



2016 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

President	Tom Huntzinger	785-766-6717
1 st Vice President	Roger Lemmons	785-840-9594
2 nd Vice President	Elaine Seeman	785-331-2280
Secretary	Leonard Short	785-840-8401
Treasurer	Cheryl Travis	785-865-7580
Membership	Dianne Throop	785-841-1408
Service Officer	John Rowe	785-856-8759
Newsletter	Wendy Hambly	913-845-0121
NARFE PAC Chair	Tom Huntzinger	785-766-6717
Alzheimer's Chair	John Scott	785-542-3510
Legislative Chair	Tom Huntzinger/ John Rowe	785-766-6717 785-856-8759
Sunshine	Mary Margaret Rowen/Clara Arnold	785-842-8847 785-842-1680
NARFE NET Coor	Jerry Feese	785-842-4330

KUDOS AND THANK YOU'S

* Elaine Seeman who bought brought pumpkin pie for everyone to complete the turkey dinner at the November meeting.

ALZHIEMER'S

November donations = \$77, which included the Chapter 378 Memorial donations of \$15 for members or member's spouse who passed away in recent months. Year-to-Date total = \$925.25.

NARFE OFFERS WEBINAR

HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU NEED TO RETIRE? was offered on Thursday, December 8th and is available for free viewing by members from the archived webinars.

What You Will Learn

- What you can do to reduce risk and eliminate concerns
- Proven ways to estimate your retirement budget.
- Investment strategies to avoid tax pitfalls.
- And more...

NARFE LEGISLATIVE DEPT. 12/2/16

1. NARFE President, Richard Thissen testified before the House Subcommittee on Government Operations about the significant increase in Federal Long Term Care Insurance. He expressed his outrage.
2. Legislation introduced by Rep. D. Titus (D-NV) to prevent a disproportionately large increase in the 2017 Medicare Part B premiums for those not held harmless (those who do not pay for Medicare Part B via Social Security). Call 1-866-220-0044 and ask to be connected to your Representative.

DECEMBER 21ST PARTY

Chapter 378's Christmas Party is at the Smith Center of Brandon Woods on December 21st. Reservations and remittance are required. If you haven't already signed up, there is still time to reserve your spot. You'll find the form on pg 3. The food is always good, Roger Lemmons has invited a saxophone quartet to entertain us, Santa's Helper is making his annual visit with gifts for everyone, and we'll do a little caroling.

RECAP NOVEMBER 16TH MEETING

The Mayor of Lawrence, Mike Amyx, was the November speaker. Mr. Amyx said it is an exciting time as there are lots of big things going on in Lawrence.

- a) The South Lawrence Traffic Way (SLTW), a project which is still on the list of top economic benefits for Kansas, had the ribbon cutting was last week, and opens the corridor connecting bioscience partners. The SLTIW is important for success of development on I 70.
- b) Hired new city manager. Lots of great new people and things going happening.
- c) Walking, biking and ADA accessibility are important values for the community. The City Commission approved creation of a Transportation Commission to encourage strong multimodal and non-motorized transportation planning. The city continues to be a leader in the construction and development of trails and paths, which provide our residents' access to all parts of the community by walking or biking.
- d) The Public Works Department is developing a program in the fall of 2016 to address necessary reapirs to sidewalks in all areas of the city. Parks and Recreation has begun a 3-year program to replace sections of sidewalks and mid-block crossings in the downtown area to address accessibility and ADA issues. In 2016, 5 new bicycle repair stations, new bike corrals, and inverted-U bike racks for additional bike parking in downtown were added
- e) Lawrence is starting it's 1st Strategic Plan to set goals for the city as an organization but will also provide a way to measure our performance in relation to those goals. (A Strategic Plan, outlines a systematic process for moving toward a vision in a manner that involves the development and

prioritization of strategic goals along with measurable strategies and objectives.)

- f) Construction of the new Wakarusa Water Treatment Plant continues nicely. The \$74.1 M project which provides additional treatment capacity for our existing community needs and prepares Lawrence for future growth up to a population of ~127,000 residents. Completion is scheduled for 2018.
- g) The Lawrence Transit System (LTS) continues to see ridership expand each year. The LTS combined with the KU's system had over 3million riders in 2015. In 2016, we expanded 3 route to provide 30 minute service because of the increased demand for public transit.
- h) Two major construction projects were approved by the City Commission, a round-about at Wakarusa and Harvard and reconstruction of Kasold Dr, from 6th to Bob Billings Pkwy, a traditional street. The 2017 budget includes ~\$12M in infrastructure reinvestment as \$8.3M in capital improvements and \$3.9M in street maintenance.
- i) Kansas enacted a Tax Lid, which goes into effect in 2018. Lawrence's 2017 budget was developed with the knowledge that the Tax Lid will put added pressure on Lawrence to provide core city services. The Tax Lid will generally cap the growth on property tax revenue by the increase in the consumer price index next year. If the property Tax Lid were in place for 2017, growth in property tax revenue would have been limited to 1.6%. For 2017, the city was able to realize 3.8% growth in property taxes (assessed valuation on real property). This illustrates the pressure the city will continue to face once the Tax Lid is in place in 2018 and shows the need to grow our tax base to continue to fund the city services and programs our community has come to expect and enjoy.

Mr Amyx gets to talk to KU students. Students ask "What does KU do for me?" He responds, "What don't we do for you?" The city provides the hospital, cemetery, water, sewer, police, medical, sidewalks and streets. The city is a caretaker, but there is a cost. In July, plans for the 2017 budget began. They had to guess the price of a gallon of gas in December 2016, and how many snows there'd be to handle in 2017. Years ago, the only streets cleared were Mass, 6th, 23rd, and Iowa. One fellow used a barber chair in

back of his car for weight. Today they pretreat and remove snow all over the city.

Budget process longer Mar-Aug.

Sales tax implemented 10 years ago provided funds for street work on Iowa and Kasold. On Bob Billings, the city changed to concrete with granite verse limestone to get longevity. They used to have to overlay concrete with asphalt every few years, which cost for \$200,000 verses \$6 M to use good concrete.

Kasold connects 6th to K10. At this time, KDOT will not put an exchange at Kasold south of 31st street. There will be one at Waukarusa.

The Mayor cautioned to be careful where 4 lanes go down to 2 lanes at Kasold and K10. State has money woos right now so will look at making it 4 lanes at a later date.

Lawrence is going to go through a growth pattern--we are at a time where public trust is at a low. This new council has encouraged him. He feels the council is trying for more transparency, which in turn will earn the public's trust--earn people's trust. The goal is to make Lawrence the best place for people to live within a budget. He feels the new city manager is level headed and makes good recommendations (informative eye openers). If we are going wrong, we need to hear it.

Q and A:

1. What is population? 91,000
2. Strong mayor vs. City Manager and Citizens Commission? Amyx is not a supporter of a strong mayor because the mayor controls agenda, and district representation supports cronyism. A City Manager and Citizen Commission is the best form of government for what we have now. The City Manager has a contract; therefore, the Commission can remove him.
3. Tax incentives on new development--what constitutes discussions on offering tax incentives? Size of project = \$1-1.25M, Return on investment, Potential Employment (new jobs). Developers ask for incentives. They are looking for the best deal. Voted against expansion of Eldridge Hotel.
4. At the corner of 11th and Rhode Island, a little house that had a park was a hard "collection area." Revitalization offered by city--historic property is not

reason--if you look at what there is there now. It helped protect the neighborhood. Down the road the city will get money back in taxable property. Lots of people said bull doze it down. In the end just do what you think is right.

5. Queens Rd north of 6th St? Deal when that area should have made deal updates be done when gave incentives.

6. Parking: Codes for parking were done at last night's at meeting. They hired an outfit to look at parking in town. It was a wild time at that meeting. You should have watched us instead of ball game.

OPEN SEASON

OPEN SEASON CLOSES DECEMBER 12, 2016. Premiums on page 34 of the November issue of narfe Magazine.

MEMBERSHIP

DIANNE THROOP

Joanne Lewis, 89, of Independence, MO, died July 30, 2016. Robert Schrick, died. Joseph F. Scraper, 86, Baldwin City, died Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016. Patricia Hahn, 79, of Tonganoxie, died Sept. 30, 2016 (wife of Leroy Hahn, Chapter 378 member). A memorial donation from the Chapter for each of these individuals was sent to Alzheimer's Research.

Tom Huntzinger is at KU Medical Center being treated for leukemia. His treatment will be extensive, and he'll be at KU Med through May 2017. His visitors are limited to immediate family. Cards may be sent to: Tom Huntzinger. c/o Erin Oliva,

6600 Outlook Dr., Mission, KS, 66202

Email: tomhuntzinger@sunflower.com.

CHAPTER 378 CHRISTMAS PARTY INFO

The party will be at the Smith Center at Brandon Woods on Wednesday, December 21st. We will gather at 11:30, dine at noon, have installations of officers, and be entertained by a saxophone quartet.

The menu includes: 2 Entrées, 4 Sides, Dessert, and coffee/tea.

Entrées—**Beef Brisket**, Whole Beef Brisket rubbed with barbecue seasoning or mixed herbs is slow cooked overnight. Trimmed, sliced and served with a sauce of choice, usually barbecue or sherry cream.

Chicken Florentine, Baked boneless Chicken Breast or bone-in leg Quarters in a creamy Spinach sauce with fresh Tomatoes

Sides -----**Roasted Red Potatoes**

Green Bean Almondine

A Variety of Steamed Vegetables

Baked Asparagus

Dessert---**Chocolate Dream Dessert**, Brandon Woods signature, Layers of chocolate cake, chocolate pudding and whipped cream

We need a head count for Brandon Woods and prepayment for the meal(s), so **please complete and return the Reservation Form by Dec 16th. Make check payable to: NARFE CHAPTER 378. Send the form and your remittance to:**

Wendy Hambly, 25029 Dehoff Dr.

Tonganoxie, KS 66086

We always have a good time, so don't miss out!



NARFE Party Reservation Form

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>\$16/person</i>
<i>Total Remittance:</i>	