



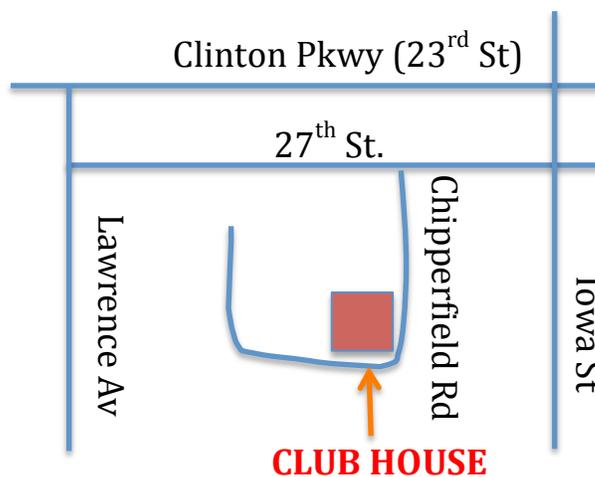
## NARFE CHAPTER 378, Lawrence, KS Newsletter October 2017

2017 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS		
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1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Roger Lemmons	785-840-9594
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Secretary	Wendy Hambly	913-845-0121
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	John Rowe	785-856-8759
Alzheimer's Chair	John Scott	785-542-3510
Legislative Chair	Gordon Montney	785-760-0595
Sunshine	Mary Margaret Rowen/Clara Arnold	785-842-8847 785-842-1680
NARFE NET Coor	Jerry Feese	785-842-4330

### OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING R. LEMMONS

NARFE Free State Chapter 378 will meet Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at noon, in the Chipperfield Club House at **2745 Chipperfield Rd.**, Lawrence (see map below). You need a paid reservation by October 13<sup>th</sup>, so we can give Salty Iguana a headcount. Call Wendy Hambly by the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup> if you missed the deadline (phone listed to the left).

October's presenter is Lawrence mayor, Leslie Soden. So, get your questions ready. **NOTE: We will have lunch at noon so food is hot. The presentation will follow.**



### KUDOS AND THANK YOU'S

- John Scott for continuing to be the chapter's Alzheimer's Chair and reporting our progress each month.
- Roger Lemmons for continually providing great meeting programs!!
- Betty Scribner for keeping in touch with NARFE members and letting us know who needs a card.

### CHAPTER 378 OCTOBER MEETING

The Chapter meeting will be held at the Chipperfield Club House. Lunch includes chicken and beef tacos, beans, chips, salsa, and iguana dip from the Salty Iguana. There will also be ice tea, water, and dessert for \$10 per person. Because we need a head count, **a reservation and remittance are required by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Make checks payable to NARFE Chapter 378.

Please return the form and remittance to:

Wendy Hambly

25029 Dehoff Dr., Tonganoxie, KS 66086

Names:	\$10/person
<b>Total remittance:</b>	

### RECAP SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

Chad Lawhorn, Managing Editor of the *Journal World*, who has the pulse of Lawrence, return for his second visit to Chapter 0378. Mr. Lawhorn grew up in a government family. His father worked in the Corp of Engineers.

NARFE members present were not disappointed, as Mr. Lawhorn gave another interesting and informative presentation. He suggested keeping an eye on the following items:

- ✓ *Town Talk* - everyday article
- ✓ Upcoming Elections – for city commission, school board, and renewing two sales taxes. The first tax is 0.3% for infrastructure, which was approved 10 years ago and is reaching the end of its sunset clause. The second tax is for public transit. This tax is the primary funding source, as fares don't cover 100% of the operating costs. It too has the same 10-year sunset clause. The 0.05% tax for affordable housing will raise about a million

dollars per year. The city doesn't have a firm plan yet but feels there is a need for affordable housing in Lawrence. The city has a building budget for 2018 with 110-120 million dollars over 10 years. He doesn't know if it will pass. There is a group opposing it, and property taxes have been raised.

- ✓ The city needs to decide if a new shopping center will go in on south Iowa. It would be a center, not a mall. Academy Sport and Home Goods are going into the old Penny's building. The city has been sued for rejecting an earlier plan. Developer submitted this new retail project plan. In the process of updating Horizon 2020, the plan for the future. The controversial issue is "what type of growth do we want, fill in gaps with in the city or expand outward"?
- ✓ Jail-expand it and add mental health components to make sure those individuals needing mental health care get it. The cost to keep them out of jail would be about 30 million dollars. Once built, you have to operate it, so need cost estimates for that. There is no date for an election for this and there is some push back. There probably is no way to do this without tax raise.
- ✓ Tom Marcus, Lawrence City Manager, is a new voice at city hall (he spoke at our March meeting), Lawrence Memorial Hospital and KU Hospital (KUH). KUH is becoming more aggressive in expanding to outlying communities. LMH is going through asking the question--*Is it best to stand alone as a hospital or partner with another entities?*
- ✓ There's a new chancellor at KU [Douglas Girod], Chad suggests you hear him speak. The former chancellor [Bernadette Gray-Little] did some good things with building. The new guy understands that outreach to legislature is needed
- ✓ There is a new school superintendent.
- ✓ New governor on the way, just waiting for the news. Brownbach will be moving-hearing will probably be in September. Jeff Colyer, current Lieutenant Governor of Kansas, will be new governor. The election in 2018 will be interesting because of the "gloves off" candidates.

#### Questions and Answers:

Q: Will taxes be voted on as one package or separately? A: Separate votes.

Q: Plans for Kasold? A: The plan for Kasold between 6<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> is to look like Kasold south of 23<sup>rd</sup> and a roundabout at Kasold/Harvard and at

Wakarusa/Harvard. Bids have been let.

Q: What about the Tyson Plant in Tonganoxie?

A: Leavenworth County Commissioners have withdrawn the \$500,000,000 bond\* offered to Tyson. People are fighting to prevent the project. "No Tyson in Tonganoxie." Lawrence people are concerned about the environment, while some are against it because Tyson is a big corporation. Lawrence, in general, is not supporting the project. In addition to the plant, there would be numerous chicken farms with-in a 50-mile radius, so Leavenworth, Jefferson, and Douglas Counties are involved. In addition to the processing area, the plant would have a hatchery and grain storage. The farmers pick up chicks and feed. Farmers raise chicks in buildings built by Tyson and return chickens to the Tyson plant for processing--1.2 million chickens per week. The bonds\* [\$500 million dollars in bonds put forth by Leavenworth County, and then withdrawn after protests] would make Leavenworth County owners of the plant, therefore, 80% of taxes would be abated. Of the 1600 new jobs the plant would create, how many locals would take those jobs? Lawrence is prepared to do some research. Noel, MO and some towns in Iowa have Tyson plants. The \$13/hr jobs are tough, and it is hard to get locals to take those jobs. Tyson brings in immigrants. Lawrence's plan is to find some experts who do not have a "horse in the race" and visit these plants. Unlike meat processing plants, most chicken plants do not have lagoons. If you've been through Emporia, KS there is an odor. How much water will the plant use? Where will it come from? Two utility companies, gas and electric, are providing a couple million.

Q: Have you considered putting a weekly insert in Baldwin and Eudora?

A: The *Journal World* did not lay off the reporter. There is still news called *AREA ROUNDUP*, which covers Baldwin and Eudora. Sports coverage was hit the hardest with the closing of the Baldwin newspaper. Chad "gets it" that it would be its own section, space, but currently, the paper doesn't have the advertising dollars needed to do that.

Q: Lawrence Sports Pavilion? A: A Best Western Hotel is to be built near the pavilion and a Fiesta Hilton across from Free State High School. Is Sports Center making money from tournaments? A: The Pavilion has played a part in bringing in the new

hotels. Banks are lending money for hotels, and the Sports Pavilion is working out the way it was planned. The AAU Olympics were good. Development of retail to the west has not happened. Retailers like to be near other retailers. The Bypass is attractive to retailers. Shoppers don't want to go to the Pavilion, they want to shop stores like Menards. That doesn't mean there won't be retail out there at some point.

Q: Where is the TV guide? A: The location in the paper changes because of the number of ads. The paper needs to do better job in locating the TV guide.

**SUNSHINE**

The SUNSHINE LADIES, Clara Arnold and Mary-Margaret Rowen, both need a little sunshine. Clara is out of the hospital now and does plan to attend the October meeting. Mary-Margaret had a hip replacement on September 21<sup>st</sup> and is at home and in rehab. Cards were sent to them, to Janet Craig, who broke her hip and is in rehab, and to Don Nease who has been under the weather.

A "thinking of you" card was sent to Pat Huntzinger.

Mary-Margaret Rowen sent a card to the family of Artie Shaw, who passed away on September 16, 2017.

Please remember to notify one of the Sunshine ladies [their phone numbers are on page 1 at the top of left column] if you know of someone who is ill, on the mend, or celebrating a birth, birthday, or anniversary.

**UPDATED CHAPTER 0378 BY-LAW**

The proposed updated Free State Chapter 0378 By Laws were printed in the September Chapter Newsletter for the membership to review. No comment was considered approval. There were no comments, so the updated By Laws were approved with one correction to the meeting day to read "3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month." Chapter Secretary, Wendy Hambly, forwarded the chapter-approved updated bylaws to Jon Dowie, NARFE National Secretary/Treasurer, for review. National has to approve the updated bylaws.

**NARFE PAC**

**JOHN ROWE**

The NARFE PAC donations go toward getting our foot in the door to have a voice with legislators who make the laws that can affect our benefits for both active and retired federal workers.

**MEMBERSHIP**

**DIANNE THROOP**

Chapter 0378 was notified by Wanda Bilsing that her husband, Billie [NARFE member}, passed away on September 24, 2017. It was also reported that Artie Shaw died on 9/16/17. Cheryl Travis, Treasurer will send a memorial of \$15 each to Alzheimer's Research.

As of September 2017, the chapter has 104 members. One member transferred to another chapter, 3 members were reinstated, and 1 second notice for membership renewal was sent. A letter was sent to Bart Manny, a prospective member.

Calls were made to members, who's emails served by Sunflower may not be functioning, to remind them of the Chapter 0378, October meeting at Chipperfield Club House on Wednesday, October 18, 2017.

**ALZHEIMER'S**

**JOHN SCOTT**

There was a donation of \$73 at the October meeting. The year-to-date total is \$524.

**FEDERATION LEGISLATIVE CHAIR**

Louis Bornman, stopped in to Chapter 0378's September meeting to report on the NARFE COLLEGE meeting in Nebraska.

The NARFE website is being reworked to make it more "user friendly."

The 2018 Kansas Federation will be in Wichita area and again be sponsored by the Federation.

Mr. Bornman suggested reading the *narfe mazgazine* to stay informed about legislation. He also reminded us to use the Legislative Action Center on the NARFE website to contact congressmen and take opportunities to visit with your congressmen to get the NARFE message across.



*"It's easier to fool people than to convince them they have been fooled."*

- Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain)

*"Sometimes I wonder whether the world is being run by smart people who are putting us on, or by imbeciles who really mean it."*

- Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain)