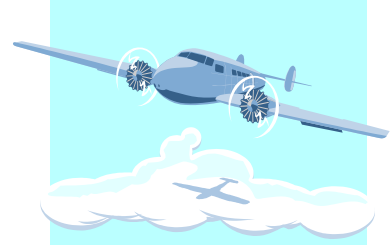




THE FLIER



Volume II, No. 1

Amelia Earhart Chapter 0621—Atchison

September 2012

September Through November Meetings

- September 18—Jim Miller, State Legislative Chair, Kansas Federation, NARFE
- October 15—Wendy Woolston, Benedictine College
- November 20—Lindsey Scott, Blue Cross/Blue Shield

All Meetings are at 11:30 a.m. at the KFC/Taco Bell, 1400 Skyway, Atchison. We eat lunch at 11:30 and then start our meeting about 12:15. All Federal employees, retirees, and spouses are welcome.

President's Message

Election Day is November 6. Make sure you vote. My personal feeling is that you can not complain about the way the government (local, state, and/or national) is running if you have not voted. If you can not vote on November 6, you can vote by advance ballot at your courthouse. Exercise this right.

Barb Pretzer

The following is from an email I received from Janice Neuschafer on September 6. Barb Pretzer is a member of the Manhattan chapter and was National Alzheimer's Chairman for NARFE.

"This is Annette (Barb's daughter here—just wanted to let you all know we found out this morning that the surgery is a GO for next

Tuesday, the 11th!! We met with the surgeon this morning and he said the new CT Scan looked great, all her blood work looks good and they are ready to go. He said we should expect a 5 to 7 hour surgery, and then will need to stay in Houston 2-3 weeks to recover before returning home. Thanks for all your thoughts and prayers!! We'll keep you posted!"

I have not heard anything else.

Pay Freeze

President Obama told congressional leaders Tuesday that he is extending a two-year pay freeze for federal employees until at least next spring because Congress has not agreed on a budget for the next fiscal year.

The freeze will stay in effect until a spending plan is passed, but the presidential election makes it unlikely that will happen before the start of fiscal 2013 on Oct. 1. As a result, the president is required by the end of August to come up with an "alternative pay plan" to avoid a legal trigger that would automatically raise federal pay in line with private-sector salaries. *The Washington Post*, by Lisa Rein, 21 August 2012

Health Insurance

Insiders say the Office of Personnel Management is pulling out all stops in an effort to hold the 2013 premium hikes *below* the already low levels of this year. Last year, just before the health-insurance open enrollment period, OPM announced that the overall

average increase in health premiums for 2012 would be 3.8 percent. That was the result of an average increase in contributions of 4 percent for the government and 3.5 percent for employees and retirees.

Insurance industry sources say that OPM has "strongly encouraged" health plans to hold down premiums. This can be done a variety of ways, including using financial reserves of the federal health program which covers nearly 9 million current and former feds, and even ex-spouses and grandchildren who never worked for the government.

Mike Causey's Federal Report, 6 Sep 12

Condolences

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Roberta Pyne, who passed away on August 8 at the age of 89. Roberta was a distinguished member of the Amelia Earhart chapter and had served in many capacities. Survivors include Peggy Coder, secretary-treasurer of the Amelia Earhart chapter.

Important Contacts

Social Security

Web: www.ssa.gov

Phone: Voice: 800.772.1213

TTY: 800.325.0778

Veterans Affairs

Web: www.va.gov

Phone: VA Benefits: 800.827.1000

Meds by mail: 888.385.0235

Leavenworth: 913.682.2000

Topeka: 785.350.3111

Office of Personnel Management

Web: www.opm.gov

Phone: 202.418.3300

NARFE

Web: www.NARFE.org

Kansas Federation, NARFE

Web: www.ksnarfe.org

Chapter Officers

- Judy Etter—President and newsletter editor (913.773.8565) (jetter@bbwi.net)
- Mary Underwood—Vice president, public relations, and membership (913.367.1486) (munderwood1951@sbcglobal.net)
- Peggy Coder—Secretary-Treasurer and NARFE netter (913.833.4925) (pcoder@yahoo.com)
- Venita Jo Rader—Alzheimer's chair (913.833.4742)
- Eugene Harter—Legislative and PAC chairs (785.872.3443) (wren@rainbowtel.net)
- Lorene Mumm—Service officer and program chair (913.682.1197) (roglormum@aol.com)
- Sally Harter—Sunshine (785.872.3443) (wren@rainbowtel.net)

Congressional Contacts

• Kansas

• Senator Pat Roberts

- E-Mail: <http://roberts.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?2p-EmailPat>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.4774
- Topeka: 785.295.2745
- Local Office: Frank Carlson Federal Building, R 392
- 444 SE Quincy
- Topeka, KS 66683
- Senator Jerry Moran
- E-mail: <http://moran.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-jerry>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.6521
- Topeka: 785.232.2605
- Local Office: 800 SW Jackson, Suite 1108
- Topeka, KS 66612
- Representative Lynn Jenkins
- E-mail: <http://lynnjenkins.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=209>
- Phone: DC: 202.225.6601
- Topeka: 785.234.5966
- Local Office: 3550 SW 5th St,
- Topeka, KS 66606

▪ **Missouri**

- **Senator Roy Blunt**
- E-mail:
<http://www.blunt.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-form?p=contact-roy>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.5721
- KC: 816.471.7141
- Local Office: 911 Main St, # 2224
- Kansas City, MO
 - **Senator Claire McCaskill**
- E-Mail:
<http://www.mccaskill.senate.gov/?p=contact>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.6154
- KC: 816.421.1639
- Local Office: 4141 Pennsylvania, # 101
- Kansas City, MO
 - **Representative Sam Graves**
- E-Mail:
<http://graves.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=84>
- Phone: DC: 202.225.7041
- St Joe: 816.233.9818
- Local Office: 201 S. 8th St, # 330
- St Joseph, MO