

**MAY 2026 REPORT FROM NARFE  
CHAPTER 112 PRESIDENT, CRAIG PETTIBONE**

**Our May 12 meeting will feature Dr. Beth Templin, owner of HouseFit Physical Therapy, [www.housefitstl.com](http://www.housefitstl.com).** Every day, people 55+ reach out to HouseFit looking for answers to questions about how to stay active and independent as they age. If that's you, then you will want to learn more about HouseFit. HouseFit provides a team of Physical Therapists who believe that fitness and independence are achievable at any age. We will meet at the at the **Sunny Street Café**, 11692 Manchester Road, Des Peres, MO 63131. The meeting room will open at 11:15 AM, we will order lunch by 11:30 AM, and begin the meeting soon thereafter. If you cannot attend in person, the Zoom link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89154746029?pwd=VBuK19qLZwMaFGQQtLAszLElzK4sfJ.1> Meeting ID: 891 5474 6029. Passcode: 597287. Dial by your location. +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago).

**Advocacy Alert:** *Please come to our May 12 chapter meeting with ideas for NARFE's Advocacy Positions for the 120th Congress 2027-2028.* NARFE's advocacy positions, as currently expressed at [Advocacy – NARFE](#) detail the association's specific policy stances, directing NARFE's leadership and staff regarding whether to support a position—or not—when actions are taken by Congress or the administration. You can help guide NARFE by proposing changes to the program, which can be submitted through June 1. Our chapter, along with federation boards and individuals, can submit proposals to add, amend or remove advocacy positions for the 120th Congress. These proposals will be posted for viewing and discussion by NARFE members on FEDHub. Proposals that receive majority support of those present and voting at our chapter meeting will be submitted and considered by NARFE's Advocacy Committee.

**NARFE's Advocacy Priorities in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress 2025-2026.** NARFE's Advocacy Priorities, as described in [Advocacy Resources – NARFE](#), include:

1. Accurate Cost of Living Adjustments--- Support the Equal COLA Act, H.R. 491/S. 624
2. Preserving the Merit Based Civil Service--- Support the Saving the Civil Service Act, H.R. 492/S. 134
3. Protecting the Integrity of Federal Government Operations
4. Oppose Threats to Federal Retirement and Health Benefits

**Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW).** Public Service Recognition Week (May 3–9, 2026) is a chance to shine a light on the federal, state, and local employees who keep our country safe, strong, and healthy — and to make sure Congress is doing its part to recognize them. Use the sample letter at [NARFE Legislative Action Center – NARFE](#) to send a message to your lawmakers urging them to honor federal workers during Public Service Recognition Week and recommit to a merit based civil service that works for all Americans. For more information about PSRW, go to Partnership for Public Service at: [Public Service Recognition Week 2026](#).

**MONARFE Elections.** This year's elections resulted in reelection of principal officers Patricia Barrett as President, Craig Pettibone as 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Will Cooper as 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Kay Crayton as Secretary, Marcy Nelson as Treasurer. Several Congressional District Leaders (CDLs) were also returned to office, including Susan Erickson as CDL 1, Linda Kurz as CDL 2, Steve Morrison as CDL 4, and Laura Cowart as CDL 7. Terms run for two years. Subsequently, the elected MONARFE Board voted to install two new CDLs. Dick Thissen is the new CDL for MO-3 located around Jefferson City and Osage Beach. Bob Hagedorn is the new CDL for MO-5 located around Kansas City.

**Missouri Federation 2026 Annual Meeting.** More than 50 MONARFE Members met in person at the Margaritaville Lake Resort in Osage Beach, Missouri, on April 22-23, 2026. The Federation Board met on the afternoon of April 22 and elected leaders gave their reports. The annual meeting was held on April 23. Featured NARFE speakers were Secretary-Treasurer Cindy Blythe; John Hatton, Vice President for Policy and Programs; Linda Sawvell, Region V Vice President, and former NARFE National President Richard (Dick) Thissen. Each spoke about their activities supporting NARFE's efforts to support and defend earned pay and

benefits for federal and postal employees in the current challenging political environment. They all urged us as NARFE members to participate in NARFE advocacy programs and NARFE-PAC as set out on the NARFE webpage at [Advocacy Resources – NARFE](#).

**FEDCon26, August 24-25.** FEDcon26 will be held August 19-25, 2026, in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the Hyatt Regency. Events for the National Executive Board and Federation Presidents will be held August 19-23, with meetings for all participants on August 24-25. Registration is now open! For all the information, visit [fedcon.narfe.org](http://fedcon.narfe.org). \$225 Early Bird Registration ends May 23. \$250 Early Bird Registration ends August 7. *As an incentive for developing leaders, MONARE will pay for registration, hotel, milage, and parking.*

**All NARFE members are encouraged to review the “NARFE Bill Tracker”** in the monthly NARFE Magazine and in an expanded version online at [NARFE Bill Tracker – NARFE](#). Also, go to “Advocacy” at [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org) to use [NARFE Legislative Action Center – NARFE](#) to send sample letters, emails, texts, and social media posts, to their legislators in support of NARFE legislative initiatives. *NARFE member participation is crucial for gaining legislator’s support.*