

# COLORADO

## NARFE NEWS

### CENTENNIAL STATE

**NARFE**  
FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

CO

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2025

*The Official Publication of the Colorado National Active and Retired Federal Employees*

## Presidents Report

**FRANK IMPINNA**  
CO Federation President



In the past three months, I first attended the Southwest Federation conference on May 16-17 in Las Cruces, NM. It was a success, with over 55 attendees, including the National President. The Southwest Federation was formed from the merger of two federations due to a

minimum number of members and officers available to serve in Arizona and New Mexico. I applaud the new Federation president, Mark Mickelsen, for putting on such a great conference.

There was also a LEGcon25 biennial legislative training conference, LEGcon25, where several constituents participated with their congressional representative through a Zoom events platform. LEGcon25 officially started on Monday, June 11th, kicked off by NARFE National President William "Bill" Shackelford, and followed by an update on NARFE's advocacy efforts by John Hatton. It was very productive, positive and we each left this event with a fruitful experience through each virtual meeting.

I want to express the importance of advocacy in Colorado. We have a grassroots placement in our Federation, which is the eight Congressional District Leaders (CDL's). However, we have a shortage of representation in districts 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. What I'm asking is for any member who is a constituent in any of these districts to step forward to be a CDL for that district. The responsibility is only to represent NARFE and keep the representative of your district up on current legislative issues. You will be under the supervision and guidance of the National Legislation Chair and the Federation VP, Susan Tabacheck. Respond to me if you are interested.

Next, our conference held on June 20th was a great success, too. The national president, Bill Shackelford, and the Region VII Vice President, Sharon Reese, were also in attendance. Sharon installed the new Federation Executive committee. (see photo)

What a great conference we had. Five members from Wyoming came as guests and enjoyed the free, delicious food and information that was presented and the election and installation of the officers. Then, I attended the two-day California Convention that was held in Reno, and it had the BEST agenda and representation of information from NARFE staff.



## Region VII / NEB Report

**SHARON REESE**  
Region VII VP

The last couple of weeks was filled with NARFE business with a little fun thrown in.

On Thursday evening, June 19th, 2025, I was able to meet with the 5 Wyoming members and have a short visit and bring them up to date on NARFE activities. Then on June 20th, 2025, I attended your 2025 Colorado Conference (see photo right). Frank Impinna lined up an incredibly good schedule of speakers. Bill Shackelford, National President; John Hatton, Staff Vice President, Policy, and Programs; Nora MacDonald, Senior Director for Membership Engagement; and Paige Bownds, Senior Planet Colorado's Center Manager. I enjoyed the comments provided by NARFE and I really enjoyed hearing from Paige on Artificial Intelligence (AI).

I urge you to go to SeniorPlanet.org Senior Planet helps seniors learn new skills, save money, get in shape, and make new friends. They have online and in person courses, programs, and activities that change the lives of older adults far beyond technology. AI is here to stay so we need to know how to embrace it! Your elections took place, and I was proud to install your newly elected officers. Here is my plea for members to step up to the plate and volunteer to fill the position of Secretary. This is a vital position for the Federation. Contact Frank for a rundown of the duties and how little time is involved for this position. From Colorado I flew to Reno, Nevada to attend the Convention of the California Federation. As usual they put on quite the convention. However, very few Federations have the bank account that they have, over \$228,000.00 with over \$80,000.00 being spent on the convention. I spent one day at their board meeting prior to the convention.

The Nevada Federation also participated in their convention. I attended the Nevada Federation Meeting held during the convention. Your Federation President, Frank Impinna, was also there. So, if you would like more information please contact Frank.

My next adventure will be the National Executive Board (NEB)/Federation Presidents meeting at the Hyatt Regency, Indianapolis, IN 12-14 August 2025. If you have any issues that you want brought up, please let me or Frank know, and we will make sure that they will be presented.

Have a great summer filled with travel, friends, and family!



## ARE YOU A NATIONAL-ONLY MEMBER?

As a national member, without facilitating with a chapter, all national members must be aware and know that they have the same privileges within the federation that a chapter member has. As a member of the Colorado Federation, you have the opportunity to be a candidate for a federation, elected officer, or appointed officer. This information is available and can be obtained from anyone on the executive committee. National-only members are encouraged to participate and, if desired, engage on the fed hub community page.





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Contributor's Instructions: *The Colorado NARFE News*, The Official Publication of the Colorado National Active and Retired Federal Employees will be in print every third month (tri-monthly). To ensure a quality product we need help and support from you, the members. Material may be edited for grammar, clarity and length. Because of the volume, they will not be acknowledged. Please use the following instructions as a guide for your article submissions. If you have questions please feel free to contact the Editor.

It is incumbent on all federation officers to submit appropriate articles and pictures of events occurring in their area of responsibility. Chapter officers and members are encouraged to submit brief articles and pictures of general interest about Chapter happenings.

Articles must be submitted to the editor by: **Sept 29** for the **October 2025** issue.

**EDITOR:**  
**Frank Impinna**  
Four times per year:  
January, April, July, October

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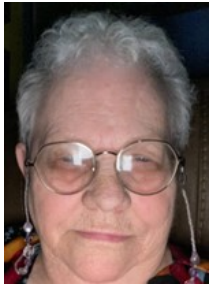
**Send Us Your Comments.**  
Use our paper as your voice.



**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND ON-LINE CONTACTS**

- NARFE Colorado website: • [www.narfe-colorado.com](http://www.narfe-colorado.com)
- Thrift Savings Plan: 1-877-968-3778 • [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov)
- Social Security: 1-800-772-1213 • [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
- NARFE Members Records (Email or Address Change): 1-800-456-8410 • [memberrecords@narfe.org](mailto:memberrecords@narfe.org)
- National NARFE website: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)
- National Headquarters NARFE Service Officers: 1-800-456-8410
- NARFE Legislative Hotline: 1-877-217-8324
- Federal Legislation - White House: 1-888-225-8418 • Direct Line to Congress: 1-866-220-0044
- Congressional Voting Records: [www.votesmart.org](http://www.votesmart.org) • [www.issues2000.org](http://www.issues2000.org)





## NARFE Colorado Federation Legislative Report

Susan Tabacheck, National Vice President Legislation

The LEGcon25 training was highly effective and provided me with valuable tools for future use. Alongside President Frank Impana, Ted VanHintum, Jane Gahan, and Tom Lujan, I was able to articulate NARFE’s issues to the staff of various Representatives.

As NARFE members, we are pleased that President Biden has signed HR 82, the Social Security Fairness Act. This act addresses the unfair WEP/GPO laws established in 1983.

Anyone who would like to become a Congressional District Leaders for Districts Congressional Districts 3,4,5,6. I would be happy to explain and assist anyone that is interested. Contact me at [stabacheck@aol.com](mailto:stabacheck@aol.com).

Now, we need to focus on current bills affecting retirees and employees. NARFE is actively tracking and lobbying for these bills in DC. Please write to your Representatives and Senators.

Only Rep. Joe Neguse has cosponsored HR 491 – A bill to amend title5, United States Code, to achieve parity between the cost-of-living adjustment with respect to an annuity under the Federal Employees Retirement System and an annuity under the Civil Service Retirement System, and for other purposes. S. Bill 624 has not been cosponsored by Colorado Senators.

Only Rep. Diana Degette has cosponsored HR 492 -Saving the Civil Service Act - To prohibit the establishment of schedule F of the service, and for other purposes. Schedule F, in the context of federal employment, refers to a proposed category of civil service positions that would strip away many of the protections and appeal rights currently afforded to federal employees. Bill 134 only Senator John Hickenlooper has cosponsored

Only Rep. Diana Degette has cosponsored HR 493 -Fair Act - To increase the rates of pay under the statutory pay systems and for prevailing rate employees by 4.3 percent, and for other purposes. S. Bill 126 has not been cosponsored by Colorado Senators.

Too top off this list NARFE members need to call and email your representatives to vote no on H.R. 1.



**PAT MATHER**  
President, Chapter 1085

By Carol Carpenter, Mory Lewis  
Chapter Secretary

## Mory Lewis Chapter 1085

On a warm, sunny day in June, members of NARFE’s Mory Lewis Chapter 1085 gathered in a scenic Lakewood park for our annual picnic get-together. While enjoying a delicious catered meal of barbecued meats, baked beans, salads, and cookies, we spent some relaxing time together.

Because our industrious President Pat Mather was busy with another NARFE obligation and was unable to attend, the festivities began with a warm welcome to 19 picnic attendees by former Chapter President Nancy Richardson.

Busy organizing food and drink were Bill Douglas, Membership chair, and Kelly Lewis, Sunshine chair. Kelly, the daughter of Mory Lewis, for whom the chapter is named, also brought her three children—Mory and Bobbie’s grandchildren, Joaquin, Ava, and Maria—to the picnic.

Introduced to the chapter members by former secretary Suzanne Stewart was Carol Carpenter, our new secretary. Suzanne served a full 10 years in the position

before deciding to bow out to become a busy, babysitting grandmother for her daughter’s two young girls.

Bill thanked the picnic committee members who helped make the picnic a success. “It’s a lot of work, and we knew our picnic could not happen without volunteers,” he said. “But people did step up, and it worked out well.”

We missed those who were unable to attend the picnic, and we look forward to welcoming new members in the coming year. We are also seeking additional volunteers to help keep our chapter thriving and active.

Looking ahead to the coming months, we, federal employees and retirees, remain uncertain about federal legislation and executive actions that could negatively affect us in the future. We in the Mory Lewis Chapter are, like many, concerned about what is at stake for all of us in a very divided political landscape.

Our chapter appreciates all that NARFE does at the local, state, and national levels to keep us apprised of what we need to know and to take action to safeguard our jobs and benefits. Membership in NARFE is more

crucial now than ever, and we will share important information, not only with our current chapter members, but also with prospective members in our recruiting efforts in the months ahead.



Mory Lewis Chapter members enjoy a picnic lunch. Among those who attended are, from left, Ken Miller, Robert Manzanares, Rich Dreher, Jan Quigley, and Virginia Temmer.

GREG KANN

President, Chapter 2286

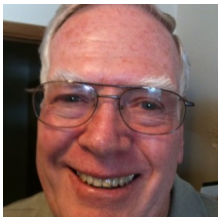
## Billie Love Chapter 2286



Greetings from Billie Love Chapter 2286 in beautiful Buena Vista, Colorado. We hold our quarterly meetings on the second Monday of March, September, and December 2025, alternating between Salida and Buena Vista locations. We held our chapter picnic and meeting at Riverside Park in Salida, Colorado on Saturday June 7, 2025. Ten members and guests enjoyed a beautiful day

and picnic in the park followed by a brief business meeting. Our next meeting will be at 11:30 on Monday September 8, 2025, at Casa Calaca in Salida, Colorado. Come join us for a great Mexican meal and fun time. Please contact Greg Kann, Chapter President, at 303-718-7307 or [gkkpbk@aol.com](mailto:gkkpbk@aol.com) with any questions or for more information.

## Denver - Capital City 0081 Chapter Report



**JIM DODRILL**  
President, Chapter 0081

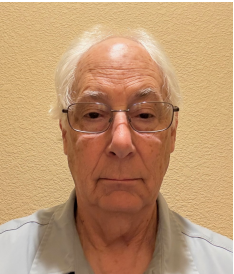
Denver-Capital City Chapter 81 meets the third Friday each month at El Gran Jardin Restaurant at Windsor Gardens, 597 S Clinton, Denver CO. Our monthly meeting scheduled for Friday, April 18, 2025, at the El Gran Jardin restaurant at Windsor Gardens, 595 S Clinton St Denver, CO. was cancelled due to the weather. Our speaker for our May 16, 2025, was Ron

Uchida from the Colorado Alzheimer’s Association, who gave an excellent presentation on Healthy Living For Your Brain and Body. The presentation included 10 Ways To Love Your Brain; Break A Sweat, engage in regular cardiovascular exercise that elevates heart rate and increases blood flow, Hit The Books, formal education will help reduce risk of cognitive decline and dementia, Butt Out, quit smoking, Follow Your Heart, obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes negatively impact your cognitive health, Stump Yourself, challenge your mind, play games of strategy, Heads Up, Wear a seat belt and use a helmet, Buddy Up, stay socially connected, Take Care of Your Mental Health, seek treatment if you have depression, anxiety or stress, Fuel Up Right, eat a balanced diet higher in

vegetables, Catch Some ZZZ’s, not getting enough sleep may result in problems with memory and thinking. Ten chapter members attended the 2025 Colorado Federation Conference, June 20, 2025, in lieu of our monthly chapter meeting. Our annual chapter 81 picnic is scheduled for July 18, 2025. The chapter will provide the usual fried chicken with members bringing a dish to share. The Chapter 81 Activity Report (M-112) as of June 27, 2025 indicated that the chapter added 9 new chapter members since April 1, 2025, five of the new members are “Active Employees”, however the member gains were offset by member deaths and members dropped for non-renewal, for a total of 267 chapter members.



# Ft. Collins Chapter 256



**Ron Briggs**

President-pro Tem,  
Chapter 256

## Changes in our Chapter:

Last month, Henry and Katy Shands left for Kentucky to be closer to their daughter. Henry has been our Chapter President

for the past 8 years and has guided us through a period of uncertainty and thanks to Henry's leadership, we are much stronger today Henry, Dr. Shands, is a world-renowned leader in plant genetic resource conservation who devoted more than 50 years of his life to various genetic resources programs. His accomplishments and awards are acknowledged worldwide and include work in both the public and private sectors.

In retirement, Henry led a group of volunteers, the Cameron Pass Nordic Rangers, on weekly ski trips to clear downed timber from cross-country ski trails, remove snow from trail bridges, and clear access paths to the parking lot restrooms. (Volunteers are/were doing a lot for our public lands.)

In addition, when we did not have a luncheon program, Henry jumped in and provided a very interesting talk and slide program on the Svalbard Global Seed Vault, located in the Arctic Svalbard archipelago.

Henry and Katy were great assets to our Chapter and will remain virtual members, but their physical presence will be missed.

## Luncheon Programs:

**April: Presentation:** In April, we had a great program on prescription drugs and over-the-counter supplements. The program was titled "The Perfect Storm: When Drugs and Supplements Collide" and was presented by Haley Huddleston, Doctor of Pharmacy. Haley is currently serving as a PGY1 (Postgraduate Year 1 in pharmacy) in a community pharmacy resident program at the University of Colorado and Good Day Pharmacy. In the coming year, she will continue to further her training as a PGY2 ambulatory care pharmacy resident at the University of Colorado.

Haley talked about drug and supplement interactions and highlighted how these substances can sometimes cause harmful effects when taken together. She began by discussing the legal and logistical differences that separate drugs from supplements and explaining why regulations for each category vary. Next, she talked about why certain combinations of drugs and supplements can lead to dangerous side effects and what to watch out for. Finally, she offered practical advice on what to consider and how to approach adding a new dietary supplement to your routine safely. This was a very beneficial program as all of our members are on either prescription medications, supplements or both.

**May: Presentation:** On May 1, 2025, President Trump signed an Executive Order, ENDING TAXPAYER SUBSIDIZATION OF BIASED MEDIA. This includes all funding to National Public Radio and Broadcasting stations (NPR/PBS) across the nation. T

The EO will be challenged in the courts, but what happens until then and what it will mean for our local NPR stations, KUNC and the Colorado Sound, was the topic of this presentation.

Our May luncheon program provided, to the extent possible, current information on these issues. The program titled "Public Media: Past, Present, and Future" was presented by Michael Arnold, the Chief Audience and Content Officer for KUNC and The Colorado Sound. Michael oversees audience engagement and content development, analyzes audience preferences, oversees station programming, and implements multi-platform distribution strategies.

Michael has a master's in strategic communication from Washington State University and has worked in various capacities at both commercial and public radio stations. He has work at many esteemed radio stations, including Wisconsin Public Radio, New Hampshire Public Radio, WUNC North Carolina Public Radio, and WWNO in New Orleans and spent seven years in the content department at Public Radio International (now PRX), where he worked with the BBC World Service CBC Radio and other leading public broadcasters. Michael briefly covered the history of public radio, which grew out of noncommercial radio stations established by universities and religious groups in the early 1900s. He identified key actions, events, and legislation that helped shape public media into what it is today. Specifically, Public media has played a crucial role in informing and engaging communities for over the last half century. Beginning with the 1967 Public Broadcasting Act, he discussed how the unique structure of public media has shaped its growth and service, and how that has affected the workings of our local station, KUNC, and The Colorado Sound.

With respect to the pending funding cuts, Michael felt that the public Radio and television stations in larger population centers would be impacted but would find a way to continue to exist in some form. However, stations in smaller towns and rural areas could very easily cease to exist and those may be the only stations available to the local communities.

**June:** Our June program was on "City Sustainability Initiatives From an Executive Leadership Perspective" by Jacob Castillo, Chief Sustainability Officer for the City of Fort Collins. Jacob has two decades of diverse experience in regional economic and workforce development with a focus on activities that support upward mobility, economic inclusion and environmental stewardship.

Jacob gave a very good presentation on how the city plans for the future. He provided information regarding the depth of work and thought that goes into both the short and long range plans for our community. This included transportation, housing, water, growth, and economic development. He presented many issues that we had not spent a lot of time thinking about. For example, Fort Collins is becoming a work centric community, meaning we have a strong employment base covering a diverse range of employers from federal agencies and private sector industries within the city. However, many of the people that work in Fort Collins live in the surrounding communities that have also grown large enough to support their own local shopping districts. This has resulted in a larger working population within the city but less potential

for city sales tax revenue which in turn impacts future planning. Jacob also provided ways that we can stay abreast of these issues.

The presentation was very informative and timely as there may also be less Federal Funds available in the future.

Look for us next issue: We will highlight a very important member of our Chapter, Cass Cairns, who is responsible for the impressive speakers she has been able to convince to talk with us. She is also responsible for our presence on social media and has an exciting job as a public information officer on one of the three Rocky Mountain Area Complex Incident Management Teams. Find out more next issue.

To be a thriving Chapter, we need new members and need existing members to step up and take on some of the officer positions in the Chapter. Please step up and volunteer; otherwise, we won't have a Chapter. Without leadership, it will die an unceremonious death. We don't want that. Please contact us and let us know your willingness to serve. It all depends on you.

We always meet at 11:30 AM on the third Monday of the month at the Elks Club at Mulberry and Link Lane in Fort Collins.



Michael Arnold, the Chief Audience and Content Officer for KUNC and The Colorado Sound.

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**JANE GAHAN**

President, Chapter 1072

The spring months absolutely flew by and we're getting ready to start the second half of 2025! Looking back from the beginning of the year our chapter has netted 6 new members! The political climate is fostering a renewed interest in

NARFE and its importance advocating to protect the pay and benefits of active federal employees and retirees. Nationally, a surge in membership has also taken place. Most of our chapter's members are retired annuitants but we do have 15 active federal employees.

We continue to maintain solid attendance at chapter meetings and have had a speaker presenting at each month's meeting this quarter. In April, Vice President of Membership, Susan Tabacheck, invited the Aurora Chamber of Commerce to address our group. Steve Phillips, the membership director and Pam Martinez discussed the Chamber's function, promoting businesses of all sizes and maintaining relationships within the community. They also have several committees, exchanging information and lobbying the government to advance legislation.

# Aurora Chapter 1072

Anthem Blue Cross account executive Jane Fluekiger and wellness nurse consultant Melissa Pascucci brought another wellness presentation to our May meeting. "The Benefits of Walking" emphasized how walking can be the basis of a strong fitness foundation. They stressed the many mental and physical benefits and suggested practical steps for incorporating walking into our everyday routines.

Loretta Knauf, Chapter 1072 Alzheimer's Association chairperson, coordinated June's program. "Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body," presented by Ron Uchida, a speaker for the association, educated members on the types of dementia, which include the most well-known - Alzheimer's disease. In addition to giving an overview of the disease, he focused on educating members on the behaviors influencing our bodies and brains. Especially interesting was a discussion on how changing up small behaviors, such in our daily routines, can positively impact our brains. A more in depth presentation will be given to members at the January meeting.

I decided to attend LEGcon25 held June 9 - 11, as I felt I would acquire more in-depth knowledge

skills in communicating with our legislative offices. of the issues critical for NARFE and would thus be in a better position to educate our members during these critical times. Susan Tabacheck and Debbie Rodgers (Vice President for Membership) also represented our chapter. The content was very well organized and presented. It was time well spent and I also acquired

Ten of Chapter 1072's members (Jane Gahan, Debbie Rodgers, Susan Tabacheck, Jim Deden, Loretta Knauf, Ann Burton, Dora Hamilton, Kathryn Peden and Brenda Rivard) attended the Colorado Federation's conference on June 20, 2025, at the El Gran Jardin Restaurant at Windsor Gardens. Loretta Knauf graciously manned the Alzheimer's Association table, collecting contributions and running the prize drawing. NARFE National President Bill Schackelford's attendance highlighted the agenda. President Schackelford not only presented the conference's opening remarks but was present throughout the conference and held an afternoon forum. The conference was also a great way to meet and catch up with other Colorado Federation members.



# Colorado Federation Executive Committee

## Minutes from Meeting - May 21, 2025

**BETTY LUCERO-TURNER**  
Secretary, CO Federation



**CALL TO ORDER:** President Frank Impinna called the meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 10:00 a. m. on May 21, 2025.  
**PRESENT:** Frank Impinna, Betty Lucero-Turner, Larry Schluntz, Deborah Rodgers, Ted Van Hintum, Greg Kann, Susan Tabacheck, Jane Gahan, and Jim Dodrill. **AGENDA:** Presented by Frank Impinna. No additions to the agenda.  
**SECRETARY:** Minutes approved as presented.

**PRESIDENT – Frank Impinna**

- Frank announced that he has completed his Doctorate in Business Administration and there were numerous congratulatory statements made by members on the call.
- He attended the SW Region conference and noted there were 65 in attendance.
- Frank commented that it was rather formal, including a color guard.
- Three health care vendors were present and one (Kaiser) donated \$300 towards the lunch for our upcoming convention.
- Bill Shackelford (National President) spoke for about an hour and made a good presentation.
- At our conference, we will elect and install officers, but there will be no reports from the current officers and committee chairs.

**PAST FEDERATION PRESIDENT – Ted Van Hintum**

- No report

**MEMBERSHIP – Frank Impinna**

Membership has been going up since January, however it has declined a bit this month. National membership has increased by about 5,000 since January 1. Deborah had nothing specific to add to the report. Street Level Marketing is doing a good job with a lot of good publicity on Facebook. Mr. Hatton has been doing talks on various media outlets and bill boards have been placed around the D.C. area.

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR LEGISLATION – Susan Tabacheck**

Representative Connelly died recently; he had been a strong supporter of Federal employees and NARFE. Susan noted that Bennett and Hickenlooper, Colorado’s current Senators, are both running for Governor. Susan is watching Representatives Hurd and Boebert regarding work on legislative bills that affect their constituents. Currently, we only have 3 CDL’s and she is trying to recruit members to fill the vacancies.

**TREASURER – Larry Schluntz**

Checking Account	
Beginning Balance – 4/1/25	\$37,278.44
10% funds	1,240.23
Interest from CD	166.34
Expenses	160.00
Ending Balance – 4/30/25 Savings Account	\$38,525.01
Beginning Balance – 4/1/25	\$14,957.36
Interest Income	.12
Ending Balance – 4/30/25	\$14,957.48
Certificates of Deposit	
2 – month (3.5%)	\$10,000.00
(Matures 5/25/25)	
4 – month (3.5%)	\$30,000.00
(Matures 8/27/25)	
Total:	\$40,000.00
Grand Total: (4/30)	\$93,482.49

**NATIONAL MEMBER REPORT – Mary Bleacher**

**MEMBERSHIP AS OF 5/3/2025: 2144**

**MEMBERSHIP AS OF 4/3/2025: 2132**

**ADDITIONS:** 36  
**DELETIONS:** 24  
**NET GAIN** 12

**DECEASED:** 2 Lee Hill, Colorado Springs-88  
Valeria H. Tanaka, Denver-100-Founded 1st Black Ski Club-1972

**Cities Additions:** Boulder, Loveland, Greeley, Lakewood, Arvada, Longmont, Bayfield, Centennial, Ft. Collins, Parker, Littleton, Englewood, Denver, Colorado Springs, Wheat Ridge, Highlands Ranch, Durango, Aurora, and Bennett. Littleton had 6 additions.

**200,000 Activity:** 21 new; 4 off

**Renewals:** 11

**ALZHEIMER’S REPORT – Frank Impinna**

March donations - \$0.00 Federation 2025 total: \$780.00

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- The Colorado Federation Conference will be held on June 20, 2025, at Windsor Gardens. 43 are registered so far.
- Regarding elections-The Federation Secretary position will be vacant and there are no nominees so far. There are no bylaw changes to be voted on. Ballots have been made up.
- So far, no awards have been proposed.
- Frank sent a notice on May 20 to members to let them know they can view the Federation conference on Zoom.
- Sharon Reese and Bill Shackelford will be attending.
- Newspaper articles will be due on July 1.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:** Will be July 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. via zoom meeting.





# Chapter Meeting Information

**Chapter 81 • Denver-Capital City**

- Meets the third Friday, at Windsor Gardens, 597 S. Clinton St (Alameda & Clinton) Board meeting in the El Gran Restaurant starting at 10:30 am followed by a business meeting at 11:00 am. Hall is handicap accessible.
- President - James Dodrill, 303-238-0191

**Chapter 256 • Fort Collins**

- Meets the third Monday except July and August, 11:30 am. Elks Lodge 804, 1424 E. Mulberry St, Fort Collins.
- President - Ron Briggs, 970-493-2202

**Chapter 351 • Grand Junction**

- The following dates are scheduled for the remainder of the year: June 13, September 12, and possibly December 12. Tuesday at 10 am. Grand Junction Public Library, 443 North 6th Street, Grand Junction. • President - Brad Pearson, 970-243-3078

**Chapter 820 • Longmont**

- Meets the second Friday except August; 12:00 pm. Perkins Restaurant, 2051 Main St., Longmont.
- President - Larry Schluntz, 303-772-6419

**Chapter 821 • Loveland**

- Meetings will start in September on the second Tuesday of the month at 1:30. Meeting will be held at Chilson Senior Center, 700 East 4th St., Loveland
- President - Tom Cherry , 970-663-0083

**Chapter 1040 • Arvada**

- Meets at the Corona Mexican Grill, 7617 W. 88th Ave, Westminster at 11:30 on the third Wednesday of each month except August.
- President - Bob Carr, 970-290-0262.

**Chapter 1072 • Aurora**

- Meets the first Monday; Lunch 11:00 am; Business 12:00 pm, Golden Corral, 11090 E. Mississippi Ave., Aurora.
- President – Jane Gahan, 720-256-5056

**Chapter 1085 • Mory Lewis**

- Meets 2nd Tuesday, at 11:30, of every other month (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, and Dec) at the Sunrise Sunset Restaurant, 1424 S. Wadsworth, Lakewood.
- President – Pat Mather, 303-953-1146

**Chapter 2286 • Billie Love**

- Chapter meets at 11:30 second Monday once each quarter in March, June, September, and December at alternate locations. Call Chapter President for dates and locations.
- President - Greg Kann, 303-718-7307



**Bob Carr, President,**  
Arvada Chapter 1040

The House of Representatives is set to vote this week on budget reconciliation legislation that would cut more than \$50 billion from earned federal retirement benefits. Please, please, please go to NARFE's

Legislative Action Center at <https://www.narfe.org/advocacy/legislative-action-center/> and send an email to your house and senate representatives and request they oppose the house and senate budget bills. The current bill includes the following objectionable provisions:

- a. Eliminating the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) annuity supplement, applicable as of the date of enactment, with exemption for individuals forced to retire early by mandatory retirement law,
- b. Calculating retirement annuities based on the highest 5 years of pay rather than the highest 3 years of pay, applicable to retirements beginning on or after January 1, 2027, with exemption for individuals subject to mandatory early retirement,
- c. Increasing federal employee contributions from payroll towards FERS to 4.4%, phased in over two years, with exemption for individuals subject to mandatory early retirement, essentially a 3.6% pay cut for employees hired prior to 2013,
- d. Forcing employees to choose between at-will employment or an additional 5% increase in

contributions toward FERS, essentially an additional 5% pay cut; and

e. Charging a fee for appeals to the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB).

In a May 7, 2025, memorandum, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) indicated it will be moving a fully digital retirement processing. OPM's memo requires all new retirement applications started on or after June 2, 2025, along with any supporting documents be submitted electronically to OPM. Paper applications will no longer be accepted effective July 15, 2025. NARFE has promoted modernization of OPM's retirement processing for years, including utilization of an online retirement application. While OPM had previously piloted this concept, this news represents an expanded and accelerated move to a digital retirement application process. If it works well, it should cut back on burdensome delays for federal retirees awaiting their full retirement annuities. But the system has not yet rolled out, and OPM will need to demonstrate that it works in practice.

New Federal Benefits Institute Webinar for NARFE Members: Family Benefits: Spouse, Children, Former Spouse Benefits & Survivor Benefits, NARFE federal benefits expert, Anthony (Tony) Opat will give an informative session exploring the range of federal benefits available to you and your family. This webinar will be held Thursday, May 22, 2025, from 12 to 2 p.m. MT. This webinar is free for NARFE members, but you must

register in advance. And if you're unable to watch live, you can view this and other valuable NARFE webinars on demand at [www.narfe.org/archive](http://www.narfe.org/archive).

Just months ago, Elon Musk, tapped by President Trump to lead the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), promised to save the federal government a staggering \$2 trillion through radical downsizing and "disruption." Now, barely into the first year, those projections have been slashed to \$150 billion—a 92.5% drop from the original estimate. The damage, however, is already severe. In pursuit of substantial spending cuts, DOGE has gutted government agencies. Regulatory oversight, scientific research, environmental protections, retirement services—many of these have been hollowed out or stalled completely. Agencies were ordered to freeze hiring, slash budgets, and implement abrupt reorganizations with no plan for continuity.

NEARLY USELESS FACTOID: When Jeanne Calment died on August 4, 1997, she'd lived the longest life in recorded human history: 122 years and 164 days. She was born in 1875. A longevity expert who knew Calment attributed her record-setting lifespan to the facts that she was wealthy, didn't smoke until much later in life, and had "absolutely nothing to do except to take care of [herself], to visit France and have social activities." Some scientists believe that the first person to live to be 150 has already been born.

## 2025 COLORADO FEDERATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2025 Colorado Federation Annual Conference was held June 20, 2025 at Windsor Gardens, Denver, Colorado. Host Coordinators were Frank Impinna and Hortense Haney. Speakers at the Conference included William Shackelford, NARFE National President; John Hatton, Staff Vice President, Policy and Programs and Nora MacDonald, Director Member Engagement from National Headquarters; Sharon Reese, Region VII Vice President; Josh Weller, Public Affairs Specialist, Social Security Administration; and Paige Bownds, Senior Plant Center Manager, Colorado.

Conference began at 8:45 a.m. A Memorial Moment of Silence was held for those members who passed away between May 2, 2023 and May 1, 2025 (128 members). Pledge of Allegiance followed.

**National President Shackelford gave a national report which included some of the following:**

- Gave headquarters overview, budget and finance report, advocacy, membership and communications and marketing.
- 2024 a historical year for NARFE because long sought WEP/GPO was passed and signing took place in the East Room of the White House. President Shackelford attended.
- Membership has been increasing for 5 months in a row
- FedHub member participation continues to increase; in 2024 Headquarters launched dozens of chapters on FedHub. It is available to any chapter.
- NARFE's investment portfolio has performed well.
- Headquarters handled the merger of Arizona and New Mexico Federations. Made certain members of the new Federation were properly placed. Headquarters was able to use automation to help with the merger of these two Federations. This was at a significant cost savings.
- To reach the National President: [wshackelford@narfe.org](mailto:wshackelford@narfe.org)

**John Hatton, NARFE Staff Vice President for Policy and Programs, National Headquarters**

- Recapped 2024 Legislative Efforts – covering Social Security Fairness Act – H.R. 82/S.597 (had co-sponsors of any bill in Congress – 320 in House and 62 in Senate)

**Nora MacDonald, Director of Membership Engagement, National Headquarters**

- In 2022 net loss on membership was 14,353; 2023 – net loss 7,832; 2024 – net loss 6,840. In 2025 there has been a net gain of 2,123.
- Contractor Street Level Studio and BRG Communications have worked hard. Both stabilization and growth are within NARFE's reach.
- Region VII has 130,423 members, with 74,002 being National members.
- To reach Nora MacDonald - [nmacdonals@narge.org](mailto:nmacdonals@narge.org)

**JOSH WALLER, SSA, PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST**

- Covered spouse/survivor benefits; disability benefits; Covered Social Security Fairness Act; Covered projection for Trust Funds – The trust fund covers payments going into Social Security and payments going out.

**PAIGE BOWNDS, SENIOR PLANET CENTER MANAGER, COLORADO**

- Introduced Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Fundamentals of AI, What I Can Perform, Its Use in Everyday Life, and How to sign up for free Open AI

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

There were no nominations from the floor for any Federation position, so the following were elected by acclamation:

Frank Impinna, President; Susan Tabacheck, V. P. – Legislation; Deborah Rodgers, V. P. – Membership; Secretary – remains vacant; Greg Kann, Treasurer and Mary Bleecher, National Member. Newly elected officers were installed by Sharon Reese, Region VII Vice President.

**SHARON REESE, REGION VII VICE PRESIDENT**

- NEB/Federation Presidents' meeting to be held at the Indianapolis Hyatt from August 11-15, 2025.
- Conference closed at 2:15 p.m. with door prize drawings and Alzheimer's drawing.