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**KUDOS AND THANK YOU'S**

- Cheryl Travis, Dianne Throop, Deneise Schneider, Roger Lemmons, Wanda Lyons, and Wendy Hambly for donating items for the Alzheimer's auction at the Kansas Federation Conference held in April in Wichita.
- NARFE Topeka Chapter 0002 for hosting a governor candidate on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The facilities, Aldersgate, are very nice and the food is good if you are interested in lunch.

**NARFE TOPEKA CHARTER HOSTS DEMOCRATIC GOVERNOR CANDIDATE**

NARFE Chapter 0002, Topeka, cordially invites your chapter to our June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting when Laura Kelly, Democratic candidate for Governor will be our speaker. The program will start at 12:30 pm in Wesley Hall at Aldersgate Village, 7220 SW Asbury Dr., Topeka. It's just south of 29<sup>th</sup> street between Urish Road and Indian Hills Road.

If you are interested in coming for the luncheon that starts at Noon, you need to contact Earlene Jirik by Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 785-266-5492. Cost is \$9.00. Tentative menu is:

- Ham,
- Augratin Potatoes, Zucchini, Rolls & Butter and Strawberry Cupcakes.

For further information please contact me, Sharon Rosenow, President, [rosenowsk@gmail.com](mailto:rosenowsk@gmail.com) or phone 785-640-7317  
Gwen Ketter, Secretary at [gsketter56@gmail.com](mailto:gsketter56@gmail.com) or phone 785-220-7196

Hope to see you on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018!

**MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MEETING R. LEMMONS**

NARFE Free State Chapter 378 will meet Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, at noon, in the south room of Conroy's. The presentation begins at noon, followed by lunch, and a brief meeting. Lunch is optional. The cost is \$10 and includes a choice of 1 of 3 entrées, coffee or tea, and gratuity.

May's program is Aspeaker from the Turnpike Authority.

**RECAP FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup> MEETING**

J. Schaffer, News Director of Kansas Public Radio and Managing Editor of the Kansas Public Radio Network, gave a very interesting and entertaining presentation on inventors and famous people from Kansas. Because he likes Kansas, he began doing a trivia question each week on the air. He learned a lot about Kansas during the preparation and researching for these questions.

He spoke without notes, but did use props to illustrate Kansas inventions and inventors. When he finished, it felt as though he had only touched the tip of the iceberg. He was knowledgeable and enthusiastic about his topic. He developed a 2-part series on the contributions that Kansans have made to society, which aired on KCPR on January 27-28, 2011, entitled Kansas from A-Z.

The following are a few of the Kansas contributions he covered:

- A jar of mentholatum – Albert Alexander Hyde of Wichita founded The Mentholatum Company Inc., maker of non-prescription health care, in 1889.
- Oh Henry candy bar - Tom Henry of Dexter, KS
- The Bumper Sticker – Forest Gill, owner of a print shop in Kansas City. All over bumpers by the 1960 presidential election
- Russell Stover Candy – Russell Stove, born in western Kansas, moved to Denver, where hi wife made candy in kitchen, They returned to Kansas and began the candy company
- The ICEE, also known as the Slurpy – Omar Kinnedlick of Coffeerville, KS, owned a Dairy Queen and discovered how to make them
- Styrofoam Cooler, white in color if just foam, real Styrofoam - Odis Ray McIntire, a Dow Chemical engineer developed a needed alternative to rubber for bouncy for life boat in 1944
- Flyswatter – invented by a group of boy scouts

whose Scout Leader presented it to the State Health Director, Dr. Samuel Crumbine. Crumbine had been a country doctor in Ford County. He made a name for himself as one of the early crusaders for public health. He encouraged people to SWAT the FLY to prevent the spread of disease. The boy scouts fashioned this seemingly simple device to make it easier to swat the fly.

▪ Other things Health Director Crumbine emphasized included: encouraging brick companies to print health messages on bricks like “don’t spit on the sidewalk,” because the good doctor from Dodge City knew that saliva carried TB and that by trying to get people to stop spitting on the sidewalk, he might be able to reduce the spread of tuberculosis. He also fought to eliminate the common hand towel and drinking cups., and getting a law passed that force hotels to change sheets between guests.

- Valomilk candy bar still made in Merriam, KS
- The Hand held calculator Jack St. Clair Kilby from Great Bend, KS, working for Texas Instruments, invented the first integrated circuit (microchip 1958) used in phone. He won the Noble Prize in Physics in 2000. This shined a bit of a spot light on him, but he did not become wealth, because of working for Texas Instruments.
- The Learjet – Produced by Bill Lear in Wichita, KS. He had who had an 8<sup>th</sup> grade education
- 8-track tape by Bill Lear
- Early version of Auto Pilot – Bill Lear,
- Car Radio – Bill Lear, who had and 8th grade education, worked for Motorola. He was hard to work for and named his daughter Crystal Chandeliera.
- World’s first riding mower – Virgil Coffey in Ransom, KS
- Dial Telephone – Invented by Almon Brown Strowger, a funeral director, who lived in El Dorado and Topeka, KS., an undertaker. A competitor’s wife was the town operator and directed calls for funeral services to her husband, so Strowger invented the rotary dial telephone.
- First Bulldozer—on display in Morrowville in NE KS, a town that might as well be called TO-Morrowville, because of the innovative device first built there.

Other famous Kansan’s:

- Amelia Earhart,
- Dwight Eisenhower - won WWII, President,

developed the interstate system Interstate, created NASA in 1958, civil rights legislation, the US mint issued the Eisenhower silver dollar with the back of the coin symbolic of the Apollo 11 flight.

- Bell, KS, had the Oldest movie theater on record, Ottawa has oldest purpose build cinema.
  - 1st Veterans Day—Emporium, KS. WWI ended on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of 11<sup>th</sup> month of the 11<sup>th</sup> day
  - Harry W. Colmery – A Topeka lawyer Vet Hospital—He wrote the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the GI Bill
  - “Goat-gland Doctor” in Wakefield, KS: Dr. John Romulus Brinkley, who had no legitimate medical school training, built a clinic and transplanted goat testicles into men. He gained local, national, and international notoriety and great wealth. He then pioneered in radio and began the era of Mexican border blaster radio. He built a radio station in with Milford, KS, and played country music, He ran for governor unsuccessfully a couple of times. He became a multimillionaire, but left the US when the federal government denied his radio license. He went to Villa Acuna, Mexico, across from Del Rio, TX Mexico, where he started a 1M watt radio, Scion, and sold “snake oil” and autographed photos of Jesus Christ. Wolf Man Jack was on that station. Because of legal problems and malpractice suits. He eventually died penniless.
  - The Queen of England—sits only because of Wallace Simpson (wife of king who abdicated). 2 divorces —her 1st marriage was to a guy from Kingsley’s KS.
  - Samuel Perry Dinsmore of Lucas, KS, built the concrete Garden of Eden. Concrete experts today do not know how he created the Garden of Eden.
  - 1956 Eisenhower signed bill to put “in god we trust” on paper currency.
  - The Grass Hopper law mower built in KS is used at White House.
- To learn more, join Osher. J. Schafer teaches a class for Osher. He feels that Kansas doesn’t get much credit for it’s contributions to society.

## SUNSHINE

Please notify one of the Sunshine Ladies [their phone numbers are on page 1, top of left column] if you know of someone who needs a card or has a life event.