



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

- Those who will step up to the plate and serve the chapter in 2015.
- John and Linda Surritte, who **are again matching Chapter 378 members' donations to Alzheimer's research during the months of August, September, and October.**

YOUR NARFE CHAPTER 378 John Surritte

NARFE Chapter 378 Officer elections are held at the November meeting. As Past President, it is my duty to prepare the ballot for those elections. The chapter needs people to fill elected and appointed positions. Please consider serving your chapter and contact either Tom Huntzinger or me if you would like to continue or begin to serve. Nominations should be sent by October 15th.

We will elect officers in November and install them in December. The President will announce appointed chairs in December.

John Surritte
Past Chapter President

ALZHEIMERS John Scott

2014 CHAPTER 378 DONATIONS

Month	Chapter Donations	YTD Total
July	\$113	\$368*
August		

Remember John and Linda Surritte are again match Alzheimer's donations for 2 more months, September and October,

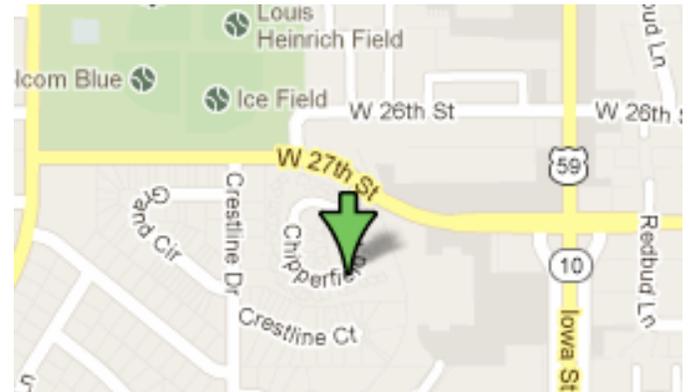
If you wish to receive The Alzheimer's Association e-news, sign up at:

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

SEPTEMBER 17TH MEETING Roger Lemmons

NOTE: The September 17, 2014, NARFE Chapter 378 will be an indoor "picnic" at the Chipperfield Clubhouse at 2745 Chipperfield Rd. This is our 3rd year for this "picnic." We always have a great time. See you there!

Mike Amyx, Mayor of Lawrence, is joining



us and will speak informally at noon about various topics effecting Lawrence.

Cheryl Travis is organizing our indoor picnic. Lunch will be BBQ brisket and pulled pork with baked beans, chips, and beverage. The cost is \$10 per person. Dianne Throop volunteered to make potato salad. Cheryl requested a few members bake cookies, so give her a call if you wish to volunteer for that. **Members are encouraged to invite potential NARFE members (retired or active federal workers) to attend.**

AUGUST 20TH MEETING RECAP

Brad Allen, Lawrence Public Library Director, presented an informative program on the new Library and what it has to offer the public and particularly NARFE members.

Mr. Allen became Library Director in May of 2012, just before construction for the library began. He is a KU grad from Topeka, KS. He showed numerous photos of the new facilities and presented the corresponding information as *Promises Made/Promises Kept*.

The Grand Opening of the new Library was July 226, 2014 and 12,000 attended the event. Two hundred volunteers participated in the "community book passing." The last book, *Where the Wild Things Are*, to be moved was passed, one by one, from the library's temporary quarters to the new

facilities. Each passer signed the book as it was passed. Fifteen hundred attended the movie, *Ghost Busters*, shown that evening on Vermont St..

The PROJECT] \$19 million raised, \$18 million through bond voted in by Lawrence residents and \$1 million privately. The project was close to budget. The break is \$10M to renovate 10,000 sq ft and 20,000 sq ft new space, \$3M new furniture, and \$5.5M for the parking garage and site work.

Promise #1: 20,00 sq ft expansion. When you walk in, anywhere you see the ash wood core is the exterior of the old building. There are 2 entries to the front lobby, which includes a coffee shop and the welcome desk, which is always manned.

Promise #2: Renovate all spaces in old library. The Atrium brings in daylight to the lower level.

Promise #4: More Parking. Old 125 spaces, new 325 spaces to serve the library, the pool, and senior center. Some spaces are 3 -10 hrs for \$1, roof is free, handicap spaces near elevator on ever level

Promise #4: More Space for Children. New children’s department of 9,100 sq ft., is almost double the old space. It contains children’s reading cubbies for impromptu story times, fresh and new salt water aquariums, Lego table, wooden train with tracks, and children’s program area for story time holds 80-90 kids.

Promise #5: Children’s Programming Area. The Reader’s Theater is the new home for story time and holds 50-60 children and parents. This frees up the auditorium for addition community gatherings.

Promise #6: Improved Technology. All new internet computers. There are 36 for adults, 16 for children, and 16 for teens (Mind Craft game). They are more high powered. There are laptops for check out and an increased bandwidth (100% more than old lab) for those that bring their won computers. In Addition, ther is a new Sound and Vision Studio with 4 video editing suites, a sound studio and green screen for making anything from family videos to recording a song.

Promise #7: The Teen Zone - Cool spaces for Young Adults. This is a safe place for teens with a big screen TV for gaming and area to read and study with books, magazines, graphic novels, and audiobooks.

Promise #8: Improve Library Materials Handling. Radio Frequency Identification Technology (RFIT) is now used to identify all library materials. All items havae been tagged with

and RFID antenna. As books and other materials are returned, the new sorter reads the tag and sorts them into bins so they can be returned to the appropriate shelf quickly. There are also new self-check machines, which make check out fast and easy. Just place the whole stack in and all items are checked our instantly. You watch the machines work through the windows. Apparently, watching the sorter is a crowd favorite.

Promise #9: More Public Meeting Spaces. There are several different kinds of meeting spaces. The auditorium seats 160 people, or at tables, 100; the 3 “board room size” meeting rooms each hold 20-30 people; and the 4 study room seat 4-6 people. Each room can be reserved. The spaces are free for community groups and non-profits. There is a small fee for for-profit businesses. All are equipped with flat screens and up-to-date technology for presentations. Automated online reservations available.

Promise 10: Drive up Book Drop and Book Lockers. The drive up book drop is on the west side of the library and accessible from Kentucky St. Book lockers are coming soon.

Promise #11: Outdoor Spaces for Community Gatherings. Wanted to create spaces that would bring the library outdoors. The *Reading Garden* is coming soon to the east side of the library. It will feature trees, shrubs, annuals, and perennials and seating to sit and read a good book. Also in the works is the *Library Lawn*, a 3 terraced lawn between the library and parking garage, which, in warmer months, will host storytimes and outdoor movies, and in winter, the upper terrace will become an ice skating rink.

Promise: #12: Improve the Library’s Energy Efficiency. Goal was to earn the *Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design* (LEED) certification for the building. Architects believe the new library will earn at least a silver rating because the atrium and new windows utilize natural light, recycled building materials, and reduced water and energy consumption.

LEGISLATIVE		John Surritte	
CPI-W		Monthly % Change	% Toward 2014 COLA
Mon/yr.	Figure		
3 rd qrt 2013	*234.327		
June 2014	234.702	0.21	1.90
July 2014	234.525	-0.08	1.82
Aug 2014			
Sept 2014			
3 rd qrt 2014	*		

*To trigger a COLA for 2015, the average CPI-W of July, August, and September of 2014 needs to rise above the 2013-3rd quarter average (234.327). For more information about the CPI-W go to: <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/cpifaq.htm>

info@wakefieldforkansas.com
lynn.jenkins@congressnewsletter.net
<http://moran.senate.gov>.

MEMBERSHIP

Dianne Throop

Welcome new members Michael Meyer, an active federal employee, and John and Perdita Scafe, who are transfers from Stratford and attended the August meeting.

NARFE member, Leroy Hahn, introduced his guest, wife, Trish Hahn, at the August meeting.

Chapter 378 lost 2 longtime members, Norma Gienu and Carol Klopp, who died earlier this year.

Chapter President recognized 1st VP, Roger Lemmons, and Newsletter Editor, Wendy Hambly, for their longtime service to NARFE Chapter 378.

Dianne Throop, email: d.throop@sbcglobal.net

NARFE Legislative Hotline September 12, 2014

Message from NARFE President Joseph A. Beaudoin

“On September 8, representatives and senators returned to Capitol Hill from the five-week summer recess. With the fiscal year ending September 30, and without the enactment of any of the 12 regular appropriations bills, congressional leaders are intent on passing an eight-week stopgap funding bill and recessing again to allow members to return home to campaign. A post-election or ‘lame-duck’ session will likely begin November 12. I urge NARFE members to use this recess wisely. By using the [Protect America’s Heartbeat Toolkit](#), the pre-election recess provides another opportunity for NARFE leaders and grass-roots activists to organize candidate forums and meetings.”

Flags for Fallen Civilian Feds

On September 9, NARFE, along with coalition partners – the [Senior Executives Association \(SEA\)](#) and the [Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association \(FLEOA\)](#) – issued a press release on the much-delayed issuance of final [regulations implementing a 2011 law \(P.L. 112-73\)](#) allowing federal agencies to provide flags to the next of kin of civilian employees killed in the line of duty. More than 20 federal employees have been killed in the

line of duty since the law was enacted. NARFE’s [press release](#) earned [media coverage](#), as the Association expressed gratefulness that this option is now available, and concern that the burden of having to initiate the request for the flag would be too great on grieving families. To view the Office of Personnel Management’s guidance to agencies, click [here](#).

Convention Delegates Approve Legislative Program

Delegates and guests participating in NARFE’s 33rd Biennial National Convention in Orlando, FL, including representatives from all 54 federations, eagerly received Legislative Director Jessica Klement’s [Legislative Update](#) (August 27). On [August 28](#), delegates took up to three bites of the advocacy apple by: 1) attending a highly successful NARFE-PAC breakfast with an engaging keynote speaker; 2) debating the Legislative Program for the 114th Congress (2015-2016); and 3) participating in an interactive “Lunch and Learn” on [Grass-Roots Advocacy](#). Legislative Committee Chair Pierce Johnson took the delegates through the Legislative Program and won its adoption. The program, as dictated by a delegate-approved resolution, reiterates NARFE’s support for employees of the U.S. Postal Service. It also includes a provision expressing the Association’s belief that inherently governmental functions be carried out by federal and postal employees, not contractors.

Convention attendees generously supported [NARFE-PAC](#), thanks to time dedicated to NARFE-PAC on the agenda, as well as by pithy pleas from Sergeant-at-Arms Chair Don Wiese. One-time contributions totaled \$9,500, and 57 new sustaining pledges will annualize to an additional \$7,800. Thanks to everyone who contributed to NARFE-PAC!

Phased Retirement Final Regulations

On August 7, the Office of Personnel Management issued final regulations implementing phased retirement in the federal government. [Phased retirement](#), a NARFE priority for years, was enacted into law more than two years ago as a cost-saving, management tool to capture crucial employee expertise that otherwise would be lost. Employees will be eligible for phased retirement starting November 6. However, how agencies will implement this new option remains to be seen.