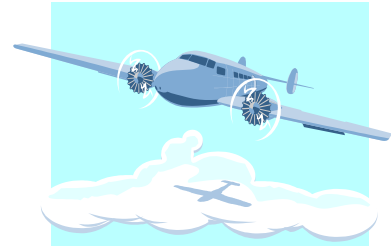




THE FLIER



Volume V, Issue 2

Amelia Earhart Chapter 0621—Atchison

December 2015

December Through February Meetings

- December 15—Christmas meeting at Paolucci Restaurant
- January 19—No program
- February 16—Program to be announced

The December meeting is at Paolucci Restaurant and Lounge, 115 S. 3d St, Atchison. The January and February meetings will be at KFC/Taco Bell, 14th and Skyway, Atchison.

Bad Weather

If Atchison County School District USD 377, Effingham, cancels school on our meeting day because of snow or ice, we will not have a meeting. Announcement is made on KAIR, WIBW, and KNZA radio stations and most Kansas City TV stations.

New Members

Brown County Chapter 2164 is being closed and combined with our chapter and possibly others in the area. Several members have requested to join the Atchison chapter and two of them attended our October meeting when Tom Huntzinger, Federation PAC chair, was our speaker. We welcome those who wish to join us and hope you will attend our meetings when possible. We meet the third Tuesday of the month except for July and August. Most of our meetings are at KFC/Taco Bell but once or twice a year we may meet in a different location (usually December and June).

Passings

Joan Lemke, a member since November 2001, passed away on November 22 after a lengthy battle against cancer. Services were Wednesday, November 25 at Corpus Christi Church, Winchester.

Open Season

December 14 is the last day to change your Federal health insurance. Available this year is a new option—Self Plus One. However, do not automatically think Self Plus One will save you money. While it is less expensive for most plans, some will actually be more expensive. Check the specifics in the November or December NARFE magazine to make sure you are saving money. You can also check out vision and dental insurance offered through the government; however, you must pay the full cost of this insurance.

Consumer Price Index

Because the Consumer Price Index (CPI)—W (for clerical workers) did not increase during 2015, Federal retirees will not see a cost of living allowance (COLA) increase for 2016. Low gasoline prices is the reason given for no COLA. However, health insurance is increasing and, if your Medicare is deducted from your Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) annuity, you will pay an extra \$19 a month (\$16 for increased Medicare costs and \$3 for a service charge). Most of us also take more prescriptions and those prices keep increasing. If this bothers you let your Representative and Senators know that

the CPI-E (Elderly) would be more beneficial to you and to them when they retire because it takes into account what seniors spend a large percent of their money on. Congress would prefer to use the Chained-CPI, which reduces the percentage of COLA by .5 percent every year. While that does not sound like very much, it is cumulative. One-half of one percent this year plus an additional .5 percent next year on an already smaller COLA can add up to thousands of dollars. How to contact your Congressional rep is included at the end of this newsletter.

Election of Officers

Election of officers was held at the November meeting. All elected and appointed officers will remain the same. They will be installed at the January meeting.

Alzheimer's Contributions

When a loved one passes away the family sometimes does not designate a charity for a memorial. All the funeral homes in Atchison County have cards that can be filled out designating NARFE Alzheimer's Research as a beneficiary. The funeral home will send the cards and the donation to me and I will get them to Pam Oswald, our Alzheimer's chair. She will send them to our Federation chair and our chapter will receive credit for the contribution. The family will receive a thank you from NARFE Alzheimer's Research and all the money will be used for research—none of it goes for administrative costs.

Speaking for all the officers of the Amelia Earhart chapter, we hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Important Contacts

Social Security

Web: www.ssa.gov
Phone: Voice: 800.772.1213
TTY: 800.325.0778

Veterans Affairs

Web: www.va.gov
Phone: VA Benefits: 800.827.1000
Meds by mail: 888.385.0235
Leavenworth: 913.682.2000
Topeka: 785.350.3111

Office of Personnel Management

Web: www.opm.gov
Phone: 202.418.3300

NARFE

Web: www.NARFE.org
Kansas Federation, NARFE
Web: www.ksnarfe.org

Chapter Officers

- Judy Etter—President and newsletter editor (913.773.8565) (jetter@bbwi.net)
- Mary Underwood—Vice president and public relations (913.367.1486) (munderwood1951@sbcglobal.net)
- Peggy Coder—Secretary-Treasurer and NARFE netter (913.833.4925) (pcoder@yahoo.com)
- Pam Oswald—Alzheimer's chair (913.833.4965) (pamoswald@hotmail.com)
- Roger Mumm—Legislative and PAC chairs (913.682.1197) (roglormum@aol.com)
- Lorene Mumm—Service officer and program chair (913.682.1197) (roglormum@aol.com)
- Elaine Montgomery—Membership chair (913.833.2441) (beverlymontgomery@centurylink.net)

Congressional Contacts

Kansas

- **Senator Pat Roberts**

- Email: <http://roberts.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=EmailPat>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.4774
Topeka: 785.295.2745
- Local Office: Frank Carlson Federal Building, R 392 , 444 SE Quincy, Topeka, KS 66683

- **Senator Jerry Moran**

- Email: <http://moran.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-jerry>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.6521
Olathe: 913.393.0711
- Local Office: 23600 College Blvd, Ste. 201, Olathe 66061 (mail: PO Box 1154, Olathe 66051)

- **Representative Lynn Jenkins**

- Email: <http://lynnjenkins.house.gov/contact-me>
- Phone: DC: 202.225.6601
Topeka: 785.234.5966
- Local Office: 3550 SW 5th St, Topeka, KS 66606

Missouri

- **Senator Roy Blunt**

- Email: <http://www.blunt.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact-form?p=contact-roy>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.5721
KC: 816.471.7141
- Local Office: 911 Main St, # 2224, Kansas City, MO 64105

- **Senator Claire McCaskill**

- Email: <http://www.mccaskill.senate.gov/?p=contact>
- Phone: DC: 202.224.6154
KC: 816.421.1639
- Local Office: 4141 Pennsylvania, # 101, Kansas City, MO 64111

- **Representative Sam Graves**

- Email: <http://gravesforms.house.gov/email-sam>
- Phone: DC: 202.225.7041
St Joe: 816.233.9818
- Local Office: 411 Jules St., St Joseph 64501

If you are mailing a senator or representative, the item will get to the addressee more quickly if you send it to the local office.