



# Manhattan NARFE Communique

Kaw-Blue Chapter 366

Volume No. 11 Issue No. 1 Date: MARCH 2005

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Judy Grossnickle	537-2457
1st V.P.	Sandra Mathewson	776-0401
2nd V.P.	Roger Lemmons	539-8733
Secretary	Ann Domsch	537-5147
Treasurer	Dale Walters	539-4970
Past Pres.	Wilber Ringler	539-2014
News Editor	Michael Cardella Jr.	539-3448

## MONTHLY PROGRAMS

(By Roger Lemmons, Program Chairman)

Please plan to attend the listed meetings and enjoy the following programs. Lunch is served at 11:15 A.M. at the **All Chinese Buffet, 2304 Stagg Hill Road.** (Across from the Holidome)

Wednesday, April 20

“Identify Theft & Scams”

Riley County Police

Wednesday, May 18

“Kansas Profiles”

Huck Boyd Institute

By: Ron Wilson

Wednesday, June 15

“3rd Street Development”

Manhattan, City Government

## VETERAN'S NEW ID CARD BATTLE IDENTITY THEFT

(From Army Echoes)

With identity theft on the rise, the Veteran's Association has designed a new identification card for veterans that will safeguard confidential information and ensures that only eligible veterans receive the benefits they have earned. The existing cards will remain valid until veterans receive new cards.

The Veterans Identification Card (VIC) will have the veteran's photo on the front and identify the veteran as an enrollee in the VA Health Care System. The card will have the words “**Service connected**” under the photo if the veteran has a service-connected disability. Veterans should request the new card at the closest medical center. Processing will take five to seven days once eligibility is verified.

## DELL GATES INDUCTED

By Michael Cardella, Editor

The Kansas Pest Control Association has inducted Mr. Dell Gates in their “**Hall of Fame**” for his outstanding contributions in the area of pest control to their organization. Dell was an Emeritus Professor in the Extension Service at KSU serving some thirty-four years. Dell was a long time NARFE member who passed away in March of 2002. Rest in Peace Dell.

## OFFICIAL NARFE TITLE

Our new official title, effective 9 February 2005 is NARFE (National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association). NARFE is the only organization that works to protect your **earned** benefits.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(By Judy Grossnickle)

March is here and its time for the spring newsletter. There are several things that I need to point out in this article.

**1). Replacements for 2006:** Several of the Executive Board Members would like to step down and allow someone else to assume a leadership role in our organization. Those members are Dale Walters, Treasurer; Michael Cardella, Newsletter; and myself, President. To give the Nominating Committee as much time as possible to recruit new leadership, I have asked Past Presidents, Mary Fritzson, Al Schmaderer, and Wilber Ringler to serve. Please say "yes" when they approach you about an office.

**2) March is NARFE-PAC month:** The new PAC pins are shown in the March Issue of the NARFE magazine. Please contribute at least \$15.00 and receive your Pin from our Pac Man, Bill (never got his elk) Webber.

**3) Alzheimer Donations:** We have been generous with our donations; however, the 25% of the members who attend the meetings would love it if the rest of the chapter would send in a donation to help us receive our goal of \$4.00 per member. Please use the attached Alzheimer's flyer and mail your contribution to Mr. Dale Walters, 3197 Reservation Drive, Manhattan, Kansas 66502-9767.

**4) The Kansas Federation:** Will be holding the State Convention April 24-25, 2005 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Kansas City, Kansas. If you would like to attend the convention as a Delegate or Alternate, please let Ann Domsch or myself know. Our chapter has been allocated 12 delegate positions.

**5) Moving:** Our chapter is considering moving to another luncheon site. Please let your caller or me know your thoughts on this subject. Currently, the All Chinese Buffet offers us the most economical meal, handicap accessibility, and parking close to the building. However the restaurant has failed two health inspections with violations that resulted in a

fine, but not great enough to close the facility to protect the public. The Restaurant passed their last inspection with minor deficiencies in February.

**6) Benefits:** At the January meeting Marjory Mortvedt asked a question that needs more discussion and consideration. She asked, "What is the difference between an "Entitlement" and our "Earned Benefits? Any ideas? More on this topic later.

## MEMBER PROFILE

(By Michael Cardella, Editor)

This issue of our NARFE Newsletter will feature our Legislative Chairperson, **Marjory (Marge) Mortvedt**. Marge was born in the far west town of Portland, Oregon. She completed elementary school and high school there, and after graduation went with her family to attend collage in Iowa. She enrolled at Iowa State University and became a true mid-westerner in 1946.

During her freshman year, Marge met her husband to be. She left school at the end of the year and was married. Three children were born into the family.

In the fall of 1959 Marge returned to Iowa State to complete her degree in Home Economics. Marge then taught Home Economics to grades 7-12 in Woodward Iowa. "I taught classes to both boys and girls and have fond memories of the young boys making pancakes for the superintendent, and even learning to sew on a button. I really enjoyed teaching them." After a period of teaching and child raising, Marge returned to Iowa State University for her Masters in Home Management, and her Doctorate in Sociology. She then applied for and accepted an Extension Service position at Ohio State University in Columbus and began her Civil Service career. She worked at the Ohio State for seven years before accepting a position as Director of Home Economics at the University of Maryland, remaining at this location for three years.

In 1979 she accepted the position of State Leader for Extension Home Economics at Kansas State University. In 1984 she moved to the position of

## MEMBER PROFILE (CONT)

Extension Coordinator of programs and Staff Development for the state of Kansas. Marge retired from Civil Service in 1995. Now that she had more time, she became more active in the Manhattan League of Woman Voters, and became president in 1997. "The League is a non partisan, multi-issue organization that promotes informed and active participation of citizens in Government". Marge's work there has provided her with an understanding and interest in legislation, though lobbying for NARFE is very different.

Fate dealt a heavy card to Marge when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1999, and she is determined to beat this deadly disease. Marge says her experiences since she was diagnosed have changed her life. She is now a cancer survivor, her cancer being in remission for the last six years.

Marge has a green thumb and loves to grow Kansas "Survivor" flowers (those that can endure drought and heat) She says" My part of the garden is filled with flowers, and my husband's with vegetables. To complete their home, the Mortvedt-Hachmeisters have a long-haired red/brown Dachshund named Schatzie, who loves to chase squirrels and run the fence with her neighbor dogs.

Marge has been a NARFE member since 1995, and looks forward to working and learning in her Legislative Chairperson this year.

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### IN MEMORIAM

Frank G. Bieberly died on 01-16-05 (Honorary Member).

Helen Roberston died on 12-11-04 (Member).

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**Happiness is a butterfly, which, when pursued, is always beyond our grasp, but which, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you. (Nathaniel Hawthorne) July 27, 1904**

## NEW CHAPTER SERVICE OFFICER

(By: Barb Pretzer)

Let me introduce my self as the chapter's new Service Officer and thank my predecessor, Cecil Eyestone, for his many years of service as our Service Officer. Without a shadow of doubt, I have a lot to learn to adequately fill this important position!

Some of the responsibilities of the Chapter Service Officer are to offer help to charter members, their families and survivors in the areas of **1.** Steps to take upon an annuitant's death, **2.** Help in overcoming delays or problems in processing claims for benefits, **3.** Get prompt answers to their related questions, and **4.** General assistance with making contacts with OPM and Retirement Benefits Service Department at NARFE Headquarters. Current Federal Employees have their Human Resource Department to help with these matters, but many times the retiree is "on her own!" NARFE is here to help.

However, one area that I think is extremely important for the Chapter Service Officer is to offer help to **any** federal retiree. This can be an excellent recruiting tool when the Retirement Benefits Program is communicated. It could be one of the main attractions for non-member retirees, survivor annuitants or potential retirees deciding to join NARFE and our chapter.

I ask for your help in identifying members or non-members who have a need for help in receiving the benefits to which they are entitled by law. I can be contacted at 4817 Rock ridge Court, Manhattan, KS 66503, or phone 785-539-6766.

Just as a reminder, **we do NOT pay** Kansas Income Tax on our federal annuity or Retired Military pay. If you find you have, ask for a refund. However you can only go back a few years on refund request. Please read Judy Park's article on page 19 of the December NARFE magazine. It will tell you how different your life would be if you didn't have NARFE. It's an eye opener!

## UPCOMING CONVENTION

(By: Judy Grossnickle)

This year Kansas Federation State Convention is being held in the Hilton Garden Inn & Convention Center, 520 Minnesota Ave. Kansas City, KS from Sunday April 24th through Tuesday April 26th. The Alzheimer's live action will be at 7.30 PM on Sunday, and the silent action will start on Sunday and end Monday night. **If you would like to attend as a delegate or an alternate, please let Judy Grossnickle or Ann Domish know.** The anticipated cost is \$60.00 for the registration and three meals plus the Hotel cost of \$84.00 per night. The rooms are very nice with a microwave and refrigerator in each room. As well as being interesting and informative, conventions are a lot of fun. If you are unable to attend please consider donating an item for the Alzheimer's action. Our members who attend would be happy to take your item to KC. Or, if you would prefer to make a monetary donation to the Alzheimer's fund please use the form attached to the newsletter. All contributions made by our chapter will earn credit for our chapters donation record. 100 % of donations made through NARFE goes to Alzheimer's Research.

## MEMBERSHIP/RECRUITING

(By Sandy Mathewson,) (Vice President for Membership)

Please welcome new Current Federal Employee (CFE) members Joseph Schmidt, Don Koeltzow, Zina Harden and James Throne! We extend a sincere and hearty welcome to all new members. Welcome Aboard mates! Chapter membership activity includes losses also, with the recent death of Frank Bieberly and Helen Roberston.

We must continue our recruitment efforts. Several NARFE members have visited former work sites to recruit CFE's since NARFE defends benefits for current employees. Remember if you know a federal worker or retiree who is not a member, and you do not want to ask them, submit their name to me and I will send them membership information.

Membership is a united effort, so lets all work together to keep our NARFE chapter growing and our benefits intact.

**Blessed is he who has learned to laugh at himself, for he shall never cease to be entertained. John Bowell , November 11, 1918.**