

THE SHAWNEE SIGNAL
Chapter 1162 Shawnee Mission Kansas
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association



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www.narfe-chapter1162.org

Louise Lloyd, Editor, lalloydks@yahoo.com

Flo Biehl, Chapter President

It is time to recognize some of our chapter members. Have you noticed how Harold Hutcheson and Elizabeth Bornman are sitting at the table as you enter our meeting room? Harold and Elizabeth greet you and make you feel welcome. Harold minds the check-in sheet and Elizabeth is selling the chances/tickets for the Federation. This is in addition to Harold being our chaplain and 2nd VP. Elizabeth is also a busy lady as she is 1st VP for the Federation. Tom Raby is another that wears many hats. As chapter 1st VP and chairing the membership and Alzheimer's committees, he also is Area I VP. As such, he keeps me informed of things I need to do. Agnes Shellhammer has been president in years past and also has served as Area I VP. She is knowledgeable in many ways and helps me put the meeting in order and what needs to be done when. Howard Zion is quick to help any one as they deal with the transition that comes with the death of a spouse or family member. Louise Lloyd is so great with the newsletter. She also has secured our last two programs, speaking of which--all of you can help us find the programs that make our meetings a good learning experience. Bob Steinert is invaluable as our treasurer and the Rubins serve the refreshments each time. What would we do without these wonderful people?

I haven't mentioned all of you but your gift to this organization is appreciated and will be noted at a later date. This organization is the one that helps protect what we were promised when we were hired on. Let's each one give in whatever way we can. There are places where you are needed!

Why I Go To the Kansas Federation Meetings, Flo Biehl

I started because I wanted to learn more about our organization. I knew that our organization stood to help us maintain the benefits that we were promised when we were hired. I knew that some of our benefits were eroded through the years and we stood as a group to get them back. But how?

When I went I found that there was a speaker from our national organization and our own regional vice president, Dick Thissen. So what? Well, I learned more and more about NARFE and how we fit in and what each of us can do. It is a time also to elect our officers in the Federation (fancy name for state organization). We currently have Elizabeth Bornman as first vice president and Tom Raby serving as Area I Vice president. We also learn more about our chosen charity, Alzheimer's Research NARFE. We have a silent auction and a live auction to support this. Our national chairman is from Kansas and she always updates us on the current progress in studying this disease.

I also have a lot of fun meeting old friends from when I was working and meeting new ones. Wayne Smutz has the registration information. I hope you will join us in Manhattan April 26-28.

Note: We have room for additional individuals to attend as delegates. If attending as a delegate, your registration fee may be reimbursed by the Chapter.

Chapter
Officers &
Committees

President

Flo Biehl
913-631-5559

1st Vice

President

Tom Raby-
913-829-6025

2nd Vice

President

Harold
Hutcheson
913-780-3073

Secretary

Wayne Smutz
913 888-3423

Treasurer

Bob Steinert
913 764-7456

Service

Officer

Howard Zion
913 236-8131

Alzheimer's

Tom Raby
913 829-6025

Legislative

Louis Bornman
913 268-8526

Membership

Tom Raby
913 829-6025

NARFE-PAC

Flo Biehl
913 631-5559

Newsletter

Louise Lloyd
913 661-1720

Webmaster

Bob Steinert
913 764-7456

Tom Raby, 1st Vice President

I usually write newsletter articles from the Alzheimer's or Membership chair. I'll visit both before I close. First, I want to encourage everyone that can, to go to the Federation Convention in Manhattan; April 26-28, 2009. Any member can attend and non-member visitors can attend, also. So, if your spouse (other) is not a member you can register him/her as a visitor. You'll never get a complete perspective about NARFE if you don't attend a convention. This is where the most active members share information about dealing with issues, elected officials, etc. It's OK to talk to strangers, although everyone wears a badge with their name on it and you're not strangers for long. We always have a headquarter's representative (sometimes a National Officer) that is available for you to talk to. You even get a few freebies from the vendors that are invited to set up displays.

Our magazine has a world of current information about legislation and other issues. I hate to repeat things that you already know. However, I would like to invite the folks that came to our "meet the candidates" meeting last fall to keep coming to our chapter meetings. Please don't show up just every two years, or so. In comparison, the Lawrence Chapter had two folks that came to Overland Park to meet the candidates. As Area Vice President, I know those two and they also attend virtually every chapter meeting. We need more members with the dedication of the Lawrence people. They also have turned over their elected officers once again. They are not afraid to have younger/newer members running their chapter. It's time to get more FERS retirees in chapter positions. The future is passing us by.

Thanks to all those who keep bringing "best choice" UPC's to meetings. As soon as we get 1,000 I'll be able to send them off for this year's \$60.00 donation from Associated Wholesale Grocers. Don't forget to bring your donated items for the Alzheimer's Auctions to the March 24th Chapter meeting or the April Executive Board meeting. You can make a donation to NARFE/ALZHEIMER'S at any time. Bring your check to a meeting or mail to: **Tom Raby; 15117 S Symphony Dr. Apt 1203; Olathe, KS 66062.**

Don't forget to visit our chapter website, and the state (i.e.: federation) ksnarfe.org. The state site has links to literally everywhere, it's a trip to the library.

NARFE Announces New Chapter Recruiting Contest

NARFE has established a new recruiting contest that will award chapters with cash awards if they recruit new NARFE members. The contest began January 2009 and will run through July 2010. There will be a total of three categories; each category will have three awards, for a total of nine awards. The categories are:

I – Small chapters with 100 or fewer members

II – Medium chapters with 101 – 400 members

III – Large chapters with 401 or more members.

First, second and third place winners in each category will be presented with cash prizes and special recognition at the 2010 NARFE National Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan. First place will receive \$500, second place winners will receive \$300; and third place winners will receive \$200. The contest will only count new members recruited by the chapter or by recruiters representing the chapter. Members recruited by National will not be counted. To maintain its strength as a lobbying organization, NARFE needs new members. Get involved in recruiting. Contact Tom Raby if you have ideas or suggestions

HELP WANTED

SOCIAL CHAIRMAN

To help with the June meeting potluck and Christmas dinner, call Flo Biehl if you can be a part of the executive team.

CALLING COMMITTEE

We need to increase the number of members on our calling committee. If you are not able to attend the monthly meetings, but want to get involved, then this is a job for you. Call about 20 members a month to remind them of the meeting and or find out why they don't won't to attend. If you feel you can do this each month call Harold Hutcheson, the 2nd Vice President.

Kansas Federation Raffles:

Raffle for Alzheimer's Research - A quilt has been donated for a raffle to raise funds to benefit NARFE, Alzheimer's Research Project. Detailed information about the quilt and raffle was included in the January Chapter newsletter. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Contact Elizabeth Bornman, 913-268-8526 if interested in purchasing any raffle tickets. The drawing will take place at the Kansas Federation Convention in April.

The Kansas Federation is sponsoring a raffle as a fundraiser. Each ticket is \$1 and the prizes are: 1st Place - \$250, 2nd Place - \$100, and 3rd Place - \$50. You can purchase tickets at the March meeting, or by contacting Elizabeth Bornman. Must be NARFE member to enter. The drawing will be held Monday April 27th at the evening banquet. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

Veteran's Charities

For those of you that may be among the many who contribute to veterans charities to help troops wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan, check out the following website that rates how much of the funds donated to the various organizations actually get to those wounded:

<http://oversighthouse.gov/documents/20071213131834.pdf>.

Welcome to the Following New Chapter Members:

Lawrence Bowles	Samuel Skare
Mark Haswell	Linda Stubbs
Grant Montney	Robert Webber
Susan Nealy	

Websites – Check these out.

Federal Citizens Information Center:
www.pueblo.gsa.gov

Government Made Easy, for every stage of your life: **www.USA.gov**

NARFE Chapter Newsletters, Louise Lloyd, Editor

Based on recent experience, once the newsletter is given to the printing company to be printed and mailed, it may take approximately 3 weeks before it is delivered to your homes. There is nothing we can do once the newsletter is taken to the post office. Every attempt is made to have the newsletter to the printer in sufficient time to allow delivery before the monthly meetings. Members who have an Internet connection can access the newsletter sooner by going to the chapter's Web site. The newsletter is posted on the chapter website shortly after being submitted to the printing company. The address is **www.narfe--chapter1162.org**.

Future Meeting Dates/Activities:

March 24th -- Chapter meeting, **1:30 p.m.** Program – Jim Gillium, H & R Block
Topic: Tax Law Changes and the Stimulus Package

(**Reminder** – Please bring auction items for the Alzheimer's Auctions to be held at the Kansas Federation Convention in April. Items should be worth at least \$3 and be new or antique quality).

April 8th -- Social meeting at Hometown Buffet, RSVP Clyde Shellhammer, 492-0091.

April 26th – 28th -- Kansas Federation Annual Meeting, Manhattan, KS.

April 28th -- Chapter meeting & Dinner, 6:00 p.m. – Ryans's, 10810 W.75th. Just east of 75th & Nieman.
 (Buffet) Cost: Age 60 and above \$9.19 PLUS TAX (.72) = \$9.91; Age 59 & below - \$9.69 plus tax (.76) = \$10.45
 Drinks \$1.79 plus tax = \$1.93. Gratuity: 15%

Regular Monthly Meeting

4th Tuesday of the month at 1:30 PM at Overland Park Lutheran Church, 79th and Lowell, Overland Park. Features: chapter business, refreshments and entertainment.
 No meeting in July,

Monthly Social Meeting

2nd Wednesday of the month at the Hometown Buffet, 73rd and Quivira at 1:00 PM. Call Clyde Shellhammer (913 432-0091) for reservations.

Executive Board Meeting

1st Friday of the month. Breakfast at 9:00 AM, meeting 9:30 AM. Location Denny's Restaurant, 95th and I-35 exit, Lenexa - adjacent to La Quinta Motel.

Your March Shawnee Signal

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Assoc. 1162
 16219 W 136th Street
 Olathe KS 66062-1960

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