



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

December 2010

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
- Irene Hodge, Treasurer, (913) 557-5581
- Robert Hodge, Legislative Chair., (913) 557-5581
- Pat Erickson, Membership Chair., (913) 557-9405
- Helen Morrison, Alzheimer's Chair., (913) 755-4020
- Darrell Williams, NARFE-PAC Coord., (913) 755-4026

November Meeting - Met at the First Lutheran Church in Paola. President Darrell Williams called the meeting to order. Robert Hodge gave the invocation. There were 33 in attendance. Jim Bouseman volunteers at the local museum and gave an interesting report on newspaper articles in 1874. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$584.87 in the treasury. Robert Hodge reported on the happenings in Washington in regard to not getting a COLA, exempting the \$250 payment to Social Security beneficiaries. The Medicare Premium Fairness Act introduced by John Kerry would protect Medicare beneficiaries who are not eligible to receive Social Security. Darrell Williams reported that beginning in 2011 all funds will be on automatic deposit. The Nominating Committee Chairperson reported Irene Hodge and Elizabeth Smith will swap jobs.

Next Meeting - December 14, 2010, 6:00 p.m., at the Cadmus Grange Hall which is located southeast of Beagle. Calling list members: please report to Jean Nickell by Saturday, December 11, the number on your list who plan to attend. Be sure you make a reservation if you plan to attend. If you make a reservation and do not attend you will be expected to pay for the meal. The Nominating Committee Chairperson reported Irene Hodge and Elizabeth Smith will swap jobs. Election for President, Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary will be held at the December meeting.

Sunshine - Eva Frazee is now back in her home, Darline Laws is recuperating following her accident Lucille Scherman recently had shoulder surgery and Sterling Hornbuckle is now home recuperating following surgery at the St. Joseph Hospital in Kansas City.

Legislation - If you are not on line you are urged to use NARFE's toll free number, 1-866-220-0044, to reach the Capitol switchboard and ask for your Representative and both Senators by name or supply your zip code. The message is "I urge you to oppose

the Report of the Fiscal Commission to cut my earned federal civilian retirement and health benefits, freeze federal pay and reduce the federal workforce by 10%.

Before the 112th Congress begins on January 5, 2011, we need to educate lawmakers about the value of federal service and the importance of defending the integrity of our earned retirement, pay and health benefits.

During the lame duck session next week the House of Representatives may consider legislation to offer Social Security beneficiaries a one time \$250 payment in lieu of a second year without a cost of living adjustment.

President Baptiste has expressed concern that federal annuitants and workers will be burdened by premium increases. The overall average FEHBP increase of 7.3% for 2011 will be difficult for federal annuitants to bear in a year when no COLA is expected and the federal employee pay raise is anticipated to be minimal or cut altogether.

NARFE is also troubled that employees and retirees share in the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Standard option will rise 6.9% for self and 7.6% for family plans coverage.

President Baptiste is also concerned about how 300,000 federal annuitants not eligible to receive Social Security will pay for the 2011 Medicare Part B premium increase and the FEHBP rate.

On November 10 the co-chairs of President Obama's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform released a 50 page preliminary proposal that would reduce federal retiree health benefits and income security, freeze federal pay for three years and reduce the federal work force by 10 percent.

NARFE is asking all NARFE members, including those who are eligible for Social Security benefits, to contact their members of Congress immediately. The NARFE toll free number is 866-220-0044.

Sen. Pat Roberts	Sam Brownback
1900 College Blvd., Ste. 203	612 S. Kansas Ave.
Overland Park, KS 66210	Topeka, KS 66603
(913) 451-9343 or	(785) 233-2503 or
109 Hart Sen. Office Bldg.	303 Hart Sen. Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510-1605	Washington, DC 20510-1604
(202) 224-4774	(202) 224-6521

Rep. Lynn Jenkins
 3550 SW 5th St.
 Topeka, KS 66606
 (785) 234-5966 **or**
 701 N. Broadway St.
 Pittsburg, KS 66762
 (620) 231-5966 **or**
 130 Cannon House Office Bldg.
 District of Columbia 20515-1602
 (202) 225-6601 Fax - (202) 225-7986

Membership - We currently have 95 Chapter Members and 2 National Only Members.

May the peace and joy of the season remain with you throughout the coming year.