



NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



Chapter 002, Topeka, Kansas

August 2012



Next Meeting
Aldersgate Village
7220 SW Asbury Drive
Topeka, Kansas 66614

Date and Time
August 24, 2012
12:00 p.m.

Program

Ice Cream Social



Lunch Menu

Indoor Picnic Food
Home Made Ice Cream
Cost: \$9.00

*If you Did Not RSVP At
Last Meeting,
RSVP To
Jim Miller—785-478-0651*

Donations

It is important to donate money to NARFE's PAC so that NARFE's message of protecting Federal pay and benefits gets to our Senators and Representatives. Please give your donations to our Chapter President Jim Miller to pass on to the National office, rather than sending your donations directly to the National NARFE Office.

Also, give any donations to Alzheimer's Research to George Spotts who heads our Alzheimer's Committee to send on to the National Alzheimer's Committee.

KANSAS TRIVIA

The coldest temperature recorded in Kansas was 40 degrees below zero. What year was it recorded?

Answer: 1905 In Lebanon



YUM - ICE CREAM FOR THE AUGUST MEETING—BRING YOUR SWEET TOOTH

From The President's Desk

To vote or not to vote, that was the question for the recent primaries. The political winners can relax briefly, before taking on the more strenuous general election campaign, election day is Nov. 6. Other winners were the US Postal Service who handled the huge volumes of negative ads; the printing companies who produced those mailings; the TV and radio stations who aired political ads. End result was a welcome increase in income (overtime pay, extra, temporary help)and the paper and ink suppliers ! I hope most of those discarded ads were deposited in recycle bins !

The Topeka area / Shawnee County voters came out with far better numbers than did the rest of Kansas. Some areas tallied a paltry 14 % of eligible voters ! I'm guessing those areas don't have many NARFE members in their precincts ! We're better informed on the real issues and have easier to access voting places. If you had a problem that kept YOU from voting in the primary, please let me know and we may be able to help BEFORE the general election. Example !

Are you aware of the " Vote at Home " or APPLICATION FOR ADVANCE BALLOT BY MAIL ? No charge for the ballot, and return postage via the US Postal Service is paid ! Second form to think about, if you or someone you know are disabled or have problems making it difficult to vote in person, Kansas has a AV2 form...APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT ADVANCE VOTING STATUS. I will have copies of both forms, AV1 and AV2 available at our chapter meetings, and if you cannot attend those, I WILL DELIVER ! The right to vote is a privilege, and we should (1) check the candidates (2) support those candidates (3) VOTE for those candidates.

Our August luncheon will feature the All-American traditional indoor picnic menu, with home made ice cream, thanks to dedicated members Gwen Ketter and Paul and Shirley Manning. (Be sure to say thank you to them !) Under ordinary circumstances, bringing food INTO the dining area is not permitted, but in the case of home made ice cream, the staff suggested it would be nice if some leftovers would be available ? Special guests will be Louis Bornman, our Federation Vice President for Area 1, and his wife Elizabeth, Federation Vice President. We won't have a formal meeting, but Louis will speak briefly on resolutions that are expected to be voted on at the NARFE national convention, August 26-30.

Chapter and Federation Secretary Gwen Ketter will represent our chapter and carry our votes. I'll see you on August 24th !

Jim Miller, President

Legislative and Insurance News

The Federal Workers have had their pay frozen for the past two years. They have lost take home money due to the higher cost of insurance etc. Government jobs have been cut by attrition. This is a good time to sign up new members and have people signed up for dues withholding. Congress will be looking for ways to cut our benefits. We need good local representation, and good representation in Washington DC, to provide a support base to prevent cuts from occurring. During the month of August our US Senators and US Representative will be home. This would be a good time to discuss these issues with them.

The Office of Personnel Management has announced that this year's Federal Benefits Open Season will run Nov. 12-Dec.10. New for this year, all Federal Employees Health Benefits Program plans will provide on their websites a summary document detailing information about health plan benefits and coverage, as required under the Affordable Care Act. NARFE magazine will provide comprehensive analysis of many FEHB plans in its October, November and December issues.

As a result of the elections this past week there will be changes in the Kansas Senate. They will be looking to make more cuts and we will need to be vigilant in trying to protect our current benefits. We would like to thank George and Flo Spotts for heading our Alzheimer's Committee. Now would be a good time to donate to Alzheimer's Research in Honor of or in Memory of an individual.

Ronald Richey, Legislative Chair

Treasurer and Editor Needed.

Through the years our Chapter has been blessed with members willing to take responsibility to be an officer. We face a change now in the Treasurer job and Newsletter position as this fine couple will be moving out of State. We need you - don't think some one else will do it - **you** volunteer.

These are not difficult positions, but very IMPORTANT to keep our Chapter up and running. **If you would like to discuss your willingness to serve, please contact Dale Jirik at:**

Home Phone - 785-266-5492, Cell Phone - 785-221-0826, E-Mail ejjde@doglegs.com

Minutes, Chapter 002, July 27, 2012

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

The invocation was given by **Sherry Potter (who also read a beautiful "Recipe for a Happy Life")** followed by the flag salute.

A two entree lunch was served for \$9.00.

PROGRAM – Dale Jirik, Super Patriot/K-Stater – Dale gave us a brief history of the Founding of our Nation, The Declaration of Independence, The Constitution and some of the antics of our Forefathers.

Dale Jirik, Election Committee – Looking for a Newsletter Editor and Treasurer to run for office next term.

Members Report, Paul Manning – 54 members, 1 guest Vanessa Ellis (Anna Mae's Granddaughter) were in attendance.

Secretary, Gwen Ketter – Minutes for May were printed in the newsletter. The only change was housekeeping on the date of next meeting listed in minutes as June instead of July. Gwen gave a synopsis of Bylaw and Resolution Changes proposed for National Convention. Copies were left on each table and members were asked to voice opinions prior to next meeting.

Legislative, Ron Richey – Ron submitted a written report encouraging member to get out and vote on August 7th. The cost of living adjustment is 1.3% in June. The USPS has postponed their list of issues until after the November Elections. Still need people to help monitor the Kansas Legislature on the computer. We need all the eyes and ears we can get. Open Season is coming up in November.

First VP, Galen Rapp – Membership is still a major concern for the organization. How do we get young people to get involved? Most have kids and their lives are spread thin. Please us the packets that were set up to sent to potential members and are available at the back table. There are Red brochures to include in packets for retired potential member and Blue brochures to include in mailings to active potential members. Take as many as you need to send out, but make sure you do send out what you take. Include your membership number on the application to get credit for the recruit.

Second VP, Richard Wike – August meeting is our annual Ice Cream social (may have Area I VP Louis Bornman), Sept meeting Dr Alan Bearman Director of Washburn Library will be the speaker.

Treasurer/Newsletter Editor, David Smith – (read by Jim in David's absence) - General Fund Balance \$2,606.93, Alzheimer's Fund - \$310.40, Life Membership account - \$1,199.23, Total \$4,116.56

Newsletter Editor, Kathleen Smith – Not in attendance

Service Officer, Bill Kastens – No contacts this month.

Good Cheer, Helen Louise Price – Sent a Get Well card to Phil Shidele (malignancy) and Gail Horsley (lung surgery). Sympathy cards were sent to Mary McDermed on the death of her husband and Anna Mae Wright on the death of her cousin. Make sure to let Helen know of any illnesses or deaths as soon as possible.

Sherry Potter stated that today was the anniversary of the Korean War (Conflict)

Earlene Jirik, Publicity – No Report.

Mary Harm, Social Committee – Ice Cream Social next meeting

Next Executive board meeting will be 9:00 AM on Aug 9, 2012

Next NARFE General meeting – Friday August 24, 2012

George Spotts Alzheimer chairperson: Barb Pretzer taking treatments for Cancer – Treatment was successful and she is back home. The 50/50 drawing awarded \$14.00 to Gwen Ketter; \$8.00 Al Thomas to; and \$5.00 to Norma Rice and 4th place Calculator to Wayne Wasson (complements of Paul and Shirley Manning).

Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Gwendolyn Ketter, Secretary

Membership—The Rife Approach—Targeting the People and Agencies You Know

Increasing Membership is every member's responsibility! The personal contact works the best. Even if you don't know the people at the agencies where you used to work, you have some familiarity with who or what office you can contact to ask if they would give all employees a NARFE information packet or if they would be willing to put an information packet in the new employee packets or when they might be having a pre-retirement seminar where we could send a NARFE representative. Best bet, ask all of those questions and if you ask in person all the better. Encourage your fellow NARFE members to stay in NARFE. Pass on that the easiest way to pay your dues is through dues withholding from your annuity. The cost each month is very reasonable compared to the benefits of NARFE membership. Especially now when Congress is looking for ways to cut the deficit.

<u>Chapter 002 Officers</u>		
President	Jim Miller	478-0651
1st Vice President	Galen Rapp	478-3701
2nd Vice President	Richard Wike	783-8122
Secretary	Gwendolyn Ketter	272-2658
Treasurer	David Smith	478-9163
Member-At-Large	Maynard Cox	478-0015
Member-At-Large	Paul Manning	272-6208

<u>Other Contacts</u>		
Good Cheer	Helen Price	478-9602
Membership Chair	Galen Rapp	478-3701
Service Officer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Editor	Kathy Smith	478-9163
Alzheimer Chair	George Spotts	233-7108
Publicity	Earlene Jirik	266-5492
Nominations Chair	Dale Jirik	266-5492

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