

**NARFE Sunflower Chapter 1160**  
**c/o Byron Nichols, Editor**  
**9000 Holly Street**  
**Kansas City MO 64114-3528**

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# THE WYANDOTTE SCOUT

**Vol. 42, #3; May & June, 2017**  
**Byron Nichols, Editor**

<b>Sunflower Chapter 1160</b> @ Eisenhower Rec. Center 2901 N 72 <sup>nd</sup> St., KCK 66109 (driveway south of school)	<b>11am Bingo; Noon Lunch; 12:45pm Program (if any); Business Meeting 1pm (after program). Times are approximate and subject to change</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> FRIDAY in MAY</b> <b>05/12/2017</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> FRIDAY in JUNE</b> <b>06/09/2017</b>
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Membership: <b>Shirley Newman</b>	913-334-9444
Sunshine: <b>Ernestine Smith</b>	913-287-8529

**As usual, this newsletter may be viewed online on the Kansas NARFE site: [www.ksnarfe.org](http://www.ksnarfe.org).**  
**If bad weather occurs and driving becomes hazardous (i.e. if the KCK school district cancels classes), we will cancel a meeting. Usual attendees will be notified by phone as soon as possible**

**March Meeting:** Nine members played Bingo before lunch. Nine attended lunch.

The business meeting was called to order at 1:15 pm with seven voting members, one guest (Willa Collins, Wanda's daughter) and one non-voting member. The pledge was recited in unison. The minutes for the February meeting were read by Secretary Kruse and accepted. Jane Kruse then read the treasurer's report, which was also accepted. Carolyn Taylor had a birthday on March 9. Bills were authorized to be paid (\$49 for Mar/Apr Scout postage and \$30 for the half-page ad in the convention booklet and \$20.05 for the March Alzheimer's contribution).

The registration drawing (\$5) was won by #9, Willa Collins, and the half-and-half drawing (\$5.50) was won by #858432, Jane Kruse. The meeting was adjourned at 2pm.

**April Meeting:** the meeting was cancelled due to the Good Friday holiday (Eisenhower Center was closed). [We planned to send President Nichols to the convention, but due to a medical problem, this didn't happen. Money for the 50/50 convention drawing will be refund-

ed. We hope to get some convention results later through the Federation.]

**May Meeting:** No program is planned (other than discussing topics from the *narfe* magazine). You may consider contacting your US Senator or Representative with your legislative concerns.

**June Meeting:** No program planned.

**Remember** - for ALL meetings, if you wish to play Bingo, bring your nickels & dimes. We usually play from just after 11 AM until lunch. Cost is 5¢ per card per game, 10¢ per card for the last game (Blackout); which funds the winners' prizes. Please Come! (We **can** make some change!)

**Membership Update (1/1-2/28/17):** New: None. Reinstated: None. Dropped for non-renewal: One. Transfer into chapter: None. Transfer out of chapter: One. Deaths: None. Voluntary cancellation: None. Membership transfer from deceased member to spouse: None. We now have 94 members.

**Note to families of members:** When a member passes on, please be sure to contact NARFE headquarters to either stop dues billing or withholding or to transfer membership to a widow or widower. Thank You.

**Members with birthdays in May:**

Dorothy M Barrett                      Charles E Fithian  
Charles K Bornschein                    Larnell Johnson  
Donald C Breiby                         LaVerne Robinson  
Phyllistine A Breiby                    Barbara R Stafford

**Members with birthdays in June:**

Mary L Bentz                              Thomas P Lewis  
Juanita B Brooks                        Georgia C Story  
Janet Dillman                            Evelyn J Tucker  
Bolded = attends meetings regularly

If you were born in Mary or June and not in the above list, please notify the editor at the newsletter return address or the e-mail address in the officer list above.

**Legislative, Financial and Health News (summarized from GEMS Bulletins, FEDWeek & NARFE Legislative Hotlines):**

The White House confirmed this week that it will propose a 1.9 percent pay increase for current civilian federal employees for 2018. The proposed raise is equal to the increase in the Employment Cost Index for private-sector wages and salaries, minus 0.5 percent. NARFE is pleased that the administration has proposed an increase that tracks with long-standing statutory policy, but believes the president and Congress should pursue a more robust increase given the years of below-market increases and pay freezes.

A spending bill that will fund government operations through September, until the end of the fiscal year, passed the House and Senate this week, ending the threat of a government shutdown. President Trump signed the bill on May 5. The legislation was praised by members of both parties. The \$1 trillion omnibus spending package updates spending levels for various government agencies, including an extra \$15 billion in defense spending and an additional \$1.5 billion for border security. It also provides an additional \$2 billion in new spending for the National Institutes of Health. Of special importance to NARFE, the bill provides a \$400 million increase for Alzheimer's research, setting current funding levels at nearly \$1.4 billion. This comes on the heels of the \$350 million increase provided in December 2016. NARFE, which has partnered with the Alzheimer's Association for more than 30 years to raise funds to help find a cure for this devastating disease, applauds this increase. The spending bill passed the House 309-118 and 79-18 in the Senate. Both votes garnered bipartisan support.

**Don't forget to read your NARFE magazine each month. It has more news and information than can be summarized here.**

If any member who doesn't attend meetings wishes to contribute to the Alzheimer's Fund **please write the chapter number on the check (Chapter 1160) and make your check out to "NARFE/Alzheimer Research"**. Send your check to the **Newsletter Editor** (see the return address area). We'll forward the contribution to the state coordinator and mention you with thanks in the Scout. **Thanks to all.**

**Note to members:** Dues Withholding saves the national organization money (no bills or reminders to mail out) and it saves those who renew annually \$6 each year (the equivalent of Chapter dues) [\$40 national plus \$6 chapter vs. \$40 total under dues withholding (effective as of August, 2011)]. You don't have to remember to write that check or risk being dropped. ~57% of our members required to pay dues are already using withholding, why not you? Applications are on the NARFE website at: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org) or in the *narfe* mag.

**Reminder:** Please send us your "Best Choice" UPC codes when you get a bunch! (It's not worth the postage to mail one or two!) We get \$30 per 1000 codes (3¢ per code), plus an additional \$30 bonus once a year. The money will go to NARFE/Alzheimer's Research. Send them either via a member you know who goes to the meetings or to the address in the return address block. Remember, we need only the bar codes, not the whole label (saves postage).

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**OPM Retirement Information Center:**  
Write to: PO Box 45, Boyers, PA 16017-0045.  
Phone: 1-888-767-6738 (1-88USOPMRET)  
M-F, 6:30 AM to 6:45 PM Central Standard Time.  
Hearing impaired TDD# is 1-800-878-5707.  
On the Web: [www.opm.gov/retire](http://www.opm.gov/retire). E-mail: [retire@opm.gov](mailto:retire@opm.gov).  
Remarriage, divorce, death of spouse, change of address or financial institution or amount of life insurance under FEGLI (among many other services)  
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**NARFE Headquarters: 1-703-838-7760 (hq@narfe.org)**  
**606 N. Washington St, Alexandria, VA 22314**  
(phone # open from 7 am to 3:45 pm Central Time)  
Call to get official forms at this number. See the NARFE magazine for various web addresses. Also, be sure to notify NARFE about address changes, deaths, etc. at 1-800-456-8410 or E-mail [memberrecords@narfe.org](mailto:memberrecords@narfe.org).  
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**Other numbers/websites/e-mails of Interest:**  
**V.A.: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov); 800-827-1000**  
**TSP: [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov); 877-968-3778**  
**Social Security: [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov); 800-772-1213**  
**FEDVIP: [fedvip@opm.gov](mailto:fedvip@opm.gov) FEGLI: [fegli@opm.gov](mailto:fegli@opm.gov)**  
**FEHBP: [fehb@opm.gov](mailto:fehb@opm.gov)**  
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**Membership Rosters are in an 8.5" x 11" format.**  
**Write me a note to the return address block on page 1 and I will send you one (members only).**  
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