



# NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



## Chapter 002, Topeka, Kansas

### FEBRUARY 2014



**MEETING @ NOON  
ON FRIDAY  
FEBRUARY 28TH**

**Reservations AND  
Cancellations are due  
NLT Wednesday,  
February 26th  
to Jim Miller  
478-0651 or e-mail**

#### MENU

Broiled Whitefish  
Swiss Steak  
Potato Casserole  
Vegetable Blend  
Fruit & Jello Salad  
Rolls & Butter  
Beverage  
Pie

**Cost: \$9.00  
with**

**PROGRAM  
by  
BETTY ALLEN  
on the Great  
Overland  
Station**

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**A B C 's**

**ALZHEIMER'S  
BASIC CARE  
TWO-PART SERIES  
@ Midland Care  
Education Center  
200 SW Frazier Circle**

**Registration  
Needed**

**Call 271-1844  
Seating is limited  
and also needed in  
case of inclement  
weather.**

**Monday, March 24  
Disease Overview,  
Behaviors, and  
Communication**

**~ and ~**

**Monday, March 31  
Planning and Legal  
Issues**

**Time: 5:30-8:00 PM**

**From President Jim Miller's Desk [snyderfan89@sbcglobal.net](mailto:snyderfan89@sbcglobal.net)**

**Musings from Miller:** Just a year ago, Gwen Ketter was struggling with a sandwich menu and delivering to an alternate meeting location. We also canceled the February 2013 chapter meeting because of what is falling as I type this....snow! Lots of it! The state house and Legislature have been closed by order of the Governor, so Ron Richey may have a well deserved rest break. On the subject of the Kansas Legislature, there have been a "ton" of bills tossed into the mix, including one that will require Kansas State and KU to schedule the Wichita Wheat Shockers. One bill we all should contact our Senators and Representatives to provide our views and opinions is HB 2364 being pushed by Secretary of State Kris Kobach. The bill states a proposed constitutional amendment (and there are a number of those to discuss and vote on) shall be published on the official website of the Secretary of State's office and the state of Kansas, not in each county newspaper as has been the practice since Kansas had newspapers. I'll have more on this bill and Ron Richey will have other bills of interest to all NARFE members, and non-members too, at the February 28 meeting.

Items discussed at the January 30 executive board meeting included scheduling programs of interest, membership recruiting and retention; nominations and filling vacancies. I proposed recruiting a six member Membership team to follow up on some of the ideas our members suggested. Vice President Galen Rapp would love to have some quality assistance! As for the Nominations Committee, Dale Jirik, Chairman and Bill Kastens, (past Chapter President Betty Born has moved to Lawrence). Jo Sue Burenheide, who has served very well, and held several chapter offices has agreed to fill that important post. We will have several vacancies to fill if we want our chapter to flourish!

Being snowbound has advantages (if one doesn't have to shovel it!) and let us hope the Feb. 28 meeting won't face a similar problem! I'll see you then!

#### Legislative News from Ron Richey, Legislative Chair

I will pass out copies, about the KS Department of Revenue Report on Tax liability regarding distributions federal retirees receive from their Thrift Savings Accounts (TSP), at the next Chapter 2 NARFE meeting on February 28, 2014, or you can call me at 785-234-4172.

I have been monitoring the Kansas Legislature for the past three and one-half weeks. We would like to congratulate Senator Jay Emler who has been appointed to serve on the Kansas Corporation Commission by the Governor. Senator Emler has been replaced by Representative Clark Shultz. We extend our sympathy to Representative Marvin Kleeb on the death of his wife. Kansas celebrated its 153rd birthday on January 29th. The Governor dedicated the newly remodeled Capitol during Kansas Day. I would like to encourage you to visit the capitol if you have not already done so. They had a nice service for Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday.

The Kansas Legislature has introduced new bills this year and they have had committee meetings on some of the new bills and old bills that were introduced last year. (Individuals can introduce new bills through February 12th.) The House passed a bill that had been passed by the Senate last year. They will be having General Orders on the floor and passing bills that have been worked in the committees. People can listen to the legislature while they are in session on the internet by going to: <http://www.kslegislature.org/li> a person can look on the internet and see what is going on in the committee meetings.

If you have not gone to the NARFE web site I would like to encourage you to check it out at: <http://www.narfe.org/departments/home/index.cfm> Once you bring the site up you log in at member log in by providing your last name and your membership number. A variety of information is posted there. I further encourage you to sign up for the e-mail at: Add E-mail & Join Gems on the left side. It is about what NARFE is doing and they will keep you informed regarding activities in DC. NARFE has sent a letter opposing the latest postal overhaul legislation in the US Senate. The much-delayed markup of Senate legislation to overhaul the U.S. Postal Service, S. 1486, started on January 29th. While the substitute makes substantive changes to the health care piece in the original bill, NARFE is opposed to the Carper/Coburn substitute because it would severely diminish, or authorize the elimination of, long-standing employee benefits, specifically, it would eliminate workers' compensation benefits. The committee is scheduled to resume the markup on February 6th. The US Congress will be in recess February 17th through the 21st and this would be a good time to visit them.

**NARFE Chapter 002 - January 24, 2014 - Aldersgate Village**

The meeting was called to order by **President Jim Miller** at noon.

**Welcome and Invocation** was given by **Karen North** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A two entree meal was offered for \$9.00

**Program Chris Merriweather, Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging (JAAA)** - Chris gave us some insight into the resources available to Topeka citizens through JAAA. We were given resource books and phone numbers to call for assistance. If you have questions or concerns about available services call 785-235-1367. Chris is the information specialist.

**Members Report, Jim Miller** – 50 members and 1 guest (our speaker) were in attendance.

**Secretary, Gwen Ketter** – Minutes for October and December meetings were printed in the newsletter and were approved as printed.

Announced that Kansas NARFE Federation Convention for 2014 would be held in Manhattan KS April 27-29. We are authorized 15 voting delegates. The following people are asking to be considered for delegates: Bill Kastens, George Spotts, Flora Spotts, Ron Richey, Navella Richey, Shirley Manning, Paul Manning, Mary Harms, Dale Jirik, Earlene Jirik, Dolores Engel, Jo Burenheide, Joanne Miller and Ron Miller. This is a total of 14 members - if you are interested, please let us know. We vote on delegates at our February meeting. It was moved by Gwen and seconded by Bill Kastens that we give each delegate that attends a reimbursement of \$100 to offset the cost of supporting our chapter at State Convention. Motion passed unanimously with a hand vote.

2015 State Convention will be held in Topeka. Persons to work on committees will be needed. The committees are (but not limited to) Finance, Decorations, Advertising, Alzheimer's, Chaplain, Memorial Service, Banquet entertainment, Registration, Hospitality, Sergeant-at-Arms and Door Prize Committees. There is a list of members who have agreed to work with the convention as of this date.

**Treasurer Bill Kastens** – General Fund Balance \$2,934.95; Alzheimer's Fund - \$-100.00; Life Membership account - \$1,199.507; Total \$4,034.45.

**Helen Louise Price, Good Cheer** - Sympathy cards were sent to the following member's (who passed away) families: Kenneth McKeever, Lloyd Montgomery, Florence Smith, Judy Shetter, Lois Armstrong. Sympathy card was sent to Warren Teel on the death of his daughter. Get well cards were sent to Anna Mae Wright after her foot surgery, Ron Miller after his back surgery and Imogene Duree after her stroke. Remember - if you know of a member who is ill or in the hospital please contact Helen Louise Price at (785) 478-9602.

**Galen Rapp, 1st Vice-President and Membership** - not in attendance - Jim stated that Galen wants to form a committee of at least 6 members to work on membership recruitment.

**Richard Wike, 2nd Vice-President** - February meeting will have Betty Allen from the Great Overland Station.

Reports:

**Ron Richey, Legislative** – report is listed in its entirety in the newsletter.

**Earlene Jirik, Publicity** - No report – Gordmans didn't want to host bell ringing this year. Next year we may get into Hobby Lobby

**Joanne and Ron Miller, Newsletter Editor** - Deadline for February newsletter is February 4th.

**Next Executive Board Meeting** - Thursday, January 30th at 9:30 AM

**Next NARFE General Meeting** – Friday, February 28th

**George Spotts, Alzheimer Chairperson:** 2013 Topeka exceeded goal of \$5.50/member with \$6.25/member donated.

50/50 drawing 1st \$14.00 - Anna Mae Wright, 2nd \$9.00 - Bill Irwin and 3rd \$6.00 Dolores Engel - all donated money back to Alzheimer's.

*Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted, Gwendolyn Ketter*

***IF INTERESTED*** in receiving a monthly **NARFE Alzheimer's Newsletter electronically** send an e-mail to **ajrodgers@tds.net**

**Chapter 002 Officers**

<b>President</b>	<b>Jim Miller</b>	<b>478-0651</b>
<b>1st Vice President</b>	<b>Galen Rapp</b>	<b>478-3701</b>
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	<b>Richard Wike</b>	<b>783-8122</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Gwendolyn Ketter</b>	<b>220-7196</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Bill Kastens</b>	<b>272-2604</b>
<b>Member-At-Large</b>	<b>Paul Manning</b>	<b>272-6208</b>

**Other Contacts**

<b>Good Cheer</b>	<b>Helen Price</b>	<b>478-9602</b>
<b>Membership Chair</b>	<b>Galen Rapp</b>	<b>478-3701</b>
<b>Service Officer</b>	<b>Bill Kastens</b>	<b>272-2604</b>
<b>Editors</b>	<b>Joanne &amp; Ron Miller</b>	<b>271-8117</b>
<b>Alzheimer Chairs</b>	<b>George &amp; Flora Spotts</b>	<b>233-7108</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Earlene Jirik</b>	<b>266-5492</b>

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