



# "OLD TROOPER" NEWSLETTER



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, Old Trooper Chapter #383, Junction City, Kansas.

February 2015

## Chapter 383, 2015 Officers

President: Robert Norcross 762-2218  
1st Vice President: Ray Thompson, 762-5249  
2nd Vice President: Dixie Thomas 238-1455  
Secretary, Lannie Pender, 238-6503  
Treasurer: Wally Mitchell

## Committee Chairpersons:

Legislative, James Dodd, 238-8041

Membership Dixie Thomas 238-2455

Public Relations, Dixie Thomas, 238-1455

Service Officer, Walt Germann, 209-1938

Parliamentarian, Ray Thompson, 762-5249

Alzheimer's, Opal Dalton, 922-6551 and June Buckles

Sunshine, Wally Mitchell 238-3423

NARFE-PAC, Jim Martin 238-8539  
Decorating, Opal Dalton, 922-6551

Program, Karen Brough, #,  
Darlene Gaskins, #

Editor, Dixie Thomas, 238 1455

Chaplain, Maxine Kroepelin  
Calling, Vi Martin, 238-8539/Cell  
210-6037

Historian, Marie Sawyer



**February BIRTHDAYS:** Happy Birthday to Calvin Bernard, Carolyn Cook, Helmut Holle, James Martin, Lola Brighton, Marilyn Wasyk, Sharon Griffin and Phyllis Gates. Hope you have a great birthday!

**Note:** Please give Dixie Thomas the month of your birthday and anniversary so that we may honor you in that month.



**February ANNIVERSARIES:** Happy Anniversary to Dallas and Dorothy Luttmann and Lennie and Carole Blixt. Many, Many more!

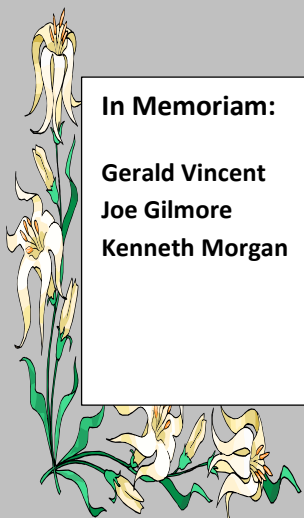


**SECRETARY'S REPORT by Lannie Pender, Secretary:** National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees NARFE January 8, 2015 Opening: President Bob Norcross, National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees NARFE called the Jan 2015 meeting to order at 11:30, at the 4H/Senior Citizens Center.

President Bob Norcross opened the Chapter meeting at 11:30; Maxine Kroepelin led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of allegiance. President Norcross extended birthday and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month of Jan. Darlene Gaskin will be added to the Jan birthday list. There were no new members or guests.

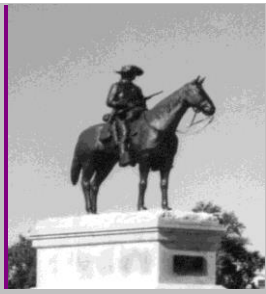
President Norcross stated the minutes are in the bulletin. He then asked for a motion and second for the floor to approve or modify the minutes. A motion was made by Tom Case, motion passed. He then asked for a motion to accept the Treasurers report, a motion was made by Ray Thompson, motion passed. President Norcross read three thank you cards from Sekiko Vandersluis, Margaret Fisher and Jackie Shane (for the gift card). Bob announced that OPM has informed us the mailing for the Annual Notice of Annuity Adjustment that contains the 1.7% COLA increase for 2015 was unavoidably delayed. All retirees should receive their notice by the end of the week. If someone does not receive it by the end of this week, they should call OPM at 1-888-767-6738 and request a duplicate be sent.

Legislative Report by Jim Dodd: Since Congress has not been in session during the holidays, NARFE HQ's office was closed. The Dec 19<sup>th</sup> hotline message announced that the three-year pay



## In Memoriam:

Gerald Vincent  
Joe Gilmore  
Kenneth Morgan



**Send a message,  
letter or call your  
Senators:**

**Senator Pat Roberts, Frank  
Carlson Federal Bldg., 444 SE  
Quincy, Room 392, Topeka,  
KS 66683 Phone: (785) 295-  
2745**

**Senator Jerry Moran, 923  
Westport Place, Suite 210,  
P.O. Box 967, Manhattan, KS  
66502 Phone: (785) 539-  
8973**

freeze for government employees has ended and the "self plus one" coverage in the FEHBP will begin in 2016. The 1099R tax forms have not been mailed yet. They should be mailed soon. If you cannot wait for the form, you can access them at the OPM.gov web site.

From the Service Officer, Walt Germann: If you wish to find out how much life insurance you still have, you must send a signed letter to OPM, P.O. Box Boyer, PA 16020.

Gabrielle Thompson, Manhattan Attorney on Elder Law gave a very informative talk on Elder Law/Care issues. She encourages her clients to review in January all of their legal documents to make sure they are up to date. She stated that Elder Law is writing trusts, wills. Approximately 50% of their work is to make sure healthy people get the care they need. Elder Law is helping with SS., Medicare, and Veterans Affairs. She is certified to work appeals to the VA. She works for Medicare long term care. Elder Lawyers develop basic documents, durable powers of attorney and living revocable trusts. She provided some valuable handouts. It was a very informative and appropriate subject for our members. Thank you to the Entertainment Chair for this speaker.

There were 65 reservations and 59 in attendance. We collected \$93.00 for Alzheimer's.

Door Prizes were won by Donna Schmutz, Sharon Griffin, Joan Martin and Auguster Davis.

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**The 2014 audit was conducted by Dixie Thomas and Wally Mitchell.**

**Statement of Receipts and Disbursements  
January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2013**

<b>Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2014</b>		<b>\$2,141.48</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>		
Chapter Fees Received (NARFE Reimbursements)	\$1,072.32	
Luncheon Monies Received	3,536.77	
Alzheimer's Monies Received	86.50	
Adjust duplicate entry Check #2614	10.00	
<b>Total Receipts:</b>		<b><u>\$4,705.59</u></b>
<b>Total on Hand:</b>		<b>\$6,847.07</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>		
Federation Dues	\$ 297.00	
Luncheon Costs (Senior Center)	1,748.40	
Alzheimer's Donations Sent to State	822.85	
Rent	720.00	
Memorials	20.00	
Supplies/Decorations	405.11	
Convention Expenses	50.00	
Membership Renewals Sent Forward	230.00	
<b>Total Disbursements:</b>		<b><u>\$4,293.36</u></b>
<b>Ending Balance as of December 31, 2014</b>		<b>\$2,553.71</b>
<b>Composed of:</b>		
Central National Bank Balance as of December 31, 2014:		<b>\$2,732.71</b>
Less: Outstanding Check #2710	<b>\$50.00</b>	
Less: Outstanding Check #2719	<b>45.00</b>	
Less: Outstanding Check #2724	<b><u>84.00</u></b>	
<b>Total Outstanding Checks:</b>		<b>\$179.00</b>

Ending Balance as of December 31, 2014

\$2,553.71

The financial records of NARFE Chapter #383 were examined for the period indicated. The statement shown above reflects the summary of receipt and disbursement transactions covering the audit period.



**TREASURER'S REPORT by Wally Mitchell:**

Beginning Balance, 1 January 2015:	\$2,553.71
Receipts:	457.62
Expenses:	<b>388.50</b>
Ending Balance, 31 January 2015:	\$2,622.83



**SUNSHINE REPORT by Wally Mitchell:**

Wally Mitchell sent get well cards to Dixie Rahorst, Marlene Vansickle, Tom Grek and Nancy Wiehl. Get Well soon! A sympathy card was sent to the Robert W. Clowe family, Lola Brighton and Vanetta Brumbaugh. Also, our thoughts and prayers to you and yours.



**LEGISLATIVE REPORT by Jim Dodd: (Excerpts from the latest Legislative Hotline):**

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

"It was another busy week at NARFE Headquarters. On Monday, I participated in a press conference at the Capitol, where legislation to provide federal employees paid parental leave was announced. This issue was added to NARFE's 114<sup>th</sup> Congress Legislative Program at the Association's National Convention in August. We also have been busy processing last-minute registrations for the upcoming NARFE Legislative Training Conference. This is your chance to take your concerns directly to your legislators in Washington. I consider this a 'must attend' event for NARFE members. The deadline is next Tuesday, February 3. Don't delay; register today!"

**Maloney Reintroduces Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act**

This week, Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney, D-NY, introduced H.R. 532, the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act (FEPPLA), which would provide six weeks of paid leave to federal employees for the birth or adoption of a child. NARFE President Richard G. Thissen attended a press conference on Capitol Hill, joining Maloney and other legislators in supporting the bill. "NARFE urges Congress to support federal employees by affording them paid parental leave. This commonsense piece of legislation should be acted on swiftly to enact paid parental leave for federal employees into law," Thissen said.

NARFE members voted to add the issue of paid parental leave to NARFE's [114<sup>th</sup> Congress Legislative Program](#) at the National Convention in August.

**Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act Passes Through Committee**

The House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform unanimously approved H.R. 313, the Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act of 2015. Introduced by Rep. Stephen F. Lynch, D-MA, H.R. 313 provides service-disabled veterans employed by the federal government with 104 hours of paid sick time for medical leave at the beginning of their employment. This will make it easier for wounded veterans to schedule medical appointments and keep up with their rehabilitation from service-related injuries. The leave will not carry over into the employee's second year of employment. The approval of H.R. 313 was a positive, bipartisan start for the Committee under the new chairmanship of Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-UT. A companion bill, S. 242, was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Jon Tester, D-MT.

