

"Old Trooper" Newsletter

Chapter 383, National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, Junction City,
Kansas 66441
October 2015

2015 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Robert
Norcross, 762-2218

1st VP: Ray Thompson,
762-5249

2nd VP: Dixie Thomas,
238-1455

Secretary: Lannie
Pender, 238-6503

Treasurer: Wally
Mitchell, 238-3423

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Legislative: Jim Dodd,
238-8041

Membership/Public
Relations/Editor: Dixie
Thomas, 238-1455

Service Officer: Walt
Germann, 209-1938

Parliamentarian: Ray
Thompson, 762-5249

Alzheimer's/ Decorating:
Opal Dalton, 922-6551

Sunshine: Wally
Mitchell, 238-3423

NARFE-PAC: Jim Martin,
238-8539

Program: Karen Brough,
210-7420/ Darlene
Gaskins, 209-8761

Chaplain: Maxine
Kroeplin

Calling: Vi Martin, 238-
8539 / Cell 210-6037

October Birthdays: Happy birthday to Daisy McTavish, Dixie Thomas, Eva Freeman, James Nelson, Jim Mitchell, Judy Germann, Kathy Triplett, Llewelyn McTavish, Marilyn Stephen, Max Albin, Melba Easley, Orval Rodgers, Vaughan Llewelyn, Verleen Byrn, Jean Boyd, and Diana Dowling. Hope you have a great day!!

October Anniversaries: Happy anniversary to Ken and Sharon Griffin, Jim and Jean King, Nancy and Dean Wiehl, Jim and Wally Mitchell, and Robert and Carol Bondurant. Wishing you many more anniversaries.

Secretary's Report: National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees NARFE September 10, 2015 Opening: President Bob Norcross called the meeting to order at 11:30, held at the 4H/Senior Citizens Center. Maxine Kroeplin led the invocation followed by the Pledge of allegiance. President Norcross extended birthday wishes and anniversary wishes to those members celebrating in the month of September; Harold Macumber will be added to the September birthday list. President Norcross welcomed guest Mary Zimmerman.

President Norcross stated the Treasurer's report is in the Newsletter (there were no minutes from the June meeting). Ray Thompson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, motion was seconded by Dixie Thomas, motion passed.

President Norcross read thank you letters from Ms. Wanda McRae in memory of her mother Vena Devin Rowbotham; from Judy Gardner in memory of her father, Charles W. Schultz and from the Zion United Church of Christ thanking NARFE for gifts in the same names.

Karen Brough, Program Chair, announced that the representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield will be the speaker in November.

Jim Dodd gave the Legislative report: Retirees may not get a cost of living raise in 2016. Notification of whether or not your GAO records were hacked is scheduled to go out starting the end of September. If Congress does not get a budget passed by September 30th, most likely there will be another Government shutdown. This is not Legislative news this is just good information put out by Jim. If you are a Cox customer and have an analog TV (not HD), Cox is shutting down analog service, however, you can get a conversion box by requesting it; which will be free for 2 years. When you get the box they will send instructions for installation.

Membership Report: Dixie announced this past summer we have 3 new members, but we also had 3 deaths. Dixie encouraged everyone to talk to anyone you know who is a current Civil Servant or a retiree, about the NARFE mission, this is the only organization that works to keep our benefits. In the current political climate this is very important.

Sunshine report: Wally stated that Vi Martin had fallen and is not feeling well, members are encouraged to send a card; also Ramona Norcross is feeling a bit under the weather.

Our speaker was Harold Macumber, President of Intergenerational Clearing House and Resource Educational Center (I.C.A.R.E). This organization was started by Vickie Bobbit. Mr. Macumber gave a

comprehensive overview on the aims and activities of the organization. Two of the places they work with are Meals on Wheels and Valley View. At Easter they helped the Valley View residents stuff eggs for the community egg hunt. They go into schools to show the different aspects of growing older. At Washington Elementary School they do a program to teach manners; residents from Bi-Centennial go into Washington School and participate in a Tea. The residents dress up to include hats and gloves. The residents and the kids enjoy this experience. They need your support to make these opportunities for the youth and older adults. If you are interested please call 785-761-6278.

There were 61 reservations and 56 were present, we collected \$70.50 for Alzheimer's.

Door prizes were won by Judy Gardner, Carole Blixt, Florence Whitebread and Harold Macumber.

Treasurer's Report (Wally Mitchell):

Beginning balance 1 September 2015:	\$2508.60
Receipts	370.10
Expenses	<u>365.76</u>
Ending Balance 30 September 2015:	\$2512.94

Sunshine Report (Wally Mitchell):

Get Well cards were sent to Don Whitebread, Ramona Norcross, Vi Martin, Dallas Luttmann, Dorothy Luttmann and Walt Germann. We are all sending prayers and well wishes in your recuperation.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of one of our NARFE members, Auguster Davis, Sr., who passed away 30 September 2015.

Note: The following message from NARFE President Richard G. Thissen is provided in its entirety by Jim Dodd on the Legislative desk in the back of the room. We recommend you pick up a copy and read about the issues.

Message from NARFE President Richard G. Thissen

"While we avoided a government shutdown this week, we're not out of the woods yet. The current continuing resolution expires on December 11, and Congress has a number of looming legislative deadlines between now and then. As Congress crafts a spending bill for the rest of the year that could be combined with other pressing issues, the federal community should keep a close eye on the negotiations. It is possible that the bigger the deal, the greater the hurt for federal employees and retirees."

Congress Passes Short-term Spending Bill, Government Shutdown Avoided

FEHBP 2016 Premiums Announced

Update on Expected Increases in Medicare Part B Premiums

House Committee Approves Legislation to Block DOL Fiduciary Rule

Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act Passes the House