



# NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



## Chapter 002, Topeka, Kansas

APRIL 2014



**MEETING @ NOON  
ON FRIDAY  
APRIL 25TH**

**Reservations AND  
Cancellations are due  
prior to Wednesday,  
April 23rd  
to Jim Miller  
478-0651 or e-mail**

### MENU

**Chicken Alfredo  
Oven Baked Pork Loin  
with apple stuffing  
Au Gratin Potatoes  
Vegetable Medley  
Tossed Salad  
Rolls & Butter  
Beverage & Sheet Cake**

**Cost: \$9.00  
with**

**PROGRAM  
by**

**Julie Feldpausch  
of Pork Producers  
U.S. pork production is a  
vital part of the economy.**

**PLEASE BRING  
"NICE" ITEM FOR  
THE CONVENTION  
AUCTION WHICH  
BENEFITS  
ALZHEIMER'S  
P-L-U-S**

**NON-PERISHABLE  
FOOD ITEM(S) FOR  
"CHAPTER 002's"  
STAMP OUT  
HUNGER DRIVE**



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

**CONGRATULATIONS** to retired City Letter Carriers (USPS) George Spotts and John Classen for their photos in the Capital-Journal feature article on the former Post Office building. George and John carried routes out from that historic structure, and both are valued members of NARFE Chapter 0002, Topeka!

The KS Legislature adjourned early on Sunday morning, but not before dropping this law into the hopper. Both chambers passed a law to request a Block Grant from the federal government that will give administration of MEDICARE to whoever the Governor selects? That bill now goes to Governor Brownback to sign. I don't know all the details yet, but I will make a valiant attempt to have before our next meeting.

The US Supreme Court ruled April 2 in the McCutcheon case vs that it is now permissible for INDIVIDUALS to contribute millions of \$\$ to politicians. The same justices voted 5-4 to give CORPORATIONS the same right to vote with their money anonymously several years ago. You can judge for yourselves the probable outcome of future elections.

So, a LOT is happening in the political world, some of it in KS in the middle of the night. Reason enough to belong to NARFE, to be informed, and to vote in elections. Our featured speaker for next meeting will be Julie Feldpausch, Pork Producers, so one entrée is *Oven Baked Pork Loin with apple stuffing*. I'll see you on April 25!

[Legislative News from Ron Richey, Legislative Chair](mailto:ronaldgrich@aol.com) [ronaldgrich@aol.com](mailto:ronaldgrich@aol.com)

I continue to monitor the Kansas Legislature. They passed a bill where Kansas residents who served in the military may now get the word "veteran" printed on their state issued driver's licenses and photo ID cards. You must provide a copy of your DD214. It is free when you renew your license or you can pay an \$8 charge to have a new card with this designation issued before it is expired. During the first week of April the Kansas Legislature passed a bill regarding School Finance and they considered bills to Concur or Non-concur. The Legislature adjourned Sunday at 11:00 PM, April 6, 2014 and returns April 30. When they return they can remain in session for three weeks.

NARFE opposes Senate legislation, S. 1486, to overhaul the U.S. Postal Service because of changes to Federal Employees' Compensation Act benefits that would affect all postal and federal employees who suffer from on-the-job injuries or illnesses. However, since the February 18 launch of an Action Alert on our Legislative Action Center, only about 2,000 NARFE activists have responded by sending a message to their senators. Association President Joseph A. Beaudoin asks each NARFE member to defend your benefits by using our Legislative Action Center to send a message to both your senators opposing S. 1486.

VA Hospital Retirees will have their annual retirement at the Coyote Canyon on April 24, 2014 at 11 AM.

May 10th the Letter Carriers will have the largest one day food drive in the nation! A self plus one coverage option won't be available in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program until 2016, according to the Office of Personnel Management.

The cost of living stands at 0.24%. March consumer price indices will be released Tuesday, April 15th at 8:30 AM EDT.

*We would like to congratulate all NARFE Ch. #2 members who received their recruiter pin for 2013. We encourage you to continue passing out membership cards inviting Federal and Post Office Employees and Retirees to join NARFE. At our April meeting Alzheimer Chairman George Spotts will be collecting merchandise with a value of \$5.00 or more for the auction at the NARFE State Convention (April 27-29) in Manhattan. George and Flora Spotts may be reached at (785) 233-7108 for more info about Alzheimer's donations. As always he will accept monetary contributions for NARFE Alzheimer's Research.*



**Visit the NARFE web site at**  
**<http://www.narfe.org/departments/home/index.cfm>**

**NARFE Chapter 002 Minutes****March 28, 2014 - Aldersgate Village**

The meeting was called to order by **President Jim Miller** at 12:00 P.M.

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

**Program Joan Miller, Poet** - Joan spoke to us about writing poetry as well as sharing her ideas. She honored us with several poems she had written and challenged us to write some verse ourselves. Resident Poet Jim Miller shared one of his poems as well.

**Members Report, Earlene Jirik** - 46 members and 2 guests (speaker & Ralph Forese) were in attendance. We welcomed first timer Dan Norton for joining us.

**Secretary, Gwen Ketter** - Minutes for February meeting were printed in the newsletter and were approved as printed.

The KS NARFE Federation Convention for 2014 will be held in Manhattan April 27-29. We are authorized 15 voting delegates. The following persons are going to support Topeka as delegates: Bill Kastens, George Spotts, Flora Spotts, Ron Richey, Navella Richey, Shirley Manning, Paul Manning, Mary Harms, Dale Jirik, Earlene Jirik, Dolores Engel, Joanne Miller and Ron Miller.

**Treasurer Bill Kastens** - General Fund Balance \$4,477.11

**Service Officer Bill Kastens** - No contacts since last meeting.

**Helen Louise Price, Good Cheer** - Sympathy cards were sent to the following member's (who passed away) families: Clifford Everitt, Walter Pfeiffer and James Buckholz. Sympathy card was sent to Ella Hoover on the death of her sister. Thinking of you card was sent to Judy Hower. If you know of a member who is ill or in the hospital, call Helen **785/478-9602**.

**Galen Rapp, 1st Vice-President & Membership** Offered membership recruiting packets and showed Business Cards that can be printed up to hand out to potential members. Challenged members to write a welcome to NARFE poem.

**Richard Wike, 2nd vice-President** - Speaker for April - Julie Feldpausch from the Pork Producers.

**Reports:**

**Ron Richey, Legislative** - Report is listed in its entirety in the newsletter.

**Earlene Jirik, Publicity** - Spoke to Kathy at KTWU could not find an appropriate date/time. Still seeking a new place to purchase nametags.

**Dale Jirik, Nominations** - will give pitch next month.

**Joanne and Ron Miller, Newsletter Editors** - Deadline for April newsletter is April 4th.

**Jim Miller- NARFE PAC** - Remember PAC supports legislative initiatives that favor NARFE members and helps blocks those opposed to our interests.

Jim announced that Jo Burenheide will work with Dale & Bill on the Election Committee; Mary Harms has accepted Maynard Cox's position as Member-at-Large on the Executive Committee.

**Next Executive Board Mtg.** - April 4 at 9:30 AM

**Next NARFE General Mtg.** - April 25 at noon

**George Spotts, Alzheimer Chairperson** - remember Best Choice tags, tattered flags (burned in June), donations for the State Convention Alzheimer's Auction. 50/50 drawing 1st \$13.00 - Jean Shannon, 2nd \$8.00 - Bill Kastens and 3rd \$6.00 - Sharon Rosenow - all donated money back to Alzheimer's.

*Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 PM*

*Respectfully submitted, Gwendolyn Ketter*

**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>
<b>Member-At-Large</b>	<b>Mary Harms</b>	<b>862-1176</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>