



KANSAS STATE FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

“CHAMPION OF THE FEDERAL RETIREE”

Volume XVIII

NARFE Tri-River Chapter No. 2098

December 2006

Winona Hornbuckle, Editor, 1201 N. Broadway, Louisburg, KS 66053-3540, 913-837-4434, e-mail – sphwmh49@mokancomm.net

Chapter Officers:

- John McCoy, President, (913) 731-4175
- Sterling Hornbuckle, First Vice President, (913) 837-4434
- Jean Nickell, Second Vice President, (913) 755-4309
- Winona Hornbuckle, Secretary, (913) 837-4434
- Darrell Williams, Treasurer, (913) 755-4026
- Robert Hodge, Legislative Chair., (913) 557-5581
- Elizabeth Smith, Membership Chair., (913) 294-2249
- Norman Minden, Service Officer, (913) 294-3139
- Helen Morrison, Alzheimer’s Chair., (913) 755-4020
- Darrell Williams, NARFE-PAC Coord., (913) 755-4026

November 14 Meeting - Met at 6:00 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church in Paola. There were 44 in attendance including the guest speaker. Following the meal Pat Fox made a presentation regarding the Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit “Between Fences.” It opened first in Lucas, KS, and is being brought to communities with less than 20,000 population and was designed to be shown in rural communities. The Treasurer reported \$474.42 in checking and \$804.21 in savings. All the new national officers can be found on the NARFE website. There are 50 departing members in Congress. The Democrats will control the House and no decision yet regarding the Senate. Our new representative will be Nancy Boyda. Congress remains in session trying to pass the remaining appropriation bills, include them in an omnibus appropriations bill or continue with a longer continuing resolution. The next COLA will be 3.3 percent. FERS COLA will be determined depending on the amount of the Social Security COLA. Health benefits open season runs through December 11. Dental insurance appears to be expensive but vision insurance seems to be more reasonable. The Nominating Committee is still looking for a President, Treasurer and Membership Chairperson for 2007.

Next Meeting - December 12, 2006, 6:00 p.m., at the Cadmus Grange Hall, 21981 Highway 7 (northwest of LaCygne). The program will be provided by “Three J’s for Jesus,” a singing group. Callers should turn in the names of those they are making reservations for to Jean Nickel, 913- 755.4309, by Saturday, December 9. Be sure to make a reservation if you plan to attend. If you make a reservation and do not attend, you will be expected to pay for the meal.

Chapter Officers - Officers for 2007 are to be sworn in at our meeting on December 12. We are still in need of a President, Treasurer, and Membership Chairperson. We ask that you consider becoming a Chapter officer. We need some new ideas on getting new members, keeping the old ones, etc. We will not let you sink or swim. Present officers or anyone who has been an officer in the past will be happy to assist you in any way possible so please step forward and become an officer of our chapter for 2007.

NARFE membership is more than an affiliation with a lobbying organization. It is a multifaceted membership that enhances the lifestyle of federal employees, retirees and their families. So get involved. It can be one of the most rewarding aspects of NARFE membership.

Sunshine - Laurence and Mary Boehm were able to attend the November meeting and Laurence may go home before Christmas. Mary Ann Maisch’s grandson was injured in a 4-wheeler accident Russell Folken is dealing with some medical issues. Let’s keep these folks and others in our prayers.

Legislation - A Kansas senator, Peggy Palmer, of Augusta, wants to add the Sunflower State to the list of 27 states that exempt Social Security income from state taxes. When the Legislature convenes on January 8 she plans to introduce a bill to enact the exemption.

Congress resumed on November 13 and on November 15 passed legislation to extend the spending deadline through December 8. The House returned on December 5 and the Senate met after Thanksgiving to pass some of the remaining individual appropriation measures already passed by the House.

The House Democratic Caucus has selected Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California to be the new majority party’s nominee for Speaker of the House when Congress convenes on January 4 and Rep. Steny Hoyer to be their majority leader.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Sen. Pat Roberts | Sen. Sam Brownback |
| 11900 College Blvd., Ste. 203 | 612 S. Kansas Ave. |
| Overland Park; KS 66210 | Topeka, KS 66603 |
| (913) 451-9343 | (785) 233-2503 |
| Rep. Jim Ryun | |
| 800 SW Jackson St., Ste. 100 | |
| Topeka, KS 66612 | |
| (785)232-4500 | |

Membership - If you are not a life member you should seriously consider dues withholding. That way you don’t have to worry about letting your dues lapse or being dropped.

A new recruitment poster was recently unveiled by NARFE. This poster features a photograph of a combination lock and key and asks: Is Your Retirement Safe? It has a place for members to write in their own chapter or federation contact information or they can put in their own number.

COLA Update - October’s CPI-W, 197.0, was 0.7% lower than September’s 198.4. The November figures will not be released until December 15.

Federal Employees Dental and Vision Program - You cannot enroll in the FED VIP programs through the OPM Open Season contractor. Employees, retirees and survivors have to enroll through BENEFEDS, online at www.BENEFEDS.com or by calling 1-877-888-3337.

Kansas Federation Newsletter - Those of you who have computers can get this publication on the Federation Website at www.kanarfe.org. It is published bimonthly and contains a lot of good information.

Upcoming Events

- January 9, 2007 - NARFE Monthly Meeting.
- March 3-6, 2007- National Legislative Conference, Bethesda, MD

Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year