



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



**BY SAT.,
OCT. 21ST
CALL
EARLENE
JIRIK
266-5492
FOR YOUR
FRIDAY
OCT. 28th
RESERVED
MEAL TICKET**

**N-O-T-E-S:
THE SAME DATE
APPLIES SHOULD
YOU NEED TO
CANCEL.**

N-E-W

**WHATEVER THE
REASON YOU
ARE NOT ABLE
TO DINE WITH
THE GROUP,
WE 'LL HAVE
SEPARATE
SEATING FOR
YOU AT 12:30
THANK YOU**

TIME: Noon

**Pot Roast
with Gravy
and Roasted
Potatoes
Carrots
Roll
Beverage
Cake**

Cost: \$9.00

INVOCATION BY

Judy Hower



OCTOBER 2016

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

There is a first time for everything and Y-O-U-R NARFE Chapter was well represented at the 2016 SENIOR FAIR, September 21 at the Shawnee County Public Library. Joanne Miller, Richard Wike, Barbara McLain, Ron Richey and Jim Miller were on hand to explain NARFEA (*the A, as Richard explained was for Association*), what we do and what we support. Joanne displayed the NARFE Alzheimer's Research poster that started many conversations. Richard visited with other vendors and recruited potential programs for future chapter meetings; Ron visited with other vendors and delivered membership information and applications to at least two eligible members. Will we gain new members? Participants at the fair gave their opinions during the September 30 Executive Committee meeting and all agreed the time was well spent, as hundreds of people came by the table with sheets to sign (Barbara, Richard and everyone almost had writers cramp!)

The October chapter meeting will feature Dale Jirik, "tireless" Chapter Nominating Chairman. He hopes to provide a full slate of qualified candidates for 2017, as October is our chapter elections as well as learning from our guest insurance representatives from Blue Cross/Blue Shield and GEHA. Health issues cloud the potential candidates pool, so as of today,

- (1) if you care about the future of NARFE and the future of our chapter
- (2) if you have ever considered running for chapter office, call Dale Jirik (266-5492) and discuss the duties of any office that interests you!

We elect in October, no meeting in November as we combine November/December for our Christmas luncheon December 9 and installation of officers. We will discuss having a reception prior to the lunch on December 9. I look forward to seeing you at the chapter meeting on October 28!

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

N-O-T-E: Important Dates for the General Election

- Tuesday, October 18 - Deadline to register to vote**
- Wednesday, October 19 - Advance voting by mail begins**
- Monday, October 24 - Advance voting in person begins**
- Friday, November 4 - Deadline to request absentee ballot be mailed**
- Monday, November 7 - Advance voting in person ends @ noon**
- V-O-T-E Tuesday, November 8 - 2016 General Election V-O-T-E**

In the October NARFE magazine on pages 29 through 40 is the results of how Kansans voted in the 114th Congress and on the NARFE website.

The US Senate passed a continuing resolution Wednesday, September 28th. The US Senate approved the bill on a final vote, 72-26 and with a US House vote Wednesday night, Congress passed a continuing resolution that will fund federal agencies until December 9th and avoid a government shutdown. The US House voted 342-85 to pass a "clean" funding bill, then the bill heads to the White House for President Barack Obama and he signs it into law.

The Cost of Living stands at 0.28 percent. The Consumer Price Index for September 2016 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, October 18, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. (EDT).

A small COLA could have significant implications for those who pay their Medicare Part B premiums from something other than their Social Security benefits, such as their Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) annuities. Please send an action letter to your member of Congress alerting them to this possibility and ask them to prevent a sharp increase in your Medicare premiums simply because you are not "held harmless." More information is in your October NARFE magazine on page 8.

The Kansas State Legislature is scheduled to return on January 10, 2017, at 2:00 PM unless the court directs them to pay more money to the schools.

On average, participants in the Federal Employee Health Benefit Program will pay 4.4 percent more on their premiums in 2017. **The Office of Personnel Management announced the rate changes ahead of the 2016 open season, which runs November 14th through December 12th.** You can read more on page 52 of your October NARFE magazine. We will have more information at our NARFE meeting on October 28th with guest speakers from Blue Cross and Blue Shield and GEHA.

**NARFE CHAPTER 0002 MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 23, 2016 - ALDERSGATE VILLAGE**

The noon meeting was called to order by **President Jim Miller**.

Welcome/Invocation was given by **Mary Harms** followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A meal was offered for \$9.00.

Program, Meghan Lowry, Assistant Attorney General, Consumer Protection - She spoke on some of the fraud issues facing us all today. She spoke on issues such as fraudulent phone calls from the IRS, grandchildren, relatives, etc. Make sure you do not give out any of your identification information over the phone. If they are a legitimate business, they will allow you to call them back at a number you can look up on a billing statement. Legitimate billings can be sent by mail, if they tell you they can't send you out a copy of the billing statement don't believe them. If you have any issues with consumer protection call Meghan's office and they will assist you.

Consumer Protection Hotline - 1-800-432-2310.

Members Report, Earlene Jirik - 35 members and one guest, our speaker, were in attendance. Door prizes were given away -- a salad caddy and two tickets to the Kansas City Renaissance Festival.

Secretary, Gwen Ketter - The Chapter minutes for the July meeting were printed in the newsletter. A huge Thank You!! to Joanne Miller for her assistance in the medical absence of Secretary Gwen. Gwen reported on the National Convention in Reno the end of August. This year's convention saw the one member one vote will work. Gwen brought back some sample items from vendors at National Convention, which she gave out as prizes.

Treasurer, Bill Kastens - In Bill's absence as he is still recovering Jim gave his report. BOH \$3,262.45.

Dale Jirik, Nominations Committee Chair - Nominating committee is Dale, Jo Burenheide and Bill Kastens. They will be contacting members to seek officers for the 2017 year. If you are interested in holding an office, please let them know. Elections take place at our October meeting.

Joanne Miller, Federation Alzheimer's Chair/Newsletter Editor - Shared that to date we were the #5 NARFE team across the country in the Walk to End Alzheimer's with

\$409 (now #19). We had a committee of members who worked at the Senior Fair at the Topeka Public Library. We gave out info about our organization and received information from other sources in town for possible meeting speakers.

First Vice-President, Barb McLain - Senior Fair participants - Jim Miller, Joanne Miller, Richard Wike, Ron Richey, Barb McLain.

Second Vice-President, Richard Wike - Next meeting will be BCBS and GEHA. December will be our annual Christmas party on Friday December 9, 2016.

Reports:

Jo Burenheide, Good Cheer - Get Well to Bill Kastens. Sympathy card was sent to the family of William Otto Oscar Albrecht. Remember to let Jo know if you find out any information about members.

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

Ron and Joanne Miller, Newsletter - Deadline is Saturday, October 1, 2016.

New Business - None.

Next Executive Board Meeting - 9:30 AM on Friday, September 30, 2016.

Next NARFE General Meeting - Noon on Friday, October 28, 2016.

Sue Wike, Chapter Alzheimer's Chair - Sue is still collecting Best Choice labels. We will have eight members representing NARFE at the KC RenFest this Saturday. 50/50 drawing 1st \$7.00 Richard Wike, 2nd \$6.00 Joanne Miller, 3rd \$4.00 Leah Hefner - all donated money back to Alzheimer's.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30

Respectfully submitted, Gwendolyn Ketter



Chapter 0002 Officers

President	Jim Miller	478-0651
1st Vice President	Barbara McLain	272-3407
2nd Vice President	Richard Wike	783-8122
Secretary	Gwendolyn Ketter	220-7196
Treasurer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Member-At-Large	Mary Harms	249-0511
Member-At-Large	Sharon Rosenow	640-7317

Other Contacts

Service Officer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Newsletter Editors	Joanne & Ron Miller	271-8117
Alzheimer Chair	Sue Wike	783-8122
Publicity	Earlene Jirik	266-5492
Good Cheer	Jo Burenheide	272-8971
Historian	Your name is needed here!	
PAC Chair	Your name is needed here!	

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US PAID POSTAGE
TOPEKA, KANSAS
PERMIT NO. 525

National Active & Retired
Federal Employees Association
2632-b SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66614-2497