



# Minnesota Federation of Chapters

Volume 8

Issue No 1

July 2014

## Federation Vice President's News

Scott Halstead, Legislative VP



NARFE's legislative program has followed the theme "Protect America's Heartbeat" the past few years. Federal Retirees have survived numerous attempts by numerous legislators to reduce our deferred compensation. Thanks to NARFE Headquarters leaders and legislative staff for their work, NARFE members for their communications and visits, and to the Senators and Representatives that have supported us, we have remained unscathed. Unfortunately, current civil servants have lost approximately \$120 Billion in pay freezes, increases in withholding for retirement and government shutdowns. Government both at the Federal and State level is broken.

NARFE has focused on National efforts to protect employees and retirees. At the same time, some powerful politicians and executives have focused their efforts to reduce federal programs, while at the same time they lined their own back pockets—including re-election campaigns.

It is time to broaden our protection scope and add enhance to both national and state NARFE programs. I introduced the draft enhance "Protect Minnesota's Heartbeat Program" at the State Convention to the legislative committee. It is summarized below. You will find more detailed information on the Minnesota web site under [www.narfe.org/mn](http://www.narfe.org/mn). There is a great deal of work to be done by NARFE members.

- Reduce taxation of Federal Annuities by treating them the same as Social Security.
- Reduce income tax for all residents over 65 by providing exemptions.
- Reduce the Minnesota tax rate by 2%.
- Reduce the Minnesota Sales Tax to 4.25%.
- Change the inheritance tax to be the same as the Federal inheritance tax rate.
- Partner and work cooperatively with high quality organizations on the following:

- Implement comprehensive voter registration legislation.
- Seek Non-partisan redistricting.
- Improve judicial selection voting.
- Improve methods of financing campaigns.
- Implement tax fairness.
- Promote and encourage civic engagement.
- Support high quality government.
- Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive.
- Secure equal rights and opportunity for all.
- Work to retain Minnesotans.
- Promote and encourage volunteerism.
- Encourage members, chapters, Districts and Federation Board to contact and communicate with state Senators and Representatives.
- Improve communication with the Governor.
- Invite State Senators and Representatives to speak at chapter meetings.
- Encourage Media Campaign to support our legislative efforts.
- Engage members to respond to the legislation in process.
- Engage members to attend committee hearings and to keep pushing.

## National Convention Resolutions

### Future of NARFE (FON)

Carolyn Billing, Field Officer

1. Allow the NEB to continue developing the model for Future of NARFE using the FON committee report as the foundation, and provide implementing resolutions and bylaw amendments for consideration at the 2016 convention.
2. Make membership in chapters optional.
3. Reduce the number of National Officers from four to two and Field Vice Presidents from ten to five.

**Your votes are important.**

**Treasurer's Report**  
**April 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014**  
*Clayton Olson, Treasurer*



**Beginning Balance** **\$34,555.98**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Income</u>
Rebates	13,981.42
Per Capita	7,651.70
Postal Credit Union Donation	200.00
Convention Income-Registration	1,580.00
50-50 Proceeds	1,200.00
Convention Tables	400.00
Meal Reimbursement	35.00
Interest	<u>230.38</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,278.50</b>

*2013-2014*

<u>Category</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budget</u>
State Convention	6,877.66	7,425
College of NARFE Knowledge	1,733.78	2,500
Executive Board Meetings	2,254.36	2,450
Committee Meetings		250
District 6 Meeting	494.81	600
Field Officers	1,338.02	1,275
Legislation	175.81	800
Recruiting	379.99	700
Federation News Letter	5,291.84	5,300
Federation Bulletin		100
President's Visits to Chapters		575
Chapter Support	130.95	775
Alzheimer's Expenses	41.54	50
Non-NARFE Conventions		300
Other Mileage	18.80	200
Other Administrative	619.07	1,500
Liability Insurance	75.00	75
Awards	117.59	100
Web Page		30
President's Conference	1,000.00	1,500
Projector	411.79	400
50-50 Drawings	<u>855.00</u>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$21,816.01</b>	
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$26,905.00</b>	

**Ending Balance (Postal Credit Union)** **38,013.39**

**Service Officer**  
*Marilyn Johnson, Service Officer*



If you have a death to report, want to change your withholding, have a pension problem and need to reach the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) their phone number is: **(888) 767-6738**. This toll free number is the only number we have for them and it is difficult to get through. They open at 7:40 EST (6:40 our time) and early in the morning is the best time to reach them. If you want to connect with them on the computer, you will need a pin number. They will send you one (which you can change) but be aware that the pin number expires in 18 months so make a note to use it occasionally so it does not expire.

I do have F-100 "Be Prepared for Life" booklets which are a very good thing to have completed for your spouse or family. I would be happy to send one out to you, but would appreciate postage donations as each form costs \$1.61 to mail. You can also order from Headquarters. Contact me at [gjohn@yahoo.com](mailto:gjohn@yahoo.com), 3100 85<sup>th</sup> Ave N #310, Brooklyn Park 55443-1969, or (763) 400-7146.

**District 3**  
*Harold Weed, Field Officer*



Congratulations and thanks to Region 3 Chapters, Albert-Lea-Austin and Owatonna, for hosting the 2014 MN Federation Convention in Owatonna. Mark Rasmussen spearheaded the local planning for the state federation. It was a new experience for many of the members, and they did a great job. Thanks go to the Faribault chapter in providing assistance. I hope the delegates were comfortable with the concept of holding our federation business in one and a half days.

Members of District 3 were also recognized. Owatonna Chapter #1975 was second in the state for raising the most funds per capita for Alzheimer's. Jonathon Green, past President of Albert Lea-Austin Chapter #469 received the President's Award for the many years he has worked for his Chapter, the Federation, and at NARFE National Conventions. Paul Brown, Mankato Chapter #0282 Membership Chair, won the grand prize television.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Federation Convention next year in St. Cloud. Start saving your quarters **NOW** for the 2015 PAC Fund. Just asking for an investment of \$20.00 to help keep your earned benefits.



**District Meeting in Fergus Falls**  
*Carolyn Billing, Field Officer*



A District Meeting is planned in Fergus Falls on Monday October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Bigwood Convention Center (Best Western). The primary focus of the meeting will be on Federal and State Legislation. Both Democrats and Republicans have been invited to speak in a Town Hall format. Carol Ek and John Schmidt will also speak and inform us about the happenings at the National Convention especially as it pertains to the Future of NARFE. Health Care Provides will also be available. **Make your reservation with Carolyn Billing at carolynbilling@charter.net or (218) 736-5843 by October 1<sup>st</sup>.** Due to inflation and rising food costs the registration has been increased to **\$20.00**.

 **Vote November 4<sup>th</sup>**

It is extremely important to let your voice be heard during a time that Federal Employees and Retirees are being targeted by Congress. Let's protect our future. Your opinion counts. Make your voice heard during this important election cycle.

**Recruiters Korner**  
**Recruiters Jan thru Mar 2014**

Congratulations to the recruiters in the first quarter of 2014. The information which includes Jan, Feb, and Mar 2014 is taken from the Recruiter and Retention Journal dated May 2014. Thanks for your efforts. Your dedication and effort is greatly appreciated. **Recruiting new members is important!**

0140	St. Paul	Cheryl L. Koehnen
0150	Minneapolis	Michelle M. Benson
0644	St. Cloud	Lynn M. Meyer
1049	Bemidji	Peggy Schluter
1207	Fergus Falls	Darrell S. Strand
2213	Alexandria	Dennis L. Barnack
2243	NW Suburbia	Mary Burkett

**John Schmidt, Federation President says:** A special thanks to all of those who made our annual convention in Owatonna a success. Our host chapters of Owatonna, Albert Lea—Austin, and Faribault did a great job coordinating activities and providing valuable assistance. Check the Minnesota Website for the complete article written by John.

**Award Winners**  
**2014 Minnesota State Convention**

**Top Individual Recruiters**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:**

1049 Bemidji Peggy Schluter



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Tie:**

0140 St. Paul Roxanne Ianovich  
 1049 Bemidji John Hurlbert

**Top Recruiting Chapters**

0140	St. Paul	25.0%
1049	Bemidji	20.9%
1232	White Bear Lake	20.9%
0150	Minneapolis	16.6%
Other 21 chapters		16.6 %



**23 Minnesota NARFE Members recruited 48 new members in 2013.**



**Membership Star Awards**

Mary Ann Kelly	Minneapolis #0150
Mary Keyser	St. Cloud #0644
John Hurlbert	Bemidji #1049
Richard Robinson	Bemidji #1049
Peggy Schluter	Bemidji #1049



**Presidential Awards**

Jonathon Green	Albert Lea--Austin #0469
Mary Keyser	St. Cloud #0644



**Alzheimer's Awards**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place: St. Cloud Chapter #0644**

Collecting \$15.52 per member (379 members) and collecting the largest sum of money.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Owatonna Chapter #1975**

Collecting \$6.71 per member (34 members).

**Peggy Schluter: Bemidji #1049**

Outstanding efforts in getting chapter members involved in raising funds for Alzheimer's and her continued dedication to the Alzheimer's fund raising effort. The chapter collected \$5.11 per member (155 members).



## **Alzheimer's**

*Ginny Patton, Alzheimer's Chair*



**The Alzheimer's disease is now being labeled the second leading cause of death in America.**

It has been in the news a lot lately, from testing for the disease, to recognition that more people had died from the disease than previously thought. With the new awareness and the new bunch of "Baby Boomers" coming of retirement age, new attention is being given to this disease. A record \$122 million increase will be given to Alzheimer's research. A bipartisan work of Congress established a National Alzheimer's Project Act that mandates a National Plan to address Alzheimer's disease. This will accelerate progress in the research.

In addition, because of similarities between Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's, the foundations that support research in these diseases are joining forces and sharing the results of their research. The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, the Alzheimer's Association and the W. Garfield Weston Foundation of Canada have announced that they will offer joint research grants to find the similarities between these diseases.

Our efforts to support Alzheimer's at the state convention raised \$1571.00 from the Silent Auction and \$398.00 from the quilt raffle. Litchfield and I donated a quilt, and Mary Keyser donated an afghan. (If anyone would be willing to start work on next year's quilt it would be greatly appreciated.)

St. Cloud #644 was awarded a certificate for the most funds raised and the most funds raised per capita, at \$15.52 per member....379 members. Owatonna was awarded a certificate for the second per capita amount raised at \$6.71 per capita....34 members. Peggy Schluter of Bemidji \$5.11 per capita...155 members was awarded a certificate for her outstanding efforts in getting chapter members involved in raising funds for Alzheimer's and her continued dedication to the Alzheimer's fund raising effort. Also, chapters collecting over \$1.00 per member are: Mankato, Rochester, Fergus Falls, Red Wing, Grand Rapids, Detroit Lakes Litchfield, NW Suburbia, Willmar, and Thief River Falls.



**PAC investments at the State Convention totaled \$3,007.00. Thanks for your donations.**

*Art Lemke, PAC Chair*

## **Secretary's Message**

*Karen Thygeson, Secretary*



Our successful 49<sup>th</sup> annual Federation Convention is now history. It is always great visiting with friends, but also making new NARFE friends as well. A big thank you to the Host Chapters of Owatonna, Albert Lea—Austin, and Faribault, assisted by Harold Weed. Our convention was a time to hear the chairmen report our accomplishments this past year and extends their ideas as to what our expectations are for the coming year. We participated in a Skype presentation with Bruce Coleman, led by Carol Ek on the FON (Future of NARFE). We know changes are coming to our Organization and will have the opportunity to vote on them at our upcoming National Convention.

Again, thanking the Chapter Presidents and Secretaries for responding with the necessary paperwork so we can reach our Federation deadlines. Hopefully you have completed your proxy forms by the deadline of June 28<sup>th</sup> and have sent them to me. Let me know how you would like your proxy carrier to vote at the National Convention. With summer here, please take the time to visit with those that are back home from their Winter get a ways and invite them to join NARFE to help us protect our future.

### ***NARFE's Priorities:***

***Recruiting New Members***

***Retaining Existing Members***

***Legislative Advocacy***



**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
Independence Day  
1776—2014**

***Do not regret getting older.  
It is a privilege denied to many.  
Life isn't to survive the storm.  
But how to dance in the rain.***



## **Bemidji Chapter World War II Vets Honored**

**John Hurlbert, Bemidji Chapter President**

### **Delmer E. Anderson 90, Northome**

Mr. Anderson served '42 to '46 as Chief Engineer in the Merchant Marines on the *Patrick Henry*, the very first of 2,710 Liberty Ships launched from 1941 to 1945. He saw duty in the South Pacific, the Atlantic, and the Mediterranean. His civilian service was with the U.S. Postal Service. **Over 30 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Arvid Dalby, 93, Pinewood**

Mr. Dalby served in the U.S. Navy from '42 to '46 in the South Pacific aboard the aircraft carrier *USS Wasp* as an Aviation Machinist Mate. His civilian service was 33 years with the Veterans Administration. **Over 33 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Harold M. Fruetel, 95, Bemidji**

Mr. Fruetel served '42 to '45 in the South Pacific with the Headquarters Company of the 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at St. Vith, Belgium in the Battle of the Bulge. His civilian service was with the U.S. Postal Service. **Over 36 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Tom D. Hill, 89, Bemidji**

Mr. Hill served from '43 to '45 in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne with the 517<sup>th</sup> Combat Team as a paratrooper in Italy, France, Belgium, and Germany. Tom received two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. His civilian service was 31 years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. **Over 30 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Jack D. Hunt, 92, Bemidji      Deceased 4/18/14**

Mr. Hunt served with the U.S. Army Infantry in the Pacific. He was then employed with the Army National Guard in St. Paul until 1975. **20 years of NARFE membership and served 3 years as Chapter President. He also served as PAC Chairman.**

### **Willard F. Leaf, 96, Bemidji      Deceased 3/25/14**

Mr. Leaf served as a Quartermaster Sgt in the U.S. Army from March of '42 to August '43 in California. His civilian service was 30 years with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. **36 years of NARFE membership.**

### **John A. Mattison, 88, Bemidji**

Mr. Mattison served from '44 to '46 with the U.S. Marine Corps in the South Pacific and lost his right hand in Okinawa. "Jack" received a Purple Heart. His civilian service was 30 years with the U.S. Postal Service. **Over 33 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Rodney C Page, 95, International Falls**

Mr. Page served from '43 to '46 in the Provost Marshal Office of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> Armies and was involved in the Battle of the Bulge. His civilian service was with the U.S. Department of Justice for 43 years. **Over 30 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Leander F. Peterka, 90, Bemidji**

Mr. Peterka served from '43 to '45 in the European Theater with an Aerial Combat Wing as an Armorer and Tail Gunner on the B-17 Flying Fortress. His civilian service was with the U.S. Postal Service. **Over 30 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Robert E. Trompeter, 88, Ranier**

Mr. Trompeter served from '43 to '45 in the U.S. Navy. He was a Storekeeper 2<sup>nd</sup> class at the Brooklyn, NY Navy Shipyard and participated in the launching of 3 aircraft carriers—*Kearsarge, Oriskany, and Roosevelt*. His civilian service was 25 years with the U.S. Customs Service. **28 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Tom C. VanBrunt, 90, Bemidji**

Mr. VanBrunt served from '43 to '45 in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was an aircraft mechanic and maintained the engines of the B-29 Super Fortress on Tinian Island in the Mariana Islands. His civilian service was with the U.S. Postal Service for 30 years. **Over 32 years of NARFE membership.**

### **Evert B. Wickstrom, 86, Bemidji**

Mr. Wickstrom served from '45 to '47 as a Cashier in Finance in the U.S. Army Occupation of Japan. His civilian service was with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. **22 years of NARFE membership, served as treasurer for 12 years and currently holds the position.**

**The twelve men listed are Distinguished Members of the Bemidji chapter. NARFE is proud of their military service during World War II, their dedicated Federal Service, and their long term NARFE commitment.**



## **Chapter Contacts/Meetings**

### **Albert Lea-Austin #0469**

(507) 373-1516 (507) 434-7489

**Pizza Ranch**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tues Mtg 11:30**

Every other month—even mos  
between Albert Lea & Austin  
No meeting Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb

### **Alexandria-Vikingland #2213**

(320) 283-5710

**Traveler's Inn Alexandria**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs Lunch 1:00 Mtg 2:00**

Every other month—even mos  
No Dec mtg

### **Bemidji #1049**

(218) 751-8981

**American Legion Bemidji**

**4<sup>th</sup> Wed Lunch 11:30**

**Mtg follows**

No Nov mtg **Dec Mtg 1<sup>st</sup> Wed**

### **Brainerd #0738**

(218) 828-4277

**Locations vary**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tues Lunch 11:30 Mtg 1:00**

No mtg Jan, Feb, Mar

### **Detroit Lakes #1842**

(218) 847-6483

**Holiday Inn Detroit Lakes**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wed Lunch noon Mtg 1:00**

No mtg Jan, Feb, Mar

**July Picnic**

### **Faribault #1590**

(507) 334-4175

**Trucker Inn Faribault**

**1<sup>st</sup> Tues Mtg 10:00**

**Mar, May, Aug**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tues Nov**

### **Fergus Falls-Lake Region #1207**

(218) 758-2304 (218) 736-7042

**Senior Center Fergus Falls**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mon Lunch noon Mtg 12:45**

**Oct Mtg District Mtg**

### **Grand Rapids—Pokegama #1800**

(218) 697-8207

**Eagles Grand Rapids**

**Mtg 12:30 May, Sept, Nov**

**July Picnic**

### **Litchfield—Crow River #2019**

(320) 693-6713

**Locations & Times Vary**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs Mtg**

Every other month-odd mos

### **Mankato #0282**

(507) 388-7779

**Wow Zone Mankato**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tues Mtg 11:30**

### **Marshall #1580**

(507)336-2405 **Adult**

**Community Center Marshall**

**4<sup>th</sup> Wed Mtg 10:00**

Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct

### **Minneapolis #150**

(612) 822-6147

**VFW Richfield**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs Mtg 1:00**

No mtg July, Aug

**Dec Holiday Party**

### **NW Suburbia Twin Cities #2243**

(763) 784-6393

**VFW Coon Rapids**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tues Registration 11:00 to**

**11:30. Lunch, program, meeting**

**to follow. No mtg July, Aug**

**Dec Holiday Party**

**June Picnic 1<sup>st</sup> Tues**

### **Owatonna #1975**

(507) 451-7538

**Pizza Ranch Owatonna**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mon Mtg 10:30**

Every other mo—odd mos

**July Picnic**

### **Red Wing #1661**

(651) 388 1641

**Locations vary**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tues Mtg**

### **Rochester #0391**

(507) 251-2187

**Eagles Rochester**

**1<sup>st</sup> Tues Lunch 11:30 Mtg**

**12:30 No meeting July August**

### **Sandstone—Pine #1746**

(320) 245-2629

### **St. Cloud #644**

(218) 352-6090

**Whitney Senior Center**

**St. Cloud**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wed Mtg 12:30**

No mtg Jan, Feb

**Aug Picnic**

### **St. Paul #140**

(651) 890-4616

**W. St Paul Library W. St. Paul**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mon Mtg 12:45**

No mtg July, Aug, Dec.

**Dec Holiday Party with #1232**

### **Thief River Falls #2328**

(218) 681-0334 (218)784-4061

**Heritage Senior Center TRF**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs Lunch 11:30 Mtg**

**12:15 Feb, Apr, May, June, Sept**

### **Vermillion—Ely #1725**

(218) 365-3091

### **Virginia—Queen City #1963**

(218) 741-5516

### **White Bear Lake #1232**

(651) 486-9861 **Old Country**

**Buffet Maplewood**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Tues Lunch 11:30 Mtg 1:00**

No mtg July, Aug

**Dec Holiday Party with #140**

### **Willmar #2280**

(320) 222-1613

**American Legion Willmar**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs Mtg 11:30 Jan, Mar,**

**July, Sept**

**McMillan's Willmar**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs Mtg 5:00 May, Nov**

Every other month—odd mos 6

## **Federation Officers**

### **Elected Officers:**

#### **President:**

John Schmidt (218) 736-7123  
[schmidt1@prtel.com](mailto:schmidt1@prtel.com)  
1206 Oakwood View  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537-4405

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Membership:**

Michelle Benson (612) 805-4443  
[benson2796@aol.com](mailto:benson2796@aol.com)  
2408 ½ Central Ave NE #5  
Minneapolis, MN 55418

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President—Legislation:**

Scott Halstead (651) 486-9861  
[snhalstead@gmail.com](mailto:snhalstead@gmail.com)  
3271 Woodbridge St  
Shoreview, MN 55126-3067

#### **Secretary:**

Karen Thygeson (218) 681-0334  
[kmdwt@mncable.net](mailto:kmdwt@mncable.net)  
Box 416  
Thief River Falls, MN 56701-0416

#### **Treasurer:**

Clayton Olson (952) 886-0060  
[claytonolson@comcast.net](mailto:claytonolson@comcast.net)  
2147 Overlook Drive  
Bloomington, MN 55431-4013

### **Elected District Officers:**

#### **District 1—Arrowhead:**

Patty Gould-St Aubin  
(218) 326-6184  
[itascar@uslink.net](mailto:itascar@uslink.net)  
30469 Sunny Beach Road  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-4893

#### **District 2—Heart-land:**

Linda Kmitch (320) 255-0292  
[lindakmitch@gmail.com](mailto:lindakmitch@gmail.com)  
4332 Pine Point Road  
Sartell, MN 56377-9749

#### **District 3—Hiawatha-land & Pioneer-land:**

Harold Weed (507) 388-7779  
[weedha@charter.net](mailto:weedha@charter.net)  
1519 Pleasant View Drive  
N. Mankato, MN 56003-2422

#### **District 4—Metro-land:**

Norm Petrik (612) 822-6147  
[normpetrik@aol.com](mailto:normpetrik@aol.com)  
4708 13<sup>th</sup> Ave So  
Minneapolis, MN 55407-3558

#### **District 6—Viking-land:**

Carolyn Billing (218) 736-5843  
[carolynbilling@charter.net](mailto:carolynbilling@charter.net)  
1501 College Way Apt 202  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537-1066

#### **Immediate Past President:**

Mary Burkett (763) 421-1385  
[mburkett1@mindspring.com](mailto:mburkett1@mindspring.com)  
2401 108<sup>th</sup> Lane NE Apt 224  
Blaine, MN 55449-5774

### **Appointed Chairman:**

#### **Alzheimer's Coordinator:**

Virginia Patton (320) 393-2340  
[ginnypnr@yahoo.com](mailto:ginnypnr@yahoo.com)  
2015 Pine Rd NW  
Rice, MN 56367-9708

#### **NARFE-NET/Website/E-Division**

##### **Coordinator:**

Dick Neider (218) 352-6090  
[raneider@brainerd.net](mailto:raneider@brainerd.net)  
1994 E River Road  
Motley, MN 56466-9045

##### **NARFE PAC Coordinator:**

Art Lemke (651) 686-8459  
[exfedart@comcast.net](mailto:exfedart@comcast.net)  
4557 Kirkwood Circle  
St. Paul, MN 55123-1909

##### **Newsletter Editor:**

Carolyn Billing (218) 736-5843  
[carolynbilling@charter.net](mailto:carolynbilling@charter.net)  
1501 College Way Apt 202  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537-1006

##### **Public Relations Coordinator:**

Vacant

##### **Service Officer:**

Marilyn Johnson 763-400-7146  
[gjohn59@yahoo.com](mailto:gjohn59@yahoo.com)  
3100 85<sup>th</sup> Ave N #310  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443-1969

#### **Region V Field Vice President:**

Carol Ek (620) 241-1131  
[ek617@att.net](mailto:ek617@att.net)  
907 Sycamore Place  
McPherson, KS 67460-5804

### **Headquarters Website:**

[www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

Sign up for GEM's on the Headquarters website to receive important information every week while Congress is in session. It usually comes on Fridays.

### **Minnesota Website:**

[www.narfe.org/mn](http://www.narfe.org/mn)

Check the Minnesota Web site often. Some sections change frequently.

### **NARFE-NET:**

[raneider@brainerd.net](mailto:raneider@brainerd.net)

Sign up with Dick Neider to receive NARFE-NET E-mails. The E-mails will update you on important items throughout the year.



*Laugh your heart out.  
Dance in the rain.  
Cherish the moment.  
Live, Laugh, Love, Forgive  
and Forget.  
Life's too short to be lived  
with regrets.*

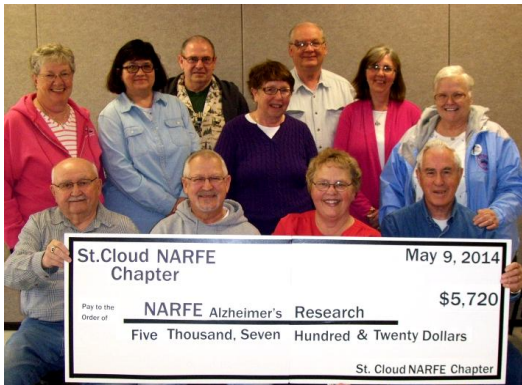
*Author unknown*



**National Active & Retired  
Federal Employee Association  
1501 College Way Apt 202  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537**

**Non-Profit  
US Postage Paid  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537  
Permit Number 20**

**#644 St Cloud Chapter Raises  
\$5,720.00 for Alzheimer's Research  
Linda Kmitch, Field Officer**



**The St Cloud Chapter members worked hard to raise \$5,720.00 this year—over \$2000.00 was donated from hosting a NARFE Walk for Alzheimer's Research on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

The St. Cloud Chapter tried a new event this year in hosting a walk to raise money for NARFE Alzheimer's Research. The walk was held as a separate event from the annual Alzheimer's walk in the fall so that all donations could be sent through the NARFE Alzheimer's Research fund. Sandy Oltz and Bob Hoye from the Alzheimer's Association spoke about personal journeys before the walk. Sandy presented at our State Convention last year and is scheduled to present at the National NARFE Convention in Orlando, FL in August. Sandy stated that the new research indicates we now have a 1 in 2 chance of getting Alzheimer's once we reach age 65. There is no prevention, cure, or medicine for this devastating disease. Research is the only hope. **Over \$2,000.00** was raised through the walk. The chapter has raised funds also through several projects such as selling brats, holding silent auctions, and selling meat raffles. The chapter has raised a total of **\$5,720.00** so far this year for Alzheimer's Research. Coordinators Ginny Patton and Mary Keyser said that they really appreciate all the chapter members who work throughout the year. Pictured are a few of the workers (L—R) Millie Huberty, Louie Vogel, Shirley Studer, Ralph Eiynek, Tim Stanearth, Angie Golembeck, Bob Fleming, Ginny Patton, Marti Bunde, Harvey Ploof, and Mary Keyser.