

MAY 2023

OHIO FEDERATION UPDATE

**PRESIDENT
TIM GARTNER**

**VP MEMBERSHIP
VACANT**

**VP LEGISLATION
ALBERT GRIGGS JR**

**SECRETARY
DIANA DILLER**

**TREASURER
LYNNETTE RARICK**

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CINNCINNATI-VACANT

COLUMBUS-SANDY GARTNER

AKRON/CANTON-VACANT

CLEVELAND-JOE LEISZ

TOLEDO-LYNNETTE RARICK

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SANDY GARTNER**

**ALZHEIMER'S COORDENATOR
FRAN LEISZ**

**REGION IV VP
ROBERT HELFRICH**

**REGION IV
ALZHEIMER'S COORDENATOR
DIANA IULIANO-CHAN**

President's Message

The NARFE Ohio Federation Conference was held on April 22, 2023, at the Der Dutchman restaurant in Bellville, Ohio. The theme this year was 'Educating and Energizing Ohio NARFE Members'.



**HOW TO PROTECT OUR
EARNED ANNUITIES AND
HEALTH BENEFITS
THROUGH
NARFE ADVOCACY**

Our keynote speaker was John Hatton who updated us on bills benefiting federal employees and retirees that have been introduced in the 118th Congress.

Michael Webb, our District VP from the Dayton area gave a presentation on FEDHub, NARFE's online community for active and retired employees. Through FEDHub members can connect to share advice, solve challenges, and develop new approaches.

I gave a presentation to the attendees on how to use the NARFE website www.narfe.org to update their records and to the chapter officers on how to get reports that are needed for chapter business.

Diana Iuliano-Chan the Alzheimer's Region IV Alzheimer's Regional Coordinator presented Fran Leisz with a certificate signed by NARFE Alzheimer's Chair Olivia A. Williams; National President William Shackelford; and Region IV Alzheimer's Regional Coordinator Diana Iuliano-Chan stating: **National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Citation for Distinguished Service is awarded to Fran Leisz in recognition of outstanding contributions to the NARFE Alzheimer's Program dated April 22, 2023.** The certificates are presented to the Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator for their service to the NARFE-Alzheimer's Research Program on an annual basis.

CONTINUED

Election of Officers was conducted by Don Wiese past president of the Ohio Federation and installed by Ed Konys, past Region IV VP. The following officers were elected and installed for 2023-2024: President-Tim Gartner, Legislation VP- Albert Griggs Jr, Secretary-Diana Diller, Treasurer-Lynnette Rarick, DVP Dayton Area-Michael Webb, DVP Cleveland Area-Joe Leisz, DVP Columbus Area-Sandy Gartner and DVP Toledo Area-Lynnette Rarick. The following were appointed: Parliamentarian-Joe Kluch, Alzheimer's-Fran Leisz, and Chaplin-Joe Cinadr.

A Memorial Service was presented by Chaplin Joe Cinadr which included both chapter and national members who have passed from January 1, 2020 thru December 31, 2022. If you would like a copy of the Memorial Booklet please contact narfetim48@gmail.com or sgartner@windstream.net. The cost for printing and mailing will be \$5.00. Make your check out to Ohio Federation of NARFE and send to Tim Gartner, 12208 Fairview Rd., Newark, Ohio 43056-9040.

Tim Gartner
Ohio Federation President
narfetim48@gmail.com
740-404-9764

Membership Updates

As with all organizations we are still experiencing a small decline in membership numbers. As an aging organization we need to realize a portion of our decline is going to be due to deceased members. Unfortunately, this we can do nothing about, BUT we can do something about our other members that do not renew their membership.

We, as chapter members, need to get back to the way we used to handle this situation. That was by using our chapter members to volunteer to serve on a committee (membership), to contact members that were coming due for renewal, or sent a second dues notice, or were dropped for non-renewal. It does not take but a few minutes to contact a member to remind them that their renewal is approaching, or their dues have lapsed. Many times, you may find out that they have just forgotten to send in their renewal. This would be a good opportunity to talk with them about signing up for Dues Withholding. After all this saves them about 15% each year on their dues PLUS, they never need to worry about paying this bill again. Not only that, but it also saves NARFE money because it eliminates the requirement to send out "Dues Notice" each year.

For our members that are national-only members, you are not off the hook either. You still have an obligation, as do all of us, to assist our organization to maintain and grow the organization. Do you have a co-worker or a retiree, you know that is not a member? We hear too many times from people we work with; "what is NARFE". Make sure you ask your friends you work with to join our great organization.

We all need to remember NARFE was started in 1921 by 14 Government workers dedicated to safeguarding and improving the benefits of federal employees, retirees, and their families. Let us not let those 14 civil servants' hard work establishing NARFE go to waste. Let us all work to increase our membership. It will ensure NARFE will go on for another 100 years.

Folks, NARFE is the ONLY ORGANIZATION that's sole purpose is to ensure that we keep all the "Earned Benefits" that we worked our entire career for.

Tim Gartner, Ohio Federation President



**THANK YOU TO
THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS
FOR YOUR SUPPORT
OF THE
2023 OHIO FEDERATION CONFERENCE**



CHAPTER SPONSORS

TOLEDO CHAPTER 226

LICKING COUNTY CHAPTER 310

JOHN FOLK CHAPTER 317 LIMA

FIRELANDS CHAPTER 382

MIAMI VALLEY CHAPTER 1927

OHIO FEDERATION LEGISLATIVE REPORT – MAY 2023

I met with Congressman Turner's (Rep, 10th District Ohio) Local Office Chief of Staff; Ms. Regina Holman on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. We had a very good discussion on issues supported by NARFE and how we can get the Congressman's support.

I gave her a copy of the following advocacy update. She was very pleased with it. She explained how people come asking for support, but they have nothing to support their request. She loved the way it's laid out. She said she was traveling to DC this week to meet with the Congressman and the DC staff, and she planned to discuss my advocacy update with them.

I told her, at some time in the future I will have to travel to DC to meet with Senators and Congressmen/women, and their staffs. She asked me to let her know when I plan to travel to meet Mr. Turner's DC staff, and she will make all the arrangements.

She asked me to keep her updated on NARFE supported legislation. I told her to count on it.

Very Respectfully,

Albert Griggs, Jr

NARFE Ohio Federation 2nd Vice President, Legislation

ADVOCACY UPDATE

April 24, 2023

Albert Griggs, Jr., 10th District Congressional Leader

The following bills benefiting federal employees and retirees have been introduced in the 118th Congress.

Social Security Fairness Act, H.R. 82/S597: Legislation will repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO) provisions, so public servants get full benefits.

Saving the Civil Service Act (H.R. 1002/S. 399): This legislation marks the latest attempt by lawmakers to prevent the return of Schedule F, a statutory loophole created by the last administration that would have decimated the tenets of the merit-based civil service.

Equal COLA Act, H.R. 866: Would provide Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) retirees with full cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs).

Fair COLA for Seniors Act, H.R. 716: The bill will provide more accurate COLAs for federal retirees by calculating COLAs using the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E).

Federal Adjustment of Income Rates (FAIR) Act, H.R. 536/S. 124: Would provide a 2024 pay raise to federal workers. The bill will provide an 8.7 percent average federal pay raise for 2024 through a 4.7 percent across-the-board increase and a 4.0 average increase in locality pay rates, in an attempt to keep up with inflation and bridge the gap between federal and private-sector pay.

Chance to Compete Act, H.R. 159: Reintroduced on January 9 by Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), bill will improve cross-agency hiring by allowing agencies to share assessments with other agencies. Passed the House of Representatives passed on January 24, with bipartisan support, 422-2.

OHIO CHAPTER NEWS

MICHAEL WEBB—DISTRICT VP—DAYTON

You're invited to two upcoming NARFE events.

The May 11th **Greene County Chapter 2217** meeting will feature Ryan La Vielle, from CUSO Financial Services, L.P. at Wright- Patt Credit Union, Inc. Ryan is a Licensed Financial Advisor offering a variety of services designed with your retirement in mind. These include: Retirement Planning, Pension Rollovers, IRA's, Mutual Funds, Market-Linked CD's, Stocked and Bonds, Annuities, and Tax & Estate Planning. He will give a review of how these can be useful in retirement and be available to answer questions.

The meeting will be held in the Lofino Plaza (adjacent to the Beaver creek Senior Center) Meeting Room, 3868 Dayton Xenia Road, at 1:00 pm. Mr. La Vielle will begin his presentation at 1:30. All NARFE members, federal employees, retirees and their guests are welcome to attend.

Mr. Scott Royal, from the Washington-Centerville Public Library, will be the guest speaker at the next in-person meeting of NARFE's **Miami Valley Chapter 1927**, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, Friday, 2 June, 2023. The meeting will be held at the MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave. The luncheon will begin at 11:00 am. A brief business meeting will be held at 11:30, followed by Scott's presentation beginning at 12:00 noon. Scott will present an overview of the disastrous 1974 F-5 tornado that tore through the heart of Xenia destroying half of the city and killing 32 people. It was part of a "super outbreak" of 148 twisters that struck the Midwest, leaving Xenia the hardest hit. His talk will deal with what happened that tragic day, as well as its aftermath. All NARFE members, federal employees, retirees and their guests are welcome and encouraged to attend this interesting and informative meeting.

Information about Dayton area NARFE Chapters and their respective newsletters can be found on our local NARFE website at www.narfe.net/site/chapter1927

Michael Webb, Ohio NARFE Federation Dayton District Vice President & Miami Valley Chapter 1927 President

www.narfe.net/site/oh

www.narfe.net/site/chapter1927

LYNNETTE RARICK—DISTRICT VP—TOLEDO AREA

Ohio Federation Treasurer

Reminder to file your 990's – and each Chapter Treasurer is to send the verification of that filing to NARFE HQ. Deadline to file is May 15, 2023. From National Secretary/Treasurer – Kathryn Hensley –“ If you need any further information or have questions, contact me at natsectreas@narfe.org or khensley@narfe.org. You may also contact Henry Brattlie at hbrattlie@narfe.org. “

“No NARFE chapters or federations are exempt from filing this annual form. The May 15 deadline is for organizations with a calendar year (January 1 to December 31) fiscal year. If you are on a fiscal year running July 1 to June 30, your due date for filing is not until November 15; if November 15 is a Saturday or Sunday, the form is due the following Monday.”

Thank you - Chapter Treasurers, for your efficiency in filing your 990's, Lynnette.

Ohio Federation April 22 Conference

The finances are in good standing from the Conference. We were blessed to have three \$300 page sponsorships; one each from Aetna, Blue Cross/Blue Shield and from Brookdale Senior Living. Sandy Gartner applied for sponsorship with NARFE HQ. In addition to the generous Program Page Sponsorship, Blue Cross donated **\$1000 towards the Saturday Lunch** and Brookdale donated **\$500 for the morning beverage and pastry bar**. The Profit and Loss Conference Report should be complete by Mid-June.

continued

Five Ohio Chapters purchased program ads – Toledo Chapter 226, Firelands Chapter 382, John Folk – Lima Chapter 317, Licking County Chapter 310 and Miami Valley Chapter 1927.

Thank you for your support.

Toledo District of the Ohio Federation Chapters in the Toledo District are Toledo Chapter 226, John Folk - Lima Chapter 317, Firelands-Sandusky Chapter 382, Bryan Chapter 1136 and Fulton-Henry County Chapter 1856. **Three** Toledo District chapters were part of the **five** Conference Program Sponsors.

Good luck to the officers – Federation Level and Chapter Level as we move forward to work on the fundamentals of this organization.

Lynnette Rarick [Ohio Federation Treasurer – Toledo District VP

SANDY GARTNER-DISTRICT VP-COLUMBUS AREA

Election for Ohio Federation Officers took place at our recent conference in Bellville. I was elected the District VP for the Columbus Area which includes Chapter 235 Columbus, Chapter 310 Licking County Newark and Chapter 612 Johnny Appleseed_Mansfield.

Chapter 235 Columbus has not been able to meet since the pandemic. Currently there are 135-chapter members and 252-national only members for a total of 387 members. We need to reorganize and reenergize this chapter. We will hold a meeting on June 1st which is the first Thursday of the month at 12:00 at Donato's Pizza located at 610 E. Broad St., Pataskala, OH. Thank you to Mary Seal chapter service communications officer for reserving the meeting room for us. We hope to see you there.

Chapter 310 Licking County Newark meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Heritage Hall Senior Center located at 1058 E Main St., Newark, OH. Currently there are 287-chapter members and 83-national only members for a total of 370. This month the chapter will be participating in the Senior Health and Wellness Expo at Heritage Hall. This gives us a chance to showcase NARFE resources available to the community.

Chapter 612 Johnny Appleseed_Mansfield currently has 22-chapter members and 46-national only members for a total of 68. They meet at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 575 Lexington-Springmill Road, Ontario, OH on the second Monday of the month at 1:00 for lunch followed by the meeting.



The Longest Day is the day with the most light — the summer solstice. On June 21, people from across the world will fight the darkness of Alzheimer's through a fundraising activity of their choice.

Get your NARFE Chapters involved in an activity on this day to raise funds for NARFE Alzheimer's Research.

Chapter 310 Licking County Newark donated a basket at the Ohio Federation Conference to raise funds for Alzheimer's. Thanks to all who participated we raised \$261 For NARFE Alzheimer's Research.



Alzheimer's Association

Many times I am asked what are the differences in making donations to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research program, The Longest Day, WALK to End Alzheimer's and to the Alzheimer's Association.

Donations made to NARFE Alzheimer's Research Program by our NARFE membership ensures that **100% of the donations are used strictly for research**. None of the donations are used for administrative expenses. Beginning in 1983, NARFE members have raised **\$15,654,492.47**. Since 1987, when NARFE 1st funded research grants, 89 research projects have been awarded as of 2022 covering such studies as: 1) working to understand effects of exercise on type 2 Diabetes and Alzheimer's Risk. 2) studying the lifestyle behavior and effect on Alzheimer's, and 3) evaluation of aerobic exercise for those at risk of Alzheimer's in middle age. Other studies included identifying genes that may modify risk of APOEε4 and the impact of APOEε4 in blood and cerebrospinal fluids. NARFE is a member of the **Zenith Society**, which is composed of donors who achieve lifetime membership with a gift of \$1 million or more.

In June 2016 NARFE joined the Alzheimer's Association as a National team for the **WALK to end Alzheimer's**. Beginning in 2019, funds raised by NARFE through its National Walk team counts towards its national goal. To date, NARFE National Team has raised **\$475,862.57**. In the 2022 walk, **\$78,610.03** was raised. The **money raised in the WALK stays in the local community** of the WALK and is used as follows: 79% for Alzheimer's Care, Support, Research, Awareness, and Advocacy; 17% for Fundraising, and 4% for Administrative charges. However, know that the funds raised in the WALK are counted toward the **NARFE goal of \$16 million by the end of 2025**.

In 2019 NARFE's agreement with Alzheimer's Association included that funds raised for **The Longest Day** would also be counted toward the NARFE's National Goal. Since 2019, NARFE members have raised **\$12,167.72** by participating in various activities. In 2022 members raised **\$2,625.00**. These funds stay in the local community to support the Alzheimer's Association programs.

In addition to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Program, participating in the **WALK to End Alzheimer's** and **The Longest Day** activities, members can set up **Planned Gift Giving** to the Alzheimer's Association. The amount donated by NARFE members in a planned gift is also counted towards NARFE's national goal. Since August 2022 Planned Gift Giving has raised **\$767,748.74**. Donors can make distributions from their IRA, (Individual Retirement Account) a charitable gift annuity, a charitable remainder trust, gifts through a Will or Trust. More information can be obtained from Alzheimer's at plannedgiving@alz.com or call 866-233-5148.

If you have any questions pertaining to NARFE-Alzheimer's Research Program, please contact Fran Leisz, Ohio Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator or Diana Iuliano-Chan, Region IV NARFE Alzheimer's Regional Coordinator at diananarfe341@gmail.com.