

Martha E. Leiker
Candidate for National Vice President

With a strong sense of dedication and responsibility, I announce my candidacy for National Vice President. The extent of NARFE service and experience I have had over the past twelve years has provided me with a profound respect for what NARFE can and should do to represent the interests of federal employees, retirees, and survivor annuitants throughout their careers and retirement.

As National Vice President, my vision for NARFE is to identify more effective ways nationally to increase membership and address legislative challenges that could impact our benefits. We must strengthen communications with our members, emphasizing concerns covered by the FERS retirement system. Special attention will be given to informing members about administrative issues affecting their work and retirement conditions, including career status, pay systems, health care and retirement benefits. My first step in addressing these areas would be to encourage a reassessment of NARFE's future, examining a broad range of options, and finally, help create and implement effective and achievable national strategies.

My qualifications stem from a variety of life experiences, both in NARFE and in my profession. My NARFE experience began in Denver as Chapter Treasurer, Chapter President, Federation 1st Vice President, and Federation President. I have chaired the Colorado Scholarship Committee and served on the Budget/Finance Committee, coordinated the Colorado Convention in 2004 and the Region VII Conference in 2005. I served on a National Task Force to develop NARFE leaders and chaired the Resolutions Committee for the National Convention in 2006. As the Region VII Vice President I conducted a regional conference in 2009.

After 20 years of service, six in Africa, I retired from the Central Intelligence Agency in 1998. Prior to my federal service, I was a missionary nun for 17 years, including eight in Africa. Education includes an AA Degree from Immaculata College in Washington, D.C., studies in London, England; and extensive C.I.A. training. In Denver, I served as President of the C.I.A. Rocky Mountain Chapter (CIRA) and presently, Secretary/Treasurer. My life history was featured in the October 2005 NARFE magazine and in the Spring 2007 Vim and Vigor magazine of St. Anthony Hospitals. My autobiography is in the publication process.

I believe my NARFE responsibilities demonstrate my commitment to our organization and my life experiences show that I have a passion for service. Given these qualifications, I ask for your vote and support at the National Convention in Grand Rapids, MI.

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