



KANSAS STATE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS
 NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
 "CHAMPION OF THE FEDERAL RETIREE"

Volume XXI NARFE Tri-River Chapter No. 2098 November 2011

Winona Hornbuckle, Editor, 1201 N. Broadway, Louisburg, KS 66053-3540, 913-837-4434, e-mail - sterwin@mokancomm.net

NARFE Tri-River Chapter No. 2098 meets the second Tuesday of each month at rotating sites with a luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. in January and February and dinner meetings at 6:00 p.m. the remaining months. The newsletter is published monthly.

Chapter Officers:

- Darrell Williams, President, (913) 755-4026
- Sterling Hornbuckle, First Vice President, (913) 837-4434
- Jean Nickell, Second Vice President, (913) 755-4309
- Winona Hornbuckle, Secretary, (913) 837-4434
- Elizabeth Smith, Treasurer, (913) 294-2249
- Robert Hodge, Legislative Chair., (913) 557-5581
- Pat Erickson, Membership Chair., (913) 557-9405
- Jean Nickell, Public Relations, (913) 755-4309
- Helen Morrison, Alzheimer's Chair., (913) 755-4020
- Darrell Williams, NARFE-PAC Chair., (913) 755-4026
- Glenn Alpert, Service Officer, (913) 849-3738

October Meeting - We met at the United Methodist Church in Osawatimie and 33 attended. Dr. Jonathan Newkirk spoke about his time spent in Africa ministering in Tanzania. We have \$1,342.21 in our treasury.

November Meeting - Will meet at 6:00 p.m. on November 8 at the Lutheran Church in Paola. We will be celebrating the 25th anniversary for our chapter. Some of the state Federal officers, National officers and members of area chapters have been invited. Special invitations have been sent to local people that are to be honored. Six of our first members are still active. Still have five that were charter members and four that have been members for 20 years and are over 85 years old. We hope to see you all there to help us celebrate this occasion. **Calling list members:** please report to Darrell Williams, 913-755-4026, by Saturday, November 5, the number on your list that plan to attend. If you make a reservation and do not attend you will be expected to pay for the meal.

COLA - After two years without any COLA current law provides a cost of living adjustment in Social Security, military retirement and federal civil service. Persons in all three federally administered retirement programs will receive a COLA beginning January 2012. Retirees in Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) will receive a 3.6% COLA. Those 62 and over covered by the Federal Employee Retirement System will receive a 2.6% COLA. Those covered by FECA - the COLA is calculated on a calendar year.

2012 Medicare Premiums - The basic monthly premium for Medicare Part B will be \$99.90 in 2012 which is a relief for those who do not receive monthly Social Security benefits. The majority of Part B enrollees who, due to provisions under the Social Security law, have been protected from Part B premium increases, will see their monthly premiums go from \$96.40 to \$99.90 if they are not subject to the income-related premium adjustment.

Legislation -We hope all of you were able to make a call to Congress (your own representative and two senators) on November 2 to make sure Congress knows the federal retirees and active employees who protect America's heartbeat won't sit still while they are singled out for any

unfair cuts. Any recommendations made by the super committee shouldn't unfairly single us out to bear the burden of fixing a budget problem we did not create. We didn't cause it and making extreme cuts to pay, earned health and retirement benefits, or making changes to cost-of-living adjustments, would unfairly single out those who protected our nation, including many who are now on a fixed income. We hope you requested your lawmaker respond in writing to your phone call.

Sen. Pat Roberts 1900 College Blvd., Ste. 203 Overland Park, KS 66210 (913) 451-9343 or 109 Hart Sen. Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510-1605 (202) 224-4774	Sen. Jerry Moran Washington, DC 1-866-220-0044 and ask to speak to Jerry Moran
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Rep. Lynn Jenkins
3550 SW 5th St.
Topeka, KS 66606
(785) 234-5966 or
1001 N. Broadway St. #C
Pittsburg, KS 66762
(620) 231-5966 or
1122 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6601 Fax - (202) 225-7986

Open Season - Health Benefits, Dental and Vision Insurance and Flexible Spending Accounts - November 14 -December 12 - This period gives federal employees and retirees the opportunity to review their health plan choices and make changes. It also allows eligible employees to enroll for coverage. The average FEHB premium increase for non-postal and annuitants will be 3.8 percent in 2012. Next year FEHB will offer 206 health plan options across the U.S.

NARFE Alzheimer's Fund - NARFE members have donated more than \$9 million to this fund 100 percent of which are allocated to research. One NARFE member from each region is appointed every two years to serve on the NARFE-Alzheimer's National Committee. They meet once a year and function as facilitators and educators in their regions year-round to keep the research dollars coming in. They answer questions and provide resources for NARFE federations and chapters. If you wish to make a tax deductible donation to support Alzheimer's research send it to our chapter Alzheimer's coordinator (Helen Morrison) who will record it and forward it to the federation Alzheimer's coordinator. Chapter checks should be sent to the federation Alzheimer's coordinator and must have a name and address in order to be acknowledged by the Alzheimer's Association.

The bride came down the aisle and when she reached the altar the groom was standing there with his golf bag and clubs at his side. She said: "What are your golf clubs doing here"? He looked her right in the eye...And said, "This isn't going to take all day is it?"