



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

SEPTEMBER 2016

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

September opens with a bang! A big bang, courtesy of our Fracking Friends in Oklahoma! Could be much worse as we could be cleaning up in Pawnee, OK! Gwen Ketter returns from the National NARFE Convention in Reno, NV...I return from New Orleans from my last NAPUS convention.

We will have updates on political goings on in D.C., and you are already aware of the political landscape in Kansas! Your chapter officers and committee chairs will meet Friday, September 9 at ALDERSGATE Village, without Bill Kastens, chapter Treasurer and Ron Miller, chapter newsletter co-editor convalescing. 'Tis the season to support the medical field!

Another giant of NARFE has passed. George Spotts, NARFE Alzheimer's Research Chair with wife Flora has led this important effort. Sue Wike, wife of VP Richard Wike, our Program Chairman and sometimes Santa Claus picked up the ball when George had to drop it due to health reasons, and is doing very well!

The Executive Committee will meet, discuss chapter meetings and menus, membership efforts and other agenda items brought up by the members. If you have an item of importance to the welfare of our chapter and members, please let any of us know.

We still need a NARFE PAC Chair and a Historian. I will be pleased to discuss either of those offices with any member who has interest. Our last Historian was Betty Born, now living in an Assisted Living facility in Lawrence. I delivered birthday cards to Betty and was rewarded by her daughter Shelley with a "fresh "WOMEN OF NARFE" calendar plus about 66 pounds of NARFE history and material. I hauled that to my small one bedroom, one bath apartment, stacked it in a corner and packed for New Orleans! It didn't move while I was gone.

Hope to see you September 23rd (fourth Friday)! Remember September is a FIVE Friday month, so get those reservations in to Earlene Jirik by mid-month! That is important because my telephone service is having problems.

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

In August I visited with the staff of Senator Pat Roberts; staff of Congresswoman Lynn Jenkins and her Job Fair; and the Town Hall meeting of Senator Jerry Moran.

The US Senate and the US House summer recess ends September 6th. Before adjourning for the recess, postal reform was voted out of committee in the House of Representatives and the Windfall Elimination Provision reform hit a stumbling block. They'll continue to debate these issues, as well as the issue of funding to keep the federal government open past September 30th.

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.

The Cost of Living stands at 0.23 percent. The Consumer Price Index for August 2016 is scheduled to be released on Friday, September 16 at 8:30 AM (EDT).

I attended a meeting on National Parks and Trails at the Great Overland Station. The National Parks and Recreation Department is celebrating their 100th birthday this year. The Kansas Parks and Recreation Department will have a free day on October 1st at the State Parks.

N-O-T-E: Important 2016 Election Dates and Deadlines

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

Tuesday, November 8 - General Election

Let your recruiting successes equate to cash during NARFE's 2016 Membership Drive, September 1 -December 31. Recruiters will receive \$10 for each new member, current or retired, who joins during the drive. **(Applications must be postmarked, and calls or website joins must be received, by the December 31 deadline.)** Recruiters also will be entered into monthly prize drawings for Amazon.com gift cards and will be eligible for the Grand Prize of an Apple iPad Air 2. **Be sure and pick up membership packets at the September meeting.**

For the first time in 12 years, the Office of Personnel Management will hold an open season for eligible employees to sign up or choose from several types of coverage options under the Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program. The open season runs from September 1 through September 30.



**BY
SATURDAY,
SEPT. 17th
CALL
EARLENE
JIRIK
266-5492
FOR YOUR
4th FRIDAY
SEPT. 23rd
RESERVED
MEAL TICKET**

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

**TIME: Noon
Baked Chicken
Rice/Rice Pilaf
Gravy
Corn
Beverage
Pie Variety**

Cost: \$9.00

**INVOCATION BY
Mary Harms**

**MEGHAN
LOWRY
Asst. Attorney
General on
Consumer
Protection**



**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST 9:30 AM – 12 PM
SENIOR INFORMATION FAIR (at the Library)**

Opportunity to get connected with 40+ local vendors to help YOU live your best senior life. One attendee will be drawn to receive a gift certificate to the Library Booktique by visiting all vendors—including NARFE!

**NARFE CHAPTER 0002 MINUTES
AUGUST 26, 2016 - ALDRSGATE VILLAGE**

The meeting was called to order by **First Vice-President Barbara McLain**, in the absence of President Jim Miller, who is attending the NAPUS Convention in New Orleans, LA. Barbara also gave the Welcome and Invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A delicious “indoor” picnic meal was offered for \$9.00 and special thanks to Richard and Sue Wike for bringing ice cream for the cobbler. Congratulatory sentiments were given to Dale and Earlene Jirik on their upcoming 68 wedding anniversary on August 31st.

Members Report, Earlene Jirik – 29 were in attendance (and this was the actual number of reservations called in). Two door prizes were awarded – tea towels were won by Ron Miller and a candy jar with Snicker bars was won by Leah Shaw. Barbara extended a warm welcome to Bethel Davidson, daughter of Flora Spotts and expressed heartfelt wishes to the family.

Secretary, Gwen Ketter – Excused due to her representing chapter at the National NARFE Convention in Reno, NV.

Treasurer, Bill Kastens – Our account is in the black. Bill excused due to rehab on the hill following hospitalization for breaking his pelvis in two places. The Health Resort of Topeka, 6300 SW 6th Street (ROOM 150), Topeka, KS 66615. Bill’s direct phone number is 581-7104.

Federation Alzheimer's Chair/Newsletter Editor, Joanne Miller – Shared info about long-jumper from Arkansas, Jeffery Henderson, who delivered on his promise to bring home a gold medal from Rio for his mother, who has early-onset Alzheimers. September 2 is newsletter deadline date.

First Vice-President Barbara McLain – No report.

Second Vice-President, Richard Wike – September we

have Meghan Lowry, Asst. Attorney General and in October reps from Blue Cross/Blue Shield and GEHA will give the 2017 overview of changes/costs to expect.

REPORTS:

Jo Burenheide, Good Cheer – Sympathy cards were sent to the family of George Spotts, who died July 31st and to Carol Brosa on the death of her brother. Remember to keep Jo informed of any member in need of a ray of sunshine.

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

New Business – Joanne Miller gave an overview of the Library’s Senior Information Fair to be held morning of September 21st in the Auditorium, rotunda, and teen rooms on main level. The chapter will have a table along with 40 local vendors in many fields (housing, finance, legal, medical, leisure, care and services) on services for seniors.

Next Executive Board Mtg. – Friday, September 9

Next NARFE General Mtg. – Friday, September 23

Sue Wike, Chapter Alzheimer’s Chair – Sue is still collecting Best Choice labels (need 95 more to make 1,000). Please bring any you have to the September and October meetings. Sue did one more pitch for getting workers for a five-hour shift at RenFest in Bonner Springs on September 24th and October 10th. 50/50 drawing: 1st \$5.00 - Dolores Engel, 2nd \$4.00 - Ann Look, and 3rd \$3.00 – Bill Miller - all winners donated the money back to Alzheimer's.

Joanne Miller, Federation Alzheimer’s Chair had five teams play a creative-thinking game of “NARFE” Scattergories. Every table had the same list of items but the head table had to name their objects beginning with the letter F, while the other four tables were assigned the letter N, A, R, or E. Reward for “challenging their brain” was a small piece of chocolate candy.

Meeting Adjourned (without a funny joke, as Barbara couldn’t remember the joke Jim verbally gave her to use in his absence).

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Miller, Recording Secretary Protempore

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	Position open until filled!	
PAC Chair	Position open until filled!	

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