

**2014 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	785-841-1616
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.

MEMBERSHIP**Dianne Throop**

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!

Betty is still making phone calls for the chapter.
Dianne Throop, email: d.throop@sbcglobal.net

JUNE 18TH MEETING ROGER LEMMONS

The June 18, 2014 meeting of the NARFE Chapter 378 will meet in Conroy's meeting room. The program begins at noon. Lunch is at 12:30 and is followed by a brief meeting.

June 18th 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.

Tom Huntzinger added the following interesting background facts about the upcoming presentation: *The Kansas Water Office is tasked with developing the next 50 year Kansas Water Plan. The Governor has set this process in motion in response to the depletion of the Ogallala aquifer and the degradation of reservoir storage from sediment accumulation. John Redmond Reservoir no longer has the capacity today to meet demands downstream and will be dredged at substantial public cost. Clinton Lake and releases from reservoirs to the Kansas River are the sources of water for Lawrence.*

Clinton Lake is now at historic low level.

MAY 21ST MEETING RECAP

Bonnie Lowe, Chief Operations Officer of the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce. She has a varied and interesting background. She grew up in Wakeeney, KS, attended college, moved to Lawrence in 1986, was an attorney's office investigator, worked on numerous community committees, and is a former Lawrence mayor. Currently, she is the temporary CEO, while the chamber searches for a replacement.

The chamber was organized December, 12, 1878 "for the purpose of fostering, promoting and improving the trade, commerce, manufacturing, industrial, railroad and general interest of the city and county." They established a set of rules which included, "No member shall speak more than twice to any question not more than 10 minutes." The Chamber is located near 7th and Vermont.

Areas of interest of the Chamber's include Economic Development of Lawrence and Douglas County, Advocacy, and Leadership Lawrence.

Economic Development: Lead by Brad Pollington, a recently completed 3 year capital campaign resulted in pledges of almost \$700,000 from over 73 investors. These funds will be used in 4 major areas: Retention, Expansion, and Attraction of Businesses; Entrepreneurship; Talent Development; and Marketing and Communications. External recruitment efforts focus on Advanced Manufacturing, Animal Health & Life Sciences, Back-Office Support, and Logisitics.

Advocacy: Hugh Carter was instrumental in the establishment of the Dwayne Peaslee Technical Training Center. Six community colleges are helping to develop programs such as construction, welding, and CDL training for the Peaslee Tech Center. An application for a grant to redo the building purchased December 31, 2013, is in the works, and they will find out in October 2014, if they receive it. Land was donated to the school district for a Career Center near the school and the Peaslee Tech Center building. The center was named after Dwayne Peaslee, who passed away but knew of the name of the planned tech center. He was a pipefitter for over 60 years, Business Manager of KS Plumbers and Pipefitters, and served on many local and federal boards.

Leadership Lawrence: The 32nd class just graduated. Thirty applicants for the next year's the class will be accepted soon.

Things going on now include the Chamber redesigning its website and logo as part of its efforts to improve communications with Lawrence businesses. Rock Chalk Park is a place for kids and draws visitors who spend money in Lawrence. Completion of the Trafficway will encourage more development. Three businesses are currently investigating sites in Lawrence. There are a number of development possibilities. You can email Bonnie Lowe at blowe@lawrencechamber.com.

LEGISLATIVE	John Surritte
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Two Democratic senators have introduced legislation that would give federal employees a 3.3 percent pay raise in 2015, mirroring a bill already introduced in the House.

Ask senators to support proposed 3.3% federal workers' pay raise.

The email addresses of our senators
<http://www.roberts.senate.gov/public/>
<http://www.moran.senate.gov/public/>

Also, please check page 4 of this newsletter for proposed changes to NARFE structure.

ALZHEIMERS

John Scott

2014 CHAPTER 378 DONATIONS

Month	Chapter Donations	YTD Total
January	\$126	\$126
February	\$17	\$143
March	\$9	\$152
April	\$14	\$166

Since 1986, NARFE has donated \$10.7 million to Alzheimer's Research and 100% went to research! The current goal is \$11 million.

The Alzheimer's Association recently developed a monthly "e-news" email specifically for NARFE members. The email provides information and updates concerning Alzheimer's. If you wish to receive their e-news, sign up at:

http://www.alz.org/join_the_cause_narfe_email.asp

Alzheimer's Association applauds the introduction of Alzheimer's Accountability Act

The Alzheimer's Association applauds introduction of the Alzheimer's Accountability Act, which represents a bipartisan effort to ensure that Congress is equipped with the best possible information to set funding priorities and reach the goal of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's by 2025.

Alzheimer's Association awards largest-ever research grant

The Alzheimer's Association recently announced its largest ever research grant — \$8 million over four years — to support the Longitudinal Evaluation of Amyloid Risk and Neurodegeneration (LEARN) study as a companion study to the Anti-Amyloid Treatment in Asymptomatic Alzheimer's Disease (A4) Study, a pioneering Alzheimer's prevention trial that begins this year.

The following is the complete March 7, 2014, Boston Globe article by Kay Larzar:

A Boston scientist poised to launch a pioneering Alzheimer's prevention study was awarded an \$8 million grant Thursday to expand the research and further explore potential causes of cognitive decline in the mind-robbing disease.

Dr. Reisa Sperling, a neurologist at Harvard Medical School and an Alzheimer's specialist at Brigham and Women's Hospital, received the Alzheimer's Association grant, the largest such research award the group has ever given, the association said.

The goal of the new money is to "jump-start the

development of new detection methods, treatments, and prevention strategies for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias," Maria Carrillo, the association's vice president of medical and scientific relations, said in a statement.

In the next few months, Sperling and her colleagues are preparing to launch a study called A4, which will follow 1,000 adults, ages 65 to 85, who have abnormal proteins, known as amyloid plaques, revealed by brain scans, and who are exhibiting subtle cognitive problems that are typically reported in people years before they are diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

The study will give half of the participants a drug designed to clear amyloid plaques from their brains, and the others a placebo, while researchers will track the rate of cognitive decline in both groups. The goal is to determine whether this potential Alzheimer's drug treatment, which blocks amyloid proteins from building up in the brain, can slow or prevent Alzheimer's in people who do not yet have memory and thinking problems.

The new grant money will be used to launch a companion study, called LEARN, to determine whether there may be reasons for the memory and related problems associated with Alzheimer's, other than the buildup of abnormal amyloid plaques, the association said.

Researchers will select an additional 500 participants from the pool of volunteers who aren't selected for the A4 trial, and scan their brains to see whether they have a buildup of another protein, known as tau, which form tangles in the brain and are a hallmark sign of Alzheimer's disease.

The LEARN study will also run for three years, and participants will undergo identical memory, blood, and other testing as those in the A4 study, according to the Alzheimer's Association.

Researchers will study these participants, who do not have an abnormal buildup of amyloid in their brains, to see what other biological changes may be related to their cognitive decline, including possible later build-up of amyloid plaques.

Sperling said the new grant money will also help researchers "test the tests" they are developing for their A4 study to measure the subtle memory and thinking changes people undergo in the earliest stages of Alzheimer's disease.

The A4 study is expected to begin enrolling participants in the next few months at over 60 sites in the U.S., including Brigham and Women's Hospital.

SPECIAL EVENTS

One of the problems with planning special events is transportation and liability. Elaine Seeman has suggested we "piggy-back" with other organizations such as OSHER Lifelong Learning Institute, an adult continuing education program through KU, and the Lawrence Senior Center. They provide programs and transportation, take registrations, and collect the moneys.

Currently OSHER is offering 2 trips in July:

- 1) A 1-day bus tour to Ft Leavenworth, Friday, July 11th, is a tour covering 200 years of history beginning in 1827. The cost is \$50. Coach departs St. Andrews Office Facility, 1515 Saint Andrews Dr., Lawrence, at 8:30 am and returns by 4 pm.
- 2) A 2-day bus tour to National Churchill Museum and Harry S. Truman Museum Tour, Thursday, July 17-18 for \$235(double occupancy) \$285 (single occupancy) and includes bus, tour, 1 night lodging, breakfast and 2 lunches. Dinner on your own. Coach departs St. Andrews Office facility, 1515 Saint Andrews Dr., Lawrence, Thurs., 7:30 am, and returning Friday, at 4 pm.

Register with OSHER at 785-864-5823. For more information check the website: OSHER@ku.edu

The Senior Center is sponsoring a trip to the New Dinner Theater in August. More info in July newsletter.

FUTURE OF NARFE (FON) Convention Notes

The following is a summary of a presentation at the April Kansas Federation Convention, concerning the reorganization of NARFE above the Chapter level. Times have changed. Reduced membership yields less funds and forces us to look at reducing costs and more effective uses of funds.

>Restructure NARFE, moving from focus on member services to focus on Area offices would be consistent with congressional districts (putting Lawrence with Topeka), therefore, reducing 10 areas to 4 districts.

>NARFE congressional district leaders would make up the state board and elect a president

>Nationwide reduce 10 regions to 5 regions

>Cut headquarter personnel from 80 to 40

Voting on these issues will take place at NARFE's National Convention in August, 2014, so please familiarize yourself with the proposed changes. It is also important for you to complete the survey below and return it to Carol Ek, Region 5 VP, who will summarize your answers and

comments prior to the national convention.

NARFE.org/legislative website regularly.

It is also recommended that members visit the

NARFE is considering reorganization and wants members input.

Please complete the following survey and return it to:

Carol Ek, Region 5 VP, 907 Sycamore Place, McPherson, KS 67460-5804

Or email the completed form to ek617@att.net so she receives the survey by JUNE 15, 2014.

You should be able to click to get your cursor in the appropriate area for your response. Then either copy and paste it into an email or print just this page and mail it to Carol Ek BEFORE June

Survey of Member Suggestions and Reactions to the Future of NARFE (FON) Presentation and Proposals

Survey Question		Yes	No
1.	Have you reviewed previous literature or articles regarding the Future of NARFE (FON) Committee visions and recommendations		
2.	Rate the FON Committee presentations made at convention. (1-10, Ten being the best)		
3.	What you liked most about the presentation?		
	What you liked least about the presentation?		
4.	Do you believe we should change the name or logo for NARFE?		
5.	Do you believe NARFE should remain with the 5 Regions as now established or go back to 10 or something in between?		
6.	Should the elected Board of Directors have the authority to appoint two additional members to the board of directors who may or may not be NARFE members?		N
7.	Should term limits be established for the Board of Directors?		
8.	Should the elected Board of Directors be allowed to appoint a President and Treasurer of NARFE from among the 5 elected directors? (these officers would be non-resident officers)		
9.	Should the elected officers be reduced from the current 4 to 2 by eliminating the Vice-President and the Secretary positions?		
10.	Should the Board of Directors hire professional marketing staff?		
11.	Should the Board of Directors hire a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to run NARFE and send the elected President home?		
12.	Should the Board of Directors hire a Financial Officer to handle the funds of NARFE and send the elected Treasurer home?		
13.	Should the Board of Directors be allowed to establish an annual National Dues?		
14.	Should mandatory chapter dues be abolished?		
15.	Should we transition from a Federation structure to a State advocacy structure?		
16.	What recommendations would you have to effectively navigate the Future of NARFE toward a more viable organization?		

To become more informed about the Future of NARFE (FON), go to the following website for easy access to pdf files with explanations of a variety of proposed changes. <http://www.narfe.org/member/articles.cfm?ID=3648&CFID=1802955&CFTOKEN=61234506>

The committee's findings and recommendations are available in PDF files:

NARFE Insider Special Future of NARFE Edition
The National Executive Board Review of the Future of NARFE Report and Recommendations
The Future of NARFE Committee Recommendations
Realignment of NARFE Regions by State
Presentation: Future of NARFE Committee
Future of NARFE Committee Report and Recommendations
Future of NARFE Committee Members
Suggested Options to Guide NEB Discussions for Possible Timeline
Proposed NARFE Tiered Dues Structure
Tiered Dues Structure Methodology
Clues to Success
Active Federal Employee (AFE) Focus Group