



THE BISON
BUFFALO BILL CHAPTER 27
 NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

When: Thursday, August 2, 2007 at 6 p.m.
Where: U.S. Penitentiary Officer's Training Center
 (Air Conditioned!)
Cost: \$10.00 for Members & Guests
Menu: Brisket, Ham or Chicken
 Baked Beans
 Potato Salad Applesauce
 Cucumber Salad Pasta Salad
 Hot Rolls & Butter
 Assorted Desserts
 Coffee and Iced Tea

Note: There is a ramp that makes the Training Center handicap-accessible. Also, bathrooms are on the same floor.

There will be two drawings for gift certificates to Pullman's and Ten Penny Restaurants and another \$30 cash drawing. Chances will be available at the door, \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Part of the proceeds will go to the Alzheimer's Fund and part to the Chapter.

**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 29, 2007

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).

Thank You! Eileen Sturgis

From the President:

I hope all NARFE Buffalo Bill Chapter 27 members are having a wonderful and fun-filled summer and have been able to cope with the hot weather. Hope you have enjoyed your vacation—going fishing, boating, traveling to your favorite cool places with your families, also relaxing, working and loving life.

The last several months our Program Officer, Billie Oertel, has had some very interesting speakers. Mr. Carlos Vanorden talked about starting the 1st City Museum. I hope the members who went to the Museum on the 5th of July enjoyed seeing the old Great Western stoves made here in Leavenworth, and that it brought back some fond memories of their childhood experiences. The buggies from Ft. Leavenworth, the Federal Prison display, Mr. Sachs's old tools, donated by his wife, Rosemary, a member of our Chapter, and many other interesting antiques were enjoyable to reminisce about. Mikey Stafford's talk regarding gardening was very interesting and informative. Mr. Ron Bates speaking on wills and trusts captivated the audience and I'm sure we could have listened to him for double the time he spoke. I hope everyone who came will have their affairs in place, which will make our Service Officers' job a little less challenging. Please ask yourself, do I have my affairs in order?

Did you send your letters in to your Senators and Representative? Have you called them about the different issues—Social Security and Premium

Do you need to contact a congressman? Below are the names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses where they can be reached.

Conversion legislation, which would allow civilian

LEGISLATORS' Topeka Address / Phone: **Federal:** Sen Sam Brownback, 612 Kansas Ave, 66603 (785) 233-2503, sam_brownback@brownback.senate.gov. Sen Pat Roberts, 444 SE Quincy, Rm 392, 66683, (785) 295-2745, roberts.senate.gov; Rep. Nancy Boyda, D-2nd Dist., 510 SW 10th Ave, 66612, (785) 234-8111, <http://www.house.gov/boyda/>. **Kansas State (by Dist. at Statehouse, Topeka 66612, telephone (785) 296 + ext.):** Sen Roger Pine, R-3rd, 143 North, ext. 7372, pine@senate.state.ks.us; Sen Mark Gilstrap, D-5th, 138 North, ext. 7357, gilstrap@senate.state.ks.us; Rep Owen Donohoe, R-39th, 110 South, ext. 7682, donohoe@house.state.ks.us; Rep Candy Ruff, D-40th, 278 West, ext. 7647, ruff@house.state.ks.us; Rep Marti Crow, D-41st, 284 West, ext. 7673, crow@house.state.ks.us; Rep Kenny Wilk, R-42nd, 426 South, ext. 7660, wilk@house.state.ks.us. **State legislators hot line:** 1-800-432-3924.

and military retirees to pay monthly health insurance premiums on a pre-tax basis as active federal civilian employees already do. Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Program (WEP) are two provisions of the Social Security Act that can reduce the SS benefits of certain public sector retirees, including retired federal employees—"Social Security Fairness Act of 2007".

In addition to "bugging" our Congressmen, did you remember to send in your Legislative Political Action committee (PAC) contributions? This is one of the main purposes for the NARFE organization—to fight for benefits we have already earned and deserve.

We need to be looking to nominate someone for the two vacant positions—President and Treasurer—in the next coming months. Please look around you and see if you don't know some of your neighbors who should belong to NARFE—both active Federal employees and retired, and see if you can't persuade them to join.

Have you been thinking and listening to the Candidates running for our Country's President in 2008? It is important to listen to the discussions about what each one believes and try and vote the most qualified person for our Public Offices. Stand up for what you believe and get involved with what is going on in this Country.

I talked at the last meeting about Region V's 8th Biennial College of NARFE Knowledge, Aug. 27—29, 2007, which will be held at the Marina Inn, South Sioux City, Nebraska. This special training session is held for members to gain one-on-one information about "What Is Happening for NARFE Members Right Now?" Program emphasis for this conference is being placed on legislative issues. Margaret Baptiste, NARFE National President, is scheduled to be in attendance. I would invite any member to get involved and attend this session. Reservation deadline is August 2, 2007, please see me for a reservation form.

God Bless America and keep this Country safe. Thank you all for attending our meetings and for everyone's help in making our organization active and one to be proud of.

Dolores A Vossmer

From the 1st Vice-Chair—Membership:

I gleaned some recruiting thoughts at the State Convention held in Wichita this past April. The conviction I came home with is that NARFE is every bit as, or more important to, an active employee as a retiree. Benefit calculations and changes quite often effect only future retirees.

To reach new potential members we must reach out and introduce our mission to new areas and groups where there are active and retired federal employees. I would seriously like to visit with anyone having ideas and thoughts as to how we can better reach those who do not now know of NARFE's accomplishments and efforts.

I have three of the NARFE promotional posters discussed on page 20 of the June *NARFE Retirement Life*. If anyone has access to or a suggestion as to a high visibility location for placement, please call me at 651-6873. Employee break rooms, credit unions, and other clubs with significant active or retired Federal employees would be possible locations.

At the June meeting I discussed the pros, cons and costs of introducing ourselves in a few of the local newspapers. Think about it more, as a decision will need to be made at the September meeting. Also, there will only be one more meeting before the National Convention. One member-one vote and mandatory chapter membership are certain to be discussed and probably voted on. Anyone with opinions or thoughts on either topic needs to be talking with our delegates.

Wayne Stalaker

From the 2nd Vice-Chair—Program:

July—NO MEETING.

August 2nd—Annual Picnic at the Guards Club starting at 6 p.m. Cost is \$10. Pay Eileen Sturgis in advance.

September 6th—Jim Miller will update us on Legislation and what is happening in Washington.

October 4th—Lee Stieger will be giving advice and information we need to know about one of our favorite things: TAXES.

November 1st—Barb Pretzer, National Alzheimer’s Chairman, will be informing us on what’s going on in the race for a cure.

December 6th—Christmas Party. More info later.

Billie Oertel

IN MEMORIAM

Members

Leo W. Burns Dora Belle Hatch

Family Members

Mary Campbell, sister of Edward C. Chapman
Harry Porter, brother of Calvin Foster
Raymond Sinder, brother of Gail Ann Leavitt

From the Service Officer:

If you know of members who are hospitalized or ill at home, Marilyn Murray will send cards. Please call her at 351-3386. Thank you.

With a chapter membership of approximately 490, it is important that we be able to meet needs as they arise. Please contact me when you are aware of the passing of one of our members, their spouse, or a family member at 682-3925. It is easy to miss someone and that is not a good thing. I appreciate your help in this area.

Delores Vargas

Alzheimer’s Report:

Our Chapter made a total of \$606.00 at the recent state convention (\$330 quilt and \$276 for the oral and silent auctions). So far, for this year, our chapter has made \$1,104.60. Thank you all for your

contributions. Every penny counts to cure this dreaded disease! Our Alzheimer’s goal per member this year is \$4.00. At the present time our chapter stands at \$2.29 per member. A total of \$3,896.00 was made at the state convention for Alzheimer’s (live auction \$1,774.00; silent auction \$2,122.00).

Did you know there is now an Alzheimer’s Support Group here in Leavenworth? Meetings are held the 4th Monday of each month (1-2:30 p.m.) at the Council on Aging, 109A Delaware (alley entrance). These presentations are sponsored by The Heart of America Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association and the Council on Aging. The group will meet each month to support the caregiver or family member of someone with Alzheimer’s. These sessions will be informal in nature allowing time to share coping strategies, struggles, and joys in learning to live with this disease. This program is open to any caregiver. If there are any questions please call Patty Wilmeth, 684-0777, at the Council on Aging office. I attended the June meeting and for those of you who are caregivers please try to find time and attend these monthly meetings. It is truly worthwhile. The Council on Aging should be commended in being able to get this support group for us.

Helen Gallagher

**Anniversary
Congratulations**

50 years

- Charles & Regina Brown
- Glenn & Joanna Knapp
- Alfredo & Elena Padilla



What’s In It [NARFE] For Me?

“NARFE’s objective is to provide service to its members. During our working careers, we had personnel and human relations staffs that were there to provide assistance when needed to ensure benefits were properly planned and executed. This was especially important when life-changing events, such as marriage, divorce or death, occurred. When we retired, these resources were no longer available to us. NARFE is the ONLY organization that provides these types of services to retired federal employees and their spouses. NARFE is, in effect, our personnel and human relations support during our retirement years. This is provided at the local level by the Chapter Service Officers.” [Excerpted from Retirement Life NARFE, July 2007, page 44.]

PERKS OF BEING OVER 60 (continued)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8. You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room. 9. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the National Weather Service. 10. You sing along with elevator music. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11. People call at 9 PM and ask, "Did I wake you?????" 12. Your eyes couldn't get much worse. 13. You can live without sex but not your glasses. 14. People no longer view you as a hypochondriac. 15. You get into heated arguments about pension plans. |
|--|---|

Calendar of Coming Events

JULY			NO MEETING		
July 26	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting	Oct. 4	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: Lee Stieger, speaking on Taxes
Aug. 2	6:00 p.m.	Annual Picnic; details on page 1.	Oct. 25	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting
Aug. 30	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting	Nov. 1	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: Barb Pretzer, National Alzheimer's Chairman
Sept. 6	1:30 p.m.	Chapter meeting: Jim Miller, Legislative Update	Nov. 29	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting
Sept. 27	9:15 a.m.	Executive Committee meeting	Dec. 6	TBA	Christmas Party—Details later.

NOTE: Chapter meetings are held in the Lincoln Room, MidAmerican Bank & Trust.
 Executive Committee Meetings are held at the Leavenworth Public Library the last Thursday of each month at 9:15 a.m.

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
1002 N. Broadway
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Leavenworth, Kansas 66048
Permit No. 101



*God Bless
Our
Troops!*