

# TEN*forward*

## Kentucky NARFE News



### COMING BACK FROM COVID

Chapter 1249 Boonesborough enjoyed their first in-person meeting in May, after 14 months of virtual meetings. This chapter, which has 55 members, usually alternates meeting in Richmond and Berea. Their second in-person meeting, held in June, enjoyed a much larger attendance as people began to get used to going out in public once again. Many of our other Kentucky chapters are also moving toward in-person gatherings.

### BE A PART OF THE NEWSLETTER

Attention Chapter Presidents, Secretaries and other officers! It's easy to put your chapter news into our state newsletter. Format your news in a Word document and your photos into GIF and email them to [lldschultz@hotmail.com](mailto:lldschultz@hotmail.com). If you don't have access to a computer, then simply mail news and photos to NARFE Newsletter, 305 Kenway Street, Berea KY 40403. Easy-peasy!



**The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE)  
is the only organization solely dedicated to protecting and preserving the pay  
and benefits of all federal workers and retirees.**

## Kentucky Federation Officers

### President

Michael R. Cornelison  
105 N. Cumberland Street  
Berea, KY 40403-1006  
859-358-4302  
[MichaelCornelison@me.com](mailto:MichaelCornelison@me.com)

### Executive Vice President State Legislative Chair State Service Officer

Noreene Morgan  
9205 Royal Oak Lane  
Union, KY 41091-8808  
859-283-9688  
[FirstShipS9@gmail.com](mailto:FirstShipS9@gmail.com)

### Secretary

Dolores M. Kozarovich  
6502 Park Chase Court  
Louisville, KY 40229-1789  
502-968-8048  
[Dorsey2@twc.com](mailto:Dorsey2@twc.com)

### Treasurer

Stephen L. Saylor  
1456 Taramore Drive Apt. 203  
Florence, KY 41042-8656  
859-384-3182  
[SSaylor8@gmail.com](mailto:SSaylor8@gmail.com)

### National Legislative Chair

Thomas W. Miller  
3237 Saxon Drive  
Lexington, KY 40503-3428  
859-224-8563  
[Tom.Miller@uconn.edu](mailto:Tom.Miller@uconn.edu)

### Membership Chair

Sally L. Watkins  
250 Leisure Lane  
Leitchfield, KY 42754-6659  
270-257-8134  
[SallyWatkins@LSouth.net](mailto:SallyWatkins@LSouth.net)

### Newsletter Editor

Lea M. Schultz  
305 Kenway Street  
Berea, KY 40403-1154  
859-582-6700  
[LMDSchultz@hotmail.com](mailto:LMDSchultz@hotmail.com)

### Alzheimer's Coordinator

Carolyn S. Redmon  
7685 Highway 60  
Ekron, KY 40117-8657  
270-828-3919  
[CRedmon@hotmail.com](mailto:CRedmon@hotmail.com)

# Pack Your Bags Region X Conference set for September

Planning is underway for the 2021 Biennial Region X Conference, Tuesday, Sept. 21 through Thursday, Sept. 23.

The Kentucky Federation will be hosting NARFE members from North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

For planning purposes, conference attendees may consider the travel days to be Monday, Sept. 20 and Friday, Sept. 24. However, the Conference may end at approximately noon on Thursday with the KY Federation Annual Meeting to follow.

The Conference will be held at the Capital Plaza Hotel located at 405 Wilkinson Boulevard in Frankfort, KY ([www.capitalplazaky.com](http://www.capitalplazaky.com)).

Registration for the conference is \$100 and will include two catered luncheons (Tuesday and Wednesday) and a grab-and-go lunch on Thursday.

Hotel rooms are \$105, excluding state and local taxes. Available at that rate are double bed mini-suites, king bed mini-suites, and rooms with a king bed and fridge. Breakfast is included in the room fee. Those attending who are not staying overnight may purchase breakfast at the hotel.

Free parking is available across the street from the hotel. For reservations, call 1-502-227-5100 and mention Group Code 4758, NARFE Region 10 Conference.

Information will be coming soon on speakers and special events at the conference.

## Kentucky Federation Officers

### NARFE PAC Coordinator

Roland C. Haun  
872 Nacke Pike  
Cecilia, KY 42724-9677  
270-862-9357  
[RCHaun@yahoo.com](mailto:RCHaun@yahoo.com)

### Immediate Past President

Anthony R. Mackzum  
8110 Neiman Drive  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45224-1220  
513-729-0729  
[KYPresTony@gmail.com](mailto:KYPresTony@gmail.com)

### Parliamentarian

Kenneth W. Overhults  
460 Spencer Park  
Lexington, KY 40515-4826  
859-272-6413  
[KOverhultz@juno.com](mailto:KOverhultz@juno.com)

### Webmaster

Thomas D. Diaz  
620 W. Elm Street  
Marion, KY 42064-1575  
270-969-1424  
[ThomasDennisDiaz@gmail.com](mailto:ThomasDennisDiaz@gmail.com)

### Area Officer 1

Margaret Curtsinger  
376 Apache Trail  
Cadiz, KY 42211-8779  
270-206-8161  
[AnnCurt459@aol.com](mailto:AnnCurt459@aol.com)

### Area Officer 3

Daniel C. Dewitt  
7808 Jonquil Drive  
Louisville, KY 40258-2442  
502-935-2917  
[Dandy830@bellsouth.net](mailto:Dandy830@bellsouth.net)

### Area Officer 4

Mary Lu C. Funyak  
13 Thorne Hill Drive  
Florence, KY 41042-8928  
859-816-0626  
[MLFunyak@yahoo.com](mailto:MLFunyak@yahoo.com)

### Area Officer 5

J. Henry Duncan  
190 Birch Drive  
Versailles, KY 40383-9140  
859-948-9282  
[JHDuncan2@aol.com](mailto:JHDuncan2@aol.com)



### **METRO LOUISVILLE ENJOYS VISITOR**

State President Mike Cornelison was the guest speaker for the May 19 Chapter 262 meeting. The photo is courtesy of Dorsey Kozarovich, Metro Louisville Chapter president.

### **A letter from Susan Horn**

Travel restrictions are removed!

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

Good evening NARFE Friends,

I have just completed a meeting with my team and many of my travel restrictions have been removed. If you would like to schedule an in-person meeting for Open Enrollment/Season, please send me the date, the time, and location for your meeting. I will put you on my calendar.

As long as we do not have a setback relating to the pandemic, I will conduct in-person events, if this is your preference. Should we be forced to isolate again, I will use your scheduled date and conduct a virtual meeting. (Fingers crossed we don't have to do that again.)

I will offer some virtual meetings for those that are unable to attend in person.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

***Susan Horn***

Field Service Account Consultant, Federal Employee  
Program

13550 Triton Park Blvd., Louisville, Kentucky 40223

O: (502) 889-2736 /M: (502)216-5090

[susan.horn@anthem.com](mailto:susan.horn@anthem.com)

### **CELEBRATING FEDERAL SERVICE**

Our monthly meetings of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) will recognize and celebrate those United States citizens who are dedicating their working lives in the service of their country or who have retired from Federal service and continue to fight for their rights by being members of NARFE.

We believe that working for the betterment of this country is the proper thing to do. We continue to believe in these principles by being members of NARFE.

Each month meeting brings a renewed view of our life.

This celebration is a measure of our grateful thanks for these individuals' long-time Federal service and to recognize and honor them.

*Written by Tom Diaz  
and rewritten by Laurel Diaz*

# alzheimer's association®

*Editor's Note: This is taken from an email sent to the NARFE Region X Federation Alzheimer's chairs from Donna Shackelford, the regional coordinator, on June 25.*

NARFE fundraising National total as of May 31, 2021, is \$13,870,924.12 During May 2021, our members raised a total of \$17,170.81 which is a decrease from last month.

Congratulations are in order for Chapter 0097 for collecting the most donations for Alzheimer's Research for 2020; also, Chapter 1760 is to be commended for their donations for 2019. Hopefully, Chapters are recognizing their individual members that work so hard collecting these very special contributions.

The most exciting news I can share with you is that the FDA has approved the use of a medication called **aducanumab** as a treatment for Alzheimer's patients. It is not a cure by any means, but it is a human monoclonal antibody that targets aggregated forms of amyloid found in the brains of people with the disease in hopes of reducing its buildup. It is now possible to slow the progress, one step closer to finding the cure and the first survivor.

We are finally getting into a new phase of this pandemic which will allow chapters to meet in person. Some of your members may be hesitant in the immediate future, but keep in mind that as more time passes, they will be willing to take the much-diminished risk and actually come out for events and activities. Be prepared and fresh as you encourage people to be generous with their donations to make up for the lost year that is now behind us. Remember to use the NARFE form FH-12, a leaflet about NARFE's participation with the Alzheimer's Association. They are available from me or from NARFE HQ. Stress how important the research is to find the cure, or at least a treatment for the symptoms.

It is time now to begin your plans for the annual Walk to End Alzheimer's Disease. The funds collected from this event will stay in the

local area where it is collected to help support the patients and especially the caregivers in that area. It is important that the public is aware of the good deed that NARFE does to facilitate the event. Even though with the Covid-19 situation, people may not want to actually walk, they can still support the donations.

We welcome our newest National Walk Team Chairperson, Marsha Padilla-Goad who has already hit the ground running and sending out a wealth of Walk information to each of us. She is the Grassroots person in the Advocacy Department at NARFE HQ. She is asking that you send her pictures of your walkers so she can post them on the website. Marsha has sent out the email dated March 22, 2021, with a lot of information about the Walks, as well as the dates of all the Walks that have already been scheduled, so we can begin to push Chapters to register for the closest Walk to them and make donations without actually walking. It would be called a Virtual Walk, but it would still count as a Team and the virtual walk would make it possible for disabled members to participate. We need to include everyone.

Concerning the postage stamp commemorating Alzheimer's disease, please ask all of your members to buy these stamps. Remember a portion of the cost goes to the Research Fund for Alzheimer's, so the buyer is contributing a small portion at a time for this important work in addition to the larger gifts they want to donate. We have received word that the sale of these stamps is below expectation and we are at risk of losing this valuable asset. At this time, over the last two years we have raised \$1.1 million, but we would really like to have a million in one year. Cheer for this cause too!!

Also please remember that if a person wants an update on a specific gift project that we have funded, I will be happy to collect and forward that info. If you do have questions or concerns, please contact me so we can work through any problems.

## **NARFE District 4 Highlights**

I am Mary Lu Funyak, and I am the District 4 Vice President and I am So Excited about this new newsletter for the Federation!

District 4 is comprised of four chapters - Boone County, Kenton County, Campbell County, and Maysville. We also have a Facebook page - NARFE District 4.

Pre-pandemic, each chapter had monthly meetings. Since January, Boone and Campbell have been having Zoom meetings and Maysville has been having in person meetings. In June, Campbell had a meeting at a local restaurant and plan to have an in-person meeting at a library meeting room in July. Boone is also looking into in-person also for July. We are really looking forward to the upcoming Region X Conference and Federation Meeting September 21-23, 2021. It will be a good time to see old friends and make new ones! Hope to see you all in September!

## **Morgan to chair Cincy credit union**

One of Greater Cincinnati's largest credit unions has named Noreen Morgan to replace its board chair, who retired after 37 years with the institution.

The board of Oakley-based Cinfed Credit Union elected Ms. Morgan as its board chair on June 1. She was Cinfed's vice chair just prior to being elected as chair. She's been a Cinfed board member since 2015 and had previously been a member of its supervisory committee.

Ms. Morgan, a Union, Ky. resident, is a retired manager at the Internal Revenue Service. She is a past president and currently vice president of the Kentucky NARFE Federation, and also serves as Federation Service Officer and state Congressional Liaison.

*(information courtesy of the Cincinnati Business Courier)*

## **NARFE mission statement**

- ✦ To support legislation and regulations beneficial to federal civilian employees and annuitants and potential annuitants under any federal civilian retirement system and to oppose those detrimental to their interest.
- ✦ To promote the general welfare of federal civilian employees and annuitants and potential annuitants, to advise and assist them with respect to their rights under retirement, health and other employee and retiree benefits laws and regulations, and to represent their interests before appropriate authorities.
- ✦ To cooperate with other organizations and associations in furtherance of these general objectives.

## **Look online for information**

Our online technology has given us Zoom, Facebook, Twitter, and Webinars. Zoom gives us a practical meeting environment. Facebook keeps us close to family and friends. Twitter is a place to speak your mind and Webinars are our best teaching tool. Use the Kentucky Federation Website <https://www.narfe.org/site/KY/> as a good doorway leading into our NARFE National Website

*Thomas Diaz - Federation Network Coordinator*



### **CELEBRATING THE RETURN TO IN-PERSON MEETINGS**

Chapter 1050 celebrated their first in-person meeting since February 2020 with a special cake to mark NARFE's 100th anniversary. (Photo courtesy of Dan Dewitt)

## **District V Report**

### **NARFE District V Leader Meeting Wednesday July 14, 2021**

A District V Chapter leaders' luncheon was held on July 14. The meeting purpose was for the four chapters to (1) share experiences/ over the past 16 months during Covid-19 pandemic and (2) explore opportunities to begin meetings / in a "new normal."

Two chapters have been having regular monthly zoom meetings, one chapter has now progressed to face-to-face meetings. Two chapters have had no gatherings or programs over the past 16 months.

There are challenges within chapters in that some members have transferred to national membership, there are some reported deaths and some members have been moved to terminal care facilities. There is little success in recruiting new members.

Other programs ideas were shared along with plans to continue sharing of chapter newsletters. The new Federation newsletter should help "jump start" chapter meetings and activities this fall. Plans were made for a District V picnic to be held in an open air park shelter in August. Members and families from the District Chapters are invited to participate along with Congressman Andy Barr and Staff for advocacy work.

Henry Duncan, DVP, District V

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## District V Report

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Three KY Federation members attended the NARFE's LegCon-21 Virtual Conference, June 21-23, 2021.

Ky NARFE Members joined members from 43 states in June reinforcing the reason for NARFE membership- advocating for the federal workers and annuitants.

During this conference, we were encouraged to advocate and taught from professionals how to make the most of virtual meetings with our Legislators. President, Ken Thomas, emphasized the importance of us as NARFE's Grass Roots advocates in carrying out NARFE's mission in behalf of the Federal Community of workers and Annuitants. NARFE members participating at local town halls and other local events with Legislators in our State shows our devotion to NARFE and its mission.

Paula Beyer, Chapter 97, Lexington, Mary Lou Andres, Chapter 262, Louisville, and Henry Duncan, DVP, District V, participated in this year's Legcon-21 event. We advocated directly with the Staffs of four legislators: Senator McConnell, Senator Paul, Congressmen Andy Barr and Brett Guthrie. The Staffs were very cordial and encouraged us to stay in future communication with them.

There is a concern with communicating and interacting with Legislators: Surveys show that 100% of federal legislators and their staffs utilize Facebook and twitter as their effective communication tools, but **65% of NARFE members do not use email or social media**. Personal letters written to offices in the Capitol take three weeks to be processed. The mail must be scanned and searched for chemicals and other problems...

We are urged to utilize the communication tools available on the NARFE's website for sending letters and messages to Legislators. We are also encouraged to communicate with our Legislators the old-fashioned way- getting to know them personally, invite them to our events, not limited to just NARFE events; there, we can communicate our personal situations with them as we ask for their support.

They work for us, we are the ones who vote, the ones they represent!

Henry Duncan, DVP, District V

## REGION X REPORT

Spring 2021

William "Bill" Shackelford Region X Vice President

*Editor's note: the following is a short excerpt of Mr. Shackelford's report. To read the report in its entirety, please visit the Kentucky Federation NARFE page, <https://www.narfe.org/site/ky>*

I would like to express my sincere thanks for 6 1/2 years of support. It has been my honor to serve NARFE members from Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. VISION I am pleased to give you this report of our activities in the past year, and what a year it has been. If NARFE is vital. CHALLENGES It was fitting that we positioned ourselves as "the federal benefits experts" with our brand launch in 2019, because never was this expertise needed as it was in 2020, with the COVID-19 pandemic. It is critical that NARFE enter its second century strong, relevant, and firmly established as the go-to resource for our members and prospective members, the federal community, policymakers, the

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## REGION X REPORT

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media, and the public.

### DECISIONS

NARFE has been going through an unprecedented period of change. Our organization is evolving to answer the needs and desires of future Federal employees and retirees. Despite all the challenges we encountered in the past year, NARFE leaders, NARFE members, NARFE staff all found ways to keep the organization up and running thanks to technology that allowed us to deliver on our commitment. NARFE continued to provide its valuable guidance, timely resources, and powerful advocacy throughout the pandemic, with specialized webinars, magazine articles and other resources that helped us navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our lives. Those resources are easier to find now. I hope you have had a chance to check out NARFE's new website. New Federation and Chapter website templates will be available soon. While the current Region X Federation websites are excellent, the templates may provide useful components, thereby allowing some benefits from an integrated search that will aid you to find what you need on either website through optimization for smart phone, tablets, & computers, putting all that NARFE know how at your fingertips wherever you are. Between the website, the magazine, and newsletters coming out of National Headquarters, it is easy to keep up with your NARFE member benefits, legislative developments, and common questions about your federal benefits, legislative developments, and common questions about your federal benefits.

### MISSION

The first sentence of NARFE's mission statement is "To support legislation beneficial to current and potential federal annuitants and to oppose legislation contrary to their interests." When it comes right down to it, NARFE's brand stands upon two robust pillars:

- Federal Benefits Institute
- NARFE Advocacy

The Federal Benefits Institute is growing. NARFE Headquarters has discovered that the Institute is well positioned to become the pre-eminent resource regarding federal benefits information. More than questions and answers, it increasingly is the one-stop shop for all things federal benefits for the federal community. We have invested in experts with national name recognition among the federal community. Stronger relationships with our experts, who include Tammy Flanagan and Mark Keen, mean more value for your membership. The knowledge that an answer is just an e-mail or phone call away is priceless. NARFE webinars are offered more frequently on topics that are in high demand. First, the Federal Benefits Institute: These webinars provide valuable information that helps you save money, time, and worry. NARFE offers up to 18 webinar programs a year, produced by Institute experts and our communications team.

On the advocacy side, NARFE continues to be a most respected voice on Capitol Hill. In 2021, we are building strong relationships with the new Administration and Congress. We have a rich opportunity to enhance NARFE's influence, advance our legislative goals and expand recognition of NARFE as a valuable source for federal benefits expertise. NARFE's advocacy team provides Congress with the tactical information that they need to make the best decisions on legislation that affects the federal community. NARFE's significant influence has kept recent budgets from taking funds out of Feds' pockets, created a paid federal leave program, pushed for movement on stalled bills affecting the WEP, and more. And its grassroots mobilization has allowed thousands of NARFE members to tell their stories to legislators and make their voices heard.