

- stationery, scotch tape, pens, etc.
- 5. snacks - not too large packages, please
- 6. gardening: gloves, small spades, books, seeds, etc.
- 7. gift wrapping items: scotch tape, cards, bows, stamps, stickers, pens, etc.

Sabine Dieringer, Donna Habermann and Sandy Rumsey will coordinate these baskets. Once we get the baskets together, there will be a list of what each basket holds and a bag which will hold the raffle tickets that you will purchase to receive that basket. Now for the fun stuff! We would like to solicit any of the items mentioned above or anything else that you may have in your possession that could be used given the themes or one of your own that is practical and please make sure these items are new and not too big. Once we find out how much we have, we will purchase the rest to fill the baskets using NARFE funds which of course will be replenished after the raffle. Soooo, please check your supplies and let Sabine (236-0080) or Sandy (658-2131) or Donna (667-5705) know where these items could be picked up or brought to the next meeting or bring a full basket to the picnic. Thank you and I know this will be a successful way to raise funds for a very worthwhile cause. Sabine Dieringer, Public Relations Officer

BENEVOLENCE REPORT FOR MARCH 2011

New or Reinstated Chapter Members: We welcome the following folks:

- Catherine Brooks Laura Burrell
- Eloise Clark Terry McElrath

Please join us at our chapter meetings announced in our newsletter.

Members that decided to drop their membership:

- Nelson Higgins John Mathewson
- Benjamin Watkins

We ask any member acquainted with these folks to give them a call and encourage them to reinstate their membership. They are as important to us and to NARFE as NARFE is to them.

Members Passed Away:

- Parilee Austin Rosemary Maxwell
- Yvonne Scott

We offer prayers for the families of the deceased. The memories of them will live on within the NARFE community.

SILENT AUCTION

Your first opportunity to bid on the silent auction items will be at our June meeting on June 11. To date, three items have been provided for this auction and they are 1. Four beautiful colored prints, 2. Two antique silver Compotes, and 3. A Jefferson Golden Hour mystery clock which is 24-kt gold plated.

After the "auction" at the meeting, the highest bids will be published to all members who will have two additional week in which to bid. You may place your bids with Tom Beatty; however, incremental bids must be at least \$3.00 more than the current high bid. Remember an offered bid is a contract which must be completed.

Any questions to Tom Beatty, at 828.298.6161 or tkbpop@yahoo.com.

HONORARY MEMBER DIES

George M. Roberts, age 100, longtime chapter member and Honorary Member of NARFE, passed away on April 21, 2011. George retired in 1972 after a 36-year career with the U.S. Postal Service. We are grateful for his service to our country .

NARFE SUPPORTED FOOD DRIVE

The Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, sponsored by the National Association of Letter Carriers and supported by NARFE, is the nation's largest single-day food drive. Feeding America (<http://feedingamerica.org/default.aspx>) reports food banks in most areas of the country have low food stocks and high demand. On **SATURDAY, May 14**, the National Association of Letter Carriers (www.nalc.org) and National Rural Carriers Association will conduct their 19th annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. In 2010, this NARFE supported drive delivered 73.1 MILLION pounds of non-perishable items donated by postal patrons to local food organizations. NARFE members are urged to collect and bag non-perishable food items and place the bag by your mailbox for your city or rural letter carrier on Saturday, May 14, 2011. Results of the Food Drive will be reported to NARFE members.

DO YOU JUST BELONG

The following appeared in the February 2011 NARFE Recruiting & Retention Journal:

*Do you attend meetings and mingle with the flock?
Or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?*

*Do you take an active part to help the work along?
Or are you satisfied to be the kind who just "belong"?*

*Do you work on a committee to see there is no trick?
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about a clique?*

*Do you come to meetings often and help with hand and heart?
Don't be just a member but take an active part.*

*Think this over and remember you know right from wrong.
Are you an involved member or do you just "belong"?*

■ Adapted from a poem featured in the January/February 2011 issue of the Colorado Federation Newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP

The new Dues Withholding cost for NARFE National & Chapter membership is \$3.67 per month, now less than a gallon of gas. Can you provide me with some real-life statements of what this will buy you that I can use in future recruitment letters? Tom Beatty, tkbpop@yahoo.com.

COFFEE CLUSTER (NORTH)

The Northside Cluster will meet at Baba's Kitchen (formerly Wayne's Restaurant), 1469 Merrimon Ave. on May 19th at 9:00 am. Drop in and stay in touch over a cup of coffee or maybe breakfast. Theron Rumsey (828-658-2131)

COFFEE CLUSTER (EAST)

The Eastside Cluster will not meet in May but will resume in June.

QUOTE

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go". Oscar Wilde

Deadline for the next newsletter – May 21, 2011

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE GROCE FUNERAL HOME AND ASHEVILLE QUICKPRINT FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT TO NARFE CHAPTER 156.

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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