



# Ohio Federation Newsletter 2024

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

NOVEMBER 2024

OHIO FEDERATION UPDATE

PRESIDENT  
TIM GARTNER

VP MEMBERSHIP  
MIKE MADGES

VP LEGISLATION  
ALBERT GRIGGS JR

SECRETARY  
VACANT

TREASURER  
LYNNETTE RARICK

#### DISTRICT VPs

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CINNCINNATI-VACANT

COLUMBUS-SANDY GARTNER

AKRON/CANTON-VACANT

CLEVELAND-JOE LEISZ

TOLEDO-LYNNETTE RARICK

PARLIAMENTARIAN  
JOE KLUCHO

PAST PRESIDENT  
DON WIESE

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
SANDY GARTNER

ALZHEIMER'S COORDINATOR  
SAMANTHA YERG

REGION IV VP  
ROBERT HELFRICH

REGION IV  
ALZHEIMER'S COORDINATOR  
DIANA IULIANO-CHAN

## President Message

**SAVE THE DATE**—Our next Ohio Federation Conference is being planned for **May 2-3, 2025**. More details to follow in January 2025.

Now I want to talk to you about the Ohio Federation, our Chapters, and our National-only members. You see it takes several volunteers to keep this great organization moving forward. The National Bylaws state “the elected officers of the federation *shall be* at a minimum a President and a Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer”. For Chapters, “each chapter *shall have* a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer (or Secretary/treasurer)”. We all need to work together on this issue of finding leaders at both the chapter and federation level.

Based on the national bylaws here is how our chapters stand; (These figures are as of 10-20-2024)

\* Ten (10) chapters **without** the required officers and sixteen (16) chapters **with** the required Officers.

\* Ten (10) chapters with less than 30 members, seven (7) chapters with 31 to 75 members, five (5) chapters with 79 to 125 members four (4) chapters with 146 to 282 members.

Total Chapter members = 1789 Total National-only members = 2090

As you can see, we have a total of **3,879 members** in the federation. I know we have a lot of members that would be willing to volunteer. What is needed is for our current leaders to ASK! Maybe you have a small project that needs volunteers. **ASK a member**....they might just say ‘yes’. If you might be such a volunteer “Speak up” and inform your leaders you are here to assist in moving our organization forward. It is not only Chapter leaders that are needed...the Federation needs them also. The Federation needs members to serve as Federation Secretary, District Vice President (DVP), and many committee chair/members.

**Tim Gartner**

**Ohio Federation President**

**narfetim48@gmail.com**

**MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT**

- 0168 PORTAGE PATH 1
- 0187 SPRINGFIELD-CLARK 1
- 0226 TOLEDO 2
- 0265 CINCINNATI 3
- 0310 NEWARK 14
- 0341 CANTON 1
- 0470 CLEVELAND WEST 3
- 0569 BUTLER/WARREN 2
- 1592 LORAINE 2
- 1927 MIAMI VALLEY 6
- 2217 BEAVERCREEK 5
- 2232 CLEVELAND EAST 1
- 2238 HUBER HEIGHTS 4
- 2264 BREAKSVILLE 1

**Membership: Who Can Join?**

Membership in NARFE, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, is open to civilians who are or will be eligible to receive an annuity or survivor annuity from the federal retirement programs of any agency of the United States government.

That includes:

- Current federal employees
- Retirees
- Spouses and surviving spouses of those eligible to join NARFE
- Former federal employees

A former spouse who is entitled to a federal survivor annuity

**NARFE has developed numerous resources and information-packed documents to help you navigate the complicated path toward retirement and beyond. Take advantage and access these and other useful resources.**

**Benefits Briefs**

NARFE's Benefits Briefs were developed specifically to address the many inquiries from current and retired Feds who need more information about the complex processes and regulations surrounding these topics.

These short, instructive articles – none more than two pages – provide the basics to help you on your way.

- Steps to Take Before You Retire
- How to Apply for Retirement
- FERS Annuity Supplement
- Court-Ordered Benefits
- Survivor Benefits Under FERS
- FEHBP Coverage and Divorced Spouses
- Early Retirement Under FERS
- And many more

## MEMBERSHIP DATA

Chapter Members - By (Dues Category)

as of 10-15-2024

<u>Chp#</u>	<u>Chartered</u>	<u>Dues</u>	<u>1Yr</u>	<u>2Yr</u>	<u>3Yr</u>	<u>DW</u>	<u>Life</u>	<u>Total</u>
0014	2/1/1949	\$10.00	4	0	3	20	2	29
0168	4/1/1952	\$12.00	11	2	4	21	4	42
0187	10/1/1955	\$10.00	22	8	8	21	5	64
0226	12/1/1952	\$ 6.00	14	3	7	25	10	59
0235	4/1/1953	\$10.00	25	4	20	62	6	117
0265	4/1/1953	\$10.00	49	5	34	80	8	176
0310	2/1/1956	\$ 7.00	94	8	21	155	5	283
0341	10/1/1953	\$ 0.00	20	5	6	28	1	60
0382	12/1/1953	\$ 6.00	6	1	3	9	2	21
0470	12/1/1954	\$12.00	52	13	29	51	19	164
0569	8/1/1956	\$ 7.00	14	4	5	31	1	55
0612	5/1/1957	\$10.00	3	1	4	8	0	16
0624	8/1/1957	\$ 4.00	4	1	4	9	0	18
0635	7/1/1957	\$ 6.00	7	1	1	26	0	35
1136	2/1/1970	\$ 7.00	0	0	0	8	0	8
1592	11/1/1979	\$ 6.00	18	6	6	25	3	58
1856	12/1/1981	\$ 5.00	4	0	1	9	1	15
1927	9/1/1982	\$10.00	65	12	24	38	7	146
2122	7/1/1986	\$10.00	4	0	1	7	1	13
2182	11/1/1988	\$ 0.00	7	6	5	2	2	22
2217	1/1/1990	\$ 6.00	42	6	30	29	11	118
2232	5/1/1991	\$10.00	39	5	11	30	3	88
2238	1/1/1991	\$ 6.00	21	6	18	28	8	81
2264	10/14/1992	\$20.00	34	7	15	22	1	79
2359	10/19/2009	\$ 5.00	1	0	1	0	0	2
<u>Total by Category ---</u>			566	104	262	761	101	1,794
<u>Total N-O Members</u>								<b>2,088</b>
<u>Total Fed Members</u>								<b>3,882</b>

## ADVOCACY UPDATE

### Legislation - How they Voted:

Senate Year	Co-Sponsorships			VOTE #				118th CAREER	
	S399	S597	S3194	146 2023	210 2023	247 2023	114 2024	%For	%For
Brown (D)	*C	*C	XC	*	X	*	*	75	95
Vance (R)	XC	*C	XC	X	X	X	X	0	0

House Year	Co-Sponsorships			32 2023	243 2023	513 2023	636 2023	102 2024	118th CAREER	
	HR 82	HR 1002	HR 866						%For	%For
Landsman (D)	*C	*C	*C	*	*	*	*	*	100	100
Wenstrup (R)	XC	XC	XC	*	*	*	X	*	80	31
Beatty (D)	*C	XC	XC	*	*	*	*	*	100	96
Jordan (R)	XC	XC	XC	*	*	X	X	X	40	13
Latta(R)	XC	XC	XC	*	*	*	X	*	80	28
Rulli (R) (New)	XC	XC	XC	*	*	*	*	*	0	0
Miller (R)	*C	XC	XC	*	*	*	X	*	80	80
Davidson (R)	XC	XC	XC	*	*	X	X	X	40	19
Kaptur (D)	*C	XC	XC	*	*	*	*	*	100	92
Turner (R)	*C	XC	*C	*	*	*	X	*	80	54
Brown (D)	*C	*C	XC	*	*	*	*	*	100	100
Balderson (R)	*C	XC	XC	*	*	*	X	X	60	46
Sykes (D)	*C	XC	XC	*	*	*	*	*	100	100
Joyce (R)	*C	XC	XC	*	*	*	X	*	80	56
Carey (R)	*C	XC	XC	*	*	*	X	*	80	73

**Voting Legend**

\*C - Co-sponsored Bill

XC – Did not Co-sponsored Bill

\* - Voted for NARFE’s Position

X – Voted against NARFE’s Position

**HR 82 WEP/GPO Repeal Bill** - There are 1,948,427 people affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). OHIO IS RATED THIRD IN THE NATION WITH 152,863 Affected. (Retired Workers = 146,441, Disabled workers = 1,364 and Spouses & children = 5,058). The HOUSE PASSED a “Discharge Petition” that forces a vote to be taken on the House Floor. We need to write to our Representatives to ensure we get a “YES” vote when the bill comes to the floor for a vote. Representatives **NOT SPONSORING** this bill is B. Wenstrup(#2), J. Jordan(#4), R. Latta(#5), Rulli(#6), and W. Davidson(#8).

**The Office of Personnel Management (OPM)** has announced the **2025 cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)** for federal retirement annuities and Social Security benefits. It will be **2.5%** for **CSRS annuities** and Social Security benefits and **2%** for **FERS annuities**. This year’s average FEHB premiums, will be 13.5%, nearly double last year’s 7.7% hike. Postal enrollees also will see a 11.1% premium increase also. “These increases will no doubt cause sticker shock for many federal/postal employees and retirees nationwide. But that sticker price may not be what you pay if you compare plans and shop for a more affordable alternative. All FEHB and PSHB plans offer good comprehensive coverage. “But” you can leave money on the table if you don’t compare costs and options. With such big average premium increases, now is the time to weigh your options. (See Open Season below).

### **Postal Services Health Benefits (PSHB) and Medicare:**

“It’s heartening to see PSHB premium increases tempered by increased, voluntary enrollments in Medicare, likely spurred by the special enrollment period for postal annuitants, who were able to enroll in Medicare Part B without a late penalty. That option remains available through September 30. All who qualify for Part B are encourage to consider it. NARFE continues to support the expansion of voluntary incentives for Medicare enrollment through premium reimbursements and lowered costs for both FEHB and PSHB.

**Open Season** - takes place from **November 11 through December 9, 2024**. Eligible federal employees, retirees and survivors can make changes to their health benefits coverage during the period for 2025. For more details on coverage options visit NARFE’s Federal Benefits Open Season Resources page at [www.narfe.org/open-season](http://www.narfe.org/open-season).

# From the Desk[top] of Ohio Federation Treasurer



## Ohio Federation Annual Meeting

Friday, September 27, 2024

[Ohio Federation Treasurer's Report](#)

April 22, 2023 – September 20, 2024

### SUMMARY

#### General Information

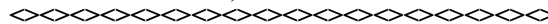
- A. Treasurer Supplies - At the 2023 Ohio Federation Conference, Joe Leisz released the remainder of the Ohio Federation Treasurer records. All items were inventoried and logged. That box remains the storage for the Ohio Treasurer reports and audit pages. In the same location, is MY small fireproof heavy duty locked safe where the Ohio Federation Checkbooks and checkbook inventories are stored.
- B. For Federation Board Meetings -- The use of Zoom Meetings has benefited the Federation accounts. Previously, all FEB – board members were reimbursed for their travel and the Federation paid for meals. The savings on meals, rentals, and mileage, leave the accounts in good standing.

#### Funding for the Ohio Conference

In the past, the Federation Treasurer has ‘moved’/ transferred money from the Federation Checking account to the Conference Checking account. That continues to be the process used for the biannual Ohio Federation Conferences.

#### Account Balances as of September 26, 2024

Ohio Federation Checking Account	= \$25,580.57
Ohio Federation Savings Account	= \$20,535.84
Ohio Federation CONFERENCE Account	= \$ 1,768.76
Ohio Federation CONFERENCE Savings Account	= \$ 5.26
11-mo CD – Matures Feb. 22, 2025	= \$50,712.05
12-mo CD – Matures Sept. 19 2025	= \$25,400.00
24-mo CD – Matures Sept. 19, 2026	= <u>\$25,400.00</u>
	<b>\$ 149,401.48</b>



### State of the State

The 2023 Audit took place at Parma Snow Street Library on Tuesday, July 2, 2024. The awesome Audit Committee, led by Don Wiese, submitted their report to the Federation Board.

At the Tuesday, [Primary Election Day] March 19, 2024, Zoom Board Meeting, members voted in approval to explore, investigate and INVEST \$100,000 in CD's. At that time, local banks were offering rates of 5.5% and above. The CD's – Certificates of Deposit were opened with our current financial organization – where four of our accounts are held. InFirst was able to transfer funds from three of those four accounts to open two CDs. The Maturity Date for one was July 22, the other will mature Feb. 22 of 2025. After the July CD matured, the funds were re-invested with InFirst, after researching those local financial institutions had better rates – for individuals and not for ‘business accounts.

Thank you.

LS Rarick -- Ohio Federation Treasurer

**Tim Gartner, Ohio Federation President met with Senator Sherrod Brown at a Field Hearing on Restoring Social Security for Ohio Law Enforcement, Firefighters and Public Servants.**



NARFE National HQ Legislative Department invited a golf group from Ohio to play in:

**Chairman Mike Turner's ( R ) District 10  
20th Annual TOP FLIGHT OPEN  
with special guest  
Honorable John A. Boehner  
Former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives**

The Ohio team was made up of Jeff Graham, Tim Gartner, Ohio Federation President, Scott Graham, Chapter 1927 Treasurer and Ohio Federation Legislative VP, Al Griggs



## OHIO CHAPTER NEWS

### MICHAEL WEBB—DISTRICT VP—DAYTON AREA

#### NARFE OPEN SEASON EVENTS

The following meetings are open to all NARFE members and their guests:

Aetna Federal Plans representative Bud Jones will speak at a special Chapter 1927 meeting on Nov 21<sup>st</sup> at the MCL Cafeteria in Kettering from 11:00 am to 1:00. Bud will start at approximately 11:30.

Blue Cross/Blue Shields representative Wava Iker will be at the Greene County Chapter 2217 meeting on November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Lofino Plaza meeting room, adjacent to the Beaver Creek Senior Center, 3868 Dayton Xenia Rd. The meeting will start at 1:00 and Wava will speak at 1:30.

Wava Iker will also appear at the Miami Valley Chapter meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> at the MCL Cafeteria in Kettering from 11:00 am to 1:00. Her presentation will start at noon.

**Michael Webb, Dayton District Vice President and Chapter 1927 President**

### SANDY GARTNER-DISTRICT VP-COLUMBUS AREA

**Chapter 235 Columbus** NARFE Chapter 235 has been meeting again since January. They meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at the MCL Cafeteria, 5240 E. Main St. in Whitehall. They have been having interesting speakers each month and are looking for more members to attend and bring a prospective member. As of 11-1-2024 they have **117** Chapter Members, and **103** National Only Members for a total of **385** members.

**Chapter 310 Licking County Newark** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Heritage Hall Senior Center located at 1058 E Main St., Newark, OH.

They held their chapter picnic in August at the Licking County Aging Partners new facility at 123 South Second Street in Newark. They had a very good turnout and enjoyed a pot luck dinner with door prizes and great music performed by local musician Gene Perrine.

Allison Burke from Blue Cross/Blue Shield gave a very interesting program on 'Healthful Aging' at the October.

November's program will honor Chapter 310 Veterans. We will also view the NARFE Webinar **2024 Open Season Roundup: FEHB, FEDVIP, & FSA**—Federal Benefits expert Mercedes Johnson discusses vital information federal employees and retirees need in order to choose the best plans available during the upcoming annual Open Season.

As of 11-1-2024 there are **282** Chapter Members and **103** national only members for a total of **385** members.

**Chapter 612 Johnny Appleseed\_Mansfield** meets at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 575 Lexington-Springmill Rd., Ontario, OH on the second Monday of the month at 1:00 for lunch followed by the meeting.

The chapter does a great job keeping up on Legislative Issues and has good attendance at their meetings. Sandy Gartner, Columbus Area VP attended the September Meeting and reported on the NARFE National Conference FEDCon24.

As of 11-1-2024 there are **16** Chapter Members and **41** national only members for a total of **57** members.

## JOE LEISZ-DISTRICT VP-CLEVELAND AREA

**Chapter 2232 Cleveland East** held our first Retirement Seminar/Membership Zoom meeting on Saturday, October 26, 2024, at the Shaker Heights Library, in Shaker Heights, OH. The Membership - Zoom meeting was from 10am - 12 noon, with the Director, Member Engagement, Nora McDonald presenting a LIVE Question/Answer presentation. She spoke on what was new with NARFE, how National HQ of NARFE was providing local chapters more information and reaching out to Nation Members to join local chapters in their area before becoming National Members. She encouraged all members to use social media, email and websites to promote NARFE and bring new members to the chapters. The membership meeting was attended by 4 members of the Chapter Membership Committee.

The afternoon Webinar, which took place from 1pm - 3pm on **RETIREMENT PREPARATIONS: MEASURE TWICE, CUT ONCE** -presented by Mercedes Johnson, Federal Retirement Benefits Expert, in which we had 8 Federal Employees from the VA and IRS. Three employees were interested in becoming potential members. They had many questions which the chapter will be forwarding to the Benefits Experts.

The chapter will be reviewing with the Executive Board of having a Saturday Seminar every 3 months to bring in new members and to present NARFE to the members from a different view. We will be holding some of our monthly chapter meetings thru ZOOM, if inclement weather presents itself on our meeting date.

On Friday, October 25, 2024, Chapter 2232 Cleveland East, celebrated its 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Fall theme. The members wore Halloween masks and enjoyed a fellowship and a 4 course meal and dessert with chapter members and invited potential members. We were entertained with a 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary PowerPoint that presented the chapter thru pictures from the last chapter anniversary we held in 2018 to the present. The members that we lost over the past seven years, all members who have been with the Chapter 2232/NARFE for 20 years or more. It was a very moving PowerPoint and everyone was able to put a face with those we hadn't seen in a long time and will be contacting to invite back to the meetings.

Mary E. Brothers-Johnson  
Chapter 2232 Secretary

### **Members wore Halloween Masks for a Fall Themed Celebration of their Chapters 34th Anniversary**



## AKRON CANTON DISTRICT—DVP Vacant

## CINCINNATI DISTRICT—DVP Vacant

**Cincinnati Chapter 265** President Diana Bradley held a meeting to discuss possible closure of the chapter if no one would step up to serve as chapter officers.

In attendance was Ed Konys our newly elected Region IV VP, Tim Gartner Ohio Federation President, Mike Madges Federation Membership Chair, Sandy Gartner Central District VP and many members of the chapter. After much discussion and no one stepping up to serve in officer positions the chapter voted to close. President Diana Bradley has sent out the closure letters.

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## From Toledo District VP

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Toledo District supports these Chapters:

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Firelands/Sandusky Chapter # 382 – Chapter members=128 National Members = 162 Total = 290

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*Chapter Members = 21      National Members = 27      Total in Chapter = 48*

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Fulton-Henry County Chapter # 1856

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*Chapter Members = 15      National Members = 12      Total in Chapter = 27*

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John Folk- Lima Chapter # 317

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*Chapter Members = 25      National Members = 39      Total in Chapter = 64*

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Toledo Chapter # 226

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*Chapter Members = 59      National Members = 81      Total in Chapter = 140*

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Williams Co.-Bryan Chapter # 1136

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*Chapter Members = 8      National Members = 3      Total in Chapter = 11*

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Toledo District Chapters is following the trend of members not interested or unwilling to step into a leadership role in their own chapters. Within the Toledo District, we face the problem of ‘open roles.’ In accordance with the National Bylaws/Constitution, three of the five Toledo District Chapters should be closed.

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In July, Cathy Schuchert of Chapter 1856 informed me that their Chapter wanted to merge with Toledo Chapter. I did inform Cathy that there were Federation Mergers but that I was not aware of a format for Chapter Mergers, but I would inquire. Although I **did get** information that there were **NO CHAPTER MERGERS** – there was a Bylaws/Standing Rules Resolution that was prepared and was reviewed at the National Conference – FEDCon24. Members across the country did vote on that proposed amendment, and that was rejected.

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John Folk/Lima Chapter has strong leadership and interested members, as does Toledo Chapter. Toledo President, Joyce Bower, makes strong efforts to engage members so they will attend meetings. Toledo Chapter will have a Recruitment Table at the Nov. 4 Toledo BCBS Health Fair.

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The Membership Committee, headed by David Beisel, is hopeful that we will snag a new member or two at the event.

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At the Toledo Chapter August meeting, I presented two ‘adventures’ – social outings paired with an event and a lunch. The first was Milbury Classic Car tour and lunch at Speed Trap Restaurant. The other was in Port Clinton Ohio - The Liberty Aviation Museum, lunch on site at Tin Goose Diner. The last social event for the district was 5 years ago. My hopes are to have a social event in the calendar year 2025.

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Thank you!

Toledo District VP

LS Rarick

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## OHIO DONATIONS TO ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH

During Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) Ohio NARFE members donated \$3,859.25. As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, donations are \$2,027.00. Ohio is in good shape and is currently in first place in Region IV in donations made to NARFE-Alzheimer's Research. Be sure to make your check payable to **NARFE ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH**. Checks made payable to Alzheimer's Association will not be credited to NARFE.

Treasurers and Chapter Alzheimer's Coordinators should forward checks as soon as possible. You can use the Chapter Transmittal Form that is contained in your Chapter Alzheimer's Coordinators Manual, FH-25 (1122). If you do not have a copy of the manual, please contact me.

Currently, we have three chapters signed up for the WALK to End Alzheimer's and so far have raised \$1,696.01! This is a good start for Ohio. Registration for the WALK has closed in Ohio, however, you can still support the WALK to End Alzheimer's for 2024. Donations will be accepted until December 31, 2024. Just go to [alz.org/narfewalk](http://alz.org/narfewalk). Make a donation to one of the NARFE Chapter Teams. They are: Toledo Chapter 226, NARFE Chapter 341 and Chapter 1760.

**A reminder to all:** When making a donation to the WALK to End Alzheimer's, be sure to make your check payable to: Alzheimer's Association – WALK to End Alzheimer's. Checks should be mailed to the local contact person shown on the website. If you can't locate the address, please contact me and I will help you. You can make a donation on line by using your credit card; a donation receipt will be emailed to you immediately.

If you have any questions, please contact:  
Samantha Yerg at: [samanthanarfe@yahoo.com](mailto:samanthanarfe@yahoo.com)

Great News for our NARFE members! The NARFE-Alzheimer's Research Program raised **\$311,250.00 in Fiscal Year 2024!** (This is for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.)

NARFE-Alzheimer's was able to grant research funding for two new programs during the NARFE Alzheimer's National Committee Virtual Training on September 4-5, 2024. The research projects sponsored are:

(1) \$200,000. Kelly Stauch, Ph.D., University of Nebraska Medical Center, fully funded over three years for her research on "The role of APOE4 in synaptic mitochondrial dysfunction." This project will look at how genetic variations linked to Alzheimer's impact the energy centers in brain cell connections.

(2) \$111,250.00. Matheus Scarpatto Rodrigues, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, partially funded over three years for his research in "the role of cholesterol metabolism to microglia reactivity and tau spreading." This study has shown that the changes in the cholesterol metabolism can impact the activity of microglia, the primary immune cells in the brain. It appears that the microglia activity is altered during the Alzheimer's progression; thus, showing a link between cholesterol metabolism, microglia activity and Alzheimer's.

As of December 31, 2023 NARFE members have donated **\$108,938.13** to the **2023 WALK to End Alzheimer's!** We have surpassed our goal of \$100,000! **Great Job NARFE members!** Donations can still be made to the **2024 WALK to End Alzheimer's** until the end of 2024. Just go to: <https://www.alz.org/narfewalk> and locate your local WALK and make a donation. Help NARFE reach its goal of more than \$100,000.00 AGAIN in 2024!

Funds raised through Walk to End Alzheimer's are used to advance the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. With your help, they are able to deliver information and education to millions of individuals, caregivers and medical professionals who face dementia every day, provide care and support across the area, advocate for the needs and rights of people facing Alzheimer's, and advance research seeking methods of prevention, treatment and ultimately, a cure.

Alzheimer's Association has set up a **Planned Gift Giving** for members who wish to make donations 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.org](mailto:plannedgiving@alz.org) or by calling 866-233-5148. The amounts donated by NARFE members in a planned gift also counts towards the NARFE's National Goal, which is now **\$17,000,000** by the end of 2025. Planned Gift Giving in FY 2024 was \$20,941.00; as of 9/30/2024 it is \$28,926.50.

**REMEMBER! The FIRST Survivor of Alzheimer's is out there! Let's continue to Fight to find a cure!**

If you have any questions regarding the NARFE-Alzheimer's Research Program, please contact Samantha Yerg, Ohio Federation Alzheimer's Coordinator at [samanthanarfe@yahoo.com](mailto:samanthanarfe@yahoo.com), or Diana Iuliano-Chan, Region IV NARFE Alzheimer's Regional Coordinator at [diananarfe341@gmail.com](mailto:diananarfe341@gmail.com).

## FEDCON24 UPDATE



**LEARN** how to make the most of your benefits  
**ADVOCATE** to protect those earned benefits  
**LEAD** the organization that defends those benefits into the future

**Over 500 NAFE members attended the FEDCon24 Conference in St. Louis, MO**



**Ohio was presented the Bronze Award for their  
Grassroots Advocacy efforts.**

**Keep up the good work Ohio!**

## NARFE HQ hired MARKETING/Street Level Studio

### **SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS . . .**

Street Level Studio is a team of subject matter experts. Every individual possesses both the specific creative expertise and business savvy to provide exactly what clients need.

And collectively, we're unstoppable!"

TANYA FRETHEIM, CEO

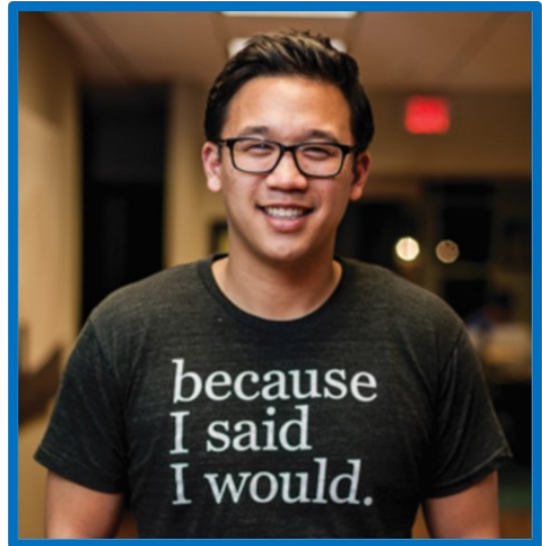
### **THE MISSION IS MEMBERSHIP**

**Mission Awareness**

**Engagement**

**Out Reach**

**NARFE ANNUAL MEETING  
AUGUST 18TH**



**Alex Sheen** is the founder of because I said I would, a global social movement and nonprofit dedicated to bettering humanity through promises made and kept, created in memory of his father, whose word was his bond. To help others remember the importance of their goals and commitments, Alex and his organization send “promise cards” to anyone anywhere in the world at no cost. With a belief that every individual has the power to keep a promise, he shares insights and actionable, character-building strategies for becoming a person of your word. He draws on inspiring, real-life examples and messages from the ‘because I said I would’ movement to encourage others to fulfill their commitment.

**FEDCON24 ALZHEIMER’S REPORT**

NARFE has been a partner of Alzheimer’s since 1984

NARFE is the largest nonprofit funder of Alzheimer’s and all dementias in the world

6.7% of people are living with Alzheimer’s

To date they have raised \$16,000,000 +

**FEDCON24 MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Ohio lost 182 members since the Annual Meeting in 2023

**REGION IV CACUS**



**REGION IV RVP ROBERT HELFRICH  
UPDATING THE FEDERATIONS**



**OUTGOING RVP ROBERT HELFRICH  
CONGRATULATING  
OUR NEW  
REGION IV RVP ED KONYS**



**FEDCON24 OHIO FEDERATION ATTENDEES**

## OHIO FEDERATION OUT AND ABOUT



The Ohio Federation was invited to attend the UPMA United Post Masters and Managers Association at Salt Fork Lodge. Sandy Gartner, Federation Central District VP spoke about the new PSHB Postal Service Health Benefit Program. Lots of information on the NARFE website at [narfe.org](http://narfe.org)

Click on:  
Federal Benefits Institute  
Open Season for 2025

The Ohio Federation was invited to attend the Ohio Rural Letter Carrier State Convention in Berlin. Sandy Gartner, Federation Central District VP spoke about the new PSHB Postal Service Health Benefit Program and we signed up 14 new members. Seven are active federal employees. Pictured: Sandy Gartner, Tim Barker, ORLC President and Tim Gartner Ohio Federation President



The Ohio Federation was invited to attend and speak at the Ohio Letter Carrier Booster Meeting in Columbus. There were over 200 in attendance. Sandy Gartner, Federation Central District VP spoke about the new PSHB Postal Service Health Benefit Program. We are finding more and more of their members are also members of NARFE.

NARFE Toledo Chapter 226 participated in the  
2024 Walk to End Alzheimer's

