



NARFE Chapter 0002, Topeka, KS

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



Meetings at Aldersgate Village in Wesley Hall

7220 SW Asbury Drive, Topeka, KS

IMPORTANT



**THAT YOU CALL
EARLENE JIRIK
266-5492
BY
SATURDAY,
DEC. 2ND
TO RESERVE
YOUR SEAT
FOR HOLIDAY
SOCIAL HOUR
AND LUNCH
~ OR ~
TO CANCEL A
STANDING
RESERVATION
THANK YOU**

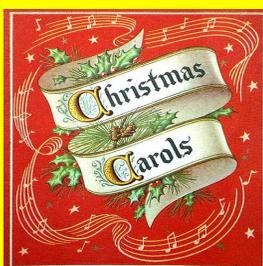
**NOTE
EARLY START
December 8th**

**11 AM
Social Hour
and
12 PM
Holiday Lunch**

**Beef Brisket
Ham
Sweet Potatoes
Green Beans
Rolls
Beverage
Yule Log**

Cost: \$12.00

**INVOCATION BY
Ron Miller**



**Sung By
Cair Paravel
Latin School**

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2017

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

THREE VACANCIES! We need some courageous members to step forward and accept the responsibility for replacing Paul and Shirley Manning who have handled the responsibilities of **mailing the printed newsletter** for several decades. Opportunity #2! **Chapter Service Officer**, a position long held by the two hat stalwart, Bill Kastens. Bill served as Chapter Treasurer AND Chapter Service Officer. He served the service officer job so well, he was chosen as the Service Officer for Region Five one year! What does a Service Officer do? Lengthy job description but does include a basic knowledge of benefits available to federal employees and retirees and be able to provide members with some information and guidance on topics of eligibility, deaths, survivor benefits. My personal thanks to Elizabeth Bornman, Shawnee Mission chapter and Federation Vice President for an information filled handout at a recent federation meeting in Wichita. With Bill Kastens forced departure, I have tried to handle inquiries. The best advice I can offer to all chapter members and should-be members, **ASK FOR A COPY OF "BE PREPARED FOR LIFE'S EVENTS"** (Form F-100), then complete it with requested information and let your family know where the booklet is! **NARFE PAC Chairperson!** Another job that fell my way and in this politically threatening year, a vital one! NARFE-PAC is our best link with members of Congress who in turn can support beneficial to us legislation and just as critical, impede harmful legislation from becoming law. Consider contributions to NARFE-PAC as retirement insurance because our retirement benefits are at risk! I look forward to seeing you and Santa Claus at our December 8—social hour begins at 11 AM, lunch at noon, followed by regular chapter meeting!



Come early and socialize at the pre-party.



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

Open Season is from November 13 through December 11, 2017, for the Health Benefits Program (FEHBP), the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP), and the Flexible Spending Account Program (FSAFEDS).

You may obtain information from the October NARFE magazine on pages 33 through 42 and in the November NARFE magazine on pages 42 through 56. More information will be in the December NARFE magazine. One may access the NARFE web site at <http://www.narfe.org/home/index.cfm>.

You may go to the NARFE Federal Benefits Institute at: <http://www.narfe.org/member/FederalBenefitsInstitute/> to access free classes available to NARFE members or sign up for a class for \$39.95 and receive a free NARFE membership for a year. **Upcoming Webinars** (All webinars start at 2 p.m. ET): **Nov. 30 -- Health Plans: Discover Your BEST Option.**

******* VIEW Now! Previously Recorded Webinars -- A NARFE Member Benefit. *******

One of the worst mistakes federal employees can make is failing to have five years of Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) coverage before retiring, and the other is if you have a spouse or family and do not have self + one, or family Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) coverage. If a federal employee dies and family members are not already covered they will not be eligible to participate in the Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) if they are not already a participant.

If you are satisfied with your current health plan, you do not need to do anything. It's quick and easy to request health benefit changes and plan information in any of the following ways.

ONLINE: <https://retirefehb.opm.gov>

PHONE: Open Season Express at 1-800-332-9798

WRITE: FEHB Open Season Processing Ctr., P. O. Box 5000, Lawrence, KS 66046-0500

For every NEW member recruited from September 1st through December 31st, the recruiter will receive \$10 AND be eligible for monthly prizes throughout the contest as well. **You will need to put your membership number and your name on the F-135 in order to receive credit for recruiting individuals.**

We will receive a 2% cost living raise for federal retirement annuities, as well as for military retiree annuities and January Social Security payments. Federal employees will appreciate the average 1.9 percent raise.

I attended NARFE – What's happening! in Wichita, KS. **The NARFE web site is going to change next year. You will be required to log in with a secure login. If you have not given NARFE your E-mail, you will need to provide them with one in order to log in. You may contact our Chapter # 2 Secretary to provide an update regarding your personal information.**

The government is funded through December 8, 2017.

You may use the NARFE legislative action center at <http://www.narfe.org/legislation/votervoic.cfm> to contact your US Legislator/US Representative. We need to send a message to our US legislators.

The Kansas Legislature is adjourned until January 8, 2018 at 2:00 PM. You may listen to the legislature and read about the bills at: <http://www.kslegislature.org/li/>. All of the bill's that were introduced this year may be brought back to the table and revisited in 2018. The Kansas Supreme Court requested that Kansas lawmakers provide a reasonable strategy for increased funding of K-12 public school districts by June 30, 2018.



Let our lives be full of
THANKS and GIVING



NARFE CHAPTER 0002 MINUTES

OCTOBER 27, 2017 - ALDERSGATE VILLAGE

Meeting called to order, welcome; invocation and prayer by Charlotte Pittman, followed by a buffet lunch. Some complications in adequate seating as 43 reserved, 53 showed up. Chapter Vice-Presidents Sharon Rosenow and Richard Wike worked with Chef Joseph to assure and ensure adequate tables, chairs, tableware were in place. The menu provided received many compliments and sufficient food was on hand.

Second Vice President, Richard Wike introduced the representatives from BC/BS-Lindsey Younger and GEHA-Crystal Randall. They gave their new information to a receptive audience including nine visitors from other chapters. Both representatives responded to questions from the audience after a reminder from Lindsey Younger to complete the BC/BS Health Assessment on the BC/BS website. The abbreviated business session started at 1:25 P.M.

Earlene Jirik gave her attendance report, 53 present plus guests who were there for only the program, and assisted by Richard Wike, drew for gifts including five drink containers from BC/BS.

Dale Jirik gave his report as Nominations Chairman and solemnly reported a vacancy in the nominations for Chapter President. The slate of nominees is comprised of the current officers for those positions and they were elected unanimously.

Ron Richey, Legislative Chairman and Membership Chairman gave a brief report and noted the handouts on membership recruitment he distributed before the meeting, on each table and members who handed out membership applications should always include THEIR membership number and name.

Joanne Miller, Federation Alzheimer's Research Co-Chair and Newsletter Co-Editor stated a relaxed deadline for articles. **Sue Wike, Chapter Alzheimer's Chair**, with Richard's assistance held the 50-50 drawing (1st prize: \$8 to Navella Richey, 2nd prize: \$7 to Jim Miller, 3rd prize \$4 to Lea Shaw). All donated their winnings to NARFE Alzheimer's Research, (*while Navella stated that hers was in memory of George Spotts.*)

Jo Sue Burenheide, Good Cheer remarked her report wasn't very good cheer. Sympathy cards sent to family of Margie DeGraw, died 9/29/2017; family of Betty Collen Cox, died 9/2/2017; family of Anellen Reiter, died 10/12/2017; Ethelyn Lambott on the death of her grandson. Ethelyn is a former chapter member who moved to Virginia to be near her family in 2016. Her daughter died shortly after the move, and now her grandson. Thank you, Jo Sue.

Old & New Business - Health Fair at the VA on Nov. 16.

Next Executive Committee meeting: Nov. 3, 9:30 a.m.
Next Chapter meeting: Dec. 8, annual holiday luncheon, installation of officers.
 Meeting adjourned at 1:38 P.M.
Respectfully submitted, James Miller, Acting Secretary

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS/ CAREGIVERS MONTH

Consider using the Alzheimer's Semipostal fundraising stamp on your holiday mail. Dedication is set for November 30th and the stamp will be available soon after that date. The 60 cent price includes the first-class single-piece postage rate in effect at the time of purchase plus an amount to fund Alzheimer's Research. There are currently two other semipostal stamps — Breast Cancer Research ~AND~ Save Vanishing Species. —*Joanne Miller*



Thanks to all who put money in the "Your Change for Alzheimer's" bags at our October meeting. It added up to \$38. Also a great big thank to Marcello Tinoco for this creative idea for giving \$\$ to NARFE Alzheimer's Research. If anyone else has an idea for helping in the fight against this disease, please let me know. —*Sue Wike*



Bring any end of year contributions to our December meeting payable to NARFE ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH. Perhaps you want to remember a loved one with a memorial at this holiday season.

WE THANK YOU

Chapter 0002 Officers

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|----------|
| President | Jim Miller | 478-0651 |
| 1st Vice President | Sharon Rosenow | 640-7317 |
| 2nd Vice President | Richard Wike | 783-8122 |
| Secretary | Gwendolyn Ketter | 220-7196 |
| Treasurer | Ron Miller | 554-5313 |
| Member-At-Large | Mary Harms | 249-0511 |
| Member-At-Large | Barbara McLain | 272-3407 |

Other Contacts

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Service Officer | Vacant | |
| Newsletter Editors | Joanne & Ron Miller | 271-8117 |
| Alzheimer Chair | Sue Wike | 783-8122 |
| Publicity | Earlene Jirik | 266-5492 |
| Good Cheer | Jo Burenheide | 272-8971 |
| Legislative/Membership | Ron Richey | 234-4172 |
| PAC Chair | Vacant | |

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 TOPEKA, KANSAS
 PERMIT NO. 525

National Active & Retired
 Federal Employees Association
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 Topeka, KS 66614-2497