



“OLD TROOPER” NEWSLETTER



Active and Retired Federal Employees “Old Trooper” Chapter No. 383, Junction City, Kansas

February 2 0 1 1

Chapter 383, 2010 Officers

President: Jim Mitchell, 238-3423, wildman1@fhrd.net
1st Vice President: Ray Thompson, 762-5249
2nd Vice President: Sharon Strain, 238-1361, srs5960jrs@yahoo.com
Secretary, Lannie Pender, 238-6503
garfieldgal@embarqmail.com
Treasurer: Madelyn Brown, 238-5623 madelyn11@cox.net

Committee Chairpersons:

Legislative, James Dodd, 238-8041
Membership, Sharon Strain, 238-1361
Public Relations
Service Officer, Walt Germann, 209-1938
Parliamentarian, Ray Thompson, 762-5249
Alzheimer’s, Opal Dalton, 922-6551 and Virginia Adam, 922-6706
Sunshine, Janet Harrel, 238-7488
NARFE-PAC, Carole Blixt, 922-6413
Decorating, Opal Dalton, 922-6551 and Virginia Adam, 922-6706
Program, Leonetta Chaves-Bibby, 238-6642
Editor
Chaplain, Otis Scroggins, 238-1342
Calling, Vi Martin, 238-8539/Cell 210-6037
Historian, Marie Sawyer

List # 1 Faye Heath, 238-1412
List # 2 Sharon Griffin, 238-5382
List # 3 Verleen Byrn, 238-1659
List # 4 Pat Fisher, 762-5249
List # 5 Dee Campbell, 238-6082
List # 6 Maxine Kroeplin, 238-2990
List # 7
List # 8 Dorothy Luttman, 461-5577
List # 9 Wally Mitchell, 238-3423
List #10 Janet Harrel, 238-7488
List #11 Joan Martin, 210-0211
List #12 Joyce Peoples, 238-3005
List #13 Ramona Norcross, 762-2218
List #14 Dorothy Gallaway, 482-3297 (Dwight area)
List #15 Jonetta Rector, 922-6605 (Chapman area)



Happy Valentine’s Day

**LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE Toll-free!
(24 Hours): 1-877-217-8234
LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER:
www.narfe.org**

Upcoming Events

11:00, 7 February: Executive Board Meeting, Library
11:30, 10 February: NARFE Luncheon / Meeting, Senior Citizens Center, 1025 South Spring Valley Road, Speaker will be Kip Lee, Manhattan, speaking on Reverse Mortgages.
14 February: Valentine’s Day
21 February: President’s Day
11:00, 7 March: Executive Board Meeting, Library
11:30, 10 March: NARFE Luncheon / Meeting, Senior Citizens Center, 1025 South Spring Valley Road, Speaker will be determined.
10-12 April: State Convention, Junction City
Date for Executive Board Meeting – TBD
11:30, 14 April: NARFE Luncheon / Meeting, Senior Citizens Center, 1025 South Spring Valley Road, Troubadours’ will be the entertainment.

CONVENTION COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS:

Convention Chairperson: Jim Mitche
Convention Co-Chair: Dixie Thomas
Banquet & Decorations: Nancy Wiehl and Dixie Thomas
Financial: Nancy Wiehl
Host and Hostess: Wally Mitchell, Jim & Vi Martin, Don & Marilyn Bielefeld,
Information Chair: Joan Martin, Donna Schmutz
Memorial Service: Dixie Thomas
Publicity Chair: Madelyn Brown
Printing Chair: Jim Dodd
Registration Chair: Barbara Thibodeau with/ Madelyn Brown, June and Carlos Buckles, Joan Martin, Dixie Thomas, Nancy Wiehl, Celina Vincent
Hospitality Chair: Maxine Kroeplin, Karen Baldwin, Sharon Griffin
Credential Chair: Lanny Pender
Sergeants of Arms: Ray Thompson with / Bert Thomas, Jim Nelson, Don Campbell, Bob Norcross, Clarence Lehner
Chaplain: Otis Scroggins
Convention Time Keeper: Carole Blixt
Alzheimer’s Committee: Opal Dalton with / Virginia Adam, Dee Campbell, Joyce Peoples, Marie Sawyer (Sunday), Billie Jo Rivera (Sunday)

CHAPTER NEWS



IF you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please send your request to Dixie Thomas at bthomas56@cox.net

Of course, those attending the luncheon will receive a newsletter at the luncheon - no change.

ALZHEIMER'S FUND: If any member who doesn't attend meetings wishes to contribute to the Alzheimer's Fund, you can send a check to: Madelyn Brown, Treasurer, 1141 St. Mary's Road, Junction City, KS 66441. Please make checks out to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research" and write "Alzheimer's Fund" on the memo line.

**ALREADY
RESERVED
YOUR LUNCH
AND
SOMETHING
CAME UP???**
– PLEASE CALL
AND CANCEL
YOUR MEAL
RESERVATION
– 238-4015 –
THANK YOU!!



HAPPY February BIRTHDAY TO: Calvin Bernard, Carolyn Cook, Helmut Holle, Jim Martin, Lola Brighton, Marilyn Wasylyk, Setsu Harp, Sharon Griffin and Virginia McDiffett.



HAPPY February ANNIVERSARY TO: Dallas and Dorothy Luttmann, Lennie and Carole Blixt and Larry and Barb Steppe.

(Remember – the only way your name(s) get on the list is if you tell the Editor – no where is there any birthday or anniversary in the NARFE files. Dixie Thomas)

SECRETARY'S REPORT by Lannie Pender:

NARFE CHAPTER MINS. JAN 13, 2011 OLD TROOPER CHAPTER #383

President Jim Mitchell, of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) called the January 13, 2011, Chapter #383 meeting to order at 11:30 at the 4H/Senior Citizens Center.

Invocation: Chaplain Otis Scroggins led the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. President Mitchell extended birthday and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month of January. He extended a warm welcome to new members Diana Dowling, Peggy Blevins and Connie Hazlett.

President Mitchell called for the reading of the minutes. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes, a motion was made by Maxine Kroeplin, motion passed; he then asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report a motion was made by Ray Thompson and seconded by Florence Whitebread, motion passed.

New Business: President Jim Mitchell thanked everyone that chose to remain in their Committee positions. President Mitchell read a letter from the JCHS Band thanking us for our voluntary contribution toward the Band's trip to the Fiesta Bowl; the Band brought home the Audience Award Trophy. President Mitchell reminded everyone of the State Convention and that there is an organizational meeting at the Marriott January 18th, breakfast at 9:00 a.m. meeting at 10:00. He announced we still need a new newsletter editor. Dixie has gotten overwhelmed with being State 1st Vice. Pres. Mitchell received an email from State President Carol Ek that Charles Timanus, Federation Public Relation Chair will be the convention invited guest speaker. Jim Dodd installed Sharon Strain as 2nd Vice. **Service Officer:** Walt Germann did not have a report. There was no report from Sunshine Chair Janet Harrel, other than she requests everyone stay healthy.

Legislative Officer Jim Dodd read the Jan 7, 2011 Hotline message, he also stated that those who do not Internet access can call 1-866-220-0044 to contact our Senators and Representatives to support NARFE goals. He also urged members to sign up for the Hotline.

Public Relations Chair, Dixie Thomas paraphrased the article in the NARFE Magazine of the programs that support NARFE goals. President Mitchell spoke about the very scary things that are happening in Washington concerning Federal Workers and Federal Retirees in relation to the Federal Budget.

Madelyn Brown gave a report that our Chapter donated \$11,066.44 to Alzheimer's last year, this breaks down to \$41.12 per member.

Guest Speaker, Country Commissioner Florence Whitebread spoke about the 125 miles of Blacktop roads and the 275 miles of gravel roads in Geary Co., which are maintained by County Public Works. She spoke at length on the situation of Restaurant/Motel/Hotel



Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.



10 WAYS TO KNOW IF YOU HAVE 'ESTROGEN ISSUES'

1. Everyone around you has an attitude problem.
2. You're adding chocolate chips to your cheese omelet.
3. The dryer has shrunk every last pair of your jeans.
4. Your husband is suddenly agreeing to everything you say.
5. You're using your cellular phone to dial up every bumper sticker that says: 'How's my driving-call 1- 800-'.
6. Everyone's head looks like an invitation to batting practice.
7. Everyone seems to have just landed here from 'outer space.'
9. You're sure that everyone is scheming to drive you crazy.
10. The ibuprofen bottle is empty and you bought it yesterday.

health inspections. The State is not inspecting county facilities even though these establishments pay a fee for this service, the money is apparently being utilized for other purposes and the County does not have the funds. She stated that the County has spoken with Ft. Riley, for the service but that has not come to fruition. She also spoke about the Transfer Station and the recycling program; the majority of the recycling items are picked up by Ft. Riley, whereas electronics are taken to Manhattan. Also, people can go to the County Building and get free paint and cleaning products. She spoke about the County Volunteer Fire Dept., and the Animal Shelter.

There were 102 reservations and 83 present. Members donated \$100.50 to Alzheimer's. Door Prizes were won by Bill Miller, Carl Shell, Walt Germann, Vera Vaughn, Faye Heath and June Wood.

Next Months meeting will be February 10, 2011. The speaker will be Kip Lee from the Flint Hills Agency on Aging.



TREASURER'S REPORT by Madelyn Brown:

Beginning Balance January 1, 2011 - \$794.60

Receipts - \$514.94

Expenses - \$825.32

Ending Balance January 31, 2011 - \$484.22



SUNSHINE REPORT by Janet Harrel

Please make sure Janet gets your calls on our house bound members or someone that needs a cheering up.

NATIONAL NEWS

A team of government relations professionals in Washington tracks congressional action and agency proposals that affect your federal retirement benefits. Thanks to NARFE member dues, NARFE's Legislative Department works simultaneously to preserve and enhance civil service annuity and health care benefits.

Based on price index figures from July, August, and September of 2010, there will be no automatic cost of living adjustment (COLA) to federal pension annuities for 2011. New CPI-W figures are now relevant to the 2012 COLA.

The CPI-W (Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers) increased by 0.2 percent for the month of December 2010. The new CPI-W index figure is now 215.262, which is 0.11 percent below the 2008 third-quarter average of 215.495, which is the base figure for determining the next COLA.

The CPI-W figure impacts federal civil service annuities, military retiree annuities, and social security payments because the CPI-W figure is used by the government to measure increases in prices for purposes of automatic cost of living adjustments (COLAs) to those fixed retirement payments. The last COLA occurred at the beginning of 2009. There was no automatic COLA for 2010, and there will be no automatic COLA for 2011.

Whether there will be an automatic COLA for 2012 depends on whether the average CPI-W for the third quarter (July, August, and September) of 2011 is higher than the highest previous third quarter average, which is the third quarter average from 2008. (Prices declined from 2008 to 2009, and while they rose from 2009 to 2010, they did not return to the 2008 level). If the CPI-W for 2011 is higher than the CPI-W for 2008, that would indicate an increase in the cost of living from what it was in 2008, which determined the previous COLA increase to fixed retirement payments.



IN MEMORIAM: THIS COLUMN IS DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY OVER THE YEAR. PLEASE REMEMBER FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF OUR ORGANIZATION. MAY 2010, JUNE 2010, JULY 2010, AUGUST 2010, SEPTEMBER 2010, OCTOBER 2010, NOVEMBER 2010 Clifford M. Rector DECEMBER 2010, JANUARY 2011

AND, the Number One thing only women understand:

1. OTHER WOMEN



*Divie J. Thomas, Editor
801 Sunshine Street
Junction City, KS 66441*

Determined by a different statutorily-set methodology, benefits awarded under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) to individuals suffering work-related injuries or illnesses, are adjusted according to each calendar year's percentage change in the CPI-W (rather than as measured by the change from the highest previous third quarter average). The December 2010 CPI-W figure (215.262) is 1.7% higher than the December 2009 index (211.703). Because of this, FECA benefits will increase by 1.7%, beginning March 1, 2011.

January consumer price indices will be released Thursday February 17, 2011.

| | CPI-W | Monthly % Change | % Toward Next COLA |
|------------|---------|------------------|--------------------|
| Oct 2009 | 211.5 | 0.1 | -1.9 |
| Nov 2009 | 212.0 | 0.2 | -1.62 |
| Dec 2009 | 211.7 | -0.1 | -1.8 |
| Jan 2010 | 212.6 | 0.4 | -1.4 |
| Feb 2010 | 212.5 | 0.0 | -1.4 |
| March 2010 | 213.525 | 0.5 | -0.9 |
| April 2010 | 213.96 | 0.2 | -0.7 |
| May 2010 | 214.124 | 0.1 | -0.6 |
| June 2010 | 213.839 | -0.1 | -0.8 |
| July 2010 | 213.898 | 0.0 | -0.74 |
| Aug 2010 | 214.205 | 0.1 | -0.6 |
| Sep 2010 | 214.306 | 0.05 | -0.55 |
| Oct 2010 | 214.623 | 0.1 | -0.41 |
| Nov 2010 | 214.750 | 0.06 | -0.35 |
| Dec 2010 | 215.262 | 0.2 | -0.11 |

