



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

 Volume XX

NARFE Tri-River Chapter No. 2098

February 2009

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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:

John McCoy, President, (913) 731-4175
 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

January Meeting - We met at the United Methodist Church in Osawatomie. There were 20 in attendance. Sterling Hornbuckle, First Vice-President, called the meeting to order and gave the invocation and the flag was saluted. Membership Chairman Elizabeth Smith welcomed Crystal Coffman and David Levings who were attending for the first time. Elizabeth also reported that Pat Erickson is taking over as Membership Chairperson. There is a new recruiting contest, January 2009 - July 2010, which will be awarded with cash. The choir from the Osawatomie High School entertained us with several numbers. The Treasurer reported \$389.56 in checking and \$809.66 in savings.

Sunshine - Russell Folken had back surgery a couple months ago and is still recovering and his wife has some surgery coming up.

Next Meeting - February 10, 2009, 11:30 a.m. at the Whistle Stop Café, 901 6th Street, Osawatomie. The buffet for Senior Citizens at noon is \$6.49 plus tax and drinks or you can order off the menu. Callers should turn in the names of those they are making reservations for to Jean Nickell, 913-755-4309, by noon February 7. Be sure to make a reservation if you plan to attend.

ACTION - We have a nationwide "Action Alert" underway and less than 2,500 members nationwide have taken the time to write their Representatives and Senators regarding placing Premium Conversion in the economic stimulus package. If apathy of this magnitude continues we will have very little ability to stave off future cuts in our benefits. Please, please take action requested by this current Action Alert. Premium Conversion means allowing civilian and military retirees to pay certain health insurance premiums on a pre tax basis which would mean a tax savings of several hundred dollars that would be injected into the economy. Unless every NARFE member, by telephone or e-mail, gets involved in this Action Alert, this provision has little chance of being included in the stimulus package.

Legislation - The 111th Congress has convened and new legislation introduced to repeal the GPO and WEP from Social Security laws. Since 1983 retirees have been

prevented from collecting because of these two features. Approximately 465,000 Social Security beneficiaries have been affected by GPO and 972,000 by WEP.

For the fourth consecutive month the CPI-W has declined. The CPI-W for December is 204.813 a decrease of 1.2 percent. The index is now 5.0 percent lower than the 2008 3rd quarter average of 215.5.

Sen. Pat Roberts 11900 College Blvd., Ste. 203 Overland Park, KS 66210 (913) 451-9343	Sen. Sam Brownback 612 S. Kansas Ave. Topeka, KS 66603 (785) 233-2503
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or

109 Harte Sen. Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510-1605 (202) 224-4774	303 Harte Sen. Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510-1604 (202) 224-6521
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Rep. Lynn Jenkins
510 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66612
(785) 234-8111

or

130 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515-1602
(202) 225-6601

NARFE's 2009 Legislative Training Conference will be held March 7-10, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA. President Baptiste is urging each Federation to use 10% funds to send promising leaders, especially emerging and potential federation officers. Reservation forms, etc., are available in the NARFE Magazine.

NARFE General Store - <http://www.narfe.org/narfestore> is now available for purchasing badges and other promotional products. This new store replaces "NARFE Mart" which no longer exists.

Upcoming Events:

March 10, 2009, 6:00 p.m., NARFE Chapter Meeting
 April 26-28, 2009 - State Convention, Clarion Hotel, Manhattan, KS
 2010 State Convention, Ramada Inn, Topeka, KS

Statistics - Dues withholding in Region V is 22.7% and National is 19.2%. Kansas leads with 31.2%. 9.7 % of our members are Federal employees compared with 7% of National. As of December 31, 2008, Kansas has 4,737 members out of 23,691 Federal Retirees (this includes spouses). We have 423 Life Members, 213 Honorary Members, 1,479 Dues Withholding Members, and 105 LSA.

2009 Kansas State Convention - April 26-28, 2009

Please be thinking about being a delegate or alternate to the convention. Due date for registration forms is April 11, 2009. This chapter is eligible for 4 delegates and 4 alternates. The Committee Assignment Form needs to be returned to the Federation Secretary by April 1 so those of you who might be attending be thinking about what committee you would like to be on. Anyone attending any function of the Convention will pay the \$11.00 registration fee.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY