

August Recess = NARFE Grass-Roots Advocacy Month

By Sarah Weissmann, Grass-Roots Program Manager

The longest scheduled recess on the congressional calendar is the August recess. This year, House members are scheduled to be in their districts August 3 through September 7. Senators will be on recess from August 10 through September 7. This extended recess provides the best opportunity for NARFE members to meet with members of Congress.

Chapters should be making plans now to meet with their representatives during the August recess. Similarly, federations should be arranging to meet with senators. Calendars during the month-long recess fill up quickly. For more information on how to schedule a meeting, visit the [NARFE Toolkit](#) or contact the Legislative Department staff at leg@narfe.org.

Also during the August recess, many members will hold town hall meetings. NARFE members should attend town halls, introduce themselves and ask questions related to NARFE’s legislative issues. NARFE members can find out if their members will be holding town hall meetings by contacting their representative’s or senators’ offices or looking on the [NARFE website](#). Additionally, the NARFE Legislative Department has developed a [town hall toolkit](#), which includes sample questions.

After meeting with members of Congress, we strongly encourage NARFE members to share their experiences with us by e-mail: advocacyinaction@narfe.org. ●



Legislative Update

By Sarah Weissmann, Grass-Roots Program Manager

With the Fiscal Year 2016 budget process now in the Appropriations Committees, the House and Senate have moved on to other pending issues and legislation. This has meant a busy three months for the NARFE Legislative Department.

Department of Labor Proposed Conflict of Interest Rule

On June 17, the House Education and Workforce Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions held a hearing on a rule proposed by the Department of Labor to help protect individuals – including federal employees and retirees – from getting bad retirement investment advice. The proposal would amend the definition of “fiduciary investment advice” under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) to ensure individuals saving for retirement are protected by a “best interest standard” when receiving investment advice. Under the current rule, the best interest standard does not apply to advice given on a one-time basis, advice regarding rollovers or any advice on investing in an Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

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NARFE President Richard G. Thissen sent a [letter](#) to members of the subcommittee in support of the rule. He noted: “NARFE is particularly concerned that federal employees and retirees invested in low-fee Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) funds – the federal employee version of a 401(k) – are not adequately protected from bad financial advice regarding their TSP holdings. Because rollovers are not covered by the current rule, financial advisors may legally recommend that TSP account holders roll over their TSP holdings into an IRA where the money could be invested in a mutual fund providing the same, or essentially similar, product, such as an S&P 500 index fund, for as much as 50 times the cost.”

The House and Senate Appropriations Committees approved their respective FY16 Labor, Health and Human Services funding bills. Both bills contain a provision that would prevent the Department of Labor from implementing its proposed rule. NARFE will be reworking the rider as these bills make their way through the legislative process. This fight will likely continue throughout the appropriations period.

Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) Hearing

On May 20, the House Education and Workforce Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing titled “Reforming the Workers’ Compensation Program for Federal Employees.” The Federal Employees’ Compensation Act (FECA) is the law governing the workers’ compensation program for federal and postal employees who are injured on the job.

The hearing focused on recommendations for reforming the program proposed by the Department of Labor in 2003. Some of the proposals include noncontroversial modernizations and program integrity measures that have received broad bipartisan support and that NARFE supports. However, there also was discussion of benefit reductions for injured federal workers once they reach retirement age, which NARFE opposes. NARFE submitted written [testimony](#) to the committee prior to the hearing and will continue to monitor the issue. It is expected that some FECA proposals will be included in the budget reconciliation package.

More information on the hearing, including an archived video, is available [online](#).

Civil Service Reform Hearing

Also on May 20, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management held a hearing titled “21st Century Ideas for a 20th Century Federal Service.” The hearing was designed to start a conversation on ways that the civil service could be reformed, but no specific legislation was mentioned. Some policies discussed include rewarding high performers, making it easier to remove poor performers and providing better managerial training. Prior to the hearing, NARFE offered general recommendations for modernizing the federal civil service system in a [letter](#) to the chairman and ranking member of the subcommittee. More information on the hearing, including an archived video, is available [online](#).

Defending Public Safety Employees' Retirement Act

Under current law, any individual who withdraws money from his or her TSP account prior to turning 55, if they are retired, or 59½, if they are still working, incurs a 10 percent fine. The Defending Public Safety Employees’ Retirement Act allows federal law enforcement, federal firefighters and air traffic control officers to take money out of their TSP accounts without penalty if they retire before the 59½ age requirement. Many of the individuals covered by the legislation are eligible for retirement at age 50 and mandatory retirement at age 57.

The House passed the bill, H.R. 2146, by a vote of 407–5. The Senate attached the Trade Promotion Authority to the original language and passed it out of the Senate. The president signed the bill on June 29.

Repeal of the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision

During a recent meeting with NARFE's Legislative Director Jessica Klement, staff for Rep. Rodney Davis, R-IL, discussed his legislation to repeal the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). While the legislation has not received consideration from the House Ways and Means Committee, Davis is pushing for a hearing to be held. NARFE members should contact their members of Congress and ask them to cosponsor H.R. 973. This action will help apply pressure to the leadership of the House Ways and Means Committee. Check the [Legislative Action Center](#) to see if your member is a cosponsor. If he or she is not, send the letter available in the action center.

Phased Retirement

July is the third anniversary of the phased retirement law, and only one agency, the Library of Congress, has announced publicly that it is utilizing the law. NARFE recently sent a letter to the Chief Human Capital Officers (CHCO) Council asking it to monitor the status of departments instituting phased retirement and report the information publicly. NARFE will continue to update its members on the status of this important option for federal employees.

NARFE-PAC Update

Due to the strong push made by NARFE-PAC coordinators during federation conventions and the generosity of NARFE members, NARFE-PAC had a hugely successful second quarter. At the start of the election cycle (2015-2016), the NARFE Legislative Department set a goal to increase the number of NARFE-PAC Sustainers by 25 percent. NARFE-PAC Sustainers make monthly credit card contributions of at least \$10. The donation is made automatically. Four months into the cycle, we hit our goal and, accordingly, we sought to increase Sustainers by 50 percent by the 2016 elections. Due to the push at federation conventions, we hit that goal within two months! Our new goal is to increase the number of NARFE-PAC Sustainers by 100 percent during the two-year cycle. As of press time, we had increased our total Sustainers by more than 75 percent. To become a NARFE-PAC Sustainer, you can sign up [online](#) or contact Jason Freeman at 703-838-7760, ext. 201.

Additionally, NARFE members generously contributed more than \$55,000 to NARFE-PAC at their federation conventions, including contributions made by new NARFE-PAC Sustainers over the two-year cycle. Of the 41 federation conventions held to date, 40 had NARFE-PAC tables. The willingness of NARFE members to make this investment in their future was outstanding, and we thank you for your support.

Federation Convention Update

To the federations that held conventions this year and hosted legislative updates from the Legislative Department, thank you! In addition to the 14 conventions where a member of the staff was able to provide an in-person presentation, 21 conventions received an electronic presentation from a staff member, and two more showed pre-recorded DVDs; thus, at 37 of 41 conventions, the legislative staff was able to present a timely, updated legislative presentation to NARFE members. If your federation will be holding a 2016 convention, please consider scheduling time for a presentation by the legislative staff – either in person or electronically. ●



Be a NARFE-PAC Sustainer!

Sign up for a **monthly credit card contribution of \$10 or more** and you will receive the NARFE-PAC Sustainer lapel pin and a NARFE duffle bag!





State Legislative Advocacy: Under the Domes

By Chris Farrell, Senior Analyst

Tax Victory in Indiana

NARFE’s Indiana Federation won a major victory for federal annuitants and survivors in the 2015 session of the legislature. The new law, signed by Gov. Mike Pence on May 6, provides tax parity between federal civil service retirement and Social Security benefits. Don Savage, Indiana Federation president, worked with officers and members throughout Indiana over several years to win passage of the legislation (SB 441) and Gov. Pence’s signature. See your [July narfe magazine](#) (page 36) and the Indiana Federation website, <http://www.narfe.org/site/in/index.cfm>. If your federation seeks to join the other federations engaged in efforts with their legislatures, begin the process at NARFE’s upgraded Legislative Action Center.

How to Seek and Find Your Elected Officials

While a sidebar in the April *Insider* reminded NARFE officers to use the new “State Advocacy” module of our Legislative Action Center (http://cqrcengage.com/narfe/State_Advocacy), this installment provides an example to show the site’s actual utility. The three lawmakers shown below are: Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker, state Sen. Dave Hansen, D-WI30, and state Rep. John Macco, R-WI88. Each represents NARFE’s new Wisconsin Federation President Greg Habeck. Click on the hyperlinks embedded in their underscored names to view the information found at the NARFE Legislative Action Center (sample for Rep. John Macco pictured). Even more information is readily available using the contact information provided on the links, especially the lawmaker’s official website.

Wisconsin Example from NARFE Legislative Action Center



Scott Walker
Wisconsin Governor Republican



Dave Hansen
State Senator Democrat, WI-S030



John Macco
State Rep. Republican, WI-H088



Representative John Macco

Assembly District 88 (R - Ledgeview)

Representative John Macco's Home Page
District map based on 2011 Wisconsin Act 43
Subscribe to updates via Notify
2015 authored proposals feed
2015 all related items feed
2015 author index
Historical information

Madison Office: Room 22 West
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708
Telephone: (608) 266-0485
Fax: (608) 282-3688
(888) 534-0088

Email: Rep.Macco@legis.wisconsin.gov
Voting Address: 1874 Old Valley Rd.
De Pere, WI 54115

Staff: Benjamin Joniaux Benjamin.Joniaux@legis.wisconsin.gov

To find your governor and state legislators, insert your ZIP+4 at: <http://cqrcengage.com/narfe/home>.

Why Obtain Information on Your Elected Officials?

Governors and state legislators, like most successful politicians, are upwardly mobile. Term limits apply in several legislatures, but voluntary departure explains a larger portion of the turnover in state legislatures. Ambition also is in play. Governors want to be senators and, in this election cycle, president. State legislators are also interested in higher office. In fact, more than half of the members in each chamber in the U.S. Congress served in the legislature or as governor. Get to know these officials while they directly impact your state tax code. Correspond with them. Register for their newsletters. Invite them to speak to your chapter and take questions from their NARFE constituents. Most importantly, get to meet them and start a relationship with a firm handshake! The next time you meet with them, they may be in Congress ... or in the White House!

Recent Coverage of State Fiscal Situations

Admittedly, what follows are teasers designed to catch your interest in the fiscal situations of state government. Open the full text to see the variability from one state to another and the basis on which to compare your state to others. Two of these are from the PEW Charitable Trusts; the middle one from *The New York Times*. If there is coverage of this topic in your news media, please send it to me. I am especially eager to gather the bylines of the best state government reporters. Send information, comments or requests to cfarrell@narfe.org or phone me directly at 571-483-1265.

State Tax Revenue Hits New High, but 27 States Still Lag Behind

Nationally, total state tax revenue continued its recovery from the Great Recession, ending 2014 at its highest level ever. But the state-by-state picture is far more mixed. Adjusted for inflation, tax receipts in 27 states had not fully rebounded by the fourth quarter of 2014.

Overall, states collected 3.5 percent more [tax revenue](#) in the fourth quarter of 2014 than they did in the third quarter of 2008, just before receipts plummeted midway through the recession. It was the seventh straight quarter that 50-state tax revenue exceeded its 2008 peak. For the full article go to:

<http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/analysis/2015/06/11/state-tax-revenue-hits-new-high-but-27-states-still-lag-behind>.

US: States Confront Wide Budget Gaps After Years of Recovery

Many states face major funding gaps that have locked legislatures in protracted battles with governors. In some states, lawmakers have gone into overtime with unresolved budgets, special sessions and threats of widespread government layoffs. As of the first week of June, only 25 states have passed budgets, according to the [National Association of State Budget Officers](#). ●

Updates to Secure Login for NARFE's Website

By Dan Hidayat, Director, Information Technology

NARFE will be updating its secure login system for the NARFE website, www.narfe.org. The updates will significantly increase the protection level for certain sections of the website (see below). Here are some of the key updated requirements:

- Website account registration will require users to provide additional information (e.g., phone number or date of birth) to verify the member's identity;
- New and current users will have to provide answers to three security questions;
- Eight digits and special characters will be required for passwords;
- Current users also will be required to update their passwords with the new password requirements;
- Account registration and "forgot password" requests will be verified via the user's email account, and he or she will be required to provide the answers to the security questions; and
- There will be a limit to incorrect login attempts before the account is locked for 30 minutes.

It is important that we make these changes to increase the protection of important information. Members still will have the option, however, of logging in using their last names and membership ID numbers to access members-only website content.

Using the secure login, members also will be allowed to do the following:

- Manage their NARFE account (i.e., change the address, email address or phone number in their NARFE member record);
- Access the Online Activities Module (OAM) (authorized NARFE officers only);
- Purchase NARFE goods and services (when available) online; and
- Change the credit card they have on file for automatic membership renewal or NARFE-PAC Sustainer program donations.

These security updates are currently being tested by Headquarters and by several members. The launch is planned for the end of July.

Congratulations to NARFE Photo Contest Winners

By Monica Williams, Deputy Director, Membership Marketing

Selecting the photos for the NARFE calendar is never an easy job, and this year was no exception. From the hundreds of submissions taken by so many talented members, we were challenged to select just 18 photos that will appear in the 2016 calendar, which will be mailed to members in August.

The winning photos include:

- "Harbor Reflections" by Phyllis Maguire of Burke, VA (Chapter 0893)
- "Sunrise at Cocoa Beach" by Colleen Quinn-House of Ellicott City, MD (Chapter 1734)
- "Fog at Lake Sumter, Florida" by Jordan Tuller of The Villages, FL (Chapter 1372)
- "Lower Saint Mary Lake" by William L. Witmer of Lakewood, CO (Chapter 1085)
- "Melting Snow on Holly Leaf" by James M. Hamilton of Colorado Springs, CO (Chapter 0241)
- "The Watchtower of Desert View" by Thomas A. Smith of Munford, AL (Chapter 1511)
- "Soaring Splendor" by Al Giencke of Plymouth, MN (Chapter 0150)
- "Turtle with Hitchhiker" by Carol Moyer of Riva, MD (Chapter 0251)
- "Sandhill Crane with Chicks" by Marie S. Hammer of Land O' Lakes, FL (Chapter 0185)



Calendar cover photo: "Harbor Reflections" by Phyllis Maguire of Burke, VA

- "Spring Garden" by Toya Payne of Georgetown, IN (Chapter 2363)
- "Barred Owl" by Lynn Fucarino of Tampa, FL (Chapter 1154)
- "Colonial Era Window" by Robert C. Peterson of Summerville, SC (Chapter 1082)
- "Flemming Beach Maui" by Ernest Tolin of Benicia, CA (Chapter 0016)
- "Sunrise at the Garden" by Dennis Taylor of Riverside, CA (Chapter 0188)
- "Fall Foliage" by David Harrah of Bel Air, MD (Chapter 2363)
- "Antique Organ" by Marcia Socolik of Henderson, NV (Chapter 2031)
- "Winter Scene" by Ralph Northrop of Rockville, MD (Chapter 1127)
- "Proud As a Peacock" by Jim Little of Woodbridge, VA (Chapter 1270)

We thank all of the members who submitted photos and encourage all to enter again for next year's calendar. The next calendar contest, "Made in America," opens August 1. Details can be found on the NARFE website under "Special Programs."

NARFE's annual calendar is not only an excellent way to celebrate the talents of our members, but it is also a significant source of revenue to NARFE's general fundraising program. Over the years, as costs have escalated and membership has declined, NARFE has turned to members for their generous support so that we can strengthen our efforts to promote and defend the rights of the federal community. Last year alone, donations to the calendar program generated nearly \$500,000 (net) to help further our mission. ●



NARFE in the News

Over the past few years, NARFE has enhanced its media outreach and, as a result, has seen an increase in its media presence. These results grew from efforts to increase awareness of the contributions of federal employees to our nation, refute inaccurate perceptions about federal pay and benefits, and voice our opposition to proposals to cut the benefits of active and retired federal employees. Each issue of the quarterly *NARFE Insider* will feature a selection of summaries of major media coverage, and occasionally local news coverage generated by chapters and federations.

National Coverage

- On June 24, the House Appropriations Committee approved a measure that would deny the Labor Department the funds to finalize, implement or administer a proposed conflict of interest rule imposing stricter standards on investment advisers. NARFE supports this rule, which would hold investment advisers to a “best interest standard” when providing investment advice to individuals saving for retirement. As *Federal Soup* reported on June 19, NARFE National President Richard G. Thissen sent a letter supporting the new standard to members of the House Education and Workforce Committee’s Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions that same day. In it he wrote: “Because rollovers are not covered by the current rules, financial advisers may legally recommend that TSP account holders roll over their TSP holdings into an IRA, where money could be invested in a mutual fund ... for as much as 50 times the cost.” For the complete article, go to <http://federalsoup.com/articles/2015/06/19/appropriators-block-proposed-investment-advice-rule.aspx>.
- NARFE National President Richard G. Thissen was among several nonprofit and association leaders who were mentioned in a [June 18 federalnewsradio.com](http://www.federalnewsradio.com) article by Jason Miller as supporting the Competitive Service Act of 2015. This bill would permit federal agencies to create and exchange best-qualified lists of candidates and streamline the hiring process. The legislation would permit agencies to share assessments of candidates, who would not have to submit new applications for each similar position for which they could apply. This bill is sponsored by a bipartisan group of senators, which include Sens. Jon Tester, D-MT; Rob Portman, R-OH; Ben Cardin, D-MD; Jerry Moran, R-KS; and Heidi Heitkamp, D-ND. Two similar versions of the bill were introduced last year, but neither made it out of committee. For more, go to <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/520/3876883/Sen-Tester-reintroduces-bill-allowing-agencies-to-share-qualified-job-applicants>.
- An excerpt of NARFE National President Richard G. Thissen’s letter to Office of Personnel Management’s (OPM) Director Katherine Archuleta relating to the massive federal data breach is included in a June 18 article on federalnewsradio.com. In his communication, Thissen asks the OPM director to give impacted federal employees lifetime credit monitoring services and asks that she “authorize an increase in the amount of identity theft insurance provided.” Thissen goes on to state: “It may be years before the information taken is used by criminals, and it is only fair to provide continued financial protection for the many victims who spent lifelong careers in federal service.” For more, go to <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/520/3877615/Chorus-of-lawmakers-calling-for-OPMs-Archuleta-to-resign-grows-louder>.
- NARFE’s Legislative Director Jessica Klement was interviewed in a video segment of “This Week in Federal Times.” Reporter and host Andy Medici asked Klement about the status of the phased retirement program. Klement said that its slow implementation is unfortunate because many of the older feds who were first interested in the program have since retired. “They had 30 to 40 years of experience

and were in highly technical and skilled jobs” and were eager to pass on their knowledge to their successors, she said. See the complete interview at <http://www.federaltimes.com/media/cinematic/video/28690721/this-week-in-federal-times-what-is-going-on-with-phased-retirement/>.

- On the June 2 edition of Francis Rose’s “In Depth” program on Federal News Radio, NARFE Legislative Director Jessica Klement was interviewed on the Association’s written testimony submitted to the House Education and Workforce Subcommittee, which was holding hearings on reforming the 99-year-old Federal Employees’ Compensation Act, which determines the level of compensation awarded to federal employees who get injured on the job. Rose also asked her about the “Lost Fed Ticker” on the NARFE website and the status of phased retirement’s implementation. To hear the interview, go to <http://www.federalnewsradio.com/491/3868288/Jessica-Klement-Legislative-Director-NARFE>.
- National President Richard G. Thissen was quoted in a May 20 *Government Executive* article on reforming the workers’ compensation packages awarded to federal employees injured on the job. Thissen said the proposal was not based on sound public policy and would serve only to “punish the very people struggling to recover after a debilitating injury in service to their country. Members of Congress should pay close attention to the GAO findings before acting rashly to make severe cuts to the basic income protection afforded to federal employees injured while serving their country, as the DOL proposal aims to do.” For the complete article, go to: <http://www.govexec.com/pay-benefits/2015/05/generous-benefits-feds-injured-job-could-be-chopping-block/113347/>.
- In the May 14 issue of *Government Executive*, Tammy Flanagan of the National Institute of Transition Planning quotes NARFE’s Legislative Director Jessica Klement. In Flanagan’s article, “The Difference Between a Supplement and Social Security,” she explores the several reasons why the amount of one’s FERS (Federal Employees Retirement System) supplement for those feds who retire before age 62 might be different from the full-career Social Security benefit received later. In recent years, this FERS supplement has been eyed for elimination by a Congress intent on budget-cutting. As Klement is quoted: “Over the last four years, Congress has taken aim at the federal community for cuts time and time again. NARFE and other organizations in the federal community have been very successful in fighting these misguided proposals. However, that means they are all still on the table, including the elimination of the FERS Annuity Supplement. The most recent House budget is not the last time we’ll hear about this being slated for elimination. However, I wouldn’t base retirement decisions on what Congress might do.” For more, go to: <http://www.govexec.com/pay-benefits/retirement-planning/2015/05/difference-between-supplement-and-social-security/112744/?oref=dropdown>.
- Bloomberg BNA in its May 6 online Public Sector Roundup quoted NARFE Legislative Director Jessica Klement’s reaction to news that the joint budget resolution does not include provisions from an earlier version that called for cuts in the federal workforce through attrition and greater contributions by workers toward their retirement. “NARFE is relieved that the resolution does not set in motion an expedited process to achieve those assumed savings, and it includes no policy proposals to do so,” said Klement. “This stands in notable contrast to the House budget resolution, which specifically directed the committee with jurisdiction over the federal workforce and its retirees to achieve substantial savings, and provided specific policy recommendations toward that end.” Klement warned that “the joint resolution passed by Congress wouldn’t end sequestration,” the 10 years of federal budget caps included in the 2011 Budget Control Act. Go to <http://www.bna.com/public-sector-roundup-b17179926202/> to read the entire article.
- *Government Executive* reported on April 30 that the compromise version of the FY16 budget would not mandate cuts to federal employee retirement benefits and would not require agencies to downsize

through attrition, though \$496 billion in reductions to non-defense discretionary spending over 10 years remained. "It's not good news in the sense that it doesn't get rid of the sequester," said Jessica Klement, legislative director for NARFE. "Agencies are going to have a hard time carrying out their missions," said Klement. "The provisions in the budget will continue to come up as 'pay-fors' in other legislation throughout this Congress. It doesn't end here."

- In the April 29 issue of *Government Executive*, NARFE National President Richard G. Thissen was quoted in an article announcing Public Service Recognition Week (May 3-9): "In the past few years, we've seen federal employees tackle the Ebola crisis, take down Osama Bin Laden and transform NASA's space travel program. But away from the headlines, millions of federal employees work hard every day, without fanfare, to keep our government functioning efficiently and effectively."

Local Coverage

- NARFE members Walter Cowart of Springfield, MO, (Chapter 0011) and John Ourada, of Salina, KS, (Chapter 280), Terry Zitek of Tampa, FL, (Chapter 0109), Jim Williams of Anniston, AL, (president, chapter 1511) and others wrote letters to their local papers (the *Springfield News-Leader* and *Salina Journal*, *The Tampa Tribune* and *The Anniston Star*, respectively) thanking government employees in recognition of Public Service Recognition Week (May 3-9). ●

Passages



Harold Ray Harrington, a past California State Federation of Chapters (CSFC) president, died on June 13. He was a member of the Greater Paradise/Oroville Chapter 0352 since 1996. At the time of his death, he was serving as federation secretary, a position he had previously held in 2003-2004. Harrington was CSFC President 2007-2009, after having served as its executive vice president and membership chair from 2004-2007. He also served as CSFC District X vice president 2012-2013 and 2003-2004. He was president of Chapter 0352 for five years and vice president for two years and had served as its newsletter editor, public relations chair, state legislative chair and membership chair.

His federal service career began in 1957 with the U.S. Postal Service in Palo Alto, CA, and he later worked for the Postal Service in Las Vegas, NV. He served as postmaster in Carson City, NV; Reno, NV; and Glendale, CA, where he retired in 1992. Harrington is survived by his partner of 23 years, Thea Max.



Don Binder died on May 31. At the time of his death, he was serving as president of the NARFE Tri-Cities Chapter 1192, vice president and NARFE-PAC chairman for the Washington State Federation of Chapters, and the NARFE-PAC regional coordinator for five western states. He is survived by his wife, Mary.

Binder began his career in federal government human resources in 1964 at the Social Security Administration's (SSA) national headquarters outside of

Passages

continued

Don Binder continued ...

Baltimore, MD. During his time at SSA, he earned an undergraduate degree at Baltimore College of Commerce, University of Baltimore. In 1974, he went to the Department of Health and Human Services' regional office in San Francisco, CA, where he provided HR services for Social Security offices on the West Coast and Hawaii. In 1990, he accepted the position of human resources director for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers headquarters office, Washington, DC.

While working in the nation's capital, Binder changed careers, becoming an emergency management specialist. After retiring in 1999 from federal service, he served the Corps as a subject-matter expert advisor to senior leadership on the development of emergency management human capital and professional development initiatives and programs.



Russell Rosenau, president of the NARFE Idaho Federation from 2001-2005, died on April 10. He was a member of Twin Falls Chapter 1959 and had been a NARFE member since 1989. His federal service was with the Department of Agriculture. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Rosie Rosenau.

NARFE Insider is posted on the website, www.NARFE.org

The following members receive *NARFE Insider* for NARFE Leaders: Officer codes 1-Chapter President, 2-Chapter Vice President, 3-Chapter Secretary, 4-Chapter Treasurer, 5-Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, 6-Chapter Legislative Officer/National, 7-Chapter Membership Chair, 8-Chapter Public Relations, 9-Chapter Service Officer, 11-Chapter Editor, 12-Chapter Alzheimer's Chair, 13-Chapter NARFE-PAC Officer, 14-Chapter Financial Secretary, 15-Chapter Other, 16-Chapter Net Coordinator, 17-Chapter Legislative Officer/State, 20-Federation President, 21-Federation Executive Vice President, 22-Federation Vice President, 23-Federation Secretary, 24-Federation Treasurer, 25-Federation Secretary/Treasurer, 26-Federation Legislative Chair/National, 28-Federation Legislative Chair/State, 29-Federation PR, 31-Federation Service Officer, 33-Federation Membership Chair, 34-Federation Editor, 35-Federation Alzheimer's Chair, 36-Federation NARFE-PAC Coordinator, 37-Federation Immediate Past President, 38-Federation Other, 39-Federation Executive Committee, 40-Pre-Retirement Speaker, 41-Federation Net Coordinator, 42-FEEA Coordinator, 43-Federation Area Officer, 44-Regional Alzheimer's Coordinator, 45-Regional FEEA Coordinator, 49-Regional Vice President, 50-Immediate Past Regional Vice President, 51-National Officer, 52-Past National Officer