



Kaw Blue Communiqué

Volume No. 18 Issue No. 3

Manhattan, KS Date June, 2012

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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1 st VP	Bill Fuller	776-6296
2 nd VP	Elaine Liddell	776-5559
Secretary	Mary Lou Gibbs	468-3562
Treasurer	Barbara Hackbart	494-2425
Past Pres.	Don Erickson	539-6004
News Editor	Judy Grossnickle	537-2457

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(By: Ann Domsch, adomsch@ksu.edu)

For those chapter members considering running for an office in the future, the future is NOW! We need people to step forward and accept the responsibility! Any of your present officers would be glad to talk to you about their office and their responsibilities. All of your officers are doing a great job on your behalf so please come to the meetings and support them. When the nominating committee, Don Erickson, Judy Grossnickle or Sandra Mathewson calls you, say YES!

At the Salina Federation Meeting, one of your National officers, Paul Carew, stated that we need to grow our membership. He also said, "one would think that threats to the benefits of current and retired federal employees would be an attention getter sooner or later. Our message is, and always has been, that NARFE is the only association dedicated to fighting to protect our benefits. Unfortunately, our membership numbers continue to decrease. Our strength as an organization is greater when our membership numbers are greater. The best way to recruit new members is through personal contact."

If you know an active or retired federal employee, reach out to them and let them know about NARFE and the importance of being a NARFE member. The dues we pay is really minimal when you consider that our organization is the ONLY organization fighting to protect YOUR benefits.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

(By: Elaine Liddell, Program Chairman)

Please plan to attend your meeting. We meet at RC McGraw's, 2317 Tuttle Creek Blvd. Lunch is served at 11:15AM.

Summer Vacation — No Meetings

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Wednesday, Sep 19

Jeff Birnbaum

At Home Assisted Care

Assisting with Non-Medical Care

**SPECIAL
ALERT:**

**Your Benefits
Are At Risk!**

Ann Domsch along with Michael & Kay Cardella say, "A big thank you to everyone who supported the Alzheimer's Auction in Salina, by donating items and/or attending and buying the auction items."

KS 2012 Convention

Our 2012 KS Federation of NARFE Chapters Convention was held in Salina, KS, April 22-24. One of the main items on our agenda was the change to our by-laws. It was voted to extend the term of office for our elected KS officers from a one year term to a two year term.

As you know Don Cooper, Chapter 0366, has served as Area 3 Vice President for a number of years. He decided to step down. Our Area elected, Harold Klaege, Chapter 280, Salina, KS, to serve as our Area 3 Vice President. Don, thank you for serving our district so well.

Our chapter should be proud of our members who have "stepped up to the plate" to fill the positions at the State level. This year, Don Erickson, agreed to run and was elected to serve as 2nd Vice President. Thank you, Don, and best wishes in this position.

Our Chapter was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for donating \$9.68 per member for Alzheimer's Research. Just so you are aware, Overland Park donated the most at \$31.23 per member and Junction City donated \$15.60 per member. Our next convention is scheduled for April 28-30, 2013 at Overland Park, KS. Manhattan was awarded the 2014 Convention. Chuck Marr did an excellent job with our bid for the convention.

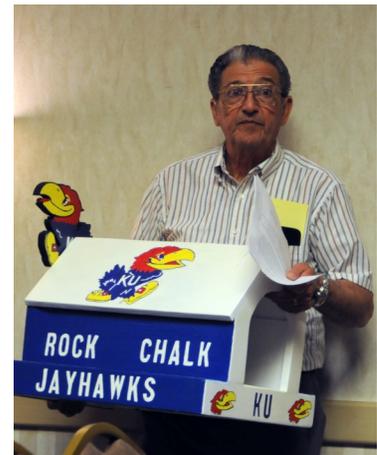
Janice Neuschafer is serving as the KS and Region V Alzheimer's Representative. We were glad she assumed the Region V duties relinquished by Barb Pretzer due to her illness.



↑ Ann Domsch receives our Chapter's Alzheimer's Award



Chuck Marr's tomato plants for Alzheimer's.



Michael Cardella at the Live Auction with his KU mailbox.



Newly elected KS Federation Officers. Note Don Erickson in the back row, first on left.



Don Cooper accepts PAC donations.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

(By: Dick McChesney, Legislative Committee)

According to NARFE President Joe Beaudoin, at the time of this writing, things on Capital Hill have been quiet recently for federal employees and retirees. He continued, creating a "calm before the storm" feeling amongst the federal community. That feeling can be substantiated by NARFE Legislative Director Julie Tagen's article, "What Congress Will Tackle Before Elections." (See her article in the June NARFE Magazine).

Current employees have taken a hit with a two year salary freeze which results in roughly \$60 billion loss over ten years in salary. Also a third year salary freeze is being considered. Additionally, the House passed a bill on-May 10 subjecting Federal employees to a phased in 5% increase in retirement deductions. Also, the House passed a budget proposing a 10% reduction in the federal workforce. According to NARFE Legislative Director, Julie Tagen, the Senate is not expected to act on this legislation before the November election. Depending on the outcome of the election a lot of legislation could occur during the lame duck session which would affect current employees and retirees.

Jim Miller, our State NARFE Legislative Chairman, reports State income tax exemption of CSRS and FERS annuities were not mentioned during the 2012 Kansas legislative session. Good news! Thanks to Jim and Ron Richey, both in the Topeka Chapter, for the many hours they volunteer monitoring the 90 plus days the legislation is in session.

Current employees and retirees really need NARFE, an advocacy organization, whose sole purpose is to represent us and protect our benefits. Thank you for belonging. Encourage fellow workers and retirees to join us in NARFE. If you are not involved or informed, please sign up to receive NARFE Hotlines and NARFE News Watch by Internet. Call 800-456-8410. Those not having Internet may listen to these messages by calling toll free 877-217-8234.

ALZHEIMER'S UPDATE

(By: Michael & Kay Cardella, Alzheimer's Chairman,
785-539-3448 e-mail: milinscol@Gmail.com)

The recent Alzheimer's Auctions (both the live and silent auctions) at the KS Federation of NARFE Chapters Convention in Salina, KS were a huge success. At the live auction 47 items were auctioned, raising \$3,400.00 in the one hour time limit. The silent auction raised \$2,822.00.

As you are aware many KS NARFE chapters donate items for these auctions. Our chapter, 0366, was credited with items that were purchased for \$924.50, this is \$256.50 more than last year! We thank our supportive members for both their generosity in items to support the auctions and in their donations to Alzheimer's Research. Our donations enable the researchers to continue their fight to find a cause and a cure for this disease.

Only about 1/3 of our membership attend the meetings and place their donations in the Alzheimer's donation baskets on the tables. So-o-o, to those who cannot attend our meetings, I challenge you to make a donation. WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS to make this fight with Alzheimer's an even bigger success. Your gift would allow us to continue in our mission to eliminate Alzheimer's disease. It would help to enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. I would like to assure you, each and every cent donated to "NARFE CHAPTER 0366, ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH" will be forwarded to the Alzheimer's Research Association and used solely for research.

Your contribution will be counted towards meeting NARFE's current goal of \$10 million. Please send your checks to Michael or Kay Cardella, 232 S. 14th. St., Manhattan, KS 66502. Please make your check out to "NARFE CHAPTER 0366 ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH".

Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP

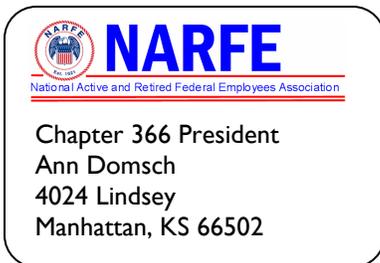
(Bill Fuller, Vice President for Membership)

It is wonderful to gain new members! In the past quarter we've gained one transferred member, Linda Deemie and four (4) new members: Janice Fuller, Marsha Grunewald, John Rodgers and Thomas Shanower. We welcome you to our Chapter! However, we've lost eight (8) members. That's three (3) more than we've gained. Seven of the eight members were lost because they didn't renew their membership. You know, our membership dues is a small price to pay for the benefits we receive for our money. Every month our Legislators discuss ways to reduce the Federal deficit. Somehow our legislators find the federal employees, both active and retired an easy target. The general public believes the hype that the federal payroll has too many on it and the workers are over paid. We know differently! It is through our combined voice

MEMBERSHIP SCOREBOARD			
MONTH	GAIN	REINSTATED	LOSS
Apr-May	5	1	8
Memberships in peril: 13			
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP as of May: 265			

that more damage is not heaped upon us. It is important that we keep our earned benefits. NARFE is the only organization dedicated to the protection of our earned benefits. Once lost, those benefits are never regained!

Let's recruit new members and promote the retention of the members we have. Since the renewal notices get overlooked at bill paying time, please consider dues withholding — it's painless and doesn't mess up your retirement annuity. Another option is a lifetime membership. Ask me, Don Cooper, Pam Van Horn or Barb Hackbart for details on these options.



Forwarding Service Requested
Judy Grossnickle, Editor