



Kaw Blue Communiqué

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Treasurer	Barbara Hackbart	785-494-2425
Past Pres	Ann Domsch	785-537-5147
News Editor	Judy Grossnickle	785-537-2457

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

(By: Elaine Liddell, Program Chairman)

Please plan to attend your meeting. We meet at RC McGraw's, 2317 Tuttle Creek Blvd. Lunch is served at 11:15AM. If you are not called by a caller, please call John Rodgers for reservations.

Wednesday, October 15

2015 BC/BS Insurance Update

Pam Maxwell

National & Special Field Rep

Wednesday, November 19

Backyard Birds

Chuck Otte, County Extension Agent

Wednesday, December 17

Holiday Music

Old Timers Band

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

(By Ann Murphy, Chairman PAC)

We talk about the NARFE Political Action Committee (PAC) here and in March the NARFE magazine had an extensive article explaining the different PAC's. Here we will just give you a few reminders about PAC.

Our congressional people still rely on the traditional PAC's, like NARFE PAC, to fund parts of their campaigns. They have more control over their public message versus their influence with the Super PAC,s we hear so much from today. NARFE reminds us that your support of PAC allows us to build and maintain relationships between NARFE and members of Congress.

We have a job to do. We want to make sure our representatives understand the importance of the federal worker, his work today and the promises of his paid benefits. One way to do that is to support the NARFE legislative representatives who work for us and give them the means to educate and support those candidates who best support our interests.

Our congressmen have a job to do. They must represent the best interests of their constituents and to do that they must hear from all of us.

As irritating as election years can be and as disappointing as some of the rhetoric can get, it should be our obligation to keep informed and take seriously our privilege to vote.

Consider a contribution to your NARFE PAC.

33rd NARFE National Convention, Orlando, Fla, Aug 24– 28, 2014

Delegates: **Dennis Grossnickle** (representing Chapters 0366, 1873, 1995 & 1996) & **Judy Grossnickle** (representing chapters 2032, 2291 & 2086)

The 33rd Biennial NARFE Convention opened Sunday with the pomp and solemnity that usually mark these every-two year gatherings. But it was evident from the beginning that this convention would be like no other in recent memory.

“NARFE is at a critical crossroads!,” National President Joseph A. Beaudoin told the 933 attendees. “If we continue trying to do business as usual, NARFE will cease to exist in a very few years. . .the decision will be ours.”

As at the Kansas Convention, a memorial service was held to honor the 24,535 members who have died since the last Nat’l convention in 2012. If you figure the dues alone that we’ve lost just to our deceased members, you can appreciate why the NARFE finances are in dire straights and why immediate action is required. This convention voted to reduce the Nat’l Officers from four to two, leaving the President and Secretary/Treasurer as our officers. We voted to continue with 10 regional Vice Presidents.

NARFE is so close to its goal of raising \$11 million for **Alzheimer’s** research by 2014 (should reach it by September) that Jan Rodgers, chairman of the NARFE-Alzheimer’s National Committee, recommended that the adoption of a new goal of \$12 million be set. The delegates agreed. The committee voted and approved \$439,932 in funding for three more research projects, bring to 63 the number of projects funded by NARFE since 1985. Kansas came in 5th nation wide for donating \$21,975. We were only \$115.00 behind Florida, the 4th ranked state. The top state was Virginia with \$75,349.

The Convention Educational Sessions were on **BRANDING**. I think Branding must be the buzz word for 2014 because, we’ve attended three conventions this year and every one of them had training seminars on Branding. What it is and how to use it to attract members. A brand is a symbol or tag line that almost everyone can recognize. Think Amazon and you see the curved line from A to Z. Think Nike and you see the swish. Think Campbell’s Soup and you think “Um Um Good!” How about Morton’s Salt? Did you see the girl under the umbrella with her salt box pouring salt? We need to Brand NARFE to recruit members! The best recruitment speech is your own story about why you belong, what NARFE has done for you and what you get out of NARFE in compensation for your membership fees.

Our **Legislative** Goals: 1) Fighting for pay and benefits, including FEHBP. 2) USPS reform bills 3) Preventing chained CPI (overall it would have a devastating economic impact on our future benefits). The Legislative Training Conference is March 14-17, 2015. The cost to attend is \$175.00 plus travel, housing and food. Even though the lame duck congress probably won’t act on any legislation with impact on us, the next session is fraught with danger. Stay aware and informed! Take action when needed!

ELECTION RESULTS: **Richard Thissen** was elected president. The first vote was split between three candidates. Richard receive the majority but not the required 50% . Richard won with 66% in the two candidate election. The Secretary/Treasurer, **Jon Dowie**, ran unopposed and he was elected. **Carol Ek**, Region V, VP ran unopposed and was re-elected.

The 2012 Organizational Bi-laws were changed through our election process. The new printed Bi-laws should be mailed to our Federation and Chapters soon.

The next convention (34th) is scheduled for Reno, NV in August, 2016. The 2018 (35th) is going to be held in Jacksonville, FL.