

	
Clarence Robinson Regional III V-President States: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, S. C. and Virgin Islands	

Fall 2022 Article

Greetings to all NARFE members in Region 3. As I close out my last term as Region 3 Vice President, I asked myself - How successful have I been as a Region 3 Vice President. A lot has been accomplished during my six (6) years on the National Executive Board. Some of the accomplishments stand out and some are barely noticed. There is still much work to be done to insure that NARFE continues to be recognized as a premier organization that is dedicated solely to protecting the earned pay and benefits of all Active and Retired federal workers. We have and are still experiencing the lackadaisical attitudes regarding joining and participating in the NARFE organization. We must never forget that our pay and benefits are always at risk as long as Congress can change everything that we enjoy with the stroke of a pen. We see younger Federal workers so wrapped up in trying to make a living until protecting their rights and benefits take a back seat in their priorities.

The NARFE organization has to put a renewed emphasis on Recruiting, Retention, and Reinstatement. Headquarters cannot do this alone. The field has to step up and start beating the bushes and sign up new members wherever they can be found. Just because we can't get access to Federal buildings does not mean that we should stop recruiting. If each NARFE member recruited a new member, we could double the size of the organization overnight. At the end of August, 2022, NARFE had a total of 149,000 members. The continuous drop in membership means that in the short term, we might not be able to pay our bills. In addition, we will have to cut some programs and possibly have to make changes to our Advocacy Program. The Advocacy Program is our means to talk to our members of Congress and get them to vote for the issues that are important to us and affect our pay and benefits. It is crucial to our success.

I don't have to spell out the situation we have. I think most of our members understand that NARFE is a unique organization and is really one of a kind. If we lose our organization, we will not have anyone to speak for us. As we age, security of our benefits and pay should be our number one priority. The members make all organizations great. Even with the work we still have to do, NARFE is a great organization that has been around for 121 years.

Thanks to all NARFE members for your participation and membership. It is appreciated.