

# *Why should I join or renew my NARFE membership*

*Carolyn Billing District 6 Field Officer*

NARFE is the only organization solely dedicated to protecting and enhancing the earned pay, retirement, and health care benefits of federal employees, retirees, and survivors. Information is just a phone call, E-mail, postal mail, or website away. As a NARFE member you receive:

1. **NARFE Magazine:** Receiving monthly information keeps you on top of any and all changes to the rules and regulations that affect your pay, benefits, and retirement. Included is the Bill Tracker which is your monthly guide to the Congressional Legislation that NARFE is following. In addition the Question and Answer Section in the Magazine contains valuable information for both current employees and retirees.
2. **Headquarters Website:** NARFE keeps you up to date on their website in addition to sending news alerts when necessary.
3. **Minnesota Website:** The Minnesota Federation has an informative website that keeps you informed about important meetings; chapter contacts, meeting dates, and locations; Federation Officer contacts; and other valuable information.
4. **Minnesota NARFE NET:** NARFE-NET periodically sends important Minnesota messages if you sign up to receive the alerts.
5. **Minnesota Newsletter:** The Federation newsletter is published three times a year to inform you about Chapter, District, Minnesota, and National Happenings.
6. **Conventions, Conferences, & Meetings:** Legislative Conferences, College of NARFE Knowledge (CONK), and National Conventions are held every other year. The Minnesota State Convention and District 6 Meeting are held every year. There are also monthly or bi-monthly chapter meetings. All are open to anyone interested.
7. **Legislative Alert:** Congress is continually addressing ways to cut federal benefits in order to make the spending cuts necessary mandated by sequestration. The Federal community is low hanging fruit and is the first to be addressed by congress for budget cuts. NARFE believes everyone needs to be treated equally and fairly; the federal worker and retiree should not be required to shoulder all the cuts.
8. **Federal & State Advocacy:** Protecting your benefits is NARFE's core business. A team of government professionals in Washington track Congressional actions and agency proposals that affect federal benefits. You can count on NARFE to sort out the truth from the rhetoric.
9. **NARFE FEEA Grants & Scholarships:** NARFE FEEA (Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund) offers scholarships and disaster relief grants.
10. **Miscellaneous:** NARFE offers travel discounts, bank card, calendars, greeting cards, other items of interest, and lots more.