



NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Chapter 0002, Topeka, Kansas (Chartered 9/28/1947)



APRIL 2015



E-mail or call your
Reservations
AND
Cancellations
NOT LATER THAN
Wednesday
morning,
April 22
to Jim Miller

April 24th
\$9 Noon Buffet
in Wesley Hall

Lasagna
Herb Roasted Chicken
Potatoes & gravy
Green Beans
Jello/fruit salad
Rolls & butter
Fruit Cobbler
Beverages



PROGRAM

NEW
DEPUTY CHIEF

BRIAN
DESCH

Topeka Police
Department



DETOUR AT
29TH & URISH

Left (S) on Urish

Right (W) on 33rd

Right (N) on
Albright Drive

You will run into
Asbury Drive

From President Jim Miller's Desk snyderfan89@cox.net 478-0651

Very busy times! The KS Legislature has gone on break, facing a possible if not more \$600 MILLION deficit to cover, somehow, when they return to Topeka the day after we wrap up what we plan to be a great state convention! Our federal representatives and Senators are already back in KS for a similar time frame and this is a good, if not the best time to contact those offices and arrange a meeting.

So, to quote Tip O'Neill, "All politics is local" take some time away from that garden/yard work, and make those calls!

Barbara McLain is our "new" First Vice President/Membership Chair and has reinforced membership priorities at our chapter meetings. For those who cannot attend those, here are reminders from a meeting on membership. (1) Prepare membership recruiting packets containing F-135 membership application (2) Worst mistakes a federal employee and or a federal retiree can make (3) a membership letter from our chapter (4) Pop Quiz. As noted, if you cannot attend chapter meetings but know someone who is a federal employee or retiree and would want a packet, give us a call or e-mail and we'll send as many packets as you can use.

Attention to those who like to walk! Barbara wants our chapter to return to walking in parades, displaying the NARFE logo or flag, and walk for Alzheimers. Contact me if you want a NARFE golf shirt or sweatshirt. The cost varies on the number of shirts ordered. There will be elected representatives in those parades, and this is a great way for them (and others) to see and learn what NARFE is, and what we do!

Remember those gifts for the silent and live auctions at state convention! Remember the Satchel Paige admonition, DON'T LOOK BACK, SUMPIN' MAY BE GAINING ON YOU! **Then keep on trucking for NARFE!**

From Ron Richey, Legislative Chair ronaldgrich@aol.com 234-4172

I, Ron, would like to thank Jim Miller for his work and monitoring the legislature during spring break while I was on vacation this month. We are in need of volunteers to monitor the activities of the legislature and for a NARFE, Chapter 2, and PAC Chair Person. You can listen and read about the Kansas State Legislature at: <http://www.kslegislature.org/li/>.

The Kansas Legislature has not picked on our retirement yet like the Federal Congress is picking on our retirement. Both the House and Senate approved budgets that ask for disproportionate sacrifice from a federal workforce that has already contributed more than \$120 billion toward deficit reduction.

The House of Representatives passed its Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Resolution, H. Con. Res. 27, by a vote of 228-199. The budget assumes \$318 billion in savings from federal and postal employees and retirees. Specifically, the House budget proposed the following:

- An increase in retirement contributions for all current federal employees of roughly 6 percent;
- A 10 percent reduction of the federal civilian workforce through attrition, whereby one employee would be hired for every three who leave government service;
- A decrease in the rate of return on the Thrift Savings Plan's Government Securities Fund (G Fund);
- Increasing some federal retirees' share of their health insurance premiums by basing the government contribution on their years of service;
- Increasing employees' Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premiums by tying the government's employer contribution to inflation, rather than the average cost of the plans;
- Encouraging the total elimination of the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS);
- Eliminating the FERS Annuity Supplement; and
- Increasing postal employees' share of their FEHBP premiums.

The Senate passed its Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Resolution, S. Con. Res. 11, by a vote of 52-46. The budget resolution assumes \$170 billion in "savings" from federal employees and retirees. Specifically, it assumes budget savings from the elimination of federal jobs, a 6 percent federal employee pay cut resulting from increased retirement contributions without any corresponding benefit increase, and an increase in health care costs for federal employees and retirees resulting from reduced employer contributions to Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premiums. The US Congress will be in recess from March 30 to April 10.

I have been monitoring the Kansas State Legislature and setting in on the committee meetings. April 2, 2015, they recessed and return on April 29, 2015. In the Kansas House Tax Committee, they had a report that they were still short between \$303 million and \$400 million March 31, 2015 during the last day of the tax committee meeting. They will be working on tax bills in May to make up for this short fall and will receive a report from the Revenue Department on April 20, 2015.

In the House and Senate Tax Committees they will consider the Governors tax bills; other tax bills are: sales taxes on the sale of gas, electricity, heat and other fuel sources for production of heat and lighting for residential premises and agricultural use; consider eliminating the property tax exemption from the state wide school levy for property used for residential purposes for \$20,000 of its appraised valuation; and increases in sales tax and use tax rates of 6.3% and others.



APRIL 24TH IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO TURN AN UNWANTED ITEM INTO A DONATION FOR THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOC. ?'s call George Spotts.

**NARFE CHAPTER 0002 MINUTES
MARCH 27, 2015 - 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 was Kore Lippoldt, Community Outreach Coordinator with the Marian Clinic. Kore handed out information about the programs offered through the Marian Clinic. Marian Clinic is a nonprofit-safety net for persons without insurance (medical or dental) to receive medical assistance. There is a fundraiser coming up at First United Methodist Church on Sunday March 29, 2015 at 3PM - The 8th annual "Music...Just What the Doctor Ordered" for more information call Shawnee Co Medical Society 235-0996 or Marian Clinic 233-9780.

Members Report, Earlene Jirik – 40 members and 1 guests (our speaker from Marion Clinic - **Kore Lippoldt, Community Outreach Coordinator**). Door Prize for members paying for a meal - Edgar Shaw won the drawing - NARFE coffee mug.

Earlene Jirik, Publicity - nothing is scheduled at this time.

Secretary, Gwen Ketter – The Chapter minutes for the February meeting were printed in the newsletter and were approved as printed, with the correction of Marcella Tinoco name spelling.

Thanks once again to all the members who have volunteered to work on the 2015 State Convention. A committee meeting was held prior to the general membership meeting and Advertising is going strong, centerpieces are nearly done and donations for Alzheimer's baskets are being accepted. Next committee meeting will be at 9:30 AM Friday April 10th, where we will begin putting together the packets for attendees.

Joanne Miller, Federation Alzheimer's Chair - Accepting items to make baskets (gardening and bar-b-que) asking for assistance with the Hospitality Room/Jeff County chapter has volunteered to assist. Interested in assisting - contact either Joanne or Ron. Newsletter deadline April 5th.

Treasurer Bill Kastens – General Fund \$1,607.00, Savings \$1,199.86 and Alzheimer's \$93.00 Total \$2,425.86. Convention account \$750.00.

Service Officer Bill Kastens - No new calls.

Barb McLain, 1st Vice-President and Membership - We transferred in 4 members from the Holton chapter (which was closed). Barb is looking for members to form a committee to work

on retaining members as well as soliciting new membership. Barb also wants to find persons interested in joining the Walk for Alzheimer's on June 13th. Topeka NARFE used to participate in this event and she would like to begin this tradition again. We could wear NARFE shirts to promote our organization as well.

Richard Wike, 2nd Vice-President April meeting TPD Major Brian Desch Criminal Investigations Division

Reports:

Jo Burenheide - sent sympathy card to the Fred Downey family. A thinking of you card was sent to Anna May Right. Remember to let Jo know if you have any information regarding members who are ill or have family members pass. 785/272-8971

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

Next Executive Board Meeting/Convention Committee Meeting - Friday Apr 10 - 9:30 AM!

Next NARFE General Meeting – Friday Apr 24 - Noon

KS Federation Convention -- Apr 26 - 28

George Spotts Alzheimer Chairperson:

50/50 drawing 1st Mary Harms \$10.00, 2nd \$7.00 - Wanda Stephens and 3rd \$4.00 - Richard Wike - all donated money back to Alzheimer's

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Gwendolyn Ketter



HELP WANTED

2-3 good people for the Membership Team.

No experience necessary.

Enjoys a challenge.

How can we use our knowledge and resources in creative ways to attract new NARFE members and retain our current members? Seriously, membership is not a solitary activity — it involves us all.

If interested in this position call me at 272-3407, and let's work on this challenge together. Thanks for your help.

Barb McLain, First Vice President

Chapter 0002 Officers

President	Jim Miller	478-0651
1st V-P/Membership Chair	Barbara McLain	272-3407
2nd Vice President	Richard Wike	783-8122
Secretary	Gwendolyn Ketter	220-7196
Treasurer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Member-At-Large	Paul Manning	272-6208
Member-At-Large	Mary Harms	862-1176

Other Contacts

Service Officer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Newsletter Editors	Joanne & Ron Miller	271-8117
Alzheimer Chairs	George & Flora Spotts	233-7108
Publicity	Earlene Jirik	266-5492
Good Cheer	Jo Burenheide	272-8971
Historian	YOUR NAME HERE	
NARFE PAC Chair	YOUR NAME HERE	

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