

THE BISON



Buffalo Bill Chapter 27

July-August 2013

Issue 3

From the President:

Mrs. Betty Payne, please accept my apology for information that was given out at our June meeting that you had passed away. It was definitely a case of mistaken identity with someone with a similar name. I look forward to meeting you at our Annual Picnic.

After a survey and discussion to change our regular meeting time, the Executive Board made a decision to keep it just as it stands now. We have refreshments and drinks prior to the meeting which starts promptly at 1:30 pm. We do not have an intermission and I am pleased to tell you that even with guest speakers, our last two meetings adjourned at around 2:15 pm. Bill and I are there early, so get to the meeting early, pick out a book (monies go to NARFE Alzheimer's Research), get a goodie and a cup of coffee or cold drink, and visit with your friends or meet a new one. Remember there is no meeting in July, with our next meeting being our Annual Picnic on 1 August at 6:00 pm. at The Heritage Center.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the picnic.

Boni Lages
913 683-2222
boniwoody@gmail.com

From the 1st VP—Membership

Well, summer has arrived and NARFE has designed the new Membership Brochure to serve as a one-stop recruitment and prospecting tool. It explains NARFE's role as both the legislative voice and information resource for the

ANNUAL PICNIC

When: Thursday, August 1, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
Doors open at **5:15 p.m.**

Where: Heritage Center, 109 Delaware

Cost: \$12.00 for Members & Guests

MENU

Fried Chicken
Assorted Salads
Desserts
Hot Rolls and Butter
Coffee and Iced Tea

Note: There is a ramp that makes the Heritage Center handicap-accessible. Also, plenty of free parking.

Chances for door prizes will be sold for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. One prize per person.

NO ONE WILL BE ADMITTED WITHOUT A RESERVATION!!! SIGN UP NOW!!!

Reservations: Eileen Sturgis
538 McDonald Rd.,
Leavenworth, KS 66048

For more information, phone: 682-5847.

Cut-off Date: July 25, 2013

Reservations are made when check or cash is submitted. If check is made out to NARFE, it will be cashed AFTER the dinner; if made out to Eileen Sturgis, it will be cashed right away, so you will receive your cancelled check faster.

Please include, on a separate piece of paper, the name(s) of member(s) and guest(s). Also indicate that check is for Annual Picnic.

Thank You!!! See you there!! Eileen Sturgis

federal community, outlines the benefits of membership and who can join, and presents the Association's recent legislative accomplishments. I will have some of these available at our next NARFE meeting for you to use in getting new members.

Also, since summer is here, we have other things to do than work on NARFE membership. I took a four day trip and then an eight day trip and of course during that time, I didn't do anything for NARFE membership. I need your help to contact members who have received a second



notice to pay their membership renewal fees and those that have been dropped from NARFE because they have not paid their renewal fees.

At the meeting with membership personnel from other chapters at the NARFE convention, I found that other membership committees call the members mentioned in the previous paragraph, rather than send them letters, which is what I have done in the past. As it was pointed out to me, it is a lot easier to ignore a letter than it is to ignore a phone call . . . especially if it is coming from someone you know.

If you would be interested and willing to help me contact people, please let me know and I'll share information with you. Everyone is part of the membership committee when it comes to getting new members. Thanks for your help.

Fran Gast

From the 2nd VP—Programs

July—No Meeting

Aug.1st—Annual picnic, see pg. 1 for details.

Sept.5th—Susie Bradford, Hospice

Oct. 3rd—TBA

Nov. 7th—Fall Festival, the Power & Life Choir from Leavenworth Sr. High will be performing.

Billie Oertel

From the Legislative Chair:

Unfortunately there is not much positive to report on regarding legislative action the past few months.

Sequestration has started, stalled and been implemented very inconsistently and probably unfairly. It didn't take long to prove that all agencies can't quickly adjust to a 5% reduction in funding. The public simply will not accept a cut in services from the FAA, law enforcement, Veteran's services, food safety, etc. Obviously straight across the board equal cuts in funding will not effectively work.

I am afraid that an unfavorable change in how COLA's are computed will happen. The president has proposed, and has support in both political

Officers for 2013

President: Boni Lages

1st VP—Membership: Fran Gast

2nd VP—Programs: Billie Oertel

3rd VP—Service Officer: John Leavitt

Treasurer: Ross Perkins

Legislative Chair: Wayne Stalnaker

Sunshine Chair: Marilyn Murray

Alzheimer's Chair: Helen Stewart

parties to change computations to what is called a "Chained CPI", Cost Price Index. This takes in an added consideration that consumers substitute one product for another as product prices change. Hardly a reasonable means of maintaining a stable standard of living.

Repeal of the GPO and WEP has again been introduced in both the House and Senate. Both are measures that unfairly penalize many federal, state, county and city employees. Neither have gained any traction in the past and probably won't this session either.

Another bit of information I find a bit scary is a rumor of removing active federal employees from the (FEHBP). They would then be forced to buy their health coverage through a state health insurance exchange as established by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). If that happens, I am sure we all will soon be in the same leaky boat.

Join NARFE, Support NARFE, Be active in NARFE.

Wayne Stalnaker

From Sunshine Chair:

If you know of members who are hospitalized or ill at home let me know and I will send cards. We would also like to recognize wedding anniversaries and need your help by furnishing us with that information. Please call me at 351-3386. Thank you.

Get Well cards were sent to Lelia Alexander, Betty Phillips and Eileen Sturgis.

Marilyn Murray



IN MEMORIAM

Members

Louis E. Aull
Jean Marie Cooney
Eugene Duffin
Albert Hanson
Robert Keller
Mildred Lyons
Shirley Mitchell
Eddie Joe Powell
Elmer Rush

Family Members

Charles Heintzelman, son of Betty Heintzelman
Regina Knudson, daug. of Wesley MacGinnis, Sr.
and sister of Wesley MacGinnis, Jr.
Norma Walker, wife of Donald Walker

From the Alzheimer's Chair:

Since I didn't have the results of our Alzheimer's Disease Research contributions before our last newsletter was published, I want to share with you the results from the State Convention held the end of April. Our Chapter contributed a total of \$2,770.09 during 2012 and received a Citation in recognition of outstanding contributions of \$7.51 per member. The State goal is \$5.50 per member. Also, our Chapter donated items for both the oral and silent auctions at the Convention and received \$952.00 for our donations. Thanks to all who made this possible.

The following is a continuation of "2013 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures" from the last *Bison*.

Alzheimer's disease affects people in different ways. The following are common symptoms of Alzheimer's:

- Memory loss that disrupts daily life.
- Challenges in planning or solving problems.
- Difficulty completing familiar tasks at home, work or leisure.
- Confusion with time or place.
- Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships.
- New problems with words in speaking or writing.

- Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps.
- Decreased or poor judgment.
- Withdrawal from work or social activities.
- Changes in mood and personality.

Helen Stewart

FYI

The NARFE Legislative Department is collecting \$48,000 worth of coupons for a media push on the Chained CPI in September. To help us reach our goal, we are asking NARFE members to please send us any unused [grocery] coupons.

Under the Chained CPI, the average retired federal worker would lose \$48,000 after 25 years. To help show lawmakers that the Chained CPI is not simply a "technical adjustment," we are collecting \$48,000 worth of coupons and planning a media campaign showcasing our collection of coupons. *(continued on pg. 4)*

LEGISLATORS' Topeka Address / Phone:

Federal: Sen Jerry Moran, PO Box 1154, 23600 College Blvd Suite 201, Olathe, KS 66061, (913) 393-0711, www.moran.senate.gov.

Sen. Pat Roberts, 444 SE Quincy, Rm 392, 66683, (785) 295-2745, www.roberts.senate.gov.

Rep. Lynn Jenkins, R-2nd Dist., 3550 SW Fifth St., 66601, (785) 234-5966.

NARFE member toll free line to Congress members: 1-866-220-0044, www.lj@mail.house.gov

Kansas State (by Dist. at Statehouse, Topeka 66612, telephone (785) 296 + ext.):

Sen. Tom Holland, D-3rd, 181 East, ext. 7372, tom.holland@senate.state.ks.gov.

Sen. Kelly Kultala, D-5th, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 7357, kelly.kultala@senate.state.ks.gov.

Rep. Owen Donohoe, R-39th, L27 Docking Building, ext. 7682, owen.donohoe@house.state.ks.gov.

Rep. Melanie Meier, D-40th, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 7630, melanie.meier@house.state.ks.us.

Rep. Jana Goodman, R-41st, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 6014, jana.goodman@house.ks.gov.

Rep. Connie O'Brien, R-42nd, 300 SW 10th Ave, ext. 7656, con-nie.obrien@house.ks.gov.


State legislators hot line: 1-800-432-3924.



Members can send their coupons to: NARFE Headquarters, Attn: Coupons, 606 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314-1014. Please label your envelope with "Coupons." We will be collecting coupons through Labor Day when our media push will be unveiled.

*Jessica Klement
NARFE Legislative Director*

[The above is an excerpt from an online article by Director Klement.]



Why I Like Retirement !!!

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?
Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

<p>July No Chapter Meeting.</p> <p>July 25 9:15 a.m. Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>Aug. 1 6 p.m. Annual picnic.</p> <p>Aug. 29 9:15 a.m. Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>Sept. 5 1:30 p.m. Chapter meeting: Susie Bradford, Hospice</p> <p>Sept. 26 9:15 a.m. Executive Committee meeting.</p>	<p>Oct. 3 1:30 p.m. TBA.</p> <p>Oct. 24 9:15 a.m. Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>Nov. 7 11:30 a.m. Fall Festival; details in next issue of <i>Bison</i>.</p> <p>Nov. 21 9:15 a.m. Executive Committee meeting.</p> <p>Dec. 5 1:30 p.m. TBA.</p>
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NOTE: Chapter meetings are held in the **Heritage Center, 109 Delaware** at 1:30 p.m.
 Executive Committee Meetings are held at the Leavenworth Public Library the last Thursday of each month at 9:15 a.m.



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 Leavenworth, KS 66048

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