



Kaw Blue Communiqué

Volume No. 18 Issue No. 4

Manhattan, KS Date December, 2012

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Ann Domsch	537-5147
1 st VP	Bill Fuller	776-6296
2 nd VP	Elaine Liddell	776-5559
Secretary	Mary Lou Gibbs	468-3562
Treasurer	Barbara Hackbart	494-2425
Past Pres.	Don Erickson	539-6004
News Editor	Judy Grossnickle	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.

Wednesday, Jan 16

Leslie Kuehne
Operation Life Safety
"Railroad Safety"

Wednesday, Feb 20

Lowell May, Author
"Camp Concordia: German POWs in the Midwest"

Wednesday, Mar 20

Ron Klataske, Executive Director
"Audubon of Kansas"

If you have a program suggestion, please let Elaine know.

2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	John H. Rodgers	785-230-6050
1st VP	Dick McChesney	537-8302
2nd VP	Elaine Liddell	776-5559
Secretary	Judy Grossnickle	537-2457
Treasurer	Barbara Hackbart	494-2425
Past Pres	Ann Domsch	537-5147

Late Edition of the December Newsletter

Due to unexpected life events this newsletter is being distributed in January, 2013. Your next newsletter will be distributed as normal in March, 2013.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(By: Ann Domsch, adomsch@ksu.edu)

As your outgoing president, I wish to thank you all for the wonderful cooperation you have given me. It truly has been a great three or four years. I know you will give the next president your help as well. We will be gearing up for the 2014 Federation Meeting so the new president will need lots of help. In the meantime please be recruiting new members. This is a job that requires all of us to do. We cannot expect the membership committee to do all of this work. We all know our membership is getting older so we constantly have to seek new members if we intend for our chapter to survive. Always remember NARFE is the only one that is looking out for our annuity. Keep up the good work that has been started and stay vigilant.

IN MEMORIAM

Leon Schultes, Member, Born: May 12, 1931; Died: October 31, 2012

ALZHEIMER'S UPDATE

(By: Michael & Kay Cardella, Alzheimer's Chairman,
785-539-3448 e-mail: milinscol@Gmail.com)

The last year has been a very busy one for our Chapter and our NARFE goal of ten Million dollars for the Alzheimer's Research funding. It is my and millions of others hope and dream that we may find a cure for this mind robbing disease in our lifetime.

The drug, "Namenda" leads all other therapies approved for Alzheimer's disease by a wide margin in the treatment of newly diagnosed Alzheimer's disease patients. NARFE donations have had a hand in helping fund this discovery. Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death and the only cause of death among the top ten diseases in the US without an identified way to prevent it, cure it or even slow it's progression. Today an estimated 5.4 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. This figure is expected to grow to 16 million by mid-century.

We at Chapter 366 Kaw Blue have done an excellent job in our Alzheimer's fund raising for the year. The annual State convention in Salina in April was a total success and some \$924.50 was raised by our chapter for Alzheimer's Research. Our combined efforts and fund-raising programs also were instrumental in our useful mis-

(Continued at the top of the next column)

ALZHEIMER'S UPDATE Continued from previous column:

sion to raise funds.

The Ichman Pennies collection, the Osborn's quilt raffles, the best choice labels, Marr's giant tomato plants, the KU & K-State mail boxes all provided a good source of funds for our chapter. The special Memorial donations and our by-monthly funds gathering baskets have made to this date some \$1,777.21. (With quilt raffle monies yet to be totaled).

Kay and I thank each of our members who helped generate the funds for this very worthwhile cause this past year. We would ask you to continue to support the Alzheimer's Fund Program with our replacements next year. We wish every Kaw Blue member a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

NARFE member, Herman Westmeyer celebrated his 100th birthday on Nov 15. He retired with 42 years of service with Extension.



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

(By: Dick McChesney, Legislative Committee)

It is difficult to write anything meaningful since legislatively things could change anytime. At the time of this writing, Speaker of the House Boehner and President Obama are negotiating on taxes and spending cuts. All this to avoid falling off the so called fiscal cliff. If you want to know how the fiscal cliff would affect Social Security, Medicare, and consequences of paring down tax deductions and mandatory spending cuts, go to website www.urban.org/fiscal.diff

At the time of this writing, changing the formula for computing COLA (Cost of Living Adjustments) to a "chained COLA" is being seriously considered. If passed this would be a significant reduction over the years in Civil Service, Social Security and Military Retirement annuities.

Recommendation: Continue to receive the NARFE Legislative Hotlines and NARFE News Watches by Internet. (If not signed up call 800 456 8410). These provide current information to keep us informed and action we take need with our Senators, Congress person, and President to protect our benefits.

Winter



MEMBERSHIP

(By: Bill Fuller, Vice President for Membership)

The Kaw-Blue Chapter participated in two state-wide conferences outlining the benefits of NARFE and inviting both active and retired federal employees to become members. The new lighted table-top display was utilized to visit with prospective members, distribute information, and signup members.

The display attracted dozens at the K-State Research and Extension Conference. While considerable interest was generated, the potential membership pool from extension is shrinking.

All of the 85 federal employees attending the USDA Farm Service Agency Joint Meeting are eligible for membership. While several are now current members, it is likely a significant number will soon join some Kansas chapter, particularly when considering the threat to earned benefits due to the financial challenges the federal government is currently experiencing. Bill Fuller, 1st Vice-President for Membership and former State Executive Director of FSA, also spoke at a general session of all conference attendees explaining the many benefits and activities, including the participation of NARFE in the National Alzheimer's Research Program. The winner of the one-year free NARFE membership was Dianne Garber of Haver, Kansas.

**By: John H Rodgers,
2013 President**

I would like to first take this opportunity to thank you for your vote of confidence in me to lead this chapter into 2013. I want to thank Ann for her tireless work the past four years as president of our chapter.

This was an election year, and as such, we need to become familiar with our current Senators, Congressmen and Women. There is no better time then now to remind them that they work for us.

We are a chapter of 250 plus members. I want to challenge each of you to reach out to your fellow members to see how many we can bring back to our monthly meetings on a regular basis.

Thank You and see you at the January 16th meeting.

MEMBERSHIP SCOREBOARD			
MONTH	GAIN	REINSTATED	LOSS
Oct-Dec	2	2	4
Memberships in peril: 4			
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP as of Dec: 255			

WELCOME

Welcome new members: Carol A. Balding and Angela Cardella.

Congratulations to the 2013 Officers. Thank you for responding with a “Yes!” when asked if you would serve our chapter.



NARFE
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Chapter 366 President
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Forwarding Service Requested
Judy Grossnickle, Editor