. Read this and understand.

Maynard and Jim will meet with Aldersgate to plan menus for next three months – this way we will have a choice of two main courses.

George Spotts - Alzheimer Chairperson, has a book available on Alzheimer’s Disease, which he will loan to anyone wanting to read it.

The 50/50 drawing awarded \$11.00 to Judy Shetter; \$6.60 to Marge Woytek and \$4.40 to Anna Mae Wright.

Next Executive meeting – August 12, 2010.

Next NARFE General meeting – August 27, 2010.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gwendolyn Ketter, Secretary

Helen Louise Price - Good Cheer – Sympathy cards were sent to the family of Catherine M. Werner who died July 23: to the family of Otto E. Dienstbier who died August 8: to the family of Jack Swenson who died August 9: to the family of Helen Hengelfelt who died August 12: to Isadore Appelhanz following the death of his brother on July 31 and to Ann Navarre following the death of her brother Gerald Magnuson on August 5.

A Few Items of Interest - These are from Mike Causey’s news letter and provided to me by Ron Richey.

Federal employees will receive a raise, the amount to be determined despite four congressional attempts to freeze it. The 2011 federal pay raise is still on. Though small it will be a raise.

“For retirees it is a different story. Thanks to minimal inflation, and months when living costs have actually declined producing deflation, federal retirees won’t be getting any cost of living adjustment in 2011. They also didn’t get a COLA this year, the last being in 2009”

“While nobody, including the government, yet knows how much FEHBP premiums are going up next year, most are going up. Maybe, probably, a lot”

