



NARFE May Newsletter 2016

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MY notes from Federation Convention 2016 at Salina, Ks. April 24-26, 2016.

Carol Ek presented a talk about how to use the internet to find anything we need instead of a phone call.... Only President, Secretary, Treasurer and VP can have access to info.

You will find 112 monthly, select your chapter, put you name in and fill out questions and ask for whatever you want to get info--- update 112- F-7, change names of members if necessary—Activity reports..F-9 to change members info....Members themselves are the only one that can change some info—you can check on forms every month

Collection for NARFE PAC is over \$17,000 so far. Kansas is third St. in nation right now for collection.

A presentation from Sarah Wiseman was presented to us. Maintaining our current benefits are considered a victory. Having Postal Reforms –Promise to hold medicare and other provisions of our benefits are on the horizon... possible cuts for Fed. Pay--- pd. Parental leave??—5 yrs. They have worked on this....They want to hear from us—the members of NARFE... now is the time to talk to your congressperson.. Must make our issues known to them—now!! Election year is the time to do this...

How can NARFE be effective.. local contact is best. Silence is acceptance on what they decide to do NOW!! Waiting until the leg. is introduced is too late!! NARFE PAC 2015-16 goal is \$1,000,000. Have \$525,000 now. The list of what is given and donations are found in the magazine. Jim Miller asked.. what will be the response to NARFE asking and their support.. answer was to young people – perhaps to work for the gov. an honor to work for the gov....the problem is that it does not pay enough to live on... The presentation was not loud enough and clear to hear all of it ... I ask carol to send me a copy of it.. will see if that happensI will try to get it from someone. At each meeting the former Presidents of our Federation was recognized. Jim Dodd, Jim Miller and Carol Ek were always present. John Orada gave the report on number present, the final being 26 DAL, 60 DEL, 43 Alt/Visitors and 4 proxies from the representation of 28 chapt. The rules were read and accepted, and Doris Ericson won one of OUR door prizes in one of the drawings & Elizabeth also won something. Carol Ek spoke about the decline of membership and attendance at meetings and what can be done about it. Chapters are closing or joining a neighboring one and some are just paying their bills and not meeting or joining another one but keeping the chapter as such. 1st VP Elizabeth Bornman gave praise for our officers in Kansas and told of her and her husbands plans on attending the National Convention and upcoming events. She also told about webinars now and how important they are to give instruction via internet to walk you thru problems you might have and how to find information useful to everyone. Report on what the live auction took in Sunday night was \$2,181.50—I think!! And a different approach was used this yr. on silent auction. When the item was brought in a paper was filled out to what the bid had to start at was \$5.00 and at the bottom of the pg.

they wrote what they thought the item should bring and they were put on long tables in adjourning room. If you found something you wanted you could buy it right then at the price they put on the ticket sold and put your name on it and either pick it up or leave it to take later so no one else had the privilege to raise the bid and most of the time the item was gone anyway.—so first come, first one to get it.

Carol Ek praised the work our President Thissen is doing with everything. We have the best building for our headquarters in Alexandria, Va. Decreasing the 12 VPs to 5 VPs would mean decreasing visits to St. Conventions. A resolution to take some decisions away from Regular Board and put them in the hands of the members would help and this yr. more decisions will be made by delegates. Sounds a lot like the business at hand on election isn't it....We will be considering a 10% increase on dues of members only to be used IF necessary. If you do not belong to a chapter you may not vote--- 1 member 1 vote.. optional membership?? Belong to E NARFE or be a regular member... will NARFE disappear if we do not maintain membership and work at the organization. Will this benefit you by not having to attend.. will your check disappear.. Dues pays for retirement, insurance benefits, mailing labels, answering questions to our benefit and understanding and not ALL have a computer. Do you want term limits on officers.... Do you enjoy discounts on hotels, car rentals, airfare? Insurance rates and benefits?? Next years convention will be held at Hutchinson April 23 thru 25, 2017. No locality was established for the following year and decided to allow the board to pick the site for 2018 in Kansas. All Area VPs were elected and installed for next yr. Sylvia Reipen does remain our Area VP as no one stepped up to do it. Cpt. 2098 gave \$8.85/member for Alz. This year. Topeka chapter gave the most/per member . Elizabeth took down many figures and she can hear better than I do so perhaps her figures might not be the same as mine. I will let her and Darrell add all the important things to this so you better come to the meeting!!!! These things were only high lights as I quickly made notes. Please try to come to the next meeting... Charlotte Bousman made bowl warmers and potatoe bags to use in the microwave and Rita Hughes sent hand crocheted scarfs, Darrell sent some very delisous peanut brittle and I sent 6 jars of peanut clusters. I am sorry to say I do not know what any of them brought but am hoping our total will be sent to us when she has time to compile all of it.

Last month Mark Peters sowed a delightful group of pictures of their trip to Europe. It was very interesting and we are all ready to go with him on his next trip. He is going to continue with his pictures this month at First Lutheran church so you can get in on some of his trip. They were all very interesting and I am sure you will enjoy them.

...The NEXT meeting will be held at First Lutheran Church in Paola on May 10 at 6 p.m. Hope you all can attend.