



# NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



## Chapter 002, Topeka, Kansas

May 2012



**Next Meeting**  
Aldersgate Village  
7220 SW Asbury Drive  
Topeka, Kansas 66614

**Date and Time**  
May 25, 2012  
12:00 p.m.

### **Program**

*Sally Zeller*

*Safe Streets*



**Lunch Menu**  
Apple Salad  
Swiss Steak  
Chicken Parmesan/  
Linguine  
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy  
Vegetable Medley  
Rolls & Butter  
Peach Pie  
Beverages  
Cost: \$9.00

**Treasurer and Editor**  
**Needed.**

Contact: ***Dale E. Jirik,***  
***Nominating Chair,***  
***785-266-5492,***  
***[ejjde@doglegs.com](mailto:ejjde@doglegs.com)***

### **From The President's Desk**

Chapter President's Musings from Miller: For those chapter members considering running for a chapter office in the future, the future is NOW ! Gwen Ketter, bless her heart, was drafted to serve as NARFE state / federation Secretary. She will try to balance the duties of the federation and our chapter, at least for awhile. A good horse can be ridden to death, as we all realize ! So can a great Secretary !

We will definitely have vacancies in Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, effective December 2012. Treasurer David Smith will retire and Editor Kathleen retired several months ago. They will be moving to the warmer climes of Florida. Any member thinking about those positions , or any offices, talk to Dale Jirik or any officer. We have many talented members and the duties can be outlined and everything one needs to know can be picked up from the present office holder. Great example ! Maynard Cox served as Chapter Treasurer for 23 years, stated he was retiring, and offered to coach anyone who thought about his job to work along with him. Sherry Potter accepted that offer and the challenge, and the transition for her was much smoother ! Remember, talk to DALE JIRIK ! ( He is easy to talk to ! )

MEMBERSHIP ! Vice President Galen Rapp wants to talk with members who will serve on the chapter Membership Committee. Galen laid out his membership recruitment plans for the Executive Committee on May 10th and will report on at least some of those at our May 25th luncheon meeting.

NARFE PAC- with the continued attacks on federal employees ONLY , to help balance the federal budget and cut the deficit, support of NARFE PAC becomes even more vital. Our NARFE PAC contributions are small, but together we have more clout with Congress. IT IS NOT A BRIBE ! NARFE PAC does give us access to members of Congress and their staff, Please consider contributing ANY amount ( use the printed form in the NARFE magazine ) ; \$ 20.00 qualifies for a PAC pin, and a new program offers a monthly contribution with more special rewards. This is election year 2012, and retirees will be on the " Hit List " for 2013-2014 ! That means we will need every friend we have in Congress, to support legislation favorable to our priorities and to help stop the unfavorable ! My thanks to our chapter members who have already contributed !

Chapter meeting May 25th, guest speaker, thanks to Vice President/ Program Chairman Richard Wike is Sally Zeller, SAFE STREETS. Good meal planned, \$ 9.00 a plate ! I hope to see you there !

*Jim Miller, President*

### **Legislative and Insurance News**

Chaplain Fred Holloman of the Kansas Senate is retiring after 31 years in that post. He will be missed at the Capitol.

As of May 10th, the Legislature does not have redistricting maps they can agree on.  
TAX BILL: 1- eliminated the income tax deduction for the National Guard Health Insurance Premiums.  
2- Renewed the child and dependent care deduction,; retained the deduction for child Day Care.  
3- Homestead Program Provision, retained for Home Owners only. Benefit removed for renters.  
4- If you are a Senior and or are disabled, you may get a discount for State Parks, when you go to a State Park office. When you purchase your tags, you can ask for a discount at state parks  
5-Seniors are no longer eligible for free fishing licenses at age 65. They will have to purchase licenses until they attain age 75.  
6- KPERS is going to a cash balance fund in 2014. Currently working employees now will be required to pay more money into their retirement fund, or accept a smaller amount.

*Ronald Richey, Legislative Chair*

### **House Majority Votes to Impose a 5 Percent Payroll Tax on All Middle-Class Federal Workers**

The House of Representatives voted today to impose a 5 percent payroll tax on middle-class federal workers in their districts across the United States. The decision to raise most federal employees' retirement contributions by five times their current rate was passed as part of the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act (H.R 5652). Overall, the bill "saves" \$310 billion as a way to avoid automatic budget cuts, known as sequestration, set to take effect in January 2013.

"It is unconscionable that nearly 30 percent of these savings is coming out of the pockets of federal workers, who individually have already sacrificed thousands of dollars to get our country's finances back on track," commented Joseph A. Beaudoin, president of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE). "Under this bill, a federal nurse who takes care of our veterans and earns \$45,000 a year will have \$200 less each month to buy groceries and pay the mortgage. If the House majority is opposed to taxing America's middle class, they have a funny way of showing it. *Resource—NARFE Web Site.*

*My question is, what has Congress done to cut their cost? David Smith Treasurer*

Minutes, Chapter 002, April 27, 2012

The meeting was called to order by **President Jim Miller** at 12:00 P.M.  
 The invocation was given by **Anna Mae Wright** followed by the flag salute.  
 A two entree lunch was served for \$9.00.  
**PROGRAM – Seniors helping Seniors** – Speaker was Stephanie Moore.  
**Members Report, Paul Manning** – 55 members, 1 first timer Kathleen Towne and 1 guest speaker Stephanie Moore and one special guest Miranda Butler in attendance.  
**Legislative, Ron Richey/Navella Richey** – Reports printed in newsletter. Convention report – stressed the importance of recruiting members. There were 3 Kansas Representatives and a staff person representing Congressman Huelskamp at a town house meeting on Sunday afternoon. We had a SKYPE program on Monday morning with NARFE officers at HQ. Navella also spoke about being on the Alzheimer’s committee. Alzheimer’s affects children as well as adults.  
**Secretary, Gwen Ketter** – Minutes for March printed in newsletter. No changes. Gave report on State Convention – Officers President Cindy Blythe, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Elizabeth Bornman, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Don Erickson, Secretary Gwen Ketter, Treasurer Jerry Ketter and Area I VP Louis Bornman. By-Law changes – the only one that passed will increase terms of officers to two years beginning next election.  
**Treasurer/Newsletter Editor, David Smith** – General Fund Balance \$3,127.68, Alzheimer’s Fund - \$207.15, Life Membership account - \$1,198.48.  
**First VP, Galen Rapp** – was unable to attend. Marcella, June and Marge attended the Meeting at Coyote Canyon for VA retirees. They presented membership recruitment packets.  
**Second VP, Richard Wike** – May meeting will be Sally Zeller on Safe Streets. We are trying to rebook the TFD in June  
**Service Officer, Bill Kastens** – No contacts this month.  
**Good Cheer, Helen Louise Price** – Sent sympathy card to family of member Patricia Lundry. Make sure to let Helen know of any illnesses or deaths as soon as possible.  
**Earlene Jirik, Publicity** – KTWU will have their Volunteer Appreciation on Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup> 2-3:30 PM.  
 Next Executive board meeting will be 9:00 AM on May 10, 2012. Next NARFE General meeting – Friday May 25, 2012  
**George Spotts Alzheimer** chairperson: Silent Auction raised \$2,801 and Live Auction raised \$3,400 for a total raised of \$6,201.00 at convention this year. The Federation committee voted to keep the goal at \$5.50/member next year.  
 The 50/50 drawing awarded \$12.00 to Earlene Jirik; \$7.00 to Marcella Tinoco ; and \$5.00 to Sue Wike.  
 Meeting Adjourned at 2:00 PM.  
*Respectfully submitted: Gwendolyn Ketter, Secretary*

Membership Numbers Declining—Need Your Help

It is the sad truth that over the last few years we have lost more members due to non-renewal and death than we have gained. If the trend continues, our chapter will become weaker instead of getting stronger. We can’t let that happen because we need NARFE to protect our pay and benefits. We got a great start on turning things around last month as we brainstormed more than 40 ideas for increasing membership. Now it extremely important that we get a membership committee together who can consider the ideas and come up with a plan of action to carry out the best ideas. Please let Jim Miller or Galen Rapp know of your willingness to serve on a membership committee. It will be fun, interesting, and is very important as Congress continues to look for ways to cut the federal budget and deficit.  
**Thanks, Kathy Smith, Editor**

*Kansas Trivia*

In 1905, the fathers of Dexter were confused when their natural gas would not ignite. What gas did they discover?  
**Answer: Helium**

<u>Chapter 002 Officers</u>		
President	Jim Miller	478-0651
1st Vice President	Galen Rapp	478-3701
2nd Vice President	Richard Wike	783-8122
Secretary	Gwendolyn Ketter	272-2658
Treasurer	David Smith	478-9163
Member-At-Large	Maynard Cox	478-0015
Member-At-Large	Paul Manning	272-6208

<u>Other Contacts</u>		
Good Cheer	Helen Price	478-9602
Membership Chair	Galen Rapp	478-3701
Service Officer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Editor	Kathy Smith	478-9163
Alzheimer Chair	George Spotts	233-7108
Publicity	Earlene Jirik	266-5492

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
 US PAID POSTAGE  
 TOPEKA, KANSAS  
 PERMIT NO. 525

National Active & Retired  
 Federal Employees Association  
 2824 SW ROMAR ROAD  
 Topeka, KS 66614