

**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, #5; September & October, 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</b> <b>Program (if any); Business Meeting</b> <b>1pm (after program). Times are</b> <b>approximate and subject to change</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> FRIDAY in</b> <b>SEPTEMBER</b> <b>09/08/2017</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> FRIDAY in</b> <b>OCTOBER</b> <b>10/13/2017</b>
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**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**

**July Meeting:** Five members played Bingo before lunch. Seven attended lunch.

We then read the names of our members who had deceased in the previous year. There were eight: Alma Clark, Dorothy Dusek, Virgie Edwards, Lola Forbes, Mary Fouts, Lillian Green, Martha Orth and Gloria Willis. Also, long time member and attendee Henrietta Horseman, who had dropped a few years ago, also died.

The business meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm with five voting members present and two guests: Area 1-A VP Judy Etter and her husband, Dale. The pledge was recited in unison. The minutes for the June meeting were read by Secretary Kruse and accepted. Jane Kruse then read the treasurer's report, which was also accepted. We sang for Kay Frey's birthday on July 9. Bills were authorized to be paid (\$49 for the July/August Scout postage and \$18.05 for the July Alzheimer's contribution. As of this meeting we are down to 92 members.

We appointed a new Memorial Committee chair, Ernestine Smith. Since no one was able to attend, we reviewed some e-mailed notes from the April convention. So far, only one member (the president) will attend CONK

in August.

The registration drawing (\$5) was won by #6, Judy Etter, and the half-and-half drawing (\$4.50) was won by #858505, Jane Kruse. The meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm.

**August Meeting:** Three members played Bingo before lunch. Four attended lunch

The business meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm with four voting members present. The pledge was recited in unison. The minutes for the July meeting were read by Secretary Kruse and accepted. Jane Kruse then read the July treasurer's report, which was also accepted. Bills were paid: \$16.60 for the regular Alzheimer's collection. An additional change had to be made to the new bylaws reflecting where the dues amount was to be shown. This was changed and resubmitted. We now have 88 members due to deaths & status changes (see below).

The results of our financial audit came back as balanced and OK. Thanks to the Audit committee: Kay Frye and Kathy Zunick. We will now have two members attending CONK, Jane Kruse and president Nichols.

The registration drawing (\$5) was won by #6, Ernestine Smith, and the half-and-half drawing (\$4.50) was won by #858525, Kathy Zunick. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

**September Meeting:** No program planned yet.

**October Meeting:** No program planned yet.

**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 (7/1-8/31/17):** New: None. Reinstated: None. Dropped for non-renewal: None. Transfer into chapter: One; Carmen Taylor of Woodbridge, VA, referred by TJ Robinson. Transfer out of chapter (includes optional membership): Three. Deaths: Three; Doris Priest, Naomi Bowen, Shirley Newman. Voluntary cancellation: None. Membership transfer from deceased member to spouse: None. We now have 87 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 September:**

**Wanda J Collins**

Kay F Crossley

Joann Hughes

Doris A Schnieders

**Ernestine B Smith**

Marjorie U Spitzengel

**Sylvia Williams**

**Members with birthdays in October:**

Mary C Bellamy

Ruth Saragusa

**Byron K Nichols**

Bolded = attends meetings regularly

If you were born in September or October 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):**

Due to the wide split in Congress, no decision has been reached on a wide range of topics affecting federal employees and retirees, including buyouts, pay raise, retirement benefit cuts, retirement contribution increases, etc. Some action may be seen as starting sometime in late September, when the new budget bills are due. With no other actions, a default 1.9% pay raise may take effect in January. Also, many agency positions important to the federal community remain vacant with no indication of when they may be filled. Some agencies have been run by acting directors for two years, and OPM hasn't had a deputy director since 2011.

The FEHB Open Season is set for November 13

through December 11. Rates and coverage terms are due to be released in late September. As usual data for major plans will be listed in the narfe magazine.

**Don't forget to read your NARFE magazine each month. It has more complete 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 "Chapter 1160" in the memo line and make your check out to "NARFE/Alzheimer Research"**. Send your check to the **Alzheimer's Chair** (see the officers' block above). We will 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. ~61% 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 Alzheimer's Chair in the officers' block above. 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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