



# IOWA FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

Larry Moore, Federation President

Iowa Federation of Chapters: [www.narfe.org/ia](http://www.narfe.org/ia)

January 2011

This will be a short newsletter as I am sending out the 2010-2011 Committee assignments.

I want to wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

This year appears to be a challenging and exciting one for NARFE. Enough has been said about the National dues increase. We need to address the current dues in a positive way. Telling prospective members what a bargain NARFE dues are in protecting their earned benefits. The same applies to retention of current members.

Although the Fiscal Commission Report did not gain the votes needed to pass, that report will be on every desk of our national elected member of Congress and our benefits will again be subject to attack. We must remain vigilant at all times as to what is going on in Washington, D.C. A way to keep abreast on what bills are being considered are for more members to sign up for GEMS (Global Electronic Messenger System) to receive weekly National Legislative reports. When legislative issues affecting NARFE are brought up, National issues an alert requesting all NARFE members respond to these issues through GEMS. The system has letters prepared for us to use, or you can write your own from the GEMS program. The prepared letters are for the Senators and Congressman in your district. You will receive a confirmation that these letters were received. If you do not have access to the internet, by all means make telephone calls to your elected officials when notified by NARFE.

Now for State Legislation. Darlene, Joy and I will be lobbying again at the Statehouse. We have Representatives and Senators that have voiced a willingness to introduce a bill to eliminate or reduce state tax on pensions and possibly another bill to freeze property

tax on those 65 years and older. When bill numbers are known, Darlene as Federation Legislative Chair, will be emailing chapters so they can contact their Representative and Senator to support these bills. Remember this is for all Iowa seniors and not just NARFE members.

Due to family health concerns, Jeanene Kain had to resign from her position of Federation Secretary effective January 15, 2011. Elaine Martens from the Atlantic Chapter has volunteered to fill the Secretary position on an interim basis. By Federation Executive Board action, Elaine has been appointed for the Secretary's position for the remainder of this term.

Preparations are well underway for the 2011 Iowa Federation Convention to be held in Clear Lake, Iowa at the Best Western Holiday Lodge, May 18-20, 2011. District III VP Karl Griffith and his Chapters are planning an exciting convention this year. Convention material will soon be sent to all Chapter Presidents and Secretaries. Also, a Convention Registration Letter and Return Form will be posted on our Iowa Federation Web site. National President, Joe Beaudoin, will be in attendance and will be the keynote speaker. Please plan to attend.

Any chapters wanting to submit an amendment to our Constitution or Bylaws must submit them early enough so that the chapters will be provided a 60 day advanced written notice before the convention. Submit these to: Elaine Martens, Federation Secretary, 60211 570th St, Atlantic, IA 50022. Elaine will then furnish copies to Chapter Presidents.

*Larry Moore*

Iowa Federation President