



“OLD TROOPER” NEWSLETTER



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

MAY 2 0 1 0

Chapter 383, 2010 Officers
 President: Jim Martin, 238-8539
 1st Vice President: Jim Mitchell, 238-3423
 2nd Vice President: June Wood, 922-6776
 Secretary, Lannie Pender, 238-6503 garfieldgal@embarqmail.com
 Treasurer: Madelyn Brown, 238-5623
madelyn11@cox.net
 Chapter 383, 2009 Committee Chairpersons:
 Legislative, James Dodd, 238-8041
 Membership, June Wood, 922-6776
 Public Relations, Dixie Thomas, 238-1455
 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, Dixie Thomas, 238-1455
 Chaplain, Otis Scroggins, 238-1342
 Calling, Vi Martin, 238-8539/Cell 210-6037

- 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 Leonetta Chaves-Bibby, 238-6642
- List # 6 Maxine Kroeplin, 238-2990
- List # 7 Dee Campbell, 238-6082
- List # 8 Dorothy Luttmann, 461-5577
- List # 9 Evelyn Lacey, 762-5061
- 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 MOTHER'S DAY

Schedule of Upcoming Events

- 31 May 2010: Holiday – Memorial Day
- 7 June 2010 - 11:00: Executive Board Meeting, Library
- 10 June 2020 - 6:00: The annual Evening Pot Luck)/ Meeting, Sr. Citizens Center / Entertainment will be Manny and the Troubadours



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO: Barbara Rawlings, Carol Bondurant, Donald Stiers, Doris MacLaird-Nelson, Larry Langvardt, Marilyn Bielefeld, Mary Ballowe, Therisha Jo Hudson, Tom Case and Vena Rowbotham.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: Richard and Evelyn Lacey, Doyle and Sharri Rushing and Jim and Stephany Walker. Many, Many More!!

CHAPTER NEWS

SECRETARY’S REPORT

NARFE CHAPTER MINS. APRIL 8, 2010 OLD TROOPER CHAPTER #383

President Jim Martin, of the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) called the April 8, 2010 Chapter #383 meeting to order at 11:30 at the 4H/Senior Citizens Center. Invocation: Otis Scroggins led the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. President Martin extended birthday and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month of April; June Wood was added to the April birthday list. President Martin called for the reading of the minutes and the Treasurers report. There was a correction to the minutes; Kelly O’Sullivan spoke in March on the Hospice program; this program is managed by the Geary County Hospital and not by the County Clerk’s Office. President Martin asked for a motion and second from the floor to approve the minutes as corrected. A motion was made by Ray Thompson and seconded by Joan Martin, the minutes and the Treasurer’s were approved of as written and the Treasurer’s report will be filed for audit.

Business: President Martin read a thank you from the Zion Church in memory of Frieda Stewart. Jim Mitchell spoke about the State Convention. He brought up the 2011 Convention, and he wants to start in July to form committees. President Martin asked for someone to take over the task of covering the tables for the Chapter meeting, Morris and Dorothy Beckman have been doing this for many, many years, and they need a break, Morris and Dorothy received a nice round of applause for his work. Marie Sawyer and Dixie Rahorst stepped up to take this job, thank you ladies. The Chapter would like to have another casino trip, President Martin asked Janet Harrel to make the arrangements, anyone interested in going to the casino without having to drive, contact Janet.

Legislative: Jim Dodd said his report is on Page 3 of the March bulletin.

Membership: June Wood asked for ideas/suggestions to increase membership.

There was no Sunshine Report.

There was no Public Relations Report.



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!!

Entertainment: Alexis Miskevich, a JCHS Jr., sang and she was accompanied by Stephanie Anderson. Alexis sang a lovely Italian Aria and a love song. The program was enjoyed by all. President Martin presented her with a certificate of appreciation.

There were 103 reservations and there were 89 in attendance. The Alzheimer's fund collected \$81.25.

Heinrich Biggs donated two jars of shelled Black Walnuts for the door prize drawing. Winners of the door prizes were Dixie Rahorst, Opal Dalton, June Wood, Mike Cronin, Virginia Smith and Verleen Byrn.

Next Month's Program will be the Spring Valley Singers.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m., the next Chapter meeting will be June 10, 2010

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Beginning Balance April 1, 2001 - \$676.91

Receipts \$553.01

Expenses \$516.07

Ending Balance \$713.85

Food Pantry donation in April was 149 lbs. Thanks to all who donated!



SUNSHINE REPORT

A Sympathy card was sent to Robert and Carol Bondurant on the death of their son.

Donna Schmutz was sent a get well card.

Dick Lacey was sent a thinking of you card.

MEMBERSHIP: Our chapter now has 261 members! Two months ago, we had 286. We appreciate our new members Janice Chartier and Carolyn Vega. Welcome to the Chapter! We look forward to talking to you and seeing you at the meeting luncheons when you can! And, we have had deaths hit our Chapter in startling numbers this year which brought down our membership. However, we have had a very large number of members dropped for non-renewal. After being at the State convention with a lot of "doom and gloom," NARFE at local, State and National levels need all the members we can so we can "fight" for our EARNED BENEFITS!!!! WE EARNED THEM and I would sure hate to start losing them at this stage. So, if you happen to see any of the following individuals, ask them to please reinstate their membership and tell them to bring a friend with them - Kenneth Belvin, Lois Bourisaw, Jennifer Gibson, Donna Hackley, Jerry Kellerman, Lawrence Powell, Annie Archie, Susan Bergsten, Arnita Brown, James Conaway, Janet Grimm, Kelley Pereira, Robert Shefelton, Barbara Thompson, David Wild, James Wood and Jeff York. We miss all of you! Please come back!

NEWS FROM THE CONVENTION: (Excerpts from Area II VP Jim Gaskell Convention Roundup)

"Richard Thissen, our Region V NARFE vice-president reported to us that our National Office is running out of money to carry on the duties of the National office. The auditors for our National Office reported to the national office board that if we keep member dues at \$29 we will be in debt \$8 million by 2015. We will be BROKE. Richard told us several things the National Office has already done to reduce expenses but even with these items considered, an increase in dues to \$40.00 per member will be required. Chapters will add to this the amount of Chapter dues they assess. Richard told us they





IN MEMORIAM:
THIS COLUMN IS
DEDICATED TO THOSE
WHO HAVE PASSED
AWAY OVER THE YEAR.
PLEASE REMEMBER OUR
FRIENDS AND MEMBERS
OF OUR ORGANIZATION.
MAY 2010
NO DEATHS



1. A friend of mine confused her Valium with her birth control pills... she has 14 kids but she doesn't really care..
2. One of life's mysteries is how a 2-pound box of chocolates can make a woman gain 5 lbs.
3. My mind not only wanders, it sometimes leaves completely.
4. The best way to forget your troubles is to wear tight shoes.
5. The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you are doing, someone else does.
6. The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat are really good friends..
7. Just when I was getting used to yesterday along came today...

know we will lose some members because of a dues increase but he and others know of no other way if we are going to keep our organization together and functioning to do the job of protecting the **EARNED BENEFITS** that each of us or our spouses have worked for. Our Kansas Federation voted to support an increase to \$40 to be presented at the National convention later this summer. Several members who belong to other organizations said the \$40 was in line or was less then they pay in dues to other organizations. I suggest that you alert your members that an increase of some amount is coming and encourage them to continue to support NARFE and to become involved in talking to our Washington Senators and Representative when issues that can affect our benefits (health insurance, Medicare, pensions, cola's or other items) are being considered. We need to stay strong!"

" We spent quite a bit of time discussing possible changes in the Health Insurance we have as part of our Federal benefits. Richard said, "Yes we can keep our current health insurance, but we should be prepared for the cost of our insurance to go up in the future". He based this on the Call Letter that OPM (Office of Personnel management) sent to our insurance companies advising what they will be required to do using the new instruction from the *health care law* passed by congress this spring. Our health care companies will need to include these items in our benefits and show what our premium will be for the 2011 year. This part is complicated so I am giving you a subject on four parts of the "Call Letter" with comments in italic's based on what Richard's remarks were as I remember them.

[Remember, this letter was sent to our health care providers and will affect our 2011 health coverage.](#)

To: All Carriers, FEHB Program Carrier Letter

1. We expect you to provide benefits for preventive care. Immunization, and screening with no enrollee cost sharing---(if these benefits are added someone has to pay-our policy will probably cost more).
2. We expect you to offer comprehensive smoking cessation benefits ---with no enrollee cost sharing. (this benefit will cost money and will add to the cost of our policy)
3. Plans are required to provide mental health and substance use parity benefits – (meeting this requirement will cost more money).
4. We are enhancing benefits related to donor testing services for bone marrow and stem cell transplants – (this will be an additional cost and will increase the cost of our policy).

There are another 6 items in this letter that may add to the overall cost but likely to a lesser degree than the four mentioned above. If you are interested in reading the seven pages of this call letter you can go to: http://www.opm.gov/carrier/carrier_letters/2010/2010-06.pdf."

Barb Pretzer, National Alzheimer Chair and Region V Alzheimer Chair



Sen. Sam Brownback
612 S. Kansas Avenue

Topeka, KS 66603
785 233-2503

Sen. Pat Roberts
11900 College Blvd,
Suite 203

Overland Park, KS 66210
913 451-9343

Rep. Jerry Moran (1st Dist)
1 North Main, Suite 525
Hutchinson, KS 67504
620 665-6138

8. Sometimes I think I understand everything, and then I regain consciousness.

9. I gave up jogging for my health when my thighs kept rubbing together and setting fire to my panties.

10. Amazing! You hang something in your closet, for a while, and it shrinks 2 sizes!

11. Skinny people irritate me! Especially when they say things like...'You know sometimes I forget to eat!'Now, I've forgotten my address, my mother's maiden name, and my keys, but I have never forgotten to eat.. You have to be a special kind of stupid to forget to eat!

12.. The trouble with some women is that they get all excited about nothing -- and then they marry him.

spoke of research for a cure or help to reduce the effects of Alzheimer's. She said she is disappointed that no real developments on medicine has been found as yet, but some medicines are available that are helping extent the time before the full affects of Alzheimer disease takes over a person. Barb did praise our Kansas NARFE chapters for the more than \$30,000 raised in 2009 and that nationwide, she expects we will meet our goal of \$9 million for Alzheimer's Research in 2011."

2010 NARFE National Convention, August 29 through September 2, 2010 in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

NEW STATE OFFICER'S FOR NEXT YEAR:

PRESIDENT: Carol Ek, McPherson, KS

1st Vice PRESIDENT / Public Relations: Dixie Thomas, Junction City, KS

2nd Vice PRESIDENT / Membership: Cindy Renee Blythe, Burlingame, KS

SECRETARY: Louis Lloyd, Lenexa, KS

TREASURER: G.P. (Jerry) Ketter, Sabetha, KS

Immediate Past PRESIDENT / Nominations: Robert Cranmer, Ness City, KS

Regional Vice PRESIDENT: Richard Thissen, Lake Ozark, MO

Advisory Officer: Gale Beck



Dixie Thomas, Editor
801 Sunshine Street
Junction City, KS 66441

US Postage