



NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



Chapter 0002, Topeka, Kansas

MARCH 2015

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



E-mail or call your Reservations AND Cancellations NOT LATER THAN Wednesday morning, March 25 to Jim Miller

March 27th \$9 Noon Buffet in Wesley Hall

- Fried Catfish*
- Spaghetti and Meatballs*
- Potato Casserole*
- Vegetable Blend*
- Tossed Salad*
- Rolls & Butter*
- Beverage*
- Apple Pie*



PROGRAM

Kove Lippoldt

Community Outreach Coordinator for

MARIAN CLINIC



NARFE Federation Convention 50/50 Raffle

Tickets are \$25 each Only 200 tickets will be sold

See Gwen if interested

You need not be present at the Convention to win.



KS House members are disagreeing on what is next. The Senate seemingly has their act together, to a point. Last week was Turnaround when both bodies send their passed legislation to the other. One key item they have disagreements on is the 8,000 lb. gorilla in the room. (That gorilla was a mere 800 lbs. but it grows larger every day.) The gorilla is the tax cuts of 2012 and many people, legislators among them agree the consequences and solutions are main sticking points. The Senate voted on more than 65 bills, rejecting three. Those passed went to the House. As of today I don't have the final tally sent to the Senate by the House.

A major factor in the "gorilla" is miscalculations on the participation. In 2012 the prediction was 191,000 business owners would benefit, based on 2009 data. In 2013 280,737 business filers used the exemption. Plus farm returns of an additional 53,055 not factored in the original ballooned the total number to 333,000! (I'll watch with great interest for the results of 2014 returns!) This number is the number of business owners, not the number of businesses who receive the benefit. Simply, if a business or a farm has ten owners, each would file a separate return. This will require some major "tweaking" as **hearings** will be ongoing, but bills will not be "**worked**" until May, after our state convention is over. That means, as Ron Richey and I have said often, it is VITAL every NARFE member be in contact with their legislator. The legislators know we do not vote for them (we do vote for or against our own) but they do like to hear from their constituents.

A plug for Ron Richey as he has faithfully attended committee meetings and hearings while my attendance at those has been spasmodic. Ron is taking a vacation, March 13-22. In his absence, I'll sit in on tax committee hearings when I can. I will represent ALDERSGATE Village March 10, and will visit my legislators if our table has any "spare time!"

I'll see you in Wesley Hall on March 27!

ALZHEIMER'S AUCTION AT CONVENTION



If you have a treasure worth at least \$5 that could help raise our chapter's annual contribution—give it to George. Talk to Joanne if you want to help defray the cost of BBQ & gardening baskets.

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

Once again, federal employees were uncertain if they were going to be paid because Congress said that they would not fund the Department of Homeland Security. This was before Congress funded it until September 30, 2015.

Agencies bouncing back from sequestration cuts and years of hiring freezes are hiring more than 72,000 federal employees in 2015, according to figures from the Office of Management and Budget. Contract talks began on February 19 between the U.S. Postal Service and a re-energized union that seeks to broaden the field of play well beyond the negotiating room.

There are bills in the US Congress to provide federal employees with a 3.8 percent pay raise in 2016. The Bills are H.R. 304 and S.164. If you go to the NARFE web site at:

<http://www.narfe.org/departments/home/index.cfm>

and sign in, then go to the Legislative Action Center and enter your zip code, you can e-mail all your representatives in support of these bills.

I have been monitoring the Kansas State Legislature every day and setting in on the committee meetings. February 27, 2015, was Turnaround Day and they passed 97 bills. All of these committees are exempt: in the House and Senate, the Federal and State Affairs, the Senate Ways and Means, the House and Appropriations, the House and Senate Assessment, and the Taxation Committees.

The House and Senate passed rules that they cannot work from midnight to 8:00 AM and not bundle more than four bills together. This would not apply to the Tax Committee.

NARFE encourages you to make plans now to vote in the General Election, on April 7, 2015, for the Cities and Schools. These elections are non-partisan and look at local issues. The Senate passed SB171 in the Kansas Legislature to move the local election to the same date and time as the State elections and to have them become party elections.

There is a bill SB258 to eliminate the property tax exemption from the statewide school levy for property used for residential purposes to the extent of \$20,000 of its appraised valuation. This will make property tax increase approximately \$46 per year.

We are in need of volunteers to monitor the activities of the legislature. You can listen and read about the Kansas State Legislature at: <http://www.kslegislature.org/li/>.

NARFE CHAPTER 0002 MINUTES

FEBRUARY 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 **Sue Wike** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A two entree meal was offered for \$9.00.

Members Report, Earlene Jirik – 49 members and 2 guests (our speakers from HealthWise 55 - Tiffany Hall who ate with us and Carol Frazee who didn't). Door Prize for members paying for a meal - Leah Shaw won the drawing.

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

Secretary, Gwen Ketter – The Chapter minutes for the January meeting were printed in the newsletter and were approved as printed. Business cards that were printed for Christine Walker were given to her. Delegate for convention - we are entitled to 14 delegates. How many people are interested in going, who would be delegates, who would be alternates and how much are we willing to pay. Twenty-one members want to attend as either delegates or alternates. Moved and seconded to pay registration of \$82 for delegates and alternates attending convention (Gwen moved Richard seconded) Motion passed. George & Flora Spotts, Joanne & Ron Miller, Sharon Rosenow, Bill Kastens, Leah & Ed Shaw, Dale & Earlene Jirik, Ron & Navella Richey and Paul & Shirley Manning were selected as delegates. Alternates are Charlotte Pittman, Mary Harms, Richard Wike, Delores Engel, Marcella Tinocco, Jo Burenheide and Karen North.

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 members are in the process of soliciting advertisers for the program as well as sponsors for breaks. Next committee meeting will be at 10 AM Friday March 27th. Program for Banquet - Orchestra quartet from Washburn Middle School.

Joanne Miller, Federation Alzheimer's Chair - Looking for items to make baskets (gardening and bar-b-que) asking for assistance with the Hospitality Room. Interested in assisting - contact either Joanne or Ron. Newsletter deadline March 5th.

Treasurer Bill Kastens – General Fund \$1,226.00, Savings \$1,199.86 and Alzheimer's \$48.00 Total \$2,425.86. Convention account \$750.00.

Service Officer Bill Kastens - No new calls.

Barb McLain, 1st Vice-President and Membership - No report

Program was Tiffany Hall & Carol Frazee (Tiffany had to leave for a prior commitment), HealthWise 55 - bags with information on HealthWise 55 were handed out. Carol spoke on Heart Disease, Heart Attack symptoms and Stroke symptoms.

Richard Wike, 2nd vice-President

March meeting Marion Clinic - Kove Lippoldt;

April meeting TPD Major Brian Desch

Reports:

Jo Burenheide, Good Cheer - sent sympathy card to family of Margaret Aden who passed away an 9th. 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 Mtg. - Friday Mar 5 - 9:30 AM!

Convention Planning Mtg. - Friday Mar 27 - 10 AM

Next NARFE General Mtg. – Friday Mar 27 - Noon

George Spotts Alzheimer Chairperson:

50/50 drawing 1st Emily Tucker \$10.00, 2nd \$7.00 - Gwen Ketter and 3rd \$5.00 - Marge Woytek - all donated money back to Alzheimer's.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Gwendolyn Ketter



May the wings of the butterfly kiss the sun.

And find your shoulder to light on.

To bring you luck, happiness and riches.

Today, tomorrow and beyond.

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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