

# **ID GEMETTE**

FALL 2018 IDAHO FEDERATION OF NARFE CHAPTERS OCT - 2018-02

#### NARFE Presidential Elections are here! - NATIONAL Mid-Term Elections are coming! Chapters are in Trouble!

#### "FEDERATION PRESIDENT - Keri Gibbs, Idaho Federation President

I hope you all had a marvelous summer recharging your batteries with family and good friends. I squeezed in a couple of trips and moved my mom to Idaho.

Gen Boguslawski and I just returned from the first NARFE conference, FEDcon18 in Jacksonville, FL. FEDcon18 was a welcome event with many famous and inspirational speakers, and classes on just about any topic you could think of to help us do our NARFE business better. Every instructor was well versed in their topic. FEDcon2020 will be in Scottsdale, AZ and FEDcon2022 will be in Saint Louis, MO.

I especially appreciated the classes on Leadership and Chapter Development by Cynthia DøAmour. She used a pretty simple system for increasing membership and volunteers for both. Give them something to *Learn*, which may not be the reason *you* joined NARFE. You need to find their *hot button*. This could be benefit information, legislation, Alzheimerøs, webinars, meeting people, or something else altogether. She suggests first asking them what brought them to enquire about NARFE. Then you can tell them more about what they are interested in. Her second step is to *help*. *Help* them learn or do something and they will be more likely to help. Last, make sure they *meet* other members. Never let a new member sit alone. Engage them in conversation by asking them questions. Let them know that you appreciate their attendance or help. Practice a 90 second introduction to NARFE by asking them what is important to, or excites them most about their future and retirement. You can go to narfe.org and look at the PowerPoint programs from most of the instructors.

We also heard from the three NARFE National Presidential candidates. Each has the future of NARFE¢s best interests at heart. I urge you to read their statements in the NARFE Magazines and decide who you would like to see as our next President. This election requires you to vote for all three candidates. Rank them 1, 2 and 3. If you only mark one of the candidates and they tie, the next step is to call up all of the 2's and 3's as well with a weighted index. If you do not rank all 3 candidates, your ballot will be thrown out. It is about a 5 minutes process to go on line or mail your paper ballot. If you choose to mail it, fold it, place in an envelope and mail the ballot to the counting address.

Thank you for your dedicated service and support.

Sincerely, Keri Gibbs, Idaho Federation President

#### **REGION IX VICE PRESIDENT, RICHARD WILSON**

Summer is over, and school is back in session. NARFE held its first-ever FED Con18. The significance of this is there was zero business conducted. There was no voting on candidates or proposed resolutions. The Annual Meeting was held as required by the NARFE Bylaws on August 29th, the last day of FEDCon18 at which President Richard Thissen and National Secretary/Treasurer Jon Dowie gave their reports to the 719 registered attendees. The new Executive Board was a sworn in except for the National President. There is a new Secretary/Treasurer and four new Regional Vice Presidents. There is currently a run-off election taking place among the three remaining National President candidates. We had several speakers, each of which presented powerful messages with a point. Among the speakers were Joe Theismann, retired NFL quarterback; Mara Liasson, from NPR; Dr. Jeff Pon, Director of the Office of Personnel Management; Mike Massimino, Space Shuttle Astronaut, Tammy Flanagan, NARFE Federal Benefits Institute; and Henry Winkler, õThe Fonzö.

FEDCon18 dealt more with training and information. Several 1.5-hour business sessions were offered to attendees, e.g. Estate Planning for Feds; FEHBP and Medicare, which is best for you; Introduction to Social Media; NARFE Chapter Development; People Matter in Politics; Fifty Nifty State Advocacy Programs; Legislative Update & Preview of the 116th Congress and NARFE-PAC Leader Training. Yoga Classes A & B were offered in the early mornings prior to the start of the days meetings and classes. Of four sessions I attended, I found the Legislative Update best suited for me.

NARFE-PAC continues to play an important role in procuring congressional support. NARFE-PAC has a goal of collecting \$1.5 million in 2018. So far and collectively, we have surpassed that goal with \$1.53 million collected with four months to goal. I hope you@l consider making a NARFE-PAC donation. You might want to consider becoming a Sustaining Contributor for as little as \$10.00 a month via credit card. Through June 30th, six quarters of this election cycle, 99 Idaho Federation Members have contributed \$7,078.00. There are also five sustainers. The average contribution is \$71.49. Idaho Federation can be very proud of its efforts.

#### NARFE-PAC, RuthAnn Smith

National advocacy and NARFE-PAC staff members worked hard this summer attending events for congressional candidates and disbursing money to mid-term campaigns that reflect the interests of the federal community. After the November elections, there continues to be demands for contributions. Significant disbursements to congressional political funds in both the House and Senate are made in the early portion of a new congressional session to facilitate NARFE access to new and returning federal law makers. Thus this is still an important time to make a contribution to NARFE-PAC!

Ambitious national goals were established for NARFE-PAC during the current two-year campaign cycle. In the spring Idaho Federation chapters were challenged to increase their member support by a minimum of 10%. Additional contributions for each Idaho chapter to reach the increase are shown in the last column and indicate contributions are at 82%.

	2015-2016	Sustainers	2017-2018**	Sustainers	\$ Amount
IDAHO	\$ Amount	#	\$ Amount	#	for +10%
Coeur d Alene 0218	\$775.00	1	\$655.00	0	\$197.50
Idaho Falls 0763	\$1,005.00	0	\$755.00	0	\$350.50
Inland Empire, Moscow 0992	\$1,075.00	1	\$605.00	1	\$577.50
Golden Eagle, Nampa 1025	\$2,424.00	1	*\$4,483.00	* 4	*\$1,065.40
Boise 0083	\$2,620.00	1	* included with above Nampa figures		
Selkirk, Sandpoint 1945	\$260.00	0	\$240.00	0	\$46.00
Twin Falls 1959	\$245.00	0	\$130.00	0	\$139.50
Clearwater, Orofino 1970	\$235.00	0	\$210.00	0	\$48.50
Totals:	\$8,639.00	4	\$7,078.00	5	(\$2,424.90)

Previously funds were distributed as annual dues to campaign funds of both major political parties in the House and Senate (\$30,000 each). Current cycle funds were given to two congressional-related PACøs (\$10,000 to each political party) and to four PACøs organized by individual Congressional members: \$5,000 to Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA), \$5,000 to Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX), \$5,000 to Sen. James Lankford (R-OK), and \$1,000 to Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA).

During previous legislative cycles, NARFE-PAC funds were limited to \$5,000 to a single congressional candidate. For the current cycle, 23 separate campaigns have received amounts between \$6,000 and \$10,000. These campaigns include five senate incumbents in competitive races: (1) Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL) - \$10,000; (2) Sen. Joe Donnelly (D-IN) - \$7,000; Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-MO) - \$6,500; (4) Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) - \$6,000; and Sen. Heide Heitkamp (D-ND) - \$8,000. Among individual House campaigns, funds were distributed to 109 Democrats and 36 Republicans, among Senate campaigns, funds were provided to 21 Democrats, two Republicans, and one Independent.

At the 2018 Idaho Federation convention, packets containing NARFE-PAC forms, brochures, and a tool-kit were distributed to each chapter. The õNARFE Questionnaire for Congressional Candidatesö, was being updated and has now been issued. It is a three-page form furnished by the National Office to candidates running for congressional office that have requested a campaign contribution from NARFE-PAC. This form is used to identify and evaluate the support of the requesting candidate on federal workforce pay and retirement benefits issues: (1) Honoring Commitments to Federal Workforce; (2) Comparable Pay; (3) Social Security Fairness; and (4) Merit-Based Civil Service. A link is on the NARFE website under NARFE-PAC for a printable image of the questionnaire.

**Finally**, I will be resigning as the Idaho Federation NARFE-PAC chairperson at the end of this calendar year. I have served in this position for over seven years and realize that I have not been able to concentrate on the duties of this position as I would like. Therefore, if you would be interested in (a) educating federation members on the importance and operation of NARFE-PAC, (b) encouraging and soliciting membersøcontributions to the fund, (c) coordinating Idaho candidate funding requests, and (d) sharing PAC funding activities with our membership, please let Keri Gibbs, our Federation President, know of your desire to serve as our federationøs NARFE-PAC chairperson.

#### **IDAHO NARFE TREASURER, Dick Ryan**

Treasurer reports are on the Federation website. Any questions should be directed to me. Our political impact & funding depends on Membership, let us do our part.

#### FEDERATION ALZHEIMER COORDINATOR, Gen Boguslawski

IDAHO Federation was given the 5th Place Certificate for most dollars donated per capita for Alzheimer's Research. Idaho gave \$5,058.04. Thanks to all of you who helped win this certificate. I am so very proud of all of you.

Our NARFE Alzheimer's fundraising is now \$12,802,583.31 as of 7/31/2018. Our members raised \$26,990.32 compared to \$24,994.68 in FY 2018. Idaho had contributed a total of \$5,058.04 and Region IX contributed a total of \$27,646.81 as of 6/30/2018, which was the end of FY 2018 for Alzheimer's Association. We have about \$197,418 remaining to reach our goal of \$13 Million by end of 2018. The Alzheimer's Committee and membership agreed to set a goal of \$14 million by end of December 2020. Thank you for your continued help in the FIGHT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S.

Great News! In their first seven months on the market, three million Alzheimer's Disease Research Semipostal Stamps have been sold to raise \$471,000 for Alzheimer's Research. The Alzheimer's Committee awarded one total and two partial grants for a total of \$414,805.46. NARFE has now awarded 78 Grants. Olivia, Chair of the Committee, will have a full report in the December NARFE Magazine.

Keri Gibbs and I were attendees at NARFE FED Con18 held in Jacksonville, FL. I volunteered to sell Raffle Tickets for the Alzheimer's while the Committee Members were in their annual meeting. We made \$2,569.00 this year, down from previous years, attendance was also down. Of that \$2,569; \$1,541.40 went to Alzheimer's Research the rest to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners.

#### My take on the speakers.

<u>Sunday, 26 August:</u> Joe Theismann, a former football player, gave a great talk on the Challenge of Change. He reminded us that being part of a TEAM is important. T=Together, E=Everyone, A=Achieves, and M=More or Together Everyone Achieves More.

<u>Monday, 27 August:</u> Mara Liasson gave us an update on politics, but was very careful in her choice of words. She did remind us that we need checks and balances and they are disappearing fast. She also stated that the President cannot pardon people for State Crimes, only Federal Crimes. Reminder: **VOTE in mid-terms, if you want checks and balances!** 

<u>Monday, 27 August:</u> Dr. Jeff Pon, OPM, was a huge disappointment for me. He did say that "Grandfathering" would be used upon any OPM changes. He gave a talk on himself and his family, rather than OPM status.

<u>Monday, 27 August:</u> Mike Massimino, a former astronaut, gave a fabulous talk. He told us of his space walks, even though he is afraid of heights and going fast. He worked on Hubble twice. <u>Tuesday, 28</u> <u>August:</u> Tammy Flanagan, gave a talk on Rethinking Retirement. Most NARFE personnel gave talks that were more for current employees, rather than us old-time retirees.

<u>Tuesday, 28 August:</u> Henry Winkler spoke about his German parents and that he did not know he had dyslexia until he was 31 years old; because he was called "dumb, etc" by his own parents and others. He told how he got to be "Fonz". Tenacity gets you where you want to go.

I attended two workshops: the Leadership Development by Cynthia D'Amour and Managing the Caregiver Role by Toula Wootin. Toula said "Elder Care" is the new "Child Care". Remember 70% of caregivers that are 70 years or older die first. Getting some help is very important. "Where there is deep grief, there was deep love".

Did you hear about the shooting at Jacksonville Landing right next door to our Hotel Sunday afternoon? The hotel put on extra security guards immediately, and President Dick was great about going around calming everyone.

Thanks again for all of your help in the FIGHT AGAINST ALZHEIMER'S.

#### FEDERATION SERVICE OFFICER NEWS, Richard Ryan and Chap. 1025 Service Officer

Remember that about 50% of surviving spouses never worked for the government and notifying the OPM is one way we can help our fellow members. Also helping a surviving spouse is one way we can impress a prospective member and others who may also be prospective members.

#### SOUTHEAST FEDERATION VICE PRESIDENT, Ken Barr

Several months ago, I contacted NARFE- HQ to arrange for the use of one of the NARFE webinars as a public service event for federal employees and retirees. The webinar would also serve as a recruiting tool at the start of the 2019 open season. A Webinar titled õFEHB and Medicare: Whatøs best for youö was furnished by HQ for use.

Subsequently, in cooperation with the Idaho Falls chapter, arrangements have been made with the Marshall Public Library in Pocatello and the Idaho Falls Public Library to present the webinar. Janine Chapman, President of the Twin Falls chapter, has also arranged to do a similar program at the Twin Falls Library. Advertising for the presentations will be in the local newspapers and posters will be placed in multiple locations throughout the cities. A handout for attendees is also being prepared that will include information about NARFE, a membership application, and other content aimed attracting new members.

#### FEDERATION LEGISLATIVE CHAIR, Ken Barr

August was the month for grass roots advocacy because Congressmen and Senators are usually back in their home districts. Attempts were made to setup meetings with Senator Crapo or his staff and Representative Simpson or his staff but we got no response from either of them. Since Representative Labrador is a õlame duckö and has a zero percentage of supporting NARFE issues, I made no plans to meet with him.

We were successful in meeting with Senator Rischøs staff on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Situations developed in the interim that precluded everyone except me from attending. So, at the appointed time, I met with Ms. Amy Taylor, Regional Director for the Idaho Falls office of Senator Risch, Ms. Kate McFarland, Senator Rischøs Constituent Services Representative in Idaho Falls, and Dan McCarthy, Staff Assistant for Senator Risch in his Washington, DC office.

We spent about an hour discussing the major issues that NARFE presented in the August magazine. I talked about Postal Reform, benefit cuts by changing the basis for an annuity from the high three salary years to the high five years, proposed reductions in the COLAs, and the proposed pay freeze in 2019. Just prior to the meeting, the senate passed a õMinibusö budget bill that contained a 1.9% pay raise for federal employees. The House version of the õMinibusö budget bill did not originally contain language on a pay raise for federal employees. Consequently, the two chambers will have to reconcile that differences, the 1.9% pay raise is not a õdone dealö at this time. The passage was contrary to the President¢s 2019 budget proposal for a pay freeze. Both Senator Crapo and Senator Risch voted for the bill and against the pay freeze language. I took that opportunity to thank Senator Risch for his vote supporting federal workers.

As staff members, all they would do is listen and comment only broadly and never made a commitment for the Senator. They were well aware that I would try to present arguments against reductions in benefits for federal employees and retirees. They listened but did not take any notes.

#### **IDAHO MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT, Harold Kehr**

I have made contact with the local Federal Agencies in SE Idaho, about 12, and received points of contact. Working with Ken Barr and Bill Lloyd we have provided information, set up dates in concert with their Benefit Fairs for participation and set up independent membership drives in the area. Each agency has said we may participate in some form with their groups. Chapter 0763 is currently getting volunteers to attend and show a NARFE presence to make them aware of our group. We have also schedule membership drives in Idaho Falls and Pocatello specifically for membership. Our goals is to make employees aware of NARFE and add to our National and Chapter roles for the benefit of our visibility locally and in the national scheme.

I further track the Idaho Membership roles through the NARFE web sites and note that chapter and federation roles are on the decline. National roles have increased, maybe due to the corresponding decline in chapter roles. We must remember that even if Chapter roles decline we must maintain and grow our national roles for NARFE presence on the Hill.

The more our members talk to our friends and those we left behind in federal active service means the more aware they are and the better we can support and protect benefits. I have been told more and more of our fellow friends state they will be glad to join but coming to meetings and serving as officers is not their thing. These potential members provide all of with the power to increase our influence on the politicians. So if they join as silent members embrace them and keep in contact so they know we are still there and working for them.

#### **ISSUES to be INVOLVED IN !!!!!**

#### NARFE Issues Response to President's Denial of Federal Employee Pay Raise

(August 30, 2018) ó In response to the presidentøs statement today setting across-the-board and locality pay increases at zero for federal employees, NARFE President Richard G. Thissen issued the following statement:

õPresident Trumpøs action to deny federal employees a modest pay raise of 1.9 percent demonstrates his disdain for the civil service. At a time when he continues to praise strong economic conditions and rising wage growth, and supports a 2.6 percent pay raise for the military, refusing to provide a nominal raise for our nationøs hardworking federal employees shows clear contempt for those who carry out public service. We need the best and brightest to tackle our countryøs growing challenges and support our military, and a pay freeze only serves to damper these efforts. While the president fails to acknowledge the value of civil servants, NARFE is hopeful Congress will recognize a pay freeze is detrimental to both Feds and our country, and pass a pay raise as it reconciles the House and Senate appropriations bills.ö

## Your letters, emails and calls count. More than that your mid-term vote can change opinion! You can change party lines and representation with your vote.

#### <u>NATIONAL MID TERM ELECTIONS & STATE OF IDAHO ELECTIONS: (OPINION) –</u> <u>Why Vote! Send a Message!</u>

The mid-terms are normally the lowest voter turnout. The younger generations also have the lowest voter turnout. WHY? Is it because we are complacent or because our politicians have become career individuals looking out for themselves and not us? Do we think this is now the norm? How can we change this and their policies ó vote.

Also we are selecting our State of Idaho leaders. Who do you want followers or leaders? Do you want change? Then vote for the person who represents us and not their career or party policies. The mid-terms are important.

The National Mid-Term Elections are coming up. Did you know that THIS Election is as important as the Presidential election. Please get out and vote and encourage others to do the same. Do you want the Nation to continue as it does or do you want integrity brought back to the Nation. We needed to shake up the political system and it has been shaken. However, how far do we go in this non-partisanship approach with little checks and balances? Our great founders had the vision to set up three (3) branches of Government as a way of checks and balances. Do you believe we still have those checks and balances? We also say we are a government by the people, for the people and of the people. What is your representative in DC doing to help you? Some appear to be protecting their interests instead of ours.

What has happened when special interests and party interests supersedes this founding fathers foresight. Have you contacted your Congressional representation? Have you told them who they are representing? Do you want to protect our fellow men and women (our fellow Americans) or a small minority or a corporate giant.

John McCain died this summer. Known as a maverick, always Honorable, a man of integrity, a man for the

people, an American first. He tried to defend his beliefs and that of America, working to achieve the ideals of the founding Fathers. Not to let ego, power, nationalism, party mean more than the right of the people.

Think your vote won¢t count? It does even if the person you voted for does not win. The numbers count. Did you know if the incumbent has no opponent and you leave that block blank it sends a message. If 10,000 voted and the incumbent got 8,000 it says 2,000 votes did not agree with you.

#### **CHAPTERS ARE DISAPPEARING – WHY ?**

National membership is growing and chapter membership is declining. Chapter Attendees are older, attendance is low, NARFE has changed its emphasis on chapters, we are busier, Unions are being minimized, current generations are independent and not joiners, there is a feeling of having no influence and more each of us can think of. Will you become an Officer ó attendees are saying NO! Look around and tell us why. Is NARFE heading toward the AARP model of supporters and advocates? It appears to work and without some of the rules and begging for officers and committees. Meetings can still be held in the organizations name, support given, issues pursued and involvement being maintained.

Change must come, so let us be the change. Let us make the approach what we want. For example: What about one State Chapter? The State Chapter handles all the formal requirements (Officers/taxes/rules, bylaws). Local Regional Representatives (Officer Advocates) Handle Regional activities and meetings. Local units need no officers, treasury, bylaws etc. Only a designated Official State Representative (akin to Regional VPs) as part of the State Chapter make up. Think about it.

#### 7 chapter(s) in IDAHO per NARFE.org

Chapter Name:	COEUR D ALENE 0218 Hayden Lake, 83835-7199				
Chapter President:	ROBERT CONQUERGOOD				
Chapter Name:	IDAHO FALLS 0763 IDAHO FALLS, 83402-4767				
Chapter President:	HAROLD F KEHR				
Chapter Name:	INLAND EMPIRE MOSCOW 0992 MOSCOW, 83843-2447				
Chapter President:	BOB TRIBELHORN				
Chapter Name:	GOLDEN EAGLE NAMPA 1025 NAMPA, 83651				
Chapter President:	JOANNE C HANCOCK				
Chapter Name:	SELKIRK SANDPOINT 1945 SAGLE, 83860-8099				
Chapter President:	STEVEN FRANKLIN				
Chapter Name:	TWIN FALLS MAGIC VALLEY 1959 TWIN FALLS, 83301-6628				
Chapter President:	JANINE D CHAPMAN				
Chapter Name:	CLEARWATER 1970 OROFINO, 83544-1068				
Chapter President:	JOHN K LAGERQUIST				
Boise, ID (Treasure Valley)10/6/2018					

Boise, ID (Treasure Valley)	10/6/2018
Idaho Falls, ID Completed on	9/15/2018
Twin Falls, ID (Magic Valley)	9/22/2018
ID/WA (Quad Cities Area)	9/22/2018

#### NAMPA CHAPTER #1025 REPORT, Joanne Hancock, President.

This will be my last Gemette newsletter as President. I have really enjoyed the office as President and I want to thank National Office, Idaho Federation, my Board and Chapter members for all the support they have given me the past 3 years. Also, I will be giving up my 2017 & 2018 Treasurerø position. Nampa Golden Eagles Chapter # 1025 was very busy this past six months.

#### FEDERATION CONVENTION

We planned on 14 chapter members attending the 2018 Federation Convention, but 2 cancelled due to illness. We enjoyed Richard Thissen, National President & other guest speakers. Most of us felt it was a very informative convention. Thank you Federation from Chapter #1025. Job Well done!

#### NARFE #1025 Summer Events for Recruitment.

June 8, 2018 ó An annual Chapter picnic was enjoyed at Smokey Mountain pizza. We enjoyed a few new faces from former Boise chapter and possible new members.

June 16, 2018 - Six members of our chapter attended the Veterans Hospital Appreciation Day in Boise and recruited potential new members. There was a lot of interest from VA federal employees and former veterans and we received many contact sheets for potential new members.

#### UPDATE on Chapter #1025 Chapter Officers

Elections will be held December 2018. After we received the recommendations from the Nominating committee, Dick Ryan Chairman, we still needed 2 volunteers. The chapter has 3 potential candidates for President, Treasurer and no one for Secretary. Our new Vice President is now in place for two more years. Welcome KARL and Congrats!!

#### Vice President Position

I would like to thank Steven Whitaker for doing such an amazing job in his position as Vice President, due to some health issues he is unable to continue. Steve even recruited our interim Vice President, Karl Stickle. Steve and Karl have been working together to bring Karl up to the task starting in September. Bob Mallis swore Karl in at our September meeting. Congrats Karl !! Thanks to Steve for continuing to help.

<u>Chapter #1025 By-Laws</u> The board discussed and agreed to the proposed new chapter bylaws as written by board member Dick Ryan. Changes to a suggested standard were previously sent out to all members for their input. The final proposed By-Laws will be published in the next Chapter Newsletter and voted on at our November chapter meeting. Thereafter the proposed by-laws will be sent to National for final approval.

Future Dates to Remember - At the Eagles Lodge in Nampa, ID, NOON - 2:00PM

October 12, 2018 ó Monthly Meeting ó Cake Walk at the Eagles Lodge. All donations go to Alzheimers. November 9, 2018 ó Monthly Meeting ó Blue Cross Blue Shield ó 2019 Health Benefits December 14, 2018 ó Monthly Meeting ó Santa and Christmas Music óTime & Place

In closing, after Boise members transferred in, our total membership is 289 members. We would love to see more members attend our meetings. Only 30 - 36 attend each month. I would like to encourage each of you to come join us, remember õThe Squeaky Wheel gets the Oil (Continued Benefits).ö Give your Congressman a call or write to them. Remember what could happen if we don¢t keep them on their toes. Have a Great Holiday Season.

#### **IDAHO FALLS CHAPTER 0763 REPORT, Harold Kehr, President**

The Idaho Falls chapter struggles like most of the chapter in meeting attendance-about 10% of our membership and struggle obtaining Officers for the future of the chapter. We have therefore made recruiting our number one priority for this year. We have or will be holding 4 WEBINARS discussing options for choosing health benefits during open season. In addition, we are contacting some 14 different agencies about NARFE and requesting contacts and ability to post NARFE information.

New Chapter Bylaws have been completed and sent to headquarters for review and approval. Two of our members attended an AARP sponsored SCAM JAM (a meeting for seniors on how not to be scammed and what to look for in a scam) and made a presentation with handouts at one of our meetings. We have had a lawyer and a financial advisor give talks at our meetings. We held one of our meetings at a retirement community that gave us an informative presentation, meal and a tour of their facility.

Chapter members tried to contact and get meetings with our congressional representatives in both legislative branches. We were mostly ignored ó ONLY Simpson & Risch met with us and that was only with their staff and they did not respond back. Senator Risch said he was too busy. Seems they do not hold town meetings. They meet with their fund raisers, attend party functions but appear to ignore their people.

#### **IDAHO CHAPTER BYLAWS NOTIFICATION**

The National Federation Bylaws and Idaho Federation Bylaws have been adopted! We must now get approval of the Chapter bylaws to remove this burden from us. Remember that National must approve all bylaws & the one member one vote process must be used. Please review the National & State bylaws to assure any new or needed information is included in the Chapter bylaws. Also, take advantage of the Standing Rules option for details of Chapter Business & inclusion or exceptions. This will prevent amending the Chapter bylaws which can be a burden.

#### **NOTE from the EDITOR**

This will be the last issue of the Gemette with me as the Editor. I have enjoyed the Gemette & the freedom I have been given in writing and finding articles for the newsletter. I have decided to allow someone new to take over the Gemette. I encourage one of our members to become the Gemette Editor. It provides a voice that can be used by the chapters and editor to provide information and opinions. It is only twice a year and takes only a few hours for a few weeks to finalize. Thank you all for your articles and support over the last years. Don Shadley

#### Mid Year status Report NARFE, IDAHO FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS May 1, 2018 - August 31, 2018

	F	ISCAL YEAR BUDGET	ACTUAL TO DATE This FY	BALANCE
Beginning Bank Balance, Checking				\$15,982.52
Beginning Bank Balance, Savings				\$4,889.25
Total, Beginning				\$20,871.77
Revenue				
National Rebates		\$4,800.00	\$1,134.70	
Chapter Dues		\$1,900.00	\$0.00	
Savings Acct See belo	w for Sa	avings.	\$0.00	
Matching Funds		\$0.00	\$0.00	
From Convention		\$1,400.00	\$1,490.92	
Small Federation Grant		\$1,500.00	\$0.00	
Total Receipts		\$9,600.00		\$2,625.62
Total Revenue				
Disbursements				
Office Expense		\$100.00	\$46.90	
Federation Convention		\$1,500.00	\$725.75	
Gemette		\$2,000.00	\$10.78	
Membership		\$100.00	\$0.00	
Legislation		\$100.00	\$0.00	
Bank Service Fee		\$0.00	\$0.00	
Board Meeting		\$100.00	\$0.00	
Presidents Meeting		\$0.00	\$0.00	
Web Site		\$100.00	\$14.00	
FedCon18		\$2,000.00	\$0.00	
Libility Insurance		\$100.00	\$0.00	
Region IX Ldrshp Conf		\$0.00	\$0.00	
N, SE & SW District Support		\$200.00	\$0.00	
Natl. Leg Conference		\$9,300.00		
FEEA donation		\$0.00	\$100.00	
Total Disbursements		\$15,600.00	\$897.43	\$897.43
Revenue Less Disbursements				\$1,728.19
Total Balance to Date Checking	\$	16,282.52		\$17,710.71
Total Balance to Date Savings	\$	5,000.00		\$ 4,889.86
Total to date	\$	21,282.52		\$22,600.57

Richard Ryan, Treasurer



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID NAMPA, IDAHO PERMIT No, 72

NARFE Gemette National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association PO Box 316 Nampa, Idaho 83653

### **Return Services Requested**

#### LOOK inside for:

NARFE Presidential Elections.

What is the Future of Chapters

Mid-Term National Elections Chapter By-Laws are Due Federal Pay Raises in Jeopardy NARFE PAC & Alzheimerøs News