



“OLD TROOPER”

NEWSLETTER



Active and Retired Federal Employees “Old Trooper” Chapter No. 383, Junction City, Kansas

January 2010

Chapter 383, 2009 Officers

President: Jim Martin, 238-8539
1st Vice President: Jim Mitchell,
238-3423
2nd Vice President: June Wood,
922-6776
Secretary, Lannie Pender, 238-
6503 garfieldgal@embarq.com

Treasurer: Madelyn
Brown, 238-5623

madelyn11@cox.net

Chapter 383, 2009 Committee Chairpersons:

Legislative, James Dodd, 238-
8041

Membership, June Wood,
922-6776

Public Relations, Dixie
Thomas, 238-1455

Service Officer, Walt
Germann, 209-1938

Parliamentarian, Ray
Thompson, 762-5249

Alzheimer’s, Opal Dalton, 922-
6551 and Virginia Adam, 922-
6706

Sunshine, Janet Harrel, 238-
7488

NARFE-PAC, Carole Blixt, 922-
6413

Decorating, Opal Dalton, 922-
6551 and Virginia Adam, 922-
6706

Program, Leonetta Chaves-
Bibby, 238-6642

Editor, Dixie Thomas, 238-
1455

Chaplain, Otis Scroggins, 238-
1342

Calling, Vi Martin, 238-
8539/Cell 210-6037

- List # 1 Faye Heath , 238-1412
- List # 2 Sharon Griffin, 238-5382
- List # 3 Verleen Byrn, 238-1659
- List # 4 Pat Fisher, 762-5249
- List # 5 Leonetta Chaves-Bibby, 238-6642
- List # 6 Maxine Kroeplin, 238-2990
- List # 7 Dee Campbell, 238-6082
- List # 8 Dorothy Luttmann, 461-5577
- List # 9 Evelyn Lacey, 762-5061
- List #10 Janet Harrel, 238-7488
- List #11 Joan Martin, 210-0211
- List #12 Joyce Peoples, 238-3005
- List #13 Ramona Norcross, 762-2218
- List #14 Dorothy Gallaway, 482-3297

(Dwight area)

List #15 Jonetta Rector, 922-6605

(Chapman area)

Schedule of Upcoming Events

11:00, 8 February 2010: Executive Board Meeting, Library

11:30, 11 February 2010: Chapter 383 Luncheon/Meeting, Sr. Citizens Center/

Chapter Officer comments/Information

SECRETARY’S REPORT: Minutes from November 12, 2009 NARFE Old Trooper Chapter #383 meeting:

Opening: President Jim Martin called the Nov 12, 2009, Chapter #383 meeting to order at 11:30 at the 4H/Senior Citizens Center

The Invocation was given by Otis Scroggins followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. President Martin extended birthday and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month November, Chrystal Roome was added to the birthday list and Jim and June Wood were added to the anniversary list. President Martin introduced two new members: Ralph Manning and Steve Waters. Sue Story visited the Chapter.

President Martin called for the reading of the Minutes and the Treasurer’s report, he asked for a motion to accept the Minutes, the motion was made by Richard Roome. He then asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report, the motion was made by Joan Martin. Both reports were accepted.

New Business: The Food Pantry sent a thank you for our food donation. Thank you cards were read for Brunhilde (Hilda) Mukai from her family and church.

President Martin introduced Melody Saxton from the County Health Department. She told how she came to Junction City, and she is very happy they made that decision and she appreciated the lunch. She explained the role of the Geary Co. Health Dept and what she does there. She told the members that the H1N1 Flu came to Geary co. in April of this year; this is actually the third Pandemic since 1950. She outlined the distribution of the vaccine, at this time twenty-five percent of the Geary Co. vaccine is given to Ft. Riley, while one fifth of Riley Co’s vaccine is given to Ft. Riley. Pregnant women, people who live with or provide care for children under 6 months, Health workers that provide face to face care are receiving the vaccine and children under age 18 are currently receiving the vaccine, and she lined out the distribution to the schools. Children 9 and under will receive two shots 28 days apart, all children with remission slips in Geary Co will be vaccinated, all schools should be completed after Dec., at that time adults with underlying health issues will be able to get vaccinated as the vaccine is received. President Martin presented Ms. Saxton a certificate of appreciation.

Membership Report: June Wood thanked all of the volunteers that helped at the RAD meeting at the Ft. Riley Convention Center and the Health Fair. We signed up 14 new members.

Sunshine Report: Janet Harrel requested everyone stay healthy. There were 106 reservations and 98 attending. Alzheimer’s received \$97.00. December’s entertainment will be Manny and the Troubadours.

Winners of the drawings were Lannie Pender, Judy Gardner, Evelyn Lacy, Naida Sanders, Doris MacLaird-Nelson, Morris Beckman and Sharon Strain. There was a



IF you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please send your request to Dixie Thomas at bthomas56@cox.net

Of course, those attending the luncheon will receive a newsletter at the luncheon - no change.

ALZHEIMER'S FUND: If any member who doesn't attend meetings wishes to contribute to the Alzheimer's Fund, you can send a check to: Madelyn Brown, Treasurer, 1141 St. Mary's Road, Junction City, KS 66441.

Please make checks out to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research" and write "Alzheimer's Fund" on the memo line.

**ALREADY
RESERVED
YOUR LUNCH
AND
SOMETHING
CAME UP???**
– PLEASE CALL
AND CANCEL
YOUR MEAL
RESERVATION
– 238-4015 –
THANK YOU!!

special drawing for two Turkey Dinners at the Faith Lutheran Church; the tickets were donated by Madelyn Brown; the winners were Don Bielefeld and Mike Cronin. The December meeting will be December 10.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Beginning Balance Nov 1, 2009 \$844.92
Receipts \$779.03
Expenses \$748.56
Balance \$875.39

Beginning Balance Dec 1, 2009 \$873.61
Receipts \$115.60
Expenses \$641.60
Ending Balance \$347.61

As of September 30th Chapter 383 has donated \$9,194.31 this averages \$33.68 per member. Let's keep up the good work!

Chapter News

This NARFE Legislative Hotline, number 698, was released Thursday, January 7th. Congress is in recess. The House returns January 12, the Senate a week later. This Hotline urges each NARFE members to preserve NARFE's most recent victory by contacting his or her congressional delegation. The next scheduled Hotline, set for January 15th, will report December consumer price news. (653 words; 3:58)

Health Care Reform: The Senate leadership's negotiated compromise to get the 60 votes needed to pass their health care reform bill in December contains language drafted and suggested by NARFE that would move to safeguard the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). The protective language was added by the Senate leadership in response to concerns raised by NARFE and federal-postal organization allies regarding a proposal that would have the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) play a significant role in multi-state health care reform -- partially administering a health care delivery system consisting of at least two national, private insurance plans.

The differences between the House and Senate-passed versions of health care reform legislation must now be reconciled. Please urge your Representative and Senators to include the Senate's FEHBP protections in the final health care reform legislation if House and Senate negotiators agree to require OPM to administer multi-state health plans by sending them e-mail through the NARFE Legislative Action Center: <http://capwiz.com/narfe/issues/alert/?alertid=14454086>

Beyond the role of OPM in the multi-state plans, nothing in the Senate and House-approved bills has a specific impact on the FEHBP. Still, any comprehensive plan that changes insurance law, provider financing, taxation policy and health infrastructure will have some ramifications on how the FEHBP operates in the larger health system.

While NARFE considers the recent FEHBP protections in the Senate bill a victory, that does not mean we have endorsed the overall health care reform legislation. NARFE continues to take no formal position on the whole bill since it continues to change and because it could limit the Association's ability to effect change in the outcome of any final measure.

Budget Cutting Commission and Fast Track Procedure: Despite the short term increase in the debt limit, signed into law (P.L. 111-123) by President Obama on December 29, allowing the government to pay its bills until February, another increase in the debt limit will be needed. Separate legislation (H.R. 1557 and S. 2834) to create a commission which could force changes to entitlement and other program spending and tax policy through the



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

June Walters
 Bobbie Davis
 Carl White
 Donald Whitebread
 Donna Yenser
 Jim King
 Joyce Peoples
 Norman Lee
 Opal Dalton
 Peter Kohlrus
 Raymond Bennett
 Ruth Asbury
 Nancy Wiehl
 Dixie Hostetler

DECEMBER ANIVERSARIES

Bert & Dixie Thomas
 Bessie & George Lighthall
 Clarice & Roger Longhofer
 Don & Dee Campbell
 Tom & Bobby Case
 Walt & Judy Germann

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Alan Stephan
 Barbara Hill
 Cameron Davis
 Carole Blixt
 Celina Vincent
 Clarice Longhofer
 Corky Briestensky
 Edna Patterson
 Janet Harrel
 Karen Baldwin
 Lennie Blixt
 Leonetta Chaves-Bibby
 Richard Mathes
 Robert Norcross
 Sharon Strain
 Violet Martin
 Walt Germann

"GET WELL" CARDS

SENT

Delores Nelson
 Lorna Lehner
 Pat Fisher
 Sharon Griffin
 Margaret Fisher
 Sharon Griffin

"SYMPATHY" CARDS

SENT

Joe Gilmore & Family
 Mildred McDiffett Family

use of a Congressional fast-track procedure could be added to the debt limit legislation.

NARFE is concerned that such a commission could single out the earned federal civil service retirement and health benefits for reductions. To urge your two U.S. Senators to oppose the fast-track commission proposal use the Legislative Action Center on the NARFE web site:

<http://capwiz.com/narfe/issues/alert/?alertid=14498696> .

Medicare Part B Premium Protection: Federal, state and local government retirees who are not eligible to receive Social Security have seen their Medicare Part B premiums jump from \$96.40 to \$110.50 in 2010. Current law protects ("held harmless") most other beneficiaries from a Part B rate hike when there is no Social Security cost of living adjustment. On September 24, the House passed H.R. 3631, the Medicare Premium Fairness Act, which would protect over 1 million federal, state and local government retirees from the Part B premium increase in 2010. The Senate needs to approve this needed legislation too. That's why Senators need to hear from you now if they are to resolve this inequity in the New Year. You can do that by sending them an e-mail through the following link:

<http://capwiz.com/narfe/issues/alert/?alertid=14260196>

Join NARFE!

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) is the *only* association dedicated to safeguarding and enhancing the benefits of America's active and retired federal employees, and their survivors. *For only \$33.00 a year*, you can have:

- [A voice on Capitol Hill,](#)
- [Advance information on changes to your federal retirement, health and other benefits,](#)
- [An award-winning monthly magazine and exclusive Web site access,](#)
- [Member perks](#) and
- [Eligibility for college scholarships and disaster relief grants.](#)

Here are three ways you can join NARFE today!

1. Through the Internet: Become a NARFE member online using a major credit card www.narfe.org . Information Needed: Chapter 383

2. By Telephone: Call us! Join NARFE using a major credit card.
 Our toll-free number is: **800-627-3394**

3. By Mail: NARFE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION For Active and Retired Federal Employees Contact Information: June Wood 785 922-6776 / Carole Blixt 785 922-6413 / Madelyn Brown 785 238-5623 (OR any NARFE member can give you the application.

I asked my wife, "Where do you want to go for our anniversary?"
 It warmed my heart to see her face melt in sweet appreciation.
 "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said...
 So I suggested, "How about the kitchen?"
 And that's when the fight started...

My wife sat down on the couch next to me as I was flipping channels.
 She asked, 'What's on TV?'
 I said, 'Dust.'
 And that's when the fight started



**JANUARY
ANNIVERSARIES**

Mr. & Mrs. Cameron davis
Mr. & Mrs. Llellwyn McTavish
Mr. & Mrs. Don marston
Mr. and Mrs. Otis scroggins

Sen. Sam Brownback
612 S. Kansas Avenue
Topeka, KS 66603
785 233-2503

Sen. Pat Roberts
11900 College Blvd,
Suite 203
Overland Park, KS 66210
913 451-9343

Rep. Jerry Moran (1st Dist)
1 North Main, Suite 525
Hutchinson, KS 67504
620 665-6138



IN MEMORIAM:

This column is dedicated to those who have passed away over the year. Please remember our friends and members of our organization.

April 2009:
Robert Brent
May 2009:
Alice McClain
Carl Wright
August 2009:
Larry Young
September 2009:
Brunhilde Mukai
Dale Bergstrom
December 2009:
Mildred McDiffett
Carlye Gilmore



Saturday morning I got up early, quietly dressed, made my lunch, grabbed the dog, and slipped quietly into the garage...
I hooked up the boat up to the truck, and proceeded to back out into a torrential downpour. The wind was blowing 50 mph, so I pulled back into the garage, turned on the radio, and discovered that the weather would be bad all day...

I went back into the house, quietly undressed, and slipped back into bed. I cuddled up to my wife's back, now with a different anticipation, and whispered, 'The weather out there is terrible.'
My loving wife of 10 years replied, 'Can you believe my stupid husband is out fishing in that?'
And that's when the fight started...

When I got home last night, my wife demanded that I take her someplace expensive... so, I took her to a gas station.
And that's when the fight started...



Dixie J. Thomas, Editor
**801 Sunshine Street
Junction City, KS 66441**

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