



# NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

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



MAY 2015



**E-mail or call your Reservations AND Cancellations NOT LATER THAN Wednesday morning, May 20 to Jim Miller**

**May 22nd \$9 Noon Buffet in Wesley Hall**

**Salmon with lemon wedge  
JAN'S Meatloaf  
Vegetable Medley  
Rice  
Garden Salad  
Rolls and Butter  
Pie Variety  
Beverages**

## PROGRAM

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MICHELLE DE LA ISLA**

**Habitat for Humanity**



**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](mailto:snyderfan89@cox.net) 478-0651**

The Topeka Chapter hosted the NARFE state convention and based on the evaluations, was "moderately" successful. At the risk of name dropping and forgetting a chapter hard worker, I will point out Gwen Ketter seemed to be everywhere (and probably was) to ensure the smoothest possible registration. The Hospitality Room was given high marks (thanks to Ron and Joanne Miller with their group of noble volunteers and large supply of "goodies"). In addition to the duties with Alzheimers, Joanne and Ron received the bad news of....clean out and close down the Hospitality Room by Monday night because that room was booked for Tuesday morning. Again, several people jumped in and the clean up/cleanout was completed on time. Dolores Engel, Jo Sue Burenheide, Marcella Tinoco stayed late to help. With the convention over, Gwen was elected as Federation Secretary for another two year term. Among her first of many tasks will be to meet with Chapter Treasurer Bill Kastens and me to hammer out a completed financial report for the federation meeting on June 6, at ALDERSGATE VILLAGE. By June 6, Ron Richey, our chapter Legislative Chairman **MAY** have completed his duties at the state house, and we should know if federal retirees escaped the budget chopping/shopping spree going on as I write this. That wraps up state house issues for another year, but leaves our federal lawmakers to deal with. We won't know how many cuts and what they will be until the joint House and Senate committees announce their findings and present those to the full bodies for a vote. If all goes as badly as some predict, our hopes dwindle down to a Presidential veto. So, when a potential NARFE member asks you (1) what is NARFE doing for me ? (2) why should I join NARFE and pay dues when you are doing that for me ? Respond with this.....NARFE has worked hard, grass roots and federal level to ensure your benefits remain intact. (You still receive a COLA and your KS state income tax exemption is still in place....or was when I wrote this!) Why should this person join NARFE! There is strength in numbers and we have lost many of our former stalwarts to death and illness. Joining NOW will ensure a stronger NARFE in the future. Or simply put. Think of a future without NARFE standing tall in Washington, DC! Not a pretty picture. I'll see you May 22nd!

**From Ron Richey, Legislative Chair [ronaldgrich@aol.com](mailto:ronaldgrich@aol.com) 234-4172**

We, (Ron and Navella), would like to thank NARFE Chapter #2 for sending us as Delegates to the NARFE State Convention - **same sentiment is shared by all the delegates that you sent.** I enjoyed the class on OAM about how to use information on the NARFE web site in Washington DC. There were new changes made in their web site on April 15th and it was explained how to effectively use these changes to help ones' self in using the site. Carol Ek Region 5 Vice-President explained to us how to contact our US Senators and US Representative by e-mail. She asked us to show our family members and other non NARFE members who are affected by changes to our benefits on how to contact our US Senators and US Representative by e-mail. She explained how to get the latest up to the minute information on what the US Congress is doing. Sarah Weissmann, who is our NARFE Specialist, from the NARFE Legislative Dept. in Washington DC, gave an in depth report about changes that they want to make in Washington DC that affect our benefits. Navella attended Membership Training, Convention Rules, and Bylaws and Resolutions. She enjoyed the silent Auction. The State NARFE PAC collected over \$2,000 for NARFE PAC. We are in need of volunteers for a NARFE Chapter #2 PAC Chair Person and to help monitor the activities of the legislature. I am monitoring the Kansas State Legislature and setting in on the committees. The Kansas Congress returned on April 29, 2015. They are short 800 million dollars. They have 17 Days left in the 90 days of the legislative session.

### **23rd ANNUAL STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE \* SATURDAY, MAY 9TH**

According to Feeding America, hunger haunts 1 in 6 Americans, which is why NARFE again is pleased to support the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. In solidarity with the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC), we urge each NARFE member to plan now to collect and bag nonperishable food items and place the bag by your mailbox for your letter carrier on May 9. Last year's drive collected 72.5 million pounds of food.



**CHAPTER 2—The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined efforts of each individual.**

**—Vince Lombardi**

**NARFE CHAPTER 0002 MINUTES  
APRIL 24, 2015 - ALDERSGATE VILLAGE**

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

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

**Program was Brian Desch, New Deputy Police Chief.** Brian spoke about the advances modern technology has had on the Police Department since he became a member of the Police force. He showed us a mounted camera that most officers wear either on glasses or their shoulder. They have the ability to turn the camera on with just a touch. This should help to avoid some of the problems happening in other parts of the nation. He said that all officers on duty have to wear vests to protect themselves. He feels that before long there will be cameras as small as a button on each officer's uniform. He spoke of his time as an officer in the canine unit.

**Members Report, Earlene Jirik** – 36 members and 1 guests (our speaker Brian Desch). A Door Prize drawing for a Yankee Candle was held for members paying for a meal.

**Earlene Jirik, Publicity** – nothing is scheduled at this time.

**Secretary, Gwen Ketter** – The Chapter minutes for the March meeting were printed in the newsletter and were approved as printed.

The convention committee was working on putting together the envelopes to be handed out to those in attendance at the convention. Charlotte Pittman did a great job with the booklet. Sharon Rosenow was getting acquainted with the computer spreadsheet to check in convention delegates. 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.

**Joanne Miller, Federation Alzheimer's Chair** - Has baskets (gardening and bar-b-que). Hospitality room donations are going fine. Newsletter deadline is May 1st.

**Treasurer Bill Kastens** – **General Fund \$1,912.00, Savings \$1,199.86 and Alzheimer's \$93.00 - Total \$3,111.86. Convention account \$11,479.00.**

**Service Officer Bill Kastens** – No new calls.

**Barb McLain, 1st Vice-President and Membership** - We need to have a strategic plan of action to recruit 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** - May meeting Michelle De La Isla of Habitat for Humanity; June Meeting will be a patriotic theme with our own Dale Jirik.

**Reports:**

**Jo Burenheide** – sent sympathy card to the family of Carl Jordan and the family of Margaret Holeman. A thinking of you card was sent to Jean Duree. Get well cards were sent to Sue Wike and Bill Nyquist. 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 May 1 - 9:30 AM!**

**Next NARFE General meeting – Friday May 22 - Noon**

**KS Federation Convention - Apr 26 - 28**

**George Spotts, Alzheimer Chairperson:** 50/50 drawing 1st \$10.00 John Claussen, 2nd \$7.00 - Christine Walker and 3rd \$4.00 - Rose Claussen - all donated money back to Alzheimer's.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:30 PM.**

*Respectfully submitted, Gwendolyn Ketter*

**CHAPTER 2 CLASSIFIED ADS**

*Barb McLain, First V-P 272-3407*

**JOIN OTHER CHAPTER 2 WALKERS  
in the local Walk to End Alzheimer's  
SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH**

**First Lutheran Church, 1234 Fairlawn Road**

**9:00 Registration**

**9:45 Ceremony**

**10:15 Walk**

**SEVERAL RECRUITERS ARE NEEDED  
FOR THE MEMBERSHIP TEAM**

**Chapter 0002 Officers**

<b>President</b>	<b>Jim Miller</b>	<b>478-0651</b>
<b>1st V-P/Membership Chair</b>	<b>Barbara McLain</b>	<b>272-3407</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>Service Officer</b>	<b>Bill Kastens</b>	<b>272-2604</b>
<b>Newsletter 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>
<b>Good Cheer</b>	<b>Jo Burenheide</b>	<b>272-8971</b>
<b>Historian</b>	<b>YOUR NAME HERE</b>	
<b>NARFE PAC Chair</b>	<b>YOUR NAME HERE</b>	

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