

February 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERATION PRESIDENT

(From John Geiger - Federation President)

We were already on the countdown to the Spartanburg Convention when we were pleased to learn that Margaret Baptiste agreed to be our keynote speaker (!). February being the shortest of month's, now is the time to make your reservations. For Chapter Officers, you will find a handy Chapter Preparation Checklist in this Newsletter which might be helpful in contributing to the overall success of the Convention.

We conducted your Federation Executive Board Meeting on January 11 with the detailed Board Minutes link appearing in this Newsletter. In addition, to our normal business, Bob Harrell, Region 3 Vice President, gave his insightful Headquarters and Region perspective. Don Stewart, Immediate Past President of the Florida Federation, gave us a very useful presentation on Retention and the challenge of appealing to the Baby Boomers. The January Board is an opportunity for Chapter Presidents to see the Federation business first hand. Unfortunately, our Chapter President representation was not as high as in the past few years, which puts an added burden on the Federation Officers and District Field Officers to get the word out to the Chapters and their membership.

We are actively seeking replacements at the Spartanburg Convention for Federation Treasurer Buck Mizelle and 2 District Field Officers (District #5 Moses Moultrie and District #7 Mamie Clarke) as they notified us of their intentions at the Board Meeting. Those Chapters in Districts 5 and 7 need to consider nominations as they will vote on new District Field Officers at the State Convention. I'm also looking to fill the Legislative, Public Relations, and the Audit Chairs on the Federation Board. If you have an interest in any of these key areas, please let me know.

I want to thank the members of the Simon Sorentrud Charleston Chapter 1013 for their gracious hospitality during my visit on January 8. It was great to see a full house, with even a few first time attendees. The BBQ was wonderful and certainly in the running for the "top ten" in South Carolina award. Chelsea Rzepkowski, recipient of the NARFE FEEA (Federal Employees Education and Assistance) \$1000 scholarship, and daughter of Ronald Rzepkowski from Chapter 1013, presented her winning essay at the meeting. This is an excellent program that deserves widespread support as evident in this riveting presentation by Miss Rzepkowski.

It's not too soon to be thinking about the National Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 29 through September 2, 2010-"NARFE: 90 Years Strong." For those who are considering attending, you may have an interest in serving on one of the many Committees. If this is the case, let me know and I will inform Headquarters of your interest.

Finally, thanks to the Ohio State Federation and their President, Dennis Petrack, for sending their 3 Fact Books (U. S. House of Representatives, State of Ohio General Assembly, and Ohio Federation Chapter Fact Book) which tell the story of NARFE in Ohio. These Fact Books represent an excellent example of how one Federation works with their Federal and State legislators aware of NARFE membership and interests. This is another benefit that comes from meeting and working with other Federation Presidents that might help the South Carolina Federation.

At press time, the President's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget was just released which does not appear, upon preliminary review, to have an impact on Federal Retiree pensions and Health Care, per the latest GEMS e-Mail. Again, we must remain vigilant that the details of this budget and



John Geiger,
SC Federation President

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the Health Care Reform "fix" don't adversely affect our hard won benefits.

Thanks to each of you for your service, your continued support of your Chapters, the SC Federation and NARFE.

Best regards,

John Geiger
President,
South Carolina Federation of NARFE Chapters

2010 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING ON JANUARY 11, 2010 IN COLUMBIA

(Esther Crandall - Federation Secretary)

There was a SC Federation Executive Meeting in Columbia on January 11th with reports by all of the Committee Chairs and Executive Board Members of the SC Federation. There were a number of newly elected Chapter Presidents at the meeting; along with Bob Harrell, National Vice President for Region III and Don Stewart, Past President of the Florida Federation and 2010 Candidate for the Region III VP position at the National Convention, who both addressed the group on National and Regional issues. The complete minutes of the Executive Meeting are posted on the Internet and can be found at this hyperlink:

<http://www.scnarfe.org/minutes2010jan.pdf> Just click on the blue underlined hyperlink to read the minutes in PDF format.

Some of the points covered in the meeting are:

- Treasurer Buck Mizelle reported Federation Assets of \$25,561.33 but he needs all Chapter Presidents to pay their per-capita dues. He also needs the expense reports from Federation Members who attended the Regional Leadership Symposium to finalize that expense item.
- Alzheimer's Chair, Betty Wessinger, reported that the Alzheimer's Coordinators chose three people to add to the Alzheimer's Research group, funded by money donated by NARFE during 2008-09. She reminded all chapters to get their convention raffle items ready. Instructions are on the Convention web page and also referenced in the check sheet below. Since April 2009, \$7,541 has been collected for Alzheimer's Research from SC Federation Chapters.
- Ad Hoc Awards Chair, Sally Depreker suggested that the Federation might want to consider setting up a distinguished service awards program Federation-wide, similar to what was done in the Florence Chapter. (See the article on the Florence Chapter Awards from last year in this newsletter.)
- John Geiger, Acting Legislative Chair reported that congress was so tied up in the Health Care issues that the 'grass roots' Advocacy program was not as effective this past session. John reminded members to get on the GEMS network so that members could respond quickly to legislators on issues of concern to NARFE members. John also reported that there will be a full slate of officers nominated for the convention, but a new DFO will be needed for District 7, as Mamie Clarke will not accept nomination for another term.
- Federation Service Officer, Larry Shaff, has prepared a number of articles for the monthly newsletter quite regularly that dealt with items of concern to NARFE members since becoming the Service Officer. He noted that seven of the 21 Chapters do not have a Service Officer and he urged presidents to appoint one. Larry will continue to provide assistance to members and disseminate information to Chapters and the Federation through the newsletter.
- First VP & Membership Chair, Jeanette Keepers challenged members to make a New Years resolution to recruit at least one new member for 2010, Nationally, NARFE gained 2,513 new members and 690 reinstatements. Losses include 32 cancellations, 735 reported deaths, and 1,807 dropped for non-payment of dues, for a net increase of only 629 members. South Carolina now has a total of 3,650 NARFE members. NARFE has developed a 2010 Recruiting and Retention Plan that involves participation at the National, Federation and Chapter levels. Jeanette also reported on the progress that the Convention committee has made on getting ready for the Federation Convention in April in Spartanburg and urged all chapters to get their Alzheimer's raffle and door prizes ready and also to have 100% Chapter Delegation participation in the upcoming Federation Convention.
- Region III VP, Bob Harrell, reported that 2009 was a successful legislative year with more bills passed than in the last 10 years. He pointed out that the Dues Referendum failed by only 63 votes nationally! 1,508 ballots were mailed out and only 1,252 were returned with 224 chapters not responding. Of those

returned another 224 were not counted due to errors on the ballots. This means that 35% of the ballots were not returned or not counted!

- All seven DFO's reported on the status of the chapters in their respective areas. There are several new chapter Presidents and some who continue in their positions for another year. Many innovative ideas are being carried out in the chapters for recruitment as well as retention of members.
- NARFE-PAC and FEAA chairs made reports on their programs and their reports are found elsewhere in this newsletter.

You are urged to go over the entire minutes of the meeting. Again, they can be found on this hyperlink: <http://www.scnarfe.org/minutes2010jan.pdf> Just click on the blue underlined hyperlink to read the minutes in PDF format.

NARFE CHAPTER PREPARATION FOR THE STATE CONVENTION

(John Geiger - SC Federation President)

The following checklist is provided to enable each Chapter President and his/her staff to consider well ahead of registration deadlines and the individual preparation to attend the Annual State Convention:

___ Federation Dues for Chapter have been paid (\$.50 per Voting Member less Honorary Members). Payment to Federation Treasurer not later than January 31.

___ Amendments to Bylaws: 60 day notification deadline to all Chapters, submit to Federation Resolutions Officer not later than February 15

___ Any Non-Bylaws Resolutions to be presented: 30 day notification deadline to all Chapters, submit to Federation Resolutions Chairman not later than March 6.

___ Elected Delegate Goal: 100% of the available delegates. At the State Convention, 1 Delegate per each 25 voting Chapter members (as of 12/31/2009)

___ Publicity within the Chapter: Margaret Baptiste Keynote Speaker; \$75 Registration each, \$85 late Registration after March 20; Hotel Reservations 1-800-228-9290 or 1-864-596-1211

___ Assignment of Proxy (if no Chapter representation) in writing by March 22

___ Notification of Delegates (Proxy) to Federation Secretary by April 1

___ Names of those members who have passed away in the previous 12 months: Submit to Convention Chair by April 1

___ Chapter Advertisement: size & content by April 3rd to Convention Ad Chair, John Rungo, 361 Milhaven Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29301

___ Alzheimer's Raffle Donation: Sell tickets at Chapter meetings and bring tickets with raffle item to convention. See instructions on-line. <http://www.scnarfe.org/Alzheimers%20Instructions.pdf>

___ Chapter Reports/ Input for District Field Officer Report: Submit to DFOs by April 7

___ Consideration for District Field Officer Vacancies as applicable: Districts #5 (Newberry, Rock Hill, Sumter, and Camden) and #7 (Beaufort, Walterboro, Hilton Head)

___ Post Convention Report to Chapter at next meeting

References: Bylaws

Operating Guidelines

Convention Announcement at http://www.scnarfe.org/2010_federation_convention

MESSAGE FROM THE FEDERATION 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

(Jeanette Keepers, Spartanburg)

It's impossible for me to say enough good things about the stellar job Bob Muller, our Federation Newsletter editor, has been doing for our organization. He took over the position after the untimely death of Bill Scott late in 2007 and has been hard at work ever since.

Early in his tenure as a cost-cutting measure for the Federation, Bob insisted that the Newsletter only be sent out via e-mail. We were, after all, in the 21st century and almost everyone on the postal mailing list was also receiving the Newsletter via their e-mail address. Concurrently, Bob worked with Paul Donahue, Federation Webmaster, to ensure the issue was also posted on the SC NARFE website for anyone with Internet access. This means that it's now accessible to curious, out-of-state folks who want to know what the South Carolina NARFE Federation is doing.

In spite of all he did to facilitate access to the Newsletter, there were months when he received very little input from anyone for him to publish. As a result, he would practically create each monthly issue from the ground up. After dealing with this frustration for far too long, Bob gave the Federation Executive Board an ultimatum: If articles didn't start coming in, he was tendering his resignation after the 2010 Convention in April. As he so aptly put it, "The definition of a news editor is one who collects articles, summaries, pictures, and reports from reporters and contributors and presents these in a cohesive comprehensive fashion so that the reader can follow and absorb the information".

Readers all: Please show your appreciation for the outstanding job Bob has been doing and make his job as editor fit the description he cited. Submit your articles to him that would showcase memorable chapter meetings, members making a difference, special events or any other newsworthy items you deem interesting. He will be more than happy to publish them and any photos you have taken to illustrate the articles. It's a win-win-win situation: You will be proud of what your chapter's contributing in making our Federation what it is, you will be making Bob's job as Newsletter editor a whole lot easier, and you will be encouraging him to stay on in that capacity!

Jeanette M. Keepers, Convention Chair
(864) 582-9147/706-3374
jnettie67@hotmail.com



Jeanette Morales Keepers, 1st VP

2010 SC FEDERATION STATE CONVENTION

(Convention Committee - Host Chapter 560)

The 46th Annual SC NARFE Federation Convention will be held April 21,22,23, 2010 at the beautiful Marriott Spartanburg at Renaissance Park, Spartanburg, South Carolina. The theme of this year's convention is "Building a stronger NARFE - "One Member at a Time!"

Jeanette Keepers, the 1st Vice President of the SC Federation, and Convention Chairperson, along with her fellow Spartanburg Chapter 560 members, who are the Host Chapter for this years Convention, have reserved a number of rooms in the spacious convention center at the Marriott Hotel for the convention attendees. You can make your room reservations directly at the Marriott by calling (800) 228-9290 and be sure to tell them this is for the NARFE SC Federation Convention. Rates are \$109 + Tax, which comes to \$120 per night. This includes a Double Queen, King or a handicap-accessible room and two breakfast buffets each for Thursday and Friday. The Registration Form contains the address and phone number for registering at the Marriott. There are other hotels in the area but we recommend staying at the Marriott in downtown Spartanburg. Free inside parking is provided by the hotel for registered guests.

You can read more on the convention at this website:

http://www.scnarfe.org/2010_federation_convention

MARRIOTT HOTEL SPARTANBURG AT RENAISSANCE PARK

Centrally located in downtown Spartanburg, SC, this stunning, new Spartanburg hotel is located within walking distance of restaurants, entertainment, quaint shops, and historic Spartanburg walking tours. Beautiful rooms, terrific restaurants, hallmark Marriott service, ample parking and easy access make this Spartanburg, SC hotel ideal for our NARFE Annual Convention in 2010. Spartanburg Marriott hotel rooms are oversized with



refrigerator, safes & hi-speed internet access and excellent meeting rooms. Walk to historic Spartanburg attractions & shopping, Wireless internet access in hotel public area. Visit the nearby Chapman Cultural Center, Spartanburg's newest jewel! Shows, science & history museum, art displays, craft classes and more.

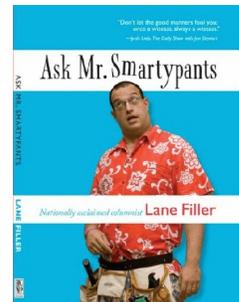
- * The Spartanburg Marriott hotel at Renaissance Park
- * 299 North Church Street
- * Spartanburg, South Carolina 29306 USA
- * Phone: 1-864-596-1211
- * Fax: 1-864-596-1219
- * Toll-free: 1-800-327-6465

Be sure to tell them that this is for the NARFE Federation Convention.

SPEAKERS AT THE FEDERATION CONVENTION IN SPARTANBURG

We're pleased to report that Margaret Baptiste, National President of NARFE in Washington, DC, and a member of the Charleston Chapter of NARFE will be the featured speaker at the SC Federation Convention in Spartanburg, SC on April 21-23, 2010. Ms. Baptiste has been the National President of NARFE for the past two years and will report to the Federation on the progress and her goals in these last remaining months of her tenure.

In addition to Margaret Baptiste, Mr. Lane Filler, reporter, columnist and assistant city editor for the Spartanburg Herald-Journal and nationally known writer and humorist will be one of the speakers at the Federation Convention Banquet. Mr. Filler, columnist for the Spartanburg Herald-Journal is, quite simply, one of the funniest newspaper columnists writing in America today, a feat made more impressive by the fact that he is not, strictly speaking, a humorist. He is also one of the most innovative political and philosophical thinkers around, a feat made more impressive by the fact that he injects mirth into nearly every topic, no matter how serious. The 39 year old Lane Filler has a new book, 'Ask Mr. Smartypants' that has had excellent reviews and he'll have autographed copies of it available at the convention. He lives in Spartanburg with his wife, Angela, and daughter, Quinn.



There will be three candidates running for the Region III National Vice-President position who will also speak at the State convention. They are running for the position currently held by Bob Harrell, who will not be running for reelection this year. These candidates are: Ben Pappa, Florida Federation Past President; Shelton Hawley, Alabama Federation Past President; and Don Stewart, also a Florida Federation Past President.

Chapter and Federation Officer Roster Update

(From the NARFE Website)

Only Chapter and Federation presidents are allowed to access the F-7 and F-7A online forms. Chapter/Federation presidents may delegate this access to their secretary or other officers by giving them their last name (Chapter/Federation presidents) and NARFE membership ID number. To update the officer roster in your chapter or federation, please select one of the links on the NARFE website, shown below. You will be asked to enter your last name and membership ID again to verify that you are a current Chapter or Federation president. Your current officer information will be displayed on the online form. Each officer position (unless vacant) will list the last name and member ID of the incumbent. If none of them have changed, simply mark "no change" and submit. If they have changed, mark "change" and fill in the last name and member ID of the new officer. All changes/updates to the online officer rosters will be posted not later than the 15th of each month. Go to this website. http://www.narfe.org/departments/forms/chapters/f-7_fill.cfm
Fill in the information requested and you'll have access to your F-7 form on the internet.

FROM THE FEDERATION SERVICE OFFICER

(Larry Shaff - Federation Service Officer)

Income Tax Tips

- Government Retiree Credit. A credit of \$250 for any government retiree who did not receive the \$250 economy recovery payment in 2009. To claim this credit use Schedule M, lines 10 through 14.
- Real Estate Tax Deduction. Up to \$1,000 deduction for real estate taxes paid during 2009. To determine the amount of this deduction use Schedule L, lines 1 through 9 and line 21.
- New Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Deduction. If a new car, SUV, truck, etc., was purchased in 2009 the sales

tax, up to \$300 in South Carolina, is deductible from 2009 income taxes. Use Schedule L, lines 10 through 21.

- Alternative Motor Vehicle Credit. A credit is available for certain 2007, 2008 and 2009 hybrid, advanced lean burn technology, alternative fuel, fuel cell and converted plug-in electric vehicles by using Form 8910. The instructions list approximately 50 types of vehicles eligible for the credit.
- Residential Energy Credit. Energy reducing items such as insulation, exterior windows and doors, heat pumps, air conditioners, etc., may qualify for a credit up to \$1,500. Use Form 5695.
- Purchase of New Home Credit. This credit up to \$8,000 is available to first time buyers who have not owned a home for 3 years until April 30, 2010. Also a credit of up to \$6,500 for current home owners purchasing a new or existing home between November 7, 2009 and April 30, 2010. Use Form 5405 for this credit.

Larry T. Shaff, Federation Service Officer

OPERATING GUIDELINES REVISION #2

(Larry Shaff, Federation Bylaws Officer)

During Federation Treasurer's Buck Mizelle report at the Executive Board meeting on January 11, 2010, he stated some chapter presidents are uncertain of the number of their members to use for calculating their chapter's annual per capita dues. He said that in calculating per capita dues, chapters are to use the M110 membership report as of December 31 and include voting members only. Honorary members and any others who do not pay chapter dues are not counted. It was suggested the Operating Guidelines be amended to state the per capita dues only applies to chapter dues paying members. Therefore Revision 2 to the Operating Guidelines is issued to incorporate this revision.

REVISION 2 TO OPERATING GUIDELINES

Dated January 2009

SOUTH CAROLINA FEDERATION OF NARFE CHAPTERS

In the Chapter Federation Membership and Dues section, paragraph 2, first sentence, insert the words "dues paying" between "chapter" and "member" so the sentence reads "Dues for federation chapters shall be \$0.50 per year for each chapter dues paying member, excluding honorary members, based on the chapter membership as of 31 December."

Larry T. Shaff
Bylaws Officer

January 2010

SC FEDERATION NARFE-PAC

(Ernest J. Williams, Jr. - SC Federation NARFE-PAC Chair)

NARFE-PAC activity for our federation is expected to increase significantly during the coming months. The month of March each year is designated "NARFE-PAC Month." One third the Senate and ALL of the House of Representatives will be up for election this year. Contributions to NARFE-PAC helped our Association to achieve several legislative victories in 2009 and for the 15th consecutive year we successfully fended off efforts to reduce our earned benefits. Donations to NARFE-PAC are down when compared to the most recent election cycle. In addition to chapter efforts, the federation must use our upcoming state convention in April to help raise enough funds to continue to make NARFE-PAC a powerful political force. There is a coupon in the NARFE magazine that can be used to make a donation to NARFE-PAC. Headquarters will notify chapter officers when candidates in your district have requested NARFE-PAC funds and ask for your recommendation. Please be quick to respond to these requests.

End of Year Report for the NARFE Recruiting Contest

(John R. Clements, Director, Membership Development, jclements@narfe.org)

NARFE Recruiting Contest - Details:

- The contest began January 2009 and will end July 2010.
- Chapters will compete according to their size in three categories – Small (1-100 members), Medium (101-400

members), Large (401- more members.)

• The nine winners (1st-, 2nd- , and 3rd – place winners in each of the three categories) will be presented cash prizes at the 2010 NARFE National Convention – 1st place-\$500, 2nd place-\$300, 3rd place-\$200.

Our chapter recruiting numbers are in for calendar year 2009 and the numbers continue to grow. The top ten chapters in each category are listed below.

Category I: Small-size chapters.	Category II: Medium-size chapters.	Category III: Large-size chapters.
1. 0612, Johnny Appleseed – Mansfield, OH 33 2. 1388, Lowndes County, MS 18 3. 2230, Highland County, OH 16 4. 0813, Shelbyville, IN 14 5. 2351, Sooner Cowboys Chapter, OK 10 6. 0799, Chanute, KS 10 7. 2343, Falls Run – Fredericksburg, VA 9 8. 2352, Tehachapi, CA 9 9. 0804, Washington, NC 9 10. 0537, Hutchinson, KS 9	1. 2243, N.W. Suburbia-Twin Cities, MN 94 2. 1435, Flint River, GA 80 3. 0052, Palo Alto, CA 76 4. 1154, North Tampa, FL 54 5. 2104, Dunwoody, GA 42 6. 0068, Bakersfield, CA 37 7. 1643, Dixie Area, KY 35 8. 1375, SW Houston, TX 34 9. 0184, Oklahoma City, OK 32 10. 1501, Warren County, MS 30	1. 1085, Lakewood, CO 131 2. 0148, Des Moines, IA 78 3. 0032, Spokane, WA 78 4. 1063, Chambersburg, PA 49 5. 0065, San Francisco, CA 43 6. 0124, Rochester, NY 39 7. 2184, Tulsa Day-Lite, OK 37 8. 0061, San Fernando -Van Nuys, CA 36 9. 0424, William J. Ryan-Dover, NJ 36 10. 0682, Peninsula-Newport News, VA 35

One giant killer continues to be chapter 0612 (Johnny Appleseed, Mansfield, OH). With a chapter membership of 82 members they have recruited 33 members in the past 12 months. That is an average of almost three per month. Another giant killer is chapter 1085 (Lakewood, CO) which is our only chapter to break the 100 barrier. They have recruited 131 new members. In our category II competition (medium –size chapters), the competition is very keen. We have three chapters that are very close in the total number of members recruited. As I mentioned earlier, the hunt is on! You have six more months of recruiting before the contest ends. Don't rest on your laurels – recruit and win big bucks for your chapter.

Wouldn't it be great to see at least one South Carolina Chapter on one of those top ten lists?

MATCHING FUNDS - A SUCCESS STORY

(Sally DePreker - NARFE Federation 2nd VP)

If your chapter would like to participate in some local event as a means to introduce NARFE to your community and at the same time recruit new members and the only thing holding your chapter back is cost, then I recommend your chapter consider requesting matching funds from NARFE Headquarters. In January 2009, Chapter 960 in Florence requested matching funds of \$150.00 to assist us in paying the \$300.00 fee required for us to provide a NARFE Information Booth at the 14th Annual Pee Dee Senior Life Expo held on March 13th and 14th at the Florence Civic Center. The process is simple: prepare your request along with pertinent information and send it to Headquarters via the Federation's president. John forwarded our request, and Headquarters promptly agreed and issued our chapter a check for \$150.00.

Headquarters also provided any printed material we requested, and we ordered the membership package, which contains a copy of NARFE magazine, a letter from Margaret, and a postage-paid membership application, and the most recent editions of:

- NARFE is for All
- Federal Employees Pop Quiz
- A Handy Guide to NARFE's Participation in the National Alzheimer's Research Program
- A Guide to NARFE's Annual Scholarship Awards Program
- NARFE's Legislative Program for the 111th Congress
- Understanding the Social Security Offsets
- Extending Premium Conversion Into Retirement

The Expo was very well organized with a total of 64 booths. We decorated our booth with red, white, and blue balloons and used our Chapter 960 banner and SC Federation's large Alzheimer's banner, which Betty Wessinger very graciously mailed to us. We also passed out candy and held a drawing for a free one-year NARFE "gift" membership for eligible individuals. We attracted a lot of attention.

The Alzheimer's banner was a big attention-getter. Many individuals came by the booth and were

impressed with NARFE's efforts to help fund Alzheimer's research. In fact many of them made contributions. If any chapter decides to participate in an Expo-type activity, I would recommend they contact Betty for the Banner, have a container available for cash contributions, and order printed materials related to Alzheimer's.

A total of Chapter 13 members participated in the Expo by setting up/taking down the booth and providing information during the 2-day event. They were energetic and well-informed. Many state, county, and city government employees/retirees commented they would like to join NARFE because of the type and quality of services we provide to our active and retired Federal employees.

What were our recruiting results? We had one immediate new member, Ruth Martin. She was the winner of the "gift" membership. We also have 17 potential members, individuals who showed a lot of interest in joining and we have had at least 9 new members added as a direct result of our participation in the Senior Expo. We also got the attention of some members who had never attended a meeting and have since become regular attendees. We will consider this again. The results were worth it.

This was a worthwhile experience for our chapter. It gave us an opportunity for good public relations and allowed us to find potential members in our community. At our Executive Board Meeting in January 2010, Robert Harrell, Region III Vice President, stated Headquarters has \$80,000 available for matching funds. Don't let lack of funds prevent your chapter from participating in something that will provide good public relations for NARFE and attract potential members. Headquarters is willing to help!

NARFE FEEA

(David Unwin - FEEA Coordinator)

The Federal Employees Education and Assistance (FEEA) Program provides education and disaster assistance to federal employees. During the past year the requests for Disaster funds were down from the previous year, however, the fund has not completely recovered from previous years disasters. Some Chapters and individuals have contributed but more funds are still needed. The Scholarship Fund also needs contributions. Last year, South Carolina Chapters did not contribute the amount of the money paid out in this years scholarship award which was won by Chelsea Rzepkowski, the daughter of Ronald Rzepkowski from Chapter 1013, Charleston. Chelsea was written up in the December issue of the Federation Newsletter.

There were two applications requesting consideration for a FEEA scholarship in 2009 which was down from seven applicants the previous year. Look for the next applications in the February NARFE Magazine. If you are sponsoring a child or grandchild it is very important you emphasize the need to provide all documentation requests and address all questions and topics requested.

The NARFE Magazine now provides a coupon for contributions to FEEA and is also reproduced below. You can donate to both funds or check a box to designate the Disaster Fund or the Scholarship Fund. Donations are Tax Deductible.

NARFE-FEEA

PROGRAM FUND CONTRIBUTION FORM

YES! I would like to help with my contribution.

Please check appropriate box(es); to make credit-card contributions, call 1-800-338-0755. Scholarships are available to children and grandchildren of federal civilian retirees and current federal employees who are NARFE members.

<input type="checkbox"/> NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund	Amount \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Fund	Amount \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

YOUR CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTION IS TAX
DEDUCTIBLE TO THE FULLEST
EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

Make check payable to:
NARFE-FEEA Disaster Fund or
NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Fund
Please mail coupon
and check to:

FEEA

3333 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 300
Lakewood, CO 80227

AD HOC AWARDS PROGRAM

(Sally DePreker - 2nd VP, Chapter 960 Florence)

In February each year, NARFE Chapter 960 in Florence recognizes the member who has contributed the most to the chapter during the previous 12 months. We just started this practice last year, and at that time, we recognized several "senior" members who had not been shown the Chapter's appreciation "formally." Henceforth, we will recognize only one member each year.

We contacted NARFE Headquarters, and we were able to obtain a certificate for distinguished service for each individual signed by NARFE's National President, Margaret Baptiste. Additionally, we ordered each one an official name tag. Since membership retention is important to our survival, letting our members know "officially" their efforts to help our chapter are recognized and appreciated is a step in the right direction for retaining that person who is always willing to help.

The Federation may want to look at setting up an awards' program federation-wide. For example, each chapter would nominate an outstanding member to compete "district-wide." The district officer and presidents of each district would then select the outstanding member for that district. Each district winner's name and accomplishments would be forwarded to the "Awards Committee" for review and for selection as the most outstanding South Carolina member. The winner would be announced at the Federation's annual convention. I would suggest calling this award, the **Judy Kemp Award**. I've been involved with South Carolina's NARFE for five years, and Judy personifies to me the kind of member this award should recognize. You may know of someone else who in the past contributed to an even greater extent.

To make the award competition more appealing, we (Federation) could consider paying the costs involved for the winner to attend the Federation's annual convention. I would appreciate any comments or suggestions you might have related to setting up an awards' program federation wide. Such a program would allow us to involve new members and expose them to NARFE federation-wide.

After sharing Chapter 960's membership recognition program with the Federation at the Convention, I was very pleased to learn at our January Federation meeting that other chapters are now recognizing their outstanding contributors. Our February 2009 Awards are including in the News From Our Chapters Section, below.

NEWS FROM OUR CHAPTERS

This is a little late due to a mis-communication on my part, but here is an excellent report from Chapter 960 on how they honored eight of their distinguished members who have served their chapter for many years:

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), Chapter 960, of Florence celebrated its 43d year on February 6th, 2009 and at that meeting we recognized our "Distinguished Service Award" recipients. These are members who have successfully supported NARFE though dedicated service to the local chapter though serving as officers, guidance, and long standing membership.

NARFE 960 President Jesse Adams and John Neely NARFE District Field Officer presented these awards signed by the National President of NARFE Margaret Baptiste. Members who received the "Distinguished Service Award" were Joe McKnight, Charles Cusack, Marvin Cockfield, Carol McCrary, Edna Starling, Dave Gore, Betty Clayton, and Ray Moore,

Joe McKnight, first became a NARFE member in 1980. He has served as President, Vice President, Program Chairman many times and has always been the service officer. Charles Cusack served as treasurer for 2 terms and vice president. Marvin Cockfield served as president for 2 terms.

Carol McCrary served as secretary for 2 terms and has always been on the calling committee. Edna Starling served as secretary for at least 2 terms and has always been the Sunshine Chairman. Edna Starling served as secretary for at least 2 terms and has always been the Sunshine Chairman. Dave Gore served as Treasurer for 3 terms, President for 2 terms and secretary 2 terms. Betty Clayton served at least 3 terms as president, vice president for 3 terms, and secretary for 1 term. Ray Moore served as District Field Officer for at least 2 terms and has been program chairman for many terms.



L to R: Carol McClary, Edna Starling, Joe McKnight, Dave Gore, Marvin Cockfield, Betty Clayton, Charles Cusack, Ray Moore, John Neely, Jesse Adams

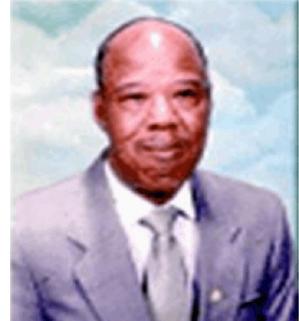
We join Chapter 960 in saluting these dedicated NARFE members who have served their chapter and the entire NARFE organization for these many years. These are the people who make up NARFE!

ANOTHER CHAPTER 960 MEMBER HONORED

(Jesse Adams - NARFE Chapter 960, Florence)

NARFE chapter 960 had one its members, Charles Kelly, 73. acknowledged in the "Golden Life" monthly newspaper dated January 2010. Charles lives in Florence, South Carolina after a long career in federal government service, the last phase of which was employment by CIA in Washington D.C.

Charles retired in 1992 after 31 years of service. He is a native of Spartanburg SC but grew up in Washington DC after moving there at age five. After a stint in the US Navy where he served aboard the heavy cruiser USS Albany, Charles joined the Federal government in 1961 in a security position with GSA. Among Charles duties was helping with the security of President Nixon's first inaugural parade and festivities in 1969. He was also a part of the security during the time of the anti-Vietnam War protesters in Washington during that time. He eventually moved from GSA to the CIA in McLean, Virginia but he spent most of this time at the Washington facility. Charles also worked with the CIA Director George H. W. Bush and Robert Gates.



At the end of his career Charles job title was Security Protective Officer. Charles still has the memories of this long and useful Federal service career. He has a framed letter dated Jan 3, 1992, which begins "Dear Charles" that is signed by Robert Gates, Director of CIA. The letter thanks him for his dedication and competence in rendering valuable service to the country for 31 years. Charles is proud to have served and worked in federal government. He has been a long-standing member of NARFE and enjoys keeping up with all the new development since he retired.

NARFE Chapter 960 Florence is very proud to have such an outstanding member who has dedicated his career to protecting our United States of America.

Jesse Adams, President
NARFE Chapter 960 Florence SC

NARFE National President Visits Chapters

(Charles L. Giavelli, 1st DFO SC Federation)

While on home leave, NARFE National President Margaret Baptiste attended a joint Chapter meeting with members of Chapter 72 - North Charleston; Chapter 1013 - Charleston; and Chapter 1092 - Summerville Chapter. Lunch was served after the joint meeting. Pictured - left to right: Charleston President 1013 - Mimi Scharf; Federation President - John Geiger; Summerville President 1082 - Barbara Bryan; National President - Margaret Baptiste; 1st District Field Officer - Charles Giavelli; and North Charleston President 72 - Frank Stevens. It was good to have Margaret 'back home' again.



SOUTH CAROLINA FEDERATION OF CHAPTERS FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 12-31-09

(Albert Mizelle - SC Federation Treasurer)

	APPROVED	ACTUAL
	<u>6-08-09</u>	<u>12-31-09</u>
INCOME		
Checking Account Interest	600.00	603.78
Per-Capita Dues	1,700.00	
NARFE 10% Rebate Funds	9,300.00	6,655.82
Convention Proceeds	<u>696.42</u>	<u>696.42</u>
TOTAL INCOME	12,296.42	7,956.02
OPERATING EXPENSES		
President's Expense	325.00	355.88
Secretary's Expense	446.45	446.45
Treasurer's Expense	527.56	527.56
Convention Chairperson Expense		
Miscellaneous Expense	<u>500.00</u>	<u>128.84</u>
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,799.01	1,458.73
PROMOTIONAL EXPENSES		

Executive Board Meetings (Travel and Food)	4,000.00	1,629.52
Field Officer Travel	500.00	317.07
Advance on 2010 Convention	500.00	500.00
Recruiting Members-Reg'l Training	500.00	
President's Travel Expenses	1,500.00	936.65
Alzheimer's	75.00	28.93
SCFC Web Site	75.00	61.60
President's Meeting Grand Rapids, MI	1,500.00	1,201.20
Regional Symposium Columbus, GA	2,300.00	
TOTAL PROMOTIONAL EXPENSES	10,950.00	4,674.97
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$12,749.01	\$ 6,133.70
EXCESS	(\$452.59)	\$1,822.32
Balance NARFE Credit Union Savings Account		\$5.03
Balance NARFE Credit Union Checking Account		\$25,581.33

NARFE EVENTS CALENDAR

SC Federation Annual Convention, Marriott Hotel, Spartanburg, SC April 21-23, 2010

NARFE Federation Officers and Chairpersons: Monday, June 7, 2010, 10:30am Columbia, SC

NATIONAL NARFE Convention - Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI August 29 - September 2, 2010

NATIONAL NARFE Convention - Nugget Hotel, Reno, NV in 2012

NARFE South Carolina Federation of Chapters

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