



2014 OFFICERS and CHAIRS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
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| Legislative Chair | John Surritte | 785-856-0558 |
| Sunshine | Mary Margaret | 785-842-8847 |
| | Rowen/Clara Arnold | 785-842-1680 |

KUDOS AND THANK YOU'S.

📧 Elaine Seeman, for organizing the lunches at meeting and arranging the special event to the New Dinner Theater on April 8th.

NARFE LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE FEB. 6, 2015

NARFE's [Legislative Action Center](#) is a more streamlined site allowing you to follow NARFE's legislative priorities, write letters to your members of Congress, and review background information on each issue. It is easier to forward to friends and family to encourage them to take action on NARFE's issues. We encourage NARFE members to visit, become familiar with the site, and send your legislators a letter asking them to support the FAIR Act (or thanking them for doing so).

Resources for State Legislative Advocacy

NARFE's [Legislative Action Center](#) now includes a [State Advocacy](#) module with useful information and links to empowering web-based resources. You can read your governor's state of the state address. [Governing.com](#) provides a gateway to the video and text of these speeches. Both the [THOMAS](#) system at the Library of Congress and [MultiState.com](#) provide gateways to the websites of state and territorial legislatures. Experiment with these sources and then volunteer to assist your [chapter's](#) State Legislative Officer or contact your [federation president](#).

We encourage questions or comments. Email them to leg@narfe.org

CHAPTER HISTORY Roger Lemmons

I am trying to put together a history of Chapter 378, if anyone has any information or a story, please send it to me or bring it to February's meeting. So, you long-time members, please scratch your heads and contact me at: 785-840-9594 or r-slemmons@att.net.

MARCH 18TH MEETING Roger Lemmons

NARFE Chapter 378 will meet March 18, 2015, in the south meeting room of Conroy's Pub. The program begins at noon, lunch (a choice from 3 entrée's and coffee or tea for \$10) is at 12:30, and a brief meeting follows the lunch. On March 18th, a representative of the Lawrence Army National Guard will discuss the Guard's mission, preparedness, membership, and future.

In April, Chapter 378 member, Jerry Feese, will tell us about his visit to Iceland.

FEBRUARY 18TH MEETING RECAP

February's speaker, Kathy Richardson, Solid Waste Manager for the City of Lawrence, spoke about Lawrence's recycling program. Ms. Richardson has worked 12½ years for the city of Lawrence, beginning her career as a Hazardous Waste specialist in 2002. In 2007, she became the Waste Reduction and Recycling Operations Supervisor, and in November of 2013, she was promoted to Solid Waste Division Manager.

Ms. Richardson was born in Costa Rica, moved the United States to attend KU in 1996, and received a Bachelor's of Science in Biology from KU in 2000. She said she is passionate about her work, and supported that claim with her enthusiastic presentation.

SWD is part of the Public Works Dept., and provides commercial and residential yard waste pick up on Mondays, March through December. Yard waste is composted and sold to the community.

The newest service is residential Single Stream Recycling. This service was the result of a 10 year conversation. The mayor appointed a task force to develop a plan. Cost estimates indicated a private contractor would handle the waste. Hamms sorts, bales, and sells the waste. The city receives a rebate form them.

Douglas County Public works is moving to a location near the jail, and are looking for a new site for the hazardous waste facility. You'll hear more about this by the end of the summer.

The staff does outreach and education in the community. One such event is the annual Earth Day celebration in South Park. Two to three thousand attend the event.

Hazard Waste is handled by appointment only

between March and October. They try to schedule 3 days a week. They take 3 vehicles per hour for 4 hours each day. They are looking to make it more convenient for residents.

The new facility will bring the offices of the Public works together, under one roof. Kansas awarded Lawrence a \$140,000 grant. The project is pending for site approval from the city commissioners, getting a permit from the city, and approval by the Kansas Department of Health.

Yard waste was problematic this year because of the nice weather during the winter. People did yard work, so SWD put on a special day for pickup in which 2000 households participated.

The closing of Walmart's recycling center should not affect Lawrence because curbside pickup is in place and the county has drop off places, bins for mixed paper and newspaper. There is a recycling center at 12th and Haskell, metals are handled in North Lawrence, and ripple glass has bins at a variety of locations. Lawrence has bins for cardboard, cans, and aluminum foil, and the money collected from those bins is given to local charities.

Items not permitted in the recycling program:

- ☞ Plastic bags because they jam the gears of the sorting equipment. Grocery stores have collection boxes. Note : clear plastic bags can be used for shredded paper, because "pickers" on the sorting line can remove them easily.
- ☞ Bottle caps, both metal and plastic, less than 2" in diameter because they fall through the glass separator.
- ☞ Loose needles are dangerous for workers.
- ☞ With rental property the owner must request pick up. Tenants are paying for the service. Most of the biggest apartments do have recycle containers.
- ☞ SWD is working on downtown pedestrian recycling and alley-side pick up for commercial properties.
- ☞ The City Commission hears both good and bad comments concerning the service.
- ☞ Currently 38% by weight is recycled or composted. Ms Richardson hopes to see 50% by 2020. Commercial has to come on boards to reach that goal.
- ☞ Charge for dumpsters.

Contact info: Kathy Richardson, City of Lawrence Solid Waste Division Manager.
work cell: (785) 760-1631
Office phone (785) 832-3032
Email krichardson@lawrenceks.org

Website www.lawrenceks.org/swm

Check the web site for date for drop off of electronics and tires. City will pick up 5 tires/household/yr. No fee. Call city for pick up of large items.

ALZHEIMER'S

JOHN SCOTT

February 2015: \$13 YTD \$51.75

NOTE: At the January meeting, two \$10 donations were received for Alzheimer's research. One was in memory of Valentine Romero, the other in memory of Roberta Crider.

KANSAS FEDERATION CONVENTION

Delegates to represent Chapter 378 are needed for the

**61st Annual KS Federation Convention
April 26-28, 2015**

Ramada Inn, 420 SE 6th St, Topeka, KS

Sponsored by NARFE Chapter 0002, Topeka

Deadlines:

Receipt of completed registration form and payment is April 1, 2015

Refund of meal cancellation is April 20, 2015

Refund of registration fee only April 28, 2015

**Room reservations-call Ramada directly
phone number: (866) 460-7456**

room rate of \$96.24/room by April 6, 2015

Registration form website:

<http://www.ksnarfe.org/2015%20ks%20conv%20forms/2015%20conv%20forms%20a.pdf>

**For more information: Gwendolyn Ketter
(785)220-7196**

Email: gsketter56@gmail.com

ALSO NEEDED: Items for the live and silent auctions (funds go to Alzheimer's Research). Items should be New or "Like New" or of antique quality. Each chapter is encouraged to bring a wrapped door prize valued between \$10-15 for door prize drawings held through out the convention.

Contact Tom Huntzinger if you wish to be a delegate or have more questions. (785) 766-6717. Chapter 378 pays delegate's registration fee. The room and meals are covered by the delegate.

NARFE Legislative hotline Feb 13 2015

available at the [State Advocacy](#) module of the NARFE Legislative Action Center.

Message from NARFE President Richard G.**Thissen**

“This week, I joined with our postal colleagues and coalition partners representing many different constituencies to pledge NARFE’s support for saving the U.S. Postal Service. The changes Congress has been pursuing to the Postal Service are detrimental to both the agency and the American people it serves. I am proud to lend NARFE’s support to this pledge. Learn more below.”

Sign Pledge to Save the U.S. Postal Service

NARFE joined more than 60 national organizations this week to form [A Grand Alliance to Save Our Public Postal Service](#). A Grand Alliance is a broad coalition of national organizations dedicated to protecting the U.S. Postal Service from dismantlement and privatization. NARFE President Richard G. Thissen attended a press conference with members of other organizations to announce the Alliance. “I don’t have to tell you that the United States Postal Service is a wonderful national treasure, enshrined in the Constitution and supported by the American people,” said Thissen in a message to NARFE members. “But the Postal Service and postal jobs are threatened by interests that seek to undermine postal services. We are fighting to protect and enhance vibrant public postal services now – and for many generations to come.” Please sign the [pledge](#) and join in the fight to protect the U.S. Postal Service. **Curious About Resources for State Legislative Advocacy?**

The U.S. Census Bureau provides maps of both congressional districts and state legislative districts (SLD). SLD reference maps display the boundaries, names and/or codes of state legislative districts in effect for the 2014 election cycle. Nine states (Alaska, Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Pennsylvania, Texas and Utah) and the District of Columbia delineated new boundaries for the 2014 election cycle. New maps were created only for the states with SLD changes. All other states continue to maintain the state legislative district boundaries delineated as a result of the 2010 census. The [gateway](#) where you select a state and chamber is:

www.census.gov/geo/maps-data/maps/reference-sld2014.html.

Interested to know the session dates and deadlines for your state legislature? Multistate provides this information in a single [table](#). More information is

The USPS has been in operation for 240 years. 40% of the world’s mail volume is handled by the Postal Service.

The USPS uses \$0 (zero) taxpayer dollars to operate.

However, more than **140** mail processing facilities have closed since 2012, and **82** more are scheduled to close in 2015.

SPECIAL EVENT**ELAINE SEEMAN****NEW DINNER THEATER: *Forever Plaid***

Wednesday, APRIL 8, 2015 Matinee Seating begins at 11:30 a.m. Dining begins at 12:00 noon

Opening Curtain is 1:00 p.m.

Eight have signed up to go. Should be fun.

SENIOR SERVICES DOUGLAS COUNTY

For information of services and classes offered to those 60 and over, visit dgcoseniorservices.org.

745 Vermont Street, Lawrence, KS

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone (785) 842-0543

SENIOR SERVICES VIA LAWRENCE LIBRARY:

CHAMPSS, which stands for Choosing Healthy Appetizing Meal Plan Solutions for Seniors, is a nutrition program for people 60 and older. Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging is partnering with the HyVee Stores in the Lawrence area to provide healthy meals, which have been developed by a licensed dietician. Participants are offered choices of when and what they choose to eat. The suggested donation is \$3.00 for each CHAMPSS meal. **To participate in the program, you must attend an orientation meeting at the Lawrence Public Library at 2:00PM the 1st Monday of the month. Next meeting is April 6, 2015.** People attending who qualify will be given an opportunity to sign up for CHAMPSS. For questions about CHAMPSS, **contact Beth Kinnan with Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging at 785-235-1367.** Programs like this also provide socialization for seniors.

“The best way to treat obstacles is to use them as stepping-stones. Laugh at them, tread on them, and let them lead you to something better.”

— Enid Blyton, Mr Galliano's Circus