



**2014 OFFICERS and CHAIRS**

President	Tom Huntzinger	785-766-6717
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Roger Lemmons	785-840-9594
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Elaine Seeman	785-331-2280
Secretary	Leonard Short	785-840-8401
Treasurer	Cheryl Travis	785-841-1616
Membership	Dianne Throop	785-841-1408
Service Officer	Wanda Lyon	785-764-2210
Public Relations		
Newsletter	Wendy Hambly	913-845-0121
NARFE PAC	Linda Surritte	785-856-0558
NARFE Net Coor		
Alzheimer's Chair	John Scott	785-542-3510
Legislative Chair	John Surritte	785-856-0558
Sunshine	Sandy Nease	785-979-5481

**KUDOS AND THANK YOU'S**

- ♣ John and Linda Surritte for their continued and generous support of Alzheimer's research. They began 2014 contributions with their donation in memory of Michael Burchie.
- ♣ Dianne Throop for stepping up to the plate and becoming Chapter 378's new membership chair.
- ♣ Leonard Short for stepping up to the plate and becoming Chapter 378's new Secretary.

**ALZHEIMERS**

**John Scott**

From: Joseph Beaudoin, National President  
 TO: ALL MEMBERS

In our partnership with the Alzheimer's Association, we are excited to welcome you to the new NARFE monthly e-newsletter provided by the Alzheimer's Association. This monthly e-newsletter will include articles on Alzheimer's, links to some helpful pages on their website, and an update on how close NARFE is to the \$11 million goal.

Their goal is to keep NARFE members informed, show their appreciation for all NARFE has done and help us see the Alzheimer's Association vision of a world without Alzheimer's. Please review the first issue and sign up to receive the new NARFE monthly e-newsletter, by clicking the following link:

<http://www.alz.org/dm/fy14/narfe/jan.html> .

Joseph Beaudoin  
 National President

**2014 CHAPTER 378 DONATIONS**

Month	Chapter Donations	YTD Total
January	\$126	\$126
February	\$17	\$143

**APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> MEETING ROGER LEMONS**

The April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the NARFE Chapter 378 will meet at Conroy's at noon. Dave Bonnel, of "Travel Leader", located on West 6th in Lawrence will speak and the chapter meeting. With our minds dreaming about spring and summer, a trip would be welcome to get us away from this doggone snow. Dave will have info on available tours, costs, destinations, where it's safe and NOT, plus many other aspects of travel.

May 21<sup>st</sup> program is Bonnie Lowe, from the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. She will bring us the latest news about what going on in the world of C of C in Lawrence, what's happening now and looking into her crystal ball about the future. Should be an interesting program. I hope we have a good turnout.

June 18<sup>th</sup> program is Susan Metzger, Assistant Director or Tracy Streeter, Director of the Kansas Water Office, who will discuss water, both quality and quantity in Kansas. This may not sound very exciting to some of you but consider how much water we use and it's availability to us here in Lawrence, Kansas, and the nation. We can live without oil but we can't live without water.

**MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> MEETING RECAP**

Richard Haug, Chairman of Lawrence Airport board, provided us with an interesting overview of the Lawrence Municipal Airport's history and growth. Dedicated in 1929, the original airport was owned by the KU Endowment Association and had 4 runways of compacted soil and cinders. During WWII over 300 individuals earned their pilots wings en route to the military at the airport. Lawrence traded property adjacent to the campus for the airport in 1977. The current terminal building was dedicated in 1986.

Today there are 2 runways, and 1 (5,700 ft long) is capable of handling small jets. There are 85 base aircraft, but the airport serves 2000 businesses, corporations, KU visitors, and charter flights, annually. There is no deicing equipment at the airport, so there is a need form more hangers. Any expansion of the area must be aviation related. Revenue stays at the airport, which is subsidized by the FFA.

Services provided at the airport include: fueling (both avgas and Jet A), aircraft rental, flight

instruction, Pilot accessories, aircraft repair and maintenance, Cessna aircraft dealer, photo flights, flight testing, aircraft shipping, emergency transport, and rental car drop off.

On June 14, 2014, an Aviation Youth Camp for boys and girls ages 11-15 is scheduled at the airport. Registration is through Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department. He closed his presentation by saying, "The Lawrence Municipal Airport is a great tool to help the economic growth of our city."

## MEMBERSHIP

Betty Scribner

**Welcome to Brenda Groskinsy and Ingrid Landgraf – both new prospective members – to join NARFE Chapter 378.**

Perhaps you know current federal employees who have been invited to join NARFE as a Prospective Member and wondered what that meant. Prospective members are entered in the database from the Recruitment and Retention Department at NARFE headquarters. All prospective members are given a membership ID number, a fee statement, and quizzed to see if they would like to join NARFE. If so, they then send their dues to National Headquarters for processing. The incentive programs are based on the Recruitment Department from a list they receive from Office of Personnel Management (OPM). These people are offered member discounts to join NARFE.

Thanks to you who have reinstated or got your dues in on time – January through March is a high-volume time for members' dues to be renewed. That applies to our chapter also. Thank you to all of you for another year with NARFE!

### Recruiting – a theme for all of us

What does it take to successfully recruit a new NARFE member? As NARFE members, we are all potential recruiters and, therefore, charged with the responsibility of convincing other eligible federal employees, retirees, and their spouses to join. Most often, we do this successfully. Although recruiting may be more difficult for some than others, we concur that one-on-one member recruitment is NARFE's cornerstone.

Perhaps you have approached a friend about joining NARFE – but when you explained the fee is only \$45, they gave argument that the cost is too high and NARFE should not charge so much to members living on a fixed income. This is a tough situation and it is sometimes difficult to justify

money matters. As a recruiter, you can address this concern with urgency and confidence! NARFE's membership fee supports:

- A monthly subscription to NARFE magazine, very highly regarded source of news and information affecting federal employees and retirees.
- An effective legislative agenda designed to preserve federal retirement benefits.
- A department of retirement benefits specialists who work hand-in-hand with NARFE chapter service officers to give the most reliable information available regarding retirement benefits.
- NARFE-endorsed programs that offer competitive prices for frequently used products and services.

**Be aware as you meet friends and acquaintances that you may be speaking to a future NARFE member!**

Betty Scribner [scribner@sunflower.com](mailto:scribner@sunflower.com)

## LEGISLATIVE

John Surritte

***Are you prepared for the state of Kansas to take control of your Medicare benefits?***

***If the answer is "NO,"***

***tell Governor Brownback to veto HB 2553 and "leave my Medicare alone!!"***

***1-877-579-6757***

*It would be a serious mistake to turn the Medicare program over to the state. Since 1965, Medicare beneficiaries have received guaranteed benefits, protections, and have never once had to worry about their Medicare. In fact, over the years, their Medicare has been improved. By joining a health care compact seniors could find themselves thrown into a whole new health care system with different benefits, fewer choices, and less access to care. Why risk the health care and security of the more than 448,000 Medicare beneficiaries in Kansas – 16% of the total Kansas population?*

*This bill will jeopardize security, choice and benefits for seniors and people with disabilities in Kansas who rely on the Medicare program for their health care coverage. Not only that, it will interfere with Tri-Care and supplemental benefits! This bill is scary because it carries with it impacts and consequences for all Kansans who rely on federal laws to protect their health care. This is just the tip of the iceberg. Under the Compact bill, Kansas citizens could lose many rights and protections they*

*don't even realize are in danger.*

*Call the governor now! 1-877-579-6757*

*Andrea Bozarth, AARP Kansas  
Associate State Director, Community Outreach  
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**April Legislative Update for Chapters** from NARFE's Legislative Department. This monthly resource is sent to help you provide the latest in legislative information to your chapter members. Chapter leaders are encouraged to use the information in regular updates – cut and paste into newsletters or use it as a starting point to a discussion at your meeting.

NARFE's Legislative Department is frequently asked to provide this information on an individual basis so it was decided to send the information proactively. Knowing that not all Chapter Presidents and Legislative Officers are in the GEMS system, we hope Federation Presidents and Legislative Officers will continue to support this effort to provide our members with the most up-to-date information on NARFE's message and will assist in the disbursement of the information. In response to requests from across the country, the Legislative Department is determining how best to include regional and/or district leadership and hope to include them in future e-mails.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Legislative Department at [leg@narfe.org](mailto:leg@narfe.org). The Legislative staff is always available to provide additional information than what is written in the updates when necessary.

Thank you, NARFE's Legislative Department  
**NARFE Chapters Legislative Update  
April 2014**

**Budget:** The President's budget was released on March 4. The Chained CPI was not included in the President's FY15 budget. The President included the Chained CPI in last year's budget as an olive branch to show that he was serious about negotiating on spending with House Republicans. The White House said that the Chained CPI "remains on the table for whenever the Republicans decide they want to engage in a serious discussion about a balanced plan to deal with our long-term fiscal challenges that includes closing loopholes for

the wealthiest Americans and corporations, but the chained CPI provision will not be included in this year's budget."

The budget also included a 1% pay raise for federal civilian employees and members of the military, as announced on February 24.

While the President's budget is not expected to move thru Congress, the 1% pay raise being included in the budget could be important at the end of the year if the President has to take executive action to increase federal employee pay.

Private-sector salaries rose 1.9% during the last year, according to the Employment Cost Index.

The President also adhered to his assurance that he would not include an increase in retirement contributions for federal employees.

House Budget Chair Paul Ryan (R-WI) is expected to release a budget. Senate Budget Chair Patty Murray (D-WA) has announced she will not be releasing a separate FY15 budget. The FY15 budget was agreed to as part of the Ryan-Murray agreement, which was finalized in December 2013.

**Postal Reform:** A vote by the full Senate has not been scheduled. Negotiations over the legislation are ongoing and it is unclear as to if or when a vote will be scheduled. NARFE opposes the legislation and is working to make changes before it reaches the Senate floor.

The House is likely to move forward with postal reform legislation only if it passes the Senate.

NARFE's Legislative Department has created a document titled "U.S. Postal Service Reform & You" to help NARFE members better understand the complicated legislation.

NARFE members can send an e-mail to their Senators asking them to oppose the legislation thru NARFE's Legislative Action Center.

**Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW):** The theme for this year's PSRW is "Proud to Serve" and is scheduled for May 4 – 10, 2014.

NARFE has a template Letter to the Editor available online. NARFE members can submit the letter to their local newspaper to show that federal employees and retirees are proud of their service as federal employees.

**New Resources Available Online:** A new document listing legislative accomplishments from the first session of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress is available online.

A revised and re-designed Protect America's Heartbeat Toolkit is also available online. The newly redesigned Protect America's Heartbeat (PAH) Toolkits are available online at

[narfe.org/heartbeat/resources.cfm](http://narfe.org/heartbeat/resources.cfm). The larger Toolkit has been divided into 6 smaller Toolkits, allowing for easier updating and online access for NARFE members.

In response to the introduction of three new pieces of legislation, letters for NARFE members to send to their Members of Congress are now available on the Legislative Action Center. The CPI-E Act (H.R. 4202) would require the use of the CPI-E to calculate annual cost-of-living adjustments for federal annuities. Support a bill by Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif., to use the CPI-E to calculate annual COLAs, [H.R. 4202](#).

The FAIR Act (H.R. 4306) would provide a 3.3 percent pay increase for federal employees to close the growing gap between public- and private-sector pay. Support a bill by Rep. Gerry Connolly, D-Va., to provide federal employees with a 3.3 percent pay raise, [H.R. 4306](#)

The Federal Employee Pay Restoration Act (H.R. 3744) would provide back pay to federal employees who were furloughed as a result of sequestration. Support a bill by Rep. Derek Kilmer, D-Wash., to provide back pay to federal employees furloughed as a result of sequestration, [H.R. 3744](#)

***Congressional Schedule (can be changed):*** The House and Senate are scheduled to be on recess April 14 – 24

The House is on recess May 12 – 16

The Senate is on recess May 26 – May 30

The House is on recess June 2 – Jun 6

The House and Senate are on recess June 30 – July 4

The House & Senate recess August 4 – Sept 5

**KANSAS FEDERATION CONVENTION**

The NARFE Manhattan Chapter is hosting the 2014 NARFE Kansas Federation Convention in Manhattan, KS, April 27-29<sup>th</sup>, at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel.

Please contact NARFE Chapter 378 President, Tom Huntzinger, if you are interested in being a delegate.

Items for the silent auction are needed. Items should have a value of at least \$5 and be new or an actual antique. A wrapped door prize with a minimum of \$10 value is also needed. All proceeds go to Alzheimer’s research and the money raised is credited to the Chapter’s total Alzheimer’s research donation for the year.

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Contact your Congressmen on the important issues. The NARFE website make it quick and easy.

If you are not computer savy, get your children or grandchildren to help you.

Come to a meeting to enjoy some of the wonderful programs that Roger Lemmons arranges for the Chapter.