

THE BISON



Buffalo Bill Chapter 27

October 2017

Issue 2

FALL FEST

When: Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 11:45 a.m.
With meal at noon.
Doors open at 11:00 a.m.

Where: Heritage Center, 109 Delaware

Cost: \$12.00 for Members & Guests

MENU

Turkey, Ham, and Dressing
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans and Roll
Assorted Salads and Desserts
Coffee, Tea and Water

Catered by Terry Booker.

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: Oct. 28, 2017

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 make checks sent during last 5 days out to NARFE.

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

Entertainment will be provided.

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

From the President:

The temperature has gone down and actually feels chilly outside today. Very thankful for the wonderful Spring and Summer we had this year.

There are news reports coming out daily, as you all are aware of about the devastation of Hurricane Harvey and now Irma is raising havoc. We know there are fellow NARFE members affected by both hurricanes and then there are the wild fires across the Montana and the west coast states.

I have appointed a nominating committee to find officers for 1st Vice President, which also includes Membership; Secretary and Treasurer. So members please begin thinking of a position you would like to volunteer for. We have a Board Meeting one morning a month and only have nine meetings a year.

Our Annual Fall Fest will be held on 2 November at the Heritage Center. There will be good food, door prizes and great company with other NARFE members, so hope to see all of you there. Attached in this *BISON* are new By-Laws that must be voted on at the Fall Fest. Please read the By-Laws and be prepared to vote on them.

Boni Lages

913-683-2222

boniwoody@gmail.com

From the 1st VP—Membership

You may want to give this some thought. You can have your membership dues withheld from your annuity. The Dues Withholding option is available to any member receiving an annuity check from the U.S. government. Membership dues—both chapter and national—are automatically deducted each month from your annuity payment. Easy, painless and, after the first year, national dues are discounted.

There is no renewal process for Dues Withholding. You remain a member until you notify NARFE.

Participation is easy. Current members use form DW-2, where new members use DW-3. Forms can be found online, or you can contact me and I will get one to you. An important note: Applications may take 60 to 90 days to process.

I know it is a bit of an inconvenience to get set up for this, but it saves you from going through the process of having to send in a check every year to renew. If you are interested, let me know.



Another reminder that saves the NARFE Chapter money and gets the BISON to you faster, we can send the BISON via e-mail! Let me know if you would like to do this. My e-mail is: fgast@kc.rr.com.

Fran Gast

From the 2nd VP—Programs

Oct. 5th—Lindsey Younger with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Nov. 2nd—Annual Fall Fest at 12 noon, with check-in time between 11—11:45 a.m. See details on page 1.

December and January—No meetings.

Feb. 2—To be announced.

Billie Oertel

From the 3rd VP—Service Officer

Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) will be at the Eisenhower Hall on Ft Leavenworth 28 October 2017. Parking is across the street with shuttle service between the Parking lots and the facility.

There will be guest speakers addressing ongoing issues and vendors, organizational representatives as well as representation from Munson Army Hospital, the dental clinic and MWR.

Further schedules and times should be published in the paper.

Rod Ziemer

From the Alzheimer's Chair:

Brain Health

For people living with Alzheimer's every discovery offers new hope. The Alzheimer's Association is ready for the next stage of advancing public policy to improve the lives of people impacted by Alzheimer's disease, working collaboratively with the Trump administration and the 115th Congress.

Seven strategies for improving brain health:

- 1) Find a purpose in life
- 2) Take up a new sport
- 3) Have some every day
- 4) Master 10 new brain-healthy recipes
- 5) Join a new social group
- 6) Break one bad habit that you know is harmful
- 7) Meditate

"One drop" blood test for Alzheimer's

In the future, Alzheimer's therapies may be administered to people before cognitive symptoms of the disease appear. First, however, tests must be able to detect those at high risk. Toward that end, the Alzheimer's Association, the Crinic Institute for Down Syndrome and the Global Syndrome Foundation have announced \$1 million in funding for the Alzheimer's disease research, including the study of a test requiring one drop blood.

Three other studies receiving funding:

- A blood test of whether a specific set of blood proteins can identify who is at risk for Alzheimer's.
- A test of a potential Alzheimer's medication that reduces levels of protein fragments in the brain of a mouse of Down syndrome.
- A study to determine whether a protein called Dyrk1A influences the build-up of the brain that lead to formation of plaques and tangles that are key features of Alzheimer's of the mouse model.

Each of the four studies received \$250,000 in funding.
Alzheimer's Association

Helen Stewart

From Sunshine Chair:

IN MEMORIUM

Members

Joseph Henry Abel	Betty Aaron Phillips
John W. "Jack" Divine	Linda Frances Rose
Margaret Z. Liebeno	Margaret L. Whitton
Lila Williams	

Family Members

Trudy Bolewski (twin sister Judy Darlene Pritchett)
Fran Gast (mother Lila Williams)
Donna Layton (husband Robert John Layton)
Clifford MacGinnis (brother Wesley MacGinnis Sr.)
Mary Ann McAfee (husband LTC (Ret) Billy Joe McAfee)
James Manning (brother-in-law Robert John Layton)
James and Rose May (sister Florence Williford)
Jean Redford (sister-in-law Lillian Hamilton)

Over the past few years our NARFE chapter has sent an average of 37 sympathy cards, about 10 sick cards, and a few anniversary cards a year. Please call me if you know of anyone we need to send a card to. Also, we would appreciate any sympathy



cards you are not going to use yourself. Feel free to bring them to the next meeting.

Get Well cards were sent to Alice Theis, Ross Perkins, and Helen Gallagher.

Marilyn Murray

The following information was taken from the Sept. 8, 2017 Legislative Hotline:

Message from NARFE President Richard G. Thissen

“You likely have seen the devastation Hurricane Harvey has caused and the impending destruction of Irma, and some of you are experiencing their unprecedented impact firsthand. NARFE partners with the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA) to provide emergency grants and loans to federal employees and NARFE members affected by a declared national disaster through the NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund. I am proud of the NARFE members who have donated more than \$458,000 in aid to those affected by natural disasters. I am once again asking you to lend a helping hand if you are able. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to support federal employees and NARFE members in disaster areas affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, or apply for a grant, please send email to www.feea.org/disaster, or to donate via check, make your check payable to FEEA-NARFE Disaster Fund and mail it to:

**NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund
c/o FEEA
1641 Prince St.
Alexandria, VA 22314**

President Sets 2018 Federal Employee Pay Raise

President Trump submitted an alternative pay plan for civilian federal employees on August 31. The 1.9 percent average pay raise includes a 1.4 percent across-the-board increase and an average additional increase of 0.5 percent in locality-based pay adjustments.

NARFE President Richard G. Thissen commented, “While federal employees will appreciate the raise, an average increase of 1.9 percent is the minimum required to prevent federal pay from declining further, and more rapidly, below market than the current 35 percent wage disparity between public- and private-sector wages. Both Congress and the President should work together to pursue a more robust

LEGISLATORS’ Address / Phone:

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

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, Topeka, KS 66683, (785) 295-2745, www.roberts.senate.gov.

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

Rep. Adam Lusk, D-2nd Dist., 3550 SW Fifth St., Topeka, KS 66601, ext. 7698, adam.lusker@house.ks.gov

Rep. Debbie Deere, R-40th Dist., 300 SW 10th Ave., Rm 174-W, ext. 7653, Debbie.deere@house.ks.gov

Rep. Willie Dove, D-38th Dist., 300 SW 10th Ave., Rm 149-S, ext. 7677, willie.dove@house.ks.gov

Sen. Steve Fitzgerald, R-5th Dist., 300 SW 10th Ave., Rm 135-E, Steve.Fitzgerald@senate.ks.gov

Rep. Jeff Pittman, R-41st, 300 SW 10th Ave., Rm 559-S, ext. 7522, Jeff.Pittman@house.ks.gov.

Rep. Jim Karleskint, R-42nd, 300 SW 10th Ave, Rm 512-N, ext. 7683, Jim.Karleskint@house.ks.gov.

pay increase to maintain the highly qualified workforce needed to run an efficient federal government.”

TSP Eases Financial Hardship Withdrawal for Harvey Victims

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) announced a temporary change in its rules regarding financial hardship withdrawals. This move allows TSP participants who suffered losses from Hurricane Harvey to become eligible for the relaxed withdrawal option.

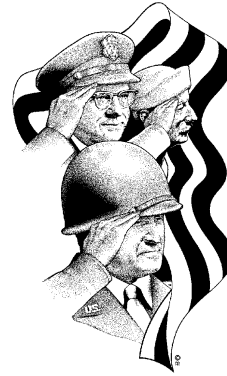
Withdrawal requests related to Hurricane Harvey must be submitted to TSP by January 24, 2018, and distributions must occur before January 31, 2018. Participants must withdraw at least \$1,000 and cannot make additional withdrawal requests for six months. TSP has waived the rule that prohibits



participants from contributing to their fund within six months after taking a withdrawal.

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**Don't Forget to VOTE on
November 7th!**

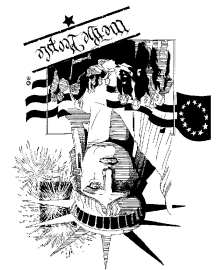


*Remember our
Veterans!*

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sept. 29	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee Meeting
Oct. 5	1:30 p.m.	Chapter Meeting: Lindsey Younger with Blue Cross Blue Shield.
Oct. 26	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee Meeting

Nov. 3	11:45 a.m.	Fall Fest, see page 1 for details.
December & January		No meetings.
Jan. 25	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee Meeting.
Feb. 2	1:30 p.m.	Chapter Meeting: Program TBA.



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
3012 Girard Street
Leavenworth, KS 66048
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**