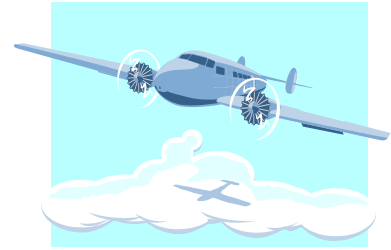




THE FLIER



Volume II, Issue 2

Amelia Earhart Chapter 0621—Atchison

December 2012

December through March Meetings

December 18—Christmas Lunch at the Pepper Mill, 101 Commercial, Atchison

January 15—Door Prize and installation of officers

February 19—Cindy Miller, Dementia Care Specialist, Heart of America Chapter, Alzheimer's Association

March 19—John Reichley, US Army (Ret.), *The Leavenworth Times* columnist, docent at the WWI Museum, Kansas City Missouri

All meetings are at 11:30 a.m. and the January through March meetings are at the KFC/Taco Bell, 14th and Skyway, Atchison. Please come join us.

Inclement Weather

In the event of a snowstorm, we will cancel our meeting if Atchison County Community Schools are closed. KAIR radio (1470 AM and 93.7 FM) will carry school closings as will some of the Kansas City and Topeka TV stations.

Election of Officers

We held the yearly election of officers at the November meeting. All elected officers were reelected. The only change will be the membership chair: Elaine Montgomery will assume that position.

From the President

As the Area 1A vice president I visit several different chapters several times a year and have also been to chapters that are not in Area 1A. In November the Amelia Earhart chapter had 13 members attend the meeting. That is 46 percent of the voting membership. I have not been to another NARFE

meeting with that high a percentage of attendance. We have been averaging about 10 members which is still over 33 percent—again a healthy number. If you can join us please do. The more the merrier. The next newsletter will be in April and thereafter in July, October, and January.

From the Membership Chair

NARFE membership allows us legislative representation at Federal and state levels, subscription to the monthly NARFE magazine, electronic alerts to legislation that affects us, and internet access to OPM and NARFE websites. We currently have 28 chapter members and 1 National Only member. If each of us could bring one new member into our chapter during the upcoming year, we could easily double our membership. Please invite prospective members to join us at our meetings. Did you know that your spouse can join?

From the Legislative Chair

The US Legislative branch of the U.S. Government will be in a lame duck session following Thanksgiving recess. To find or follow the legislative schedule and other information about the U. S. Senate go to www.senate.gov. To find the same information concerning the U.S. House of Representatives go to www.house.gov.

The Kansas House and Senate will meet in December to elect the officers for 2013. The Kansas Legislature will next convene on January 14, 2013 at 2:00 P.M. You can listen to live proceedings of both the house and senate at www.kslegislature.gov. Many other venues are available at this web site including viewing recent documents, interim committee schedules, and a summary of passed legislation.

I hope you will visit the listed web sites to see how much information is available to us. My wife Sally and I wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

From the Alzheimer's Chair

As of October 16, Amelia Earhart Chapter 621—Atchison has collected \$518.50 for Alzheimer's research. Good job, chapter members. Those of you who cannot attend meetings but would like to contribute may do so by sending a check made out to NARFE Alzheimer's Research to **Janice Neuschafer, 908 Countryside Drive, McPherson, KS 67460-2104**. Please tell Janice that you are a member of chapter 621 so that the chapter gets credit. One-hundred percent of your donation goes to research.

Between January 1 and September 30, 2012, Kansas chapters have collected \$18,458. This amount averages \$4.36 per member. The goal for 2012 for Kansas is an average of \$5.50 per member. Our chapter has already exceeded that goal. The NARFE National Alzheimer's Committee has funded 56 research grants since the program began in 1985. It is expected that the goal of 10 million dollars in donations since 1985 will be reached in the next few months and that a goal of 11 million dollars total will be reached in 2014.

From the Service Officer

Harold Klaege from the Salina Chapter was appointed as the Kansas Federation Service Officer this year. Recently, Harold sent all of the Chapter Service Officers a CD with valuable information for contacting OPM, Thrift Savings, and FEGLI etc. I wanted to remind all of the Atchison Chapter members that I am available to help if any member encounters problems in dealing with these agencies. Also, most survivors/family members may not know that a NARFE Service Officer is available to assist them in contacting OPM and other agencies at the time of a NARFE member's death. I would recommend that each chapter member place a note

with his or her important documents to tell family members that the NARFE Service Officer is available for assistance. On this note, please include my name and contact information: Lorene Mumm (913) 682-1197. When a new Service Officer is appointed you need only update the name and contact number. I also encourage you to complete a "Be Prepared for Life's Events" form. This form can be found on the NARFE website or I can obtain a paper copy for you.

Cost of Federal Employees

* * * how much money would be saved if Uncle Sam fired every federal employee, including military personnel?

Not enough.

Not enough, that is, to solve the nation's deficit problems.

The [PBS Newshour's](#) Paul Solman recently broadcast this informative exchange with The Wall Street Journal's David Wessel, author of "Red Ink," a primer on the federal budget.

Wessel: Even if we fired every single federal employee, from the person who's watering Michelle Obama's tomatoes to the woman who's sitting in some silo in North Dakota with her finger on the button to launch a missile if need be, if we got rid of all of them, we would have saved a lot of money, but it would have only made a small dent in the deficit.

The deficit was over a trillion dollars last year, and we would have saved \$435 billion in wages and benefits if we fired every federal employee.

Solman: Including the military?

Wessel: Including the military. The point is that most of the money the federal government collects doesn't go to pay bureaucrats. It goes right back out again in the form of benefits or state and local government grants or contracts. If we are going to restrain spending, someone is going to get less money from the federal government. By Joe Davidson, federaldiary@washpost.com,

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)
- Venita Jo Rader—Alzheimer's chair (913.833.4742)
- Eugene Harter—Legislative and PAC chairs (785.872.3443) (wren@rainbowtel.net)
- Lorene Mumm—Service officer and program chair (913.682.1197) (rogormum@aol.com)
- Sally Harter—Sunshine (785.872.3443) (wren@rainbowtel.net)
- Elaine Montgomery—Membership chair (913.833.2441) (beverlymontgomery@centurylink.net)

• Congressional Contacts

• Kansas

• Senator Pat Roberts

- Email: <http://roberts.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?2p-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

Topeka: 785.232.2605

- Local Office: 800 SW Jackson, Suite 1108, Topeka, KS 66612

○ Representative Lynn Jenkins

- Email: <http://lynnjenkins.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=209>

- 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

• 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

• Representative Sam Graves

- Email: <http://graves.house.gov/index.cfm?sectionid=84>

- Phone: DC: 202.225.7041

St Joe: 816.233.9818

- Local Office: 201 S. 8th St, # 330, St Joseph, MO