

**BRIEF HISTORY OF THE  
MISSOURI FEDERATION,  
NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
ASSOCIATION (NARFE)**

On December 12, 1953, all NARFE Chapters in Missouri responded to a call to meet in Jefferson City to form a Federation. The call was issued by Fred R. Jones, Field Vice President for this Region. Five chapters – Springfield 11, Joplin 19, Kansas City 20, Columbia 312, and Jefferson City 313 – sent delegates. Three chapters were represented by proxy – Monett 41, St. Louis 112, and St. Joseph 307.

Walton R. Edmonds served as the Temporary Chairman with Fred R. Jones as Acting Secretary. The meeting unanimously agreed to form a permanent Federation to be named the “Missouri Federation of Chapters of the National Association of Retired Civil Employees.”\* A Constitution and Bylaws were adopted. Plans for the first annual convention were made with Springfield being named as the site. The following permanent officers were elected and installed:

President.....Monroe W. Jackson, Springfield

Vice President.....Noel E. Edwards, Columbia

Secretary/Treasurer....Fred E. McGhee, Jefferson City

Executive Board:

Wilbur Robinson.....Joplin

Florence M. Christman.....St. Louis

T. M. Bradish.....Kansas City

William McGinnis.....St. Joseph

Monroe Jackson continued to serve as President of the Missouri Federation of Chapters until his death in 1964. During his tenure he moved from Springfield to St. Louis and changed his chapter affiliation from Springfield to St. Louis chapter 112. J. V. Horton of Kansas City chapter 20 completed the unexpired term of Mr. Jackson which ended at the Convention of 1965.

Beginning with the Convention in 1965, the following have served the Missouri Federation as its President:

1965-68 .....	Gus S. Gelbach, Kansas City 20
1968-69.....	Elmer N. Chaffin, Springfield 11
1969 71.....	Oliver L. Dyer, St. Louis 112
1971-75.....	William D. Keller, Jefferson City 313
1975-78.....	William H. Brewer, Jefferson City 1278
1978-80.....	Lee E. Dorman, Kansas City 20
1980-83.....	John T. Robinette, Springfield 11
1983-85.....	Sterling Kyd, Columbia 312
1985-87.....	Walter W. Jungbluth, St. Louis 112
1987-89.....	Lyle D. Bonney, Shepherd of the Hills 1437
1989-90.....	Charles R. Jackson, St. Louis 112
**1991-93.....	Merrill Leutung, Columbia 312
1993-95.....	John Schlichting, Shepherd of the Hills 1437
1995-97.....	James E. King, Butler 2148
1997-99.....	John Anderson, St. Peters 1229
1999-2001.....	Richard Thissen, Lake of the Ozarks 1561
2001-03.....	John E. Rowe, Kirksville 787
2003-05.....	John E. Scafe, Springfield 11
2005-07.....	Richard Daggett, Hannibal 683
2007-09.....	Linda Kurz, W St. Louis Co 2071
2009-12.....	Grant R. Peters, Kansas City 20
2012-14.....	Eric A. Bahl, Independence 1164

2014-16.....Joseph Manno, No Central MO 1915  
2016-18..... Robert Hagedorn, Blue Springs 2041  
2018-20.....Laura Cowart, Springfield 11  
2020- ..... Emerson Kretzer, St. Joseph 307

\*\*Elected by MO FEB to serve as President Jan-Apr 1991

Fred E. McGhee served as Secretary from the organizational meeting in 1953 until 1966. His successors have been:

1966-67.....Jefferson City 313  
1967-69.....Oliver L. Dyer, St. Louis 112  
1969-79.....Ruth S. Keller, Jefferson City 313  
1979-80.....Mary E. Kirk, Hannibal 683  
1980-82.....Mary E. Anderson, Sedalia 605  
and Mary E. Kirk, Hannibal 683  
1982-2003.....Nadine Oberjuerge, Lake of the Ozarks 1561  
2003-09.....Margaret Hudgens Huebner, Lake of the Ozarks 1561  
2009-17.....Judith K. Smart, St. Louis 112  
2017- 20.....Sherry L. Haskins, W St. Louis Co 2071  
2020- .....Gary Andrew, W St. Louis Co 2071

Following the organizational meeting in Jefferson City, December 12, 1953, the Missouri Federation of Chapters held annual conventions, beginning with Springfield in 1954. In the following years, conventions have been at these locations: Jefferson City 1955, Lebanon 1956, Jefferson City 1957, Springfield 1958, St. Louis 1959, Kansas City 1960, Jefferson City 1961, Springfield 1962, St. Joseph 1963, Jefferson City 1964, Columbia 1965, Kansas City 1966, Springfield 1967, St. Louis 1968, Springfield 1969, Kansas City 1970, Jefferson City 1971, Lebanon 1972, Independence 1973, Columbia 1974, Hannibal 1975, Joplin 1976, St. Louis 1977, St. Joseph 1978, Cape Girardeau 1979, Point Lookout 1980, Osage Beach 1981, Columbia 1982,

Florissant 1983, Hannibal 1984, Springfield 1985, Kansas City 1986, St. Joseph 1987, Lake of the Ozarks 1988, Joplin 1989, Kirksville 1990, St. Louis 1991, Jefferson City 1992, Springfield 1993, Hannibal 1994, Columbia 1995, Kansas City 1996, St. Peters 1997, St. Joseph 1998, Springfield 1999, Hannibal 2000, St. Louis 2001, Columbia 2002, Lake of the Ozarks 2003, St. Peters 2004, Hannibal 2005, Poplar Bluff 2006, Springfield 2007, Jefferson City 2008, Branson 2009, Independence 2010, Hannibal 2011, St. Louis 2012, Poplar Bluff 2013, Springfield 2014, Kansas City 2015, Columbia 2016 (FEB host), Hannibal 2017.

The Missouri Federation began holding annual *conferences* in 2018: St. Louis 2018, Blue Springs (Independence) 2019, No conference 2020.

At the National Convention in 1970, the word “Civil” was changed to “Federal,” and in 2004 the word “Association” was changed to “Active,” resulting in the **MISSOURI FEDERATION of the NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION.**