



Missouri Federation of NARFE Has Many Things To Talk About

Thanks to all our members who have been going to town halls, rallies, and meetings with our congressional representatives and senators. Sharing our issues with our legislators is how NARFE shows its value and advocacy. Keep talking and writing. It gets our message across! Please consider joining the FEDHUB community on your NARFE website. We can have conversations and share updates.

First – what am I worried about? As some of you know, my husband of 48 years, Clancy, passed away this spring. As he said during his illness, “Did you ever envision this happening?” The answer was, “No”. That might be a metaphor for what has happened to the federal community in the last eight months. Thankfully, my FERS annuity, social security, and small pension from MU make it possible for me to be OK financially so far. What if, though? What if health insurance costs rise exponentially because the federal government decides we need to go to a voucher system? What if my annuity doesn’t keep up with inflation? What if Medicare costs go up? And so on, and so on... What are you worried about? Let’s talk.

Why NARFE? Value and Advocacy

At the Federation President’s meeting in Indianapolis in August, we talked about why NARFE is relevant in today’s world. Do our members VALUE our organization? Do federal employees value the advocacy that NARFE provides on their behalf with Congress? Our message to all Federal employees and our members, should be that NARFE members advocate for our earned benefits. Why do we need new members? New members help our organization keep the excellent National staff to advocate with our congress for our earned benefits. Many members saw great results with the elimination of WEP and GPO. We continue to advocate for equal COLA for FERS annuitants, opposing cuts to earned benefits, and threats to continued employment. We members know that our calls and letters and meetings with our legislators are effective and get noticed. Let’s continue to recruit new members for the health of our NARFE and the value that they and we receive from NARFE’s advocacy!

Annual Conference in April 2026 – SAVE THE DATE!

Announcing the Missouri NARFE annual conference! Chapter 1843 will be partnered with the Federation to offer a streamlined meeting. We will be meeting in person at Margaritaville in Osage Beach on April 22-23, 2026. Current plans are to meet as the Federation Board on April 22. The president’s reception will be that evening starting at 5 PM. The annual meeting will be held on April 23, 2026. An Alzheimer’s silent auction and speakers from the National office will be featured. The registration cost will be low (\$50), and meals will be complimentary. What a great opportunity to meet up with friends and colleagues at a beautiful Lake of the Ozarks resort! See you there!

Book Your Room at Margaritaville Before March 25, 2026

The group code guests can use online is NARF. Please direct your guests to our website, www.margaritavilleresortlakeoftheozarks.com, and click on the "groups and conferences click here" button to use the code. If guests are booking outside of the contracted dates (4/22/26 - 4/24/26) or want to book any suites, they can call our reservations line at 1-800-826-8272 and mention the

group (Mo Federation of NARFE) to receive the group rate. Guests must book before the cutoff date March 25, 2026, to receive the discount pricing. Please reserve your room prior to this date to ensure availability. Nightly room rates are as follows...Standard: \$144 – One Bed Suite: \$229 – Two Bed Suite: \$314

*Rates above do not include taxes and \$20/nightly resort fee.

– **Patricia Barrett, Missouri Federation President**

Nominate Members for Elected Federation Officers Before Nov 15, 2025

You may nominate yourself or another member (including current officers for an additional term) with their consent. Members may hold only one elected office at a time. The Federation newsletter and website will include a ballot of nominated candidates and request your votes. Those elected must attend the Missouri Federation Conference meeting April 22 - 23, 2026, for installation. Elected officers serve a two-year term.

Nominate Members for Appointed Federation Officers Before Nov 15, 2025

Members running for elected office should not also apply for appointed office, although the Federation bylaws do not prohibit it. The Federation President will consider candidates for appointment, and the Federation Secretary will notify them of the results. Appointed members must attend the Missouri Federation Conference April 22 - 23, 2026, for installation. Appointed officers serve a two-year term.

Propose Federation and National Resolutions Before Nov 15, 2025

Any member in good standing may submit a Federation or National Resolution. The Federation newsletter and website will list proposed resolutions and request your votes.

Propose Federation and National Bylaws Amendments & National Standing Rules Amendments Before Nov 15, 2025

Any member in good standing may propose an amendment to the Federation, National Bylaws, or National Standing Rules. The Federation newsletter and website will list proposed resolutions and request your votes.

Nomination and proposal forms are available on the Missouri Federation website (www.narfe.org/mo/). You can find your NARFE member number on a recent copy of the NARFE magazine. Printed copies of the forms are included with the printed version of this newsletter.

– **Kay Crayton, Missouri Federation Secretary**

Regional Vice-President Update

It's been a busy summer for NARFE, especially regarding advocacy. We had a very successful LegCon this year. Thank you to everyone who participated. It made an impact on our legislators.

1. H.R. 1, known as the One Big Beautiful Bill was narrowly approved in July 2025. The good news is almost all of the proposed Federal benefits provisions were removed from the bill.
2. The North Dakota and South Dakota Federations merger is still in the process. The National Executive Board (NEB) officially approved the merger on 25 April 2025. All Federation members of North Dakota and South Dakota have been notified of the merger. There are two chapters in North Dakota that are impacted by the merger; Bismarck and Fargo Chapters.
 - a. The Bismarck Chapter voted to stay as an unaffiliated chapter, which means they stay viable as a chapter and not affiliated with a Federation. They will receive support from the RVP and Headquarters.
 - b. The Fargo Chapter voted in 2024 to transfer to the Minnesota Federation. The Federation officially approved the transfer request during the May 2025 conference.
 - c. The National Only members will transfer to the newly formed Federation.

3. The NEB meeting was held 12-13 August 2025 in Indianapolis, IN along with the Annual meeting on 14 August with the Federation Presidents. They were very productive meetings. The following are some items of interest:

- a. NARFE Building Refurbishment: 1st and 4th floors have been completed. The next phase of the project is to replace the antiquated security system.
- b. Catherine Serrano hired as the new Administrative Assistant at Headquarters.
- c. Overall membership net gain for the first half of 2025 is 1,071. This is the first net gain in 4 years! NARFE total members is 129,371 as of 31 July 2025. We are seeing significant growth in Active employees.
- d. Updated Configuration Advisory Board Charter (CAB) approved. This was necessary due to the recent upgrades and increased oversight of our enterprise IT architecture by NARFE Staff and partners.
- e. An updated membership renewal form will be released in October 2025. It will simplify the renewal process.
- f. Received updated presentation from Street Level Studio on overall membership marketing plan and future strategies. Positive membership increases have been seen that can be credited directly to the work Street Level Studio has done for NARFE.

The next NEB meeting will be held at NARFE Headquarters in Alexandria, VA from 18-20 November 2025. If you would like me to address any concerns or have questions for the NEB, please feel free to email me at LSawvell262@gmail.com.

FEDCON26 will be held 23-25 August 2026 at the Hyatt Regency in Indianapolis, IN. Mark your calendars to attend this outstanding conference!

— Linda M. Sawvell, Region V Vice President

Watch for New Legislation Being Introduced in Congress!

NARFE leadership and its members succeeded in getting several objectionable provisions that proposed to cut earned retirement and health benefits for federal employees and retirees struck from the Budget Reconciliation Bill H.R. 1 before it was passed and signed by President Trump. Various Congressional committees must now take action to meet the funding targets in H.R. 1 for FY 2025 and propose funding levels for FY 2026. These committees may try once again to legislate cuts to federal employee and retiree earned pay and benefits. Congress has already passed a \$90 billion rescission bill for 2025.

Accordingly, Missouri NARFE Congressional District Leaders and Chapter Presidents scheduled meetings with Missouri's Senators and House Members, or at least with their staffs, both for LEGcon25 in June, and for August's Grassroots Advocacy Month while Congress was in recess. Issues discussed with legislative leaders included NARFE Advocacy Priority for 2025-26:

1. Oppose Cuts to Earned Federal Retirement and Health Benefits.
2. Protect the Integrity of Government Operations and the Merit-Based Civil Service.
 - a. Oppose Efforts to Eliminate or Undermine the Merit-Based Civil Service. Block Schedule P/C (formerly F) and support passage of Saving the Civil Service Act, H.R. 492/S. 134.
 - b. Oppose Across-the-Board Reductions in the Size of the Federal Workforce.
 - c. Support Market Rate Increases to Federal Pay Rates. Support an average increase of 3.8% for calendar year 2026 and support the FAIR Pay Act, H.R. 493/S. 126.
3. Support Full COLAs for Federal Retirees.
 - a. Support the Equal COLA Act, H.R. 491/S. 624, which would give the same full COLA to FERS retirees that CSRS retirees get.

- b. Oppose efforts to base COLAs for federal annuities and Social Security off the flawed Chained Consumer Price Index which would reduce earned benefits and fail to keep up with inflation.
- 4. Support More Choice and Lower Costs for Federal/Postal Health Benefits Programs.
 - a. Allow enrollees to select a health plan that best meets their needs while encouraging competition among plans vital to managing costs and maintaining high quality service and care.
 - b. Support choice regarding Medicare enrollment particularly for Parts B and D and for Postal employees.
- 5. Strengthen OPM's Retirement Services Division.
 - a. Speed up retirement processing delays by adopting online retirement applications and a digital case management system.
 - b. Support continued Congressional oversight to push OPM to modernize processes and technology to improve customer service levels.

All NARFE members are encouraged to review the "NARFE Bill Tracker" in the monthly NARFE Magazine, and to go to "Advocacy" at www.narfe.org to use NARFE Legislative Action Center to send sample letters, emails, texts, and social media posts, to their legislators Your participation is crucial in the pursuit of justice for federal employees and retirees.

New Congressional District Leaders (CDLs)

Two members have been appointed to the Missouri Federation NARFE Board as CDLs. One is Susan Erickson for MO-1. She lives in MO-1 and is a member of Chapter 1240 in Florissant. She has established ongoing contact with MO-1 Representative Wesley Bell and his staff. The other new CDL is Steve Morrison for MO-4. He lives in MO-4 and is President of Chapter 1012 in Cass County. He has established ongoing contact with MO-4 Representative Mark Alford. The Missouri Federation needs four new CDLs: one for MO-3 (Rep Onder), one for MO-5 (Rep Clever), one for MO-6 (Rep Graves) and one for MO-8 (Rep Smith). CDL's link the best if they live in the rep's district. Contact me if you are interested in one of these positions or can recommend someone who might be interested.

— Craig Pettibone, 1st VP - Legislation

Grassroots Advocacy Activities

On August 21, 2025, Linda Kurz, Craig Pettibone, and Susan Erickson paid a lobby month visit to Rep Ann Wagner's office and met with her Director of District Relations Development, Jordan Fears. We thanked Rep. Ann Wagner for her support and asked for her support on several of the legislative priorities for 2025-2026. We provided NARFE Advocacy Fact Sheets. It was a friendly 45 minute meeting with open sharing of concerns.

— Linda Kurtz, CDL 2

On Friday, August 29, 2025 members from NARFE Chapter 0011 (Springfield) met with Erin Engelmeyer, District Director for Senator Hawley's Springfield office, and Tucker Jobes, District Director for Senator Schmitt's Springfield Office. In meeting with both Erin Engelmeyer and Tucker Jobes, we introduced ourselves. Both were very curious about our roles in the federal government and were impressed by the wide variety of positions held by each of us. They were also unfamiliar with NARFE. In our 30 minute discussion with each, we provided our NARFE magazine, NARFE Fact Sheets and Issues/Briefs that were of concern to NARFE. They were receptive to our concerns and assured us they would share this information with our Senators.

— Laura Cowart, CDL 7

Membership Recruitment Drive

The Membership Recruitment Drive began on Sept 1 and will continue until Dec 1. Membership is \$48 yearly. If you sign up a new member, be sure that your NARFE Membership Number is on the form as you will receive \$10 from NARFE national, plus \$10 from the Missouri Federation for each member you recruit. If you are interested in gifting a membership to an eligible person, download the Gift Membership Application at <https://www.narfe.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/f-85.pdf>. You can find your membership number on your NARFE magazine mailing label.

– William Cooper, 2nd VP - Membership

New Website for the Missouri Federation

The Missouri Federation has established a new NARFE-hosted microsite at <https://www.narfe.org/mo/>. Everyone is encouraged to visit the new site on a regular basis as it is frequently updated. If your chapter would like to publicize an upcoming meeting or event, we can include it on the Events page. Photos of chapter and federation activities are also welcomed. The old website monarfe.org currently has a link to the microsite, but the old website will expire in September, so be sure to bookmark the new microsite! Details of grassroots advocacy activities, photos, and more are on the [Missouri Federation microsite](#). Contact me with any questions or suggestions.

- Leslie McCormick, MO Federation PR/Webmaster

Need to Contact an Officer

President, Patricia Barrett, 573-280-8071, tricia-barrett@sbcglobal.net
1st VP - Legislative, Craig Pettibone, 314-698-2890, cpettibone@verizon.net
2nd VP - Membership, Will Cooper, 816-289-6485, cooperWL@gmail.com
Secretary, Kay Crayton, 816-438-0456, kajunkale@gmail.com
Treasurer, Marcy Nelson, 816-805-6416, marcylatenser@comcast.net
Congressional District Leader 1, Susan Erickson, 314-503-2176, dsnte@swbell.net
Congressional District Leader 2, Linda Kurz, 636-629-3987, linda_krz@yahoo.com
Congressional District Leader 3, (Acting) Patricia Barrett, 573-280-8071
Congressional District Leader 4, Steve Morrison, 816-589-5708, STEVE8719@sbcglobal.net
Congressional District Leader 5,
Congressional District Leader 6,
Congressional District Leader 7, Laura Cowart, 417-496-6792, Lncowart@gmail.com
Congressional District Leader 8, (Acting) Laura Cowart, 417-496-6792
Alzheimer's Coordinator, Cindy Roderique, 417-840-0803, croderique313@gmail.com
NARFE PAC Coordinator,
Newsletter Editor, Kay Crayton, 816-438-0456, kajunkale@gmail.com
Webmaster, Leslie McCormick, 417-365-1837, leslie.mccormick@ranchmail.net
Service Officer, Will Cooper, 816-289-6485, cooperwl@gmail.com
FEEA Coordinator, Emerson Kretzer, 816-262-0043, eakiv@yahoo.com
Region V Regional Vice President (RVP), Linda Sawvell, Lsawvell262@gmail.com

Missouri Federation Membership Stats (9-20-2025)

Chapter Members - 1034	National Only Members - 1349	Total Members - 2383
Without Email - 347	Without Email - 475	Without Email - 822

This newsletter is mailed to members without email addresses.
Providing NARFE with your email address saves the cost of printing and mailing.

CALL FOR OFFICER NOMINATIONS

Nominations must be received by November 15, 2025:

- mail to NARFE MO Federation; c/o Kay Crayton, 5119 N Tullis Ave, Kansas City, MO 64119 or - email to kajunkale@gmail.com

In your response, please provide your name _____, membership number _____, and candidate nominations(s).

ELECTED FEDERATION OFFICERS

- You may nominate yourself or another member (including current officers for an additional term) with their consent.
- Members may hold only one elected office at a time. The Federation newsletter and website will include a ballot of nominated candidates and request your votes.
- Those elected must attend the Missouri Federation Conference meeting April 22 - 23, 2026, for installation.
- Elected officers serve a two-year term.

Federation President: _____

Federation 1st Vice President: _____

Federation 2nd Vice President: _____

Federation Secretary: _____

Federation Treasurer: _____

Congressional District Leader (CDL) for District _____ (district # (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) in which you reside): _____

APPOINTED FEDERATION OFFICERS

- Members running for elected office should not also apply for appointed office, although the Federation bylaws do not prohibit it.
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- Appointed members must attend the Missouri Federation Conference April 22 - 23, 2026, for installation.
- Appointed officers serve a two-year term.

Alzheimer's Coordinator: _____

Federation NARFE-PAC Chair: _____

Missouri Legislative Chair: _____

Webmaster & Public Relations Chair: _____

Federation Service Officer: _____

CALL FOR FEDERATION & NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDMENTS & NATIONAL STANDING RULES AMENDMENTS

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In your response, please provide your name _____, membership number _____, and proposed resolution(s).

BYLAWS/STANDING RULES AMENDMENTS

- Please provide the information below to propose an amendment to the Federation, National Bylaws, or National Standing Rules. The Federation newsletter and website will list proposed resolutions and request your votes.

1. Title (*in 10 words or fewer, what this amendment proposes to do*):

2. Bylaw Article & Section or Standing Rule affected (*including current wording*):

3. Specific change proposed (*including wording, if adopted*):

4. Reason change should be adopted:

5. Estimated cost: _____

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In your response, please provide your name _____, membership number _____, and proposed resolution(s).

RESOLUTION

- Please provide the information below to submit a Federation or National Resolution. The Federation newsletter and website will list proposed resolutions and request your votes.

1. Title (*in 10 words or fewer, what this resolution proposes to do*):

2. WHEREAS (*the reason that the Federation or National Association should take the proposed action.*):

3. BE IT RESOLVED (*proposed action Federation or National Association should take*):

4. Estimated cost: _____