



The Shawnee Signal
Chapter 1162 Shawnee Mission Kansas
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Vol. 36, No. 4

May 2014

www.narfe-chapter1162.org

Louise Lloyd, Editor, lalloydks@yahoo.com

Officers & Committees

President

Louise Lloyd
913-661-1720

1st Vice President

Louis Bornman
913-268-8526

2nd Vice President

Elizabeth Bornman
913-268-8526

Secretary

Ginny Glauser
913-492-8356

Treasurer

Mary Haswell
913-400-7303

Service Officer

Elizabeth Bornman
913-268-8526

Alzheimer's

Judy Arnold
913-962-7502

Legislative

Louis Bornman
913-268-8526

Membership

Vacant

NARFE-PAC

Vacant

Newsletter

Louise Lloyd
913-661-1720

Sunshine

Don Faidley
913-671-7368

Webmaster

Jerry Lloyd
913-661-1720

President's News - Louise Lloyd

As I write this article, the Kansas Federation convention is now over. The convention was hosted by the Manhattan NARFE chapter and was well organized and informative. It allowed for good opportunities to interact with members from all across the state. The seven members from our chapter who attended the convention were active participants throughout the convention attending the various committee meetings and training sessions.

Election of officers was held at the convention, and several new officers were elected. Cindy Renee` Blythe, an active federal employee was re-elected as President. Rita Dawson from the Emporia Chapter was elected as 2nd Vice President, and Rebecca Rodgers, from the Manhattan Chapter was elected as Treasurer. They will serve for a two year term. Elizabeth Bornman will serve one more year as 1st Vice-President, and Gwen Ketter will continue to serve one more year as Secretary. Louis Bornman, 1st Vice-President and Legislative Chair of our chapter was re-elected as Area 1 Vice-President. Further information about the Federation Convention is included in several of the articles in this newsletter. The Federation Convention in April 2015 will be held in Topeka, Kansas.

Within NARFE, special attention is being given to the Future of NARFE (FON) report recommendations, of which two bylaws amendments are proposed that will be voted on at the National Convention. We will have several delegates attending, so our chapter will be having discussions about these specific recommendations at the upcoming May and June meetings as well as any other issues that may be brought up for the National convention.

The best way to keep up with what is happening in NARFE particularly regarding FON recommendations as well as potential threats to current and future retirement benefits is to provide NARFE HQ with your e-mail address so that you can receive the weekly e-mails and Alerts sent by NARFE HQ. You can do this online at www.narfe.org.

Our May 27th meeting will be at the Dwight Cowles American Legion Hall, **7500 W. 75th Street**. For our program, we will have a speaker from the World War I Museum in Kansas City, I hope you will be able to join us.

Alzheimer's Awareness – Judy Lukas Arnold, Alzheimer's Chairperson

What AWESOME fundraisers were held at the Kansas Federation Convention in Manhattan in April! I'd like to again thank those who donated items, which were bid upon at Live and Silent Auctions: Louise Lloyd, Sheryl Gulley and Dave Lundberg, Louis and Elizabeth Bornman, Bruce Smith, Helen Ruttinger, Nancy Miller, and Lorna Larson. Along with what I brought and with what we bid on, we helped collect over \$5,800 for Alzheimer's research!

I hope that most of you receive the "Best Times" publication, a magazine put out by Johnson County Government. This month's cover article, "Fading Memories from Alzheimer's", features Dennis Moore. In it, the former U.S. Congressman, who suffers from the disease, uses this media outlet to educate the public about the disease.

Other tidbits about Alzheimer's to come my direction over the last several months are:

"Chicken Soup for the Soul: Living with Alzheimer's and Other Dementias" is now available for purchase. All royalties go to the Alzheimer's Association to pursue research.

Research now shows that Type 2 Diabetes may shrink the brain.

Women are hit especially hard by Alzheimer's: The Alzheimer's Association's new *2014 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures* report shows women have a 1 in 6 chance of developing Alzheimer's, while men have a 1 in 11 chance. Not only are 3.2 million women living with Alzheimer's, women are also at the epicenter of caregiving for someone with the disease. (Taken from the March Alzheimer's & Dementia e-News.)

Welcome New Member!

Dana Pflumm

In Memoriam

William Davis
Joyce Hauser
Charles Kennedy
Jean McRoberts
Edward Roberts
Harold Toomay
Catherine Wittman
Leonard Wyatt

Sunshine Committee:

Contact Don Faidley if you know of any members who may be sick.

Reminder: Don't forget to bring your egg cartons & plastic grocery bags to meetings for donation to the Community Service Center of Shawnee, Inc.

OPM Retirement Information

Remarriage, divorce, death or spouse, change of address or financial institution or amount of insurance under FEGLI, **1-888-767-6738**

Federation Convention Report - Sheryl Gulley

As it was last year, this year's Kansas Federation NARFE convention was fun and very informative. I attended a Service Officer training held by Harold Klaege, the Federation Service Officer and he walked us through both the OPM Retirement Operations site and the NARFE Service Officer site. The OPM site

<https://www.serviceline.opm.gov/> has a wealth of information for anyone to use. To use this site, you must request a password. They will not give it to you over the telephone. You can verify your annuity if needed for a house or car loan, change your tax withholding, establish or change an allotment or print your 1099-R tax forms. You also have the ability to report an annuitant's death on the internet, which is usually a faster and more sure way than waiting on hold on the phone. <https://apps.opm.gov/retire/death/death.cfm>

Another form you can print off is a verification of FEGLI life insurance to put in your files with your F100 – Be Prepared for Life's Events folder that NARFE provides. This verification lets your loved ones know exactly what life insurance you have. The F-100 is available on the NARFE website, www.narfe.org.

At the general business meetings, a lot of time was spent on Future of NARFE. We teleconferenced with Bruce Coleman, a member of the FON committee and he presented a slide presentation detailing 35 recommendations of the committee. There was a lively discussion of many of the points with Carol Ek, Region 5 Vice President. A general consensus was that there were both good and bad points in the recommendations and that many important decision will be made at the National Convention. There were many more highlights at the convention, from election of Federation officers, memorial service, live auction with an auctioneer and silent auction, to a banquet with a "Cowboy Poet". I would like to thank the chapter for allowing me to attend this convention.

Future Meeting Dates/Activities:

May 27th – Chapter meeting, 1:30 p.m. Dwight Cowles American Legion Hall, 7500 W. 75th Street (west of Metcalf, east of Antioch on 75th Street). **Use the main entrance on north end of the building.** Meeting room is on the right just inside the main entrance. Feel free to come and enjoy the taco luncheon served by the American Legion before our meeting. Program: Speaker World War I Museum/Liberty Memorial. Note: Executive board meeting immediately following the chapter meeting.

June 24th – Chapter meeting, Noon Potluck Luncheon Meeting at Overland Park Lutheran Church, 79th and Lowell. Program: Historical presentation/skit on the origin and construction of the United States Flag.

July – No Chapter meeting and no Executive Board meeting.

Legislative News - Louis Bornman, 1st Vice President -Legislative Chair

We were very fortunate to get three Kansas State Legislators to attend the legislative session for the Federation Convention this year. All three were from the Manhattan area. We had Senator Tom Hawk (D), and Representatives Sydney Carlin (D), and Tom Phillips (R). We had a very lively session. One of the main issues that was brought up was the KS legislation that was signed that made Kansas part of a nine state compact that wants to try to convince the US Congress to allow them to receive block grants from the federal government (Department of Health and Human Services) so that those states can take over and run all federal run health care in those states. That would include MEDICARE! None of these legislators were in favor of this and no one should be. This would require the Kansas state legislature to develop their own rules and regulations on the who what when where how and what would be covered by the state run MEDICARE. Given how the Kansas state legislature and the current KANCARE operate, I would not want them managing my MEDICARE benefits or anyone else's. Please be sure to contact your Kansas State Representative and Senator and tell them that is a very bad idea! Another hot topic was taxes and the funding of schools in Kansas. Sen. Hawk and Rep. Carlin were very adamant about the lack of funding and how the Governor's tax plan was failing the people of Kansas and our children's education. They were also not happy at all about the unprecedented inclusion of a policy issue (teacher due process in dismissal) in funding legislation. Funding and policy change are not usually included in the same legislation. They were not pleased at all with the direction of the Governor's tax plan which gives big tax breaks to the wealthy while eliminating tax credits and benefits to the poor and elderly which ends up requiring them to pay more in taxes. Also the lack of adequate school funding has resulted in most counties raising their taxes to try to make up some of the school funding shortfall. Check your county tax statement and you will probably see the allocation percentage of your county taxes for schools jumped up by 33 percent this past year. And don't forget that the sales tax did not drop back 1.3 percent like it was supposed to this past year. The legislature could not do that because they needed the money to help pay for the Kansas Supreme Court ruling that education was underfunded. Then there was also the attempt to change the way the courts work by underfunding them as punishment for not supporting all of the Governor's policies and trying to rig the way Kansas Supreme Court Justices are picked so that the Governor can stack the deck with supporters and no one will be able to win any law suits challenging his or the legislature's policy or funding decisions.

Service Officer – 2nd Vice President – Elizabeth Bornman**The change in IRA's Rollovers impact on IRA's**

From FED Week May 2, 2014.

The Tax Court's Ruling and Its Impact: The Tax Court ruled in *Alvan L. Bobrow, et ux. versus Commissioner*, TC Memo 2014-21, Docket No. 7022-11, that an IRA owner cannot make a nontaxable rollover from one IRA to another IRA if the IRA owner made a rollover from any of their IRAs in the preceding one year period. Note that "any" implies a rollover from a traditional IRA to a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA to a Roth IRA. Following the holding in this decision -- the Tax Court's decision and the IRS implementation sometime after Dec. 31, 2014 - **the following will result:**

IRA owners must include in gross income any previously untaxed amounts from an IRA if they made an IRA-to-IRA rollover in the preceding 12 months, and

IRA owners may be subject to the 10 percent early withdrawal penalty tax on the amount they include in gross income.

In addition, if funds were rolled over into an IRA when they were in fact not allowed to be rolled over, the rolled over amounts may be considered as "excess contributions" and subject to an excess contribution tax of six percent for as long as the funds remain in the IRA.

The Rationale Behind the Tax Court Ruling: The most likely rationale behind the Tax Court ruling is that Congress wanted to impose limits on IRA rollovers as a way to ensure that individuals do not take advantage of the 60 day rollover rule by repeatedly moving funds in and out of their accounts on a tax-free basis. In short, the Tax Court thought that Congress wanted to avoid having individuals "game the system" by multiple rollovers through artificially creating a longer-than 60-day rollover period.

What is Not Affected by the Tax Court Ruling: The IRS currently allows, and will allow, IRA owners the ability to directly transfer funds from one IRA trustee to another IRA trustee. This is because "trustee-to-trustee" transfers are not considered as rollovers. With a trustee-to-trustee transfer, the IRA funds are directly transferred from one IRA custodian to another IRA custodian, without the funds being sent to the IRA owner. IRA owners will continue to be allowed to make unlimited "trustee-to-trustee" IRA transfers during any year.

Also not affected by the Tax Court is the option allowing TSP participants to make a one-time transfer of their TSP account to a traditional IRA or to a Roth IRA. This usually occurs after an employee has retired from federal service. Employees age 59.5 and older are allowed a one-time transfer of their TSP accounts to an IRA. But once they have made this transfer as an employee, they will not be allowed to make a partial transfer of their TSP account to an IRA after they retire from federal service.

Employees who own qualified retirement plans such as 401(k) plans that they participated in when they were previously employed are allowed to directly transfer these plans into their traditional IRAs and/or into their TSP accounts with no limitations. If they own Roth 401(k) or Roth 403(b) retirement accounts, then they can transfer these accounts into their Roth TSP account.

Contact Information:

Senator Jerry Moran – jerry_moran@moran.senate.gov; Olathe, KS office: 913-393-0711. D.C. Office: 202-224-6521

Senator Pat Roberts – pat_roberts@roberts.senate.gov; Overland Park Office: 913-451-9343. D.C. Office: 202-224-4774.

Congressman Kevin Yoder – Kansas City, KS telephone: 913-621-0832, Washington D.C. Office: 202-225-2865

www.yoder.house.gov. (Visit website to sign up for his newsletter)

The Legislative Hotline is available to telephone callers (703)-838-7780 and toll free at 1-877-217-8234, posted on the internet at www.narfe.org, made available to NARFE-Net Coordinators, and sent to over 54,000 GEMS e-mail addresses.

A reminder that retirees can sign up for the Dues Withholding option to obtain a 15% discount (\$6) on your annual NARFE dues. Dues withholding applications are included in each monthly NARFE magazine, and applications are also on the NARFE website at www.narfe.org.

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Employees Assoc. 1162
11433 Rene
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Your May 2014 Shawnee Signal

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