

# THE SHAWNEE SIGNAL

## Chapter 1162 Shawnee Mission Kansas

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Vol. 28, No.7

November 2006



**NOTICE OF CHAPTER ELECTIONS.** The Nominating Committee has identified the following members as candidates for officer and executive board positions for year 2007: For President, Elizabeth Bornman; for 1st Vice President, Flo Biehl; for 2nd Vice President, Clara Smith; for Secretary, Wayne Smutz; for Treasurer, Bob Steinert; for Executive Board, Lorna Larson and Tom Raby. Other chapter members, who are at the meeting, may be nominated for these elected positions from the floor. Members may also volunteer to serve on non-elected committees that will be identified during the meeting. The elections will be held at the November 28th Regular Chapter Meeting.

### TIME FOR CHANGE.



Agnes  
Shellhammer

This will be my last article as chapter president. We will be electing a new president this month. I have enjoyed my five years as the leader of Chapter 1162, but it is time for a change.

There was an evening meeting at the National Convention in Albuquerque that Flo Biehl and I attended. It was called "NARFE Leadership Challenge - Identifying New Officers and Grooming Successors." It was very enlightening. One of the things they stressed was that no one person should hold any office for too long because if they do everyone, including the person them self, goes to thinking no one else could do the job. I said to myself "Now, I know it's time for me to hang it up." I'm sure there are others who could do just as well as me, probably even better.

I thank all of you for your help over the years, especially my husband Clyde who was the best helper of all.

*Regards, Agnes Shellhammer*

### STEP UP, BE INVOLVED

We currently have 813 good members in our chapter. I'm looking for those members who want to step up and be involved in the organization. We need more members involved to support our initiatives and fighting to maintain our benefits. Just being a member isn't cutting it for our chapter. WE NEED TO HEAR FROM EVERYONE. We need your help to volunteer for committees within our chapter and to get involved to save our chapter.

Many chapters are working with other organizations within their state to get their federal retirement tax free such as ours in Kansas. It wasn't always tax-free here in Kansas. Our chapter with the other chapters in the state worked with state representatives to pass the legislation. We continually stay involved with our state representatives; we don't want this taken away. Just because you have it good today doesn't mean tomorrow it will be there.

Hopefully, you are looking at the new health plan to include the new vision and dental plans, which are separate plans. We worked with active employees to get these new health benefits.

We need to involve current employees into our chapter before they retire so they know and make the right decisions for their retirement. I want to see some new faces at our next meeting. Our chapter officers want to hear from you. Get involved.

*By Elizabeth Bornman, 1st Vice President*

## MEMBERSHIP AND LEGISLATION

Welcome new members: Gary Hart, Richard Baylog, Sue Bruce, Richard Mendlick, David and Deborah Clark, Warren Ford, Robert Billquest, Warren Edwards, Gurmukh Sinh, Dana Hager, Raymond Malis, Jhan Marchin and John Montague.



**Election day is over! I hope that you voted.** To me; voting is both a right and a right that I would never ignore. Many of our elected officials take us for granted because

too many people don't take the time to go to the polls. I know that you can now vote early, or get absentee ballots, but we try to actually go to our designated voting place and cast our votes. It makes you feel like a fully franchised citizen when you show your card and sign the registration. Then someone, in our age group, gives you a "smart card" to insert in the machine, and then do your duty.

It's time for our annual elections at the Chapter, also. Make sure you plan to attend the November meeting. Those of you that run for office and stand up for member rights are appreciated. Those of you that don't stand for elected, or appointed, office need to support those that do. We owe a debt to Agnes, Flo, Elliot, Bob, Wayne, Elizabeth,

Clara, Milton and all those that have served, and are still serving.

The appointed positions are just as important; Frank, Lucille, Harold, Flo, Harriet, Lorna, Kay, et. al., to name a few. We do thank all those that make our chapter operate.

If you decide that some of us will do it whether or not you show up and vote (or "heaven forbid" run for office), you'll be right. Some of us will do it, and we'll thank each other for our efforts. We'll even listen to you when you complain about the way things are done. (We might respond in kind, however).

For those of us that go to conventions, stay involved, and give our time, we get to know Federation Officers, National Officers and their support appointees and employees. This gives us prospective that we cannot relate to others. There's nothing like being there, so we're looking for you on November 28. And bring more snacks, too.●

*Tom Raby, Chair*



**Flo Biehl**

**NARFE PAC, the Retiree's Fund for the Future.** That is the way the coupon is worded in *NARFE*. Even though the election is over for now, the need for PAC funds continue. They are used to protect and restore our earned benefits and perhaps to gain pension conversion that some others have. If we were able to achieve that, some estimates say that we would be richer by somewhere between four and five thousand dollars a year. Active members have this available to them and so do members of Congress.

Our magazine has a coupon each month that you can fill out and along with your contribution--mail to Gary Townsend, 212 E. Brownie Street, Rose Hill, KS 67133-9706. Gary asks that you mail it to him so that he can track the amount of contributions that are from our state. Also the chapter is credited with that amount. He can also troubleshoot if there is any problem with giving proper credit to our chapter. In the recent election, funds were given to candidates that support our goals. There is a continuing need for funds as we work toward this.●

*Flo Biehl, Narfe-Pac Chair*

**Don't want the newsletter.** As a member of Chapter 1162, you are entitled to receive a copy of *The Shawnee Signal* newsletter in the mail – you do pay chapter dues. However, if you don't want a copy in the mail, then notify Bob Steinert by phone (913) 764-7456 or by e-mail to [editor1162@aol.com](mailto:editor1162@aol.com) and state that you want to be taken off the mail list for the newsletter.

Members who have an Internet connection can read the newsletter on the chapter's Web site. The address is [narfe-chapter1162.org](http://narfe-chapter1162.org) on the Internet. We encourage members with Internet connections to read the chapter newsletter and bulletins on our Web site, because it would save the chapter money – potentially \$150 a year. Comments on changing the content of the newsletter are also appreciated by the editor.

### NARFE's Service Officers

Our chapter has a service officer who can help individual members and their families and survivors take the proper actions to obtain and retain their federal annuities and survivor benefits. Service officers are particularly helpful to a surviving spouse when filing for survivor notification and benefits. Our chapter service officer is Howard Zion, and he can be reached at 913 236-8131.

**Local Alzheimer's Association.** The mission of the Alzheimer's Association, Heart of America Chapter is to provide education and leadership to enhance care and support services for those affected by Alzheimer's disease while supporting efforts to eliminate the disease. The Heart of America Chapter is supported by the community through donations, program grants and participation in fundraising events. As the need for services continues to grow and the Chapter serves a larger population, financial support is increasingly important. Main Office: 3846 W. 75 th Street, Prairie Village, KS 66208, Phone 913 831-3888

### SUPPORT ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH

Enclosed is my Alzheimer's NARFE contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Every cent that is contributed is used for research.

Please circle:    Mr.    Mrs.    Miss.    Ms.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter number \_\_\_\_\_

Your charitable contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

You will receive a tax-deductible receipt letter from Alzheimer's Association.

Make checks payable to: Alzheimer's-NARFE Research

And mail to: Florence L Roy    Chapter 1162 Alzheimer's Chair

6015 W 119th Street Apt 2203, Leawood, KS 66209-3707

### National Goal

NARFE association goal for contributions to Alzheimer's research is now eight million dollars. Let's do our part.

Use the adjacent coupon. Cut out the center section with your name and address on the coupon and enclose it with your contribution in an envelope addressed to Florence Roy our chapter's Alzheimer's Committee Chair.

This way your chapter will receive credit for the contribution in Federation records system which tracks total contributions by chapter.

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THE SHAWNEE SIGNAL

Chapter Bulletin Board

**Regular Chapter Meeting November 28.** Guest speaker is Kelly Loeb, speaker for Alzheimer’s Association. See page 3 for more information on Alzheimer’s disease. Also, we will have chapter elections of officers for 2007; see the front page. Place: Overland Park Lutheran Church on 79th Street at 1:30 pm.



**Looking ahead.** Chapter’s December 12th Holiday Party (aka Christmas party) will be held at Fire Mountain Restaurant, 10810 W 75th Street, Shawnee. Party starts at 1:30 PM. Call Elizabeth Bornman 268-8526 for details. Buffet style full dinner will be \$7.43, which includes tax and tip. We’ll have prizes • • •

<u>Regular Monthly Meeting</u>	<u>Monthly Social Meeting</u>	<u>Executive Board Meeting</u>
4th Tuesday of the month at 1:30 PM at Overland Park Lutheran Church, 79th and Lowell, Overland Park. Features: chapter business, refreshments and entertainment. No meetings July, August, December.	2nd Wednesday of the month at the Hometown Buffet, 73rd and Quivira at 1:15 PM. Call Clyde Shellhammer (913 432-0091) for reservations. Luncheon cafeteria-style food service.	1st Friday of the month. Breakfast at 9:00 AM, meeting 9:30 AM. Location Denny’s Restaurant, 95th and I-35 exit, Lenexa - adjacent to La Quinta Motel.

Chapter Officer & Committees

Agnes Shellhammer	President	913 432-0091	Florence Roy	NARFE-ALZ.	913 663-1987
Elizabeth Bornman	1st Vice President	913 268-8526	Tom Raby	Membership	913 829-6025
Clara Smith	2nd Vice President	913 441-8723	Flo Biehl	NARFE-PAC	913 631-5559
Wayne Smutz	Secretary	913 888-3423	Clara Smith	Public Relations	913 441-8723
Bob Steinert	Treasurer	913 764-7456	Frank McGough	Programs	913 432-7514
Howard Zion	Service Officer	913 236-8131	Bob Steinert	Editor	913 764-7456

Visit our chapter web site for last minute information: [www.narfe-chapter1162.org](http://www.narfe-chapter1162.org)