



# "OLD TROOPER" NEWSLETTER



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

JANUARY 2008

Volume 6, Number 01

Chapter 383, 2008  
Officers

President: Dixie  
Thomas, 238-1455

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:  
Don Campbell, 238-6082

2nd Vice President:  
Carole Blixt, 922-6413

Secretary, Lannie  
Pender, 238-6503

Treasurer: Madelyn  
Brown, 238-5623

• Chapter 383, 2007  
Committees

Legislative, James  
Dodd, 238-8041

Membership, Carole  
Blixt, 922-6413

Public Relations, Don  
Campbell, 238-6082

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, Larry Young,  
238-3047

Calling, Vi Martin,  
238-8539

Decorating

Program, Leonetta  
Chaves-Bibby, 238-6642

Newsletter, Dixie  
Thomas, 238-1455

Chaplain, Otis  
Scroggins, 238-1342

Historian

Special Projects,  
Appointed as needed.

## DELAY IN CHANGING TO THE NEW OFFICERS! Better late than never!

By Dixie Thomas

*I truly believed the change over from Jim Martin to me as President would go very smoothly. Jim is organized to the ninth degree and made sure I was up-to-date on our Chapter. We planned to swear in the new officers in December and glide right into the new board at the January meeting. Well, Murphy's Law certainly survived the "frozen tundra" of Old Trooper Chapter 383 and the changeover will happen in January, not December. Although I would enjoy giving you all a rosy, beautiful sunrise on the horizon picture, I'm afraid we have to come back to earth and figure out how to take care of the Chapter issues facing us. If there was another way and another time to do this, believe me, I certainly would wait. But, unfortunately, I have to face facts and bring these issues to the membership.*

**At the February meeting, the following issues will need discussions and/or votes at that time:**

*Issue #1: Old Trooper Newsletter*

*Like everything else, cost to do the newsletter is increasing. Last year, we paid \$501.00 for printing and \$291.20 for postage. Copies are kept to a minimum as much as possible. Newsletters are sent via e-mail to as many as possible to save on printing and postage. If we want to continue to send the newsletter monthly, we will need more funds or develop alternative ways to getting the newsletter to our members. What do you think? Suggest? For example, prepare a newsletter every other month, or just send to invalids or nursing home members.*

*Issue #2: Room Rental*

*For the second year in a row, room rental has increased. We received a letter and contract in December stating the rent would go to \$72.00 per month (\$894.00). Of course, costs of running a building are going up every year. Is this the best deal in town? There are not many places in town that we can have the type of meeting that we have now plus an affordable meal. What do you think? Suggest? Change meeting procedures – do we need a meal? Is there a more centrally located meeting place?*



If you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please send your request to Dixie Thomas at [bthomas56@cox.net](mailto:bthomas56@cox.net)

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

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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 Chapter 383" and write "Alzheimer's Fund" on the memo line.**

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### *Issue #3: Per Capita Dues (State Federation request)*

*The Federation is asking for a donation of \$.50 per member from each chapter to help offset the past expenses and to help with training. This must become before the membership if we want to pay extra. (Per Capita - \$228.00, Voluntary Donation \$114.00.*

*This \$.50 cents was voted on at the Federation E-board meeting in Hutchinson - that the chapters would be asked if they would volunteer to pay the extra money to help the Federation.*

*This will be a change to the by-law that we will vote on at the convention to make the per capita \$1.50 per member. This will be presented to the chapter to vote on probably in February or March if we go along with the increase of per capita. If we vote for it that is how we vote at the convention. If we are not for it that is how we vote at the convention.*

As you can see, these issues facing our chapter need addressed as soon as possible so that we can get on with our business.

Another situation needing addressed is the filling of the Decorating Committee Chair. With the passing of our dear friend Lillian Young, we have a very big void in our organization. Additionally, Carlye Gilmore will not be returning to this position. Therefore, we are in need of a volunteer to assist us in decorating for the luncheon. If you are interested, please let one of the board members know. Larry Young has graciously volunteered to provide us with Lillian's decorations for the luncheons. Thank you Larry.

I certainly hope and pray for a better year than we have had in our first five days. I know we need to set goals and strive to meet them but will take that up at a later time. I wish all of you the very best this year. Dixie Thomas

### February 2008 Meeting/Luncheon

The next meeting of NARFE will be February 14, 2008, 11:30 a.m., at the 4H/Senior Citizen Building, Spring Valley Road. Since we have so many issues facing us at that time, we will not have a program. The program will continue at the March luncheon. If you have any suggestions for programs, it would be appreciated. Just give the suggestion to a board member.)

### January Birthdays (Make sure we have your birthday)

Happy Birthday to Karen Baldwin, Corky Briestensky, Cameron Davis, Janet Harrel, Richard Mathes, Robert Norcross, Alan Stephen, Sharon Strain, Violet Martin, Harold Buick, Barbara Hill, Edna Patterson, Irene Pendarvis, Celina Vincent, Carole Blixt, Clarice Longhofer, and Hilde Mukai.

### January Anniversaries (make sure we have your anniversary)

Happy Anniversary to Cameron and Bobbi Davis, Llellwyn and Daisy McTavish, Ralph and June Wiehl, and Lola and Don Marston.



**DRIVING**

Two elderly women were out driving in a large car - both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red, but they just went on through. The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself "I must be losing it. I could have sworn we just went through a red light." After a few more minutes, they came to another intersection and the light was red again. Again, they went right through. The woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red but was really concerned that she was losing it. She was getting nervous. At the next intersection, sure enough, the light was red and they went on through. So, she turned to the other woman and said, "Mildred, did you know that we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us both!"

Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh, crap, am I driving?"

**Many, Many More!!!**

**Minutes of the November Meeting (provided by June Buckles)**  
Celina Vincent, Secretary

**Opening:** President Jim Martin of the **National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE)** called the November 8, 2007 meeting to order at 1130 hours, at the 4H/Senior Citizens Center.

**Invocation:** Chaplin, Otis Scroggins led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of allegiance. **President Jim Martin** extended birthday and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month of November. He also **introduced new member(s) and guests**, Maria Rodney, Wilma Beales, Mildred Kausler, June Wood, Duane Evans, Kaye Hodison and Bob Hartung. **President Jim Martin** called for the reading of the **minutes and the Treasurers report**. He then asked for a motion and second from the floor to approve or modify the minutes. The motion was made by Ray Thompson, and was seconded by Lannie Pender. The motion was approved as written for filing for audit.

**New Business:**

A thank You letter was received from the Food Bank for the generous donation of non-perishable food items at the October meeting.

Jim Dodd, Legislative Officer, explained the way the NARFE Organization was originally established. Jim then performed the election of the new Officers for the 2008 Calendar year. The new Officers are: President, Dixie Thomas, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President is Don Campbell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President is Carol Blixt, Treasurer is Madelyn Brown and the Secretary is Lannie Pender. Walt Germann, Service Officer, urged all members to help him to get in touch with any Federal Employee that may be in need of assistance.

**Membership:** Walt also asked for help in getting names for new potential members so that he may contact them.

**Public Relations:** June Buckles gave a quick brief about the news paper articles and how she goes about submitting them for publication. She then provided information about the purchase of bricks for the Memorial Garden at the Geary County Community Hospital. There was a hat passed then so there will be three bricks purchased to honor our past members of NARFE OLD TROOPER CHAPTER 383.

There were 108 reservations with 102 in attendance. Alzheimer's Research collections were \$103.00.

**Today's Entertainment:** Kay Hodison, a representative from Blue Cross and Blue Shield gave a very informative talk about the upcoming changes to the premiums, levels of coverage, discounts, and new drug changes back to MEDCO. She brought several handouts and information packets for those members desiring them. She took questions from the members. After updating the members, she gave out five (5) very nice prizes that she brought with her from her company. The winners of the prizes were Carlos Buckles, Jean Parker, Ray Thompson, Joyce Peoples, and Mike Cronin.

It was an outstanding program that all enjoyed.

**The program** for the next month meeting will be: T. J. Taylor and the Junction City High School Jazz Band.

**Next Month menu** will be: Pineapple Ham, Au gratin Potatoes and peas.

**Door prizes** were won by: Donna Schmutz, Dixie Thomas, Carl Wright, Opal Dalton, and Walt Germann

**The OLD TROOPER NARFE CHAPTER 383 was adjourned to meet again at 11:30AM on 13 Dec, 2007 at the Senior Citizens Center.**

**Treasurer's Report for November 2007**

**Madelyn Brown, Secretary/Treasurer**

<b>Beginning Balance, October, 2007</b>	<b>\$2,781.07</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>\$757.99</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$768.88</b>
<b>Ending Balance, November 30, 2007</b>	<b>\$2,770.18</b>



Kansas State Legislators:  
State legislators hot line: 1-800-432-3924

Senators:  
Sam Brownback [email](#)  
Washington: (202)224-6521  
Topeka: (785)233-2503

Pat Roberts [email](#)  
Washington: (202)224-4774  
Dodge City: (316)227-2244

Representatives:  
Jerry Moran, 1st District - [email](#)  
Washington: (202) 225-2715  
Hays: (785)628-6401

Nancy Boyda, 2nd District - [email](#)  
Washington: (202) 225-6601  
Topeka: (785) 234-8111

Dennis Moore, 3rd District - [email](#)  
Washington: (202)225-2865  
Overland Park: (913) 383-2013

Todd Tiaht, 4th District - [email](#)  
Washington: (202)225-6216  
Wichita: (316)262-8992

Ending Balance, November 30, 2007	\$2,770.18
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**SUNSHINE REPORT:**

Janet Harrel, Sunshine Representative  
*With deeply regret to announce the death of Leslie Worrell, Rachel Bickerstaff, Ilene Wright and Lillian Young. A sympathy card was sent to Anne Brumm and the families mentioned above. A thinking of you was sent to Lester Smith. Our thoughts and prayers are with these families.*



Dixie J. Thomas, Editor  
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Junction City, KS 66441

TO: