



# Kaw Blue Communiqué

Volume No. 16 Issue No. 3

Manhattan, KS Date: September, 2010

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Ann Domsch	537-5147
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	David Schafer	539-7842
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Marjory Mortvedt	776-0464
Secretary	Pam Van Horn	826-8917
Treasurer	Dale Walters	539-4970
Past Pres.	Don Erickson	539-6004
News Editor	Judy Grossnickle	537-2457

## MONTHLY PROGRAMS

(By: Marjory Mortvedt, Program Chairman)

**Please plan to attend your meeting.** We meet at the Bamboo Buffet, 2304 Stagg Hill Road, Manhattan, KS, next to Briggs. Lunch is served at 11:15AM.

Wednesday, September 15  
"A Walk on the Tall Grass Prairie"  
Ann Murphy

Wednesday, October 20  
"2011 Changes to BC/BS"  
Pamela Maxwell  
Federal Employee Program BC/BS

Wednesday, November 17  
"Alzheimer's Update"  
Barb Pretzer  
NARFE's National Alzheimer's Chair

Wednesday, December 15  
To Be Announced  
Holiday Program

**Dues Withholding saves you \$\$, enroll today!**

## DUES INCREASE

(By: Margaret Baptiste, NARFE National President)

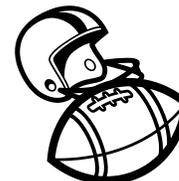
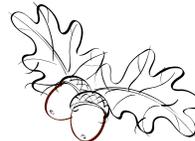
At our 2010 National Convention, NARFE delegates approved a dues increase. Here is the new dues structure for NATIONAL DUES:

- One year National Dues - \$40.00
- Two years National Dues - \$72.00
- Three years National Dues - \$102.00

The above is for **National Dues only**. Chapters will continue to establish their dues and National will continue to collect those dues and remit them to the chapters.

Those members who are on **dues withholding will receive a 15% reduction on National Dues**. Their annual dues will be **\$34.00** plus chapter dues of record. Again, Chapters will continue to establish their dues and National will collect and remit them to the chapters.

The National Executive Board (NEB) established a new First Year Membership Fee of \$45.00. Under our bylaws, "One-third (1/3) of the Membership Fee ... shall be returned to the Chapters in lieu of the first year's Chapter dues." Implementation target date for these increases is 1 January, 2011.



## IN MEMORIAM

Richard "Dick" L. Jepsen, (Member) born June 29, 1925, died August 26, 2010

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(By: Ann Domsch, adomsch@ksu.edu)

It is that time of year: tailgating, football, volleyball and yes, even elections. Be sure and keep up to date with the candidates up for election this fall — what they believe and stand for. Don't rely on your neighbors to fill you in because they may have a biased opinion. Be sure and attend any event where the candidates present their views. Also attend any function where you can ask the candidates questions. We need to have an educated opinion when we go to the polls.

It is also important to check and see what the candidate's views are on issues affecting NARFE.

Be sure and get out and vote because your vote is important.

When we think of elections we also think about electing officers for NARFE. Be sure and say YES when the nominating committee asks for your name to be put on the ballot.



### NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

A big thank you is extended to all those members who have signed up for the e-mail newsletter! We now have 63 members who are participating in this cost saving venture. An e-mail copy saves the chapter 82 cents per copy (printing and postage). We will add your name to the e-mail recipients' list if you'll let me know at : [jgrossnickle@cox.net](mailto:jgrossnickle@cox.net)

## ALZHEIMER'S NOTES

(By: Elaine Liddell, Alzheimer's Chairman)

In the battle to end Alzheimer's, the Kansas Chapters collected \$20,455.43. This averages \$4.39 per member (as of June 30, 2010). The national total from all NARFE Chapters came to a grand total of \$8,711,714 (yes, over eight million!). Collections from our Kaw-Blue Chapter totaled \$2,235.10, averaging \$8.10 per member. All members who have donated deserve a badge of honor for supporting this most important battle, a battle to end Alzheimer's!

In the Pennies Against Alzheimer's Disease (PAAD), Bernadine Eichman has been the "weigher" of the pennies since this project started in February. Thanks to all who brought their pennies to the meetings, and to the Commerce Bank for counting them. A total of \$89.28 has been collected. Let's keep those pennies coming! This program was suggested by Barb Pretzer (Chair, NARFE-National Alzheimer's Committee). Thank you Barb, for your guidance on this project.



At least 1,000 Best Choice labels (UPC/proof of purchase) must be sent in to obtain the additional \$30.00 bonus from Associated Wholesale Grocers, so please keep clipping those labels and bringing them to meetings.

There will be a garage sale late September or early October. Transportation of your donations is available.

(Alzheimer's Notes Continued from page 2)

If you cannot attend meetings but wish to donate to the Chapter's Alzheimer's Fund, make a check payable to NARFE-Alzheimer's Research.

You may send Your Best Choice labels or Alzheimer's Fund donations to my address. If you need Alzheimer's yard sale items to be picked up please contact me. My address and phone number follow:

Elaine Liddell  
701 Canfield Drive  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
785-776-5559

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### **Meeting Place**

(By: Judy Grossnickle, Newsletter Editor)

Our meeting place will remain unchanged for the time being. We will eat lunch in the main eating area and then move to a more private area with chairs only for the meeting.

The location may change in the future, but the prime considerations will be the cost of the meal and the room accommodations. If you have any suggestions about meeting places please call or e-mail one of the officers listed on the front page.

**Where do you  
want our  
meetings to be  
held?**

## **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

(By: Dick McChesney, Chairman)

I hope some of us met with or attended meetings with Congresswoman Jenkins or Senators Roberts and Brownback during their congressional recess. Big NARFE requests all such contacts be reported to them using [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org). Reports can also be mailed to NARFE Legislative Dept., 606 N Washington ST., Alexandria, VA 22314-1914. Report should include the who, what, when, where and why of such contacts or meetings.

Federal retirement benefits are vulnerable. The National Commission of Fiscal Responsibility and Reform are scrutinizing all federal spending - including federal retirements. National President Baptiste continues to ask all members who have not done so already, to generate the prepared letters to Representative Jenkins and Senators Roberts and Brownback. It's easy, just sign in at [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org); click Legislative Action Center and follow the instructions on the screens. You can also call toll free 1-866-220-0044 to talk to their staff to emphasize our desire to protect our retirement benefits.

The July 2010, consumer price index is still 0.74% below the 2008 third quarter average. The July index will be averaged with August and September compared to July-September, 2008 to determine if there will be a 2011 cost of living (COLA) for retirees.

Current indications are that employees will receive a 1.4% 2011 federal pay raise.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

(David Schafer, Vice President for Membership)

Welcome new members: **Raymond G. Aslin, Sally Lindquest, Vaola K. Crook, and Carl J. Urbanek.** We hope that you will be able to attend the meetings and enjoy the camaraderie of former and current federal civil employees!

**RECRUITMENT OR RETENTION: WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT?**

(Reprinted from Recruiting & Retention Journal, NARFE, August, 2010)

Recruitment is the most important activity for NARFE membership development, correct? Not, necessarily. Member recruitment is certainly important. But if you want NARFE to thrive, membership retention is the more important measure.

Here are three reasons why retention is more important than recruitment:

1. Get retention right and you will have built the basis for recruitment. High retention rates are a signal that you have happy, satisfied members. Happy satisfied members tend to share the NARFE story with others, automatically creating a grass-roots re-

cruitment campaign.

2. "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" is certainly true for associations such as NARFE. It is true not only because it takes less effort to keep a member than to find a new member, but because it is less expensive to retain a member than recruit a new member.

3. A low retention rate is a signal that you have serious underlying problems in your chapter. Recruitment of members is primarily a function of great marketing. But member retention is a function of both marketing, and more importantly, a satisfying membership experience. If you can't keep your members, then you are wasting time and resources recruiting them until you fix the problem.

**GET RETENTION RIGHT THEN RECRUIT!**

<b>MEMBERSHIP SCOREBOARD</b>			
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>GAIN</b>	<b>REINSTATED</b>	<b>LOSS</b>
Jun—Aug	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>
Memberships in peril: 12			
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP as of 8/15/10: <b>277</b>			



**NARFE**

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

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Forwarding Service Requested  
Judy Grossnickle, Editor