



# "OLD TROOPER" NEWSLETTER



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

February 2014

## Chapter 383, 2014 Officers

President: Robert Norcross 762-2218  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Ray Thompson,  
762-5249  
2nd Vice President: Dixie Thomas  
238-1455  
Secretary, Lannie Pender, 238-6503  
Treasurer: Peg Anderson

## 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 Virginia Adam, 922-6706  
Sunshine, Wally Mitchell 238-3423  
NARFE-PAC, Jim Martin 238-8539  
Decorating, Opal Dalton, 922-6551  
Program, Joan Martin 210-0211  
or Carolyn Cook 762-3488  
Editor, Dixie Thomas, 238 1455  
Chaplain, Maxine Kroeplin  
Calling, Vi Martin, 238-8539/Cell  
210-6037  
Historian, Marie Sawyer



**February birthdays: Happy Birthday** Calvin Bernard, Carolyn Cook, Helmut Holle, James Martin, Lola Brighton, Marilyn Wasylk, and Sharon Griffin.



**February ANNIVERSARIES: Happy Anniversary** Dallas and Dorothy Luttmann and Lennie and Carole Blixt. MANY, MANY MORE!!!

**SECRETARY'S REPORT by Lannie Pender:** President Bob Norcross, National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) called the Old Trooper Chapter #383 January meeting to order at 11:30 at the 4H/Senior Citizens Center. Chaplain Maxine Kroeplin, led the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Norcross introduced Marti Potter, a new member, and welcomed Mary Ann Brown, a member transferring from Herrington. He extended birthday and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month of January.

President Norcross directed the members' attention by the newsletter and asked for a motion and a second from the floor to approve or modify the minutes. A motion was made by Jim Mitchell and seconded by Maxine Kroeplin, the motion passed. A motion was made by Donna Schmutz and seconded by Willadeen Kamm, to approve the treasurer's report and file for audit.

President Norcross wished everyone a Happy New Year. He mentioned that the 2013 audit report was included in the newsletter and he feels the members should know what is being done with their dues. There was no correspondence.

Jackie Williams, Assistant Attorney General for the State of Kansas, was guest speaker. He spoke mainly about scams affecting senior citizens; specifically, the Grandparents scam whereby someone calls late at night and says this is your grandson and I'm in a foreign country and I need money, but, please don't tell Mom and Dad. There were several members that had received various types of calls. Sharon Griffin's friend had received a Grandparents call and she asked the person their birthday and they hung up. Karen Baldwin received a call and they wanted her S.S.No. to update her Medicare card; she hung up. Mr. Williams told of being in the Post Office and a lady was telling her child they would leave when she got a Money Order to send off so they could get their million dollars. Mr. Williams persuaded the lady this was a scam. Another new scam reported by the Better Business Bureau has to do with Cell Phones where someone leaves a number and if you call back you get charged with an Adult Call. He also touched on I.D. theft that he stated affects all of us including Derek Schmidt, the Kansas Attorney General. Mr. Williams left as many of his business cards that he had with him, and stated if anyone has questions they may call him, his office numbers are **(800) 432-2310 or (785) 296-3751** his direct line is (785) 365-8413.. It was very good seeing so many of our members sharing their experiences with crank callers. We certainly thank Joan Martin for

## In Memoriam:

Carl White  
Pete Kohlrus  
Linda Koland  
Joseph Knox  
Elton Vaughn

Be Mine



**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



**Debt-Ceiling Update;  
Send Revised NARFE  
Message to Congress**

The debt-ceiling  
suspension ends  
today. The Treasury  
Department can, and will,  
take extraordinary  
measures only for a few  
weeks. Congress is likely  
to begin debate on  
raising the ceiling in the  
next week. Amid this  
uncertainty, President  
Beaudoin urges NARFE  
members to again remind  
Congress of the  
unshared sacrifices  
already made by the  
federal community. Our  
"Enough Is Enough"  
message, updated on  
January 30, is ready for  
members to send to their  
congressional  
delegations.

making this visit happen.

Legislative: Jim Dodd stated the latest Hotline message was Dec. 20. He said active Federal employees received a 1% COLA raise. Jim said that a new health benefit has been approved for FEHBP called "Self plus One." It has not been implemented yet, but hopefully by the next Open Season, there will be information available.

Service Officer: Walt Germann informed Marti Potter and Mary Ann Brown that his phone number is in the Newsletter and if they have any questions on their benefits to call him.

There was no Membership Report.

Sunshine Report: Wally Mitchell just hopes that everyone that she sent cards to, are doing much better.

There were 70 reservations for the meeting, and 72 in attendance. We collected \$86.50 for Alzheimer's.

Door prizes were won by Wally Mitchell, Mary Ann Brown, Beverly Waters and Becky Rittenhouse. The next meeting will be February 13, 2014.



### TREASURER'S REPORT by Peg Anderson:

|                                    |               |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Beginning Balance, 1 January 2014: | \$2,141.48    |
| Receipts:                          | 472.93        |
| Expenses:                          | <u>762.28</u> |
| Ending Balance, - 31 January 2014: | \$1,852.13    |



### SUNSHINE REPORT by Wally Mitchell:

Wally Mitchell sent get well cards to Laura Shell and Janet Harrel. A best wish for getting much better is sent to both ladies. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Elton Vaughn. Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with the family and friends.



Please send this message to your congressional delegations:

"As a constituent and a member of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), I am concerned with Congress repeatedly using federal employees and retirees as the ♦pay for♦ in several recent budget negotiations.

Federal employees have contributed more than \$119 billion towards deficit reduction from the three-year pay freeze and two increases in retirement contributions for those hired in 2013 and 2014. No other group of American workers has been asked to give financially to their country the way federal employees have. This does not include the loss in pay for up to 10 days as a result of sequestration-related furloughs in 2013. Additionally, the 16-day government shutdown meant financial uncertainty for all federal employees who only want to continue their public service. All of this on top of almost daily attacks and ongoing threats to our earned retirement and benefits has resulted in a drastic drop of morale among federal workers.

As public servants, we know there are difficult decisions to be made during the ongoing budget debates. However, I am asking that you work with your colleagues to stop attacking hardworking, middle-class federal employees. The nation's debt crisis should not be balanced solely on the backs of federal employees and retirees. In future budget negotiations please work together to find ways to reduce the deficit without continuing to single out the federal community for savings.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your response."

