

# NARFE

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOC

## Chapter 0002, Topeka, Kansas

### September Newsletter

#### Executive Committee:

President	Jim Miller	478-0651
1st Vice President	Gale Devore	273-0526
2nd Vice President	Richard Wike	783-8122
Secretary	Gwendolyn Ketter	272-2658
Treasurer	Sherry Potter	272-4564
Member-at-Large	Maynard Cox	478-0015
Member-at-Large	Paul Manning	272-6208

#### Other Contacts:

Good Cheer	Helen Price	478-9602
Membership Chair	Gale Devore	273-0526
Service Officer	Bill Kastens	272-2604
Editor	Maynard Cox	478-0015

**Where:** Aldersgate Village, 7220 SW Asbury Drive  
**When:** Friday, September 24, 2010; 12:00 Noon **\$9.00**  
**Menu:** Cole Slaw, Fried Catfish, Pot roast with Natural Juices, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable Medley, Carrot Cake, Rolls, Butter, Beverages  
**Program:** Bill and Monica - Report on results from the National Convention which they attended

#### Reminder: Road Problems on 29<sup>th</sup> Street still exist.

#### Jim Miller - President

The recent NARFE national convention covered a wide range of issues. I'm going to concentrate on just two ! First, as a NARFE member, pat your purse or billfold because, thanks to NARFE and Chapter 0002, we held onto the KS state income tax exemption. For a personal touch, if you have never calculated that savings, take a break and do it now. ) Still patting that purse / billfold, because thanks to efforts of our national office and support from some states, the amendment to CUT our retirement and or health benefits by \$ ten billion was defeated. On the national level, NARFE worked diligently to support current federal workers ( and we trust, soon to be NARFE members, if they aren't ! )

The not-so-good news is, not only are those threats NOT going away, predictions are they will increase in intensity, after the November 2 elections. How many members of Congress will be voted out of office ? How many " lame ducks " will support last minute legislation to cut federal benefits ? How many new members of Congress will take office, believing the editorials and articles bemoaning the " lavish " ( their description, folks, not mine ! ) benefits of federal retirees and federal workers and consider major cuts ? The legislative outlook for the state of Kansas and federal retirees isn't rosy either. Which leads to....

NARFE voted at national convention, to increase national dues, effective January 1, 2011. \$ 45.00 for first time members, \$40.00 a year thereafter. Dues withholding will be \$ 34.00 a year, national dues only. Your

chapter has delayed proposing a dues increase waiting for the decision of national, If so many of you had not pitched in and helped so well to staff and support the recent state convention, we wouldn't have enough cash on hand to pay expenses. Not a good position to be in ! The executive committee met on September 9 to discuss the new national dues and how much we should propose to our membership, to cover chapter expenses. The decision was made to " float " some of the proposals in the newsletter to provide food for thought. Bear in mind, please, that without a strong national NARFE, a strong Kansas Federation, and a strong Chapter 0002, we won't have a strong voice, the ONLY voice, speaking for us in Washington, D.C. ! We won't have the presence at the Kansas State House, and we won't have the training provided by the Federation. Our chapter dues are \$ 8.40 a year, and as noted, that doesn't cover expenses. Dues increases discussed were : raise to \$ 18.00 a year, rational that would cover chapter expenses for several years. \$ 15.00 a year, rational- enough to get by; \$ 11.00 a year. Much smaller increase but the combined national and chapter dues would be \$ 4.25 a month. Dues withholding would be \$ 3.75 a month. We want to know what YOU think, and the next meeting on September 24th will be a good time to ask your questions.

#### Gale DeVore - First Vice President

It is time for us to pay more attention to the NARFE organization. Until this economic situation is over; we must maintain our vigilance more than ever. Congress will be looking for all areas to obtain funds. Many people do not realize that we contributed to our retirement fund.

I would also strongly recommend the automatic withholding to pay your NARFE dues. It is a small monthly payment and painless.

#### 1. Gwendolyn Ketter - Secretary

NARFE Chapter 02, Minutes of August 27, 2010 Chapter meeting , Aldersgate Village

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

The invocation was given by Les Beguelin followed by the flag salute.

A picnic dinner was served for \$9.00.

**Flo Biehl**, Federation Area I Vice President - Flo spoke about election of officers and resolutions at National Convention. She reminded us that the Dues referendum will occur. We as a chapter, as well as the State Federation, are in support of the dues increase. She wanted to remind us of the importance of keeping our friends, families and legislators informed about our rights to our earned benefits. Flo also reminded us to utilize the 'Be Prepared for Life's Benefits' brochure. Make sure to get one and fill it out. Your heirs will be very grateful for your diligence.

**Paul Manning** reported fifty members and one guest for a total of 51 in attendance.

**Gwen Ketter**, Secretary -No Correction to the minutes reported in the Newsletter -approved as printed.

**Sherry Potter**, Treasurer July 22<sup>nd</sup> -Aug 26<sup>th</sup> - \$3,182.67 in Regular Account, \$1,087.18 in Life Account and \$167.23 in Alzheimer Account.

General Fund -

Income received - Dues \$166.80,

Lunch \$423.00, Core First Int \$ .12,  
Ways and Means Tickets \$ 22.00 ,  
Convention Proceeds \$2,361.22-  
Total Income \$2973.14  
Expenses paid -Newsletter printing  
\$46.75 August 50/50 prizes \$22.00,  
Aldersgate food service \$432.00,  
Alzheimer Chairman's postage \$4.06 -  
Total \$504.81  
Alzheimer Account -  
Income -50/50 \$ 39.60 Balance \$167.23

**Gale DeVore**, First Vice-President gave an endorsement on dues withholding for NARFE dues. Remember that we earned our retirement income it was not just given to us.

**Richard Wike**, Second Vice-President -Not in attendance.  
September program will be **Bill and Monica Kastens** with their National Convention report.

November meeting will be a candidate forum.

**Maynard Cox**, Newsletter - There has been some problem with people not getting their emailed copies of the newsletter. There are extra ones available at the meeting. Please make sure you let us know of any email address changes, so we can make sure you receive your information. We are looking for a new newsletter editor. If interested, let Maynard or Nominating committee know.

**Ron Neis**, Legislative - Talking points for NARFE - You paid 7% of your monies you made during your career, CIVIL Service Retirement is the most solvent system around. Retirement is not welfare, you earned your retirement. You may have paid into Social Security during your career and you pay 9% in tax for that benefit. As a Federal Retiree they can take up to 50% of your benefits away from you.

**Helen Louise Price**, Good Cheer - Sent a sympathy card to the families of Catherine Werner, Otto Dienstbier, Jack Swenson, Helen Hengelfelt and Lula Sharpe. Sympathy cards were also sent to Isadore Appelhanz on the death of his brother and Ann Navarre on the death of her brother. She also wanted to request that anyone who knows of illnesses in our membership to please let her know. Her number is 785-478-9602

**Dale Jirik**, Nominating Committee Chair - Asking for anyone interested in running for

an office to let them know. First VP is going to be open next year.

**Earlene Jirik**, Publicity - Handed out some name tags  
**Jim** - Institutions that are anti government, anti government employee have a lot of bucks to put into the election procedures. Make sure your voice is heard.  
**Gwen Ketter** - Gave out some door prizes

**George Spotts**, Alzheimer chairperson

The 50/50 drawing awarded \$13.50 to Jim Miller; \$8.10 to Delores Engel and \$5.40 to Ann Look.

Next Executive meeting - September 9, 2010.

Next NARFE General meeting - September 24, 2010.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gwendolyn Ketter, Secretary

## Ron Neis - Legislative Chair

One of the items that was decided at the September Executive Committee meeting was that formal invitations would be sent to different politicians to speak and answer questions at the October luncheon. We hope to receive back enough "yes" responses that will represent both federal and state government issues. We will report the results of our invitations in the October newsletter and list any "yes" responses received up and until press time. However more could come in after press time and show up at the luncheon. Plan to attend as it could be one of the most interesting meetings all year. Be sure and call your reservation into Jim Miller (478-0651) or Paul Manning (272-6208).

I might add that in my opinion the food has been nothing short of excellent since a change in the food service management at Aldersgate.

I hope to see you there!!!

## Helen Price - Good Cheer Chair

Sympathy cards were sent to the family of Robert Morrissey who died September 3 and to Marjorie Roy whose brother died on September 8.

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