

# THE SHAWNEE SIGNAL

Chapter 1162 Shawnee Mission Kansas

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association



Vol. 30, No. 6

September 2007

www.narfe-chapter1162.org

Summer is over! Yes, you still have a local chapter. A good way to prove it is to attend a chapter meeting. The first one for the Fall season is September 25th.

And the Shawnee Signal newsletter awakens after a two-month silence with the reappearance of its original logo—the Indian smoke signal—in its rightful place. You got a look at the first edition of the Shawnee Signal that was written on a typewriter. Remember those?

Here's a brief summary of what some of our chapter officers and committees have been up to during this summer silence:

Five members attended the College of Knowledge at Sioux City, Nebraska, which we wrote about in the June newsletter. Tom Raby our membership chairman visited federal Defense facilities on Bannister Road on a recruiting mission. He writes about his experience under his byline. Bob Steinert our new Webmaster continued updating the chapter's website. A hearty thanks goes to Kay Bybee our Sunshine Lady for finding a very nice place for our Christmas Party in December. And Elizabeth Bornman, chapter president, has been busy preparing her training material for the upcoming Back to Basics training sessions --- among other activities. You can read the details presented in a potpourri style.

## ELIZABETH BORNMAN CHAPTER PRESIDENT REPORTS

**Alzheimer's.** Nationally we reached our goal of \$7 million for Alzheimer's Research by 2007— On July 31st, NARFE had \$7,016,167. Congratulations for your support. Our new goal in Kansas is \$4.00 per member. All donations, 100%, goes directly toward research. If you wish to make a donation, make your check out to "NARFE/Alzheimer's Research" and send it to our new Alzheimer's chairman Tom Raby at 15117 South Symphony Dr, Apt 1203, Olathe, KS 66062-6162. And thanks for your monthly donations at the meetings.

**Program Ideas and/or Volunteers.** We are in need of program ideas and a chairperson to coordinate chapter programs. If you have ideas for any particular month, please send them to the chapter President.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with the monthly newsletter. Please contact the president or the editor if you can help.

**Membership.** Region V continues to have a higher percentage of Chapter Members on Dues Withholding than the national rate: (Region V 23.3%); National 18.1%. Kansas remains one of the leaders nationally at 31.1 percent.

Our Region V is among the leaders in the percentage of CFE members (9.5%) compared to nationally (6.5%). North Dakota (24.3%) and Minnesota (16.5%) continue to be among the top Federations

### Legislation.

Our number 1 priority continues to be preservation of our current EARNED Benefits. Each of you needs to make an effort to contact our legislators to request support for retention of our current benefits and co-sponsorship of our priority bills during the upcoming session. While passage of our priority bills is going to be difficult, at best, the greater number of co-sponsors we have is an indication of our interest and activity as an organization that will help us to convince the legislators to preserve our current benefits.

Thank those who have sponsored our bills, especially Dennis Moore. We support HR 726, Modification to WEP. Also emphasize the importance of NARFE-PAC contributions. As of June 30, 2007, Kansas has had 174 contributors to PAC for a total of \$3,280.50. Use our form in the NARFE magazine to make a contribution to support the legislators that support our organization. ●

**MEMBERSHIP AND LEGISLATION**

By Tom Raby Chairman

Since my last newsletter article we've added quite a few new members. Welcome to: John R. Lucas, Shirley Faulwell, Fred Schnittker, Michael Grochowski, Susan Jarsulic, Leonard Ladd, Joyce Phillippi, Gisele Wolfe, Ivan McKarnin, Bob Montague, Louis Bornman, Mary Hansen, Marcia Huslig, Mary Tinsley, and Joseph Fein. Also we had the following members transfer from other chapters: Stuart Hill and Donald Faidley. We look forward to seeing you all at the Sept. 25th meeting.

Mr. T. J. Robinson, of Chapter 1160, and I visited the Bannister Road Federal Complex again in August. We've each signed up 3 new members so far. (two of my new members were for other chapters, however) We are also; co-hosting a Back-to-Basics Training session on October 15, 2007 at the Pat Hanlon Center in K.C., KS from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The session is free, but you will have to pay \$6-\$8 for lunch. (to be collected at the door) This training is for any member who desires to know how a chapter operates, or should be operated. It will be most helpful to anyone that wants to be a chapter officer, or wants to be appointed to any committee chair position. President, Elizabeth Bornman and I will have more information at the September 25th Chapter Meeting. Mr. Robinson and I will also attend the 44th annual Retiree Appreciation Day at Fort Leavenworth on October 27th as guests of the Department of the Army. We'll be wearing our Federation Officer hats to that event.

On the legislative side: NARFE has been active nationally in contacting elected officials. Each of you should contact Representative Dennis Moore and thank him for his continued support of NARFE legislation. You should also thank Senator Pat Roberts for his co-sponsoring of Premium Conversion. Please contact Senator Brownback and ask him to support the positions of NARFE. Rep. Moore and Sen. Roberts have offices in Overland Park and you can hand-deliver letters to those offices. I will assist you in helping you contact elected officials, if you need it. We have to keep our face, and our message, in front of our Senators and Congress members.

**NARFE PAC Committee**

By Flo Biehl, Chairlady

I belong to NARFE because it is a group of very interesting people who have banded together to preserve the benefits that were promised to us, to regain some that were to be ours but that we do not have and to obtain some benefits that current employees have. Wow! What a mission!

One of the ways we can work towards these goals is to make a donation to NARFE--PAC. This money is used to help those in the senate and in the house (and the wantabees) that are supportive of our aims to have some greenbacks in their kitty at election time. Yes, I know it is not election time but the need is ongoing. Clip out the coupon in our magazine and make your contribution. If you send in \$20 or more, you will get a pin to wear. This donation is not tax deductible but is still a very wise investment.

**HELP! EDITOR NEEDED**

By Bob Steinert, Editor

I'm retiring as Editor of the Shawnee Signal. Hopefully some member or members from the chapter will come forward and take over this position. It goes without repeating, there are many reasons a chapter needs a newsletter. And, this is not some shop-worn appeal for a volunteer. There's no need for that. An editor is one of the best hobbies you can find. Yep! It's a hobby. And I'm doing you a favor by stepping aside— Maybe, I'm helping you delay the onslaught of Alzheimer's by using your brain power, acquiring new skills or using those you left behind.

If I've stirred up some interest in you for knowing what work is involved in being the editor, give me a call or talk to me at one of our chapter meetings. My phone number is 913 764-7456. Putting out a newsletter is also an excellent group activity. You should consider bringing in some friends to help; they don't all have to be chapter members. Some great newsletters originate from members living in retirement communities. •

Chapter Meeting September 25th at 1:30PM, Overland Park Lutheran Church

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Come to our chapter Christmas party. When —  
December 11, 2007

Time 12:30 pm

Place: Grand Court,  
6117 West 119th Street,  
Overland Park, KS 66209-2728.



Call Kay Bybee to make your reservation  
and send in your check or pay at the meeting.

Kay's address is 6117 West 119th Street, Apt. 330,  
Overland Park, 66209-2728. Phone 913 491-0511.

Make your checks payable to "NARFE Chapter 1162"  
and write on your check in lower left corner "beef"  
or "chicken". Cost is \$16.00 per person, includes  
dinner and gratuity.

*Last Day to make reservations is December 3rd.*

### MENU:

Yankee Pot Roast or Stuffed Chicken  
Oven Roasted Red Potatoes  
Honey Glazed Carrots and Fresh Green Beans  
Salad and Rolls

Dessert: Chocolate Bourdon Pecan Pie or Cheese  
Cake. Beverage: coffee, tea, water.

Hostesses are Elizabeth Bornman and Kay Bybee.

## Regular Chapter Meeting September 25

Overland Park Lutheran Church  
79th Street and Lowell Ave, Overland Park.  
Meeting starts at 1:30 PM.

Our guest speaker is Mr. Ed Schutte of Johnson County  
Human Services & Aging. He is an Aging Information  
Specialist with the county and is one of only two special-  
ists that speak to groups about the services available from  
the agency.

Refreshments are served at the end of meeting and  
there's plenty of quality time for socializing.

If you are a new member or one who hasn't been to a  
chapter meeting (lately?), here's your opportunity to talk  
to chapter officers and get answers to questions you've  
had in mind about NARFE, but you never had the chance  
to ask.

## Chapter Treasurer's Report - Year 2007

Balance on hand January 1, 2007	\$8,107
Receipts:	4,502
Disbursements:	5,187
Balance September 11, 2007	\$7,422

Note: Detailed financial reports are available at chapter  
meeting. Cash accounts: checking and money market.

Total number of chapter members – 771.

**Highlights** from the Federation Presidents and Re-  
gional Vice Presidents and President Baptiste (The  
National Executive Board -NEB) held in Louisville,  
KY, July 23 -26, 2007.

Promote NARFE/Premier Credit Union among our  
membership and publish a list of branches/ATMs avail-  
able throughout the nation.

Discussed whether the NEB should recommend combin-  
ing the National Secretary and Treasurer positions. After  
significant debate, the NEB voted 9-3 against recommend-  
ing combining the two positions.

After a lengthy debate, the NEB agreed to provide a  
proposal of how one-member-one vote proposal could be  
accomplished considering its costs and timelines before  
the National Convention in Louisville.

Discussed NARFE's hiring policy; it was agreed to have  
a parliamentary review current and proposed policy

NEB approved a plan to phase out the Current Federal  
Employees (CFE) incentive program. Effective January  
2008, CFE's will pay the normal first year's rate of \$33.00  
and renew in the same manner as all other NARFE mem-  
bers. The \$8.00 finder's fee will remain in effect.

There was significant discussion of the NARFE Public  
Relations budget. Plans were approved to continue exten-  
sive marketing with ads in the Washington, DC area as  
well as expand the effort to cities with a large federal  
population such as Denver, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Seattle  
and Fresno.

It was announced that the new Director of Retirement  
Benefits Service Department is David Snell, he's a recent  
retiree from OPM. His goal is to reinvigorate the Service  
Officer program within NARFE.

The National Vice President reported that the Silver  
Circle Program has gone quite well in its first few months.  
As of the July meeting \$30,000 had been donated through  
the program. There are eleven NARFE members that con-  
tributed \$1,000 EACH. For a \$25.00 donation members  
receive a Silver Circle pin and for a \$1,000 donation, a  
member's name is placed on a plaque on the wall in  
NARFE HQs.

The NEB states that changes are in the works to im-  
prove the NARFE website to be more user-friendly. And  
The NARFE Magazine would like to receive more *letters*  
*to the editor* from the membership. ●

# the SHAWNEE SIGNAL



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Amelia S. Goldenbaum, Editor Phone 262-5919

## HERE WE ARE - at last!

As our Indian forefathers would communicate with each other by signals of smoke, we plan to bring you the news of Shawnee Mission Chapter 1162 by this "Shawnee Signal" each month.

Communication implies the involvement of at least two individuals; therefore, the editor will appreciate any news or information from any one of you that is of concern to all of us. Please call or write her in time to be printed in the current issue of the Signal; publication date will be approximately 10 days before our meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Amelia S. Goldenbaum, Editor  
5823 Cherokee Drive  
Shawnee Mission, Ks. 66205  
phone: 262-5919

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our sincere congratulations to those who have made this, the first issue of the Shawnee Signal possible. We now join other chapters in the area in publishing our own paper. We will try to bring you notices of meetings and other important information concerning our members and legislative and other business matters.

I feel sure our Chapter 1162, with its large potential for membership here in Johnson County, will continue to grow as we all work together for our own good and for the good of all Federal Retirees.

Harold L. Zimmerman, Pres., Chapter 1162.

## MEETING NOTICE

The January meeting of Chapter 1162 will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 1977 at the Overland Park Christian Church, 7600 W. 75th St. The speaker for the meeting will be Mr. David Bishard of the Dept. of Internal Revenue. He will speak to us on the changes in the new 1976 Income Tax Laws.

## ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION - HERE - APRIL 24, 25, 26.

This year's convention will be hosted jointly by our chapter and KCK Chapter 1160, and will take place at the Ramada Inn, I-35 & 85 St. Convention chairman Dave Goldenbaum, together with Cleo Nelson of our chapter and Joe Meditz of Chapter 1160 comprise the planning committee and announce the following persons as convention chairpersons: Registration, Nell Curran; Greetings, Pearl Graybill; Information, Bernice Harvey; Finance, John Maxfield; Entertainment, John Curran; Printing & Publicity, Cleo Nelson; Memorial Service, Lucille Zimmerman; Table Decorations, Helen Padley; Refreshments, Belle Maxfield. Committee chairpersons will be assisted by personnel from both chapters, to be named by the chairpersons.

## Chapter Officers & Committees 2007

**President**  
Elizabeth Bornman  
913 268-8526  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Flo Biehl  
913 631-5559  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
Clara Smith  
913 441-8723  
**Secretary**  
Wayne Smutz  
913 888-3423  
**Treasurer**  
Bob Steinert  
913 764-7456  
**Service Officer**  
Howard Zion  
913 236-8131  
**Alzheimer's**  
Tom Raby  
913 829-6025  
**Legislative**  
Tom Raby  
913 829-6025  
**Membership**  
Tom Raby  
913 829-6025  
**Newsletter**  
Bob Steinert  
913 764-7456  
**Public Relations**  
Clara Smith  
913 441-8723

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