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Flo Biehl, Chapter President

Read your NARFE magazine. What a power packed issue! The more we can learn about health issues the better. While the proposed health insurance bills being proposed at the present time may not affect us, they will affect those that we know. Or is that right? Who knows, the bills have not been written exactly yet. We need to learn all that we can about health issues. NARFE's legislative department is on top of this, and they are trying to keep us informed.

Coupons in the magazine are to be thought about also to see if this is the time to clip one out and send it in with your check. NARFE/PAC needs money to support candidates who are supporters of NARFE issues. Kansas is having quite a shift in senators and representatives. This might be the time for you to send in some money. It is not something that you can claim on your income tax but it is for a cause that directly affects us. We are not buying a vote but we are helping like minded candidates in their race for the office they seek.

There are coupons for Disaster Relief for our members. We have had floods, tornados, hurricanes and the like--this fund helps our members get a small start with help on their needs before the other programs kick in. When you need food, water and other necessities, the need is immediate.

The scholarship fund helped one of our member's granddaughter last year. Kelly Kahle is the granddaughter of Pauline Russell in Chapter 1162. Her essay and the profile of herself won her one of the scholarships that NARFE provides. She has since completed her first year at Northwestern and did a summer internship shadowing doctors. Now she is back at Northwestern. She is studying to be a doctor or at least something in the medical field. While our scholarship was not huge it did help her along the way. We are proud to be of help to one of the future generation.

It sounds like I just want everyone to give, give, give. And I guess I do. I think we should help others along the way and also promote NARFE in any way that we can.

Tom Raby, First Vice President, Membership & Alzheimer's Chair

We received the check for \$60.00 from Associated Wholesale Grocers for our collected "Best Choice" UPC labels. This is a great program, so please use "Best Choice" brands and save the labels. Bring them to any chapter, or executive board meeting. This check has already been sent in to NARFE/ALZHEIMERS. Most of us have lost a relative or friend to this dreaded disease. Your donations to NARFE/Alzheimer's are fully tax deductible and our arrangement with Alzheimer's Association insures that all NARFE monies are used for research only, and not for administrative expenses.

Also, as this is written, several of our members are getting ready to take part in the Memory Walk at Corporate Woods. This is a separate annual fund-raising that raises money for Alzheimer's. We have raised over \$400.00 thus far.

The above efforts are not the main reason for the existence of NARFE. We exist to work to maintain the benefits that we earned as federal employees. These benefits have always been in some degree of jeopardy due to the way the government operates. Basically, congress must authorize a new budget each year and our earned benefits are part of this budget.

We need to keep our membership numbers up in our efforts to lobby members of congress. Current economic conditions mean that we are competing for our earned benefits with any and all requests for government funds; earned or not. We will be most successful if we work together.

Our chapter needs each of you to participate in chapter efforts. If we get together and keep our chapter active, the task will be easier for each individual. Come to the next meeting and get involved so we can continue to keep our benefits.

Welcome to the following new member!

Sandra Ortiz

Future Meeting Dates/Activities:

October 27th – Chapter Meeting, **1:30 p.m.**, Overland Park Lutheran Church, 79th and Lowell.
Program: Discussion on health benefits.

November 6th, Chapter Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m. at Denny's at 95th & I-35 Exit, next to LaQuinta.

November 11th – Social Meeting at Hometown Buffet, 75th & Quivira, 1:00 p.m. RSVP Clyde Shellhammer, Phone 432-0091.

December 15th – Christmas Party and Luncheon, 1:00 p.m. at the Lenexa Community Center. See enclosed article for further information

Note: No monthly Social meeting will be held at the Hometown Buffet during December. We encourage everyone to attend the Christmas luncheon on December 15th.

Christmas Party - December 15th - Louise Lloyd, Chairperson



The Christmas holidays are rapidly approaching, and the Chapter Christmas Party committee is now hard at work planning a wonderful holiday party and luncheon for you, our members. Other members of the committee include Eunice Jones and Lorna Larson.

We are planning to have delicious food, great entertainment, as well as everyone's favorite, door prizes. You don't want to miss out on the party and luncheon that we are planning, so be sure to mark your calendar for our luncheon, **December 15th** at 1:00 p.m. And the party and luncheon will be held at the Lenexa Community Center.

More specific details will be announced at the October 27th chapter meeting, and included in the November newsletter. We also plan to start selling tickets—\$14 per person—for the luncheon at the October 27th meeting.

2011 NARFE Photo Contest Calendar

NARFE has once again issued its annual call for photos for the 2011 NARFE Calendar. Since NARFE will be celebrating its 90th anniversary of service to federal retirees and employees, this will be a special calendar. So there are a couple of changes to the rules.



The photo contest is open to all NARFE members, even those whose photos have been used in previous NARFE Photo Contest Calendars. But only the work of amateurs will be accepted.

Now, there are new guidelines for submitting photos. All photos

must be 8" x 10" horizontal size. Each entry must have the following information on a piece of paper stuck or taped to the back of each photo: name of photographer, address, chapter number, and phone number or e-mail address. Photos can be whatever you think makes a good picture, however, no photos of pets or children. Neither e-mail or Polaroid pictures will be accepted. Please limit your photos to no more than five. The photos will not be returned.

Send your photos to NARFE Headquarters, Public Relations Department, 606 N. Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314. If you have any questions, call NARFE PR, 703-838-7760, ext. 268, or e-mail: pubrel@narfe.org. Photos will be accepted until **February 12, 2010**. (Information from NARFE Quarterly News Vol. 6, Number 4. Oct. 2009)

Census Bureau Hiring for 2010 Census

The Census Bureau is now recruiting for the 2010 U.S. Census. The Census Bureau estimates that it will hire up to 1.4 million individuals to help in this undertaking. If you are interested in applying, call the toll-free jobs line at 866-861-2010 where you will be routed to your local Census Bureau Office. You can also visit www.2010censusjobs.gov/. You can prepare by downloading the Census Practice test from the Web site.

A waiver has been granted allowing individuals who are receiving federal annuities to work in certain jobs without an offset to their salaries. This is **not** a blanket waiver for all Census positions, so when you contact the Census Bureau, find out if the position you are applying for is covered under the waiver. (Information from NARFE Quarterly News Vol. 6, Number 4. Oct. 2009)

Community Event of Interest – Johnson County Senior Quest 2009

The annual Johnson County Senior Quest 2009 will be held on October 27th, at the Overland Park Convention Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Senior Quest 2009, the "Senior Spooktacular" promises to continue the tradition of being Johnson County's biggest, most comprehensive annual information fair for older adults, featuring informational exhibits, free health screenings, bingo, entertainment, and a variety of food and refreshments for sale.

Last year 130 exhibitors offered demonstrations, games, and valuable information about their services available to older adults. Senior Quest is co-sponsored each year by Johnson County Government, the Johnson County Community College Brown & Gold Club, and the Kansas City Star.

Your October 2009 Shawnee Signal Newsletter

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