



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

Vol. 32, No. 2

March 2010

www.narfe-chapter1162.org

Louise Lloyd, Editor, lalloydks@yahoo.com

Officers &  
Committees

**President**

Flo Biehl  
913-631-5559

**1st Vice President**

Edward Acosta  
913-322-2864

**2nd Vice President**

Harold Hutcheson  
913-780-3073

**Secretary**

Louise Lloyd  
913-661-1720

**Treasurer**

Mary Haswell  
913-322-6962

**Service Officer**

Howard Zion  
913-236-8131

**Alzheimer's**

Edward Acosta  
913-322-2864

**Legislative**

Louis Bornman  
913 268-8526

**Membership**

Open at this time

**NARFE-PAC**

Flo Biehl  
913 631-5559

**Newsletter**

Louise Lloyd  
913 661-1720

**Webmaster**

Bob Steinert  
913 764-7456

**Kansas Federation Annual Convention - Louise Lloyd**

The Topeka Chapter is hosting the 56<sup>th</sup> **Annual** Kansas Federation Convention from April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> at the Downtown Ramada Inn in Topeka, Kansas. With Topeka being just an hour away, the executive board wants to encourage you to consider participating at the Convention. This is an excellent time to make new friends, elect officers to represent you in NARFE, and most importantly helping make policy to govern those officers when making policy and programs you believe best in the interest of our State Federation and Chapters.

Committee meetings begin on Sunday afternoon around 1:00 p.m. There are 7 committees, and ideally we would like to have some chapter members participating on each of these committees. Typically those participating in the committee meetings don't get follow-up assignments afterwards, so you don't need to worry about taking on extra work. But your input is important. There will be an evening dinner followed by the live auction for Alzheimer's. On Monday, the business meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. and concludes by 4 p.m. There will be an evening dinner banquet. The Convention reconvenes Tuesday morning at 8:30 with committee reports and awards and will conclude before noon.

We would encourage you to consider attending all or even just a portion of the Convention. In having attended two Federation meetings now, I can say that you get a much better understanding of the national legislative as well as possibly state legislative issues that could affect our benefits as federal employees and retirees. At a time when both the national and state budgets are experiencing critical funding deficits, our benefits could well be under the looking glass as places for funding cuts. We dare not take our benefits for granted, such as exclusion of our federal pensions from state income tax in Kansas.

For further details about the federation convention, check out the federation newsletter on our chapter website [www.narfe-chapter1162.org](http://www.narfe-chapter1162.org). If you would like to attend as a delegate, please contact me by phone (913-661-1720) or e-mail, [lalloydks@yahoo.com](mailto:lalloydks@yahoo.com) to get the registration packet of information and delegate form. For active NARFE chapter members, our chapter would reimburse a portion of your expenses for attending as delegates.

Louis Bornman, Legislative Chair

It is soon to be election season again on the local, state and national level. Our greatest concern as federal retirees is the national election for U.S. Senator and U.S. Representative for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District. I looked on the Johnson County Election Office web site and as of 23 February the following individuals are registered as candidates:

For U.S. Senator; Democratic Party - No-one; Reform Party – No-one; Republican Party – Jerry Moran, Hays KS; Todd Tiaht, Goddard, KS;

U.S. Representative for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District; Democratic Party – Elizabeth M. Gallup, Lake Quivira, KS; Reform Party – No-one; Republican Party – Dan Gilyeat, Kansas City, KS.

I plan to write to each candidate early before the August primary to introduce them to NARFE, try to solicit a response from them about NARFE issues, and publish their responses in this newsletter. This may help you in your decision of whom to vote for. I would invite them to a Chapter meeting however, because of the small response for the last election (approximately 25 people out of 800 chapter members), I doubt that I could convince the candidates that it would be worth their time.

You will notice that we do not have an article from our President, Flo Biehl for this issue, as Flo has been ill for the past several weeks. Let's keep Flo in our thoughts and prayers while she is trying to recover.

**Welcome to the following new members!**

Robert Juarez  
Jerry Nalley  
Ernie Boehner  
Edwina Cabe  
Marion Conley  
Wilma Lathrop  
Joseph Vogrin  
Jan Monroe

**Future Meeting Dates/Activities:**

**March 23<sup>rd</sup> Chapter Meeting, 1:30 p.m.**, Overland Park Lutheran Church, 79<sup>th</sup> & Lowell. **Program** Long Term Care

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Executive Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m.** at Denny's Restaurant, 95<sup>th</sup> & I-35 Exit, Lenexa, adjacent to LaQuinta Hotel.

**April 14<sup>th</sup>, Social Meeting at Hometown Buffet, 73<sup>rd</sup> & Quivira at 1:00 p.m.** RSVP Clyde Shellhammer, 432-0091.

**April 20<sup>th</sup>, Chapter Meeting, 1:30 p.m.**, Overland Park Lutheran Church, 79<sup>th</sup> & Lowell. Program: Make Your Life Easier Through Exercise, Michelle Alexander, Recreation Specialist, Johnson County Parks & Recreation Districts's 50 Plus Programs. (Note: Date changed due to Federation Meeting)

**April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – Kansas Federation Annual Meeting, Topeka, Kansas.**

**May 7<sup>th</sup>, Executive Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m.** at Denny's Restaurant, 95<sup>th</sup> & I-35 Exit, Lenexa.

**May 12<sup>th</sup>, Social Meeting at Hometown Buffet, 73<sup>rd</sup> & Quivira at 1:00 p.m.** RSVP Clyde Shellhammer, 432-0091

### Elizabeth Bornman, Past Chapter President & Federation 1<sup>st</sup> VP

I hope you all are enjoying your retirement benefits. Remember, they may not always be there. It's important to stay up to date on the various legislation that effect your lively hood. We are the largest NARFE chapter in the Kansas federation. Your membership represents about 20% of the total in the state. Your chapter could use more active support to keep us a viable chapter. I serve as the First Vice-President at the state level because I believe the issues are important to fight for and to continue my retirement income at the level in which I retired. Write your Congressman. Sample letters are on the headquarters website if you need ideas. Use the websites. We don't like to repeat information in the newsletter that is available on the state or headquarters website.

We will be celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a chapter this year. We hope you all will join in the celebration. More information will be coming soon. We want to recognize past individuals who have served to make this a viable chapter in the federation. Help is needed. Please contact Lorna Larson if you can help. The state convention is coming up soon in Topeka. Check out the schedule and at least attend one of the daily sessions. If interested in attending, contact Louise Lloyd to obtain a registration packet.

### Eddie Acosta, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Alzheimer's

"The State NARFE convention will be in Topeka, KS from April 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>. There will be two auctions, both a live auction and a silent auction, the proceeds of which go to NARFE/Alzheimer's Research. *Remember to bring any auction items that you may wish to donate to the March and April chapter meetings.* The items should be either new or gently used and have a minimum \$5 value." Also, a reminder to keep bringing "best choice" UPC's to the meetings.



### Kansas Federation Raffle

The Kansas Federation is sponsoring a raffle as a fundraiser. Each ticket is \$1.00 or six tickets for \$5.00. Prizes are as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$100, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$50. You can purchase tickets at the March or April meetings, or by contacting Elizabeth Bornman at 913-268-8526. Must be a NARFE member to enter. The drawing will be held Monday April 26<sup>th</sup> at the evening banquet. Your participation will be greatly appreciated

Representative Charlie Rangel stepped down as chair of the House Ways & Means Committee. This is the Committee where the GPOWEP bill (HR 235) is bottled up. He has blocked it moving to the floor for a vote. As of today there are 310 co-sponsors of this bill [206 D -104 R].

**Now is the time** for us to contact our Congressman's office and request them to exert pressure on the interim Chair to get the bill out of committee. The websites to read about this news are; [http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35678683/ns/politics-capitol\\_hill](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35678683/ns/politics-capitol_hill) and <http://firstread.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2010/03/03/2217934.aspx>

One paragraph of the second article reads; "As for whether **Pete Stark** or **Sandy Levin** replaces Rangel... Eventually, it's probably going to be Levin, but Stark may get it temporarily if Rangel simply gives it up temporarily. But for the long term, Levin is the preferred choice among the Dem leadership. And even if Stark gets the gavel, his health problems may prevent him for truly running the committee, giving Levin de facto control."

**Stark is a co-sponsor of HR 235 but Levin is not.**

The congressional email address is; [Dennis.moore@mail.house.gov](mailto:Dennis.moore@mail.house.gov). (Information provided by Gary Townson, Wichita NARFE Chapter)

### Chapter Electronic Messaging

Bob Steinert, NARFE-Net Coordinator, email [steinertj@att.net](mailto:steinertj@att.net)

Many of you receive by email weekly hotline messages from headquarters electronic messaging program GEMS. These messages are sent to 52,000 GEMS addresses. Now the chapter has the capability to send its chapter members important notices by email that are subjects for our chapter membership only. Its email address will be — [narfechapter1162@att.net](mailto:narfechapter1162@att.net).

We've learned from members in the past the kind of notices they'd like to receive by email. So, we will not load up your email inbox with what some people might label as frivolous information. Eventually, we could send the newsletter to you by email. This would save the chapter over a thousand dollars a year in postage.

We have email addresses for 18 percent of our chapter membership. When you include your email address in your membership record on NARFE's database, we can pick up you email address from there and add it to our email list. If you do not want to receive our emails, you and click unsubscribe on the first email you receive from the chapter.

**Note:** As Editor, I am working to complete the newsletter so it can be posted to our website by our webmaster by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month of each published newsletter. Also, as secretary, I am trying to provide the minutes for posting on our chapter bulletin board by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month following a regular chapter meeting.

## Your March 2010 Shawnee Signal

National Active and Retired Federal  
Employees Assoc. 1162  
11433 Rene  
Lenexa, Ks 66215-4843

Nonprofit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 532.  
Olathe, KS 66061



NARFE Chapter 1162 Shawnee Mission Kansas